

2022 MIDTERM ELECTIONS

Democracy holds on

By Leon Williams  
Contributing Writer

Last week’s long-awaited mid-term elections were characterized by political pundits, candidates of both parties and media personalities as a battle for the soul of America. In a nutshell, Democrats, led by their charismatic heavy hitter, Barack Obama, defined the struggle between their party and the Republicans as a fight to save the American ideal of democracy.

Based on long-standing historical trends and mostly conservative talking points in the lead-up to the elections the prevailing narrative was that Republicans would overwhelm both the House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate with what they termed as a “political tsumani.”

On the otherhand, President Biden and some Democrats maintained optimism, fueled by their belief that the American electorate fully understood the very foundation of democracy upon which the country rests was on the brink of collapse, driven by what Biden termed as “Mega-MAGA” Republicans.”

Democracy, for the first time since the Civil War, was indeed hanging in the balance. Ironi-



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cally the prevailing theme driving the debate was based on cultural divisions centered mostly around race; just as was the case during the Civil War. However, this time the direct targets of the Republican’s attack had an opportunity to decide the final outcome. Nevertheless, their collective political checkmate does not fully provide a resolution to the dilemma, but it does pull the country from the precipice of collapse. Women of all political persuasions, along with young voters provided the impetus.

Apparently, Americans of all political, racial and economic stratifications have come to an understanding that the term “divided we fall” is more than just a catchphrase, but critically significant. Nonetheless, there is much work to be done. The common understanding is that all societies have a responsibility to provide a brighter, less controversial future for forthcoming generations.

The outcome of the elections for many states in the country have positioned them to seriously confront the proverbial elephant in the room, race. Sadly,

Mississippi is not among that group. Election deniers, political gerrymandering, book banning, cultural identity wars and failure to come to grips with its past deeply plagues the state. In fact, 81% of white Mississippians voted for Trump and continue to support the destructive ideas he represents.

Recent national revelations of inappropriate allocations of federal funds by Mississippi governmental agencies and the theft or misappropriation of nearly \$100 million targeted

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Eyes  
of compassion



By Christopher Young  
Contributing Writer

COMMENTARY

Excerpted from a Litany of Confession, read at Farish Street Baptist Church last Sunday, my eyes fixed on a particular line – “The time is coming when the eyes of compassion shall pierce the masks of prejudice.” Merriam-Webster defines a litany as “a prayer consisting of a series of invocations and supplications by the leader with alternate responses by the congregation.” How righteous it would be to have this prayer heard and acted upon. It would bring a life-changing and liberating shift throughout the world, and certainly here in Mississippi where prejudice reigns supreme.

In the presence of compassionate hearts, prejudice dies of suffocation. Who is more blessed with compassion than the most church-attending people in the country – Mississippians. In a majority white state, we know these predominantly white believers hold the key to change. So much power, and spiritually seated at the right hand of the Father. Their compassion, generosity and understanding extend throughout the state and beyond.

These churches offer missionaries, financial support for those in need, community outreach and partnering with local organizations, global outreach seeking to create more disciples, a plethora of events centered on helping others and sharing God’s love. What a beautiful assignment for them; opportunity for righteousness of the highest order. To see it in all it’s glorious splendor would be blinding.

It just doesn’t seem possible that prejudice could exist in this environment, yet surely it does.

Our Vice President, Kamala Devi Harris, the 49th VP of the United States and very first female vice president, offered a quote ahead of Chapter 1 – The Cornerstones of a Movement – in Reverend Al Sharpton’s book Righteous Troublemakers, released earlier this year. She shares: “Here’s the truth about racial injustice. It is not just a Black America problem or a people of color problem, it’s a problem for every American. It is keeping us from fulfilling the

promise of liberty and justice for all, and it is holding our nation back from realizing our full potential.”

Truer words were never spoken. At the root of the problem is a flawed perception and fear. The flawed perception of what appears to be a majority of white Americans is that this country is theirs. Their fear is that they are losing their country.

How exactly do you discover a New World which is already inhabited? But, since it was a European, in all his Christopher Columbus whiteness, we celebrate Columbus Day every October. And the fiction continues to progress.

This country is not the property of white Americans; all of whom are descendants of immigrants. But through brutal force, cunning laws, policies and practices, the white majority – vastly Christian – has forged a persistent pattern of prejudice leading to racism and oppression of those people who do not look like them, the bedrock of white supremacy.

Yet the census tells us it is eroding numerically.

In 1960 the census reported 179,323,175 people in this country, 88.6% white; 10.5% black; and 0.9% other races. Sixty years later, the 2020 census reported 331,449,281 people in this country, 57.8% white; 12.4% black; and 29.8% other races. There you have it – from 88.6% white down to 57.8% white in the last sixty years. The truth, codified by the census, becomes the undisputed confirmation of their fear.

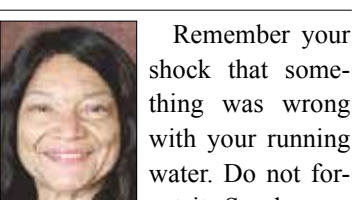
The overturning of Roe v. Wade is directly tied to white supremacy. Only 24 countries in the world make abortion illegal, per NBC News in May 2022. While many sources claim that abortion rates of white and black women are statistically equal at about 33-35%, others disagree.

Educator Jane Elliot of the groundbreaking Blue eyes/ Brown eyes exercise with third-graders in Iowa in 1968, stated clearly in her August 2019 video – All white people are racist – that “60% of abortions in the United States were done for white women.”

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Jackson water crisis:  
What can you do?

By Roslind McCoy Sibley, MD  
Guest Writer



Remember your shock that something was wrong with your running water. Do not forget it. Surely, you have heard over the last 5 years, “We are normalizing unacceptable behavior.” The water/sewer problem in Jackson is a prime example. The “disclaimer” which has come with the astronomical bills, that city water contains lead and other contaminants, is an incredible admission. As if putting it in print somehow makes it okay, is that all it takes to get governmental or some private agency off the hook for accountability? What are we supposed to do with that information?

Clean running water is a given in America. People in urban areas have taken it for granted for generations. In Jackson, Mississippi water is considered by many to be irreparably poisoned. It is not uncommon to hear, “I don’t drink the water in Jackson,” or “I haven’t drunk Jackson water for 15 years.” This must be a colos-

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sal inconvenience.

The problems are not new. The Federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the State of Mississippi filed a lawsuit against the City of Jackson Nov. 20, 2012, for continued violation of Section 301 of the Clean Water Act.

In 2014, water ran down streets from burst pipes. Water pressure was too low in some hydrants to put out fires. Sink holes developed causing streets to be closed. There is a growing problem with the sewer system. Around Mother’s Day 2022, city employees glibly answered calls reporting raw sewage back-ups on Farish Street with the unsettling response, “It happens all over Jackson.” Furthermore, “It’s the customer’s responsibility to get it fixed.”

This dubious decision reportedly was passed by the City Council at the directive of the State Attorney General some years ago. If it is all over Jackson, the municipality should fix it. The city did take care of the one issue, but why would

they see dumping on any citizen as the way to improve their bottom line? Such things have been part of municipal services for 100 years. Do they care that most people are not equipped to handle nor can they afford such repairs? A few months later, the tap water turns brown. Any relation?

Not to be among those who promote false rumors and conspiracy theories, but inquiring minds want to know. What is in that water? What happens if you or your loved ones drink it? Why so many boiled water alerts? Why should one trust that one day, boiling is a must, but the next day, the water is okay? What if bottled water runs out, or if gas prices get too high for you to get transportation? What about the sick and shut in? Upon hearing the reports on national TV, someone said the ‘quiet part out loud.’ “Why don’t they just move the capital somewhere else?” Is that the point? One old adage rings true, “Just because you’re paranoid, doesn’t mean they are not out to get you.”

In August, flood waters from the Pearl River brought the

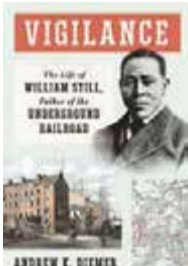
water systems to the breaking point. The news was international. Many people listening to the media coverage, even some from Jackson, assumed that all of Jackson’s water comes from the same source and was uniformly contaminated, if flowing at all. While those assumptions are not accurate, if August was your first, direct encounter with Jackson’s neglected, dilapidated, water infrastructure, hopefully it will not be that bad again.

Your first thought may have been to turn to your smart phone or other computer device, TV, radio, newspaper or neighbor. Was your hope to learn from political leaders and trust what they say?

Governor Reeves reportedly said, “additional issues at the plant are predictable in the future, and the MS Department of Health will have to complete two consecutive days of clear water sampling before the boil water alert can be lifted.” When our “go-to” people do not or cannot give satisfactory explanations and solutions, what can you do?

Many local citizens, organi-

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## Elections

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for poor Mississippi communities and families, are embarrassing reflections on the State of Mississippi and an indication of just how far the state has yet to come. The current water crisis in Jackson, Mississippi, the state’s capitol, and the lack of serious engagement by the governor’s office and the Republican-controlled state legislature further convolutes

## Eyes

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Think that through in the context of white supremacy in the United States. While there is certainly no compassion in restricting a woman’s autonomy over her own body, abortion is just one dimension of the white Christian nationalist agenda – one that keeps every possible white fetus alive. Other dimensions include social, political and financial repression. In June 2021, NBC News reported that the appraisal industry has consists of 78,000, 85% white; 2% black. The Brookings Institution in 2018 found that in the average U.S. metropolitan area, “homes in neighborhoods where the share of the population is 50 percent black are valued at roughly half the price as homes in neighborhoods with no black residents,” and that there is a level of “implicit bias” in an individuals’ perception

the enigma. In spite of everything, the citizens of the United States in general, have a chance to move forward in a positive direction, if they can pull themselves up over the cliff. Although Mississippi won’t be in the vanguard, the state will certainly benefit even if better late than never.

of members of an oppressed class. The study also found that the “value of assets – buildings, schools, leadership, and land itself – are inextricably linked to the perceptions of black people.” All over the country legislatures are passing laws that restrict the teaching of Critical Race Theory. These lawmakers endeavor to quell the truth in favor of the Christopher Columbus fiction. In Mississippi, state agencies with the highest per capita black population in the country, nearly 40%, are headed by European Americans at a rate of 94%. There is no compassion in these attitudes and behavior – there is prejudice, and it parades right out in the open. Let us continue to pray the litany – the time is coming when the eyes of compassion shall pierce the masks of prejudice.”

# Social Media apps are the deadly new marketplace for illicit drugs

Many smartphone transactions involve fake prescription pills that are lethal

The Mississippi Link Newswire

Popular social media apps are becoming the preferred method for those looking to find and purchase illegal drugs – a trend that has fueled an alarming increase in overdose deaths. That’s why Make Mississippi OD Free is working to raise awareness about the many ways smartphone apps are enabling drug traffickers to expand their reach, create new markets and target new customers. While social media drug trafficking affects people of all ages, adolescents and young adults are particularly susceptible because of their higher rates of social media usage. Overdoses are now the leading cause of death among U.S. adults 18-45. In Mississippi, drug overdose deaths rose by 49%

in one year from 2019-2020. “With just a smartphone and a social media app, fatal drugs can be bought and delivered to your home just like other goods and services,” said Jan Dawson, program director, Mississippi Public Health Institute. “Social media is not going away, but we want to make Mississippians aware of how drug dealers are using these platforms and make it harder for people to buy and sell illicit drugs,” Dawson said. “If you’re a parent, teacher, pastor, relative or just a concerned friend, you can learn how to recognize signs of illicit drug activities and ways to take action and potentially prevent overdoses.” Learn more at <https://odfree.org>.

## Water

Continued from page 1

zations, corporate sponsors, grocery stores and a wide range of donors have come to the aid of Jackson citizens. The public has shown they care for Jacksonians. Officials need to be accurate, honest, united and held accountable. Funding agencies as well as ordinary people deserve the truth about long-term and short-term plans. President Biden’s Infrastructure Act would seem to lay the groundwork for the sorely needed rescue solutions. The President has sent Federal Aid to Mississippi. This infusion of cash and experts provides for major infrastructure improvements. Multimillions of dollars slated for Jackson, should not be deflected this time. Having been put on high alert, how can Jacksonians monitor the situation and impact the outcome? Efforts by lawmakers to make wise and just decisions should include sufficient funding to revamp even blighted areas. Some of the most underserved and neglected areas in the inner city such as Farish, Lynch and W. Capital Streets are potentially the most profitable. Consider what revitalizing those areas would do for removing the stigma of the image of Jackson. One of the main barriers to progress is crime. The fear that it brings, coupled with the suspicion that law enforcement is not doing all they can to stop it, has crippled the city for decades. Funding additional community policing and familiarity with residents of the neighborhoods would improve responses to calls for help. Jackson’s crime rates would go down. School grades could go up; so would property values. An expectation that intangible benefits will result from the Federal aid to Jackson is not unreasonable. The sooner, the better.

There is a belief, often unspoken, that the capital city will not turn around unless and until a majority of white people are elected to city government. These opinions are held by whites, blacks and probably others. Indicators that the real power structure has started to reclaim the city, are apparent. Time will tell how much the 80% of black Jacksonians appreciate and are willing to hold on to what power they have. Jackson is a success, “warts and all.” It is the hub, from which the surrounding population centers have derived strength. Gentrification has its’ place, but please, this time, not at the expense of black businesses, property owners and the many others who look to them for support and economic empowerment. Generations of black Jacksonians have waited for decades, while promises from true integration to trickle-down economics have been broken time and time again. “We,” as in, “We are all in this together” can mean all those who live and make their livelihood in Jackson if some people will let it. Estimates of five years have been given for “the plant” (O.B. Curtis or Fewell or both?) to be renovated. Information obtained from the Health Department revealed there are 120 designated testing sites, sampled once a month for water quality. The number is determined by the Environmental Protection Agency according to the population of Jackson, approximately 157,000 as of 2020. Test-

ing is done by the MS Dept of Health. If the presence of bacteria is detected in any of the samples, a boiled water alert is issued. There must be two consecutive days of all samples are clear, negative for bacteria or other toxic by-products of disinfection, before the boiled water alert is lifted. The presence of lead was reported in Jackson’s water in 2015. At least two thirds of the samples tested since then contain lead. The Health Department provides a kit to test for lead and copper for \$20. A MS Dept. of Environmental Health official stated that a list of contaminants is issued by the City of Jackson’s Public Works Department once a year. A report from an online source from an agency that attempts to fill the gap in outdated governmental standards, emphasized that just because you see that a contaminant is within “legal limits,” does not mean it is safe. Through 2020, they reported 25 contaminants found in Jackson’s water supply. The nine which exceeded health guidelines were associated with an increased risk of cancer. They are: Arsenic, Bromodichloromethane, Chloroform, Chromium (hexavalent), Dichloro- acetic acid, Haloacetic acids (HAA5), Haloacetic acids (HAA9), Total trihalome- thanes (TTHMs), Trichloroacetic acid. Other contaminants include Barium, Chlorate, Chromium (total), Cyanide, Dibromochloromethane, Fluoride, Germanium, Manganese, Monobromoacetic acid, Monochloroacetic acid, Nitrate, Nitrate & Nitrite, Nitrite, Radium (-226 &-228), Strontium and Vanadium. Jackson, Mississippi has the second largest percentage (79.4%), behind Detroit, of blacks in the country. Memphis is second in actual population. White flight from Jackson began in the mid to late 1960’s following the landmark Civil Rights legislation of 1964 and 1965, and in the opinion of this writer, was precipitated by the James Meredith March in 1966. Consequently, there has been the loss of the economic base, employment, ability to attract outside investment, ability to retain homegrown talent, property values, wealth building potential, money invested in Jackson Public Schools, scholastic achievement, and yes, infrastructure. The concomitant increase in urban decay, poverty, crime, incarceration, homelessness, health disparities, breakdown of the family and despair was also predictable. The citizens of Jackson deserve good quality drinking water. It is vital for the health of all. For the foreseeable future, it may be that Jacksonians will require measures at the end user level which go beyond what the locality can provide. For those who can afford it, one option is a home ‘reverse osmosis’ water filtration system. Less expensive options are available. Although not as effective, they are bound to be an improvement over the 2022 City Water Report. If one were to make a case for tax credits and emergency subsidies to be justified, a large segment of the population could be protected. This is a cause worthy of consideration. Rosalind McCoy Sibley, MD is a native of Jackson, MS. She received her medical degree from the University of Mississippi School of Medicine. She is a board certified radiologist in Hampton, VA.



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# Benedict College dominates Tuskegee for first-ever SIAC Football Championship

Mississippi Link Newswire

In a historic season of firsts, the Benedict College Tigers reached another milestone with their first-ever SIAC football championship by overwhelming Tuskegee 58-21 Saturday, Nov. 12, in Charlie W. Johnson Stadium.

An emotional head coach Chennis Berry, as he always does after the team wins, gave praise to God.

“We’ve come so far in a short period of time,” Berry said. “I’m just humbled and grateful that we’re here. Now we’re able to say we’ve got the first football championship in the history of Benedict College.”

The Tigers, now 11-0 on the season, had a season-high 573 yards of total offense and held Tuskegee to an opponent season-low 41 yards rushing.

The Golden Tigers finished with 242 yards of total offense and scored their only two touchdowns on a pair of deep passes – for 75 and 66 yards. The Golden Tigers had 133 yards on those two pass plays, but managed just 109 total yards of offense on 48 combined other plays, and most of those came in the fourth quarter after Benedict had built an insurmountable lead.

“We have a very explosive offense,” Berry said. “I think we’re very good up front with the offensive line. Our quarterback is a dual threat and he’s explosive and can make things happen. I really believe wholeheartedly that we have two of the best running backs in the country with Noah Zaire Scotland and Deondra Duehart. And we have some receivers who can stretch the field vertically. When you put all those pieces together, we feel we have a pretty good explosive offense.” That offense was dynamite



Benedict Colleges’ head football coach Chennis Berry, (pictured to the right holding up the SIAC championship trophy); left of the trophy is SIAC Commissioner Anthony Holloman, sharing a moment after the Benedict College Tigers defeated the Tuskegee Golden Tigers 58-21.

Saturday against Tuskegee. Benedict scored on their first four offensive series, plus added a special teams touchdown when Reginald Harden scooped up a fumbled punt snap and raced 25 yards for a touchdown. Benedict had a 42-14 lead at the half.

Eric Phoenix completed 19-of-29 passes for 313 yards and two touchdowns with one interception. He completed touchdown passes of 36 yards to Joshua Gaddy and 14 yards to Tayven Grice.

“It feels good to bring a program from the bottom to the top,” said Phoenix, who was a part-time starter as a freshman in 2019, when the Tigers went 1-9. “This is a blessing.”

Phoenix was also Benedict’s leading rusher with 91 yards on 11 carries and one touchdown. The Tigers finished with 236 yards rushing, with Duehart scoring on a 12-yard run and Scotland scoring on runs of 22 and 1 yard. Da’Von Smith added a 3-yard rushing touchdown.

While the offense was lighting up the scoreboard, the Benedict defense recorded seven sacks – three by Loobert Denelus, the SIAC Defensive Player of the Year.

Tuskegee was just 1-of-12 on third down conversions, and 1-of-4 on fourth-down conversions. The Golden Tigers, who wrap up their season at 8-3, had their eight-game winning streak snapped.

“Since coach Berry has been here, it’s been a new day, new way,” Denelus said. “Now we’re trying to create a new legacy, create a new Benedict that’s going to be extraordinary.”

“He’s a special young man,” Berry said about Denelus. “He’s the most amazing man you’ll ever meet. He’s a man of God, he’s an amazing student, and he’s a really, really good football player. He’s made us better, not only on the field but off the field as well.”

The Tigers will await Sunday’s NCAA playoff selection show to determine their official seeding. Benedict was No. 1 in the region last week, and certainly did nothing Saturday to change that position. The No. 1 team in the region will have a bye in the first round, with the second round set for Saturday, Nov. 28.

“We have something special here,” Berry said. “I think we have all the things we need to be successful.”



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# No shame in his game

By Christopher Young  
Contributing Writer

Well, here we go again with former Mississippi Governor Phil Bryant. There’s just no shame in his game. Isn’t it interesting how if you or I were caught stealing, we would automatically be held accountable one way or another – but apparently if you are a governor, the rules are different – at least Bryant seems to think so.

Thanks to the tireless reporting of Anna Wolfe at *Mississippi Today*, we are privy to every last detail of the “misspending” of federal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) funds by the State of Mississippi.

Just shy of three years after the first arrests were made in the scandal, the Mississippi Legislative Democratic Caucus finally acted. They held the first hearing to address how the state administers its TANF program October 18, 2022. They promised additional hearings, as well.

On the other side of the aisle, the Republican majority has not acted, which makes one wonder about their motivations. Being elected officials, all having sworn an oath to serve, do they have no constituents who have been adversely impacted by the pilfering of \$90+ million. Is their moral compass out of calibration?

It bears repeating, these funds were, and continue to be provided to Mississippi annually, specifically as a safety net for our poorest families. The attitudes of our predominantly white Christian conservative legislators, representing our predominantly white Christian population in Mississippi, do not endorse the concept of welfare.

Britannica Dictionary defines welfare as “a government program for poor or unemployed people that helps pay for their food, housing, medical costs, etc.” Mississippi is the poorest state in the country, and the impact of poverty on children is heart-breaking. The Annie E. Casey Foundation said one year ago that “11 million children, 16% of all kids nationwide were living in poverty in 2020.”

They added that “poverty rates are disproportionately higher for



Bryant

children of color: black 28%, American Indian 25%, Latino 23%, non-Hispanic white 10%, and Asian and Pacific Islander 9%.” Can we even imagine the true numbers in Mississippi, the poorest of all states?

But folks like former Governor Bryant, and his successor Governor Reeves, well, they surely seem to have contempt for poor people. In Mississippi that means having little regard for at least 600,000 people, 20+% of the state’s population; 34% black and 13% white. Enough disdain that at the time the TANF scandal broke, that less than 2% of applications for TANF cash assistance were being approved.

Assuming eligibility hurdles are met, a family of three would receive a whopping \$260 per month. And that \$260 per month is paid by the federal government, through the state government. Bryant presided, and Reeves currently presides, over a system of oppression of poor people.

Bryant didn’t seem to object to redirecting federal welfare funds to some of his pet projects like \$5 million toward a volleyball stadium at University of Southern Mississippi, \$2.15 million for Prevacus – a concussion drug company, a fitness program for legislators at \$1.3 million (connected to Victory Sports Founda-

tion), a virtual reality academy at \$795,000 (connected to Lobaki, Inc.), advertising campaigns with SuperTalk at \$600,000 (conservative radio station), and many others.

According to Wolfe’s investigative reporting, Bryant claims to be okay with responding to 11 of 26 records of communications listed in a subpoena related to an ongoing civil case.

A defendant in the case, Austin Smith, a nephew of former convicted MDHS Director John Davis, who snagged \$430,000 in unfulfilled contracts has said in court filings, “If he is liable for welfare misspending, then Bryant is too,” per Wolfe’s reporting.

How many times in our lives have we heard the phrase, “there is no honor among thieves?” There has been no accountability yet for former Governor Phil Bryant, but as with so many cases in Hinds County, it’s on the desk of our own Judge Faye Peterson to sort out. I’ve got a strong feeling that she will separate the wheat from the chaff.

As for Bryant, one thing that can be said is that he is consistent. He seemed to have no shame in redirecting funding that was intended for the least of these, and he seems to have no shame in using the law to its fullest to avoid accountability.

# Mississippi capital to hire emergency water plant workers

The Mississippi Link Newswire

Local officials in Mississippi’s capital city, where a late summer water crisis upended life for 150,00 people, have approved an emergency plan to increase staffing at the city’s two water treatment plants.

Jackson City Council members voted Thursday to hire contract workers from a Los Angeles-based company to staff the O.B. Curtis and J.H. Fewell water treatment plants, tanks and well facilities. Under the agreement, WaterTalent LLC will provide the city with four skilled water operators to help beef up paltry staffing at the two treatment facilities.

Jackson currently has two operators licensed at the Class A level, who have a degree of technical expertise that can take years to acquire. City leaders said that the two operators have been working more than

80 hours a week to produce clean water at the plants.

“We’re still relying on the same operators who are working long, long, long hours and long shifts,” said Ted Henifin, a consultant working with the city council. “So, we identified this company, and they recruit these folks and have them on standby, essentially licensed operators, that are willing to deploy for some emergency periods, and we’ve gotten a proposal from them.”

The workers will be paid around \$40 per hour. The agreement will be in place until the city hires a long-term contractor, WLBT-TV reported. The new operators reported to Jackson Sunday, November 13.

Jackson’s water system has been beset by problems for decades, but the latest troubles began in late August after heavy rainfall exacerbated problems

at the O.B. Curtis plant, leaving many customers without running water. State and federal officials surged resources to the area after emergency orders were declared by Mississippi Gov. Tate Reeves and President Joe Biden.

Reeves said the state of emergency he declared Aug. 30 would remain in place until Nov. 22. City officials are attempting to reach an agreement with a private firm to operate Jackson’s water system over the long term. Until then, extra staffing will ease the burden on city workers, local officials said.

“The big piece of this is it also allows (operators) not to have to work 70 to 80 hours a week,” Henifin said. “They’re actually going to get some of their life back, which I think they would all like at this point in time.”

# Mississippi House speaker not seeking reelection in 2023

By Emily Wagster Pettus  
Associated Press

One of the most powerful jobs in Mississippi government will be up for grabs because state House Speaker Philip Gunn of Clinton says he will not seek reelection to the Legislature in 2023.

Gunn made the announcement in a statement Wednesday, saying he is grateful to to the voters in his district for electing him to the House for five terms, and to his House colleagues for choosing him as speaker for three terms. He said he will serve the final year of his term.

“My service as speaker coming to an end does not mean I will not be open to future opportunities to serve. I love our state and will always work to make her better,” Gunn said. “I believe there will be an opportunity for me to serve our state soon and when that time comes, I will be ready.”

Gunn is an attorney. He was first elected to the 122-member House in 2003, and his district is in parts of Hinds and Madison counties in the metro Jackson area. In January 2012, he became Mississippi’s first Republican House speaker since Reconstruction.

Republicans hold wide majorities in the Mississippi House and Senate. The leader of the 52-member Senate is the lieutenant governor, who is chosen in a statewide election.

The speaker and the lieutenant governor arguably hold more power than the Mississippi governor because they have expansive influence over the legislative process by choosing committee leaders and deciding which committees will consider bills.



Gunn

“I believe we have moved Mississippi in a positive direction, and I am proud of what we have accomplished together and look forward to another productive session in 2023,” Gunn said Wednesday.

In 2015, Gunn became one of the first Republican leaders to publicly call for Mississippi to retire the last state flag in the nation that prominently featured the Confederate battle emblem. The flag had been used since 1894. Gunn said that as a Christian, he believed that the divisive symbol was “a point of offense that needs to be removed” in a state with a 38% black population.

Although Democrats had tried to retire the flag for years, many Republicans resisted change. Legislators voted with bipartisan support to ditch the flag in mid-2020 amid nationwide protests over racial injustice sparked by the police killing of George Floyd in Minneapolis.

Gunn was instrumental this year in pushing legislators to pass one of the largest tax cuts in state history. The 4% income tax bracket will be phased out over four years, starting in 2023. In the following three years, the 5% bracket will be reduced to

4%. Gunn and Republican Gov. Tate Reeves have both said they want a full elimination of the state income tax.

Gunn also has supported restrictions on abortion, including a 2018 Mississippi law that banned most abortions after 15 weeks of pregnancy. Abortion-rights supporters challenged the law, and the U.S. Supreme Court used the case this year to overturn Roe v. Wade, the landmark 1973 ruling that had established abortion rights nationwide.

Several days after the new Supreme Court ruling, a more restrictive Mississippi abortion law took effect. The law was passed in 2007 to take effect if Roe v. Wade was overruled. It says abortion is legal only if the pregnant woman’s life is in danger or if a pregnancy is caused by a rape reported to law enforcement. It does not have an exception for pregnancies caused by incest.

Gunn spoke at the Mississippi Capitol the day justices overturned Roe, and reporters from The Associated Press and the *Northeast Mississippi Daily Journal* asked him whether a 12-year-old girl impregnated by her father or uncle should have to carry the pregnancy to term. Gunn, who is a leader in his local Baptist church, said he would oppose changing the Mississippi law to allow abortion in cases of incest.

Mississippi voters next year will elect a governor, lieutenant governor and six other statewide officials, plus transportation commissioners and public service commissioners from northern, central and southern districts. All 174 legislative seats also will be on the ballot.

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## The Mississippi Link™

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# Tiffany Cross show “Cross Connection” on MSNBC unexpectedly ends

By Lauren Victoria Burke  
*NNPA Newswire Correspondent*

Without detailed explanation and days before one of the most consequential midterm elections in recent memory, MSNBC decided to end its contract with MSNBC host Tiffany Cross. The staff who work on her show was informed of the change Oct. 4.

Cross was host of The Cross Connection, which aired on Saturday mornings at 10 a.m. The show was the highest rated weekend show on MSNBC, whose slogan is “This is who we are.”

The sudden end to Cross’ time at MSNBC is another moment in a string of examples of MSNBC parting ways with black women who were either hosts or commentators at the network. The list of black women who have departed over the last several years includes Tamron Hall, April Ryan, Melissa Harris Perry, Karen Finney and Zerlina Maxwell.

In a statement posted on social media on the evening of Nov. 4, Cross reacted saying, “I am disheartened to learn of MSNBC’s decision to cancel The Cross Connection, at such a crucial time – four days before the midterm elections.”

“Fresh off the heels of ‘a racial reckoning,’ as so many have called it, we see that with progress there is always backlash. Now is not the time to retreat to politics or journalism as usual,” Cross observed.

There has been a rise in political violence and white supremacy in the wake of former President Donald Trump’s rise to political prominence. Trump’s announcement he’d run for the presidency included a racist attack on Mexican immigrants, blaming them for crime in the U.S.

“When Mexico sends its people, they’re not sending their best. They’re sending people that have lots of problems, and they’re bringing those problems with us. They’re bringing drugs. They’re bringing crime. They’re rapists. And some, I assume, are good people,” Trump said during the June 16, 2015 campaign kickoff announcement in New York.

Prior to that statement, Trump had spent years attempting to falsely claim that President Barack Obama was born



Cross

in Kenya and somehow elected illegitimately though President Obama was born in the U.S.

On June 17, 2015 a white supremacist, Dylann Roof, murdered nine black people by shooting them to death at point blank range during a bible study at Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church in Charleston, South Carolina. Those murdered by Roof included the church’s senior pastor: State Senator Clementa Pinckney.

During his time in office, Trump hired two white supremacists who often platformed and pushed policies and messaging that has been used by racists Steve Bannon and Stephen Miller.

The FBI has reported a notable uptick in political threats and violence and named the number one threat in the U.S: as politically driven domestic terrorism.

On Aug. 4, FBI Director Christopher Wray told Congress, “The greatest terrorism threat to our homeland is posed by lone actors or small cells who typically radicalize to violence online and look to attack soft targets with easily accessible weapons. We see these threats manifested within both domestic violent extremists and homegrown violent extremists... individuals who commit violent criminal acts in furtherance of social or political goals stemming from domestic influences some of which include racial or ethnic bias, or anti-government or anti-authority sentiments.”

In 2017, a hate filled white supremacist riot broke out in Charlottesville, VA and a counter-protester was murdered after a white supremacist delib-

erately drove his car into a crowd of counter-protesters. President Trump did little to push back against the racist Charlottesville rioters and instead said “there are very good people on both sides.”

In Jan. 2021, the U.S. Capitol was violently attacked by Trump supporters shortly after he incited them in a speech to go to the Capitol on the day President Biden’s 8 million vote victory over Trump was to be certified.

Last week, House Speaker Nancy Pelosi’s husband Paul Pelosi, 82, was violently attacked in his home by an intruder who struck him with a hammer. The individual trafficked in false online conspiracy theories around election fraud and QAnon driven paranoia.

At a time of rising political division and deliberate misinformation and disinformation, MSNBC is removing an on-air presence pushing back against growing racist and fascist trends in politics. Cross was recently a target of Fox News host Tucker Carlson. The silence of MSNBC on Carlson’s attack was noted by many on social media.

“So just right before a crucial election cycle the plug is pulled on @tiffanydcross? What’s going on @msnbc?! First @mharriserry & now this....I know the numbers were right....what’s goin on?” Wrote music artist and producer Questlove on twitter on Nov. 4.

“WTH?! First @ZerlinaMaxwell now suddenly @TiffanyDCross is out @msnbc? Pro Tip: Reversing 2020’s equality by ruthlessly purging people of color or taking hints on how to treat your hosts from Tucker & Fox News won’t appease Trump & the armed insurrectionists. They hate you,” wrote Malcolm Nance, a MSNBC contributor.

MSNBC announced Cross Connection’s debut in December 2020 along with a Sunday show hosted by Jonathan Capehart. Moving forward, MSNBC will have different hosts in the Saturday 10 a.m. slot to replace Cross.

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

# Russia transfers Brittney Griner to dreaded penal colony



At 6’ 9” Griner, wearing her signature braids, is led by a Russian guard.

By Stacy M. Brown  
*NNPA Newswire Contributor*

Russian authorities have transferred Brittney Griner to the country’s dreaded penal colony, a move that, while expected, she and her family had hoped could be avoided. Attorneys for Griner said they don’t expect to know her exact location for a couple of weeks.

Russian officials jailed Griner in February when authorities arrested her at a Moscow airport after finding a small amount of cannabis oil in her luggage.

A court convicted Griner in August of trying to smuggle narcotics. She received a nine-year sentence, which an appeals court upheld last month.

White House Press Secretary Karine Jean-Pierre said President Biden had directed all in the administration to prevail on her “Russian captors” to improve Griner’s treatment and the conditions many must endure in the country’s penal colony.

Individuals who’ve spent time at one of Russia’s infamous penal colonies reported that prisoners aren’t allowed outside contact for weeks.

The colonies are notorious for corrections officers’ repeated abuse of prisoners, violence among inmates, lack of food, and inadequate sanitation. Confirmed reports said the United States government had offered to swap the so-called “Merchant of Death” Viktor Bout for Griner and another imprisoned American, Paul

Whelan. Bout, who’s serving a 25-year federal prison sentence and notorious for his desire to kill Americans, reportedly has been at the top of Russian President Vladimir Putin’s wish list.

“We communicated a substantial offer that we believe could be successful based on a history of conversations with the Russians,” a senior administration official said earlier this year. “We communicated that many weeks ago, in June.”

The families of Whelan, who Russia has held for alleged espionage since 2018, and WNBA star Griner, jailed in Moscow for drug possession since February, have urged the White House to secure their release, including via a prisoner exchange, if necessary, the report stated.

During her court testimony, Griner said she’s still unsure how cannabis oil ended up in her luggage. She said a doctor recommended cannabis oil for her injuries on the basketball court.

“I still don’t understand to this day how they ended up in my bags,” Griner said, adding that she was aware of the Russian law outlawing cannabis oil and that she had not intended to break it. “I didn’t have any intention to use or keep in my possession any substance that is prohibited in Russia,” Griner said.

U.S. officials continue to wait for word from the Russian government on whether they will accept the swap.

# Jay-Z reportedly might team with Jeff Bezos to buy the Washington Commanders

By Stacy M. Brown  
*NNPA Newswire Contributor*

Hip Hop star and business mogul Jay-Z signed a deal in 2019 with the NFL that gave him authority to determine the wildly popular Super Bowl halftime show.

Jay-Z could eventually have his own NFL team in the big game. Reports surfaced recently that the “99 Problems” artist is mulling a bid to purchase the Washington Commanders from Dan Snyder.

While Jay-Z isn’t commenting on the prospect, TMZ reported that a partnership between Beyonce’s husband and Jeff Bezos “is on the table.” The news arrives just one day after Snyder hired a major bank to investigate selling the team.

Of course, Jay-Z and Bezos aren’t the only potential suitors. The team’s former quarterback Robert Griffin III has openly courted backers on social media. “Who wants to be a minority owner of the Washington Commanders? I’m down to pay for a stake in the team and bring ten fans along for the ride,” Griffin tweeted. “Ten fans don’t have to pay anything,” he declared.

Perhaps Jay-Z’s most significant



Jay-Z

competition would come in the form of media mogul Byron Allen, whom Bloomberg reported is working with a group of investors seeking to purchase the team. According to Bloomberg, Allen has said that NFL commissioner Roger Goodell and Patriots owner Robert Kraft approached him about bidding for the Broncos.

The latter was sold earlier this year to a group led by Walmart heir Rob Walton for \$4.65 billion.

The Bloomberg report noted that one NFL franchise owner that the Commanders are expected to net a purchase price of at least \$5 billion, with the possibility of the price tag reaching \$6 or \$7 billion.

Forbes places Jay-Z’s worth at about \$1.5 billion, so the mogul would appear to need a partner in the endeavor. He previously owned a stake in the NBA’s Brooklyn Nets.

# Fauci to step down in December

By Stacy M. Brown  
*NNPA Newswire Contributor*

Dr. Anthony Fauci, who quickly became the face – and, for many, the voice of reason – of the federal government’s response to the coronavirus pandemic, announced earlier this year that he would leave government service in December.

Fauci, who has served as chief medical adviser to President Joe Biden and seven other presidents, as well as the head of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases for the past 38 years, said he is ready to “pursue the next chapter” of his career.

“While I am moving on from my current positions, I am not retiring. After more than 50 years of government service, I plan to pursue the next phase of my career while I still have so much energy and passion for my field,” he said in a statement. “I want to use what I have learned as NIAID director to continue to advance science and public health and to inspire and mentor the next generation of scientific leaders as they help prepare the world to face future infectious disease threats.

Fauci’s career at the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases began in the 1980s under the administration of Ronald Reagan. In 2008, President George W. Bush presented him with the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

Fauci helped America navigate the coronavirus pandemic despite public clashes with President Donald Trump. He also proved instrumental in sev-



Fauci

eral other health crises, including HIV/AIDS.

“During my time as vice president, I worked closely with Dr. Anthony Fauci on the United States’ response to Zika and Ebola,” Biden said in a statement. “I came to know him as a dedicated public servant, and a steady hand with wisdom and insight honed over decades at the forefront of some of our most dangerous and challenging public health crises.

“When it came time to build a team to lead our COVID-19 response – in fact, in one of my first calls as president-elect – I immediately asked Dr. Fauci to extend his service as my chief medical advisor to deal with the COVID-19 crisis our nation faced,” Biden said. “In that role, I’ve been able to call him at any hour of the day for his advice as we’ve tackled this once-in-a-generation pandemic. His commitment to the work is unwavering, and he does it with an unparalleled spirit, energy, and scientific integrity.”



# Turkey Talk: Institute encourages family health discussions this Thanksgiving

By **Sandra Melvin, CEO**  
*Institute for the Advancement of Minority Health*



Thanksgiving Day is Family Health History Day, a national public health campaign that urges people to learn the health risks that impact their families. The Institute for the Advancement of Minority Health encourages families to use the holidays to discuss their family health history.

Just as a person inherits their mother's eyes, their father's chin and their grandmother's unusual disposition, chronic illnesses such as heart disease, diabetes, stroke and cancer are also passed down through generations. Together, these factors create family health history.

Ideally, a complete family health history contains information from generations of relatives. This includes parents, siblings, children, aunts/uncles, grandparents and even cousins. Because families share everything – backgrounds, diets, lifestyles, habits and environments, illness can easily "run" in families.

Patterns of illnesses or disorders can predict if an individual may be at an increased risk for developing a certain

condition. Therefore, family health history is an important tool for primary care physicians and other medical professionals.

With the use of family health history, physicians may recommend regular checkups, testing or frequent screenings for those with increased risk of various diseases.

Although it is not possible to change your DNA, family health history can help guide the path for a healthier future. For example, an individual with a history of heart disease can lower their chance of developing cardio related illnesses by implementing a healthier diet, exercising regularly and smoking cessation.

Family secrets can make these conversations regarding physical and emotional illnesses difficult. No matter how hard, these conversations must take place for the health of the entire family, especially younger generations. Secrets have a way of revealing themselves at the most inopportune times. I encourage each of you not to allow a health crisis to reveal an illness that if known about sooner could have been treated.

Talking to relatives about their health, illnesses and causes of death of family mem-

bers who have transitioned is the best way to secure family health history. Engaging directly during large family gatherings such as Thanksgiving dinner is the great time to build bonds, expand knowledge about ancestors and create a family health history.

Once a family health history is created, please share it. Share it with other family members and your physician. Forms are available via the Institute for the Advancement of Minority Health social media pages or at <http://bit.ly/3EsE6jm>

I encourage you to not wait until the New Year to protect your family's health. Generate and utilize your family health history. Learn your risk factors and work your physician. Make the decision and try to be illness free in 2023.

Happy Holidays.

**About the Institute:** The Institute for the Advancement of Minority Health was established in 2019 to reduce health disparities among disadvantaged and underserved minority populations in Mississippi through the development of collaborative partnerships with community stakeholders and the implementation of evidence-based public health interventions with a particular focus on health equity.

# Homeschooling spiked when COVID hit causing parents to be reluctant about sending kids to school

By **Josephine McNeal**  
*Special to The Mississippi Link*

Homeschooling, once a fairly niche form of education, rose to new heights during COVID, especially among black families who made the switch at a remarkably high rate.

Fall 2020 U.S. census data shows that the number of black families choosing to homeschool their children quintupled. Although reports from the National Center for Education Statistics show that homeschooling has been a historically white practice, the demographic change is unsurprising to experts because nationwide disruptions to student achievement were uneven.

COVID worsened preexisting gaps between historically marginalized public school student groups and their more privileged peers. White, Asian, and higher-income students still show much higher test scores than black, Latino and lower-income students.

One example comes out of San Diego's school district. The district's annual state standardized tests represent the first districtwide picture of how the pandemic impacted student achievement. The jarring 2022 scores show 34% of black students meeting standards in English language arts, and only 19% met standards in math.

Red flags are also waving nationwide about absenteeism from school. The pandemic complicated attendance tracking, especially because required quarantines and COVID illness kept many students out of school for stretches of time.

The option and resources for homeschooling are not available to every family, but steps for keeping every student safe – no matter how they are being educated – are accessible for all.

Dr. Joan Prince, vice chancellor of Global Inclusion and Engagement at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and a nationally renowned advocate for equity, said in a recent statement that it is important for the parents of black children to understand that COVID-19 vaccines are still a critical tool in the fight against the virus.

"An original vaccine for those that have not yet engaged, and the updated vaccines for all approved age groups in the family, along with face coverings are powerful weapons that can assist students in regaining normalcy with inside and external activities," Prince said. "Following these simple steps can reverse the negative impact of the virus on school attendance and achievement."

COVID-19 vaccines have been crucial to resolving the absentee issue, keeping stu-

dents active in extracurriculars and allowing them to be around peers.

Here are some facts about vaccines:

- Updated vaccines that provide extra protection from the Omicron strains of COVID are available for anyone age 5 or older who received their last vaccine dose at least 2 months ago.

- COVID vaccines help protect people in your community – including the most vulnerable community members – from the worst outcomes of COVID.

- Vaccination reduces the risk of getting long COVID by preventing COVID in the first place. Getting vaccinated is a safer way to build protection than getting sick with COVID.

- COVID can be unpredictable in children, with some experiencing severe outcomes or lingering symptoms. Getting children ages 6 months and older vaccinated for COVID can help keep them protected.

Every student can have a fair chance of having a healthy, successful school year.

*Josephine McNeal is the public relations specialist at CMRignite, a strategic marketing agency and a partner of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services We Can Do This COVID-19 Public Education Campaign.*

# Type 2 diabetes, a major health issue in MS

*Mississippi Link Newswire*

According to the Mississippi State Department of Health, Type 2 Diabetes has become a major issue in Mississippi. Thousands of adult Mississippians live with the complications of Type 2 diabetes, including lower extremity amputations, end stage renal disease, blindness, loss of protective sensations, heart disease and premature death.

Type 2 diabetes is preventable. You can delay or prevent the disease by starting with the small steps below.

- Your risk
- Diabetes screening
- Signs of diabetes
- Preventing diabetes
- Managing your diabetes

Getting screened for diabetes:

Diabetes screening is a simple test of your blood sugar level.

- Screening gives you early warning of high blood sugar before it develops into diabetes.

- Detecting high blood sugar early means it's easier to take basic steps to bring it under control – without costly medication.

- Screening is very important if you are overweight, over 45, or have a family history of diabetes. Mississippi adults have one of the highest risks of diabetes in the nation.

- Ask your doctor, healthcare provider or pharmacist about getting screened for diabetes.

Know Your Risk:

Type 2 diabetes develops when your body loses the ability to control the sugars in the food you eat. Being overweight is a primary cause of type 2 diabetes. As your blood sugar rises, damage to organs of the body begins.

Symptoms of high blood sugar are hard to spot without testing. But you are likely to be at risk if:

- You are overweight or obese.

- You are 45 years old or older. If you are 45 or older and overweight, it is strongly recommended that you be tested.

- If you are younger than 45 and overweight, your risk is higher if:

- You have a parent, brother or sister with diabetes.

- Your family background is African American, American Indian, Asian American, Pacific Islander, or Hispanic American/Latino.

- You have had gestational diabetes, or you have given birth to at least one baby weighing more than 9 pounds.

- Your blood pressure is 140/90 or higher, or you have been told by a doctor that you have high blood pressure.

- Your cholesterol levels are high. Your HDL cholesterol ("good" cholesterol) is 35 or lower, or your triglyceride level is 250 or higher.

- You get brisk exercise fewer than three times a week.

If you are at risk, make healthy changes, learn about symptoms, and make diabetes screening part of your regular checkups.

Signs and Symptoms:

Many people have no signs or symptoms. Symptoms can also be so mild that you might not even notice them. Nearly six million people in the United States have type 2 diabetes and do not know it. Here is what to look for:



- increased thirst
- increased hunger
- fatigue
- increased urination, especially at night
- weight loss
- blurred vision
- sores that do not heal

If you have one or more of these symptoms, and especially if you are at higher risk, arrange a diabetes screening as soon as possible. Your doctor, drop-in clinics, and even pharmacies can provide a blood glucose test and an A1C test to screen you for type 2 diabetes.

Preventing Type 2 Diabetes  
Step 1: Reach and Maintain a



Reasonable Body Weight

Being overweight can keep your body from using sugar properly. It can also cause high blood pressure.

The National Diabetes Prevention Program found that people who lost between 5 and 7 percent of their body weight significantly reduced their risk of type 2 diabetes. For example, if you weigh 200 pounds, losing only 10 pounds could make a difference.

Choose sensible ways to get in shape:

- Avoid crash diets. Instead, eat less of the foods you usually have. Limit the amount of fat, salt and sweets you eat.

- Increase your physical activity. Aim for at least 30 minutes of exercise most days of the week.

- Set a reasonable weight-loss goal, such as losing 1 pound a week. Aim for a long-term goal of losing 5 to 7 percent of your total body weight.

Planning for Change

Making big changes in your life is hard, especially if you are faced with more than one change. You can make it easier by taking these steps: Make a plan to change behavior.

- Think about what might prevent you from reaching your goals.

- Find family and friends who will support and encourage you.

- Get your doctor, a dietitian, or a counselor to help you make a plan.



Step 2: Make Wise Food Choices

What you eat has a big impact on your health. By making wise food choices, you can help control your body weight, blood pressure, and cholesterol.

- Take a hard look at the serving sizes of the foods you eat. Reduce serving sizes of main courses, desserts and foods high in sugar or fat. Increase the amount of fruits and vegetables.

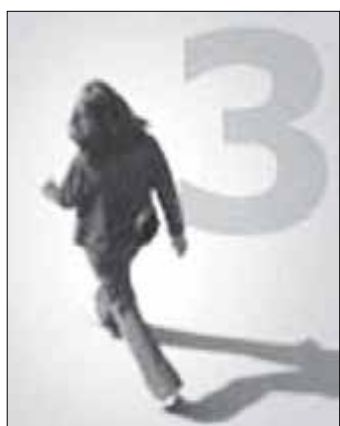
- Limit your fat intake to about 25 percent of your total calories. For example, if your food choices add up to about 2,000 calories a day, try to eat no more than 56 grams of fat. Your doctor or a dietitian can help you figure out how much fat to have. You can check food labels for fat content, too.

- Reduce the number of calories you have each day. Your doctor or dietitian can help you with a meal plan that emphasizes weight loss.

- Keep a food and exercise log. Write down what you eat, how much you exercise – anything that helps keep you on track.

- Work alongside family members or friends who will support you in your efforts.

Step 3: Be Physically Active Every Day



Regular exercise tackles several risk factors at once. It helps you lose weight, keeps your cholesterol and blood pressure under control, and helps your body use insulin. Getting moderate active at the level of brisk walking for 30 minutes every day reduces your risk of type 2 diabetes and improves your overall health.

If you are not very active, you should start slowly, talking with your doctor first about what kinds of exercise would be safe for you. Make a plan to increase your daily activity, with the goal of being active at least 30 minutes a day most days of the week.

Choose activities you enjoy. Walking is one of the best ways to work extra activity into your daily routine:

- Take the stairs rather than an elevator or escalator.

- Park at the far end of the lot and walk.



PART 3

# It all began with Adam and Eve

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



We read in John 17:20-22 these words, “I do not pray for these alone, but also for those who will believe in Me through their word; that they all may be one, as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You; that they also may be one in Us, that the world may believe that You sent Me. And the glory which You gave Me I have given the, that they may be one just as We are One.”

Salvation can very easily and accurately be described as “being at one” with God. As long as we are separated from God, we do not have salvation. When we are “at one” with God, it means that we are becoming like Him. It means that we are walking along the same path and will be saved.

Jesus Christ’s death bridges this impossible situation for us. We can, then, begin to contribute our part to being at one with God. What remains yet undone, even though the gap is bridged, is a change that must be worked in us, a change in character and in attitude in order for us to become like God. It takes living God’s way in order to become like God. This is why the humility is necessary.

We can see from Jesus’ prayer and from our own experience (and we can see from the history of man) that mankind is not at one with God, yet that is God’s aim. It was Satan’s influence that motivated Adam and Eve and all the rest of mankind to separate themselves from God. As long as Satan can keep us separated from God, salvation is impossible.

Satan’s thinking, which

was passed on to Adam and Eve and then passed on to us, is that we all have the right to set our own standards and codes of right and wrong. He has convinced mankind that they have the same prerogatives and that these Satan-inspired, man-made standards can produce abundant prosperity, good health, peace and a sense of well-being in our lives – but they do not, and that is the problem. Humbling oneself means giving up that notion and submitting to God’s Word. He has given us free moral agency to choose whether to obey His standards and codes; not the freedom to set our own.

Fasting can humble a person if it is properly used. It is undoubtedly an uncomfortable experience and requires a measure of faith, discipline and willpower. I say it requires a measure of faith if one is go-

ing to do it God’s way. It can be done – and you are doing it today. Fasting is a tool. It is a self-imposed affliction. It is important for human nature to gratify itself, and that is exactly what we do when we sin. We gratify the self. We gratify natural desires, lust of the flesh, lust of the eyes and the pride of life. Fasting makes one weak and makes one aware of how much we need what God provides.

God’s part in this equation is to forgive sin and dispose of Satan. It is no wonder the world is so ignorant of this day. This day is a thorn in Satan’s side, and he would like nothing more than to forget it – and for all of mankind to not even know of it. He has done a wonderful job with this task.

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

PRESERVED

## Thankful that ‘over ain’t over’

By Shewanda Riley  
Columnist



“Over ain’t over!” My former pastor, the late Rev. Dr. Jerome McNeil, stated these words a number of years ago in the middle of a sermon about having hope in the future that God has for us. He stated that some people need to be reminded that when it looks like things are at their worst, God still has things under control. Even when man says things like our jobs and our marriages are over, God wants us to remember that “over” for man isn’t necessarily “over” for him.

Like so many of you, I’ve seen this happen in my own life. When relationships have ended or I’ve lost jobs and other things that I’ve valued, I’ve mourned. However, as I went from seeing the loss as a negative to seeing it as a chance to embrace something new, I became more thankful and hopeful. For example, when I was fired from my job at KNON radio back in 2003, I was angry about the situation. However, a few weeks later when I’d accepted another better paying job as a college English instructor, I was thankful that “over” meant that I’d overcome that negative situation. And now nearly 20 years later, I can say that being fired led me to the most satisfying job I’ve ever had.

“Over” ain’t over for a few reasons:

- God is in control. – Even when we seem to lose a grip on our lives and don’t understand what’s happening, God still has us in his hands. 2 Samuel 7:28 reads, “O Sovereign LORD, you are God! Your words are trustworthy, and you have promised these good things to your ser-

vant.”

- God is never surprised. – Even when we are taken off guard by what happens in our life, God never is. Isaiah 46:10 shows, “I make known the end from the beginning, from ancient times, what is still to come. I say: My purpose will stand, and I will do all that I please.”
- God always has a plan B. – God expects us to follow him on the path of obedience with the eyes of faith. Genesis 22:13 says, “Abraham looked up and there in a thicket he saw a ram caught by its horns. He went over and took the ram and sacrificed it as a burnt offering instead of his son.”

As we look forward to Thanksgiving, other highlights of the holiday season and the end of 2022, we have to be thankful for “over” transitions...they make us overcomers.

In most cases, “over” is a chance to revisit the goodness of God. “Over” is an uncomfortable place but it reminds us of what God promises to be. Numbers 23:19 reminds us “God is not a man, that he should lie, nor a son of man, that he should change his mind. Does he speak and then not act? Does he promise and not fulfill?” It’s all about how you see it...will you be overcome by your circumstance or will you be an overcomer?

Shewanda Riley (Aunt Wanda), PhD, is a Fort Worth-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 her at [preservedbypurpose@gmail.com](mailto:preservedbypurpose@gmail.com) or follow her on Twitter @shewanda. Find out more about her new podcast “The Chocolate Auntie Podcast” at [www.chocolateauntiepodcast.com](http://www.chocolateauntiepodcast.com).



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# Seven top takeaways from this year's midterms

By Ben Jealous  
*People For the American Way*



As the dust settles on the mid-term elections and the warnings of a “Red Wave” evaporate, it’s time to take a deep breath and take stock of what we’ve learned. There are many takeaways from the elections this year – and here are a few that top the list for me.

If there’s one thing that’s crystal clear by now, it’s that elections don’t end on election night. With more mail-in ballots to count and plenty of close races, it’s normal to wait a few days for final results. So don’t listen to folks who say there’s something suspicious about vote counts that take a while. There isn’t. We have to be patient and make sure every vote is counted.

Another development is that early voting is here to stay. One day before the election, nearly 41 million Americans had cast early ballots. Georgia broke its all-time record for early votes. Again, there have been some fearmongers out there throwing shade on early voting, as if it’s somehow not the norm. Ignore them too. Early voting is totally legitimate and a great idea. Do it if you can.

By now we’ve all seen the attempts by far-right activists in Arizona to scare people away from early voting, by camping out fully armed near drop-boxes. We have to recognize that the Right may become more aggressive in its efforts to suppress the vote. The Justice Department stepped in this time to protect the vote and it will have a role to play in protecting it in the future; we should expect and welcome that.

These are all aspects of the new normal in our election process. But what about the issues? What are the takeaways there?

There’s no question that Americans came out in force to support reproductive freedom. In state after state where measures on abortion rights were on the ballot, people voted to uphold those rights. In California, Michigan, Vermont, Montana and even deep-red Kentucky, voters came out for the freedom to control their own bodies.

Abortion rights were also among the top issues motivating voters to go to the polls. Exit polls show inflation topped the list with abortion second – and way ahead of crime, which the Far Right had hoped to use as a winning issue against progressives. Of course, the Right’s spin – that progressives’ only answer is to “defund” police – was never accurate anyway, and we shouldn’t ever let that argument about public safety stand. Progressives have plenty of alternatives to offer when it comes to public safety and ending police violence. We need to be more clear and more forceful in making that case.

As for election deniers on the ballot, it comes as a relief that some of the loudest and potentially most dangerous ones were defeated. Yes, it’s true that a significant number of them won or kept seats in Congress and lower offices, and that’s deeply disturbing. But Doug Mastriano will not be governor of Pennsylvania, Tim Michels will not be governor of Wisconsin, and Tudor Dixon will not be governor of Michigan. Lee Zeldin will not govern New York and Derek Schmidt will not govern Kansas. Election-denying candidates lost secretary of state races in Michigan, New Mexico and Minnesota. I’ll go out on a limb and say I hope the Right is learning that election denialism is not a ticket to victory.

I’ve saved one of the biggest takeaways for last, and it’s one that’s close to my heart. It’s the importance of down-ballot races like sheriff, state representatives or city council representatives. These candidates don’t get all the attention and the big rallies like folks at the top of the ticket. But these are critical positions where a small amount of support can make a huge difference. They’re also the races where you’ll find rising stars: people like Malcolm Kenyatta in the Pennsylvania House, Anna Eskamani in the Florida House and Darrin Camilleri and Sarah Anthony in the Michigan Senate – part of a wave that flipped the state’s senate this year. We need to pay attention to these races, and we need to support these young people who are our future.

Thanks for voting – this time and every time.  
*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 January 2023.*

# Don’t just say you love me: Show and Tell

By LaShunda Calvert  
*Guest Writer*



As an elementary student, I remember playing games like, Hide and Go Seek, Bingo, Twister, and many more, but my favorite game was Show and Tell. I thought Show and Tell was more exciting than recess. Several of my elementary teachers eagerly incorporated Show and Tell as part of their curriculum. Further, they allowed students to bring their favorite toys to school and share why it was their favorite toy.

I am not sure about how my peers felt about this special assignment, but I was elated. I remember feeling nervous, excited, proud and anxious to show my classmates how and why my toy was so special. My peers and I would profusely explain the following: who bought the toy, toy features, characteristics of the toy, how we played with it, the special location it was put away when not playing with it, and what our future goals were with our special toys.

Most of the children’s presentations would be followed by sounds of peculiar admiration of oohs and aahs and maybe a few boos, questions, requests to hold it and play with it, often resulting in an exchange of, “give my toy back.” Others adored their toys a little bit longer before putting it away as requested by the teacher.

The purpose of the Show and Tell game, based on my experience, was to teach us (children) how to practice presenting to an audience by utilizing descriptive words based on an object that was familiar to us. The teacher could have simply just told us to tell her about our favorite toy, but she wanted us to bring it (action) display it (action) and then discuss it. The teacher could have simply taken our word for it, but she wanted to hold us accountable. Although, a silly and meaningless game to many; it has a profound message that can help

married couples stay happily married today.

Don’t just say you love me: Show and Tell. In other words, a spouse saying or texting the three most famous words, I love you, doesn’t mean anything if he or she isn’t showing it. Young married people would possibly express it as follows: you gotta bring it (show me) and of course, the seasoned (wouldn’t dare use old) would possibly and simply say show me your love.

How many married couples can easily tell their spouses that they love them? There are married couples who tell their spouses daily that they love them, some won’t leave home without saying it, some won’t end a phone call without saying it, many won’t go to bed without saying it, many will say it even when they are offended or upset with their spouse. Moreover, many have made it a habit to say, “I love you,” but there is some action behind the statement.

It is generally easy to say, “I love you.” However, saying it and showing it are two different things.

God’s Word states the following in 1 John 3:18: My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue, but in deed and truth.” In other words, God’s Word declares that we show love for one another; not just say it or text it – love is an action word.

A spouse should know without a doubt that she or he is loved by how we respond, react, receive and reassure actions. Don’t just say you love me; show and tell me. For instance, that’s like someone saying, “I can cook.” They can explain what they cook, and show pictures of their meals, but if they have not cooked for you and you have not tasted their food how confident can you be that this person can cook?

Are spouses confident that you love them? Are spouses doubtful about your love? Are they only hearing or reading via text that you love them? Do they have to question if you truly love them due to your lack of actions or the

wrong type of actions?

How can you say you love your spouse, but your actions suggest the total opposite of love? Love, at least the love that God describes in First Corinthians 13, doesn’t warrant name calling, insults, aggressive behavior, gas lighting, absenteeism, adultery, domestic violence, rape, emotional abuse, verbal abuse, mental abuse, spiritual abuse, economic abuse and pursuing selfish motives. Don’t just say you love me; show and tell.

In Ephesians 6, God through Paul tells a man to nourish and cherish his wife. Cherish and nourish – action. The word nourish in Greek means to develop, to nurture and to lift up. The word cherish in Greek means to love, foster with tenderly cares and regard with affection.

Husbands, what prized possession do you have that you cherish? Is it a car, collector’s cards, pair of shoes, trophy, golfing equipment, clippers, man’s cave, riding mower, gym equipment, businesses, churches (pastors), shirt, pants, recliner, old high school, or college memorabilia, etc.? Do your prized possessions get more care, concern, protection, security and positive attention than your wife? Please do not get me wrong, it is nothing wrong with having prized possessions, but it is wrong when you go out of your way to take care of ‘things’ more than you do your spouse.

Some husbands may conclude that they show their wives that they love them by taking them on expensive vacations, to fancy restaurants, buying expensive jewelry or gifts. Those are awesome expressions of love, however, many wives are on these vacations, dining at fancy restaurants and reminiscing over your gifts with the gut-wrenching doubt of does he really love me. Of course, if you have shown your wife that you love her, then the above actions are further reassurances.

However, husbands, you can even show your wives in small ways that you love them. Hus-

bands, how do you show your wives that you love them? Is your wife a priority? Do you help her with the children? Do you help her with household chores? Do you fill her car up? Do you cook or at least order takeout to help her? Do you listen to her? Do you make her feel special and desired? Do you take out time to date and woo her? Do you show her affection? Do you communicate with her sensibly? Do you empathize with her? Do you support her goals and aspirations?

I have not forgotten about wives. Do your husbands know without any doubt that you love them for them and not what they can give you or buy you? Do they feel respected, honored, considered and appreciated? Does your husband feel comfortable talking to you? Do your children, parents, siblings, jobs, and even the pets, get more positive attention and love than your husband does? Do you support his goals and aspirations?

In conclusion, don’t just say you love your spouse; show and tell. A school aged game of Show and Tell in marriage may be the difference between trying to remain happily married versus divorcing. Statistically, between 40% and 50% of marriages are ending in divorce. According to the CDC, the current divorce rate is just 2.3 per 1000 based only on 45 states and the District of Columbia. What if more spouses (some are doing this already) become willing to not only say, “I love you,” but show it and tell it.

*LaShunda Calvert is a professor of History at Hinds Community College. She earned her BA in history from Jackson State University, her MA in history from Jackson State University, and her Ph.D. in urban & regional planning. Calvert is a member of the Mississippi Humanities Council Speaker’s Bureau, Marriage and Relationship advocate and speaker and motivational speaker. She is author of Boohurt, a transparent book based on the restoration of her marriage.*

# Now that run-off elections have your attention, who gets your vote next time?

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



The title to a Carpenters hit song seems to be fitting during this election season. The name of the song is “We’ve Only Just Begun.”

The buildup to this year’s midterm elections was far reaching. At every twist and turn there was some report about this upcoming election. In the eyes of some, it was more like an event than an election. Some folks were hosting parties and giving out memorabilia in anticipation of their candidate winning the race.

Those vying for office spent a lot of money trying to capture our votes. Yes, the national elections were important however the local elections had their share of excitement and intrigue.

In many communities, we were receiving mail seemingly every day about candidates and their credentials. These mailings were in addition to the radio and television spots that played frequently.

Reports say more than 42 million people had already voted prior to Tuesday, November 8. This meant people were voting through mail-in ballots and through early voting sites.

Karine Jean-Pierre, White House press secretary said, “In modern elections, more and more ballots are being cast in early voting and also by mail. And many states don’t start counting those ballots until after the polls close on November 8.”

National reports say that approximately 8 million young people were eligible to vote in the 2022 midterm elections.

Researcher Peter de Guzman and contributors, Alberto Medina and Abby Kiesa said, “These 18-and-19-year-olds comprise 16% of the 18-29 age group for the 2022 election.” The statistics include 4.5 million white youth and 3.8 million youth of color.

It is clear more young people are voting about issues they see as important. Let’s applaud them for caring about what is happening in America today.

Prior to the midterms, much of

the voting banter was about the US House and US Senate being up for grabs. Some of those races have already been decided.

A party needs 218 seats to control the House. Currently at this writing, the Democrats have 204 seats and the Republicans have 211 seats.

It will be interesting to see how long it takes for the ballots to be counted and to see which party ultimately gains control of the House.

The current speaker, Nancy Pelosi may be in her final chapter. We will just have to wait and see. Some in the Democratic Party are still holding out hope for continued control.

National media reports there are some House races that are simply too close to call. States are checking and re-checking their totals, so they won’t have to hear anyone saying the elections were stolen or concerns about voter fraud.

On the US Senate side, it looks a bit clearer about what party will be in control. This is my opinion.

CNN reported that the Democrats will keep control of the Sen-

ate for the next 2 years. This was a result of close victories in Nevada and Arizona.

President Joe Biden said, “I think it’s a reflection of the quality of our candidates. They’re all running on the same program. Wasn’t anybody who wasn’t running on what we did.”

With the control of the Senate, President Biden will have an upper hand in legislative matters. If you are a Democrat, this is good news. If you are a Republican, it’s not.

America now has its eyes on the state of Georgia as its senate race is headed for a runoff. The incumbent Raphael Warnock is pitted against challenger Herschel Walker. The runoff election date is December 6.

In the meantime, you can expect a vigorous campaign by both men. Huge amounts of money and endorsements will be the call of the day and will come into the state of Georgia non-stop.

We can say this 2022 midterm election was one for the ages because it was. It will not soon be forgotten.



## LEGAL

DECEMBER 10, 2022

AUCTION OF CITY OF JACKSON  
IMPOUNDED VEHICLES

To all interested parties, known or unknown,

Pursuant to the MS State Code of 1972, Section 21-39-21, the City of Jackson, Mississippi, will sell at Public Auction, the impounded, abandoned, lost, stolen, or misplaced motor vehicles and equipment listed on the attached schedule. Unclaimed motor vehicles and equipment may be sold after the expiration of ninety (90) days from their receipt or recovery by the City of Jackson. The auction will be held at the City's Garage/Impound Lot facility located at 4225-C Michael Avalon Street on Saturday, December 10, 2022 starting at 10:00 a.m.

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

Hinds County Court House  
Hinds County Chancery Court Building  
Jackson City Hall/City Clerk's Office

1/17/2022

INVENTORY NO	CASE NO	YEAR/MAKE/MODEL/COLOR	VEH IDENTIFICATION NO	DISPOSITION	
1	25958	2016-199538	2002 SATURN I-30 (RED)	1G4US4F22Y04333	ARREST
2	27466	2018-004158	1997 FORD ECONOLINE (WHITE)	1FTHED4LH80154	ARREST
3	27468	2018-013659	1999 NISSAN ALTIMA (GOLD)	1N4DL0D8K222133	ABANDON
4	27731	2018-041153	2002 CHEVROLET IMPALA (WHITE)	2G1W652K159124412	EVIDENCE
5	27775	2018-045887	2004 NISSAN XTERRA (BLACK)	5NHE028TBK15942	STOLEN
6	28014	2018-082411	2001 CHEVROLET TAHOE (GREEN)	1GHEC1337K170308	ARREST
7	28088	2018-000000	2017 INFINITI QX70 (BLACK)	1N6C53M08M41101	ABANDON
8	28105	2018-094010	1993 FORD F150 (RED)	1FTHED4LH80154	EVIDENCE
9	28235	2018-119460	2012 CHEVROLET IMPALA (WHITE)	2G1W65EAC1285186	ABANDON
10	28317	2018-133619	2006 NISSAN ALTIMA (GRAY)	1N4DL0A0Y135017	ABANDON
11	28444	2018-153538	2006 NISSAN SENTRA (WHITE)	1N1C51D661580195	ABANDON
12	28475	2018-000000	2001 CHEVROLET SILVERADO (WHITE)	1GCEC19W41216649	OTHER
13	28506	2018-164356	1997 NISSAN MAXIMA (GOLD)	1N1C42159123215	ABANDON
14	28579	2018-175555	2008 FORD CROWN VICTORIA (BLUE)	2B3F774H40X120178	OTHER
15	28612	2018-175501	2004 CHEVROLET TAHOE (BLUE)	1GHEC132K4120747	STOLEN
16	28658	2018-000000	2007 TOYOTA COROLLA (RED)	1N6B332E67280564	ABANDON
17	28661	2018-184644	2005 CHEVROLET IMPALA (WHITE)	2G1W652D29256160	ABANDON
18	28771	2019-004978	2004 MERCURY MARQUIS (WHITE)	2W4E57W46H487567	OTHER
19	28804	2019-010403	2003 BMW 745i (BLACK)	WBA5G43120P61238	ABANDON
20	28914	2019-012775	2004 KIA RIO (RED)	KN0C4212504312845	ARREST
21	28937	2019-039128	2006 CHEVROLET AVEO (SILVER)	KL1T06AAM812653	ABANDON
22	28956	2019-040577	2003 HYUNDAI ELANTRA (GRAY)	KMHND46503019477	EVIDENCE
23	29063	2019-083558	2002 CHEVROLET SILVERADO (GOLD)	2GCEC19T021211805	OTHER
24	29123	2019-116531	1999 SUZUKI SV650 (RED)	J51V952493210070	EVIDENCE
25	29424	2019-134581	2016 HONDA ACCORD (BLUE)	1H4CGRF950415941	EVIDENCE
26	29443	2019-140941	2005 HONDA ACCORD (WHITE)	1H4CGRF950415941	ABANDON
27	29589	2019-166942	2010 DODGE CHALLENGER (WHT)	2B3C450734H15794	STOLEN
28	29726	2019-182336	2007 KIA SPORTAGE (GREEN)	KN0JF72407230277	ABANDON
29	29821	2020-002775	2004 FORD F250 (GRAY)	1NFD021P46E365292	STOLEN
30	29865	2020-041885	2005 KIA SPECTRA (BLACK)	KN0E12155619505	ABANDON
31	29871	2020-006362	2001 CHRYSLER TOWN&COUNTRY	2C4GP4819212805	ABANDON
32	29874	2020-012648	2003 CHEVROLET TRAILBLAZER (WHITE)	1G4G553532142001	STOLEN
33	40015	2020-053097	2001 INFINITI QX4 (SILVER)	JN0R067W7W034378	ARREST
34	40028	2020-054765	2002 HONDA ACCORD (TAN)	1H4CGRF950415941	OTHER
35	40030	2020-054971	1997 TOYOTA CAMRY (TAN)	4T1B922K00031944	OTHER
36	40059	2020-054757	2006 BUICK LUCERNE (GRAY)	1G4G55353216016288	ARREST
37	40071	2020-055997	2001 NISSAN MAXIMA (BLACK)	JN1JAA31022743612	ABANDON
38	40116	2020-064157	1989 VOLVO 740 GL (GRAY)	YV1JAA384C137959	OTHER
39	40135	2020-068551	1995 HONDA TRX200 (BLACK)	4T8TE14075425179	ABANDON
40	40144	2020-070098	2007 CHEVROLET UPLANDER VAN (GRAY)	1G4G5531012113740	ABANDON
41	40160	2020-071706	2008 CHEVROLET MALIBU (GRAY)	1G1Z1578182417431	ABANDON
42	40161	2020-071845	2009 NISSAN MAXIMA (BLACK)	1H4JAA31EBC031264	ABANDON
43	40177	2020-071761	2010 NISSAN ALTIMA (WHITE)	1H4J2AP4A000879	OTHER
44	40209	2020-073318	1997 CHEVROLET LUMINA (BLUE)	2G1W653M0121276	STOLEN
45	40230	2020-082524	2001 LINCOLN LS (GRAY)	1L4H08M7410713399	OTHER
46	40269	2020-082934	1998 FORD EXPEDITION (BLACK)	1F4H08M74W1C2932	ABANDON
47	40280	2020-090083	2000 PONTIAC GRAND AM (BROWN)	1N1D5E377M0436128	ABANDON
48	40289	2020-091639	2001 CHEVROLET IMPALA (GOLD)	2G1W652K1394646	ABANDON
49	40305	2020-091556	2018 TOYOTA COROLLA (BLUE)	5YFBURHE1P8514116	ABANDON
50	40343	2020-091498	2010 YAMAHA WR250 (BLUE)	J90D21F04A00349	STOLEN
51	40370	2020-104573	1998 TOYOTA CAMRY (GOLD)	4T1B922K00031944	EVIDENCE
52	40374	2020-105418	2002 DODGE CARAVAN (GREEN)	2B4G4540C1621984	ABANDON
53	40381	2020-106887	2011 HONDA ACCORD (SILVER)	1H4CGRF950415941	ARREST
54	40389	2020-107798	2004 MERCURY MOUNTAINEER (WHITE)	4K021W6A00127714	EVIDENCE
55	40454	2020-104427	2009 KAWASAKI ZXR (BLUE/GRAY)	1K4C08M7410713399	STOLEN
56	40464	2020-113644	1994 FORD RANGER (GREEN)	1FTHED4LH80154	ABANDON
57	40500	2020-120022	2012 KAWASAKI DIRT BIKE (GREEN)	KN4D08M7410713399	STOLEN
58	40509	2020-120425	2001 LINCOLN LS (SILVER)	1H4H08M7410713399	EVIDENCE
59	40510	2020-121763	2000 LAND ROVER DISCOVERY (WHITE)	SA1Y1J4016237842	ABANDON
60	40512	2020-071716	2004 HONDA ACCORD (RED)	JN4H08M7410713399	EVIDENCE
61	40542	2020-120002	2012 HYUNDAI ACCENT (SILVER)	KMHCM66H4000879	OTHER
62	40543	2020-120015	1994 PONTIAC BONNEVILLE (GREEN)	1G4G553532160128	OTHER
63	40547	2020-120015	2018 TOYOTA COROLLA (BLACK)	5YFBURHE1P8513347	EVIDENCE
64	40562	2020-132790	2001 TOYOTA CAMRY (MAROON)	JTHBE18J205613455	ABANDON
65	40587	2020-134354	2016 MAZDA CX5 (WHITE)	JN4H08M7410713399	ABANDON
66	40609	2020-137554	2002 NISSAN ELANTRA (WHITE)	JTHBE18J205613455	ABANDON
67	40612	2020-137730	2002 CHEVROLET IMPALA (GRAY)	2G1W652H19603067	ABANDON
68	40631	2020-132524	2006 BMW Z3SC (SILVER)	WBAWJ3340P0006557	EVIDENCE
69	40657	2020-140642	2002 DODGE INTREPID (GOLD)	2B3H08M7410713399	ABANDON
70	40662	2020-141110	2002 HONDA ACCORD (WHITE)	1H4CGRF950415941	ABANDON
71	40665	2020-145544	2007 CHEVROLET SILVERADO (WHITE)	1G4G5535321611944	STOLEN
72	40683	2020-146830	2002 CHEVROLET SUBURBAN (WHITE)	3GNEC1625U344949	ABANDON
73	40688	2020-146834	2005 CHEVROLET IMPALA (GRAY)	2G1W652K149353844	ABANDON
74	40695	2020-150915	1991 FORD F350 (WHITE)	1F4H08M7410713399	ABANDON
75	40711	2020-153554	2011 NISSAN SENTRA (WHITE)	1N4JAA3106V714167	ABANDON
76	40719	2020-154037	1998 OLDSMOBILE CUTLASS (WHITE)	1GCEC15W08370815	ABANDON
77	40723	2020-154529	1997 FORD ESCORT (RED)	1F4H08M7410713399	ABANDON
78	40733	2020-154193	1999 TOYOTA AVALON (GREEN)	4T1B922K00031944	ABANDON
79	40736	2020-156647	2014 ACURA RLX (BLACK)	JN4H08M7410713399	ABANDON
80	40745	2020-157395	2011 HONDA TRX 530 (GREEN)	1FTHED4LH80154	ABANDON
81	40758	2020-138348	2014 KIA SORRENTO (WHITE)	KN4B9121X15092879	EVIDENCE
82	40777	2020-156077	1998 FORD F150 (WHITE)	1FTHED4LH80154	ABANDON
83	40805	2020-156627	2001 DODGE RAM (BLUE)	1FTHED4LH80154	ABANDON
84	40826	2020-156606	2009 NISSAN MAXIMA (BLUE)	1H4JAA31EBC031264	ABANDON
85	40838	2020-158187	1996 CHEVROLET 1500 (BLUE)	2GCEC19W5159193	ABANDON
86	40844	2020-158561	2001 PONTIAC GRAND PRX (RED)	1G4G553532157305	STOLEN
87	40856	2020-170366	2007 FORD CROWN VICTORIA (SILVER)	2B3F774H40X120178	ABANDON
88	40868	2020-171700	2006 HYUNDAI SONATA (WHITE)	5NPEU4C6M0152701	ABANDON
89	40891	2020-174870	2002 CADILLAC CT3 (GREEN)	1G4G553532152104	ABANDON
90	40898	2020-173185	2012 FORD TRANSIT VAN (WHITE)	1N4JAA3106V714167	EVIDENCE
91	40907	2020-175847	2002 CADILLAC SEVILLE (GOLD)	1G4G553532157816	OTHER
92	40917	2020-178166	2006 FORD CROWN VICTORIA (WHT)	2B3F774H40X120178	STOLEN
93	40919	2020-179402	2004 SAAB 93 (GRAY)	YV1JAA3106V714167	ABANDON
94	40923	2020-178540	2010 FORD ESCAPE (WHITE)	1N4JAA3106V714167	ABANDON
95	40939	2020-181166	2001 MERCEDES ML320 (WHITE)	4JG5B5E114285574	EVIDENCE
96	40941	2020-132632	2000 MERCEDES ML320 (BLUE)	4JG5B5E114285574	STOLEN
97	40946	2020-181965	2007 NISSAN ALTIMA (GRAY)	1H4JAA31EBC031264	ABANDON
98	40949	2020-182061	2002 DODGE INTREPID (GOLD)	2B3H08M7410713399	ARREST
99	40953	2020-182599	1995 FORD F150 (GRAY)	1FTHED4LH80154	ARREST
100	40957	2020-184076	1998 LEXUS ES 300 (WHITE)	JTHBE18J205613455	EVIDENCE
101	40965	2020-183332	2001 TOYOTA RUNNER (BLACK)	JTEJ17R23000545	ABANDON
102	40960	2020-183480	2004 NISSAN MAXIMA (BLUE)	1H4JAA31EBC031264	ABANDON
103	40968	2020-183625	2009 FORD TAURUS (GREEN)	JN4B9121X15092879	ABANDON
104	40995	2020-187187	2004 BMW 530i (GRAY)	WBAUJ43181480703	ABANDON
105	40999	2020-187472	2003 TOYOTA CAMRY (WHITE)	4T1B922K00031944	ABANDON
106	41002	2020-187740	2001 FORD CROWN VICTORIA (MAROON)	2B3F774H40X120178	EVIDENCE
107	41005	2020-000000	2013 LEXUS GS350 (BLACK)	JTHBE18J2056134	ABANDON
108	41008	2020-188224	2014 FORD F250 (WHITE)	1FTHED4LH80154	ABANDON
109	41016	2021-000170	1998 FORD F150 (WHITE)	2FTHED4LH80154	ABANDON
110	41040	2021-001438	2014 HYUNDAI SONATA (BLUE)	5NPEU4C6M0152701	STOLEN
111	41043	2021-001704	2001 DODGE CHARGER (BLACK)	2C3CD4872148173	ABANDON
112	41047	2021-001740	1999 LEXUS RX300 (WHITE)	JTHBE18J2056134	ABANDON
113	41048	2021-044442	2013 NISSAN MAXIMA (PURPLE)	1H4JAA31EBC031264	STOLEN
114	41061	2021-006139	2005 HONDA ACCORD (GRAY)	1H4CGRF950415941	ABANDON
115	41063	2021-006291	2002 CHEVROLET SUBURBAN (WHITE)	1GHEC162K1212991	ABANDON
116	41070	2021-006319	2004 FORD EDGE (GRAY)	JF4R08M7410713399	BURNED
117	41083	2021-000006	2002 HONDA CR-V (WHITE)	2FTHED4LH80154	ABANDON
118	41093	2021-000915	2010 TOYOTA HIGHLANDER (WHITE)	5T4D08M7410713399	STOLEN
119	41100	2021-009540	2004 PONTIAC SUNFIRE (SILVER)	1G4G553532142001	ABANDON
120	41103	2021-009837	2008 MERCURY MILAN	JN4H08M7410713399	OTHER
121	41104	2021-009908	2010 NISSAN ALTIMA (WHITE)	1H4JAA3106V714167	ABANDON
122	41117	2021-009728	1999 DODGE DURANGO (SILVER)	1H4H08M7410713399	STOLEN
123	41122	2021-011507	1986 TOYOTA PICKUP (RED)	JTEJ17R23000545	ABANDON
124	41126	2021-011849	2005 FORD ESCAPE (WHITE)	1N4JAA31EBC031264	ABANDON
125	41148	2021-011924	2002 MERCURY MOUNTAINEER (WHT)	4K021W6A00127714	ABANDON
126	41183	2021-011417	2019 TOYOTA GRANER (BLACK)	JTEJ17R23000545	ABANDON
127	41184	2021-011019	2002 BMW 530i (BLACK)	WBAUJ43181480703	ABANDON
128	41211	2021-022089	2002 CHEVROLET EXPRESS (WHITE)	1GCEC19W41216649	ABANDON
129	41214	2021-022522	2002 MAZDA 626 (SILVER)	1Y4G5535321601288	OTHER
130	41223	2021-021366	2013 CHEVROLET CRUIZE (SILVER)	1G4G5535321601288	ABANDON
131	41228	2021-021415	2007 SATURN ION (BLUE)	1G4G5535321601288	ABANDON
132	41233	2021-021414	2002 GMC YUKON XL (TAN)	3G4G5535321601288	ABANDON
133	41260	2021-021729	2006 CADILLAC DTS (GOLD)	1G4G5535321601288	EVIDENCE
134	41262	2021-021647	2007 THEJIANG MOTORCYCLE (BLACK)	1D4G5535321601288	STOLEN
135	41272	2021-021643	1999 FORD ECONOLINE (WHITE)	1FTHED4LH80154	ABANDON
136	41279	2021-020193	20		





LEGAL

ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 122-40 OF THE JACKSON CODE OF ORDINANCES TO PROVIDE FOR AN APPEAL TO THE CITY COUNCIL FROM THE DETERMINATION OF THE HEARING OFFICER.

WHEREAS, Section 122-40 of the Jackson Code of Ordinances was previously amended to expand a customers' right to dispute the amount of a bill regardless of whether the customer had received a cutoff notice; and  
WHEREAS, the amended Ordinance also created the position of a neutral hearing officer who is required to be an attorney to hear the customer's disputes and render a determination; and

WHEREAS, the amended Ordinance only provided for a process by which the City Council would ratify or amended the determination of the hearing officer without the benefit of the hearing of an appeal before the City Council; and  
WHEREAS, the City Council wishes to have the opportunity to conduct a hearing where a customer is dissatisfied with the decision of the hearing officer; and  
WHEREAS, the governing authorities find that Section 122-40 of the Jackson Code of Ordinances should be amended as follows (deleted language denoted in strikethroughs, and added language denoted in underlined bold);

Sec. 122-40. - Administrative hearing of Water/Sewer Billing.  
(a) This Ordinance supersedes any conflicting language contained in any and all prior Ordinances or Executive Orders pertaining to the dispute and appeal of a water bill by an Account Holder.

(b) The purpose of this Ordinance is to establish and prescribe procedures for the dispute and appeal of a water bill by an Account Holder.

(c) Definitions.

(1) Account Holder: "Account Holder" shall be synonymous with the term "Customer." It includes any person, individual, or entity listed on the account. It also includes any person or entity legally authorized to act on the behalf of the Customer listed on the account.

(2) Dispute: Any disagreement between the Account Holder and the City concerning the accuracy or validity of a bill covering water and/or sewer services provided by the City.

(3) Water Appeal: Any request for a hearing whether written or oral presented to the WSBA Manager in reference to any disagreement between the Account Holder and the City concerning the accuracy or validity of a bill covering water or sewer services provided by the City.

(4) Hearing Officer: Member of the Mississippi Bar contracted by the City of Jackson, Mississippi specifically to hear Water Appeals.

(5) WSBA Manager: The Water / Sewer Business Administration Manager or designee.

(d) The Hearing Officer is hereby empowered to hold administrative hearings on water/sewer billing disputes.

(e) Request for hearing.

(1) A Customer who disputes the accuracy or validity of a bill covering water or sewer services must submit a request for administrative hearing to the WSBA Manager. The request shall contain the following: 1) the name, address, and telephone number of the Account Holder/Customer; 2) the account number; 3) identification of the bill or bills in dispute; 4) the amount in dispute; 5) the reason for the Customer's dispute; and 6) confirmation that the Customer has attempted to resolve the dispute with the Water Sewer Billing Administration ("WSBA"). If the customer fails to provide any of the enumerated information, the request will not be processed. In the event that the only requirement not satisfied in the request is confirmation that the Customer has attempted to resolve the dispute with WSBA and the Customer has received a Final Notice (i.e., cut-off notice), then the WSBA Manager shall discontinue the cut off process and require the Customer to attempt to resolve the dispute immediately.

(2) This request for hearing must be received by the WSBA Manager no later than the due date on a Final Notice (i.e., cut-off notice) sent to the Customer. Immediately following the receipt of the request for hearing, the WSBA Manager shall discontinue the cut off process until the complaint is resolved in accordance with provisions herein. At the time of the request for hearing, the WSBA Manager shall schedule a hearing with a Hearing Officer. The WSBA Manager shall set said hearing to be heard no later than thirty (30) days after receipt of the Customer's request for hearing, if practicable.

(3) The WSBA Manager shall mail or deliver notice of the date and time of this hearing to the Customer prior to the hearing. Though not required, a Customer may be represented by counsel during this hearing. The Customer may also present witnesses or other evidence in support of his/her position. The conduct of the hearing will be in accordance with rules and procedures established by the Hearing Officer and shall be conducted informally. The WSBA Manager shall attend such hearing and present a response to the Customer's request for hearing. Any of the billing, collection, or meter reading personnel may be called by the Hearing Officer to respond to the request. All expenses incurred in the hearing, including witness fees, mileage, reproduction of documents, or other costs, shall be borne by the party who incurred them. The Hearing Officer will receive and consider all evidence submitted during the hearing.

(4) At the conclusion of the hearing, the Hearing Officer shall advise of his/her findings and recommendation regarding the Customer's request for hearing. As soon as practicable thereafter, but no later than fourteen (14) days following the date of the hearing, the Hearing Officer shall issue to the Customer a written notice of findings and recommendation, which shall be sent by First Class Certified Mail, Return Receipt Requested and by email at the email address provided by the customer to the Hearing Officer. A copy of the same shall be submitted to the WSBA Manager. The findings and recommendation of the Hearing Officer shall be made upon substantial and reliable evidence, and shall consist of findings of fact and the disposition of the dispute. If the Hearing Officer finds the Customer's dispute to be valid, the Hearing Officer shall be empowered to recommend an appropriate adjustment to the Customer's bill. The Hearing Officer shall also have the authority to recommend a credit be applied to the Customer's account or a refund be made to the Customer.

(5) If the Customer is dissatisfied with the findings and recommendation of the Hearing Officer, the Customer shall have fourteen (14) calendar days following receipt by mail of the findings and recommendation to file an appeal to the City Council. For purposes of calculating the fourteen (14) calendar days within which to file an appeal, the Customer will be presumed to have received the findings and recommendation by mail three days following their posting.

(6) The appeal shall be filed with the Clerk of the Council with a copy provided to the WSBA Manager. Failure of the Customer to provide the copy of the appeal to the WSBA Manager shall not result in the dismissal of the appeal.

(7) Upon receipt of the appeal by Clerk of the Council and confirmation that the WSBA Manager has been provided with a copy of the appeal, the Clerk of the Council shall place the appeal on the agenda of a meeting of the City Council and provide the Customer and WSBA with fourteen (14) calendar days' notice of the date the appeal will appear on the City Council agenda.

(8) If the City Council orders that an amount is due from the Customer, the amount shall be immediately due and payable following the adjournment of the meeting at which such order is approved. The City may discontinue or disconnect water service without further notice if the amount ordered to be paid in not paid within ten (10) days following the adjournment of the meeting at which the City Council ordered the money to be paid. Once discontinued under this Section 122-40 of the Jackson Code of Ordinances, service shall not be restored until all applicable charges and fees have been paid.

(9) If the City Council determines that a Customer is due a bill credit, the Clerk of the Council shall provide WSBA with a copy of the Order of the City Council. Upon receipt of the copy of the Order of the City Council, WSBA shall apply the bill credit to the Customer's next bill.

(f) Customers subject to cutoff or upon adoption of ordinance.  
All Customers who have disputed the accuracy or validity of a bill for water or sewer services that was past due or delinquent prior to the effective date of this amended Ordinance and all Customers who requested a water appeal hearing prior to the effective date of this amended Ordinance may appeal the determination of the Hearing Officer pursuant to this amended Ordinance.

If a Customer has had a hearing before the Hearing Officer and received their determination from the Hearing Officer, but has not had their dispute determined by the City Council under the procedure that existed prior to this Amended Ordinance, each such Customer shall have sixty (60) calendar days from the effective date of this Amended Ordinance within which to appeal the determination under this Amended Ordinance.

(g) Preclusion of appeal for a particular disputed amount.  
If a Customer has his/her appeal of a particular disputed amount heard through the procedures provided herein, the Customer may not utilize any other appeals process afforded by the City, regarding the same disputed amount.

(h) Administration Rules.  
The WSBA Manager is authorized, but not required, to promulgate written rules and/or policies for the administration of this ordinance.

(i) The City Council may promulgate any procedural rules necessary for the determination of appeals to them under this Ordinance, including, but not limited to, the referral of the appeal to a committee of the City Council for purposes of a fact-finding hearing.

(j) For purposes of this ordinance, if the deadline day for any required action falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or holiday observed by the City of Jackson, the deadline day shall be extended to the next regular business day of the City of Jackson.

(k) Nothing in this ordinance may be construed or interpreted as creating a cause of action against the City of Jackson, Mississippi.

(l) This Ordinance shall be effective 30 days following its adoption and publication.  
THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI, that Sections 122-40 is amended to read as follows:

(a) This Ordinance supersedes any conflicting language contained in any and all prior Ordinances or Executive Orders pertaining to the dispute and appeal of a water bill by an Account Holder.

(b) The purpose of this Ordinance is to establish and prescribe procedures for the dispute and appeal of a water bill by an Account Holder

(c) Definitions.

(1) Account Holder: "Account Holder" shall be synonymous with the term "Customer." It includes any person, individual, or entity listed on the account. It also includes any person or entity legally authorized to act on the behalf of the Customer listed on the account.

(2) Dispute: Any disagreement between the Account Holder and the City concerning the accuracy or validity of a bill covering water and/or sewer services provided by the City.

(3) Water Appeal: Any request for a hearing whether written or oral presented to the WSBA Manager in reference to any disagreement between the Account Holder and the City concerning the accuracy or validity of a bill covering water or sewer services provided by the City.

(4) Hearing Officer: Member of the Mississippi Bar contracted by the City of Jackson, Mississippi specifically to hear Water Appeals.

(5) WSBA Manager: The Water / Sewer Business Administration Manager or designee.

(d) The Hearing Officer is hereby empowered to hold administrative hearings on water/sewer billing disputes.

(e) Request for hearing.

(1) A Customer who disputes the accuracy or validity of a bill covering water or sewer services must submit a request for administrative hearing to the WSBA Manager. The request shall contain the following: 1) the name, address, and telephone number of the Account Holder/Customer; 2) the account number; 3) identification of the bill or bills in dispute; 4) the amount in dispute; 5) the reason for the Customer's dispute; and 6) confirmation that the Customer has attempted to resolve the dispute with the Water Sewer Billing Administration ("WSBA"). If the customer fails to provide any of the enumerated information, the request will not be processed. In the event that the only requirement not satisfied in the request is confirmation that the Customer has attempted to resolve the dispute with WSBA and the Customer has received a Final Notice (i.e., cut-off notice), then the WSBA Manager shall discontinue the cut off process and require the Customer to attempt to resolve the dispute immediately.

(2) This request for hearing must be received by the WSBA Manager no later than the due date on a Final Notice (i.e., cut-off notice) sent to the Customer. Immediately following the receipt of the request for hearing, the WSBA Manager shall discontinue the cut off process until the complaint is resolved in accordance with provisions herein. At the time of the request for hearing, the WSBA Manager shall schedule a hearing with a Hearing Officer. The WSBA Manager shall set said hearing to be heard no later than thirty (30) days after receipt of the Customer's request for hearing, if practicable.

(3) The WSBA Manager shall mail or deliver notice of the date and time of this hearing to the Customer prior to the hearing. Though not required, a Customer may be represented by counsel during this hearing. The Customer may also present witnesses or other evidence in support of his/her position. The conduct of the hearing will be in accordance with rules and procedures established by the Hearing Officer and shall be conducted informally. The WSBA Manager shall attend such hearing and present a response to the Customer's request for hearing. Any of the billing, collection, or meter reading personnel may be called by the Hearing Officer to respond to the request. All expenses incurred in the hearing, including witness fees, mileage, reproduction of documents, or other costs, shall be borne by the party who incurred them. The Hearing Officer will receive and consider all evidence submitted during the hearing.

(4) At the conclusion of the hearing, the Hearing Officer shall advise of his/her findings and recommendation regarding the Customer's request for hearing. As soon as practicable thereafter, but no later than fourteen (14) days following the date of the hearing, the Hearing Officer shall issue to the Customer a written notice of findings and recommendation, which shall be sent by First Class Certified Mail, Return Receipt Requested and by email at the email address provided by the customer to the Hearing Officer. A copy of the same shall be submitted to the WSBA Manager. The findings and recommendation of the Hearing Officer shall be made upon substantial and reliable evidence, and shall consist of findings of fact and the disposition of the dispute. If the Hearing Officer finds the Customer's dispute to be valid, the Hearing Officer shall be empowered to recommend an appropriate adjustment to the Customer's bill. The Hearing Officer shall also have the authority to recommend a credit be applied to the Customer's account or a refund be made to the Customer.

(5) If the Customer is dissatisfied with the findings and recommendation of the Hearing Officer, the Customer shall have fourteen (14) calendar days following receipt by mail of the findings and recommendation to file an appeal to the City Council. For purposes of calculating the fourteen (14) calendar days within which to file an appeal, the Customer will be presumed to have received the findings and recommendation by mail three days following their posting.

(6) The appeal shall be filed with the Clerk of the Council with a copy provided to the WSBA Manager. Failure of the Customer to provide the copy of the appeal to the WSBA Manager shall not result in the dismissal of the appeal.

(7) Clerk of the Council shall place the appeal on the agenda of a meeting of the City Council and provide the Customer and WSBA with fourteen (14) calendar days' notice of the date the appeal will appear on the City Council agenda.

(8) If the City Council orders that an amount is due from the Customer, the amount shall be immediately due and payable following the adjournment of the meeting at which such order is approved. The City may discontinue or disconnect water service without further notice if the amount ordered to be paid in not paid within ten (10) days following the adjournment of the meeting at which the City Council ordered the money to be paid. Once discontinued under this Section 122-40 of the Jackson Code of Ordinances, service shall not be restored until all applicable charges and fees have been paid.

(9) If the City Council determines that a Customer is due a bill credit, the Clerk of the Council shall provide WSBA with a copy of the Order of the City Council. Upon receipt of the copy of the Order of the City Council, WSBA shall apply the bill credit to the Customer's next bill.

(f) Customers subject to cutoff upon adoption of ordinance.

(1) All Customers who have disputed the accuracy or validity of a bill for water or sewer services that was past due or delinquent prior to the effective date of this amended Ordinance and all Customers who requested a water appeal hearing prior to the effective date of this amended Ordinance may appeal the determination of the Hearing Officer pursuant to this amended Ordinance.

(2) If a Customer has had a hearing before the Hearing Officer and received their determination from the Hearing Officer, but has not had their dispute determined by the City Council under the procedure that existed prior to this Amended Ordinance, each such Customer shall have sixty (60) calendar days from the effective date of this Amended Ordinance within which to appeal the determination under this Amended Ordinance.

(g) Preclusion of appeal for a particular disputed amount.  
If a Customer has his/her appeal of a particular disputed amount heard through the procedures provided herein, the Customer may not utilize any other appeals process afforded by the City, regarding the same disputed amount.

(h) Administration Rules.  
The WSBA Manager is authorized, but not required, to promulgate written rules and/or policies for the administration of this ordinance.

(i) The City Council may promulgate any procedure rules necessary for the determination of appeals to them under this Ordinance, including, but not limited to, the referral of the appeal to a committee of the City Council for purposes of a fact-finding hearing.

(j) For purposes of this ordinance, if the deadline day for any required action falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or holiday observed by the City of Jackson, the deadline day shall be extended to the next regular business day of the City of Jackson.

(k) Nothing in this ordinance may be construed or interpreted as creating a cause of action against the City of Jackson, Mississippi.

(l) This Ordinance shall be effective 30 days following its adoption and publication.  
Council Member Stokes moved adoption; Vice President Lee seconded

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

ATTEST:  
Angela Harris  
Municipal Clerk

I, Angela Harris, the duly appointed qualified Municipal Clerk and lawful custodian of records and seal of said City of Jackson, Mississippi, certify that the foregoing is a true and exact copy of an Order passed by the City Council at its Special Council Meeting July 19, 2022 and recorded in Minute Book "6V, Pg. 300".

WITNESS my signature and official seal of office, this the 15th day of November, 2022.

SEAL

Angela Harris, Municipal Clerk

11/17/2022

LEGAL

City of Jackson, Mississippi  
Bid Specifications for Legal Publications 2023

Scope  
The City of Jackson, Mississippi ("City of Jackson"), seeks competitive bids for the City's annual contract for legal publication.

Bidder Requirements  
Sealed bids will be received in the Department of Municipal Clerk at City Hall in the City of Jackson, until 3:30 p.m., Tuesday, December 6, 2022. Each bidder shall submit an original and two (2) copies of the bid using the bid form supplied by the City of Jackson. Additionally, each bidder must submit documentation that shows its qualifications and compliance with all criteria set forth in Section 13-3-31, Mississippi Code of 1972, as amended. All bids must be sealed and plainly marked "Bid for Publication" on the outside of the envelope.

The bidder must use the bid form provided by the City of Jackson. The bid form must be signed by an authorized representative. Failure to submit the signed bid form and failure to submit documentation that shows qualifications and compliance with all criteria set forth in Section 13-3-31 will result in rejection of the bid.

Bid Price  
Bidder shall quote a per word rate of one-hundred-word advertisement to the nearest one millionth of a dollar, e.g., 0.999999. The quoted per word rate will be for a first, second, and third publication. Bidders shall also include a flat rate for supplying a proof of publication.

All prices quoted shall be firm and fixed for the specified contract period. The bid will be used for a period of January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023.

Term of the Agreement  
The term of the agreement is for a one-year period: January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023. Publications will be made on an as needed basis. The method of requesting ads shall be by email.

Award  
The determination of the low bidder will be used on a "per word" rate, of a one-hundred-word advertisement, published three (3) times and a single proof of publication. The quoted per word rate will be for a first, second, and third publication, and evaluated to the nearest one millionth of a dollar (e.g., \$0.999999).

Order of Communications  
Questions regarding this bid shall be in written format. Written responses to the questions submitted shall be issued. Bidder questions and responses will be made a part of the bid file.

All questions regarding the Specifications for Legal Publications 2023 should be forwarded, by U.S. mail, to Angela Harris, City Clerk, City of Jackson, P.O. Box 17, 219 South President Street, Jackson, Mississippi, 39205, or to www.centralbidding.com.

11/10/2022, 11/17/2022

LEGAL

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


IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF  
BARNEY J. MOFFETT, DECEASED CAUSE NO.: P2021-253 M4

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

Letters of Administration having been granted on the 20<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2021 by the  
Chancery Court of Hinds County, Mississippi to the undersigned Administratrix of the Estate of  
Barney J. Moffett, deceased, notice is hereby given to all persons having claims against the estate  
to present the same to the Clerk of this Court for probate and registration according to law, within  
ninety (90) days from the first publication of this notice, or they will be forever barred.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED this the 19<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2022

JACKIE MOFFETT, ADMINISTRATRIX OF  
THE ESTATE OF BARNEY J. MOFFETT,  
DECEASED

Prepared by:  
  
R. PAUL WILLIAMS, III (MSB# 102345)  
COURTNEY M. WILLIAMS, (MSB# 102347)  
MATT NEWMAN (MSB# 103654)  
WILLIAMS NEWMAN WILLIAMS, PLLC  
129B South President Street  
Post Office Box 23785  
Jackson, Mississippi 39225  
Tel: (601) 949-5080  
Fax: (601) 949-3358

11/03/2022, 11/10/2022, 11/17/2022

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, December 13, 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:

93440-121322 - Licensed Catering Services

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 precondition 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  
Purchasing Division  
(601) 960-1025 or 960-1533

11/17/2022, 11/24/2022









**Nissan believes in the power of education.**



nissan-canton.com

We are proud supporters of students and educators everywhere.

## Forest Hill High receives School of Excellence Award from ACT's American College Application Campaign

*Jackson Public Schools Newswire*

Forest Hill High School has been named a 2021 School of Excellence award winner by the American College Application Campaign (ACAC), a national effort to increase the number of first-generation college students and students from low-income families pursuing a college degree or other higher education credential.

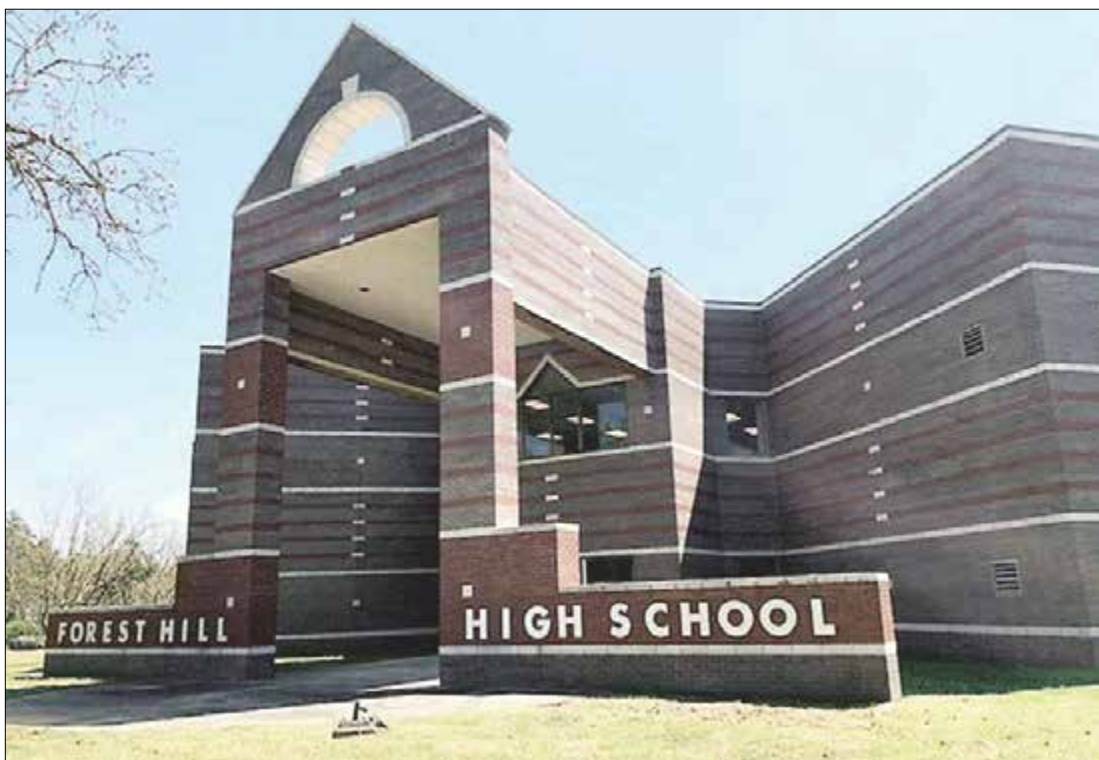
The Schools of Excellence are a group of exemplary schools across the nation that are helping students pursue postsecondary success. Forest Hill was selected because of its participation and commitment to supporting students in their post-secondary plans. This is the third year that ACAC has recognized outstanding schools.

“Forest Hill High School demonstrated commitment to student success and for serving as an exemplary model for College Countdown Mississippi,” said Kierstan Dufour, project manager for Get2College, a program of the Woodward Hines Education Foundation.

Forest Hill, along with other winning schools, will receive a plaque and be celebrated during virtual ceremonies.

College Countdown Mississippi aims to provide every graduating high school senior with the opportunity to apply to college at an Application Day Event, complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), and recognize their post-secondary plans at College Signing Days.

This statewide campaign is a partnership initiative of organi-



Forest Hill High School

zations such as Institutions of Higher Learning, Mississippi Community College Board, Mississippi Department of Education and Get2College.

“Congratulations to the 2021 Schools of Excellence, as they are exemplars of commitment to student success,” ACT CEO Janet Godwin said. “These educators, along with American College Application Campaign collaborators nationwide, are doing critical work to help students discover and fulfill their potential, even as the COVID-19 pandemic disrupts a third academic year. Their commitment should compel us all to listen to and learn from these schools and share their successful approaches with other

schools and educators, states and districts and policymakers across the country.”

Each year, ACAC works with designated coordinators in every state and the District of Columbia to host college application events and reach students in their schools and communities, encouraging them to apply to college. Activities to encourage college applications at the 2021 Schools of Excellence included one-on-one mentoring, guest speakers, parents’ nights and support for pursuing financial aid.

“In the face of so many challenges that students and educators continue to experience, it’s encouraging to see the support from everyone who played a

role in making the Schools of Excellence leaders in the college-going effort,” ACAC Director Lisa King said. “Their work encouraging high school seniors to pursue postsecondary education and workforce plans despite ongoing uncertainty due to the pandemic matters because higher education will determine the future of our nation. We’re proud the Schools of Excellence are helping to remove the barriers to postsecondary education access that often drive income inequities.”

Nationally, more than 3.9 million students have been served by ACAC and 6.4 million applications have been submitted since the campaign began in 2005.

## Obama Magnet Elementary celebrates being ranked as the #1 elementary school in the state



Obama Magnet students joined in the celebration.

*Jackson Public Schools Newswire*

Obama Magnet Elementary celebrated being the #1 elementary school in Mississippi November 1. Scholars, teachers and staff were recognized for all of their hard work and academic excellence.

“Today, we celebrated being the number one elementary school in the state of Mississippi. That speaks volumes for the students, parents, community, everyone – The Obama [Magnet] family” said Obama Principal John C. Johnson. “When I think about this school, I think about perseverance. Through COVID, through a water crisis and through all manner of change, you persevered.”

Guest speakers included U.S. Congressman Bennie

Thompson, State Senator David Blount, State Senator Hillman Frazier, JPS Assistant Superintendent Elementary Division I Dr. Kathleen Grigsby, Hinds County Sheriff Tyree Jones, and Hinds County Election Commissioner District 3 Jermal Clark.

Scholars were treated to a day of fun activities that included a school carnival with a jumping house, concessions, music and more.

Obama Magnet made the leap from 582 to 672 points on a 700-point scale, increasing by 90 points during the 2017-2018 school year.

Obama Elementary was also ranked #1 in the state of Mississippi during the 2016-2017 school year.



Speakers included Sheriff Jones, Congressman Thompson, Senator Frazier and Senator Blount.

## Wells APAC Theatre receives numerous accolades at the Mississippi Delta Tennessee Williams Festival in Clarksdale



(l to r): Carmen Owens, Bryanna Johnson, Kendra Quarterman, Jackson White, Cam'Ron Reed, Brooke Jordan, Sarah Fowler, Tyler Morgan, Shelby Hadley and Madison Cormack

*Jackson Public Schools Newswire*

Wells APAC theatre scholars attended the 2022 Mississippi Delta Tennessee Williams Festival and received numerous accolades. The festival was held from October 13-15 and is held annually in Clarksdale, Mississippi.

Over the course of the three-day festival, scholars demonstrated their integrity, talent and excellence by immersing themselves fully in expert lectures from scholars of Mississippi culture such as W. Ralph Eubanks, viewing performances from professional actors, hearing from lauded and influential theatre producer Milton Justice and competing amongst peers from around the state.

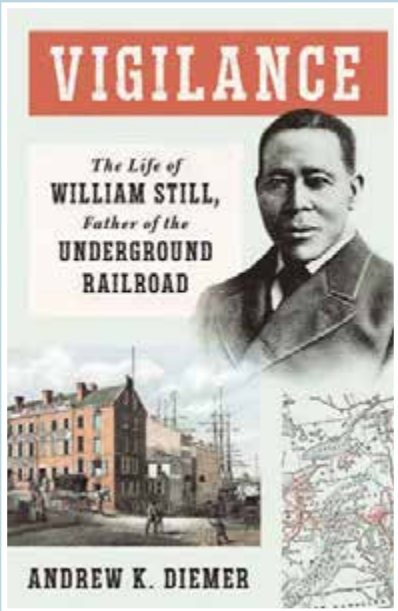
The Mississippi Delta Tennessee Williams Festival was founded by Co-

ahoma Community College (CCC) in 1992, under the leadership of Dr. Vivian Presley, president of CCC from 1992 to 2013, with a \$10,000 grant award from the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA). The festival celebrates the life and work of Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright and Mississippi native Tennessee Williams.

Wells received third place for their performance of a scene from “Night of the Iguana,” Judge’s Choice Award for Best Production Value, first place Stella Calling Award, and awarded a total of \$475 cash prize for its program.

Congratulations to Wells APAC on their achievements and thank you for committing to excellence and building relationships throughout Mississippi on behalf of Jackson Public Schools.





BOOK REVIEW:

VIGILANCE:  
THE LIFE OF WILLIAM STILL, FATHER  
OF THE UNDERGROUND RAILROAD

BY ANDREW K. DIEMER

C.2022, KNOPF

\$30.00 • 432 PAGES

By Terri Schlichenmeyer  
Columnist

You can’t just sit around. You can clearly see that people need help, they need someone, and you are in a position to lend a hand. It’s going to take some organizing to do it right, but that’s okay. You can’t do it alone, and that’s okay, too. People need what you have to offer, and so you step in and step up. In the new book “Vigilance” by Andrew K. Diemer, such efforts save lives. Peter Freedman wasn’t sure whom to trust.

His journey was almost over, but he wasn’t in the clear: after months of toil, he’d finally purchased his freedom, though he wasn’t able to free his wife or children. That would come later; meanwhile, his arrival in Philadelphia was part of the plan. When he was a small boy, he and his brother, Levin, had been sold away from their parents, probably in spite. For more than forty years, Peter promised himself that he’d remember his parents’ faces but there were so many freed people and fugitive slaves in Philadelphia, so many

unfamiliar faces, that he scarcely knew where to look. Imagine his shock when a stranger brought him to the Anti-Slavery Society office, and the clerk there turned out to be William Still, a brother that Peter never knew he had. Still entered the world in the fall of 1821, the youngest of eighteen children born to a former slave and a fugitive slave, neither of which ever turned away anyone who needed help. As a boy, Still received an incomplete education; later, an employer made sure he learned

the basics, which were all he needed to land jobs that would help move people along the Underground Railroad, to freedom and safety. Still’s steady trustworthiness placed him in positions to make hundreds of contacts on the Railroad, including Harriet Tubman, John Brown, newspapermen, allies, social activists and others. His knowledge allowed him to work for freedom long after the Civil War ended, and some months into the twentieth century.

In almost every way, “Vigilance” is a big bite to eat. It starts out with an astonishing story that captures a reader’s interest fast, a tale that even author Andrew K. Diemer’s subject used as a touchstone throughout his life. Alas, your interest may wane, and pretty quickly: there are dozens and dozens of people to keep track of throughout the pages of the main story here, as well as a clutter of too-detailed locations, somewhat random players, and other small items of seemingly little consequence to the tale.

And yet, readers won’t get entirely lost. Diemer peppers his book with stories of bravery and heart-stopping escape, slaveowners outwitted and fugitives with the powers of observation and enormous patience. These tales are irresistible, and they give readers reason to stick with a book that can sometimes feel a bit arid. Should you decide to tackle “Vigilance,” the best advice is to give yourself time. The book fairly demands that you do, lest you be more tempted to just let it sit around.

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SATURDAY,  
NOVEMBER 19TH  
8:30am – 5:00pm

HILTON JACKSON  
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Winter Calm on Lake 2014

ORIGINAL PAINTINGS & PRINTS  
BY E. MARIE BRASHEARS

"The world I see reflects much of what I attempt to depict in my paintings. It is a world I wish to impart to the younger generations... a realistic view of life. It is very important that we remember our past as we venture into the future. As we face a complex and ever-changing world, we must focus on the blessings of life and how we are to enjoy this freedom of expression that is ours as visual artists."

E. Marie, Artist

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# JSU wins SWAC East Title; will host SWAC championship game Dec. 3

## Mississippi Link Newswire

The Jackson State University Tigers defeated the Alabama A&M Bulldogs, 27-13, Saturday, Nov. 12, in the Gulf Coast Challenge played in the Ladd-Peebles Stadium in Mobile, winning the Southwestern Athletic Conference Eastern Division crown for the second straight year.

Called the "Ultimate HBCU Experience," the challenge was created to showcase HBCU football.

JSU, with a record of 10-0 overall, 7-0 SWAC, will host the Cricket SWAC Championship Game in Jackson December 3 at Mississippi Veterans Memorial Stadium.

The opponent is yet to be determined.



JSU wide receiver Shane Hooks picking up more yards. PHOTOS BY KEVIN ROBINSON



JSU QB Shedeur Sanders taken out of the game, due to injury, after a no penalty call against AAMU.



JSU OL Evan Henry fumbles recovery for a touchdown overturned by referees.



No pass interference call for #5 Shane Hooks.

## Hinds County School District Weekly Update

ENGAGING-EMPOWERING-ENSURING-EXCELLENCE

### Earthquake Drills

The Hinds County School District performs earthquake drills in all 11 school sites to prepare students in case of an earthquake emergency.

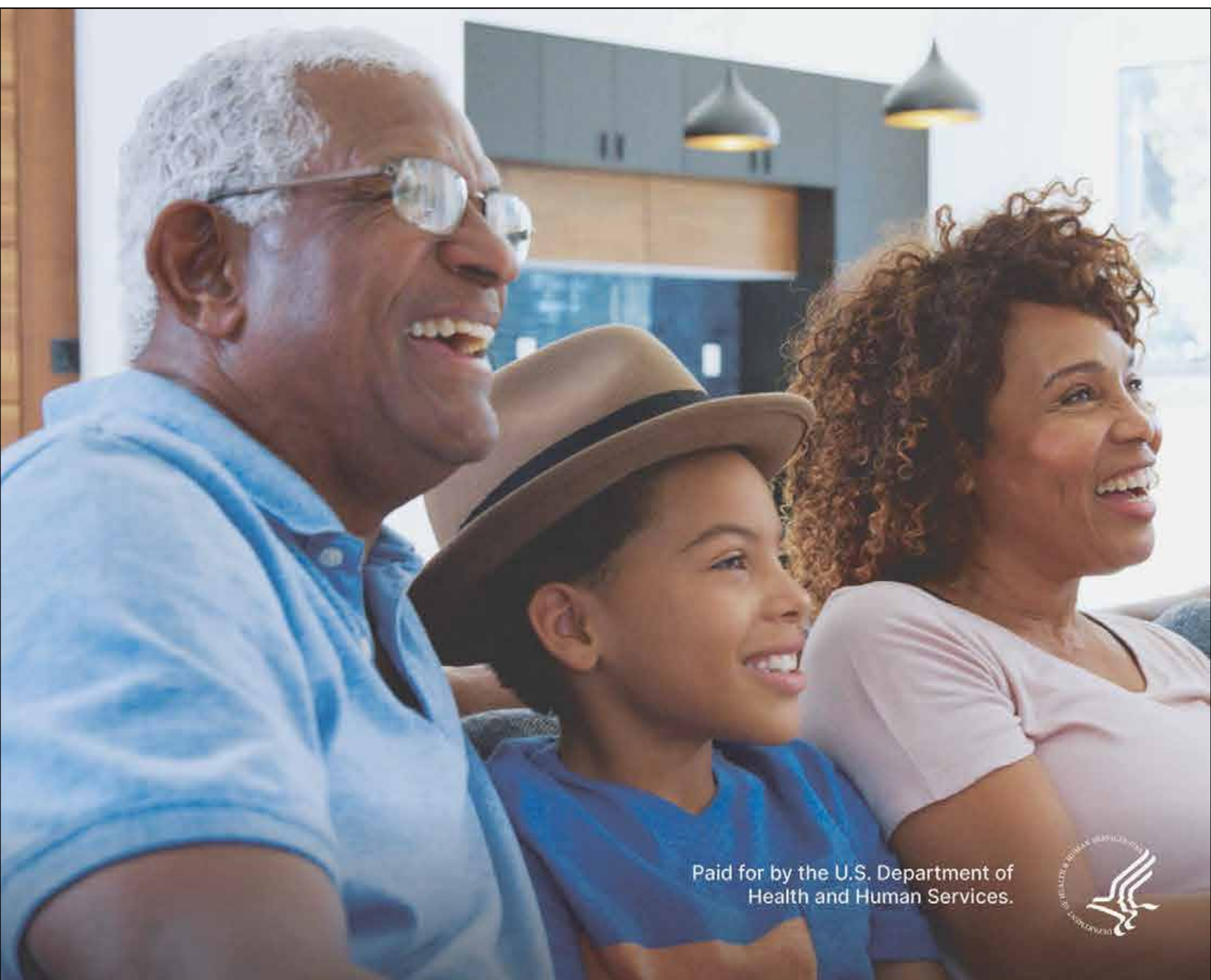


### Terry Reality Fair

A Reality Fair was held at Terry High and Raymond High to prepare students for real life. They were given a real-life environment with a family, a job and a budget that they had to maintain to live their lives. Many found that life can be very difficult and money can go very fast. It was a true reality to many students.







Paid for by the U.S. Department of  
Health and Human Services.



# Keep Your COVID Protection On Point!

Updated vaccines protect us  
against the original COVID virus  
and Omicron. Get your updated  
vaccine today and protect  
yourself and those you love.

Find updated COVID vaccines  
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