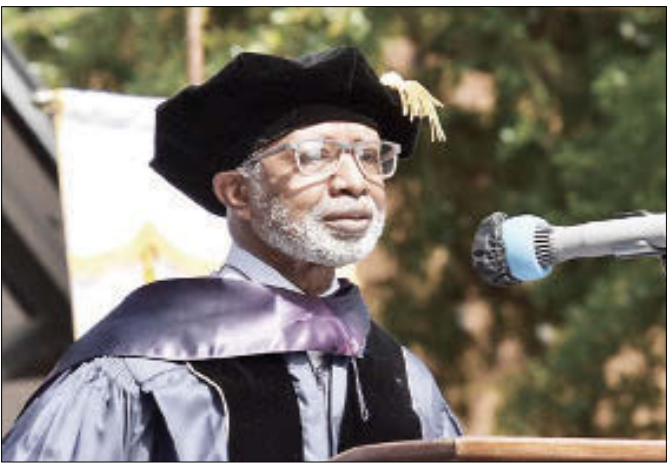


Sins of our past: Apologies for 1970 Jackson State shootings



Lumumba PHOTOS BY KEVIN BRADLEY



Frazier

By Emily Wagster Pettus
Associated Press

The mayor of Mississippi’s capital city and the state senator for District 27 both apologized Saturday for shootings 51 years ago by city and state police officers that killed two people and injured 12 others on the campus of a historically black college. Jackson Mayor, The Honorable Chokwe Antar Lumumba and Mississippi State Representative The Honorable Sen. Hillman Frazier

of Jackson spoke during the graduation ceremony for the Class of 1970 of what was then Jackson State College, now Jackson State University. Lumumba apologized on behalf of the city to the families of the two men whose lives were cut short by the violent police response to the protest against racial injustice. Killed were 21-year-old Jackson State student Phillip

JSU
Continued on page 3

Air Force Veteran Clarence Hopkins participates in peaceful protest over closing of dialysis unit at the V. A. Hospital

By Jackie Hampton
Publisher

On May 15, 2021 the dialysis unit at the GV Sonny Montgomery Hospital, located at 1500 West Woodrow Wilson in Jackson, MS, closed their out-patient unit, where Air Force Veteran Clarence Hopkins had been receiving treatment 3 times a week for over ten years. On Monday, he and a group of veterans and other supporters gathered outside the medical center in protest of the closure. Hopkins stated he, along with other veterans who had been receiving treatment at the hospital, received a letter March 15, 2021, stating the unit would be closed in 60 days and he would have to find a new facility for treatment. He said hearing this news was very disappointing and disheartening even though conversations had been floating for quite a while that this could happen. He found it hard to believe that veterans like himself, who had risked their lives in serving the country would be made to believe their lives did not matter. He said, “They are playing hard ball with our lives, just throwing us away.” Hopkins, who is 100% disabled, joined the military 56 years ago and was honorably discharged. He said that Monday when the unit officially closed down, there were 35 out-patients using the facility each week, of which 33 were black. Hopkins said he has sent letters of appeal to the Biden-Harris Administration, U.S. Mississippi Congressman Bennie Thompson and U.S. Mississippi Senator Cindy Hyde-Smith. Each he said acknowledged receipt of the letter stating they would look into the matter. He had also written a letter to Denis McDonough, secretary of the Veteran’s Administration, who has assigned him a case number and committed to getting back with him by May 27, 2021. Hopkins, who graduated from Jim Hill High School in 1965, was happy to see his classmate Kathy Harris Brown at the protest. Brown said, “I find it imperative to speak on behalf of my classmate and friend and I speak not only for myself but for many who graduated with us.” She went on to say, “I find it hard to believe that these veterans will be denied accessibility to the dialysis unit at our local V.A. Hospital. This leaves the veterans having to find other facilities in order to continue their life altering treatments, whereas the survival

Veterans
Continued on page 3



Myles, Hopkins, Brown PHOTOS BY VERA M. MYLES

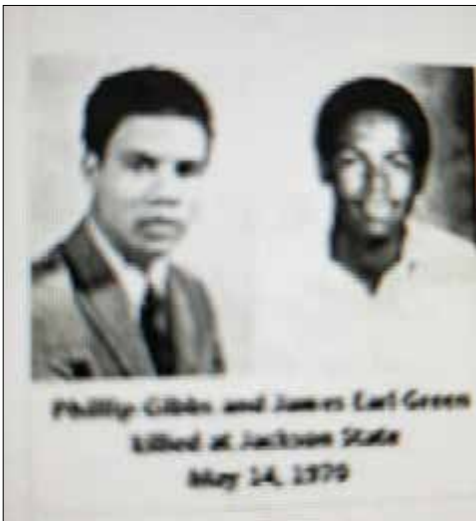


Terrilyn Hopkins, with Hopkins, her father

Derby, Baker and Slaughter-Harvey want social justice in JSU’s Gibbs-Green tragedy

By Janice K. Neal-Vincent, PH.D.
Contributing Writer

On Friday, May 14, the Margaret Walker Center at Jackson State University hosted via its Facebook page a virtual gallery talk of the May 1970 Gibbs-Green Tragedy. Featured was a collection of 60 photographs by Doris Derby, Ph.D., that have never been revealed within an exhibition. Following police shootings on May 14, Phillip Lafayette Gibbs, a 21-year-old junior political science major and James Earl Green, a 17-year-old Jim Hill High School senior who was walking home from work, were murdered. During the pandemonium twelve students were shot while flying debris, glass and brick injured dozens others. Because of the eruption campus was closed and commencement ceremonies for the class of 1970 were



Gibbs Green



Stewart

cancelled. The center’s archivist, Angela Stewart, opened the conversation with the historical context of the tragedy.

“The Class of 1970 has the opportunity this year to walk across the stage, to honor and cherish the painful memories of the JSU tragedy on May 14,



Spann PHOTOS BY JANICE NEAL VINCENT

1970,” she added. Following Stewart’s introductions, conversationalists were introduced. Moderator John Spann guided with

ease his conversation with Derby, attorney Constance Slaughter-Harvey, who sued the city and state as representative of the families in their civil lawsuit, and James Lap Baker (Miss. Health Planning administrator) who witnessed firsthand the Gibbs-Green tragedy. Derby soothed Spann’s curiosity regarding her motivation to take shots of the tragedy. Note what she said: “I learned African-American history in Harlem, New York, and I knew from my parents and siblings that we had to document what was happening in Mississippi. A lot of people didn’t see the trials and tribulations, nor did they know of the positive achievements.” Baker said Jackson State was their home and outside people were not going to dictate to them.

Gibbs-Green
Continued on page 3

A New Day Coalition for Equity for Black America

*Group of 150 clergy nationwide announces
'call to action' to address systemic issues*

Special to The Mississippi Link

Born from a spiritual vision to intentionally eradicate factors prohibiting fair and just access to affordable housing, quality healthcare, holistic education, economic development and equal justice for people of color, A New Day Coalition for Equity for Black America (ANCEBA) was formed. It is comprised of a group of dedicated clergy from around the country. It is led by its visionary, Hosea Hines, pastor of Christ Tabernacle Church of Jackson, MS and president of 100 Concerned Clergy for a Better Jackson.

The coalition has embraced a mission to harness the collective experience, influence and power of the black clergy to improve the lives of Black America. Numbering well over 150 clergy from twenty plus states, The coalition is also joined by healthcare, business, educational, legal, social service and other professionals to develop and implement a purposefully and systematic plan to accomplish its mission and realize its vision.

"God still gives us visions. I believe the vision of A New Day Coalition for Equity for Black America is God's way of uniting the faith-based



Rev. Hosea Hines

community and our civic leaders from across this nation to insure that people of color have access to a greater quality of life," says Hines. "Our pro black philosophy does not mean that we are anti-white. Our theme is "It's About Us, It's About We. It's Not About I

and Not About Me," and we have a mission to accomplish in our communities."

Hines stated that the coalition looked at the numbers and they are staggering but not insurmountable. He said, "For instance, the black imprisonment rate at the end of 2018 was nearly twice the rate among Hispanics and more than five times the rate among whites." He also said students of color are often concentrated in schools with fewer resources, i.e., schools with 90 percent or more students of color spend \$733 less per student per year than schools with 90 percent or more white students.

As a result of these and other facts, the coalition has identified five key areas of focus to include: (1) parity in economic development opportunities; (2) quality healthcare; (3) holistic education, (4) affordable housing and (5) equity in justice, without man made barriers.

Sam W. Hines, a renowned consultant on community and economic development remarks, "A robust economic development initiative has to be one of the heartbeats of the black community." He said the coalition has

emerged to address and provide leadership on initiatives in 43 America cities. These initiatives are all community-based and include black entrepreneurship, real estate development, financial services and job access and training programs."

Dr. Timothy Quinn, MD, of Jackson, MS, and Apostle Carl White Jr., senior pastor of Victory Christian International Ministries, jointly state that, "The coalition and the communities we serve will challenge and work with government officials, healthcare experts, major corporations and other professionals to increase access to quality healthcare in all aspects and increase empowering health literacy."

Glenda Glover, Ph.D., president of Tennessee State University, speaks to the need for equity in education for our community. She says, "Opportunity gaps continue to perpetuate disparities and cause limitations in providing equally deserving educational and developmental experiences necessary for children to be prepared to compete globally."

Sherita Tompkins, LMSW, DSW, instructor at Jackson State University, said, "The coalition is committed to a

holistic approach (school, home, spirituality, etc.) to addressing these systemic inequities. There is an urgency for change to echo equality in education for our community."

Bishop Simon Gordon, Sr., pastor of Tiedstone Baptist Church in Chicago, shares that the coalition is developing plans to address and reverse the housing and home ownership inequities at the federal, state, city and corporate levels.

One of the frequently asked questions during the Civil Rights Era was "If not now when?" The same question must be asked during this era of criminal justice and police reforms.

The killing of George Floyd has renewed this question as well as renewed calls to address police brutality, selective justice, racial inequities and impunity in all of America's criminal justice systems.

"The coalition is committed to developing and fighting for policy, procedural and practiced solutions to this age-old problem. We are committed to working with everyone from the beat patrol person to the judges," says Robert Moore United States Marshal ret. Illinois NAACP.



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Veterans

Continued from page 1

rate of the dialysis patients receiving dialysis at this facility is one of the highest in our country.” She continued, “As far as the closing of the VA dialysis unit, the veterans have filed an injunction which they hope to the closure of the unit overturned.

Verna Manning Myles, another classmate that took part in the protest, told *The Mississippi Link*, “My husband was killed in Viet Nam in 1969 fighting for this country and I am here today fighting for those that returned home, with issues.”

Even though Hopkins says he has not made the transition to another facility, Susan Varcie, public affairs officer at the VA, issued a statement saying: “The outpatient dialysis unit at the G.V. (Sonny) Montgomery VA Medical Center completed the transition of patients to community care dialysis centers last week.”

Hopkins said even though people think the unit is closed down they are keeping it open for emergency room patients only. When asked when his next treatment was due, Hopkins said it was due yesterday so he went to the ER at the VA and they gave him treatment but was advised that he would need to locate to another facility for future dialysis. “There are other facilities of which I have explored but they have from 130-150 out-patients with limited medical



Veterans Melvin Truitt (left) and Clarence Hopkins

staff to service that many,” said Hopkins. He said he’d been going to the VA since 2011 and now his plans are in limbo. “The VA will only accept me if I am really sick,” he said.

Varcie also in a written statement told *The Mississippi Link*: “Focusing on VA’s priority to provide high quality, safe health care to each patient, this decision was made after a thorough examination of our aging infrastructure and its limitations.”

Hopkins wanted to know if the infrastructure is aging, then why aren’t they closing down other parts of the hospital? He said, “It looks like discrimination to me and that our civil rights are being violated.”

JSU

Continued from page 1

Lafayette Gibbs and 17-year-old James Earl Green, a high school student who was on campus while walking home from work.

Jackson State’s 1970 commencement was canceled because of the bloodshed, and graduates that year received their diplomas in the mail, if at all. On Saturday, 74 of the 400-plus 1970 grads donned caps and gowns and stood in the sunshine to receive the recognition denied to them a lifetime ago.

“James Baldwin once wrote: ‘When we cannot tell the truth about our past, we become trapped in it,’” Lumumba said. “I believe, as a city, we must publicly atone for the sins of our past and proclaim a new identity of dignity, equity and justice.”

The May 15, 1970, shootings at Jackson State had largely been overshadowed by violence from days earlier, when Ohio National Guardsmen shot and killed four Kent State University students amid a Vietnam War protest.

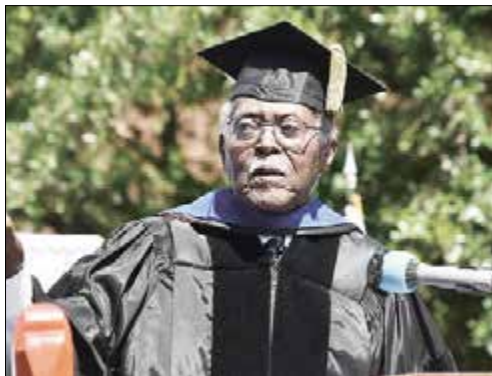
Lumumba and Frazier both represent a city now more than 80% black. Jackson was majority-white in 1970, and the Jackson Police Department and Mississippi Highway Patrol officers who went on campus were white.

Lumumba said the Jackson Police Department officers “unjustly gunned down two innocent young black men, terrorized and traumatized a community of black students and committed one of the gravest sins in our city’s history.”

Frazier was a Jackson State student in 1970. He said he had gone to dinner that night and was delayed in returning to campus. But he believes he might have been standing near his friend Gibbs during the gunfire, if not for that delay.

“The state of Mississippi never apologized for the tragedy that occurred on this campus that night – never apologized,” Frazier said. “So, since I’m here representing the state of Mississippi in my role as state senator, I’d like to issue an apology to the families, the Jackson State family, for the tragedy that occurred that night because they took very valuable lives.”

Officers marched onto Jackson State the night of May 14, 1970, to quell protests against racial injustice. According to a report by President Richard Nixon’s Commission on Campus Unrest, Jackson State students had been throwing rocks at white motorists. James “Lap” Baker, a member of the Class of 1970, told *The Associated Press* Wednesday that stu-



Peoples

dents were fed up with white people driving through campus shouting racial slurs, throwing bottles and endangering black pedestrians.

Students had gathered outside the Alexander Hall women’s dormitory and B.F. Roberts dining hall across the street some protesting, others simply enjoying each other’s company as women returned to the dorm before curfew.

After midnight that May 15, a Highway Patrol officer used a bullhorn to address students, Baker said. Someone in the crowd threw a bottle, and officers started shooting indiscriminately, later falsely claiming they had seen a sniper in a dorm window.

A Jackson TV reporter recorded 28 seconds of gunfire. When it had ended, Gibbs and Green were dead and 12 other people were bleeding. Windows of Alexander Hall shattered and its walls were left with pockmarks still visible today.

John A. Peoples Jr., who was Jackson State president from 1967 to 1984, said during Saturday’s ceremony that he remembers “the sickening smell of blood” streaming down the stairway of Alexander Hall after the shootings.

“We sat on that lawn the rest of the night singing freedom songs,” Peoples said.

Baker crawled through grass after the shootings to return unharmed to his off-campus apartment after what he calls a planned “massacre.” No officer ever faced criminal charges, and an all-white jury awarded no money to the black victims’ families in a civil lawsuit.

Jackson State on Saturday awarded posthumous honorary doctorate degrees to Gibbs and Green, and their sisters accepted those.

The graduation took place on the site of the once-busy street that was closed years ago and turned into a pedestrian zone named the Gibbs-Green Memorial Plaza.

See photos, page 15.

Gibbs-Green

Continued from page 1

“We were going through a lot with white motorists. This had been going on for years. They were dealing with a different group of students. We were intelligent, and we were not going to allow anyone to just do anything that they wanted to do [on] our campus. I believe that it was a planned massacre,” said Baker.

Slaughter-Harvey assessed the conversation and quipped, “This forum is painful to me. It makes me sad and it makes me mad. Back then [51 years ago] we didn’t have many marching with us. But with Black Lives Matter, we have many.”

Derby inserted that Gibbs’ family was out of town and that his funeral was in another area. Yet, out-of-state and in-state notables and residents attended the funeral and gravesite of Green. Many marched from the Masonic Temple on Lynch Street to his final resting place across from Jim Hill High School.

When Spann asked the panel if they attended Green’s funeral, there were different reactions.

“I know that most people were concerned about the parents of James Earl Green. Students at Jim Hill were at the forefront. A few adults were mostly in the background. I did not personally attend because I’m not into that,” Slaughter-Harvey stated.

“I had a scholarship to attend a university out of Mississippi. My mother begged me, ‘Please come home. [So I went home]. I’ve never been in a military war, and I’ve seen that on television.

“That’s what the May 15, 1970 tragedy was like,” added Baker.

Derby reflected: “There were so many people on the side of the street as well as in the street. It was a very long walk from the Masonic Temple to the burial site. Local people were there looking. All of that is being recorded in children’s minds, and white people don’t seem to understand that we know that. At the same time there are people working to make change, and we have to continue doing that.”

When Spann asked Baker how he



Slaughter-Harvey



Baker

would feel to walk across the stage, he said: “I’m happy to receive that diploma, but I’m just hoping that I don’t break down. When I walk, I can hear those students hollering. It was all about racism. That was not like what happened at Kent State.”

Harvey added, “What happened at JSU in 1970 must not happen this year or next year. Black folks, we need to come together to act and not react... We can make a change.”

The exhibition is at Johnson Hall at JSU and is free and open to the public. It is financially assisted by the National Endowment for the Humanities through the Mississippi Humanities Council.

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Hinds County Human Resource Agency Project Head Start is currently accepting applications for the 2021-2022 school year.



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- 4) **Child's Social Security number**
- 5) **Medical insurance of child** (if applicable)
- 6) **IEP or IFSP** (if applicable)
- 7) **Legal guardianship** (if applicable)
- 8) **Documentation of foster care** (if applicable)

For more information about Head Start, call (601) 923-3950. To apply, visit hchra.itfrontdesk.com or call HCHRA's 24-hour automated appointment line at (601) 962-5935.

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PHOTO OF THE WEEK



James “Lap” Baker, (right) a 1970 Jackson State College graduate, greets classmate Cecil Forbes Sr., in the Jackson State University bookstore, Thursday, May 13, 2021, in Jackson, Miss. The two men will be among about 70 graduates honored by the historically black university, Saturday, May 15, with an official graduation ceremony, 51 years after the school canceled its 1970 graduation ceremony after white law enforcement officers marched onto campus near the end of the spring semester and violently suppressed protests against racism with gunfire, killing two black people and wounding 12. AP PHOTO/ROGELIO V. SOLIS

C Spire outstanding player fan voting results

Mississippi Link Newswire

Mississippi State outfielder Tanner Allen, Jackson State guard Tristan Jarrett, Jackson State guard Dayzsha Rogan and Mississippi Valley State linebacker Jerry Garner were the top vote getters and winners of the fan voting segment for the 2021 C Spire Outstanding Player Awards, which annually honor Mississippi's top college baseball, football, men's and women's basketball players.

Fan voting results, which count for 10% of the total, were announced Monday afternoon after an email address validation process. The awards program was curtailed last year by co-sponsors C Spire and the Mississippi Sports Hall of Fame after a public health crisis caused some sports to be discontinued and others to be rescheduled due to health restrictions and concerns.

A total of 37,988 votes were cast for the 19 nominees from Magnolia State public colleges and universities via online voting during the six-day long fan voting period sponsored by C Spire and the MSHOF. Overall winners of the four awards will be announced on Monday, May 24 at noon during a special virtual program online at www.msfn.com. Veteran CBS NFL television analyst Charles Davis will be the special master of ceremonies.

Top-polling nominees and the votes they received for the C Spire Outstanding Players Awards in 2021:

- Football: Conerly Trophy (selected by the schools that played football last fall and this



spring): Mississippi Valley State University linebacker Jerry Garner 3,435 votes; Mississippi State cornerback Emmanuel Forbes with 3,061 votes, Jackson State wide receiver Daylen Baldwin, 2,148 votes; Southern Miss offensive lineman Arvin Fletcher, 1,929; Ole Miss wide receiver Elijah Moore, 1,663; Belhaven running back Brad Foley, 572; Millsaps defensive back Christian Roberts, 192 and Mississippi College running back Cole Fagan with 17 votes.

- Men's basketball: Howell Trophy (selected by statewide media) Jackson State guard Tristan Jarrett received 6,481 votes while Mississippi State guard D.J. Stewart Jr. got 2,772 votes and Ole Miss guard Devontae Shuler trailed with 1,446 votes.

- Women's basketball: Gillom Trophy (selected by statewide media) Jackson State guard Dayzsha Rogan edged out fellow teammate, center Ameshya Williams, with 3,591 votes to

3,158 votes. Ole Miss forward Shakira Austin garnered 2,170 votes.

- Baseball: Ferriss Trophy (selected by Major League Baseball professional scouts and coaches): Mississippi State outfielder Tanner Allen was the top vote getter with 2,612 votes followed by fellow teammate and pitcher Landon Sims with 903. A trio of Ole Miss players led by pitchers Doug Nikhazy (699 votes) and Gunnar Hoglund (573 votes) and outfielder Kevin Graham (566 votes) rounded out the baseball tally.

This is the ninth time in the award's 25-year history that fan voting has been allowed for the prestigious awards. "We have some of the most passionate college sports fans in the country and this gives them a way to have their voices heard in choosing Mississippi's best players," said Jim Richmond, vice president of Marketing for C Spire.

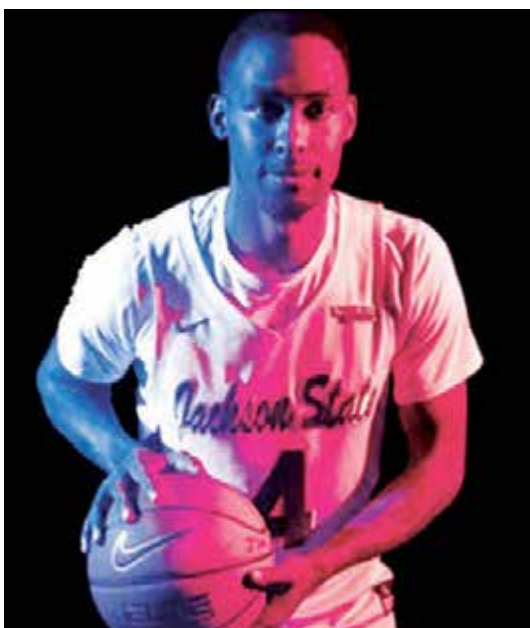
The awards are named after



Jerry Garner



Allen Tanner



Tristan Jarrett



Dayzsha Rogan

some Mississippi sports legends, including former college and NFL star Charlie Conerly, Boston Celtics basketball great Bailey Howell, Ole Miss' best

all-round women's basketball player Peggy Gillom-Granderson and long-time coach and former college and Major League Baseball star Dave

"Boo" Ferriss.

All four have had storied college and professional careers in football, baseball and basketball.

In Memoriam Martha Thompson Reed August 25, 1935 - May 15, 2021



Martha Thompson Reed, 85, of Taylorsville, MS entered this earthly life August 25, 1935 and entered her Heavenly home May 15, 2021.

Martha "Mot" Reed, daughter of Eran Thompson Saul, graduated from Smith County Training School and Jackson State College (1959), now Jackson State University. She achieved a master's degree from the University of Miami (1974) in Coral Gables, FL with further studies at the University of Southern Mississippi and Mississippi State University.

To pay for college, Reed became a licensed beautician, doing hair for family and friends.

At an early age, she united with Cherry Grove Missionary Baptist Church in Taylors-

ville, MS. Once the family settled in Jackson, MS in 1974, she connected with Mount Helm Baptist Church where she attended regularly until her health declined.


Reed was a public school teacher in Jasper and Newton Counties, Newton and Clinton Public Schools and at Florida A&M Research Development school. She closed out her teaching career at New Hope Christian School in Jackson. She was also a life member of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc., the Alpha Delta Zeta chapter.

On January 14, 1957, Martha Thompson married Walter Reed of Toomsba, MS. Into this union three children were born, Clifton, Walter and Kathy.

She is survived by her husband of 64 years, Dr. Walter Reed; sons Clifton Reed, Troy, AL and Walter A. (Jennifer) Reed, Columbia, SC and daughter Kathy (Otis) Taylor, Madison, MS; grandchildren Kahla Reed McCollum, Jackson, MS, Walter A. Clyburn Reed, Columbia, SC, Sydney Alexis Reed, Charleston, SC and Jared Allen Reed McCollum, Jackson, MS; great-grandchildren Waverly Grace and Weslea Rose; one aunt, Desi Harris, Starkville, MS and a host of in-laws, nieces, nephews, cousins, god-children and friends.

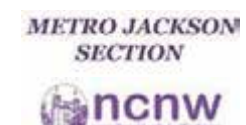
She was preceded in death by her mother, brother (Lorel Thompson), and sister (Johnnie Pearl Craig).

A walk-through visitation will be held Friday, May 21, 2021 from 4:30-6:30 p.m. at Lakeover Memorial Funeral Home, 1525 Beasley Rd., Jackson, MS 39206. Services will be held at 1 p.m. Saturday, May 22, 2021 at Mount Helm Baptist Church at 300 E. Church St, Jackson, MS 39202, with a public viewing from 12-1 p.m.



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Mississippi justices toss voter-backed marijuana initiative

By Emily Wagster Pettus
Associated Press

The Mississippi Supreme Court, May 14, overturned a medical marijuana initiative that voters approved last fall.

Six justices ruled that the medical marijuana initiative is void because the state's initiative process is outdated – a decision that could halt other citizen-led efforts to amend the state constitution. Three justices dissented.

The initiative process was added to the Mississippi Constitution in the 1990s as Section 273. It requires petitioners trying to get any initiative on the ballot to gather one-fifth of signatures from each congressional district. Mississippi had five congressional districts at the time that was written. But the state dropped to four districts after the 2000 Census, and language dealing with the initiative process was never updated.

“Whether with intent, by over-

sight, or for some other reason, the drafters of section 273(3) wrote a ballot-initiative process that cannot work in a world where Mississippi has fewer than five representatives in Congress,” Justice Josiah Coleman wrote for the majority in the ruling. “To work in today's reality, it will need amending – something that lies beyond the power of the Supreme Court.”

In a strongly worded dissent, Justice James Maxwell wrote that he believes the secretary of state correctly put Initiative 65 on the ballot. Maxwell wrote that the majority opinion “confidently and correctly points out” that the Supreme Court cannot amend the state constitution.

“Yet the majority does just that – stepping completely outside of Mississippi law – to employ an interpretation that not only amends but judicially kills Mississippi's citizen initiative process,” Maxwell wrote.

Mississippi voters in November approved Initiative 65, which required the state Health Department to establish a medical marijuana program by the middle of this year. The department has been working to create a program as the legal fight continued.

People also have started investing money in businesses related to medical marijuana in Mississippi. A cannabis cultivation supplier announced in April that it was leasing a warehouse in Jackson with plans to open this summer, WLBT-TV reported.

To get Initiative 65 on the statewide ballot, organizers gathered signatures from the five congressional districts that Mississippi used during the 1990s. They did that based on legal advice issued years ago by the state attorney general's office.

Madison Mayor Mary Hawkins Butler filed a lawsuit days before the election, contending that the state's initiative

process is outdated and that the signature-gathering requirement is mathematically impossible with four congressional districts. She opposed Initiative 65 because it limits a city's ability to regulate the location of medical marijuana businesses.

“Our case was about the constitutional separation of powers,” Butler said in a statement to The Associated Press. “The city is pleased that the Supreme Court followed the plain language of the Mississippi Constitution and recognized that, unfortunately, the current voter initiative process is broken.”

In papers filed Dec. 28 and in oral arguments before the state Supreme Court April 14, state attorneys said Mississippi has two sets of congressional districts – one set used for congressional elections and one set used for other purposes.

An attorney for Butler argued that the only purpose of a con-

gressional district is to have geographical boundaries for electing U.S. House members.

Chief Justice Michael Randolph said during the April 14 hearing that seven bills have been filed over the years to update Mississippi's initiative process to remove confusion about signatures coming from old or new congressional districts, and legislators have not made the change.

Legislative leaders have not said clearly why they have not updated the initiative process in the 20 years since Mississippi lost a congressional district. The problem with five districts versus four has existed first with Democrats in control at the Capitol and now, for many years, with Republicans in control.

People are gathering signatures for several other proposed initiatives, including one to authorize widespread early voting and another to expand Medicaid.

Justices did not mention two other ballot initiatives that Mississippi voters approved in 2011, after the state dropped from five congressional districts to four. Initiative 27 requires people to show government-issued photo identification before voting. Initiative 31 limits the use of eminent domain – the practice of governments from taking private property for other uses.

During the legislative session that ended in April, the Senate tried to create rules for a state medical marijuana program, but the House defeated the effort.

Republican Sen. Kevin Blackwell of DeSoto County said the proposal was a backstop to have a program in place in case the Supreme Court agrees with Butler and invalidates Initiative 65. But supporters of Initiative 65 balked at the Senate's proposal, saying they saw it as an attempt to usurp the will of the voters.

Johnny Cash receives Mississippi Country Music Trail marker

Mississippi Link Newswire

The Man in Black is now being honored on the Mississippi Country Music Trail.

A new marker dedicated May 14 memorializes a night Johnny Cash spent in the Oktibbeha County Jail.

In the early hours of May 11, 1965, Cash was arrested for public drunkenness after

he was found picking flowers at a private home after a show at Mississippi State University. He spent the night locked up, and that served as inspiration for his song, “Starkville City Jail.”

He performed the song for inmates at San Quentin Jail in 1969, and it was included on the album, “Live at San Quentin.”

“I'm so delighted that Mr. Cash did not realize it was the Oktibbeha County Jail,” Starkville Mayor Lynn Spruill said. “That wouldn't have been a good song. I'm delighted that he called it Starkville.”

Cash was symbolically pardoned for his arrest in Starkville in 2007 at the inaugural Johnny Cash Flower

Pickin' Festival, the *Commercial Dispatch* reported.

Spruill said the new marker highlights an experience that Cash believed was the beginning of his road to personal redemption.

Cash has sold 90 million records worldwide, including country, rock, blues, folk and gospel.

The marker is at the corner of Mississippi Highway 182 and Jackson Street in Starkville. It is the 35th marker on the Mississippi Country Music Trail.

Arkansas legislators recently voted to designate a “Johnny Cash Day” to honor the late entertainer, who was born in that state in 1932. Cash died in 2003 in Nashville, Tennessee.



Cash

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MAID SERVICES AVAILABLE

Hinds CC May 13 grads ready for the next step

The Mississippi Link Newswire

The Honors program at Hinds Community College's Raymond Campus was a perfect fit for Thomas Dylan Ware of Byram.

"It was great," he said of his experience at Hinds. "It was enjoyable. What made it enjoyable was the Honors program. I got to know people," he said.

Ware's next step is nursing school at Mississippi College. Ware graduated from Hinds on May 13.

He was among nearly 1,000 students who participated in one of the four ceremonies, including students eligible to participate in previous ceremonies cancelled because of the COVID-19 pandemic. In total, Hinds graduated 1,761 students.

Hinds Community College held three graduation ceremonies Thursday, May 13, at the Rankin Campus and a fourth ceremony Saturday, May 15, at the Utica Campus. All four ceremonies were for graduates only. Family and friends were able to view the ceremonies via livestreaming.



Thomas Dylan Ware of Byram graduated from Hinds Community College May 13. He is with his dad Bobby, left, and mom Leigh.



Hinds Community College employee Aletha Massey helps Shreya Surti of Vicksburg get ready for graduation. Surti graduated magna cum laude May 13. She plans to major in marketing at the University of Mississippi.



Meriah Parker of Byram decorated her mortar board with "Next step nursing school" in honor of her May 13 graduation from Hinds Community College. She will attend Hinds nursing school.



Kathryn Cole, left, dean of Enrollment Services, congratulates Jonathan Washington of Clinton, who graduated from Hinds Community College May 13. His next step is Mississippi State University for a communications major.



Linda Taylor, 64, of Jackson is retired and already had a bachelor's degree from Jackson State University. But she decided to use her military benefits and come back to Hinds Community College for an associate degree in child development technology. She graduated from Hinds Community College May 13. "It's something I always wanted to do," she said.

JPS announces promotion of senior administrators

The Mississippi Link Newswire

Jackson Public Schools announced a reorganization of its senior leadership with the addition of a deputy superintendent role to oversee academics – expanding and replacing the chief academic officer's role.

Michael Cormack Jr. will advance from chief of staff to serve as deputy superintendent.

William Merritt IV will transfer into the chief of staff's role from assistant superintendent of School Support.

These new appointments become effective July 1, 2021.

"We are thankful for the board's support of our continued reorganization efforts and approval of these two very talented leaders for critical roles in the district," said Superintendent Errick L. Greene. "Dr. Cormack has done an excellent job serving as our chief of staff, and I'm thankful for his willingness to expand his service to lead the academic teams. I'm equally excited to have Dr. William Merritt serving as our new chief of staff, ensuring that your superintendent remains focused on the goals of our strategic plan and delivering on its commitments."

As deputy superintendent, Cormack will continue developing and executing the district's five-year strategic plan, Excellence for All. He will direct and oversee the academic programs of the district to provide the highest quality instruction, curriculum and assessment for all scholars.

Merritt will take on responsibility for the planning, implementing and maintaining of district initiatives to ensure organizational effectiveness. Additionally, he will lead the district's focus on strategy related to recruitment, hiring, support and retention of talent at all levels.

The district hired Cormack in



Cormack

2019 to serve as chief of staff/transition manager where he managed a broad portfolio of support operations in JPS including public engagement, data & accountability, and human resources. Before his work in Jackson Public Schools, Cormack served as the chief executive officer of the Barksdale Reading Institute, a statewide organization dedicated to improving early literacy and teacher development outcomes in Mississippi.

A philosophy and political science major at Boston College, Cormack has multiple advanced degrees in education including master's degrees from Delta State University and Teachers College, Columbia University, and a doctorate in educational leadership and policy from Vanderbilt University. He was selected as a Fellow of the prestigious America Achieves Program, serves as board member of the Mississippi Alliance of Non-profits and Philanthropy, a board member for the Mississippi Children's Museum, and as a clinical assistant professor in education leadership at the University of Mississippi where he teaches qualitative research methods and ethical leadership in the hybrid Ed.D. program.

He is married to fellow educa-



Merritt

tor Krystal Cormack. The Cormack's three children are enrolled in JPS and attend Casey, Bailey APAC and JPS-Tougaloo Early College High School.

As assistant superintendent for school support, Merritt oversaw federal programs and school improvement efforts. His work was recognized by the National Association of Federal Administrators with the Mississippi State Leadership Award. He began his teaching career in JPS at Siwell Middle School and later taught fourth and fifth grades at Gallo-way Elementary School. He became a building administrator, serving as an effective instructional leader at Walton, Watkins and Lester Elementary Schools in a span of nearly three years. In 2011, Merritt became assistant superintendent of elementary education and served in that capacity for three more years.

Merritt holds a bachelor of arts degree from Grambling State University, a master of arts degree from Belhaven College, and a specialist degree in educational leadership from Mississippi College. He earned a doctorate in early childhood education from Jackson State University.

Merritt's son McKinley is a freshman scholar at Jim Hill High School.



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Fauci says pandemic exposed ‘undeniable effects of racism’

The Associated Press

The immunologist who leads the COVID-19 response in the United States said Sunday that “the undeniable effects of racism” have led to unacceptable health disparities that especially hurt African Americans, Hispanics and Native Americans during the pandemic.

“COVID-19 has shown a bright light on our own society’s failings,” Dr. Anthony Fauci said during a graduation ceremony for Emory University.

Speaking by webcast from Washington, Fauci told the graduates in Atlanta that many members of minority groups work in essential jobs where they might be exposed to the coronavirus. He also said they are more likely to become infected if exposed because of medical conditions such as hypertension, chronic lung disease, diabetes or obesity.

“Now, very few of these comorbidities have racial determinants,” Fauci said. “Almost all relate to the social determinants of health dating back to disadvantageous conditions that some people of color find themselves in from birth regarding the availability of an adequate diet, access to health care and the undeniable effects of racism in our society.”

Fauci said correcting societal wrongs will take a commitment of decades, and he urged the graduates to be part of the solution.

Fauci said that once society returns to “some form of normality,” people should not forget that infectious disease has disproportionately hospitalized and killed people of color.

Fauci on Sunday was awarded the Emory University president’s medal. Previous recipients include former President Jimmy Carter, the Dalai Lama and the late U.S. Rep. John Lewis, a civil rights icon. In accepting the award, Fauci denounced the destruction of division.

“Societal divisiveness is counterproductive in a pandemic,” Fauci said. “We must not be at odds with each other since the virus is the enemy, not each other.”

He praised the graduates for handling the profound disruption of the pandemic.

“Not since the influenza pandemic of 1918 has humanity faced a public health crisis of this magnitude,” he said. “Each of you deserves enormous respect for your extraordinary adaptability, resilience and dedication to learning, completing your studies and graduating despite immense difficulties and uncertainties.”

Dr. Anthony Fauci, director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, speaks during a Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions hearing to examine an update from Federal officials on efforts to combat COVID-19, Tuesday, May 11, 2021 on Capitol Hill in Washington. JIM LO SCALZO/POOL VIA AP

TIPS TO BE FIT

Is it cancer? What are the red flags?

By Vince Faust
Tips to Be Fit

During 2019 there were about 1,762,450 new cancer cases diagnosed and 606,880 cancer deaths in the United States. One in 3 people will be diagnosed with cancer in their lifetime. If you were one of those people that were told you had cancer much of your medical fate will depend on how advanced the malignancy was when it was diagnosed. Cancer can start anywhere in your body. It starts when your cells grow out of control and crowd out normal cells. This will make it hard for your body to work the way it should.

When cancer is diagnosed early before the abnormal cells multiply and spread, your odds of defeating the disease will improve greatly.

Cancer is not an easy disease to detect. Most times you don’t feel any pain and cancer mimics a lot of common noncancerous conditions. Most people ignore red flags that could help them get an early diagnosis.

For your best possible chance of beating cancer you should be alert for subtle symptoms. Here are 9 possible cancer symptoms that you should never over look:

1. Difficulty swallowing: You should be mindful if when you swallow you have an uncomfortable or painful experience of food getting stuck high in your esophagus or in the middle of your upper chest.

It may be cancer if you have this sensation most of the time you eat. A difficulty swallowing is common in people that have esophageal and stomach cancer. This may be a sign that a tumor is obstructing your esophagus or that inflammation and scarring have narrowed the opening. Inflammation can be a precursor to cancer. People sometimes adjust the way they eat to reduce the discomfort. Don’t adjust see your doctor.

2. Excessive bleeding, unexplained bruising: Leukemia can cause a shortage of blood platelets which help in the clotting of your blood, which can result in easy and excessive, bleeding and unexplained bruising. Normally if you get cut the



bleeding will stop after you apply direct pressure. It may be cancer if you have an unusual number of unexplained nosebleeds and develop unexplained bruises that are painful to your touch. These bruises are usually dark purple and can be the size of your fist. Any bleeding should take you to the doctor.

3. Exhaustion: We all get tired for any number of reasons. Extreme exhaustion is not normal. It may be cancer if the exhaustion is overwhelming and debilitating and it feels like the flu. We sometime see exhaustion as something related to depression. The key difference between depression and exhaustion and cancer and exhaustion is that the cancer patient has the will to be active but doesn’t have the physical ability to do anything. See your doctor when you have extreme exhaustion.

4. Fever and night sweats: Cancer can cause an unusual amount of chemical actions as your body ramps up your immune system to fight cancer. A fever is one of the indicators your body is fighting an illness. You may have cancer if you have a fever over 1000F or higher that comes and goes over a period of days and weeks. Cancer related fevers occur most often at night and are accompanied with drenching night sweats. If you have this combination see your doctor.

5. Lumps: If you get any new, firm or painless lump that grows in size or is bigger than the a penny you should go to the doctor. Breast, testicular, throat and melanoma cancers can cause lumps. Your immune system when it’s fighting cancer

may cause enlarged or swollen lymph nodes. For a normal infection your enlarged or swollen lymph nodes go back to normal in a few days. If they don’t return to normal size you may have cancer. See your doctor if you have swollen lymph nodes.

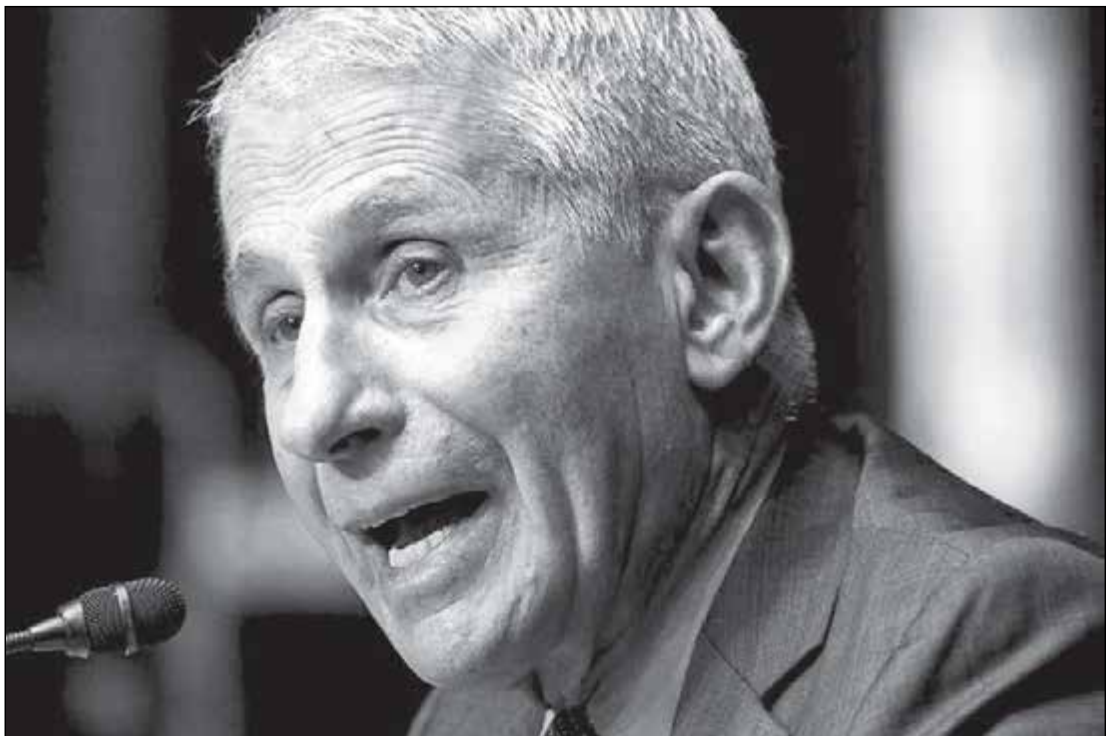
6. Persistent Cough: People that are smokers and those that are exposed to second and third hand smoke tend to have coughs. This cough can be related to cancers of your lungs, throat and esophagus. If you have a cough with or without breathlessness or blood that persists longer that a month may be a sign of cancer. See your doctor.

7. Skin Changes: Moles that are most prone to be cancerous are the types that are flat. Your doctor should look at any change in size or color of a mole. A sore that doesn’t heal can also be a sign of cancer. A normal small cut should heal in a few days.

8. Stumbles or falls: If you find yourself becoming clumsy it could be a sign of neurological problems. It could be caused by nerve damage from diabetes or multiple sclerosis. It can also be caused by a brain tumor. If your clumsiness is accompanied with confusion, difficulty concentrating and an inability to use your arms or legs you should see your doctor immediately.

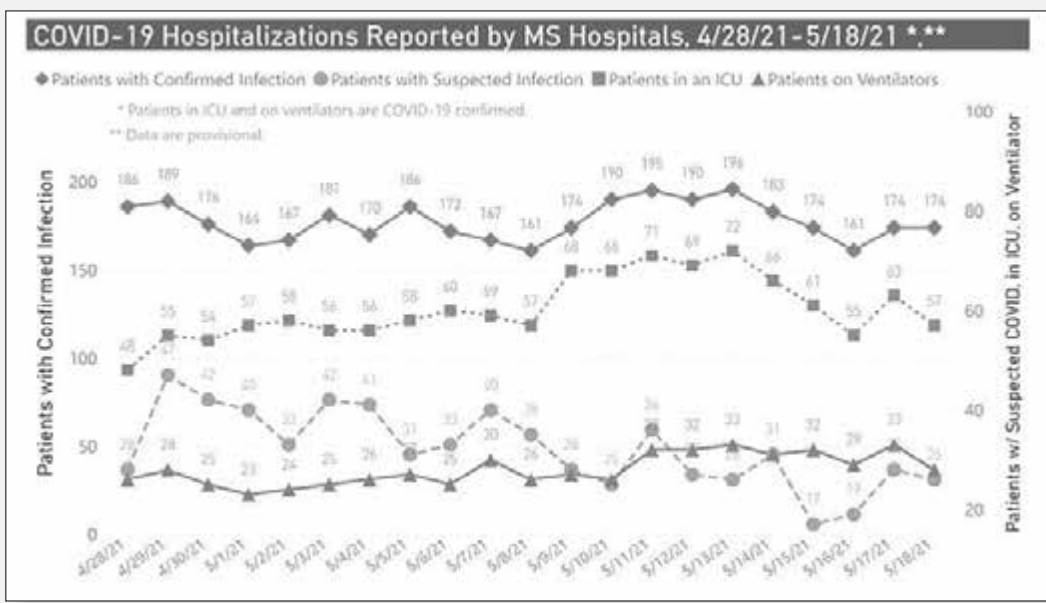
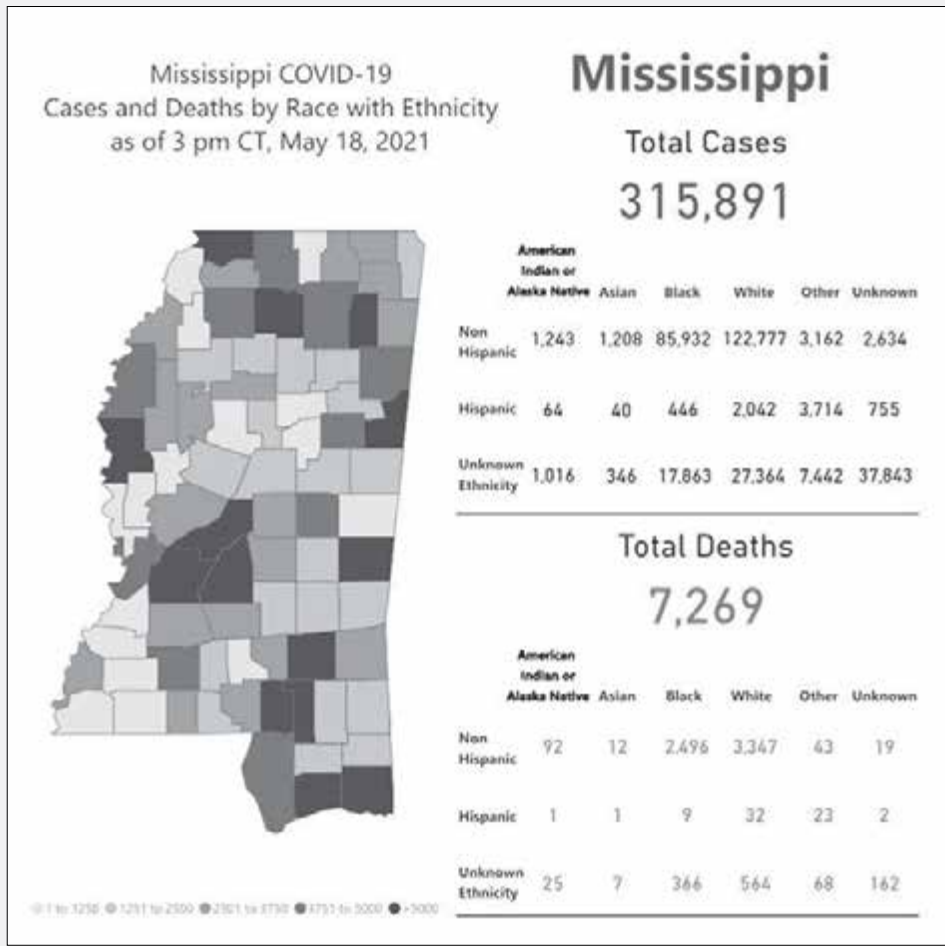
9. Unexplained weight loss: If you experience a weight loss of 10 lbs or more in a short period of time that is not the results planned workout program you should see your doctor. If you also have a loss of appetite see your doctor immediately.

You can fight cancer with a check up and a check.



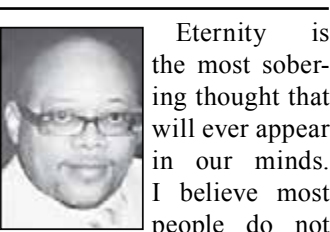
Dr. Anthony Fauci, director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, speaks during a Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions hearing to examine an update from Federal officials on efforts to combat COVID-19, Tuesday, May 11, 2021 on Capitol Hill in Washington. JIM LO SCALZO/POOL VIA AP

MISSISSIPPI COVID-19 UPDATE



Eternity, our greatest need in life

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



Eternity is the most sobering thought that will ever appear in our minds. I believe most people do not think about it; but if they do, they put the thought aside quickly. We should not play church. Worshipping and serving God should be serious to us. If we are not serious about this, we need to be serious about the subject of this message.

We are asked, "Where will we be a million years from now?" The most sobering thought that will ever enter our minds is, "Where will we

spend eternity?"

Serving God is the most important business of our lives. We read in Romans 13:11, "And that, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep: for now, is our salvation nearer than when we believed." We are down to the very end of time. We are saved to tell others what God has done for us. Paul said that it is high time to awake out of sleep.

We are living in a time of lethargy (drowsy, sluggish indifference, a state of unconsciousness resembling deep sleep). If we are not saved, we need to wake up, spiritually speaking. Many people are asleep spiritually. God said in Joel 2:1 to "sound an alarm

in my holy mountain." That alarm is being sounded to awaken people. My friends, it is high time to do something about our souls and to help the souls of those around us.

Are we truly awake spiritually? If we are unsaved, there is a good chance that we will be, it will keep lost eternally.

We need to realize that many trivial things have decided the destiny of many people in the Bible. Eve merely ate of the forbidden fruit. Esau sold his birthright for a mere bowl of soup. Those things were trivial things.

Zechariah 4:0 asks the question, "For who hath despised the day of small things?" If we have unforgiveness, hatred, disgust, or dislike toward

someone, it will keep us out of Heaven. There is not a person anywhere that we should not love. When we say that we love God, we do not love Him anymore than we love the brother or sister that we see.

Dear one, are we pleasing to God in our words and our actions? Will they cause us to miss our eternal home with Him? We have better be careful to bring our mind into subjection to God. We must watch what we say and guard our hearts.

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.

From the inside out

By Shewanda Riley
Columnist



"Wow mama! You and daddy have really hooked up the house." I spoke these words to my mama a few years ago as she gave me a "tour" of their newly remodeled master bedroom suite.

They'd been talking about knocking out one of the bedroom walls and making a large master bedroom suite for a few months. But I didn't think they'd really do it. After all, they had 4 daughters, 6 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. Where would we all stay when we came to visit?

I oohed and ahed walking into the much larger bedroom area complete with a walk-in closet and built-in his/her custom designed shoe box shelves, dual ceiling fans, wood trim, flat screen tv swiveling from the wall mount and a fire engine red chaise lounge. The room was just gorgeous and I was now happy they had it done. Even though it is just the two of them at the house, I also want them to be comfortable...and have as my mother says, "room for the wheelchairs" if and when they might need them when they got older.

As we stood in the doorway of the huge walk-in closet, I posed what I thought was a good question: "Now where will we (my 3 sisters and their kids/grandkids) stay when we come to visit?" My mama laughed and didn't blink when she responded, "There's the other bedroom, plus a sleeper sofa in the den and we'll make space for people even if they have to sleep on the floor in sleeping bags."

At the time, they'd lived there

for nearly 30 years and there is a new energy and excitement in the house. It was fun listening to my parents talk about curtain colors matching furniture for their new bedroom. The house was the same on the outside but had a new center of focus.

In the past, the "center" of the house was the kitchen, but now the focus was the lovely and very comfortable master bedroom; on the inside it was a new place. And all it took was one change on the inside.

One thing that we can do that can lead to inward change is to add a daily time of prayer. This will lead to a stronger and more intimate connection with God. Keep in mind that God doesn't require us to make big changes on the outside because he wants the small changes to come from the inside.

In addition, change from the inside out means that our conversation and words change. Luke 6:45 says, "A good man out of the good treasure of his heart brings forth good; For out of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaks."

2 Corinthians 4:16 points out that we shouldn't lose heart because "inwardly we are being renewed day by day." This inward renewal starts with us being willing to make small changes in our lives each day that bring us closer to God. As we are drawn closer to God, his purpose and direction for our lives become clearer.

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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The luster of the Grand Old Party is wearing off

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



Do you remember the song “The Thrill is Gone” by B.B. King? It was about a relationship gone sideways. The admiration and respect once bright had grown dull.

Well, I believe this tune applies to the Republican Party. The satisfaction of being a member of the GOP is now an embarrassment. There are many Republicans afraid to admit their party ties. They stay quiet and behind the scenes. Their voices are muted, and their attitudes have become sullied. They don’t say a mumbling word.

Their conscious is bothering them. They are baffled by the events unfolding before them. They know right from wrong and what is happening these days is past the threshold of wrong.

Some have taken a deep dive into the canal of contempt and

the reservoir of insurrection.

I am not a Republican, but I am old enough to remember when there was a viable two-party system. What we have now is the Democratic Party and the party of Trump and his chorus.

Months before she was let go from Republican leadership, Representative Liz Cheney was a harsh critic of the former president.

She saw what we saw. He was trying to dismantle American democracy and make something else unfamiliar to the people of this country. Cheney has been a constant crick in the neck of Mr. T.

The January 6 insurrection was clearly Trump-led. She called him out about it. The Republican Party did nothing to acknowledge the fact that Trump was the chief evil doer in this tragedy. Matter of fact, they just did not have the guts to do so.

The party of Lincoln and of Reagan has lost its will. They are being held political hostages by one man. He is Don-

ald Trump.

His power took another dark and twisted turn last week. Cheney was removed from her office as the Republican Conference chair. According to ABC News, she regrets voting for Mr. T in the 2020 election.

Further it is unclear as to whether she will remain a Republican if the former president is the nominee. Can you imagine if Mr. T is the choice they make?

If that be the case, my assessment is that the Republican Party will have gone mad. Take them to the political emergency room. Give them an IV of sense.

The Republican choice and new Trump minion, Representative Elise Stefanik of New York, was the choice to replace Cheney.

She said, “What does it say about the party choosing somebody to replace you, who was effectively chosen by Donald Trump and saying what he has been saying.”

What he has been saying is that the election was stolen.

Months later, he still cannot accept the fact he lost. He can count those votes a million times. He still lost.

The Republican Party is in a funk that they can’t figure out.

Do they trust one crazed sore loser, or do they keep to their founding principles? Does integrity mean anything to them? Those are the questions before the inquiry desk.

The buffoonery that is occurring within the GOP, in my opinion, is only going to get worse and more toxic. This tug of war is only just beginning.

Maybe these lyrics of an old song will bring them comfort.

“Isn’t it bliss? Don’t you approve? One who keeps tearing around, one who can’t move. Where are the clowns? There ought to be clowns?”

There are clowns and we know who they are and where they are.

Sadly, but factually, the Republican Party is now officially part of a circus. Their theatrics are on display for the world to see.

Women don’t get a break, especially black women



Atlanta Mayor Keisha Lance Bottoms

By Cheryl Smith
Publisher of I Messenger Media
Texas Metro News



I hope you’ve paid attention to the chatter following the “bombshell” announcement by Atlanta Mayor Keisha Lance Bottoms, who has decided not to seek another term this Fall.

Full disclosure. I have mad love for the mayor. On a number of fronts our lives parallel: roots in Crawfordville, GA; attended Florida A&M University; journalism majors; pledged the Beta Alpha Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority and, we are both mothers, but not by birth.

So, some may want to stop reading now because “Cheryl is going to be biased” and to those critics, I have two things to say: first if you think the majority of stuff you read and see does not have biases embedded within, well I say “chile please” and; secondly, the longer I live and the more I have to live with things like COVID, Trump, and self-haters who tear their people down, I say, “don’t come for me unless I send for you.”

In three words: I’m not apologizing. In another eight words, I’m sick of people tearing black women down. We’re too strong, weak, mean, angry, et al. I can’t go on because I get sicker with every adjective. Black women catch hell from all sides and angles and then the ones who should be the most supportive are the biggest damned critics, other women. No, let me call it like it is – other black women. Which brings me to my truth.

It was frustrating to hear and read comments as folks far and wide speculated about why Mayor Lance Bottoms would not seek another term. There was talk about President Biden, a large drugstore chain job, pursuit of another office, etc. Atlanta’s rising crime rate, jail issues, investigations of previous administrations, and more were fodder for those needing something to say. There was also talk of her being “tired, angry” and yes, “salty.”

In her video, the mayor talked about challenges and triumphs. She definitely had to face some situations that no one could have prepared her for because there’s no one else alive who has encountered a pandemic of the magnitude of COVID-19 and it is so disingenuous to hear people try to reason that COVID-19 is not having an impact on every-

thing.

It’s been challenging for leadership and I know folks have to have something to do, so they speculate. It makes them feel good inside. But haven’t you learned anything from the death of actor, humanitarian Chadwick Boseman. Da 5 Bloods co-star Clarke Peters, following Boseman’s death, said he recalled seeing his co-star being pampered on the set and thinking, “maybe the Black Panther thing went to his head.”

Peters said he regretted those thoughts, because at the time he didn’t know that Boseman had been battling colon cancer for the past four years. We don’t know Lance Bottom’s journey. What we do know is that she has some serious receipts and if you do the homework, her legacy is intact because she has served in numerous capacities throughout her lifetime and prayerfully she has many more decades to go.

Heck, if she wants to put her law degree to work to serve, joining the likes of Atty. Ben Crump; or if she wants to put that J-School degree to work, doors are open even right here at *Texas Metro News*; or if she wants to stay home with the children; teach at FAMU’s Law School or she can go back to the bench as a judge; assume a leadership post with Delta Sigma Theta; or, become a college, preferably HBCU, president; it’s her life, her journey.

Get yourself some business, because when your time is all said and done, will it have been spent talking about what others have done or will you have done something worth celebrating or sharing in history books?

Wow. Yes, I am here in Texas with enough issues of my own as I am sure I am going to be accosted by some unsuspecting person who comes for Fort Worth Mayoral Candidate Deborah Peoples as she faces a candidate in a runoff election where, if elected, she will become the Cowtown’s first black female mayor. Heck. first black mayor.

Unfortunately Peoples is dealing with some of the same hateration where folks just have something negative to say. I’m not saying don’t criticize. What I am saying is, “know what you are talking about.” Bring receipts or shut up.

If you want help living a life without regrets: you can begin by pledging to stop being so damned judgmental.

Mayor Keisha is living her life. Live yours.

Ted Cruz’s wildly dishonest defense of voter suppression

By Ben Jealous
People For the American Way



Sen. Ted Cruz is a shameless liar. And he isn’t even a very good one. Witness his latest dishonest defense of Georgia’s new voter suppression law.

Cruz published a column in the *Wall Street Journal* attacking business leaders who have criticized the anti-voting law. He claimed that critics were hurting the reputations of “patriotic leaders protecting our elections and expanding the right to vote.”

Expanding the right to vote? As I said, he is shameless.

First, let’s remember where this new law came from. Georgia Republicans pushed it through after President Joe Biden and Sens. Raphael Warnock and Jon Ossoff won their elections. The law has one purpose: to prevent future victories by Democrats by making it harder for particular groups of people – black people, working people, women, people with disabilities, and younger and older people – to vote.

The first draft of the law made this racist intention clear by banning early voting on Sundays, when many black churches encourage people to vote through Souls to the Polls events.

The racism behind that piece of the law was so obvious that even Republicans had to water



Cruz

it down in the final bill. But we will not forget what motivated it, or that the rest of the law is designed to achieve the same purpose.

In his column, Cruz mentioned a few pieces of the law to try to make it sound reasonable. But it isn’t. It includes new limits on early voting hours, big reductions in the amount of time people have to request an absentee ballot, and sharp decreases in the availability of drop boxes that make it easier for voters to turn in their ballots.

My friend Stacey Abrams, the voting-rights activist who knows the system in Georgia better than anyone else, schooled Cruz and his Republican colleague, Sen. John Kennedy, when they tried to challenge her criticism of the law. She identified such a long list of problems with the law that Kennedy finally asked her to stop.

The problem goes way beyond

Georgia. Similar laws have been passed in Florida and Arizona and other states controlled by Republicans are getting ready to pass laws that purge eligible voters off registration lists and put up other roadblocks to the ballot box.

In his op ed, Cruz issued a threat to business leaders who have dared to speak out in defense of voting rights. He suggested that Republicans would stop helping them out on taxes or regulations.

But that was just more distraction. In fact, the Center for Media and Democracy recently exposed the real truth. The American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC), a group that helps big business and right-wing groups get their policies passed into laws at the state level, has been pushing legislators to pass voter suppression bills so they can keep corporation-friendly Republicans in power.

These laws are attacks on voting rights and democracy, just like the Jim Crow laws that some states used to keep black people from registering and voting. And they are designed to prevent passage of progressive policies like raising the minimum wage and expanding access to health care.

We must respond as a nation to protect the right to vote. The U.S. House of Representatives has already passed the For the People Act, which includes vot-

ing rights protections that would overrule the states’ new attacks on voting.

And guess what? Cruz is telling shameless lies about the For the People Act. He claimed that Democrats “want illegal aliens and non-citizens to be automatically registered to vote.” Not true. He even said this voting rights law would be “Jim Crow 2.0.” Really, Ted? That’s a stretch even for you.

Cruz is not the only Republican calling good evil and evil good when it comes to voter suppression. Other members of Congress, state Republican leaders and right-wing media are all trying to hang onto political power by denying other people the right to earn it at the ballot box.

Democrats can’t let them get away with it. We can’t let them get away with it.

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

LEGAL

PUBLIC NOTICE			
COVID-19 RESPONSE FUND (0371)			
	Adopted Budget for 2020-2021	Proposed Amendments	Amended Revised Budget 2020-2021
EXPENDITURES			
Supplies & Materials	-		
Other Services & Charges	681,845	2,000,000	2,681,845
Debt Services		-	
Grants, Contributions	-	-	
Transfers and Other Functions		-	
Capital Outlay			
Total	\$ 681,845	\$ 2,000,000	\$ 2,681,845
General Fund appropriated money to cover expenses incurred due to emergencies caused by Covid.			
The City Council approved this order 4-0 at a Special City Council Meeting on 4/27/2021.			
5-20-2021, 5-27-2021			

LEGAL

Electronic Bidding
Advertisement for Bids

Bid 3190 General Improvements at McLeod Elementary School

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 Prevailing Time) June 16, 2021 at which time and place they will be publicly opened and read aloud. A Pre-Bid Conference concerning this project will be held at 1616 Sandalwood Place, Jackson, MS 39211 on Friday, May 21, 2021 at 02:00 P.M. Attendance at the pre-bid conference 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 www.jpdsdm-projects.com. A \$250.00 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 Kali Blakeney at M3A Architects, Phone: 601-981-1227, or Email: kblakeney@m3aarch.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.

5-20-2021, 5-27-2021

LEGAL

Electronic Bidding
Advertisement for Bids

Bid 3191 Campus Renovation for Chastain Middle School

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 Prevailing Time) June 17, 2021 at which time and place they will be publicly opened and read aloud. A Pre-Bid Conference concerning this project will be held at 4650 Manhattan Rd, Jackson, MS 39206 on Wednesday, May 26, 2021 at 2:00 P.M. Attendance at the pre-bid conference 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 www.jpdsdm-projects.com. A \$250.00 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 Nick Jackson at M3A Architects, Phone: 601-981-1227, or Email: njackson@m3aarch.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.

5-20-2021, 5-27-2021

LEGAL

NOTICE OF INVITATION TO BID ON CITY-OWNED PROPERTY

CITY OF JACKSON

Notice is hereby given that sealed bids will be received by the City Clerk of the City of Jackson, Mississippi before 3:30 p.m. on Tuesday, June 8th, 2021, for the purchase of certain City-owned property: 0.114 acres of parcel 507-276, located on Old Canton Rd in Jackson, Mississippi. Bidding for the property will start at \$750.00. The City will retain all mineral rights it owns, together with the right of ingress and egress to remove same from said property. For additional information or for a "bid form", contact Vic Sexton at (601) 960 1055 or e-mail vsexton@city.jackson.ms.us.

BID INSTRUCTIONS: All bids must be placed in a sealed envelope and delivered to the City Clerk of the City of Jackson (located in City Hall at 219 S. President St. Jackson, Mississippi 39201). The outside of the envelope must be plainly marked to identify the parcel number being bid on along with the bidder's name. Enclose one (1) original and one (1) copy of the bid. Bids will be opened on Tuesday, June 8th, 2021, at 3:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall, 219 South President Street, Jackson, Mississippi. The City reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

CITY OF JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI

5-20-2021, 5-27-2021, 6-3-2021

LEGAL

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR A SPECIAL EXCEPTION

ZONING CASE NO. 4127

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 Joseph & Shelby Gray has filed with the Planning Board for the City of Jackson, an application requesting a Special Exception to operate a one chair beauty salon within a R-1 (Single-Family) Residential District on property located at 540 Warrior Trail (Parcel 50-197) in the First Judicial District of Hinds County, Mississippi, and being more particularly described as:

Lot 10, Block J, Cherokee Heights Subdivision, a Subdivision according to a map of Plat thereof which is on file and record in the office of the Chancery Clerk of Hinds County, at Jackson Mississippi, in Plat Book 3 at Page 48, 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, May 26, 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 WITH REGARDS TO THE WEARING OF MASKS AND THE SOCIAL DISTANCING REQUIREMENTS OR VIA TELECONFERENCE/VIDEO. MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC MAY ATTEND VIA TELECONFERENCE/VIDEO BY EMAILING EAINSWORTH@CITY.JACKSON.MS.US TO REGISTER PRIOR TO may 19, 2021.

WITNESS my signature this 29th day of April 2021.

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

5-6-2021, 5-20-2021

LEGAL

Information Regarding the 2021 Municipal General Election

Election Dates

- Municipal General Election June 8, 2021

Absentee Voting

- Absentee voting for the June 8, 2021 Municipal General Election will start on Monday, May 10th thru June 4th, 2021, from 8:00 a.m.- 5:00 p.m. The last day to vote by absentee ballot is Saturday, June 5, 2021 at 12:00 (noon). To accommodate the absentee voting process, The Department of Municipal Clerk will be open on Saturday, May 29, 2021 between the hours of 8:00 a.m. until 12:00 (noon), and on Saturday, June 5, 2021 between the hours of 8:00 a.m. until 12:00 (noon).

5-20-2021, 5-27-2021

LEGAL

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR A USE PERMIT

ZONING CASE NO. 4128

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 Offtop Autoplex, LLC has filed with the Planning Board for the City of Jackson, an application requesting a Use Permit to allow for the operation of a used car lot in a C-3 (General) Commercial District for the property located at 5502 North State St. (Parcel 500-1082) in the First Judicial District of Hinds County, Mississippi, and being more particularly described as:

A PARCEL OF LAND LYING AND BEING SITUATED IN SECTION 11, TOWNSHIP 6 NORTH, RANGE 1 EAST, HINDS COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI, AND BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:

COMMENCING AT THE POINT OF INTERSECTION OF THE EASTERLY RIGHT OF WAY OF NORTH STATE STREET (OLD US HIGHWAY 51) WITH THE SOUTHERLY RIGHT OF WAY CULLEY DRIVE, AS BOTH ARE PRESENTLY LAID OUT AND IN USE (APRIL 30, 1969); RUN THENCE SOUTHERLY 850.7 FEET ALONG THE EASTERLY RIGHT OF WAY OF NORTH STATE STREET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING; TURN THENCE LEFT 90 DEGREES 00 MINUTES AND RUN EASTERLY 170 FEET TO WESTERN BOUNDARY OF NORTH MEADOWS SUBDIVISION; TURN THENCE RIGHT 90 DEGREES 00 MINUTES AND RUN SOUTHERLY ALONG SAID BOUNDARY 160 FEET; TURN THENCE RIGHT 90 DEGREES 00 MINUTES AND RUN WESTERLY 170 FEET TO A POINT ON THE EASTERLY RIGHT OF WAY OF NORTH STATE STREET; TURN THENCE RIGHT 90 DEGREES 00 MINUTES AND RUN NORTHERLY 160 FEET ALONG THE EASTERLY RIGHT OF WAY OF NORTH STATE STREET 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, May 26, 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 WITH REGARDS TO THE WEARING OF MASKS AND THE SOCIAL DISTANCING REQUIREMENTS OR VIA TELECONFERENCE/VIDEO. MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC MAY ATTEND VIA TELECONFERENCE/VIDEO BY EMAILING EAINSWORTH@CITY.JACKSON.MS.US TO REGISTER PRIOR TO may 19, 2021.

WITNESS my signature this 29th day of April 2021.

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

5-6-2021, 5-20-2021

U-RENTAL
Van Company



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



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

LEGAL

Advertisement for RFP

RFP 2021-13 Vocabulary Solution for Kindergarten and 1st thru 12th Grades

RFP 2021-14 Lead Partner for Praxis Support

Electronic and sealed rfp proposals for the above rfp will be received by the Board of Trustees of the Jackson Public School District, in the Business Office, 662 South President Street, Jackson, Mississippi, until 10:00 A.M. (Local Prevailing Time), June 08, 2021 at which time and place they will be publicly opened and read aloud. The Board of Trustees reserves the right to reject any and all rfps, to waive informalities, and to withhold the acceptance of any rfp if approved for forty-five calendar days from the date rfps are opened.

Proposal forms and detailed specifications may be obtained free of charge by emailing mishelton@jackson.k12.ms.us, calling (601) 960-8799, or documents may be picked up at the above address or downloaded from JPS website at www.jackson.k12.ms.us.

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 JPSPD Board Room, 621 South State Street, Jackson, MS 39201.

5-13-2021, 5-20-2021

LEGAL

Advertisement for RFP

RFP 2021-15 Biometric Scanner and Software Program

Electronic and sealed rfp proposals for the above rfp will be received by the Board of Trustees of the Jackson Public School District, in the Business Office, 662 South President Street, Jackson, Mississippi, until 10:00 A.M. (Local Prevailing Time), June 09, 2021 at which time and place they will be publicly opened and read aloud. The Board of Trustees reserves the right to reject any and all rfps, to waive informalities, and to withhold the acceptance of any rfp if approved for forty-five calendar days from the date rfps are opened.

Proposal forms and detailed specifications may be obtained free of charge by emailing mishelton@jackson.k12.ms.us, calling (601) 960-8799, or documents may be picked up at the above address or downloaded from JPS website at www.jackson.k12.ms.us.

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 JPSPD Board Room, 621 South State Street, Jackson, MS 39201.

5-13-2021, 5-20-2021

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, JUNE 9, 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. OLD BUSINESS

- Case No. HPNC-21-21, requested by: Jennifer Welch to install a door on the east rear elevation, install 2 sets of stairs at the rear elevation, install doors on detached structure as indicated in the elevation drawings, install a parking area to hold 4 vehicles, and install a fence at 834s Madison St. located in the Belhaven Heights Historical District.

B. NEW BUSINESS

- Case No. HPNC-21-23, requested by: Bryce Davis to replace rotten windows with wood windows at 938 Euclid Ave. located in the Belhaven Historical District.
- Case No. HPNC-21-24, requested by: Jeff Seabold to replace the front door with a new door and add a future storm glass door at 1320 St. Ann St. located in the Belhaven Historical District.
- Case No. HPNC-21-25 (Historic Preservation Violation), requested by: Jeff Seabold to remove three windows and fill the locations with hardi plank for the house at 1039 Manship St. located in the Belhaven Historical District.

II. OTHER ITEMS

- 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 JUNE 2, 2021.

5-20-2021, 5-27-2021

LEGAL

Advertisement for RFP

Re-Bid RFP 2021-03 JPS Seeks a Pool of College/University Partners to Provide Teacher Certification Program Support and an English as a Second Language (ELS) Endorsement

Electronic and sealed rfp proposals for the above rfp will be received by the Board of Trustees of the Jackson Public School District, in the Business Office, 662 South President Street, Jackson, Mississippi, until 10:00 A.M. (Local Prevailing Time), June 04, 2021 at which time and place they will be publicly opened and read aloud. The Board of Trustees reserves the right to reject any and all rfps, to waive informalities, and to withhold the acceptance of any rfp if approved for forty-five calendar days from the date rfps are opened.

Proposal forms and detailed specifications may be obtained free of charge by emailing Bettie Jones at bjones@jackson.k12.ms.us or calling (601) 960-8799, or documents may be picked up at the above address or downloaded from JPS website at www.jackson.k12.ms.us.

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 JPSPD Board Room, 621 South State Street, Jackson, MS 39201.

5-13-2021, 5-20-2021

LEGAL

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING AND COMMENT PERIOD DURING WATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT

NOTICE is hereby given that the City of Jackson, Mississippi will host a public hearing to be held in the Andrew Jackson Conference Room of the Hood Building, 200 South President Street, Jackson, Mississippi 39201 at 10:00 AM on Friday, June 18, 2021. The Public Hearing will provide information on its Facilities Plan for the proposed Water Distribution System Improvement Projects at O.B. Curtis Water Treatment Plant and J.H. Fewell Water Treatment Plant. The City will be seeking low interest Drinking Water System Improvement Revolving Loan Fund (DWSIRLF) assistance for Fiscal Year 2021. The impact of the project will be improving customer satisfaction and safe, reliable service delivery of drinking water. Adverse impacts on historical, archaeological, or cultural areas are not expected, which is certified in the response letter from the Mississippi Department of Archives and History. The letter from Fish and Wildlife Service specified that the proposed project does not contain suitable habitat for species protected under the ESA. The project is necessary to ensure the City of Jackson consistently and reliably provide drinking water to its customers. The total cost of the loan is currently estimated at approximately \$ 27,953,300, which is being sought through the DWSIRLF low-interest loan program. The water distribution system improvement project is eligible for participation under the State of Mississippi low-interest DWSIRLF loan program.

The Public Hearing will present a description of the recommended project, estimated costs, as well as the estimated cost per household impact for customers for the eligible loan. The typical residential customer bill for drinking water is expected to increase by no more than 1%, assuming that low-interest loans can be obtained through the DWSIRLF loan program. The purpose of the hearing is not only to inform but also to seek and gather input from people that will be affected. Comments and viewpoints from the public are encouraged.

The City of Jackson will begin a public comment period on May 13, 2021. The comment period will allow citizens to review the proposed Water Distribution Improvement Projects Facilities Plan and offer additional comments.

A copy of the Water Distribution System Improvements Facilities Plan is available by email request to Mauricka Mckenzie, PE at admin@cornerstoneengllc.com. Written comments, suggestions, and questions may be submitted to Mauricka Mckenzie, PE at admin@cornerstoneengllc.com until June 13, 2021.

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

5-13-2021, 5-20-2021, 5-26-2021, 6-3-2021, 6-10-2021

HUGE 1-DAY PUBLIC AUCTION

Wednesday, May 26th
Auction Starts at 9:00am
 1042 Holland Ave • Philadelphia, Mississippi
 NO MINIMUMS NO RESERVES

Selling Dump Trucks, Truck Tractors, Specialty Trucks, Trailers, Farm Tractors, All types of Construction Equipment including Dozers, Hydraulic Excavators, Motor Graders, Motor Scrapers, Rubber-tired Loaders, Loader Backhoes, Skid Steer Loaders, Trenchers, Cranes, Forklifts, Pickups, Vehicles, RTVs, Mowers, Attachments, Misc. & 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

Employment Ad

Hinds County Economic Development Authority (HCEDA) Board of Trustees seeks a full-time Executive Director to oversee the day-to-day operations of HCEDA, including the management, utilization and conservation of its financial, human and physical resources, under the authority and supervision of the HCEDA Board of Trustees.

Minimum qualifications include a bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university in business administration, economic or community development, urban & regional planning, engineering, or a related field, along with a minimum of five (5) years' experience in economic or community development, urban & regional planning, or a closely-related profession and with a proven track record of successfully locating new capital investments.

Advanced degree(s) and CECD designation and/or EDFP certification is preferred.

Salary will be based upon experience.

Applications must be received by June 10, 2021.

For additional details regarding this role as well as information on how to apply, visit <https://selecthinds.com/careers>

4-29-2021, 5-6-2021, 5-13-2021, 5-20-2021, 5-27-2021, 6-3-2021, 6-10-2021

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.

1984 Chev C10 1GCDC14H5EF367690
 Registered to: Hendley Scott
 Kar King Co., Inc., Lien Holder
 Date of Sale: June 4, 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.

5-20-2021, 5-27-2021

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.

2004 Honda Acc 1HGCM56384A015038
 Registered to: Gwendolyn Jones
 Deuce McAllister Niss. Jxn, LLC., Lien Holder
 Date of Sale: June 4, 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.

5-20-2021, 5-27-2021

LEGAL

Public Notice City of Jackson

In preparation for the June 8, 2021 General Election in the City of Jackson, MS, the officials in charge of the election will test all voting machines to ensure that each machine will correctly count all votes cast for all offices and in a manner that the Secretary of State may prescribe by rule or regulation. All machines will be cleared, tested and set for the election.

The logic and accuracy (L & A) testing are open to the public and will be conducted in the Hinds County Election Office located at 701 S. Commerce St. Jackson, MS beginning at 9:00 a.m. on Thursday, May 27, 2021 and will be conducted from day to day until all machines have been tested.

5-20-2021

COVID-19 is still an issue...

WE HAVE THE SOLUTIONS



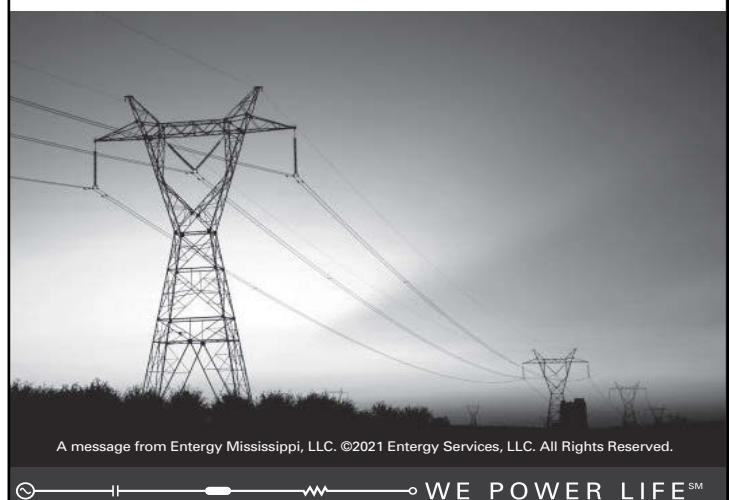
www.SGECovidSolutions.com

We work to provide opportunities for Mississippi.



At Entergy Mississippi, we work hard to make sure local suppliers and contractors are aware of potential opportunities to work with us, which helps grow the economies of the communities we serve.

If you are a Mississippi supplier or contractor that performs work related to construction extension and/or repair of electric facilities and would like to learn about training and bid opportunities, visit entergymississippi.com/hiremississippi or call 844-387-9675.



A message from Entergy Mississippi, LLC. ©2021 Entergy Services, LLC. All Rights Reserved.

WE POWER LIFE

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. Hertz
4. Mugful
10. Spirits
11. Discomfort
12. Unrefined metal
13. African country
14. Functional
16. Lacuna
17. South American nation
18. Disc jockey (abbr.)
20. Physician
22. Loosen
26. Artist’s creation
29. Peacekeepers
31. Relating to spring
33. Inclined
34. Fools
35. Mr.
36. Juju
37. State

DOWN

1. Infant illness
2. Pucker
3. Daub
4. Helix
5. Single
6. Pod vegetable
7. Tooth
8. U.S. Department of Agriculture
9. Jump
15. Insect
19. Hebrew
21. Greek philosopher
23. Collect
24. Burnt sienna
25. Portal
26. Tel __ (Israel’s capital)
27. Do it again
28. Triad
30. As well as
32. Affirmative gesture

© Feature Exchange

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 Phyllis Diller

ABCDEFGHIJKLMN OPQRSTUVWXYZ
J ZNMCK MZ J LHRGK QOJQ ZKQZ
K GKR XQOMBY ZORJMYOO

© Feature Exchange

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.

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

© Feature Exchange

Crossword Solution

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

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Cryptogram Solution

ABCDEFGHIJKLMN OPQRSTUVWXYZ
JULAKDYO MFWC NBSIVRZ OHGETXP

A SMILE IS A CURVE THAT SETS
J ZNMCK MZ J LHRGK QOJQ ZKQZ
EVERYTHING STRAIGHT
K GKR XQOMBY ZORJMYOO

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Sudoku Solution

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

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DOLLAR GENERAL

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DOLLAR GENERAL

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CANTON

A & I

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B & B

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HAMLIN FLORAL DESIGN

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Week of May 16, 2021

Rudy Giuliani's two decade fall from America's mayor to MAGA supporting criminal suspect

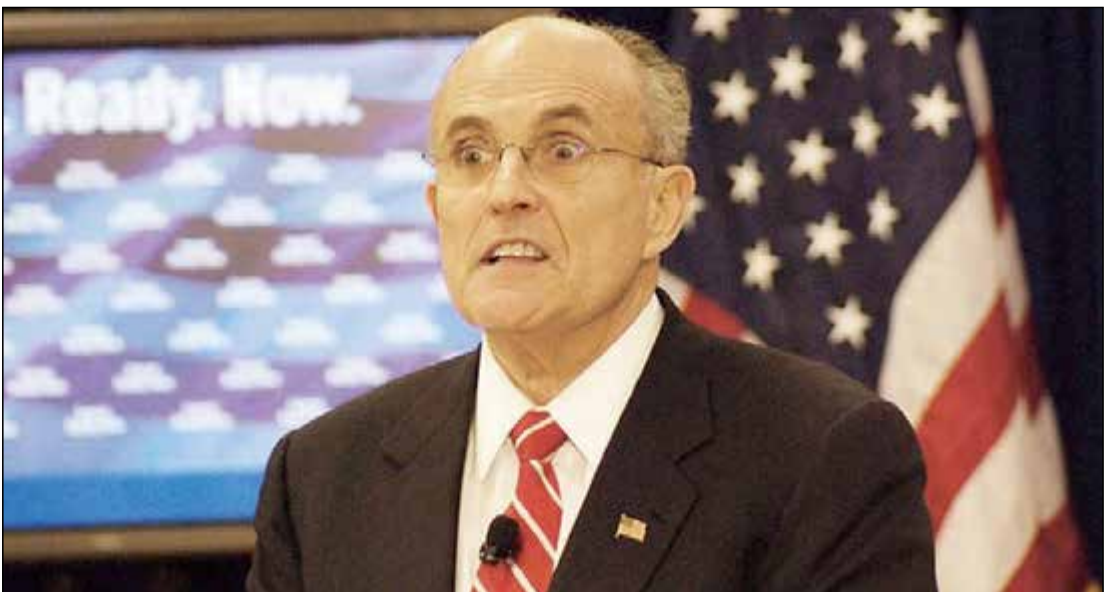
By Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Newswire Senior National Correspondent



Twenty years ago, Rudy Giuliani wore the crown of America's Mayor. He was the face of America's resolve after the September 11, 2001 terror attacks that devastated the nation and jump-started a war in Afghanistan that's finally winding down with American troops pulling out this year on the anniversary of the wicked acts masterminded by Osama bin Laden.

Today, Giuliani is the subject of an investigation that suggests he has betrayed the very country that two decades ago held him in high regard.

Federal agents executed a war-



Giuliani Photo: Marc Nozell from Merrimack, New Hampshire, USA | Wikimedia Commons

rant to search Giuliani's New York home. While authorities declined to comment, it is believed

that the warrants were served to dig up more information on the ex-New York mayor's alleged en-

gagement in foreign lobbying for officials in Ukraine. It is also widely held that the

investigation also targets Giuliani's actions as the attorney for former President Donald Trump.

According to departmental guidelines, CNN reported that a search warrant for a lawyer like Giuliani would require sign-off by the highest levels of the Department of Justice, likely by Deputy Attorney General Lisa Monaco.

CNN noted that in 2019, two Giuliani associates, Lev Parnas and Igor Fruman, were indicted on campaign finance charges stemming from an alleged straw donor scheme.

The report alleged that Parnas and Fruman met with Giuliani, helping introduce him to Ukrainian officials. They have pleaded not guilty.

Giuliani, who is as much entrenched with the so-called MAGA movement, faces other

legal exposure for his role in the 2020 election.

The election technology company Dominion sued Giuliani in January for defamation "after he spread baseless conspiracy theories about election fraud on his podcast and during TV appearances," CNN reported.

In the lawsuit, the company focused on how Giuliani continued to claim without evidence that Dominion aided election fraud even after he received a cease-and-desist letter.

Excerpt:

Federal agents executed a search warrant Giuliani's New York home. While authorities declined to comment, it is believed that the warrants were served to dig up more information on the ex-New York mayor's alleged engagement in foreign lobbying for officials in Ukraine.

Kid reporter who interviewed President Obama dies at 23



Weaver

The Associated Press

The student reporter who gained national acclaim when he interviewed President Barack Obama at the White House in 2009 has died of natural causes, this family says.

Damon Weaver was 23 when he died May 1, his sister, Candace Hardy, told the *Palm Beach Post*. Further details were not released. He had been studying communications at Albany State University in Georgia.

Weaver was 11 when he interviewed Obama for 10 minutes in the Diplomatic Room Aug. 13, 2009, asking questions that

focused primarily on education. He covered school lunches, bullying, conflict resolution and how to succeed.

Weaver then asked Obama to be his "homeboy," saying then-Vice President Joe Biden had already accepted.

"Absolutely," a smiling Obama said, shaking the boy's hand.

He used that meeting to later interview Oprah Winfrey and athletes like Dwyane Wade.

"He was just a nice person, genuine, very intelligent," Hardy said. "Very outspoken, outgoing. He never said no to

anybody."

Weaver got his start in fifth grade when he volunteered for the school newscast at K.E. Cunningham/Canal Point Elementary in a farm community on the shores of Lake Okeechobee.

"Damon was the kid who ran after me in the hall to tell me he was interested," his teacher, Brian Zimmerman, told the *Post* in 2016. "And right away, I just saw the potential for the way he was on camera. You could see his personality come through. He wasn't nervous being on camera."



A look at big settlements in police killings

The Associated Press

The family of Andre Hill, a black man who was fatally shot by a white Ohio police officer in December, will receive a \$10 million settlement from the city of Columbus.

Hill, 47, was fatally shot by officer Adam Coy Dec. 22 as Hill emerged from a garage holding up a cellphone. Coy was fired and has pleaded not guilty to murder and reckless homicide charges.

Some settlements in police killings are kept private. Often a settlement includes money but specifies there was no admission of guilt. Some such lawsuits end up in court where a jury can award massive settlements that are reduced on appeal.

Here is a look at other high-profile cases of police killings of black and brown people and the settlements:

George Floyd

In March, the city of Minneapolis agreed to pay \$27 million in what the attorney for George Floyd's family said was the largest pretrial civil rights settlement ever.

The settlement was announced during jury selection in the trial of Derek Chauvin, a white former city police officer, who was convicted of murder and manslaughter in Floyd's death May 25 last year.

Attorney Ben Crump said it sent "a powerful message that black lives do matter and police brutality against people of color must end."

Breonna Taylor

The city of Louisville, Kentucky, agreed last year to pay Breonna Taylor's family \$12 million and reform police practices.

Taylor was shot to death by

officers acting on a no-knock warrant. The settlement stipulated reforms on how warrants are handled by police.

No one has been charged in Taylor's, though three of the officers involved, including the one who took out the warrant, were fired for their actions.

Laquan McDonald

Seventeen-year-old Laquan McDonald was shot dead by Chicago police in 2014. Dashcam video showed Officer Jason Van Dyke shoot McDonald 16 times.

A jury found Van Dyke guilty in October 2018 of second-degree murder and aggravated battery in McDonald's shooting. He was sentenced to six years in prison.

McDonald's family sued for \$16 million – a million for every bullet – but settled for \$5 million.

Freddie Gray

Six Baltimore officers were charged in the April 2015 arrest and in-custody death of Freddie Gray, a 25-year-old black man who died after being injured in a Baltimore police van, touching off weeks of protests.

Three officers were acquitted and prosecutors dropped all remaining charges in July 2016 following a hung jury. Gray's family agreed to a \$6.4 million settlement with the city in September 2015.

Philando Castile

Jeronimo Yanez, an officer in St. Anthony, Minnesota, was acquitted of manslaughter in the 2016 fatal shooting of Philando Castile, a black motorist.

The case garnered attention because Castile's girlfriend streamed the aftermath live on Facebook.

Castile's mother reached a \$3 million settlement and his girlfriend was paid \$800,000 by the city of St. Anthony and others.

Tamir Rice

Tamir Rice was 12 years old when he was fatally shot by a white Cleveland police officer in a recreational area in November 2014.

The boy had a pellet gun tucked in his waistband and was shot after the officers' cruiser skidded to a stop just feet away. A grand jury declined to indict patrolman Timothy Loehmann, who fired the fatal shot.

The city settled the Rice family's lawsuit for \$6 million.

Michael Brown

Michael Brown, an unarmed black 18-year-old, was fatally shot by a white officer, Darren Wilson, in August 2014 in Ferguson, Missouri.

A grand jury declined to indict Wilson, and the U.S. Justice Department opted against civil rights charges. The death of Brown led to months of sometimes violent protests and became a catalyst for the Black Lives Matter movement.

His family received \$1.5 million.

Eric Garner

Eric Garner, 43, died in July 2014 in New York City after a white officer placed him in a chokehold during an arrest for selling loose cigarettes.

A grand jury declined to indict that officer, or any others involved in the arrest. The Justice Department declined to file civil rights charges after a years long investigation.

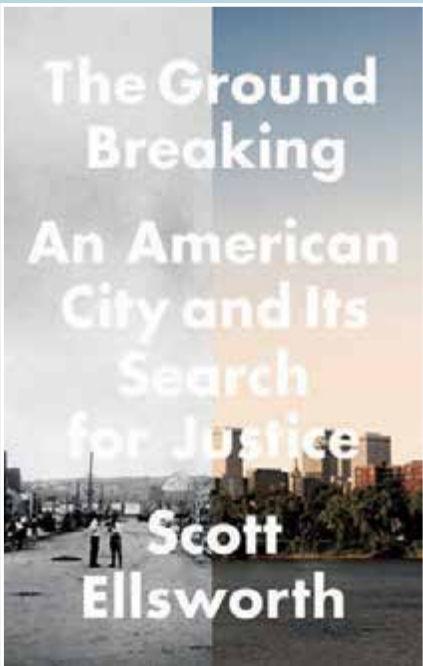
The city agreed to pay a \$6 million civil settlement.

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BOOK REVIEW:

THE GROUND BREAKING: AN AMERICAN CITY AND ITS SEARCH FOR JUSTICE

BY SCOTT ELLSWORTH
C.2021, DUTTON
\$28.00 / \$37.00 CANADA • 336 PAGES

By Terri Schlichenmeyer
Columnist

Your legs felt as though they were made of rubber. It was like walking on a bed of marbles, like wearing roller-skates on a waterbed. Your arms flailed for something steady but whether this was an inner event or something outside, you wonder if you'll ever feel stable again. As in the new book "The Ground Breaking" by Scott Ellsworth, you're rattled. In their last season without responsibility, twelve-year-old Scott Ellsworth and his buddies spent the summer of 1966

exploring their hometown of Tulsa, Oklahoma, and visiting the library. There, Ellsworth discovered hints that the whispers he'd overheard his entire life were true: there really was a "race riot" in Tulsa decades before his birth. He tucked the information away in his head. Later, while researching the riot for a possible college thesis, he was confounded by missing or destroyed documents and reluctant witnesses. It had started with a scream. On May 30, 1921, Dick Rowland, a shoeshiner at a white-

owned business, was heading to a designated "colored" restroom at the Drexel Building; minutes after he left, Sarah Page, the seventeen-year-old white elevator operator there, screamed. The reason was never determined, Dick was blamed, Sarah declined to press charges, and the matter seemed to be settled. But it wasn't. The incident festered in the white community until, two mornings later, after Dick's attempted lynching and just before dawn, some of Tulsa's white citizens marched into Greenwood, a suburb, and began shooting.

Thirty-six hours later, more than a thousand homes and businesses were destroyed and a still-unconfirmed number of people, mostly black, lay dead. And then, the story all but disappeared. White Tulsans wanted to forget. Black Greenwoodians couldn't, but they didn't discuss it – until Ellsworth found a man who'd been waiting decades to talk... Reading "The Ground Breaking" is going to leave you wrung out. But first, what may be a surprise to readers is what this book is not: it's not a hugely-detailed

account of the Tulsa race massacre. It's part of the story here, of course, but it's not the focus. You'll learn bits and snips of those thirty-six hours from a century ago, but only in support of the rest of the tale. Instead, what'll keep your nose in this book is multi-pronged. It's partly a memoir, in which author Scott Ellsworth shares the difficulty of sleuthing out the truth, why he was so tenacious, why many people helped him, and why others tried hard to stop him. Together, this all reads like a true-life mystery-

thriller, a feeling that's bolstered by Ellsworth's totally-exhaustive pursuit of information and documentation (which is still unnervingly unavailable) and his relentlessly-dogged search for the bodies of the dead. On this latter, readers may still feel a sense of the unfinished, and closure is elusive here. This is the kind of book that, once you start it, makes the hours disappear. It's an emotional one that'll make you skip dinner and lock the door so you can just read. For sure, "The Ground Breaking" will shake you up.



ZACK WALLACE

Hinds County Circuit Clerk

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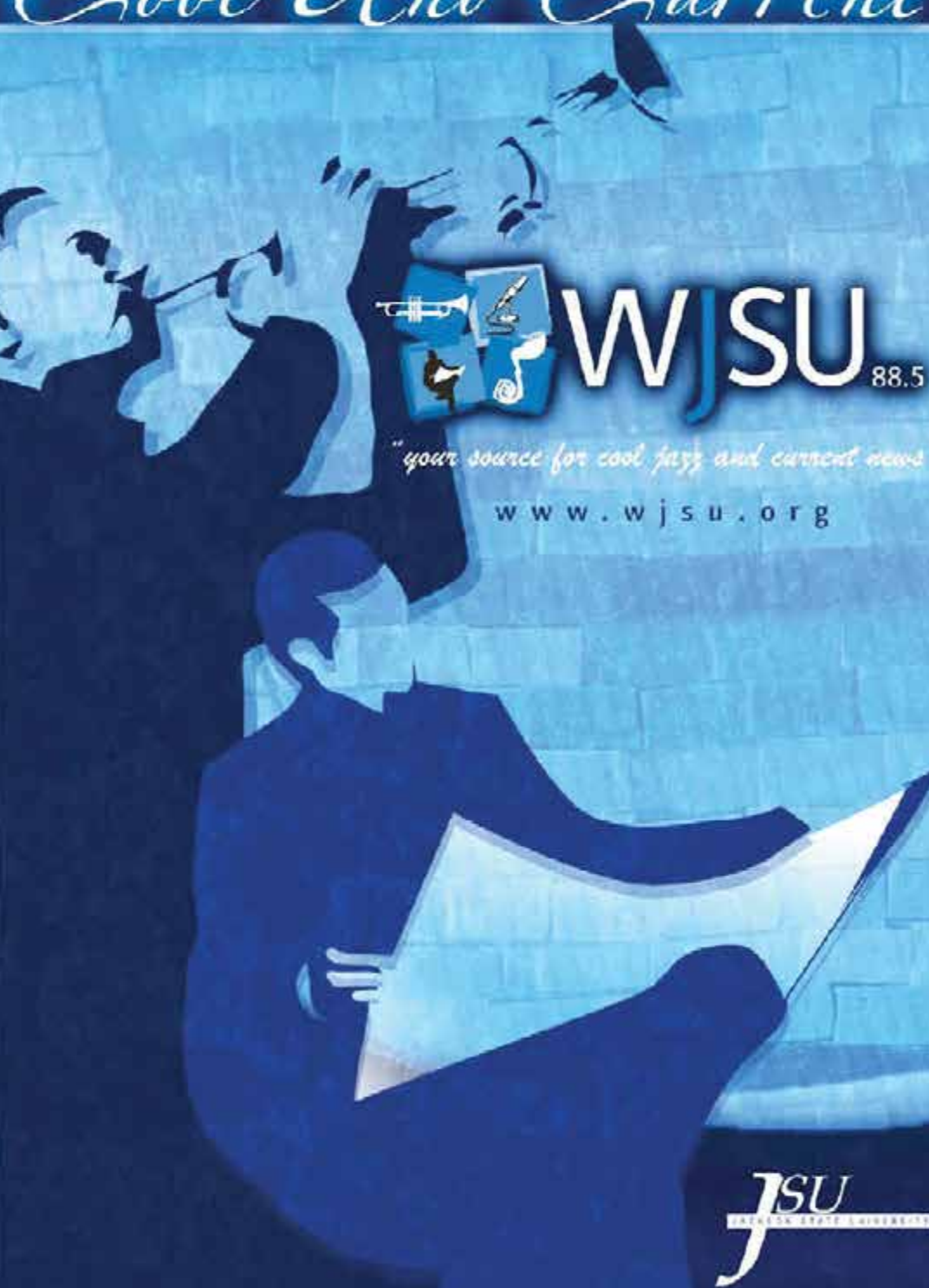
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Hinds County School District Weekly Update

ENGAGING-EMPOWERING-ENSURING-EXCELLENCE

HCSD hosts retirement celebration

On Thursday, May 6, 2021, the Hinds County School District honored its employees who have retired within the past year or plan to retire at the end of this school year. Personal sentiments were shared about each retiree by the Human Resource Coordinator, Beverly Hay. Joined by family members and friends, each individual was recognized for their many years of dedication and service to the Hinds County School District. Dr. Delesicia Martin, HCSD superintendent, presented each retiree with a gift on behalf of the district and thanked them for their commitment to the school district.



Dr. Linda Laws, board president



Kimberly Davenport, principal (30 years) CMS-LSA, honored by Superintendent Delesicia Martin.



Shirley Daniels, teacher (31 years) CMS-LSA, honored by Superintendent Delesicia Martin.



Bobbi Gordon, associate superintendent of Curriculum-Instruction (30 years) honored by Superintendent Martin



William Sellers, assistant superintendent of Student Services; Delesicia Martin, HCSD superintendent; Bobbi Gordon, associate superintendent of Curriculum-Instruction; and John Neal, associate superintendent of Community Relations



Retirement Committee Beverly Hay, Human Resources coordinator; Roshonda Clark, asst. principal/RES; Lisa Jones, director of Technology; and Bobby Taylor, principal/RES



Gordon Family



HCSD board member Robbie Anderson, secretary / District 2 and Linda Laws, board president / District 3



Davenport Family



Daniels Family



Terri Scott, Federal Programs coordinator gives a tribute to retirees.

- 2021 Honorable Retirees (not in attendance)**
- Wanda Brandon – asst. director of Child Nutrition/Central Office (34 years)
 - Betty Kennedy – teacher – Byram Middle School (19 years)
 - Lisa May – librarian – Byram Middle School (19 years)
 - Lisa Campbell – teacher – Raymond Elementary School (14 years)
 - Pamela McLemore – teacher – Terry High School (16 years)
 - Takita Morrison – teacher assistant / Bolton Edwards Elementary (27 years)
 - Roy Weaver – teacher – Raymond Elementary School (14 years)



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