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Jackson – a city of adversities



Leroy Walker (L) and Socrates Garrett (R) at press conference with onlookers Zenotha Robinson, Rep. Earle Banks, Neal Robinson and standing upfront, Attorney Malcolm Harrison PHOTO BY JSU INTERN GEMAL DUNKIN

By Rander Phillip Adams

Jackson State University Intern

The capital "City of Soul" Jackson, MS continues to face what has seemingly become common, that being "adversity." Whether the issues are relevant to crime, education, water, garbage, infrastructure ... now the present administration encounters a whole new challenge which can be viewed totally different from all other matters at hand. Still, this issue may affect residents' pocketbooks collaterally with no affect upon the upper echelon of

decision makers. Today the elephant in the room is "contractual terminations" between the City of Jackson and Retro Metro, LLC (owners Leroy Walker, Socrates Garrett and Howard Catchings).

Retro Metro, LLC, property owners of the former City of Jackson water payment center called a press conference Monday, September 17, at the facility located in a section of the once thriving Jackson Metro Center Mall on Highway 80 East.

At this event were Retro Metro, LLC owners Leroy Walker, Socrates Garrett, MS Representative Earle Banks, Attorney Malcolm Harrison, Zenotha and Neal Robinson, all taking a straightforward approach to address the issue at hand, "contractual termination."

Walker stated the City of Jackson had engaged in a formal 20year contractual agreement for rental of space, with the property owners, for various departments through former Mayor Harvey Johnson during his tenure in office. The space sought was 60,000 square feet for a then

regarded feasible fee of \$8.42 per square feet. However, today the present administration has abruptly terminated the contractual agreement with more than eight years remaining on the initial agreement.

Walker further stated, "It was disappointing to three African Americans who have an opportunity to occupy and own a facility to embrace the city, which was in need at the outset of the lease contract, to be abruptly

> Jackson Continued on page 3

60th anniversary of Birmingham church bombing unites families of victims and perpetrators

By Stacy M. Brown

NNPA Newswire Senior Correspondent

Four innocent young girls getting ready for Sunday services died when the Ku Klux Klan detonated a devastating bomb inside Birmingham's 16th Street Baptist Church sixty years ago. Today, as the nation commemorates the somber 60th anniversary of that fateful September 15, 1963 day, two remarkable women, Lisa McNair and Tammie Fields, stand united not only by their shared tragedy but also by their unwavering message to combat hate.

McNair's sister, Denise, was one of the four girls who tragically died in the bombing. In contrast, Fields' father, Charles Cagle, was initially questioned as a potential suspect in the horrific church bombing but was never charged. Decades after this devastating event, the two women crossed paths at a Black History Month event, forging a seemingly improbable connection and an enduring friendship.

Despite being born on opposite sides of one of the most heinous events of the civil rights movement, McNair and Fields shared a common goal: to speak out against hate. As the nation



16th Street Baptist Church in Birmingham, Alabama

PHOTO BY JOHN MORSE

reflects on the 60th anniversary of this tragic event, McNair implored people to remember what transpired and contemplate how to prevent such hatred from rearing its head again.

"People killed my sister just because of the color of her skin," McNair passionately declared in an interview with the Associated Press. "Don't look at this anniversary as just another day. Instead, consider what each of us can do individually to ensure that this doesn't happen again."

The explosion occurred when dynamite, surreptitiously placed outside the 16th Street Baptist Church underneath a set of stairs, exploded. The four girls,

ages 11 to 14, were assembled in a downstairs washroom before Sunday services when the devastating blast occurred. Tragically, 11-year-old Denise McNair and her friends, 14-year-olds Cynthia Wesley, Carole Robertson, and Addie Mae Collins, all per-

> Birmingham Continued on page 3

Mississippi needs a 'waymaker' for all its people

Incumbent Governor boasts momentum as rank and file suffering remains acute



Reeves

By Christopher Young Contributing Writer

Listening to Governor Jonathan "Tate" Reeves talk about The Mississippi Miracle would have one believe that he deserves credit for our PreK-12 education rising faster than any state in the country. He invokes the words, "this is Mississippi's time," as if he has ushered in a groundswell of positivity and prosperity. That's fiction.

U.S. News & World Report ranks Mississippi education overall at #41 now; buoyed by a #34 ranking in Higher Education, and up from #49 in 2013. The fuller truth is that 4th grade reading proficiency has magnificently risen to #29, per The Urban Institute. There are also impressive gains in 4th and 8th grade math scores, per numerous sources.

There are some who question these recent rapid gains, nonetheless, many other states are adopting our path to progress, which began in 2013 with the passing of the Literacy-Based Promotion Act, a year after Reeves began as Lt. Governor, but he paints a picture that somehow, he had something to do with it. When he says, "we," he hopes the voters hear, "me."

Reeves continues to deny that he had any involvement in the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) scandal - the largest fraud and grift in Mississippi's history, saying "it all happened before I was governor," per WLBT and other sources. The problem is that we all know that already. That's not the issue. It's intended to distract folks from the fact that he was lt. governor when it happened, and the evidence of his involvement continues to increase.

Setting aside, for now, his \$1.3 million dip into the TANF trough for fitness centers/bootcamps, Mississippi Today shared text messages on August 31 that illuminate former Governor Bryant and Governor Reeves involve-

ment using TANF dollars inappropriately. Pulitzer Prize winning investigative reporter Anna Wolfe writes: On election day in November 2019, football great and University of Southern Mississippi alum Bret Favre texted then-Gov. Bryant, "...I want to stay on your radar. If our guy (Reeves) wins, I'll feel better about things but if the other guy wins I feel like Nancy (Nancy New who has pleaded guilty in the scandal) and I can forget our vision for Southern Miss." "That's one reason I have been pushing Tate so hard," Bryant responded. "He has to win. Then we set up a meeting on Wellness Center at USM."

Reeves did win, and in late January of 2020, Todd Reeves (brother of the governor) set up a phone call for Favre and the governor to discuss funding. About a week later, as White (Shadrack White, the state auditor) was preparing to make arrests, Favre expressed his desire to take Gov. Reeves to see the volleyball stadium, texting, "And it would only be us. I want you to see what your (sic) trying to help me

Once again, it doesn't pass the test of reasonableness that Reeves was not involved, whether when he was governor, lt. governor, or both. Does this sound like a 'waymaker' for all Mississippians? Misusing federal safety net funds earmarked for the poorest among us, in the poorest state in the country, not only hurts us but is immoral.

"This is Mississippi's time," Governor Reeves says in his campaign commercials. Time for what? He has been our governor for all but a few weeks of COVID. A year and a half into the Reeves Administration, Forbes Magazine said this in September 2021: "Mississippi doesn't just have the most deaths in the U.S., but one of the highest fatality rates in the world." Politicizing vaccines surely helped

> Waymaker Continued on page 5

Alcorn wins home opener over **McNeese State**



Hush **Harbor**



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Wilson Bain Martin VFW Post 12172 recognizes National POW/MIA Day

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

In 1979, POW/MIA Day (September 15) was officially recognized by President Jimmy Carter and Congress. This resulted from families of more than 2,500 Vietnam War POW/ MIAs who pushed for full accountability. More than 80,000 veterans were captured or are still missing from wars that have included the United States' participation. The US is indebted to the veterans and their families.

Since 1979, September 15 is the date set aside for various ceremonies and activities that are held throughout the nation in honor of the captured and missing veterans of war. On September 15 we pay tribute with renewed commitment.

Wilson Bain Martin VFW (Veterans of Foreign Wars) Post 12172, Brandon, Miss., however, held its ceremony at Liberty Baptist Church (5199 Lakeland Dr.) Saturday, September 16, 2023. That date was chosen because of the number of football games that occurred on the previous Friday, that more than likely, would decrease the number of attendees. On Saturday,



Guest speaker and Quilt Valor recipient Major General Harold A. Cross (center) with Post Commander Tara Rivers (L) and VFW State of Judge Advocate John Scarborough (R). At podium Senior Vice Commander Billy Green

Vice Commander Jay Wilson, Jr served as program guide.

In remembrance of the sacrifices made by VFW and their loved ones, Post 12172 made it clear that longsuffering had occurred in a number of ways. As one veteran put it: "The days became weeks. The weeks became months. The months became years. The years became decades. All families want to know is what happened to their

Post Chaplain Michael Jackson explained the missing man table which contained artifacts that depicted the feelings of



Veterans of America state vice president, reading Tara Rivers' poem honoring veterans. Onlookers: Tara Rivers & John Scarborough PHOTOS BY JANICE-**NEAL-VINCENT**

families and friends who remain behind from the captured and missing veterans. Though they are no longer present in a physical sense, their contributions to humanity will long be remembered. Within those memories is hope for the dignity and worthi-

"We have not forgotten the emotions that families felt. You can't understand the war until you understand the emotions that the families faced of their loved ones who sacrificed their lives. Until you dig deep down and look at what happened in each family, [you will not under-

ness of humankind.

stand]," said LTG (Ret) Harold Cross, the guest speaker.

Cross shared experiences of his visit to the military monument. He stated that the walls are different for different people. While some people rubbed their fingers across the names of their loved ones, many were onlookers. All kept silent, despite what was taking place.

"What also budded in my conscience was an invisible wall – a wall between the civilian populace and the warriors in the Viet Nam War," said Cross. He explained the need for civilians to be respectful of the



Tara Rivers and Judge Advocate John Scarborough accompanying Master Sergeant (Retired) Stephanie Parker, Quilt of Valor recipient

veterans. Accordingly, veterans must exercise self-respect and respect for others. The military uniform, he said, brings with it respect and should be worn as such. "Don't let people see you in public in your military uniform going to get groceries. Go home, change, and then go to the store," was his charge to the vet-

In summary, Cross asserted that many paid a tremendous price, having been shot down, tortured to doom and gloom. They never gave up on the citizens. Building that invisible wall is the mechanism for seeing the services given by our veterans. "Their loving memories will always be with us," said Cross.

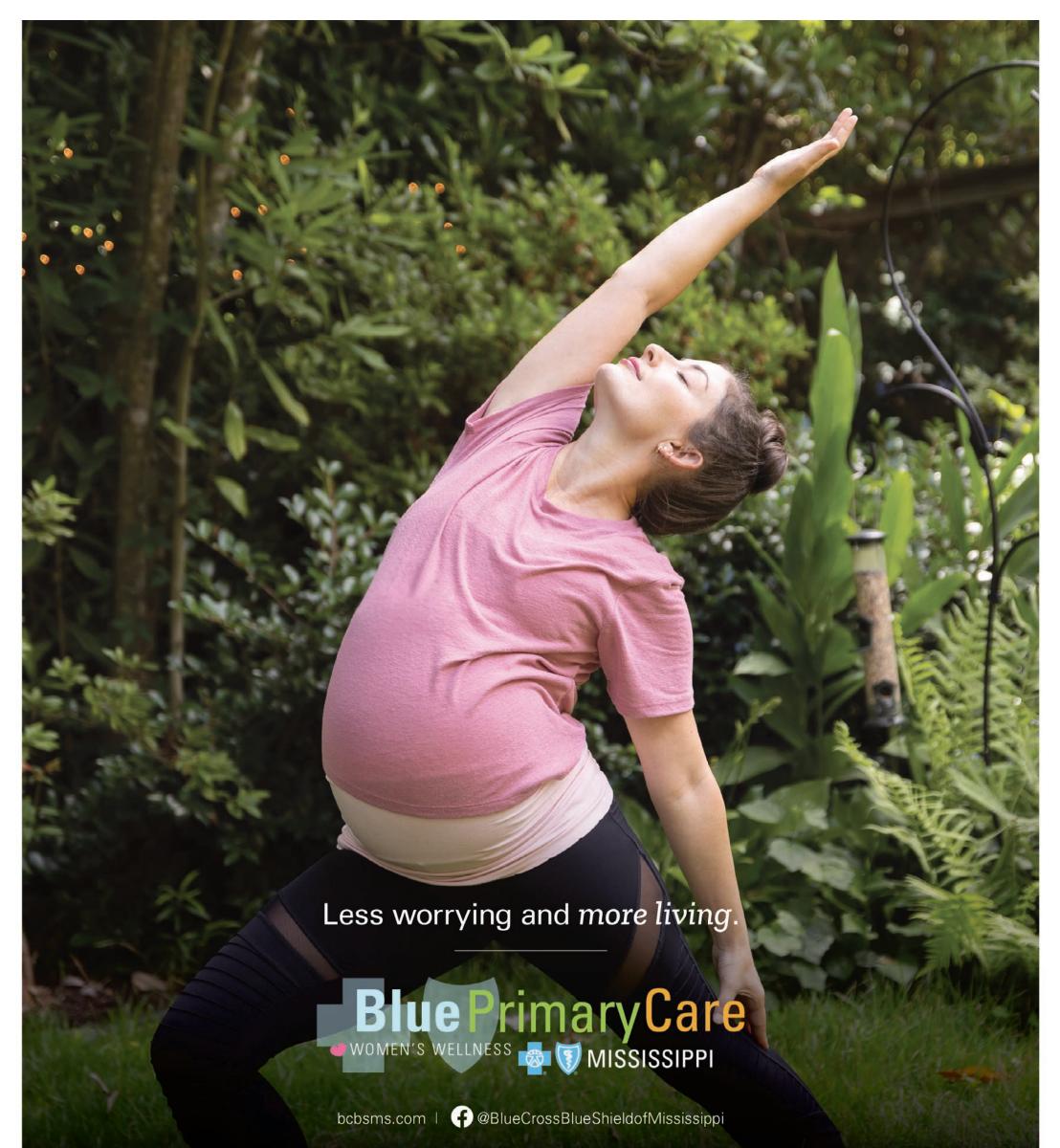
Post Commander Tara Rivers closed the program with thanks to the audience for their attendance and a charge: "Don't let today be your last day to remember the veterans."

Persons reacting to the program were elated to have attended.

Thomas Jenkins of Jackson stated, "I learned many things about the VFW today. I could tell from what was said that the veterans went through a lot, and I appreciate Post 12172."

"I've passed Liberty Baptist Church many times, but had no idea this type of honoring took place. I will long remember the guest speaker's comments about the pain his dad and others went through. I want to get a hold of Mr. Cross's book," Patsy Dunlap of Ridgeland said.

Bill Coleman of Madison indicated, "I've never been to war but have some relatives who have. As various ones were talking, my mind went to some things that I had been told by them. I felt some tears and could barely maintain my composure."



Jackson

abandoned when they have shown every effort to accommodate the needs of City of Jackson (COJ). Walker noted that part of the issue which led to the termination was the air conditioning unit, as he emphatically stated that "you can see it's relatively cool today."

Socrates Garrett further stated, "We've invested 9 million dollars in this space to meet the working conditions" of COJ employees. Moreover, the COJ was supposed to maintain the property grounds by cutting the grass, paving the parking area, and inside maintenance with the exception of the roof and HVAC services. Garrett said that the COJ had failed to fulfil any of its obligations to the

About the allegations of there being rats, roaches and other varmints in the COJ occupied area, Garrett stated,

"If so, it could have been due to the COJ's designation of its garbage being literally dumped on the lots at the Jackson Metro Center."

However, Garrett made note that because the COJ is currently boxed in by surrounding municipalities from every side of the Highway 18 corridor, the area can grow as an economic mecca for the Afro-American community through the revival of the initial contract between the COJ and Retro Metro, LLC.

Now adversity and all the legal woes that follow fall on the COJ and the present administration. Can Jackson endure such and still be viewed as "The City of Soul?" Only time shall reveal all.

Interestingly, Garrett rendered closing remarks, saying, "Where there is no vision, the people will perish."

Waymaker

Continued from page 1

contribute to our over 13,000 deaths to-date, "mostly unvaccinated people," per The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and Mississippi Today. Mississippians have paid dearly for the wrong-headed approach to the Coronavirus pandemic.

When elected, in his inaugural speech, titled "For All Mississippi," Reeves said in part, "Standing before all of Mississippi, I promised that this administration would be an administration for all Mississippi. That I would defend the loving culture that underpins our quality of life and work to grow an economy that lifts all of our families. I am determined to honor that promise," per https:// governorreeves.ms.gov.

The Fiscal Year 2022 Minority Participation Report tells a very different story. Mississippi's population is a rock-bottom minimum of 38% African American, yet black businessmen received just 4.04% of state contracts. Is that governing for all of Mississippi? Is that lifting all families? 67.46% of "minority" contract went to non-ethnic women, i.e. white women - blatant racial discrimination is not governing for all Mississippians – not a 'waymaker' or a promise keeper.

Raising the minimum wage would help lift so many Mississippi families, yet we are one of only eight states according to the Economic Policy Institute's minimum wage tracker, that remain at \$7.35 per hour.

In 2015, the folks at 24/7 Wall Street shared a study indicating that Mississippi was ranked the worst state in the country to live in. In August 2022, WalletHub used 52 metrics to measure a state, and for Mississippians the result was the same – 50th. We are not lifting our people. We need a 'waymaker' - nothing changes if nothing

The Reeves administration claims a commitment to a culture of life, yet we have the nation's highest rate of children dying before their first birthday: 8.5 deaths per 1,000 live births – well above the national average of 5.6 according to reporting by SaveTheChildren.org.

The Mississippi Maternal Mortality Report 2013-2016 indicates 33.2 deaths per 100,000 live births. This was 1.9 times higher than the average US ratio of 17.3 deaths per 100,000 live births. The pregnancy-related mortality ratio for black women was 51.9 deaths per 100,000 live births, nearly three times the white ratio of 18.9. In January 2023 Mississippi Today reported the Mississippi Maternal Mortality Review Committee looked at data from 2017-2019 and the situation is worsening, not improving.

Reeves is right when he says, "This is Mississippi's time." This is Mississippi's time for new leadership leadership that can help make a way for all Mississippians and leadership that will keep promises.

Birmingham

Continued from page 1

ished in the explosion. A fifth girl, Sarah Collins Rudolph, Addie Mae's sister, was also in the room and sustained severe injuries, including losing an

The vile act of violence took place during the zenith of the civil rights movement, just eight months after then-Gov. George Wallace defiantly proclaimed, "segregation forever." It occurred a mere two weeks following Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s iconic "I Have a Dream" speech in Washington, D.C. Three Ku Klux Klansmen were convicted in connection with the bombing: Robert Chambliss in 1977, Thomas Blanton in 2001 and Bobby Frank Cherry in 2002.

Tammie Fields, now 64, was a toddler during the bombing. She vividly remembers her father, who died several years ago, harboring deep-seated hatred and bitterness toward black individuals. Racial slurs were commonplace, and she was encouraged to despise her black classmates. Fields credited her preacher grandfather with showing her a different path in life. "The most important thing to me is that my children will never know the hate that I've known," Fields shared. Lisa McNair, 58, was born a year after her sister's tragic death, and she

grew up witnessing the profound sorrow that haunted her parents. Her mother often took her and her siblings to the cemetery, where she would grieve or sit solemnly. In her book, "Dear Denise: Letters to the Sister I Never Knew," McNair candidly wrote about her life in the aftermath of the bombing. When she first heard of Tammie Fields and learned that both were scheduled to attend the same church program, she admitted to being hesitant. "Originally, I didn't really want to meet her," McNair confided to AP. "I was kind of nervous about it, even though she didn't do it. It was almost like meeting the person who killed your sister, in a way. You're trying to figure out how I should feel about this?"

Despite her reservations, the two women eventually met at another church where Fields was speaking. McNair listened from a pew, and when the event concluded, the two women shared a heartfelt embrace, tears streaming down their faces. "I was extremely, extremely nervous. She had every right not to accept me, but she did," Fields remembered in a discussion with the AP.

McNair recognized the authenticity of Fields' desire for reconciliation. Fields, now a grandmother with black children and mixed-race grandchildren, refrained from discussing the bombing for an extended period. However, she now firmly believes that open dialogue is essential for progress. "How is it ever going to change in the world if we're not honest?" she pondered.

Lisa McNair also expressed concern about the current political climate, where some politicians appear to be deliberately stoking divisive rhetoric. She sees valuable lessons in the events of 60 years ago for today's society. "So much hate, so much racism is coming back up. That's the thing that upsets me and saddens me; we should have made more progress. I think we're going backward instead of forward," McNair lamented.

During a recent speech in Montgomery, Alabama, McNair unveiled a small box that the funeral home had given to her family and contained items found with Denise, including patent leather shoes, a pocketbook and a delicate handkerchief. Among these items was a chunk of concrete, about the size of a rock, embedded in Denise's head, ultimately causing her death. "It shows that racism can kill. Hateful words can kill. And this is a tangible piece of that," McNair declared solemnly.

Unlock Financial Assistance for Farmers, Ranchers and Forest Landowners

Are you a farmer, rancher or forest landowner who has faced discrimination in USDA farm lending prior to January 2021? You may be eligible for financial assistance through the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Discrimination Financial Assistance Program (DFAP).

What is DFAP?

\$2.2 Billion in Financial Assistance: Thanks to Section 22007 of the Inflation Reduction Act, USDA is allocating \$2.2 billion in financial assistance to eligible farmers, ranchers, and forest landowners who experienced discrimination in USDA farm lending programs.

Eligibility: Farmers, ranchers, and forest landowners who experienced discrimination by USDA in its farm loan programs prior to January 1, 2021, and/or are currently debtors with assigned or assumed USDA farm loan debt that was the subject of USDA discrimination that occurred prior to January 1, 2021, are eligible for this program.

How Does it Work?

Multiple Ways to Apply: Producers have the option to apply via the e-filing portal at 22007apply.gov or by submitting paper-based forms via mail or in-person delivery to the program's local offices.

Free Technical Assistance: Technical assistance is available for potential applicants through four regional hubs working closely with community-based organizations.

Local Resources: Local brick-and-mortar offices are being opened across the country to ensure easy access and personalized assistance. In-person and virtual events are also being held weekly, with state-by-state information on the website.

Important Deadline: Don't miss out! The deadline for eligible farmers, ranchers, or forest landowners to complete their application is October 31, 2023.



Farmers & Ranchers

Have you experienced discrimination in USDA farm lending prior to January 1, 2021? You may be eligible for financial assistance.

The application is free. Technical assistance is free and available in-person and over the phone.

For more information visit website or call:

www.22007apply.gov or 1-800-721-0970 @22007apply @ (7 💥 🛅



Learn More:

Website: For detailed information about DFAP, please visit our official website at 22007apply.gov. Our website provides comprehensive information on obtaining in-person

or virtual technical assistance, supplementary program resources, and detailed program guidelines. Newsletter: Information about the program, resources,

recent office openings, and local events across the

which you can sign up for on the program site.

country is also available through a weekly e-newsletter,

Call Center: Our call center, available at 1-800-721-0970, operates from 8 a.m. ET to 8 p.m. PT, seven days a week, except for Federal holidays. English- and Spanishspeaking agents are available, ensuring you get the assistance you need, when you need it.

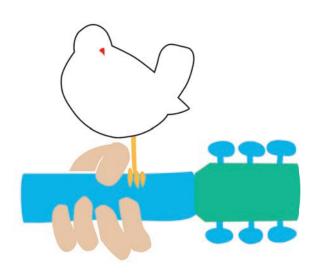
DFAP is all about giving you the support you deserve. Don't let this opportunity pass you by! Apply now to secure this financial assistance.

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2023 NNPA National Leadership Awards reception celebrates Excellence in Black Leadership



By Stacy M. Brown

NNPA Newswire Senior National Correspondent

The highly anticipated 2023 NNPA National Leadership Awards Reception is set to take place on September 22, 2023, at the Marriott Marquis, located at 901 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20001. The annual event, organized by the National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA), promises an evening of recognition and celebration in honor of exceptional leaders who have made significant contributions to America, particularly the African American community.

This year's theme, "Black Press of America Salutes Black Leadership Excellence," reflects the spirit of acknowledgment and appreciation for those who have tirelessly worked toward the betterment of society.

Ruff Endz, the renowned R&B duo, will take the stage to add a musical flair to the evening. With a history of chart-topping hits and a devoted fan base, Ruff Endz promises to deliver another of their trademark memorable performances.

One Vision, in collaboration with Double "O" Entertainment, will curate the musical ambiance for the night. Both organizations have left indelible marks on the entertainment industry, known for their impeccable taste and outstanding events.

Guy Lambert, a distinguished figure in the world of broadcasting, will take on the role of master of ceremonies. Lambert's reputation for eloquence and wit will undoubtedly set the tone for an engaging and uplifting evening.

The 2023 NNPA National Leadership Awards Reception will bestow accolades upon several outstanding individuals. Among the recipients are:

• The honorable Jasmine Crocket (D-Texas): A trailblazer in politics, Crocket's unwavering dedication to her

community and tireless advocacy for social justice have made her a beacon of hope for many.

• CBC Chair Steven Horsford (D-NV): As Chair of the Congressional Black Caucus, Horsford has demonstrated remarkable leadership in advocating for policies that uplift marginalized communities.

- Niesha Foster of Pfizer Inc.: Foster's contributions in the pharmaceutical field have advanced medical science and positively impacted countless individuals' lives.
- Jessie Woolley-Wilson, President and CEO of Dreambox Learning: Under Wolley-Wilson's leadership, Dreambox Learning has revolutionized the field of education, providing innovative and effective learning solutions.
- The People's Attorney Ben Crump: With a steadfast commitment to civil rights and justice, Crump's legal advocacy has achieved landmark victories for the African American community.

The NNPA Chair, Westside Gazette Publisher Bobby Henry, and NNPA President and CEO Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis Jr., will preside over the ceremony, symbolizing the unity and strength of the NNPA in its mission to continue to serve as the unchallenged voice of Black America.

The NNPA Second Vice Chair, The Mississippi Link Publisher, Jackie Hampton will announce the recipients of the NNPA Fund, Google Scholarship awards

The evening promises to be a momentous occasion, paying tribute to these remarkable individuals' resilience, leadership, and unwavering commitment. The NNPA National Leadership Awards Reception stands as a testament to the profound impact that dedicated leaders can have on local communities and the nation

Alarming surge in student loan scams target Americans

By Stacy M. Brown NNPA Newswire Senior National Correspondent

Amidst the impending resumption of student loan payments in October, scammers are intensifying their efforts to exploit borrowers, with more than 350,000 student-loan-related robocalls reported in the last two weeks alone, according to Transaction Network Services (TNS), a leading authority on identifying robocall scams across various carrier networks.

The surge in scams coincides with the conclusion of a pandemic-induced hiatus on loan repayments, implemented in 2020 to provide financial relief to borrowers amidst the public health crisis. The renewal of student loan debt payments also comes in the wake of the Supreme Court's rejection of President Biden's proposal to forgive up to \$20,000 per horrower leave

ing many uncertain about their financial futures.

"Scammers seize on chaos and confusion," John Haraburda, a robocall data expert at TNS, told CBS News. "Right now, you have a lot of activity with the new White House student loan plan, loan payments set to resume in October and the start of the school year." He emphasized the importance of skepticism, advising consumers to operate under the assumption that "when something sounds too good to be true, it is."

Reports from TNS transcripts reveal that scammers often initiate contact by referencing an individual's student loan and then offer seemingly enticing solutions, such as reducing or deferring monthly payments or even promising total loan forgiveness. Some deceitfully claim affiliation with the Department of Education, while others represent

vaguely official-sounding organizations like "student services."

For example, one recorded robocall falsely declared: "This is United Services Student Loan Department with an urgent call to our clients regarding the new federal program, which now qualifies for complete dismissal and full discharge of all your federal student loans, as well as a refund of monies paid and removal from credit history," according to a TNS transcription, and reported by CBS News.

Scammers may also request up-front payments under the guise of facilitating debt relief or charge fees for otherwise free services. As TNS warns, they might also seek private information like Social Security numbers. IdentityIQ, an identity theft protection company, further warns that some fraudsters pose as new student loan servicers, taking advantage of borrowers'

unfamiliarity with recent changes in servicing companies.

Authorities are urging borrowers to confirm their student loan servicer to help safeguard against potential scams.

Borrowers can log into StudentAid.gov or contact the Federal Student Aid Information Center. They should also remain vigilant for spelling and grammatical errors, which can serve as red flags for fraudulent communication.

The Federal Trade Commission (FTC) reiterated that borrowers should never pay for assistance managing their student loans. In a recent warning, the FTC emphasized, "If someone tries to charge you upfront, before they've done anything, that's your first clue that this is a scam," and emphasized that legitimate sources will never offer instant loan forgiveness.

of Governors of the Federal Reserve System underscores the disproportionate impact of student debt within different communities, with black borrowers shouldering the largest share of federal student loan debt in 2019, a stark reminder of the unique challenges they face in the cur-

rent landscape.

Following the Supreme Court's rejection of the initial student debt relief plan, the Biden administration introduced the Saving on a Valuable Education (SAVE) plan. The new provisions include reducing income-driven repayment plans from 10% to 5% of discretionary income and forgiving loan balances after ten years of payments for borrowers with original balances of \$12,000 or less. The plan, which took effect on August 22, 2023, to provide some relief amidst the ongoing student loan crisis already has

reached more than 4 million in enrollment.

the "most affordable repayment plan ever," which officials said would result in millions of borrowers saving money on their monthly payments. Borrowers who earn less than \$15 an hour will not be required to make payments, and anyone who does earn more will save more than

\$1,000 on payments.

"From Day One of this Administration, President Biden has focused on reducing the burden of student loan debt on working families, and we are not stopping now," U.S. Secretary of Education Miguel Cardon said. "Enrollment is quick and easy, and we are working relentlessly to get the word out to borrowers about how millions can reduce their monthly student loan bills and save over a thousand dollars a year by enrolling in SAVE."





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Mississippi school district named in desegregation lawsuit is allowed to shed federal supervision

By Emily Wagster Pettus Associated Press

A majority-black Mississippi school district received a judge's approval Tuesday to shed federal supervision in a decades-old desegregation lawsuit that included a 2013 order to move away from harsh discipline that disproportionately affected black students.

U.S. District Judge Henry Wingate praised the Meridian Public School District for reducing the number of suspensions that led some students to drop out of

"Meridian is no longer known for a school-to-prison pipeline," the district's superintendent, Amy Carter, told Wingate during a hearing in Jackson.

The Justice Department announced in 2013 that it would enter a consent decree with the Meridian schools for the district to improve disciplinary practices. The department said at the time that its investigation found black students "frequently received harsher disciplinary consequences, including longer suspensions, than white students for comparable misbehavior, even where the students were at the same school, were of similar ages and had similar disciplinary histo-

Attorneys for the Justice Department and the NAACP Legal Defense and Education Fund said Tuesday that they had no objection to Wingate granting "unitary sta-

tus" to the Meridian schools, a designation that shows the district has eliminated vestiges of prior segregation and no longer needs federal supervision.

Carter has worked for the Meridian schools for 25 years and has been superintendent the past seven. She said the district changed its approach to discipline by moving toward a method of PBIS – positive behavior intervention and supports to teach students to make better decisions for themselves. She said the schools are also using "Leader In Me," a program that develops students' leadership skills.

Carter said parents, teachers and staff also were taught about the new approaches.

The Meridian district has about 4,600 students and more than 900 employees, Carter said. She said about 93% of students and about 60% to 65% of employees are

Carter said that in the past decade, the district has gone from about 10,000 student suspensions a year to about 1,200.

Wingate, 76, who is black, said he grew up in segregated Mississippi and remembers being treated harshly when his high school basketball team from Jackson went to Meridian to compete. He said he would allow the Meridian schools to leave federal oversight only if he believed that was the right move for the students and the commu-

Several parents and district employees submitted written comments to Wingate this year, praising the Meridian schools' current approach to discipline.

"During the short time that I've worked with the Meridian Public School District, I've realized that these employees show great love and respect for each other, the students and the community," wrote Tujuana Frost, who identified herself as black and did not specify what kind of job she holds in the

Nancy S. Walton, who identified herself as white, wrote: "Overall, I feel as if the culture and climate of our school has changed for the better. Students feel more inclusive and form relationships with teachers (especially those teachers who excel in positive behavior modifications)."

The desegregation lawsuit against the Meridian School District was originally filed in 1965, and a federal judge in 1967 ordered the district to end discrimination based on race. The Justice Department periodically sent teams to investigate how the district was complying, according to court records. The department started receiving complaints about the district's harsh discipline practices in 2010.

Meridian is near the Alabama border in east central Mississippi. The city has about 33,800 residents. About 66% are black and 31% are white.

Mississippi should restore the voting rights of former felons, **Democratic candidates say**

By Emily Wagster Pettus Associated Press

Mississippi should stop defending a Jim Crow-era portion of its state constitution that permanently strips voting rights from people convicted of certain felonies, the Democratic nominees for two statewide offices said Thursday.

Greta Kemp Martin faces first-term Republican Attorney General Lynn Fitch and Ty Pinkins faces first-term Republican Secretary of State Michael Watson in the Nov. 7 election.

Kemp Martin said a panel of federal appeals judges made the correct decision Aug. 4 when they ruled that Mississippi's ban on voting after conviction for crimes including forgery and bigamy is a violation of the U.S. Constitution's ban on cruel and unusual punishment.

The disenfranchisement is "a continued punishment for people who have served their sentence to the state of Mississippi," Kemp Martin said Thursday. "And they deserve the right to be able to enter their community and participate in one of our most sacred rights."

Fitch, who represents Watson in court, filed papers Aug. 18 asking the full 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals to reconsider the panel's ruling and to continue allowing the permanent disenfranchisement of some res-

Kemp Martin said if she is elected attorney general, she will drop the request for a rehearing. If the panel's ruling stands, tens of thousands of Mississippi residents would regain voting rights after they finish serving their sentences.

Pinkins, appearing at a Vicksburg news conference with Kemp Martin, said regaining the right to vote is vital for people who

"You're not a full citizen if you can't ex-

ercise that fundamental right," Pinkins said. "Secretary of State Michael Watson and Attorney General Lynn Fitch - they have been fighting so that we can't overturn that archaic law."

The Associated Press sent emails to

spokespeople for Fitch and Watson Thursday, seeking response to comments by their challengers. In response, Fitch spokesperson Debbee Hancock referred to part of Fitch's filing to the appeals court: "The panel ruled that it could invalidate a category of felon disenfranchisement, that Mississippi's disenfranchisement law imposes 'punishment' under the U.S. Constitution, and that that law is cruel and unusual. As Judge Jones explained in dissent, all those conclusions are wrong." The New Orleans-based 5th Circuit is

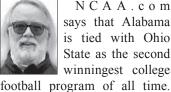
widely considered one of the most conservative federal appeals courts. Fitch asked the full court - with 16 active judges - to reconsider the case, saying the 2-1 ruling by the panel conflicts with Supreme Court precedent and rulings in other circuit courts. Attorneys challenging the ban filed papers Aug. 31, disagreeing with Fitch.

A separate lawsuit used a different argument to challenge Mississippi's prohibition on voting by people with felony convictions - and in 2022, the 5th Circuit ruled against those plaintiffs. That lawsuit argued the lifetime disenfranchisement was designed to keep black people out of power. In June, the U.S. Supreme Court said it would not consider that case, allowing the ruling to stand.

The lawsuit that the Supreme Court declined to hear was based on arguments about equal protection. Plaintiffs said that the authors of the Mississippi Constitution in 1890 stripped voting rights for crimes they thought black people were more likely to commit, including forgery, larceny and bigamy.

The thrill of victory and the agony of defeat – two times over for many Sports is not immune to this country's racist underbelly

By Christopher Young



NCAA.com says that Alabama is tied with Ohio State as the second winningest college

They also say that Alabama has the 2nd most championship titles at 16, two behind Yale; although Yale's last one was in 1927. But in week two of this season, Texas came to Tuscaloosa and won 34-24, issuing Alabama its first loss. The thrill of victory for the University of Texas, the agony of defeat for the Crimson Tide.

There is a video on X, formerly known as Twitter, taken at that Texas at Alabama game. The video showed three Texas players doing a celebratory shuffle on the sidelines. Yet the accompanying audio portion is nothing to celebrate. It easily appeared to be white Alabama fans shouting at those Texas players, who were all black. "...you're all faggots, you guys are all faggots, go back to the projects faggots, go back to the projects," https:// twitter.com/burntorangebuzz/ status/1701013604924104720. Even the thrill of victory can come at a price in America when you are not white.

What is it about sports – so unique in many ways, bringing people together with the human spirit on full display. So much effort, ambition, goals, development, performance, practicepractice-practice, and always up against the unforgiving clock of time. The impact on athletes, families, teams, classmates,

schools and fans is enormous. According to a Sienna College Research Institute and St. Bonaventure University's Jandoli School of Communication national poll published on February 3, 2023, 70% percent of

COMMENTARY

Americans say they are sports fans. The poll also showed that football is king in America, and that 83% watch football to bond with family and friends, 81% "because it's fun" and 65% "because it is exciting." Eighty-two percent say that they learn about teamwork by watching football, while 79% learn about strategy and 72% learn about leadership.

Have you ever wondered what it's like to do everything needed to win - to meet each benchmark and then pass the test - but still be subjected to indignities? Still be judged as somehow not good enough? To get a spit in the eye instead of a pat on the back, just because of the color of your skin?

I was born in America, and I am very pale, and so I'll never fully know. What I do know and have known since childhood, is that it's deadly wrong. Yet this wrongness persists in America with the raising of each new

A few prominent examples: Jesse Owens, also known as "The Buckeye Bullet," was an American track and field athlete who won four gold medals and broke two world records at the 1936 Olympic Games in Berlin. The son of an Alabama sharecropper and the grandson of enslaved people, Owens was a frail child who was often sick from battles with chronic bronchial congestion and pneumonia. Still, he was expected to work, and at the young age of seven he was picking up to 100 pounds of cotton a day to help his family put food on the table.

Back home after the Olympics, President Franklin D. Roosevelt failed to meet with Owens and congratulate him, as was typical for champions. Owens' long-jump record stood for

be properly recognized until 1976 when President Gerald Ford awarded him the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

The mild-mannered Owens seemed not the least bit surprised by his home country's hypocrisy. "When I came back to my native country, after all the stories about Hitler, I couldn't ride in the front of the bus," he said. "I had to go to the back door. I couldn't live where I wanted. I wasn't invited to shake hands with Hitler, but I wasn't invited to the White House to shake hands with the president either, " per www.biography.com.

Hammerin' Hank, Henry Louis Aaron, held the most celebrated record in all of sports for 30 years. "His pursuit of Babe Ruth's record of 714 home runs proved a deeply troubling affair beyond the pressures of the ball field. When he hit his 715th home run, on the evening of April 8, 1974, against the Los Angeles Dodgers at Atlanta-Fulton County Stadium, he prevailed in the face of hate mail and even death threats spewing outrage that a black man could supplant a white baseball icon," per the New York Times.

Float like a butterfly, sting like a bee! Muhammad Ali was an American former heavyweight champion boxer and one of the greatest sporting figures of the 20th century. He was an Olympic gold medalist and the first fighter to capture the heavyweight title three times. Yet when Ali showed up for his scheduled induction into the U.S. Armed Forces on April 28, 1967 – citing his religious beliefs, he refused to serve. Ali was arrested, and the New York State Athletic Commission immediately suspended his boxing license and revoked his heavy-

25 years. The athlete wouldn't weight belt. Convicted of draft in a unanimous decision. Ali evasion, Ali was sentenced to the maximum of five years in prison and a \$10,000 fine, but he remained free while the conviction was appealed.

Many saw Ali as a draft dodger, and his popularity plummeted. Banned from boxing for three years, Ali spoke out against the Vietnam War on college campuses. As public attitudes turned against the war, support for Ali grew. In 1970 the New York State Supreme Court ordered his boxing license reinstated, and the following year the U.S. Supreme Court overturned his conviction

was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 2005, per www.history.com.

In 2000, at the inaugural Laureus World Sports Awards, our Founding Patron, Nelson Mandela, declared that: "Sport has the power to change the world. It has the power to inspire. It has the power to unite people in a way that little else does. It speaks to youth in a language they understand. Sport can create hope where once there was only despair. It is more powerful than government in breaking down racial barriers," per www.globalgoals.org

Last Thursday night though, the Minnesota Vikings running back Alexander Mattison said he received 60 racist messages following the team's loss to the Philadelphia Eagles, including that he should take his own life. On Instagram, he posted in part, "...this is unacceptable. Really reflect on (what) you say and how it could affect someone. Under the helmet, I am a human, a father and a son. This is sick, "per CNN on September 16, 2023.

In America our victories are incalculable, yet our stinging defeat is our inability to extinguish racism – yes, even in sports.

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Football takes in billions of dollars and we are a big part of it

By James B. Ewers Jr. President Emeritus

Teen Mentoring Committee of Ohio



son is here. We speak the language of touchdowns, first downs and field goals. In many

Football sea-

goals. In many ways, our lives have adjusted to it

The game doesn't plan itself around us, we plan our schedules around it. For example, shopping of any kind is planned around the time and day of a football game. Store sales don't win out when it comes to our favorite team playing.

Can you imagine giving up a 50% off sale in order to attend a football game? Well, it happens during this time-honored season. Buying clothes suddenly goes on the backburner for another time.

Football is a part of the American culture. It has been passed down from generation to generation. All the boys on my block played football at some point during their childhood. Some guys stuck with it and had an opportunity to play college football.

One of my role models growing up was James Arthur Price. We lived three houses from one another. He received a scholarship to play football at North Carolina College, now North Carolina Central University in Durham N.C.

Back in the day, there was a football game during the Thanksgiving holiday called the Turkey Bowl between North Carolina College and A&T College, now North Carolina A&T State University located in Greensboro, N.C.

Attending those games gave my friends and me a glimpse of the college experience as we were in high school at the time. Both of these schools were Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU,s).

These schools have had some great rivalries. One such rivalry game matched Johnson C. Smith University located in Charlotte N.C. against Livingstone College located in Salisbury N.C. According to reports, this game between these two HBCU's was played on December 27, 1892. On that day, Johnson C. Smith University (formally Biddle College) defeated Liv-

ingstone College.

Another great rivalry game each year pits Grambling State University located in Grambling, LA against Southern University located in Baton Rouge, LA. This game is called The Bayou Classic and is now played in the Super Dome in New Orleans, LA.

College football has exploded and conferences in all divisions have fans who pack their stadiums on a weekly basis. These football games once played only on Saturdays have games throughout the week.

Some years back, rumblings began about the possibility of college players receiving some form of compensation to play. This was a debatable topic for a long time.

The football purists thought that having a scholarship was compensation enough. They also thought that players in some divisions should sit out a year before being allowed to play for their new team.

Both assertions, while strongly debated, were the rules that were in play for many years. The NCAA finally made some rulings that have now greatly impacted college football.

Now, players are being compensated by NIL (Name, Image, Likeness) agreements. Companies are providing student-athletes with some healthy financial packages. You will see some of your favorite college players in commercials for which they are being paid. In addition, players no longer must sit out a year before joining their new team

Professional football is also driving in the fast lane. The marketing of the NFL is at an all-time high. Ratings for these games are through the roof. Pro football is now being played in parts of Europe for fan enjoyment. This season there will be five games played there.

Of course, the National Football League benefits greatly from television deals. Last year, for example, the NFL came away with an all-time high \$11.9 billion in revenue. It is my thinking that this figure will continue to grow. It is truly America's pastime replacing baseball.

Are you ready for some football? You know the answer is yes.

Are you still in love?

By LaShunda Calvert, Ph.D. Guest Writer



Are you still in love? This is a bold question to ask couples who have been married longer than the honeymoon

stage (1 to 3 years – varies from one marriage to another). Then, there are naysayers, who believe that being in love, especially pass the honeymoon stage, is artificial and is a Hollywood and Hallmark facade (our daughter has already planned for us to watch Hallmark Christmas movies and consume hot cocoa... looking forward to it.).

What does it mean to still be in love? You still look forward to spending a lifetime together, you still only want the best for your spouse, you still can't envision being with anyone else, you still have an intense passion, desire, joy and attraction for your spouse, your spouse's presence still lights up any space, your love still covers your spouse's imperfections and your love story evolves every day.

Picture this – Friday, January 14, 2005 – at Thee Jackson State University (Financial Aid Office) – I, along with others, were standing in a long line trying to retrieve our work study checks. One impatient guy got out of the line and asked a cashier what was going on. He had dreadlocks, hazel eyes, wore a beautiful yellow sweater, jeans and a pair of Air Force Ones – he was fine. As he walked away from the cashier, I asked him if they explained why the wait was so long, and he vanished to avoid being late for class.

The JSU President at that time came and explained that the delay was due to failure of the printing system, and he reassured everyone that we could pick our checks up later that night or Saturday morning. I informed my mother, and she suggested that I go that night. I did and she rode with me. Guess what, fine dreadlocks was standing in the line. He remembered me and expressed that I could get in front of him.

We began conversing and I promise, it's like we instantly fell in love with each other. He received his check several hours before I received mine. He waited for me and walked me outside and asked for my phone number. I asked my mother, who was still in the car waiting (yikes) should I give it to him, and she said, "Yes, he is your husband." He proposed a couple of months later and we had a big Christmas-themed wedding in December, 2005.

Our love for each other was

immeasurable. In fact, you couldn't find a couple more in love than we were. I metaphorically compare being in love with a candle wax and its flame as depicted in some traditional weddings. Our flame remained lit for each other for years, but the wax eventually diminished. Let's be real – the wax, even on the best of candles, including Yankee Candles, dissolves resulting in on and off flickering and eventually an exterminated flame. The dissolving in marriage is caused by the ups and downs in marriage, like the for better, for worse, for richer, for poorer, in sickness and in health.

There are many couples who fear that they have fallen out of love leading some to make wrong choices, separate and divorce. However, I don't think that every couple who truly loves each other permanently falls out of love. I think the wax must be rebuilt and the flame must be reignited.

How can you rebuild the wax and reignite your flame? First, reflect on your love story - remember why you fell in love. Second, forgive - start over daily. Third, become intentional about respecting one another, building trust especially if trust was lost, reassure one another often of your love and commitment to each other and the marriage. Fourth, communicate; be a good listener. Fifth, spend quality time with one another: create new memories, engage in date nights, take trips and marriage retreats, be intimate, and identify each other's love language(s). Sixth, make each other feel special and laugh together often. Seventh, be affectionate and attentive - hold each other, hug, rub, bite if you want to. Eighth, reflect often on growing old together - helping put

Although the wax diminished and the flame went out in our marriage, we have become intentional about making every effort to stay in love. Are you still in love? If you can't emphatically say yes and you want to say yes – you and your spouse must rebuild your wax and reignite your

each other's teeth in...

Contact Dr. LaShunda Calvert for speaking engagements (motivational, ministering, marriage counseling, marriage workshops, marriage seminars, marriage conferences, etc.) Marriage Ministry: The Restoration Church, Suite H, Jackson, MS. 39206, on Instagram: letsstay2gether4ever (Dr. LaShunda Calvert) Facebook: Dr. LaShunda Calvert Email: letsstaytogether4eva@gmail.com or call 601-874-6176.

A mother's prayer

By Gabrielle Adams
Jackson State University Intern



It was a humid day on September 13, 2023 when I misplaced my license in the parking lot of Amazon.

Throughout the years I've had trouble keeping up with loose items such as cards, lip gloss, wallets, etc.

I struggle with something called organized chaos. This means what looks like a mess to others, looks the opposite to me. This trait has caused me an immense amount of trouble over the last few years.

This specific moment was a full circle moment which was normal up until now. This moment was life-altering and one I will never forget. Walking towards the Amazon building, I carried a folder filled with my license, birth certificate and car insurance. Making my way inside I spoke with the security officer who directed me to the correct location for recruit-

ment.

As I made my way inside the building I was faced with an older man who informed me that no one would be back until one thirty. I thanked him for the information and decided to wait outside. I was a little disappointed because I arrived early in hopes of leaving early in order to make it back to the Jackson State campus where I manage the women's basketball team.

While I was seated and waiting for one of the employees to call my name, I began to feel feelings of frustration and realized I was getting a bit agitated. A few minutes later, I heard my name and walked to the employee's desk and sat down. At this moment I reached for my license and realized it wasn't in my folder. Before panicking completely I checked around my seat and around my previous seat. There was no sign of my license and I instantly began to panic. A license is the only way for me to obtain a job and without a license I would be out of a job I really needed.

The supervisor helped me look for it inside and out and thought someone may have picked it up. She advised me to continue searching for it because there was no other way I could continue the interview process without it. I proceeded to the parking lot trying to keep hope alive of finding my license.

An hour passed and I was not able to find my license and in that moment I broke down in tears. I was currently under stress in my personal life and this job seemed to be the missing piece that would make the process easier.

I started my car ready to give up and go back home when I thought to call my mom and tell her what was going on. I broke down in more tears explaining the situation to her and she advised me to pray to God. I told her I did that for an hour and nothing came up. At that moment she revealed to me that my eyes may not be

open and I may not be looking hard enough.

Already under stress, I decided to accept it and try once more when I hung up the phone. When I stepped out of my car I saw my license face up on the street two cars down. I instantly felt a weight lift off my shoulders.

In that second I began to laugh because I knew this was a lesson I had to learn. Jesus Christ knows your intent. I knew what I was saying with my words but I knew deep in my heart it was a lost cause. I called my mother and with lack of words I simply showed her my license to which she began to laugh as well shouting "God Is Good, God Is Great."

She explained to me that all she did was have faith and believe that her prayers would be answered. She prayed that I would find my license in minutes but I found it in seconds. I will always hold this moment close to my heart because it shows the power of having true faith.

Historically black land-grant universities deprived of \$12.6 billion in funding over three decades, Biden administration reveals

By Stacy M. Brown NNPA Newswire Senior Correspondent



Historically black land-grant universities across 16 states have been denied a staggering \$12.6 billion in

funding over the past 30 years, according to the Biden administration. Secretary of Education Miguel Cardona and Secretary of Agriculture Thomas Vilsack announced that they have contacted governors in each affected state, urging them to rectify the funding gap, which has had its most significant impact in Tennessee, according to a news release.

Tennessee State University has suffered an underfunding deficit of \$2.1 billion. "Unacceptable funding inequities have forced many of our nation's distinguished Historically Black

Colleges and Universities to operate with inadequate resources and delay critical investments in everything from campus infrastructure to research and development to student support services," Cardona emphasized.

Similar letters were dispatched to governors in Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, Missouri, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Texas, Virginia and West Virginia.

The nation's land-grant universities, established in the 19th century, were designed to advance agricultural education and research. While federal law mandates equitable distribution of state funding for all land-grant universities, this has not been realized for many historically black institutions, as revealed in a comprehensive analysis. Utilizing data from the National Center

for Education Statistics, the federal agencies uncovered funding disparities in 16 out of 18 states hosting black land grants. Only Delaware and Ohio provided equitable funding.

Cardona spoke fervently about the accomplishments of HB-CUs and their impact on various professions. "The Biden-Harris Administration is proud to have made record investments in our HBCUs, but to compete in the 21st century, we need state leaders to step up and live up to their legally required obligations to our historically black land-grant institutions," Cardona demanded.

Vilsack echoed Cardona's sentiments, recognizing these institutions' pivotal role in agricultural advancements. He emphasized the need for governors to invest in HBCUs at levels commensu-

rate with their contributions to

society and the economy.

In a news release, administration officials noted that the Second Morrill Act of 1890 mandated that states establishing a second land-grant university for black students ensure equitable distribution of state funds between their 1862 and 1890 land-grant institutions. The 1862 land-grant universities were established through the First Morrill Act of 1862, which provided states with federal land to support the colleges. Drawing on data from the National Center for Education Statistics from 1987 to 2020, the departments calculated the amount these institutions would have received if their state funding per student equaled that

creating significant financial dis-

of 1862 institutions.

Officials said the discrepancies in appropriated funding ranged from \$172 million to \$2.1 billion, between 19 gested reme "We war clear that is reduce funding ranged that between 19 gested reme "We war clear that is reduce funding ranged that between 19 gested reme "The war is the said that between 19 gested reme "The war is the said that between 19 gested reme "The war is the war

parities.

Over the past three decades, these funds could have been channeled towards crucial infrastructure and student services, enhancing the universities' capacity to pursue grants and expand educational opportunities.

The Departments of Education and Agriculture said they have extended their offer to collaborate with each state's budget office to analyze the funding data and redress the disparities in investments for 1890 HBCUs that have faced chronic underfunding.

Each letter outlined the specific underfunding per student for each state's 1890 HBCUs between 1987 and 2020 and suggested remedies for the situation.

"We want to make abundantly clear that it is not necessary to reduce funding to other institutions, nor make a reduction in general fund allocations to (HB-CUs) in addressing these disparities," the secretaries wrote. "We are at an inflection point that will determine our place in the world as leaders. We need to solidify our country as the top producer of talent and innovation – demonstrating to the global community that nothing can beat American ingenuity."

They continued: "The state

that serves as our nation's economic engine for the next generation is sure to be one that fully realizes all its assets and is committed to ensuring that opportunity is equally distributed. Given the career opportunities that will be available due to recent bipartisan federal investments for key industries, strengthening these universities to provide tomorrow's workforce will enhance your state's economic viability."

Ambulance "response times" miss the big picture: health outcomes

The Mississippi Ambulance Alliance Board

No one would dream of requiring that every patient seen in an Emergency Rooms across our state is treated within 12

Such a stringent and arbitrary requirement would be dangerous to those most in need of urgent attention and unaffordable if not impossible to implement. A broken arm is bad, but a cardiac arrest, stroke or bleeding from a severe motor vehicle trauma takes precedent. So, emergency rooms "triage" patients to determine an order of response. And we all accept that. Even if we don't like sitting in the ER a little longer. We get it.

Yet, in 2023, that is how we continue to measure Emergency Medical Services and ambulance responses: How quickly was the truck there?

"Response Times" are the loudest complaint, both locally and around the country - regardless of whether a private or public ambulance is responding. Everyone is, understandably, mad the ambulance isn't right here, right now. And in many if not most instances, the ambulance providers agree - they want to be on scene

But that system is showing its fragility everywhere.

A national survey of ambulance providers by the National Association of EMTs found 65% reporting a significant decline in job applicants compared to 2019. Over half of the news stories in local media across the nation are about shortages of paramedics and EMTs. 911 call volume in many jurisdictions is on the upswing, while the number of paramedics and EMTs is falling.

Ambulance providers are conducting their own inhouse certification courses just to keep up. On the Mississippi Gulf Coast, one ambulance provider is recruiting

and training students in high schools, showing them a pathway into a healthcare field that has a high demand for workers throughout the nation.

But it's not just a paramedic shortage that is straining ambulance response. Ambulances are just the last domino in a healthcare worker shortage

The ambulance you are waiting on is more likely than not already at an emergency room, waiting to unload a patient at an understaffed hospital. That hospital can't find enough nurses to hire to care for those and other patients, meaning EMTs can't transfer the patient in the back of their ambulance.

"Ambulance response time" is just the most public face of a national healthcare provider shortage that stretches back into hospitals, clinics and even some 911 dispatch centers that can't hire people to answer the

Further, compounding this,

our EMS system was built around a hospital system that is rapidly evolving. As more complex procedures are performed at fewer and fewer hospitals in urban centers, ambulances and their teams in the most rural parts of the state spend more time on the road, taking patients to and from those advanced hospitals, and less time in their home county waiting to respond.

Nobody should be faulted for wanting an ambulance at their doorstep within seconds of when they call 911, especially those facing truly severe illness or accidents when minutes and seconds will make the difference. That should be the

To achieve that shared goal, communities around the country are rethinking Emergency Medical Services.

For example, there is a tiered ambulance response system where basic lifesaving (BLS) ambulances are used for appropriate 911 calls in addition to advanced lifesaving (ALS) ambulances. These BLS calls are determined by a trained and certified emergency medical dispatcher (EMD). Not only does this get the appropriate level of care to the caller, but it also allows ALS ambulances to be available for lifesaving

These complex health challenges won't be fixed overnight, nor will they be cured by simply demanding a faster response. In fact, it may make things worse, incentivizing trip volume and truck speed over triage. In fact, simply demanding all ambulances drive faster can actually put more people in the hospital due accidents.

Ambulances today are intensive care units on wheels. They are extraordinarily expensive, staffed by dedicated and welltrained first responders who consider their work a calling, much like police officers and our fire fighters who are being

trained and equipped to be a part of the chain of survival.

Let's leverage telemedicine, let's reward EMS responders for treating non-urgent medical issues on the scene (in consultation with a physician) and when appropriate let's refer patients to a clinic during normal hours. Let's use this moment to build a new, coordinated EMS system that can triage 911 calls and ensure the patients who need the quickest response can

Counties, cities, hospitals, paramedics, EMTs and ambulance providers - along with insurers and healthcare payors - should use this moment to work together to build systems that focus on good patient outcomes: systems that get patients the care they need, when and where they need it.

Mississippi Ambulance Alliance Board members Julia Clarke, president; Jamie Pafford-Gresham, vice president; Lydia Jefcoat, treasurer

Barbershop Series focuses on prostate cancer awareness

Mississippi Link Newswire

The Institute for the Advancement of Minority Health's Black Men's Health Equity Council will host Choppin' It Up - The Barbershop Series from 2 p.m.-4 p.m., Saturday, September 30, 2023. This installment focuses on prostate cancer awareness and will be held on the campus of Tougaloo College in the Berkshire A Men's Residential The guest speaker for the

event is Dr. Carl Reddix of the Reddix Medical Group. Red- disadvantaged and under-

dix will discuss prostate cancer risk factors for black men and the importance of early detection. The first seven individuals in attendance will receive a free haircut. Free lunch, health screenings and access to a Madden video game tournament will be available for participants.

to the public.

The Institute for the Advancement of Minority Health was established in 2019 to reduce health disparities among

served minority populations in Mississippi through the development of collaborative partnerships with community stakeholders and the implementation of evidence-based public health interventions with a particular focus on health equity.

Sponsored by the Institute This event is free and open for the Advancement of Minority Health's Black Men's Health Equity Council, Reddix Medical Group, Tougaloo College, Office of Residential Life, and Rho Epsilon Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc

Tips to eat healthy when eating out



By Vince Faust

Tips to Be Fit

There's nothing wrong with eating out. Eating out can be a delightful experience. And there's no nutritional rule against treating yourself to an occasional meal that's not in keeping with your normal healthy diet. Most of us love good conversation over a tasty meal that we don't have to prepare or clean up after. But, dining out can sabotage your plans to be healthy and shed a few

Studies have linked dining out with overeating and poor food choices. It's crucial to be mindful of how dining out can impact your efforts to maintain a healthy lifestyle. Many restaurants will take special request from their customers.

Don't starve yourself before going out. If you do by the time you get to the restaurant you'll be so hungry you'll overeat. Limit your bread and butter intake. You'll be surprised how much fat is in three dinner rolls with butter. Ask for your butter, dressings, sour cream and other toppings to be served on the side.

Choose from the salad bar carefully. Skip the bacon bits, salt, croutons, cheese and fatty salad dressings. Skip cheese dishes, gravies and foods loaded with salt and mayonnaise whenever you have a salad with your meals. Pasta with light sauces isn't too bad but when you add the meatballs lookout. Watch the alcoholic drinks, they contain a lot of empty calories. If you delay your dessert for 15 minutes your stomach may let you know you don't have room for it.

Meats should be baked, broiled or boiled. If you can have 2 or 3 vegetables with your meal, pass on the bread and butter. Over indulging once

in a while is O.K., but on a daily basis watch out. Some other changes you can make in your diet to help keep your dinner dates happy and healthy: Be the first at your table to order so you won't be tempted to indulge in rich high calorie foods because your friends are ordering them. If you don't know how the food on the menu is prepared ask; don't be shy about making special request such as hold the butter, rich sauces, skip the salt and broil instead of fry. Ask for your dressing on the side and use it sparingly; better still dip your fork in the dressing then take a fork full of salad. Avoid salads loaded with lunchmeat and cheese, which can be high in fat, sodium and calories.

take it home and eat it later. If you eat out multiple nights a week, keep dessert to just one or two nights. Dessert should be a treat to look forward to and not a guaranteed end to every meal. If you drink alcohol do so in moderation and have a spritzer or light drink instead of exotic mixed Don't just talk about your diet do the right

If you must have dessert consider sharing it or

thing and eat like you really do care about your health. When eating out you should try to keep the fat and sodium content of the meal low. That means you should have it the way you want it. Eating out can be an enjoyable experience if you have it your way. Here are some more tips that will help you

have it your way once you get to the restaurant. 1. Scrutinize the menu – read the menu carefully and ask how the food is prepared.

- 2. Be assertive tell your waiter how you want your food prepared.
- 3. Eat a la carte get only the food you want. Order "a la carte" instead of ordering a set meal with its accompaniments.
- 4. Substitute don't hesitate to ask for substitutions, such as a baked potato, vegetables or a tossed salad instead of french fries.
- 5. Eat appetizers order two appetizers that are not fried.
- 6. Soup selection choose soups that have a clear broth instead of cream soups. 7. Share – if the portions are large you can split
- the entree. 8. Know your options – order low fat appetizers in place of an entree.
- 9. Portion control if the restaurant serves large portions, remember you don't have to clean your plate. Plan to eat only half of your meal and box the other half.
- 10. Slow down chewing your food thoroughly and eating slower could help you eat less. When you sit down to eat spend about 20 minutes to complete your meal. It can also make you feel full
- more quickly. 11. Skip the buffets – with an unlimited supply of food at a buffet, eating the right amount can be challenging. If you're stuck with a buffet as your only choice, use a smaller plate. It might help you eat less. You can also use a normal-sized plate and fill half of it with salad or vegetables.

CHOPPIN IT UP BARBERSHOP SERIES:

MEN'S PROSTATE CANCER AWARENESS

Saturday, September 30th, 2023 from 2pm-4pm

The first 7 attendees to receive a health screening will be eligible to get a free haircut by "Barbers Incorporated" **Barber Jarrelle Thorton**

Prostate cancer presentation will be followed by Madden Football video game tournamentfor \$100 gift card. Must receive health screening to participate.

Free Food







Tougaloo College 500 West County Line Rd Tougaloo, MS 39174 Berkshire Men's Residential Hall

For more information, please contact: Warren Jones - (769) 572-5263 wjones@advancingminorityhealth.org

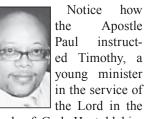
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SEPTEMBER 21 - 27, 2023

THE MISSISSIPPI LINK • 9

Endure hardness as a good soldier of Jesus Christ

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



Church of God. He told him in 2 Timothy 2:1, "Thou therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus."

The grace that is in Christ Jesus is our strength, and His grace provides us with everything we need for the armor of God and for the weapons of this warfare.

Paul was used to praying and getting prayers answered, but he asked the Lord three times to remove a thorn in his flesh. God finally gave Paul an answer, but He did not remove the thorn. In 2 Corinthians 12:9, we can read that the Lord told Paul, "My grace is sufficient for thee: for My strength

is made perfect in weakness."

The Apostle Paul went on to tell Timothy in 2 Timothy 2:2-3: "And the things that thou hast heard f me among many witness, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also. Thou therefore endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ."

Paul said we are in warfare. Christian friend, we are in the army of God, and Paul said, "having done all, to stand." Where do we stand? We must stand on the Word of God, the Truth of God. We must live our lives by the Word of God, the righteousness of God, and the holiness that He has given and created in us.

Jesus is our leader in the battle, and we must trust and follow Him. In John, Chapter 8, we can read about the woman who had been taken in adultery. Her accusers were not trying to uphold the law; they were trying to trap Jesus.

He said to them in verse 7, "He that is without sin among you, let him first cast a stone at her." One by one her accusers left, because they were convicted by their consciences. Then Jesus asked in verse 10, "Woman, where are those thine accusers: Hath no man condemned thee?" Verse 11 reads, "She said, no man, Lord." Jesus said to her, "neither do I condemn thee: go, and sin no more."

This is the same message that God has for every sinner: go and sin no more; then put on the whole armor of God and take the weapons that He has provide for you, in this warfare. We are to live for Him in righteousness and true holiness.

In Isaiah, Chapter 53, the Prophet Isaiah prophesied of the sufferings of Christ and of how He was bruised for our iniquities in His own body. In verse 11-12, Isaiah wrote: "He shall see of the travail of His soul and shall be satisfied; by His knowledge shall My righteous servant justify many; for He shall bear their iniquities. Therefore, will I divide Him a portion with the great and He shall divide the spoil with the strong; because He hath poured out His soul unto death: and he was numbered with the transgressor; and He bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors."

Notice that Isaiah said Christ would divide the spoil with the strong. Friend, if we put on the whole armor of God and use the weapons that He has given us, we can be more than conquerors in every battle, and Christ will divide the spoil with us. Christ suffered and poured out His soul unto death so that we could be an overcomer.

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

Right thing

in a wrong situation

By Shewanda Riley Columnist



The first time I heard the Jill Scott song, "Golden" years ago, I was hooked. To me, the lyrics were

so simple and so inspiring. "I'm holding on to my freedom, can't take it from me, I was born into it, and it comes naturally, I'm strumming my own freedom, playing the God in me representing His glory, hope He's proud of me. I'm living my life like it's golden."

I thought what a great way of looking at life. For a while, that was my phrase: I was living my life like it was golden. When things happened that I didn't like, I shook it off and kept singing that I was "living my life like it's golden." I even bought a gold-colored purse to symbolize this new attitude.

Then, some not so golden things happened...all at once. I stopped singing the song because I no longer believed the words. My life wasn't golden. In fact, it seemed dark with nothing to sing about. But strangely, the darker the days got, it seemed like the louder I heard the song's refrain: "Living my life like it's golden." How could my life be golden when things looked dreary?

I finally realized that my idea of golden was different than God's idea, so I decided to look up what gold meant in the bible. I found out that gold is mentioned in the Old Testament more than any other metal. During biblical times, gold was used as a means of exchange. Also, unlike other precious metals, gold will not lose any of its value, color, or

properties when heated. Gold has greater value because it is harder to find than other metals. Found in small amounts in our blood, gold also symbolizes earthly riches.

But living a "golden" life isn't necessarily one full of riches and great success. It's about realizing like Job said in Job 23:10 that God, "knows the way that I take; When He has tested me, I shall come forth as gold." Living my life like it's golden means that I strike to be purified from emotional toxins like lust-filled distractions, discouragement and disappointment. I pass those tests by focusing on not who I currently am but who God has created me to be.

There are deeper issues that we deal with, and they are all rooted in relationships: our relationship with God, our relationships with others and our relationship with ourselves. A "golden life" means that my life and relationship with God is not a one-way communication with me always asking for God to give to me. A "golden life" means that I make a place in my life for dialogue with God.

Living a golden life means that I'm willing to work on getting rid of the impurities in my life and, most importantly, realize just how much value I have.

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.





9 a.m. Sunday School 10 a.m. in person

Or you may worship with us via Facebook or our YouTube channel at CHMBC



Pastor Chauncy L. Jordan

New Bethel Missionary Baptist Church

Pastor, Dr. F. R. Lenoir



Sunday School - 9:15 a.m. Sunday Morning Worship - 10:30 a.m. Live Radio Broadcast WOAD AM 1300 - 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.



Home Not Built by Man'

New Bethel M. B. Church • 450 Culberston Ave. • Jackson, MS 39209 601-969-3481/969-3482 • Fax # 601-969-1957 • E-Mail: Serenitynbc@aol.com

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VIRTUAL SERVICES AVAILABLE **SMALL GROUP STUDY 9:00 AM WORSHIP SERVICE | SUNDAY 10:30 AM BIBLE STUDY | WEDNESDAY 6:30 PM**



Crossroads Church of God

Sharing The Love Of Christ With Others



Sunday Morning Fellowship: 9:30 a.m. Sunday Sch: 10 a.m.

Sunday Worship Service: 11:15 a.m Prayer/Bible Fellowship following worship service 1st

Study: 7 p.m.

Rev. Mark Jackson, Pastor 231-A John Day Road - Off Hwy 16 East - Canton, MS 39046 Church: 601-859-2858

LEGAL

CORRECTION: NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS
Publication Date: February 03, 2023
City of Jackson Office of Housing and Community Development 218 S
President Street
Jackson, Ms 39201
601-960-2155
Jarkisha Spann

On February 3, 2023, the City of Jackson Office of Housing and Community Development published a notice of intent to request to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for the release of funding as follows, on or about September 12,2023 the City of Jackson will submit a request to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for the release of the Healthy Homes Production Grant Program (HHP), authorized under 501 and Section 502 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1970 (12 U.S.C. §§ 1701z-1 and 1701z-2), and funding is provided by the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 (Public Law 116-260, approved December 27, 2020) for the following multi-year program/project: Healthy Homes Production Grant Program (HHPG) for the purpose of providing healthy homes and housing rehabilitation interventions that reduce or prevent health hazards identified in homes due to disrepair in dwellings where children, individuals 62 and/or older, and disabled individuals reside. This will be accomplished by providing lead-based paint and other hazard assessments, removal/abatement, stabilization, and minor rehabilitation activities. A total of 125 properties will receive interventions through HHPG and receive minor rehabilitation using Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) to ensure the health and safety of the residents. Tier 2 site specific reviews will be completed for those laws and authorities not addressed in the tier 1 broad review for each property under this program when addresses become known. The City of Jackson is requesting the release of \$1,581,981.13 and 157,977.48.

The purpose of this notice is to identify corrections to the original, February 3, 2023 publication, essentially identifying and submitting a Request for Release of Funds to HUD for the Healthy Homes Production Grant Program, and to provide the public with an additional time period to submit comments or objections to HUD.

OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS: HUD will consider objections to its release of funds for a period of fifteen days following the date of this notice only if the objections are on one of the following bases: (a) that the certification was not executed by the Certifying Officer of the City of Jackson Office of Housing and Community Development; (b) the City of Jackson Office of Housing and Community Development has omitted a step or failed to make a decision or finding required by HUD regulations at 24 CFR part 58; (c) the City of Jackson Office of Housing and Community Development has committed funds or incurred costs not authorized by 24 CFR Part 58 before approval of a release of funds by HUD; (d) another Federal agency acting pursuant to 40 CFR Part 1504 has submitted a written finding that the project is unsatisfactory from the standpoint of environmental quality. Objections must be prepared and submitted in accordance with the required procedures (24 CFR Part 58, Sec. 58.76) and shall be addressed to Karen M. Griego, Program Environmental Clearance Officer. Email LeadRegulations@HUD.GOV.

Potential objectors should contact U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's Office of Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

09/21/23

LEGAL

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR A USE PERMIT ZONING CASE NO. 4225

By virtue of and pursuant to the authority and direction of that Ordinance by the City Council of Jackson, Mississippi, appearing in Minute Book 3G at page 115 thereof, notice is hereby given to all persons interested in or in any way affected thereby, that Ernest King Jr. has filed with the Planning Board for the City of Jackson, an application requesting a Special Exception to allow for a privately owned horse facility\stable within a R-1 (Single-Family) Residential District on property located at 526 Eden Downs Rd. (Parcels 844-170 & 844-170-2) in the First Judicial District of Hinds County, Mississippi, and being more particularly described as:

PARCEL I

Being situated in the northeast quarter of section 21, Township 5 N, range 1 W, Hines county, Mississippi and being more particularly described by meats and bounds as follows, to wit:

Commence at the southwest corner of the southeast quarter of the northeast quarter of section 21 and run thence W for a distance of 605 point 25 feet; vents run north for a distance of 525.30 feet to the center of a drainage ditch; thence leave said center of drainage ditch and run N 89 degrees 18 minutes 17 seconds W for a distance of 718.24 feet along an existing fence line to the eastern line of Eden downs Rd. Dance N 00 degrees 24 minutes 56 seconds W for a distance of 120.0 feet along the old eastern line of Eden downs Rd. To a ferrous rod which marks the point of beginning for the parcel herein described; Thence leave said eastern line and run S 99 degrees 09 minutes 20 seconds east for a distance of 750.61 feet to the center of a drainage ditch; thence N 10 degrees 40 minutes 17 seconds east for a distance of 34.20 feet along the said Sinner; that's N 36 degrees 12 minutes 35 seconds east for a distance of 27.31 feet along the said center; Thence N 44 degrees 51 minutes 15 seconds east for a distance of 38.42 feet along the said center; Thence N 15 degrees 16 minutes 45 seconds east for a distance of 79.32 feet along the Sid center; that's north 12 degrees 00 minutes 32 seconds east for a distance of 64.61 feet along the said center; That's N 43 degrees 00 minutes 05 seconds east for a distance of 21.76 feet along the said center; thence N 02 degrees 23 minutes 23 seconds W for a distance of 63.36 feet along the said center that's N 26 degrees 16 minutes 23 seconds east for a distance of 14.39 feet along the said center; Thence S 55 degrees 06 minutes 39 seconds east for a distance of 18.47 feet; Thence N 21 degrees 12 minutes 46 seconds east for a distance of 19.74 feet along the center; Thence north 08 degrees 52 minutes 23 seconds W for a distance of 91.17 feet along the said center of a drainage ditch; thence leave said center of a drainage ditch and run S 88 degrees 10 minutes 54 seconds east for a distance of 70.56 feet to a fence corner; Thence N 11 degrees 42 minutes 47 seconds east for a distance of 206.0 feet along the fence line to a fence corner; Thence N 76 degrees 52 minutes 26 seconds W for a distance of 783.81 feet along the existing fence line do I fence corner; thence South 01 degrees 00 minutes 40 seconds W for a distance of 81.71 feet along a fence line to a ferrous metal rod; thence leave said fence line and run N 87 degrees 22 minutes 40 seconds W for a distance of 230.47 feet to the Sid eastern line of Eden downs Rd. Thence S 01 degrees 26 minutes 55 seconds W for a distance of 273.55 feet along the said eastern line of Eden downs Rd. Thence S 00 degrees 04 minutes 37 seconds east for a distance of 451.50 feet along the Sid eastern line of Eden down roads to the point of beginning, containing 14.9161 acres more or less. (plat or survey by Robert B Barnes, R. P. L. S., is attached hereto as exhibit A in aid or and as a part of this description.

LESS AND EXCEPT FROM THE WARRANTY herein is 0.0776 acres, more or less, lying in the northeast corner of the above described property which lies between the deed line and the existing fence line. They said grand tours do hereby remise, release and quitclaim their rights and interests in and to this 0.0778 acre, more or less, to the said grantees.

PARCEL II

Part of the SE 1/4 of the capital N Capital SE 1/4 of the NE 1/4 of Section 21. TNS 5. The First Judicial District, Jackson, Hinds County, Miss. As established by Robert B Barnes, R. P. L. S, per a survey dated December 19, 1992 and run thence a 90 degrees 00 minutes 00 seconds dash 608.25 feet; Run this capital N 60 degrees 00 minutes 00 seconds S - 529.30 feet; run thence in 85 degrees 14 minutes 47 seconds in dash 720.14 feet to the east line of Eden towns road; Run thence N 00 degrees 24 minutes 56 seconds north 270.00 feet along the east line of Eden downs Rd. to an iron pin; Run that's N 00 degrees 04 minutes 37 seconds West 59.40 feet along the east line of Eden downs Rd. to an iron pen and the point of beginning; Continue thence N 00 degrees 06 minutes and 37 seconds north 152.26 feet along the east line of Eden downs Rd. to an iron pin; Thence leaving Eden downs Rd. Run N 68 degrees 19 minutes 08 seconds E 256.80 feet along a westward extension of an existing fence and an existing fence to an iron pin; Run thence S 00 degrees 06 minutes 37 seconds N 240.05 feet to an iron pin; Run thence S 85 degrees 35 minutes 23 seconds north 372.02 feet to the point of beginning. Containing 1.000 acres more or less.

Said application will be heard at the City Planning Board Hearing in the Andrew Jackson Conference Room, First Floor, Warren A. Hood Building, 200 S. President Street in Jackson, Mississippi, at 1:30 p.m., on Wednesday, September 27, 2023, at which time all parties interested in or affected thereby will be heard both pro and con on said question, after which a record will be established upon which the City Planning Board can make its recommendation to the City Council of Jackson. Any objection thereto may be made by any person owning property within the area, and if made in writing must be filed with the City Zoning Administrator before said time if a hearing thereof or consideration thereof is desired, or by counsel on said date. If a request is made to the Zoning Administrator at least 72 hours in advance, the City will take steps to accommodate citizens need for interpreters or auxiliary aids for the visually/hearing impaired.

DUE TO COVID-19 AND THE CONCERN FOR THE PUBLIC HEALTH, SAFETY AND WELFARE, THE PLANNING BOARD MEMBERS AND THE APPLICANTS HAVE THE OPTION TO ATTEND THE MEETING VIA TELE-CONFERENCE/VIDEO OR IN PERSON WITH REGARDS TO THE WEARING OF MASKS AND THE SOCIAL DISTANCING REQUIREMENTS. MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC MAY ATTEND VIA TELECONFERENCE/VIDEO BY EMAILING EAINSWORTH@CITY.JACKSON.MS.US TO REGISTER PRIOR TO SEPTEMBER 20, 2023.

WITNESS my signature this 5th day of September 2023.

/s/Ester L. Ainsworth Zoning Administrator City of Jackson, Mississippi

09/07/23, 09/21/23

LEGAL

RESOLUTION DECLARING THE INTENTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI, TO ISSUE EITHER GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS OF THE CITY IN ONE OR MORE TAX-ABLE OR TAX-EXEMPT SERIES, AND/OR ISSUE A GENERAL OBLIGA-TION BOND OF THE CITY FOR SALE TO THE MISSISSIPPI DEVELOP-MENT BANK IN ONE OR MORE TAXABLE OR TAX-EXEMPT SERIES, AND/ OR ENTER INTO A TAXABLE AND/OR A TAX-EXEMPT LOAN WITH THE MISSISSIPPI DEVELOPMENT BANK, ALL IN AN AGGREGATE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF NOT TO EXCEED NINE MILLION FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$9,500,000) TO RAISE MONEY FOR THE PURPOSE OF (A) RE-PAIRING, IMPROVING, ADORNING AND EQUIPPING THE ARTS CENTER OF MISSISSIPPI AND THE RUSSELL C. DAVIS PLANETARIUM AND FOR HER AUTHORIZED PURPOSES IN CONNECTION WITH SAI ING CONSTRUCTING, IMPROVING AND PAVING STREETS, SIDEWALKS, DRIVEWAYS, PARKWAYS, WALKWAYS AND PUBLIC PARKING FACILITIES (COLLECTIVELY, THE "CONSTRUCTION PROJECT"), ALL PURUSANT TO SECTIONS 21-33-301 ET SEQ., MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, AS AMEND-ED AND SUPPLEMENTED FROM TIME TO TIME AND SECTIONS 31-25-1 ET SEQ., MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, AS AMENDED AND SUPPLEMENT-ED FROM TIME TO TIME; (B) PROVIDING FOR THE PAYMENT IN FULL OR IN PART OF THE OUTSTANDING \$7,500,000 (ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT) CITY OF JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI TAX-EXEMPT GENERAL OB-LIGATION PLANETARIUM BOND, SERIES 2022, DATED DECEMBER 22, 2022 AND THE CORRESPONDING \$7,500,000 MISSISSIPPI DEVELOP-MENT BANK SPECIAL OBLIGATION BONDS, SERIES 2022 (JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI TAX-EXEMPT GENERAL OBLIGATION PLANETARIUM BOND PROJECT) DATED DECEMBER 22, 2022; (C) PURSUING AN ADDITIONAL SUBSIDY AND/OR FINANCING FOR THE CONSTRUCTION PROJECT BY PARTICPATING AND UTILIZING FEDERAL NEW MARKET TAX CREDITS PURUSANT TO SECTION 45D OF THE INTERNAL REVENUE CODE OF 1986, AND/OR SECTION 57-105-1 ET SEQ., MISSISSIPI CODE OF 1972, AS AMENDED AND SUPPLEMENTED FROM TIME TO TIME (THE "NMTC FINANCING"); (D) AUTHORIZING THE USE OF A PUBLIC ENTITY, INCLUD-ING BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE JACKSON REDEVELOPMENT AUTHOR-ITY IN CONNECTION WITH THE NMTC FINANCING; (E) ENTERING INTO OR APPROVING VARIOUS LEASES. LOANS AND OTHER FINANCING ARRANGEMENTS WITH THE PUBLIC ENTITY FOR THE NMTC TRANS-ACTION, (F) PROVIDING FOR CAPITALIZED INTEREST, IF NECESSARY, AND (G) PAYING THE COSTS OF BORROWING ASSOCIATED WITH THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS, THE LOAN AND/OR THE NMTC FINANCING, DI-RECTING THE PUBLICATION OF A NOTICE OF SUCH INTENTION; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Council of the City of Jackson, Mississippi (the "Governing Body"), acting for and on behalf of the City of Jackson, Mississippi (the "City"), is authorized by Sections 21-33-301 et seq., Mississippi Code of 1972, as amended and supplemented from time to time (the "City Bond Act"), to issue general obligation bonds in one or more taxable or tax-exempt series for the purposes set forth therein, including, but not limited (a) repairing, improving, adorning and equipping the Arts Center of Mississippi and the Russell C. Davis Planetarium and for other authorized purposes in connection with same including constructing, improving and paving streets, sidewalks, driveways, parkways, walkways and public parking facilities (the "Construction Project") and for other authorized purposes under the City Bond Act and Sections 31-25-1 et seq., Mississippi Code of 1972, as amended and supplemented from time to time (the "Bank Act" and together with the City Bond Act, the "Act"); (b) providing for the payment in full or in part of the outstanding \$7,500,000 (original principal amount) Mississippi Development Bank Special Obligation Bonds, Series 2022 (City of Jackson, Mississippi General Obligation Planetarium Improvement Bond Project), dated December 22, 2022 (the "2022 Bank Bonds") and the corresponding \$7,500,000 (original principal amount) General Obligation Bond (Planetarium Improvement Project), Series 2022, dated December 22, 2022 (the "2022 City Bond" and together with the 2022 Bank Bonds, the "Series 2022 Bonds"); (c) pursuing an additional subsidy for the Construction Project by participating and utilizing federal New Markets Tax Credits pursuant to Section 45D of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code"), and/or Mississippi Equity Investment Tax Credits pursuant to Sections 57-105-1, Mississippi Code of 1972, as amended and/or supplemented from time to time (the "MS NMTC Act") (collectively, the "NMTC Financing") to finance the Construction Project, (d) authorizing the use of a Public Entity (the "Public Entity"), including but not limited to the Jackson Redevelopment Authority (the "JRA") to be utilized as defined specifically pursuant to § 57-105-1 (7)(b)(iii) of the MS NMTC Act; (e) entering into or approving various leases, loans and other financing arrangements with the Public Entity for the purpose of utilizing NMTC Financing as may be approved by further action of the Governing Body; (f) providing for capitalized interest, if necessary, for the Bonds (defined herein), and (g) paying the costs of borrowing associated with the issuance of the Bonds, the Loan and/or the NMTC

Financing (collectively, (a) through (g), the "Project"); and

WHEREAS, the Project is in accordance with and in furtherance of the provisions of the $\mbox{\it Act};$ and

WHEREAS, the Governing Body, acting for and on behalf of the City, is authorized pursuant to the Act to provide funding for the costs of the Project through the issuance of either (a) general obligation bonds of the City, in one or more taxable or tax-exempt series in a total aggregate principal amount of not to exceed Nine Million Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$9,500,000) (the "Bonds"), (b) a general obligation bond of the City to be sold to the Mississippi Development Bank (the "Bank"), in one or more taxable or tax-exempt series, in a total aggregate principal amount of not to exceed Nine Million Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$9,500,000) (the "City Bond"), and/or (c) by entering into a taxable or tax-exempt loan(s) with the Bank to borrow money from the Bank in a total principal amount not to exceed Nine Million Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$9,500,000) (the "Loan"); and

WHEREAS, as of July 1, 2023, the assessed value of all taxable property within the City, according to the last completed assessment for taxation, was \$1,286,103,862, and the City had outstanding bonded and floating indebtedness as subject to the fifteen percent (15%) debt limit prescribed by Section 21-33-303 of the City Bond Act, as amended, in the amount of \$99,270,000, and outstanding bonded and floating indebtedness as subject to the twenty percent (20%) debt limit prescribed by Section 2133-303 of the City Bond Act, in the amount of \$99,270,000; and

WHEREAS, the Bonds, the City Bond and/or the Loan, when added to the outstanding bonded indebtedness of the City, including any indebtedness of the City issued subsequent to the adoption of this resolution but prior to the issuance of the Bonds or the City Bond or entering into the Loan, will not result in bonded indebtedness, exclusive of indebtedness not subject to the aforesaid fifteen percent (15%) debt limit, of more than fifteen percent (15%) of the assessed value of all taxable property within the City, will not result in indebtedness, both bonded and floating, exclusive of indebtedness not subject to the aforesaid twenty percent (20%) debt limit prescribed by Section 21-33-303 of the City Bond Act, in excess of twenty percent (20%) of the assessed value of all taxable property within the City, and will not exceed any constitutional or statutory limitation upon indebtedness which may be incurred by the City: and

WHEREAS, there has been no increase in said bonded and floating general obligation indebtedness of the City since July 1, 2023; and

WHEREAS, it would be in the best interest of the City for the Governing Body to provide funding for the Project by borrowing money through the issuance of the Bonds or the City Bond and/or by entering into the Loan; all in accordance with the Act: and

WHEREAS, the Governing Body is authorized and empowered by the City Bond Act and/or the Bank Act employ Butler Snow LLP to serve as Bond Counsel to the City in connection with the issuance of the Bonds or the City Bond or in connection with entering into the above-described Loan for the purposes set forth herein; and

WHEREAS, the Governing Body is authorized and empowered by the Act to issue the Bonds or the City Bond or to enter into the Loan for the purposes herein set forth and there are no other available funds on hand or available from regular sources of income for such purposes.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY, ACTING FOR AND ON BEHALF OF THE CITY, AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. The Governing Body, acting for and on behalf of the City, hereby declares its intention to (a) issue and sell the Bonds, and/or the City Bond to the Bank, in one or more taxable or tax-exempt series, in the total principal amount not to exceed Nine Million Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$9,500,000), and/or (b) enter into the Loan with the Bank to borrow money from the Bank, all in total principal amount not to exceed Nine Million Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$9,500,000).

SECTION 2. The Bonds and/or the City Bond will be issued and/or the Loan will be entered into to raise money for the purpose of financing the Project, as authorized by the Act.

SECTION 3. The Bonds or the City Bond may be issued in one or more series and, if issued, will be general obligations of the City payable as to principal and interest out of and secured by an irrevocable pledge of the avails of a direct and continuing tax to be levied annually without limitation as to time, rate or amount upon all the taxable property within the geographical limits of the City. The Loan will be payable from legally available revenues of the City and will not constitute an indebtedness of the City within the meaning of any constitutional or statutory restrictions, limitations, or provisions, and the taxing power

of the City will not be pledged to the payment of the Loan.

SECTION 4. The Governing Body proposes to direct the issuance of all or any portion of the Bonds or the City Bond or to authorize the Loan in the amount and for the purposes and secured as aforesaid at a meeting of the Governing Body to be held at its usual meeting place located at the City Hall in the City, located at 219 S. President, Jackson, Mississippi 39201, at the hour of 10:00 o'clock a.m. on September 26, 2023, or at some meeting or meetings subsequent thereto; provided, however, that if ten percent (10%) or Fifteen Hundred (1500), whichever is less, of the qualified electors of the City shall file a written protest with the City Clerk of the City (the "City Clerk") against the issuance of the Bonds or the City Bond or the authorization of the Loan on or before 10:00 be issued or the Loan shall not be entered into unless approved at an election on the question thereof called and held as is provided by law; provided, further that if no protest is filed, then the Bonds or the City Bond may be issued and sold in one or more series or the City may enter into the Loan without an election on the question of the issuance thereof at any time within a period of two (2) years after September 26, 2023.

SECTION 5. In full compliance with the City Bond Act, the City Clerk is hereby directed to publish a copy of this resolution once a week for at least three (3) consecutive weeks in The Mississippi Link and/or The Clarion Ledger, both newspapers published in and having a general circulation in the City and qualified under the provisions of Section 13331, Mississippi Code of 1972, as amended, with the first publication being not less than twenty-one (21) days prior to the date set forth in Section 4 of this resolution, and the last publication being made not more than seven (7) days prior to such date.

SECTION 6. The City Clerk of the Governing Body shall be and is hereby directed to procure from the publisher of the aforesaid newspaper the customary proof of the publication of this resolution and the required notice and have the same before the Governing Body on the date and hour specified in Section 4 hereof.

SECTION 7. The Governing Body does now find, determine and adjudicate that all conditions, acts and things required by the Act, the MS NMTC Act and the Constitution and laws of the State of Mississippi to have existed and have been performed precedent to and in connection with the adoption of this Intent Resolution have been performed in regular and due time, form and manner as required by law.

SECTION 8. Butler Snow LLP is hereby engaged to serve as Bond Counsel to the City in connection with the issuance of the Bonds or the City Bond or in connection with entering into the above-described Loan for the purposes set forth herein.

SECTION 9. If any one or more of the provisions of this resolution shall for any reason be held to be illegal or invalid, such illegality or invalidity shall not affect any of the other provisions of this resolution, but this resolution shall be construed and enforced as if such illegal or invalid provision or provisions had not been contained herein.

[Remainder Left Intentionally Blank]

Councilperson Lindsay made the motion and Councilperson Banks seconded the motion to adopt the foregoing resolution, and the question being put to a roll call vote, the result was as follows:

Yeas: Virgi Lindsay, Aaron Banks, Vernon Hartley and Ashby Foote Nays: None.

Absent: Angelique C. Lee, Brian C. Grizzell and Kenneth Stokes

The President of the Council then declared the resolution passes and adopted this the 22nd day of August 2023.

APPROVED BY: /s/ Aaron Banks

PRESIDENT OF THE CITY COUNCIL /s/ Chokwe Antar Lumumba

ATTEST: /s/ Angela Harris CITY CLERK

MAYOR

08/31/23, 09/07/23, 09/14/23, 09/21/23,

LEGAL

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR A USE PERMIT **ZONING CASE NO. 4226**

By virtue of and pursuant to the authority and direction of that Ordinance by the City Council of Jackson, Mississippi, appearing in Minute Book 3G at page 115 thereof, notice is hereby given to all persons interested in or in any way affected thereby, that Earnest Williams has filed with the Planning Board for the City of Jackson, an application requesting an Use Permit to allow for a general restaurant within a C80-C2 (Limited) Commercial Subdistrict on property located at 1651 University Blvd - Suite B. (Parcels 166-1) in the First Judicial District of Hinds County, Mississippi, and being more particularly

Being situated in the SW 1/4 of Section 9, T5N, RI E, City of Jackson, Hinds County, Mississippi, and being more particularly described by metes and

Commence at the intersection of the West right of way line of Old U.S. Highway No. 51 (now Terry Road) with the South line of Lot 49 of Mississippi Addition, a subdivision, the map or plat of which is recorded in Plat Book 4 at page 90 of the Chancery records of Hinds County at Jackson, Mississippi, said intersection being the point of beginning for the parcel herein described; thence run 44.338 feet along the arc of a 6615.93 foot radius curve to the right in the said West right of way line, said arc having a 44.338 foot chord which bears S 400 39'05" W, thence S 400 56' 25" W for a distance of 11.84' along the West right of way line; thence N 60 0 48' 35" W for a distance of 3575 along the said West right of way line; thence S 400 56' 25" W for a distance of 225.10' along the said West right of way line; thence leave said West right of way line and run N 670 03' 35" W for a distance of 335.45' to an iron pin which marks the Southwest corner of the T. R. Evans property as described in Deed Book 699 at page 366 of the said Chancery Clerk Records of Hinds County; thence N 18 0 34' 21" E for a distance of 351.885' to the South right of way line of U.S. Highway No. 80; thence S 820 46' 00" E for a distance of 349.515' along the said South right of way line of U.S. Highway No. 80; thence run 36.243 feet along the arc of a 3173.50 foot radius curve to the left, said arc having a 36.43 foot chord which bears S 290 23' 58" W; thence S 290 04' 20" W for a distance of 78.70'; thence S 600 55' 40" E for a distance of 60.0

LEGAL

RULE 81 SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF HINDS COUNTY, MISSISSPPI

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF EDWARD JOHNSON, DECEASED

CAUSE #: P2022-154 T/1

PETITIONER: ALICE H. JOHNSON

THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

SUMMONS

TO: THE UNKNOWN HEIRS OF EDWARD JOHNSON, DECEASED

You have been made a Defendant in the suit filed in this Court by Alice H. Johnson Petitioner, seeking the adjudication of heirs of Edward Johnson, Deceased

You are summoned to appear and defend against the complaint or petition filed against you in this action at 9:00 o'clock a.m., on the 30th day of October 2023, in the Chancery Courtroom of Hinds County before Honorable Dewayne Thomas, Chancellor. 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 day of April 2023.



09/07/23, 09/14/23, 09/21/23

Crossword Puzzle

1	2	3	4			5	6	7	8
9	+	+	+		10				
11	+	+	+		12	+	+	+	+
13	+	+	+	14			15	+	
			16	+	1	17			1
18	19	20		+	+	\dagger			
21	+	+		22	+	+	23	24	25
26	+	+	27			28		+	
29	+	+	+	+		30	+	+	+-
31	+	+	+			32	+	+	+

ACROSS 1. After awhile

- matter 9. Unconsciousness
- 10. Request 11. Tel
- 12. Large eastern religion 13. Senility 15. Discs
- 16. "Last of the Mohicans"
- character 18. Closed (2 wds.)
- 21. Avenue 22. Raging
- 26. Plant hormone 28. Move carefully
- 29. Clank
- 31. Pennsylvania (abbr.) 32. Louver
- 30. Caps

DOWN

- 1. University (abbr.) 2. De __ (anew)
- 3. Skip
- 4. S. Western Indian tribe 5. Boxer Muhammad
- 6. Long spear 7. Midshipman
- 8. Entertain 10. Gum eater
- 14. Yawning
- 17. Assumes the proposal position 18. Colored People's association
- 19. Plant seed 20. Dallas denizen
- 23. Flunk 24. U.S. Department of Agriculture
- 25. For fear that
- 27. Hotel

© Feature Exchang

along the Westerly extension of the South right of way line of Somme Street; thence S 290 04' 20" W for a distance of 50.0' along the West line of the said Mississippi Addition to the Southwest corner of the said Lot 49 of Mississippi Addition; thence S 600 55' 40" E for a distance of 106.81' along the said South line of Lot 49 to the point of beginning, containing 3,488 acres, more or less.

Said application will be heard at the City Planning Board Hearing in the Andrew Jackson Conference Room, First Floor, Warren A. Hood Building, 200 S. President Street in Jackson, Mississippi, at 1:30 p.m., on Wednesday, September 27, 2023, at which time all parties interested in or affected thereby will be heard both pro and con on said question, after which a record will be established upon which the City Planning Board can make its recommendation to the City Council of Jackson. Any objection thereto may be made by any person owning property within the area, and if made in writing must be filed with the City Zoning Administrator before said time if a hearing thereof or consideration thereof is desired, or by counsel on said date. If a request is made to the Zoning Administrator at least 72 hours in advance, the City will take steps to accommodate citizens need for interpreters or auxiliary aids for the visually/hearing impaired.

DUE TO COVID-19 AND THE CONCERN FOR THE PUBLIC HEALTH, SAFETY AND WELFARE, THE PLANNING BOARD MEMBERS AND THE APPLICANTS HAVE THE OPTION TO ATTEND THE MEETING VIA TELE-CONFERENCE/VIDEO OR IN PERSON WITH REGARDS TO THE WEAR-ING OF MASKS AND THE SOCIAL DISTANCING REQUIREMENTS. MEM-BERS OF THE PUBLIC MAY ATTEND VIA TELECONFERENCE/VIDEO BY EMAILING EAINSWORTH@CITY.JACKSON.MS.US TO REGISTER PRIOR TO SEPTEMBER 20, 2023.

WITNESS my signature this 5th day of September 2023.

/s/Ester L. Ainsworth Zoning Administrator City of Jackson, Mississippi

09/07/23, 09/21/23

LEGAL

LEGAL NOTICE NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED CITY OF JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI **URBAN RENEWAL PLAN** (CITY OF JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI PLANETARIUM PROJECT 2023)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a public hearing, pursuant to Section 43-35-13 of the Mississippi Code of 1972, as amended and supplemented from time to time, will be held by the Board of Mayor and City Council of the City of Jackson, Mississippi (the "Governing Body"), acting for and on behalf of the City of Jackson, Mississippi (the "City"), on the 10th day of October, 2023, at 10:00 o'clock a.m., Mississippi time, at the usual meeting place of the Governing Body located at the Jackson City Hall at 219 S. President Street, Jackson, Mississippi 39201, for the purpose of providing a reasonable opportunity for interested individuals to express their views, either orally or in writing, on the approval by the Governing Body, acting for and on behalf of the City, of an Urban Renewal Plan (City of Jackson, Mississippi Planetarium Project 2023) (the "2023 Urban Renewal Plan") of the City in connection with repairing, improving, adorning and equipping the Arts Center of Mississippi and the Russell C. Davis Planetarium and for other authorized purposes in connection with same including constructing, improving and paving streets, sidewalks, driveways, parkways, walkways and public parking facilities located at 201 E. Pascagoula Street, Jackson, MS 39201(the "2023 Urban Renewal Project").

Upon approval of the 2023 Urban Renewal Plan, the Governing Body intends to ground lease the Project Site (as defined in the 2023 Urban Renewal Plan) to the Jackson Redevelopment Authority ("JRA"). JRA, acting pursuant to Sections 57-105-1 of the Mississippi Code of 1972, as amended (the "MS NMTC Act"), intends to establish a "Public Benefit Corporation" (as defined therein) (the "PBC") in order to facilitate the financing for the Construction Project and/ or Urban Renewal Project utilizing federal New Markets Tax Credits Pursuant to Section 45D of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code") and, if available, Mississippi Equity Investment Tax Credits of the MS NMTC IRA will around lease the Project Site to PRC for nurnoses of fina Construction Project and/or Urban Renewal Project pursuant to the MS NMTC Act. JRA, the City and the newly formed public benefit corporation will enter into a joint development agreement, wherein the PBC will pay turnkey development payments to the City to facilitate the cost of construction of the Project. Upon completion of the renovations, PBC will lease back the Urban Renewal Project to the City for operations.

The Governing Body, at the above stated time and place, will hear all persons with views in favor of or opposed to the approval of the 2023 Urban Renewal Plan and the 2023 Urban Renewal Project.

Dated this the 12th day of September, 2023. CITY OF JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI By: /s/Angela Harris

City Clerk

09/21/23

LEGAL

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

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

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

Thereafter, Notice of Request for Proposals by the Authority to purchase all or part of designated properties shall be monthly until all properties are sold, with the last Submission Deadline being 5:00 p.m. on December 20,2023.Interested parties may submit proposals to the Authority for the land pursuant to RFP issued April27, 2023, and/or any subsequent Notice of Publication.

RFP DATED: April 27,2023

4/27/23, 5/25/23, 06/22/23, 07/27/23, 08/24/23, 09/21/23, 10/26/23, 11/23/23,

LEGAL

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR A USE PERMIT **ZONING CASE NO. 4224**

By virtue of and pursuant to the authority and direction of that Ordinance by the City Council of Jackson, Mississippi, appearing in Minute Book 3G at page 115 thereof, notice is hereby given to all persons interested in or in any way affected thereby, that Bria & Alvin Lyles has filed with the Planning Board for the City of Jackson, an application requesting an Use Permit to allow for a manufactured home within a R-4 (Limited Multi-Family) Residential District on property located at 0 Forest Glen Dr. (Parcel 720-10-5) in the First Judicial District of Hinds County, Mississippi, and being more particularly described

BEG NE COR NW 1/4 SW 1/4 SEC 9 S 1187.93 FT WLY 378.49 FT N

1184.63 FT E 356.18 FT TO POB IN NW 1/4 SW 1/4 SEC 9 T6 R1E.

drew Jackson Conference Room, First Floor, Warren A. Hood Building, 200 S. President Street in Jackson, Mississippi, at 1:30 p.m., on Wednesday, September 27, 2023, at which time all parties interested in or affected thereby will be heard both pro and con on said question, after which a record will be established upon which the City Planning Board can make its recommendation to the City Council of Jackson. Any objection thereto may be made by any person owning property within the area, and if made in writing must be filed with the City Zoning Administrator before said time if a hearing thereof or consideration thereof is desired, or by counsel on said date. If a request is made to the Zoning Administrator at least 72 hours in advance, the City will take steps to accommodate citizens need for interpreters or auxiliary aids for the visually/hearing impaired.

Said application will be heard at the City Planning Board Hearing in the An-

DUE TO COVID-19 AND THE CONCERN FOR THE PUBLIC HEALTH, SAFETY AND WELFARE, THE PLANNING BOARD MEMBERS AND THE APPLICANTS HAVE THE OPTION TO ATTEND THE MEETING VIA TELE-CONFERENCE/VIDEO OR IN PERSON WITH REGARDS TO THE WEAR-ING OF MASKS AND THE SOCIAL DISTANCING REQUIREMENTS. MEM-BERS OF THE PUBLIC MAY ATTEND VIA TELECONFERENCE/VIDEO BY EMAILING EAINSWORTH@CITY.JACKSON.MS.US TO REGISTER PRIOR TO SEPTEMBER 20, 2023.

WITNESS my signature this 5th day of September 2023.

/s/Ester L. Ainsworth Zoning Administrator City of Jackson, Mississippi

09/07/23, 09/21/23

LEGAL

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR A USE PERMIT **ZONING CASE NO. 4223**

By virtue of and pursuant to the authority and direction of that Ordinance by the City Council of Jackson, Mississippi, appearing in Minute Book 3G at page 115 thereof, notice is hereby given to all persons interested in or in any way affected thereby, that Vishal Kumar S. Patel has filed with the Planning Board for the City of Jackson, an application requesting an Use Permit to allow for an extended stay hotel within a C-3 (General) Commercial District on property located at 572 E. Beasley Rd. (Parcels 709-361-8) in the First Judicial District of Hinds County, Mississippi, and being more particularly described as:

A parcel of land containing 1.7917 acres, more or less, being situated in the Southwest 1/4 of Section 1, Township 6 North, Range 1 East, City of Jackson, First Judicial District of Hinds County, Mississippi, and being more particularly described by metes and bounds as follows, to wit:

Commence at a point of the west line of said Section 1, where the same is intersected by an extension of the southern line of Beverly Heights, Part 3, a subdivision, the map or plat of which is recorded in Plat Book 11 at Page 36 of the Chancery Records of Hinds County at Jackson, Mississippi, and run thence East for a distance of 755.70 feet along the said extension of the southern line of Beverly Heights, Part 3, to the southwest corner of the said Beverly Heights, Part 3: thence continue East for a distance of 336.04 feet along the said southern line; thence, South 89 degrees 25 minutes 46 seconds East for a distance of 1,510,46 feet along the said Beverly Heights, Part 3, to the northwest corner of that certain property which was conveyed to food Max of Mississippi, Inc., in Deed Book 3644 at Page 425 of the said Chancery Records of Hinds County, Mississippi; thence South 00 degrees 34 minutes 15 seconds West for a distance of 733.90 feet along the western line of the said Max Food property to the POINT OF BEGINNING for the parcel herein described; thence continue South 00 degrees 34 minutes 15 seconds West for a distance of 345.01 feet to the northern right of way line of Beasley Road; thence North 89 degrees 00 minutes 00 seconds west for the distance of 227.51 feet along the northern right of way line of Beasley Road; thence leave said northern right of way line and run North 01 degrees 00 minutes 00 seconds East for a distance of 345.0 feet; thence South 89 degrees 00 minutes 00 seconds East for distance of 224.93 feet to the POINT OF BEGINNING.

Being the same property conveyed to ESA P PORTFOLIO L.L.C. (f/k/a BRE/ ESA properties L.L.C.) by Deed from Summit Hotel Properties, LLC, a South Dakota Limited liability company of record in book 6509, page 161, said Reg-

Said application will be heard at the City Planning Board Hearing in the Andrew Jackson Conference Room, First Floor, Warren A. Hood Building, 200 S. President Street in Jackson, Mississippi, at 1:30 p.m., on Wednesday, September 27, 2023, at which time all parties interested in or affected thereby will be heard both pro and con on said question, after which a record will be established upon which the City Planning Board can make its recommendation to the City Council of Jackson. Any objection thereto may be made by any person owning property within the area, and if made in writing must be filed with the City Zoning Administrator before said time if a hearing thereof or consideration thereof is desired, or by counsel on said date. If a request is made to the Zoning Administrator at least 72 hours in advance, the City will take steps to accommodate citizens need for interpreters or auxiliary aids for the visually/hearing impaired.

DUE TO COVID-19 AND THE CONCERN FOR THE PUBLIC HEALTH, SAFETY AND WELFARE, THE PLANNING BOARD MEMBERS AND THE APPLICANTS HAVE THE OPTION TO ATTEND THE MEETING VIA TELE-CONFERENCE/VIDEO OR IN PERSON WITH REGARDS TO THE WEAR-ING OF MASKS AND THE SOCIAL DISTANCING REQUIREMENTS. MEM-BERS OF THE PUBLIC MAY ATTEND VIA TELECONFERENCE/VIDEO BY EMAILING EAINSWORTH@CITY.JACKSON.MS.US TO REGISTER PRIOR TO SEPTEMBER 20, 2023.

WITNESS my signature this 5th day of September 2023.

/s/Ester L. Ainsworth Zoning Administrator City of Jackson, Mississippi

09/07/23, 09/21/23

12 • THE MISSISSIPPI LINK

SEPTEMBER 21 - 27, 2023

www.themississippilink.com

LEGAL

Advertisement For Bids

JTRAN TRANSIT SYSTEM: TRANSIT OPERATIONS AND

MAINTENANCE SERVICES

CITY PROJECT NO. RFP#2023-03

Sealed bids will be received by the City Clerk 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, September 26, 2023, for Operations and Maintenance Services for the public transportation system in the City of Jackson (as specified) neces-

The term of the contract will be for four (4) years with an option to renew for three (3) additional one (1) year periods by consent of both parties.

sary for REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)#2023-03.

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 OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE, REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)#2023-03."

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

Official Bid Documents can be downloaded from Central Bidding at www. centralbidding.com. Electronic Bids may be submitted at 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

 $08/31/23,\ 09/07/23,\ 09/14/23,\ 09/21/23,$

LEGAL

NOTICE OF RESOLUTION FOR URBAN RENEWAL PLAN FOR THE REPAIRING, IMPROVING, ADORNING AND EQUIPPING THE ARTS CENTER OF MS AND THE RUSSELL C. DAVIS PLANETARIUM.

CITY OF JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI PLAETARIUM PROJECT 2023

By virtue of and pursuant to the authority and direction of that Ordinance by the City Council of Jackson, Mississippi, appearing in Minute Book 3G at page 115 thereof, notice is hereby given to all persons interested in or in any way affected thereby, that the the City Council of Jackson, Mississippi has filed with the Planning Board for the City of Jackson, Mississippi an application requesting an adoption of the Urban Renewal Plan for the City of Jackson, Mississippi Planetarium Project 2023 on property located at 201 E. Pascagoula Street, Jackson, Mississippi 39201 in the First Judicial District of Hinds County, Mississippi, and being more particularly described as:

BEG INT W/L SOUTH WEST ST & S/L PASCAGOULA ST W 587.2 FT SLY ALONG E/L LAMAR ST 560 FT ELY 53 FT N 30 FT ELY 121 FT SELY 100 FT E 65 FT SLY 54.28 FT E ALG COURT ST 290 FT N ALG W/L S WEST ST 690 FT TO POB PT LOT 10 AC LOTS 3 4 & 5 SJ

Said application will be heard at the City Planning Board Hearing in the Andrew Jackson Conference Room, First Floor, Warren A. Hood Building, 200 S. President Street in Jackson, Mississippi, at 1:30 p.m., on Wednesday, September 27, 2023, at which time all parties interested in or affected thereby will be heard both pro and con on said question, after which a record will be established upon which the City Planning Board can make its recommendation to the City Council of Jackson. Any objection thereto may be made by any person owning property within the area, and if made in writing must be filed with the City Zoning Administrator before said time if a hearing thereof or consideration thereof is desired, or by counsel on said date. If a request is made to the Zoning Administrator at least 72 hours in advance, the City will take steps to accommodate citizens need for interpreters or auxiliary aids for the visually/hearing impaired.

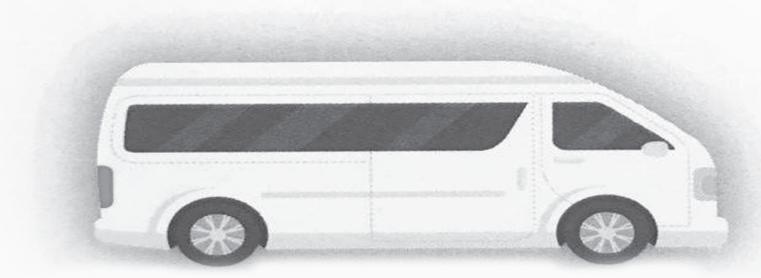
DUE TO COVID-19 AND THE CONCERN FOR THE PUBLIC HEALTH, SAFETY AND WELFARE, THE PLANNING BOARD MEMBERS AND THE APPLICANTS HAVE THE OPTION TO ATTEND THE MEETING VIA TELECONFERENCE/VIDEO OR IN PERSON WITH REGARDS TO THE WEARING OF MASKS AND THE SOCIAL DISTANCING REQUIREMENTS. MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC MAY ATTEND VIA TELECONFERENCE/VIDEO BY EMAILING EAINSWORTH@CITY. JACKSON.MS.US TO REGISTER PRIOR TO SEPTEMBER 20, 2023.

WITNESS my signature this 13th day of September 2023.

/s/Ester L. Ainsworth Zoning Administrator City of Jackson, Mississippi

09/21/23

U-RENTAL Van Company



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- 12 & 15 passenger vans
- Unbeatable prices
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- Cash or credit cards



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

Growing Mississippi's economy-together.

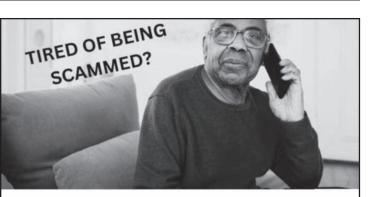
We live and work in the communities we serve, and we're invested in growing this place we all call home. So we're always looking to partner with local suppliers and contractors to help us bring safer, more reliable energy to the people of Mississippi.

So if you're a Mississippi-based supplier or contractor, we'd like to include you on future proposals for projects. Because no one knows how to better serve the people of this state than you.

If you'd like to learn more about our qualification and insurance requirements, bid and contracting processes and other details, reach out to us at Supplier@SpireEnergy.com, or visit us at SpireEnergy.com/Doing-Business-Spire.

At Spire, we're proud to support Hire Mississippi.

spire (



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Does your student need internet access? Here's what to know

Statepoint

With students back in the classroom, providing the resources they need to be successful is top of mind for parents and educators. Yet for the millions of students limited by lack of internet access, their education hangs in the balance.

Today, one in five U.S. households lack this essential resource, highlighting equity disparities for students across the country.

T-Mobile's Project 10Million, a \$10.7 billion nationwide initiative aimed at helping to close the digital divide in education, is offering free internet connectivity and mobile hotspots to up to 10 million eligible K-12 student households.

Coral Almazan knows from her own high school experience



having internet access. Alma-

the power and importance of her sophomore year. She graduated from high school in June zan and her family signed up with honors and an Associates for Project 10Million during of Arts degree in cybersecu-

rity, thanks to having internet connectivity that allowed her to also tackle college courses through a local running start

She credits her success, and the fact she's now starting a bachelor's program this fall, to her hard work and dedication and to Project 10Million.

"Having me, my parents and my three siblings all doing our work at the same time, watching videos and online lessons, doing Zoom calls – our internet slowed down to the point where I couldn't really use it for school," says Almazan. "Once I got the T-Mobile hotspot and service, I didn't struggle as much, and it made doing my classwork so much easier. I don't think I could have been able to get through high school without the hotspot."

Today, internet connectivity is a basic need for remote and hybrid learning, allowing stu-

dents to effectively complete homework assignments, research, collaborate with peers and communicate with teachers. Fortunately, T-Mobile's Project 10Million is an ongoing initiative that is offering hotspots and internet connectivity to eligible students.

Almazan encourages families struggling with internet connectivity to look into Project 10Million. Students and parents can check eligibility and sign up for the program today by visiting www.t-mobile.com/ p10m.

According to advocates and educators, having internet access and working to close the digital divide not only opens doors, but also helps create a level playing field for all students.

Jackson State University named Fulbright HBCU Institutional Leader by the U.S. Department of State

The Mississippi Link Newswire

Jackson State University is proud to be named as a Fulbright Historically Black College and University (HBCU) Institutional Leader for 2023. Each year, the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA) recognizes the strong engagement of select HBCUs with the Fulbright Program, the U.S. government's flagship international academic exchange program.

"Partnering with Fulbright

helps advance our strategic goals of student success, academic prominence and research excellence. I am particularly excited by our Fulbright U.S. Scholars who return from their grant experiences and enrich our campus culture, students and curriculum, which only enhances the JSU brand," said JSU Acting President Elayne Hayes-Anthony, Ph.D. "Participating in the Fulbright program supports our professors' research, teaching and career development. These benefits contribute to their growth as faculty members, as well as to Jackson State's academic and globalization goals."

Fulbright HBCU Institutional Leaders demonstrate notewor-



Jackson State University's 131-acre campus located in Jackson, MS

thy support for Fulbright exchange participants and promote Fulbright program opportunities on campus. The initiative encourages administrators, faculty and students at HBCUs to engage with Fulbright. It also highlights the strength of HB-CUs as a destination for international students and scholars and showcases their deep intellectual traditions and proud history to audiences abroad. Jackson State University was also highlighted in 2020 and 2019.

The announcement of the 19 Fulbright HBCU Institutional Leaders was made by the State Department ahead of the White House Initiative on HBCUs' National HBCU Week Confer-

Assistant Secretary of State for Educational and Cultural Affairs Lee Satterfield commended the HBCUs receiving the Fulbright HBCU Institutional Leader designation this year. "Diversity is one of America's greatest strengths, and pairing the positive power of Fulbright with the academic excellence at Historically Black Colleges and Universities provides changemaking opportunities for students, scholars and campus communities both here at home and abroad."

On November 6, Fulbright will host a virtual workshop featuring representatives from Fulbright HBCU Institutional Leaders. The Fulbright HBCU Virtual Workshop will share best practices for leveraging



Acting JSU President Elayne Hayes-Anthony

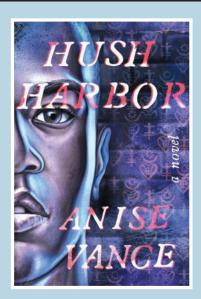
Fulbright Program engagement to support students and faculty, increase campus internationalization, host international Fulbright students and scholars, and build global networks. This event is open to the public and is specifically designed for faculty, staff and stakeholders at

HBCUs. The Fulbright Program is the U.S. government's flagship international educational exchange program. Since its inception in 1946, the Fulbright Program has provided over 400,000 talented and accomplished students, scholars, teachers, artists and professionals, of all backgrounds and in all fields the opportunity to study, teach and conduct research abroad.

Fulbrighters exchange ideas, build people-to-people connections, and work to address complex global challenges.

Fulbright is a program of the U.S. Department of State, with funding provided by the U.S. Government. Participating governments and host institutions, corporations and foundations around the world also provide direct and indirect support to the

The Fulbright Program implements a wide range of initiatives to ensure that its participants reflect all aspects of the diversity of U.S. society and societies abroad. To achieve that goal, the program collaborates with external stakeholders, including the White House Initiative on HBCUs, the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities, the National Clearinghouse on Disability and Exchange, the American Association of Community Colleges, Mobility International and Diversity Abroad, among many others.



SH HARBOR BY ANISE VANCE C.2023, HANOVER SQUARE PRESS \$30.00 • 288 PAGES

By Terri Schlichenmeyer Columnist

In the past few years, you've

carried your share of cardboard

You've chanted, marched and showed displeasure for something you're passionate about, and you've walked miles to display your support for what's good and decent. You have the absolute right to protest, but in the new book, "Hush Harbor" by Anise Vance, beware the signs. Malik's grandfather didn't

want him to go.

Why, he wondered, would

Malik travel from Durham to New Jersey, to the tip of an island he'd never seen, to take a stand for a teenager he didn't

But how could he not? When a boy named Kemba was killed by a cop with white supremacist ties and nothing real was done about it, wasn't it natural that anger might spill over? Who could blame activists for seizing an abandoned old bunch of government housing to create their own society? Who'd blame them for any of this?

Not Malik. In his core, he

knew that going to what was now called Hush Harbor was the right thing to do. He could make a difference. And once there, he was happy to help Jeremiah Prince to lead the revolution.

When Jeremiah looked at his desk and saw a sea of paperwork, he was glad his sister, Nova, had brought Malik to his office. Jeremiah needed help to tame the documents, to ensure the activists were safe and fed, and to gather information about what was outside the perimeters.

Malik was intelligent and watchful; he brought a lot to the

cause - so did Nova, for that matter - although Jeremiah and Nova had very different ideas about how to move forward.

Jeremiah didn't want to say why, but he was willing to take outside help. Nova wanted the revolutionists to be sustainably independent, without white influence or money. Both wanted to find the killer, the leader of the white supremacists, who was rumored to be hiding very near Hush Harbor's barricades. For Jeremiah, it was person-

Right from the start, from its

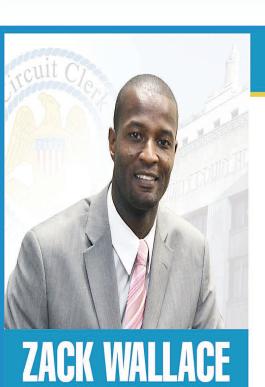
very first pages, "Hush Harbor" has a delicious, ice-down-yourspine foreboding that you can't shake, as long as you have the book open. Nearly everything happens in the dark, in a storm, or underground, and that dystopian-Armageddon feel is on-

As for the story, well, that could be another matter.

This novel is taut, like walking a tightrope over flames, but it's also very, very confusing. The characters are many, explanations for their presences are sometimes easy to miss, and

ongoing dialogue is hard to determine when the word "said" is missing as much as it is here. There are some good twists in the tale, but they're often lost in the complications. And just as you're about to cheer for a revolution, the story dives into a dual romance. Heavy sigh.

Readers who are eager for a perfectly, finely-set apocalyptic novel and who can patiently tease out its nuances will probably enjoy "Hush Harbor." Readers who aren't prepared for a complex tale might have trouble sticking with it.



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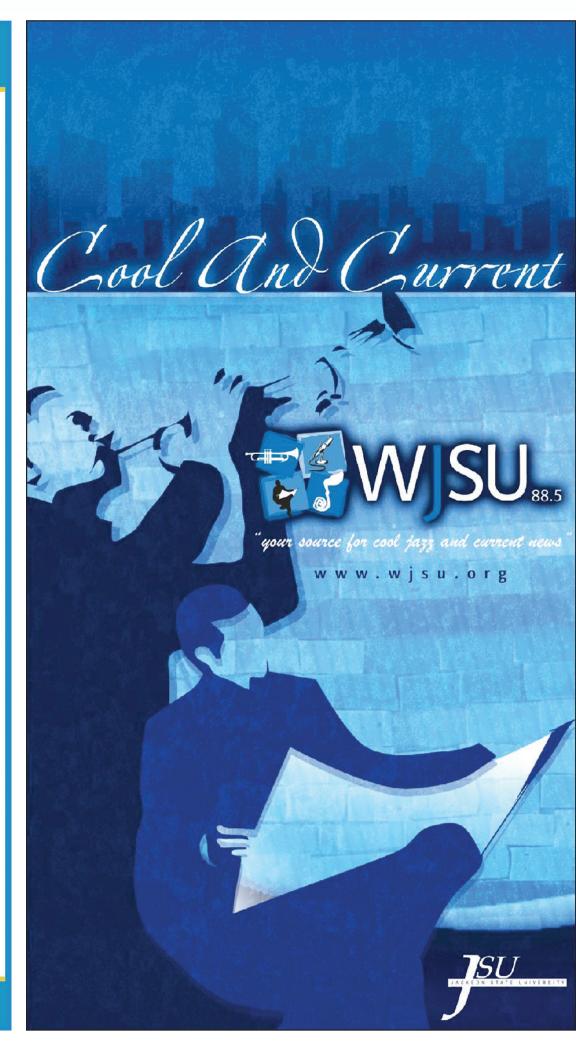
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Alcorn wins home opener over McNeese State



Head coach Fred McNair



PHOTOS BY TIM WARD

By Timothy Ward Sports Writer

After starting with their first two games on the road, The Alcorn State Braves were happy to have a home game. Last Saturday, the Braves hosted McNeese State. The Cowboys came into the game looking for a win. Alcorn started out running with aggression; pounding the ball down the field on their first two drives.

Runningbacks Jarveon Howard, Niko Duffey and Javonta Leatherwood combined for 221 yards rushing. Quarterback Aaron Allen completed 13 passes for 108 yards. Tevarrius Adams caught 4 passes for 37 yards to lead the Braves' receiving efforts.

On the opening drive, Alcorn scored in 5 plays going 79 yards, capping the drive off with a touchdown by Jarveon Howard. Alcorn would score again in the second quarter on a Niko Duffey touchdown run.

McNeese State struggled of-



Tyran Warren goes up high for a catch.

fensively. Alcorn's defense forced 3 sacks, 2 interceptions, and 1 fumble for the game.

Quarterback Nate Glantz was 13 of 24 for 109 yards with 2 interceptions. Glantz spent most of the night running from Braves defenders. Even if he wasn't sacked, he was pressured constantly. For the game, Mc-



Jarveon Howard ran for 98 yards.

Neese State compiled less than 200 yards of offense, scoring only 3 points for the game.

The Cowboys buckled down defensively after halftime, limiting Alcorn to 3 points. McNeese State had an impressive goalline stand late in the third quarter to keep Alcorn out of the endzone.

All in all, the Braves were

able to cap off their first win of the season and remained healthy doing it. Alcorn won 17 to 3.

This Saturday, the Braves host Prairie View at 6 p.m. SWAC Western Division opponent, Prairie View comes into Lorman with a 1-2 record. The Panthers defeated Texas Southern 37 to 34 in the first game of

Alcorn alum and former NFL coach Leslie Frazier was in attendance.

Braishuing the grain of the season, but have dropped

Ahman Antoine is the fourth leading rusher in the SWAC just ahead of Alcorn's Jarveon Howard.

Prairie View sits aton the

two games since. Prairie View's

Prairie View sits atop the West Division due to their victory against Texas Southern.
Saturday will be Alcorn's

Braishun Forbes caught 11 pasees including the game winner.

dropped first SWAC opponent. Alcorn View's was picked to finish second in fourth the preseason standings behind AC just Southern.

If the Braves are to prove that preseason prediction wrong, it starts this weekend. Look for head coach Fred McNair to have his players ready for a show-down.

Jackson State looks forward to home cooking

By Timothy Ward Sports Writer

JSU has traveled from Atlanta to Miami to Baton Rouge to San Marcos to open the season. The Tigers went 2-2 during that tumultuous stretch with some impressive wins and some disappointing losses.

When Jackson State has won, they've been pretty dominant on defense, when they've lost, fans wondered where the defense was. Few expected Jackson State to be able to win this game, but they definitely didn't expect to see a 34-77 final score.

The defense gave up 684 yards of offense to Texas State and their coach kept running the score up, in some fans opinions. With under a minute to go, Texas State continued to play to score and actually scored to give them

83 points, however, due to a penalty the touchdown was negated.
Texas State gained 399 yards

on the ground. JSU did not force them to punt at all. Offensively, scoring 34 points was pretty good. Quarterbacks Jason Brown and Zy McDonald combined to complete 23 of 36 passes for 282 yards and 2 touchdowns. Brown was 16 of 26 for 209 with 1 interception and McDonald was 7 of 10 for 73 yards and 2 touchdowns.

Special teams continues to be a thorn in the side of Jackson State. Yielding 30.5 yards per punt or kick return, JSU gave Texas State good field position time after time.

Ahmad Miller lead the Tigers in rushing with 98 yards on 13 carries. Irv Mulligan ran for 44 yards on 12 carries.

Jackson State plays its first home game of the season Saturday against Bethune-Cookman. Running onto the field at the VET will be a welcome site for players, coaches and fans.

Bethune-Cookman comes in Jackson with a 1-2 record on the season. Saturday's game will be the first SWAC game of the season for the Wildcats.

Jackson State was picked to finish second in the East in the preseason standings. Saturday's game counts towards winning the East. After losing to FAMU, the Tigers are trailing in the East Division for the first time in 2 seasons.

Expect electricity in the air for the WC Gorden Classic starting at 6 p.m. Tiger nation should be in full force encouraging head coach TC Taylor and the Tigers.



Sonic Boom of the South

PHOTO BY TIM WARD



Deron Smith runs the ball for Murrah.

PHOTO BY TIM WARD

Murrah remains undefeated after dramatic homecoming win

By Timothy Ward Sports Writer

Last Thursday, the Murrah Mustangs continued their undefeated season winning their homecoming game, 20 to 14 over undefeated Jefferson County. The game was nip and tuck until the final 1:14 left in the game. Murrah's

Justyce Williams connected with Braishun Forbes for the game winning touchdown.

Players, coaches and home-coming crowd erupted as Forbes caught a short pass from Williams, broke a tackle and raced to the end zone for the game winning score.

Forbes caught 11 passes for

147 yards with 2 touchdowns. Quarterback Justyce Willams completed 13 of 20 passes for 152 yards.

Runningbacks were working. Deron Smith rushed for 65 yards with a long run of 51 on one play. TaMarion Smith ran for 68 yards on 15 carries.

Dejarian Leonard regis-

tered 7 tackles and Lebron Edmond had 2 sacks for the defense. The defense played aggres-

sively, controlling the line of scrimmage most of the game. Next up for Murrah is a

road game against Ridgeland High School. Ridgeland is 1-3 on the season.

Hinds County School District Weekly Update

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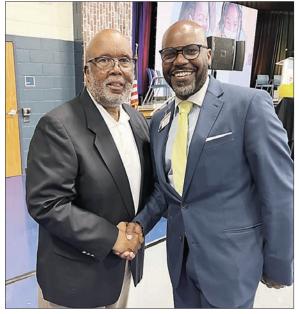
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Congressman Bennie Thompson (2nd District) (D-MS) and Ronnie Colvin, Comcast Sr. Director of External Affairs, hosted an event at Bolton-Edwards Elementary/Middle School (BEEMS) in partnership with the Town of Bolton Development Corporation and presented laptop computers to ALL students at BEEMS. The superintendent, administrators and staff welcomed all the guests to the campus. Governor Tate Reeves, Mayor of Bolton, Lawrence Butler and the Hinds County School Board were also in attendance.



























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