

A grand celebration of life at The Two Museums

Remarks offered by former U.S. President Bill Clinton



The Celebration of Life for Gov. and Mrs. Winter included recognition from a former U.S. president, former MS governor and former MS Supreme Court judge PHOTO BY CHRIS YOUNG

By Chris Young
Contributing Writer

William Forrest Winter, Mississippi's 58th governor who served from 1980-1984, passed away December 18, 2020. Less than a year later his wife Elise Varner Winter passed away July 17, 2021. With COVID waning, their celebration of life was finally held May 3, 2022 with The Two Museums filled to capacity, including the Neilsen Auditorium and at the adjacent Neilsen Hall of History where the event was broadcast live on large video monitors.

Seated on the dais were Spence Flatgard, Mississippi Department



Former Governor William Winter and wife Elise

of Archives and History Board of Trustees President, former Governor Haley Barbour, President William Jefferson "Bill" Clinton, Rueben Anderson, Former Mis-

issippi Supreme Court Justice and Katie Blount, director of The Mississippi Department of Archives and History.

Governor Winter was known

for reforming public education in Mississippi, encompassing his three greatest passions – history, education and racial justice. He served fifty years on the MDAH Board and the opening of The Two Museums is part of his legacy.

He was born in Grenada and became aware of racial inequities at a young age.

He graduated from the University of Mississippi and served in the U.S. Army and then the Mississippi Army National Guard during World War II and the Ko-

Celebration
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Hinds County Board of Supervisors Press Conference

By Chris Young
Contributing Writer

A Press Conference was held in the Hinds County Board Room at 316 South President Street in Jackson April 28 at 9:30 a.m. Board Vice President and District 4 Supervisor Vern O. Gavin announced the allocation of \$4m of American Rescue Plan Act funds for Economic and Community Development in Hinds County.

Supervisor Gavin was joined by Board President and District 3 Supervisor Credell Calhoun, District 5 Supervisor Bobby "Bobcat" McGowan and Hope Enterprise Corporation CEO William J. "Bill" Bynum.

"The mission was initiated and passed Monday, April 18, to allocate \$4m of ARPA funds to foster economic growth and revitalize communities in Hinds County. It will provide assistance to small businesses and enable use of ARPA funds they have already received," Gavin



From left to right - Supv. Bobby McGowan, Supv. Vern Gavin, HOPE CEO Bill Bynum, Supv. Credell Calhoun

said.

He went on to share that the board is exploring the development of a commerce entity to foster the growth of minority and women-owned businesses,

and to strengthen all businesses operating in Hinds County. The goal of this entity will be to serve as the hub for businesses, consulting services, access to contracts, capital and markets.

Job creation, economic revitalization, community sustainability through home ownership will be included as part of a

Hinds
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HUD's Dep. Asst. Sec. Cullen advocates outreach in fighting housing discrimination

NCRC Senior Advisor Davenport stresses CRA utilization at HEED's 33rd annual conference



HUD's Dep. Asst. Sec. DeAndrea J. Cullen holds a piece of paper bearing words that describe how excited she was as a college student in 1994 anticipating having her own apartment. PHOTOS BY GAIL BROWN

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

"Imagine that you are being told that you cannot rent an apartment because of the color of your skin," shared DeAndrea J. Cullen, deputy assistant secretary for the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), Office of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity (FHEO).

Cullen, a Georgia native, was in Jackson from Washington, D.C. to keynote Friday's April 29 Awards Luncheon of the Housing, Education and Economic Development (HEED), Inc.'s 33rd Annual Fair Housing – Fair Lending Conference in observance of April as Fair Housing Month. Charles Harris is HEED's founder and CEO.

"That happened to me in 1994, and I was devastated. Absolutely devastated. I was in college, and I did not know about the Fair Housing Act then...The landlord told me that she did not want my kind of people there because we brought crime and babies..."

Speaking to a packed Penthouse Dining room in the Jackson Hilton Hotel Convention Center on County Line Road, Cullen shared that that was her first encounter with housing discrimination. "Don't think I have not been permanently impacted by that landlord," she said... She demonstrated, using a sheet of paper with words on it of how excited she felt anticipating her own apartment only to have that piece of paper representing that excitement trashed by a discriminating landlord. "But don't feel sorry for me because I've turned pain into power."

She said as a policymaker, she continues to use her voice to raise awareness about civil rights. She reiterated that her experienced happened in 1994 but every day, she hears stories like hers. Cullen pointed out that people are still being denied housing opportunities because of the country from which they originate, the God they pray to, the person

Housing
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NCRC Senior Advisor Davenport presents more about Community Reinvestment Act (CRA) utilization during the session on Appraisal Bias.

The Medgar Wiley Evers Lecture Series welcomes Eddie Glaude Jr. to Two Museums of MS

By Jackie Hampton
Publisher

The 2022 Medgar Wiley Evers Lecture Series, which was established in 2003, featured Moss Point native and Princeton University professor Eddie Glaude Jr., Thursday, April 28, at the Two Mississippi Museums in Jackson.

This series was established in 2003 to honor the legacy of civil rights leader Medgar Evers. It was established one year after Myrlie Evers presented an extraordinary collection of Medgar and Mrlie Evers papers to the Mississippi Department of Archives and History (MDAH).

Katie Blount, director of MDAH gave a welcome and spoke of the gift of these papers. She stated, “This is one of the most significant civil rights collections in the country; it is one of the most significant papers we have in our care.” She went on to say, “It was an incredibly generous gift and an important sign that shows this department was changing in ways that it needed to change.”

Reena Evers-Everette, executive director of Medgar and Myrlie Evers Institute, gave opening remarks. She expressed how important the Evers Lecture Series are in that they are about social justice and civic movement and engagement. She welcomed the Mississippi native and said to Glaude, “We need your truth to remind us of who we are, what we have become and where we need to go.”

Pamela Joiner, director of Two Mississippi Museums introduced the guest lecturer. He is the chair of



Glaude, seen here with Reena Evers-Everette, responded to several questions from the audience after his presentation. PHOTO BY JACKIE HAMPTON

the Department of African American Studies at Princeton University where he earned his Ph.D. degree in Religion. He received his undergraduate degree from Morehouse College where he was student body president. He holds a master’s degree in African-American Studies from Temple University and a master’s degree in Religion from Princeton University. He is a founding member and Senior Fellow of the Jamestown Project and appears often as a panelist on MS-NBC and CNN.

Glaude in his lecture spoke of the intimacy of hatred. He gave such examples as people knew way back then who threw that baby in the Tallahatchie River. He was speaking of Emmett Till whose body was plucked from the Tallahatchie River in Mis-

issippi days after he was killed in August of 1955. He said people knew who killed the police officer in the January 6 riot. He said these people who do these awful acts are friends and family members that sit at Thanksgiving dinner tables breaking bread together. He said we have not reached that point of truth because we are so separated.

Glaude ended his 45 minute lecture saying, “If we are going to tell the truth we have to bear witness to the people we love that are spreading hatred.”

After the lecture the floor was opened for questions from the audience followed by a book-signing. Glaude’s book ‘Begin Again’ sold out prior to the beginning of the lecture.



PHOTOS BY JAY JOHNSON

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VFW Post 9832 Annual Loyalty Day bestows honor to whom honor is due

Purple Heart veteran L. Perry honored with Quilt of Valor; QOVF Coordinator Mills applauds Post's community service

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

Sunday, May 1, was a day of “honor” for many in the city of Jackson thanks to the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Brooks W. Stewart Post 9832, located at 4610 Willie Lindsey Jr. Drive aka Sunray Drive.

The word, “Honor” was a simple theme of the post’s 47 Annual Loyalty Day that spoke volumes to the packed-house crowd of well-wishers who turned out in support of the honorees.

“Each year, the first day in May is designated as Loyalty Day,” said Senior Vice Commander Jeffery McKenzie. “It just so happens that the first day fell on a Sunday.”

McKenzie told *The Mississippi Link* that Loyalty Day is “a chance where we honor all the JROTC top cadets at the seven high schools in Jackson and the surrounding metro areas. We also get a chance to honor our first responders: our police officers, firemen, AMR persons and County Deputy Sheriff of the Year. We have our essay contest winners to read their essays.”



U.S. Air Force veteran Perry receives Quilt of Valor.

This year’s winner of the sixth-through-eighth-grade Patriot’s Pen Essay Contest was London McKenzie of Clinton Junior High School, Clinton, Miss. The winner of the ninth-through-12th-grade Voice of Democracy Essay Contest was Sydnee Thompson of Tougaloo E.C.H.S.

The guest speaker, introduced by 1st-Year Trustee Comrade Marshand Crisler, was JPS-JROTC Cadet of the Year Jequireon Johnson of Callaway High School. The program also featured the Posting of the Colors and TAPS by the Callaway High School Color Guard.

A memorial ceremony in memory of those who served was also a part of the program. McKenzie shared that VFW Post 9832 comrades and auxiliary members were extremely excited and pleased to return to their in-person Loyalty Day program after having been impacted by the COVID-19 Pandemic the past two years.

“This day means a lot,” said Junior Vice Commander Chris Gray. “There are so many people who assist this Post in helping people in Jackson and in Hinds County. It’s been almost two years since we’ve been able to get together, and this day was

a great success with all the attendees we had...not just black; not just white. We have several cultures here.” Gray said youth learn and gain experiences through Post activities that they can use in their professional careers.

Additionally, the Loyalty Day celebration recognized, for the first time, the services of Mississippi’s Black Press represented by *The Mississippi Link* since 1993 and *The Jackson Advocate* since 1938. On hand to respectively receive the awards were publisher Jackie Hampton of *The Mississippi Link* and publisher DeAnna Tisdale Johnson of *The Jackson Advocate*.

“This is such a great honor,” said Hampton, who is also an officer of the National Newspapers Publishers Association (NNPA) Board of Directors. Hampton serves as the national secretary along side an all female executive board.

NNPA, also known as the Black Press of America, is a trade organization that will be celebrating its 195th anniversary in New Orleans June 22-25, 2022. Both *The Mississippi Link*

and *The Jackson Advocate* are amongst a membership of over 200 black-owned publications.

“The Black Press means a lot and it has been instrumental in getting the word out to the black community and the general public,” said McKenzie. He said all young people should make it a point to read the Black Press. “Not only the Black Press but be familiar with what goes on in their community and the surrounding area and push that information out to the public.” He also said people need to be aware of what’s going on because there are a lot of trying times now. He said they need to stay focused on what they need to achieve in life. “We don’t ever want them to fall by the wayside and staying informed via the Black Press is a good way of doing that.”

The Quilts of Valor Foundation honoree was Purple Heart Veteran Lee Perry.

“These quilts are given all over the world,” said El-lie Mills, Central Mississippi Quilts of Valor Foundation. She said she is honored to present Perry with one of the more than

300,000 that have been presented to veterans. Perry is a Vietnam War veteran who served in the Air Force and retired at the rank of Senior Master Sergeant (SMSgt).

Mills told *The Mississippi Link* in a telephone interview Tuesday that she truly applauds the work and service of VFW Post 9832. “Many people do not know how much those veterans are doing for the Jackson-area community. What a gift that post is to this area, especially for the young people.”

Mills added how impressed she was that the Jackson police chief and the Hinds County sheriff came out to support their persons being honored instead of sending a sub. “That tells us a lot about these two men’s character. We have youth that are doing great things, and it needs to be known more,” Mills concluded.

The VFW Post 9832 Loyalty Day also honored Mills for her work. She is not military.

“My husband served in the Navy, and my son served as a Submarine captain,” she said.

See photos on page 16.

Hinds County School District Weekly Update

ENGAGING-EMPOWERING-ENSURING-EXCELLENCE

Gary Road Elementary 2nd graders celebrate College and Career week



Students pose with Byram Fire Department.



Students get a first hand look at fields in law enforcement.



GRE would like to thank those who participated in our College and Career Week



Student hear from deputies from the Hinds County Sheriffs Department



At the end of the week, students held a college and career parade where they dressed up in their chosen career or chosen college. Joining the parade this year were student-athletes from Jackson State University.



City and state leaders say they are ‘shocked’ by Governor Reeves’ vetoes

By Emily Wagster Pettus
Associated Press

Mississippi Gov. Tate Reeves said Thursday that he has vetoed spending for several projects, including more than \$13 million to revive a golf course and create an adventure trail at LeFleur’s Bluff State Park in Jackson.

He struck down the proposals two weeks after other Republican officials, including Lt. Gov. Delbert Hosemann and House Speaker Philip Gunn, attended an event to celebrate plans for improvements at LeFleur’s Bluff.

“I’ve been trying for a long time to get the state out of the golf course business,” Reeves said.

LeFleur’s Bluff is already home to the Mississippi Natural Science Museum and the Mississippi Children’s Museum, and the playground there was recently improved. The state Department of Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks had said a redesigned golf course and the adventure trail would make the area “one of the best urban parks in the country.”

Reeves said three public golf courses are within a short drive of LeFleur’s Bluff.

“Rather than invest more money into what Jackson re-



Reeves

ally needs, like more police officers, this appropriation throws millions of dollars into a golf course that has already failed,” he said.

Reeves vetoed \$1 million for the Scenic Rivers Development Alliance for improvements including golf cart path repairs and course equipment upgrades at Quail Hollow Golf Course in Pike County.

The vetoes Reeves discussed Thursday are a small slice of the spending legislators approved, which included a roughly \$7 billion state

budget for the year that begins July 1 and about \$1.5 billion that Mississippi received from the federal government for pandemic relief.

The other items he vetoed were:

- \$7.5 million in earmarks that would go to private companies through Mississippi Development Authority without the usual financial or economic impact analysis.
- \$2 million for renovations at the Russell C. Davis Planetarium in downtown Jackson.

The Jackson City Council

this week rejected a proposal to borrow more money for the project, citing the need for the city to pay for water system improvements.

- \$1 million to build a parking lot at the Jackson Convention Complex.
- \$1 million to the city of Pascagoula to help pay for renovations of city offices.
- Reeves said the state should not fund city and county office buildings.
- \$500,000 to the city of Greenville for green space next to the federal courthouse.
- \$250,000 to the privately owned Briarwood Pool in Jackson.
- \$200,000 to Summit Community Development Foundation for a Stand Pipe project.
- \$50,000 to Arise and Shine Inc. in Copiah County.

Because their session is over, the first opportunity for legislators to consider overriding vetoes would be during the next regular session in January or during any special session the governor might call before then. Overriding a veto takes a two-thirds majority of the House and Senate, which are both controlled by Republicans.

Reeves vetoes \$50M for improvements to UMMC adult hospital

The Associated Press

Mississippi Gov. Tate Reeves has vetoed part of a budget bill for the University of Mississippi Medical Center, saying he objects to spending \$50 million for improvements to the adult hospital in Jackson.

The Republican governor issued the partial veto of Senate Bill 3010 Tuesday. Legislators specified the \$50 million would come from Mississippi’s pandemic recovery money from the federal government.

UMMC declined to comment on the partial veto, spokesperson Marc Rolph said Wednesday.

Reeves wrote on Twitter that UMMC’s academic functions – teaching physicians, nurses and other health care professionals – are largely funded by the state, but the hospital is not.

“They are responsible for their own operational budget – just like other hospitals,” Reeves wrote.

The governor wrote that UMMC receives “competitive advantages” over other hospitals and physician groups because it does not need the Health Department’s approval for new facilities or large equipment. However, UMMC does need approval from the state college

board.

“There is little reason that Mississippi taxpayers should radically increase the commitment to further subsidize the operations of UMMC to the detriment of competitors,” Reeves wrote. “Furthermore, they currently have enough money to willingly turn away patients on private insurance, clearly indicating that they have no need for the state to underwrite their ambitious building/spending goals.”

UMMC and BlueCross & BlueShield of Mississippi have been in a contract dispute the past several weeks over how much the insurer will pay UMMC for patient care. Since April 1, UMMC and its clinics have been out-of-network for people insured by BlueCross & BlueShield, leaving those patients to pay more at UMMC or seek care elsewhere.

UMMC said in an April 1 news release that it has been underpaid tens of millions of dollars per year by the insurance company.

BlueCross & BlueShield has said UMMC is seeking payment increases of more than 50% for some services and an overall increase of 30%.

Mother, son plead guilty in MS welfare misspending

By Emily Wagster Pettus
Associated Press

A mother and son who ran a nonprofit group and an education company in Mississippi pleaded guilty Tuesday to state charges of misusing public money that was intended to help some of the poorest people in the nation.

Nancy New and Zachary New acknowledged spending welfare grant money on lavish gifts that included first-class airfare for John Davis, executive director of the state Department of Human Services from 2016 to 2019.

Nancy New, 69, and Zachary New, 39, agreed to testify against others in what the state auditor has called Mississippi’s largest public corruption case in the past two decades. Davis is among those facing state charges.

Federal and state prosecutors said after Tuesday’s court session that they have not ruled out bringing charges against other people, but two state judges have issued orders prohibiting those involved in the cases from discussing them publicly.

“We will not tolerate the powerful preying on the weak,” Hinds County District Attorney Jody Owens said.

Auditor Shad White said his office continues to work with federal and state prosecutors.

“We will provide anything that they need, we will get anything that they need as they make decisions about how this case goes forward,” White said.

During court, Circuit Judge Faye Peterson asked Zachary New and Nancy New, individually, if they understood each charge. They each answered repeatedly: “Yes, ma’am.”

The mother and son ran the nonprofit Mississippi Community Education Center, which received millions of dollars from Temporary Assistance to Needy Families and was supposed to spend it



Nancy New and son Zachary New

to help poor people. Nancy New was president and Zachary New was vice president of operations for New Learning Resources Inc., which ran three private schools that offered services for children with autism or dyslexia.

In early 2020, Davis, Nancy New, Zachary New and three other people were charged in state court, with prosecutors saying welfare money had been misspent on items such as drug rehabilitation in Malibu, California, for former pro wrestler Brett DiBiase.

New indictments recently filed against Davis say he hired DiBiase for a Department of Human Services job knowing that DiBiase didn’t meet the requirement of having a college degree; and that the department paid DiBiase \$48,000 for work he did not do. Davis has pleaded not guilty to all charges.

The state guilty pleas by Nancy New and Zachary New came days after they pleaded guilty in federal court on charges connected to misspending of education money. Nancy New pleaded guilty to federal wire fraud, which carries up to a 10-year sentence and a \$250,000 fine. Zachary New pleaded guilty to federal conspiracy, which carries up to five years and a \$250,000 fine.

Peterson said she will defer their state sentencing until after the Nov. 9 federal sentencing. The mother and son, who both live in the Jackson suburb of Ridgeland, remain free on bond.

On the state charges, Nancy New faces up to 100 years in

prison after pleading guilty to four counts of bribery, two counts of fraud against the government, six counts of wire fraud and one count of racketeering.

Zachary New faces up to 75 years after pleading guilty to four counts of bribery, two counts of fraud against the government and five counts of mail fraud.

Prosecutors could recommend shorter sentences, and Owens said he is recommending that all time be served in federal prison.

Davis was a longtime Department of Human Services employee who was chosen to lead the agency in 2016 by the Republican governor at the time, Phil Bryant.

The state auditor has demanded repayment of \$77 million of misspent welfare funds, including \$1.1 million paid to retired NFL quarterback Brett Favre, who lives in Mississippi. Favre has not been charged with any criminal wrongdoing.

White said Favre was paid for speeches but did not show up. Favre has repaid the money, but White said in October that Favre still owed \$228,000 in interest. In a Facebook post when he repaid the first \$500,000, Favre said he didn’t know the money he received came from welfare funds. He also said his charity had provided millions of dollars to poor children in Mississippi and Wisconsin.

As part of the guilty pleas Tuesday, Nancy New and Zachary New acknowledged taking part in spending \$4 million of welfare money for a volleyball center at the University of Southern Mississippi. Favre supported construction of that facility.

The mother and son also acknowledged they directed welfare money to Prevacus Inc., Florida-based company that was trying to develop a concussion drug. Favre has said in interviews that he supported Prevacus.

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Black Catholic nuns: A compelling, long-overlooked history

By David Crary
AP National Writer

Even as a young adult, Shannen Dee Williams – who grew up black and Catholic in Memphis, Tennessee – knew of only one black nun, and a fake one at that: Sister Mary Clarence, as played by Whoopi Goldberg in the comic film “Sister Act.”

After 14 years of research, Williams – a history professor at the University of Dayton – arguably now knows more about America’s black nuns than anyone in the world. Her comprehensive and compelling history of them, “Subversive Habits,” will be published May 17.

Williams found that many black nuns were modest about their achievements and reticent about sharing details of bad experiences, such as encountering racism and discrimination. Some acknowledged wrenching events only after Williams confronted them with details gleaned from other sources.

“For me, it was about recognizing the ways in which trauma silences people in ways they may not even be aware of,” she said.

The story is told chronologically, yet always in the context of a theme Williams outlines in her preface: that the nearly 200-year history of these nuns in the U.S. has been overlooked or willfully suppressed by those who resented or disrespected them.

“For far too long, scholars of the American, Catholic and Black pasts have unconsciously or consciously declared – by virtue of misrepresentation, marginalization and outright erasure – that the history of black Catholic nuns does not matter,” she writes, depicting her book as proof that their history “has always mattered.”

Williams begins her narrative in the pre-Civil War era when some black women, even in slave-holding states, found their way into Catholic sisterhood. Some entered previously whites-only orders, often in subservient roles, while a few trailblazing women formed orders for black nuns in Baltimore and New Orleans.

Even as the number of American nuns – of all races – shrinks



Shannen Dee Williams, associate professor of history at the University of Dayton, poses for a portrait, Thursday, April 21, 2022, in Dayton, Ohio. Williams spent 14 years researching America’s black nuns, and her history of them, “Subversive Habits,” will be published May 17. AP PHOTO/AARON DOSTER

relentlessly, that Baltimore order founded in 1829 remains intact, continuing its mission to educate black youths. Some current members of the Oblate Sisters of Providence help run Saint Frances Academy, a high school serving low-income black neighborhoods.

Some of the most detailed passages in “Subversive Habits” recount the Jim Crow era, extending from the 1870s through the 1950s, when black nuns were not spared from the segregation and discrimination endured by many other African Americans.

In the 1960s, Williams writes, black nuns were often discouraged or blocked by their white superiors from engaging in the civil rights struggle.

Yet one of them, Sister Mary Antona Ebo, was on the front lines of marchers who gathered in Selma, Alabama, in 1965 in support of black voting rights and in protest of the violence of Bloody Sunday when white state troopers brutally dispersed peaceful black demonstrators. An Associated Press photo of Ebo and other nuns in the march on March 10 – three days after Bloody Sunday – ran on the front pages of many newspapers.

Over two decades before Selma, Ebo faced repeated struggles to surmount racial barriers. She was denied admittance to Catholic nursing schools because of her race, and later endured segregation policies at the white-led order she joined in St. Louis in 1946, according to Williams.

The idea for “Subversive Habits” took shape in 2007, when Williams – then a graduate stu-

dent at Rutgers University – was seeking a compelling topic for a paper due in a seminar on African American history.

At the library, she searched through microfilm editions of black-owned newspapers and came across a 1968 article in the *Pittsburgh Courier* about a group of Catholic nuns forming the National Black Sisters’ Conference.

The accompanying photo, of four smiling black nuns, “literally stopped me in my tracks,” she said. “I was raised Catholic. How did I not know that black nuns existed?”

Mesmerized by her discovery, she began devouring “everything I could that had been published about black Catholic history,” while setting out to interview founding members of the National Black Sisters’ Conference. As her research broadened, she scoured overlooked archives, previously sealed church records and out-of-print books, while conducting more than 100 interviews.

“I bore witness to a profoundly unfamiliar history that disrupts and revises much of what has been said and written about the U.S. Catholic Church and the place of black people within it,” Williams writes. “Because it is impossible to narrate black sisters’ journey in the United States – accurately and honestly – without confronting the church’s largely unacknowledged and unreconciled histories of colonialism, slavery and segregation.”

Historians have been unable to identify the nation’s first black Catholic nun, but Williams

recounts some of the earliest moves to bring black women into Catholic religious orders.

One of the oldest black sisterhoods, the Sisters of the Holy Family, formed in New Orleans in 1842 because white sisterhoods in Louisiana, including the slave-holding Ursuline order, refused to accept African Americans.

The principal founder of that New Orleans order – Henriette Delille – and Oblate Sisters of Providence founder Mary Lange are among three black nuns from the U.S. designated by Catholic officials as worthy of consideration for sainthood. The other is Sister Thea Bowman, a beloved educator, evangelist and singer who died in Mississippi in 1990 and is buried in Williams’s hometown of Memphis, Tennessee.

According to the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, there are about 400 African-American religious sisters, out of a total of roughly 40,000 nuns.

That overall figure is only one-fourth of the 160,000 nuns in 1970, according to Catholic researchers at Georgetown University. Whatever their races, many of the remaining nuns are elderly, and the influx of youthful novices is sparse.

Williams told the AP she was considering leaving the Catholic church – due partly to its handling of racial issues – as she started researching black nuns. Hearing their histories revitalized her faith.

“As these women were telling me their stories, they were also preaching to me in a such a beautiful way,” Williams said. “It wasn’t done in a way that reflected any anger – they had already made their peace with it, despite the unholy discrimination they had faced.”

What keeps her in the church now, Williams said, is a commitment to these women who chose to share their stories.

“It took a lot for them to get it out,” she said. “I remain in awe of these women, of their faithfulness.”

AP video journalist Jessie Wardarski contributed to this report.

Voting charges dropped against Pamela Moses — Tenn. D.A. gets ‘pound of flesh’



Pamela Moses has declined to speak with reporters but has maintained she believed she had a right to try and register to vote

By Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Senior Nat'l. Correspondent

Pamela Moses spent 82 days in custody after a Tennessee judge handed down a six-year prison sentence against the 44-year-old black woman for trying to register to vote.

On April 22, prosecutors declared that they’d gotten their pound of flesh.

Charges were dropped against Moses after another judge granted her a new trial.

“Our original offer to the defendant Pamela Moses was a guilty plea to a misdemeanor and no time to serve,” Shelby County District Attorney Amy Weirich declared.

“She rejected that offer and asked for a jury trial. At the conclusion of the week-long trial, the jury convicted her on the felony charge of false entry on permanent voter registration.”

Weirich continued:

“She was taken into custody and spent 75 days in jail before Judge Mark Ward granted her motion for a new trial. In total, she has spent 82 days in custody in this case, which is sufficient. She is also permanently barred from registering to vote or voting in Tennessee as a result of her 2015 conviction for Tampering with Evidence. In the interest of judicial economy, we are dismissing her illegal registration case and her violation of probation.”

The vital issue had always centered on whether Moses knew she lost her voting eligibility.

A probation officer filled out and signed a form indicating the end of her supervision stemming from a 2015 felony conviction.

The officer admitted the mistake but left Moses wondering whether she could vote. Prosecutors alleged that she deceived the officer and knew of her ineligible status.

However, following her conviction, *The Guardian* newspaper uncovered evidence through public records that undercut Weirich’s false claim that Moses duped the probation officer.

“In September 2019, just two days after a probation officer mistakenly signed a certificate telling Moses her probation was complete, officials at the Tennessee Department of Corrections investigated how exactly their employee made the error,” *The British* daily newspaper reported.

“Their investigation didn’t

find that Moses had deceived a probation officer, but rather that the officer had made a good-faith mistake.

“The review found that the probation officer – referred to as Manager Billington – spent about an hour investigating whether Moses was still on probation. Billington came across a note in Moses’ file noting that in 2016, she had been placed on supervised probation for two years. Even though the system said that Moses remained on unsupervised probation, Billington thought this was a mistake.

The person who handled the file, he believed, forgot to close out the case when the supervised probation ran out. That’s why he ultimately signed Moses’ voting certificate saying her probation had expired in 2018 and she was eligible to vote.”

Joe Williams, an administrator in the department of corrections, wrote a letter to a top department official stating that Billington failed to investigate the status of the case adequately.

“He failed to review all of the official documents available through the Shelby county justice portal and negligently relied on a contact note from a court specialist in 2016,” Williams stated, according to *The Guardian*.

Williams noted that if Billington had looked more thoroughly, he would have found additional documents issued in 2019 that said Moses was on probation.

Williams conceded that it was “tedious” to find some of that information.

“The information that Manager Billington had at the time he signed the Voters Restoration was insufficient to reasonably affirm that an offender was off supervision.”

Meanwhile, Moses waited in the lobby of the probation office and “seemed impatient while Billington investigated. However, it does not suggest that Moses bore responsibility for the mistake,” *The Guardian* reported.

“This really runs contrary to the prosecution’s characterization of the incident as Ms. Moses tricking the probation officer,” Blair Bowie, an attorney at the Campaign Legal Center.

Moses has declined to speak with reporters but has maintained she believed she had a right to try and register to vote.

Wells Fargo accused of discrimination in lending

By Lauren Victoria Burke
NNPA Newswire Contributor

“Last month, it was reported that Wells Fargo approved only 47% of black homeowners’ mortgage applications compared to 72% of white applicants. We are suing Wells Fargo to demand they change their practices that are killing black homeowners opportunities,” Attorney Ben Crump wrote on social media on April 14.

Wells Fargo is the largest bank mortgage lender in the U.S.

Crump, who is mostly known for representing families of victims of police brutality, has now joined a lawsuit against Wells Fargo. The suit alleged the bank has engaged in racial discrimination in their home-lending practices.



The lawsuit also alleges that Wells Fargo denies home loans to Black borrowers at a higher rate and charges higher interest rates to Black borrowers. PHOTO: ISTOCKPHOTO / NNPA

Crump has now joined an existing lawsuit filed in February 2022 by Chris Williams. Williams is claiming that Wells Fargo sought to charge him a

higher interest rate than his credit score called for. He is a black homeowner living in Georgia. He refinanced with another mortgage company in 2019. Two other new plaintiffs also joined the suit.

“My credit score was just under 800 before I applied. They told me my credit score was 100 points less,” Williams told the media regarding his credit history.

“We are deeply disturbed by allegations of discrimination that we believe do not stand up to scrutiny,” Wells Fargo said in a news release on the matter.” These unfounded attacks on Wells Fargo stand in stark contrast to the company’s significant and long-term commitment to closing the minority home-

ownership gap.”

The lawsuit also alleges that Wells Fargo denies home loans to black borrowers at a higher rate and charges higher interest rates to black borrowers.

On April 11, New York City Mayor Eric Adams and Comptroller Brad Lander announced that the city will no longer deposit money with Wells Fargo and cited the alleged disproportionate denials of mortgages to black loan applicants.

Lauren Victoria Burke is an independent journalist and the host of the podcast BURKE-FILE. She is a political analyst who appears regularly on #RolandMartinUnfiltered. She may be contacted at LBurke007@gmail.com and on twitter at @LVBurke

America’s teens in crisis: Mental health disorders now biggest concern

By Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Newswire Contributor

Mental health disorders stand as a chief concern among American teenagers, according to researchers who said the pervasiveness of such illnesses weren’t a top worry decades ago. Indeed, 30 years ago, most health experts reported that primary concerns about the teens included pregnancy, smoking, drunken driving, and binge drinking.

However, new statistics have revealed that in 2019, 13 percent of adolescents reported having a major depressive episode, which the Pew Research noted equated to a 60 percent increase from 2007. The report revealed that emergency room visits by children and adolescents in that period also rose sharply for anxiety, mood disorders and self-harm.

And for individuals age 10 to 24, suicide rates, stable from 2000 to 2007, leaped nearly 60 percent by 2018, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Further, the mental health of black American youth “was in crisis long before COVID-19 devastated the world, but no national public health crisis was called,” Dr. Amanda Calhoun, an adult/child psychiatry resident at Yale Child Study Center at the Yale School of Medicine, wrote for *Med Page Today*.

“In 2019, the Congressional Black Caucus (CBC) Emergency Taskforce on Black Youth Suicide and Mental Health released a report documenting the alarming increases in black youth suicide rates,” Dr. Calhoun noted.

“The suicide death rates among black youth have been increasing faster than those of any other racial/ethnic group in America, and black youth under 13 years old are twice as likely to die by suicide compared to their white peers.”

Dr. Calhoun also cited preliminary federal data which noted the suicide rate for black girls and women ages 10 to 24 increased more than 30 percent in 2020, and by 23 percent among black boys and men in the same age group.

“Yet, many suicide predictor models continue to list ‘white race’ as a factor that increases risk of suicide, and the myth that black youth do not commit suicide persists,” Dr. Calhoun reported.

During the pandemic, children, adolescents and young adults have faced unprecedented challenges – the COVID-19 pandemic has dramatically changed their world, including how they attend school, interact with friends and receive health care.

According to a 52-page advisory



“The mental health of black American youth was in crisis long before COVID-19 devastated the world but no national public health crisis was called.”

from U.S. Surgeon General Vivek H. Murthy, children missed first days of school, months or even years of in-person schooling, graduation ceremonies, sports competitions, playdates and time with relatives.

As of June 2021, more than 140,000 children in the U.S. had lost a parent or grandparent to COVID-19.

Matt Richtel, a best-selling author and Pulitzer Prize winning journalists at the *New York Times*, spent more than a year interviewing adolescents and their families for a series on the mental health crisis.

“In mid-April, I was speaking to the mother of a suicidal teenager whose struggles I’ve been closely following. I asked how her daughter was doing,” Richtel reported. “Not well,” the mother said. “If we can’t find something drastic to help this kid, this kid will not be here long-term.” Richtel said the mother started to cry.

“It’s out of our hands, it’s out of our control,” she said. “We’re trying everything.” She added: “It’s like waiting for the end.”

Over nearly 18 months of reporting, Richtel said he got to know many adolescents and their families and interviewed dozens of doctors, therapists and experts in the science of adolescence.

“I heard wrenching stories of pain and uncertainty. From the outset, my editors and I discussed how best to handle the identities of people in crisis,” he

penned.

Richtel’s finding only amplified what medical experts have broadcast.

Since the pandemic began, there have been increases in the rates of psychological distress among young people, including symptoms of anxiety, depression and other mental health disorders.

“Recent research covering 80,000 youth globally found that depressive and anxiety symptoms doubled during the pandemic, with 25 percent of youth experiencing depressive symptoms and 20 percent experiencing anxiety symptoms,” Dr. Murthy wrote in his advisory.

Negative emotions or behaviors such as impulsivity and irritability – associated with conditions such as ADHD – appear to have moderately increased, according to the CDC.

Further, early clinical data also proved problematic.

In early 2021, emergency department visits in the United States for suspected suicide attempts were 51 percent higher for adolescent girls and 4 percent higher for adolescent boys compared to the same period in early 2019.

“Moreover, pandemic-related measures reduced in-person interactions among children, friends, social supports and professionals such as teachers, school counselors, pediatricians and child welfare workers,” Dr. Murthy wrote.

“This made it harder to recognize

signs of child abuse, mental health concerns, and other challenges.”

The CDC further noted that young people also experienced other challenges that may have affected their mental and emotional well-being during the pandemic.

Those include the national reckoning over the deaths of black Americans at the hands of police officers, including the murder of George Floyd. It includes COVID-related violence against Asian Americans, gun violence, an increasingly polarized political dialogue, growing concerns about climate change and emotionally charged misinformation.

“The pandemic has been challenging for most people, yet the teenage population, particularly females, have suffered tremendously,” Dr. Carla Marie Manly, a clinical psychologist, explained in a recent email.

“Given the importance of social connections during adolescence, many teens have felt extremely isolated, lonely and depressed as a result of the constraining nature of the pandemic,” Dr. Manly asserted.

“Many teens have turned to social media use for connection, yet social media has its own host of stressors and often increases anxiety and can foster low self-esteem.”

Dr. Manly said parents and caregivers who have adolescents struggling with anxiety or depression are often

confused and don’t know what course to take.

Many parents fear that talking about the issue will “only make matters worse.”

“Yet, in truth, teens – even the most independent ones – need their parents’ steady presence and gentle guidance,” Dr. Manly recounted.

Cathy Mills, director of Strategy for Net Influencer, insisted that it’s crucial to balance work life and mental health.

“I consider it very important that especially employers and family members support young people in the process of depression and anxiety,” Mills advised.

“Something that has worked with my family members is to propose a treatment to young people. People today are very focused on meeting the needs of others and forget that being well with oneself is the most important thing to be successful in all areas of life,” she continued.

“In these me-treatments, it is important to write in journals, do meditations, practice sports, dance and even travel alone. These actions will make young people feel more confident and have better mental health, which will allow them to face any situation or challenge at work and in daily life.”

Dr. Jeannette R. Craigfeld, who practices clinical psychology at the Therapy Group of D.C. in Northwest Washington, said friends and family must listen and understand the views of a loved one.

“Let them know that you’re willing to listen whenever they want to talk and that you can also just sit with them if that’s what they need,” Dr. Craigfeld demanded.

“Give your loved one permission to be wherever they’re at with their depression and anxiety and that they don’t need to force themselves to seem okay around you.”

Dr. Craigfeld continued:

“Remember that there are no easy fixes for mental illness. This is difficult to do with someone you love, as it’s hard to hear that they’re in pain. Still, it’s important to remember that listening and understanding them will give your loved ones much more relief from their depression and anxiety than anything else you could do.

“It’s also important to make sure you’re taking care of yourself as well since it’s hard to care for others if you’re not at your best first. Permit yourself to take time for yourself whenever you need to and do things that are soothing for you.”

If you’re going to eat right you have to cook it right

By Vince Faust
Tips to Be Fit

I have been telling people for years they need to eat the right foods. I should have also told you “if you’re going to eat right you have to cook it right.”

Your stove is one of the most important appliances in your house. I know most people don’t use it. Convenience has become a way of life. Let someone else do the cooking.

Eating healthy is something you have a lot of control over. This control can lead to better health and a longer life. After you read my article I want you to go into your kitchen and find your stove.

Cooking healthy takes meal planning. You cannot cook a great meal if you leave your meal to chance. To do this you must shop wisely. Plan your meals then make your list of what you need. Always have a list of the foods you need when you shop, never shop on

an empty stomach and stick to your list. Sticking to a meal plan will help insure you have a great cooking experience.

Your meal plan should include 2 servings of protein, 4 to 6 servings of vegetables, 3 to 6 servings of fruit, 2 to 4 servings of grain, and 2 servings of dairy products. Using this menu plan you’ll have a plan that is low in fat, sodium and sugar. If you don’t add the fat, sodium or sugar, they won’t be part of this menu. Use herbs and other vegetables, such as onions, bell peppers and celery to season your food.

What Counts As A Serving?

GRAIN

Whole grain Bread, Cereal, Rice, Pasta, Bagels and Muffins

- 1 slice of whole grain bread
- 1/2 bagel
- About 1 cup of ready-to-eat cereal
- 1/2 cup of cooked cere-

al, rice, corn grits, oatmeal, cream of wheat or pasta

- 1 pancake

Vegetables

- 1 cup of raw leafy vegetables

- 1/2 cup of other vegetables cooked or raw

- 3/4 cup of vegetable juice

FRUIT

- 1 medium apple, banana, orange, pear

- 1/2 cup of chopped, cooked or canned fruit

- 3/4 cup of fruit juice

Dairy Products

Milk, Yogurt and Cheese Group

- 1 cup of milk** or yogurt
- 1-1/2 ounces of natural cheese** (such as Cheddar)
- 2 ounces of processed cheese** (such as American)

Protein

Beef, Fresh Pork, Poultry, Fish, Dry Beans, Eggs and Nuts

- 2-3 ounces of cooked lean meat, poultry, or fish

- 1/2 cup of cooked dry beans or 1/2 cup of tofu

- 2-1/2-ounce soy burger or 1 egg counts as 1 ounce of lean meat

- 2 tablespoons of peanut butter or 1/3 cup of nuts

Fats

- Butter, oil, margarine: 1 teaspoon

- Salad dressing: 2 tablespoons

For example:

- Meat, chicken, fish: 3 ounces or the size of a deck of cards, or the palm of a woman’s hand

- Pasta, rice, oatmeal, potatoes, cooked vegetables: half a cup, or the size of a tennis ball

- Bagel or muffin: 1 ounce, or the size of a Ping-Pong ball

- Cheese: 1 ounce, or the size of a woman’s thumb

- Butter, oil, margarine: 1 teaspoon, or the size of a stamp

- Salad dressing: 2 tablespoons, or the size of a stan-

dard ice cube

- Raw vegetables: 1 cup, or the size of a baseball

Anyone can be a great cook. Cooking by definition is “To prepare food for eating by applying heat.” Anyone can do that. The best cooking methods include boiling, microwaving, stir-fry, steaming, stewing and roasting.

Boiling

Boiling foods can cause some of their nutrients to leach into the cooking water. Most of the time this liquid we called “pot liquor” is just discarded. This “pot liquor” with all of those nutrients can be used to season other meals.

Microwaving

Microwaving uses a minimal amount of water and will preserve your foods flavor. You should moisten your food with water, cover and microwave in something that is microwave safe. I never use plastic.

Stir-fry

You should stir-fry in a pre-heated wok or sauté pan over medium to high heat until your food is cooked to your liking. This type of cooking exposes your food to heat for a short period of time insuring your food’s nutrients are preserved.

Steaming

Steaming is a little better than boiling, but just like boiling the nutrients can leach into the cooking water. This “pot liquor” with all of those nutrients can also be used to season other meals.

Stewing

Stewing is just like boiling. Unlike boiling the “pot liquor” is part of the meal.

Roasting

Roasting is great for making a whole meal in one pan. The “pot liquor” is part of the meal. When roasting you should use a food thermometer to check the internal temperature has reached 350.

P R E S E R V E D

God’s periods and question marks

By Shewanda Riley
Columnist



“Never put a question mark where God has put a period.” Years ago when I worked at a gospel radio station in San Antonio, we played a commercial for a funeral home that ended with this tagline. It made sense to me then and makes even more sense to me now as I’ve had to accept the sometimes painful reality of God ending seasons of my life.

Often, my inquisitive nature gets the best of me, and I ask God for additional details when this happens. For me, the question mark is that there are now unanswered questions like “what if?” that seem to haunt me. In some cases, the “what if” questions taunt me since I always want clear answers. Sometimes the only

clear answer is that the season is over. For others, the period is that we get our prayers answered and it’s time to shift to something else.

Regardless of whether you get a question mark or a period, we ultimately have to acknowledge that God’s sovereign hand is in control of everything that happens.

As we head into what looks like another controversial election season, I’m thinking more about question marks and periods. It’s time out for posting things like “If you vote Democrat, you are not a real Christian” on social media. My first thought when I see this and other similar posts during an election year is that it was a troubling and weak Christian witness to label someone a non-Christian because of a difference in political opinion.

In response to posts about all Democrats being tricked by Satan or all Republicans being

brainwashed racists, one of my Facebook friends posted people were taking the election to a whole other level of spitefulness: “God is worried more about heavenly selection than earthly elections.” In other words, we should not spend more time posting on social media and arguing which candidate is the best than we do posting words of encouragement and offering the gift of Christ’s salvation to others.

Like so many of you, I’ve seen friendships and relationships get destroyed because of what was posted on social media about past elections. The crazy part is that in some cases, it’s Christians who are now blocking each other’s Facebook posts, judging and name calling.

What’s been most shocking is that instead of some religious leaders and pastors using their Twitter and Facebook accounts to offer prayers and clear up the confusion, they

chose to fan the flames themselves.

As Christians, we are called to be reconcilers and peacemakers. James 3:18 reminds us that “Peacemakers who sow in peace reap a harvest of righteousness.” Rather than spend time tearing down each other, we should work to tear down the walls of racism, sexism and bigotry that get erected during election seasons.

As Christians, our most important witness is not to proclaim and stick to any political party affiliation but to love others and by doing so, show others the love that God has for them.

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

P A R T 2

A day of great wickedness

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



Today, some people get the thought that “The grass is greener in another location.” Once they get there, they find that what appeared to be greener grass is nothing but stubble. It is always the forbidden fruit that is tempting.

How could Lot do the things he did? I am sure that when he started, he never thought that he would lose his wife, lose his self-respect, lose all his material gain, and end up dwelling in a cave. He had not thought of those things transpiring in his life. He had thoughts of settling down and taking it easy on the well-watered plants of Jordan. He envisioned a life of comfort instead of going from day-to-day, pitching his tent up and down that mountain all the time.

When he started out, he had not thought of ending up in Sodom, of becoming a captive and having to be delivered from captivity, or of going back to Sodom, and sitting at the gate of the city. He had not thought of having to be delivered out of Sodom and ending up in a cave or losing his wife and family, but that is where he wound up.

Dear one, that which pads the wallet is not always what is best for the soul. Are the days of Lot like today? They were exceedingly great sinners. Today, many

people are losing their self-respect and their souls.

In our day, the sins of Sodom are running rampant. The clouds of judgment are gathering over this massive world, and soon time will be no more. We may say, “People have been saying that for years.” Some people might have said that in Noah’s day. “Hey, that old man has been out there preaching. Look at him. It had been a hundred year since he started preaching, but everything is still the same. Of all things, he is building a boat out here. Look how big that thing is. Noah has been saying the same thing for a hundred years.”

Today, many people say, “That preacher gets up and says there is a Second Coming of Jesus Christ. People have been saying that for two thousand years.” My friend, He is coming, and His coming is going to catch people in a lukewarm condition. It will catch people fooling around with things that they should not be fooling around with at that time.

In Noah’s day when people saw that a flood was really coming, just as Noah had told them, they began to knock on the ark, saying: “Let us in! Let us in!” However, God had shut the door. Friend, God is going to wrap it all up before long. Are you prepared?

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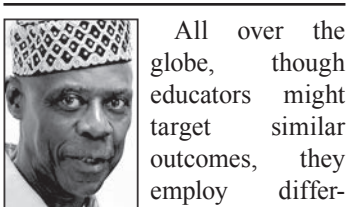


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Year-round schooling? Pros & Cons

By Dr. Jerry Komia Domatob
Contributing Writer



All over the globe, though educators might target similar outcomes, they employ different strategies and methods to achieve professional objectives. They adopt different tactics for fulfilling their schoolastic mission and vision.

Small wonder, one pertinent question educational stakeholders: i.e. administrators, teachers, parents and students now address is: Whether year round schooling should be adopted as the standard modus operandi? What are the merits and demerits of such a system?

1. Business

Since education among other objectives is business, indeed big business; it generates mega incomes for school proprietors and other beneficiaries.

Year-round schooling might therefore enhance their business mission, which among many other goals is profit maximization. There are evidently major gains and losses depending upon the context and situation.

Thus communities in the hinterlands, and even some urban areas, which rely on education as their economic engine, strive to create and generate profits.

Their goal therefore is to assure some measure of trickle down effect in keeping with neoclassical economic scholars from this school of thought which includes gurus: like Adam Smith, Milton Friedman and Thomas Malthus.

In other words, whatever capital that is generated circulates in the system and keeps the economy vibrant and resilient. In their words, the benefits should trickle down.

Hotels, restaurants, stores, lounges, barbers shops which are compelled to shut down during holidays and thereby jeopardize businesses can be checkmated. Rather, therefore, business owners and their clients can benefit from the year-round business circle, rather than the quarterly, biennial or trimestral semester type arrangements, which currently dominate the educational landscape.

2. Leadership

Second, year long schooling, depending upon the way it is structured, might propel more effective and efficient leadership. It can be submitted that some schools, colleges, universities and academies battle leadership anemia. Some do not only need outstanding and topnotch leaders, but those with clear-cut mission and vision.

Such leaders move schools forward and enable them to attain their objectives. By contrast, those characterized by weak and incompetent leaders are nothing but a bunch of catastrophic nerds.

3. Curriculum Development.

Year round schooling might also provide incentives for curriculum development. Most curriculums are anchored on archaic educational systems. That means educational designers plan, strategize and execute their work based upon the type of educational plans in place. Year-round schooling thus calls for curriculum upgrades and reforms.

4. Foster Technology

Technologies have always and still to this day, play significant roles in school systems. Indeed, they are indispensable in today's world and their usage grows by

leaps and bounds.

With advances in the new technologies, some will need cash, capital and monetary infusion in various courses, programs and policies. Consequently, these technologies can be integral part and parcels of courses at all levels from kindergarten to graduation.

5. Promote Efficiency

Considering that the installation of new or modified educational systems demands quality and to some degree excellence, efficiency becomes a major factor. All over the globe, people are looking for well qualified graduates and experts in all fields. In many countries and most situations, people search for outstanding attorneys, accountants, doctors, engineers, linguists, preachers, technicians, educators, communicators, meteorologists, etc. All year-round education might be a more efficient manner for training people to do these jobs with proficiency and dedication.

6. Demerits

Further, year-round education has its demerits as in all ventures. Just as there are flaws in such a paradigm, so too can we pinpoint merits. It might be too expensive running educational establishments year round.

Education, especially top-notch education, is a capital intensive venture. Capital and resources are needed in diverse arenas ranging from personnel management, through salaries to lighting, maintenance as well as innovation and development. It can be argued that the costs are somewhat reduced with terms and semesters as opposed to year-round schooling.

Further, social problems with year-round education may arise. Students like all learners and yes workers, need a break. This gives educators time to reflect, relax and rest. It offers opportunities for deserved researchers, travelers and space for revitalization. Just as machines and other technologies need periods of recharging so do humans. Year-round education provides such a rich respite.

7. Stress

Year-round schooling might generate stress. Both staff and students may find it too strenuous hanging around school premises daily. It may also spearhead boredom and low productivity.

8. Internships & Coops

Internships and coops are propelled as great educational strategies. They arm students to the teeth with tools they can use in the workforce. Proper planning and execution enhances productivity. With year-round schooling that might just be impossible. Planning and implementing them might be cumbersome and inefficient. Rather, they may cause chaos and confusion and negate the principal goals and purposes of education.

9. Water down Standard

Year-round education may simply water it down and lower its standards. As the saying goes too much of anything produces nefarious effects. Staff, students and all concerned with the educational pursuit might just become too tired of being tired and offer the minimum rather than optimum best. To avoid that trend some experts argue that it's better to maintain the status quo rather than jeopardize even the minimum benefits, which in some cases have worked with remarkable efficacy and proficiency.

Report: Majority of black Americans say race shapes identity

By Cheyanne Mumphrey
Associated Press



A majority of black Americans say being black is central to how they think about themselves and shape their identities, even as many have diverse experiences and come from various backgrounds, according to a new report by Pew Research Center. About three-quarters of black people said so despite where they come from, their economic status or educational backgrounds.

Overall, 14% say being black is only somewhat important to their identity and 9% say it has little to no impact, highlighting the diversity of thought among black Americans, which include U.S.-born black people and black immigrants, and different ethnicities, political party affiliations and ages.

Pew Research Center released its report on black identity Thursday, and the results pinpoint the critical role race plays in shaping identity in the U.S.

“What our data suggests to me is that being black is important to all black people, according to our findings, regardless of the intersections of their identity,” said Ki-ana Cox, research associate and co-author of the report. A “majority of black people, 76%, said that being black was really important to them.”

Cox, who has worked with Pew Research Center in Washington, D.C., for about four years, said they wanted to make sure they had a large enough sample to “get this kind of nuance within racial and ethnic groups, but also

to understand sort of life and society as black people understand it.”

Shelly Eversley, a professor at The City University of New York, said the 76% of survey respondents who consider their blackness important to their identity was still less than she would expect it to be because “race informs every asset of black life.”

“Understanding the way race informs daily life is protection for a lot of black people,” said Eversley, who has taught about race for 20 years and is interim chair for the Department of Black and Latinx Studies. She was not a participant in the report.

She said being black is something you are aware of at a young age. Black children are often disciplined harder at school and other places, and their parents tend to have conversations with them about the dangers of racism when they are still young, she added.

The report also points to how the importance that people place on being black fosters a sense of connectedness among communities, Cox said.

People who say that being black is an important part of their personal identity were more likely to express a sense of connection with black people in their local communities, in the U.S. and around the world than those who said blackness is relatively less important.

There are 47 million black people in the U.S., about 14% of the population, according to the 2020 census. Most black adults in the U.S. where born in the country, but an increasing portion of the population is comprised of immigrants, about 12%. Of the black immigrant population, 90% were

born in the Caribbean or Africa.

Cox also said she was shocked to learn that place – or where people grew up and were living – played a large role in identity and how people shaped their values and what they viewed as important issues.

Black Americans cited violence and crime, along with economic issues such as poverty and homelessness as the most important issues to address in their communities, according to the report. The most important local issues named across subgroups of black Americans does vary but often violence and crime, economic issues and housing issues rank among the top three.

Overall, 17% of black Americans said the most important issue is violence or crime a category that includes drug activity, theft and vandalism, among other offenses. Eleven percent cited economic issues as the most important, 7% cited housing and 6% cited COVID-19 and public health. Nearly half of black adults said local leaders are most responsible for addressing these important issues.

A separate poll conducted in March by The Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research revealed an overwhelming majority of adults say more progress is needed in achieving equal treatment for black people in dealings with police and the criminal justice system. That's two years after protests against the police killing of George Floyd in Minneapolis sparked a racial reckoning across the country.

When asking about community issues, the survey used an open-ended question, so “the

answer of what black Americans think is important is a little more multilayered than just violence or crime,” Cox said, noting that there is so much more that goes into that category than police violence.

The report also showed that about half of black people who say being black is crucial to personal identity feel very or extremely informed about the history of black people in the U.S. Of that group, about half say they learned that history from family and friends. A large majority, regardless of how blackness shapes their personal identities, say they have spoken to their families about their own history.

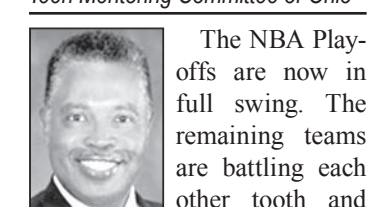
“The clarity in which family as a source of history for both U.S. Black history, like the kind of history we expect to learn in school, and ancestral history, what we learn about our family histories, was very interesting. It came through so strongly,” Cox said. “What that is telling us, is it confirms what scholars and historians have told us about the strength of family for black Americans, especially in terms of greater knowledge.”

The survey of 6,513 U.S. adults, including 3,912 black Americans, was conducted Oct. 4-17, 2021. It uses a sample drawn from Pew Research Center's American Trends Panel and Ipsos KnowledgePanel, which are designed to be representative of the U.S. population. The margin of sampling error for black respondents is plus or minus 2.8 percentage points.

Mumphrey, who reported from Phoenix, is a member of the AP's Race and Ethnicity team. Follow her on Twitter at: <https://www.twitter.com/cheymumph>.

J. R. Smith, a NBA champion, now has earned academic honors at North Carolina A&T State University

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



The NBA Play-offs are now in full swing. The remaining teams are battling each other tooth and nail.

They aren't giving an inch as each team wants to win the National Basketball Association Championship.

Just a few months ago I coined the expression, “records can be broken but championships can't.”

There are players who have set records but have not won championships. With great respect to other players, they have set records but don't have a championship.

On the other hand, there are players like Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, LeBron James and Robert “Big Shot Bob” Horry who have records and championships.

Two of the championships won by LeBron James were with the Cleveland Cavaliers and the Los Angeles Lakers. He shared those championships with J. R. Smith.



Smith was an NBA player for sixteen years. That's a long time. He played for the New York Knicks and the Denver Nuggets in addition to the Cavaliers and the Lakers.

Make no mistake, Smith was a prolific player. He was drafted out of high school with the 18th overall pick in the 2004 NBA draft.

He also received the Sixth Man of the Year trophy in 2013. Smith retired in 2020.

At his age and his savings, the world was his oyster, maybe several oysters.

With the many choices he had available to him, what would the next chapter of his life look like?

There are many retired professional basketball players who have gone into coaching. Don Chaney (Houston Rockets) and

Avery Johnson (Dallas Mavericks) come quickly to mind.

Smith chose the road not frequently traveled by many professional athletes. His road led him to enroll at North Carolina A&T State University, an Historically Black College and University (HBCU) in Greensboro NC.

According to those who know, he was encouraged to go to college by Ray Allen who went to college at the University of Connecticut. He later played professional basketball with the Boston Celtics and the Miami Heat.

Smith gave us who reside in the public square a glimpse of his college life through a series of tweets. Here are a few of them:

“Joined a study group for my African American Studies class on #groupie and my classmates don't think it's me.”

“Man, I've been eating junk food my whole life and now I got to quit cause I'm learning about nutrition in my #FCS class. African Americans especially have to cut out so much fast food and sugar in our diets. Diabetes rate is way too high

and going higher.”

“Is it natural to switch majors? Just asking.”

These tweets are genuine and speak volumes for the seriousness that he takes in his academic pursuits.

As new students, back in the day, we had multiple questions and our curiosity ran rampant. The college experience no matter the era is just different.

Smith wanted to play golf at NC A&T State University. His appeal to the NCAA was approved. Not only was he on the golf team, Smith was named North Carolina A&T's Academic Athlete of the Year.

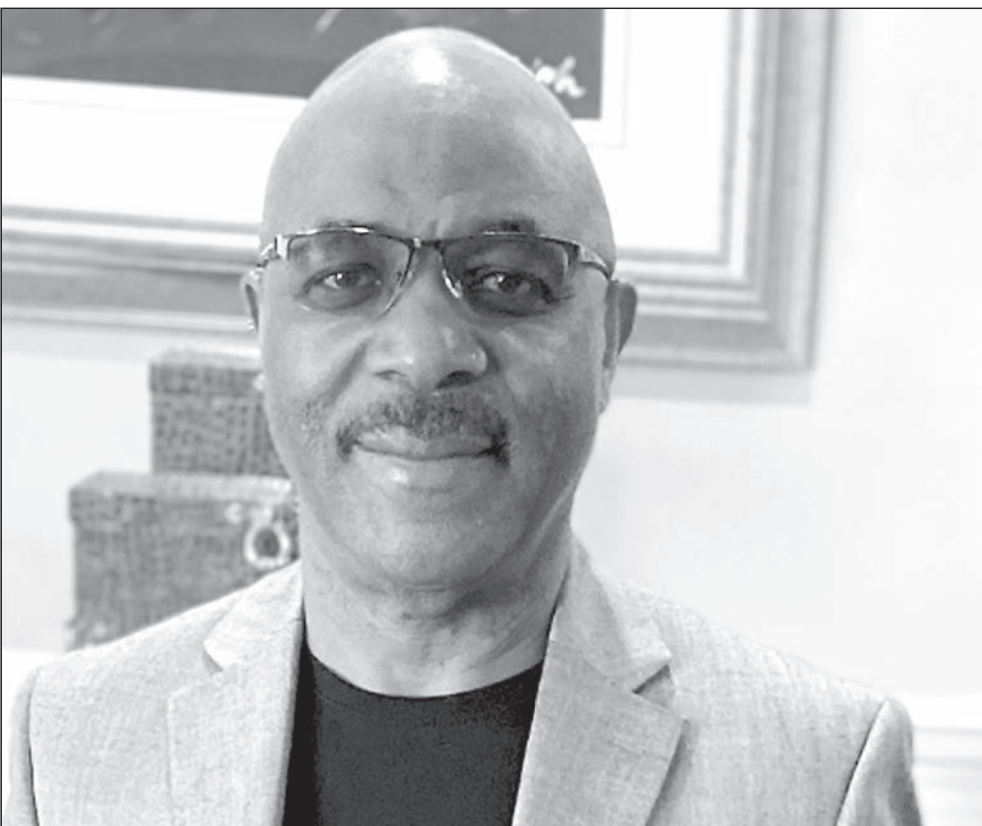
He earned a 4.0 GPA and is pursuing a liberal arts degree.

All of the applause, all of the accolades and all of the achievements have been a part of the basketball life of J.R. Smith. He is now achieving in the classroom with a new set of teammates and challenges. His three-point shot on the court is now an A in the classroom.

We are happy and excited for him. This is a great story. Let's toast him by raising a book in honor of J.R. Smith.

Cheers!

Men in search of a better Jackson headline upcoming Restoration Community Church conference



Pastor Joseph White, Restoration Community Church

Special to The Mississippi Link

Crime and violence are rapidly eroding Jackson’s quality of life. Jackson ranks number one in murder rate for cities over 100,000 in America based on 2021 data. Many men in Jackson are saying enough is enough and something must change.

Members of Restoration Community Church believe they can effect positive change in the community and are sponsoring a Conference Saturday, May 21, 2022 at the Garaywa Conference Center in Clinton. Registration starts at 8:30 a.m.

“Men Who Care About Jackson” is the theme of the conference. This conference will examine the problems and search for solutions to improve the quality of life in Jackson.

“We believe real change begins with petitions to God, an honest conversation about the realities at hand, and a wiliness to act” was

stated in a press release from Restoration.

A few of the speakers will include Police Chief James E. Davis, Sheriff Tyree Jones and mothers who have lost children to gun violence in Jackson.

The objective is for men to collectively develop strategies to strengthen children, fathers and families. This conference will also serve as a unifying vehicle for individuals and organizations with similar visons to work together for the purpose of helping the city of Jackson and its residents.

Dr. Joseph White is the senior pastor of Restoration Community Church (RCC) located in Jackson at 328 Boling Street. He received ministerial training at the Faith Bible Institute in Jackson during the 1990’s. He was licensed in ministry more than 2 decades ago and subsequently ordained. His wife Alice also completed training at the Faith Bible Institute and serves

with him in pastoral care ministry.

In 2011, he founded Restoration Community Church. RCC is a nondenominational full gospel Christian church that encourages people to be “doers of the Word of God.” RCC’s anchoring principle is “Speaking the Truth in Love.”

Pastor White is a bi-vocational church leader. He is a physician by training. He received his BA degree in psychology, MS in biology, and his medical degree from the University of Missouri.

His approach to leadership is that of a servant leader. He is more interested in serving people than being served. He takes immense joy in seeing people made whole in every area of their lives: spirit, soul, body, family relationships and finances.

Pastor White and his wife Alice were high school sweethearts and have been married for well over 40 years. They are the proud parents of two adult children.

Final day of Mississippi fest canceled after fatal shooting

The Associated Press

A law enforcement officer shot and killed one of the people suspected of firing shots at a festival in Mississippi, a sheriff said late Saturday. Organizers said Sunday that, in response to the shootings, they canceled the final day of the Mississippi Mudbug Festival at the state fairgrounds in Jackson.

Hinds County Sheriff Tyree Jones said several people were taken to local hospitals with unknown injuries after gunfire Saturday night. He said the person killed was a teenager.

He said an “officer-involved shooting investigation is underway stemming from this incident,” but did not provide additional details. He said the Mississippi Bureau of Investigation was called to assist.

Jones said two or three people exchanged gunfire at about 10 p.m. Saturday in and around a vehicle at a fairgrounds parking lot.

“During the course of the exchange, at least one of these individuals fired multiple rounds, multiple shots,

toward the midway area of the event that was in progress,” Jones said. “We do not believe there was anybody else injured along the midway during the course of this gunfire.”

The second annual festival – a spring celebration of crawfish, live entertainment and amusement park rides – shut down after the shootings. Saturday’s headliner was Blue Oyster Cult, the rock band best known for classic hits like “(Don’t Fear) the Reaper” and “Burnin’ For You.” A spokesman for the band said Sunday that everyone in the band was safe, and the band had no further comment.

The precise conditions of the wounded weren’t clear. Jones said two juveniles were detained for questioning, and authorities recovered a car, two rifles and a pistol from the scene.

Mississippi Department of Public Safety spokesperson Bailey Martin confirmed Sunday that MBI is investigating, as it does with most shootings of or by law enforcement offi-

cers in the state. She declined to name the agency for which the officer works.

MBI said in a statement that it was asking the public for names, videos or other details about the violence at the fairgrounds. The bureau said people could provide information anonymously by calling CrimeStoppers at 1-888-827-4637 or contacting the MBI at MBITIPS(at)dps.ms.gov.

Grammy-winning blues singer Bobby Rush was the headline performer scheduled for Sunday. The State Department of Agriculture and Commerce hosted the festival, and Agriculture Commissioner Andy Gipson said people who bought advance tickets for Sunday will receive refunds. He said safety is a priority at the fairgrounds.

“I appreciate the rapid response from the Hinds County Sheriff’s Office and the Jackson Police Department,” Gipson said in a statement Sunday. “Their quick action in securing the scene prevented others from potentially being hurt.”

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1-888-844-0041

LEGAL

Advertisement for Bid
Bid 3205 Child Nutrition Frozen Food, Meat Products, Crackers and Chips

Sealed, written formal bid proposals for the above bid will be received by the Board of Trustees of the Jackson Public School District, in the Business Office, 662 South President Street, Jackson, Mississippi, until 10:00 A.M. (Local Prevailing Time), May 17, 2022 at which time and place they will be publicly opened. The Board of Trustees reserves the right to reject any and all bids to waive informalities, and to withhold the acceptance of any bid if approved for forty-five calendar days from the date bids are opened.

Proposal forms and detailed specifications may be obtained free of charge by emailing bjones@jackson.k12.ms.us or documents may be picked up at the above address or downloaded from JPS website at www.jackson.k12.ms.us. 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 JPSP Board Room, 621 South State Street, Jackson, MS 39201.

4/28/2022, 5/5/2022

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, MAY 10, 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.

4/28/2022, 5/5/2022

LEGAL

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR A USE PERMIT

ZONING CASE NO. 4173

By virtue of and pursuant to the authority and direction of that Ordinance by the City Council of Jackson, Mississippi, appearing in Minute Book 3G at page 115 thereof, notice is hereby given to all persons interested in or in any way affected thereby, that Terence Lott has filed with the Planning Board for the City of Jackson, an application requesting a Use Permit within a C-2 (Limited) Commercial District to allow for a community recreational center on property located at 1189 East County Line Rd. (Parcel: 738-8-3), in the First Judicial District of Hinds County, Mississippi, and being more particularly described as:

TRACT I
A certain parcel of land being situated in Lots 1 and 8, Block 49, Highland Colony (Virden-Hatch Place), a Subdivision according to the map or plat thereof, on file and of record in the office of the Chancery Clerk of Hinds County at Jackson, Mississippi, as now recorded in Plat Book A at Page 283, and being more particularly described as follows:

Commence at the Northwest Corner of Wildwood North, Part II, a subdivision according to the map or plat thereof, on file and of record in the offices of the Chancery Clerk of Hinds County at Jackson, Mississippi, as now recorded in Plat Book 23 at Page 19; run thence North 89 degrees 56 minutes 55 seconds West along the South right-of-way line of County Line Road (as now laid out and improved) for a distance of 40.10 feet to the POINT OF BEGINNING of the parcel of land herein described; said point being the Point of Intersection of the West line of a 40 foot right-of-way (undeveloped street) with said South right-of-way line of County Line Road; from said POINT OF BEGINNING, run thence South 04 degrees 24 minutes 10 seconds West along said West line of a 40 foot right-of-way, said West line further being 40 feet West of and parallel to the West line of the aforesaid Wildwood North, Part I F, for a distance 766.66 feet to a point; run thence North 86 degrees 04 minutes 09 seconds West for a distance of 578.27 feet to a point on the East top of bank of Purple Creek; run thence North 01 degrees 54 minutes 05 seconds East along said East top of bank of Purple Creek for a distance of 71.00 feet to a point; run thence South 89 degrees 59 minutes 55 seconds East for a distance of 221.00 feet to a point; run thence North 04 degrees 00 minutes 33 seconds East for a distance of 242.48 feet to a point; run thence South 85 degrees 59 minutes 27 seconds East for a distance of 69.97 feet to a point; run thence North 04 degrees 01 minutes 05 seconds East for distance of 418.13 feet to a point on the aforesaid South right-of-way line of County Line Road; run thence South 89 degrees 56 minutes 55 seconds East along said South right-of-way line of County Line Road for a distance of 296.36 feet to the POINT OF BEGINNING, containing 261,912.573 square feet or 6.013 acres, more or less.

TRACT II
Together with those certain easement(s) appurtenant which constitute and interest in real described in Reciprocal Easement And Operation Agreement of record in Book 3714, Page 384, as amended by Amendment of Reciprocal Easement And Operation Agreement of record in Book 5879, Page 958, as amended by Waiver For Reciprocal Easement and Operation Agreement of record in Book 5879, Page 972, as amended by Second Amendment to Reciprocal Easement and Operation Agreement of record in Book 6141, Page 001.

TRACT III
Together with those certain easement(s) appurtenant which constitute and interest in real property described in Declaration of Cross Access Easements and Covenants of record in Book 5879, Page 989, as amended by Amendment to Declaration Of Cross Access Easements And Covenants of record in Book 6141, Page 009.

Said application will be heard at the City Planning Board Hearing in the Andrew Jackson Conference Room, First Floor, Warren A. Hood Building, 200 S. President Street in Jackson, Mississippi, at 1:30 p.m., on Wednesday, May 25, 2022, at which time all parties interested in or affected thereby will be heard both pro and con on said question, after which a record will be established upon which the City Planning Board can make its recommendation to the City Council of Jackson. Any objection thereto may be made by any person owning property within the area, and if made in writing must be filed with the City Zoning Administrator before said time if a hearing thereof or consideration thereof is desired, or by 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 TELECONFERENCE/VIDEO OR IN PERSON WITH REGARDS TO THE WEARING OF MASKS AND THE SOCIAL DISTANCING REQUIREMENTS. MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC MAY ATTEND VIA TELECONFERENCE/VIDEO BY EMAILING EAINSWORTH@CITY.JACKSON.MS.US TO REGISTER PRIOR TO MAY 18, 2022.

WITNESS my signature this 28th day of April 2022.

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

5/5/2022, 5/19/2022

LEGAL

NOTICE OF INVITATION TO BID ON CITY-OWNED PROPERTY

CITY OF JACKSON

Notice is hereby given that sealed bids will be received by the City Clerk of the City of Jackson, Mississippi before 3:30 p.m. on Tuesday, May 10th, 2022, for the purchase of certain City-owned property: parcel 123-104, located on Latimer Ave in Jackson, Mississippi. Bidding for the property will start at \$500.00. The City will retain all mineral rights it owns, together with the right of ingress and egress to remove same from said property. For additional information or for a "bid form", contact Vic Sexton at (601) 960 1055 or e-mail vsexton@city.jackson.ms.us.

BID INSTRUCTIONS: All bids must be placed in a sealed envelope and delivered to the City Clerk of the City of Jackson (located in City Hall at 219 S. President St. Jackson, Mississippi 39201). The outside of the envelope must be plainly marked to identify the parcel number being bid on along with the bidder's name. Enclose one (1) original and one (1) copy of the bid. Bids will be opened on Tuesday, May 10th, 2022 at 3:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall, 219 South President Street, Jackson, Mississippi. The City reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

CITY OF JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI

4/21/2022, 4/28/2022, 5/5/2022

LEGAL

Advertisement for Bids
Bid 3206 Child Nutrition Warehouse Food Products
Bid 3207 Child Nutrition Warehouse Paper and Stock Supplies

Sealed, written formal bid proposals for the above bid will be received by the Board of Trustees of the Jackson Public School District, in the Business Office, 662 South President Street, Jackson, Mississippi, until 10:00 A.M. (Local Prevailing Time), May 25, 2022 at which time and place they will be publicly opened. The Board of Trustees reserves the right to reject any and all bids to waive informalities, and to withhold the acceptance of any bid if approved for forty-five calendar days from the date bids are opened.

Proposal forms and detailed specifications may be obtained free of charge by emailing bjones@jackson.k12.ms.us or documents may be picked up at the above address or downloaded from JPS website at www.jackson.k12.ms.us.

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 JPSP Board Room, 621 South State Street, Jackson, MS 39201.

5/5/2022, 5/12/2022

LEGAL

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR A USE PERMIT

ZONING CASE NO. 4174

By virtue of and pursuant to the authority and direction of that Ordinance by the City Council of Jackson, Mississippi, appearing in Minute Book 3G at page 115 thereof, notice is hereby given to all persons interested in or in any way affected thereby, that Light of the World Baptist Church has filed with the Planning Board for the City of Jackson, an application requesting a Use Permit within a R-1 (Single-Family) Residential District to allow for a commercial daycare as an accessory use for a church on property located at 5020 South Dr. (Parcel: 821-815), in the First Judicial District of Hinds County, Mississippi, and being more particularly described as:

Begin at the NE corner of the SW ¼ of the NE ¼ of Section 35, Township 6 North, Range 1 West, and run thence West along the North line of said SW ¼ of NE ¼ and North line of SE ¼ of NW ¼ for a distance of 1437 feet to a point, run thence South 1205 feet to a point on the West line of Westhaven Boulevard. Run thence west 303.5 to a point. Turn thence left through an angle of 90°08' run thence southerly for a distance of 294.6 feet to a point thence to the left through an angle of 89° 46' and run thence 49 feet to a point, said point being the point of beginning of the property herein described; thence continue Easterly along the last mentioned course 98 feet to a point. Turn thence to the right through an angle of 87°49' run thence 254.05 feet to the North line of South Drive. Run thence South 80°30' West along the North line of said South Drive for a distance of 129.6 feet. Run thence northerly for a distance of 281.6 feet to the point of beginning. Being parcels 7 and 8 of Mrs. H. W. Alford's survey, said property being situated in the NE ¼ of the SW ¼ of Section 35, /township 6 North, Range 1 West.

Said application will be heard at the City Planning Board Hearing in the Andrew Jackson Conference Room, First Floor, Warren A. Hood Building, 200 S. President Street in Jackson, Mississippi, at 1:30 p.m., on Wednesday, May 25, 2022, at which time all parties interested in or affected thereby will be heard both pro and con on said question, after which a record will be established upon which the City Planning Board can make its recommendation to the City Council of Jackson. Any objection thereto may be made by any person owning property within the area, and if made in writing must be filed with the City Zoning Administrator before said time if a hearing thereof or consideration thereof is desired, or by 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 TELECONFERENCE/VIDEO OR IN PERSON WITH REGARDS TO THE WEARING OF MASKS AND THE SOCIAL DISTANCING REQUIREMENTS. MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC MAY ATTEND VIA TELECONFERENCE/VIDEO BY EMAILING EAINSWORTH@CITY.JACKSON.MS.US TO REGISTER PRIOR TO MAY 18, 2022.

WITNESS my signature this 28th day of April 2022.

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

5/5/2022, 5/19/2022

LEGAL

Advertisement for RFP
RFP 2022-11 Decodable Readers

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), May 19, 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 JPSP website at www.jackson.k12.ms.us and download. Vendors must be registered with Central Bidding in order to electronically upload RFPs/RFPs 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 JPSP Board Room, 621 South State Street, Jackson, MS 39201.

5/5/2022, 5/12/2022

LEGAL

Advertisement for Reverse Auction Bid
Bid 3204 Custodial Equipment

Reverse Auction bidding for the above bid will be received by the Board of Trustees of the Jackson Public School District, in the Business Office, 662 South President Street, Jackson, Mississippi, until 10:00 A.M. (Local Prevailing Time), May 20, 2022, at which time Reverse Auction bidding begins electronically. The Board of Trustees reserves the right to reject any and all bids, to waive informalities, and to withhold the acceptance of any bid if approved for forty-five calendar days from the date Reverse Auction bid opening ends.

Unpriced Specification responses must be submitted for this bid event. Specifications are due no later than (May 13, 2022 @5:00 p.m.) local time to be given the opportunity to participate in the auction. Vendors submitting acceptable specification responses will be invited to participate in the live electronic reverse auction at www.centralbidding.com on May 20, 2022 beginning at 10:00 a.m. local time. Vendors must be registered with Central Bidding in order to participate in the reverse auction. For any questions concerning the reverse auction process or how to register, please contact Central Bidding at 225-810-4814.

5/5/2022, 5/12/2022

LEGAL

NOTICE OF INVITATION TO BID ON CITY-OWNED PROPERTY

CITY OF JACKSON

Notice is hereby given that sealed bids will be received by the City Clerk of the City of Jackson, Mississippi before 3:30 p.m. on Tuesday, May 10th, 2022, for the purchase of certain City-owned property: parcels 99-57 & 99-58 (jointly), located on Peace Street in Jackson, Mississippi. Bidding for the properties will start at \$500.00 (jointly). The City will retain all mineral rights it owns, together with the right of ingress and egress to remove same from said properties. For additional information or for a "bid form", contact Vic Sexton at (601) 960 1055 or e-mail vsexton@city.jackson.ms.us.

BID INSTRUCTIONS: All bids must be placed in a sealed envelope and delivered to the City Clerk of the City of Jackson (located in City Hall at 219 S. President St. Jackson, Mississippi 39201). The outside of the envelope must be plainly marked to identify the parcel numbers being bid on along with the bidder's name. Enclose one (1) original and one (1) copy of the bid. Bids will be opened on Tuesday, May 10th, 2022 at 3:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall, 219 South President Street, Jackson, Mississippi. The City reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

CITY OF JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI

4/21/2022, 4/28/2022, 5/5/2022



LEGAL

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR A REZONING

ZONING CASE NO. 4175

By virtue of and pursuant to the authority and direction of that Ordinance by the City Council of Jackson, Mississippi, appearing in Minute Book 3G at page 115 thereof, notice is hereby given to all persons interested in or in any way affected thereby, that Yolanda M. Bell has filed with the Planning Board for the City of Jackson, an application requesting a Rezoning from R-2 (Single-Family & Two-Family) Residential District to C-2 (Limited) Commercial to allow for a commercial day care center on property located at 2425 Martin Luther King Dr. (Parcels 108-2-60 & 108-2-61). in the First Judicial District of Hinds County, Mississippi, and being more particularly described as:

Lot 8, Block C, Meadow Heights Subdivision, a subdivision according to a map or plat thereof which is on file and of record in the office of the Chancery Clerk of Hinds County at Jackson, Mississippi, in Plat Book 5 at Pate 34, reference to which is made in aid and as a part of this description.

Said application will be heard at the City Planning Board Hearing in the Andrew Jackson Conference Room, First Floor, Warren A. Hood Building, 200 S. President Street in Jackson, Mississippi, at 1:30 p.m., on Wednesday, May 25, 2022, at which time all parties interested in or affected thereby will be heard both pro and con on said question, after which a record will be established upon which the City Planning Board can make its recommendation to the City Council of Jackson. Any objection thereto may be made by any person owning property within the area, and if made in writing must be filed with the City Zoning Administrator before said time if a hearing thereof or consideration thereof is desired, or by 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 TELECONFERENCE/VIDEO OR IN PERSON WITH REGARDS TO THE WEARING OF MASKS AND THE SOCIAL DISTANCING REQUIREMENTS. MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC MAY ATTEND VIA TELECONFERENCE/VIDEO BY EMAILING EAINSWORTH@CITY.JACKSON.MS.US TO REGISTER PRIOR TO MAY 18, 2022.

WITNESS my signature this 28th day of April 2022.

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

5/5/2022, 5/19/2022

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NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR A USE PERMIT

ZONING CASE NO. 4176

By virtue of and pursuant to the authority and direction of that Ordinance by the City Council of Jackson, Mississippi, appearing in Minute Book 3G at page 115 thereof, notice is hereby given to all persons interested in or in any way affected thereby, that WBF Rainbow Learning Center, LLC has filed with the Planning Board for the City of Jackson, an application requesting a Use Permit within a NMU-1 (Neighborhood) Mixed-Use District to allow for a commercial child care center on property located at 962 North St. (Parcel 20-28). in the First Judicial District of Hinds County, Mississippi, and being more particularly described as:

A certain parcel of land being part of Lot 67, North according to H.C. Daniel's Map of the City of Jackson (1875), in the City of Jackson, Hinds County, Mississippi, and being more particularly described as follows:

Commence at the Point of Intersection of the original South right-of-way line of Fortification Street with the East right-of-way line of North Street being the Northwest corner of the aforesaid Lot 67 and run thence South 08 degrees 38 minutes 30 seconds West along said East right-of-line of said Fortification Street; continue thence South 08 degrees 38 minutes 30 seconds West along said East right-of-way line of North Street for a distance of 80.60 feet to a "x" marked in concrete marking the POINT OF BEGINNING of the parcel of land herein described; from said POINT OF BEGINNING and leaving said East right-of-way line of North Street, run thence South 80 degrees 18 minutes 31 seconds East along the westerly extension of an existing fence and along an existing fence for a distance of 90.74 feet to an existing fence corner; run thence South 07 degrees 14 minutes 07 seconds West along an existing fence for a distance of 21.81 feet to an existing fence corner; nm thence South 79 degrees 53 minutes 30 seconds East along an existing fence for a distance of 25.14 feet to an existing fence corner; run thence North 59 degrees 02 minutes 40 seconds East for a distance of 2.72 feet to an existing ½ " iron pin; run thence South 81 degrees 32 minutes 49 seconds East for a distance of 58.42 feet to an existing ½ " iron pin; run thence South 77 degrees 52 minutes 11 seconds East for a distance of 136.07 feet to an existing ½ " iron pin on the West right-of-way line of Jefferson Street; run thence South 08 degrees 12 minutes 36 seconds West along said West right-of-way line of Jefferson Street for a distance of 49.80 feet to an existing ½ " iron pin; run thence South 08 degrees 49 minutes 30 seconds West along said West right-of-way line of Jefferson Street for a distance of 63.24 feet to an existing 1" pipe; leaving said West right-of-way line of Jefferson Street, run thence North 77 degrees 46 minutes 31 seconds West for a distance of 156.36 feet to an existing ½ " iron pin; run thence South 47 degrees 53 minutes 09 seconds West for a distance of 2.66 feet to an existing ½ " iron pin; run thence North 80 degrees 44 minutes 59 seconds West for a distance of 155.17 feet to an existing 4" metal post on the aforesaid East right-of-way line of North Street; run thence North 08 degrees 38 minutes 30 seconds East along said East right-of-way line of North Street for a distance of 134.14 feet to the POINT OF BEGINNING, containing 37,196 square feet or 0.85 acres, more or less.

Said application will be heard at the City Planning Board Hearing in the Andrew Jackson Conference Room, First Floor, Warren A. Hood Building, 200 S. President Street in Jackson, Mississippi, at 1:30 p.m., on Wednesday, May 25, 2022, at which time all parties interested in or affected thereby will be heard both pro and con on said question, after which a record will be established upon which the City Planning Board can make its recommendation to the City Council of Jackson. Any objection thereto may be made by any person owning property within the area, and if made in writing must be filed with the City Zoning Administrator before said time if a hearing thereof or consideration thereof is desired, or by 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 TELECONFERENCE/VIDEO OR IN PERSON WITH REGARDS TO THE WEARING OF MASKS AND THE SOCIAL DISTANCING REQUIREMENTS. MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC MAY ATTEND VIA TELECONFERENCE/VIDEO BY EMAILING EAINSWORTH@CITY.JACKSON.MS.US TO REGISTER PRIOR TO MAY 18, 2022.

WITNESS my signature this 28th day of April 2022.

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

5/5/2022, 5/19/2022

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ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

**BY THE
JACKSON MUNICIPAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY
IN CONNECTION WITH THE
JAN LANDSIDE SEASONAL LAWN SERVICES
AT THE
JACKSON-MEDGAR WILEY EVERS INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
JMAA PROJECT NO. 009-22**

The Jackson Municipal Airport Authority ("JMAA") is seeking bids for related services in connection with the JAN Landslide Season Lawn Services (the "Work").

Sealed bids to perform the Work will be accepted at 4:00 p.m. Central Standard Time (CST) on Thursday, June 2, 2022(the "Bid Deadline"). Bids 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

JMAA will open and read publicly all bid on Thursday, June 2, 2022 at 4:05 p.m. (CST) (the "Bid Opening"), in the Staff Conference Room, Third Floor of the Main Terminal Building at JAN. JMAA invites Bidders and their authorized representatives to be present at the Bid Opening.

Questions and communications regarding the bidding procedure and schedule on this project should be directed: Marvin Buckhalter, Director of Procurement, mbuckhalter@jmaa.com and 601-664-3516.

The following identification information must be provided with the submission: (i) Bidder's company name; (ii) Mississippi Certificate of Responsibility Number; and (iii) the wording: JAN Landslide Seasonal Lawn Services at Jackson-Medgar Wiley Evers International Airport, JMAA Project No. 009-22." 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 submissions, including bid proposals, amendments to bids, or requests for withdrawal of bids received, after the Bid Deadline for any reason whatsoever.

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

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

JMAA will hold a Pre-Submission Video Conference on Thursday, May 12, 2022 at 10:00 a.m. (CST) using the following login information:

https://jmaa.zoom.us/j/95968020095
Meeting ID: 959 6802 0095
Passcode: 520966
By Telephone: 1-301-715-8592 (USA)

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

JMAA has established a Disadvantaged Business Enterprises contract goal of 0% for the Work solicited by this RFB.

JACKSON MUNICIPAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY
DATE: April 27, 2022

Paul A. Brown, Chief Executive Officer

5/5/2022

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Week of May 1, 2022



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Alcorn’s political campaigns, rallies fanfare, food and fun on 871 campus

By Dr Jerry Komia Domatob
Contributing Writer

Although Alcorn State University languishes in a remote vicinity, some describe as nowhere, its dynamic traditions, culture and customs are memorably impactful.

One of these venerated customs, which infuses a new lease of life on the campus annually, is its political and election campaigns.

It usually culminates in the election of revered leaders, Ms Alcorn and now Mr. Alcorn. Often, these candidates bring glamor, intelligence, resources, charisma or savvy to the table. They also display some leadership traits which attracts voters. In many ways, they are leaders and go-getters of some sort.

The political season is vibrant and passionate in the spring, except in circumstances like the pandemic. Food, dance, music and persuasion dominate the campaigns.

Politically, it enables candidates to map out strategies for victory as it is the case in real life. Economically, students



Mr. Alcorn Kendrick Walker and Ms Alcorn Bria Fells and their 2022-23 court

PHOTO BY JERRY DOMATOB

learn the impact and power of money, people and other resources in politics. Culturally, candidates display crucial attributes such as interpersonal,

speech and organizational communication central to life.

Students also recognize the importance of groups, sororities, fraternities, brotherhoods

and sisterhoods. They further reiterate the importance of networks, friendships and relationships in society.

The process is generally

lively, vibrant, interesting and inspiring. Under the first ever female president, Dr. Felecia M. Nave, in the 150 year history of the school, the tradition rolls along in 2022.

Congratulations to the contestants, families, friends and authorities who made the 2022-23 Alcorn political campaign a remarkable and rosy event. Welcome to the new leaders who will serve as the students’ representatives in the coming year. Huge thanks to President Nave, administrators and all who made the 2022-23 campaign elevating and exhilarating.

Dr. Jerry Komia Domatob, a graduate of E.W. Scripps School of Journalism, Ohio University-Athens, Ohio is a professor of Mass Communication at Alcorn State University, Lorman-Mississippi. A journalist, photographer, poet and researcher, he is currently working on two projects.

His latest publications are: Communication, Culture & Human Rights and Positive Vibration. Professor Domatob earned his master’s degrees in International Affairs and Journalism from Carleton University, Ottawa Canada.

Contact him at: domatobj@gmail.com.

From Alcorn to Wall Street: Graduating senior Chinedu Ufio accepts dream job at Deutsche Bank in New York

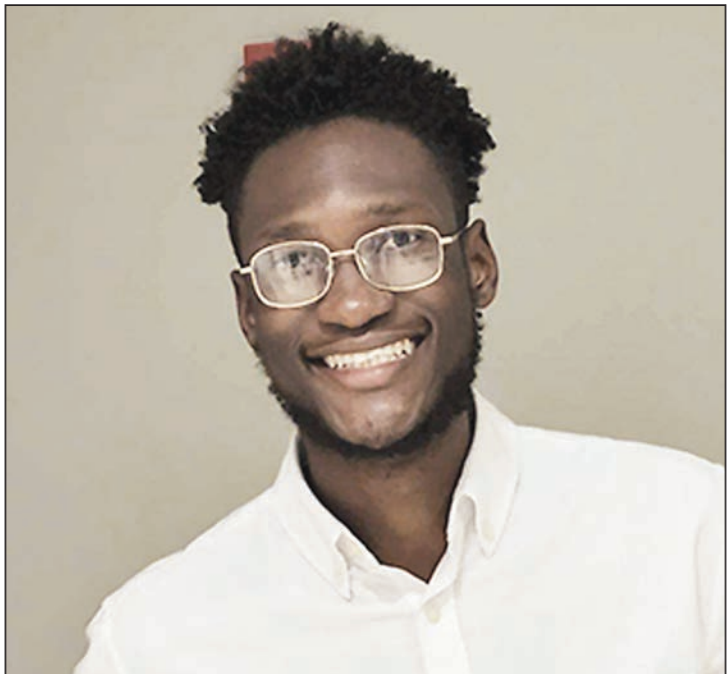
Mississippi Link Newswire

New York is one of the nation’s most bustling cities for finance professionals, with Wall Street being a hub for those making their mark in the numbers game. Beginning a career in this famous financial market has been a dream of graduating senior Chinedu Ufio. In a few months, his dream will be a reality.

“My dream has always been to go into finance and work on Wall Street and live in New York,” said Ufio, a native of Enugu, Nigeria. “Now, I can say that I have fulfilled my dream.”

Ufio has accepted a full-time job at Deutsche Bank and will begin his tenure after earning a bachelor’s degree in accounting from Alcorn State University during its 2022 Spring Commencement.

Deutsche Bank is a leading financial services provider to America’s agencies, corpora-



Chinedu Ufio

tions, governments, private individuals, and institutions.

Solidifying his future gives Ufio peace. He’s happy to be rewarded for his hard work.

“There is great relief in figuring out my next steps before graduation. I’m stress-free and happy. Now, I can finally involve myself in other activities.”

Ufio is eager to adjust to his new surroundings while continuing to enhance his abilities.

“I am looking forward to creating new relationships with my clients and fellow employees. I am also looking forward to being an asset while also learning a lot on the job and enhancing my fundamentals and skill set.”

Fueled by a tireless work ethic, Ufio proved his worth by receiving other job offers from Ernst & Young and Microsoft. He was awarded a full scholarship to Kelley Business School, where he plans to pursue a master’s degree in accounting and data analytics in Fall 2023.

He described his path as a grind that included sacrifices.

“The journey to landing this offer was not easy, as it involved sleepless nights and stressful days. I had to do a great deal of networking on LinkedIn. I attended multiple conferences, got work experience on campus at

the Writing Center, and internships at Ernst & Young and Citigroup. With patience and consistency comes great rewards, and the reward was this job offer and other job offers and the opportunity to attend graduate school on a full scholarship.”

Ufio’s initial attempt to pursue internships and jobs proved to be challenging. However, thanks to his robust support system, he was motivated to keep pushing despite limited opportunities.

“Many of these challenges ranged from obstacles to getting internships and interviews and the pressure to do well during these opportunities. I overcame these challenges with the help of my family and friends, who always kept me going. They helped prepare me for my interviews. Of course, God was also a major factor, as he was the one that got me through it all.”

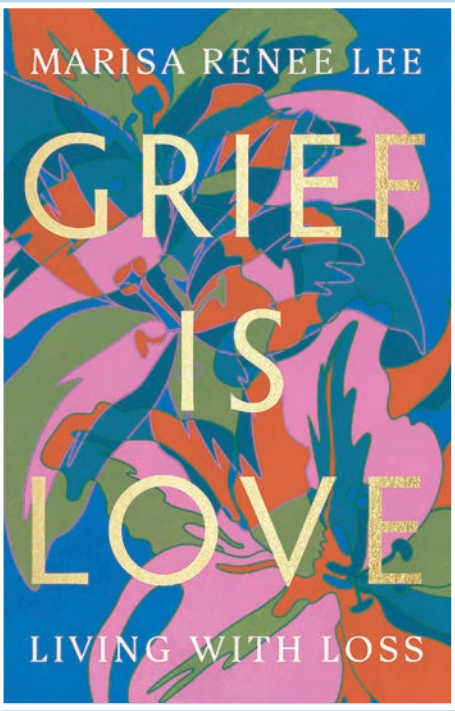
As Ufio approaches gradu-

ation, he reflects on his path to this point. He credits his four years at Alcorn for being life-changing.

“I will forever be grateful for my time at Alcorn. Being an international student here was a journey, but I was able to be successful thanks to the Nigerian community and good friends. The university has shaped me into the strong young man I am today. The people and resources have played a vital role in my success. For that, I am happy. I was afforded a full-time scholarship to attend this university, a defining moment that changed my life.”

The next chapter awaits Ufio, and he’s ready to embrace what it has to offer.

“I am very excited to graduate from Alcorn. My time has come to an end. I am looking forward to starting a new chapter in New York. I cannot wait to see what life offers next.”



BOOK REVIEW: GRIEF IS LOVE: LIVING WITH LOSS

BY MARISA RENEE LEE
C.2022, HARPERLEGACY
\$26.00 • 192 PAGES

By Terri Schlichenmeyer
Columnist

It happened so fast. One minute your loved one was talking, laughing, alive – and the next minute they were gone, as if a thick line were drawn somewhere between life and not-life. Even if you had time to prepare, time to get used to their impending death, it happened too fast. You have to continue without them... but how? I

In the new book “Grief is Love” by Marisa Renee Lee, you’ll see what may be next for

you. So you’ve recently lost someone and the fog has yet to lift. You’re in disbelief and your closest companion is grief, which Lee describes as “the experience of navigating your loss, figuring out how to deal with the absence of your loved one forever” while still refusing to live without the love of the one you’ve lost. Lee says that she was “a strong black woman, a type-A striver” in the aftermath of her mother’s death, and she thought she had to stuff her feelings

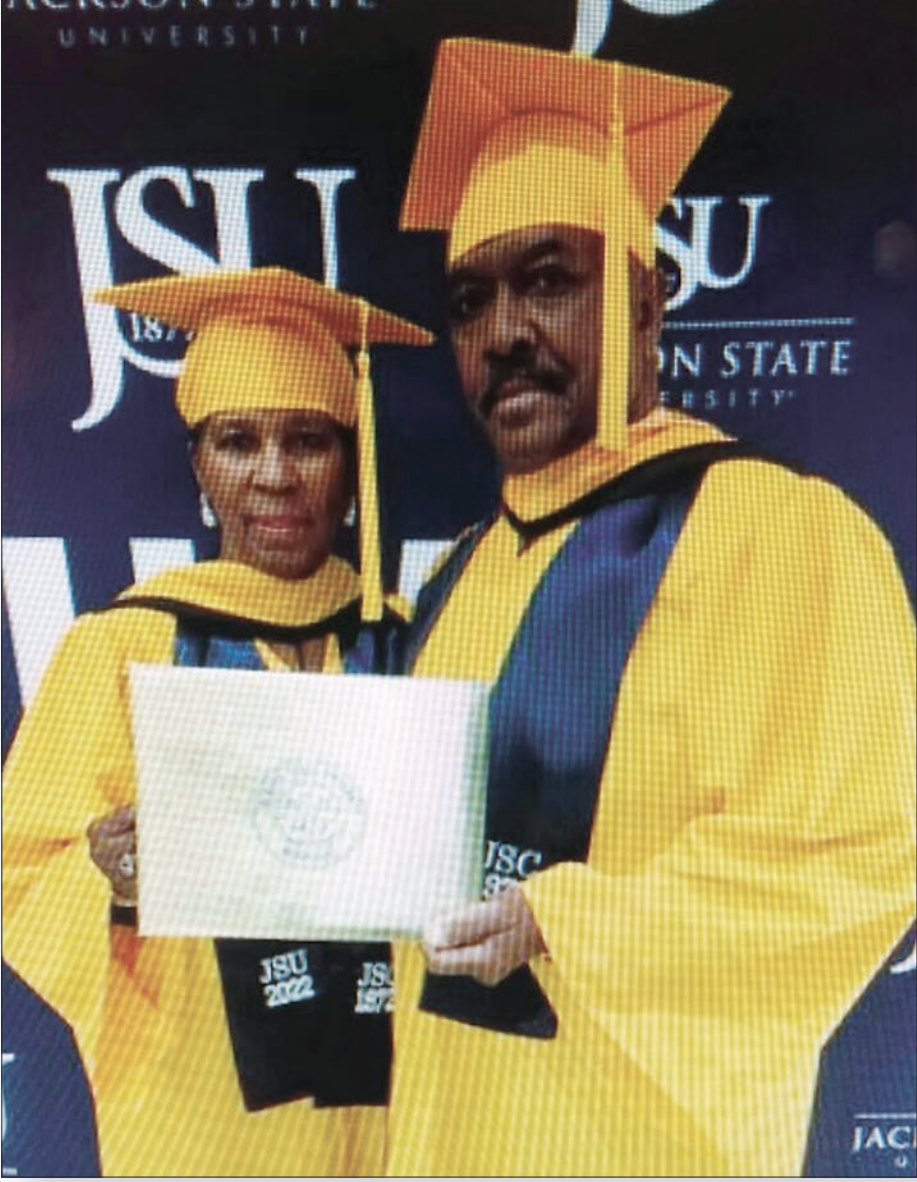
aside and bounce back quickly. She didn’t give herself a chance to understand her emotions, including guilt and anger, and tamping them down just made things worse. She came to realize that she needed permission to grieve and feel, in a manner that seemed right to her. She also needed to find a place, physically or emotionally, where she felt safe to grieve. That, she says, is particularly difficult for black people and for men in general who may have issues with vulnerability.

She learned that grief is not a timeline or a should-anything; it can be a lifelong process that can come back to surprise you, even at the most inopportune times. Anxiety, depression and mental illness may hit you when you grieve, too; so can deep, fierce anger, as Lee learned. Don’t be afraid, she says, to reach out to people you can trust to help you carry your burden. Also, don’t be afraid to set boundaries when needed. And finally, remember that you will be changed by someone’s death

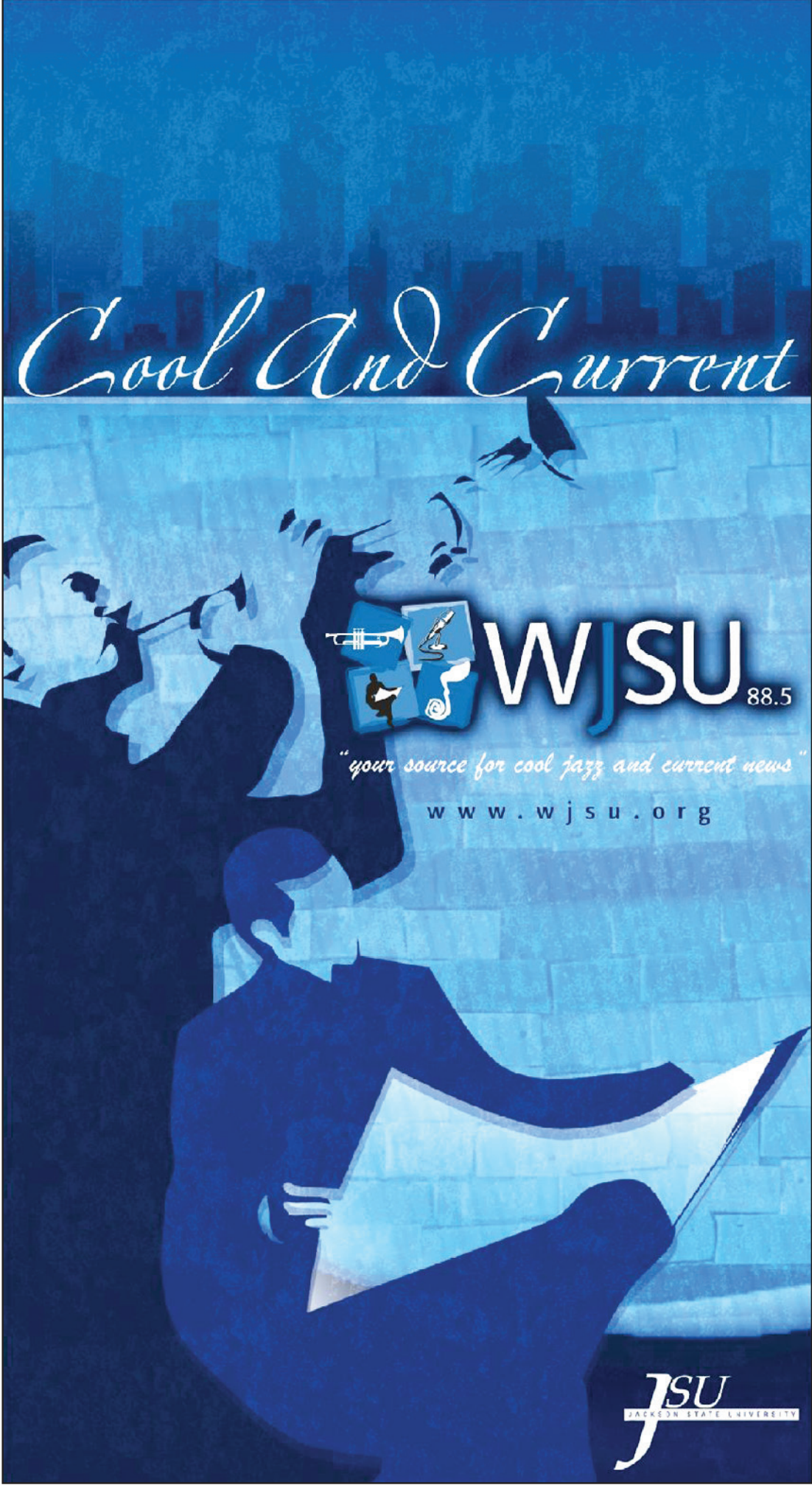
because “You are their mark on this world.” You are their legacy. More than 6,000 people die in the U.S. every day. You’re only concerned with one of them. “Grief is Love” helps you to endure. It may take a little double-checking, though. Author Marisa Renee Lee uses so much of her own experiences in this book that help for grieving readers may not initially feel as forthcoming as you may wish it would be. Even so, there’s much to glean inside her tales because

she’s honest about her journey, her various feelings, and the bumps along the road. Readers who are deep in the throes of grief will also be greatly comforted by her assertion that your person died but the love you shared never will. Lee reminds readers that joy will eventually come by again and that seems more like a promise than anything, which is all you may need from a book like this. For you, “Grief is Love” is right for when the worst thing happened.

PHOTO OF THE WEEK



Audrey Green and Robert Green met at Jackson State University during their sophomore year. They married after graduating in 1973 and on Saturday, they each received their golden diploma.



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Jackson Mayor's Weekly Press Briefing

By Christopher Young
Contributing Writer

Jackson Mayor Chokwe Antar Lumumba kicked off his weekly press briefing at 1:30 p.m. Monday, May 2, in front of City Hall. He began by acknowledging the shooting that took place at the Mississippi Fairgrounds over the weekend, where six people were shot and one killed, in what has been referred to as a mass shooting event. He expressed his condolences and stated, "There is no place for these shootings at family friendly events and we must do all we can to make sure that these events do not happen again."

He lauded the Jackson Police Department for coming to the assistance of the Hinds County Sheriff's Department and Capitol Complex Police, despite it not being their jurisdiction. He went on to note the frequency of shootings with some of your youngest residents involved, and how we can attempt to interrupt the cycle of violence that we see.

He mentioned looking to start an Office of Violence Prevention and Trauma Recovery, and indicated that it will happen with resources received from Wells Fargo Bank in collaboration with



Mayor Chokwe Lumumba

the National League of Cities.

"We were one of very few cities selected across the nation for this funding, and the nearly \$1m we will look to couple with surrounding businesses and CEO's so that they can help contribute because we think they have a vested interest in a safe Jackson." He mentioned that Jackson is a safe city and that these shootings are interpersonal and not random.

He announced that Jatron is returning to full service as of today and that the reduced schedule since mid-January was due to worker shortage, much of that attributed to COVID. Route information is available at www.jacksonms.gov/rideralerts/ and

that JaTran's customer service line is 601-952-1000 (M-F, 6 a.m. to 5 p.m. and 8 a.m.-5 p.m. on Saturdays).

May is Mental Health Awareness Month and the mayor stated how important it is for the city to lift this up and be a champion of Mental Health Awareness Month. He shared the following facts: 1 in 5 US adults experience Mental Health illness each year, 1 in 20 US adults experience serious mental illness each year, 1 in 6 US youth ages 6-17 experience a mental health disorder each year, 50% of all lifetime mental illness begins at age 14 and 75% by age 24. Suicide is the second leading cause of death in people aged 10-34.



Acting City Engineer Robert Lee

The mayor introduced Jamie Evans, the mobile crisis coordinator of the Hinds Behavioral Health Services and thanked them for their hard work in support of the residents in the greater Jackson area. Evans encouraged residents to reach out if they become aware of a mental health crisis by calling 601-955-6381 24 hours per day, every day. She indicated that they work closely with CIT (Critical Intervention Team) Officers, JPD, Hinds County, etc.

The mayor then introduced acting city engineer, Robert Lee, who announced that on Tuesday they will begin a construction project on Mill Street, just north of Union Station to replace an



Jamie Evans (L) and her Hinds Co. Behavioral Health Service team

old bridge that runs over Town Creek. The bridge is 108-years-old and while he emphasized he was aware of the inconvenience, the safety of residents takes priority.

The City of Jackson's payment plan for water and other payment assistance services was highlighted by the mayor, before introducing Roger Luttrell, vice president of Planning and Development at Hinds County Human Resource Agency. Luttrell spoke about the many programs that are available to residents, including financial assistance, Head Start, real estate, mortgage, utility programs, a rural transit program and many others.

HCHRA is located at 258

Maddox Rd in South Jackson (601 923-3950), and their website is www.hchra.org.

A television reporter mentioned that suspects at the fairgrounds shooting are 15-16 year olds and asked for his reaction to that and what are some ways that we can address that. The mayor indicated that across the nation the data bear out there is a younger demographic involved in these types of incidents and so it's important to engage young people.

He believes that every block will be controlled by somebody and that will either be by a positive force or a negative force and we have to be intentional in interacting, interrupting and engaging our young people.

A Celebrated Life Rodney D. Caston

October 7, 1957 – April 26, 2022



Caston

Rodney Delane Caston entered this world October 7, 1957, to the proud parents Charlie Caston, Sr. and Fannie Bell Caston. Raised in a Christian home, Rodney confessed and accepted Christ as his Lord and Savior at an early age and was baptized at Black's Chapel Baptist Church, Jackson, MS. Later in life, he began attending College Hill Baptist Church with his family. Rodney faithfully supported the church and church activities for more than 30 years.

Rodney was born in Jackson, MS and was educated in the Jackson Public School System. He graduated from Wingfield High where he was a star basketball player. Upon graduation, Rodney joined the Armed Forces. During his time in the Army, he excelled as a Field Operations Sharpshooter Specialist, and as a U.S. Army basketball player. Rodney returned from serving his country to serving his community and graduated with an Associate's Degree in industrial welding from Hinds Community College. He retired in January 2020 from United Parcel Service (UPS) and was recognized and celebrated as a safe driver during his 40 years of service.

Rodney married the love of life, Edna and together, they brought forth the apple of his eye,



Rodney and Edna Caston

Donovan. They were married for 37 years. During those years, he loved all professional sporting events and eating out, traveling and being at home. He was a great cook, and he enjoyed his wife's cooking. Every day he planned each meal in advance. At night before going to bed, he would say, "be thinking about breakfast," and at breakfast, "be thinking about lunch," and you guessed it, at lunch, "be thinking about dinner." He absolutely loved food and eating, even the pandemic didn't slow his appetite down.

On Tuesday, April 26, 2022, the Lord our God sent His angels to bring one of his servants home to reward him with peace and fulfillment of the eternal rest reserved for those that belong to him. No words can describe his absence, but we know he will always watch over and be with us.

Preceding his deliverance from this earthly life is his father, Charlie Caston Sr., his mother, Fannie Bell Caston, and his brother Charlie Caston Jr. Rodney is celebrated by his loving wife, Edna J. Caston; son, Donovan Caston and grandson Brenan Caston. Sisters: Margaree Barnes, Linda Diane Williams, Charlie Mae Bass and Constance (Mike) Ross all of Jackson, MS. Brothers: Alvin Glen Caston and Darryl (Barbara) Caston of Jackson, MS.

Dearly loved by all of his nieces and nephews (he was the favorite uncle and he loved being their uncle). His many cousins cherished their time with him as well. A host of family, friends, co-workers and all he met, celebrate with his family a memorable life.

Services were held at 11 a.m. Tuesday, May 3, 2022 at College Hill Baptist Church where words of comfort were expressed to the family by Pastor Chauncy Jordan, scripture and prayer by former College Hill pastor Rev. Hosea J. Hines, Pastor of Christ Tabernacle Church, and the eulogy was given by Dr. Michael T. Williams, retired pastor of College Hill.

Arrangements were entrusted to Westhaven Memorial Funeral Home, Inc. in Jackson. The interment was held at Autumn Woods Memorial Gardens on Northside Drive in Jackson.



The Castons, son Donovan and grandson Brenan



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)"

Head Start Offers the Following Services:

- * Preschool Education
- * Medical
- * Dental
- * Nutrition
- * Mental Health
- * Disability
- * Literacy
- * Leadership Development
- * 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*

VFW Post 9832 Annual Loyalty Day

honoring members of the community

4610 Willie Lindsey Dr. • Jackson, MS • May 1, 2022

PHOTOS BY GAIL BROWN



JPS and Metro Area JROTC Top Cadets (l to r) Cadet Javien Davis, Pearl H.S. Navy-JROTC; Cadet Jackson Bowman, Murrah H.S. Army-JROTC; Cadet Jequireon Johnson, Overall JPS & Callaway H.S. Army-JROTC Top Cadet; Cadet Adejuwon Olagbegi, Jim Hill H.S. Army-JROTC; Cadet Markayla Taylor, Madison Central H.S. Air Force-JROTC; Post 9832 Assistant Adjutant Terry Brown; Post 9832 Commander Ira Turner; Cadet Nathan Cooke, Terry H.S. Army-JROTC and Eagle Scout; Cadet Jesse Rae, Raymond H.S. Air Force JROTC; Cadet Gloria Hernandez, Wingfield H.S. Army-JROTC; Cadet Brandon Jones, Provine, H.S. Army-JROTC. NOTE: Honored but not pictured was: Cadet Enaya Wall, Lanier H.S. Army-JROTC and Cadet Shania Middleton, Forest Hill H.S. Army-JROTC



Assistant Adjutant Terry Brown; Jackson State University Army-SROTC Cadet of the Year Caleb Hall from Mississippi College; Post Cmdr. Ira Turner; and Post Trustee Marshand Crisler



Guest Speaker and Award-Winning JROTC Cadet of the Year, Cadet Jequireon Johnson, Callaway High School.



Post Commander Ira Turner lays red flower in memory of departed Comrades who served.



Auxiliary President Gladys McKenzie lays white flower in memory of departed Auxiliary members.



Comrade Harold Grant singing "God Bless America"



(l to r) VFW Auxiliary President Gladys McKenzie, presents Dorothy Loggins-Lewis with Certificate of Recognition for 5 years of commendable service as Auxiliary Senior Vice President



(l to r) Jeffery McKenzie Senior Vice Cmdr; Gladys McKenzie Auxiliary President; London McKenzie, Patriot's Pen winner; Ira Turner Post Cmdr; and Aaron Honeysucker, Essay Chairperson



Auxiliary President Gladys McKenzie (left) and Post Commander Ira Turner present Sydnee Thompson with the winning Voice of Democracy Essay certificate.



(l to r) Gladys McKenzie VFW Post 9832 Auxiliary President; Lynsey McQueen - Dawson Elementary School 5th grade Teacher; Ira Turner VFW Post 9832 Commander. Note: Honored but not pictured is Alexandria Drake, Teacher of the Year from Tougaloo Early College High School



(l to r) QOVF coordination Eleanor Mills, present Lee Perry, retired U.S. Air Force Vietnam Veteran and Past VFW Post, Past 5th District and Past VFW Department of Mississippi State Commander (2014-2015), with a "Quilt = Healing" Quilt of Valor; and VFW Post 12172 Cmdr. Tara Rivers.



(l to r) Assistant Adjutant Terry Brown; Eagle Scouts Marcus Jackson and Marvin Jackson of Troop 51 Pearl Street AME Church; Grandfather Marvin Jackson, who is a Vietnam Purple Heart recipient, a member of VFW Post 9832 and a member of the All American Service Persons organization; and Post Cmdr. Ira Turner.



(l to r) Post Safety Officer Rudolph Bracey; Hinds County Sheriff Tyree Jones; Hinds County Sheriff Deputy of the Year Jonathan Evans; CPT Crystal Houston, SGT Paul Medlock and Post Cmdr. Ira Turner. NOTE: Honored but not pictured is Franchon Jackson, American Medical Response (AMR) Communications Center Supervisor for AMR Central Mississippi. She also received the "Star of Life" Award for 2022.



(l to r) Jackson Fire Department Fire Fighter of the Year honoree not pictured. Accepting on his behalf is Jackson Fire Department Division Fire Chief Billy Johnson; Post Cmdr. Ira Turner and Post Safety Officer Rudolph Bracey.



Auxiliary Community Service Recognition Awards handed out by Auxiliary President Gladys McKenzie to (l to r) Auxiliary Chaplain Shirley Ellis; Auxiliary Junior Vice President Deborah Turner; Auxiliary Trustee Virginia Charleston; and Auxiliary Secretary Alisa Anderson



(l to r) VFW Post 9832 Junior Vice Commander Chris Gray; Partners of Post 9832 Annual Christmas Food Giveaway program, Kunwar Bhalla; Kulvinder Bhalla; Pritpal Kaur; Surinder Singh; The Group name is the Mississippi SEWA Group; and Post Cmdr. Ira Turner



(l to r) VFW Auxiliary Junior Vice President and Post Outreach Coordinator Deborah Turner; United Methodist Church Grace Place Outreach ministry, Pastor Lori Till.



(l to r) Brandon's VFW Post 12172 Commander Tara Rivers; Eleanor Mills, Quilt of Valor Foundation (QOVF) Central Mississippi Coordinator; Post Cmdr. Ira Turner



VFW Post 9832 also recognized and honored the Callaway JROTC Color Guards.



(l to r) VFW Post Chaplain Larry Williams; Auxiliary Trustee Virginia Charleston; Auxiliary member Evon Lee; Comrade Larry Lee; and Auxiliary Secretary Alisa Anderson



(l to r) Post Safety Officer Rudolph Bracey; City of Jackson Chief of Police James Davis; Jackson Police Department Police Officer of the Year Demetrius Persley, Pct. 4; Post Cmdr. Ira Turner



(l to r) VFW Post 9832 Junior Vice Commander Chris Gray. The Mississippi Link Co-owner and Publisher Jackie Hampton, and Post Cmdr. Ira Turner



(l to r) VFW Post 9832 Junior Vice Commander Chris Gray. The Jackson Advocate Owner and Publisher DeAnna Tisdale Johnson, and Post Cmdr. Ira Turner



Callaway JROTC Senior Instructor Colonel Rodney Parker; Mississippi House of Representatives Stephanie Foster District 63; and VFW Post 9832 Senior Vice Commander Jeffery McKenzie