

EXCLUSIVE: Rev. Jesse Jackson speaks about his and wife’s Covid diagnosis



Jackson

By Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Newswire Correspondent

While he and his wife remain hospitalized in a Chicago hospital after positive Covid tests, the Rev. Jesse Jackson told the Black Press that he remains vigilant in fighting for freedom, justice and equality.

In an exclusive telephone conversation from his hospital bed Sunday, August 22, the renowned civil rights leader expressed his ongoing support for vaccinations while explaining why his wife, Jacqueline, had not received the vaccine.

“I have had both my shots,” Rev. Jackson said

in the telephone call from Northwestern Memorial Hospital. “My wife did not receive the vaccine because she has pre-existing conditions that were of concern.”

Jackson maintained the importance of vaccination, noting that there are more stringent variants of the coronavirus.

He said he and Jacqueline are receiving the “best of care.”

The telephone call came just one day after his organization, the Rainbow Push Coalition, revealed the positive tests and hospitalization.

*Jackson
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Vietnamese community is among Mississippi’s most vaccinated

By Isabelle Taft
The Associated Press

Before mass on a recent Tuesday afternoon, about 50 people knelt and said the rosary in the sanctuary of Vietnamese Martyrs Church in Biloxi.

Looking out over the crowd, the Rev. John Thang Pham said all of the worshipers had been vaccinated against COVID-19.

He knows, because he saw many of them get the vaccine right there at the church. He joked with his congregation that he had volunteered to become the first “victim” of the vaccine when he got his first shot in the winter.

“Now, (after) three days, I’m still here, I’m not dying yet, so go ahead and do it,” he told parishioners. “I’m a testament to the vaccine.”

Among regular Sunday

attendees, he estimates that about 70% have been vaccinated.

In Harrison County, where the overall vaccination rate of 31% lags behind the state average, that statistic stands out. It also reflects the higher vaccination rate among Asian residents: about 49% of all Asian residents of Harrison County have been fully vaccinated, according to a *Sun Herald* analysis of U.S. census and Mississippi health department data.

Across South Mississippi, Asian and Pacific Islander residents have the highest vaccination rates of all racial and ethnic groups, outpacing the state average.

The health department does not release data on national origin for vaccine recipients,

*Vietnamese
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The Big Footprint Challenge

Hinds County Sheriff’s Race

By Jackie Hampton
Publisher

The Hinds County race for sheriff has begun and several candidates are trying to get an opportunity to fill the big footprints of former sheriff, Lee Dan Vance Jr. who passed away suddenly August 3, 2021 from complications due to COVID-19.

The legacy of Sheriff Vance makes it a difficult task because he was so loved and respected by many.

There will be a special election Nov. 2. The winner of that election will serve the rest of Vance’s term, which expires in January of 2024.

Those having announced their candidacy for the office are not listed in any respective order and each believes he can move the Hinds County Sheriff’s office forward.

Marshand Crisler announced on the steps of the Hinds County Court house Wednesday morning that he wants to keep the job of which he is serving as interim sheriff. He said he stands in the shadow of a giant, his predecessor and role model, Sheriff Lee Vance and is a product of the legacy of his friend and mentor, the late great Sheriff Malcolm E. McMillin.

Crisler has garnered some big endorsements that can help him in the “Big Foot Challenge.” His campaign manager is Rev. Dwayne Pickett, pastor of New Jerusalem Church and standing beside him at the press conference were two more pastors, Bishop Ronnie Crudup Sr. pastor of New Horizon Church and Pastor Gregory Divinity Sr. of New Vineyard Church.

Crisler is a retired major in the U.S. Marine Corps. He served as Ward 6 city councilman for eight years in the City of Jackson. He also served as a narcotics investigator in the Hinds County Sheriff’s office for 12 years and was appointed to serve as interim sheriff by the Hinds County Board of Supervisors. Crisler has also served as police chief of Utica, MS.

Officer Eric Wall has launched his campaign to fill the shoes of Lee Vance Jr., who until his untimely death was his boss. He made his announcement at the Hinds County Court House. Wall is a 35-year career professional law enforcement officer, having retired from the Jackson Police Department, where he was deputy chief of police operations.

Wall is a United States Army



Crisler



Wall



Seals

Reserve honorable discharged veteran. He is currently the chief deputy over operations for the Hinds County Sheriff’s office.

Wall is described as one of the most highly decorated police officers in recent JPD history. He has the endorsement of some big name influencers one in particular being Jackson City Councilman Kenneth I. Stokes

of Ward 3. This endorsement along with his law enforcement credentials, make him a viable candidate for the ‘Big Foot’ Challenge.

Hinds County District 4 Constable Leon Seals announced his candidacy for Hinds County Sheriff Tuesday, August 17, 2021.

Seals is the first person to publicly speak about his inten-

tion to take part in the Nov. 2 special election.

“I’m running because I can do the job, but better than that, I’ve been trained to do the job,” says Seals.

Seals, a New Orleans native, attended Jackson State University, is a 2000 graduate of the FBI National Academy and was a defensive end for the school’s football team. He played the same position after joining the Buffalo Bills following the 1987 NFL Draft and made two Super Bowl appearances before retiring from the Philadelphia Eagles in 1992.

Seals served as a deputy with the Hinds County Sheriff’s Office beginning in 1995 and achieved the rank of captain. He was elected constable in 2015, ousting then-incumbent Jon Lewis. Seals is currently serving his second term as constable after running unopposed in the 2019 Hinds County general election. He is a ‘Big Footprint Challenger.’

Tyree Jones announced his candidacy for Hinds County Sheriff Wednesday at the Virgie P. Middleton Community Center on flag Chapel Road in Jackson. He is considered a viable candidate to take the “Big Footprint” challenge as a seasoned and experienced law enforcement administrator.

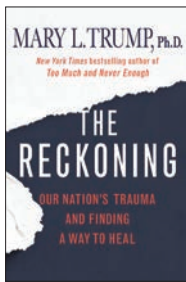
Jones leads the criminal investigation unit of the Hinds County Sheriff’s office. This unit is responsible for completing assigned task work as well as preparing cases for the Hinds County Grand Jury.

He has received the endorsement of former Sheriff Lee Vance’s family. They stood with him at the press conference along with his pastor, Rev. Reginald Buckley of Cade Chapel Baptist Church, State Representative Chris Bell, Dist. 65 and former Hinds County Sheriff Tyrone Lewis.

Jones worked for the Jackson Police Department for twenty years and with all credentials and endorsements, he is a viable candidate for the “Big Footprint” challenge.

Reginald Thompson of Byram has announced his candidacy for Hinds County Sheriff. He brings to the table 41 years of law enforcement experience which began in Bolton, MS from 1985-1992 until he was brought on board by former Hinds County Sheriff Malcolm McMillan, where he served as a

*Sheriff
Continued on page 3*



Contract medical workers arrive for MS COVID surge

By Emily Wagster Pettus
Associated Press

More than 1,000 out-of-state medical workers were starting to deploy to 50 Mississippi hospitals Tuesday to help with staffing shortages as the state continues dealing with a surge of COVID-19 cases.

Republican Gov. Tate Reeves said 808 nurses, three certified nurse anesthetists, 22 nurse practitioners, 193 respiratory therapists and 20 paramedics were hired under 60-day contracts that could be extended, if needed.

The Mississippi Emergency Management Agency awarded contracts to four companies of the 19 that submitted proposals when the state sought medical workers earlier this month. Reeves said the contract employees are being deployed within nine business days from when the state Health Department asked MEMA to seek the help.

"That, in my view, is an impressive feat," Reeves said during a news conference Tuesday.

Mississippi will pay \$80 million for the contracts, and Reeves said he expects the federal government to reimburse the state for the entire expense.

The Army and the Air Force are also each deploying medical contingents to work in Mississippi, with 43 people from each



Stephen McCraney, executive director, of the Mississippi Emergency Management Agency, gives details regarding the state contracting with vendors to provide medical personnel to multiple hospitals statewide to meet the staffing shortages due to the COVID-19 pandemic, during a news briefing Tuesday, Aug. 24, 2021, in Jackson, Miss. (AP Photo/Rogelio V. Solis)

branch.

The Health Department Tuesday reported 3,291 new cases of COVID-19 and 111 new deaths from the virus, bringing the state's coronavirus death total since the start of the pandemic to at least 8,158. Mississippi has a population of nearly 3 million and has reported nearly 417,000 COVID-19 cases since the spring of 2020.

Mississippi has seen a rapid increase in cases since early July,

driven by the highly contagious delta variant of the virus and the state's low vaccination rate.

The state epidemiologist, Dr. Paul Byers, said Tuesday that vaccinations have increased in Mississippi the past several weeks after hitting a low in early July. The Health Department reported 85,510 people received a first, second or third inoculation during the week that ended Saturday. That's the largest number in any week since mid-April.

However, Mississippi still lags behind the national rate: 38% of eligible people in the state are fully vaccinated against COVID-19, compared to 52% in the U.S.

The Scarlet Pearl casino on the Mississippi Gulf Coast is requiring all of its more than 800 employees to be vaccinated against COVID-19 unless they have a medical condition that precludes vaccination, according to Ben Koff, the casino's senior vice president of marketing.

Koff said employees face a Friday deadline to receive at least the first vaccination, and more than 90% had done so Tuesday.

He said Scarlet Pearl started its vaccine mandate with its 180 salaried employees, and one person left after declining to get vaccinated. Koff described the mandate as a way of caring for the community.

"We're not going to compromise on caring," Koff said.

Koff said Scarlet Pearl has been offering on-site vaccinations to employees and their families. Employees are receiving \$300 to become fully vaccinated. He said the casino will next month give \$500 prizes to 300 customers who are members of the in-house rewards club and can prove they are fully vaccinated.

Forward Lookers Club honors three local grads with Trunk Shower



(l-r)Tyra Patterson, Shani Siddiq, Anthony Richards

By Malena Dow
Special to The Mississippi Link

Forward Lookers Federated Club continues to lift while lending support to 2021 high school graduates. On Sunday, August 8, in Cade Chapel Baptist Church Family Life Center, the club lauded three college-bound freshmen: Tyra Patterson, Jim Hill High School graduate; Anthony Richards, Callaway High School graduate; and Shani Siddiq, Murrah High School graduate, with a Trunk Shower.

The trunks, overflowing with essentials for college life, were a welcome sight and heartily accepted by recipients and their families after an introduction by Trunks for Seniors committee chair Carol Cooper, and a pep talk from Forward Lookers President Mary Collier.

Jim Hill's Tyra Patterson is attending Mississippi State Uni-

versity in Starkville, MS. Student athlete Anthony Richards, from Callaway, is attending Meridian Community College in Meridian, MS, where he will play basketball. Shani Siddiq, from Murrah, has begun her academic year at Prairie View University, in Prairie View, Texas.

The three young scholars gave members of Forward Lookers a lift on their climb. The verbal presentation of themselves and expression of appreciation for the gifts, along with their strong academic foundations, offer positive proof that they are prepared to face the challenges of college campus life in their quest for academic success, even in the midst of this of this unprecedented chaotic time.

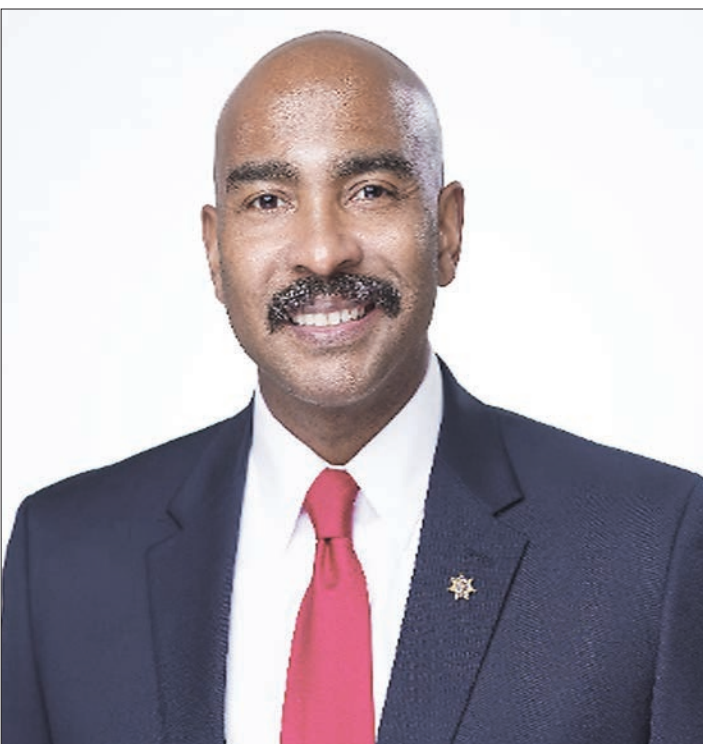
These students offer a powerful incentive for the club to do even more to assist students on the trek for academic achievement.

**Because taking care
today, leads to an even
healthier tomorrow.**

 **MISSISSIPPI**
It's good to be Blue.

Sheriff

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Jones



Thompson

sergeant until 2013. While there he worked in the K-9, Warren’s Division.

Thompson retired in 2018 from the MS Army National Guard after serving 28 years as a master sergeant. He is currently serving as assistant chief of Bolton Police Department.

As a “Big Footprint Challenger” to the Sherriff’s race, he plans to increase deputy patrol visibility, develop a management system to reduce response times, and to collaborate with other law enforcement agencies to target and reduce crimes in high crime areas.

(This article will be updated, as others enter the Big Foot Challenge.)

Jackson

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The call included National Newspaper Publishers Association President and CEO Benjamin F. Chavis Jr., a longtime friend and comrade in the fight for civil rights.

Both disciples of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Rev. Jackson, and Dr. Chavis expressed concern that some media members would exploit Jackson’s positive tests.

Jackson issued a reassurance of his strength.

“I’m doing fine,” Rev. Jackson insisted. “My wife is here, and she’s being cared for.”

Though he’s battling Parkinson’s disease and now diagnosed with Covid, Rev. Jackson’s voice appeared strong.

He said his battle for freedom, justice and equality would continue.

“He’s a fighter, a warrior,” Dr. Chavis added.

Those who work closely with the Rev. and Mrs. Jackson, were tested after Jacqueline Jackson visited her doctors for a routine checkup.

As per medical protocol, Mrs. Jackson received a Covid test, triggering doctors to test Rev. Jackson and others.

The icon said he wasn’t sure when he or his wife might be discharged.

Since news of the couple’s illness and hospitalization, social media has seen a flood of well wishers express love and prayers to Rev. and Mrs. Jackson

Vietnamese

Continued from page 1

so it’s not clear exactly how many Coast residents from different Asian communities have been vaccinated. But Daniel Le, head of the Biloxi branch of Boat People SOS, a national nonprofit that serves Vietnamese Americans, estimated about 80% of Vietnamese Americans on the Coast have been vaccinated.

Within the Vietnamese community, the Coast’s largest Asian national origin group with an estimated 10,000 residents, advocates and healthcare workers say the high vaccination rate is a product of trust in science and medical experts.

“When the call came out to say, ‘Hey, get the vaccine, it’s gonna save your life,’ they were the first in line,” Le said.

Access Concerns Early On

When the vaccine rollout began in January, Xuan Tran, who works in community outreach at the non-profit Mercy Housing and Human Development, was worried. The website and hotline for eligible seniors to make an appointment to get the shot were not available in Vietnamese. And supply was so limited that even when she helped someone navigate the website, there were often no appointments left by the time they’d completed all the forms.

“I personally was really scared,” Tran said. “I was like man, we’re gonna be left behind.”

Earlier in 2020 and 2021, organizations like Boat People SOS had held workshops to explain how the vaccine worked and why it was safe. When they struggled to make appointments, they reached out to Boat People and Mercy Housing for help.

“They tried to do it themselves, but it was very difficult for them to navigate the portal system,” Le said.

Coast community advocates got in touch with the health department, where Selma Alford serves as language access director. The department set up COVID-19 Hispanic and Vietnamese task forces dedicated to providing resources in Spanish and Vietnamese and working with community organizations to promote and distribute vaccines.

Those conversations led to the departments setting aside about 600 doses for a distribution event at the Coast Coliseum in early March.

Ahead of the distribution even in March, Tran and Le helped sign people up for appointments. Demand was so high that Tran had to tell some people it was too late to get a slot.

Six Vietnamese-speaking social workers and nurses were on hand at the Coliseum that day to help people navigate the process.

Chigozie Udemgba, director of the Office of Health Equity at MSDH, said lessons from the Coast Vietnamese community’s approach to the COVID-19 vaccine can be applied across the state.

“We involved the community and asked them how the work should be done,” he said. “They know best. Inform, consult and involve the community.”

Trusted Organizations Promoting Vaccination

Angelica Trieu, a pediatric nurse practitioner at Coastal Family Health Center in Biloxi, worked with Father Thang to organize a vaccine drive at Vietnamese Martyrs Church. And outside of formal vaccine distribution events, she serves as a point of contact for Vietnamese speakers in search of a vaccine.

“If the priest comes to me and says hey, I have someone who wants the vaccine, but they don’t speak good English, can they come to your clinic?” she said. “I would get them into the clinic here.”

What happened in South Mississippi’s Vietnamese community reflects a strategy Asian communities have adopted across the country.

When initial vaccine rollouts were not designed to provide easy access for people with limited English proficiency and inconsistent technology access, advocates with deep ties to their communities stepped up to make appointments and organize distribution events in New York City, Austin, Texas, Greensboro, North Carolina and many other American cities and towns.

Tran said that when the vaccine arrived, it helped that organizations like hers already had deep roots in the community.

“We’re not here because the government paid us to get you vaccinated,” she said. “They trust us, and we’ve been here for a long time.”

Sharing Covid Vaccine Information In Vietnamese

Cynthia Le, a Vietnamese-speaking nurse practitioner at Singing River’s Ocean Springs clinic, said that early on, she heard concerns about possible side effects from the vaccine, and fears that it would make people sick.

I tell them it’s probably better to be ill from the vac-



Thang Pham

saying, but trying to make out what they were trying to say and explain it.”

She became a nurse practitioner because she wanted to create a space where Vietnamese-speaking patients could come and get information about their health directly, and feel comfortable asking questions.

Le joined Tran and State Health Officer Dr. Thomas Dobbs in a Vietnamese-language virtual town hall in February to provide information about the vaccine.

Le is also a parishioner at Vietnamese Martyrs Church. This past winter, during Mississippi’s previous peak in cases, she asked Father Thang if she could have five minutes during mass to talk to the congregation.

“We had to tell them look, it’s ok if you have COVID,” she said. “But there’s medicine out there we can give you – monoclonal antibodies. They weren’t aware of that.”

Combating Misinformation

Trieu said she felt the vaccine hadn’t become a political issue in the Coast’s Vietnamese community.

“They believe in medicine,” she said, referring to older Vietnamese Mississippians. “They believe in science. A lot of this COVID-19 vaccine, everyone thinks it’s a conspiracy or it has something to do political, and we don’t – we try not to politicize the COVID-19 vaccine. And I think that’s why we have such a high vaccination rate.”

Tran said the language barrier that can drive health disparities for the Vietnamese community on the Coast also caused people with limited English to rely heavily on organizations like Boat People and Mercy Housing for information during the pandemic. And all of those organizations were “all in” on promoting the vaccine.

But misinformation still circulates. Buzzfeed News reported that some far-right Vietnamese American YouTubers with large followings have promoted conspiracy theories like the claim that more people have died from the vaccine than from COVID-19.

In Vietnam, where mistrust of China is deeply ingrained, the government recently backed off plans to distribute a Chinese-made vaccine in Ho Chi Minh City after public outcry.

Thang said anxiety about Chinese-made vaccines in Vietnam had made its way to members of his congregation in Mississippi, though Chinese-made vaccines are not approved for distribution in the United States.

“The Vietnamese nowadays with communication, they talk back to Vietnam, and they’re afraid the vaccine came from China,” he said. “That’s all rumor.”

Younger People More Wary Of Vaccine

Trieu said she thinks younger Vietnamese Americans are less likely than their parents and grandparents to get vaccinated, and other community leaders agreed.

“They’re more Americanized,” she said. “It’s just like every other excuse that every other unvaccinated person has.”

But Cynthia Le said she had also heard from many parents who were eager to find out when their six- or seven-year-old could get the vaccine.

Health department data does not show the age breakdown of Asian vaccine recipients on the Coast.

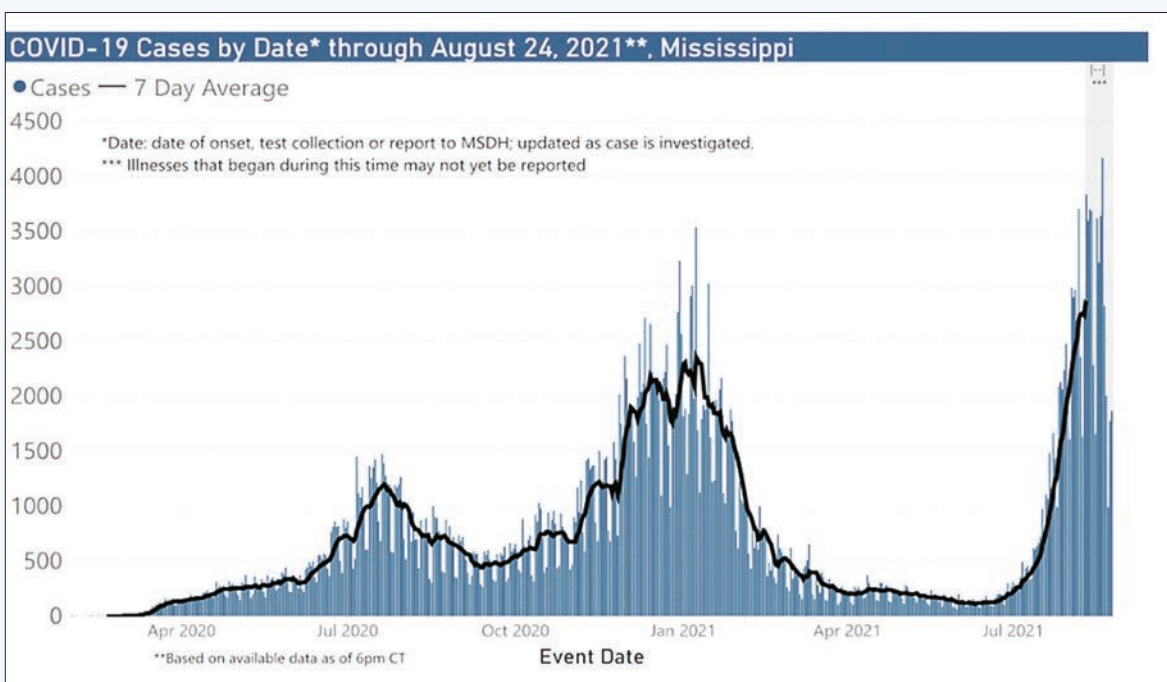
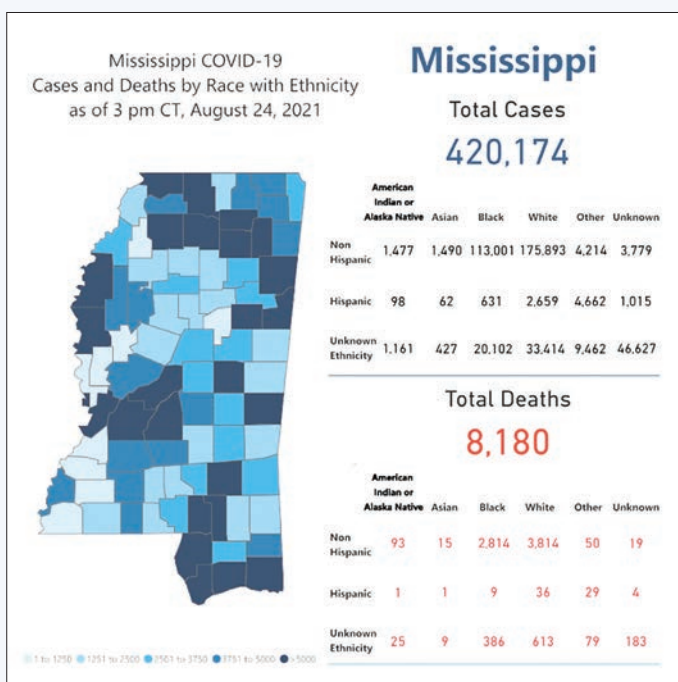
“They think they have the immune system and they don’t need it,” Father Thang said of younger parishioners. “But the elders, I can scare the elders.”

And after getting the vaccine himself, explaining the benefits, and organizing vaccination events at church, he has taken a strong stance.

While many other pastors in the Deep South have been “paralyzed or silent” on the vaccine, as one theologian recently told the Associated Press, Father Thang has been clear. When he speaks, his parishioners hear no caveats about personal choice.

“I say: ‘You don’t get it, it’s not right,’” he said. “‘You don’t get it, you’re uncharitable to those that sit next to you.’”

MISSISSIPPI COVID-19 UPDATE



Quilts of Valor Foundation honors Vietnam combat veterans Sam Clay and Aaron Honeysucker



Sam Clay, (3rd from left) recipient of Quilt of Valor, is pictured with (l) Gladys McKenzie, Post Auxiliary president, Edith Clay, Auxiliary member and wife of Clay and Ellie Mill, (r) Quilts of Valor Foundation district coordinator.

PHOTOS BY JEFFORY MCKENZIE

By Jeffory McKenzie,
Senior Vice Commander
Special to The Mississippi Link

On August 15, 2021, the Quilts of Valor Foundation (QOVF) presented Sam Clay, a Vietnam combat veteran, and Aaron Honeysucker, also a Vietnam combat veteran, each with a special machine or hand-sewn quilt from the QOVF.

The mission of the QOVF is “to cover service members and veterans touched by war with comforting and healing “Quilts of Valor.” According to the QOVF’s founder Catherine Roberts, “Quilts = Healing.”

Clay and Honeysucker are members of the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post 9832, in Jackson.

Clay, who is the outgoing post commander, was also honored by the VFW auxiliary and post members, for 12 years of service as VFW Post 9832 commander.

Clay, in his final year as post commander, earned the All American Team Award and was presented a special All American Team service cap by the new incoming post commander, Ira Turner.



Aaron Honeysucker (center) recipient of Quilt of Valor, pictured with Gladys McKenzie (l) and Ellie Mill (r).



Past Post Commander Sam Clay was presented with a special 12-years of service plaque.

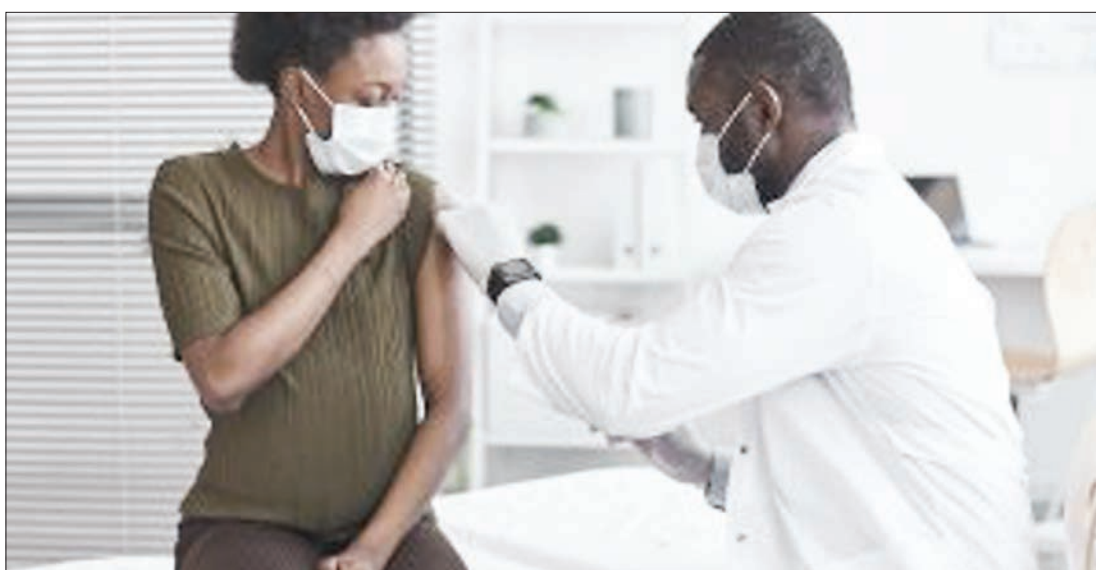
COVID vaccine booster shots will start in September

By Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Newswire Correspondent

Top health officials and medical experts joined Wednesday, August 18, to announce that booster shots of the COVID-19 vaccine will be available beginning September 20. The officials said the boosters are still pending authorization from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

CDC Director Dr. Rochelle Walensky, U.S. Surgeon General Dr. Vivek Murthy, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases Director Dr. Anthony Fauci and COVID Health Equity Task Force Chair Dr. Marcella Nunez-Smith were among the experts and officials to issue a news release about the additional shots.

“We are prepared to offer booster shots for all Americans beginning the week of September 20 and starting eight months after an individual’s second dose,” the officials wrote.



Top health officials and medical experts joined August 18 to announce that booster shots of the COVID-19 vaccine will be available beginning September 20.

who were fully vaccinated earliest in the vaccination rollout, including many health care providers, nursing home residents, and other seniors, will likely be eligible for a booster.” The statement continued:

“We would also begin efforts

to deliver booster shots directly to residents of long-term care facilities at that time, given the distribution of vaccines to this population early in the vaccine rollout and the continued increased risk that COVID-19 poses to them.”

The announcement arrives as the virus continues a rapid spread throughout the country, with hotspots identified in Florida, Mississippi, Texas, Oregon and other states. The Federal Emergency Management Agency said it plans to send a trailer

mortuary to San Antonio, Texas because bodies are beginning to pile there.

In South Carolina, the Pickens County School District closed schools and converted to remote learning after a dramatic Covid outbreak.

During the first week of school in El Paso, Texas, health officials reported 309 active Covid cases in children. That number rose the second week to 373, and ultimately it climbed this week to 501.

Vaccines still have not been authorized for children under 12.

Authorized COVID-19 vaccines are “remarkably effective in reducing the risk of severe disease, hospitalization and death, even against the widely circulating Delta variant,” health officials stated.

The officials continued that “current protection against severe disease, hospitalization and death could diminish in

the months ahead, especially among those who are at higher risk or were vaccinated during the earlier phases of the vaccination rollout. For that reason, we conclude that a booster shot will be needed to maximize vaccine-induced protection and prolong its durability.”

The initial booster doses will be for the Pfizer/BioNTech and Moderna vaccines.

Still, health officials said shots would likely be necessary for individuals who received the single-dose Johnson & Johnson vaccine.

“Administration of the J&J vaccine did not begin in the U.S. until March 2021, and we expect more data on J&J in the next few weeks,” the officials wrote.

“We continue to expand efforts to increase the supply of vaccines globally for other countries, “building further on the more than 600 million doses we have already committed to donating globally.”

Reeves now says COVID response is not political

By Emily Wagster Pettus
Associated Press

Mississippi Republican Gov. Tate Reeves stared into cameras during a news conference and said he is not advancing any political agenda in responding to the COVID-19 pandemic as the state experiences a sharp rise in new cases and hospitalizations.

“There are those on the right who would like me to make masks and vaccines into a political battle,” Reeves said Thursday at the Sillers state office building. “There are those on the left, including most of the reporters in this room, who really want to make political hay and grow their Twitter platform because I will not issue mandate after mandate after mandate.

“Let me be clear,” he said. “I do not give a damn about any political agenda.”

Reeves was speaking to about a dozen reporters and photographers in the room, at least that many journalists on a video conference and an audience of thousands watching on a Facebook livestream.

The governor made his declaration about not promoting any political agenda only three weeks after he stood in front of a conservative audience at the Neshoba County Fair and used us-versus-them rhetoric to criticize the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for



Reeves

changing its guidance on masking.

Reeves spoke at the fair July 29, two days after the CDC reversed course and said that even people vaccinated against COVID-19 should wear masks indoors – a decision announced as the highly contagious delta variant of the virus was spreading. Reeves called the CDC decision “foolish.”

“It reeks of political panic so as to appear they are in control,” Reeves said of the CDC during his speech to an outdoor audience, emphasizing “they.”

“It has nothing – let me say that again – it has nothing to do with rational science,” Reeves said. “In Mississippi, we believe in freedom.”

According to WJTV-TV, Reeves told reporters after

his speech at the fair: “I don’t think you’re going to see any school district mandate masks in schools. I think if you start seeing them do that, the parents will erupt, and they should.”

That pushback against school mask mandates has happened since then, including at school board meetings in Tupelo and Rankin County.

Since late July, Mississippi has jumped to the top of a list that makes public health officials cringe. Last week, Mississippi passed Louisiana to become the state with the highest per-capita rate of new COVID-19 cases in the United States, according to the Johns Hopkins University COVID-19 case tracker.

Reeves has made clear, repeatedly, that he will not issue statewide mask mandates for schools. He said school districts can make their own decisions about setting mask mandates or requiring social distancing to try to mitigate the spread of the airborne virus.

“This pandemic – much of which is a pandemic of the unvaccinated, at this time – is before us,” Reeves said Thursday. “There will be plenty of time for politics, but this ain’t it. My objective is to give Mississippians the facts, give them and their local officials the tools they need to make good decisions and then trust them to love each other

enough to do it.”

Mississippi has one of the lowest vaccination rates in the United States.

Reeves said that as of Thursday, about 1.1 million of Mississippi’s nearly 3 million residents were fully vaccinated against COVID-19. Almost 41,000 vaccine doses were administered in Mississippi during the three days before the news conference, he said, and 71,135 doses were administered during the previous week. That was the highest total for any week since April and a 256% increase over Mississippi’s lowest week in early July.

The governor was vaccinated on camera early this year.

“Getting the vaccine is your choice. It is your decision,” Reeves said Thursday. “And as your governor, I will always defend your right to make that decision, and I will respect your decision.”

He said he hopes unvaccinated people will talk to their doctors and study statistics.

“I believe you as an individual Mississippian can be trusted to make good and responsible decisions,” Reeves said. “Good practices are a choice. Staying healthy is a choice. Keeping your neighbors and your coworkers healthy is a choice. Now, let’s all make the right choices.”

Claim reward for information in killing of MS child

The Associated Press

A \$12,000 reward is being offered for information about a drive-by shooting that killed a 5-year-old boy in Mississippi.

The family of the child, Zy’ Kerioun Brown, raised \$10,000, and East Mississippi Crimestoppers is offering \$2,000, the *Meridian Star* reported.

Police said Zy’ Kerioun was not the intended target Aug. 7 when someone shot into his family’s home in Meridian. The child was shot while lying on a couch. No suspects have been named.

“We need to put an end to this violence in Meridian, Mississippi,” his uncle, Lamarace Tucker, said during a news conference Friday. “A 5-year-old has been shot down, and we still have no answers two weeks later. We need justice for Kerioun Joe.”

Those with any information are asked to call East Mississippi Crimestoppers at 1-855-485-TIPS or use the P3 Intel mobile app or the website www.p3tips.com.

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Livestock medicine doesn’t work against COVID, doctors warn

By Leah Willingham
Associated Press/Report for America

The Mississippi Health Department is warning people not to use livestock medicine to try to treat COVID-19, after poison-control centers received calls about some ingesting it and becoming ill, including two people who were hospitalized.

Meanwhile, as Mississippi continues seeing a sharp increase in coronavirus cases, state health officer Dr. Thomas Dobbs is reminding residents of an order he issued last year under which residents who contract the virus can be fined or jailed if they don’t quarantine.

His tweet about the order on Friday received both support and criticism.

Mississippi’s Department of Health reported Monday that 7,249 new cases of coronavirus were confirmed in the state over the weekend. Department officials also announced that 56 more people had died of the coronavirus, bringing the death toll since the start of the pandemic to 8,047.

At least 70% of recent calls to the Mississippi Poison Con-

trol Center have been related to ingestion of livestock or animal formulations of ivermectin purchased at livestock supply centers, Mississippi Department of Health officials said last week. They did not say exactly how many calls were received.

Some symptoms associated with ivermectin toxicity are rash, nausea, vomiting, abdominal pain, neurological disorders and potentially severe hepatitis requiring hospitalization.

Most callers – 85% – have had mild symptoms, health department officials said. One person was advised to see a physician because of the high dosage they said they took.

“Patients should be advised to not take any medications intended to treat animals and should be instructed to only take ivermectin as prescribed by their physician,” State Epidemiologist Dr. Paul Byers wrote in a memo Friday. “Animal drugs are highly concentrated for large animals and can be highly toxic in humans.”

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration has approved ivermectin in both people and animals for some parasitic worms

and for head lice and skin conditions. It has not approved its use in treating or preventing COVID-19 in humans.

For those who contract the virus, failure to quarantine, if ordered to do so by a health officer, is punishable by a fine of \$500 to \$5,000, imprisonment for up to five years, or both, under Dobbs’ order.

Responding to questions Monday from The Associated Press, Health Department communications director Liz Sharlot said the COVID-19 isolation order, which applies to schools as well as individuals, has never been enforced. “This is an option if necessary,” Sharlot said. She said enforcement is up to local law enforcement officers.

More than 20,000 students were quarantined for exposure to COVID-19 the week of Aug. 9-13, according to the most recent data released by the department of health.

On Monday, the Greenville Public School District in the Mississippi Delta announced it was quarantining its entire high school because of confirmed cases among students.

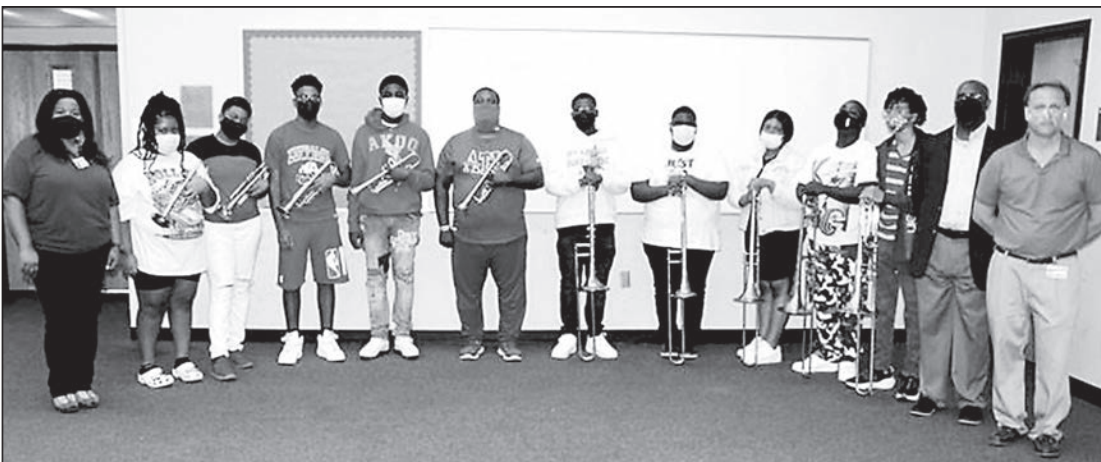
Mississippi Community Symphonic Band supports expansion of Lanier music program

The Mississippi Link Newswire

Lanier High School received 10 musical instruments from the Mississippi Community Symphonic Band (MCSB). The instruments – trumpets and trombones – will support the expansion of the school’s band program. This distribution to Lanier was made possible through The MCSB’s award-winning Musical Instrument Drive.

The MCSB collects used but playable (sometimes with minor repairs) band instruments of all types: trumpets, trombones, clarinets, flutes, saxophones and more.

Donated instruments are cleaned, serviced and distributed to school band programs to



Lanier High School band students hold their instruments provided by the Mississippi Community Symphonic Band. Also in the photo are Anasha Caffey, assistant principal (left); Antonia Bratton, band director (center); Dr. Paxton Girtmon (2nd from right) and David Schommer, teacher of the Gifted at Obama Magnet and MCSB Instrument Drive coordinator

be loaned to families who could not afford to rent or purchase

a musical instrument for their children. Since the start of this

program, in August 2015, the MCSB has donated over 200

instruments to 23 schools representing eight school districts throughout Mississippi.

Fifteen other JPS schools have also benefitted from MCSB’s Musical Instrument Drive over the past six years. They include Power APAC (2015), Bailey APAC Middle School (2015), Rowan Middle School (2015), Brinkley Middle School (2015), Blackburn Laboratory Middle School (2016), Hardy Academy of Career Exploration (2016), Whitten Preparatory Middle School (2016), Chastain Middle School (2016 / 2017), Siwell Academy of Leadership (2017), Northwest Jackson Middle School (2017), Kirksey Middle School (2018), Powell Academy of Military Science (2018),

Cardozo Middle School (2018), Peebles Middle School (2018), and Obama Magnet (2017-2021).

Since the inception of the Musical Instrument Drive, the Mississippi Association of Partners in Education (MAPE) has awarded the Mississippi Community Symphonic Band and Jackson Public Schools two Governor’s Awards and a Partnership Excellence Award for the outstanding community partnership effort.

Antonio Bratton is the band director at Lanier High School. Obama Magnet gifted teacher David Schommer serves on the MCSB board of directors, coordinates the Musical Instrument Drive, and conducts the MCSB’s Mississippi Swing! Big Band.

Education amidst Coronovarius pandemic scholarship, teaching and learning

By Jerry Komia Domatob

Extremely vicious Coronavirus
Like pernicious lethal virus
Unleashes absurd devastation
With treacherous destruction

Victims under COVID’s fold
Like the brave and bold
Suffer disastrous pains
With minimal or zero gains

But global education, must progress
Even amidst roaring regress
Concerned parties map paths
Like the wise, who defy wraths

So despite COVID killings
Shocking as butchering’s
Education for development
Must focus on advancement

Proponents, march forward
Tackle opponents, bruising backward
Like the wise, target progress
Even amidst excruciating regress

Backers of educators
Behave as smart calculators
Strive to wrestle obstacles
Despite carnivorous tackles

Cheers to trainers and teachers
Some who excel as researchers
As this troubling era rains
Motivate scholars and learners reign

But educational trials abound
As bizarre trends confound
This COVID era years for creativity
Damaging positive activity

Along with parents and elders
Exist community leaders
Baba Lukata, Dr. Ivory, Mr. Edy James,
Ms. Jackie, Ms. Brown,
Ms. Jean Collier and Dr. Jerry Domatob
who champion education
With dedication
These men and women show the light
For folks to find a noble way

Jackson, Mississippi’s unsung heroes
Inspiring as grand sheroes
Serve as powerful motivation
As well as inspiration

So do your utmost in any capacity
Assist others develop capability
Help behind the scene sponsors,
Achieve noble goals as supporters

Let nothing dunk, as discouragement
Even lethal armament
Keep your eyes on the prize
As Olympians who cherish top price

High commendation to community activists
They excel as guardian catalysts.
These champions of optimism
Defy gross of pessimism

Bravo to selfless strategists
Who empower and counsel, as catalysts?
Felicitations for your grand input

Especially when folks doubt your output
Bravo! Bravo!
Bravo! Bravo! Bravo!
You are gigantic leaders,
Movers and shakers
Battle along in this coronavirus era

Coronavirus must not
Yes, must not
Down, drown and defeat,
Damage and devastate humanity

Let’s wrestle and trounce coronavirus
Let’s together, battle COVID-19
Let’s target victory as winners
As we rise to the challenge
Let’s get back to school
And do our work with diligence and dedication

CityDance auditions Saturday, Sept. 11 for JPS students ages 7-12

The Mississippi Link Newswire

Parents – does your child love to dance? If so, you may want to consider CityDance, free ballet classes offered by the USA International Ballet Competition for Jackson Public School students.

Auditions are open to boys and girls who are ages 7 to 12,

and no dance experience is required. Children must be 7 years old by September 11, no exceptions. Twelve year olds must have completed the City-Dance program in a prior year.

Selection is based on flexibility, rhythm and the ability to follow dance instruction.

Auditions will be held Sat-

urday, Sept. 11, at Collage JXN at 806 Larson St. in Jackson. Pre-registration is required before auditioning.

Visit usaibc.com/citydance to register.

For more information contact Sara Berry-Lee by email sberrylee@usaibc.com or call 601 355-9853 EXT 5.

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Member:



Diabetes and exercise, a winning combination

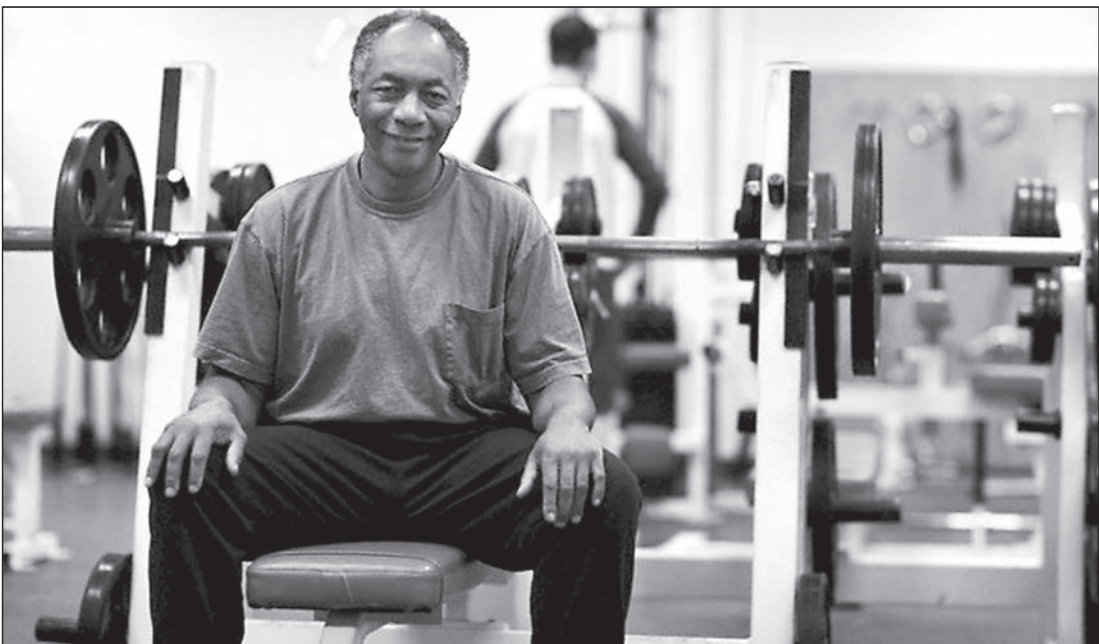
By Vince Faust
Tips to Be Fit

Exercise is beneficial for everyone. But people with diabetes will benefit from exercise even more if it includes enough of a challenge. Researchers found that exercise improved the health of people with Type 2 Diabetes.

Researchers studied sedentary patients with type 2 diabetes, 63% of them were women with an average age of 56. The patients had an average blood test score of 7.7% for hemoglobin A1C. 6% and under are considered normal for hemoglobin A1C.

In the study one group of patients did aerobic exercise by walking at a moderate pace for two and half hours per week. A second group did resistance training. The resistance training included a full body routine three times a week. A third group combined the aerobic workout and resistance training on a shortened version. The total time of the workouts was the same for all three groups. A fourth group did no exercises.

In nine months the three exercise groups showed an improvement in several areas. The improvement was the greatest in the combination aerobic/



resistance training group. The combination exercise groups were the only ones that lowered the amount of diabetes medication they needed, lost weight and showed significant improvement in hemoglobin A1C levels. They also lost the most body fat.

Statistical data shows that one in nine people in the United States has diabetes. Data shows that the number people with diabetes will increase in the near future to one in five people. This increase will be due in part by an ageing population, obesity,

a sedentary lifestyle and an increase in the population of minority groups that are at higher risk for type 2 diabetes.

To stimulate muscle fibers to affect your blood sugar levels a demand must be placed on the muscle. Resistance training does this. Calisthenics is a form of resistance training but lifting weights or using workout machines does a more effective job.

I recommend using a combination of free weights (dumbbells and barbells) and machines.

Using free weights during some exercises will give you more control over the range of motion you go through. Because machines can't possibly fit every body shape they don't provide a full range of motion with every exercise. People who don't have access to resistance training equipment can improvise with sandbags, plastic bottles filled with water or even canned goods.

If you're a beginner have someone who knows what they're doing take you through your first few workouts.

Lifting weights can be dangerous if you don't do the exercises correctly. Always concentrate on what you're doing. Being careless and taking your movements for granted can cause injury. Concentrating on each repetition when you workout will also recruit more muscle fibers to do work making each repetition more efficient.

A complete workout should include exercises for each body part. This will include the chest, shoulders, triceps, back, biceps, forearm, thighs, calves and your abdominals (midsection).

Start with 2 to 3 different exercises for each body part. Gradually work up to 8-12 repetitions for each exercise. Do each exercise 1-3 times to start. If you can do more than 12 repetitions for a set the weight is too light. If you can't do at least 8 repetitions for a set the weight is too heavy.

Aerobic training works the heart, lungs, circulatory system and helps burn bodyfat. The word aerobic means with oxygen. Oxygen is used to produce energy during aerobic activities. To do this the body has to be in continuous motion for more than 15 minutes. Aerobic exercise will help increase cardiovascular endurance by working

the heart, lungs and circulatory system.

Vigorous walking, jogging, swimming, cycling, cross country skiing, skipping rope, stair climbing, step aerobics and aerobic dance can be used for aerobic conditioning.

Doing aerobic exercises for up to twenty minutes will work the heart, lungs and circulatory system. But you don't start to burn bodyfat until you're about 20-25 minutes into the workout. To burn significant amounts of bodyfat you should perform between 45 and 60 minutes of aerobic. If you're not already working out it may take you several weeks to a few months to reach this goal. You should start with 5 to 20 minutes of aerobic activity at a moderate pace. As your body becomes stronger you want to increase your time and intensity (effort level) gradually.

Don't spot train your body. Overdevelopment of strength and muscle tone in one body part will have an adverse effect on another body part. Work your whole body.

Work with a professional that understands diabetes to develop a good exercise program that includes both aerobics and resistance exercises.

Top Mississippi hospital tightens its COVID vaccine policy

By Emily Wagster Pettus
Associated Press

Mississippi's only Level 1 trauma center and teaching hospital announced Friday it will now mandate all employees and students to be vaccinated against COVID-19. The policy is a reversal from a rule put in place last month that allowed employees or students to skip the vaccine if they agreed to wear an N95 mask while on campus.

In a letter Friday, a top official at the University of Mississippi Medical Center said it's time for the institution to take aggressive action. Mississippi has the highest per capita rate of new COVID-19 cases in the United States, according to the Johns Hopkins University COVID-19 case tracker.

"COVID-19 in Mississippi is a raging wildfire but not everyone is helping throw water on the flames in their own backyard," wrote Dr. Alan Jones, University of Mississippi Medical Center's associate vice chancellor for clinical affairs. "We – as an institution and as the workforce for the state's leading health system – need to be a leader in this fight."

The University of Missis-

sippi Medical Center's policy requires that employees and students be vaccinated against COVID-19 by Nov. 1.

Vaccinations will be required to be completed in phases: By Sept. 15, all managers and supervisors must be vaccinated; by Oct. 1, all other employees; by Nov. 1, all students.

Those who refuse vaccination may face "corrective action up to and including termination or dismissal," according to Jones' letter. He said those seeking accommodations must submit requests by Sept. 10.

"Mississippians getting vaccinated is the most effective weapon in the arsenal as we battle this pandemic," he wrote.

The University of Mississippi Medical Center first implemented a policy regarding vaccinations for students and employees July 16. People either had to provide proof of vaccination or wear a N95 mask at all times while at any hospital-affiliated facility.

The University of Mississippi Medical Center has 10,000 employees and 3,000 students.

COVID-19-related hospitalizations in Mississippi are being recorded at levels not previ-

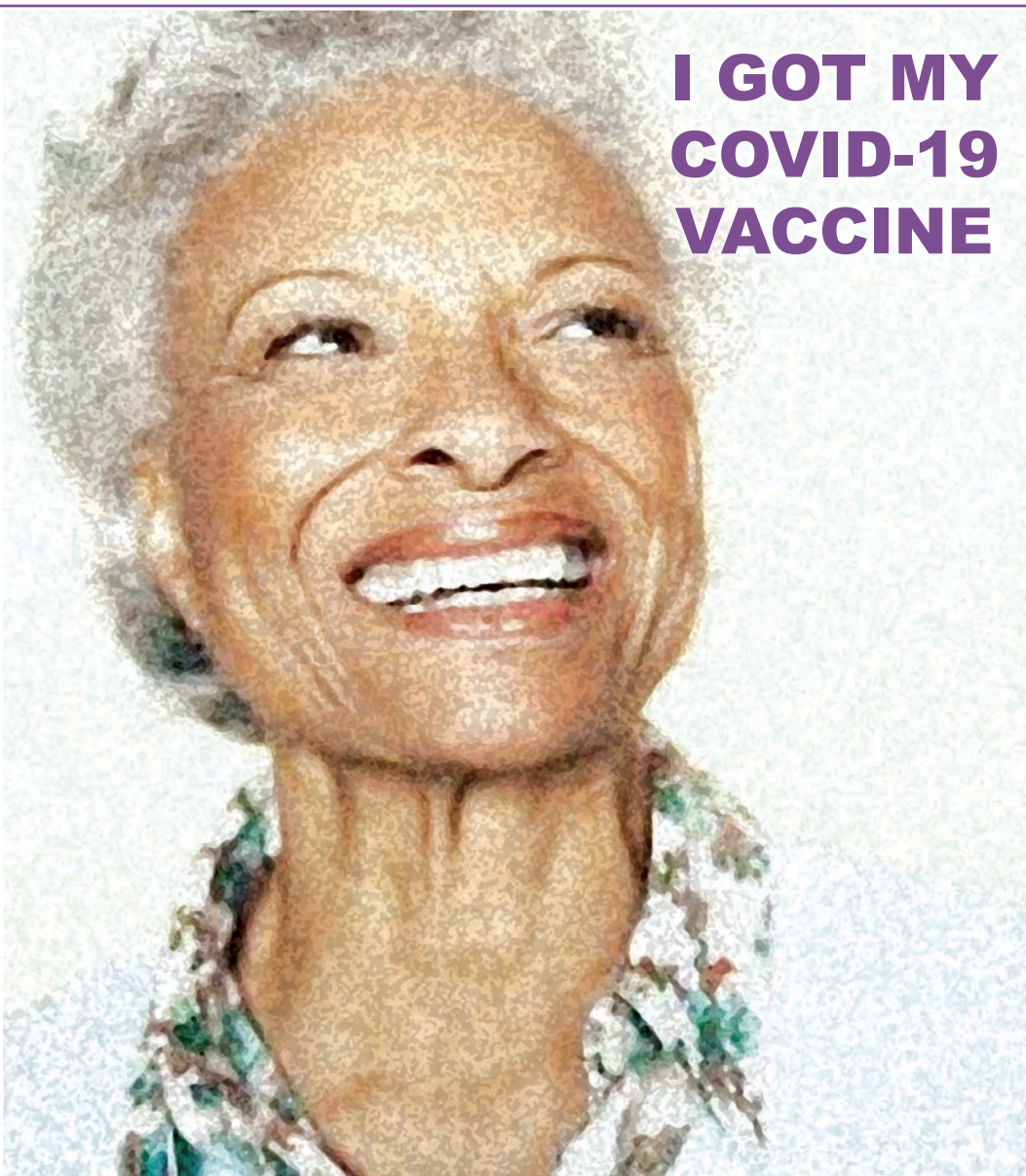
ously seen during the pandemic – 1,660 people were hospitalized with the virus in the state on Wednesday.

The Johns Hopkins tracker showed that as of Thursday, Mississippi had 120 new cases of COVID-19 per 100,000 residents. Louisiana was next-highest at 113 cases per 100,000, then Florida at 102.

Dr. Mary Taylor, chair of the Department of Pediatrics at Children's of Mississippi hospital, said Friday there were 30 children hospitalized with confirmed or suspected cases of coronavirus – a hospital record.

"We're just bracing for the fact that it might get worse every day ... we have not seen that peak of the surge – we're worried that it's not there yet because we have not seen that that curve is starting to slow down," she said at a news conference Friday outside the hospital.

Leah Willingham is a corps member for the Associated Press/Report for America Statehouse News Initiative. Report for America is a non-profit national service program that places journalists in local newsrooms to report on under-covered issues.



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P R E S E R V E D

Blessings and declarations: Back to School

By Shewanda Riley
Columnist



Last week, I shared a back-to-school prayer. This week, I'd like to offer a declaration of daily blessings from a few years ago from Pastor David Brown of Ownings Mills, Maryland. Since school is back in session for so many, I wanted to share them again. With all the uncertainty regarding COVID-19 and how it will impact schools, students, faculty and staff, my hope is that these words would encourage us as we move forward trusting God for protection and wisdom.

"Today, I am blessed. Sufficient are your provisions for me today. I am spirit filled. Sickness and disease are far from me. I walk in divine favor with God and man. There is no slackness in my hand. My home is a place of peace.

It functions in divine order. My business operates in excellence. My church flows in divine purpose. Every relationship in my life is assigned to me by God to assist me in the fulfillment of my kingdom assignment. I excel in productivity, have an outstanding attitude and maximize my potential.

"Father, I worship, magnify and adore you. I know that with you all things are possible. My body is strong. My mind is fortified and alert. My emotions are sound and stable. From the top of my head, to the souls of my feet, I am healed by the stripes of Jesus. Solomon's anointing is on me for wealth and success. Samuel's anointing is on me for sensitivity to the voice of God. David's anointing is on me for worship and praise. Daniel's anointing is on me for excellence and integrity. Deborah's anointing is on me that I might flow with a balanced life between my family and the kingdom. Issachar's

anointing is on me for the discerning of the times. Jabez's anointing is on me for borderless living. The anointing of the angels are upon me to worship God with everything that is within me. I am anointed with knowledge and with understanding.

"Thank you Lord for winning ideas, settlements, dividends, profits, money, checks in the mail and wealth transfers, secret riches, hidden treasures, momentum and strategic positioning. I have God-given skills to manage my time, my money, any crisis that comes into my life and my family.

"I am the head and not the tail. I am above and not beneath. I am strong in the Lord and in the power of his might. I am alive in Christ. I am free from sin and condemnation. I am an heir of God and a joint heir with Jesus Christ. I am fathered from above.

"I am blessed with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places by Christ Jesus. I am

blessed in the city and in the field. I am blessed in my going out and my coming in. I am blessed socially, financially, relationally, governmentally, behaviorally, bio-electrically, physiologically, emotionally, psychologically, bio-chemically, molecularly, cellularly, hormonally, genetically, anatomically, skeletally and intellectually.

"I am anointed and with this anointing every yoke is broken and destroyed. Every burden is lifted in the name of Jesus. I seal this confession by the blood, by the word, by the spirit, by the holy ghost, in the name that is above every name that is Jesus the Christ the son of the living God."

Shewanda Riley is the 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 Twitter [@shewanda](https://twitter.com/shewanda).

Decision time

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



Friend, what holds you back from making the right decision? Whatever it is, you need to weigh it in the light of eternity.

Friend, weigh it considering where you are heading if you fail to make the right decision. The time to choose is limited. The Lord said in Genesis 6:3, "My spirit shall not always strive with man." What a sad and frightful warning.

If God's spirit does not call, men will not repent. If God's spirit does not call, men will not trust Christ. If God's spirit does not call, the sinner cannot be saved.

In the mentioned verse, the Lord was talking about the people in Noah's day. Their sin and rejection of the Spirit had become so great that God withdrew His Spirit and conviction. Once that was done, those people crossed a deadline. Just as surely as the Lord withdrew His Spirit from those people, He will withdraw His Spirit from the sinner who continues to deliberately reject His call.

Many people deliberately trample the mercy and the grace of God

under their fee; that is the danger of not making the right choice. If God withdrew His Spirit from a whole generation of people in Noah's day, who had less opportunity than you have had, what makes you think that it could never happen to you? It can happen to you.

My friend, do not wait until your soul becomes deafened to the tender call of God's Spirit. How long will you trifle with the influences of God's blessed Spirit?

This day has been given to you by God. Now is the accepted time of salvation. The time to come to God is now.

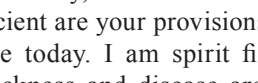
How is it in your heart and life? God is a loving God. He is too good to be unkind. He cares about you. What is your choice? The Lord has set before you life and death, blessing and cursing. Won't you make the right choice? Will you choose to serve God?

Never have I met an individual who was sorry that he had chosen to serve God. May God bless you as you serve Him and reach others.

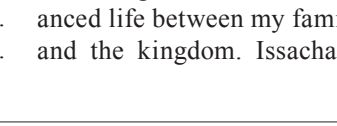
Rev. Simeon R. Green III is pastor of Joynes Road Church of God, 31 Joynes Road, Hampton VA 23669. He is a member of the National Association of Evangelism Church of God, Anderson, Ind.

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Pastor, Dr. F. R. Lenoir



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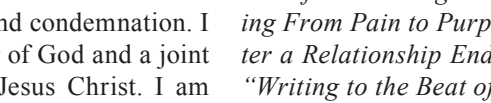


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Please worship with us each Sunday via Facebook or our YouTube channel at CHMBC



Pastor
Chauncy L. Jordon

Follow the doctor’s orders and take the vaccine

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



Taking the vaccine to combat the deadly Coronavirus is in our best interests. Not to do so is unhealthy and not wise.

We thought just a few months ago we had turned the corner as far as the Coronavirus was concerned. Now, we see that COVID-19 is a long and winding treacherous road with no foreseeable end in sight.

Last week, according to Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore Maryland, there were 1 million Coronavirus cases.

The virus in the form of

the delta variant has spread throughout the country. States are being ravaged and hospitals are full.

However here is the sticking point and the source of contention. The vaccine has caused consternation and confusion across America.

Reports say the majority hospitalized with COVID-19 are not vaccinated. How can that be when the vaccines are so readily available?

Having medical checkups are commonplace with me. My doctor gives me the results of my tests, reviews my medications, counsels with me and sends me on my way.

Lately the counseling part has been about taking the vaccine. I am vaccinated and have

experienced no side effects.

I follow his advice as he has been trained to give advice and to offer opinions. He is the doctor, and I am the patient. In this relationship, I do have a voice, however at the end, he does the leading and I do the following.

That is just the way it is.

I trust my doctor because he wants what is best for me. He wants to keep me in good health for as long as he can. Of course, I must do my part.

I have some male friends who do not go to a doctor. I try to encourage them, but it is a losing battle. When I bring up healthcare and COVID-19, they do not want to broach the topic.

In my opinion, they are treading in dangerous water by not taking the vaccine.

By some strange thinking, they believe they can beat COVID-19. It may be the case for now, but I am reminded of the Midas commercial, “Pay me now or pay me later.”

Do not get confused by this because you are going to pay. It is not if, it is when.

The delta variant is running roughshod over our country. It is like a runaway train off the tracks. We have become unhinged and unglued.

Medical experts have told us in order to stop this societal health derailment that we must take the vaccine.

Currently, there have been over 361 million doses given of the vaccine to our citizens. There are over 170 million people that are fully vaccinated.

Percentagewise, just over 51% of us are fully vaccinated.

Look, 51% is a low number. We can do better, and we must do better.

Our reticence to take the vaccine baffles me. How many more people do we need to see pass away before we act.

I have said on more than one occasion that until it affects your house, you are not going to do anything about it.

Just last week, CNN anchor, Don Lemon interviewed a gentleman in his home state of Louisiana. The interview took place in the hospital. Later, he learned that the man had passed away from COVID-19.

Now his family members are urging people to get vaccinated. Is it going to take death for

us to choose life?

America, we can’t continue to be obstinate. We can’t twist and turn facts.

Take the vaccine, wear your mask, and take all the necessary precautions. You know what they are.

Medical professionals give us facts; we give opinions. Who are you going to trust?

Breaking News! Ivermectin is not approved for the prevention or treatment of COVID-19.

“The Food and Drug Administration has received multiple reports of patients who have required medical support and been hospitalized after self-medicating with ivermectin intended for horses,” the federal regulatory agency said in a press release.

The March on Washington, D.C. 56 years later

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

This week it will be 56 years since the late Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. marched on Washington, D. C. with more than 250,000 people, mostly black. Some came by bus, train and car. Some walked. On that hot August Day, this publisher was a young teenager who worked on Capitol Hill for the late Congressman Adam Clayton Powell Jr. I climbed a tree near the Lincoln Memorial, above the sea of humanity dressed in their “Sunday Go to Meeting Clothes” in spite of the heat and carrying their signs.

Today, 56 years later, racism continues to raise its head just as it did on the day of that first march and many since then. What is different today is the openness of the continued effort to silence the vote that they were unable to steal in November 2020. What is also present today is that this year

we will not only be marching in Washington, D.C. on August 28 but in cities throughout America.

This time, while we are demanding passage of the John Lewis Voting rights Act H.R.4 which will stop the voter suppression, we are also registering people to vote throughout this country so that we can overwhelmingly defeat these restrictive laws at the ballot box, if necessary.

The fact that we have had a black president for two terms, black and Jewish members of the Senate from the State of Georgia, with more women and people of color in Congress, has frightened white conservative voters to the point that they are no longer concerned about open and fair voting where they clearly cannot win, but must now go to “by any means necessary” to retain power.

Each of us can make a difference. Let’s celebrate these 56 years of struggle with renewed participation that honors those who came before us. And the few of us who were there and are still here will be there with you.

Montgomery County Democratic Committee’s stance on Critical Race Theory

Collegeville, PA Democrats
Mississippi Link newswire

Montgomery County Democratic Committee’s stance on Critical Race Theory is an advanced theoretical concept used by scholars, researchers and legal professionals. It is a long-standing theory that has been discussed in research, higher education and legal circles since the 1970s. It examines the many, far-reaching, identified, systemic effects of racial inequality on society.

Critical Race Theory is a complex concept, and, as such, is not, and realistically cannot, be the basis for elementary and secondary education curriculums. As such, it is not, and has not been taught in our public schools

Moreover, no one credibly suggests that it should be. And, yet we as a community suddenly find ourselves having to discuss an academic theory and framework that has existed for more than fifty years. Why?

To begin, the Montgomery County Democratic Committee supports the statutory and constitutional mandate of a free and appropriate public education of all students, and, as Democrats, we support the type of public education that encourages students to engage in perceptive and discerning thinking and dialogue that will make them productive citizens in the future.

A thriving democracy requires an informed public. As Democrats, we support our schools teaching an accurate and encompassing view of our past so that students can engage in honest community participation and robust civic discussion. We are confident that students can handle these realities from good to bad, even though it may be complicated and uncomfortable.

So, why do we now find ourselves defending an education that best prepares our students for an understanding of who we are as a society, of our past and our future?

Sadly, we are confronted by those who for their personal ambitions and prejudices have deliberately and purposefully deceived their neighbors about Critical Race Theory; they have maliciously collapsed discussions about CRT, social and racial justice into an unintelligible but divisive form of baiting, knowingly pitting one against another for the sole purpose of their self-promotion at the expense of our communities, our democracy, and this Republic.

It is hateful and unconscionable. We support candidates that will allow students to have equal access to education, vet information and make informed choices as future voters. We are blessed to live in a nation with all its failures and successes that stands for the rule of law and the underlying assumption that all Americans are equal with the collective responsibility that we are all to strive for that more perfect union that brings us together as Americans.

Desperation and despair in Haiti as relief efforts stall

By Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Newswire Contributor

Desperation has accompanied despair in Haiti following the deadly earthquake that claimed more than 2,100 lives and a tropical storm that further decimated the island nation.

Relief remains scarce, and residents reportedly have grown so impatient that they attacked supply vans and a caravan carrying former president Michel Martelly, who visited a hospital in Les Cayes offering supplies.

The United Nations estimated that 40 percent of Haiti’s 12 million residents need emergency aid, but flash flooding and landslides have many relief workers fearing illness and disease.

Wes Comfort, a recovery and response lead at Heart to Heart International, told *Time Magazine* that his medical team chose to sleep on their car hoods to protect themselves.

“Everyone is very wary of sleeping indoors,” Comfort declared. “We camped out and listened to the after-shock rattle the tin roof of the mayor’s office.”

Weather officials said large parts of Haiti experienced as much as 15 inches of rain, leading to flooding and deadly mudslides.

Multi-story buildings immediately



collapsed while rescuers pulled many survivors from under heaps of rubble in the country’s southern peninsula.

“In what is already a challenging time for the people of Haiti, I am saddened by the devastating earthquake that occurred in Saint-Louis du Sud, Haiti,” President Joe Biden said in a statement.

“We send our deepest condolences to all those who lost a loved one or saw their homes and businesses destroyed. I have authorized an immediate U.S. response and named USAID Administrator Samantha Power as the senior U.S.

official to coordinate this effort.”

Through USAID, President Biden said America supports efforts to assess the damage and assist efforts to recover those injured and those who must now rebuild.

Haiti has suffered near-unprecedented damage from previous earthquakes, hurricanes, and other natural disasters in recent years.

Earlier this summer, Haitian President Jovenel Moïse was assassinated in his home.

The president’s murder touched off a wild manhunt for his assassins and

threw the country into political chaos.

Many in the nation suffer from poverty, and reportedly gang violence is rampant.

The earthquake struck near the town of Petit Trou de Nippes, which isn’t far from the nation’s capital, Port-au-Prince.

The cities of Les Cayes and Jeremie bore the brunt of the quake’s fury.

Scientists reportedly noted that the quake possessed a seven-mile depth and residents 200 miles away in Jamaica felt the trembles.

The 7.2 magnitude topped the devastating 2010 quake in Haiti that measured 7.0.

Getting aid to Haiti is paramount.

World Central Kitchen in Northwest, D.C., plans to distribute 30,000 meals per day in the earthquake and storm-ravaged nation.

“With an increasing number of climate disasters, we’re going to continue to work hard and do everything that we can to support,” said Nate Mook, the CEO of World Central Kitchen.

Mook noted that JetBlue had provided an airplane to the nonprofit for the mission.

World Central Kitchen uses locally sourced ingredients to make traditional Haitian dishes like chicken and vege-

table stew over rice and beans in Haiti.

The organization plans to deliver meals to hospitals, emergency crews and families, Mook noted.

The Red Cross also responded.

The international organization has provided first aid and shelter and assistance with search and rescue operations.

“Preventing and controlling the transmission of COVID-19 and guaranteeing access to water, hygiene and sanitation are essential for volunteers on the ground,” Red Cross officials said in a statement.

The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) sent 15 tons of essential goods to Haiti and more than 37 tons of aid, including shelter tool kits, tarps, buckets, jerrycans, kitchen sets, blankets, personal protection equipment and mosquito nets.

Officials activated a humanitarian corridor in the Dominican Republic and collected prepositioned non-food items (NFIs) for at least 4,500 people, the Red Cross stated.

“The United States remains a close and enduring friend to the people of Haiti, and we will be there in the aftermath of this tragedy,” President Biden declared.

LEGAL

NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PROPOSED BUDGET AND PROPOSED TAX LEVIES FOR THE UPCOMING FISCAL YEAR FOR CITY OF JACKSON, MS

The City of Jackson, Mississippi will hold a public hearing on its proposed budget and proposed tax levies for fiscal year 2021-2022 on Thursday, September 2, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. in Council Chambers located in City Hall, 219 South President Street, Jackson, Mississippi 39201.

The City of Jackson, Mississippi is now operating with projected total budget revenue of \$423,847,140 (17.7 percent) or \$75,253,385 of such revenue is obtained through ad valorem taxes. For next fiscal year, the proposed budget has total projected revenue of \$399,326,359. Of that amount, (18.5 percent) or \$75,277,627 is proposed to be financed through a total ad valorem tax levy.

For the next fiscal year, the City of Jackson plans to increase your ad valorem tax millage rate by 3.00 mills from 63.03 to 66.03 mills. This means that you will pay more in for ad valorem tax millage means that you will pay more in ad valorem taxes on your home, automobile tag, utilities, business fixtures and equipment and rental real property.

Any citizen of City of Jackson is invited to attend this public hearing on the proposed budget and tax levies for fiscal year 2021-2022, and will be allowed to speak for a reasonable amount of time and offer tangible evidence before any vote is taken.

8/19/2021 8/26/21

LEGAL

Advertisement for RFQ RFQ 2021-03 Air Disinfecting Systems

Sealed, written formal rfq proposals for the above rfq 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), September 2, 2021 at which time and place they will be publicly opened. The Board of Trustees reserves the right to reject any and all rfqs, to waive informalities, and to withhold the acceptance of any rfq if approved for forty-five calendar days from the date rfqs are opened.

Proposal forms and detailed specifications may be obtained free of charge by emailing HYPERLINK "mailto:mishelton@jackson.k12.ms.us" mishelton@jackson.k12.ms.us, calling (601) 960-8799, or documents may be picked up at the above 1120900285dress or downloaded from JPS website at HYPERLINK "http://www.jackson.k12.ms.us" www.jackson.k12.ms.us.

8/19/2021, 8/26/2021

LEGAL

Electronic Bidding Re-Bid 3194 Wells APAC Renovation

Electronic and sealed bid proposals for the above bid will be received by the Board of Trustees of the Jackson Public School District, in the Business Office, 662 South President Street, Jackson, Mississippi, until 10:00 A.M. (Local Prevailing Time) September 2, 2021 at which time and place they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Pre-Bid Conferences concerning the project for Renovations to Wells APAC Elementary will be held at 1120 Riverside Drive, Jackson, MS 39202 on Friday, September 3, 2021 at 3:00 PM. Attendance at the pre-bid conference is non-mandatory but strongly suggested. The Board of Trustees reserves the right to reject any and all bids, to waive informalities, and to withhold the acceptance of any bid if approved for forty-five calendar days from the date bids are opened.

Plan holders are required to register and order bid documents at HYPERLINK "http://www.durrellesdesigngroupplans.com" JPSDMSPROJECT.COM. A \$250.00 non-refundable deposit shall be required on each set of bid documents and must be purchased through the website. All plan holders are required to have a valid email address for registration. Questions regarding website registration and online orders please contact Plan House Printing, 607 W. Main Street, Tupelo, MS 38804, (662) 407-0193. Questions regarding bid documents please contact Kali Blakeney at M3A Architecture, PLLC, 4880 McWillie Circle, Jackson, MS 39206 Phone: 601-981-1227 Fax: 601-983-4444, Email: KBLAKENEY@M3AARCH.COM.

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

8/19/2021, 8/26/2021

LEGAL

Electronic Bidding Advertisement for Bids

Re-Bid 3190 General Improvements at McLeod Elementary School

Electronic and sealed bid proposals for the above bid will be received by the Board of Trustees of the Jackson Public School District, in the Business Office, 662 South President Street, Jackson, Mississippi, until 10:00 A.M. (Local Prevailing Time) September 2, 2021 at which time and place they will be publicly opened and read aloud. A Pre-Bid Conference concerning this project will be held at 1616 Sandalwood Place, Jackson, MS 39211 on Friday, August 27, 2021 at 03:00 P.M. Attendance at the pre-bid conference is non-mandatory but strongly encouraged. The Board of Trustees reserves the right to reject any and all bids, to waive informalities, and to withhold the acceptance of any bid if approved for forty-five calendar days from the date bids are opened.

Plan holders are required to register and order bid documents at HYPERLINK "http://www.jpsdmsprojects.com" www.jpsdmsprojects.com. A \$250.00 non-refundable deposit shall be required on each set of bid documents and must be purchased through the website. All plan holders are required to have a valid email address for registration. Questions regarding website registration and online orders please contact Plan House Printing, 607 W. Main Street, Tupelo, MS 38804, (662) 407-0193. Questions regarding bid documents please contact Kali Blakeney at M3A Architects, Phone: 601-981-1227, or Email: kblakeney@m3aarch.com.

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

8/19/2021, 8/26/2021

LEGAL

A CERTAIN PARCEL OF LAND BEING A PART OF LOTS 5, 6, 7 AND 8, MANY OAKS SUBDIVISION, A SUBDIVISION ACCORDING TO THE MAP OR PLAT THEREOF, ON FILE AND OF RECORD IN THE OFFICE OF THE CHANCERY CLERK OF HINDS COUNTY AT JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI, AS NOW RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 7, PAGE 14, AND BEING SITUATED IN THE NORTHWEST QUARTER OF THE NORTHWEST

QUARTER OF SECTION 12, TOWNSHIP 5 NORTH, RANGE 1 WEST, HINDS COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI, AND BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:

COMMENCE AT AN EXISTING IRON PIN MARKING THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF THE NORTHWEST QUARTER OF THE NORTHWEST QUARTER OF SECTION 12, TOWNSHIP 5 NORTH, RANGE 1 WEST AND RUN THENCE SOUTH 00 DEGREES 01 MINUTE 53 SECONDS EAST ALONG THE EAST LINE OF SAID NORTHWEST QUARTER OF THE NORTHWEST QUARTER OF SECTION 12 FOR A DISTANCE OF 1,230.30 FEET; RUN THENCE WEST FOR A DISTANCE OF 122.12 FEET; RUN THENCE NORTH 89 DEGREES 50 MINUTES 21 SECONDS WEST FOR A DISTANCE OF 951.24 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING OF THE PARCEL OF LAND HEREIN DESCRIBED; FROM SAID POINT OF BEGINNING, RUN THENCE SOUTH 00 DEGREES 20 MINUTES 11 SECONDS WEST FOR A DISTANCE OF 109.76 FEET; RUN THENCE NORTH 89 DEGREES 50 MINUTES 21 SECONDS WEST FOR A DISTANCE 225.00 FEET TO A POINT ON THE EAST RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE OF ROBINSON ROAD EXTENSION (AS NOW LAID OUT AND IMPROVED, JULY, 1996, 60-FOOT RIGHT OF WAY); RUN THENCE NORTH 00 DEGREES 20 MINUTES 11 SECONDS EAST ALONG SAID EAST RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE OF ROBINSON ROAD EXTENSION FOR A DISTANCE OF 280.00 FEET; RUN THENCE SOUTH 89 DEGREES 50 MINUTES 21 SECONDS EAST FOR A DISTANCE OF 225.00 FEET; RUN THENCE SOUTH 00 DEGREES 20 MINUTES 11 SECONDS WEST FOR A DISTANCE OF 170.24 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING, CONTAINING 1.446 ACRES, MORE OR LESS.

A CERTAIN PARCEL OF LAND BEING SITUATED IN THE WEST 1/2 OF THE NORTHWEST 1/4 OF SECTION 12, T5N-R1W, HINDS COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI, AND BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:

COMMENCE AT AN EXISTING IRON PIN MARKING THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF THE NORTHWEST 1/4 OF THE NORTHWEST 1/4 OF SAID SECTION 12 AND RUN THENCE SOUTH 00 DEGREES 01 MINUTE 53 SECONDS EAST ALONG THE EAST LINE OF THE NORTHWEST 1/4 OF THE NORTHWEST 1/4 OF SAID SECTION 12 FOR A DISTANCE OF 605.22 FEET; RUN THENCE WEST FOR A DISTANCE OF 876.81 FEET TO THE POINT OF INTERSECTION OF THE EAST RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE OF PINE GROVE STREET (ABANDONED) WITH THE EASTERLY EXTENSION OF THE SOUTH LINE OF LANGLEY STREET, AS BOTH ARE SHOWN ON THE PLAT OF MANY OAKS SUBDIVISION, A SUBDIVISION ACCORDING TO THE MAP OR PLAT THEREOF, ON FILE AND OF RECORD IN THE OFFICE OF THE CHANCERY CLERK OF HINDS COUNTY AT JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI, AS NOW RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 7, PAGE 14; RUN THENCE NORTH 00 DEGREES 02 MINUTES 11 SECONDS EAST ALONG SAID EAST RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE OF PINE GROVE STREET (ABANDONED) FOR A DISTANCE OF 20.00 FEET TO THE POINT OF INTERSECTION OF SAID EAST RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE OF PINE GROVE STREET (ABANDONED) WITH THE CENTERLINE OF SAID LANGLEY STREET; RUN THENCE SOUTH 89 DEGREES 47 MINUTES 40 SECONDS WEST ALONG SAID CENTERLINE OF LANGLEY STREET FOR A DISTANCE OF 40.04 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING OF THE PARCEL OF LAND HEREIN DESCRIBED; FROM SAID POINT OF BEGINNING, CONTINUE THENCE SOUTH 89 DEGREES 47 MINUTES 40 SECONDS WEST ALONG SAID CENTERLINE OF LANGLEY STREET FOR A DISTANCE OF 371.81 FEET TO A POINT ON THE EAST RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE OF ROBINSON ROAD EXTENSION (AS NOW LAID OUT AND IN USE, AUGUST, 1996); RUN THENCE NORTH 00 DEGREES 20 MINUTES 11 SECONDS EAST ALONG SAID EAST RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE OF ROBINSON ROAD EXTENSION FOR A DISTANCE OF 20.00 FEET TO A POINT ON THE NORTH RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE OF SAID LANGLEY STREET AND ON THE SOUTH LINE OF LOT 1 OF SAID MANY OAKS SUBDIVISION; RUN THENCE NORTH 89 DEGREES 47 MINUTES 40 SECONDS EAST ALONG SAID NORTH RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE OF LANGLEY STREET AND THE SOUTH LINE OF SAID LOT 1, MANY OAKS SUBDIVISION FOR A DISTANCE OF FEET TO THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF SAID LOT 1, MANY OAKS SUBDIVISION; RUN THENCE SOUTH 00 DEGREES 09 MINUTES 24 SECONDS WEST FOR A DISTANCE OF 20.00 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING, CONTAINING 0.171 ACRES, MORE OR LESS.

PARCEL #832-250-5

A PARCEL OF LAND SITUATED IN PART OF LOTS 7, 8 AND 9, MANY OAKS SUBDIVISION, A SUBDIVISION ACCORDING TO THE MAP OR PLAT THEREOF, ON FILE AND OF RECORD IN THE OFFICE OF THE CHANCERY CLERK OF HINDS, AT JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI, AS NOW RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 7, AT PAGE 14, AND ALSO BEING SITUATED IN THE WEST 1/4 OF THE NORTHWEST 1/4 OF SECTION 12, T5N, R1W, HINDS COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI, AND BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: COMMENCE AT AN EXISTING IRON PIN MARKING THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF THE NORTHWEST 1/4 OF THE NORTHWEST 1/4 OF SAID SECTION 12 AND RUN THENCE SOUTH 00 DEGREES 01 MINUTES 53 SECONDS EAST ALONG THE EAST LINE OF SAID NORTHWEST 1/4 OF THE NORTHWEST 1/4 OF SECTION 12 FOR A DISTANCE OF 1,230.30 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING OF THE PARCEL OF LAND HEREIN DESCRIBED; FROM SAID POINT OF BEGINNING, CONTINUE THENCE SOUTH 00 DEGREES 01 MINUTES 53 SECONDS EAST ALONG THE EAST LINE OF SAID NORTHWEST 1/4 OF THE NORTHWEST 1/4 OF SECTION 12, RUN THENCE NORTH 89 DEGREES 29 MINUTES 03 SECONDS WEST FOR A DISTANCE OF 487.16 FEET; RUN THENCE SOUTH 09 DEGREES 30 MINUTES 57 SECONDS WEST FOR A DISTANCE OF 12.61 FEET; RUN THENCE NORTH 89 DEGREES 50 MINUTES 21 SECONDS WEST FOR A DISTANCE OF 810.95 FEET TO A POINT ON THE EAST RIGHT OF WAY LINE OF ROBINSON ROAD EXTENSION (AS NOT LAID OUT AND IMPROVED); RUN THENCE NORTH 00 DEGREES 20 MINUTES 11 SECONDS EAST ALONG SAID EAST RIGHT OF WAY LINE OF ROBINSON ROAD EXTENSION FOR A DISTANCE OF 51.50 FEET; LEAVING SAID EAST RIGHT OF WAY LINE OF ROBINSON ROAD EXTENSION, RUN THENCE SOUTH 89 DEGREES 50 MINUTES 21 SECONDS EAST FOR A DISTANCE OF 225.00 FEET; RUN THENCE NORTH 00 DEGREES 20 MINUTES 11 SECONDS EAST FOR A DISTANCE OF 109.00 FEET; RUN THENCE SOUTH 89 DEGREES 54 MINUTES 41 SECONDS EAST FOR A DISTANCE OF 601.96 FEET; RUN THENCE SOUTH 89 DEGREES 50 MINUTES 21 SECONDS EAST FOR A DISTANCE OF 465.47 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING, CONTAINING 4.513 ACRES, MORE OR LESS.

TRACT B
A CERTAIN PARCEL OF LAND BEING SITUATED IN THE NORTHWEST 1/4 OF THE NORTHWEST 1/4 OF SECTION 12, T5N, R1W, HINDS COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI, AND BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:

COMMENCE AT AN EXISTING IRON PIN MARKING THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF THE NORTHWEST 1/4 OF THE NORTHWEST 1/4 OF SAID SECTION 12, T5N, R1W AND RUN THENCE SOUTH 00 DEGREES 01 MINUTES 53 SECONDS EAST ALONG THE EAST LINE OF SAID NORTHWEST 1/4 OF THE NORTHWEST 1/4 OF SECTION 12 FOR A DISTANCE OF 520.48 FEET TO A POINT ON THE SOUTH RIGHT OF WAY LINE OF THE ILLINOIS CENTRAL RAILROAD; SAID POINT BEING THE POINT OF BEGINNING OF THE PARCEL OF LAND HEREIN DESCRIBED; FROM SAID POINT OF BEGINNING, CONTINUE THENCE SOUTH 00 DEGREES 01 MINUTES 53 SECONDS EAST ALONG SAID EAST LINE OF THE NORTHWEST 1/4 OF THE NORTHWEST 1/4 OF SECTION 12 FOR A DISTANCE OF 116.18 FEET; RUN THENCE NORTH 89 DEGREES 50 MINUTES 21 SECONDS WEST FOR A DISTANCE OF 116.18 FEET; RUN THENCE NORTH 00 DEGREES 08 MINUTES 34 SECONDS EAST FOR A DISTANCE OF 150.24 FEET; RUN THENCE NORTH 89 DEGREES 50 MINUTES 21 SECONDS WEST FOR A DISTANCE OF 80.46 FEET; RUN THENCE NORTH 00 DEGREES 09 MINUTES 39 SECONDS EAST FOR A DISTANCE 189.90 FEET TO A POINT ON THE AFORESAID SOUTH RIGHT OF WAY LINE OF THE ILLINOIS CENTRAL RAILROAD; RUN THENCE SOUTH 61 DEGREES 09 MINUTES 11 SECONDS EAST ALONG SAID SOUTH RIGHT OF WAY LINE OF THE ILLINOIS CENTRAL RAILROAD FOR A DISTANCE OF 356.19 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING, CONTAINING 2.700 ACRES, MORE OR LESS.

is hereby modified so as to approve the rezoning of the property located at 4704 & 4708

Robinson Rd. (Parcels 832-250-1 & 832-250-5) from C80-MU (Mixed-Use) Subdistrict to C80-II (Light) Industrial Subdistrict to allow for uses that are compatible to the existing building. However, that before for any structure is erected or use thereof on the said property, the applicant must meet the requirements established through the Site Plan Review process. The Zoning Administrator is ordered to note such change on the Official Zoning Map to the City of Jackson, Mississippi.

SECTION 2. That the cost of publication of this Ordinance shall be borne by the petitioner.

SECTION 3. That this Ordinance shall be effective thirty (30) days after its passage and after publication of same by the petitioner.

Council Member Lindsays moved adoption; Council President Banks seconded.

Nays – Banks, Foote, Lee and Lindsay.

Nays – None.

Absent – Stamps, Stokes and Tillman.

ATTEST:

Angela Harris
Municipal Clerk

I, Angela Harris, the duly appointed qualified Municipal Clerk and lawful custodian of records and seal of said City of Jackson, Mississippi, certify that the foregoing is a true and exact copy of an Order passed by the City Council at its Regular Zoning Meeting on May 17, 2021 and recorded in Minute Book "6T Pgs. "109-114."

WITNESS my signature and official seal of office, this the 26th day of August, 2021.



Angela Harris
Municipal Clerk

GENERAC

Prepare for power outages with a Generac home standby generator

REQUEST A FREE QUOTE!
844-316-8630

FREE
7-Year Extended Warranty*
A \$695 Value!

Limited Time Offer - Call for Details

Special Financing Available
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.

LEGAL

Sealed, signed bids are invited and will be received by the City of Jackson, Mississippi, until 3:30 P.M. in the City Clerk's Office of Jackson, the bid must be stamped in by 3:30 P.M. Tuesday, September 14, 2021 at which time said bids will be publicly opened at the City Hall located at 219 South President Street (City Council Chambers) in City Hall for the following:

74511-091421-- Eighteen Month Supply Asphalt Paving Materials

BIDS ARE NOW AVAILABLE ON THE CITY OF JACKSON'S WEBSITE, WWW.JACKSONMS.GOV AND CENTRAL BIDDING, WWW.CENTRALBIDDING.COM

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

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

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

Destiney Williams, Manager
Purchasing Division
(601)960-1025 or 1533

8/26/2021

LEGAL

NOTICE TO BIDDERS
City of Jackson
Jackson, Mississippi

Sealed, signed bids are invited and will be received by the City of Jackson, Mississippi, until 3:30 P.M. in the City Clerk's Office of Jackson, the bid must be stamped in by 3:30 P.M. Tuesday, September 14, 2021 at which time said bids will be publicly opened at the City Hall located at 219 South President Street (City Council Chambers) in City Hall for the following:

65834-091421 Twenty-Four Month Supply of Precast Concrete Manhole Sections And Reinforced Concrete Pipe

BIDS ARE NOW AVAILABLE AT WWW.JACKSONMS.GOV.

Official bid documents can be downloaded from Central Bidding at www.centralbidding.com, bids are also available at www.centralbidding.com or for assist call 225-810-4814.

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

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Destiney Williams, Manager
Purchasing Division
(601) 960-1025/601-960-1533

8/26/2021, 9/2/2021

LEGAL

NOTICE TO BIDDERS
City of Jackson
Jackson, Mississippi

NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING OF THE JACKSON HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE JACKSON HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION (HPC) WILL HOLD A SPECIAL MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC ON WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15TH, 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-21-26, requested by: Aikisha Holly Colon to construct a new mixed use building at 115 E. Griffith St. located in the Farish Historical District. Design review will be scheduled.

2. 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 Historic District. Not ready for review.

3. Case No. HPNC-21-33, requested by: Lauren Rhoades to remove existing garage structure behind EWHG Visor Center in its entirety, including foundation and associated utilities; remove concrete drive and prep for new drive; remove/relocate existing vegetation; and build a new Welty Education Center with scored concrete patio, and new concrete drive at 1109 Pinehurst St. located in the Belhaven Historic District. Not ready for review.

B. NEW BUSINESS
1. Case No. HPNC-21-35, requested by: Velda Phillips to restore roof and damaged exterior of house located 111 Pinehaven St located in the Belhaven Historic District.

2. Case No. HPLD-21-1, requested by Karl Taylor to designate the Kazery House as a Landmark Designation located at 4920 Robinson Road Extension

II. OTHER ITEMS
1. Administrative Approval of CoAs
1745 Myrtle Street – HPTR-21-8
132 Pinehaven Drive – HPTR-21-7
785 Pinehurst Place – HPTR-21-6
950 Madison Street – HPFC-21-4
1317 Saint Ann Street – HPTR-21-5
300 Church Street – HPCA-21-1 TBD

III. ADDITIONAL

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 CDOTSON@JACKSONMS.GOV TO REGISTER PRIOR TO September 3, 2021.

8/26/2021

LEGAL

Advertisement for RFQ
RFQ 2021-03 Air Disinfecting Systems

Sealed, written formal request for proposals for the above request 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 Precedence), September 02, 2021 at which time and place they will be publicly opened. The Board of Trustees reserves the right to reject any and all requests, to waive informalities, and to withhold the acceptance of any request if approved for forty-five calendar days from the date requests are opened.

Proposal forms and detailed specifications may be obtained free of charge by emailing mishelton@jackson.k12.ms.us or mishelton@jackson.k12.ms.us, calling (601) 960-8799, or documents may be picked up at the above 1120900285 address or downloaded from JPS website at www.jackson.k12.ms.us.

8/19/2021, 8/26/2021

LEGAL

NOTICE TO BIDDERS
City of Jackson
Jackson, Mississippi

Sealed, signed bids are invited and will be received by the City of Jackson, MS, until 3:30 P.M. in the City Clerk's Office of Jackson, the bid must be stamped in by 3:30 P.M. Tuesday, September 14, 2021, at which time said bids will be publicly opened at the City Hall located at 219 South President St. (City Council Chambers) in City Hall for the following:

65858-091421 18-Month Supply Polyethylene Pipes & Various Parts

BIDS ARE NOW AVAILABLE AT WWW.JACKSONMS.GOV and WWW.CENTRALBIDDING.COM

The above must comply with the City's specifications. Copies of proposal forms can be obtained from the Purchasing Division, 200 South President St., Room 604, Hood Building, and Jackson, MS 39201. Copies of bid specifications are filed with the City Clerk for public record in accordance with House Bill No 999, 1986 Regular Session of the Mississippi Legislature.

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

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

Destiney Williams, Manager
Purchasing Division
(601) 960-1025/601-960-1533

8/26/2021, 9/2/2021

LEGAL

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS
BY THE
JACKSON MUNICIPAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY
FOR
CONSTRUCTION AND RELATED SERVICES
IN CONNECTION WITH THE
PASSENGER BOARDING BRIDGE REPLACEMENT AT AIRCRAFT GATE 2
AT THE
JACKSON-MEDGAR WILEY EVERS INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
JMAA PROJECT NO. 001-19

The Jackson Municipal Airport Authority ("JMAA") is seeking bids for construction and related services in connection with the Passenger Boarding Bridge Replacement at Aircraft Gate 2 at the Jackson-Medgar Wiley Evers International Airport (the "Work").

Sealed bids to perform the Work will be accepted at 4:00 p.m. Central Standard Time (CST) on Friday, September 17, 2021 (the "Bid Deadline"). Bids shall be accepted by email, mail, or hand delivery as follows

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

JMAA will open and read publicly all bids on Friday, September 17, 2021 at 4:05 p.m. (CST) (the "Bid Opening"), in the Staff Conference Room, Third Floor of the Main Terminal Building at JAN. JMAA invites Bidders and their authorized representatives to be present at the Bid Opening.

Questions and communications regarding the bidding procedure and schedule on this project should be directed to: Mr. Jack Thomas, Director of Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBE) via email procurementqa@jmaa.com or call 601-360-8615.

The following identification information must be provided with the submission: (i) Bidder's company name; (ii) Mississippi Certificate of Responsibility Number; and (iii) the wording: "Passenger Boarding Bridge Replacement at Aircraft Gate 2 at Jackson-Medgar Wiley Evers International Airport, JMAA Project No. 001-19." If the submission is submitted via email, the identification information must be provided in the email subject line. If the submission is submitted by hand delivery or mail, the identification information must be marked on the outside of the bid envelope or container.

JMAA will not consider any submissions including bid proposals, amendments to bids or requests for withdrawal of bids received, after the Bid Deadline for any reason whatsoever.

JMAA will award the Work to the lowest and best bid as determined by JMAA in accordance with the criteria set forth in the Information for Bidders. Plans and specifications related to the Work are contained in the Agreement. Any Addenda issued clarifying and/or changing plans and specifications; clarifying and/or changing instructions in the Instruction to Bidders; and/or answering questions in relation to the Instructions to Bidders shall become part of the Information for Bidders

The Information for Bidders and bidding documents for the Work can be found at <https://jmaa.com/partner-with-us/procurement/>. The website will be updated periodically with addenda, reports and other information relevant to submitting a Bid for the Work

JMAA will hold a Pre-Bid Video Conference on Wednesday, September 8, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. (CST) using the following login information:

Link: <https://jmaa.zoom.us/j/93452170791?pwd=UnZlTXNHbUwvYkM5NjJa3AvNklX-UT09>
Meeting ID: 934 5217 0791
Passcode: 293050

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

JMAA reserves the right to amend the plans and specifications for the Work by Addendum issued before the Bid Deadline; to reject any and all bids; and to waive technicalities in the bid proposals

JMAA has established a Disadvantaged Business Enterprises subcontract goal of 0% for the Work solicited by this RFB. However, fifteen (15) points are potentially available to Respondents submitting an acceptable minority participation plan for the Work

JACKSON MUNICIPAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY DATE: 8/25/2021

8/26/2021 9/02/2021

LEGAL

ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CITY OF JACKSON CLASSIFICATION AND COMPENSATION PLAN TO ADD JOB CLASSIFICATIONS FOR ZOOKEEPER, VETERINARY TECHNICIAN; ANIMAL CARE SUPERVISOR, DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR FOR THE ZOOLOGICAL PARK MANAGED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION.

WHEREAS, the City of Jackson has a zoo facility located at Livingston Park; and

WHEREAS, a private entity, the Jackson Zoological Society Inc., managed the zoo pursuant to the term, and the City solicited proposals for the management of the facility; and

WHEREAS, the agreement with the Jackson Zoological Society Inc., terminated in accordance with the term, and the City solicited proposals for the management of the facility; and

WHEREAS, the governing authorities for the City of Jackson received multiple proposals and authorized negotiations with Zooceanarium; and

WHEREAS, extensive and lengthy negotiations were had with Zooceanarium which did not result in a contract; and

WHEREAS, a third party entity is not managing the zoo, and the City has been using contract labor to maintain the facility and animals; and

WHEREAS, adequately trained and qualified personnel is essential for the zoo's continued operation; and

WHEREAS, the governing authorities for the City of Jackson adopted a Classification and Compensation Plan on September 22, 1998, which is recorded in Minute Book 4Y and has been amended from time to time; and

WHEREAS, the classifications of Zookeeper, Veterinary Technician, Animal Care Supervisor, and Development Director are not presently within the City of Jackson's Classification and Compensation Plan and is recommended for addition; and

WHEREAS, a salary survey was conducted by the submission of inquiries to the following Southeastern cities: Baton Rouge, Louisiana; Alexandria, Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, the response from the Cities surveyed concerning the median salary paid for the position equivalent of the Zookeeper is within the range of \$26,324.00-\$37,462.46; and

WHEREAS, the response from the Cities surveyed concerning the median salary paid for the position equivalent of the Veterinary Technician is within the range of \$29,882.94-\$47,000.00; and

WHEREAS, the response from the cities surveyed concerning the median salary paid for the position equivalent of the Animal Care Supervisor is within the range of \$41,472.80-\$53,301.20; and

WHEREAS, the response from the cities surveyed concerning the median salary paid for the position equivalent of Development Director is within the range of \$41,04280-\$59,261.00; and

WHEREAS, the best interest of the City of Jackson would be served by adding the positions stated to the Classification Plan and establishing the compensation for the positions at a salary comparable to the compensation paid by other Southeastern cities such as those cited; and

WHEREAS, the established compensation plan adopted by the governing authorities was reviewed by the Department of Personnel Management for the purpose of determining the appropriate compensation pay range comparable to the results of the Southeastern cities median salary survey, and the Department of Personnel Management recommends compensation be paid as follows:

Position	Comparable Pay Range	Salary Range
Zookeeper	16	\$25,930.08 - \$31,124.16
Veterinary Technician	21	\$32,500.08 - \$39,129.12
Animal Care Supervisor	27	\$42,822.24-\$51,704.16
Development Director	30	\$49,233.12 - \$59,517.12;

WHEREAS, the Department of Parks and Recreation has informed the Department of Personnel Management that sufficient monies are available in the current fiscal year's budget to cover the addition of the positions and the recommended compensation.

IT IS, THEREFORE, ORDERED that the Pay Plan adopted by the City Council on September 22, 1998, found in the Minute Book 4Y, be further amended to add the Zookeeper Job Classification at a range 16 (\$25,930.08-\$31,124.16); Veterinary Technician at a range 21 (\$32, 500.08-\$39,129.12); Animal Care Supervisor at a range 27 (\$42,822.24-\$51,704.16) and Development Director at range 30 (\$49,233.12-\$59,517.12) effective immediately.

Council Member Lindsay moved adoption; Council Member Tillman seconded.

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

ATTEST:

Angela Harris
Municipal Clerk

I, Angela Harris, the duly appointed qualified Municipal Clerk and lawful custodian of records and seal of said City of Jackson, Mississippi, certify that the foregoing is a true and exact copy of an Order passed by the City Council at its Special Council Meeting on May 25, 2021 and recorded in Minute Book "6T" Pgs. "132-133."

WITNESS my signature and official seal of office, this the 24th day of August, 2021.

SEAL Angela Harris, Municipal Clerk

8/26/2021

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THE BEST WAY TO FIND OUT IF
KDR JRZK FUY KG MNES GCK NM
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YGC XUE KACZK ZGQRJGSY NZ
TO TRUST THEM.
KG KACZK KDRQ

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Mississippi Press Services
Sue Hicks, 601-981-3060

Several organizations set to March on Washington

By Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Newswire Contributor

Martin Luther King III, Yolanda King, Andrea Waters King, Rev. Al Sharpton and others plan to march with more than 140 organizations and thousands of Americans Saturday, August 28, to advocate for eliminating the Jim Crow filibuster and passing three critical voting rights bills – the For the People Act, John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act and the Washington D.C. Admission Act.

The mobilization comes just months after black voters overcame significant barriers to the vote and organized their communities to change the course of the country – “and now ask that the White House and Congress do their part to protect our democracy and stand on the right side of history,” the leaders said in a news release.

It also comes nearly six decades after Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and civil rights activists led the 1963 March On Washington for Jobs and Freedom, that helped establish voting rights for millions of black



Dr. Martin Luther King Jr led the 1963 March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom.

Americans. African American leaders will again descend on the nation’s capital to demand Congress protect the rights.

Several groups have applied for permits to gather on the National Mall.

The National Action Network has organized a “March on for Voting Rights,” an event across multiple cities. Other organizations that applied for permits to gather include “March On For Voting Rights,” “Douglass Commonwealth Coalition,” “Every Case Matters” and “The Memorial Foundation, Inc.”

Since January, 48 states have introduced 389 bills “that amount to shameful, outright voter suppression, and many have already become law,” March on Washington organizers said in a statement.

“These laws suppress voting methods that enrich our democracy and lead to high turnout: banning ballot drop boxes and mail-in voting, reducing early voting days and hours, restricting who can get a mail-in ballot, prohibiting officials from promoting the use of mail-in ballots even when voters qualify,

even criminalizing the distribution of water to voters waiting in the long lines.”

They continued: “Racist, anti-democratic voter suppression laws amount to rigging the game. But in America, elections are not a game – and lives depend on their outcomes. That’s why, on August 28, 2021, we’re marching on Washington, Atlanta, Miami, Houston, Phoenix and cities across America.”

The Douglass Commonwealth Coalition says they are marching for D.C. statehood,

green jobs and justice.

March On Washington says they are gathering to commemorate the great March on Washington.

Every Case Matters says they are exercising their First Amendment Right to march to the Department of Justice. Reportedly, most of the events have a scheduled start time at 8 a.m. on Saturday.

On the website for the voting rights march, it says the event starts at 10 a.m. The end time for all events is estimated at 8 p.m. Permits indicate that there

are several gathering points depending on the group.

The March on For Voting Rights will gather across from the Martin Luther King, Jr. memorial and end at the Washington Monument.

The Douglass Commonwealth Coalition plans to begin their march at Freedom Plaza and end near the U.S. Capitol. March On Washington says they will gather at the Lincoln Memorial and the MLK memorial. The Memorial Foundation Inc will gather at the Martin Luther King Jr. memorial.

Texas Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick’s COVID claim denounced as racist

By Acacia Coronado
Report for America/Associated Press

When Texas’ lieutenant governor blamed rising hospitalization and death rates from COVID-19 on unvaccinated black people, his comments were quickly denounced as racist.

Republican Lt. Governor Dan Patrick made the remarks Thursday night on a Fox News segment in response to questions about the latest coronavirus surge in Texas. The state is seeing its highest hospitalization rates since January as the highly contagious delta variant spreads.

“The biggest group in most states are African Americans who have not been vaccinated,” Patrick said.

Patrick did not change course Friday, saying “Democrat social media trolls” misstated facts and that he had used state data in his assertions. His office did not respond to a request for additional comments.

But statistics from the Texas Department of State Health Services don’t back that. Black people – who make up about 12% of the more than 29 million people in Texas accounted for about 15% of total COVID-19 cases and just more than 10% of deaths.

Patrick also told Fox News that Democrats were to blame for low vaccination rates among black people, who frequently support that party, even though he believes Republicans should persuade more people to get their shots, too. But he also tiptoed around that issue, which has been sensitive for the GOP.

“But we respect the fact that if people don’t want the vaccination, we’re not going to force it on them,” Patrick said. “That’s their individual right.”

City and county officials in Texas, many of whom are in ongoing legal battles with state government over mask mandates, met Patrick with swift rebukes.

“The Lt. Governor’s statements are offensive and should not be ignored,” Houston Mayor Sylvester Turner, who is black, said on Twitter.

Rodney Ellis, a black commissioner for the county that encompasses Houston, tweeted that Patrick’s comments were “racist and flat out wrong.”

“It’s disappointing that the Lt. Governor would rather scapegoat black people than do the right thing and work with local government to help control the spread of COVID-19,” Ellis wrote.

About 8% of the total number of people in Texas who have been fully vaccinated are black, according to state data. It’s unclear from state data

what percentage of the African-American population has been vaccinated.

Overall, 44% of Texans are fully vaccinated, less than the national rate of about 50%. COVID-19 is blamed for more than 50,000 deaths in the state, and more than 600,000 across the U.S.

Failures and abuses on behalf of government – including the “Tuskegee syphilis study,” in which unsuspecting black men were used as guinea pigs in a study of a sexually transmitted disease – have led to mistrust in public institutions for many African Americans.

Gary Bledsoe, president of the Texas State NAACP Conference, said those historic disparities combined with the politicization of vaccines, misinformation and access to shots caused the problem. Bledsoe said he was “shocked” by Patrick’s comments.

“I am so concerned that he is going to give field to somebody to go out there and do something outrageous because they think someone in their community got infected by black people. That is just not true,” Bledsoe said. “Reach out beyond your political base, reach out to people of all the political persuasions in Texas, all the races and religions, and say, ‘Let’s come together,’ because this is a major problem.”

The seven-day rolling average of daily deaths from COVID-19 in Texas has risen over the past two weeks from 50.29 deaths per day Aug. 4 to 115.14 deaths per day Aug. 18, according to data from Johns Hopkins University Center.

This is not the first time that Patrick has been criticized for comments related to the COVID-19 pandemic. In an April 2020 appearance on Fox News, Patrick said the U.S. should get back to work in the face of the pandemic and that people over the age of 70, who the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention says are at higher risk for severe illness from the coronavirus, will “take care of ourselves.”

Acacia Coronado is a corps member for the Associated Press/Report for America Statehouse News Initiative. Report for America is a nonprofit national service program that places journalists in local newsrooms to report on under covered issues.

This story was first published on Aug. 20, 2021. It was updated on Aug. 21, 2021, to correct the percentage of total vaccinations in Texas that have gone to black people.

Supreme Court won’t hear bid to halt Obama Center project

The Associated Press

The U.S. Supreme Court has rejected a Chicago organization’s effort to immediately stop construction of the Obama Presidential Center on the city’s South Side.

Crain’s Chicago Business reports that Justice Amy Coney Barrett did not explain her decision to reject the emergency appeal Friday. Protect Our Parks has repeatedly challenged the selection of Jackson Park for construction of the center.

Barack Obama in 2016 announced his selection of the South Side park for the campus that will include a museum, public library branch and outdoor space.

Obama and other representatives for the center have expressed confidence of overcoming any legal objections. A representative for the Obama Foundation told Crain’s that construction kicked off this month.

“We greatly appreciate the continued support of our project and process by the courts, including now from the

highest court in the land,” the representative said in a statement.

“Today’s Supreme Court decision is disappointing, but not surprising,” Michael Rachlis, an attorney for Protect Our Parks, said in a statement to Crain’s. “We still believe that preserving the status quo is fundamental to preventing irreparable harm in Jackson Park.”

Rachlis said the organization remains focused on its remaining legal challenges to the plan.

NAACP, black leaders demand Congress act on voting rights

By Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Newswire Contributor

With voter suppression laws taking shape in Texas, Georgia, Arizona, and just about every GOP-led state in the nation, NAACP President Derrick Johnson is pleading for Democrats and the White House to show a sense of urgency.

In a scathing op-ed, Johnson said, “we cannot out-organize voter suppression.” “We organized in November to put people in office to address the issue of voter suppression. We did not organize in November to let elected officials off the hook to organize again and overcome a new hurdle. Voters did their job as citizens, and now they’re simply asking elected officials to do their job to protect our right to vote,” Johnson remarked.

Nearly six decades after Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and civil rights activists led the 1963 March On Washington for Jobs and Freedom, that helped establish voting rights for millions of black Americans, African-American leaders will again descend on the nation’s capital to demand Congress protect the rights.

Martin Luther King III, Yolanda King, Andrea Waters King, and others plan to march with more than 140 organizations and thousands of Americans on Saturday, August 28, to advocate for eliminating the Jim Crow filibuster and passing three critical voting rights bills – the For the People Act, John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act, and the Washington D.C. Admission Act.

The mobilization comes just months after black voters overcame significant barriers to the vote and organized their communities to change the course of the country – “and now ask that the

White House and Congress do their part to protect our democracy and stand on the right side of history,” the leaders said in a news release.

Martin Luther King III plans to appear this week on the National Newspaper Publishers Association live morning news program, “Let It Be Known,” to discuss the march and voting rights.

In his op-ed, Johnson declared that “voting rights shouldn’t be a partisan issue. Yet the contentious dispute on whether to defend every American’s right to vote has taken center stage in Congress, and for an unnecessary amount of precious time.” He continued:

“With time not on our side, there is no reason we should still be debating whether to pass a civil rights bill that will indubitably strengthen our fractured democracy by achieving the one goal our nation’s essence depends on – lending a voice to the people.”

Johnson contradicted Republican Congressman Mike Johnson of Louisiana, who infamously and erroneously stated that “it is easier for eligible Americans to vote than ever before in American history.”

“State legislators around the country have introduced more than 400 bills that will make it more difficult for Americans to exercise their constitutional voting rights, and at least 18 states have passed such legislation,” Johnson wrote.

“Ingrained in these attacks on voting rights are generations-long patterns of discrimination targeting communities of color, particularly black communities. The overwhelming evidence of voter suppression speaks to this truth: It is easier for privileged, eligible Americans to vote than ever before in Ameri-

can history.”

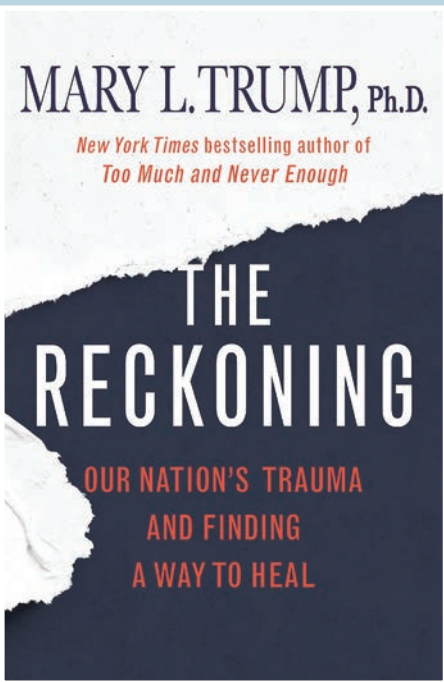
Any decision not in favor of significant voting legislation under consideration by Congress will cost the lives of millions of Americans whose very voices are jeopardized, Johnson insisted.

“For instance, in May, Alabama Gov. Kay Ivey signed legislation to ban curbside voting, consequentially forbidding poll workers to set up curbside voting centers and preventing voting machines from being stationed outside a polling place,” Johnson noted.

“While many proponents argue that this restriction is rightfully erected to honor the integrity of our elections, this rationalization completely disregards the lack of accommodating resources for the elderly and people with disabilities – and the overall safety and wellness of voters who reside in a state where COVID-19 vaccinations are abysmal and infection rates are rising.”

When signing the 1965 voting rights legislation, President Lyndon B. Johnson understood that the right to vote is an issue of human dignity, Johnson continued. “He once said, ‘It is wrong, deadly wrong, to deny any of your fellow Americans the right to vote in this country. There is no issue of states’ rights or national rights. There is only the struggle for human rights.’”

“Elected officials hold the invaluable key to ensuring that our future elections are fair and accessible. Those in power who have given an oath to serve their district, their state, and inherently their country, have a responsibility to commit to their purpose of guaranteeing that the people they represent and champion will be heard and not be silenced.”



BOOK REVIEW:

THE RECKONING:

OUR NATION'S TRAUMA AND FINDING A WAY TO HEAL

BY MARY L. TRUMP, PH.D.

C.2021, ST. MARTIN'S PRESS

\$28.99 / \$38.50 CANADA • 195 PAGES

By Terri Schlichenmeyer
Columnist

You can barely stand to look. You open your eyes quick, though, and scan because you need to be informed but the news is sometimes hard to take lately. Consuming in small bites may be best, or devour it if you can, but take care. In “The Reckoning,” Mary L. Trump, Ph.D. says you may’ve been the victim of trauma, and she offers a way to work beyond it.

“This country was born on trauma...” says Trump, through war, hardship, theft of land, slav-

ery, and betrayals of all sorts – not to mention disease. As a psychologist, she wondered what things “might be like” for America after months of divisive politics and pandemic.

Trump, who was diagnosed with Complex Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder, blames much of her PTSD on her uncle but for America as a whole, she says we’ve been through something deeper and wider-ranging: the trauma of slavery, injustice and ongoing inequality – mostly for black people but also for Native Americans, and LGBTQ people

– that continues to permeate every corner of American life.

White people inherently enjoy white privilege, Trump says plainly, and they might try to deny it, but the fact is that the world whites walk in so blithely, is not the same one for black citizens.

That causes trauma to extend both ways because “Trauma shapes us in ways we may not be aware of, and will always do so unless we face what has happened to us...[and] what we’ve done to each other.”

And that’s where politics en-

ter, especially since the end of the Civil War: politicians have become adept at convincing white America, subtly or overtly, that black people are lesser; that “moving on” without reckoning is possible; and that we should put transgressions aside by whitewashing them, minimizing them, and by refusing to demand accountability.

“But as seductive as it is, wiping out chapters in our history,” says Trump, “... leaves future generations vulnerable. We know this. Only remembering will heal us. Maybe it will even set us

free.”

Let’s start here: readers who come to “The Reckoning” for another dose of author Mary L. Trump’s family story will not be disappointed. She has plenty of acid left to spray on the last presidential administration’s years, but that’s not this book’s primary focus. White privilege and the dismantling of racism is, and that comes as some surprise, in both the history Trump uses to make her points and in the obvious passion in her arguments.

What she writes, however, and the lofty ideals she espouses are

nothing new, yet here they feel like small terriers at your feet, nipping for unwavering attention, demanding focus and deep consideration.

You may not like what you read but it’s going to force you to think, hard, about the future, individually and nationally.

Unfortunately, “The Reckoning” is going to be politicized, when it’s not, not entirely. Though it shouldn’t, that may chase away politics-weary readers who would otherwise get a lot out of a book like this, one that may be an absolute eye-opener.



ZACK WALLACE

Hinds County Circuit Clerk

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

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

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

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

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

Services of the Clerk:

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

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

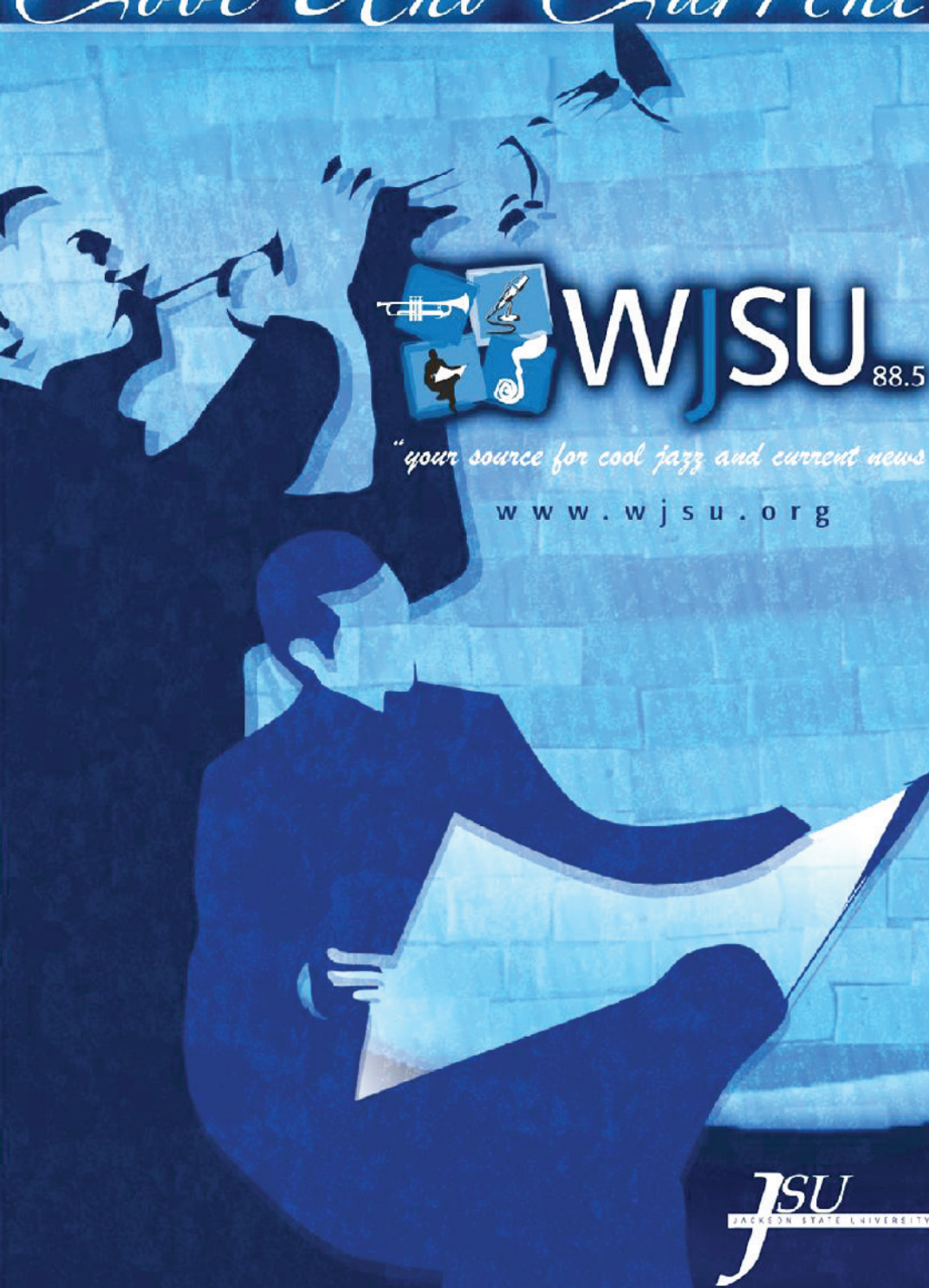
- You must be registered 30 days before the Election.
- Absentee Voting begins 45 days before the Election

MARRIAGE INFORMATION

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

Website: www.hindscountymississippi.com

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Hinds County School District Weekly Update

ENGAGING-EMPOWERING-ENSURING-EXCELLENCE

HCS D Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment (CIA) Team Making Impact



The HCS D CIA Team has started the year working to ensure that our administrators and teachers understand the importance of redefining our classroom teaching strategies to meet the changing needs of students for the 2021-2022 school year.

The team’s efforts revolve around four common areas of focus: building the instructional leadership skills of principals; supporting the professional learning of teachers, with a particular focus on school-based coaching; providing greater specification of and support for a standards-aligned curriculum; and promoting the use of data to guide instructional decisions.



Brionna Knighten,
Instructional Specialist & ELS Assessments



Dr. Ebonee Brown,
Instructional Specialist & ELS Assessments



Lani Foil,
Instructional Specialist & ELS Assessments



Renee Myers, DCT & Resource Management Data Analysis



Sandra Kyles,
District Curriculum Coordinator



Chasedy Bergold,
District Curriculum Coordinator



Latasha Ball,
Assistant Principal / BMS & ELS Assessments



Dr. LaCourtney Landfair, Assistant Principal / THS & ELS Assessments

New Additions to the CIA Team



Elizabeth Foster, Middle/High School CCR Instructional Specialist
Elizabeth Foster joins the Curriculum and Instruction team as the District’s Middle and High School CCR Instructional Specialist. Foster is a graduate of Mississippi College with a B.S. degree in Social Studies with over 23 years of teaching experience. She has served as a former teacher and mentor at Terry High School and was named the HCS D Teacher of the Year, 2021.



Tiffany Cline, Instructional Specialist & ELS Assessments
Tiffany Cline joins the Curriculum and Instruction team as an Instructional Specialist. Cline comes to the district with over sixteen years of experience in public school, community college and virtual teaching. She holds a bachelor’s degree in Early Childhood Education and a Masters Degree in Reading Education. She was also named UEMS’ Teacher of the Year in 2016.



Kimberley Petermann, District Invention Instructional Specialist & Data Analysis
Kimberly Petermann will be joining the Curriculum and Instruction team as the District Invention Instructional Specialist. Petermann will work to promote success for all students by supporting school interventionists in making data-driven decisions to provide explicit, evidence-based, and individualized instruction for students to improve achievement in the Hinds County School District.

MLBC’s Dates to Vaccinate

The Mississippi Legislative Black Caucus is encouraging Mississippians to get vaccinated in a series of community clinics across the state. “Date to Vaccinate” will take place Sunday, August 29, from 1-6 p.m. in various locations throughout the state.

“COVID-19 cases continue to rise in Mississippi. This pandemic is affecting everyone – from the elderly to the youth. The caucus is working to increase access to the vaccine, which all state health experts agree is the most important thing we can get to protect ourselves, our family and those around us,” said Angela Turner-Ford, MLBC chairperson. “So, we are saying don’t wait and don’t hesitate. Get vaccinated!”

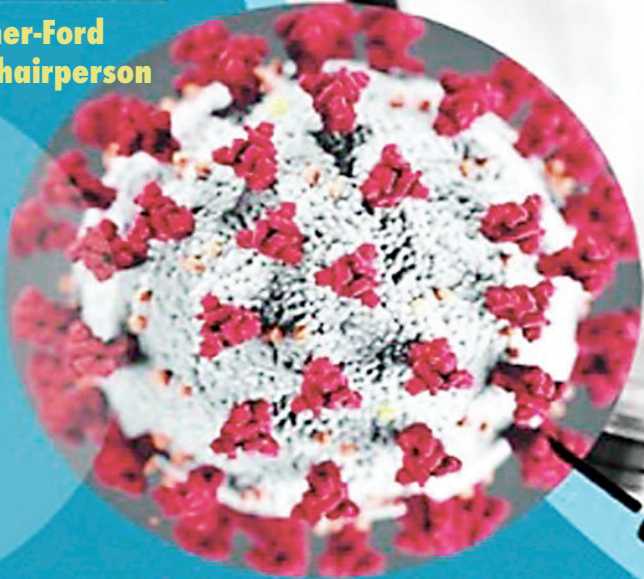
The effort is made possible by a grant from Pearl River Valley Opportunity Inc., and the State Department of Health.



Mississippi Legislative Black Caucus members



Turner-Ford
MLBC Chairperson



"DATE TO VACCINATE" includes

- Covid-19 Vaccine
- Free Food by Von's Soul Food Catering
- Family Entertainment by Rick Mason
- Free COVID-19 Resources

Sponsored by:

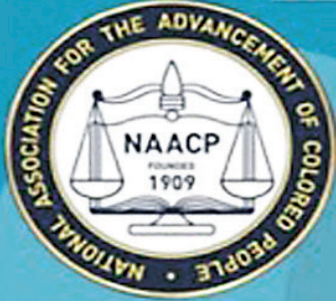
- Mississippi Legislative Black Caucus
- Missionary Union Baptist Church
- Columbus-Lowndes NAACP
- and
- Other Community Leaders

Paid for by PRVO, INC. & MS Dept of Health

Don't Wait.
Don't Hesitate.
VACCINATE!

Sunday, August 29th

See other church locations below for vaccination sites on Sunday, August 29.



MLBC vaccination sites will be open Sunday, August 29, 2021, 1-6 p.m.
You may find your Senator or Representative listed with the site.

- | | | | | | |
|---|--|--|--|--|---|
| 1. Sen. Robert Jackson
Holly Grove MB Church
601 Jones Street
Crenshaw, MS 38761 | 6. Sen. Sarita Simmons
Greater New Kingdom MB Church
608 Glasco Street
Cleveland, MS 38732 | 11. Rep. Hester Jackson McCray
Living Word Ministry
5230 Nail Road
Walls, MS 38680 | 16. Rep. Stephanie Foster
Belmont Family Life Center
14011 MS-18
Raymond, MS 39154 | 21. John the Baptist M.B. Church
500 Lumberton Road
Columbia, Ms. | 27. St. James MB Church
604 25th Street
Gulfport, Ms. |
| 2. Sen. Barbara Blackmon
Mt. Zion MB Church
514 W North Street
Canton, MS 39046 | 7. Sen. Derrick Simmons
New Hope First Baptist Church
705 Nelson Street
Greenville, MS 38701 | 12. Rep. Kenneth Walker
First Baptist M.B. Church
300 Martin Luther King Drive
Carthage, MS 39051 | 17. Rep. Jeffrey Harness
First Baptist M.B. Church of Port Gibson
501 Farmer Street
Port Gibson, MS 39150 | 22. Agape Store House Apostolic Church
4603 Highway 39 North
Meridian, Ms. | 28. Peter's Rock Peter's Rock Temple Church of God in Christ
223 Dr Martin Luther King Jr Dr West
Starkville, Ms. |
| 3. Rep. Bo Brown
New Mt. Zion Missionary Baptist Church
140 Maple Street
Jackson, MS 39203 | 8. Rep. Cheikh Taylor
Peter's Rock Temple COGIC
223 Dr. Martin Luther King Dr. W
Starkville, MS 39759 | 13. Sen. Joseph Thomas
Mt. Vernon MB Church
137 Canal St.
Yazoo City, MS 39194 | 18. Sen. Angela Turner Ford
Mission Union MB Church
1207 5th Avenue N
Columbus, MS 39701 | 23. Victory Praise Worship Center
Church of the Nazarene
2305 Chicot Street
Pascagoula, Ms. | 29. Missionary Union Baptist Church
1207 5th Ave N, Columbus, Ms. |
| 4. Rep. John Faulkner
St. Paul MB Church
1393 State Highway 309, South
Byhalia, MS 38611 | 9. Rep. Bryant Clark
Sweet Home Missionary Baptist Church
11808 Ebenezer Road
Lexington, MS 39095 | 14. Rep. Rickey Thompson
Second Baptist Church
186 Martin Luther King
Verona, MS 38879 | 19. Pilgrim Missionary Baptist Church
117 Pilgrim Boulevard
Natchez, MS 39120 | 25. St. Matthews M.B. Church
2106 Walker Street
Picayune, Ms. | |
| 5. Rep. Gregory Holloway, Sr.
New Life Cathedral of Worship
28172 MS 28
Hazlehurst, MS 39083 | 10. Rep. Omeria Scott
Providence Baptist Church
1908 N Wheeler Avenue
Laurel, MS 39440 | 15. Rep. Daryl Porter, Jr.
St. Mary Free Will Baptist Church
1557 C C Bryant Drive
McComb, MS 39648 | 20. Mount Pleasant Missionary Baptist Church
8755 Highway 24 East
Centerville, MS 39361 | 26. Providence Baptist Church
1908 North Joe Wheeler Avenue
Laurel, Ms. | |