



Karine Jean-Pierre helps lead a diverse, collaborative and confident White House



Jean-Pierre being interviewed by Dr. Ben Chavis

By Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Newswire Correspondent

On the first anniversary of the Biden-Harris administration, the White House teemed with dignitaries, guests, and what appeared a larger press corps. While that and the enormous Secret Service presence blocking off about a five-block radius on and around Pennsylvania Avenue wasn't unusual, there remains something different – per-

haps even special – about the 46th President and his staff and cabinet.

“Representation matters. We’ve seen that from the first day of this administration, the President signed an executive order to deal with racial inequity and making sure that we saw diversity and inclusion across the board in the federal government,” said White

White House
Continued on page 3

Cardiovascular disease: No. 1 killer of women; black pregnant women at highest risk

Local AKA chapter pushes heart health awareness by going ‘red’

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

It is a 114-year-long tradition for the women of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. to wear the colors pink and green. However, on Friday, February 4, 2022, AKAs around the Metro Jackson area deviated from their traditional pink to wear red to support the American Heart Association's (AHA) Go Red for Women campaign.

According to AHA, heart disease takes the life of one in three women each year. This is especially important for African-American women, who are at increased risk due to factors such as high blood pressure, high cholesterol, obesity and diabetes. Additionally, significant racial disparities exist in heart-related complications among pregnant and postpartum women in the United States. Despite improvements in recent years, black women have the highest risk of pregnancy-related heart problems.

Women
Continued on pages 3



In observance of Pink Goes Red for Heart Health, organizations collaborated to donate cardiac kare kits to Magnolia Medical Foundation and the University of Mississippi Medical Center. Pictured from left, Maya Thompson, Women's Healthcare and Wellness co-chairman, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., Rho Lambda Omega Chapter; Dr. Kendrick Bankhead, Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc.; Jackie German, Jackson Heart Study; Asia McCoy, Institute for the Advancement of Minority Health; Dr. Erica Thompson, Magnolia Medical Foundation; Dr. Nakeitra Burse, Magnolia Medical Foundation; Gloria Salters, president, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., Rho Lambda Omega Chapter and Chelsea Crittle, vice-president, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., Rho Lambda Omega Chapter.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF AKA SORORITY, INC., RHO LAMBDA OMEGA CHAPTER

Exchange-Hate Crime Laws - Advocates push Mississippi to expand hate crime laws



The Mississippi State Capitol

By Lee O. Sanderlin
Associated Press

Activists used a Monday press conference, ahead of a key legislative deadline, to request lawmakers take up a bill expanding the state's hate crime laws to include violence motivated by sexual orientation or disability.

“When we believe that we are created in the image of God, that’s everybody, full stop,” the Rev. Warren Coile said at the Human Rights Campaign’s press conference, in front of the Mississippi State Capitol.

House Bill 1467 is before Judiciary B, a House committee chaired by Rep. Nick Bain, R-Corinth, that deals with revisions to the state’s criminal statutes. Committees have until Tuesday to act on bills originating in their own chambers.

The bill would not create any new crimes, but would allow for longer sentences if it could be proven in court the crimes were motivated by the victim’s sexual orientation or disability.

“This crucial update of Mississippi’s hate crime law would simply bring our

state law up to the federal standard,” said Rob Hill, state director for the Human Rights Campaign in Mississippi. “Mississippi is all too familiar with cases of hate violence aimed at the LGBTQ+ community.”

A version of this bill came before lawmakers each of the last four years and has never made it out of committee, Hill said.

Last year was the most dangerous on record for transgender and gender nonconforming people, with at least 50 killed nationwide, according to the Human Rights Campaign. Two of the 50, Dominique Jackson and Mel Groves, were in Jackson.

Coile, a Methodist minister, said he didn’t think much of violence against LGBTQ people until his nephew was attacked by classmates in a school hallway more than five years ago because they thought he was gay.

“Things really don’t sink in until they get to be personal,” Coile said.

Mississippi’s physically and intel-

Laws
Continued on page 3

Inside
Holmes County Coalition for Change honors Senator David Lee Jordan



Didn't We Almost Have it All



Share this issue with a friend by mailing it to:

Utica Institute Museum to officially open

Special to The Mississippi Link

After years of planning and preparation, the Utica Institute Museum at the Utica Campus of Hinds Community College will be officially opening its doors to the public at 2 p.m. Feb. 17.

The grand opening will feature a short program followed by tours of the museum. The museum tells the history of the Utica Institute, founded in 1903 by William Holtzclaw as a place to educate black citizens. The Utica Institute and then-Hinds Junior College merged in the early 1980s. The Utica Campus is still designated as an HBCU, Historically Black College and University.

Museum Co-Director Jean Greene said she has been working on bringing this gem to the Utica Campus as far back as 2003, before she retired as librarian on the campus. “We plan to make this museum as vital in the HBCU community as any other institution,” Greene said. “This is a living, breathing entity.”

The project received a boost when Greene and Dan Fuller, English instructor on the Utica Campus who later became the museum co-director, wrote a grant that would fund the project.

The two began collecting pieces for the museum, reflecting the Utica Campus’ unique role, and what was the old Vice President’s Home eventually became the museum’s permanent home. Renovations began in 2017. The museum held its soft opening in March 2021. Now it is ready for a full opening, an event both Greene and Fuller are excited about.

“I’m thrilled for the grand opening of the museum. During our soft launch, we’ve had the opportunity to visit with so many students, staff, alumni and community members. It’s been great to share Holtzclaw’s story and to hear how the campus has impacted so many lives, so we can’t wait for a wider audience to check it out,” Fuller said.

Tours for the Utica Institute Museum can be set up by appointment. Visitors can go to the museum website at uticainstitute.org or call 601-885-7110 to set up a tour.



Utica Institutute Museum at Hinds Community College at the Utica campus



Archive photos



Where the experience of being healthy, is leading to an even healthier tomorrow.

 MISSISSIPPI

White House

Continued from page 1



Jean-Pierre and Stacy Brown, NNPA correspondent

PHOTOS COURTESY OF NNPA

House Principal Deputy Press Secretary Karine Jean-Pierre.

On January 20, the first anniversary of the Biden-Harris administration, Jean-Pierre sat down with NNPA President and CEO Benjamin F. Chavis Jr., for a wide-ranging discussion. The discussion, which will be part of a Black History Month broadcast on PBS-TV and PBS-World’s “The Chavis Chronicles,” included the successes and vision of the administration.

It also highlighted what the president and vice president are doing to resolve issues like voting rights, police brutality, diversity, equity and inclusion, and repairing America’s reputation abroad after four years of Donald Trump’s divisive administration.

With a light-up-the-room smile and oozing with confidence, Jean-Pierre might best exude why it might just be a matter of time before this White House earns the respect of the world.

“We’re living in a polarized country right now, and the one thing that the president talked about when he was running, he wanted to make sure that he was the president for all,” Jean-Pierre remarked. Jean-Pierre struck a confident tone despite strong GOP opposition to the administration’s policies and a media that relentlessly highlights any shortcomings.

“It will take more than a year to get to the other side of that so it’s not so polarizing and so we can actually get our message through to the American people,” Jean-Pierre insisted. She understands adversity but also embraces perseverance. At 44, Jean-Pierre has a unique window into politics and movements. And nothing was handed to her.

Facing a hard-knock life in their native Haiti, Jean-Pierre’s parents gave birth to their daughter in Martinique and immigrated to the United States when she was a small child. Her father took a job as a New York City cab driver, which he still does part-time today. Jean-Pierre’s mother began working as a home healthcare aide, which she maintains.

“My parents came here looking for a better life,” Jean-Pierre reflected. “They heard of the opportunities here, but it was a Catch-22 because you came here for opportunities, and you also come here as a black family,” she continued. “It was very hard for them and them, like so many families across this country, live paycheck to paycheck.”

But unmistakably, Jean-Pierre knows how proud her parents are that their daughter has accomplished so much, even making history last year as just the second black woman to take the podium and lead a White House press briefing.

“It was truly an honor, and one of the things we all recognize and say is to not to forget the shoulders that we stand on, and I certainly remember Judy Smith, [the first black woman to lead a White House briefing],” Jean-Pierre stated.

“I wouldn’t be in this position, but President Biden made that decision to put me in this administration. To do the work that we are doing makes me so proud, and knowing that I have so many folks out there who are proud of me.”

In many ways, her parents feel they’ve reached their dreams through her, Jean-

Pierre offered. “They came from an impoverished country but left to get a better life for their kids. For them, they are so proud of me, and they feel they have reached their dream because of my successes, but without them, I wouldn’t be where I am,” she acknowledged.

“They told me I could be whatever I wanted to be, do whatever I wanted to do.”

While her parents encouraged Jean-Pierre to become a doctor or lawyer, she worked in politics in New York, served in the Obama administration, and was a spokesperson for MoveOn, the advocacy group and political action group.

She also taught campaign management at Columbia University’s graduate-level for nearly six years. “I’ve seen it all,” Jean-Pierre declared. “Even when I was teaching, my students would ask how I got to work at the White House. I tell them to follow your passion, what you believe in, and it will all come together if you do. So, keep following and believing your heart and what excites you every morning, and what you believe is making change. It will come.”

Jean-Pierre also expressed the victories achieved by the Biden-Harris administration. She said those include improving foreign relations, including working with Haiti and nations in Africa.

She said that the bipartisan infrastructure bill also counted as a significant win for the administration.

“It became law after the president brought the two sides of the aisle together and did something that Congress talked about and past presidents talked about but were not able to get done,” Jean-Pierre noted.

“That bill not only fixes roads and bridges, but it makes broadband accessible and affordable for all Americans,” she said.

“When you think about the bill, you think about that digital divide we’ve heard about for decades, clean water which is so important for our children and continuing to create jobs.”

She said the president’s Build Back Better bill would continue to invest in America, including more investments for historically black colleges and universities.

Another signature administration legislation, the American Rescue Plan, helped put money in the pockets of the poor and working-class, significantly reduced child poverty, and has helped lead to more than 75 million Americans getting vaccinated against COVID-19.

Jean-Pierre vowed that President Biden and Vice President Harris would continue battling hard for the George Floyd Justice in Policing Act and Voting Rights. And, as she continues her course inside and outside the briefing room, Jean-Pierre said she couldn’t be more pleased with the state of the administration.

“The single-most thing that inspires me about the administration, one of the things I can say about this president and vice president, is decency,” Jean-Pierre decided.

“They respect people and understand what people are going through, and they truly want to deliver. They saw black and brown communities were always left behind, and when we talk about our economic policy, we bring everyone in, and that makes me so proud.”

port crimes because their assailant is often someone close to them that provides needed assistance to help them go about their daily lives.

Coile said people in a state where most of the residents are Christian should want to love their neighbors, regardless of who they are, in the spirit of the Bible.

“I urge our legislature to pass this bill because violence against anyone, purely because of who they are or who they are perceived to be, is wrong,” he said.

Women

Continued from page 1



Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., Rho Lambda Omega chapter donated kardiac kare kits to the University of Mississippi Medical Center Heart Clinic and Wiser Hospital's High-Risk OB Clinic. The donation was in celebration of Pink Goes Red for Heart Health. Pictured are chapter members Tia Hudson, Tiffany Fields, Women's Healthcare and Wellness co-chairman, Maya Thompson, chapter vice-president, Chelsea Crittle and Rashida Jenkins.

The Go Red for Women is a comprehensive platform designed to increase women’s heart health awareness and serve as a catalyst for change to improve the lives of women globally. This year’s theme is “Reclaim Your Rhythm.”

And, that is exactly what the ladies did of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., Rho Lambda Omega Chapter. Not only did they reclaim their rhythm, but they also observed Pink Goes Red Day for Heart Health. As part of their advocacy for women’s heart health, they joined the “red forces” of the Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc., Jackson Alumni Chapter, and the Institute for the Advancement of Minority Health to donate blood pressure cuffs, glucose monitors, electronic scales and other items to the University of Mississippi Medical Center and the Magnolia Medical Foundation’s MS ACE Project.

“This year, our organizations chose to support agencies that provide direct services and assistance to cardiac patients and pregnant/postpartum mothers,” said Gloria Salters., president, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., Rho Lambda Omega Chapter.

Salters also said, “Pink Goes Red for Heart Health is an Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Impact Day. Because of the alarming rates of heart disease in our community, it was very important for us to commit to lowering the risk of heart disease by providing this service to our community, so we can reverse this deadly trend by taking care of our heart.”

Sandra Melvin, chief executive officer of the Institute for the Advancement of Minority Health, told *The Mississippi Link*, that “the importance of the event is that we know that there is increasing trends of maternal mortality here in Mississippi. So, it is important that when we think about heart disease and cardiovascular disease that we also remember those women who are dying in childbirth. A lot of the reasons are due to cardiovascular issues.”

She said that the blood pressure cuff, glucose monitor and the scales the institute donated are to help the women monitor their blood pres-

sure, monitor their blood sugar level and also to maintain a healthy weight during pregnancy.

That is one of the main reasons the men of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity participated in this effort. “Many men battle this disease, but we have wives, mothers, daughters, aunts, etc., who are affected by this #1 killer,” said Dr. Kendrick Bankhead, co-chairman, Kappa Health Committee. “We want all of those women to know that we support them in the fight to combat heart disease.”

As previously mentioned, Magnolia Medical Foundation’s MS ACE Project was one of two organizations on the receiving end of the much-needed medical monitors, kits, etc. collected and/or donated during the sorority’s Pink Goes Red Day for Heart Health efforts.

“Our Mississippi ACE project works with expecting moms and postpartum moms,” said Erica Thompson, MD, MPH, CDFS. “We know that preeclampsia is a big issue for many of those moms.”

According to MayoClinic.org, “Preeclampsia is a pregnancy complication characterized by high blood pressure and signs of damage to another organ system, most often the liver and kidneys. Preeclampsia usually begins after 20 weeks of pregnancy in women whose blood pressure had been normal.”

Thompson said when the pregnant moms can monitor and know their numbers (vitals, etc.), they will be better able to have the needed conversations with their doctors and ultimately have “better pregnancy outcomes.” “We will be giving these kits donated to our women who will be coming through our program so they will have them as preventative measures,” said Thompson.

Some other alarming factors made known during this collaborative are that compared to white women, black pregnant women are: 23% more likely to have a heart attack; 57% more likely to have a stroke and 71% more likely to develop heart muscle weakness.

Marilyn Reed, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority member, also contributed to this article.

Laws

Continued from page 1

lectually disabled would also see strengthened protections under the bill. About 1.4% of more than 11,000 hate crime victims in 2020 were targeted because of their disability, according to FBI data. For comparison, about 20% of victims were targeted because of their sexual orientation.

“We have ample reason to believe that is vastly under reported,” Scott Crawford, a board member of the Mississippi Coalition for Citizens with Disabilities, said.

He said many disabled victims don’t re-



Can't come to us? We'll come to you. Now offering statewide mobile closings.

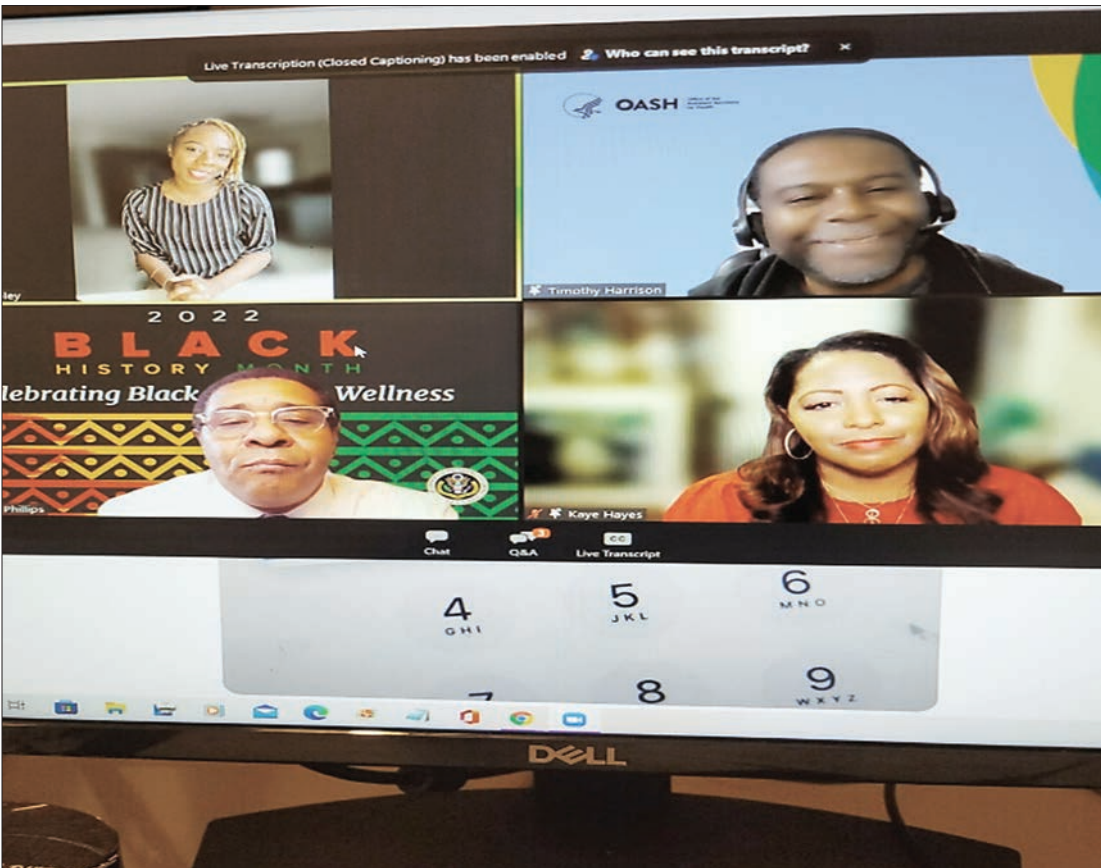
Call us today for your new home purchase, construction loan, or refinance.

601-398-2347

Live with Leadership: A webinar conversation commemorating National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day

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

On Monday, February 7, 2022, National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day was recognized. A thought-provoking conversation was held during a webinar by learned national officials. The hub of their conversation was for the needs of the black community to be addressed since the rise of HIV/AIDS on the American soil more than four decades ago. Timothy Harrison (Ph.D.), Deputy Director for Strategic Initiatives and Senior Policy Advisor, Office of Infectious Disease and HIV/AIDS Policy, U. S. Department of Health and Human Services, served as facilitator. Included within the conversation were Kaye Hayes, Acting Director, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Office (OIDP) and Executive Director of the Presidential Advisory Committee on HIV/AIDS; Harold Phillips, Director of The White House Office of National AIDS Policy; and Kayla Quimbley, National Youth HIV/AIDS Awareness Day Ambassador.



Top: (l-r) Kayla Quimbley, Timothy Harrison Bottom: (l-r) Harold Phillips, Kaye Hayes

expressed was for community activists to speak in a collective voice to heighten sensitivity and awareness of the black community. Quimbley pitched, however, that activists would

need to listen in order to effectively articulate the community's needs. This, she continued, would be the way for partners to be at the table and to focus on data that reflect how the black

community is being impacted by HIV/AIDS. Phillips injected that though blacks are 13% of the U. S. population, they account for 44% of new HIV diagnoses.

What this means is that blacks, among other races, are most affected. Phillips then suggested the idea of a "holistic approach to health and wellness." Such an approach includes mental health and wellness, sex health education, black women, including transgender women; gay, bisexual and other men who are disproportionately impacted by HIV. These concerns provide a welcome mat for dialogue. According to Hayes, "All black communities are not the same. Conversations are needed about the stigma that surrounds them." "We must identify peoples' geographical locations as they play a role in healthcare access. People come from surrounding counties into a small urban community to receive care [as they are neglected within their own communities]," quipped Quimbley. "Sometimes we have to call a thing a thing and have that honest conversation about what's working and what's not working," explained Hayes. "We black women carry so much, but it is okay to take off that 'cape' which lets us know we're

vulnerable. A conversation is needed about what weighs us down." Contributing to Hayes' comment, Quimbley asserted, "We must be conscious because sometimes we're uneducated about things. We must create spaces where younger and older people can feel accepted and come together." "The name blame," she added, "is one of the issues." "We must make sure we hold ourselves accountable," Quimbley concluded. Panelists concluded that listeners should: (1) educate themselves about HIV and what they can do to protect themselves; (2) process what they themselves can begin and set out to do it by taking little chunks, bit by bit, and work them out as community; (3) have conversations within the family and spread these conversations among friends in the community; (4) have trusted community sources share information; and (5) concentrate within the conversation on every issue (including HIV/AIDS) that impacts the black community. Visit [HIV.gov](https://www.hiv.gov) for additional information.

JPS principal receives prestigious award

Mississippi Link Newswire

Terrance Hill, principal of Green Elementary, recently received The Key of the Community Award at the Best of Mississippi Awards. Hill enters his 10th year in education and his 2nd year as principal of Green. Prior to Green, he served as an assistant principal for three years at Pecan Park Elementary. During his tenure at Pecan Park, the school moved from a performance rating of B in 2018 to an A rating in 2019. Hill's educational journey began at Woodville Heights Elementary, where he taught 4th and 5th-grade mathematics. At Woodville Heights, Hill was



Hill

awarded Most Outstanding Educator and Teacher of the Year. He also served on Jackson Public School's Summer Curriculum Team and the Superin-

tendent's Advisory Council. Hill holds a Bachelor of Science and Master of Science degree in Education from Jackson State University. He completed a Master of Education in Educational Leadership from Mississippi College and a Specialist of Education in Instructional Leadership from William Carey University. Hill is an active member of College Hill Baptist Church in Jackson where he served as president of the Public Relations Ministry from 2019-2021. He is currently pursuing a Doctor of Education degree at Jackson State University.


Breast and cervical cancer discussion at Lunch and Learn

Mississippi Link Newswire

The Institute for the Advancement of Minority Health joins forces with the Mississippi Department of Health (MSDH) for an informational lunch and learn. On Tuesday, February 15, 2022,

from 12 p.m.-1 p.m., MSDH outreach coordinator Lazarus Taylor and nurses Jamie Grant and C'Sherrolyn Thurmond will share information regarding the MSDH breast and cervical cancer program.

The lunch and learn is free and open to all Mississippi residents. Register at <https://bit.ly/3unFVtc>. For more information, contact iamh@advancingminority-health.org

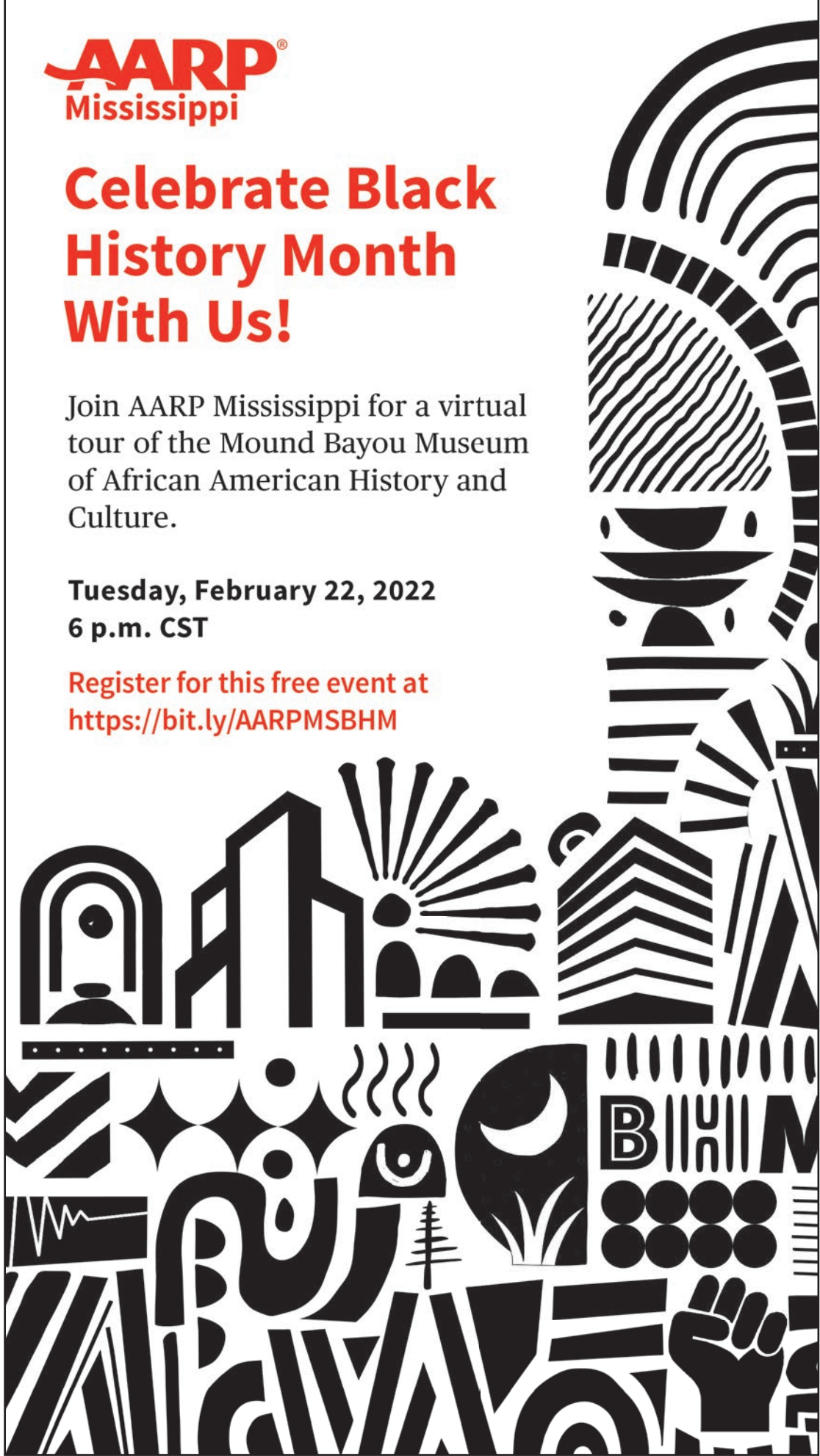


Celebrate Black History Month With Us!

Join AARP Mississippi for a virtual tour of the Mound Bayou Museum of African American History and Culture.

Tuesday, February 22, 2022
6 p.m. CST

Register for this free event at <https://bit.ly/AARPMBSBHM>



Minority women most affected if abortion is banned, limited

By Emily Wagster Pettus
and Leah Willingham
Associated Press

If you are black or Hispanic in a conservative state that already limits access to abortions, you are far more likely than a white woman to have one.

And if the U.S. Supreme Court allows states to further restrict or even ban abortions, minority women will bear the brunt of it, according to statistics analyzed by The Associated Press.

The numbers are unambiguous. In Mississippi, people of color comprise 44% of the population but 80% of women receiving abortions, according to the Kaiser Family Foundation, which tracks health statistics.

In Texas, they're 59% of the population and 74% of those receiving abortions. The numbers in Alabama are 35% and 70%. In Louisiana, minorities represent 42% of the population, according to the state Health Department, and about 72% of those receiving abortions.

"Abortion restrictions are racist," said Cathy Torres, a 25-year-old organizing manager with Frontera Fund, a Texas organization that helps women pay for abortions. "They directly impact people of color, Black, brown, Indigenous people ... people who are trying to make ends meet."

Why the great disparities? Laurie Bertram Roberts, executive director of the Alabama-based Yellowhammer Fund, which provides financial support for women seeking abortion, said women of color in states with restrictive abortion laws often have limited access to health care and a lack of choices for effective birth control. Schools often have ineffective or inadequate sex education.

If abortions are outlawed, those same women — often poor — will likely have the hardest time traveling to distant parts of the country to terminate pregnancies or raising children they might struggle to afford, said Roberts, who is Black and once volunteered at Mississippi's only abortion clinic.

"We're talking about folks who are already marginalized," Roberts said.

Amanda Furdge, who is black, was one of those women. She was a single, unemployed college student already raising one baby in 2014 when she found out she was pregnant with another. She said she didn't know how she could afford another child.

She'd had two abortions in Chicago. Getting access to an abortion provider there was no problem, Furdge said. But now she was in Mississippi, having moved home to escape an abusive relationship. Misled by advertising, she first went to a crisis pregnancy center which tried to talk her out of an abortion. By the time she found the abortion clinic, she was too far along to have the procedure.

"Why can't you safely, easily access abortion here?" asked Furdge, 34, who is happily raising her now 7-year-old son but continues to advocate for women having the right to choose.

Torres said historically,



Getty Israel, founder of Sisters in Birth, a Jackson, Miss., clinic that serves pregnant women, is shown in this Dec. 17, 2021 photograph. Israel believes if lawmakers want to prevent abortions, they should eliminate risk factors that lead women to end pregnancies — low-wage jobs and lack of access to healthcare, higher education and transportation. AP PHOTO/ROGELIO V. SOLIS

anti-abortion laws have been crafted in ways that hurt low-income women. She pointed to the Hyde Amendment, a 1980 law that prevents the use of federal funds to pay for abortions except in rare cases.

She also cited the 2021 Texas law that bans abortion after around six weeks of pregnancy. Where she lives, near the U.S.-Mexico border in the Rio Grande Valley, women are forced to travel to obtain abortions and must pass in-state border patrol checkpoints where they have to disclose their citizenship status, she said.

Regardless of what legislators say, Torres insisted, the intent is to target women of color, to control their bodies: "They know who these restrictions are going to affect. They know that, but they don't care."

But Andy Gipson, a former member of the Mississippi Legislature who is now the state's agriculture and commerce commissioner, said race had nothing to do with passage of Mississippi's law against abortion after the 15th week. That law is now before the Supreme Court in a direct challenge to Roe v. Wade, the court's 1973 ruling that legalized abortion nationwide.

Gipson, a Baptist minister who is white, said he believes all people are created in the image of God and have an "innate value" that starts at conception. Mississippi legislators were trying to protect women and babies by putting limits on abortion, he said.

"I absolutely disagree with the concept that it's racist or about anything other than saving babies' lives," said Gipson, a Republican. "It's about saving lives of the unborn and the lives and health of the mother, regardless of what color they are."

To those who say that forcing women to have babies will subject them to hardships, Mississippi Attorney General Lynn Fitch, a white Republican, said it is "easier for working mothers to balance professional success and family life" than it was 49 years ago when Roe was decided.

Fitch, who is divorced, often points to her own experience of working outside the home while raising three children. But Fitch grew up in an affluent family and has worked in the legal profession — both factors that can give working women the means and the flexibility to get help raising children.

That's not the case for many minority women in Mississippi or elsewhere. Advocates say in many places where abortion services are being curtailed, there's little support for women who carry a baby to term.

Mississippi is one of the poorest states, and people in low-wage jobs often don't receive health insurance. Women can enroll in Medicaid during pregnancy, but that coverage disappears soon after they give birth.

Mississippi has the highest infant mortality rate in the U.S., according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Black infants were about twice as likely as white infants to die during the first year of life in Mississippi, according to the March of Dimes.

Across the country, U.S. Census Bureau information analyzed by The Associated Press shows fewer black and Hispanic women have health insurance, especially in states with tight abortion restrictions. For example, in Texas, Mississippi and Georgia, at least 16% of Black women and 36% of Latinas were uninsured in 2019, some of the highest such rates in the country.

Problems are compounded in states without effective education programs about reproduction. Mississippi law says sex education in public schools must emphasize abstinence to avoid pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases. Discussion of abortion is forbidden, and instructors may not demonstrate how to use condoms or other contraception.

The Mississippi director for Planned Parenthood Southeast, Tyler Harden, is a 26-year-old Black woman who had an abortion five years ago, an experience that drove her to a career supporting pregnant women and preserving abor-

tion rights.

She said when she was attending public school in rural Mississippi, she didn't learn about birth control. Instead, a teacher stuck clear tape on students' arms. The girls were told to put it on another classmate's arm, and another, and watch how it lost the ability to form a bond.

"They'd tell you, 'If you have sex, this is who you are now: You're just like this piece of tape — all used up and washed up and nobody would want it,'" Harden said.

When she became pregnant at 21, she knew she wanted an abortion. Her mother was battling cancer and Harden was in her last semester of college without a job or a place to live after graduation.

She said she was made to feel fear and shame, just as she had during sex ed classes. When she went to the clinic, she said protesters told her she was "killing the most precious gift" from God and that she was "killing a black baby, playing into what white supremacists want."

Harden's experience is not uncommon. The anti-abortion movement has often portrayed the abortion fight in racial terms.

Outside the only abortion clinic operating in Mississippi, protesters hand out brochures that refer to abortion as Black "genocide" and say the late Margaret Sanger, founder of Planned Parenthood and a proponent of eugenics, "desired to eradicate minorities." The brochures compare Sanger to Adolf Hitler and proclaim: "Black lives did not matter to Margaret Sanger!"

The Mississippi clinic is not affiliated with Planned Parenthood, and Planned Parenthood itself denounces Sanger's belief in eugenics.

White people are not alone in making this argument. Alveda King, an evangelist who is a niece of the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr., is among the black opponents of abortion who, for years, have been portraying abortion as a way to wipe out people of their race.

Tanya Britton, a former president of Pro-Life Mississippi, often drives three hours from her home in the northern part of the state to pray outside the abortion clinic in Jackson. Britton is black, and she said it's a tragedy that the number of black babies aborted since Roe would equal the population of several large cities. She also said people are too casual about terminating pregnancies.

"You just can't take the life of someone because this is not convenient — 'I want to finish my education,'" Britton said. "You wouldn't kill your 2-year-old because you were in graduate school."

But state Rep. Zakiya Summers of Jackson, who is black and a mother, suggested there's nothing casual about what poor women are doing. Receiving little support in Mississippi — for example, the Legislature killed a proposal to expand postpartum Medicaid coverage in 2021 — they are sometimes forced to make hard decisions.

"Women are just out here trying to survive, you know?" she said. "And Mississippi doesn't make it any easier."

Statue of racist ex-Gov. Bilbo quietly moved in Mississippi



Bilbo statue

By Emily Wagster Pettus
Associated Press

A statue of white supremacist former Mississippi Gov. Theodore Bilbo has quietly been moved out of sight in the state Capitol — a move praised by black lawmakers who say he never deserved a place of prominence.

Bilbo was a Democrat who blasted racist rhetoric. He was governor for the 1916-20 and 1928-32 terms and was in the U.S. Senate from 1935 until his death in 1947.

The bronze statue of Bilbo stood prominently at the center of the state Capitol for decades. After the building underwent extensive renovations in the 1980s, the statue was moved to a first-floor committee room.

Democratic Rep. Kabir Karriem, a member of the Legislative Black Caucus, said its lingering presence was "very offensive" in a state where nearly 40% of residents are black.

Legislators have been meeting since early January, and it's only in recent days that people have begun noticing Bilbo was nowhere in sight.

The statue is approximately life-sized, at 5 feet, 2 inches (158 centimeters). It was not a revered art piece: People sometimes hung their coats or purses on its outstretched arm.

House Speaker Philip Gunn said he was unaware the statue had been moved until Thursday, when someone asked him about it. He said he does not know where it is.

"I have not verified anything," Republican Gunn said. "We'll look into it and see."

Statues of Confederate soldiers and generals have been removed from public display in several places across the South in recent years amid debates about how the U.S. should acknowledge troubling parts of its history.

In the summer of 2020, Mississippi legislators voted to retire



House of Rep. Kabir Karriem, (D) Dist. 41 says statue of Bilbo was "very offensive."

the last state flag in the U.S. that prominently featured the Confederate battle emblem. Months later, voters approved a new Mississippi flag without Confederate imagery.

Another member of the Mississippi Legislative Black Caucus, Democratic Rep. Ed Blackmon of Canton, said that when he was first elected to the House in 1979, the Bilbo statue was still in the rotunda.

"That's the first person I met when I came to the Capitol," Blackmon said Thursday. "I said, 'My God. Bilbo.'"

During Bilbo's last campaign in 1946, a group of black Mississippi residents filed a petition with the U.S. Senate, saying Bilbo had used "inflammatory appeals" to white people and incited violence that discouraged black voters from participating in the Democratic primary, according to the U.S. Senate. A bipartisan group of senators traveled to Mississippi to hear testimony. A majority of them sided with Bilbo and said he should be seated, but a minority wrote a report saying Bilbo had used "vile, contemptible, inflammatory and dangerous language."

The Mississippi Legislative Black Caucus often meets in the room where the Bilbo statue stood.

"I really looked at it the same way I looked at the flag," Blackmon said. "It was a symbol of this state's ideas about inferiority of black people. He used my folk as a stepping stone to higher office."

Historic Hattiesburg school to become civil rights museum

The Associated Press

A building that was the first school for black students in Hattiesburg is going to be used as a civil rights museum.

Eureka School opened in 1921. WDAM reported the transformation into a museum started in 2006, when the Hattiesburg Convention Commission purchased the building. Officials began restoring the building but a 2013 tornado caused damage and stalled the renovations. Work was finally completed in 2018.

Since then, the building has hosted events. Officials are now figuring out permanent exhibits for the museum.

Latoya Norman, director of museums for the Hattiesburg Convention Commission, said the museum will focus on Hattiesburg's role in the effort to register black voters during Freedom Summer in 1964.

"The civil rights part is a story that needs to be maintained for everyone's benefit in Hattiesburg and around," said Raylawni Branch, who attended the school.

Murrah Wins 36 Writing Awards at Scholastic Art and Writing Awards Competition

JPS Newswire

Murrah High scholars brought home 36 writing awards at this year's Scholastic Art and Writing Awards, presented by the Alliance for Youth Artists and Writers. Among the honors include two American Voices Winners, who will go on to compete nationally. Students receive opportunities for recognition, exhibition, publication and scholarship.

The award recipients are:
AMERICAN VOICES WINNERS

- Whitney Jones (JTECHS) – Poetry The Methods of the Mystic Lover
- Karis McGowan – Poetry Song of Myself

SENIOR PORTFOLIO WINNERS

- Maya McFadden Gold Key – The Vos Family

GOLD KEY WINNERS

Educator: Sarah Ballard

- Dion Hines – Poetry Addressed to King; title pending; Short Story A Warm Embrace

- Maya McFadden - Short Story Entry V

- Karis McGowan - Poetry Song of Myself

- Fatimah Wansley – Poetry Divine Detriment

Educator: Micah Everson

- Fatimah Wansley – Poetry Wake Up Call

Educator: Rhonda Murphy-Johnson

- Whitney Jones – Poetry



The Methods of the Mystic Lover

SILVER KEY WINNERS

Educator: Sarah Ballard

- Kennedy Clark – Poetry Male Validation; S.P.I.T.E

- Brianna Ervin – Poetry VII

- Dion Hines – Flash Fiction Neville's Yellow Moon; Poetry A Fool's Dance/A Second Final Chance; Closure Pt. 1 & 2; Miriad; Prayer; Song 2 Myself

- Maya McFadden – Poetry Hopes and Disillusionment

- Fatimah Wansley – Poetry Girl Meets Reflection; Love Letter to the Bathroom Mirror

- Mackenzie Washington – Poetry Possessive.

- Treasure White – Personal

Essay/Memoir College Essay; Poetry MaDear; The Last Gardenia

HONORABLE MENTION WINNERS

Educator: Sarah Ballard

- Kennedy Clark – Poetry A Pause of Direction; The right side of my neck still smells like you

- Tamerrah Donaldson – Flash Fiction Thank You, Father

- Brianna Ervin – Poetry Sunday Poem

- Maya McFadden – Short Story June 16th, 1964; Entry II

- Fatimah Wansley – Critical Essay The Fire Next Time Rhetorical Analysis; Personal Essay/Memoir College Essay;

Poetry My Closure

Entries are selected for awards without knowledge of the student's gender, age, ethnicity, or hometown by some of the foremost leaders in the visual and literary arts. Jurors look for works that exemplify the Awards' core values: originality, technical skill, and the emergence of a personal voice or vision. The Scholastic Art & Writing Awards were founded in 1923 and, for nearly a century, have inspired bold ideas in creative teens throughout the country.

Congratulations to the scholars and educators who received awards in this year's competition.

VP Ashley Robinson, athletic director, receives 2022 Visit Jackson Tourism Visionary Award



By Alonda Thoma
Jackson State University

Jackson State University Vice President and Athletic Director Ashley Robinson has been named the 2022 Tourism Visionary Award recipient by Visit Jackson, the organization's highest industry achievement. The award recognizes industry partners who navigate new standards of involvement and cooperation to develop Jackson's tourism future.

"It's an honor to receive this recognition," said Robinson. "Jackson State University is a pillar of the city of Jackson and the community. If Jackson State University is doing well, then we are all doing well. We look forward to sustained success and growing together."

Robinson has strategically impacted athletics in the city of Jackson over the past several years, especially regarding enhancing the marketability and respectability of our nation's historically black colleges and universities. He has developed partnerships with Nike and Under Armour, through BSN

Sports, and negotiated and renegotiated sporting events for Jackson.

"Ashley Robinson is incredibly deserving of the Visit Jackson Visionary Award because his vision for elevating Jackson State University and his hometown is exceptional," said President Thomas K. Hudson, J.D. "The entire JSU community extends our heartfelt congratulations on this milestone achievement."

In 2021, Robinson's vision and tenacity boosted the Jackson, Mississippi, economy by more than \$30 million. Robinson currently serves as chair of the SWAC Athletic Director committee and the 1st vice president on the Division I football championship sub-division athletic association committee.

"We're proud that this native son has returned home bringing his passion and talent to the 'City with Soul,'" said Visit Jackson President and CEO Rickey L. Thigpen, Ph.D. "We are excited to continue our tourism partnership to enhance possibilities for an even brighter future."

MOORE & MOORE
Cleaning Service

OFFERING \$1000
REFERAL BONUS TO THE PERSON
THAT CAN SEND THE MOST REFERRALS IN
A MONTH. PLEASE CALL
601-317-2735 FOR DETAILS.

Craig Moore
Owner/Operator

*All Types of Cleaning Services
Over 30 Years of Experience
Free Estimates
Licensed & Bonded*

Moore & Moore Cleaning Services
*Commercial & Residential Cleaning
We clean: Office Buildings, Schools, Daycares
Churches, Restaurants - whatever you need.*

*Floor Stripping & Waxing, Carpet Cleaning,
Restrooms & All Other Janitorial Services
with Professional Results*

601.317.2735
Email: craig.moore78@yahoo.com
www.mooreandmoorecleaningserviceandautosalesllc
2659 Livingston Road, Jackson, MS 39213

*The person that sends us the most referrals will
receive a \$200.00 referral fee.*

MAID SERVICES AVAILABLE

Subscribe TODAY

2659 Livingston Road • Jackson MS, 39213
601-896-0084 • www.mississippilink.com

The Mississippi Link

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____

e-Mail _____

CHECK ONE ☐ 1 year ☐ 2 year ☐ 3 year

\$32 1 year subscription	\$64 2 year subscription	\$96 3 year subscription
---------------------------------------	---------------------------------------	---------------------------------------

Thank you for your order. Order a subscription for a friend!

The Mississippi Link™

Volume 28 • Number 17
February 10 - 16, 2022
© copyright 2022. All rights reserved.

Publisher.....Jackie Hampton
Copy Editor.....Minnie Garrett
Graphics.....Marcus Johnson
Photographers.....Kevin Bradley & Jay Johnson
Tim WardSports Editor

Member:

The Mississippi Link [USPS 017224] is published weekly by The Mississippi Link, Inc. Offices located at 2659 Livingston Road, Jackson, MS 39213. Mailing address is P.O. Box 11307, Jackson, MS 39283-1307 or e-mail us at: publisher@mississippilink.com; Please visit our website at: www.mississippilink.com. Phone: (601) 896-0084, Fax 896-0091, out of state 1-800-748-9747. Periodical Postage Rate Paid at Jackson, MS.

Deadline: The deadline for submitting items to be considered for publication is Tuesday at 10 a.m.

Subscriptions are \$32 per year; \$64 for two years or \$96 for three years.

Postmaster: Send all address changes to The Mississippi Link, P.O. Box 11307, Jackson, MS 39283-1307.

Advertising: For all advertising information, please call (601) 896-0084.

The Mississippi Link accepts no responsibility for unsolicited materials and in general does not return them to sender. Manuscripts and photographs submitted for publication are welcome by The Mississippi Link, but no responsibility can be taken for sources considered to be authoritative, because the publication cannot guarantee their accuracy. Reproduction or use, without permission, of editorial or graphic content, is prohibited.



Diabetes and cancer a bad combination

By Vince Faust
Tips to Be Fit

We have all heard the term “secondary conditions.” Secondary conditions put you at risk for more diseases than COVID-19. Secondary conditions also affect your chance of surviving breast cancer. Diabetes can be a secondary condition. Diabetes is one of the most common chronic conditions worldwide and breast cancer is the most prevalent cancer in women worldwide.

Diabetes is a medical condition that causes an increase in your blood glucose levels. If you have a fasting blood glucose level of 126 mg/dL or higher or an oral glucose tolerance test of 200 mg/dL or higher you have diabetes. Cancer is a medical condition that is a result of the excessive growth of unhealthy tissue. These abnormal cells grow out of control and ignore your body’s signals to stop dividing and die.

Six of seven studies found preexisting diabetes was associated with a risk of death from breast cancer. These studies showed that breast cancer patients with diabetes had a 50% higher risk of dying from breast cancer than patients with out diabetes. We see the correlation between diabetes and cancer but we still don’t understand the reason for the increase risk of death.

One study found that women with type 2 diabetes tended to have their breast cancer diagnosed later than those without diabetes. Another study found that women with pre-existing diabetes were sicker overall than those without diabetes. This



tends to make them less able to handle the chemotherapy drugs or it may prompt doctors to treat their cancer less aggressively because of concerns about their overall health. Poorly controlled blood sugar levels can lead to short-term complications that can delay cancer treatment. There could also be a biological cause for the increased mortality risk. High levels of insulin have been found to stimulate tumor growth. Prior research also showed that diabetics were at a higher risk for developing breast cancer.

Women should try to maintain a body mass index around 25. Good nutrition and exercise are the only ways to achieve that body mass index level. This will help to prevent diabetes and reduce your cancer risk. Women that already have diabetes

should make sure they control it.

While there is no cure for diabetes, it can be controlled. Most type 2 diabetes can not only be controlled, it can be prevented and reversed. There are a number of areas that are under your control. These control factors include nutrition, fitness, sleep, stress, medical care, smoking and your environment. Educating yourself about diabetes and your control factors are necessary to better control your diabetes.

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

A complete workout should

include exercises for each body part. This will include the chest, shoulders, triceps, back, biceps, forearm, thighs, calves and your abdominals (midsection). Start with 2 to 3 different exercises for each body part. Gradually work up to 8-12 repetitions for each exercise. Do each exercise 1-3 times to start. If you can do more than 12 repetitions for a set, the weight is too light. If you can’t do at least 8 repetitions for a set the weight is too heavy.

You’ll also need to do an aerobic workout. Aerobics work your heart, lungs, circulatory system and helps burn bodyfat. The word aerobic means with oxygen. Oxygen is used to produce energy during aerobic activities. To do this the body has to be in continuous motion for more than 15 minutes. Aerobic

exercise will help increase cardiovascular endurance by working the heart, lungs and circulatory system. Vigorous walking, jogging, swimming, cycling, cross country skiing, skipping rope, stair climbing, step aerobics and aerobic dance can be used for aerobic conditioning.

A few more steps you can take to prevent and control diabetes:

...Smokers should stop smoking – 1200 Americans died yesterday and another 1200 will die today from smoke related illnesses. You’ve seen the AD on TV “There are no safe levels for cigarettes.” Smoking will raise your risk for diabetes.

...Limit your exposure to second hand smoke – ETS (environmental tobacco smoke) contains over 4,000 chemical compounds. More than 60 of these are known to cause can-

cer. Some of the toxins or irritants in secondhand smoke include carbon monoxide, nicotine, hydrogen cyanide, ammonia, formaldehyde and sulfur dioxide. Carcinogens in ETS include benzene, aromatic amines (especially carcinogens such as 2-naphthylamine and 4-aminobiphenyl), vinyl chloride, arsenic, nitrosamines and cadmium. The greater your exposure to ETS, the greater your level of these harmful compounds in your body. Second-hand smoke is the third leading preventable cause of death nationally.

...Get 8 hours of sleep every night – Get less sleep than what you need and you’ll find yourself stressed more often and you’ll get sick more often. Lack of sleep is also a risk factor for diabetes. To find out what you need keep a diary of your sleeping habits. Record the time you go to bed, the time you wake-up, the total hours you sleep, your mental and physical state during the day; any naps and what you ate or drank before bed. After a few weeks, review your diary. You should be able to get a good idea of what helps or hinders you from getting the sleep you need.

...Reduce stress and develop good coping skills – Other ways of dealing with stress include changing or improving personal character traits. These can include behavior changes such as assertiveness training, self-esteem enhancement, being flexible, improving organizational skills and time management.

Both the oncologist and the primary care physician should make sure they are coordinating your care.

University of MS graduate, Samantha Crumbly, RN, named Director of Nursing for Seaside Health System of Baton Rouge

Special to the Mississippi Link
Seaside Health System of Baton Rouge, a program of Seaside Healthcare headquartered in Shreveport, has named Samantha Crumbly, RN as Director of Nursing for the mental health and substance use treatment program. Kyle Hyde, administrator of Seaside Health System made the announcement of Crumbly’s appointment, saying, “We are excited to have Samantha on board as she brings her 22 years of experience to help us continue our goal of providing the highest standard of care to our patients.” Crumbly joined Seaside Health System in late December of 2021.

As Director of Nursing, Crumbly is responsible for overseeing all day-to-day aspects of leading and coaching team members of the nursing department in clinical operations. In her position, she will work closely with the administrator to ensure the provision of exceptional care to all patients.

Crumbly commented on her new position, “I’m looking forward to sharing my experience and knowledge to enhance their excellence. At Seaside, patient safety is always in the forefront of our minds, but staff safety and needs are also a high priority. Seaside is not only a great place to work, but is poised to be THE place to work in

the near future.”

Crumbly’s background includes a history of serving as the Director of Nursing Services in the mental health field. She has served in that capacity at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center, the Eisenhower Army Medical Center, and has collaborated with the National Institute of Health on mental health issues throughout her career.

She is a retired Lieutenant Colonel from the US Army, is a graduate of the University of Southern Mississippi, Hattiesburg, and holds numerous certifications and advanced training credentials including that of Infection Control Preventionist, Sui-

cide Awareness, Advanced Nurse Leadership and Psychiatric Nursing.

Seaside Health System is an acute care behavioral health and substance use disorders hospital focused on clinical excellence, integrity and kindness. Its mission is to improve the quality of life of the people we serve as well as those who work with us to achieve our mission, in an atmosphere of kindness, compassion and understanding.

Seaside Health System is located at 4363 Convention Street in Baton Rouge.

For more information about Seaside Health System, visit www.seasidehc.com or call 225-522-4076.



Crumbly

P R E S E R V E D

Valentine's prayer

By Shewanda Riley
Columnist



Valentine's Day is a tricky holiday. It's good for those who have someone to love. But for those who don't have someone or the one they have isn't the one they love; it can be challenging but not impossible to enjoy. For some, it's about living out the truth of the song lyric "if you can't be with the one you love, love the one you're with."

As for myself, I've always loved the day whether I had a significant other or not. Being able to show love to myself and others is always a blessing. One thing I've done that has made what used to be a stressful day much more joyful is that I make it a point to give to others instead of waiting on others to give to

me. Thoughtful cards and candy turn out to be valuable to both the giver and the receiver.

I've also prayed the following Valentine's prayer for several years, and it continues to encourage me. I hope it does the same for you.

Heavenly Father, I come to you first celebrating all that you have done in my life and all that you promise to do for me. I will do as it says in Psalm 18:1-2 and love you O Lord with my strength and put my trust in you. No longer will I be distracted by the unholy, ungodly and unhealthy relationship patterns of the past that have kept me from receiving your love and enjoying my life as you have ordained.

I bind up all thoughts and attitudes that seek to place superficial intimacy and companionship over the desire you have for me to have authentic intimacy with you

and those you have specifically ordained to be a part of my life. I will not get ahead of you in any area of my life but will remain submitted to your will. I will embrace faith, your love and divine protection.

As I continue my walk with you, I look forward to the many opportunities that you give me to show your grace and mercy to others. I John 4:18 says "there is no fear in love; but perfect love casts our fear, because fear involves torment. But he who fears has not been made perfect in love."

I pray for you to increase my ability to hear you and to love you with my whole heart. I pray that your hand will continue to be on my life and all of my relationships. I pray they will be in divine order and fulfill your divine purpose.

Let hope and not hurt spring forth from my heart.

Proverbs 4:23 says, "Guard your heart above all else, for it determines the course of your life." Let your word fix my broken places and let your presence continue to fill me with peace.

I praise you in advance for giving me wisdom and the right strategies as I choose to no longer be controlled by fear but to be guided by love.

Most importantly, I will live with the passion of David, endurance of Joseph, obedience of Ruth, strength of Peter, the commitment of Paul and the mind of Christ. Amen.

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 preservedbypurpose@gmail.com or Twitter @shewanda.

Destination: Heaven or Hell

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



In the Book of Genesis, we can read that Cain made a choice. Genesis 4:7 reads, "If thou doest well, shalt thou not be accepted? And if thou doest not well, sin lieth at the door. And unto thee shall be his desire, and thou shalt rule over him." Christ invited and exhorted, but the Jews would not come to Him so that they might have life. He had life for them, but they refused Him.

The passages in the Word of God clearly urged the sinner concerning the responsibility to choose. Those who reject this doctrine make mere machines out of men. Every one of us must give an account of himself to God, and He demands a decision. God calls for us to do so. He will not allow compromise when it comes to making this choice; God throws the whole responsibility upon us. Friend, He leaves it to us to decide.

the picture, it is not impossible for us to choose life. We can make that choice now. We do not have to wait until next week or next year.

We may ask, "Do I really have to choose?" Look at the prodigal son in Luke, Chapter 15. He made a choice while in that far country. In verse 18 he said, "I will arise and go to my father, and will say unto him, father, I have sinned against heaven and before thee." Just like that prodigal son, we can make that choice. We can say to ourselves: "I am like the prodigal son. I am going to arise and get saved." God has laid at our doorstep this responsibility. Look at Saul in the Book of Acts, Chapter 9. We can read in verse 6 that Saul asked, "Lord, what wilt thou have me to do?" He made a choice. Consider the three thousand who were saved on the Day of Pentecost. In Acts, Chapter 2, we can read that they made a choice. A choice was set before them, and in verse 37, they asked, "Men and brethren, what shall we do?"

In Acts, Chapter 16, we can read about Paul and Silas dealing with the Philippian jailer. That Philippian jailer and his whole household made a choice. In verse 30 he said, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?"

Friend, we too can make the choice to be saved. The longer we put this decision off, the more difficulties will arise. We are wasting a precious opportunity.

Rev. Simeon R. Green III is pastor of Joyne's Road Church of God, 31 Joyne's Road, Hampton, VA 23669.

Life and death, blessing and cursing, are within our reach. We need to think about the seriousness of this decision. Heaven or hell is right within our reach, and it is our decision. Friend, this decision is not out of our power, nor is it impossible for us to choose life.

Oh, how the devil gets people in situations where it looks impossible to choose life. On the authority of God's Word, no matter how dark the devil has painted



New Horizon Church
INTERNATIONAL
A place of love and victory.

Bishop Ronnie C. Crudup, Sr.
1750 Ellis Avenue • Jackson, MS 39204
OFFICE: 601-371-1427 • FAX: 601-371-8282

www.nhcms.org

SUNDAY
8:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. - *Worship Services*

WEDNESDAY
7:00 p.m. - *Bible Class*

TV BROADCAST
8:00 a.m. - *Channel 14 (Comcast)*

Prayer Everyday: 6 a.m. and 6 p.m.



Moving the Masses Toward the Mission of the Master

1600 Florence Avenue
Jackson, Mississippi 39204
601-355-2670 ~ 601-355-0760 (Fax)

www.collegehillchurch.org
chmbo@collegehillchurch.org

COLLEGE HILL
MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH


SUNDAY
Worship Services
10 a.m. in person

Or you may worship with us via
Facebook or our YouTube
channel at CHMBC



Pastor
Chauncy L. Jordan

Crossroads Church of God
Sharing The Love Of Christ With Others



Sunday Morning Fellowship: 9-10 a.m. Sunday School: 10 a.m.	Sunday Worship Service: 11:15 a.m. (Fellowship following worship service 1st Sundays)	Wednesday Prayer/Bible Study: 7 p.m.
--	---	---

Rev. Mark Jackson, Pastor
231-A John Day Road • Off Hwy 16 East • Canton, MS 39046
Church: 601-859-2858

True Light Baptist Church
224 E. Bell Street | Jackson, MS 39202
Phone: 601.398.0915
WWW.TRUELIGHTJACKSON.ORG

THE Light Line PRAYER

JOIN US EACH WEDNESDAY MORNING AT 6:00 AM
CALL: 559-671-2546

VIRTUAL SERVICES AVAILABLE
SMALL GROUP STUDY 9:00 AM
WORSHIP SERVICE | SUNDAY 10:30 AM
BIBLE STUDY | WEDNESDAY 6:30 PM



REV. MARCUS E. CHEEKS, PASTOR

[@TRUELIGHTMBCHURCH](https://www.facebook.com/TRUELIGHTMBCHURCH)
[TRUE LIGHT BAPTIST CHURCH](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC...)

New Bethel Missionary Baptist Church
Pastor, Dr. F. R. Lenoir



Sunday School - 9:15 a.m.
Sunday Morning Worship - 10:30 a.m.
Live Radio Broadcast
WOAD AM 1300 - 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.



"A Church Preparing for a Home Not Built by Man"

New Bethel M. B. Church • 450 Culberston Ave. • Jackson, MS 39209
601-969-3481/969-3482 • Fax # 601-969-1957 • E-Mail: Serenitynbc@aol.com

There are qualified African Americans to become head coaches in the NFL

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



I am a fan of the NFL. Like you, I watch the games and I cheer for my favorite team. So that you will know, my favorite NFL team is the New Orleans Saints.

The Saints didn't make the playoffs this year. I hope we'll have better luck next year.

Each year in the National Football League, coaches are hired and fired. This is because of the axiom, "the thrill of victory and the agony of defeat." If you don't win in the NFL, your tenure might be short.

However, that statement is not always true. Tony Dungy, former coach of the Tampa Bay Buccaneers had a winning record yet he was fired in 2001 by owner Malcolm Glazer.

It is my opinion that the owners have the power in the NFL. That is no secret.

NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell was hired by the owners. Coaches and players have no say in who is hired. It is not a popularity contest.

There are 32 teams in the NFL. Ownership is coveted and exclusive. It is a club where you must have certain qualifications. Of course, being rich is one of them.

We can only opine as to what other credentials you must have. Currently, there are no African-American owners in the National Football League. Will that change over time? I hope so.

As we approach the Super Bowl, Mike Tomlin of the Pittsburgh Steelers is the only black head coach in the league. He has never had a losing season. He has also won a Super bowl. That's impressive.

Approximately 70% of the players in the NFL are black so why is there only one black head coach? The question of not having more black head coaches has been at the goal line for years.

The National Football League has tried to do something about it, but have they done enough? It depends upon who you ask and whether they are inside or outside of the organization.

I don't think they have done enough. I am on the outside looking inside.

The Rooney Rule was adopted in 2003 and named after then owner, Dan Rooney of the Pittsburgh Steelers. He was also chairman of the league's diversity committee.

The Rooney Rule requires that every team with a head coaching vacancy interview at least one diverse candidate. Since 2009, it also includes general manager jobs, and leadership positions in the front office.

More African-American candidates have been interviewed so there has been some success. Anthony Lynn (Chargers), Vance Joseph (Broncos) and Steve Wilks (Cardinals) were hired and since fired. Black men like Eric Bieniemy (Chiefs), Byron Leftwich (Buccaneers) and Jim Caldwell (former head coach of the Lions) are receiving interviews to become head coaches. We'll see what happens.

As we know, Brian Flores, former coach of the Miami Dolphins has filed a class action lawsuit against the NFL and three of its teams. They are the Miami Dolphins, New York Giants and the Denver Broncos. Brian Flores is African American.

The main parts of his lawsuit accuse the teams of sham interviews, incentivizing losses and trying to improperly recruit players. These allegations are bringing shockwaves throughout the National Football League.

Just recently in a memo obtained by CBS Sports senior NFL Insider Johnathan Jones, Roger Goodell said, "We have made significant efforts to promote diversity and adopted numerous policies and programs which have produced positive change in many areas, however we must acknowledge that particularly with respect to head coaches the results have been unacceptable."

He added, "We will reevaluate and examine all policies, guidelines and initiatives relating to diversity, equity and inclusion, including as they relate to gender."

These pronouncements come on the heels of some other pro football announcements. Sashi Brown has been named the president of the Baltimore Ravens. He was formerly the president of the Washington Wizards, an NBA team. Sashi Brown is African American. Anthony Lynn has been hired as the assistant coach of the San Francisco 49ers.

I find the timing of these announcements interesting. That's just me.

Brian Flores said, "it's hard to speak out. It is. You're making some sacrifices, but this is bigger than football. This is bigger than coaching."

In the coming weeks, football fans will see whether Brian Flores will ever be employed again as a head coach in the National Football League.

He's right. This is bigger than football.

Rising above COVID-19

Overcoming the mental and physical effects of the virus

By Darryl Sellers
Partner, The Cobb Institute



Holding back tears, Morrell Staten shared his poignant story about his and his wife's COVID-19 journeys last year, speaking in late 2021 at the Cobb Institute-We Can Do This/Stay Well Community Health Fair at Cass Tech High School in Detroit. Staten and his wife both tested positive for the virus at almost the same time, making it a very challenging period for their family.

"Imagine – we have five kids, and we had to leave them because we were both in the hospital," Morrell Staten said. "Luckily, both of us made it through, but thinking back on it is very scary."

Prior to testing positive for COVID, Morrell Staten had been contemplating getting the vaccine. In hindsight, he wishes he had gotten vaccinated for COVID sooner.

Morrell Staten reflected on what followed his positive COVID test, including an arduous two days spent fighting through COVID symptoms, including chills and hot flashes. But when he woke up on the third day with chest pains as an added ailment, Staten said he knew his health situation was more serious. Staten decided to go to the emergency room at a local hospital, which led to a one-week stay. Fortunately, a COVID treatment of antibodies and oxygen led to his recovery.

Returning home and seeing his children again gave Morrell Staten a great sense of gratitude. But something still didn't feel right mentally. He called his mom every night just to have someone to talk to. He barely slept and had nightmares. It was a period of time that left Staten feeling very unsettled. Now, he says the mental health aspects of COVID aren't talked about by the media and others as much as they should be.

According to the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities (NIMHD), African Americans are 20% more likely to experience psychological distress. With COVID-19's disproportionate impact on black Americans, along with the rapid spread of the Omicron variant, black communities could be even more at risk for COVID-related mental health issues in 2022.

Dr. Lonnie Joe, a physician with the Cobb Institute, said medical professionals would not be doing their jobs if they didn't address the mental aspect of the pandemic, which is having adverse effects on some black Americans and their families.

He said he's seen many patients who only decided to get vaccinated after a family member died or became severely ill from COVID-19. Dr. Joe said black Americans shouldn't wait that long before deciding to get vaccinated.

Part of the problem, according to Dr. Joe, is that our society is getting an overload of information that is often unreliable. "We've never had

to deal with this to this degree in the healthcare arena, where people relied on other sources that may not be correct," Dr. Joe said. "The ability to be exposed to the information has definitely changed the individual's opinion about this pandemic. As a result, it will affect us as individuals."

Dr. Joe also said medical professionals really need to think about how COVID affects individuals in the long run.

"I have several patients who had COVID 18 months ago, and they are still as sick as they can be, testing negative but experiencing a lot of adverse effects from the inflammation that the disease leaves them with," Dr. Joe said. "We need to reflect again in that arena to talk about what can happen to actually support an individual who has been affected by this virus, whether it's directly or indirectly. That is very important."

In Morrell Staten's case, the long-term effects of COVID include insomnia. Thankfully, Staten's health insurance company called to check on him and set him up with a mental health professional. He said while meeting with a therapist is helping him deal with the aftermath, his mental health recovery from having the virus is an ongoing process.

"After a couple of weeks, I was able to finally get back to some normalcy," Staten said. "But you never quite recover from something that bad. It has really affected me. I'm doing better now. I'm talking to a therapist, working through some of the residual things."

As Staten's mental health continues to get stronger, he said it's important that more black Americans open their eyes and get vaccinated in order to protect themselves, their loved ones and everyone around them.

"Definitely get vaccinated," Staten said. He added that getting vaccinated will help raise awareness for everyone, and the number of people seeing the need to get vaccinated will increase. "It's just too important," he said.

Vaccines help prevent severe disease, hospitalization and death from COVID. Being boosted offers the most protection. Please don't delay. Get your vaccines and boosters as soon as possible.

For more information about Cobb Institute-We Can Do This/Stay Well Community Health Fair and Vaccine events, please visit Stay Well events.

More information about the Omicron variant can be found here: CDC - Omicron Variant Information.

To find vaccines and boosters near you, visit vaccines.gov, text your ZIP code to 438829, or call 1-800-232-0233.

For resources and toolkits to help you build vaccine confidence in your community, visit the We Can Do This website.

Darryl Sellers is the director of the Public Relations Team for Creative Marketing Resources, a strategic marketing agency in Milwaukee and a partner of the Cobb Institute.

Unmistakable Connections between Fatherlessness and violence: Solutions need to be implemented nationwide

By Franklyn M. Malone
CEO, 100 Black Fathers, Inc.



As one looks out across America, there are community safety issues that are proliferating across the nation, and there is much concern for personal safety. So far in 2022, there have been hundreds of individual and mass murders nationwide, and an uptick in carjacking, robberies and violent crimes. But, what is the problem causing national violence at schools, in homes and in communities, and how can we solve it?

We all know that when you have need for relief from something that can claim your life such as a disease, you must seek out a doctor who can evaluate your symptoms and give you a proper diagnosis. When you get the diagnosis, you can then focus your resources on treatments that can bring you the best relief.

As a National Fatherhood Master Trainer, it is obvious to me that the diagnosis today for the violence in America, is Reactionary Masculinity Syndrome (RMS) – a behavioral disease defined by Dr. Amos Wilson, the noted black psychologist and author of 'Black On Black Crime.'

Dr Wilson defines RMS as a black male's futile attempt to assert his manhood and regain some kind of power and respect by actively or passively rebelling against racial

oppression and white authority. But, the rebellion is often done in a way harmful to himself, his family and his community, while being beneficial to his oppressor.

For political and community leaders who are unfamiliar with the devastating effects of the 'disease of fatherlessness' let us look at evidence that cannot be refuted. Studies from the National Fatherhood Initiative, and the American Psychological Association document that "Fatherlessness" is the cause of academic failure, inappropriate behavior in youth, emotional problems, low self-esteem, suicide and unlawful behavior. An emotional hole in the heart of a young man can result in pain and anger.

The facts about "Fatherlessness" begs the question – what do errant law-breaking youth need? Many will say, "lock them up and throw away the key." But, while we agree there must be consequences, we believe there must also be assets in place such as trained practitioners, support, empowerment, boundaries, expectations and constructive use of time. These assets must come from the community, families, faith institutions and local government agencies.

The 100 Fathers Inc. has model programs we have developed as 'Certified Fatherhood Master Trainers.' For example, in the District of Columbia, The 100 Fathers Inc. transformed dozens of young men at Woodson High School, at the District Phelps Academic Cam-

pus and at Ballou High School. For years, our trained Fatherhood and Rites of passage facilitators and our Council of Elders walked with young men past Police cars and fights every week as we engaged with young men enrolled in our 'Rites of Passage' programs. But, in spite of our success some local officials cut the funding because they did not see black boys as a priority. But, if anyone asks the principals or teachers at the aforementioned schools, they would get positive responses about how our Fatherhood programs worked.

The 100 Fathers Inc., believe the answers to crime and violence starts with prevention, intervention, innovation and recognition that Fatherlessness is at the root of the problem. Our local governments must put people to work to engage and connect with the thousands of troubled, fatherless boys and girls who believe crime is the enterprise they should chose.

Elected officials must find ways to bring culturally competent programs, services, careers and supports to communities, with significant funding support from the public and private sectors. There must be collaboration among local, state and federal government agencies, police chiefs, community outreach programs, faith leaders, educational institutions and extended families.

Programs that address 'Fatherlessness' is the only way we can change the paradigms across the country from 'Community

Violence' to 'Community Peace.' Decision makers must diagnose the disease of fatherlessness and recognize that there is an important role for fatherhood role models, mentors, coaches, community leaders, faith leaders and supportive trained women, in our communities.

This must be an inter-faith effort that builds on men's groups with experience working with fatherless youth, such as Cure the Streets, the Alliance of Concerned Men, Alphas, Omegas, Kappas and all of the Divine Nine Fraternities and Sororities, who must work together to unravel the hurt, harm, danger and trauma caused by years of neglect.

Our Fatherhood Master Trainers have the tools, knowledge and best practices based on our transformative curriculum and training. Now, we need a national commitment and abundant funding to implement programs that address Fatherlessness and that build on the assets needed to transform lives in cities across America.

No matter how you look at it – fathers matter. We care about our communities and our families, and we are here to stay and prepared to build with hope, trust and resilience.

Franklyn Malone is the founder and CEO of 100 Fathers Inc. and the DC 2020 Hall of Fame Society Community Leader and living Legend. Email: the100fathersinc@gmail.com. Web WWW.100fathers.org Call 202-361-0761.

LEGAL

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS – NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS
JH FEWELL WATER TREATMENT PLANT CORROSION CONTROL
CHEMICAL FEED SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT PROJECT
JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI

Sealed bids will be received by the City of Jackson, Mississippi, until 3:30 P.M. CST, Tuesday, March 15, 2022 at the City Clerk's Office located at 219 S. President St., for supplying all labor, materials and equipment as required under the plans and specifications for the construction of JH FEWELL WATER TREATMENT PLANT CORROSION CONTROL CHEMICAL FEED SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT PROJECT, SRF LOAN NO. DWI-L250008-03. Please address envelope to City Clerk, P.O. Box 17, Jackson, MS 39205.

The entire project must be completed within four hundred (400) calendar days. The contract will be subject to liquidated damages in the amount of five hundred dollars (\$500.00) per calendar day for each consecutive calendar day in which the contract time is exceeded.

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 an 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. 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 Yika Hoover with the office of Economic Development at (601) 960-1611 or by email: thoover@jacksonms.gov. Copies of the ordinance, EBO Plan Applications and a copy of the Program are available at 200 South President Street, Warren Hood Building, Second Floor, Jackson, Mississippi.

The City of Jackson, Mississippi ("City of Jackson") is committed to cultivating and ensuring the quality of life of its citizens, through various programs, employment, initiatives, and assistance. The City encourages all persons, corporations, and/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 strongly considering City residents for employment opportunities.

The City of Jackson hereby notifies all bidders that in compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, 42 U.S.C. 2000d 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 consideration for an award.

Minority and women's business enterprises are solicited to bid on this contract as prime contractors and are encouraged to make inquiries regarding potential subcontracting opportunities and equipment, material and/or supply needs.

This contract is funded in whole or in part by funds from the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 214 (H.R. 3547); therefore, this project must comply with the American Iron and Steel Requirements of the Act.

Any contract or contracts awarded under this invitation for bids are expected to be funded in whole or in part by anticipated funds from the Drinking Water Systems Improvements Revolving Loan Fund (DWSIRLF) loan program from the State of Mississippi. Neither the State of Mississippi, the Local Governments and Rural Water Systems Improvements Board, the MS Department of Health, the MS Commission on Environmental Quality, nor any of their employees, is or will be a party to this invitation for bids or any resulting or related contracts. This procurement will be subject to all applicable sections of the Mississippi Code of 1972, Annotated, as they apply to local governments, in accordance with Appendix D of the DWSIRLF Program Regulations.

The PLANS, SPECIFICATIONS AND CONTRACT DOCUMENTS may be examined at the following locations:

- Office of the Consulting Engineer: Cornerstone Engineering LLC, located at 600 Northside Drive, Suite A, Clinton, MS 39056, call Mauricka McKenzie, P.E., Project Engineer at 601-473-2403 office. One copy of the Plans, Specifications and Contract Documents may be procured from the Consulting Engineer, upon payment of \$300, none of which is refundable.

- Official bid documents can be downloaded from Central Bidding at www.centralbidding.com. Electronic bids can be submitted at www.centralbidding.com. For any questions relating to the electronic bidding process, please call Central Bidding at 225-810-4814.

- Office of the MSDH/DWSIRLF Program: located at 570 East Woodrow Wilson, Suite U232, Jackson MS 39215, call Harry Gong, P.E., Project Manager at 601-576-7518.

The BID SCHEDULE may be examined at the following locations:

- Mississippi Procurement Technical Assistance Program (MPTAP)

Mississippi Development Authority, Minority & Small Business Development
Woolfolk Building
501 North West Street, Suite B-01
Jackson, MS 39201
Contact: LaTisha Landing 601-359-3448

The Standard Specifications adopted by the City Council may be procured from the Department of Public Works, if desired upon payment of \$5.00 dollars for each specification.

A Pre-Bid Conference will be held on February 25, 2022 at 9 am. The meeting will be held at the Hood Building in the Andrew Jackson Room on the 1st Floor. The Hood Building is located at 200 South President Street, Jackson, MS 39205.

Bidders must be qualified under Mississippi law and possess a certificate of responsibility issued by the Mississippi State Board of Contractors establishing its classification as to the value and type of construction on which it is authorized to bid. Each bidder must deposit with its proposal, a bid bond or certified check in an amount equal to five percent (5%) of the total bid for the work, payable to the City of Jackson, as the bid security.

The successful bidder shall furnish a Performance Bond and Payment Bond each in the amount of one hundred percent (100%) of the contract amount awarded. Attorneys-in-fact who sign Bid Bonds or Payment Bonds and Performance Bonds must file with each bond a certified and effective dated copy of their power of attorney.

Proposals shall be submitted in triplicate, sealed and deposited with the City of Jackson's City Clerk prior to the hour and date designated above. Each bidder shall write its certificate of responsibility number on the outside of the sealed envelope containing its proposal.

The City of Jackson reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to waive any and all informalities

Charles Williams, PE, PhD
City Engineer, Department of Public Works

2/10/2022, 2/17/2022

LEGAL

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS – NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS
OB CURTIS WATER TREATMENT PLANT WINTERIZATION PROJECT
JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI

Sealed bids will be received by the City of Jackson, Mississippi, until 3:30 P.M. CST, Tuesday, March 15, 2022 at the City Clerk's Office located at 219 S. President St., for supplying all labor, materials and equipment as required under the plans and specifications for the construction of OB CURTIS WATER TREATMENT PLANT WINTERIZATION PROJECT, SRF LOAN NO. DWI-L250008-03. Please address envelope to City Clerk, P.O. Box 17, Jackson, MS 39205.

The entire project must be completed within three hundred-thirty (330) calendar days. The contract will be subject to liquidated damages in the amount of five hundred dollars (\$500.00) per calendar day for each consecutive calendar day in which the contract time is exceeded.

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 an 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. 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 Yika Hoover with the office of Economic Development at (601) 960-1611 or by email: thoover@jacksonms.gov. Copies of the ordinance, EBO Plan Applications and a copy of the Program are available at 200 South President Street, Warren Hood Building, Second Floor, Jackson, Mississippi.

The City of Jackson, Mississippi ("City of Jackson") is committed to cultivating and ensuring the quality of life of its citizens, through various programs, employment, initiatives, and assistance. The City encourages all persons, corporations, and/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 strongly considering City residents for employment opportunities.

The City of Jackson hereby notifies all bidders that in compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, 42 U.S.C. 2000d 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 consideration for an award.

Minority and women's business enterprises are solicited to bid on this contract as prime contractors and are encouraged to make inquiries regarding potential subcontracting opportunities and equipment, material and/or supply needs.

This contract is funded in whole or in part by funds from the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 214 (H.R. 3547); therefore, this project must comply with the American Iron and Steel Requirements of the Act.

Any contract or contracts awarded under this invitation for bids are expected to be funded in whole or in part by anticipated funds from the Drinking Water Systems Improvements Revolving Loan Fund (DWSIRLF) loan program from the State of Mississippi. Neither the State of Mississippi, the Local Governments and Rural Water Systems Improvements Board, the MS Department of Health, the MS Commission on Environmental Quality, nor any of their employees, is or will be a party to this invitation for bids or any resulting or related contracts. This procurement will be subject to all applicable sections of the Mississippi Code of 1972, Annotated, as they apply to local governments, in accordance with Appendix D of the DWSIRLF Program Regulations.

The PLANS, SPECIFICATIONS AND CONTRACT DOCUMENTS may be examined at the following locations:

- Office of the Consulting Engineer: Cornerstone Engineering LLC, located at 600 Northside Drive, Suite A, Clinton, MS 39056, call Mauricka McKenzie, P.E., Project Engineer at 601-473-2403 office. One copy of the Plans, Specifications and Contract Documents may be procured from the Consulting Engineer, upon payment of \$250, none of which is refundable.

- Official bid documents can be downloaded from Central Bidding at www.centralbidding.com. Electronic bids can be submitted at www.centralbidding.com. For any questions relating to the electronic bidding process, please call Central Bidding at 225-810-4814.

- Office of the MSDH/DWSIRLF Program: located at 570 East Woodrow Wilson, Suite U232, Jackson MS 39215, call Harry Gong, P.E., Project Manager at 601-576-7518.

The BID SCHEDULE may be examined at the following locations:

- Mississippi Procurement Technical Assistance Program (MPTAP)
Mississippi Development Authority, Minority & Small Business Development

Woolfolk Building
501 North West Street, Suite B-01
Jackson, MS 39201
Contact: LaTisha Landing 601-359-3448

The Standard Specifications adopted by the City Council may be procured from the Department of Public Works, if desired upon payment of \$5.00 dollars for each specification.

A Pre-Bid Conference will be held on February 25, 2022 at 11 am. The meeting will be held at the Hood Building in the Andrew Jackson Room on the 1st Floor. The Hood Building is located at 200 South President Street, Jackson, MS 39205.

Bidders must be qualified under Mississippi law and possess a certificate of responsibility issued by the Mississippi State Board of Contractors establishing its classification as to the value and type of construction on which it is authorized to bid. Each bidder must deposit with its proposal, a bid bond or certified check in an amount equal to five percent (5%) of the total bid for the work, payable to the City of Jackson, as the bid security.

The successful bidder shall furnish a Performance Bond and Payment Bond each in the amount of one hundred percent (100%) of the contract amount awarded. Attorneys-in-fact who sign Bid Bonds or Payment Bonds and Performance Bonds must file with each bond a certified and effective dated copy of their power of attorney.

Proposals shall be submitted in triplicate, sealed and deposited with the City of Jackson's City Clerk prior to the hour and date designated above. Each bidder shall write its certificate of responsibility number on the outside of the sealed envelope containing its proposal.

The City of Jackson reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to waive any and all informalities

Charles Williams, PE, PhD
City Engineer, Department of Public Works

2/10/2022, 2/17/2022

LEGAL

LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS
INTRODUCTION / INVITATION

The City of Jackson, Department of Parks and Recreation is seeking assistance from companies or individuals desiring to manage and operate concessions at the Pete Brown Golf Facility and/or the Grove Park Municipal Golf Course.

RFP Packet Requests: Packets are available at www.centralbidding.com or by emailing Patrice Bernard at pbernard@jacksonms.gov. If a response is not received with 24 hours, it is the responsibility of the requester to call 601-960-0716, to confirm receipt of the RFP request.

Hand Delivery Submittal: You are required to send one (1) original and two (2) copies of the completed, signed, and sealed envelope addressed to: the Office of the City Clerk, 219 South President Street, Jackson, MS 39201, until: Tuesday, March 15, 2022, until 3:30 p.m., CST.

Electronic RFP Submittal: This RFP is also posted on the Central Bidding website at: www.centralbidding.com. You may submit your RFP electronically through this provider, until: Tuesday, March 15, 2022, until 3:30 p.m., CST.


- 1) You are required to send one (1) original and two (2) copies of all information being submitted, this includes your Proposal Form, completed EBO Application, Acknowledgement of the Covid-19 Second Amended Guidelines Executive Order and any information with your RFP (pricing section, research data sheets, booklets, pamphlets, etc.).
- 2) The Request For Proposal (RFP) must be signed by any officer of the company, legally authorized to enter into a contractual relationship in the name of the proposer. For purposes of this Request For Proposal (RFP), the term "bid" shall mean (RFP).
- 3) Failure to comply with any of the aforementioned requirements may result in the Request For Proposal (RFP) being rejected as non-responsive.
- 4) The City will issue responses to inquiries and any other corrections or amendments it deems necessary in written addenda issued prior to the Request For Proposal (RFP) due date. Submitters should not rely on any representations, statements, or explanations other than those made in this Request for Request For Proposal (RFP) or in any addendum to this Request For Request For Proposal (RFP).
- 5) The City may reject any and all statements of qualifications, and reserves the right to waive any technicalities, irregularities, or informalities in any Request For Proposal (RFP) or in the proposed procedure.

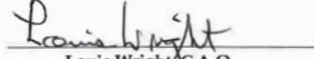
RFP Advertisement Dates:	News Papers:
Thursday, February 10, 2022 thru Sunday, February 20, 2022	Mississippi Link, Northside Sun, Clarion Ledger, Jackson Advocate & LaNoticia

RFP Pre-Bid Conference Date:	
Date:	Wednesday, March 2, 2022
Time:	1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. CST
Location:	Via LifeSize Virtual Conferencing ➡ The LifeSize Cloud software can be downloaded to any device from this link: https://call.lifesizecloud.com/download ➡ Join the meeting: https://call.lifesizecloud.com/2973481 ➡ Call in by Phone (audio only): United States: +1 (312) 584-2401, Meeting extension: 2973481#

RFP Bid Opening Date:	
Date:	Tuesday, March 15, 2022
Time:	3:30 p.m. CST
Location:	City Hall 219 South President Street Jackson, MS 39201

The City of Jackson reserves the right to reject any and all proposals and to waive irregularities and informalities in the submittal and evaluation process. This RFP does not obligate the City of Jackson to pay any costs incurred by respondents in the preparation and submission of a proposal. The City reserves the right to negotiate equipment specifications regardless of the proposal design. Furthermore, the RFP does not obligate the City to accept or contract for any expressed or implied services.


Ison B. Harris, Jr., Director
Department of Parks and Recreation


Louis Wright, C.A.O.
Office of the Mayor

2/10/2022 c2/17/2022

LEGAL

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT A PUBLIC HEARING IS SET FOR MONDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2022, AT 10:00 A.M. IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS OF CITY HALL, 219 S. PRESIDENT STREET, JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI 39201. IT IS HEREBY SCHEDULED TO DISCUSS THE RENAMING OF REVEREND DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DRIVE FROM MAPLE STREET TO WATSON STREET TO MR. ROBERT "ROB JAY" JEUITT DRIVE.

IN CONSIDERATION OF THE FOLLOWING:

ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI HONORARY RENAMING REVEREND DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DRIVE FROM MAPLE STREET TO WATSON STREET TO MR. ROBERT "ROB JAY" JEUITT DRIVE.

2/10/2022

LEGAL

Electronic Bidding
Advertisement for Bids

Electronic Bidding
Re-Bid 3194 Wells APAC Renovation

Electronic and sealed bid proposals for the above bid will be received by the Board of Trustees of the Jackson Public School District, in the Business Office, 662 South President Street, Jackson, Mississippi, until 10:00 A.M. (Local Prevailing Time, March 04, 2022 at which time and place they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Pre-Bid Conferences concerning the project for Renovations to Wells APAC Elementary will be held at 1120 Riverside Drive, Jackson, MS 39202 on Friday, February 11, 2022 at 3:30 PM. Attendance at the pre-bid conference is non-mandatory but strongly suggested. The Board of Trustees reserves the right to reject any and all bids, to waive informalities, and to withhold the acceptance of any bid if approved for forty-five calendar days from the date bids are opened

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

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

2/3/2022, 2/10/2022

LEGAL

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT A PUBLIC HEARING IS SET FOR MONDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2022, AT 10:00 A.M. IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS OF CITY HALL, 219 S. PRESIDENT STREET, JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI 39201. IT IS HEREBY SCHEDULED TO DISCUSS THE RENAMING OF AMITE STREET FROM GALLATIN STREET TO ROBINSON ROAD TO DR. JOHN M. PERKINS DRIVE. IN CONSIDERATION OF THE FOLLOWING:

ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI ESTABLISHING THE HONORARY RENAMING OF AMITE STREET FROM GALLATIN STREET TO ROBINSON ROAD TO DR. JOHN M. PERKINS DRIVE.

2/10/2022

LEGAL

2/3/2022, 2/10/2022



Find the right senior living option for your mom or dad with our personalized process

Our service is free, as we're paid by our participating communities and providers.



1-855-530-0567

aPlace for Mom.

THE PLACE FOR SENIOR LIVING ADVICE

Prepare for power outages with a Generac home standby generator

REQUEST A FREE QUOTE!
844-316-8630

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

Limited Time Offer - Call for Details

Special Financing Available
Subject to Credit Approval

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





DENTAL Insurance

If you've put off dental care, it's easy to get back on track. Call Physicians Mutual Insurance Company now for inexpensive dental insurance. Get help paying for the dental care you need.

Getting back to the dentist couldn't be easier!

CALL TODAY
1-855-584-8517
Dental50Plus.com/mspress

Get your **FREE** Information Kit

Product not available in all states. Includes the Participating (in GA: Designated) Providers and Preventive Benefits Rider. Acceptance guaranteed for one insurance policy/certificate of this type. Contact us for complete details about this insurance solicitation. This specific offer is not available in CO, NY, call 1-800-969-4781 or respond for similar offer. Certificate C250A (ID: C250E; PA: C250Q); Insurance Policy P150 (GA: P150GA; NY: P150NY; OK: P150OK; TN: P150TN). Rider kinds: B438, B439 (GA: B439B). 6208-0721

PICK UP

THE MISSISSIPPI LINK

AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS:

JACKSON
BULLY'S RESTAURANT
3118 Livingston Road
CASH & CARRY
Capitol Street and Monument Street
CITY HALL
219 S President St
GARRETT OFFICE COMPLEX
2659 Livingston Road
DOLLAR GENERAL
3957 Northview Dr (North Jackson)
DOLLAR GENERAL
2030 N Siwell Rd
DOLLAR GENERAL
4331 Highway 80W
DOLLAR GENERAL
5990 Medgar Evers Blvd
DOLLAR GENERAL
1214 Capitol St (Downtown Jackson)
DOLLAR GENERAL
304 Briarwood Dr
DOLLAR GENERAL
2855 McDowell Rd
DOLLAR GENERAL
104 Terry Rd
J & A FUEL STORES
3249 Medgar Evers Blvd.
LIBERTY BANK AND TRUST
2325 Livingston Rd.
MCDADÉ'S MARKET
Northside Drive
MCDADÉ'S MARKET #2
653 Duling Avenue
PICADILLY CAFETERIA
Jackson Medical Mall
350 W Woodrow Wilson Avenue
SHELL FOOD MART
5492 Watkins Drive

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

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

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

VOWELL'S MARKET PLACE
5777 Terry Road
CITY HALL
Terry Road

CLINTON
DOLLAR GENERAL
807 Berkshire St - Clinton, MS

TERRY
SERVICE STATION
at Exit 78
CITY HALL
West Cunningham Avenue

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

UTICA
HUBBARD'S TRUCK STOP
Mississippi Hwy 18
PITT STOP
101 Hwy 18 & 27

BOLTON
BOLTON LIBRARY
BOLTON CITY HALL

MCAN

Mississippi Classified Advertising Network

To place your statewide classified ad order, call MS Press Services at 601-981-3060

Business Opp

SERIOUS CASH FROM HOME. You can make some serious CASH From Home in Your spare time... Call the Serious CASH from Home hotline (NOW) for Your materials. Call 888-459-0013.

Classes / Training

COMPUTER & IT TRAINING PROGRAM! Train ONLINE to get the skills to become a Computer and Help Desk Professional now! Grants and Scholarships available for certain programs for qualified applicants. Call CTI for details! 833-992-0228 (M-F 8am-6pm ET)

For Sale

GENERAC STANDBY GENERATORS provide backup power during utility power outages, so your home and family stay safe and comfortable. Prepare now. Free 7-year extended warranty (\$695 value!). Request a free quote today! Call for additional terms and conditions. 1-844-316-8630
THE GENERAC PWRcell, a solar plus battery storage system. SAVE money, reduce your reliance on the grid, prepare for power outages and power your home. Full installation services available. \$0 Down Financing Option. Request a FREE, no obligation, quote today. Call 1-844-355-7099.

Insurance

AUTO INSURANCE STARTING AT \$49/ MONTH! Call for your fee rate comparison to see how much you can save! Call: 833-678-0500
DENTAL INSURANCE from Physicians Mutual Insurance Company. Coverage for 350 plus procedures. Real dental insurance - NOT just a discount plan. Do not wait! Call now! Get your FREE Dental Information Kit with all the details! 1 - 8 5 5 - 3 9 7 - 7 0 4 5
www.dental50plus.com/mspress #6258

Medical Supplies

VIAGRA and CIALIS USERS! 50 Pills SPECIAL \$99.00 FREE Shipping! 100% guaranteed. CALL NOW! 844-821-3242

Miscellaneous

DONATE YOUR CAR TO CHARITY. Receive maximum value of write off for your taxes. Running or not! All conditions accepted. Free pickup. Call for details. 855-400-8263
STATEWIDE CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING at one low rate in up to 95 newspapers. Mississippi Press Services - Call Sue. 601-981-3060

Pets/Livestock

USE HAPPY JACK ToneKote on dogs and cats to insure a warm winter coat, prevent shedding and eliminate doggy odor. At Tractor Supply (www.happyjack-inc.com)

Services-General

DIRECTV FOR \$69.99/mo for 12 months with CHOICE Package. Watch your favorite live sports, news and entertainment anywhere. One year of HBO Max FREE. Directv is #1 in Customer Satisfaction (JD Power and Assoc.) Call for more details! (some restrictions apply) Call 1-855-978-3110
DISH Network. \$64.99 for 190 Channels! Blazing Fast Internet, \$19.99/mo. (where available.) Switch & Get a FREE \$100 Visa Gift Card. FREE Voice Remote. FREE HD DVR. FREE Streaming on ALL Devices. Call today! 1-8 7 7 - 6 2 8 - 3143

Services-Legal

If you or a loved one worked around the pesticide **ROUNDUP** (glyphosate), for at least two years and has been diagnosed with non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, you may be entitled to compensation. To learn more, call now: 844-327-3556

Services-Medical

LOOKING FOR ASSISTED LIVING, memory care, or independent living? A Place for Mom simplifies the process of finding senior living at no cost to your family. Call 1-855-530-0567 today!
STROKE AND CARDIOVASCULAR DISEASE are leading causes of death, according to the American Heart Association. Screenings can provide peace of mind or early detection! Contact Life Line Screening to schedule your screening. Special offer - 5 screenings for just \$149. Call 1-855-393-5067.

Crossword Puzzle

1	2	3		4	5	6	7	8	9
10				11					
12				13					
14				15			16		
17					18	19			
			20	21		22	23	24	25
26	27	28		29	30				
31			32				33		
34							35		
36							37		

ACROSS

1. Farm credit administration (abbr.)

4. Reflected annoyingly

10. Gent

11. Not as difficult

12. Three

13. Bottle need

14. Fixed in place, earlier

16. South southwest

17. Sweet and ___ sauce

18. You

20. State of being

22. Assistant

26. That girl

29. Mistakes

31. Iran

33. Toddler

34. Nearly

35. Baboon

36. Cramps

37. South southeast

DOWN

1. What a pancake does

2. Egyptian capital

3. Bye

4. Heredity component

5. Common people

6. Poisonous snake

7. Holes

8. Snaky fish

9. Sketched

15. ___ Lanka

19. Hearing part

21. Quake

23. Tiny amounts

24. Beads

25. Sugar-free brand

26. Baths

27. Rescue

28. Writer Bombeck

30. Rodents

32. Distress call

Crossword Solution

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

© Feature Exchange

Week of February 6, 2022

Black unemployment rate improves amid historic jobs report

By Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Newswire Contributor

America – and most notably Black America – is back to work, declared President Joe Biden as he announced one of the most robust job reports in modern times. “History has been made here,” the president declared.

The economy created 467,000 jobs in January, and the unemployment rate for black workers fell to 6.9 percent and dropped to 5.8 percent for African-American women. The president highlighted the 6.6 million jobs added to the U.S. economy in the year since he took office.

“It comes alongside the largest drop in the unemployment rate in a single year on record, the largest reduction in childhood poverty ever recorded in a single year, and the strongest economic growth this country

has seen in nearly 40 years,” President Biden asserted.

He also acknowledged the struggles that many American families still face, noting that prices have increased sharply during the pandemic.

“Average people are getting clobbered by the cost of everything,” President Biden said. “Gas prices at the pump are up. We’re working to bring them down, but they’re up. Food prices are up. We’re working to bring them down as well.” White House officials said they plan to enact policies to slow inflation.

Before the president’s remarks, the U.S. House of Representatives voted 222-210 to pass the COMPETES Act, a bill to help America keep up with China in the semiconductor chip industry. The legislation seeks to tackle such economic issues

as supply chain disruptions and a global shortage of semiconductor chips, essential for producing smartphones, medical equipment and cars.

The bill would introduce several changes to American trade rules to level the playing field for domestic businesses and combat China’s market-distorting trade practices.

“Democrats are prepared to build on this extraordinary economic momentum: continuing our work to lower families’ costs, strengthen our supply chains, and make more goods in America,” House Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.) declared. “Under the leadership of President Biden and House Democrats, our nation will continue to Build Back Better to create more good-paying jobs and lower costs for families across America,” Pelosi stated.



MAXEY
EDELMAN
DERFNER
BERGMARK
ANDERSON
BANKS
EDELMAN
HIGGS
KINOY
LEVENTHAL
ANDERSON
PARKER
HALL
BROWN
YOUNG

HOW LAWYERS PROTECTED THE MOVEMENT

PRESENTED BY BUTLER SNOW & THE FOUNDATION FOR MISSISSIPPI HISTORY

THE DEFENDERS

PREMIERES THURSDAY | FEBRUARY 24, 2022 | 7PM
TWO MISSISSIPPI MUSEUMS

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT INFO@MDAH.MS.GOV



New Hope Baptist Church

Dr. Jerry Young, Pastor

5202 Watkins Drive, Jackson, MS 39206



~ 2022 Eleventh Annual ~

“Back In The Day”, A **VIRTUAL** Black History Celebration

No Vote-No Voice: Your Choice

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2022 | 6:45 PM

Mississippi Civil Rights Legends Honorees

Musical Guest



James H.
MEREDITH



Fannie Lou
HAMER (posthumously)



Ashford
SANDERS
(Finalist)



Featuring:
New Hope Mass Choir,
New Hope Christian School
students and other youth!

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2022 | 6:45 PM

“A Generational Conversation on Voting”

Musical Guest



LaTosha
BROWN



Flonzie B.
WRIGHT



Daphne
CHAMBERLAIN



Jerry Smith and the
CHILDREN OF ISRAEL



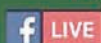
Presentation of the **Dr. Obadiah Myles Humanitarian Award**

Sponsored by the **BLACK HISTORY MINISTRY!** For information, contact:
Dr. Flonzie Brown-Wright, Project Director, 601-981-8696 or 601-366-7002



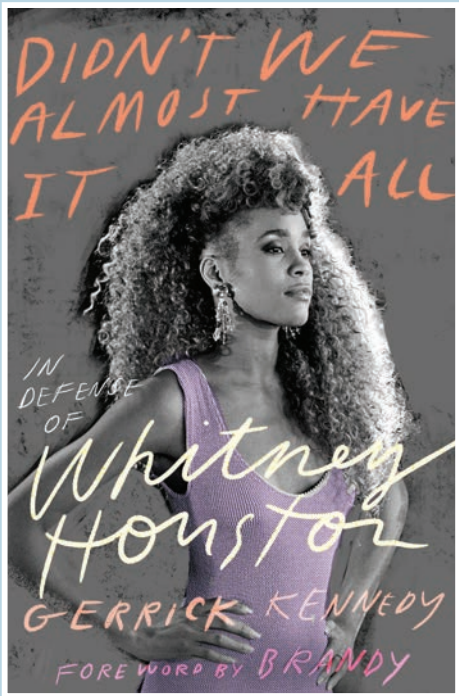
This program is financially assisted by the National Endowment
for the Humanities through the Mississippi Humanities Council.

Featured on the website, Facebook and YouTube channel!



www.newhope-baptist.org





BOOK REVIEW:

DIDN'T WE ALMOST HAVE IT ALL?

IN DEFENSE OF WHITNEY HOUSTON

BY GERRICK KENNEDY, FOREWORD BY BRANDY

C.2022, ABRAMS PRESS

\$28.00 • 306 PAGES

By Terri Schlichenmeyer
Columnist

That song. It always makes you want to dance with somebody. It gets your feet shuffling and your behind bouncing and the lyrics pour out of your mouth. And that singer who first sang it to you...? You know what happened to her, but in “Didn’t We Almost Have It All?” by Gerrick Kennedy, you’ll get a few more pieces of the puzzle. She died two days after he met her “in a room inside the Beverly Hilton...”



Gerrick Kennedy fell in love with Whitney Houston in a movie theater when he was just five years old. He purchased her music as a teen, followed her career closely, he met her once, and even now, his partner knows whose music is blasting when he sees Kennedy “floating away” with “earbuds poking out of my ears.” Now, nearly ten years since her death, Kennedy believes it’s time for a reckoning. “We missed so much the first time around,” he says, and we need to look at Houston’s contribution to “our dialogue around

celebrity, addiction... mental illness and blackness in America...” “To fully appreciate the anointing that graced Whitney’s voice, it’s essential to understand the almighty power of Cissy Houston.” Indeed, Houston learned at her mother’s knee about God and gospel music – knowledge that came from a far-back source: Cissy’s parents put church and choir center in her life. God was a beacon to Whitney, and other musical talents – cousins Dee Dee and Dionne Warwick and

“auntie” Aretha – further guided the young Houston. Her first album rose to Number One on the charts; “She was on fire out the gate...” says Kennedy. Most people remember the power of her biggest hit, that “BOOM,” he says, before Houston’s voice soars, but a combination of drugs, bad decisions and a bad relationship plagued her toward the end of her life. We watched “in horror” as she slid and “By the early aughts we were all watching, waiting... for the worst to happen...” In his introduction, author

Gerrick Kennedy indicates that he wanted his book about Houston to be different from all the others, more meaning, less trouble. He succeeded. To a point. It’s difficult to extricate Houston the icon from Houston the megastar – they are mostly one in the same – and stepping back two generations or profiling other singers and music executives doesn’t help as much as Kennedy asserts. That stuff is all fluff; interesting, but covered elsewhere. The best part of “Didn’t We

Almost Have It All?” comes in the latter third of the book. It’s there that Kennedy examines the depth of Houston’s contributions and the “meaning” of her decline and death to the black community. There’s a lot of introspection in it, as well as a shift in how we think about our celebrities. Tackle “Didn’t We Almost Have It All?,” therefore, and you can expect to see things you already know, but you can also expect to be delighted. It’s a fan’s book, for sure, and reading it might be the greatest love of all.



ZACK WALLACE
Hinds County Circuit Clerk

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

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

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

Jury Duty Recording:
Second Judicial District
(601) 857-8840

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

Services of the Clerk:

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

VOTER INFORMATION
Verify/Update your Registration Today

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


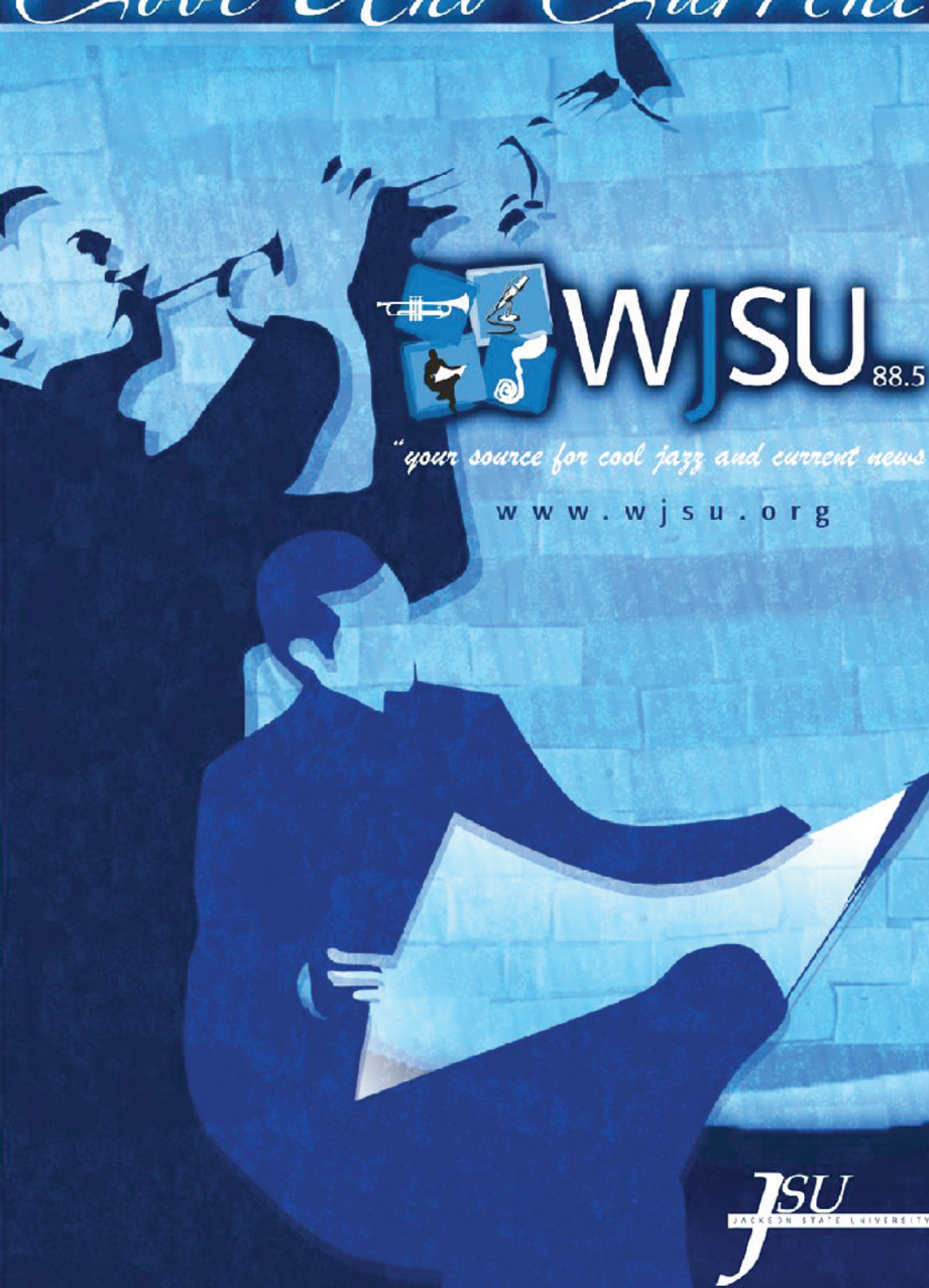
MARRIAGE INFORMATION

- Marriage License: \$36.00
 - Both applicants must come to the Circuit Clerk's office together to

must be provided in
river's License, Birth
Certificate or other legal document
which contains name and date of
birth.


Website: www.hindscountymms.com

Cool And Current



"your source for cool jazz and current news"

www.wjsu.org





WRTM-FM 100.5 FM, JACKSON'S SOUL, RHYTHM AND BLUES AND SOUTHERN SOUL STATION PLAYING MORE VARIETY, LESS TALK AND THE MUSIC ADULTS WANT TO HEAR!

Holmes County Coalition for Change honors Senator David Lee Jordan

By Jackie Hampton
Publisher

The Holmes County Coalition for Change presented Senator David Lee Jordan of the 24th District of Mississippi with a plaque of appreciation at the Mississippi state capital Wednesday morning at 11:30 a.m. Several pastors and legislators were present as the senator received praises for his work over the years.

Pastor Nathaniel Christian of Durant Baptist Church thanked Jordan for his leadership and his continuous, unwavering support of the constituents in the 24th district of Mississippi and beyond. He said, “You are that voice at the table and we appreciate you standing for us.” Christian said of the plaque, “the writing on the plaque is pure gold because you have a pure heart.”

Senator Derrick Simmons (D), Mississippi Senate Minority Leader, echoed similar sentiments. “We echo the sentiments of the coalition,” said Simmons.

Simmons said all the citizens of the great state of Mississippi has benefitted from the many accomplishments of Senator Jordan.

Jordan said he was so appreciative of being given the award. “I really appreciate having had the opportunity to serve the state of Mississippi,” he said.

Jordan told *The Mississippi Link*, “I have devoted my life to serving others. It’s a long way from the cotton field to the state senate. I have been blessed tremendously.”

Jordan has written a book entitled ‘From the Mississippi Cotton Fields to the State Senate,’ a Memoir. He tells the story of how he is lying in the fields, the black earth beneath him with the sky above and the sun filtering through the leaves of the cotton plants. The youngest of five children in a family of sharecroppers, he was nursed and grew up in those fields, joining his family in their work as soon as he was old enough to carry a sack.



Senator Jordan accepting plaque, surrounded by pastors and legislators

PHOTOS BY KEVIN BRADLEY



Chief Willie Mack and Senator Jordan with plaque in hand



(L-R) Police Chief Willie Mack, Pastor Anthony Woodard, Senator David Jordan

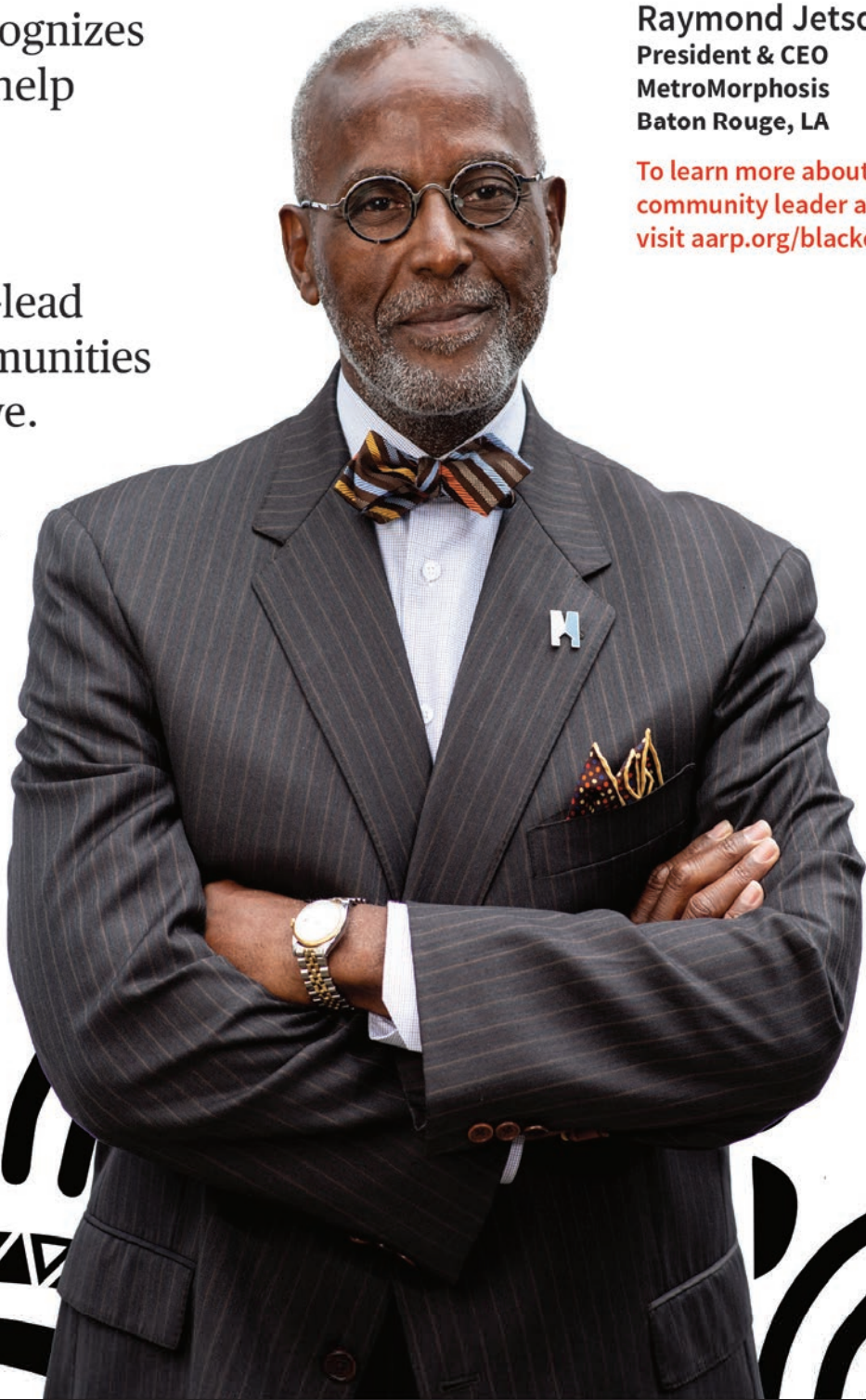


Honoring leaders giving back to their communities

During Black History Month, AARP recognizes leaders taking action to give back and help build up their communities.

Raymond Jetson, President and CEO of MetroMorphosis, partners with change-lead organizations to give Baton Rouge communities access to resources that help them thrive.

AARP believes the efforts of one person can truly make an impact. But when our efforts drive change for the greater good, we thrive together.



Raymond Jetson,
President & CEO
MetroMorphosis
Baton Rouge, LA

To learn more about this community leader and their journey, visit aarp.org/blackcommunity

Hinds County School District Weekly Update

ENGAGING-EMPOWERING-ENSURING-EXCELLENCE

The Hinds County School District recently held their qualifying rounds for Scripps National Spelling Bee. Each student participating took turns spelling their assigned word. Those spelling their word correctly moved on to the next round. The last student remaining was named champion. The next step for these students is the Hinds County Spelling Bee. Each school is able to send their champion and runner up to the County Spelling Bee. The winners of the County Spelling Bee will then compete at the state level. Please wish these students luck as they continue their championship journey.



Raymond Elementary School winners: 1st place – Tanna Purvis, 2nd place – Beyonca Watkins, 3rd place – Nathan Downing



Gary Road Elementary Champion, Jai Horn, 2nd Grade



UEMS Champion, Noah Watson, Runner Up – 7th Grader Shaylyn Thomas, Ms. Myles (Judge), Mrs. Coleman (Chair), and Mrs. McInnis (Pronouncer)



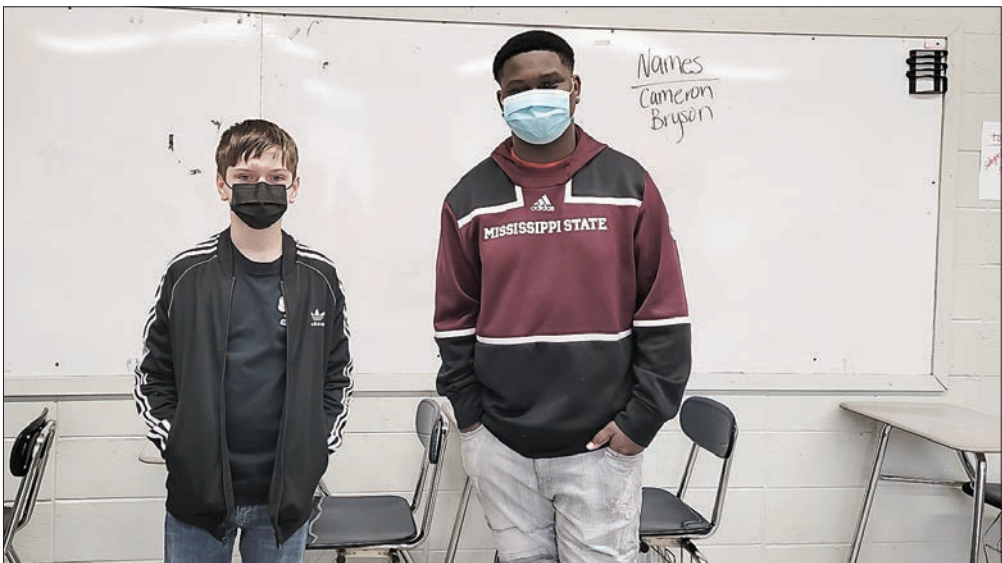
UEMS Champion : 4th Grader Noah Watson



GRI Champion, Mariya Norwood with Mrs. Green, Principal



GRI Runner Up, Layla Noel with Mrs. Green, Principal



Carver Middle School Champion, 8th Grader Dustin Waggoner. Runner Up: 8th Grader Jacobi Carroll



2022-2023

Pre-Kindergarten

Open Enrollment



Apply Now

Learn More

The HCSD is accepting applications for its 2022-2023 FOUR-YEAR OLD PRE-KINDERGARTEN PROGRAM from February 14, 2022 through March 7, 2022.

Qualifying children must be:

- 4 years of age on or before September 1, 2022
- A resident of the Hinds County School District
- Potty trained

Parents must provide the following documents at the time of the appointment:

1. Valid photo I.D.
2. Original birth certificate (Long Form)
3. Immunization Record (State of Mississippi Form # 121)
4. Proof of legal custody or guardianship
5. Two proofs of residency

Applications are available at www.hinds.k12.ms.us

or may be picked up at Bolton-Edwards Elementary/Middle School, Utica Elementary/Middle School, Gary Road Elementary School, Raymond Elementary School, or the Bolton, Edwards, Utica, and Terry libraries.