



Mississippi’s ‘education governor,’ William Winter, dies



Winter

The Mississippi Link Newswire

Former Mississippi Gov. William Winter, who championed education initiatives, job creation, and racial harmony throughout his life, died Friday Dec. 18, 2020, at age 97.

Known as Mississippi’s Education Governor, Winter secured passage of landmark educational initiatives in 1982 bringing kindergartens, compulsory school attendance, and a range of other key reforms to a state plagued by poverty and illiteracy. During his remarkable 75 years of public service, Winter linked education with economic development in the nation’s poorest state, observing, “The road out of the poor house, runs past the school house.”

In remarks made in 2003 the historian David Halberstam called Winter, “Mississippi’s best and strongest

governor of modern times.” Halberstam went on to say, “Winter, more than any other politician, is the architect of the new Mississippi and the new America. By contrast, we are all too aware of politicians who can play to the darker side of our nature.”

In the 1950’s and early 1960’s, Winter stood in staunch opposition to the Ku Klux Klan and the White Citizens Councils – organizations which advocated for strict racial segregation, at times through violent means.

In 1967 Winter ran for governor for the first time. After leading in the first primary his life was threatened by the Klan for his open-minded stance on race. Persisting with the campaign despite death threats, Winter

Winter

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During this season of giving two MS HBCUs receive hefty donations from philanthropist



By Jackie Hampton
Publisher

Mackenzie Scott, former wife of Amazon founder Jeff Bezos and one of the richest person’s in the world is sharing her more than \$60 billion fortune. According to *The Washington Post* Scott’s gifts to HBCU’s and other colleges surpasses \$800 million.

Tougaloo College and Alcorn State University are two Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) in Mississippi that are recipients of these gifts.

Tougaloo College received a generous donation of \$6 million from Scott. “This is an incredibly exciting time for Tougaloo College,” said President Carmen J. Walters.

Sandra Hodge, vice president for institutional advancement said, “This generous gift will allow us to continue and sustain our history of academic excellence and social justice.” She

said this type of investment ensures a bright future for the institution to educate the next generation of scholars and leaders.

Miss Tougaloo College Sylvionna Horton said, “Being a small private institution, Tougaloo is sometimes left out of larger mentions with other bigger HBCUs. I am very pleased that Ms. Scott included Tougaloo in her donations.”

Mister Tougaloo College Levell Williams commented, “Especially today, when America is struggling to confront uncomfortable realities of racial inequity, Scott’s donations carry a lot of weight. It reminds us that often the most valuable support is substantiated by tangible resources. It also suggests that even one person’s generosity create opportunities for many others.”

Terriyana Bailey is a senior biology major at Tougaloo. She said, “Tougaloo College

is ‘where the moss hangs low and the eagles soar high.’ We are a small, historic HBCU that I believe is very deserving and appreciative of the donation from philanthropist MacKenzie Scott. I often feel that we are overlooked; however, Tougaloo holds so much history and continues to make history today.” Bailey, the former 2019-2020 Tougaloo College NAACP Chapter president, continued by saying, “I know first-hand the positive impact that Tougaloo has on our surrounding communities and the state as a whole. Although I’ll be graduating soon and won’t get to enjoy the outcomes from the donation, I do believe that whatever the school utilizes the funds for, whether it be for new buildings or repairing old ones, it will be for the betterment of current students and those to come. I am so excited for this new journey Tougaloo will embark upon as we move forward

with how the funds will be best used. Thank you MacKenzie Scott.”

Alcorn State University received a whopping \$25 million. In a news release Alcorn State University President Felecia M. Nave said that the donation from Scott more than doubles the school’s endowment fund. It is the largest single donation that Alcorn has received in its 149-year history. Nave said, “A significant number of Alcorn’s students are the first in their families to attend college and Ms. Scott’s pivotal gift in these uncertain times will help ensure that students have access to a life-changing education.”

Morgan Bridgeman, a junior broadcast/mass communications major at Alcorn University said, “I think Mackenzie Scott donating to HBCUs, in particular Alcorn, my HBCU, is a major milestone. I hope

HBCU

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Congress seals agreement on \$900 billion COVID relief bill

By Andrew Taylor
Associated Press

Top Capitol Hill negotiators sealed a deal Sunday on a \$900 billion COVID-19 economic relief package, finally delivering long-overdue help to businesses and individuals and providing money to deliver vaccines to a nation eager for them.

The agreement, announced by congressional leaders, would establish a temporary \$300 per

week supplemental jobless benefit and a \$600 direct stimulus payment to most Americans, along with a new round of subsidies for hard-hit businesses and money for schools, health care providers and renters facing eviction.

It came after months of battling and posturing, but the negotiating dynamic changed in Republicans’ favor after the election and as the end of the congressional session neared. President-elect Joe Biden was eager for a deal

to deliver long-awaited help to suffering people and a boost to the economy, even though it was less than half the size that Democrats wanted this fall.

Biden praised the bipartisan spirit that produced the measure, which he called “just the beginning.”

“This is a model for the challenging work ahead for our nation,” Biden said in a statement.



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Medgar Evers Library – a beacon in the community

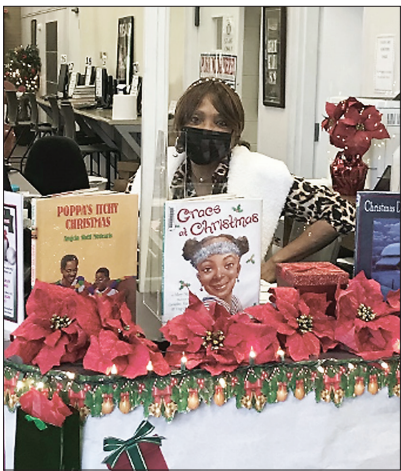
By Kenya Vardaman-Ramirez
Contributing Writer

On the first day of Christmas, the Good Lord gave to me: purpose and prayerfulness amid the pandemic, progress to see – and continued support from a beacon in the community.

After being locked from March to June 2020, The Medgar Evers Library re-opened with a reduced schedule and a roster filled with new practices. Now, in-person visits are only by appointment. And, the playful banter, that once bobbed in the air before Story Time on Wednesdays and Movie Time on Saturdays, has since been stilled. Yes, social distancing guidelines have temporarily closed the popular, reading room from entertaining its parents and petite patrons. However, the Medgar Evers Library is yet accessible –in abbreviated service and “virtual” format – for the community during this holiday season.

The library is beautifully decorated through and through. Patrons are having their temperature checked as they enter. The workers are observing CDC’s rules of wearing a mask, socially distancing and washing their hands but the festive holiday season is felt through and through.

The Medgar Evers Library staff, headed by Branch Manager Ann Sanders and assisted by James Hampton, have facilitated feelings of good tidings and cheer for the neighborhood surrounding the home of Mississippi’s fallen son. Just blocks away from the Medgar Evers home, which, is now a monument on the National Register of Historic Places, stands the head of



Sanders

the Medgar Evers library – a life sized, bronze statue of Medgar’s likeness and an aesthetic dedicated to Medgar’s memory.

Sanders brings in experience from two locations, both The Medgar Evers Library and The Charles W. Tisdale Library, where she has served as branch manager. Sanders says, “The Medgar Evers Library continues to serve as a staple for our district and a door of opportunity for students. When citizens see the types of resources that The Medgar Evers Library has to offer, the staff just wants to be there for them.”

Sanders lists public computers, digital e-books, digital magazines, fax machines and wireless printing among the items available by appointment. Sanders adds that there are also other multimedia presentations for families – like Sesame Street: The ABC’s of COVID-19 and programming on cookie, craft and ornament making – that are hosted on The Medgar Evers Library website at www.jhlibrary.org.

Hampton who has previously worked as a librarian in the Los Ange-



Hampton

les Public Library System, Northside Drive Library and the Jackson State University library, is using his expertise at The Medgar Evers Library in taking one of his prized project, Story Time, to Multimedia for his home-bound fans.

The Campfire Tales Christmas edition of Story Time features “A Place in Paradise,” a reading from the Christmas book of Brazilian folklore by famed writer, Paulo Coelho. This stirring tale, also hosted on the website, is about a poor man who vies to buy a rich man’s place in paradise, only to realize that his meager place in life, with his wife, was paradise all along.

Finally, the staff at The Medgar Evers Library encourages one and all to call in and check out the giant cut-outs of cherished Holiday characters, like Frosty the Snowman, that flank the floors, every year.

Hampton said, “the festive caricatures, shiny ceiling hangings, light lined desktops, deco-ed walls and adorned tabletops are always a sight to see.”

#KayKares Kits make a difference for homeless

By Daphne Monix Higgins
Contributing Writer

She doesn’t know the lyrics to the holiday classic song, “It’s the Most Wonderful Time of the Year,” but she does know that everyone should have an opportunity to feel like it is, especially during the Christmas season.

Kaylen Turner, an eight-year-old, second grade student at Obama Magnet Elementary School in Jackson, recently completed 156 care packages to donate to homeless individuals in the Jackson area. The care packages consisted of labelled bags containing bottled water, snacks, disposable masks, tissue and hand warmers inside each. (Some contained socks and/or approximately \$2.)

This young philanthropist-at-heart knew she wanted to do something to help those she saw at various locations within the city holding cardboard signs requesting financial assistance, food or temporary work. Her mother, Sharonda Turner, shared Kaylen’s statement, “I feel like I need to help them.”

Turner said, “Kaylen would ask us to stop to give them her after-school snack or some money so they wouldn’t be hungry. Kaylen has been asking to make the homeless bags of goodies for months. We finally agreed to do them and asked her how many she wanted to do. Her goal was 50-60 bags. We posted her goal on social media and were able to complete 156 bags.”

The younger Turner’s determination to help gave birth to #KayKares. Posts on social media shared Kaylen’s desire to help Jackson’s homeless population. The posts, written by Kaylen, read: “I am making care bags for the homeless this winter. Would you like to donate crackers but, not peanut butter because they may be allergic; socks, small water bottles, cookies, fruit cups, oranges or masks? Thank you so much!”



Kaylen Turner

Soon after the posts, the Turners, who are members of Anderson United Methodist Church, began receiving donations to help with their daughter’s request. The funds, totaling \$1,120, enabled Kaylen to obtain all of the items she initially requested, with \$1.19 left over.

The Turners delivered 125 bags, referred to as #KayKare Kits, to two area homeless shelters: Billy Brumfield Shelter for Men and Gateway Rescue Mission. She kept the other kits in her parents’ cars to pass out to those she continued to see in need. “She wanted to hand them out to every homeless person we saw until we ran out,” Sharonda said. “So, we kept the kits in our cars to pass out whenever we saw someone in need during out travels.”

Turner shared that an unidentified representative of Gateway expressed appreciation to the family and was shocked that someone Kaylen’s age was able to do something of this magnitude.

“Jared and I cannot thank you all enough for helping our daughter fulfill one of her dreams. She told us afterwards, ‘that felt so good to help them.’”

Kaylen has one brother, Ian, four years old, who also participated in assembling the kits.



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HBCU

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this donation advances students’ education at HBCUs even more.” Bridgeman is a contributing writer to the on-line newspaper, *The Campus Chronicle*.

Socrates Garrett, a local businessman and graduate of Alcorn, is proud to have been recently inducted into ‘The Hall of Honor’ at his alma mater. He said, “I think it is really significant when someone recognizes the achievements and contributions that HBCUs make in educating and training our youth. Many would not be able to attend a 4-year college without assistance. This generous donation exemplifies that Scott understands the importance of educating our students, many of which are from socially disadvantaged communities, and she could not have chosen a more deserving institution than Alcorn.”

Jerry Domatob, a professor of mass communications at Alcorn said, “During this trying era of Coronavirus assault, several colleges and universities suffer from a paucity of resources. Many grapple with daunting poverty. The current gifts to Alcorn State University and Tougaloo College are thus timely and much needed resources, in an epoch of economic crisis. These funds will not only tackle these challenges but more. MacKenzie Scott’s mighty gift of millions will assist these institutions foster their development.”

Also in Mississippi, Scott donated \$9 million to the Mississippi Food Network.



Scott

Winter

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was ultimately defeated in the second primary by John Bell Williams.

Winter’s political courage was recognized on the national stage when he received the John F. Kennedy Profiles in Courage Award in 2008. Presidential adviser Vernon Jordan eloquently commented that “Governor Winter exhibited courage throughout his career, a willingness to speak out, to stand up, to be daring.”

After service in the U.S. Army during World War II, Winter was elected to the Mississippi Legislature in 1947 while still a student at the Ole Miss Law School. In a bid for progressive reforms, Winter ran for Speaker of the House against the long-serving and powerful House Speaker Walter Sillers. The bid was unsuccessful but solidified Winter’s reputation as a courageous advocate of political, economic, and educational reforms.

Winter went on to serve as State Tax Collector, State Treasurer, Lt. Governor, and ultimately as Governor from 1980 to 1984.

In 1956 he was appointed State Tax Collector by Gov. J.P. Coleman. As State Tax Collector, Winter was responsible for collecting the state’s black-market tax on whiskey and liquor at a time when alcohol sales in the state were outlawed. In that position Winter was the second highest paid officeholder in the nation right behind the President of the United States. As a good government initiative Winter successfully advocated abolishing the position of State Tax Collector. He went on to be elected State Treasurer.

In 1971 Winter was elected Lt. Governor, continuing his advocacy of education enhancement and job creation. In 1975 he ran a second time for Governor losing to Cliff Finch whose campaign was high on theatrics.

After returning to his law practice, Winter ran for Governor again in 1979, this time successfully. Winter’s slogan in that campaign was, “William Winter for Governor: The Toughest Job in Mississippi.” That slogan foretold the tough, complex battles Winter faced in dealing with the Mississippi Legislature on his signature education reforms. When Winter became Governor, Mississippi was the nation’s only state without

compulsory school attendance and was one of only two states without a statewide system of kindergartens.

While serving as Governor, Winter’s progressive educational initiatives were defeated twice by a recalcitrant Mississippi Legislature. Only on his third attempt and after mounting an intensive effort to gain grassroots citizen support, were Winter’s educational reforms finally approved by a scant one vote. ‘The Clarion-Ledger newspaper won the Pulitzer Prize for Public Service based on its in-depth coverage of the legislation that brought a statewide system of kindergartens and compulsory school attendance to Mississippi for the first time.

The Clarion-Ledger characterized passage of the bill as “The Mississippi Miracle.” Winter’s achievement rippled out and was a catalyst for reforms by many other Southern states who secured passage of their own education reforms. The nationally syndicated columnist Carl Rowan characterized Winter’s Education Reform Act as “the most important civil rights and economic development legislation of 1982.”

As noted by political scientist Jess White, “Winter had a whole other career after serving as Governor, principally in the arena of racial reconciliation.” After being appointed by President Bill Clinton to serve on the National Commission on Race, Winter expanded that work for racial harmony with the creation of the Winter Institute for Racial Reconciliation.

Reflecting on Winter’s legacy, businessman and former Secretary of State Dick Molpus said, “Winter confronted racial, economic, and educational inequities throughout his life and fought those inequities with courage, hope, and tenacity.”

Winter was an early and longtime advocate of changing Mississippi’s state flag to rid it of the Confederate battle emblem. He and Tupelo businessman Jack Reed headed an effort to change the flag through a statewide referendum in 2001. Although unsuccessful, this effort led to renewed focus on changing the flag which was accomplished in 2020 by action of the Mississippi Legislature. Commenting on banning the flag, Winter said, “I hope this may spark further

action to meet the compelling social and economic needs of our state.”

To highlight the cultural accomplishments of Mississippi, Winter and his wife Elise launched a series of conversations at the Governor’s Mansion with accomplished Mississippians including Shelby Foote, Eudora Welty, Leontyne Price, Willie Morris, Walker Percy, Margaret Walker Alexander and many other literary, musical, and scientific luminaries. After a performance by opera diva Leontyne Price at the Governor’s Mansion Winter changed the Bilbo Room at the Mansion to the Leontyne Price Room, a testament to the advances in racial harmony and inclusiveness fostered by Winter.

Noting Winter’s efforts to promote valuable dialogue between people of different racial backgrounds, Myrlie Evers, the widow of slain civil rights leader Medgar Evers, commented, “William Winter brings people of all walks of life together for honest discussion.”

In a column marking Martin Luther King, Jr. Day in 2005 columnist David Broder wrote, “All of us have people we turn to when we need inspiration. One such person in my life has been former Mississippi Governor William Winter, a man whose courage and leadership, especially on racial and educational issues, have been demonstrated for decades.”

A passionate student of history and government, Winter served on the Board of the Mississippi Department of Archives & History for 50 years and as Board chairman for over 30 years. The State’s Archives & History Building in downtown Jackson is named for Winter.

Reflecting on Winter’s 75 years of public service, businessman Jim Barksdale observed, “Leadership is the most important ingredient in politics, business, and life. I can’t think of a better example of leadership than William Winter.”

The arc of Winter’s life and his accomplishments were chronicled in an Emmy Award winning documentary film “The Toughest Job.” The film chronicles Winter’s life from his early education in a one room school house in rural Mississippi during the Great Depression, through his many political campaigns, to his leadership

on important national issues.

In that documentary former President Bill Clinton observed, “The combination of Winter’s personal strength and political openness is the key to making this crazy time we’re living in hold together and make sense.” The film’s producer, David Crews, commented on the humility that Winter exhibited throughout his life, noting, “William Winter was humble with little to be humble about, a rarity among politicians today.”

Winter, a devoted family man, is survived by his wife of 70 years, Elise Varner Winter, who played a pivotal role in education reform and worked relentlessly on all of her husband’s campaigns. She also successfully led Habitat for Humanity efforts in Mississippi resulting in the construction of hundreds of homes for the working poor. Governor Winter is also survived by three devoted daughters Anne Winter, Lele Gillespie, and Eleanor Winter along with five grandchildren Dr. Winter Williams, Dr. Zach Williams, Ty Gillespie, Caroline Gillespie, and Grace Gillespie and five great grandchildren. Governor Winter was the son of William Aylmer Winter, who served in the Mississippi Legislature, and Inez Parker Winter a devoted Grenada County school teacher.

Memorial contributions can be made to the Foundation for Mississippi History. Governor Winter was the leading force behind the opening of the Museum of Mississippi History and the Mississippi Civil Rights Museum. His goal was for every Mississippi student to visit these museums at least once. Over the last years of his life, Winter helped raise funds to endow field trips to both museums for schools with limited resources. With his help the Foundation for Mississippi History has raised half of the \$4 million endowment to make this possible. Contributions in Winter’s memory can be made to the William Winter Education Fund, FMH, P.O. Box 571, Jackson, MS 39205.

A memorial service will be held once the dangers from COVID-19 abate and it is safe to gather for a service. Condolences to the Winter family may be mailed to P.O. Box 427, Jackson, MS 39205.

PHOTO OF THE WEEK



Jarrell Smith (l) celebrated his 10th birthday Saturday on Oak Leaf Court in Jackson, MS with a honk and wave parade. Parents are Jarvis and Perella Smith. PHOTO BY JACKIE HAMPTON

Reflections of Life

Linda Diana Lindsey

June 14, 1954 – December 14, 2020



Lindsey

Linda Diana Lindsey was born in Jackson, Mississippi on June 14, 1954 to Jessie Russell Jr. and Ethel Russell. She was the oldest of five children. She was affectionately known to her family as Di and Diane. She fought a good fight and finished her race on December 14, 2020. She is now at rest with her Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

She was a proud product of Jim Hill High School. She attended Belhaven University and received a bachelor of administration degree in 2001.

Linda and her family joined Mt. Elam MB Church where she was a dedicated servant of Christ and a dedicated member. She was an usher and announcement clerk. Linda loved bible study and her favorite phrase was "Trust in the Lord." She dearly loved Mt. Elam and loved talking about Pastor McBounds and First Lady Tish.

Linda was a committed and

dedicated employee of the City of Jackson for over 35 years. She started her career at the Water Department as a clerk and worked her way up to assistant manager. She also worked at Joann's and Polly's Fabrics where she became widely known throughout the city and surrounding areas for her skill as a seamstress. She also taught sewing classes at the Career Development Center.

After retiring she immersed herself in a number of pleasures that brought joy to her life. She enjoyed landscaping, gardening, traveling, reading, writing notes of encouragement, cooking, baking and spending time with family and friends. She wrote to President Barack Obama and First Lady Michelle and was overjoyed to receive a two-page response.

Linda leaves to continue her legacy daughters Sonya Buckner, Natalie Lindsey and Erica Lind-

sey; five grandchildren whom she adored and counted as one of God's greatest gifts to her – Sasha Buckner, Kameron Brown, Omari Lindsey, Noah James and Daniel Williams II; one great grandchild Allen Brown II; sister Beverly Russell; brothers Larry Russell (Christine), Daryl Russell (Alberta) and Dexter Russell (Tonya); dear and special friends JoAnn Sanders Moore, Sharon Beamon, Charlotte Burns, Robert Martin Craig Ellis, Debra Barr, Sam Ashmore, Ronnie Thompson, Mary Jones, Ke'Arrya McGloster and Eddie Wilson; and a host of other relatives and friends.

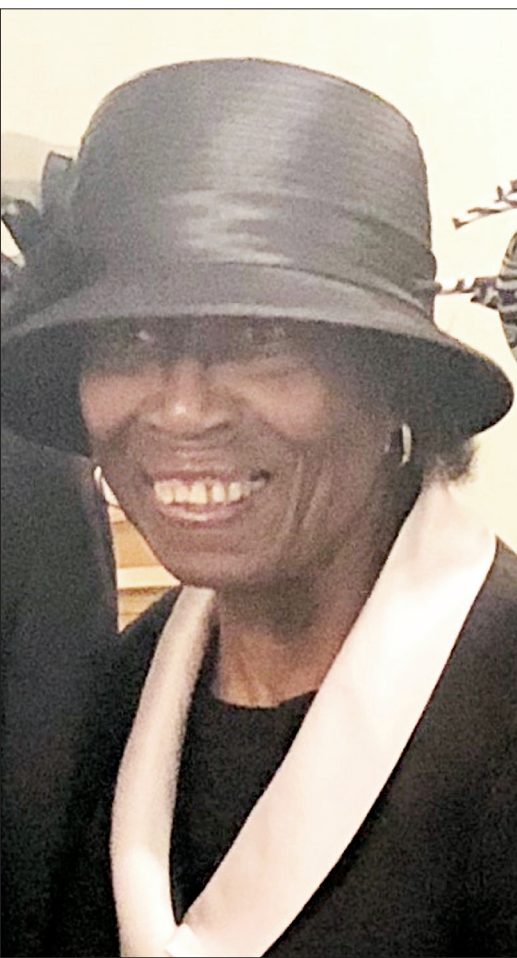
Graveside service was held December 22, 2020 at Mt. Elam MB Church in Pearl, MS.

Well done my good and faithful servant. Thou hast been faithful over a few things. I will make thee ruler over many things. Enter thou into the joy of thy Lord. Matt. 25:21.

Celebration of Life

Frankie L. Paige Bracey

February 12, 1928 – December 13, 2020



Bracey

Frankie Lee Paige Bracey, 82 years old, departed this life at St. Dominic Hospital on December 13, 2020.

She was born February 12, 1938 to the late Frank Paige and Ora Lee Wilkins Paige in Carpenter, Mississippi. She was the eldest of six siblings. She was preceded in death by one sibling, O. C. Paige.

Frankie truly loved the Lord and accepted Jesus Christ as her Savior at an early age at Morning Star M. B. Church in Utica, Missis-

sippi. She received her diploma in 1955 at the Utica Institute, now Utica Junior College. In 1957, she became a licensed beautician following her attendance at Mary Moore Beauty School, where she would later touch the lives of many students as an instructor.

For 63 years, Frankie was the owner of Valley Street Beauty Shop. She believed in beauty as she did the Word of God. Therefore, you were sure to receive devotion, fellowship, and the gospel while she provided beauty services. She loved her family and friends deeply and touched the lives of many people.

Frankie met and married the love of her life, Emmitt N. Bracey Sr., on December 18, 1960. Their union was blessed with three children, Emmitt Jr., Joseph and Nancy. Emmitt Sr. preceded her in death.

Frankie leaves precious memories in the hearts of her loved ones. She will be lovingly remembered by her children Emmitt N. Bracey, Jr. (Jacqueline) of Memphis, TN, Joseph Bracey Jr. of Jackson, MS, Nancy Bracey (Dwight Brown) of Memphis, TN; siblings: Annie P. Anderson of Los Angeles, CA, O.L. Paige (Ruby deceased) of Utica, MS, Madie Gaines (Rev. Cleophus Sr. deceased) of Eutaw, AL, Willie Paige of Los Angeles, CA; two grandchildren: Emmicia Bracey of Nashville, TN, Antonio Henderson of Gulfport, MS; special cousins: Lillie B. Williams and Mildred Burnett of Jackson, MS; Goddaughter Dr. Ester Stokes (Rev. James) of Jackson, MS; nine nieces: Marilyn, Janice, Shirley, Ethel, Lillian, Patricia, Lesia, Lynn and Candice; nine nephews: Rev. Emmitt T. Paige, Sr. (Donna) of Jackson, MS, Earnest, Darryl, Ron, Jerry, Tony, Dexter Sr., O.L. Jr., Dennis and Emmitt Jr.; and a host of great-nieces, great-nephews, relatives and friends.

Homegoing services were held on December 21, 2020 at 11 a.m. Reverend Emmitt Tracey Paige Sr. officiated.

Happy Holidays

from

Senator Sollie B. Norwood

District 28



Wishing you warmest wishes for faith, hope and peace this Christmas Season.

This year has been like no other but as we acknowledge that COVID-19 has affected so many of our lives in untold ways, we pay homage to families that have lost loved ones – and we pray that God strengthens each one day by day.

Let us stay home and celebrate this holiday season as we look forward to the vaccine that will allow us to travel and celebrate with others in the foreseeable future. Meanwhile, consistently wear your mask, social distance and wash your hands.

Merry Christmas,
Sollie

JPS School Board approves renaming of JPS schools

Mississippi Link Newswire

Two Jackson Public School District elementary schools will receive new names. The JPS Board of Trustees unanimously approved renaming Lee and Power Elementary Schools at its regular meeting held Tuesday, December 15. Lee, formerly named for Confederate General Robert E. Lee, will be renamed for Drs. Aaron and Ollye Shirley. Power will be renamed for Ida B. Wells. Its original namesake was Colonel John Logan Power, who also served in the Confederate Army. District administrators introduced resolutions for the renaming of two JPS schools at the first board meeting in December.

Shirley Elementary School (formerly Lee Elementary)

Dr. Aaron Shirley (January 3, 1933-November 26, 2014), a native Mississippian, became the first African-American resident at the University of Mississippi Medical Center in 1965. He became a physician and served as an associate professor of pediatrics at the medical center. Shortly



Dr. Aaron Shirley (1933-2014) and Dr. Ollye Shirley (1934-2016)

ly after his residency, he helped to establish the Jackson Hinds Comprehensive Health Center. He also established a comprehensive school-based clinic to provide health and counseling services. Later in life, Aaron Shirley served as chairman of the Jackson Medical Mall Foundation Board.

Dr. Ollye Shirley (January 10, 1934-September 10, 2016) was a long-serving member of the JPS Board of Trustees, including

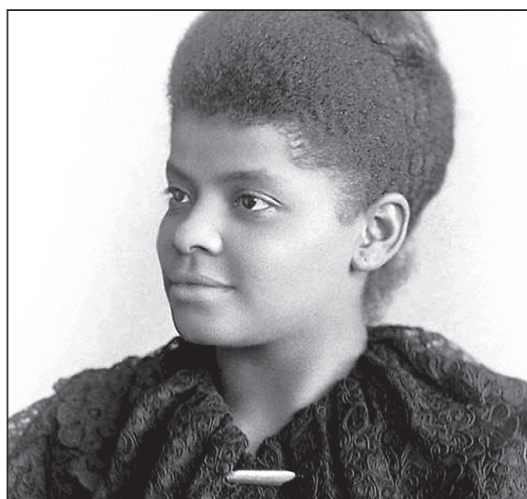
serving as president of the board. She assisted in a significant School Board referendum that allowed the district to expand and improve its facilities. Additionally, she was instrumental in expanding Mississippi Educational Television's programming in this area to include Sesame Street despite initial opposition because of its ethnically diverse cast of adults and children.

The Shirleys will be remembered for their individual and

collective accomplishments. The community regarded them as heroes for their lifetime of tenacious advocacy. The renaming of Lee Elementary recognizes the Shirleys' outstanding contributions to Jackson's welfare.

Ida B. Wells Elementary School (formerly Power APAC)

The new namesake for Power APAC School is Ida B. Wells (July 16, 1862-March 25, 1931). Wells was the popular choice of students in a schoolwide vote on



Ida B. Wells (1862-1931)

the three finalists. The other two finalists were novelists Richard Wright and Margaret Walker Alexander.

Wells, a native of Holly Springs, Mississippi, was an investigative journalist, educator and early civil rights movement leader. She was one of the founders of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP). Throughout a lifetime dedicated to combating prejudice and violence and

the fight for African-American equality, especially women, Wells arguably became the most famous black woman in America.

The school is home to the Academic and Performing Arts Complex, which serves students in grades 4-12 enrolled in advanced academic courses and the visual and performing arts.

The renaming committees of both schools adopted criteria for the renaming process. In 2017, the JPS Board of Trustees authorized the renaming of district properties where were previously named for Confederate figures. It empowered the administration to design deliberative and inclusive processes to propose new school names. The process involved the establishment of a committee representing the schools' staff, families and communities. Additionally, students of the schools engaged in lessons and activities to decide on the finalists.

This year, the student vote coincided with the November general election.

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Sykes

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A graduate of Alcorn State University made history in Port Gibson, Mississippi.

Christy Sykes, who earned a bachelor's degree in criminal justice and a master's degree in workforce education leadership from Alcorn State University, became the Claiborne County Detention Center's first female chief deputy in the county's history.

The promotion is an impressive milestone to Sykes because of its historical significance and its job location, which is in her hometown. She was both surprised and grateful upon hearing the good news.

"It feels great to be the first female chief deputy here at home," said Sykes. "I was shocked and grateful when Sheriff Goods selected me out of all the candidates he interviewed for the position."

With her appointment, Sykes becomes a role model for current women in law enforcement and women pursuing a career in the field. She encourages women searching for a legal career to maintain a good work ethic and have faith in their abilities.

"I believe that the sky is the limit. I tell all women, especially those in law enforcement, always do their best even when it seems no one is watching. God takes care of his people, so continue to believe in your dreams."

Claiborne County Sheriff Edward Goods Sr., who worked with Sykes at Alcorn before being elected sheriff in Claiborne County,

was impressed by her dedication to learning and progressing in law enforcement. He's happy with promoting her and considers her an essential component of the department.

"Chief Sykes and I worked at Alcorn together for 13 years," said Goods. "I sat back and watched her take advantage of Alcorn's educational programs by earning multiple degrees. After watching her progress, knowing all of her credentials, seeing how dedicated she was to Alcorn, and praying about my decision, I knew she was the right choice. I'm the politician, but she is the backbone of our department."

Working in Alcorn's police department for more than a decade equipped Sykes for her current role. Sykes said that Alcorn gave her countless opportunities to enhance her knowledge and skills. She thanks the University and its police department for preparing her for excellence.

"I learned report writing, traffic control, patience, and how to listen to what's going on around me. I built a relationship with students, which is something I'm continuing to do as chief. Alcorn paid for my education and offered training opportunities that I took advantage of. The opportunities that Alcorn provided is what makes me who I am today."

Alcorn State University is the nation's first public, historically black, Morrill land-grant university.

MDAH statement on the late MS Former Gov. William F. Winter

Mississippi Department of Archives & History

William F. Winter led the MDAH Board of Trustees for nearly fifty years, making an unmistakable impact on the department and the state.

Winter's greatest legacy at MDAH was the opening of the Two Mississippi Museums in 2017. Winter helped convince state leaders of the need to build the Museum of Mississippi History and the Mississippi Civil Rights Museum, and he was instrumental in securing public and private funds for the project.

MDAH director Katie Blount said, "These museums stand at the intersection of William Winter's greatest passions – history, education and racial justice. Generations of young people will come here to experience the stories that have shaped our state and nation."

As Winter said during the opening ceremony, "These museums will challenge all of us to have a better understanding of where we have come from, and then inspire

us to work harder to find our common ideals and goals. We will find that we have much more in common than what might appear to divide us."

Winter joined the MDAH board in 1957, was elected president in 1969, and served in that role until 2007. During that time, he oversaw the opening of the Eudora Welty House, the restoration of the Old Capitol, and the construction of a state-of-the art archives building that the state legislature named for him.

Reuben V. Anderson, president of the MDAH Board of Trustees, recalled, "With his encouragement, MDAH strengthened its focus on African-American history in Mississippi, acquiring significant collections of papers, mounting award-winning exhibits and offering grants for the preservation of sites associated with with African-American history. Most notably, his close friendship with Myrlie Evers led to her decision to donate the Medgar and Myrlie Evers Collection to MDAH in 2002."

2nd COVID-19 vaccine authorized in US is shipped out

Associated Press

Initial shipments of the second COVID-19 vaccine authorized in the U.S. left a distribution center Sunday, a desperately needed boost as the nation works to bring the coronavirus pandemic under control.

The trucks left the Memphis-area factory with the vaccine developed by Moderna Inc. and the National Institutes of Health. The much-needed shots are expected to be given starting Monday, just three days after the Food and Drug Administration authorized their emergency rollout.

Also on Sunday, an expert committee began considering who should be next in line for early doses of the Moderna vaccine and a similar one from Pfizer Inc. and Germany's BioNTech. Pfizer's shots were first shipped out a week ago and started being used the next day, kicking off the nation's biggest vaccination drive.

Public health experts say the shots – and others in the pipeline – are the only way to stop a virus that has been spreading wildly. Nationwide, more than 219,000 people per day on average test positive for the virus, which has killed at least 314,000 in the U.S. and upwards of 1.7 million worldwide.

The Pfizer and Moderna shots shipped so far and going out over the next few weeks are nearly all going to health-care workers and residents of long-term care homes, based on the advice of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices.

There won't be enough shots for the general population until spring, so doses will be rationed at least for the next several months. President-elect Joe Biden pledged earlier this month to have 100 million vaccine doses distributed in his first 100 days in office, and his surgeon general nominee said Sunday that it's still a realistic goal.

But Vivek Murthy, speaking on NBC's "Meet the Press," said it's more realistic to think it may be midsummer or early fall before coronavirus vaccines are available to the general population, rather than late spring. Murthy said Biden's team is working toward having the shots available to lower-risk individuals by late spring but doing so requires "everything to go exactly on schedule."

"I think it's more realistic to assume that it may be closer to mid-summer or early fall when this vaccine makes its way to the general population," Murthy said. "So, we want to be optimistic, but we want to be cautious as well."

Meanwhile, Trump's surgeon general Dr. Jerome Adams, defended the administration's handling of the Pfizer vaccine Sunday, a day after the Army general in charge of getting COVID-19 vaccines across the U.S. apologized Saturday for "miscommunication" with states over the number of doses to be delivered in the early stages of distribution. At least a dozen states reported they would receive a smaller second shipment of the Pfizer vaccine than they had been told previously.

Gen. Gustave Perna told reporters in a telephone briefing that he made mistakes by citing numbers of doses that he believed would be ready.

But Adams, speaking on CBS' "Face the Nation," said that "the numbers are going to go up and down."

"It absolutely was not poor planning," he said. "There's what we plan. There's what we actually allocate. There's what's delivered, and then there's what's actually put in people's arms."

Adams, who is black, said he understands that mistrust of the medical community and the vaccine among blacks "comes from a real place," the mistreatment of communities of color. He cited the decades-long Tuskegee experiment in Alabama, where black men with syphilis were not treated so the disease could be studied.

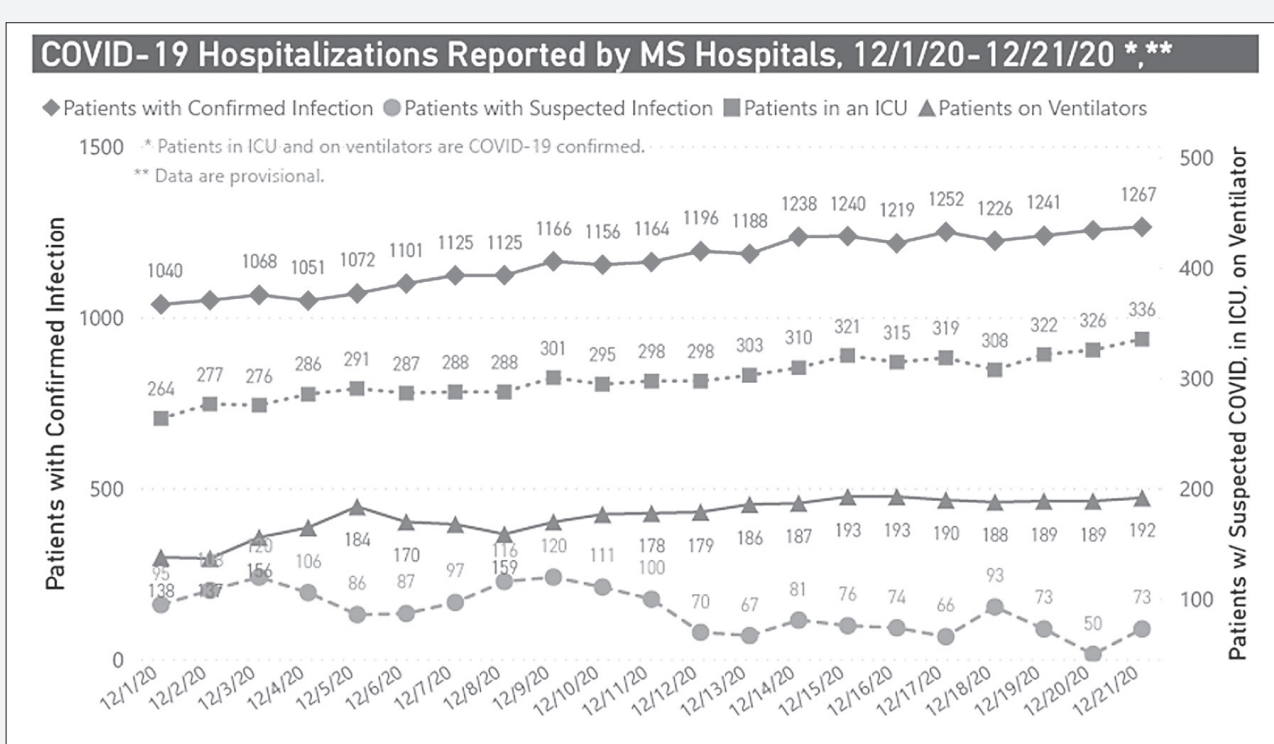
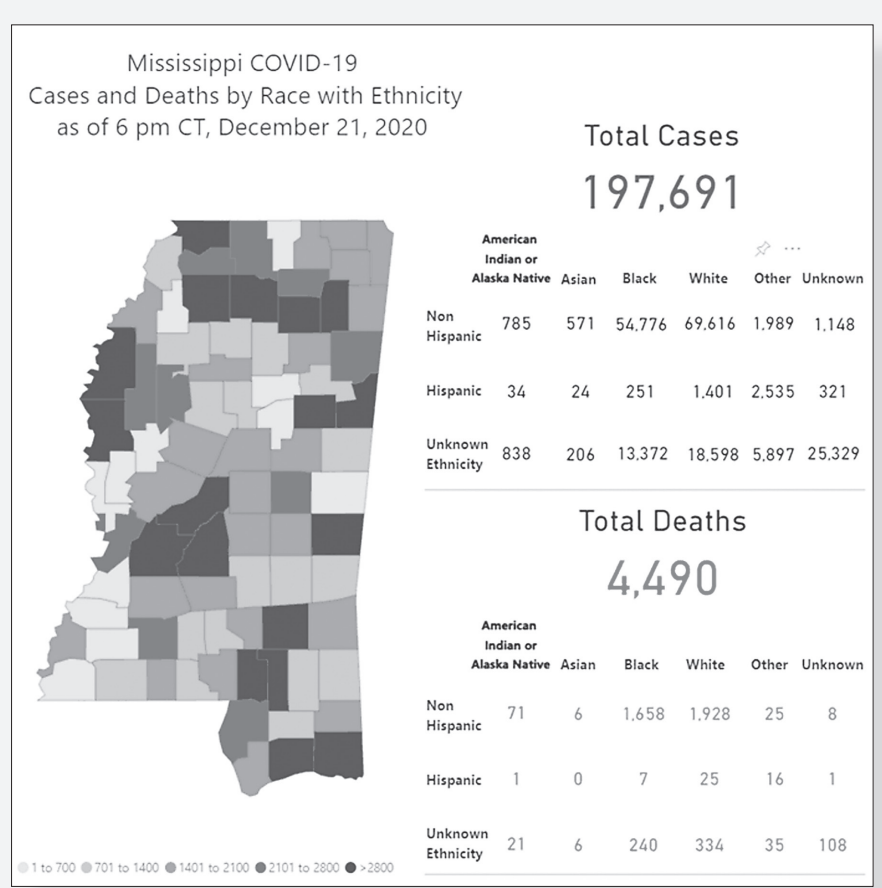
He also said immigrants in the U.S. illegally should not be denied the vaccine because of their legal status because "it's not ethically right to deny those individuals."

The expert panel members are leaning toward putting "essential workers" next in line, because people like bus drivers, grocery store clerks and others are getting infected most often. But other experts say people 65 and older should be next, along with people with certain medical conditions, because those are the Americans who are dying at the highest rates.

The expert panel's advice is almost always endorsed by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. No matter what the CDC says, there will be differences from state to state, because various health departments have different ideas about who should be closer to the front of the line.

Both the Moderna vaccine and the Pfizer-BioNTech shot require two doses several weeks apart. The second dose must be from the same company as the first. Both vaccines appeared safe and strongly protective in large, still unfinished studies.

MISSISSIPPI COVID-19 UPDATE



Black voters should see themselves in congressional staff

By Dr. LaShonda Brenson
Political and Economic Studies



As the new Congress prepares to take office and members of the U.S. House and Senate make key staff hires, it's time for careful scrutiny of the diversity reflected within the ranks of congressional staff. This is particularly true following an election in which black voters were critical to its outcome.

More than 70 civil rights groups, including African-American Mayors Association, Black Futures Lab, Congressional Black Caucus Foundation (CBCF) and NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund, Inc. (LDF), have formally called on new members of Congress to increase the numbers of staff of color within the mid-level and senior ranks of congressional offices. Our advocacy is particularly important right now, in the period



between Election Day and the formal start of the new Congress when most key staff are hired.

While we saw marginal improvement in senior staff diversity after the election in 2018, the lack of diversity among senior congressional staff of both parties is longstanding.

The data is sobering, if not surprising.

People of color account for nearly 40 percent of the U.S. population. Yet, Joint Center research found that people of color account for just 11 percent of Washington, D.C.-based

senior staff in Senate personal offices. These include positions like chief of staff, legislative director and communications director – the most influential staff positions in Congress.

Unfortunately, our 2018 report also found that the House was only narrowly more representative with staffers of color comprising just 13.7 percent of senior roles.

And this inequity remains true for Republicans who represent large numbers of black voters and for Democratic members who often depend on black voters as a critical com-

ponent of their electorate.

There's not a single black senior staff member in the personal offices of the Republican Senators who represent Mississippi and Louisiana, despite the fact that African Americans account for a third or more of the population in these states.

Similarly, though black voters made up 37 percent of Democratic voters in Virginia in 2016, and 47 percent of Democratic voters in Maryland, there's not a single black person holding a senior staff position within the offices of the Democratic Senators who represent these states.

Meanwhile, the Congressional Black Caucus (CBC) is leading by example among congressional Democrats, with black staff representing just over 53 percent of CBC top staff – compared to just 2.1 percent of the senior staff of white Democratic members of the U.S. House. Only 35 percent of African Americans in the United States live in districts

represented by CBC members, but 78.5 percent of the black top staff in the U.S. House are employed by CBC members.

This data is particularly troubling at a time when we desperately need more, not fewer, black staff who can advise Members of Congress in better understanding and responding robustly to structural inequality, racism and anti-blackness.

Yet, there is an opportunity for change.

There will soon be at least 60 new members of the U.S. House and there could be as many as nine new Senators. With each appointing a chief of staff, legislative director, and communications director, that amounts to 207 senior positions. Far more of them should be filled by talented African Americans.

Continued progress will require that congressional leadership bring real resources to bear. More Congressional offices should formalize diversity and inclusion plans and

measure progress. And all offices should focus on diversifying mid-level positions like press secretary and legislative assistant to further bolster the pool of talent that can eventually step into top positions.

Without question, some members can rightfully point to black staff serving as state or district directors, or to improvements in the diversity of non-senior staff.

But at a time when the pandemic and economic turmoil has fallen disproportionately on black people, robust representation of black Americans in senior roles matters now more than ever.

Real progress is possible, but it will require that Members of Congress choose action over the status quo. And it demands that we hold them accountable for doing so.

Dr. LaShonda Brenson is the Senior Fellow for Diversity and Inclusion at the Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies.

New Year's resolutions the Biden Administration can make right now

By Ben Jealous
TriceEdneyWire.com



I don't know about all of you, but it feels to me like Christmas came early this year.

Electing a new president and vice president was a gift that 81

million Americans gave to ourselves and to one another.

Every court rejection of Trump's bogus stolen election claims was one more stocking stuffer.

Now the only thing left on my Christmas wish list is a victory in Georgia's Senate races and an end to Mitch McConnell's power-abusing, progress-obstructing reign as Senate Majority Leader.

Actually, that's not quite true. I also want a Biden-Harris administration whose vision and boldness are worthy of the hard work and sacrifices that so many people made to put them in office.

The Democratic Party is a diverse coalition, and we shouldn't expect everyone to agree on the best way to approach every issue. It's natural that we'll have disagreements and debates. But we can unite enthusiastically behind a broad set of values that we want our leaders to advance: equality, fairness, opportunity and justice for all. And we can agree on the need to move quickly to reverse many of the Trump administration executive orders and initiatives that undermined those values.

That's why leaders from across the progressive movement are thrilled to look forward to the day very soon when Joe Biden and Kamala Harris are sworn in – and to the next day, when they will be in position to start the work they're preparing for now.

We are prepared to support them and fight alongside them, and when

necessary, to push them toward boldness in advancing policies that reflect our highest ideals and the urgent needs of millions of Americans.

Here are some resolutions that leaders of the Biden administration should make right now to make 2021 a much happier new year than the one we have left behind:

1. Make it a priority to start fixing the federal courts by nominating fair-minded judges and justices who are committed to protecting civil and human rights.
2. Restore integrity to the 2020 census by reversing illegal efforts by the Trump administration to restrict who gets counted – and who counts when it comes to representation in Congress.
3. Revive the Department of Justice as the nation's primary protector of voting rights and civil rights and move aggressively against state and local efforts to restrict voting rights.
4. Do everything in our power to reunite the children and families separated by the immoral actions of the Trump administration.
5. Empower the Civil Rights Division at DOJ to investigate abuses by state and local law enforcement, use consent decrees to get commitments for reform, and ensure accountability and more just policing through steady oversight.
6. Give stability to millions of immigrant families by fully resuming the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program, reversing Trump's Muslim ban orders and policies, re-opening the door to settling refugees and eliminating the public charge rule that discriminates against poor people.
7. Recognize that religious liberty is meant to be a shield to protect everyone's ability to exercise their religion, not a sword to allow religious claims to justify discrimination or

other harms to others.

8. Reverse a Trump executive order that prevented federal agencies, contractors and grantees from discussing the impact of racism in the workplace or embracing policies to advance diversity and equal opportunity.

9. Issue guidance establishing a necessary use of force standard that allows police use of force only as a last resort.

10. Direct DOJ to explore legal options for limiting or ending the qualified immunity doctrine that insulates police officials from liability for serious misconduct.

Of course, there is much more work ahead for the Biden administration and for those of us who want it to succeed, particularly around COVID-19 recovery and access to health care. But these steps will get us off to a good start.

What a joy it is in this holiday season to know that so many policies grounded in bigotry and cruelty will soon be reversed.

What a blessing it will be not to be on the defensive at every moment – and to use our collective expertise, creativity and heart to imagine, design, debate, perfect and implement policies that will bring more fairness, more justice and more opportunity to all the people in these United States.

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.

Medical breakthroughs and a prognosis for a better year

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



Although we've come to the end of the road are popular lyrics from a song by Boyz to Men. This refrain is squarely tied to the current president.

Last week, the electoral college certified that President-elect Biden had indeed won the election.

We are at Christmas with an election that was held weeks ago. The problem was that Trump, and his un-merry men and women did not want to accept the results. And with the courts in some strange way, they thought they could get their way.

Instead, America's court system, including the Supreme Court, told them they had no standing and to get out of the way. Justice and right prevailed. We knew that Mr. T did not have a case. The sickening part of this is that we had a tyrant in the Oval Office for four years.

The good news is with the vaccines and our outlook. We have now both the Pfizer and the Moderna vaccines to fight the Coronavirus. Healthcare workers have already started to receive them. I believe brighter days are ahead and we are slowly coming out of a dark and tragic period in our history.

There are many who would say we are still in that dark period. To some extent, that is true. The difference is that we have a medication that will counter COVID-19. For months, we were struggling and fearing the Coronavirus. At least at the end of this year, we can say with a bit of confidence that next year will be better.

As we point to the year 2021, the question at the inquiry desk is what will next year look like? There are multiple answers to that question depending upon your view.

If you are not in a political bubble where alternative truths rule, then you know next year will be like Alka Seltzer. Oh! What a relief it will be to see right overtake wrong. Arguably, we have been living in a fog of fear. Our days have been a quagmire of chaos.

If you are black like me, leaving your house and coming back to it has been trauma-filled. Some of us made it back while others of us perished. Sadly, but factually we are not safe even when we are inside of our homes.

Why not ask Chicago citizen Anjanette Young? Police in that city stormed into her home with guns drawn and arrested her. This incident happened almost two years ago. Young wanted the world to know what happened to her.

The Chicago police finally had to show the truth. Young said, "I feel like they didn't want us to have this video because they knew how bad it was. They knew they had done something wrong. They knew that the way they treated me was not right." Well, I believe the police there will not fare well and will face some severe consequences.

If you are a student at any level, you have one request and that is to return to school. Students have been in and out of school since March. Learning for them has ceased to be fun. Virtual learning has been the substitute and critics say that it has hurt many students. I agree.

College students have also been at home as classrooms and residence halls have been empty. You cannot sit in the student union and play bid whiz nor can you sit on the block and tell stories.

So, the vaccine, if it goes according to plans, will allow us to get back in the game. The vaccine will change things so make your plans for next year. Our new year will be a better year. Let us get ready!



Christmas 2020

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



Christmas is just around the corner. As we move closer to the day of our Lord's birth, let us strive to keep Holy our focus and remembrance of what's the meaning of Christmas Day.

Christmas is more than a day of giving and receiving gifts from family and friends. Christmas is certainly not all about Santa Claus and Christmas trees, parties and making good cheer.

Let us, being people of faith, remember that Christmas Day in the church is the feast of the incarnation, the night and day when the Word became flesh and bone. The day God came

down and joined our common lot.

In the Gospel of Luke, Luke begins Jesus' birth narrative not with accounts of God using rich, powerful people in places of power and influence to usher in the coming of the Messiah. Rather, God begins the birth story of Jesus by using old people at a temple, Zechariah and Elizabeth. God chose a peasant couple name Joseph and Mary to be the earth-bound vessels through which the Messiah would come into the world. God even used poor shepherds in the fields to announce and witness Emmanuel being born!

God used the opposite of worldly models of power to show the world and humanity a power and grace almost beyond our comprehension.

On that special night, long ago in ancient Judea, the literal King of kings, God's own son, came to earth as a poor peasant. He was born homeless, in filthy conditions. Truly he was born in the most vulnerable and insecure of circumstances.

Christ was born into a sin darkened world of war, violence, injustice and spiritual denial. Conversely, in our postmodern world wracked with war, economic and dysfunction and corruption.

Emmanuel, Jesus, is still offering us hope, light and truth. In these critical times, we cannot forget that by the power and grace of the Holy Spirit, Emmanuel is ever near. All we need to do is feel His love and reach out to Him through prayer and the study

of God's Word, the Bible.

In this season of light, love and truth, I encourage you all to open your Bible to Luke Chapter 2:1-20 and read the birth narrative of Jesus. In this reading you will discover a peace, love and gentle power emanating from the Bible; a love fully revealed to the world, in the birth of the baby Jesus.

Brothers and sisters keep the light of faith burning in your hearts and lives. In the name of Jesus, peace be with you all and have a wonderful Christmas!

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

A Year of pruning ends

By Shewanda Riley
Columnist



One of things I love about my house is my tree in my front yard. When the seasons change from fall to winter, the tree leaves turn a beautiful shade of orangish-red for a few weeks. But then all the leaves fall off and I'm left with a scraggly looking tree with bare limbs. From the days the leaves fall off until they return in the Spring with their lush greens, it's not much to look at. But I know one day, the leaves will return thicker than the previous year.

This cycle of my tree reminds me so much of what this year has been like. 2020 is ending in a couple of weeks and many are happy that this year of what seems like unending loss, isolation and trauma is over.

Even as some are saying good riddance to this year, other are looking ahead to 2021 with hope, uncertainty and maybe just a little touch of fear. We don't know what's ahead but we also are not sure that we want to know what's ahead if what is ahead is anything like 2020.

I'm not sure where I fall in all of that as 2020 has been a year of great highs (finally finished my PhD!) and lows (my Daddy passed away). The part of me that is always hopeful is looking forward to the new year with new opportunities, new experiences and a new presidential administration. Yet, there is a part of me that is a little anxious about what is ahead.

Even as I try to figure it out, I am reminded of the truth in a quote I saw online recently: "If you feel like you are losing every-

thing, remember that trees lose their leaves every year and they still stand tall and wait for the better days to come...and leaves to return." This phrase reminds me of John 15:2 which says, "He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful." Both the quote and the scripture of how pruning or loss can actually be a good thing sometimes.

The process of losing things can make you more productive. Despite the chaos of the COVID-19 pandemic, some have developed closer relationships with their family members, learned new hobbies and strengthened their spiritual relationships. Some of us have become more creative and introspective which is generally a good thing. Also, there are fewer distractions (like working overtime in an office, sports, concerts) that keep us from connecting with those closest to us.

For those of us who have lost loved ones, we can be comforted by the memories and yet remain hopeful that God's best is yet to come.

So, as we prepare to celebrate the birth of Christ and begin a new year, we can be hopeful that the pruning of 2020 is a part of the preparation of God fulfilling His promises for even greater blessings.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

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.



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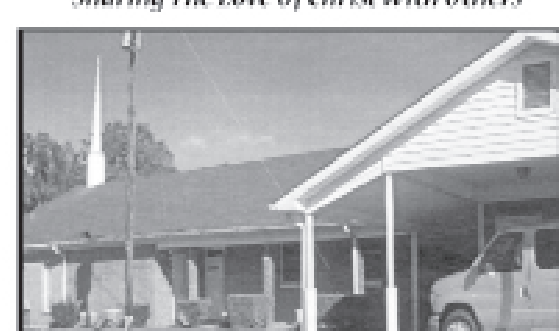
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LEGAL

ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 2-71 OF THE CITY OF JACKSON CODE OF ORDINANCES.

WHEREAS, Section 2-71 of the City of Jackson Code of Ordinances establishes guidelines and requirements regarding speaking limitations, public comments, and council chamber conduct during meetings of the Jackson City Council; and

WHEREAS, the current guidelines and requirements regarding speaking limitations, public comments, and council chamber conduct during meetings set forth in Section 2-71 of the City of Jackson Code of Ordinances is as follows:

(a) No member of the council shall be permitted to speak more than once on any subject, until all members desiring to speak have spoken. A member may not speak more than five minutes without obtaining the consent of the council, by majority vote.

(b) Any person desiring to address the council with reference to any item on the agenda for that meeting must register with the city clerk prior to the regular meeting time and shall provide, in writing, his name, his address, and the number of the agenda item with reference to which he desires to speak. When recognized by the president, such person may speak only once with reference to any agenda item and for a portion of the time not to exceed three minutes, unless such period of time is extended by a majority vote of the council. Such public comments will be received prior to the consideration of ordinances, orders, or resolutions.

(c) Any person desiring to address the council with reference to any matter which is not on the agenda must register with the clerk prior to the regular meeting time and shall provide, in writing, his name, his address, and the subject matter with reference to which he wishes to address the council. When recognized by the president, such person may speak only once with reference to such matter and for a period of time not to exceed three minutes, unless such period of time is extended by a majority of the council. Such public comments will be received by the city council immediately prior to its adjournment and at the conclusion of all other city business.

(d) Notwithstanding any other provisions, no person shall address the council with reference to any personnel matter during any open meeting of the city council.

(e) No derogatory remarks concerning councilmembers or anyone present in the council chamber shall be permitted. The president shall suspend irrelevant speaking. A majority of the members of the council have the right to suspend irrelevant speaking at any council meeting.

(f) Any person making personal, impertinent, or slanderous remarks, or who uses abusive, vulgar, or profane language, or who shall become boisterous while addressing the council shall be forthwith, by the presiding officer or the clerk of council, barred from further audience before the council, unless permission to continue be granted by a majority vote of the council.

(g) The usage of cellular phones and paging devices shall be prohibited within the council chambers during council meetings. All such devices within the council chambers shall be placed on silence or vibrator mode during council meetings. The city clerk shall place signs within city hall notifying the public of said rule. Any person violating said rule shall first receive a verbal warning from the presiding officer; upon any additional violations, the presiding officer may bar the person from the remainder of the council meeting for which he is in violation, and the person shall be required to place all cellular phones and paging devices with city hall security prior to entering any city council meeting.

NOW BE IT ORDAINED BY THE JACKSON CITY COUNCIL that Section 2-71 of the City of Jackson Code of Ordinances shall be amended to establish the location and schedules for meetings of the Jackson City Council as follows:

(a) No member of the council shall be permitted to speak more than once on any subject, until all members desiring to speak have spoken. A member may not speak more than five minutes without obtaining the consent of the council, by majority vote.

(b) Any person desiring to address the council with reference to any item on the agenda for that meeting must register with the clerk of council no later than 12 noon on the business day immediately preceding the regular or special called meeting, and shall provide, in writing, his name, his address, and the number of the agenda item with reference to which he desires to speak. The number of instances allowed for public comment on an item on the agenda (whether by individuals, organizations, or other entities) during a regular or special called meeting of the Jackson City Council is limited to five (5), whether in-person or virtually. When recognized by the president, such person may speak only once with reference to any agenda item and for a portion of the time not to exceed three minutes, unless such period of time is extended by a majority vote of the council. Such public comments will be received prior to the consideration of ordinances, orders, or resolutions.

(c) Any person desiring to address the council with reference to any matter which is not on the agenda must register with the clerk of council no later than 12 noon on the business day immediately preceding the regular or special called meeting and shall provide, in writing, his name, his address, and the subject matter with reference to which he wishes to address the council. The number of instances allowed for public comment on an item not on the agenda (whether by individuals, organizations, or other entities) during a regular or special called meeting of the Jackson City Council is limited to three (3), whether in-person or virtually. When recognized by the president, such person may speak only once with reference to such matter and for a period of time not to exceed three minutes, unless such period of time is extended by a majority of the council. Such public comments will be received by the city council immediately prior to its adjournment and at the conclusion of all other city business.

(d) Notwithstanding any other provisions, no person shall address the council with reference to any personnel matter during any open meeting of the city council.

(e) No derogatory remarks concerning councilmembers or anyone present in the council chamber shall be permitted. The president shall suspend irrelevant speaking. A majority of the members of the council have the right to suspend irrelevant speaking at any council meeting.

(f) Any person making personal, impertinent, or slanderous remarks, derogatory remarks or who uses abusive, vulgar, or profane language, or who shall become boisterous while addressing the council shall be forthwith, by the presiding officer, barred from further audience before the council, unless permission to continue or stay be granted by a majority vote of the council.

(g) The usage of cellular phones and paging devices shall be prohibited within the council chambers during council meetings. All such devices within the council chambers shall be placed on silence or vibrator mode during council meetings. The city clerk shall place signs within city hall notifying the public of said rule. Any person violating said rule shall first receive a verbal warning from the presiding officer; upon any additional violations, the presiding officer may bar the person from the remainder of the council meeting for which he is in violation, and the person shall be required to place all cellular phones and paging devices with city hall security prior to entering any city council meeting.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED BY THE JACKSON CITY COUNCIL that this Ordinance Amending Section 2-71 of the City of Jackson Code of Ordinances shall become effective in accordance with the provisions of Section 21-13-11 of the Mississippi Code Annotated (1972), as amended.

Council Member Tillman moved adoption; Council Member Lindsay seconded.

Yeas – Banks, Foote, Lindsay and Tillman.
Nays – Stokes.
Absent – Stokes.

ATTEST:
Angela Harris
Municipal Clerk

I, Angela Harris, the duly appointed qualified Municipal Clerk and lawful custodian of records and seal of said City of Jackson, Mississippi, certify that the foregoing is a true and exact copy of an Order passed by the City Council at its Regular Council Meeting on November 10, 2020 and recorded in Minute Book "6S."

WITNESS my signature and official seal of office, this the 18th day of December, 2020.

SEAL Angela Harris, Municipal Clerk

12-24-2020

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

LEGAL

ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 2-64 OF THE CITY OF JACKSON CODE OF ORDINANCES FOR THE PURPOSE OF RECONCILING THE ORDER OF BUSINESS OF THE COUNCIL WITH SECTION 2-71(b) AND SECTION 2-71(c) OF THE CITY OF JACKSON CODE OF ORDINANCES.

WHEREAS, Section 2-64 of the City of Jackson Code of Ordinances establishes the order of business for formulating the agenda for meetings of the Jackson City Council; and

WHEREAS, the current order of business set forth in Section 2-64 of the City of Jackson Code of Ordinances is:

- (1) Call to Order
- (2) Invocation
- (3) Pledge of Allegiance
- (4) Public hearings
- (5) Introductions
- (6) Public Comments
- (7) Consent agenda
- (8) Introduction of ordinances and resolutions
- (9) Adoption of ordinances and resolutions
- (10) Regular agenda
- (11) Proclamations, special presentations, commendations and resolutions honoring individuals, business group(s) or organizations;
- (12) Reports from city council members, mayor or department directors,
- (13) Announcements
- (14) Adjournment

WHEREAS, Section 2-71(b) of the City of Jackson Code of Ordinances states that comments on items related to items on the agenda will be received prior to consideration of ordinances, orders, or resolutions; and

WHEREAS, Section 2-71(c) of the City of Jackson Code of Ordinances provides that comments unrelated to items on the agenda will be received prior to adjournment; and

WHEREAS, the order of business set forth in Section 2-64 of the Mississippi Code Annotated (1972), as amended, does not distinguish between public comments on items related to the agenda and items unrelated to the agenda; and

WHEREAS, Section 2-64 of the City of Jackson Code of Ordinances requires amending to reconcile the order of business for formulating the agenda with Sections 2-71(b) and Section 2-71(c) of the City of Jackson Code of Ordinances.

NOW BE IT ORDAINED BY THE JACKSON CITY COUNCIL that Section 2-64 of the City of Jackson Code of Ordinances shall be amended to establish the order of business for formulating the agenda for meetings of the Jackson City Council as follows:

- (1) Call to Order
- (2) Invocation
- (3) Pledge of Allegiance
- (4) Public hearings
- (5) Introductions
- (6) Public comments related to items appearing on the meeting agenda
- (7) Consent agenda
- (8) Introduction of ordinances and resolutions
- (9) Adoption of ordinances and resolutions
- (10) Regular agenda
- (11) Proclamations, special presentations, commendations and resolutions honoring individuals, businesses, group(s) or organizations
- (12) Reports from city council members, mayor or department directors
- (13) Public comments on items unrelated to items appearing on agenda
- (14) Announcements
- (15) Adjournment

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED BY THE JACKSON CITY COUNCIL that this Ordinance Amending Section 2-64 of the City of Jackson Code of Ordinances shall become effective in accordance with the provisions of Section 21-13-11 of the Mississippi Code Annotated (1972), as amended.

Council Member Tillman moved adoption; President Banks seconded.

Yeas – Banks, Foote, Lindsay, Stamps and Tillman.
Nays – None.
Absent – Stokes.

ATTEST:

Angela Harris
Municipal Clerk

I, Angela Harris, the duly appointed qualified Municipal Clerk and lawful custodian of records and seal of said City of Jackson, Mississippi, certify that the foregoing is a true and exact copy of an Order passed by the City Council at its Regular Council Meeting on November 10, 2020 and recorded in Minute Book "6S."

WITNESS my signature and official seal of office, this the 18th day of December, 2020.

SEAL Angela Harris, Municipal Clerk

12-24-2020

LEGAL

ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF JACKSON AMENDING CHAPTER 94 OF THE JACKSON CODE OF ORDINANCES.

WHEREAS, Chapter 94 of the Jackson Code of Ordinances is entitled "Peddlers and Solicitors"; and

WHEREAS, the First Amendment forbids state and federal governments from passing laws that restrict speech that is protected; and

WHEREAS, "Panhandling" is protected by the First Amendment right to free speech; and

WHEREAS, the City, after reviewing Chapter 94 of the Jackson Code of Ordinances and the specific sections therein finds that the regulations affecting commercial solicitation, Section 94-2 of the Jackson Code of Ordinances, should be repealed in its entirety.

BE IT, THEREFORE, RESOLVED that the Code of Ordinances for the City of Jackson, Mississippi is hereby amended as follows:

SECTION 1

That Section 94-2 of the Jackson Code of Ordinance is hereby repealed.
SECTION 2

The remainder of Chapter 94, Code of Ordinances for the City of Jackson, Mississippi shall remain unaffected.

SECTION 3

This Ordinance shall be effective thirty (30) days after its passage and after publication of same as required in Section 21-13-11 of the Mississippi Code of 1972, as amended.

Council Member Lindsay moved adoption; Council Member Tillman seconded.

Yeas – Banks, Foote, Lindsay, Priestester and Tillman.
Nays – None.
Absent – Stamps and Stokes.

ATTEST:

Angela Harris
Municipal Clerk

I, Angela Harris, the duly appointed qualified Municipal Clerk and lawful custodian of records and seal of said City of Jackson, Mississippi, certify that the foregoing is a true and exact copy of an Order passed by the City Council at its Regular Council Meeting on October 13, 2020 and recorded in Minute Book "6S, Pg. 74."

WITNESS my signature and official seal of office, this the 18th day of December, 2020.

SEAL Angela Harris, Municipal Clerk

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

ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 2-62 OF THE CITY OF JACKSON CODE OF ORDINANCES.

WHEREAS, Section 2-62 of the City of Jackson Code of Ordinances establishes the location and schedules for meetings of the Jackson City Council; and

WHEREAS, the current location and schedules set forth in Section 2-62 of the City of Jackson Code of Ordinances is as follows:

(a) Place of meetings. Unless notice to the contrary is given, all meetings of the city council shall be held in the council chamber.

(b) Regular meetings. Regular meetings of the council shall be held on every other Tuesday. The regular meeting times shall alternate with the first regular city council meeting to be held at 10:00 a.m., with the second regular city council meeting of the month to be held at 6:00 p.m., and the next regular city council meeting to be held at 10:00 a.m. Any additional regular city council meetings in the month shall also follow the alternating time schedule. At 4:00 p.m. on each Monday preceding a regular Tuesday council meeting the council will also hold a planning session to discuss the business to be considered at the following regular Tuesday council meeting. Any person desiring to address the council with reference to any item on the planning session agenda must register with the city clerk prior to the beginning of the planning session, and shall indicate in writing, on a ledger kept by the clerk, their name, address, and the number of the agenda item with reference to which they desire to speak. When recognized by the president, such person may speak only with reference to that item(s) and for a portion of time not to exceed at total of three minutes. Such public comment will be received prior to the discussion of business at the planning session. The planning session shall be limited to one and one-half hours.

(c) Zoning meetings. Zoning cases to be considered by the city council shall be heard 42 days after the planning board makes its recommendation to the city council.

(d) Special meetings. Special meetings of the council may be called at any time by the mayor or a majority of the members of the council. A notification of such meeting shall be reduced to writing and posted in a public place in City Hall. When possible, special meetings are to be held on those Mondays that do not precede a regularly scheduled council meeting on Tuesday. Such notice shall include the time, place and general subject matter of such meetings. Members of the council shall be notified in the most expedient manner available, whether in writing or not; provided, however, that where possible the clerk shall give council members 24 hours' notice of such meetings. The 24-hour notice may be waived by the council when the council deems that an adequate notice has been given and when a quorum is present at the special meeting.

(e) Committee meetings. Committee meetings may be called at any time by the chair of the committee, upon 48 hours' notice of the same to all council committee members. A notification of such meeting shall be reduced to writing and posted in a public place in city hall.

NOW BE IT ORDAINED BY THE JACKSON CITY COUNCIL that Section 2-62 of the City of Jackson Code of Ordinances shall be amended to establish the location and schedules for meetings of the Jackson City Council as follows:

(a) Place of meetings. Unless notice to the contrary is given, all meetings of the city council shall be held in the council chamber. Certified, sworn law enforcement officers shall be present at the public entry doors of the council chamber before, during, and after regular and special called meetings of the council to ensure the safety of all in attendance. Attendance of individuals at regular and special called meetings of the council shall be limited to twenty (20) persons, with the exception of council members, as well as members of the administration, members of the office of the clerk of council, and/or city staff.

(b) Regular meetings. Regular meetings of the council shall be held on every other Tuesday. The regular meeting times shall alternate with the first regular city council meeting to be held at 10:00 a.m., with the second regular city council meeting of the month to be held at 6:00 p.m., and the next regular city council meeting to be held at 10:00 a.m. Any additional regular city council meetings in the month shall also follow the alternating time schedule. At 4:00 p.m. on each Monday preceding a regular Tuesday council meeting the council will also hold a planning session to discuss the business to be considered at the following regular Tuesday council meeting. The planning session shall be limited to one and one-half hours.

(c) Zoning meetings. Zoning cases to be considered by the city council shall be heard 42 days after the planning board makes its recommendation to the city council.

(d) Special meetings. Special meetings of the council may be called at any time by the mayor or a majority of the members of the council. A notification of such meeting shall be reduced to writing and posted in a public place in City Hall. When possible, special meetings are to be held on those Mondays that do not precede a regularly scheduled council meeting on Tuesday. Such notice shall include the time, place and general subject matter of such meetings. Members of the council shall be notified in the most expedient manner available, whether in writing or not; provided, however, that where possible the clerk shall give council members 24 hours' notice of such meetings. The 24-hour notice may be waived by the council when the council deems that an adequate notice has been given and when a quorum is present at the special meeting.

(e) Committee meetings. Committee meetings may be called at any time by the chair of the committee, upon 48 hours' notice of the same to all council committee members. A notification of such meeting shall be reduced to writing and posted in a public place in city hall.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED BY THE JACKSON CITY COUNCIL that this Ordinance Amending Section 2-62 of the City of Jackson Code of Ordinances shall become effective in accordance with the provisions of Section 21-13-11 of the Mississippi Code Annotated (1972), as amended.

Council Member Tillman moved adoption; Council Member Lindsay seconded.

Yeas – Banks, Foote, Lindsay, Stamps and Tillman.
Nays – None.
Absent – Stokes.

ATTEST:

Angela Harris
Municipal Clerk

I, Angela Harris, the duly appointed qualified Municipal Clerk and lawful custodian of records and seal of said City of Jackson, Mississippi, certify that the foregoing is a true and exact copy of an Order passed by the City Council at its Regular Council Meeting on November 10, 2020 and recorded in Minute Book "6S."

WITNESS my signature and official seal of office, this the 18th day of December, 2020.

SEAL Angela Harris, Municipal Clerk

12-24-2020

LEGAL

ORDINANCE ACCEPTING LEFLEUR COURT SUBDIVISION AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO SIGN THE FINAL PLAT OF SAID SUBDIVISION.

WHEREAS, the Preliminary Plat for the subdivision of LeFleur Court was approved by the Site Plan Review Committee on February 18, 2009; and

WHEREAS, after construction was completed but before the final plat was recorded, the development changed ownership and the new owners intend to complete the platting process; and

WHEREAS, the Public Works Department recommends accepting LeFleur Court subdivision as a subdivision in the City of Jackson.

THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI, THAT:

SECTION 1. LeFleur Court subdivision is hereby accepted.

SECTION 2. The water and sewer improvements and easements as shown on the final plat are hereby accepted.

SECTION 3. The Mayor is authorized to sign the final plat of LeFleur Court subdivision.

SECTION 4. This Ordinance shall be effective thirty (30) days following its passage and upon its publication.

Council Member Stokes moved adoption; Council Member Lindsay seconded.

Yeas – Banks, Foote, Lindsay, Stokes and Tillman.
Nays – None.
Absent – Stamps.

ATTEST:

Angela Harris
Municipal Clerk

I, Angela Harris, the duly appointed qualified Municipal Clerk and lawful custodian of records and seal of said City of Jackson, Mississippi, certify that the foregoing is a true and exact copy of an Order passed by the City Council at its Regular Council Meeting on October 13, 2020 and recorded in Minute Book "6S, Pgs. 35-36."

WITNESS my signature and official seal of office, this the 18th day of December, 2020.

SEAL Angela Harris, Municipal Clerk

12-24-2020



LEGAL

ORDINANCE ACCEPTING MISSION HILL SUBDIVISION AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO SIGN THE FINAL PLAT OF SAID SUBDIVISION.

WHEREAS, the Preliminary Plat for the subdivision of Mission Hill was approved by the Site Plan Review Committee on August 5, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the Public Works Department recommends accepting Mission Hill subdivision as a subdivision in the City of Jackson.

THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI, THAT:

SECTION 1. Mission Hill subdivision is hereby accepted.

SECTION 2. The Mayor is authorized to sign the final plat of Mission Hill subdivision.

SECTION 3. This Ordinance shall be effective thirty (30) days following its passage and upon its publication.

Council Member Stokes moved adoption; Council Member Lindsay seconded.

Yeas – Banks, Foote, Lindsay, Stokes and Tillman.
Nays – None.
Absent – Stamps.

ATTEST:

Angela Harris
Municipal Clerk

I, Angela Harris, the duly appointed qualified Municipal Clerk and lawful custodian of records and seal of said City of Jackson, Mississippi, certify that the foregoing is a true and exact copy of an Order passed by the City Council at its Regular Council Meeting on October 13, 2020 and recorded in Minute Book “6S, Pg. 35.”

WITNESS my signature and official seal of office, this the 18th day of December, 2020.

SEAL Angela Harris, Municipal Clerk

12-24-2020

LEGAL

ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 2, ARTICLE II, DIVISION 4 OF THE JACKSON CODE OF ORDINANCES.

WHEREAS, Section 21-8-13 of the Miss. Code Ann. specifically authorizes the City Council to “...appoint a clerk of the council and deputy clerks, as necessary, who shall compile the minutes and records of its proceedings, its ordinances and resolutions as this chapter requires, and perform such duties as may be required by law....”; and

WHEREAS, the City of Jackson (“City”), by ordinance, delineated the number of chief deputy clerks of council and deputy clerks of council, as well as the duties to be performed by the same in Chapter 2, Article II, Division 4 of the Jackson Code of Ordinances; and

WHEREAS, the Jackson City Council finds it in the best interest of the City to amend Section 2-135 of the Jackson Code of Ordinances to increase the number of Chief Deputy Clerks of Council from one (1) to three (3); and

WHEREAS, the Jackson City Council finds that Section 2-135 of the Jackson Code of Ordinances should be amended as follows:

Sec. 2-135. - Deputy Clerks of the Council.

Three chief deputy clerks of the council and seven or more deputy clerks of the council may be employed and assigned to provide clerical support and to perform such other duties as required by councilmembers. These clerks shall be appointed in the same manner as the clerk of the council.

THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI, THAT Section 2-135 of the Jackson Code of Ordinances is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 2-135. - Deputy Clerks of the Council.

Three chief deputy clerks of the council and seven or more deputy clerks of the council may be employed and assigned to provide clerical support and to perform such other duties as required by councilmembers. These clerks shall be appointed in the same manner as the clerk of council.

Council Member Stokes moved adoption; President Banks seconded.

Yeas – Banks, Foote, Lindsay, Stokes and Tillman.
Nays – None.
Absent – Stamps.

ATTEST:

Angela Harris
Municipal Clerk

I, Angela Harris, the duly appointed qualified Municipal Clerk and lawful custodian of records and seal of said City of Jackson, Mississippi, certify that the foregoing is a true and exact copy of an Order passed by the City Council at its Regular Council Meeting on October 13, 2020 and recorded in Minute Book “6S, Pgs. 31-32.”

WITNESS my signature and official seal of office, this the 18th day of December, 2020.

SEAL Angela Harris, Municipal Clerk

12-24-2020

LEGAL

ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF JACKSON AMENDING SECTION 118-480 OF THE JACKSON CODE OF ORDINANCES.

WHEREAS, Section 118-480 of the Jackson Code of Ordinances states: “Pedestrians soliciting business or contributions from occupants of vehicles. No person shall stand in a street or any portion of a street for the purpose of soliciting employment, business or contributions of any kind for any purpose from the occupant of any vehicle”; and

WHEREAS, the First Amendment forbids state and federal governments from passing laws that restrict speech that is protected; and

WHEREAS, “Panhandling” is protected by the First Amendment right to free speech; and

WHEREAS, the City, after reviewing Section 118-480 of the Jackson Code of Ordinances finds that the regulations affecting “Panhandling”, should be repealed in its entirety.

BE IT, THEREFORE, RESOLVED that Section 118-480 of the Code of Ordinance for the City of Jackson, Mississippi is hereby repealed as follows:

SECTION 1
That Section 118-480 of the Jackson Code of Ordinance is hereby repealed.

SECTION 2
This Ordinance shall be effective thirty (30) days after its passage and after publication of same as required in Section 21-13-11 of the Mississippi Code of 1972, as amended.

Council Member Lindsay moved adoption; Council Member Tillman seconded.

Yeas – Banks, Foote, Lindsay, Priestster and Tillman.
Nays – None.
Absent – Stamps and Stokes.

ATTEST:

Angela Harris
Municipal Clerk

I, Angela Harris, the duly appointed qualified Municipal Clerk and lawful custodian of records and seal of said City of Jackson, Mississippi, certify that the foregoing is a true and exact copy of an Order passed by the City Council at its Regular Council Meeting on October 13, 2020 and recorded in Minute Book “6S, Pg. 166.”

WITNESS my signature and official seal of office, this the 18th day of December, 2020.

12-24-2020

LEGAL

ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 2, ARTICLE IV OF THE JACKSON CODE OF ORDINANCES.

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 2-327 of the Jackson Code of Ordinances, in part, the City Clerk shall keep the official minutes of the proceedings of the council, shall have custody of records of the municipality, and shall be responsible for publication of all matters which require publication by law; and

WHEREAS, in that the City Clerk is the custodian of records of the municipality, the Records Management Division would be best placed under the direction and supervision of the Department of Municipal Clerk; and

WHEREAS, the Jackson City Council finds it in the best interest of the City to amend Section 2-336 of the Jackson Code of Ordinances to remove the duties of “record retention” from the Department of Administration and assign the duties of “record retention” to the Department of Municipal Clerk; and

WHEREAS, the Jackson City Council finds that Section 2-336 of the Jackson Code of Ordinances should be amended as follows:

Sec. 2-336. - Creation; functions.

There are hereby created the following departments which shall have the following principal functions:

(1) Administration. The department of administration shall perform the functions of finance and management information systems, fleet management, office of publications, purchasing, communications center, telecommunications and municipal court services.

(2) Fire. The fire department shall perform the functions of fire prevention, suppression and education.

(3) Police. The police department shall perform the functions of crime prevention and suppression, animal control, youth court, and community improvement.

(4) Public works. The public works department shall perform the functions of water and sewer engineering and maintenance; streets, bridges and drainage engineering and maintenance; traffic engineering and maintenance; water/sewer business administration, right-of-way maintenance; cemetery maintenance; building maintenance; wastewater treatment plant contract administration and maintenance of wastewater collector system, solid waste collection contract administration; management of water treatment and distribution facilities; administration of the pest control contract; central supply, and custodial services.

(5) Human and cultural services. The human and cultural services department shall perform the functions of senior services, early childhood education, museums, art galleries, arts centers, auditoriums and planetariums.

(6) Personnel management. The personnel management department shall perform all personnel management functions including the administration of benefits.

(7) Planning and development. The planning and development department shall perform the functions of planning and zoning, developmental assistance including, but not limited to, housing, economic development and grants, federal programs, public transportation/ JTRAN, building and permits, and community improvement.

(8) Parks and recreation. The parks and recreation department shall perform a variety of recreational services including maintenance, programming, athletics, special events and the administration of contract facilities.

(9) Constituent services and information. The constituent services and information department shall be responsible for the quality and content of information regarding city government. This department will serve as an information conduit for the city council, department 2020-24 (2)

heads, employees, and citizens. This department will also conduct site visits with businesses and citizens to identify problems and find solutions before they become unmanageable. The divisions of Action Line, Public Education and Government (PEG) Television, publications, public relations and quality of life, and related duties shall be under this department.

(10) Municipal clerk. The department of municipal clerk shall perform the functions of and duties of the municipal clerk as inherent by law, and those duties referenced in the Mississippi Code Annotated (1972), as amended as belonging to the “clerk”, “municipal clerk”, or “city clerk”. The municipal clerk shall attend all council meetings and, subsequent to the meeting, shall receive the compiled minutes from the clerk of council for recordation. The municipal clerk shall keep the official minutes of the proceedings of the council, shall have custody of records of the municipality and be responsible for record retention, and shall be responsible for publication of all matters which require publication by law. In the absence of the municipal clerk, the duties of the municipal clerk shall be performed by that person serving as the chief deputy clerk of municipality. The municipal clerk shall plan and assign work and exercise general supervision of the deputy municipal clerks, and clerical employees that are assigned to the municipal clerk.

In addition to departmental functions specified in this section, such departments shall have such additional responsibilities as the mayor or council may from time to time deem necessary.

THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI, THAT

LEGAL

ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI AMENDING CHAPTER 126, ARTICLE VIII OF THE JACKSON CODE OF ORINANCES TO ADD SECTION 126-359 REQUIRING POSTING OF “REQUIRED RULES OF BEHAVIOR ON CITY BUSES” AND SECTION126- 360 PROVIDING ENFORCEMENT THEREOF.

WHEREAS, the public health, safety and welfare will be considered by this Ordinance; and

WHEREAS, this Ordinance shall require that the “Required Rules of Behavior on City Buses” be prominently displayed on all buses; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of this Ordinance shall be to promote safety, security and a wholesome riding environment for all patrons of the city bus service.

THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION ONE. Section 126-359, “Required Rules of Behavior on City Buses”, is hereby added to read as follows:

1. Loud or disruptive behavior is prohibited.
2. Actions disrespecting the bus operator are prohibited.
3. Eating and drinking are permitted provided that the waste from eating or drinking is properly disposed.
4. Unsealed or consumption of alcoholic beverages is prohibited.
5. No smoking on buses, inside transit facilities or within 20 feet of the opening of a window or door at transit facilities.
6. Intoxicated passengers shall be refused service.
7. No standing in front of the white or yellow “standee” line, in doorways or stepwells while the bus is in motion.
8. No unnecessary conversation or interference with bus operator for safety reasons.
9. No fighting, using vulgar or offensive language, pushing, shouting or participating in rough behavior on the bus or at transit facilities.
10. All electronic devices in use require the use of headphones. Amplified music is not allowed on buses or at transit facilities.
11. No flammable, hazardous materials or weapons of kind (unless legally allowed under a concealed weapon permit or a law enforcement officer) shall be allowed on board the bus (except oxygen).
12. No large objects that cannot be held by the passenger placed under seat or out of the aisle way is allowed on board the bus.
- Bicycles, surfboards and strollers are permitted inside all JTRAN vehicles provided that they do not constitute a hazard towards other passengers. Bicycles are allowed inside buses at the discretion of the bus operator and as space permits. All strollers, scooters, folding carts and large packages must be stowed away under the seat.
- Rollerblades and skates are not allowed to be worn on buses.
13. All animals brought on board must be in an approved pet carrier, except service animals, which are trained to assist individuals with a disability as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).
14. No unapproved signs or advertisements may be placed on board vehicles or facilities controlled or owned by JTRAN.
15. No vandalism, defacing, destroying, damaging or placing graffiti on buses or at transit facilities.
16. No illegal activity of any kind shall be tolerated on board buses or at transit facilities.
17. Shoes and shirts are required to ride buses.
18. No littering on buses or at transit facilities.
19. Not paying the established fare or misuse of transfers, passes, tokens or tickets with the intent to evade fare payment is prohibited.
20. Bus Operators cannot assist in carrying packages. These items must be stowed under the seat, in the passenger lap or out of the aisle way.
21. Passengers must have exact change ready as the bus operator cannot make change and no refunds are provided for overpayment.
22. Yield the seats in front of the bus for seniors and persons with disabilities as identified by a posted decal.

SON, MISSISSIPPI, THAT Section 2-336 of the Jackson Code of Ordinances is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 2-336. - Creation; functions.
There are hereby created the following departments which shall have the following principal functions:

(1) Administration. The department of administration shall perform the functions of finance and management information systems, fleet management, office of publications, purchasing, communications center, telecommunications and municipal court services.

(2) Fire. The fire department shall perform the functions of fire prevention, suppression and education.

(3) Police. The police department shall perform the functions of crime prevention and suppression, animal control, youth court, and community improvement.

(4) Public works. The public works department shall perform the functions of water and sewer engineering and maintenance; streets, bridges and drainage engineering and maintenance; traffic engineering and maintenance; water/sewer business administration, right-of-way maintenance; cemetery maintenance; building maintenance; wastewater treatment plant contract administration and maintenance of wastewater collector system, solid waste collection contract administration; management of water treatment and distribution facilities; administration of the pest control contract; central supply, and custodial services.

(5) Human and cultural services. The human and cultural services department shall perform the functions of senior services, early childhood education, museums, art galleries, arts centers, auditoriums and planetariums.

(6) Personnel management. The personnel management department shall perform all personnel management functions including the administration of benefits.

(7) Planning and development. The planning and development department shall perform the functions of planning and zoning, developmental assistance including, but not limited to, housing, economic development and grants, federal programs, public transportation/ JATRAN, building and permits, and community improvement.

(8) Parks and recreation. The parks and recreation department shall perform a variety of recreational services including maintenance, programming, athletics, special events and the administration of contract facilities.

(9) Constituent services and information. The constituent services and information department shall be responsible for the quality and content of information regarding city government. This department will serve as an information conduit for the city council, department heads, employees, and citizens. This department will also conduct site visits with businesses and citizens to identify problems and find solutions before they become unmanageable. The divisions of Action Line, Public Education and Government (PEG) Television, publications, public relations and quality of life, and related duties shall be under this department.

(10) Municipal clerk. The department of municipal clerk shall perform the functions of and duties of the municipal clerk as inherent by law, and those duties referenced in the Mississippi Code Annotated (1972), as amended as belonging to the “clerk”, “municipal clerk”, or “city clerk”. The municipal clerk shall attend all council meetings and, subsequent to the meeting, shall receive the compiled minutes from the clerk of council for recordation. The municipal clerk shall keep the official minutes of the proceedings of the council, shall have custody of records of the municipality and be responsible for record retention, and shall be responsible for publication of all matters which require publication by law. In the absence of the municipal clerk, the duties of the municipal clerk shall be performed by that person serving as the chief deputy clerk of municipality. The municipal clerk shall plan and assign work and exercise general supervision of the deputy municipal clerks, and clerical employees that are assigned to the municipal clerk.

In addition to departmental functions specified in this section, such departments shall have such additional responsibilities as the mayor or council may from time to time deem necessary.

Council Member Stokes moved adoption; Council Member Tillman seconded.

Yeas – Banks, Foote, Lindsay, Stokes and Tillman.
Nays – None.
Absent – Stamps.

ATTEST:

Angela Harris
Municipal Clerk

I, Angela Harris, the duly appointed qualified Municipal Clerk and lawful custodian of records and seal of said City of Jackson, Mississippi, certify that the foregoing is a true and exact copy of an Order passed by the City Council at its Regular Council Meeting on October 13, 2020 and recorded in Minute Book “6S, Pgs. 32-35.”

WITNESS my signature and official seal of office, this the 18th day of December, 2020.

SEAL Angela Harris, Municipal Clerk

12-24-2020

LEGAL

1. Loud or disruptive behavior is prohibited.
2. Actions disrespecting the bus operator are prohibited.
3. Eating and drinking are permitted provided that the waste from eating or drinking is properly disposed.
4. Unsealed or consumption of alcoholic beverages is prohibited.
5. No smoking on buses, inside transit facilities or within 20 feet of the opening of a window or door at transit facilities.
6. Intoxicated passengers shall be refused service.
7. No standing in front of the white or yellow “standee” line, in doorways or stepwells while the bus is in motion.
8. No unnecessary conversation or interference with bus operator for safety reasons.
9. No fighting, using vulgar or offensive language, pushing, shouting or participating in rough behavior on the bus or at transit facilities.
10. All electronic devices in use require the use of headphones. Amplified music is not allowed on buses or at transit facilities.
11. No flammable, hazardous materials or weapons of kind (unless legally allowed under a concealed weapon permit or a law enforcement officer) shall be allowed on board the bus (except oxygen).
12. No large objects that cannot be held by the passenger placed under seat or out of the aisle way is allowed on board the bus.
- Bicycles, surfboards and strollers are permitted inside all JTRAN vehicles provided that they do not constitute a hazard towards other passengers. Bicycles are allowed inside buses at the discretion of the bus operator and as space permits. All strollers, scooters, folding carts and large packages must be stowed away under the seat.
- Rollerblades and skates are not allowed to be worn on buses.
13. All animals brought on board must be in an approved pet carrier, except service animals, which are trained to assist individuals with a disability as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).
14. No unapproved signs or advertisements may be placed on board vehicles or facilities controlled or owned by JTRAN.
15. No vandalism, defacing, destroying, damaging or placing graffiti on buses or at transit facilities.
16. No illegal activity of any kind shall be tolerated on board buses or at transit facilities.
17. Shoes and shirts are required to ride buses.
18. No littering on buses or at transit facilities.
19. Not paying the established fare or misuse of transfers, passes, tokens or tickets with the intent to evade fare payment is prohibited.
20. Bus Operators cannot assist in carrying packages. These items must be stowed under the seat, in the passenger lap or out of the aisle way.
21. Passengers must have exact change ready as the bus operator cannot make change and no refunds are provided for overpayment.
22. Yield the seats in front of the bus for seniors and persons with disabilities as identified by a posted decal.

SECTION TWO: Section 126-360, Penalties for Violating Rules, is hereby added to read as follows:

1. Any behavior in violation of said rules may result in removal from the buses; and
2. After two reported offenses, a rider may be banned from riding JTRAN buses.
3. JTRAN reserves the right to refuse service to and/or suspend passengers who demonstrate disruptive and unsafe behavior or violates any of the rules and regulations presented herein.

SECTION THREE: Should any sentence, paragraph, clause, phase, or section of this Article be adjudged or held to be unconstitutional, illegal or invalid, the same shall not affect the validity of this Article as a whole, or any part or provision thereof other the part so decided to be invalid, illegal, or unconstitutional, and shall not affect the validity of the Code of Ordinance of the City of Jackson, Mississippi, as a whole

SECTION FOUR: This ordinance shall become effective thirty (30) days after passage, and upon publication in accordance with Section 2-13-11 of the Mississippi Code Annotated, as amended.

Council Member Stokes moved adoption; Council Member Tillman seconded.

Yeas – Banks, Foote, Stokes and Tillman.
Nays – None.
Absent – Lindsay and Stamps.

ATTEST:

Angela Harris
Municipal Clerk

I, Angela Harris, the duly appointed qualified Municipal Clerk and lawful custodian of records and seal of said City of Jackson, Mississippi, certify that the foregoing is a true and exact copy of an Order passed by the City Council at its Regular Meeting on October13, 2020 and recorded in Minute Book “6S, Pgs. 22-24”

WITNESS my signature and official seal of office, this the 18th day of December, 2020.

SEAL Angela Harris, Municipal Clerk

12-24-2020

LEGAL

LEGAL

12-17-2020, 12-24-2020

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CANTON
A & I
716 Roby Street - Canton, MS
B & B
702 West North Street - Canton, MS
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743 Ruby Street - Canton, MS
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HAMLIN FLORAL DESIGN
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507 Church Street - Canton, MS
K & K ONE STOP
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421 Peace Street - Canton, MS
SOUL SET BARBER SHOP
257 Peace Street - Canton, MS
TRAILER PARK GROCERY
22 Westside Drive - Canton, MS

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DOLLAR GENERAL
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Crossword Puzzle

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

- ACROSS**

 - 1. Association (abbr.)
 - 5. Fluky
 - 9. Transparent gem
 - 11. "as you ____"
 - 12. Trash
 - 13. Spoken
 - 14. Still
 - 15. Before Christ
 - 17. Gross national product (abbr.)
 - 18. Humorous
 - 20. Computer number system
 - 22. Pot
 - 23. Tin (abbr.)
 - 24. Paddle
 - 27. Greenish-blue color
 - 29. Strange
 - 31. Track
 - 32. What's "in"
 - 33. Afresh
 - 34. Decays
- DOWN**

 - 1. Lawyer (abbr.)
 - 2. Angry
 - 3. Skewer
 - 4. Snooze
 - 5. The other half of Jima
 - 6. British princess
 - 7. Shekel
 - 8. Bark in pain
 - 10. Black and white animals
 - 16. Trumpet's cousin
 - 18. Fashionable
 - 19. Big Apple
 - 20. Singer Adams
 - 21. Witless
 - 22. Ca. University
 - 24. Dunking cookies
 - 25. Am not
 - 26. Cincinnati baseball team
 - 28. Not old
 - 30. Stray

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Sudoku

The challenge is to fill every row across, every column down, and every 3x3 box with the digits 1 through 9. Each 1 through 9 digit must appear only once in each row across, each column down, and each 3x3 box.

						3		2
				2			7	6
9				7				
		9	7		4			
1	2		3		8			4
							5	9
2		7					1	5
							3	
5				6	1			

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Crossword Solution

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

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Sudoku Solution

7	1	6	9	8	5	3	4	2
4	5	8	1	2	3	9	7	6
9	3	2	4	7	6	5	8	1
8	6	9	7	5	4	1	2	3
1	2	5	3	9	8	7	6	4
3	7	4	6	1	2	8	5	9
2	4	7	8	3	9	6	1	5
6	9	1	5	4	7	2	3	8
5	8	3	2	6	1	4	9	7

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City Christmas Scenes

Jackson, MS • December 2020

PHOTOS BY JAY JOHNSON



Central Community Church of God's bike giveaway brought Christmas joy to 107 families

Special to The Mississippi Link

On the sunny Saturday morning of December 19 the Christmas bike giveaway by Central Community Church of God reached 107 local families in the Hour of Power youth ministry and Pecan Park Elementary School.

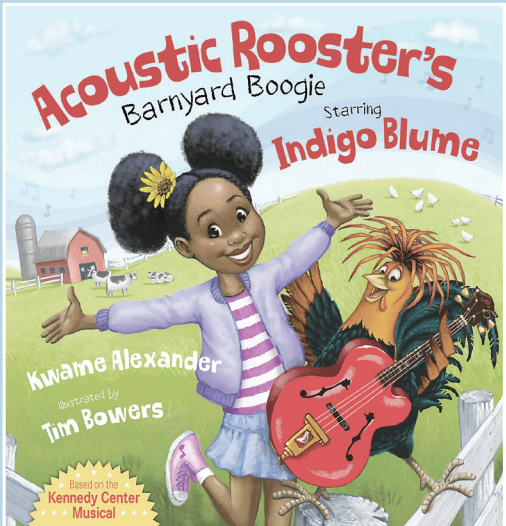
The event made Central's Pastor Calvin Waddy Jr. remember his first bike under the Christmas tree as a child. "Jesus would be doing this – suffer the little children and forbid them not; he would minister to the kids, and Christmas is one of the best times to do this," he said.

The Hour of Power ministry was established in 2019 as an outreach program providing neighborhood youth a positive atmosphere for fun lessons about the Bible and staying away from negative influences.

Sponsors of the giveaway were Westhaven Funeral Home, Stamps Super Burger, 90.1 WMPR, Brown, Ewing & Co., CPA and Steamer's Shrimp & Crab Market.

"It's a blessing, especially during a pandemic, to lift spirits and for children to see that people care about them," said Pecan Park Principal Wanda Quon.





BOOK REVIEW:

ACOUSTIC ROOSTER'S
BARNYARD BOOGIE
STARRING INDIGO BLUME

BY KWAME ALEXANDER, ILLUSTRATED BY TIM BOWERS

C.2020, SLEEPING BEAR PRESS

\$16.99 / \$21.99 CANADA • 32 PAGES

By Terri Schlichenmeyer
Columnist

Uh-oh! Everybody’s watch-
ing. They’re all looking at you and
now what? Your voice won’t
work when all eyes are pointed
your way. You can’t sing like
that, can’t say your lines, so how
can you play your part? You
can barely even move when ev-
erybody’s watching, so try this:
sleep on it. In the new book
“Acoustic Rooster’s Barnyard
Boogie Starring Indigo Blume”
by Kwame Alexander, pictures
by Tim Bowers, that might work.

As she helped clean up the park
near her house, Indigo Blume
was a happy girl. The Garden
City Community Festival would
be held soon and she was going
to sing for the Festival. It was ex-
citing – until it wasn’t.
Her friend, Elijah, said that
the whole school was coming
to hear Indigo sing. Mr. Woody
said he saw posters everywhere,
and Samantha said that hundreds
of people would probably come.
Noooooooooope, that was too
much for Indigo.
Her mom said that Indigo was
“the bravest songbird” she knew.

Indigo’s dad said she should,
“Be brave. Be a star. Believe.”
As Indigo went to bed that
night, she couldn’t believe how
scared she was. Still, she man-
aged to fall asleep and she fell
into.... a barn. It was Acoustic
Rooster’s barn and his band
members were all there. She
loved his book. She loved
Acoustic Rooster; his band could
play anything. So there she was,
and even though Chickee Minaj
said it was “a closed rehearsal,”
Acoustic Rooster gave Indigo a
tambourine.
But then a “hurritrain” came

and blew everything all over.
The barn was scrambled, it was
a mess, but Indigo remembered
how her neighbors cleaned up
the park, so she suggested that
Acoustic Rooster’s band mem-
bers clean up their area. In fact,
maybe it was a good time to
have a “Barnyard Boogie” ben-
efit concert.
And it might have been, if
Dairy Parton hadn’t lost her
voice and Duck Ellington hadn’t
quacked up. In that case, some-
body had to be brave. Someone
needed to be courageous. Some-
one had to be a star...

Chances are you’ve seen vid-
eos or TV shows featuring young
performers that’ve blown your
socks off. Believe it or not, at
some point in their lives, chances
are they’ve had stage fright. It
happens to children of all ages,
making, “Acoustic Rooster’s
Barnyard Boogie Starring Indigo
Blume” a perfect read.
Kids who live to make music
and dance but hate the pressure
will love the story here because
there’s not a shred of outside
push inside this book. Instead,
author Kwame Alexander lets
his main character shine because

of a dream-sequence she had,
which leads to a satisfying end-
ing that she already owned. This
makes young readers smile, and
parents confident in an easily-ab-
sorbed lesson; add colorful, hap-
py illustrations from Tom Bow-
ers and you’ve got a book that’ll
make kids and parents both sing.
Based on the Kennedy Cen-
ter Musical, this is a great con-
fidence booster for kids ages
5-8, especially the occasionally
cold-footed performer. They’ll
crow about “Acoustic Rooster’s
Barnyard Boogie Starring Indigo
Blume, just watch.

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

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Verify/Update your Registration Today

- You must be registered 30 days before the Election.
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- Marriage License: \$36.00
 - o Both applicants must come to the Circuit Clerk's office together to apply
 - o 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.

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Hinds County School District Weekly Update

ENGAGING-EMPOWERING-ENSURING-EXCELLENCE



Dr. Delesicia Martin,
Superintendent of Education

Hinds County School District partners with local businesses for yoy giveaway

On December 11, 2020 the Hinds County School District was presented with over 300 toys from two local businesses. During a press conference, Superintendent Martin expressed her thanks to Strength Roofing and Siding

and Direct Auto Parts of Byram for co-sponsoring the toy drive for the HCSD students. “It’s because of people like you that we’re able to make the children and families’ holidays so much brighter and happier.”

This year, hundreds of students were able to receive a toy due to their generous donations. There were toy trucks and cars, Barbies, books, sports equipment, games, arts and crafts and bicycles, to name a few.



Pictured L-R: John Neal, associate superintendent/HCSD; Delesicia Martin, superintendent/HCSD; William Sellers, assistant superintendent/HCSD; Brook Strength, owner/Strength Roofing; Ray Welborn, manager/ Direct Auto; Brooklyn Strength, student; Ramona Strength, family member/parent; Adam Strength, owner-founder/ Strength and Roofing; and Nicole Dickson, owner/Direct Auto



Brooklyn Strength, student / Hillcrest School, with bicycles and toys



Trenice Williams, administrative assistant/HCSD Maintenance Department



Brooks Strength, owner of Strength Roofing and Siding - Byram



Ray Welborn, manager of Direct Auto - Byram



Felicia Barnes, Federal Program project manager; Dr. Johnathan Page, Federal Programs coordinator; and Nancy Tillman, English Language coordinator

District EL Program hosts annual holiday giveaway

Raymond High School Air Force JROTC hosts Can Food Drive for Angel Wings Outreach Center



Raymond High School partners with Mississippi College to make Christmas possible for two angels

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