

# Let me count the ways – in full reverse

By Chris Young  
Contributing Writer



Nineteenth Century poet Elizabeth Barrett Browning’s most famous poem was entitled, “How Do I Love Thee? Let Me Count

## COMMENTARY

The Ways.” It was one portrayal of abiding love penned from a wife to her husband.

Love takes many different forms, but wouldn’t it be great if it was contagious? There are so

many people in this country and in Mississippi who are good and do good deeds for others. God knows that there are also many who are doing just the opposite. For these folks there is always an asterisk beside the words – Love Thy Neighbor\*. The asterisk

equates to – unless they are not white, and especially if they are black.

Let me count the ways: In Mississippi, the poorest state, and the state with the highest African American population, the refusal to expand Medicaid

causes suffering for hundreds of thousands of poor citizens and costs lives. Not just any lives – Black, Latino and Native American lives. 30.7% of black Mississippians live in poverty, compared to 11.7% of Caucasian Mississippians based on a study

by The Guardian. Poor equals no insurance.

In Mississippi, the refusal to expand Medicaid is deliberate, prejudicial and discriminatory – it is racist behavior. The Fed-

Ways  
Continued on page 3

## First African-Amrican senior pastor of First United Methodist Church in Tupelo retires



Rev. Dr. Embra K. Jackson

By Gail Gettis  
Guest Writer

On Sunday, June 26, First United Methodist Church (FUMC) in Tupelo, Mississippi recognized the retirement of Rev. Dr. Embra K. Jackson, Jr., ordained elder serving as senior pastor. It was a bittersweet time for Jackson, who came to FUMC Tupelo on July 17, 2019 as its first African-American pastor, marking one of its more notable historical moments in 150 years.

The reaction from members of his congregation as he was in-

stalled was far better than he expected. “After Embra Jackson, Jr.’s first Sunday as the first black senior pastor of a predominantly white church, many of us knew and felt that we had a gifted preacher, a caring pastor, and a healing leader who would change lives. We were never disappointed,” said Joe Edd Morris, retired Methodist pastor, psychologist and author.

In an interview with WCBI-TV (Columbus) in 2019, Jackson said, “I was overwhelmed by the reaction I received not only my first Sunday, but when the announce-

ment was made about me being senior pastor here, I got phone calls, letters... food, kind words and the reception Sunday was just overwhelming.” The many ways the congregation showed their appreciation for him and the job he did never ceased, right up to the retirement reception they hosted on the last Sunday in June inviting church members, family and friends.

FUMC members had nothing but positive things to say about Jackson through cards, notes, gifts and personal thanks and well wishes.

“Embra, you have been a superstar for our congregation.... We will cherish these three years with you. There is no way to ever thank you for all you have done,” said Raymond Jourdan, staff pastor parish relations chairperson.

According to Neville Vandenburg, “Over the years I have known him, Embra consistently demonstrates the fruit of the Holy Spirit: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. I am

Jackson  
Continued on page 3



Embra flanked by wife Rosia (left) and Polly and Joe Bailey (right), FUMC members

## NNPA Fund awards \$40,000 in scholarships at the 2022 NNPA National Convention in New Orleans



Hampton announces names of 16 students to receive \$2,500 in journalism scholarships.

Special to The Mississippi Link

The National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA), also known as The Black Press, held its 2022 National Convention at the Hilton New Orleans Riverside Hotel on June 22-25. The theme for the convention was “Amplifying our Voices for Freedom, Justice, Equality and Equity.” The four-day event marked the 195th Anniversary of The Black Press of America and member publishers and staff, partners, media companies, sponsors, students and convention speakers from across the nation came to New Orleans to participate in this significant milestone.

One of the highlights of the convention was an announcement regarding the awarding of \$40,000 in cash scholarships from the NNPA Fund to students attending Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) who are majoring in journalism or a related field.

The announcement regarding the names of the scholarship recipients was made Thursday night at the Messenger Awards Dinner by The Mississippi Link publisher, Jackie Hampton, scholarship chair and secretary of the NNPA.

Hampton said, “I am so happy to award scholarships to students who will carry on the legacy of true and effective journalism, be it in print, broadcast, social media, mass communications, public relations or marketing.”

Hampton announced the names of 16 students who will each receive a cash scholarship of \$2,500 for the fall semester. Hampton shared video at the dinner from four students thanking the NNPAF for their scholarships.

Malcom Macon, a student at Jackson State University, said in his video, “I want to thank NNPAF for selecting me to receive this scholarship because I am a young struggling journalist that has encountered problems with financial stability and receiving this scholarship will relieve me of a heavy burden.”

Amber Land, of Texas Southern University, said in her video, “It means so much to me to receive this scholarship.” Land referenced how the scholarship will ease some of the financial burdens of paying for school and stated she looks forward to learning more about how to report a story the right way, without putting herself in it.

Leah Clark, a mass communication major at Xavier University in New Orleans, said, “I am so grateful to the NNPAF for their support of this scholarship.” Clark stated that she was very appreciative of The Black Press for already allowing her to cover stories in New Orleans.

Before exiting the stage Hampton thanked General Motors and Fionta Corporation for their financial contributions toward the NNPAF scholarships.

See students on page 13.

## Akron authorities release disturbing bodycam of shooting of black doordash driver

By Stacy M. Brown  
NNPA Newswire Correspondent

The lawyer for the 25-year-old’s family called it an execution, telling media members that police fired 90 shots, hitting the young man “60 to 80 times.”

Authorities on Sunday released disturbing bodycam footage of Jayland Walker, an unarmed black DoorDash delivery driver, with no criminal record, shot dozens of times by Akron Police Officers.

The lawyer for the 25-year-old’s family called it an execution, telling media members that police fired 90 shots, hitting the young man “60 to 80 times.”

As the video rolls, several officers are seen approaching Walker’s vehicle with their guns drawn. Police Chief Stephen Mylett



Walker

claimed Walker had a ski mask on, reached toward his waist during a foot chase, and turned toward pursuing police officers. He claimed that’s when officers opened fire.

Mylett said authorities found a weapon in Walker’s car, but it

wasn’t clear if he discharged the gun. He admitted that Walker didn’t exit the car with a gun.

While handcuffed and bleeding profusely from his wounds, Mylett claimed officers attempted to provide lifesaving help for Walker.

Officials placed the eight directly involved in the shooting on administrative leave. “It was difficult to watch and shocking,” Mylett stated. “I’m not going to pass judgment. The chief and Akron Mayor Daniel Horrigan commended Walker’s family for calling for peaceful demonstrations.

“The video is heartbreaking, and it’s hard to take in,” Horrigan said.

The U.S. Attorney’s Office, the Justice Department’s Civil Rights Division, and the FBI field office in Akron issued joint statements noting that they were “closely monitoring and reviewing the circumstances.”

“The FBI continues to coordi-

Akron  
Continued on page 3

Inside  
Reflections of Life  
Jerome Beaman, Sr.



My Old  
Kentucky  
Home



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# Reflections of Life Jerome Beaman, Sr.

## *September 2, 1961-June 30, 2022*

Jerome Beaman Sr. was born September 2, 1961, in Vallejo California to Roosevelt Beaman and Evelyn Washington Day. He was the youngest of five children.

Jerome graduated from Lanier High School in 1979. He worked at Greyhound Bus Lines for 13 years where he was the first black ticket agent. Jerome decided to further his career and begin contract work as a lineman and electrician.

After being diagnosed with kidney failure in 2008, Jerome took that as an opportunity to venture out on his own. He started his own company, Utilicon Electric & Communications, where he provided services for various businesses and organizations including Jackson State University, Alcorn University and Tougaloo College.

According to Jerome's mother, one day while they were riding together, Jerome saw a young lady. He told his mother that lady would one day be his wife. He married that young lady, Angela Horn, and they celebrated over 39 years of marriage.

From their union, they were blessed with two children, Jerome Beaman II and Jasmine Nicole Beaman. Jerome later took pride in having the best grandkids ever, Jayce and Kaycee Beaman.

Everyone that knew Jerome knew at least two things about him; he loved to cook and he was an avid San Francisco 49ers fan. He also enjoyed playing golf and supporting Jackson State University football and basketball teams.

Jerome was a longtime member

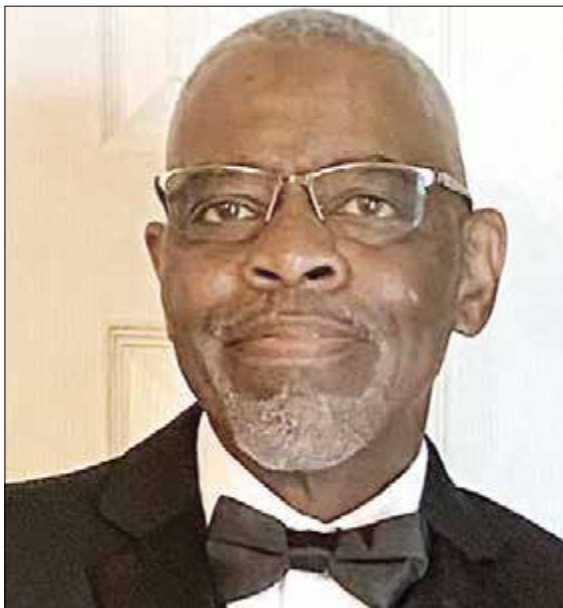
of College Hill Missionary Baptist Church. He took pride in his service as a trustee and lead usher. He also served as member of the Laymen Ministry, Sunday School and Male Chorus.

Early morning Thursday, June 30, 2022, while surrounded by his wife and kids, Jerome was called home to be with his Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

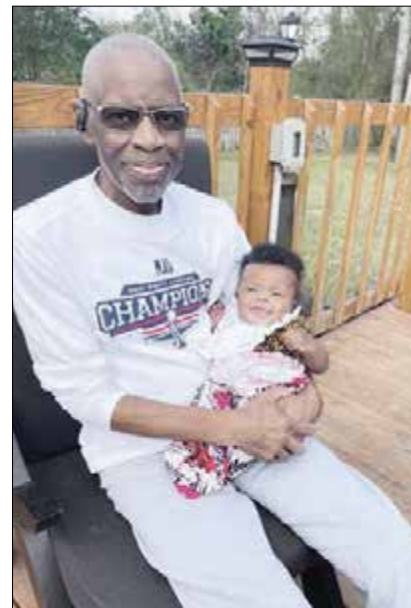
He was proceeded in death by his father Roosevelt Beaman and sisters Jeanette, Janet and Geraldine.

Jerome leaves to cherish his memory; his loving wife, Angela Beaman; two children, Jerome Beaman II (Krystal) of Prosper, TX, and Jasmine Booth (Julius) of Aubrey, TX; two grandchildren, Jayce and Kaycee Beaman; his loving mother, Evelyn Washington Day; four sisters, Shirley Lacy (John: deceased) of Canton, MS., Deborah Ivory (Darryl), Dianne Day of Byram, MS., Patricia Beamer (Joseph) of Jonesboro, GA; Two brothers, Jerry Beaman (Betty) of Brooklyn Park, MN., and Kendall Cook of Long Beach, CA. Jerome also leaves behind a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, relatives and friends.

A celebration of life for Jerome will be held in Jackson at College Hill Baptist Church, 1600 Florence Avenue, Saturday, July 9, at 11 a.m. Visitation will be held at Westhaven Memorial Funeral Home, 3580 Robinson Road in Jackson, Friday, July 8, from 8 a.m.-7 p.m. Family hour will be from 3:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. at Westhaven.



Beaman



Beaman with grandchild Kaycee



Beaman in his San Francisco 49ers jersey



Family - Julius Booth, Jasmine Booth (daughter), Angela Beaman (wife), Jerome, Krystal Beaman, Jerome Beaman II (son), Jayce, grandson

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# Ways

Continued from page 1

eral government provides \$5.46 for every \$1.00 that Mississippi would pay to stop the suffering and death caused by the lack of health insurance, based on the same study.

In Mississippi, Senate Bill 2033 to extend Medicaid health insurance for post-partum mothers from 60 days to 365 days was passed by a 46-5 vote. Hundreds of post-partum mothers die in Mississippi every year because they are not eligible to see a doctor beyond 60 days after delivery. They die and they leave motherless children. The House Speaker won't allowed it to come up for a vote for two years now.

In Mississippi, the state with the 2nd highest incarceration rate in the country, "Black people constituted 39% of state residents, but are 57% of people in jail and 62% of people in prison," based on reporting from The Vera Institute.

In Mississippi, African Americans had to live under the banner of the oppressive and divisive Stars & Bars State Flag for 126 years; staring up each day to The Confederate Battle Flag, from 1894-2020.

In Mississippi, funding is stripped from public schools annually, disproportionately impacting poor areas. Even statewide, Language Arts Grades 3-8 had a proficiency rate of 34.9%. In Math, the same cohort was 35.1%. No tests were given in 2019-2020, per the Mississippi Department of Education.

In the Capital City of Jackson, Mississippi, oppression reigns. We have an 85% black population and an official poverty rate of 25%. Unofficially, it's far worse. Several census tracks have a published poverty rate double that. There are deep issues with the drinking water. There are no major black-centric economic engines in Jackson. We have the highest per capita murder rate in the country, but the biggest crime here is not murder. The biggest crime here is the lack of black economics under black elected officials.

In America, "Racial and ethnic inequality is a barrier to better earnings," was the sub-title of a study by the Brookings Institution just last month. In every grouping of earners measured – Black, Latino, and Hispanic workers earned between 68-75% of what Caucasians earned.

In America, "Black people are 3.5 times more likely than white people to be killed by the police when they're not attacking or have a weapon," from Rashawn Ray, Ru-

benstein fellow in Governance Studies at The Brookings Institution, testified before the Virginia Advisory Committee to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights in July 2021. Just last week in Akron Ohio, Jayland Walker, a 25 year old black man was gunned down by police. Dozens of bullets struck him down, by numerous reports.

In America, "The wealth gap between black and white is persistent and substantial. Data show that the median white household has at least 10 times the wealth of the median black household. The racial wealth gap has grown over the last 30 years rather than narrowing," another Brookings Report entitled, How We Rise – Narrowing the racial wealth gap using the Earned Income Tax Credit and Child Tax Credit, in February 2022.

Surely none of this is love. Nor is it love thy neighbor. Nor is it embracing your fellow man. The stark truth is that it's just the tip of the iceberg though.

Great Replacement Theory is a false and racist narrative that "There is an active, ongoing and covert effort to replace white populations in current white-majority countries," says the Southern Poverty Law Center. America is a country founded in racism and a country of immigrants, yet the Census depicts that non-Hispanic whites have lost population over the past 60 years; from 88.6% in 1960 to 57.8 in 2020. Their majority is rapidly shrinking, and white folks that believe that this country is theirs, are terrified.

"Critical Race Theory (CRT) does not attribute racism to white people as individuals or even to entire groups of people. Simply put, critical race theory states that U.S. social institutions (e.g., the criminal justice system, education system, labor market, housing market and healthcare system) are laced with racism embedded in laws, regulations, rules and procedures that lead to differential outcomes by race," says a Brookings Institution report in November 2021. Forty-two Republican legislators have introduced Bills to restrict teaching of CRT. They say it teaches white kids to hate America; laughable if it wasn't so dangerous. Perhaps they could read this article, then go look in the mirror. By banning CRT, they strive to maintain the status quo; the white supremacy detailed above.

Surely none of this is love, and we can easily count the ways.

# Jackson

Continued from page 1

proud to call him my friend."

Joe and Polly Bailly recognized that Jackson arrived just before the most trying time for The United Methodist Church in the last 50 years. The Baileys went on to say, "The pandemic was about to begin and the larger church was threatening to fracture over theological issues. Embra navigated these and other issues with wisdom and grace, all the while preaching that trust in God and following Jesus' teachings would free us from many of life's problems." They credit his daily devotionals and use of social media for keeping the church together when the members were unable to meet in person. "Embra is a marvelously gifted pastor, an unequalled orator, and in every sense a Christian gentleman who is a true servant of the Lord."

Jack Reed, Jr. recounted that in 1963 the front page of *The Wall Street Journal* ran a story of FUMC Tupelo welcoming black worshippers as being one of the most significant events in the history of the country's unfolding opening up of traditional white churches to black citizens. Reed went on to say that it was not surprising that FUMC Tupelo was a congregation Bishop James Swanson felt confident in appointing Rev. Dr. Embra Jackson to serve. "Thank God he did. Our congregation benefitted so much from Embra's leadership these past years....We were disappointed to learn of his retirement, but we certainly respect his wishes to spend more time with his family."

What really makes it personally significant for Jackson to have been selected to serve at FUMC was his background beginning with his matriculation at Tougaloo College (Jackson, Mississippi), known for its civil rights activism during a turbulent era in Mississippi where the emphasis according to Jackson "was on lifting people up."

After graduating in 1974 from Tougaloo College with a bachelor's in political science, Jackson earned graduate degrees and teacher certification. He earned a Master of Public Administration from the University of Mississippi (Jackson

and a M. DIV. from the International Theological Center (Atlanta, Georgia). In 2003 he received a Doctor of Ministry (D. Min) from Memphis Theological Seminary (Memphis, Tennessee). He went on to serve the United Methodist Church (UMC) in several capacities throughout Mississippi as pastor of several churches and, from 2005 to 2011, he served as administrative assistant to Bishop Hope Morgan Ward, Southeastern Jurisdiction of The United Methodist Church. Additionally, Jackson served as the executive director of the United Methodist Metro Ministers (Jackson) and as a Chaplain of Hospice Ministries, Inc. (Ridgeland). Just prior to his appointment at FUMC from 2011 to 2019, Jackson served as UMC District Superintendent of the Starkville District.

Jackson possesses an ecclesiastical endorsement from the Board of Higher Education and Ministry. He is a certified coach in the International Coach Federation and CoachNet, and most recently penned his first book. Inspired by his church members, especially Joe Edd Morris, Jackson published *Forty Days in the Covid Wilderness: Meditations of Hope* (2022) after it was brought to his attention that the devotionals he shared during the early days of the pandemic were so meaningful to many people struggling with isolation and fear. He is already planning his second book that chronicles his journey as the first African American senior pastor of the predominantly white FUMC Tupelo.

Jackson is not the first clergyman in his family. He is the grandson of a Baptist preacher, Reverend Harrison P. Jackson, who lived and pastored for several years in the West Jackson community and surrounding rural towns. He is the son of Embra K. Jackson, Sr. and Allie D. Foster Jackson, both deceased, of Jackson, Mississippi. He and his wife Rosia are the parents to four adult children and six grandchildren all residing in Brandon, Mississippi where they will retire to be closer to family.

*See photos on page 4.*

# Akron

Continued from page 1

nate with state and local partners to provide resources and specialized skills," officials wrote in the statement. "If the evidence reveals potential violations of federal criminal statutes, the Justice Department will take appropriate action."

To quell tensions, Horrigan announced the cancelation of Akron's Fourth of July festival.

Walker's family attorney Bobby DiCello called for a federal investigation. "It is brutal," DiCello asserted. "It's going to stir up some passion. It's going to make people uneasy."

Former Democratic Ohio Congresswoman Nina Turner told her more than 534,000 Twitter followers that the DOJ must investigate. "Jayland was unarmed and running away when police opened fire, firing 90 shots, hitting him 60," Turner wrote as she posted the bodycam video.

"The Department of Justice needs to step in to investigate immediately," Turner noted that officers were reckless. "The cop almost shot two other cops," she tweeted. "Just absolute recklessness."

Turner then compared the incident to another Ohio shoot-

ing. "This is like Cleveland all over again, with the 137 shots fired at Timothy Russell and Malissa Williams," Turner recalled.

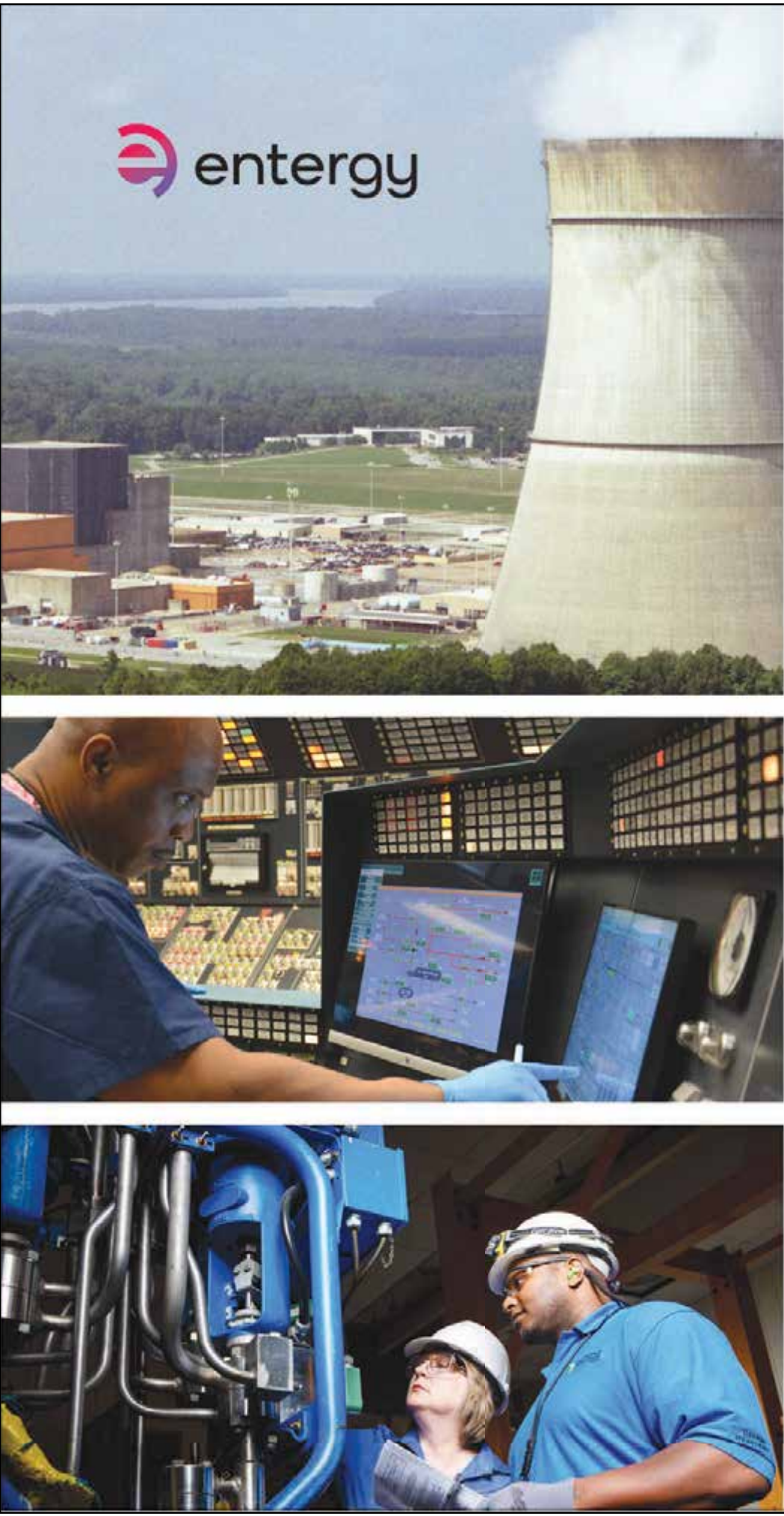
"Jayland's family is urging protestors to remain peaceful. Something has to change."

In November 2012, more than 60 Cleveland Police officers pursued a vehicle driven by Russell and Williams, whom authorities claimed had fired on them – it turned out their car simply suffered a backfire.

The 23-mile chase ended when officers surrounded the vehicle and opened fire, killing the unarmed African American couple in the middle school parking lot.

A jury later acquitted two officers charged with manslaughter. Eventually, six Cleveland officers were fired for their actions.

Walker's family said they are wary of their deceased loved one becoming demonized. "They want to make him a masked monster," DiCello stated. "I'm glad the police chief made one thing clear – he was unarmed."



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## First African-Amrican senior pastor of First United Methodist Church in Tupelo retires



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# Mississippi justices block more DNA tests in death row case

By Emily Wagster Pettus  
Associated Press

A Mississippi Supreme Court has ruled that a death row inmate will not be allowed to seek additional DNA testing on crime scene evidence from the shooting deaths of two college students nearly 30 years ago.

Willie Jerome Manning, now 54, remains in the Mississippi State Penitentiary at Parchman. He was convicted in 1994 on two counts of capital murder in the December 1992 killings of Mississippi State University students Jon Steckler and Tiffany Miller in Oktibbeha County.

In 2013, shortly before Manning was scheduled to be executed, the U.S. Justice Department said there had been errors in FBI agents' testimony about ballistics tests and hair analysis in the case. Manning's attorneys asked the Mississippi Supreme Court to stop the lethal injection, and justices voted 8-1 to delay the execution to allow the testing of evidence.

Manning's attorneys said they hoped DNA testing would exonerate their client, who has maintained his innocence. In 2014, they sent a rape kit, fingernail scrapings and other items to a laboratory. One of the attorneys, Rob Mink of Jackson, said the objective of the testing was to answer whether any DNA was attributable to Manning.



Manning, 2019 MDOC Photo

In the ruling Thursday, a majority of state Supreme Court justices wrote that Manning received "allegedly inconclusive results" after six years of fingerprint analysis and DNA testing. Manning's attorneys asked an Oktibbeha County circuit judge for permission to send items to a more specialized lab. The judge denied that request, and a majority of justices on Thursday agreed with the judge's ruling.

"If additional testing had been granted and another individual's DNA profile was discovered from the crime scene evidence, no proof has been shown that it would change the outcome of Manning's case," Justice Robert Chamberlin wrote for the majority.

Mink told The Associated Press on Friday that he is disappointed in the ruling.

"We're considering right now what options he has for additional relief," Mink said.

The ruling noted that during the trial, Manning's

cousin testified that Manning confessed to shooting the two students. The bodies of Steckler and Miller were found in rural Oktibbeha County, and Miller's car was missing. The car was found the next morning. Prosecutors said Manning was arrested after he tried to sell items belonging to the victims.

Justices Leslie King and Jim Kitchens dissented from the majority ruling Thursday. King wrote that any potential harm in waiting for additional DNA testing at a specialized lab "is surely minimal considering that Manning has been sentenced to death."

Manning is black, and Steckler and Miller were white. During Manning's trial, an FBI agent testified that some hair found at the crime scene was "from an individual of the black race," but that did not mean the hair came from Manning. In closing arguments, a prosecutor mentioned the hair fragments "as a way to implicate Manning because he was a member of the African-American race," wrote King, the only black justice currently on the Mississippi Supreme Court.

A 2013 letter from the FBI said the agent's testimony in 1994 included information about DNA testing of hair that contradicted what was known about such testing nine years later, Mink said.

(Mississippi Department of Corrections via AP)

# Smithsonian's traveling Green Book exhibit opens in Jackson

The Associated Press

A look at how African Americans traveled during the Jim Crow era in the U.S. is on display at the Two Mississippi Museums in downtown Jackson.

The Negro Motorist Green Book, a Smithsonian traveling exhibition, opened Saturday at the venue, which is part of the Mississippi Department of Archives and History, a Smithsonian affiliate.

It includes artifacts from business signs and postcards to historic footage, images and firsthand accounts to convey not only the apprehension felt by black travelers but also the resilience, innovation and elegance of people choosing to live a full American existence, officials said. Mississippi artifacts include items from the historic Riverside Hotel in Clarksdale and Hotel E.F. Young Jr. in Meridian.

Two Mississippi Museums director Pamela D.C. Junior said she was ecstatic to have the exhibit housed at the venue.

"During the Great Migration families moved across the U.S., thus the necessity to travel and visit relatives was born," Junior said.

"Postal worker Victor Green, innovatively responded to this need with a roadmap of havens to eat, rest and visit. This safety net was a key guide for people of



Victor Green and the Negro Motorist Green Guidebook

color throughout the Jim Crow south and other parts of America."

Green's guidebook was published from 1936 to 1966 and was "an indispensable resource" for the nation's rising African American middle class, the Mississippi Department of Archives and History said in a news release.

The exhibition will run through Sunday, Sept. 25, in the Medgar and Myrlie Evers Exhibition Hall at the Two Mississippi Museums.

Ticket prices are \$15 for adults and \$8 for youth ages 4-22. Discounts are available for students, seniors, active duty military, veterans and groups of ten or more. Admission for children under the age of three is free. Admission on Sunday is also free.

# Man pleads guilty to making threats of racial violence

The Associated Press

A Mississippi man has pleaded guilty to charges that he tried to buy an assault rifle after making racist threats online.

The man pleaded guilty Thursday afternoon in U.S. District Court in Oxford to charges stemming from threats he made on a white supremacist website in late 2020. He wrote that he wanted to "breathe revolution" and kill Blacks, Hispanics and homosexuals, the *Daily Journal* reported.

The man was affiliated with Atomwaffen Division, an online group that promotes a white supremacist extremist ideology through violence in the hopes of igniting a race war, said Assistant U.S. Attorney Clay Dabbs. He

was also a member of a subgroup called the National Socialist Order and communicated on the group's encrypted online platforms.

Federal agents began tracking his cellphone in the early fall of 2020 after he mentioned online that he wanted to purchase an assault rifle. In July 2021, he bought a Smith & Wesson AR-15 online from a Sevierville, Tennessee, gun shop and arranged to pick up the weapon at a licensed firearm dealer in Nesbit. After the FBI was notified of the purchase, agents secured a warrant during the three-day waiting period required by federal law before a weapon can be picked up.

U.S. District Judge Michael P. Mills accepted the guilty plea but

deferred sentencing until Oct. 13.

The charge of sending a threatening communication through interstate commerce carries up to five years in prison and a potential fine of up to \$250,000.

The Council on American-Islamic Relations, a prominent Muslim civil rights and advocacy organization, praised the decision Friday.

"We applaud law enforcement authorities for stopping this individual before he could commit acts of bias-motivated violence," said CAIR national communications director Ibrahim Hooper in a news release. "The threat of racist, white supremacist violence must be taken seriously nationwide."

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# Thomas Williams is an old school swimmer who is teaching the next generation how to swim

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

If you are an old school man or woman, there were certain things that you did during the summer.

All of us slept late at least for the first week of our summer vacation. That was fun but it got old quick.

Our parents and love providers ensured that we left the house. We had breakfast, maybe a late one and off we went to conquer the day.

Some of us showed up for lunch. Most of us only came back for dinner. We were having way too much fun to come in and eat. Lunch usually consisted of something out of a snack machine.

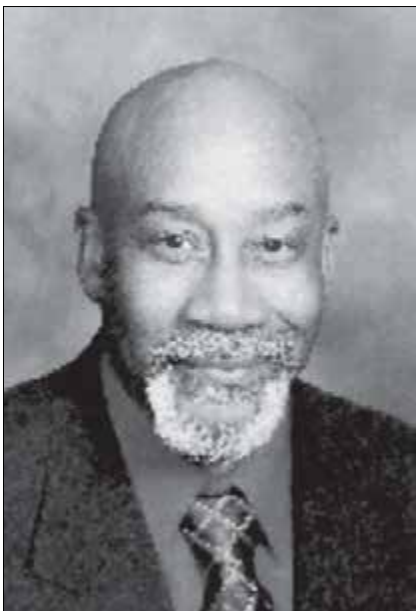
If you are black like me, you probably lived near a recreation center. There you had multiple activities. If you named the sport or activity, it was there for us.

Swimming was a sport and an activity. You could be serious about it or just have fun.

Thomas Williams started swimming in middle school in his hometown of Ecorse, Michigan, just a stone’s throw away from Detroit.

He made the Ecorse High School swim team, and his favorite event was the breast-stroke.

He said, “I began swimming



Williams

in a wading pool and eventually in a pool.” He added, “My first time in the deep end, my coach had to use the hook to pull me out.” Williams never forgot that experience during his first year in high school.

As fate would have it, his high school hired a swim coach with ties to Southern University in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Divine intervention brought Thomas Williams and coach Mathis Epps together.

You see, Thomas Williams had never heard of Southern University. Growing up in Ecorse, Michigan made him unaware of black colleges. However, miracles happen when you least expect them.



Williams working with granddaughter Aria in the water

In his neighborhood lived some folks from Louisiana and they told Williams more about Southern University.

That was a defining moment in his life as after graduating from high school, Southern University in Baton Rouge, Louisiana became a part of his future.

He said, “I went to Southern University sight unseen. It was my first time on their campus and in the South.”

The times and conditions were different. Integration and segregation were happening simultaneously in many parts of the region. There were some places you could go in the front door and there were some plac-

es that you had to use the back door.

That was a part of the old school experience. Back in the day, black colleges (schools) were not called HBCUs (Historically Black Colleges and Universities). They were simply called black colleges or black schools.

Williams said, “I never thought swimming competitively would be a part of my college experience.”

He received family support and a swimming work-study grant that paid for his freshman year at Southern University.

What happened next in the life of Williams is almost unbelievable, but this is where hard



Williams teaching grandson Anderson a sport for a lifetime

work intersected with opportunity.

Southern University cut swimming out as a sport. Those on the team were facing financial challenges except for Williams and two of his first-year teammates.

Charles Thompson, the swim coach at Southern University was offered the same position at Dillard University in New Orleans Louisiana. He took Williams and his mates with him to Dillard University where they were stellar members of the swim team for three years.

Williams is an esteemed graduate of Dillard University, class of 1973.

He has passed on his superior aquatic talents to his son, Thomas Jr. and daughters, Trina and Miesha. They know how to swim because of him. His wife, Sheila has assisted in this family venture.

Now, Williams is teaching his grandchildren this sport for a lifetime. They are being taught by a swimming champion.

Williams can look back proudly at a collegiate swimming career that took him from Ecorse, Michigan to being on course to Southern University and to Dillard University.

He had role models in his swimming career and now he is being one for others to emulate.

# Biden calls for the suspension of gas tax

By Stacy M. Brown  
*NNPA Newswire Correspondent*

President Joe Biden recently called on Congress to suspend the federal gas tax through September after taking action to boost oil and gas supply chains, including the release from the Strategic Petroleum Reserve.

According to a White House Fact Sheet, Biden has also encouraged oil companies and refiners to boost capacity and output to get more supply on the market.

Saying that American consumers have suffered under Russian President Vladimir Putin’s price hike, Biden has called on states to provide relief by suspending their gas taxes or helping in other ways.

Gas prices are up nationwide by about \$2 per gallon.

“Right now, the federal government charges an 18-cent tax per gallon of gasoline and a 24-cent tax per gallon of diesel,” White House officials stated in the Fact Sheet.

“Those taxes fund critical highways and public transportation through the Highway Trust Fund. But in this unique moment, with gas prices near \$5 a gallon on average across the country, President Biden is calling on Congress to suspend the gas tax for three months – until the end of September – to give Americans a little extra breathing room as they deal



The White House noted that the latest announcement follows a series of actions the President has taken to lower gas prices for American families.

with the effects of Putin’s war in Ukraine,” The White House said.

According to the Fact Sheet, Biden has also called on Congress to make sure that a gas tax holiday has no adverse effect on the Highway Trust Fund.

“With our deficit already down by a historic \$1.6 trillion this year, the President believes that we can afford to suspend the gas tax to help consumers while using other revenues to make the Highway Trust Fund

whole for the roughly \$10 billion costs,” administration officials wrote.

“This is consistent with legislation proposed in the Senate and the House to advance a responsible gas tax holiday. President Biden understands that a gas tax holiday alone will not, on its own, relieve the run up in costs that we’ve seen. But the President believes that at this unique moment when the war in Ukraine is imposing costs on American families, Congress should do what it can

to provide working families breathing room.”

Some states and local governments have already acted.

In Connecticut and New York, governors temporarily suspended their gas taxes, and in Illinois and Colorado, governors delayed planned tax and fee increases.

In places like Michigan and Minnesota, states and local leaders are considering several forms of consumer relief – from temporary suspensions and pauses on state sales tax

on gas to consumer rebates and relief payments, administration officials noted further.

“The President believes more states and local governments should do so,” they stated.

The White House noted that the latest announcement follows a series of actions the President has taken to lower gas prices for American families.

The President announced the release of a record 1 million barrels per day from our

Strategic Petroleum Reserve, which just last week a leading oil market analyst confirmed has been critical to keeping prices from rising even more.

According to the Fact Sheet, Biden rallied international partners to join us, releasing a combined 240 million barrels of oil on the market.

He expanded access to bio-fuels like E15 – gasoline that uses a 15 percent ethanol blend – to increase supply and lower prices at thousands of gas stations across the country.

Biden and his administration are engaging with oil and refining companies to ask them to work with the administration to bring forward concrete solutions that increase refinery capacity and output.

Secretary Granholm plans to meet soon with those CEOs.

White House officials noted that America produced more oil under the first year of the Biden-Harris administration than it did under the first two years of the prior administration and remains on track to set new records next year.

“At the same time, the President understands that our efforts to increase energy production in the near-term must be coupled with medium- and long-term efforts to transition our economy away from fossil fuels produced by autocrats and to clean energy,” administration officials asserted.





# Pesticides: Can't live with them and we can't eat without them

By Vince Faust  
*Tips to Be Fit*

The U.S. is second behind China in the use of pesticides. Farmers use pesticides to control the thousands of weeds, insects and plant diseases that can afflict their crops. Without pesticides, food production would decline and many of the fruits and vegetables you enjoy in the store would be in short supply and cost a lot more.

If farmers didn't use pesticides, more than half of our crops would be lost to pests and diseases. 26 to 40 percent of the world's crop production would be lost annually because of weeds, pests and diseases. These losses could easily double without crop protection.

Pesticides are sold in either a liquid, solid or gaseous form:

- Liquid formulations include suspensions (flowables), solutions, emulsifiable concentrates, microencapsulated suspensions, and aerosols.
- Solid formulations include dusts, particulates, granulars, pellets, soluble granules, soluble powders, baits, tablets, dry flowables and wettable powders.
- Gaseous pesticides are typically fumigants (can be sold as liquids or gases).

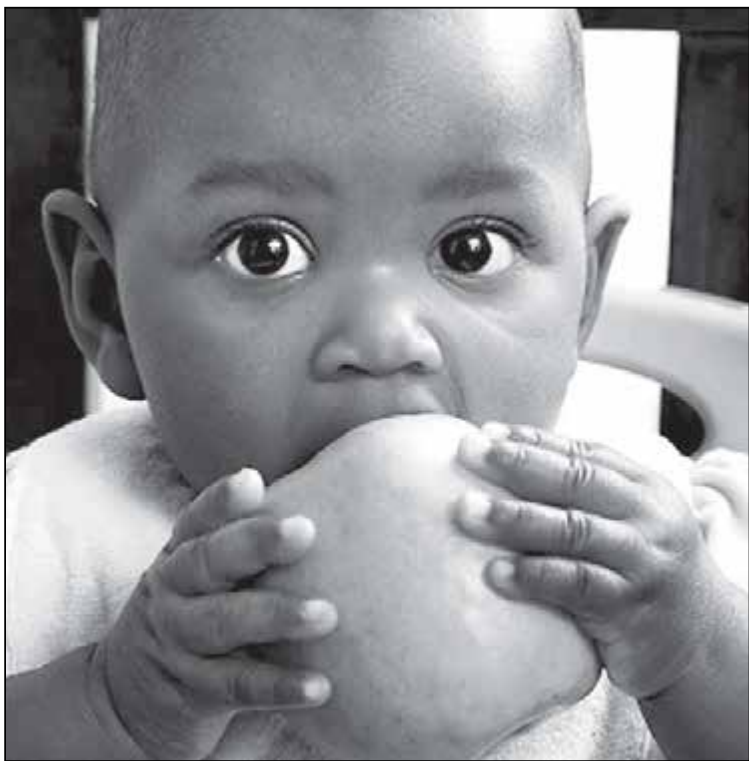
Pesticides distributed in the United States, must first be reviewed by the EPA to determine that it will not pose unreasonable risks to human health or the environment. The EPA must set limits on how much pesticide to be used on our food during growing and processing, and how much can remain on the food when we buy it. Government inspectors are responsible for monitoring food in interstate commerce to ensure that these limits are not exceeded. The EPA also sets limits to protect workers from exposure to pesticides while on the job.

Almost 70% of your fresh produce sold in the U.S. has pesticide residues on it even after you have washed it. According to the Centre for Science and Environment (CSE), "high levels of pesticide residues can be toxic enough to cause long-term cancer, damage to the nervous and reproductive systems, birth defects and severe disruption of the immune system."

Are you safe if you go organic? Organic foods may not be pesticide-free. The pesticides that are allowed for organic food production are typically not manmade. They tend to have natural substances like soaps, lime sulfur and hydrogen peroxide as ingredients. You can't eat soaps, lime sulfur and hydrogen peroxide.

Those created from natural sources are often called organic products. No matter whether it was created in a test tube or are derived from a plant, if it is labeled as killing a pest, it's a pesticide by law. That means organically produced fruits and vegetables may not be pesticide-free.

You should wash all your fruits and vegetables according to the Center for Science and Environment (CSE). The CSE recommends washing with 2%



of salt water will remove most of the contact pesticide residues that normally appear on the surface of the vegetables and fruits. Almost 75 to 80 percent of pesticide residues are removed by cold water washing. Be more thorough with these fruits and vegetables in specific: grapes, apples, guava, plums, mangoes, peaches and pears and vegetables like tomatoes, brinjal and okra because they can carry more residue in their crevices.

Consumer Reports recommends rinsing, rubbing, or scrubbing fruits and vegetables at home to help remove pesticide residue. A study from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, suggests soaking them in a solution of baking soda and water.

A first step to safer eating can be smart shopping. Domestic fruits and vegetables have smaller amounts of pesticides than imported brands because many countries don't have regulations on pesticides. For instance, imported cantaloupes are 7 times likelier to have pesticide residue than domestic brands.

You should wash all fruits and vegetables that have a peel you can eat. You can use a mild soap but you should rinse them well. Bananas and oranges can be peeled, but you should wash them because the pesticides on the peel will get on your hands when you peel it and into your system. Wash and peel apples, bell peppers, carrots, cucum-

bers, pears, strawberries and any vegetables that have been waxed. Avoid cooking tomatoes and apples that have been treated with pesticides because the pesticide residue in them becomes more concentrated with heat.

To help minimize the pesticide residue you take in, make sure you pull off the outer leaf of foods like cabbage and lettuce. The leaf tops of celery are like a sponge and draw pesticides into the stalk. Trimming them can reduce pesticide residue up to 90%.

Many people are enjoying fresh vegetables without pesticides by planting their own gardens. Some Farmers markets have foods with fewer pesticides than the chain supermarkets. Wherever you get your fruits and vegetables make sure they're as healthy as possible by cleaning them thoroughly.

The body can handle small amounts of pesticides because the liver and kidneys detoxify our systems. However, this protective system doesn't work if the body doesn't have time to clear the pesticide residue from the body before you ingest more.

Last and most important, eat a variety of fruits and vegetables so you don't take in the same pesticides every day. Most vegetables and fruits are sprayed with a different pesticide, so if you don't take in the same pesticide every day your body can get rid of most of the various pesticides one at a time.

# For now, wary U.S. treads water with transformed COVID-19 outbreak

By Carla K. Johnson  
*AP Medical Writer*

The fast-changing coronavirus has kicked off summer in the U.S. with lots of infections but relatively few deaths compared to its prior incarnations.

COVID-19 is still killing hundreds of Americans each day, but is not nearly as dangerous as it was last fall and winter.

"It's going to be a good summer and we deserve this break," said Ali Mokdad, a professor of health metrics sciences at the University of Washington in Seattle.

With more Americans shielded from severe illness through vaccination and infection, COVID-19 has transformed – for now at least – into an unpleasant, inconvenient nuisance for many.

"It feels cautiously good right now," said Dr. Dan Kaul, an infectious diseases specialist at the University of Michigan Medical Center in Ann Arbor. "For the first time that I can remember, pretty much since it started, we don't have any (COVID-19) patients in the ICU."

As the nation marked July Fourth, the average number of daily deaths from COVID-19 in the United States was hovering around 360. Last year, during a similar summer lull, it was around 228 in early July. That remains the lowest threshold in U.S. daily deaths since March 2020, when the virus first began its U.S. spread.

But there were far fewer reported cases at this time last year – fewer than 20,000 a day. Now, it's about 109,000 – and likely an undercount as home tests aren't routinely reported.

Today, in the third year of the pandemic, it's easy to feel confused by the mixed picture: Repeat infections are increasingly likely, and a sizeable share of those infected will face the lingering symptoms of long COVID-19.

Yet, the stark danger of death has diminished for many people.

"And that's because we're now at a point that everyone's immune system has seen either the virus or the vaccine two or three times by now," said Dr. David Dowdy, an infectious disease epidemiologist at Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. "Over time, the body learns not to overreact when it sees this virus."

"What we're seeing is that people are getting less and less ill on average," Dowdy said.

As many as 8 out of 10 people in the U.S. have been infected at least once, according to one influential model.

The death rate for COVID-19 has been a moving target, but recently has fallen to within the range of an average flu season, according to data analyzed by Arizona State University health industry researcher Mara Aspinall.

At first, some people said coronavirus was no more deadly than the flu, "and for a long period of time, that wasn't true," Aspinall said. Back then, people had no immunity. Treatments were experimental. Vaccines didn't exist.

Now, Aspinall said, the built-up immunity has driven down the death rate to solidly in the range of a typical flu season. Over the past decade, the death rate for flu was about 5% to 13% of those hospitalized.

Big differences separate flu from COVID-19: The behavior of the coronavirus continues to surprise health experts and it's still unclear whether it will settle into a flu-like seasonal pattern.

Last summer – when vaccinations first became widely available in the U.S. – was followed by the delta surge and then the arrival of omicron, which killed 2,600 Americans a day at its peak

last February.

Experts agree a new variant might arise capable of escaping the population's built-up immunity. And the fast-spreading omicron subtypes BA.4 and BA.5 might also contribute to a change in the death numbers.

"We thought we understood it until these new subvariants emerged," said Dr. Peter Hotez, an infectious disease specialist at the Baylor College of Medicine in Texas.

It would be wise, he said, to assume that a new variant will come along and hit the nation later this summer.

"And then another late fall-winter wave," Hotez said.

In the next weeks, deaths could edge up in many states, but the U.S. as a whole is likely to see deaths decline slightly, said Nicholas Reich, who aggregates coronavirus projections for the COVID-19 Forecast Hub in collaboration with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

"We've seen COVID hospitalizations increase to around 5,000 new admissions each day from just over 1,000 in early April. But deaths due to COVID have only increased slightly over the same time period," said Reich, a professor of biostatistics at University of Massachusetts Amherst.

Unvaccinated people have a six times higher risk of dying from COVID-19 compared with people with at least a primary series of shots, the CDC estimated based on available data from April.

This summer, consider your own vulnerability and that of those around you, especially in large gatherings since the virus is spreading so rapidly, Dowdy said.

"There are still people who are very much at risk," he said.

# Republicans divided in support for a policy response to Roe

*The Associated Press*

Speaking at an event Monday, Mississippi Republican state lawmakers were divided in their support of new policies to improve health care outcomes for children and new parents.

At a 4th of July festival in northeast Mississippi, some lawmakers remained unsupportive of extending postpartum Medicaid coverage for mothers, *The Northeast Mississippi Daily Journal* reported.

Rep. Bubba Carpenter, a Republican from Burnsville, said that expanding Medicaid coverage for new mothers would be a "slippery slope" because it is one step closer to a broader expansion of the program. With the Children's Health Insurance Program and two months of Medicaid coverage for mothers, lawmakers are "doing enough," Carpenter said.

Medicaid, which provides

health care coverage to low-income people, is funded through a mix of federal and state dollars. The state's current Medicaid policy allows eligible mothers who have given birth coverage for 60 days.

Mississippi State Department of Health data found 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.

Recent legislative efforts to extend postpartum Medicaid coverage failed in Mississippi, a state with high infant and maternal mortality rates.

Republicans hold majorities in both chambers of the legislature.

Rep. Nick Bain, a Republican of Corinth, said the Supreme Court's decision to overturn the landmark Roe v. Wade decision that made abortion legal in the United

States would be a test for anti-abortion lawmakers.

"By promoting life, we have to sustain life," said Bain. "It's up to us now to put our money where our mouth is."

In a statement responding to the Supreme Court's decision, Mississippi Attorney General Lynn Fitch wrote that lawmakers should "weave a safety net that helps women in challenging circumstances."

When asked about the attorney general's statement, Rep. Steve Hopkins, a Republican from Southaven, remained unswayed.

"I would not support any government intervention or policies," Hopkins told *The Associated Press* in an email. "This is an area for the community and the church to step up and develop programs to help these women. We are called as Christians to help each other and that's what we should do, but we should do it in the private sector alone."



# The grace of God brings salvation

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



God is giving, giving, and giving, and people in sin are taking, taking, and taking. God, in His love, cares for us, and He is concerned about us. He has given all this for us. It is more than just a scripture. It is more than just a recital of John 3:16. It is reality. God wants it to become a reality to us. He wants us to understand what He has given on our behalf. We did not love God first, He first loved us. First John 4:19 reads, "We love Him, because He first loved us." How does that work? Titus 3:4 says, "But after that the kindness and love of God our Saviour toward man appeared (to us)." Titus 2:11 states, "For the

grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men." Friend, the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared. What is packaged in that grace that appears? One thing is the vision, a manifestation of God's love. Christ was willing to give Himself and suffer greatly for us when all we were doing was taking everything we could get our hands on. Even if we were not a vile sinner, we were still taking from God when He was giving on our behalf. Many times, through the preaching of the Gospel, God reveals how good, kind, caring and loving He is to precious souls. Men and women of God preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ faithfully, week after week, year after year, in an effort that God, in His mercy, might appear to men. That is the kindness of God,

the love of God, and His nature of giving. He does it so that it might cause the hard hearts to soften and so that the resentment, the bitterness and the resistance might be shattered; then ones can turn to God, pour out their hearts to Him, and say, "Thank you, Lord, for your blessings on us. Thank you for giving your Son for me and for making it possible that we could get out of the mess we were in." He does that so that we can be free of error and delivered from bondage. Friend, if we will turn to Him, then we can enjoy life. We can be healed when we are sick, strengthened when we feel weak and uplifted when things cause us to feel low. God wants His love and kindness to appear to us, dear one. Why? He is hoping and trusting that it will cause us

to draw nigh to Him. Will you draw nigh to God? God wants to enjoy us, and He wants us to enjoy Him. The Bible says He stands at the door of our hearts and knocks. He wants to come in and sup with us. He does not want a relationship where we pick up a Bible and scan a verse just to feel that our obligation is complete. He wants a close relationship with us. The love of God can melt any hardness that the devil has tried to work and any seeds he has tried to sow in our lives. It will cause us to draw nigh to God. What a precious blessing it is to draw close to God. I thank God for the love of God. Won't we draw nigh to God? He wants to have fellowship with us. Rev. Simeon R. Green III is pastor of Joynes Road Church of God, 31 Joynes Road, Hampton, VA 23669.

## Words of a spiritual warrior: Ten years later

By Shewanda Riley  
Columnist



There are many church joiners, but they have never touched Jesus. Friend, to see inside Heaven, we must have virtue, or power from Jesus. Jesus said in John 15:4, "Abide in Me, and I in you." God is not asking for people to "act" religious. The world is full of people who merely act religious. He is asking for people to testify of what His power is doing for them. Child of God, we ought to tell others what God has done and is doing for us. The reason many people cannot do that is, they have not really touched Jesus. I want us to consider what happened on the road to Damascus, where the greatest preacher, next to Jesus Christ, got converted. Paul had a one-on-one encounter with Jesus Christ. He was born into the church out of season. In other words, the church was not praying for him. However, it was praying against him, but that did not stop a change from taking place. I repeat when one touches Jesus, for whatever reason, a change always takes place. The sinner will quit sinning. He will quit doing anything that is wrong. However, he does not just quit things, but he starts doing that which is right. He will love to go to the house of God. No one will have to tell him to carry his Bible to church, to look the way a Christian should look, or to get into the revival services.

No, he has touched Jesus and wants everything that Jesus has for him. He had been feasting at the wrong supper for so long, but after touching Jesus Christ, he does not want to miss one meal, spiritually speaking. The wrongdoing ceased, and he desires to do right. Oh, he will make mistakes. If it should be a mistake that affects someone else, he will make it right immediately, because he wants to do what is right. When we touch Jesus, we will know by how we are getting along spiritually. We may say, "Well, I am still struggling." No, when we touch Jesus Christ, a change takes place, a change that is evident. Even the dog that we used to boot all the time will notice a change. If we genuinely want the power of God in our lives, we can have it. We might have a tendency to be satisfied with a sloppy experience. We can become so used to asking God to forgive us that and that is all we ever get done. The next thing we know, we will have lost that vital contact, or virtue. Remember, the word virtue means "power," and in some instances, it also means "strength."

Friend, we can have this power if we want it. We must not let anything hinder us. Shewanda Riley is a Fort Worth, Texas based author of "Love Hangover: Moving from Pain to Purpose After a Relationship Ends" and "Writing to the Beat of God's Heart: A Book of Prayers for Writers." Email [preservedby-purpose@gmail.com](mailto:preservedby-purpose@gmail.com) or follow her on Twitter @shewanda.


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WOAD AM 1300 - 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.



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

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# Victory of vision

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

When I was five years old my dad's best friend put a tennis racket in my hand. After winning my first tournament at seven, I had no idea that one experience would set me on a path spanning the next thirty years. During that time, there was only one black tennis player breaking ground on the world tour – Arthur Ashe. I remember it as if it were yesterday.

As a ranked junior, there was one black national tennis organization known as the American Tennis Association (ATA); their focus was to promote tennis as a sport for black people, and to cultivate talent for junior tennis players. Me, Zina Garrison, Kathy Foxworth and Lori McNeal were the top-ranking juniors on the girl's side. Zina was the first black woman to be ranked in the top ten of the world since Althea Gibson who ranked in the top ten in the world in 1952 and 1953, and from 1955 through 1958.

Through the seventies all the way through my collegiate and Virginia Slims qualifying exposure, you could count all the black girls and boys competing in tennis on one hand. There were many contributing factors driving these numbers, but the biggest were money/exposure which worked together, and race not entirely separate from the first two.

With all those barriers, I want to focus today on two things I hope will elevate and inspire you forward: vision and perseverance. We live in a time where it is quite possible that vision is being bamboozled by bright, shiny and immediate gratification. While



Jackson

this may affect each generation, on this subject I am most connected to our Generation Zs.

Recently, I was playing tennis and a black family caught my attention. They were watching someone, and the intensity and dedication of their presence reminded me of the look and body language of my own parents when I was competing. I went over and introduced myself, and they told me they were visiting from Indiana and pointed to their daughter who played #2 for a Historically Black College in Indiana. They explained she was competing in the Southwestern Athletic Conference (SWAC). In our one-hour conversation they shared with me something that shook me – that the young black ranked junior

tennis players were being offered tennis scholarships to universities across this country and literally turning them down. Scholarships were being rejected not to accept better scholarships or different scholarships, but literally to pursue nothing – not school, or a real strategy toward other aspirations. This caused me great distress and that's the conversation I hope to elevate and inspire today – vision.

When speaking to black college students and those entering the workforce, the journey of my tennis and corporate career always sparks such surprise and enthusiasm with the crowd. The idea that a tennis career could lead to such a seemingly unrelated path blows minds. How is that

possible? It takes vision, patience and perseverance.

You see, tennis produced qualities in me that my next opportunity was looking for. Although it was not in the cards to become a Wimbledon champion, it was in the cards for tennis to create in me championship capacity. This is what's possible for you. I never imagined a twenty-year tennis career, after winning one tournament at age seven. Had I quit after juniors, I would have missed the next big thing. Tennis set the stage for building relationships all over the world and attracted corporations to pursue me. I became one of eleven black people training surgeons and residents in wound care across the country.

Often, I was the only black woman leading in the medical field alongside white men dominating the industry. Tennis prepared me for that. One yes, set the stage for all that. I am encouraging you today. Life threads; become a visionary. Don't just dream big, dream wide. For threads to create a blanket they must be woven together. All that is possible in your life starts with saying yes to threads. Choose to invest in yourself by working through your process.

Perhaps the step facing you right now may not feel shiny and sexy but it may be a catalyst in the most explosive change in you yet. That change in you could impact the world forever. Your victories are intertwined in your capacity for vision.

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*(Helping Caregivers) Heart to Soul Becoming Whole (Integrating Soul Health & Mental Health)*  
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# Start now to take back the Supreme Court

By Ben Jealous  
People For the American Way



Did you ever wonder whether elections really matter? Well, the Trump Supreme Court majority has answered that question for good. Or, more accurately, they have answered it for bad.

In the term that has just ended, the new far right-wing majority on the Supreme Court went on a rampage. They have torn up decades of legal precedent to diminish Americans' rights and legal protections. To justify the results they wanted, they lied in their rulings the way some of them lied to get on the court. It has been a shameful display of power politics disguised as judging.

Not surprisingly, the most attention has been paid to the Court majority overturning the 50-year-old Roe v. Wade decision. A constitutional right that has made a huge difference in the lives of generations of women was wiped away. The impact will be devastating and deadly.

Millions of individuals and couples dealing with unwanted pregnancies, the trauma of rape or incest, life-threatening pregnancy complications, or even a miscarriage that some intrusive government official decides is suspicious, will have their options severely limited or eliminated entirely.

We know that those restrictions and their consequences will fall most harshly on already vulnerable people, including black people, LGBTQ+ people, people with disabilities and low-income people. Already in Missouri, a major health care system will no longer treat rape victims with emergency contraception because the state abortion ban puts medical care providers at legal risk.

Anti-abortion state legislators seem to be in competition to see who can pass the most extreme, intrusive and controlling laws. Some are even trying to limit people's right to travel from one state to another, targeting anyone who helps a person from a state that bans abortion get care in a state that permits it. It reminds me of the old fugitive slave laws that forced free states to help slave states deny people their freedom.

Unfortunately, overturning Roe is just one of the harmful decisions handed down by the Trump Court.

The Court intervened in voting rights cases to protect gerrymandering designed to limit black voters' access to political power. This comes on top of other rulings gutting the Voting Rights Act.

The Trump Court went after sensible regulation of guns. The far-right justices overturned a New York law more than 100 years old that required people to show a good cause to get a permit to carry concealed firearms. Communities that are already suffering from the effects of gun crime are likely to experience even greater violence now that the court has robbed public officials of options and given the extremist pro-gun political agenda the power of law.

The court also further dismantled the separation of church and state, which protects religious freedom and preserves equality under law for people regardless of their religious beliefs. The Trump court took a wrecking ball to this pillar of American society. It is forcing states to divert tax dollars to religious schools, like some southern states did when they funded white evangelical segregationist academies that emerged in resistance to the Supreme Court's Brown v. Board of Education decision outlawing racially segregated public schools. This court has made it easier for public officials, like teachers, to coerce students into prayer or other religious practices. This is a very clear threat to anyone whose faith is different from the one dominant in their community or state.

In other words, the U.S. Supreme Court, which we counted on for generations to uphold civil rights and tear down obstacles to equality, is now acting as an arm of the increasingly aggressive far-right political movement.

How did we get here? Simple. Thanks to the anti-democratic Electoral College, Donald Trump was elected in 2016 even though almost three million more Americans voted for Hillary Clinton. Republican Senate leader Mitch McConnell prevented the Senate from even considering President Barack Obama's Supreme Court nomination so that Trump could fill it instead – and then rushed Trump's third justice onto the court even as voters were casting ballots to remove Trump from office. Behind Trump and McConnell was a massively funded, decades-long campaign to build the political power to take control of the judiciary.

In other words, winning the presidency and controlling the Senate gave the far right the power to force its harmful agenda on the American public long after voters rejected Trump. Taking the Court back from the extremists who now control it will be a long-term project. It starts with this year's elections.

*Ben Jealous serves as president of People For the American Way and Professor of the Practice at the University of Pennsylvania. A New York Times best-selling author, his next book "Never Forget Our People Were Always Free" will be published by Harper Collins in December 2022.*

# Riveting new information in testimony at the January 6th Hearing

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



What happens when good becomes better and that becomes even better?

Last week, I posed a question about the would-be culprits and what would happen to them.

The question was would anyone go to jail because of the January 6th Hearings?

My original answer was no. Is it still the same? Now, I am hedging. Maybe.

Sometimes in public testimonies and trials, you will have witnesses who say things that kind of scorch the earth. You really weren't expecting it to happen, but it did.

Let us go back and revisit history for a minute.

Many years ago, I was a teacher in Washington D.C. during the period the Watergate scandal occurred. The scandal happened in 1972 and involved the break-in of the Democratic National headquarters.

It came to light that Richard M. Nixon, then president of the United States of America had a major hand in this wrongdoing. Nixon resigned because of it on August 9, 1974

One of the biggest figures in the Watergate Scandal was John Dean. He served as the White House Counsel in the Nixon administration. Many critics both past and present say that it was Dean's testimony before the Senate Watergate Committee that brought Nixon down.

You see, John Dean was in the inner circle of the White House. He was privy to information that only a few people had.

Now, let's fast forward to these January 6th Hearings.

Ten days ago, someone appeared before the committee who some would say was under the radar screen. Cassidy Hutchinson was that someone. She had given some depositions yet in some ways was in the shadows. Not anymore.

Hutchinson was an assistant to former Chief of Staff Mark Meadows in the former president's administration. She testi-

fied on June 28.

Reports say that Hutchinson gave bombshell testimony about what transpired on January 6th. A part of her damaging testimony was that the former president knew that there were people with weapons near the Capitol grounds.

He also knew they were not there to harm him in any way. So, who were the rioters there to hurt and to harm? We know the answer to that question.

Hutchinson said that Meadows sat passively by in his office knowing what was about to unfold.

If you are a supporter of Mr. T, you can't feel good about where these hearings are going. For you, they are going downhill at a rapid pace.

In further testimony, Hutchinson suggested that the former president had a confrontation with a Secret Service agent who would not allow him to join the crowd. As I listened to her, I thought this is unbelievable. The Secret Service has stated they will have a comment about the alleged incident in the coming

days.

Republican Representative Liz Cheney said, "She's an incredibly brave young woman. The committee is not going to stand by and watch her character be assassinated by anonymous sources and by men who are claiming executive privilege."

In a tweet, Republican committee member Adam Kinzinger said, "I want to again say, Cassidy Hutchinson is a hero and a real patriot (not a faux "patriot that hates America so much they would attempt a coup.)"

Methodically and systematically the January 6th Committee is bringing forth witnesses to share their knowledge about this intolerable act of violence against our nation.

If you are running from them, no worries because you are going to pay either now or later. It is not if, it is simply when. You had positions of trust and honor. You took an oath to uphold the Constitution. You betrayed the trust that was given to you. It is just a matter of time before your number is called.

Listen up America because there is more to come.



LEGAL	
NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR A REZONING	
ZONING CASE NO. 4177	
By virtue of and pursuant to the authority and direction of that Ordinance by the City Council of Jackson, Mississippi, appearing in Minute Book 3G at page 115 thereof, notice is hereby given to all persons interested in or in any way affected thereby, that Whitney Place, LLC has filed with the Planning Board for the City of Jackson, an application requesting a Rezoning from UV Urban Village (Mixed Use) and R-4 (Limited Multi-family) Residential to UTC - Urban Town Center (Mixed Use) to allow for potential higher density residential and/or mixed use development and a Use Permit for accessory parking on properties located at 510, 518 & 524 Mitchell Ave., 3009 North State St. and 3012, 3016, 3024, 3032, 3038 & 3046 Oxford Ave. (Parcels: 51-142-1, 51-142, 51-141, 51-151, 51-143-1, 51-143-2, 51-143-3, 51-143-4, 51-143-5 & 51-144). in the First Judicial District of Hinds County, Mississippi, and being more particularly described as:	
510 Mitchell Ave. (51-142-1)	
Lot 7, Block G of Asylum Heights Subdivision, a subdivision according to a map or plat thereof which is on file and record in the office of the Chancery Clerk of Hinds County at Jackson, Mississippi, in Plat Book /Cabinet 1 at Page/Slide/Slot 30 thereof, reference to which is made in aid of and as a part of this description.	
And being part of the same property described in Instrument recorded in Book 7147 at Page 724.	
518 Mitchell Ave. (51-142)	
Lot 6, Block G, Asylum Heights Subdivision, a subdivision according to a map or plat thereof which is on file and record in the office of the Chancery Clerk of Hinds County at Jackson, Mississippi, in Plat Book /Cabinet 1 at Page/Slide/Slot 30 thereof, reference to which is made in aid of and as a part of this description.	
524 Mitchell Ave. (51-141)	
Lot 4, Block "G" of Asylum Heights Subdivision, a subdivision according to a map or plat thereof which is on file and record in the office of the Chancery Clerk of Hinds County at Jackson, Mississippi, in Plat Book /Cabinet 1 at Page/Slide/Slot 30 thereof, reference to which is made in aid of and as a part of this description.	
and,	
Lot 5, Block "G" of Asylum Heights Subdivision, a subdivision according to a map or plat thereof which is on file and record in the office of the Chancery Clerk of Hinds County at Jackson, Mississippi, in Plat Book /Cabinet 1 at Page/Slide/Slot 30 thereof, reference to which is made in aid of and as a part of this description.	
3009 North State (Parcel 51-151)	
Parcel of lane located in Lots 5 & 6 of Fannie Brown Estate Survey as recorded in Plat Book "A", Page 336 in the office of the Chancery Clerk at Jackson, Hinds County, Mississippi, and Part of Lot 1, Block "G", Asylum Heights as recorded in Plat Book 1 Page 30 in the office of the Chancery Clerk at Jackson, Hinds County, Mississippi and more particularly described as follows:	
Beginning at a point which is Northwest corner of Lot 5, Fannie Brown Estate Survey and is also Southwest corner of Lot 9 of Highland Addition to City of Jackson as recorded in Plat Book 2, Page 57 in the office of the Chancery Clerk at Jackson, Hinds County, Mississippi; run South 89 degrees 20 minutes East along the South line of Highland Addition, 390.68 feet to a point; thence South 20 degrees 10 minutes West for 149.8 feet to a point; thence South 69 degrees 50 minutes East 141.1 feet to West line of North State Street as laid out and in use at time of this survey; thence South 20 degrees 10 minutes West for 108.28 feet along West line North State Street' thence North 74 degrees 01 minute West for 225.0 feet' thence South 20 degrees 13 minutes West for 50.14 feet to a point; thence 74 degrees 01 minute East along a line used as a party wall for 198.2 feet to the East line of North State Street and afront line of existing building at time of this survey; thence South 16 degrees 00 minutes West along said front line of existing building 1379.5 feet to a point; thence South 12 degrees 51 minutes West along said front line of existing building 44.3 feet to a point; thence South 88 degrees 29 minutes West along South line of Lot 1, Block "G", Asylum Heights, 101.9 feet to a point; thence North 0 degrees 10 minutes West along the East lone of Lot 3 of Block "G", Asylum Heights; 86.6 feet to a point; thence 89 degrees 29 minutes West along North line of Block "G", Asylum Heights, 239.05 feet to a point; thence North 0 degrees 21 minutes West, along East line of Block "G", Asylum Heights, 429.9 feet to the point of beginning.	
3012 Oxford Ave. (51-143-1)	
Lot 9, Block "G" of Asylum Heights Subdivision, a subdivision according to a map or plat thereof which is on file and record in the office of the Chancery Clerk of Hinds County at Jackson, Mississippi, in Plat Book /Cabinet 1 at Page/Slide/Slot	
LEGAL	
IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF HINDS COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT	
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF DOROTHY ROWAN, DECEASED	
Cause No.: 21-pr-00139	
SUMMONS	
NOTICE BY PUBLICATION YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED TO SUMMONS:	
Any and all persons or parties who are interested in or claim any right, title or interest as heirs-at-law and wrongful death beneficiaries of Dorothy Rowan, deceased, including, but not limited to, the unknown heirs-at-law and wrongful death beneficiaries of Dorothy Rowan, if they be living and not to be found therein after diligent search and inquiry and whose places of residence, post office, and street and house addresses are unknown after diligent street search and inquiry to ascertain the same, and if dead, their unknown devisees, executors, administrators or legal representatives are not to be found after diligent search and inquiry, and whose places of residence, post offices, and street and house addresses are unknown after diligent search and inquiry to ascertain the same. You have been made Defendants in the lawsuit filed in the Court by Carolyn O'Connor to establish the heirs-at-law and wrongful death beneficiaries of Dorothy Rowan, deceased.	
IF TO BE FOUND IN THIS COUNTY, to be and appear before the Honorable Denise Owens, of the Chancery Court of Hinds County, at the Hinds County Chancery Courthouse in Jackson, Mississippi, on the 8th day of August, 2022, at 9:00 a.m., next, then and there to show cause, if any they can why Carolyn O'Connor, Robert Neely, Max Neely, Josh Neely, Eliza Neely and Charlie Neely should not be declared the only heirs-at-law and wrongful death beneficiaries of Dorothy Rowan, deceased, according to law, and further to do and suffer such things as shall be considered and ordered by the Court aforesaid in the premises, and have then and there this, with an endorsement thereon to the manner in which you shall have served.	
YOU ARE SUMMONED TO APPEAR and defend against the Petition filed against you in this action on the date and time as set forth herein above before the Honorable Denise Owens in Jackson, Mississippi; and in case of your failure to appear and defend, a judgment will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the Petition. You are not required to file answer or other pleadings, but you may do so if you desire.	
WITNESS my hand and seal of said Court at Hinds County, Mississippi, this the _____ day of _____, 2022.	
EDDIE JEAN CARR, CLERK HINDS COUNTY CHANCERY COURT	
7/7/2022, 7/14/2022, 7/21/2022	

LEGAL	
ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS BY THE JACKSON MUNICIPAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY FOR CONSTRUCTION AND RELATED SERVICES IN CONNECTION WITH THE REHABILITATE TAXIWAY A, PHASE 2 AND REHABILITATE TAXIWAY B, PHASE 1 AT THE JACKSON-MEDGAR WILEY EVERS INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT JMAA PROJECT NO. 021-22	
The Jackson Municipal Airport Authority ("JMAA") is seeking bids for construction and related services in connection with the REHABILITATE TAXIWAY ALPHA PHASE 2 AND REHABILITATE TAXIWAY BRAVO PHASE 1 at the Jackson-Medgar Wiley Evers International Airport (the "Work").	
Sealed bids to perform the Work will be accepted by JMAA until 4:00 p.m. Central Standard Time (CST) on Friday, July 29, 2022 (the "Bid Deadline"). Bids shall be accepted by email, mail, or hand delivery as follows:	
Email: bids@jmaa.com By mail or hand delivery: JMAA's administrative office, Suite 300 Main Terminal Building Jackson-Medgar Wiley Evers International Airport 100 International Drive, Jackson, Mississippi 39208	
JMAA will publicly open and read all bids on Friday, July 29, 2022 at 4:05 p.m. (CST) (the "Bid Opening"), in the Staff Conference Room, Third Floor of the Main Terminal Building at JAN. JMAA invites Bidders and their authorized representatives to be present at the Bid Opening.	
Questions and communications regarding the bidding procedure and schedule on this project should be directed to: Marvin Buckhalter, Director of Procurement, mbuckhalter@jmaa.com, and 601-664-3516.	
The following identification information must be provided with the submission: (i) bidder's company name; (ii) Mississippi Certificate of Responsibility Number; and (iii) the wording: REHABILITATE Taxiway Alpha Phase 2 AND REHABILITATE Taxiway Bravo Phase 1 at Jackson-Medgar Wiley Evers International Airport, Project No.021-22." If the submission is submitted via email, then the identification information must be provided in the email subject line. If the submission is submitted by hand delivery or mail, then the identification information must be marked on the outside or exterior of the bid envelope or container.	
JMAA will not consider any submissions, including bid proposals, amendments to bids, or requests for withdrawal of bids received, after the Bid Deadline for any reason whatsoever.	
JMAA will award the Work to the lowest successful bidder as determined by JMAA in accordance with the criteria set forth in the information for Bidders. Plans and specifications related to the Work are considered part of the Agreement. Any Addenda issued clarifying and/or changing plans and specifications; clarifying and/or changing instructions in the Instruction to Bidders; and/or answering questions in relation to the Instructions to Bidders shall become part of the Information for Bidders.	
The Information for Bidders and bidding documents for the Work can be found at (https://jmaa.com/corporate/partner-with-us/procurement/). The website will be updated periodically with addenda, reports and other information relevant to submitting a Bid for the Work.	
Interested parties may register and order plans and specifications from the Jackson Blueprint Online Plan Room website (http://planroom.jaxblue.com). A valid email address is required for registration. There is no charge for registration or to view the documents online. Documents may be downloaded from this website for a non-refundable fee of Twenty-Five Dollars (\$25.00) plus applicable sales tax.	
Plans and specifications may also be purchased through the website (http://planroom.jaxblue.com. A printed bid set is \$75.00 plus \$20.00 shipping and applicable sales tax. Bid documents may be picked up or shipped to the party making the request. Documents will not be distributed or mailed, however, until payment is received. For questions regarding website registration and online orders, contact Jackson Blueprint & Supply at (601) 353-5803.	
JMAA will hold a Pre-Bid Conference on Friday, July 8, 2022 at 10:00am (CST) in the Staff Conference Room, Third Floor of the Main Terminal Building at JAN.	
JMAA reserves the right to amend the plans and specifications for the Work by Addendum issued before the Bid Deadline; to reject any and all bids; to waive technicalities in the bid proposals.	
JMAA has established a Disadvantage Business Enterprises participation goal of 24.00% for the Work solicited by this RFB.	
JACKSON MUNICIPAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY	
DATE: JUNE 29, 2022 John Means, Acting Chief Executive Officer	
6/30/2022, 7/7/2022	
LEGAL	
Jackson Redevelopment Authority Jackson, Mississippi Proposals For Contractor Services For Various J.R.A. Properties - Issued July 2022	
INVITATION FOR BID	
Sealed Bids will be received by the Jackson Redevelopment Authority (JRA) to provide the hourly rate that will be charged per person when a particular handyman type job is assigned. Bids will be received by JRA at the Porter Building, 218 South President Street, Jackson, Mississippi, 3rd Floor until 3:00pm on Friday 29 July 2022, and thereby publicly opened and read.	
Scope: At any time during the contract period when JRA shall request that the Contractor provide JRA with a proposal, the contractor shall provide details, fees, materials, equipment rentals, plus labor costs (based on hourly rate in bid), for the work to be performed. The listed costs shall be subject to approval by JRA before a Notice To Proceed is issued.	
The majority, if not all, of these services will occur in the Downtown Jackson and Farish Street commercial areas, at JRA owned properties.	
Separate sealed bids will be received for a single prime Contract. Bids shall be on a unit price basis, as indicated on the Bid Form.	
Bidding Documents are available at the JRA offices at 218 S. President Street, 3rd Floor, Jackson, MS 39201, Mondays through Fridays between the hours of 9:00am and 5:00pm. Contact Mary Ealey at (601) 960.1815 or mealey@jacksonms.gov.	
JRA will hold a non-mandatory Pre-Bid Conference at 3:00pm on Thursday 21 July 2022, in its 1st Floor Conference Room, located at 218 S. President Street, Jackson, MS 39201. All visitors are urged to wear a face-covering to ensure protection against transmission of COVID-19 and practice social distancing at all times inside the building. The Owner will transmit to all prospective Bidders of record such Addenda as the Owner considers necessary in response to questions arising at the conference. Oral statements may not be relied upon and will not be binding or legally effective.	
6/30/2022, 7/7/2022	



LEGAL

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR A REZONING  
ZONING CASE NO. 4178

By virtue of and pursuant to the authority and direction of that Ordinance by the City Council of Jackson, Mississippi, appearing in Minute Book 3G at page 115 thereof, notice is hereby given to all persons interested in or in any way affected thereby, that Kristi Kirkwood has filed with the Planning Board for the City of Jackson, an application requesting a Rezoning from R-1A (Single-Family) Residential District to R-2 (Single-Family & Two-Family) Residential District to allow for the construction of a two family residential unit for the property located at 0 Old Canton Rd. (Parcel 564-16) in the First Judicial District of Hinds County, Mississippi, and being more particularly described as:

Lot 1, Block B, Canton Club Subdivision, Part 1, a subdivision according to the map or plat thereof which is on file and record in the office of the Chancery Clerk of Hinds County at Jackson, Mississippi, in Plat Book 12 at Page 26 thereof, reference to which is made in aid of and as a part of this description. And being the same property described in Instrument recorded in Book 4584 at Page 507.

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

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

WITNESS my signature this 5th day of July 2022.

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

7/7/2022, 7/21/2022

LEGAL

Jackson Redevelopment Authority  
Jackson, Mississippi  
Proposals For Lawncare Services For Various J.R.A. Properties - Issued July 2022

INVITATION FOR BID

Sealed Bids for services related to lawncare services for various properties throughout the City of Jackson, Mississippi for a period of two (2) years, will be received by the Jackson Redevelopment Authority (JRA) at the Porter Building, 218 South President Street, Jackson, Mississippi, 3rd Floor until 2:00pm on Friday 29 July 2022, and thereby publicly opened and read. Services could total more than \$50,000, therefore requiring a Certificate of Responsibility Number. Bidders should anticipate that not all properties may be cut every month.

Separate sealed bids will be received for a single prime Contract. Bids shall be on a unit price basis, as indicated on the Bid Form.

Bidding Documents are available at the JRA offices at 218 S. President Street, 3rd Floor, Jackson, MS 39201, Mondays through Fridays between the hours of 9:00am and 5:00pm. Contact Mary Ealey at (601) 960.1815 or mealey@jacksonms.gov.

JRA will hold a non-mandatory Pre-Bid Conference at 2:00pm on Thursday 21 July 2022, in its 1st Floor Conference Room, located at 218 S. President Street, Jackson, MS 39201. All visitors are urged to wear a face-covering to ensure protection against transmission of COVID-19 and practice social distancing at all times inside the building. The Owner will transmit to all prospective Bidders of record such Addenda as the Owner considers necessary in response to questions arising at the conference. Oral statements may not be relied upon and will not be binding or legally effective.

6/30/2022 7/7/2022

LEGAL

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR A USE PERMIT  
ZONING CASE NO. 4179

By virtue of and pursuant to the authority and direction of that Ordinance by the City Council of Jackson, Mississippi, appearing in Minute Book 3G at page 115 thereof, notice is hereby given to all persons interested in or in any way affected thereby, that Terrence Brent, Sr. has filed with the Planning Board for the City of Jackson, an application requesting a Use Permit to allow for the operation of a general restaurant within a C-2 (Limited) Commercial District on property located at 540 Raymond Rd., - Suite 2 (Parcel 217-9), in the First Judicial District of Hinds County, Mississippi, and being more particularly described as:

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

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

WITNESS my signature this 5h day of July 2022.

Zoning Administrator  
City of Jackson, Mississippi

7/7/2022, 7/21/2022

LEGAL

NOTICE TO BIDDERS  
City of Jackson  
Jackson, Mississippi

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

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

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

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

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

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

7/7/2022, 7/14/2022

LEGAL

NOTICE TO BIDDERS  
City of Jackson  
Jackson, Mississippi

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

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

BIDS ARE NOW AVAILABLE AT WWW.JACKSONMS.GOV

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

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

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

7/7/2022, 7/21/2022

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Advertisement for RFP  
RFP 2022-22 Data Center Refresh

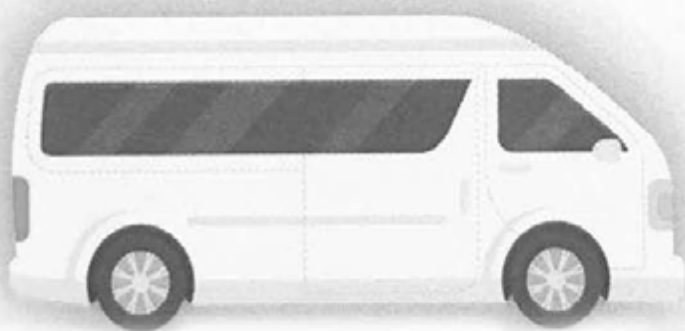
Electronic RFP proposals for the above RFP will be received by the Board of Trustees of the Jackson Public School District, in the Business Office, 662 South President Street, Jackson, Mississippi, until 10:00 A.M. (Local Prevailing Time), July 27, 2022 at which time and place they will be publicly opened and read aloud. A Pre-Bid Conference concerning this project will held at 630 S. State Street, Jackson, MS 39201, JPS Information Technology Building, 2nd Floor Computer Lab at 10:00 A.M. Friday, July 15, 2022. Participating vendors must register at https://forms.gle/TbCgDGLgjbTVRJd9. Attendance at the pre-bid conference is non- mandatory but strongly encouraged. The Board of Trustees reserves the right to reject any and all RFPs, to waive informalities, and to withhold the acceptance of any RFP if approved for forty-five calendar days from the date RFPs are opened.

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

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

7/7/2022, 7/14/2022

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**1-800-595-6244**

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6208-0721

Sudoku

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

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

© Feature Exchange

Sudoku Solution

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

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3957 Northview Dr (North Jackson)

DOLLAR GENERAL

2030 N Siwell Rd

DOLLAR GENERAL

4331 Highway 80W

DOLLAR GENERAL

5990 Medgar Evers Blvd

DOLLAR GENERAL

1214 Capitol St (Downtown Jackson)

DOLLAR GENERAL

304 Briarwood Dr

DOLLAR GENERAL

2855 McDowell Rd

DOLLAR GENERAL

104 Terry Rd

J & A FUEL STORES

3249 Medgar Evers Blvd.

LIBERTY BANK AND TRUST

2325 Livingston Rd.

MCDADE'S MARKET

Northside Drive

MCDADE'S MARKET #2

653 Duling Avenue

PICADILLY CAFETERIA

Jackson Medical Mall

350 W Woodrow Wilson Avenue

SHELL FOOD MART

5492 Watkins Drive

SPORTS MEDICINE

Fortification and I-55

MURPHY USA

6394 Ridgewood Rd (North Jackson)

REVELL ACE HARDWARE

Terry Rd (South Jackson)

WALGREENS

380 W. Woodrow Wilson Ave

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A & I

716 Roby Street - Canton, MS

B & B

702 West North Street - Canton, MS

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3355 North Liberty - Canton, MS

BULLY'S STORE

Church Street - Canton, MS

COMMUNITY MART

743 Ruby Street - Canton, MS

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Martin Luther King Drive - Canton, MS

HAMLIN FLORAL DESIGN

285 Peace Street - Canton, MS

JOE'S SANDWICH & GROCERY

507 Church Street - Canton, MS

K & K ONE STOP

110 West Fulton Street - Canton, MS

LACY'S INSURANCE

421 Peace Street - Canton, MS

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257 Peace Street - Canton, MS

TRAILER PARK GROCERY

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BYRAM

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CITY HALL

Terry Road

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DOLLAR GENERAL

807 Berkshire St - Clinton, MS

TERRY

SERVICE STATION

at Exit 78

CITY HALL

West Cunningham Avenue

RAYMOND

HINDS COMMUNITY COLLEGE

WELCOME CENTER

505 E. Main Street

SUNFLOWER GROCERY

122 Old Port Gibson Street,

Raymond, MS

LOVE FOOD MART

120 E. Main Street,

Raymond, MS

RAYMOND PUBLIC LIBRARY

126 W. Court Street, Raymond, MS

RAYMOND CITY HALL

110 Courtyard Square, Raymond

RAYMOND COURTHOUSE

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## *Scholarship recipients of the NNPA Fund awarded at the 2022 NNPA National Convention in New Orleans*



Amber Land, Texas Southern University



Andy Harris, Morehouse College



Carla Smith, Tougaloo College



Destiny Stinnie, Morgan State University



J'Brionne Helaire, Dillard University



Joy Thornton, Alcorn State University



Kaleb Parker, Tuskegee University



Leah Clark, Xavier University



Mac A. Howard, Tennessee State University



Madeline Smith, Florida A & M University



Malcolm Macon, Jackson State University



Nicholas Wright, Jackson State University



Shanthamoi Brown, Lincoln University of MO



Ti'la Taylor, Southern University and A & M College

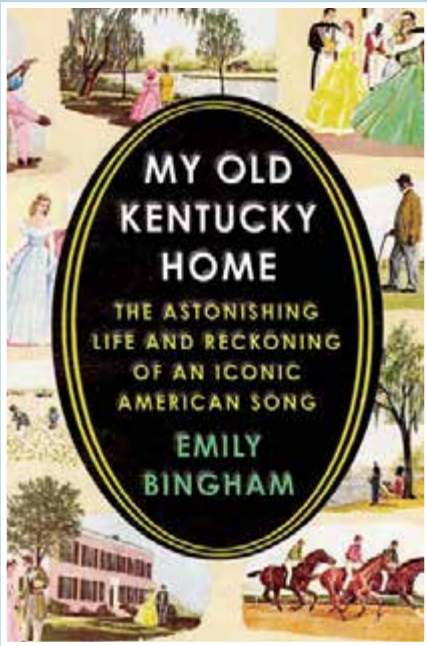


Victoria Walker, Fayetteville State University



Zapouria Wadley, MS Valley State University





BOOK REVIEW:  
**MY OLD KENTUCKY HOME:**  
**THE ASTONISHING LIFE AND RECKONING**  
**OF AN ICONIC AMERICAN SONG**  
BY EMILY BINGHAM  
C.2022, KNOPF  
\$30.00 • 329 PAGES

By Terri Schlichenmeyer  
*Columnist*

Raise your voice in song. Let it carry to the skies, high notes above the clouds like so many birds in flight, low notes scraping the tips of the grass. Sing your happiness out loud, and let your sadness be carried softly to a better place. Raise your voice in song, even if, as in the new book “My Old Kentucky Home” by Emily Bingham, it sends someone else down. Stephen Foster was in a bad way. Unhappily married less than a

year and father to a child he suspected wasn’t his, he struggled to do the right thing, by mid-1800s standards, and support his family. Foster owed his brother many hundreds of dollars for rent on a room, the debt was racking up, and he was miserably unhappy. He’d been working hard on the songs he was writing, but he was frustrated and embarrassed that the only interest anyone showed was for minstrel music. Minstrelsy, says Bingham, featured white people on-stage in cork-blackened faces, depict-

ing black people as “uncivilized, inane, emotional, crude, overly sexual, but also ‘naturally’ musical and athletic.” For a songwriter, she says, minstrelsy “smelled the worst.” It was a living, but not the one Foster wanted. His marriage in shreds, his wife gone, he moved into what was basically a closet, where he died of alcoholism. By that time, though, audiences at minstrel shows had come to love a song about which Foster had “thought better of what he’d done,” and had re-worked. Gone was its offensive title and the

fake “Negro” dialect. The song was called “My Old Kentucky Home, Good Night.” Still, it was racist, says Bingham, but Frederick Douglass called it “our national music,” and so it stayed a part of our musical heritage. Post-Civil-War black performers included it in their acts, much as they disliked the song. “In the first decades of the [last] century,” says Bingham, the song “became a newly beloved hymn...” Later, even Eleanor Roosevelt expressed her appreciation for it. And it was sung

at the Kentucky Derby this year, albeit with several important edits... Pick up “My Old Kentucky Home” and it says right there on the cover that this is a story of “an Iconic American Song.” But it’s so much more than that. This is a biography of racism through music. In her introduction, author Emily Bingham tells how, as a young girl, she came to the sudden realization that the song she loved was full of words she didn’t. This kind of relativity runs through the book, gluing to-

gether the story of the song while also explaining that its lyrics and meanings through the years were signs of the various times. This doesn’t mean Bingham waves away the problematic issue of the song itself; rather, she cleaves it to national issues of post-Reconstruction, Jim Crow, Civil Rights, and modern times on a razor’s edge of forgiveness and outrage. Musicologists will enjoy this book, as will historians who also love music. Surely, “My Old Kentucky Home” will raise good conversations.

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# Hinds County School District Weekly Update

ENGAGING-EMPOWERING-ENSURING-EXCELLENCE

## The G.O.A.T. has left the building

Dr. Bill Sellers, assistant superintendent of Student Services for Hinds County School District worked his last day at Central Office on Thursday, June 30, 2022. He rode off into the sunset in his Ford F250 truck exclaiming it's been a nice ride!

Dr. Sellers worked as a teacher at Warren Central High School, Peeples Middle School and Wingfield High School. He then became the assistant principal at Lanier High School, and later Forrest Hill High School. Later he became the principal at Wingfield High School and lastly, Terry High School. To finish his career, he became the assistant superintendent the last 8 years of his career.

Dr. Sellers worked diligently to improve the Hinds County Schools and handled all his responsibilities in a fair and just manner. He has a jovial disposition about himself and tried to treat everybody the way he wanted to be treated. He would go the extra mile to ensure that satisfaction was attained if possible.

When asked what he was going to do with all this free time, he stated that he was going to sit on the back porch, smoke a cigar and enjoy his granddaughter and his family. He will be missed here at Central Office and the Hinds County School District. We wish him well and pray for a healthy enjoyable retirement.



## Thank You Mrs. Alice Mabry

Mrs. Mabry has served as administrative secretary for the Superintendent for 8 ½ years. Today, June 30th, was her last day in that role. She looks forward to not setting the alarm clock and enjoying time with her family.



## Byram Middle School Football

### BYRAM BULLDOGS

#### 2022 FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

23 AUG	VICKSBURG MAROON GAME
30 AUG	GERMANTOWN AWAY
6 SEP	PEARL AWAY
13 SEP	BRANDON BLACKOUT GAME
20 SEP	WARREN CENTRAL 8TH GRADE NIGHT
27 SEP	NW RANKIN AWAY
4 OCT	RIDGELAND AWAY

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#FEARLESSDAWGS  
#TEARDA CLUBUP

HEAD COACH: MAKEBA CROWLEY

Home Games are played at  
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