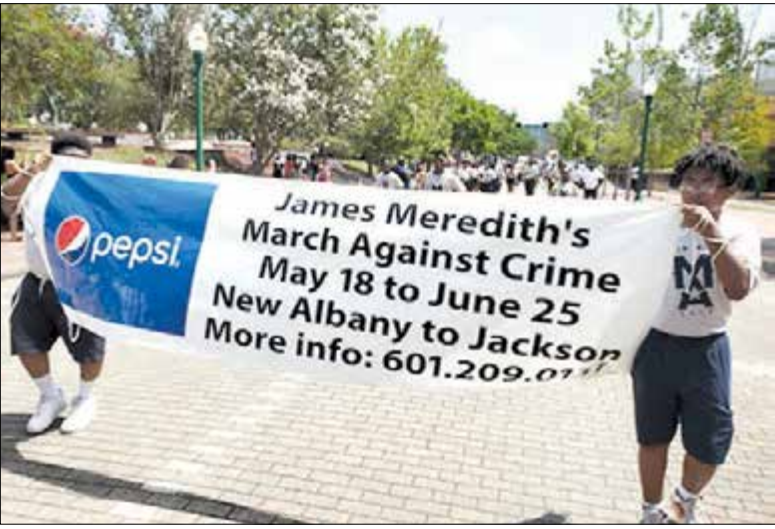


# James Meredith arrives at the Capitol on his 90th birthday

## March Against Crime from New Albany to Jackson concludes yet another mission



Jim Hill High School Band leads the way. PHOTOS BY CHRIS YOUNG

By Christopher Young  
Contributing Writer

In sweltering heat, civil rights icon James Meredith, was led up Congress Street – from behind Jackson City Hall to the Mississippi Capitol – by the Jim Hill High School Band and a solid two hundred supporters. Photographers were everywhere as the band filled the air with energy and excitement for this special event commemorating Meredith’s continuing mission to fight for integration, and in this case, specifically focused on his March Against Crime – even at age 90. Prior to the kickoff at 2:30 p.m., Sunday, June 25, 2023, we spoke through the open window of his car, where he was staying cool as long as possible before entering the unforgiving heat of the day. Dressed impeccably in his white three-piece suit, tie and favorite straw hat, he asked a helper to get him a copy of his speech and then gave it to me. It is titled – The Big

Dreamer: James Meredith’s Fight for Integration – and delivering a deliberate message, stressed the final three words to me several times.

Katina Rankin and Mac McAfee served as emcees at the Capitol gathering. No strangers to the microphone, they exuded heart and professionalism tailor-made to the occasion – engaging the crowd and setting the stage for each presenter throughout the roughly hour-long event.

A stunning rendition of Sam Cooke’s A Change is Gonna Come was delivered by CRUZ The Dame. Nancy Branton, referred to as “Miss let’s make it all happen Nancy” by Mr. McAfee, then gave remarks about how the event came to pass – originating with a suggestion by his niece, Meredith Coleman McGee –and a lengthy list of those who helped the Walk Against Crime take place.

Branton stressed that all along

the many stops, Meredith was met with an outpouring of love and acceptance of his message. She reminded that “57 years ago tomorrow, Mr. Meredith and 15,000 supporters walked right to this very spot, and there is a plaque on these Capitol grounds commemorating the second March Against Fear. Today we are all part of history. We are all part of this third mission, and we must all continue to take his message forward. Mr. Meredith, Happy 90th Birthday. Thank you...one town, one visit, one handshake at a time – you sir, are changing the world for the better.”

James Meredith, grandson of James Meredith, read from a part of the day’s speech: “Growing up in Kosciusko – nestled on the Yockanookany River, a little over an hour’s drive from Jackson, Kosciusko, Mississippi, was home to James Howard Meredith, who grew up on his

family’s 84-acre farm. Moses Meredith or “Captain” – James Meredith’s father, played a big role in his son’s life, and instilled pride and self-sufficiency in Meredith at a young age. Working on his family’s farm and dreaming of a world beyond Kosciusko, Meredith’s big dreams would ultimately change Mississippi and the nation.”

The young Meredith went on to share: “What was once a dream born in Kosciusko became a hard-won battle that opened doors for James Meredith and for black people across the nation. Although Meredith is remembered as a force in the Civil Rights Movement, his journey also conveys a universal struggle of perseverance and bravery in the face of extreme adversity. This aspect of his story is one that generations – both current and future – can use as inspiration to

*Meredith  
Continued on page 3*

# Koinonia Baptist Church celebrates 35 years: “For such a time as this”



Pastor Morgan (seated) enjoying message from Rev. Grant

By Jackie Hampton  
Mississippi Link Publisher

On June 25, 1998, a fellowship group of 22 people requested Rev. Walter Bowie, Jr. meet with them as a spiritual leader for prayer, counsel and fellowship. Because of the very spirit-filled meeting, the group decided to remain together for future prayer meetings and worship service.

As time progressed, Rev. Bowie was asked to consider organizing the group into a church and after much prayer, thought and discussion, on July 24, 1988, Koinonia Baptist Church was born. “Koinonia,” a Greek word meaning christian fellowship, depicts the love, concern and singleness of purpose exhibited in the early Christian church. The church name was adopted because the intent was for the church to have a vision

modeled after the New Testament church – that vision being, to function as “The Servant Church in a Needy World”

Pastor Bowie was called home to be with the Lord on September 28, 2011 and Rev. Richard Morgan was formally named the interim pastor.

In 2012, Rev. Morgan became the second pastor of Koinonia Baptist Church, and on Sunday, he along with his entire congregation, celebrated 35 years since Koinonia had its start at a prayer meeting. The theme for the celebration was “For Such a Time as This.”

The speaker for the occasion was Rev. Dennis M. Grant, pastor of Jerusalem Baptist Church in Brandon, MS. He was introduced by Pastor Morgan.

Pastor Morgan said Grant

# Democratic gubernatorial candidate Brandon Presley, Part 2

By Christopher Young  
Contributing Writer

This article picks up where we left off last week with our in-depth interview with Brandon Presley on June 9, 2023.

**Q:** Data seems to indicate overall voter turnout was 60.4% in 2019. It has been proven that the majority of African Americans vote democratic. It has been said if more of the black population had turned out to vote in 2019, Jim Hood would have become governor. What can be done to convince more African Americans to get out and vote this year? Have you reached out to Stacy Abrams for advice or assistance?

**A:** We’re working with folks across the country who care about Mississippi and we’re spending the vast majority of our time looking at ways to work with Mississippi community leaders to have a great turnout in November. I’m proud to have gotten the endorse-



PHOTOS VIA TWITTER@BRANDONPRESLEY. BRANDON PRESLEY FOR MISSISSIPPI CAMPAIGN

ment of Congressman Bennie Thompson – about an hour after I announced for governor. We’re not stopping there, we’re working with pastors, local leaders, local elected officials. We’ve already knocked on 4,000 doors and this is our first complete week of organizing. We’re starting earlier than

any other campaign on get out the vote efforts, and we are doing that because we are not going to leave any stone unturned.”

**Q:** Despite a 40% African American population in Mississippi, 94% of state agencies are led by European Americans. How does that sit with you?

**A:** I think that leadership of state agencies and executive appointments should reflect the population. I think that requires a governor who will take intentional action to bring diversity in appointments to make sure that all regions

*Presley  
Continued on page 3*



Pastor Grant, Jerusalem Baptist Church and Pastor Morgan, Koinonia Baptist Church

*Koinonia  
Continued on page 3*

Inside  
Sam Pollard's Documentary Shines Light on Rich Legacy of Negro Baseball Leagues



The Talk



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# Institute addresses tobacco inequities via community outreach

*The Mississippi Link Newswire*

During the month of June, the Institute for the Advancement of Minority Health was out in full force raising awareness regarding various health inequities particularly tobacco usage. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), commercial tobacco is preventing African Americans from achieving optimum health.

In 2020, 19.4% of black adults used a tobacco product. Although African Americans, on average, smoke fewer cigarettes, they are more likely to die from smoking-related diseases. Smoking is a major cause of heart disease, cancer and stroke, the three leading causes of death for African Americans in the U.S.

Tobacco has had a negative impact on the black community for centuries. Commercial tobacco crops throughout the South yielded millions in profit due to the unpaid labor of enslaved Africans. Without a free labor force to plant and harvest tobacco, companies began to target Africans Americans to use tobacco products in order



During Juneteenth activities in Grenada, MS Thelma Hubbard takes the tobacco survey.

to make a profit.

Corporations like RJ Reynold used tailored marketing focused on black communities. Through paid advertisements featuring community icons,

sponsorship of cultural events and financing scholarships for African-American students, tobacco has had an unjust and unfair influence on the black community.

Recent outreach efforts with unhouse residents in Jackson (MS) included the distribution of tobacco cessation information. While participating in Juneteenth celebrations, Institute

staff distributed resources and gathered data via a Community Tobacco usage survey.

Interested individuals can access the survey via: <http://tinyurl.com/iamtobacco>.

For more information about the Institute for the Advancement of Minority Health and its programs, contact [iamh@advancingminorityhealth.org](mailto:iamh@advancingminorityhealth.org) or call (769) 572-5263.



Yolanda Raymond, Institute staff member, is all smiles as she manages the vendor table during Juneteenth celebrations in the Metro Jackson area.

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# Among 536 members of last sitting Congress, Reuters found 100 have slaveholders' ancestors

By Stacy M. Brown  
NNPA Newswire Senior National Correspondent

Recent research conducted by Reuters has shed light on the genealogies of America's political elite, revealing that a significant portion of members of Congress, living presidents, Supreme Court justices and governors are direct descendants of ancestors who enslaved black people. Among the 536 members of the last sitting Congress, Reuters found that at least 100 have ancestors who were slaveholders. Furthermore, over a quarter of the Senate, or 28 members, can trace their families back to slaveholding ancestors.

This spans Democratic and Republican lawmakers, including influential figures such as Republican Senators Mitch McConnell, Lindsey Graham and Tom Cotton, as well as Democrats Elizabeth Warren, Tammy Duckworth and Jeanne Shaheen.

The examination also revealed that President Joe Biden and every living former U.S. president, except Donald Trump, have direct connections to slaveholders.

That list includes Jimmy Carter, George W. Bush, Bill Clinton and even Barack Obama through his white mother's lineage.

Additionally, two of the nine sitting U.S. Supreme Court justices, Amy Coney Barrett and Neil Gorsuch, have ancestors who were involved in enslavement.

The research conducted by Reuters also delved into the gubernatorial level, revealing that in 2022, 11 out



of 50 U.S. states had governors who were descendants of slaveholders.

Eight governors hail from states that formed the Confederate States of America, which fought to preserve slavery.

Among them, Asa Hutchinson, the former governor of Arkansas and Doug Burgum of North Dakota are seeking the Republican nomination for president.

According to Reuters' findings, at least 8 percent of Democrats and 28 percent of Republicans in the last Congress had ancestral ties to slaveholders.

This disparity reflects the historical strength of the Republican Party

in the South, where slavery was concentrated. South Carolina, where the Civil War began, exemplifies the familial connections between lawmakers and the nation's history of slavery.

Every member of the state's delegation to the last Congress has ancestral ties to slavery.

Sen. Tim Scott, a Republican presidential candidate and Rep. James Clyburn, a prominent Democrat, both have ancestors who were enslaved.

All seven white lawmakers from South Carolina in the 117th Congress are direct descendants of slaveholders, as is the state's Republican governor, Henry McMaster.

The unveiling of these ancestral

ties to slavery comes at a time when the legacy of slavery is under renewed and intense debate.

The investigation by Reuters emphasizes the ongoing relationship between America and the institution of slavery, particularly among those who influence the country's laws.

Henry Louis Gates Jr., a professor at Harvard University specializing in African and African American Research, emphasized in an NBC News interview that identifying these ancestral connections is not about assigning blame but recognizing the close link between lawmakers and slavery.

Gates stated that it served as an

opportunity for individuals to learn and for the American people to gain a deeper understanding of their shared history.

The Reuters analysis goes beyond previous documentation of ancestral ties to slavery by focusing on the most powerful officeholders of today, many of whom have taken stances on race-related policies.

The comprehensive research provides a broader and more detailed perspective on the extent of these leaders' connections to America's "original sin." It also explores the personal and significant implications for lawmakers and prominent officials as they confront the realities of their own family's involvement in slavery.

The research focused on direct lineal descendants rather than distant cousins. The sources analyzed included Census records, tax documents, estate records, family Bibles, newspaper accounts and birth and death certificates.

To ensure accuracy, board-certified genealogists reviewed each case, linking a contemporary leader to a slaveholding ancestor.

While the Reuters examination provided a valuable understanding of the ancestral ties between the political elite and slavery, it further acknowledged that the records available may not capture the full extent of those connections. Many records have been lost or destroyed over time, leading to the possibility of an undercount.

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# Supreme Court decision impacting state election districts

*Unfreezes Louisiana redistricting case that could boost black voting power before 2024*

By Kevin McGill, Mark Sherman and Sara Cline  
*Associated Press*

The Supreme Court on Monday, June 26, 2023, lifted its hold on a Louisiana political remap case, increasing the likelihood that the Republican-dominated state will have to redraw boundary lines to create a second mostly Black congressional district.

For more than a year, there has been a legal battle over the GOP-drawn political boundaries, with a federal judge, Democratic Gov. John Bel Edwards and opponents saying that the map is unfair and discriminates against black voters.

The map, which was used in Louisiana's November congressional election, has white majorities in five of six districts, all currently held by Republicans. This is despite black people accounting for one-third of the state's population.

Another mostly black district could deliver another congressional seat to Democrats.

"I'm super excited," said Ashley Shelton, head of the Louisiana-based Power Coalition for Equity and Justice, one of the groups challenging the maps. "What this does is it puts us back on track to realize a second majority-minority district."

In a written statement, the Louisiana Legislative Black Caucus said, while work still needs to be done, it is "very confident" the state will have two majority-black districts by the 2024 congressional election.

"As I have consistently stated, this is about simple math, basic fairness, and

the rule of law," Edwards said. "I am confident we will have a fair map in the near future."

Every 10 years, state lawmakers – armed with new U.S. Census Bureau information – redraw political boundaries for seats in the U.S. House, state Senate, state House, Board of Elementary and Secondary Education and the Public Service Commission.

The process ultimately affects which political parties, viewpoints and people control the government bodies that write laws, set utility rates and create public school policies.

The Louisiana case had been on hold pending the decision in a redistricting case involving Alabama. Monday's order follows the court's rejection earlier in June of a congressional redistricting map in Alabama.

In both states, Black voters are a majority in just one congressional district. Lower courts had ruled that the maps raised concerns that Black voting power had been diluted, in violation of the landmark federal Voting Rights Act.

The justices had allowed the state's challenged map to be used in last year's elections while they considered the Alabama case.

In Louisiana, U.S. District Judge Shelly Dick struck down the map in June 2022 for violating the Voting Rights Act, saying "evidence of Louisiana's long and ongoing history of voting-related discrimination weighs heavily in favor of Plaintiffs."

Dick ordered lawmakers to hold a special session to redesign the map and include a second majority-Black

district. However, lawmakers failed to meet their deadline and, as a result, Dick said she would enact a map of her choosing.

The Louisiana case had been appealed to the 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in New Orleans when the high court put the issue on hold. The justices said the appeal could go forward before next year's congressional elections.

U.S. Rep. Troy Carter, Louisiana's only Democratic and Black congressman, applauded the Supreme Court for lifting its hold.

"This decision shows that in a healthy democracy fair and equitable representation matters, whether to the people of Louisiana or anywhere else in the world," Carter tweeted.

The redistricting process in Louisiana proved to be a political tug-of-war, with the Republican-dominated Legislature and Democrats, including Edwards, fighting over the boundaries since February 2022.

Along with the legal battle, the debate over the map included Edwards vetoing the boundaries and the Legislature overriding his veto – the first time in nearly three decades that lawmakers refused to accept a governor's refusal of a bill they had passed.

Republicans have stood by their statements that the map is fair, and argue that trying to include the state's widely dispersed black population in two separate congressional districts would result in two districts with very narrow black majorities that could actually diminish black voting power.

# The water in Mississippi's capital is safe to drink, city officials say

By Michael Goldberg and Rogelio Solis  
*Associated Press/Report for America*

The water flowing from faucets in Mississippi's capital is safe to drink, city officials said in federal court Wednesday.

U.S. District Court Judge Henry Wingate ordered Jackson Mayor Chokwe Antar Lumumba and Ted Henifin, whom Wingate appointed in November to manage the city's beleaguered water system, to appear in court because of comments Lumumba made at a June 14 news conference. Wingate was worried the mayor "may have misinformed the public" about whether Jackson's water was safe to drink, court records show.

"Not only must we address the water woes, we have to worry about instilling confidence that the water is safe to drink," Wingate said in court Wednesday.

Jackson has struggled with water problems for decades. Most of the city lost running water for several days in August and September after heavy rainfall exacerbated problems at the city's main water treatment plant.

At the June 14 news conference, Lumumba announced a new initiative to distribute free water filters, focusing on pregnant women and families with young children. In court Wednesday, Wingate said he became concerned at a meeting with Henifin after the news conference in which Henifin took issue with some of the mayor's comments. Specifically, Henifin said, the promotion of water filters might have implied that Jackson's water wasn't safe to drink without them.

"There is no health risk drinking the water that I'm aware of," Henifin said. "We really need to be careful with messaging about the water."

Henifin added that he believed all of Lumumba's comments were factual, but they might have lacked the context necessary for reassuring residents about the water's quality. Instilling confidence in Jackson's water will be harder than rebuilding the infrastructure to deliver it, Henifin said.

Lumumba stood by his comments. He pointed to guidelines on the Mississippi Department of Health's website that say any child age 5 or younger and any pregnant woman should use filtered water or bottled water for drinking and cooking. He

also cited his statement at the news conference that it hadn't been "demonstrated that (Jackson's) water is dangerous."

"I'm trying to figure out how I'm both factually correct and reckless at the same time," Lumumba said. "Chokwe Lumumba believes our water is safe."

Both Lumumba and Henifin said the state health department sends precautionary notices to Jackson residents about water quality. The notices, which are required until the city makes certain infrastructure improvements, make it harder to rebuild trust in the water system, Lumumba and Henifin said.

On Oct. 31, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency announced that testing had shown Jackson water is safe to drink.

Wingate said he was concerned an "unsophisticated" public might have misunderstood the mayor and come to believe that Jackson water wasn't safe.

Lumumba and Henifin both said repeatedly that Jackson's water complies with the Safe Drinking Water Act.

Wingate also peppered Henifin with questions about the city's struggling sewer system. Wingate said he plans to put the sewer system under Henifin's control as well.

On a tour of Jackson with Henifin in March, Wingate said he observed raw sewage bubbling up from the ground, including near a facility housing senior citizens.

Henifin said the city's sewage line repair trucks were unavailable because the city had yet to pay a repair shop for servicing the vehicles, Wingate said.

Wingate said he offered to pay the bill himself.

"I'll just pay the cost and live off peanut butter and jelly sandwiches," Wingate said.

Henifin told him there were over 250 spots throughout the city where raw sewage was bubbling up through the ground.

"I don't have enough peanut butter and jelly for that," Wingate said.

*Michael Goldberg is a corps member for the Associated Press/Report for America Statehouse News Initiative. Report for America is a nonprofit national service program that places journalists in local newsrooms to report on undercovered issues. Follow him on Twitter at twitter.com/mikergoldberg.*

# USA FACTS: States that rely most on federal aid – NOT MISSISSIPPI

USAFACTS.org

How do states receive federal funding? Federal assistance for various state programs is typically allocated through grants. Of the more than \$1.2 trillion the federal government granted to states in 2022, most went toward health-care programs.

Federal grants are divided into two categories: formula grants and competitive grants. The federal government uses a blueprint to calculate formula grants for each state or locality. This formula typically considers factors such as population size, poverty rates, or specific needs of the area.

On the other hand, competitive grants require state and local governments to submit proposals or applications to the federal government. These proposals outline their plans for using the grant money effectively to achieve specific goals. The government then selects the winners based on the proposals' merits.

Which states received the most money from the federal government?

- California (\$116.0 billion)
- New York (\$79.2 billion)
- Texas (\$68.2 billion)
- Florida (\$41.7 billion)
- Pennsylvania (\$41.0 billion)

When evaluating federal funding on a per-person basis, Washington, DC, stood out, receiving the most federal funding per person: Washington DC (\$6,983 per person). Georgia received the least federal funding per person, with \$1,807 in 2020. Florida and Utah also had relatively lower distributions, with per-person funding of \$1,937 and \$1,957, respectively.

The total federal aid each state receives varies based on the number of low-income families in each state, the frequency of natural disasters, economic volatility, whether the state has recently expanded Medicaid, and more.

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# NNPA Wins in Four-Year Internal Voting Rights Civil Cases

NNPA newswire

In a definitive and consequential ruling, the Honorable Ebony Scott in the Superior Court of the District of Columbia, Civil Division, issued on May 10, 2023, a factual “Summary Judgment” in favor of the National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA).

Today, in an official notice sent out to each member publisher of the NNPA, Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis, Jr, President, and CEO of the NNPA, confirmed, “In the matters of Dorothy R. Leavell v. NNPA, Amelia Ashley-Ward v. NNPA, and Carol Geary v. NNPA, the courts in the District of Columbia have now ruled in favor of the NNPA.”

The NNPA is the national trade association of the Black Press of America representing over 240 African American-owned newspapers and multimedia companies throughout the United State

Chavis resoundingly attested, “Finally, after four years of extended and financially costly, frivolous lawsuits against the NNPA, we have good news for the NNPA upon winning these significant legal victories.”

Chavis concluded, “The NNPA will continue to work diligently to ensure that the voting rights of all our member publishers are protected from any future effort to subvert the overall interests of the membership of the NNPA.”

Leavell, Ashley-Ward, and Geary who are members of the NNPA, disagreed with the outcome of the 2019 NNPA national elections and sued the NNPA, in part, to contest the results of the 2019 NNPA Board Elections.

In 2019, the membership of the NNPA duly elected Karen Carter Richards, publisher of the Houston Forward Times, as the new NNPA Chair.

Leavell was defeated by Rich-



**“We are pleased with the judge’s decision, and it’s been a long time coming,” NNPA General Counsel Attorney A. Scott Bolden stated. PHOTO: ISTOCKPHOTO / NNPA**

ards for Chair of the NNPA.

“As much as I would like to say that I’m excited about this ruling I’m not [because] this should have never happened to our esteemed organization or the wonderful publishers who make up this important entity,” Richards stated.

“This entire ordeal has been a stain on this organization, led by three individuals who refused to accept the will of the qualified vote of our publishers.”

Richards continued:

“Not only did we have to fight through the COVID-19 pandemic and other changes in the market, but we also had to fight against the frivolous actions of three of our member publishers.

“Now, thankfully after four years, we can put this unjustified action behind us and move forward for the betterment of our organization and continue to do what’s right for the NNPA.”

During the past four years, however, the NNPA continued to make substantial progress even in the

face of the continued civil litigation.

“We are pleased with the judge’s decision, and it’s been a long time coming,” NNPA General Counsel Attorney A. Scott Bolden stated.

“There was never any substance to the plaintiffs’ allegations. Unfortunately, it took four years and a lot of legal expenses to prove that there was nothing there.”

Bolden said Judge Scott also issued a separate order of sanctions – the second during the case – “for some of the conduct of the plaintiffs and their counsel.”

“This isn’t the first time the plaintiffs and their lawyers were sanctioned,” Bolden asserted. “It is fortunate that we were able to emerge victorious.”

Bolden said many lessons were learned about how the lawsuit was brought and how the plaintiffs and prior judges handled it.

“Going forward, we’re looking forward to working with NNPA members and the board members to prevent any future lawsuits against the organization by amending the NNPA Bylaws to ensure that any disputes will require mediation or arbitration,” Bolden said.

He said the two avenues are far less expensive than civil litigation.

Bolden also noted that Carole Geary, publisher of the Milwaukee Courier, lost her lawsuit against the NNPA in 2022, appealed the defeat, and lost again.

“Thanks to our outstanding legal team, our leadership, and Dr. Benjamin Chavis, our president/CEO for pressing forward as we endured such an unfortunate and costly situation,” Richards added.

The NNPA is now preparing to celebrate the 196th Year Anniversary of the Black Press of America at its 2023 Annual National Convention in Nashville, TN, June 28-July 1, 2023.

# Stamp honoring Late Rep. John Lewis unveiled in official ceremony at Capitol Hill

By Stacy M. Brown

NNPA Newswire Senior National Correspondent

House leaders joined forces with the U.S. Postal Service to reveal a commemorative stamp paying tribute to the late Rep. John Lewis Wednesday. The unveiling occurred during a special event held at Capitol Hill.

House Speaker Kevin McCarthy, House Minority Leader Hakeem Jeffries and Linda Earley Chastang, Lewis’ former chief of staff, were the prominent figures present.

According to a press release from the Postal Service, the stamp showcases a photograph of Lewis captured by Marco Grob for *Time* magazine in 2013.

The design also incorporates a 1963 image taken by Steve Schapiro outside a nonviolent protest workshop, featured in the selva or margin of the stamp pane.

Officials called the combination of photographs a poignant reminder of Lewis’ tireless commitment to civil rights and his instrumental role in the nonviolent protest movement.

Postmaster General Louis DeJoy, addressing the gathering, announced that the official dedication ceremony for the John Lewis Forever stamp is scheduled for July 21 at Morehouse College in Atlanta.

DeJoy shared plans to rename Atlanta’s main post office in honor of the late congressman, acknowledging Lewis’ immeasurable contributions to the nation.

“Our nation certainly benefited from his fearlessness and his un-



failing willingness to get into good trouble,” DeJoy stated.

McCarthy emphasized the significance of Lewis’ actions during the introduction of President Barack Obama at the 50th anniversary of “Bloody Sunday” in Selma, Alabama, back in 2015. McCarthy, a Republican from California, acknowledged the power of Lewis’ words and how they transcended party lines.

“I may be in a different party; I may have different views, but I’m an American,” McCarthy asserted.

“I got goosebumps and tears thinking how far we had come and thinking that John Lewis led the march on that bridge and led the introduction that day.” Jeffries, the Democratic Representative from New York, expressed his belief that the stamp would forever symbol-

ize Lewis’ significant contributions and serve as a tribute to his unwavering dedication as the conscience of Congress. He called Lewis one of the country’s greatest sons and deemed it fitting for such an influential figure to be recognized with a Forever stamp.

Lewis, a Democrat representing Georgia, served in the House of Representatives from 1987 until his passing on July 17, 2020, at 80, after battling stage 4 pancreatic cancer. Known as the “conscience of Congress,” Lewis dedicated his life to advocating for peaceful protests and equality.

An original member of the Freedom Riders, Lewis played a pivotal role in the civil rights movement, enduring brutal violence when Alabama state troopers fractured his skull during the infamous “Bloody Sunday” incident in Selma in 1965.

In July 2020, Lewis became the first black lawmaker to lie in state at the Capitol, a testament to his indelible mark on American history.

Even after his passing, his words have continued to inspire and motivate, as evidenced by his 2020 *New York Times* op-ed, where he urged others to carry the torch and fight for their beliefs.

His famous phrase, “good trouble,” remains a rallying cry for those seeking equality and justice.

Postal officials said the John Lewis Forever stamp is a lasting tribute to a remarkable individual who dedicated his life to making the United States a better place for all its citizens.

# A look back at how BET network helped hip-hop grow and thrive

By Jonathan Landrum Jr.

AP Entertainment Writer

From innovative to provocative, BET has played a crucial role in creating several influential programs that helped spread hip-hop to millions of homes across the globe. Other than its rival show “Yo! MTV Raps,” the network known as Black Entertainment Television took up the mantle – despite some reluctance – to showcase a misunderstood rap culture decades before it became today’s most popular music genre.

For many, BET became a safe place for those within hip-hop to express their artistry, although not without criticism. Through it all, the network has been a mainstay for established and emerging rap artists.

It all came together during the BET Awards Sunday. Show officials celebrated the genre’s 50th anniversary during the telecast dubbed as a “non-stop Hip-Hop Party.” It also came at a pivotal time for the network, which will soon be sold. Several black entrepreneurs and celebrities, including Tyler Perry, media executive Byron Allen and rapper-entrepreneur Diddy, are interested in purchasing the network.

The new owner will acquire an important cultural fixture, one whose success was partially built on how it elevated hip-hop.

“BET was a big platform for hip-hop and urban music overall,” said E-40. His song “Tired of Being Stepped On” with the rap group The Click appeared on BET’s “Video Soul,” which was created in 1981 at a time when MTV refused to play videos by most African Americans. The rapper recalled how guest host Jamie Foxx dissed The Click’s song but the comedian’s critical words didn’t faze him. He felt his group gained important exposure to promote their “unorthodox” West Coast rap style.

“The network really stepped up. We needed that,” said E-40, who also made a few appearances on another BET show called “Rap City,” which featured hip-hop music videos, interviews and freestyles booth sessions with big names including Jay-Z, Lil Wayne and MC Lyte. The show, which highlighted popular and up-and-coming rappers, became the longest-running hip-hop TV show in history.

E-40 credited BET founder Robert Johnson for giving hip-hop a chance. Johnson built the brand into the leading TV network for black Americans in hopes of creating content geared toward jazz, comedy and gospel. But at the time, he and other founders were unsure about featuring a rap show, believing the genre would be short lived.

Rival MTV’s “Yo! MTV Raps,” however, showed that hip-hop had staying power.

“After kind of a brief initial hesitancy, the founders of BET really understood how hip-hop was transforming culture overall and specifically black entertainment,” said Scott M. Mills, BET’s president and CEO.

“They rapidly embraced hip-hop as part of the mission of BET,” he said. “You went from BET having shows with no hip-hop artists or music to artists and music starting to trickle through shows to this full evolution of creating dedicated shows, celebrating hip-hop music, artists and culture.”

BET’s decision to embrace hip-hop literally paid off: Johnson and his then-wife, Sheila, sold the network to Viacom in 2000 for \$3 billion – which made them the nation’s first black billionaires. He remained CEO until 2006.

After the sale, BET continued to beef up its content with reality shows and the network’s flagship program “106 & Park,” a weekday show that started in 2000 and lasted for more than a decade. The show thrived with a video countdown, interviews and performances. A year later, the network started the BET Awards, then the BET Hip-Hop Awards.

For Lil Jon, he certainly benefitted from appearing on “106 & Park.” One day, the rapper-producer joined the show’s audience during the time when he had a hard time getting music on BET.

Lil Jon had no clue “106 & Park” co-host A.J. Calloway would notice him sitting in the crowd before he shouted out his name. The exposure helped him become more recognizable, particularly to the BET brass – who he says initially struggled to grasp the concept of his crunk music, which

eventually gained mainstream appeal.

“We strived to be on ‘Rap City.’ We strived to be on ‘106 & Park,’” Lil Jon said. “A.J. knew who I was, because he would go to the South and host things. He knew the power of my music. ... They would show me in the audience throughout the whole show. It was what they call an impression in the advertising world. It was a way for me to be around people at BET. They started to see and get familiar with me, and they wanted to look out for me. BET was just a place where we would get support from our community.”

Like Lil Jon, other hip-hop artists took advantage of the exposure from BET – which often highlighted positive images of black people through shows such as “Teen Summit” and “106 & Park.” But in the early-2000s, the network started to take an odd turn as several popular figures – from filmmaker Spike Lee to Public Enemy’s Chuck D – heavily criticized the channel’s content for depicting African Americans in a negative light.

Many took aim at the now-defunct “BET: Uncut,” a late-night mature program that contained highly sexual content such as Ludacris’ “Booty Poppin” music video. The tipping point came after Nelly’s “Tip Drill” video featured women simulating sex acts with themselves while men grabbed their bodies.

“Uncut” normally finished airing early Sunday just hours before the network’s faith-based programs began.

At the time, Big Boi of Outkast was taken aback by some of the raunchy content, calling it “distasteful” and “soft porn.” Other political figures and activists showed their displeasure. Co-founder Sheila Johnson even said in a 2010 interview that she was ashamed of BET, suggesting that no one, including her own children, should watch the channel.

After the backlash, BET took a new approach. The company researched what their viewers wanted to see and created a lineup of more family-oriented shows such as “Reed Between the Lines” and “Let’s Stay Together.”

“If you look at it, hip-hop is like a huge family,” said Roxanne Shante. “You’re going to have family members that do things that’s necessarily not my thing.”

“But who am I to criticize what they go through? It’s a form of expression,” said the “Roxanne’s Revenge” rapper. “I think BET has shown its ability to go with that form of expression. Now, people are expressing themselves in a different way. And now, they cater to a different audience and started to show different programming.”

Despite controversy, Mills said a symbolic relationship was kept between BET and the hip-hop community. He said the network has a chance to break new artists through the BET Hip-Hop Awards while showcasing the more popular ones at the BET Awards. He shouted out veteran rapper and Oscar-nominated actor Queen Latifah, who recently hosted the NAACP Image Awards this year.

“When you look at artists today, they’re profoundly talented,” he said. “The evolution of people deciding how they want to show up to the world is something that ultimately, I think we have to embrace. One thing about hip-hop, it’s always changing. We’re in the moment today, and that moment will evolve to whatever comes next.”

Mills said BET is exploring ways to bring back “106 & Park” as a possible residency live show.

With a new buyer looking to purchase BET soon, the network’s future focus and how much it emphasizes hip-hop will be closely watched.

Rapper Too Short said BET should continue to serve the black community’s needs.

“‘Teen Summit’ was the best show ever,” he said. “Just for kids to sit there and have an intellectual conversation every Saturday morning. That was amazing to see black kids thinking intelligently and debating with each other and an audience tapping in.”

“I don’t know why anybody doesn’t think that kind of programming is needed right now. I think BET just needs to be the community. Don’t show me an aspect. The whole thing. Be black entertainment.”



# New resources for living with COPD

## StatePoint

Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), a long-term lung disease that includes bronchitis and emphysema, is a leading cause of disability and death in the United States. More than 12.5 million people have been diagnosed, but millions more may have the disease without even knowing it.

Given the tremendous impact COPD has on individuals, it's no surprise that it is a significant healthcare burden in the United States. In 2019 alone, there were close to 1,320,000 emergency department visits due to COPD and close to 536,000 hospitalizations. The total economic cost of COPD in this country is close to \$50 billion each year.

COPD can impact all aspects of one's life, making basic household and personal care tasks difficult. However, there are numerous actions a person with COPD can take to feel better and reduce the disease's impact.

Those who are newly diagnosed with COPD often have many questions about what they can do to feel better. With this in mind, the American Lung Association has launched COPD Basics, a one-hour online course that is free and open to all. Designed to improve COPD care, the course is meant for people living with COPD, their families and healthcare professionals, such as nurses, physicians and respiratory therapists.

The COPD Basics course will teach participants about COPD



sics, a one-hour online course that is free and open to all. Designed to improve COPD care, the course is meant for people living with COPD, their families and healthcare professionals, such as nurses, physicians and respiratory therapists.

The COPD Basics course will teach participants about COPD

risk factors and prevention; recognizing the symptoms and diagnosing COPD; maintaining a high quality of life while living with a chronic disease, and the latest treatments and medications.

Healthcare professionals who complete the course may be eligible to receive continuing education credits or contact hours.

If you or a family member has recently been diagnosed with COPD, take the COPD Basics course at [Lung.org/COPD-Basics](https://www.lung.org/COPD-Basics).

There is currently no cure for COPD, but new resources can help those living with the disease manage their condition.

# Medicaid and CHIP help families access mental health services for kids

## StatePoint

The state of mental health among youth continues to be of public concern. According to the latest Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Youth Risk Behavior Survey, youth mental health problems have increased significantly over the past decade, reaching an all-time high.

For instance, from 2011 to 2021, the rate of female high school students saying they feel sad or hopeless increased from 36% to 57%; for male students this rate increased from 21% to 29%.

Stressors at school, home or elsewhere can cause mental health disorders to arise, leading to negative impacts on how children learn and build relationships with others. If your child may need mental health support and doesn't currently have health coverage, you have options.

Free or low-cost coverage through Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) offers many benefits, including doctor's visits, prescriptions, emergencies and the coverage of behavioral health services, including mental health services through pediatricians, mental health professionals, local community providers and organizations, as well as school systems.

People who are pregnant or postpartum may also be eligible for this health coverage and mental and behavioral health services.



**Who qualifies for Medicaid or CHIP?** Eligibility varies by state and is determined by how many people are in a household and household income. For instance, in most states, a family of four with household income up to \$60,000 per year may qualify for Medicaid, CHIP or both. To learn more about state-specific options, visit [InsureKidsNow.gov](https://www.insurekidsnow.gov) or call 1-877-KIDS-NOW. Enrollment is open year-round.

**What if my child currently has Medicaid or CHIP coverage?** Medicaid and CHIP coverage must be renewed annually. If you or your children have Medicaid or CHIP, it's time to pay attention to your health coverage. Keep an eye on the mail for renewal information from your state. When it comes, complete the forms and send them

back right away. Failure or delay in responding can result in you losing coverage, even if you are eligible for Medicaid and CHIP. If you have lost coverage, go to [HealthCare.gov](https://www.healthcare.gov) to find quality plans and help paying costs.

**What types of services are covered through Medicaid and CHIP?** To help care for all parts of a child's health, Medicaid and CHIP also cover routine health care visits, like preventive care, dental and vision checkups, specialist visits, physical, speech and occupational therapies and emergency services. These programs also cover a wide range of mental health and substance use services such as counseling, peer support services, inpatient psychiatric services and case management services for needed medical, educational and social

services. Services are covered through Medicaid for children and teens up to age 21 and through CHIP up to age 19.

States have flexibility to determine if services may be delivered using telehealth. These services are necessary to prevent, diagnose and treat a broad range of mental health symptoms and disorders, as well as substance use disorders.

Caring for mental health is crucial to the overall health of kids, teens and people during and after pregnancy, and may reduce or eliminate the effects of a condition if detected and treated early. Take the time today to explore coverage options through Medicaid and CHIP.

# How to remove water contaminants that can impact child health



## StatePoint

Clean, safe drinking water is essential for human health, especially for children, who are particularly vulnerable to certain contaminants. Local, state and federal policy has had some success in helping clean up drinking water supplies, but there are new reports of emerging contaminants linked to child development.

Here's what to know about some of the most common water contaminants linked to child health, along with information about how to filter them:

- **PFAS:** According to Environmental Working Group scientists, the presence of Perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) in American drinking water is much wider spread than previously thought. Contamination of drinking water or ground water has been detected at almost 1,400 sites in 49 states. This large class of chemicals – which includes perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) and perfluorooctane sulfonate (PFOS) – is added to a range of products and packaging. They are collectively referred to as “forever chemicals” because they don't break down easily and can last thousands of years. They can also build up in the human body.
- **Lead:** The effects of lead contamination in water have become more well known since the crisis in Flint, Mich. became widely

reported on in 2016. However, the Environmental Protection Agency estimates that there are between 6 to 10 million lead service lines still used in the country. When pipes that contain lead corrode, lead can enter drinking water. Harmful to everyone, even minimal exposure can have a significant impact on children, and has been linked to nervous system damage, impaired hearing, learning disabilities and impaired blood cell function..

- **Microplastics:** Microplastics are fragments of plastic pollution, which are harmful to water ecosystems and unhealthy to consume. Microplastics are found in both tap and bottled water and in a 2022 study, were noted to be found in human blood. While the health effects of microplastics are still largely unknown, they are emerging as a common drinking water contaminant to be aware of.

To learn about the contaminants found in your drinking water, you can access the Environmental Working Group's Tap Water Database. No matter what you learn, it's a good idea to filter your water.

Many home water filters only filter certain contaminants. It's important to look for a water filter that removes chemicals including PFAS, heavy metals including lead, and that provides broader protection against emerging contaminants such as microplastics. One option is the pitcher filters and dispenser filters offered by LifeStraw, which remove not only lead, PFAS and microplastics, but also bacteria, parasites and a variety of emerging contaminants, including pharmaceuticals.

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P R E S E R V E D

# Complaint or Compliant – the choice is yours

By Shewanda Riley  
Columnist

Even though I'm a fairly good writer, I'm not the best typist; this is why I'm glad that there's spell check. Even though it's not always perfect (my first name is always flagged as incorrect), spellcheck catches most commonly misspelled English words.

Once while working on a writing project, I did my usual spellcheck. And because I knew that spell check couldn't catch everything, I did my routine once over looking carefully at every word. Everything looked fine but one sentence looked strange. I had to read it aloud because it just didn't seem right. I didn't realize until I read it that it wasn't the right word. The word was spelled right, but it had the wrong meaning.

What was the word? It was

supposed to read compliant. The sentence emphasized the importance of being compliant but it looked confusing. Instead of reading "compliant," the computer read "complaint." Both words look so much alike but have such different meanings.

Complaint means to express grief, pain or dissatisfaction. Compliant means to complete or perform what is due or, in other words, submission. What changes the meanings of both words? One simple letter: "I." It was interesting to me how changing where the "I" was in both words dramatically changed their meanings.

In my life, I've had seasons where it appeared to have a great deal of things to complain about as I worked to overcome some frustrating challenges. Once in a three-day time period, I had no hot water (busted pipe), no electricity (windy weather), problems with my car (brake

light switch) and major oral surgery. I have to admit that by the time I was waiting for the towing company to get my car, I was not at all excited or calling it a blessing from God. I was trying but couldn't understand why so many terrible things in a short time period had happened. It was such a big shift from just a few days earlier when I enjoyed time with my family.

I remember an interesting peace came over me as I thought about the choice I had to make as I sat waiting for the tow truck. Was I going to complain or was I going to be submissive and learn the lesson that God had?

Philippians 2:14-15 encourages us to "Do everything without complaining or arguing, so that you may become blameless and pure, children of God..."

"I" (my ego) didn't want to spend money on my car, but I needed to get it fixed. And when I got it to the dealership,

they were able to fix it within an hour. In addition, the service manager didn't charge me for the repair, which was over \$100.

In the end, the pipe was fixed, the electricity came back on, and I considered the issue with the car a blessing. Plus, I got the most important benefit of moving the "I" to the right position of humility and trusting God wholeheartedly. I learned that the more I trust God and am compliant, the less likely I am to complain.

*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.*

# Jesus said 'watch'

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



The storms of life are coming to every single one of us here. They're coming. If they've not already come, they're coming. We need to know where we stand so that we can withstand the storms that are coming. When the storms come, those who built their lives upon the shifting sand, great will be the fall of their lives. So, we need to wake up and not live foolish lives. That's what the Apostle Paul is saying, "We need to redeem the time. We need to consider the times we are living in." So many people are giving their time and energy to everything else. We need to live in a way that is fulfilling to the will of God. "Wherefore be ye not unwise but understanding what the will of the Lord is."

As I said, sleep in the natural sense is important, but in our text (Ephesians 5:14-17) Paul is talking about "sleep" as the carnal indifference to spiritual things on the part of the unsaved; a condition of insensitivity to God, to the truth, to the will of God; an insensitivity of divine ways because of conformity to the world.

There are many in this condition. Maybe there are some right here in our services on Sunday morning. Maybe you are asleep from the things and the ways of God. Jesus warned against such living this way. Mark 13:35-37 says, "Watch ye therefore: for ye

know not when the master of the house cometh, at evening, or at midnight, or at the cockcrowing, or in the morning: Lest coming suddenly He find you sleeping. And what I say unto you I say unto all, Watch." Watch! Watch! Watch!

Jesus is not talking about physical sleep. Arising from this sleep is being freed from the wages of sin, because the wage of sin is death. God has no time for sin. He has no will to be related to, nor to be involved in sin, and He will not walk with those who are living in sin. That's why the wage of sin is death because God separates Himself from all who walk in that lifestyle.

Jesus found just such a people sleeping amid great works being done right before their eyes. Never a man spake like Jesus Christ. Never a man performed such miracles and exemplified such love, such passion, and such care as Jesus Christ. Everywhere He went, everything He did, Jesus did good for mankind, and yet so many were so deep in sleep. They were so unaware of the beauties that were being offered to them, and the value of the gifts being offered to them. We're living when people are asleep to the things and to the ways of God. We need to have people wake up out of their sleep. The sleep of sin is like a silent disease.

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



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Electronic Bidding  
Advertisement for Bid

**Bid 3242 ESSER III Program: Restroom Upgrades for Career Development Center**

Electronic and sealed bid proposals for the above bid will be received by the Board of Trustees of the Jackson Public School District, in the Business Office, 662 South President Street, Jackson, Mississippi, until 10:00 A.M. (Local Prevailing Time) August 02, 2023, at which time and place they will be publicly opened and read aloud. A pre-bid conference for Career Development Center will be held at 2703 First Avenue, Jackson, MS 39209 at 2:00 p.m. on July 19, 2023. Attendance at the pre-bid conferences is non-mandatory but strongly suggested. The Board of Trustees reserves the right to reject any and all bids, to waive informalities, and to withhold the acceptance of any bid if approved for forty-five calendar days from the date bids are opened.

Plan holders are required to register and order bid documents at [www.jpds-projects.com](http://www.jpds-projects.com). A \$200.00 non-refundable deposit shall be required on each set of bid documents and must be purchased through the website. All plan holders are required to have a valid email address for registration. Questions regarding website registration and online orders please contact Plan House Printing, 607 W. Main Street, Tupelo, MS 38804, (662) 407-0193. Questions regarding bid documents please contact Kenan Morris with Durrell Design Group at 601-708-4788 or at [kmorris@durrelldesigngroup.com](mailto:kmorris@durrelldesigngroup.com).

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

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

06/29/23, 07/06/23

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PUBLIC NOTICE  
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

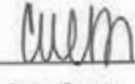
The City of Jackson is seeking to modernize its door systems on the first floor of the Warren Hood Building (200 South President Street) to include electronic doors to adhere to ADA Compliance

1. Entrance doors to building
2. Entrance doors to first floor conference center
3. Entrance doors to both men/women bathrooms on the first floor

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

Responses will be received by the City of Jackson, Office of the City Clerk at 219 South President Street, Jackson, MS 39205 until 3:30p.m., Central Standard Time July 11, 2023. Each proposer must submit a signed original six (6) printed copies and an electronic copy (thumb drive w/ pdf) of its proposal. Official proposal documents can be downloaded from Central Bidding at [www.centralbidding.com](http://www.centralbidding.com). electronic responses can be submitted at [www.centralbidding.com](http://www.centralbidding.com). For any questions relating to the electronic response process, please call Central Bidding at 225-810-4814.

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



Chloe Dotson  
Director of Planning & Development  
City of Jackson, Mississippi

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  
BESSIE JACKSON, DECEASED

CAUSE NO. 21-127

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Letters of Administration having been granted on the 15<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2021 by the Chancery Court of Hinds County, Mississippi to the undersigned Administratrix of the Estate of Bessie Jackson, deceased, notice is hereby given to all persons having claims against the estate to present the same to the Clerk of this Court for probate and registration according to law, within ninety (90) days from the first publication of this notice, or they will be forever barred.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED this the 1st day of June, 2023.

KATTIE PARTEE, ADMINISTRATRIX OF THE  
ESTATE OF BESSIE JACKSON, DECEASED



KATTIE PARTEE

Prepared by:



R. PAUL WILLIAMS, III (MSB# 102345)  
COURTNEY M. WILLIAMS, (MSB# 102347)  
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Fax: (601) 949-3358

6/22/2023, 6/29/2023, 7/6/2023

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Electronic Bidding  
Advertisement for Bid

**Bid 3241 ESSER Program: Classroom Upgrades for Career Development Center**

Electronic and sealed bid proposals for the above bid will be received by the Board of Trustees of the Jackson Public School District, in the Business Office, 662 South President Street, Jackson, Mississippi, until 11:00 A.M. (Local Prevailing Time) August 01, 2023 at which time and place they will be publicly opened and read aloud. A pre-bid conference for Career Development Center will be held at 2703 First Avenue, Jackson, MS 39209 at 2:00 p.m. on July 19, 2023. Attendance at the pre-bid conferences is non-mandatory but strongly suggested. The Board of Trustees reserves the right to reject any and all bids, to waive informalities, and to withhold the acceptance of any bid if approved for forty-five calendar days from the date bids are opened.

Plan holders are required to register and order bid documents at [www.jpds-projects.com](http://www.jpds-projects.com). A \$350.00 non-refundable deposit shall be required on each set of bid documents and must be purchased through the website. All plan holders are required to have a valid email address for registration. Questions regarding website registration and online orders please contact Plan House Printing, 607 W. Main Street, Tupelo, MS 38804, (662) 407-0193. Questions regarding bid documents please contact Kenan Morris with Durrell Design Group at 601-708-4788 or at [kmorris@durrelldesigngroup.com](mailto:kmorris@durrelldesigngroup.com).

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

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06/29/23, 07/06/23

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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

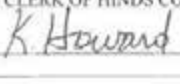
You have been made a Defendant in the suit filed in this Court by Carolyn G. Purvis and Peggye Burk, seeking the adjudication of heirs of Lynette Griffin, Deceased.

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 10<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2023, in the Chancery Courtroom of Hinds County, Mississippi, before Honorable Tiffany Grove and in case of your failure to appear and defend a judgment will be entered against you for the money or other things demanded in the complaint or petition.

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

Issued under my hand and the seal of said Court, this the 12<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2023.



CHANCERY CLERK OF HINDS COUNTY  
Mississippi  


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

LEGAL

Advertisement for Bid

**Bid 3240 Computer and Technology Devices**

Sealed, written formal bid proposals for the above bid will be received by the Board of Trustees of the Jackson Public School District, in the Business Office, 662 South President Street, Jackson, Mississippi, until 10:00 A.M. (Local Prevailing Time), July 18, 2023 at which time and place they will be publicly opened. The Board of Trustees reserves the right to reject any and all bids to waive informalities, and to withhold the acceptance of any bid if approved for forty-five calendar days from the date bids are opened.

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

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

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

6/22/2023, 6/29/2023

U-RENTAL  
Van Company



3840 ROBINSON ROAD - JACKSON, MS 39209 - PHONE: 601-398-1162

- New fleet of vans
- 12 & 15 passenger vans
- Unbeatable prices
- Unlimited miles
- Church / business trips
- Family vacation & more
- Cash or credit cards



LEGAL

WASTE DISPOSAL SERVICES

CITY PROJECT NO. RFP#2023-05

Sealed bids will be received by the City Council of the City of Jackson, Mississippi at the office of the City Clerk, City Hall, 219 South President Street, P.O. Box 17, Jackson, Mississippi 39205 until 3:30 P.M. CST, Tuesday, July 18, 2023, for waste disposal services (as specified) necessary for REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)#2023-05.

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

The City of Jackson is committed to the principle of non-discrimination in public contracting. It is the policy of the City of Jackson to promote full and equal business opportunity for all persons doing business with the City. As a pre-condition to selection, each contractor, bidder or offeror shall submit a completed and signed Equal Business Opportunity (EBO) Plan, with the bid submission, in accordance with the provision of the City of Jackson's Equal Business Opportunity (EBO) Executive Order. Failure to comply with the City's Executive Order shall disqualify a contractor, bidder, or offeror from being awarded an eligible contract. For more information on the City of Jackson's Equal Business Opportunity Program, please contact the Division of Equal Business Opportunity at 601-960-1856. Copies of the Executive Order, EBO Plan Applications and a copy of the program are available at 200 South President Street, Suite 223, Jackson, Mississippi.

The City of Jackson hereby notifies all bidders that in compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, 42 U.S.C. 2000d-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, Mississippi ("City of Jackson", is committed to cultivating and ensuring the quality of life of its citizens, through various programs, employment, initiatives, and assistance. The City encourages all persons, corporations, and/or entities doing business within the City, as well as those who seek to contract with the City on various projects and/or conduct business in the City to assist the City in achieving its goal by strongly considering City residents for employment opportunities.

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

Bids shall be made out on the bid proposal forms to be provided, sealed in an envelope and plainly marked on the outside of the envelope: "Bid for WASTE DISPOSAL SERVICES, REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)#2023-05." Each bidder shall write his Certificate of Responsibility Number on the outside of the sealed envelope containing his proposal.

Bids, EBO and DBE plans shall be submitted in triplicate (bound/stapled separately), sealed and deposited with the City Clerk, City Hall, Jackson, Mississippi prior to the hour and date hereinbefore designated. No bidder may withdraw his bid within 60 days after the actual date of the opening thereof.

Official Bid Documents, including the Contract Documents and Drawings can be downloaded from Central Bidding at [www.centralbidding.com](http://www.centralbidding.com) Electronic Bids may be submitted at [www.centralbidding.com](http://www.centralbidding.com). For any questions related to the electronic bidding process, please call Central Bidding at 225-810-4814.

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

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

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

Christine Welch, Deputy Director  
Office of Transportation

6/22/2023, 6/29/2023

LEGAL

NOTICE OF INVITATION TO BID ON CITY-OWNED PROPERTY

CITY OF JACKSON

Notice is hereby given that sealed bids will be received by the City Clerk of the City of Jackson, Mississippi before 3:30 p.m. on Tuesday, July 18th, 2023, for the purchase of certain City-owned property: Parcel 824-548 (Metro Center Dillard's Building and Parking Lot), located at 3645 Highway 80 West in Jackson, Mississippi. Bidding for the property will start at Seven Hundred Thousand Dollars and 00/100 cents (\$700,000.00). The City will retain all mineral rights it owns, together with the right of ingress and egress to remove same from said property. For additional information or for a "bid form", contact Vic Sexton at (601) 960 1055 or e-mail [vsexton@city.jackson.ms.us](mailto:vsexton@city.jackson.ms.us).

BID INSTRUCTIONS: All bids must be placed in a sealed envelope and delivered to the City Clerk of the City of Jackson, (located in City Hall at 219 S. President St. Jackson, Mississippi 39201), or submitted through Central Bidding <https://www.centralauctionhouse.com/main.php>. If submitted to the City Clerk, the outside of the envelope must be plainly marked to identify the parcel number being bid on, along with the bidder's name. Enclose one (1) original and one (1) copy of the bid. Bids will be opened on Tuesday, July 18th, 2023, at 3:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall, 219 South President Street, Jackson, Mississippi.

If there are multiple equivalent high bidders a re-bid process utilizing the Best and Final Offer (BAFO) between those bidders will be held to determine a winner. If multiple equivalent high bidders persist after BAFO, the re-bid process will be repeated, if necessary, until a sole high bidder is certified.

The City reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

CITY OF JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI

6/29/2023, 7/6/2023, 7/13/2023

LEGAL

PUBLIC NOTICE

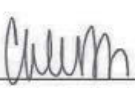
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

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

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

Responses will be received by the City of Jackson, Office of the City Clerk at 219 South President Street, Jackson, MS 39205 until 3:30p.m., Central Standard Time **July 11, 2023**. Each proposer must submit a signed original six (6) printed copies and an electronic copy (thumb drive w/ pdf) of its proposal. Official proposal documents can be downloaded from Central Bidding at [www.centralbidding.com](http://www.centralbidding.com) . electronic responses can be submitted at [www.centralbidding.com](http://www.centralbidding.com) . For any questions relating to the electronic response process, please call Central Bidding at 225-810-4814.

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

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

6/22/2023, 6/29/2023

LEGAL

ELECTRONIC GATE MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR

CITY PROJECT NO. RFP#2023-06

Sealed bids will be received by the City Council of the City of Jackson, Mississippi at the office of the City Clerk, City Hall, 219 South President Street, P.O. Box 17, Jackson, Mississippi 39205 until 3:30 P.M. CST, Tuesday, July 18, 2023, for electronic gate maintenance and repair (as specified) necessary for REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)#2023-06.

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

The City of Jackson is committed to the principle of non-discrimination in public contracting. It is the policy of the City of Jackson to promote full and equal business opportunity for all persons doing business with the City. As a pre-condition to selection, each contractor, bidder or offeror shall submit a completed and signed Equal Business Opportunity (EBO) Plan, with the bid submission, in accordance with the provision of the City of Jackson's Equal Business Opportunity (EBO) Executive Order. Failure to comply with the City's Executive Order shall disqualify a contractor, bidder, or offeror from being awarded an eligible contract. For more information on the City of Jackson's Equal Business Opportunity Program, please contact the Division of Equal Business Opportunity at 601-960-1856. Copies of the Executive Order, EBO Plan Applications and a copy of the program are available at 200 South President Street, Suite 223, Jackson, Mississippi.

The City of Jackson hereby notifies all bidders that in compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, 42 U.S.C. 2000d to 2000d-4, that all bidders will be 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, Mississippi ("City of Jackson", is committed to cultivating and ensuring the quality of life of its citizens, through various programs, employment, initiatives, and assistance. The City encourages all persons, corporations, and/or entities doing business within the City, as well as those who seek to contract with the City on various projects and/or conduct business in the City to assist the City in achieving its goal by strongly considering City residents for employment opportunities.

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

Bids shall be made out on the bid proposal forms to be provided, sealed in an envelope and plainly marked on the outside of the envelope: "Bid for ELECTRONIC GATE MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR, REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)#2023-06." Each bidder shall write his Certificate of Responsibility Number on the outside of the sealed envelope containing his proposal.

Bids, EBO and DBE plans shall be submitted in triplicate (bound/stapled separately), sealed and deposited with the City Clerk, City Hall, Jackson, Mississippi prior to the hour and date hereinbefore designated. No bidder may withdraw his bid within 60 days after the actual date of the opening thereof.

Official Bid Documents, including the Contract Documents and Drawings can be downloaded from Central Bidding at [www.centralbidding.com](http://www.centralbidding.com) Electronic Bids may be submitted at [www.centralbidding.com](http://www.centralbidding.com). For any questions related to the electronic bidding process, please call Central Bidding at 225-810-4814.

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

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

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

Christine Welch, Deputy Director  
Office of Transportation

6/22/2023, 6/29/2023

LEGAL

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

City of Jackson  
Jackson, Mississippi

Sealed, signed bids are invited and will be received by the City of Jackson, Mississippi, until 3:30 P.M. in the City Clerk's Office of Jackson, the bid must be stamped in by 3:30 P.M. Tuesday, July 18, 2023, at which time said bids will be publicly opened at the City Hall located at 219 South President Street (City Council Chambers) in City Hall for the following:

05554-071823 Eighteen-Month Supply of Barlights, Electronic Sirens, Switch Boxes, Speakers, Communication Organizers and Security Screens.

BIDS ARE NOW AVAILABLE AT [WWW.JACKSONMS.GOV](http://WWW.JACKSONMS.GOV) & [WWW.CENTRALBIDDING.COM](http://WWW.CENTRALBIDDING.COM)

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

The City of Jackson is committed to the principle of non-discrimination in Public Purchasing. It is the policy of the City of Jackson to promote full and equal business opportunities for all persons doing business with the City. As a pre-condition to selection, each contractor, bidder or offeror shall submit a completed and signed Equal Business Opportunity (EBO) Plan Application, with each bid submission, in accordance with the provisions set forth by authority of the City of Jackson's EBO Ordinance. Failure to comply with the City's EBO Ordinance shall disqualify a contractor, bidder or offeror, from being awarded an eligible contract. For more information on the City's EBO Program, please contact the Office of Economic Development at (601)960-1638. Copies of the EBO Ordinance, EBO Plan Application and a copy of the EBO Program are available with the Office of Economic Development at 218 South President Street, Second Floor, Jackson, Mississippi.

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

6/29/2023, 7/6/2023

LEGAL

PUBLIC NOTICE

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The City of Jackson is seeking submission of proposals from qualified professional firms for professional assistance with the following project: Master Developer: Downtown Properties Mixed-Use Development.

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

One (1) original and eight (8) signed copies of the proposal must be received no later than 3:29 P.M., on Tuesday, October 17, 2023, at the City Clerk's Office.

LEGAL

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF RANKIN COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF PATSY HARPER, DECEASED

CAUSE NO.: 21-254(M)

RULE 81 SUMMONS


NOTICE BY PUBLICATION YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED TO SUMMONS:

Any and all persons or parties who are interested in or claim any right, title or interest in the heirs-at-law of Patsy Harper, deceased, including, but not limited to, the unknown heirs-at-law of Patsy Harper, if they be living and not to be found therein after diligent search and inquiry and whose places of residence, post office, and street and house addresses are unknown after diligent street search and inquiry to ascertain the same, and if dead, their unknown devisees, executors, administrators or legal representatives are not to be found after diligent search and inquiry, and whose places of residence, post offices, and street and house addresses are unknown after diligent search and inquiry to ascertain the same. You have been made Defendants in the lawsuit filed in the Court by Felicia Harper to establish the heirs-at-law of Patsy Harper, deceased.

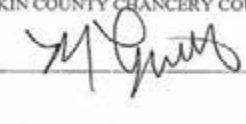
IF TO BE FOUND IN THIS COUNTY, to be and appear before the Honorable John C. McLaurin, Jr. of the Chancery Court of Rankin County, at the Rankin County Chancery Courthouse in Brandon, Mississippi, on the 31<sup>st</sup> day of July, 2023, at 8:30 a.m., next, then and there to show cause, if any they can why Felicia Harper, Freda Shines, Lynn Campbell, Patrick Harper, Reginald Harper, Nathaniel Russell and Jeffrey Fortune should not be declared the only heirs-at-law of Patsy Harper, deceased, according to law, and further to do and suffer such things as shall be considered and ordered by the Court aforesaid in the premises, and have then and there this, with an endorsement thereon to the manner in which you shall have served.

YOU ARE SUMMONED TO APPEAR and defend against the Petition filed against you in this action on the date and time as set forth herein above before the Honorable John C. McLaurin, Jr., in Brandon, Mississippi; and in case of your failure to appear and defend, a judgment will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the Petition. You are not required to file answer or other pleadings, but you may do so if you desire.

WITNESS my hand and seal of said Court at Rankin County, Mississippi, this the 19 day of June, 2023.



LARRY W. SWALES, CLERK  
RANKIN COUNTY CHANCERY COURT

BY: , D.C.

6/22/2023, 6/29/2023, 7/6/2023

LEGAL

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF RANKIN COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF PATSY HARPER, DECEASED

CAUSE NO.: 21-254(M)

RULE 4 SUMMONS

NOTICE BY PUBLICATION YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED TO SUMMONS:


Any and all persons or parties who are interested in or claim any right, title or interest as a wrongful death beneficiary of Patsy Harper, deceased, including, but not limited to, the unknown wrongful death beneficiaries of Patsy Harper, if they be living and not to be found therein after diligent search and inquiry and whose places of residence, post office, and street and house addresses are unknown after diligent street search and inquiry to ascertain the same, and if dead, their unknown descendants, devisees, executors, administrators or legal representatives are not to be found after diligent search and inquiry, and whose places of residence, post offices, and street and house addresses are unknown after diligent search and inquiry to ascertain the same. You have been made Defendants in the lawsuit filed in the Court by Felicia Harper to establish the wrongful death beneficiaries of Patsy Harper, deceased. The only Respondents other than you are Felicia Harper, Freda Shines, Lynn Campbell, Reginal Harper, Patrick Harper, Nathaniel Russell and Jeffrey Fortune.

You are required to mail or hand-deliver a written response to the Complaint filed against you in this action to R. Paul Williams, III, Attorney for Petitioner, whose post office address is Post Office Box 23785, Jackson, Mississippi 39225, and whose street address is 640 N. State Street, Jackson, Mississippi 39202.


YOUR RESPONSE MUST BE MAILED OR DELIVERED NOT LATER THAN THIRTY DAYS AFTER THE 15<sup>th</sup> DAY OF JUNE, 2023, WHICH IS THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS SUMMONS. IF YOUR RESPONSE IS NOT SO MAILED OR DELIVERED, A JUDGMENT BY DEFAULT WILL BE ENTERED AGAINST YOU FOR THE MONEY OR OTHER RELIEF DEMANDED IN THE COMPLAINT.

You must also file the original of your Response with the Clerk of this Court within a reasonable time afterward.

WITNESS my hand and seal of said Court at Rankin County, Mississippi, this the 19 day of June, 2023.



LARRY W. SWALES, CHANCERY CLERK  
RANKIN COUNTY CHANCERY COURT

BY: , D.C.

6/22/2023, 6/29/2023, 7/6/2023

LEGAL

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 " Master Developer: Downtown Properties Mixed-Use Development."

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

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

6/29/2023,





**Speeds up to 100 Mbps with EarthLink Wireless Home Internet**

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\*Terms and conditions apply





Reliable Internet **NOW!** **866-831-4021**

**Prepare for power outages today**

WITH A HOME STANDBY GENERATOR



**GENERAC**

\$0 MONEY DOWN + LOW MONTHLY PAYMENT OPTIONS

Consult a Generac dealer for full terms and conditions

**REQUEST A FREE QUOTE**

CALL NOW BEFORE THE NEXT POWER OUTAGE

**(844) 316-8630**

**FREE** 7-Year Extended Warranty\* – A \$695 Value!

\*To qualify, consumers must request a quote, purchase, install and activate the generator with a participating dealer. Call for a full list of terms and conditions.

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Qualify today for the Government Free Internet Program

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



**maxsip**  
CONNECTS

**CALL TODAY (855) 215-7081**

Bonus offer: 4G Android Tablet with one time co-pay of \$20

ACP program details can be found at [www.fcc.gov/affordable-connectivity-program-consumer-faq](http://www.fcc.gov/affordable-connectivity-program-consumer-faq)

**Sudoku**

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

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

© Feature Exchange

**Sudoku Solution**

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

© Feature Exchange

PICK UP

# THE MISSISSIPPI LINK

AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS:

**JACKSON**

**BULLY'S RESTAURANT**  
3118 Livingston Road

**CASH & CARRY**  
Capitol Street and Monument Street

**CITY HALL**  
219 S President St

**GARRETT OFFICE COMPLEX**  
2659 Livingston Road

**DOLLAR GENERAL**  
3957 Northview Dr (North Jackson)

**DOLLAR GENERAL**  
2030 N Siwell Rd

**DOLLAR GENERAL**  
4331 Highway 80W

**DOLLAR GENERAL**  
5990 Medgar Evers Blvd

**DOLLAR GENERAL**  
1214 Capitol St (Downtown Jackson)

**DOLLAR GENERAL**  
304 Briarwood Dr

**DOLLAR GENERAL**  
2855 McDowell Rd

**DOLLAR GENERAL**  
104 Terry Rd

**J & A FUEL STORES**  
3249 Medgar Evers Blvd.

**LIBERTY BANK AND TRUST**  
2325 Livingston Rd.

**MCDADÉ'S MARKET**  
Northside Drive

**MCDADÉ'S MARKET #2**  
653 Duling Avenue

**PICADILLY CAFETERIA**  
Jackson Medical Mall

350 W Woodrow Wilson Avenue

**SHELL FOOD MART**  
5492 Watkins Drive

**SPORTS MEDICINE**  
Fortification and I-55

**MURPHY USA**  
6394 Ridgewood Rd (North Jackson)

**REVELL ACE HARDWARE**  
Terry Rd (South Jackson)

**WALGREENS**  
380 W. Woodrow Wilson Ave

**CANTON**

**A & I**  
716 Roby Street - Canton, MS

**B & B**  
702 West North Street - Canton, MS

**BOUTIQUE STORE**  
3355 North Liberty - Canton, MS

**BULLY'S STORE**  
Church Street - Canton, MS

**COMMUNITY MART**  
743 Ruby Street - Canton, MS

**FRYER LANE GROCERY**  
Martin Luther King Drive - Canton, MS

**HAMLIN FLORAL DESIGN**  
285 Peace Street - Canton, MS

**JOE'S SANDWICH & GROCERY**  
507 Church Street - Canton, MS

**K & K ONE STOP**  
110 West Fulton Street - Canton, MS

**LACY'S INSURANCE**  
421 Peace Street - Canton, MS

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

**TRAILER PARK GROCERY**  
22 Westside Drive - Canton, MS

**BYRAM**

**DOLLAR GENERAL**  
125 Swinging Bridge Dr.

**HAVIOR'S AUTO CARE**  
5495 I-55 South Frontage Road

**VOWELL'S MARKET PLACE**  
5777 Terry Road

**CITY HALL**  
Terry Road

**CLINTON**

**DOLLAR GENERAL**  
807 Berkshire St - Clinton, MS

**TERRY**

**SERVICE STATION**  
at Exit 78

**CITY HALL**  
West Cunningham Avenue

**RAYMOND**

**HINDS COMMUNITY COLLEGE WELCOME CENTER**  
505 E. Main Street

**SUNFLOWER GROCERY**  
122 Old Port Gibson Street, Raymond, MS

**LOVE FOOD MART**  
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Week of June 25, 2023



# Reflections on American's Independence Observance: 2023

By Dr. John Warren  
*Publisher, San Diego Voice & Viewpoint Newspaper*



Once again, because of where America stands today on the ever present issue of race, the following reflections are offered from the first two paragraphs of the Declaration of Independence, signed July 4, 1776. First, the preamble, which has much bearing on where we stand today as a nation:

“When in the course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another, and to assume among the powers of the Earth, the separate and equal station to which the Laws of Nature and of Nature’s God entitle them, they should declare the causes which compels them to separate...”

The Extreme Conservative Right elements of the American people, operating under the banner of the Republican Party, have provided living proof that the political “Bands” they are connected to do not include us, as people of color.

In addition to the attacks on which books our children can read, the efforts to outlaw any teaching dealing with the ugly truths of racism such as the attack on Critical Race Theory which most don’t even understand; the U.S. Supreme Court’s Decision on Abortion Rights; the failure to act on gun violence and the continued murder of citizens, mostly African Americans, by law enforcement officials all provide clear proof that there is not and never was a belief “that all men are created equal and that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.”

Before we get too excited about the cookouts and holiday celebrations with fireworks across this great land, let us reflect on the words of Frederick Douglass which appear elsewhere in this issue, including his famous Fourth of July Speech of 1852, in Rochester, New York. Let’s look at Independence as being incomplete because of the disparity that Douglass found between blacks and whites. Today, although more sophisticated, disparities still exist at every level, in spite of the efforts of so many whites who have joined with blacks in the struggle for equality for all.

Douglas asked in his speech:

“Are the great principles of political freedom and natural justice, embodied in that Declaration of Independence, extended to us?” It would appear that in 161 years, many of his questions remain unanswered. The inequality of slavery still exists today in the minds and behavior of many Americans who cannot accept that America is a melting pot of all nations.

“Out of many, one.” That melting pot includes people of color.

The key requirement is that we as people of color must never accept less than equality in all things. While we may not technically be slaves, as reminded by the recent declaration of Juneteenth as a federal holiday, many of us are still mentally slaves to mediocrity and the acceptance of less than what we should have. If some of us remain slaves to inequality and injustice, then the following question Douglass raised is appropriate today:

“What to the American slave, is our Fourth of July? I answer; a day that reveals to him, more than any other days in the year, the gross injustice and cruelty to which he is constant victim; To him your celebration is a sham, our shout of liberty and equality hollow mockery; your prayers and hymns, your sermon and Thanksgivings, with all your religious parade and solemnity, are to him, mere bombast, fraud, deception impiety and hypocrisy – a thin veil to cover crimes which would disgrace a nation of savages.”

In conclusion: what should we do? We should review the America to whom Frederick Douglass spoke. We should weigh against his words how far we’ve come. We should celebrate Juneteenth; the 13th, 14th and 15th Amendments; the Emancipation Proclamation, which had not been thought of when Douglass wrote this speech; civil rights, voting rights and equal employment opportunity as well as an integrated Armed Forces.

Let us remember our schools are just as segregated now, based on economics rather than race, than when the Supreme Court handed down the Brown v. Board of Education Decision.

Yes, we can take time out to celebrate, but let that celebration be measured in terms of where we are and where we have yet to go.

What is the 4th of July? That which I must still fight for to make it really apply to me and those who look like me.

By LaShunda Calvert, Ph.D.  
*Guest Writer*



Today, married couples have so many obligations that consume our time like school, jobs, careers, businesses, church, children, family, therefore, making it arduous for married couples to spend time with one another. In addition, we have factors such as social media, cell phones, games, technology, friends and so much more competing with our spouse’s time daily.

Because we have so much competing for our spouse’s time, it is imperative that we become intentional about spending quality time with one another. One of the most important investments that a married couple can make is to choose at least one day out of the week to spend some quality boo time with one another.

Yes, a day just for you and your boo. This means just the two of you: no children, no co-worker, no boss, no roommate, no friend, no family member, no in-laws, no pets, no work, no homework, no bills, only you and your soul mate.

Further, inform your family, friends, and others of your designated day, so that they will know not to disturb you unless it is an absolute emergency and even then, it must

be a major emergency. And for those (you know who they are) who claim emergencies often when it’s not; please gently share a contact person they can reach out to instead of you and your boo.

Yes, I know that we are super busy, but make every effort to spend some quality time with your spouse. It doesn’t have to be a whole day, just a couple or a few hours will suffice. If you love your spouse and you really want your marriage to work – make boo time a priority. You should share some quality time with one another in some way every day, but if you are unable to, at least choose one day to spend some quality time with one another.

Why should you choose a day to spend quality time with one another? The following are reasons why you should spend quality boo time with your spouse:

- Life is short
- Life is short
- Life is short
- Can be a lifetime investment in your marriage
- Reinforcement to your spouse and others of how you value your marriage
- Promotes love
- Builds trust
- Create new memories
- Learn more about one another
- Improves communication
- Improves intimacy
- Warrants attention

- Helps relieve stress
- Promotes fun.

Don’t let life get so busy that you forget or neglect to spend some quality time with your spouse. I know some of us have concluded oh, he will be alright, she’ll be okay. Unfortunately, statements like this have helped contribute to many separations and divorces. No, he or she will not be okay. Some spouses try to fulfill the neglect of boo time by spending time with their children, inviting or forcing their children to tag along, spending time with family, some travel and travel alone, some socialize with friends, some shop, some join clubs and organizations, etc. it’s not the same. Neither of the above substitutes can replace boo time with your spouse; it may come close but it’s not the same without the person you took vows with. I am sorry, but it’s not. You need some boo time!

Every married couple should have at least one day they can look forward to spending quality time with one another. Quality time – undivided attention – you are all theirs and your spouse is all of yours!

You will be shocked about what boo time can do for you personally and for your marriage. It’s nothing like the anticipation of leading up to your designated day for boo time... it helps make the week go by

a little easier. My husband and I have chosen Fridays as our day. Let me tell you...I be counting down. Boo time is “us time.”

Further, for boo time, we sometimes date and go to the movies, movie binge in our family room, try new restaurants, frequent favorite restaurants (especially with live music), go fishing, shopping, etc. However, our more intimate boo time sometimes involves a spontaneous ride and holding hands, dancing at home, sitting on the couch laying my head on my husband’s shoulder, going to the reservoir to observe the water and nature, while embracing one another. All in all, boo time should be a time that you and your spouse are intentional about making eye contact, showing affection, giving one another attention, and eliminating all distractions that would impede your boo time. Choose this day when you and your spouse will have boo time.

Contact Dr. LaShunda Calvert for speaking engagements (motivational, ministering, 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.

# Attending summer celebrations and festivals will be fun while keeping out bad behavior

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



Our America is known for its celebrations. We honor men, women and events that have changed the course of history.

We can all list some of our favorite holidays and traditions.

This is the time of year when we are out doing more activities with family and friends. School is out and we are planning vacations and family gatherings. We are having fun and don’t expect bad things to happen.

Recently, bad things have happened which have stopped or altered our plans. The question is why are these unfortunate events taking place?

There are a few reasons for this uptick in bad manners. First, our decision-making is questionable in my opinion. We believe something bad is going to happen, so we prepare ourselves. In other words, I

will get you before you get me.

That results in having a short fuse ready to fight over the smallest of things. Most are inconsequential to our daily lives. Sadly, graduations and church-related activities have been the places where these tragedies have occurred.

Controlling our temper and frustration is problematic for some of us. Exhibiting patience and goodwill are lost attributes in our society today.

Sometimes, people go to events with the purpose of causing trouble and mayhem. Unfortunately, some are validated by their families in their wrongdoing.

Movies and video games have made violence popular especially among the younger generation. They play out in the streets what they see on their computer screens. What they don’t show is that when you commit a crime, you must face the consequences for your bad behavior. Going to jail is not a part of their game playing but it is a possibility in real life.

What can be done to stop these poor and life-threatening decisions that are affecting our communities nation-wide. At the current rate, we will destroy our quality of life.

Reports show that these types of incidents are happening more each year. Strategies that are pro-active and intentional must be implemented to stop this discouraging trend.

Back in the day, our parents taught us certain lessons at a very early age. I believe we must return to the old school. Teaching right and wrong must become more of a priority. If we wait, it might be too late, and we will become mournful and remorseful.

Parents must be parents and not friends to their children. Frederick Douglas said, “It is easier to build strong children than it is to repair broken men.”

Community organizations and recreation centers must offer workshops on how to solve disagreements without violence. Understanding how to lower the temperature about a

dispute could be lifesaving.

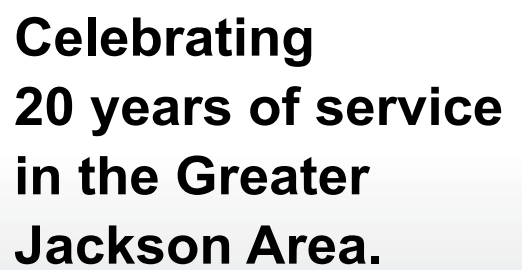
Partnering with United Way and fraternities and sororities could provide the necessary funding for such initiatives. The most important step in doing this is the first step. It is the will that we must have to see the problem and then do something about it.

Having a spiritual foundation is a characteristic that must be present as we try to create a brother and sister attitude. We hear a lot about forgiveness. Forgiveness is an act. Saying I am sorry is not a sign of weakness but a sign of strength.

There are other ways that will help us to ward off violence and discord where we live. Our children and grandchildren are watching us so we must be careful about the image we portray to them.

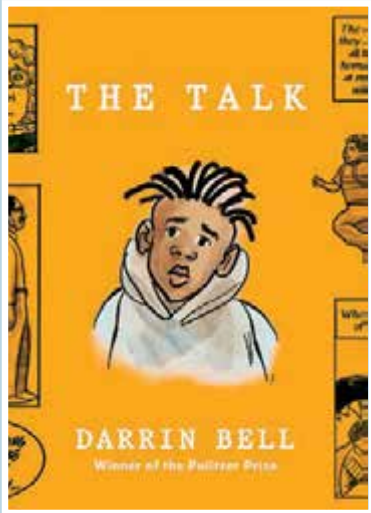
In the coming weeks, we will celebrate July 4th and Labor Day with great revelry. Let’s do so with joy and happiness. Let’s put a halt to bad behavior. Tomorrow awaits us. Let’s be there to see it.





## A large group of soldiers in camouflage uniforms posing for a group photo on the steps of a brick building. The soldiers are arranged in several rows, with some standing on the ground and others on the steps. They are all wearing matching uniforms, including helmets and boots. The building behind them is made of red brick and has a dark doorway. The overall scene is a formal group portrait of a military unit.





BOOK REVIEW:

THE TALK

BY DARRIN BELL INTRODUCTION BY ALLEN KWABENA FRIMPONG

C.2023, HENRY HOLT AND COMPANY

\$29.00 • 352 PAGES

By Terri Schlichenmeyer  
Columnist

Someone who was older than you taught you to tie your shoes. An elder showed you around a kitchen, a car, a workplace, a classroom and the inside of a library. A lot of what you know has thoughtfully come from someone with years – which might make you wonder, as in the new book, “The Talk” by Darrin Bell, why weren’t you taught the most important lessons of all? It was 1981 and little Darrin

Bell wanted nothing more than a squirt gun. It seemed like everyone had a squirt gun, but the one Darrin’s mother bought him was lime green, not black like a real gun. She tried to tell him why his was green, but he didn’t understand. He only knew that his mother must never find out that a policeman took his squirt gun away.

Once he was old enough, Darrin attended a school where he was one of a small handful of biracial students. White kids teased him because his

dad was black. Black kids teased him because his mom was white. He wanted to know what to do so he asked his father, who was good at knowing all the answers but this was one time when dad had nothing. He could only say that “a white boy’s words never made me run for my life.”

Soon afterward, Darrin’s dad left the family home and Darrin’s mom became super-protective. She made a scene many times over racism, in and out of school. Still, Dar-

rin learned to get by, he found a tribe, found a girlfriend, and learned what it felt like to stand up for himself.

As an adult, his comic strip and political cartoons were picked up by national and local newspapers and news outlets. He won a Pulitzer Prize for his work, and he started a family.

But on a sunny afternoon, as his son helped him with some gardening tools, Bell saw the past, and he saw the future. He saw that it was time for people to stop lying...

Looking for a good biography with a bit of edge? Here: hovering over every panel of artwork and action inside “The Talk,” there’s a threat. It starts at the beginning and never lets up.


Author Darrin Bell doesn’t voice that threat until several pages into his story, but it’s there and readers won’t be able to ignore it. Racism is subtle in the opening pages of his book, and it taints the innocence of play. From there, the threat increases and readers are

made to squirm as Bell grows up through his art; we see his charming awkwardness and his maturing – but still, that threat.


By the end, we know how Bell perceives it, too, which is one of the more powerful ways of ending a book that you’ll ever see.

This story is great for readers, especially male readers ages 16 to 30, but also for parents of any young black child, not just boys.

Give “The Talk” to an older kid. Give it to an elder.



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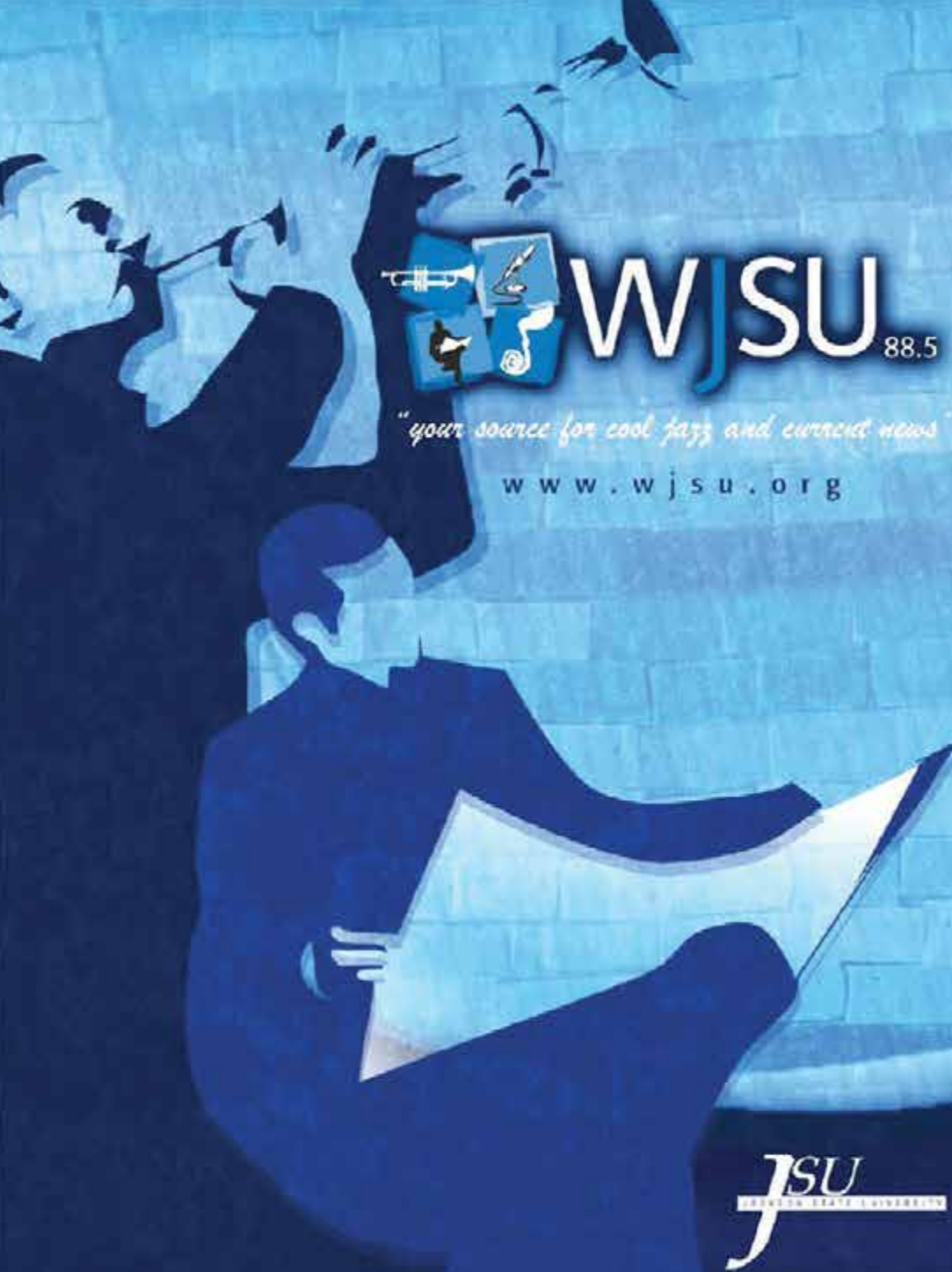
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# Sam Pollard's documentary shines light on rich legacy of Negro Baseball Leagues

By Stacy M. Brown  
NNPA Newswire Senior National Correspondent

On the Black Press of America's "Let It Be Known" show, renowned filmmaker Sam Pollard took center stage in an exclusive interview about his new film that shines a spotlight on the fabled Negro Leagues.

Pollard's latest documentary, "The League," will make its world premiere at the Tribeca Festival before a theatrical release in July.

Based on the book "The Negro Baseball Leagues" by Bob Motley and Byron Motley, the film counts as another triumph for Pollard, whose past directorial works include the critically acclaimed "Mr. Soul!", "Sammy Davis Jr: I've Got to Be Me," and "MLK/FBI."

The documentary also boasts Ahmir "Questlove" Thompson, the executive producer responsible for the Oscar-winning "Summer of Soul." The film illuminates that the sport was integrated in its earliest days, albeit with black players forming only a minority of team members.

That changed in the late 1800s, as racist white players like Pop Anson of the Chicago White Stockings, who infamously refused to take the field with black athletes, sparked a shift.

However, as Jim Crow laws



engulfed the nation, black players were banned from the game.

In 1920, Rube Foster, a trailblazing black baseball pioneer who excelled as a pitcher, manager, and owner, founded the Negro National League. Inspired by Frederick Douglass' words, the league adopted the motto: "We Are the Ship, All Else the Sea."

Three years later, the Eastern Colored League emerged as a competitor, culminating in the inaugural Colored World Series in 1924. Foster,

hailed as the "father of black baseball," serves as one of the documentary's most compelling subjects.

Noteworthy for pitching seven no-hitters and inventing the screwball, Foster even taught the pitch to white player Christy Mathewson of the New York Giants, who popularized it.

Tragically, Foster met a grim fate, succumbing to the effects of a gas leak in a hotel room. He suffered from delusions and spent several years institutionalized in an asylum before passing away at 51 in 1930.

The film poignantly chronicles the immense challenges faced by black players as they traversed the country, often denied accommodation in hotels and meals in restaurants.

Additionally, the Negro Leagues provided a home for many talented Latino players from Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Puerto Rico, and other parts of Latin America.

Following World War II, with many black service members having bravely fought for their country, pressure began mounting for the integration of MLB. Notably, Paul Robeson became a prominent advocate for this cause.

Despite years of resistance from MLB Commissioner Kenesaw Mountain Landis, who evoked comparisons to a character from "Birth of a Nation," progress emerged. Landis died in 1944, and three years later, Branch Rickey recruited Jackie Robinson as the first black player to join the Brooklyn Dodgers.

Robinson's entry opened the door for other black players such as Roy Campanella, Don Newcombe and Jim Gilliam, all of whom had roots in the Negro leagues.

Effa Manley, a formidable businesswoman, also features prominently in the documentary. Known as the "First Lady of Negro Baseball," she co-

owned the Newark Eagles and became the only woman inducted into the National Baseball Hall of Fame.

Manley fiercely advocated for fair compensation for Negro league teams when MLB began recruiting their players.

The integration of baseball eventually led to the decline of the Negro Leagues, which ceased operations by the late 1940s.

Through masterful use of vintage footage, interviews, oral histories, and contributions from modern-day historians and scholars, the documentary makes a case for the enduring significance of the Negro Baseball Leagues.

Reflecting on his connection to the project, Pollard said, "I grew up in the 1960s being a huge baseball fan.... But what I did not know much about... was that [Jackie] Robinson had come out of the Negro Leagues and that the Negro Leagues had been home to black and Latino ballplayers who had to play segregated baseball during the height of the Jim Crow era."

The film illuminates that the sport was integrated in its earliest days, albeit with black players forming only a minority of team members.

To see the full interview, go to: <https://www.youtube.com/live/dlnTNO2QIWE?feature=share>

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Hinds County School District Weekly Update

ENGAGING-EMPOWERING-ENSURING-EXCELLENCE

DR. MARTIN’S

HCSD RETIREMENT PARTY

Dr. Delesicia Martin received her final farewell from the Hinds County School District from several administrators, business partners, family and friends as she prepares to enter retirement. A celebration was held for her at Table 100 where she was toasted and gifted in a final goodbye from this workforce. We wish her all the best and pray she enjoys her retirement to the fullest.



Community Meetings

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TIME • 6:00 PM

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Dr. Robert Sanders

