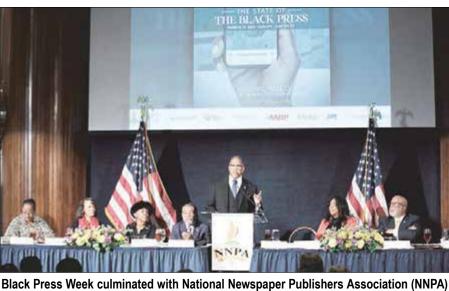
Vol. 29, No. 23 MARCH 23 - 29, 2023

At the State of the Black Press Address, breaking news and a Global Media app take center stage



President and CEO Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis Jr., delivering the State of the Black Press.



Cong. Bennie Thompson speaking at National Press Club luncheon during Black Press Week. PHOTOS BY MARK MAHONEY, DREAMINCOLOR

By Stacy M. Brown

NNPA Newswire Senior Correspondent

More than 30 NNPA publishers and journalists followed up the address with a special White House visit in which Shalanda Young, the director of the U.S. Office of Management and Budget, and White House Press Secretary Karine Jean-Pierre spoke exclusively to the group. Young, the first black woman to lead the White House budget office, detailed the importance of the president's fiscal plan to communities of color.

Jean-Pierre engaged the NNPA

in her office, where she promised that the administration has continued to push for equity and equality for black Americans.

"I would happily argue with anyone that this administration has done more for black people than any other administration in history," Jean-Pierre proclaimed.

Though she acknowledged there's still more work needed legislatively, Jean-Pierre noted what the Biden-Harris administration has accomplished through executive orders and legislation like the American Rescue Plan, the Child Tax Credit, a historic Black Press and broke the kind

more than \$6 billion to HBCUs, of news sure to go viral. and other measures.

"The president," she said, "ensured that our community didn't get left behind."

Before the trip to the West Wing, Dr. Chavis delivered a searing message about where the Black Press stands as the institution celebrates its 196th year.

The March 17 luncheon held at the National Press Club included remarks from Mississippi Democratic Congressman Bennie Thompson, who highlighted the crucial need for a thriving

Thompson, who deftly led the Congressional investigation into the January 6, 2021 insurrection, told the large Press Club gathering that he expects a federal special counsel to hand up indictments in the coming weeks.

"As for January 6, what you saw with your eyes is the absolute truth," Thompson remarked. "Don't believe [FOX host] Tucker Carlson. Who are you going to believe, him or your lying eyes."

Thompson reminisced about

Black Press Continued on page 3

Future of Jackson's trash pickup just days away

By Christopher Young Contributing Writer

On April 1, 2022, Richards Disposal, Inc. began picking up solid waste in Jackson under an emergency contract, set to last one year. We are now one week away from that contract expiring and Jackson Mayor Chokwe Antar Lumumba insists that trash will continue to be picked

Lumumba had vetoed the Jackson City Council's 4-3 no vote in February 2022, on awarding the contract to Richards Disposal. Most of the council initially had voted for Richards, but then Councilwoman Lindsay changed her vote, which aligned her with what had been the lockstep votes of Councilmen Stokes, Hartley and Banks.

So the mayor moved forward with his veto, and the City Council filed suit, setting off a firestorm of litigation, costing the city untold hundreds of thousands of dollars, that ultimately ended up at the Mississippi Supreme Court. Two weeks ago, they held with the lower courts ruling that the mayor is not legally entitled to veto, a no vote or a negative action.

On March 13, 2023, the *Clari*on Ledger reported, "Lumumba said that Richard's Disposal remains the winning bid and will continue to be the garbage con-



Richard's Disposal, Inc. truck at staging area on March 21, 2023. PHOTO BY CHRISTOPHER YOUNG

tractor when the city's emergency contract expires at the end of March." On March 21,2023, veteran reporter Ross Reily wrote for the Clarion Ledger, "with a March 31 deadline looming before the current Richard's Disposal contract with Jackson for trash pickup expires, Mayor Chokwe Antar Lumumba said in a Monday press conference after Mississippi Supreme Court ruled against him in his fight with the Jackson City Council over garbage collection, that he intends to put a new contract before the city council in the ongo-

ing saga over trash pickup." He added, "Last week, Lumumba issued a statement, saying the ruling "changes nothing."

Reily focused on the cost saving realized by Richards in comparison to the other two bidders, FCC and Waste Management, and included their 2021 bids in the Table shown on page 3.

Additionally, Reily writes, "Also, according to letters provided by the city to the Clarion Ledger, Jackson has reached out within the last two weeks to discern if previous quotes are still valid."

In a brief summary, on March 10, 2023, FCC indicated that they cannot honor the initial pricing due to changing market conditions. Waste Management indicated March 10, 2023 that the RFP is no longer in effect and that they would be happy to participate in a new RFP process. On March 13, 2023, Richard's Disposal indicated that they would honor the initial pricing for two times per week pickup with or without a cart. They also indicate that if a new

> Trash Continued on page 3

Public health and welfare in Mississippi



File photo: Mississippi Capitol

By Christopher Young Contributing Writer

During last year's regular legislative session there were 2,981 bills introduced and 374 were approved by the Governor and seven became law without his approval, per the Senate Summary that was published May 4, 2022, and also includes data from the House (http://www.legislature. ms.gov/media/1289/senatesummary 2022.pdf).

Thinking so often about the high levels of poverty and homelessness in Mississippi, the poorest state in the country, it seemed like a good idea to see what bills were signed into law that were tied to public health and welfare, and there were 14 found.

In brief summary, SB2095 enacted the Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act. SB2421 gave grants to physicians who were recruited under a certain program. SB2725 directs that healthcare providers give patient records to patients within 30 days of request. SB2818 related to Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act. SB2820 was the COVID-19 Hospital Expanded Capacity Program. SB2899 requires health insurance plans or programs with employers of less than 100 people to offer benefits for the treatment of mental illness.

Bills signed into law from the House were, HB20 "Cole's Law" which prohibits discrimination against recipients of an anatomical gifts based on any disabilities the recipient may have. HB 232 adds several fentanyl related substances to Schedule I (no legitimate medical use), as well as other substances to Schedules II, III, IV and V. HB365 establishes a Mississippi Rural Hospital Loan Program. HB424 enacts an Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology Interstate Compact. HB732 states the intent of the legislature to comply with the National Suicide Hotline Designation Act of 2020 - the 9-8-8 hotline and designates a study commission that must report its finding to the legislature and the governor by November 1, 2023. HB927 ensures that all testing of newborns is in accord with the Recommended Uniform

COMMENTARY

Screening Panel. HB1056 enacts a Professional Counseling Compact with other states.

There were fourteen new laws - impacting all Mississippians under the heading of public health and welfare. While none of these new laws spoke directly to poverty and homelessness, they do seem to represent progress, which is so needed here. Who knows, maybe there were some that didn't make it out of committee and could be attempted again in upcoming legislative sessions.

Poverty, in a country as wealthy as ours, is difficult to grasp. Many say our wealth gap in the United States is both the cause and effect. In Mississippi that could be true as well. Do we see any of our elected officials at the capitol demanding an end to poverty and homelessness? Perhaps if they are doing fine in their own lives, they are less concerned with those who are not.

When it comes to household wealth in the United States, the Federal Reserve maintains data. They reported in 1990 that white households owned 90.7% of the country's wealth, with black households owning 3.8%, and Hispanics 2.1%. Thirty years later, in 2019, the numbers were 85.5% white, 4.2% black, and 3.1% His-

For those that do not have that wealth, there is often more to the story. An ongoing US Census Bureau Pulse Survey in the first two weeks of February found that 36% of consumers nationwide are finding it "somewhat difficult" or "very difficult" to pay their usual bills. That's up from 25% one year ago. Mississippi has the greatest share of residents straining to pay their bills -53% – another last place finish for the Hospitality State, and no substantive action.

The Center on Budget and Policy Priorities reports that six months into the pandemic, "twenty-three million adults (10.5%) reported that their household didn't get enough to eat, and an estimated 1 in 4

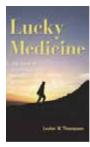
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Jackson State's Tomekia Reed wins SWAC Coach of the Year



Lucky Medicine

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By Christopher Young Contributing Writer

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Mississippi Senate presented
Senate Resolution 66, designating
March 21, 2023, "2023 Alpha
Kappa Alpha Day at the
Mississippi State Capitol

Special to The Mississippi Link

Mississippi Senate Minority Leader Senator Derrick T. Simmons led the presentation of Senate Resolution 66, designating March 21, 2023, "2023 Alpha Kappa Alpha Day at the Mississippi State Capitol," and honoring the works of the sorority.

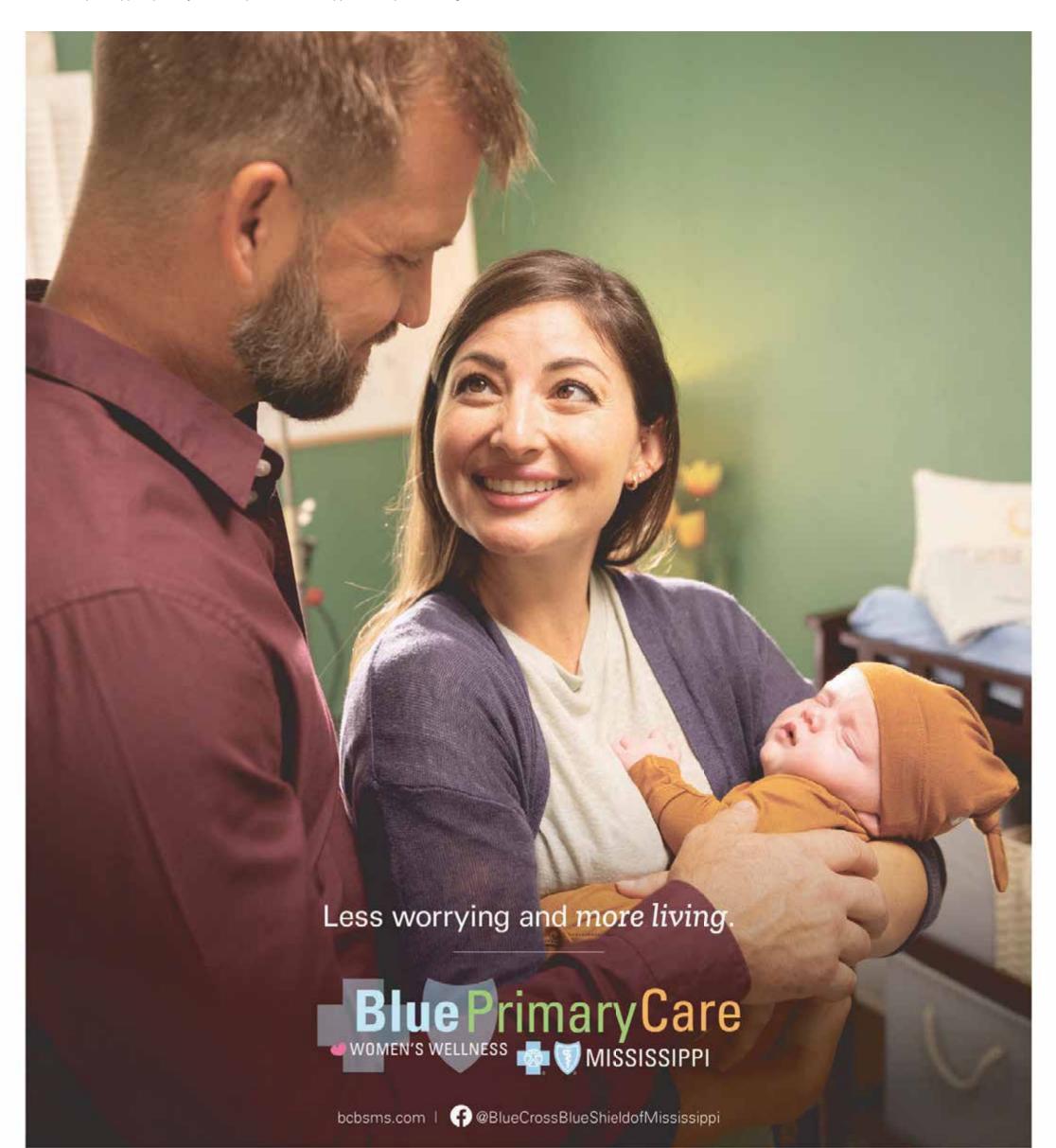
Simmons praised the works of the sorority, as his colleagues heaped praise upon the many members seated throughout the gallery.



(I-r) Senator Albert Butler, Dr. Tracy Morant Adams, Demetrice Williams Wells, Leah J. Holder Wiggins, Senator Derrick T. Simmons, Senator Rod Hickman and Senator Robert L. Jackson



AKA sorors at Alpha Kappa Alpha Day on the steps of the Mississippi State Capitol Building, Jackson, MS, March 21, 2023. PHOTOS BY JAY JOHNSON



Black Press

Continued from page 1

America's history of settling political differences at the ballot box. "But lo and behold, that president [Donald Trump] convinced everybody that [he] would be president for life," the congressman said.

"If it weren't for the Black Press that kept raising the issue all along about how much of a fraud that person happened to be [the outcome may have been different]."

Thompson continued.

"Most of you know there is a double standard in America. No person of color with [Trump's] history could have run for dog catcher and got anything. It's that double standard that you fight every week in your news-

papers.
"Our elected officials must be held accountable. Over the next few weeks, our work will be crystalized with some indictments, and we have shared a lot of our work with the special counsel that Tucker Carlson thought he had.

"A lot of those individuals are being called in under subpoena now and we will see what they tell the special counsel. Nobody is above the law, not even the



Congressman Thompson, Mississippi Link Publisher Jackie Hampton and Alexus Hunter, press secretary for Congressman Thompson (2018 Tougaloo College graduate)

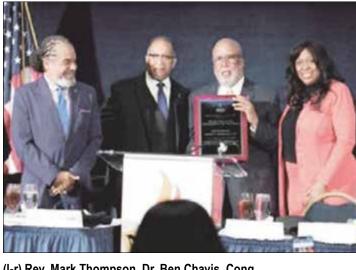
President of the United States.

"What we saw after interviewing more than 1,000 people – the majority of whom identify with the Republican Party – we are convinced that whatever happened, happened because of one person. So, we are clear in our recommendation."

Thompson was accompanied

by his press secretary, Alexus Hunter. Hunter graduated from Tougaloo College in 2018. While there she received a journalism scholarship from NNPA. She was selected by scholarship chair, Jackie Hampton, publisher of *The Mississippi Link* newspaper in Jackson, MS.

Master of ceremonies Rev.



(I-r) Rev. Mark Thompson, Dr. Ben Chavis, Cong. Thompson (receiving 2023 NNPA Global Newsmaker Award) and NNPA Chair Karen Carter-Richards.

Mark Thompson along with Dr. Ben Chavis and members of the NNPA Executive Board presented Thompson with the 2023 NNPA Global Newsmaker of the Year Award.

"In the growing digital age, the Black Press of America today, in 2023, is advancing and making steady progress to engage in the necessary technological innovations to ensure the future viability and sustainability of the Black Press of America for the next 100 years," Dr. Chavis declared.

During his address, Dr. Chavis unveiled the new NNPA World News app, which contains global news items of interest to African Americans.

"It is revival time," Dr. Chavis exclaimed, pivoting to a sermon-like delivery.

He declared that the NNPA would soon travel around the country for a series of Black Church, Black Press, and Black Family revivals. "We also are going to promote nationwide

voter registration and massive get-out-to-vote campaigns in preparation for the 2024 national elections," Dr. Chavis contin-

He said the NNPA would also engage in a national "James Baldwin and Fannie Lou Hamer Drop the Pen Tour" at HBCUs and other college and university campuses and some high schools to emphasize raising up a new generation of "freedomfighting journalists, publishers, videographers and social media influencers."

"With that foundational understanding of the evolution of the Black Press, we are much better able to explain and to understand why the Black Press in 2023 remains the trusted voice of Black America," Dr. Chavis added

"Trust is something that you cannot buy or something that you cannot fabricate. Trust, especially for African Americans, is genuine and authentic. You cannot fake it. Trust for us is deeply rooted in the social; fabric of our families and the communities we serve and represent."

Trash

Continued from page 1

	City of Jackson Cost Proposals							
			1x Per Week + Cart	2x Per Week + Cart				
FCC	\$651,180.83	\$945,856.25	\$786,655.85	\$1,123,342.09				
Richard's Disposal	\$585,000.00	\$652,500.00	\$686,250.00	\$756,000.00				
Waste Management	\$753,300.00	\$858,060.00	\$833,760.00	\$1,116,720.00				

RFP process occurs within the next six months that their prices would increase.

A clearer picture does seem to be emerging. What really remains is how City Council members will respond. Can we look forward to more drama at taxpayer expense, remaining stuck in thinking that somehow a decades' old vendor that

has been bilking our city is the right choice moving forward? Or can we look forward to moving on with a new vendor that has clearly demonstrated their ability to provide us this important service and do so with a substantial savings to taxpayers?

We all know there was a rocky start for Rich-

ard's Disposal. Any new vendor new on the scene would struggle when they are not provided route maps. Waste Management sure wasn't going to provide them, and the city had not been keeping up with the routes because Waste Management had been doing the job for decades.

Then there was the squabbling over the hours that the landfill would be open for Richards. Many local broadcast stations seemed to be going out of their way to air times when routes were missed, or when residents complained. Then there was the whole Hawkins Field staging area fiasco. It was rough going for the new company to say the least. But if we are honest, how many complaints have there been in the last six months? Richard's Disposal has persisted, even when not being paid,

and they have overcome.

When the mayor makes his presentation to the council, we can only hope that clear minds dedicated to serving the city will prevail.

Christ Tabernacle Church Pastor Hosea Hines is fond of sharing the service-centric reminder, "It's about us, it's about we. It's not about I, and it's not about me."

Any councilmember voting in favor of wasting over one million dollars of taxpayer money per year on a trash contract, or any other contract, is really not for us. Can you imagine how many potholes could be fixed with a million dollars each year? Let's embrace Richard's Disposal moving forward – a black contractor, serving our black city, for millions less than the other guy.

Health

Continued from page 1

renters with children lived in a household that was behind on rent." The numbers double for black and Latino residents across the nation. In Mississippi, 294,000 adults -16% – report that their households don't have enough to eat, and no action, despite state coffers being full to the brim. Welfareinfo.org indicates that Mississippi's poverty rate is 51.56% higher than the national average – easily defining us as the poorest state in the nation.

Mississippi's Continuums of Care report 1,100 people were homelessness in January 2020. Each year in January, a nationwide Point-In-Time count is conducted over a twenty-four-hour period. Homelessness coalitions send workers to canvas designated areas and collect data on sheltered and unsheltered persons experiencing homelessness. It is difficult to find any data for the last three years in Mississippi. It's not practical to imagine the number of persons experiencing homelessness has declined, especially considering the impact of the pandemic, joblessness, escalating housing costs and untreated mental illness.

In his Pulitzer Prize winning book, EVICTED, Poverty and Profit in the American City, Matthew Desmond says this about a home: "We have affirmed provision in old age, twelve years of education, and basic nutrition to be the right of every citizen because we have recognized that human dignity depends on the fulfillment of these fundamental human needs. And it is hard to argue that housing is not a fundamental human need. Decent, affordable housing should be a basic human right for everybody in this country. The reason is simple: without

stable shelter, everything else falls apart."

The HOME Coalition has been around for thirty years and has been one of the most effective, locally driven tools to help states and communities improve access to safe, decent and affordable housing. From 1992-2021 our neighbor Louisiana has invested \$620 million in these efforts; Tennessee has invested \$617 million; and Alabama has invested \$522 million. Mississippi has invested \$324 million. The Mississippi HOME Corporation Board has nine members appointed by the governor and lt. gover-

nor, all but one is male, and all but one is white.

Until we can leverage the spirit of basic human regard in our elected officials and community partners toward minimizing poverty and homelessness in our state, we will remain last, and suffering will be in abundance in what is said to be the most church-

attending state in the nation – the Hospitality State.





JMREPA honors four living legend educators in honor of Women's History Month prior to business meeting

By Jackie Hampton

The Jackson Metropolitan Retired Education Personnel Association (JM-REPA), prior to their Monday business meeting, honored four of their former presidents (ages 90-108) at the Fannie Lou Hamer Library, Golden Key EnVison Center located at 3450 Albermarle Road in Jackson at 2 p.m.

These living legends included ninetyyear old Ethel Davis, ninety-three yearold Dorothy Williams, ninety-six- year old Wylma King, and 108-year-old Ruth Hobbs. All but Hobbs were present even though her intention was to be there but the early morning cold temperature was a deterrent in continuing with the plan.

"Bringing Hope to Others Through Sharing" was the theme of this association that gives scholarships, provides books, sponsors summer reading programs and provides tutorial services to students in the metropolitan area. The current president is Clemontine Whita-

The honorees present were each escorted in and pinned with a presidential slash by Marilyn Minter and Daisy Jen-

The speaker for the occasion was



(I-r) Honorees Wylma King 96, Ethel Davis 90, Dorothy Williams, 93

Dr. Radrika Henderson who serves as a Jackson State University visiting instructor and also an adjunct instructor for both Tougaloo College and Hinds Community College. Henderson spoke on the subject "Women and Perseverance." She was introduced by one of her

retired professor, Dr. Patricia Murrian.

Henderson told the retires that she being there to speak to them must be a work of God, because one day she hopes to be sitting where they are - 'RE-TIRED.' As many of the approximately 50 attendees broke onto laughter, Hen-



taken 2/18/23 on her 108th birthday.

derson said what she meant was having a legacy, as they had, which includes students coming back and telling them how much they changed their lives for the better, goes far beyond money.

She said Dr. Murrian was one of her professors that made a big impact on her

Also attending the event was Jelani Murrain, a Capitol Hill lobbyist for the American Cancer Society in Washington D.C. Murrain, the son of Patricia Murrian and a graduate of Murrah High School, was in Jackson lobbying on behalf of Medicaid and Medicare. He decided to accompany his mother to the Women's History Month celebration so that he could see his 3rd grade teacher, Mrs. Billye Sharp, a member of JMREPA. Lobbyist Murrain said Sharp, as well as his mother, had a big impact on his life, to include their encouragement regarding his decision to become

Prior to the business meeting, the honorees told about their careers as educators and thanked the Jackson Metropolitan Retired Education Personnel Association for the honor, of which they were very appreciative.

After the celebration the association went into their business meeting to conduct normal business. At the business meeting new officers were elected. Marilyn Jean Minter will serve as the new president of JMPEPA and will be installed next month at the business meeting.



District 72 Day at the Capitol honoring former State Rep. Debra Gibbs

By Jackie Hampton Publisher

The Mississippi Legislature honored former State Representative Debra Gibbs at the Mississippi State Capitol Wednesday in the House Chamber at 10 a.m.

Special guests included Dr. Jerry Young, president of the National Baptist Convention USA, Inc. and Landon Carter-Price, vocalist, 9th grade student at Murrah High & Wells APAC Performing Arts School. Carter Price sang The Star-Spangled Banner.

House Concurrent Resolution Number 38 commended Gibbs for her outstanding, dedicated and meritorious service to the citizens of District 72, and the State of Mississippi and congratulated her on being elected as Hinds County Circuit Judge, District 7, Sub-District 2.



family, legislators and supporters. PHOTOS BY JAY JOHNSON



Favre must remain in welfare lawsuit, Mississippi argues

By Emily Wagster Pettus Associated Press

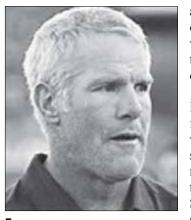
A judge should ignore a request from retired NFL quarterback Brett Favre to be removed from a civil lawsuit that seeks to recover misspent welfare money in Mississippi's largest-ever public corruption case, the state Department of Human Services said this

Millions of federal welfare dollars were intended to help low-income Mississippi residents – some of the poorest people in the country - but were instead squandered on projects supported by wealthy or well-connected people, including projects backed by Favre, prosecutors say.

No criminal charges have been brought against the NFL Hall of Famer, although other people have pleaded guilty to their part in the misspending.

Favre's attorneys argue the Department of Human Services is suing Favre, "a Mississippi and national celebrity," to deflect from the department's own role in allowing fraud, and have have filed two sets of papers urging a Mississippi judge to dismiss Favre from

Kaytie Pickett, an attorney for the department, responded that Favre's attorneys failed to provide solid legal arguments to get their client out of the



"Favre's submission is not a motion to dismiss; it is a long press release," Pickett wrote in court papers filed Monday. "The court should disregard Favre's diatribe."

The Department of Human Services last year sued Favre and more than three dozen other people or businesses.

The suit says money was misspent on things like \$5 million to help build a volleyball arena that Favre supported at his alma mater the University of Southern Mississippi, where his daughter played the sport, and \$1.7 million toward development of a concussion treatment drug by a company in which Favre was an investor.

Those who have pleaded guilty to criminal charges include John Davis, a former director of the Mississippi Department of Human Services;

and Nancy New, the director of a nonprofit organization who had ties to Favre and the volleyball and concussion drug projects.

Favre has repaid \$1.1 million he received for speaking fees from New's organization, which spent Temporary Assistance to Needy Families money with approval from the Department of Human Services under Davis. Mississippi Auditor Shad White said Favre, who lives in Mississippi, never showed up to give those speeches.

Favre said in October that he did nothing wrong and had been "unjustly smeared" in news coverage of the welfare misspending.

Favre first sought to be dismissed from the state's civil lawsuit in November. The state revised its demand against him in December. His attorneys filed papers in February, again asking a judge to dismiss Favre from the case.

His latest attempt to get out of the lawsuit came a day after he filed three defamation lawsuits against White and two former NFL players, Pat McAfee and Shannon Sharpe, who have sharply criticized Favre in their roles as national sportscasters. White, McAfee and Sharpe had not filed court papers to respond by Friday, records show.

Ex-rep: Legislative plans in Mississippi are 'Jim Crow 2.0'

By Emily Wagster Pettus Associated Press

Efforts by the majority-white Mississippi Legislature to create courts with appointed rather than elected judges and to expand patrols by state police inside the majority-black capital city of Jackson amount to "Jim Crow 2.0," a Democratic former state lawmaker said last Tuesday.

Ex-Rep. Kathy Sykes of Jackson also said people in other parts of the U.S. should pay attention to what's happening in Mississippi because ideas in one state can spread to others. Sykes, who supports abortion rights, mentioned the U.S. Supreme Court using a Mississippi case last year to upend abortion access nationwide.

"We're the state that took away a woman's right to choose for her and her doctor to make decisions on her body," Sykes said. "So if we don't get involved around this country and around this world, we're going to have takeovers all over the United States where there is majority-minority representation."

The Mississippi House and Senate this year have passed different versions of bills dealing with police and courts in Jackson, which has the highest percentage of black residents of any major U.S. city. Negotiators from the two chambers are expected to work on final versions of the bills in the next two

One of the bills is sponsored



by Republican Rep. Trey Lamar of Senatobia, a small town more than 170 miles (275 kilometers) north of Jackson. He said he's trying to make Jackson safer and reduce a backlog in the judicial system.

"There is nothing racial about the bill on its face, and there is no intent for the effect to be racial," Lamar, who is white, told The Associated Press last month.

During a news conference Tuesday outside the state Capitol building, Wendell Paris of the Minority People's Council said the proposal to have appointed judges violates the Voting Rights Act of 1965. He also said it's unfair for legislators from other parts of Mississippi to mandate what will happen in Jackson when they are not considering the same proposals for their own communities.

"You can't take away the power of some of the members of the community and say that you represent a democracy, which

you do not. You represent a false democracy," Paris said. "And we're saying that Mississippi is one place that we cannot tolerate any going back. Mississippi has a sordid past."

Carol Blackmon, senior state organizing manager for the Black Voters Matter Fund, said the legislative efforts to control Jackson are "ruthlessly racist."

"It's a land and power grab by white state officials of a majority-black- controlled institution, tax revenues and political power," she said.

Blackmon said Jackson residents are smart enough to elect their own judges and to make decisions about policing. She also said if Mississippi lawmakers are interested in curbing crime, they should provide money to the Jackson Police Department.

The state-run Capitol Police department currently patrols near state government buildings in and around downtown. The House has voted to expand Capitol Police coverage into more affluent parts of the city, including some predominantly white neighborhoods. The Senate has voted to let Capitol Police patrol all of Jackson, along with city

Arkela Lewis, the mother of a 25-year-old black man who was shot to death by Mississippi Capitol Police last year, recently told state lawmakers that the thought of expanding the territory of the state-run law enforcement agency "terrifies" her.

Court: Jackson missed step in trying to take land by airport

neglected to follow all required steps when it tried to annex land near the busiest airport in Mississippi, the state Supreme Court has ruled.

The Jackson City Council voted in August 2019 to annex about 900 acres (364 hectares) of undeveloped land surrounding Jackson-Medgar Wiley Evers International Airport

Judge David Chandler – a retired Mississippi Supreme Court justice who was appointed to help with a backlog

of cases in Hinds County Cirland within 10 miles (16 kilo- and for commercial low-densitrol of Jackson-Medgar Wiley Jackson City Council, subur-2021 that Jackson should have sought approval for the annexation from the Rankin County Board of Supervisors.

Although the airport is in Rankin County, the airport property has been part of the city of Jackson since 1964, according to court records. Jackson is in Hinds County, which is next to Rankin County.

In most annexation cases, cities can try to add land that touches the city limits. But, a state law specifies that airport corporated as part of the capital

In their ruling Thursday, justices said the only issue they considered was whether Jackson should have sought permission from Rankin County. Justices said they were not asked to consider the "reasonableness of the annexation."

Jackson officials said they had a 2017 strategic plan that designated the desired land for aerospace, light manufacturing and distribution businesses;

runways.

Days after Jackson officials voted to annex the land, Rankin County and the cities of Pearl and Flowood - which are in Rankin County – filed papers in Hinds County Circuit Court to challenge Jackson's plans.

Pearl and Flowood already were trying to annex the land that Jackson sought, and their case was filed in Rankin County Chancery Court.

A power struggle over con-

The capital city of Jackson cuit Court - ruled in December meters) of Jackson can be in- ty office or hotel development. Evers International Airport has ban Madison County and subbeen ongoing for several years. In 2016, the majority-white and Republican-controlled Mississippi Legislature passed a bill to replace the five-member board that has members appointed by the mayor of the majority-black city of Jackson, which is controlled by Demo-

> The bill said the new ninemember board would have four appointed by the governor and one each by the lieutenant governor, the Jackson mayor, the

urban Rankin County.

Jackson officials said the legislation was a hostile takeover attempt by white suburban business interests. Soon after then-Gov. Phil Bryant signed the bill, the city sued to block the new law from taking effect. That lawsuit has not been resolved, and the city-appointed airport board remains in place.

The Supreme Court ruling Thursday referred to an "airport allegedly owned by Jack-

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Democrats join push to ban TikTok from American-held devices

By Stacy M. Brown NNPA Newswire Contributor

Democrats in Congress are making it clear that they want to ban the Chinese app Tik-Tok in the U.S.

Reported national security concerns over massive amounts of data that Tik-Tok collects on its millions of American users sit at the core of why lawmakers want the app banned.

Democrats and Republicans alike have said certain information of serious concern could be transferred to China, making it a national security issue.

However, TikTok's parent company, ByteDance, has repeatedly denied that it shares user data with the Chinese government.

"TikTok is a modern-day Trojan horse of the [Chinese Communist Party], used to surveil and exploit Americans' personal information," said Rep. Michael McCaul of Texas, the Republican chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Committee. "It's a spy balloon in your phone," McCaul said, alluding to a February incident in which a spy balloon from China traversed American skies.

Last month, House Foreign Affairs Committee members pushed for a bill that would give President Biden the power to ban TikTok on all mobile devices in the U.S. However, Democrats voted



against the measure.

Democrats in the U.S. Senate did offer support late last vear for a bill that would ban TikTok on federal devices, and a bipartisan group of senators, led by Mark Warner (D-Va.) and John Thune (R-S.C.), also introduced a bill that would let Biden ban Tik-Tok and other apps that come from other countries.

Five Democrats and five Republicans have signed on as co-sponsors on that legislation. President Biden reportedly supports the measure and has indicated a willingness to ban TikTok, which has more than 1.53 billion users globally as of 2023, with 1 billion monthly active users.

"Unlike most social media platforms, TikTok poses a unique concern because Chinese law obligates Byte-Dance, its Beijing-based parent company, to 'support, assist, and cooperate with state intelligence work," said Sen. Michael Bennet (D-Colo.), who has demanded that Apple and Google remove Tik-Tok from their app stores.

During a national television appearance, Senate Maiority Leader Chuck Schumer (D-N.Y.) said a TikTok ban "should be looked at."

The economic battle between the U.S. and China has been ongoing, with escalating tensions leading to threats of a potential armed conflict.

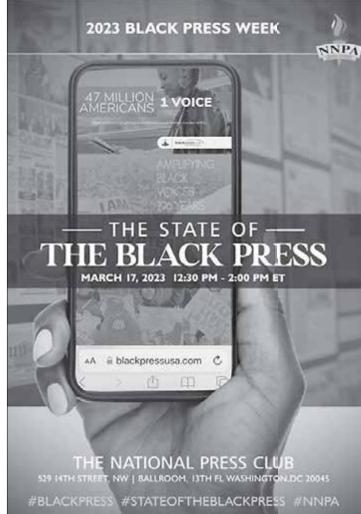
White House Press Secretary Karine Jean-Pierre even alluded to the conflict in her remarks attacking a House

Freedom Caucus budget plan. "Extreme MAGA Republicans' proposals would ship manufacturing jobs overseas, in a crushing blow to states from Ohio to Georgia to Arizona - and would provide a windfall of economic benefits to China," Jean-Pierre stated.

TikTok spokeswoman Brooke Oberwetter argued that a U.S. ban on TikTok would ban the export of American culture and values to over a billion people who use the app worldwide.

"A ban would stifle American speech and would be a ban on the export of American culture and values to the billion-plus people who use our service worldwide," Oberwetter declared, Oberwetter said.

NNPA releases World **News app further** reach of the Black **Press of America**



The National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA) has released a global news application that includes news and feature articles that reflect the global reach of the Black Press of America.

NNPA President and CEO Benjamin F. Chavis Jr. announced the launch of the app during the State of the Black Press Address at the National Press Club in Washington, D.C. "This is the first black-owned, global international app that aggregates not only the black news

than to launch this app."

International developer Carol Davis, who helped to create the app for the NNPA, said her vision was clear.

representative of a global app."

The NNPA Board of Directors are Chair and Houston Forward Times Publisher Karen Carter Richards; First Vice President and Atlanta Voice Publisher Janis Ware; Second Vice Chair and The County News of Charlotte Publisher Fran Farrer; Secretary and The Mississippi Link Publisher Jackie Hampton; and Treasurer and Texas Metro News Publisher Cheryl Smith.

"I've been tasked to not just reflect on the past," Chavis stated. "But to make sure that we technologically equip ourselves."

Available for free, the app has

- the following sections:
- Around the World.
- Top Stories.
- Lifestyle.
- The U.S.

Africa.

extending the global

By Stacy M. Brown Asia. NNPA Newswire Contributor • Europe.

Middle East.

• The U.K.

America.

• Football.

• Sports.

• Culture.

· Games.

• Movie.

• Books. • Politics.

• Law.

• Science.

· Trending.

• International.

Press Media.

The "About Us" section noted

that NNPA World News is the

global public news application

of the National Newspaper Pub-

lishers Association (NNPA), the

national and international trade

association of the Black Press of

America, in collaboration with

the Black Press and other media

agencies throughout the world.

247 black-owned newspapers

and multimedia businesses in

the United States of America

through a strategic alliance and

outreach to hundreds of thou-

sands of digital and social media

platforms, channels and interna-

tional news aggregation and dis-

Launched globally on the

196th anniversary of the Black

Press of America, the NNPA

World News app is the portal

of the world's largest expanding

black-owned news media net-

NNPA in 1940 in Chicago, Il-

linois, the NNPA consistently

today is the daily and weekly

trusted voice of 50 million black

Americans," Dr. Chavis assert-

news and advocate for free-

dom, justice, equality and eq-

uity across the United States and

"NNPA World News app

also represents, documents, ag-

throughout the world."

He concluded:

"We continue to report the

"Since the founding of the

tribution businesses.

The NNPA represents over

Woman.

Opinion.

· Stories.

in America but the black news in the Caribbean, the black news in Brazil, the black news in Africa, and black news in Asia. All over the world," Dr. Chavis proclaimed. "I couldn't think of a better way to celebrate the 196th anniversary of the Black Press

"I saw a need for an international platform that emphasizes the needs and requirements of the African American and other black populations worldwide," Davis stated."It could be a voice for a lot of people. There are many more news feeds from Europe, the Middle East and all over the world, and this will be

Chavis credited the trade association's executive board with pushing him to make the app a

- gregates and distributes news
- Travel.
- Music.

and truthful information about the challenges, the traumas, the struggles, the opportunities, the culture, the triumphs and the resilient excellence and progress accomplished by over 1.2 billion people of African descent and

others internationally."

Biden reveals President Jimmy Carter asked him to deliver his eulogy

By Stacy M. Brown NNPA Newswire Contributor

President Jimmy served in the Navy during World War II, and his administration created the U.S. Department of Energy and Education. During his one term, Carter conducted the 1978 Camp David Peace Talks that led to a historic agreement between Israel and its Prime Minister Menachem Begin and Egypt's President Anwar Sadat.

The 98-year-old is the longest-lived President and the one with the longest post-presiden-

On Tuesday, March 14, nearly a month after entering hospice care, it's been revealed that Carter had asked President Joe Biden to deliver his eulogy.

Biden told donors at a fundraiser about his "recent" visit to see the 39th president, whom he has known since he was a young Delaware senator supporting Carter's 1976 presidential campaign.

"He asked me to do his eulogy," Biden said before stopping himself from saying more. "Excuse me; I shouldn't say that."

Even though the Carter Center in Atlanta and the former President's family haven't said much about his health, Biden mentioned that Carter was diagnosed with cancer in 2015 and then got better.

"I spent time with Jimmy Carter, and it's finally caught up with him, but they found a way to keep him going for a lot longer than they anticipated because they found a breakthrough," Biden said.

Carter's family reportedly has confirmed that a state funeral for the former President will occur in Washington after

"If people had listened to Jimmy Carter, there wouldn't

On Tuesday, March 14, nearly a month after entering hospice care, it's been revealed that Carter had asked President Joe Biden to de-

be an oil crisis right now," Twitter user @mikesouthbch wrote.

"He ruled America with kindness and compassion. Nothing you ever see from any Republican."

Despite a tumultuous presidency from 1976 to 1980 that concluded after the Iranian government released the 55 remaining American hostages there as Carter was exiting the White House following his losing his re-election bid in a landslide to Ronald Reagan.

Carter would become one of the most beloved ex-Presidents in American history, certainly more popular than when he traversed the oval office. The one-time Georgia peanut farmer and his wife, Rosalyn, have spent their lives helping those

For more than 30 years, Habitat for Humanity officials said the Carters had worked alongside nearly 103,000 volunteers in 14 countries to build, renovate and repair 4,331 homes.

"They've inspired millions across the globe with their dedication and rallied thousands of volunteers and even celebrities to take part in our mission, helping Habitat for Humanity become internationally recognized for our work to build decent and affordable housing," the organization wrote on its

The Associated Press noted that Biden's presidency represented a turnabout for Carter's political standing. He served just one term and lost in a landslide to Republican Ronald Reagan in 1980, prompting top Democrats to keep their distance, at least publicly, for decades after he left the White House, the outlet reported.

Presidents Bill Clinton and Barack Obama did not have close relationships with Carter. And the longshot presidential candidates who sometimes ventured to see Carter over the years typically did so privately.

"But as the Carters' global humanitarian work and advocacy of democracy via The Carter Center garnered new respect, Democratic politicians began publicly circulating back to South Georgia ahead of the 2020 election cycle. And with Biden's election, Carter again found a genuine friend and ally in the Oval Office," the AP

"I remember President Carter's many talks with ordinary people during that trip, and how he tried to reduce the stigma of HIV/AIDS and help people from all walks of life feel that their lives had value," Dr. Helene Gayle, the President of Spelman College and a board member of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, wrote in a statement posted to the Gates Foundation website.

"We spoke with commercial sex workers in Kenya and Nigeria about HIV/AIDS prevention and condom use. While President Carter came from a very traditional, religious Christian background, he was entirely nonjudgmental and really wanted to communicate to these women that their lives were worth protecting from HIV/AIDS," Gayle continued.

"He even gave a sermon at the church of the then-president of Nigeria, and from the pulpit, he talked openly and honestly about condoms and safe sex without judgment or recrimina-

Gayle added that from world leaders to migrant farmers, Carter's ability to connect with people remains remarkable. She called him down-to-earth and approachable.

"And because of his global stature as a former president, he can meet with people at the highest levels of government, capture their attention, and make the case for investing in local, regional, and global health," Gayle exclaimed.

"He has elevated the significance of global health around the world. And he has been incredibly persistent and diligent around the issue of Guinea worm eradication, helping to lead that campaign to the threshold of success."

MARCH 23 - 29, 2023

Germs in your gym

By Vince Faust Tips to Be Fit

It's been discovered that each piece of gym equipment has more than 1 million germs per square inch. Gym equipment such as free weights, and treadmills were found to have 74 times more bacteria than a public bathroom faucet and your exercise bikes had 39 times more bacteria than a tray from your local food court.

Although many of these bacteria are also found on public surfaces outside gyms, the studies have found that poor personal hygiene of gym users and inadequate cleaning, were likely to have caused the large diversity of bacteria in the gym.

Gyms have gotten much better about cleanliness in recent years. Most of them have alcohol-based wipes that can be used to clean equipment, in addition to hand sanitizer. We just need to make sure members use it. In a survey of over 1,000 gym-goers, sanitary practices were the respondents' biggest pet peeves, with the following at the top of their list:

More than half of gym-goers witness bathroom users not wash hands and continue using gym equipment.

35 percent of men admitted to never wiping down weight machines after using them, while over 25 percent of women admitted to never wiping down cardio equipment.



38.4 percent of gym-goers fail to wipe down equipment in the afternoons while 21.2 percent fail to do so in the late evening.

The most common germs found in gyms:

Athlete's Foot. Known to medical professionals as tinea pedis, this pesky infection is caused by different types of fungi including Trichophyton, Epidermophyton and Micros-

Staphylococcus (Staph).

Ringworm.

The Common Cold.

Folliculitis. Plantar Warts.

A few things you need to re-

1. Clean equipment before and after use. Germs can stay

on surfaces long after someone coughs or sneezes on or near them. Doing this will reduce your risk. Wiping down the equipment will help to ensure you don't pick up viruses from the surfaces and send them into your respiratory tract by touching your face

2. Keep away from anyone coughing or sneezing. – People should not go to the gym when sick but it's hard to stop them if they want to go. When you see someone who is coughing, sneezing or showing any general signs of shedding, you may want to avoid that area for a few minutes after the person has

3. Wash your hands. – Wash or sanitize your hands immediately after working out. To protect others you can wash your hands before you start your

4. Get vaccinated. – This protects you from others and you help reduce their risk of getting infected by you. Everybody

5. Wear loose-fitting, moisture-wicking clothes. - This will take some of the moisture breeding germs away from your

6. Always wear shoes, especially around pools, in locker rooms and showers. - This is another good barrier of protection. Change your shoes frequently so they have a chance to air out. Wear moisture-wicking socks. This helps your sweat to evaporate so it's not causing a moist wet environment for germs to grow. Walking across the gym barefoot can expose you to fungi.

7. Keep any cuts clean and covered. – This is another good barrier of protection. If you have any cuts or wounds, make sure they are covered before you start to exercise. This will help reduce the chance of a skin infection. This will also reduce the chance of you introducing a pathogen into your gym. Gauze is not a good protective barrier.

8. Avoid the gym's communal water fountain. Use a bottle that doesn't require hand contact with the mouth of the bottle. Insulated stainless steel water bottles keep cold drinks cold and hot drinks hot and can be cleaned thoroughly.

9. Wash your gym clothes regularly. – Wash your clothing as soon as you get home. A normal wash cycle and detergent will eliminate almost all of the

microbes that could hitch a ride on your clothes. Don't forget the gym bag.

10. Bring your own mat for floor exercises. - You won't be sharing germs.

11. Wear a mask - Many experts and me still encourage people to wear a clean facemask in the gym over your nose and under your chin. 400 people in the US still die from Covid-19

You should get medical care if you suspect that you have acquired an infection and you have experienced any of the following:

Difficulty breathing

A cough lasting longer than a Periods of rapid heartbeat

A rash, especially if it's accompanied by a fever

Blurred vision or other diffi-

Swelling

culty seeing Persistent vomiting

An unusual or severe head-

ache

It's important to remember that exercise is a stressor for your body, especially if it challenges your body and it should. The stress on your body can temporarily run down your immune system, making you more susceptible to germs and vi-

gym but your risks don't outweigh the benefits of exercise.

Germs can be found at your

Take these 6 steps to manage your blood pressure



StatePoint

High blood pressure, also known as hypertension, affects nearly half of adults in the United States, and only about 1 in 4 with this condition have it under control, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Hypertension can be dangerous and in many cases, fatal. In 2020, it was a primary or contributing cause of more than 670,000 deaths nationwide. Medical experts say that controlling your blood pressure is possible and it starts with having the right information.

"Nearly half of all American adults have high blood pressure, and many don't even know it. High blood pressure is a 'silent killer,' often having no overt symptoms, but increases the likelihood of heart attack, stroke and other serious health risks. I urge you to know your numbers and make the simple lifestyle changes that can help you control your blood pressure and live a long and healthy life," says Jack Resneck Jr., M.D., president of the American Medical Association (AMA).

To get on the right track, consider these tips and insights from the AMA:

1. Know your numbers. Hypertension is diagnosed when your systolic blood pressure is greater than 130 mmHg or your average diastolic blood pressure is greater than 80 mmHg. Visit ManageYourBP.org to better understand your numbers.

2. Monitor blood pressure. Once you learn your blood pressure numbers, take and keep regular records using an at-home blood pressure monitor. For an accurate reading, the CDC says to sit with your back supported for 5 minutes before starting and wait at least 30 minutes after drinking or eating a meal. You should also avoid stimulants

for at least 30 minutes beforehand, as the CDC says that smoking and drinking alcohol or caffeine can elevate your blood pressure. If you take medication for hypertension, measure your blood pressure before your dose. Share your numbers with your health care provider.

3. Eat right. Reduce your intake of processed foods, especially those with added sodium and sugar. Eat less red meat and processed meats, and add more plant-based foods, such as vegetables, fruits, nuts, seeds and olive oil to your diet. Also, reduce your consumption of sugar-sweetened beverages and drink more water instead. Drinking sugary beverages, even 100% fruit juices, is associated with a higher all-cause mortality risk, according to a study published in JAMA Network Open.

4. Drink alcohol only in moderation. If consuming alcohol, do so in moderation as defined by the U.S. Dietary Guidelines for Americans – up to one drink per day for women and two drinks per day for men, and only by adults of legal drinking age.

5. Be more physically active. Do at least 150 minutes a week of moderateintensity activity, or 75 minutes a week of vigorous-intensity activity. Be sure to include a mix of cardiovascular exercise, strength training and flexibility. Obtain guidance from your doctor if you aren't sure if it is safe for you to exercise.

6. Maintain a healthy weight. If you are overweight, losing as little as 5 to 10 pounds may help lower your blood pressure. Consult your doctor about safe ways to maintain a healthy weight.

"Unmanaged hypertension can have life-altering consequences," says Dr. Resneck. "The good news is that there are many ways you can take control of your blood pressure and your health."

What happens when we sleep, and why we need just the right amount each night

By Laura Williamson

American Heart Association News

Research shows adults need seven to nine hours of sleep each night for optimal health, and children need

But what's happening during those hours that's so important, and what's the danger of cutting sleep short?

A growing body of research shows getting little or poor sleep doesn't just make people feel tired the next day – it places them at higher risk for heart attacks and early death, along with cognitive decline, dementia, diabetes, high blood pressure, obesity, depression and other chronic health conditions.

There's so much evidence linking poor sleep to poor health that the American Heart Association last year added sleep duration to its list of critical components for optimizing heart and brain health. Yet about 1 in 3 adults don't get enough. Experts say shaving a couple of hours robs the brain of time it needs to perform vital functions.

"There's lots of stuff that happens during sleep," said Dr. Michael Grandner, director of the Sleep and Health Research Program and an associate professor in the department of psychiatry at the University of Arizona College of Medicine in Tucson. "When your body doesn't have enough time to do the things it needs to do, it won't do them in an optimal

Grandner co-wrote the 2022 advisory that added sleep duration to AHA's list of key measures for good cardiovascular health, known as Life's Essential 8.

While researchers are still investigating how suboptimal sleep affects the mechanisms linked to cardiovascular health, Grandner said much is known about other functions that occur during the major stages of sleep.

The first few hours of sleep are the deepest, he said. It's during this time that the body performs tissue growth and repair, allowing healing and restoration to occur. It's also the time when the brain clears away stuff it doesn't need, making room for the stuff it does need. The space between neurons gets a little wider, allowing the brain to flush out waste products.

"This is synaptic pruning, when

the brain filters out the junk experiences of the day, the stuff you don't need to learn from long-term," Grandner said.

Deep sleep is followed by rapid eye movement, also known as REM sleep, which is lighter. The brain is active during this stage, but the body is immobile. This is when dreams and nightmares occur, Grandner said. The body actually cycles through REM and non-REM cycles several times, with increasingly longer periods in REM sleep as the night goes on.

"If you cut your sleep hours short, most of what you've deprived yourself of is REM sleep," he said. That can interfere with learning, memory and mood, which are all regulated during this stage of sleep. Studies show people who are deprived of REM sleep have trouble remembering things they learned before falling

The last stage of sleep is when more mental recovery and healing occur, Grandner said. But it's also when the body finishes the physical recovery work begun during deep

Grandner likened it to power washing a driveway and then re-sealing it to preserve it for continued good use. "The first stage of sleep is when the power washing occurs. The last stage is when resealing occurs. Waking up before the last stage of work cuts corners that can cause problems in the long-term health of the body and brain," he said.

Children and teenagers need more hours because they are still growing, and sleep is when growth hormones are released, Grandner said. The AHA recommends children ages 5 and younger get 10-16 hours of sleep each day; those 6 to 12 get between nine and 12 hours; and teens get eight to 10 hours.

Luckily, there are steps people can take to get a better night's sleep, said Dayna Johnson, an assistant professor and sleep epidemiologist at Emory University's Rollins School of Public Health in Atlanta. "Engaging in good sleep hygiene or sleep practices can help to improve sleep. It is important to foster a good sleep en-

vironment." This includes having a consistent bedtime and bedtime routine, sleeping in a dark, quiet room at a comfortable temperature and keeping electronic devices, such as televisions, phones and computers, out of

the bedroom. But there are other factors that can affect sleep that may be beyond a person's control, Johnson said. And that's where sleep health disparities

For example, lower-income neighborhoods have more noise and light, which can disrupt sleep. Neighborhoods with higher levels of air pollution are associated with greater inflammation, which can lead to sleep apnea, making it difficult to get a good night's rest. And people who work minimum-wage jobs and therefore work multiple jobs or jobs with rotating shifts may find it harder to develop regular sleep patterns, she

Johnson, who studies sleep health disparities, led a 2019 review of a large body of research summarizing racial and ethnic differences in sleep duration and quality. It found, for example, that black, hispanic and chinese adults were disproportionately more likely to get less than six hours of sleep each night and more likely to report poor sleep quality.

As it does in cardiovascular health, structural racism may also play a role. Structural racism has been shown to affect neighborhood environments, leading to problems such as poorer air quality and housing. Additionally, black people with higher education, higher-paying jobs, and reside in better neighborhoods have been shown to have poorer sleep health than their white peers, Johnson said.

"The determinants of sleep disparities are multifactorial, and the worse sleep among higher SES black adults may be due to increased exposure to racism/stress from being a minority in the workplace or neighborhood," she said. "There are many reasons someone may have poor sleep."

Health Care Disclaimer: Always talk to your health care provider for diagnosis and treatment, including your specific medical needs. If you have or suspect that you have a medical problem or condition, please contact a qualified healthcare professional immediately

8 • THE MISSISSIPPI LINK

MARCH 23 - 29, 2023

www.themississippilink.com

Dressing and praying for success

By Shewanda Riley



degrees outside now but the high later today will be close to 75 degrees." As I listened to the morning

television meteorologist finish the rest of his forecast recently with these words, I wondered how in the world I would dress for a day like today. It was not the first time I'd pondered this question.

North Texas weather being what it is always gives the option of having two different seasons in a 24-hour day. On that day, it looked like we were going to have winter and spring in the same 24 hours. Even though it is technically spring, we are still having temperatures that are more like winter.

I was going to wear for a few minutes, I decided to get out of bed and see what I had in my closet. Should I dress for what it would be like when I went to work in the morning or should I dress for what it would be like when I got off work in the afternoon? It really wasn't a hard decision but for some reason on days with a nearly 30-degree temperature spread, it always stumped me.

I didn't want to be overdressed (and burn up) or underdressed (and freeze). Unless it was really freezing outside, what I usually did was dress in layers so that I'd be able to shed the extra clothes as the day warmed up.

As I stared blankly at the short and long-sleeved clothes in my closet, I thought how my decision on how to dress was similar to something I'd heard years ago about tithes After thinking about what and offering. The minister said that you should not pay your tithes based on what you make now but based on what you'd like to make. The reason was that God would reward your faith and increase your finances. At first, I thought it that was crazy advice...then I tried it, even though it was a sacrifice. Just like the minister said, God increased my finances to the level of the new tithes and offering amount.

Similar to wearing clothes based on the current or future temperature, the question is whether you plan your life for current circumstances or according to future and hoped for circumstances. Should you pray for where you are or for where you want to be? Should you worship based on your current situation or what you hope your future situation will be?

In Isaiah 46:10 God says, "I make known the end from the beginning, from ancient times, what is still to come. I say, 'My purpose will stand, and I will do all that I

God is not limited by time, situation or circumstance. We should also not be limited by time and our present circumstances, but honestly acknowledge where we are. At the same time, we can reach forward with our faith with hopeful expectancy toward where we desire to be.

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 preservedbypurpose@gmail.com or follow on Twitter @shewanda. Her new podcast is "The Chocolate Auntie Podcast" at www. chocolateauntiepodcast.com.

God made us to serve

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



God sent His Son to offer us saving grace. Shouldn't we serve Him? God made us to teach others. That is our responsibility be-

cause we are living in a world where people are really ignorant the truth.

Whenever you sit down and discuss the truth of the gospel, people think you are absurd. They crucified Jesus for the truth because they didn't want to hear the truth He was preaching. Well, people in the world are so blind that they need us to help them someway, somehow, to see the truth of the gospel.

One of the greatest way in which to teach is to be willing learners. We read in James 3:17, "But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be entreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy."

We are the salt of the earth. We are the agent by which the world is saved. I truly believe that if there weren't saints on this earth, God would have already destroyed the world. We are the preserving agent by which God has not already come.

Christ we preach and Him crucified. If we are unwilling to preach the Word of God to our loved ones

and fellow men, who will? Who is going to do it if you and I don't? The question is, "Are we willing?"

Preach we must, but preach with a righteous and loving heart; a heart of deep concern. Preach the Word but preach it in love. In Matthew 7:3-5, we find these words, "And why beholdest thou the mote that is in thy brother's eye, but considerest not the beam that is in thine own eye? Or how wilt thou say to thy brother, let me pull out the mote out of thine eye; and behold, a beam is in thine own eye? Thou hypocrite, first cast out the beam out of thine own eye; and then shalt thou see clearly to cast out the mote out of thy brother's

Jesus said to His disciples, "Freely ye have received, freely give." We need to give the truth in love. We need to give the truth to the people with a genuine heart of deep concern because it is the truth that sets them free. It is the truth that the whole world needs; it is the truth of the gospel you and I must give to them through the lives we live and the words that we speak, salted down so that it meets the need of every heart.

Let us be like Jesus. He taught with simple understanding and with great compassion.

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





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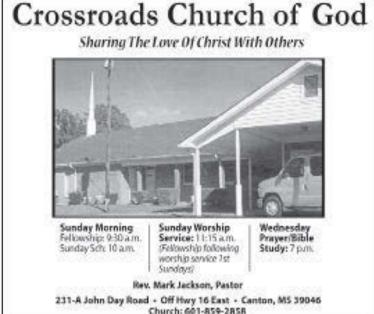
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MARCH 23 - 29, 2023

Celebrating Flonzie Brown Wright as a Civil Rights legend in Mississippi during Women's History Month



stood the importance of vot-

ing and jobs as these two

create the quality of life for the American dream. These

tenets are fundamental to all

people who want a chance to

She has walked beside and

been in meetings with the

great Civil Rights leaders of

our time. She has assisted in

planning and orchestrating

marches and demonstrations.

ness have created pathways

for others to emulate. She has

been a trailblazer and a stal-

wart supporter of the have-

To some who have built bar-

riers to break us, she has been

a bridge over troubled waters.

To those who wanted to tear

us down, she has aways found

Proudly, I say that meeting

Flonzie Brown "Goodloe"

Wright was a defining mo-

ment in the lives of my fami-

ly. Her persona and demeanor

give you hope and inspira-

tion. In her, you see a better

Brown Wright is a much

sought after speaker by col-

leges and universities. Her

story of perseverance and

persistence has given stu-

dents a blueprint for social

During her professional

life, she received advanced

administrative training from

the National Office of the

NAACP in New York and

was the recipient of an Honor-

ary Doctorate from Tougaloo

Dr. Flonzie, as she is affec-

tionately called, understands

the importance of passing on

historical information to the

next generation. She serves

as the coordinator of Black

History Month programming

at New Hope Baptist Church

Her awards and honors all

punctuate her effectiveness as

a change agent in the state of

It is my strong opinion that

Mississippi should create

the "Flonzie Brown "Good-

loe" Wright Anchor For Jus-

tice Award" to be given to a

citizen yearly who is a social

justice champion. March is

Women's History Month, and

the time is fitting to honor her

Flonzie Brown Wright has

given Mississippi her heart,

her mind and her good works.

Now it is the state's turn to

honor her with the "Flonzie

Brown "Goodloe" Wright

Anchor For Justice Award.'

with this distinction.

Mississippi and America.

in Jackson MS.

College in Jackson MS.

activism.

day and a brighter future.

a way to build us up.

nots wherever she has lived.

Her tenacity and tough-

be all that they can be.

By James B. Ewers Jr.

President Emeritus Teen Mentoring Committee of Ohio



space is no better when you leave it than when you found it, you need to redefine your

journey." These words were spoken by Civil Rights activist, Flonzie Brown Wright some years ago.

This compelling piece of prose should resonate with each of us as we move about in life.

I met Flonzie Brown Wright in the middle 1990s in Ohio. We worked together at Miami University of Ohio (Middletown Campus) where she served as the Student Affairs Scholar In Residence.

Upon reflection, it was a fitting title for a legend. She is simply a modern-day heroine and a role model for the ages. Her life has been filled with

twists and turns for justice and fairness. Her victories have created hope and opportunity for thousands of people.

Brown Wright has lived out the lyrics, "I am on the battlefield for my Lord, I'm on the battlefield for my Lord and I promised Him that I would serve Him till I die, I am on

the battlefield for my Lord."

Her involvement in equity and equal rights during the early days was not called social justice; it was simply called right versus wrong.

She wanted to ensure that right won out over wrong and that good prevailed over evil. We know that wrong and evil don't rest. It is a battle every hour of every day.

The times have changed yet not enough for her to slow down. She can't stop and won't stop until peace and justice are the call of the day.

Brown Wright has made an impact and an imprint on the social ills that beset the state of Mississippi.

Her determination and grit have given rise to increased rights for those in the state who have been undermined and under-resourced. For example, Flonzie Brown "Goodloe" Wright was the first African American female elected official in a Mississippi bi-racial town. She was commissioned by the Equal Opportunity Commission (EEOC) in 1964 as an investigator of employment

discrimination complaints.

Flonzie has long under-

Is your marriage in trouble?

By LaShunda Calvert, Ph.D. Guest Writer



Is my marriage in trouble? This is often a question that many spouses unfortunately ask themselves daily. This ques-

tion is often accompanied by a gut-wrenching feeling that nags at your heart and mind constantly. Furthermore, this question is normally asked when the love, romance, liking and admiration has dissipated sometimes with no explanation or little understanding.

Moreover, this question provokes various emotions of anxiousness, fear, heartache, headache, confusion and simply, hurt. Sadly, this question is asked when it is almost too late for the marriage to endure to the last line of the marriage vows, until death do us part... Until death do us part – can this be a two-fold explanation?

One, can death in the marriage be an emotional and mental breakdown or two, is it only referring to the physical death of one of the spouses. Of course, most of you would concur that explanation two best depicts until death do us part. However, ex-

planation one is one of the main reasons that marriages are in trouble even as you read this now. Someone you know or someone who knows someone you know; marriage is in trouble.

Is your marriage in trouble? Signs that your marriage is in trouble can include any of the following:

- You can feel and sense it
- Sadness you feel sad most of the time especially in the presence of your spouse
 - Little to no communication
 - Arguing more frequentlyNo arguments
- Gas lighting becomes the norm
- Silence lose the desire to talk to your spouse about anything and everything
 - Loneliness
 - Little to no dating
- Find ways to avoid being around one another
- Sleep in separate spaces/bedsPlan without considering your spouse
- Begin not to care about your spouse or the marriage
- Marriage is about convenience
- Fantasize life solo or with someone else
- Emotional and physical affairs begin

• Diminished sex life or no sex fe

- Hopelessness
- Cartoons and the music are speaking to you
- Find yourself googling, is my marriage in trouble?

No one fathoms on their wedding day the possibility of painfully asking yourself months and even years later if your marriage is in trouble. The question of asking yourself, is your marriage in trouble is a dreadful admittance that something just doesn't feel right in your marriage. This question is sometimes provoked by years of neglect and failing to do the following: love one another, acknowledge one another, respect one another, appreciate one another, faithfully commit to your marriage vows, and many more factors.

In many instances, this question is proceeded by separation and filing for divorce, but separation and divorce do not have to be your final answer or solution unless you feel that is the best choice for you; I 100% support what you feel is best.

However, if you feel that your marriage is in trouble and you and your spouse desire help or if you know a couple that is struggling in their marriage and want help – invite them and please consider attending a free, upcoming marriage conference Saturday, March 25, 2023, hosted by me and my husband, at The Restoration Church, 3931 Hanging Moss Road, Suite H, Jackson, MS. 39206 from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. You will be given helpful tools, Godly counsel, hear personal testimonies from married couples (me and my husband and others), who have chosen to have a healthy and happy marriage, and you will have fun.

My marriage was one in big trouble, but I want you to know that there is nothing, absolutely nothing too hard for God to do even in your marriage. If both you and your spouse are willing to fight for your marriage – your marriage doesn't have to remain in trouble.

For additional information, about the free conference contact me at the number below.

Contact Dr. LaShunda Calvert for speaking engagements (motivational, ministering, marriage workshops, marriage seminars, etc.) on: Instagram: letsstay2gether4ever Facebook: Dr. LaShunda Calvert Email:letsstaytogether4eva@gmail.com Contact # 769-206-3749

Reparations for U.S. descendants of slaves....not likely



By Leon Williams Contributing Writer



Currently there appears to be a movement among some American cities to consider providing reparations to descen-

dants of African-American slaves. Although the concept seems to be gaining impetus, bringing such a plan to fruition is easier said than done.

Tulsa, Oklahoma is the city most mentioned in recent media reports. Don't be misled. Race massacres decimated many other black communities and towns throughout the nation. The Clinton massacre, Meridian race riot and Carroll County race riot, among others, occurred right here in Mississippi.

The consideration of remunerations to descendants of slaves has been a conundrum for many years, starting with America's 1865 promise of "40 Acres and a Mule." Since that time the concept has steadily become increasingly convoluted. By and large, consistent grand-scale systematic schemes targeted against African Americans in the areas of education, employment, housing, banking, criminal justice and nearly every phase of American life have operated on automatic pilot.

Jackson, Mississippi's water crisis; the State of Mississippi's introduction of a bill to create a separate judicial district for white residents in a city comprised of 82% African Americans; and attempts to take over the Jackson International Airport reveal a disturbing trend in

Mississippi. Not to mention, reparations is nowhere on the radar.

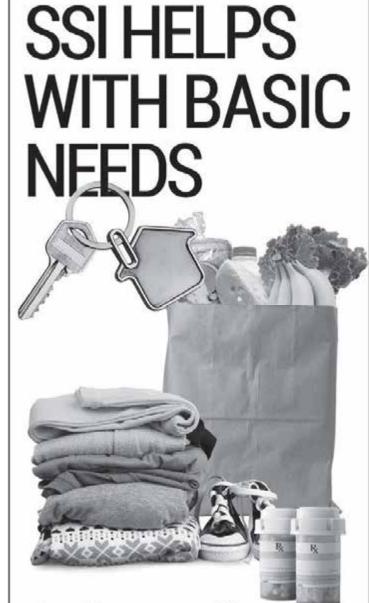
When individual states, cities or other municipalities insert themselves into the reparations quandary, additional layers of confusion are added to an already convoluted issue. Furthermore, this throw a wrench into the determination of which American entity should ultimately be responsible for the development and implementation of an all-inclusive reparations

Clearly, any grand plan designed to honestly tackle the question of reparations must be spearheaded by the U.S. federal government. But then again, wasn't "40 Acres and a Mule" a federal government proposition?

Adding insult to injury, truth be told, black Americans have absolutely no effective voice in whether, or not reparations will ever be paid. The present political climate in the United States has pushed the country backward relative to race relations, as is evident in today's exploding culture wars.

Had the United States been an honest broker from the outset, reparations would have been implemented long before now. Sadly, the U.S. has been able to hold off the descendants of slaves long enough for the debt to become insurmountable and the puzzle of reparations to become hopelessly unsolvable.

If it's any consolation, black Americans are not alone. They have about the same odds of reparations being paid to descendants of slaves as Native Americans have of America being returned to them.



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SSA.gov/SSI

1-800-772-1213



SSI is for people with low income and financial resources, who are either 65 or older, or an adult or child with a disability or blindness.

Produced at U.S. tarpayer expense.

LEGAL

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF LYNETTE GRIFFIN, DECEASED

CAUSE NO.: P2022-649 G/2

NOTICE TO UNKNOWN CREDITORS

Letters of Administration having been granted to Carolyn G. Purvis and Peggye Burk, by the Chancery Court of Hinds County, Mississippi to the undersigned Administrator upon the Estate of Lynette Griffin, Deceased, notice is hereby given to all persons having claims against said estate to present the same to the Clerk of this Court for probation and registration according to the law, within ninety (90) days from the first publication of this notice, or they will be forever barred.

This the 8th day of March, 2023.

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI COUNTY OF HINDS

Personally appeared before me, the undersigned authority in and for the jurisdiction aforesaid, the within named, Peggy Burk, Administrator for the Estate of Lynette Griffin, deceased, who having been by me first duly sworn, states that the above Notice to Creditors is true





3/16/2023, 3/23/2023

LEGAL

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF MADISON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF JOHNNY STRINGER, DECEASED

CAUSE NO. P2022-207 T/I

PETITIONER: JOHNNIE STRINGER

NOTICE TO UNKNOWN CREDITORS

Letters of Administration having been granted on to Mildred Johnson, by the Chancery Court of Hinds County, Mississippi to the undersigned Administrator upon the Estate of Johnnie

Stringer, Deceased, notice is hereby given to all persons having claims against said estate to present

the same to the Clerk of this Court for probation and registration according to the law, within

ninety (90) days from the first publication of this notice, or they will be forever barred.

This the 8th day of March, 2023.

Mildred Johnson Administrator

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI COUNTY OF HINDS

Personally appeared before me, the undersigned authority in and for the jurisdiction aforesaid, the within named, Mildred Johnson, Administrator for the Estate of Johnnie Stringer, deceased, who having been by me first duly sworn, states that the above Notice to Creditors is true

and correct as therein stated.



3/16/2023, 3/23/2023

LEGAL

Advertisement for RFPS RFP 2023-08 Content Area Support for Pre-Kindergarten - 12th Grades

RFP 2023-09 Professional Development and Coaching Support for School and or District Leaders and Administrators

Electronic RFP proposals for the above RFP will be received by the Board of Trustees of the Jackson Public School District, in the Business Office, 662 South President Street, Jackson, Mississippi, until 10:00 A.M. (Local Prevailing Time), April 05, 2023 at which time and place they will be publicly opened and read aloud. The Board of Trustees reserves the right to reject any and

all RFPs, to waive informalities, and to withhold the acceptance of any RFP if

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

or how to register, please contact Central Bidding at 225-810-4814.

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

3/16/2023, 3/23/2023

LEGAL

PUBLIC NOTICE

The City of Jackson hereby gives notice that its annual audited financial report for the year ended September 30, 2021 has been completed. Copies are available to the public at 219 S. President St., Jackson, MS 39201.

LEGAL

MARCH 23 - 29, 2023

Electronic Bidding Advertisement for Bids Bid 3232 Marshall Elementary School ESSER III Renovations

Electronic and sealed bid proposals for the above bid will be received by the Board of Trustees of the Jackson Public School District, in the Business Office, 662 South President Street, Jackson, Mississippi, until 10:00 A.M. (Local Prevailing Time) April 25, 2023 at which time and place they will be publicly opened and read aloud. A Pre-Bid Conference concerning the project for Marshall Elementary will be held at 2909 Oak Forest Drive, Jackson, MS 39212 on April 14, 2023 at 2:30 P.M. Attendance at the pre-bid conference is non-mandatory but strongly suggested. The Board of Trustees reserves the right to reject any and all bids, to waive informalities, and to withhold the acceptance of any bid if approved for forty-five calendar days from the date bids are opened.

Plan holders are required to register and order bid documents at www.jpsdmsprojects.com. A \$250.00 non-refundable deposit shall be required on each set of bid documents and must be purchased through the website. All plan holders are required to have a valid email address for registration. Questions regarding website registration and online orders please contact Plan House Printing, 607 W. Main Street, Tupelo, MS 38804, (662) 407-0193. Questions regarding bid documents please contact Cody Farris at Duvall Decker, Phone: 601-713-1128, Email: cnf@duvalldecker.com

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

3/23/2023, 3/30/2023

LEGAL

LEGAL NOTICE REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

CITY OF JACKSON

Notice is hereby given that Proposals will be received by the City Clerk of the City of Jackson, Mississippi until 3:30p.m., Tuesday, March 28, 2023. The City of Jackson, Mississippi requests proposals from art groups and other community development groups providing services to the citizens in the City

activities designed to increase awareness, understanding and appreciation of the arts and improve the quality of life among the citizens of Jackson. This solicitation seeks proposals with an emphasis on community exposure, history and education.

Financial assistance is available to support arts and community development

Grant awards offered by the City of Jackson shall only represent supplemental funding in support of arts projects and community development-based projects. To be eligible for funding, proposing organizations must have verifiable cash match contributions that equals to at least 50% of project cost.

For the Request for Proposal packet, please contact Beverley Johnson-Durham at 601 960 0383. All proposal must be sealed and plainly marked on the outside of the envelope: Proposal for general funds Arts and Community Based Grants. Proposal packets must be received by the City Clerk's Office at City Hall, 219 South President Street by 3:30pm on March 28, 2023.

The city reserves the right to reject any and all proposals.

Request for proposal documents can be downloaded from the City of Jackson website: www.jacksonms.gov and may be picked up at the City of Jackson Department of Human and Cultural Services located at 1000 Metrocenter Drive Suite 101, Jackson MS

By: Adriane Dorsey-Kidd, Director Department of Human and Cultural Services

3/9/2023. 3/16/2023. 3/23/2023

LEGAL

RULE 81 SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF ANTHONY CHARLES SMITH, DECEASED

CAUSE #:P2022-648 T/1

BY: Gwendolyn Porter Smith

SUMMONS

THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

TO: THE UNKNOWN HEIRS OF ANTHONY CHARLES SMITH, DECEASED

You have been made a Defendant in the suit filed in this Court by Gwendolyn Porter Smith, seeking the adjudication of heirs of Anthony Charles Smith, Decease

You are summoned to appear and defend against the complaint or petition filed against you in this action at 9:00 o'clock a.m., on the 7th day of June, 2023, in the Chancery Courtroom of Hinds County, Mississippi, before Henorable Dewayne Thomas and in case of your failure to appear and defend a judgment will be entered against you for the money or other things

You are not required to file an answer or other pleading but you may do so if you desire. Issued under my hand and the seal of said Court, this the Old day of March, 2023.



NYTIM Breaking News Streaming Videos Interactive Blogs Visit our newly designed website:

www.mississippilink.com

LEGAL

Advertisement for RFPS

RFP 2023-10 Professional Development and Coaching Support for **Teachers**

Electronic RFP proposals for the above RFP will be received by the Board of Trustees of the Jackson Public School District, in the Business Office, 662 South President Street, Jackson, Mississippi, until 10:00 A.M. (Local Prevailing Time), April 06, 2023 at which time and place they will be publicly opened and read aloud. The Board of Trustees reserves the right to reject any and all RFPs. to waive informalities, and to withhold the acceptance of any RFP if approved for forty-five calendar days from the date RFPs/ are opened.

There are two (2) options in which RFP proposals may be obtained. Down-

load from Central Bidding website at www.centralbidding.com for a small fee

of \$49.99 or visit JPSD website at www.jackson.k12.ms.us and download.

Vendors must be registered with Central Bidding in order to electronically upload RFPs proposals at no cost. For any questions concerning the process, or how to register, please contact Central Bidding at 225-810-4814. Until further notice, all hand delivery proposals delivered between 9:00 a.m.

until 9:59 a.m. (local prevailing time) the date the bid is scheduled to open, must be delivered to JPSD Board Room, 621 South State Street, Jackson,

3/16/2023, 3/23/2023

LEGAL

Advertisement For Bids JTRAN JANITORIAL SERVICES AND SUPPLIES CITY PROJECT No. RFP#2023-01

Sealed bids will be received by the City Council of the City of Jackson, Mississippi at the office of the City Clerk, City Hall, 219 South President Street, P.O. Box 17, Jackson, Mississippi 39205 until 3:30 P.M. CST, Tuesday, March 28, 2023, for janitorial services and supplies (as specified) necessary for REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP\$2023-01.

Principal items of work are as follows:

- 1. Janitorial Services for JTRAN Administrative Building (13,695 SF) six (6) days a week, 9:00am --6:00 pm;
- 2. Janitorial Services for JTRAN Customer Service and Bathrooms (3,983 SF) three (3) days a week; I lam
- 3. Restroom Supplies;

The term of the contract will be for five (5) years with an option to renew for two (2) additional one (1) year periods by consent of both parties.

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 provision of the City of Jackson's Equal Business Opportunity (EBO) Executive Order. Failure to comply with the City's Executive Order shall disqualifr 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 Division of Equal Business Opportunity at 601-960-1856. Copies of the Executive Order, EBO Plan Applications and a copy of the program are available at 200 South President Street, Suite 223, 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 affordedfiill opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, national origin, or sex, in consideration for an award.

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 ensures that the Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBEs), as outlined in 49 C.F.R. Part 26, as amended, have the maximum opportunity to participate in the performance of contracts. Therefore, it is imperative that you read the DBE Section and complete the necessary paperwork in its entirety. If there is any evidence or indication that two or more bidders are in collusion to restrict competition or are otherwise engaged in anti-competitive practices, the submission of all such bidders shall be rejected, and such evidence may be cause for disqualification of the participants in anyfuture solicitation undertaken by the City oPackson.

Bids shall be made out on the bid proposal forms to be provided, sealed in an envelope and plaint■ marked on the outside of the envelope: "Bid for JTRAN JANITORIAL SERVICES AND SUPT' I .ILS, REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)#2023-01." Each bidder shall write his Certificate of Responsibilit■ Number on the outside of the sealed envelope containing his proposal.

Bids, EBO and DBE plans shall be submitted in triplicate (bound/stapled separately), sealed and deposited with the City Clerk, City Hall, Jackson, Mississippi prior to the hour and date hereinbefore designated. No bidder may withdraw his bid within 90 days after the actual date of the opening thereof.

Official Bid Documents, including the Contract Documents and Drawings can be downloaded from Central Bidding at www.centralbiddina.com. Electronic Bids may be submitted at www.centralbiddine.com. For any questions related to the electronic bidding process, please call Central Bidding at 225-810-4814.

Awarding public contracts to non-resident Bidders will be on the same basis as the non-resident bidder's state awards contracts to Mississippi Contractors bidding under similar circumstances. Current state law, Mississippi General Laws of 2010, Chapter 383, section 31-3-21 of the Mississippi Code of 1972, as amended, requires a non-resident bidder to attach to the bid a copy of the Bidder's resident state's current laws pertaining to such state's treatment of nonresident contractors. Non-resident bidders must attach to their bid a copy of any bid preference law of the state, city, county, parish, province, nation or political subdivision where they are domiciled. If there is no such law where they are domiciled, all non-resident bidders shall attach a letter to their bid stating that there is no bid preference law where they are domiciled. The bid of any non-resident bidder who fails to attach to its bid a copy of its domicile's bid preference law or a letter stating that its domicile has no such bid preference law, whichever is applicable, shall be rejected and not considered for award.

The City of Jackson hereby notifies all Bidders that minority and women business enterprises are solicited to bid on these contracts as prime contractors and are encouraged to make inquiries regarding potential subcontracting opportunities, equipment, material and/or supply needs.

The City of Jackson reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to waive any informalities or irregularities therein.

Christine Welch, Deputy Director Office of Transportation

3/2/2023, 3/9/2023, 3/16/2023, 3/23/2023

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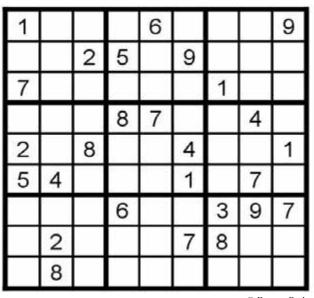
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Sudoku

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.



© Feature Exchange

Sudoku Solution

1	5	4	7	6	3	2	8	9	
8	3	2	5	1	9	7	6	4	
7	6	9	2	4	8	1	5	3	
3	9	1	8	7	6	5	4	2	
2	7	8	9	5	4	6	3	1	
5	4	6	3	2	1	9	7	8	
4	1	5	6	8	2	3	9	7	
0	2	2	4	0	7	0	4	F	1

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CITY HALL

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2659 Livingston Road

DOLLAR GENERAL

3957 Northview Dr (North Jackson)

DOLLAR GENERAL

2030 N Siwell Rd

DOLLAR GENERAL

4331 Highway 80W

DOLLAR GENERAL

5990 Medgar Evers Blvd

DOLLAR GENERAL

1214 Capitol St (Downtown Jackson)

DOLLAR GENERAL

304 Briarwood Dr

DOLLAR GENERAL 2855 McDowell Rd

DOLLAR GENERAL

104 Terry Rd

J & A FUEL STORES

3249 Medgar Evers Blvd.

LIBERTY BANK AND TRUST

2325 Livingston Rd. MCDADE'S MARKET

Northside Drive

MCDADE'S MARKET #2

653 Duling Avenue

PICADILLY CAFETERIA

Jackson Medical Mall

350 W Woodrow Wilson Avenue

SHELL FOOD MART

5492 Watkins Drive

SPORTS MEDICINE

Fortification and I-55

MURPHY USA

6394 Ridgewood Rd (North Jackson) **REVELL ACE HARDWARE**

Terry Rd (South Jackson)

WALGREENS

380 W. Woodrow Wilson Ave

CANTON

A & I

716 Roby Street - Canton, MS **B&B**

702 West North Street - Canton, MS

BOUTIQUE STORE

3355 North Liberty - Canton, MS **BULLY'S STORE**

Church Street - Canton, MS

COMMUNITY MART

743 Ruby Street - Canton, MS

FRYER LANE GROCERY

Martin Luther King Drive - Canton, MS HAMLIN FLORAL DESIGN

285 Peace Street - Canton, MS

JOE'S SANDWICH & GROCERY

507 Church Street - Canton, MS

K & K ONE STOP

110 West Fulton Street - Canton, MS

LACY'S INSURANCE

421 Peace Street - Canton, MS **SOUL SET BARBER SHOP**

257 Peace Street - Canton, MS

TRAILER PARK GROCERY

22 Westside Drive - Canton, MS

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HAVIOR'S AUTO CARE

5495 I-55 South Frontage Road

VOWELL'S MARKET PLACE

5777 Terry Road

CITY HALL

Terry Road

CLINTON

DOLLAR GENERAL

807 Berkshire St - Clinton, MS

TERRY

SERVICE STATION

at Exit 78

CITY HALL

West Cunningham Avenue

RAYMOND

HINDS COMMUNITY COLLEGE

WELCOME CENTER

505 E. Main Street

SUNFLOWER GROCERY 122 Old Port Gibson Street,

Raymond, MS

LOVE FOOD MART

120 E. Main Street.

Raymond, MS

RAYMOND PUBLIC LIBRARY

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110 Courtyard Square, Raymond

RAYMOND COURTHOUSE

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101 Hwy 18 & 27

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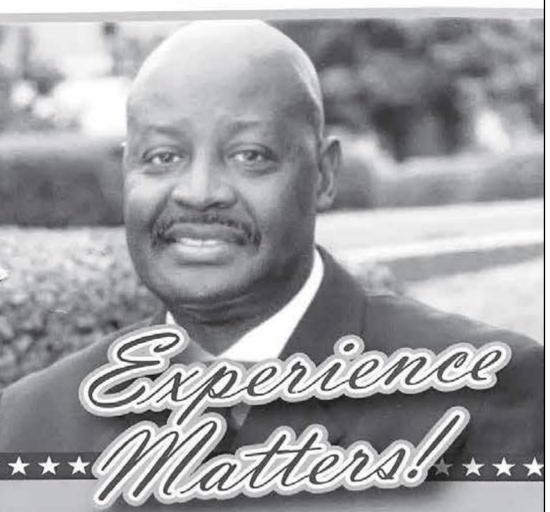
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Mclaurin of Callaway HS named 2023 Cadet of the Year

The Mississippi Link Newswire

JROTC Cadet Tylen Mclaurin is the 2023-2024 Jackson Public School District Cadet of the Year. Mclaurin was promoted to the rank of Cadet Colonel February 22, 2023, and will serve as the JPSD JROTC Cadet Brigade Commander for the 2023-2024 school year.

A junior at Callaway High School, Mclaurin currently serves as the 4th Battalion Supply & Logistics Officer. Cadet Mclaurin is truly an extraordinary person, outstanding scholar and leader. She is highly dedicated, goal-oriented and works diligently toward her passions.

She believes that to be a successful leader, you'll need to respect authority, have an ethical mindset 24/7, and have the courage to take on new responsibilities and face new challenges every day in life. When she sets her mind on a specific outcome, she will strive for perfection and take the responsibility of working hard until her goal is met.

She credits her family, instructors, and community for always pushing her to become the best version of herself. Cadet Colonel Mclaurin has been very active within JROTC throughout all of her years in high school. She participates as a member of the Callaway JROTC Drill Team, Color Guard Detail, and the Cadet Leadership Staff. She is also a member of the National Junior Honor Society, Charger Bolt Newspaper Staff, Girls Varsity Soccer and Girls Track and

Some of Cadet Colonel Mclaurin's short and mid-range goals are to maintain her 3.8 GPA, graduate within the top 10 of her class, and attend Embry-Riddle University after graduation. She also plans to serve in the United States Air Force as a Commissioned Officer after col-

Jackson Public Schools announced the Cadet of the Year at the 19th JPS JROTC Cadet of the Year Awards Ceremony held February 22, 2023, at the Jackson State University E-Center.

Additionally, the District celebrated the school-level top cadet finalists along with the top cadets from each high school grade level, and the top cadets from Powell Middle School Academy of Military Science grades 6-8. The event was well-attended by JROTC cadets, parents, JROTC instructors, school officials and community supporters.

The six-remaining school-level Cadets of the Year for 2023 are: Christoper Dawson, Provine High School; Jamira Handy, Jim Hill High School; Nicholas Mc-



2023 Cadet of the Year Tylen McLaurin, Callaway



cadet brigade command sergeant major.



Provine, Christoper Dawson

Forest Hill, Shaquilla McQuay

Glorthan, Murrah High School;

Shaquilla McQuay, Forest Hill

High School; Sherlin Rangel,

Wingfield High School; Sameria

Valladares, Lanier High School.

The Cadet of the Year compe-

tition is a rigorous process that

begins at the school level. At

the district level, the competi-

tion becomes more involved and

intense. Cadets were required to



Jim Hill, Jamira Handy



Wingfield, Sherlin Rangel

submit a comprehensive portfolio that included a résumé with references, examples of academic work, records of GPA and class standing, evidence of academically challenging coursework, an essay, proof of community service work, physical fitness and more.

In the next phase of the process, cadets appear before a se-



Lanier, Sameria Valladares

lection panel to deliver an oral presentation and respond to the

panel's questions. "The Cadet of the Year program was implemented to recognize and reward the district's most outstanding scholars and to inspire others to strive for excellence in all their endeavors," said Col. (Ret.) Fredrick Brown, director of JROTC programs.

MisFire wins Rep. Bennie Thompson's 2022 **Congressional App Challenge** in Mississippi's **Second District**



Front row (I-r) Adyn Bolds, Drew Overton; Back row (I-r) Zavien Williams, Mason Smith

The Mississippi Link Newswire

JPS scholars enrolled in the Simulation and Animation Design Program at the Jackson Public Schools Career Development Center created a national award-winning app and were selected by Congressman Bennie G. Thompson as winners of the 2022 Congressional App Challenge.

Adyn Bolds of Lanier H.S., Drew Overton of Callaway H.S., Mason Smith of CDC, and Mikela Nelson won first place in the competition, while Jamarion Gipson, Jalen Rees and Nicholas Rees won second place.

This is the sixth consecutive year that scholars from this program have received recognition for winning first place in this national chal-

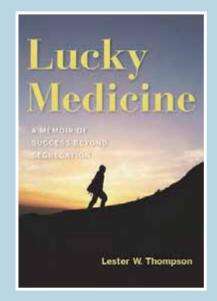
lenge. This year's winning app is called Misfire. When asked what inspired the creation of MisFire, the students said, "Gun violence is a leading cause of premature death in the U.S. Guns kill more than 38,000 people and cause nearly 85,000 injuries each year. In Mississippi alone, there were over 710 firearm deaths in 2019, averaging two people a day, and 64 of those deaths were children between the ages of 0 and 19,

with numbers increasing every year. Our goal is to open people's eyes to the very real impact of gun violence in American communities in an effective, proactive way, giving people a space to vent and create a sense of community, as well as giving resources on how to properly engage in conflict and manage impulsive behavior."

The Congressional App Challenge is an official initiative of the U.S. House of Representatives, where Members of Congress host contests in their districts for middle school and high school students, encouraging them to learn to code and inspiring them to pursue careers in computer science.

Each participating Member of Congress selects a winning app from their district, and each winning team is invited to showcase their winning app to Congress during the annual #HouseOfCode Festival. The program is a publicprivate partnership made possible through funding from Omidyar Network, AWS, Rise, the Coder School, Apple and others.

The 2023 Congressional App Challenge will launch in June of 2023, and eligible students can pre-register for the competition now.



BOOK REVIEW: LUCK MEDICALE BY LESTER W. THOMPSON C.2023, WELL HOUSE BOOKS, INDIANA UNIVERSITY PRESS \$24.00 • 196.04 GES

By Terri Schlichenmeyer Columnist

It didn't arrived in a package. It wasn't wrapped in fancy paper, it didn't arrive with cake or candles. And yet, the gift you got, that thing that someone gave you was better than anything that could've come in a

pretty box.

It was bigger than you ever expected. As in the new memoir, "Lucky Medicine" by Lester W. Thompson, the gift was a life-changer.

Born and raised in Indianapolis, Lester Thompson grew up with "rules" that his Southernborn parents instilled in him all his life. Even though Jim Crow racism wasn't entrenched in the North like it was in the South, such rules were "the frame of reference."

And that lent mystery to a very curious relationship Thompson's father had with a white Jewish man, a Mr. Goodman. Cal Thompson cut Goodman's hair in the privacy of Goodman's home; Thompson sometimes accompanied his father there but he never fully understood the friendship between the two men. He says "It didn't occur to me to wonder..."

When he was thirteen, he learned the truth: he was named after Goodman, who was his father's closest friend. Furthermore, Goodman was Thompson's godfather and he'd made a vow to pay for Thompson's entire college education.

That he was going to be a doctor someday was another thing Thompson had known all his life. His father, an authoritarian alcoholic, never left any room to question it. And so, after high school graduation, Thompson headed to IU in Bloomington, Indiana.

It was an eye-opener, in

many ways.

An only child, Thompson had to learn how to share. He had to learn to live with white people next door, and how to study for classes that seemed impossible to ace. He fell in love, and fell again. And he watched the world change as the Civil Rights Movement began.

"I will never know what prompted Mr. Goodman to make his gift," Thompson says. "but in the end, I suppose, all that matters is that he did."

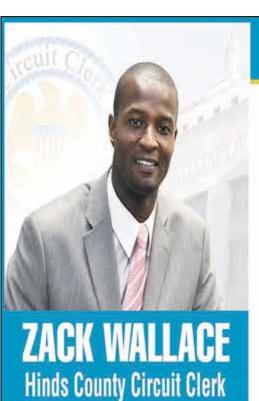
Sometimes, change can come with a big ka-BOOM. Other times, it sneaks in the back door

and sits quietly. That mixture's what you get with this unique memoir, "Lucky Medicine."

Unique because while racism figures into author Lester W. Thompson's story, it's not a very big part, considering the mid-last-century setting. The Movement is barely a blip on the radar; only a handful of troubles with white people are mentioned, and they're not belabored. So racism is in this book, but only at whisper-level.

Instead, Thompson focuses on his relatively insulated life, his parents and friends, his studies, and the mysterious, still-unsolved relationship his father had with Goodman. And that's where this story glows: Thompson's tale is nostalgic and mundane. It's not overly-dramatic. It doesn't shout or beg for attention. It's just warm and happily, wonderfully, ordi-

Be aware before you share this book with an elder that there are four-letter words in here and a rather eyebrow-raising, too-much-information bedroom scene inside. If you can handle that, though, "Lucky Medicine" is a one-of-a-kind gift



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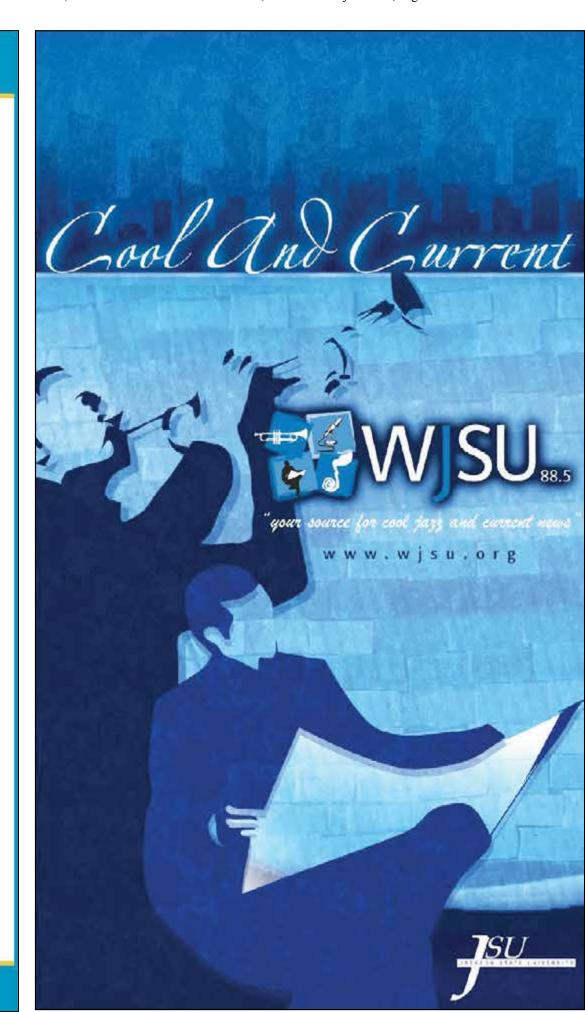
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Jackson State's Tomekia Reed wins SWAC Coach of the Year



By Timothy Ward

Sports Writer



JSU. In her 5 seasons as coach, Coach of the Year (2021, 2022). When Reed was introduced at her press conference, she

stated that this was her dream

schedule this season; starting the season off with 9 conof those games, they defeated Texas Tech, a power 5 school.

to the team's style of play, the Lady Tigers won 15 consecusecutive road games. In one tive games. Another notable attribute, Reed's former player, Amesyhya Williams-Holliday was the first HBCU player After making adjustments to be drafted by the WNBA in

Reed credits her staff for awards. She had them join her when she was introduced as the winner this season.

PHOTOS BY TIMOTHY WARD

"I can't be who I am without them," she said.



Reed addresses her team

she is 99-47. She has won

For the third time in 5 sea- 4 consecutive SWAC regusons, JSU Women's head coach lar season championships, 2 Tomekia Reed wins SWAC SWAC tournaments, took her job. It's been a dream come Coach of the Year. Reed has team to the WNIT this season, instituted a remarkable run at BOXTOROW National HBCU

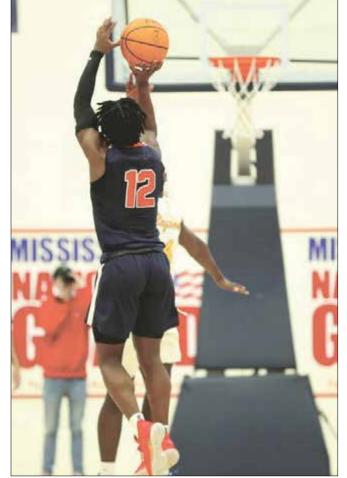
true for Jackson State. Reed implemented a tougher

Mississippi's all time leading scorer commits to Mississippi State



Josh Hubbard committs to MSU.

PHOTOS BY TIMOTHY WARD



Hubbard scored over 4275 points.

By Timothy Ward Sports Writer

Josh Hubbard, a 5'10" guard that played for Madison-Ridgeland Academy, ranked #15 in the nation for guards and ranked #89 overall, became the leading scorer in Mississippi boys high school basketball history February 17, 2023.

Hubbard scored his 4275th point late in the fourth quarter to give MRA the lead, making him the all-time scoring leader. Robert Woodard who played from 1982-1986 at Houlka was the previous scoring leader.

Josh Hubbard of MRA, Robert Woodard of Houlka and Monta Ellis of Lanier, are the only boys to score 4000

At that time, Hubbard had committed to play for Ole Miss. Ole Miss men's head coach Kermit Davis was in attendance along with Hubbard's family and friends to see him break the record. Davis said he wanted to see Hubbard break the record in person.

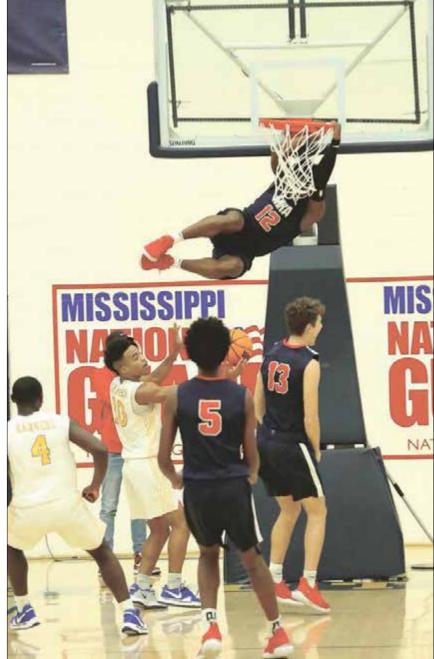
Several changes from that night have transpired. A week later, Kermit Davis was fired by Ole Miss after 5 seasons. The Rebels were 10-18 and 2-13 in the SEC. Davis' firing caused key players currently on the team and signees to consider leaving Ole Miss. Hubbard was one of the signees that requested to be released from his national letter of

As of now, four-star forward Rashaud Marshall and three-star forward Jordan Burks are still committed. Ole Miss hired Chris Beard to replace Davis.

Hiring Beard raised some eyebrows nationwide. On January 5, 2023, Beard was fired from the University of Texas. He was the men's head basketball

coach. The reason for his firing was due to a third-degree felony domestic violence charge after an altercation with his fiancée. The charges were officially dropped February 15, 2023 by Travis County District Attorney Jose Garza.

The following day, Beard released the following statement. "I am pleased with the announcement that the charges against me have been dismissed," Beard said. "While I always had faith and confidence in the truth and this outcome, it has been extremely challenging to wait patiently and not publicly respond. I'm sorry and deeply remorseful to my family, friends, all my players and staff both most recent and past, and everyone at my alma mater, The University of Texas, including the fans and supporters who were affected by this situation. I would also like to thank all those who have reached out to express



Hubbard with the dunk.

encouragement and love during this difficult time."

On March 13, 2023, Hubbard committed to Mississippi State University. His commitment keeps the No. 1 recruit in the state at home.

MSU's program appears to be on the rise. The Bulldogs finished the season 21-12. They were eliminated at the buzzer in the NCAA play in game versus Pittsburgh, losing 60-59.

On March 15, 2023, Hubbard was named the 2022-2023 Mississippi Gatorade Boys Player of the Year. He's the first player from Madison-Ridgeland Academy to win the award.

Hubbard averaged, 27.1 points, 5.5 rebounds, 4.9 assists, and 1.1 steals per game this season. Hubbard also has a 3.9 GPA.

Hinds County School District Weekly Update

ENGAGING-EMPOWERING-ENSURING-EXCELLENCE

The Hinds County School District administrators paid tribute and appreciations to the Hinds County School Board during Board Appreciation Day. The Hinds County School Board does a wonderful job in taking care of the business of the Hinds County School District and makes sure that all necessary needs are met to ensure the district is successful in all endeavors. Thank you Hinds County School Board for a job well done.























