

Community Library Mississippi goes Virtual highlights 2020’s intellectual revolution



L-R Mikalya Smith, Murrah High School 9th grader, won second place poetry trophy in high school-adult competition; Chelsea Smith, Boyd Elementary School 5th grader, won second place poetry trophy in elementary competition; and Melesha Smith, adult poet, won third place medallion in high school-adult poetry competition.

By Janice K. Neal-Vincent
Contributing Writer

Community Library Mississippi, a nonprofit public charity, operates from the grassroots level to increase literacy and love for reading for the underserved, especially African-American children. In doing so, the organization aims to form community libraries for intellectual and cultural learning which will be controlled by local residents such as parents and grandparents. “I learned about Com-

munity Libraries from the American Library Association in 2016,” said Meredith Coleman McGee, Community Library Mississippi founder and president. McGee explained that the coronavirus pandemic forced Community Library Mississippi out of its free space in the Jackson Medical Mall. Irrespective of this setback, the organization launched Community Library Mississippi Goes Virtual in July. Children and

Library
Continued on page 3

Charley Pride, Mississippi native country music superstar, dies at 86



Charlie Pride performs “Kiss an Angel Good Morning” at the 50th annual CMA Awards in Nashville in 2016.

By Mark Kennedy
AP Entertainment Writer

Charley Pride, one of country music’s first black superstar whose rich baritone on such hits as “Kiss an Angel Good Morning” helped sell millions of records and made him the first black member of the Country Music Hall of Fame, has died. He was 86. Pride was raised in Sledge, Mississippi, the son of a sharecropper. He had seven bothers and three sisters. In 2009 he received a Lifetime Achievement

Award as part of the Mississippi Governor’s Awards for Excellence in the Arts. Pride died Saturday in Dallas of complications from Covid-19, according to Jeremy Westby of the public relations firm 2911 Media. “I’m so heartbroken that one of my dearest and oldest friends, Charley Pride, has passed away. It’s even worse to know that he passed away from COVID-19. What a horrible, horrible virus. Charley, we will always love you,” Dolly Parton tweeted.

Pride released dozens of albums and sold more than 25 million records during a career that began in the mid-1960s. Hits besides “Kiss an Angel Good Morning” in 1971 included “Is Anybody Goin’ to San Antone,” “Burgers and Fries,” “Mountain of Love” and “Someone Loves You Honey.” He had three Grammy Awards, more than 30 No. 1 hits between 1969 and 1984, won the Country Music Association’s Top Male Vocalist and Entertainer of the Year awards in 1972 and

was inducted into the Country Music Hall of Fame in 2000. He won the Willie Nelson Lifetime Achievement Award last month by the Country Music Association. “He destroyed barriers and did things that no one had ever done,” said Darius Rucker on Twitter. “Heaven just got one of the finest people I know.” Tanya Tucker tweeted “I’m just so thankful I got to sing a song with him.”

Pride
Continued on page 3

Vandals hit black churches during weekend pro-Trump rallies

By Michael Balsamo and Ashraf Khalil
Associated Press

Vandals tore down a Black Lives Matter banner and sign from two historic black churches in downtown Washington and set the banner ablaze as nighttime clashes Saturday between pro-Donald Trump supporters and counterdemonstrators erupted into violence and arrests. Police on Sunday said they were investigating the incidents at the Asbury United Methodist Church and Metropolitan A.M.E. Church as potential hate crimes, which one religious leader likened to a cross burning. “This weekend, we saw forces of hate seeking to use destruction and intimidation to tear us apart,” District of Columbia Mayor Muriel Bowser said Sunday. “We will not let that happen.” A video posted on Twitter showed a group of men appearing to take down a BLM sign at the Metropolitan A.M.E. Church as others in the crowd shout,

“Whose streets? Our streets.” Another video showed people pouring an accelerant on a BLM banner and setting it ablaze in the street as others cheered and cursed Antifa. Someone walks up about a minute later and uses a fire extinguisher to put out the flames. “It pained me especially to see our name, Asbury, in flames,” the Rev. Dr. Ianther M. Mills, the senior pastor at Asbury church said in a statement Sunday. “For me it was reminiscent of cross burnings. Seeing this act on video made me both indignant and determined to fight the evil that has reared its ugly head.” “We will move forward, undaunted in our assurance that Black Lives Matter and we are obligated to continue to shout that truth without ceasing,” she added. Leaders of the Black Lives Matter organization decried the attacks on the churches, partly faulting police for allowing white supremacists to “run ram-

panant.” April Goggans, a lead organizer for Black Lives Matter’s D.C. chapter, accused Bowser of “sitting silent and comfortable in your home as Trump send his goons in to brutalize your citizens.” A spokesperson for D.C. police said Sunday that it was taking the offenses seriously and actively investigating. The incidents came following weekend rallies in support of Trump’s baseless claims that he won a second term, which led to dozens of arrests, several stabbings to injuries to police officers. Police in the District of Columbia said they arrested nearly 30 people for a variety of offenses, from assault to weapons possession and resisting arrests and rioting. The violence broke out after sundown Saturday. Four men were stabbed around 10 p.m. after a fight downtown, police said. At least one suspect, 29 year-old Phillip Johnson of Washington, was arrested on a charge of assault with a

dangerous weapon. A police report obtained by The Associated Press said at least one of the victims identified Johnson as the person who stabbed him. Eight police officers were also injured during the demonstrations, officials said. The earlier rallies of mostly unmasked Trump loyalists were intended as a show of force just two days before the Electoral College met to formally elect Democrat Joe Biden as the 46th president. Trump, whose term will end Jan. 20, refuses to concede, while clinging to unfounded claims of fraud that have been rejected by state and federal courts, and Friday by the Supreme Court. A pro-Trump demonstration last month, which drew 10,000 to 15,000 people to the capital, also ended late on a Saturday evening with scattered clashes between Trump’s allies and local activists near Black Lives Matter Plaza near the White House.

On Saturday, police took more steps to keep the two sides apart, closing a wide swath of downtown to traffic and sealing off Black Lives Matter Plaza. But while Saturday’s rallies, including one on Freedom Plaza downtown, were smaller than on Nov. 14, they drew a larger contingent of the Proud Boys, a neo-fascist group known to incite street violence. Some wore bulletproof vests as they marched through town. The group saw its profile raised after Trump in September famously told them to “stand back and stand by.” After the rallies ended, downtown Washington quickly devolved into crowds of hundreds of Proud Boys and combined forces of Antifa and local Black activists – both sides seeking a confrontation in an area flooded with police officers. As dusk fell, they faced off on opposite sides of a street, with multiple lines of city police and federal Park Police, some in riot gear, keeping them separated.

Inside

Mississippi home of Medgar Evers declared national monument

A photograph of a small, single-story house with a green roof and white walls. The house has a small porch and is surrounded by greenery.

Page 6

Long Time Coming

A photograph of the book cover for 'Long Time Coming' by Michael Eric Dyson. The cover is red with white text and a small image of a person.

Page 14

Share this issue with a friend by mailing it to:

Judge Debra Brown’s historic 2013 seating continues to stand for progress in Mississippi

By Kenya Vardaman-Ramirez
Contributing Writer

 With seven years of a lifetime appointment under her belt even with America still engaged and in awe of Kamala Harris, Debra Marie Brown continues to catch eyes in her own culturally important reign as the first African-American female district judge in the state of Mississippi.

In taking her tenured position, Brown lengthens the legacy of blacks who have served well, and those who have died accomplished, in Mississippi political office. And, likewise, Brown joins the ranks of pioneering women such as Sharion Aycock – the first female district judge, of record, in Mississippi – and one more link in arms around the feminist movement that meagerly started with the granting of women’s suffrage, exactly 100 years ago, in 1920.

The title of District Judge is a storied one; it was created in Congress with the Judiciary Act of 1789 – right after the constitution was written. In the Judiciary Act of 1789, the District Court system was constructed with at least one District Court in each state. The District Court system is ordered below the Supreme Court and serves as the front line of the overall Federal Court System, hearing criminal and civil cases at their onset.

In seating this position, the current United States president recommends potential candidates, according to their accomplishments – and the Senate confirms them. Equal Senate support



Brown

is ensured by “blue slipping” – an ole time, political practice in which two state Senators return their written comments on the individual merit affording each candidate a favorable Senate confirmation. In nominating Brown, President Obama made a glowing report – saying that “Brown demonstrated the talent, expertise, and fair-mindedness that Americans expect and deserve from their judicial system.” Senators Thad Cochran and Roger Wicks also sent back blue slips heralding the efforts and ethics of Brown. She was then supported by a unanimous Senate vote of 90 to 1 –receiving her judicial commission in November of 2013 and swearing in, as District Judge, December 18, 2013.

Armed with a degree in architecture

from MSU and a law degree from the University of Mississippi School of Law, Brown’s dual career history has filled, for her, a deep and well-rounded pool of employment experience, and “on the job” exposure, from which to draw. Brown’s past training as an attorney and partner with the law firm Phelps and Dunbar, and her seniority as a shareholder in the law firm Wise Carter Child and Caraway, allows her thoughtful litigation on a litany of subjects.

In his article, “Cleveland Schools Must Desegregate,” Jimmie E. Gates, of *The Clarion Ledger* newspaper, gives voice to Brown’s plight in cleaning the leavings of the bygone Jim Crow era. Over the past decades, the Cleveland Mississippi School District had proven to be unmoving proponents of the ancient and illegal “Separate But Equal” doctrine – in its continual operation of segregated middle schools and high schools.

Gates reports that “in a 2016 ruling that came over 50 years after the initial lawsuit was filed, Brown finally decided that the Cleveland, Mississippi School District must merge its high schools and middle schools to achieve racial desegregation.” Gates further expounds that Brown said, in her 96-page opinion of the case, that “the delay in desegregation has deprived generations of students of the constitutionally guaranteed right of an integrated education. Although no court order can right these wrongs, it is the duty of the district to ensure that not one more student suffers under this burden.”

As she strives to ever shutter the dark

doors of Mississippi’s past, Brown also works to ensure an open door to tomorrow.

Brown has used her vast knowledge of design and structure in counsel and planning of the Greenville, MS District Courthouse’s renovation. As the headquarters of the trailblazing Brown, the new, state of the art, Greenville District Courthouse is set to become both historic and futuristic. The website, *duvalldecker.com*, tells of the Jackson, MS based Duvall Decker’s role as the architecture firm heading this promising project: “the new U.S. Courthouse in Greenville, Mississippi will be an anchor for revitalization and future development in the City of Greenville. Its design is compatible with the character of the historic district while it reflects the dignity, enterprise, vigor and stability of the United States Government.” Brown, herself, spoke of this revamp, adding that, “the new courthouse will both mark and define the next era in Greenville’s history and the evolution of Mississippi’s federal court presence.”

Citizens, officials and educators, alike, applaud Mississippi’s progressive stance in selecting the Yazoo City born Brown. The recent selection of women judges – in the Mississippi Court of Appeals and The Mississippi Southern and Northern Districts Courts – is a welcomed trend. In turn, the glimpse of “inclusion” that these positive changes give young girls is a welcomed after-effect.

Edelia “Dr. Jay” Carthan is a politician, business leader, author, activist, and Tougaloo College professor – who overcame teen pregnancy to earn a doctorate degree in early childhood

from Jackson State University. As an accomplished professional and the founder of Camp Fabulous, a Christian camp for young girls, Carthan recognizes the rippling of reform that will follow the appointment of these path-finding females.

Of Brown’s ability to affect the outlook of our youth, Carthan reflects, “I believe in mentoring programs. Mentors have helped transform my life’s trajectory. If Judge Brown creates a mentoring program where young black girls really get to bond with lawyers, judges and architects, it could change those girls’ lives forever. I am a living witness. Mentoring problems work.”

As cousin to Civil Rights icon Emmitt Till, and daughter of the first black mayor of the city of Tchula, Carthan is heir to the African-American cause. When asked about Brown adding to the many heritages that must build in order to turn Mississippi into a truly reformed state, Carthan responded, “Mississippi has a long way to go to be reformed. We just took down the Confederate flag as the official state flag in a state that suppresses the black vote and black and brown people through policies and laws. Mississippi denied healthcare to over 300,000 Mississippians that need it. They refuse to fully fund public education. Judge Brown’s seating is a great start. However, she’s just one person. How many (federal) judges do we have in Mississippi? How many are black? How many are women? You think that’s by accident when African Americans make up about 39% of the state’s population? Come on. We also have to reform our way of thinking.”



SMARTER BETTER
HEALTHCARE

MISSISSIPPI

www.bcbsms.com

Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Mississippi, A Mutual Insurance Company, is an independent licensee of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association.

Pride

Continued from page 1

Billy Ray Cyrus called him a “gentleman,” “legend” and a “true trailblazer.”

The Smithsonian in Washington acquired memorabilia from Pride, including a pair of boots and one of his guitars, for the the National Museum of African American History and Culture.

Ronnie Milsap called him a “pioneer” and said that without his encouragement, Milsap might never gone to Nashville. “To hear this news tears out a piece of my heart,” he said in a statement.

Other black country stars came before Pride, namely DeFord Bailey, who was an Grand Ole Opry member between 1927 and 1941. But until the early 1990s, when Cleve Francis came along, Pride was the only black country singer signed to a major label. In 1993, he joined the Opry cast in Nashville.

“They used to ask me how it feels to be the ‘first colored country singer,’” he told *The Dallas Morning News* in 1992. “Then it was ‘first Negro country singer;’ then ‘first black country singer.’ Now I’m the ‘first African-American country singer.’ That’s about the only thing that’s changed. This country is so race-conscious, so ate-up with colors and pigments. I call it ‘skin hangups’ – it’s a disease.”

“My older sister one time said, ‘Why are you singing THEIR music?’” Pride said. “But we all understand what the y’all-and-us-syn-drome has been. See, I never as an individual accepted that, and I truly believe that’s why I am where I am today.”

As a young man before launching his singing career, he was a pitcher and outfielder in the Negro American League with the Memphis Red Sox and in the Pioneer League in Montana.

After playing minor league baseball a couple of years, he ended up in Helena, Montana, where he worked in a zinc smelting plant by day and played country music in nightclubs at night.

Pride was part of the Texas Rangers’ ownership group for the last 10 years and the team will fly the flags at half-staff at Globe Life Field and Globe Life Park Sunday and Monday in his memory.

“The Texas Rangers join the country music world in mourning the loss of Charley Pride. While Mr. Pride was a legendary performer who entertained millions of fans in the United States and around the world, we will remember him as a true friend to this franchise,” the team said in a statement.

After a tryout with the New York Mets, Pride visited Nashville and broke into country music when Chet Atkins, head of RCA Records, heard two of his demo tapes and signed him.

To ensure that Pride was judged on his music and not his race, his first few singles were sent to radio stations without a publicity photo. After his identity became known, a few country radio stations refused to play his music.

For the most part, though, Pride said he was well received. Early in his career, he would put white audiences at ease when he joked about his “permanent tan.”

“Music is the greatest communicator on the planet Earth,” he said in 1992. “Once people heard the sincerity in my voice and heard me project and watched my delivery, it just dissipated any apprehension or bad feeling they might have had.”

Throughout his career, he sang positive songs instead of sad ones often associated with country music.

“Music is a beautiful way of expressing oneself and I truly believe music should not be taken as a protest,” he told *The Associated Press* in 1985. “You can go too far in anything – singing, acting, whatever – and become politicized to the point you cease to be an entertainer.”

In 1994, he wrote his autobiography, “Pride: The Charley Pride Story,” in which he disclosed he was mildly manic depressive. He had surgery in 1997 to remove a tumor from his right vocal cord.

“Charley Pride was a trailblazer whose remarkable voice and generous spirit broke down barriers in country music just as his hero Jackie Robinson had in baseball,” tweeted director and producer Ken Burns.

He received the Living Legend award from *The Nashville Network/Music City News*, recognizing 30 years of achievement, in 1997.

“I’d like to be remembered as a good person who tried to be a good entertainer and made people happy, was a good American who paid his taxes and made a good living,” he said in 1985. “I tried to do my best and contribute my part.”

He is survived by his wife, Rozene, whom he married in 1956; three children, Kraig, Dion and Angela; and several grandchildren.

Library

Continued from page 1

adults read books live for three weeks on Zoom.

“In September we obtained a mini-grant from the Mississippi Humanities Council to support Community Library Mississippi Goes Virtual. We facilitated a speaking series on a variety of topics [that featured nine professionals from Jackson, Madison and Greenville, Mississippi; Oxnard and Grenada, California].” The series attracted audiences on Zoom, Facebook and YouTube.

The Jackson Book Festival and the Delta Book Festival joined forces for the Virtual Holiday Book Festival. This was the largest event. Held Saturday, November 28, it attracted more than 2,300 viewers via Zoom and Facebook.

The Delta Book Festival hosted a Spelling Bee. First place winners were awarded trophies. Second and third place winners were awarded medallions.

First grade winners: 1st place – Harrynoel Chia (Sr. Thea Bowman Catholic Elementary School, Jackson); 2nd place winner – Robert Lee Williams III. **Third grade winners:** 1st place – Peyton Jones (Smilow Collegiate Charter School, Jackson); 2nd place – D’zaria Butler, and 3rd place – Ty’Leann Hines (G. N. Smith Elementary School, Jackson). **Combined 4th/5th/6th grade winners:** 1st place – Shivaani Thamizhmani (4th grade); 2nd place – Charis Ngong (5th grade, Jackson); and Daniel Knot (6th grade, Jackson).

The Jackson Book Festival hosted a poetry contest which produced emerging poets and writers. First and second place winners were awarded trophies. Third



Community Library Mississippi’s delta book festival spelling bee first place winner, 3rd grader Peyton Jones of Smilow Collegiate Charter School, proudly holds his trophy.

place winners were awarded medallions. **Winners:** Elementary – 1st place - Shivaani Thamizhmani; 2nd place – Chelsea Smith (5th grade, Boyd Elementary School, Jackson); 3rd place – Harrynoel Chia (3rd grade, Sr. Thea Bowman Catholic Elementary School, Jackson) and Clifton King, Irvin, TX.

“Chelsea Smith, Mikayla Smith, Ty’Leann Hines, Hannah King and Harrynoel Chia presented their first written poems in the contest,” McGee stated proudly. “Eight contestants were from Miss. (2 Greenville, 1 Leland, 5 Jackson). The others were from Irvin, TX and Santa Clara, CA,” she added.

Middle School winners were: 1st place – Clarence Ngong, (8th grade, Jackson); and Hannah King, Irvin, TX – 2nd place.

High School-Adult winners were: 1st place – Marcus Lewis (adult, Greenville); 2nd place –



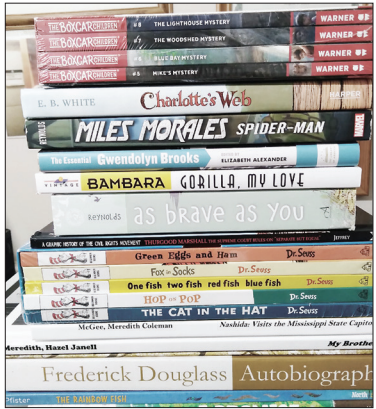
Richard and Debbie Hulse donated 21 books.

Mikayla Smith (9th grade, Murrah HS, Jackson); 3rd place – Malesha Smith (adult, Jackson).

Three families entered the poetry competition and won Talented Family Team: Smith Family; Zoe Davis Family; Thamizhmani Family.

The Learning Tree Book Club is the oldest running program which meets virtually the first Saturday of each month from 2 to 3:30 p.m. “[It’s] great, motivational, and a successful eye opener for students. My daughter, Ty’Leann, started this wonderful program at the age of 5. She’s 9 now and an Honor Roll student at G.N. Smith Elementary School. Thanks to Mrs. Meredith McGee and her amazing educators who help with the program, my daughter’s reading level expanded, as well as her confidence when she reads,” stated Tykeisha Hines.

From September to December, Learning Tree Book Club readers from Oxnard and Grenada, California; Belize, Central America and Mississippi read books and engaged in questions and answers virtually on four different occa-



sions. Recently, Richard and Debbie Hulse of Oxnard, California donated 21 books to Community Library Mississippi. “The collection includes books on Frederick Douglass, Thurgood Marshall and Gwendolyn Brooks. These books will introduce young book club members to these three historic greats,” McGee declared.

Community Library Mississippi invites families to join the Learning Tree Book Club. Authors, writers and poets are invited to join the Book Toasters.

McGee noted that beginning in February 2021, Book Toasters will organize virtual book tours. Virtual reading fairs, the speaking series and intellectual contest will resume next year.

Community Library Mississippi seeks support from the community.

To support the Intellectual Revolution, call Meredith Coleman McGee at 601 454-3855 or email communitylibrarymississippi@gmail.com. Donations are welcome. [https://meredithetc.com/community-library-ms/via the webpage](https://meredithetc.com/community-library-ms/via-the-webpage).



Shining more light on solar.



Entergy Mississippi is committed to providing affordable, reliable and clean power to Mississippians for generations to come. So we’re making it easier for our customers to self-generate solar electricity and incorporate solar power into our power grid. Thanks to net metering, registered solar users earn credit for excess solar energy sent back to the grid.

The Mississippi Public Service Commission is making it easier to understand how solar can work for you. “A Consumer’s Guide to Solar Power in Mississippi” provides information on how solar and net metering work, and the details you need to consider before purchasing or leasing hardware.

Get the working group’s guide for free at entergybrightfuture.com.

A message from Entergy Mississippi, LLC
©2020 Entergy Services, LLC. All Rights Reserved.

The Celebrated Life of Dr. Lelia Gaston Rhodes

October 22, 1921 - December 7, 2020



Rhodes

"For I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought a good fight. I have finished my course, I have kept the faith." 11 Timothy 4: 6-7

The saga of a journey reminiscent of the life and legacy of Dr. Lelia Gaston Rhodes is now chronicled in the annals of history. Lelia was born to the late Fred and Mary Brown Gaston, October 22, 1921 in Jackson, Mississippi. Born during the Great Depression Era, experiencing the atrocities of "Society's Segregated System" designed for African Americans gave impetus to her parents to try to help create a "passport to freedom" for survival through the attainment of an education.

Reared in a Christian environment by God-fearing parents, lofty values

of love of God, of truth, of honesty, of integrity and respect for humanity were hallmarks that set the standards for her life and for living.

Her Father, Fred Andrew Gaston, at the age of 18, with a fifth grade education, was deployed as a soldier during World War I to France and Liverpool, England for a period of 18 months. From his empirical observations and experiences as a country boy from the states, the "backwoods" of Utica (Hinds County) Mississippi, as quoted by her father, instilled in her a "burning desire for an education." From papyrus, to parchment, to vellum, on to the Gutenberg Printing Press, Lelia's love for books led her outside the perimeters of the Gowdy-Washington Addition community to achieve.

Her Journey

- Born and reared in Jackson, Mississippi (Gowdy/Washington Addition Community)

- Attended and graduated from Lanier High School, Jackson, MS, 1940

- October 1940 enrolled at Jackson College by an Official Act of The Mississippi Legislature. Graduated in May 1944. • Received MSLS degree from Atlanta University now Clark Atlanta University with honors (Beta Phi Mu International Library Honors Society)

- First Alumna in Residence, Atlanta University. Graduated (1975)

- Ford Fellow Doctoral student, Florida State University, Tallahassee, Florida

- First African American to graduate from the School of Library Science With Distinction.

- First woman and first African American to earn a Ph.D. in Library Science in Mississippi (featured in American Libraries National Publication of Libraries and Essence Magazine)

- In 1979 was elected vice president, president-elect of the Mississippi Library Association, the first African American to be elected to the position.

- Associate head librarian, assistant librarian, director of libraries and dean of libraries, Jackson State University.

- Chaired numerous administrative and academic committees; Served on accreditation (regional and national as

py of \$10,000 or more

Appointed/Elected Boards/Commissions

- Hinds Community College Board of Trustees (25 years of service)

- Mississippi Historical Preservation Board

- Elected to six terms (4 years per term) – Hinds County Election Commission, District 5.

Publications

Author of "Jackson State University: First One Hundred Years (1877-1977)" – Centennial Edition, and other published works appeared in Referred Journals. Co-author, "Excellence in Education: Libraries Facilitating Learning for Minority Students," published in Libraries and the Search for Academic Excellence by Patricia Breivik and Robert Wedgeworth, Scarecrow Press, 1988, Metuchen, NJ (proceedings from the Centennial Celebration of the Columbia University Library School Symposium at Arden House, New York).

Social Policy/Community Services

Witness (litigant) for Ayers Case vs. Jackson State University, et al; argued in U.S. Supreme Court, Washington D.C. by Al Chambliss, Esq. New Orleans, LA (5th Circuit Court) Oxford, MS; received the Distinguished Service Award from the Black Caucus of the American Library Association at the 1994 Annual Conference, Mi-

ami, FL; received the NAFEO Distinguished Service Award from Jackson State University (1986); Jackson State University Alumna of the Year (1973); served as a participant in the first White House Conference on Libraries.

Lelia Gaston Rhodes was the widow of John D. Rhodes Sr. and mother of two adult children: Marilyn Latson and 1st Lt. USMC John D. Rhodes Jr., who preceded her in death.

She leaves to cherish fondest memories her beloved daughter, Marilyn Rhodes Latson; grandsons, John Dusty Rhodes III, James Quincy Rhodes (Tonya), Louis Ahmad Latson, Maurice David Rhodes; sisters, Katherine Gaston Averitt, Indianapolis, Indiana and Juanita Gaston Simmons, Detroit, Michigan; nieces, nephews, and a host of other relatives and friends.

The graveside memorial service was held Saturday, December 12, 2020, Garden Memorial Park Cemetery.

"Look well to this day, for it is life.

The very life of life...for in it lie all the verities and realities of our existence... the bliss of growth, the glory of action, the splendor of beauty. For yesterday is but a dream, and tomorrow is only a vision. But today well lived makes every yesterday a dream of happiness and every tomorrow a vision of hope...

— "Lest I plagiarize this poem is from The Sanskrit"

See more photos, page 15.

In Celebration of Life for Wallace Horton

July 21, 1948 - December 1, 2020



Horton

Wallace Horton was born July 21, 1948 in Gloster, MS to Curtis and Mattie Lee Havard Horton. As a child he attended Amite County Public school. His family were members of Macedonia Baptist Church in Gloster where he sang in a gospel singing group as a child.

In 1965, he moved to Vicksburg, MS and attended Rosa A. Temple High where he graduated in '66. After graduation he entered the U.S. Army and became a drill sergeant in Fort Polk, LA. Not long after, he deployed to Vietnam. During his fight in the Vietnam War, he received what his friends called, his "Million Dollar Wound," while in heavy combat fighting to save his company of soldiers. He

was awarded the Purple Heart and the Bronze Star for his bravery.

While in the military he married his first wife and had two beautiful children, Mona Stuckey and Christopher Wallace Horton.

After returning from the war to his home in Vicksburg, he got a job at Westing House Electric and in the summer of 1972 he met Janie. They married in '76. Both attended Hinds College where she became a nurse and he later earned his Bachelors in Psychology at Jackson State. In their early years of marriage they attended Mount Calvary Baptist Church and sang in the choir together. In 1979 Wallace and Janie moved to Jackson, MS. In their union they had two sons, Terrance Horton in 1980 and Jeremy Horton in 1990.

In 1993, Wallace and his family found a home outside of their home in becoming members of New Horizon Church. After being a devout member and developing a close relationship with his friend/Bishop, Ronnie Crudup Sr., he was honored by being made a deacon and later an elder of the church. He operated the bookstore and coffee shop, which soon became a centerpiece of the church filled with love and laughter for all who stopped by.

He was preceded in death by his mother and father and his brothers Curtis and Willie Horton. He leaves to cherish his memory, his wife of 44 years Janie Horton; six children Mona Stuckey, Wallace Christopher Horton, Alfred Jones, Sheila Jones, Sgt. 1st Class Terrance Horton (Nicole) and Jeremy Horton; siblings Essie Brown, James Horton, Thelma Carter (William) and Calvin Horton (Queen); an abundance of grandchildren, nieces, nephews, and the sisters and brothers in heart whom he loved dearly, along with his church family and all those he called sons, daughters and friends.

Committal interment was held at Mississippi Veterans Memorial Cemetery in Newton, MS Friday, December 11, 2020.



NOVEMBER 27-29 & DECEMBER 4-23

Featuring

ONCE AGAIN, MORE THAN 200,000 TWINKLING WHITE LIGHTS WILL SPARKLE AND LIGHT UP THE CITY'S HISTORIC COURTHOUSE SQUARE, BRINGING THE MAGIC AND NOSTALGIA OF THE HOLIDAYS. BACK THIS YEAR IS THE INTERACTIVE CHRISTMAS VILLAGE, GIVING CHILDREN THE OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE REINDEER FOOD FOR SANTA'S REINDEER TO EAT ON CHRISTMAS EVE.

NEWS FOR 2020

TOWERING THREE STORY FERRIS WHEEL

14TH ANNUAL "SIP 'N CIDER, DECEMBER 11TH.

601.859.1307 | 800.844.3369
VISIT CANTONTOURISM.COM FOR EVENT DETAILS.
#VISITMSRESPONSIBLY

Mississippi Small Farm and Agribusiness Center to celebrate two years of educating new and beginning farmers

By Renita Lacy
Alcorn staff writer

The Farm Management Educational Program (FMEP) for New, Beginning Farmers and Ranchers in Mississippi is a \$600,000 federally funded grant by the United States Department of Agriculture's National Institute of Food and Agriculture (USDA-NIFA). In 2018, Alcorn State University's Mississippi Small Farm and Agribusiness Center (MSFAC) became a recipient of this award, intending to recruit, train and provide at least 300 new, beginning farmers and ranchers in the state of Mississippi with the necessary resources to create a practical farm plan.

On Thursday, January 21, MSFAC will host its FMEP Year Two Wrap-Up Session at 10 a.m. via Zoom. The event will demonstrate

progress made in achieving the objectives above, as well as highlight and identify targets for the upcoming year. Cindy Ayers-Elliott, owner of Foot Print Farms in Jackson, MS, will serve as the event's guest speaker.

Elizabeth Myles, associate director, MSFAC, expresses her satisfaction with the program's success during its second year. She shares that although the news of the shutdown initially put things on hold, she and her team didn't lose hope in finding ways to assist those in need.

"As we began our Year 2 project activities, the Coronavirus shut everything down, and that was really scary for us," said Myles. "But my staff and I continued to meet and formulate ideas. By Mid-May, we had developed a plan to move

all of our workshops and demonstrations to virtual formats. I must say that I am rather pleased with how things have turned out," she stated.

During the event, individuals can expect to receive insight on a variety of topics and issues faced by new and beginning farmers. Program participants and grant partners who have completed Year 2 program activities will also be in attendance to reflect and report on the year's accomplishments, goals, and objectives.

The event is currently free and open to the public. To register, visit <https://forms.gle/xRTaLdoigSefrewq7>.

For more information or to learn more, please contact Charlotte Dailey, project assistant, at 601.877.6449 or cdailey@alcorn.edu.



(L to R) Edmund Buckner, dean and director of Land-Grant Programs, Alcorn State University, pictured with a 2019 program participant and Elizabeth Myles, associate director of MSFAC.

MOORE & MOORE Cleaning Service

OFFERING \$1000
REFERAL BONUS TO THE PERSON
THAT CAN SEND THE MOST REFERRALS IN
A MONTH. PLEASE CALL
601-317-2735 FOR DETAILS.



Craig Moore
Owner/Operator

*All Types of Cleaning Services
Over 30 Years of Experience
Free Estimates
Licensed & Bonded*

Moore & Moore Cleaning Services

Commercial & Residential Cleaning

*We clean: Office Buildings, Schools, Daycares
Churches, Restaurants - whatever you need.*

*Floor Stripping & Waxing, Carpet Cleaning,
Restrooms & All Other Janitorial Services
with Professional Results*

601.317.2735

Email: craig.moore78@yahoo.com

www.mooreandmoorecleaningserviceandautosalesllc

2659 Livingston Road, Jackson, MS 39213

*The person that sends us the most referrals will
receive a \$200.00 referral fee.*

MAID SERVICES AVAILABLE

The Mississippi Link™

Volume 27 • Number 8

December 17 - 23, 2020

© copyright 2020. All rights reserved.

Publisher.....Jackie Hampton
Copy Editor.....Minnie Garrett
Graphics.....Marcus Johnson
Photographers.....Kevin Bradley & Jay Johnson

Member:



The Mississippi Link [USPS 017224] is published weekly by The Mississippi Link, Inc. Offices located at 2659 Livingston Road, Jackson, MS 39213. Mailing address is P.O. Box 11307, Jackson, MS 39283-1307 or e-mail us at: editor@mississippilink.com; Please visit our website at: www.mississippilink.com. Phone: (601) 896-0084, Fax 896-0091, out of state 1-800-748-9747. Periodical Postage Rate Paid at Jackson, MS.

Deadline: The deadline for submitting items to be considered for publication is Tuesday at 10 a.m.

Subscriptions are \$32 per year; \$64 for two years or \$96 for three years.

Postmaster:
Send all address changes to The Mississippi Link,
P.O. Box 11307, Jackson, MS 39283-1307.

Advertising: For all advertising information,
please call (601) 896-0084.

The Mississippi Link accepts no responsibility for unsolicited materials and in general does not return them to sender. Manuscripts and photographs submitted for publication are welcome by The Mississippi Link, but no responsibility can be taken for sources considered to be authoritative, because the publication cannot guarantee their accuracy. Reproduction or use, without permission, of editorial or graphic content, is prohibited.

Subscribe TODAY

2659 Livingston Road • Jackson MS, 39213

601-896-0084 • www.mississippilink.com

The Mississippi Link

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____

e-Mail _____

CHECK
ONE

☐ 1 year

☐ 2 year

☐ 3 year

\$32

1 year
subscription

\$64

2 year
subscription

\$96

3 year
subscription

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

As statues fall, protests rise, civil rights museums are key

By Tonyaa Weathersbee
Associated Press

In 1963, Margaret Walker’s neighbor, civil rights activist Medgar Evers, was assassinated by Byron De La Beckwith, a white supremacist, in Jackson, Mississippi.

Then, 150 miles north of Jackson, Martin Luther King Jr. was assassinated by James Earl Ray in Memphis, Tennessee.

Yet still standing were Confederate monuments that fueled the white supremacist ideas which got Evers, King and countless other black people killed or brutalized or discriminated against.

In Mississippi, those monuments sit in 131 public spaces alone.

So, when Walker, poet and author of the neo-slave narrative, “Jubilee,” founded the Institute for the Study of the History, Life and Culture of Black People in 1968, she ensured that the truths of black people like Evers and King didn’t drown in a sea of Confederate myths. Now known as the Margaret Walker Center, it is a museum and archival center based at Jackson State University in Mississippi.

“Margaret lived in Jackson on the same street as Medgar Evers,” said Robert Luckett, associate professor of history at Jackson State and director of the center.

“Margaret founded us in 1968, and to do that in Mississippi was an activist statement. For her to have the courage and wherewithal to make that happen is a remarkable testimony to her, and to the strength of the idea. It is reflective of the kind of crucial roles these museums have been playing in preserving and promoting African-American history and culture.”

Other museums of black history, such as the Mississippi Civil Rights Museum in Jackson and the Emmett Till Museum Interpretive Center in Sumner, also exist to show the brutal truths of racism and Jim Crow, as well as the triumphs and resiliency of black people in Mississippi.

So do Alabama museums such as the Birmingham Civil Rights Center, the Civil Rights Memorial at the Southern Poverty Law Center in Montgomery and the National Memorial for Peace and Justice and the Legacy Museum, also in Montgomery – as does the National Civil Rights Museum in Memphis, Tennessee.

Reckoning With Confederate Past

And, in an age in which the nation is being challenged to reckon with its Confederate past, civil rights museums and archival centers will likely play an even larger role in helping to set the racial record straight, said Terri Lee Freeman, president of the NCRM.

“I think the role of the museum has always been to educate and to educate truthfully about the subject matter and about the topic,” Freeman said. “Just because you take down the Confederate statue doesn’t mean the history didn’t happen, so the role there is to be accurate and authentic in our interpretation of the history.

“I don’t think our role has changed any. The questions may be more frequent than they once were, but the answers are still the same.”

The movement to topple Confederate statues, as well as a summer of protests over unarmed black people being killed by police officers and the disproportionate impact that the COVID-19 pandemic is having on black

people has likely generated more questions that civil rights memorials and museums are uniquely positioned to provide context, said Tafeni English, director of the Civil Rights Memorial Center in Montgomery.

The memorial, which is part of the Southern Poverty Law Center, was unveiled in 1989 and designed by Maya Lin, the architect of the Vietnam War Memorial. Inscribed on granite are the names of 40 civil rights martyrs killed from 1955 – the year that Till was murdered – to 1968, when King was killed.

That memorial, as well as the Equal Justice Initiative’s Legacy Museum and National Memorial for Peace and Justice, which opened in 2018, pays homage to victims of slavery, lynchings and racial terrorism.

“The interpretive center is a full experience where we not only share the stories of the martyrs on the wall, but we also talk about the work of SPLC, specifically on a wall which says ‘The March Continues,’ which speaks to the injustices of today,” English said.

“The Emmanuel Nine (black parishioners who were murdered in a Charleston church by white supremacist Dylann Roof in 2015) are included on the wall. White supremacy and terrorism still have strong holds in our country, and we don’t talk about it nearly enough.”

Educating About The History Of Racism

English said that civil rights museums also play a role in educating people about the history of racism and white supremacy by presenting material and exhibits that add historical context to current issues.

“Overall, I think people see museums as being pretty static, that we tell a story and that’s it,” she said.

“Well, no, that’s not how it works. As our communities change and as social justice issues emerge, museums are able to tell the full story about all of it.”

Luckett, of the Margaret Walker Center, agrees.

Next year, for example, Luckett said the center will host an exhibit based on the Pulitzer Prize-winning book by Matthew Desmond: “Eviction: Poverty and Profit in the American City.” That topic encompasses the impacts of racism and inequality.

And the Mississippi Civil Rights Museum, which opened in 2017, also offers a space titled, “Where Do We Go From Here,” to help visitors reflect on their experiences and offer ideas on how to continue to improve society.

That museum, Luckett said, is also a testament to the determination of black people’s determination to tell the Mississippi civil rights story.

“I would argue that museum, in the context of memorials and monuments, reflects a community-driven effort to reflect the kind of monument that we should all be proud of, because that museum is a \$90 million project that is going to withstand the test of time,” said Luckett, who was on the team of scholars who helped to plan it.

“The Legislature stayed out of most of it, except for the funding, which was good,” he said. “It allowed us to drive a more honest narrative of civil rights in Mississippi. Community meetings were held throughout the state, and the main thing they wanted was for the truth to be told.

“There’s a deep honesty reflected in the civil rights museum.”

Mississippi home of Medgar Evers declared national monument



Home of slain Civil Rights leader Medgar Evers in Jackson, MS declared a national monument.

Associated Press

The Mississippi home where civil rights leader Medgar Evers was assassinated in 1963 has been declared a national monument.

The modest three-bedroom home in Jackson where Evers lived with his wife, Myrlie, and their children joins more than 150 U.S. landmarks awarded the distinction since 1906. Interior Secretary David Bernhardt called Evers a “true American hero.”

“It is our solemn responsibility as caretakers of America’s national treasures to tell the whole story of America’s heritage for the benefit of present and future generations,” Bernhardt said in a statement. “The life works of these great

Americans helped shape our nation in making the United States a more perfect union, and for that, we should all be grateful.”

The Department of the Interior announced the designation Thursday, saying the National Park Service will manage the property.

Evers became a target for death threats as he fought segregation and racism in Mississippi as a field director for the NAACP. He was fatally shot outside the home June 12, 1963, while his wife and children were inside.

Byron De La Beckwith, a Ku Klux Klan member, was convicted of murder and sentenced to life in prison for Evers’ slaying more than 30 years later in 1994,

after two trials in the 1960s ended in hung juries.

Three of Mississippi’s members of Congress led a push to have Evers’ home declared a national monument in 2018, the *Sun Herald* reported. President Donald Trump approved the designation last year.

“The designation of his home is an everlasting tribute to his legacy,” U.S. Rep. Bennie Thompson, a Mississippi Democrat, said in a statement. “The importance of protecting the heritage and important artifacts for the enjoyment of all, and historical understanding, cannot be overstated. I am honored that the legacy of an icon in American history, Medgar Wiley Evers will forever be preserved.”

International Museum of Muslim Cultures goes virtual in December 2020

NNPANewswirePR

The International Museum of Muslim Cultures (IMMC), 201 E. Pascagoula St., in Jackson, like all Americans and world citizens, have been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic with temporary closures and economic slowdowns. However, the pace of the work to further the museum’s purposes and outreach have been enhanced with several opportunities.

The Muslim Public Affairs Council (MPAC), with offices in Los Angeles and Washington, D.C., is hosting IMMC in a ZOOM Webinar, Dec. 17, 2020 - 6 p.m. Central/7 p.m. Eastern/4 p.m. Pacific times, titled: Exploring African Islamic Contributions to Civilization. This webinar will serve as a kickoff to an extended webinar series, focusing on social justice and equity, diversity and inclusion. This webinar conversation will coincide with the launch of IMMC’s 2021-2027 National Tour of its two signature exhibitions: The Legacy of Timbuktu and the “Muslims with Christians and Jews, An Exhibition of Covenants and Coexistence.” Go to free registration for the special webinar: <https://bit.ly/2INExe1>.

To follow on Dec. 30, 2020 - 6 p.m. Central time – is the “2020 IMMC Excellence Awards Fundraising Gala, Celebrating 20 Years.” This will be a virtual night of art and culture at America’s first Muslim Museum as a FREE online event. Featured will be special awards presentations, appearances from artists across the USA, launch of IMMC’s co-founding families’ short biographical documentary series, along with a new Textile Exhibit and more. For registration, visit www.Muslim-Museum.org. Your generous donations are welcomed.

About MPAC: Founded in 1988, the Muslim Public Affairs Council (MPAC) is a national public affairs non-profit organization working to promote and strengthen American pluralism by increasing understanding and improving policies that impact American Muslims. Over the past 30 years, MPAC has built a reputation of being a dynamic and trusted American Muslim voice for policymakers, opinion shapers, and community organizers across the country.

About IMMC: In December 2000, a group of Muslims in Jackson identified the need for developing a local museum to educate the public about Islamic history and culture and the contributions of Muslims to world civilization. With the dedication of co-founders Okolo Rashid and Emad Al-Turk and a steering team of national and international scholars, experts and community members, the museum opened in April 2001 with a major exhibition, Islamic Moorish Spain: Its Legacy to Europe and the West as a companion exhibit to The Majesty of Spain. Its two signature exhibits now are The Legacy of Timbuktu and the “Muslims with Christians and Jews, An Exhibition of Covenants and Coexistence.”

Muslim Public Affairs Council (MPAC) presents:
“Exploring African Islamic Contributions to Civilization –
Dec. 17, 6 PM Central/7 PM Eastern/4 PM Pacific
and
IMMC Celebrates 20th Anniversary: Virtual Cultural Extravaganza/Fundraiser Gala
Dec. 30 – 6 PM Central Time/7 PM Eastern/4PM Pacific



After 110K virus deaths, nursing homes face vaccine fears

By Bernard Condon and Matt Sedensky
Associated Press

After 110,000 deaths ravaged the nation’s nursing homes and pushed them to the front of the vaccine line, they now face a vexing problem: Skeptical residents and workers balking at getting the shots.

Being first has come with persistent fears that the places hit hardest in the pandemic – accounting for nearly 40% of the nation’s death toll – could be put at risk again by vaccines sped into development in months rather than years. Some who live and work in homes question if enough testing was done on the elderly, if enough is known of side effects and if the shots could do more harm than good.

“You go get that first and let me know how you feel,” said Denise Schwartz, whose 84-year-old mother lives at an assisted living facility in East Northport, New York, and plans to decline the vaccine. “Obviously it would be horrible for her to get COVID, but is it totally safe for someone who’s elderly and in fragile health?”

As the U.S. begins shipping out freezer-packed vials of newly approved vaccine from Pfizer and its German partner BioNTech, public health officials say the answer is yes.

Everyone from members of the military to former presidents have announced their intentions to get the shots, echoing the refrains of others who say the drugs are the product of rigorous review, firm data and independent experts.

In an ongoing study of nearly 44,000 people, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration found the vaccine was safe and more than 90% effective across recipients of different ages, including older adults and those with health problems that put them at high risk of COVID-19.

But the undercurrent of doubt in nursing homes persists, sometimes fueled by divisive politics, distrust of institutions and misinformation. And so far, the workers are the ones being heard the loudest.

“Folks are concerned about

it, that it was rushed through by people who were not listening to the science,” said Denise Allegretti, a director at 1999 SEIU, the nation’s largest healthcare worker union.

Internal surveys by groups including the American Nurses Foundation suggest many workers in long-term care facilities are so concerned about the vaccine they would refuse it.

“I will not be the test dummy,” wrote one respondent to a survey by the National Association of Health Care Assistants. “It’s not going to be safe and I won’t trust it,” added another. Some respondents just answered, “No way!”

Christina Chiger, a 33-year-veteran nurse’s aide at a nursing home in Tampa, Florida, is exhausted and frightened after a relentless nine months that left two dozen residents dead and made 16-hour shifts common. But she has no plans to take the vaccine, for now at least.

“Will there be side effects? Will it actually work?” she asked. “If we all get sick from taking this, who’s going to take care of our patients?”

Resistance to the vaccine in nursing homes is not entirely unexpected – about 3 in 10 staffers, and 2 in 10 residents were not vaccinated for the flu last year, for example – but it’s no less worrisome.

Given how easily COVID-19 spreads, particularly in communal settings, experts believe around 70% of the population will need to receive the vaccine for it to be successful.

“Nursing home staff has always been a challenge to vaccinate,” said Litjen Tan, chief strategist at the advocacy group Immunization Action Coalition. “We’re cutting it close.”

Cultural issues could also be at play. People of color make up a majority of aides and other frontline workers in nursing homes, and some minorities express mistrust of medicine that experts see linked with past abuses.

A poll released last week by The Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research found black and Hispanic people in the U.S. are far less

likely than white people to agree to be vaccinated. Some 53% of whites said they would get the shots, compared with 24% of blacks and 34% of Hispanics.

The AP-NORC poll also found women were less likely than men to say they would be vaccinated. An estimated 9 in 10 front-line nursing home workers are women. Overall, about a quarter of U.S. adults said they would refuse to get a vaccine, and another quarter said they weren’t sure.

“They don’t trust it. They don’t trust the science,” said Lori Porter, who heads the health assistants group and blames the Trump administration for making faith in science a political issue and undermining his own experts. “There’s so much misinformation that has circled over this pandemic this whole year that they don’t feel they can trust anyone.”

The federal government is seeking to blunt such attitudes with a \$250 million ad campaign set to roll out this week that will eventually target healthcare workers and vulnerable groups. The pitch touts how vaccines will help beat COVID-19 the same way they defeated smallpox, measles and polio.

“One of the great triumphs of medical science ... has been vaccinations,” Anthony Fauci, the top U.S. infectious disease scientist, said in one video.

The American Health Care Association, which represents nursing homes, has called for every resident and staff member to get both vaccine doses by March 1, even though it expects no federal or state mandates requiring shots.

“Our hope is that we get widespread acceptance of the vaccine,” said AHCA’s president, Mark Parkinson. “But if we don’t, I assure you that our organization as well as individual operators will be analyzing whether or not they can mandate the vaccine. We’re just hoping that we don’t have to go there.”

John Sauer, head of the Wisconsin branch of LeadingAge, which represents non-profit long-term care facilities, said the misery most residents and

workers have already witnessed should be all the convincing they need. “They know that this could literally be a life-and-death situation.”

No reliable gauges of nursing home residents’ opinion on the coronavirus vaccine have emerged. Among older adults in general, the AP-NORC poll found greater acceptance of the vaccine than among younger people.

But fears persist among many older people, over the possibility of bad interactions for people already on a long list of drugs, or of undiscovered problems specific to their age group.

As with many vaccines, the drug companies say recipients may experience fever, fatigue or sore arms from the injection. Authorities are investigating several allergic reactions reported in Britain by health workers with a history of severe allergies.

Penelope Ann Shaw, a 77-year-old nursing home resident in Braintree, Massachusetts, said she plans to refuse the vaccine, as she does with annual flu shots, because of drug allergies and her concerns about how little is known about the new coronavirus drugs.

“For me, I think it’s a little premature,” said Shaw, who has Guillain-Barre syndrome, an immune system disorder, and was the lone long-term care resident to serve on the federal Coronavirus Commission for Safety and Quality in Nursing Homes. “You’re not doing it with me.”

After a year in which many facilities have walled off to the world, crippling some residents in isolation, and leading to medical declines and deaths in others, some need no convincing.

Among them is 85-year-old Harriet Krakowsky, a resident of the Hebrew Home at Riverdale in New York City, who had friends killed by the virus and is still waiting for visitation restrictions to cease so she can meet two great-grandchildren who were born this year.

“For the first time in six or seven months,” she said, “there’s a little light at the end of the tunnel.”

Health workers prioritized as vaccine arrives in Mississippi

Associated Press

The first shipment of coronavirus vaccine has arrived in Mississippi, and the state’s top health official said he plans to be among the first to receive it Monday in a show of confidence for the newly developed shot.

State Health Officer Dr. Thomas Dobbs said last week Mississippi has been approved by the federal government for an initial batch of 25,000 doses of the vaccine developed by Pfizer Inc. and its German partner BioNTech. Officials said in a news release Monday morning that the doses have arrived.

The state health officer has said for weeks that he will be among the first to receive the vaccine. Dobbs and State Epidemiologist Dr. Paul Byers will get the shots in a televised briefing at 1 p.m. on Monday, according to the state Department of Health.

The first doses in Mississippi will go to the state’s hospitals for healthcare workers, Dobbs said. After hospitals, long-term care facilities will be next in line. The general public may not get the vaccine until the spring or summer of next year.

Packed in dry ice to stay at ultra-frozen temperatures,

Mississippi’s shipment was part of 3 million doses being shipped this week throughout the country.

The FDA, considered the world’s strictest medical regulator, said the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine appears safe and strongly protective, and it laid out the data in a daylong public meeting last week for scientists and consumers alike to see.

In winning approval for widespread emergency use, the vaccine was cleared before a final study in nearly 44,000 people is complete. That research is continuing to try to answer additional questions.

Officials say more of the vaccine will arrive each week. Later this week, the FDA will decide whether to green-light the world’s second rigorously studied COVID-19 vaccine, made by Moderna Inc.

The state Health Department reported Monday that Mississippi had 1,648 new confirmed cases of the highly contagious virus as of Sunday evening. The department also reported five new deaths Monday, with all of them happening on Saturday and Sunday. The state has reported nearly 181,100 cases of the virus and 4,204 deaths from it since the start of the pandemic.

ANYTIME ONLINE

Breaking News

Streaming Videos

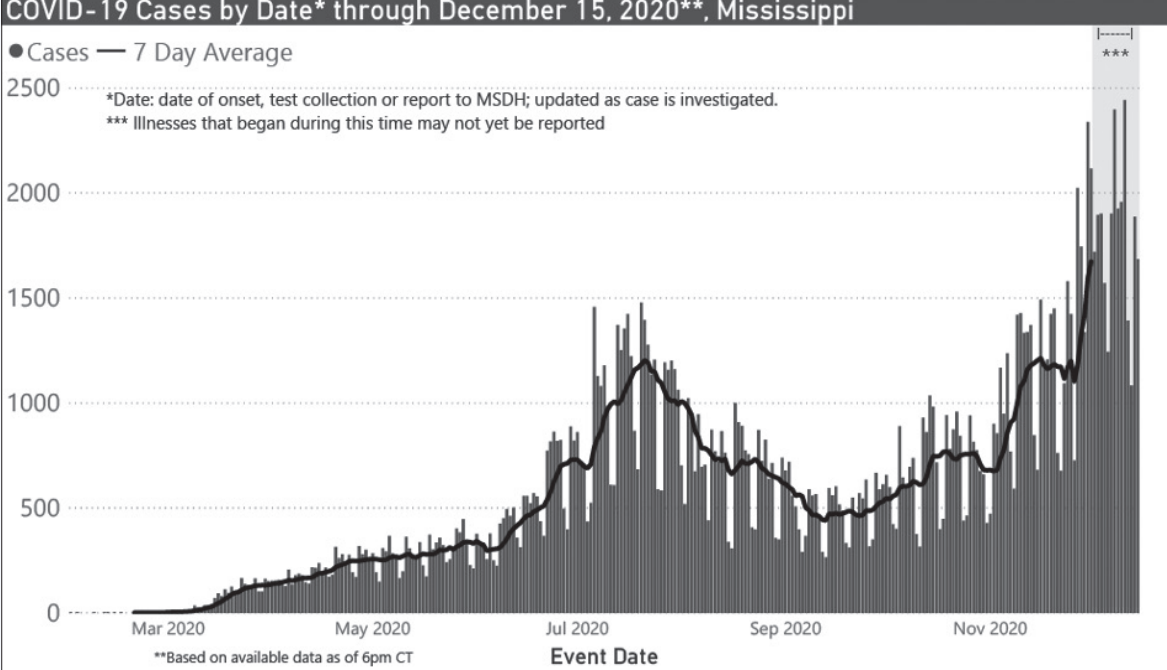
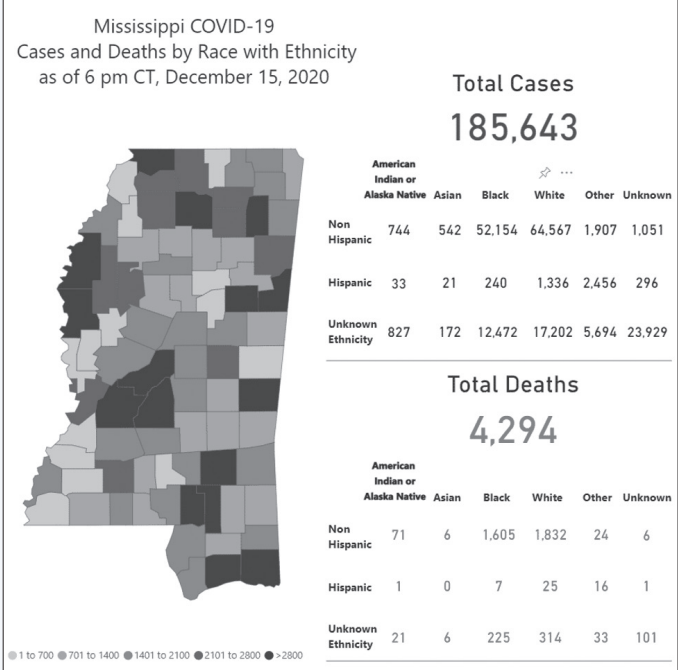
Interactive Blogs



Visit our newly designed website:

www.mississippilink.com

MISSISSIPPI COVID-19 UPDATE



Seek the Lord with all your heart

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



David said in Psalm 42:1, “As the hart panteth after the water brooks, so panteth my soul after thee, O God.” Men long for a satisfaction in their souls that is not found in earthly things, so we have to show them that there is a better way. We can do that by having confidence, faith, and trust in God. Jesus said in Matthew 5:3, “Blessed are the poor in spirit for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.” One cannot get saved if we do not feel our need for God. In other words, we must realize, “Without God we can’t make it. We need Him.” That

is the only way we can enter the kingdom of heaven. Verse 6 says, “Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled.” Unless we want this experience and are willing to die out to self for it, we are not going to get it. We must be willing to lay aside many things to follow Jesus. If we do not, no matter what we profess, sooner or later, the little thing we are holding on to will take us down. I have seen people measure to everything except one little thing that they wanted to hold on to, and it was just a matter of time until they went down because they were not willing to completely die out to self and recognize that, “God, we

need you more than this one little thing we want to hold on to”. We need to surrender all. In 2 Chronicles, chapter 15, when the people sought the Lord with all their hearts, God blessed them richly, and they lived in peace. Verses 12-15 read: “And they entered into a covenant to seek the Lord God of their fathers with all their heart and with all their soul; that whosoever would not seek the Lord God of Israel should be put to death, whether small or great, whether man or woman. And they sware unto the Lord with a loud voice, and with shouting, and with trumpets, and with cornets. And all Judah rejoice at the oath: for they had sworn with all their heart and sought him with their whole

desire; and he was found of them: And the Lord gave them rest round about.” Psalm 27:4 states, “One thing I have I desire of the Lord, that will I seek after; that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the Lord, and to inquire in His temple.” Psalm 84:10 says, “For a day in thy courts is better than a thousand. I had rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God, than to dwell in the tents of wickedness.” 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.

P R E S E R V E D The blessing of solitude

By Shewanda Riley
Columnist



A few years ago, I was having a conversation with a friend that was interrupted by a phone call. Even if I hadn’t heard her part of the conversation, her body language gave away her feelings about what was turning into an uncomfortable phone call. When she scribbled on a napkin some of what her male friend on the other end of the phone was saying, I knew she had her work cut out for her in her “let’s be friends” conversation. The more she insisted she saw him as a “brother,” the more he insisted that there was “something more” between them. When she finally ended the call, she vigorously shook her head in frustration. Apparently, that was the third phone call she’d had from him in less than a week. She dismissed it as a coincidence since the holidays were getting near. She didn’t think he or the ex-boyfriend of hers from 7 years ago who’d also insisted a week earlier that she was his wife (in his words, “she was just being stubborn”) were sincere. We couldn’t say for sure, but we guessed that neither one was serious about anything other than trying not to be alone during the upcoming holiday season. The holidays bring a double-edged sword of both happiness and sadness. We are happy to be around our treasured family and friends, but sad to think of others who are no longer with us. Also, we might be happy to have extended time off, but get restless if we have to spend too much of that time by ourselves. This year, all of these feelings

are complicated with the additional stress that comes from the extended periods of self-isolation during the COVID-19 pandemic. Years ago, I wrote that I believed that God allowed us to experience seasons of solitude so we can develop a much stronger connection with him. It’s so hard to see it sometimes but there is a blessing of solitude where we do our best connecting with God. There are no distractions, just the sweet aroma of God’s presence. During solitude, we learn the important lesson of how to treasure the quiet moments and spend time in God’s presence. Luke 5:16 is one of a few scriptures that describes how Jesus chose to have moments of solitude: “But Jesus often withdrew to lonely places and prayed.” Often, in these times, he used his moments of solitude to pray and reconnect with God. Admittedly, solitude can be emotionally draining but it is a unique place where we can have tremendous growth, if we are willing to do the spiritual and emotional work. I think about how I have feared and struggled with solitude because it seemed like I was so disconnected from others. I now see that I was really missing out on a chance to get better connected to God. Rather than focusing on the disconnection from others, I’m now able to enjoy the blessing of solitude and the stronger connection with God. Shewanda Riley is a Fort Worth, Texas based author of “Love Hangover: Moving from Pain to Purpose After a Relationship Ends” and “Writing to the Beat of God’s Heart: A Book of Prayers for Writers.” Email preservedby-purpose@gmail.com or follow her on Twitter @shewanda.



Moving the Masses Toward the Mission of the Master

1600 Florence Avenue
Jackson, Mississippi 39204
601-3552670 • 601-355-0760 (Fax)
www.collegehillchurch.org
Chmbc@collegehillchurch.org

COLLEGE HILL
MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

SUNDAY
Worship Services
10:00 a.m.
Sunday School 8:45 a.m.

MONDAY
Intercessory Prayer 9:00 a.m.

WEDNESDAY
Prayer Service 6:30 p.m.
Classes: Children • Youth • Adult • 7:00p.m.



New Horizon Church
INTERNATIONAL
A place of love and victory.

Bishop Ronnie C. Crudup, Sr.
1750 Ellis Avenue • Jackson, MS 39204
OFFICE: 601-371-1427 • FAX: 601-371-8282
www.nhcms.org

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

WEDNESDAY
7:00 p.m. - Bible Class

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

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

True Light Baptist Church

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

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

The Light Line PRAYER

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

Phone Number: (425) 436-6260
(712) 832-8330 (Alternate Number)
YouTube Channel: True Light Baptist Church

Access Code: 627 6205#

New Bethel Missionary Baptist Church

Pastor, Dr. F. R. Lenoir



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

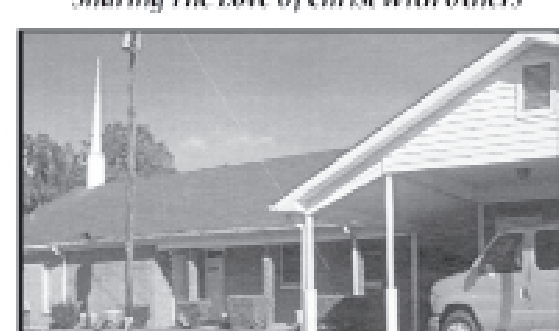


"A Church Preparing for a Home Not Built by Man"

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

Crossroads Church of God

Sharing The Love Of Christ With Others



Sunday Morning Fellowship: 9:30 a.m.
Sunday School: 10 a.m.

Sunday Worship Service: 11:15 a.m.
(Following worship service 1st Sunday)

Wednesday Prayer/Bible Study: 7 p.m.

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

The other good news from the 2020 election

By Ben Jealous
TriceEdneyWire.com



While President Donald Trump continues to hog media attention with his dishonest “stolen election” claims, we should devote some attention to the good news that a diverse group of young progressive leaders were elected to office all across the country this year.

People For the American Way’s Next Up Victory Fund supports young progressive candidates who demonstrate leadership ability and a commitment to making positive change. Since 2017 we have helped more than 300 promising and accomplished young progressives get elected to state and local office.

This year, some of our endorsed candidates were running for office for the first time. Some were running for reelection. Some were stepping up to a position of greater responsibility. A majority were women and more than two-thirds were black, indigenous, or people of color. Eighty-five of them will be serving their communities in public office next year, and some of them will be helping to lead our nation in the years ahead.

Here are a few of the 2020 success stories that can give us all hope for a brighter future.

Baltimore City Council President Brandon Scott was elected the city’s youngest mayor since 1904. He was first elected to the city council in 2011 when he was just 27 years old – and he had already built a record of community service work. Next Up endorsed

Scott in the primary election based on his record of fighting for better schools, working to end gun violence and improving opportunities and wages for working families.

Christian Menefee became the first black person and the youngest person ever elected as district attorney in Harris County, Texas. Harris County’s population is greater than the population of more than half the states. Next Up endorsed Menefee as part of a slate of candidates committed to stopping unjust police killings of civilians and protecting black and brown communities through greater accountability for law enforcement.

In Florida, Nancy Metayer was elected to the Coral Springs City Commission. An environmental scientist and public health advocate, Metayer is the first black woman and only the second black person to serve on the commission in the city’s history.

In North Carolina, Ricky Hurtado became the first Latino Democrat to be elected to the state legislature and Nida Allam was elected to the Durham County Commission, making her the first Muslim woman elected to any office in the state.

Rebecca Mitchell was part of the success story in Georgia this year. She was elected to House District 106, unseating the powerful Republican House Ways and Means Committee chairman.

In addition to the importance of putting a diverse group of talented people in office, the excitement generated by these candidates can have “upballot” effects – boosting congressional and presidential

candidates by increasing turnout. According to TIME, part of the story in Georgia this year, where Next Up endorsed 17 candidates was “unprecedented youth voter turnout.”

The success of so many young progressive leaders is a hopeful affirmation that America’s future does not belong to white supremacists or politicians who try to delegitimize and disenfranchise black voters. Our future belongs to Americans who embrace our destiny as a diverse, multiracial, multi-cultural democracy.

We all know that everyone doesn’t share that vision. Some are fighting it tooth and nail. One of the most harmful legacies of the Trump era is the way that he energized extremists and created a climate in which people could feel comfortable expressing their bigotry.

Those are all reasons why it is so important that we invest in young people who have a clear sense of where we are, where we need to go, and what it will take to get us there. We can’t wait to see the great things these young winners will accomplish in the years ahead.

Ben Jealous serves as president of People For the American Way and People For the American Way Foundation. Jealous has decades of experience as a leader, coalition builder, campaigner for social justice and seasoned nonprofit executive. In 2008, he was chosen as the youngest-ever president and CEO of the NAACP. He is a graduate of Columbia University and Oxford, where he was a Rhodes Scholar, and he has taught at Princeton and the University of Pennsylvania.

Let us hope the vaccine beats COVID-19

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



We have been in various phases of lockdown and shut-down since March. Our movements have been inhibited and our lifestyles have been rearranged.

Wearing a mask has become a no-brainer. Going into a store automatically means that we must practice social distancing. That is just the way it is.

The month of December has always been celebrated as the holiday season. The vaccine is now here as well. The CDC advisers voted to recommend Pfizer/BionTech COVID-19 vaccine in the United States. Dr. Robert Redfield, director of the CDC signed off on it Sunday. According to reports, the first shipments of the vaccine happened on late Sunday.

First responders will be the first in line to receive the vaccine. After which those of us who have pre-existing conditions will receive it. In the coming months, those in the general population will receive the vaccine. Reports say that children under sixteen years of age will be the last to receive it.

A survey given recently revealed that 63% of us would be willing to take the vaccine. That number gives me pause. Maybe we are concerned about how quickly the vaccine was made. Arguably, this vaccine came on the scene rather quickly. Usually, it does take some time for research and testing in order to come up with a vaccine. Researchers counter and say they have been working on this vaccine for years.

As we know from the beginning, African Americans have been hit the hardest with COVID-19. A study by the Pew Research Center said that of 12,648 adults surveyed only 42% of African Americans would consider taking the vaccine. This compares to 63% of Hispanics.

Many of us remember the Tuskegee Syphilis Experiment. A partnership with the Public Health Service in 1931 was formed to examine the progression of syphilis in African-American men. The men were misguided, and treatment was not administered. As a result, black men and their families received a settlement of 10 million dollars. This injustice in healthcare has not been forgotten.

African Americans have not had adequate healthcare coupled with a reticence about going to the doctor. This is especially true for black men. I go to the doctor however there are many who will just not go.

“The black community’s distrust of the nation’s medical establishment is rooted in a long record of mistreatment. The late 1900’s were defined by medical breakthroughs in the medical community but many of these experiments and discoveries were made at the expense of black people’s human dignity,” said Dr. Reed Tuckson, co-founder of the Black Coalition Against COVID-19. He added, “There is a history of insults that have occurred in healthcare for people of color.”

However, Dr. Anthony Fauci said, “It would be doubly tragic that the lingering effects of that prevent you from doing something so important.”

Even while we have the vaccine now, there will be other hurdles to jump. First, the distribution to hospitals and healthcare facilities will be crucial. It will be also important to have both doses, 4 weeks apart so that the medication will work. We know that COVID-19 does not play favorites. It strikes all of us, sometimes without much warning. This trail of destruction must stop. The science says this vaccine can stop it.

America will have to ask itself a moral question. Will family, race, political affiliation or socio-economic status be determining factors in whether we take the vaccine or not? Each family will have to decide. Attitudes and opinions will vary.

What will yours be?

‘Twas A Year That Was Quite A Year

H. Ralph Samuels Jr.

‘Twas the year 2020 The likes before had not been seen it was more than a nightmare, not even close to a dream.	The coronavirus it’s called and it really has taken its toll; affecting every human being, black, white, young and old.	But I will not dare leave you without a ray of hope, and give a word of encouragement to help us endure and cope.	God has always made away and His truth we know so well, “Upon this rock I build my church and hell’s gates shall not prevail.”
Life threatening events brought about challenge and change; and times of uncertainty Oh yes, it’s been strange!	A world-wide pandemic became a serious invisible threat; the experts said “Brace yourself” you ain’t seen anything yet!!	Yes, it shut down the economy and put a lot of people out of work; it put the hospitals on edge, and shut the doors of the church.	So my brothers stay the course, and my sisters keep the faith; It ain’t over ‘til God says it’s over, and He said “this ain’t the day.
It started with a flood like the one in nineteen seventy-nine. and before it had receded the tornadoes were next up in line.	“How can we stop it?” is the question that was asked; Until there’s a vaccine, sanitize often and wear a mask!	And for those who are out of work and the job market is dead... pray in faith to God the Father, ask Him for your daily bread.	We made it through Thanksgiving. and Christmas is just a few days away. God’s indeed has been faithful, that’s all there is to say.
Destructive twister after twister some with strong F-4 windspeed; uprooting families and homes, putting a lot of folks in need.	That’s the best solution for now in trying to slowdown the spread; and flatten out the curve so don’t be a hard head.	We must all continue to pray for the doctors and the nurses; and all the frontline workers who carry out the “ministry of mercy.”	So may the gifts you receive be of the heavenly kind; and as we anticipate a new year, ponder this in your mind.
But just like a good neighbor, Mississippi strong was there; and caring people of faith offered hope, love and prayer.	It may be uncomfortable to wear a mask on your face; and I know it is tough with this shelter in place.	Every sanitation worker and every cleaning crew dispersed; Thank God for their great service, or this mess would be much worse.	Whatever you have lost or whatever you have gained; thank God for the lesson learned, though it’s hard to explain.
With vans and cars and truckloads of supplies; they brought water, food and clothes, it brought tears to your eyes.	But it’s for all of our safety so take heed and care for yourself; but if you won’t do it for you do it for the good of someone else.	Now the church doors that were shut are just made of brick and mortar; Christ’s church is always open and we’re marching by God’s order.	Leave bitterness and anger and negative thoughts all behind; enter the New Year with forgiveness, be joyful, thankful and kind.
Neighbor helping neighbor, and people helping people; Christ’s church doing ministry because we’re more than the steeple.	You may not have any symptoms, but you still could be a carrier; and with so many unknowns, that makes it even scarier!	Worship is still taking place, ministry is still going on; the word of God is still being preached, and praise is still in our song!	My toast to everyone is a prayer full of good cheer; Merry Christmas to all and a safe and prosperous New Year!
Recovery is still ongoing and it will take awhile so it seems cause we’re now having to deal with this COVID-19.	Too many people have already died, some had various complications; and we need to prepare wisely for an undetermined duration.	Sunday school is now online. Bible study is on Zoom, heaven’s telephone is in the heart, so prayer is still in the room.	©2020 H Ralph Samuels, Jr. ‘The Name Inspires The Pen’

Combating health disparities in the African-American community

By Tonyaa Weathersbee
Associated Press

The African American Wellness Project (AAWP) has announced a partnership with VNR1 Communications to release a nationally syndicated Public Service Announcement (PSA) campaign on the health issues that disproportionately affect the black community.

According to a news release, the partnership formed because of healthcare inequities between the African-American community and the rest of America.

The PSA’s will highlight healthcare issues that disproportionately affect the African-American and other minority communities at higher prevalence and severity.

“We are at an unprecedented time in our nation’s history. Racism is an omnipresent public health burden,” said Dr. Michael LeNoir, one of the nation’s top black physicians and AAWP’s founder.

“We believe that health disparities will exist if we allow them to continue and that through partnerships with companies, like VNR1, we can help eliminate disparities in health and healthcare for African Americans,” added Dr. LeNoir, a past president of the National Medical Association who also has more than 25 years in broadcasting.

VNR1 counts among the largest PSA and media relations groups in the U.S. with more than 33 years of production and media experience.

Pioneering digital media distribution systems with Digital PSA Platforms, Digital News Releases, and Digital Thought Leader platforms, VNR1 has created new capabilities for organizations to

place multimedia content directly in the hands of clients, the public and media.

Through this first-of-a-kind partnership, the PSAs will be distributed monthly to 10,000 radio stations and 2,500 TV stations and networks, and it will address critical topics like asthma and diabetes.

“We are extremely excited about partnering with AAWP and Dr. LeNoir to make a difference,” said Jack Trammel, president of VNR1 Communications.

“Dr. LeNoir is a respected and trusted voice in the African American community, and this partnership represents what VHR1 stands for, delivering relevant, timely, and needed multimedia content to diverse audiences.”

AAWP officials noted that the COVID-19 pandemic and the racial and ethnic divide in America had taken an unprecedented toll.

Inferior housing and economic conditions have caused minority communities to be placed at a higher risk of contracting and dying from COVID-19, AAWP officials noted, citing statistics showing that African Americans are three times more likely to die from COVID-19.

“We are at an unprecedented time in our nation’s history,” Dr. LeNoir proclaimed.

“Racism is an omnipresent public health burden. At AAWP, we believe that health disparities will exist if we allow them to continue and that through partnerships with companies, like VNR1, we can help eliminate disparities in health and healthcare for African Americans.”

For more information, visit www.aawellnessproject.org.

Dangerous rhetoric + false claims = violence and havoc in cities Across America

By Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Newswire Senior National Correspondent

President Donald Trump’s refusal to accept the results of the 2020 election and his and the Republican Party’s dangerous actions and rhetoric are now causing damage that might not easily be undone.

Led by the Proud Boys, whom Trump infamously asked to “stand back and stand by,” Pro-Trump demonstrators wreaked havoc on the nation’s capital over the weekend, clashing with counterdemonstrators at Black Lives Matter Plaza.

The result was several stabbings, at least 23 arrests, and the vandalizing of historic black churches in Washington, D.C. Two police officers were reportedly injured and transported to a local hospital.

There were other demonstrations and unrest in cities around the nation as organizers of “Stop the Steal,” which reportedly is linked to pro-Trump operative Roger Stone, and church groups urged people to gather for “Jericho Marches.”

Protests also occurred in Georgia, a state where Trump’s campaign has sought to overturn President-Elect Joe Biden’s victory and Mobile, Alabama.

In the Washington state capital of Olympia, local media reported that one person was shot and three arrested after clashes between pro-and anti-Trump protest groups.

The Proud Boys clashed in all-out brawls near the White House, the Supreme Court and Black Lives Matter Plaza, with D.C. police using pepper spray to break up several melees.

Reuters reported that about 200 members of the Proud Boys, wearing combat fatigues and ballistic vests, flashed white nationalist hand signals while carrying



helmets as they menaced people in the nation’s capital.

While flying to a college football game in New York, Trump directed the Marine One helicopter to fly over the protestors, where he basked in the cheers they heaped upon him.

“This is all because Donald Trump can’t accept defeat,” said Carol Gray, a Washington, D.C., resident who said she and her boyfriend were “heartbroken” to see Black Lives Matter banners ripped from churches and other sites by the Proud Boys.

“This is so dangerous for a United States president. It’s the bloodiest of all stains America has seen since Jim Crow and slavery and [Senate Majority Leader] Mitch McConnell and all of those Republicans are backing Trump in his plot to overthrow the government and in his plot to destroy democracy,” Gray remarked.

Her boyfriend, Rashawn Hilton, agreed.

“As bad as 2020 has been, I don’t think anyone in this country, or around the world, would have ever thought they’d see an American president instigate what might eventually be a civil war,” Hilton offered.

At least 50 federal and state court rulings have upheld Biden’s victory. Most recently, the U.S. Supreme Court – which includes three Trump appointees – rejected a lawsuit filed by Texas and backed by Trump seeking to throw out voting results in four states.

That hasn’t stopped Trump and many in the GOP from falsely claiming the election was rigged or stolen. Many believe if Trump or GOP leaders would take a stand by refuting the false claims about the election and denounce the Proud Boys and other violent groups, America could return to some political normalcy.

“Notice how quiet Senate GOPers are about their Proud Boys white supremacist terrorists trashing D.C. last night and causing chaos with fights, stabbings and bare [bottoms] on display?” Singer Ricky Davila tweeted. “It’s who they are and who they represent.”

U-RENTAL Van Company



- New fleet of vans
- 12 & 15 passenger vans
- Unbeatable prices
- Unlimited miles
- Church / business trips
- Family vacation & more
- Cash or credit cards



3840 ROBINSON ROAD - JACKSON, MS 39209 - PHONE: 601-398-1162



LEGAL

Public Notice

All interested public and private transit and paratransit operators within Hinds, County, are hereby advised that the Jackson Medical Mall Foundation is applying to the Mississippi Department of Transportation, Jackson, Mississippi, for a grant under Section 5310 of the Federal Public Transportation Act, as amended, to provide transportation services to elderly and disabled persons. These services will be beyond those required by the Americans with Disabilities Act. Service is being provided within Hinds, County. This program consists of existing services with no environmental impact, and no relocation resulting from the project.

The purpose of this notice is to advise all interested parties, including transit and paratransit operators, of the service being planned for providing transportation services for persons with disabilities within the area as described above, and to ensure that such a program would not represent a duplication of current or of proposed services provided by existing transit or paratransit operators in the area.

Comments either for or against this service will be received at any time beginning December 21, 2020 through January 22, 2021 from 8:00am to 5:00pm. All comments should be addressed to Mrs. Carmen Davis at the Jackson Medical Mall Foundation at 601-982-8467 ext. 129 or via email at cdavis@jacksonmedicalmall.org.

12-10-2020, 12-17-2020, 1-7-2021, 1-14-2021

LEGAL

Banking Services-Depository Bid

Depository Bids for 2021 and 2022 will be received by the City of Jackson, Mississippi on January 5, 2021 at 3:30 pm at City Hall, 219 South President Street. Please submit original and two (2) copies of sealed bids, marked "RFP#96429-010521 Depository Bid" to the following address prior to or on January 05, 2021 by 3:30pm.

City of Jackson, Mississippi
Attention: Municipal Clerk
219 South President Street
Jackson, MS 39201

Depository bids must be submitted in compliance with Mississippi Code Section 27-105-315 and related Mississippi Code Sections 27-105-5 and 27-105-9.

"Official bid documents can be downloaded from Central Bidding at HYPERLINK "http://www.centralbidding.com"www.centralbidding.com. Electronic bids can be submitted to HYPERLINK "http://www.centralbidding.com"www.centralbidding.com. For any question relating to the electronic bidding process, please call Central Bidding at 225-810-4814."

Depository bid specifications may be received by contacting the City of Jackson, Mississippi as follows:

Department of Administration
Attention: Felicia Young
200 South President Street
Jackson, MS 39201
Telephone (601) 960-2005

12-10-2020, 12-17-2020

LEGAL

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING AND PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

NOTICE is hereby given that the City of Jackson, Mississippi will host a public hearing to be held in the Andrew Jackson Conference Room of the Hood Building, 200 South President Street, Jackson, Mississippi 39201 at 10:00 AM on Tuesday, January 12, 2021. The City of Jackson has prepared a Facilities Plan for proposed improvements to the Wastewater Collection System. The Facilities Plan will be presented at the public hearing to explain the current facilities planning effort, the proposed improvements to be constructed, why the improvements are needed, environmental assessment of the proposed improvements, and the phases of the proposed project. Seven project phases are planned over a multi-year period with a currently estimated total cost of \$195,000,000. The first phase will be performed in 2021-2022 and is estimated to cost \$30,000,000. The purpose of the public hearing is to present the Facilities Plan, receive further suggestions and comments, and answer questions.

The City of Jackson will begin a public comment period on January 12, 2021. The comment period will allow citizens to review the Wastewater Collection System Improvements Facilities Plan and offer additional comments.

A copy of the Wastewater Collection System Improvements Facilities Plan is available by email request to Clyde Burnett, PE at cburnett@ajaservices.com. Written comments, suggestions, and questions may be submitted to Clyde Burnett at cburnett@ajaservices.com until February 11, 2021.

Charles Williams Jr., PE, PhD
Director of Public Works/City Engineer

12-10-2020, 12-17-2020, 12-24-2020

ANYTIME ONLINE

Breaking News Streaming Videos Interactive Blogs



Visit our newly designed website:
www.mississippilink.com

LEGAL

Advertisement for Reverse Auction Bids

Bid 3156 Server Equipment for the Instructional Television Department

Reverse Auction bidding for the above bid will be received by the Board of Trustees of the Jackson Public School District, in the Business Office, 662 South President Street, Jackson, Mississippi, until 10:00 a.m. (Local Prevailing Time) January 13, 2021, at which time Reverse Auction bidding begins electronically. The Board of Trustees reserves the right to reject any and all bids, to waive informalities, and to withhold the acceptance of any bid if approved for forty-five calendar days from the date Reverse Auction bid opening ends.

Un-priced Specification responses must be submitted for this bid event. Specifications are due no later than (5:00 p.m., January 06, 2021) local time to be the given the opportunity to participate in the auction. Vendors submitting acceptable specification responses will be invited to participate in the electronic reverse auction at HYPERLINK "http://www.centralbidding.com"www.centralbidding.com on January 13, 2020 beginning at 10:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. local time. Vendors must be registered with Central Bidding in order to participate in the reverse auction. For any questions concerning the reverse auction process or how to register, please contact Central Bidding at 225-810-4814.

12-17-2020, 12-24-2020

LEGAL

Wait List/Applications

Mississippi Regional Housing Authority VI (MRHA VI) will open its Wait List for Hickman Heights Apartment, located at 150 Angle Drive, Jackson, MS. This new development, scheduled to open in the Summer 2021, will include 100 rent subsidized units with a mix of 80 one-bedrooms and 20 two-bedrooms. Persons interested in applying for housing assistance must make application during the open period, Monday, December 14, 2020 @ 8:00 am and will remain open until further notice. All applications must be made online at: <https://mrhavi.apply4housing.com/>. Preference will be given to persons ages 55 and over. Questions contact (601) 373-7040.

12-17-2020 12-24-2020, 12-31-2020, 1-7-2021, 1-14-2021, 1-21-2021, 1-28-2021, 2-4-2021

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, JANUARY 13, 2021 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. NEW BUSINESS
1. CASE NO. 2021-01, REQUESTED BY: BRENT KOOL TO REPLACE THE OLD WINDOWS WITH NEW WINDOWS AT 1405 HAZEL ST. LOCATED IN THE BELHAVEN HISTORICAL DISTRICT.
- II. OTHER ITEMS
1. ADMINISTRATIVELY APPROVED COAS
2. JHPC CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR
- III. 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 JANUARY 6, 2021.

12-17-2020, 12-24-2020

LEGAL

NOTICE TO BIDDERS
City of Jackson
Jackson, Mississippi

Sealed, signed bids are invited and will be received by the City of Jackson, Mississippi, until 3:30 P.M. in the City Clerk's Office of Jackson, the bid must be stamped in by 3:30 P.M. Tuesday, December 29, 2020 at which time said bids will be publicly opened at the City Hall located at 219 South President Street (City Council Chambers) in City Hall for the following:

05568-122920 12 Month Contract Purchase of Getac Video Solutions

The above must comply with the City's specifications. Copies of proposal forms can be obtained from the Purchasing Division, 200 South President Street, Room 604, Hood Building, Jackson, Mississippi 39201. The City of Jackson website (www.jacksonms.gov) and Central Bidding (www.centralauctionhouse.com) Copies of bid specifications are filed with the City Clerk for public record in accordance with House Bill No 999, 1986 Regular Session of the Mississippi Legislature.

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

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

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

12-10-2020, 12-17-2020

LEGAL

Avertisement For Bids
Eubanks Creek Interceptor Rehabilitation
City Project No. 19B0510.701
(Corps of Engineers – Section 592 Project)

Sealed bids will be received by the City Council of the City of Jackson, Mississippi at the office of the City Clerk, City Hall, 219 South President Street, P.O. Box 17, Jackson, Mississippi 39205 until 3:30 P.M. Local Time, Tuesday, January 19, 2021, for supplying all labor and materials (as specified) necessary for construction of Eubanks Creek Interceptor Rehabilitation, City Project No. 19B0510.701 West Bank Interceptor to Cowan Place, a Corps of Engineers Section 592 Project.

The Project consist of the following major components: 1) Cleaning of existing 30" and 27" interceptor and installing 3,841± LF of cured-in-place pipe; 2) Installationof 303± LF of 30" DI Gravity Main; 3) Sewer Bypass Pumping; and 3) Install/Rebuild/Rehabilitate 12± manholes.

Contract time for this contract shall be 180 consecutive calendar days from the effective date shown in the Notice to Proceeds. Liquidated damages will be assessed for each consecutive calendar day the Work has not achieved Final Completion. The amount of liquidated damages per day will be \$1,000.00 plus any additional actual costs above \$1,000.00 incurred by the Owner. These actual costs include, but are not limited to, engineering, inspection, and other construction related costs resulting from the Contractor's failure to complete the work on schedule.

The City of Jackson is committed to the principle of non-discrimination in public contracting. It is the policy of the City of Jackson to promote full and equal business opportunity for all persons doing business with the City. As a pre-condition to selection, each contractor, bidder or offeror shall submit a completed and signed Equal Business Opportunity (EBO) Plan, with the bid submission, in accordance with the provision of the City of Jackson's Equal Business Opportunity (EBO) ordinance. Failure to comply with the City's ordinance shall disqualify a contractor, bidder, or offeror from being awarded an eligible contract. For more information on the City of Jackson's Equal Business Opportunity Program, please contact the Office of Economic Development at 601-960-1638. Copies of the ordinance, EBO Plan Applications and a copy of the program are available at 218 South President Street, 2nd Floor, Jackson, Mississippi.

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

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

Bidders must be qualified under Mississippi Law and show current Certificate of Responsibility issued by the Mississippi State Board of Public Contractors establishing his classification as to the value and type of construction on which he is authorized to bid.

Bids shall be made out on the bid proposal forms to be provided, sealed in an envelope and plainly marked on the outside of the envelope: "Bid for Eubanks Creek Interceptor Rehabilitation, City Project No. 19B0510.701." Each bidder shall write his Certificate of Responsibility Number on the outside of the sealed envelope containing his proposal.

Bids and EBO plans shall be submitted in triplicate (bound/stapled separately), sealed and deposited with the City Clerk, City Hall, Jackson, Mississippi prior to the hour and date hereinbefore designated. No bidder may withdraw his bid within 120 days after the actual date of the opening thereof.

Official Bid Documents, including the Contract Documents and Drawings can be downloaded from Central Bidding at www.centralbidding.com. Electronic Bids may be submitted at www.centralbidding.com. For any questions related to the electronic bidding process, please call Central Bidding at 225-810.4814.

Each Bidder must submit with his bid a separate attachment stating his qualifications to perform the work. The Statement of Qualifications shall list past projects of similar size and nature, a list of references with name and telephone number, a list of key personnel who will perform the work, and other information supporting the bidder's qualifications.

Any contract awarded under this invitation for bids is expected to be funded in whole or in part by anticipated funds from the Section 592 Program administered by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

A PreBid Meeting is scheduled for January 8, 2020 at 11:00 A.M., local time in the 1st Floor Andrew Jackson Conference Room of the Hood Building at 200 South President Street, Jackson, Mississippi. Attendance by all potential contractors, subcontractors, and other interested parties is strongly encouraged.

Awarding public contracts to non-resident Bidders will be on the same basis as the non-resident bidder's state awards contracts to Mississippi Contractors bidding under similar circumstances. Current state law, Mississippi General Laws of 2010, Chapter 383, section 31-3-21 of the Mississippi Code of 1972, as amended, requires a nonresident bidder to attach to the bid a copy of the Bidder's resident state's current laws pertaining to such state's treatment of nonresident contractors. Non-resident bidders must attach to their bid a copy of any bid preference law of the state, city, county, parish, province, nation or political subdivision where they are domiciled. If there is no such law where they are domiciled, all non-resident bidders shall attach a letter to their bid stating that there is no bid preference law where they are domiciled. The bid of any non-resident bidder who fails to attach to its bid a copy of its domicile's bid preference law or a letter stating that its domicile has no such bid preference law, whichever is applicable, shall be rejected and not considered for award.

Each Bidder must deposit with his bid a Bid Bond or Certified Check in an amount equal to five percent of his bid, payable to the City of Jackson as bid security. Bidders shall also submit a current financial statement, if requested by the City of Jackson. The successful bidder will be required to furnish a Payment Bond and Performance Bond each in the amount of 100% of the contract amount.

Contract Drawings, Contract Specifications, Instructions to Bidders and Bidders Proposal forms are on file and open to public inspection in the office of the Engineering Division, Department of Public Works, City of Jackson, Mississippi. Copies of the Instructions for Bidders and Bidder's Proposal, Bid Bond, Contract Drawings and Contract Specifications may be procured at the office of the Engineer between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Local Time, Monday through Friday, upon payment of \$150.00, which will not be refunded. Checks are to be made payable to the Engineer.

The Engineer is Southern Consultants, Inc. (A Woman's Business Enterprise), 5740 County Cork Road, Jackson, Mississippi 39206; (601) 957-0999, Fax No. (601) 957-9332. For technical questions please contact James S. Stewart, P.E. at Southern Consultants, Inc.

The City of Jackson hereby notifies all Bidders that minority and women business enterprises are solicited to bid on these contracts as prime contractors and are encouraged to make inquiries regarding potential subcontracting opportunities, equipment, material and/or supply needs.

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

Charles Williams, Jr., PhD, PE, Director
Department of Public Works

12-17-2020, 12-24-2020

SAY HELLO TO

AT&T tv

Watch your favorite entertainment in one place.

CHOICE™ PACKAGE

\$64⁹⁹

MO.

For 12 mos. plus taxes & Regional Sports Fee when bundles

W/ 24-mo. agmt TV price higher in 2nd year. Regional Sports Fee up to \$8.49/mo. is extra and applies*

Plus, **HBO Max** included for a year.

HBO Max auto-renews after 12 months at then prevailing rate (currently \$14.99/mo.), and **Greenm**®, **SHOWTIME**®, **STARZ**®, and **EPix**® are included for 3 months and auto-renew thereafter at then prevailing rate (currently \$39/mo.), and unless you change or cancel. Reg's you to select offer.

Get AT&T TV Today!

855-408-9232

AT&T Preferred Dealer

12-Mo. Offer: Access HBO Max only through HBO Max app or browser.com. HBO Max also includes HBO channels and HBO On Demand on AT&T TV. Data rates may apply for app download/usage. **AT&T TV™ \$19.95 ACTIVATION, EARLY TERMINATION FEE (\$150) FOR TV FOR EACH MONTH REMAINING ON AGMT., EQUIPMENT NON-RETURN & ADD'L FEES APPLY.** Price incl. CHOICE AT&T Pkg. 1 AT&T TV device included for well-qualified customers; otherwise \$100. New residential customers. Excludes DIRECTV and other TV customers. Each apply. **AT&T TV™** requires high-speed internet. Recommended minimum 24 Mbps for optimal viewing (min 8 Mbps per device). Limit 3 concurrent AT&T streams. **CHOICE** 4k/1080i. 1st & 2nd year Pricing: \$64.99 for first 12 mos. only. After 12 mos. rate of eligibility, then prevailing rate applies \$110/mo. for **CHOICE Pkg.** rates cancelled or changed prior to end of the promotional period. Includes CHOICE Pkg. Reg's AT&T TV device included for well-qualified customers; otherwise \$100. HBO device available for \$100 each or an equivalent non-qualified customer must purchase additional device up front. Additional Fees & Taxes: Price excludes Regional Sports Fee up to \$8.49/mo. (which is extra and applies to 1080i and higher Pkgs.) and certain other add'l fees & charges. **REG'S:** Subject to **HBO TV Terms and Conditions.** And, in the U.S., only includes Harris and U.S. Virgin Islands. AT&T TV service will continue until the prevailing rate charged to your payment method on file, unless you cancel, subject to any early termination fees. If you cancel in the first 14 days of order, you must return the included AT&T TV device within 14 days of order to avoid \$100 non-return fee. Additional devices purchased on installment agreement subject to additional terms and conditions. See activation policy at atandt.com/hbo/max and other policy are subject to more details. Once you've canceled, you can access AT&T TV through the remaining only period. No refunds or credits for any partial-month periods or unwatched content. Compatible device need to be activated on service only. **Pricing, channels, features, and terms subject to change & may be modified or discontinued at any time without notice.** Some offers may not be available through all channels and to select areas. **Regional Sports & Local Channels** Not available in select areas. Channels may be package & à la carte. Details may vary by service region or by service. **GREENM.** Limit 1 concurrent stream per account. Programming subject to blackout restrictions. Users may apply for your Data Confirmation email and a copy legal rate to learn for more details. **HBO Max.** Access HBO Max through HBO Max app. Browser.com with your HBO TV as a computer. Compatible device or browser required. **Starz & HBO Max** is subject to its own terms and conditions, see hbo.com/terms for more details. **Programming and content only to change** on cancellation of your video service may have access to HBO Max. **Limit:** Access to use HBO Max account per AT&T account holder. May not be available whether offers, credits or discounts. To learn more, visit atandt.com/hbo. HBO Max is only available in the U.S. and certain U.S. territories where high-speed broadband connection is available. Minimum 16 connections required for streaming on mobile devices. HBO Max is used under license. **Offers may not be combined with other promotional offers. The same service and may be modified or discontinued at any time without notice. Other conditions apply to all offers.** ©2020 AT&T Intellectual Property. All rights reserved. All other trademarks and service marks of AT&T Intellectual Property. All other trademarks the property of their respective owners.

Prepare for power outages with a Generac home standby generator

SCHEDULE YOUR FREE IN-HOME ASSESSMENT TODAY!

844-316-8630

FREE

7-Year Extended Warranty*

A \$695 Value!

Offer valid August 24, 2020 - December 31, 2020

Special Financing Available

Subject to Credit Approval

*Terms & Conditions Apply

GENERAC

LeafFilter

GUTTER PROTECTION

✓

INSTALLS ON NEW & EXISTING GUTTERS

BEFORE LeafFilter

AFTER LeafFilter

MADE IN THE USA

ACCREDITED BUSINESS

LIFETIME WARRANTY

A COMPANY OF LHS

15% OFF

YOUR ENTIRE PURCHASE*

AND!

10% OFF

SENIOR & MILITARY DISCOUNTS

+

5% OFF

TO THE FIRST 50 CALLERS**

Promo Number: 285

CALL US TODAY FOR A FREE ESTIMATE

1-866-479-1028

Mon-Thurs: 8am-11pm, Fri-Sat: 8am-5pm, Sun: 2pm-8pm EST

*For those who qualify. One coupon per household. No obligation estimate valid for 1 year. ** Offer valid at estimate only. CSL# 1035795. DORL #10783658-5501. License# 7656. License# 50145. License# 41354. License# 99338. License# 128344. License# 218294. License# 603 233 977. License# 2102212986. License# 2106212946. License# 2705132153A. License# LEAFF-NW622J2. License# WY056912. License# WC-29998-H17. Nassau HIC License# H01067000. Registration# 176447. Registration# HIC-0649905. Registration# C127229. Registration# C127230. Registration# 366920918. Registration# PC6475. Registration# IR731804. Registration# 13VH09953900. Registration# PA069383. Suffolk HIC License# 52229-H

Crossword Puzzle

1	2	3		4	5	6	7	8	9
10				11					
12				13					
14				15			16		
17					18	19			
			20	21		22	23	24	25
26	27	28		29	30				
31			32				33		
34							35		
36							37		

ACROSS

1. Jelly

4. City

10. Boxer Muhammad

11. Occupy (2 wds.)

12. Wok

13. Exaggerate

14. One-celled water animal

16. Morning moisture

17. "Cheers" regular

18. Charleston locale

20. Eur. kingdom

22. Off-Broadway award

26. American College of Physicians (abbr.)

29. Payload

31. Repentant

33. Sticky black substance

34. Puts up

35. Vane direction

36. Hug upon greeting

37. Jell

DOWN

1. Asian country

2. "Remember the "

3. Not life threatening

4. Ball

5. Female lead singers

6. Avenue

7. Goody two shoes

8. Not front or back

9. Have knowledge

15. Flightless bird

19. Fish

21. Lout

23. Chomps

24. Void

25. Heron

26. Region

27. Sidewalk and road separator

28. Look searchingly

30. In addition

32. Fam credit administration (abbr.)

© Feature Exchange

Crossword Solution

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

© Feature Exchange

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.

MCDADDE'S MARKET

Northside Drive

MCDADDE'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

BYRAM

DOLLAR GENERAL

125 Swinging Bridge Dr.

HAVIOR'S AUTO CARE

5495 I-55 South Frontage Road

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

RAYMOND

HINDS COMMUNITY COLLEGE

WELCOME CENTER

505 E. Main Street

SUNFLOWER GROCERY

122 Old Port Gibson Street,

Raymond, MS

LOVE FOOD MART

120 E. Main Street,

Raymond, MS

RAYMOND PUBLIC LIBRARY

126 W. Court Street, Raymond, MS

RAYMOND CITY HALL

110 Courtyard Square, Raymond

RAYMOND COURTHOUSE

UTICA

HUBBARD'S TRUCK STOP

Mississippi Hwy 18

PITT STOP

101 Hwy 18 & 27

BOLTON

BOLTON LIBRARY

BOLTON CITY HALL

MCAN

Mississippi Classified Advertising Network

To place your statewide classified ad order, call MS Press Services at 601-981-3060

Classes / Training

COMPUTER AND IT TRAINING PROGRAM! Train ONLINE to get the skills to become a Computer and Help Desk Professional now! Grants and Scholarships available for certain programs for qualified applicants. Call CTI for details! 833-992-0228 (M-F 8am-6pm ET)

PHARMACY TECHNICIAN TRAINING PROGRAMS From Ultimate Medical Academy Offer Quality Healthcare Education to Students 100% online.- Ultimate Medical Academy: 1-866-664-4140

Employment

L. E. TUCKER & SON, INC. - CDL DRIVERS needed to run from S.E. to West Coast. Experienced **Singles and Teams.** Check out our new pay package. Singles, 41 cents per mile for 60 day probationary period. 46 cents per mile thereafter. Teams, 50 cents per mile for 60 day probationary period. 55 cents per mile thereafter. Late model conventional tractors. Home weekly. Benefits package. Pearl, MS. **601-939-8088.** www.tuckerandson.com

For Sale

ENJOY 100% guaranteed, delivered to-the-door Omaha Steaks! Get 4 FREE Pork Chops and 4 FREE CHICKEN BREAST. Order the Omaha Steaks Classic - ONLY \$129.99. Call 1-855-398-5977 and use code 66762MGH or visit www.omahasteaks.com/dinner303

GENERAC STANDBY GENERATORS. The weather is increasingly unpredictable. Be prepared for power outages. FREE 7-year extended warranty (\$695 value). Schedule your in-home assessment today. Call 1-844-316-8630. Special financing for qualified customers.

THE GENERAC PWRcell, a solar plus battery storage system. SAVE money, reduce your reliance on the grid, prepare for power outages and power your home. Full installation services available. \$0 Down Financing Option. Request a FREE, no obligation, quote today. Call 1-844-355-7099

For Sale

STATEWIDE CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING for one flat rate. To order your statewide classified ad, call Mississippi Press Services at 601-981-3060.

Home Improvement

ELIMINATE GUTTER CLEANING FOREVER! LeafFilter, the most advanced debris-blocking gutter protection. Schedule a FREE LeafFilter estimate today. 15% off Entire Purchase. 10% Senior & Military Discounts. Call 1-866-479-1028

Insurance

ATTENTION SMALL BUSINESS OWNERS! Are you protected in case of property damage or if you have an interruption in service due to a property event? Business Owner Property insurance IS AFFORDABLE and WILL PROTECT YOU when the unexpected happens! For free quote, call 855-933-1267 (M-F 7:30 am-9:30 pm ET)

AUTO INSURANCE STARTING AT \$49/ MONTH! Call for your fee rate comparison to see how much you can save! Call: 833-678-7045

DENTAL INSURANCE from Physicians Mutual Insurance Company. Coverage for 350 plus procedures. Real dental insurance - NOT just a discount plan. Do not wait! Call now! Get your FREE Dental Information Kit with all the details! 1-855-397-7045 [#6258](http://www.dental50plus.com/mspress) **UP TO \$15,000.00 of GUARANTEED** Life Insurance! No medical exam or health questions. Cash to help pay funeral and other final expenses. Call Physicians Life Insurance Company- 844-439-8447 or visit www.Life55plus.info/ms

Medical Supplies

ATTENTION DIABETICS! Save money on your diabetic supplies! Convenient home shipping for monitors, test strips, insulin pumps, catheters and more! To learn more, call now! 877-368-0628

VIAGRA and CIALIS USERS! 50 Pills SPECIAL \$99.00 FREE Shipping! 100% guaranteed. CALL NOW! 844-821-3242

Miscellaneous

DONATE YOUR CAR TO CHARITY. Receive maximum value of write off for your taxes. Running or not! All conditions accepted. Free pickup. Call for details. 855-400-8263

Services-General

DIRECTV - Every live football game, every Sunday - anywhere - on your favorite device. Restrictions apply. Call IVS - Call 1-855-978-3110

DISH NETWORK. \$59.99 for 190 Channels! Blazing Fast Internet, \$19.99/mo. (where available.) Switch & Get a FREE \$100 Visa Gift Card. FREE Voice Remote. FREE HD DVR. FREE Streaming on ALL Devices. Call today! 1-877-628-3143

THING

THE CLASSIFIEDS!

For the 'THINGS' you're looking for!

STATEWIDE RATES:

Up to 25 words.....\$210

1 col. x 2 inch.....\$525

1 col. x 3 inch.....\$785

1 col. x 4 inch.....\$1050

Call MS Press Services

601-981-3060

Week of December 13, 2020

Senate passes HBCU bill

By Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Newswire Contributor

The Senate, December 11, passed the HBCU Propelling Agency Relationships Towards a New Era of Results for Students (PARTNERS) Act, introduced by U.S. Senators Tim Scott (R-S.C.) and Chris Coons (D-Del.).

The bill, previously passed in the U.S. House of Representatives, is now headed to the president's desk for a signature.

If signed into law, this legislation will strengthen partnerships between federal agencies and the country's more than 100 Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs).

The HBCU PARTNERS Act builds on President Donald Trump's 2017 executive order on HBCUs, according to Scott and Coons noted in a news release.

It will require federal agencies with relevant grants and programs to undertake annual planning and coordinate their efforts to support and expand HBCU participation those programs.

The bill strengthens the rigor and transparency requirements



The HBCU PARTNERS Act builds on President Donald Trump's 2017 executive order on HBCUs, according to Senator Tim Scott (R-SC) and Senator Chris Coons (D-DE) noted in a news release. PHOTO: ISTOCKPHOTO / NNPA

of existing law by requiring that agencies track their progress toward past goals and share their plans with Congress.

Additionally, the legislation codifies the president's Board of Advisors on HBCUs, ensuring an ongoing avenue for the institutions' priorities and policy concerns to be raised.

"Our HBCUs have unlocked opportunities for generations of students, especially in underserved communities, and I am excited that this bipartisan bill is making its way to the president's desk," Scott added.

"The HBCU PARTNERS Act is a great step forward for these schools and their students. I

look forward to this critical legislation being signed into law to help these institutions continue their legacies."

Coons added that "HBCUs like Delaware State University play a critical role in helping to ensure that every American has access to higher education, and I'm so proud that our bipartisan

bill to support the missions of HBCUs is one step closer to becoming law.

"We have much more work ahead to make college accessible and affordable for all Americans, and HBCUs are an important part of that work."

The HBCU PARTNERS Act was co-sponsored by U.S. Senators Doug Jones (D-AL), David Perdue (R-GA), Kamala Harris (D-CA), Roger Wicker (R-MS), Tim Kaine (D-VA), and Marsha Blackburn (R-TN).

A companion bill was introduced in the House by U.S. Representatives Mark Walker (NC-06) and Alma Adams (NC-12).

"Creating a comprehensive federal partnership with America's HBCUs is essential for Congress' shared goal of directing unprecedented support for North Carolina's HBCUs like North Carolina A&T, Winston-Salem State, Elizabeth City State, North Carolina Central, Bennett, Johnson, C. Smith and Shaw – proud and historic institutions which I am privileged to support," Walker stated.

"With this bipartisan legislation passed through Congress and on its way to the president's

desk, the HBCU PARTNERS Act further cements our nation's commitment to these vital educational institutions."

Adams added: "Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) are agents of access and equity in this country."

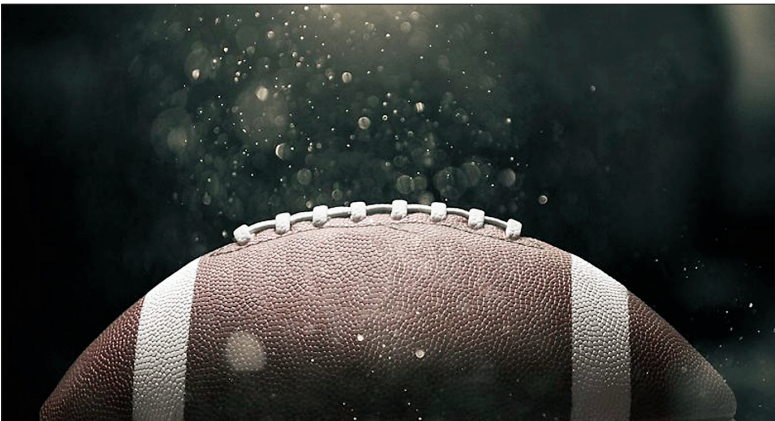
The HBCU PARTNERS Act recognizes these contributions in the most important way possible: by affording these institutions the ongoing support and investment needed to deepen their transformational work," Adams continued.

"This legislation will require every administration and the federal agencies it manages to plan and coordinate, on an annual basis, their efforts to strategically engage with and invest in HBCUs.

"In addition, it codifies the president's Board of Advisors on HBCUs, ensuring an ongoing avenue for HBCU priorities and policy concerns to be raised and addressed.

"Advancing the mission of HBCUs and the success of the communities they serve must be on the minds of our country's leaders, and more importantly, it must be part of their agendas."

NFL executives on diversity: 'We've got to do better'



Just two of the 32 teams have African-American general managers – Chris Grier of the Dolphins and Andrew Berry of the Cleveland Browns. PHOTO: ISTOCKPHOTO / NNPA

By Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Newswire Contributor

Ron Rivera of the Washington Football Team was the only minority head coach hired in the NFL heading into the 2020 season and, to the highest-ranking African American in the sport, that's unacceptable.

"When you look at mobility of black men and black women in professional sports, it's poor," said Troy Vincent, the league's executive vice president of football operations. The only person in a higher post in the NFL is Commissioner Roger Goodell.

"The facts are the facts, none of the sports leagues are doing well," Vincent noted on a conference call with journalists, including the Black Press.

"We have done a thorough examination of what we're doing wrong, what doesn't work. But there are no best practices in sports," Vincent declared.

"Let's be straight. Let's be honest. We can go to every sport from basketball, hockey, baseball, here: diversity, we do not see what we all hope for. We do not see true inclusion."

The league announced earlier this year that it had enhanced its Rooney Rule. This policy requires teams to interview ethnic-minority candidates for head coaching and senior football operation jobs.

The expanded rule requires teams to interview at least two external minority candidates for head coaching openings and at least one minority candidate for any coordinator job.

Additionally, teams must interview one external minority candidate for senior football operations and general manager jobs.

Clubs and the NFL league office must also include minorities and female applicants for senior-level positions, including club president jobs.

"It goes without saying that we have to do things differently," said Dasha Smith, the NFL's executive vice president and chief administrative officer. "We are hopeful we will see different outcomes at the end of this GM and coach hiring season."

There currently are four minority head coaches in the NFL, including Rivera, Mike Tomlin of the Pittsburgh Steelers, Brian Flores of the Miami Dolphins and Anthony Lynn of the Los Angeles Chargers.

Just two of the 32 teams have African-American general managers – Chris Grier of the Dolphins and Andrew Berry of the Cleveland Browns.

"We're a month away from 2021. And we're still talking about women in senior-level positions? In coaching positions? Come on. Gimme a break," Vincent demanded.

"These young men and women today in high school and college, they're used to seeing women in leadership positions. And they pause because they get to this level? The closer you get to the playing field, the least opportunities there are for women? Come on.

"We've got to look at ourselves and be frank and call truth. Facts and data do not support where we are across the entire sports industry. So, we've got a lot of work to do."

Electoral College seals President-Elect Biden's election victory

By Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Newswire Contributor

On December 14 the nation's Electoral College officially stamped Joe Biden and Kamala Harris as president-elect and vice-president elect.

A total of 538 electors from every state and Washington, DC, took part in the critical portion of the U.S. electoral process, voting to affirm the votes cast during the 2020 election.

To win, a candidate needs 270 Electoral College votes.

Biden earned 306 while outgoing President Donald Trump tallied 232.

Though largely viewed as a formality, the many challenges and the outrageous – almost treasonous – behavior displayed by Trump, his supporters, and a large swath of Republican officials made this year's Electoral College gathering more eventful, if not uncertain.

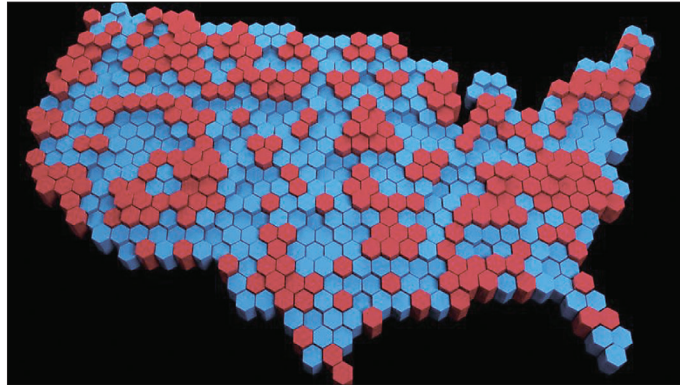
In Michigan, where Biden won by 50.6 percent to 47.8 percent, state legislative offices closed due to safety concerns while members of the Electoral College cast their official votes.

State authorities there said they closed the offices because of "credible threats of violence."

In Texas, the *Houston Chronicle* reported that state and local officials of both major political parties warned that Trump's "increasingly desperate tweets about election fraud and the coronavirus are fueling the potential for violence as well as another ominous trend of 2020, in which public servants and others who disagree are targeted at their offices and homes with armed protests, harassing phone calls and stalkers."

The newspaper added that an "enemies" list of state and federal officials who rejected Trump's baseless election conspiracy theories floated up from the dark corners of the Web, with home addresses listed and red targets over their photos, the latest in a string of threats to public officials.

During a violent outbreak



On January 6, three days after the 117th Congress is sworn in, members of the House and Senate are scheduled to meet in the House chamber where the President of the Senate – Vice President Mike Pence – will preside over the reading and counting of the Electoral College votes

involving the Pro-Trump group, "Proud Boys," conspiracy theorist Alex Jones told Trump supporters in Washington, D.C., that Biden "will be removed one way or another."

On Monday, as the Electoral College cast its formal vote for Biden, the *Daily Beast* reported that Trump's small circle of devoted legal advocates were still determined to carry on its fight to overturn the 2020 election despite the string of resounding defeats in court, including a seemingly terminal rebuke from the U.S. Supreme Court.

"But the futility of the effort is apparent in the campaign's northern Virginia headquarters – the office that is supposed to be devoted to supporting and housing the legal crusade – which, knowledgeable sources said has virtually emptied out," the newspaper reported, adding that many of the Trump-Pence signs had been stripped from the walls of the headquarters in Arlington, Virginia.

"The desks and memorabilia have been largely packed, thrown out, or removed from the office space too. Television sets, mounted to the walls around the rented 14th floor of the building, are being sold off for extra cash," a source told the newspaper.

In Maryland, eight of the state's electors are from each Congressional district and two at-large seats to represent the state's two senators.

Because nearly two million Maryland residents voted for Biden and Harris, the presi-

dential electors chosen by the Democratic Party cast their ballots Monday.

It marked the most presidential votes chosen in the state's history.

The electors, chosen by party officials in the state, included two from Prince George's County.

"On behalf of my daughter, for a vice president who looks like her, I, Kent Roberson cast my vote for Kamala D. Harris," Kent Roberson, who serves on the county's Democratic Central Committee, said when he announced his vote for Harris as vice president.

Gloria Lawlah, a former state secretary of aging and former state senator from Prince George's County served as this year's president of the electors, presiding over the state's 59th Electoral College meeting that began in 1789.

According to the state's election history, Maryland joins only six states to participate in every Electoral College vote.

"Our vote today is an important step in the process of building our nation back better," Lawlah said.

"It is a repudiation of hate. A repudiation of divisiveness. It's an affirmation of unity. We are ensuring a better nation for our children, for our grandchildren, and a better nation for generations to come."

Maryland Gov. Larry Hogan signed a Certificate of Ascertainment, which certifies that the state chose Biden and Harris. Electoral College members can depart from the will of the

people – so-called "Faithless Electors."

However, states have imposed severe penalties, from large fines to jail time. Thus, there has never been enough faithless electors to overturn an election.

Following Monday's Electoral College gatherings, votes must arrive in Washington, D.C. by December 23, fulfilling the nine-day deadline in which certified electoral ballots are due on Capitol Hill.

On January 6, three days after the 117th Congress is sworn in, members of the House and Senate are scheduled to meet in the House chamber where the President of the Senate – Vice President Mike Pence – will preside over the reading and counting of the Electoral College votes.

Pence will then announce the vote and ask for any objections.

The House and Senate consider all objections separately and then decide how to count those votes.

The 538 electoral votes are divided – one for each Congress and senator member and three for Washington, D.C., accounting for 270.

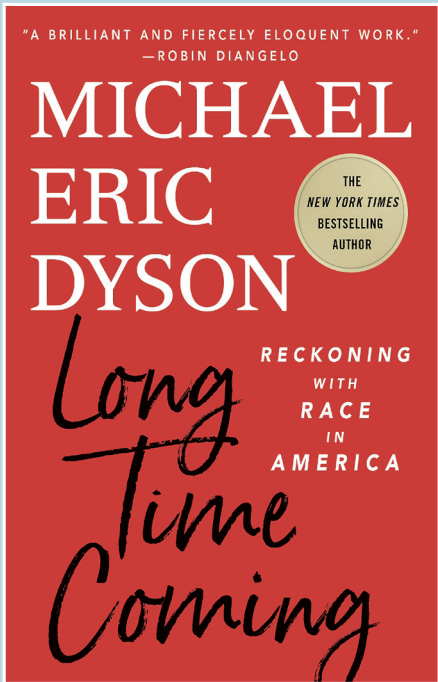
The 435 members of the House decides the election, with each state receiving a vote.

There are more Democrats in the House, but Republicans control more state delegations, so it is possible the House could seek to select Trump.

Biden and Harris are scheduled for inauguration January 20.

"The peaceful transition of power...is a hallmark of our democracy that has been handed down for more than 220 years," Hogan said. "At times it has been tested, sometimes even questioned. But it is a reminder that despite our differences, we are united as Americans who honor the will of the people through the greatest and most enduring Democratic process that the world has ever known."

Washington Informer Staff Writer William J. Ford contributed to this story.



BOOK REVIEW:

LONG TIME COMING:

RECKONING WITH RACE IN AMERICA

BY MICHAEL ERIC DYSON
C.2020, ST. MARTIN'S PRESS
\$25.99 / \$34.99 CANADA • 240 PAGES

By Terri Schlichenmeyer
Columnist

You’ve got mail. No, real mail, delivered by a carrier in a mailbox outside your door. It doesn’t happen very often and it’s rarer if there’s a letter in those envelopes because everybody you know texts or emails and a hand-written, lick-the-envelope, put-a-stamp-on-it letter is so old-school. Who even writes letters anymore? Author Michael Eric Dyson, that’s who, and in “Long Time Coming,” you’ll want to read them.

“Dear Elijah McClain...” he

begins.

When the grief of history is a part of a burden, the pain of now becomes keener and the action more urgent. “Black death” has been in this country for more than 400 years. We know how Elijah died and the knowledge is unbearable. It’s time for a “reckoning.”

“Dear Emmett Till,” it hurts to know that if you were a boy today, your life could be taken as easily as it was in 1955. Maybe not the same way, but taken nonetheless and the fact that it happens is something most white

folks don’t see. We need all eyes opened.”

When George Floyd died, it echoed what happened to you, “Dear Eric Garner.” You said you couldn’t breathe; Floyd said he couldn’t breathe. Neither of you were real troublemakers, but both of you called out in pain to the “blue plague,” and lost your lives anyhow.

Why is it that black women are victims, too, but we don’t talk about them quite as much as we do black men?

“Dear Breonna Taylor,” there’s irony in the fact that you

served as an EMT but the city you served gave you no justice after you died.”

“Dear Hadiya Pendleton,” we can’t use “cancel culture” as justice. No.”

“Dear Sandra Bland,” we must eliminate “white comfort” before we can end the lack of knowledge that contributes to the end of black lives.

As you may have guessed – especially if you’ve read any other works by author Michael Eric Dyson – there’s a lot to unpack inside “Long Time Coming.”

It starts without preamble,

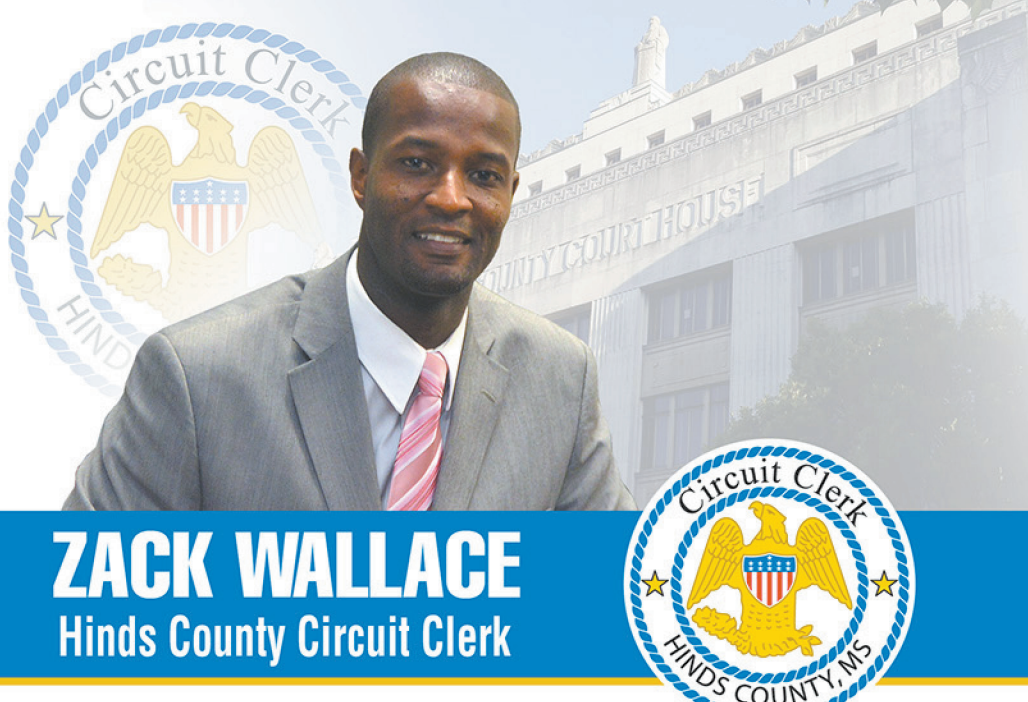
as Dyson dives straight into his series of letters written to black Americans whose deaths demand a reckoning with racial issues. This abruptness is unusual in a work of nonfiction, and it forces readers to pay immediate attention.

Though there’s a lot of repetition from story to story here, each chapter examines a separate aspect of racism by speaking directly to a deceased individual while also referring to another. There’s an urge embedded in this, to understand each issue before dismantling it, and to see

how it matters.

Readers may also find Dyson’s choice of subjects to be interesting; there are other victims of racial violence he could’ve picked, as evidenced by his long list of names, each of which begs to have their own stories told.

Perhaps the most crucial thing about this book, though, is that it’s not so much for black readers as it is for white ones who metaphorically started school late last May. Respectful discussion, soul-searching, urgency: if that’s what you need, “Long Time Coming” delivers.



ZACK WALLACE

Hinds County Circuit Clerk

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

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

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

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

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

Services of the Clerk:

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

VOTER INFORMATION
[Verify/Update your Registration Today](#)


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

MARRIAGE INFORMATION

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

Website: www.hindscountymiss.com

Cool And Current



WJSU 88.5
"your source for cool jazz and current news"
www.wjsu.org

JSU
JACKSON STATE UNIVERSITY

WRTM-FM 100.5 FM,
JACKSON’S SOUL, RHYTHM
AND BLUES AND SOUTHERN
SOUL STATION PLAYING MORE
VARIETY, LESS TALK AND THE
MUSIC ADULTS WANT TO HEAR!

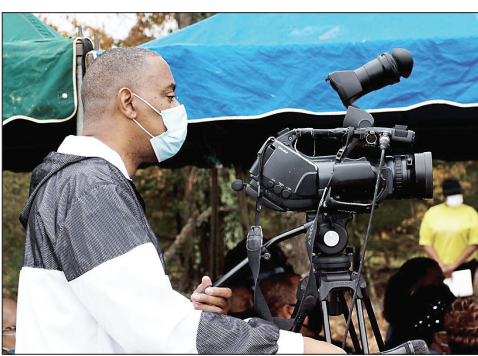
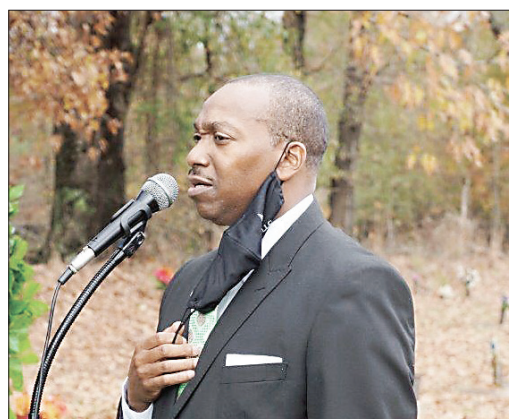
WRTM

SMOOTH 100.5 FM

Celebration of Life Homegoing Scenes of Lelia Rhodes

Garden Memorial Park • Jackson, MS • December 12, 2020

PHOTOS BY JAY JOHNSON



Hinds County School District Weekly Update

ENGAGING-EMPOWERING-ENSURING-EXCELLENCE

THS Art Students’ Ornaments Selected to Hang on Christmas Tree at the White House

Five students in the Terry High School advanced art class had their artwork chosen to become ornaments that will hang on a Christmas tree at the White House.

Students from 56 schools across

the country created artwork that best represented their state, district or territory. The ornament creation is sponsored by the National Park Service.

The Mississippi Department of Education held a contest to find the winners. Multiple

pieces from each student were selected. Some include catfish, the Vicksburg bridge, soul food and the magnolia.

The America Celebrates display is one of the highlights of the National Christmas Tree experience, which was held on

Thursday, December 3, 2020. This year’s show featured the recorded lighting of the National Christmas Tree, holiday performances and more.

To see the show, go to: <https://thenationaltree.org/>.

Highlights



Lights and THS student ornaments on tree at White House



Zia McGee, Junior



THS students ornaments selected for White House tree



Pictured L-R: Rebecca Wilkerson, teacher; Amerie Cooper, senior; Meshun North, senior; Kayte Covington, senior; Zia McGee, junior; and Cliff Newell, principal



Jasmine Tate, senior



Meshun North, senior



Kayte Covington, senior



Amerie Cooper, senior

Highlight from HCSD Virtual Learners Testing Day



Bobbi Gordon, associate superintendent and Renee Myers of the Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment Team, monitor progress of students through exam data.



CMS teacher Montgomery escorting virtual learners to lunch



Byram Middle School principal Michell Ray checking out students after testing



CMS virtual learning in testing session



RES 4th grade ELA teacher Loren Bost escorting virtual learning to class



BMS Child Nutrition Team serving lunch to students