

ANCEBA Inaugural Summit, standing up for Jesus and Justice at the JSU E-Center



ANCEBA Regional Leaders, Facilitators and Panelists (L-R, seated) Dr. Benjamin Chavis, Washington, D.C.; .Pastor Hosea J. Hines, Jackson MS; Lou Anna Peters, Chicago, IL; Portia Rucker, Miami, FL; (L-R standing) Stacey Lewis, Jackson, MS; Pastor Carl White, Chicago, IL; Chief Robert Moore, Springfield, IL; Pastor T.E. Gantt, Riverside, CA; Pastor Warren Stewart, Phoenix, AZ; Oliver Hines; Jackson, MS; Sam Hines, Tampa, FL; Bishop David Cooper, Albuquerque, New Mexico; Pastor William Rosser, Springfield, IL; Pastor Donald Robinson, New Orleans, LA. PHOTOS BY KEVIN BRADLEY

By Jackie Hampton
Publisher

A New Day Coalition for Equity and Black America (ANCEBA) is a non-profit organization whose mission is to “harness” the collective experience, influences and power of the black clergy nationwide to improve the lives of black citizens.”

ANCEBA held its first annual summit July 21-22 at the JSU E-Center convention hall located on Raymond Road in Jackson. The two day conference was held from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. each day.

Facilitators and panelists that are experts in various fields came from various parts of the country to provide information and discuss solutions for improving the lives of black citizens that have suffered throughout the years and continue to suffer as a result of the many disparities that continue to exist in

black communities.

Pastor Hosea Hines, pastor of Christ Tabernacle Church, is the national leader of ANCEBA. He and his church staff hosted the two-day event which included topics on economic development, affordable housing, education disparities, healthcare disparities, criminal justice reform and voting rights.

During a de-briefing of the event on Monday Hines was very elated to learn that over 3,000 individuals tuned in virtually for the event. There were over 60 in person participants on day one and over 100 in-person participants on day two, including over 40 law enforcement personnel and two district attorneys present to hear former Jackson Police Chief Robert Moore facilitate a discussion on “Criminal Justice.” Moore currently lives in Springfield, IL.



Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis, Jr., President & CEO of NNPA

Virtual panelists across the nation participated in this discussion as well.

Hines, in a phone interview with *The Mississippi Link* stated he was very pleased with ANCEBA’S summit. He said, “ANCEBA is a great organization that stands for



Pastor Hosea J. Hines, National Leader of ANCEBA

Jesus and justice. What an honor it was to host our first annual summit at the e-center of Jackson State University. There were great scholars and consultants who presented great solutions to meet the

ANCEBA
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They stole hearts: former bank robbers deliver powerful message



New Orleans based couple, Sibil Fox and Robert Richardson

By Eva D. Coleman
Texas Metro News

“What does it mean to be free?” [Sybil] Fox Rich asked. “It wasn’t until I became a slave again that I understood.” “If you know anybody black, you’ve got to tell them that statistics and studies have proven that when people of color go before the criminal justice system, they do not receive the same justice that is given to people who have committed the same offenses that are of different race,”

Two former bank robbers, affectionately known as “FoxandRob” walked into First United Bank in downtown Dallas dressed in all white June 17, 2022 and delivered the most powerful speech on what it means to be free.

If you don’t know their “love story,” which includes over two decades of incarceration to clemency, check out the Amazon Original, multi-award winning “Time” documentary. They plan to release an expansive book with more details in 2023.

The New Orleans based couple, Sibil Fox and Robert Richardson were first introduced to attendees waiting in the First United Bank lobby for the soul food inspired lunch catered by Creations by Dajae to be served. Fox, who prefers Fox Rich, confirmed with Texas Metro News that FoxandRob is “a-n-d” not an ampersand placed together with no spaces because they are “never getting away from each other.”

They spoke passionately about the success of African-American families that so many do not see and their admiration for journalists who tell the stories.

Everyone settled in their seats which all included a Juneteenth “church fan,” information cards about the national holiday also known as Freedom Day which commemorates the emancipation of enslaved black Ameri-

cans (two-years delayed in the south), and the official WhoHQ book, “What Is Juneteenth?”

The program was progressing.

Then, the boom happened.

The high school sweethearts who’ve known each other for 35 years and have been married for 25 years captivated the attention of all in the room.

Rob Rich, who called their visit a “crusade,” introduced his wife and literal partner in crime, giving adoration for her commitment to him after her own release from prison that led to Louisiana Governor John Bel Edwards granting him clemency in 2018.

“The star of “Time” is none other than Fox Rich,” Rob Rich said. “Fox Rich is a mother of six outstanding sons; sons that I’m glad to have gone half with her on.”

Drawing laughter from the crowd, he continued.

“She is a published author, a cultural provocateur, and according to Historically Black Colleges and University students, she was considered the most realest speaker of the 21st century.”

Rob Rich also said that in 2021, the Critics’ Choice Awards considered Fox Rich the most compelling subject of a documentary or film.

“She is by far the most dynamic person that I’ve ever met in my life,” he said.

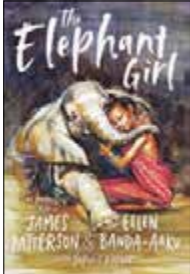
With the audience gathered in the room and others joining virtually from First United Bank branches throughout Texas and Oklahoma, Rob Rich encouraged a big Texas round of applause as Fox Rich made her way to the microphone.

With her strong voice and personality, the Grambling State University graduate who holds a Bachelor of Science degree and master’s degree in public administration schooled the crowd on social injustices and the innate will to fight for African Americans who break



First United Bank representatives with FoxandRob

Robbers
Continued on page 3



Constance Slaughter-Harvey named Law Alumna of the Year

By Christina Steube
x

University of Mississippi School of Law alumna Constance Slaughter-Harvey received the Law Alumna of the Year Award, July 15, becoming the first African-American female to receive the award.

She accepted the award at the UM Alumni Association luncheon during the Mississippi Bar’s annual meeting in Sandestin, Florida.

The award is presented by the Law Alumni Chapter of the Alumni Association and has been given annually since 1974.

Bestowed upon an alumnus who has encouraged excellence in legal education and has actively participated in the betterment of the school, the award is one of the top honors given by the law school and Alumni Association.

“When I say I was honored, that’s an understatement,” Slaughter-Harvey said. “On four occasions, the law school has recognized me and each time, I feel the sacrifices made by my parents, their prayers and the support I was given.

“When I get an honor by the university, I don’t think about me – I’m just a vessel. I don’t accept it for me, but for my parents, my family, my law school roommate and those who supported me.”

Slaughter-Harvey has spent her life as a trailblazer. Originally from Forest, she completed her undergraduate degree at Tougaloo College, where she was elected the first female student body president. In 1970, she became



Slaughter-Harvey

the first African-American female graduate of the UM School of Law.

In an effort to create a space and system of support for black students in law school, she joined students from across the country and became one of the founding members of National Black Law Students Association, or BLSA, when it formed at Rutgers University in 1968.

“I could’ve been a straight-A student, but that wasn’t my priority,” she said. “My priority was to change things so the students who come after me didn’t have to experience the way I was treated.

“I see so much change, but I know we still have a long way to go. I’m so proud of Dean (Susan) Duncan’s commitment to doing the right thing and leading the school toward more diver-

sity and inclusion initiatives.”

Inspired to attend law school by Medgar Evers, Slaughter-Harvey began her career with the Lawyers’ Committee for Civil Rights Under Law to advocate for the rights of others. In 1976, she became the first African-American female in Mississippi history to be appointed as a judge.

Her career path has also included working as director of human development under Gov. William Winter, assistant secretary of state for elections and public lands, and an advocate for mail-in and motor voter registration. She is also founder and president of the Legacy Education and Community Empowerment Foundation, Inc., a nonprofit organization that provides programming and mentorship to young students in Scott and Newton Counties and across Mississippi.

Since its creation, the foundation (formerly the Slaughter Memorial Foundation) has assisted thousands of families and has awarded more than \$100,000 in scholarships.

“Constance truly is a trailblazer for not only our school, but the legal profession,” said Susan Duncan, Dean of UM Law. “Her path to becoming the first African-American woman to graduate from UM law in the 1960s was incredibly difficult due to the constant negative treatment she received, but she persevered. UM Law is committed to creating an inclusive environment to ensure that all students feel welcome here, and this progress could not happen without her support. We are so proud of her many accomplishments

throughout her career, and we are incredibly grateful for her support of our law students.”

Slaughter-Harvey is a life member of the Girls Scouts of America, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., National Bar Association, American Bar Foundation, NAACP, and the Magnolia Bar Association. In her storied career, she has received more than 5,000 awards, including the Hall of Fame inductions for the National Bar Association, University of MS, University of MS School of Law, and Tougaloo College, University of MS Law Public Service Award, Nation Builder (National Black Caucus of State Legislators), Susie Blue Buchanan Award (MS Bar), Margaret Brent Women Lawyers’ Achievement Award (ABA), Mississippi Woman Lawyer of the Year, MS Woman Trailblazer, Champion of Justice Award from the Mississippi Center for Justice, Legacy of Leadership Award, R. Jesse Brown Award by the Magnolia Bar Association, National Civil Rights and Social Justice Award, 2016 Heritage Award from MS Power, Chevron, Ingalls, and Coca-Cola, Rotary International Paul Harris Fellow (2), and The Rabbi Perry Nussbaum Civil Justice Award from Millsaps College.

Slaughter-Harvey is lauded alongside Fannie Lou Hamer and Evelyn Gandy as one of ten notable Mississippi women of the 20th Century

In 1998, the BLSA chapter at UM Law was named after Slaughter-Harvey. She continues to work closely with the chapter, offering support and

mentorship to law students.

“I have watched the growth of BLSA at the university and I see that they are still mindful of their mission both academically and socially,” she said. “I take pride in preparing those law students and helping them understand what has to be done and what is optional.”

Throughout the years, her relationship with the law school has continued to strengthen. During his time teaching at the school, professor emeritus Michael Hoffheimer invited her to speak to his classes, which she did for more than a decade before he retired in 2020.

“I frequently went to the university to mentor BLSA students but never went back to speak to all students,” she said. “Speaking to his class gave me a totally different perspective.”

But her mentorship doesn’t stop when the students complete law school. They continue to stay in touch with her after they graduate, and often call her for advice.

“What we did in the past was for the past, what we do today is for today, what we do to help others survive in the future is what we at Legacy are all about,” she said. And she is thankful that her daughter (Constance), son-in-law (James), and grandson (James Burwell, III) are committed to this same mission and commitment through Legacy.

“I hope I’ve contributed what was needed and more to the law school and its students. I’m comfortable knowing that I’m doing what God put me on Earth to do.”

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ANCEBA

Continued from page 1

challenges of many problems within the black community.”

Hines said that among the great consultants and speakers was Dr. Benjamin Chavis, president and CEO of the National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA), also known as The Black Press, USA.

Chavis announced, during his presentation Thursday morning on Voter Suppression that AN-CEBA would be joining the partnership between the NNPA and the Transformative Justice Coalition, targeting to register ten million new black voters. When Hines was asked how he felt about the partnership and the targeted challenge he replied, “How awesome. I am assured we will do it.”

Chavis told *The Mississippi Link* that the summit was one of the best he had ever attended and is looking forward to returning to Jackson and working with Pastor Hines and other members of A New Coalition for Equity and Black America.

Dr. Elayne Anthony, chair of the Journalism and Media Studies Department at JSU participated in a



Panelists (L-R) Portia Rucker, Miami, FLA; Sam Hines, Jackson, MS; and Pastor Carl White, Chicago, IL

Holistic Education panel discussion on day two. It was moderated by Pastor Warren Stewart of Phoenix, AZ.

Anthony stated in a phone interview with *The Mississippi Link*, “The summit was absolutely fantastic. It offered solutions to the importance of education and how the connection between home and school develop strong and positive results. When students know that parents are involved and educators listen, we will have outcomes that mirror our efforts.”



Christ Tabernacle Church Staff, Hostess Ministry, Facilitators and Panelists

Robbers

Continued from page 1

the law.

Throughout their speech, FoxandRob emphatically admitted and took responsibility for the bank robbery crime they committed. The focus was on the familial impact when at least one family member is incarcerated.

“When they got one of us, they got all of us,” Fox Rich said. “They got our money, they got our time, they got our hearts, and they got our minds. They got all of us.”

She shared about her unrelenting focus to bring her husband, a first-time offender for taking \$5000 and a property crime sentenced to 60 years in prison, home.

Her efforts are on the miscarriages of justice and prevention.

“If you know anybody black, you’ve got to tell them that statistics and studies have proven that when people of color go before the criminal justice system, they do not receive the same justice that is given to people who have committed the same offenses that are of different race,” she said. “What does it mean to be free?” Fox Rich asked. “It wasn’t until I became a slave again that I understood.”

Fox Rich cited how she enslaved herself by committing a crime, stating that she “checked herself into slavery by breaking the law.”

She shared scenarios of not having control of your own person while imprisoned, to when released, not being allowed freedoms that others enjoy such as the right to vote.

“After I did my time, and when I got home and I realized like those slaves in June 19, 1865, I ain’t got nothing but the clothes on my back and a will to live, and a will to use my freedom for the greater good of all mankind,” Fox Rich said. “It shows you the power of the human spirit. That power rests and rules in every last one of us in this room. That power is at the forefront, I believe, of the basic principles of this institution [First United Bank] that says, “Spend Life Wisely.’ You don’t get but one.”

Fox Rich implored others to think about racism and skin color. She mused about the interests of others with non-melanated skin to use the sun, tanning beds and creams.

Her speech, of which she constantly had the audience repeating “freedom is a reason to be celebrated,” was real, raw and relevant and left many with very few words to say afterwards, including First United Bank CEO Greg Massey who seemed inspired and shared his bank’s commitment to “get it right.”

The love between FoxandRob was profoundly evident. They personified the term “ride or die.”



Fox Rich of FoxandRob speaks



First United Bank CEO Greg Massey speaks following FoxandRob keynote.

Many in the room were moved by their presence.

The event was organized by First United Bank Vice President and Spend Life Wisely (Community Relations) Ambassador Patrice Withers who felt FoxandRob were a great fit for their celebration.

“Our bank exists to inspire and empower others to spend life wisely,” Withers said. “FoxandRob’s story is one of love and impact that they continue to make beyond their family. It is also an example of what current day slavery looks like.”

Fox Rich constantly shared, “To be free is to free others.”

It was a masterful display in the necessity of freeing minds from judgment of those who make mistakes and the realities of redemption. Their story is also heavily rooted in commitment to family and faith.

“I know that my God is a forgiving God,” Fox Rich said. “And if my God can forgive me for my transgressions, then I know that I can forgive myself, and I know that I can forgive my fellow man for transgressions.”

The Participatory Defense Movement Nola, an organization founded by FoxandRob, helps families navigate the criminal justice system.

For more information, visit pdmnola.org.

Trash

Continued from page 1

tried some type of action, but failed to get a second. Banks motioned that the mayor should review the remaining two options and bring his selection back to council, and the vote was approved 4-3 by Banks, Hartley, Lee and Lindsay. Foote, Stokes and Grizzell voted against. Then the overall motion passed 5-2, with Stokes and Foote opposing.

At the January 18, 2022 special council meeting the mayor presented the order for Richard’s Disposal having been selected, two pickups per week with a 96 gallon cart, and 1.2 million dollars per year lower cost than the other vendor providing the same service (WM). Discussion ensued and a vote was taken. It failed 2-4-1, with Lee and Grizzell in favor and Banks, Hartley, Foote and Lindsay opposing, and Stokes abstaining.

In the months since there has been a flurry of lawsuits, public displays of disregard between the mayor and council, re-votes, vetoes, judges recusing themselves, and special judges having to be appointed.

April 1 was a big day. The council voted down

the ratification of an emergency agreement for solid waste services for one year provided by Richard’s Disposal 4-3, with Banks, Foote, Hartley and Stokes against, and Lee, Grizzell and Lindsay in favor. The mayor then vetoed the council vote based on the first Special Judge Jess Dickenson’s footnote alluding to a possible exception for the mayor to do so. Then for some reason, they did it all again with the same votes. Nonetheless, Richard’s Disposal began trash collection as ordered by the mayor on April 1.

It sure was rocky at first for Richard’s. There was no turnover by WM, and the city had stopped keeping track of the collection routes, so Richard’s was truly starting from scratch. Now closing in on the fourth full month of providing services, complaints are rare, but the related legal actions continue.

Next week we will continue with more details up to the present day. The racial aspect has to be discussed also. Who would have ever thought that changing to a new trash vendor and saving Jackson taxpayers millions of dollars in the process would cause all this mess?



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College Hill M. B. Church celebrates Pastor Chauncy Jordan's first anniversary

PHOTOS BY JAY JOHNSON

By Gail Gettis
Special to The Mississippi Link

College Hill Missionary Baptist Church in Jackson held a milestone celebration marking Pastor Chauncy L. Jordan, Sr.'s first year as the fifteenth pastor since the church was established in 1907. The pastoral anniversary service was held at the church Sunday, July 24, at 2 p.m.

An annual tradition, Pastoral Anniversary Committee Chair Edna Caston said she feels that the support the church family offers the pastor helps build the pastor/people relationship.

Following the service all members, friends, family and special guests were invited to a dinner reception in the Family Life Center to fellowship with the pastor and his family.

Reflecting on the past year, Jordan used lines from the Albert A. Goodson hymn to help sum it up, "One year ago in the midst of a pandemic and a pastoral transition, with perhaps more questions than answers we have all been walking by faith, leaning on the Lord and trusting in His holy Word," he said.

Throughout the service Jordan was shown appreciation with guests providing musical tributes from the incomparable Lannie Spann McBride and young soloist, Samuel Green. Representatives of the Children's Ministry, Youth Ministry, and College Ministry each spoke to experiences with the pastor and how jovial, supportive and motivational he has been for young people, always encouraging them to be accountable for their words and



Pastor Chauncy Jordan and Sister LaShanda Jordan



Pastor Jerry Young, keynote speaker

actions.

Representing the entire church family, Denise Griffin-Whittington congratulated him on not only surviving the first year, but thriving. She reminded him of his first sermon in July of 2021 titled Let's Do It Together, where he humbly asked for prayers, patience (through acclimation process) and participation.

Thereafter the guest minister, Dr. Jerry Young of New Hope Baptist Church in Jackson, passionately addressed the anniversary theme, Celebrating God's Love Through His Vessel, derived from Jeremiah 3:15.

Young's message was aimed at affirming that the anniversary committee had chosen the right theme. Speaking on three major points, Young reminded the church of God's uncommon love, His unconditional love, and His unconquerable love. He charged College Hill members to do as God would expect and love Jordan the way that God loves us.

About the celebration, Jor-

dan said, "I am overwhelmed with joy and humbled by the experience of it all. The spirit of our God was indeed present among us." Looking forward Jordan envisions College Hill as a church truly committed to thriving as the epitome of a Great Commission Church; a church committed to carrying out Matthew 28: 19-20. In essence, that as we embark on my second year "we are a Going church, and a Growing church, Gaining souls for the Kingdom of God that we might then have significant influence and impact within the community and city."

He looks toward College Hill as "the transforming agent that God has called us to be and that our community so desperately needs."

Jordan preached his first sermon in July of 2021 beginning his pastorage at College Hill after having served 10 years as pastor at Hill of Zion Baptist Church in Bolton. He is married to Lashanda Walls Jordan, PH.D., and they have two sons, Chauncy II ("C J") and Joshua.



College Hill Mass Ensemble



(L-R) Rev. Calvin Peoples, Pastor Chauncy Jordan, Sr., Dr. Jerry Young, Rev. William Wheeler



Edna Caston, anniversary committee chair and Joseph Shelby



Bro. Terrence Hill presents the guest speaker



Entrance of Pastor Jordan's sons led by Bro. Marcus Franklin



Entrance of Pastor Jordan escorted by Sis. Larenda Franklin



Sis. Lenora Reed, Sis. Helen Young and Sis. Debra McGee



Guest soloist Lannie Spann McBride and Rev. Andrew Lewis, Min. of Music



Shiley Davis giving the occasion



Members enjoying the reception



Jean Jacobs extending welcome



Robert Clark IV giving tribute on behalf of Youth Ministry



Samuel Green, guest soloist



Sis. Agnes Shelby, Pastoral Ministry representative, giving remarks




Sis. Christine Williams, presiding



Sis. Denise Griffin-Whittington giving tribute on behalf of church family



Sis. Kayla Day giving tribute on behalf of College Ministry



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Elected leaders - what do you embrace? - Part 1

By Chris Young
Contributing Writer



Over the next few weeks I will focus on some of the decisions of elected leaders, and perhaps some who have been appointed by elected leaders, at the state and local level. By opening the aperture on their decisions, it is plain to see what and who they embrace, and conversely, what and who they do not embrace. This is Mississippi, and just when you think you might be seeing a shift toward fairness and equality, the harsh boom of reality is lowered.

Elected leader is quite a term. Come to find out, just because some people are elected to positions of leadership, does not mean they are leaders. True leaders don't steal or embezzle other people's money. Real leaders of people don't lie or try to hide something by diverting your attention to something else. Genuine leaders don't place their personalities above the good of the people that they took an oath to serve, do they?

Seems like true elected leaders are humble, not boisterous. They are intelligent enough to realize that if they don't know all the facts about an issue, it is incumbent upon them to learn – otherwise how could they possibly serve the citizens through their votes. They are committed and dedicated, not lazy. They understand that inherent in their office is a certain degree of power, yet they are vigilant about using that power wisely, fairly and competently. They realize that although they voted for themselves, they came into the office they hold based on the votes of a whole bunch of others, and so it's not about them anymore – it's about the "others."

Also it seems like true leaders demonstrate respect for others. That respect is revealed through valuing differences, opinions and ideas. It is also shown through compassion for others.

COMMENTARY

True leaders embrace their responsibilities and they embrace the people, i.e. a governor embraces all the people of the state, not the just the ones that voted for her/him.

At the state level, our elected leaders refuse to expand Medicaid, despite the state they preside over being the poorest state in the country. There are fiscal, moral and political components of decision-making by elected leaders. Based on information from www.commonwealthfund.org, Mississippi could insure 230,000 people with incomes below 138% of the poverty level, for over six years, with no net cost to the state whatsoever. After six years, the federal government is still paying 90% of the tab. Fiscally and morally, as leaders, it seems like alleviating suffering for hundreds of thousands of poor Mississippians is a no-brainer. Yet Speaker Gunn and Governor Reeves are dead-set against it. They must have a different agenda or at least their brains are oriented differently. They do not embrace the poor.

Similarly, their decision-making refusing to increase postpartum care for mothers, flies in the face of the recommendations of medical professionals and costs lives in Mississippi every year. This decision turns its back on mothers at one of the most vulnerable periods of their lives, and leaves motherless young children.

It's noteworthy that we hear elected leaders like Reeves and State Attorney General Lynn Fitch speak about "a culture of life in Mississippi," especially relating to the abortion issue. Yet the conservative majority at the Capitol lets these poor women die for lack of insurance. Is this governing for all Mississippians? Does willfully allowing poor mothers to die sound like a culture of life?

Elected leaders in the Mississippi legislature passed a Bill

entitled "Critical Race Theory: prohibit," in March of this year, almost entirely along racial lines. The bill didn't even define what CRT is. How many of the all-white and all republican legislators who voted for this measure even took the time to read the 1619 Project Essay? It's only about 16 pages long. American history cannot be told without the telling of black history, and who should know that more than lawmakers in Mississippi?

In the words of Equal Justice Institute founder Bryan Stevenson, "to overcome racial inequality, we must confront our history." The decision to pass this bill is just one more example of what contributes to Mississippi being ranked last or at the bottom of every measureable category in the country. Decisions like this are contrary to openness, transparency and basic human regard.

Elected leaders are cutting taxes – cutting a major revenue stream in the poorest state in the country. The Mississippi Tax Freedom Act of 2022 went into effect July 1, 2022. Per the Institute on Taxation and Economic Policy, the wealthiest Mississippians benefit the most. It's no freedom for retirees, working families and communities of color because they will be paying more in sales tax. It does provide freedom for the state's wealthiest families which are predominantly white.

Numerous conservative think tanks, like the Mississippi Center for Public Policy, advocated for the measure. Numerous African American house members also voted for the cuts, yet no African American senators did so. The Tax Freedom Act of 2022 could always be amended or modified over time, but it surely doesn't embrace All Mississippians – it embraces the wealthiest among us.

Next week, in Part 2, the focus will continue on our elected leaders, the decisions they make and who they embrace or reject by their decisions.

Incoming health officer backs postpartum Medicaid expansion

The Associated Press

Mississippi's incoming state health officer has stated his support for expanding postpartum Medicaid coverage.

The policy, which some Republican lawmakers oppose, would give poor mothers in the state access to more Medicaid coverage after they give birth.

Dr. Daniel Edney said in an interview with the radio station Supertalk Mississippi that he supports expanding postpartum care from the state's current policy of two months to a full year, the *Northeast Mississippi Daily Journal* reported. Doing so would be the "easiest thing to do" to improve health disparities, he said.

"We have got to look at moving postpartum care back out to a year again," Edney said. "Two months is not enough. We have women who are dying in months three, four and five from compli-



Dr. Edney

cations of pregnancy."

Mississippi State Department of Health data shows that 136 Mississippi mothers died either during pregnancy or within one year of their pregnancy's end between 2013 and 2016. Of those deaths, 86% of them occurred postpartum.

"I just refuse to accept the premise that it's just our fate to be unhealthy; it's our fate for our mothers and our children to die at higher rates than every other

state," Edney said. "I just refuse to accept that as a physician, as a Mississippian and certainly as a state health officer."

Recent legislative efforts to extend postpartum Medicaid coverage failed in Mississippi. Republicans hold majorities in both chambers of the legislature.

House Speaker Philip Gunn, a Republican from Clinton, has been opposed to postpartum expansion. Gunn previously told The Associated Press he did not want anything that would appear to be a broader expansion of Medicaid. Mississippi is one of a dozen states that have not expanded Medicaid to working people whose jobs do not provide health insurance.

After the U.S. Supreme Court overturned *Roe v. Wade* in June, the speaker announced he would create a commission to study child care issues.

Mississippi State Hospital honors Bingham for 45 years of service

Special to the Mississippi Link

Mississippi State Hospital recently honored employees with anniversary dates for their years of service. Marie Yates Bingham of Terry was recognized for providing 45 years of service to the hospital.

Bingham is a custodian team lead in the Client Care Support Services Division and has been employed at MSH since 1977.

Service Awards are given to employees in the month of their date of hire, beginning with one year and followed by every fifth anniversary year. Employees receive a Certificate of Appreciation and a



Bingham

Service Award Pin. The program is sponsored by Friends

of Mississippi State Hospital Inc.

MSH, a program of the Mississippi Department of Mental Health, was founded in 1855 and facilitates improvement in the quality of life for Mississippians who are in need of mental health, chemical dependency or nursing home services by rehabilitating to the least restrictive environment utilizing a range of psychiatric and medical services that reflect the accepted standard of care and are in compliance with statutory and regulatory guidelines. The hospital is accredited by the Joint Commission.

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Volume 28 • Number 41

July 28 - August 3, 2022

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

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

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

Postmaster: Send all address changes to The Mississippi Link, P.O. Box 11307, Jackson, MS 39283-1307. Advertising: For all advertising information, please call (601) 896-0084.

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MAID SERVICES AVAILABLE

Study investigates the everyday wear and tear of racism on black couples

By Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Newswire Senior Correspondent

A new study has revealed growing evidence that everyday experiences of discrimination in general, and racial discrimination in particular, are associated with adverse relationship outcomes, including decreased relationship satisfaction and increased relationship instability and strain.

“The Relational Wear and Tear of Everyday Racism Among African American Couples,” published June 30 in *Psychological Science*, found that the wear and tear of adapting to chronic stressors such as racism and discrimination can have detrimental effects on mental and physical health.

The authors from Cornell University investigated the broader implications of everyday racism for relationship quality in an adult sample of 98 heterosexual African-American couples. According to the authors, participants reported their experiences of racial discrimination and positive and negative affect for 21 consecutive evenings.

Using dyadic analyses, researchers found that independently of age, gender, marital status, income, racial-discrimination frequency, neuroticism and mean levels of affect, participants’ relationship quality was inversely associated with their partner’s negative affective reactivity to racial discrimination.

“Associations did not vary by gender, suggesting that the effects of



Citing the daily data collected from African-American couples as a critical strength of their study, the authors noted limitations, including potential memory bias in self-reported data, and called for further research

affective reactivity were similar for men and women,” the authors noted in an abstract from the report.

They said the findings highlight the importance of a dyadic approach and call for further research examining the role of everyday racism as a critical source of stress in the lives of African American couples.

“These findings advance our understanding of the social effects of everyday racism and the various ways it can impinge on the interpersonal flourishing of African-American couples,” Anthony Ong, professor of psychology in the College of Human Ecology (CHE) and professor of gerontology in medicine at Weill Cornell Medicine, told the *Cornell Chronicle*. Ong led the study with co-authors

Dr. Betül Urganci, Anthony Burrow, the Ferris Family Associate Professor of Life Course Studies in the Department of Psychology, and Tracy DeHart, associate professor of psychology at Loyola University Chicago.

Approximately 100 Chicago area black couples completed online surveys about their daily experience for 21 consecutive evenings, the *Cornell Chronicle* reported.

Participants, on average, were 36 years old and had been in their current relationship for about seven years.

The surveys measured aspects of relationship quality, including satisfaction, trust and intimacy; the frequency and impact of experiencing 20 different daily experiences of racial

discrimination, and how participants were feeling each day, ranging from “angry,” “ashamed,” and “dejected” to “cheerful,” “excited” and “happy.”

“The team compared changes in reported moods and feelings – known as “affective reactivity” – on days when they did or did not experience discrimination,” the *Chronicle* reported.

“The researchers controlled for variables including age, gender, marital status, income and frequency of discrimination, as well as how easily stressed participants said they were typical.”

The results showed an inverse association between relationship quality and heightened affective reactivity to everyday racism.

Regardless of gender, study participants said a partner’s anger, depression, or humiliation from a racist experience spilled over into their relationship. One consequence was lower levels of passion or intimacy.

In addition, the effects were more significant when negative feelings intensified versus when positive feelings diminished.

The *Chronicle* noted further that spillover stress impacts on intimate relationships had been widely reported. However, researchers said the new study is the first to analyze that process in the context of African-American couples.

They said the findings highlight the importance of considering everyday

racial discrimination as an interpersonal phenomenon and suggest clinical interventions could be designed to help teach couples how to regulate responses more effectively to the strain of daily experiences.

“These findings suggest more attention should be paid to the effects of racism-related stress in African-American couples,” Ong told the *Chronicle*.

“Among whom heightened affective reactivity to daily encounters of racial discrimination may reflect an embedded history of racism.”

The authors stated that, relative to white Americans, black people consistently report more experiences of unfair treatment and discrimination at every level of age, gender and socioeconomic status.

Moreover, the authors wrote that studies had documented consistent associations between reports of discrimination and various mental and physical health indicators among African Americans.

Citing the daily data collected from African-American couples as a critical strength of their study, the authors noted limitations, including potential memory bias in self-reported data, and called for further research.

“How African-American couples respond to and are affected by each other’s experiences of everyday racial discrimination,” they wrote, “thus remains a critical direction for future research.”

Gates Foundation to spend additional \$3B each year on several causes

By Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Newswire Correspondent

Bill Gates insists he’s optimistic about the future.

One of the wealthiest men in the world said he sees incredible heroism and sacrifice all over the globe, especially as the COVID-19 pandemic continues.

“Medical workers put in unbelievable hours at great risk to themselves to help people infected with COVID. Incredible efforts are taking place to help refugees from the Ukrainian war and to help those caught in battle zones,” Gates wrote on his personal blog.

“Activists are courageously protesting and often risking their lives to protect people’s rights. People on the front lines inspire me to do whatever I can. Although each of us can only do so much; when lots of people join in, we will resume progress.”

The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation announced it would significantly increase its already robust philanthropic efforts in areas including global health, economic development, gender equality and education.

The world’s largest charitable foundation will increase the rate of its grant-making from nearly \$6 billion to \$9 billion each year by 2026.

Among its many efforts, the foundation sponsors the National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA) education program.

“We need all sectors of society – government, the private sector, and the non-profit sector, including philanthropy – to engage on these issues,” Gates insisted. “Philanthropy is the smallest of these sectors, but it is unique in its ability to try



“My giving this money is not a sacrifice at all,” said Gates. “I feel privileged to be involved in tackling these great challenges.” PHOTO: LUKASZ KOBUS/ EUROPEAN COMMISSION / WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

risky ideas that can have a large impact if they succeed and are scaled up.”

Despite the 2021 announcement that Gates and his wife, Melinda French Gates, were divorcing, the couple has continued to make the foundation and charitable giving a primary focus.

“I am putting a lot of my energy and resources into innovators working on pandemic prevention, global health, climate mitigation (including getting rid of dependence on hydrocarbons) and adaption, education, improvement (including remediation), and food costs.

“When I say ‘innovation,’ I’m referring to new products and services as well as new ways of delivering them to those in need – including by strengthening local leaders and institutions,” Gates continued.

“These innovations will not come in time to avoid the problems altogether, but the faster we move, the less people will suffer. For many people, including myself, this is the most con-

crete way of contributing, even when it seems modest compared to the scale of the problems. Focusing on being part of the solution is better than giving up in despair.”

According to the *New York Times*, Gates and French Gates promised to inject an additional \$15 billion in funds into the foundation a year ago. Gates said that as part of that commitment, he planned to give \$20 billion to the foundation this month.

“As I look to the future, my plan is to give all my wealth to the foundation other than what I spend on myself and my family,” Gates wrote this week.

“I will move down and eventually off of the list of the world’s richest people,” added Gates, who, along with French Gates, has already given \$39 billion to the foundation since 1994.

“My giving this money is not a sacrifice at all; I feel privileged to be involved in tackling these great challenges,” Gates insisted.

A North Carolina city hired a black women as town manager and the police force and top officials resigned

By Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Newswire Correspondent

After completing a nationwide search that yielded 30 candidates, the Kenly Town Council announced Justine Jones, a black woman, as their unanimous choice for Kenly’s next Town Manager. And while the council claimed they were “proud” of the hire, police officers and other city officials have expressed their disapproval in a mass resignation.

“I have enjoyed my time working at Kenly Police Department and had fully intended to remain employed with the town, but unfortunately, decisions are being made which make me question what the future will hold for all town employees,” Darren Pate, a patrol officer, wrote to Police Chief Josh Gibson. Gibson also submitted his resignation and all four of the city’s full-time officers.

Two town clerks also resigned. In their resignation letters, the officers and the clerks cited a “hostile work environment.”

The wording appears to be a reference to Jones, who sued her previous employer – Richland County, S.C. – for gender and racial discrimination after they fired her as manager of research.

Jones’ lawsuit alleges “hostile” treatment by Richland County officers and her supervisor and retaliation for reporting harmful behavior. In addition, Jones claimed



Justine Jones

that Richland County failed to pay her fairly. She said officials treated her differently due to illness and terminated her on March 30, 2015.

With a population of approximately 2,400 residents, demographics show Kenly evenly split along racial lines with 36 percent African Americans, 36 percent white, and 20 percent Hispanic.

Town council members plan to hold an emergency meeting to discuss the mass resignation and how to replace its police chief and the four full-time officers.

“I am honored that the council has entrusted me with the responsibility of being Kenly’s next manager,” Jones said following her hiring in May. Jones has worked in local government for more than 15 years. She holds a bachelor’s degree from Concordia University in Min-

nesota, a master’s degree in public policy from the Humphrey School at the University of Minnesota, and a second master’s degree in public administration from Baruch College in New York.

“Kenly’s diversity and dynamic potential offer intriguing challenges and a promising future of growth and prosperity that I am excited to become a part of,” Jones asserted.

“I welcome the challenge of overseeing the Town’s operations, and I look forward to working with the mayor, town council, and the talented and committed staff of Kenly. In this short time, I have learned I will be joining a dedicated team that possesses an extensive understanding of Kenly’s services. Together we will continue providing excellent services to our community.”

When you’re really “mad” what do you do?

By Vince Faust
Tips to Be Fit

We all get mad at others, events and even at ourselves. In small doses anger can be a helpful emotion. If you have frequent or intense anger it can strain our hearts, cause a stroke, cause digestive disorders, muscle tension, breathing issues, unleash harmful stress hormones and ruin your relationship.

If your anger involves the repeated behavior, which is grossly out of proportion to the situation you will need help. Road rage, domestic abuse, throwing or breaking objects or other temper tantrums may be signs of intermittent explosive disorder. We see this everyday in our community.

Symptoms of lack of control of your anger:

- Fits of rage
- Increased energy
- Irritability
- Sudden episodes of impulsive behavior
- Racing thoughts
- Tingling
- Tremors
- Palpitations
- Chest tightness
- Temper tantrums
- Heated arguments
- Tirades
- Slapping, shoving or pushing others
- Shouting
- Physical fights and property damage
- Threatening or assaulting

Here are a few things you can do get a handle on your anger:

- Interrupt the feeling. – Distract yourself with activities that you enjoy (taking a walk, gardening or working out). You can also cover your face with your hands to block stimuli, next breathe deeply, inhaling through your nose and exhaling through your mouth.
- Explode alone. – When you unload on others it will make them resentful. You should go somewhere private to scream or hit a pillow. You



can also go sit in your car and scream. Don’t drive anywhere. Driving while angry is distracted driving.

- Channel your anger constructively – Channeling your anger means redirect it to something worthwhile. Channel your anger into productive actions. Look for what you can change in the situation. Focus on only what really matters. Use your anger as motivation. Write out all the angry thoughts and feelings. Relax and reset.

- Explore anger’s root. – It’s recommended that you keep a journal about the times you become angry. Identify the things that trigger your reactions. If you’re reacting the same way in similar situations, you perceive those situations as threats. If you often feel that other people fall short, you need to lower your expectations. Don’t dwell on the past. Dwelling on the past wastes energy better spent on activities that help you feel better.

- Think before you speak – In the heat of the moment most people will say something they’ll later regret. You should take a moment to collect your thoughts before you say anything. Try to allow others involved in the situation to do the same.

- Take a timeout – Give yourself a short break during times of the day that are stressful for you. Those few

moments of quiet time will help you feel better prepared to handle the stress.

- Be Forgiving – Forgiveness can be a powerful tool. Don’t allow anger and other negative feelings crowd out your positive feelings.

- Sit down – Your brain interprets a seated or reclining position as safe and relaxing. This position interrupts the flow of anger enhancing adrenaline. If you both sit down it will cool the anger even faster.

- Never go to bed angry – Research proves that old Bible advise is right. A recent study found that going to bed after having negative emotions appears to reinforce them. You should try to resolve disagreements before bedtime.

- Become an observer – The time you feel anger taking over, step back and view the situation from a distance. Then project what could happen if you don’t lower your anger level.

- Get more sleep – Develop good sleep hygiene. Poor sleeping habits significantly affect our emotions, how we control them, and our overall mental wellbeing. We should get around 8.5 hours of sleep per night.

- Compromise – Identify when to concede ground and when to push for a good outcome.

- Have a plan – Before your

temper flares know what you are going to do. Put your learned relaxation skills to work. Listen to music, write in a journal or do a few yoga poses. Do whatever it takes to encourage your relaxation.

- Laughing and humor – Laughing can help diffuse the tension. Humor can lighten up the moment. Try to avoid sarcasm. Sarcasm can hurt feelings and make things worse.

- Exercise – Being physical can help reduce stress that can cause you to become angry. If you feel your anger is escalating, go for a fast walk or run.

If you feel you need help talk to your Primary Care Physician (PCP). Your PCP may recommend one or more diagnostic tests and procedures as part of an evaluation. You should try to eliminate physical conditions or other mental health issues that may be causing the symptoms. Your PCP can help you find a psychiatrist that specializes in the branch of medicine concerned with the diagnosis and treatment of mental illness.

There is no cure for anger but you can gain control over behavior with treatment. There are inpatient treatment programs you can use for treatment.

There’s no single treatment that’s works best for anger management.

First Monkeypox case identified in Mississippi

MSDH Newswire

The Mississippi State Department of Health reported its first case of Monkeypox Monday, in a Mississippi resident. The specimen was tested at the Mississippi State Department of Health Public Health Laboratory. An investigation to identify persons who may have encountered the patient while they were infectious is ongoing. Development (incubation) of the disease after exposure is one to two weeks.

Nationally – as of July 22, 2022 – 2,891 cases have been confirmed with no reported deaths. While this is the first reported case in Mississippi, it remains likely that other cases will be identified as well.

Transmission can occur with close skin-to skin contact – kissing, cuddling or sex – with an infected person. Transmission can also occur by touching clothing or linens, bedding, or towels of an infected person, or inhaling the respiratory droplets during prolonged close contact with an infected person.

According to State Epidemiologist Dr. Paul Byers, “While anyone can get Monkeypox, many of the cases identi-

fied in the outbreak in the US and globally have been among men who have sex with men.”

Monkeypox is a rare disease caused by infection with the Monkeypox virus. Symptoms may start out as a fever, swollen lymph nodes, headache and muscle aches, followed by a rash that starts out as flat and then advances to pimples, or blisters and ulcers on the face, body and private parts (sexual organs). The rash can be itchy and painful. It can be confused with sexually transmitted infections such as syphilis and herpes, or with chickenpox.

The illness typically lasts two to four weeks. Sometimes, people get a rash first, followed by other symptoms. Others only experience a rash.

The Mississippi State Department of Health has received limited doses of vaccine that will be used to treat those with MSDH identified individuals exposed to a case of Monkeypox.

Medical providers are encouraged to consider Monkeypox infection and to notify MSDH when evaluating patients with a rash, especially if there are known risk factors.

Follow MSDH by e-mail and social media at [HealthyMS.com/connect](https://www.healthymississippi.com/connect).

Free at-home COVID-19 tests available at county health departments

MSDH Newswire

Starting Monday, free at-home COVID-19 tests will be available at all Mississippi State Department of Health (MSDH) county health departments.

Each family can receive eight tests (four packages) of BinaxNOW antigen rapid self-tests per month. No doctor’s note or documentation of any kind is necessary. These tests are not for resale.

Tests may be picked up without an appointment during regular health department hours.

To find hours of operation of a county health department near you,

visit [HealthyMS.com/locations](https://www.healthymississippi.com/locations).

If you are homebound, please order tests for delivery through www.covid.org.

If you have a positive home test result, you can report it to MSDH online at [HealthyMS.com/positive](https://www.healthymississippi.com/positive). Reporting test results helps MSDH monitor COVID-19 activity in the state.

For questions regarding at-home testing or reporting positive results, call the COVID-19 hotline at 877-978-6453.

Follow MSDH by e-mail and social media at [HealthyMS.com/connect](https://www.healthymississippi.com/connect).

It’s complicated: Understanding the complexities of COVID, motherhood and mental health in the black community

By Josephine McNeal
CMRignite Agency

Creating life and starting or growing a family can bring pure joy to a woman’s life. It can also be a source of anxiety and hidden fear. In addition to the physical changes that occur during pregnancy and post-delivery, approximately 20% of black women may experience mental health challenges. Unfortunately, the rates worsened during the COVID-19 pandemic as black communities, including pregnant women, have been disproportionately impacted by the disease.

The disparity has resurfaced as a pressing issue for both lawmakers and healthcare providers after multiple bills to combat the crisis were introduced in Congress in 2021.

Data also show that black

women continue to face a greater risk of childbirth complications than white women.

Regardless of factors such as lifestyle and socioeconomic status, black women have historically had higher rates of medical complications, including hypertension and hemorrhaging, poorer practitioner-patient advocacy and communication, and less postpartum mental and physical healthcare support.

These inequities put black mothers at a higher risk for perinatal and postnatal mood and anxiety disorders (PMADs) such as depression, anxiety, obsessive compulsive disorder and post-traumatic stress disorder. It is estimated that black mothers’ risks for PMADs is twice that of the general population.

All too often, the insufficient access to quality and culturally sensitive physical and mental health care discourages black mothers from seeking appropriate prenatal care. There is a direct correlation between higher infant mortality and lower levels of postnatal care for both the mother and baby.

While bringing more awareness to maternal mental health needs has led to various national efforts to improve maternal health care, black mothers disproportionately face disparities in accessing and receiving appropriate health services.

In the United States, black women are three times more likely to die from childbirth, and black infants are two times more likely to die before their first birthday.

Available Resources

Efforts such as Black Maternal Health Awareness and organizations such as Shades of Blue, founders of Black Maternal Mental Health Week, have helped further the awareness of these issues.

In addition, health fairs in black communities are critical for preventive care, such as the Stay Well Health Fairs that are part of the We Can Do This Public Education Campaign. These events provide more accessible health screenings, in-person access to black healthcare professionals, and COVID-19 testing, vaccinations, and boosters to black communities, including moms.

Screenings and preventive care, especially for black women entering motherhood, are valuable for overall health.

The Stay Well events are an

innovative way to reach the black community by creating a space for health access and equity where the need is greatest.

“I made the decision to get myself and my children both vaccinated and boosted to protect their health,” said Josette Brown, a mom of two and panelist at the Stay Well Health Fair in Washington, D.C.

The Stay Well Health Fairs take place across the country. Stay Well Health Fairs will make stops in Florida and South Carolina in the coming months.

Stay Well Tallahassee | July 23, 2022 | 10 a.m.-2.p.m.

Florida A & M University
2101 Wahnish Way
Tallahassee, FL 32310

Stay Well Myrtle Beach | August 13, 2022 | 10 a.m.-2.p.m.

Smith Jones Recreation Cen-

ter, 1700 Smith Jones St. Conway, S.C. 29527

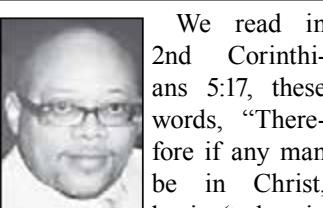
The health screenings offered are just one way to keep black moms and their loved ones happy and healthy.

CMRignite is a strategic communications agency that specializes in developing cause and behavior change marketing for major nonprofits and government agencies. CMRignite, a subcontractor for Fors Marsh Group, works directly on the Health and Human Services’ COVID-19 public education campaign, We Can Do This, a national initiative to increase public confidence in and uptake of COVID-19 vaccines while reinforcing basic prevention measures.

Josephine McNeal is a public relations specialist at CMRignite.

Old things must pass away

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



We read in 2nd Corinthians 5:17, these words, “Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is (today, in this world) a new creature: old things are passed away (or passed out of his life); behold, all things are become new.” Now, that is what God’s Word says. A state of conflict started between the church at Corinth and God, just as there is a state of conflict going on between us and God. Maybe, it is over how we live, how we walk, or how we dress, but there is a state of conflict. There is no perfect harmony.

Man has ever disputed God’s right to control our lives. If we are a child of God, He has a right to control our lives and tell us how to live. He alone knows what is best for us. He alone knows the consequences of following the wrong way. Therefore, He is justly displeased about our disputing His control over us. Many people have gotten into trouble, and they are still getting into trouble, by not obeying God. Whenever we obey what God says, we are going to end up right. God is calling and demanding reconciliation. What does it mean to be reconciled to God? We must get to the place where there is perfect agreement and perfect harmony between us and God. When that exists, we will not have any trouble with the min-

ister or the saints. Everyone will be at peace. Jesus said in Matthew 5:25-26, these words, “Agree with thine adversary quickly, while thou art in the way with him; lest at anytime the adversary deliver thee to the judge, ... and thou be cast into prison. Verily I say unto thee, thou shalt by no means come out thence, till thou hast paid the uttermost farthing.” Since we do not have anything to pay the first farthing with, there is no hope of our getting out of hell. To go to hell is to be lost forever. Man must come to God’s terms. Have you ever sat down and tried to picture what Heaven must be like? In Matthew 6:10(b), Jesus taught us to pray, “Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven.” The state of hostility that exists between us and God concerning our lives must end.

Sinners, we need to be saved. As long as we are in sin, we are in a state of hostility against God. That is the reason every Christian forsakes the world, because the love of the world makes us an enemy of God. When it comes to heaven and when it comes to God, there is no such thing as everyone doing what he likes best. The thing I like about it is, He gives us an experience that makes us want to do what He says. Salvation is a state of being reconciled to God’s way. When I say reconciled, I am talking about accepting God’s way about things. Remember, salvation changes us. “This little light of mine, I’m going to let it shine.” Rev. Simeon R. Green III is pastor of Joy nes Road Church of God, 31 Joy nes Road, Hampton, VA 23669.

CELEBRATING aunts (and uncles)

By Shewanda Riley
Columnist



For the past three weeks, I’ve focused on the African-American aunt including why she is important to the family. In this week’s column, I want to explore more how we can celebrate aunts as well as uncles. National Aunt and Uncle Day is Tuesday, July 26, and like some of you, I had no idea there was even a day to recognize those extended family members. The question is how to celebrate what appears to be a new holiday? One way is to think about your experiences with your aunts and uncles and what you liked most (or least) about them.

consider giving gift cards to favorite restaurants, retail stores, spas, and bookstores. For something more personal, a photograph of you with the aunt and/or uncle might work. Consider creating a new family tradition like a special family breakfast, lunch, or dinner. One of my favorite things I do with my nieces and nephews (and now great nieces and nephews) is going to the movies. It’s not just about the popcorn and sodas but about the connection. Now one of my nephews continues the family tradition and takes his younger cousins to the movies. For those of you who say you have no money to buy anything, a simple phone call would do. There are also free ecards you can download on my website — <https://www.chocolateauntiepodcast.com/celebrate-national-aunt-day>.

According to the website www.nationaltoday.com, it’s not clear who started National Aunt’s and Uncle’s day but undoubtedly it was to recognize the many contributions that both make to families. Romans 12:10 says to “Love each other with genuine affection, and take delight in honoring each other.” Celebrating National Aunt and Uncle Day on July 26 (or sometime during the week) is one way to show genuine appreciation for the impact they’ve had on your family. And to all the aunts and uncles (by blood or by choice) Happy Aunt and Uncle Day! Shewanda Riley is a Fort Worth, Texas based author of “Love Hangover: Moving from Pain to Purpose After a Relationship Ends” and “Writing to the Beat of God’s Heart: A Book of Prayers for Writers.” Email preservedbypurpose@gmail.com or follow her on Twitter @shewanda.



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Witness by witness, truth of Jan. 6 attack on Capitol revealed

By Emil Guillermo
Journalist, Commentator, Humorist



That James Webb Telescope is so amazing. NASA pointed it into the darkness of space, and suddenly saw the truth — stars and galaxies we never knew existed. At the speed of light, that’s a look back 13 billion years.

I wish all of America could see more clearly right here on Earth just about Jan. 6, 2021. It doesn’t take a telescope. You just need to keep watching the Jan. 6 Select Committee hearings.

If you think all that is nonsense for government nerds, consider the statement of Rep. Bennie Thompson, (D-Mississippi) the chair of the Jan. 6 Select Committee. He knows how important it is especially for the African-American community.

“I am from a part of the country where had it not been for the federal government and the Constitution, my parents and many more Americans like them would have continued to be treated as second-class citizens,” Thompson said. “The freedom to be able to vote without harassment, travel in

relative safety, and dine and sit where you choose is because we have a government that looks over the wellbeing of its citizens.”

And that, Thompson said, did not happen on Jan. 6, 2022, on Trump’s watch.

“It was an attack on our country,” Thompson said. “An attack on our democracy, on our Constitution. A sitting president with a violent mob trying to stop the peaceful transfer of power from one president to another. It still makes my blood boil to think of it.”

Yours should be boiling, too. If you were hesitant to call Jan. 6 a planned coup, just watch the July 12 hearing. There’s more corroborating testimony from people in Trump’s inner circle like White House Counsel Pat Cipollone who knew what happened from December of 2020 leading up to Jan. 6.

The story is not good for our democracy. Trump knew he lost the election but kept searching for ways to hold on to power. Things became “unhinged” at a Dec. 18, 2020, meeting when Trump’s personal advisors Rudy Giuliani, Sidney Powell and Michael Flynn (a.k.a. the “crazy ones”) suggested everything from foreign election interference to voting machine

fraud to a massive rally with the most rabid Trump supporters.

Cipollone suggested conceding the loss. The argument was loud, but the normal Trump loyalists lost. Then Trump tweeted: “Big protest in D.C, on January 6th. Be there. Will be wild.”

Rep. Stephanie Murphy (D/Fla) called it a “siren call.” The Asian American member of Congress shared how she was the only member of the committee “who was not blessed to be born American.” She was born in Vietnam, from where her family fled a communist government and was rescued by the U.S. Navy and given sanctuary in America.

She noted how decades later she was serving as a congresswoman and under attack on Jan. 6. It was another moment of context from an Asian American perspective that lets us know that every American is a stakeholder in these hearings.

Murphy also read text messages that Trump’s former campaign manager Brad Parscale wrote on Jan. 6.

“This is about Trump pushing for uncertainty in our country, a sitting president asking for a civil war,” Parscale texted to Katrina Pierson. “I feel

guilty for helping him win.”

When Pierson tried to relieve him of blame, Parscale texted: “Yeah, but a woman is dead, and yeah, if I was Trump and I knew my rhetoric killed someone...” When Pierson again pushed back, Parscale insisted it was the rhetoric that killed.

People of color know the acts of a killing mob, and this hearing featured the testimony of repentant rioters.

Jason Van Tatenhove, a former propagandist for the nationalist group, “The Oathkeepers,” warned that the country is “exceedingly lucky that more bloodshed did not happen because the potential was there from the start.” And it could get worse if Trump wins again.

Stephen Ayres, a Jan. 6 rioter who went to D.C. because he felt called by Trump, testified he feels lied to. He said Jan. 6 changed his life for the worse. He lost his job, and nearly his house. He warned Americans who still believe the ‘Big Lie’ to “take the (horse) blinders off.”

It doesn’t take a telescope to see how close a failed coup imperiled our democracy on Jan. 6.

Emil Guillermo is a veteran journalist and commentator at <http://www.amok.com>

We know the elephant in the room as the January 6th Hearings roll on

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



Over my lifetime, I have had my share of difficult and testy conversations. Some were resolved while others were not. The conversations lingered so we agreed to disagree. People became frustrated and impatient with each other.

Have you ever experienced moments like the one I described?

When you are involved in limited truth-telling, people will take different routes to avoid it. Out right lying is the most popular choice. That choice is so blatant and outrageous that it defies any reasoning.

Another tactic used is just giving partial information when asked a question. A person will give only some of the information to protect their own self-interest. Some will avoid the elephant in the room by just not showing up to the meeting. They avoid them and don’t want to be connected to them no matter the cost.

The January 6th Committee Hearings have been greatly influenced by the elephant in the room in my opinion.

The elephant that I am speaking about won’t be appearing at these hearings. Witnesses and committee members have called his name on numerous occasions. Actually, too many times to count.

Last week, the 9th hearing of the January 6th Committee was held in primetime, no less. It is my thinking that these most recent hearings have been dramatic and defining. The witnesses called thus far have been able to articulate quite clearly how January 6th affected them personally and how it affected the country.

This time was no different. The committee showed that the former president did nothing for 187 minutes to stop the January 6th human stampede. Nothing was done from the time he influenced his supporters to go to the Capitol to the time he did that passive video in the Rose Garden to

tell them to go home.

These culprits had just destroyed one of our national treasures and he told them that he loved them.

The former president is self-absorbed and self-centered. Those two terms characterized his presidency from start to an ignominious finish. During these 187 minutes he was compliant and complicit.

Sarah Matthews who served as the White House deputy press secretary said, “I thought January 6th, 2021 was one of the darkest days in our nation’s history. And President Trump was treating it as a celebratory occasion. So, it just further cemented my decision to resign.”

Matt Pottinger, former deputy national security adviser decided to resign after he saw that the former president was going along with the “hang Mike Pence” statement.

Both were loyal and long-time Republicans who had simply had enough of Mr. Trump. They had their fill. They were both empty emotionally and psychologically when they left their posts.

Still to come, I believe, will be more witnesses who will share the sordid and distasteful truth about the day and the man.

Inner-circle Republicans are now seeing the former president’s lack of ethics and his quest for power at any cost.

Because of his rage and for leading this attack, our nation has lost standing in the world. Other countries saw that we had a despot who was a liar-carrier who knew no bounds of decency.

Power tends to corrupt; absolute power corrupts said 19th century English historian, Lord Acton.

Mr. Trump exercised his power and influence which was detrimental to America. His un-hinged use of it showed him to be mindless and surreptitious. At some point along the way, democracy will overtake him, and others like him. It’s not if, it’s simply when.

If you are still on the fence of doubt, keep listening as the truth is bound to move you to logic and reasoning. You can’t stay in denial forever.

Beyond the church walls: maturing the Body

By Deborah M. Jackson, MDiv
Founder, Heart to Soul Ministries, Inc.



My spiritual director always told me more than anything she consistently prayed for my discernment.

Thirty years later I see the gravity and wisdom of that. As a mature dedicated spiritual leader, she navigated the precarious balance between guidance, support and allowing God to lead my spiritual development.

On one hand, technology offers greater access to God’s word than ever before; yet on the other hand feelings of confusion, loneliness and disconnection remain at record highs. When I think about how my own faith has evolved, balanced mentorship and consistent spiritual counsel empowered me to seek God beyond the walls of the church. While we unequivocally need the body of Christ and the church cannot do everything, I hope to offer perspective on how as spiritual leaders we remain responsible to foster spiritual development in the

body. In this way, we can look at how Jesus Christ selected, loved and prepared his disciples. His goal was empowering the disciples with courage, aptitude, discernment and clarity to hear from and recognize His voice and presence in His absence. (1 John 4:1)

We do not arrive at intimacy with Christ or spiritual maturity through salvation, church attendance, praise/worship or service to the church. For example, one may attend a church because of an attraction to the spiritual giftings of the church leader/s, never understanding that sitting in church doesn’t automatically endow you with the gifts of the leader any more than sitting in a garage will make you a car.

Building intimacy with Christ is a relational journey in cooperation with Him. It entails a dedication to relational experiences like discovery, searching, engagement, invitation, vulnerability and obedience. Just as Jesus trained and coached his disciples, we must too be trained, coached and prepared. This training is not

limited to the word of God, but the character and movement of God. In essence, how do we apply God’s word to everyday life.

So how is this accomplished? As the church, our pathway to cultivating this kind of courage and spiritual aptitude flourishes well in environments rich in interdependence vs codependence. Interdependence says we not only need each other to thrive but we reciprocate in the expression of that need. Codependency says, you need only me to thrive; in that I discourage a lack of courage in you without me.

Jesus did not create codependence in his disciples, he equipped them to function and thrive without Him. He allowed the things they suffered, the uncertainties they lived through, and the mistakes made to deposit inside of them courage and insight to face the harshness of the world, and the sufferings coming with their calling. Interdependence strengthens the body; codependence weakens the body and strengthens the ego of leadership.

The process of developing

a strong and sustaining body starts with a focus on building inwardly strong and sustaining human beings. God expects each of His children to mature. (Philippians 1:9-10) Until we can discern God personally working in our lives for ourselves, we do not truly know Him. (Hebrews 5:14) An inability to stabilize our faith beyond the four walls of the church creates a recipe for broken-hearts, spiritual confusion, and disappointing outcomes. Life will bring you through confusing, tricky, deceptive spaces – God doesn’t expect perfection, but He does want you prepared.

Resource: Journal of Spiritual Formation and Soul Care: Sage Journals
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LEGAL

Advertisement for RFP

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.

LEGAL

AUGUST 06, 2022

A list and description of abandoned/unclaimed vehicles will be posted pursuant to statutory requirements in the following locations:

LEGAL

NOTICE TO PUBLIC OF PROPOSED ACTION LOCATED WITHIN THE FLOODPLAIN

LEGAL

PUBLIC NOTICE

LEGAL

PUBLIC NOTICE

7/21/2022, 7/28/2022, 8/4/2022

LE

NOTICE OF ELECTION TO CREATE THE LEFLEUR EAST BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT

LEGAL

LEGAL NOTICE

7/21/2022, 7/28/2022

City reserves the right to reject any and all bids
CITY OF JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI

BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT PLAN CONTINUED

PUBLIC SAFETY 2017.06.21 11:54

MARKETING \$45,000 AA up 50%

ADMINISTRATIVE [View PDF](#) [Download PDF](#)

TOTAL AUTHORIZATION EXPENDITURES:

BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT PLAN CONTINUED

ESTIMATED ANNUAL BUDGET (YEAR ONE)

BID Assessment Per Square Foot: 8.07
x District Size in Square Feet: 3,025,354
Total Annual First Year Income: \$211,774.78

Landscaping & Landscape Maintenance: \$116,476.13
Public Safety: \$31,766.21
Marketing: \$21,177.48
Administrative: \$10,588.74
Contingency: \$1,766.21

Total Annual First Year Expenses: \$211,774.78

JANUARY 2023

IMPOUNDED VEHICLES FOR AUGUST 06, 2022 AUCTION

	INVENTORY NO	CASE NO	YEAR/MAKE/MODEL/COLOR	VEH IDENTIFICATION NO	LOT LOCATION		INVENTORY NO	CASE NO	YEAR/MAKE/MODEL/COLOR	VEH IDENTIFICATION NO	LOT LOCATION
1	15302	10-026862	2010 CHEVROLET CAMARO (SILVER)	2G1FB1EVA49121399	L2	188	40656	20-143586	1992 CHEVROLET S TRUCK (GRAY)	1GCCS19R3N8215251	
2	16231	10-152209	1994 TOYOTA CAMRY (RED)	JT2SK12E2R0223907	3E	189	40657	20-143642	2002 DODGE INTREPID (GOLD)	2B3HD46R22H188315	L3
3	15029	14-042600	2003 CHEVROLET CAVALIER (TAN)	1G1JC52F937217027	L2	190	40660	20-143911	2003 CHEVROLET IMPALA (TAN)	2G1WF52E439113662	3H
4	21610	14-04820	2009 MITSUBISHI GALANT (SILVER)	4A3AB36F89E03014	3A	191	40667	20-142691	2005 TOYOTA CAMRY (GRAY)	4T1BF30K45U616757	
5	22881	14-237796	2001 CHEVY PRIZM (SILVER)	1Y1SK52801Z410048	L2	192	40683	20-148318	2014 FORD FUSION (GRAY)	1FA6POH79E5460348	3F
6	22883	14-235083	1999 TOYOTA CAMRY (BLACK)	JT2BG22K9W0118497		193	40693	20-150864	2006 PONTIAC GRAND PRIX (GRAY)	2G2WP552661164741	
7	23130	15-030058	YAHAMA MANNING STAR ATV (BLK)	UNKNOWN		194	40700	20-151414	1997 CHEVROLET CAPRICE (TAN)	1G1BN52WXR200247	L3
8	23221	14-100730	1976 CHEVROLET PICKUP (GRAY)	CCL1465189238		195	40701	20-151445	2002 CHEVROLET TAHOE (GRAY)	1GNEC13Z3R2442444	
9	23297	15-054651	2006 ARTIC CAT 4WHEELER (GREEN)	UNKNOWN		196	40708	20-108451	2019 AUDI A8 (WHITE)	WAUUDAF87KN010618	3S
10	23326	15-061010	2005 CHEVROLET IMPALA (TAN)	2G1WH52K759163894		197	40737	20-156656	2005 HONDA ACCORD (GRAY)	1HGCN56825A100230	
11	23428	15-075477	2001 FORD F150 (BLACK)	1FTRX17L61N837926		198	40738	20-156696	2014 JEEP CHEROKEE (BLACK)	1C4RJEBG2EC252169	L3
12	23455	15-079225	1998 FORD CROWN VICTORIA (WHITE)	2FAFP73W5WX158767		199	40775	20-138348	2001 KIA SORENTO (WHITE)	KNAFB121X15092879	
13	23601	15-100344	2008 KAWASAKI ZX6 (BLUE)	JKAZXP4168A041063		200	40798	20-126114	1997 MERCEDES S320 (GREEN)	WDBGA33G5VA353291	
14	23740	15-117489	HAMMERHEAD GO CART (RED)	8020250		201	40800	20-163631	2004 FORD F-150 (WHITE)	1FTPX12544NA69002	3S
15	24149	15-178804	1992 SATURN SL2 (RED)	1G8ZK5474NZ191666		202	40802	20-163869	2007 HONDA ACCORD (RED)	1HGCN55307A107346	3C
16	24393	15-216086	1999 TOYOTA COROLLA (SILVER)	1NXBR12E5XZ201761		203	40803	21-164081	2005 NISSAN ALTIMA (GRAY)	1N4AL11D85C324554	3C
17	24419	15-217308	1998 CHEVROLET TAHOE (GREEN)	1GNEK13R3WR108799		204	40805	20-164627	2001 DODGE RAM (BLUE)	1B7HC16X315248785	3M
18	24431	15-220174	SUZUKI ATV (GREEN)	38F1003G1		205	40806	20-164469	2004 HONDA ACCORD (BLACK)	3HGCN56374G073792	3C
19	24602	16-008611	1995 CHEVROLET SUBURBAN (GREEN)	1GNEC16K45J316792		206	40816	20-165479	2000 TOYOTA LAND CRUISER (BROWN)	JT3HT05J8Y0117711	3E
20	24615	16-009801	1997 LINCOLN TOWNCAR (GREEN)	1LNLN82W8VY707269		207	40818	20-165548	2008 FORD EXPEDITION (SILVER)	1FMPU1657L809049	L3
21	24640	16-006577	1995 GMC SIERRA (GREEN)	1GTEC14H852553089		208	40824	20-166328	2006 KIA RIO (RED)	KNADE123966175043	
22	24647	16-014941	1984 OLDSMOBILE CUTLASS (BLUE)	1G3AR69Y6EM301584		209	40838	20-168187	1995 CHEVROLET 1500 (BLUE)	2GCEC19K551156193	3W
23	24659	26-015071	2007 DODGE CHARGER (BLACK)	2B3KA43G37H785160		210	40844	20-168561	2001 PONTIAC GRAND PRIX (RED)	1G2WP52K9F1157305	
24	24779	16-030275	1999 ACURA 35R (BLACK)	JH4KA9657XC004745		211	40852	20-169544	2000 DODGE INTREPID (GREEN)	2B3HD46R5YH441569	3G
25	24831	16-037517	2000 FORD TAURUS (GREEN)	1FAFP5558YA226361		212	40857	20-170471	2013 FORD FOCUS (RED)	1FADP3F2XDL236625	
26	24862	16-041752	2003 PONTIAC VIBE (WHITE)	5Y2SL62823Z474764		213	40864	20-171407	2008 FORD FUSION (TAN)	3FAHP07Z28R169599	3S
27	24896	16-046727	2010 KIA RIO (WHITE)	KNADH4A31A6646363		214	40865	20-171485	1996 TOYOTA CAMRY (GRAY)	4T1BG12JXTU687280	L3
28	24979	16-056110	2015 NISSAN ALTIMA (BLACK)	1N4AL3AP7FN376611	L2	215	40866	20-171672	2004 GMC YUKON (TAN)	1GKFM66U64J116650	L3
29	25003	16-060297	1989 PONTIAC BONNEVILLE (WHT)	1G2HXS45CKW285573		216	40875	20-172374	2009 FORD FOCUS (GRAY)	1FAHP37N49W183100	3A
30	25058	14-093499	2007 HONDA CBR (RED/BLACK)	JH2SC57037M304145		217	40876	20-172419	2003 CHEVROLET TRAILBLAZER (BLUE)	1GND5135632168952	3B
31	25103	16-071880	GO CART (GREEN)	UNKNOWN		218	40880	20-172809	2007 PONTIAC G6 (BLUE)	1G2ZGSN674160293	3S
32	25387	16-113150	2014 CHEVROLET CRUZE (RED)	1G1PC5S85E7120403		219	40882	20-173490	2008 DODGE AVENGER (SILVER)	1B3LC46K88N106183	
33	25427	16-118924	2005 MERCURY MARQUIS (WHITE)	2MEFM74W95X671440	3N	220	40890	20-174473	1995 LEXUS LS400 (GRAY)	JT8UF22350005991	L3
34	25435	16-120042	2001 KAWASAKI ZX-11000 (RED)	JKAZXB0101B513198		221	40891	20-174870	2002 CADILLAC CTS (GREEN)	1G6DM57N3X0105124	3S
35	25480	16-125889	1995 HONDA ACCORD (WHITE)	1HGCD7257SA014396		222	40895	20-175201	2007 NISSAN TITAN (GRAY)	1N6BA07A37N13748	
36	25538	16-133720	2008 HONDA ACCORD (GRAY)	1HGCP368X8A067137		223	40900	20-175558	2003 DODGE RAM (WHITE)	1D7HA18N13J560977	L3
37	25553	16-135488	2005 PONTIAC GRAND AM (GRAY)	1G2NE52E65M179520		224	40915	20-176282	2014 MERCEDES C250 (BLACK)	WDDGF4H2EA933433	
38	25592	16-140917	2004 CHEVY 1500 (GRAY)	2GCEC19V041175067	3B	225	40916	20-176459	2018 MERCEDES GLC 300 (WHITE)	WDC0G4JBIJV080152	3A
39	25691	16-156165	2004 LINCOLN NAVIGATOR (BEIGE)	5LMFU27R34LJ38806		226	40921	20-177157	2009 CHEVROLET IMPALA (BLACK)	2G1WT57K991205638	L3
40	25775	16-165998	YAHAMA 4WHEELER (GRAY)	144AM86Y1GA105971		227	40948	20-181965	2007 NISSAN ALTIMA (GRAY)	1N4AL21EX7C203414	
41	25857	16-182382	1992 YAHAMA FRZ600 (PURPLE)	JYA3HHE058NA039838	1E	228	40954	20-182620	2004 CHEVY TRAILBLAZER (MAROON)	1GND5135X42378598	L3
42	25878	16-187725	1998 GMC SIERRA (GREEN)	1GTFC24K0JZ509284		229	40959	20-183332	2003 TOYOTA 4RUNNER (BLACK)	JTEZT17R230040575	3F
43	25891	16-010290	1986 CHEVROLET CAPRICE (MAROON)	1GB1BN69H4GY110463		230	40960	20-183480	2004 NISSAN MAXIMA (BLUE)	1N4BA41E14C847398	3F
44	25958	16-199538	2002 SATURN L10	1GBJ554FZ2Y504333		231	40985	20-186283	2005 FORD TAURUS (GREEN)	1FAPF53U25A131505	1E
45	26188	17-007559	2000 CHEVROLET SILVERADO	2GCEC19T0Y1132305		232	40986	20-186307	2019 TOYOTA CAMRY (BLACK)	4T1B21HK5KU013767	15
46	26189	17-008912	2009 NISSAN ALTIMA (GRAY)	1N4AL21E07C202496		233	40991	20-187108	2002 HONDA ACCORD	1HGCC16552A011463	
47	26427	17-045170	1994 MITSUBISHI MIRAGE	JA3EA26A8RU054777		234	40999	20-187472	2003 TOYOTA CAMRY (WHITE)	4T1BF32K63U104267	L2
48	26712	17-092631	2001 FORD TAURUS (WHITE)	1FAFP53U31G200791		235	41000	20-187540	2004 NAJO TRAILBOSS TRAILER (WHITE)	1N9BV15164P159183	3F
49	26736	17-095242	1999 NISSAN ALTIMA	1N4DL01D7XC101027		236	41008	20-188224	2001 FORD E250 (WHITE)	1FTNE24221HB69079	
50	26755	17-099441	2003 CHEVROLET TAHOE (GREEN)	1GNEK13Z73J288282	3D	237	41022	21-000978	2000 HONDA CIVIC (GREEN)	JHMEJ6670Y5005994	3E
51	26855	17-120408	2001 DODGE DAKOTA	1B7GL2AX815183120		238	41040	21-003438	2014 HYUNDAI SONATA (BLUE)	5NPBB4AC9EH905640	L3
52	26902	17-124021	2007 FORD ESCAPE	1FMYU02Z17KA15216		239	41056	21-005801	1998 MERCURY MARQUIS (MAROON)	2MEFM751W1X613757	1B
53	27006	17-142487	2005 CHEVROLET TAHOE (WHITE)	1GNEC13TX5J194781		240	41063	21-006291	2002 CHEVROLET SUBURBAN (WHITE)	1GNEC16243J137991	L3
54	27022	17-105094	2005 CHEVROLET MONTE CARLO	2G1WW12E659287275		241	41064	21-006414	2003 JEEP CHEROKEE (BLUE)	1J4GX48N3K2357827	1S
55	27138	17-160565	2013 CHRYSLER 200	1C3CCBC6GDN737001		242	41070	21-006319	2004 FORD EDGE (GRAY)	2FMDK49C97HBA6216	
56	27194	17-166640	2015 HYUNDAI SANTE FE (WHITE)	5XYZ13LB0FG270944		243	41072	21-007366	2004 CHEVROLET CAVALIER (BROWN)	1G1J652F547124989	
57	27195	17-172735	2000 FORD CROWN VICTORIA	2FAFP71W4YX112661		244	41073	21-007531	2001 NISSAN TITAN (WHITE)	1N6AA07A84N534790	3W
58	27207	17-170209	1986 CHEVROLET C30 (BLUE)	1GBHC34M7F5188607		245	41074	21-007536	2004 TOYOTA SIENNA (TAN)	5TDZA22C645031456	1E
59	27211	17-173675	2015 TOYOTA COROLLA	5YFBURHE9FP265080		246	41080	21-007844	2002 BUICK CENTURY (TAN)	2G4W552J921217198	
60	27221	17-191499	1996 FORD EXPLORER	1FMCUJ22X6TUC95377		247	41083	21-008006	2002 HONDA CR-V (WHITE)	JHLRD78802C403255	L3
61	27333	17-193480	2005 CHEVROLET IMPALA	2G1WT55K369406449		248	41100	21-009540	2004 PONTIAC SUNFIRE (SILVER)	1G2JB12F147255019	L3
62	27361	17-198540	1999 FORD EXPLORER	1FMZJ32PXXUC03712		249	41103	21-009837	2008 MERCURY MILAN (BLACK)	3MEHN08Z48R610956	
63	27387	17-201774	2007 TOYOTA CAMRY	4T1BE46K87U186475		250	41110	21-009759	2012 CADILLAC SRX (WHITE)	3GVFNDE39C5625364	1E
64	27510	18-010290	2006 CHEVY TRAILBLAZER (WHITE)	1GNDT13562144627	3W	251	41113	21-009302	2005 TOYOTA CAMRY (SILVER)	4T1BE46K27U516255	3K
65	27541	17-131567	2014 FORD TRANSIT VAN (WHITE)	NM0LE6E78E1142005		252	41117	21-005728	1999 DODGE DURANGO (SILVER)	1B4HR28YXXF702359	
66	27616	18-024159	2003 FORD CROWN VICTORIA (BLUE)	2FAFP71W87X114718		253	41118	21-011314	2009 FORD EXPLORER (WHITE)	1FMEU63E69UA42999	
67	27622	18-025205	2003 FORD MUSTANG (GRAY)	1FAFP40473F346666		254	41123	21-011582	2008 TOYOTA YARIS (RED)	JTDBT923884014325	
68	27639	18-028495	2006 CHEVROLET IMPALA (WHITE)	2G1WB55K369113931		255	41124	21-011741	2003 NISSAN ALTIMA (SILVER)	1N4AL11D03C181919	
69	27711	18-038433	2005 FORD FOCUS (BLUE)	1FAFP34N75W148217		256	41133	21-012136	2020 MITSUBISHI MIRAGE (BLACK)	ML32A5HJ1JLH004759	3A
70	27769	18-045729	2003 BMW 325i (GRAY)	WBAEV33483KL85174		257	41136	21-009896	2019 DODGE CHALLENGER (WHITE)	2C3CDZF6JKH607075	1W
71	27979	18-078441	2001 FORD E250 VAN (WHITE)	1FTNE24201HA29547		258	41144	21-013623	2002 JEEP LIBERTY (SILVER)	1J4K48XK2W126575	
72	27998	18-082481	2005 CHEVROLET SUBURBAN (GRAY)	1GNEC16Z85J170611		259	41146	21-011952	2012 MITSUBISHI OUTLANDER (SILVER)	JA4AS3AW8CU028042	1W
73	28069	18-094209	200 ATV 4WHEELER (GREEN)	JGJLC169YLA		260	41149	21-014818	2003 FORD CROWN VICTORIA (WHITE)	2FAFP71W33X1211974	
74	28088	18-?????	2017 INFINITI QX70 (BLACK)	JN8CS1MU3HM141101		261	41154	21-015072	2004 DODGE NEON (WHITE)	1B3SE26C64D588113	
75	28105	18-099410	1993 FORD F150 (RED)	1FTFX15N9PKA87570		262	41157	21-015777	1992 BUICK ROADMASTER (SILVER)	1G4BT5376NR453897	L3
76	28135	18-104173	1998 CHEVROLET 1500 (BLACK)	2GCEC19R0W1227366		263	41159	21-009262	2011 TOYOTA COROLLA (SILVER)	2T1BU4EE9AC467420	
77	28206	18-114270	1999 FORD F150 (BLK/ WHT)	1FTFZ1726XN85135	3J	264	41173	21-014456	2008 MERCURY MARQUIS (BLUE)	2MEFM74W35K659526	
78	28235	18-119460	2012 CHEVROLET IMPALA (WHITE)	2G1WD5E34C1285186		265	41177	21-017583	2004 LEXUS GS (TAN)	JT8BD695340192183	
79	28269	18-124868	2009 CHRYSLER SEBRING (GRAY)	3C3EL45H3XT020738		266	41184	21-211019	2002 BMW 530i (BLACK)	WBAD763412R872321	L3
80	28286	18-126606	1994 GMC SUBURBAN (WHITE)	1GKEC16K5RJ735080		267	41189	21-019727	2006 HONDA ACCORD (GOLD)	JHMCN36456C003489	L3
81	28316	18-133482	2007 TOYOTA CAMRY (GOLD)	4T1BE46K57U060414		268	41213	21-022514			

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

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10 HIPPY scholars head to kindergarten and first grade, 'school ready'

2013 HIPPY grad reflects on his experience; keynote speaker urges lifelong learning



2022 HIPPY grads and parents

PHOTOS BY GAIL M. BROWN



HIPPY graduates participating in the program.



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

The 'pink' building on the 300 block of Henry Street in Lexington, Miss. was packed Monday evening, July 25, as parents and their scholars celebrated the 2022 Home Instruction for Parent of Preschool Youngsters' (HIPPY) Graduation Day.

HIPPY is an international evidence-based program that works with families in the home to support parents in their critical role as their child's first and most important teacher. The Community Students Learning Center (CSLC) has been the HIPPY site for Holmes County since 2009. During opening remarks, 2021 HIPPY grandparent Lillie Green shared her excitement and honor to serve as the program guide.

HIPPY Coordinator Lubertha Banks introduced the graduates and shared their hobbies and future plans as they marched in. "Our children are our future; we want them to have a great future," Banks said.

Class members participated

throughout the ceremony. The scripture was done by George Timms; prayer, Alayna Boyd; CSLC Motto/CREED, George Timms; the Pledge of Allegiance, Quran Stingley; "My Country Tis of Thee," the class; the 5's, Imari Lewis; the 10's, the class; the HIPPY class song; months of the year, Aubree Rule; and days of the week, the class. Graduate Raylin Dixon recited a poem called, "I'm A Little Graduate." Four graduates were not in attendance.

"HIPPY was a great start for me during my preschool years," said Le'Baudrio Bridgeford, a 2013 HIPPY graduate who did reflections. He recently graduated at the top of his middle school class. "I learned so much," he said. He reflected how wonderful it was for his parents to spend time teaching him his HIPPY lessons.

Introduced by Parent Educator Audrey Anderson, native Holmes Countian Jeffrey Coleman virtually served as the speaker. A HIPPY parent and current assistant principal at Ger-

town High School, Germantown, Miss., he said: "The sky is the limit for you, HIPPY graduates...Taking from your theme, 'God Bless America,' God has blessed you to be whatever you want to be. HIPPY is a great program; it gives you your foundation to success." Coleman encouraged them to "always want to be lifelong learners."

A cell phone flashlight memorial tribute was held in memory of first CSLC MS-PIRC HIPPY Coordinator Lula Mae Friar, and in memory of devoted HIPPY Parent Antavier Green.

Friar spearheaded efforts to secure and establish CSLC as a HIPPY program site in Holmes County. She devoted her life to education. Green, who through health challenges, stayed the course in teaching her son Syllas Green, and in doing everything required of parents in the HIPPY curriculum. Friar succumbed to COVID-19 in July 2020, and Green succumbed to an illness in 2021 shy of her son's HIPPY graduation.

On a happier note, CSLC Executive Director Beulah Greer said during closing remarks: "I am so excited; It is just so wonderful to be among such a beautiful, smart, and brilliant group of children and parents. We had the parents to present the certificates to their children because they are the teachers."

On behalf of Board President Leslie Greer and the board, she thanked everyone for helping to make the HIPPY program a great success. "It is important to work together for the benefit of the children," she said.

Speaking of children, during Beulah Greer's remarks, her granddaughter Aalyiah, a 2020 HIPPY graduate, was moved to ask permission to recite a favorite Bible passage. She recited Genesis 1:1-5.

At the close of the program, Parent Educator Lucretia Holmes asked the graduates to stand. Then she asked the audience to rise and give them a standing ovation. "Parents, you've done a wonderful job," Holmes said.



HIPPY Coordinator Lubertha Banks



Proud 2022 HIPPY graduate



A happy HIPPY graduate



2013 HIPPY grad Le'Baudrio Bridgeford giving reflections



2022 HIPPY grads stand to be applauded.



Parent Educator Lucretia Holmes (left) assists grads.



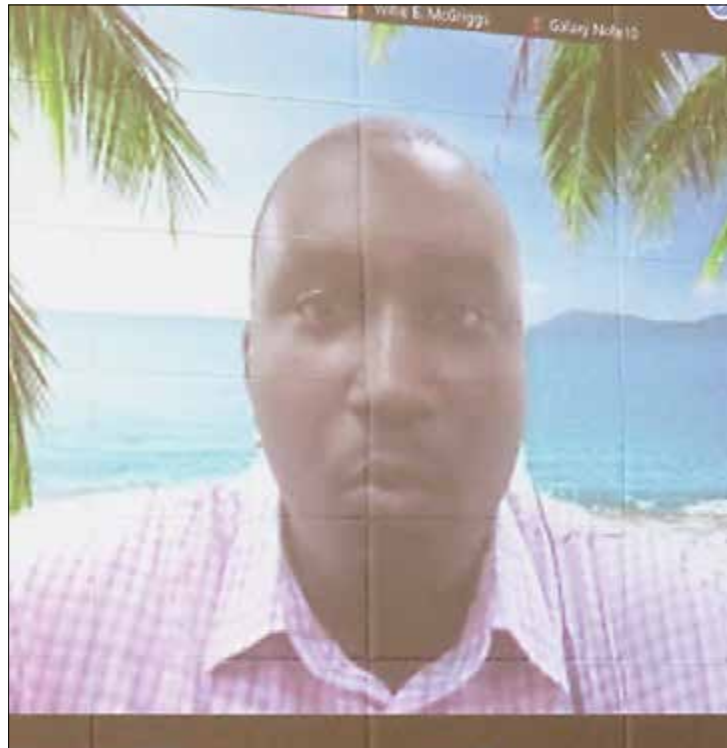
CSLC Executive Director Beulah Greer



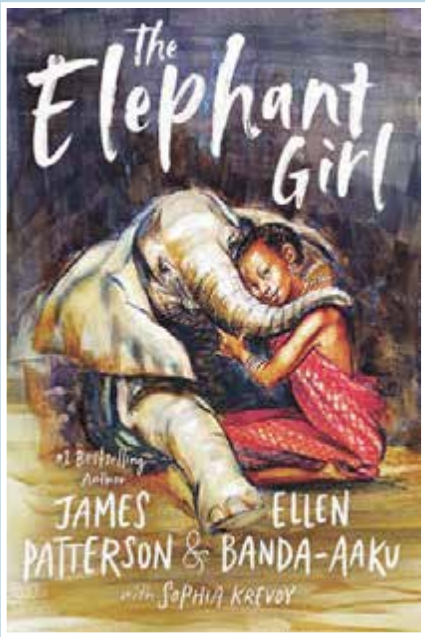
HIPPY Parent Educator Audrey Anderson



2021 HIPPY grad reciting bible passage



Guest speaker Jeffrey Coleman



BOOK REVIEW:

THE ELEPHANT GIRL

BY JAMES PATTERSON AND ELLEN BANDA-AAKU

C.2022, LITTLE, BROWN YOUNG READER

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By Terri Schlichenmeyer
Columnist

Her feet were the size of hub-caps; her ears, as big as your fa-vorite blanket.

The most impressive part about the first elephant you ever met, though, was her trunk. Like a fire hose at one end, a finger at the other, she could do any-thing with that amazing trunk. As in the new book “The El-ephant Girl” by James Patterson and Ellen Banda-Aaku, it could even save a young girl’s life.

If there was one thing Jama

didn’t understand, it was boys.

All the other girls in her Ma-saai tribe giggled and gossiped about the boys who’d recently gone through their manhood cer-emony, but Jama didn’t see what the big deal was. Her friends al-ways talked about marriage, too, but Jama didn’t want to be mar-ried yet, either.

She was just twelve years old. She wanted to get an edu-cation, to travel, to see the world. She talked about it with her mother, who told Jama that wanting those things was okay.

After Baba died, she and Mom-ma were close as could be but sometimes Jama needed space for her thoughts. That was when she sneaked off to a nearby a watering hole.

The hidden spot she’d found there was a good place to be quiet but one afternoon, her secret changed into something special: while she was tucked away in the brush, a herd of elephants came to drink and one of them gave birth to a calf, almost right in front of her!

The elephants never seemed to

be afraid of Jama and, over time, she grew to love and respect them. She gave them names, and she played with the baby ele-phant. Mbegu was a little clown, and she made Jama laugh.

But the elephants were not safe. There were poachers about and when Jama spotted one from her hiding place one day, she didn’t know who to tell. The village had a resident ranger but for some reason, she was scared of him.

Surely, he wouldn’t hurt her. But he could hurt her elephants...

Author James Patterson. If you’re an adult and you see that name, please stop and take a breath, then notice that El-len Banda-Aaku’s name is next door. And then hand this book to the child with you, because “The Elephant Girl” is not for you.

Nope, this is a kids’ book, through and through, with kid-dish action, bravery and skull-duggery. Seriously, what child wouldn’t love becoming secret BFFs with a wild elephant herd? Who doesn’t want to be a hero

to a baby elephant? Indeed, this is such a typical kids’ book that an orphan is a plot driver.

But is it any good?

Well, yes. Children who love animals, adventure and a little bit of safe danger will devour it. It includes some sadness befit-ting the tale, (not to be a spoiler) a happy ending, and it’s not for you.

Nope, “The Elephant Girl” is perfect for a quiet kid who longs to be uniquely special, and for 10-to-14-year-old readers who want a big story.

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Why redistricting matters to Mississippians

By Meredith Coleman McGee
Redistricting Communication Consultant, Southern Echo, One Voice, MS NAACP



New political boundaries and your bread and butter. This year, three long standing Community Organizations (Southern Echo, One Voice and the MS NAACP) in Mississippi have joined forces to rally community activism in the redistricting process. The MS NAACP has already presented alternative plans at the state level. Southern Echo and One Voice are working to ensure fair maps at the county and municipal levels. The three organizations are inviting you to the table. Redistricting also known as reapportionment is the process of redrawing the political boundaries for state, county, and municipal elections. New ward and district maps are redrawn after the 10-year-census to align population shifts. New maps must reapportion the population growth or decline, as well as remain compact, and adhere to the “One Person, One Vote” principle. Historically, Mississippi’s reapportionment maps favored the interest of the white majority. Not much has changed. Today, political maps favor one of the two key political parties over the other. One is Red. One is Blue.

COMMENTARY

The colonists cried, 250 years ago, “Taxation without representation” will not work. Their resistance led to the American Revolution, a bloody war to control taxes, resources, and land. Red represented Great Britain. Gen. George Washington’s soldiers wore Blue. Today’s Republicans were the Democrats of 1880. Just as present-day Democrats were the Republicans of 1865. Political names and colors change but make no mistake about it, political power turns the economy which equates to the very bread and butter families put on their kitchen tables and how those in power allocate state resources. Redistricting is the center of political power and politics. Politics is a means to an end. Political districts should not dilute black voting strength. It was merely 30 years ago that a community coalition consisting of the late Henry Kirksey, Southern Echo and the MS NAACP drew alternate redistricting plans which produced 21 new districts which gave black people the opportunity to gain seats in the Mississippi legislature. Today, Mississippi Republicans control state government. Mississippi has been Red since Gov. Kirk Fordice took the reins in Jan. 2004. Mississippi politics had bipartisan pull when a larger black caucus emerged, but today

politics are polarized. Mississippians and visitors pay taxes on goods and services such as potato chips, electronics, hotel stays, dining, etc. The slices of the pie for poor and Black Mississippians have decreased. You best believe, we had better fight a good fight up front to get fair districts and wards drawn during this redistricting season. The next lines will not be redrawn until after the 2030 Decennial Census. The Republican controlled legislature has inadequately funded the Capital City of Jackson’s infrastructure woos. Last year, a lawsuit was filed challenging the unsafe water and sewer system at the state prison Quality of Mississippi prison water at center of dispute (wjtv.com). Every human deserves clean water. All taxpayers deserve funds be allocated to sustain health and life. State leaders criticize Jackson leader’s stewardship over the city’s water system billing flaws. But the state’s handling of the biggest historical Welfare embezzlement rip-off scandal by white elites including mother and son – Nancy and Zachary New which are also stewardship flaws. Text messages link NFL Great Brett Favre to the scandal More questions than answers at 3-year mark of welfare scandal-Mississippi Today. This \$24 million fraudulent scheme has taken milk right out of the mouths of tens of thousands of poor fami-

lies in Mississippi. Today, Republicans have amassed a superpower in state politics. The party control the house, the senate, and the gubernatorial seats. The Democrats are the underdogs. Republicans can pass state measures without any Democratic votes. Even though the state law makers control the deep pocket, the underdogs have power in key counties and municipalities. During this round of redistricting, the Mississippi legislature held nine public hearings across the state. The first one was Aug. 5, 2021, at Meridian Community College. The next six hearings were at other community and state colleges. The last hearing was at the State Capitol in Jackson Aug. 23, 2021. “Since then, there have been no other state public hearings held even though, during the 2022 legislative session the legislature proposed and approved a state redistricting plan within 24 hours,” Rachel Mayes, executive director, Southern Echo, noted. As you may have heard or read, the Mississippi Supreme Court districts Supreme Court Districts – State of Mississippi Judiciary (ms.gov) have gone unchallenged since 1987 – 35 long years. This past spring, the ACLU and the Southern Poverty Law Center filed a lawsuit which challenges the Supreme Court Districts. The suit claims

the districts dilute black voting strength and has prevented black people from electing more candidates of choice to the State’s highest court. The link to the State Senate, House, and Congressional Plans are below. MS_CongressionalDistricts_2022.pdf (state.ms.us) MS_SenateDistricts_Mar2022.pdf (state.ms.us) MS_HouseDistricts_Mar2022.pdf (state.ms.us) “Redistricting is a valuable tool to increase community input about how they are represented politically and who they stand with as a political body,” Nsombi Lambright, Executive Director, One Voice said. “Redistricting results from the Decennial Census and is a component of accountable governance that is necessary for citizens to engage in while ensuring a democracy as stated by President Abraham Lincoln in the Gettysburg address (1863), ‘A government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the Earth.’ Talk to your local officials to understand the status of redistricting where you live – there’s still time to get involved,” Rachel Mayes, added. The legislature adopted the state maps. But communities have a fighting chance at influencing the county and local redistricting rounds. Community groups are in the process of

drawing alternative redistricting plans for local districts including city council, city alderman, school boards, county boards... Charles Taylor, interim executive director, MS State Conference NAACP, said, “Redistricting has just as much influence on who gets elected as voting. Gerrymandering is one of the most dangerous forms of voter suppression. We must continue to fight for fair maps on all levels.” Come one, come all, let’s get involved. Let’s push the redistricting pen with alternative plans in every county and every municipality. The pen is powerful. Use it. “All politics are local, and we are currently organizing communities to fight for fair maps and representation by engaging in the redistricting process at the county and municipal levels. Communities in Tunica, Lee, Quitman, Leake, Pike and Amite Counties have presented alternative community maps/plans to their board of supervisors for consideration and adoption. It is not too late to join the fight for fair maps Mississippi,” said Brenda Hyde, deputy director, Southern Echo, Inc. To request technical assistance or to get involved in the redistricting process in your community email: Rachel Mayes, rachel@southernecho.org; Nsombi Lambright nlambright@uniteonevoice.org; or Charles Taylor, ctaylor@naacpms.org.

Hinds County School District Weekly Update

ENGAGING-EMPOWERING-ENSURING-EXCELLENCE

Great progress is being made on the expansion and improvements to Terry High. The new construction in progress currently is a new main entrance to the school with a formal lobby area. Nurses station, and several new classrooms. And this is just the beginning, there is much more coming!



Cobbins Farm of Durant hosts KKAC Minority Outreach Field Day

NRCS reps and local attorney provide valuable agriculture/land info

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

“Our field day at James “Kent” Cobbins’ farm, yesterday [July 21] in Durant, Miss., was great,” said Kimberly Anderson Clayton, outreach consultant for KKAC.

KKAC is an Arkansas-based non-profit corporation that provides education and technical assistance by giving free lectures and on-site demonstrations to rural agriculture communities, minority farmers/veterans, as well as financial scholarships to students with interest in rural agriculture.

“We had a good turnout,” Clayton continued. “Our presenters were awesome. Mr. Cobbins, the host, and I welcomed everyone.”

She said Harvell Howard, KKAC Organization deputy director, gave the purpose, which was basically information outreach.

Harrison Wilkes, district conservationist and Taharga Hart, area conservationist gave a wealth of information to our farmers and landowners, especially regarding the importance of getting to know your local NRCS agents. According to Clayton, they talked about the Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP) and Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP).



Attorney Clark, Kelvin Kennedy, Jim Corley, Harrison Wilkes (NRCS), Taharga Hart (NRCS), Tobias Bruce (NRCS), Rick Hagar (WRE & ACEP), Brock Kennedy (NRCS), and Caleb Young (NRCS)

Rick Hagar, Wetland Reserve Easement (WRE) specialist, presented information about his program. Later, Jim Corley, Farm Service Agency (FSA) director, gave “awesome” information and pointers about the services of the agency.

Wade Hargrave, a KKAC consultant of Hargrave Forestry Management, provide ‘eye-opening’ information on timber management. Last, but certainly not least, Attorney Bryant Clark of Lexington, Miss. addressed vital importance of properly dealing with heir property and the urgent importance of estate planning.

Harrison Wilkes, Tobias Bruce and Taharga Hart also explained the different NRCS

practices that Cobbins used on his farm.

The event included “a great tour” of Cobbins’ Farm. “When we came back, we had an awesome lunch prepared by J & V Barbeque, ready for us all to dig in,” said Clayton.

Although the turnout was good, I really wish more landowners would have been there to hear this great information,” Clayton told *The Mississippi Link* in a telephone interview. “Mr. Antoine Helm and others told me they were glad they attended,” she concluded.

For more information on how to host an agriculture outreach field day or informational on your farm or in your community, contact your local NRCS Office.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF KIMBERLY CLAYTON, KKAC OUTREACH CONSULTANT



Harvell Howard, KKAC deputy director, explaining the purpose of our field day.



Harrison Wilkes, district conservationist, speaking on NRCS Programs



Taharga Hart, area conservationist, speaking on EQIP and CSP



Jim Corley, FSA director, speaking about obtaining farm numbers and record keeping



Wade Hargrave, Timber Management, speaking on timber management



James Cobbins, host; Jim Corley, FSA director; Kelvin Kennedy and Tredell Meeks



Taharga Hart, explaining the usage of fencing supplies and USDA Specifications



Harvell conversating with guest



Harrison Wilkes explaining usage for herbicides and grass planting



Cattle corral, cattle supplies and medicines used for cattle operation



Tour of James “Kent” Cobbins farm



Tobias Bruce, Taharga Hart, Harrison Wilkes and other NRCS agents giving information about feeding pads, watering facilities and cross fencing



Rick Hagar, WRE specialist, gave great information on WRE and ACEP



Attorney and State Representative Bryant Clark gave information on Heirs Property & Estate Planning



Maelba McAfee-Smith (E & L Development Foundation)



Taharga, Gary, Harrison, Kimberly, James Cobbins (host), Tobias and Brock



NRCS explained the need of cattle crossing and also gave information on land clearing



NRCS gave information on creek crossing



NRCS agents explained how the utilization of conservation programs can help the quality of your land and the environment



James “Kent” Cobbins, host/landowner; Kimberly Clayton and Bonita Spann, host



J.D. Harmon, owner of J&V Barbeque, catered food for the field day.