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MEMORIAL DAY
REMEMBER & HONOR

Men who care about Jackson held second annual conference to eradicate violence

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

According to Violent Crime in Mississippi: A Data-supported Analysis and Evidence-based solutions, “Although violent crime rates increased in urban and rural areas, the sheer number of homicides in the Capital City skews Mississippi’s data. Jackson accounted for less than 6 percent of the state’s population in 2020 but more than 50 percent of all homicides. Jackson’s violent crime rate rose sharply from 2018 to 2020. It is now more than double that of Gulfport, and more than 4x that of Southaven.

The homicide rate in Jackson is the highest in the state by far – almost 5x higher than Gulfport and over 18x higher than Southaven – and one of the highest in the nation.”

The prayer breakfast on stopping violence in the City of Jackson was held by Men Who Care About Jackson at JSU e-Center (1230 Raymond Rd., Jackson, Miss.) from 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., Saturday, May 20, 2023.

The conference, sponsored



Elicia Marshall’s daughter was murdered by gun violence. She speaks of her devotion to working with murdered victims’ loved ones. PHOTOS BY JANICE NEAL-VINCENT



Assistant Chief Derrick Jordan (CPD) calls for generations to unite, despite philosophies and backgrounds.



Pastor Scott Fortenberry of Soul City Church in Jackson says to get rid of poverty, broken relationships must be healed.

by Restoration Community Church (328 Boling Street, Jackson, Miss. 39209), focused upon salvaging Jackson. In light of the theme – “Stronger Together” – the church’s pastor, Joseph White, said, “This is an apolitical meeting where we are searching for solutions based on

truth, compassion and what is just for everyone.”

White continued that persons in Jackson are 3 times more likely to be killed versus in Chicago and Detroit. He indicated that the problem of violence has already been identified and the conference should be addressing

solutions.

“The children in so many ways are starving for leadership and guidance, so we know that mentorship is important. We want to hear each other, feel each other, be patient and listen

Jackson
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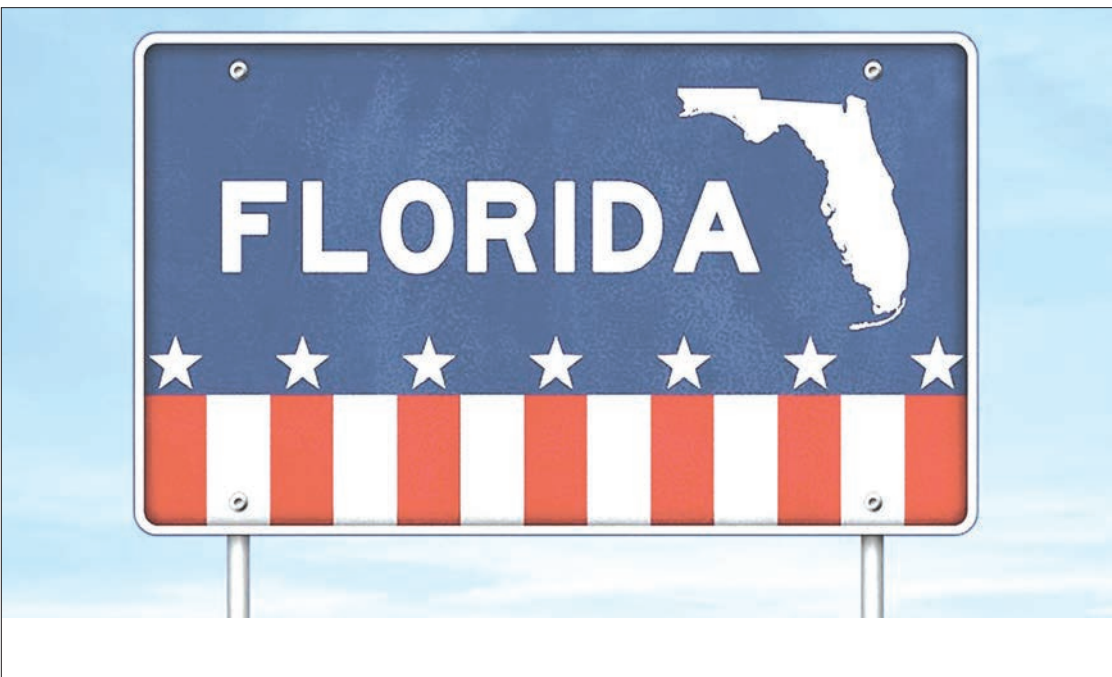
NAACP issues travel ban on Florida in response to governor’s ‘hostility’ toward minorities

By Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Newswire Senior Correspondent

The NAACP Board of Directors has issued a formal travel advisory for the state of Florida. According to a news release from the nation’s oldest civil rights organization, the travel advisory comes in direct response to Gov. Ron DeSantis’ “aggressive attempts to erase black history and to restrict diversity, equity and inclusion programs in Florida schools.”

The formal travel notice states, “Florida is openly hostile toward African Americans, people of color and LGBTQ+ individuals. Before traveling to Florida, please understand that the state of Florida devalues and marginalizes the contributions of, and the challenges faced by African Americans and other communities of color.”

NAACP President and CEO Derrick Johnson said he wanted the message to resonate. “Let me be clear – failing to teach an accurate representation of the horrors and inequalities that black Americans have faced and continue to face is a disservice to



According to a news release from the nation’s oldest civil rights organization, the travel advisory comes in direct response to Gov. Ron DeSantis’ “aggressive attempts to erase Black history and to restrict diversity, equity, and inclusion programs in Florida schools.”

students and a dereliction of duty to all,” Johnson stated.

“Under the leadership of Governor DeSantis, the state of Florida has become hostile to black Americans and in direct conflict with the democratic ideals that our union was founded upon,” he

continued.

“He should know that democracy will prevail because its defenders are prepared to stand up and fight. We’re not backing down, and we encourage our allies to join us in the battle for the soul of our nation.”

According to the release, the travel advisory was initially proposed to the Board of Directors by NAACP’s Florida State Conference.

NAACP’s collective consid-

Florida
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Legendary NFL, movie star and activist Jim Brown dies at 87



Voted pro football’s greatest player of the 20th century, Brown earned induction into the Hall of Fame in 1971.

By Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Newswire Senior Correspondent

Jim Brown, the superstar Cleveland Browns running back who quit football at the very height of his hall-of-fame career, has died at 87.

Perhaps the greatest running back ever, Brown quit football to pursue an acting career at 30.

From 1957 to 1965, the perennial all-pro helped lead a Cleveland Browns ground

game that won an NFL championship in 1964. Voted pro football’s greatest player of the 20th century, Brown earned induction into the Hall of Fame in 1971.

But football wasn’t the only sport in which he excelled.

He played basketball, track and Lacrosse at high levels. He was inducted into the Lacrosse Hall of Fame in 1984.

Brown
Continued on page 3

South Carolina Sen. Tim Scott announces presidential campaign



While Biden remains popular among black voters, Scott, an African American, has drawn the ire of blacks and other minorities, with many in the community deriding the senator as “Uncle Tim,” a takeoff of the self-hating Uncle Tom.

By Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Newswire Senior Correspondent

South Carolina Republican Sen. Tim Scott, a longtime and devoted ally of former President Donald Trump, has thrown his hat into the 2024 presidential ring. With Trump already declared and the presumptive frontrunner, Scott

joins a growing Republican candidate list that includes another Trump ally, former South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley.

Ironically, Haley appointed Scott in 2013 to represent South Carolina in the U.S. Senate after the retirement of

Scott
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The end of a great era of black excellence: Gussie Z. Stutts, chairwoman of G.W. Stutts Sr. Foundation, Inc. passes away at 77

Special to The Mississippi Link

Gussie Z. Stutts, an exceptional champion within the Republican Party, whose death marks the end of a great era of black excellence in business, politics and trailblazing. She will forever be remembered as a fun and loving mother, a caring family member, the life of the party, the spirit of greatness and a true beacon of light. Her remarkable journey and influential presence has left an indelible mark on the lives she touched.

Gussie Z. Stutts (affectionately known as “Ms. G.”) is the daughter and last living child of George Washington Stutts, Sr., a renowned oil tycoon and philanthropist from Mississippi.

As one of the largest landowners in Mississippi and the owner of the first producing oil wells in Mississippi, G.W. Stutts, Sr. held the distinction of being one of the wealthiest men in the south and one of the wealthiest black men in the United States until his passing in 1964. G.W. Stutts, Sr. was a prominent figure in the field of oil and gas, business, politics and philanthropy, and his estate is widely recognized as the



Gussie Z. Stutts
July 15, 1945-May 16, 2023

largest estate ever to be settled in Mississippi at the time.

The estate of G.W. Stutts, Sr. has since become required reading for all law students who study Wills & Estate Planning at Mississippi law schools.

Given the immense historical significance of the Stutts family estate and its enduring impact on humanity, it is appropriate to acknowledge the passing of Gussie Z. Stutts. Throughout her life, Gussie Z. Stutts remained closely connected to her father’s estate, and her contributions to its legacy cannot be understated.

Through her own efforts and the legacy of her esteemed father, Gussie Z. Stutts has made enduring contributions to both the political realm and the philanthropic landscape, leaving a lasting impact on the history of black American achievement.

Gussie Zeleamon Stutts, chairwoman of the G.W. Stutts, Sr. Foundation Inc., was the youngest and last living child of Zelma Mitchell Stutts and George Washington Stutts, Sr.

Gussie Z. Stutts was one of the first black people to be allowed to enter the State of Mississippi Governor’s mansion. She was a woman who not only embodied grace and dignity but also played a pivotal role in shaping the history and progress of the state of Mississippi. She was born into a wealthy and influential family, however, she recognized her social duty and dedicated herself to uplifting her fellow citizens of Mississippians.

In her early years, Gussie Z. Stutts participated and advocated for the political inclusion and involvement of black Americans. As a former Democratic candidate for Mississippi House of Representa-

tives, Gussie Z. Stutts defied expectations and shattered barriers throughout her illustrious existence. Though she had an unsuccessful run, Gussie Z. Stutts’ business acumen was matched only by her unwavering commitment to public service.

Recognizing the transformative power of education, she established outreach programs, scholarships, mentorship initiatives, and vocational training centers, providing countless individuals with the tools to build a better future for themselves and their communities.

In later years, Gussie Z. Stutts played a pivotal role in deepening the alliance between the Republican Party and minorities in Mississippi and the United States. Like her father, for the last 35 years, she has been a member of the Republican Party, an active member of campaigns, including Presidential elections. Her efforts helped bridge divides and foster understanding among diverse communities, contributing to the advancement of civil rights and social progress.

Gussie Z. Stutts worked for the state of Mississippi and the

Mississippi Republican Party for nearly a decade while also possessing an unparalleled philanthropic spirit which she inherited from her parents, channeling her resources and influence into countless charitable endeavors, which led her to form G.W Stutts Sr. Foundation, Inc. Her generosity knew no bounds, as she supported organizations dedicated to the agenda of the Republican Party, namely social conservatism and fiscal responsibility, eradicating poverty, advancing civil rights and promoting arts and culture.

Gussie Z. Stutts is survived by her ex-husband, Dr. Timothy Summers, six children: Rachael S. Ellis, Stephanie Nicole Summers, William James Summers II, Erwin “David” K. Byrd, Jr., Joseph Stutts Byrd and Zachary Thomas Summers; two grandchildren: Foster “Trey” Ellis III and Donna “Billie” Summers II; and one great-grandson, Christian A. Summers; a son-in-law, Foster Ellis Jr.; Dorothy Nicole Summers who was like a daughter and friend, and Deaunte L. Shelton an adopted grandson, and one daughter-in-law and very close friend Ka-

vita Summers. She also leaves behind hundreds of cousins, nieces, nephews, grand nieces, grand nephews, great-grand nieces, and great-grand nephews and countless friends and loved ones.

Gussie Z. Stutts’ circle of friends spans across the United States and abroad, a testament to the love and admiration she garnered throughout her life.

On May 16, 2023 at the age of 77, Gussie Z. Stutts peacefully joined her Lord and was joyfully reunited with her parents. Her legacy will forever be remembered as a true American patriot, a person who loved and embraced life, and was always the life of the party. Embracing the color red and the symbol of the elephant, Gussie Z. Stutts will be forever cherished in the hearts of those who knew and loved her.

Funeral Services will be held at 11 a.m., June 1, 2023, at St. Richard Catholic Church, 1242 Lynnwood Drive in Jackson. Visitation will be held from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Services are provided by Jackson Memorial Funeral Home, 1000 W. Woodrow Wilson Avenue, Jackson, MS.



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Federal judge extends temporary halt on appointed judges in Miss. capital

By Emily Wagster Pettus
Associated Press

A federal judge on Monday extended his order that temporarily stops the Mississippi Supreme Court chief justice from appointing judges in the capital city of Jackson and the county where it's located, both of which are majority-black.

U.S. District Judge Henry Wingate's new order could last until June 9, giving attorneys time to further develop arguments about citizens' right to elect judges.

Wingate heard hours of testimony Monday in a lawsuit filed by the national, state and local chapters of the NAACP, which challenges a state law that Republican Gov. Tate Reeves signed in April.

The civil rights organization argues that the law passed by the majority-white and Republican-controlled state Legislature creates unequal treatment for residents of Jackson and Hinds County compared to residents of the rest of the state. The capital city and Hinds County are both majority-black and governed by Democrats.

Carroll Rhodes, an attorney for the NAACP, asked in court: "Why single out Hinds County?"

Officials pushing the new law said during the legislative session that they were trying to curb crime. Opponents said the law stomps on local self-governance.

The law would expand state policing inside the city of Jackson and create a new court inside part of Jackson with a judge who would be appointed by the Mississippi chief justice. It would also allow the chief justice to appoint four judges to work alongside the four elected circuit court judges in Hinds County through 2026.

Monday's arguments centered on how Mississippi judges are chosen – the most immediate question because the chief justice was supposed to appoint judges soon after the governor signed the law.

The Mississippi Constitution specifies that voters elect judges for circuit courts, which handle criminal and civil cases. A state law enacted before this year allows some exceptions for appointment of judges, including when a governor chooses someone to fill a vacancy after a judge dies or resigns and when the chief justice appoints judges to help with a crowded court docket.

Mark Nelson, an attorney

representing Chief Justice Mike Randolph, argued Monday that any chief justice should not be sued for carrying out judicial acts. Nelson also said Randolph "is handcuffed to argue the merits" in the lawsuit against him because judicial rules require the chief justice to remain neutral.

Rhodes argued that appointing judges is an executive or administrative act, not a judicial act. Rhodes said while the new law would create discrimination against residents of Jackson and Hinds County, the plaintiffs are not accusing Randolph himself of discrimination.

Rex Shannon, a special assistant state attorney general, said Hinds County is different from other counties because Jackson is the state's largest city and the seat of state government. Shannon also said Jackson and Hinds County have high crime rates and "dysfunctional" local government, and Hinds County circuit court has a backlog of cases.

"It's a problem that affects everyone, Your Honor, regardless of race," Shannon said to Wingate.

On May 15, a state court

judge dismissed a similar lawsuit, writing that the appoint-

ment of judges does not violate the state constitution. Plaintiffs

have appealed that decision to the Mississippi Supreme Court.



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Hinds County School District Weekly Update

ENGAGING-EMPOWERING-ENSURING-EXCELLENCE

Hinds County School District Central Office celebrated the teachers in the Hinds County School District for Teacher's Appreciation Week with Crumbl Cookie Delivery to all Schools in the Hinds County School District. Dr. Delesicia Martin and staff members personally delivered to Raymond Elementary School. We appreciate all our teachers do to make Hinds County the best.





Trans girl misses Mississippi graduation after being told to dress like boy

By Emily Wagster Pettus
Associated Press

A transgender girl in Mississippi is not participating in her high school graduation ceremony because school officials told her to dress like a boy and a federal judge did not block the officials' decision, an attorney for the girl's family said Saturday.

Linda Morris, staff attorney at the American Civil Liberties Union's Women's Rights Project, said the ruling handed down late Friday by U.S. District Judge Taylor McNeel in Gulfport, Mississippi, "is as disappointing as it is absurd."

"Our client is being shamed and humiliated for explicitly discriminatory reasons, and her family is being denied a once-in-a-lifetime milestone in their daughter's life," Morris said.

ris said. "No one should be forced to miss their graduation because of their gender."

The ACLU confirmed that the 17-year-old girl — listed in court papers only by her initials L.B. — would skip the Saturday ceremony for Harrison Central High School in Gulfport, about 160 miles (260 kilometers) south of Jackson.

The student "has met the qualifications to receive a diploma," according to Wynn Clark, attorney for the Harrison County School District.

The ACLU sued the district Thursday on behalf of the student and her parents after Harrison Central principal Kelly Fuller and school district superintendent Mitchell King told L.B. that she must follow the boys' clothing rules. Graduating boys are

expected to wear white shirts and black slacks, while girls are expected to wear white dresses.

L.B. had selected a dress to wear with her cap and gown. The lawsuit said L.B. had worn dresses to classes and extracurricular events throughout high school, including to a prom last year, and she should not face discriminatory treatment during graduation.

King told L.B.'s mother that the teenager could not participate in the graduation ceremony unless L.B. wears "pants, socks and shoes, like a boy," according to the lawsuit.

Clark wrote in court papers Friday that taking part in a graduation ceremony is voluntary and not a constitutionally protected right for any student.

Jackson police chief announces retirement as capital city grapples with patrol issues

By Emily Wagster Pettus
Associated Press

The police chief in Mississippi's capital city said Friday that he is retiring after 30 years with the Jackson Police Department and nearly five years in the top job.

Chief James E. Davis' departure comes as the Jackson Police Department faces problems with short-staffing and Mayor Chokwe Antar Lumumba has criticized state officials for increasing the role of the state-run Capitol Police inside Jackson.

"I never buckled under the weight of the badge," Davis said Friday during a news conference with the mayor.

Lumumba said Davis has demonstrated "a heart for service," and he praised Davis for efforts to train and recruit officers. Davis has been Jackson's longest serving police chief since the late 1980s.

Lumumba announced that an assistant chief, Joseph Wade, will be acting chief for up to 90 days and the city will conduct a broad search for a new chief.

Jackson has nearly 150,000 residents and has had more than 100 homicides each of the last three years.

Jackson Police Department has about 225 officers — a decrease from 335 in March 2019, WLBT-TV reported Thursday. Lumumba and Davis said some Jackson officers are taking



Davis

higher-paying jobs with Capitol Police.

Capitol Police have been patrolling in and near downtown Jackson, where state office buildings are located. Legislators voted this year to let Capitol Police patrol the entire city along with the Jackson Police Department.

Legislators also voted to create a new court inside Jackson with a judge who would be appointed rather than elected, and they authorized the appointment of four judges to

work alongside the four elected judges in Hinds County Circuit Court, where Jackson is located.

Those who pushed the state police expansion and appointed judges said they were trying to curb crime in Jackson. Lumumba and other critics have said the majority-white and Republican-controlled Legislature was trying to usurp local control in Jackson, which is majority-black and has is governed mostly by Democrats.

Federal litigation paused for water violations in Mississippi's capital

By Michael Goldberg
Associated Press/Report for America

Attorneys for the federal government, Mississippi and the state's capital city have agreed to request to delay litigation from a complaint filed by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency that said the city wasn't meeting standards for providing reliable drinking water.

In a Wednesday court filing, government attorneys asked for a six-month stay, which would be the second such order. It's part of a broader federal push to fix Jackson's water system, which nearly collapsed last summer and continues to have problems with broken pipes and leaks.

In November, the Justice Department filed a complaint on behalf of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, arguing that Jackson has failed to provide drinking water reliably compliant with the Safe Drinking Water Act. An agreement between federal officials and the city put that litigation on hold for six months.

U.S. District Court Judge Henry Wingate then appointed Ted Henifin, who spent 15

years managing a sanitation district in Virginia, to manage Jackson's water system on an interim basis.

The situation in Jackson required the Justice Department to respond with the "greatest possible urgency," Attorney General Merrick Garland said after the department announced it would intervene to help improve the water system.

"We realize how horrible the circumstances are there," Garland said. "It's hard to imagine not being able to turn on a tap and get safe drinking water."

Like many American cities, Jackson struggles with aging infrastructure with water lines that crack or collapse. But the problems deepened in late August when most of the city lost running water for several days after heavy rainfall exacerbated problems at the city's main water treatment plant.

Residents had already experienced periodic boil-water advisories for years. Inspections revealed the water didn't meet safety standards.

Officials in the Democratic city say the city's water problems come from decades of deferred maintenance and

underfunding. Republican state leaders say the problems stem from mismanagement at the city level.

If Wingate approves the stay, it will be extended until November. Before that, attorneys would be required to file a joint report that says whether they believe an additional stay is appropriate.

On May 9, Wingate said he also plans on placing Jackson's sewer system under Henifin's authority. The city agreed to enter a consent decree in 2012 with the EPA to prevent the overflow of raw sewage and bring the city into compliance with the Clean Water Act.

Henifin, who was appointed in November, has said he planned to spend one year managing Jackson's water system.

Michael Goldberg is a corps member for the Associated Press/Report for America Statehouse News Initiative. Report for America is a non-profit national service program that places journalists in local newsrooms to report on under-covered issues. Follow him on Twitter at <https://twitter.com/mikergoldberg>.

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Member:

Facing the new moral dilemma: Should you tip at the self-checkout line?

By Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Newswire Senior National Correspondent

Recently, consumers have been forced to confront the revelation that having zero interaction with employees during a transaction no longer exempts customers from the moral dilemma of tipping.

Customers say they’ve noticed that they’re increasingly asked to tip at self-checkout terminals, despite having no contact with an employee. Reportedly, cash registers in airports, stadiums, stores and cafes are prompting customers to add up to 20 percent tips.

Tipping culture has expanded from pubs and restaurants to coffee shops and takeout establishments due to what one publication called “tipflation.”

“This new trend of being prompted to leave a tip does nothing but frustrate consumers. It’s one thing to tip your server personally; it’s another to be asked to leave a tip on a screen where you’ve done all the work at a self-checkout,” said Corey Donovan, president of Alta Technologies.

“It’s an option to have it turned on or off within the payment gateway software, so businesses are consciously choosing to have it turned on.” Donovan said the best-case scenario is that the business gives those tips to their employees.

“The worst-case scenario: they’re hoping that customers will just absent-mindedly keep hitting next to get to the final payment screen to generate additional revenue.

Either way, it’s not something that makes customers happy and could have a negative impact on customer experience and satisfaction,” Donovan remarked.

Tom Golubovich, the head of marketing at Ninja Transfers, offered that businesses placing a tipping option at self-checkout machines appears to be just another way for companies to pad their bottom line.

“I ordered a smoothie online and went to pick it up myself, and it automatically added a tip to the checkout. Rather than the default being no tip, it was set to 15 percent,” Golubovich stated.

“I didn’t even notice this until after I’d already paid. I think that this is a sneaky practice for companies to take in additional revenue. I hope that the employees working got my tip, but I



Customers say they’ve noticed that they’re increasingly asked to tip at self-checkout terminals, despite having no contact with an employee.

can’t be so sure of that. It also just feels wrong to have a tip added to something where there wasn’t any personal interaction.”

Mark Pierce, the CEO of Cloud Peak Law Group, added that it’s becoming more evident that employers are attempting to put the onus for employee pay on customers. “It’s not justified by any means, but employers saw the opportunity and went for it,” Pierce said.

“Tipping has always been a part of employees’ wages in the service industry, but it was attached to giving an actual person the tip,” he continued.

“Now it seems like it’s an option on every transaction, regardless of whether there was human interaction or not. While employers could argue that at the end of the day, the employees are still getting the tips, there’s no reason to tip if the transaction happened without a person’s help.”

In some states, employers can pay below the minimum wage due to the presumption that

workers will earn enough in tips. Still, Jodi Smith, a human resources professional and etiquette consultant, said employers shouldn’t solicit tips for jobs that aren’t typically tippable so they can pay employees less.

“There are also some state laws that prohibit who is eligible to receive any pooled tips,” Smith told the Informer in an email, reiterating her thoughts she provided to USA Today.

“I so wish the software coders for some of these payment systems had taken the time to actually speak with etiquette experts before coding the choices and interface,” Smith added.

“There is a difference between a tip and a service charge. Tipping occurs at the end of the interaction, not before. Additionally, we tip for transactions that occur through interpersonal interactions. For example, handing someone a doughnut is not a tippable interaction.”

Barack gets candid about marriage with Michelle



Barack Obama is getting candid about his marriage after his wife, Michelle Obama, revealed she “couldn’t stand” the former president for a decade.

By Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Newswire Senior National Correspondent

In an interview with CBS Mornings, Barack Obama discussed a number of hot-button issues that the country is facing but also opened up about his relationship with the former first lady. Obama said being out of the White House has helped their marriage.

“It sure helps to be out of the White House, and to have a little more time with her,” Obama remarked.

Michelle Obama previously opened up about their marriage struggles, saying she “couldn’t stand” Barack Obama during a ten-year period while their children, Malia and Sasha, were little.

When their two daughters were growing up, they were always Michelle’s top priority, Obama told CBS Mornings.

“And so I did not fully appreciate, I think – as engaged of a father as I was – the degree of stress and tension for her knowing that not just me and Michelle were under scrutiny and in this strange environment, but that we were raising our daughters in a kind of situation that just wasn’t normal,” he revealed.

Now that the girls are “doing good,” Obama said his wife is “a little more forgiving” of all his flaws.

President Biden selects black fighter pilot as next chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff



General Charles Q. Brown Jr. climbs out of his jet, an F-16 Fighting Falcon

TriceEdneyWire.com

President Joe Biden has named Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Charles Quinton Brown Jr., a black Airforce fighter pilot as the next chairman of the Joint Chiefs Staff. He will succeed American General Mark Milley, according to multiple reports.

General Milley is scheduled to retire in October.

If confirmed by the Senate, Brown would become the first Air Force general to hold the position since Gen. Richard Myers stepped down in 2005 – and only the fifth airman in the 73-year history of the job.

Brown, an F-16 fighter pilot, would bring nearly four decades of military service to the nation’s top military job, including stints as a Pacific and Middle East commander.

He is also the second black service member to serve as chairman,

following Army General Colin Powell, who served as chairman from 1989 to 1993.

After he was commissioned in 1984, Brown served as an instructor at the commander of the U.S. Air Force Weapons School. He then led fighter pilots in South Korea and Italy before taking on key positions in major commands at the heart of U.S. national security.

In 2014, Brown was the director of operations for strategic deterrence and nuclear integration for U.S. Air Forces in Europe, shortly after Russia invaded Crimea; from 2015 to 2016, he commanded U.S. Air Forces Central as the U.S. and its allies conducted an air campaign against the Islamic State group; and from 2018 to 2020, he led Pacific Air Forces just as the U.S. shifted its strategic focus from counterterrorism in the Middle East to deter China in the Pacific.

Omar Nelson Bradley was the

first Joint Staff chairman from 1949 to 1953.

As chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Brown will face both social and strategic challenges, as the military not only strives to stay ahead of China but also struggles to attract new talent. Though the chairman has no operational command authority over the armed forces, Brown would be the top military adviser to President Biden and Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin.

Brown is a native Texan. He earned a Bachelor of Science degree in civil engineering from Texas Tech in Lubbock, Texas, in 1984.

The Joint Chiefs of Staff consist of the Chairman, the Vice Chairman, the Chief of Staff of the Army, the Chief of Naval Operations, the Chief of Staff of the Air Force, the Commandant of the Marine Corp, the Chief of the National Guard Bureau and the Chief of Space Operations.



Supreme Court Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson tells law students ‘Survivor’ offers helpful lessons

By Jessica Gresko
Associated Press

Supreme Court Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson called herself a “Survivor superfan” Saturday and offered an audience of graduating law school students lessons from the reality TV show.

The show has been on television for 23 years and is now in its 44th season. Jackson said she has seen every episode since the show’s second season.

“I watch it with my husband and my daughters even now, which I will admit it’s not easy to do with the demands of my day job. But you have to set priorities, people. And that’s exactly the first lesson that I have for you today,” she told the graduating class of American University’s law school in Washington.

Jackson, the court’s first black female justice, is coming to the end of her first term on the court. The justices are done hearing arguments for the term and are expected to issue all their remaining opinions by the end of June before going on summer break. Major decisions on affirmative action and President Joe Biden’s student loan forgiveness plan have yet to be announced.

In her address, Jackson described “Survivor,” in which contestants are deposited in a remote tropical location and undertake challenges in the hopes of ultimately winning \$1 million, as “great fun to watch.” But she also said it holds “a number of broader lessons that are helpful for becoming a good lawyer.”

One lesson, she said, is to “make the most of the resources that you have,” drawing a parallel to when she was a federal public defender and prosecutors always seemed to have more resources. Jackson said she knows “what it is like to commit to moving forward even when the deck is stacked against you” and also

talked about a “Survivor” contestant with a prosthetic leg who nonetheless prevailed at a difficult challenge involving a balance beam.

“My advice to you is to do your best to shut out distractions, use your time wisely and figure out how to make the most of what you have,” Jackson said.

Other lessons from the show are to “know your strengths” and to “play the long game,” she said.

That last piece of advice could serve the liberal justice well on the Supreme Court, where her colleagues include six conservatives and two other liberals, making it unlikely her views will prevail in some of the term’s most contentious cases when they are announced over the next several weeks.

“Season after season, the players who tend to do really well are those who appear to come in with the understanding that this game is about existing both in community and conflict,” she said of “Survivor.”

Jackson said that players who go far are the ones that “choose optimism, lifting the spirits of the other tribe members, no matter what happens.”

“They try to stay as even-keeled as possible, not getting too carried away by dramatic wins or heartbreaking losses,” she said.

Jackson’s commencement address was the first she has given since becoming a justice. The school’s law school dean, Roger Fairfax, is someone she met in college at Harvard University. His wife, Lisa Fairfax, is one of Jackson’s best friends and former roommates and introduced her at her Senate confirmation hearing.

Jackson is also giving a commencement speech Sunday at Boston University’s law school.

Lifetime rates of depression in black and hispanic communities surpass whites and others

By Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Newswire Contributor

A new Gallup study released May 17 shows that the lifetime depression rates of black and Hispanic adults are rising quickly and have now passed those of white adults. Gallup found that white people have always had slightly higher rates of both lifetime and current depression, but African Americans and Hispanics now suffer the most.

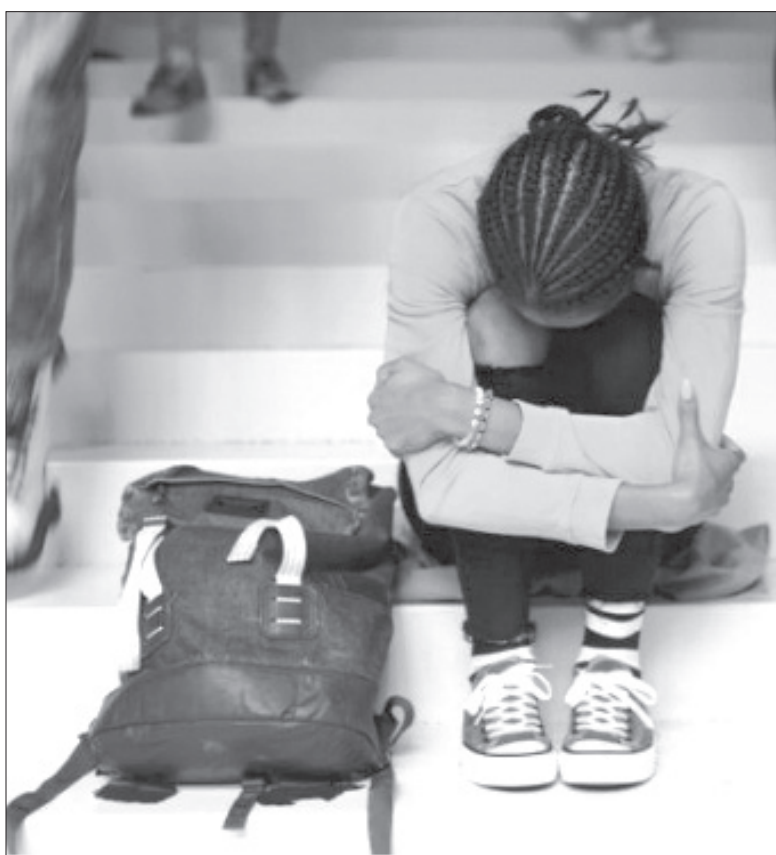
Overall, 29.0% of U.S. adults acknowledge a depression diagnosis at some point, almost ten percentage points more than in 2015. Gallup's National Health and Well-Being Index says that the number of Americans who have depression or are currently receiving treatment has increased by about seven points in the same period to 17.8%. Both rates are the highest that Gallup has seen since it started tracking depression with the current method in 2015.

The Gallup Panel surveyed 5,167 U.S. adults from Feb. 21 to Feb. 28 to get the most current results. The panel comprises about 100,000 adults from all 50 states and the District of Columbia.

Questions included, "Has a doctor or nurse ever told you that you have depression?" and "Do you currently have depression, or are you being treated for it?"

Over one-third of women (36.7%), compared to 20.4% of men, say they have been diagnosed with depression at some point. Since 2017, the rate of depression in women has risen almost twice as fast as in men.

Individuals 18 to 29 (34.3%) and between 30 and 44 (34.9%) are diagnosed with depression at much higher rates than people



Gallup found that white people have always had slightly higher rates of both lifetime and current depression, but African Americans and Hispanics now suffer the most.

over 44. The highest rates of current depression or treatment for depression are also among women (23.8%) and people ages 18 to 29 (24.6%).

Compared to 2017 projections, these two groups have the fastest-rising rates (up 6.2% and 11.6%, respectively).

Adults aged 30-44 also have the fastest-rising rates. Depression is not just a problem in the U.S. Around the world, 4 in 10 adults aged 15 or older have severe depression or anxiety or know someone who does.

According to other Gallup research, 22% of adults in Northern America have had depres-

sion or anxiety so badly that they couldn't do their normal daily activities for two weeks or longer.

Gallup researchers said that's about the same as the global rate of 19% and the same as the rates in Western Europe, the Middle East and North Africa, and South Asia. Before the COVID-19 pandemic, the U.S. clinical sadness rate grew slowly.

After the pandemic, however, it went up by a significant amount. Researchers said social isolation, loneliness, fear of infection, mental exhaustion (especially among first responders like health care workers), increased drug use, and problems with mental health ser-

vices may have played a role.

Even though the number of people who feel very lonely every day has decreased in the past two years due to widespread vaccinations and a slow return to normalcy, increased loneliness during the pandemic was likely a significant factor in the rise of long-term depression.

Currently, 17% of adults in the U.S. say they were very lonely "yesterday," which adds up to an estimated 44 million people.

Women have always reported much higher amounts of depression than men have in subgroups, researchers said.

This gap has gotten a lot bigger since 2017, likely due to several COVID-related factors, such as women being more likely to lose their jobs or stop working altogether, partly because the pandemic kept kids from going to school or daycare.

In 2019, 78% of all healthcare workers were women, putting them at a higher risk for emotional and mental problems because of the pandemic. Conversely, young people are more likely to be single and to say they are lonely, especially during the pandemic.

Experts said young people also need more time with others to boost their happiness than older adults do. COVID-19 has a direct effect on this.

Those under 30 and individuals with lower incomes are more likely to feel sad, worried, or angry every day, which are all symptoms of depression, the researchers found. Women, young adults, and people of color were also more likely to lose their jobs entirely because of the pandemic.

Most Common health issues for seniors

By Vince Faust
Tips to be Fit

Maintaining good health is crucial for everyone no matter your age. However, certain health issues tend to be more prevalent among seniors. For seniors, there are specific health concerns that require attention and being proactive in their treatment. In this article, I will explore a few of the most common health issues affecting seniors and provide insights on prevention and management strategies.

Physical activity and nutrition

Research has shown that engaging in regular physical activity and consuming a nutritious diet can have a lasting impact on a seniors' health. Staying physically active can help prevent or delay certain diseases such as cancer, heart disease and diabetes, while also improving mental well-being. Seniors should seek out exercise programs offered by local churches, synagogues, senior centers and gyms. Exercise has been shown to fight against arthritis, osteoporosis, heart disease, lung disease, cancer and many more woes. Exercise is one of the most important things you can do to stay healthy. You need at least 30 minutes of exercise everyday.

Seniors should also maintain a healthy diet rich in nutrients and avoid empty calories. This is essential for successful aging. The average American consumes 40% fat, 30% carbohydrates and 30% proteins daily. The average diet should consist of 15% fat, 20% protein and 65% complex carbohydrates. Saturated fats should make up less than 10% of your total fat intake.

Overweight and obesity

Being overweight or obese significantly increases the risk of developing various chronic conditions that include hypertension, type 2 diabetes, heart disease, stroke and certain types of cancer. Seniors should be aware of their weight and strive to maintain a healthy body mass index (BMI). It's not just about losing weight, you should focus on increasing muscle tone and bone density.

Tobacco

Tobacco use remains the leading preventable cause of illness and premature death in the United States. Smoking cessation is crucial for seniors as it can have immediate and long-term health benefits. Seniors who wish to quit smoking are encouraged to seek support from healthcare professionals to enhance their chances of success.

Substance abuse

Substance abuse, including both legal and illegal drugs as well as alcohol, can have severe health consequences for seniors. It is essential to recognize that seniors may self-medicate or unknowingly mix medications and alcohol, which can have detrimental effects. Healthcare providers should be proactive in addressing possible substance abuse among seniors. Seniors themselves should seek help if they suspect they have an issue with substance abuse.

HIV/AIDS

Although often overlooked, HIV/AIDS can affect seniors as well. In fact, between 15 and 20% of AIDS cases in the United States occur in individuals over the age of 50. Seniors are less likely to use condoms and may have weakened immune systems, making them more susceptible to HIV infection. Greater awareness, prevention programs and intervention efforts are needed to address this issue among seniors effectively.

Mental health

Mental health is a crucial aspect of overall well-being for seniors. Conditions such as dementia and depression can significantly impact their quality of life. It is important to note that dementia is not an inevitable part of aging and can be caused by various factors. Accurate diagnosis and appropriate management can help seniors cope with these conditions. Depression, if left untreated, can lead to severe consequences that include suicide. It's important to recognize and address mental health issues in the elderly and provide appropriate support and treatment.

Injury

Falls are a leading cause of injury, hospital admissions and death among seniors. Implementing strategies to prevent falls, such as exercises to improve balance and strength, medication review and home modifications, can significantly reduce the risk. We should also ensure we have home security and fire prevention measures in place to help safeguard a seniors' well-being.

Environmental quality

Environmental factors, including pollution, can have a disproportionate impact on seniors, particularly those from low-income backgrounds and racial or ethnic minorities. Efforts should be made to address these disparities and create healthier living environments for all seniors.

Immunization

Influenza, pneumonia and shingles can be significant causes of mortality and distress among older adults. Vaccination against these diseases has proven to be effective in reducing their impact. Seniors should prioritize receiving annual influenza vaccines and discuss pneumonia and shingles vaccinations with their healthcare providers.

COVID-19

COVID-19 remains a serious health issue for seniors because of their increased vulnerability. Age often weakens a senior's immune system. This makes seniors more vulnerable to COVID-19. Seniors have more pre-existing health conditions that further compound their risk. Everyday hundreds of people still die from COVID-19. Seniors still need to be vaccinated and practice safe interaction with others. You may still need to wear a mask in some places.

Why are we leaving black women's health behind?

By Dr. Donna Christensen, Debra Fraser-Howze, Shavon Arline-Bradley

Although black women make up 7.7% of the total U.S. population, we have the highest rates of obesity in the country. Sixty percent of black women live with obesity, which means we have higher risks for heart disease, stroke and certain cancers related to the condition. The urgency for addressing obesity amongst black women cannot be understated: As the obesity epidemic grows, the health of black women is increasingly at risk and so is our ability to work, care for ourselves, and participate in society.

It's not enough to acknowledge obesity for what it is, a silent killer upending black women's lives. Acknowledgement must be tied to immediate and impactful action. To truly stem the tide of this crisis, we must dismantle the discriminatory healthcare policies that deny access for millions of black women to the full range of lifesaving obesity care, including FDA approved medications.

The science clearly shows that black women are unavoidably exposed to the societal factors that lead to obesity. Yet as a society, we're ignoring the evidence. The data say the lived experiences of black women – disproportionate rates of poverty, gender bias, racism, and lack of access to healthcare – lead to higher rates of obesity. The American Medi-



The science clearly shows that black women are unavoidably exposed to the societal factors that lead to obesity.

COMMENTARY

cal Association (AMA) not only recognizes obesity as a complex, chronic disease, but they point out that racial and ethnic disparities are a major factor in the prevalence of obesity.

If the science is clear, then why has there been no effective solution to slowing the rates of obesity among black women? The short answer is that national obesity policy is underpinned by outdated and punitive perceptions of the disease, resulting in discriminatory care and insurance coverage schemes that deny millions of black women from accessing FDA-approved medication and treatment.

For decades, treatment for obesity has largely focused on rec-

ommending a regimen of diet and exercise, fueled by the myth that obesity is simply a behavioral issue that can be remedied through lifestyle changes and "self-control." For years we have left the doctor's office with vague instructions to lose weight and eat healthy, made to feel weak as we battle this debilitating disease on our own. But science has come a long way in the past twenty years, and we now realize there's a lot more at play that, until now, we have not been able to control.

Scientific breakthroughs have even proven that diet and exercise alone can be insufficient for treating obesity. Obesity is a disease, and it must be treated as such. But access to its treatments are hard to come by.

Medicare does not cover anti-obesity medications, nor do most Medicaid and Affordable Care Act plans. These programs are still driven by disproven notions that obesity is a behavioral issue, and not a chronic disease. As a result, patients reliant on these and other programs – including millions of black women – are denied access to the full range of care, which includes FDA approved obesity medications. These policies were created two decades ago, when our understanding of obesity was primitive and incomplete.

The CDC recently reported that nearly 42% of American adults have obesity, yet nothing has changed for obesity care coverage since the AMA's declaration that obesity is a chronic disease a decade ago.

It's time to modernize our federal, state, and private healthcare programs based on science, address this disease seriously with coverage for comprehensive care, and ensure all black women have access to treatment and care. The time for action is now.

Dr. Donna Christensen is the first female medical doctor to serve in Congress and serves on the Medical Advisory Board of Choose Healthy Life. Debra Fraser-Howze is the founder and President of Choose Healthy Life, a non-profit organization that addresses health equity through the black church. Shavon Arline-Bradley is the president and CEO of the National Council of Negro Women.

P R E S E R V E D

Quiet...testing in progress

By Shewanda Riley
Columnist



It's the end of another school year. Congratulations to all the students as well as educators who made it through another school year. I enjoy my summer break and miss interacting with students. But one thing I don't miss is testing which is a part of my life as a college English instructor. Over the years, I've developed tests that measure more than one thing at once. For example, one of my very first quizzes is over the course syllabus. Before I give the quiz, I go over important parts of the syllabus the very first day of class and remind students to bring a copy of the syllabus to the next class. This simple quiz measures following instructions as well as whether the student understands what the course will be about. Most students

do very well in remembering to bring their syllabus and get high scores on this quiz when I give it to them the 2nd class day. For many of them, it's an easy 100 points. However, as the semester progresses, the student grades change as tests and quizzes become harder. They are no longer allowed to use notes and have to rely on their recollection of the material. Many students study hard and continue to make good grades; others slip because they are unable or unwilling to study and adjust to the demands of college level class work. As a teacher, it's sometimes frustrating because I know they all have the potential to do better but for some reason some choose not to. Over the years, I found that watching my students' responses when I give them their first major test reminds me of how spiritual tests can also measure many things at once. Faithfulness, grace,

forgiveness, consistency and patience are just a few that we can measure with something as simple as our prayer life. As we mature, our prayers should change. For example, in the past whenever I met a man I was interested in, I'd pray, "Lord, is he the one?" and then wait for the answer...which many times would be silence. Now I pray "Show me everything I need to see about this person...good...bad...and everything in between." At first, I didn't like to pray that prayer because it seemed like every time I prayed it, all kinds of bizarre behaviors about this person would be revealed. I finally learned to appreciate the truth that was revealed with this prayer. But it's taken me years to get to that point. For some of us, it's as simple as knowing that we should pray first. For others, it's knowing what kind of prayer to pray. Hebrews 5:13-15 says

that "...solid food is for the mature, who by constant use have trained themselves to distinguish good from evil." We have to grow up and accept that just because our prayer hasn't worked like we wanted doesn't mean that we stop praying. God will answer the prayer at the appointed season or let us know why it remains unanswered. For many of us passing the test means that you don't make the mistake of putting more faith in the prayer than in the one that you are praying to. Shewanda Riley (Aunt Wanda), PhD, is a Fort Worth-based author of "Love Hangover: Moving from Pain to Purpose After a Relationship Ends" and "Writing to the Beat of God's Heart: A Book of Prayers for Writers." Email her at preserved-bypurpose@gmail.com or follow her on Twitter @shewanda. You can also listen to her podcast at www.chocolateauntiepodcast.com.

The truth of God's Word will confront you some day

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



Rejecting God's truth is far more serious than failing to stay brushed up on your mathematics. Rejecting spiritual truth will develop into a tragedy in the life of every person who rejects the light. Their rejection of the truth will condemn them to Hell (John 8:25; John 5:40). The little candle holds tremendous power. It has the ability to dispel darkness. The candle gives its light at great cost to itself. As the candle gives ways its precious light, its very life is consumed. This is a perfect illustration of what Jesus did for us. He paid a high price to bring His light to the lost. He died on the cross so that we might have life and light. When He saved us, He kindled that light within our hearts. We must let our lights shine so that a world lost in darkness might see the way to come to God. It may cost us everything to give the light to others, but we must be willing to pay the price. We must never be guilty of hoarding the light; hiding the light or hinder-

ing the light. We must let our light shine for the glory of God. Friend, you can't hide from the light. The truth of God's Word will confront you some day. It may have already done so today. It may be that the Lord has spoken to your heart; revealed your sins; and pointed out the truth of the Gospel. If so, you need to come to Him and be saved. Please do not reject the truth. Please do not go on toward Hell. Please come to Jesus and be saved today. The truth is, He loves you. He died for you and He will save you if you come to Him. You can't hide from the light. If you reject Him as Savior in this life, you will face Him as Judge in eternity. Don't let that happen. Embrace the truth and be saved today. Child of God, has the Lord spoken truth to your heart today? Is He calling you to share the light with a lost world? Today would be a good day to come before Jesus and renew your commitment to Him; to obey Him in sharing the Gospel with a lost world. Simeon R. Green, III, pastor, First Church of God, 6517 Walmsley Blvd., Richmond, Virginia 23224.

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College graduates celebrate their day and now have unlimited opportunities

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



College graduations have taken center stage. Final examinations are over, and students were approved to receive their degrees. There was unbridled excitement and joy.

The hard work and long hours paid off. Sacrifices that were made by your family members have now made you a member of the select company of college graduates.

Being a college graduate requires discipline, flexibility and commitment, especially during these days as there are more non-traditional students. They are juggling family and work responsibilities while attending school.

According to reports in 2023, 1.9 million students earned bachelor's degrees and 989,000 students earned an associate degree. Further reporting says almost 35% of people 25 and over earned a bachelor's degree.

There is a debate at some levels about the importance of a college degree. Critics of a college degree say that companies give you the necessary training for the position, thus a college degree is not needed.

Proponents of a college degree say that knowledge acquired while there gives you a foundation for an ever-changing world. They further say attaining a college education will make you more marketable in the workforce.

My old school habits and mores have always been on the side of having a college education. While growing up in North Carolina, my parents stressed the importance of education. Attaining as much education as you could assured you a better quality of life. They believed in that axiom.

In my neighborhood not everyone had a college degree, yet education was still the gateway to success.

Going to high school back in the day meant that you were being taught by men and women who had college degrees and had certificates for teaching. Teachers were widely respected in my hometown of Winston-Salem. During my high school years, my teachers talked about the importance of going to college.

Fortunately for us, they prepared us for that next step. Some of us received academic scholarships while some of us received athletic scholarships. Regardless, we still had to take and get a good score on the SAT (Scholastic Aptitude Test).

Our college graduations were filled with pomp and circumstance. Like most senior citizens, we can remember our college days like they were yesterday.

It is my measured opinion that college allows you to grow cognitively and emotionally. In addition, you meet people who are now lifelong friends.

I entered Johnson C. Smith University, an HBCU (Historically Black College and University) located in Charlotte, N.C. as a traditional 1st year student. Over time, I met students from many parts of the world.

I graduated from college more confident and self-assured. During my college years, I developed some life goals and aspirations. The college experience for many of us was a defining moment in our lives. Still now in 2023, college is a place where you see role models and you have unique and wonderful experiences.

Today's students are traveling around the world learning new skills and ways of doing cutting edge research. The learning they get overseas broadens their perspective and how they view the world.

College degrees are recognized in all walks of life. It is still something that people want to achieve. In a way, it is a calling card.

Almost daily, you hear about professional athletes who have made millions of dollars, yet still want that elusive college degree.

Michael Jordan, Venus Williams, Shaquille O'Neal and Todd Bowles are just a few examples of professional athletes and coaches who returned to school.

These days, you see more athletes leaving early for professional careers. However, we know that not everyone makes it to the next level. This is why having a degree is so important.

Congratulations and much success to members of the class of 2023. Your goals and dreams are ahead of you. You believed and now you have achieved.

A black life: Daniel Penny's Marine training taught him that Jordan Neely would die

By Chuck Richardson
TriceEdneyWire.com

The recent death of a New York homeless person, Jordan Neely, is not merely a reflection of two individuals caught in a Shakespearean tragedy – one, the victim, Mr. Neely; and the other, Penny Daniels, the perpetrator of the crime. Rather, this incident is a microcosmic reflection of many white Americans' view of black lives.

The "Black Lives Matter" slogan was prompted by the realization that George Floyd's horrific death by a white policeman was a stark representation of many Americans' subconscious lack of value for the life of a black American.

The solution to this subliminal reality will not be defined by the conviction of the perpetrator, Daniels. His 15-minute strangle hold suffocation of Neely was a clear and concise example that revealed the death of Neely was never even considered in the mind of Daniels, or few, if any, of the white observers on the scene.

This incident reinforces the long held belief (since slavery) that a black person's life is immaterial or three-fifths, at best, the value of white lives when compared with the safety of white lives.

As a Marine, I was trained to execute what was called a naked strangle hold on an opponent. We were also fully advised that beyond two and a half to three minutes, a successfully sustained strangle hold would result in the



Jordan Neely, a Michael Jackson impersonator, was killed in a chokehold by Penny Daniels.

death of the individual being strangled, usually administered against the enemy.

Marine Corp training is complete, thorough and explicit. There are no exceptions or excuses for not understanding the consequences of behavior. In the Marine Corp, the consequences of a mistake are punishment that is brutal and severe. I distinctly recall the practice of mass punishment by drill instructors – that is, if one Marine in a platoon made a mistake, the entire platoon was punished. This ensured the unlikelyhood of any Marine forgetting his or her training.

It therefore goes without saying that, if Daniels learned the naked strangle hold in the Marine Corp, he also learned the consequences



Penny Daniels, a Marine veteran, charged in the choke hold death of Jordan Neely.

would be death if maintained longer than two and half to three minutes.

While the experience of viewing a homeless black person acting strangely can be traumatic for most white Americans, but it is no reason to suspend common sense behavior. Daniels suspended the use of his knowledge that his hold on Neely would kill him. He was taught this fact emphatically and as effectively as he was taught to execute a naked strangle hold.

It is possible, but highly implausible, that Daniels did not realize that Neely could very well die. But, Daniels is unable to plead ignorance – ignorance of the law is no excuse. However, he could plead a subliminal lack of value and respect for the life of a black

person. Therefore, he felt no compunction to release Neely after three or four minutes.

While I loathe any references to hypothetical, I would venture to say, had Neely been a blonde-headed white homeless person, Daniels most certainly would have thought about releasing him before he expired. Daniels fully realized that there are consequences to the death of a white man.

The larger implication here is that Penny Daniels is the culprit of Jordan Neely's death. But the real killer is yet at large – a racist and subliminal mentality.

Chuck Richardson is a decorated Marine veteran with two purple hearts and a Vietnamese cross of gallantry.

Is your husband on the housetop?

By LaShunda Calvert, Ph.D.
Guest Writer



Wives, let's become intentional about making our houses a home for our husbands and even our children to desire to dwell

in. It is so easy for us as wives to do as my daughter suggest, "do too much," which alludes to becoming an annoyance to both our husbands and children with overly fussing and nagging. However, I believe in many instances, many wives do not intentionally try to annoy, bombard or aggravate their husbands deliberately to instigate arguments, etc.

Yes, many wives and mothers who truly care for the welfare of their family will go out of their way to help you avoid mistakes, and making bad choices, by warning you consistently, texting you almost non-stop, giving you speeches, teaching you, yelling and praying for you.

Husbands and children, – wives, in many instances, have the best intentions for what you will describe as her, doing too much. On the other hand, some wives, unfortunately, can knowingly be a nuisance to their husband, which can negatively impact the entire household.

Proverbs 25:24 (NKJV): It is better to dwell in a corner of a housetop, than in a house shared with a contentious woman.

In other words, God makes it clear in Proverbs that it would be

better for a husband to live, occupy and reside on their housetop (rooftop) than to be inside the home with a contentious wife. Now, notice, rooftop dwelling can include all weather and climate conditions whether hazardous weather or good weather. Hmmm, it would be better for a husband to dwell in the corner of a housetop?

Husbands don't get this twisted – God didn't say that it would be better to dwell in another house or a hotel, motel, roachtel, yacht, boat, vehicle, trailer, with another woman, etc. – these choices only make matters worse. Further, many husbands discover that the one he runs to as an escape from his God given wife, is a fraud, scammer and phony. I promise you another woman is never an answer – Johnny Taylor said it best, It's Cheaper to Keep Her." Seriously, don't let man put asunder what God has joined together.

Why would God say that it would be better or an improvement for a husband to dwell in the corner of his housetop than inside with a contentious woman? The word better in Hebrew means to improve.

What is a contentious woman? The word contentious in Hebrew means argumentative, controversial and bellicose, which means demonstrating aggression and willingness to fight.

Signs of a contentious wife:

- Nag consistency
- Look for problems
- Elevates confusion

- Angry most of the time
- Aggressive
- Controlling
- Confrontational
- Nothing never meets one satisfaction or approval
- Nothing is never ever good enough
- Bully
- Pick arguments and fights
- Verbally abusive – lots of profanity
- Easily provoked
- Mean hearted
- Don't smile
- Have no sense of humor
- Perplexed communication
- Drama and trauma most days
- Habitual Gas lighter

So many factors contribute to women being contentious in marriage such as:

- bad childhood
- bad relationships with significant others from the past
- parent abandonment – parents neglecting them
- product of divorced parents
- abuse from family members and outside family members
- observing parents being abused
- husband has caused mistrust in the marriage – economically, infidelity, etc.
- mental health
- low self-esteem
- little to no self-love

If you are a contentious wife; you do not have to remain contentious. If you know that your actions and responses are hurting your marriage and family, then please imme-

diately adhere to the following.

First, it is imperative that you humbly admit your faults, ask God to forgive you, communicate with your husband and children, tell them your true story, forgive those who have hurt and disappointed you, and ask your husband and children to forgive you, seek counseling, work on loving and celebrating you, and most importantly, dedicate your life to building a healthy and happy home.

I promise it is never too late to make a change and it is never too late to reassure your husband and children that you value them, care for them, and you love them. No wives, we are not perfect and never will be perfect. However, we can make intentional improvements to help create a safe, welcoming, happy, loving and warm home for our husbands and children to dwell in. Of course, this doesn't guarantee a perfect home or marriage, but it ignites a hope and a fight for a better marriage and family.

Wives, are your husbands on the housetop? If so, let your actions, responses and interactions bring them inside a loving and happy home.

Contact Dr. LaShunda Calvert for speaking engagements (motivational, ministering, marriage workshops, marriage seminars, marriage conferences, etc.) on Instagram: letsstay2gether4ever (Dr. LaShunda Calvert) Facebook: Dr. LaShunda Calvert Email: letsstay-together4eva@gmail.com or call 601 874-6176.

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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), June 13, 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 JPSP 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 JPSP Board Room, 621 South State Street, Jackson, MS 39201.

Also, until further notice, all opening will be recorded and uploaded to the JPSP web site at <https://www.youtube.com/jpsitv> for public viewing due to covid 19. Vendors will not be allowed to sit in on the bid openings.

5/25/2023

LEGAL

PUBLIC NOTICE
REQUEST FOR QUOTES

The City of Jackson's Office of Housing and Community Development is currently seeking quotes for a professional to perform the following services.

1. Assist the Special Projects Officer with reconciling all federal grants balances.
2. Correct expenditures for each project, Matching and verifying budget line items in MUNIS/CAYENTA
3. Grant balances for each grant per year.
4. Reconcile MUNIS to ID'S

The quote should be based on the costs necessary to perform the duties described above. We are requesting that quote be on an hourly basis for a total of 480 hours.

All interested parties should submit a statement of qualifications, copy of Master's degree, and a perhour price quote for the above-described services to the City of Jackson, Office of the City Clerk at 219 South President Street, Jackson, MS 39205 until 3:30p.m., Central Standard Time June 6, 2023. Each prosper must submit a signed original six (6) printed copies and an electronic copy (thumb drive w/ pdf) of its proposal. Official proposal documents can be downloaded from Central Bidding at www.centralbidding.com . Electronic responses can be submitted at www.centralbidding.com . For any questions relating to the electronic response process, please call Central Bidding at 225-810-4814.

The City of Jackson is committed to the principle of non-discrimination in public contracting and professional services. It is the policy of the City of Jackson to promote full and equal business opportunity for all person doing business with the City.

Chloe Dotson, Director
Department of Planning and Development
City of Jackson, Mississippi

5/18/2023, 5/25/2023

LEGAL

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF
LURETHA MCKENZIE, DECEASED

CAUSE NO.: P2019-333

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Letters of Administration having been granted on the 21st day of September, 2021 by the Chancery Court of Hinds County, Mississippi, First Judicial District, to the undersigned Administratrix of the Estate of Luretha McKenzie, deceased, notice is hereby given to all persons having claims against the estate to present the same to the Clerk of this Court for probate and registration according to law, within ninety (90) days from the first publication of this notice, or they will be forever barred.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED this the 8 day of May, 2023.

ELAINE HARDEN, ADMINISTRATRIX OF THE
ESTATE OF LURETHA MCKENZIE,
DECEASED

Elaine Harden
ELAINE HARDEN

5/18/2023 5/25/2023 6/2/2023

LEGAL

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF
MICHAEL ANDERSON, DECEASED

CAUSE #: P2020-519 T/1

BY: Rolland Anderson

SUMMONS

THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

TO: THE UNKNOWN HEIRS OF MICHAEL ANDERSON, DECEASED

You have been made a Defendant in the suit filed in this Court by Rolland Anderson, seeking the adjudication of heirs of Michael Anderson, Deceased.

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 24th day of July, 2023, in the Chancery Courtroom of Hinds County, Mississippi, before Honorable 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 demanded in the complaint or petition.

You are not required to file an answer or other pleading but you may do so if you desire.

Issued under my hand and the seal of said Court, this the 18th day of May, 2023



CHANCERY CLERK OF HINDS COUNTY
Mississippi
K. Howard

5/25/2023

LEGAL

PUBLIC NOTICE

THE JACKSON REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY WILL RECEIVE PROPOSALS UNTIL 5:00 O'CLOCK P.M., JANUARY 31, 2023, FOR SPACE AVAILABLE TO BE LEASED IN THE MUNICIPAL PARKING FACILITY NO. 2

Proposals to lease space in the Municipal Parking Facility No. 2 will be received by the Jackson Redevelopment Authority (the "Authority") via the online portal only at www.jrams.org, until 5:00 o'clock P.M., January 31, 2023, for any space available to be leased in the Municipal Parking Facility No. 2 (the "Facility"). The Municipal Parking Facility No. 2 is located in the City of Jackson, Mississippi, on the south side of Capitol Street, between Congress and President Streets, and space available for lease is located on the first floor of the Facility.

All proposals shall be in accordance with all of the requirements of the Request for Proposals, copies of which are available for review via the online portal only at www.jrams.org. Proposals shall be made by those interested on or before 5:00 o'clock P.M., January 31, 2023.

Thereafter, Notice of Request for Proposals by the Authority to lease any remaining available space in the Municipal Parking Facility No. 2 shall be published monthly until all space in the Facility is leased, with the last Submission Deadline being 5:00 p.m. on December 29, 2023. Interested parties may submit proposals to the Authority for any unleased available space pursuant to RFP issued and dated December 29, 2022, or subsequently.

Such further information as is available regarding lease space in the Municipal Parking Facility No. 2 may be obtained via the online portal only at www.jrams.org.

12/9/2022, 1/26/2023, 2/23/2023, 3/30/2023, 4/27/23, 5/25/23, 06/22/23, 07/27/23, 08/24/23, 09/21/23, 10/26/23, 11/30/23

LEGAL

PUBLIC NOTICE
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
PURCHASE DESIGNATED PROPERTIES OWNED BY
THE JACKSON REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

The Jackson Redevelopment Authority (the "Authority" or "JRA") is seeking proposals from qualified professional firms for the purchase all or part of certain Designated Properties Owned by the Jackson Redevelopment Authority (herein individually and collectively called the "Property" as referred to in Exhibit A. Submissions will be received by the Jackson Redevelopment Authority of the City of Jackson, Mississippi (the "Authority"), via the online portal at www.jrams.org until 5:00 o'clock P.M., May 24, 2023.

All proposals shall be in accordance with the requirements of the Request for Proposals ("RFP"), copies of which are available for review, download at www.jrams.org. Consistent with requirements stated therein, proposals submitted in response to the RFP shall be made on or before 5:00 o'clock P.M., May 24, 2023.

Thereafter, Notice of Request for Proposals by the Authority to purchase all or part of designated properties shall be monthly until all properties are sold, with the last Submission Deadline being 5:00 p.m. on December 20, 2023. Interested parties may submit proposals to the Authority for the land pursuant to RFP issued April 27, 2023, and/or any subsequent Notice of Publication.

RFP DATED: April 27, 2023

4/27/23, 5/25/23, 06/22/23, 07/27/23, 08/24/23, 09/21/23, 10/26/23,

LEGAL

Advertisement for RFP
RFP 2023-13 - School Site Surveys
and Wireless Network Configuration Services

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 June 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 JPSP 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 JPSP Board Room, 621 South State Street, Jackson, MS 39201.

Also, until further notice, all opening will be recorded and uploaded to the JPSP web site at <https://www.youtube.com/jpsitv> for public viewing due to covid 19. Vendors will not be allowed to sit in on the bid openings.

5/18/2023, 5/25/2023

LEGAL

PUBLIC NOTICE
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The City of Jackson is seeking submission of proposals from qualified professional firms for professional assistance with the following project: Shop Local Incentive System.

Detailed information pertaining to the submission of a response to this request for proposals may be obtained from the Department of Planning and Development, Suite 229, Warren Hood Building: 200 South President Street, Jackson, Mississippi 39201, or by contacting Chloe Dotson at 601-960-1993 or email: cdotson@city.jackson.ms.us.

One (1) original and eight (8) signed copies of the proposal must be received **no later than 3:30 P. M., on Tuesday, May 30, 2023**, at the City Clerk's Office, 219 S. President Street, Jackson, Mississippi 39201. Mailed proposals should be addressed to the Office of the City Clerk, P.O. Box 17, Jackson, MS 39205-0017. Packets should be sealed and clearly marked "Proposal for The Shop Local Incentive System."

The City of Jackson is committed to the principle of non-discrimination in public contracting and professional services. It is the policy of the City of Jackson to promote full and equal business opportunity for all persons doing business with the City.

Chloe Dotson BUPD, MURP., Director
Department of Planning and Development
City of Jackson, Mississippi

5/11/2023, 5/18/2023, 5/25/2023

LEGAL

PUBLIC NOTICE
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The City of Jackson ("City") is seeking to develop a single family infill project in the City of Jackson. This RFP is for the onsite and related water and sewer infrastructure improvements for the development of four pre-fabricated homes.

Detailed information pertaining to the submission of a response to this request for proposals may be obtained from the Department of Planning and Development, Suite 229 Warren Hood Building: 200 South President Street, Jackson, Mississippi 39201, or by contacting Chloe Dotson at 601-960-1172 or email cdotson@city.jackson.ms.us

Responses will be received by the City of Jackson, Office of the City Clerk at 219 South President Street, Jackson, MS 39205 until 3:30p.m., Central Standard Time June 6, 2023. Each prosper must submit a signed original six (6) printed copies and an electronic copy (thumb drive w/ pdf) of its proposal. Official proposal documents can be downloaded from Central Bidding at www.centralbidding.com . electronic responses can be submitted at www.centralbidding.com . For any questions relating to the electronic response process, please call Central Bidding at 225-810-4814.

The City of Jackson is committed to the principle of non-discrimination in public contracting and professional services. It is the policy of the City of Jackson to promote full and equal business opportunity for all person doing business with the City.

Chloe Dotson, Director Department of Planning and Development
City of Jackson, Mississippi

5/18/2023, 5/25/2023

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Sudoku

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

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

© Feature Exchange

Sudoku Solution

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

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CASH & CARRY
Capitol Street and Monument Street
CITY HALL
219 S President St
GARRETT OFFICE COMPLEX
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

BYRAM

DOLLAR GENERAL
125 Swinging Bridge Dr.
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
126 W. Court Street, Raymond, MS
RAYMOND CITY HALL
110 Courtyard Square, Raymond
RAYMOND COURTHOUSE

UTICA

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FREE AUTO INSURANCE QUOTES for uninsured and insured drivers. Let us show you how much you can save! Call 833-396-2834

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Use Happy Jack® Kennel Dip™ as an area spray to control fleas, ticks, stable flies and mosquitoes where they breed. At Tractor Supply® (www.fleabeacon.com)

Services - General

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Week of May 21, 2023

JMAA Board of Commissioners announces new chief executive officer

The Mississippi Link Newswire

The Jackson Municipal Airport Authority (JMAA) is pleased to announce the Board of Commissioners' appointment of its new chief executive officer, Rosa M. Beckett.

Beckett brings extensive background and experience within the aviation and transportation industry and is well-equipped to lead the organization toward a successful future for aviation in Jackson and for all Mississippi travelers and businesses. JMAA engaged ADK Consulting, the premiere aviation executive placement firm in the USA to conduct the search for JMAA's next chief executive officer, with over 30 applicants seeking the CEO position.

"I am excited to welcome Ms. Rosa M. Beckett to Jackson as the new CEO of the Jackson Municipal Airport Authority. She is a talented and groundbreaking choice to move our airports to the next level of aviation in Mississippi and is well-suited to continue the impressive growth we have experienced these last few years," said Mayor Chokwe Antar Lumumba.

Warren T. Herring, chairman of the JMAA Board of Commissioners, and other JMAA officers welcomed Beckett.

"We are confident that Ms. Beckett possesses all the qualities necessary to have a very positive and professional impact on our organization and the entire Jackson/Capital region. In the selection process, Vice Chair Sharon F. Bridges, Esq., Commissioners Rica Lewis Payton, Rickey D. Jones, and I sought a candidate with an abundance of knowledge in the aviation industry, strong leadership skills, and the proven ability to take our airports into the future. Our two airports play vital roles in the economic development of central Mississippi, and we envision the progress and growth



Beckett

continuing for many years under the leadership of Ms. Beckett," said Herring.

"I am honored and thrilled to have been selected by the Board of Commissioners as the new CEO of the Jackson Municipal Airport Authority. I look forward to working with the talented team at JMAA to continue driving growth, enhancing operational efficiency and providing exceptional services to our valued passengers and partners," said Beckett.

Beckett comes to Jackson from the Jacksonville Aviation Authority (JAA), operating four airports covering NE Florida and SE Georgia, after having served as chief administrative officer (CAO) and other key roles. She brings over 22 years of broad experience in the aviation industry, including as CAO of Fraport USA, an airport leader in concessions at six key cities in the U.S., delivering \$500M in sales. Beckett has a proven track record of success in airport strategic planning and implementation, budget strategy, system assessment and change management, human resources and talent development, business intelligence and analytics, stakeholder and client relations, as well as aviation consulting.

Beckett is a graduate of the University of North Florida (MBA and MHRM) and the University of Florida (BS, ad-

vertising and business), has been active in numerous airport and transport industry organizations (ACI-NA, AMAC, AAAE, ICAO, COMTO), and has spoken globally on aviation issues. She holds the esteemed designations of International Airport Professional (IAP) designated by ICAO-ACI and is a Certified Member (CM) of the American Association of Airport Executives (AAAE).

Added Chairman Herring, "On behalf of the Board of Commissioners, I want to sincerely thank Mr. John Means, Jr. for his dedication and leadership throughout his time as JMAA's interim CEO. During his tenure, JAN airport passenger traffic surpassed 1.2 million travelers in 2022, a number not seen in over a decade. His commitment to ensuring the success of our airports in the post-Covid era is appreciated, and we are grateful for his many contributions to our organization, our airports and to metro Jackson. We look forward to his continued work toward our progress as we strive for JMAA excellence."

About JMAA: The Jackson Municipal Airport Authority (JMAA) operates two airports: Jackson-Medgar Wiley Evers International Airport (JAN) and Hawkins Field Airport (HKS). JAN is the busiest airport in Mississippi, situated in the Central part of the state and serving the Capital region of Jackson with over 3,000 acres of property. JAN has service to several of the world's busiest global hubs and is home to the Mississippi Air National Guard 172nd Airlift Wing. HKS is a general aviation airport that houses two emergency response medical air transporters and the Civil Air Patrol. It is also home to the Mississippi Army National Guard 185th Aviation Brigade. The Authority provides service to over 1.2 million passengers per year.

Memorial Day and the African-American contribution

By Dr. John Warren
Voice & Viewpoint

Memorial Day, a day set aside in history by former slaves in Charleston, South Carolina, is one more expression of our contribution to America. In May of 1865, history tells us that, during the Civil War, the Confederate Army converted the city race track in Charleston into a prison camp to hold captured Union soldiers. The conditions in which these soldiers were kept is reported to have been so bad that at least 257 died of disease and were buried in a mass grave behind the grandstand of the track.

After the Confederate evacuation of Charleston, black workmen, 'most of whom were reported to be former slaves,' went to the site and reburied the Union soldiers, built a fence around the cemetery and an archway over an entrance and called the fallen dead, "Martyrs of the Race Course." Later, white missionaries and teachers reportedly staged a parade of

10,000 people honoring the dead with 3,000 black school children carrying flowers and singing. Several hundred black women followed with baskets of flowers, wreaths and crosses. They were followed by black men marching in cadence who were followed by contingents of Union infantrymen. Within the cemetery, spirituals were sung and a number of black ministers read from the bible.

When the ceremonies dedicating the site were over, the crowds went into the fields nearby and enjoyed picnics, listened to speeches, and watched soldiers drill. Among them were the following "colored" troops: the famous 54th of Massachusetts and the 34th and 104th United States Colored Troops.

But some versions of history have attempted to change the facts, giving credit for the ceremonies to a Union General, John Logan, who issued a decree for what was then named "Decoration Day," on May 5, 1868. Three

years and four days after the former slaves and blacks of Charleston had established the above-cited tradition.

Efforts to stop or erase the contribution of blacks to what is now a national holiday did not stop there. The park where the race track prison camp once stood was renamed Hampton Park after Confederate General Wade Hampton, who became Governor of South Carolina after the Civil War.

In 1966, former President Lyndon B. Johnson declared Waterloo, New York the official birthplace of Memorial Day; and in 1971, Congress established "Memorial Day" as an official federal holiday to honor all Americans who have fallen in U.S. Wars.

Writers and scholars, among them former AlterNet writer Sarah Lazare and Hurston/Wright Foundation fellow Victoria Massie, are all to be given credit for their research and writings that can be used in articles like this one to keep our history alive and not allow it to be erased.



Mississippi Senior Medicare Patrol Invites You To Participate In Medicare Fraud Prevention Week June 5 - June 11

Medicare loses between \$60 to \$100 Billion each year to fraud, errors and abuse. Learn how you can **Protect, Detect and Report.**

Learn more: www.stopmedicarefraud.org

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Call Us: 877-272-8720

Medicare Fraud Prevention Week Checklist Contest	
<p>Complete each checklist item. Send the form to: SMP PO Box 2228, Gonzales, LA 70707 or email to: smp@advisewell.org</p>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Review a Medicare Summary Notice Or Explanation of Benefits
<input type="checkbox"/>	Call 877-272-8720 for your free <u>My Health Care Tracker</u>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Tell someone about Senior Medicare Patrol (SMP)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Scan the QR code (use your phone) below to like us on Facebook
<input type="checkbox"/>	Join our email or mailing list
<input type="checkbox"/>	Email Address: _____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Mailing Address: _____

Checklist Contest

Complete the checklist

Cut out and mail to:
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Gonzales, LA 70707

Or take a photo with your phone and email to: smp@advisewell.org

Receive a prize!

Watch for a new video each day during Fraud Prevention Week

The SMP program in Mississippi is sponsored by AdviseWell, Inc. and funded through a grant from the U.S. Administration for Community Living (Nos. 90MPPG0023, 90MPPG0024 and 90MPPG0049)

Medgar and Myrlie Evers Home National Monument

Volunteers Needed!

Join the National Park Service in beautifying the Medgar Evers Statue at the Medgar Evers Library

Date: June 10, 2023
Time: 9am
Location: Medgar Evers Library, 4215 Medgar Evers Blvd, Jackson MS, 39213
Contact: Earsley Quinn earsley_quinn@nps.gov

60th Anniversary of Medgar Evers Assassination Events:

National Park Service: go.nps.gov/evers60

Medgar and Myrlie Evers Institute: <https://mmei60.org/>



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Graduation speaker: Hinds CC Utica Campus ‘laid the foundation’

The Mississippi Link Newswire

In the fourth and final spring 2023 graduation ceremony May 13, Hinds Community College honored students at the Utica Campus and celebrated the “Golden” Hinds Agricultural High School Class of 1973.

The graduating class of 114 students gathered at the iconic bell tower, the only original remaining structure of the former Utica Institute, for a special ceremony before heading to J.D. Boyd Gym for graduation.

Also recognized were 71 members of the Class of 1973 who wore gold robes with maroon sashes.

Offering the invocation and benediction was Omarion Luss of Clinton. A guard on the men’s basketball team his freshman year, he was also a member of Phi Theta Kappa and was among students who received an inaugural Walter Washington Achievement Award. He plans to transfer to Mississippi State University.

The graduation speaker was Lia Smith of Columbia. She played forward on the women’s basketball team for two years and was named a National Junior College Athletic Association All-Academic Second Team Member. She plans to major in electrical engineering at Jackson State University.

“This college has laid the foundation for the careers we have chosen to pursue,” Smith said. “It has not only filled our minds with knowledge but gave us a chance for the hands-on experience that is not always given at every college. This campus may be smaller than average, but it is filled with people who push us to become our best as well as students who strive to become their best.”

Three other ceremonies were held May 10 and 11. In all, Hinds awarded 1,526 degrees and certificates to 1,107 graduates. A number of graduates received more than one credential.

In total, 239 students graduated cum laude with a grade point average of 3.2 to 3.59; 190 graduated magna cum laude with a grade point average of 3.6 to 3.99 and 82 graduated summa cum laude with a grade point average of 4.0.

With six campuses in central Mississippi, Hinds Community College is a comprehensive institution offering quality, affordable educational opportunities with academic programs of study leading to seamless university transfer and career and technical programs teaching job-ready skills.



Omarion Luss of Clinton, left, offered the invocation and benediction and Lia Smith of Columbia was the student speaker for the May 13 ceremony at Hinds Community College’s Utica Campus. BRAD SMITH/HINDS COMMUNITY COLLEGE



Omarion Luss of Clinton, offered the invocation and benediction for the May 13 ceremony at Hinds Community College’s Utica Campus. BRAD SMITH/HINDS COMMUNITY COLLEGE



Graduates who participated in a special bell ringing ceremony were, from left, Shymaya Dixon of Utica, Jaylan Blount of Jackson and Ezekiel Harris of Canton. They graduated from Hinds Community College on May 13 at a Utica Campus ceremony. BRAD SMITH/HINDS COMMUNITY COLLEGE



2022 Miss Hinds Community College Tiara Jackson of Terry poses with Hinds Instructor Tim Crisler after the May 13 graduation ceremony on the Utica Campus. BRAD SMITH/HINDS COMMUNITY COLLEGE



The “Golden” Hinds Agricultural High School Class of 1973 was recognized as part of the May 13 Hinds Community College Utica Campus graduation ceremony. BRAD SMITH/HINDS COMMUNITY COLLEGE

New college opens at MSU to sharpen focus on non-traditional students



Mississippi State’s new College of Professional and Continuing Studies sharpens the university’s focus on non-traditional, adult learners. PHOTO BY MEGAN BEAN

Special to the Mississippi Link

Two centers educating adult learners at Mississippi State are uniting to form a new university college – the College of Professional and Continuing Studies.

MSU’s Center for Distance Education and Center for Continuing Education are combining to enhance program offerings and services through the new merger, which will sharpen the university’s focus on non-traditional, adult learners. The college was officially approved May 18 by the Mississippi Institutions of Higher Learning board of trustees.

According to the CPCS’s new Dean Susan Seal, this academic division connects effectively with several pillars of the Transforming MSU strategic plan, including serving the whole student, elevating community and igniting innovation.

“With a college focused on the educational needs of working adults and workforce readiness, we can be agile and innovative in the design of specific applied credit and non-credit programs in the highest demand,” Seal said. “This also opens the door for additional community and industry partnerships, expanded grant and contract opportunities, and so much more.”

Moving into the role of dean after serving for six years as CDE’s executive director, Seal said a quickly evolving education landscape has contributed

to this new college’s creation.

An increase in adult learners in the U.S. – 13 times the number of traditional learners – along with expansion of digitization, competition from other universities and student financial barriers, are just a few of the accelerators in higher education driving the benefits of the CPCS’s creation.

“Launching the College of Professional and Continuing Studies is the latest example of Mississippi State’s commitment to taking care of what matters,” MSU Provost and Executive Vice President David Shaw said. “We see extraordinary opportunities in connecting more people with innovative, high-quality programs and learning opportunities wherever they are.”

Plans are to position the university’s recently instituted Bachelor of Applied Science degrees in public management and business office technology into the CPCS, offer non-credit continuing education courses while creating pathways for a micro-credentialing program, and provide enhanced student success services.

Seal said, “Distance Education and Continuing Education have had a good working relationship and, in many cases, complementary roles. The formation of the CPCS is an opportunity to create synergy, be strategic in our work, and highly productive, all while growing educational options for non-traditional students.”



BOOK REVIEW:

AFRICAN AMERICAN BIOGRAPHIES

BY BY VARIOUS AUTHORS

C.2023, VARIOUS PUBLISHERS

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By Terri Schlichenmeyer
Columnist

You are never alone in this world. Reach out, and you can always get help. Look around, and you'll find company. Pick up one of these great books, and you'll read about someone whose life was fascinating, and who you can admire and aspire to be like. For anyone who likes to watch the ponies, or who thrills to the Triple Crown each year, "Isaac Murphy: The Rise and Fall of a Black Jockey" by Katherine C.


Mooney (Yale University Press, \$25) is a book filled with action and history. Isaac Murphy was born a slave in 1861 and became a horse jockey, as many black men did then. Horse racing was one of America's most popular sports in the mid-nineteenth-century and Murphy was one of America's most well-known athletes, black and white – but while his work, the races he won, and the prizes he captured made him famous then, Murphy is often forgotten today. This is an excellent look at a quietly hidden

part of black history, and it can't be missed. In "Samuel Ringgold Ward: A Life of Struggle" by R.J.M. Blackett (Yale University Press, \$25), you'll read about another person you've likely never heard about. Though he was born early in the 1800s, Ward was not ever enslaved, but he knew the pain of inequality and so he dedicated his life to being an abolitionist. A contemporary of Frederick Douglass, Ward was also a minister, a highly regarded newspaper editor, a speaker, and he firmly be-


lieved that alcohol needed to be banned. Why his name fell into obscurity and why you should know about his life and his work makes an excellent read for anyone of any age. Fans of MTV back in the day, and fans of music over the last forty years, will love reading "Top Billin'" by Bill Bellamy (Amistad, \$29.99). In the 1990s, when MTV was still mostly a music channel on cable television, Bellamy was one of its biggest stars. This book remembers those years, and Bellamy's interviews and friendships with

people like Biggie and Tupac, Janet Jackson, the late Kurt Cobain, Snoop Dogg, Eddie Murphy and many other big names. You'll also read about Bellamy's early life, his family, and his other work in music videos. Oh, and you'll laugh, because Bellamy's a funny guy. If you remember the 90s, you'll want this book. And finally, if ancient lives are your thing, find "The West: A New History in Fourteen Lives" by Naoise Mac Sweeney.(Dutton, \$32). Read about Phillis Wheatley, scholar Al-Kindi of

Arabia, Herodotus (who was of mixed race), and twelve other influential lives that left their mark on Western civilization. History scholars: head's up on this one. This book is meant for readers like you. And if these great life stories aren't enough, go find your favorite librarian or bookseller and ask for help. They know books, they have access to millions of biographies, they'll know exactly what you want to read next. And with a great book by your side, you're never alone.



ZACK WALLACE
Hinds County Circuit Clerk



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Jackson, MS 39205
Phone: (601) 968-6628
Fax: (601) 973-5547

Jury Duty Recording:

First Judicial District
(601) 969-0052

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Circuit Clerk's Office
P.O. Box 999
Raymond, MS 39154
Phone: (601) 857-8038
Fax: (601) 857-0535

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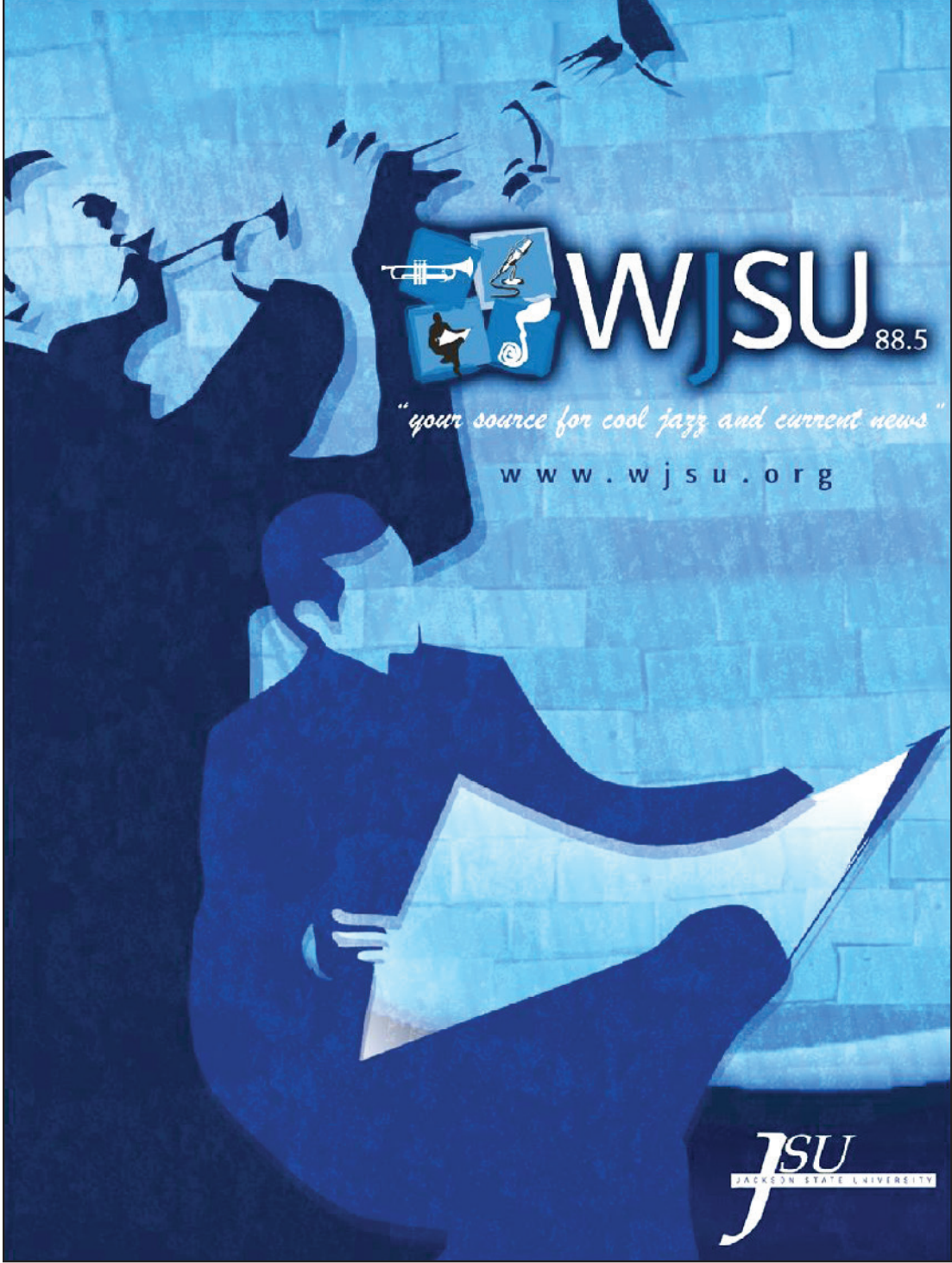
- You must be registered 30 days before the Election.
- Absentee Voting begins 45 days before the Election


MARRIAGE INFORMATION

- Marriage License: \$36.00
 - Both applicants must come to the Circuit Clerk's office together to apply
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Jackson State lands 4 players in the NFL

By Timothy Ward
Sports Writer

The NFL Draft has come and gone. Only one player from an HBCU was drafted. That was Jackson State's Isaiah Bolden. Bolden was drafted by the New England Patriots in the seventh round. He was the 245th player picked in the draft. Bolden is the 101st NFL Draft pick in Jackson State History. Blessed with 4.31 second 40-yard dash speed, while his primary position is defensive back, Bolden was spectacular on kickoff returns. He led the nation in kickoff return average yards with 36.9. Defensively Bolden had 30 solo tackles, 14 assisted tackles, and broke up 7 pass plays. He's also tall for a defensive back at 6'3".

Star Linebacker, Aubrey Miller Jr, was signed as a free agent by the Miami Dolphins. He was the SWAC Defensive Player of the year in 2022. He was also the BOXTOROW HBCU All-American and National Defensive Player of the year. On May 22, he signed a



Isaiah Bolden was drafted by the New England Patriots.



Wide Receiver Dallas Daniels scores 1 of his 3 touchdowns.



Aubrey Miller signed as a free agent with the Miami Dolphins. PHOTOS BY TIM WARD

3 year, \$2.705 million contract with \$110,000 fully guaranteed.

De'Jahn Warren signed a free agent contract with the Chicago Bears. Warren is a 6'1" defensive back who was Deion Sanders' first recruit to Jackson

State.

Dallas Daniel signed a free contract with the Denver Broncos. Daniel caught 63 passes for 692 yards and 6 touchdowns during his time at Jackson State.

"Miller, Warren and Daniels can play on the next level," Taylor said. "All they need is an opportunity to show what they can do. It is a testament to coach Deion Sanders bringing talent to Jackson State and

the culture we are establishing here."

Last year, James Houston was selected in the NFL Draft in the sixth round by the Detroit Lions. Houston was activated by the Lions in week 12 of last

season and immediately made an impact. Houston recorded 2 sacks with 2 solo tackles. He would go on to play 7 games last season registering 8 sacks, 1 forced fumble and 23 tackles with 11 of them solo tackles.

SWAC Alumni Association honored Dr. Walter Reed at annual Legends Awards & Roast

By Jackie Hampton
The Mississippi Link Publisher

The SWAC Alumni Association held its 20th annual Legends Awards & Roast Saturday, May 20, 2023, at the Embassy Suites, 200 Township Place in Ridgeland, MS at 8 p.m. The event was a sell-out.

Dr. Walter Reed, a co-founder of the association and former Director of Athletics at Jackson State University and Florida A&M University was the Guest of Honor. He was roasted by friends and colleagues.

Rob Jay, Jackson State University's assistant athletics director for Broadcast and Video Services, served as program guide and roast master.

This annual event also honors student-athletes as well as former or current coaches, administrators or staff members that have made positive impacts to the conference.

The Charles "Chuck" Prophet Wagon Master Award was presented to Adeanah Pooler, senior associate commissioner of the SWAC. It was presented by Alyse Wells-Kilbert, SWAC Alumni Association board member.

Lifetime Achievement awards were presented posthumously to Jackson State University running back Walter Payton, former Alcorn State University tight-end Tracy M. Cook and Texas Southern University operations director/marketing and promotions manager Harlan S. Robinson. They were presented by Sam Jefferson, SWAC Alumni Association board member.

The Dennis E. Thomas Distinguished Service award was presented to former Alcorn State and Philadelphia Eagle star, Roynell Young. Young is the founder and CEO of Pro-Vision, Inc. a youth mentoring organization in Houston, Texas. Presenters of this award were Lonza Hardy Jr., SWAC Alumni Association president and Dr. Dennis E. Thomas, former Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference commissioner.

Individuals roasting Dr. Reed included W.D. Belt, high school colleague and deacon colleague at Mt. Helm Baptist Church; Evelyn Bishop, goddaughter and member of Mt. Helm Baptist Church; Dr. William Rush, retired Jackson State professor/faculty athletics representative and Mt. Helm deacon; and Eddie Payton, former Jackson State/NFL athlete, former championship golf coach at Jackson State University.



Dr. Walter Reed, SWAC honoree PHOTOS BY JAY JOHNSON



Guests enjoying the SWAC Legends Awards and Roast celebration.



Standing (L-R) Tracy M. Cook, Roynell Young, Eddie Payton, Adeanah Pooler, Harlan Robinson and Lonza Hardy Jr.; (Seated) Dr. Walter Reed



Reed and Rob Jay



Rob Jay, Lonza Hardy, Jr. and Sam Jefferson

Highlights from Police Memorial Service honoring the memory of Jackson Law Enforcement Officers who lost their lives while serving and protecting their community was held Tuesday, May 16, 2023 at the Mississippi Museum of Art, 380 South Lamar Street at 9:30 AM.



Afterward, a Police Memorial and Appreciation Day luncheon, honoring federal, state and local officers who served in the Jackson tri-county area was held at the Mississippi Trade Mart, 1207 Mississippi Street in Jackson.

