



Proper respect for Dexter Wade and family at last

A celebration of life featuring Rev. Al Sharpton and proper burial at Cedarwood Memorial Park

By Christopher Young
Contributing Writer

Hundreds gathered at New Horizon Church International Monday, November 20, 2023, for Dexter Alex Wade’s homegoing celebration. The church is located at 1770 Ellis Avenue, Jackson, MS.

Scores of family members were joined by friends, community members and dignitaries including Mississippi’s 2nd District Congressman Bennie Thompson, Reverend Al Sharpton, Attorney Ben Crump, attorney’s Dennis Sweet III and Dennis Sweet IV, NAACP Jackson City Branch President Nsombi Lambright-Haynes, newly elected State Representative Fabian Nelson (D-66), outgoing Hinds County District 2 Supervisor David Archie, and Jackson City Council member Kenneth I. Stokes.

New Horizon Church International Senior Pastor, Ronnie C. Crudup, Sr., welcomed all with understanding, warmth and love. Rev. Al Sharpton delivered the eulogy.

The Westhaven Funeral Home Choir provided several selections, surely highlighted by Walk Around Heaven All Day. Later, Dexter Wade’s mother, Bettersten Wade, shared that her son would always say “I’m going home to my Father and I’m gonna walk



Rev. Al Sharpton, The National Action Network, NY, delivers the eulogy. Music was provided by the Westhaven Funeral Home choir.

around with my Father on the golden streets.”

After scripture readings from the old and new testaments, Rev. Orlando D. Franklin of Unity Fellowship Baptist Church offered encouragement and prayer centered in John 11 – the story of Mary, her sister Martha, and her brother Lazarus – a story that he hoped would give the Wade and Robinson families strength, followed by special expressions by family and friends.

Attorney Benjamin Crump be-

gan by thanking DeRay Mckesson, executive director of Campaign Zero – an American police reform campaign launched on August 21, 2015 (<https://campaignzero.org>) – “for providing the financial support necessary for an autopsy and giving him a respectable funeral as a first step to get justice.” He gave thanks for our Representative, Congressman Bennie Thompson, Nsombi Lambright-Hayes and others, before introducing Reverend Al Sharpton as “a man who was cho-

sen for this moment.”

Sharpton began by saying that after Crump told him what had gone on, and then after speaking to Mrs. Wade, he wanted to come today “for two reasons: to give words of comfort to the family, and I want to give words of discomfort to the city, the police department, and the State of Mississippi.” For fifteen minutes he hammered on the multiple levels of injustice brought upon Dexter Wade and his family – calling it a disgrace.

He spoke about Jackson’s water crisis... “there was a stench in the water in some parts – but today I’m here to tell you there is something else stinking in Jackson, Mississippi. Something doesn’t smell right. Just like we stood up with Jackson about the water, it is time for the Mayor and City Council to stand up for Dexter.”

He asked how a young man is killed and buried with state identification in his pocket and you can’t notify his family – “you let him lay in the morgue and then bury him in a pauper’s field.” He questioned why the off-duty officer who ran him over didn’t go back on duty and do their job. “No officer could have pulled this off by themselves. If you thought

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Local churches and organizations are pipelines for needed Thanksgiving foods

Food boxes & turkey giveaways, a must-have for many



Pastor Hosea Hines greets motorist. PHOTOS BY GAIL H. M. BROWN

By Gail H.M. Brown, Ph.D.
Contributing Writer

According to the American Farm Bureau Federation’s (AFBF), the cost of the Thanksgiving dinner this year is down by a 4.5% decrease from last year’s record-high dinner average of \$64.05.

Despite the decrease, one Mississippi resident, who wishes to remain anonymous, said he still did not know how he could afford a turkey dinner for his “small family” until a friend recently shared an extra turkey from a food giveaway.

This is no doubt a familiar situation for many families this holiday season and beyond.

However, the AFBF report does indicate that, “a Thanksgiving meal [for 2023] is still 25% higher than it was in 2019, which highlights the impact high supply costs and inflation have had on food prices since before the pandemic.” (See the AFBF data display tables in this article).

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Thompson appointed 13th president of Jackson State University

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

The Board of Trustees of State Institutions of Higher Learning voted to name Dr. Marcus L. Thompson as president of Jackson State University during its meeting held Thursday, November 16, 2023. In September Kim Galaspas, spokesperson for the board, stated via email: “The Board of Trustees received 79 applications for the position of president of Jackson State University. The board values confidentiality for all applicants and will not comment further at this time.”

Since the announcement was made in Mississippi Today (October 10, 2023) about “79 applicants,” there has been no record bearing the



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names of applicants, neither their qualifications or their locations.

Prior to this, however,

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Here we go again with Jackson trash collection

Just seven months ago we had seventeen days of trash on our streets

By Christopher Young
Contributing Writer

The Request for Proposals (RFP) for six years of solid waste collection services in Jackson has been issued and published, yet again, on November 16, 2023. Taking a look back: The initial RFP, issued in October 2021 opened up a can of chaos with the Jackson City Council – the majority of council was deadset against anyone but Waste Management picking up Jackson’s trash, but the mayor knew Jackson was grossly overpaying for its contract with multi-national corporation WM, which had gone on for decades, and didn’t hesitate to tip over the dumpster, so to speak.

When the contract with WM expired at the end of March 2022, Mayor Chokwe Antar Lumumba declared a state of emergency in



City Hall, Jackson, MS. PHOTO: CHRIS YOUNG

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Jackson due to lack of a trash vendor, and then ordered Richard’s Disposal to work for a one-year period. A majority on the City Council pushed back. There were tantrums and name calling

and lawsuits followed – with the Jackson City Council suing Mayor Lumumba. Through it all Council members Foote, Stokes, Hartley and Banks never waived from their positions that WM should have been awarded another contract, despite the financial

burden it would heap upon residents. Council member Lindsay initially was against the change in vendor, but later in the process reversed her position. Council members Lee and Grizzell were always in favor of the change in vendors that would save residents over \$2 million per year.

When the one-year contract with Richard’s expired, City Council and the Mayor Jackson were locked in an ongoing lawsuit.

Starting on April 1, 2023, with no solid waste collections taking place, trash began piling up in Jackson’s streets. At hastily called Special Council meetings, the votes remained stalemated: three members in favor Richard’s moving forward (Lee, Grizzell and Lindsay) and three members

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Keep Jackson Beautiful revives Jackson’s Recycling Green Initiative

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

A void was left in recycling services five years ago when the City of Jackson was compelled to suspend its curbside recycling services. To rectify this lack, Keep Jackson Beautiful has joined forces with Replenish, Environmentality, Niagara, the City of Jackson, Entergy and the International Bottled Water Association. This collaboration provides Jackson residents an opportunity to recycle at no cost.

Keep Jackson Beautiful (an affiliate of Keep America Beautiful) held a press conference at the Jackson Zoo to inform the public about the program’s relaunch and promote recycling practices within the community on America Recycles Day – November 15, 2023.

ARD, a nationally recognized event, purports to encourage and educate the public to be more mindful of what they consume, where to recycle, and how to properly return valuable materials for reuse in their daily lives.

The event promoted clarification materials’ recovery by dispelling recycling myths.

“Recycling is not just a choice;



Keep Jackson Beautiful Team (L-R): Erica Reed - Jackson Medical Mall; Dr. Donetta McCullum Weatherspoon - Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality & KJB Treasurer; Chris Gray - President, City of Jackson; Derieth Sutton Niagara; Alicia Crudup - Executive Director, KJB; Patty Patterson - KJB; Jennifer Milner - Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality; Angela White - City of Jackson; and Satara Patrick - City of Jackson & KJB Advisory Board
PHOTO BY JANICE K. NEAL-VINCENT

it’s a responsibility, and we are thrilled to reintroduce JXN Recycle to Jackson on America Recycles Day, thanks to our collaborative partners. So far, the program has recycled over 17,000 pounds of bottles from public and private sites. We aim to make recycling more accessible, convenient and impactful for our community, rectifying the absence of curbside recycling services,” said Alicia Crudup – executive director of Keep Jackson Beautiful.

This second time around, Crudup mentioned that Keep Jackson Beautiful envisions “a

widespread and convenient water bottle recycling program in Jackson.” Aiming to add two recycling sites per ward, the goal is to educate the community that only clear water bottles should be made convenient at all sites. Aluminum soda cans should only be at the zoo.

Crudup continued that the collaborators are stimulating demand for program expansion and improvement. She projected that in the future there will be additional recycling streams as Keep Jackson Beautiful grows in order “to respond dynamically to the evolving needs and interests of

the community.”

Keep Jackson Beautiful has a multifaceted, inclusive process of community engagement for communication effectiveness. The KJB News e-blast, social media platforms, public events, press conferences and active participation in meetings are among the outlets that the organization utilizes. Further, forging partnerships with the City of Jackson and various organizations are tools to heighten sensitivity and awareness in the community.

The executive director made it known that addressing concerns that impact the community must move far beyond compromise. “In essence, our approach to community relations is characterized by dynamism, transparency and collaboration. It reflects our unwavering commitment to fostering a beautiful and thriving environment in partnership with the vibrant community of Jackson,” Crudup explained.

Keep Jackson Beautiful originated in January 1964 as a 501 © (3) non-profit grassroots, citizen-based volunteer organization. It has, since that time, steadfastly committed to the enhancement of the state’s capital city – Jack-

son. Litter cleanup, litter prevention, education and outreach, as well as the beautification of the community are among its foci.

Notable accomplishments include the following: (1) Establishing the first permaculture orchard at Rosemount Baptist Church (2017-2018), demonstrating a dedication to sustainable and environmentally friendly practices; (2) Creating a meaningful tribute to the late Mayor Chokwe Lumumba through the establishment of an orchard in his honor, reflecting the organization’s ability to commemorate and honor influential figures in the community; (3) Successfully hosting the first game day recycling initiative at four home JSU Football games, promoting eco-friendly practices and community engagement on a larger scale; (4) Contributing to the enhancement of Livingston Park at the Zoo by developing a pavilion, providing a valuable recreational space for the community; (5) Beautifying Claiborne Park by installing a pergola and planting two magnolia trees, contributing to the aesthetic appeal of the area and fostering a sense of natural beauty; (6) Securing the designa-

tion of April as “Keep Jackson Beautiful Month” by the City Council and Mayor, underscoring the organization’s impact at the policy level; (7) Adopting the City of Jackson’s garden initiative in 2016 and significantly expanding it from 5 gardens to an impressive 16 (2016-2019), demonstrating the organization’s commitment to community gardening and green spaces; and (8) Playing a key role in the beautification of Lakeland Drive when it was first established, contributing to the creation of a visually appealing corridor that enhances the overall ambiance of the area.

Crudup is encouraging communities to host the kickoff of Keep Jackson Beautiful Month. Proposals must be submitted by December 29th for a chance to showcase community commitment to environmental stewardship. The selected community will be announced on February 1, 2024, for the purpose of building anticipation for an impactful Keep Jackson Beautiful Month.

To submit proposals in making Jackson a more beautiful and sustainable place for all, visit KJB at keepjacksonbeautiful.com



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Turkey Giveaways

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For Antoinette Brown of Jackson, the food box and turkey giveaways, especially during the holidays, have been extremely helpful to her and her family. “I want to thank the churches and organizations that participate in food giveaways,” Brown said.

One of several churches holding recent food giveaways was Christ Tabernacle Church, located at 1201 Cooper Road, Jackson, MS.

As the numerous motorists drove their cars through the parking lot to where the food boxes were issued, a smiling Pastor Hosea Hines greeted each of them through their driver’s window. He also shared with them what to expect in their food box.

His church conducts food pantry giveaways once or twice a month. “It’s very obvious that there are people less fortunate than others, and they are missing so much, and food is one of those things,” Hines said. “Food gives us nourishment.

“The Bible says in First John, Chapter 3, Verse 17: ‘But whoso hath this world’s good, and seeth his brother has need, and shutteth up his bowels of compassion from him, how dwelleth the love of God in him?’” (KJV)

“We, as well as others, are trying to help individuals in need by demonstrating the love of God through our giving,” he concluded.

Other metro-areas churches distributing food boxes and/or turkeys (just to name a few) included: We Are One United Methodist Church, 1315 W.



A long line of cars coils through the church parking lot. PHOTOS BY GAIL H. M. BROWN

McDowell Road, Jackson, MS, where Jerry Manery is senior pastor and Greater Love Temple Church of God In Christ, 5630 Gault St., Jackson, MS, pastored by Elder Stephen Dennis.

Such giveaways take place across the state, more so during the holiday season. Businesses, organizations, churches and groups understand that money for nutritious food often becomes a challenge for those on fixed incomes as well the working poor.

Despite its vast farmland, many are not aware that many Mississippi counties are serious food deserts. Food deserts are areas with limited or no access to fresh food (usda.gov).

2023

THANKSGIVING DINNER

TOTAL \$61.17 ~ Down 4.5% Compared to 2022
Up 25% Compared to 2019

Turkey (16 lb): \$27.35	Green Peas (16 oz): \$1.88	Pumpkin Pie Mix (30 oz): \$4.44
Cranberries (12 oz): \$2.10	9" Pie Shells (2): \$3.50	Whole Milk (1 gal): \$3.74
Sweet Potatoes (3 lb): \$3.97	Cube Stuffing (14 oz): \$3.77	Whipping Cream (1 pt): \$1.73
Carrots & Celery (1/2 lb ea.): 90¢	Dinner Rolls (1 doz): \$3.84	

Source: American Farm Bureau Federation's (AFBF)

This is why food giveaways are such a necessity for senior citizens like Brown and others. MFN has been feeding Mississippians since 1984. It distributes more than 1.5 million pounds of food and feeds more than 150,000 every month – or a total of 1.8 million people per year,” (MFN.org)

“The food boxes provide much needed, yet often unaffordable food items to many,” Brown said. “Being on a very fixed income and trying to pay bills and meet other financial obligations limit the amount of money to spend on food.”

Monzola Ross of Holmes County, Mississippi, agrees. On Monday, Nov. 20, via telephone, she

told *The Mississippi Link* just before leaving home to pick up her monthly food box in Lexington that:

“The food boxes are very helpful, and they have a lot of nutritional items in them that I can’t afford to buy.”

Both women feel that the food boxes are always a much-needed, welcomed blessing.

“When I’m blessed, I also share and bless others who are living in similar situations.”

Ross does the same.

God bless the food giveaway networks,” said Brown.

Wade

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Attorney Ben Crump on bended knees giving comfort to Dexter Wade’s mother, Bettersten Robinson Wade, at committal interment, Cedar Memorial Park in Jackson



you could do this and we wouldn’t do anything about it you were sadly mistaken. His life mattered to his mama and relatives, and we are going to make it matter all over this country.”

Sharpton stated, “it doesn’t matter if the off-duty policeman is black. Would you have done this to a young white man? You will learn that you can’t do this in Mississippi – we’ve come to demand justice for Dexter Wade.” He questioned if it was revenge. “In my opinion it is one of the most disgraceful things I have ever heard of, and I’ve been in this a long time. Others besides that officer had to help cover this up.”

He went to Luke 15 to speak of the lost sheep. “I’ve come to Jackson because there is a lost sheep. Jesus stood up for the lost sheep, the unknown and the unrecognized. I may not be here for the big shot, but I come for the lost sheep.”

He spoke of Jackson “having fought so hard to even put blacks on the police force...people marched, went to jail, suffered, Medgar Evers lost his life so our people could put a badge on in Jackson...and you would take that badge and manipulate and bury your brother like he was some piece of worthless skin...how bad you misuse the movement that sponsored you in the first place. If a white cop had done it, we’d have 5,000 people marching. Your skin doesn’t give you immunity. You shamed the movement that made you possible. Unless we stand up for Dexter, we can’t stand up for any other cause or civil or human rights. If people have to qualify for justice, then it’s not justice... Until the ‘Dexters’ matter, the movement doesn’t mean anything.”

At the conclusion of the service a brief press conference was conducted in an anteroom with Attorneys Crump, Dennis Sweet III and IV,

Bettersten Robinson Wade and Tiffany Carter, the mother of Rasheem Carter who was terrorized and murdered in Taylorsville in October 2022. The elder Sweet indicated that he has been informed that the Board of Supervisors have the authority to call a hearing, an investigation – and we ask that they do so. The City of Jackson also has the power to investigate and so we ask that they do that and come forward with the findings.

Interment took place at Cedarwood Memorial Park, 340 New Market Drive, a barrenly new cemetery in South Jackson, off Highway 18, just past Maddox Road. Few words were spoken, only wails of anguish as the beautiful mahogany casket was placed inside a burial vault emblazoned with a gold name plate fastened to the cover – Dexter Alex Wade 1985-2023. Finally, proper respects.

See photos page 4.

Trash

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opposed (Foote, Hartley and Banks). Council member Stokes either voted against Richard’s Disposal, abstained, or was not present at numerous key meetings – the latter while caring for his wife, the late Judge LaRita Cooper-Stokes, the first-ever African-American female judge in Hinds County.

With trash piling up, and against the backdrop of the city’s water crisis and Jackson takeover bills being foisted upon our predominantly black city by white Republican legislators, residents and community organizations were turning up the pressure for a compromise by City Council.

On Day 17 of trash on Jackson streets, attorneys for both sides appeared in Chancery Court before Special Judge H. David Clark, who listened to arguments for ninety minutes before calling for a recess. Judge Clark’s comments included, “this is a travesty, a great example of failed leadership all

the way around – when leaders won’t talk to each other and compromise.” After attorneys for City Council conceded the suit was political in nature, he scolded them for bringing the matter to Court. “What you have here is the city suing the city,” stated Clark. “Why are we even here, you can’t sue yourself.”

Fast-forward a few hours later and Councilman Aaron Banks yielded to the pressure, agreeing to change his vote – after working strenuously against Richard’s since the onset. The following day, April 18th, Richard’s began collecting trash once again – under a new one-year contract, all per previous reporting by *The Mississippi Link* newspaper.

With the current one-year contract with Richard’s Disposal expiring March 31, 2024, the RFP process has begun anew, and potential bidders have until 3:30 p.m. on December 18th to submit

their proposals.

There is one other element that remains unsettled, as this new RFP process begins – a separate lawsuit by Richard’s Disposal, Inc. versus City of Jackson Mississippi. Case: 25CI1:23-cv-00200-AHW was filed on April 10, 2023 – a Notice of Appeal and Complaint, stemming “from the Council’s decision on April 1, 2023 to not approve the Mayor’s order to approve a six (6) year waste collection contract for Richard’s Disposal, Inc. pursuant to Richard’s proposal which was the most qualified in response to an October 2021 Request for Proposals entitled Solid Waste Collection Services issued by the City,” per <https://www.scribd.com/document/637715447>.

The Appeal and Complaint goes on to list four reasons why the Council’s decision to not award the six-year contract to Richard’s must be over-

turned.

A Motions Hearing in that case is scheduled before Hinds County Circuit Court Judge Adrienne H. Wooten on December 19, 2023 to compel assembly of records, per the published docket <https://www.co.hinds.ms.us/pgs/cal/results.asp?Judge=wooten&Calendar=Motion&mode=all>.

Does anyone have a guess how things will turn out this time around? Does past performance by our elected leaders predict future results? Will hundreds of thousands of taxpayers’ dollars be spent again this time around?

Ward 1 Council member Ashby Foote and Ward 5 Council member Vernon Hartley are already finding fault with the new RFP, per reporting by WLBT on November 17, just one day after it was issued.

Here we go again with Jackson trash collection.

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what has occurred? In three listening sessions that occurred over time, faculty and staff, students, alumni, and community appealed to IHL Board members for them to acknowledge shared governance. Overall, stakeholders concurred that the board should look closely at candidates and select the candidate who would place the interest of Jackson State above his/her own by being a qualified, good steward for all stakeholders involved.

This mystery of how the board handles matters pertaining to hiring JSU presidents continues and appears to be festering. JSU personnel, JSU retirees, and friends of the community have attended IHL Board meetings where they have been instructed to “wait in the hall or classrooms” until the board went into executive session. Many have stayed, regardless of the amount of time the board took to “handle its business.” In spite of it all, no announcement about the “qualified applicant” was made to those waiting for such knowledge.

At any rate, Dr. Thompson comes to JSU with more than two decades of leadership experience in early childhood, K-12 education and higher education. He is serving as the deputy commissioner and chief administrative officer of the Mississippi Institutions of Higher Learning. He has for more than a decade been responsible for overseeing IHL staff. Senior-level leaders report to Thompson who manages IHL Board relations, communications, legislation, technology, data management and facilities. He has a B.A. in history and Spanish and a master’s in Education from Mississippi College as well as a Ph.D. in urban higher education that he recently received from JSU.

Here is Dr. Thompson’s response to his new position: “I’m very honored to be named president of Jackson State University because I believe in its mission, purpose, and most of all, the outstanding faculty, staff, alumni and students who

embody our school’s motto of challenging minds, changing lives. I look forward to working closely with all of them to develop a consensus about strategic goals and objectives we can achieve by working together.”

Dr. Steven Cunningham, chair of the Board Search Committee, referenced Thompson this way: “The board selected a leader who knows the unique, historic importance of the university who will articulate a bold vision for the future and will be indefatigable in the pursuit of excellence for Jackson State University.”

Based on Cunningham’s remark, the question arises: Does not Dr. Elayne Hayes-Anthony possess these qualifications? Those of us who know her from past years to today would answer simply, “yes.” She is a leader who learned responsibility and accountability from stern but caring parents who demonstrated before her very eyes the strides she needed to make as a leader. She watched them at home, at school, in business, and saw how they related to people with their people-oriented and task-oriented skills. She learned the art of respect and said to Deanna Tisdale Johnson of The Jackson Advocate during an interview that featured her as the 2023 Woman of the Year: “[I’m] a home girl. I’m from Jackson; from Jim Hill; Jackson State and the hood.”

This phenomenal leader swept through the halls of Jim Hill High School as Miss Jim Hill, earned her Bachelor of Science and Master’s degrees at JSU, and later obtained her Ph.D. in organizational communication broadcast law at Southern Illinois University (Carbondale). While her degrees serve their purpose in enabling Dr. Hayes-Anthony to seek what is true, she never lets them go to her head. Firm but fair, she demonstrates the principles of effective communication (the backbone of leadership skills).

Cheryl Smith understands who Dr. Hayes-An-

thony is. She put it this way in Texas Metro News (April 20, 2023): “While JSU has been challenged in their selection process in the past, a vote of confidence for Dr. Anthony would be one of the best decisions for the future of this great HBCU. She is compassionate, righteous, temperate, courteous, dedicated, pure, honest, friendly and loyal. She is smart, loving, meticulous, focused and strategic...This woman has credentials, which are important, but equally important with the degrees are her life skills and ethical standards.”

Assiduously has Dr. Hayes-Anthony been faithful to her state? A former tenured full professor at Belhaven University, this leader founded and headed the Department of Communication. She is currently a tenured full professor at JSU. She has hosted her own television program, “FYI with Elayne Anthony.” She also hosts her “In Depth” show with Elayne Anthony, which airs on JSU-TV.

Hayes-Anthony was appointed to the education task force for the state of Mississippi, and was appointed by Governors Haley Barbour and Phil Bryant to the State Department of Health, where she also serves on the Audit Committee, CON and Communication Committee. Beyond the state, she brought national accreditation to the Department of Journalism and Media Studies as former dean of JSU’s School of Journalism and chair.

Furthermore, Hayes-Anthony has worked as a consultant for the Florida and Louisiana Board of Regents on Journalism Education. Beyond higher education, the master mind was appointed the assistant superintendent of Public Information and Staff Development for the Jackson Public School District and spokesperson for the Board of Trustees. She served in that capacity for seven years.

Hayes-Anthony’s broad, analytical mind wants the best for students. She understands that for

them “the sky is the limit” and they need no hindrances. “I want to see students in internships and co-ops and jobs and all kinds of partnerships [that are] going to help them. That’s my major goal. The focus should be on the students. And when we work all of the faculty and the staff around that goal, I think it’s going to really take us where we want to be. So, my goal is to be student-centered and to do whatever we can do to make students successful.”

Among her many accomplishments, Hayes-Anthony was honored as a media trailblazer by Women for Progress (Mississippi). She is the first African American to serve on the Board of the Mississippi Association of Broadcasters (MAB), where she is the president. This accomplishment makes the leader the first African-American female educator to hold the statewide position.

The very near future of JSU remains to be seen. What is certain, however, is while Dr. Thompson’s reign as JSU’s 13th president will begin on November 27, 2023, Dr. Hayes-Anthony continues her role as acting president until that time. She was appointed by the IHL Board for the position of acting president in April, 2023. Her appointment was a result of former president Thomas K. Hudson’s (J.D.) resignation last March. Hayes-Anthony publicized her willingness to become the new president. In that role she has raised \$26 million in behalf of JSU.

While Hayes-Anthony stood in the gap between the search and the naming of the new president, Cunningham, a former Gov. Phil Bryant IHL commissioner, and the only JSU alumnus, voted against allowing her to apply for the permanent role.

He commented to Mississippi Today that he did not want to dissuade outside candidates from applying for the role.

Hayes-Anthony was among the 79 applicants

Proper respect for Dexter Wade and family at last

November 20, 2023 • New Horizon Church International • Jackson, MS • Rev. Al Sharpton, Officiating

PHOTOS BY KEVIN BRADLEY





Four more years of inequity now cemented

The realities of the General Election results now settle in our souls

By Christopher Young
Contributing Writer

Just two weeks since the General Election and the vast weight of the results is settling upon us.

The verdict is in and over half of the voters in Mississippi don't want change, they want our state to continue its present path; a path contrary to our own best interests as a state that is on the bottom in every way imaginable; a path cluttered with corruption, poverty, inequity and economic starvation; a path that consistently preserves the status quo; a path that willfully prevents all Mississippians from thriving; a path that deliberately stifles opportunity for nearly half the population of Mississippi' and a path that sabotages the very health of its own population. Lord, have mercy.

Mississippi is always at the top of the list of states dependent upon federal support. In 2022, www.smartasset.com ranked Mississippi 3rd, behind New Mexico and West Virginia – 47.1% of Mississippi's revenue came from the federal government. The state received \$2.53 for every \$1.00 in federal income taxes paid.

For Fiscal Year 2023, which ended on June 30, 2023, our dependency on federal support did not shrink, it expanded.

Mississippi received 47.87% of its appropriation from the federal government, per the Mississippi Legislative Budget Office – 47.87% out of a \$23 billion dollar budget. That translated to \$11,085,235,384, yet Mississippi continues to be the poorest state in the nation per capita. Our suffering remains chronic on the current path. Does the majority of the electorate know this? Yes, of course they do.

The federal government provides funding to all states for their poorest residents. In FY21, the latest comprehensive data from the Department of Health and Human Service, Administration for Children and Families, indicates \$30.3 billion was provided to the states as Temporary Assistance for Needy Families; \$57.3 million came to Mississippi. Of that, 6.2% was allotted for basic cash assistance to recipients, which ranks 42nd in the nation, and the monthly cash benefit for a single-parent family of three with no other income is \$260, per the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities (CBPP). Try to keep a roof over your head and food in your stomach for \$260 a month.



Welcome sign at Mississippi/Alabama state line on Interstate 20 West.
PHOTO BY CHRIS YOUNG

Those that draft the policies, all Christians, don't care about that. They are frying different fish. At 11.8%, Mississippi spends 5.6% more on TANF program administration than it does on direct assistance. Nothing short of sinful behavior.

Mississippi is said to be the most church attending state in the nation. Lord knows, all our elected state leaders that take action to keep us at the bottom proclaim they are Christians. They must practice a unique brand of Christianity that doesn't honor the gospels, i.e. "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven," Matthew 5:16 (RSV).

Instead of doing good works with the tens of millions of dollars provided for the poorest children and families in Mississippi, many of them turned between \$77 and \$94 million into their own personal slush fund.

For every 100 families living in poverty in Mississippi, only 4 receive TANF cash assistance. Nationally it's 21 out of 100 such families, per CBPP. No, not glorifying the Father who is in heaven, at all.

On August 4, 2022, the same Governor who was just reelected for another term, said he instructed the Mississippi Home Corporation to stop accepting applications to the program on August 15, 2022. In Mississippi, this program is referred to as the Rental Assistance for Mississippians Program (RAMP).

"Mississippi isn't afraid to make hard decisions to improve our workforce participation. That's what we're doing today," said Reeves. "This program has essentially become 'if for whatever reason you can't pay your rent or utility bill, taxpayers will pay them for you.' Mississippi will continue to say no to these types of liberal handouts that encourage people to stay out of the workforce. Instead, we're going

to say yes to conservative principles and policies that result in more people working."

The hypocrisy is far beyond reasonable understanding. He gladly accepted over \$11 billion last year in federal aid to run Mississippi's government, while claiming to be adhering to conservative principles and policies, and then scapegoats poor people needing help with rent and/or utilities. He obviously missed Matthew 5:19 (RSV) "Whoever then relaxes one of the least of these commandments and teaches men so, shall be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but he who does them and teaches them shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven."

The pain and suffering thrust upon most of our state by people who not only refuse to turn loose of Mississippi's Confederate past, but continue to embrace it, keeps us paralyzed. Their thinking and behavior traps us in the soil of inequity – frozen in our thermal history. The obvious benefit of lifting all boats is a concept they cannot and will not abide by. And for minorities, a special brand of pain – chopped off at the knees from every quarter.

The state with a 45% minority population awarded just 5.5% of contracts for goods and services to minorities last year, and 67.46% of that amount went to white women, based on the State Minority Participation Report.

What can we do? We can dig deeper to find the resolve to protect our families, seek unity over division, hold our own elected officials accountable – if they are not improving our conditions on the ground they must go; spend our dollars in our own communities, and grow future candidates for public office who have a selfless heart.

We can pray and we can keep faith in each other, and in He who presides over us – Lord, have mercy.

Mississippi's capital city is considering a unique plan to slash water rates

By Michael Goldberg
Associated Press/Report for America

The manager of the long-troubled water system in Mississippi's capital city proposed a slight rate increase for most residents Friday alongside what he said is a first-in-the-nation proposal to reduce water rates for low-income people who get government help with grocery bills.

The proposal from Ted Henifin, the third-party manager of Jackson's water and sewer systems, is the culmination of a months-long effort to increase revenue collections in a city where roughly a quarter of the population lives in poverty. If enacted, it would be the latest in a series of changes after infrastructure breakdowns in 2022 caused many Jackson residents to go days and weeks without safe running water.

"We think this is a great opportunity to really change the dialogue around water and sewer in the city of Jackson," Henifin said at a news conference.

Henifin said about 5,000 properties in the Jackson area use water without paying, adding to the financial strain on a system that has about \$260 million in outstanding debts. To increase revenue collections without burdening those who can't afford higher bills, Henifin's proposal creates a new rate tier for the roughly 12,500 Jackson water customers who receive benefits from the federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, which helps low-income people purchase groceries.

People who receive SNAP benefits, also known as food stamps, will see their water bills lowered by an average of \$20 a month. That arrangement does not exist anywhere in the country, Henifin said.

Henifin had previously floated a plan to price water based on property values to shift the burden away from Jackson's poorest residents. Months later, the Mississippi Legislature passed a law banning that approach. State law now mandates that water be billed based on volume, not other factors like property values.

Henifin said Lt. Gov. Delbert Hose-



Ted Henifin, interim third-party manager for Jackson water, explains his proposal for a slight rate increase during a Nov 17 news conference in Jackson.
AP PHOTO/ROGELIO V.SOLIS

mann, who presides over the state senate, approves of his new proposal.

The proposal also marks the first rate increase since a federal judge appointed Henifin to manage Jackson's water system last November. Henifin created JXN Water, a corporation to manage water infrastructure projects.

The majority of JXN Water's residential customers would see an increase of about \$10 per month, or a 13% increase. Customers with the largest meters, such as some commercial properties, could see increases of as much as \$2,604, a 62% increase.

JXN Water will start shutting off water for people who don't pay their bills sometime after Jan. 1st, Henifin said.

Henifin will propose the new rate structure to Jackson Mayor Chokwe Antar Lumumba, who would then put the proposal on the City Council's agenda. Henifin hopes the proposal will be considered by the council on Dec. 5, but he said the federal order allows him to implement the proposal regardless.

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

The Mississippi Link™

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Mississippi's State Health Insurance Assistance Program

is a part of a national network of programs that offer free confidential counseling, education and assistance to Medicare beneficiaries and their caregivers.

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Contact SHIP

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www.mdhs.ms.gov



Miss Black America pageant returns to Atlantic City for 55th Anniversary



Current Miss Black America Gabrielle Wilson

By Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Newswire Senior
National Correspondent

The Miss Black America Pageant is coming back to Atlantic City to celebrate its 55th anniversary. It will be held on the Boardwalk Saturday, December 16. The return to the city where the “Historic Protest Pageant of 1968” took place has generated considerable anticipation among many. As announced, a captivating parade and a series of exciting festivities are guaranteed as the prelude to the grand main event at the renowned Showboat Atlantic Hotel.

J. Morris Anderson, an individual who performed at the forefront of his time, established the Miss Black America Pageant, and made a lasting impact as the founder of the “American Institute of Positivity.” “The Seeds of Positivity,” the term “Positivity,” and the “Success Seekers Seminars” hosted by the institute are all works Anderson authored. His influence transcends the pageant, as does his vision, which surpasses the conventional.

Aleta Anderson, Morris’s daughter, stated that it’s critical to recognize the differences between the Miss Black America Pageant and a Black Miss America pageant. “I’ve been working with this pageant since I was a little girl,” Anderson declared. “The thing that it originally was meant is still there, and it means so much more in that it provides an opportunity for the young women to participate.”

Established in 1968, the organization carved its path, boasting a syndicated television network to showcase Black women’s often-overlooked beauty, talent and intelligence in mainstream pageants. “Miss Black America was always a pageant of access,” Anderson told the Black Press.

“It wasn’t a beauty pageant, but a story of Black beauty, and of confidence and self-esteem. And it continues to be a part of our learning process as we now have all these platforms of exposure.”

Saundra Williams, a college student from Philadelphia, made history as the first Miss Black America. She used her platform to showcase an enchanting traditional African dance and to challenge the long-standing exclusion of Black women from the Miss America pageant. “Miss America

does not represent us because there has never been a black girl in the pageant,” Williams once stated. In 1970, Cheryl Browne became the first black Miss America contestant, and Vanessa Williams secured the historic title in 1983.

Over 50 distinguished women will compete for the Miss Black America title this year, joining the ranks of past champions such as Oprah Winfrey, Toni Braxton, Bern Nadette Stanis and Nicole Hibbert.

Anderson underscored the pageant’s lasting relevance as a symbol of hope for young women. The pageant was originally created to celebrate Black beauty, confidence and self-esteem. Now it has become a platform for challenging traditional ideas of beauty and providing needed exposure.

Anderson emphasized the pageant’s diversity, which transcended social, economic and educational limitations. She described the Miss Black America Pageant as a national and global event that has shaped American history since 1968.

“We have so many young women in the pageant and just because it’s the Miss Black America pageant doesn’t mean it isn’t diverse,” Anderson argued. “The diversity exceeds socio-economic status, and our education because the way we are educated is different. Every woman who has participated is vested and becomes a lifelong participant and we have so many coming back to Atlantic City to pay homage.”

The first-ever senior Miss Black America will be crowned, Anderson believes, marking a historic event that will give the competition a new dimension. She promised to commemorate J. Morris Anderson’s devotion to Black women by keeping the pageant going forward as a legacy program.

“I want everyone to walk away with the feeling that anything is possible and that they have the support and a window of opportunity,” Anderson stated. “It doesn’t start in Atlantic City, it starts before. Getting there and showing up, being highly motivated, and having a feeling of going into this that they are now a part of something that provides an experience that elevates the rest of their lives.”

Football coach fired after baptism of players on school grounds

Black Press USA Newswire

A Georgia high school football coach has been fired after holding a baptism for players on school grounds, NBC News reports.

Isaac Ferrell, the now-former Tattnall County High School, brought in a pastor to baptise players after an Oct. 23 practice. Video shared on the football team’s Facebook shows a pastor instructing a player to sit in a tub of water.

“I baptise you now, my brother, in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,” the pastor said as he dunked the player under the water.

Twenty players chose to get baptised, according to a Facebook post.

Despite facing backlash over the baptism, the coach was fired for reasons unrelated to the incident said Superintendent Kristen Waters. Waters said an incident after a Nov. 3 game prompted his termination, but she didn’t provide further details.

“The safety and security of our students is paramount to Tattnall County Board



PHOTO: GETTY IMAGES

of Education,” Waters said in a statement. “Based on the outcome of an investigation into an incident that occurred Friday night, November 3, while traveling after the football game, the district decided that it would seek a head football coach that aligned with the best interests of the students.”

“As to any other allegations, the district does not comment during ongoing in-

vestigations,” she added.

The Freedom From Religion Foundation, a state/church watchdog organization, previously wrote a letter to Waters calling the baptism a “constitutional violation.” The foundation also accused Ferrell of “abusing his position.”

“We write to request that the District investigate this situation and ensure that this school-sponsored religious

coercion ends immediately,” the foundation wrote in a November 1 letter. “All coaches and staff should be instructed regarding their obligations as public school employees.”

Following Ferrell’s firing, the foundation issued another statement saying it was “glad they [district officials] are looking for a new coach who will abide by his constitutional duties.

Mistrial declared after federal jury deadlocks in trial of ex-officer in deadly Breonna Taylor raid

By Dylan Lovan
Associated Press

Jurors failed to reach a unanimous verdict on federal civil rights charges Thursday in the trial of a former Louisville police officer charged in the police raid that killed Breonna Taylor, prompting the judge to declare a mistrial.

Brett Hankison was charged with using excessive force that violated the rights of Taylor, her boyfriend and her next-door neighbors. Hankison fired 10 shots into the Black woman’s window and a glass door after officers came under fire during a flawed drug warrant search on March 13, 2020. Some of his shots flew into a neighboring apartment, but none of them struck anyone.

The 12-member, mostly white, jury struggled fruitlessly to reach a verdict over several days. On Thursday afternoon, they sent a note to the judge saying they were at an impasse. U.S. District Judge Rebecca Grady Jennings urged them to keep trying, and they returned to deliberations.

The judge reported there were “elevated voices” coming from the jury room at times during deliberations, and court security officials had to visit the room. Jurors then told the judge Thursday they were deadlocked on both counts against Hankison, and could not come to a decision – prompting Jennings’ declaration of a mistrial.

The mistrial could result in a retrial of Hankison, but that would be determined by federal prosecutors at a later date.

Federal prosecutors didn’t immediately respond to an email afterward seeking com-



Taylor

ment.

Before the mistrial was declared, the lead federal prosecutor, Michael Songer, said in court that it would take “enormous resources ... to retry this case.” Songer wanted the jury to keep deliberating.

Jennings said she believed the jury would not be able to reach a verdict. “I think the totality of the circumstances may be beyond repair in this case,” the judge said. “They have a disagreement that they cannot get past.”

Lonita Baker, an attorney for Taylor’s family, said afterward that Taylor’s mother, Tamika Palmer, was disappointed with the outcome but remained encouraged “because a mistrial is not an acquittal. And so we live another day to fight for justice for Breonna.”

Hankison, 47, was acquitted by a Kentucky jury last year on wanton endangerment charges. State prosecutors had alleged he illegally put Taylor’s neighbors in danger. Months after his acquittal last year, the U.S. Department of Justice brought the new charges against Hankison, along with separate charges against a group of other officers involved in crafting the warrant.

U.S. Attorney General Merrick Garland said Taylor, a 26-year-old nursing student,

“should be alive today” when he announced the federal charges in August 2022. The charges that Hankison faced carried a maximum sentence of life in prison.

Hankison was the only officer who fired his weapon the night of the Taylor raid to be criminally charged. Prosecutors determined that two other officers were justified in returning fire after one was shot in the leg.

Songer said Monday in the trial’s closing arguments that Hankison “was a law enforcement officer, but he was not above the law.” Songer argued that Hankison couldn’t see a target and knew firing blindly into the building was wrong.

Hankison’s attorney, Stewart Mathews, countered that he was acting quickly to help his fellow officers, who he believed were being “executed” by a gunman shooting from inside Taylor’s apartment. Taylor’s boyfriend had fired a single shot when police burst through the door. Her boyfriend, Kenneth Walker, said he believed an intruder was barging in.

“If his perception was reasonable in the chaos of that moment, that was not criminal,” Mathews said.

The night of the raid, Hankison said he saw the shot from Taylor’s boyfriend in the hallway after her door was breached. He backed up and ran around the corner of the building, firing shots into the side of the apartment.

“I had to react,” he testified. “I had no choice.”

The single shot from Taylor’s boyfriend hit former police Sgt. Jonathan Mattingly, who dropped to the ground and fired six shots. Another officer, Myles Cosgrove, fired

16 rounds down the hallway, including the bullet that killed Taylor. Mattingly testified as a defense witness for Hankison in the federal trial, while Cosgrove was called to testify by prosecutors.

Cosgrove was fired by Louisville police along with Hankison. Mattingly retired.

Taylor’s death didn’t initially garner much attention, but after the death of George Floyd by Minneapolis police in May 2020 and the release of Taylor’s boyfriend’s 911 call, street protests over police brutality erupted around the country. Demonstrators in Louisville shouted Taylor’s name for months, along with high-profile Black celebrities like Oprah and LeBron James, who demanded accountability for the police officers involved in the case.

Taylor’s case also cast intense scrutiny on so-called “no-knock” warrants, which were later banned in the city of Louisville. The warrants allow officers to enter a residence without warning, but in the Taylor raid officers said they knocked and announced their presence. The Louisville police chief at the time was subsequently fired because officers had not used body cameras the night of the raid.

Three other former officers involved in drawing up the warrant have been charged in a separate federal case. One of them, Kelly Goodlett, has pleaded guilty to helping falsify the warrant. She is expected to testify against former detective Joshua Jaynes and former Sgt. Kyle Meany in their trial next year.

Goodlett’s guilty plea remains the only criminal conviction of a police officer involved in the Taylor case.

Ways to thrive, survive and manage stroke and dementia in black men

Mississippi Link Newswire

According to the National Institute of Neurological Disorders & Stroke, stroke is a leading cause of death and long-term disability, with nearly 800,000 Americans having a stroke each year. Making matters worse, Black/African American men are at substantially higher risk for high blood pressure and strokes, according to medical experts. Over time, uncontrolled high blood pressure, especially in mid-life, can damage blood vessels and lead to a stroke. High blood pressure can also lead to other damage in the brain that has been associated with dementia.

The good news is people can take steps now to get their blood pressure numbers into a healthy range – or keep their numbers in a healthy range – to help prevent stroke and dementia later in life. This World Stroke Day (October 29, 2023), the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NINDS) raised awareness of this important topic and shared tips to help manage the risks.

Steps to manage your risks for stroke and dementia

Know your blood pressure numbers. Blood pressure is measured using two numbers. The first number, your systolic blood pressure, measures the pressure in your arteries when your heart beats. The second number, your diastolic blood pressure, measures the pressure in your arteries



when your heart rests between beats. If the measurement reads 120 systolic and 80 diastolic, you would say, “120 over 80,” or write, “120/80 mm Hg.” If left unchecked, high blood pressure can damage the cells of your arteries’ inner lining and cause a hardening called arteriosclerosis, blocking blood flow to your heart, brain and kidneys,

as well as to your muscles. Keep in mind that your blood pressure changes throughout the day based on your activities.

Normal blood pressure for most adults

Less than 120/80 mm HG
High blood pressure
130 or higher/80 or higher mm HG.

Stay informed. Discuss high blood pressure with your healthcare provider. Use this guide to talk to your healthcare provider about your risks and ways to manage your blood pressure to help prevent stroke and dementia. Then, make a plan together and stick with it.

Take your medications. Your healthcare provider may recommend taking medicine daily to prevent stroke and heart attack, especially if you have high blood pressure.

Quit smoking or using tobacco. Smoking harms nearly every organ in the body, including the heart. Any amount of smoking, even light or occasional smoking, damages the heart and blood vessels.

Manage your cholesterol levels. Reducing your cholesterol will lower your risk for developing a wide variety of serious health issues, including stroke and heart disease.

Eat healthy foods and exercise. Eat plenty of fresh fruits and vegetables, cut down on fried foods, and use less salt. Get in about 30 minutes of moderate to intense exercise, like brisk walking or bicycling every day. Following a healthy eating plan and keeping physically active on a regular basis will significantly lower your risk for heart disease, high blood pressure, type 2 diabetes and other chronic and debilitating health problems.

Manage your diabetes. Having diabetes or pre-diabetes puts you at

increased risk for stroke and heart disease. You can lower your risk by keeping your blood glucose (also called blood sugar), blood pressure, and blood cholesterol close to the recommended target numbers provided by your healthcare provider.

Avoid using illicit drugs and misusing alcohol. Generally, an increase in alcohol consumption leads to an increase in blood pressure. The use of illicit drugs, such as cocaine and methamphetamines, can cause stroke.

Get enough sleep. Getting a good night’s sleep every night is important for good heart and brain health. Adults should aim for an average of 7-9 hours, and babies and kids need more depending on their age.

Stick to the plan. This is the hard part, but keeping your heart and brain healthy can lead to better overall health as you age.

Start early. Preventing stroke and heart disease is more effective if started in midlife. Studies also find that controlling blood pressure may also reduce the risk of dementia.

These simple and effective lifestyle changes can reduce your chance of all types of stroke, heart disease and dementia later in life. Taking charge of your health now can help avoid unnecessary risks and keep blood pressure under control.

For more tips and information, visit the Mind Your Risks® website at mindyourrisks.nih.gov.

Five weight loss tips for busy parents

StatePoint

For parents, juggling the demands of work and home life can no doubt take a toll on physical health. In fact, a Cornell University study of 50 working moms and dads found that more than half turned to unhealthy eating options – pizza, chocolate and fast food, because they were too busy to start a new healthy eating plan.

With the weather changing and kids back in school, there is no better time to focus on your health. Here are five tips to fall back into a healthier routine and conquer your weight loss goals:

Eat enough protein. Protein is the key to feeling full and satisfied, especially when you’re trying to lose a few pounds. That’s why finding a high-protein plan like Nutrisystem is so important. Nutrisystem is easy to follow, and offers a variety of protein-rich meals and snacks that taste great and are made in minutes – a great choice for the busy mom or dad on the go.

With up to 30 grams of protein, Nutrisystem’s Hearty Inspirations meals will control your appetite for up to five hours. With menu items like Sesame Beef & Broccoli and Bourbon-Style Chicken, you’re going to enjoy what you’re eating and lose weight.

Get moving with fun, 15-minute workouts. As a busy parent, finding time to exercise may not be top of mind. Committing to just 15 minutes daily will do wonders for your health and help you stay on track with your weight loss goals. Look for new and exciting workouts to try, such as Pilates, dance and boxing, so that you don’t get tired of doing the same exercises.

You can also get the family involved. Go on an evening walk together or take all the boredom out of exercise and



have a dance competition.

Stock your fridge with healthy, seasonal options. Fall is the perfect time to enjoy in-season fruits and vegetables. During the cooler months, you’ll find mouth-watering produce like apples, squash, salad greens, broccoli and Brussels sprouts that will satisfy your tastebuds. If you like trying new things, consider beets. Low in calories and high in fiber, vitamin C and potassium, beets make a great vegetable to add to your grocery list.

Nutrisystem plans allow you to add a variety of fruits and vegetables to your day, and offer hundreds of recipes, including some seasonal favorites, on its lifestyle blog, The Leaf.

Plan your menu for the week. You’re busy, so opt for easy, convenient options. That’s where planning your weekly menu using healthy and simple ingredients comes in. Make sure to include variety so you don’t risk getting bored. If you find yourself saying, “I had this last week. I don’t feel like having that again,” you may find yourself ordering takeout.

Another option is to look for a service that will deliver nutritionally-balanced, portion-controlled meals to your door. Nutrisystem offers delicious, easy to prepare options that you can be confident will not only taste good, but help you lose weight.

Prioritize yourself. Being a busy parent can be exciting, but it could also mean having difficulty prioritizing yourself. Write yourself encouraging daily reminders and hang them around your home and workplace. Set aside time to read a book before bed. Do yoga for 15 minutes in your living room to unwind. Finding something new you love – be it meditation, crafting or listening to a podcast – can motivate you to stay committed to yourself.

Utilizing these simple tips will help you balance your busy work and home life and guide you on your successful weight loss journey. If you slip up, don’t harp on your mistake instead, forgive yourself and start again.

For more great weight loss tips, healthy recipes and more, check out <https://leaf.nutrisystem.com>

Concussion and losing consciousness

By Vince Faust
Tips to Be Fit

When coaches have an athlete that goes down, they check to see if their athlete loss consciousness. If the athlete loss consciousness they are treated for a concussion. However, loss of consciousness is not the best test for determining weather an athlete has suffered a concussion. Most athletes don’t lose consciousness when they suffer a concussion. Only one in six loose consciousness after a concussion. From this misconception a lot of injured athletes are sent back into competition instead of being put into concussion treatment.

Athletes that suffer a concussion don’t always lose consciousness, but they will experience amnesia or confusion according to a study done by the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center. The study found that athletes could sustain a severe concussion without losing consciousness.

Amnesia and confusion after injury should also be factors in determining if an athlete can continue in his activities during practice or the game. The study also recommended not allowing any athlete that may have suffered a concussion back into a competition. I would include stopping practice also. The study also recommended that the athletes should have a thorough evaluation by a doctor and have neuropsychological testing. This evaluation is especially important for athletes 18 years or younger because their brains are still developing.

The brain is responsible for maintaining your consciousness. Your brain requires certain amounts of oxygen and glucose in order to function properly.

When your consciousness is decreased, your ability to remain awake, aware and oriented is impaired. Decreased consciousness can be a medical emergency. A coma is the most severe level of consciousness impairment.

Symptoms that may be associated with decreased consciousness include: seizures, loss of bowel or bladder function, poor

balance, falling, difficulty walking, fainting, lightheadedness, irregular heartbeat, rapid pulse, low blood pressure, sweating, fever, or weakness in the face, arms, or legs.

Here are a few things from the web site “Healthline” you should check for when your athlete gets hurt:

Confusion

Confusion is marked by the absence of clear thinking and may result in the athlete making poor decisions.

Disorientation

Disorientation is the inability to understand how you relate to people, places, objects and time. The first stage of disorientation is usually around awareness of your current surroundings. The next stage is being disoriented with respect to time (years, months, days). This is followed by disorientation with respect to place, which means you may not know where you are. Loss of short-term memory follows disorientation with respect to place. The most extreme form of disorientation is when you lose the memory of who you are.

Delirium

If you’re delirious, your thoughts are confused and illogical. People who are delirious are often disoriented. Their emotional responses range from fear to anger. People who are delirious are often highly agitated as well.

Lethargy

Lethargy is a state of decreased consciousness that resembles drowsiness. If you’re lethargic, you may not respond to stimulants such as the sound of an alarm clock or the presence of fire.

Stupor

Stupor is a deeper level of impaired consciousness in which it’s very difficult for you to respond to any stimuli, except for pain.

Coma

Coma is the deepest level of impaired consciousness. If you’re in a coma you won’t respond to any stimulus, even pain.

Your diagnosis and treatment of decreased consciousness begins with a complete medical

history and physical examination. This includes a detailed neurological evaluation. Your doctor will want to know about any medical problems you have, such as diabetes, epilepsy and depression. They should ask about any medications you’re taking, such as insulin or anti-convulsants. They’ll also ask if you have a history of abusing illegal drugs, prescription drugs or alcohol.

“Healthline” recommends your doctor order the following tests:

Complete blood count (CBC)

This blood test reveals whether you have a low hemoglobin level, which indicates anemia. An elevated white blood cell (WBC) count indicates infections, such as meningitis or pneumonia.

Toxicology screen

This test uses a blood or urine sample to detect the presence and levels of medications, illegal drugs and poisons in your system.

Electrolyte panel

These blood tests measure levels of sodium, potassium, chloride and bicarbonate.

Liver function tests

These tests determine the health of your liver by measuring levels of proteins, liver enzymes or bilirubin in your blood.

Electroencephalogram (EEG)

This exam uses scalp electrodes to evaluate brain activity.

Electrocardiogram (EKG)

This exam measures your heart’s electrical activity (such as heart rate and rhythm).

Chest X-ray

Doctors use this imaging test to evaluate the heart and lungs.

CT scans of the head

A CT scan uses computers and rotating X-rays to make high-resolution images of the brain. Doctors use these images to find abnormalities.

MRI of the head

An MRI uses nuclear magnetic resonance imaging to make high-resolution images of the brain.

Before starting any health or fitness program consult your physician.

P R E S E R V E D

Be thankful for what you lost

By Shewanda Riley
Columnist



Is it possible to be thankful for what you lost? I know it's Thanksgiving season and we are focused on being grateful for the many blessings we have. However, in some cases, homes and jobs have been lost. Hope for some is fading. It's hard to be thankful because of growing fear and uncertainty. How can you be thankful when you feel like you've lost so much?

Philippians 4:11-12 says, "I am not saying this because I am in need, for I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances. I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed

or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want."

How do you apply that scripture to everyday life, especially if you are struggling? I had to re-learn this a few years ago when I dealt with an unexpected loss of something I valued.

For a time, I struggled with coming to terms with the disappointment of the loss. Then it hit me one day: the loss was really God making room for what he really wanted me to have. And, less than one month later, God blessed me with something better than what I'd previously complained about losing.

We complain to God and wonder why he doesn't give us certain things when we pray for them. Spiritual temper tantrums might happen when we send up heart-felt prayers and they are not answered. We spend so much time focusing on what we didn't get that we miss what God has for us on the other side of that disappointment: A challenge to trust Him again. And in trusting him again comes the opportunity to show obedience to God's awesome sovereignty.

Do we pass the test of being able to congratulate the person who got their prayers answered when their prayer was similar to ours? An even bigger test is praying that God would bless that person as they accepted those new blessings if/when they run into difficulties.

Being able to pray that kind of prayer requires that we go back to thanking God for what we didn't get...regardless of the reason we believe he didn't allow it to happen for us. Sometimes when we get blessings from God, we quickly forget that he is sovereign; we'd rather give credit to our prayer partner.

It seems a little odd to thank God for not giving you something, but this kind of thankfulness is just as important because it forces us to take a crash course in spiritual maturity.

Not getting a prayer answered is God's ironic reminder that he really is still in control, knows what is best for us and is working things out on our behalf.

Have a wonderful Thanksgiving!

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

Christianity is progressive

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



What are some things that people need to drive out of their lives? Some are slaves to habits. They fall over temptations and have the same failure repeatedly. Christianity is a continual journey toward God. There are some things that you have to drive out of your life when God reveals them to you. God is a just God. He will give you time to take action, but He expects you to do something.

The reason some people are no further with God than when they took the initial step is that they are not driving out those things that hinder them. The same things that troubled them before are troubling them now. Why? They have not driven out the things that God's Spirit has shown them to drive out. Consequently, they have stalemated.

Since they did not drive out the "inhabitants of the land," the enemy still possesses the land because he was not driven out. He still has it, and he is the sole owner. Those things that they have failed to drive out have become pricks in their eyes and thorns in their sides, and they are vexed by them. They are always walking around with vexation of spirit. God does not want that from His children.

My friend if that is your condition, God wants to help you. He has the power, but He expects you to drive out the "inhabitants of the land." Paul said to "work out your salvation with fear and trembling." This is not a fear of punishment or the type of fear that a slave might have of his master. It is not a fear that drives one to hide from God,

but rather it is a fear and trembling that drives one to seek God. We each need God's help.

What did Paul mean when he said to work out your salvation with fear and trembling? This fear is from a sense of your own powerlessness to deal with life triumphantly. You fear and tremble because you cannot handle things yourself. You need God to help you. This type of fear and trembling will cause you to draw near to God. Why? You know that the temptations and the trials are more than you can handle; they are more than you can stand, so you go to God with fear and trembling. Because you cannot stand in your own strength, you need to come to God so you can be triumphant in the trial.

If you really love God, you are not afraid of what He could do to you, but rather you are concerned that you might grieve Him. First John 4:18a states, "There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear because fear hath torment.

You need to consider what your sin is doing to God. How does God feel about it? If you have committed sin, you are hurting Him. Do you not have any feelings toward God? Christ died for your sins.

When you commit sin, making it a practice, you are continually putting Christ right back on the cross every day. Every time you commit sin, it is as the blows of the hammer that drove the nails into His hands and His feet. If you really love God, you are concerned about what you are doing to Him. A Christian does not want to crucify Christ afresh. He wants to drive out the inhabitants.

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



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32nd Holiday Top Hat Brunch is Saturday, November 25

The Mississippi Link Newswire

Do you have your hat and ensemble ready for this year's Annual Holiday Top Hat Brunch? The National Coalition of 100 Black Women, Inc., Central Mississippi Chapter's signature fundraising event that exudes glamour, elegance and excitement is set for 11 a.m., Saturday, November 25.

The event will take place at the Hilton Jackson, 1001 E. County Line Road. Seating begins at 10:30 a.m.

"We are excited to celebrate the 32nd Holiday Top Hat Brunch benefitting community scholars," said Rita Wray, president. The first Holiday Top Hat Brunch was held in 1991 to help establish the local chapter of the Coalition.

Now the brunch is the sole fundraising event of the Coalition. Proceeds from the brunch help to fund scholarships to young ladies in the Central Mississippi area. Over \$300,000 in scholarships have been awarded to graduating seniors.

"The brunch is considered the premiere kickoff for the holidays, and people come dressed and ready to take the runway during the legendary Parade of Hats competition," said Gaynell Tinsey, brunch chairperson.

Guests can expect to take the runway in the Legendary Parade of Hats Competition in one of the following categories:

- **DIVA** – Worn bodaciously by the self-assure, style-conscious women. This hat – small, medium, or large is fashionable adorned with jewels, feathers, beads or flowers and coordinated with a trendy ensemble.



(L to R) Melony Horton - Budget & Finance Co-Chair, Minnie Jones-Erhabor - Logistics, Co-Chair Rita Wray – Chapter President, Gaynell Tinsey - Holiday Top Hat Chair, Wilda Holloway - Program Co-Chair
PHOTO BY JAY JOHNSON

- If your hat says, "demanding, inspiring, vibrant and alluring," it's now your time to shine.
- **DUCHESS** – Designed for the ultra-feminine lady who emits quite elegance and exquisite taste in her apparel. This face-flattering hat accents and complements any ultra-chic and elegant ensemble.

- **FIRST LADY** – The essence of conversative ladyship and "Sunday morning" elegance. The wearer of this hat is a class act always decked out in a well-coordinated hat, gloves, suit or dress.

- **LABELLE** – **BOLD** and dramatic with an ensemble that says, "Work it!" Her trendsetting design is adorned with jewel-tipped feathers, ornate gemstones – and the bling just cannot be missed.

- **ENJOLI** – Extremely pretty in her styling. Anything goes whether it's plain or bold. With this emblem, chosen for the occasion or not, it simply says, "My Style."

- **BELLES AND BEAUX** – (Category 1: Age K-12, Category 2: Age 13-17) Designed for the young ladies and young men looking fabulously fierce and commanding attention. This hat may be dressy, casual, bold or daring, yet stylish. Coordinated with dressy or casual attire, this hat has head-turning S-T-Y-L-E!

- **SOPHISTICATED GENTS** – (18 and up) Designed for the distinguished, debonair man who know how to don a hat and how to accessorize and complement casual or dressy, conservative, or ethnocentric apparel. Symbolizing class, style, so-

phistication and fashion, the hat makes the statement – "You got the Power" and sets the example for young, black males.

In addition to hat competitions, small business vendors will be on site from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. selling hats, shoes, jewelry, clothing, handmade specialty items and all sorts of other gifts.

"With the glitz and glamour on full display, the brunch is an opportunity to have fun," said Tinsey.

"We encourage the public to come out and support us during this annual event."

Tickets are \$75 and may be purchased from any NCBW Central MS Chapter member or by going to www.ncbwcentralms.org and clicking on Events.

Support Mississippi's small businesses and entrepreneurs by shopping small Saturday, November 25

By Janita R. Stewart,
District Director,
U.S. Small Business Administration



Thanksgiving is one of the most notable holidays, and perhaps each of us has something – maybe even many things – for which to be thankful.

Right on the heels of Thanksgiving Day is Black Friday, and the following week will be kicked off with Cyber Monday. In between those days is what has come to be known as "Small Business Saturday."

Saturday, November 25, 2023, is Small Business Saturday – a day to celebrate and support small businesses and all they do for their communities. This year, we know that small businesses need our support now more than ever as they navigate, retool and pivot from the impact of the coronavirus pandemic.

With the holiday season just around the corner and with small businesses everywhere gearing up and positioning themselves to serve

in a post-COVID shopping environment, our local mom-and-pop shops, restaurants, boutiques, independent retailers, service providers and more, can maximize this opportunity by participating in Small Business Saturday.

We each can do our part by making it a point to support our local small businesses by shopping small. We are encouraging small businesses to use Small Business Saturday to help drive more traffic directly to their businesses – whether it is by the traditional means of visiting brick and mortar retail stores, restaurants and more (doing it safely of course) or by way of on-line purchases. Which ever means by which a small business chooses to promote its business, we encourage customers to visit in-person or shop online.

Choosing to shop local could result in a significant economic impact for our communities and would transcend throughout our state with increased revenues, expanding the tax base and maintaining employment at these small businesses.

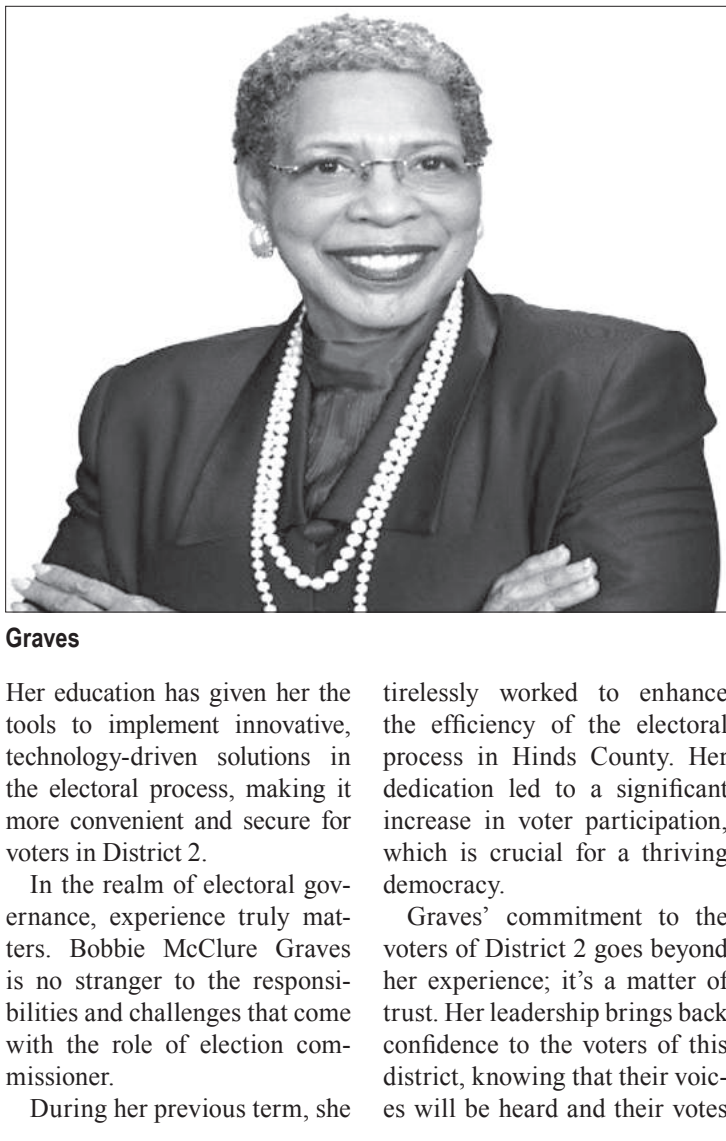
Bobbie McClure Graves: A dedicated choice for Election Commissioner in District 2, Hinds County

By Aerrione Green
Guest Writer

In the upcoming election on Tuesday, November 28, 2023, the residents of District 2 in Hinds County have a vital decision to make, one that will significantly impact the future of their elections and voting processes. Bobbie McClure Graves, a devoted public servant and a graduate of W.H. Lanier High School and Jackson State University, is seeking re-election as the election commissioner for this important district.

Graves brings to the table a wealth of experience and a deep-rooted commitment to ensuring that the electoral process remains transparent, efficient and accessible for all residents. As a mother of two children and a loving wife, she understands the importance of preserving the integrity of our democracy and ensuring a better future for the next generation.

A graduate of two esteemed local institutions, W.H. Lanier High School and Jackson State University, Graves has not only gained valuable academic knowledge but has also maintained strong ties to the community.



Graves

Her education has given her the tools to implement innovative, technology-driven solutions in the electoral process, making it more convenient and secure for voters in District 2.

In the realm of electoral governance, experience truly matters. Bobbie McClure Graves is no stranger to the responsibilities and challenges that come with the role of election commissioner.

During her previous term, she

tirelessly worked to enhance the efficiency of the electoral process in Hinds County. Her dedication led to a significant increase in voter participation, which is crucial for a thriving democracy.

Graves' commitment to the voters of District 2 goes beyond her experience; it's a matter of trust. Her leadership brings back confidence to the voters of this district, knowing that their voices will be heard and their votes

counted. With a track record of excellence, she has proven that she is the right person to continue to uphold the standards of integrity and fairness that our elections demand.

On November 28, 2023, the precincts in District 2, including 8, 11, 13, 14, 16, 23, 25, 27, 28, 29, 30, 37, 39, 40, 41, 84, 85, 86, BO, BR, C1, ED, PN, ST, and TN, will have the opportunity to cast their votes and make a choice for the future. Bobbie McClure Graves is the candidate who will work tirelessly to ensure that the voices of the people are heard, and their votes are counted with the utmost integrity.

In these challenging times, we need experienced, dedicated leaders. Graves is believed by numerous voters to have the experience to guide us through the electoral process and uphold the principles of democracy. With her proven track record, dedication to the community, and a heart that beats for the people, Bobbie McClure Graves is the clear choice for election commissioner in District 2, Hinds County. On November 28, let's stand together to re-elect a true champion of democracy.

Institute hosts/supports holiday health at local shelter



The Mississippi Link Newswire

The Institute for the Advancement of Minority Health will deliver health and holiday cheer to the men at the Billy Brumfield Men's Shelter. From 6 p.m.-8 p.m., December 7, 2024, residents will have access to health screenings and MPOX information.

A Christmas lip sync competition, music, and free food will help ring in the holiday

season.

The Billy Brumfield Shelter is in need of men's clothing/shoes, bedding, coffee and creamer.

For more information or to donate, contact Reggie Wiggins at 601-880-8712 or Miracle Vance, community outreach coordinator, Institute for the Advancement of Minority Health Outreach coordinator at 769 572-5263.

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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, 09/28/23, 10/26/23, 11/23/23, 12/21/23

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Advertisement For Bids
SECURITY CAMERA SYSTEM SOLUTIONS
CITY PROJECT NO. RFP#2023-02

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, November 28, 2023, from qualified providers interested in providing a Security Camera System Solutions which will function as an access control system by integrating alarm monitoring, digital video indoor and outdoor IP security cameras, ID badging, visitor badging and monitoring, and database management into a single platform.

Each proposer must submit six (6) signed copies of its proposal and of the required forms, certifications, and affidavits attached hereto or electronically submit on www.centralbidding.com.

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 SECURITY CAMERA SYSTEM SOLUTIONS, REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)#2023-02."

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

11/2/2023, 11/9/2023, 11/16/2023, 11/23/2023

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REQUEST FOR STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS
JACKSON MUNICIPAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY
STATE GOVERNMENT LOBBYING SERVICES
JMAA PROJECT NUMBER 007-24

The Jackson Municipal Airport Authority is requesting Statement of Qualifications and Expressions of Interest to provide state lobbying and related services to JMAA in connection with the Jackson Municipal Airport Authority State Government Lobbying Services at JMAA Project No. 007-24 at JAN.

Scope of Work:
The Services to be provided include but are not limited to the following:

- General Representation Requirements
- Internal and External Communications
- Intergovernmental and External Relations
- Secure Sources of Funding
- Other Services, as Directed by JMAA

Specific services will be detailed in the RFQ solicitation.

JMAA will receive sealed electronic or printed submissions only. All submissions of Statement of Qualifications to perform the Services will be accepted until Wednesday, December 13, 2023, at 4:00 p.m. Central Standard Time (CST). RFQ shall be accepted electronically, by mail, or by hand delivery as follows:

Electronically	jmaabids.com
By mail or hand delivery	JMAA's Administrative Office, Suite 300
Main Terminal Building	
Jackson-Medgar Wiley Evers	
International Airport 100 International Drive,	
Jackson, Mississippi 39208	

Interested persons may obtain a copy of the Information for Respondents from JMAA via JMAA's website: jmaabids.com.

11/23/2023

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Electronic Bidding
Advertisement for Bids
Bid 3251 Jim Hill Window Replacements and Restroom Renovations

Sealed, written formal bid proposals for the above bid will be received by the Board of Trustees of the Jackson Public School District, in the Business Office, 662 South President Street, Jackson, Mississippi, until

10:00 A.M. (Local Prevailing Time) Tuesday, December 19, 2023, at which time and place they will be publicly opened and read aloud. A Pre-Bid Conference concerning the project for Window Replacements and Restroom Renovations at Jim Hill High School will be held at 2185 Coach Fred Harris Drive, Jackson, MS 39204 on Thursday, November 30, 2023 at 2:00 P.M. Attendance at the pre-bid conference is not mandatory but strongly encouraged. The Board of Trustees reserves the right to reject any and all bids, to waive informalities, and to withhold the acceptance of any bid if approved for forty-five calendar days from the date bids are opened. Plan holders are required to register and order bid documents at www.jpdsmsprojects.com. A \$350.00 Non-refundable deposit shall be required on each set of bid specs/documents and must be purchased through the website. All plan holders are required to have a valid email address for registration. Questions regarding website registration and online orders, please contact Plan House Printing, 607 W. Main Street, Tupelo, MS 38804, (662) 407-0193. Questions regarding bid documents please contact Anderson Ervin at Durrell Design Group. Phone:601-708-4788 or Email: contact@durrelldesigngroup.com.

Until further notice, all hand delivery proposals delivered between 9:00 a.m. until 9:59 a.m. (local prevailing time) the date the bid is scheduled to open, must be delivered to JPSD Board Room, 621 South State Street, Jackson, MS 39201. All bid openings will be recorded and uploaded to the JPSD web site at www.jackson.k12.ms.us at YouTube: /JPSITV for public viewing. Due to COVID 19, vendors will not be allowed to sit in on bids openings.

11/16/2023, 11/23/2023

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Electronic Bidding
Advertisement for Bids
Bid 3250 ESSER Program: Restroom Improvements & HVAC/Indoor Air
Quality Upgrades for Johnson Elementary and Lanier High School

Sealed, written formal bid proposals for the above bid will be received by the Board of Trustees of the Jackson Public School District, in the Business Office, 662 South President Street, Jackson, Mississippi, until 10:00 A.M. (Local Prevailing Time) Tuesday, December 19, 2023, at which time and place they will be publicly opened and read aloud. A Pre-Bid Conference concerning the project for Johnson Elementary and Lanier High School will be held at 833 Maple Street, Jackson, MS 39203 on November 29, 2023, at 10:00 A.M. Attendance at the pre-bid conference is not mandatory but strongly encouraged. The Board of Trustees reserves the right to reject any and all bids, to waive informalities, and to withhold the acceptance of any bid if approved for forty-five calendar days from the date bids are opened.

Plan holders are required to register and order bid documents at www.jpdsmsprojects.com. A \$250.00 Non-refundable deposit shall be required on each set of bid specs/documents and must be purchased through the website. All plan holders are required to have a valid email address for registration. Questions regarding website registration and online orders, please contact Plan House Printing, 607 W. Main Street, Tupelo, MS 38804, (662) 407-0193. Questions regarding bid documents please contact Kenan Morris at Durrell Design Group. Phone:601-708-4788 or Email: contact@durrelldesigngroup.com.

Until further notice, all hand delivery proposals delivered between 9:00 a.m. until 9:59 a.m. (local prevailing time) the date the bid is scheduled to open, must be delivered to JPSD Board Room, 621 South State Street, Jackson, MS 39201. All bid openings will be recorded and uploaded to the JPSD web site at www.jackson.k12.ms.us at YouTube: /JPSITV for public viewing. Due to COVID 19, vendors will not be allowed to sit in on bids openings.

11/16/2023, 11/23/2023

Professional Paralegal
Legal Advocate
James Scott
769-990-3874

11/23/23

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Advertisement for RFP 2023-20
Publishing Platform, Website, Mobile App, Mass Notification System,
and Social Media Integration from a Single Vendor

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

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

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

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

11/16/2023, 11/23/2023

LEGAL

Advertisement
CITY OF JACKSON
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP)
FOR SOLID WASTE COLLECTION SERVICES

The City of Jackson (City) is requesting proposals from qualified Service Providers to provide residential solid waste collection and transportation to a designated transfer station or landfill. Award of a contract for this project is subject to the availability of funding.

It is the City's intent to evaluate the proposals based on technical merit, experience, and price and to choose the Service Provider whose proposal provides the best value to the City. The City reserves the right to waive any irregularities, reject any and/or all proposals, in whole or in part, when, in the City's opinion, such rejection is in the best interests of the City.

Selection of Service Provider for Contract negotiation will be based on an evaluation of the following criteria:

1. Technical Proposal (15%)-Plan for performing the required services
2. Minority Business Participation (5%)
3. Fee proposal (80%)-How cost compares to other proposals in this algebraic equation:

((Lowest Priced Proposal divided by Service Provider's Price) multiplied by 80) equals the number of points/percentage assigned.

Example: If the Lowest Price is \$100.00 and is submitted by Service Provider A, and Service Provider B's Price was \$200.00 then the equation to determine Service Provider B's score would be:
(\$100/\$200) X 80= 40 points
Service Provider A gets 80 points
Service Provider B gets 40 points

Minimum qualifications are five-years of experience as a prime contractor providing solid waste collection services to a municipality or a subsection of a municipality comparable in population to the City of Jackson. All garbage collection vehicles to be used for collection must be no more than two model years old at the time the service begins.

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. 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. For more information on the City of Jackson's Equal Business Opportunity Program, please contact the Office of Economic Development at 601-960-1055. Copies of the Executive Order, EBO Plan Applications and a copy of the program are available at 200 South President Street, Room 223, Hood Building, Jackson, Mississippi.

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 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, sex, or disability in consideration for an award.

Respondent Service Providers shall provide:

- 1) One (1) electronic and (1) bound hard copy of the complete original version of the proposal including all attachments in a searchable Microsoft Office® format, preferably in Word® or Portable Document Format (PDF®) labeled accordingly and including the required EBO Plan, as well as one (1) unbound, signed original EBO Plan.

Section components must be clearly distinguished as follows:
a. COVER LETTER Transmittal Form Sheet (Attachment A)
b. COMPONENT 1 - Technical Proposal
c. COMPONENT 2 - Cost Proposal

- 2) One (1) electronic and five (5) bound hard copies of COMPONENT 1 - Technical Proposal in a searchable Microsoft Office® format, preferably in Word® or Portable Document Format (PDF®).

- 3) If the proposal contains confidential or trade information, one (1) additional confidential or trade electronic copy of the complete proposal including all attachments, shall be labeled CONFIDENTIAL, and shall redact the confidential or trade information only, and shall be submitted in a searchable Microsoft Office® format, preferably in Word® or Portable Document Format (PDF).

All documents shall be submitted in a sealed envelope or box marked "Solid Waste Collection Services". The original and copies of the proposals shall be indexed with tabs as requested in Section 2.6 Proposal Contents. The Cost Proposal shall be submitted in a separate sealed envelope that will be submitted in the same sealed envelope or box as the Technical Proposal. This sealed envelope shall be clearly labeled "Cost Proposal" and include the name of the proposer on the outside of the envelope.

Electronic proposals MUST be submitted at www.centralbidding.com. For any questions relating to the electronic bidding process, please call Central Bidding at 225-810-4814.

All proposals (both electronic and physical hard copies) must be received no later than 3:30 p.m. Central Standard Time, on December 18, 2023. All physical hard copies shall be submitted to the attention of:

If by hand delivery:
City of Jackson
Office of the Municipal Clerk
219 South President Street
Jackson, Mississippi 39201

If by mail:
City of Jackson
Office of the Municipal Clerk
Post Office Box 17
Jackson, MS 39205-0017

Specifications and the Fee Proposal Form for the project are available for inspection at the Office of the Municipal Clerk, 219 South President Street, Jackson, Mississippi 39201. Specifications and the Fee Proposal Form are available for download through Central Bidding online at www.centralbidding.com and at the City of Jackson website, www.jackson.ms.gov/bid-opportunities/.

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

Robert Lee, P.E., Interim Director
Department of Public Works

11/16/2023, 11/23/2023

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

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

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Sudoku Solution

8	2	7	6	9	4	5	3	1
6	9	3	5	7	1	8	4	2
1	5	4	2	3	8	7	6	9
3	7	5	8	6	9	2	1	4
9	4	1	3	2	5	6	8	7
2	6	8	4	1	7	3	9	5
7	8	2	9	4	6	1	5	3
5	3	9	1	8	2	4	7	6
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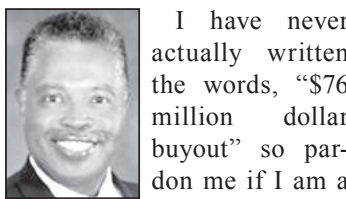
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Week of November 19, 2023

Will Jimbo Fisher coach again after he received a \$76 million buyout?

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



I have never actually written the words, “\$76 million dollar buyout” so pardon me if I am a bit shaky and unstable. It made me wonder just for a moment what would I do with a \$76 million buyout? College football is thriving today. According to some, it is the most watched collegiate sport. NCAA officials have done a superb job of marketing college football. At one point years ago, you could only watch college football on Saturdays. Now college football games are televised

almost every day of the week during the season. It appears all the networks and cable companies have contracts to televise college football. This is coupled with the NIL (name image and likeness) agreements that have made some student-athletes very rich. For example, if you like Wendy’s like most people, you will see last year’s Heisman Trophy Winner, Caleb Williams, in its commercials. College student-athletes once upon a time did not enjoy this type of financial success while in college. Now, we see them featured with quite a few consumer products. However winning football games is still the goal. As Al Davis, the late owner

of the Raiders would say, “Just win baby.” If you can win then you can stay employed. If not, you have a short tenure and you have got to go. I am not sure when the term buyout and college football became brethren, but right now its on the college football landscape. In fact ‘buyout’ is as hot as fish grease. I would opine almost every coach in Division I, at least, has some type of buyout agreement attached to their contract. Some years ago, University of Texas football coach Charlie Strong was fired, and his buyout was \$10.4 million. I thought at the time that was a pretty hefty sum of money. I still do. The University of

Texas also had a buyout agreement with Mack Brown (\$2.75 million). He is now the football coach at the University of North Carolina. Now the buyout business has reached a new high. If there is a glass ceiling, it has been shattered into small pieces. John James “Jimbo” Fisher Jr., until last week, was the football coach at Texas A&M University in College Station. He won his last game, against Mississippi State University 51-10 and the team is now bowl eligible. Unfortunately for Jimbo Fisher becoming bowl eligible is not the standard at Texas A&M University. When Fisher was signed six years ago, he was expected to win champi-

onships. At minimum, he was expected to get into the college football playoffs. I believe some thought he would surely win an SEC (Southeastern Conference) championship. Coach Fisher did neither. I believe we can agree that the expectations for him were high. While at Florida State University, he won a national championship and his teams always performed well. Some could make the argument that the ACC (Atlantic Coast Conference) is a weaker conference however Clemson University, also a member of the ACC, won two national championships. Well, college football is ending soon. Texas A&M University will probably accept a

bowl invitation. However, they will not be going to a major bowl game. Fisher, according to reports, met with the team presumably to wish them well. What happens now to Jimbo Fisher? Will he take a year off and maybe become a football commentator on television? A compelling question will be whether he will want to coach again? After all, he has accomplished much as a football coach and has been a major force in college circles for a long time. Only he can answer that question. We will see. Texas A&M University will hire a new football coach. The football world will be looking to see what his salary will be; his buyout, too.

Thanksgiving 2023 reflections planting gratitude and harvesting a bounty

By Dr. Alveda King
Alveda King Ministries



“Thank God for what we have left.” - Rev. Martin Luther King, Sr. For many people, the Thanksgiving season is a time for expressing gratitude to God for our many blessings. I have been spending time this season reflecting on how grateful I am to have been raised by my parents, Rev. A.D. King and Dr. Naomi King. My father’s legacy lives on in his powerful sermons, and writings, and in the work and lives of his children. While my mother Naomi, also known by her fans as “the Butterfly Queen,” is 92, years old now, she continues to advocate globally for peace and justice. I recently traveled to Amsterdam as her stand-in as she was slated to share her long-earned wisdom with the world. While the world seems to be crumbling around us, we must take heart in the lessons of our fathers and mothers who survived during much darker days than these. In those dark hours, their lips did not drip with hate; rather they turned to the wisdom of the Scriptures to guide their actions. Matthew 5:44 tells us to love our enemies and pray for those who persecute us. This is one of the cornerstones of my parents’ teaching. While I constantly pray to make sense of today’s chaos from

the streets of Atlanta to the kibbutz of Israel, I remain determined to maintain a posture of gratitude. Again I return to the Scriptures for guidance. Psalms 122:6 says, “Pray for the peace of Jerusalem.” So I continue to pray. Some will argue that in a world consumed by strife and division, these principles are impractical; mere platitudes in the face of real challenges. For me, embracing a posture of gratitude becomes not just an act of defiance but a revolutionary stance as powerful as my family’s commitment to nonviolence in the face of injustice and brutality. Oddly enough, a recent manifestation of gratitude has taken me by surprise in a most unexpected manner. In the spirit of love for the land of my birth, ingrained in my upbringing, I’ve taken steps to become a community farmer. Truly, following many years of being grateful for the bounty that comes from my home garden, I am now a resource farmer. I may not be the proverbial “farmer in the Dell,” but I did become a farmer in a day through a program that I will be sharing more about in the coming weeks. In October, after many years of successful “home gardening,” I officially became a registered farmer with the United States Department of Agriculture. This phase of my life’s journey is a renewal, a rebirthing – a tangible

harvest of blessings. My lifelong passion for seed time and harvest is another gift inherited from my ancestors – a small but powerful reminder of our constant renewal and rebirthing. In cultivating the earth, I feel a profound gratitude for times of harvest; great and small. In the landscape of gratitude, farming becomes a metaphor for intentional cultivation – a practice that results in harvest. Amidst the uncertainties we face, let’s not underestimate the impact of gratitude as a tool to cultivate fruits of unity and understanding. My life’s journey continues to be a testament to the idea that much like a diligent farmer tends to the land, we all have the power to tend to the world around us by planting a grateful attitude wherever we go. **About Dr. Alveda King** Dr. Alveda King founded the Alveda King Ministries (www.alvedaking.com) to inform and transform culture by sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Dr. Alveda King serves as chair of the America First Policy Institute’s Center for the American Dream. She is the daughter of the late slain civil rights activist, Rev. A. D. King, the niece of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and a Christian evangelist, a graduate of Aidan University. Dr. King is also an acclaimed author and was twice elected to the Georgia State House.

Pardon the turkey: Pardon your spouse Part II

By LaShunda Calvert, Ph.D.
Tips for a Good Marriage



Historically, United States presidents have pardoned turkeys for decades. That is, presidents forgo killing a particular turkey or turkeys, granting turkeys freedom from being slaughtered for the Thanksgiving Holidays. In fact, President Joe Biden recently pardoned what some will describe as two lucky turkeys named Liberty and Bell. What an awesome deed for turkeys. Like turkeys, spouses need pardoning too. Holidays should be a time for married couples and families to share love, kindness, thanksgiving and joy, but what about forgiveness? Unfortunately, many married couples and families will not gather for the holidays due to unforgiveness. However, I challenge you to pardon your spouse – forgive your spouse. No, it is not easy to forgive anyone including the spouse you took vows with, but ask God to help you. Many are struggling to forgive their spouses for the following:

- Made a big purchase without consulting with spouse
- Lied
- Spouse abandonment
- Infidelity
- Stole
- Lack of communication
- Abuse
- Not consistently recognizing special events like birthdays, etc.
- Not helping with children
- Sex deprivation
- Burned the food
- Junky
- Took the last soda – you had envisioned drinking this cold soda all day

You get the point – whatever your spouse did that hurt and offended you, ask God to help you forgive him or her. Many choose not to forgive because they feel that it sets the person free, yes it does but know that God will avenge you. Unbelievably, forgiving your spouse is not only freeing your spouse but it is freeing you too. Moreover, I learned a long time ago that we give the person(s) power when we do not forgive, and we still let the hurt or offense they caused to control our lives; most importantly, we put ourselves in positions not to be forgiven by God. Why should you forgive your spouse? Matthew 6:14-15 For if you forgive other people when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive others their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins. Do not let your spouse or anyone else cause God not to forgive you of your sins.

Remember, we are not perfect. We all sin and hurt God. Therefore, we need God’s grace and forgiveness. If God can forgive us of our many sins, who are we not to forgive our spouses for their shortcomings even when it hurts and offends us? Can I forgive my spouse and still pursue a separation or divorce? I Corinthians 7: 5 Defraud ye not one the other, except it be with consent for a time, that ye may give yourselves to fasting and prayer; and come together again, that Satan tempt you not for your incontinency. Matthew 19: 8-9 He said to them, “Moses, because of the hardness of your hearts, permitted you to divorce your wives, but from the beginning it was not so. And I say to you, whoever divorces his wife, except for sexual immorality, and marries another, commits adultery; and whoever marries her who is divorced commits adultery. God never granted separation for a married couple. Separation (abstaining from sex) is only permitted when one spouse is fasting and praying and has verified and confirmed with their spouse that it is okay to fast. Yes, you can forgive your spouse and still pursue a divorce only when it comes to adultery. God made it clear that because man’s hearts are hardened (not easy to forgive), He does grant divorce for infidelity if the spouse that was sinned against (cheated on) is not willing to reconcile – forgive and work towards restoration for the marriage. In conclusion, although not easy, I have pardoned (forgiven) my husband for many hurts and offenses that he has caused me, and he has pardoned (forgiven) me for many hurts and offenses that I have caused him. I pray that God will help you pardon (forgive) your spouse. If you truly love your spouse and you want your marriage to be healed and restored, pardon your spouse today. Or if you simply desire freedom in your heart, so that you can move on – pardon your spouse today. I promise, life is too short to continue living in what happened yesterday – I am sorry, but you can’t change what happened yesterday. However, you can decide how you will live daily – not allowing yesterday to dictate your today and tomorrow. Lastly, like turkeys, spouses need pardoning too. *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, Instagram: letsstay2gether4ever (Dr. LaShunda Calvert) Facebook: Dr. LaShunda Calvert Email:letsstaytogether4eva@gmail.com or call 601-874-6176.*

Thanksgiving beyond Black Friday

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



First, we give thanks to God for those of us who remember the true spirit of this holiday we call Thanksgiving. Many of us trace its origins back to 1621 when a few surviving Pilgrims shared a meal with the Native Americans who had helped them survive their first winter in this land. On October 3, 1863, President Abraham Lincoln issued a proclamation of Thanksgiving designating the last Thursday in November, with some exceptions, as a day of

Thanksgiving. Fortunately the majority of Americans not only celebrate the occasion, but also find it in their hearts to share meals and give service to others. For this we are truly thankful. However, the occasion has been commercialized, like all other holidays. And while many are giving to, and feeding those among us who are less fortunate, let us also remember the empty chairs at so many family tables as the result of the death of loved ones. Let us offer prayers for those grieving such losses and let each of us count our blessings beyond the tables of food set before us. There are so many other places we could have been born. There are

global conflicts, famine and hardships that we have been spared. For this and many other reasons we are blessed. But let’s not be so thankful that Black Friday becomes more important than the good we have discussed above. The issue is not how much money we will spend on things that we really don’t need, but how wisely we handle our funds. Black Friday is not named after “us.” The word “Black” refers to the profits expected or actually made on that day after Thanksgiving. Being Thankful for our blessings does not mean we have to spend the blessings foolishly. Happy Thanksgiving.



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Junior League of Jackson awards \$100,000 in grants to JPS Schools

JSU Newswire

In partnership with the Community Foundation of Mississippi's Education Foundation Trust Fund, the Junior League of Jackson awarded \$100,000 to fund grants to JPS teachers. The recipients were announced at a celebration held in early November at Forest Hill High School.

The Junior League of Jackson's Public School Mini-Grants initiative funds K-12 teacher projects that enhance, enrich and support the JPS educational curriculum. A total of \$100,000 was awarded for the 2023-2024 school year, funding 21 grants. Award amounts ranged from \$430 to \$10,000.

"These funds provide our teachers with the resources needed to offer unique learning opportunities and experiences for our scholars," said Thea Faulkner, director of Partners in Education at Jackson Public Schools.

"From establishing a Fine Arts Sculpture Carving Club, a trip to the World War II Museum in New Orleans, to an in-depth experience for over 700 scholars in our Open Doors program for intellectually gifted scholars to develop affective skills and success skills through an emphasis on etiquette and manners in various business and social settings, to enhance their social development, these opportunities are absolutely transformational."

We are grateful to the Junior League of Jackson for their tangible support to Jackson Public Schools' scholars and teachers."

Since 1990, the Junior League of Jackson's Public School Mini-Grants program has provided funding for detailed projects and equipment for applicant teachers and schools. The Community Foundation of Mississippi began partnering with the League in 2004, and together these organizations have provided more than \$2.1 million in grant funding for this initiative.

"We are grateful for this partnership with Jackson Public Schools and the Community Foundation for Mississippi," said Kaitlyn Vassar, president of Junior League of Jackson. "These funds will allow teachers to implement creative, innovative projects in the League's impact areas of early literacy, children's health and social development and have a direct impact on children in our community."

The Junior League of Jackson is an organization of women whose mission is to advance women's leadership for



JPS Partners In Education Director Thea Faulkner (center) accepts the \$100,000 presentation check from Junior League of Jackson during a celebration for recipient schools held November 7 at Forest Hill High School. Participating in the presentation are (from left) JLJ members Kutenia Good, Candace Gregory, and Carla Lewis; Cynthia Buchanan of the Community Foundation of Mississippi; Faulkner; JLJ President Kaitlyn Vassar and members Mona Arnold-McBride, Pamela Franklin, and Tiffany Crawford

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Galloway Elementary School Linda Murray, Principal	Having a 'Rootin', 'Tootin', Reading Good Time in Music Class	\$9,962.00
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Key Elementary School Elana Tate, Principal	Reading Starts Now	\$1,045.00
Lester Elementary School Sherekia Dixon, Principal	Look Who's Listening	\$4,723.00
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Murrah High School Dr. Alvanette Buchanan, Principal	Engaging the Socio-Academic Community	\$1,335.00
Murrah High School Dr. Alvanette Buchanan, Principal	JXN Young Michelangelo Stone Carvers	\$5,000.00
Murrah High School Dr. Alvanette Buchanan, Principal	Emboldening Students to Inquire, Explore, and Create	\$10,000.00
Raines Elementary School Dina Owens, Principal	Orff Social Emotional Learning Crosswalk	\$5,000.00
Spann Elementary School Lori Torrey, Principal	Exc(EL)ing through Reading	\$1,300.00
Spann Elementary School Lori Torrey, Principal	Make Reading my Superpower: Ready to Read	\$2,970.00
Spann Elementary School Lori Torrey, Principal	For the Health of It!	\$3,800.00
Spann Elementary School Lori Torrey, Principal	The Power of Reading	\$5,000.00
Sykes Elementary School Dr. Kimberly Griggs, Principal	Extra, Extra Write All About It	\$4,990.00
Wells APAC Dr. Kescher Rankin, Principal	World-Class Students Deserve World-Class Performance	\$4,000.00
Wells APAC Dr. Kescher Rankin, Principal	Gifted Manners and Etiquette Banquet	\$8,520.00
Wells APAC Dr. Kescher Rankin, Principal	The PAW-sitive Impact of Community Service	\$9,934.00
		\$100,000.00

meaningful community impact through volunteer action, collaboration and training.

The League supports over 30 community projects and initiatives throughout the Jackson

Metro area, including the Public School Mini-Grants program.

Jackson State University receives 50K from PepsiCo to help address food access



Jackson State was presented with a big check by Brown Bottling Group at the JSU vs. Alcorn game, Saturday, Nov. 18. Pictured left to right: Darrin Morris, franchise development director for PepsiCo; Gwen Caples, interim vice president of Institutional Advancement; Elayne Hayes-Anthony, Ph.D., acting president of JSU; Shelley Brown Floyd, executive vice president of Brown Bottling Group; Bill Brown, president and CEO of Brown Bottling Group and Ashley Robinson, vice president and director of athletics at JSU

By Rachel James Terry
Jackson State University

Jackson State University's Tiger Food Pantry received \$50,000 from PepsiCo as part of the beverage company's ongoing support of HBCUs. The company announced \$250,000 in grants that aim to eliminate food insecurity across five HBCU campuses, including JSU. Established in 2018, the JSU Tiger Food Pantry supplies toiletries and non-perishable food items to students in need at no cost.

"It is our responsibility to prepare our students for success, and alleviating the worry of their next meal is one way to do so. We are most appreciative of PepsiCo's efforts to help us in our endeavor to provide a better quality of life for our campus community," said Elayne Hayes-Anthony, Ph.D., acting president of JSU.

Tailored to each university's needs, the donation is designed to support each campus's unique efforts to help students who struggle to balance the cost of their education and their next meal. With the rate of food insecurity among college students growing nationally, those at HBCUs are historically impacted the most.

According to data released this year from the National Postsecondary Student Aid Study, almost 40% of HBCU students report being food insecure, a statistic that carries more weight as many campuses encounter record attendance rates this semester.

"Brown Bottling Group is a proud sponsor of Jackson State University. We recognize the importance of the JSU Tiger Food pantry, and our financial contribution will aid in their mission of enhancing students' lived experiences while in college," said Shelley Brown Floyd, executive vice president of Brown Bottling Group.

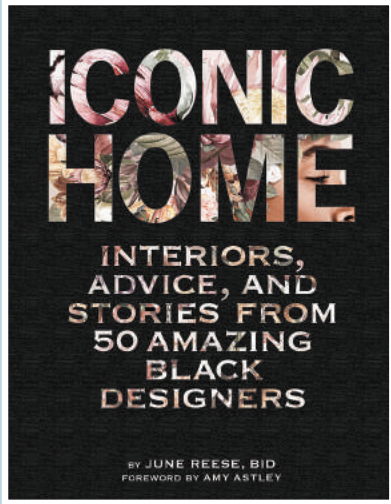
Across the five selected HBCU campuses, the grants will support more than 37,500 students facing food insecurity by funding on-campus food pantry supplies and groceries, meal plans for homeless students, cooking and meal prep workshops, stipends for student staff within the pantries, and more. In addition, PepsiCo will also supply free meals for approximately 2,000 students at select universities during their respective winter finals weeks in December.

"Food insecurities among college students are more serious than we may think. I am very passionate about the JSU Food Pantry. When you make a meaningful impact on a person's life, it leaves a lasting impression," said Shonda DeVerteuil, associate director for JSU Business Operations in Housing and Residence Life, "This incredible grant will make it easier for students to fulfill their hopes and dreams, with a result of paying it forward."

The donation is part of PepsiCo's larger HBCU Tour to support HBCU students and celebrate the legacy of these universities. Driven by Pepsi Zero Sugar and Doritos SOLID BLACK, the tour correlates with the brands' ongoing initiatives to provide resources and a platform for elevating Change-makers in local communities.

Brown Bottling Group partners with PepsiCo and Keurig Dr Pepper to offer a diverse portfolio of carbonated and non-carbonated coffee, water, and tea products, including but not limited to Pepsi, Dr Pepper, Gatorade, Starbucks, Lipton, Aquafina, Muscle Milk and Celsius. Brown Bottling Group is based in Mississippi and has served the great state for over fifty years.

For more information on Brown Bottling Group, visit www.browngroup.net.



BOOK REVIEW:

ICONIC HOME:

INTERIORS, ADVICE, AND STORIES FROM 50 AMAZING BLACK DESIGNERS

BY JUNE REESE, BID, FOREWORD BY AMY ASTLEY

C.2023, ABRAMS

\$50.00 • 255 PAGES

By Terri Schlichenmeyer
Columnist

The sofa will go over there. Sitting slightly away from the edge of a rug, flanked by two chairs at an angle to the fireplace, it'll be the focal point of the room. Add the right paint and that plushy blanket you bought on vacation last year, and you'll never want to leave.

Making your home a welcoming retreat is always a goal and in the new book "Iconic Home" by June Reese, BID, you'll welcome some fresh ideas.

As a young girl growing up in

Texas, June Reese wished for a way to make her passion for art into a career. Few opportunities existed, "not many career paths," but she saw design school as a way to her dreams. Still, it was hard and she thought about picking a different career until she met designer Kimberly Ward, founder of the Black Interior Designers Network, and everything fell together. Reese began to meet and collaborate with other Black designers, fifty of whom she profiles in this book.

Designer Leah Alexander says scale and size are of the utmost

importance when decorating a room. Alvin Wayne adds: take it easy with throw pillows.

Arianne Bellizaire decides the color of a room after she notes "any historical and geographical parameters that are integral to the design." Elaine Griffin says that "color reigns supreme..." Christopher Charles believes that "paint samples are a homeowner's best friend."

What you hang on a wall is important, and Danielle Colding recommends "dynamic art!" Layer the room, say several designers here. Some advocate hav-

ing a focal point, while others say it's unimportant.

Use painter's tape when you start furniture placement. Mix texture, but remember functionality. Catasha Singleton says that accessories should be the "very best" part of any room.

Justina Blakeney reminds readers to "have an open mind."

Byron Risdon says, "Don't overthink it."

Amhad Freeman says, "Don't over do it."

Delia Kenza says, "Have fun, don't be afraid to try, and make sure the space tells a story."

To paraphrase designer Linda Hayslett here, for many decades, the assumption has been that Black homeowners didn't have taste, sophistication or need for interior design. Absolutely, "Iconic Home" proves the opposite.



The feature you'll notice first about this book is the abundance of gorgeous pictures. Author and compiler June Reese includes many elegant examples of her subjects' work in full-color photos that will satisfy anyone looking for ideas, wishing for their own special room, or merely hop-

ing to satisfy home voyeurism.

When you're done with the photos, turn back to the beginning and start reading about design as a career and the legacies these designers hope to leave. It's here where you'll find plenty of hints on deciding what to add or subtract from your space, and tips to make any room in your home a place you'll want to be.

This is the kind of book for dreaming, the kind in which you'll find something different every time you open it.

Get "Iconic Home" and take it to the sofa over there.



ZACK WALLACE
Hinds County Circuit Clerk

FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT
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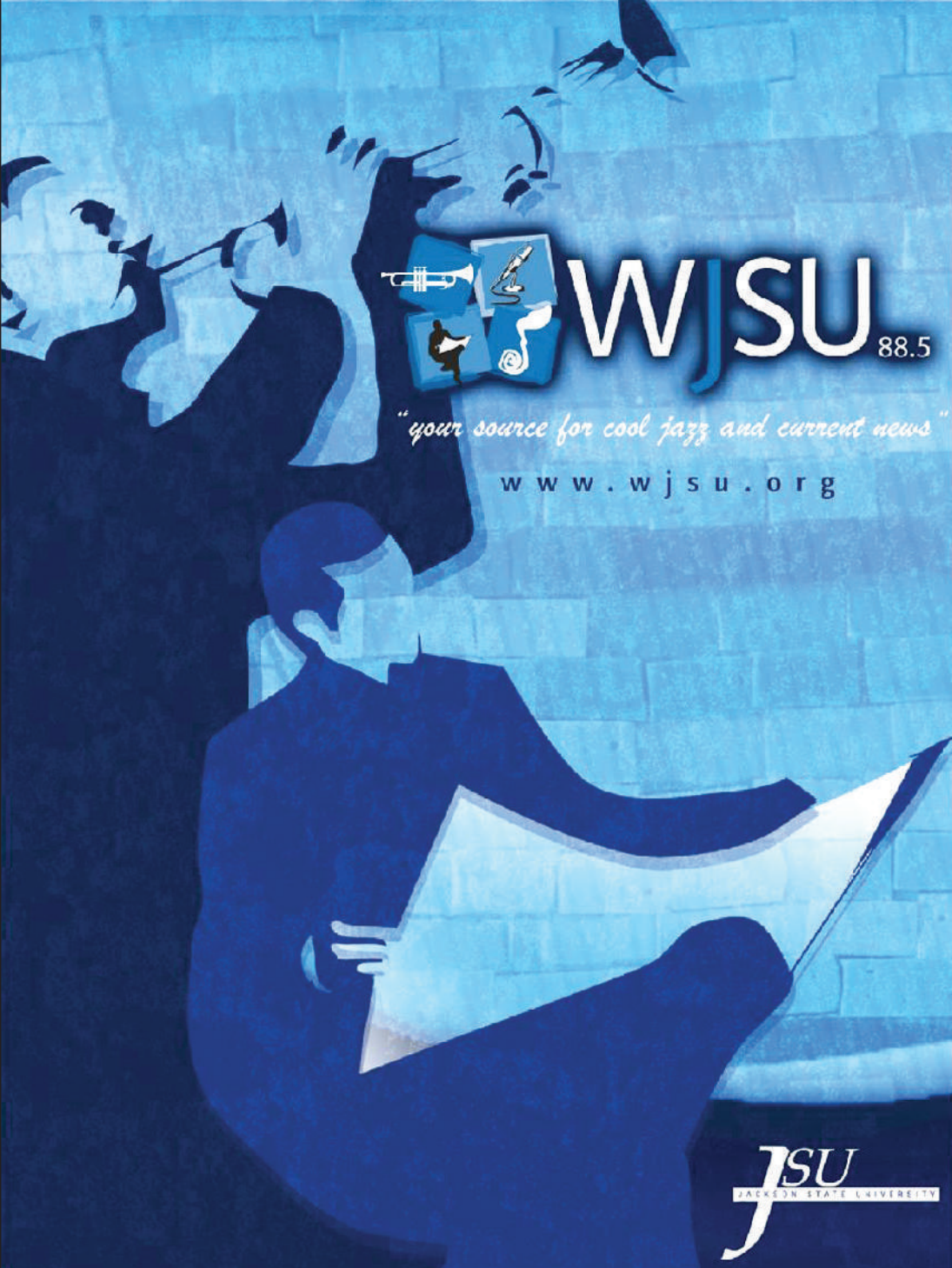
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JSU
JACKSON STATE UNIVERSITY



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2023 Soul Bowl was a battle to the end

By Tim Ward
Sports Writer

Over 42,000 fans witnessed a good football game last Saturday. The arch-rivals. The enemy. The school you don't want to lose to no matter what. THAT Game. It was worth all the hype, social media trolling and trash talking in the stands. Alcorn State. Jackson State.

Jackson State by all technical purposes was just playing the last game of the season and prepping for next year. Alcorn State was still had an opportunity to win the SWAC West Division. However, for that to happen, Alabama State would have to defeat Prairie View and Alcorn would have to defeat JSU.

The atmosphere was electric. R&B singer, KEM, sang the national anthem. Television personality Terrence J was on the sidelines to introduced the Halftime show. Fans of all ages, Greek fraternities and sororites, proud alumni and people who love HBCUS all packed Mississippi Veterans Memorial Stadium.

Alcorn started the game like a team that needed to win. The Braves came out aggressively, going 65 yards in 11 plays, scoring a touchdown midway into the first quarter. Jarveon Howard capped the drive with a 1 yard touchdown. Jackson State went 3 and out on the possession, giving the ball back to Alcorn.

The Braves wasted no time. Quarterback Aaron Allen hit Monterio Hunt for a 55 yard touchdown pass. Braves Nation goes wild. Tiger Nation stunned. At the end of the first quarter, Alcorn 14 JSU 0.

Despite the early punch thrown by Alcorn, JSU composed themselves and got back into the game. Early in the second quarter, the Tigers moved the ball down the field, building momentum.

Quarterback Jacobian Morgan connected with DJ Stevens for a 4 yard touchdown. Tigers fans exhale. The darkside defense steps up, shutting down the Braves offense in the second quarter.

With 4 minutes left before halftime, Quarterback Jacobian Morgan hits Fabian McCray for a 26 yard touchdown. Game tied. Tigers roar back scoring 14 unan-

swered points. Tiger Nation is on their feet waving pom poms and clapping. Halftime, Alcorn 14 JSU 14.

Alcorn head coach Fred McNair must've lit a fire under his players in the locker room.

The Braves come out on their first possession of the third quarter and score a touchdown. The Allen to Hunt connection worked again for a 33 yard touchdown pass play.

Jackson State didn't need a full quarter to respond. Countering with their own connection, the Morgan to McCray connection scored again for JSU on a 38 yard touchdown pass. With 3 minutes left in the third quarter, Quarterback Aaron Allen would throw his third touchdown pass of the game, connecting with wide receiver Malik Rodgers for on a 12 yard touchdown pass. At the end of the third quarter, Alcorn 28 JSU 21.

Quarterback Jacobian Morgan was injured and had to be replaced by Jason Brown. Tough spot for Brown to come in, but he did his best. JSU coach TC Taylor also brought Quarterback Zy McDonald in to catch Alcorn off-guard. It worked. McDonald took the snapped and raced 56 yards before the defense could catch him. Although they didn't score a touchdown, Dylan Wasson kicked a 35 yard field goal trimming the lead to 28 to 24.

Jackson State would get the ball back late in the fourth quarter. The Tigers moved the ball down the field, then caused costly penalties on 3 consecutive plays. Those penalty yards pushed them back deep in their own territory, positioning them to have a 3rd down and 28 yards to go. Tigers couldn't covert it.

Alcorn won a thriller 28 to 24. A brief scuffle broke out between the teams, but no one was hurt. Coaches and security did a good job of handling it.

Prairie View defeated Alabama State, 21 to 14, sending them to the SWAC Championship game. Alcorn and JSU both end the season 7-4 overall. Alcorn finished 6-2 in the SWAC and JSU finished 5-3.

SWAC championship game will be Prairie View versus FAMU in Tallahassee, December 2, 2023.



Jarveon Howard scores on a 1 yard run.



Fabian McCray scored twice.

PHOTOS BY TIM WARD



Quarterback Aaron Allen



Tight End DJ Stevens catches a touchdown.



Running back Ezequiel Johnson



Alcorn fans



JSU fans wore white




Terrence J hosted halftime.



KEM singing National Anthem

JODY OWENS

DISTRICT ATTORNEY



I would like to extend my sincere gratitude for re-electing me as your Hinds County District Attorney. Thank you for believing in our vision of Smart Justice. We will continue to build safer communities across Hinds County!

Happy Thanksgiving!

- JODY E. OWENS, II

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Hinds County School District Weekly Update

ENGAGING-EMPOWERING-ENSURING-EXCELLENCE

2023 FORUM ON AMERICAN ENTERPRISE

Recently students from Raymond High School, who are also students of the Hinds County Career and Technical Center, attended the 2023 Forum on American Enterprise at the Jackson Convention Center. The event was hosted by the Mississippi Council on Economic Education (MCEE) whose mission is to increase economic and financial literacy in Mississippi by providing resources and training to K-12 educators, empowering students to create a more prosperous future for themselves and Mississippi. At the event, the Honorable David McRae, treasurer for the state of Mississippi provided remarks on economics in Mississippi. Also, MADDDRAMA from Jackson State University performed a “Hamilton” inspired theatrical performance.

Pictured below (L to R): Tonie Crisler, Hinds County Community Relations; Tequia Willis, assistant director of CTE and Career Academies, Hinds County School District; Aleehsa Hudson, incorporator at Community Resource Foundation; Rashad Kennedy, student; Terquavious Evans, student; Zoie McCoy, student; Lanaya Wright, student; Julie Ingram, Career Academies

