

THE MISSISSIPPI LINK

CELEBRATES

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Opposing House Bill 1020 on the steps of the Capitol

By Christopher Young
Contributing Writer

Push-back from members of the community, justice and advocacy groups, lawmakers and elected officials from the City of Jackson and Hinds County rallied on the Capitol steps Tuesday, January 31 at 10 a.m. against HB 1020 – which would create a separate judicial system for the Capitol Complex Improvement District (CCID) and expand the CCID to the northeast.

Danyelle Holmes of the Mississippi Poor People’s Campaign and Rukia Lumumba of the People’s Advocacy Institute led the press conference/rally of approximately 250 people in thirty-eight-degree weather and overcast skies.

Mayor Chokwe Lumumba indicated that this Bill (HB1020) “allows for a military force to be placed over the City of Jackson...taking the power out of the hands of the residents who elect the officials that have the authority to make decisions, such as our judges and places it in the hands of a Supreme Court that does not think the same way that the people of Jackson think...it is colonization is what it is...and they would do this with your money; additional tax dollars that come out of the City of Jackson...the City stands strong with you and we will fight to the very end.” The Mayor also called out black contractors, saying “if you’re going to



Anti-HB1020 Rally at Mississippi Capitol – City of Jackson Mayor Chokwe Antar Lumumba at podium.
PHOTO BY CHRISTOPHER YOUNG

enjoy this black wealth, then you need to support this black city.”

Representative Edward Blackmon Jr. (D-57) harkened the crowd to “1961 when over 300 people walked the streets of Jackson and gathered at the fairgrounds for one thing – the right to vote. To hear the people back here behind us, this Bill is all about safety – that is not what it is about. No other residents are being asked to prop up a government within a govern-

ment. I call this CCID district New Jack City – a city within a city. Once you get in the practice of taking away votes, then it’s not going to stop in Jackson, Mississippi.”

Brook Floyd, coordinator with Jackson People’s Assembly, spoke about “expanding the reach of the Capitol Police and creating a new court will not stop the violence. We have to get to the root – we know this and all the research and evidence support this. Commu-

nities with fully funded education, healthcare, quality and affordable housing, and jobs with livable wages have lower incidences of violence. All these things our state has refused to fund.”

Rukia Lumumba never hesitates, “I’m talking about the elephant in the room – this is about race. HB1020 would require that over 18% of Jackson’s normal tax revenue be given to the

House Bill 1020
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Walking the walk, then and now

An afternoon with Clarence E. Magee, president of the NAACP - Forrest County Branch



Clarence E. Magee PHOTO COURTESY OF FORREST COUNTY NAACP

By Christopher Young
Contributing Writer

Reflecting on the death of Vernon Dahmer, at the hands of the Klan 57 years ago, led to this interview.

Dahmer’s home in Hattiesburg was fire-bombed. Numerous sources report that he held the Klan off with a rifle as his wife and children escaped through the back.

He had been a successful businessman, NAACP president, and voting rights activist.

“In 1992, Dahmer’s widow, Ellie, was elected election commissioner of District 2, Forrest County. For more than a decade, she served in this position, supported by both black and white residents, in the same

district where her husband was killed for his voting rights,” per Southern Poverty Law Center.

Once finding the NAACP in Hattiesburg on the internet – the Forrest County Branch, it was a breeze finding Clarence E. Magee – he is their branch president.

Initially I spoke to his wife, Carrie, an inspiration who quickly let me know that she was ninety-four. In short order, she was quoting from Ephesians 6 and 1st Timothy. Then my dam burst when she said, “The Lord loves us and I love the Lord and I love you too.”

Magee agreed to the request for an interview with *The Mississippi Link*. When I inquired as to where we could meet, as-

Oppression surging above the baseline

By Christopher Young
Contributing Writer

In its simplest form, oppression is a mechanism of keeping certain people down. People in a position of power foisting their will on others, subjugating them, dominating and controlling. One definition includes: the exercise of authority or power in a burdensome, cruel, or unjust manner.

Stripping away resources is a longstanding element of oppression. And while Mississippi may not have written the original playbook on racial oppression, it lives and breathes here in the broad light of day, day-in and day-out. But methods change over time, but never the goals.

Is there anything more fundamental to the well-being of residents than clean safe water? A city or municipality’s water and sewer system is a major contributor to their economy. Water.org indicates that “every \$1 invested in water and sanitation provides

COMMENTARY

a \$4 economic return from lower health costs, more productivity and fewer premature deaths.”

Now in Jackson, after decades of financial neglect by the State of Mississippi, codified in a lawsuit against the state following our most recent water emergencies, the Department of Justice and the Environmental Protection Agency said unequivocally, “You can’t do this to the residents of Jackson, you can’t neglect people like this.”

The EPA appointed a third-party administrator, Ted Heniffin, a consummate professional with 40 years’ experience with a major water/sewer system in southeast Virginia, and he has promised the people to not leave Jackson until this tragedy is fixed.

Funding has been provided by the U.S. Congress, effectively side-stepping the state, and what is the response at the Missis-

sippi Capitol? Predictably, it’s more of the same oppression, but now they are attempting to take control of Jackson’s water/sewer system. The title of Senate Bill 2889 is AN ACT TO CREATE THE MISSISSIPPI CAPITOL REGION UTILITY ACT; TO ENSURE ACCESS TO SAFE, CLEAN AND RELIABLE WATER FOR THE CITIZENS OF CENTRAL MISSISSIPPI; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES. The Bill is authored by State Senator David Parker, per <http://www.legislature.ms.gov/legislation/measure-search/>.

Parker is a white Christian republican optometrist, in office since 2012, representing Desoto County, taking it upon himself, or as a proxy for others, to strip the residents of Jackson of its own water/sewer system.

It never ends, and sometimes the oppression surges above the normal baseline. And it’s not just the water system. Here is an October 26, 2022 headline in

The Northside Sun newspaper – “Still Waiting: No Ruling Yet On State’s Attempt To Take Control Of Jackson-Medgar Wiley Evers International Airport.” Sound familiar? Efforts to take control from Jackson never cease, and sometimes they flare mightily.

Another current example, on January 20, 2023, *The Clarion Ledger* reported on the activities of State Representative John Thomas “Trey” Lamar, another white Christian republican, an attorney this time, in office since 2012, representing Senatobia County. Lamar has authored HB1020 to “create a new court system within Jackson’s Capitol Complex Improvement District, taking authority over cases in that part of the city away from local elected officials and would put the power to appoint judges solely in the hands of the chief justice of the Mississippi Su-

Oppression
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Photo from records of Clarence Magee captured “Negroes emerge from Federal Courthouse.”

Magee
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Jackson restaurateur to be roasted for charity Feb. 16

The Mississippi Link Newswire

A Jackson businessman will be roasted at a Feb. 16 benefit for the Mississippi Press Association Education Foundation.

Restaurateur Jeff Good will be the honoree at the 2023 MPAEF Celebrity Roast at The Westin Jackson. The annual dinner raises money to fund journalism internships and scholarships for students at Mississippi colleges and universities.

Good is the president of Mangia Bene Restaurant Management Group, the owner/operator of BRAVO! Italian Restaurant & Bar, Broad Street Baking Company, and Sal & Mookie's New York Pizza & Ice Cream Joint. Collectively, the restaurants operate a full-service catering business, Mangia Bene Catering, with partnerships in dozens of venues throughout the Metro Jackson area.

He is a founding board member of the Refill Jackson Initiative; a non-profit workforce development program located on the Jackson State University Parkway. Refill Jackson's mission is to empower young adults to be more confident, better equipped, and motivated to enter, navigate, and stay in the workforce.



Good

Good has been a prominent voice amid Jackson's infrastructure challenges, including the ongoing water crisis in the capital city. "We are deeply grateful to Jeff for his contributions of time and good humor to this cause," said MPAEF Chairman Jack Ryan, publisher of the Enterprise-Journal in McComb. "The annual dinner helps fund our internship program that provides valuable experience to 15 students each summer."

Panelists for the roast will be Jonathan Lee, Dr. Honey East, Kevin Russell, Tanya Burns and Wyatt Emmerich. Marshall Ramsey, editor-at-large of *Mississippi Today* and host of "Now You're Talking" on Mississippi Public Broadcasting, will serve as emcee.

Tickets are \$100 and tax deductible. Tables of eight are available for \$750.

Founded in 1983, MPAEF is a charitable 501(c)(3) organization providing educational opportunities to students of journalism at Mississippi colleges and universities.

By Michael Goldberg
Associated Press/Report for America

A bill before the Mississippi Legislature that would transfer the capital city's troubled water system to a new regional entity could be motivated by a desire by state officials to access a large pot of federal dollars earmarked for the city, Jackson's federally appointed water operator said Wednesday.

The legislation advancing in the state senate proposes the eventual transfer of water, wastewater and storm water services provided by Jackson, a Democratic-led city, to a new regional entity's "ownership, management and control."

That would come after Ted Henifin, the interim manager appointed by the U.S. Department of Justice to oversee reforms to Jackson's water system, concludes his work. He has said he favors the idea of a corporate non-profit to contract with the city to manage its system, not a regional entity.

Henifin told The Associated Press on Wednesday that the impetus to award more control of Jackson's water system to a regional authority might come from a desire to tap into \$800 million in federal funds that have been awarded to the city for water projects.

Repeated breakdowns have caused many in the city of about 150,000 to go days and weeks at a time without safe running water.

"Jackson's system is in disrepair and offers no benefits to the surrounding communities," Henifin said. "The only reason

one would do this is (Jackson) is now sitting on almost a billion federal dollars that no one else in the region has the opportunity to use."

The bill before lawmakers would create a new entity called the Mississippi Capitol Region Utility Authority. It would be governed by a nine-member board, the majority of which would be appointed by state leaders. Republicans control both houses of the Mississippi Legislature, as well as the governorship and the lieutenant governorship.

"Right now, we are very fortunate to have \$600 million coming to the area to try to improve the water," the bill's sponsor, Sen. David Parker, a Republican from Olive Branch, said at a Tuesday committee hearing.

Jackson is set to receive \$600 million from the \$1.7 trillion spending bill that Congress passed in December. That's on top of nearly \$200 million from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the American Rescue Plan Act.

Parker said he introduced the bill to craft an exit plan for when Henifin leaves Jackson.

"(Henifin) has in meetings made a point that when he leaves, he would like to see an authority set up to better manage the water system of Jackson going forward," Parker said. "That's the basis of where this comes from. This doesn't come from politics."

Henifin said he has been clear in public comments that he's in favor of the creation of a new authority to manage the water

system, but not a regional entity.

"I know when I've had public discussions about that, I've said that I don't think a regional authority would work," Henifin said. "Someone twisted that up quite a bit to put it in legislative language without ever talking to me."

Henifin thinks a regional authority may once have been a viable option, but the large chunk of federal funding dedicated to Jackson now "takes that option off the table."

"Where there was little interest in a regional approach when the system was in a state of disrepair with significant investment needs, the new federal dollars have changed that dynamic," Henifin said.

The creation of a regional authority could allow federal dollars to be invested in surrounding communities, improving services in the region's suburbs and driving further migration out of Jackson, Henifin said.

Jackson's tax base has eroded over the past few decades as the population decreased – the result of mostly white flight to suburbs. The city's population is now more than 80% black, with about 25% of its residents living in poverty.

Henifin thinks a corporate nonprofit model might reduce political tensions surrounding the water system.

"I'm not thinking about a governmental entity at all based on the circumstances," Henifin said. "We certainly don't need an entity caught in the political crosshairs."



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Former ML editor earns outstanding recognition in her new career: PR

‘Life experience counts,’ says Minor

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

The *Mississippi Link* family extends hardy congratulations to one of its former editors, Shand-
eria Kern Minor.

Minor recently received the Public Relations Association of Mississippi (PRAM) Central Chapter's Outstanding Professional of the Year – Emerging Practitioner Award.

Minor shared with *The Mississippi Link* Sunday evening her reaction to the award. “I am very excited, happy, proud and grateful to PRAM Central,” Minor said. She explained that some people may only receive a “pat on the back” for doing well.

She said people appreciate it when they are recognized for their work.

“Oh, we are so happy for Shand-eria!” said Jackie Hampton, publisher of *The Mississippi Link*. “We hated to see her leave us, but we never try to stop anyone from achieving new heights. We only hope their experience with us helps them in their future endeavors. We knew she would do well wherever she goes.”

Her longtime friend and undergraduate classmate of the University of Southern Mississippi (USM) Dr. Cheryl Jenkins said, “No practitioner is more deserving of this award than Shand-eria. To witness her transition



Shand-eria Kern Minor



Minor's Award



(L-R) Shand-eria K. Minor, PRAM Emerging Practitioner award winner, Sophie McNeil

from the newsroom to the field of public relations has been a joy, and I am proud to have worked with her. She's creative and forward thinking, and the state of Mississippi is lucky to have her.” Jenkins is an associate professor in the School of Communication and associate director of the Center for Black Studies at USM.

Minor is among many seasoned journalists who have, for more than a decade and possibly further, transitioned from journalism to public relations for various reasons. She worked for weeklies and daily newspapers in Mississippi for several years.

“However, from year to year and month to month beginning around 2010, I began to see my colleagues get laid off. I saw how the industry was changing.

Newspapers across America were folding.”

As Minor explained in a recent LinkedIn post, she also received “that call to the corner office and was laid off” of her journalism position in 2013. That same year she went back to school to pursue a master's degree in communication from Mississippi College. She became editor of *The Mississippi Link* in 2015.

Asked how rewarding is her public relations career compared to journalism, she replied, “I've enjoyed them both,” she said. “I wouldn't want to put one over the other because my reward is knowing that I am doing job to the best of my ability.”

She added, “My personal goal is to help people. That's my reward.”

However, Minor did share this about public relations: “What is golden about public relations is that you can work in any industry you want to. You can change from a PR practitioner in health to a PR practitioner in entertainment. That's a huge plus. It's strategic and constantly changing to develop best practices.”

She also stressed that “life experience counts.” She values the experience she gained in journalism and in life. She encourages anyone to “not allow people to discourage you if you need to pivot” to a new career at any age. She said your life experiences bring that much more maturity to the table.

Her transition was a smooth one. “It felt like it was a natural transition for me,” Minor said.

Since working in public relations, Minor has served as director of communications at Mississippi Public Broadcasting. She is currently the public information officer in the Communications and Government Relations Office at the Mississippi Department of Education.

She is a member of Word of Life Church in Flowood, an active member of the Beta Delta Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Inc., serves on the board of the McClean Fletcher Center, the Mississippi Association of Partners in Education and PRAM Central's Board as the vice president of programs.

In her role as vice president for PRAM Central's Board, Minor is responsible for the logistics of PRAM events for the year,

including monthly meetings and special social events in 2023.

“I hope to find diverse and dynamic professionals who can share industry insight with PRAM members, help offer professional development opportunities to members and increase PRAM membership,” she said.

Each year the Public Relations Association of Mississippi – Central Chapter seeks applicants for annual awards at the end of the year. The awards include:

Outstanding Professional of the Year – Emerging Practitioner

Outstanding Professional of the Year – Practitioner

Outstanding Professional of the Year – Advanced Practitioner

For more information about PRAM, visit www.pramcentral.org.



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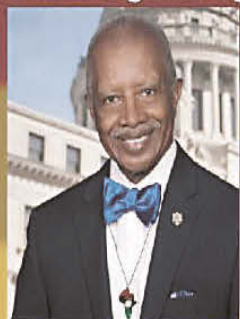
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Natchez, NAPAC museum selected for 2023 Award of Merit

Honor awarded by Mississippi Historical Society

The Mississippi Link newswire

The City of Natchez and the Natchez Museum of African American History and Culture are being recognized for their contribution of 27 historical markers for African American sites in Natchez.

The Awards Committee of the Mississippi Historical Society recently announced the city and the museum were selected for the prestigious 2023 Award of Merit for recognizing the African American sites. The award is “presented annually to individuals or organizations for their outstanding archival, museum, or media interpretation work,” according to MHS.

Mayor Dan M. Gibson voiced his gratitude for the honor. “We are so grateful for this recognition,” he said. “Properly designating these 27 historic sites that are so important to the history of Natchez is long overdue. What a blessing it is to be a part of the progress taking place in our community.”

Gibson said that he and the city of Natchez are “so very grateful” to Museum Executive Director Bobby Dennis, Visit Natchez, and the Historic Natchez Foundation. He said their leadership and support were vital to making the project a reality.

Brother Rogers, director of Programs and Communication Division for the Mississippi Department of Archives and History, noted the recognition had the full support of MHS, which included Marcus Ward, chairman of the Awards Committee, and Daphne Chamberlain, the Society’s president.

“The Society applauds this outstanding project to celebrate



L-R) Brother Rogers and Mayor Dan. M. Gibson displays 27 markers of historic sites in Natchez

the contributions of African Americans to the history of Natchez,” he said in an email to the mayor. “Thank you for your work in Natchez, our state’s most historic city, to promote an inclusive, accurate history of our state. We look forward to recognizing your work at the annual meeting of the Mississippi Historical Society.”

Recipients of the Awards of Merit will be formally announced at the annual meeting of the Mississippi Historical Society that will take place on March 2-3, 2023, at the Two Mississippi Museums in Jackson. The awards will be presented at the Awards Luncheon on Friday, March 3, at 12:30 p.m.

Gibson and Dennis have been asked to attend the luncheon. Dennis said he was happy to learn about the award. At the same time, he noted, he was also excited about the historical markers.

“It gives me great pleasure to present the markers for these 27 African American sites,” Dennis said. “The sites capture the

contributions, as well as the sacrifices of our fore-parents in the struggle and the success of the African American in the development and growth of the city of Natchez.”

Dennis said he is also proud of the role the museum has played in telling the complete history of Natchez. The museum is commonly called “NAPAC museum.” NAPAC stands for Natchez Association for the Preservation of African American Culture, the agency that operates the African American museum.

The markers for the 27 sites will be unveiled in a ceremony called, “Celebration of Historical African American Sites.”

The event is scheduled for 1:30 p.m., Wednesday, Feb. 1, 2023, at the Museum at 301 Main Street. It is free and open to the public.

The contribution of the markers is part of the African American Historic Markers Project. The unveiling ceremony will serve as a kickoff for Black History Month 2023, according to the program organizers.

McDaniel challenges Mississippi Lt. Governor in GOP primary

By Emily Wagster Pettus
Associated Press

Chris McDaniel, a four-term Mississippi legislator who has lost two races for U.S. Senate in the past decade – including a bitter 2014 election that he refused to concede – announced Monday, January 30, 2023, that he will try to unseat Republican Lt. Gov. Delbert Hosemann in this year’s Republican primary.

As he has in past campaigns, McDaniel spoke of himself in sweeping terms as a candidate who will defend individual liberty. He said he wants to prevent the country from descending into “the ash heap of totalitarianism.” And he said Hosemann has beliefs that “align more with the Democrat party” than they do with former President Ronald Reagan and former U.S. Sen. Barry Goldwater.

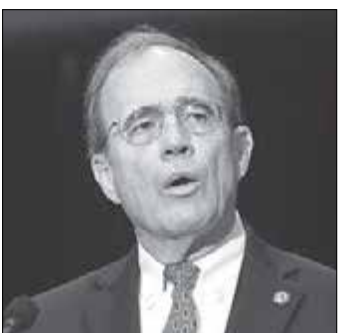
McDaniel cast the Mississippi Republican primary in national terms. He said Hosemann had not endorsed former President Donald Trump and has not tried to challenge the Biden Administration, as Florida Republican Gov. Ron DeSantis has done.

“Do you want a Trump or a DeSantis?” McDaniel said. “Or, do you want a Mitt Romney or a Liz Cheney?” That drew applause from dozens of McDaniel supporters who attended his announcement at the state Republican Party headquarters in Jackson.

Casey Phillips, senior adviser for the Hosemann campaign, said in a statement Monday that McDaniel is “the least effective politician in the state with the largest ego.”



McDaniel



Hosemann

“By comparison, Lt. Governor Delbert Hosemann’s conservative record is clear, implementing Voter ID to secure our elections, delivering the largest tax cut in Mississippi’s history, and overseeing a major teacher pay raise,” Phillips said. “Results matter and Delbert delivers.”

The lieutenant governor presides over the 52-member Mississippi Senate, appoints committee leaders and assigns bills to committees, which gives that person great influence over which proposals live or die.

In the 2014 U.S. Senate race, McDaniel ran with tea party backing as he challenged Thad Cochran, who was first elected to the Senate in 1978 and had brought billions of dollars to Mississippi as chairman of the powerful Appropriations Committee.

McDaniel finished narrowly ahead of Cochran in the first round of voting but Cochran won the runoff three weeks later, partly because the incumbent courted black voters in the metro Jackson area who traditionally vote in Democratic primaries.

McDaniel refused to concede, contending that Cochran drew support from “liberal Democrats.” Mississippi voters do not

register by party. People who vote in one party’s primary may not vote in the other party’s runoff, but people who did not vote in a primary are allowed to vote in the runoff.

McDaniel said Monday that he respected Cochran, who died in 2019.

In 2018, McDaniel announced he would challenge Republican U.S. Sen. Roger Wicker, but McDaniel changed course and ran instead in that year’s special U.S. Senate election to fill the final half of the term started by Cochran after the longtime lawmaker resigned. McDaniel placed third in the nonpartisan special election.

The other candidates seeking the Republican nomination for lieutenant governor are Shane Quick, who ran a low-budget campaign against Hosemann in 2019, and Tiffany Longino. The only Democrat in the lieutenant governor’s race by Monday was D. Ryan Grover.

Wednesday, February 1, is candidates’ qualifying deadline for Mississippi elections for statewide, regional, legislative and county offices. Party primaries are August 8, with runoffs August 29. The general election is on November 7, with runoffs November 28.

The latest Mississippi Maternal Mortality Report

The Mississippi Department of Health

The latest Mississippi Maternal Mortality Report was released January 26, 2022 and this new report shines a glaring light on even greater disparities than previously addressed, between white and black outcomes for new mothers.

The Mississippi Mortality Review Committee (MMRC) is statutorily tasked with investigating maternal deaths to identify opportunities for improvement and make recommendations for preventing future deaths.

For the 2017- 2019 reporting period key findings of the 93 deaths include:

43 percent of maternal deaths were directly related to pregnancy. 87.5 percent were determined to be preventable, and 57.5 percent occurred during pregnancy or within 60 days after delivery;

Black, non-Hispanic women had a maternal mortality rate four times higher than White, non-Hispanic women; and

Most maternal deaths among black, non-Hispanic mothers were attributed to cardiovascular conditions and cardiomyopathy (a weakening of the heart muscle).

The report also includes recommendations to policy makers, including ensuring that insurance coverage exists before pregnancy, and extends beyond the 60 day postpartum period (now in place) to one year.

State Health Officer Dr. Dan Edney continues to advocate for access to care for all Mississippians.

“It is imperative that we take care of our most vulnerable populations now. This is the only

way we can move Mississippi’s health status off the bottom of the chart. Access to healthy environments and healthy foods can and will reduce the prevalence of chronic diseases such as obesity, diabetes and high blood pressure – all conditions that lead to cardiovascular disease,” said Edney.

The report also includes recommendations for hospitals, providers and expectant mothers.

The Mississippi State Department of Health includes programs such as WIC, Family Planning and Reproductive Services, Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs, Early Intervention, Genetic Services, Healthy Moms/Healthy Babies, Safe Sleep, and Breast and Cervical Cancer, all to ensure the safety of both mothers and infants.

The report can be found at HealthyMS.com/maternal.

Follow MSDH by e-mail and social media at HealthyMS.com/connect.

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The report can be found at HealthyMS.com/maternal.

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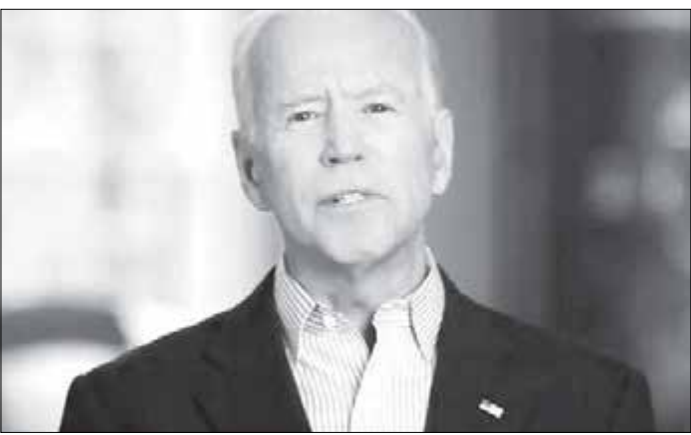
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Biden

By Erica P. Loewe
*Director of African American Media
The White House*

“Like so many, I was outraged and deeply pained to see the horrific video of the beating that resulted in Tyre Nichols’ death. It is yet another painful reminder of the profound fear and trauma, the pain, and the exhaustion that Black and Brown Americans experience every single day. My heart goes out to Tyre Nichols’ family and to Americans in Memphis and across the country who are grieving this tremendously painful loss. The footage that was released this evening will leave people justifiably outraged. Those who seek justice should not to resort to violence or destruction. Violence is never acceptable; it is illegal and destructive. I join Mr. Nichols’ family in calling for peaceful protest. I spoke with Row Vaughn Wells and Rodney Wells, Mr. Nichols’ mother and stepfather, this afternoon. There are no words to describe the

heartbreak and grief of losing a beloved child and young father. Nothing can bring Mr. Nichols back to his family and the Memphis community. But Mr. and Mrs. Wells, Mr. Nichols’ son, and his whole family deserve a swift, full, and transparent investigation. We must do everything in our power to ensure our criminal justice system lives up to the promise of fair and impartial justice, equal treatment, and dignity for all. Real and lasting change will only come if we take action to prevent tragedies like this from ever happening again. That is why I called on Congress to send the George Floyd Justice in Policing Act to my desk. When Senate Republicans blocked that bill, I signed an executive order that mandated stricter use of force standards and accountability provisions for federal law enforcement, as well as measures to strengthen accountability at the state and local level.”

President Biden unveils massive rail project, and ‘good jobs,’ in Baltimore

By Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Newswire Contributor

During a trip to Baltimore Monday, Jan. 30, President Joe Biden announced plans to replace the 150-year-old Baltimore and Potomac Tunnel, which is a major component of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law. The White House stated that the project would address the Northeast Corridor’s largest rail bottleneck between Washington, D.C., and New Jersey, as well as create “good-paying union jobs,” improve reliability, reduce commuting times, and improve safety and resilience. The program is expected to create 30,000 jobs, including 20,000 direct construction jobs, the majority of which do not require a college degree. President Biden’s Bipartisan Infrastructure Act invests \$66 billion in passenger rail, the largest investment in passenger rail since Amtrak’s inception. Amtrak has also agreed to invest more than \$50 million in local workforce development and community investments, including apprenticeship programs, to ensure that West Baltimore residents have access to



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those jobs. Furthermore, the White House announced that Maryland and Amtrak have signed a project kickoff agreement, which includes a \$450 million commitment from the state’s transportation agency for the tunnel replacement project. It also includes a project labor agreement signed by Amtrak and the Baltimore-DC Building and Construction Trades Council, a local affiliate of the Building Trades Unions

of North America (NABTU). This is expected to cover the first phase of the project, ensuring that good-paying union jobs are created. Furthermore, an agreement exists between Amtrak and NABTU that ensures Amtrak’s large civil engineering construction projects will be performed under union agreements. Wages, benefits, working conditions, avoiding work disruption, and promoting diversity and veteran hiring in the

construction trades will all be addressed in these agreements. According to the White House, with the agreement, Amtrak and NABTU will not face labor-related delays in major project planning and contracting; contractors and subcontractors will share Amtrak’s commitment to paying fair wages and benefits; and Amtrak and NABTU will be able to move forward with Bipartisan Infrastructure Law-funded projects with efficient labor-management relations.

DeSantis pushes ban on diversity programs in state colleges

By Anthony Izaguirre
Associated Press

Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis on Tuesday announced plans to block state colleges from having programs on diversity, equity and inclusion, and critical race theory. The Republican governor debuted the proposal as part of a larger, higher education legislative package that is expected to be taken up by the GOP-controlled statehouse when its regular session begins in March. DeSantis, a potential 2024 Republican presidential candidate, has heavily criticized critical race theory, which examines systemic racism – as well as diversity, equity and inclusion programs, commonly known as DEI.

Critical race theory is a way of thinking about America’s history through the lens of racism. Scholars developed it during the 1970s and 1980s in response to what scholars viewed as a lack of racial progress following the civil rights legislation of the 1960s. It centers on the idea that racism is systemic in the nation’s institutions, which function to maintain the dominance of white people in society. “I think people want to see true academics and they want to get rid of some of the political window dressing that seems to accompany all this,” DeSantis said at a news conference in Bradenton, adding that DEI and CRT programs would get “No funding, and that will wither on the vine.” In a statement, the governor’s office said the proposal “raises the standards of learning and civil discourse of public higher education in Florida” by “prohibiting higher education institutions from using any funding, regardless of source, to support DEI, CRT, and other discriminatory initiatives.” Later in the day, the newly conservative majority on the once progressive New College of Florida board of trustees – most of whom DeSantis recently appointed– voted to oust the current president, Patricia Okker. They also voted to begin debate on whether to abolish the office of diversity, equity and inclusion, and related programs. The final word on DEI programs will come at another meeting. The overall idea is to transform the school of less than 1,000 students in Sarasota into what the new trustees call a “classical” liberal arts school. “I think it’s time for us to set a new standard,” said one of the new trustees, conservative activist Christopher Rufo. “I think new leadership is the expectation.” The trustees said their intent is to appoint Richard Corcoran

as the next New College president, perhaps by March. The Republican former state House speaker and education commissioner is a close ally of DeSantis. Before the meeting, dozens of students held a rally outside to oppose major changes to the school and its mission, which is known for its open approach to coursework without specific grades, and being a safe place for many LGBTQ students who feel marginalized in other schools. “That’s what’s at stake today and what we’re here to protect: the freedom to learn, the freedom to think and the freedom to be who we are,” said fourth-year student Madison Markham. The governor’s overall higher education proposal was expected after the DeSantis administration requested in late December that state colleges submit spending data and other information on programs related to diversity, equity and inclusion, and critical race theory. The governor is also pushing for education administrators to “realign” courses to provide historically accurate information and to not include identity politics. DeSantis’ proposals have not yet been introduced as formal legislation but the GOP-controlled statehouse is often eager to carry out his initiatives. DeSantis and other conservatives have long argued that

critical race theory, and diversity, equity and inclusion programs are racially divisive and discriminatory – and are often cited in criticism of what they often call “woke” ideology in education. Last year the governor signed legislation dubbed the Stop WOKE Act that restricts certain race-based conversations and analysis, in schools and businesses. The law bars instruction that says members of one race are inherently racist or should feel guilt for past actions committed by others of the same race, among other things. This month the DeSantis administration blocked a new Advanced Placement course on African American studies from being taught in high schools, saying it violates state law and is historically inaccurate. So far, at least 25 states have considered legislation or other steps to limit how race and racism can be taught, according to an analysis from Education Week. Eight states, all Republican-led, have banned or limited the teaching of critical race theory or similar concepts through laws or administrative actions. The bans largely address what can be taught inside the classroom. Associated Press writer Curt Anderson contributed from St. Petersburg, Florida.

Hinds County Human Resource Agency

will host its next monthly Board of Directors meeting

Wednesday
February 15
7:00 p.m.

HCHRA Central Office
258 Maddox Road
Jackson, Mississippi.

The public is invited to attend.
For more information,
call 601-923-1838
or email vickeyw@hchra.org.

Annual wellness exam is key to a healthy year for older adults

StatePoint

You’ve selected your insurance plan for the year. Now, it’s time to start using your benefits, beginning with an annual wellness exam.

An annual wellness exam with a healthcare provider is important for everyone, but especially for older adults. As we age, we are more likely to develop chronic health conditions, according to Dr. J.B. Sobel, chief medical officer for Cigna Medicare, which serves hundreds of thousands of older adults through its products. An annual wellness exam can help detect potential health issues early so they can be addressed before they worsen, he added.

“By meeting with your primary care provider early in the year, you can highlight the things that are important to you, and work together to develop a plan for your care for the year ahead,” Sobel said. “This will ensure you live each day with vitality, happiness and improved health.”

Many providers will reach out to schedule an annual wellness exam. If your provider doesn’t contact you, make sure to call them.

A number of annual check-



ups are available at no extra cost to those with Medicare. They include a “Welcome to Medicare” visit for customers who have just reached Medicare eligibility and an “Annual Wellness Exam” for existing customers. Many Medicare Advantage (MA) plans offer more

extensive annual visits at no extra cost. Some even offer incentives for completing a visit. Talk with your provider and Medicare insurer about your benefits.

Each annual exam may be a little different. Regardless of the type, Sobel offers the following tips to ensure you get

the most from your visit.

Prepare. Before you go, write down anything you’d like to discuss with your health care provider, including changes to your health over the past year. Bring your prescription and over-the-counter medications with you. Ask plenty of ques-

tions and take notes. You might even want to take along a family member, trusted friend or caregiver to ensure you understand everything your provider has shared.

Be open and honest. It’s tempting to make things look rosier than they are when talking to your health care provider, but minimizing what you are feeling can lead to an incorrect diagnosis or prescription. Speak openly about unhealthy habits, like smoking or lack of exercise. Your provider won’t judge you. Being honest is the only way your health care provider can help you reach your goals.

Mind mental health. Your emotional health impacts your physical health. Many people think depression is a natural part of aging, but it doesn’t have to be. Talk to your doctor if you are feeling sad, anxious or hopeless. Treatments, such as talk therapy, medication or both, may be covered by Medicare.

Monitor medications. Adults age 65 and older tend to take more medications than other age groups, increasing the risk for adverse reactions, such as cognitive impairment

and falls. It’s a good idea to take your medications to your annual wellness exam and discuss any potential problems or side effects you’re experiencing. Don’t forget about over-the-counter drugs, vitamins or nutritional supplements you take.

Schedule screenings and get vaccines. There are a number of important health screenings and vaccines that you may need depending on your age and gender, such as colon cancer screening, bone density test, mammogram, flu shot or COVID-19 immunization.

Ask your provider about the screenings and vaccines you’ve had already and schedule any you need as soon as possible. You may even be able to do that before you leave the office. Also, don’t forget to visit your eye doctor and dentist. These visits are covered by many MA plans as well.

“You wouldn’t drive your vehicle without proper preventive maintenance, so please don’t ignore preventive maintenance for your most prized possession – your health,” Sobel said. “An annual wellness exam is a great place to start.”

Find out more at www.cigna-medicare.com.

What’s in your food?

By Vince Faust
Tips to Be Fit

Buying a Gatorade sounds like a great idea when you’re thirsty, but did you know that Gatorade contains brominated vegetable oil. Brominated vegetable oil comes with a long list of possible side effects.

They include changes in thyroid hormones and function. Brominated vegetable oil can also cause neurological disorders.

Other additives to avoid:

Cottonseed Oil – Cottonseed oil is made from the seeds of the cotton plant. Cottonseed oil is used to thicken foods or add texture. Cottonseed oil is found in many fried snack foods, salad dressings, sauces, marinades and bake goods. Some people are allergic to cottonseed oil. Cottonseed oil crops tend to be genetically modified and contain high levels of pesticides.

Diacetyl – This additive, which provides a buttery aroma and flavor, is most often found in microwave popcorn. It’s sometimes paired with hydrogenated fats, which is also typically found in microwave popcorn. This is an extremely unhealthy combination. This combination can increase your LDLs (bad cholesterol) and lower your HDL (good cholesterol). A 2012 study suggests that consuming diacetyl affects the beta-amyloid accumulation that can increase your risk for Alzheimer’s disease.

Hydrolyzed Vegetable Protein – This meaty tasting flavor enhancer is classified as a natural flavoring on some labels. It’s used in soups and meats, sauces and stews. It’s often used to mask the use of monosodium glutamate (MSG).

It’s found in packaged and pre-prepare foods. MSG is also known to trigger headaches and may lead to weight gain. MSG is a hidden source of wheat. Some people are sensitive to gluten, a protein found in wheat, barley and rye.

Potassium Bromate – Potassium alone is an essential mineral needed for good health. Potassium bromate found in bromated flour has been linked to cancer in lab animals. The threat is strong enough to have prompted all European countries, as well as Canada and China to ban bromated flour. This additive helps the flour rise. Our FDA has stopped short of such a measure. Instead, our FDA only encourages commercial bakeries to voluntarily stop using it. Many national manufactures of baked goods such as Arnold and Pepperidge Farms switched years ago. Some have not changed. You should check your label.

Trans Fats – Trans fats are found in commercially made cookies, pies, donuts, most snack foods and fast foods. Trans fats are hydrogenated oils. Hydrogenation turns fats normally liquid at room temperature, into fats that are solid at room temperature.

Margarine and shortening are two examples of trans fats. The cheapest oils such as soy, corn, cottonseed or canola are used in hydrogenation and mix with nickel oxide. The oil mixture is then subjected to hydrogen gas at both a high-pressure and high-temperature. Trans fats will raise your LDLs and lower your HDLs.

Sodium Nitrate – Sodium nitrate is a preservative used in cured meat products that include bacon, deli meat and hot dogs. It has been linked to the development of heart disease, high blood pressure and diabetes.

Aspartame – Aspartame is an artificial sweetener. It’s sold under brand names such as NutraSweet® and Equal®. It’s been in use in the United States since the early 1980s. Aspartame is sweeter than sugar so much less of it needs to be used to get the same level of sweetness.

Aspartame can cause neuropsychiatric reactions. They can in-

clude headaches, convulsions and depression. Aspartame can affect your brain and influence the level of neurotransmitters used by your brain.

BHA and BHT – BHA (butylated hydroxyanisole) and BHT (butylated hydroxytoluene) are used as preservatives in lipsticks and moisturizers but also used as a food preservative.

BHA and BHT are endocrine disruptors. They can impact your testosterone levels as well as affect your sperm quality. BHT can cause enlargements in your liver, inflammatory effects in the lungs, renal dysfunction and a decrease in your potassium levels.

High-fructose corn syrup and sugar – Added sugars and high fructose corn syrup (HFCS) are factors that have contributed to heart disease, diabetes, fatty liver disease, dyslipidemia and an abnormal level of cholesterol and other fats in your blood.

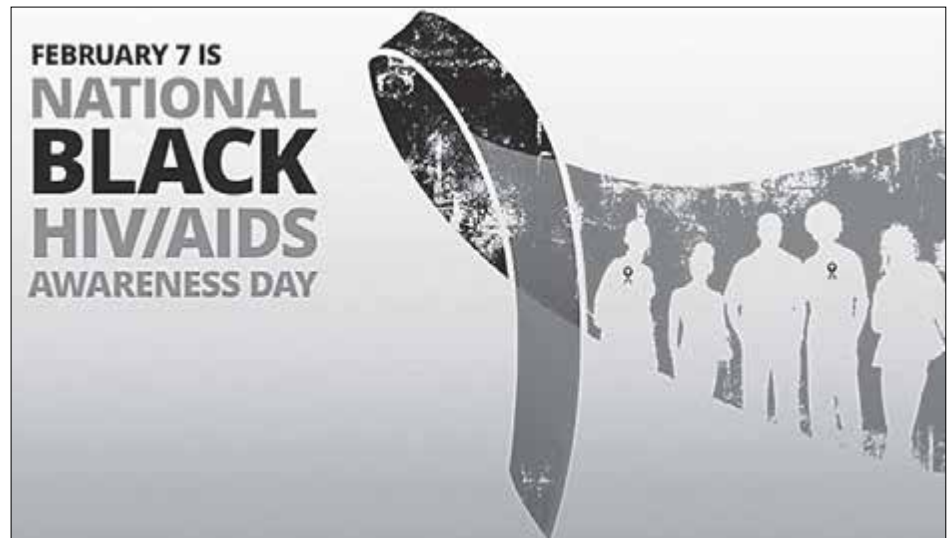
There is no scientific evidence that suggest that HFCS is worse than sugar. HFCS and sugar are essentially the same. The difference in their chemical formula is too small to matter in moderate consumption. In excess both are harmful to your health. Most Americans eat too many foods that contain sugars, fats and sodium.

Artificial food coloring – Most Artificial food coloring is made from petroleum or crude oil. Artificial food coloring is added to foods like sauce, jams and pickles to make the foods look more natural.

Most artificial food colorings contain small quantities of lead and arsenic. Too much consumption of artificial food colorings can be detrimental to your health. There is an association with diseases like ADHD (Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder).

Check your labels to know what’s in our food.

National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day amplifies disparities



The Institute for the Advancement of Minority Health

February 7 is National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day (NBHAAD). On this day, HIV advocates and public health practitioners will collectively amplify HIV prevention, testing, treatment, and education within the black community.

Despite strides being made in the reduction of HIV transmission, HIV/AIDS continues to heavily impact the black community. African Americans are 13% of the U.S. population but comprise 40% of new HIV cases according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Some of the highest HIV infection rates are in the Magnolia State, particularly in the Mississippi Delta where the average infection rate is 17.8 per 100,000 persons. This is compared to the national average of 11.2.

While African Americans are 38% of Mississippi’s population, they are 78% of residents living with HIV. Because rural residence, poverty, unemployment and lack of education are barriers to care for HIV patients, the Institute for the Advancement of Minority Health (IAMH) is committed to reducing HIV/AIDS dis-

parities by raising awareness, providing access to testing and reducing stigma.

“The Institute is deeply committed to ending the inequities and service gaps that still prevent disenfranchised communities from having access to life-saving HIV prevention and treatment services,” said Sandra Melvin, CEO, Institute for the Advancement of Minority Health.

For the past four years, the Institute has partnered with agencies in Hinds, Bolivar, Washington and Leflore counties to ensure that people of all ages, genders, and population groups have equitable access HIV resources. “We distribute HIV resource information, coordinate anti-stigma campaigns, provide home self-testing kits and opportunities for rapid testing,” added Melvin. “Through the use of telehealth and remote care delivery models, access to treatment services is provided directly to residents in local communities.”

For more information or to secure HIV/AIDS resource materials or home self-test kits, contact the Institute for the Advancement of Minority Health at iamh@advancingminorityhealth.org or at (769) 572-5263.

P R E S E R V E D

Reach beyond the break

By Shewanda Riley
Columnist



“I need to play a long song.” I remember thinking these words one day in the early 1990’s when I was working as a gospel radio announcer at KCHL Radio in San Antonio. It was time for me to take a break during my 6 hour shift. Since there was no one else in the station at the time, I was looking for songs longer than 5 minutes so I could get a snack, go to the bathroom and maybe even get some fresh air. I thumbed through the albums (yes, we still played albums) and saw “Reach Beyond the Break parts 1 and 2” by Rev. Clay Evans. Combined both songs were a total of 10 minutes. “Perfect,” I thought. Even though I hadn’t heard the songs before, I was more con-

cerned about them being long enough for me to take a break. I cued up the record and listened for about 10 seconds, just long enough to make sure the record wasn’t scratched and to hear Rev. Evans start his signature “talk” before the singing started. Then I left to get my snacks and something from my car. When I came back into the studio, there was at least 1 minute left on the song. At this point, the choir was singing the refrain, “Hope is your rope.” The song ended with enough time for me to get my next song ready to play. That song turned out to be a favorite with the listening audience so I did eventually stay in the studio long enough to hear the whole thing. I had to admit that it had a good message of maintaining hope in the midst of despair and chaos. In it, Rev. Evans told the story of a young man who was drowning and was calling to his father who was on the shore

for help. His father couldn’t swim out to him but threw him a rope. The young man did his best to hold onto the rope as his father began to pull him to safety. Then, the young man yelled that the rope was breaking. The father told his son to reach beyond the break and hold on. Eventually, the young man did what his father said and made it back to shore. Years later, I finally got the heart of the song: use faith to go beyond the “breaks” in our lives and hold onto God’s promises. Recently, a series of disappointments made me question so many things about my faith and God. I still believed in God’s transforming power, but I had somehow stopped believing that His power could transform MY life. One day years ago I was dwelling on those many “breaks” and God brought the words of this song to my mind. This was before the days of YouTube and I didn’t have a

copy of the song. All I could remember was the chorus “Reach beyond the break and hold on.” Hebrews 10:22-22 encourages us to draw close to God. Verse 23 says, “Let us hold unwaveringly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful.” Rather than wait for God to supernaturally move in my life, I had to learn how to take the first steps of faith and reach beyond my breaks...then have enough faith to hold on. 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 or follow her on Twitter @shewanda. Find out more about her new podcast “The Chocolate Auntie Podcast” at www.chocolateauntiepodcast.com.

Imam Ameen Abdur-Rashied of Jackson honored with Leadership Award in Musical Artistry

By Ayesha K. Mustafaa
Special to The Mississippi Link

Local Muslim leader, Imam Ameen Abdur-Rashied, closed out last year as a recipient of the “Leadership Award in Musical Artistry,” presented by the Mississippi Jazz Foundation. Abdur-Rashied is known by most for his religious leadership at Masjid Muhammad in North Jackson, 6100 Floral Drive. However, his musical roots come from a family of musicians. Born into a musical family, Abdur-Rashied’s father was a singer and owned a construction business. His mother played piano and harmonica, while she operated her own beauty shop. Most everyone in the family sang or played a musical instrument. He says his youth was filled with music – from school to church to radio to recordings and live performances in local “juke-joints and auditoriums. Music was his “neighborhood.” He has performed professionally throughout Europe, Canada, South America, as well as throughout the USA.



(LtoR) Imam Ameen-Rashied, Ann Burton, Palmer Williams



The Mississippi Jazz Foundation's Leadership in Musical Artistry award

Abdur-Rashied holds a doctorate degree in Early Childhood Education from Jackson State University. He has been a band director for 20 years, while at the same time maintaining his career as a jazz drummer. His musical genre includes blues, gospel, R&B and jazz. He is a National Endowment for the Arts Fellow, mentored by Sherrill Holly, Donald Sias, Alvin Fielder and Alan Dawson. Among his musical influences outside the family, he points to John Coltrane, Billy Higgins,

Art Blakey, Miles Davis, Max Roach, Charlie Parker and others. Along with being the Resident Imam at Masjid Muhammad – the oldest mosque in Jackson – since 2011, he currently also serves as the band director at Peeples Middle School in Jackson. He is married to Dr. Sakinah Abdur-Rashied, a retired professor in languages at Jackson State University.



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The fatal beating of Tyre Nichols by the police has us still saying “I can’t breathe”

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



Heinous and horrific are two words that come to mind after watching the video of the police beating of Tyre Nichols.

Like you, I viewed this senseless act and wondered, how do you lose your life over a traffic stop? How do you sound the way you do and act the way you do over a traffic stop?

Yet five police officers in Memphis, Tennessee sounded and acted in a way that led them to unleash a terror attack on Tyre Nichols.

I watched this tirade feeling numb and sick.

The question which we have asked before is why is this still happening in the United States of America? Have lessons not been learned from similar tragedies involving black men? The beating and subsequent death were unnecessary. That is my opinion.

Nichols was minutes away from his mom’s house on January 7th. In the video, you could hear him screaming for his mom. This young man 29 years of age crying out for help is a scene that will forever be emblazoned in our memories.

Nichols died three days later in the hospital from the injuries he suffered.

The city of Memphis has fired the five police officers and they have been charged with murder. These five officers were a part of the SCORPION (Street Crimes Operation to Restore Peace in our Neighborhood) unit, and it was created in October 2021.

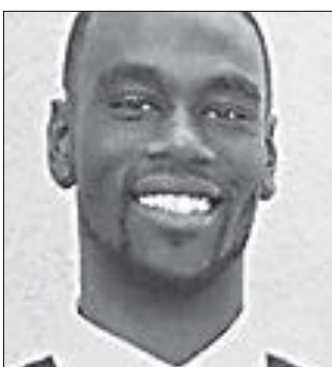
It has now been disbanded. Its purpose according to reports was to concentrate on crime hot spots.

Observers of similar groups say their tactics are aggressive and abusive. This played out in the death of Nichols.

The names of the officers charged in his death are Tadarrius Bean, Demetrius Haley, Emmitt Martin III, Desmond Mills Jr and Justin Smith. All these police officers are African American.

Former police officers are calling into question the tactics used by them.

Ed Davis, a former police commissioner in Boston Massachusetts said, “It’s not logical to me anymore that any police department in this country could do that type of punishment that we saw.”



Nichols

He added, “Was it a problem in the United States? Yes, it was. Is it still a problem in places? Obviously, we see this in Memphis.”

Many of us are seeing there are communities that don’t practice best police procedures and training. Is it they aren’t taught what to do or is it that they just won’t do it?

It is upsetting that to protect and to serve has lost some of its luster. Bad police have given good police a bad reputation. The perception of the police is not good, and the Tyre Nichols tragedy has only created a bigger problem.

Georgetown Law professor, Paul Butler said, “One of the ironies of this video is if these officers weren’t in uniform and badges, the same thing could have happened to them. That does not mean that they’re not as biased as any other officers.”

He also said, “Statistically, black men and women suffer the same kind of threat from black and Latinx officers as they do from white officers.”

Nichols wasn’t going to get a pass because he paid a skin tax.

Some question if the victim had been white, would he have been beaten almost to death? What I do know is that as black men we have to be cautious and careful when we are in the public square.

We cannot afford to drop our guard because if we do the consequences can be fatal.

Dying and passing away is something that we will all experience. It is simply a part of our living. Being beaten literally to death is totally different and is unacceptable in our society.

The five men charged now have lawyers.

What can be their defense?

If you are one of the five and did nothing but saw everything, then you are a part of this horror story as your hands are just as soiled and just as tainted. This is my opinion.

America mourns for Tyre Nichols because a piece of our humanity was lost when he was fatally assaulted by the police.

Taking on the symptom that is gun violence and the disease behind it

By Ben Jealous
People For the American Way



We’ve had more mass shootings this year than we’ve had days this year. It’s sad to imagine that Half Moon Bay and Monterey Park will join a list with Uvalde and Buffalo and Orlando and Charleston and Sandy Hook and Columbine, reference points for a national epidemic we haven’t mustered the will to end despite decades of tragedies. But they likely will unless we can confront both the symptom that is gun violence and the underlying disease that causes it.

I shoot for sport, and I’ve trained others to shoot. I live in a coastal community in Maryland where hunters and hikers share wild places and work together to preserve them.

I also live not far from the Capital Gazette’s offices, where a man armed with a shotgun

and angered by newspaper stories about him killed five and injured two five years ago.

For generations, many in my family have served in law enforcement. I support common-sense steps to keep guns out of the hands of those who have demonstrated they shouldn’t have them. We all know that list by now – more and more thorough background checks, bans on assault weapons and unnecessarily large magazines, red flag laws that allow guns to be taken away from those who are risks to others or themselves, and penalties for gun owners who fail to keep them out of the hands of children, teens, and mentally unstable people.

Fighting the disease at the root of the violence demands that we address it like the public health crisis it is. I realized that as a graduate student at Oxford when I started exploring rates of suicide in the United States. Almost unfettered access to guns, particularly handguns, has a lot

to do with the numbers.

If you try to kill yourself with a firearm, you’re much more likely to succeed. While suicides among young black men sparked my research, I learned that white men over 55 were more likely to die of suicide with a gun than black men 15 to 30 were to kill each other with a gun. You would never have known that from the media and popular culture at the time.

What pushes those two trend lines in the same direction are shared causes – hopelessness, economic uncertainty, downward mobility and addiction all made more painful by social isolation. Those same factors feed the cultural and political polarization that has many wondering about the future of our republic.

Let’s not accept the isolation so many feel and the polarization we see in our public discourse as reinforcing and insurmountable. Let’s be determined to act now to find the solutions

we can agree on – even gun owners overwhelmingly support some regulations, just as majorities support helping those with mental health needs.

I’ve seen this happen. When I was young, my dad organized a peer counseling program for abusive men, with 80 men taking part every six weeks. Men grew not only more empathetic but more humane. Some eventually wanted to do more together and formed Whites Interrupting Racism in our community. It was one of many lessons my dad taught me – that how we treat each other in our lives shapes what we’ll permit in the structures of our country.

Ben Jealous is the incoming executive director of the Sierra Club, the oldest and most influential grassroots environmental organization in the country. He is a professor of practice at the University of Pennsylvania and author of “Never Forget Our People Were Always Free,” published in January.

What if Valentine’s Day was every day?

By LaShunda Calvert, Ph.D.
Guest Writer



As many of you are aware one of the most celebrated, and designated days to show love is approaching soon. Further, it just so happens that I recognize this special occasion in our household as a major holiday. Of course, it is not Christmas, neither is it Thanksgiving or Easter, yes you guessed it correctly, it is Valentine’s Day.

Valentine’s Day is when many go out of their way to display and illustrate love for one another, especially in relationships and marriages. In fact, according to the National Retail Foundation, Americans spend billions of dollars every year on Valentines Day gifts and at least two billion is spent on candy alone. Valentine’s Day is a day that many, especially women anticipate being asked to start or validate a friendship, request for a relationship (watch the social media status changes [smile]), and some anticipate proposals, weddings and confirmation of long-lasting love.

Also, believe it or not, many men expect to receive some type of special adoration of love on Valentine’s Day too. All in all, Valentine’s Day is a day full of hope, happiness, joy, hugs, love making, romance, love and woo, woo, woo.

What if Valentine’s Day was every day, at least the positive aspect of it?

Although Valentine’s Day is centered around celebrating love; new love and old love, it is also centered around divorce too. Yes, divorce. According to many law firms such as Charles R. Ullman & Associates, Connatser Family

Law, etc. divorce filings increase around Valentine’s Day. Further, CNN Money reported in 2013 that the day after Valentine’s Day, February 15, – is the beginning of the busiest month of the year for divorce filings. Some research reports as shown on the legal site, Avvo.com, reveal a 40% increase in those seeking information and advice in the period right after Valentine’s Day. In other words, instead of planning a romantic day on Valentines Day, some are strongly contemplating dissolving their marriages of five years, twelve years, and even longer, which has a unique name, called, Gray Divorces.

Gray divorces refer to an older couple divorcing after a long-term marriage, like twenty to thirty years, also known as, late life divorce. WOW. Don’t get me wrong, filing for a divorce at any time of the year is sad especially when children are involved but it seems even sadder when a couple makes this decision around Valentines Day.

What factors lead to married couples filing for divorce around Valentine’s Day? Of course, there are various answers for these questions, but no one truly knows the precise reasons except for what some law firms have reported. According to some law firms, the following includes reasons why some married couples divorce around Valentine’s Day: survived Christmas, and other holidays and the Love Day allows them to reminisce of what they desire and do not desire once and for all, failed expectations of Valentine’s Day, cheating is exposed, lack of romance, and some simply do not care anymore – just no longer have the desire to be married.

What can be done in marriages

to avoid these sad statistics of married couples filing for divorce around Valentines Day?

You as a spouse have a choice to make Valentine’s Day a holiday in your marriage every day of the year and it doesn’t require a dime to do it. Moreover, every day that you wake up, that is an opportunity to invest in your spouse and in your marriage. It is never too late to start investing love in your spouse and in your marriage.

Spouses need the reassurance that they are loved and vice versa daily, not just one day because that one day may be too late.

What are you doing in your marriage that makes your spouse feel like Valentines is every day? What investments in love are you making in your marriage? Is your love account at a zero balance? Is your love account in a negative or is it more than stable to sustain a healthy and happy marriage?

Husbands and wives want to know without doubt that you love them 24/7. Nonetheless, spouses fail to show their spouse love every day. In other words, their love account is at zero balance. Your spouse’s love account should be always filled with affirmation of your love not just on Valentine’s Day, but it should increase (running over with love) on Valentine’s Day...let it be daily, weekly, monthly, yearly – all year round.

Yes, it is ideal to receive chocolates, cards, flowers, stuffed animals and jewelry but guess what, they sell all of that stuff year-round too. However, showing love to your spouse should be more than about gift giving and gift receiving. Showing love to your spouse involves prioritizing time for them, patience, forgiving, no verbal, emotional, mental or physical abuse – none-whatsoever, no af-

fairs; emotional or physical, hugs, kisses, and doing the dishes, holding hands, dating, respect, honor, saying it, “I love you,” daily, and helping in whatever ways that you can.

This month I want to challenge every spouse to celebrate love for the entire month of February and beyond. If your spouse is your soulmate – let them know that. If he or she is the love of your life – express that. If you cannot see yourself spending the rest of your life with anyone else, reassure your spouse of that today. If you are unsure about how to start making Valentine’s Day every day in your marriage, consider some of the following:

- Pray together – play fun games together
- Say it – I love you! Write it, sing it, rap it, whatever you do – say it, just do it!
- Plan surprise dates
- Nature walks
- Plan picnics
- Identify your spouse’s love language – read the book,” The Five Love Languages”
- Show affection to one another – have sex (make love, it is a difference)

In conclusion, the remainder of this month will be dedicated to showing married couples how to make Valentine’s Day every day, utilizing the acronym, LOVE in your marriage: L-Love, O- Opportunity, V- Vows, and E- Efficacy.

Contact Dr. LaShunda Calvert for speaking engagements (Motivational, Ministering, Marriage Workshops, Seminars, Conferences, etc.) on: Instagram: letsstay-2gether4ever (Dr. LaShunda Calvert) Facebook: Dr. LaShunda Calvert Email: letsstaytogether4eva@gmail.com

The Republican Party is digging its own grave

By Leon Williams
Contributing Writer



On January 6, 2023, the second anniversary of the brutal attack on the nation’s Capital by Trump-supporting insurrectionists, the Republican Party, after 15 rounds of voting that spanned over five days, finally elected Kevin McCarthy as Speaker of The U.S. House of Representatives.

For Speaker McCarthy this may very well be a ‘be careful

of what you wish for’ moment because his ascension to the speakership comes after having to make crippling back-room concessions detrimental not only to the United States populace in general, but the Grand Old Party in particular.

The entire process was categorized as a sideshow by every media outlet, including FOX News, who characterized McCarthy’s success as “McCarthy won because he wasn’t afraid to lose.”

The losing combination was comprised of twenty extremist

conservative holdouts who fueled the longest process for the speakership in over 100 years. Among them were Mat Gaetz, Lauren Boebert and Paul Gosar, three Republican far-right extremists who have espoused dangerously negative sentiments designed to marginalize women, people of color and immigrants. Unfortunately, the U.S. electorate, by default, also becomes part of the losing combination.

Among the radical proposals being floated by Republicans are a three trillion-dollar

(\$3,000,000,000,000) tax cut designed to benefit wealthy Americans, many of whom are elected officials; raise prescription drug costs by dismantling the Biden Administration’s limits on drug pricing; implement a 30% sales tax and completely abolish income tax, another proposal designed to help the super-wealthy avoid paying their fair share of taxes. Additionally, Republicans are eyeing a reduction in Social Security and Medicare, as well as raising the retirement age from the current age of 65 to 70. According to the Social Se-

curity Administration, there are currently more than 65 million (65,000,000) Americans receiving Social Security benefits.

These draconian measures are not only so far outside the mainstream of the Democratic Party, but they also put the GOP at serious odds with itself. Many Republicans see these measures as a death wish and are pushing back, but the circumstances leading to Speaker McCarthy’s election may signal that their actions may be too little too late.

The GOP’s alienation of seniors, women, people of color

and its propensity to set Americans against each other in culture wars seems to have forged alliances across party and racial lines.

Americans are coming to the realization that the very foundation of American Democracy is in serious peril. Chances are high that the 2024 Congressional election may very well be the end of the Republican Party as we know it, demonstrating that Fox News was on target in their assessment that “McCarthy won because he wasn’t afraid to lose.”



AUCTION FOR CITY OF JACKSON ABANDONED, STOLEN, SEIZED VEHICLES, EVIDENCE, AND RECOVERED PROPERTY. FEBRUARY 11, 2023

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, abandoned, lost, stolen, or misplaced personal property and equipment listed on the attached schedule. Unclaimed lost, stolen, abandoned, or misplaced property may be sold after the expiration of one hundred twenty (120)

days from the date of notification to – owner, and bicycles 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 Impound Lot facility located at 4225 Michael Avalon Street on Saturday, February 11, 2023 starting at 9:00 a.m.

A list and description of lost, stolen, abandoned or misplaced personal property, equipment, and bicycles will be posted pursuant to statutory requirements in the following locations: Hinds County Justice Court House, Hinds County Chancery Court Building, Jackson City Hall/City Clerk's Office, Jackson Area Newspapers

INVENTORY NO	CASE NO	YEAR/MAKE/MODEL(COLOR)	VIN NO	DISPOSITION	INVENTORY NO	CASE NO	YEAR/MAKE/MODEL(COLOR)	VIN NO	DISPOSITION
29217	2019-093093	1998/CHEVROLET/SILVERADO (BURGUNDY)	16CECK19TK1861530	STOLEN	42862	2022-063256	2008/BUICK/ENCLAVE (GOLD)	5GAER23778J279132	STOLEN
29308	2018-004158	1998/FORD/E250 (WHITE)	1FTPE1423WH430174	ARREST	42873	2022-066840	2007/CADILLAC/SRX (WHITE)	1GYEE637X7012658	ABANDON
29554	2019-151830	1996/HONDA/ACCORD (SILVER)	1HGCDS5686TA133096	ABANDON	42876	2022-048382	1998/CHEVROLET/CHEYENNE (BLUE)	1GCEC19M0WE24503	STOLEN
29738	2019-183712	2001/TOYOTA/RAV 4 (BLACK)	JTEGH20V530028579	ARREST	42891	2022-068317	1994/GMC/SIERRA (BLACK)	1GTDCL4K6RE501128	ABANDON
29817	2020-003574	2012/HONDA/RAV [WHITE]	1HGPC2F82CA159295	ARREST	42900	2022-009484	2014/BMW/320 (BLUE)	WBA3C3G53ENS70936	STOLEN
30006	2020-034006	1994/MAZDA/626 (BLUE)	1YVGE22CXK5174834	ABANDON	42915	2022-064846	1999/NISSAN/MAXIMA (BLACK)	JN1CA21A3XT700121	ARREST
40046	2020-056914	2007/HYUNDAI/SONATA (TAN)	5NPET46GCHT196032	ABANDON	42920	2022-071015	2005/DODGE/CARAVAN (WHITE)	1D4GP24R95B283401	ABANDON
40533	2020-127692	2007/MAZDA/CX7 (GRAY)	JM3ER293SK70155189	ABANDON	42924	2022-071343	2007/NISSAN/MAXIMA (RED)	1N4BA41E47C802461	ABANDON
40583	2020-133820	2009/SATURN/AURA (BLUE)	1G8ZV57639F190815	ABANDON	42928	2022-071580	2000/AUDI/A6 (BLUE)	WAUJED54B8YU070728	ABANDON
40864	2020-171407	2008/FORD/FUSION (TAN)	3FAHP07228R169599	ABANDON	42946	2022-063068	2003/GMC/SIERRA (GOLD)	2GT5C19X631397628	STOLEN
28907	2019-094268	2003/SATURN/VUE (GREEN)	5G6CZ538735867707	ABANDON	42955	2022-075995	2015/MERCEDES/C300 (BLACK)	55SWF4K87FJ0937666	STOLEN
40882	2020-173490	2008/DODGE/AVENGER (SILVER)	1B3LC46K88N106183	ABANDON	42959	2022-076370	2000/LINCOLN/TOWNCAR (GOLD)	1LNHMB2W4Y9314257	ABANDON
40954	2020-182620	2004/CHEVROLET/TRAILBLAZER (MARDON)	16ND5135X42378598	ABANDON	42961	2022-076541	2008/DODGE/CARAVAN (WHITE)	1D8HN44H28B127801	ABANDON
41021	2021-000928	2007/TOYOTA/CAMRY (BROWN)	4T1B6G12K1VU766746	ABANDON	42967	2022-077627	2005/MERCEDES/CLK320 (WHITE)	WDBTK656G45T051439	ABANDON
41290	2021-031283	1994/FORD/EXPLORER (GREEN)	1FMDU32K3RUE17954	ABANDON	42974	2022-077317	2021/KIA/FORTE (RED)	3K0PF24AD24ME309219	EVIDENCE
41294	2021-032656	2000/FORD/F150 (WHITE)	1FTRX17L7YH841641	ABANDON	42985	2022-079384	1993/CHEVROLET/LUMINA (RED)	2G1WL54TOP1165685	ABANDON
41449	2021-053331	2007/FORD/MUSTANG (BLACK)	12VFT30M275362658	ABANDON	43004	2022-081356	2001/KIA/SPORTAGE (WHITE)	KNU08723715691353	ABANDON
41452	2021-052764	2012/FORD/EDGE (SILVER)	2FMDK3GC4BA56437	EVIDENCE	43028	2022-084695	2007/NISSAN/SENTRA (WHITE)	3N1AB61EX7L613562	ARREST
41470	2021-053057	2016/JEEP/PATRIOT (SILVER)	1C4NJPF88G0655496	STOLEN	43030	2022-084863	2007/FORD/ESCAPE (YELLOW)	1FMYU03171KA98280	ABANDON
41545	2021-063453	2012/DODGE/RAM 3500	1C3CC8B68CN183057	ABANDON	43032	2022-084393	2003/GMC/YUKON (BLACK)	1GKFK16223J34117	EVIDENCE
41670	2021-070895	2007/FORD/MUSTANG (BLUE)	12VFT34N1775228979	ABANDON	43058	2022-068125	2012/HONDA/ACCORD (GRAY)	1HGCCF2F82CA097929	STOLEN
41593	2021-058628	2002/GMC/YUKON (WHITE)	1GKEK53U12119416	EVIDENCE	43055	2022-087203	2018/DODGE/CHALLENGER (GRAY)	2C3CD2BTXHJ271792	STOLEN
41612	2021-093160	2016/HONDA/PILOT (GRAY)	5FN9YF5H4JG8015253	STOLEN	43069	2022-080153	2017/FORD/F150 (WHITE)	1FTEW1EF1HK009335	STOLEN
41733	2021-085757	2019/FORD/FUSION (GRAY)	3FA6P0CD4KR140422	ABANDON	43070	2022-087777	2013/HONDA/ACCORD (BLACK)	1HGC2F58DA0A215555	EVIDENCE
41818	2021-777777	2002/BUICK/PARK AVENUE (WHITE)	1G4CW540K424141729	ABANDON	43073	2022-088429	1994/TOYOTA/CAMRY (BLACK)	4T1SK13E3R1047309	EVIDENCE
41882	2021-103624	2013/CHEVROLET/MALIBU (WHITE)	1G11B55A00F232885	EVIDENCE	43075	2022-088579	2006/HONDA/ACCORD (SILVER)	1HGCCM56786A091445	ABANDON
41991	2021-118225	2006/KIA/SPECTRA (BLUE)	KNAFE1211665263805	ABANDON	43079	2022-089054	NA/PERMOBILE/WHEELCHAIR (BLACK)	5NHW2524013520	OTHER
42015	2021-119528	2004/HONDA/ACCORD (MARDON)	1HGCN66584A047799	STOLEN	43081	2022-089360	2004/CHEVROLET/SILVERADO (WHITE)	1GCHK24J44E399572	ABANDON
42064	2021-126552	2010/HONDA/ACCORD (RED)	1HGC518B3AA010180	ABANDON	43085	2022-089616	2001/FORD/RANGER (YELLOW)	1FTYR14EK17B08016	ABANDON
42065	2021-1225997	1983/CHRYSLER/NEW YORKER (BEIGE)	2C3BF66P20R130167	ABANDON	43086	2022-089630	2006/NISSA/SENTRA (BROWN)	3N1CB51D96LS48664	EVIDENCE
42096	2020-044547	2014/DODGE/RAM 1500 (BLACK)	1C6RR8LT2E5212466	STOLEN	43087	2022-089742	2008/FORD/CROWN VICTORIA (GRAY)	2FAFP71V88X149834	ABANDON
42148	2021-137441	1998/FORD/RANGER (WHITE)	1FTRY1DC9WJH93479	ABANDON	43088	2022-089853	1999/FORD/EXPEDITION (BLUE)	1FMRU17L7KXL42137	ABANDON
42186	2021-147300	2006/PONTIAC/G6 (BLACK)	1G2ZF58264201935	ABANDON	43092	2022-090208	2002/HYUNDAI/ELANTRA (BEIGE)	KMH0N45D82U36926	ABANDON
42444	2022-018922	2010/FORD/F150 (BLACK)	1FTFW1EW6VAC27887	ABANDON	43094	2022-090291	2010/HYUNDAI/ELANTRA (SILVER)	KMH0U4A03AU964922	ABANDON
42462	2022-015887	2003/TOYOTA/HIGHLANDER (GOLD)	JTEGJ1A2301007423	EVIDENCE	43098	2022-090681	2010/VOLKSWAGEN/JETTA (BLACK)	3VW6Z7A5AAM03457	ABANDON
42493	2022-023894	2002/FORD/TAURUS (TAN)	1FAFP55UXX2A145273	ABANDON	43099	2022-090745	2014/NISSAN/SENTRA (BLACK)	3N1AB7AP3EY230148	ABANDON
42546	2022-030678	2008/NISSAN/ALTIMA (MARDON)	1N4BL11086N364739	ABANDON	43100	2022-152075	2020/FORD/MUSTANG (WHITE)	1FATP8UJH6L5113553	STOLEN
42671	2022-044238	2019/MERCEDES/C63 (BLACK)	WDDWKB6G87KF869310	ABANDON	43101	2022-090771	2018/DODGE/CHARGER (BLUE)	2C3CDXB69H329124	STOLEN
42676	2022-045038	1998/DODGE/DAKOTA (WHITE)	1B7GL22X9W5506984	ABANDON	43103	2022-091139	2005/DODGE/DURANGO (MARDON)	1D4HD59055F596533	ABANDON
42698	2022-044779	2010/HONDA/ACCORD (SILVER)	1HGPC2F30KAA065837	ABANDON	43104	2022-091170	1995/MERCEDES/E CLASS (BLACK)	WDBEA340E0C197049	OTHER
42724	2022-049540	2019/NISSAN/FRONTIER (SILVER)	1N6D0CER8KN710179	STOLEN	43105	2022-091334	1992/FORD/F150 (WHITE)	1FTDF15H0LA70429	ABANDON
42751	2022-002541	2017/NISSAN/ALTIMA (SILVER)	1N4AL3AP1HC499447	OTHER	43106	2022-091522	1997/TOYOTA/CAMRY (MARDON)	JT2BF22K4V0083191	ASANDON
42753	2022-053566	1990/FORD/ECONOLINE (WHITE)	1FDKE37H7LH452551	ABANDON	43109	2022-092407	2007/PONTIAC/G6 (RED)	1G2ZF588874208045	ABANDON
42756	2022-053887	2005/TOYOTA/CAMRY (GRAY)	4T1BA32K95U067925	ABANDON	43114	2022-092869	2009/CHEVROLET/IMPALA (GRAY)	2G1WV157X09125279	ABANDON
41355	2021-039589	2000/HONDA/ACCORD (BLUE)	1HGC65664Y014640	ABANDON	43116	2022-092975	2005/PONTIAC/G6 (WHITE)	1G2AL15F677195736	ABANDON
41442	2021-042066	2013/NISSAN/MAXIMA (BLACK)	1N4AASAP8DC838118	STOLEN	43125	2022-093783	2008/FORD/EXPLORER (WHITE)	1FMEUJ63E08U4A5623	ABANDON
41324	2021-037104	2010/HYUNDAI/ELANTRA (GOLD)	KMH0U4M402AU981792	ABANDON	43138	2022-095320	2012/DODGE/CHALLENGER (BLACK)	2C3CDYAG8CH039988	STOLEN
41517	2021-777777	2004/HONDA/ACCORD (GOLD)	1HGCN568984A038636	OTHER	43143	2022-095919	2003/GMC/SIERRA (MARDON)	1GTEK19T53232504	ABANDON
42057	2021-126118	2013/GMC/SAVANNA (WHITE)	N/A	ABANDON	43158	2022-097023	2004/GMC/YUKON (TAN)	1GKEC13264R234016	OTHER
40070	2020-057304	2003/MERCURY/SABLE (SILVER)	1MEFM55563A614411	ARREST	43168	2022-098520	2001/MERCURY/MARQUIS (MARDON)	2MEFM74W41K154055	ARREST
40964	2020-183973	2001/FORD/MUSTANG (WHITE)	1FAFP9A2K31F107023	ABANDON	43177	2022-100816	2005/CHEVROLET/MALIBU (SILVER)	1G1ZT548X5C106909	ABANDON
41019	2020-006940	2015/KIA/SPORTAGE (WHITE)	5XNVCTA474FG587549	ABANDON	43188	2022-101882	2012/FORD/FUSION (BLACK)	3FA8P0LA5CR121123	ARREST
41109	2021-010246	2017/CHRYSLER/200 (BLUE)	1C3CCTCA81HN504212	EVIDENCE	43188	2022-101882	2003/CHEVROLET/TRAILBLAZER (WHITE)	1GND5135332142003	STOLEN
41211	2021-022089	2002/CHEVROLET/EXPRESS (WHITE)	1GCFG25MT721184515	ABANDON	43197	2020-087934	1998/FORD/EXPEDITION (BLACK)	1FMRU18W9WLC29002	ABANDON
41339	2021-038469	2000/HONDA/ACCORD (GREEN)	1HGC65679YAD48023	ABANDON	43209	2020-091639	2003/CHEVROLET/IMPALA (TAN)	2G1WH52K39439646	ABANDON
41730	2021-082320	2011/CHEVROLET/IMPALA (SILVER)	2G1WVF5EKS81131053	ABANDON	43151	2021-058983	2007/HONDA/ACCORD (BLUE)	JHMCN563570010269	ABANDON
41521	2021-059687	2004/VOLKSWAGEN/JETTA (SILVER)	3VWKS62M4M1409970	ABANDON	43173	2021-193934	2002/HYUNDAI/ACCENT (BLUE)	KMHCUJAESCU038115	STOLEN
41745	2021-087384	2007/CADILLAC/CTS (GOLD)	1G6DP577770113079	ABANDON	43198	2021-093696	2015/HONDA/ACCORD (GRAY)	3HCCN554K5G708706	ABANDON
41047	2021-004740	1999/LEXUS/RX300 (WHITE)	JTB6H10J5X0036553	ABANDON	43227	2021-037153	1999/ACURA/TL (BLACK)	1FUJAS4613AD12230	ABANDON
42001	2021-118085	2020/MITSUBISHI/MIRAGE (GRAY)	ML32F44J6HJH06815	OTHER	41885	2021-103875	2008/JEEP/PATRIOT (BLUE)	1J8GN28X3PM66474	ABANDON
42042	2021-044617	1999/LEXUS/RX300 (WHITE)	JTB6G10J6H00018056	ARREST	42081	2021-127914	2015/NISSA/VERSA NOTE (WHITE)	3N1CE2CP6FL415037	ABANDON
42050	2021-124980	1998/DODGE/RAM (YELLOW)	3B7HF13127W6146174	ARREST	42117	2021-132231	2001/FORD/F150 (BLACK)	1FTRW0BL71K739791	EVIDENCE
42051	2021-124680	2005/BUICK/LESABRE (SILVER)	1G4HPS2K45U115593	ABANDON	42194	20210			

LEGAL

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR A USE PERMIT
ZONING CASE NO. 4199

By virtue of and pursuant to the authority and direction of that Ordinance by the City Council of Jackson, Mississippi, appearing in Minute Book 3G at page 115 thereof, notice is hereby given to all persons interested in or in any way affected thereby, that Andrew Camphor has filed with the Planning Board for the City of Jackson, an application requesting a Use Permit within a C-3 (General) Commercial District to allow for a used car dealership for the property located at 3246 Medgar Evers Blvd. (Parcel: 409-21), in the First Judicial District of Hinds County, Mississippi, and being more particularly described as:

All that certain parcel of land with all improvements situated in the Southwest Quarter of the Northwest Quarter of Section 28, Township 6 North, Range 1 East. Lot 1, 2 and 3 of Block B of Shady Oaks Subdivision, and also a part of Corley Avenue adjacent to Lot 1 of said block and subdivision, all as shown on the plat of said subdivision in plat Book 4, Page 102, in the office of the Chancery Clerk, at Jackson, Hinds County, Mississippi, and being more particularly described as follows:

Commencing at a point on the East line of the Jackson and Pocahontas paved road (U.S. Highway 49) where the same intersects the half section line of Section 28, Township 6 North, Range 1 East; run thence in a Northwesterly direction, along the said East line of said Highway 49 a distance of 888.0 feet to a point, said point being the Southern Most corner a Lot 3 of said block and subdivision; thence turn 90 degrees and run Northeasterly 10 feet to an iron pin located on the new right of way line of U.S. Highway 49, said iron pin marking point of beginning of the lands herein described; thence continue along this line a distance of 130 feet to an iron pin; thence right 90 degrees and run Northwesterly 106.05 feet to an iron pin; thence right 90 degrees and run Northwesterly 22.40 feet to an iron pin, said pin being on the South right of way line of relocated Corley Avenue; thence run Westerly and along a 57 degree 37 minutes 34 second curve 20.28 feet as originally laid out and shown on the plat of Shady Oaks Subdivision; thence turn left and run in a Southwesterly direction, along a 44 degree 09 minutes 51 second curve, a distance of direction, along a 44 degree 09 minutes 51 seconds curve a distance of direction, 60.20 feet measured along said curve on foot chords to iron pin; thence continue in a Southwesterly direction 89.0 feet to an iron pin which intersects the new right of way line of U.S Highway 49; thence turn left through an angle of 90 degrees 15 minutes 30 seconds and run Southwesterly and along said new right of way line of U.S. Highway 49 a distance of 140 feet to the point of beginning, being the same land conveyed by W. T. Neely by deed dated May 5, 1959, and recorded in Book 1146, page 129, Hinds County Deed Records, and conveyed by Tennessee Production Company by deed dated June 17, 1968, and recorded in Book 1774, Page 145, Hinds County Deed Records.

Said application will be heard at the City Planning Board Hearing in the Andrew Jackson Conference Room, First Floor, Warren A. Hood Building, 200 S. President Street in Jackson, Mississippi, at 1:30 p.m., on Wednesday, February 22, 2023, at which time all parties interested in or affected thereby will be heard both pro and con on said question, after which a record will be established upon which the City Planning Board can make its recommendation to the City Council of Jackson. Any objection thereto may be made by any person owning property within the area, and if made in writing must be filed with the City Zoning Administrator before said time if a hearing thereof or consideration thereof is desired, or by counsel on said date. If a request is made to the Zoning Administrator at least 72 hours in advance, the City will take steps to accommodate citizens need for interpreters or auxiliary aids for the visually/hearing impaired.

DUE TO COVID-19 AND THE CONCERN FOR THE PUBLIC HEALTH, SAFETY AND WELFARE, THE PLANNING BOARD MEMBERS AND THE APPLICANTS HAVE THE OPTION TO ATTEND THE MEETING VIA TELECONFERENCE/VIDEO OR IN PERSON WITH REGARDS TO THE WEARING OF MASKS AND THE SOCIAL DISTANCING REQUIREMENTS. MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC MAY ATTEND VIA TELECONFERENCE/VIDEO BY EMAILING EAINSWORTH@CITY.JACKSON.MS.US TO REGISTER PRIOR TO February 15, 2023.

WITNESS my signature this 30th day of January 2023.

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

2/2/2023 2/16/2023

LEGAL

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR A USE PERMIT
ZONING CASE NO. 4184

By virtue of and pursuant to the authority and direction of that Ordinance by the City Council of Jackson, Mississippi, appearing in Minute Book 3G at page 115 thereof, notice is hereby given to all persons interested in or in any way affected thereby, that Rev. Jimmy Edwards/ Rev. Johnny Addison DIBA Rosemont Human Services Inc. have filed with the Planning Board for the City of Jackson, an application requesting a Use Permit in a R-1 (Single-Family) Residential District to allow for the placement of a manufactured house on the properties located at 4306 Halsey Ave. (Parcel 306-122), 0 Halsey Ave (Parcel 306-121), 0 Halsey Ave (Parcel 306-120) & 4311 Officer Thomas Catching Dr (Parcel 306-128) in the First Judicial District of Hinds County, Mississippi, and being more particularly described as:

4306 HALSEY AVE (Parcel 306-122) - LOT 3 BLK E REEDBRIDGE ADDN

0 HALSEY AVE (Parcel 306-121) --LOT 2 BLK E REEDBRIDGE ADDN

0 HALSEY AVE (Parcel 306-120) -- LOT 1 BLK E REEDBRIDGE ADDN

4311 OFFICER THOMAS CATCHING DR (Parcel 306-128) -LOT 9 BLK E

REEDBRIDGE ADDN

Said application will be heard at the City Planning Board Hearing in the Andrew Jackson Conference Room, First Floor, Warren A. Hood Building, 200 S. President Street in Jackson, Mississippi, at 1:30 p.m., on Wednesday, February 22, 2023, at which time all parties interested in or affected thereby will be heard both pro and con on said question, after which a record will be established upon which the City Planning Board can make its recommendation to the City Council of Jackson. Any objection thereto may be made by any person owning property within the area, and if made in writing must be filed with the City Zoning Administrator before said time if a hearing thereof or consideration thereof is desired, or by counsel on said date. If a request is made to the Zoning Administrator at least 72 hours in advance, the City will take steps to accommodate citizens need for interpreters or auxiliary aids for the visually/hearing impaired.

DUE TO COVID-19 AND THE CONCERN FOR THE PUBLIC HEALTH, SAFETY AND WELFARE, THE PLANNING BOARD MEMBERS AND THE APPLICANTS HAVE THE OPTION TO ATTEND THE MEETING VIA TELECONFERENCE/VIDEO OR IN PERSON WITH REGARDS TO THE WEARING OF MASKS AND THE SOCIAL DISTANCING REQUIREMENTS. MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC MAY ATTEND VIA TELECONFERENCE/VIDEO BY EMAILING EAINSWORTH@CITY.JACKSON.MS.US TO REGISTER PRIOR TO February 17, 2023.

WITNESS my signature this 30th day of January 2023.

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

2/2/2023 2/16/2023

LEGAL

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR A USE PERMIT
ZONING CASE NO. 4200

By virtue of and pursuant to the authority and direction of that Ordinance by the City Council of Jackson, Mississippi, appearing in Minute Book 3G at page 115 thereof, notice is hereby given to all persons interested in or in any way affected thereby, that Rankins Properties, LLC has filed with the Planning Board for the City of Jackson, an application requesting a Rezoning from R-1A (Single-Family) Residential District to C-1A (Restricted) Commercial District with a Use Permit to allow for a neighborhood restaurant for the property located on 4528 Hanging Moss Rd. in the First Judicial District of Hinds County, Mississippi, and being more particularly described as:

LOT 4 BLK D ELMWOOD PARK SUB LESS TO CITY FOR ST

Said application will be heard at the City Planning Board Hearing in the Andrew Jackson Conference Room, First Floor, Warren A. Hood Building, 200 S. President Street in Jackson, Mississippi, at 1:30 p.m., on Wednesday, February 22, 2023, at which time all parties interested in or affected thereby will be heard both pro and con on said question, after which a record will be established upon which the City Planning Board can make its recommendation to the City Council of Jackson. Any objection thereto may be made by any person owning property within the area, and if made in writing must be filed with the City Zoning Administrator before said time if a hearing thereof or consideration thereof is desired, or by counsel on said date. If a request is made to the Zoning Administrator at least 72 hours in advance, the City will take steps to accommodate citizens need for interpreters or auxiliary aids for the visually/hearing impaired.

DUE TO COVID-19 AND THE CONCERN FOR THE PUBLIC HEALTH, SAFETY AND WELFARE, THE PLANNING BOARD MEMBERS AND THE APPLICANTS HAVE THE OPTION TO ATTEND THE MEETING VIA TELECONFERENCE/VIDEO OR IN PERSON WITH REGARDS TO THE WEARING OF MASKS AND THE SOCIAL DISTANCING REQUIREMENTS. MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC MAY ATTEND VIA TELECONFERENCE/VIDEO BY EMAILING EAINSWORTH@CITY.JACKSON.MS.US TO REGISTER PRIOR TO February 15, 2023.

WITNESS my signature this 30th day of January 2023.

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

2/2/2023 2/16/2023

LEGAL

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR A USE PERMIT
ZONING CASE NO. 4201

By virtue of and pursuant to the authority and direction of that Ordinance by the City Council of Jackson, Mississippi, appearing in Minute Book 3G at page 115 thereof, notice is hereby given to all persons interested in or in any way affected thereby, that Stephen Wolfe has filed with the Planning Board for the City of Jackson, an application requesting a Use Permit within a C-3 (General) Commercial District to allow for the operation of a used car lot for the property located at Parcel 732-37 on Medgar Evers Blvd., in the First Judicial District of Hinds County, Mississippi, and being more particularly described as:

BEG SE COR NE ¼ SEC 19 T6N R1E W 420 FT N 1292.7 FT NW/LY 439.42 FT TO POB NW/LY 179 FT S 246.09 FT NE/LY 169.8 FT TO POB FT LOT 2 OF LOT 8 ABRAM FORT PTN*JDI

Said application will be heard at the City Planning Board Hearing in the Andrew Jackson Conference Room, First Floor, Warren A. Hood Building, 200 S. President Street in Jackson, Mississippi, at 1:30 p.m., on Wednesday, February 22, 2023, at which time all parties interested in or affected thereby will be heard both pro and con on said question, after which a record will be established upon which the City Planning Board can make its recommendation to the City Council of Jackson. Any objection thereto may be made by any person owning property within the area, and if made in writing must be filed with the City Zoning Administrator before said time if a hearing thereof or consideration thereof is desired, or by counsel on said date. If a request is made to the Zoning Administrator at least 72 hours in advance, the City will take steps to accommodate citizens need for interpreters or auxiliary aids for the visually/hearing impaired.

DUE TO COVID-19 AND THE CONCERN FOR THE PUBLIC HEALTH, SAFETY AND WELFARE, THE PLANNING BOARD MEMBERS AND THE APPLICANTS HAVE THE OPTION TO ATTEND THE MEETING VIA TELECONFERENCE/VIDEO OR IN PERSON WITH REGARDS TO THE WEARING OF MASKS AND THE SOCIAL DISTANCING REQUIREMENTS. MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC MAY ATTEND VIA TELECONFERENCE/VIDEO BY EMAILING EAINSWORTH@CITY.JACKSON.MS.US TO REGISTER PRIOR TO February 15, 2023.

WITNESS my signature this 30th day of January 2023.

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

2/2/2023 2/16/2023

LEGAL

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR A USE PERMIT
ZONING CASE NO. 4201

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

TONY RAY CALVIN .IR. PETITIONER
VERSUS CAUSE NO: 2020-1297
JAIIRIANNA THOMPSON RESPONDENT

TO: Jabrianna Thompson

You have been made a Respondent in the suit filed in this Court by Tony Ray Calvin Jr. who is seeking Amended Petition for Modification of Custody.

THE Petition which has been filed in this matter is important and you must take immediate action to protect your rights, if any. You are summoned to appear and defend against said complaint or petition at 1:30 O'clock P.M. on the 17th day of April 2023, in the courtroom of the Binds County Chancery Court-house at Jackson, Mississippi. before Honorable Dewayne Thomas. In case of your failure to appear and defend a judgment may be entered against you for the money or other things demanded in the complaint or petition.

You are not required to file an answer or other pleading but you may do so if you desire. If you file an Answer or other pleading, you are required to mail or hand - deliver a copy to the attorney for the Petitioners, Damon R. Stevenson, 1010 North West Street, Jackson, Mississippi 39201, 769-251-0207.

ISSUED under my hand and seal of said Court, this the 20th day of January 2023.

Eddie Jean Carr,
Clerk of Hinds County, Mississippi

2/2/2023

LEGAL

Advertisement for RFPs

RFP 2023-04 Lead Partner(s)
to Support Secondary Students in ELA and Math

RFP 2023-05 Standards-Aligned Assessment Items
for Student Practice and Enrichment

Electronic RFP proposals for the above RFP will be received by the Board of Trustees of the Jackson Public School District, in the Business Office, 662 South President Street, Jackson, Mississippi, until 10:00 A.M. (Local Prevailing Time), February 9, 2023 at which time and place they will be publicly opened and read aloud. The Board of Trustees reserves the right to reject any and all RFPs, to waive informalities, and to withhold the acceptance of any RFP if approved for forty-five calendar days from the date RFPs/ are opened.

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

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

1/26/2023 2/2/2023

LEGAL

Advertisement for Bid

Bid 3218 Powell Middle School ESSER Renovations

Electronic and sealed bid proposals for the above bid will be received by the Board of Trustees of the Jackson Public School District, in the Business Office, 662 South President Street, Jackson, Mississippi, until 10:00 A.M. (Local Prevailing Time) February 28, 2023 at which time and place they will be publicly opened and read aloud. A Pre-Bid Conferences concerning this project will be held at 3655 Livingston Road, Jackson, MS 39213 on Thursday, February 16, 2023 at 3:00 P.M. Attendance at the pre-bid conferences is non-mandatory but strongly encouraged. The Board of Trustees reserves the right to reject any and all bids, to waive informalities, and to withhold the acceptance of any bid if approved for forty-five calendar days from the date bids are opened.

Plan holders are required to register and order bid documents at www.iosdm-sorojects.com. A \$250.00 non-refundable deposit shall be required on each set of bid documents and must be purchased through the website. All plan holders are required to have a valid email address for registration. Questions regarding website registration and online orders please contact Plan House Printing, 607 W. Main Street, Tupelo, MS 38804, (662) 407-0193. Questions regarding bid documents please contact Charles Bunniran at Allen & Hoshall, Phone: 601-977-8993, or Email: cbunniran@aallenhoshall.com.

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

1/26/2023 2/2/2023

LEGAL

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

ADMINISTRATION OF THE ESTATE OF JAMES RICHARD TREADWELL,
DECEASED, GWENDOLNY S. TREADWELL, PETITIONER

CAUSE NO: 21-520 T/1

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI
COUNTY OF HINDS

SUMMONS (By Publication)

RE: ADMINISTRATION OF THE ESTATE OF JAMES RICHARD,
TREADWELL, DECEASED, GWENDOLY S. TREADWELL, PETITIONER

TO: ANY UNKNOWN HEIRS OF THE ESTATE OF JAMES RICHARD
TREADWELL, DECEASED, OR ANY OTHER RESPONDENT IN THIS MATTER

You have been made a respondent in the Petition to Adjudicate / Designate the Heirs at Law and the Petitione to Close Estate, Distribute Assets, Discharge the Executrix of the Estate of JAMES RICHARD TREADWELL, deceased.

You are Summoned to appear and defend against said Petition(s) filed herein before the Honorable Judge, Dewayne Thomas, on the 13th day of April 2023 at 1:30 o'clock P. M. at the Hinds County Chancery Courthouse, Jackson, Mississippi, 3165 S. President Street. And in case of failure to appear and defend, a judgment will be entered for the things requested in this Petition. You are not required to file any answers or other pleadings, but you may if you desire.

ISSUED UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL OF COURT this 13th day of January, 2023.

Eddie Jean Carr oftlirro.
Hinds County Chancery Clerk
Jackson, Mississippi

1/19/2023 1/26/2023 2/2/2023

LEGAL

PUBLIC NOTICE

The City of Jackson, MS gives notice that the DRAFT of its Home Investment Partnership Program – American Rescue Plan (HOME-ARP) Allocation Plan for submittal in the 2021 Annual Action Plan will be available for public review and comment on February 9, 2023. The U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) requires that the City provides for and encourages citizen participation in the development of the HOME-ARP Allocation Plan.

The Final Public Hearing will explain the purpose of HOME-ARP; discuss eligible activities; the qualifying population and receive input from the public on the draft plan. The Public Hearing will be held on the following date, time and location:

Final Public Hearing

Date and Time: February 9, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.

Location: Warren A. Hood Building
Andrew Jackson Conference Room
218 S. President Street
Jackson, MS 39201

The draft HOME-ARP Allocation Plan will be available for review at the final public hearing and on the City's website at www.jacksonms.gov on February 9, 2023. The City will be accepting public comments on the draft HOME-ARP Allocation Plan until no later than 5:00 p.m., on Wednesday March 14, 2023. Residents with disabilities are encouraged to notify the City at least five (5) days before the public hearing of any needed accommodations. For more details contact the Office of Housing and Community Development at 601-960-2155.

2/2/2023

HELP WANTED

crates Garrett Enterprises looking for an experienced and passionate coffee roaster to join our team! This role requires at least two years of experience roasting, sourcing green beans from overseas, creating unique blends of coffee, and managing the company website. If you have a passion for coffee and want to be part of something special - apply today! SGE, 2859 Livingston Jackson, MS 39213, Ph 601-896-0084 - #CoffeeLover #CoffeeRoaster

2/2/2023

LEGAL

ORDINANCE GRANTING LUXE HOMES, LLC A REZONING FROM R-1A (SINGLE-FAMILY) RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT TO R-2 (SINGLE-FAMILY & TWO-FAMILY) RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT TO ALLOW FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A 2-UNIT DUPLEX DEVELOPMENT FOR THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT PARCEL 507-2 ON OLD CANTON RD. (FORMERLY 5016 OLD CANTON RD.), CASE NO. 4183.

WHEREAS, Luxe Homes, LLC has filed a petition to rezone the property located at Parcel # 507-2 Old Canton Rd. (formerly 5016 Old Canton Rd.) in the City of Jackson, First Judicial District of Hinds County, Mississippi from R-1A (Single-Family) Residential District to R-2 (Single-Family & Two-Family) Residential District to allow for the construction of a 2-unit duplex development; and

WHEREAS, the Jackson City Planning Board, after holding the required public hearing, has recommended denial of the request to rezone the property from R-1A (Single-Family) Residential District to R-2 (Single-Family & Two-Family) Residential District to allow for the construction of a 2-unit duplex development; and

WHEREAS, notice was duly and legally given to property owners and interested citizens that a meeting of the Council would be held at the City Hall at 2:30 p.m., Monday, October 17, 2022 to consider said change based upon the record of the case as developed before the Jackson City Planning Board; and

WHEREAS, it appeared to the satisfaction of the Jackson City Council that notice of said petition had been published in the Mississippi Link on August 4, 2022 and August 18, 2022 that a hearing had been held by the Jackson City Planning Board on August 24, 2022, all as provided for by ordinances of the City of Jackson and the laws of the State of Mississippi, and that the Jackson City Planning Board has recommended the denial of the rezoning of the above described property from R-1A (Single-Family) Residential District to R-2 (Single-Family & Two-Family) Residential District to allow for the construction of a 2-unit duplex; and

WHEREAS, the Jackson City Council after having considered the matter, is of the opinion that such changes would be in keeping with sound land use practice and to the best interest of the City and that there has been a substantial change in the land use character of the surrounding area that justifies rezoning the property and there is a public need for additional property in that area zoned in accordance with the request in said application since any previous Jackson City Council action.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI:

SECTION 1. That the property located in the City of Jackson, First Judicial District of Hinds County, Mississippi, more particularly described as follows:

Lot 1, Briarwood Addition, Part 1, a subdivision according to a map or plat hereof which is on file and of record in the office of the Chancery Clerk of Hinds County at Jackson, Mississippi, in Plat Book 17 at page 26, reference to which is hereby made in aid of and as a part of this description

is hereby modified so as to approve the rezoning of the property located at Parcel # 507-2 Old Canton Rd. (formerly 5016 Old Canton Rd.) from R-1A (Single-Family) Residential District to R-2 (Single-Family & Two-Family) Residential District. However, that before any structure is erected or use thereof on the said property, the applicant must meet the requirements established through the Site Plan Review process. The Zoning Administrator is ordered to note such change on the Official Zoning Map to the City of Jackson, Mississippi.

SECTION 2. That the cost of publication of this Ordinance shall be borne by the petitioner.

SECTION 3. That this Ordinance shall be effective thirty (30) days after its passage and after publication of same by the petitioner.

Council Member Lee moved adoption; President Foote seconded.

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

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 Zoning Council Meeting October 17, 2022 and recorded in Minute Book "6W, Pgs. 69-70".

WITNESS my signature and official seal of office, this 2nd day of November, 2022.



Angela Harris
Angela Harris Municipal Clerk

2/2/2023

LEGAL

Advertisement for Bids

Sealed bids will be received by the City Clerk of Jackson, Mississippi, at 219 S. President Street, Jackson, Mississippi 39201 or at Post Office Box 17, Jackson, Mississippi 39205 until 3:30 PM, local time, Tuesday, February 21, 2023, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud for:

The demolition and cleaning of Casa Grande Apartments located at 3603 Terry Rd and 0 Sykes Rd (Parcels 626-118 and 626-118-1)

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

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

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

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

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

2/2/2023 2/9/2023

LEGAL

REQUEST FOR STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST BY THE JACKSON MUNICIPAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY FOR SERVICES IN CONNECTION WITH THE NEW AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL TOWER FEASIBILITY STUDY AT THE JACKSON-MEDGAR WILEY EVERS INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT JMAA PROJECT NUMBER 007-23

The Jackson Municipal Airport Authority ("JMAA") is requesting Statement of Qualifications and Expressions of Interest (each, a "Statement of Qualifications") to provide engineering and related services (the "Services") to JMAA in connection with the New Air Traffic Control Tower Feasibility Study at JMAA Project No. 007-23 at JAN.

JMAA will receive sealed electronic or printed submissions only. All submissions of Statement of Qualifications to perform the Services will be accepted until Monday, March 13, 2023, at 4:00 p.m. Central Standard Time (CST) on (the "Deadline"). RFQ shall be accepted by email, mail, or hand delivery as follows: Email: bids@jmaa.com

By mail or hand delivery:
JMAA's Administrative Office, Suite 300
Main Terminal Building
Jackson-Medgar Wiley Evers International Airport
100 International Drive, Jackson, Mississippi 39208

JMAA will not consider any Statement of Qualifications received after Deadline for any reason whatsoever. Information for Respondents relating to this Request for Statement of Qualifications ("RFQ") is on file and open for the public inspection at the offices of JMAA. The Information for Respondents contains a copy of the RFQ, General Information for Respondents, Information Required from Respondents, and Criteria for Selection.

Interested persons may obtain a copy of the Information for Respondents from JMAA by contacting Mr. Marvin Buckhalter, JMAA, Director of Procurement, as follows:

Jackson Municipal Airport Authority
Attn: Marvin Buckhalter
Director of Procurement
100 International Drive, Suite 300
Jackson, MS 39208
Telephone: (601) 664-3516
Facsimile: (601) 939-3713
Email: mbuckhalter@jmaa.com
or JMAA's website at [https://Procurement|JAN\(jmaa.com\)](https://Procurement|JAN(jmaa.com))
<https://jmaa.com/corporate/partner-with-us/procurement>.

JMAA will hold a Pre-Submission Video Conference on Thursday, February 16, 2023, at 10:00 a.m. (CST) using the following login information:
Join Zoom Meeting

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

Meeting ID: 959 6802 0095
Passcode: 520966

Attendance at the Pre-Submission Video Conference is not mandatory for all those submitting Statement of Qualifications as a Prime Consultant for the Services.

After evaluation in accordance with the criteria set forth in the RFQ, JMAA will initiate negotiations with the Respondent marked first on the list. If such negotiations fail to produce an agreement, in form and content, satisfactory to JMAA, within a reasonable period of time, then JMAA may reject the first-ranked Respondent. In that event, JMAA will follow the same process with the other Respondents, in the order of their ranking, until a Respondent agrees to and enters into an agreement satisfactory to JMAA.

JMAA reserves the right to: (1) reject any and all Statement of Qualifications, for any reason, any time before execution of a contract with a Respondent selected by JMAA to perform the Services, and (2) waive any and all informalities and irregularities in the selection process.

JMAA has established a DBE contract goal of 20% for the Services solicited by this RFQ.

JACKSON MUNICIPAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY
February 01, 2023

John Means, (Acting) Chief Executive Officer

2/2/2023 2/9/2023

Prepare for power outages today

WITH A HOME STANDBY GENERATOR

\$0 MONEY DOWN + LOW MONTHLY PAYMENT OPTIONS

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REQUEST A FREE QUOTE

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GENERAC

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Qualify today for the Government Free Internet Program

YOU QUALIFY for Free Internet if you receive Medicaid, SNAP, WIC, Housing Assistance, Veterans Pension, Survivor Benefits, Lifeline and Tribal.

CALL TODAY (855) 215-7081

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ACP program details can be found at www.fcc.gov/affordable-connectivity-program-consumer-faq

MCAN

Mississippi Classified Advertising Network

To place your statewide classified ad order, call MS Press Services at 601-981-3060

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Scholars statewide join 2023 MPB Student Council

Teens receive career training, opportunities to promote civic engagement

The Mississippi Link Newswire

Mississippi Public Broadcasting today announced new and returning members of the 2022-2023 MPB Student Council – a group of 10 middle and high school students from across the state who receive hands-on career training, lead civic engagement activities and serve as MPB’s liaisons to their peers.

The council is an initiative of the MPB Education Department. In addition to college readiness and career training, council members are equipped with social media skills to lend their voices to discussions about Mississippi’s progress. The students champion MPB projects, publish a podcast and create campaigns geared specifically to their generation using distinct habits and expressions.

The 2022-2023 council term includes four returning members and six new members. Students apply for a one-year term but can opt to serve on the council for multiple years. New students will be selected annually through an application process.

The following are members of the 2022-2023 Student Council:

- Corinne Allen (Return-

ing) – Ninth-grade, Mendenhall High School, Simpson County

- Jenna Dent (Returning) – 12th-grade, Madison Central High School, Madison County School District

- Natalie Ford – Ninth-grade, Warren Central High School and River City Early College High School, Vicksburg-Warren School District

- Nadiya Gary – Eighth-grade, Ocean Springs Middle School, Ocean Springs School District in Jackson County

- Mya Harden, 11th-grade, Water Valley High School, Water Valley School District in Yalobusha County

- Deon Harrington, Jr., (Returning) – Ninth-grade, South Panola High School, South Panola School District

- Kaylyn Johnson, Ninth-grade, Mendenhall High School, Simpson County

- Ella Frances Martin, Ninth-grade, Houston High School, Chickasaw County School District

- Kaleb Thompson, Eighth-grade, Ocean Springs Middle School, Ocean Springs School District in Jackson County

- Kaylen Woodard, Ninth-grade, Mendenhall High School in Simpson County.



2022-2023

JSU Faculty Senate issues vote of no confidence to President Thomas K. Hudson and team

By Janice K. Neal-Vincent, Ph.D.
Contributing Writer

On Nov. 19, 2020, Thomas Hudson was appointed by the College Board of the Institutions of Higher Learning as president of Jackson State University. Professors Sophia Leggett, Jean Claude Assad and Timothy Turner were among faculty who questioned the Board’s decision to disregard due process.

Neither a local nor a national search was done.

Since Hudson’s appointment, concerns have been raised by faculty. Thursday, Jan. 26, 2023, was the day that JSU faculty senate executive committee and faculty senate revealed in a two-page resolution a vote of no confidence in Hudson’s leadership.

“The Jackson State University faculty senate executive committee and the faculty senate are calling for a restoration of shared governance, transparency, accountability and academic democracy at Jackson State University,” explained Dawn Bishop McLin

(Ph.D.), JSU faculty senate president.

She charged that Hudson and other JSU leaders have placed the reputation of the university at stake in regards to its commitment to excellence and education of high quality.

The faculty senate opined that Hudson and members of his cabinet are consistent in disrespecting shared governance that has squandered faculty into “second class citizens.”

Specifically, Joseph Whitaker (vice president of research and economic development); Michael Bolden (vice president of facilities and operations); Robin Pack (executive director of human resources) and Brandi Newkirk-Turner (associate provost) are seen as Hudson’s protégés of ineffective leadership.

The faculty senate, nevertheless, is determined to “advance the concerns of the faculty and express a continued willingness to engage in any forum to yield remedy to the issues shared by its body.”

During Hudson’s first year and a

half at the university the faculty senate executive committee met once monthly with him regarding matters pertaining to administration. Then they disclosed the highlights of those meetings to the faculty senate.

That changed (according to faculty senate minutes) during a cabinet meeting on Aug. 23, 2022, as Hudson informed the executive committee that he would no longer meet with them. Hence, the provost would continue to meet.

According to the minutes, Hudson declared that the meetings were not in alignment with his strategic plan. While Hudson had posed town hall meetings, the faculty senate sent him a letter on September 16, 2022 but received no response.

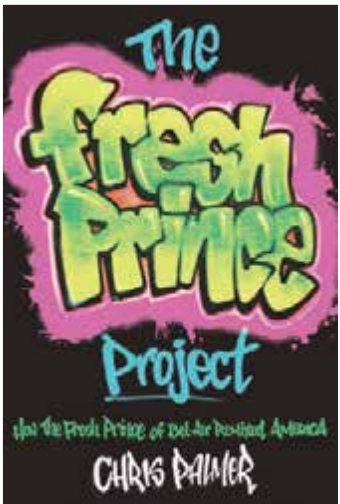
Ongoing complaints regarding pay equity; malfunctioning security cameras; strangers frequenting the campus; lack of public safety on campus (including car thefts and homeless persons harassing students) are top priorities.

In response to the faculty’s dissatisfaction, the JSU president said on Jan. 27, “I look forward to working with the entire body of the faculty senate to address any concerns. To date, we’ve achieved many successful milestones, including increasing the university’s cash reserves from under 40 days in 2020 to over 100 days currently, “... addressing stagnant salaries by providing pay raises for faculty and staff for two consecutive years, a banner year in research resulting in \$65.8 million in research awards, and the successful decennial review of our regional accreditation by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges.”

While the resolution has been shared by senators with IHL and the commissioner, the staff senate, the Student Government Association, and the alumni association, IHL is to investigate the vote of no confidence which lends itself to serious issues pertaining to effective leadership at Jackson State University.



Hudson



BOOK REVIEW:

THE FRESH PRINCE PROJECT

HOW THE FRESH PRINCE OF BEL-AIR REMIXED AMERICA

BY CHRIS PALMER

C.2022, ATRIA

\$28.99 • 320 PAGES

By Terri Schlichenmeyer
Columnist

You turned the TV on and look.... Nine hundred forty-eight channels and there’s still nothing you want to watch. Seen that, seen that, watched that twice, but it wasn’t always the case.

Once, your Monday nights were spent with a show you never missed, featuring a young guy who made you laugh. And in the new book “The Fresh Prince Project” by Chris Palmer, he made America laugh, too. Born to solidly middle-class

parents in West Philadelphia, young Will Smith gained a reputation early for being something of a class clown. Though he tried, he was not athletic; instead, his talents lay in helping people have fun. When he met Jeff Townes it was a perfect match: DJ Jazzy Jeff spun the tunes, “Fresh Prince” Smith made the raps.

Everybody wanted to be at their party. They made records and went on tour. Weeks before high school graduation, months before he turned 18, Smith was a rich kid with a nice car and lots

of friends. But “bubblegum” hip hop was on its way out, “hard-driving” rap was in, and Smith’s money dried up as fast as it had arrived. Seeking Fame and Fortune Part II, Smith headed for California.

Writer Andy Borowitz was already there, cutting his teeth on Normal Lear projects and other television productions in Hollywood. When Brandon Tartikoff, who seemed to have a golden touch when it came to TV, asked Borowitz to work for him, the answer was yes and Borowitz’s wife even joined the team.

Tartikoff knew a lot of industry people, including Quincy Jones and music mogul Benny Medina, who was considering a step into the TV industry. At this same time, Will Smith was hanging around The Arsenio Hall Show backstage, hoping that fame might rub off on him.

On the afternoon that Smith met Medina, the young rapper had no idea who the elder man was. Medina, conversely, was well aware of Smith’s early career. And when he asked Smith if he could act, Smith bluffed his answer, as he had so many

times before...


From the outset, “The Fresh Prince Project” tries too hard. Its earliest chapters are filled with thirty-year-old language that feels forced, and allusions to some issues with Smith’s father that are never completely, satisfyingly explained. This unevenness doesn’t ever get much better as the book progresses: there’s a lot of backtracking, and the words “fish out of water” show up a ridiculous number of times.

And yet, if you can separate style from substance, author


Chris Palmer does the job: his book shows how one TV comedy and the people who made it, shaped Monday nights and everyday viewpoints. It’s also a great profile of a star with one foot in a job he loved, and the other foot firmly on film.

Overall, fans who can withstand the up-and-downs of this book and don’t mind a little whiplash sometimes will want to hop on “The Fresh Prince Project.”

If you like things freshly-polished, though, this book might turn you off.



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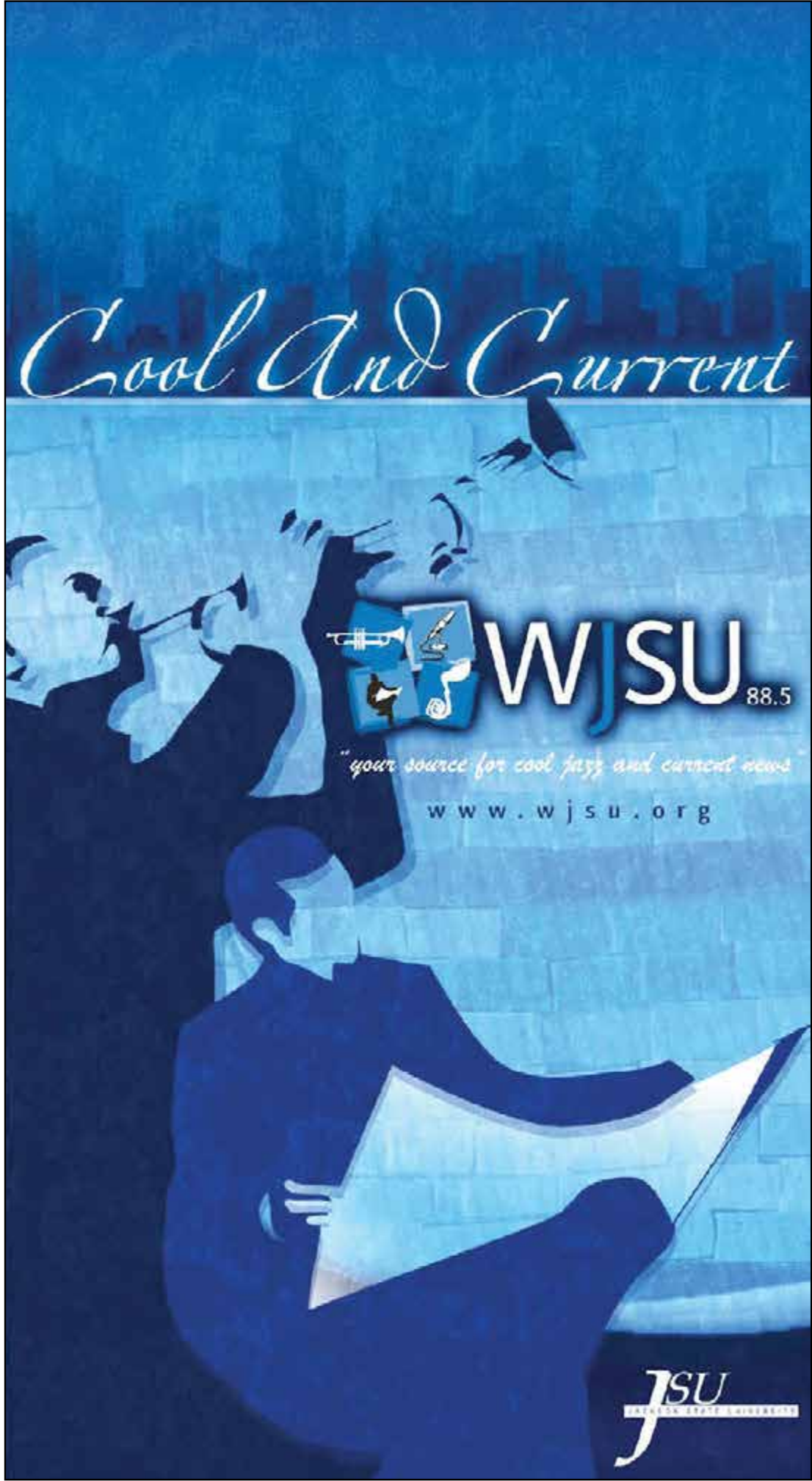
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Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., celebrates its 115th Founders' Day highlighting equal years of "Service to all mankind"

PHOTOS BY JAYJOHNSON

The Mississippi Link Newswire

One-hundred fifteen years and still going strong, the 16 founders of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. are remembered for their launching the organization that takes pride in "years of service to mankind."

This historic marker, held Sat., Jan. 28, 2023, was themed: "The Power of Soaring in Unity: Building on the

Foundation of Service, Legacy and Sisterhood." The venue was Anderson United Methodist Church, 6205 Hanging Moss Rd., Jackson, MS.

The chapters represented were Beta Delta Omega, Rho Lambda Omega, Upsilon Upsilon Omega, Omega Beta Omega, Gamma Omicron, Gamma Rho and Lambda Iota. Also represented were the graduate school chapters' presidents and the

undergraduate school chapters' presidents.

The program, wrapped in white pearls, pink roses and lush green leaves, featured welcome statements from each of the chapters' presidents and the music from the Founders' Day Combined Choir.

In its welcome letter from the presidents, their commitment statement emphasized their goal to "... continue

to transform, magnify and accelerate the 'power of us' through our sisterhood and our scholarship."

Guest speaker was South Eastern Regional Director, Dr. Tracey Morant Adams, who has 35 years of uninterrupted service to the sorority and community. She initiated the Mu Mu Chapter in 1985. She was one of 19 members who chartered the Upsilon Eta Omega Chapter, and in 2001,

was elected as its fourth president.

In March 2022, Dr. Adams was elected as regional director of the South Eastern Region of Alpha Kappa Alpha, leading 116 chapters and over 13,000 members in Tennessee, Mississippi and Alabama.

She is Senior Executive Vice President and Chief Corporate Social Responsibility Officer for Renasant Bank.



Connecting the Dots Foundation, Inc. Presents 7th Annual Fashion and Talent Explosion – Modeling for Malawi

By Janice K. Neal-Vincent, Ph.D.
Contributing Writer

Twenty-five models took the stage at New Horizon Church International, 1750 Ellis Ave., Jackson, Miss., to promote Connecting the Dots Foundation, Inc.'s seventh annual effort to provide donations to Malawi, Africa.

On Sat., Jan. 23, 2023, at 6:30 p.m., the pace for the "Modeling for Malawi" fashion and talent explosion was enhanced with set the pace with the radiant, dominant cross which hangs on the wall's center stage. Flags positioned across the back of the stage represented the African continent and demonstrated the mission to spread the gospel throughout the land. In their midst was a video that showed work being done in Malawi.

Models sprang into spring; royalized in black and white diamonds, pearls and furs; and paraded in hats of different seasons and out of Africa regalia. Their laid-back struts brought sighs and smiles among audience members. They could not help but be stimulated by the models' strides dictated by the tempo of music that whisked them on and off stage.

Skirts and dresses that gathered, pleated and swept the carpet, flowed high and low. Pants that split, curled and drooped, mesmerized viewers into fantasy. Short and long tops latched onto their bottoms that made easy moves. Coats that flared out into open spaces mystified onlookers.



Olivia Bonds
America's Miss Sweetheart



A Queen and King



Emmie Perkins
Miss Mississippi 2022



Mothers and Daughters PHOTOS BY JANICE NEAL VINCENT

Olivia Bonds (America's Miss Sweetheart 2022) and Emmie Perkins (Miss Mississippi 2022) provided tal-

ent. Besides NHCI and community models were Insatiable Models of Jackson State University.

Marilyn Johnson-Luckett (Ph.D.), founder and CEO, Connecting the Dots Foundation, Inc., thanked church

and community for their presence and support. Special thanks were given to Gail Smith; Emberly Holmes; Kathy Hughes; Paul Anders; Alicia Phillips; Deborah Hamond; JSU Global Program; Miss Mississippi; America's Miss Sweetheart; All Royalty; Insatiable Models of JSU & Montage Theater of Dance.

Bishop Ronnie Crudup, Sr. (NHCI's senior pastor) thanked the community for supporting the event and expressed gratitude to Johnson-Luckett for continuing the vision of the Malawi project.

Connecting the Dots Foundation, Inc. is a charitable, non-profit, 501 © 3 organization that provides philanthropy and fundraising activities for communities and other organizations locally and internationally.

The organization has a presence in Malawi. It participates in church planting and providing school supplies and personal items to the village people. The church has been planted, and furniture is being purchased.

CDFI is also building a 600 sq foot tree house for Camp Pioneer in Pearl, Mississippi. Children will have a place to spend the night at this camp site during the Summer months and Fall breaks. Scholarships are underway for children whose parents can't afford to send them to camp.

For further inquiry, contact Marilyn Johnson-Luckett at queenmarla-na2000@yahoo.com or 601-813-5045.

Hinds County School District Weekly Update

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