

A Night of Champions: JSU’s National Alumni Association’s fundraising event a major success



By Jackie Hampton
Publisher

The Jackson State University National Alumni Association (JSUNAA) hosted the 2022 Blue Tie Gala on April 9, 2022. It was held at the Jackson Convention Center on E. Pascagoula Street with more than 900 present.

The JSUNAA Blue Tie Gala

is a celebratory event honoring the commitment of alumni and partners who go above and beyond the call of duty to make a difference in the lives of students who are in need of financial support as they matriculate through their years at Jackson State University. According to an interview by *The Mississippi Link* with Dr. Earlexia

M. Norwood, president of the JSUNAA, it was a smashing success.

Norwood, who resides in Detroit, MI, said that more than two years ago, she had a vision of getting a million dollars into the JSU endowment account and also honor JSU legends that have made an impact throughout the world.

She recalled sitting next to pro football hall of famer Robert Brazile at a homecoming event when she told him that the school known as “Thee I Love” had never raised a million dollars in its’ endowment account and she would love for the association to raise a mil-

JSU
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When They See Us: an HBCU campaign that is uniting a community



By Daphne Monix Higgins
Contributing Writer

An HBCU is defined by the Department of Education as “any historically black college or university that was established prior to 1964, whose principal mission was, and is, the education of black Americans, and that is accredited by a nationally recognized accrediting agency or association determined by the Secretary [of Education] to be a reliable authority as to the quality of training offered or is, according to such an agency or association, making reasonable progress toward accreditation.”

Although this official title was created by the Higher Education Act of 1965, HBCUs have been in existence for more than 180 years, emerging after the Civil War (1961-1965) to offer black Americans a basic right – education.

Since it’s initiation, HBCUs have been a resource for generations of African Americans who may not have had the opportunity to continue their education, enter their chosen professions and/or build on a legacy of success through a nurturing environment; all while being underfunded both federally and within the states that house them.

The Jackson (MS) Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., understands the importance of properly funding HBCUs while helping them maintain their status of being a beacon to the African-American community by providing a safe place to learn, grow, empower students and encourage a reciprocal action of commitment through donations to an institution(s) whose student body consists primarily of people of color.

Mississippi’s largest chapter of the national sorority, Delta Sigma Theta, is sponsoring the When They See Us: HBCU Campaign, a fundraising venture that is

on track to raise its goal amount of \$100,000 by May 31, 2022. The earmarked money will be presented to the state’s five HBCUs with four years or more curriculums: Alcorn State University, Jackson State University, Mississippi Valley State University, Rust College and Tougaloo College.

Chapter members know that the funds collected during this project, which is being spearheaded by the local organization’s Social Action Committee, will make a real difference in the lives of students attending HBCUs in Mississippi.

When They See Us: HBCU Campaign originated January 12, 2022, with a virtual town hall that was viewed on Zoom, Facebook and YouTube simultaneously. Moderated by Shirley Tucker, the Mississippi State Coordinator for Social Action, and a member of the Jackson chapter; spoke with all of the state’s HBCU presidents participating in the program.

During this discussion, some of the dialogue shared included the following statements: Alcorn State University President Dr. Felecia M. Nave commented, “It’s important that when we bring a student in, we meet them where they are and provide them with the services they need. COVID has posed a challenge for recruitment, but HBCUs have had enrollment concerns for some time. Our pool of students across the state of Mississippi is declining, so we do have to think creatively, innovatively and collaboratively, and we’re doing just that.”

Jackson State University President Dr. Thomas Hudson stated, “Students want outcomes. They want to know how their lives will be changed by attending our institutions. We have to do a better job of marketing so that we can keep educational

When They See Us
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Part 2 What’s getting in the way of elected black leaders?

By Chris Young
Contributing Writer

In Part 1 of this three-part series, we laid out the inequity of black-owned business in the City of Jackson and Hinds County being awarded less than five percent of the contracts for goods and services. This happens despite most of our elected officials on the City Council and Board of Supervisors being African-American.

Every day that this dynamic continues, is another day that our black elected officials are hurting rather than helping our community through failing to advance our economic interests. Minimal jobs that truly pay a living wage, coupled with minimal,



Walker



Gavin

COMMENTARY

if any, benefits such as health insurance, continue to deprive our residents of opportunity to provide for their families beyond sheer survival.

Many reasons were put forth

in Part 1, they included: not coming together and working together as a unit, lack of sufficient capacity to be competitive, following through by providing a good work product, more affluent companies winning the bidding process, failing to fund

disparity studies that would ultimately give African-American companies more leverage, people not seeing the importance of getting along with each other and lack of advocacy.

This week I heard from Leroy G. Walker Jr., a long-time Jackson business magnet. He offered the following counsel: “The mindset has to change on both sides of the economic scale. There are no quick fixes. Fractured is the word that comes up along with negativity and mistrust. Mississippi does not lack good work; Mississippi lacks good people doing good work together. On one side of the scale

In the way
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Inside

**The Jackson family's
living legend
celebrates No. 100**



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Hand**



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A place to call home: Habitat for Humanity MS Capital Area and Nissan Canton partner on 14th home build

By Jackie Hampton
Publisher

Habitat for Humanity Mississippi Capital Area (HFHMCA) and Nissan employees gathered at 748 Broadmoor Drive in Jackson, April 7, to dedicate a new home purchased by the Primer family with a 30-year, zero-interest mortgage.

Nissan funded the house and employees built it.

In continuation of their partnership, Nissan Canton Vehicle Assembly Plant and HFHMCA have completed their 14th home. Over the course of the project nearly 70 Nissan employees made a personal commitment to build a home for Shenika Primer and her children.

It was a beautiful day for the gathering. Slade Exley, past board president of Habitat, MS Capital Area, extended a welcome and Merrill McKewen, executive director, recognized Nissan as a sponsor.

McKewen said in a press release to media, “What a joy it is to dedicate another home to a hard-working family. “Habitat for Humanity Mississippi Capital Area is grateful for Nissan’s continued support which enables us to better the lives of those we serve.”

Derek Polk, director of Paint & Plastics operations at the Nissan Canton Vehicle Assembly Plant, stated, “It’s

a humbling experience for Nissan-Canton team members to build a home for another deserving family. Nissan’s mission is to serve communities right in our own backyard and we are proud of our long standing partnership with Habitat for Humanity Capital Area to help us bring that mission to life.”

Primer and her children were apparently very excited about their new home as they listened to the speakers and participated in a house blessing responsorial led by Aileen Thomas, board secretary.

Primer said because of Habitat and Nissan she now has the opportunity to provide a place for her children to call home. She said, “I was overpaying for an apartment with electrical problems and plumbing issues. It was not a safe or healthy environment for my family. To know we will have a beautiful and affordable home to call ours is truly a dream come true. I am so thankful.”

Since 2005, Nissan has contributed more than \$19 million and more than 110,000 volunteer hours in 13 communities to Habitat for Humanity across the U.S.

The partnership began when Nissan donated 50 trucks and mobilized employees to assist in home building efforts following hurricanes Katrina and Rita.



Nissan volunteers and members of Habitat pose with the Primer family in front of their new home. PHOTOS BY JACKIE HAMPTON



Derek Polk (l) and Merrill McKewen, (r) with the Primer family in front of their new home



Attendees participating in house blessing responsorial



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JSU

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lion dollars. Brazile responded, "Come on Doc, let's do it." He committed to doing so and they did it. He committed to getting Walter Peyton and his wife Connie Peyton involved in helping and others such as coach Brady.

The Mississippi Link asked what would determine the success of such a large goal. And she responded, "Success for me would mean two things; No. 1, getting a million dollars in our endowment account, which we never had, and No. 2, to recognize our JSU legends whose shoulders we stand on." She added, "I'm happy to say both were accomplished."

Norwood said 100 honorary chairs throughout the country were asked to raise \$10,000, of which 40 met that goal. She stated that Dr. Jelani Zarif of Johns Hopkins Medicine, raised \$30,000. Norwood said she knew everyone

would not raise that amount of money but she was counting on others to over-achieve.

Norwood raised \$27,000 but she isn't done yet. She said, in addition, donors and sponsors help with their fundraising event.

Rev. Dennis Grant, pastor of Jerusalem Baptist Church in Brandon, is an alumni of JSU. He gave the invocation at the event and said he had one word for the success of the gala, "AMAZING."

Grant said due to the pandemic they had not had the gala for two years and commented that this event was first rate.

He said just being able to fellowship with so many friends brought tears to his eyes. "The Tiger Spirit was high," he said.

(See photo page 4)



Request for Proposals

The Jackson Medical Mall Foundation is requesting proposals for its Young Futurists Project. Businesses and organizations offering youth services are asked to submit proposals within the following service areas:

- Onsite and Virtual Tutoring,
- Agriculture Services,
- Culinary Services,
- Robotics,
- Quilting Services

Deadline to Apply: April 29, 2022

Visit jacksonmedicalmall.org/rfp for more information.



When They See Us

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attainment at the forefront by communicating with our young people. We are doing the best we can with what's available, but we must never undervalue our degrees from an HBCU. We must fight the narrative that our schools 'aren't good enough.' We know that we are good and that we can produce the best."

Mississippi Valley State University President Dr. Jerryl Briggs shared, "We, at HBCUs, know how to turn .15 into one dollar because we have to do different things to recruit students – deferred maintenance concerns of our institutions can be a challenge and it has been difficult, but we all are determined to be successful."

Rust College President Dr. Ivy R. Taylor stated that alumni support from the wallet is important. "We're seeing a new moment where folks who've not traditionally given to HBCUs are now discovering them. I would argue that the philanthropic community and corporate support has not been the same for HBCUs as it's been for other institutions of higher education." She added that financial support is important from everyone.

Tougaloo College President Dr. Carmen J. Walters said, "All of us have some of the best and brightest faculty on our campuses providing knowledge to our students. It's often hard to recruit and keep those professors, but because of their commitment to our students, they are providing a service that we really can't afford without support. Endowments are an important factor and can be the difference in making us successful."

When They See Us: HBCU Campaign, which will end May 31, 2022, has provided several informational sessions to help educate the public on the importance of HBCUs. Some of those things included marketing materials that identify each school and the campaign, highlighting each institution for a month with fun facts, interviews with various news outlets, and a virtual forum with the student body presidents of Mississippi HBCUs.

At the conclusion of the campaign, the chapter will invite the HBCU presidents to meet at a central location for a check presentation for the individual institutions.

Gwendolyn Handy, the president of the Jackson (MS) Alumnae Chapter, said, "A campaign of this magnitude gives students, especially first-generation students, an opportunity to be successful and to

complete their education. After one year, or sometimes one semester, students find themselves with a lack of funds to continue their education. Speaking from personal experience, being from a small rural town there was inequitable access to resources, a lack of support from the local high school, and the community. I found myself within one year faced with the possibility of having to return home, but through special funding provided by the HBCU I attended, I was able to continue my education and received my degree. The Jackson (MS) Alumnae Chapter wants to continue the tradition of giving back and helping those students who are financially burdened due to some type of disparity. This campaign truly reminds me of a Bible verse that I'd like to share with the community – Proverbs 11:25: "A generous person will prosper; whoever refreshes others will be refreshed."

Donations of any size will help ensure Mississippi HBCUs fiscal stability to thrive and survive on the foundation and purpose of HBCUs. You have the option to select which institution you would like your donation to go to or you may select "General Fund" that will split the total dollar amount between the (5) HBCUs. All donations are tax-deductible. Our fiscal agent for this fundraising campaign is The Foundation for the Mid South, Inc. This an exempt organization as described in Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code: EIN 72-1151070.

Ways to donate:

- Scan QR Code on all HBCU Campaign marketing materials See Attached document
- Text HBCU to 53555 to select an HBCU of their choice to support
- Visit our Chapter Website: www.jacksonmsalumnae.org
- Visit our Fundraiser Website: https://givebutter.com/WhenTheySeeUs_HBCUs

Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated, is a private, not-for-profit organization whose purpose is to provide assistance and support through established programs in local communities throughout the world. The sorority currently has 1,000 collegiate and alumnae chapters located in the United States, Canada, Japan (Tokyo and Okinawa), Germany, the Virgin Islands, Bermuda, the Bahamas, Jamaica, West Africa and the Republic of Korea.

In the way

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the minority entity must make sure that they have a solid business plan, a CPA, acceptable credit history, great track record on prior jobs, and capacity to fulfill the task at hand. To that end, the opportunities must be structured in such a way that a small business can participate in the job which is presented. A match pair relationship needs to be formed to make the job a win-win or shared responsibility for this shared project to succeed."

Vern Gavin, District 4 Supervisor, covered numerous aspects of what prevents African-American contractors from getting a higher share of awards by the County, while also focusing strongly on solutions. He advocates for a comprehensive plan that is accepted by the masses that is functional and beneficial to constituents. In order to achieve this, he stated, "It is essential to have meetings of the Board of Supervisors that are conducted in a cohesive manner toward development of the plan." He recalled the adage, "we need to keep the main thing the main thing." He also acknowledged the structural disadvantages faced by African Americans over generations, and that "we have overcome before...we just need to be thorough and methodical."

He emphasized how easy it is to get sidetracked and lost in meaningless paper and how it is a waste of taxpayer dollars when that happens. He cited the recent Critical Race Theory Legislation (Senate Bill 2113) now signed into law by Governor Reeves. This was done despite opposition from black legislators, community organizations and educators. This legislation doesn't even provide a definition of what Critical Race Theory is, or how it can apply. This further underscored his point and example of their method of madness to work against the minority population."

Gavin highlighted the next solution as being the most basic of all – coming together. He mentioned pooling our resources, both talent and finances, to work together as black elected leaders toward African-American advancement in our community. "When we work together developing economic engines in our community through education and training initiatives, and having black businesses awarded contracts here, with local employment that is not

from the bedroom communities, each dollar is multiplied by seven," he stated.

Gavin also reiterated something that Supervisor Credell Calhoun had stated in Part 1 of this series, that Legislation exists right now for minority contractors to receive up to 20% of awards, and so that, in effect, is policy. I asked Gavin if anything precluded him or his colleagues, as a whole, from advocating for black business in the county, and he answered, "Not at all."

I asked him if he will take the lead on bringing his colleagues together to put on a Community Forum to Promote Black Business, and he stated that "he certainly would," and looks forward to working collaboratively with local and black business leaders to make that happen.

The 3rd generation African-American owner of Marshall's Music & Books on Farish Street in Jackson, Maati Jones Primm, sees things very differently. She said, "Too many people spoil the broth." She spent years in Chicago and Cook County where she reports that they solved this injustice decades ago and black businesses and contractors are thriving now. She challenges our black elected officials to simply write an enforceable policy that requires all bids to include African-American businesses/contractors, or the bid will not be accepted. The only exception is when a contractor can prove that they cannot find sub-contractors for that particular job, in which case, a waiver could be accepted.

One question I haven't yet asked, and optimistically, maybe it will be answered in Part 3 next week –Does Jackson/Hinds have any heroes for black business? Where are the champions?

Numerous messages were left for Ward 5 Councilman Hartley, Ward 1 Councilman Foote, District 2 Supervisor Archie and Mayor of Terry Joseph Kendrick Jr., to no avail.

Brief contact was made with District 1 Supervisor Graham, but that was overcome by events. Contact was made with Mayor Lumumba's communications staff, but nothing materialized by press time. Hopefully these officials will make themselves available to share their perspectives in Part 3 of this series where the focus will be on ways to implement solutions to bring about change.



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2022 JSU National Alumni Association Blue Tie Gala

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PHOTOS BY JAY JOHNSON





Sexual Assault Awareness Month

By Vince Faust
Tips to Be Fit

April is “Sexual Assault Awareness Month.”

Approximately 1 in 5 women in the United States experience complete or attempted rape during their lifetime. More than 40% of abusive incidents to young girls happen in a school building or on school grounds. Only 3% of students who experience dating violence tell an authority figure, while 60% tell a friend. Studies have found that 23% of females and 14% of males, who ever experienced rape, physical violence or stalking by an intimate partner, first experienced some form of partner violence between ages 11 and 17. 81% of women and 43% of men reported experiencing some form of sexual harassment and/or assault in their lifetime. A 2013 study found that approximately 10% of high school students had reported physical victimization and 10% reported sexual victimization from a dating partner in their last 12 months before they were surveyed.

The estimated lifetime cost of rape is \$122,461 per victim.

Intimate partner violence (IPV) is a serious, preventable public health problem that affects millions of young Americans. The term “intimate partner violence” describes physical, sexual or psychological harm by a current or former partner or spouse. This type of violence can occur among heterosexual or same-sex couples and does not require sexual intimacy.

Our teens receive mixed mes-

sages about how to behave in relationships from their peers, adults in their lives and social media. A lot of these messages suggest violence in a relationship is normal. Violence is never acceptable. But there are reasons why it happens. Violence is related to certain risk factors.

Risks of having unhealthy relationships increase for teens who:

- Believe it’s okay to use threats or violence to get their way or to express frustration or anger.
- Use alcohol or drugs.
- Can’t manage anger or frustration.
- Hang out with violent peers.
- Have multiple sexual partners.
- Have a friend involved in dating violence.
- Are depressed or anxious.
- Have learning difficulties and other problems at school.
- Don’t have parental supervision and support.
- Witness violence at home or in the community.
- Have a history of aggressive behavior or bullying.

Violence can be prevented when teens, families, organizations and communities work together to implement effective prevention strategies.

It can be difficult to acknowledge that you or someone you care about is in an abusive relationship. Domestic violence does not always look the same, but there are some warning signs that may indicate you are in an unhealthy relationship.

Take a few minutes to answer these questions:

- Does your partner insult

you in public or in front of your friends?

- Does your partner treat you like you are stupid or call you names?
- Does your partner try to control what you do?
- Does your partner act really jealous of your friends or family?
- Does your partner blame you for his/her violence?
- Has your partner ever threatened to hurt you or him/herself if the relationship ends?

If you answered, “yes” to one or more of these questions, it is important for you to get help.

Physical violence can include pinching, hitting, shoving, or kicking. We see many children use them as play on many playgrounds. And they never learn that type of behavior is criminal. Emotional violence can include threatening a partner or harming his or her sense of self-worth. Some examples include name calling, controlling/jealous behaviors, consistent monitoring, shaming and bullying online, texting, or in person. This is everyday common behavior to most children when they play in a lot of schoolyards.

How many times have teens intentionally embarrassed each other? How many times have one group told its member not to play with one of the group? How many times does a group of teens isolate themselves from family and friends because it’s cool?

Sexually many teens force each other to engage in sex even when one of them doesn’t want to. The only reason given is that everyone else is doing it.

This type of behavior can negatively influence the development of normal healthy mental patterns. Those same negative patterns can increase the risk of physical injury, poor academic performance, binge drinking, suicide attempts, unhealthy sexual behaviors, substance abuse, negative body image, low self-esteem and violence in future relationships.

If you think your teen may be a victim of abuse, you must remember you are the most important resource and advisor for your child. Remind your teen that he or she deserves a violence free relationship and that abuse is never appropriate and never their fault. If you need support with this issue there are professional resources available.

If you find your son or daughter being controlled, abused or is violent with their partners tell your child that abuse and violence are not acceptable and that violence will not solve problems. Let them know when you truly care for someone you don’t hurt them or try to control them.

Abuse is a choice and there are resources and counselors that can help them understand the consequences, the alternatives to violence, and how to stop the abuse.

If you feel your teen can’t openly communicate with you about their relationship, let them know there are confidential resources and trained professionals are available to answer questions and help to avoid an unhealthy relationships.

Always let your teen know you are always available to talk.

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- <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/prevention.html>

Serena’s message to medical professionals: Listen to black women

By Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Newswire Senior Correspondent

Each year in the United States, about 700 people die during pregnancy or the year after. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, another 50,000 people each year have unexpected labor and delivery outcomes with serious short- or long-term health consequences.

“Every pregnancy-related death is tragic, especially because two in three of them are preventable,” the CDC said as the nation observes Black Maternal Health Week through April 17.

For tennis superstar Serena Williams, giving birth to her baby, it turned out, was a test for how loud and how often she would have to call out before finally being heard.

Williams penned an essay for *Elle Magazine’s* April issue, in which she recounted her reckoning that proved once again that black women remain three times more likely to die after childbirth than white women. She said she was almost one of them.

“I’ve suffered every injury imaginable, and I know my body,” Williams writes in the deeply personal essay, later adding: “Giving birth to my baby, it turned out, was a test for how loud and how often I would have to call out before I was finally heard.”

As Williams recounts, she had a “wonderful pregnancy” with her first child, Alexis Olympia, and even her epidural-free delivery was going



Williams

well – at first.

“By the next morning, the contractions were coming harder and faster. With each one, my baby’s heart rate plummeted. I was scared,” the 23-time Grand Slam winner wrote.

“Every time the baby’s heart rate dropped, the nurses would come in and tell me to turn onto my side. The baby’s heart rate would go back up, and everything seemed fine. Then, I’d have another contraction, and baby’s heart rate would drop again, but I’d turn over, and the rate would go back up, and so on and so forth.”

The CDC noted significant disparities in the birthing experience of black women in its most recent report.

The agency noted that black women are three times more likely to die from a pregnancy-related cause than white women. The agency said multiple factors contribute to these disparities, such as variation in quality healthcare, underlying chronic conditions, structural racism and implicit bias.

The CDC added that social determinants of health prevent many people from racial and ethnic minority groups from having fair economic, physical and emotional health opportunities.

After an emergency C-section, Williams gave birth to her daughter, Alexis. Afterward, she said she had to fight for her life. Already classified as a high risk for blood clots, Williams inquired whether she should receive heparin, a blood thinner.

“The response was, ‘Well, we don’t really know if that’s what you need to be on right now,’” Williams wrote. “No one was really listening to what I was saying.”

Despite excruciating pain, Williams continued to speak out to her healthcare providers. At one point, she felt paralyzed. “I couldn’t move at all,” she recounted. Aching and coughing to the point where her C-section stitches burst, Williams complained that she couldn’t breathe.

Four surgeries later, doctors discovered a blood clot in one of her arteries, a hematoma in her abdomen and other clots. She said the nurse she had previously spoken with told her that the medicine was making her crazy. Had she gone along with the nurse’s assertions, Williams could have died.

“Being heard and appropriately treated was the difference between life or death for me,” Williams asserted.

“I know those statistics would be different if the medical establishment listened.

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Jim Hill athletes power their way to victory in state Powerlifting Championship

The Mississippi Link Newswire

Jim Hill High scholar-athletes Brandon McGee and Kayla Smith won first place in their respective weight classes at the 2022 MHSAA Powerlifting State Championship. Brandon finished first in the 242 lb. weight class with a total weight of 1355 lbs. He is the first male powerlifter to win an individual state championship at Jim Hill High. Kayla finished first in her weight class to win an individual state championship. Smith set records in the squat, 360 lbs.; bench, 165 lbs.; deadlift, 350 lbs.; and total weight, 875 lbs.

Jim Hill's girls were state runners-up in the recent state championship, and a couple set class 5A state records in their respective weight classes. Those scholar-athletes are:

Shadia Robinson, 130 lbs. bench, 198 lbs.
Chanell Huntley, 130 lbs. bench, 220 lbs.

Shortly after this year's championship, eight members of the powerlifting team were offered scholarships from Blue Mountain College, a small Christian college located in northeast Mississippi 40 minutes from Tupelo and an hour from Memphis.

"For a long time, there were no opportunities to continue powerlifting after high school for athletes in the state of Mississippi. Now, there is," said Jerrell Howell, head powerlifting coach at Blue Mountain College.

"It is not just the opportunity to continue powerlifting, it is an opportunity to get an education and open doors for so many young athletes that they didn't know could open and on scholarship, making college more affordable for more powerlifting athletes."



Murrah High receives 2021 College Success Award Gold Recognition

The Mississippi Link Newswire

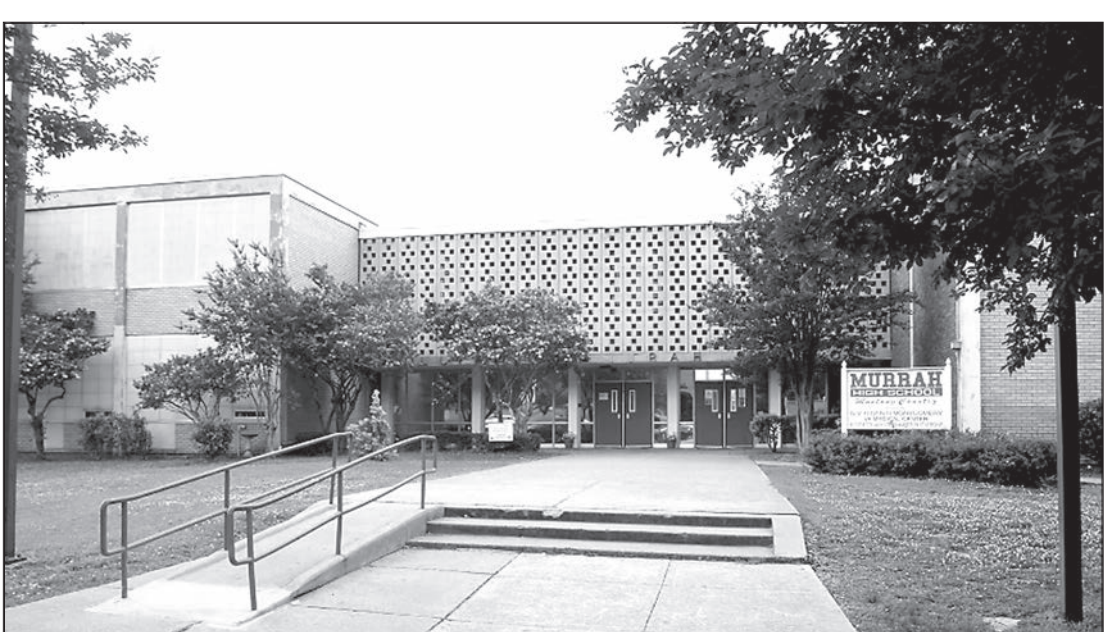
GreatSchools.org awarded Murrah High a 2021 College Success Award among 70 Mississippi high schools for excelling at preparing students to enroll and succeed in college.

In 2021, GreatSchools added the College Success Award – Gold. The Gold recognition is an elevated distinction given to schools, like Murrah, with a multi-year track record of success, as evidenced by the school winning two or more College Success Awards.

"We applaud Mississippi schools for prioritizing high-quality public education, putting students on the path to bright futures," said Jon Deane, CEO of GreatSchools.org.

"Over the past two years, students, parents, teachers and communities have relied on one another like never before. We congratulate and thank everyone for their unwavering pursuit of college success for all students."

GreatSchools is the leading



nonprofit providing high-quality information that supports parents pursuing a great education for their child, schools striving for excellence and communities working to diminish inequities in education. It has conducted the College Success Award annually since 2018.

Mississippi schools recognized for 2021 were undeterred by the pandemic's challenges and provided the critical data transparency needed to help communities understand paths to success from high school to college. The College Success Award is possible because Mississippi is among states leading the nation in both collecting and

transparently sharing information on how students perform after high school, which is valuable information for families, educators and policymakers.

For a complete list of winners visit www.greatschools.org/mississippi/college-success-award/.

Learning from the past: Tougaloo College Insititute partners with MS Center for Investigative Reporting



Tougaloo College President, Dr. Carmen J. Walters

The Mississippi Link Newswire

The Tougaloo College Institute for the Study of Modern Day Slavery (ISMDS) and the Mississippi Center for Investigative Reporting (MCIR) have established a collaboration based on student/faculty mentorships to research "cold cases." The cases involved crimes against minorities that were not sufficiently investigated or resolved leaving innocent people – mainly minorities – arrested and convicted of serious crimes.

"The unique collaboration between the ISMDS and MCIR will enable our scholars to connect with leading investigators and expert faculty who are passionate about exploring cold cases and exposing injustices for victims' families denied justice. The investigative training and mentorship opportunities will be a real opportunity for our scholars to have exposure to real-life unsolved cases, find new information, uncover the truth and offer new insights. This work will be invaluable to our scholars' educational experiences, law enforcement and victimized families. I am excited and looking forward to learning more about the collaboration's discovery and new learning," said Tougaloo College President, Dr. Carmen J. Walters.

The collaboration is under the leadership of Dr. Stephen L. Rozman and Professor Johnnie Maberry, co-directors of the ISMDS; Ian Isaacs, co-founder and executive director of MCIR; and Jerry Mitchell, co-founder of MCIR.

In addition, five pre-law students, Montae'l Williams (English), Jada Pittman (Economics), Pierrerasa Goodwin (Psychology), Kevana Funches (Political Science) and Amber Magee (Political Science), will be engaged in cold case research.

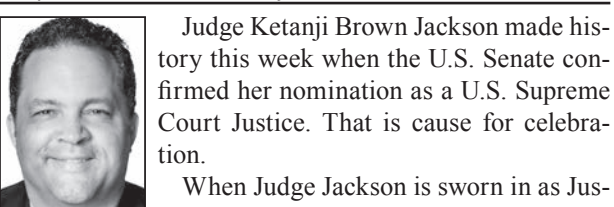
These scholars will be mentored by Attorney Julian D. Miller, Assistant Professor of Political Science and Director of the Reuben V. Anderson Institute for Social Justice and the Reuben V. Anderson Pre-Law Program; as well as faculty members from the scholars' major departments, including Dr. Miranda Freeman (English), Dr. Elsa Mohamed (Economics), Dr. Carmen Lewin (Psychology), Dr. Wanda McGowan (Political Science).

Cynthia Newhall, ISMDS outreach coordinator, will coordinate ongoing activities with MCIR and relationships with community organizations engaged in prison reform work.

Funding for the project will be provided by ISMDS, from their grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, and by MCIR.

Far-right smears of Judge Jackson show why we can't let them take power

By Ben Jealous
People For the American Way



Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson made history this week when the U.S. Senate confirmed her nomination as a U.S. Supreme Court Justice. That is cause for celebration.

When Judge Jackson is sworn in as Justice Jackson later this year, she will become the first black woman to serve on our highest court. And she will become the first justice ever to have served as a public defender. She will bring a much-needed “justice for all” perspective to the court.

Judge Jackson’s nomination has inspired millions of Americans. Her bipartisan support from Americans and senators is a sign that our country can continue to move toward a “more perfect union.”

The confirmation process, however, showed us something else; something far more disturbing about the current state of that union.

The far-right wing of the conservative movement, which is currently the dominant force in the Republican Party, set out to smear Judge Jackson and anyone – Republican or Democrat – who supported her. They made it clear why we cannot allow them to take power in this year’s elections.

They dragged Judge Jackson into dishonest and dishonorable far-right political campaigns that were already under way.

For example, far-right activists and their Republican allies have been waging a campaign to silence teaching about racism in U.S. history and institutions. The Far Right has devoted a huge amount of energy to make critical race theory – a way of studying the impact of racism – something sinister. They want to scare conservative voters into turning out for school board elections and this year’s congressional elections. The extremist think-tank activist who started the CRT scare has admitted that his goal was just to apply that label to anything that right-wing culture warriors didn’t like. And for sure, they tried to slap it on Judge Jackson.

Another far-right campaign sweeping the country is an attack on the legal equality of LGBTQ Americans. That campaign taps into some of the oldest and ugliest smears against LGBTQ people – claims that they are a threat to children. And it draws energy from the conspiracy theories promoted by QAnon activists about a network of powerful pedophiles.

Shameless senators like Josh Hawley and Ted Cruz tried to drag Judge Jackson into that cesspool by distorting her record as a judge and portraying this mother of two daughters as sympathetic to child abusers. Now, keep in mind that Judge Jackson is from a law enforcement family, and was endorsed by organizations representing both police chiefs and police officers. That didn’t stop the smears.

Rep. Marjorie Taylor Greene made it clear that this was a political weapon. She outrageously attacked three Republican senators who voted to confirm Judge Jackson, calling them “pro-pedophile.” And she attacked Democrats as “the party of pedophiles.” The Family Research Council suggested that it would try to make Democratic senators explain their support for someone who is “le-nient on child offenders.” Others used far worse language.

This is beyond unprincipled. It is dangerous. And it shows us how much is at stake in this year’s elections. If we let these extremists get control of the House and Senate, we will be putting our future in the hands of people like Greene, Hawley and Cruz. And we will put our courts in the hands of Mitch McConnell, who kept many of President Barack Obama’s judicial nominees, including a Supreme Court nominee, from even getting a vote.

Judge Jackson’s nomination was part of an exceptional effort that President Joe Biden has made to put more black women, and a more diverse group of judges, on the courts. But Sen. Lindsey Graham made it clear that Republicans would put an end to that. He said if Republicans had been in control of the Senate, Judge Jackson wouldn’t have even gotten a hearing – because Republican senators would have forced President Biden to name someone else.

What a loss that would have been for our country – and for all the people who are inspired by Judge Jackson. Let’s not give the Far Right a veto over our courts and our future.

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

Being black can cost an arm and a leg

COVID-19 is not the only epidemic plaguing America’s black community today

By Oscar H. Blayton
Pres. Black Chamber of Commerce



The respected medical journal, *The Lancet*, has reported, “The epidemic of amputations among black communities across the USA is a brutal reminder of the enduring complications of [diabetes] among underserved populations...” Other prestigious publications have characterized this epidemic as an indictment of our health care system.

Diabetes is one of the most common causes of amputation because it leads to peripheral artery disease, or PAD. PAD in the legs is the narrowing or blockage of the vessels that carry blood from the heart. With the decrease of blood flow, the feet and legs are at a significant risk of gangrene.

Diabetics undergo 130,000 amputations each year in the United States, with these patients most often being low-income and underinsured.

Numerous studies have shown that black folk have their legs amputated at a much higher rate than whites with the same health problems. Some studies have shown that black folk with diabetes receive amputations at nearly three times the rate of white patients, particularly in the rural South. Others claim that the disparity is four times greater. These disparities exist even when the data is controlled for the fact that diabetes is more prevalent among African Americans.

Dr. Foluso Fakorede, a cardiologist in Bolivar County, Miss., who specializes in cardiovascular management, has been waging a campaign to bring awareness to the fact that failure to provide caring treatment for black and poor people with PAD results in amputations that could have been prevented.

Dr. Fakorede reports that on one occasion, he examined the left foot of a black patient with uncontrolled diabetes and found that the tops of his toes were dark,

his sole was yellow and oozing, as the foot was literally rotting due to diabetes constricting the blood flow to his foot and preventing an infection from healing. Upon examining the patient’s chart, Dr. Fakorede found that a consulted surgeon had begun his written recommendation by stating casually that the patient had “limited options” other than amputation below the knee.

This patient recently had lost his right leg below the knee, and it seems that the surgeon had little concern that another amputation would place the patient in a wheelchair for the rest of his life.

Looking further into this patient’s records, Dr. Fakorede discovered that no screening had been done on this patient at the time of his first amputation to determine if his left leg was at risk and if intervention might help improve the health of the remaining limb.

Realizing the lack of interest in avoiding preventable diabetic amputations in Mississippi, Dr. Fakorede created the Amputation Prevention Institute. He even put up a billboard on the side of a highway alerting people to the fact that amputations could be preventable and alternate courses of treatment could be pursued. He also has tried to convince physicians to perform more thorough evaluations of PAD patients before cutting off their legs.

With proper attention, Dr. Fakorede saved the leg of the man with the rotting foot and he only lost one toe.

About 37 million people in America have diabetes, and Mississippi has one of the highest rates in the country. The vast majority have Type 2 diabetes and their bodies resist insulin or their pancreas does not produce enough, thus making their blood sugar levels rise and their arteries become constricted.

Genetics plays a role in the condition, but it also has been reported that poverty can double the odds of developing diabetes and dictating a higher risk of am-

putation. Black people who live in food deserts, where there is a lack of availability of nutritious food, tend to consume high-fat meals, sugary foods and do not get enough fiber. And when you add to that a lack of opportunity to engage in adequate exercise, the risk of diabetes increases exponentially because obesity is also a significant contributing factor.

These disadvantages combine with an array of public policies, from insufficient access to health care to racist biases resulting in cuts in public health funding. Policy decisions like these maintain disparities, particularly in the South, that result in diabetic amputations, which are, by one measure, the most preventable surgery in the country.

African Americans in the South have always had difficulty finding and affording adequate health care. In past years, major Southern hospitals admitted black patients through back doors and housed them in basements. Many hospitals required them to bring their own sheets and eating utensils. Before federal law mandated emergency services for all, these hospitals routinely turned away African Americans in need of medical attention, even if it meant a death sentence.

These problems are systemic and built into the culture of America. Jennifer Smith, a professor at Florida A&M University College of Law, wrote in the *National Lawyers Guild Review*: “While the roots of unequal and inequitable health care for African Americans date back to the days of slavery, the modern mechanisms of discrimination in health care have shifted from legally sanctioned segregation to inferior or non-existent medical facilities due to market forces.”

Even though Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 protects individuals from discrimination in various areas of health care and services, disparities persist in the provision of health care because caring treatment comes from a compassionate heart, not a code

of law.

And then there is the profit motive. There is more of a financial incentive to amputate than not. Because policies set out by hospitals, insurers and the government don’t require surgeons to consider limb-saving options before cutting, the amputation epidemic continues, particularly among the poor and people of color.

A procedure known as an angiogram can inform a physician as to whether there is sufficient blood flow in a leg to warrant an intervention that could save it. It was through the use of an angiogram that Dr. Fakorede was able to save the leg of his patient with the rotting foot. But an amputation pays more than an angiogram. It is reported that nationwide, half of the amputees do not get an angiogram before losing their leg to surgery.

The tragedy of an unnecessary amputation does not end with the loss of a leg. Mortality rates rise after these amputations, partly because many amputees stop walking. Exercise is essential to good circulation, and it helps to control blood sugar and weight. The less active an individual is, the greater their risk of heart attack and stroke. Being placed in a wheelchair can take years off one’s life.

Dr. Marie Gerhard-Herman, an associate professor of medicine at Harvard Medical School and a cardiologist at Brigham and Women’s Hospital, told a reporter that it made her “sick to her stomach” that, in certain parts of the country, patients were not getting angiograms prior to amputation and those decisions appeared to be made along racial and socioeconomic lines.

America constantly touts its world-class health care. But that level of care is not for us. And unless we begin to strongly demand that adequate health care is our due, it will never be for us.

Oscar H. Blayton is a former Marine Corps combat pilot and human rights activist who practices law in Virginia. His earlier commentaries may be found at <https://oblayton1.medium.com/>

America needs humanitarian relief, too

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



It is a good thing that America has been a lead nation in both providing humanitarian and military assistance to Ukraine. It is good that we as a nation, Democrat and Republican, have been able to unify on this most important issue facing the world. It is also a good thing that America has been able to give hundreds of millions of doses of the COVID-19 Vaccine to struggling third world countries where people are waiting in lines while Americans refuse vaccinations for all kinds of reasons.

But while all of this is a good thing, let us not forget the looming crisis ahead of us.

The fact is that the virus, with its ever increasing mutations, is not over. There are still over 750 people dying daily from this virus even though hospital rates and the daily death rates are down from what they were just months ago. Infection cases are up across the country with some states experiencing higher rates than others and a number of cities like Philadelphia, New York and Washington, D.C. have had to reinstate their mask mandates.

In the midst of the Ukraine Humanitarian Crisis, the new surge in infections across the country, and continued death rates, the United States Congress refused to pass a 22 billion dollar funding bill to continue testing, vaccinations and the funding for Covid-19 related supplies before adjourning for the Easter/Spring Recess.

Much of the opposition, again, is coming from the (Russian-like) Republican Party not only denying and refusing to support and vote for such funds, but also leaving out much needed continuation dollars for programs to feed the hungry.

This pull back on funds for testing and vaccinations is also impacting those American companies that geared up to produce Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) at the height of the pandemic when supplies were no longer available from our foreign sources. Now, with this cutback in federal funds, many of these companies are on the verge of going out of business because America is withdrawing the very funds that allowed hospitals and others to purchase the PPE items they were able to buy until this cut-off.

How can we find billions of dollars to support all elements of the Ukraine Humanitarian crisis, but not have money for our own people here at home?

Those Americans who are still unvaccinated, and mainly by choice, still represent a threat to the rest of us. The government’s distribution of personal testing kits cannot become a substitute for providing the kind of care and supplies that have allowed us to avoid millions of additional deaths because, at the time, we funded the very things we are now threatening to withhold.

Let us not forget the saying “Charity starts at home and then spreads abroad.”

Mr. President, Members of Congress, America is “home.”

Let’s not create another humanitarian crisis here because of party politics.

P R E S E R V E D

A spoonful of sugar

By Shewanda Riley
Columnist



“A spoonful of sugar helps the medicine go down.... in a most delightful way” are lyrics from one of my favorite songs from the Mary Poppins movie soundtrack. Maybe it’s because I have sweet tooth and believe that everything is better with chocolate, but I’ve always thought there was an interesting truth in that phrase. I’ve just always liked the idea that adding a little something sweet to life can make even the most challenging situations tolerable.

Teaching college English gives me many opportunities to practice adding that little bit of “sugar” to some difficult situations. For example, there are times when I have to give constructive

feedback on my students’ papers. The challenge is how to be truthful without “killing” their confidence in writing. I always try to find a way to show them grace and love as I make comments on their papers. One way I’ve done this is to grade their papers in purple ink instead of red ink. I think that seeing soothing purple instead of glaring red might help to soften the impact of my comments on their papers.

I also try the sandwich method that a co-worker shared with me about 8 years ago. Like a sandwich, I start with positive comments, add a constructive one, then finish with a positive one. I start with something good “like great opening sentence,” then add “this is a confusing, run-on sentence” then finish with “you make some good points about your topic in your paper.” This way, I am speaking truth about where they need to improve

while, hopefully, building confidence in their writing.

In the past 2 years, I’ve experienced deaths of loved ones, broken relationships and lost friendships. Those were some extremely hard truths to accept. However, what made this sometimes terribly bitter medicine easier to swallow were a few things: the support of friends and the wisdom in God’s word. Hebrews 13:5 reminds us that God will never leave us nor forsake us. That’s the unconditional love that we sometimes have a tough time accepting.

Sometimes I get it so wrong, but I still believe that you can say just about any hard truth to someone as long as you say it the right way. Some people say that they are just “keepin’ it real” when really they are just “keepin’ it cruel.” My mama always says, “It’s never what you say, but how you say it.” We should strive to put

into action the words of Ephesians 4:15, “Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ.” Jesus was the perfect example of one who showed how to speak truth while showing love. He started with God’s love, added the truth, our need for redemption, and topped it off with the ultimate sign of love for us: his death on the cross and resurrection.

Reflect on the sacrifices of Jesus this Holy Week. We celebrate Jesus because He lives!

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

The need of discernment

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



We read in Matthew 24:5 these words, “For many shall come in My Name, saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive many.” This verse is misunderstood by many people. These are not people saying they are Christ, but rather they supposedly acknowledge Christ. They could not deceive anyone if they said they were the Christ. Jesus said many would come in His Name saying, “I am Christ.” They acknowledge Christ, but they deceive many. Without discernment, we can be deceived.

Over the years, many people once enjoyed camp meetings, felt God’s Spirit and were thrilled with the Truths of God’s Word; however, some came in amongst the sheep and deceived them.

Tares were sown by the enemy amongst the wheat. Some propounded their particular ideas, and many were carried away.

When God brings Truth, it will bring people together and it will bring clarity, not confusion. God is not the author of confusion. Light does not confuse. Isaiah 5:20 tells us they “put darkness for light,” but look what it produces. Many people cannot see clearly. This is a good indication that it is darkness and not light. We risk being deceived unless we can exercise discernment.

Consider the old prophet who deceived the man of God in 1 Kings, Chapter 13. The man of

God prophesied against the altar and smote King Jeroboam, and Jeroboam put out his hand and his hand dried up. The man of God prayed and God restored the king’s hand. The king then was more kind and invited him to come to his house, but the man of God said, in essence, “No, God told me not to come down to your house and not to go home the way I came.” When the man of God was on his way home, he stopped to rest and an old prophet came along and lied to him and persuaded the man of God to go back with him.

Friends, God’s Word and His Revelation of Truth to us do not change just because someone who has an influence on us tells us differently. That does not change the Revelation of Truth that God gives us. Galatians 1:8 tells us, “But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed.” If we are not cautious, we can be moved away from a divine revelation that God has given us, just because of who is saying it.

Godly influence is wonderful, but we need to be careful. We need to have enough discernment so that if something begins to cross up a divine revelation that God has given us, we will not be moved, no matter who says it, if God has not changed what He told us.

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

Crossroads Church of God

Sharing The Love Of Christ With Others



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Sunday Sch: 10 a.m.

Sunday Worship
Service: 11:15 a.m.
(Fellowship following
worship service 1st
Sundays)

Wednesday
Prayer/Bible
Study: 7 p.m.

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

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Pastor, Dr. F. R. Lenoir



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



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WEDNESDAY
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8:00 a.m. - Channel 14 (Comcast)

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LEGAL

AN ORDINANCE CREATING SECTION 2-171 ADOPTING A PREMIUM PAY PLAN FOR EMPLOYEES OF THE CITY OF JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI.

WHEREAS, the City of Jackson was a recipient of a payment pursuant to Section 603 of the American Rescue Plan Act "ARPA" as a nonentitlement unit of local government consistent with 42 U.S.C. 5306(d) to respond to the public health emergency caused by COVID-19 or the economic effects from COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, Section 603(c)(1)(B) of the ARPA provides that a nonentitlement unit of local government may use funds provided under Section 603 of the ARPA to cover costs incurred by the nonentitlement local unit of government to respond to workers performing essential work during the COVID–19 public health emergency by providing premium pay to eligible workers of the non-entitlement government unit that are performing such essential work, or by providing grants to eligible employers that have eligible workers who perform essential work; and

WHEREAS, Section 603(g)(2) of the ARPA defines eligible worker to mean those workers needed to maintain continuity of operations of essential critical infrastructure sectors and additional sectors as each nonentitlement local government unit may designate as critical to protect the health and well- being of the residents of their local government; and

WHEREAS, Section 603(g)(6) of the ARPA defines premium pay to mean an amount of up to \$13 per hour that is paid to an eligible worker, in addition to wages or remuneration the eligible worker otherwise receives, for all work performed by the eligible worker during the COVID–19 public health emergency; and

WHEREAS, Section 603(c)(1)(C) of the ARPA provides that a nonentitlement unit of local government may use funds provided under Section 603 of the ARPA to cover costs incurred by the nonentitlement local unit of government for the provision of government services to the extent of the reduction in revenue of such nonentitlement local government unit due to the COVID–19 public health emergency relative to revenues collected in the most recent full fiscal year of the nonentitlement local government unit prior to the emergency; and

WHEREAS, employees of the City of Jackson provide critical and essential functions to the operation of the infrastructure of the City and provide services relating to public health, safety, childcare, education, sanitation, and transportation.

IT IS, THEREFORE, ORDERED by the City Council of the City of Jackson that the Mayor is hereby authorized to submit the following allocation out of the payment received by the City of Jackson under Section 603 of the American Rescue Plan Act to cover costs incurred by the City of Jackson to respond to workers performing essential work during the COVID-19 public health emergency by providing premium pay to eligible workers that are performing such essential work or by providing grants to eligible employers that have eligible workers who perform essential work and to cover costs incurred by the City of Jackson for the provision of government services to the extent of the reduction in revenue of the City of Jackson due to the COVID-19 public health emergency in an amount not to exceed Five Million Seven Hundred and Forty Thousand, One Hundred and Eighty-Four and No/100 Dollars (\$5,740,184.00);

• All eligible full-time corporal and sergeant police employees of the City of Jackson employed by the City on or before September 20, 2020 and on September 21, 2021 shall receive a payment of Four Thousand and No/100 Dollars (\$4,000.00) semi-annually.

Council Member Banks moved adoption; Vice President Lee seconded.
Yeas –Banks, Foote, Grizzell, Hartley, Lee, Lindsay and Stokes.
Nays – None.
Absent – None.

ATTEST:

Angela Harris
Municipal Clerk

I, Angela Harris, the duly appointed qualified Municipal Clerk and lawful custodian of records and seal of said City of Jackson, Mississippi, certify that the foregoing is a true and exact copy of an Order passed by the City Council at its Special Council Meeting January 18, 2022 and recorded in Minute Book "6U", Pgs. 336-338.

WITNESS my signature and official seal of office, this the 8th day of April, 2022.

SEALAngela Harris, Municipal Clerk4/14/2022

LEGAL

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

WHEREAS, Dr. John M. Perkins is the founder of The John and Vera Mae Perkins Foundation for Justice, Reconciliation & Community Development (JVMPF), a non-profit organization that teaches and promotes the principles of Christian Community development and racial reconciliation; and

WHEREAS, in 1998 Dr. John M. Perkins expanded his humanitarian efforts from Pasadena, California to Jackson, Mississippi to begin work in the economically and physically deteriorating West Jackson community; and

WHEREAS, Dr. John M. Perkins and his commitment to the betterment of the City of Jackson deserve recognition by the honorary renaming of this Street portion in his honor.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED that the Jackson City Council hereby honorary renames Amite Street from Gallatin Street to Robinson Road in honor of Dr. John M. Perkins.

Council Member Stokes moved adoption; Council Member Grizzell seconded.
Yeas – Banks, Foote, Grizzell, Hartley, Lee, Lindsay and Stokes.
Nays – None.
Absent – None.

ATTEST:

Angela Harris
Municipal Clerk

I, Angela Harris, the duly appointed qualified Municipal Clerk and lawful custodian of records and seal of said City of Jackson, Mississippi, certify that the foregoing is a true and exact copy of an Order passed by the City Council at its Regular Council Meeting March 1, 2022 and recorded in Minute Book "6U", Pg. 504.

WITNESS my signature and official seal of office, this the 8th day of April, 2022.

SEALAngela Harris, Municipal Clerk4/14/2022

LEGAL

ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI HONORARY RENAMING A PORTION OF REVEREND DR. MARTIN L. KING, JR. DRIVE FROM MAPLE STREET TO WATSON STREET IN HONOR OF MR. ROBERT R OB JAY" JEUITT.

WHEREAS, Mr. Robert "Rob Jay" Jeuitt, a pillar of the community, a family man, a well-known television and radio personality, and a highly respected civic leader in Jackson, Mississippi; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Robert "Rob Jay" Jeuitt will be receiving a momentous honor by being inducted into the Southwestern Athletic Conference (SWAC) Hall of Fame on Friday, December 17, 2021, in Atlanta, Georgia; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Robert "Rob Jay" Jeuitt is an inspiration to young and old alike in the manner of his delivery of entertainment, news, and sports to a community of fans that rely on his valued opinion about many important issues of the day; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Robert "Rob Jay" Jeuitt is a graduate of Lanier High School, the historic institution located on Maple Street and Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive. Rob Jay is also a graduate of Jackson State University. He is known as the "Voice of Jackson State University" in his current position as a member of the family of employees of Jackson State University.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED that the Jackson City Council hereby honorary renames a portion of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive from Maple Street to Watson Street in honor of Mr. Robert "Rob Jay" Jeuitt.

Council Member Stokes moved adoption; Council Member Grizzell seconded.
Yeas – Banks, Foote, Grizzell, Hartley, Lee, Lindsay and Stokes.
Nays – None.
Absent – None.

ATTEST:

Angela Harris
Municipal Clerk

I, Angela Harris, the duly appointed qualified Municipal Clerk and lawful custodian of records and seal of said City of Jackson, Mississippi, certify that the foregoing is a true and exact copy of an Order passed by the City Council at its Regular Council Meeting March 1, 2022 and recorded in Minute Book "6U", Pgs. 503-504.

WITNESS my signature and official seal of office, this the 8th day of April, 2022.

SEALAngela Harris, Municipal Clerk4/14/2022

LEGAL

ADVERTISEMENT FOR PROPOSAL FOR HAWKINS FIELD AIRPORT HANGAR BY THE JACKSON MUNICIPAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY PROJECT NO. 006-22

The Jackson Municipal Airport Authority ("JMAA") is seeking electronic proposals ("Proposal") for Hawkins Field Airport Hangar (HKS).

Sealed Proposals to perform the services will be accepted at 4:00 p.m. Central Standard Time (CST) on Wednesday, May 18, 2022 (the "Proposal Deadline"). Proposal shall be accepted by email, mail, or hand delivery as follows:

Email: bids@jmaa.com

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

The following identification information must be provided with the submission: (i) Attention: Marvin Buckhalter, Director of Procurement; (ii) the wording: "Hawkins Field Airport Hangar (HKS) No. 006-22." If the submission is submitted via email, the identification information must be provided in the email subject line. If the submission is submitted by hand delivery or mail, the identification information must be marked on the outside or exterior of the bid envelope or container.

JMAA will not consider any Proposals received after the Deadline for any reason whatsoever. Information for Respondents relating to this Request for Proposals ("RFP") is on file and open for public inspection at the offices of JMAA. The Information for Respondents contains a copy of the RFP, General Information for Respondents, Information Required from Respondents and Criteria for Selection. Interested persons may obtain a copy of the Information for Respondents from JMAA by contacting Marvin Buckhalter, as follows:

Jackson Municipal Airport Authority
100 International Drive, Suite 300
Jackson, Mississippi 39298-8109

LEGAL

ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI RENAMING ELLIS AVENUE, FROM INTERSTATE 20 TO WEST CAPITOL STREET, TO BOBBY RUSH BOULEVARD.

WHEREAS, it is befitting for the City of Jackson to recognize, honor and celebrate individuals whose lives have had a significant and positive impact locally and nationally; and

WHEREAS, long-time City of Jackson resident and Blues legend, Bobby Rush earned the title "International Dean of the Blues" for touring most major markets around the world; and
WHEREAS, Bobby Rush is a six-time Grammy Nominee and two-time Grammy Award Winner; and

WHEREAS, the designation will enhance the historic significance that the city of Jackson has to the Blues genre for many years to come.

THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council of Jackson, Mississippi that Ellis Avenue, from Interstate 20 to West Capitol Street, is hereby renamed Bobby Rush Boulevard.

Council Member Banks moved adoption; Council Member Hartley seconded.
Yeas – Banks, Foote, Grizzell, Hartley, Lee, Lindsay, and Stokes.
Nays – None.
Absent – None.

ATTEST:

Angela Harris
Municipal Clerk

I, Angela Harris, the duly appointed qualified Municipal Clerk and lawful custodian of records and seal of said City of Jackson, Mississippi, certify that the foregoing is a true and exact copy of an Order passed by the City Council at its Special Council Meeting January 18, 2022 and recorded in Minute Book "6U", Pg. 335.

WITNESS my signature and official seal of office, this the 8th day of April, 2022.

SEALAngela Harris, Municipal Clerk4/14/2022

Attention: Marvin Buckhalter
Telephone: (601) 664-3516
Facsimile: (601) 939-3713
Email: mbuckhalter@jmaa.com

or from JMAA's website at <https://j111aa.com/par111cr-with-us/procureme11t/>.

Based on the Proposals received and the scoring of each proposal, JMAA will initiate negotiations with the Respondent ranked first. If such negotiations fail to produce an agreement in form and content, satisfactory to JMAA, within a reasonable period of time, then JMAA may reject the first-ranked Respondent and follow the same process with the other Respondents, in the order of their ranking, until a Respondent agrees to and enters into an agreement satisfactory to JMAA.

JMAA will hold a Pre-Bid Conference on Wednesday, May 02, 2022, at 10:00am (CST) using the following login information:

Link: <https://jmaa.zoom.us/j/95968020095>

Meeting ID: 959 6802 0095
Passcode: 520966

JMAA reserves the right to reject any and all Proposals, for any reason, any time before execution of a contract with a Respondent selected by JMAA to perform the Services.

JMAA has chosen to not establish a DBE participation goal for this RFP. However, twenty (20) points are potentially available to Respondents submitting an acceptable minority participation proposal for the Services.

JACKSON MUNICIPAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY

Date: April 6, 2022

Paul A. Brown, Chief Executive Officer

4/7/2022, 4/14/2022

U-RENTAL
Van Company



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

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



LEGAL

ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 2-336 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI TO ESTABLISH THE INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DEPARTMENT.

WHEREAS, the governing authorities of the City of Jackson, Mississippi, previously adopted an ordinance that established various departments within the City of Jackson and defined the functions of such departments; and

WHEREAS, it has been determined that the functions of various City departments and divisions that relate to information systems and telecommunications should be consolidated under a new department; and

WHEREAS, the governing authorities find that Section 2-336 of the Jackson Code of Ordinances should be amended as follows to create a department of Information Technology (added language denoted in underlined italics):
Sec. 2-336. Creation; functions.

There are hereby created the following departments which shall have the following principal functions:

(1) Administration. The department of administration shall perform the functions of finance and management information systems, fleet management, office of publications, purchasing, communications center, telecommunications and municipal court services.

(2) Fire. The fire department shall perform the functions of fire prevention, suppression and education.

(3) Police. The police department shall perform the functions of crime prevention and suppression, animal control, youth court, and community improvement.

(4) Public works. The public works department shall perform the functions of water and sewer engineering and maintenance; streets, bridges and drainage engineering and maintenance; traffic engineering and maintenance; water/sewer business administration, right-of-way maintenance; cemetery maintenance; building maintenance; wastewater treatment plant contract administration and maintenance of wastewater collector system, solid waste collection contract administration; management of water treatment and distribution facilities; administration of the pest control contract; central supply, and custodial services.

(5) Human and cultural services. The human and cultural services department shall perform the functions of senior services, early childhood education, museums, art galleries, arts centers, auditoriums and planetariums.

(6) Personnel management. The personnel management department shall perform all personnel management functions including the administration of benefits.

(7) Planning and development. The planning and development department shall perform the functions of planning and zoning, developmental assistance including, but not limited to, housing, economic development and grants, federal programs, public transportation/JATTRAN, building and permits, and community improvement.

(8) Parks and recreation. The parks and recreation department shall perform a variety of recreational services including maintenance, programming, athletics, special events and the administration of contract facilities.

(9) Constituent services and information. The constituent services and information department shall be responsible for the quality and content of information regarding city government. This department will serve as an information conduit for the city council, department heads, employees, and citizens. This department will also conduct site visits with businesses and citizens to identify problems and find solutions before they become unmanageable. The divisions of Action Line, Public Education and Government (PEG) Television, publications, public relations and quality of life, and related duties shall be under this department.

(10) Municipal clerk. The department of municipal clerk shall perform the functions of and duties of the municipal clerk as inherent by law, and those duties referenced in the Mississippi Code Annotated (1972), as amended as belonging to the "clerk", "municipal clerk", or "city clerk". The municipal clerk shall attend all council meetings and, subsequent to the meeting, shall receive the compiled minutes from the clerk of council for recordation. The municipal clerk shall keep the official minutes of the proceedings of the council, shall have custody of records of the municipality and be responsible for record retention, and shall be responsible for publication of all matters which require publication by law. In the absence of the municipal clerk, the duties of the municipal clerk shall be performed by that person serving as the chief deputy clerk of municipality. The municipal clerk shall plan and assign work and exercise general supervision of the deputy municipal clerks, and clerical employees that are assigned to the municipal clerk.

(11) Information Technology. The department of Information Technology shall perform all of the functions of information technology, information systems, office of publications and telecommunications. In addition to departmental functions specified in this section, such departments shall have such additional responsibilities as the mayor or council may from time to time deem necessary.

WHEREAS, the creation of the Department of Information Systems will require a budget revision; and

WHEREAS, funds must be transferred from the Department of Administration to the newly created Department of Information Systems; and

THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF

JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI, THAT:

SECTION 1. Section 2-336 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Jackson, Mississippi, shall be amended to read as follows:
There are hereby created the following departments which shall have the following principal functions:

(1) Administration. The department of administration shall perform the functions of finance and management, fleet management, purchasing and municipal court services.

(2) Fire. The fire department shall perform the functions of fire prevention, suppression and education.

(3) Police. The police department shall perform the functions of crime prevention and suppression, animal control, youth court, and community improvement.

(4) Public works. The public works department shall perform the functions of water and sewer engineering and maintenance; streets, bridges and drainage engineering and maintenance; traffic engineering and maintenance; water/sewer business administration, right-of-way maintenance; cemetery maintenance; building maintenance; wastewater treatment plant contract administration and maintenance of wastewater collector system, solid waste collection contract administration; management of water treatment and distribution facilities; administration of the pest control contract; central supply, and custodial services.

(5) Human and cultural services. The human and cultural services department shall perform the functions of senior services, early childhood education, museums, art galleries, arts centers, auditoriums and planetariums.

(6) Human Resources. The human resources department shall perform all human resources functions including the administration of benefits.

(7) Planning and development. The planning and development department shall perform the functions of planning and zoning, developmental assistance including, but not limited to, housing, economic development and grants, federal programs, public transportation/JATTRAN, building and permits, and community improvement.

(8) Parks and recreation. The parks and recreation department shall perform a variety of recreational services including maintenance, programming, athletics, special events and the administration of contract facilities.

(9) Constituent services and information. The constituent services and information department shall be responsible for the quality and content of information regarding city government. This department will serve as an information conduit for the city council, department heads, employees, and citizens. This department will also conduct site visits with businesses and citizens to identify problems and find solutions before they become unmanageable. The divisions of Action Line, Public Education and Government (PEG) Television, publications, public relations and quality of life, and related duties shall be under this department.

(10) Municipal clerk. The department of municipal clerk shall perform the functions of and duties of the municipal clerk as inherent by law, and those duties referenced in the Mississippi Code Annotated (1972), as amended as belonging to the "clerk", "municipal clerk", or "city clerk". The municipal clerk shall attend all council meetings and, subsequent to the meeting, shall receive the compiled minutes from the clerk of council for recordation. The municipal clerk shall keep the official minutes of the proceedings of the council, shall have custody of records of the municipality and be responsible for record retention, and shall be responsible for publication of all matters which require publication by law. In the absence of the municipal clerk, the duties of the municipal clerk shall be performed by that person serving as the chief deputy clerk of municipality. The municipal clerk shall plan and assign work and exercise general supervision of the deputy municipal clerks, and clerical employees that are assigned to the municipal clerk.

(11) Information Technology. The department of Information Technology shall perform all of the functions of information technology, information systems, office of publications and telecommunications.

IT IS FURTHER ORDAINED that this Ordinance shall become effective thirty (30) days after passage and publication thereof.
Council Member Hartley moved adoption; President Lindsay seconded.
Yeas – Banks, Foote, Grizzell, Hartley, Lee and Lindsay.
Nays – None.
Abstention – Stokes.
Absent – None.

ATTEST:

Angela Harris
Municipal Clerk

I, Angela Harris, the duly appointed qualified Municipal Clerk and lawful custodian of records and seal of said City of Jackson, Mississippi, certify that the foregoing is a true and exact copy of an Order passed by the City Council at its Regular Council Meeting March 1, 2022 and recorded in Minute Book "6U", Pgs. 507-510.

WITNESS my signature and official seal of office, this the 8th day of April, 2022.

SEAL Angela Harris, Municipal Clerk

4/14/2022

LEGAL

ADVERTISEMENT FOR PROPOSAL FOR PRIME FLIGHT RENOVATION AT THE SOJAN BUILDING BY THE JACKSON MUNICIPAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY PROJECT NO. 007-22

The Jackson Municipal Airport Authority ("JMAA") is seeking electronic proposals ("Proposal") for Prime Flight Renovation at the SoJan Building (JAN).

Sealed Proposals to perform the services will be accepted at 4:00 p.m. Central Standard Time (CST) on Friday, May 20, 2022 (the "Proposal Deadline"). Proposal shall be accepted by email, mail, or hand delivered as follows:

Email: bids@jmaa.com

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

The following identification information must be provided with the submission: (i) Attention: Marvin Buckhalter, Director of Procurement; (ii) the wording: "Prime Flight Renovation at the SoJan Building, Project No. 007-22." If the submission is submitted via email, the identification information must be provided in the email subject line. If the submission is submitted by hand delivery or mail, the identification information must be marked on the outside or exterior of the bid envelope or container.

JMAA will not consider any Proposals received after the Deadline for any reason whatsoever. Information for Respondents relating to this Request for Proposals ("RFP") is on file and open for public inspection at the offices of JMAA. The Information for Respondents contains a copy of the RFP, General Information for Respondents, Information Required from Respondents and Criteria for Selection. Interested persons may obtain a copy of the Information for Respondents from JMAA by contacting Marvin Buckhalter, as follows: Jackson Municipal Airport Authority

100 International Drive, Suite 300
Jackson, Mississippi 39298-8109
Attention: Marvin Buckhalter
Telephone: (601) 664-3516
Facsimile: (601) 939-3713
Email: mbuckhalter@jmaa.com

or from JMAA's website at <https://jmaa.com/partner-with-us/procurement/>. Based on the Proposals received and the scoring of each proposal, JMAA will initiate negotiations with the Respondent ranked first. If such negotiations fail to produce an agreement in form and content, satisfactory to JMAA, within a reasonable period of time, then JMAA may reject the first-ranked Respondent and follow the same process with the other Respondents, in the order of their ranking, until a Respondent agrees to and enters into an agreement satisfactory to JMAA.

JMAA will hold a Pre-Bid Conference on Wednesday, May 04, 2022, at 10:00am (CST) using the following login information:

Link: <https://jmaa.zoom.us/j/95968020095>

Meeting ID: 959 6802 0095
Passcode: 520966

JMAA reserves the right to reject any and all Proposals, for any reason, any time before execution of a contract with a Respondent selected by JMAA to perform the Services.

JMAA has chosen to not establish a DBE participation goal for this RFP. However, twenty (20) points are potentially available to Respondents submitting an acceptable minority participation proposal for the Services.

JACKSON MUNICIPAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY

4/14/2022

LEGAL

ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CITY OF JACKSON CLASSIFICATION AND COMPENSATION PLAN TO ADD JOB CLASSIFICATION NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES MANAGER FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT.

WHEREAS, the City of Jackson does not currently employ an individual whose primary function is dedicated to coordinating and facilitating the exchange of information among citizens, neighborhood associations, and the City; and

WHEREAS, the Director of the Department of Planning and Development advised the Department of Human Resources that there is a need to employ an individual for the purpose previously stated and create the classification; and

WHEREAS, the Director of the Department of Planning and Development believes that employing an individual dedicated to working with neighborhood organizations in the exchange of information and resources will improve the quality of life for the citizens of Jackson and promote development and redevelopment of neighborhoods in decline; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Human Resources conducted a study of municipalities in the Southeast and received information concerning personnel who performed similar function and developed a job description; and

WHEREAS, information was obtained from Montgomery, Alabama and Little Rock, Arkansas; and

WHEREAS, the tasks performed by the Neighborhood Services Manager classification for the City of Jackson will be as follows: (1) Foster collaborative relationships with community residents and neighborhood organizations; (2) Facilitates neighborhood and community-based problem-solving; (3) Meet with community leaders, neighborhood organizations, and citizens on neighborhood related issues; (4) Plan, develop, and organize neighborhood associations in community self-help activities; (5) Develop best practice materials for neighborhood organization self-help activities; (6) Create and maintain ongoing engagement platform with neighborhood organizations and citizens; (7) Participate in the development and implementation of the City of Jackson's Comprehensive Plan; (8) Conduct community information meetings, seminars, and in-house training on department programs and issues; (9) Participate in the development of policies and programs to address neighborhood needs and coordinate programs and services to improve communication, outreach, and support to neighborhoods; (10) Participate in the development and implementation of programs utilizing federal, state, and local funds; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Human Resources also obtained information concerning the salary paid to individuals performing equivalent functions in Montgomery Alabama and Little Rock, Arkansas; and

WHEREAS, the information obtained revealed that the median salary paid for the position equivalent of the Neighborhood Services Manager was within the range of \$44,273.50-\$67,035.00; and

WHEREAS, the best interest of the City of Jackson would be served by adding the following position to the current pay plan: Neighborhood Services Manager classification at a salary comparable to the compensation paid by other Southeastern cities such as those cited; and

WHEREAS, it is recommended that the job class: Neighborhood Services Manager be added at range 31 with annual compensation being between \$51,588.24-62,385.12; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Planning and Development has informed the Department of Human Resources that addition of the position of Neighborhood Services Manager would not require a budget revision because there are sufficient funds in its existing budget to pay salary and benefits.

IT IS, THEREFORE, ORDERED that the Pay Plan adopted by the City Council on September 22, 1998, found in the Minute Book 4Y, be further amended to add the Neighborhood Services Manager with a pay range of 31 (\$51,588.24-62,385.12).

Vice President Lee moved adoption; President Lindsay seconded.
Yeas – Banks, Foote, Grizzell, Hartley, Lee and Lindsay.
Nays – Stokes.
Absent – None.

ATTEST:

Angela Harris
Municipal Clerk

I, Angela Harris, the duly appointed qualified Municipal Clerk and lawful custodian of records and seal of said City of Jackson, Mississippi, certify that the foregoing is a true and exact copy of an Order passed by the City Council at its Regular Council Meeting March 1, 2022 and recorded in Minute Book "6U", Pgs. 510-511.

WITNESS my signature and official seal of office, this the 8th day of April, 2022.

SEAL Angela Harris, Municipal Clerk

4/14/2022

<p>Cooperative Energy</p> <p>Is currently identifying vendors for the following services during an emergency:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Lodging FacilitiesCatering ServicesLaundry ServicesDebris ServicesTransmission Line Construction <p>Please contact akeene@cooperativeenergy.com by no later than April 29, 2022 if you wish to be considered as a potential vendor.</p> <p>4/7/2022, 4/14/2022</p>

LEGAL

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING CITY OF JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI SIGN VARIANCE FOR QUIK TRIP

THE JACKSON CITY COUNCIL WILL CONDUCT A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE SIGN VARIANCE FOR QUIK TRIP TO RECEIVE CITIZEN INPUT IS SCHEDULED FOR TUESDAY, APRIL 26, 2022 AT 10:00 A.M. IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS AT THE CITY HALL BUILDING, 219 SOUTH PRESIDENT STREET, JACKSON, MS, 39201. INTERESTED CITIZENS ARE ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND. PLEASE CONTACT THE SIGNS & LICENSE DIVISION (601) 960-1154 FOR MORE INFORMATION.

4/14/2022



LEGAL

Advertisement for RFPs
RFP 2022-05 Text Sets (K – 5th)
RFP 2022-06 Digital Print Curriculum for K – 12/Core Curriculum
Resources (English/Language Arts, Math, Science, and Social Studies)

Electronic RFP proposals for the above RFP will be received by the Board of Trustees of the Jackson Public School District, in the Business Office, 662 South President Street, Jackson, Mississippi, until 10:00 A.M. (Local Prevailing Time), April 26, 2022 at which time and place they will be publicly opened and read aloud. The Board of Trustees reserves the right to reject any and all RFPs, to waive informalities, and to withhold the acceptance of any RFP/ RFQ if approved for forty-five calendar days from the date RFPs are opened.

There are two (2) options in which RFP proposals may be obtained. Download from Central Bidding website at www.centralbidding.com for a small fee of \$49.99 or visit JPSD website at www.jackson.k12.ms.us and download. Vendors must be registered with Central Bidding in order to electronically upload RFPs/RFQs proposals at no cost. For any questions concerning the process, or how to register, please contact Central Bidding at 225-810-4814.

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.

4/7/2022, 4/14/2022

LEGAL

NOTICE TO BIDDERS
City of Jackson
Jackson, Mississippi

Sealed, signed bids are invited and will be received by the City of Jackson, Mississippi, until 3:30 P.M. in the City Clerk's Office of Jackson, the bid must be stamped in by 3:30 P.M. April 26, 2022, at which time said bids will be publicly opened at the City Hall located at 219 South President Street (City Council Chambers) in City Hall for the following:

88598-042622 – Twenty-Four Month Supply of Swimming Pool Purification Chemicals

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

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

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

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

Monica Oliver Acting Purchasing Manager
Purchasing Division
(601) 960-1025 or 1028

4/7/2022, 4/14/2022

LEGAL

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING FOR PROPOSED TEXT AMENDMENTS
TO THE
CITY OF JACKSON LANDSCAPE AND ZONING ORDINANCES

By virtue of and pursuant to the authority and direction of that Ordinance by the City Council of Jackson, Mississippi, appearing in Minute Book 3G at page 115 thereof, notice is hereby given to all persons interested in or in anywise affected thereby, that the Planning Board for the City of Jackson, will be conducting a public hearing on proposed text amendments to the City of Jackson Official Zoning Ordinance as adopted on May 29, 1974 and subsequently amended.

Notice is also hereby given to all persons interested in or in anywise affected thereby, that the Planning Board for the City of Jackson will be conducting a public hearing on the proposed text amendments to the City of Jackson Landscape Ordinance as adopted on August 14, 1990 and subsequently amended.

Amendments to the text of the Landscape and Zoning Ordinances are intended to provide for more efficient Landscape and Zoning Ordinances and establish more effective landscaping and zoning regulations for the City of Jackson. Copies of the proposed text amendments will be available for review at the Office of City Planning 200 S President Street, Suite 204, Jackson, and MS 39201. For additional information please submit an email to eainsworth@city.jackson.ms.us.

The said proposed text amendments will be heard at the City Planning Board Hearing in the Andrew Jackson Conference Room, First Floor, Warren A. Hood Building, 200 S. President Street in Jackson, Mississippi, at 1:30 p.m., on Wednesday, April 27, 2022 at which time all parties interested in or affected thereby will be heard after which a record will be established upon which the City Planning Board can make its recommendation to the City Council of Jackson. Any objection thereto may be made by any person owning property within the area, and if made in writing must be filed with the City Zoning Administrator before said time if a hearing thereof or consideration thereof is desired, or by counsel on said date. If a request is made to the Zoning Administrator at least 72 hours in advance, the City will take steps to accommodate citizens need for interpreters or auxiliary aids for the visually/hearing impaired.

DUE TO COVID-19 AND THE CONCERN FOR THE PUBLIC HEALTH, SAFETY AND WELFARE, THE PLANNING BOARD MEMBERS AND THE APPLICANTS HAVE THE OPTION TO ATTEND THE MEETING VIA TELCONFERENCE/VIDEO OR IN PERSON WITH REGARDS TO WEARING OF MASKS AND THE SOCIAL DISTANCING REQUIREMENTS. MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC MAY ATTEND VIA TELECONFERENCE/VIDEO BY EMAILING EAINSWORTH@CITY.JACKSON.MS.US TO REGISTER PRIOR TO APRIL 20,2022.

WITNESS my signature this the 6TH day of APRIL, 2022.

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

4/7/2022, 4/14/2022

LEGAL

Advertisement for RFP

RFP 2022-07 University Partner for JPS Teacher Residency Program

Electronic RFP proposals for the above RFP will be received by the Board of Trustees of the Jackson Public School District, in the Business Office, 662 South President Street, Jackson, Mississippi, until 10:00 A.M. (Local Prevailing Time), April 29, 2022 at which time and place they will be publicly opened and read aloud. The Board of Trustees reserves the right to reject any and all RFPs, to waive informalities, and to withhold the acceptance of any RFP if approved for forty-five calendar days from the date RFPs are opened.

There are two (2) options in which RFP proposals may be obtained. Download from Central Bidding website at www.centralbidding.com for a small fee of \$49.99 or visit JPSD website at www.jackson.k12.ms.us and download. Vendors must be registered with Central Bidding in order to electronically upload RFP proposals at no cost. For any questions concerning the process, or how to register, please contact Central Bidding at 225-810-4814.

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.

4/14/2022, 4/21/2022

LEGAL

ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CITY OF JACKSON CLASSIFICATION
AND COMPENSATION PLAN TO ADD THE JOB CLASSIFICATION OF
CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER.

WHEREAS, the Office of the Mayor requested that the Department of Human Resources conduct a salary survey on the classification and its job duties of Chief Financial Officer; and

WHEREAS, the Office of the Mayor has expressed a need for a Chief Financial Officer to provide oversight to the Departments of Administration, Human Resources and Division of Information Systems; and

WHEREAS, inquiries for Chief Financial Officer were submitted to the following Southeastern cities: Mobile, Alabama; Savannah, Georgia; and Little Rock, Arkansas; and

WHEREAS, the response from the Cities surveyed concerning the median salary paid for the position of the Chief Financial Officer was within the range of \$92,638.00-142,663.00; and

WHEREAS, the best interest of the City of Jackson would be served by adding the following position to the current pay plan: Chief Financial Officer at a salary comparable to the compensation paid by other Southeastern cities such as those cited; and

WHEREAS, it is recommended that the job class: Chief Financial Officer be added to the pay plan. The range established for Chief Financial be added as range 50 with annual compensation being between \$103,685.28-125,992.08; and

WHEREAS, the Office of the Mayor has informed the Department of Human Resources that they have the monies in their budget to cover the recommended addition to the pay plan.

IT IS, THEREFORE, ORDERED that the Pay Plan adopted by the City Council on September 22, 1998, found in the Minute Book 4Y, be further amended to add the classification of Chief Financial Officer pay range 50 (\$103,685.28-125,992.08) to be effective immediately.

President Lindsay moved adoption; Council Member Grizzell seconded.

Yeas – Banks, Foote, Grizzell, Hartley, Lee and Lindsay.
Nays – None.
Absent – Stokes.

ATTEST:

Angela Harris
Municipal Clerk

I, Angela Harris, the duly appointed qualified Municipal Clerk and lawful custodian of records and seal of said City of Jackson, Mississippi, certify that the foregoing is a true and exact copy of an Order passed by the City Council at its Regular Council Meeting on September 14, 2021 and recorded in Minute Book "6T, Pgs. 545-546."

WITNESS my signature and official seal of office, this the 8th day of April, 2022.

SEAL Angela Harris, Municipal Clerk

4/14/2022

LEGAL

I/We the member of Sambou's African Kitchen LLC, intend to make application for a On-Premise Retailer permit.

As provided for by the Local Option Alcoholic Beverage Control Laws, Section 67-1-1, et seq., of the Mississippi Code of 1972, Annotated. If granted such permit, I propose to operate as a 100% owned Limited Liability Company. Under the trade name of Sambou's African Kitchen Located at 1625 E County Line Rd Suite 150 Jackson, MS 39211 – Hinds County.

The name, title, and address of the owner of the above named business is:
Joseph Sambou
Owner/Manger
132 Lakeway Dr.
Madison, MS 39110

If any person wishes to request a hearing to object to the issuance of this permit a request for a hearing must be made in writing and received by the Department of Revenue within (15) fifteen days from the first date this notice was published.

Requests shall be sent to:
Chief Counsel, Legal Division
Department of Revenue
P.O. Box 22828
Jackson, MS 39225

4/7/2022 , 4/14/2022

LEGAL

ORDINANCE ADDING CHAPTER 2, ARTICLE III, DIVISION 9, SECTION
2-331 OF THE JACKSON CODE OF ORDINANCES.

WHEREAS, the governing authorities find it in the best interest of the City of Jackson, Mississippi, to formally create by ordinance the position of Chief Financial Officer; and

WHEREAS, the governing authorities find that Sections 2-331 of the Jackson Code of Ordinances should added as follows:

DIVISION 9. - CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

Sec. 2-331. - Position of chief administrative officer created.

There is hereby created the position of chief financial officer who shall be appointed by the mayor and confirmed by the city council. The chief financial officer shall coordinate and direct the operations of financial resources and administrative functions of the City of Jackson, and providing operational programmatic support of the municipal government. The chief financial officer shall be answerable solely to the mayor in the performance of his functions and shall serve at the pleasure of the mayor, shall be subject to dismissal at the pleasure of the mayor and shall be excluded from the coverage of any ordinance or general law providing for civil service coverage.

THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI, THAT Section 2-331 of the Jackson Code of Ordinances is added to read as follows:

There is hereby created the position of chief financial officer who shall be appointed by the mayor and confirmed by the city council. The chief financial officer shall coordinate and direct the operations of financial resources and administrative functions of the City of Jackson, and providing operational programmatic support of the municipal government. The chief financial officer shall be answerable solely to the mayor in the performance of his functions and shall serve at the pleasure of the mayor, shall be subject to dismissal at the pleasure of the mayor and shall be excluded from the coverage of any ordinance or general law providing for civil service coverage.

IT IS FURTHER ORDAINED that this Ordinance shall become effective thirty (30) days after passage and publication thereof.

President Lindsay moved adoption; Vice President Lee seconded.

Yeas – Banks, Foote, Grizzell, Hartley, Lee and Lindsay.
Nays – None.
Absent – Stokes.

ATTEST:

Angela Harris
Municipal Clerk

I, Angela Harris, the duly appointed qualified Municipal Clerk and lawful custodian of records and seal of said City of Jackson, Mississippi, certify that the foregoing is a true and exact copy of an Order passed by the City Council at its Regular Council Meeting on September 14, 2021 and recorded in Minute Book "6T, Pgs. 544-545."

WITNESS my signature and official seal of office, this the 8th day of April, 2022.

SEAL Angela Harris, Municipal Clerk

4/14/2022

LEGAL

ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CITY OF JACKSON CLASSIFICATION
AND COMPENSATION PLAN TO ADD JOB CLASSIFICATIONS
CONTROLLER AND ASSISTANT CONTROLLER FOR THE DIVISION OF
FINANCE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION.

WHEREAS, the Department of Administration requested that the Department of Human Resources conduct a job analysis to create the classification, salary and job description of a Controller and Assistant Controller that is tailored to the Division of Finance in the Department of Administration; and

WHEREAS, the creation of these classifications is necessary to managing the financial resources of the City, conducting financial studies, and managing a complex accounting system; and

WHEREAS, the tasks performed by the Controller and Assistant Controller are to plan and direct the activities of the Finance Division, to include Accounting, Accounts Payable, and Payroll; and

WHEREAS, inquiries for the classifications of Controller and Assistant Controller that are specific to the Finance Division, were submitted to the following Southeastern cities; Mobile, Alabama and Little Rock, Arkansas; and

WHEREAS, the response from the Cities surveyed concerning the median salary paid for the position equivalent of the Controller was within the range of \$71,889.33-\$101,240.12; Assistant Controller was within the range of \$57,565.34-\$75,147.44; and

WHEREAS, the best interest of the City of Jackson would be served by adding the following classifications to the current pay plan: Controller; Assistant Controller classifications at a salary comparable to the compensation paid by other Southeastern cities such as those cited; and

WHEREAS, it is recommended that the job classifications: Controller be added as a pay range 33 with annual compensation being between \$56,655.12-\$68,560.08; Assistant Controller be added as a pay range 31 with annual compensation being between \$51,588.24-\$62,385.12; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Administration has informed the Department of Human Resources that addition of the classifications will not require a budget revision because there is sufficient monies in the existing budget to cover salaries and fringes for the classifications.

IT IS, THEREFORE, ORDERED that the Pay Plan adopted by the City Council on September 22, 1998, found in the Minute Book 4Y, be further amended to add the Controller with a pay range of 33 (\$56, 655.12-\$68, 560.08) and Assistant Controller with a pay range of 31 (\$51,588.24-\$62,385.12) to be effective immediately.

President Lindsay moved adoption; Council Member Grizzell seconded.
Yeas – Banks, Foote, Grizzell, Hartley, Lee, Lindsay and Stokes.
Nays – None.
Absent – None.

ATTEST:

Angela Harris
Municipal Clerk

I, Angela Harris, the duly appointed qualified Municipal Clerk and lawful custodian of records and seal of said City of Jackson, Mississippi, certify that the foregoing is a true and exact copy of an Order passed by the City Council at its Regular Council Meeting March 1, 2022 and recorded in Minute Book "6U", Pgs. 506-507.

WITNESS my signature and official seal of office, this the 8th day of April, 2022.

SEAL Angela Harris, Municipal Clerk

4/14/2022

LEGAL

ORDINANCE GRANTING AUDREY WILEY THE REZONING OF PARCEL 835-55 LOCATED ON HWY 18 FROM C-2 (LIMITED) COMMERCIAL DISTRICT & C-3 (GENERAL) COMMERCIAL DISTRICT TO A SPECIAL USE DISTRICT TO ALLOW FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE PROPERTY AS A CEMETERY, CASE NO. 4154.

WHEREAS, Audrey Wiley has filed a petition to rezone the property located at Parcel 835-55 on Hwy 18 in the City of Jackson, First Judicial District of Hinds County, Mississippi from C-2 (Limited) Commercial District & C-3 (General) Commercial District to a Special Use District to allow for the development of the property as a cemetery; and

WHEREAS, the Jackson City Planning Board, after holding the required public hearing, has offered the recommendation to rezone the property from C-2 (Limited) Commercial District & C-3 (General) Commercial District to a Special Use District to allow for the development of the subject property as a cemetery; and

WHEREAS, notice was duly and legally given to property owners and interested citizens that a meeting of the Council would be held at the City Hall at 2:30 p.m., Monday, January 24, 2022 to consider said change based upon the record of the case as developed before the Jackson City Planning Board; and

WHEREAS, it appeared to the satisfaction of the Jackson City Council that notice of said petition had been published in the Mississippi Link on November 25, 2021 and December 09, 2021 that a hearing had been held by the Jackson City Planning Board on December 15, 2021, all as provided for by ordinances of the City of Jackson and the laws of the State of Mississippi, and that the Jackson City Planning Board has offered the recommendation to rezone the above described property from C-2 (Limited) Commercial District to a Special Use District to allow for the development of the subject property as a cemetery; and

WHEREAS, the Jackson City Council after having considered the matter, is of the opinion that such changes would be in keeping with sound land use practice and to the best interest of the City and that there has been a substantial change in the land use character of the surrounding area that justifies rezoning the properties and there is a public need for additional property in that area zoned in accordance with the request in said application since any previous Jackson City Council action.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI:

SECTION 1 That the property located in the City of Jackson, First Judicial District of Hinds County, Mississippi, more particularly described as follows:

A parcel of land situated in the Southwest ¼ of Section 15, Township 5 North. Range 1 West, City of Jackson, First Judicial District of Hinds County, Mississippi, and being particularly described by metes and bounds as follows:

BEG SW COR PARCEL 7 LJ JACKSON PTN S 1181.20 FT TO N/L HWY 18 NELY 630 FT NWLY 328 FT ELY150 FT SELY 321 FT ELY 170 FT NLY 264.15 FT ELY 320 FT NLY 420 FT W 1046 FT TO POB SE ¼ SW 1/4 SEC 15 T5 R1W LESS TO WILEY

is hereby modified so as to approve the rezoning of the property located at Parcel 835-55 on Hwy 18 from C-2 (Limited) Commercial District & C-3 (General) Commercial District to a Special Use District to allow for the development of the property as a cemetery. However, that before for any structure is erected or use thereof on the said property, the applicant must meet the requirements established through the Site Plan Review process. The Zoning Administrator is ordered to note such change on the Official Zoning Map to the City of Jackson, Mississippi.

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

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

Council Member Grizzell moved adoption; Council Member Banks seconded.

Yeas – Banks, Foote, Grizzell, Hartley, Lee and Lindsay.
Nays – None.
Absent – Stokes.

ATTEST:

Angela Harris
Municipal Clerk

I, Angela Harris, the duly appointed qualified Municipal Clerk and lawful custodian of records and seal of said City of Jackson, Mississippi, certify that the foregoing is a true and exact copy of an Order passed by the City Council at its Zoning Council Meeting January 24, 2022 and recorded in Minute Book “6U”, Pages 410-411.

WITNESS my signature and official seal of office, this the 6th day of April, 2022.

Angela Harris
Municipal Clerk

4/14/2022

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.
MCDADE’S MARKET
Northside Drive
MCDADE’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

Sudoku

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

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

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Sudoku Solution

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

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JOHN DEERE 450G. Wide track Dozer. Serial no. 768890. Hours: 2,310. New bottom at 1,860 hours. \$18,700. 601-876-4477. If no answer, leave message.

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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

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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.



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Week of April 3, 2022

The Jackson family's living legend celebrates No. 100

A man who believes 'family is currency' and who has seen many historic firsts

Special to The Mississippi Link

The Jackson family had been aching to get together. This loving clan centers around a Delta legend and their beloved elder, the genial Weddie "Bo" Jackson. After two years of ensuring that their eldest male relative was adequately protected against lethality of the COVID-19 pandemic, it was time to party. And this was not just any party. Bo Jackson as he is affectionally called, was turning 100.

The Marks, Miss. centurion has witnessed many historic firsts in his lifetime, especially pertaining to African Americans. Some of them are, but certainly not limited to, the first African-American President of the United States – President Barack Obama (serving back-to-back terms, 2009-2017); the first African-American and first woman Vice President of the United States – Vice President Kamala Harris (2021-present); and not one but now three African-American Supreme Court Justices – Justice Thurgood Marshall (served, 1967-1991), Justice Clarence Thomas (1991 to present), and most recently confirmed, the first African-American woman, Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson (April 7, 2022).

Bo is a member of a very special club. There are 97,000 centenarians in the United States; over 80 percent of whom are women. In this small group, centenarians can happen in sibling pairs. Twelve percent of centenarians are African American which, unlike all other racial and ethnic groups, is the same percentage at which African Americans exist in the U.S. population. This makes sense. Centenarians are experts at managing stress, a quotidian factor of black life. They hold memories close but are not disabled by loss. And, they spend a lot of time with friends and family.



Jackson

Bo Jackson was born March 6, 1922. He was one of 11 children who grew up in Vance, an unincorporated community in Quitman and Tallahatchie counties. Jackson's surviving siblings are Cornie Jackson Thomas, who is 101, and lives in nearby Lambert. She attended his celebration. Still surviving and thriving are younger sisters Elizabeth Jackson Lee, 95, of Merrillville, Indiana and Theresa Jackson Sharp, 86, of Memphis.

Theresa recalls the family's hard work picking cotton and working other crops as sharecroppers. Though some siblings moved away, granddaughter Tamara said that her grandfather loved Marks. He felt rooted and happy there. Part of his happiness was found in the woman who became his life partner.

Bo met Mary Belle in Vance, marrying her after a short courtship and meetings with their families. In search of better economic opportu-

nity, the couple moved to Marks.

Barbara Ann Mapp, one of Bo's daughters, proudly recalled what a hard worker her father was. Bo provided whatever he could for his family. "He always found a way to get us what we needed." She recalled how hard her father worked to save money to buy a family home. That home was later moved to the lot where it now sits. It is the home in which the family gathers for the birthday celebration. So much life, love and history has happened in that home.

Bo and Mary Belle Jackson were involved, supportive and active parents. When Mary Belle died in 2013, she and Bo had been married for 67 years.

Bo was employed by a local car company and auto body business. Having learned his craft, he opened and operated his own car repair and body shop out of his home. To bring in additional income, Bo also sold fruit and vegetables in town. "He used to be a jack of all trades and hustled a lot to make ends meet," said great-grandson Patrick Wells.

Rashad Jackson remembers selling fruit and vegetables with his grandfather and his cousin Reggie. He recalls that they once filled a truck with watermelons and sold half of them. Somehow, they made much less money than expected. The reason that the till was unbalanced taught the boys a considerable amount about being good citizens. Their grandfather was giving melons on credit to people with fixed incomes or to those who had no money. He taught his grandsons that, while making money is im-

portant, caring for those who have less than you is essential to being a responsible community member.

"He was always teaching us to do more to get involved," said granddaughter Tamara Jackson. "He's been integral to all of our lives."

Then there was the meal preparation, an essential component of their Jackson family together. Rashad Jackson considered himself a great cook. He had slathered and smoked ribs. He thought they were delicious. He bragged about them. Grandfather Bo tasted the ribs and gently informed Rashad that he could teach his how to make them better.

Rashad took cooking lessons from his grandfather and now makes truly delicious, meat-falling-off-the-bone ribs. Rashad is now the family pit master, the one responsible for firing up the grill at family gatherings. He carries on a tradition, one that he will teach another generation of Jacksons.

Not surprising, members of the Jackson family learned to fix cars, cook, manage money, save for home purchases, care for one another, and serve their community.

Deepak Chopra's newest book, titled Abundance, was inspired by a song lyric attributed to Bob Marley. To address concerns about his impoverished countryman, Marley, a Jamaican reggae musician famous for socially conscious lyrics sang, "Some people are so poor! All they have is money."

By this definition, Bo Jackson is exceedingly rich. He defines wealth as family, as laughter, as

meals shared at his home surrounded by his nine children, 25 grandchildren, 40 great grandchildren and 12 great-great grandchildren. He has an especially close relationship with his sister Theresa, with whom he has talked and teased over the phone no matter where she's lived.

For generations, Bo's relatives have viewed his home as a place to gather. They have shared Sunday dinners after church. They've watched football, shouting at the screen and eating some absolutely delicious food. They have great Super Bowl memories. Bo is a Beyonce fan and her halftime show, filled with touchstones of African-American history, was as much life as music to him.

Although, Beyonce has never called Weddie on his birthday. Vincent Edward "Bo" Jackson, storied football player with the Kansas City Royals and Los Angeles Angels, called him for his 93rd birthday, and again surprised him with a call on his 100th birthday.

Five generations of the Jackson family flocked to Marks to celebrate Weddie "Bo" Jackson. As they gathered to celebrate his 100th birthday, all of Bo's loving relatives sorted through the treasure troves of their memories about the life of this man and of the importance of this special man in their lives. They had learned from him that family is currency. He had taught them that, because they have been graced by God with life, love, family and opportunity, they had responsibilities to one another and to their community.

Bo and Mary Belle built a home

with a sturdy physical foundation. That's just a house. A home includes foundations that are built on faith, morals, educational excellence and community service.

Son Senator Robert L. Jackson, Mississippi State Senator, District 11, exemplifies his parent's lessons. He is also the CEO of the Quitman County Development Organization, offering home-buyers counseling to residents and providing low interest loans or grants for housing rehabilitation. The organization constructs multi-family housing and single-family rental properties throughout Quitman County. They have done extensive homeowner housing rehabilitation for low wealth and physically challenged families. The Senator learned the lesson of the watermelons. His father is his hero.

Lieutenant Governor C. Delbert Hosemann Jr., as president of the Senate, and Senator Tyler McCaughn, extended the best wishes of the Mississippi State Senate to Weddie (Bo) Jackson on his 100th birthday with a resolution.

As the family continues to celebrate, the entire family is examining their lives and understanding with certainty that the sturdy foundation Bo built for them, and the model of familial love with which he has surrounded them, is responsible for their success.

Bo Jackson is a wealthy man, blessed in return by the seeds of love he has sewn into family and community throughout his life. Generations will carry on his lessons and his love.

There is no better birthday gift. See photos, page 15.

AARP
Mississippi

Fraud Prevention



Fight Fraud: Shred Instead

Stay one step ahead of identity thieves with AARP Mississippi, at a free, contactless shred event. Social distancing protocols will be observed.

The event is sponsored by AARP Fraud Watch Network and AARP Mississippi.

10 a.m. – 2 p.m., April 20, 2022

Jackson Revival Center Church - Downtown
4655 Terry Road
Jackson, MS 39212

aarp.org/fraudwatchnetwork



Hinds County Human Resource Agency Project Head State is currently accepting applications for the 2022-2023 school year.



Priority is given to children with diagnosed disabilities (certified IEP or IFSP)

To Qualify:

- Child must be 3 or 4 on or before September 1st
- Family must reside in Hinds County
- Must be a low-income family (based on the federal poverty level)

"Families of children with disabilities are encouraged to apply regardless of income."

"Priority is given to children with diagnosed disabilities (certified IEP or IFSP)"

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- Medical
- Dental
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- Disability
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- Limited Transportation

...ALL AT NO COST TO PARENTS!

To Apply, You Must Present the Following:

- 1) **Proof of child's age** - birth certificate, hospital birth record, or passport
- 2) **Proof of family's income** - tax return, W 2, pay stub, SSI, Social Security, child support, TANF, grants/scholarship, unemployment, and any other source of household income
- 3) **Proof of Hinds County residency** - lease, mortgage statement, current utility bill (light, water, gas or sewer), current phone or cable bill
- 4) **Child's Social Security number**
- 5) **Medical insurance of child (if applicable)**
- 6) **IEP or IFSP (if applicable)**
- 7) **Legal guardianship (if applicable)**
- 8) **Documentation of foster care (if applicable)**

To apply to Head Start or receive more information, call (601) 923-3950.

PRIORITY DEADLINE: MAY 27, 2022



Helping Families, Strengthening Communities



By Terri Schlichenmeyer
Columnist

Some things, well, you just make them your own. You know it happens when you just can’t let something go. You turn it over in your mind six ways daily, and talk about it until everybody around you’s sick of hearing about it. Pretty soon, it’s your problem to have but be careful: as in the new novel, “Take My Hand” by Dolen Perkins-Valdez, these kinds of things change lives. If you’d have asked her, Civil

Townsend couldn’t exactly tell you why she was on a road trip, alone, heading from Memphis to Birmingham. Maybe it was because she’d heard that India was sick with cancer. Maybe it was guilt. She wondered if India would even remember her. It had been more than forty years since Civil last saw her. India was a girl then. In a way, so was Civil. That was 1973, a year of women’s rights and political upheaval, and she was fresh out of

school, a new nurse at her first job at a family planning clinic in Birmingham. The clinic was funded by the government and most of its clientele were poor, a fact that was hard: Civil had grown up with privileges that few black Alabamans enjoyed, and she’d been made to fear the people who looked like her, but were not like her at all. Wasn’t it ironic, then, that the first folder she received on her first day at work was for Erica and India Williams, two girls who were living in squalor, filthy

and illiterate? Wasn’t it ironic that Civil was told to give those little girls birth control shots that could make them sick when she, herself, was carrying a birth-related secret? Reluctance to do her job led to rebellion, which led her to try to make a difference in the lives of the girls, their father and their grandmother. Civil stepped in and got them new housing, new clothing, and new lives. But she didn’t help in the end, she made things worse. Would her own daughter un-

derstand someday? Based loosely on a real-life, historic case, “Take My Hand” seems poised for an outrage that only barely arrives, perhaps because the reason for the railing is overshadowed by the main character, fussing at herself and her own decisions. In the beginning, in fact, author Dolen Perkins-Valdez doesn’t make her Civil very likable; even Civil admits that she’s “uppity” and that never really goes away. As for the plot, well, it’s slow – except when it’s not, and then

reading it feels like skimming it, as though you only caught the highlights of it all. This unevenness can sometimes be hard to get through, but you must: that’s where the good of this novel lies. Which is part of the answer to the question: Should you read this book anyhow? Yes, maybe, if you’re unfamiliar with Relf v. Weinberger, since this tale may act as a gentler, softer way to learn about it. Just beware of its bumps, try “Take My Hand,” and make it your own.

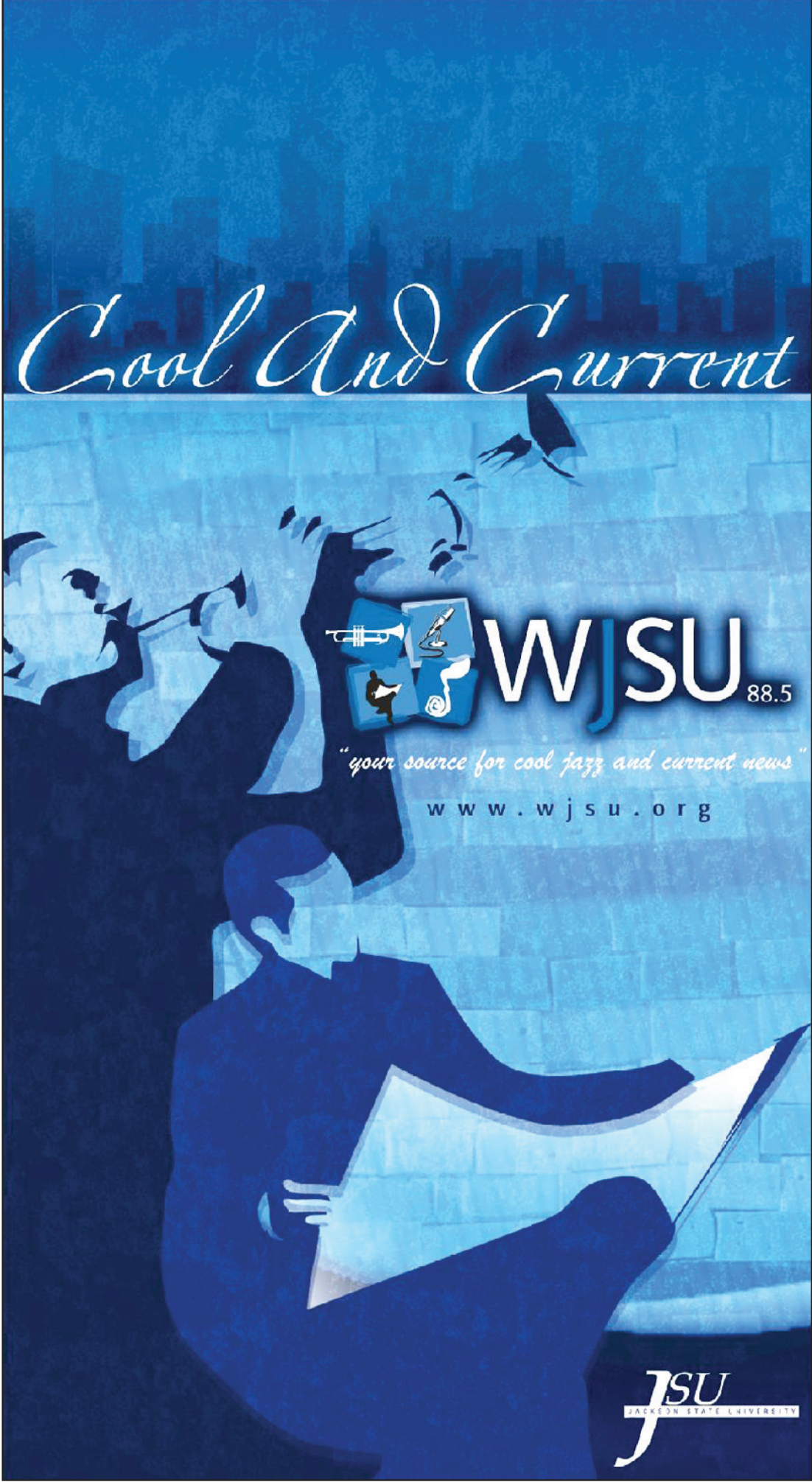
Statement of Working Together Jackson regarding the crisis in City Government

Mississippi Link Newswire

Working Together Jackson is a broad-based organization that represents the full diversity of our city. Our member institutions include people of all races, faiths, socioeconomic classes and political viewpoints. There is one thing that everybody in Jackson – including the mayor and the city council – can agree on: the fight over the garbage contract is a mess. When garbage pickup is making headlines, it’s a sign that things have gone wrong. When the headlines also include lawsuits, shouting at council meetings and accusations of drug use and bribery, it’s obvious that things are broken. We have no financial or political stake in this fight. WTJ is a nonpartisan organization: we do not endorse or align ourselves with parties, candidates or elected officials; nor do we have an affiliation with any private business, including the companies that bid for the garbage contract. Our interest is simply to ensure that Jackson’s leaders do the job they were elected to do. From our vantage point, Richard’s Disposal is the rightful winner of a fair bidding process. Richard’s has demonstrated its capability of handling Jackson’s sanitation needs through their decades of work in Baton Rouge and New Orleans. They will save taxpayers \$102,000 a month and \$12 million over the life of the contract. We believe the council’s actions were arbitrary. What’s more, Richard’s is a black-owned business that

is in our region. Jackson is 82 percent black, but black-owned businesses receive only a small fraction of the city’s contracts. One of the priorities identified by WTJ’s member institutions is increasing the share of the city’s contracts that go to black-owned businesses. This is essential to raising the overall standard of living in the city and reducing economic disparities across our neighborhoods. We do not believe that the city intends to discriminate, but it is easier to keep doing business as usual – which means continuing to give contracts to a handful of white-owned incumbent businesses or large multinational corporations like Waste Management. Just because it is easy to keep the status quo does not mean that it is right. And when keeping the status quo costs taxpayers an extra \$12 million – money that could be used to hire more police officers or public works staff – and puts the city’s sanitation services in limbo, it is definitively the wrong thing to do. We call on the city’s leaders to immediately approve the contract with Richard’s, or find a reasonable compromise, so that you can get back to work on Jackson’s many other pressing needs. Violent crime continues to plague the city, our water and sewer system is broken, streets are full of potholes, young people are increasingly hopeless, and the city’s population continues to decline. Fighting over the garbage contract has taken time, attention and resources away from these is-

sués that will ultimately determine whether Jackson is a viable place to live in the future. The dysfunction on display in City Hall may have already cost Jackson tens of millions of dollars for water and sewer infrastructure from the Legislature. WTJ and our emerging statewide network Working Together Mississippi have strongly advocated for state leaders to increase Jackson’s share of the once-in-a-generation federal funding. We all know that the mistrust between the capital city and state did not start with the garbage contract. However, legislators have specifically stated that they were unwilling to devote more money to a city that cannot even ensure that its garbage will be picked up. As committed as we are to Jackson, it is a hard argument to rebut. Therefore, we call on you to put aside your grievances and finally approve a garbage contract. Politics in a democracy will always be messy because it is how we mediate conflicting interests. But the process must always end in public action that serves the common good. Let’s put this fight behind us so we can reduce crime and rebuild our infrastructure. Let’s develop a local economy that offers living-wage jobs and career paths to unemployed, underemployed. Let’s extend the opportunity of homeownership in vibrant and safe neighborhoods. Let’s make Jackson a place where young people want to stay. All of this is possible if – and only if – we work together.



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!

Weedie 'Bo' Jackson celebrates 100 years with children, grandchildren, siblings and friends

Marks, Mississippi • March 5, 2022

PHOTOS COURTESY OF FAMILY OF BO JACKSON



Special Meeting of Jackson City Council, April 13

By Chris Young
Contributing Writer

The Special Council Meeting began with several resolutions, the first of which was to honor Jackson State University Women's Basketball Coach Tomekia Reed. Reed began at JSU in 2018 after achieving success at Hinds County Community College, and now she has done it again.

Each new year brings increased success for Reed, who has been named Coach of the Year by Southwestern Athletic Conference in 2020 and 2022, with this year culminating in The Lady Tigers cutting down the nets as Champions of the SWAC in just four years since her arrival. And oh, so close, to defeating LSU in the National Collegiate Athletic Association Tournament in Baton Rouge.

Another resolution honored JPS-Tougaloo Early College Jim Hill student, Jahliyah Readus, who has been offered scholarships from scores of colleges and universities. She spoke with inspiring gratitude and humility in accepting the honor – praising God, her family, her community and the supportive environment at both Jim Hill HS and Tougaloo. She made clear that she has not yet made up her mind which school she will attend, but it was very clear it will be an HBCU.

Two presentations were made; the first to Bernard Bridges as a Trustmark Banker of the Year, and the second to WLBT Anchor



Coach Tomekia Reed



Jahliyah Readus



Mayor Chokwe Antar Lumumba

Howard Ballou, who was touched to receive The Maude Ballou Award, named for his mother who had contributed strongly to civil rights activism, and was close with Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and Mrs. King. He indicated that he was “fortunate to receive many awards through the years, but I have to admit, this one means the most.”

After some routine business; amending the budget, authorizing a personal services agreement, and other things, it was time to get back to garbage – after all, we have been focusing on this topic for the past nine or more months. Today yet another chapter of Jackson's long-running garbage contracting dispute was unveiled at City Hall.

Briefly looking back, Waste Management has held the contract for solid waste collection in Jackson since the late 1980's. An attempt made by Jackson Mayor Chokwe Antar Lumumba to open the bidding process up has been met with resistance from every

corner. Even when using a blind bidding process which is not required of the mayor, he could not get support from a majority of city council members. Even when it was revealed the winning bid from Richard's Disposal was \$102,000 per month cheaper, the majority of this council of a cash-strapped city, would not support contracting with the black-owned company with a successful record of hauling trash in New Orleans and Baton Rouge for decades.

Basic reasons are never provided by the majority black city council members who are dead-set against a change from Waste Management. Sparring in two-different courts and in City Hall, has become routine now, all at taxpayer expense.

This morning at 11 a.m. the council went into closed session to take up Agenda Item 13: Pending Litigation, prior to several items that preceded it on the agenda. Coming out after approximately thirty minutes the Special Council for Jackson City Council, Deshun

Martin told reporters that “lawyers will file for a temporary restraining order as injunctive relief against the mayor. He went on to say that there is no contract with Richard's Disposal and that Richard's Disposal will not be paid. If they are picking up trash, they are doing it for free.”

Back inside the chamber, Agenda Items 10, 11, and 12 were soon taken up by council. Item 10: Order to Override the April 5, 2022 Mayor's Veto on the “Proclamation of Local Emergency for Jackson Mississippi by City Council, on the September 27, 2021 City Council Meeting Minutes. Motion was made by Councilman Banks and seconded by Councilman Hartley. Councilwoman Lindsay stated that “the votes were all over the place on this and I think there were five or six votes.” A vote was quickly taken without any further discussion – as if it had been already discussed privately – and the results were 6-1 approving the order, with Councilwoman Lee opposing.

Item 11: Order to Override the April 5, 2022 Mayor's Veto on the “Order Ratifying an Emergency Solid Waste Collection and Hauling Agreement with Waste Management, Inc. for a term of six months” on the October 26, 2021 City Council Meeting Minutes. Motion was made by Councilman Aaron Banks and seconded by Councilman Vernon Hartley. Council President Virgi Lindsay stated “this item is self-explanatory, but I was very disappointed to see the mayor's veto. This matter had been the result of a settlement and had been agreed to, and to me, I consider it disingenuous.”

Councilman Banks then added, “I commend Councilwoman Lindsay for her leadership, because I agree; it was disingenuous. The vote was then taken, 6-1 to approve the order, with Councilwoman Angelique Lee abstaining.

Item 12: Resolution of the City Council of the City of Jackson Mississippi objecting to the use of property at Hawkins Field of Lavernet Road as a staging and operational business location for garbage trucks (Resolution made by Councilman Stokes). He indicated that it was sad commentary that the Airport Board voted to allow the use of their property, and that there were going to be rats as big as cats over there and horseflies just when residents are getting ready for summer bar-b-ques.

Councilman Banks stated that he appreciated Mr. Stokes for bringing this up and that on his

way to church he had seen Richard's trucks collecting trash on Sunday when the transfer station is closed and wondered where those trucks would sit with full loads.

Councilman Hartley indicated that there are lots of unanswered questions and it looks like it was hastily put in place. He even wondered how the pilots that use that airfield felt about having the trash trucks there.

Councilman Ashby Foote asked for data from the Airport Authority as to why they allowed it. Councilman Grizzell indicated that in the interest of transparency, that the Transfer Station is right across Country Club Road and it is definitely in a residential area and he wished that Council 20-30 years ago had looked closer at this. The vote was then taken, 4-1 to approve the resolution, with Councilman Grizzell opposing and Councilwomen Lee and Lindsay abstaining.

Richard's Disposal, who has been picking up trash in Jackson since April 1, was barely mentioned directly today. Perhaps that is due to pending litigation.

What is clear is that the majority of Jackson City Council is not done fighting this issue. It leaves me wondering how many more thousands of taxpayer dollars they will spend in litigation in an effort to prevent this black-owned firm from operating, and what happens to all of our city's other pressing issues while they are at it.

Hinds County School District Weekly Update ENGAGING-EMPOWERING-ENSURING-EXCELLENCE Terry High School Groundbreaking Ceremony



Dr. Delesicia Martin, superintendent, the School Board, and Matthew Scott, principal, break ground on the new facility at Terry High School.



Students participating in the festivities included the cheerleaders, Student Council members, the band and various organizations.



Builder, GG Ferguson, explains the construction process.



THS Drumline entertains the crowd at the ceremony.



Hinds County School District School Board – Carolyn Samuals, Kayla Banger, Dr. Linda Laws, Robbie Anders and Rod Jones



Matthew Scott, Dr. Delesicia Martin, Dr. Bill Sellers



Dr. William Sellers, assistant superintendent, welcomes spectators to the event.



Dr. Linda Laws, School Board president, remarks on how wonderful it is to be breaking ground on a new facility at Terry High School.



Matthew Scott, principal, discusses how much the campus has grown since being a student there himself, and how pleased he is to see this facility grow even more.