

Jackson Municipal Airport Authority celebrates Hawkins Field Airport’s National Historic Landmark designation with official unveiling ceremony



Highway Commissioner (Central Dist.) Willie Simmons (C) and Mayor Chokwe Lumumba PHOTO BY KEVIN BRADLEY

The Mississippi Link Newswire

After 92 years of providing excellent air service in Jackson, MS, Hawkins Field Airport (HKS), formerly known as Davis Field, has been added to the National Register of Historic Places by the U.S. Department of the Interior

On Thursday, June 17, 2021, the Jackson Municipal Airport Authority (JMAA) celebrated the auspicious occasion with an official unveiling ceremony at the Hawkins Field Old Terminal Building. The ceremony was well-attended by the City of Jackson, JMAA and HKS

business and civic leaders, Federal, State and local governmental dignitaries, as well as members of the media.

“This occasion recognizes history,” said Mayor Chokwe A. Lumumba. “This is our opportunity to showcase this building in its true glory. This is economic development for adding another terminal for people who want to see this history, and the flight lessons that will be taking place here – it’s not only an opportunity to grow, but it also gives them

JMAA
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First Lady Jill Biden visits vaccination site at JSU and speaks of the importance of being vaccinated



First Lady Jill Biden PHOTOS BY JACKIE HAMPTON

By Jackie Hampton
Publisher

First Lady Jill Biden visited the site where patients were receiving vaccines at Jackson State University Engineering Building prior to speaking to an intimate group on campus.

Mayor Choke Lumumba gave opening remarks stating, “We are truly happy to have the attention of the White House and to have federal partners as we try every endeavor to increase our vaccination numbers in the state of Mississippi and the city of Jackson.”

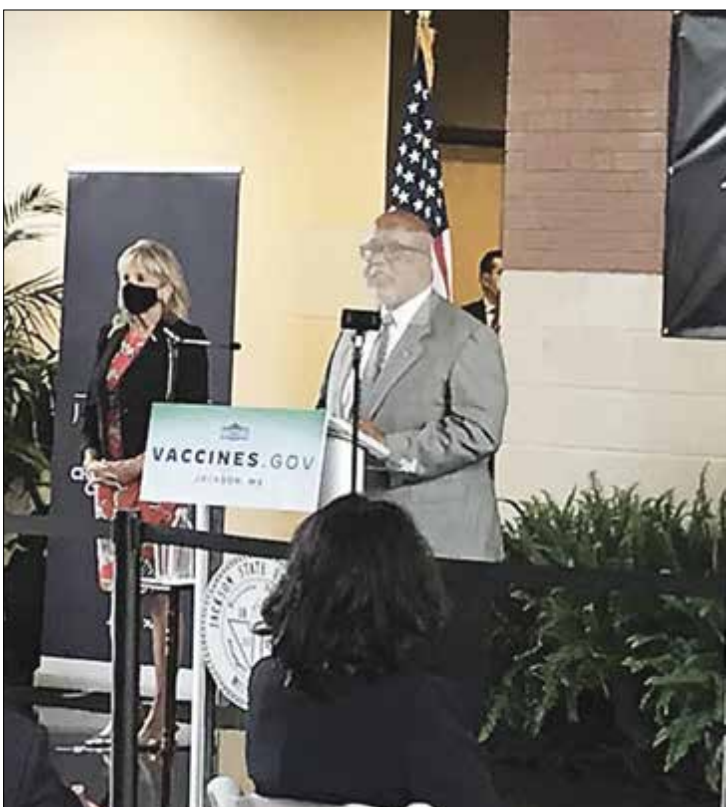
The mayor stated that Mississippi is below the national average of states having received the vaccination with a rate of 35% in Mississippi and a marginal 39% in Jackson.

He said, “We have been tasked in learning our way through this pandemic and to know

we have support from Washington is truly reassuring.”

U. S. Congressman Bennie Thompson thanked the First Lady for coming to the capital city. He said it is important that she is here, given the demographics of the population that is most vulnerable. He thanked Thomas Hudson, president of Jackson State University for opening up Jackson State for a vaccination site and Dr. Jasmin Chapman, CEO, Jackson Hinds Comprehensive Health Center, for assisting with vaccinations at the JSU site.

Thompson said one challenge Mississippi has is that even though FEMA, which is under his jurisdiction, with the help of President Biden, has made available 100% money to states to help with vaccinations, “We have to ask our governor to accept this



Congressman Thompson

money and to work with all our partners to help everyone all over the state to get Mississippi off the bottom. We have to encourage the governor to do that,” he said.

Thompson said Biden’s presence speaks volumes to making sure how important it is to get all the people vaccinated and eliminate all the rumors of why people can’t accept the shot. Thompson said it can be either the shot, or perhaps unfortunately, an untimely death.

First Lady Biden said to the intimate group of legislatures, media and a few others that the 35 percent of eligible people that have been vaccinated is just not enough. She said, “And that’s why I wanted to come here today. That’s why the White House

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Louise Marshall and other notable leaders featured in mural on COFO Building



Appearing on the mural from (l-r) Alyce Clark, Fannie Lou Hammer, Bob Moses, Rose Robinson, Louise Marshall and Albert Powell

By Jackie Hampton
Publisher

Louise Marshall, 96, is one of six individuals featured in a mural painted on the side of Jackson State University’s Council of Federated Organizations (COFO) Civil Rights Education Center located at 1017 John R. Lynch Street. The center, opened by Jackson State University in 2011, honors the past, deals with issues of the present and offers hope for the future. The artist of the mural is Mississippi artist Sabrina Howard.

Marshall, who is the first African-American bookstore owner in the Jackson community was recognized Sunday at College Hill Baptist Church by Rev. Andrew Lewis, di-

rector of music. Her bookstore was located on N. Farish Street in Jackson.

Marshall appreciated the acknowledgement from her church family and thanked them for loving her and taking care of her, especially during a recent illness.

Her son Herbert Marshall said, “I am so proud of my mother and all she has done in the community. She is truly a role model and at the age of 96, she still loves dressing up and going to church.”

The late Rose Elizabeth Howard Robinson was also featured in the mural. She taught at Lanier High School. Her grandson Jason Robinson received information that COFO was looking for indi-


viduals that had made a great impact in the community and he nominated his grandmother. He loved being around her and visiting her. He said, “My grandmother was a pillar in the community, staying grounded in education and the church. She would tuck you in at night, cook breakfast for you in the morning, teach you about history, take you out to feed the birds, teach you about plants and so much more.” He said when he was growing up, she talked to you as though you were a human being and not just a kid.

Others featured in the mural include Representative Alyce G. Clarke, first African-Amer-

COFO
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Col. G. Torrie Jackson selected for Brigade Command



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My Remarkable Journey



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Land from former slave market donated to U.S. Park Service

By Emily Wagster Pettus and Rogelio V. Solis
Associated Press

The National Park Service on Friday accepted a Mississippi city's donation of land at a site that was once one of the largest slave markets in the United States.

The federal agency eventually will develop exhibits that tell the history of Forks of the Road, where black people were sold to work in slavery in Southern plantations from 1833 to 1863.

The site in Natchez has had a sign and a small monument made of concrete and shackles. Officials have been working since 2005 on proposals to create a detailed memorial.

More than 100 people watched Friday as the city donated nearly 3 acres (1.2 hectares) to the park service – a ceremony that took place a day after President Joe Biden signed legislation to create a federal holiday for Juneteenth, which commemorates the end of slavery in the U.S.

"As we commemorate the celebration of liberty, Juneteenth, and we gather to remember the system of enslavement and the oppression that proceeded this freedom, we acknowledge the tragic story of what happened here at Forks of the Road and within the city of Natchez," said Lance Hatten, deputy regional director for the National Park Service.

"We look forward to the day when people from all over the world will come to learn about the hard truths of Forks of the Road," Hatten said. "When that truth is told and heard, the



Natchez Mayor Dan Gibson, third from right, and elected officials join the National Parks Service representatives in showing off the new signage that will adorn the entrance to the Forks of the Road slave market site, following the donation of 2.86 acres of city-owned land where the slave market existed, to the Natchez National Historical Park, a unit of the National Park Service (NPS), Friday, June 18, 2021, in Natchez, Miss. AP PHOTO/ROGELIO V. SOLIS

journey to healing and unity begins."

A 2017 federal law authorized the Natchez National Historical Park to preserve, commemorate and interpret the 18.5-acre (7.5-hectare) Forks of the Road site, the National Park Service said in a news release. The agency acknowledged work by local residents who pushed for the project, including Ser Seshsh Ab Heter-CM Boxley and the members of Friends of the Forks of the Road Society, Inc.

Republican U.S. Sen. Roger Wicker of Mississippi said he received the invitation months ago for Friday's ceremony. He praised the new Juneteenth holiday, which was created with bipartisan support, including all members of Mississippi's congressional delegation.

"I stand here today a proud American," Wicker said. "In spite of it all, I stand here today and emphatically and enthusiastically say that the United States

of America is, and has been for centuries, the greatest experiment in democracy and freedom that's ever been known around the globe. But it's also been a work in progress."

Wicker said Juneteenth celebrations "will serve as a history lesson that we've always been that work in progress, that the founding principles of the rule of law and all persons being created equal came hard and came slow and had to be fought for."

Democratic State Rep. Robert Johnson said people have worked across political and racial lines to secure recognition and funding for the Forks of the Road historical site.

"This is a milestone today of where we're headed, how we grow as a community," Johnson said. "By understanding each other and knowing each other's history and respecting each other's history and telling two sides of a story. It's important for us to understand each other."

Mary Martin McGinnis celebrates 106th birthday

By Irma Jean Jones
Special to The Mississippi Link

Mary Martin McGinnis will be honored with a 106th birthday celebration Saturday, June 26, 2021 at 1 p.m. It will be a drive-thru event held at the family home located at 262 Highway 16 West in the Yazoo City area (known as Louise.)

McGinnis was born June 26, 1915 in Humphrey County, Mississippi. Her parents were Nathanial and Blanche Martin. She was raised on the farm and received her formal education in a one-room schoolhouse. She was scholarly and earned an eighth-grade diploma. During that era, Mississippi did not fund rural high schools for African Americans.

Mary took her exemplary education to heart, further developed self-learning traits, focused on vocational and industrial skills, and exhibited a desire to be of service – civilly and spiritually.

In 1932, at the age of 17, she married the love of her life, Kenzie McGinnis. They exhibited a bond of love and goodwill. The couple purchased 40 (forty) acres of farmland. From this union, eleven children were born. McGinnis is deceased as well as two of the children.

The bond of this family includes twenty-six grandchildren, twenty-seven great grandchildren, six great-great grandchildren and one great-



Mary Martin McGinnis

great-great grandchild. She is a very inspirational figure in their lives and she continues to provide guidance and motivation.

Mary and Kenzie supported and encouraged their children to pursue academic and professional excellence. She has been a profound believer in education. One example is her having served as a bus driver for the Head Start Program. She loved the children, and strongly felt that everyone needs a "head start" in order to succeed.

Mary is a pillar at New Foundation Baptist Church where she has served as choir president, Sunday School teacher and mother of the church. Her favorite book is the Bible. She reads scripture three hours each day, and has many favorite Biblical quotes.

Mary has a great sense of humor, takes prides in gardening and enjoys bingo, arts and crafts.

The COVID-19 era has limited her involvement with the Clara Reed Adult Daycare Center. She is still engaged in planting collards, turnips, greens and her array of pecan trees. She watches NBA games and previously attended many NBA All-Star tournaments with her son-in-law, Ernie Jones, who is a former Harlem Globetrotter.

Mary Martin McGinnis has great memories of life before the depression, during the various wars, and the previous and current state of race relations. She has many comparable stories to tell and insight on many issues. She attributes her longevity to eating greens, regularly drinking a bit of garlic water with apple cider vinegar and maintaining her strong faith in God.

Mary McGinnis received a "Trailblazer Award" from the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP) in 2020.

The Martin and McGinnis families are very proud of its matriarch. She is held in the highest esteem. Family and friends will observe this 106th birthday celebration by wearing red and black. Masks are to be worn and there will be a level of social distancing.

For more information contact her daughter Irma Jean Jones at 773 307-4945, jeanj719@gmail.com or her cousin Mark Rigsby at 865 291-7065, rigshym@atlatl-ticbb.net

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Biden

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Mayor Lumumba speaking

said ‘please, go to Mississippi, because the President and I, the White House, our administration care about you. We care about the people of Mississippi. We want them to be safe. We want them to be healthy. That’s why I’m here today, to ask

all the people who can hear my voice and see my face to get your shots.”

Biden said she wanted those in attendance to remember three things: the vaccines are safe, the vaccines are effective and the vaccines are free.



JSU President Thomas Hudson with his wife and daughter standing with Dr. Jasmin Chapman, CEO, Jackson Hinds Comprehensive Health Center (L). PHOTO BY JAY JOHNSON

COFO

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ican female legislator in Mississippi; Fannie Lou Hamer, Civil Rights leader and organizer of Mississippi Freedom Summer and the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee; Bob Moses,

Civil Rights leader and field secretary for the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee; and Albert Powell, the first African-American florist in the Jackson community.

JMAA

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Mayor Chokwe Lumumba, politicians, JMAA staff, federal, state and Jackson area officials
PHOTO BY KEVIN BRADLEY

a vision of opportunity that we have to restore in every community and every household

“We want the world to know that what we are doing here is significant,” said Robert E. Martin, JMAA board chairman. “We have so many things planned for this hallowed ground. And this is the right time to be in Jackson, as at our airports, we’ve ended up better coming out of the pandemic than going into it.”

“This is a very important occasion, a memorable occasion,” stated Paul A. Brown, JMAA CEO. “A building that has served this nation proudly for many years now rises to take its place in the pantheon of historic places in our valued country. This was the start of Jackson being connected to the world and, by association, the world being connected to Jackson.”

The Mississippi Department of Transportation, Central District Commissioner Willie Simmons was the guest speaker, sharing the importance of this monumental occasion. “The Department of Transportation is always very excited when we can be involved in these kinds of activities,” said Simmons. “The future is bright. It’s even brighter because not only can we fly corporate America through this airport, but we are also training for the future.”

Corporate visitors utilize HKS for its quick access to the city’s business and government centers, universities and medical facilities. HKS is also the home of the Mississippi National Guard’s 185th Aviation Brigade, as well as two premium emergency medical air providers.

The unveiling of the official National Historic Marker was led by Mayor Chokwe A. Lumumba and federal, state and Jackson area officials, fol-

lowed by the unveiling of the National Register of Historic Places solid brass plaque, led by JMAA CEO Paul A. Brown.

The plaque will be affixed to the Old Terminal Building. JMAA Board Commissioner LTC (R) Lucius Wright, Ed.D. shared the “crown jewel’s” (HKS) humble beginnings over ninety (90) years ago.

HKS’s legacy and historic significance is a gem worth preserving for the history of aviation. In 1929, HKS hosted Delta Air Lines’ inaugural passenger flight from Dallas, TX. In 1941, HKS was designated as a U.S. Army Air Base, and the facility was used as a pilot training center. During some of that time, the Royal Netherlands Air Force utilized the base after Nazi occupation in Europe.

In 1949, it reverted back to civil aviation status. JMAA Board Vice-Chairwoman LaWanda D. Harris, RN, BSN, MSHA, noted that in 2009, \$350,000 was earmarked by Congress (proposed by Senator Roger Wicker) for the initial repairs on the facility as part of a “Save America’s Treasures” grant program via the President’s Committee on the Arts and Humanities. Today, the legendary Hawkins Field Airport continues to serve as the capital city’s premier General Aviation Airport.

JMAA, The Jackson Municipal Airport Authority, operates two airports: Jackson-Medgar Wiley Evers International Airport (JAN) and Hawkins Field Airport (HKS). JAN is the busiest airport in Mississippi, situated in the Central part of the state and serving the Capital region of Jackson.

For more information contact LSherie Dean, Director of Communications.

See photos page 15.

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Col. G. Torrie Jackson selected for Brigade Command



In Formation as BDE CDR for the first time

Special to The Mississippi Link

Colonel (COL) G. Torrie Jackson Jr. of Terry, Mississippi has been selected for Brigade Command in the United States Army Reserve. COL Jackson will command the 3rd Brigade of the 94th Training Division, located in Indianapolis, IN.

Jackson said, "It is always an honor to be selected for leadership. I thank God because very few officers are afforded the opportunity to lead at the brigade level. Leadership can be challenging at times, yet enjoyable when you love what you do. I enjoy helping others achieve success. There is no better position to be in than leading an effort that creates success for others, and at the same time success for myself."

Jackson, a recent graduate of the United States Army War College – Resident Course, Carlisle, PA, understands the importance of leadership. He said, "I understand that with leadership comes responsibility and accountability. There is no way one person can do everything in an organization. This is why, as a leader, I share the responsibility, but own the accountability. When leading a group effort, empowering others by delegating responsi-



Col. Jackson

bility creates 'Buy-In,' which in turn lightens the load of the group task. As for leader accountability, I believe if all goes well the success spotlight should be shared. If things do not go so well, I hold myself accountable then work to correct the issue."

The 3rd Brigade of the 94th Training Division provides command and control functions for 5 of The Army School System's (TASS) Ordnance Battalions, ensuring that the battalions maintain accreditation and provide trained, certified instructors for the United States Army.

During peacetime, the unit provides a full range of command, support and management functions for assigned battal-

ions and other assigned units, including but not limited to Military Occupation Specialty Training in Career Management Field (CMF) 63 and 89, and the Technical Phases of Ordnance Non-Commissioned Officer Education School (NCOES) in accordance with Training and Doctrine Command (TRADOC) Programs of instructions (POI's) to all branches of the Service and Department of Defense (DoD) Civilians.

Each year, hundreds of Army colonels are considered by a board for brigade command. The Army Reserve selects less than 100 of those colonels for brigade command. The tenure normally lasts twenty-four months. "Leading Soldiers is one of the highest honors an Army Officer can achieve. I pray that I am able to lead my unit to greater heights. I know that with God's help and my adherence to the Army values of Loyalty, Duty, Respect, Selfless Service, Honor, Integrity, Personal Courage (LDRSHIP), we will be successful in our endeavors," says Jackson.

Jackson, his wife Dr. Debra Mays-Jackson, and their sons Cameron and Kendall live in Terry, MS.

Dole Foods seeks to expand its offering in Mississippi

By Othor Cain
Special to The Mississippi Link

Since last fall, Dole Foods has partnered with the Boys & Girls Clubs of Central Mississippi (BGCCM), providing hot meals during their Service Saturday events and from that, a Culinary Arts program was born.

This signature program gives our young club members an opportunity to get experience in the kitchen, understand the value of shopping and eating healthy.

This summer, Dole Foods is working to expand its partnership with the BGCCM and enhance their culinary horizons.

Dole is interested in providing youth in Jackson with more healthy food options and wants to train young people how to prepare it and give them the blueprint to follow the process from, "farm to fork."

Juan Carlos Dalto, president of Dole Foods for North and South America visited Mississippi for the first-time last week and interacted with members of the BGCCM. "We think that good nutrition should be a human right," Dalto said. We believe there are a number of opportunities in America to help and teach people about what a good balanced diet is and what nutrition is."

For club members, this is exposing them to foods they've never had before. Local chefs like Nick Wallace have joined the program with Dole, training the members on culinary techniques.

Penney Ainsworth, president and CEO of the BGCCM, beamed with joy as she announced the potential expansion. "Dole has made a very significant investment in Jackson because they see the

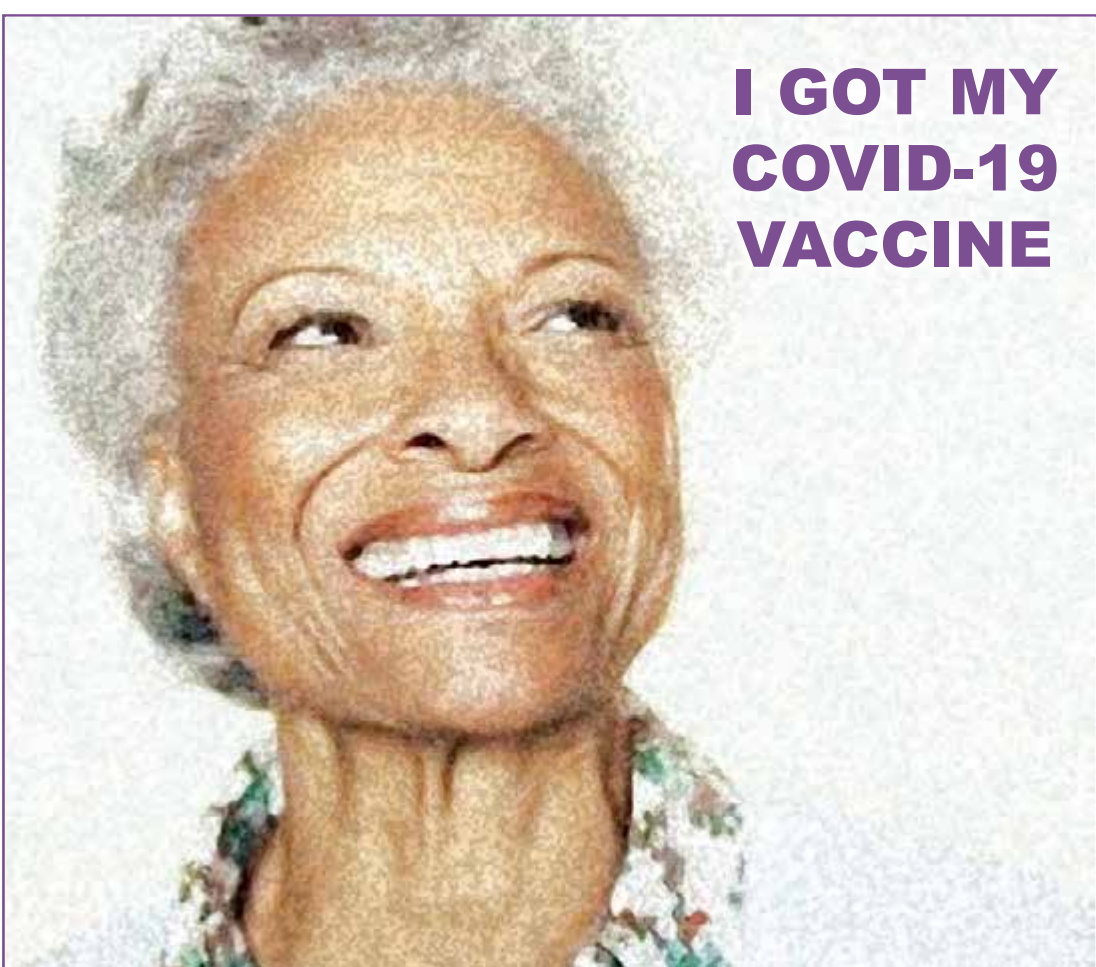
need," Ainsworth said. "But it doesn't end there, this partnership seeks to grow."

During Dalto's visit, he met with local stakeholders hoping to expand its program to include a youth workforce development program. One site that he toured was the old farmers market on Woodrow Wilson Blvd.

"We had no idea how this program nor partnership was going to go or grow, but here we are a year later, and growth is on the horizon," Ainsworth said. "From Jackson to Baltimore."

The City of Jackson is the first city to team up with Dole for a youth program of this magnitude and it has been so successful they're expanding it to the Baltimore Boys and Girls Clubs.

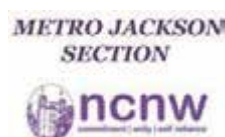
Othor Cain is director of Strategic Programs/Media Operations, BGCCM



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Business leaders discuss how new flag impacts state economy

By Leah Willingham
The Associated Press

A prominent Mississippi business leader said Wednesday the decision to change the state's flag has removed a "significant impediment" to economic development in Mississippi.

Mississippi lawmakers voted last year to retire a Confederate-themed flag state as part of the national reckoning over racial injustice.

"This, I think, removes a significant impediment, and will change perceptions of Mississippi across this country and across the world," said Anthony Wilson, 2020-2021 Mississippi Economic Council chair, at the council's annual meeting in Jackson.

The Mississippi Economic Council was a staunch supporter of the legislature's decision to surrender the last state banner in the U.S. that included the Confederate battle emblem — a red field topped by a blue X with 13 white stars. The rebel flag has been used by Ku Klux Klan groups and is widely condemned as racist.

During the November 2020 Election, Mississippi voters approved the new state flag with a magnolia and the phrase "In God We Trust." That flag was officially adopted by the state Legislature this year.

The flag was displayed prominently at the in-person event at the Jackson Convention Complex, which drew hundreds of business leaders from across the state. Doz-

ens of small state flags lined a red carpet in front of a stage and podium, behind which was displayed another massive state flag.

Wilson, who is president and CEO of Mississippi Power, a subsidiary of Southern Company, said he is filled with pride when he sees people all over Mississippi choosing to fly the new flag.

"I see more state flags today than I ever have in my life," he said. "Without question, taking down the controversial state flag was a defining moment for our state."

Also present at the event was Tribal Chief of the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians Cyrus Ben, who was one of the nine members selected by Republican Gov. Tate Reeves to serve on the Mississippi State Flag Commission.

Commission members parsed through thousands of designs submitted by the public to chose a final design to put on the November ballot.

Ben said serving on the commission was an honor that gave him a chance to educate people in Mississippi about the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians, the state's only federally recognized Native American tribe.

It's a perspective that has historically been forgotten or overlooked, he said.

"Many are not aware of who we are, that we are still alive and thriving here in central Mississippi," he said. The new flag design features a

gold star made of diamond shapes that are significant to the Choctaw culture.

Executive Director of the Mississippi Development Authority John Rounsaville was a panelist at the event. He said the importance of the flag change to a business looking to come to Mississippi depends on the industry.

"On your consumer-facing manufacturers or consumer-facing businesses, it can be important — it's not a major topic of discussion," Rounsaville said. "But when we talk to site consultants, and even some companies, there have been times when it comes up."

"I think, overall, it's very favorable to the state of Mississippi to have the flag change," he added.

The governor did not specifically mention the flag in his address at the meeting, instead focusing on the economic growth in the state during the last year. Reeves said the average capital investment in the state of Mississippi during the last 10 years was \$900 million per year. In 2020, it was \$1.7 billion, he said.

After his speech, when asked about the flag and other major factors that contributed to that economic growth, Reeves said: "This business community that is represented here today has worked very closely with our administration to remove hurdles, and to make Mississippi an even better place to invest capital and create jobs."

"Mississippi Burning" case files open at State Archives

Mississippi Link Newswire

Case files, photographs, and other records documenting the 1964 murders of civil rights activists James Chaney, Andrew Goodman and Michael Schwerner are now available to researchers at the Mississippi Department of Archives and History (MDAH). The materials were gathered and compiled by the Mississippi Attorney General's office in its 2004 reopening of the Mississippi Burning (code name MiBurn) case and investigation, which culminated in the June 2005 trial and conviction of Edgar Ray Killen.

Mississippi Attorney General Jim Hood officially closed the investigation in 2016, and the files were transferred to MDAH in spring 2019.

The materials, dating from 1964 to 2007, include case files, Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) memoranda, research notes, photographs of the exhumation of the victims' bodies and subsequent autopsies, aerial photographs of the burial site, federal informant reports, and witness testimonies.

Goodman and Schwerner were two of the hundreds of volunteers who joined Mississippi Freedom Summer in 1964. The primary goals of the project were to register voters, conduct Freedom Schools, and promote civil rights.

Schwerner and his wife, Rita, joined Freedom Summer in January 1964 and worked with Meridian native James Chaney, an experienced Congress of Racial Equality organizer. Chaney and Schwerner worked with the congregation at Mount Zion Methodist Church in rural Neshoba County to organize a Freedom School.

On June 16, 1964, a delegation of the White Knights of the Ku Klux Klan attacked parishioners attending a meeting at Mt. Zion Church. Later that night, the Klansmen burned the church to the ground. Chaney, Goodman and Schwerner drove to investigate the burning. The three men were abducted and killed on June 21 and buried in an earthen dam.

The bodies of the civil rights workers were found August 4, 1964. In October 1967, the federal government charged eighteen men with conspiracy, including Edgar Ray Killen. Neshoba County Sheriff Deputy Cecil Price, Sam Bowers and five others were convicted. The jury failed to convict Killen. In 2005, Killen, a former Baptist minister and Ku Klux Klansman, was convicted of manslaughter in the 1964 slayings.

There are three catalog records for the collection: the Attorney General's research files are Series 2870, the FBI Memos are Series 2902, and the photographs are Series 2903. Each catalog record includes a box-level description.

MDAH collects and preserves the archival resources of the state, including official government records, books and manuscripts related to Mississippi history, personal papers, newspapers, newsfilm, audio recordings, photographs and more. These materials are available to the public free of charge at the William F. Winter Archives and History Building, 200 North St., Jackson. Contact our reference department at refdesk@mdah.ms.gov to learn more about gaining access to the collections.

For more information email info@mdah.ms.gov or visit the department's website, www.mdah.ms.gov.

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Alcorn alumnus named USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service Chief



Cosby

By Renita Lacy
Staff Writer

Terry Cosby, an Alcorn alumnus and longtime employee of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), has been selected as the next chief of the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS).

Most recently, Cosby was the state conservationist for Ohio and has been serving as acting chief of NRCS. He officially assumed the role Monday, May 24.

Cosby's career at USDA began over 42 years ago as a student trainee. Throughout his profession, he has held several leadership positions throughout Iowa, Missouri and Idaho. His prior roles include area resource conservationist, assistant state conservationist for field operations and deputy state conservationist.

One of his proudest achievements is the instrumental role he played in establishing the Ohio Interagency Forestry

Team and the development of its governance model and business plan. Under his leadership, Ohio was the first state to use Environmental Quality Incentive Program funds for forestry practices.

National Association of Conservation Districts President Michael Crowder said he is confident that Cosby will lead NRCS in the right direction.

"His extensive experience in conservation as a farmer, a sportsman and state conservationist will further strengthen NRCS' impact on the nation's land as we work with our national partners to support America's farmers, ranchers and forest landowners," he stated.

Cosby holds a bachelor of science degree in agriculture education from Alcorn. He currently resides in Ohio with his wife Brenda and their four children. He enjoys hunting and fishing as much as possible, while spending quality time with his seven grandchildren.

PS Campus Enforcement Officer Russell Ellis named 2021 Metro Top Cop

The Mississippi Link Newswire

JPS Campus Enforcement officer Sgt. Russell Ellis was recognized by Metro Crime Stoppers and the Mississippi Police and Sheriff's Association as a 2021 Metro Top Cop. Ellis, a 21-year law enforcement veteran, was recognized for his dedication to the well-being and safety of his fellow officers and law enforcement as a whole.

Members of the Crime Stoppers Board made the presentation in person at the JPS Office of Campus Enforcement May 28. The Metro Top Cop award is given annually during Police Memorial Week. The awards banquet, usually held annually to honor all law enforcement personnel in the Metro area,



Sgt. Russell Ellis displays his Metro Top Cop certificate and award.

was canceled in 2021 due to pandemic precautions.

Members of the Alcorn State University Extension Program partner with local Walmart to help beautify and revamp local communities



By Renita Lacy
Staff Writer

In the true spirit of "spring cleaning," members of the Alcorn State University Extension Program (ASUEP) have joined forces with Walmart in Cleveland, Mississippi to help adorn local communities.

John Coleman, farm manager at the Extension/Research Demonstration Farm in Mound Bayou, Mississippi, was influential in spearheading this initiative. After visiting his local Walmart and seeing that they would often dispose of their lifeless plants, he took it upon himself to get permission to take them home and restore them. After placing them in his greenhouse and giving them proper water, sunlight and upkeep, the plants were rejuvenated and successfully brought back to life.

"Agriculture is all about making the world more beautiful, and one of my passions is to see plants looking nice and healthy," said Coleman, who hopes that this initiative will serve as inspiration for students, faculty and staff to become more involved with campus beautification efforts.

Since teaming up with Walmart, the ASUEP has donated several flowers and plants

to local garden clubs, nursing homes, funeral homes, hospitals, schools and communities.

For more information or to find out how you can get involved, contact Coleman at 662 741-3376 or jwcoleman1@alcorn.edu.

To learn more about the Alcorn State University Extension Program, its entities, or its personnel, visit www.alcorn.edu/extension.

Lanier Teacher Latasha Thurman helps 'DonorsChoose' raise \$44M for K-12 classrooms nationwide

The Mississippi Link Newswire

In her time as a teacher advocate, Latasha Thurman worked with teachers across the state and at Lanier High School to increase access to funding and support. As a member of the Teacher Advocate Team with DonorsChoose, she helped to unlock an additional \$44,816,000 in classroom funding for K-12 public school classrooms across the country, equipping thousands of students and teachers with the resources and materials they need for a great education.

As a teacher leader, Thurman represented Lanier High School with professionalism, excellence and determination. Thurman took on the role of teacher advocate during an especially challenging school year, working tirelessly to support her fellow teachers in obtaining funding, grants and opportunities.

The work that teacher advocates do is above and beyond their classroom duties and shows their commitment to public education, their school pride and their unwavering belief in the potential of all students.

The teacher advocate role is a leadership opportunity in a



Thurman

highly selective program, and it is a testament to how effective Thurman is at finding and securing additional resources for her students.

"DonorsChoose has provided our teachers and students with many valuable resources," said

Valerie Bradley, principal of Lanier High School. "We are thankful to have teachers on our team like Latasha Thurman. She is a true advocate and champion for children. DonorsChoose makes it easy for anyone to help a teacher

in need. Their mission is to move closer to a nation where students in every community have the tools and experiences they need for a great education. As principal of Lanier High School, I can attest to them doing just that. We are forever grateful to DonorsChoose and Latasha Thurman. This partnership is the epitome of 'it takes a village.' Both Latasha Thurman and DonorsChoose are a part of our village."

"Please join us in congratulating Latasha Thurman on this accomplishment," said Alex Fagundez of DonorsChoose. "We feel fortunate to have such an amazing educator representing our organization and helping to bring additional resources to schools throughout Mississippi."

DonorsChoose is a nonprofit website that engages the public in supporting public schools. Teachers from every corner of America create classroom project requests that are fulfilled by generous citizen donors as well as corporations and foundations that want to support our nation's students.

In total, 4,307 schools across the country participated in the Teacher Advocate Program.

Jackson Tri-County High School JROTC top cadets receive awards

By Jeffery McKenzie, Vice Commander VFW Post 9832
Special to The Mississippi Link

Throughout the month of May, which is Military Appreciation month, members from Brooks W. Stewart, Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post 9832 in Jackson, presented a Citation and Medal Award along with an honorarium gift to JROTC Top Cadets from the surrounding tri-county area high schools.

Presenting the awards were Sam Clay, post commander; Aaron Honeysucker, Sr. vice-commander; Jeffery McKenzie Jr., vice-commander; Ira Turner, quartermaster; Marshand Crisler, trustee; Comrade George Williams; and Comrade James Bennett along with VFW Auxiliary members Gladys McKenzie, Auxiliary president; and Debra Turner, Auxiliary Jr., vice president.

Not pictured is Provine High School Top Cadet Madison Green.





P R E S E R V E D

The jewel of Juneteenth

By Shewanda Riley
Columnist



“Why is that old lady out here at this time of night?” was my first thought as I noticed the older African-

American woman sitting by herself on the bench near the train platform at nearly 11 p.m.

I was waiting with a group of friends for one of the late-night Trinity Railway Express trains to take us back to Fort Worth. Even though I was still very hyped about having just seen Michelle Obama at the American Airlines Center in Dallas in December 2018, I was intrigued by the older lady and watched her for a few minutes to see if maybe she was waiting on someone. But after a few minutes no one joined her. “Where are her people?”

I immediately thought of my mother and how I would



Lee

not want her traveling by herself at that time of night. So, I did what is a part of my nosy... uhm...inquisitive nature. I walked over to her and started a conversation.

After sharing that she loved Michelle Obama and had just seen her, she added that she was hoping she could talk to Mrs. Obama about making Juneteenth a national holiday. It then clicked who she was. I asked her if she was Opal Lee by chance. She nodded her head yes and then pulled out a stack of papers from her purse explaining why Juneteenth being a national holiday was so important.

Moreover, she stated that she was a little disappointed

that she didn’t have a chance to meet with Mrs. Obama personally but that she was going to keep trying. Her optimism was contagious as she added that she had faith and that she knew one day it would happen.

When I asked Ms. Lee if she was traveling with anyone, with a determined twinkle in her eye, she declared that she was by herself. Before I could ask why, she stated that her people would not have wanted her to come and that they didn’t know she was there by herself.

At that point, I looked at her and said that she was no longer traveling by herself and that me and my co-workers would travel with her until she made it to her destination. My co-workers and I marveled at how sharp her mind was as she passionately shared about Juneteenth as well as her first of the year community dinner. Ms. Lee seemed like she was guided by an unyielding positivity and persistence.

She embodies Hebrews 11:1 “Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.”

Her belief in making Juneteenth has also led her to walk to Washington D.C., hosting an ecumenical prayer breakfast, community festival, play and movie screening.

I thought about this first encounter with Ms. Lee as I watched the excitement on her face as she stood next to President Joe Biden when he signed the Juneteenth bill into a law. It was a breathtaking historical moment. Even more importantly, it showed the power of the faith of one person to make a difference in the lives of so many.

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

East MS Christian Education Outreach Ministering to the Masses (M2M) during the pandemic: Equipping the Church for Service

By Shirley Hopkins Davis, Ph.D.
Special to The Mississippi Link



Since February 2021, Baptist churches in the East Mississippi area have realized that much is possible with God’s direc-

tion. The Ministering to the Masses (M2M) ministry has become a global outreach ministry in Christian Education throughout East Mississippi and beyond.

In 2019, Martha A. Wheaton-Gist, certified Dean of Christian Education – Sunday School Publishing Board since 1991 and a member of Oak Grove Baptist Church in Louin, MS, envisioned a more successful way to equip the church with an accurate biblical response for the Christian Education community.

Noted Dean Gist, “Our goal was to certify deans in their respective churches to be able to create a ministry within their church, as well as equip individuals at large to reach those who desired a personal relationship with Christ.”

During 2020, the world was consumed frantically with living during the COVID-19 pandemic. Most activities were put on hold, including church public worship services and gatherings. After seeking ways to move forward productively, many sought the technology they had avoided for so long.

Realizing that Christian teaching/training needed to go on in spite of the human disconnect, as well as other protocols of the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and other agencies, the Christian Education leadership explored all possibilities for reaching the people and continuing their Christian training. The pandemic urged the move quickly towards that end via the Zoom platform.

According to Dean Gist, “To offer the certified classes, God placed two mighty warriors together, with the support of Director of Christian Education – East MS Baptist Convention, Rev. Cecil Ashford, and permission from Rev. Eric Williams, senior director of Christian Education of the Sunday School Publishing Board.”

The idea of M2M stemmed from the collaborative work of Dean Martha A. Wheaton-Gist and Dr. Mae Cathryne Jackson, who was dean in training and has since become a certified dean through the Sunday School Publishing Board. Dr. Jackson, who is a member of Little Rock Baptist Church in Newton and a retired math/science professor emeritus of Hinds Community College, was also equipped with knowledge and experience in computer technology.

Deans Gist and Jackson developed training courses for local leadership to learn to use the Zoom platform to provide training for the local leaders in churches.

Initially, four deans were certified, with Dean Martha Gist as mentoring dean. The nurturing process began by providing online access to the Certificate of Progress Program (COPP), established by the Baptist Sunday School Publishing Board, NBC, USA, Inc.

Several churches in the East Mississippi area participated: Jerusalem MBC/Lawrence, MS, Rev. Percy Pollard, pastor; Mt. Olive MBC/Meridian MS, Rev. A. D. Lewis, pastor; Little Rock MBC/



Mae Cathryne Jackson, Ph.D.



Martha Wheaton-Gist

Newton, MS, Rev. Carl Smith, pastor; Providence MBC/Laurel, MS, Rev. Cooley, pastor.

Groundwork for reaching the masses started in May 2020, and by November 2020, Deans Gist and Jackson had secured instructors from several states. All were excited about the possibility of this venture. Dean Jackson set up the website for registration and Dean Gist began promoting and reaching out far and near. Classes were free to all registrants.

When the M2M ministry was launched in February 2021, approximately 181 individuals registered for Phase I of the program. One participant, Sarah Foster (Chicago, IL), responds, “Classes were offered at a time when churches were not holding school because of the pandemic; classes were open to all; anointed instructors were carefully selected; and friendly/accommodating staff were available.”

Sharing a favorable response was Angela S. McDonald of Friendship Baptist Church, Collinsville, MS: “...We all have a common thread... Jesus. What a pleasant hour and a half we have; it’s unlike any other Bible session I’ve ever attended.”

“Because of Ministering to the Masses Virtual Christian Leadership School, I feel I am more committed to ‘Go and make disciples’ than ever before because I have been richly blessed by the deans, the instructors, and the other students in these classes,” said Deborah Moore from Dolton, Illinois.

Christian Education Director Linda Robinson of New Bethel Missionary Baptist Church, Forest, MS, shared the benefits of participating: “Ministering to the Masses (M2M) is a high quality Christian education program, developed during a time of greatest need within the faith community. Creativity, birth out of crisis, presented the Christian community the opportunity to gain instruction from top of the line teachers, whose hearts and passions are in serving God’s people. When COVID-19 is contained, M2M will still be my choice for Christian education.”

As the M2M classes come to an end in July 2021, the M2M ministry recently launched another initiative: Saturday Evening online Discussion in a judgment-free zone – “Structure, Doctrine and Tradition of the African-American Church.”

Planned also in July is the launch of Virtual Vacation Bible School for all ages, July 28-30.



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Book called “boy.” gives voice to mothers of black sons

“I was just thinking...”

By Norma Adams-Wade
Texas Metro News Columnist

Eric Garner’s mother Gwen Carr knows paralyzing grief first-hand. Other black mothers across the nation say they share a similar mind-numbing foreboding: the possibility of fear or hatred of black people by police or racists killing their black sons.

This palpable emotion – ranging from distress to defiance – is expressed in 48 personal letters from black mothers to America that comprise the book “Boy,” also known as “Defending Our Black Sons’ Identity in America.” The book also is commonly referred to as “The Boy Book.”

Compiling author Sherilyn Bennett, who collected the mothers’ letters, is an entrepreneur, consultant in graphic design, branding and corporate diversity, ordained minister, and mother of two adult sons, both school football coaches. She was born in Ocala, Florida and lives in Charlotte, N. C.

Images of watching media reports of the May 25, 2020 murder of George Floyd by a Minneapolis police officer would not allow her to rest until she completed the Boy. book that she views as a catalyst for change in America.

The book also includes chapters about (a) what your rights are and how to act if stopped by police, (b) a historical perspective about treatment of black men and women by police, and (c) a licensed mental health counselor’s assessment of lingering trauma from police brutality and/or racist treatment in various settings.

“We must recognize that not all fights against racial inequality happen in the streets,” Bennett said in a promotional



Gwen Carr, mother of Eric Garner, CREDIT: MTE PUBLISHING

piece.

Bennett, Carr and a couple of the mothers who wrote essay letters were in Dallas this month for a book signing, meet and greet, and to encourage other mothers who have experienced or are experiencing similar traumas of losing sons in police or racist encounters. The signing was June 12 at Pan-African Connection, 4466 S. Marsalis Ave. in Dallas.

Carr wrote the book’s Foreword. Some of Garner’s last words, “I can’t breathe,” became a national rallying cry after the 43-year-old, 6-foot-3, 350-pound, great-grandfather of six died July 17, 2014. He had several existing health prob-

lems including severe asthma.

Video recordings show that Garner repeated “I can’t breathe” 11 times while Daniel Pantaleo, a white New York police officer, used a chokehold, already illegal at the time, while arresting Garner. Authorities say the police suspected Garner was selling cigarettes illegally on the street in Staten Island. The medical examiner ruled the death a homicide, but a Richmond County grand jury refused to indict the officer who was acquitted.

New York City later reached a \$5.9 million out-of-court settlement with Garner’s family. Five years later, the Justice Department refused to bring criminal charges against the officer but under a New York Police Department disciplinary hearing, Pantaleo finally was fired in August 2019. Garner’s mother said the five-year ordeal transformed her. She now pushes for legislation beyond street protests.

“I chose to be a catalyst for change because I refused to be a culprit of complacency,” Carr wrote in the Foreword. “I transitioned from mourning to movement and from sorrow to strategy. Eric’s name is one of too many names belonging to black males that have been

murdered by police officers who were acquitted.”

Rhonda Willis of Fort Worth wrote one of the letters. Her husband Fred Willis is helping promote the book. She tells of their son Joshua, now 11, earlier in grade school when a white classmate told her son that he was better than her black son. When her son shared the story, she said she and her husband immediately began to regularly affirm their son’s worth to counteract any possible damage to his self-esteem.

“I used to think that racism didn’t start until boys were teenagers or young men but this really opened by eyes...,” she wrote in her letter.

The book is available through Amazon and at some major retail book departments including walmart.com.

To learn more, visit www.boybooknation.com.

Norma Adams-Wade, is a Dallas native, University of Texas at Austin journalism graduate and retired Dallas Morning News senior staff writer. She is a founder of the National Association of Black Journalists and was its first southwest regional director. She became The News’ first black full-time reporter in 1974.

Three urgent steps to defend Democracy from cynics and skeptics

By Ben Jealous
People For the American Way



The far-right attack on voting rights is fierce. And the unwillingness of some Sen-

ate Democrats to challenge rules that allow a Republican minority to block voting rights bills is making some question whether we can turn back the tide of voter suppression.

As the Black Voters Matter Freedom Ride Bus Tour makes its way through Southern cities including Nashville, Atlanta, Columbia, Raleigh and Richmond with the final stop in Washington, D.C., we must redouble our efforts on three fronts on what we know will be a long road ahead to defend Democracy from the cynics and the skeptics.

Yes, a long road. Democracy in the U.S. has always been a work in progress. It is always under attack. It must always be defended and strengthened.

When the Constitution was written and ratified, “We, the people” didn’t apply to most of the people. After a bloody civil war, the Constitution was amended so dramatically that historian Eric Foner has called it “the second founding.” But without the political will to enforce those amendments, Reconstruction gave way to the brutality of Jim Crow, voter suppression and legally enforced segregation.

It took decades of struggle to defeat Jim Crow through Supreme Court rulings and passage of civil rights and voting rights laws.

Like the post-Civil War amendments, the victories of the civil rights movement changed history. But they didn’t change human nature. They didn’t bring an end to the struggle for justice and equality. Racism and discrimination took new forms and were institutionalized in new ways.

The flood of voter suppression laws being passed this year builds on an earlier wave of voter suppression that came after the Supreme Court’s conservatives did away with key provisions of the Voting Rights Act. And all those laws are part of an even broader attack on genuine democracy that includes extreme racial and partisan redistricting and laws and court rulings that have allowed a flood of big money to overwhelm our election system.

This corruption of our democracy harms us in concrete ways. It keeps power in the hands of those who resist efforts to address the systemic inequities in our society and economy.

I understand why some people look at this corruption and the power devoted

to upholding it and think there’s just no way to defeat it. But our country’s history, and specifically the history of black people in America, is a history of struggle against impossible odds, a history of overcoming resistance and backlash.

We have proven that we can win when we fight strategically and make progress whenever we have the opportunity. Right now, with President Joe Biden and Vice President Kamala Harris in the White House, and Democrats holding majority power in the House and Senate, we have an opportunity we cannot afford to waste.

There are three urgently important steps Congress must take this year to defend voting rights and strengthen democracy. The late Rep. John Lewis, for decades the conscience of the Congress, had his heart and hands in all three of them.

The first is to pass the For the People Act. It would overturn new state voter suppression laws and eliminate the worst abuses of redistricting and big money in our elections. Lewis authored its voting rights provisions. It is urgently important to pass the For the People Act now to prevent massive voter suppression in the 2022 and 2024 elections.

The second is to pass the John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act, which would protect against future voting rights abuses by restoring its enforcement mechanisms.

The third is to grant statehood to the District of Columbia and give its 700,000 residents full voting rights and voting representation in Congress. The District of Columbia has a higher percentage of black residents than any other state, which makes their disenfranchisement a fundamental civil rights violation and a betrayal of basic democratic principles.

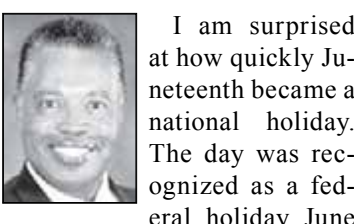
John Lewis was a champion of D.C. statehood. He saw the disenfranchisement of D.C. citizens as a moral wrong.

The For the People Act, John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act and D.C. statehood are a pro-democracy trinity. To keep faith with the voters who put them in power, especially black voters, President Biden and congressional Democrats must seize the moment to turn back attacks on voting and democracy. And to honor the voting rights legacy of John Lewis, we must all continue to make our voices heard and make “good trouble” on behalf of voting rights and democracy.

Ben Jealous is currently president of People For the American Way in Washington, D.C. and is the former national president & CEO of the NAACP.

The passage of the Juneteenth law was striking

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



I am surprised at how quickly Juneteenth became a national holiday. The day was recognized as a federal holiday June

17, 2021, when President Joe Biden signed the Juneteenth National Independence Day Act into law.

Am I the only African American to wonder how this piece of legislation became a law so fast?

I do not recall any publicity about the House and the Senate having a vote. In a humorous way, did they vote at the Wilson Pickett hour (the midnight hour)?

Where was the big debate about whether this holiday was needed? How did this get through the vile and crafty hands of Mitch McConnell?

Where were Ted Cruz and Tim Scott who said that America is not a racist country?

Now in 2021, the United States of America is commemorating Juneteenth. What compelled America to do so this year? I believe that question has multiple answers.

First, we know June 19th has been acknowledged in sections of this country since 1866. It is also known as Jubilee Day and Black Independence Day. That in and of itself was freedom denied and freedom delayed. As black people, we have gone through the gauntlet of racism and overt hatred.

Most textbooks used by students show President Abraham Lincoln’s signing of The Emancipation Proclamation in 1862 as the official ending of slavery. Wrong. There were black people in parts of Texas still being slaves. Union soldiers were finally able to deliver the message of freedom June 19, 1865.

Many cities and states across America have created activities centered around Juneteenth. My hometown of Winston-Salem NC is one of them.

A spokesperson for California Governor Gavin Newsome’s office said in statement, “The governor issues a proclamation each year to celebrate this im-

portant day. At the state level, establishing a holiday usually requires legislation and collective bargaining.”

Cities like Pittsburgh and Boston closed most of their offices. However, New York and Washington D.C. still provided most of their city services.

Responses to this federal holiday have been measured and uneven. Did the nation see this coming? I do not think so.

In my opinion, there were no contingency plans. It just happened and the people’s response was what do we do now?

Next year will be a better year to lift up Juneteenth and give it the recognition it rightfully deserves. Yes, it will be a better year but, even so, it was a long time coming. Maybe that is how it is with us.

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was assassinated April 4, 1968. Reports show that his birthday was approved as a federal holiday in 1983. It was not until the year 2000 that all 50 states made it a state government holiday.

It is my thinking America keeps a pace that is unthinkable

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.
1994 GEO PRIZM 1Y1SK5364RZ040361
Registered to: Nelson, Keith
Dennis Smith Auto Sales, Lien Holder
Date of Sale: July 2, 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.

6-17-2021 6/24/2021 7/1/2021

LEGAL

Notice of Sale Abandoned Vehicle

Notice of Sale is hereby given in accordance with the Mississippi Statutes governing the sale of abandoned motor vehicles that the following vehicle will be sold for repair and storage charges and for cost of this sale.
1984 BUIC REG 1G4AJ47A4EH441268
Registered to: Frank Hobson, Jamie Ranson
Date of Sale: July 2, 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.

6-17-2021 6/24/2021 7/1/2021

LEGAL

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF HINDS COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI
FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF
MAYA E. TEEUWISSEN, DECEASED

CAUSE NUMBER: 21-PR-00208

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Letters of Administration having been granted on the 20th day of May, 2021, by the Chancery Court of the First Judicial District of Hinds County [MEC.] 5, to the undersigned Nina M. Teeuwissen as Administratrix and Lia N. Teeuwissen as co-Administratrix of the Estate of Maya E. Teeuwissen, notice is hereby given, pursuant to MISSISSIPPI CODE ANN. §91-7-145 (1972) to all persons having claims against the Estate to present the same to the Clerk of this Court. Failure to have a claim probated and registered by the Clerk of the Court granting Letters within ninety (90) days from the first publication of the Notice to Creditors will bar such claim as provided by MISSISSIPPI CODE ANN. §91-7-157 (1972).

This the 21st day of May, 2021.

Nina M. Teeuwissen, ADMINISTRATRIX OF THE ESTATE OF MAYA E. TEEUWISSEN, DECEASED

Lia N. Teeuwissen, CO-ADMINISTRATRIX OF THE ESTATE OF MAYA E. TEEUWISSEN, DECEASED

PIETER TEEUWISSEN, MSB # 8777
ANTHONY R. SIMON, MSB # 10009
Simon & Teeuwissen, PLLC
621 Northside Drive
Jackson, Mississippi 39206
Telephone: 601-362-8400

COUNSEL FOR THE ESTATE

6-10-2021, 6-17-2021, 6-24-2021

LEGAL

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF HINDS COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI
FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF
ALEXANDER PIETER SMITH, A MINOR, DECEASED

CAUSE NUMBER: 21-PR-00325

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Letters of Administration having been granted on the 9th day of June, 2021, by the Chancery Court of the First Judicial District of Hinds County [MEC.] 5, to the undersigned Lisa M. Teeuwissen as Administratrix of the Estate of Alexander Pieter Smith, a Minor, notice is hereby given, pursuant to MISSISSIPPI CODE ANN. §91-7-145 (1972) to all persons having claims against the Estate to present the same to the Clerk of this Court. Failure to have a claim probated and registered by the Clerk of the Court granting Letters within ninety (90) days from the first publication of the Notice to Creditors will bar such claim as provided by MISSISSIPPI CODE ANN. §91-7-157 (1972).

This the 9th day of June, 2021.

Lisa M. Teeuwissen, ADMINISTRATRIX OF THE ESTATE OF ALEXANDER PIETER SMITH, A MINOR, DECEASED

PIETER TEEUWISSEN, MSB # 8777
ANTHONY R. SIMON, MSB # 10009
Simon & Teeuwissen, PLLC
621 Northside Drive
Jackson, Mississippi 39206
Telephone: 601-362-8400

COUNSEL FOR THE ESTATE

6-17-2021, 6-24-2021, 7-1-2021

LEGAL

Advertisement for Reverse Auction Bid Bid 3193 Prometheans Panels and Smartboard Panels

Reverse Auction bidding for the above bid will be received by the Board of Trustees of the Jackson Public School District, in the Business Office, 662 South President Street, Jackson, Mississippi, until 10:00 A.M. (Local Prevailing Time) July 14, 2021, at which time Reverse Auction bidding begins electronically. The Board of Trustees reserves the right to reject any and all bids, to waive informalities, and to withhold the acceptance of any bid if approved for forty-five calendar days from the date Reverse Auction bid opening ends.

Specification responses must be submitted for this bid event. Specifications are due no later than (5:00 p.m., July 09, 2021) local time to be given the opportunity to participate in the auction. Vendors submitting acceptable specification responses will be invited to participate in the electronic reverse auction at www.centralbidding.com on July 08, 2021 beginning at 10:00 a.m. until 10:45 a.m. for Promethean Panels, 11:00 a.m. until 11:45 a.m. for Smartboard Panels local time. Vendors must be registered with Central Bidding in order to participate in the reverse auction. For any questions concerning the reverse auction process or how to register, please contact Central Bidding at 225-810-4814.

6/17/2021, 6/24/2021

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, JULY 14, 2021 AT 12:00 NOON IN THE ANDREW JACKSON CONFERENCE ROOM (RM. 105) OF THE WARREN HOOD BUILDING, 200 SOUTH PRESIDENT STREET, JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI.

I. APPLICATIONS FOR CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS

A. OLD BUSINESS

1. 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.

2. 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.

B. NEW BUSINESS

1. Case No. HPNC-21-26, requested by: Aikisha Holly Colon to construct a new mixed used building at 115 E. Griffith St. located in the Farish Historical District.

2. Case No. HPNC-21-28, requested by: Akili Kelly to install approximately 54 solar panels on the east facing slope of the existing gable roof structure at 805 Madison St. located in the Belhaven Heights Historical District.

3. Case No. HPNC-21-29, requested by: Jennifer Welch to demolish existing wood deck to the rear of property and build new extended deck with three covered carport parking spaces below; extend existing driveway for car access; remove two windows at rear of property to lower level crawl space under main floor of house; install two doors to provide access at 935 Bellevue Pl. located in the Belhaven Heights Historical District.

II. OTHER ITEMS

1. Administratively Approved COAs.

III. ADJOURN

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

6-17-2021, 6-24-2021

LEGAL

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF HINDS COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI
FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF
ALEXANDER PIETER SMITH, A MINOR, DECEASED

CAUSE NUMBER: 21-PR-00325

LISA M. TEEUWISSEN,
AS ADMINISTRATRIX OF
THE ESTATE OF ALEXANDER PIETER SMITH,
A MINOR, DECEASED

PETITIONER

VS.

THE UNKNOWN HEIRS AT LAW OF
ALEXANDER PIETER SMITH,
A MINOR, DECEASED

RESPONDENTS

SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION

THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

TO: THE HEIRS-AT-LAW AND WRONGFUL DEATH BENEFICIARIES OF
ALEXANDER PIETER SMITH, A MINOR, DECEASED

You have been made respondents in the suit filed in this Court by Lisa M. Teeuwissen, as Administratrix of the Estate of Alexander Pieter Smith, A Minor, Deceased. You are summoned to appear and defend against the Petition for Determination of Heirship and Wrongful Death Beneficiaries filed against you in this action at 1:30 P.M. on the 9th OF AUGUST, at the **HINDS COUNTY CHANCERY COURTHOUSE IN JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI**, and in case of your failure to appear and defend, a judgment will be entered against you for the money or other things demanded in the Petition.

You are not required to file an answer or other pleading but you may do so if you

Issued under my hand and seal of said Court, this the 11 day of June, 2021.

Hon. Eddie Jean Carr,
Hinds County Chancery Clerk

BY: [Signature], D.C.

PREPARED BY:
ANTHONY R. SIMON, MSB # 10009
SIMON & TEEUWISSEN, PLLC
621 NORTHSIDE DRIVE
JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI 39206
Telephone: 601-362-8400

COUNSEL FOR THE ESTATE

6-17-2021, 6-24-2021

LEGAL

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JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI 39206
Telephone: 601-362-8400

COUNSEL FOR THE ESTATE

6-17-2021, 6-24-2021

LEGAL

CITY OF JACKSON 2021

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP)

The City of Jackson's Office of Housing and Community Development hereby notifies interested Applicants of funds available from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for the following grants: Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG), and Housing Opportunities for Persons With AIDS (HOPWA).

The City will conduct an in-person Application/Proposal Workshop session on Friday, July 9, 2021 at 9:30 a.m. at the Jackson Police Department Training Academy, 3000 St. Charles Street. Organizations interested in applying for 2021 funding for CDBG, ESG, or HOPWA funds are encouraged to attend the Workshop to receive instructions and information on completing the applications/proposals. Masks are required and social distancing will be enforced.

Application/Proposal packages for 2021 CDBG, ESG, and HOPWA will only be accepted electronically via email. Electronic submission instructions will be included in the application instructions.

Applications will be available on July 9, 2021. To download applications and instructions, please visit: <https://www.jacksonms.gov/housing-community-development/>

The deadline to submit all applications electronically is by 5:00 p.m. on August 13, 2021.

Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, no application/proposal packages will be accepted at our office or by mail.

For more details contact the Office of Development Assistance Division at 601-960-2155.

6-24-2021, 7-1-2021

If you think
you can't afford
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Internet service,
think again!

With Lifeline, home phone or Internet service is
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Qualified Mississippi low-income residents may receive discounted service from AT&T under the Lifeline Program. Customers must meet certain eligibility criteria based on income level or participate in the following financial assistance programs:

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- Medicaid
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- Veterans and Survivors Pension Benefit
- Federal Public Housing Assistance
- Income level at or below 135% of the federal poverty guideline

Customers must reside in an area where AT&T participates in the Lifeline Program. In addition, if you live on federally recognized tribal lands and are eligible for benefits through any qualifying program above or the Bureau of Indian Affairs for Tribal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, Head Start Subsidy or Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations, you may qualify for Tribal Link-Up and expanded Lifeline Assistance.

Please call your local AT&T customer support center at 855.301.0355 and ask about Lifeline or visit us at att.com/lifeline.



Lifeline is a government assistance program, the service is nontransferable, only eligible consumers may enroll in the program, supporting documentation is necessary for enrollment, and the program is limited to one discount per household consisting of either wireline or wireless service or an Internet plan that meets the Lifeline program's minimum service standards at an eligible location. Consumers who willfully make false statements in order to obtain the benefit can be punished by fine or imprisonment or can be barred from the program. AT&T's Lifeline Program is not available in all areas. Offers subject to change. ©2021 AT&T Intellectual Property. All rights reserved. AT&T and Globe logo are registered trademarks of AT&T Intellectual Property. All other marks are the property of their respective owners.

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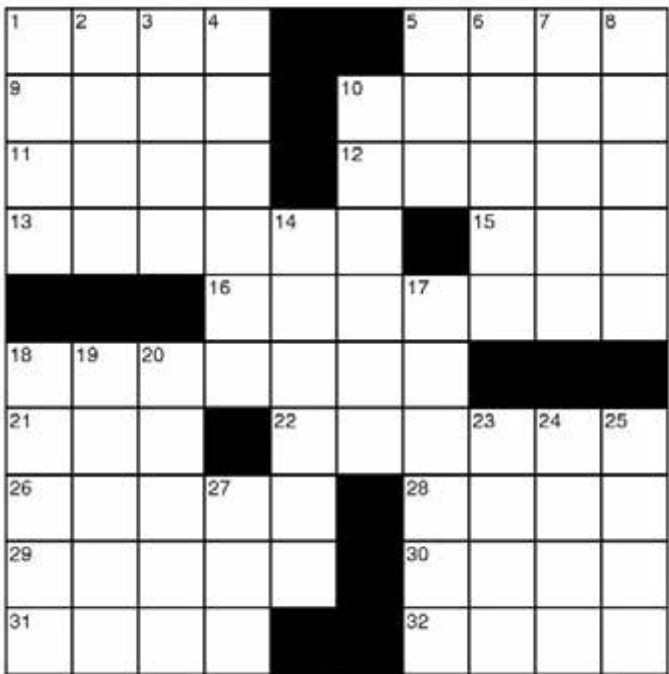
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Subject to Credit Approval

*To qualify, consumers must request a quote, purchase, install and activate the generator with a participating dealer. Call for a full list of terms and conditions.



Crossword Puzzle



- ACROSS**

 - 1. Chimney dirt
 - 5. To incite
 - 9. Shove
 - 10. Splash
 - 11. Organization concerned with civil liberties (abbr.)
 - 12. Island nation
 - 13. Parallelograms
 - 15. Part of a min.
 - 16. Wild
 - 18. Conductor
 - 21. Infirm
 - 22. Asian nation
 - 26. Ranged
 - 28. Ill-mannered
 - 29. Not those
 - 30. Mined metals
 - 31. Bunny
 - 32. Covet
- DOWN**

 - 1. Box
 - 2. That hurts!
 - 3. Capital of Norway
 - 4. Fingers
 - 5. Wing
 - 6. Capital of Idaho
 - 7. Organic compound
 - 8. Not thin
 - 10. Bakes unshelled eggs
 - 14. Happen to
 - 17. Dolor
 - 18. Merriment
 - 19. Hawaiian ‘hello’
 - 20. Eel
 - 23. Manner
 - 24. Adam’s garden
 - 25. For fear that
 - 27. Compass point

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Cryptogram

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

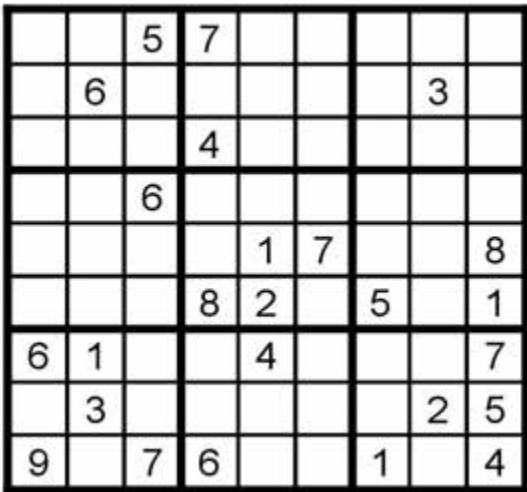
Hint: Quote by Reggie Jackson

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ
T
ZXT QAYB VTPRQA W JQA Z YWET
MYPBWAD WA ZXT IQVYJ RTVWTR
WH W UPA Z TPZUX HBRTYK MYPB

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Sudoku

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



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Crossword Solution



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Cryptogram Solution

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ
POUJTKDXWNEYHAQMFRVZGLICBS
THE ONLY REASON I DON'T LIKE
ZXT QAYB VTPRQA W JQA Z YWET
PLAYING IN THE WORLD SERIES
MYPBWAD WA ZXT IQVYJ RTVWTR
IS I CAN'T WATCH MYSELF PLAY
WR W UPA Z TPZUX HBRTYK MYPB

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Sudoku Solution



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THE MISSISSIPPI LINK
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CASH & CARRY
Capitol Street and Monument Street
CITY HALL
219 S President St
GARRETT OFFICE COMPLEX
2659 Livingston Road
DOLLAR GENERAL
3957 Northview Dr (North Jackson)
DOLLAR GENERAL
2030 N Siwell Rd
DOLLAR GENERAL
4331 Highway 80W
DOLLAR GENERAL
5990 Medgar Evers Blvd
DOLLAR GENERAL
1214 Capitol St (Downtown Jackson)
DOLLAR GENERAL
304 Briarwood Dr
DOLLAR GENERAL
2855 McDowell Rd
DOLLAR GENERAL
104 Terry Rd

J & A FUEL STORES
3249 Medgar Evers Blvd.
LIBERTY BANK AND TRUST
2325 Livingston Rd.
MCDADÉ’S MARKET
Northside Drive
MCDADÉ’S MARKET #2
653 Duling Avenue
PICADILLY CAFETERIA
Jackson Medical Mall
350 W Woodrow Wilson Avenue
SHELL FOOD MART
5492 Watkins Drive

SPORTS MEDICINE

Fortification and I-55
MURPHY USA
6394 Ridgewood Rd (North Jackson)
REVELL ACE HARDWARE
Terry Rd (South Jackson)
WALGREENS
380 W. Woodrow Wilson Ave

CANTON

A & I
716 Roby Street - Canton, MS
B & B
702 West North Street - Canton, MS
BOUTIQUE STORE
3355 North Liberty - Canton, MS
BULLY’S STORE
Church Street - Canton, MS
COMMUNITY MART
743 Ruby Street - Canton, MS
FRYER LANE GROCERY
Martin Luther King Drive - Canton, MS
HAMLIN FLORAL DESIGN
285 Peace Street - Canton, MS
JOE’S SANDWICH & GROCERY
507 Church Street - Canton, MS
K & K ONE STOP
110 West Fulton Street - Canton, MS
LACY’S INSURANCE
421 Peace Street - Canton, MS
SOUL SET BARBER SHOP
257 Peace Street - Canton, MS
TRAILER PARK GROCERY
22 Westside Drive - Canton, MS

BYRAM

DOLLAR GENERAL
125 Swinging Bridge Dr.
HAVIOR’S AUTO CARE
5495 I-55 South Frontage Road

VOWELL’S MARKET PLACE

5777 Terry Road
CITY HALL
Terry Road

CLINTON

DOLLAR GENERAL
807 Berkshire St - Clinton, MS

TERRY
SERVICE STATION

at Exit 78
CITY HALL
West Cunningham Avenue

RAYMOND

HINDS COMMUNITY COLLEGE
WELCOME CENTER
505 E. Main Street
SUNFLOWER GROCERY
122 Old Port Gibson Street,
Raymond, MS
LOVE FOOD MART
120 E. Main Street,
Raymond, MS
RAYMOND PUBLIC LIBRARY
126 W. Court Street, Raymond, MS
RAYMOND CITY HALL
110 Courtyard Square, Raymond
RAYMOND COURTHOUSE

UTICA

HUBBARD’S TRUCK STOP
Mississippi Hwy 18
PITT STOP
101 Hwy 18 & 27

BOLTON

BOLTON LIBRARY
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Miscellaneous

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Week of June 20, 2021

National Guard helping with COVID-19 response to withdraw

By Renita Lacy
Staff Writer

The more than 1,500 Mississippi National Guard members who have been working throughout the state over the course of the coronavirus pandemic to help with COVID-19 testing, vaccinations and other initiatives are being withdrawn next month, Gov. Tate Reeves said Friday.

Mississippi will be ceasing all operations with the Mississippi National Guard July 15, Reeves said. The governor also announced that he will lift the COVID-19 state of emergency order Aug. 15.

While all COVID-19 restrictions have been lifted, the state of emergency order has remained in place to ensure that members of the National Guard continue to be paid while stationed in Mississippi.

Members of the National Guard have been serving in Mississippi since March 2020. They were stationed at dozens of state-run vaccination and testing sites throughout the state.

Adjutant General of the Mississippi National Guard Maj. Gen. Janson D. Boyles said Friday that the governor's timeline to lift Mississippi's state of emergency declaration ensures that his service members will "complete all necessary out-processing requirements and receive the benefits and entitlements they have earned during their dedicated service to our state."

Just over 950,000 people in Mississippi, a state with around 3 million residents, have been fully vaccinated against COVID-19, according to the state Department of Health.

Black business registrations increased during COVID pandemic



Google Trends data reported an "uptick in searches related to black-owned businesses" in June of last year during the start of the pandemic. (Photo: iStockphoto / NNPA)

By Lauren Victoria Burke
NNPA Newswire Contributor

Several states have shown that the number of registered businesses has "more than doubled" according to analysis by the *New York Times*.

In the month after the CARES Act was passed by Congress in March 2020, business registrations increased by 60 percent. Though the economic downturn caused by the COVID pandemic is likely to damage entrepreneurship and put many small businesses in a financial hole or out of business entirely, there are signs that many have turned to creating businesses after losing employment elsewhere.

Andre Perry, a Brookings Institution fellow, told the *Times* that some of the surge in black business registrations could be a signal of personal economic trouble.

"This is more about survival than it is about wealth creation. There's lots of people who have lost their jobs and lost their businesses. People are starting to realize that side hustles are businesses," Perry

said.

Additionally, Google Trends data reported an "uptick in searches related to black-owned businesses" in June of last year during the start of the pandemic. According to Google Trends data, searches for "How to find black owned businesses in your area" saw a 300% spike and searches for "Black owned restaurants near me" tripled.

An app that is a guide to black owned restaurants, called EatOkra, witnessed a 4,450% increase in downloads of new users in May 2020. Many believe that activism after the murder of George Floyd coupled with the COVID-19 pandemic spurred many to think about economic activism and black owned businesses.

Lauren Victoria Burke is an independent journalist for NNPA and the host of the podcast BURKEFILE. She is also a political strategist as principal of Win Digital Media LLC. She may be contacted at LVBurke007@gmail.com and on twitter at @LVBurke

Your balance, catch it before you fall

By Vince Faust
Tips to Be Fit

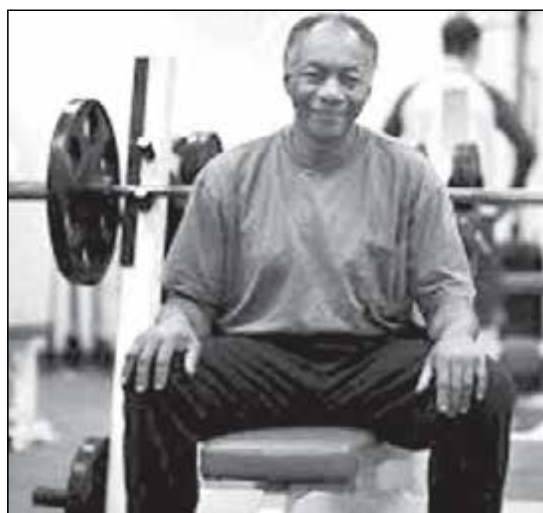
We seldom think we will get seriously injured or die if we fall. Seniors are at greater risk for falling but there is no age group that doesn't fall. For adults in their 30s, 40s and 50s falling is the leading cause of nonfatal injuries. More than three million are treated in the hospital every year for falls.

A decline in your motor function tends to accelerate from 75-80 years of age. For adults 65 and older studies show falls are the leading cause of fatal injuries.

I always tell people to do a fall assessment of their home for fall hazards. These hazards include electrical cords, area rugs, slippery floors, table edges and objects in the wrong place. You should also understand the effects of your medication such as blood pressure, sleeping pills or any that can affect your balance. Vision problems and ill-fitting shoes can put you at risk for falling.

Your neuromuscular system includes all the muscles in your body and the nerves that serve them. Every movement your body makes requires communication between your brain and your muscles. Even subtle changes in your neuromuscular system, which helps us keep our balance, can cause us to fall. Exercising and strengthening your body before you become unsteady is one of the best steps you can take to protect your neuromuscular system.

Do you sometimes feel a little wobbly when you stand on one leg? It may be due to your body's losing strength. After 40 we begin to lose 1% of our muscle mass every year. Most seniors also become more sedentary as they age. These two factors alone can make your



body less able to adapt to sudden terrain changes. With out exercise and a sedentary trend our nervous system will also become less sensitive as we age.

If you are afraid of falling or you have a history of falling it can affect your confidence. Get a professional to give you a balance assessment. This will tell you where you are having problems and what you have to work on.

Muscle weakness can make us apprehensive about losing our balance. Some people start to avoid physical activities because we have muscle weakness. If we avoid activities that challenge us, we will only accelerate both muscle and nervous system decline.

Strengthening muscles, tendons and ligaments with resistance exercise will make you stronger, help support the skeletal system, joints and make your neuromuscular system more efficient. Stronger muscles, tendons and ligaments can reduce your risk of having joint problems and help existing joint problems.

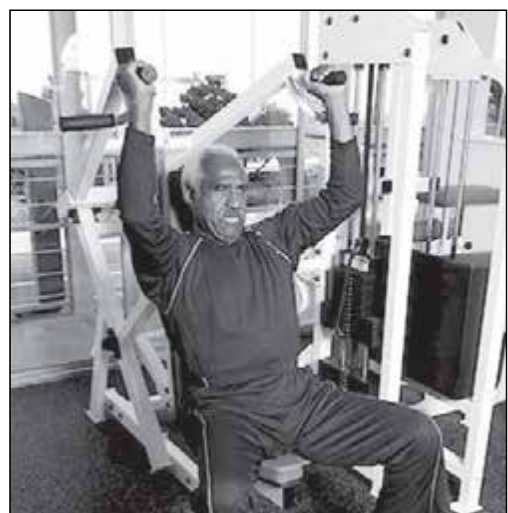
You should talk with your doctor before you start because depending on what the joint problem is, resistance training

may aggravate it.

Aerobic exercises (walking, jogging, biking or swimming continuously for 15 minutes or more) are important but muscle-strengthening exercises are just as important to have a fit body. In fact, strength-building exercises are a necessary part of an aerobic program because they help keep the bones and joints strong enough to withstand aerobic training.

Sleep is another factor that can affect your neuromuscular system. If you get the right amount of sleep you will get the most out of your body. If you don't get enough sleep your muscles will work less efficiently. The amount of sleep needed each night varies among people. Each person needs the right amount of sleep in order to be fully alert throughout the day.

Research has shown that when healthy adults are allowed to sleep unrestricted, the average time slept is 8 to 8.5 hours. Some people need more than that to avoid problem sleepiness; others need less. If a person does not get enough sleep, even on one night, a "sleep debt" begins to build and increases until enough sleep is obtained. Problem sleepiness occurs as the debt accumulates.

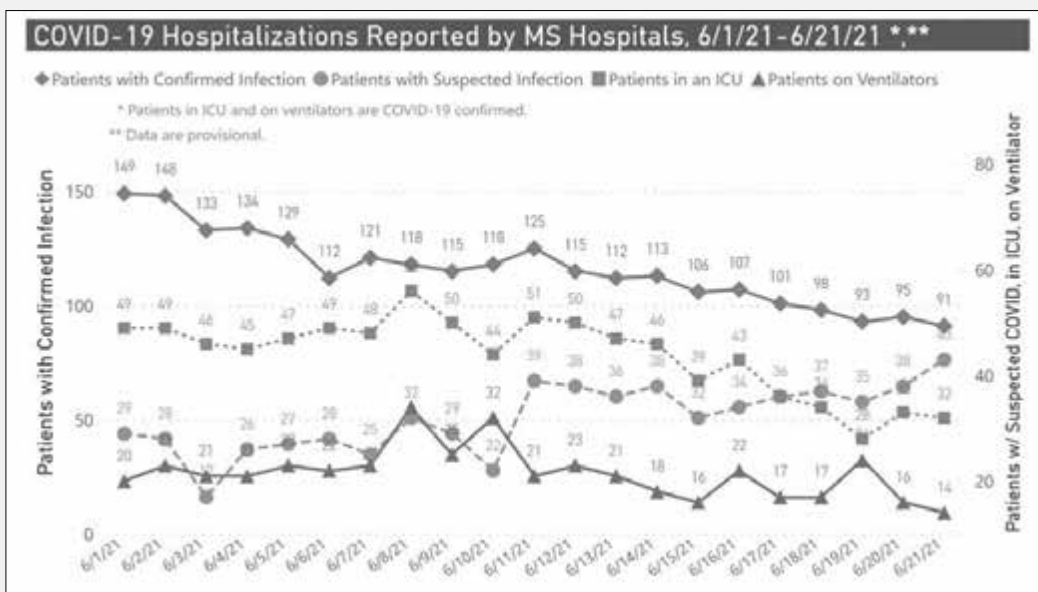
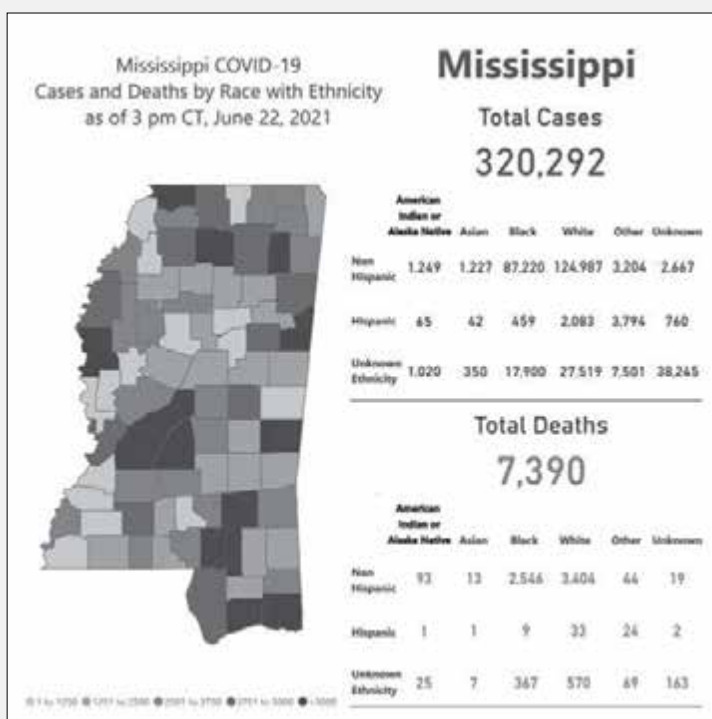


Many people do not get enough sleep during the workweek and then sleep longer on the weekends or days off to reduce their sleep debt. If too much sleep has been lost, sleeping in on the weekend may not completely reverse the effects of not getting enough sleep during the week. At night your body covers your nerve endings with protein. This insures your neuromuscular system will work properly.

If you do develop neuromuscular problems you should have a team working with any neuromuscular system issues. Neuromuscular medicine and psychiatry specialists should be your key health care providers. They will help to maximize your health, functional capacities and inhibit or prevent complications.

A good exercise programs and good sleep hygiene are being recommended for people well into their senior years to help them perform every day living activities such as walking, grooming, dressing, climbing stairs, and getting in and out of chairs. It also helps improve balance and coordination. When added together these qualities equal more independence.

MISSISSIPPI COVID-19 UPDATE



NNPA chair prepares for annual convention after leading Black Press to most successful two-year period in history

Houston Forward Times publisher seeks re-election at June convention

By Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Newswire Senior National Correspondent

According to Karen Carter Richards, the state of the Black Press of America is more robust than it has ever been.

The National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA) chair and the *Houston Forward Times* publisher expressed even more optimism for the future.

“I’m proud to chair this organization,” she told NNPA President and CEO Benjamin F. Chavis Jr., during an extensive discussion inside the trade association’s new state-of-the-art television studio and headquarters at the Thurgood Marshall Center in Washington, D.C.

“We’ve always known that we are a resilient people, but the pandemic forced a lot of us to take a deep breath because it was new,” Carter Richards continued.

“A lot of us were print publications, but we had to change the game. We took a breath and started doing what we do. Some of us were already making digital strides, but it was gradual. The pandemic forced us to step it up, and we had a lot of help from the NNPA office, and the publishers helped each other.”

The NNPA represents the hundreds of newspapers and media companies in the Black Press of America family.

From June 23 to June 26, the NNPA will host its national convention. The convention will feature a special performance by the legendary Grammy winner Chaka Khan and Nu-Soul and Jazz artist Candice Hoyes.

The NNPA will also hand out its prestigious Legacy Awards to:

- Darnella Frazier, the African American teenager who courageously filmed the police officer kneeling on George Floyd’s neck, will receive the Ida B. Wells National Photojournalism Award
- The Rev. John P. Keewill receive the 2021 National Gospel Transformative Award
- Earth, Wind & Fire lead singer Philip Bailey will be presented with the 2021 National Lifetime Achievement Legacy Award for Outstanding Achievement, Impact and



Carter Richards

Creative Genius

• Scotty Barnhart, the legendary Count Basie Orchestra leader, will receive the 2021 National Performance and Outstanding Leadership Award

• The Rev. Dr. Starsky Wilson will receive the 2021 National Achievement and Outstanding Leadership Award for his work as president and CEO of the Children’s Defense Fund

• Congresswoman Joyce L. Beatty (D-Ohio) will receive the 2021 National Congressional Leadership Award, and the NNPA will present Minnesota Attorney General Keith Ellison with the Outstanding and Courageous Leadership Award

• Chaka Khan will receive the 2021 National Lifetime Achievement Legacy Award for Decades of Creative Genius and Outstanding Leadership for Freedom, Justice and Equality in American and Throughout the World.

This year marks the second consecutive virtual convention.

During the convention, Carter Richards will seek election to a second successive term as national chair.

While any potential challengers for the position have yet to identify themselves, Carter Richards’ run as chair has proved impressive.

“We are doing better than we’ve done in the history of the NNPA,” she declared.

Despite the pandemic that forced many out of jobs and a topsy-turvy economy where government stimulus served to res-

cue most, Chavis said advertising and other revenue skyrocketed for the Black Press.

Carter Richards credited the national office led by Chavis, Claudette Perry, the NNPA’s executive administrator, and the staff.

“It feels wonderful to have a great team,” Carter Richards exclaimed.

“I have to give [Dr. Chavis] your due. You’ve done a great job, and we have a great team at NNPA. We can’t do it without the team.”

She also praised the NNPA’s all-women executive committee, Janis Ware (*The Atlanta Voice*), the first vice-chair, Fran Farner (*The County News in North Carolina*), second vice-chair, Brenda Andrews (*New Journal and Guide in Virginia*), treasurer and Jackie Hampton (*The Mississippi Link*) secretary.

“I’m loving being with the ladies,” Carter Richards announced. “Black women do what black women do. We are going to continue to do great things.”

Carter Richards recalled her father’s vision for the *Houston Forward Times*. She noted that he began planning for the newspaper five years before its 1955 launch when he returned from serving in the U.S. military.

Julius Carter taught his daughter and her sister the value of community and the Black Press.

His steadfastness for bringing forward hard facts led to the *Forward Times*’ building bombing in 1971, just days after he published an article critical of the local police department.

Julius Carter died of a heart attack days later, and his wife, Lenora “Doll” Carter, immediately sprang into action to keep the paper alive.

“They were taking bets that my mom wouldn’t last six months at the newspaper,” Carter Richards remembered.

“She was 29 years old, with two little girls. But she took the paper to its 50th year. I was terrified because she had a massive heart attack, and she wasn’t even sick. I was next in line, but I was ready because I had shadowed my mother for years.”

Grammy Award winner Stephanie Mills releases new music decrying racial injustice, police violence



Mills

By Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Newswire Senior National Correspondent

Music lovers, prepare yourself for one of the most anticipated comebacks in history.

The legendary Grammy Award winner Stephanie Mills has announced her new single, “Let’s Do the Right Thing,” an anthem not unlike Marvin Gaye’s “What’s Going On?” of 50 years ago.

Her long-awaited new music dropped June 19 – Juneteenth.

“It’s all me. I am not doing this through a [traditional] record label,” Mills told the National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA) in an exclusive interview.

The NNPA is the trade association that represents the hundreds of African American-owned newspapers and media companies that comprise the Black Press of America.

Parts of the icon’s special interview, including the debut of Mills’ new single, can be seen Friday, June 25, at 1 p.m. EST, as part of the NNPA’s Virtual 2021 National Convention. The NNPA will air the full interview at 5 p.m. EST on its “Fiyah!” broadcast.

The broadcast will air over several of the Black Press of America’s social media channels, including Facebook.com/BlackPressUSA/Videos, YouTube.com/c/BlackPressUSATV and Twitter @BlackPressUSA.

Mills’ team said the new music brings fans back to her traditional soulful sound infused with an empowering message that challenges the listener “to take an introspective look at oneself to create love and peace.”

A native of Brooklyn, New York, Mills has proven to be a treasure embedded in music’s fabric. Her illustrious career spans a half-century.

The singer, whose voice knows no peers, began her professional career at the age of 11 with a Broadway run of “Mag-

gie Flynn,” followed by the leading role of Dorothy in the Tony Award-Winning play “The Wiz.”

After conquering the Great White Way, Mills recorded some of the most memorable songs in music history, including “Never Knew Love Like This,” “Putting a Rush on Me,” “Power of Love,” and “Home.”

Along with her singing and acting career, Mills is a lifelong social justice and civil rights activist and philanthropist.

She has earned multiple Grammy, American Music and NAACP Image awards.

“My new music is a reflection of the sadness and heartache I’ve been feeling over the pandemic and George Floyd and the systemic racism that plagues our people,” Mills asserted.

“Let’s Do the Right Thing” is my personal plea for all people to rise up and come together,” she said.

The single is reminiscent of Gaye’s “What’s Going On,” where the late Motown great crooned disenchantment over the state of America and its involvement in the Vietnam War.

Mills’ new song also decries the state of America, most notably the police killings of African Americans like George Floyd, Tamir Rice, Breonna Taylor and many other black people.

Along with releasing her new single, Mills debuted the accompanying music video and performed her Billboard hit “Home” from *The Wiz* during the Juneteenth Celebration in New York with the historic Riverside Church and Middle Collegiate Church.

“The evening embodied Juneteenth’s spirit of freedom and celebration of two black-led faith institutions historically and presently combined to do transformative justice work,” her team noted.

“Let’s Do the Right Thing” became available on all streaming platforms June 19.

Senate Republicans block sweeping voting rights bill

By Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Newswire Senior National Correspondent

With Republican-backed voter suppression bills sweeping the country, the Democrat-majority in the U.S. Senate has quickly lost its grip on protecting voters of color and others who are marginalized at the polls.

On Tuesday, a procedural vote on the House-passed “For the People Act” proved dead on arrival after falling well short of the 60-votes needed.

“Donald Trump, with his despicable lies, has lit a fire under Republican state legislatures, and they have launched the most sweeping effort at voter suppression in 80 years,” declared Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer (D-New York). “The GOP doesn’t even want to debate,” Schumer asserted. Democrats hold the tie-breaking vote in the evenly divided Senate.

However, all its members had to vote favorably for the measure, and at least 10 Republicans would have to join.

Sen. Joe Manchin (D-West Virginia) had preemptively broken ranks with the party and said he would vote against the “For the People Act.”

Party leaders spent considerable time negotiating a compromise with Manchin on amendments he proposed. “I think we put out an awful lot of good changes, I think, hopefully, the country would agree,” Manchin said ahead of the vote. He said the changes “make a lot of sense



Senate Republicans have blocked the “For the People” Act, which would have offered more voting rights and help fight voter suppression efforts. PHOTO: ISTOCKPHOTO / NNPA

for a lot of voters.”

Before Democrats accepted Manchin’s amendments, he expressed a reticence to vote for the legislation.

“Some in my party have argued that now is the time to discard such bipartisan voting reforms and embrace election reforms and policies solely supported by one party. Respectfully, I do not agree,” a defiant Manchin wrote in an op-ed in the *Charleston Gazette-Mail* newspaper in West Virginia.

Ironically, Republicans used the filibuster to torpedo the “For the People Act,” but Manchin steadfastly has ignored cries to eliminate or modify the rule.

“I will not vote to weaken or eliminate the filibuster,” the moderate senator wrote.

With voter suppression bills passing in Florida, Georgia, Texas, and other GOP-led states, many Democrats in the Senate and President Joe Biden had hoped the “For the People Act” would override restrictive legislation.

The bill addresses voter access, election integrity, election security, political spending and ethics for the three branches of government.

It would expand voter registration and voting access and limit removing voters from voter rolls.

Among other provisions, the bill provides for states to establish independent, nonpartisan redistricting commissions.

It sets provisions related to election security, including sharing intelligence information with state election officials, protecting the safety of the voter rolls and supporting states in securing their election systems.

The “For the People Act” develops a national strategy to protect the security and integrity of U.S. democratic institutions, establishes in the legislative branch the National Commission to Protect United States Democratic Institutions, and other provisions to improve the cybersecurity of election systems.

Even former President Barack Obama jumped into the fray this

week to criticize opponents of the “For the People Act.”

“Think about this: In the aftermath of an insurrection, with our democracy on the line and many of the same Republican senators going along with the notion that somehow there were irregularities and problems with legitimacy in our most recent election, they’re suddenly afraid to even talk about these issues and figure out a solution on the floor of the Senate,” Obama said during a tele-town hall with former Attorney General Eric Holder and grassroots activists about the bill. “That’s not acceptable.”

The 44th president continued: “Whatever else we may argue about, the one thing we should agree on is the bedrock idea that we, as Americans, have been taught to take pride in – the fact that we are a democracy. The issue of voting rights might not set off alarms for most of us but the violence that occurred in the U.S. Capitol January 6 should remind us we can’t take our democracy for granted.”

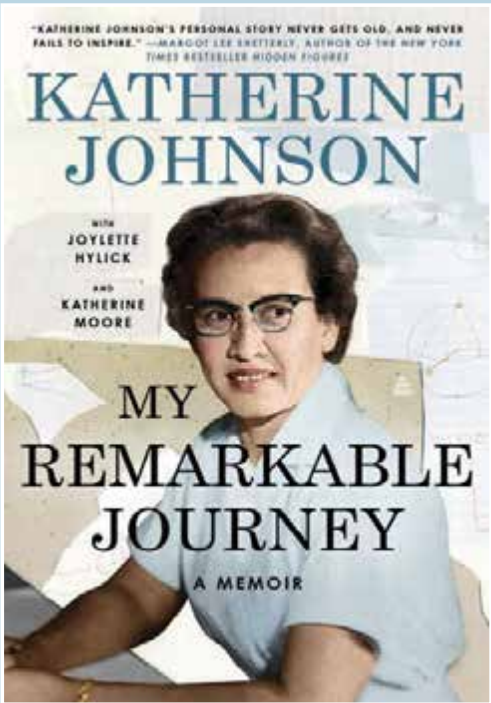
Georgia Democratic Senator Raphael Warnock insisted that his colleagues on both sides of the aisle should protect democracy. “Protecting the sacred right to vote doesn’t just help secure our democracy. It helps ensure a future in which Americans can come together to solve our nation’s challenges,” Warnock stated.

“Congress cannot stand idly by as efforts to suppress voters’ voices are being enacted.”

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BOOK REVIEW:

MY REMARKABLE JOURNEY: A MEMOIR

BY KATHERINE JOHNSON WITH JOYLETTE HYLICK AND KATHERINE MOORE

C.2021, AMISTAD

\$25.99 / \$31.99 CANADA • 235 PAGES

Mississippi Link Newswire

One, two, buckle my shoe. We Three Kings, cheaper by the dozen, it’s a Catch 22 and double jeopardy, then we’re back to Square One. In every corner of our lives, we use numbers, we count, we cypher. And in the new book “My Remarkable Journey” by Katherine Johnson (with Joylette Hylick and Katherine Moore), we know a career takes true calculations.

When Katherine Coleman was born in 1918, Model T cars were selling for \$350, fresh off the assembly line. Women couldn’t

vote, TV hadn’t been invented, and black Americans lived under strict Jim Crow laws. Knowing that schooling was the best way to survive the latter, Coleman’s parents, who owned a farm near the town of White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia, insisted that their children all get educations.

Precocious Coleman was the youngest, but by the time she graduated high school at age fifteen, she was old enough to see that success would require more classwork and that teaching at a black school was the likeliest

goal. College spoke to Coleman’s innate curiosity and she loved it; she planned to major in French until “the math professors had their say.”

One of them challenged her to become a “research mathematician.”

Unsure what, exactly, that was, Coleman stepped off the career track to marry and raise three daughters before heading back to work as a teacher, then landing a position at the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics (the “predecessor to NASA”) at Langley Field

(now Langley Air Force Base) in Virginia. Her job, at first, was as a “computer” – literally, one who computes so that the program’s engineers didn’t have to do it. Coleman (then Goble, later Johnson) quickly worked her way into the research division involved in the Space Race, and when the Soviets launched Sputnik, she felt “that competitive American spirit” deep inside herself.

“We’ve got to do something,” she remembered thinking. “Little did I know then that ‘we’ soon would include me.”


So you saw the movie, Hidden Figures, and you loved it. So did author Katherine Johnson, on whom the movie is modeled, and here, she explains what parts were right and what Hollywood got wrong. Moreover, she takes you back to the beginning in “My Remarkable Journey.”

Lively and with great detail, Johnson tells her story in a way that frames her accomplishments in humble neon, never letting readers forget who she was or what she did, but not bragging on it without giving ample credit to others. The warmth and

grace of that is impressive; so is the fact that she admits to having endured racism, patriarchy and Jim Crow laws but she waves them away like a fly on a June afternoon, as if they weren’t even a part of her equation.

“My Remarkable Journey” puts the movie about Johnson into keener perspective, bringing the full story, as Yvonne Cagle says in her introduction, to a new generation of young women.

Find it, share it with your daughter. Or catch it on an audiobook. That counts, too.



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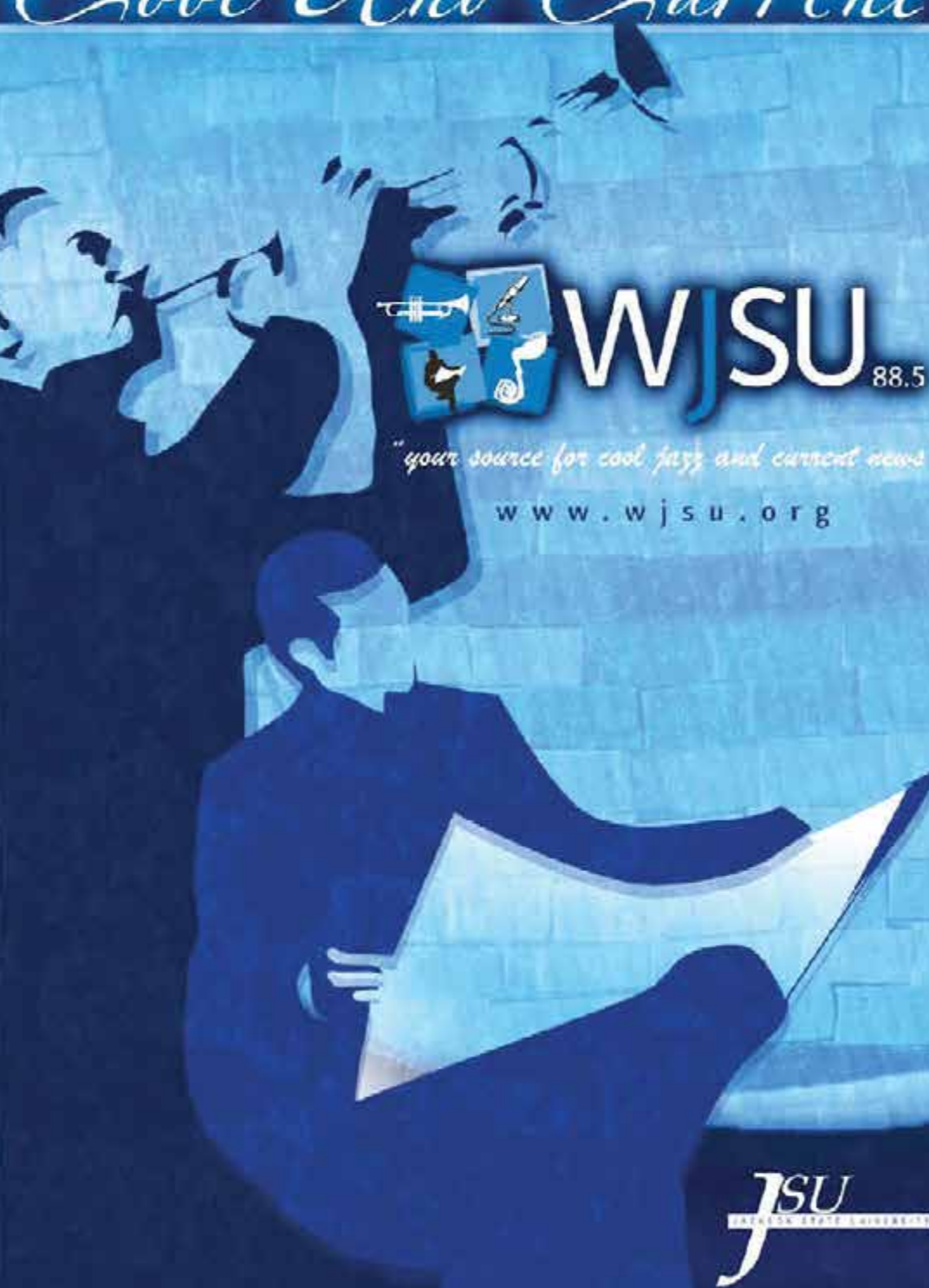
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- Absentee Voting begins 45 days before the Election

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Unveiling Historic Landmark Designation of Hawkins Field by JMAA

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PHOTOS BY KEVIN BRADLEY



Hinds County School District Weekly Update

ENGAGING-EMPOWERING-ENSURING-EXCELLENCE

HINDS COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Hinds County School District will hold a public hearing by Teleconference Thursday, July 8, 2021 at 5 p.m. in the board room of the Hinds County School District’s Central Office, 13192 Hwy. 18, Raymond, MS. At this meeting, the proposed FY21-22 budget will be presented.



HCS D 2021 seniors receive local scholarship funds from Community Resource Foundation

The Community Resource Foundation presents its 2021 Scholarship Recipients this month. Aleesha Hudson, HCS D Parent of the Year and Mississippi’s Parent of the Year, serves as president of the foundation.

Hudson stated that the Mission of Community

Resource Foundation is to enhance the lives of Hinds County residents by providing educational resources in the areas of social services, food insecurity and scholarship funding. Donors and sponsors included Raymond High School alumni, Entergy, BankPlus, Teen Money Box and TeMaK Southwestern (Tim Nimox).

HCS D 2021 seniors receive local scholarship funds from Community Resource Foundation



TyQuiria Laws / RHS



Zion Culbreath / RHS



Rikaiya Mack / RHS



Kalundria Magee / RHS



D’Erah Stanley / RHS



Cornelius Brown, Jr. / RHS



Sha’Nyla Wilson / RHS



Elijah Moncure / RHS

Hinds County School District student accepted to Curtis Fellowship Global Citizen Program



Congratulations to Kai Owens, a junior student at Terry High School, on being selected to be a part of the Curtis Fellowship Global Citizen Program. This program has hundreds of applicants who apply each year and no more than 8 applicants are accepted.

Allison Little, Spanish teacher at THS, said, “This is such an incredible opportunity for Kai, who is one of the most conscientious students I have ever had the pleasure to teach. If you have ever taught Kai, you know how deserving of this opportunity she

is.”

- The Program highlights include:
- Personal and professional development through the Curtis Fellowship
 - Community project led by Kai (her focus is on literacy)
 - All expense paid conference in New York City
 - \$10,000 scholarship after the completion of the program

The HCS D salutes Kai Owens.