



David Marion, Ph.D

National Pan-Hellenic Council honors David Marion, Ph.D and HBCUs

By Jackie Hampton
Publisher

On Sunday afternoon, while the community was on edge due to the wind and rain threats of Hurricane Ida, The

Metro Jackson Area Chapters of the National Pan-Hellenic Council (NPHC) was moving full speed ahead with their program at 4 p.m. to honor Dr. David Marion, Ph.D for his outstanding contri-

butions to the community as well as to honor HBCUs with scholarships totaling \$100,000.

The event was held at the Tougaloo College Health and Wellness Center.

Dr. Marion was elected chairman of the Council of Presidents (COP) of the National Pan-Hellenic Council in

Marion
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Jackson’s garbage collection contract: deadline looms

Council voted down city’s recommendation of one company twice last month

By Gail H.M. Brown, Ph.D.
Contributing Writer

A few Jackson residents on Robinwood Place in Northpointe Village possibly did not hear the broadcasted notice of no garbage collection, Monday, Aug. 30, due to Hurricane Ida. They put their garbage out.

One ponders the questions: What if Monday was the only contracted collection day for the week, would residents have to wait an entire week for the next pick up?

A recommendation was brought before the City Council in August that included a once per week collection service by a global company named, FCC Environmental Services, LLC. In a special council meeting, on Aug. 19, the Jackson City Council voted down the company’s proposal, for the second time. The first time was Aug. 9. The Aug. 19 order for the renegotiated contract read as follows:

ORDER AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE THE CONTRACT AND RELATED DOCUMENTS

WITH FCC ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES, LLC TO PROVIDE SOLID WASTE COLLECTION AND HAULING SERVICES FOR A SIX (6) YEAR TERM COMMENCING OCTOBER 1, 2021 WITH FOUR (4) ONE (1) YEAR EXTENSION OPTIONS (ALL WARDS)

The vote was 3 in favor, and 4 against, the same as it was for the initial order during Aug. 9th’s special council meeting. According to records, Council Member Angelique Lee moved for adoption; Council Member Brian C. Grizzell seconded.

The yeas were Grizzell, Ward 4; Lee, Ward 2; and Council President Virgi Lindsay, Ward 7. The nays were Council Members Aaron Banks, Ward 6; Ashby Foote, Ward 1; Vernon Hartley, Ward 5; and Kenneth Stokes, Ward 3. There were no absences.

So now, the mayor and his administration are negotiating with the second lower bidder which is the current company, Waste Management, Inc. Its

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Ida collapses Mississippi road; kills 2, injures at least 10

The Associated Press

Two people were killed and at least 10 others were injured when seven vehicles plunged into a deep hole where a dark, rural highway collapsed as Hurricane Ida blew through Mississippi.

Torrential rain may have caused the collapse Monday night, and the drivers may not have seen that the roadway in front of them had disappeared, Mississippi Highway Patrol Cpl. Cal Robertson said. The George County Sheriff’s Department received the first call about a crash at about 10:30 p.m.

Robertson told The Associated Press that some of the vehicles ended up stacked on top of each other as they crashed into the abyss, which opened up in a rural area without street lights.

Ida dumped as much as 13 inches (33 centimeters) of rain as it blew through Mississippi, the National Weather Service said.

“You can imagine driving at night with heavy rain coming down,” Robertson said. “It’s just nothing but a wall of water, your headlights kind of reflecting back on you.”

State troopers, emergency workers and rescue teams responded to Highway 26 west of Lucedale, about 60 miles (96 kilometers) northeast of Biloxi, to find both the east and westbound



A vehicle is extracted from a hole on highway 26, Tuesday, Aug. 31, 2021, near Lucedale, Miss. Troopers have said that both the east and westbound lanes of Highway 26 in George County west of Lucedale collapsed. WLOX-TV VIA AP

lanes collapsed. Robertson said the hole is around 50 to 60 feet (15 to 18 meters) long and 20 to 30 feet (6 to 9 meters) deep.

A crane was brought in to lift the vehicles out of the hole.

Jerry Lee, 42, of Lucedale, was pronounced dead at 1:20 a.m., George County Coroner DeeAnn Murrah told the *Sun Herald*. Murrah said she was notifying the family of the other person killed before releasing that person’s name.

George County High School said one of its students, a senior,

was hospitalized with critical injuries after crashing into the hole. School was closed Tuesday because the collapsed highway created problems for buses and other traffic.

Mississippi Southern District Transportation Commissioner Tom King said he didn’t know anything unusual about the soil conditions where the highway caved in.

“We just got bombarded here in south Mississippi with rain,” King told The Associated Press.

King said work crews were

checking other highways in areas that received heavy rain from Ida.

Between 3,100 and 5,700 vehicles drive along the stretch of two-lane highway on an average day, according to Mississippi Department of Transportation data.

“It’s going to take us a while to redo it and make it right again and make it safe for folks to go over,” King said of the collapsed roadbed.

Hurricane Ida blasted ashore Sunday as a Category 4 storm,

Ida
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New Orleans Katrina evacuee saw opportunity in the Sip



Moten

By Gail H.M. Brown, Ph.D.
Contributing Writer

While naysayers were telling him that they do not know why he would want to stay in Mississippi after Hurricane Katrina 16 years ago, evacuee Thaddeus Moten, a New Orleans native, saw opportunity.

“They would tell me, there is nothing in Mississippi, and I would tell them that I see opportunity,” said Moten who first fled to Bazelle, La. with his children, their mother, and their mother’s relatives before coming to Jackson, Miss.

Moten’s father and stepmom had evacuated from New Orleans to Jackson but they later returned.

“I stayed in the Jamison Inn for three months,” he said. “It was really nice back then. I went back to see it recently, and was so disappointed at how

run down it is now,” he said.

Moten is glad he listened to his heart and not many of the people who criticize him for staying in Mississippi. He also credits some of the ladies who worked at a local Regions bank for always encouraging him, and answering questions for him about different things when he asked.

He said one of the most important reasons that he stayed is because his children came and went to school here.

He admits that he was involved with friends who did not see the same opportunities that he saw. “It held me back for a while until deep down I realized I wanted more in life, so I had to separate from those people,” he said. “It wasn’t easy because I did not have any friends here.”

“One thing I try to tell these young men is that education is the best thing

you can get,” he said. He said he is also a proponent of staying positive. “I try not to be around negative people, and I will tell anyone to do the same,” Moten explained.

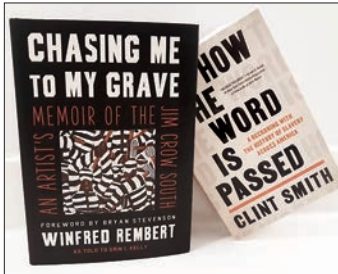
He also believes in keeping his body fit and healthy. “I workout daily,” he said.

He was a licensed barber when he lived in New Orleans. Since being in Mississippi, he had been blessed to own his own shop called Teamslim Barbershop for several years on Robinson Road in West Jackson. “I had to shut down because of COVID-19,” Moten said.

He had also worked in a shop at the Metrocenter Mall.

“My grandparents (now deceased) used to walk the mall for exercise,”

Evacuee
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Louis Armstrong’s ‘second home’ among property destroyed by Ida

By Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Newswire Correspondent

Hurricane Ida continues to leave destruction and devastation in its wake as residents from New Orleans and Mississippi realize just how much they’ve lost.

The devastation also claimed the Karnofsky Tailor Shop and Residence “second home” of famed jazz legend Louis Armstrong. A viral social media video captured Ida destroying the shop at 427 South Rampart Street in New Orleans.

Armstrong grew up near the shop, and by the age of 12, was known to frequent the place owned by the Karnofsky family, who offered him a job.

According to cultural heritage radio station WWOZ, Karnofsky Tailor Shop and Residence sat along a stretch of road populated primarily by immigrant-owned businesses that catered to a black clientele.

The National Park Service website noted that “The Karnofsky Store was, beginning in 1913, the shop, with residence above, of the Jewish family that provided a second home to the young Louis Armstrong.”

The site administrator’s continued: “He worked for the



Armstrong grew up near the shop, and by the age of 12, was known to frequent the place owned by the Karnofsky family, who offered him a job. The building on South Rampart in New Orleans was destroyed by Ida. JEFFREY BEALL VIA WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

Karnofskies on their coal and junk wagons, tooting ‘a small tin horn,’ and ate meals with

the family, either in their earlier home on Girod Street or here, or maybe both.”

NPS historians said the Karnofskys loaned Armstrong money for his first cornet.

They continued: “Morris Karnofsky, the son of the family and Armstrong’s boyhood friend,

opened the first jazz record store in town, Morris Music. Located at various addresses on South Rampart Street through the years, it was a meeting place for musicians. Armstrong visited his friend and his musician buddies at the store on his many return trips to the city.”

Hurricane Ida’s torrential rainfall has totaled more than a foot in some areas and caused the collapse of a highway in Mississippi, leading to fatalities, Accuweather reported.

As of Tuesday afternoon, more than 1 million were still without power, and the death toll had climbed, with one elderly man believed killed by an alligator hiding in floodwaters.

“AccuWeather forecasters urge people to avoid camping along small streams and to avoid attempting to drive through flooded roadways,” AccuWeather Senior Meteorologist Alex Sosnowski said.

“It could be a life-saving move to find alternative routes and avoid areas prone to flooding at times of heavy rain, such as underpasses and low-lying roads along small streams. There is also the potential for road washouts, mudslides and rock slides.”



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Ida

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one of the most powerful ever to hit the U.S. mainland.

It knocked out power to much of south-eastern Louisiana and southern Mississippi,

Garbage

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current contract expires Sept. 30.

However, according to Councilman Aaron Banks, as of Tuesday evening, Aug. 31, the council had not heard anything from those negotiations.

“It is important that we make sure that the cities WSBA and Sanitation collections are performing adequately, to provide the best services for Jackson residents,” Banks recently told *The Mississippi Link*.

“In addition, the RFP [Request for Proposal] should have never contained a once a week option; we need twice a week pick up,” Banks added.

“I, Cheryl Brown, resident and citizen of Ward 6, South Jackson, am in agreement with the majority votes by/of our city council to keep the garbage two day a week pickup the same, and keep the garbage company that we are already in business with,” Brown shared in a statement to *The Mississippi Link*.

“I am accustomed to the two times a week pickup, specifically because in our home we accumulate a huge amount of trash daily and once a week pickup in my opinion, would be disastrous. My husband and I are on a fixed income and to increase

pi, blowing roofs off buildings and causing widespread flooding as it pushed a surge of ocean water that briefly reversed the flow of the Mississippi River.

fees would cause us additional financial hardship. I am certain that there are numerous citizens who probably fall in the same category and would undergo similar circumstances.”

Willie C. Woodard Jr., who lives in Ward 4, shared similar concerns about the issue. However, he said it “agitated” him at the thought of a once a week collection.

Asked whether he has ever known there to be a once per week pickup in the city, the lifelong native of Jackson responded, “No, never.” “Waste would be piling up, and it attracts rodents,” he said.

“There’s an old saying that comes to my mind, “If it ain’t broke, don’t fix it,” said Brown.

In a last week *Northside Sun* article, Council President Lindsay is reported as fearing that “we are out of time.”

Efforts were made today by *The Mississippi Link* to reach the mayor and his communication team for an update on the negotiations. Just in before presstime was this response from Michelle Atoa, communications director:

“There are no new updates to share yet since the last council meeting on the subject.”

Hurricane Ida traps Louisianans, shatters the power grid

By Rebecca Santana And Jay Reeves
The Associated Press

Rescuers in boats, helicopters and high-water trucks brought hundreds of people trapped by Hurricane Ida’s floodwaters to safety Monday and utility repair crews rushed in, after the furious storm swamped the Louisiana coast and ravaged the electrical grid in the stifling, late-summer heat.

Residents living amid the maze of rivers and bayous along the state’s Gulf Coast retreated desperately to their attics or roofs and posted their addresses on social media with instructions for search-and-rescue teams on where to find them.

More than 1 million homes and businesses in Louisiana and Mississippi – including all of New Orleans – were left without power as Ida, one of the most powerful hurricanes ever to hit the U.S. mainland, pushed through Sunday.

The damage was so extensive that officials warned it could be weeks before the power grid was repaired.

President Joe Biden met virtually on Monday with Louisiana Gov. John Bel Edwards and Mississippi Gov. Tate Reeves along with mayors from cities and parishes most impacted by Hurricane Ida to receive an update on the storm’s impacts, and to discuss how the Federal Government can provide assistance.

“We are closely coordinating with State and local officials every step of the way,” Biden said.

The administration said more than 3,600 FEMA employees are deployed to Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi and Texas. FEMA staged more than 3.4 million meals, millions of liters of water, more than 35,700 tarps, and roughly 200 generators in the region in advance of the storm.

As the storm was downgraded to a tropical depression Monday afternoon and continued to make its way inland with torrential rain, it was blamed for at least two deaths – a motorist who drowned in New Orleans and a person hit by a falling tree outside Baton Rouge.

But with many roads impassable and cellphone service out in places, the full extent of its fury was still coming into focus. Christina Stephens, a spokesperson for Gov. John Bel Edwards, said that given the level of destruction, “We’re going to have many more confirmed fatalities.”

The governor’s office said damage to the power grid appeared “catastrophic” – dispiriting news for those without refrigeration or air conditioning during the dog days of summer, with highs forecast in the mid-80s to near 90 by midweek.

“There are certainly more questions than answers. I can’t tell you when the power is going to be restored. I can’t tell you when all the debris is going to be cleaned up and repairs made,” Edwards said in a news conference. “But what I can tell you is we are going to work hard every day to deliver as much assistance as we can.”

Local, state and federal rescuers combined to save at least 671 people by Mon-

day afternoon, Edwards said.

In hard-hit LaPlace, squeezed between the Mississippi River and Lake Pontchartrain, rescuers saved people from flooded homes in a near-constant operation.

Debbie Greco, her husband and son rode out the storm in LaPlace with Greco’s parents. Water reached a foot up the first-floor windows, then filled the first floor to 4 feet (1.2 meters) deep once the back door was opened. They retreated to the second floor, but then screaming winds collapsed the roof as waves broke in the front yard.

They were finally rescued by boat after sharing in the only dry spot, five people waiting the landing on the stairs.

“When I rebuild this I’m out of here. I’m done with Louisiana,” said Greco’s father, 85-year-old Fred Carmouche, a lifelong resident.

Elsewhere in LaPlace, people pulled pieces of chimneys, gutters and other parts of their homes to the curb and residents of a mobile home park waded through floodwaters.

The hurricane blew ashore on the 16th anniversary of Katrina, the 2005 storm that breached New Orleans’ levees, devastated the city and was blamed for 1,800 deaths.

This time, New Orleans appeared to escape the catastrophic flooding city officials had feared.

Stephanie Blaise returned to her home with her father in New Orleans’ Lower Ninth Ward after evacuating. The neighborhood suffered devastating flooding in Katrina, but only lost some shingles in Ida. However, with no idea when electricity would be restored, Blaise didn’t plan to stay long.

“We don’t need to go through that. I’m going to have to convince him to leave. We got to go somewhere. Can’t stay in this heat,” she said.

The city urged people who evacuated to stay away for at least a couple of days because of the lack of power and fuel. “There’s not a lot of reasons to come back,” said Collin Arnold, chief of emergency preparedness.

Also, 18 water systems serving about 255,000 customers in Louisiana were knocked out of service, the state Health Department said.

Four Louisiana hospitals were damaged and 39 medical facilities were operating on generator power, the Federal Emergency Management Agency said. Officials said they were evacuating scores of patients to other cities.

The governor’s office said over 2,200 evacuees were staying in 41 shelters, a number expected to rise as people were rescued or escaped flooded homes. The governor’s spokesperson said the state will work to move people to hotels as soon as possible so they can keep their distance from one another.

“This is a COVID nightmare,” Stephens said, adding: “We do anticipate that we could see some COVID spikes related to this.”

Evacuee

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said Angel Hampton, a friend who was one of his positive encouragers. “My grandmother occasionally stopped there to let him trim her hair until he offered to come to their home to cut their hair,” she said.

Moten’s belief in God and vision of a fresh start in Mississippi not only manifested into a successful business (until COVID), but also a great daytime job now in the Barber Shop at Jackson State University where he

Marion

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2020, the first Mississippian to hold this office. As COP chairman, he leads the organization comprised of over 2.5 million members in over 20 countries. Marion is co-owner and CEO of Marion Counseling Services, PLLC, a private mental health clinic.

The event also highlighted fifteen chapter members who were recognized as frontline/healthcare professionals who continue to provide generously to the community during the ongoing threat of the COVID-19 pandemic. These awards were presented by Awards Committee co-chair, Maya Thompson.

Thompson stated that the awards were being given to chapter members who have made lasting impacts in his or her profession as a frontline worker during the pandemic. She said that the active member is a healthcare worker (i.e. law enforcement, teacher, truck driver, grocery store worker, etc. who excelled under relentless challenges.

These professionals included Dr. Demondes Haynes, Joan Course Lewis, RN, Quintella Luckett, BS,MA, Dr. Cindy Ayers, Tonja Murphy, MCLC, Dr. Ruby Denson, DNP, FNP-BC, Dr. Sandra Carr Melvin, Dr. Victor D. Sutton, Ph.D, MPPA, Khalilah Turner, Ed. S, Dr. Fred Kency, Jr., Dr. Reginald Rigsby, Lucius Lewis, Jr. CRNA, Dr. Keila Brown-Jones, Cheri Shannon-Archie, RN, BSN and Jeffrey L. Turner, BBA, MPH, MSW.

Thompson in her presentation of awards quoted Mary Anne Radmacher, who is an artist and writer, “Courage doesn’t always soar. Sometimes courage is the little voice at the end of the day that says I’ll try again tomorrow.”

Dr. Marion in his remarks stated, “I don’t want the night to end without me thanking you again for the honor that was bestowed on me today. To create this event during a pandemic and then execute it during a hurricane is absolutely phenomenal.”

He continued, “Let council members know I signed an MOU on behalf of the NPHC two weeks ago with the CDC and NCNW for \$2.7 million. We want the Mississippi Chapters to be able to receive some of these dollars to be utilized for COVID-19 and vaccination messaging.”

The event culminated in the establishment of the Dr. David Marion-Metro Jackson NPHC Endowed Scholarship at Jackson State University with a \$30,000 (\$20,000 from the NPHC and \$10,000 from Omega Psi Phi) contribution to be matched dollar for dollar by JSU for a total endowment of \$60,000. This perpetual endowment will assist deserving JSU-bound freshmen from the local community. Additionally, Dr. David Marion and Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. presented \$10,000 contributions each to Tougaloo College, Alcorn State University, Mississippi Valley State University and Hinds Community College-Utica. These total contributions will have a \$100,000 financial impact at MS HBCUs.

The event chairman was Dr. Juanita Sims Doty and the event co-chairman was Will Jemison. The Metro Jackson NPHC Chapter president is Kotonya Barfield.

Doty said that the event was amazing and awesome. “All the 18 chapters came together to support our HBCUs in Mississippi and to honor Dr. Marion. This wonderful committee was able to execute a great program in the midst of a hurricane and a pandemic. It was divine intervention.” Doty said, “God was in the plan.

The National Pan-Hellenic Council was established May 10, 1930 on the campus of Howard University. The Metro Jackson Chapter was chartered in 1950 to promote collaboration and civic leadership amongst the nine (9) historically Black Fraternities and Sororities including: Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Iota Phi Theta Fraternity, Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity and Omega Psi Phi Fraternity.

The local chapter is led by Kotonya Barfield.



(L-R) Will Jemison, Thomas Hudson Ph.D, David Marion Ph.D (Award Recipient) Dr. Joyce Cole Marion, Kotonya Barfield, Metro Jackson Chapter Pres. Juanita Sims Doty, Ph.D PHOTOS BY JAY JOHNSON



Marion, 4th from left and JSU President Hudson, 5th from left Pose with 15 Frontline/Healthcare professionals who received the “Dr. David Marion Step into Action” award for their invaluable service and dedication to the community.



Chapter presidents



NPHC representatives



Establishment of the Dr. David Marion- Metro Jackson Endowment Scholarship at JSU of \$30,000. (NPHC check for \$20,000 and Omega Psi Phi check for \$10,000)



Dr. David Marion and Omega Psi Phi Fraternity presented \$10,000 checks to Tougaloo College, Alcorn, MVSU and Hinds Community College-Utica.

Mississippi civil rights pioneer Birdie Walker to turn 103

By Ernest Herndon
Enterprise-Journal

At 102 years old and facing a birthday this month, Birdie Lee Walker doesn't remember much about the day 60 years ago when she became one of the first black citizens to register to vote in Amite County.

Except this: "I voted in Liberty."

And this: "I just went down there and told them I wanted to vote."

Sounds simple now, but it was a dangerous endeavor for African Americans 60 years ago.

It was Aug. 15, 1961, when civil rights activist Bob Moses took Walker, her sister Matilda Schoby and their cousin Ernest Isaac to the courthouse in Liberty to register.

The Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee describes the incident on its website, SNCCdigital.org:

"On Aug. 15, Moses accompanied three local people to the Amite County courthouse in Liberty. The registrar forced them to wait in the courthouse for six hours before they were allowed to fill out the forms. As the group drove from the courthouse, a highway patrolman followed them, pulled them over and arrested Moses."



Walker

Moses spent two nights in jail. Two weeks later he was savagely beaten for accompanying two more people to the

courthouse. Moses pressed charges against his attacker, but he was acquitted.

Moses, who became a hero

of the Civil Right movement, died July 25 at age 86.

Oral History Project

In 2010 a McComb High School class led by Vickie Malone and Howard Levin interviewed Walker for nearly an hour for the "Telling Their Stories" Oral History Project. The interviews are accessible at tellingstories.org.

"We wanted to go register and vote like other people," said Walker, whose memory was more lucid then.

"The old man said he wasn't going to let us vote, but after a while he said he'd let us fill out a paper and vote."

They did, but when they left, a group of white men followed them, eventually pulling them over and arresting Moses.

"I didn't get scared," Walker said. "Moses had told us, 'They're going to take me to jail.' He said, 'Y'all don't get scared,' and I didn't get scared."

The voters got support that night when the late civil rights activist C.C. Bryant and a group of FBI agents paid them a visit.

Long Life Well Lived

Walker was born Aug. 31, 1918, during the Spanish flu pandemic and shortly before the end of World War I. One of three siblings, she was raised

in Amite County not far from where she lives now on Upper Glading Road.

She went to Sherman Missionary Baptist Church and was baptized in Muddy Springs Creek around age 5. She went to Mount Canaan School.

Later she married Leroy Hughes, who died decades ago, and had five children, two of whom are deceased.

She cleaned houses and brought in washing for a livelihood, and raised a big garden.

"I just know that she was a hard worker," said daughter Joanna Turner, 66.

"She was very independent. She wouldn't do a lot of talking."

Walker was a disciplinarian as a parent.

"She was one of those ones, she didn't do a lot of talking, but her eyes would tell you what you need to do," Joanna said. "She'd tell you once or twice what you need to do, and if you didn't do it, she'd get a stick."

She recalled being in bed with her sister when her sister got a whipping.

"From then on, whenever she told me something, I didn't argue. I did it," Joanna said.

Walker was a great cook as well, Joanna said, recalling biscuits, rice and gravy, fried

chicken, pound cake from scratch.

"...Big old-time pound cakes better than the ones you get in the store," Joanna said.

"I cooked most anything," Walker said.

At revival time, Walker would bake cakes and her sister Matilda would make chicken and dumplings.

"Her sister was good at egg pie. Mama was good at sweet potato pie," Joanna said.

Joanna said she never learned to cook as good as her mom, much less sew. But she learned "mainly to try to live worthy, be righteous, treat everybody right."

Walker's voter registration wasn't her only legacy. All of her children became productive, hard-working citizens.

Deceased sons J.B. and Leroy were a mechanic and a cement truck driver, respectively.

The other three children — Joanna, Jeannine Redfield and Isom Upkins were all teachers, and Upkins was a tennis star as well, with plaques decorating three walls of Walker's living room.

As for her mother's place in Civil Rights history, "I'm very proud of her," Joanna said. "I wish I had the courage they had."

Retired FBI Special Agent Beverly Harris joins The Big Footprint Challenge for Hinds County Sheriff's race

By Jackie Hampton
Publisher

Beverly Harris-Williams walked outside the doors of the Greater Mount Calvary Church on Robinson Road, where she saw many attendees gathered at her campaign launch announcement for Sheriff of Hinds County. She spotted media, family, friends and supporters and then caught the eye of her pastor, Dr. John Earl Cameron Sr. who said he was honored to support her candidacy for the next sheriff of Hinds County.

Harris-Williams joins the race where several candidates have announced they wish to fill the big footprints of Lee Dan Vance Jr., who passed away August 3.

She said, "I chose this sight to make my announcement because of its' historical significance. My election as first female Hinds County sheriff will also be historical."

Harris-Williams is a graduate of Lanier High School and Jackson State University. She has spent 31 years in law enforcement.

She said, "I am accustomed to being the first. I was the first of six siblings to graduate from college, the first African-American female FBI special agent to be



Harris-Williams, candidate for Hinds County Sheriff

assigned to the State of Mississippi, the first African-American female assistant chief of the FBI Police in Washington and the first African-American female supervisory agent to lead a major crime program in Dallas, Texas."

She said she wants to use her military experience and law enforcement experience to bring change to Hinds County by increasing community engagement, restoring public trust in law enforcement, increasing the number of deputies within rural communi-

ties and partnering with local, state and federal agencies to address crime issues and gun violence.

She added addressing prolonged issues relating to the Detention Center and the consent decree. She promised to focus on a re-entry pathway for inmates, mental health and job skill training.

Harris-Williams feels she is ready for "The Big Footprint Challenge."

The election for sheriff will be held November 2, 2021.



Pastor Cameron presents Harris-Williams.

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White men sentenced in hate crimes against black teens

The Associated Press

A white father and son in Mississippi have each been sentenced to four years in prison for convictions related to chasing and shooting at two black teenagers who were riding all-terrain vehicles on a country road.

Some of the charges were prosecuted as hate crimes, which strengthened the punishment.

Wade Oscar Twiner, 49, of Yazoo City, and his son, Lane Irvine Twiner, 23, of Jackson, were sentenced Friday in Yazoo County. Jurors on Wednesday convicted each man of two counts of simple assault and

one count of malicious mischief.

The district attorney's office said the penalty for each simple assault conviction was increased because the men's actions were deemed hate crimes under Mississippi law, which allows stronger penalties for crimes motivated by the victim's actual or perceived race, color, ancestry, ethnicity, religion, national origin or gender.

The men were arrested after the Sept. 27 chase in rural Yazoo County. The two teenagers were not injured, but they told investigators they were frightened for their lives.

The teenagers were riding

ATVs on a country road close to Wade Twiner's home, said Chief Deputy Joseph Head of the Yazoo County Sheriff's Office. The father and son got in a pickup and chased the two teens, firing several shots and bumping into one of the ATVs with the truck. Investigators recovered a 9 mm handgun that night.

Yazoo County Sheriff Jake Sheriff told WLBTV the Twiners said they own land on both sides of the public road and they should not have to deal with people riding ATVs on the road. Although operating ATVs on public roads is illegal in Mississippi, the law is not

strictly enforced. The sheriff said other people were riding ATVs near the Twiners' home the day they chased and shot at the black teenagers.

Sheriff told the *Clarion Ledger* investigators looked at social media posts made by one of the Twiners, including a Facebook post with the phrase "Redneck Neighborhood Watch" and a photo of a Confederate flag.

Until mid-2020, the Confederate battle emblem was part of the Mississippi state flag. Legislators retired that state flag amid criticism that the Confederate symbol is widely considered racist.

President Biden approves Mississippi Emergency Declaration



THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

By Ike Hajinazarian
The White House

President Joseph R. Biden, Jr. declared August 28, that an emergency exists in the State of Mississippi and ordered Federal assistance to supplement State, Tribal, and local response efforts due to the emergency conditions resulting from Hurricane Ida beginning August 28, 2021, and continuing.

The president's action authorizes the Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), to coordinate all disaster relief efforts which have the purpose of alleviating the hardship and suffering caused by the emergency on the local population, and to provide appropriate assistance for required emergency measures, authorized

under Title V of the Stafford Act, to save lives and to protect property and public health and safety, and to lessen or avert the threat of a catastrophe in the counties of Adams, Amite, Covington, Forrest, Franklin, George, Greene, Hancock, Harrison, Jackson, Jefferson, Jefferson Davis, Jones, Lamar, Lawrence, Lincoln, Marion, Pearl River, Perry, Pike, Stone, Walthall, Wayne and Wilkinson and the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians.

Specifically, FEMA is authorized to identify, mobilize, and provide at its discretion, equipment and resources necessary to alleviate the impacts of the emergency. Emergency protective measures, including direct federal assistance will be provided at 75 percent Federal funding.

Mississippi has highest rate of COVID spread in US

The Associated Press

Mississippi has the highest per-capita rate of new coronavirus cases and deaths in the United States, followed by Florida, Tennessee, South Carolina and Louisiana.

The Johns Hopkins University COVID-19 case tracker shows seven-day rolling averages. Numbers posted by the tracker

Monday show that during the week that ended Saturday, Mississippi had 102.3 new coronavirus cases per 100,000 residents and nearly 1.4 new coronavirus deaths per 100,000 residents.

Mississippi reported nearly 800 new COVID-19 cases during the weekend, the state Health Department said Monday.

The department said all of its COVID-19 testing sites and vaccination sites were closed Monday and those in the central and southern parts of the state will remain closed Tuesday as the remnants of what was Hurricane Ida push through the state. Many private testing and vaccination sites remained open.

Mississippi has nearly 3 mil-

lion residents. The Health Department said the state has had 435,611 confirmed coronavirus cases and 8,361 deaths from the virus since the pandemic began in the spring of 2020.

Republican Gov. Tate Reeves has said he will not issue mask mandates this school year, although most local school boards have issued them.

Secretary Watson announces September National Voter Registration Month

Mississippi Link Newswire

Secretary of State Michael Watson joins fellow members of the National Association of Secretaries of State (NASS) in observing September as National Voter Registration Month. During the month of September, our office, along with government agencies and organizations across the country, will promote the importance of voting and the significance of keeping your voter registration information up-to-date.

"The right to vote is one of the greatest liberties in our country," said Secretary Michael Watson. "In 2020 alone, more than 113,000 Mississippians registered to vote. As of today, the Statewide Election Management System (SEMS) reported roughly 31,000 newly registered voters since January 1, 2021.

"As the state's chief elections officer, it's my responsibility to ensure all eligible Mississippians exercise their right to vote. That's why we are more than excited to participate in this national initiative to promote educational resources and build an informed voting population."

NASS members established September as National Voter Registration Month in 2002 as a non-partisan means of encouraging voter participation and increasing awareness about state requirements and deadlines for voting.

This year, September 28, 2021, will be highlighted by NASS and other voter outreach groups as National Voter Registration Day. In 2020, over 1.5 million people used National Voter Registration Day to register or update their registration, making it the largest NVRD in history.

U.S. Census data shows that 66.8% of eligible citizens over 18 voted in the 2020 presidential election, making last year's turnout the highest of the 21st century. For the 2018 midterm elections, 53.4% of eligible citizens over 18 voted – a historic high for a midterm year.



Watson

As a reminder, to register to vote in Mississippi, you must be:

- A resident of Mississippi and the county, city, or town for 30 days prior to the election
- At least 18 years old (or will be 18 by the date of the next General Election)
- Not declared mentally incompetent by a court; and
- Not convicted of a disenfranchising crime as defined by Section 241 of the Mississippi Constitution or by Attorney General Opinion, unless pardoned, rights of citizenship restored by the governor or suffrage rights restored by the legislature.

The Secretary of State's Office serves as the primary, trusted source for election information.

Visit our Y'all Vote website (yallvote.ms) to download a voter registration application and learn more about the overall voting process. The website features a variety of helpful resources, such as a step-by-step guide to absentee voting and contact information for county election officials.

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.



Jim Hill Tiger Cheer donates 100 book bags and school supplies to Shirley scholars



Jim Hill cheerleaders delivered 100 book bags filled with supplies to Shirley Elementary following a four-day drive held at their school.



Shirley scholars selected their favorite bookbag designs.

The Mississippi Link Newswire

On Friday, August 20, Jim Hill High School cheerleaders presented 100 book bags and school supplies to scholars at Shirley Elementary School. Representing the award-winning Jim Hill cheer squad for this philanthropic initiative were Tamika Harris, the head cheer coach and a counselor at Jim Hill, along with cheer captain Mckinley Washington and co-captains Jada Cavett and Gabrielle Lewis.

Before the school year, the Tiger cheerleaders hosted a school supply drive in the West Jackson area. The squad received all of the book bags from four generous local businesses: BQ Stables, LLC in Clinton;

Traveling with T; We Work Hard, LLC and The Consulting Management Group, LLC (TCMGL).

Seeking to fill each backpack with supplies, the squad hosted a school-supply drive at Jim Hill during the week before school was to start. A donation box was set up in the front lobby of the school for community donations.

When COVID-19 derailed their initial plans to host a large community event to gather more supplies, Tiger cheer booster parents stepped in to provide the remaining supplies, plus some extra.

Donations of supplies and money from the community and booster club members made it possible to include school supplies in each

book bag presented to Shirley Elementary scholars. School supplies included paper, spiral notebooks, pencils, crayons, markers, colored pencils, scissors and glue.

Jim Hill High School Principal Bobby D. Brown reached out to sister schools in his feeder pattern. To his credit, the connection was made with Shirley Elementary and the school's principal, Cynthia Veals. Brown desires to make this the beginning of an ongoing partnership between the two schools.

"This is the first community service project for Tiger Cheer at Shirley, but it will not be the last," said coach Harris on behalf of Principal Brown while presenting the donation.

Alcorn alumnus named director of Intercollegiate Athletics at Alabama State University

The Mississippi Link Newswire

A seasoned leader who began his journey at Alcorn State University will lead athletics at another SWAC school into the future.

Jason Cable '03, '04 was named director of Intercollegiate Athletics at Alabama State University (ASU) August 16. Cable recently served as the senior associate commissioner for administration with the SWAC Headquarters in Alabama. Cable also served as associate athletics director for Compliance at Alcorn.

Cable is excited about landing his dream position. He expressed his love for athletics and how its lessons could prepare one for life.

"I am elated and excited to lead an athletic department at the flagship HBCU in the state of Alabama," said Cable. "Athletics prepares you for the challenges of life. Athletics builds character. My passion for athletics is synonymous with my passion for life."

Being an athletic director has been one of Cable's goals for years. He's thankful to join the leadership team at ASU, and he looks forward to being an asset to the school.

"It has been a life-long dream to lead an athletic program like ASU. Alabama State presents great institutional leadership. I appreciate President Dr. Quinton Ross Jr. and his cabinet for giving me this phenomenal opportunity to lead an already successful program to the next level."

Establishing a championship atmosphere is Cable's goal as athletics director.

"I want to uphold the winning tradi-



Cable

tion and rich history that ASU has established and continue to build champions for life in all that we do."

Developing student-athletes that dominate in their sports, academics and future careers is Cable's goal. He believes that his purpose is fostering the athletic and academic talents of student-athletes.

"The mission is embedded in my experience as a student-athlete, coach and administrator. I have always contended that great athletic programs are student-athlete-focused, coach-driven and administratively assisted. I desire to create a student-athlete experience that prepares them for the next 40 years of their lives. This experience encompasses the holistic development of each student-athlete at the highest level possible."

Cable's experience at Alcorn as a student and professional paved the way for his many career accomplishments. He applauds the university for equipping him for excellence.

"The life-long mentors and experiences that I gained while at Alcorn provided me with the tools to be successful throughout my career."

Remembering Tougaloo Professor James W. Loewen

The Mississippi Link Newswire

Sociologist and national best-selling author James W. Loewen passed away at age 79, August 19. The former Tougaloo College professor made a remarkable impact beyond his research and also through teaching.

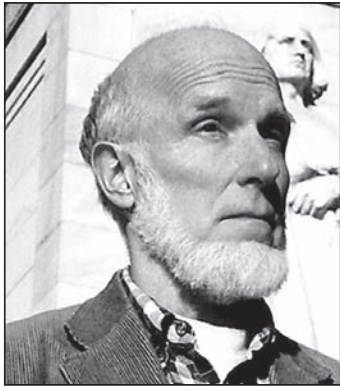
In a 2018 interview with NPR, Loewen revealed that his first full-time teaching job was at Tougaloo College, where he experienced the conflicting ideas of black students regarding their perception of The Reconstruction Era. An interesting debate ultimately inspired him to write "Lies My Teacher Told Me," which won the American Book Award in 1996.

He was passionate about dismantling American history's sensationalized tactics – where often the past is misrepresented and reality is undermined.

In his book, Loewen explained how history textbooks got the story of America wrong. He challenged the notion of oversimplifying the truth instead of acknowledging the dark contrast of the past – or that, America has always been great, which is not the case.

In the early 1970s, Loewen led his colleagues and students to rewrite a new high school state history textbook titled Mississippi: Conflict and Change. Later on, the Mississippi State Textbook Purchasing Board rejected the textbook because it was racially inflammatory. Loewen and others sued the board and won.

Born in Decatur, Illinois, Loewen served as an associate professor at Tougaloo College between 1968 and 1975. He



Loewen

then became the chair of the sociology department. During the height of the Civil Rights Movement, he visited different southern colleges but developed a particular attachment to the students at Tougaloo College.

"Dr. Loewen's untimely death has not been easy for any of us to process. A principled scholar and selfless genius, he dedicated much of his life to making the lives of others better. He cared profoundly and advocated strongly against racial, political, economic and social injustice that victimized marginalized people. Dr. Loewen led by example and left a legacy of excellence, tolerance, acceptance and civil discourse that helped change the world. His impact has left an indelible imprint on his colleagues worldwide and the Tougaloo College community, and it will be felt for decades to come. While we mourn the loss of a great humanitarian, we are incredibly grateful for his generosity and steadfast support of Tougaloo College. We will miss his presence and will uphold his legacy through our unwavering commitment to academic excellence and social

responsibility," said President Dr. Carmen J. Walters.

"Professor James Loewen was a highly respected scholar who understood how dangerous historical amnesia can be. He pushed the needle during a crucial period to offer a comprehensive and inclusive history of the state. He articulated historical narratives in such a way not to indict or convict his audience but to uphold the truth. Professor Loewen never forgot how his time at this institution shaped his social justice work through his scholarship, and we will never forget his steadfast commitment to Tougaloo," said Dr. Daphne Chamberlain, associate professor of history at Tougaloo College.

In the age of alternative facts, Professor Loewen's work rings true to the current dilemma in American society today. Dr. Stephen Rozman, professor of political science at Tougaloo College added, "Jim was an innovative thinker and an inspiration to his sociology and social science division colleagues. His research was directed toward the promotion of racial justice and historical truth, exemplified by the publication of his textbook Mississippi Conflict and Change, mostly dealing with the history of slavery, Jim Crow and racial oppression in this state."

Professor Loewen is survived by his wife Susan Robertson Loewen, children Nicholas Loewen, Lucy Loewen McMurrer, his sister Mary Cavalier, and four grandchildren.

He was a Professor Emeritus at The University of Vermont.

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Mom and baby can benefit from exercise

By Vince Faust
Tips to Be Fit

It’s natural that a woman might be worried about exercising while she is pregnant. A lot of changes are happening in her body. It only makes sense that she may have second thoughts about exercising. But according to medical experts a balanced exercise program would be good for both the mother and her unborn child. You’ll still need to get an ok from your doctor.

We do know that women that exercise during pregnancy have less of a chance of developing some conditions like gestational diabetes. Exercise will also help a woman to maintain her musculoskeletal system, ease muscular aches, pains and other discomforts women sometime experience during pregnancy.

Some experts say that exercise will help you sleep better, prevent excess weight gain, boost your mood, increase your energy levels, shorten labor and reduce your risk of having a C-section.

If you’re not in shape, during pregnancy is not the time to start a strenuous workout program. If your doctor approves, you can start walking, swimming, cycling on



a stationary bike and do low impact aerobics 3 to 4 times a week. During pregnancy the body goes through hormonal changes that increase the laxity of the ligaments around the pelvic area, making it easy to over-stretch them. Avoid sharp quick movements and jumping during exercise.

Exercises to avoid include tennis, heavy lifting, high-speed movements, kicking and strenuous aerobics. Don’t do activities that require you to do hopping, skipping, or bouncing. Avoid deep knee bends, full sit-ups, double leg raises

and straight-leg toe touches.

If you already workout you will probably need to modify your workouts by cutting back on the amount of time you exercise and the amount of energy you exert. For example, if you take aerobic dance classes you may need to slow your pace and workout for 20-30 minutes rather than 45 minutes.

Always be sure to warm-up slowly before you exercise and cool down slowly at the end of your workout. A warm up and cool down are extremely important. Each helps keep

blood flow to the uterus from decreasing below safe levels. To warm up do a slow pace exercise at the beginning of your workout such as slow walking. To cool down you can do the same thing. You should also keep your heart rate under 150 beats per minute and don’t let yourself get overheated. This means the use of saunas and hot tubs are not allowed during pregnancy.

Aerobic exercise works the heart, lungs, circulatory system and helps burn bodyfat. Resistance exercise strengthens muscles, tendons, liga-

ments and bone tissue. Both forms of exercise are important if you want to have a fit healthy body.

Swimming, walking, riding a stationary bike, the elliptical and the stair-climber are fairly safe as long as you take care to prevent falling. Most women can even jog and run especially if they jogged and ran before their pregnancy.

Doing resistance exercise is just as important as aerobic exercise. But you should avoid lifting weights over your head and performing exercises that stain your lower back. You should not exercise to the point of exhaustion or breathlessness because this could affect the oxygen supply to your baby.

You should avoid becoming overheated because this could affect your baby’s development. Try not to exercise in hot weather. During your second and third trimester you should avoid doing exercises lying on your back because this will decrease blood flow to the womb.

Avoid contact sports, like ice hockey, soccer, basketball and volleyball. You should also not use downhill skiing, in-line skating, gymnastics and horseback riding as a form of exercise. Always use your

best judgment. If you feel like you’re overdoing it, you probably are.

Make your doctor aware of any uncomfortable feelings you have when you workout. Not everyone can workout during pregnancy.

The Mayo Clinic suggest you should stop exercising and contact your health care provider if you have:

- Vaginal bleeding
- Dizziness
- Headache
- Increased shortness of breath before you start exercising
- Chest pain

The Mayo Clinic also gives other warning signs to watch for:

- Painful uterine contractions that continue after rest
- Fluid leaking or gushing from your vagina
- Calf pain or swelling
- Muscle weakness affecting balance.

Read up on pregnancy and please take it seriously. Don’t drink alcohol or use drugs or medications, unless your doctor prescribes them and they’re absolutely necessary. Invest in your child’s health by eating the right foods and exercising for both of you before it’s born.

September is Prostate Cancer Awareness Month, African-American men are at highest risk so ‘Get It Checked’

By Ana Fadich Tomsic
Vice President, Men’s Health Network

Prostate cancer is the most common form of cancer in men and will strike approximately 248,000 men this year and kill more than 34,000, making it second only to lung cancer as the deadliest cancer in men.

African-American men are at especially high risk. In fact, among African-American males, prostate cancer accounts for a third of new cancer cases, according to data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Caught early, prostate cancer can be treated, usually successfully. Early detection is especially important for African-American men, who are more likely to be diagnosed when their cancer is at an advanced stage. The good news is that the earlier the disease is caught, the better the odds of successful treatment – regardless of race. In other words, all men whose cancer is caught at the same stage will have identical outcomes.

For more than 30 years, doctors have had a powerful weapon in their arsenal for detecting

prostate cancer. In addition to the digital rectal exam (DRE), a physical exam that allows the doctor to feel the prostate, patients can have a simple blood test called a prostate specific antigen test (PSA) that will detect a majority of prostate problems early. Since the PSA has been used, prostate cancer deaths have declined and the number of successfully treated prostate cancer cases has risen.

However, in early stages, prostate cancer has no symptoms, so don’t wait for “something bad” to happen to Get It Checked (www.GetItChecked.com).

“There’s this stigma among African-American men that if you go for a rectal test, it’s almost like you lose your virginity, like it’s a big taboo,” said Dr. David Samadi, chairman of Urology, Chief of Robotic Surgery at Lenox Hill Hospital and director of Men’s Health at St. Francis Hospital, Roslyn, NY. “The bottom line is that within five minutes of examining the prostate, if there’s a firmness or any sign of cancer, as well as blood tests, we can save their lives.”

This is doubly true during the COVID-19 pandemic. With more citizens receiving their COVID-19 vaccines, don’t let the pandemic deter you from getting an easy, fast screening test. Talk to your healthcare provider to schedule one this month.

September is Prostate Cancer Awareness Month, and Men’s Health Network (MHN) urges all men to talk to their healthcare providers about prostate cancer. MHN also encourages women to get involved and to urge their husbands, fathers, brothers, sons and other loved ones to talk to their healthcare provider about prostate screening, including the PSA and DRE tests.

Let others know about the risks of prostate cancer and the potential benefits of screening. Posters, fact sheets and a social media tool kit for use year round at your place of worship, where you work and for your fraternity or sorority, can all be downloaded for free at the www.ProstateCancerAwarenessMonth.com web site.

You can learn more about prostate cancer and other can-

cers in minority communities, at the Office of Minority Health, <http://www.minorityhealth.hhs.gov> You can also ask questions of Nathan, the virtual prostate cancer expert at CDC, <https://www.cdc.gov/cancer/prostate>

A federally staffed panel of experts, the U.S. Preventative Services Task Force (USPSTF), makes recommendations about screenings that healthcare providers look to for guidance. The Task Force has recommended that men age 55-69 should speak to their healthcare provider about using the PSA test to screen for prostate cancer. But Men’s Health Network, many other patient advocate organizations, and many healthcare providers think that doesn’t go far enough.

Men’s Heath Network urges the following men to talk to their healthcare provider about routine prostate cancer screening:

- All men over age 50, and at age 40 for African Americans and others at high risk
- Men with a family history of prostate cancer
- Veterans exposed to Agent Orange, and

- Men exposed to pesticides and certain other chemicals.

If you are on Medicare, prostate cancer screening is a part of your “Welcome to Medicare” physical, the free comprehensive physical exam you receive in your first year of eligibility. But you may have to ask for the “Welcome” physical since many healthcare providers don’t know about it. Medicare continues to cover prostate cancer screening in following years.

For younger men, more than 30 states require that insurance companies offering health insurance in their state provide coverage for prostate cancer tests. Insurance companies may offer prostate cancer screening in the remaining states but are not required to do so.

When you receive your PSA test results, ask the healthcare provider what your PSA number is, write it down, and compare it against future tests. If the number goes up in future tests, talk to your healthcare provider.

The bottom line? Having an annual prostate exam, including a PSA test, just might save your life. No matter what age you

are, an annual PSA test creates a benchmark to judge future tests against.

No insurance and limited funds? Watch for free screenings in your area. Many healthcare providers, hospitals, clinics and health fairs offer free prostate screenings in September and at other times during the year.

Take any opportunity you can to Get It Checked (www.GetItChecked.com).

Ana Fadich Tomsic, MPH, CHES is vice president, Men’s Health Network and manages the organization’s day to day activities.

www.ProstateCancerAwarenessMonth.com is managed by Men’s Health Network (MHN), an international non-profit organization whose mission is to reach men, boys and their families where they live, work, play and pray with health awareness messages and tools, screening programs, educational materials, advocacy opportunities and patient navigation.

Men can learn more about their health through MHN’s on-line resource center, www.Men’sHealthResourceCenter.com

P R E S E R V E D

Breaking through

By Shewanda Riley
Columnist



I've spent a lot of time lately reading news stories about unvaccinated people dying from COVID-19 complications and vaccinated people having "breakthrough" cases that they survived.

Being vaccinated myself, at first, I wondered if I'd made the right decision to get the vaccine if it meant I could still get Covid. And the more I thought about it, it seemed like I saw more and stories of vaccinated folks getting infected and, in a few cases, dying.

Even though the vaccine was not promoted as a cure for COVID-19, some have expressed shock that vaccinated people can be infected. The science behind all vaccines can be confusing for people like me who aren't trained sci-

entists and medical researchers.

But what I do understand about the vaccine is that it is a form of protection but not necessarily the cure. From what I understand is that the vaccine does its best work by equipping the body to fight off the attack of the COVID-19 virus. In other words, the vaccine empowers the body.

I thought about this idea of protection and empowerment as I continue to pray about those being impacted by COVID-19. What came to mind first was the song "No Weapon" by Fred Hammond. It's always been one of my favorite worship songs because it reminds me to be courageous even during challenging situations. The lyrics of the song come directly from Isaiah 54:17 "No weapon formed against you shall prosper, And every tongue which rises against you in judgment You shall condemn. This is the heritage of the servants

of the LORD, And their righteousness is from Me," says the LORD." (NKJV)

The scripture and song lyrics remind us that bad things may happen but that they will not prevail or overtake us. And why is that? Because God promises in the end that there will be vindication and the Amplified Version of the bible further explains that this heritage or inheritance is "peace, righteousness, security, triumph over opposition." We may get a little bruised in the battle, but in the end, we win.

Perhaps, I'm overthinking this...and this would not be the first time for that. For me, in spiritual terms breakthrough isn't an attack from the "enemy;" the breakthrough is moving from doubt and fear to a higher level of assurance and confidence that comes from having faith in Godly protection. Maybe this example is too simplistic but thinking about this helped me

to better understand the importance of getting the vaccine, despite the risk of the rare breakthrough Covid cases. This also made me wonder why so many Christians state that they are relying on faith in God's "protection" but choose not to get the vaccine. It just seems kind of obvious that the vaccine and wearing a mask are the protections that God promises to send.

Please, get the vaccine and the booster shot if you are eligible. Wear a mask and socially distance.

For more information, search vaccines.gov, text your ZIP code to 438829, or call 1-800-232-0233 to find locations near you.

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).

Be faithful to God

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



We need to prepare ourselves with the wisdom of God's Word. We must be consistent readers and students of God's Word. We ought to become familiar students of the Bible. Many people know much about the internet, the sports world, and the automotive world; however, not very many people become students of God's Word.

Studying the Bible is not merely good advice; it is an order from the Lord to study His Word. James wrote in James 1:21 that it is "the engrafted word, who is able to save your souls."

Each of us ought to have the desire to be faithful to God, but not necessarily the desire to be mighty. We are not seeking to be great. This was written post-mortem about Jotham. It was not something for which he was seeking, but it was a result of what he did and how he lived. The Children of God should not strive to be great or mighty, but we should strive to be faithful and true

Jeremiah 45:5 says, "And seek-est thou great things for thyself? Seek them not." God has given

us an unusual formula for going upward. The world does not like this formula, and many church people do not like it either.

Nevertheless, the way to go up with God is to go down. We may say in our minds, "We can't go up by going down," but God says otherwise. First Peter 5:6 states, "Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time." The way up with God is always down.

We must keep ourselves in the love of God. How can we prepare our way before the Lord? We must avoid bitterness and shun every hateful thought and ill-mannered temptation. We must keep ourselves under constant subjection to the will of God and be in full obedience to the Lord. We must live that way, and we must obey God. We cannot obey our own intuitions or our own impulses, but obey the Lord.

We must obey the Word of God as we hear it coming across the pulpit.

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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601-3552670 ~ 601-355-0760 (Fax)
www.collegehillchurch.org
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COLLEGE HILL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

SUNDAY
Worship Services
10 a.m.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic in-person worship services have been temporarily suspended.

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



Pastor
Chauncy L. Jordon

To Labor Day and Labor Days ahead

By Ray Curry
UAW President



In 1882, a union man, Peter J. McGuire, founder of the Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners and an early supporter of the creation of the American Federation of Labor, suggested setting aside a day for a “general holiday for the laboring classes.”

Almost 130 years later, Labor Day continues to celebrate those who did the work and the magnificent job they have done in building what I will always believe to be, the greatest nation on Earth. One hundred and thirty years later, America will again thank those who figured it out; those who pitched in; those who rolled up their sleeves and made this country work. But

if this day is a statement about achievement, it is perhaps most importantly a testament to the U.S. worker’s ability to meet change, to adapt to its challenges, and to embrace that change and forge a better America.

Moving it forward
So, with the holiday upon us, this is what I would like to hold up in these complicated times: America is retooling. Climate change and a pandemic have rerouted directions and pathways. But America’s workers – union workers – are ready to meet these new directions and traverse those roads. America’s Labor Day thanks workers for the job they have done. At the same time, we must thank workers for the job they are about to do.

This is a time of tremendous evolution in our industries. We are on the cusp of a complete

transition in mobility. A transition to clean energy and clean vehicles. At the UAW, we have been heavily involved in the national discussion on how we can successfully navigate this transition.

It can be done. We know that our workers are the best in the world and as we transition to electric and hybrid vehicles, we must protect our American workforce.

These vehicles and components must be built here by American workers and these jobs must be good paying union jobs. And we all know that it is the working men and women of this nation that are the engine that drives our economy. And any momentous change in our industry must not lose sight of that undeniable truth.

America’s strength
I can tell you that there are no

greater consumers of what gets built here than by hard working Americans who put their work into building these products.

Let me pause a bit to share some of the comments of President Joe Biden at a recent White House event on clean energy and the clean vehicles that will power us responsibly forward in the decades to come.

Biden, who has always been a friend to labor and to the UAW since his earliest days in government, put it this way.

“Whether or not the jobs to build these vehicles and batteries are good-paying union jobs – jobs with benefits, jobs that are going to sustain continued growth of the middle class. They have to be. They have to be made here in America.”

My brothers and sisters in the UAW are more than ready to build America’s future. This

past May we saw the amazing rollout of the all-electric Ford F-150 Lightning – America’s best-selling vehicle built by America’s best workers at the iconic Rouge facility in Dearborn, Michigan.

This is how it must be. To this end, I want to make mention of Senator Debbie Stabenow’s measure that works to tie key consumer rebates for EVs to union auto jobs made here. The Stabenow Made in America Provision included in the Clean for America Act, would continue a \$7,500 consumer credit for EVs and add for the next five years, a \$2,500 bonus for autos assembled in the United States and another \$2,500 for meeting certain worker focused labor standards.

What’s more, after five years, a vehicle must be assembled in the U.S. for consumers to be eli-

gible to receive a \$10,000 base credit and an additional \$2,500 bonus credit for vehicles that are union made or apply worker focused labor standards. We at the UAW are committed to passing these provisions into law.

So, I’d like to ask that as you celebrate this Labor Day, take a moment to remember all those generations of Americans that this day was created to recognize. All those workers who have delved into and carved out a country that remains a beacon of accomplishments and as importantly, all those ready for the next big job as we move America forward. As Joe Biden has said, “I believe that the middle class built America, but I know who built the middle class; unions. Unions built the middle class.”

Yes, they did.
And yes, the work goes on.

President Biden, you must do more to protect voting rights

By Ben Jealous
People For the American Way



I was proud to work hard for the election of President Joe Biden. And I was proud to protest outside the Biden White House on Aug. 24. Along with other voting rights activists, including our co-organizers at the League of Women Voters, I called on President Biden to do more to protect voting rights under attack from Republican state legislators all across the country.

President Biden knows what the problem is. He needs to do more to solve it.

We all know how Republicans have responded to President Biden beating former President Donald Trump: by trying to rig future elections in Republicans’ favor. In state after state, they have used Trump’s false claims of voter fraud to justify new laws that make it harder for some people to vote. President Biden has correctly called this a threat to our democracy.

President Biden has called on Congress to pass the For the People Act, which would overturn many of the new restrictions and keep billionaires from buying our elections. And he has called on Congress to pass the John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act, which would give the Justice Department the power to prevent future discriminatory voting changes from taking effect.

President Biden now needs to back up those words with stronger actions. Senate Republicans have already used filibuster rules to block the For the People Act. Now Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell is getting ready to use the filibuster to block the John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act as well.

Senators using filibusters to protect state voter suppression laws takes us back 60 years. In fact, I just saw a guy who works for a big right-wing think tank complain that these federal voting rights bills are “an invasion of state sovereignty.”

Well.
Early in my career, I worked for a crusading black community newspaper in Mississippi. A paper that survived multiple fire bombings. I think about that ugly history when I hear the phrase “state sovereignty” used to defend restrictions on voting.

As I told MSNBC’s Rachel Maddow after the White House protest, I fear that President Biden believes he is called to be an FDR for this moment, when he is actually called to be the LBJ of this moment. When President Johnson was faced with intense opposition to federal civil rights and voting rights laws, he used every bit of his persuasive power and knowledge of the Senate to overcome those obstacles.

Like President Johnson, President Biden is a master of the Senate. We have seen him build support for an infrastructure bill. Rebuilding roads and bridges is important. But not as important as saving our democracy.

When they had the power, Senate Republicans changed filibuster rules so that Trump could pack the Supreme Court. Those rules are not sacred. They are not in the Constitution. They can be changed, and they must be changed to prevent Republicans from doing Trump’s bidding once more and blocking voting rights protections. Senate leaders have not yet built the support to make that change happen.

President Biden must publicly call on Senate Democrats to do what they need to do – remove the filibuster as an obstacle to voting rights protections. That is why I

stood at the White House fence with League of Women Voters CEO Virginia Kase-Solomon and all of the organization heads, faith leaders and young elected officials to demand that Biden do his job.

At the White House we were blessed by the presence of prophetic religious voices who reminded us that we are part of an honorable history and sacred struggle for voting rights.

Rabbi Jonah Dov Pesner of the Religious Action Center for Reform Judaism invoked the names of murdered civil rights activists Andrew Goodman, James Chaney and Michael Schwerner, “two young white Jewish men and a young black Christian man who gave their lives for the right to vote.”

Rev. Timothy McDonald, co-chair of People For the American Way’s board, also grounded our protest in the history of voting rights struggles. “This fight is not a new fight,” he said. Rev. McDonald promised, “We will come back again and again and again, until justice rolls down like water and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.”

Amen.
We and our allies across the country are building a broad direct-action campaign with a profoundly moral purpose. Mr. President, it is time to show faith with the voters who put you in office. It is time to lead.

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

The role of black fathers and its effect upon our communities

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



I had a father, I am a father and a grandfather, too. Upon reflection, I sometimes took my father for granted.

Why? Because my father was always there. He was in the house, and he was my role

model.
The love he gave me, the encouragement he gave me and the lectures he gave me have been fundamental pillars of my life.

Both of my parents provided me with the tools for successful living. However, my dad took me from boyhood to manhood.

If you are old school and black like me, you had a similar experience growing up. We flourished because of the emotional nourishment that they gave to us.

The African-American community no matter where you spent your formative years was filled with hope and opportunity as its cornerstones.

Chaos and crime did not happen at alarming rates. Hearing police sirens was not a sound we heard on a daily basis. You could sit on your stoop and not feel threatened.

Fathers led their families. They were proud and confident. As young boys, we took our cues from them.

Let’s fast forward to now. There are still countless numbers of black fathers who lead their families and especially their sons. They provide them with the protection and wisdom they need.

Yet there are pockets of despair and disappointment among black fathers.

In many ways, they have abdicated their responsibility. They lead lives that are filled with conflict and mayhem.

Recently, another black father who was leading his family lost his life to gun violence. Detective Everette Briscoe of the New Orleans Police Department was killed last Saturday in Houston Texas. This was senseless violence.

If you are a black father, stay close to your children. Guide them and mentor them. They may take a detour, but they will come back. Remember the scripture, “Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old, he will not depart from it”.

As fathers, in my opinion, we have complex roles. We give structure, but we must be flexible in giving it. Sons in particular push back when there is too much guidance.

While some may disagree, the times have changed. We live in a different era. My father’s guidance was generational. Every child in my neighborhood was raised pretty much the same way. There were things we did not do such as talking back and walking away.

Unfortunately, there are children today who do talk back and who do walk away.

I believe there is an argument to be made that today’s dads are better listeners. That leads to healthier communication between fathers and their children.

Yet despite some of these differences, there are some dad traits that have stood the test of time.

We love talking about our children and want what is best for them.

We sacrifice and make do so that our children can do. Success is what we want for them. When they grow into adulthood, we take pride in their successes. We are their biggest cheerleaders.

Whether you are an old school dad or a new school dad, there is joy and happiness in our role.

We wear our title as dad proudly. Some of us have different titles such as Pop Pop. Whatever our title is, we provide the love for our children

Being a role model is a big responsibility. Our children watch us and they see our actions. We are the initial role models for our sons, in particular. We cannot disappoint them.

Wherever you are in your fatherhood walk, stay strong and stay committed.

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8/26/2021, 9/2/2021

9/2/2021 9/9/2021

8/26/2021 9/2/2021

8/26/2021 9/02/2021

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Sealed bids will be received by the City Clerk of Jackson, Mississippi, at 219 S. President Street, Jackson, Mississippi 39201 or at Post Office Box 17, Jackson, Mississippi 39205 until 3:30 PM, local time (CT), Tuesday, September 28, 2021, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud for:

The demolition and cleaning of parcel 606-190 located at 2916 Greenwood Ave.

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

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

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

Contract Documents may be obtained from and/or examined at the offices of the Community Improvement Division located at 200 S. President Street, Suite 331, Jackson, Mississippi 39201. Telephone 601.960.1054. Prospective bidders may obtain copies of all materials required for bidding purposes. There is NO charge for electronic or e-mail copies. Official bid documents can be downloaded from Central Bidding at www.e-ntalbidding.com. Electronic bids can be submitted at www.e-ntalbidding.com. For any questions relating to the electronic bidding process, please call Central Bidding at 225-810-4814.

Bid preparation will be in accordance with the Instructions to Bidders. The City reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to waive any and all irregularities in response to any bid submitted or to accept any bid which is deemed most favorable to the City of Jackson.

LaTonya Miller, Manager
Community Improvement Division of Planning and Development

9/2/2021, 9/9/2021

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The demolition and cleaning of parcel 721-683 located at 2373 Lake Glen Dr.

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The demolition and cleaning of parcel 613-198 located at 349 Savanna St.

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9/2/2021, 9/9/2021

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The demolition and cleaning of parcel 633-194 located at 1409 Maria Dr.

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LaTonya Miller, Manager
Community Improvement Division of Planning and Development

9/2/2021, 9/9/2021

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The demolition and cleaning of parcel 613-32 located at 116 Neatherwood Dr.

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LaTonya Miller, Manager
Community Improvement Division of Planning and Development

9/2/2021, 9/9/2021

LEGAL

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR A REZONING ZONING CASE NO. 4142

By virtue of and pursuant to the authority and direction of that Ordinance by the City Council of Jackson, Mississippi, appearing in Minute Book 3G at page 115 thereof, notice is hereby given to all persons interested in or in any way affected thereby, that Shampaine Hewitt) db/a Crave Enterprise has filed with the Planning Board for the City of Jackson, an application requesting a Rezoning from R-1 (Single-family) Residential District to C-3 (General) Commercial District to operate a vendor park at 137 Ellis Ave. (Parcel 120-34) and 120-33 & 120-33-2 in the First Judicial District of Hinds County, Mississippi, and being more particularly described as:

Parcel 120-34
LOT 32 LESS 55FT N/S & LESS TO STREET ON E/S BLK8 WEST PARK ADDN

PARCEL 120-33
56 FT MD PART LOT 31 BEG 60 FT S OF NE COR LOT 31 BLK8 WEST PARK ADDN

PARCEL 120-33-2
60 FT N/END LOT 31 BLK8 WEST PARK ADDN LESS TO STREET ON NE END

Said application will be heard at the City Planning Board Hearing in the Andrew Jackson Conference Room, First Floor, Warren A. Hood Building, 200 S. President Street in Jackson, Mississippi, at 1:30 p.m., on Wednesday, September 22, 2021, at which time all parties interested in or affected thereby will be heard both pro and con on said question, after which a record will be established upon which the City Planning Board can make its recommendation to the City Council of Jackson. Any objection thereto may be made by any person owning property within the area, and if made in writing must be filed with the City Zoning Administrator before said time if a hearing thereof or consideration thereof is desired, or by one on said date. If a request is made to the Zoning Administrator at least 72 hours in advance, the City will take steps to accommodate citizens need for interpreters or auxiliary aids for the visually/hearing impaired.

DUE TO COVID-19 AND THE CONCERN FOR THE PUBLIC HEALTH, SAFETY AND WELFARE, THE PLANNING BOARD MEMBERS AND THE APPLICANTS HAVE THE OPTION TO ATTEND THE MEETING VIA TELECONFERENCE/VIDEO OR IN PERSON WITH REGARDS TO THE WEARING OF MASKS AND THE SOCIAL DISTANCING REQUIREMENTS. MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC MAY ATTEND VIA TELECONFERENCE/VIDEO BY EMAILING EAINSWORTH@CITY.JACKSON.MS.US TO REGISTER PRIOR TO SEPTEMBER 15, 2021.

WITNESS my signature this 19th day of August 2021.

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

9/2/2021, 9/16/2021

LEGAL

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR A USE PERMIT ZONING CASE NO. 4143

By virtue of and pursuant to the authority and direction of that Ordinance by the City Council of Jackson, Mississippi, appearing in Minute Book 3G at page 115 thereof, notice is hereby given to all persons interested in or in any way affected thereby, that Shen Chen has filed with the Planning Board for the City of Jackson, an application requesting a Use Permit to allow for the operation of a liquor store in a C-3 (General) Commercial District for the property located at 2974 Terry Rd. (Parcel 607-34) in the First Judicial District of Hinds County, Mississippi, and being more particularly described as:

Lot 1 & Part of Lot 2, Block B, Greenland Heights, Hinds County, Mississippi

Said application will be heard at the City Planning Board Hearing in the Andrew Jackson Conference Room, First Floor, Warren A. Hood Building, 200 S. President Street in Jackson, Mississippi, at 1:30 p.m., on Wednesday, September 22, 2021, at which time all parties interested in or affected thereby will be heard both pro and con on said question, after which a record will be established upon which the City Planning Board can make its recommendation to the City Council of Jackson. Any objection thereto may be made by any person owning property within the area, and if made in writing must be filed with the City Zoning Administrator before said time if a hearing thereof or consideration thereof is desired, or by one on said date. If a request is made to the Zoning Administrator at least 72 hours in advance, the City will take steps to accommodate citizens need for interpreters or auxiliary aids for the visually/hearing impaired.

DUE TO COVID-19 AND THE CONCERN FOR THE PUBLIC HEALTH, SAFETY AND WELFARE, THE PLANNING BOARD MEMBERS AND THE APPLICANTS HAVE THE OPTION TO ATTEND THE MEETING VIA TELECONFERENCE/VIDEO OR IN PERSON WITH REGARDS TO THE WEARING OF MASKS AND THE SOCIAL DISTANCING REQUIREMENTS. MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC MAY ATTEND VIA TELECONFERENCE/VIDEO BY EMAILING EAINSWORTH@CITY.JACKSON.MS.US TO REGISTER PRIOR TO SEPTEMBER 15, 2021.

WITNESS my signature this 19th day of August 2021.

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

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March on Washington 2021 focuses on voting rights

By Lauren Victoria Burke
NNPA Newswire Contributor

On the 58th anniversary of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s "I Have A Dream" speech and the March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom, marchers focused on voting rights. Voting rights have reemerged as a somewhat unexpected political battlefield as Republicans across the country pass new laws placing barriers in front of the ballot box.

Last week, the U.S. House passed the John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act which would restore pre-clearance, a 1965 Voting Rights Act provision requiring states with a history of restricting voting rights to receive pre-approval for changes in election laws.

"January 6 you saw an insurrection against people's right to



Voting rights activists have been putting pressure on Congress to end the filibuster and make it harder for state legislators to change voting laws that place barriers in front of the ballot box.

vote," said Rev. Al Sharpton, a primary organizer of the March on Washington 2021. Today, Sharpton said, represents "Dr.

King's resurrection of the right to vote."

In Washington, D.C. and several other cities, marchers

focused on voting rights along with the minimum wage, evictions and justice reform issues. Marchers at the Washington,

D.C. event featured members of Congress and voting rights activists.

"Fifty eight years ago today, a preacher from Georgia stood on these steps and declared, in the face of racism and economic justice, a nightmare – a nightmare that was lengthened by congressional and state filibustering," said Rev. Dr. William Barber, president of Repairers of the Breach.

Marchers in Washington, D.C. wore "good trouble" t-shirts and face masks and held signs on voting rights and ending the filibuster.

Voting rights activists have been putting pressure on Congress to end the filibuster and make it harder for state legislators to change voting laws that place barriers in front of the ballot box.

"Fifty-eight years after the #MarchOnWashington, Americans are marching again today for our democracy. With state laws disenfranchising voters and making it harder to vote, we need the Senate to pass the For the People Act and the House-passed John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act," wrote House Speaker Nancy Pelosi on social media.

The Senate is expected to return to session in September and deal with a close vote that will include the John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act.

Lauren Victoria Burke is an independent journalist for NNPA and the host of the podcast BURKEFILE. She is a political strategist as principal of Win Digital Media LLC. Contact her at LBurke007@gmail.com and on twitter at @LVBurke

After missing opportunities to engage Black America, golf is capitalizing on new moments

By Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Newswire Contributor

At the turn of the 21st Century, Tiger Woods dominated the game of golf.

Over a near-unprecedented five-year period, Woods staked a claim as the top-ranked golfer globally, eventually capturing 15 major championships – just three shy of Jack Nicklaus's record.

But even as Woods – an individual of color – took the game by storm, many believed golf missed a golden opportunity to capitalize on his appeal to African Americans and other minorities.

"Yes, without question," PGA TOUR Commissioner Jay Monahan stated during an exclusive and historic interview with the National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA) at the BMW Championships in Owings Mills, Maryland.

"Tiger became must-see TV whenever he was playing – the PGA TOUR's version of Michael Jordan with a record-tying 82 PGA TOUR wins. It's important to have people from all fields that you can identify with and aspire to – in sports or otherwise. And Tiger was that for the game of golf," added Monahan, who became the first commissioner of a major league sport to grant the NNPA an exclusive interview.

The 81-year-old NNPA is the trade association representing the hundreds of black-owned newspapers and media companies that comprise the 194-year-old Black Press of America.

Determined not to miss any further opportunities to connect with the African-American community, The PGA TOUR has, among many other commitments, entered a memorandum of understanding with the Black Press of America.

The agreement promises to raise awareness and keep African Americans informed about all the game has to offer.

"One aspect of our focus is helping to grow diversity inside the ropes through our expanded relationship with the APGA TOUR," Monahan stated.

"Working closely with APGA President and Executive Director Ken Bentley, we've already seen progress with players like Willie Mack III competing – successfully, and I might add – on the PGA Tour.

"Willie won the inaugural Billy Horschel APGA Tour Invitational presented by Cisco – hosted by our 2014 FedExCup Champion at TPC Sawgrass – and with his victory at the Mastercard APGA TOUR Championship, Willie receives a full scholarship into Korn Ferry Tour Qualifying School."

The commissioner continued:

"But that's just the tip of the iceberg. What we're doing today is identifying, preparing and transitioning top African-American collegiate golfers into professional golf. The efforts of Kenyatta Ramsey, a PGA TOUR employee since 2008, have been instrumental in our progress in the player diversity space. Kenyatta now oversees this relationship in an official capacity as senior director, Player Development."

Monahan understands and accepts the criticism golf has received in the past for excluding people of color.

He has pledged that the PGA TOUR would become part of the conversation and the solution surrounding racial and social injustices.

"I also said then that, candidly, we didn't know exactly what to do right away, but that we wouldn't be



WILLIE MACK III PHOTO: ISTOCKPHOTO / NNPA

deterred," Monahan declared.

"Does it feel like it was in the distant past? Absolutely not. What we've done since is make a commitment to communicate, learn, show compassion and – ultimately – demand better. That started with – and frankly, continues with – doing a lot more listening than talking."

The PGA TOUR committed a \$100-million pledge over ten years to support racial equity and inclusion efforts and has thriving HBCU and APGA TOUR initiatives.

"We hope that, as the careers of these talented, young HBCU players progress, they'll then be able to play their way into additional opportunities like two others we're excited to share," Monahan exclaimed.

He added that expanded collaboration with HBCUs is a crucial point of emphasis moving forward.

Thanks to PGA TOUR partners at United Airlines, Monahan noted that he's pleased to announce that every one of the 51 current men's and women's HBCU golf programs across the country will receive a \$10,000 grant.

"To take a step back regarding the PGA TOUR's history as well, we have been giving back to the communities where we play for more than 80 years," Monahan noted further.

"It was former PGA TOUR Commissioner Deane Beman, who said it beautifully – 'I consider us to be more than a sports league; we're a public trust, and it's our job to balance the interest of players, community tournaments and the game of golf.'"

"It's why we've surpassed \$3.2 billion in charitable giving in our history. It's also why the TOUR began its diversity, equity and inclusion efforts in earnest back in 2014, why we launched our employee resources groups in 2016 and established the Inclusion Leadership Council in 2019."

Did it take too long for the Black Press of America and the PGA TOUR to begin working together?

"Yes," Monahan stated.

"Can we work together now – listen to and learn from each other now – as part of a shared commitment to ensuring golf stands as a game for all? Yes, I firmly feel and believe that, too," he said.

Monahan added that the Black Press could help further golf's message of diversity, equity and inclusion by sharing "these impactful HBCU and APGA TOUR stories and more with your audience as part of a regular cadence. Together, we can be part of the solution in inspiring the next generation to know – and feel – that our great game is for everyone," he said.

"Our goal is to weave diversity and inclusion into all fabrics of the PGA TOUR, and that's what we've been working diligently to do."

FBI: Hate crimes rise in U.S. spike, highest in 12 years

By Lauren Victoria Burke
NNPA Newswire Contributor

According to the FBI, the number of hate crimes in America rose 6 percent from the previous year in 2020. The increase was the highest level in 12 years. The main targets of hate crimes in the U.S. are blacks and Asians.

The FBI reports that there were 7,759 hate crimes in 2020. That total was an increase of 6 percent from 2019 and the most since 2008. Hate crime numbers have risen steadily over the last seven years.

The new numbers feature attacks targeting black people. Hate crimes on black people went up from 1,930 to 2,755 in 2020.

"These statistics show a

rise in hate crimes committed against black and African Americans, already the group most often victimized. Notably, they show a rise in hate crimes committed against members of the Asian-American Pacific Islander community. This also confirms what we have seen and heard through our work and from our partners," said Attorney General Merrick Garland in a statement on the report.

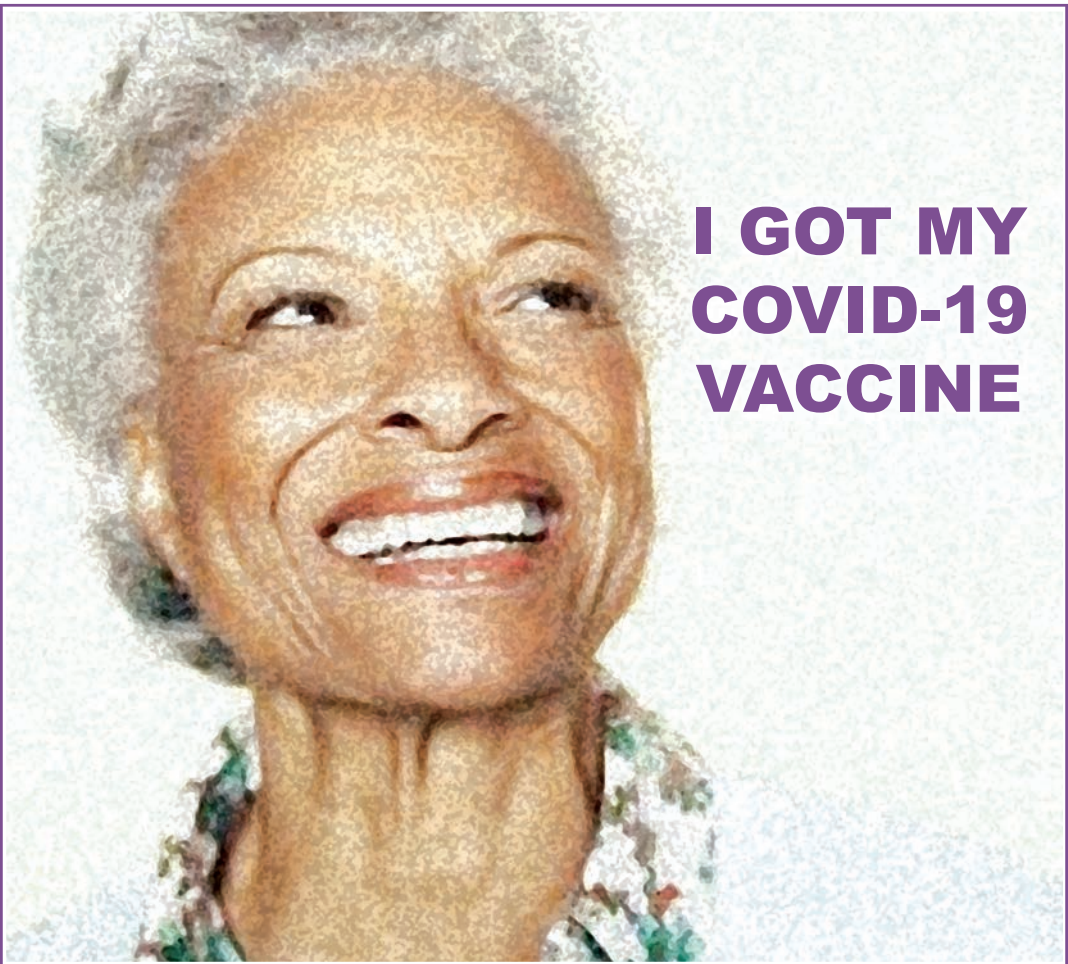
"Preventing and responding to hate crimes and hate incidents is one of the Justice Department's highest priorities. The FBI Hate Crime Statistics for 2020 demonstrates the urgent need for a comprehensive response," Garland added.

During the presidency of

Donald Trump hate crimes rose. With a president who has mainstreamed the rhetoric of white nationalists, the groups have become more emboldened. Trump's policies on immigration gave preference to certain countries as Trump spoke of "building a wall" at the Mexican border.

During the January 6 attack on the U.S. Capitol by Trump supporters, which included the participation of members of The Proud Boys and The Oath Keepers, several black members of the U.S. Capitol Police reported racist slurs being hurled at them during the attack.

The FBI's report on August 30 is one of several that has focused on rising hate crimes in the U.S.



Getting a COVID-19 vaccine adds one more layer of protection.

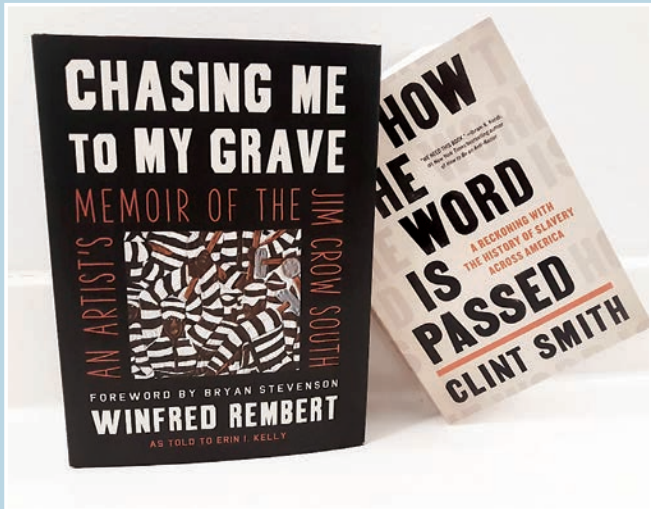
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This ad is a public service of The Mississippi Link in partnership with the Metro Jackson Section of NCNW.

BOOK REVIEW:



HOW THE WORD IS PASSED
BY CLINT SMITH
C.2021, LITTLE, BROWN
\$29.00 • 352 PAGES

CHASING ME TO MY GRAVE:
AN ARTIST'S MEMOIR OF THE JIM CROW SOUTH
BY WINFRED REMBERT, AS TOLD TO ERIN I. KELLY
FOREWORD BY BRYAN STEVENSON
C.2021, BLOOMSBURY
\$30.00 • 285 PAGES

By Terri Schlichenmeyer
Columnist

History, they say, repeats itself. Look back a few hundred years, and you can see corresponding events, world-wide and through time. Parallels are interesting to spot; some people might even take them as a warning, so that atrocities, inhumanities, and just plain wrong things don't happen again. And sometimes, as in these two books, just learning about historical events can be an eye-opening thing...

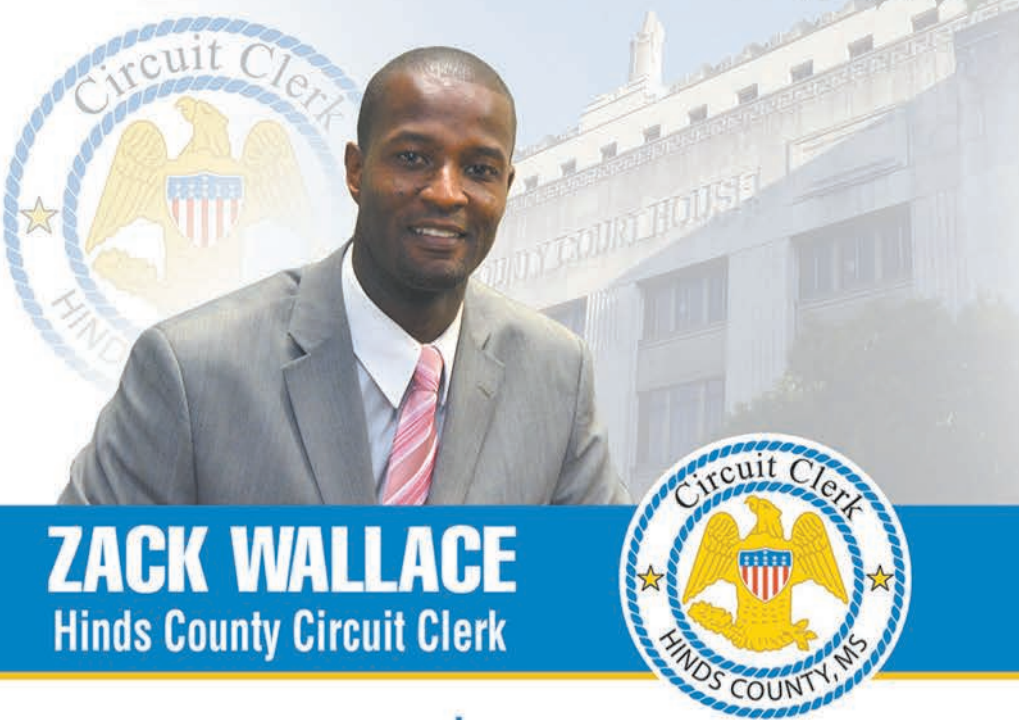
The history of America cannot be told without slavery in every cranny of the tale. In "How the Word is Passed" by Clint Smith (Little, Brown, \$29.00), readers travel with the author to several places around the country where slavery still lays open and waiting for its part to be included. When the subject of slavery comes up, it's often rarely mentioned that transatlantic slavery was outlawed nearly six decades before the end of the Civil War. Of course, that never stopped the import of human beings, but

it did change the way that slaves were acquired. The city of New Orleans had a big hand in slave-owners' acquisition, and when Smith traveled there, he found that the city if working on a reckoning with its past. That's just one place that Smith visited, in an effort to offer readers a wide-reaching look at how slavery sits within our collective story, in places that history books don't always mention. There's irony in the story of slavery at Monticello, where Thomas Jefferson wrote at length about liberty while he

kept slaves. Smith writes of the Whitney Plantation, where visitors can today see what slavery was like two centuries ago. He writes about slavery in our cities, our prisons and even in death. This trip around the country and through time gives this book a quiet appeal that's especially relevant for today. Understanding may come faster when the story is told first-person, as it is in "Chasing Me to My Grave: An Artist's Memoir of the Jim Crow South" by Winfred Rembert, as

told to Erin I. Kelly (Bloomsbury, \$30.00). He didn't remember exactly why he'd been arrested that first time. Rembert was "only eight or nine years old" but it might have been about a fight. That once, the sheriff made it all into a game but by the time Rembert was a teenager, being arrested for no reason but black was a common thing. After that, it seemed the police were always after him for something. He grew up in Georgia and picked cotton almost

as soon as he was old enough to walk. As soon as he was old enough to run, he ran away from home and the police were looking for him. He joined the Civil Rights Movement and the police caught up with him... Filled with a personal story told casually and colorfully-reproduced artwork, you may find this book to be a keepsake. And if you want more books like it, or the Smith book, be sure to ask your favorite bookseller or librarian. They've got ideas for black history books you'll want to page through, repeatedly.



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Fax: (601) 973-5547

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(601) 969-0052

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Circuit Clerk's Office
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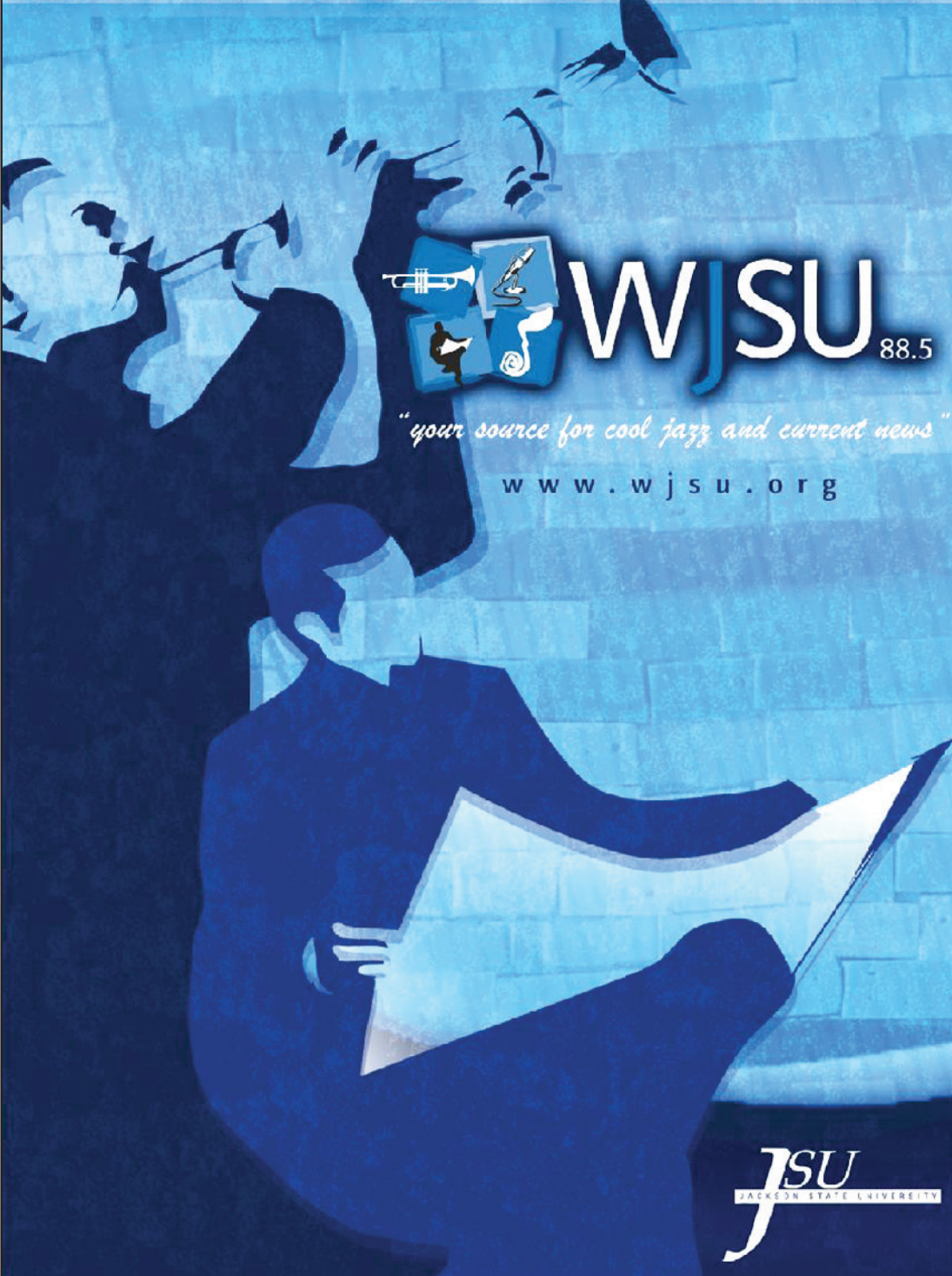
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Prostate Cancer Support Self-Help Group promotes awareness

By Jackie Hampton
Publisher

September is National Prostate Cancer Awareness month and a press conference was held Wednesday at 10:30 a.m. on the south steps of the Mississippi State Capitol in Jackson to promote awareness.

You Are Not Alone Prostate Cancer Support Self-Help Group continues to promote awareness among men, especially those at high risk. Statistics show that African-American men are fifty percent more likely to be diagnosed with the disease.

The purpose of the press conference was to remind men, especially those at high risk, to generate conversations on prostate health and screening options for prostate cancer.

Prostate cancer is a concern for all of us. Screening rates have dwindled, which raises the specter of higher numbers of cancer cases. Early detection is the key for prevention.



Dr. Frazier

PHOTOS BY HOWARD SANDERS

Prostate cancer claims the lives of 30,000 men in the U.S. alone annually, and 300,000 worldwide. According to the American Cancer Society, Mississippi has reported 2300 new cases of prostate cancer and 30 estimated deaths in 2021.

Prostate cancer remains a leading cause of cancer in American men. About 3.1 million men are living with the disease. Early detection is key.

Rev. Stanley Wright of Cade

Chapel Baptist Church was introduced by Senator John Horhn. Wright served as program guide. He stated he is a 6 year prostate cancer survivor and thanks God that he is cancer free. Wright was followed by Rev. John Cameron of Greater Mount Calvary Baptist Church with prayer.

Jerry Knight, coordinator of the event had balloons released memorializing those that had succumbed to prostate cancer.

He reminded everyone that early detection is key to survival. Other speakers included, Dr. Lionel B. Frazier, a long time urologist in the metropolitan area and Director of Central MS Health Services. Dr. Frazier said that black men are 18 times more likely to develop prostate cancer than their counterparts and 2.2 times more likely to die as a result and if one's father has had prostate cancer; they are 2.5 times more likely to develop the disease.



Presenters at the prostate cancer awareness press conference.

When discovered early, Dr. Frazier said it is curable. He said men must continue to focus on prostate cancer. He told those attending the press conference, "it was here before COVID-19 and will be here after COVID-19."

He said one should talk to their health providers regarding screening.

Dr. Robert Smith said when he first went into practice 60,000 men were lost due to prostate cancer but now due to screening

and early detection, one does not have to go to the graveyard.

Other speakers included Mississippi State Senator Hillman Frazier and MS State Rep. Bob Brown. Both legislators are prostate cancer survivors and emphasized the importance of screenings. Both are cancer free.

A proclamation was presented by Senator John Horhn to Dr. Frazier and Jerry Knight issued one from the Mississippi State Senate.

The City of Jackson Police Department held its' 63rd Recruit Class graduation Friday, August 27, at the Jackson Police Department Training Academy located at 3000 St. Charles St. in Jackson.

Their motto: "To Whom Much is Given, Much is Required."

These recruits from the Law Enforcement Class are prepared to serve in the following areas:

Jackson Police Department: Canyon Bilbro, Jacques Brown, Lamondria Haynes, Kenya McCarty and Marshawn Patton; Jackson Fire Department: Ronnie Hubbard; Jackson State University: Devon Cooper; Natchez Police Department: A'nyah Knight and Yazoo Police Department: Shan Taylor and Deonte Woodard.

PHOTOS BY JAY JOHNSON



Hinds County School District Weekly Update

ENGAGING-EMPOWERING-ENSURING-EXCELLENCE

Congratulations to BEEMS on winning the District-wide School Competition for the 2021-2022 School Year



Each year the HCSD schools compete against each other by developing and /or creating a welcome back to school message for its students. This year's competition involved each school creating an eye-catching video to welcome its students back for the 2021-2022 school year.

District Highlights



BEEMS



BEEMS



BEEMS



CMS/LSA Faculty and Staff



Human Resources



Superintendent's Office



Central Office Administrators



Child Nutrition



Business Service



GRE Faculty and Staff



THS Faculty and Staff