

House Majority Whip Clyburn (D-SC) and Floyd Family to receive NNPA Fund 2021 Newsmaker of the Year Awards



Rodney Floyd, Atty. Ben Crump, Philonise Floyd with family in background

NNPA Newswire

The National Newspaper Publishers Association Fund (NNPAF) BLACK PRESS WEEK honored the George Floyd Family and House Majority Whip James E. Clyburn (D-SC) with the Newsmaker of the Year Award for Leadership during its two-day virtual conference Thursday, March 18, 2021.

The NNPAF recognized the Floyd Family for their collective effort for social justice, and their leadership on the George Floyd Justice in Policing Act recently passed in the U.S. House of Representatives.

Majority Whip James E. Clyburn, a former publisher and the highest-ranking African American in Congress, received the Newsmaker of the Year Award for his pivotal role in galvanizing the black vote across America.

NNPA Fund Chair Pluria Marshall Jr., CEO of the Wave Publications, based in California, stated, “These two awardees are dedicated to advancing the progress of black people. The Black Press of America is honored to recognize their achievements and express our gratitude for their heroic efforts to improve the quality of life of all Americans.”

This year’s virtual Black Press Week theme is “BLACK BUSI-



Clyburn

NESS Challenges, Responsibilities and Opportunities Amidst COVID-19 Pandemic.

Reportedly, 40% of black-owned businesses have closed their doors permanently as a result of the pandemic. The challenge now is to sustain the remaining 60% struggling to survive during these uncertain times. Black newspapers are black businesses that are experiencing similar obstacles created by COVID-19.

Because of this shared burden, the NNPA Fund’s workshop Thursday featured Congressman Clyburn and U.S. Congressman Dwight Evans (D-PA), a member of the Small Business Committee and ranking member of the Subcommittee on Economic, Growth

Floyd

Continued on page 3

Pastor John E. Cameron Sr. First Lady Lenora Cameron honored for 51 years of service

By Janice Taylor-Ellis

Contributing Writer

A year ago, Reverend John E. Cameron Sr. and his wife, Lenora Woods Cameron, were honored for 50 Years of service as pastor and first lady of Greater Mt. Calvary M. B. Church. Hundreds gathered during the March 8, 2020 10:30 a.m. worship service to pay tribute to Pastor Cameron, who was called in 1970 as shepherd of the 105 year old church.

That Sunday service in 2020 was the last time the congregation worshipped together in the church’s sanctuary as later that same week, due to the COVID-19 coronavirus, America came to a halt and the Mt. Calvary Family started worshiping virtually at 11 a.m. each Sunday, with a live streamed service on Facebook and YouTube.

This year’s 51st Pastor’s Anniversary Celebration was held March 14. The Honorable Bennie G. Thompson, U.S. Representative of Mississippi’s 2nd Congressional District, served as the guest speaker of the live-stream service. He was introduced by Beverly Hogan, past president of Tougaloo College.

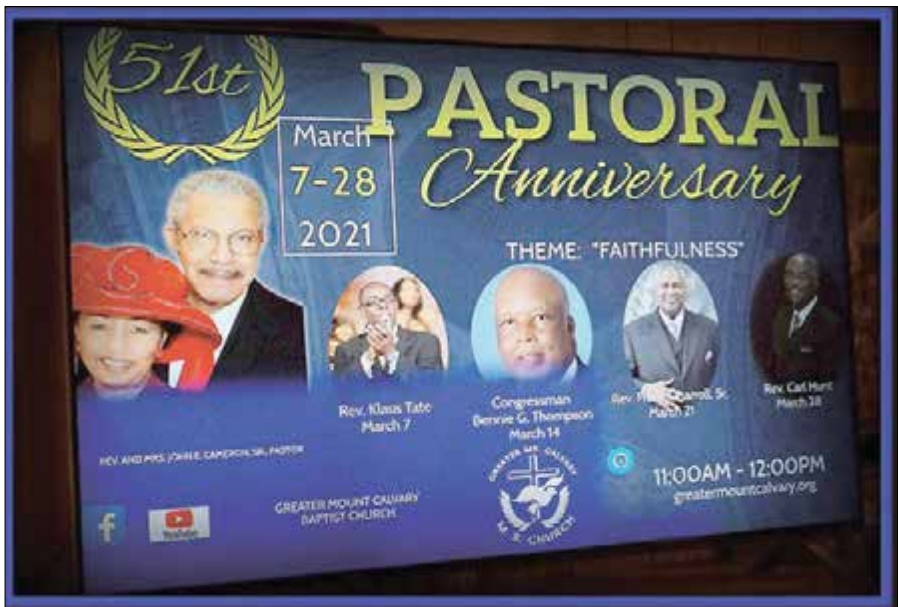
Jerry and Connie Shanks-Knight served as chairpersons of the celebration. Shanks-Knight stated, “We were humbled and honored to be co-chairs of Pastor John Cameron and Mrs. Lenora Cameron’s 51st Year Anniversary.”

The theme ‘Faithfulness’ with scripture references Lamentations 3:21-21 exemplifies Pastor Cameron’s committed fifty-one years of service to Greater Mt. Calvary Missionary Baptist Church.”

Shanks-Knight said Pastor Cameron was privileged to watch the service at home virtually, followed by a small luncheon to include four guests.

She said, “We are grateful to God for the outstanding planning team that committed and dedicated their time to making this one of the best anniversary’s ever. Wow, we are also grateful for all the participants over this month of March.”

Pastor Cameron, who was elected pastor of Mt. Calvary February 13,



51st Pastoral Anniversary banner for the Camerons of Greater Mt. Calvary MB Church



Anniversary chairpersons Jerry and Connie Shanks-Knight

PHOTOS BY JAY JOHNSON

1970, preached his first message on the second Sunday in March, 1970. Under his leadership the church flourished and membership tripled. The church, originally located on the corner of Lynch Street and Poindexter Street, was the “church away from home” for many Jackson State students.

In 1974, his vision led him to seek a larger place of worship, and the church relocated to its present location of 1400 Robinson Street in Jackson. Already having one of the largest radio audiences, Pastor Cameron organized the television ministry. Church services, which can now be viewed throughout the state three times each Sunday

morning at 7 a.m. on Comcast Channel 14, which is also JSU 23 Television, each Sunday night at 9 a.m. and each Thursday night at 8 p.m. on Comcast Channel 18.

Pastor Cameron is known as a pastor of great vision. The church’s Family Life Center, currently known as The John E. Cameron Sr. Family Life Center, was erected in 2000, and has been a driving force in bringing the church and the community together. He is a pioneer civil rights activist and worked directly with Dr. Martin Luther King on voter registration campaigns in the

Cameron

Continued on page 3

Dr. Sean Daniels selected as Alcorn’s chairperson for the Department of Fine Arts

By Paul J. Weber and Jill Bleed
Associated Press

A new leader has been selected to lead Alcorn State University’s Department of Fine Arts to new heights.

Sean Daniels began his new role as the Department’s chairperson Feb. 15. Daniels, who has taught music professionally for over 28 years, previously served as a percussion area leader at Tennessee State University. He was also the Department of Fine Arts chairperson and director of Bands at Benedict College.

Daniels currently serves as principal timpanist for the Colour of Music Festival Orchestra, an orchestra made up of musicians of African ancestry worldwide. In 2020, Daniels was elected to the Percussive Arts Society International Board of Advisors. He is the point person for racial diversity in



Daniels

the Percussive Arts Society International Diversity Alliance.

Daniels earned a doctorate (University of North Carolina at Greensboro), master’s (The Ohio State University), and bachelor’s (Alabama State University) degrees in music.

Making the transition to Alcorn has been an exciting journey for Daniels. He’s eager to experience the continuation of his career at the University.

“I am excited to continue my career in higher education at Alcorn State University,” said Daniels. “I am eager to work with our students, faculty and staff to develop the best fine arts program possible.”

The university’s rich history and reputation for grooming exceptional alumni attracted Daniel to the position.

“Alcorn has a long and consistent history of producing outstanding alumni. It is the first HBCU public land-grant institution established in the United States. If that were not enough, this is the place where knowledge and character matter. I am moved and inspired every time I read

that slogan.”

The vision of Alcorn leadership also helped in encouraging Daniels to pursue the position. He anticipates a productive working relationship with the university administration.

“I am inspired by the faculty and administrative leaders that I have spoken to in the process of pursuing employment here. I look forward to working with them to prepare our students for global success.”

Preparing students for success beyond Alcorn’s campus and supporting his staff in their artistic pursuits are parts of Daniels’ path to success as a leader. He values coming together as a team to complete tasks.

“As chair, along with the faculty and staff, I hope to guide the department in a manner that produces a consistent number of well-prepared graduates.

I will work diligently to support faculty as they pursue their artistic goals, research, recruiting, performances, publications, grants and recordings. It is my goal that through our faculty, staff, and student scholarship, that we will build upon the previous success of the department and improve our efforts in community outreach, diversity and global visibility as a leader in the arts.”

Provost Ontario Wooden is encouraged by the experience that Daniels brings to the Department of Fine Arts and looks forward to seeing the impact he will have on the department.

“Dr. Daniels is an incredible leader with a background that proves his artistic expertise,” said Wooden. “We are proud to have him bring his knowledge and skills to our Department of Fine Arts and the University.”



Alcorn State president crowns 2020-21 Miss Alcorn Lady Taea Jackson

By Dr. Jerry Komia Domatob
Contributing Writer



Amidst glitz, pageantry and pomp, Alcorn's first female president, Felecia M. Nave, crowned the school's 2020-2021 Miss Alcorn, Lady Taea Jackson.

Prayers, songs, promenade, tributes and photographs marked the colorful occasion. It was remarkable for its allure, charm and glamor.

In a short, solemn, inspiring and moving speech, the 94th Miss Alcorn thanked her parents, court, university authorities and friends for their support and encouragement. Miss Alcorn said that despite adversities, staff, faculty and students should continue marching on.

The soft-spoken and thoughtful leader invited each and every one to work hard and bequeath memorable legacies in worthy arenas. She urged all to continue the battle despite the corona virus assault.

The event, which was held in the James L. Bolden Ballroom in the campus union, attracted a few parents, family, well-wishers and other supporters, who respected social distancing.

Nave congratulated Miss Alcorn and encouraged her to do her best dur-



PHOTOS BY JERRY K. DOMOTAB

ing her tenure as the university's representative.

Jackson, who hails from Baton Rouge Louisiana, is the daughter of of Tebbe and Todd Jackson. She is a senior chemistry major and serves in several clubs and associations. One of her future ambitions is to become an optometrist. An industrious and brilliant student, she maintains a high GPA.

Members of the royal court include: Charone Cozart, Ashley Erves, Wendalyn Towner and Rayven Jones.

Tracy M. Cook, vice president for student services and enrollment management also encouraged students to keep working hard so that they can achieve their goals. He wished them



success in all their laudable endeavors.

Other participants included: Devina Hogan, director, student engagement; Jordan Hart, invocation; Ayanna Sam-

uels-Francis, introduction/mistress of ceremony; and Ta'Preikah Sutton, mistress of ceremony.

Jerry Komia Domatob, a graduate



Miss Alcorn 2020-2021 Lady Taea Jackson

of E.W. Scripps School of Journalism, Ohio University-Athens, Ohio is a professor of mass communication, Alcorn State University, Lorman-Mississippi.



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Cameron

Continued from page 1

Hattiesburg, Mississippi area. In 2010 he was honored as Pastor of the Year by Jackson Music Awards, Incorporated. The celebration will continue throughout the entire month of March.

A Parade of Love was held in his honor, Saturday, March 13, 2021 at 11 a.m. A tent was set up in front of the Cameron’s home so that they could enjoy the festivities led by the Jackson Police Department, the Jackson Fire Department and the Hind’s County Sheriff’s Office. Many of the members turned out for what was described as a spectacular event.

Pastor Cameron was very well pleased with this year’s anniversary. He said, “This was one of the greatest events ever.”

See photos page 4.

Floyd

Continued from page 1

and Capital Access. The two high-ranking legislators addressed the plan which Congress is developing to help black-owned businesses cope with various economic issues.

On Friday, the second workshop will concentrate on alternative funding for black newspapers, including representatives from digital companies including Google, Facebook and Borealis, that invest in non-profit and for-profit media organizations.

The cornerstone of Black Press Week is the Enshrinement Ceremony. This year, Carter Walker Wesley (1892-1969), an American lawyer, newspaperman, and political activist from Houston, Texas, will be enshrined in the Black Press Archives and Gallery of Distinguished Black Publishers housed at the Moreland Spingarn Research Center at Howard University.

Black Press Week is held annually to honor the nation’s first black-owned newspaper – *Freedom’s Journal* – first published March 16, 1827. Previous NNPAF Newsmakers of the Year include Attorney Ben Crump, Civil Rights Activist Al Sharpton, Senator Kamala Harris, Senator Barack Obama, the Trayvon Martin family and many more.

Witness intimidation conviction reversed in Canton voter fraud case

By Emily Wagster Pettus
Associated Press

The Mississippi Court of Appeals has overturned a witness intimidation conviction in a case tied to allegations of voter fraud in Canton, a city with a history of troubled elections.

The appellate court ruled Tuesday that prosecutors presented insufficient evidence to support a jury’s verdict against Courtney Rainey during her 2019 trial in Madison County Circuit Court.

Rainey is a former Canton school board member and had served as the city of Canton’s director of human and cultural needs. She was indicted on charges related to Canton’s 2017 city elections, when she was supporting a candidate.

During Rainey’s trial, the jury could not reach a verdict on one voter fraud charge. After jurors convicted her of witness intimidation, Circuit Judge Dewey Key Arthur gave Rainey a 15-year prison sentence, with three of those years suspended.

Rainey argued on appeal that the witness intimidation law, as applied in her case, “deprived her of her constitutional right to free speech, and that the circuit court’s sentence was grossly disproportional and violated Rainey’s Eighth Amendment right to



Rainey

be free of cruel and unusual punishment,” according to Court of Appeals records.

The records show Rainey helped a man and a woman in Canton register to vote as they were sitting on a porch drinking beer, and she then gave \$10 to someone with them to buy the next round of beer. Records also show Rainey later gave the woman \$10 for a meal after the woman cast an absentee ballot in the Canton election.

After investigators started looking into allegations of voter fraud, Rainey found out about the investigation and went to ask the woman what she had told the officers, court records

said. The appeals court ruling said there was “no credible evidence” that Rainey had told the woman to give false statements to investigators.

Canton is a central Mississippi city of about 12,100 residents. Six people were convicted of voting-related charges after 2009 Canton elections, and one was convicted after 2013 elections.

Several people were indicted on charges related to the 2017 Canton elections. Court of Appeals records show:

- Charges were dismissed against four people.
- One man, Andrew Grant, pleaded guilty to conspiracy to commit vote fraud, and he received a five-year suspended sentence.
- A woman, Valerie Smith, pleaded guilty to a vote fraud felony, and she received a five-year suspended sentence.
- Another man, Donnell Robinson, was indicted on multiple vote fraud charges as a habitual offender; he pleaded guilty to a misdemeanor and was ordered to pay a fine but received no prison time.
- The case of Vickie McNeil, a former Canton police chief and former Canton alderwoman, was unlikely to go to trial because of her poor health.

Amazon teams with Congressman Thompson for 36K+ bottle water give-away

By Jackie Hampton
Publisher

On Saturday, Amazon and Congressman Bennie Thompson, teamed up to distribute thousands of bottles of water in Jackson to help those impacted by the ongoing water crisis. Many residents were under a boil water order until it was lifted Wednesday.

Impacted residents were able to collect water from the New Hope Baptist Church parking lot on Beasley Road beginning at 12 p.m.

Councilman De’Keither Stamps was pleased that so many residents were able to benefit from the water give-a-way. He said, “The real shift now is that we should build on the goodwill we have had during this tragedy. We need to work together by providing better government and improve our relationships so that we can solve Mississippi’s problems.”

Stamps said government leaders are always on a tug-of-war with one another and the citizens of the state don’t see leaders working on their behalf.

Those working to distribute water at New Hope included parishioners, members of Congressman Thompson’s staff and community volunteers. Everything seemed to move very swiftly in the large parking lot away from the flow of traffic that is often affected at give-away sights.

Dr. Jerry Young is pastor of New Hope and president of The National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc. Since 2017, Amazon has donated more than 13 million relief items in response to 55 natural disasters worldwide.

See photos below.



Thompson



Stamps




PHOTOS BY JAY JOHNSON

Eddie L. James

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Rev. John E. Cameron

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PHOTOS BY JAY JOHNSON



Callaway's Jasmine Taylor

2021 JPS JROTC Cadet of the Year



Jasmine Taylor, Callaway



E'Jacia Adams, Forest Hill



Cydnee Burgess, Jim Hill



Tre'Diamond Taylor, Lanier



Elizabeth Hawkins, Murrah



Madison Green, Provine



Christopher Brown, Wingfield

Mississippi Link Newswire

JROTC Cadet Jasmine Taylor is the 2021 JPS Cadet of the Year. Promoted to Cadet Colonel, Taylor will serve as the JPS JROTC Brigade Commander for School Year 2021-2022. A junior at Callaway High School, Taylor currently serves as the 4th Battalion Executive Officer.

Taylor is truly an extraordinary person, outstanding scholar and leader. She is highly-dedicated, very goal-oriented, and will work diligently for what she is passionate about. When she sets her mind on a specific outcome, Taylor will strive for perfection and take the responsibility of working hard until she meets her goal. One of her short-term goals is to become the valedictorian of her class by maintaining and increasing her 4.0 GPA.

Taylor has been very active within JROTC for three strong consecutive years, and before that, she was in the

Junior Cadet Corps at Powell Middle School Academy of Military Science.

At Callaway High School, she participates in the National Junior Honor Society, the JROTC Drill Team, the Charger "Funk" Band, Finally First Mentorship, and TAP. She has performed various acts of community service, such as feeding the homeless at Stewpot, visiting the elderly at nursing homes, and caring for rescued animals. She also participated in the Jackson State University Interdisciplinary Center of Nanotoxicity STEM Leadership Academy Summer Institute.

After high school, Taylor plans to attend college to obtain a degree and become an animal scientist. She credits her family, instructors and community for constantly pushing her to become the better version of herself.

Jackson Public Schools announced the Cadet of the Year at the 17th An-

nual JPS JROTC Cadet of the Year Awards Ceremony held February 25.

This year's ceremony was conducted virtually due to the ongoing pandemic. Additionally, the district celebrated all of the finalists as the top cadets of their schools along with the top cadets from each grade level 9th-12th and the top cadets from Powell Academy of Military Science grades 6th-8th. The event was well-attended by JROTC cadets, parents, JROTC instructors, school officials, and community supporters.

The six remaining school-level Cadets of the Year for 2021 are:

- Cadet LTC Tre'Diamond Taylor – Lanier High School
- Cadet MAJ Elizabeth Hawkins – Murrah High School
- Cadet MAJ Christopher Brown – Wingfield High School
- Cadet MAJ E'Jacia Adams – Forest Hill High School

- Cadet 1LT Madison Green – Provine High School
- Cadet CPT Cydnee Burgess – Jim Hill High School

The Cadet of the Year competition is a rigorous process that begins at the school level. At the district-level, the competition becomes more involved and intense. Cadets were required to submit a comprehensive portfolio that included a résumé with references, examples of academic work, records of GPA and class standing, evidence of academically challenging coursework, an essay, proof of community service work, physical fitness and more. In the next phase of the process, cadets appeared before a selection panel to deliver an oral presentation and respond to the panel's questions.

Serving on the 2021 Cadet of the Year selection panel were:

- Laketia Marshall-Thomas, JPS

Assistant Superintendent of High Schools

- Ben Minnifield, Stand and Serve Organization

- COL Alan Chouest, U.S. Air Force
- LTC Steven Robinson, Professor of Military Science, Army ROTC, Jackson State University

- LTC Christian Newton, Professor of Military Science, Army ROTC, Alcorn State University

- Master Sergeant Kirk Thompson, Senior Military Instructor, Alcorn State University

- Thea Faulkner, JPS Partners in Education

- Gwen Haniff, Southwest Airlines

"The Cadet of the Year program was implemented to recognize and reward the district's most outstanding scholars and to inspire others to strive for excellence in all their endeavors," said Col. (Ret.) Paul Willis, Director of JROTC Programs.

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Six myths about your brain

By Vince Faust
Tips to Be Fit

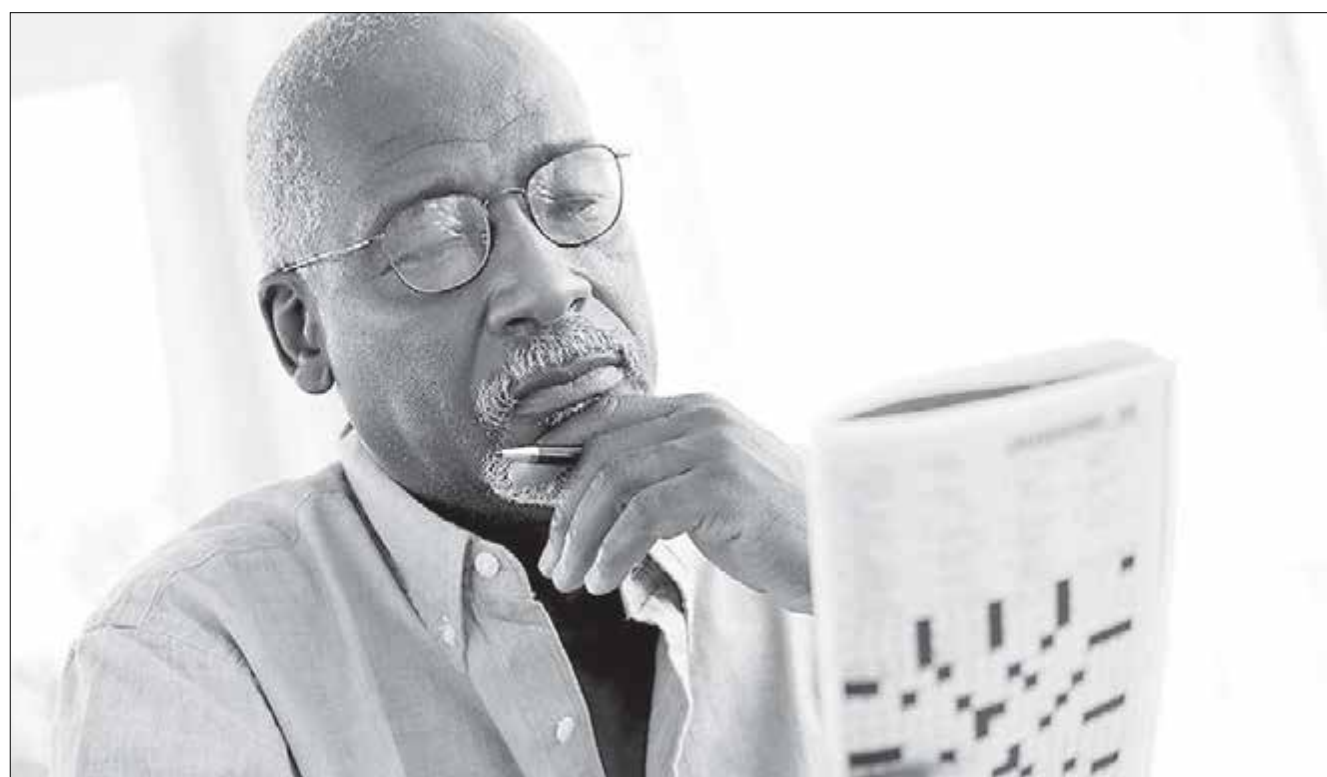
After turning 40 most people have memory glitches high on their lists of concerns. Whether it's your lost keys, a forgotten name or some other issue we call a "senior moment," we all fear these issues are signs of a deteriorating brain. Science tells us that memory is not necessarily the most important measure of brain health. There are a number of products you can take and routines you can follow to improve your mental health. Unfortunately most of them don't work, they are expensive and can be dangerous.

Keeping your brain healthy is one of the most researched topics around. That means there's a lot of good information available on brain health but there are a lot of pie in the sky myths too. All research techniques are not created equal and many findings are biased depending on where the funding comes from. For example if a company hires a research group to experiment on it's product it would make sense that the results would be slanted in favor of that client. I have personally had researchers admit to me that they sometimes sell themselves when they receive money from a client to test a product or theory.

Using common sense can help you sift through a lot of the nonsense. But since common sense is not always common I'll help you dispel some of the myths. Below are some common myths people still preach, teach and live by.

Myth#1

Brain health steadily declines with age. Not True. – Scientist at one time believed that we are born with all the



brain cells that we would ever have and that the ability to form new brain cells ends during adolescence. It's now known that your brain is the most modifiable part of your body. It's now known that your brain is constantly being changed by how we use it and take care of it. These changes in your brain can be measured. You can get a new car in the morning and by the evening your brain has adjusted to all the new features including the computer.

We know now that as you experience new things your neural activity increases and promotes the development of brain cells. If you don't put them to use they will die.

As you get older your ability to think

can continue to grow if you exercise your brain. You should engage your brain with creativity, curiosity and problem solving. Challenge your brain. Don't just read a book, think about it. You could even read it again to get more insight into the book.

Myth#2

A good memory indicates mental health. Not True. – Memory skills are not an indicator of healthy everyday life performance. This means you can have an excellent memory but not be more innovative, insightful, creative or mentally productive.

Don't worry that you can't remember everything. We always tend to note what we forget but we don't give our-

selves credit for all the things we do remember. If you try to remember everything you become less efficient, more stressed, overwhelmed and bogged down in meaningless details. If it's important you will remember it. It's "ok" to occasionally forget a task. But when your forgetfulness begins to interfere with your daily performance it could be a sign of something more. A memory problem doesn't mean dementia.

Myth#3

Multitasking gives your brain a good workout. Not True. – When you multitask your brain has to call on different parts to handle the load. Your brain works inefficiently because your communication isn't synchronized. If

you over work your brain it becomes fatigued. This will slow efficiency and decrease performance.

Focus on one task and nothing else. Turn your phone off. Don't watch TV. Don't check email because you get an alert. Research shows that you'll think more clearly for 15 minutes than a person that multitask for an hour.

Myth#4

People with high IQs have more brainpower. Not True. – IQ test were developed more than a century ago. They mainly emphasize skills as knowledge, memory and speed to perform mathematical equations. We now have computers to do all of these functions. We can now Google anything. It is much more important to know how to use knowledge, understand and apply knowledge.

Myth#5

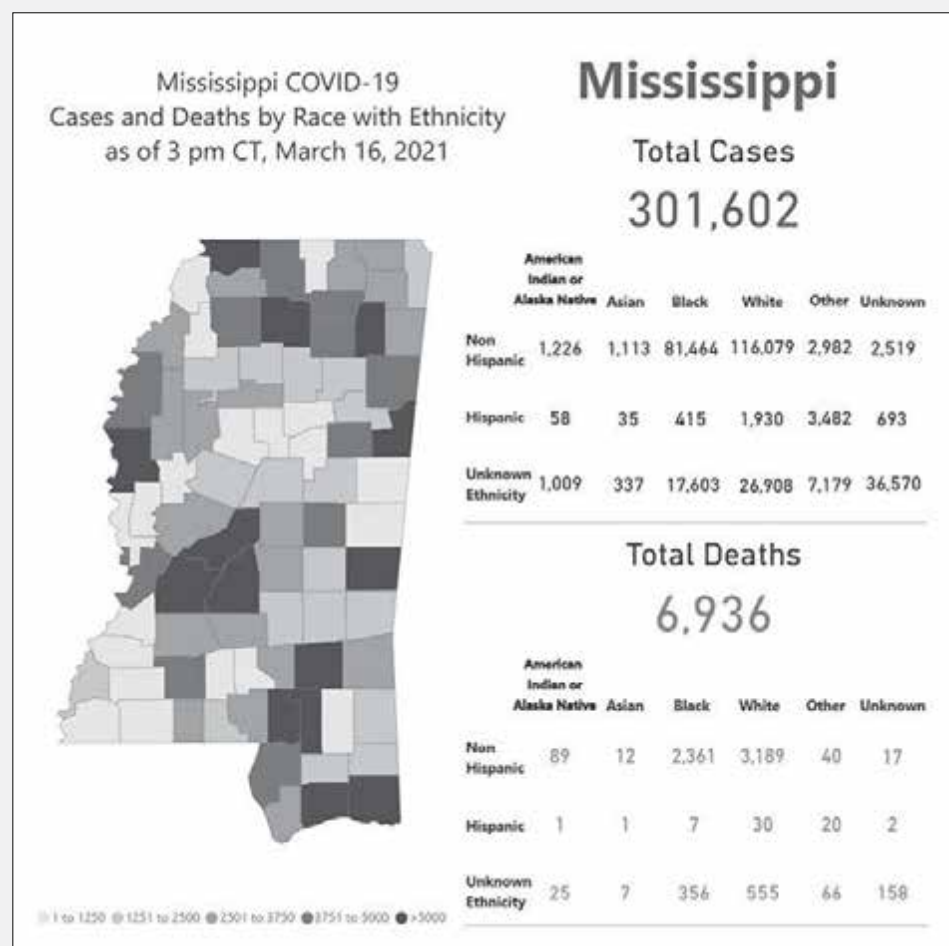
Supplements can keep you sharp as you get older. Not True. – Research shows that there is insufficient evidence that multivitamins will improve brain health. Nutrients needed to keep your brain active and healthy can be met through food.

Myth#6

Your mood has little to do with your mind. Not True. – Your mental well being according to recent research is related to brain health as you age. The greater your mental well being the more you reduce your dementia risks. Engage in activities you enjoy and maintain a meaningful relationship with your family and friends.

The combination of mental and physical activity, good nutrition and sleep go a long way in improving your brain's abilities.

MISSISSIPPI COVID-19 UPDATE



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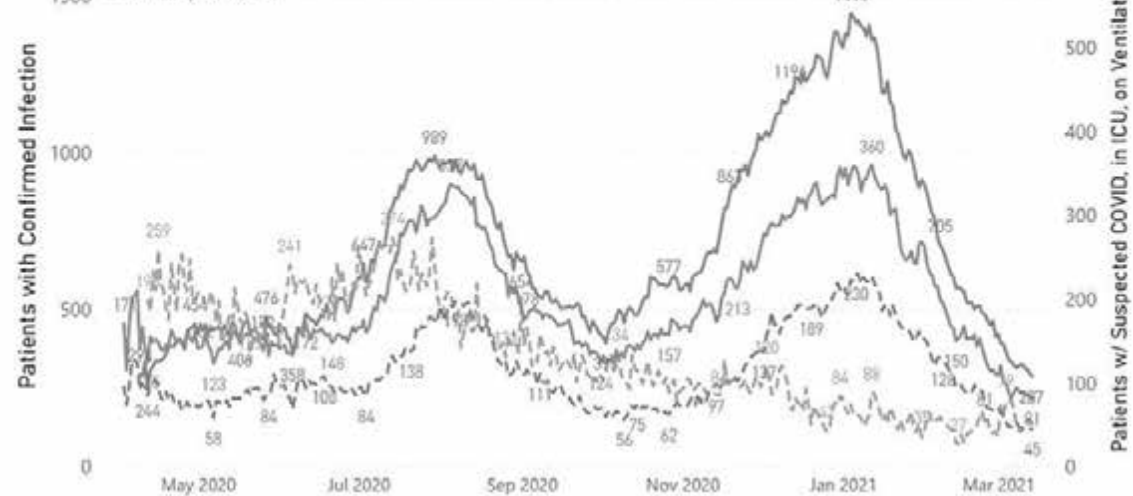
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COVID-19 Hospitalizations Trends, Reported by MS Hospitals as of 3/14/21 **,

—Patients with Confirmed Infection —Patients with Suspected Infection —Patients in an ICU —Patients on Ventilators

* Patients in ICU and on ventilators are COVID-19 confirmed.
** Data are provisional.



The world needs to see God's Church

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



Israel suffered defeat because they did not stand up for what God had told them. He took them out of Egypt, out of bondage and darkness and told them to keep themselves from idols and other things, but they found themselves doing the things God told them not to do. No different today. People will tell you that they don't see anything wrong with what they are doing. They will tell you that they have seen others doing things, and they are still worshipping God.

Let me say, we need to know God for ourselves. The Apostle Paul said, "That I may know Him, and the power of His resurrection." If we are a newborn creature, we will

know the power of His resurrection. He has translated us out of the kingdom of darkness into the Kingdom of His dear Son. We are a holy nation. God wants us to serve Him. God wants us to honor Him. God wants us to reverence Him in everything we do.

In our speech and in our conduct of life from day-to-day, we must deal fair with one another. That is the standard. We must be honest. We must speak the truth. Some people roll lies on their tongues like a sweet morsel, but we must not allow the devil to rob us of the joy we have in Christ Jesus.

We must rise above poor models. Not everyone we see are good examples. There are some examples that are extremely poor, and we can't allow those to influence us. The world is influenced by Satan, and we, as God's children, cannot allow him to influence

us likewise. The devil has no good in him. He does not like any child of God, and his desire is to trick and rob us and allow us to go to a devil's hell.

God delights in His people who are walking in the holy way. We must seek a better way. Christ is the perfect model. No matter how we were raised, or who has influenced our lives, we can move beyond those limitations by taking Christ as our example, and conscientiously trying to live as Christ.

Yes, we can live as Christ has lived. Jesus said, "If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me." The world needs to see God's church today! They need to admire God's church. She is entirely different from the world. God is Holy. The standard of God is holiness. We must apply ourselves to God's

Word.

It is our duty to readily submit to the things God has laid down for us. We find in Isaiah 62:10-12 these words, "Go through, go through the gates; prepare ye the way of the people; cast up, cast up the highway; gather out the stones; lift up a standard for the people. Behold, the Lord hath proclaimed unto the end of the world, say ye to the daughter of Zion, Behold, thy salvation cometh; behold, his rewards is with him, and his work before him. And they shall call them, the Holy people, the redeemed of the Lord: and thou shalt be called, sought out, a city not forsaken."

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 Hearing God Clearly

By Shewanda Riley
Columnist



"It sounds like I'm at the studio session recording this song" was my first thought when I turned on my new desktop surround sound system. The system wasn't something that I thought I needed but after I set it up, I was amazed at how much better everything sounded. Even though it was just music streaming from my laptop, the instruments sounded clearer and the overall sound much fuller.

I have to be honest that initially I was very apathetic about a surround sound system for a laptop computer. But that quickly changed when I heard the difference the subwoofer made. I'm not an audio expert but from what I understand, it takes the subwoofer magnifying sounds for our human ears to better hear and appreciate them. Part of what makes the subwoofer so important to the sound system is that it amplifies the bass and lower audio tones making the overall sound fuller.

It was kind of weird but I thought about COVID-19 as I cleaning up the mess I made while setting up the surround sound system. I thought about how many stories I'd seen in the last week about the one-year anniversary of the Coronavirus pandemic. So many of the stories focused on the heartbreaking losses of over 530,000 Americans in just one year. Other stories focused on how much our society has changed: working from home, taking virtual classes and adjusting to the new COVID-19 economics.

One issue that received little attention was how COVID-19 has impacted people of faith and

more specifically, strengthened the spiritual walk of so many.

Because of the limits on occupancy, churches were forced to go to online services for the majority of the last year. Some churches used this time to develop innovative online services that met the needs of their online global "congregation." For others, the uncertainty of the pandemic made them seek a deeper connection to God. People were forced to make their homes places of worship since they could not get to their church. As a result, there has been a renewed sense of commitment to Christianity for some.

And just like the subwoofer amplifies, enhances and improves sound, in a peculiar way, this pandemic has sharpened the ears of those who desired a closer walk with God. John 10:27 says "My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me." Speaking from my own experience, there have been more days in the last year where I have spent amazing times of prayer and worship seeking answers from God.

I have had friends and family members die during the last year and those losses have been devastating. But as I struggled to make sense of those losses, I developed more confidence in my ability to hear God's voice and discern His will. And more importantly, the isolation of the pandemic has given me a deeper connection with God.

Shewanda Riley is a Fort Worth, Texas based author of "Love Hangover: Moving from Pain to Purpose After a Relationship Ends" and "Writing to the Beat of God's Heart: A Book of Prayers for Writers." Email preservedbypurpose@gmail.com or follow her on Twitter @shewanda.



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Sunday Worship Service: 11:15 a.m.
(Fellowship following worship service 1st Sundays)

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Pastor, Dr. F. R. Lenoir



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Sunday Morning Worship - 10:30 a.m.
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LEGAL

Electronic Bidding
Advertisement for Bids

Bid 3176 Lanier High School Parking
Improvements and JROTC Drainage Repair

Electronic and sealed bid proposals for the above bid will be received by the Board of Trustees of the Jackson Public School District, in the Business Office, 662 South President Street, Jackson, Mississippi, until 10:00 A.M. (Local Pre-vailling Time) April 14, 2021 at which time and place they will be publicly opened and read aloud. A Pre-Bid Conferences concerning this project will be held at 833 West Maple Street, Jackson, MS 39203 on March 25, 2021 at 02:00 P.M. Attendance at the pre-bid conferences is non-mandatory but strongly encouraged. The Board of Trustees reserves the right to reject any and all bids, to waive informalities, and to withhold the acceptance of any bid if approved for forty-five calendar days from the date bids are opened

Plan holders are required to register and order bid documents at [HYPERLINK "http://www.jpdsmsprojects.com"](http://www.jpdsmsprojects.com) www.jpdsmsprojects.com. A \$100.00 non-refundable deposit shall be required on each set of bid documents and must be purchased through the website. All plan holders are required to have a valid email address for registration. Questions regarding website registration and online orders please contact Plan House Printing, 607 W. Main Street, Tupelo, MS 38804, (662) 407-0193. Questions regarding bid documents please contact Durrell Design Group, PLLC, 500-G East Woodrow Wilson Ave., Jackson, MS 39216, Phone: 601-708-4788, or Email: contact@durrelldesigngroup.com.

Until further notice, all hand delivery proposals delivered between 9:00 a.m. until 9:59 a.m. (local prevailing time) the date the bid is scheduled to open, must be delivered to JPSD Board Room, 621 South State Street, Jackson, MS 39201.

3-11-2021, 3-18-2021

LEGAL

Notice of Sale
Abandoned Vehicle

Notice of Sale is hereby given in accordance with the Mississippi Statutes governing the sale of abandoned motor vehicles that the following vehicle will be sold for repair and storage charges and for cost of this sale.
2003 MERC 2MEFM75W23X663403
Registered to: McCalpin, Ivory L.
Exeter Finance Corp., Lien Holder
Date of Sale: April 9, 2021
Place of Sale: Archie Towing Services; 6700 Medgar Evers Blvd., Jackson, MS 39213

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

3-18-2021, 3-25-2021, 4-1-2021

LEGAL

Notice of Sale
Abandoned Vehicle

Notice of Sale is hereby given in accordance with the Mississippi Statutes governing the sale of abandoned motor vehicles that the following vehicle will be sold for repair and storage charges and for cost of this sale.
2003 CAMRY 4T1BF32K83U036695
Registered to: Johnson, Leslie
Check Into Cash of Mississippi, Inc., Lien Holder
Date of Sale: April 9, 2021
Place of Sale: Archie Towing Services; 6700 Medgar Evers Blvd., Jackson, MS 39213

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

3-18-2021, 3-25-2021, 4-1-2021

LEGAL

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING OF THE
JACKSON HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE JACKSON HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION (JHPC) WILL HOLD ITS MONTHLY MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC ON WEDNESDAY, APRIL 14, 2021 AT 12:00 NOON IN THE ANDREW JACKSON CONFERENCE ROOM (RM. 105) OF THE WARREN HOOD BUILDING, 200 SOUTH PRESIDENT STREET, JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI.

- I. APPLICATIONS FOR CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS
- A. NEW BUSINESS
1. CASE NO. HPNC-21-7, REQUESTED BY: MARC ROWE TO REHAB THE HOUSE AT 111 E. CHURCH ST. LOCATED IN THE FARISH HISTORICAL DISTRICT.
 2. CASE NO. HPNC-21-8, REQUESTED BY: MARC ROWE TO REHAB THE HOUSE AT 117 E. CHURCH ST. LOCATED IN THE FARISH HISTORICAL DISTRICT.
 3. CASE NO. HPNC-21-9, REQUESTED BY: MARC ROWE TO REHAB THE HOUSE AT 134 E. CHURCH ST. LOCATED IN THE FARISH HISTORICAL DISTRICT.
 4. CASE NO. HPNC-21-10, REQUESTED BY: MARC ROWE TO REHAB THE HOUSE AT 136 E. CHURCH ST. LOCATED IN THE FARISH HISTORICAL DISTRICT.
 5. CASE NO. HPNC-21-11, REQUESTED BY: MARC ROWE TO REHAB THE HOUSE AT 123 E. CHURCH ST. LOCATED IN THE FARISH HISTORICAL DISTRICT.
 6. CASE NO. HPNC-21-12, REQUESTED BY: MARC ROWE TO REHAB THE HOUSE AT 138 E. CHURCH ST. LOCATED IN THE FARISH HISTORICAL DISTRICT.
 7. CASE NO. HPNC-21-13, REQUESTED BY: MARC ROWE TO REHAB THE PINK HOUSE BEHIND 123 E. CHURCH ST. AT COLLIER ALLEY LOCATED IN THE FARISH HISTORICAL DISTRICT.
 8. CASE NO. HPNC-21-14, REQUESTED BY: MARC ROWE TO REHAB THE BLUE HOUSE BEHIND 117 E. CHURCH ST. AT COLLIER ALLEY LOCATED IN THE FARISH HISTORICAL DISTRICT.
 9. CASE NO. HPNC-21-15, REQUESTED BY: MARC ROWE TO REHAB THE WHITE HOUSE BEHIND 117 E. CHURCH ST. AT COLLIER ALLEY LOCATED IN THE FARISH HISTORICAL DISTRICT.
 10. CASE NO. HPNC-21-16, REQUESTED BY: ERIC COLLINS TO PAINT THE MASONRY, REPAIR THE WOOD, BRICK, AND PLASTER WITH THE SAME MATERIAL AND DESIGN, AND ADD AWNINGS PER 1985 PHOTO AT 612-618 N. FARISH ST. LOCATED IN THE FARISH HISTORICAL DISTRICT.
 11. CASE NO. HPNC-21-17, REQUESTED BY: MIKE HYDRICK TO REMOVE THE VINYL SIDING AND REPLACE WITH HARD PLANK SIDING AT 1721 LYNCREST AVE. LOCATED IN THE BELHAVEN HISTORICAL DISTRICT.

- II. OTHER ITEMS
1. ADMINISTRATIVELY APPROVED COAS
- III. ADJOURN

DUE TO COVID-19 AND THE CONCERN FOR THE PUBLIC HEALTH, SAFETY, AND WELFARE, COMMISSIONERS AND APPLICANTS WILL ATTEND THE MEETING VIA TELECONFERENCE/VIDEO. MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC MAY ATTEND VIA TELECONFERENCE/VIDEO BY EMAILING BZHAO@JACKSONMS.GOV TO REGISTER PRIOR TO APRIL 7, 2021.

3-18-2021, 3-25-2021

LEGAL

Advertisement for Electronic Bid
Bid 3172 Bailey APAC Middle School Renovations

Sealed, written formal bid proposals for the above bids will be received by the Board of Trustees of the Jackson Public School District, in the Business Office, 662 South President Street, Jackson, Mississippi, until 10:00 A.M. (Local Pre-vailling Time) April 01, 2021 at which time and place they will be publicly opened and read aloud. A Pre-Bid Conference concerning the project, Bailey APAC Middle School Renovations will be held at Bailey APAC Middle School, 1900 N. State Street, Jackson MS 39202, Thursday, March 25, 2021 at 2:00 P.M. Attendance at the pre-bid conference is not mandatory but strongly encouraged. The Board of Trustees reserves the right to reject any and all bids, to waive informalities, and to withhold the acceptance of any bid if approved for forty-five calendar days from the date bids are opened.

Plan holders are required to register and order bid documents at www.jpdsmsprojects.com. A \$100.00 Non- refundable deposit shall be required on each printed set of bid specs/documents. A \$100.00 Nonrefundable deposit shall be required on each digital PDF set of bid specs/documents. Documents must be purchased through the website. All plan holders are required to have a valid email address for registration. Questions regarding website registration and online orders, please contact Plan House Printing, 607 W. Main Street, Tupelo, MS 38804, (662) 407-0193. Questions regarding bid documents please contact Jennifer Seymour at Eley Guild Hardy, Phone: 228-594-2323 or Email: jseymour@egh.ms.

Until further notice, all hand delivery proposals delivered between 9:00 a.m. until 9:59 a.m. (local prevailing time) the date the bid is scheduled to open, must be delivered to JPSP Board Room, 621 South State Street, Jackson, MS 39201.

2-18-2021, 2-25-2021

LEGAL

Announcement
Press Release for City of Jackson

The City of Jackson will have the following voting precinct changes for the upcoming 2021 Municipal Elections to be held on the following dates and for the following wards:

Primary- April 6th
Primary Run-off- April 27th
General- June 8th

Ward 1

- Precinct #45 (St. Phillips Church) has temporarily moved to McLeod Elementary School (Precinct #36) located at 1616 Sandalwood Place; voting will be held inside the cafeteria. Signs and directions will be posted for your convenience.

Ward 3 "For Municipal Elections Only"

- Precinct 12 (Bonner Institutional Church) will be open
- Precinct 50 (St. Luther Church) will be open

Ward 4

- Precinct #24 (Formally French Elementary School) voting will now be conducted at George Kurt's Fieldhouse Gymnasium located at 125 Gymnasium Drive

Ward 5

- Precinct #89 (Formerly located inside the Metrocenter Mall) voting will now be conducted at Greater Mount Bethel Church located at 4125 Robinson Road.

Ward 6

- Precinct #96 (Formerly Miracle Temple Evangelistic Church, 418 Lakeshore Drive) voting will now be conducted at Fire Station #22 located at 1590 Lakeshore Drive.
- Precinct #94 (Formerly located at Higher Ground Family Worship, 3520 Forest Hill Road) voting will now be conducted at Willowood Community Center located at 229 Lake Cove Drive

3-4-2021, 3-11-2021, 3-18-2021



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HUGE 2-DAY PUBLIC AUCTION
**Wednesday, March 24th &
Thursday, March 25th • 9am**
1042 Holland Ave • Philadelphia, Mississippi
NO MINIMUMS NO RESERVES



Day 1: Selling Dump Trucks, Truck Tractors, Specialty Trucks, Trailers, Farm Tractors, Pickups, Vehicles, Attachments, Misc. & More
Day 2: Selling Dozers, Excavators, Motor Graders, Off Road Trucks, Rubber-tired Loaders, Loader Backhoes, Skid Steers, Compaction Eq., Forklifts, Cranes, Service Trucks, Water Trucks & More

Deanco Auction 601-656-9768 www.deancoauction.com
1042 Holland Ave (PO Box 1248) • Philadelphia, Mississippi 39350 Auctioneer: Donnie W Dean, #733, MSGL #835
10% Buyers Premium on the first \$5000 of each lot and then a 2% buyers premium and the remaining balance of each lot.

LEGAL

ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI
AMENDING CHAPTER 26, SECTIONS 26-60 AND 26-511 OF JACKSON
CODE OF ORDINANCES, BUILDINGS AND BUILDING REGULATIONS.

WHEREAS, Chapter 26, Buildings and Building Regulations of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Jackson, Mississippi, establishes rules and regulations for construction permits, construction codes, and contractor licenses; and

WHEREAS, the City of Jackson finds it necessary to amend rules and regulations relating to construction codes in order to continue to reasonably protect public life, safety, and property through the enforcement of construction codes and minimum standards to safeguard life or limb, health, property and public welfare; and

WHEREAS, there have been substantial updates in published building codes since the adoption of the 2012 International Building Code Family; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Planning and Development recommends the adoption of the 2018 International Building Code Family.

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

SECTION 1. Chapter 26, Section 26-60 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Jackson, Mississippi, is hereby deleted and replaced to read as follows:

Sec. 26-60. - Adopted.

The following codes, with amendments, and subject to identified modifications, amendments and exclusions, as provided herein, are hereby adopted by reference as though they were copied herein fully.

(a) The International Building Code, 2018 Edition (with amendments). Subject to the following: to Section 101.1 insert "The City of Jackson, Mississippi"; to Section 1612.3 insert "The City of Jackson, Mississippi"; to Section 1612.3 insert "Thirty (30) days after issuance"; to Section 3412.2 insert "Thirty (30) days after issuance"; adopt appendixes A, B, D, E, F, G, I, J, K, Q;
(b) The International Existing Building Code, 2018 Edition (with amendments). Subject to the following: adopt appendixes A, B, & C;
(c) The National Electrical Code, 2017 Edition;
(d) The International Residential Code, 2018 Edition (with amendments). Subject to the following: to section R101.1 insert "The City of Jackson, Mississippi"; to section P2603.5.1 insert "Twelve (12) inches in two locations"; delete section R313; delete section P2904; delete chapter 11; adopt appendixes A, B, C, D, E, G, H, I, J, M, N, O, P, & Q;
(e) The International Mechanical Code, 2018 Edition (with amendments). Subject to the following: adopt appendixes A, & B;
(f) The International Fuel Gas Code, 2018 Edition (with amendments). Subject to the following: adopt appendixes A, B, C, & D;
(g) The International Plumbing Code, 2018 Edition (with amendments). Subject to the following: adopt appendixes A, B, C, D, E, & F.

SECTION 2. Chapter 26, Section 26-511 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Jackson, Mississippi, is hereby deleted and replaced to read as follows:

Sec. 26-511. - Code adopted.

That a certain document, three copies of which are on file in office of the City Clerk of the City of Jackson, Mississippi, being marked and designated as The International Property Maintenance Code, 2018 edition, as published by the International Code Council, be and is hereby adopted as the property maintenance code of the city for regulating and governing the conditions and maintenance of all property, buildings and structures, by providing the standards for supplied utilities and facilities and other physical things and conditions essential to ensure that structures are safe, sanitary and fit for occupation and use; and the condemnation of buildings and structures unfit for human occupancy and use, and the demolition of such existing structures as herein provided, providing for the issuance of permits and collection of fees thereof; and each and all of the regulations, provisions, penalties, conditions and terms of said property maintenance code on file in the office of the city clerk and hereby referred to, adopted, and made part hereof, as if fully set out in this article, with the additions, insertions, deletions and changes, if any, prescribed in section 26-512 of this article.

SECTION 3. Should any sentence, paragraph, subdivision, clause, phrase, 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 than the part so decided to be invalid, illegal, or unconstitutional, and shall not affect the validity of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Jackson, Mississippi, as a whole.

SECTION 4. The preceding amendments and revisions to the Building Ordinance of the City of Jackson, Chapter 26 of the Code of Ordinances, City of Jackson, Mississippi, shall be published and effective 30 days after passage, in accordance with Mississippi Code of 1972, 21-13-11 (1972 as amended).

Council Member Tillman moved adoption; Council Member Lindsay seconded. Yeas – Banks, Foote, Lee, Lindsay, Stamps, Stokes and Tillman.
Nays – None.
Absent – None.

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 Special Council Meeting on December 22, 2020 and recorded in Minute Book "6S, Pgs. 280-282".

WITNESS my signature and official seal of office, this the 10th day of March, 2021.

SEAL Angela Harris, Municipal Clerk

3-18-2021

LEGAL

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
CITY OF JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI
SIGN VARIANCE FOR SAL & MOOKIE'S

THE JACKSON CITY COUNCIL WILL CONDUCT A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE SIGN VARIANCE FOR SAL & MOOKIE'S TO RECEIVE CITIZEN INPUT HAS BEEN SCHEDULED FOR TUESDAY, MARCH 30, 2021 AT 10:00 A.M. IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS AT THE CITY HALL BUILDING, 219 SOUTH PRESIDENT STREET, JACKSON, MS, 39201. INTERESTED CITIZENS ARE ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND. PLEASE CONTACT THE SIGNS & LICENSE DIVISION (601) 960-1154 FOR MORE INFORMATION.

3-18-2021, 3-25-2021

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www.mississippilink.com

LEGAL

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR A REZONING

ZONING CASE NO. 4118

By virtue of and pursuant to the authority and direction of that Ordinance by the City Council of Jackson, Mississippi, appearing in Minute Book 3G at page 115 thereof, notice is hereby given to all persons interested in or in any way affected thereby, that Harwell Paymon has filed with the Planning Board for the City of Jackson, an application requesting a Rezoning from R-1 (Single-Family) Residential District to C-3 (General) Commercial District to provide for consistency in the zoning for the property and to allow for the operation of a second hand store at the property located at 801 Cooper Rd. (Parcel: 838-98), in the First Judicial District of Hinds County, Mississippi, and being more particularly described as:

Indexing Instructions: Lot One (1), Block One(I), Oak Forest Subdivision, Part Eleven (11), a subdivision in the according to a map or plat on file and of record in City of Jackson, First Judicial District. Hinds County Mississippi as shown by the map or plat thereof on file and of record of Plat Book 18 at page 17, in the office of the Chancery Clerk of Hinds County at Jackson Mississippi, reference to which is hereby made in aid of and as a part of this description and Part of the Southeast Quarter (SW ¼ SE ¼ SE ¼) of Section 24, Township 5 North, Range 1 West, First Judicial District of Hinds County Mississippi.

Parcel One
Lot One (1), Block One(I), Oak Forest Subdivision, Part Eleven (11), a subdivision in the First Judicial District of Hinds County Mississippi as shown by the map or plat on file and of record in plat book 18 at page 17, in the office of the Chancery Clerk of Hinds County at Jackson, Mississippi, reference to which is hereby made in aid of and as a part of the description.

Parcel Two
All that part of the Southwest Quarter of the Southeast Quarter of Southeast Quarter (SW ¼ SE ¼ SE ¼) of Section 24, Township 5 North, Range 1 West, First Judicial District of Hinds County, Mississippi, which lies North of the North line of Cooper Road, South and West of the Southwestern side of the New Caney Creek Channel and East of the East line of Lot 1, of Block 1, of Oak Forest Subdivision, Part 11, a subdivision in Hinds County Mississippi, and being more particularly described as follows:

For a point of Beginning, begin at the Southeast of corner of Section 24, Township 5 North, Range 1 West, First Judicial District of Hinds County, Mississippi, said point being 34 feet measured North 1 degrees, 42 minutes east from and iron stake at the northwest corner of Lot 1, of Block C, of Oak Tree Park, Hinds County, Mississippi Section 24 and 25, Township 5 North, Range 1 West, for a distance of 660.2 feet to the Southeast corner of the Southwest Quarter of the Southeast of the Southeast Quarter (SW ¼ SE ¼ SE ¼) of said Section 24, continue thence North 89 degrees 00 minutes West along the South line of the said Section 24; for a distance of 36.5 feet: run thence 0 degrees 50 minutes East for a distance of 14.84 feet to an iron stake marking the intersection of the West line of Oak Forest Drive with the North line of Cooper Road, as both streets are now laid out and improved, said point also being 354.27 feet measured South 89 degrees 02 minutes East along the south line of Oak Forest Subdivision – Part 11 extended Easterly from the Southeast corner of Lot 1 of block, Part 11, Hinds County, Mississippi run thence North 89 degrees 02 minutes West along the said North line of Cooper Road for a distance of 168.19 feet to an iron stake; then, using this point as the POINT OF BEGINNING for the parcel of land being herein described, continue thence North 89 degrees 02 West along the said North line of Cooper Road for a distance of 186.08 feet to an iron stake at the Southeast corner of said Lot 1 of Block 1 of oak Forest Subdivision — Part 11; turn thence to the right through a deflection angle of 90 degrees 00 minutes and run North 0 degrees at 58 minutes East along the East line Lot 1 of Block 1 for a distance of the North 165 feet to an iron stake at the Northeast corner thereof; turn thence to the right through a deflection angle of 23 degrees 35 minutes and run North 24 degrees 33 minutes East for a distance of 15 feet to an iron stake on the Southwest side of the New Caney Creek Channel; turn thence to the right through a deflected angle of 111 degrees 12 minutes and run South 44 degrees 15 minutes East along the Southwestern side of said New Caney Creek Chanel for a distance of 253.71 feet to the POINT OF BEGINNING; and containing an area of 17,124 square feet.

Said application will be heard at the City Planning Board Hearing in the Andrew Jackson Conference Room, First Floor, Warren A. Hood Building, 200 S. President Street in Jackson, Mississippi, at 1:30 p.m., on Wednesday, March 24, 2021, at which time all parties interested in or affected thereby will be heard both pro and con on said question, after which a record will be established upon which the City Planning Board can make its recommendation to the City Council of Jackson. Any objection thereto may be made by any person owning property within the area, and if made in writing must be filed with the City Zoning Administrator before said time if a hearing thereof or consideration thereof is desired, or by counsel on said date. If a request is made to the Zoning Administrator at least 72 hours in advance, the City will take steps to accommodate citizens need for interpreters or auxiliary aids for the visually/hearing impaired.

DUE TO COVID-19 AND THE CONCERN FOR THE PUBLIC HEALTH, SAFETY AND WELFARE, THE PLANNING BOARD MEMBERS AND THE APPLICANTS HAVE THE OPTION TO ATTEND THE MEETING VIA TELECONFERENCE/VIDEO OR IN PERSON WITH REGARDS TO THE WEARING OF MASKS AND THE SOCIAL DISTANCING REQUIREMENTS. MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC MAY ATTEND VIA TELECONFERENCE/VIDEO BY EMAILING EAINSWORTH@CITY.JACKSON.MS.US TO REGISTER PRIOR TO MARCH 17, 2021.

WITNESS my signature this 24th day of February 2021.

/s/Ester L. Ainsworth
Zoning Administrator
City of Jackson, Mississippi

3-4-2021, 3-18-2021

Growing Mississippi’s economy—together.

We live and work in the communities we serve, and we’re invested in growing this place we all call home. So we’re always looking to partner with local suppliers and contractors to help us bring safer, more reliable energy to the people of Mississippi.

So if you’re a Mississippi-based supplier or contractor, we’d like to include you on future proposals for projects. Because no one knows how to better serve the people of this state than you.

If you’d like to learn more about our qualification and insurance requirements, bid and contracting processes and other details, reach out to us at Supplier@SpireEnergy.com, or visit us at SpireEnergy.com/Doing-Business-Spire.

At Spire, we’re proud to support Hire Mississippi.



LEGAL

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR A REZONING

ZONING CASE NO. 4120

By virtue of and pursuant to the authority and direction of that Ordinance by the City Council of Jackson, Mississippi, appearing in Minute Book 3G at page 115 thereof, notice is hereby given to all persons interested in or in any way affected thereby, that Green Investments, LLC has filed with the Planning Board for the City of Jackson, an application requesting a Rezoning from I-1 (Light) Industrial District to Planned Unit Development (PUD) District to allow for rehabilitation and preservation of a historic residential housing community for properties located at Parcels 73-18 & 73-29 (Mill St.), 73-19 & 73-6 (W. Cohea St.) and 73-31 (W. Monument St.), in the First Judicial District of Hinds County, Mississippi, and being more particularly described as:

TRACT 1

PARCEL I

A certain parcel of land situated in Jackson, Hinds County, Mississippi, and being a part of Lots 11, 12, 13, 15, 16, 17 and 18 of the Third Cohea Estate Survey, according to the map. or plat thereof, on file and of record in the office of the Chancery Clerk of Hinds County at Jackson, Mississippi, in Plat Book A at Page 258; said parcel contains 208,233.49 square feet or 4. 78 acres, more or less, and being more particularly described by metes and bounds as follows:

Beginning at the intersection of the North right-of-way line of Monument Street with the East right-of-way line of Mill Street (as both are now laid out and improved, July, 1983); run thence northerly along said East right-of-way line of Mill Street for a distance of 448.14 feet; leaving said East right-of-way line of Mill Street, turn thence right through a deflecting angle of 91 degrees 11 minutes 26 seconds and run easterly for a distance of 115.80 feet; turn thence left through a deflection angle of 86 degrees 52 minutes 48 seconds and run northerly for a distance of 51.90 feet; turn thence right through a deflection angle of 86 degrees 19 minutes 38 seconds and run easterly for a distance of 40.0 feet; turn thence left through a deflection angle of 86 degrees 19 minutes 38 seconds and run northerly for a distance of 100.0 feet; to a point on the South right-of-way line of Cohea Street (as now laid out and improved, July, 1983); turn thence right through a deflection angle of 86 degrees 19 minutes 38 seconds and run easterly along said South right-of-way line of Cohea Street for a distance of 35.68 feet; leaving said South right-of-way line of Cohea Street, turn thence right through a deflection angle of 92 degrees 45 minutes 54 seconds and run southerly for a distance of 200.0 feet; turn thence left through a deflection angle of 92 degrees 45 minutes 54 seconds and run easterly for a distance of 30.0 feet; turn thence left through a deflection angle of 87 degrees 14 minutes 06 seconds and run northerly for a distance of 18.01 feet; turn thence right through a deflection angle of 88 degrees 41 minutes 21 seconds and run easterly for a distance of 118.48 feet; turn thence left through a deflection angle of 86 degrees 16 minutes 26 seconds and run northerly for a distance of 8.39 feet; turn thence right through a deflection angle of 85 degrees 51 minutes 20 seconds and run easterly for a distance of 305.89 feet to a point on the West right-of-way line of Farish Street (as now laid out and improved, July, 1983); turn thence right through a deflection angle of 87 degrees 43 minutes 51 seconds and run southerly along said West right-of-way line of Farish Street for a distance of 51.59 feet; leaving said West right-of-way line of Farish Street, turn thence right through a deflection angle of 91 degrees 02 minutes 18 seconds and run westerly for a distance of 98.5 feet; turn thence left through a deflection angle of 91 degrees 02 minutes 18 seconds and run southerly for a distance of 49.5 feet; turn thence right through a deflection angle of 89 degrees 33 minutes 44 seconds and run westerly for a distance of 160.7 feet; turn thence left through a deflection angle of 00 degrees 55 minutes 16 seconds and continue thence westerly for a distance of 53.69 feet; turn thence left through a deflection angle of 87 degrees 42 minutes 23 seconds and run southerly for a distance of 95.0 feet; turn thence right through a deflection angle of 90 degrees 06 minutes 14 seconds and run westerly for a distance of 35.0 feet; turn thence left through a deflection angle of 90 degrees 06 minutes 14 seconds and run southerly for a distance of 112.0 feet to a point on the aforesaid North right-of-way line of Monument Street; turn thence right through a deflection angle of 90 degrees 06 minutes 14 seconds and run westerly along said North right-of-way line of Monument street for a distance of 300.13 feet to the POINT OF BEGINNING

PARCEL II

A certain lot or parcel of land in the Southeast corner of Lot Eighteen (18), Cohea Third Survey, and more particularly described by metes and hounds as follows, to-wit:

Beginning at a point on the North line of Monument Street which is 335.22 feet measured easterly along the North line of Monument Street from the East line of Mill Street as both streets are now laid out and improved in the City of Jackson, Mississippi, run thence westerly along the East line of Monument Street for a distance of: 35 feet; thence turning to the right through an angle of 90 degrees run northerly 112 feet to an iron stake; thence easterly and parallel with Monument Street for a distance of 35 feet to an iron stake; thence southerly 112 feet to the point of beginning. Being 35 feet by 112 feet off the south end of the property devised by Jennie Henry to the grantors herein.

PARCEL III

Beginning at a point on the south side of Cohea Street in the City of Jackson, Mississippi, which point is 319.7 feet Westerly from the West line of North Farish Street, as both streets are now laid out and improved in the City of Jackson, Mississippi, run thence Southerly along the east line of that certain tract of land belonging formerly to Morton, Lumber Company for a distance of 185.8 feet to the southeast corner of said Morton Lumber Company tract; run westerly along the south line of said tract for 116.6 feet to the southwest corner thereof; ran thence Northerly along the west line of said tract for 35.2 feet to a point; which point is the point of beginning of the property herein described; from this point of beginning run thence Easterly for 99.6 feet to a point; thence Southerly 35.2 feet to a point; thence Westerly for 99.6 feet to the West line of the said Morton Lumber company tract; run thence Northerly along the West line of said Morton Lumber Company tract for 32.5 feet to the point of beginning.

There is also conveyed a perpetual easement over and across the 12-foot alley lying immediately East of the above property which said alley is to be used jointly with the property lying immediately North of the property herein conveyed in the First Judicial District of Hinds County, Mississippi, all being part of Lot 15 & 16, Cohea Survey First Judicial District of Hinds County, Mississippi.

PARCEL IV

Beginning at a point on the south Side of Cohea Street in said City which point is 319.7 feet westerly from the West line of North Farish Street, as both streets are now laid out and improved in the City of Jackson, Mississippi, run thence Southerly along the East line of that certain tract of land belonging formerly to Morton Lumber Company for 185.8 feet to the southeast corner of said Morton Lumber Company tract; run westerly along the south line of said tract for 116.6 feet to the Southwest corner thereof; run thence northerly along the west line of said tract of land formerly belonging to the said Morton Lumber Company for a distance of 75.2 feet to a point, which is the point of beginning of the property herein described; now, taking said point as the point of beginning run thence easterly for a distance of 99.6 feet to a point; thence southerly for a distance of 40 feet to a point; which said point is 40 inches south of the house now

LEGAL

REQUEST FOR BIDS

TO PROVIDE A “BENEFIT’S CONSULTANT” FOR THE CITY OF JACKSON’S MEDICAL AND DENTAL BENEFIT’S PLAN

Written sealed bids from responsible firms to provide a “Benefits Consultant” for Active and Retired City Employees covered under the City of Jackson’s Medical and Dental Benefits Plans will be received in the Office of the City Clerk of the City of Jackson, MS on the 1st floor of the City Hall Building, 219 S. President Street, Jackson, MS, until 3:30 p.m. (local time), April 6, 2021 at this time the bids will be publicly opened and read aloud and the contract awarded as soon as practical. One original and five (5) copies of each bid must be submitted.

Each bid must be submitted in a sealed envelope, addressed to the Office of the City Clerk, City of Jackson, 1st floor of the City Hall Building, 219 S. President Street, Jackson, MS 39201. Each sealed envelope containing a bid must be plainly marked on the outside as “Bid to Provide a Benefits Consultant for the City of Jackson’s Medical and Dental Benefits Plan” will be received in the Office of the City Clerk to be opened on April 6, 2021”. No bid will be received or accepted after the above-specified time.

The City of Jackson is committed to the principle of non-discrimination in public contracting. It is the policy of the City of Jackson to promote full and equal business opportunity for all persons doing business with the City. As a

located on said property; thence westerly for a distance of 99.6 feet to the west line of said Morton umber Company Tract; thence northerly along the west line of said Morton Lumber Company tract thence northerly along the west line of said Morton Lumber Company Tract for a distance of 40 feet to the point of beginning. The South line of the property herein conveyed is located 40 inches south of the house now located on said property.

There is also conveyed a perpetual easement over and across the 12 foot alley lying immediately East of the above property which said alley is to be used jointly with the property of the grantor lying immediately south of the property herein conveyed.

PARCEL V

A parcel of land being at the northeast corner of lot owned by w. L. Hayes and Emma Hayes and later owned by H. Botnick, described as the one-half (1/2) acre in in North part of Lots fifteen (15) and Sixteen (16) of the Cohea Estate being the same land sold for taxes on the 3rd day of March, A.D. 1884 to the State of Mississippi and the deed showing said purchase being recorded in Deed Book No. 18 on Page 160 thereof in the office of the Chancery clerk of the First Judicial District of Hinds County, Mississippi. Said land facing on Cohea Street running thence westerly from the said point of beginning along Cohea Street for a distance of 30 feet thence southerly two hundred (200) feet parallel with the East line of said: land owned by W.L. Hayes and Emma Hayes and thence easterly thirty (30) feet along the South line of said land owned now by H. Botnick and thence northerly two hundred (200) feet to the point of beginning. This being the same land conveyed to J.L.I. Conic by Pauline Dukes King on March 1, 1929, together with an easement or a right-of-way eight (8) feet wide and one hundred (100) feet along from said Cohea Street. Said right-of-way being next west of said lot or parcel of land conveyed. All of the said land and property herein conveyed lying and being situated in the First Judicial District of Hinds County, State of -Mississippi and being the same land conveyed to J.L.I. Conic on the 1st day of March A. D. 192-9, and recorded in the Chancery Clerk’s office of the First Judicial District of Hinds County, State of Mississippi in Deed Book 220 and Page 584, being the same land conveyed to J.E. Conic by J.L.I. Conic and Eudora Ruth Conic by deed recorded in the office of the Clerk of the Chancery Court of Hinds at Jackson Mississippi, in Deed Book 319, Page 297.

AND ALSO

To establish the point of beginning run 180 feet South on the East side of Dreyfus Street from the Southeast intersection of said Dreyfus Street with Monument Street, from said point run East parallel with Monument Street 1.38 1/2 feet: with this as the point of beginning run North parallel to Dreyfus Street 85 feet, more or less, thence East parallel with Monument Street 28 ½ feet more or less, thence run South 85 feet, more or less parallel with Dreyfus Street to the alley, thence West parallel with Monument Street 28 ½ feet, more or less, along the North side of the alley to the point of beginning. Cohea Estate Survey Two (2) located and situated in the First Judicial District of Hinds County, Mississippi.

Tract 2

Begin at a point in the South line of Cohea Street, which point is 207.6 feet measured westerly along the South line of Cohea street from the West line of Farish Street, as both streets are now laid out and improved in said City of Jackson, and from said point of beginning run thence westerly along the South line of Cohea street for a distance of 96 feet to a point on the East line of a 12 foot alley, which point is 342.2 feet measured easterly along the south line of Cohea Street from the East line of Mill street; turn thence to the left through an angle of 90 degrees 37 minutes and run southerly in a straight line along the East boundary line of said private alley way and parallel with the East line of Hill Street for a distance of 170 feet; run thence easterly and parallel with the South line of Cohea street for a distance of 96 feet; run thence northerly in a straight line a distance of 170 feet to the point of beginning; TOGETHER WITH all the right, title and interest of the grantor herein in and to the said private alley way and their non-exclusive right to the use thereof, which alley way is 12 feet wide and runs southerly from Cohea street along the West side of the above described land. (Said property now being Tax Assessor - Parcel No. 73/19, and “indexed” as a part of Lots 13 and 14, of Third Cohea Estates)

Tract 3

For a Point of Beginning, commence at an iron pin set at a point on the south line of Cohea Street, which point is 170 feet measured Westerly along the said south line of Cohea street from the West line of Farish Street, and from said Point of Beginning, run thence Westerly along the south line of Cohea Street for a distance of 37.46 feet, more or less, to the Northeast corner of that certain parcel of land conveyed by Maurice H. Joseph to Wade Comer, Inc., by deed dated September 20, 1968, and of record in the office of the Chancery Clerk of Hinds County at Jackson, Mississippi in Book 1782 at Page 388; run thence southerly along the East line of the aforesaid property conveyed by Maurice H. Joseph to Wade Comer, Inc., by the aforesaid deed for a distance of 64 feet to a point; run thence North 89 degrees 51 feet East for a distance of 38.26 feet; run thence North 1 degree 24 minutes East for a distance of 64 feet to the point of beginning.

(Said property now being Tax Assessor - Parcel No. 73/6, and “indexed” as a part of Lots 13 and 14, of Third Cohea Estates Survey.)

Tract 4

A parcel in Lot 15, and 16 COHEA SY NJ, JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI, a subdivision according to a map or plat thereof which is on file and of record in the office of the Chancery Clerk of Hinds county at Jackson, Mississippi, in Book 3050 at Page 514, reference to which is hereby made in aid of and as a part of this description.

Said application will be heard at the City Planning Board Hearing in the Andrew Jackson Conference Room, First Floor, Warren A. Hood Building, 200 S. President Street in Jackson, Mississippi, at 1:30 p.m., on Wednesday, March 24, 2021, at which time all parties interested in or affected thereby will be heard both pro and con on said question, after which a record will be established upon which the City Planning Board can make its recommendation to the City Council of Jackson. Any objection thereto may be made by any person owning property within the area, and if made in writing must be filed with the City Zoning Administrator before said time if a hearing thereof or consideration thereof is desired, or by counsel on said date. If a request is made to the Zoning Administrator at least 72 hours in advance, the City will take steps to accommodate citizens need for interpreters or auxiliary aids for the visually/hearing impaired.

DUE TO COVID-19 AND THE CONCERN FOR THE PUBLIC HEALTH, SAFETY AND WELFARE, THE PLANNING BOARD MEMBERS AND THE APPLICANTS HAVE THE OPTION TO ATTEND THE MEETING VIA TELECONFERENCE/VIDEO OR IN PERSON WITH REGARDS TO THE WEARING OF MASKS AND THE SOCIAL DISTANCING REQUIREMENTS. MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC MAY ATTEND VIA TELECONFERENCE/VIDEO BY EMAILING EAINSWORTH@CITY.JACKSON.MS.US TO REGISTER PRIOR TO MARCH 17, 2021.

WITNESS my signature this 24th day of February 2021.

/s/Ester L. Ainsworth
Zoning Administrator
City of Jackson, Mississippi

3-4-2021, 3-18-2021

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pre- condition to selection, every contractor, bidder or offeror shall submit a completed and signed Equal Business Opportunity (EBO) Plan Application with the bid submission, in accordance with the provisions of the City of Jackson’s Equal Business Opportunity (EBO) Ordinance. Failure to comply with the City’s ordinance shall disqualify a contractor, bidder or offeror from being awarded an eligible contract. An Equal Business Opportunity Plan Application is attached to this Request for Proposals (see attachment S-3). For more information on the City of Jackson’s Equal Business Opportunity Program, please contact Michael Davis in the Office of Economic Development, (601) 960-1851. Copies of the ordinance, EBO Plan, applications and a copy of the program are available at 200 South President Street, 2nd Floor, and Jackson, Mississippi.

Bid specifications must be obtained at no extra charge from the Department of Personnel Management located at 1000 Metrocenter Drive, Jackson, MS 39205 between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday after March 18, 2021. The contact office is as follows:

Wilma Jones-Scott,
Director Department of Personnel Management
1000 Metrocenter Drive, Suite 102
(601) 960-1746

3-18-2021, 3-25-2021

LEGAL

REQUEST FOR STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST BY THE JACKSON MUNICIPAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY FOR SERVICES IN CONNECTION WITH THE TAXIWAY BRAVO REHABILITATION PROJECT AT THE HAWKINS FIELD AIRPORT JMAA PROJECT NUMBER 003-21

The Jackson Municipal Airport Authority ("JMAA") is requesting Statement of Qualifications and Expressions of Interest (each, a "Statement of Qualifications") to provide engineering and related services (the "Services") to JMAA in connection with Taxiway Bravo Rehabilitation Project, JMAA Project No. 003-21 at the Hawkins Field Airport (HKS).

JMAA will receive sealed electronic or printed submissions until Friday, April 9, 2021 at 4:00 p.m. Central Standard Time (CST) on the "Deadline". Bids shall be accepted by email, mail, or hand delivery as follows:

Email: bids@jmaa.com
By mail or hand delivery: JMAA's Administrative Office, Suite 300
Main Terminal Building
Jackson-Medgar Wiley Evers International Airport
100 International Drive, Jackson, Mississippi 39208

JMAA will not consider any Statement of Qualifications received after Deadline for any reason whatsoever. Information for Respondents relating to this Request for Statement of Qualifications ("RFQ") is on file and open for the public inspection at the offices of JMAA. The Information for Respondents contains a copy of the RFQ, General Information for Respondents, Information Required from Respondents, and Criteria for Selection.

Interested persons may obtain a copy of the Information for Respondents from JMAA by contacting Dr. Dexter M. Brookins, JMAA Director of Procurement, as follows:

Jackson Municipal Airport Authority
Attn: Dr. Dexter M. Brookins, Ph.D.
Director of Procurement
100 International Drive, Suite 300
Jackson, MS 39208
Telephone: (601) 664-3516
Facsimile: (601) 939-3713
Email: dbrookins@jmaa.com

or, JMAA's website at (<https://jmaa.com/corporate/partner-with-us/procurement/>).

JMAA will hold a Pre-Submission Video Conference on Wednesday, March 24, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. (CST) using the following login information:

Link: <https://jmaa-room.us/j/93452170791?pwd=U0ZlTXhNaUJwYkRvYnJlZDQ3aVhNdkU0Z09>
Meeting ID: 934 5217 0791
Passcode: 293050

By Telephone: 1-301-715-8592 (USA)

Attendance at the Pre-Submission Video Conference is mandatory for all those submitting Statement of Qualifications as a Prime Consultant for the Services.

After evaluation in accordance with the criteria set forth in the RFQ, JMAA will initiate negotiations with the Respondent marked first on the list. If such negotiations fail to produce an agreement, in form and content, satisfactory to JMAA, within a reasonable period of time, then JMAA may reject the first-ranked Respondent. In that event, JMAA will follow the same process with the other Respondents, in the order of their ranking, until a Respondent agrees to and enters into an agreement satisfactory to JMAA.

JMAA reserves the right to: (1) reject any and all Statement of Qualifications, for any reason, any time before execution of a contract with a Respondent selected by JMAA to perform the Services, and (2) waive any and all informalities and irregularities in the selection process.

JMAA has established a DBE contract goal of 30% for the Services solicited by this RFQ.

JACKSON MUNICIPAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY

DATE: 03/04/2021

Paul A. Brown
Paul A. Brown, Chief Executive Officer

3-11-2021, 3-18-2021

LEGAL

ADVERTISEMENT REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS AMI WATER METERS TWENTY-FOUR (24) MONTH TERM

The City of Jackson, Mississippi ("City of Jackson") is soliciting proposals for AMI Water Meters.

Proposals will be received at the Office of the Municipal Clerk or electronically until 3:30 P.M. CT, April 6, 2021, at which time proposal will be publicly opened at the City Hall located at 219 South President Street (City Council Chambers).

Copies of the request for proposals may be obtained from Carla Dazet, Water-Sewer Business Administration, 1000 Metrocenter, Suite 100, Jackson, Mississippi 39209 or through Central Bidding at their website, www.centralbidding.com. A copy of the request for proposals is also available for review through the Office of the Municipal Clerk.

The City of Jackson is committed to the principle of non-discrimination in public contracting. It is the policy of the City of Jackson to promote full and equal business opportunity for all persons doing business with the City. As a pre-condition to selection, each contractor, bidder or offeror shall submit a completed and signed Equal Business Opportunity (EBO) Plan, with the bid submission, in accordance with the provision of the City of Jackson's Equal Business Opportunity (EBO) Executive Order. Failure to comply with the City's EBO Executive Order shall disqualify a contractor, bidder, or offeror from being awarded an eligible contract. For more information on the City of Jackson's Equal Business Opportunity Program, please contact the Office of Economic Development at 601-960-1055. Copies of the Executive Order, EBO Plan Applications, and a copy of the program are available at 200 South President Street, Room 223, Hood Building, Jackson, Mississippi.

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

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

Sealed, signed proposals must be received no later than 3:30p.m. Central Standard Time, on April 6, 2021, whether submitted electronically or as physical copies. All proposals submitted as physical copies shall be submitted to the attention of:

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

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

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

The City reserves the right to reject any and all proposals. The City also reserves the right to waive any and all informalities with respect to any proposal submitted. Proposal awards will be made to the best proposer based on the evaluation criteria in the request for proposals.

For technical questions about this proposal contact Carla Dazet by telephone at (601) 960-2387 or by email at cgammill@jacksonms.gov.

Marlin King, Interim CAO

3-18-2021, 3-25-2021

LEGAL

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR A REZONING

ZONING CASE NO. 4117

By virtue of and pursuant to the authority and direction of that Ordinance by the City Council of Jackson, Mississippi, appearing in Minute Book 3G at page 115 thereof, notice is hereby given to all persons interested in or in any way affected thereby, that Midtown Partners/Midtown Development & Management has filed with the Planning Board for the City of Jackson, an application requesting a Rezoning from I-1 (Light) Industrial District and I-2 (Heavy) Industrial District to R-4 (Limited Multi-Family) Residential District to allow for residential housing development for property located at 1126 Mill St. (Parcel: 65-18), Parcel 65-17 on Mill St, Parcel 71-4 on Bell St, in the First Judicial District of Hinds County, Mississippi, and being more particularly described as:

1126 N. Mill St. (65-18)

LOT 2 & S 1/2 LOTS 3 4 & 5 & LOTS 24 25 26 & 27 BLK B SCHOOL SUBN

0 N. Mill St. (65-17)

1128-1130 Mill Street: 201-203 Taft Street: 205-207 Taft Street: Hinds 1st District: Parcel 65-17

Lot One (1) and the North Half of Lots 3, 4, and 5, Block B, School Subdivision, as shown by a plat of said subdivision of record in the Chancery Clerk's Office of Hinds County, 1st District, Mississippi.

0 E Bell St. (71-4)

Part of Lots 1 and 2, Dreyfus Subdivision, and part of Lots 55, 56 and 57 of Ben Whitfield Survey, according to the map or plat of said subdivisions of record in the office of the Chancery Clerk of Hinds County at Jackson, Mississippi and being more particularly described to wit:

Beginning at a point on the south line of Bell Street 239.8 feet measured Easterly along the South line of Bell Street from its intersection with the East line of Mill Street, as both streets are now laid out in the City of Jackson, Mississippi; run thence Easterly along the South line of Bell Street 258 feet to an iron stake; thence Southerly at right angles 84 feet to a point; thence Westerly at right angles 273.2 feet to a point; thence Northerly at right angles 84 feet to a point on the South line of Bell Street; thence Easterly 15.2 feet to the point of the beginning.

Said application will be heard at the City Planning Board Hearing in the Andrew Jackson Conference Room, First Floor, Warren A. Hood Building, 200 S. President Street in Jackson, Mississippi, at 1:30 p.m., on Wednesday, March 24, 2021, at which time all parties interested in or affected thereby will be heard both pro and con on said question, after which a record will be established upon which the City Planning Board can make its recommendation to the City Council of Jackson. Any objection thereto may be made by any person owning property within the area, and if made in writing must be filed with the City Zoning Administrator before said time if a hearing thereof or consideration thereof is desired, or by counsel on said date. If a request is made to the Zoning Administrator at least 72 hours in advance, the City will take steps to accommodate citizens need for interpreters or auxiliary aids for the visually/hearing impaired.

DUE TO COVID-19 AND THE CONCERN FOR THE PUBLIC HEALTH, SAFETY AND WELFARE, THE PLANNING BOARD MEMBERS AND THE APPLICANTS HAVE THE OPTION TO ATTEND THE MEETING VIA TELECONFERENCE/VIDEO OR IN PERSON WITH REGARDS TO THE WEARING OF MASKS AND THE SOCIAL DISTANCING REQUIREMENTS. MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC MAY ATTEND VIA TELECONFERENCE/VIDEO BY EMAILING EAINSWORTH@CITY.JACKSON.MS.US TO REGISTER PRIOR TO MARCH 17, 2021.

WITNESS my signature this 24th day of February 2021.

/s/Ester L. Ainsworth
Zoning Administrator
City of Jackson, Mississippi

3-4-2021, 3-18-2021

LEGAL

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR VARIANCES

ZONING CASE NO. 4119

By virtue of and pursuant to the authority and direction of that Ordinance by the City Council of Jackson, Mississippi, appearing in Minute Book 3G at page 115 thereof, notice is hereby given to all persons interested in or in any way affected thereby, that Dorsey Development, LLC has filed with the Planning Board for the City of Jackson, an application requesting Variances from the parking, landscape, and side/rear setback requirements for properties zoned C-2 (Limited) Commercial District to allow for the construction of a Dollar General Store for property located at 4580 Clinton Blvd. (Parcel: 639-301, 639-302 & 639-303), in the First Judicial District of Hinds County, Mississippi, and being more particularly described as:

A parcel or tract of land, containing 0.85 acres, more or less, lying and being situated in the SE ¼ of Section 25, T6N-R1W, Hinds County, Mississippi, being a part of the Warren Center, Ltd. property as described in Deed Book 3116 Page 546 of the Records of the Office of the Chancery Clerk of said Hinds County, Mississippi, and being more particularly described as follows:
COMMENCING at Station 142+00 on the centerline of survey of Interstate Highway No. 220 as described in Federal Aid Project No I-G-220-3(2)41; run thence North 78 degrees 11 minutes 32 seconds West for a distance of 180.00 feet to the POINT OF BEGINNING of the herein described property; thence

South 85 degrees 41 minutes 07 seconds West for a distance of 100.97 feet along the Northerly right-of-way line of the previously described Interstate Highway No. 220; thence

North 62 degrees 31 minutes 59 seconds West for a distance of 126.08 feet along the Northerly right-of-way line of the previously described Interstate Highway No. 220; thence

North 05 degrees 27 minutes 34 seconds West for a distance of 146.69 feet along the Easterly right-of-way line of Country Club Drive, previously known as White Rock Road, as described in Federal Aid Project No I-G-220-3(2)41; thence

Leaving the right-of-way line of Country Club Drive, run South 76 degrees 48 minutes 19 seconds East for a distance of 262.01 feet; thence

South 11 degrees 48 minutes 28 seconds West for a distance of 139.73 feet to the POINT OF BEGINNING

Said application will be heard at the City Planning Board Hearing in the Andrew Jackson Conference Room, First Floor, Warren A. Hood Building, 200 S. President Street in Jackson, Mississippi, at 1:30 p.m., on Wednesday, March 24, 2021, at which time all parties interested in or affected thereby will be heard both pro and con on said question, after which a record will be established upon which the City Planning Board can make its recommendation to the City Council of Jackson. Any objection thereto may be made by any person owning property within the area, and if made in writing must be filed with the City Zoning Administrator before said time if a hearing thereof or consideration thereof is desired, or by counsel on said date. If a request is made to the Zoning Administrator at least 72 hours in advance, the City will take steps to accommodate citizens need for interpreters or auxiliary aids for the visually/hearing impaired.

DUE TO COVID-19 AND THE CONCERN FOR THE PUBLIC HEALTH, SAFETY AND WELFARE, THE PLANNING BOARD MEMBERS AND THE APPLICANTS HAVE THE OPTION TO ATTEND THE MEETING VIA TELECONFERENCE/VIDEO OR IN PERSON WITH REGARDS TO THE WEARING OF MASKS AND THE SOCIAL DISTANCING REQUIREMENTS. MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC MAY ATTEND VIA TELECONFERENCE/VIDEO BY EMAILING EAINSWORTH@CITY.JACKSON.MS.US TO REGISTER PRIOR TO MARCH 17, 2021.

WITNESS my signature this 24th day of February 2021.

/s/Ester L. Ainsworth
Zoning Administrator
City of Jackson, Mississippi

3-4-2021, 3-18-2021

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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
26	27	28		29	30				
31			32				33		
34							35		
36							37		

- ACROSS
1. Winter sport
4. Uses
10. Speak softly
11. What you watch for a photo
12. Artist’s creation
13. Write in code
14. Paltry
16. Acid
17. El __ (Texas city)
18. CA city
20. Street (abbr.)
22. Reside
26. Tool
29. Rewrote
31. Milder
33. Vane direction
34. Being
35. Untalkative
36. Determines how heavy it is
37. Ocean
- DOWN
1. Terror
2. Asian nation
3. Tiny amounts
4. Cain killed him
5. Plastic
6. Circle part
7. Movie star
8. Caps
9. Germ
15. Distress call
19. Boxer Muhammad
21. What babies grow
23. Objects
24. Locus
25. Swelling
26. Some (2 wds.)
27. Citizen of Denmark
28. Baked pasta dish
30. Removes the water
32. Big truck

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Cryptogram

A cryptogram is a puzzle where a sentence is encoded by substituting the actual letters of the sentence with different letters. The challenge of the puzzle is to ‘decode’ the sentence to reveal the original English sentence. We have provided a few of the decoded letters to help get you started.

Hint: Quote by Nancy Reagan

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

T T Z M T K W O T L F T C L O V E T W K O
N T L O C L Z I O L T W M O F A T V O
T T Z M F R T V O R E Y R F J O G Z X F V A
R T V O R E

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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.

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

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Crossword Solution

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

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Cryptogram Solution

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

I T I S T R U E T H A T W H E N Y O U ’ R E
Z T Z M T K W O T L F T C L O V E T W K O
I N T H E W H I T E H O U S E A L O N E
Z V T L O C L Z I O L T W M O F A T V O
I T I S A L O N E L Y P L A C E . B I G A N D
Z T Z M F R T V O R E Y R F J O G Z X F V A
L O N E L Y
R T V O R E

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Sudoku Solution

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

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Week of March 14, 2020

Defense in ex-cop’s trial fears impact of \$27M settlement

By Steve Karnowski and Amy Forliti
Associated Press

An attorney for a former Minneapolis police officer charged in George Floyd’s death asked the judge Monday to delay the trial, saying the announcement of a \$27 million settlement for Floyd’s family could make a fair trial impossible.

Defense attorney Eric Nelson also raised the possibility of renewing his previously unsuccessful motion to move Derek Chauvin’s trial to another city.

“I am gravely concerned with the news that broke on Friday,” Nelson said, adding that the announcement “has incredible potential to taint the jury pool.”

Nelson also noted that Minnesota Attorney General Keith Ellison’s son Jeremiah sits on the City Council that unanimously approved the settlement, and questioned the timing, though he said he was not making accusations. Keith Ellison heads the prosecution team and often has been present in the courtroom.

During a break in jury selection, Keith Ellison stopped at Nelson’s table and said: “Is there anything else anyone would like to not accuse me of?” Nelson looked at Ellison but did not reply.

Mayor Jacob Frey deferred questions about the timing of the settlement to City Attorney Jim Rowader, who declined to comment. Representatives for both said they were following the judge’s guidance to not comment on the criminal proceedings.

Prosecutor Steve Schleicher said the state had no control over Frey and the City Council, who announced Friday that Minneapolis had agreed to the settlement that Floyd family attorney Ben Crump called the largest pretrial settlement ever for a civil rights claim.

Absent a delay or change of venue, Nelson urged Hennepin County District Judge Peter Cahill to consider giving both sides extra strikes to remove



Floyd

potential jurors for possible bias, and to recall the seven jurors seated last week to ask if the settlement affected their view of the case.

But Schleicher said those jurors already promised they could decide the case based only on evidence presented at trial and urged the court to “take a step back” and determine whether there’s an actual problem.

“You would agree it’s unfortunate, right?” Cahill asked.

“It’s certainly not my preference, your honor,” Schleicher replied, adding that it was unclear whether the settlement news would “cut” in favor of the prosecution or the defense.

“The problem is, it cuts,” Cahill said.

Cahill agreed to consider the request for a delay, but didn’t think it would be appropriate to grant additional strikes to either side. He said he likely would recall the seven previously seated jurors for further questioning though he already instructed members of the jury pool to avoid all news coverage of the case.

He previously denied a request to move the trial, saying coverage of Floyd’s death was so pervasive that moving the trial was “unlikely to cure the taint of potential prejudicial pretrial publicity.”

Attorneys must settle on 12 jurors to deliberate and two alternates. At least three weeks have been set aside for jury selection.

Floyd, a black man, was

declared dead May 25 after Chauvin, who is white, pressed his knee against his neck for eight minutes and forty-five seconds. Floyd’s death sparked sometimes violent protests in Minneapolis and beyond and led to a national reckoning on racial justice. Chauvin is charged with second-degree murder, third-degree murder and manslaughter.

The first potential juror questioned Monday was quickly dismissed after volunteering that she’d heard about the settlement and presumed it meant the city didn’t feel it would win the civil case.

“When I heard that, I almost gasped at the amount,” she said, adding that she couldn’t promise she could disregard it.

Potential jurors questioned later didn’t mention hearing of the settlement, and neither attorneys nor the judge directly asked if they were aware of it.

At least four potential jurors dismissed Monday said they couldn’t be impartial. One said he was “appalled” by the video of the arrest. Another said he was an educator who works with minority families and could not presume Chauvin’s innocence, while another said he feared for his family’s safety.

A fourth man who was dismissed seemed to know little to nothing about the case. When asked on his questionnaire to describe what he knew, he wrote about an entirely different scenario in which officers went to Floyd’s home and shot him after his girlfriend called

police.

Attorneys seated two jurors on Monday, a black man in his 30s who works in banking, coaches youth sports and does creative writing as a hobby and a white woman in her 50s who works as an executive assistant at a health care clinic and sells Pampered Chef as a side hobby.

The man said in his juror questionnaire that he had neutral impressions of Chauvin and Floyd, and didn’t believe Chauvin set out to murder anyone. He also wondered why other officers didn’t intervene.

“I don’t know if he was doing something wrong or not, but somebody died,” the man said. “Even if you have no intention of doing something and something happens, somebody could’ve still intervened and prevented that.”

The woman said she was “disturbed” by the bystander video showing Chauvin with his knee on Floyd’s neck, and couldn’t watch the whole thing.

She has a basic trust in police officers, though she recounted witnessing an incident last summer when four police officers responded to a call from a park after a woman yelled at an unarmed white boy. She felt the response was excessive and that police harassed the boy. When told to stay back, she said she felt she wasn’t “in any position to argue with an officer.”

She had a somewhat unfavorable view of Black Lives Matter, saying, “All lives matter to me ... we are all important in this world.”

The nine jurors selected so far include six men and three women. Five jurors are white, one is multiracial, two are black and one is Hispanic. They range in age from their 20s to their 50s.

The earliest opening statements would begin is March 29.

Three other former officers face an August trial on charges of aiding and abetting second-degree murder and manslaughter.

Boseman posthumously nominated for an Oscar



Boseman

By Jake Coyle
AP Film Writer

Half a year after his death, Chadwick Boseman was posthumously nominated for an Academy Award Monday for his final performance in “Ma Rainey’s Black Bottom.”

The nomination for best actor was widely expected but still historic. Boseman is the first black performer ever nominated posthumously for an Oscar. He was nominated alongside Steven Yeun (“Minari”), Riz Ahmed (“Sound of Metal”), Anthony Hopkins (“The Father”) and Gary Oldman (“Mank”).

Only seven actors have previously been nominated after their death: Jeanne Eagels, James Dean, Spencer Tracy, Peter Finch, Ralph Richardson, Massimo Troisi and Heath Ledger. Two ultimately won: Finch for his performance in 1976’s “Network” and Ledger for 2008’s “The Dark Knight.”

Many predict Boseman will also win for a performance that’s been called the best of his life. Last month, he also won

the Golden Globe for best actor in a drama. Boseman’s widow, Taylor Simone Ledward, accepted the award on his behalf.

Boseman died last August of colon cancer at age 43. Three months later, the August Wilson adaptation “Ma Rainey’s Black Bottom” was released by Netflix. Boseman plays Levee, the ambitious trumpeter whose dreams end tragically during a recording session with Ma Rainey (Viola Davis) at a white-owned record label.

Boseman also performed in Spike Lee’s “Da 5 Bloods” as a U.S. soldier in the Vietnam War – a performance that has also found awards attention. He was nominated posthumously by the Screen Actors Guild Awards for his performances in both “Ma Rainey’s Black Bottom” and his supporting turn in “Da 5 Bloods.”

After his death, none of Boseman’s collaborators on either film said they knew he was ailing. He was diagnosed with Stage 3 colon cancer in 2016.

It’s Boseman’s first Oscar nomination.

Trying to rewrite the January 6 coup attempt

By Bill Fletcher, Jr.
NNPA News Wire Columnist

There is something amazing going on in Republican Party circles. If I did not know better, I would assume that I was watching a television comedy. Segments of the Republican Party are attempting to tell us that the January 6 coup attempt did not actually happen. Instead, they argue, what we saw on television was allegedly orchestrated by Antifa and the Black Lives Matter movement.

There are certain noteworthy things about this argument, the most important being that it is not based on any facts. None. The second is that this line of argument started as soon as the coup attempt had ended. Right-wingers claimed that it was a so-called false flag operation that was conducted by the political Left in order to delegitimize the political Right. There are many problems with this line of thinking, the least being that many of the alleged perpetrators of the 1/6 coup attempt were avowed right-wingers who conducted this operation in the full view of video.

So, what is going on? Simply put, the pro-fascist elements in the Repub-



January 6 coup at Capitol in Washington, D.C.

COMMENTARY

lican Party are attempting to convince a critical mass of the public that what they saw...they did not really see. This is not even equivalent to a magician’s trick with the sleight of hand. They are going one step further and asserting that what all of us saw on television

or the web, for which many people have been arrested and charged, did not happen or, if it did, it was really conducted by the political Left.

It is important to note that both Antifa and the Black Lives Matter movement are networks, at best. There is no one organization called “Antifa,” for instance, and there are many orga-

nizations that operate under the banner of Black Lives Matter. Therefore, the right-wing assertions of an Antifa and BLM conspiracy would not make sense in the best of all possible worlds. But more importantly, there is no evidence to back up such assertions.

The pro-fascist element within the Republican Party is attempting sev-

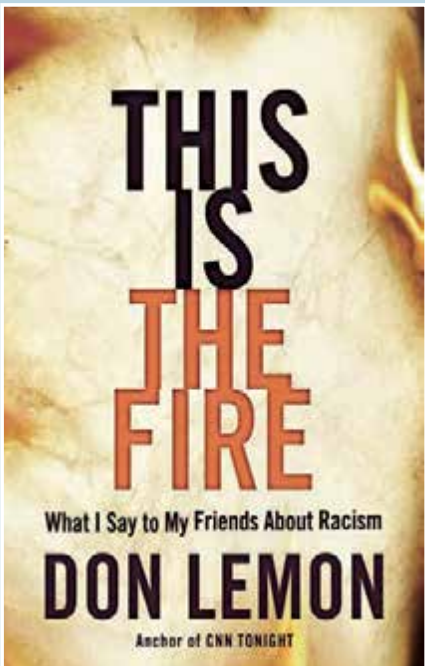
eral things at the same time. First, to lay the basis for further repression of anti-fascist and anti-racist forces. This is part of the motivation behind an increase in anti-terrorism legislation in various states when the government already has the authority to prosecute terrorists.

Second, the pro-fascist element in the Republican Party is trying to obscure both the reality of January 6 but also the antics of Trump. They are simply trying to deny that there was a coup attempt where people were injured and/or lost their lives.

There is a famous term for what the pro-fascist element is doing. It comes from an iconic film. The term is “gas lighting,” i.e., to lead people to believe that what they are actually experiencing or seeing is not really happening.

We cannot afford to ignore this. Precisely for these reasons, the fascists and their collaborators need to be prosecuted to the full extent of the law, thereby demonstrating the danger that they pose to any democratic political system. This is no comedy.

Bill Fletcher Jr. is a past president of TransAfrica Forum and a longtime trade unionist and writer.



BOOK REVIEW:

THIS IS THE FIRE:
WHAT I SAY TO MY FRIENDS ABOUT RACISM

BY DON LEMON

C.2021, LITTLE, BROWN

\$28.00 / \$35.00 CANADA • 224 PAGES

By Terri Schlichenmeyer
Columnist

This really makes your blood boil.

This. The racism gone amok, discrimination, the protests that don’t seem to work, nobody’s listening. You’re hot under the collar over it all, totally inflamed, ready for real action, and in “This Is the Fire” by Don Lemon, you’ll find some sometimes-warm, sometimes-scorching thoughts to sit with first.

Coincidentally or not, as a trial begins soon in Minnesota, this book opens with a poignant letter

from Lemon to his young nephew on the evening of George Floyd’s death. Lemon writes of the legacy he got from his parents, his grandmother, and his beloved older sister, and he tells his nephew that the boy is “old enough to know what’s going on...”

There’s been enough complacency: “Silence is no longer an option.”

Once was a time, though, when things were kept quiet.

“My life has been blessed...” says Lemon, “but let’s be real: I grew up gay and black in the South in the 1970s.”

Raised by an extended family of women, he heard stories of voter suppression, the denial of education, and too many hard times. Several years ago, Lemon went to Africa with his mother, to a fortress where slaves left that continent; he grew up in Louisiana and knew about the area’s dark past. He acknowledges that things have changed; that some things are “different this time,” but they’re still the same, whether you live in poverty you’ve been manipulated to be in, or you live in a well-to-do enclave and try to Shop While Black.

Racism, he points out, is so endemic that we don’t always see it sometimes, or know its entire history. We condemn White Supremacy without understanding how it ever existed in the first place, we march to “defund the police” but forget that many black families likewise fear a neighborhood without them.

“Racism... is a contagious as-sailant,” he says.

“Healing is you and me standing on the John Lewis Bridge. We can get there... if we’re willing to do the work.”

As today’s books go, “This is

the Fire” is pretty thin. It doesn’t look like much, but dive inside for ten minutes and you’ll see that it’s thick with hope.

And yet, one might argue that, despite that the words here are fresh and current, author and CNN Tonight anchor Don Lemon doesn’t tell readers much that’s new. George, Breonna, Jacob, Stephon, Sandra, their names are familiar, and absolutely no one has forgotten the last White House administration. Readers get a bit of biography and that delicious Lemon sense of wry humor, but what else?

Perspective.

Lemon’s thoughts are the kind that make you gasp. They’re I-never-saw-it-that-way avowals that leave room for self-education, reparation with wisdom, honest reflection, and fixing what’s so deeply and wrongly embedded in this country.

They demand that you think. Now.

And so, whether you’re up for a heated argument, a fiery debate, or just a warm talk with someone, this is the perfect time to read those words. “This is the Fire” will spark a discussion.



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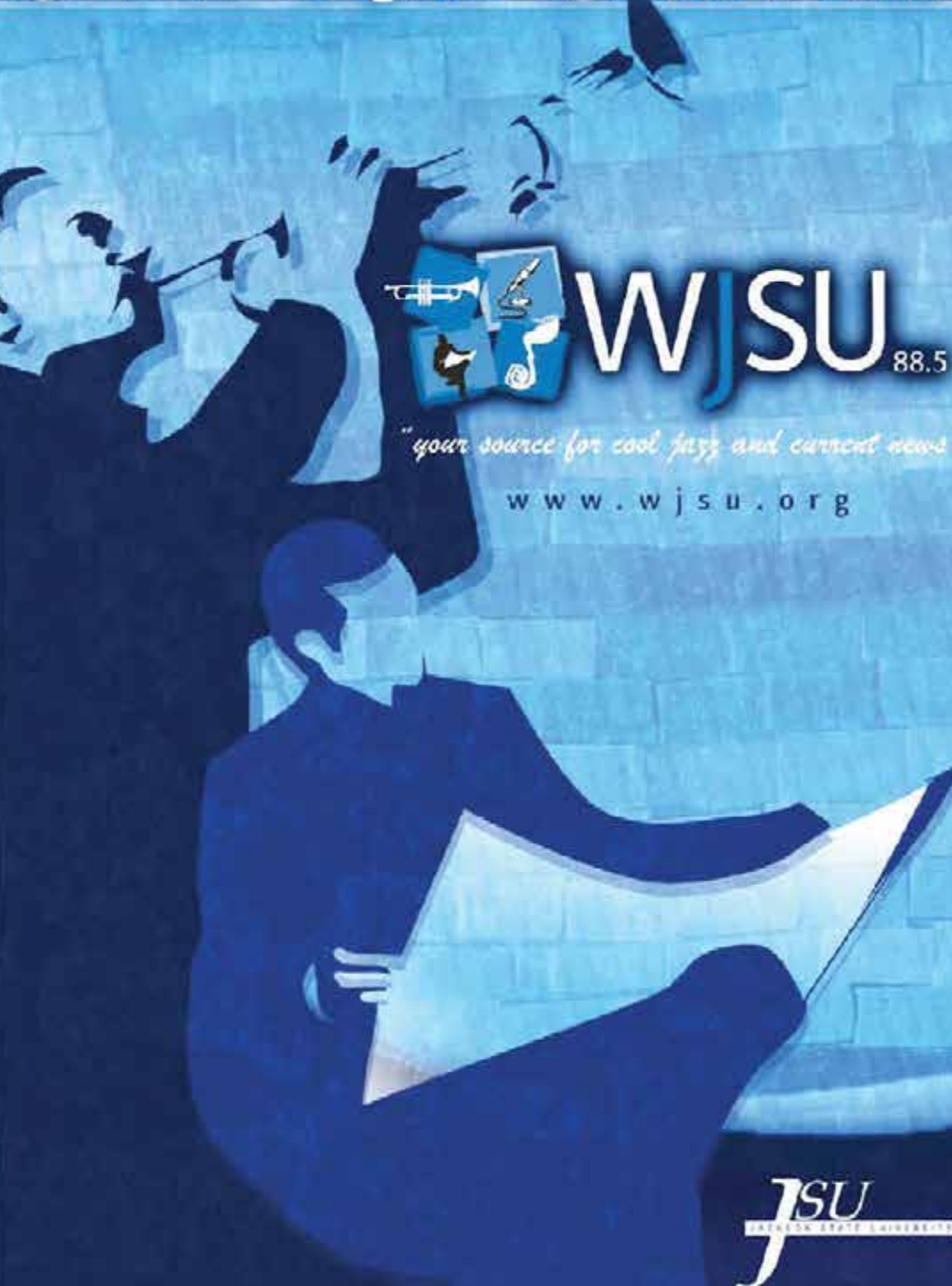
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Defeat Voter Suppression Get involved, stay involved

By Dr. John Warren
San Diego Voice and
Viewpoint/NNPA Member

By now all of America, and blacks in particular, are aware of the “Voter Suppression” legislation introduced in more than 28 states with more than 108 and legislative proposals introduced to restrict voter participation aimed at African Americans. These legislative proposals introduced and passed already in some states are the products of Republican-controlled state legislative bodies. *The New York Times* has already said that these efforts represent the worst attack on voter participation since Reconstruction and Jim Crow. Those measures led to the Voting Rights Act of 1965 which

was gutted in part by the U.S. Supreme Court in 2013. It appears that the call for action against these efforts is coming out of the State of Georgia, just as it gave us the two U.S. Senators needed to give control of the U.S. Senate to President Biden and Vice President Harris as the tie breaking vote in the senate. The answers appear, in part, to rest with the newly created “Black Voters Matter” campaign. This effort is placing pressure on some of the largest corporations in America to stop funding those members of the legislature backing these measures and to use their collective lobbying influence nationwide to withdraw support from those legislators who support voter suppression laws. The companies so far identified include: Coca Cola, UPS, Home Depot, just to name a

few, with others being added to the list. Black Voters Matter organizers believe that these and other Fortune 500 companies can force change by withholding financial support and lobbying against such laws. Black Voters Matter should spread across this country just as Black Lives Matter did. The idea is not one of calling for “boycotts” but rather the support of those who support voter inclusion and the passage of the John Lewis Voting Rights Act. The Black Press can play a major role in this movement by helping our communities know who are the legislative members supporting the proposed voter suppression laws. Many of these laws, as proposed in Georgia, would: limit voting to the hours of 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily; eliminate Sunday voting, reduce polling sites in black and communities of

color, reduce ballot collection boxes and require state voter identification cards, which many seniors would not be able to obtain since they don’t always have access to birth records. We the Black Press, who have told our story for 194 years, can once again tell the story of those who are proposing and support such legislation in each of the states in which we live and vote; we can encourage voter registration such as that which defeated Donald Trump in November 2020; and we can ensure by doing so that with the 2022 elections the Republicans, White Nationalists and the likes of those who stormed the U.S. Capitol January 6, 2021 are once again defeated at the ballot box. Let’s get involved if we are not already and let’s stay involved.

Black women, the backbone of the black church

By Rev. David Hart
Pastor, Sherman Ave. Church



The imagery is as ubiquitous as it is unflattering and tired. In fact, right now, somewhere, someone is watching a commercial, or television show, or movie, or viral comedy bit about the black church. And the black church in these vehicles always looks and feels the same – black folk packed into a tiny, worn church with more hand fans than air conditioning; a worship service led mostly by black women with big hats, thick frames, and thick southern accents, that literally ambles on for hours.

A clergy, almost always a man, stands in front of a congregation of which he is alternately dating and stealing money. He launches into a series of long-winded and unfocused, if not passionate mini-sermons, about money, while a melodic gospel choir and a pew raised on the call-and-response tradition back him up. We’ve all seen this characterization of the black church, or some variation of it. We rolled our eyes at the glib, trite attempts to pull punchlines out of the black church or even blackness itself. And we’ve all dismissed these characterizations because we know the black church. We grew up in it and around it. To us, it looks like the intersection of struggle and black excellence.

To us, it looks a whole lot like the poetic love letter Henry Louis Gates Jr. constructed in a documentary for PBS. It’s where we learned how to sing, or that we could sing. It’s where we learned how to give speeches and lead business meetings. It’s where we learned how to be patient, and assertive, and quiet, and kind, and compassionate. It’s where we learned that Jesus was black like us.

As an institution, the black church is the space in which we found a brief sanctuary from the ravages of slavery. It helped to secure living wages for us in urban centers at the turn of the 20th century. And it served as the headquarters for the Civil Rights Movement. So, while these characterizations, in essence, have amounted to an attack on the black church as an institution, we dismissed them. We dismissed them because they were mostly good-natured hyperbole and harmless.

However, in the last several decades, there have been attacks on the church that have been anything but harmless and good-natured. For years, the black church has been the target of attacks in this country. Factions of people – mostly White Supremacists – who understood the power and potential of the black church, have physically attacked it, stalked it and appeared to terrorize it. In fact, there have been over 100 physical attacks on black churches since 1956.

But, above these physical attacks on the black Church,

there have also been some coordinated metaphysical and theological ones as well. There is an abiding notion among conservative Christians that the black church inculcates a faulty gospel and theology, and only black people who subscribe to their theology are Christians. I actually had a colleague in my secular profession tell me this directly. We were discussing that he was an elder in the church he was attending. He volunteered that there are only a few blacks in his congregation, but that he liked and respected them because they chose not to “fall into the false teachings of the black church.”

My colleague is not alone. Many conservative Christians feel the same way. We all remember when conservative Christians pulled out the sermons of Rev. Jeremiah Wright in the “October surprise” attempt to derail President Obama’s bid to become president. And as Sen. Raphael Warnock ran for his senate seat in Georgia, conservative Christians combed through his sermons, found that he was preaching liberation to his congregation in a tumultuous time of racial unrest, and attempted to brand him as a “radical liberal pastor.”

While these attacks I’ve seen on the black church as an institution, the attacks represent something deeper and more troubling. They represent an attack on the very backbone of the black community itself – the black woman.

Let me explain. The institution of the black church, as troubling as it is for some and liberatory as it is for others, is in fact, a product of black women.

Black women have protected, sustained, and been responsible for the growth of the black church. When Bishop Richard Allen and Absalom Jones walked out of a racially segregated St. George’s Methodist Episcopal Church worship service, black women walked out with them. When a black congregation needed to procure a building for worship or needed a financial increase, black women sold chicken dinners and sweet potato pies to help provide capital.

When voices our community needed to speak truth to White Supremacy and oppression in this country, black women not only supported male preachers and men in the civil rights movement, but black women were there to speak and preach truth to power as well.

Black women have almost always comprised more than 70 percent of the active membership of black churches. Studies show that black women are the most among faithful, most fervent, most active, and offer the most dedicated prayers in black congregations.

So when there is an attack on the black church, it is an attack on black women.

Rev. David Hart is pastor of the Sherman Avenue Methodist Church in Madison, WI, an attorney and author.

My HBCU experience started in my neighborhood and on my street

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



Historically Black Colleges and Universities have always been academic cathedrals of learning, hope and inspiration. Long ago and years gone by, they created educational opportunities for people who look like me. They continue to provide the knowledge needed to compete today. The HBCU community is spread throughout the world. Alumni from these schools have achieved and excelled at a high level. I grew up in a North Carolina city that was surrounded by Historically Black Colleges and Universities. Within a short drive there were at least five of them. In a good way, I took them for granted. Growing up in Winston-Salem N.C., I could walk to Winston-Salem Teachers College, now Winston-Salem State University. On

my street lived Dr. Kenneth R. Williams, a former president of the school. And around the corner was Mr. Clarence “Big House” Gaines, his wife Mrs. Clara Gaines and their two children. I had a first-hand view of the legend of Coach Gaines before he was a legend. I would see players like Earl “The Pearl” Monroe, Richard Glover and Ted Blunt on a regular basis. I do not know at what point I began to realize these guys were star basketball players. Mrs. Gaines, who passed away recently, was my Latin teacher at Atkins High School. The HBCU mindset was embedded in me at an early age. Older guys on my street like Ray Joyner (Lincoln University of Pennsylvania), and James Arthur Price (North Carolina College now University) would come home during their breaks and talk about these schools. They were recruiting and did not know it. My teachers at Atkins High School were HBCU graduates. They often talked about their college experiences and how

they became teachers. We had HBCU ambassadors teaching us every day. These early times of having HBCU students in my neighborhood and HBCU alumni as teachers were fundamental in my developing a love for Historically Black Colleges and Universities. All of this was coupled with the fact that each year at the Memorial Coliseum, there was the CIAA (Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association) basketball tournament. The CIAA is the oldest African-American athletic conference in America. It was founded in 1912. As elementary and high school kids, we would go and have fun. If you have never attended a CIAA basketball tournament, you are missing out on a grand celebration of HBCU excellence. There is so much to do and see. I cannot describe it. You just have to go. The majority of HBCUs are in the South. The oldest HBCU is Cheney University of Pennsylvania founded in 1852. As I matured, I knew I would

attend a black college. There was never a question about it. I am a graduate of Johnson C. Smith University located in Charlotte N.C. It was founded in 1867. I have countless memories of my JCSU days and I hold them close to my heart. I was blessed to have attended Johnson C. Smith University. Historically Black Colleges and Universities continue to make history. Kamala Harris, a graduate of Howard University in Washington D.C., is the vice president of the United States of America. It is great that Chris Paul (basketball) and Deion Sanders (football) are using their platforms to talk about the importance of HBCUs. MacKenzie Scott, philanthropist has given away millions of dollars to our schools so that they can continue their missions. Our schools have endured the trials and the tough times. The light will never go out on Historically Black Colleges and Universities. Their importance to the world is too great.

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Hinds County School District Weekly Update

ENGAGING-EMPOWERING-ENSURING-EXCELLENCE

Hinds County School District Celebrates Read Across America during the Pandemic

Read Across America Day is a reading program that is observed across the country, state and district each year in March. It is a time to invite various civic leaders, business leaders, professional individuals, and celebrities as well to read and engage with our children to make reading a more fun and interactive experience.

Due to the pandemic, this year was more of a challenge for our schools due to new safety guidelines requiring social distance and face mask. However, we are very proud of the creative ways our teachers used to make this event a success. Reading activities included: zoom sessions, video presentations, online virtual lessons, reading pledges, character dress-up and virtual mystery reader guests just to name a few.

The HCSD wishes to express its heartfelt thanks to all of its readers and teachers for their creative ways of providing those resources and activities needed to keep our students motivated to read....We Salute You.

District Highlights

