June 15 - 21, 2023 Vol. 29, No. 35 50¢

And honoring CELEBRATING the legacy of Medgar Evers JUNETEENTH

Juneteenth marks our country's second Independence Day

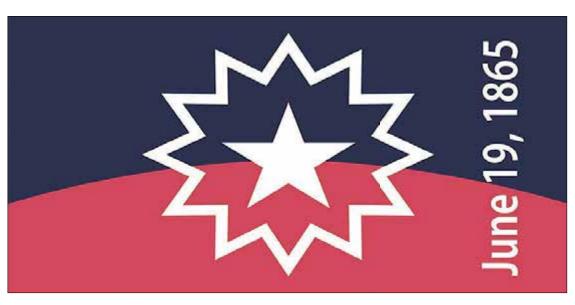
By Jackie Hampton Publisher

Juneteenth marks our country's second Independence Day. Although it has long been celebrated in the African-American community, this monumental event remains largely unknown to most Americans.

On July 22, 1862, President Abraham Lincoln issued an executive order that declared enslaved people in the rebelling Confederate State legally free. However, the decree would not take effect until the clock struck midnight at the start of the new year.

On "Freedom's Eve," or the eve of January 1, 1863, the first historical legacy of what is known as 'Watch Night' services took place. On that night, enslaved and free African Americans gathered in churches and private homes all across the country awaiting news that the Emancipation Proclamation had taken effect.

At the stroke of midnight, prayers were answered, as all enslaved people in Confederate States were declared legally free. Union soldiers, many of whom were black, marched onto plantations and across cities in the south reading small copies of the Emancipation Proclamation spreading the news of freedom in Confederate States. Only through the Thirteenth Amendment did emanci-



The first flag that represented the Juneteenth holiday was created in 1997 by Ben Haith, the founder of the National Juneteenth Celebration Foundation (NJCF) The flag uses the exact same colors as the United States flag: red, white and blue. This was intentional and meant to show that the formerly enslaved and their descendants are free Americans too.

However, not everyone in Confederate territory would immediately be free. Even though the Emancipation Proclamation was made effective in 1863, it could not be implemented in places still under Confederate control. As a result, in the westernmost Confederate state of Texas, enslaved people would not be free until much later

Freedom finally came on June 19, 1865, when some 2,000 Union troops arrived in Galveston Bay, Texas. The army announced that the more than 250,000 enpation end slavery throughout the slaved black people in the state, amazing. Not even a generation were free by executive decree. out of slavery, African Americans

This day came to be known as "Juneteenth," by the newly freed people in Texas.

The post-emancipation period known as Reconstruction (1865-1877) marked an era of great hope, uncertainty and struggle for the nation as a whole.

Formerly enslaved people immediately sought to reunify families, establish schools, run for political office, push radical legislation and even sue slaveholders for compensation. Given the 200+ years of enslavement, such changes were nothing short of

were inspired and empowered to transform their lives and their country.

It was June 18, 2021 that a Proclamation on Juneteenth Day of Observance was declared from the White House. Joe Biden, the nation's 46th U.S. President, took the following actions:

He said, "On June 19, 1865, nearly nine decades after our nation's founding, and more than two years after President Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation, enslaved Americans in Galveston, Texas, finally received

Juneteenth Continued on page 3

The Life & Legacy of **Medgar Wiley Evers**



The Evers house at 2332 Margaret Walker Alexander Drive in Jackson, MS, where Evers was shot while getting out of his car, is now the Medgar and Myrlie Evers Home National Monument.

By Jackie Hampton Mississippi Link Publisher

It has been 60 years since the assassination of Medgar Evers. The Mississippi Link is proud to pay tribute to one of the most effective civil rights advocates in the state of Mississippi and for the entire country. He served as the NAACP's first field secretary in Mississippi.

Evers, a decorated U.S. Army combat veteran who had served in World War II, was engaged in efforts to overturn

segregation at the University of Mississippi, end the segregation of public facilities and expand opportunities for African Americans including the enforcement of voting rights.

A college graduate, Evers became active in the Civil Rights Movement in the 1950s. Following the 1954 ruling of the United States Supreme Court in Brown v. Board of Education that segre-

> Evers Continued on page 4

MS Civil Rights lawyer arrested for filming controversial traffic stop

By Stacy M. Brown NNPA Newswire Senior Correspondent

Mississippi civil rights lawyer Jill Collen Jefferson found herself on the wrong side of the law after recording a traffic stop involving

officers from the very police

department she is suing in

federal court. The arrest has drawn attention to the ongoing struggle for justice and police reform in the wake of the Black Lives Matter protests that have swept the nation.

Jefferson, president of JULIAN, a prominent civil rights organization, had filed a federal lawsuit against the Lexington, MS Police Department on behalf of a group of city residents just last year.

Her attorney, Michael Carr, revealed that Jefferson was apprehended late Saturday evening, June 10, while documenting officers' actions during a routine traffic stop.

Despite numerous attempts



to obtain comments from the Lexington Police Department, they have failed to respond to comment requests.

The incident occurred merely nine days after Assistant Attorney General Kristen Clarke from the U.S. Department of Justice's Civil Rights Division visited Lexington to

> **Jefferson** Continued on page 3

Rankin County NAACP hosts town hall

The terrorizing and assault of Micheal Jenkins and Eddie Parker on January 24, 2023

By Christopher Young Contributing Writer

Pilgrim Rest Missionary Baptist Church in Brandon was the site for a town hall hosted by the Rankin County NAACP branch, Concerned Citizens of Rankin County and Building Bridges for Community Unity and Progress. Lunch was available at noon, and the town hall was from 1-2:45 p.m.

Rankin County NAACP President Angela Harper English set the tone for the event with remarks, before other speakers took to the podium, and then the floor was opened to comments and questions from the audience of well over 100.

English said, "We are here today representing the victims of assault by the Rankin County Sheriff's Department. This is our main concern today. There are many things going on, but this takes precedence. This didn't start today, many of you were here when J.B. Torrence

> **Jenkins** Continued on page 3



L-R: Priscilla Sterling (Emmett Till's cousin), Monica Lee (mother of Damien Cameron), Marquell Bridges, Mary Jenkins (mother of Michael Jenkins) stand behind pictures of Damien and Michael.

Happy Father's Day



Books for Father's Day

Page 14



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2A • THE MISSISSIPPI LINK JUNE 15 - 21, 2023 www.themississippilink.com

National Park Service and volunteers beautify Medgar Evers statue and grounds located at the Medgar Evers Library

By Jackie Hampton Publisher

As a part of the 60th Anniversary of the Assassination of Medgar Evers, volunteers joined the National Park Service June 10, at 9 a.m. to clean and beautify the bronze statue of Medgar Evers, which is located at the Medgar Evers Library, 4215 Medgar Evers Blvd., in Jackson, MS.

The representatives from the National Park Service and volunteer workers were honored to be at the library which was named after Evers and expressed how much they enjoyed being inside the structure which had several books with historical information about the Mississippi activist

Listeners seemed very captivated as Branch Manager James Hampton gave an oral presentation from the book, Medgar Evers and the NAACP, which was a graphic history of the Civil Rights movement.

Willie Davis told *The Mississippi Link* that he enjoyed the story. "There were a lot of things I actually did not know and learning so much meant a lot to me," he said.

Leon Carr said he enjoyed the dramatical presentation by Hampton. "It was really impactful learning so much more about everything Medgar had gone through," he said.



Earsley Quinn from the National Park Service



Display showcase of Evers at the library which bears his name.



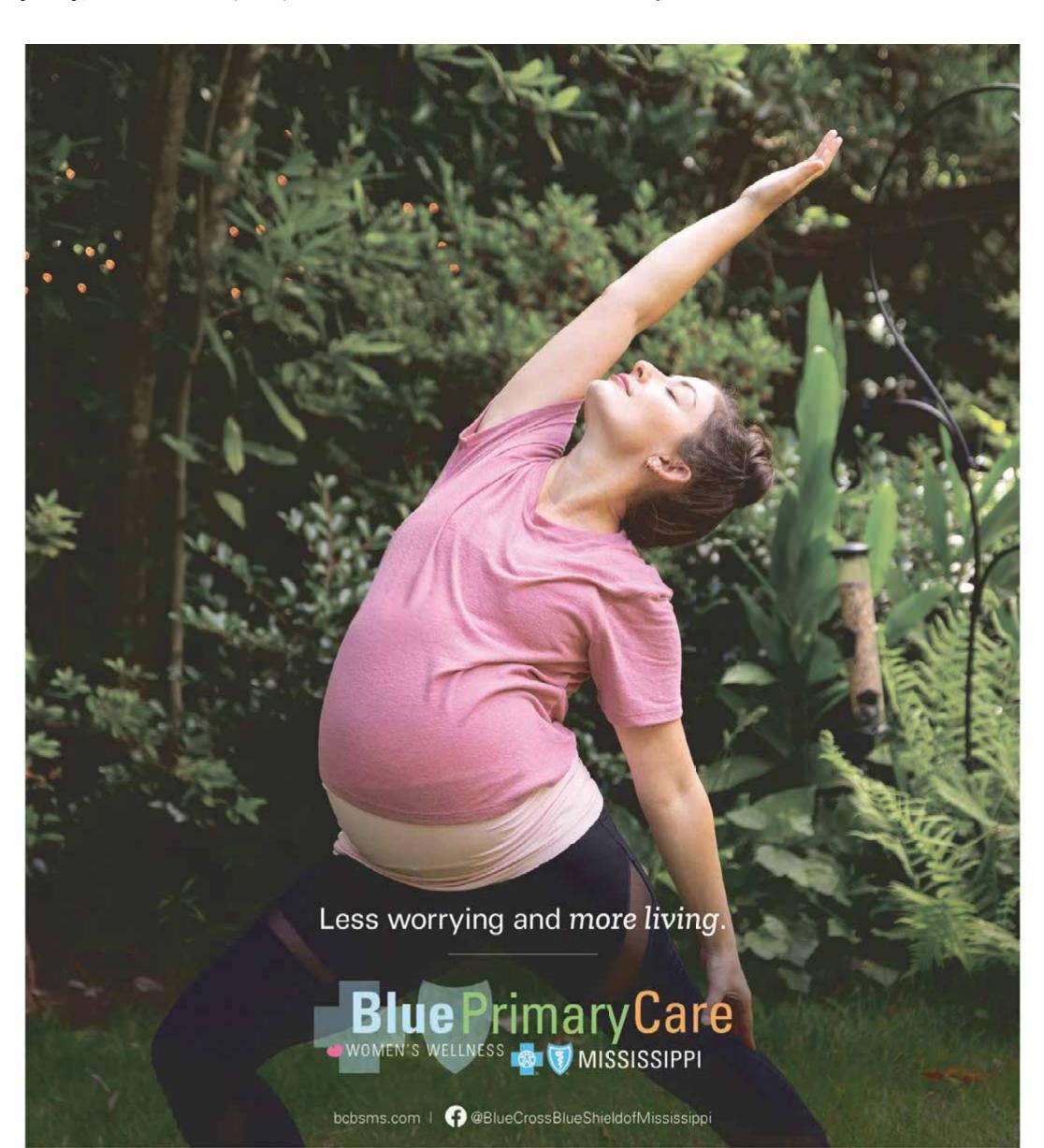
Volunteers beautifying the area around the Medgar Evers statue. PHOTOS BY JACKIE HAMPTON



(L-R) Melissa English from the National Park Service in Atlanta, along with members of Alpha Phi Alpha, Canton, MS, who were volunteer workers.

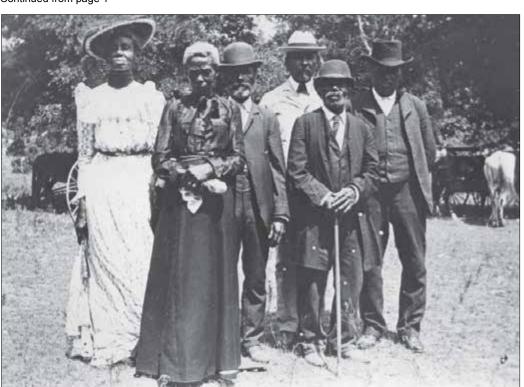


James Hampton, branch manager of the Medgar Evers Library, gives an oral presentation from the book Medgar Evers & The NAACP.



Juneteenth

Continued from page 1



Emancipation Day celebration, June 19, 1900, held in "East Woods" on East 24th Street in Austin, Texas. CREDIT: AUSTIN HISTORY CENTER.

word that they were free from bondage. As those who were formerly enslaved were recognized for the first time as citizens, black Americans came to commemorate Juneteenth with celebrations across the country, building new lives and a new tradition that we honor today. In its celebration of freedom, Juneteenth is a day that should be recognized by all Americans. And that is why I am proud to have consecrated Juneteenth as our newest national holiday. Juneteenth is a day of profound weight and power.

"A day in which we remember the moral stain

and terrible toll of slavery on our country, what I've long called America's original sin. A long legacy of systemic racism, inequality, and inhumanity.

"But it is a day that also reminds us of our incredible capacity to heal, hope, and emerge from our darkest moments with purpose and resolve.

"As I said on the 100th Anniversary of the Tulsa Race Massacre, great nations don't ignore the most painful chapters of their past. Great nations confront them. We come to terms with them.

"On Juneteenth, we recommit ourselves to the work of equity, equality and justice. And, we celebrate the centuries of struggle, courage, and hope that have brought us to this time of progress and possibility. That work has been led throughout our history by abolitionists and educators, civil rights advocates and lawyers, courageous activists and trade unionists, public officials and everyday Americans who have helped make real the ideals of our founding documents for all.

"Psalm 30 proclaims that "weeping may en-

dure for a night, but joy cometh in the morning." Juneteenth marks both the long, hard night of slavery and discrimination, and the promise of a brighter morning to come. My administration is committed to building an economy – and a nation – that brings everyone along, and finally delivers our nation's founding promise to black Americans. Together, we will lay the roots of real and lasting justice, so that we can become the extraordinary country that was promised to all Americans.

"Juneteenth not only commemorates the past. It calls us to action today.

"NOW, THEREFORE, I, JOSEPH R. BIDEN JR., President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim June 19, 2021, as Juneteenth Day of Observance. I call upon the people of the United States to acknowledge and celebrate the end of the Civil War and the emancipation of Black Americans, and commit together to eradicate systemic racism that still undermines our founding ideals and collective prosperity.

"IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this eighteenth day of June, in the year of our Lord two thousand twenty-one, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and forty-fifth." JOSEPH R. BIDEN JR."

For more information on Juneteenth visit: https://nmaahc.si.edu/explore/stories/historical-legacy-juneteenth

Evers

Continued from page 1



Myrlie and Medgar Evers at their home in Jackson, MS

gated public schools were unconstitutional, Evers challenged the segregation of the state-supported public University of Mississippi, applying to law school there. He also worked for voting rights, economic opportunity, access to public facilities, and other changes in the segregated society.

Evers was murdered at his home on June 12, 1963, by Byron De La Beckwith, a member of the White Citizens' Council in Jackson. This group was formed in 1954 in Mississippi to resist the integration of schools and civil rights activism.

In the early morning of Wednesday, June 12, 1963, just hours after President John F. Kennedy's nationally televised his Civil Rights address, Evers pulled into his driveway after returning from a meeting with NAACP lawyers. His family had worried for his safety that day, and Evers

himself had warned his wife that he felt in greater danger than usual.

Emerging from his car and carrying NAACP T-shirts that read "Jim Crow Must Go," Evers was struck in the back with a bullet. The bullet passed through his heart. Initially thrown to the ground by the impact of the shot, Evers rose and staggered 30 feet (10 meters) before collapsing outside the door of his home. His wife, Myrlie, was the first to find him.

Evers was taken to the local hospital in Jackson, where he was initially refused entry because of his race. The Evers' family explained who he was, and he was admitted; he died in the hospital 50 minutes later, three weeks' shy of his 38th birthday.

His murder and the resulting trials inspired civil rights protests, and his life and death inspired numerous works of art, music and film. Although all-white juries failed to reach verdicts in Beckwith's first two trials in the 1960s, he was convicted in 1994 based on new evidence.

De La Beckwith was convicted of murder on February 5, 1994, after having lived as a free man for much of the three decades following the killing. De La Beckwith appealed his conviction in the Evers case but the Mississippi Supreme Court upheld it and the U.S. Supreme Court declined to hear it. He died at the age of 80 in prison on January 21, 2001.

As a veteran, Evers was buried with full military honors at Arlington National Cemetery.

Jenkins

Continued from page 1



Rankin County NAACP President Angela H. English

was here, and he kept getting elected over and over again, and he kept terrorizing people of color and poor white people.

"We are here today because justice is not spelled just-us. Whether you voted Democrat or Republican, when these people take office, they take an oath to protect and serve everybody – not just a select few. They have not been doing what they were elected to do. They have been terrorizing, traumatizing, beating, dehumanizing, torturing, kidnapping – they have committed all kinds of heinous crimes. We want accountability from our elected officials, starting with Sheriff Bryan Bailey – I invited him, personally brought the flyer to his office. I don't see him. Put your hands up to your ear, do you hear him? We haven't heard from him since this incident happened.

"I had a meeting last night; it was with the United States Department of Justice. I was so glad they came. And I want you to know, the case is practically won. We want accountability and we want justice, and we want the six officers to be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law. The DOJ wanted me to know they are going to be indicted on hate crimes."

Marquell Bridges is the CEO of Building Bridges for Community Unity and Progress and he travels the country working with impacted families and building resources, getting them attorneys, getting their stories heard, and anything else that is needed to help get them justice.

Bridges shared about the 2021 death of Damien Cameron – "Again it was Rankin County deputies in a confrontation which ended with Cameron being transported to the hospital on life support, and later dying. How do you explain this? They refused to turn over body-cam video. They don't respect us, and they target us."

He then moved on to the Jenkins/Parker incident, where comments included "when I heard about this there is no way I could have expected it to be true...six white officers sexually assaulting Michael Jenkins and Eddie Parker with a dildo, you would have expected that they could never do that while they were handcuffed, and then waterboarded with alcohol and milk, and that they would not have stripped them naked and make them shower together...it defies any expectations. Before they left, they put a gun in Michael Jenkins' mouth and fired a shot. I never thought all of that could be true, but it is. The taser report indicates they were tazed over thirty times."

Attorney Trent Walker reported that he "grew up in Rankin County and can remember as a little boy hearing the grownups talk about Sheriff Torrence and how bad things were with the Rankin County Sheriff's Department." He recounted numerous cases that he has been aware of where black men have been harassed and assaulted by Rankin County officers and nothing ever gets done about it. He emphasized that black men simply do not know what will happen when they have an encounter with law



Honorable Trent Walker. PHOTOS BY CHRIS YOUNG

enforcement in Rankin County. "As someone born and raised here, it is past time that we do something different from what we have been doing. The death penalty is not the penalty for every crime, and it shouldn't be."

In wrapping up his main remarks, he said, "Whenever events happen, and they come in shooting, there ends up having to be falsification of records to cover up the farse, and that they are only serving and protecting middle-class white residents and having open season on black people and poor white people, and that it's been going on for a hundred years here. In many cases there is an interracial component that just sets them off, and there is a pattern, and we have to find a way to lay this out so that no court in the land could ever deny it."

When the floor was opened for questions, numerous people came forward, some with questions, others with comments about their experience with Rankin deputies, and others to encourage the community to take a stand and get energized as a community.

Walker was then asked by an attendee what advice he would give to men who find themselves in similar situations. He answered, "Do everything you can to comply, do whatever you can to survive, make no statement to the police about anything that you are being accused of – people have a right to remain silent for a reason, use that right, and lastly, as soon as you can contact a lawyer who can assist you."

Following this town hall, on Monday, June 12, NBC News reported, "In a news release, Attorney Malik Shabazz said that he would file 22 claims of federal civil rights violations in the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Mississippi before Monday. The men (Michael Jenkins and Eddie Parker) will seek \$400 million in compensatory and punitive damages."

Jefferson

Continued from page

engage with community members regarding allegations of police brutality within the small town.

A lawsuit in which Jefferson is a plaintiff, alleges that black residents in Lexington, a small Mississippi town about 63 miles north of Jackson, have been subjected to false arrests, excessive force, and intimidation, causing them to feel "terrorized" by the police.

In their legal action, JULIAN sought a temporary restraining order against the Lexington Police Department to secure protection for the town's predominantly black population.

Jefferson has repeatedly emphasized the grav-

ity of the situation, stating that it is both morally unacceptable and unlawful for Lexington residents to experience such fear and terror from the very police department entrusted with their protection. Jefferson urged the intervention of both the courts and the Department of Justice without delay.

delay.

Jefferson's lawsuit exposed a disturbing pattern of false arrests, excessive force and intimidation by the police against the residents of Lexington, her attorney insisted.

"As an advocate for her clients, Jill Jefferson firmly believes that this systematic misconduct

has plagued the citizens of Lexington," Carr stated.

Through her ordeal, she aims to bring to light the corrupt practices that have tainted this city, possibly inspiring a nationwide reckoning.

According to Carr, Jefferson complied with the officer's request to provide identification and questioned why she was approached while filming on a public street.

ing on a public street.

However, she was swiftly arrested and charged with three misdemeanors: failure to comply, dis-

orderly conduct and resisting arrest.

Jefferson remained in custody at the Holmes

County Jail over the weekend, awaiting a court hearing

Following negotiations, Police Chief Charles Henderson eventually agreed to release her without requiring a bond.

However, Jefferson adamantly refused to pay the \$35 processing fee that the jail demanded to secure her release because she thought her arrest was unfair and unconstitutional.

Her attorney noted that the incident further underscores the urgent need for comprehensive police reform and the significance of the ongoing Black Lives Matter protests. **4A • THE MISSISSIPPI LINK**

JUNE 15 - 21, 2023

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National Choose to Grow Leadership Summit

By Jackie Hampton Publisher

The National Choose to Grow Leadership Summit was hosted by the Juanita Sims Doty (JSD) Foundation. Executive Director Karla L. Mc-Cullough, Ph.D. and Founder Juanita Sims Doty were very pleased with the three-day event, which was well attended by individuals throughout various states.

McCullough said, "It seems like yesterday that Juanita and I were sitting at a table trying to determine how we could best support our young males of color."

The JSD Foundation now

mentors not only young males but girls as well with an after school program including education, social and emotional learning, mentoring, entrepreneurial activities, funded bank accounts and more.

The signature program is the Ambassadors of the Evers Academy for African American Males (A-TEAAM) in partnership with the Medgar and Myrlie Evers Institute and other local and national community-based organizations.

An awards and recognition luncheon was held Friday from 9 a.m.-11 a.m. in the Sheraton Ballroom. Honorees included Recognition of Am-

bassadors and GEMS, Inaugural Myrlie Evers GEMS of the Year, Inaugural Thea Bowman Ambassadors of the Year, Inaugural Thea Bowman Media Mentors of the Year, 10-Year Mentors, 10-Year Organizations and Presidents' Recognition and the Yvonne T. Maddox HEAAL

Award

Sims-Doty said, "Our Ambassadors, GEMS, parents and mentors are continuing to let us know how much they appreciate the amazing and wonderful time they had during the summit."

She said they learned a lot, but they also had a lot of fun.

Culminating a decade of service in collaboration with the 60th Legacy Anniversary of Medgar W. Evers Sheraton Flowood – The Refuge Hotel and Conference Center June 8-10, 2023







Exhibition connects Mississippi artists and their works to national and global matters

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

A 2 p.m. chat, Saturday, June 10, 2023, occurred at the Mississippi Museum of Art between artist Adrienne Brown-David and Katie A. Pfohl, guest curator. Accentuating the conversation were Brown-David's paintings that depicted the theme, Being and Belonging. There are three works in this exhibition that form a triptych called Taken Aback by My Own Beauty. Here Brown-David portrays people who exist across many different spectrums of identity.

"My work is a celebration of fleeting, quiet moments of infinite possibility. There are so many possibilities that can spring from every brief moment between one state of being and another. The moment a new state is entered, all of the other possibilities wink out like a light," reflected Brown-David.

Brown-David's works lie within the theme: Mississippi Invitational: Gulfs among Us which, according to Pfohl, confronts a divided world among social, cultural and geographical spheres. Through these works, the status quo is questioned, boundaries are broken and definitions are expanded.

Like the works of fourteen other featured artists from various regions at the Mississippi Museum of Art, Brown-David's art "addresses social and environmental justice, gender and sexuality, history and memory and the role of faith and family in a world fraying at the seams.

"Working with an array of media – painting, sculpture, installation, photography and video – they are united in envisioning how art can speak across and between divides," said Pfohl.

Pfohl's curiosity of the origin of Brown-David's artistical voice led Brown-David to respond that her artistry was al-



Katie A. Pfohl (r) asks artist Adrienne Brown-David to discuss her spatial limitations as a child in St. Louis as opposed to her children's freedom within their Water Valley, Mississippi boundaries. PHOTO BY JANICE NEAL-VINCENT

ways a part of who she is. She noted, however: "I didn't find my own voice in art until I started having children. The subject that I knew most was my family. I spent numerous days watching my children play, watching them grow up. My kids and my family made me want to work harder on my paintings."

Brown-David further explained that she began her artistic journey while looking at the hardships of black children. She had the drive to tell the people about the world of black children and black people.

"I had to be in a place for reflection and a place for quiet. I'm not from Miss. I didn't have space. My kids had the fancy landscape," said the painter who was born in St. Louis, MO but lives in Water Valley, Miss.

When asked what was her technique in the world of painting, Brown-David commented, "I don't know how to paint. I do what I do. I don't have technique. I could not teach painting technique, though I know how to do it."

Pfohl invited Brown-David to share her thoughts about space. The artist responded that her entire childhood was limited in space between her house and her grandparents' house. This distance did not allow her to have the freedom to move about. It was Mississippi that propelled her thinking about space. That



Art lovers listen as artist Adrienne Brown-David and guest curator Katie A. Pfohl converse about her paintings. Photo BY JANICE NEAL-VINCENT

space was freedom. "Living here has made me focus on some things. It was important for all of my children to have their space so they could become who they are."

The artist concluded that in Mississippi people are "allowed to do certain things. Environmental freedom is important to have. It's important to not take it away."

Mississippi Invitational: Gulfs among Us exhibition exemplifies the range and depth of art being made in Mississippi and presents national and global conversations that capture the complexities and contradictions of living in Mississippi today.

Running June 10-Septembe

17, 2023, it features the works of Adrienne Brown-David (Water Valley); Kwasi Butler (Jackson); Brenden Davis (Jackson); Adrienne Domnick (Jackson); Rory Doyle (Cleveland); Kariann Fuqua (Oxford); Caroline Hatfield (Starkville); Monica Hill (Jackson); Sabrina Howard (Jackson); James Kane (Water Valley); Robin Marte'a (Jackson); Taylor Loftin (Water Valley); M. Robyn Wall (Cleveland); Hannah Wegner (Perkinston); and Brooke White (Oxford).

A total of 105 applicants submitted extensive work samples and detailed personal statements. From the keen competition, the fifteen featured artists were chosen for public viewing at The Mississippi Museum of

Art.

"Providing artists in the region a platform to share their ideas, this exhibition also seeks to foster new connections among the artists in the state, and place contemporary art in Mississippi into dialogue with a broad range of national and global concerns. Uniquely influenced and inspired by the Gulf South, the artists in Gulfs among Us also reaches across regions to find us all where we are," stated Pfohl.

For further information, contact Mississippi Museum of Art (380 South Lamar Street, Jackson, Miss. 39201; 601 960-1515 or https://www.msmuseumart.org).



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Celebrating the Legacy of Medgar & Myrlie Evers

Shady Grove M.B. Church • 2110 W. Ridgeway Street • Jackson, MS 39213 June 11, 2023 – 11 a.m. • Guest Messenger: Rev. Dr. Amos Brown

of Third Avenue Baptist Church in San Francisco, CA, was the guest speaker at Shady Grove Baptist Church Sunday, June 11, 2023 at the 11 a.m. service. The church, pastored by Rev. Dr. R. L. Mitchell, is located at 2110 W. Ridgeway Street in Jackson, MS.

Brown, a native of Jackson, is a legend in his own time. He was tutored by Medgar Evers, Benjamin Mays, Samuel Williams and J. Pious Barbour. A 1964 graduate of Morehouse College, he was one of eight students in the only class Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. taught in his lifetime at Morehouse College.

In his message, Pastor Brown described 90-year-old Myrlie Evers as The Queen, beautiful, elegant, enlightening, effective and energizing as the audience cheered. He titled his message "We got to tell it to generations

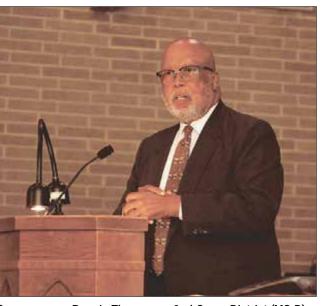
Special remarks were given by Congressman Bennie Thompson, 2nd Congressional District,

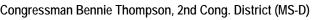


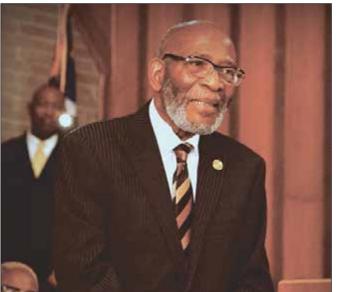












Rev. Dr. Amos Brown



With security at her side Myrlie Evers-Williams and daughter Reena Evers-Everette.

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The Mississippi Link TM Volume 29 • Number 35

June 15 - 21, 2023

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

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

Deadline: The deadline for submitting items to be considered for publication is Tuesday at 10 a.m.

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

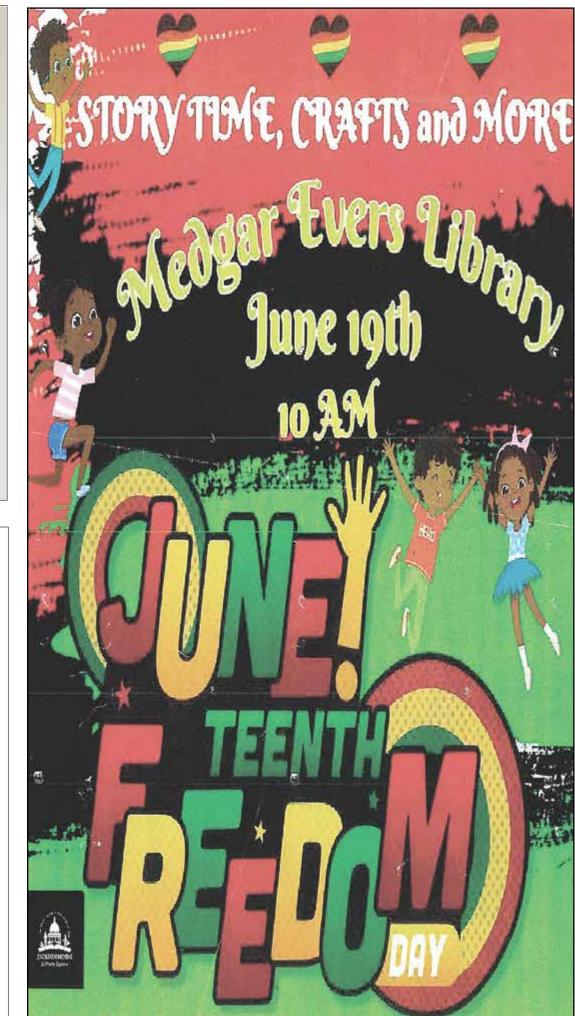
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JUNE 15 - 21, 2023

Celebrating Black Music Appreciation Month

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

The month of June is set aside to appreciate the contributions of African-American musicians, composers, singers and songwriters in American culture. This month pays deference to the history and rich African traditions that birthed different styles of music such as blues, rhythm and blues, rap, hip-hop, jazz, barbershop and swing. In 1979, President Jimmy Carter saw fit to initiate this annual celebration when he decreed June to be the month of black music.

Carter's goal was for people to recognize black music's impact at home and abroad. He observed that people all over were adopting elements of black music to express themselves. The 1970s rapidly became the decade in which black music was gaining traction in signing music labels, with many business heads recognizing its commercial value.

Although this was so, the presidential proclamation for the month was not signed until 2000. In 2009, President Barack Obama gave the commemoration its current name. In his 2016 proclamation, he noted that African-American music and musicians have helped the country "to dance, to express our faith through song, to march against injustice, and to defend our country's enduring promise of freedom and opportunity for all."

President Joe Biden's most recent proclamation stated, "During Black Music Month, we pay homage to legends of American music, who have composed the soundtrack of American life. Their creativity has given rise to distinctly American art forms that influence contemporary music worldwide and sing to the soul of the American experi-

Throughout the last century, African-American music has redefined America's cultural landscape. This makes it an integral part of American history. The art form brought an entire generation together when people were struggling as a nation. The storytelling of black music that reveals the trials and triumphs in American life as well as the common struggles of humanity, particularly as it relates to African Americans as they revered black Christian values in the cultivation of spiritual and gospel themes.

In 1934 The Apollo Theater became the first musical theater to open in Harlem, NYC. This made The Apollo an instant cultural hub for African-American music.

During recent decades, African-American music emerged and became essential to the Civil Rights Movement.

The Carnegie Hall icon - Billie Holiday – made her first appearance there with a salute to Thomas (Fats) Waller April 2, 1944. Her final appearance – Billie Holi-



day: Lady Sings the Blues - occurred November 11, 1956. Of Holiday's latter event, critic Nat Hentoff noted: "The beat flowed in her uniquely sinuous supple way of moving the story along; the words became her own experiences; and coursing through it all was Lady's sound - a texture simultaneously steel-edged and yet soft inside; a voice that was almost unbearably wise in disillusion and yet still childlike, again at the center. The audience was hers from before she sang, greeting her and saying goodbye with heavy, loving applause. And at one time, the musicians, too, applauded. It was a night when Billie was on top, undeniably the best and most honest jazz singer alive."

In 1955 Marian Anderson became the first African American to perform at the New York Metropolitan Opera, America's most highly esteemed opera house. Anderson sang the role of a fortuneteller in an opera by the Italian composer Giuseppe Verdi, called Un Ballo in Maschera (a Masked Ball). The opera singer had a remarkable career, appearing in concerts and recitals across the U.S. and in Europe. According to noted conductor Arturo Toscanini, "A voice like hers comes only once in a century."

Aretha Franklin's version of Otis Redding's hit song, Respect, became a feminist anthem for the second-wave feminism movement in the 1970s. Franklin won two Grammy Awards in 1968 for Best Rhythm & Blues Recording and Best Rhythm & Blues Solo Vocal Performance, Female. It became number one on the 2021 version of Rolling Stone magazine's list of the 500 Greatest Songs of All Time.

In 1974 Stevie Wonder became the first black artist to win the Grammy Award for Album of the Year. Frank Sinatra, Paul Simon and Stevie Wonder have each won the award three times. U2 has twice won the award. The highest selling female album of all time is The Bodyguard soundtrack by Whitney Houston (with various artists). It sold over 45 million copies since its release in November 1992.

By the end of 1983, Michael Jackson's Thriller became the world's best-selling album, having sold 32 million copies. It remains the best-selling album of all time in that it has sold, as specified in his obituary, 100 million copies worldwide. Jackson is credited with selling an estimated seven hundred and fifty million records worldwide over his career.

Blues & Jazz largely influenced the works of Elvis Presley, The Rolling Stones and The Beatles. From African-American music there is diversity, inclusivity and the community's impact in shaping cultural conversations in modern America. Prior to these artists coming on the musical scene, the Birth of Blues originated in the late 1800s, due to racial oppression and the struggles black people faced.

Early hip-hop music saw its roots in the 1970s in the New York City borough of the Bronx. It originated as a collaboration among intersecting groups of Black, Latinix and Caribbean American youth at block parties - community gatherings that featured DJs playing soul and funk music. The birth of hip-hop is believed to date back to August 11, 1973, with DJ Kool Herc (Clive Campbell) and his friend Coke La Rock, often referred to as the fathers of hip-hop.

Manifestations of anxiety, long-suffering, joy, pain, humiliation, love, tranquility, etc. are all reflected in African-American musical genres. America and the world are soothed, entertained and bound together because of contributions made by numerous African-American artists who felt a need to share their talents and skills. Their musical genius continues to hold listeners and viewers captive for ages to come.

White House Juneteenth concert celebrates black music, denounces racism



The Biden-Harris administration hosted a Juneteenth concert featuring renowned singers Jennifer Hudson, Audra McDonald and Ledisi, aiming to highlight American values Biden said he believes are under threat.

By Stacy M. Brown NNPA Newswire Senior National Correspondent

President Joe Biden delivered a powerful speech denouncing racism in the United States during the White House's first major Juneteenth celebration Tuesday, June 13.

The Biden-Harris administration hosted a Juneteenth concert featuring renowned singers Jennifer Hudson, Audra McDonald and Ledisi, aiming to highlight American values Biden said he believes are under threat.

Addressing the audience, Biden urged Americans to choose love over hate and emphasized the importance of remembering history rather than erasing it.

He stated, "As the past few years remind us, our freedoms have been put at risk by racism, that's still too powerful a force. Hate only hides... And when given oxygen, just a little oxygen, it comes roaring back out again, and we have to stand up and deny it the oxygen. So, Juneteenth as a federal holiday is meant to breathe new life into the very essence of America."

Juneteenth, a combination of June and 19th, is called Emancipation Day.

Biden declared it a federal holiday in 2021.

Vice President Kamala Harris, the first black woman vice president, began the evening by explaining the origins of Juneteenth and introducing 96-year-old Opal Lee, whose tireless advocacy

to be catalysts for change, saying, "Make yourself a committee of one to change somebody's mind. If people can be taught to hate, they can be taught to love."

A celebration of community, culture, and music, the White House event on the South Lawn featured performances by marching bands from Morgan State University in Baltimore and Tennessee State University in Nashville.

Other artists included the dance group Step Afrika! and choirs from historically black colleges and universi-

Biden emphasized that making Juneteenth a federal holiday was not merely a symbolic gesture but a statement acknowledging the origin of slavery as the country's original sin.

He stressed that the Civil War was not fought solely over a union but was fundamentally about the country and freedom.

Harris expressed that Juneteenth is an occasion to honor black excellence, culture and community, stating, "America is a promise – a promise of freedom, liberty and justice. The story of Juneteenth, as we celebrate it, is a story of our ongoing fight to realize that promise; not for some, but all."

In addition to commemorating Juneteenth, the concert celebrated Black Music Month, featuring renowned artists such as McDonald and Hudson.

The event aimed to showcase the richness and significance of black contributions

played a significant role in establishing Juneteenth as a holiday. Lee urged the audience to American culture.



PHOTO BY MARK MAHONEY/DREAM IN COLOR



Jennifer Hudson performs at White House Juneteenth Concert/ MARK MAHONEY, DREAM IN COLOR

Skate park dedicated to Tyre Nichols, honoring a life cut short

By Stacy M. Brown

NNPA Newswire Senior National Correspondent

In a heartfelt ceremony, officials unveiled a newly renovated skate park on the outskirts of Sacramento, dedicating it to Tyre Nichols, a young black man who tragically lost his life earlier this year to police violence.

Nichols, an ardent skateboarder who spent his youth frequenting the park, was killed during a fatal encounter with Tennessee police in January.

City representatives and a diverse group gathered to pay tribute to Nichols' memory and attended the ribbon-cutting ceremony.

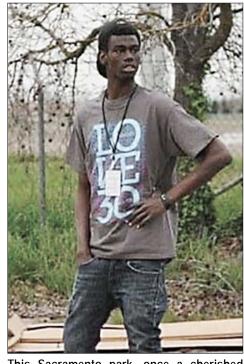
The park, once a cherished sanctuary for Nichols, will now bear his name as a testament to his passion for skateboarding and impact on the community. Nichols, a resident of Memphis, Tennessee,

relocated there with his mother and stepfather just before the onset of the COVID-19 pan-An aspiring photographer, he found solace

and inspiration in capturing the beauty of landscapes and sunsets through his lens.

On his website, where he showcased his photography, Nichols expressed how the art form allowed him to perceive the world profoundly and creatively, conveying emotions that words alone could not capture.

According to a lawsuit his family filed against the Memphis Police Department, tragically, Nichols was the victim of a brutal assault by several police officers on January



This Sacramento park, once a cherished sanctuary for Nichols, now bears his name as a testament to his passion for skateboarding and impact on the community.

7 while returning home after taking pictures

The incident occurred a mere stone's throw away from his mother's residence.

After enduring the assault, Nichols was rushed to a hospital but succumbed to his injuries three days later.

As a result of extensive investigations, five Memphis police officers, all of whom are black, were terminated from their positions and now face charges including second-degree murder, aggravated assault, aggravated kidnapping, official misconduct and official

The Nichols family's lawsuit, filed in April, seeks \$500 million in damages, shedding light on the profound impact of this tragedy and the urgent need to address issues of police violence, particularly against unarmed

Family lawyers representing the Nichols family have revealed that video footage of the incident captured Tyre pleading to be allowed to return home, emphasizing his proximity to his mother's house, a mere 100 yards (90

The haunting words echo the experiences of countless other black individuals who have faced unjustified violence at the hands of law enforcement, sparking renewed conversations and calls for systemic change.

Officials said the dedication of the skate park in Nichols' name not only serves as a tribute to his love for skateboarding but also stands as a reminder of the ongoing struggle against racial injustice and police brutality.

They said it symbolizes a community's commitment to ensuring that his untimely death does not fade into obscurity but fuels a movement for meaningful change and the pursuit of justice.

Hinds County School District Weekly Update ENGAGING-EMPOWERING-ENSURING-EXCELLENCE

HINDS COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT GRADUATIONS

The Raymond High School celebrated the class of 2023 Tuesday, May 23 at 2 p.m. with 137 graduates at the Mississippi Coliseum in Jackson, MS. Three graduates received scholarships from local business partners. Valedictorian Audrey Jennings received a \$500 scholarship from Jackson Federal Credit Union. Salutatorian J'yonna Brown received a \$500 scholarship from Bank Plus and Makinnah Jones received a \$500 scholarship from Bank Plus.

Congratulations to all graduates of Raymond High School.







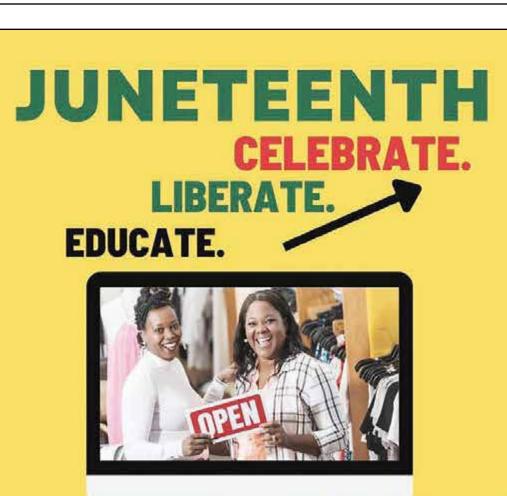






Mailing address: P.O. Box 13056

Jackson, MS 39236



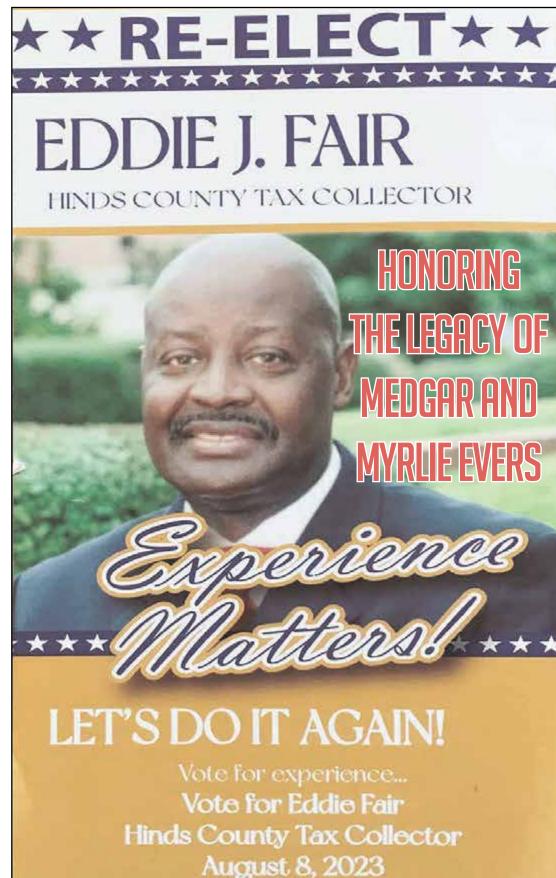
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JUNE 15 - 21, 2023

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MVSU Communications & Marketing team win nine CPRAM awards

The MVSU Newswire

Mississippi Valley State University's Office of Communications and Marketing team members won nine awards during the College Public Relations Association of Mississippi's (CPRAM's) Awards Ceremony held during the group's annual conference.

Additionally, Director Donell Maxie has been chosen to serve on the 2023-24 CPRAM Board as a four-year college representative.

The 2023 CPRAM Conference and Awards Ceremony was held for three days in Oxford, Miss. The CPRAM is a consortium of public relations professionals employed at Mississippi's public and private colleges, universities, and affiliated education agencies.

MVSU competed in the senior division, which includes all the state's public and private four-year colleges and universi-

Part of MVSU's Division of University Advancement, Communications MVSU's and Marketing team (pictured above) includes Donell D. Maxie, director; John McCall, senior graphic designer; La-Tunya Evans, communications specialist; Justice Williams,



coordinator/social media man-

"I am so grateful to work with such a talented, creative team," said Maxie. "In several categories, we went up against bigger teams from larger institutions, and our team shined. I am thrilled to know we are pro-

Maxie explained how beneficial the conference is to the communications team in providing vital professional development.

"We were able to share ideas and learn from other public relations professionals from around the state, and we

associate graphic designer; and ducing top-quality work among learned a great deal from the ing the university well. eral topics that will help our office enhance what we already do to support and promote the

> university," said Maxie. Dameon Shaw, vice president for University Advancement, External Relations, and Information Security, said he's proud of the team for represent-

Karrington Stockstill, project our peers at MVSU," he added. conference presenters on sev- "The Communications and Marketing team is a hard-working group, and I am extremely proud of the team for their CPRAM wins. They always perform well and do amazing work," said Shaw. "The support they provide to the institution is essential to the university's success, and I can't thank

them enough for all they do for

Maxie won first place for his graduation feature story on Wayne Compton in the feature story category. The judges commented on the article: "A great read that is an example of student perseverance and a college that saw his potential and encouraged him to help others through their tragedies."

Maxie also won second place for an article on Trasity Totten being named an MVSU's men's basketball assistant in the sports news story category.

The MVSU graphic designers brought home two awards. McCall won a second-place award for the MVSU stadium banners in the single piece of artwork in sports, and Williams claimed her first CPRAM award with a third-place finish for her MVSU Fitness Class Flyer. It was Williams' first competition since joining the MVSU staff in March 2022.

The team also brought home a second-place finish in the non-sports promo/hype video for their production of the new Esports gaming lab video. Maxie, McCall, Evans, Williams and Stockstill received an award for their work on the video.

Health Care science starts early at UMC

By Jackie Hampton

At UMMC, health science education starts early, sometimes years before a student enrolls.

This week Smile U with the School of Dentistry at UMMC gave students interested in dentistry a chance to learn more about it by talking with dental faculty, doing their own research projects, touring the school of dentistry and having their own white coat ceremony that shows the world they are on track to be future professionals. The program targets 6th-8th grade stu-

Programs like this show young people the possibilities of a career in health science, and help grow the next generation of caregivers for Mississippi.

Students that participated had to apply. Thirty students were



Students participating in the program had their own White Coat graduation ceremony. PHOTOS COURTESY OF UMMC

accepted out of 200 applicants and the program will follow the children's grades and offer summer camps with the goal of al-

lowing them to enter the dental field in six years.

James Burwell III is part of the 2023 inaugural class and

stated he wants to be a dentist. He said, "I enjoyed all the hands-on activities such as making molars, cleaning teeth and

making friends from all over the city of Jackson."



James Burwell III



HOPE celebrates Juneteenth

Our vision is to be a community development financial institution that: provides a substantial number of low-wealth people and communities with the financial tools and resources needed to achieve a better quality of life; that influences policies and resources that impact our constituents and cur interests; and that is financially self-sufficient.

Learn more about what HOPE is doing to create opportunities for ALL people and places across the Deep South at www.hopecu.org.



Visit one of our Greater Jackson locations.

Medical Mall Branch

350 Woodrow Wilson Avenue, Suite 370B Jackson, MS 39213 (601)362-8050 Monday - Friday 8:30AM - 1:00PM & 2:00 PM - 4:30 PM

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1748 University Boulevard Jackson, MS 39204 (601)965-7100 Monday - Thursday 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM & Friday 9:00 AM - 5:30 PM

Utica, MS Branch

106 E Main Street Utica, MS 39175 (601)991-3336 Monday - Friday 9:00 AM - 4:30 PM

Terry, MS Branch

109 W Cunningham Avenue Terry, MS 39170 (601)878-0773 Monday - Thursday 9:00 AM - 4:30 PM & Friday 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Brighter Futures Begin with HOPE.



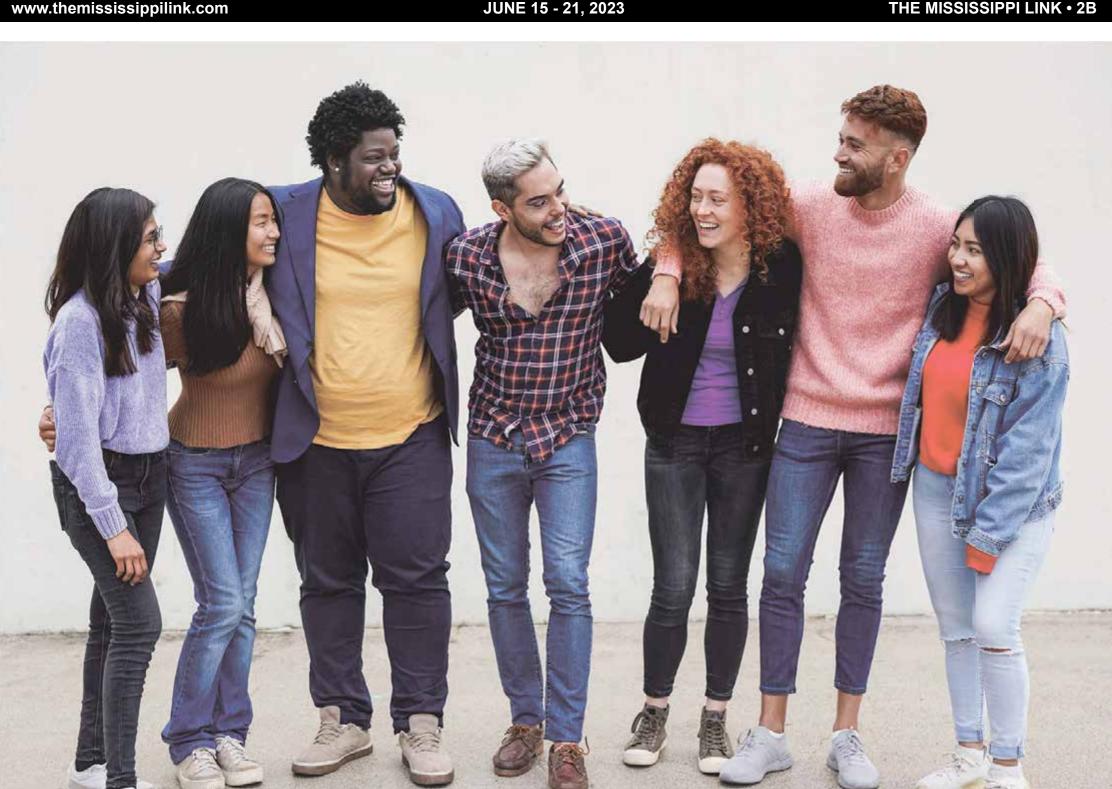








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National HIV Testing Day

Tuesday, June 27

Getting tested is the best way to know your HIV status. Take the right steps to get healthy. Testing is available at all county health departments and is always private and confidential.

Get Tested . Get in Care . Stay in Care . Be Healthy



www.themississippilink.com

JUNE 15 - 21, 2023

THE MISSISSIPPI LINK • 3B

Bank of Frank

By Shewanda Riley **Columnist**



In honor of Father's Day, week's column one I wrote a few years ag about the im-

portance of Fathers and Father's day.

"I am not the Bank of Frank" was one of the sayings my daddy would halfjokingly say to me and my sisters when we would ask him for money when we were younger. The funny thing is that while he would be fussing about us asking him for money and him not being a money tree, he would be reaching for his wallet complaining all while counting out the money. However, he was more than an ATM giving us money when we asked. He also made deposits into my life, my sisters as well as others.

With so much talk lately

violence being fathers and leaving behind grieving children, I've thought quite a bit about the deposits that fathers make into their children's lives, even when they may not realize it. It could be as simple as George Floyd's 6-yearold daughter Gianna stating, "Daddy changed the world." Regardless of the circumstances of her daddy's death, Gianna will hopefully cherish the many good times that she had with him.

For those of us who were blessed to have fathers that were an active part of our lives, we can also say that our dads changed the world but maybe not on the global level of Floyd's raising awareness about police violence. For example, when we were going through insurance papers of my late father, we found a treasure trove including military records, resumes and performance evaluations that he kept from his jobs for over 40 years in a baby blue Samabout the victims of police sonite briefcase.

What I was most struck by was a simple thank you note written to him in the early 1970's for the kindness he showed when a co-worker had a death in the family. The fact that my father still had it was a big surprise. But what was even more amazing was that the kindness that was described by the co-worker was the same kindness I'd seen my father show to others over the years.

Even more importantly, it makes me realize that my desire to show kindness to others is one of the deposits that my father made in my life. Seeing this nearly 50-year-old thank you note made me realize that he's the reason why I also love to keep thank you

But what about those who didn't grow up with a father or didn't like the one they grew up with? You may have still learned lessons from them on what kind of person you choose not to be. Proverbs 4:1 says "Listen, my sons, to

a father's instruction; pay attention and gain understanding." In this case, the lesson is taught by watching people, realizing we don't want to be like them and avoiding their behavior.

This Father's Day weekend, I encourage you to take the time to honor your fathers (natural, spiritual, godfathers, etc.) and the deposits they've made in your life. Keep this in mind: Our Heavenly Father loves us and wants the best for us...that's the best deposit that we can make in the lives of others. Happy Father's Day.

Shewanda Riley (Aunt Wanda), PhD, is a Fort Worth-based author of "Love Hangover: Moving from Pain to Purpose After a Relationship Ends" and "Writing to the Beat of God's Heart: A Book of Prayers for Writers." Email her at preservedbypurpose@gmail.com or follow her on Twitter @shewanda. You can also listen to her podcast at www.chocolateauntiepodcast.com.

You shall go to all to whom I send you

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



Jeremiah told God, "I cannot speak, for I am a youth" (Jeremiah 1:6). Sound familiar? Have you been saying, "I

don't have what it takes?" God told Jeremiah, "Do not say, I am a youth, for you shall go to all to whom I send you, and whatever, I command you, you shall speak. Do not be afraid of their faces, for I am with you" (vv 7-8 NKJV).

After the actors' audition for a part, the director conducts what are known as "callbacks." At this point, the actor either gets the part or it goes to somebody else. But when an actor is experienced and well-known, sometimes the director will offer them the part without an audition. Understand this: God doesn't do auditions and callbacks. That's because He's already designed a role for

you that nobody else could fill.

Even if others were to study you endlessly, they still couldn't be you. When God says, "I know you by name and you have found favor with me" (Exodus 33:12 NIV), be careful about responding to any other call except the one that comes from Him.

Since God designed you with all the built-in qualifications you need, you don't have to compromise your convictions, manipulate, drop names or do special favors. That part is yours. And don't be jealous or intimated by anybody else no matter their talents. In God's eyes, there are no other contenders; you're it. You're the only one who can fill the slot because He created it with you in mind.

When you feel insecure and unqualified, remind yourself of His words.

Simeon R. Green, III, pastor, First Church of God, 6517 Walmsley Blvd., Richmond, Virgina 23224.

New Bethel Missionary Baptist Church

Pastor, Dr. F. R. Lenoir



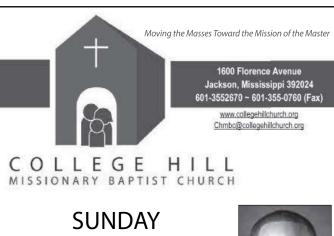
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JUNE 15 - 21, 2023

LEGAL

Advertisement for RFP

RFP 2023-15 Middle School Math Tutorials - Outcome Based Contracting

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 30, 2023 at which time and place they will be publicly opened and read aloud. The Board of Trustees reserves the right to reject any and all RFPs, to waive informalities, and to withhold the acceptance of any RFP if approved for forty-five calendar days from the date RFPs/ are opened.

There are two (2) options in which RFP proposals may be obtained. Download from Central Bidding website at www.centralbidding.com for a small fee of \$49.99 or visit JPSD website at www.jackson.k12.ms.us and download. Vendors must be registered with Central Bidding in order to electronically upload RFPs proposals at no cost. For any questions concerning the process, or how to register, please contact Central Bidding at 225-8:0-4814. Until further notice, all hand delivery proposals delivered between 9:00 a.m.

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

Also, until further notice, all opening will be recorded and uploaded to the JPSD 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.

6/15/2023, 6/22/2023

LEGAL

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF LYNETTE GRIFFIN, DECEASED

CAUSE #: G2022-649 G/2

BY: CAROLYN G. PURVIS and PEGGYE BURK

SUMMONS

THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

TO: THE UNKNOWN HEIRS OF LYNETTE GRIFFIN, DECEASED

You have been made a Defendant in the suit filed in this Court by Carolyn G. Purvis and Peggye Burk, seeking the adjudication of heirs of Lynette Griffin, Deceased.

You are summoned to appear and defend against the complaint or petition filed against you in this action at 10:00 o'clock a.m., on the 10th day of August, 3023, in the Chancery Courtroom of Hinds County. Mississippi, before Honorable Tiffany Grore 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 lile 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 12 day of June, 2023.



6/15/2023, 6/22/2023, 6/29/2023

LEGAL

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF JOHNNIE STRINGER

CAUSE NO: P2022-207 T/1

BY: Mildred Johnson

SUMMONS

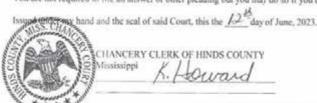
THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

TO: THE UNKNOWN HEIRS OF JOHNNIE STRINGER., DECEASED

You have been made a Defendant in the suit filed in this Cour. by Mildred Johnson Petitioner seeking the adjudication of heirs of Johnnie Stringer, 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 17th day of August 2023, in the Chancery Courtroom of Hinds County, Mississippi, before Honorable Dewayne Tiomas 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 tile an unswer or other pleading but you may do so if you desire.



6/15/2023, 6/22/2023, 6/29/2023

LEGAL

ORDINANCE GRANTING JENNIFER WELCH DBA VESICA REAL ESTATE A REZONING OF THE PROPERTIES LOCATED AT 804, 814, 818 & 823 N. JEFFERSON ST. (PARCELS #22-19, 22-18, 22-17, 23-16), 920, 924, 927, 928, 935, 937 HARDING ST. (PARCELS #22-20, 22-21, 25-4, 22-22, 25-7, 25-8) FROM R-1 (SINGLE-FAMILY) RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT TO NMU-1 (NEIGHBORHOOD) MIXED-USE DISTRICT, PEDESTRIAN ORIENTED TO ALLOW FOR CONSISTENCY WITH THE ZONING IN THE IMMEDIATE VICINITY OF THE PROPERTIES AND FOR A COMPATIBLE DIVERSITY OF LAND USES AND AN ORDER GRANTING A USE PERMIT FOR THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT PARCEL 22-19 ON JEFFERSON ST. TO ALLOW FOR ACCESSORY PARKING.

WHEREAS, Jennifer Welch DBA Vesica Real Estate has filed a petition to rezone the properties located at 804, 814, 818 & 823 N. Jefferson St. (Parcels #22-19, 22-18, 22-17, 23-16), 920, 924, 927, 928, 935, 937 Harding St. (Parcels #22-20, 22-21, 25-4, 22-22, 25-7, 25-8) and Parcels 25-7-1 & 25-49 Harding St. from R-1 (Single-Family) Residential District to NMU-1 (Neighborhood) Mixed-Use District, Pedestrian Oriented to allow for consistency with the zoning in the immediate vicinity of the properties and for a compatible diversity of land uses and a Use Permit for Parcel 22-19 to allow for accessory parking in the City of Jackson, First Judicial District of Hinds County, Mississippi; and

WHEREAS, the Jackson City Planning Board, after holding the required public hearing, has offered the recommendation to rezone the properties located at 804, 814, 818 & 823 N. Jefferson St. (Parcels #22-19, 22-18, 22-17, 23-16), 920, 924, 927, 928, 935, 937 Harding St. (Parcels #22-20, 22-21, 25-4, 22-22, 25-7, 25-8) and Parcels 25-7-1 & 25-49 Harding St. from R-1 (Single-Family) Residential District to NMU-1 (Neighborhood) Mixed-Use District, Pedestrian Oriented to allow for consistency with the zoning in the immediate vicinity of the roperties and for a compatible diversity of land uses and a Use Permit be granted for Parcel 22-19 to allow for accessory parking; and

WHEREAS, notice was duly and legally given to property owners and interested citizens that a meeting of the Council would be held at the Jackson City Hall at 2:30 p.m., Monday, May 15, 2023 to consider said change, based upon the record of the case as developed before the Jackson City Planning Board; and

WHEREAS, it appeared to the satisfaction of the Jackson City Council that notice of said petition had been published in the Mississippi Link on April 6, 2023 and April 20, 2023 that a hearing had been held by the Jackson City Planning Board on April 26, 2023, all as provided for by ordinances of the City of Jackson and the laws of the State of Mississippi, and that the Jackson City Planning Board has offered the recommendation to rezone the properties located at 804, 814, 818 & 823 N. Jefferson St. (Parcels #22-19, 22-18, 22-17, 23-16), 920, 924, 927, 928, 935, 937 Harding St. (Parcels #22-20, 22-21, 25-4, 22-22, 25-7, 25-8) and Parcels 25-7-1 & 25-49 Harding St. from R-1 (Single-Family) Residential District to NMU-1 (Neighborhood) Mixed-Use District, Pedestrian Oriented to allow for consistency with the zoning in the immediate vicinity of the properties and for a compatible diversity of land uses and a Use Permit be granted for Parcel 22-19 to allow for accessory parking; and

WHEREAS, the Jackson City Council after having considered the matter, is of the opinion that such changes would be in keeping with sound land use practice and to the best interest of the City and that there has been a substantial change in the land use character of the surrounding area that justifies rezoning and there is a public need for additional property in that area zoned in accordance with the request in said application since any previous Jackson City Council action for the properties at 804, 814, 818 & 823 N. Jefferson St. (Parcels #22-19, 22-18, 22-17, 23-16), 920, 924, 927, 928, 935, 937 Hading St. (Parcels #22-20, 22-21, 25-4, 22-22, 25-7, 25-8) and Parcels 25-7-1 & 25-49 Harding St.; and

WHEREAS, the Jackson City Council, after having considered the matter, is of the opinion that such changes would be in keeping with sound land use practice and to the best interest of the City and that the proposed use would not be detrimental to the continued use, value, or development of properties in the vicinity and that a Use Permit be granted to allow for an accessory parking lot within the NMU-1 (Neighborhood) Mixed-Use District, Pedestrian Oriented of the City of Jackson for the property located at Parcel 22-19.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY

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

Parcel 22-19

100 FT E/S N JEFFERSON ST X 184 FT N/S HARDING ST IN 5 A LOT 10 NJ *CITY OF JACKSON LOT CLEANUP ASSESSMENT* PARCEL NO.: 22-19 HINDS COUNTY, FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT, MISSISSIPPI

A part of Five Acre Lot No. 10 North Jackson according to the official map of said city made by J.C. Daniel in the year 1875 and more particularly described by metes and bounds as follows:

Beginning at a point on the East side of North Jefferson Street 100 feet North of the intersection of the North line of Harding Street (formerly called Oldham Street), with the East line of North Jefferson Street; thence running from said point of beginning East and parallel with the North line of Harding Street 234 feet, thence North and parallel with North Jefferson Street 60 feet 9 inches; thence West parallel with Harding Street 234 feet to the East line of North Jefferson. Street; thence South along the east line of North Jefferson Street 60 feet 9 inches to the point of sing; the said lot having a frontage on North Jefferson Street of 60 feet 9 inches and running back between parallel lines 234 feet.

And being the same property described in Instrument recorded in Book 7183 at Page 4722.

Parcel 22-17

Beginning the a point on the East line of Jefferson Street which point is 160.75 feet measured northerly along the East line of Jefferson Street from the Intersection of the East line of Jefferson Street with the North line of Oldham (Harding) Street; run thence northerly along the East line of Jefferson Street 60.75 feet; run thence easterly and parallel with Oldham (Harding) Street 234 feet; run thence southerly and parallel with Jefferson Street 60.75 feet; run thence westerly and parallel with Oldham (Harding) Street 234 feet to the point of beginning

And being the same property as described in Quitclaim Deed recorded in Book 7130 at Page 1750 and Warranty Deed recorded in Book 5850 at Page 200.

That part of 5-acre Lot 7 North, in the City of Jackson, Mississippi, indicated on the map of said City made by H.C. Daniels in 1875, more particularly described by metes and bounds as follows:

For a point of beginning, commence at a point on the West line of N. Jefferson Street 414.3 feet measured southerly along the West line of N. Jefferson Street from the intersection of the West line of N. Jefferson Street with the South line of Boyd Street as both streets are now laid out and improved, said point of beginning being the northeast corner of the property hereby conveyed which is known as the Mary E. McGill property, thence run southerly along the West line of N. Jefferson street for a distance of 151.3 feet to the Spann property; thence westerly along the North line of the Spann property 157 feet, more or less, to the southeast corner of that certain property sold to Miss Mary E McGill and Richard F. McGill to James T. Canizaro on or about July 25, 1945; thence run in a northerly direction along the East line of the Canizaro property 49.92 feet to a point; thence run westwardly along the Canizaro property for 7 feet to a point; thence northwardly along the East line of the Canizaro property and along the East line of J. J. Neal property for 106 feet more or less to the northeast corner of the said J. J. Neal property and the northwest corner of the lands hereby conveyed; thence easterly in a straight line 163.5 feet, more or less, to the point of beginning on N. Jefferson Street.

There is also conveyed hereby all rights in and to a certain sewer line running across the Canizaro property to North Street, as amended by agreement of record in Deed Book 408, page 101 in the Chancery Clerk's office at Jackson, Mississippi, which rights were reserved in the deed aforesaid to Canizaro of record in said Clerk's office in Deed Book 404, page 396 et.seq., reference to which deed and to the recitations therein and to the affidavits attached there-to is hereby made

for greater certainty of deraignment of title to the lands hereby conveyed.

Parcel 22-20

Part of Five-acre Lot No. 10 North Jackson in said City particularly described as: Communicing at a point on the North line of Oldham or Harding Street, which point is 184 feet East of the intersection of said street with North Jefferson Street; run thence North parallel with Jefferson Street 92 ½ feet; thence East 50 feet; thence South 92 ½ feet; thence West 50 feet to the Point of Beginning, and being the same lot conveyed to David T. Flanagan by deed recorded in Book 323 at Page 10 of the land deed records of Hinds County, Mississippi.

Parcels 22-21 & 22-12

A CERTAIN LOT OR PARCEL OF LAND, FRONTING 45 FEET ON THE NORTH LINE OF HARDING STREET (FORMERLY OLDHAM STREET) AND RUNNING BACK NORTHERLY BETWEEN PARALLEL LINES FOR A DISTANCE OF 220 FEET, MORE OR LESS, TO THE PROPERTY FORMERLY OWNED BY JUDGE COOK, AND MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED BY METES AND BOUNDS AS FOLLOWS, TO-WIT:

BEGINNING AT A POINT ON THE NORTH LINE OF HARDING STREET 279 FEET MEASURED EASTERLY ALONG THE NORTH LINE OF HARDING STREET FROM ITS INTERSECTION WITH THE EAST LINE OF NORTH JEFFERSON STREET, AS BOTH STREETS ARE NOW LAID OUT AND IMPROVED IN THE CITY OF JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI, RUNNING THENCE EASTERLY ALONG THE NORTH LINE OF HARDING STREET FOR A DISTANCE OF 45 FEET; THENCE TURNING TO THE LEFT THROUGH AN ANGLE OF 89 DEGREES 26 SECONDS, RUN NORTHERLY FOR A DISTANCE OF 220 FEET, MORE OR LESS, TO THE SOUTH LINE OF THE COOK PROPERTY: THENCE WESTERLY AND FARALLEL WITH THE NORTH LINE OF HARDING STREET FOR A DISTANCE OF 45 FEET, THENCE SOUTHERLY IN A STRAIGHT LINE 220 FEET, MORE OR LESS, TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING, AND BEING A PART OF 5 ACRE LOT 10, NORTH JACKSON

A PART OF 5-ACRE LOT TEN (10) NORTH ACCORDING TO H. C. DANIELS'S MAP OF THE CITY OF JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI, AND MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED BY METES AND BOUMDS AS FOLLOWS, TO-WIT:

BEGINNING AT A POINT ON THE NORTH LINE OF HARDING STREET WHICH POINT IS 279 FEET MEASURED EASTERLY ALONG THE NORTH LINE OF HARDING STREET FROM THE INTERSECTION OF THE NORTH LINE OF HARDING STREET WITH THE EAST LINE OF NORTH JEFFERSON STREET AS BOTH STREETS ARE NOW LAID OUT AND IMPROVED IN THE CITY OF JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI, RUN THENCE WESTERLY ALONG THE NORTH LINE OF HARDING STREET FOR A DISTANCE OF 45 FEET; THENCE TURNING TTO THE RIGHT THROUGH AN ANGLE OF 90 DEGREES 24 SECONDS RUN NORTHERLY 220 FEET; RUN THENCE EASTERLY AND PARALLEL WITH THE NORTH LINE OF HARDING STREET FOR A DISTANCE OF 45 FEET, RUN THENCE SOUTHERLY 220 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING.

Parcels 25-4, 25-7 & 25-7-1

Beginning at a point on the south side of Harding Street, formerly Oldham Street, in the said City of Jackson, which point is 246 (248 measured) feet cast of the intersection of the east line of North Jefferson Street with the south line of said Harding Street as said streets are now laid out and improved in the said City of Jackson and run thence 120 feet to a point; thence run cast 52 feet to the point of beginning; said property being a part of the East Half of Lots Number Two (2) and Number Three (3) of Patton Subdivision of Five Acre Lot Number Eleven (11) North, as shown by plat recorded in Surveyor's Record Book "B" at Page 31 thereof in the office of the Chancery Clerk of Hinds County at Jackson, Mississippi, and the west half of a twenty-foot alley lying east of and adjacent to the property hereinabove described.

And being the same property as described in Quitclaim Deed recorded in Book 5318 at Page

Fifty feet wide across and off the West side of Lot 4 of Pattons Subdivision of said City, a subdivision according to the map or plat thereof which is on file and of record in the office of the Chancery Clerk of Hands County, Mississippi, in Plat Book B at Page 31, reference to which is hereby made in aid of and as a part of this description and the East Half of a twenty-foot alley lying West of and adjacent to the property herein above described.

And being the same property as described in Quitclaim Deed recorded in Book 5314 at Page

10 feet off the East #:de of Lot 4 and 40 feet off the West side of Lot 5 of Pations Subdivision, a

subdivision according to the map or plat thereof which is on file and of record in the office of the Chancery Clerk of Hinds County at Jackson, Mississippi, in Plat Book B at Page 31, reference to which is hereby made in aid of and as a part of this description.

Parcel 25-49

20 FT E/S LOT 5 & 30 FT W/S LOT 6 PATTONS SUBN 5 A LOT 11 NJ

is hereby modified at as to approve the rezoning of the properties located at \$04, \$14, \$18 & 823 N. Jefferson St. (Parcels #22-19, 22-18, 22-17, 23-16), 920, 924, 927, 928, 935, 937 Harding St. (Parcels #22-20, 22-21, 25-4, 22-22, 25-7, 25-8) and Parcels 25-7-1 & 25-49 Harding St. from R-1 (Single-Family) Residential District to NMU-1 (Neighborhood) Mixed-Use District, Pedestran Oriented to allow for consistency with the zoning in the immediate vicinity of the properties and for a compatible diversity of land uses and a Use Permit be granted for Parcel 22-19 to a low for accessory parking. However, before any structure is erected or of on the said property, the applicant must meet the requirements est the Site Plan Review process. The Zoning Administrator is ordered to note such change on the Official Zoning Map to the City of Jackson, Mississippi.

SECTION 2. That the cost of publication of this Ordinance shall be borne by the petitioner. SECTION 3. That this Ordinance shall be effective thirty (30) days after its passage and after

publication of same by the petitioner.

Council Member Lindsay moved adoption; Council Member Banks seconded. Yeas - Banks, Foote, Grizzell, Lee and Lindsay.

Absent - Hartley and Stokes.

ATTEST:

Angela Harris

I, Angela Harris, the duly appointed qualified Municipal Clerk and lawful custodian of records and seal of said City of Jackson, Mississippi, certify that the foregoing is a true and exact copy of an Order passed by the City Council at its Zoning Council Meeting May 15, 20233 and recorded in Minute Book "6X, Pgs. 231-235".

WITNESS my signature and official seal of office, this the 15 day of June, 2023.



6/15/2023

LEGAL

INVITATION FOR BIDS PLANETARIUM RENOVATION CITY OF JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI

Sealed bids will be received by the Municipal Clerk of the City of Jackson, Mississippi, at City Hall, 219 South President Street, Jackson, MS 39201, until 3:30 PM local time on Tuesday, July 18, 2023, at which time bids will be publicly opened and read aloud for:

Planetarium Renovation City of Jackson, Mississippi

Proposals shall be submitted on forms furnished and sealed and deposited with Municipal Clerk prior to the hour and date above designated. A copy of the construction documents (plans and/or specifications) for the construction being sought has been filed with the Municipal Clerk of Jackson, MS. Official bid Documents can be downloaded from Central Bidding at www.centralbidding.com. Electronic bids can be submitted at www.centralbidding.com. For any questions relating to the electronic bidding process, please call Central Bidding at 225-810-4814. Questions regarding plan clarifications or requests for information should be directed to the architect as follows:

CDFL Architects + Engineers PA 601-366-3110 Attention: Daniel Zegel Email: dzegel@cdfl.com

The plans and specifications for the Work are being made available via digital and original paper copy. Plan holders may register and order documents from the Jackson Blueprint Plan Roomwebsite (http://planroom.jaxblue.com). There is no charge for registration or to view the documents online. Documents are non-refundable and must be purchased through the website. All plan holders are required to have a valid email address for registration. A printed bid set is \$50.00 plus \$20.00 shipping and applicable sales tax, and an electronic downloadable set is \$25.00 plus applicable sales tax. Bid Documents may be picked up or shipped to the person making the request. Documents will not be distributed or mailed until payment is received. For questions regarding website registration and online orders please contact Jackson Blueprint & Supply at (601)353-5803. A copy of the plans and specifications for the Work will be available for review at the office of the Municipal Clerk at City Hall, 219 South President Street, Jackson, MS 39201.

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

The City of Jackson is committed to the principle of non-discrimination in public contracting. It is the policy of the City of Jackson to promote full and equal business opportunity for all persons doing business with the City. As a pre-condition to selection, each contractor, bidder, or offeror shall submit a completed and signed Equal Business Opportunity (EBO) Plan Application, with the bid submission, in accordance with the provisions of the City of Jackson's Equal Business Opportunity (EBO) Executive Order. Failure to comply

with the City's Executive Order shall disqualify a contractor, bidder or offeror from being awarded an eligible contract. For more information on the City of Jackson's Equal Business Opportunity Program, please contact of the

Division of Equal Business Opportunity at 601-960-1856. Copies of the Executive Order, EBO Plan Applications and a copy of the Program, as attached, are available at 200 South President Street, Second Floor, Jackson, Missis-

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

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

Robert Lee, P.E.

City Engineer & Interim Director

LEGAL

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS/PROPOSALS SHOP LOCAL INCENTIVE SYSTEM

> Prepared by: City of Jackson, Mississippi 200 South President Street

PUBLIC NOTICE

The City of Jackson is seeking submission of proposals from qualified professional firms for professional assis tance 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.

One (1) original and eight (8) signed copies of the proposal must be received no later than 3:30 P. M., on Tuesday, June 27, 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

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

City of Jackson, Mississippi

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS/PROPOSALS FOR:

A. INTRODUCTION

The City of Jackson, Mississippi Department of Planning and Development ("City") is requesting this Request for Qualifications/Proposals (RFQ/RFP) for a Shop Local Incentive System for businesses in Jackson, Mississippi.

B PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The selected consultant will enter into an agreement with the City to provide a software/system solution that en-courages residents to shop in local Jackson businesses. The vendor must provide an application-based fiscal incentive platform that can be easily used by businesses and patrons and the necessary administrative services

to launch and maintain the program. The platform is meant to allow patrons to earn City credit through valued actions, like patronage of small businesses in Jackson, MS, and then redeem that credit at other participating Jackson businesses. The scope of services shall be (Appendix "A") strictly adhered to as a minimum of the required deliverables.

Work is scheduled to begin within 30 days of selection with a deliverable date of six months (180 days) later.

D. SCOPE OF SERVICES

Attachment A and as may be further clarified by the City. The preliminary scope of services is to be understood as a minimum and is subject to change at the discretion of the City.

E. GENERAL PROVISIONS

The procurement process is subject to applicable provisions of federal, state, and local laws and ordinances.

1. The City will not be liable for any costs incurred in preparing, submitting, or presenting a respondent's submittals or any associated travel costs.

may be made without any discussion. 3. The City reserves the right to postpone the opening and/or review of respondent submittals for cause or convenience. The City also reserves the right to reject any and all proposals, in whole or in part, and to waive any information therein.

4. If only one qualified respondent responds by the due date, the City may enter into contract negotiations with

F. CONTENTS OF RESPONDENT SUBMITTALS

a thorough Proposal using the following guidelines: Proposal should be typed and should contain no more than 50 typed pages using a 12-point font size, including transmittal letter and resumes of key people, but excluding Index/Table of Contents, tables, charts, graphic exhibits, and pricing forms. Each proposal will adhere to the following order and content of sections. Proposal should be straightforward, concise and provide "layman" explana-tions of technical terms that are used. Emphasis should be concentrated on conforming to the RFP instructions, responding to the RFP requirements, and providing a complete and clear description of the offer. Proposals that appear unrealistic in terms of technical commitments, lack of technical competence, or are indicative of a failure to comprehend the complexity and risk of this contract may be rejected. The following Proposal sections are to be included in the Proposer's response:

 Cover Letter: A cover letter, not to exceed three pages in length, should summarize key elements of the Proposal An individual authorized to bind the Contractor must sign the letter. Indicate the address and telephone number of the contractor's office located nearest to Jackson, Mississippi, and the office from which the project will be managed. And include the proposed working relationship among the offering agency and subcontractors, if applicable.

 Background and Project Summary Section: The Background and Project Summary Section should describe your understanding of the City, the work to be done, and the objectives to be accomplished. Refer to Scope of Work, Appendix A of this RFP.

 Method of Approach: Provide a detailed description of the approach and methodology that will be used to fulfill each requirement listed in the Scope of Work of this RFP. The section should include:

1. An implementation plan that describes in detail (i) the methods, including controls by which your firm manages projects of the type sought by this RFP; (ii) methodology for soliciting and documenting views of internal and external stakeholders; (iii) and any other project management or implementation strategies or techniques that the respondent intends to employ in carrying out the work.

2. Detailed description of efforts your firm will undertake to achieve client satisfaction and to satisfy the requirements of the "Scope of Work" section.

3. Detailed project schedule, identifying all tasks and deliverables to be performed, durations for each task, and

4. Detailed description of specific tasks you will require from City staff. Explain what the respective roles of City staff and your staff would be to complete the tasks specified in the Scope of Work.

5. Proposers are encouraged to provide additional innovative and/or creative approaches for providing the service that will maximize efficient, safe, and cost-effective operations or increased performance capabiliti 6. Firms, individuals, and entities wishing to be considered shall include in their submissions the steps they will, if

selected. implement and adhere to for the recruitment, hiring, and retention of former employees of the City who have been displaced due to layoff or outsourcing of functions and services formerly provided by the City. Qualifications & Experience of the Firm: Describe the qualifications and experience of the organization or entity

performing services/projects within the past three years that are similar in size and scope to demonstrate compe tence to perform these services. Information shall include:

1. If the owner is a corporation, please provide: Name of the corporation, corporate office street address, city, state, and zip code, the state where incorporated, date of incorporation, first and last name of officers, local office

2. If the owner is a partnership or joint venture, please provide: Name of the partnership or joint venture, principal office street address, city, state, and zip code, state of organization, date of organization, first and last name of the

general partner(s), local office address, city, state, and zip code, and date local office opened its doors for. 3. List all businesses owned or controlled by yourself (applicant) or a business manager doing similar business in

Mississippi under another name. List the business name and address and specify who owns or controls the business (e.g., self, business manager, etc.).

4. List all businesses for which you or your business manager is or was an officer, director, or partner doing similar business in Mississippi under another name. List business name and address, title, and date(s) in position; specify who was in position (e.g., self, business manager, etc.).

5. How many years have you been in business under your present business name?

6. Provide a list of current and previous contracts similar to the requirements for Jackson, MS, including all public agencies served (if any). For each, provide a brief description of the scope of work performed, the length of time you have been providing services, and the name, title, and telephone number of the person who may be contacted regarding your organization's service record. Provide a sample of each background investigation for each contract

Submit a description of the organization's qualifications, experience, and abilities that make it uniquely capable to provide the services specified in the Scope of Work.

The City of Jackson is interested in knowing how Proposers support the communities that they serve. Please provide information on your organization's participation in the local community, charitable and civic organization and events, including membership in the Greater Jackson Chamber of Commerce, charitable contributions made

Any public entity which submits a Proposal should describe in detail how it currently performs services like those identified in the Scope of Work within its or other jurisdictions, including photographs, written policies and/or video of services provided. If you have performed these services under contract for another public entity, please provide references for those entities as set forth above for private Proposers

 Financial Capacity: The City is concerned about bidders' financial capability to perform, therefore, it may ask you to provide sufficient data to allow an evaluation of the firm's financial capabiliti

• Key Personnel: It is essential that the Proposer provide adequate experienced personnel capable of and devoted to the successful accomplishment of work to be performed under this contract. The Proposer must agree to assign specific individuals to the key positions.

o Identify the members of the staff who would be assigned to act for Proposer's firm in key management and field

positions providing the services described in the Proposal, and the functions to be performed by ea

o Include resumes or curriculum vitae of each such staff member, including name, position, telephone number email address, education, and years and type of experience. Describe, for each such person, the relevant transac-tions on which they have worked.

The objective is to select the highest qualified firm for the services to be rendered at a compensation determined as fair and reasonable to the City. To accomplish this objective, respondents will be evaluated on the following basis:

Evaluation Criteria Maximum Points 1. Method of Approach 35

Relevant Project Experience and Capability 20

Maximum Total Points 100

Before assigning final scores, the City may, at its discretion, schedule face-to-face interviews or telephone confer

ences with each respondent. Each member of the Committee will then assign up to the maximum points noted above to each criterion based on the respondent's submittals and any other information obtained through interviews and/or telephone conferences. Respondents will be ranked according to their total cumulative points.

Following the completion of the evaluation, the City will enter into contract negotiations with the top-ranked firm. If a mutually satisfactory agreement cannot be negotiated with the top-ranked firm, said firm will be asked to document a final offer in writing before terminating negotiations. Negotiations will then be initiated with the second-ranked firm and so forth, until a contract has been negotiated with a qualified consultant or halted at the discretion of the City.

The City reserves the right to reject any and all applicants if the requirements as set forth herein are not met or if the City deems a respondent unqualified on the basis of the overall analysis of the criteria outlined above. The City

further reserves the right in its sole discretion to select the consultant it considers most favorable to the interest

of the City.

H. CLARIFICATION OF SPECIFICATIONS

Requests for clarification of any items, requirements, or specifications contained in this RFP/RFQ must be receivedin writing at the City offices no later than 3:30 P. M., on Tuesday, June 20, 2023. Please fax, email, or deliver all RFP/RFQ clarification requests to:

Attention: Chloe Dotson BUPD. MURP Department of Planning and Development, 200 South President Street, Suite 229 Jackson, MS 39201 Phone: (601)-960-1993

Email: cdotson@city.jackson.ms.us I. RESPONDENT SUBMITTALS

Fax: (601) 960-2192

To be considered, one (1) original and eight (8) copies of the required submittals must be received at the City Clerk's Office, 219 S. President Street, Jackson, Mississippi 39201, by 3:30 P. M., on Tuesday, June 27, 2023. Respondent submissions will be opened by the City on the due date after 3:30 p.m. As soon as possible thereafter, the City shall review the documents that include each respondent's letter of interest, qualifications, and required

Respondent submittals should be securely sealed in one or more parcels and clearly marked "Proposal for a Shop

Respondent submissions not in compliance with the instructions contained in this section and/or not containing the information requested may be declared "non-responsive" and disqualified from consideration.

J. MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

Proposals received after the due date and time will not be considered. Modifications received after the due date will not be considered. No responsibility will be attached to the City for the premature opening of a package not properly addressed and identified and/or delivered to the wrong office. The City may reject any and all proposals and reserves the right to waive any technicalities, irregularities, or informalities in any proposals or in the proposed

Documents. This RFP/RFQ comprises the following documents (all of which are herein collectively referred to as the "Documents"):

PUBLIC NOTICE - REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

• ATTACHMENT A - PRELIMINARY SCOPE OF SERVICES

Contract Award. It is anticipated that if one or more proposals are accepted, the City may enter into one or more contracts for said services or may enter into one Contract with a sub-contract for one or more of the specific ele-

Owner's Representative. It is understood that the City will designate an Owner's Representative to provide oversight and administration during the performance of the professional services covered by any contract that is awarded.

SCOPE OF WORK

Scope of Work: Shop Local Incentive System/Service

The Office of Economic Development is seeking a technology partner to provide a software/system solution that encourages residents to shop in local Jackson businesses. The vendor must provide an application-based fiscal incentive platform that can be easily used by businesses and patrons and the necessary administrative services to launch and maintain the program. The platform is meant to allow patrons to earn City credit through valued actions, like patronage of small businesses in Jackson, and then redeem that credit at other participating Jackson businesses. The City would require the partner to provide the following services:

1. The program would be for one year with the potential to extend services for up to 5 years. The preparation for the launch of the program can take no more than three months from the kick-off meeting

2. The platform must handle the distribution and auditing of a reward/point system, which would allow customers to earn points for shopping at Jackson businesses or participating in local events while redeeming these points at Jackson businesses. Thereby potentially encouraging patronage of two small businesses in Jackson with each

3. The vendor would complete the establishment and administration of the program. This includes finding and bringing businesses on board, developing the branding and outreach materials for the program, overseeing the system's maintenance, and ensuring the funds' distribution is secure and proper. They will make every effort to ensure participating businesses are distributed throughout the City.

must be businesses within the City of Jackson. The vendor will coordinate with the City to ensure this program focuses on assisting local small businesses and encourages the shop local campaign.

5. The system cannot require businesses to purchase additional hardware to implement the program. 6. Patrons and businesses must be able to use the service on a personal mobile device easily.

4. Any businesses recruited to be locations to accrue or redeem City credits

7. The service will provide a monthly reporting system to allow the City of Jackson to track the program's progress

8. The service would provide flexibility in the program that would allow the City to adjust reward points by type of business, business location, or other essential characteristics of the businesses like female-owned, minorityowned, within an opportunity zone, or more.

9. Provide the flexibility for credits to be awarded for attendance at public engagement opportunities, including event calendars and page highlights where users can engage directly with the City of Jackson

10. Provide the flexibility for credits to be awarded for non-profit/community-based organization events. Increase the visibility of non-profits and highlight individual commercial corridors or local business events like Hal's St Pad-

11. Integrate with the existing Jackson Open Gov view point cloud website by assisting in producing an integration with the Jackson Open Gov view point cloud so that participating businesses might be identified in real-time.

6/8/2023. 6/15/2023



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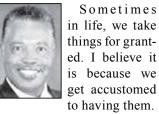
Week of June 11, 2023

JUNE 15 - 21, 2023

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Having a good father is a blessing and can't be overstated or overlooked

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



We have people, for example, in our lives each day and they are always around us. They are there when we go to bed, and they are there when we wake up each morning.

My father was that way. He was always around, leading our household. Upon some reflection now, I probably took my dad for granted.

I never had to wonder if my dad was coming home. It never occurred to me growing up that I would have to ask my mom where my dad

I hear the term, "a good man" a lot these days. I am not sure the term was used back in the day. All that I know is that my dad made me feel safe, secure and loved.

I never had any doubts or trepidation about his daily presence in my life. The life lessons he gave me have stayed with me to this day. He was a role model for me in every sense of the word. He passed on many years ago.

My dad, Dr. James B. Ewers, was a dentist in Winston-Salem N.C. He was Jamaican and a graduate of the Howard University School of Dentistry. Afterwards, he moved to Winston-Salem and met my

At the time, he was the only Jamaican in the city. I can't imagine what that was like. He then sponsored my cousin, Wilfred Ewers, who became the second Jamaican in the city.

As I grew older, I began to see that my dad was greatly respected and admired. People saw him as a leader and a difference-maker. There were always people at our house, some just seeking counsel and a good word. On the humorous side, some were also intrigued by his Jamaican accent. I found myself at times being an unpaid interpreter.

My dad was a big man with kindness and gentleness wrapped inside of him. He had character, integrity and honesty. I saw it on display every day. Yet as a boy, I probably could not have used those words to describe him.

Being from the West Indies gave my dad a keen sense of money and how to value a dollar. He also understood that not all his patients could pay him for his services.

There were occasions when he would take me horseback riding or bring food home. I later found out that these were his patients who didn't have the money to pay him.

I can remember like it was yesterday some of the long and exhaustive lectures that he gave me. I would sit on the couch, and he would begin. It was important to him that I was respectful and that I not get into any trouble. I can recall his words, "Jimmy my boy, if you get into any trouble don't call me". As a young boy, you can imagine the thoughts I had when he uttered those words.

It made me apprehensive knowing that he meant what he said. Well, it worked. Would he have come to my aid? I believe so. However, I never had to find out. He was never called by any official at any level about his son getting into mischief.

Education was emphasized in my house. I always knew I was going to college because my parents talked about it very early in my life. It was simply where I was going.

There is not a day that goes by that I don't think about my dad. He gave me the foundation and the fundamentals for successful living. I am thankful to God that he blessed me

Sunday, June 18, is Father's Day. If your father is living, celebrate with him and if he is not, remember him with fondness.

This column is dedicated to my father and to all fathers.

How one father's dream empowered his son to drive change

'A Tribute to Father's Day' Editorial

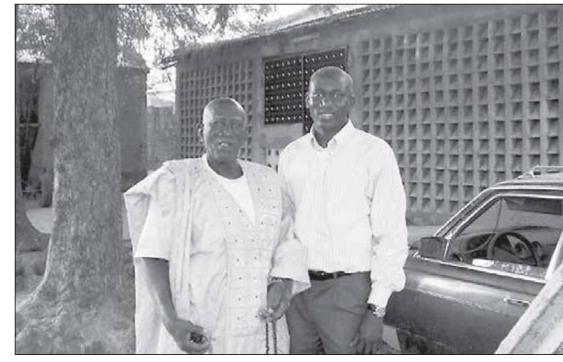
Strengthening communities is often a family affair. At least it is in the case of Alioune Thiam and his siblings.

Thiam, a senior systems engineer at Amazon Web Services (AWS) who is now based in Minneapolis, doesn't take his own education for granted. He was born and raised in a village in Senegal where many parents didn't enroll their children in school, often due to a more pressing need for basic resources. His father, however, was a believer in the life-changing power of education and required his children to pursue it.

Thiam would walk nearly 6 miles roundtrip to attend the nearest school from his home. Seeing this barrier his own children faced, Thiam's father eventually established a local school for the village.

Thiam's father passed away in 2016, and two years later, Thiam and his siblings founded KT & Fils, a nonprofit dedicated to promoting, supporting and funding education in their hometown village. The organization is named for their father, Kaiba Thiam, and "fils" which means "sons" in

Thiam learned about the Inclusion, Diversity and Equity (ID&E) Innovation Fund, a micro-grant program that awards funding to AWS employees seeking to make a positive impact in underrepresented communities. With a colleague's encouragement, Thiam applied last year on



behalf of KT & Fils.

The ID&E Innovation Fund is one of the ways AWS scales its ID&E strategy globally. The organization has employees from all over the world, and they play a powerful role in advancing inclusion, diversity and equity in their local communities.

Thiam was one of the 28 AWS employees who received a grant to partner with nonprofits or support their own nonprofits to make a difference in marginalized communities worldwide.

With the grant, KT & Fils was able to build a solar-powered water pump that serves the village of over 500 residents and its school of 150 students. Ready access to clean water means that students have fewer illness-related ab-

sences, the school has functioning bathrooms, and girls do not have to miss class due to lack of water in the bathroom, their menstrual cycles, or to collect water for their families.

Thanks to this basic resource, more students have enrolled and are able to be successful there, according to Thiam. However, he notes that there is still a lot more work to be done, which is why as part of the third annual Innovation Fund this year, AWS chose to renew his project, along with four other recurring projects.

With this continued support, KT & Fils will identify and address other pressing roadblocks to education access in the village. Among the organization's ideas are to establish a sustainable ag-

ricultural system, whereby the nonprofit can grow food for the students and school staff. They are also brainstorming ways to leverage tech for good by providing devices for students and building a virtual library.

"My father was the most generous and inspirational man I have ever known, and I feel grateful to continue his legacy and commitment to expanding access to education from thousands of miles away," says Thiam.

"We won't rest until 100% of the kids in our area have the opportunity to go to school and 80% of them graduate from high school. We believe all kids deserve the opportunity to access education that will transform their lives."

Eventually iron wears out

By LaShunda Calvert, Ph.D. Guest Writer



Have you ever settled fo sm ething minimum in your life? Were you happy to settle sm ething

minimum o were you regretful fo settling fo minimum? We as humans often settle fo a minimum in life despite how it may **a** gatively impact us. Many people settle fo minimum jobs, minimum education, minimum careers, minimum housing, minimum vehicles, minimum health, minimum parte rs, and sm e even settle fo minimum in heirm arriages.

Out of all the things that you can settle fo – you should not settle fo a minimum in your marriage because you made a vow to spend the rest of your life with this person. Nevertheless, there are so many miserable married couples settling fo a minimum in their marriages daily, weekly, monthly and year aftery ear.

Please stop settling fo minimum in your marriages. Life is too sho t to keep doing minimumi y ourm arriages.

What does settling fo a minimum in marriage look like? Settling fo a minimum in your marriage includes the follow-

Always put on the back-

-L ittlet **n o** espect

- Your feelings and opinions aren verc onsidered

- Spouse always make selfish decisions

-Yoa ret hel astt ok now

-F eelu sed u nappreciated

- Unreasonable expectations

- Go with the flow - Stop trying to share your

feelings/concerns

-L ittlet **o d** ating

- Little to no love making only ty ourc onvenience

-L ittlet **o o m** munication - It's easy to make decisions

without spouse's insight, approval, etc. Why do so many spouses set-

tle fo a minimum in marriage? Sm e settle fo a minimum in marriage fo the following rea-

- Peer pressure frm family and friends

-D on'tw antt b ea lon - Don't want to hurt the chil-

dren family ynamics - Its cheaper to keep her o hime conm ici nstability

- Divorce inflation - Can't affo d d ivo ce

- Religious aspirations/beliefs

-E mbarrassment

-F earf eara ntl ear

-F earo fr etaliation

- Both spouses have decided to stay married fo the convenience - in other wo ds, their marriages have becm e a scam...facade

- Feel indebted to your spouse

- Justifies that this is how your

spouseb ehavesa nd nteracts -H opet hes pousec hanges

- You have adapted to the minimum and plan to die with it

- Love – you truly love your

The root wo d of minimum is mini. Are you only doing mini things in your marriage? Are you giving your spouse mini love? Are you giving your spouse mini attention? Are you giving your spouse mini affection? Are you giving your spouse mini care? Are you giving your spouse mini love making? Are you giving your spouse mini time? Are you giving your spouse mini cm mitment? Are you giving your spouse mini suppo t? Are you giving your spouse mini cm munication? Are you giving your spouse mini respect?

If you are giving a minimum in your marriage; change this today. Stop giving your spouse a minimum in marriage and expecting the maximum from them. In other wo ds, don't give your spouse a little cm munication and expect your spouse to give you a lot of conversation. Really? Marriage requires reciprocation. Marriage is not on sided and it is not about only pleasing on spouse. Marriage is about two becm ing on and the on learning to grow as on ih ovee mpatha nd espect.

In conclusion, there are so many hurt, disappointed, bitter, resentful, sad and angry spouses today because of the minimum that have been given in their marriages fo years. Spouses,

please read this carefully, if you don't stop giving minimum in your marriages - your marriages will begin to die. I don't care what you do o how you do it it will be nothing you can do to save your marriage. Let me put it the way my grandmother said

it, "eventually iron wears out." I don't care how wrapped up you think you have your spouse; I don't care what threats o agreements you have made to keep your scam marriages going; I don't care what lies and secrets you are telling and keeping from your spouse to maintain your marriage, eventually, irow earso ut.

Iron wears out in five-year marriages, nin teen-year marriages, twenty-four-year marriages, thirty, forty, fifty years plusm arriages.

If and only if you want your marriages - I am sincerely asking you to evaluate if you are giving your spouse minimum and make immediate and consistent changes to stop giving minimum today.

Remember, what my granny saide ventually row earso ut. Contact Dr. LaShunda Calvert for speaking engagements

ministering, (motivational, marriage counseling, marriage workshops, marriage seminars, marriage conferences, etc.) on Instagram: letsstay2gether4ever (Dr. LaShunda Calvert) Facebook: Dr. LaShunda Calvert Email:letsstaytogether4eva@ gmail.com or call 601-874-6176.





BOOK REVIEW: BOOKS FOR FATHERS DAY BY VARIOUS AUTHORS AND ILLUSTRATORS C.2022, 2023, VARIOUS PUBLISHERS \$17.99-\$18.99 • VARIOUS PAGE COUNT

By Terri Schlichenmeyer Columnist

Dads are pretty good people to have around. They can make you laugh and make you behave. They teach you fun things and help you when you need it. Moms appreciate dads and you should, too. So why not look for these great books to share with your papa, dad, pa, father or

For the brand-new dad who wants to start his child off right, "This is The First Book I Will Read to You" by Francesco Se-

dita, illustrated by Magenta Fox (Viking, \$18.99) is a great gift. Meant for the youngest kid, it's a gentle tale full of amazement and love for a newborn baby, and it may be one of the sweetest books you'll read this week.

If dad has a little helper around, "Papá's Magical Water-Jug Clock" by Jesús Trejo, pictures by Eliza Kinkz (Minerva, \$18.99) is a great summertime read. Little Jesús is going to help papa today and right away, papa puts Jesús in charge of a water jug that's also a magic clock. It's

a big responsibility. Can Jesús handle it without getting fired from his job? Wrapped into this fun and lively story, there's a lesson here that's appealing to kids ages 3-to-6.

For the dad who does it all, "Daddy Dressed Me" by Michael & Ava Gardner, illustrated by Nadia Fisher (Simon & Schuster Kids, \$18.99) is a biographical tale of a little girl who needed a special dress for a special day. Where would she ever get something like that? Kids ages 4-8 will be charmed to find

out...

For the 4-to-9-year-old whose dad is deployed, "When Your Daddy's a Soldier" by Gretchen Brandenburg McLellan, illustrated by EG Keller (Viking, \$17.99) is the absolute perfect book to have around. It's a tale of saying goodbye too often, missing a parent so much it hurts, and how a child can support (and find support) until dad comes home again. For sure, this is one of those books that makes a great gift.

And finally, for the slightly

older kid who appreciates an afternoon of baseball with dad, "Contenders: Two Native Baseball Players, One World Series" by Traci Sorell, illustrated by Arigon Starr (Kokila / Penguin, \$18.99) is the right book for both. It was 1911, Shibe Park, Philadelphia, when pitcher Charles Bender of the White Earth Reservation went headto-head with catcher John Meyers of the Cahuilla Reservation. Opposite teams. Two men who were pro baseball players. Both had faced a lot of discrimination

to get to where they were. Who would win? Your 8-to-12 year old and your grown-up baseball fan will want to know.

If these great books for dad don't quite fit him or your child, head to your favorite bookstore or library and ask for help. Your librarian and bookseller have access to millions of books, and they'll know how to find the exact thing you need for a happy read-aloud session or for sharing.

Dads are pretty handy people to have around. A dad with a book is even better.



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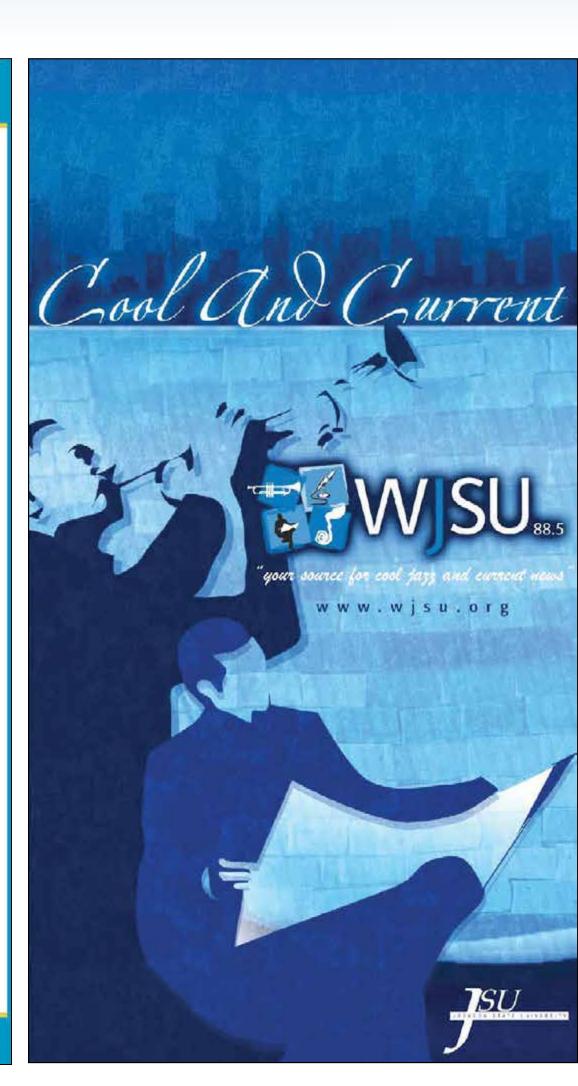
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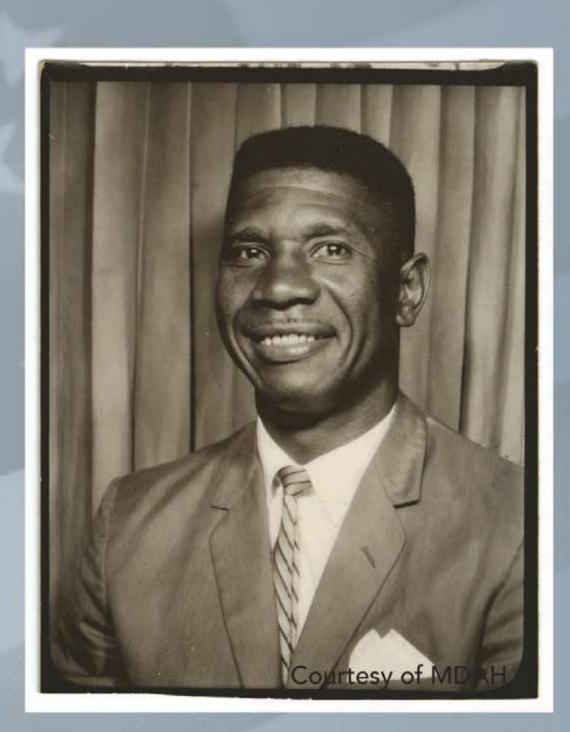
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