

Mississippi House approves court with unelected judges in Jackson

By Emily Wagster Pettus
The Associated Press

The Republican-controlled Mississippi House on Tuesday passed a bill to create a new court district in part of the capital city of Jackson with judges who would be appoint-

ed rather than elected.

Black Democrats pushed back vociferously against House Bill 1020 during a nearly five-hour debate, arguing the measure unconstitutionally strips voting rights from many residents in the majority-black city.

“Don’t create a city within the city,” Democratic Rep. Bryant Clark of Pickens implored the House.

House Ways and Means Committee Chairman Tray Lamar, a Republican from Senatobia, sponsored the bill. He told the House that a new

court system would help deal with a backlog of criminal cases, including a large number of homicides.

“Jackson is the capital city,” Lamar said. “It belongs to all Missis-

Judges

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Mayor Chokwe Lumumba, who opposes the bill, and members of his staff watch the debate from one of the House galleries.

Stifling legislative efforts to take control of Jackson

Mayor’s Town Hall, Jackson City Council Resolution and push-back on HB1020



Mayor Lumumba at Forest Hill Town Hall



Quorum of Jackson City Council February 3.

PHOTOS BY CHRISTOPHER YOUNG

By Christopher Young
Contributing Writer

You never have to look too hard to see how people feel about a topic. Sure, there are those that can keep a poker-face really well – we all know some of them – but sooner or later people’s true internal beliefs are laid bare. And here we are, thirty days into the 2023 regular session of the Mississippi State legislature, and so much is being revealed about how these

white Christian republican legislators feel about our capital city of Jackson.

Chimneyville is a beautiful city and home to somewhere between 150-180,000 residents. Thousands more come from the suburbs each week to work in state and federal jobs. In April 2022 Auditor White released a report, *Mississippi Needs a Healthy Jackson*, indicating in part that, “Of the graduates who stay in Mississippi, 30% live

and work in Hinds County. The next closest county is Harrison County on the Gulf Coast, but even there the draw is just one-fifth the power of Jackson’s.”

Jackson is a majority black city, over 80%, with predominantly black leadership and inherently becomes a target for no other reason. This is surely not a new phenomenon, but it is being amped up to a stifling level in recent weeks.

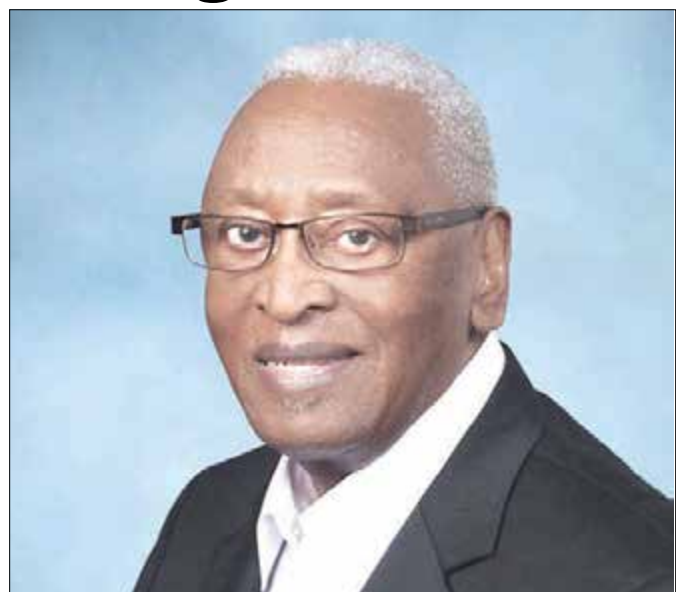
On February 1, the beginning

of Black History Month, which is not acknowledged by our young white Christian republican governor, the Mayor of Jackson; Chokwe Antar Lumumba, held a Town Hall in south Jackson at Forest Hill High School. Close to 100 people gathered and the Mayor answered many questions about our water and sewer system. Leaks, lack of water, not trusting

House Bill 1020

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True servant leader: Reverend Dr. Hickman Morgan Johnson



Johnson

By Christopher Young
Contributing Writer

How exactly does one begin to attempt to tell a story of such an accomplished man? He spent thirty minutes sharing with me when I approached him on the sidewalk outside the front door of his beloved Farish Street Baptist Church a few months ago. Complete strangers – who does that? He took my card and eventually, following the busy holiday season, we were able to sit together in his office for an interview.

When he arrived, saunter-

ing into the lobby outside his offices, he had a backpack over his shoulders and his hands full of books and papers. Last March 7 he made 80.

Born in Memphis, Hickman Morgan Johnson, was given his first name from his father – a hard worker who could not read or write, yet who told his son often, “I want you to do better than I.” His middle name came from his maternal great-grandfather, Reverend William Morgan.

Having met his wife at the church, First Lady Gladys

Biden renews calls for police accountability during State of the Union address

By Stacy M. Brown
NNPA NewsWire Correspondent

With the parents of Tyre Nichols in attendance for the State of the Union address, President Joe Biden renewed the call for police accountability and the passage of the George Floyd Justice in Policing Act. The legislation bans chokeholds and no-knock warrants in certain cases, mandates data collection on police encounters and alter qualified immunity for law enforcement officers.

RowVaughn Wells, Nichols’ mother, and Rodney Wells, his stepfather, sat attentively during the joint session at the invitation of Congressional Black Caucus Chair Steven Horsford (D-Nevada).

Since the cops in the Nichols



case didn’t stop other officers from beating him up and they didn’t rush to help him, lawmakers have talked about adding a clause that says an officer must stop excessive or deadly force.

After the Nichols killing, eight Memphis police officers were terminated, and five were

charged with second-degree murder and other offenses.

The NAACP, the National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA), and other black-led or owned organizations have demanded police accountability.

Led by President and CEO Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis Jr.,

the NNPA is the trade association of more than 238 African-American newspapers and media companies in the United States.

“The NAACP is committed to fighting for meaningful change in the way our communities are policed and how the culture of policing can be reformed to prevent any more violent encounters culminating in the murder of young black men,” said Leon Russell, head of the NAACP Board of Directors.

Biden also pledged that the Department of Health and Human Services would increase funding to recruit future mental health professionals from

Accountability

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1st black graduate of Mississippi College MA program, 1970. PHOTO COURTESY OF DR. JOHNSON

Johnson

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Black History Month
Honoring Our History

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Minister Lonzell Jones placed on a Pedestal of Love by admirers on his 75th birthday

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

“Shine your soul with the same egoless humility as the rainbow, and no matter where you go in this world or the next, love will find you, attend you and bless you.” That’s what author-poet Aberjhani (Jeffrey J. Lloyd) mentioned in his book, *Journey through the Power of the Rainbow: Quotations from a Life Made out of Poetry*. Aberjhani’s quote appears as a match from heaven in regards to a man who stood tall among well-wishers at The Stellar Venue (732 South Pear Orchard Rd., Ridgeland, Miss.) at 3 p.m., Saturday, January 28, 2023.

In the spirit of love, a host of family and friends flooded the room where Minister Lonzell Jones of Apostolic Temple (3102 Monticello Avenue, Jackson, Miss.) – became open prey for his 75th birthday celebration.

The moment, steeped in appreciation, was a platform for those present to speak about their relationship with the Jackson honoree.

Ramona Jones, his spouse, remarked that although it was not a surprise gathering, the



(L-R) Betty Reginald, Ramona & Minister Lonzell Jones, Mary Brooks, Careola & Harvey Jones



Minister Lonzell Jones with Cassandra Coleman & Elder Henry Coleman



Minister Roland Anderson



Vernon Jasper PHOTOS BY JANICE VINCENT

minister was startled “by some who attended and was... glad to be among friends and family.” Jones had not seen some since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic.

A great mind once claimed, “The authority by which the Christian leader leads is not power but love, not force but example, not coercion but reasoned persuasion.” Those who shared their relationship with Jones recognized him as a visionary and echoed this sentiment. One by one, they voiced that Jones demonstrated moral trustworthiness, social aptitude and empathy. Such qualities inspired them in countless ways, and they wanted to disclose those memories with

him and others.

Speaking of Jones as a man of patience was his longtime friend, Vernon Jasper. Amidst his comments, he said, “Lonzell used to stay with us in Subdivision Number 2. He taught me how to play basketball, but I ended up beating him.” Jasper’s victory created a bond beyond measure.

After singing the song, “Thank you for Being a Friend,” Elder Henry Coleman, Jones’s cousin and son of the late Bishop Phillip Coleman who founded Greater Bethlehem Temple Church, mentioned that Jones was the first choir director “who molded our minds on the spiritual side.”

Minister Roland Anderson commented, “Lonzell is saved.

He has a heart of righteousness. For that age (75), that’s holiness. He doesn’t drink alcohol or do drugs. I left the church five times, and I’m back in there. Lonzell told me to stay in church, even when the church split.”

“I love you so much. I appreciate everything you do for me,” said daughter Melody Jones. “It could be 12 midnight, and I can call my dad and we can have a conversation,” she said to the listeners.

Princess Jones and Amber Jones made similar remarks about their dad.

“Our dad has not only impacted our lives, but to hear the stories and memories shared of the impact he has had on others

[is] a blessing. If anybody knows him, you know he loves people. He has so much wisdom. Thank you all for your presence, laughs and memories,” uttered Monica Jones.

“When my wife and I first tried to have children, I was looking forward to having a boy, but Monica came. I’m standing up here crying tears of joy. She only weighed two pounds. When you go through life, be sure to surround yourself around people who care about you,” the honoree told the crowd. Jones continued, “Somebody else is going to take your place. Remember when you’re climbing that mountain and you reach a peak, keep climbing because Jesus is at the

top of that mountain.”

Among those in attendance were John Vance, Lydia Speech and Langston Grace.

“This is beautiful. I’m happy to be here because I feel the love. I got lost and had to turn around to find the site. I almost gave up, but I’m overjoyed that I persisted to get here. (Vance) I don’t regret a single moment that I’ve experienced here with Minister Jones. All have welcomed me with their warm expressions about him. I came with my friend Langston and am grateful for the invitation. I’ve attended many occasions such as this, but I feel the spirit of love throughout this place. This is the ideal expression of love.”



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Johnson

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“Good morning Farish Street.” PHOTO-ARCHIVES OF 2013 ANNIVERSARY AT FARISH STREET BAPTIST CHURCH

Marie Thomas Johnson effuses kindness, beauty and dedication. They celebrated fifty-five years of marriage last December. Johnson was quick to mention their five daughters, four of whom have doctorate degrees and one a MBA, and their eight grandchildren.

The first question can be off-putting to some — who are you, really? He smiled before referencing Saint Paul, “I try to be all things to all people. I believe I was called of God, and I have a sense of duty to give the best I can to God who has called me.” Who was the most impactful religious influencer in your life? “Oh, that’s easy, my mother. And I look like her too. My kids say if I had on a wig I’d look just like grandmother.” Deeper still, he shared that his mother had been childless for eight years before he arrived, and she prayed Hannah’s Prayer (1 Samuel 2) — promising God that, if she had a son, she would give the child back to God. Surely, she did just that.

He graduated from Tennessee State University with a bachelor’s degree in chemistry in 1964, and in 1967 graduated from the Morehouse School of Religion-ITC with a Master of Divinity. He was the first African American to graduate from Mississippi College, receiving the Master of Arts in Religion in 1970, and Doctor of Ministry from Emory University in 1989.

He accepted the pastorate at Farish Street in August 1968. On Sundays when he walks in and up to the pulpit there is a purpose in his carriage not often witnessed, and when asked about it he shared that, “It is a sacred moment when I walk from my office to the pulpit — God grants me His spirit. I am not an entertainer. I try to give people hope. I speak as a prophet and a priest.” When asked, with everything that we have going on in Jackson/Hinds County today, as a distinguished and long-time shepherd, what counsel do you offer us, he said, “I cannot ignore our issues. If we as people don’t change, we are in danger — we could lose our country and our souls.”

For a man who is no stranger to awards, in 2019 Representative Earle Banks (D-67) introduced House Concurrent Resolution 8 — the Legislature of the State of Mississippi bestowed upon him — “**A Concurrent Resolution Commending And Congratulating Reverend Dr. Hickman M. Johnson On The Occasion Of His 50th Anniversary As Pastor Of Farish Street Baptist Church.**”

Johnson has been deeply involved in the housing arena — providing safe and affordable housing for those in need has been another pas-

sion since the late sixties. Last October a ribbon-cutting happened for Hickman Heights in south Jackson, a four-story building with 100 rental units, developed with tax-exempt bonds using public and private financing. Just one building in a project of nine, spread across six Mississippi counties.

He has been the executive director of Mississippi Regional Housing Authority VI, since 2004. Region VI services the counties of Claiborne, Copiah, Hinds, Holmes, Madison, Rankin, Simpson, Warren and Yazoo. He continues to deliver for the needs of Mississippians.

Over the years, he has worn many titles: chaplain, director, dean, executive director, chairman, moderator, corresponding secretary and commissioner — but the one he reveres most is pastor.

The Opportunities Industrialization Center (OIC); Mississippi Baptist Seminary; Jackson and Tupelo Housing Authorities; Seminole District, Andrew Jackson Council Boy Scouts; Jackson District Baptist Association; National Baptist Congress of Christian Education — are just a few of the seemingly countless organizations he has served.

When asked about ever thinking of leaving Jackson, he conceded that, “In the early 70s I had two offers to do so, but I elected to remain.” When asked why, he responded, “A sense of humility, to love and serve God.”

His list of accomplishments and service to community is staggering. When asked about it, he shared that, “It’s very challenging when you get spread too thinly, and so, in addition to my family, I focus mainly on three priorities: Farish Street Baptist Church, expanding affordable housing and the training of ministers.”

He provided me a copy of the book he authored in 2010, Farewell, My Friends — A Book of Eulogies and Tributes. Published by Trafford Publishing, it can be ordered from www.trafford.com or any online bookseller. At one point he brought me to the church secretary’s office to show the file drawers where the membership folders of deceased members are filed — persons he has eulogized and offered — “Few things in my life have more meaning to me.”

His voice and delivery, in conversation yes, but especially from the pulpit, it somehow makes me think of mighty waters. On Sundays there is a gathering thunder about it. Precision, depth, varying volume and wrapped in the unmistakable love of a humble shepherd.

Farish Street Baptist Church is located within the Farish Street Historic District, 619 North Farish Street, Jackson, MS.

“Amid the economic upheaval of the past four decades, too many people have been left behind or treated like they’re invisible,” the president stated. “Maybe that’s you watching at home. You remember the jobs that went away. And you wonder whether a path even exists anymore for you and your children to get ahead without moving away. I get it.”

The president described America’s story as one of “progress and resilience.” “We are the only country that has emerged from every crisis stronger than when we entered it,” he asserted.

“That is what we are doing again. Two years ago, our economy was reeling. As I stand here tonight, we have created a record 12 million new jobs — more jobs created in two years than any president has ever created in four years.”

He continued: “Two years ago, COVID had shut down our businesses, closed our schools and robbed us of so much. Today, COVID no longer controls our lives. And two years ago, our democracy faced its greatest threat since the Civil War. Today, though bruised, our democracy remains unbowed and unbroken.”

Biden stated that his economic plan focuses on investing in forgotten places and people.

“We’re building an economy where no one is left behind. Jobs are coming back; pride is coming back because of the choices we made in the last two years. This is a blue-collar blueprint to rebuild America and make a real difference in your lives.”

House Bill 1020

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the quality of the water, wastewater backing up into a city park in Alta Woods preventing its usage. Even one lady who cares for her brother who has a serious sore on his foot and has been told explicitly by his physician to not expose the sore to Jackson water.

Mayor Lumumba mentioned the nearly \$1 billion now in the city coffers from the Congress, Water Act funds and Environmental Protection Agency grants — more than any other amount in national history. He especially thanked President Biden, Representative Bennie Thompson and Senator Roger Wicker. He spoke well of the federally appointed administrator, Ted Henifin, and believes we will be led to the “goal of a safe, equitable and resilient water system.”

When responding to a question about billing and metering, he indicated, “State law doesn’t allow me to forgive water bills.” This is the case even if residents had not even received a bill in a period of years. Following a question about the 1% tax, he indicated, “the problem with your 1% tax is that you do not have the discretion of your city to make decisions over how it is spent based on priorities. We are

the only city in the state with a commission, most of whose members have no expertise in infrastructure and water systems.”

In response to a question about the competency of the administration and race, he stated, “We fought for legislation to put your account into a non-collectable status, and you said it’s not about race, but I will tell you how it is very much about race because at the same time I was being told by your Lieutenant Governor that none of our legislation is going to pass unless you give up your airport — I had to say to him, listen governor — I’m going to be on Rachel Maddow tonight and if you don’t make our legislation that gives our people more equity to pay these bills, I’m going to make you famous tonight.”

This story came to light last September, when an MSNBC columnist quoted the Mayor as calling the Mississippi Legislature “paternalistic and racist.” The Mayor continued, “You cannot allow people to take dominion over you in a way that they do in no other community...they only do it in the blackest city.”

Judges

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issippi.”

The bill passed 76-38, largely along party lines. It was held for the possibility of more debate in the next several days, but opponents are unlikely to be able to block it from eventually moving to the Senate for more work.

The bill would expand the boundaries of the existing Capitol Complex Improvement District, which is patrolled by Capitol Police officers who work for the state Department of Public Safety. The district also receives some tax money for street repairs.

The district currently encompasses parts of Jackson that have state government buildings, including much of downtown and the University of Mississippi Medical Center. The proposed expansion includes busy shopping and entertainment areas along Interstate 55 in north Jackson.

If people are charged with felony crimes within the current boundaries of the district, those cases are currently handled in Hinds County Circuit Court. The bill would establish a separate court system with two judges appointed by the chief justice of the Mississippi Supreme Court.

The appointed judges would not be required to live in Jackson or Hinds County.

“I believe the chief justice should have the authority to appoint quality, experienced legal minds,” Lamar said, adding in response to questions, “The best person for that job may very well come from Hinds County” or from another part of the state.

The Mississippi attorney general would appoint prosecutors to handle criminal cases in the new court district.

Jackson Mayor Chokwe Antar Lumumba, a Democrat who opposes the bill, watched the debate from one of the House galleries.

Democratic Rep. Chris Bell of Jackson said during the debate that Lamar and other bill supporters had not asked Jackson lawmakers for their input on the proposal, as would normally be done. Bell said legislators should not try to change a community without having input from people living there.

“We are not incompetent. Our judges are not incompetent. Our mayor is not incompetent,” Bell said.

More than 80% of Jackson residents are black and about 25% of residents live in poverty.

Democratic Rep. Zakiya Summers of Jackson said the proposed district would include predominantly white areas of the city. Summers, who represents a majority-black House district that would be partially inside the Capitol Complex district, said her constituents don’t want a new court system with appointed judges.

Democratic Rep. Ronnie Crudup Jr. of Jackson said the expanded Capitol Complex district would encompass the city’s more affluent areas.

Lamar said he did not know about land values, noting about 53% of residents in the proposed district are black.

Accountability

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Historically Black Colleges and Universities and to expand its Minority Fellowship Program.

He pleaded with Republicans that he wants to work together instead of “fighting for the sake of fighting.”

During his speech, the president talked about jobs for the middle class, cancer research, the situation of veterans and making America safer.

“To my Republican friends, if we could work together in the last Congress, there is no reason we can’t work together in this new Congress,” Biden commanded. “The people sent us a clear message. Fighting for the sake of fighting, power for the sake of power, and conflict for the sake of conflict get us nowhere.

“And that’s always been my vision for the country: to restore the soul of the nation, to rebuild the backbone of America: the middle class, to unite the country. We’ve been sent here to finish the job.”

The president also spoke passionately about this economic plan, which includes “investing in forgotten places and people” and “building an economy where no one is left behind.”

Biden plans to call an end to the COVID-19 emergency in May, and during the State of the Union, he painted a positive picture of the country’s economic recovery. He also assured those in need that he understood their predicament.

Memorial grant for youth aging out of foster care

In memory of Ella Louise Watson Robinson



In the late 1930s, life in the United States was different for little black children. It was a time of discrimination and separation for the opportunity to succeed in life. However, black parents were determined to train up their children in the way they should go and support the gifts and talents that God had given to their children. Black parents didn't stop encouraging and empowering their children to forge ahead in spite of all obstacles. Ella came from that family.

One of Ella's favorite stories to share was when her father took her, along with two sisters, riding on a sunny Sunday afternoon down North State Street in Jackson, Mississippi. Her father pointed out to them the many "colored" women working as maids and he said to them, "If you don't get your education, that's what you'll be doing." Ella Louise raised her little body up, peaked over the front seat of her daddy's 1940 Studebaker and gleefully exclaimed to him, "That ain't gonna be me, daddy, 'cause I'm gettin' my education."

Of course, she went on to receive her BA in Education from Alcorn State University and her Master's in Education from Indiana University in 1967. She received several specialist degrees to keep her refreshed and up to date in her field of education. Her career in education spanned over 60 years shaping and molding young children, both in Sunday school and public school, into quality citizens who have made many significant contributions to society. It is quite evident that Ella Louise was adamant that a great education is a necessary ingredient in the recipe for success. Preparation and opportunity equal success.

In Ella's memory and to preserve the legacy of her love for education and being blessed to be a blessing, the **Ella Louise Watson Robinson Memorial Grant For Youth Aging Out Of Foster Care** has been established. When children placed in foster care reach the maximum age that a state will support them (18-21) without being reunited with family or being placed in a permanent home, it's called aging out. Sometime it is as cold as having the youth sign paperwork on their 18th birthday and sending them out of a group home onto the streets with a trash bag of their clothing.

There are two paths that the youth can travel as they transition into their adult life, the right path and the wrong path. The grant in Ella's memory is established to help them take the right path. With the support of the Ella Louise Watson Memorial Grant for education, these youth will realize the dream of receiving the much needed assistance in their journey for education and training opportunities.

Donations to the Ella Louise Watson Robinson Grant may be made through the From Widow To Winner website at www.fromwidowtowinner.com or by visiting the Alcorn State University site at: <https://secure.qgiv.com/for/asufevents/> or mailed to FWTW, P.O. Box 12076, Jackson, MS 39236.

For more information about this powerful opportunity to make a difference in the lives of foster care kids, please call Paula R. Bass at 757-667-0056 or email at: singhymnstohim@yahoo.com.

In Memoriam

Evelyn Louise Robinson Davis

May 10, 1944 - January 29, 2023



Davis

On May 10, 1944, John Clay and Mable Robinson welcomed a new addition to their family. Joining her brother IC., Evelyn turned their family of three into a family of four. Her baby brother, Robert, later came along, and the Robinson family was complete. Being the only girl, she was incredibly protected by her brothers. The three of them were inseparable.

Evelyn excelled in school and became a member of the 1962 graduating class of Jim Hill High School. She completed her educational studies in 1966 by obtaining her bachelor's degree in Economics from the hallowed grounds of Tougaloo College.

Evelyn eventually reunited with an old high school classmate, Roosevelt Davis. The two of them unknowingly went to elementary school together. As fate would have it, the two would eventually unite in Holy matrimony on December 31, 1971. Throughout their 51-year marriage, Evelyn

would gain many titles and wear many hats.

She became the "bonus mom" through her union with Roosevelt to Constance and "Donnie." She was blessed to be called "Mom" when she gave birth to her two sons, Joel and Jeff.

She was respected as a director of the City of Jackson's daycare facilities, Four Seasons and Jones, for over 15 years. Evelyn's dedication to serving others led her to the Hinds County Human Resource Agency, where she faithfully assisted the citizens of Hinds County in becoming a better version of themselves.

She was a devoted member of Davis Temple Church of God in Christ under the leadership of her father-in-law, Reverend Bishop Theodore Davis. She later served faithfully in "Circle, #7" during her College Hill M.B. Church membership.

To many people, Evelyn was a master chef. She would spread her love even in the kitchen. Everyone waited on her holiday sweet potato pie and egg custard pie.

Of all of the many titles she held, her greatest one was the title of "Grandma." Proverbs 17:6 says, "Children's children are a crown to the age." She wore her crown proudly. Evelyn was many things to many people. She personified the traits of kindness, strength, resilience, meekness and love.

She is preceded in death by her parents, John Clay and Mabel; her two brothers, J.C. Jr. and Robert and her bonus son Roosevelt "Donnell" Davis. She leaves to cherish her memories husband Roosevelt; sons Joel and Jeff (Rhonda); bonus daughter Constance (Vincent); 2 sisters; Marcella Reed and Liz Cleveland; 4 grandsons; Jordon, Daniel Jaylen and Jeremy; 3 granddaughters; Markeda, Karigan and Jenae; 5 great-grandchildren, a host of nephews, nieces, cousins and friends.

Services were held at College Hill MB Church, Saturday, Feb. 4, 2023 at 11 a.m. Pastor Chauncy L. Jordan Sr. officiated the homegoing service.

Robert M. Hearin Support Foundation, guitarist King Edward Antoine and Mississippi Film Office receive honors

Special to The Mississippi Link

Senator John Horhn on Thursday, February 2, presented Senate Resolution 16 to the Robert M. Hearin Support Foundation for being named recipient of the 2023 Governor's Patron of the Arts Award.

The Robert M. Hearin Support Foundation's mission is to fund four-year colleges and universities in Mississippi, the Mississippi Museum of Art, Mississippi Symphony Orchestra and the Mississippi Opera.

2022 marked the 30th anniversary of its best-known project: the establishment of the Annie Laurie Swaim Hearin Memorial Exhibition Series at the Mississippi Museum of Art. The foundation has helped bring blockbuster exhibits that have attracted more than 700,000 visitors to the Jackson museum, with 40-percent of visitors coming from outside the city. The foundation has been a great friend of the arts.

In addition, Horhn led the Senate in the presentation of Senate Resolution 18 to blues guitarist King Edward Antoine, a recipient of the 2023 Governor's Arts Award for Excellence in Music, for his contributions to the music. King Edward has toured around the world playing guitar at festivals, and as the former lead guitar player for the Blue Monday Band. Antoine was a staple at the weekly Blue Monday show at Hal and Mal's restaurant in Jackson for over 11 years.

Senator Horhn and Senator Lydia Chassaniol led the body's presentation of Senate Resolution 14, honoring the



Resolution 16 Presentation: (L-R) Steve Hendrix, Laurie Hearin, Jackie Blackwell and Senator John Horhn



Resolution 14 Presentation: (l-r) Senator Lydia Chassaniol, Ward Emling, Nina Parikh, Film Commission Director, Senator John Horhn and Thabi Mayo. On the second row are Senator Philip Moran, Bill Webb, Nell Knox, Carey Miller and Senator David Jordan.



Resolution 18 presentation: (l-r) Peggy Brown, Jane Granger, King Edward and Senator Horhn

50th anniversary of the Mississippi Film Office and honoring its contributions to the state and the craft.



New Hope Baptist Church

Dr. Jerry Young, Pastor
1555 Beasley Road, Jackson, MS 39206

2023 Twelfth Annual IN PERSON

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Sen. Hillman FRAZIER



Mrs. Gaila PORTER

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Kevin Smith * Marcus Stafford

Feb 23: Praise Dancers * Anna Martin * Casey Wilson

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Natchez church to present play on Natchez Deacons for Defense

Cast will feature writer and director Jamal McCullen and 11 local students

Special to The Mississippi Link

A local teacher and 11 students are combining their talents to tell the story of the Natchez Deacons for Defense and Justice, a group that provided armed protection for the black community during the civil rights movement in the 1960s.

Jamal McCullen, a fourth grade English teacher at Susie B. West Elementary School, is the writer and director of “The Natchez Deacons for Defense: A dramatization.” The play will premiere at 2 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 11, at Rose Hill Missionary Baptist Church, 607 Madison St. It is free and open to the public.

The play is presented by the church in concert with the Dr. John Bowman Banks Museum.

“This play is about education,” said McCullen. “It’s an opportunity to learn about an era in our community history where some amazing men stood up and had the courage to do something different than what was being done to move our people forward – and closer to equality and fair treatment.”

Cast of students

The cast will feature students Anthony West of Cathedral School, Malachi White who attends Natchez Early College at Co-Lin and Ashton Williams, Kaimon Shaw, Darius Williams and Tyler Lyles, who attend Natchez High School. Other cast members include Emmanuel Wilcox of Delta Charter, Kameron Bates of Natchez Freshman Academy, Kortland Harris of Jefferson High School and Casen Campbell and Ryan Smith of Natchez Middle school.

“It is truly an honor to be surrounded by these amazing men and to learn something from them through this program,” said West, 13.

Ashton Williams, 18, said the play will be a “good program for young black males and other brothers in the community.”

“It’s a great opportunity for people to learn about Natchez’



The cast of “The Natchez Deacons for Defense: A Dramatization” (L to R) Darius Williams, Malachi White, Anthony West, Jamal McCullen, Ashton Williams and Kaimon Shaw.

history,” added Darius Williams.

McCullen said the students are members of Omega Pathfinders, a mentorship program of the Nu Xi chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc.

The students will portray the Deacons and some of the key figures in the movement, including Clifford M. Boxley, James “Big Jack” Jackson, Leon Donnan, James Stokes, Otis Mazique, Richard “Dip” Lewis and John Monroe Fitzgerald.

The Deacons for Defense organization was first organized in 1964 in Jonesboro, La., in response to the terror and violent acts of the Ku Klux Klan against civil rights activists. The Deacons, many of whom were actual deacons in the church, carried firearms for the protection of the activists, as well as for themselves.

The Deacons were portrayed in the 2003 film, Deacons for Defense, which featured actor Forest Whitaker. The Natchez Deacons were featured in the film, Black Natchez (1967) and in PBS Frontline’s “American Reckoning” (February 2022).

This local branch formed in 1965 following the bombing of NAACP President George Metcalfe’s vehicle on Aug. 27, 1965.

‘Show and tell’

Local historian Ser Seshsh Ab Heter-Clifford M. Boxley was a civil rights activist who helped the Natchez deacons. He supports the dramatization by McCullen. He said it is “wonderful” that McCullen is using a “living history format to show and tell” the history of the Natchez Deacons.

“Jamal has been a regular actor in my annual Black and Blue Civil War Living History Programs,” Boxley said. “He is a natural and outstanding actor and working up young students to portray living history of the Natchez Deacons is a chip off of what we been doing for the young Afrikan descent U. S. Colored Troops freedom fighters of the 19th century, who helped make the first mass civil rights gains of the 13th, 14th and 15th amendments possible.”

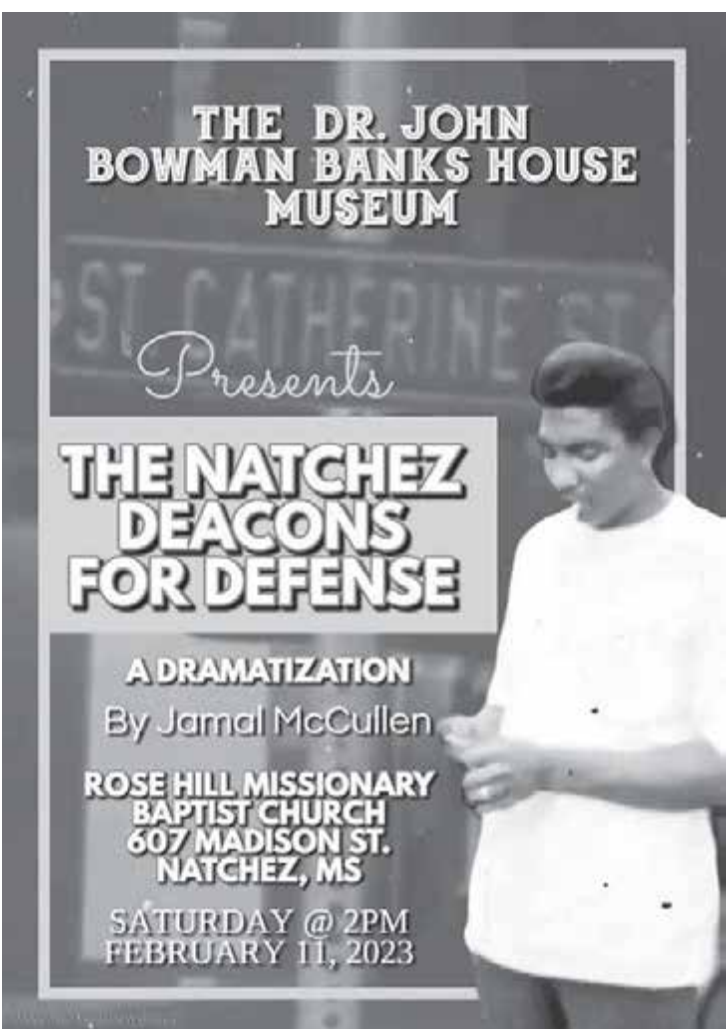
McCullen said that in addition to consulting with Boxley, his research for the project was informed by family connections.

“I was familiar with the story through family relationships, family folklore, and things I grew up seeing and hearing,” he said. “At the time, I did not know about certain things, but I was later able to connect the dots.”

The play is 45 minutes in length. It will include music and freedom songs from the 1960s. McCullen said the song, “In the Mississippi River,” is sure to have an impact on the audience. The song mentions lynchings in Mississippi, including the brutal 1964 murders of James Chaney, Michael Schwerner and Andrew Goodman in Philadelphia, Miss.

According to McCullen, the idea for the play grew out of a discussion he had with the church volunteers, which included Dora Hawkins, Jacquelyn Williams, and Thelma Newsome, all of whom manage the Dr. John Bowman Banks Museum on St. Catherine St., the former headquarters of the local NAACP.

“The ladies at the Dr. John Banks House asked me in August 2022 if I can do something for them on Black History deal-



ing with the Deacons for Defense, and I said yes, I can make that work,” McCullen recalled.

McCullen said he was honored by their request. Inspired, he began brainstorming. He started writing the script over Thanksgiving and finished it during the Christmas break.

Remembering the Deacons

According to Boxley, the story of the Deacons holds an important place in Natchez history. He said it is a story of “Black men and women supporters who organized themselves into an armed action defender organization to defend the modern civil rights movement participants and the Negro community from the continued, wanton, unbridled, murder and terrorists’ violence heaped upon blacks by whites of the Ku Klux Klan, Citizens Councils, police, gangs and individuals in general.”

The Deacons, he said, must

be remembered as they were: “They were a 20th century or modern civil rights movement organization that grew out of the membership of the local NAACP branch, Voters League, churches, U. S. Army veterans, social clubs and Negro communities in general, who wanted to regain in the 20th century, the 19th century civil rights to vote (based upon the 14th Amendment).”

With the help of the deacons, the civil rights workers in Natchez implemented a three-pronged approach that led to success in the struggle.

“In addition to armed defense, they used economic boycott of businesses owned by whites and enforcement of adherence to the boycott in the black community. This led to the defeat of the Jim Crow white supremacy segregation domination in Natchez,” Boxley said.

SPLC Statement on Mississippi House Bill 1020

Special to The Mississippi Link

The Southern Poverty Law Center (SPLC)’s Mississippi State Office Director Waikinya Clanton issued the following statement in response to House Bill 1020:

“Without a doubt, HB 1020 is demonstrative, undemocratic, unconstitutional and is an example of ‘Big Government’ at its best. The passage of HB 1020 targets the city of Jackson, infringing on the civil liberties of Jacksonians and opening the door for the legislature to expand its government overreach into other municipalities as they so choose.

“The bill weakens and diminishes the voices of the people of Jackson, proposes a severe and sincere threat to the equitable



allocation of educational resources, stifles diverse business interests, impedes diverse and inclusive economic growth for the city of Jackson, further removes control by the city of its utilities and airport, and deepens public safety concerns for Jackson residents through the expansion of police authority.

“This bill encourages an extreme imbalance of power by creating a newly appointed judicial district by which the Governor, Lieutenant Governor and legislature have controlled interest of its appointees.

HB 1020 also strips the Hinds County District Attorney of its power, transferring that authority to the Attorney General to make decisions about cases, including civil claims raised against the state in amounts upward of \$20 million.

“This extreme government overreach is yet another attempt by self-interested leaders to dilute black and brown voices, proposing a profoundly serious threat to democracy and weakening the electoral power of all Mississippians.”

The Mississippi Link™

Volume 29 • Number 17

February 9 - 15, 2023

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Publisher.....Jackie Hampton
Copy Editor.....Minnie Garrett
Sports EditorTim Ward
Graphics.....Marcus Johnson
Photographers.....Kevin Bradley & Jay Johnson

Member:



The Mississippi Link [USPS 017224] is published weekly by The Mississippi Link, Inc. Offices located at 2659 Livingston Road, Jackson, MS 39213. Mailing address is P.O. Box 11307, Jackson, MS 39283-1307 or e-mail us at: publisher@mississippilink.com; Please visit our website at: www.mississippilink.com. Phone: (601) 896-0084, Fax 896-0091, out of state 1-800-748-9747. Periodical Postage Rate Paid at Jackson, MS. Deadline: The deadline for submitting items to be considered for publication is Tuesday at 10 a.m.

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

Postmaster:
Send all address changes to The Mississippi Link, P.O. Box 11307, Jackson, MS 39283-1307.

Advertising: For all advertising information, please call (601) 896-0084.

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Democrat Sheila Jackson Lee introduces Anti-White Supremacy Bill, then schools Republican Boebert on hate



That's enough of racism and bigotry, says Rep. Sheila Jackson Lee.

By Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Newswire Contributor

The Democratic representative from Texas has introduced House Resolution 61, which would amend Title 18 of the United States Code to broaden the definition of hate crimes, with the goal of preventing and prosecuting hate crimes motivated by white supremacy and conspiracy to commit such crimes.

The text of the bill reads as follows: “A person commits a white supremacy inspired hate crime when white supremacist ideology has motivated the planning, development, preparation, or perpetration of actions that constituted a crime or were undertaken in furtherance of activity that, if effectuated, would have constituted a crime.”

With respect to any information or evidence obtained by the Department of Justice of any unlawful action specified in Jackson-Lee’s bill, the DOJ shall have the authority to conduct operations and activities pursuant to such crimes.

The Department of Justice (DOJ) would also be authorized to conduct investigations, intervene, and take any other measures it deems necessary and appropriate to prevent, mitigate, or stop any potentially violent action.

The Department of Justice’s Uniform Crime Reporting Program would keep track of white supremacist-inspired hate crimes and other related actions, and Justice Department officials would have the authority to prosecute those responsible for them.

Jackson Lee has requested that the DOJ report its findings annually to the relevant

Congressional committees.

Rep. Lauren Boebert, a Republican from Colorado, claimed the legislation “makes a mockery of the First Amendment.”

While Boebert, a right-wing leader, misrepresented the legislation after reading a misleading news article, Jackson Lee schooled her on Twitter.

“First of all, it took me about 32 seconds of reading the article you cited to understand that none of you know what you are talking about,” Jackson Lee scolded.

To be convicted of a hate crime in some jurisdictions, “H.R. 61 simply deals with adding white supremacy to a list of reasons,” the Texas Democrat explained.

She elaborated:

“So, when the article states that ‘only white people can be charged with’ this crime, that’s flagrantly false.

“Your argument assumes that only white people can hold white supremacist views and that only certain groups of people can perpetrate violence motivated by white supremacy.

“I would hope now that your argument would not shift to ‘why is white supremacy being added to this law?’ That would be egregious.

“Yes, white supremacy should be added to this law. Why? Because as Director Wray testified, it’s a major domestic terrorist threat.”

The post “Democrat Sheila Jackson Lee introduces Anti-White Supremacy Bill, then Schools Republican Boebert on hate” first appeared on Post News Group.

This article originally appeared in Post News Group.

NNPA wraps Midwinter Conference showing strength of Black Press and star-studded celebration for Dr. Benjamin Chavis

By Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Newswire Contributor

The National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA), the trade association for more than 230 African American-owned newspapers and media companies, held its 2023 midwinter training conference in Puerto Rico.

By the end of the five-day event, publishers, partners, sponsors, members, guests, and anyone else who visited the San Juan Marriott Beach Resort and Stellaris Casino, gained a better appreciation of the power of the Black Press of America.

Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis Jr., president and CEO of the NNPA, received the organization’s highest accolade while colleagues, family, and friends celebrated his birthday.

With “Digital Innovation Training and Engagement” as the conference’s theme, NNPA Executive Administrator Claudette Perry and conference planners did not disappoint.

The NNPA began by introducing everyone to its new app, which facilitated registration, provided information and instructions to each session.

Publishers left the Island of Enchantment with a better understanding of the importance of their digital products and how to monetize both print and online publications.

Kate Cox, adjunct professor at the Poynter Institute in Tampa, Florida, conducted an enlightening conversation on overcoming obstacles to produce sustainable corporate outcomes through digital transformation.

Cox advised publishers on how to engage in a presentation that was developed expressly for NNPA members to generate revenue streams because of digital transformation.

Chavis spoke with Rep. Frederica Wilson (D-FL) about the importance of black lives and the Black Press in a pre-recorded conversation.

He also had a live fireside chat with Dorothy Tucker, president of the National Association of Black Journalists (NABJ), about strengthening the bond between the two organizations.

A workshop on the opinions and recommendations of Generation Z and Millennials regarding the future economic sustainability of the Black Press was a highlight of the conference.

Discussion was led by Chelsea Lenora White of the *Houston Forward Times*, Jarren Small, founder of Reading with



NNPA Publishers along with Rev. Mark Thompson (top right with Chavis holding Lifetime Achievement Award plaque). PHOTO BY JAMES HAMPTON III



NNPA President and CEO Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis Jr., with his family during the 2023 NNPA Midwinter Conference/Mark Mahoney, Dream in Color



NNPA Executive Administrator Claudette Perry helps present NNPA President and CEO Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis Jr. with a birthday cake and gift/Mark Mahoney, Dream in Color

a Rapper, Michale Green, managing editor of the *Washington Informer*, and Lafayette Barnes, publisher of *The Bridge*.

Chavis, the recipient of the 2023 NNPA Lifetime Achievement Award, was feted with a 75th birthday party on Day 3 and a star-studded awards ceremony to help close out the conference.

Chavis’ family offered heartfelt words of appreciation and admiration during the ceremony, hosted by Rev. Mark Thompson.

Chavis’ longtime friend and

a \$50,000 Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis Jr. Scholarship.

General Motors, Hyundai, Wells Fargo, AARP, Nissan, MCRD, Zillow, Compassion & Choices, Rebuild Local News, Comcast-NBC Universal, API, Diageo, Reynolds, Pfizer, Google News Initiative and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation counted among the NNPA’s partners and sponsors.

“Our NNPA executive committee and convention planning committee, chaired by *Data News Weekly* Publisher Terry Jones, are grateful that [everyone involved] has taken the time to join us in support of the Original Black Press,” said NNPA Chair Karen Carter Richards.

“We are grateful to all of the NNPA’s corporate partners, sponsors and supporters who have generously contributed to allow us to be together here in Puerto Rico,” Jones added.

Chavis, gracious but overwhelmed, stated that the NNPA is devoted to keeping its readers, constituencies and supporters informed, engaged and empowered through breaking news, cultural excellence and visionary opinions and editorials.

“We are African-American businesses that continue to provide a vital service to all communities across the country and around the world,” Chavis stated.

“This year marks the beginning of my tenth year as president and CEO, and it has been a remarkable journey as I have personally encountered some of the world’s best publisher leaders, journalists and advocates for freedom, justice, equality, and equity.”

Weight loss and seniors

By Vince Faust
Tips to Be Fit

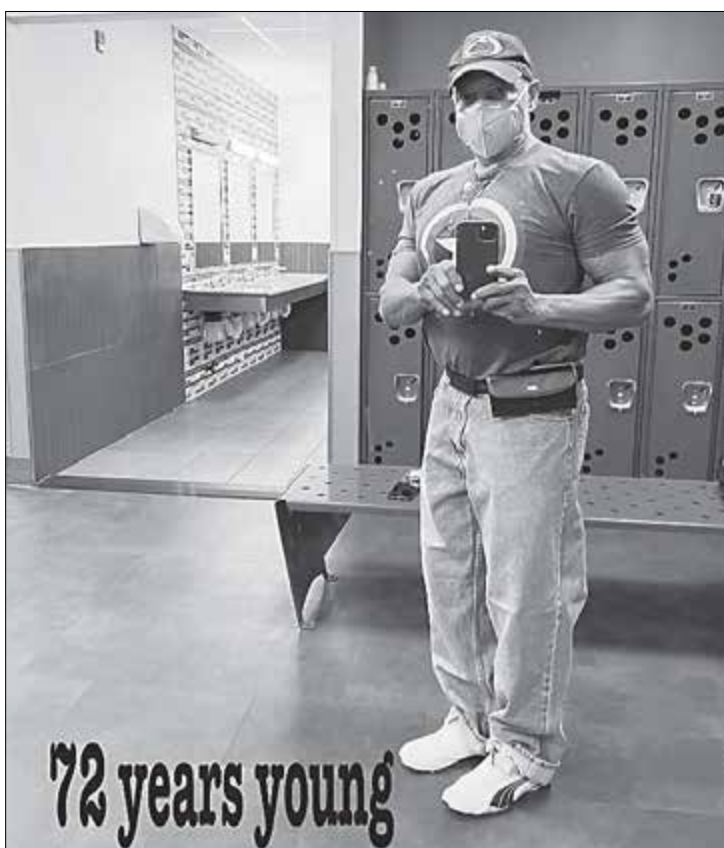
Did you know that excess bodyfat could cause you to lose up to 20 years of healthy life? Even just the loss of a few pounds of bodyfat, can improve our health. Controlling bodyfat can benefit seniors. However, losing weight or bodyfat should be done carefully and safely.

There are a number of reasons we gain excess bodyfat as we get older:

Cultural – Cultural eating play a major role in our weight gain. Not all cultural delights are healthy. Cultural comfort foods are usually high in fat, calories, sodium and sugar.

Physical inactivity – As we get older we become physical inactive and more sedentary. Both of these have a strong correlation with weight gain and obesity. People who lead a sedentary lifestyle burn fewer calories than active individuals. We need to exercise everyday.

Diet – Poor diet and unhealthy eating habits are two more reasons we gain weight as we age. People whose diet contains heavily processed high-calorie foods with little to nutritious value are at greater risk of developing obesity. We need to manage our diet better.



Medication – Many medications such as antidepressants or antipsychotics can cause weight gain as a side effect. Your doctor may be able to adjust your medication to stop the weight gain.

Medical Conditions – Some medical conditions, such as hypothyroidism (an underac-

tive thyroid gland), can cause weight gain and obesity. We should try to control any chronic conditions.

Dieting alone to lose bodyfat will lead to a muscle mass loss of around 50% and a fat and water loss of around 50%. Weight lost through proper diet and exercise will result in a fat

loss of around 98% and lean muscle mass will increase. The loss of lean muscle will weaken your muscles and organs.

The average American consumes 40% fat, 30% carbohydrates and 30% proteins daily. The average diet should consist of 15% fat, 20% protein and 65% complex carbohydrates. Saturated fats should make up less than 10% of your total fat intake.

Keep a food diary for two weeks to determine what you need to add to your diet. You should eat 4 to 5 small meals that include 3 to 4 servings of fruits, 3 to 4 servings of vegetables, 2 to 3 servings of whole grains and 2 servings of proteins everyday.

Make sure you consume between 12 to 15 calories per pound of body weight daily. We should aim for at least 1600 calories daily. 1600 calories will allow you to get in all the protein, carbohydrate, fat, vitamins and minerals you need daily. You also need to understand portion size. We should also plan our meals.

The second part of maintaining a healthy bodyfat level is exercise. We should exercise everyday for at least 30 minutes. Start at a comfortable

level for your ability that could be as low as 3 minutes. After an accident I had to start at 3 minutes even after years of exercising.

Exercise and good nutrition can stimulate the amount of testosterone released in the body of both men and women. Exercise can also increase the amount of protein utilization, which takes place in the body. These changes will have an affect on muscle tone, strength and bone density. Both of these factors help to determine the quality of life a person maintains, as they get older. Exercise also strengthens the bones, tendons and ligaments. Tendons connect muscle to bone. Ligaments connect bone to bone.

A complete workout should include exercises for each body part. Start with 2 or 3 different exercises for each body part. Gradually work up to 8-12 repetitions for each exercise. Do each exercise 1-3 times to start. If you can do more than 12 repetitions for a set the weight is too light. If you can't do at least 8 repetitions for a set the weight is too heavy.

You'll need both aerobic and strength building exercises. Aerobic exercises (walking,

jogging, biking or swimming continuously for 15 minutes or more) are important. Strength-building exercises are a necessary part of an aerobic program because they help keep the bones and joints strong enough to withstand aerobic training.

If you're a beginner have someone who knows what they're doing take you through your first few workouts. Lifting weights can be dangerous if you don't do the exercises correctly. Always concentrate on what you're doing. Being careless and taking your movements for granted can cause injury. Concentrating on each repetition when you workout will also recruit more muscle fibers to do work making each repetition more efficient.

Aging starts during your youth and is progressive. You can't stop the aging process but you can slow it down and improve your quality of life. For older but wiser beginners changes in strength and stamina can be seen within 3 weeks after changing your lifestyle.

So what are you waiting for? Use it or lose it. Go on, get busy and Have a Fit Day.

Before starting your fitness program, consult your physician.

Institute supports two National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day



Breshetta Sellers administered health screenings to Coahoma Community College students.



Shantay Griffith, assisted CARE4ME at the National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day forum at the Jackson Medical Mall.

Mississippi Link Newswire

On February 7, the Institute for the Advancement of Minority Health observed National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day by supporting two events simultaneously.

In the Metro Jackson area, the Institute collaborated with CARE4ME and distributed several HIV self-testing kits during the National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day forum held at the Jackson Medical Mall. The forum featured speakers from various agencies committed to providing support to those impacted by HIV/AIDS.

The Institute collaborated with Shaw Family Medical, CLM Healthcare, and Coahoma Community College to make an impact in the Mississippi Delta. During a National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness health and wellness fair, eighty-three attendees had access to free health screenings, tests, and self-testing kits. Information regarding HIV prevention, treatment, and stigma prevention were distributed, also.

National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day is an opportunity to increase awareness about HIV care,



Breshetta Sellers and Cordaro Mays assisted attendees during the health and wellness fair at Coahoma Community College

treatment, and to acknowledge how HIV disproportionately affects Black people in the United States.

To secure HIV resources or self-testing kits, contact the Institute for the Advancement of Minority Health at iamh@advancingminorityhealth.org or call (769) 572-5263.

The Institute for the Advancement of Minority Health was established

in 2019 to reduce health disparities among disadvantaged and underserved minority populations in Mississippi through the development of collaborative partnerships with community stakeholders and the implementation of evidence-based public health interventions with a particular focus on health equity.

New rules would limit sugar in school meals for first time

By Jonel Aleccia
AP Health Writer

U.S. agriculture officials on Friday proposed new nutrition standards for school meals, including the first limits on added sugars, with a focus on sweetened foods such as cereals, yogurt, flavored milk and breakfast pastries.

The plan announced by Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack also seeks to significantly decrease sodium in the meals served to the nation's schoolkids by 2029, while making the rules for foods made with whole grains more flexible.

The goal is to improve nutrition and align with U.S. dietary guidelines in the program that serves breakfast to more than 15 million children and lunch to nearly 30 million children every day, Vilsack said.

"School meals happen to be the meals with the highest nutritional value of any meal that children can get outside the home," Vilsack said in an interview.

The first limits on added sugars would be required in the 2025-2026 school year, starting with high-sugar foods such as sweetened cereals, yogurts and flavored milks.

Under the plan, for instance, an 8-ounce container of chocolate milk could contain no more than 10 grams of sugar. Some popular flavored milks now contain twice that amount. The plan also limits sugary grain desserts, such as muffins or doughnuts, to no more than twice a week at breakfast.

By the fall of 2027, added sugars in school meals would be limited to less than 10% of the total calories per week for breakfasts and lunches.

The proposal also would reduce sodium in school meals by 30% by the fall of 2029. They would gradually be reduced to align with federal guidelines, which recommend Americans aged 14 and older limit sodium to about 2,300 milligrams a day, with less for younger children.

Levels would drop, for instance, from an average of about 1,280 milligrams of sodium allowed now per lunch for kids in grades 9 to 12 to about 935 milligrams. For comparison, a typical turkey sandwich with mustard and cheese might contain 1,500 milligrams of sodium.

Health experts say cutting back on sugar and salt can help decrease the risk of disease in kids, including obesity, diabetes, high blood pressure and other prob-

lems that often continue into adulthood.

The plan, detailed in a 280-page document, drew mixed reactions. Katie Wilson, executive director of the Urban School Food Alliance, said the changes are "necessary to help America's children lead healthier lives."

But Diane Pratt-Heavner, spokeswoman for the School Nutrition Association, a trade group, said school meals are already healthier than they were a decade ago and that increased regulations are a burden, especially for small and rural school districts.

"School meal programs are at a breaking point," she said. "These programs are simply not equipped to meet additional rules."

Vilsack emphasized that the plan phases changes in over the next six years to allow schools and food manufacturers time to adjust to the new standards. He said in a press conference Friday that the USDA will also fund grants of up to \$150,000 to help small and rural schools make the changes.

"Our hope is that many school districts and food providers accelerate the timeline on their own," he said.

Courtney Gaine, president of the Sugar Association, said the proposal ignores the "many functional roles" sugar plays in food beyond sweetness and encourages the use of sugar substitutes, which have not been fully studied in children. Sugar substitutes are allowed under the new standards, Vilsack said.

As part of the plan, agriculture officials are seeking feedback about a proposal that would continue to require that 80% of all grains offered in a week must be whole grains. But it would allow schools to serve non-whole grain foods, such as white-flour tortillas, one day a week to vary their menus.

Another option suggests serving unflavored nonfat and lowfat milk to the youngest children and reserving chocolate and other flavored milks for high school kids.

A 60-day public comment period on the plan opens Feb. 7.

Shiriki Kumanyika, a community health expert at Drexel University's Dornsife School of Public Health said if they're done right some of the changes will be hard for kids to notice: "They'll see things that they like to eat, but those foods will be healthier," she said.

P R E S E R V E D

Surviving a relationship recession

By Shewanda Riley
Columnist

For the last few months, you cannot turn the TV on without hearing words like recession to describe our country's current economic situation. Not a day has gone by without an expert offering tips on how to survive and thrive in what some are calling a recession.

Some of the characteristics of a recession include rising unemployment and reduced investment. It's not just one thing going wrong with the economy; it's multiple things all going wrong at the same time. Yet, some question how we can be in a recession with recent positive job creation numbers.

I watched some of those financial tips on TV and thought about how the philosophy behind those tips also apply to relationships and a conversation I had with a few friends. After a few minutes of listening to

comments about recent relationship issues, one thing that came to mind was that some of us may have been in a relationship recession.

What's a relationship recession? For an extended period of time, you are in a period of reduced satisfaction, superficial intimacy and decreased emotional investment. Or you may be in a total slump with no dates worth remembering or may not be in a relationship at all. You may be with someone but not the one you really want...or you may be with the one you wanted once but it's not what you want anymore. Motivated by a fear of being alone, you stay in the relationship.

Like all downturns, depending on how you handle your relationship recession, you can either rebound with greater success or experience a more severe depression. The determining factor is whether you recognize it as a time for reevaluation.

Much like the economic recession, a relationship recession forces you to readjust your priorities and expectations. A financial recession is a great chance to reevaluate your financial goals and change your risky behavior.

Likewise, during a relationship recession consider becoming diversified and thinking outside your regular "relationship" box. Just like having a diverse source of incomes and investments can help you survive an economic recession, so can having a diverse group of friends help you survive your relationship recession.

Speaking from experience, it's not always easy but developing and maintaining relationships with others outside your usual comfort zone can be especially rewarding. Rather than being turned off by the differences you may have, you have great opportunities to grow.

A former pastor noted once in a sermon that your current situation is not your final destination. When you realize you are in a relationship recession,

don't pursue or commit to any relationships out of desperation. Rely on your patience to get you through the most difficult times. Ecclesiastes 7:8 encourages us that "The end of a matter is better than its beginning, and patience is better than pride."

Use wisdom to be proactive and not reactive in your relationship choices. Valentine's Day may seem like an odd time to discuss relationship problems but it's actually the perfect time to start making changes so you can start getting what you want in your relationships.

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.

Thank God for grace and mercy

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



The Bible says, "So then it is not of him that willeth, nor of him that runneth, but of God that sheweth mercy" (Romans 9:16).

Sometimes the Lord is moving in the services and people are not listening to what He is saying. Yes, the preacher preaches the Word, but it is the Spirit of God that does the work in the individual's life.

There are numbers of people who are struggling in this Christian race, but many times they don't realize that God comes to deliver them from the situations they're going through. He does deliver. There are people who need deliverance. There are people in the congregation who are struggling in this Christian race. They love God. They want to live for God, but they are really struggling in their experience. They try to go forward, but many times they always find themselves right back in the same mess.

My friends, only God can deliver. "So then it is not of him that willeth, nor of him that runneth, but of God that sheweth mercy." God extends His mercy and speaks to us in a unique way we do not understand. He has a mighty way in working in our lives.

How do I know He delivers? I've been where I needed to be delivered. There are things we did in our lives and have done them again and asked God's forgiveness, but we went right back into the same mess. It isn't until God really delivers us that we find ourselves with the power to overcome. We are no more a victim, but we have the power to say no.

We have the power to overcome and prevail.

I know we struggle here and there, and we need to seek God. We read in James 4:3, "Ye ask, and receive not because Ye ask amiss." When we do ask, we sometimes ask in doubt. We really don't get anything because the guilt is there many times. It causes us to feel like God isn't going to answer us anyhow.

He has a way of delivering us. He came to bring us to higher heights with Him, the place where He really wants us to be.

There are some things in our lives that God forgives and delivers from instantly, but there are other things in our lives that we really have to seek God more for Him to deliver us. We have to learn to fight and overcome. We have to learn to prevail in this Christian journey. There is much learning in this Christian journey.

As we run this race, we then can help others. Until we struggle ourselves, we won't know what someone else is going through. The bible says that Jesus was in all points tempted like we are, therefore He is able to deliver us.

"For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities" (Hebrew 4:15). He knows what we feel and are going through. He is able to deliver us.

David said, "What shall I render unto the Lord for all His benefits toward me? I will take the cup of salvation and call upon the Name of the Lord. I will pay vows unto the Lord now in the presence of all His people."

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



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Sunday Sch: 10 a.m.

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Must illness knock on our door before we know COVID-19 is real?

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

I can remember my dad saying to me that discretion is the greater part of valor. That line was made famous by Falstaff in King Henry the Fourth, Part one, by William Shakespeare.

Simply put, it is better to avoid a dangerous situation than to confront it. All of us have been in situations that could have gone wrong had we made the wrong decision.

Are we making the right or wrong decision about COVID-19?

As far back as grade school, I can recall peer pressure before the term was coined. A few of my friends wanted to do the wrong thing and I decided not to follow them. I thought it wise not to experiment with danger.

Are we experimenting with COVID-19?

There are many crossroads in life where our decisions might literally mean life or death. At the beginning of the Coronavirus, we received information about it which most of us took seriously. We followed the protocols because that was the right decision.

Now, of course, there were some in America who did not trust the health experts. They adhered to their own advice and to the advice of non-medical experts. Do you remember someone saying to take disinfectant as a cure for COVID-19?

Prior to the vaccines becoming available, wearing masks, washing hands, wearing masks and practicing social distancing were a big part of preventing COVID-19 from spreading. Now vaccines have been instrumental for us as we try to keep a safe environment.

The number of people contracting the virus has dramatically decreased over time however over the past 5 months COVID-19 numbers are on the rise.

According to reports, New Jersey, Connecticut, Delaware, Rhode Island, Maryland and Massachusetts had counties with medium to high levels for increased COVID-19 cases. Hawaii and Maine were states with low numbers of new cases.

As we enter the second month of the new year, it is my opinion that we should remain vigilant and aware of the COVID-19 surge.

This health scare has made us both apprehensive and careful. We think it has gone away but it is still around and lurking. Knowing this, we must continue our safe practices however there are some who think we are totally out of the woods and are COVID-19 free. That is wrong and is wishful thinking. Going about your business without any regard to a virus that has taken millions of lives is shortsighted.

Reports say there are over 32,000 new cases of COVID-19 and that number is growing. The major vaccine manufacturers have produced new vaccines to combat the new variants. It is up to us to take them.

Like you, I have taken my booster and my family members have as well. It is to our rational self-interest to do so.

While many of us don't need to be warned, there are many who don't heed the warnings. Don't let it reach your doorstep before you act.

Since its beginning there has been a reluctance by too many people to protect themselves. It was and still is in many circles a political football that people just want to ignore, thinking that it won't harm them.

We see commercials on television daily about folks that have lost loved ones because they ignored the information. We have a role to play and that role is to be a vaccine advocate.

That can happen when we speak up and say something about it in a non-threatening way. Be proactive and protect yourself and your family.

We cannot stop now because too much is on the line. Simply stated, our lives are on the line.

State Senate poised to force higher prescription drug prices on working Mississippians while protecting themselves

By Scott Waller
Pres. CEO MS Economic Council



In one of the most egregious examples of government overreach, legislation passing along state-mandated pricing to hard-working Mississippians while excluding the legislators' personal health plan was approved by a Senate committee this week.

The scheme, which is being touted to lower prescription drug costs, removes the Mississippi State and School Health Plan from the legislation. The 190,000-member healthcare plan covers teachers, state employees and all lawmakers. The legislation, approved by the Senate Public Health and Welfare committee, also takes away a company's right to enter into private contracts for health benefits for its employees, and it places a mandatory dispensing fee of \$11.29 that pharmacists will charge on every prescription that is filled or re-filled.

Proponents claim Senate Bill 2484, which changes the way pharmacy benefit managers are utilized, will lower costs. However, research from business and industry leaders and insurance providers show cost increases to benefits for employees ranging from thousands to millions of dollars, depending on the number of employees. Unfortunately, these are costs that will be passed along to employees.

So, who is correct?

While the data continues to stack up that shows the scheme hatched by independent pharma-

cists will not save money, the most convincing evidence that it will raise drug costs is excluding the state health plan. If savings truly exist, legislators are acting irresponsibly by not providing these "proposed savings" to hard-working teachers and state employees.

If legislators placing cost increases on the backs of hard-working Mississippians without putting the increases on themselves wasn't bad enough, they're also telling companies in Mississippi they no longer have the right to negotiate contracts on behalf of their employees.

Removing a company's right to work with their pharmacy benefit specialists is both government overreach and protectionism that benefits only one group, the independent pharmacists.

Businesses in all sectors of Mississippi's economy provide insurance through self-funded plans. These plans allow the company to determine the best, lowest-cost options for providing healthcare insurance for their employees.

Stealing the negotiating rights of private employers, that bear all the risks associated with the self-funded plan, imposes astronomical increases for coverage and forces out-of-pocket costs to skyrocket for Mississippi's private-sector workforce.

Small businesses that purchase group insurance for employees aren't immune, either. One model predicts that policyholders will pay more than \$50 million under this legislation. On average, the changes would result in a 15%-18.5% increase in drug costs for working Mississippians and their

families. This double-digit percentage increase impacts only premiums and does not reflect the additional out-of-pocket cost with rising co-pays, inflation, and higher drug costs.

So how are the proponents claiming that adding an \$11.29 dispensing fee per prescription will save money? The questionable tactics not only call for removing a company's right to a private contract, but changes the pricing formula to the National Average Drug Acquisition Cost (NADAC), a survey that estimates average drug costs.

While some drugs may cost less using NADAC, the model is flawed. Because there is such a small sample size in the NADAC model, it creates a potential for bias, according to research from Milliman, one of the world's largest providers of actuarial services.

The financial impact of using NADAC-plus pricing will vary based on the mix of specific drug utilization, Milliman reports. Even worse, when a drug isn't listed on NADAC, the current metric using the Wholesale Acquisition Cost will be applied without any adjustments to the proposed state-mandated dispensing fee. Additionally, there is nothing that currently prohibits companies from using NADAC pricing.

It's important to note that Mississippi would become an outlier if these horrific regulations are implemented. Only West Virginia has a similar scheme. Does it work? No one knows because there isn't any actual data. A series of complications delayed implementation until Jan. 1. How-

ever, after only one month of the law being in effect, the West Virginia Chamber of Commerce sent a survey to gauge the impact, after hearing from some members their pharmacy benefits have seen significant cost increases.

As more senators are understanding what this legislation does, they are beginning to speak out against it. Senator Brice Wiggins led the charge during the committee meeting to make meaningful changes to the bill or kill the legislation. He was joined by three other Senators – Josh Harkins, Chris Johnson and Chad McMahan – on a failed motion to table the legislation. Several Senators who originally signed onto the legislation as co-authors have since asked to have their names removed after learning of the negative impacts of this bill.

The bill is currently on the Senate calendar, and the full body will now have a chance to determine if the bill will continue through the legislative process. Senators are encouraged to take a closer look, realize it harms working Mississippians, and stop this absurdity now.

The bottom line is the bill is a tremendous overreach that benefits a small number of pharmacists while protecting legislators' personal healthcare coverage. The ultimate burden of this atrocious legislation falls on employers, their covered employees and Mississippians with individual coverage.

Scott Waller is president & CEO of the Mississippi Economic Council – the State Chamber of Commerce.

The attack on Black History and what we must do

By Dr. John Warren
San Diego Voice and
Viewpoint/NNPA Member



As we begin to celebrate Black History Month, a barrage of attacks appears to continue, from police officers beating and killing a black man in Memphis to two police murders of two black men in separate incidents in Los Angeles.

We have the war on Critical Race Theories, which most white people in opposition neither understand nor can explain. At the same time, efforts are underway to remove from school libraries books on slavery, race, and the attacks on black lives and communities.

While we must acknowledge these attacks and their efforts to remove our gains in equality and Civil Rights, let us not get preoccupied with these issues even as we fight against them.

We must regroup, rethink and

shore up our weaknesses in this ongoing battle for what is now a battle for human rights, fairness and equality as citizens of this nation; entitled to every right of every other citizen and immigrant.

First, let us revisit and remember who Dr. Carter G. Woodson was and what he did. He was born to former slaves. He started High School at age 20. He was the second African American to earn a doctorate from Harvard University. He wrote more than 12 books about the Negro. Some of his better-known works are: The Mis-Education of the Negro (1933), The History of the Negro Church, 1921, A Century of Negro Migration (1918), Negro Orators and Their Orations (1925), and African Heroes and Heroines (1939).

Dr. Woodson also created what was then called "Negro History Week" which has since become Black History Month. He created the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History which contin-

ues today as the Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH). He published the first Journal of Negro History in 1916 and in 1921 organized the media company, Associated Publishers, to make books available about the Negro.

The point of all this is that we as a people, because of Dr. Woodson, are more educated in numbers than was ever permitted in his day. We have libraries, Google, the internet and untold opportunities to learn. We have witnessed the first black President of these United States, elected twice to that office; and now have the first black woman to serve as Vice President of these United States, with African Americans serving in the U.S. Congress and having served more than once in the positions of Secretary of State of the United States.

There is no office we can't aspire to and nothing we can't build on that people like Carter G. Woodson left for us. What do we do?

We must remember who we are, who died for us to have the quality of life we enjoy, and most of all, we must remember that we do not need government permission or assistance to teach our history to our own and others, or to teach that the right to vote and the correct use of that right is how we overcome the Conservative Right and not accept their agenda as a weapon of defeat.

We must remember that in many instances since the George Floyd murder, there are often more young whites marching with us than blacks sometimes.

We must do like the people of the State of Georgia and use education and our votes to overcome the roadblocks. We have our communities, our churches, and an army of educators, some retired; as well as black elected Officials.

Let's rally our resources as those before us, like Dr. Carter G. Woodson. Look at what he did. Think about what we can do.

Where will you stand?

Mississippi Burning 2023

By Zakiya Summers
MS House of Rep., District 68



Jackson has suddenly received a lot of so-called concern because it is "Our Capitol City" under the guise of public safety. Jackson is not just the Capitol City, Jackson is my home, and my roots run deep in Jackson.

My grandfather was William Bill Summers. Bill Summers owned the Summers Hotel, which used to be on Pearl Street near Jackson State University. The

Summers Hotel was a safe haven for black motorists because traveling while black in the 40s, 50s and 60s was extremely dangerous. The Summers Hotel was one of two hotels in Jackson where black people could stay. Granddaddy later added the Subway Lounge to provide entertainment to guests and the public at large. You may have even been there.

I don't know if granddaddy would be surprised that in 2023 it is still dangerous for black people to travel or that mothers like me and fathers must have a very different and necessary conversation

with our black sons about compliance with police so that you can make it home alive. I do believe that he would be proud that I'm living out my ancestors' dreams.

HB 1020 is an effort at a state takeover of the Capitol City. Not only is it complete with flaws, it is also unconstitutional, taking away the rights of citizens in the Capitol Complex Improvement District (CCID) to elect members of the judiciary. In addition, it goes against the intent of the creation of the CCID in the first place. It is taxation without representation.

The state would benefit and should focus its energy on curing and righting the wrongs it is responsible for.

Mississippi has the highest prison population in the world. Clearly, criminalizing and over policing our community is not the answer. Mississippi has the highest child poverty rate and infant and maternal mortality rate in the country. Mississippi is 50th on quality of life and life expectancy and at the bottom for health care, too. With all of these things in mind, how is it that Mississippi is using time, energy and resources

to devise a plan to negatively target the city of Jackson but can't develop a plan to ensure that all Mississippians have access to healthcare, early education, the ballot box, and all of the things needed to improve the quality of life for our citizens?

Why does the state refuse to work with city leaders to support the proposals we advocate for? Why is it okay for the state to have an adverse relationship with its Capitol City? What other state in these United States treats its Capitol City this way?

Meanwhile, corporations get

tax cuts, marginalized communities continue to be targeted, and partisan politics continue to keep us separated and divided.

I am dissatisfied and you, the citizens of this state, should be, too. Instead of the leadership working alongside us, leadership is working against us – looking to create a city within a city. It is a dangerous precedent.

What's next and who's next? It's ridiculous and shameful. And, Mississippi will continue to burn until it does right by all of her people.

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]	16CEK19TX1861530	STOLEN	42862	2022-063256	2008/BUICK/ENCLAVE [GOLD]	5GAER023778U279132	STOLEN
29308	2018-004158	1998/FORD/E250 [WHITE]	1FTPE1423WHHA30174	ARREST	42873	2022-066840	2007/CADILLAC/SRX [WHITE]	1GYEE637XK7012658	ABANDON
29554	2019-161830	1996/HONDA/ACCORD [SILVER]	1HGCD5686TA133096	ABANDON	42876	2022-048382	1998/CHEVROLET/CHEYENNE [BLUE]	1GCEC154M0W624508	STOLEN
29738	2019-183712	2001/TOYOTA/RAV 4 [BLACK]	JTEGH20V530028579	ARREST	42891	2022-068317	1994/GMC/SIERRA [BLACK]	1GTDG1466RE501128	ABANDON
29817	2020-003574	2012/HONDA/RAV [WHITE]	1HGCP2F82CA159295	ARREST	42900	2022-009484	2014/BMW/320 [BLUE]	WBA3C3G53EN5709936	STOLEN
30006	2020-034006	1994/MAZDA/626 [BLUE]	1YVGE22CX85174834	ABANDON	42915	2022-064846	1999/NISSAN/MAXIMA [BLACK]	JN1CA21A3XT700121	ARREST
40046	2020-056914	2007/HYUNDAI/SONATA [TAN]	5NPET46GCH196032	ABANDON	42920	2022-071015	2005/DODGE/CARAVAN [WHITE]	1D4GP24R958283401	ABANDON
40533	2020-127692	2007/MAZDA/CX7 [GRAY]	JM3ER253K70155189	ABANDON	42924	2022-071343	2007/NISSAN/MAXIMA [RED]	1N4BA41E47C802461	ABANDON
40583	2020-133820	2009/SATURN/AURA [BLUE]	1G8ZV57839F190815	ABANDON	42928	2022-071580	2000/AUDI/A6 [BLUE]	WAUJE05484YU070728	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]	55SWF4K87F0U97666	STOLEN
40882	2020-173490	2008/DODGE/AVENGER [SILVER]	1B3LC46X88N106183	ABANDON	42959	2022-076370	2000/LINCOLN/TOWNCAR [GOLD]	1LNHMB2W4Y9314257	ABANDON
40954	2020-182620	2004/CHEVROLET/TRAILBLAZER [MAROON]	16ND5135X42378598	ABANDON	42961	2022-076541	2008/DODGE/CARAVAN [WHITE]	1D8HN44H28B127801	ABANDON
41021	2021-000928	2007/TOYOTA/CAMRY [BROWN]	4T1B6G21K1VU766746	ABANDON	42967	2022-077627	2005/MERCEDES/CLK320 [WHITE]	WDBTK65645T051439	ABANDON
41290	2021-031283	1994/FORD/EXPLORER [GREEN]	1FMDU32K3RUE17954	ABANDON	42974	2022-077317	2021/KIA/FORTE [RED]	3K9F244D21ME309219	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]	2FMDK3GC4CBA56437	EVIDENCE	43028	2022-084695	2007/NISSAN/SENTRA [WHITE]	3N1AB61EX7L613562	ARREST
41470	2021-053057	2016/JEEP/PATRIOT [SILVER]	1C4NYPF88G0655496	STOLEN	43030	2022-084863	2007/FORD/ESCAPE [YELLOW]	1FMYU03171KA98280	ABANDON
41545	2021-063453	2012/DODGE/RAM 3500	1C3CC86G8CN183057	ABANDON	43032	2022-084393	2003/GMC/YUKON [BLACK]	1GKFK162231314117	EVIDENCE
41670	2021-070895	2007/FORD/MUSTANG [BLUE]	12VFT34N1775228979	ABANDON	43058	2022-068125	2012/HONDA/ACCORD [GRAY]	1HGCP2F82CA097929	STOLEN
41593	2021-058628	2002/GMC/YUKON [WHITE]	16KXK53U12119416	EVIDENCE	43065	2022-087203	2018/DODGE/CHALLENGER [GRAY]	2C3CD287XJH271792	STOLEN
41612	2021-093160	2016/HONDA/PILOT [GRAY]	5FNYF5H41G8015253	STOLEN	43069	2022-080153	2017/FORD/F150 [WHITE]	1FTEW1EF11HK029335	STOLEN
41733	2021-085757	2019/FORD/FUSION [GRAY]	3FA6P0CD4XR140422	ABANDON	43070	2022-087777	2013/HONDA/ACCORD [BLACK]	1HGCR2F58DA0A215555	EVIDENCE
41818	2021-077777	2002/BUICK/PARK AVENUE [WHITE]	1G4CW540424141729	ABANDON	43073	2022-088429	1994/TOYOTA/CAMRY [BLACK]	4T1SK13E3RU447309	EVIDENCE
41882	2021-103624	2013/CHEVROLET/MALIBU [WHITE]	1G11B55A00F232885	EVIDENCE	43075	2022-088579	2006/HONDA/ACCORD [SILVER]	1HGCM56786A091445	ABANDON
41991	2021-118225	2006/KIA/SPECTRA [BLUE]	KNAFE1211665263805	ABANDON	43079	2022-089054	NA/PERMOBILE/WHEELCHAIR [BLACK]	5N# 2524013520	OTHER
42015	2021-119528	2004/HONDA/ACCORD [MAROON]	1HGCM66584A047799	STOLEN	43081	2022-089360	2004/CHEVROLET/SILVERADO [WHITE]	1GCHC24J44E399572	ABANDON
42064	2021-126552	2010/HONDA/ACCORD [RED]	1HGCS18B3AA010180	ABANDON	43085	2022-089616	2001/FORD/RANGER [YELLOW]	1FTYR14E1T7B08016	ABANDON
42065	2021-1225997	1983/CHRYSLER/NEW WORKER [BEIGE]	2C3BF66P2D0130167	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]	1FTRY1DC9WU993479	ABANDON	43088	2022-089853	1999/FORD/EXPEDITION [BLUE]	1FMRU17L7KLA42137	ABANDON
42186	2021-147300	2006/PONTIAC/G6 [BLACK]	1G2ZF5S8264201935	ABANDON	43092	2022-090208	2002/HYUNDAI/ELANTRA [BEIGE]	KMH0N45D82U36926	ABANDON
42444	2022-018922	2010/FORD/F150 [BLACK]	1FTFW1E1V6AFC27887	ABANDON	43094	2022-090291	2010/HYUNDAI/ELANTRA [SILVER]	KMH0U4A03AU964922	ABANDON
42462	2022-019887	2003/TOYOTA/HIGHLANDER [GOLD]	JTEGJ1J230107423	EVIDENCE	43098	2022-090681	2010/VOLKSWAGEN/JETTA [BLACK]	3VWJZ7A05AM003457	ABANDON
42493	2022-023894	2002/FORD/TAURUS [TAN]	1FAFP55U1X2A145273	ABANDON	43099	2022-090745	2014/NISSAN/SENTRA [BLACK]	3N1AB7AF3EY230148	ABANDON
42546	2022-030678	2008/NISSAN/ALTIMA [MAROON]	1N4BL11086N364739	ABANDON	43100	2022-152075	2020/FORD/MUSTANG [WHITE]	1FATP8UJH6L5113553	STOLEN
42671	2022-044238	2019/MERCEDES/C63 [BLACK]	WDDWKB8G87KF869310	ABANDON	43101	2022-090771	2018/DODGE/CHARGER [BLUE]	2C3CDXBG9H3125124	STOLEN
42676	2022-045038	1998/DODGE/DAKOTA [WHITE]	1B7GL2X9VWS506984	ABANDON	43103	2022-091139	2005/DODGE/DURANGO [MAROON]	1D4HD59055F596533	ABANDON
42698	2022-044779	2010/HONDA/ACCORD [SILVER]	1HGCP2F30AA065837	ABANDON	43104	2022-091170	1995/MERCEDES/E CLASS [BLACK]	WDBEA34E05C197049	OTHER
42724	2022-049540	2019/NISSAN/FRONTIER [SILVER]	1N6DD0ER8KN710179	STOLEN	43105	2022-091334	1992/FORD/F150 [WHITE]	1FTDF15H0LA70429	ABANDON
42751	2022-002541	1997/NISSAN/ALTIMA [SILVER]	1N4AL3AP1HC499447	OTHER	43106	2022-091522	1997/TOYOTA/CAMRY [MAROON]	JT2BF22K4V0083191	ABANDON
42753	2022-053566	1990/FORD/ECONOLINE [WHITE]	1FDKE37H7LHA52551	ABANDON	43109	2022-092407	2007/PONTIAC/G6 [RED]	1G2ZF5S887H208045	ABANDON
42756	2022-053887	2005/TOYOTA/CAMRY [GRAY]	4T1BA32K95U067925	ABANDON	43114	2022-092869	2005/CHEVROLET/IMPALA [GRAY]	2G1WV157X93125279	ABANDON
41355	2022-039589	2000/HONDA/ACCORD [BLUE]	1HGCG5664Y014640	ABANDON	43116	2022-092975	2005/PONTIAC/G6 [WHITE]	1G2AL15F67Y195736	ABANDON
41442	2021-042066	2013/NISSAN/MAXIMA [BLACK]	1N4AASAP8DC838118	STOLEN	43125	2022-093783	2008/FORD/EXPLORER [WHITE]	1FMEU6J608U4A5623	ABANDON
41324	2021-037104	2010/HYUNDAI/ELANTRA [GOLD]	KMH0U4M402AU981792	ABANDON	43138	2022-095320	2012/DODGE/CHALLENGER [BLACK]	2C3CDYAG8CH039968	STOLEN
41517	2021-777777	2004/HONDA/ACCORD [GOLD]	1HGCM568984A038636	OTHER	43143	2022-095919	2003/GMC/SIERRA [MAROON]	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 [MAROON]	2MEFM74W41X154055	ARREST
40964	2020-183973	2001/FORD/MUSTANG [WHITE]	1FAFP42K33F107023	ABANDON	43177	2022-100816	2005/CHEVROLET/MALIBU [SILVER]	1G1ZT548X5F106909	ABANDON
41019	2020-006940	2015/KIA/SPORTAGE [WHITE]	5XNVK1A474FG587549	ABANDON	43188	2022-101882	2012/FORD/FUSION [BLACK]	3FAHP0LA5CR1211123	STOLEN
41109	2021-002046	2017/CHRYSLER/200 [BLUE]	1C3CCCA811HN504212	EVIDENCE	43189	2020-012648	2003/CHEVROLET/TRAILBLAZER [WHITE]	1GN0S135332142003	ARREST
41211	2021-022089	2002/CHEVROLET/EXPRESS [WHITE]	1GCFG25M721184515	ABANDON	43196	2020-087934	1998/FORD/EXPEDITION [BLACK]	1FMRU18W9WLC29002	ABANDON
41339	2021-038469	2000/HONDA/ACCORD [GREEN]	1HGCG5679YAD48023	ABANDON	43209	2020-091639	2003/CHEVROLET/IMPALA [TAN]	2G1WH52K339439646	ABANDON
41710	2021-082330	2011/CHEVROLET/IMPALA [SILVER]	2G1WTF5E6K8B1131053	ABANDON	43151	2020-091699	2007/HONDA/ACCORD [BLUE]	JHMCM56357C010269	ABANDON
41521	2021-059687	2004/VOLKSWAGEN/JETTA [SILVER]	3VW5K69M4M140970	ABANDON	43173	2021-193934	2012/HYUNDAI/ACCENT [BLUE]	KMHCUJAESCU038115	STOLEN
41745	2021-087384	2007/CADILLAC/CTS [GOLD]	16GDP577770113079	ABANDON	41798	2021-091696	2005/HONDA/ACCORD [GRAY]	3HGCM564K5G708706	ABANDON
41047	2021-004740	1999/LEXUS/RX300 [WHITE]	JTB6H10U5X0036553	ABANDON	41327	2021-037153	1999/ACURA/TL [BLACK]	1FUJAS6613AD12220	ABANDON
42001	2021-118085	2020/MITSUBISHI/MIRAGE [GRAY]	ML32F4FJ6HFD6815	OTHER	41885	2021-103875	2018/JEEP/PATRIOT [BLUE]	1J8GNC2P6G1A166474	ABANDON
42042	2021-046167	1999/LEXUS/RX300 [WHITE]	JTB6G10U6J0018056	ARREST	42081	2021-127914	2015/NISSA/PERSAT NOTE [WHITE]	3N1CE2CP6G1A15037	ABANDON
42050	2021-124980	1998/DODGE/RAM [YELLOW]	3B7HF13127W6146174	ARREST	42117	2021-1121231	2001/FORD/F150 [BLACK]	1FTRW0BL71K739791	EVIDENCE
42051	2021-124680	2005/BUICK/LESABRE [SILVER]	1G4HPS2K45U115593	ABANDON	42194	2021-141701	1992/FORD/F350 BUS [WHITE]	1F0KE30G6NHA44856	ABANDON
42026	2021-121431	2010/KIA/OPTIMA [BLACK]	KNA6G4482AS410869	ABANDON	42221	2021-145010	1996/CHEVROLET/1500 [GREEN]	1GCEC14M17Z113707	ABANDON
42030	2021-121450	2006/CHRYSLER/300 [TAN]	2C3KAA3R56H367069	ABANDON	41706	2021-082182	2002/JEEP/GRAND CHEROKEE [WHITE]	1J4GXA8N9C2C10898	OTHER
42061	2021-126267	2016/NISSAN/ALTIMA [MAROON]	1N4AL3AP1GC288327	EVIDENCE	41508	2021-057933	1985/PONTIAC/GRAND PRIDE [MAROON]	2G2GP37HDF2225361	ABANDON
42084	2021-128146	2004/CHEVROLET/MALIBU [WHITE]	1G1ZT579484204933	ARREST	41286	2021-021953	2004/DODGE/STRATUS [BLUE]	1B3EL36X84N229278	STOLEN
42105	2021-130867	2006/FORD/MUSTANG [GRAY]	12VFT30N465252156	EVIDENCE	41474	2021-053663	1992/TOYOTA/COROLLA [SILVER]	1N4AE91A5N2382538	ABANDON
42137	2021-135818	2001/FORD/EXPLORER [GOLD]	1FMYU60E81UC77300	ABANDON	41468	2021-047980	2017/HONDA/ACCORD [BLACK]	1HGCR2F54HA077172	EVIDENCE
42165	2021-129777	2004/HONDA/ACCORD [WHITE]	1HGCM56844A163389	OTHER	41382	2021-043823	2004/FORD/F150 [GREEN]	1FTEK15M4PKB32989	ABANDON
42166	2021-777777	1994/DODGE/RAM [GREEN]	1B7HC16Y94S543961	ARREST	42247	2022-000279	2004/MERCURY/MARINER [SILVER]	4M2CNGH75AUX03516	ABANDON
42171	2021-113877	2015/FORD/150 [WHITE]	1FTEW1EFPK3D74961	STOLEN	42307	2022-005801	2007/DODGE/CHARGER [BLACK]	2B3KA43G47H876700	EVIDENCE
42178	2021-140146	2006/PONTIAC/G6 [SILVER]	1G2ZH558964292961	ABANDON	42338	2022-009268	2005/FORD/EXPEDITION [BLUE]	1FMRU17515LA49943	EVIDENCE
42278	2022-003069	2007/CHEVROLET/IMPALA [SILVER]	2G1WU58R279405090	ABANDON	42395	2022-014183	2003/NISSAN/ALTIMA [BLACK]	1N4AL11D25N800482	ABANDON
42387	2022-013379	2003/NISSAN/ALTIMA [SILVER]	1N4AL11D63C307653	ABANDON	42508	2022-025792	2004/NISSAN/MAXIMA [GOLD]	1N4BA41E84C834521	OTHER
42436	2022-017939	2009/FORD/FUSION [WHITE]	3FAHP071599R216624	ABANDON	42537	2022-028295	2006/NISSAN/ALTIMA [WHITE]	1N4AL11D66C108056	EVIDENCE
42529	2022-022632	2012/CHEVROLET/MALIBU [SILVER]	1G1ZD050CF369227	ABANDON	42715	2022-049987	2021/MAZDA/3 [RED]	JM1BPAB0UM1337485	ABANDON
42580	2022-034475	2018/HONDA/ACCORD [RED]	1HGCV1F3X0A256536	ARREST	40186	2020-076717	2006/FORD/EXPEDITION [SILVER]	1FMRU15546LA57335	ABANDON
42624	2022-039571	2003/CHEVROLET/TAHOE [GOLD]	1GNEC132938285186	ABANDON	43204	2022-087506	2018/DODGE/CHALLENGER [BLACK]	2C3C02B7XJH717192	STOLEN

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://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

LEGAL

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

TONY RAY CALVIN JR. PETITIONER
VERSUS CAUSE NO: 2020-1297
JABRIANNA 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 11th day of April 2023. in the courtroom of the Hinds County Chancery Courthouse 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 2/9/2023 2/16/2023

HELP WANTED

Socrates Garrett Enterprises looking for an experienced and passionate coffee roaster to join our team! This role requires at least two years of experience in 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, 2659 Livingston Rd, Jackson, MS 39213, Ph 601-896-0084 - #CoffeeLove #CoffeeRoaster

2/9/2023

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

Advertisement for RFQ (Request for Qualifications)

RFQ 2023-02 Project Management Services

Electronic RFQ proposals for the above RFQ will be received by the Board of Trustees of the Jackson Public School District, in the Business Office, 6622 South President Street, Jackson, Mississippi, until 10:00 A.M. (Local Prevailing Time), March 01, 2023 at which time and place they will be publicly opened and read aloud.

A Pre-Submission Conference at 2:00 p.m. CST on Thursday, February 23, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. (CST) at Enochs Administrative Complex, 101 Dr. Dennis Holloway Drive, Jackson, MS 39203. Attendance at the PreSubmission Conference is not mandatory, but strongly suggested. The Board of Trustees reserves the right to reject any and all RFQs, to waive informalities, and to withhold the acceptance of any RFQ if approved for forty-five calendar days from the date RFQs are opened.

There are two (2) options in which RFQ 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 RFQs proposals at no cost. For any questions concerning the process, or how to register, please contact Central Bidding at 225-810-4814.

Special Notice
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.

2/9/2023, 2/16/2023

LEGAL

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF MARY BENFORD DECEASED CAUSE NO.: P2022-31-M/4

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Letters of Administration having been granted on the 25TH day of October, 2022 by the Chancery Court of Hinds County, Mississippi, First Judicial District, to the undersigned Administrator of the Estate of Mary Benford, deceased, notice is hereby given to all persons having claims against the estate to present the same to the Clerk of this Court for probate and registration according to law, within ninety (90) days from the first publication of this notice, or they will be forever barred.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED this the 3rd day of February, 2023.

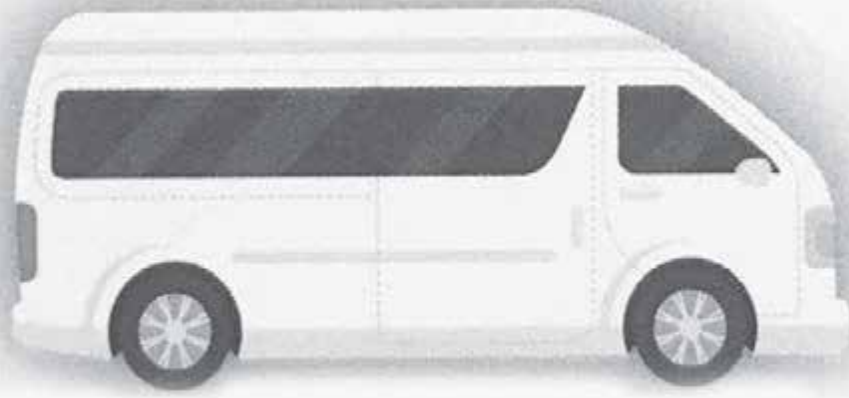
, ADMINISTRATOR OF THE ESTATE OF MARY BENFORD, DECEASED

TERRANCE BENFORD

2/9/2023 2/16/2023 2/23/2023

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Sudoku

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

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

© Feature Exchange

Sudoku Solution

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

© Feature Exchange



ADDENDUM #1

NOTICE TO DEALERS IN: TRAFFIC PAINT

RE: Bid # 63066-020723 Eighteen-Month Supply of Traffic Paint
Posted to: City Website, State Website, and Central Bidding to open on February 07, 2023
New Opening Date: February 14, 2023

The Purchasing Division for the City of Jackson issued the above bid that reflected an incorrect term of the above bid. The correct term for this bid is March 1, 2023- September 30, 2024.

Due to the above conflict, we will be advertising and extending the Bid Opening Date to Tuesday, February 14, 2023.

We apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused you and thank you for submitting a bid with the City of Jackson. If you should have any additional questions, please contact me @ (601) 960-1028.

Sincerely,

Monica Oliver, Purchasing Manager
Purchasing Division

PLEASE READ, SIGN AND RETURN COMPLETED FORM INDICATING YOUR ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF ADDENDUM.

Please fax to (601) 960-1049 or send by return mail to City of Jackson, Purchasing Division, P. O. Box 17, Jackson, Mississippi 39205.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT TO ADDENDUM SUBMITTED BY:

Company Name _____ Mailing of _____
Bidding _____ Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Name of Person Submitting Bid (Type or Print) _____

Date _____, 2023 Email Address: _____

Telephone No.: () _____ Fax No.: () _____

LEGAL

NOTICE TO BIDDERS
City of Jackson
Jackson, Mississippi

Sealed, signed bids are invited and will be received by the City of Jackson, Mississippi, until 3:30 P.M. in the City Clerk's Office of Jackson, the bid must be stamped in by 3:30 P.M. Tuesday, February 14, 2023, at which time said bids will be publicly opened at the City Hall located at 219 South President Street (City Council Chambers) in City Hall for the following:

63066-021423 Eighteen-Month Supply of Traffic Paint

BIDS ARE NOW AVAILABLE AT WWW.JACKSONMS.GOV & WWW.CENTRALBIDDING.COM

"Official bid documents can be downloaded from Central Bidding at www.centralbidding.com. Electronic bids and/or reverse auction bids can be submitted www.centralbidding.com. For any question relating to the electronic bidding process, please call Central Bidding at 225-810-4814."

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

The City of Jackson is committed to the principle of non-discrimination in Public Purchasing. It is the policy of the City of Jackson to promote full and equal business opportunities for all persons doing business with the City. As a pre-condition to selection, each contractor, bidder or offer shall submit a completed and signed Equal Business Opportunity (EBO) Plan Application, with each bid submission, in accordance with the provisions set forth by authority of the City of Jackson's EBO Ordinance. Failure to comply with the City's EBO Ordinance shall disqualify a contractor, bidder or offer, from being awarded an eligible contract. For more information on the City's EBO Program, please contact the Office of Economic Development at (601)960-1851. Copies of the EBO Ordinance, EBO Plan Application and a copy of the EBO Program are available with the Office of Economic Development at 218 South President Street, Second Floor, and Jackson, Mississippi.

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

Monica Oliver, Purchasing Manager
Purchasing Division
(601) 960-1025 or (601) 960-1028

MO/m
63066

2/9/2023

MCAN

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Week of January 08, 2023



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Celebrating 20 years of service in the Greater Jackson Area.

Jackson Public School District celebrates Black History by highlighting trailblazers

JACKSON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

CELEBRATE OUR BLACK HISTORY.

Black History Month is a time to pay tribute to the generations of African-Americans who struggled with adversity to achieve freedom and equality in American society.

This year, JPS celebrates its black history by highlighting the people and stories that trailblazed the path to where it is today - a successful school district in the heart of Mississippi.



JACKSON.K12.MS.US



Gladys Noel Bates was an African-American civil rights pioneer and educator who led legal action for salary equality for African American teachers and principals in the 1950s. The case was a landmark and forerunner for school desegregation cases of the 1950s. The fallout from her action forced Bates and her family to leave Mississippi. She and her husband moved to Denver, Colorado, where she received numerous awards for her achievements as an educator and community leader. Today, Bates Elementary School is named in her honor. She was the only living school namesake on opening day at Bates Elementary September 14, 2010. She passed away one month later, on October 15, 2010.

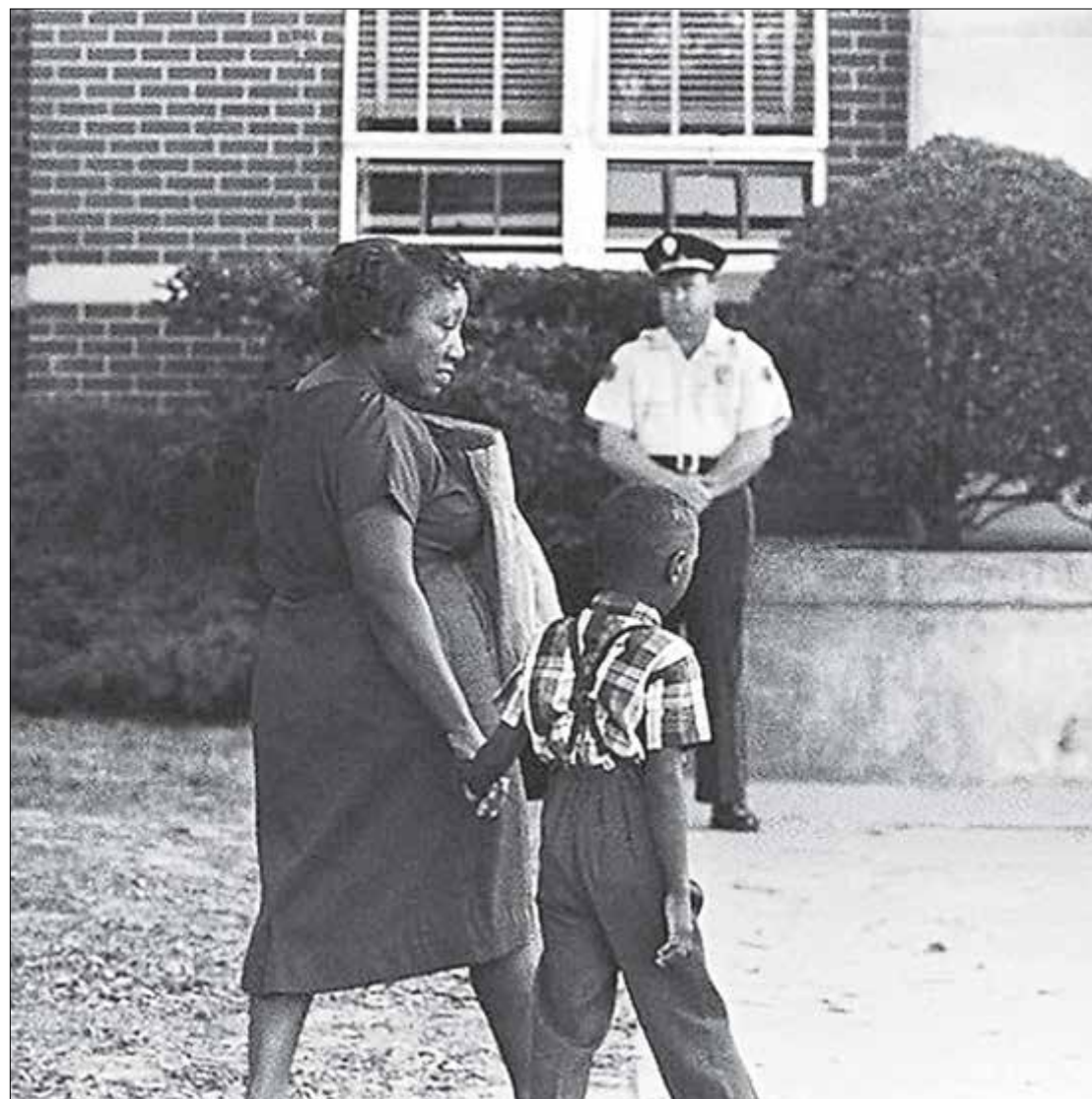
Thomas W. Cardozo was born in Charleston, South Carolina, to a freeborn African American and a Jewish journalist. After he was married, he moved to Vicksburg, Mississippi, where he became involved in building up the education, economics and political power of African Americans in Mississippi. He was the first African American to serve as superintendent of education for the state of Mississippi. As state superintendent, he was interested in the education of all children even though the public schools were segregated. The statewide adoption of uniform textbooks was a reform that he supported. After serving as state superintendent, he moved to Massachusetts, where he died in 1881. Today, Cardozo Middle School is named in his honor.



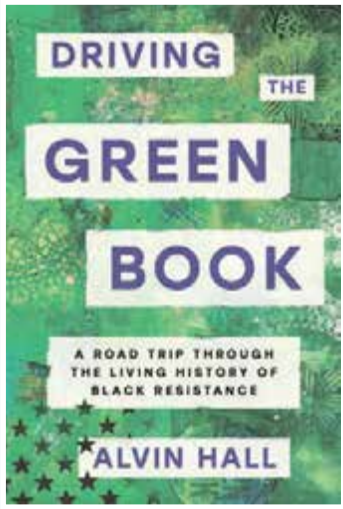
The 1964-1965 Lanier High School Basketball Team, coached by Mississippi Sports Hall of Famer Orsmond Jordan, completed a perfect undefeated season (43-0). The Bulldogs averaged 102 points per game and won by an average of 40 points. They won a national championship, beating a team from Virginia in a post-season tournament in Montgomery, Alabama.



Professor Sam Brinkley visits an elementary classroom. Samuel Manual Brinkley was a Jackson native who attended Tougaloo College and Campbell College. He was the principal at schools in Crystal Springs, Utica and Collins. He taught at Alcorn and returned to Jackson as assistant principal at Smith Robertson. He later served as teaching principal of the first organized junior high school program for black pupils in the Jackson Public Schools. Brinkley Middle School is named in his honor.



An African-American first grader clutched his mother's hand as he arrived for the first day of school at the previously all-white Davis Elementary School (now Barack Obama Magnet Elementary School) in Jackson on Sept. 14, 1964. Black students could voluntarily integrate into white schools back then, but local public schools would not fully integrate until 1970. AP PHOTO



BOOK REVIEW:

DRIVING THE GREEN BOOK:

A ROAD TRIP THROUGH THE LIVING HISTORY OF BLACK RESISTANCE

BY ALVIN HALL

C.2022, HARPERONE

\$29.99 • 288 PAGES

By Terri Schlichenmeyer
Columnist

The gas tank is full of fuel. The tires are new, you checked the oil twice, the speedometer’s calibrated, your headlights are intact, all good.

The vehicle’s not flashy, so there’s absolutely no reason to attract attention. And yet, as in “Driving the Green Book” by Alvin Hall and as your ancestors did, you sweat that all-day road-trip.

In 2015, while doing research for a podcast, Alvin Hall discovered something that intrigued and

surprised him: one of his sources mentioned The Negro Motorist Green Book. Granted, when he was small, his family didn’t travel much from their home on Florida’s panhandle but still – how did Hall not know about that book? Surely, his aunts had one, right? How did The Green Book escape notice by his and other generations, when it was such an essential part of Black America for decades?

Needing to know, and needing to understand what it was like to “drive the Green Book,” Hall and two younger colleagues took

a roadtrip after the podcast was done. They started in Detroit and traveled through small towns and cities, Cleveland and Cincinnati, Louisville, Nashville, Memphis, Birmingham and Montgomery, Mobile, Jackson, ending in New Orleans, which was the approximate route a northern-living, Jim-Crow-escaping Great Migration worker might have taken on an annual trek to visit kin back home in the South.

That route, as Hall points out, could’ve been uncomfortable, at best, or dangerous, at worst.

Not all gas stations, restau-

rants, or hotels welcomed blacks; some places actively chased them off with threats or more. The Green Book, “small and thin” and meant to be tucked inside the glove box, changed all that with a guide to help the black traveler find safe accommodations, fuel and places to avoid.

With the latter in mind, Hall and his fellow travelers took to the road, and while they drove, they separately wondered if they’d be stopped by a policeman.

An adult man and two younger women – they could handle a

stop like that today, right? So what was DWB like in 1945?



Also relevant: how far have we come? That question, a ton of relevance, and a small whiff of threat accompany every mile that author Alvin Hall writes about, and in “Driving The Green Book,” we’re taken along for that ride.

Maybe you’ve seen the movie or read about The Green Book elsewhere, but those things pale in comparison to the stories Hall tells. These are tales of making do in embarrassing ways to avoid

jail, of sleeping on concrete, of driving as an act of defiance, and of being warned to leave town or else.

These authentic tales, told by experts and those who “lived” the Green Book, are like punches to the gut, but they aren’t surprising. They’re shocking but not unexpected. “We’re still living it,” says Hall, and that’s just plain sobering.

Readers who love to travel will want to tuck this in their carry-on or console. If there’s a bit of quiet activism inside you, “Driving The Green Book” will fuel it.



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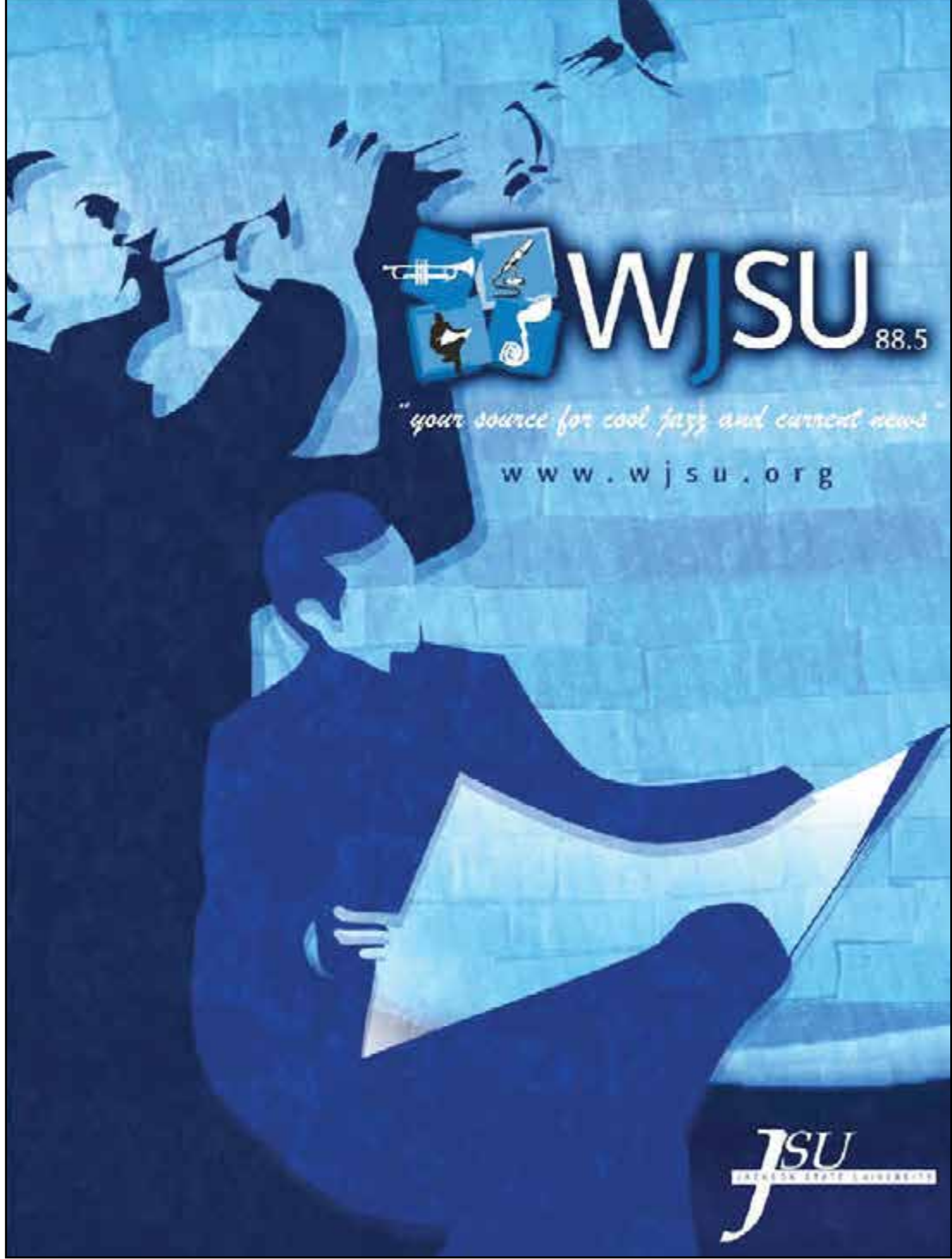
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T.C. Taylor formally introduced as “The Man” for Jackson State

By Timothy Ward
Sports Writer

Before a packed room last Wednesday Night, Jackson State introduced new head coach T.C. Taylor and his staff. “It means everything to be named head coach,” Taylor said. “It means coming up as a kid being a fan in that (Veterans Memorial) stadium. It has been a dream of mine to be a coach here. But to be a head coach with some of the names that have been through here, W.C. Gordon, James Carson and Coach Prime (Sanders). Those are big shoes to fill, but I am excited.” Taylor played quarterback and wide receiver for JSU from 1998-2001. In 19 games as a receiver, he caught 188 passes for 1793 yards. He set the single-season school record with 84 receptions for 1234 yards and 11 touchdowns.

He is an offensive minded coach. Taylor was the wide receivers’ coach on Deion Sanders’ staff. Sanders openly endorsed Taylor to replace him. Taylor began coaching at Coahoma Community College in 2005. He started as the quarterbacks’ coach and eventually worked himself up to offensive coordinator before leaving in 2011. He would go on to coach wide receivers at Texas Southern in 2012 and 2013. From 2014 to 2018, Taylor was the quarterbacks’ coach and offensive coordinator at North Carolina Central. During his tenure, NC Central won 3 consecutive MEAC championships from 2014-2016. He returned to Jackson State in 2019 as a part of John Hendricks’ coaching staff. “Guard Thee Yard & Protect Thee Block” are the themes for the upcoming season. Taylor and his staff have hit the ground running. JSU signed over 24 new recruits, named Maurice Harris as the offensive



JSU Tiger coach TC Taylor

PHOTOS BY TIMOTHY WARD



Taylor warming up players at the Celebration Bowl.



Ready for next season already.

coordinator, named Jonathan Bradley as the defensive coordinator, among several other coach staff changes. Coaches who stayed are Otis Riddle, who is now assistant head coach/tight ends. Jeff Weeks is now senior defensive analyst/special teams, and Brandon Morton is now the running backs’ coach. Other coaches and staff include Jason

Onyebuagu, co-offensive coordinator/offensive line; RJ Fleming, wide receivers; Quinn Billerman, quarterbacks; Tyquan Hammock, linebackers; Terenzo Quinn, defensive backs/defensive passing game coordinator; Jaylon Watson; director of player personnel; and Jashell Mitchell, assistant athletic director, football operations. Tiger Nation is ecstatic about

coach Taylor. The hashtag #play4TC has been all over social media. Many Tiger fans love the fact that he is home-grown. He’s one of them. He knows and accepts the challenges of leading a successful HBCU program. He thrived as an athlete, setting records. He’s been on championship winning coaching staffs in the MEAC and at JSU. He’s a Tiger through

and through. He took an extra minute to soak in the warm reception he received when introduced. “Fired up J-STATE” boomed throughout the room. Taylor said he waited a long time for that. Now that the recruits have been signed, coaches named, the next order of business is answering the questions, who’s

going to be the next starting quarterback at JSU. Three candidates so far are Zy McDonald (5-10, 185), a transfer from Louisiana, who also starred at Ridgeland High School; Jason Brown (6-2, 205), a transfer from Virginia Tech; and Phillip Short (6-2, 215) from Holmes Community College and a former standout at Madison-Ridgeland Academy.



Gaddy key defensive player returning.

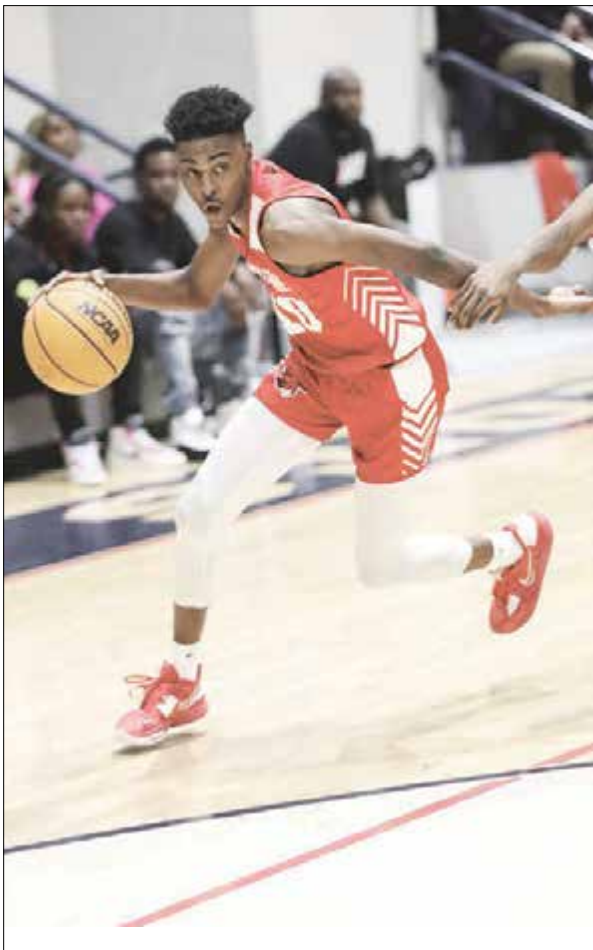
The road to the Big House begins now

By Timothy Ward
Sports Writer

The high school playoffs began this week. Some of the top boys and girls teams in the metro started on the road to the championship game in March at the coliseum. Starting with the girls, number 1 ranked Germantown is 23-2 on the season. Powered by Texas signee Madison Booker, the Lady Mavericks are looking to capture that elusive state championship. Booker’s teammate, Alana Rouser, is also a major player for the Germantown to watch. Number 8 ranked Callaway is 22-5 on the season. Head coach Ashli Sutton has turned the Lady Chargers around this year. Sophomore Jahanna Wilson, averaging 14.5 points this season, is one of the catalysts. Callaway is a young feisty and scrappy team that plays hard. Clinton Lady Arrows and Brandon Lady Bulldogs are ranked 12th and 14th respectively. On the boys side, number 4 ranked Raymond and defending 4A champions are 21-6 on the season. The Rangers are fa-



Alana Rouser Germantown Lady Mavericks
PHOTOS BY TIMOTHY WARD



Jacobi Thompson Provine Rams



Jahanna Wilson Callaway Lady Chargers



LeDerius Boyd Terry Bulldogs

vored to repeat once again. Number 11 ranked Yazoo City Indians are 23 and 5 are

making some noise this year. Provine is the only JPS boys teams ranked in the top 25. A

surprise to some, not that the Rams are ranked, they’ve been playing well and trending up

the past couple of seasons. The surprise is that they’re the only ranked JPS boys team.

Canton, Terry and Brandon are ranked 13th, 16th and 24th respectively.

Hinds County School District Weekly Update

ENGAGING-EMPOWERING-ENSURING-EXCELLENCE

Hinds County School District recognizes and shows appreciation to all of our school counselors. We appreciate you being that extra voice to help our students accomplish their dreams.

Thank you:

- Alyssa Taylor - Raymond Elementary School
- Anthony Wingate - Terry High School
- Deandria Sylvester - Carver Middle School/Main Street Restart Center
- Roshunda Edwards - Gary Road Elementary School
- Emanuel Barnes - Utica Elementary/Middle School
- Shenecia Stamps Bush - Gary Road Intermediate School
- Dessie Gills - Career and Technical Center
- Stacey Michel - Terry High School
- Kristin Sullivan - Byram Middle School
- Kimberly Vangordon - Byram Middle School
- Andrea Smith Johnson - Bolton/Edwards Elementary/Middle School
- Whitney Hayes - Gary Road Elementary School
- Dawn Pace - Terry High
- Ericka Allen - Byram Middle School
- Yolanda Green - Terry High School
- Sundra King - Raymond High School
- Keisha Davis - Raymond High School
- Yolanda Dunham - Gary Road Intermediate School

