

Entrepreneurial Fair at The Two Museums



Higher Purpose Co. Founder & CEO Tim Lampkin – sponsor of Entrepreneurial Fair



Be Undeclared Therapeutic Solutions exhibit - Entrepreneurial Fair at Two Mississippi Museums PHOTOS BY CHRIS YOUNG

By Christopher Young
Contributing Writer

An entrepreneurial fair was held at the Two Museums in Jackson Saturday, July 9 and was sponsored by Higher Purpose Co. (HPC) and the National Museum of African American History and Culture. Talk about keeping good company! They sponsored free admission to the Two Mississippi Museums over the weekend, during The Negro Motorist Green Book exhibition, which runs through September 25.

The Higher Purpose Co. was founded in Clarksdale in 2016 and is growing rapidly and has been featured on national platforms such as CBS News. Their mission is to build community wealth with black residents in Mississippi by supporting the ownership of financial, cultural and political power.

Their theory of change is anchored by an integrated model: asset building, narrative change and advocacy. Solutions-based

organizing and community wealth building amplify their theory of change to unapologetically tackle generational poverty, structured inequality and institutionalized racism in the state of Mississippi.

The National Museum of African American History and Culture (NMAAHC) is part of the Smithsonian Institution, a group of museums and research centers administered by the US government and headquartered in Washington, DC. NMAAHC is a sight to behold and a deeply moving experience.

At the entrepreneurial fair there were exhibits featuring black businesses such as Rightway Resumes, Hope Credit Union, Professional Management Solutions, JSU College of Business, JSU Women's Business Center, Be Undeclared Therapeutic Solutions and more.

There were well over a hundred people visiting the fair, gathering information and handouts, and discussing ideas and plans with

the various vendors.

Shequite Johnson, chief operating officer of HPC, shared some of the growth of HPC and mentioned their recruitment efforts in the Jackson area through partnerships and sponsoring events like this one. Recently they sponsored elevating black men-owned businesses at the First Legacy Purpose Success (LPS) Men's Entrepreneurship Summit in Clarksdale and have another event for women scheduled in Indianola September 17 at the CAP Center called Money Purpose Assist Summit. More details can be found at www.higherpurposeco.org and www.legacypurpose.com.

Membership in HPC includes business advising, educational services like their business academy; a seven week program provided by business professionals, and a host of other tools for growth and success. Business funding, business fellowship and Community Wealth Institute are

three main program areas for members.

The Mississippi Link caught up with Tim Lampkin, founder and CEO of Higher Purpose Co. After mentioning his footprint in the Delta and that he is expanding his company statewide, he was asked how he is feeling about today's event. He shared that he is excited to be here in Jackson and that HPC has done quite a few things over the last few years to build momentum in Jackson.

"This collaboration shows that we are working with a couple of major institutions here in the City of Jackson and we are grateful to Pamela Junior and the Two Mississippi Museums for partnering with us."

"We also wanted to expose and highlight The Green Book Exhibit that is going to be here for a few months. We wanted to make sure that folks had access to this event and we are excited to see a lot of

Fair
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Status hearing: Mayor cannot veto a "No" vote



Status hearing in Hinds County Chancery Court, July 8, 2022
PHOTO BY CHRIS YOUNG

By Christopher Young
Contributing Writer

Attorneys for the Jackson City Council and for Jackson Mayor Chokwe Antar Lumumba gathered in Hinds County Chancery Courtroom # Friday, July 8 for a status hearing on Richard's Disposal before retired Mississippi Court of Appeals Judge Larry E. Roberts, who had been appointed as a special chancellor for this case, centered on the mayor's veto of the council's "no" vote.

The courtroom was full for the duration of about one hour and forty-five minutes of each side presenting their overall arguments and brief closing statements, and then the judge's ruling.

At the start it was stated that there was no dispute of the material facts. That was the easy part. The remainder was more complex. Attorney John Scanlon, representing the Jackson City Council, argued that despite a lack of specific case law on vetoes for our mayor-council form of government, that if the mayor

vetoes a negative (inaction) vote by the council, then he would be performing a legislative versus executive function, and there is no precedent for that.

Attorney Erica Ayers, representing the mayor, argued that statutes and city ordinances could be interpreted that the mayor can indeed veto a negative vote, and then if the council chooses, they could over-ride the veto with a two-thirds majority. It was clear that the council never took any action to over-ride the mayor's veto. Instead, they filed a lawsuit against the mayor.

There was considerable talk, from both sides, about statutes that could or should apply, with one dating back to 198 the Holder case. There were some past decisions that would apply to co-charter forms of government, but little to none that address the mayor-council form of government. There have been Mississippi Attorney's

Veto
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Central Mississippi AMR hosts Moving Honors Procession

By Christopher Young
Contributing Writer

Global Medical Response, of which Central Mississippi American Medical Response (AMR) is a part, spearheads The Moving Honors Procession in ceremonies all over the nation. On Wednesday, July 13, a procession was held at the Central MS AMR Headquarters at 600 Melvin Bender Drive, adjacent to The Jackson Medical Mall.

Well over 100 people gathered for the procession at 9 a.m. under a bright clear sky and a solid 90 degrees in the shade. There were current AMR employees,



Wife of fallen AMR paramedic James Doug Ming, Linda Ming with son Cameron

retirees, friends of AMR, family members of recently deceased

employees, fire and law enforcement officers. The names were



Members of Central MS AMR Honor Guard reading names of Tree of Life. Jackson MS July 13, 2022

read of the 72 employees nationwide who died last year – LODD

or Line of Duty Deaths. Challenge Coins were being offered

for sale to fundraise for next year's Moving Honors Procession.

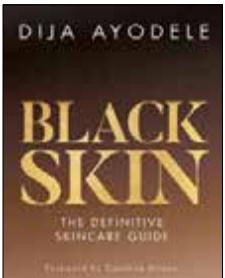
The procession consisted of Posting of the Colors, Pledge of Allegiance, welcome from Paramedic Honor Guard member Patricia Terry, remarks by Jim Valtrett of the national EMS Board of Directors, remarks by Megan Haverkamp of Dallas Texas AMR, 2022 LODD Name Recitation by members of the Central Mississippi EMS Honor Guard, a moment of silence, singing of Amazing Grace by Honor Guard

AMR
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Inside
Supervisors address White Oak Creek at press conference



Black Skin



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Resting Peacefully

Marvin Woodard

May 2, 1943 - July 5, 2022

Marvin Woodard was born May 2, 1943 to Hill and Lizzie Woodard in Farmhaven, Mississippi.

He attended school at Velma Jackson High School and Jackson State College now known as Jackson State University. Marvin was employed at Madison Furniture, Taylors Candy Company. He was also an independent route salesman for A&A Wholesale. He was also a dedicated newspaper deliverer in the Canton, Mississippi area.

Marvin and Maggie Evelyn were unity in holy matrimony on August 12, 1994.

He was very active in church. He served as a deacon, president of the male chorus, member of the pastors anniversary decorating committee and Sunday School teacher.

Marvin was a very diligent servant of God. He loved studying the word of God and would often express his view of the Bible; open to anyone that would love to listen. He, his wife and sons traveled a lot of places to include but not limited to Tennessee, Illinois and South Dakota.

He always wanted the family safe, secure and happy. He loved sponsoring different events with motorcycle clubs. He served as president of the Pistance Riders.

He was a father to seven sons and one daughter: Reverend Anthony Woodard (Annie Woodard), Rickey, Percy, Phabian, Otis, Robert, Albert (preceded him in death) and Lam-ritha.



Woodard

Marvin leaves to cherish his memories his wife, children, grandchildren, nieces, nephews and a host of family members all of whom will truly miss him.

Supervisors address White Oak Creek at press conference

By Christopher Young
Contributing Writer

Hinds County District 1 Supervisor Robert Graham and District 2 Supervisor David Archie held a press conference on Carolwood Drive in northeast Jackson July 7 to address the 2-3 vote by the full board July 5 against spending \$2 million of American Rescue Plan funding to address the erosion along White Oak Creek.

Graham opened the press conference stating, “For twenty years the City of Jackson and Hinds County have been trying to obtain funds to repair White Oak Creek here in northeast Jackson.” He indicated that the county has received over \$45 million for infrastructure repair, erosion, drainage issues and sewer problems.

“These northeast Jackson citizens were promised \$4 million to make this repair, but at our last Board of Supervisors meeting Supervisor Credell Calhoun reversed his vote leaving these citizens without any means to repair this problem,” Graham said.

“He decided that he would spend the money on repairing a vacant building as opposed to helping the citizens here in northeast Jackson.”

Jackson City Councilman Ashby Foote (Ward 1), who was recently voted in as council president, indicated that this is an important project for quality of life and for property values here in the City of Jackson. He reported that White Oak Creek has become more unstable over the past twenty years and that flash floods have caused disruption to the citizens here whose houses back up to White Oak Creek.

“I have worked on this issue for the past seven years with limited success, but this year, I want to thank the state legislature for putting two million dollars in the bond bill for White Oak Creek and specifically Representative Shanda Yates who led the cause,” Foote said.



JoJo Adams, Archie, Graham, Foote
PHOTO BY CHRIS YOUNG

Foote indicated that \$4 million is estimated to be needed, and that without the additional \$2 million from the county, it will end up being half-baked.

JoJo Adams, a resident of Carolwood Drive, began by thanking the people who have helped get to this point. “Representative Yates is fantastic.” He also thanked Foote and Graham.

“I’m not a politician, but we need help. The estimate I have seen indicates that \$4 million is needed and all I can say to the supervisors who initially voted against this project, respectfully, please reconsider your vote, Adams said. “We really need the help.”

Adams reports a loss of up to 12 feet of land due to erosion. He offered to show his yard, and then shared photos from his cell phone when asked by reporters.

The Mississippi Link asked, “As far as the estimate, who prepared the estimate that everybody is looking at, and when was it provided?” Adams shared that he believes it was about a year ago, and believes it was from the City of Jackson, and then Graham interjected that Waggoner Engineering is involved also and that it is probably double that now.

Archie said he wanted to get straight to

the point and not beat around the bush.


“The residents of northeast Jackson need our help. We made a commitment to the State of Mississippi and the state made a commitment to the Hinds County Board of Supervisors in order to get this project done. Credell Calhoun who is the chairperson of the board [at the moment, not the president, but the chairperson] along with – and I’m gonna speak these words – two dummies that don’t understand much of anything, voted against this measure,” Archie said. He added that the people that live in northeast Jackson perhaps pay the highest rate of taxes in the State of Mississippi.

“The deal was made, and it was a handshake. Credell Calhoun appears to have backed out of the handshake. I told you a year ago that Credell Calhoun wants to get his hands on all of Hinds County money,” said Archie.

He went on to indicate that Hinds County just received \$22.5 million in their account, and he is ready to give \$2 million of that money to complete the project.

Calhoun, who was not at this press conference, but was reached later by telephone provided the following statement: “They received \$2 million from the State. The State does not require a match. We have water problems and other problems that we need to focus on. We can apply for federal dollars for erosion at any time. It’s open to be applied for continuously. These American Rescue Plan dollars are one-time dollars and that makes a difference. We don’t have to match it and so we did the South Jackson water project. We will do whatever we can. Grants and other funding are always available, and not just for White Oak Creek. There are plenty of other areas around the county that have the same problems, and those other areas don’t have the support from the State right now.”

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Veto

Continued from page 1

General opinions that would not have a controlling impact on this court but nonetheless, could be considered persuasive. There was also talk about what constitutes adoption of a decision.

Upon completion of closing statements, the Judge stated that “Due to the seriousness of the subject matter of this litigation and the interests of the citizens of the City of Jackson, I think it’s incumbent upon me to render a bench opinion.” Moments later he ruled in favor of the plaintiff: Jackson City Council.

“So when a matter such as occurred with the solid waste contract, the failed ratification of this emergency contract, to me constitutes inaction, not action, and was never adopted by the city council, consequently I agree with the Attorney General’s interpretation that when a matter is not passed by the city council it is a negative action to which the mayor does not have the power to veto – an inaction – there’s nothing there to veto, the council didn’t pass affirmatively the matter, they rejected it,” Robert stated.

Robert’s ruling answers, at least for

now, the basic question of whether the mayor can veto a “no” vote of the council. However, it leaves questions unanswered. Among them would be: is the mayor’s order for Richard’s Disposal to proceed with solid waste collection on April 1 valid? Will the mayor have to reinstate the former vendor –Waste Management? Will Richard’s Disposal, now in its fourth month of collecting trash, be paid for the work that they have done?

After adjournment, the mayor was asked for his reaction to the ruling.

“You can expect that we will be looking at the possibility of an appeal in this matter. You have now had two different justices interpret the law in a different way. That in of itself makes it clear that this issue is a complex one and in need of an ultimate determinant from the highest body in the state. After two different court’s have looked into the matter and the failure to look at the complexity of these arguments has led, I believe, to be an erred decision.”

AMR

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member Kolandra Rucker, and closing remarks.

The procession was ripe with honor, dignity and respect for these fallen servants who held various positions within their teams. Paramedics, emergency medical technicians (EMTs), ambulance drivers, air ambulance pilots, 911 operators/dispatch staff who work closely with local fire and police and a host of support staff.

Central Mississippi AMR has 275 paramedics/EMT’s and makes 55,000 transports each year. Last year they lost one of their own – paramedic James Doug Ming – who died of COVID last August, at age 50 with 30 years of service to AMR, and whose name has been affixed to the Global Medical Response Tree of Life. His wife Linda spoke briefly, with her son Cameron at her side.

The Moving Honors Procession was in Lewisville, Texas two days ago, and will be in Arlington, VA on July 21 where it will be met by the National EMS Memorial Bike Ride’s Ride of Honor. In Arlington, families and loved ones of the honorees, as well as first responders from around the country will gather for a week-end of events to honor air and ground EMS providers. Other stops for the procession include Nashville, Chicago, New York, St. Louis, and Pittsburgh.

As a reminder, AMR conducts CPR and First Aid training classes for community members.

For more information you may call 601-713-4340, or email amr.central.mississippi@amr.net. Their dispatch number to add to your telephone contacts in case of emergency is 601-982-7911.



Welcome delivered by Latricia Terry, Paramedic & Honor Guard



Posting of Colors by Honor Guard at Moving Honor Procession, Central MS AMR Headquarters, Jackson, MS PHOTOS BY CHRIS YOUNG

Fair

Continued from page 1

entrepreneurs and partners come out and showcase their services and products.”

Lampkin has high interest in collaborating with entrepreneurs and supporting those businesses in expanding and being able to enter into contracting, including capacity building, and helping businesses position themselves with an eye on sustainability and the ability to execute, and add to the ecosystem that is out there by filling in the gaps.

“My hope and belief is that we will be able to work with a number of partners as we continue to grow our presence in Jackson, he said.”



Ralph Brown, founder & CEO of Rightway Resumes exhibit at the Two Mississippi Museums



JSU College of Business and Women's Business Center exhibit at Entrepreneurial Fair



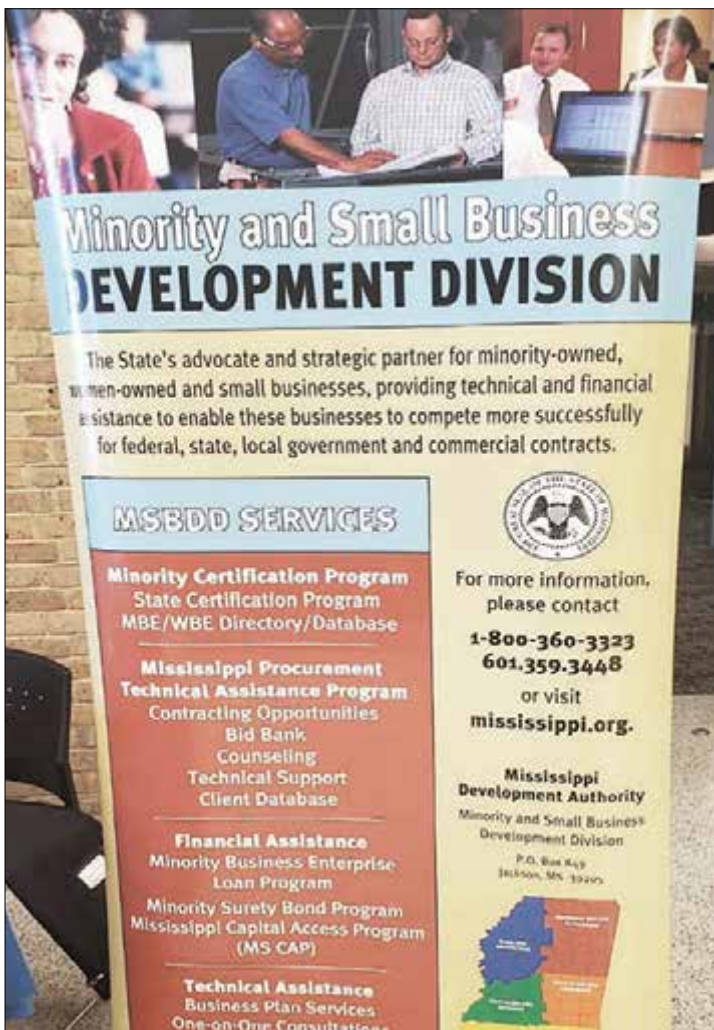
Entrance message at Entrepreneurial Fair at the Two Mississippi Museums




Hope Credit Union exhibit at Entrepreneurial Fair at Two Mississippi Museums, July 8, 2022




Professional Management Solutions - Deshanna Dixon and Coretta Frazier at Entrepreneurial Fair



Mississippi Development Authority exhibit at the Two Mississippi Museums



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Former governor directed \$1.1 million welfare payment to Brett Favre, defendant says

By Anna Wolfe
MississippiToday "The Backchannel"

Former Mississippi Gov. Phil Bryant instructed his wife's friend – whose nonprofit was receiving millions in subgrants from the welfare department he oversaw – to pay NFL legend Brett Favre \$1.1 million, according to a new court filing.

Nancy New alleges Bryant directed this and other spending, resulting in a massive scandal and what officials have called the largest public embezzlement scheme in state history.

Nancy New, a friend of former First Lady Deborah Bryant, and her son Zach New, have pleaded guilty to several criminal charges, including bribery and fraud. As part of their plea, a favorable deal which recommends they spend no time in state prison, the News have agreed to cooperate in an ongoing criminal investigation.

The Mississippi Department of Human Services is also suing Nancy New civilly, asking the court to make her repay \$19.4 million. The department alleges New and 37 other defendants, including Favre, violated federal rules when they spent or received money from a federal block grant called Temporary Assistance for Needy Families.

But Bryant, who had the statutory oversight responsibility over the department's spending, has remained insulated



Bryant

from official liability. Mississippi Today, in its investigative series "The Backchannel," first reported the former governor's role in the scandal based on a trove of text messages between Bryant, Favre and other key defendants in the case.

New's filing marks the first time Bryant has been directly, publicly accused of wrongdoing by main defendants in the case.

"Defendant reasonably relied on then-Governor Phil Bryant, acting within his broad statutory authority as chief executive of the State, including authority over MDHS and TANF, and his extensive knowledge of Permissible TANF Expenditures from 12 years as State Auditor, four years as Lieuten-

ant Governor, and a number of years as Governor leading up to and including the relevant time period," reads New's response to the MDHS civil complaint filed Monday.

New rejected the notion officials have made throughout the three-year investigation that John Davis, Bryant's appointed welfare agency director who is also facing criminal charges, was a rogue state bureaucrat who independently chose to mispend tens of millions of welfare dollars.

The bombshell response from Nancy New, her sons Zach New and Jess New and her nonprofit Mississippi Community Education Center, who are also defendants in the civil suit, argue that MDHS is more

at fault than it has represented. The court filings name dozens of officials and state employees who acted alongside Davis to perpetuate the scheme – with Bryant named first in the list.

Bryant's spokesperson Denton Gibbes denied New's assertion. "She's pointing her finger at everybody but the Easter Bunny," Gibbes told Mississippi Today. "This is just legal hogwash."

Bryant and the dozens of other state actors are referenced in the filing as "MDHS Executives." New's answer also claims that Davis and MDHS executives directed her "to provide \$5 million on behalf of the State of Mississippi to Prevacus, Inc. during a meeting with Jake Vanlandingham at Brett Favre's home."

The News ended up paying Prevacus, an experimental concussion drug company, and its affiliate PreSolMD a total of \$2.1 million – payments that were pivotal to the criminal investigation and charges against the News.

In his last year as governor, Bryant was heavily involved in discussions about luring Prevacus to Mississippi, specifically to a new development called Tradition that Bryant had touted. Bryant helped the company find investors, make political connections and he even agreed to accept stock in Prevacus in January of 2020, Mississippi Today first reported in its investigative series, "The Back-

channel." His deal with Prevacus was derailed when agents from the state auditor's office made arrests shortly after.

The News' recent filings are the first to reveal that state officials and employees actually intended to pay Prevacus \$5 million through the nonprofit. The filing does not specifically say which "MDHS Executives" directed this investment.

Mississippi Community Education Center is also countersuing MDHS, claiming that the welfare agency breached their contract. The nonprofit asks that if it is required to pay back any of the funds as a result of the civil suit, it should be able to recoup the same amount back from MDHS, plus other relief.

An additional motion to stay discovery in the case asks the court to allow Nancy and Zach New to wait until their criminal cases have concluded before complying with discovery in the civil suit. Their April plea agreement suggests that investigators may have their sights on other co-conspirators that the News will be expected to help officials prosecute.

In the News' motion to stay, their attorney finds several faults with MDHS's allegations.

Primarily, the News argue that TANF rules have always allowed states to spend the block grant in a variety of ways, including on programs that serve people who earn up

to 350% of the poverty line, which is currently \$97,125. The state has even boasted in its official state plans about how it has taken advantage of the flexibility of TANF dollars.

Only now, the News argue, after many of these "absurd expenditures" have come to public light, has the state revised its interpretation of the TANF statute to be more narrowly tailored to activities that actually help the poor.

"MDHS has had a 25-year love affair with TANF's extreme flexibility. MDHS cannot now divest itself of its contractual obligations simply because it is politically and financially expedient to do so," the motion reads.

The News have been targeted by investigators and law enforcement, the filings argues, without holding others who perpetuated this pattern of spending accountable.

"The New Defendants will be substantially and irreparably harmed if forced to participate in discovery amidst giants poised for what promises to be a no-holds-barred death match," the motion reads. The New Defendants have taken responsibility for their roles, yet they continue to be thrust into the crossfire by powerful forces fighting over political futures and tens of millions of dollars. The State wants to avoid liability and embarrassment, the Feds want their money back, and the public wants answers."

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Photographers.....Kevin Bradley & Jay Johnson
Tim WardSports Editor

Member:

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Seventeen receive Presidential Medal of Freedom at White House Ceremony



Diane Nash, founding member of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee who organized some of the most important civil rights campaigns of the 20th century, receives Medal of Freedom from President Joe Biden on July 7, 2022/MARK MAHONEY, DREAM IN

By Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Newswire Senior Correspondent

A reported bout with Covid kept actor Denzel Washington from attending the Presidential Medal of Freedom ceremony at the White House Thursday, but 16 others, including Olympic Champion Simone Biles, U.S. soccer player Megan Rapinoe and Khazir Khan, joined President Joe Biden to

accept their respective honors. Washington, Khan, Rapinoe and Sandra Lindsay each received the medals – the country’s highest civilian honor. “The Fourth of July week reminds us of what brought us together long ago and still binds us – binds us at our best, what we strive for,” Biden remarked during the ceremony. “We the people, doing what



Fred Gray, represented Rosa Parks, the NAACP, and Martin Luther King, who called him “the chief counsel for the protest movement.”/ MARK MAHONEY, DREAM IN COLOR PHOTOGRAPHY

we can to ensure that the idea of America, the cause of freedom, shines like the sun to light up the future of the world,” Biden stated. McCain, who served alongside Biden in the U.S. House and Senate, received his award posthumously, as did Apple Founder Steve Jobs and AFL-CIO President Richard Trumka.

Other medal recipients were former Sen. Alan Simpson, R-Wyo., an advocate of campaign finance reform and marriage equality; Sister Simone Campbell, an advocate for progressive issues; Julietta Garcia, the first Hispanic woman to serve as president of a U.S. college; Fred Gray, one of the first black members of the Alabama Legislature



Simone Biles

since Reconstruction; the Rev. Alexander Karloutsos, former vicar-general of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America; Diane Nash, a founding member of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee who worked with Martin Luther King Jr.; Wilma Vaught, an Air Force brigadier general and one of the most decorated women in the history of the

U.S. military; and Raúl Yzaguirre, a civil rights advocate who was the CEO and president of the National Council of La Raza for 30 years. The White House said the President presents medals to individuals who have had significant cultural impacts or made significant contributions to the country or the world.

Condoleezza Rice speaks about special golf award and growing up black in Alabama

By Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Newswire Correspondent

Fred Couples, Jack Nicklaus and Nick Faldo are easily associated with the sport known as the gentlemen’s game. And it’s easy to understand why those mentioned above would receive honors with the Ambassador of Golf Award, given to individuals who foster the ideals of the game internationally while exhibiting concern for others beyond the golf course. It’s also understandable that a sport would honor other individuals who’ve taken to the game and have inspired others – thus, George W. Bush, Bob Hope and Gerald Ford count as dignitaries and entertainers who also have received the Ambassador of Golf Award. The 2022 Ambassador Award recipient might surprise some for a host of reasons. Former U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice earned the recognition this month at the 2022 Bridgestone SENIOR PLAYERS Championship at Firestone Country Club in Akron, Ohio.

In the 41-year history of the award, the long list of recipients includes just a handful of women – Nancy Lopez, Barbara Nicklaus, Dinah Shore, Joanne Carner and Judy Rankin. Dr. Rice becomes the first African-American recipient. “For somebody who is a medium handicap golfer who started very late in life, it is just a tremendous honor,” Rice said. “I kind of wonder how they found me. It’s a sport I love because sometimes I say, ‘I wish my parents would have put a golf club in my hand instead of skates on my feet.’” Rice grew up in Birmingham, Alabama, where her



Rice

mother worked as a teacher and her father a guidance counselor. She said her dream had always been to perform as a concert pianist, taking piano lessons and entering college as a music major. However, a course in international politics led Rice to teaching and then into the political sphere, wherein in 2000, President George W. Bush appointed her as National Security Advisor. Four years later, Bush appointed Rice as U.S. Secretary of State. Rice carved out a slice of history as the first black woman to serve in each role. While some dreams are realized, and others deferred,

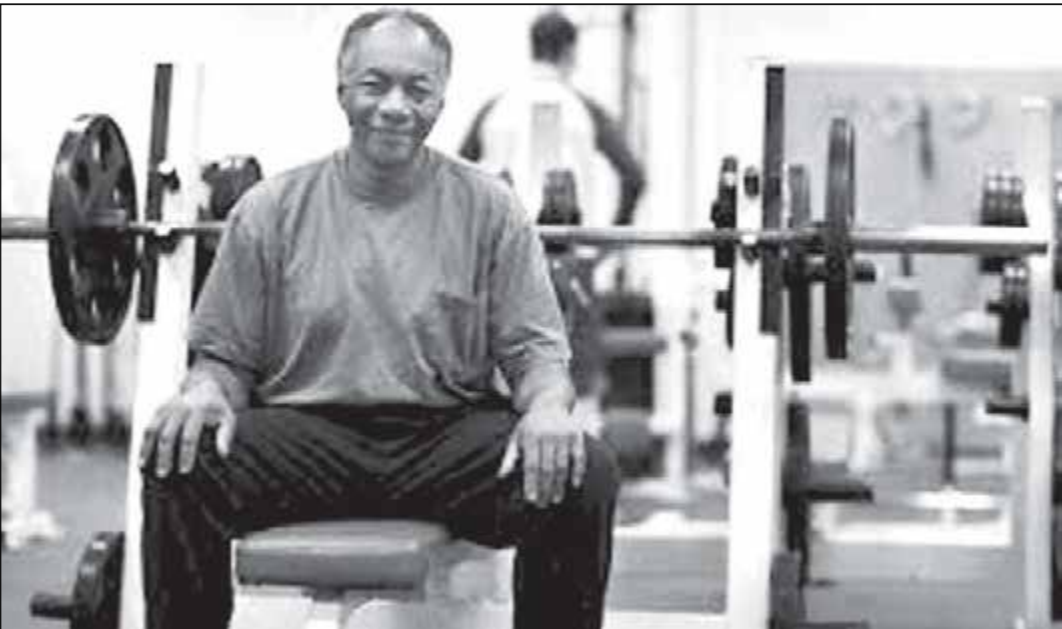
Rice would eventually experience one of her passions become a reality in the sport of golf. She said her dad loved golf legend Arnold Palmer, and they’d regularly watch the Masters. In 2006, Rice visited The Greenbrier Country Club in West Virginia, where she and a relative received golf lessons. That experience, and later playing at Andrew Air Force Base in Maryland, inspired Rice to play more golf. “It’s a game that brings friends together,” Rice remarked. I also think it’s a game that’s trying to reach beyond its current boundaries and increase access.”

Rice continued: “When I was a kid, nobody played golf in segregated Birmingham. My father was a three-sport letterman – football, basketball and tennis. It never occurred to him to play golf even though we watched the Masters on television. So, I think just the opening up of the sport is something I’m really proud of.” In 2012, Rice again made history. This time golf history. She and investor Darla Moore broke the glass ceiling at Augusta National, becoming the first female member of Augusta National. The 80-plus-year-old club had only allowed women to play there if they were guests

of members. So to celebrate, Rice and Moore donned the famous green jackets given to Masters winners. “I sat there when the member of Augusta, a friend of mine, told me that they wanted me to join. I sat there stunned, and he said, ‘you’re going to say yes.’ I said, ‘oh yes, of course,’” Rice recalled. Since then, Rice said she had enjoyed her membership at the legendary club in Georgia. “Augusta is one of those institutions that shows how America is changing,” Rice asserted. “It shows how our great traditions and institutions are opening to people who are different.” Rice noted further that Augusta had played a significant role in growing the game. The club has sponsored the Latin American Amateur Championships, the Asian Amateur Championships and other events that feature individuals of color. “They’ve started the ‘Drive, Chip and Putt,’ where young kids come as early as age seven, and most recently, the Augusta National Women’s Amateur has been bringing the best young amateurs there to play the final round of that championship,” Rice noted. When asked how golf has become increasingly open to people of color, Rice said it’s simply about access. “There’s a couple of things,” she said. “It had to become a sport that was cool to play. In my case, my parents didn’t play. A lot of white kids played, their parents played, and they belonged to a club. We didn’t have those experiences. “So, somebody had to attract our teenagers into the game, and I think watching

Tiger Woods helped a lot because he looks like somebody who could have played any sport that he wanted to.” Additionally, Rice pointed out programs like First Tee that have caught the attention of black and brown youth. “With First Tee, the kids get to learn the game, and then they get to compete, and that’s fun,” Rice asserted. “I think the things that are now being done with historically black colleges and universities, scholarships, and people like [Golden State Warriors star] Steph Curry and others will really help bring people into the game soon enough. “It’s a hard game. But you have to stick with it, so getting people to the place where they can play it is part of the challenge. It’s a lot harder than any sport I’ve ever played.” Another challenge remains financial, Rice added. “We have to keep working on affordability. It’s an expensive game to play,” the former Secretary of State insisted. “We must keep working on access to courses because it’s fine to have a young person go out and hit balls on a range, but until they get on a golf course, they’re not going to really enjoy it.” Finally, Rice offered that she’ll enjoy her moment in the sun when she receives the Ambassador of Golf Award. “I mean, there are some pretty good names that have gotten that award who can actually play golf really, really, well,” Rice remarked. “So, I’m going to try to show people, let people know, how honored I am and how much I hope to be a great Ambassador for golf going forward.”

A walk, just what the doctor ordered



By Vince Faust
Tips to Be Fit

Recent studies found that exercise was just as effective as drugs when treating such conditions as heart disease and stroke. In some cases it even outperformed standard treatment.

A study of 300,000 patients found that frequent exercise and drug therapies such as beta-blockers and blood thinners provided similar results. When treating stroke exercise was actually more effective than taking anticoagulant medications.

Even after numerous studies only one-third of clinicians prescribed exercise. Exercise could not only boost the health of the average American significantly but could also save patients thousands of dollars a year in medical costs.

Beta-blockers help treat heart disease but have a number of side effects such as fatigue, dizziness, upset stomach and cold hands. A single 30-minute exercise session has been shown to lower blood pressure for 24 hours in hypertensive patients. That same 30-minute exercise session can reduce both your systolic (top number) and your diastolic (bottom number) pressure by 5 to 10 points. When you consistently exercise it can also improve your cholesterol levels.

The reason exercise works is because your heart is a muscle. Exercise forces your heart to pump longer which will eventually make your heart stronger, preventing the buildup of plaques that can rupture and lead to a heart attack or stroke.

Most heart attack and stroke survivors are afraid to exercise. They have to move past their fears. Patients who exercise don't require as much

medication, need fewer major surgeries and are 25% less likely to die from a second heart attack.

Exercise stimulates muscle strength. Muscles weaken when you don't exercise. This applies to both men and women. Regular exercise helps to build muscle.

If you've never exercised before, find a beginner exercise group. A professional can help you get started. Calisthenics, resistance training with weights or machines will strengthen and tone your body. Do at least one exercise for each body part. Start your program slowly and be consistent.

If you're under 18, you should never do heavy weight bearing exercises such as deadlifts, behind the neck presses, bent lateral raises, clean and jerk, standing toe raises and squats with weights on the back. These exercises place too much stress on the spine and joint areas because your bones are still growing and not completely fused. Your bones are not completely fused until about age 18. Keep a diary to keep track of your progress. After a few months, you may want to get into weight training.

Unlike many other aerobic exercises, walking is relatively free from the many hazards of aerobic exercises. Aerobic exercises such as jogging, jumping rope or high impact aerobic can cause joint pain, stress fractures, muscle pulls and other problems. When you use a high impact exercise in your aerobics, you put 3 to 4 times your body weight on every joint in the body. That's not to say you shouldn't use high impact exercises such as jogging, but you should be aware of the problems that can be associated with them.

When you walk, the impact of each step is only 1 1/2 times your body weight. Studies have shown that you can get the same benefits by walking sixty minutes, four times a week as you can by running thirty minutes three times a week.

Remember, walking is relatively free from injuries but you can still overdo it. If you begin to feel pain, stop walking for a couple of days, then slowly work your way back into your program. Start walking at your own level, even if it's only for a few minutes. Then gradually build on the time, pace and distance.

You also need to consume a balance diet. To have a balance diet you should consume between 13-16 calories per pound of body weight daily. Your daily intake of food should include 2 to 3 servings of protein, 4 to 6 servings of vegetables, 2 to 3 servings of a grain and 3 to 6 servings of fruit. You should ingest no more than 14 grams of saturated fat, which is 126 calories.

Sleep is another factor that can affect your body's ability to recover. If you get the right amount of sleep you will get the most out of your body. Research has shown that when healthy adults are allowed to sleep unrestricted, the average time slept is 8 to 8.5 hours.

Exercise can improve your health but it can also hide illness. When you exercise, your body's endorphin level is increased by 35 to 40%. At this level your body may not feel the pain associated with the early warning signals of an illness. Regular check-ups should always be part of a good fitness program. So before starting your fitness program always consult your physician.

Batson Kids Clinic now offers COVID-19 vaccinations for children 6 mos and older



Nurse Kristi Chambley talks with Roderick Everett before giving him his COVID-19 vaccination as dad Roderick Smith looks on.

By Annie Oeth
UMMC Press

Protection against COVID-19 for her youngest children, Omari, 4, and Olliver, 8 months, is something Kenyaticce Shaw has been waiting for.

"I've been asking Dr. (Anza) Stanley about it for months, so when it was available, I wanted them to get it," said Shaw, an administrative assistant at the University of Mississippi Medical Center. "COVID is still out there."

Shaw's sons were among the first children between the ages of 6 months and 4 years to receive COVID-19 vaccinations at Children's of Mississippi's Batson Kids Clinic on the campus of the University of Mississippi Medical Center.

Vaccinations for children in this age group began July 5 at the clinic, located at 421 S. Stadium Drive in Jackson.

"Parents of young children have waited a long time to vaccinate their children against COVID-19," Stanley said. "I'm encouraging vaccinations for my patients if they're eligible. This gives children and their families an extra layer of protection, especially with cases rising."

In Mississippi as well as nationally, COVID-19 cases have been on the rise again this summer. In the U.S., nearly 76,000 new cases of COVID-19 were reported for the week ending June 30.

For children receiving the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine who



Stanley



Palmer



Hobbs

are between 4 and 5 years old, an emergency use authorization from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration and approved by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention allows for the two-dose series or three doses, each of which are a tenth of the adult dose. The vaccine had been authorized for use in individuals 5 years of age and older.

Dr. April Palmer, professor and chief of pediatric infectious diseases, said COVID-19 vaccinations have been proven to be safe.

"COVID-19 vaccines have been proven to be safe for children, as millions of doses have been given to adults and children during the past 15 months," Palmer said. "Many children have mild symptoms or no symptoms with COVID-19, but some children have become seriously ill and needed hospitalization for COVID symptoms and complications, and some children have died. COVID-19 vaccination protects children and can prevent them from spreading the virus to others in their family."

Dr. Charlotte Hobbs, professor of pediatric infectious diseases co-authored a study published

in the *New England Journal of Medicine* showing that the primary series of Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccinations reduced the risk of COVID-related hospitalizations by 68 percent during the Omicron outbreak earlier this year.

For older children, during the Delta period, vaccine effectiveness against critical illness with COVID-19 (requiring life support) was found to be 96 percent among adolescents ages 12-18 who were vaccinated with a primary series. Vaccine effectiveness against non-critical COVID-19-associated hospitalization without any requirement for life support was 91 percent.

"We know that the vaccine will not likely protect against infection completely, but it will protect against more symptomatic and certainly severe disease," Hobbs said.

Palmer advises parents with questions about vaccinations to consult with their pediatrician. Parents can make vaccination appointments for their children online at umc.edu/healthcare/make-an-appointment-or-by-calling (601) 815-5300 or (888) 815-2005.

Mayo Clinic Laboratories begins monkeypox testing, increasing nationwide testing capacity

CDC Media Release

The Mayo Clinic Laboratories started testing for monkeypox July 11, using CDC's orthopoxvirus test, which detects most non-smallpox related orthopoxviruses, including monkeypox.

"The ability of commercial laboratories to test for monkeypox is an important pillar in our comprehensive strategy to combat this disease," said CDC Director Rochelle Walensky, M.D., M.P.H. "This will not only increase testing capacity but also make it more convenient for providers and patients to access tests by using existing provider-to-laboratory networks."

Mayo Clinic Laboratories will offer this testing at its Mayo Clinic's Division of Clinical Microbiology laboratories in Rochester, Minn., and can accept specimens from anywhere in the country. Mayo

Clinic Laboratories expects to be able to perform up to 10,000 tests per week, which will continue to increase the current capacity provided through CDC's Laboratory Response Network (LRN) and Labcorp, which began testing last week.

On June 22, HHS announced that five commercial laboratory companies would soon begin offering monkeypox testing. Since then, CDC has shipped the tests to the laboratories and their employees have been trained on their administration, among other steps.

Anyone with a rash that looks like monkeypox should talk to their healthcare provider about whether they need to get tested, even if they don't think they had contact with someone who has monkeypox. Healthcare providers, nationwide, can order the orthopoxvirus test from Mayo Clinic Laboratories just as they normally would order

other tests. The public will not be able to go to a Mayo Clinic laboratory and submit a specimen. Mayo Clinic Laboratories will use electronic laboratory reporting to report results to jurisdictions as outlined in the CDC reporting guidance.

CDC anticipates additional commercial laboratories will come online in the coming days, and monkeypox testing capacity will continue to increase throughout the month of July.

Healthcare providers can access information on Mayo Clinic Laboratories' test at <https://news.mayocliniclabs.com/>. The latest CDC information on monkeypox is available at www.cdc.gov/monkeypox.

Linking to a non-federal site does not constitute an endorsement by HHS or any of its employees of the sponsors or the information and products presented on the site.

Who you calling auntie?

By **Shewanda Riley**
Columnist



Oprah. Ava. Gayle. These are some of the most influential African-American women in media and entertainment who have one thing in common: They don't want to be called auntie.

According to a June 2019 post on *OprahDaily.com*, Oprah explained, "I cringe being called auntie or mama by anybody other than my nieces or godchildren. Except if I'm in Africa, where it's the custom for everybody to refer to anyone older as 'Sister,' or 'Auntie,' depending on the age difference."

Likewise, in separate social media posts, Oprah's best friend television host Gayle King and award-winning director Ava Duvernay shared that to them auntie is what you say to old people.

Having been an aunt since I was in my early 20's, I've never thought being called auntie made me feel old. To be honest, I've always considered it an honorable title of respect.

The controversy around being called auntie, aunt or TT reminds me of the iconic "Hey Auntie" line from the 2018 blockbuster *Black Panther*. Killmonger, played by Michael B. Jordan says this when he greets his very surprised Auntie Ramonda played by Angela Basset. I laughed like so many others in the movie theater when I heard it because it reminded me of what I hear from my own nieces and nephews.

It is a greeting of honor, respect and intimacy that invokes the importance of the aunt in the family. And the fact that he boldly called her that the first time he met her face to face was intended to be shocking but ironic. It was as if by calling her auntie, he

was also reminding them of his undeniable connection to the family.

In looking at what others have said about not wanting to be called auntie, I discovered a few reasons why. The most common reason mentioned was that it made them feel old. Others stated that it made it seem like a family relationship was being forced on them whether they wanted it or not. To them, it seemed intrusive and made assumptions about the desire to be closely connected. Lastly, some stated that it made them feel unattractive and no longer valued. A few even mentioned Aunt Jemima and the stereotypical mammy who is past her prime sexually and romantically.

To me, being called auntie implies respect and admiration. The bible talks about how an older woman should behave in Titus 2:3. "Older women likewise are to be reverent in behavior, not

slanderers or slaves to much wine. They are to teach what is good." And as an auntie, I enjoy sharing "good wisdom" that I've gained over the years with my nieces and nephews.

Being an aunt is a privilege and a blessing that I'll share more about in the next few weeks in a series of columns leading up to the celebration of National Aunt's Day, July 26, and the launch of my new podcast "The Chocolate Auntie podcast."

Next week, we'll explore the importance of the black aunt in African American television families

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 preserved-bypurpose@gmail.com or follow her on Twitter @shewanda.

P R E S E R V E D Sin is deceiving

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



Whenever you feel that you had it better in sin than that which God has provided, you are in serious trouble. In essence, you are saying that God is punishing you for being a Christian because He will not let you do all the bad things you want to do. Isn't that terrible?

When you were in sin, you could do all those bad things. If you thought you had it made in sin, why did you go to God in the first place? The truth of the matter is that sin is not what the devil makes it seem to be. Sin is deceiving. It wrecks lives, homes, families, congregations, nations, states and governments.


In Numbers, Chapter 11, the Israelites got really strong in their complaint. No wonder God's anger was kindled greatly. They said in verse 6, "But now our soul is dried away: there is the nothing at all, beside this manna, before our eyes." Look how they over exaggerated their cause. God had a great distaste for the complaining, murmuring and grumbling that was going on.

The people wanted flesh to eat, so God heard them. In verse 31 you can read what God did about it: "And there went forth a wind from the Lord, and brought quails from the sea, and let them fall by the camp, as it were a day's journey on this side, and as it were a day's journey on the other side, round about the camp, and as it were two cubits high upon face of the earth." Two cubits is approximately thirty-six inches high.

The people wanted flesh, so they got it. The Lord gave them flesh all around camp a day's journey in one direction and a day's journey in the other direction. While they gathered it and began to eat it, God sent a plague among those who lusted. The Bible lets us know that the least amount gathered was ten homers of quail. Ten homers were fifty-five bushels. Verses 32-33 read: "And the people stood up all that day, and all that night, and all the next day, and they gathered the quails: he that gathered least gathered ten homers: and they spread them all abroad for themselves round about the camp. And while the flesh was yet between their teeth, ere it was chewed, the wrath of the Lord was kindled against the people, and the Lord smote the people with a very great plague."

Friend, if we want flesh, God will give it to us in abundance. If we want to play around with fleshly things, God will give them to us. If we want to stand around the borders of the congregation, God will help us have all the flesh we want. If we want to fool around with lustful things, if we want to use our mind for the filth around the lusts of this world, we will be consumed by them, and we will also receive the plagues that follow that type of living. If we fool around with fornication and adultery, we will be consumed with them, and we might even receive a lasting disease that will take us to the grave quickly. Sin is a deceiver!

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




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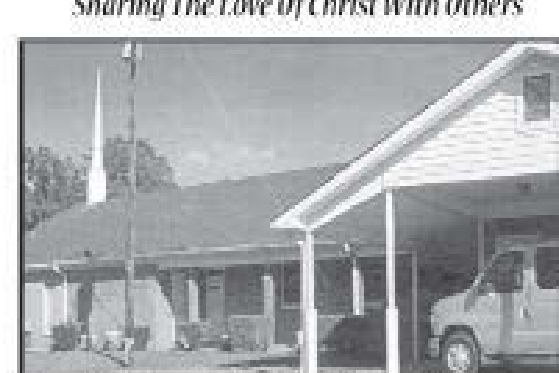
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To stop gun violence, use economic tools

By Julianne Malveaux
NNPA News Wire Columnist



There have been at least 214 mass shootings in the United States so far this year, the most recent being the killings during a July 4 gathering in Highland Park, Illinois. This year, we have also been both riveted and horrified by the massacre of twenty-one people, nineteen children, in Uvalde, Texas. A crazed racist killed 10 black people and wounded at least three others when he shot up a Tops grocery store in Buffalo. In 2022, there have been more shootings than days; the shootings have become commonplace.

The Biden Administration and concerned legislators have done what they can to restrict gun ownership, given our nation's gun culture and our combatively divided Senate. There is a new gun safety law, and some survivors of mass shootings joined him at the White House to celebrate the legislation.

Yet, even after Congress passed the law, we learned that the new law would not have prevented the Highland Park shootings, as the 18-year-old man who did the shootings purchased the assault weapon he used legally.

The families of victims are tired of people offering thoughts and prayers. They want action. The Safer Communities Act, passed on a bipartisan basis last month, is a step in the right direction, but it doesn't go far enough. We need to use economic tools or inject economics into the conversation about gun safety. Those of us who are disgusted by mass shootings and the violence that plagues our inner cities may have some weapons at our disposal to punish those who participate in, and encourage, our gun culture.

Those of us with stock portfolios must insist that our money managers avoid stocks like Smith and Wesson (SWBI), which produced more than 1.5 million guns in 2020.

If more people who say they hate gun violence stopped investing in gun manufacturing companies, perhaps these companies would rethink their manufacturing, marketing and lobbying. Gun ownership has been cleverly marketed, with companies using buzzwords like safety, to encourage gun purchases.

Those who are survivors of gun violence and their families should sue the gun manufacturers who produce the deadly weapons that make massacres possible. Earlier

this year, Remington (RGM) agreed to pay the families of the 2012 Sandy Hook shooting, where 20 children and six educators were killed. It took a decade between the shootings and the lawsuit settlement, so the families must be commended for their persistence. The families of victims in Uvalde, Buffalo and Highland Park should consider pursuing similar lawsuits to punish those companies that flood deadly weapons into the public.

Those who facilitate the gun possession of young shooters should also be sued. In the Highland Park case, the shooter's father, Bobby Crimo, said that he'd done nothing wrong in signing his son's gun permit application. From all indications, his son Bobby Crimo, Jr. was troubled. He'd once threatened to kill his family, sparking a police investigation. And yet his dad signs for a gun permit. Sue him. If those who mindlessly sign gun permits understand that there are financial consequences to their actions, they might think again. Some will say that Crimo and some of the other shooters were adults. I say if you facilitated the gun purchase, you have to pay for it.

We can also use our tax or surcharge system to restrict the distribution of ammunition.

The comedian Chris Rock had it right when he said in 2009, "You don't need no gun control, you know what you need? We need some bullet control. I think all bullets should cost five thousand dollars...five thousand dollars per bullet... You know why? Cause if a bullet cost five thousand dollars, there would be no more innocent bystanders. Every time somebody got shot, we'd say...he must have done something...he's got fifty thousand dollars worth of bullets in his behind. Even if you get shot by a stray bullet, you wouldn't have to go to no doctor to get it taken out. Whoever shot you would take their bullet back, like, "I believe you got my property."

Rock might have been joking, but I'm not. We use our tax system to encourage or discourage specific behavior or to cover the costs of such behavior. We use gas taxes to maintain roads. We impose cigarette and alcohol taxes to discourage consumption. Why not tax bullets (or mandate a surcharge) to discourage their use. If we want to slow or stop gun violence, economic tools might well be the answer.

Dr. Julianne Malveaux is an economist, author and Dean of the College of Ethnic Studies at Cal State LA.

Speaking of reparations

By Oscar H. Blayton
Pres. Black Chamber of Commerce



To many Americans, "reparations" is a dirty word when applied to black folks.

Numerous obstacles are thrown up, like so many stone walls surrounding European castles, when it comes to discussing reparations for losses suffered by African Americans due to slavery, segregation and institutional racism.

For years, policies have been designed to keep black folks from the enjoyment of life made possible by economic progress. And arguments against reparations for African Americans are thrown up by whites with such hubris and self-assured righteousness that it is hard not to believe those arguments are born out of notions of white supremacy. A brief survey of the history of reparations easily exposes the weakness of those arguments.

Five of the arguments raised against reparations are: (1) They are logistically impossible. (2) They would worsen the national debt. (3) Reparations for slavery won't help the black community. (4) Slavery did not benefit white America financially very much. (5) "Race hustlers" would end up with the money and continue to demand more.

While objections have been raised against black reparations, Native Americans and Japanese Americans have received reparations for their losses. And according to the Brookings Institution, after World War II, "the Marshall Plan helped to ensure that Jews received reparations for the Holocaust, including making various investments over time."

There are those who say, "It is too difficult to provide reparations to the enslaved." But it was not too difficult for England to provide reparations to British subjects who were slave owners. Four years after Parliament passed the Slavery Abolition Act in 1833, Great Britain's Slave Compensation Act was signed into law in 1837. This act authorized the Commissioners for the Reduction of the National Debt to compensate slave owners for the loss of their slaves in its colonies in the Caribbean as well as in Mauritius and the Cape of Good Hope. The sum of money granted to more than 40,000 slave owners was so great that some of the payments were converted into 3.5% government annuities that lasted until 2015. But not one penny was ever paid to the formerly enslaved.

After the Spanish National Assembly abolished slavery in Puerto Rico on March 22, 1873, the Spanish government paid reparations to slave owners by compensating them with 35 million pesetas per slave. The slaves received nothing, except a requirement that they remain "loyal" and continue working for their former enslavers for three more years.

In 1849, the government of France passed legislation compensating former slave owners for the loss of their slaves in the French colonies. The average sum per slave is reported to have been approximately \$97.

But the demise of slavery in the French colonies is a bit more complicated than that. In 1804, the enslaved people of Haiti rose in revolt and freed themselves. They defeated not only their enslavers, but also the French troops sent to extinguish their revolution. However, in 1825, a fleet of French warships entered Haitian waters and demanded that the young republic pay reparations to their former enslavers. That demand resulted in payments totaling \$21 billion over the years.

So, we should not give any credence to the argument that providing reparations to large groups of people who have suffered loss is impossible or too difficult. Too many real-life examples prove otherwise.

Despite historical evidence of reparations being mandated for losses

created by public policies, there remains opposition to reparations for black folks in America. In 2021, Congress passed the American Rescue Plan Act, but the \$4 billion provision in the act to cancel the debts of farmers of color is stalled by accusations that it is a form of reparations and unfair to white farmers, despite clear evidence that farmers of color were disadvantaged by public policies and past injustices designed to give advantages to white farmers.

Despite vigorous pushback by white supremacists, movements are underway to realistically consider reparations in ways that address the real deprivations suffered by people of color due to racism.

In California, an interim report by the state's Reparations Task Force calls for implementing a "comprehensive reparations scheme," including policies to "compensate for the harms caused by the legacy of anti-black discrimination."

This plan calls for compensating individuals who were forcibly removed from their homes for park or highway construction; providing reparations to families who were denied inheritances because of anti-miscegenation laws or precedents; and compensating individuals whose mental and physical health were permanently damaged by health care system policies and mistreatment.

The city of Evanston, Illinois, agreed last year to pay reparations to people affected by discriminatory lending, zoning laws and other unfair practices related to real estate ownership between 1916 and 1969. According to this plan, residents or descendants of those who were discriminated against are eligible for up to \$25,000 in grants to purchase a home, upgrade their existing home or assist with their mortgage. Taxes generated from the sale of recreational cannabis will fund this effort.

Asheville, North Carolina, and Greenbelt, Maryland, also have created reparations commissions and Detroit, Michigan, has created a reparations task force to consider the issue.

The Brookings Institution has urged Nashville, Tennessee, to provide reparations to help ameliorate harm caused by the routing of Interstate 40 through the North Nashville neighborhood in the late 1960s that wiped out a once thriving black community. The routing of that highway was planned so as not to affect the property of the whites living around Vanderbilt University.

Reparations is not a dirty word. It is a process that has been used for centuries and can be an effective tool for social justice. Addressing a broad range of injustices impacting a broad range of individuals and groups of people should be the focus of reparations. It should not just be a matter of addressing chattel slavery. The many injustices suffered by people of color are carved deeply into American history. We only need to design ways to provide compensation for those injustices and to permanently address them in ways that will be equitable and just going forward.

We need well-thought-out calls for reasoned and inclusive reparations that can withstand the attacks of any fallacious arguments of ambiguity and impossibility.

Too many people are due reparations to not have our best minds applied to realistic solutions. Various descendant communities and constituent communities are due reparations for various reasons, and different methods of compensation can be fashioned into fair and equitable solutions to begin the healing from America's unjust past. This is something we all should be thinking about and acting on.

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

The frequency and fear of mass shootings have America on edge

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



Numbers give us a perspective. They don't lie. We use them in almost every facet of our lives. Probably more so today than ever before in our lifetime. There are some that we gladly accept and others we cast an alarming eye.

What are numbers telling us about our nation today? Let's look and see.

Numbers-wise, Covid-19 has been with us for over two years. It has taken the lives of many of our family members and friends. According to reports, over one million people have passed away from this deadly illness. Since the vaccines, we have seen a significant drop in new cases and deaths. Do you still wear your mask? We do.

Pain at the pump has become a commonly used expression. It is fitting because of the price of a gallon of gas. The numbers that glare at us at the filling stations simply make us shake our heads.

It was just a few years ago that we gave a casual wink at the cost. Now our eyes are wide open. The average cost for a gallon of gas is now \$4.69. Some

states are higher as it depends upon where you live. We found gas just recently for \$3.99. What a bargain!

Owning a home is a part of the American dream. It has always been that way. Just last year, the interest rates were more manageable. Now, they are climbing and hovering around 6% in some areas.

Again, the numbers matter.

A number that is disheartening and disappointing to talk about is the number of mass shootings that have occurred during this period.

A report in the Gun Violence Archive, a non-profit, says there have been 314 mass shootings in this nation so far this year. Hate, mental health, copycat and not valuing life are all reasons why we are seeing these heinous crimes committed.

This same report says that more than 22,000 people have died because of gun violence this year.

We have come to a point in our beloved country where we watch where we go. Being in a crowded area has now almost become a recipe for instant disaster. Parades and outdoor celebrations have become favorite targets for these would-be killers.

The 4th of July has always been a holiday filled with joyous activities of

all kinds. This 4th of July was tragic and life-ending for some citizens in Highland Park, Illinois. At a parade, seven people were killed and forty-six people were injured by a lone gunman.

Robert Crimo III, the shooter now faces seven charges of first-degree murder. He was shooting his victims from a rooftop with a high-powered assault rifle. He is twenty-one years of age.

What kind of vile and vicious thoughts build up in a guy of that tender age? We will probably never know the answer to that question.

Now this community outside of Chicago is left to pick up the shattered pieces of their lives.

R. Thurman Barnes, the assistant director of Rutgers University's New Jersey Gun Violence Research Center and faculty at the Rutgers School of Public Health said, "In a country like ours, we have a lot of guns." He added, "And when you have as many guns as we have which we have more guns than people, you're going to have more gun violence in all of its forms."

Sometimes, it seems as if we are waiting for something to happen to us. That cannot be our only course of action.

Stronger gun laws is a course of action that more Americans want now.

LEGAL

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF HINDS COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI
FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF
DOROTHY ROWAN, DECEASED

Cause No.: 21-pr-00139

SUMMONS

NOTICE BY PUBLICATION YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED TO SUMMONS:

Any and all persons or parties who are interested in or claim any right, title or interest as heirs-at-law and wrongful death beneficiaries of Dorothy Rowan, deceased, including, but not limited to, the unknown heirs-at-law and wrongful death beneficiaries of Dorothy Rowan, if they be living and not to be found therein after diligent search and inquiry and whose places of residence, post office, and street and house addresses are unknown after diligent street search and inquiry to ascertain the same, and if dead, their unknown devisees, executors, administrators or legal representatives are not to be found after diligent search and inquiry, and whose places of residence, post offices, and street and house addresses are unknown after diligent search and inquiry to ascertain the same. You have been made Defendants in the lawsuit filed in the Court by Carolyn O'Connor to establish the heirs-at-law and wrongful death beneficiaries of Dorothy Rowan, deceased.

IF TO BE FOUND IN THIS COUNTY, to be and appear before the Honorable Denise Owens, of the Chancery Court of Hinds County, at the Hinds County Chancery Courthouse in Jackson, Mississippi, on the 8th day of August, 2022, at 9:00 a.m., next, then and there to show cause, if any they can why Carolyn O'Connor, Robert Neely, Max Neely, Josh Neely, Eliza Neely and Charlie Neely should not be declared the only heirs-at-law and wrongful death beneficiaries of Dorothy Rowan, deceased, according to law, and further to do and suffer such things as shall be considered and ordered by the Court aforesaid in the premises, and have then and there this, with an endorsement thereon to the manner in which you shall have served.

YOU ARE SUMMONED TO APPEAR and defend against the Petition filed against you in this action on the date and time as set forth herein above before the Honorable Denise Owens in Jackson, Mississippi; and in case of your failure to appear and defend, a judgment will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the Petition. You are not required to file answer or other pleadings, but you may do so if you desire.

WITNESS my hand and seal of said Court at Hinds County, Mississippi, this the _____ day of _____, 2022.

EDDIE JEAN CARR, CLERK
HINDS COUNTY CHANCERY COURT

7/7/2022, 7/14/2022, 7/21/2022

LEGAL

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS
BY THE
JACKSON MUNICIPAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY
FOR
CONSTRUCTION AND RELATED SERVICES
IN CONNECTION WITH THE
REHABILITATION OF TAXIWAY CHARLIE 6 AT JACKSON-MEDGAR WILEY
EVERS INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT (JAN)

JMAA PROJECT NO. 023-22

The Jackson Municipal Airport Authority ("JMAA") is seeking bids for construction and related services in connection with the REHABILITATION OF TAXIWAY CHARLIE 6 AT JAN (the "Work").

Sealed bids to perform the Work will be accepted by JMAA until 4:00 p.m. Central Standard Time (CST) on Monday, August 15, 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 publicly open and read all bids on Monday, August 15, 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 to: 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: REHABILITATION OF TAXIWAY CHARLIE 6 AT JAN, Project No.023-22." If the submission is submitted via email, then the identification information must be provided in the email subject line. If the submission is submitted by hand delivery or mail, then 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 successful bidder 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-Bid Conference on Friday, July 22, 2022 10:00am (CST) using the following login information:

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

Meeting ID: 959 6802 0095
Passcode: 520966

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

JMAA has established a Disadvantage Business Enterprises participation goal of 24.00% for the Work solicited by this RFB.

JACKSON MUNICIPAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY

DATE: JULY 13, 2022 John Means, Acting Chief Executive Officer

7/14/2022, 7/21/2022

LEGAL

NOTICE TO BIDDERS
City of Jackson
Jackson, Mississippi

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

75078-072622 Twenty-Four Month Supply of Clay Gravel and Wash Gravel

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

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

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

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

7/7/2022, 7/14/2022

LEGAL

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Sealed bids will be received by the City Clerk of Jackson, Mississippi, at 219 S. President Street, Jackson, Mississippi 39201 or at Post Office Box 17, Jackson, Mississippi 39205 until 3:30 PM, local time (CT), Tuesday, August 2, 2022, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud for:

The demolition and cleaning of parcels for the following:

1. 190-53 located at 220 W Pascagoula Street

2. 190-54 located at 226 W Pascagoula Street


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

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

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

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

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

by: 

LaTonya Miller, Manager

Community Improvement Division of Planning and Development

7/14/2022

LEGAL

Advertisement for RFP
RFP 2022-22 Data Center Refresh

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), July 27, 2022 at which time and place they will be publicly opened and read aloud. A Pre-Bid Conference concerning this project will held at 630 S. State Street, Jackson, MS 39201, JPS Information Technology Building, 2nd Floor Computer Lab at 10:00 A.M. Friday, July 15, 2022. Participating vendors must register at https://forms.gle/TbCgDGLgjbTVRJD9. Attendance at the pre-bid conference is non-mandatory but strongly encouraged. The Board of Trustees reserves the right to reject any and all RFPs, to waive informalities, and to withhold the acceptance of any RFP if approved for forty-five calendar days from the date RFPs are opened.

There are two (2) options in which RFP proposals may be obtained. Download from Central Bidding website at www.centralbidding.com for a small fee of \$49.99 or visit JPSD website at www.jackson.k12.ms.us and download. Vendors must be registered with Central Bidding in order to electronically upload 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 JPSD Board Room, 621 South State Street, Jackson, MS 39201.

7/7/2022, 7/14/2022

LEGAL

NOTICE TO BIDDERS
City of Jackson
Jackson, Mississippi

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

75077-072622 Twenty-Four Month Supply of #610 Limestone

BIDS ARE NOW AVAILABLE AT WWW.JACKSONMS.GOV

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

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

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

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

Monica Oliver, Acting Purchasing Manager
Purchasing Division
601) 960-1026

7/7/2022, 7/14/2022

Public Announcement
Hinds County School District

IDEA, Preschool Project,
and Consolidated Federal Programs Application Meeting

There will be a Virtual meeting on Thursday,
July 28, 2022 at 5:00 PM.

This meeting will be to discuss the applications for Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act (IDEA), Preschool Project, and Consolidated Federal Programs Applications (CFPA) for fiscal year 2023. Any parents of children with a disability being served in the Hinds County School District, along with any other parents of children in the Hinds County School District, are invited to attend. Topic: Federal Programs/IDEA 2022-2023 Budget Application Stakeholders Meeting

Time: Jul 28, 2022 05:00 PM Central Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting
https://zoom.us/j/91986638513?pwd=RWxPRFhZSsVRZDhWbjdyVFU1MGxmdz09
Meeting ID: 919 8663 8513
Passcode: aAE05F

LEGAL

PUBLIC NOTICE

TO THE PUBLIC, OWNERS OF MOTOR VEHICLES AND TAXPAYERS OF THE CITY OF JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI, AND OF THE JACKSON MUNICIPAL SEPARATE SCHOOL DISTRICT.

You are hereby notified that the ad valorem tax assessment schedule of motor vehicles in the City of Jackson and in the Jackson Municipal Separate School District containing assessed valuation of all motor vehicles in said City and School District which the City shall use in the collection of ad valorem taxes thereon for the taxable year beginning August 1, 2022, has been prepared, filed, equalized and approved by the Council of the City of Jackson, Mississippi, pursuant to Chapter 588, Laws of 1958, as amended, subject to the right of motor vehicle owners and taxpayers to object to any of said valuations appearing on said assessment schedule; that said schedule for special equipment, trailers, motorcycles, ambulances and hearses is now ready for inspection and examination by the public, at City Hall located at 219 S. President Street in the City of Jackson and said schedule for passenger vehicles and light trucks is located in the computer system of the Hinds County Tax Collector and is now ready for inspection and examination by the public at the Hinds County Chancery Court Building, and that any objection to valuation of motor vehicles set forth and contained in said schedule shall be made in writing, setting forth in detail the grounds for such objection and claim for adjustments, with a full and complete identifiable description of the motor vehicle involved, and filed in duplicate with the Municipal Clerk of the City of Jackson, Mississippi, at City Hall located at 219 S. President Street, in Jackson, Mississippi, on or before 6:00 p.m. on July 19, 2022 as provided by law, and particularly Section 27-51-21, Mississippi Code of 1972, as amended.

The Council of the City of Jackson, Mississippi, will meet in the Council Chambers of City Hall located at 219 S. President Street in said City on said date and will then commence hearing any objection to any valuation of motor vehicles set forth and contained in said assessment schedule which has been made in writing and filed with the Municipal Clerk, as hereinabove provided, and will remain in session from day to day thereafter, considering such objection and claim for adjustment until all parties in interest have been heard and such objection for claim for adjustment is disposed of as provided by law.

7/14/2022

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If you or your family were stationed in Camp Lejeune between 1953 and 1987 for 30 days or longer, you may have been exposed to drinking water that was contaminated with toxins. These toxins cause cancer, death, birth defects, miscarriages, female infertility, and more. If you suffered any medical hardships, it may have been caused by the poisonous water. You may qualify for significant compensation for your medical costs, continuing issues, or lost loved ones even if you receive VA Benefits.

Contact Us NOW!

bobbymoak402@att.net

1-800-595-6244

The Law Office of Bobby Moak, PC, PO Box 242, Bogue Chitto, MS 39629

The Mississippi Supreme Court advises that a decision on legal services is important and should not be based solely on advertisements. Free background information available upon request. Listing of these previously mentioned areas of practice does not indicate any certification of expertise therein. For information on these office you may contact the Mississippi Bar at 601-948-4471. Phone calls or replies to ads and correspondence does not create Attorney/Client representation, which is by contact only.

HUGE 1-DAY PUBLIC AUCTION

Wednesday, July 20th
Auction Starts at 9:00am
1042 Holland Ave • Philadelphia, Mississippi
Live Online and Onsite Bidding

Selling Dump Trucks, Truck Tractors, Specialty Trucks, Trailers, Farm Tractors, All types of Construction Equipment including Dozers, Hydraulic Excavators, Motor Graders, Motor Scrapers, Rubber-tired Loaders, Loader Backhoes, Skid Steer Loaders, Trenchers, Cranes, Forklifts, Pickups, Vehicles, RTVs, Mowers, Attachments, Misc. & More

Deanco Auction 601-656-9768 **www.deancoauction.com**
1042 Holland Ave (PO Box 1248) • Philadelphia, Mississippi 39350 Auctioneer: Donnie W Dean, #733, MSGL #835 10% Buyers Premium on the first \$5000 of each lot and then a 3% buyers premium and the remaining balance of each lot.



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THE MISSISSIPPI LINK

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

SPORTS MEDICINE

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

CANTON

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

BYRAM

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

VOWELL'S MARKET PLACE

5777 Terry Road
CITY HALL
Terry Road

CLINTON

DOLLAR GENERAL
807 Berkshire St - Clinton, MS

TERRY

SERVICE STATION
at Exit 78
CITY HALL
West Cunningham Avenue

RAYMOND

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

UTICA

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

BOLTON

BOLTON LIBRARY
BOLTON CITY HALL

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Miscellaneous

DONATE YOUR CAR TO CHARITY. Receive maximum value of write off for your taxes. Running or not! All conditions accepted. Free pickup. Call for details. 855-400-8263
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Services-General

DISH Network. \$64.99 for 190 Channels! Blazing Fast Internet, \$19.99/mo. (where available.) Switch & Get a FREE \$100 Visa Gift Card. FREE Voice Remote. FREE HD DVR. FREE Streaming on ALL Devices. Call today! 1-877-628-3143

Services-Medical


STROKE AND CARDIOVASCULAR DISEASE are leading causes of death, according to the American Heart Association. Screenings can provide peace of mind or early detection! Contact Life Line Screening to schedule your screening. Special offer - 5 screenings for just \$149. Call 1-855-393-5067.

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THE GENERAC PWRcell, a solar plus battery storage system. SAVE money, reduce your reliance on the grid, prepare for power outages and power your home. Full installation services available. \$0 Down Financing Option. Request a FREE, no obligation, quote today. Call 1-844-355-7099.

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The Mississippi Link Newswire

Sarah Ball drives from Sallis, MS to Canton, MS five days a week in her Nissan Murano to her glass assembly position at IMS Logistics. It’s about a 50-mile drive each way and before gas prices hiked it cost Ball \$60 to \$80 a week. “I use \$140 worth of gas a week now,” said Ball. “Gas and food prices are high. Nobody else comes to work from that way so I can’t ride with anybody. I don’t make any extra stops. I just get there and back.” To offset some of the pain at the pump, IMS Engineers, Inc. is giving each of its employees \$100 in gas cards. CEO of the company, John D. Calhoun, knows that this won’t fix everything, but he wants to extend a helping hand to his employees. “When our people hurt, we hurt,” said Calhoun. “We know we can’t cover all extra costs,

but want to provide at least a little relief to bear some of the brunt our employees are experiencing.” Erica Bell, administrative assistant at IMS, was pleasantly surprised when Calhoun personally came to her desk and handed her a gas card. She says her weekly gas cost has nearly doubled. Receiving a stipend directly from the CEO with a special heartfelt message thanking her for being an IMS employee was momentous. “It was very thoughtful for IMS to do that in consideration of the gas prices,” said Bell. “I’m very thankful. This gesture shows that IMS cares about its employees, especially in this time of inflation.” “We just wanted to show our team that we care,” said Dr. Calhoun. “It was so gratifying to see the smiles on their faces.”



Gas card handout



IMS COO Rod Hill stands with and Ball as she shows off her gas card.



IMS CEO John Calhoun speaks to Logistics team

100 Black Men of Jackson engages mentees in a “Cultural Tour”

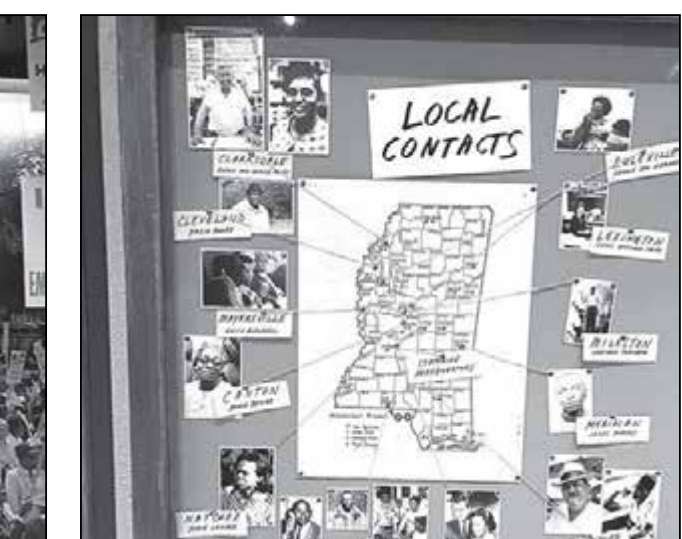
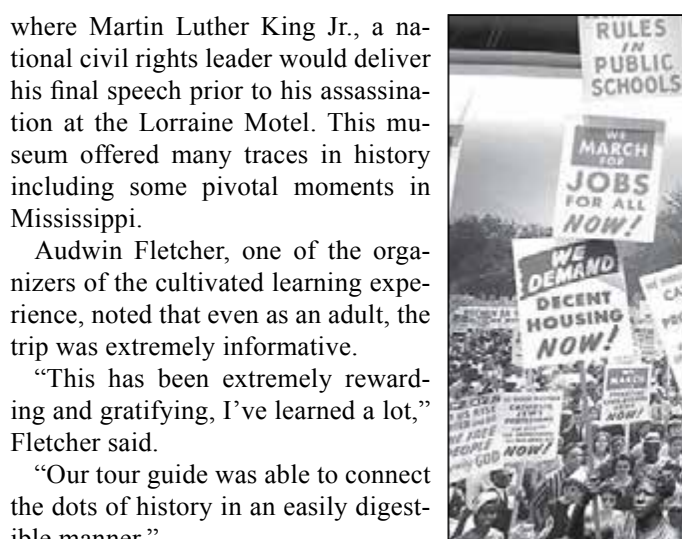
By Othor Cain
Special to The Mississippi Link

The 100 Black Men of Jackson, a premiere service organization, that has provided long-term mentoring activities to Jackson’s youth since its inception in 1990, created a space for cultivated learning for their mentees Saturday, July 9. The organization chartered a tour bus and loaded it with nearly 20 youth (mentees) and 15 adults (mentors) and headed to Memphis, TN. “Our goal is to broaden the capacity and understanding that our mentees have of history,” said Rickey Jones, the 10th president of the 100 Black Men of Jackson. “If we fail to know or acknowledge our history, there really isn’t a clear path towards our future.” The group decided on the City of Memphis as its second Black History Tour stop after a very successful trip to Selma, AL., last year. “I think the trip to Selma was very successful in that our mentees were able to ‘touch’ history,” said Leroy Walker, a founding member of the organization and former president. “It is so important for us and others to expose our young people to history in an effort to preserve it and maintain control of our story.”

The group’s first stop upon arrival in Memphis was the W.C. Handy Museum. Handy was known as the ‘Father’ of Blues, not because he gave himself that title, but rather, because his music, his publishing, his body of work was documented. Handy put Memphis on the map with his music. If the name W.C. Handy sounds familiar to you, perhaps you’ve seen the name in print in your church hymnal. The second stop on the tour was the Slave Haven Museum. This stop was bone chilling. A walk through this antebellum home is a journey through history, revealing secrets of its past that had been kept hidden for more than 100 years. As you descend the stairs into the dark, damp cellar and peer through the trapdoors and hidden passages where the slaves were harbored, you get a glimpse of those turbulent times. A sense of pride immediately engulfs you as you visualize the daring escapes these must have been for those who were determined to break the chains of slavery. The final stop on the tour was the National Civil Rights Museum/Lorraine Motel. Prior to arriving at this museum, the mentees were able to get a glimpse of Mason Temple Church

where Martin Luther King Jr., a national civil rights leader would deliver his final speech prior to his assassination at the Lorraine Motel. This museum offered many traces in history including some pivotal moments in Mississippi. Audwin Fletcher, one of the organizers of the cultivated learning experience, noted that even as an adult, the trip was extremely informative. “This has been extremely rewarding and gratifying, I’ve learned a lot,” Fletcher said. “Our tour guide was able to connect the dots of history in an easily digestible manner.”

PHOTOS BY OTHOR CAIN





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Hinds CC Utica campus Upward Bound receives \$7.5m

Mississippi Link Newswire

Hinds Community College's Utica Campus has been awarded five Upward Bound program grants for \$7.5 million, approximately \$297,000 each for five 5 years, by the U.S. Department of Education.

The Utica Campus is a designated HBCU, Historically Black Colleges and Universities. The programs will provide college access to students in the targeted high schools identified in Claiborne, Copiah, Hinds, Rankin and Warren counties.

The five programs will serve more than 300 student participants in the surrounding communities and their parents with a primary goal of increasing students' enrollment, retention and graduation rates. Across the country, especially in rural areas, student enrollment has declined for various reasons, including the impact of COVID-19 and high unemployment.

"These awards come at a pivotal time and provide much-needed services that boost confidence and offer students the academic tools to succeed," said Dr. Sharlene Brown, executive director of Title III/Sponsored Grants.

Some of the services that will be provided to students include academic tutoring; advice and assistance in post-secondary course selection; information on financial aid programs and benefits and assistance in completing financial aid applications, including the FAFSA; education or counseling services designed to improve financial and economic literacy; and activities designed to assist participants in enrolling in two and four-year institutions, obtain financial assistance for college or entrance into immediate employment in the field of their choice, she said.

Two-thirds of the participants will be low-income individuals who are potential first-generation college students. At the same time, the

remaining participants will also include individuals with a high risk of academic failure. No student will be denied participation in the project because the student will enter the project after the 9th grade.

The projects will collaborate with other Hinds Community College Federal TRIO projects (Talent Search, Student Support Services, Upward Bound Math and Science) and other programs (Math and Science focus, tutoring, robotics, etc.) designed to prepare students for college or immediate workforce employment careers.

"In the past, Hinds has successfully hired directors, academic champions and staff who have experienced and understand the struggles of first-generation college-bound students and have proved to be excellent mentors to our participating students," Brown said. "Hinds will continue that legacy of hiring individuals that contribute to a cultural community commensurate with the college's mission."

With six campuses in central Mississippi, Hinds Community College is a comprehensive institution offering quality, affordable educational opportunities with academic programs of study leading to seamless university transfer and career and technical programs teaching job-ready skills.

Our Mission: Hinds Community College is committed to moving people and communities forward by helping develop their purpose, passion and profession.

Our Vision: Hinds Community College will be a catalyst to create a competitive economy and a compelling culture for Mississippi.

Our Values: Hinds Community College aspires to the following IDEALS: Integrity, Diversity, Excellence, Accountability, Leadership, Stewardship.

To learn more, visit www.hindscc.edu or call 1.800.HindsCC.

Noted actress Sheryl Lee Ralph to keynote JSU's annual Mary E. Peoples Scholarship Luncheon

By Rachel James-Terry and Kyle Kidd
Jackson State University

American actress, singer, author and activist Sheryl Lee Ralph will deliver the keynote when Jackson State University hosts its annual Mary E. Peoples Scholarship Luncheon at 11 a.m. Thursday, Sept. 29, 2022, at the Jackson Convention Complex in downtown Jackson.

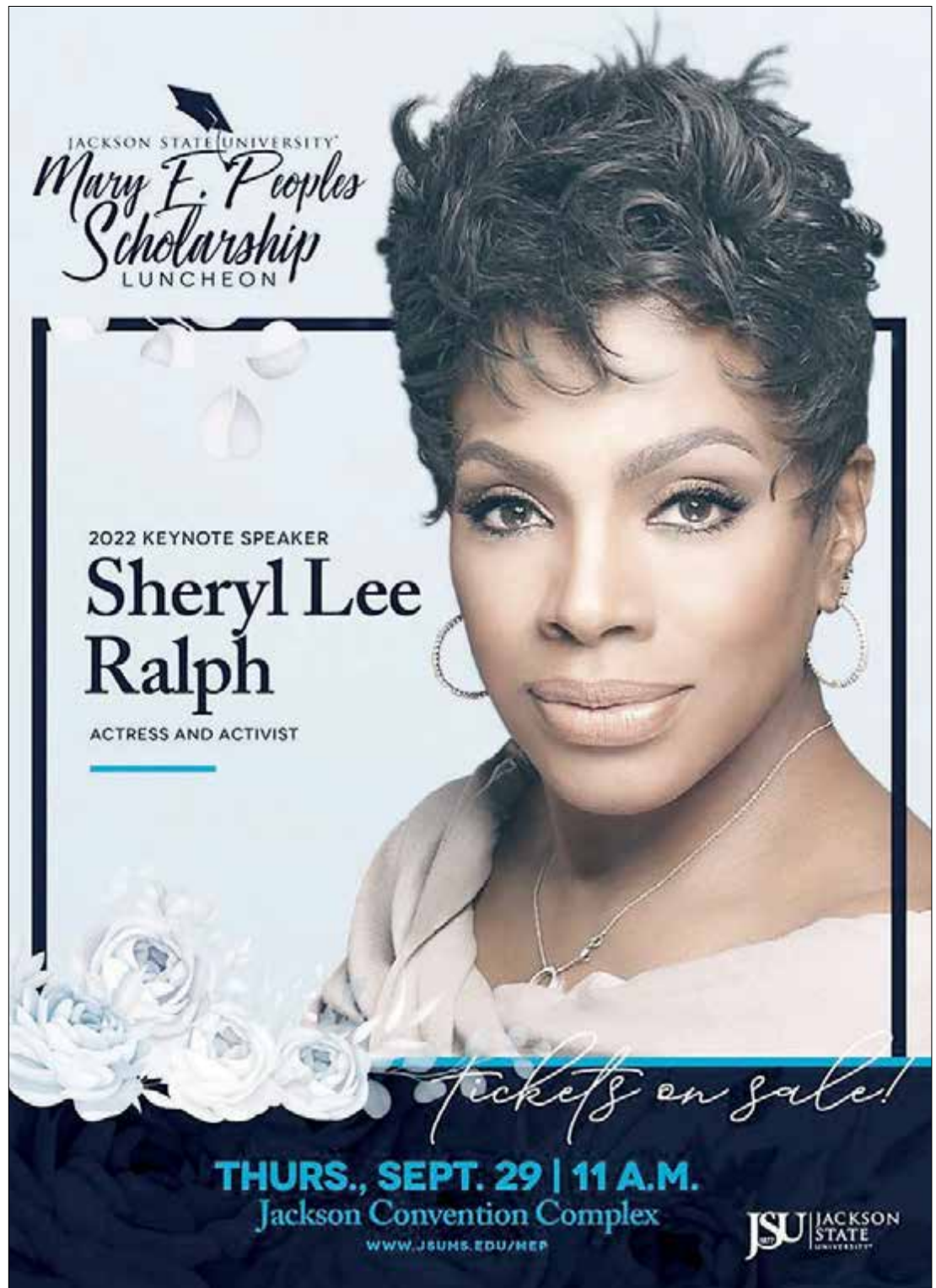
This year's goal is \$150,000 and proceeds will benefit the Mary E. Peoples Endowed Scholarship, which provides supplemental financial assistance to high-achieving students in need. The luncheon is named in honor of the wife of JSU's sixth president, Dr. John A. Peoples Jr., who served from 1967 until 1984.

"Mrs. Mary E. Peoples, first lady emerita, is a longtime educator best known for her community leadership and service to humanity. Because of her lifelong service in education, the JSU Division of Institutional Advancement is pleased to host this annual scholarship luncheon that bears her name," says Yolanda Owens, assistant vice president of institutional advancement and external affairs. "Proceeds will help create educational pathways for students at JSU. We invite all alumni and friends of JSU to partner with us, and we look forward to hearing from our keynote, the highly esteemed Mrs. Sheryl Lee Ralph."

Ralph is a Tony Award nominee, an NAACP Image Award nominee, and an Independent Spirit Award-winner with an acclaimed career spanning over three decades.

From bringing characters to life on screen, performing on Broadway, producing, and landing the title of national best-selling author with her literary debut, to her deep-rooted philanthropic endeavors that touch lives across the world, Ralph has become a staple in the entertainment industry.

She can currently be seen starring in ABC's highly anticipated comedy series, "Abbott Elementary," opposite Quinta Brunson. This laugh-out-loud workplace comedy follows a group of teachers brought together in a Philadelphia school simply because they love teaching. They rely on one another to make it through the day and find a way to counteract the school district's indifferent attitude toward educating children. Ralph shines



as Barbara, a longtime and respected teacher.

"Abbot Elementary" debuted episode #1 on Dec. 7, 2021, to rave reviews, with critics describing it as, "a smart first impression" (Variety) and "the next great network sitcom" (The Hollywood Reporter).

Additional credits for Ralph include starring in over 100 episodes of "Moesha" opposite Grammy Award winner Brandy, a lead role opposite Tia Mowry in three seasons of Nickelodeon's hit series "Instant Mom," starring opposite Jon Voight in "Ray Donovan" for Showtime, and appearances on "Barbershop," "ER," "It's a Living," "New Attitude" and "Designing Women," to name a few.

On the big screen, Ralph has worked with some of Hol-

lywood's leading and award-winning men such as in "The Mighty Quinn," opposite Denzel Washington; "Mistress" with Robert de Niro; "To Sleep with Anger" with Danny Glover; and "The Distinguished Gentleman" with Eddie Murphy. Most recently, Ralph completed four back-to-back movies, including "Just Getting Started" opposite Morgan Freeman, Tommy Lee Jones and Rene Russo.

As a writer, Ralph's debut book "Redefining Diva: Life Lessons from the Original Dreamgirl" (Simon & Schuster) instantly became a national bestseller and gave readers a personal look into her triumphs and tribulations, navigating life with courage, wit and strength over the years.

In theater, Ralph is well

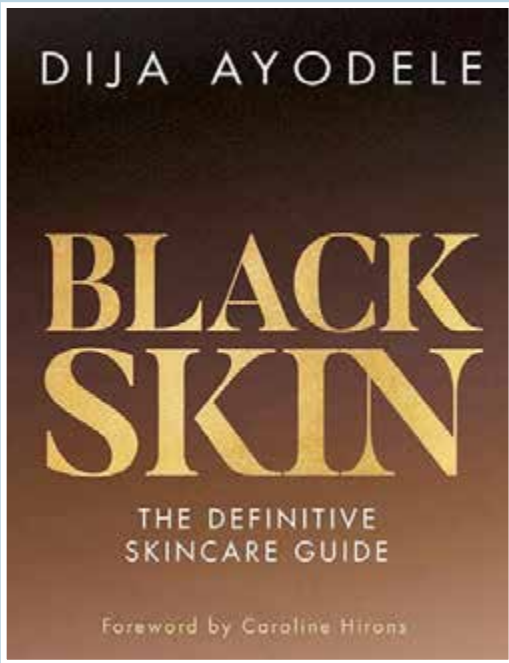
known for her award-winning work, creating the role of Deena Jones in the legendary Broadway musical "Dreamgirls," which earned her Best Actress nods for Tony and Drama Desk Awards.

Ralph is also a passionate health advocate and honored AIDS activist. She is the founding director of the DIVA (Divinely Inspired Victoriously Anointed) Foundation 501(C)3 which she created in memory of the many friends she has lost to HIV/AIDS.

Ralph is married to Pennsylvania state Sen. Vincent Hughes. Together they have a blended family of four.

Tickets are \$100.

For more information or to reserve a table, visit Mary E. Peoples Scholarship Luncheon.



BOOK REVIEW:
BLACK SKIN:
THE DEFINITIVE SKINCARE GUIDE
BY DIJA AYODELE, FOREWORD BY CAROLINE HIRONS
C.2021, HQ, A DIVISION OF HARPER COLLINS
\$29.99 • 288 PAGES

By Terri Schlichenmeyer
Columnist

Inside and out.
That’s where you wear your beauty. Your eyes glow with warmth and your smile is sunshine, your heart touches people and lets them know they’re loved. The body you’ve been blessed with is strong and comfortable. Now what about your largest organ?
In “Black Skin” by DiJa Ayodele, you’ll see how you can care for it best.
Short shorts, tank tops, bare shoulders, barely-there sleeves.

You want to wear them all this summer, and you want to look good doing it. So how do you make sure your skin is in the best shape possible?
DiJa Ayodele is a skin care expert and the first thing you should know, she says, is that “flawless skin is for babies.” You’re an adult and you’ll never achieve a “flawless” complexion again. But she has advice on how you can turn heads with a glow.
For centuries, black women have been “actively told that black is not beautiful.” Ayodele

offers history to prove it: more than a hundred years ago, slaves were treated like they “were beastly and put on show as spectacles...” For many black people in the past, that led them reach for chemicals to lighten their skin, which breaks Ayodele’s heart. She hopes today’s readers can learn to love their skin by becoming experts on it.
There are many similarities between black skin and white skin; the differences are cultural and “physiological.” Black skin has more melatonin that helps protect from the sun, but

don’t get lazy: Ayodele says you should use a sunscreen because black skin is still prone to sunburn. Also, “Black will crack if you’re slack!” Use a really good moisturizer.
Know the difference between skin type and skin condition. Stop smoking, quit your bad diet, cut down on alcohol, stop stressing, and get some sleep. Be prepared for the things that can go wrong with your skin, and learn about keloids and hyperpigmentation.
Bust some myths, know which products to leave in the store and

how to find a professional if you need one, and build a regiment. Your skin will thank you for it.
Show your shoulders, flash your fingers, flaunt your feet. Summer fashions practically demand that you do, but what if your skin isn’t ready for all that? Reach for “Black Skin” and get some help that will take you far beyond your surface.
But this book isn’t just for those who are looking for beauty.
Author DiJa Ayodele helps you understand why you sometimes believe your skin has a mind of

its own. She tackles acne, skin tags, and vitiligo as well as ashiness and over-dry spots, and her advice is wide-ranging and easily understood. Best of all, she makes readers feel like their skin is a precious gift.
Having that kind of information doesn’t at all replace a dermatologist, but it’s the next best thing.
Not just for women, this book also includes a chapter for men and children, too. Reading “Black Skin” is something you’ll want to do, from the inside out.

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MVSU names McClellan the new athletic director

The Mississippi Link Newswire

Mississippi Valley State University has turned to a familiar face to take the helm of the Delta Devils athletic program.

MVSU President Jerryl Briggs Sr., announced recently that Hakim McClellan, a Valley alum, is the school's new athletic director. Briggs expressed his excitement to welcome McClellan and his family back to MVSU. McClellan started his new role June 15.

"Today is a great day for Mississippi Valley State University, with the appointment of Hakim McClellan as the athletic director," said Briggs. "Hakim has proven to be a strong leader who will champion the school, but also the student-athletes. I believe there are very bright days ahead for MVSU athletics, and Hakim will be a stable, guiding force through this exciting time," Briggs added.

McClellan has an extensive background in collegiate athletic administration. His new position at MVSU is a return home for the former MVSU student-athlete who also earned his bachelor's in business ad-



ministration from MVSU in 2010 and his master's in business administration, also from MVSU.

In addition, McClellan also worked on the compliance staff at MVSU. He was responsible for various duties, including coordinating with the coaching staff to verify compliance with

student athletic eligibility standards.

McClellan shared how, during his time as a student at MVSU how friends called him "Hakim the dream" in reference to the former NBA player Hakeem Olajuwon, who went by the same nickname, and how that name sums up his

feeling about being chosen as the new AD.

"This is a dream job for me," said McClellan. To have the opportunity to come home and work and help elevate V-State is what I have always wanted to do. This a place that is built on the concept of family, and I believe we can create the culture

that helps our student-athletes become professionals on and off the field," said McClellan.

McClellan, 35, was selected following a national search that drew a "strong" pool of candidates. The Gulfport, Mississippi native said he is thankful for the opportunity.

"I thank Dr. Briggs for giving

me the chance to come home and serve. "MVSU is a school that connects this entire community – it has been and will continue to be my goal to make this university the school of the Delta," he added. "I am grateful to the committee and others who provided input in this important decision. Lastly, from the bottom of my heart, I want to thank my family, friends and especially my wife Eleanor, for their support through my entire career."

McClellan recently worked at Jackson State University, where he served as the associate athletic director for Compliance.

McClellan has also worked at Prairie View A&M and worked as the athletic academic advisor for the men's baseball, women's basketball, soccer and track & field teams. In July of 2016, he was named as PVAMU's first certification officer in the Office of the Registrar.

An official press conference was scheduled to introduce McClellan and his family to the MVSU community.

LA Lakers unite Scotty Pippen Jr. and Shaq's son, Shareef O'Neal for their summer league

By Lauren Victoria Burke
NNPA Newswire Contributor

The sons of two NBA Hall of Famers, Scotty Pippen and Shaquille O'Neal, will play together on the Los Angeles Lakers' summer league team.

Shareef O'Neal, 22, is the son of Shaquille O'Neal, 50. His father played in the NBA from 1992 to 2010.

Scotty Pippen Jr., 21, is the son of six-time NBA champion Scottie Pippen who played most of his career alongside Michael Jordan with the Chicago Bulls. Pippen played in the NBA from 1987 to 1999. Of the two sons, Pippen Jr. is generally viewed as the better prospect as O'Neal has had to

contend with some injuries.

On June 28, the LA Lakers summer league roster players started practice for the upcoming California Classic in San Francisco and NBA 2K23 in Las Vegas, according to ESPN. The two sons of the superstars practiced at the Los Angeles Lakers training facility. Whether they will make the team remains an unanswered question as it is for every prospect in such a hugely competitive professional sports league.

"I would definitely say there's a different type of camaraderie for guys whose dads played in the NBA," said Pippen Jr., 21, to reporters. Pippen Jr. was undrafted as he depart-

ed Vanderbilt. He signed a two-way contract with Los Angeles.

Although the pressure of being the son of a famous sports star could be an added issue for Pippen and O'Neal, pressure in general for prospects is already high. The percentage of college players that actually make it into the NBA is only 1.2 percent.

Lauren Victoria Burke is an independent investigative journalist and the host of the podcast BURKEFILE. She is a political analyst who appears regularly on #RolandMartinUnfiltered. She may be contacted at LVBurke007@gmail.com and on twitter at @LVBurke



Shareef O'Neal (left), 22, is the son of Shaquille O'Neal, 50. His father played in the NBA from 1992 to 2010. Scotty Pippen Jr., 21, is the son of six-time NBA champion Scottie Pippen who played most of his career alongside Michael Jordan with the Chicago Bulls.

Brittney Griner pleads guilty to drug charge in Russian Court



Griner

By Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Newswire Correspondent

WNBA Superstar Brittney Griner told a Russian court Thursday that she didn't intend to commit a crime, but in her rush to pack her luggage, she accidentally carried a small amount of cannabis oil.

The Phoenix Mercury standout then pleaded guilty to drug smuggling, which could land her as much as ten years in prison.

She has been detained since February, and officials scheduled a July 14 court appearance for the

now-convicted basketball player.

U.S. officials didn't immediately comment.

Recently, there's been a growing call for her release. Many observers have opined that Russia is using the 31-year-old as a political pawn.

It's believed Russian President Vladimir Putin would free Griner if the United States did likewise for convicted arms dealer Victor Bout.

It's unknown whether Griner's guilty plea is part of an overall strategy to bring her home, with

the thought of not dragging out the court case and lessening the spotlight.

On July 4, President Joe Biden received a letter from Griner pleading for his help getting her home. A day later, Cherelle Griner, the WNBA player's wife, went on national television to express frustration that she hadn't been in touch with the White House about Brittney.

On July 6, Biden and Vice President Kamala Harris spoke with Cherelle Griner via telephone and

reassured her that the administration is continuing to work to bring her loved one home.

"While I will remain concerned and outspoken until she is back home, I am hopeful in knowing that the President read my wife's letter and took the time to respond," Cherelle Griner said. "I know BG will be able to find comfort in knowing she has not been forgotten."

Biden shared with Cherelle Griner a letter he planned to send to Brittney.

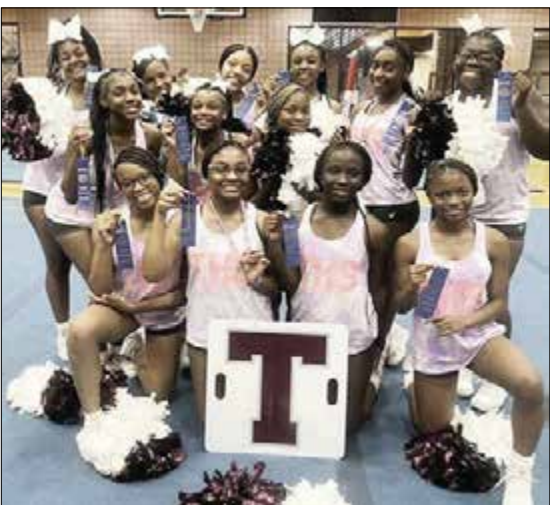
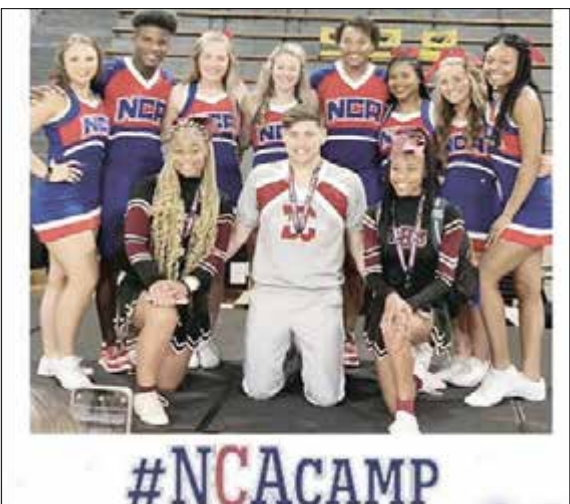
Hinds County School District Weekly Update

ENGAGING-EMPOWERING-ENSURING-EXCELLENCE

Terry High School Cheerleaders awarded at NCA Cheer Camp

By Sonydrea Odom-Polk

This past weekend, Terry High School Varsity and JV Cheerleaders attended NCA Cheer Camp. They worked extremely hard and had an amazing time, bringing back some awards. Both teams received Superior Ribbons in every category: Gameday Cheer, Chant and Band Chant. Both teams received a bid to NCA Nationals in Dallas, TX. Both teams won a 1st place trophy: JV for Cheer and Varsity for Chant. Both teams received the Stunt Safe Award. THS Cheer as a whole won the Herkie Award, an award for overall leadership and spirit. This award is voted on by all the teams who attended the camp. Taiveri Thomas won the individual leadership award. We have 4 ALL AMERICAN CHEERLEADERS: Braelyn Amos, Kerri Coverson, Madison Harden and Ja’Niya McDonald. There were 3 individuals from the whole camp selected to be a part of the NCA Staff, two of them being our very own, Braelyn Amos and Kerri Coverson. We are so proud of these young ladies for all their hard work.



Hinds County Public School District is preparing for an Active Shooter Drill

Hinds County Public School District is preparing for an Active Shooter Drill to be held at Terry High School August 2. A planning meeting was held at Hinds County School District Central Office July 6. The following agencies were in attendance: Mississippi Homeland Security, Hinds County Sheriff Department, Terry Police Department, AMR and Hinds County Administrators.

