



# The year in recap

By L. Socrates Garrett  
Guest Writer

2023 began with the relief from COVID-19 and the economic devastation that it caused. Many business owners lost their clients and their sources of income, and many citizens lost their jobs. The stimulus checks that relieved some of the pain and suffering that Americans were feeling came just in time for many. African Americans in this country continued to show record unemployment numbers somewhere in the 50 percent range. Businesses had ‘help wanted’ signs everywhere but no one was applying for jobs. The situation was so bad until the Governor of Mississippi decided that he did not want to extend unemployment benefits to Mississippians, trying to force people to come back to work.

The Governor continued his stance on not accepting Medicaid expansion in Mississippi. Hospitals were closing and more people were challenged to get basic medical care. One hospital closure in the poorest part of Mississippi saw a young lady die from complications that could possibly have been prevented if there was a hospital in the area that was open. 2023 saw the greatest divide in the African-American community that had been seen in the past. City leaders were divided and the Mayor versus the City Council led to garbage being left



Garrett

on the streets for two weeks because the city could not come to an agreement on who the contractor would be. The irony of that is this city is 85 percent black and the lowest bidder on the proposal was black and was eventually allowed an opportunity to provide the much-needed relief that the citizens deserved.

There was the state takeover of the water plant that led to our Governor saying “it was a great day not to be in Jackson.” The struggle between local black elected officials and the conservative state legislature continued through the year and finally the

federal government stepped in and took control of the water system through a third-party administrator. The questions still remain will the federal government or state government or city government finally run the water plant in Jackson, Mississippi? Stay tuned! The fight for control of the Medgar Wiley Evers International Airport continues to be a sticking point between state leaders and city leaders. It resembles the old days where Europeans controlled all things, and this new shared government is not working well in Mississippi. 2023 confirmed once again that

a black person cannot be elected to a statewide office. No African American has held a statewide office since reconstruction, although many have tried, some with impeccable credentials and others that were not known by traditional black political figures.

The struggle for control of Jackson is far from being decided. The state authorization of a separate police department operating within the boundaries of Jackson is seen by many as the pilot case for all urban cities that are struggling with high crime numbers that are elevated far beyond what has been the norm.

To make matters worse the state implemented a new court system whereby the judges didn’t have to be elected by the citizens and the elected district attorney was bypassed. This is a severe and dangerous blow to democracy where one man or woman could determine the discharge of sentencing that historically have been disproportionately harsh on African Americans.

The governor’s race in Mississippi garnered a lot of interest in national politics with many believing that the republican hold on the highest office would come to an end. Brandon Presley, a democrat, was seen as an able challenger and money poured into Mississippi (except black owned media) from everywhere. The black community responded

Garrett  
Continued on page 3

# Glimpsing back at 2023

## Americans increasingly divided as we bid farewell to 2023, Fat Leonard and much more

By Christopher Young  
Contributing Writer

When we look back, it surely means that we have moved forward. We create our past each new day as we forge our future. And in a country so divided, our progress seems at war with progress itself. Each week of each year *The Mississippi Link* newspaper informs us of news from around the world and around our community. Glimpsing back at just some of the things that 2023 brought us is a blurring assignment, but here goes.

Remember the Norfolk Southern train derailment in East Palestine, Ohio? How about that Chinese spy balloon that the US finally shot down? For the first time in our history, a former president was indicted for crimes – four separate times. Then there were the Writers Guild of America and Screen Actors Guild-American Federation of Television and Radio Artists’ strikes. Artificial Intelligence – not brand new –but we sure heard about it in 2023. And after killing 20 million people, the World Health Organization told us that COVID19 is no longer considered a global health emergency.

In 2023 nationwide births began to outpace deaths once again, according to www.census.gov. The circle of life claimed so many lives in 2023. Some of those instantly recognizable include Willis Reed, Barbara Walters, Tina Turner, Tony Bennett, Richard Roundtree, Norman Lear, Charles Ogletree, Rosalynn Carter, Andre Baugher, Harry Belafonte, Sandra Day O’Connor, Jean Knight, Henry Kissinger, Rudolph Isley, Jimmy Buffet and Jim Brown.

Again in 2023, HopePolicy.org highlighted discrimination in lending practices in the rural South, where “70% of the United States’ rural black population calls their home.”

Now CNN reports that “Navy Federal Credit Union had the widest disparity in conventional mortgage approval rates between white and black borrowers of any major lender last year.” NFCU is the largest credit union with 12.7 million members, 357 branches worldwide, and \$166.1 billion in assets. Within days following the bombshell report a federal



Young

class action lawsuit was filed in Virginia. NFCU denies discrimination, but announced that it had hired Debo P. Adegbile, a leading civil rights attorney and former commissioner of the US Commission on Civil Rights, to “assess our mortgage lending policies and practices and make recommendations to drive further access to home ownership.”

Fat Leonard, the mastermind who bilked the U.S. Navy out of \$35 million in its worst corruption scandal has been returned to the United States from Venezuela in a prisoner exchange last week to face charges. “In 2015, he pleaded guilty to offering lavish parties that included prostitutes, luxury hotels, cigars, gourmet meals and more than \$500,000 in cash bribes to Navy officers so they could steer business to his company, Glenn Defense Marine Asia Ltd,” per ABC News.

While here is Mississippi, over twice that amount – at least \$74 million – was stolen from federal funds intended for the poorest in the state by officials and their appointees and with little to no accountability.

Gerrymandering – the process by which legislators draw and redraw electoral districts in such a way as to deliberately contain a certain demographic of voters – continues in full force. In 2022, Mississippi shoved as many black voters into the 2nd Congressional District as possible – attempting to maintain their Republican dominance in the other three districts of the state. In 2023, Alabama and Wisconsin were at the top of the list of offenders of The Voting Rights

Young  
Continued on page 3

# Remembering the icons we lost in 2023



Tina Turner

By Stacy M. Brown  
NNPA Newswire Senior  
National Correspondent

In a year of achievements and setbacks, 2023 said goodbye to several significant personalities who left a lasting impression on the entertainment, sports, civil rights and art industries. Their achievements have influenced countless generations. Here, we list just some of those losses.

• Richard Roundtree: Iconic Star of “Shaft” (1942-2023)

Hollywood said goodbye to Richard Roundtree, the iconic Shaft star. While forever tied to the role that made him famous

in 1971, Roundtree remained active for more than four decades, leaving an enduring mark on cinema.

• Tina Turner: Legendary Singer and Performer (1939-2023)

The music world mourned the loss of Tina Turner, the legendary singer renowned for her sultry voice and a string of platinum hits. Turner’s impact on the music industry and her boundless passion for life captivated millions worldwide.

• Andre Braugher: Acclaimed Actor (1962-2023)

The acting community bid

farewell to Andre Braugher, an acclaimed actor known for his roles in “Homicide” and “Brooklyn-Nine-Nine.” Braugher’s extraordinary talent earned acclaim, particular as Det. Frank Pembleton on “Homicide.” Nominated for an Emmy 11 times, Braugher won the award four times.

• Harry Belafonte: Singer, Actor, and Civil Rights Activist (1927-2023)

The world said goodbye to Harry Belafonte, a singer, actor, and staunch civil rights activist. Belafonte’s lifetime of activism transformed the arts while ad-



Richard Roundtree  
WIKIMEDIA COMMONS



Andre Braugher/  
wikimedia commons



Hughes Van Ellis.  
PHOTO: JUSTICEFOR-  
GREENWOOD.ORG

vocating for civil rights, leaving an enduring legacy.

• Richard Hunt: Visionary Sculptor and Art Pioneer (1935-2023)

The art world bid farewell to Richard Hunt, a trailblazing sculptor and the first black artist to receive a solo retrospective at the Museum of Modern Art in New York City. With over 160 public sculptures across the U.S., Hunt’s seven-decade career left an indelible mark on contemporary art, influencing generations.

Icons  
Continued on page 3





# Rev. Louis Milton Brown

November 26, 1939 – December 18, 2023



Brown

Jackson, MS native son, Rev. Louis Milton Brown, 84, of Pittsburgh, PA transitioned on December 18, 2023. He is survived by his wife, Myrna Darneice Brown, son, Milton A. Brown, daughters, Jacqueline Denise Brown and Chrisala Mignonne Brown, grandchildren, Adrian Isaiah Brown, and Chase Brown, sisters, Lois A. Davis, and ZanEtte Funches, nieces, Bonnie (Brown) Johnson, Tamalita Funches, and LaTrista Funches, nephews, Lawrence E. Brown, Jefferson Brown, and a host of other family members and friends.

Brown was preceded in death by his parents and his brother, Lawrence Brown.

Brown was born November 26, 1939, in Jackson, Mississippi. Raised by his parents, Rev. Abram Davis and Bonnie Bell (Jones) Brown Davis, Brown matriculated the Jackson Public Schools where he was an outstanding student,

graduating from Jim Hill High School in 1957.

He accepted Christ at an early age and joined College Hill Missionary Baptist Church where he was an active member in several functions, including youth superintendent.

Brown attended Tougaloo College and Jackson State University prior to moving to Los Angeles, California where, after getting married and completing his education in the California State University system, he responded to a call to ministry and embarked upon a lifelong trek of service.

Having attained a Master of Divinity from American Baptist Seminary in 1981 and following training and internship at the Second Baptist Church in Los Angeles, California, Brown served as assistant and associate pastor, 1973-1983. He continued his ministry by serving as pastor at Community Presbyterian Church in Los Angeles in 1983, and Faith Presbyterian Church in Jackson, Mississippi, beginning in 1987.

During the latter part of his career, Rev. Brown served

at Bethesda Presbyterian Church in Pittsburgh, PA and was a guest preacher at several local area churches, including Trinity AME.

While working at CVS Pharmacy, Louis was a valued and dedicated employee until his retirement.

Brown's legacy might be summarized in a manner reminiscent of King David from the Holy Writ. He was a flawed man who ultimately was a man after God's heart and spent a lifetime reconciling his purpose with his reality.

His dedication to service was noteworthy by many. The communities he served will remember him as an articulate communicator, steadfast in his convictions and unwavering in his commitments to those around him.

Rev. Louis Milton Brown will be missed by many and cherished by others.

A service in his memory will be held in Wilkinsburg, PA Dec. 30, 2023 at White Memorial Chapel, 800 Center Street, at 11 a.m.

May he rest in the peace of God's eternity.

# Jimmy Lee Bell

January 4, 1944 – December 14, 2023



Bell

Jimmy Lee ("Jacques") Bell was born on January 4, 1944, in Indianola, Mississippi, and was raised with an abundance of love and security by Magnolia and Eugene (Simp) Simpson. He peacefully departed this life on December 14, 2023.

Bell was educated in the Indianola Public School System and graduated from Gentry High School in 1963. Recognized for his athletic talent in football, he earned the nickname "Quick Feet." He also excelled in academics and received college scholarships in both academics and athletics. Staying close to home, Bell completed his undergraduate degree at Mississippi Valley State College (MVSC) and graduate degree program at Mississippi State College. He began his professional career at MVSC, later moving to Jackson State College, now Jackson State University (JSU).

In 1971, he met Clara Johnson McGee. This was the beginning of a beautiful friendship and life-long love.

During his 45-year tenure at JSU, Bell established the Department of

Criminal Justice. He created the National Coalition of Community Researchers, Inc. (NCCR), implemented the Jackson State University Center for the Study of Juvenile Delinquency Prevention and Intervention (CSJDPI), and was a founding member of the National Association of Blacks in Criminal Justice (NABCJ). He was a pioneer in community policing long before the concept surfaced in literature by such a name.

Bell served as a consultant to the Board of Directors for the National Black Police Association (NBPA). He co-authored the book, Blacks and Criminal Justice, and served in various capacities for the John Jay College of Criminal Justice, Pace Law School, Harvard Law School and Yale University. Bell also provided services to numerous organizations, attorneys and individuals as an expert witness, grant writer and consultant.

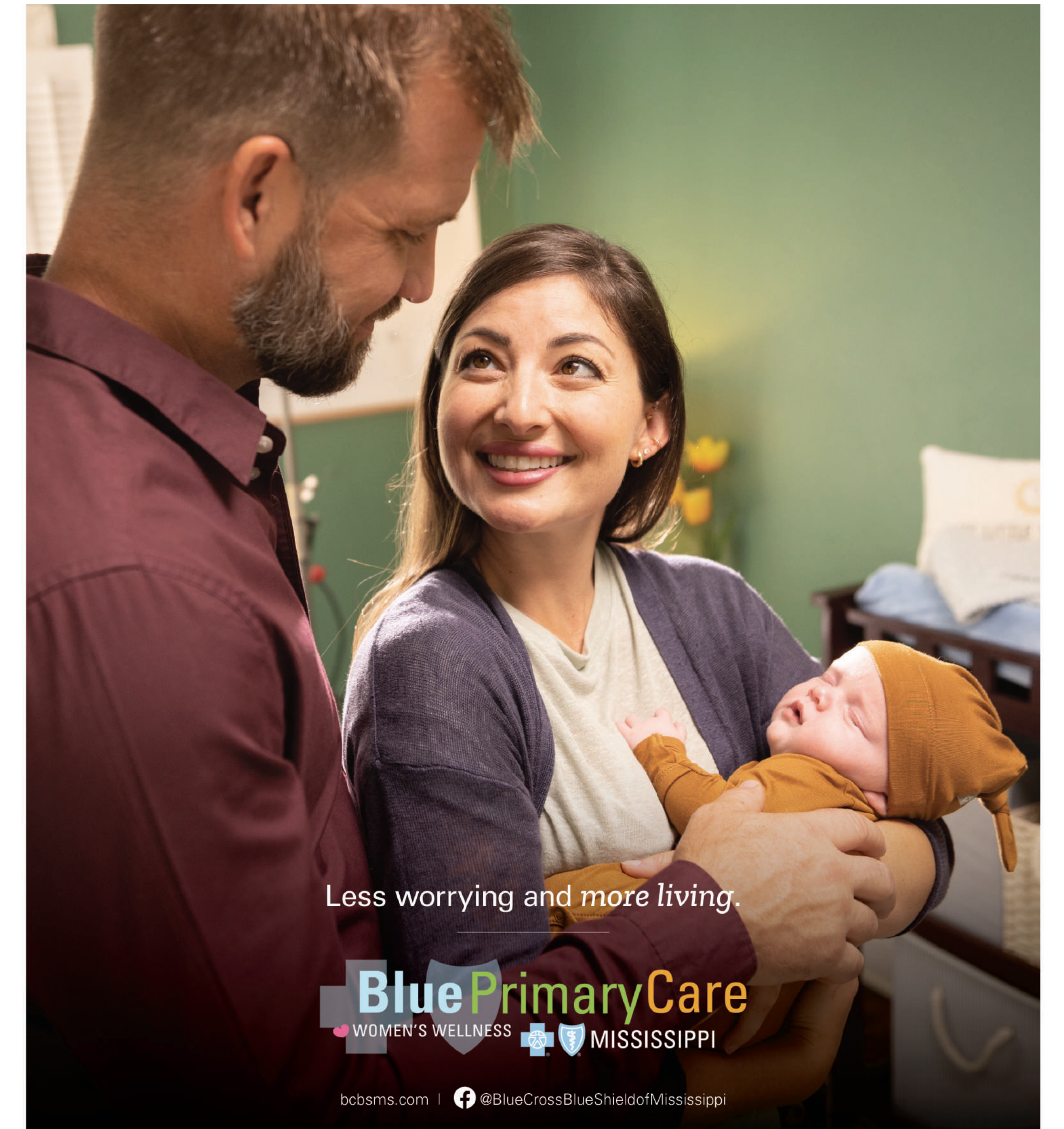
As much as he was committed to advancing minority representation within the field of criminal justice, "Jazz! Jazz! Jazz!" was his passion. Introduced to jazz at an early age by his uncles, and exposed to a variety of jazz genres, Bell emerged as a preeminent jazz aficionado and promoter. He established a local jazz venue, The Jazz Gallery, which was

housed in the basement of the now historic site of the Summers Hotel in Jackson, Mississippi. He later created, for his pleasure, the Blue Note Experience. A welcoming atmosphere of generosity and entertainment, this was his home-away-from-home.


Bell was preceded in death by his parents, Eugene and Magnolia Bell Simpson. He leaves to celebrate his life, honor his legacy and cherish his memory: his "Darling" wife, Clara; four daughters, Sonya (Jay) Smith, Arlinda (David) Day, Meredith McGee, and Rasheda Bell; a special son, Thaddeus (Kalia) Reed; six grandchildren, Jayson and Jared Smith, Odessa Staffney, Artavian and Taylor Washington, Nicholas Kingston Jimmy Bell, and special grandchildren Thaddeus (T.J.) and Karter Reed. He also leaves one precious great-granddaughter, Zuri Rose Washington and two aunts, Sandra Bell Stewart and Emma Jean Bell (Alfred) McClinton.

He will fondly be remembered by beloved cousins, a loving extended family, honored friends from across the decades, and a host of professional collaborators and music lovers by whom his life was enriched.


Service was held December 23, 2023 at Lakeover Funeral Home in Jackson, MS



Less worrying and *more living.*



BluePrimaryCare  
WOMEN'S WELLNESS MISSISSIPPI

bcbsms.com |  @BlueCrossBlueShieldofMississippi



## Young

Continued from page 1

Act, even to the extent of pushing back against Supreme Court rulings. Have you ever heard of black people trying to redraw electoral maps? This is all about desperately ensuring white power in a country with a rapidly shrinking white population.

President Biden’s dog – Commander – was booted out of The White House after a series of biting incidents. The Earth’s ozone layer is showing signs of healing. George Santos, the Republican from New York’s 3rd District, was expelled from Congress on his 328th day of “service,” and faces 23 criminal charges. The movie Barbie, which had a reported production budget of \$145 million, was the biggest seller in 2023 worldwide, grossing \$1.4 billion so far.

Beyonce became the most Grammy winning artist of all-time this year – 32 wins total. *Time* magazine named Taylor Swift Person of The Year making her the first woman to appear twice (2017) on a

Person of the Year cover since the franchise began in 1927. Deion Sanders is Sports Illustrated 2023 Sportsperson of the Year. Gymnastics star Simone Biles was named Associated Press Female Athlete of the Year a third time (2016 & 2019) after a dazzling return.

ABC News reported in early December that there have been 627 mass (four or more shot or killed) shootings this year – causing 34,455 deaths and 66,978 injuries.

Just last week *The Huffington Post* reported that the Francis Howell School Board in Missouri voted 5-3 to stop offering Black History and Black Literature course at their high schools

On March 24th, an EF-4 tornado decimated the towns of Rolling Fork, Mid-night, and Silver City, Mississippi – at least 26 dead, dozens injured – the needs will persist well into 2024. On October 7th the militant group Hamas conducted multi-pronged attacks in Israel killing

1,200 and taking about 230 hostages, per NBC News.

The war declared against Hamas by Israel has now killed nearly 21,000 Palestinians and displaced over two million people. War raged in Ukraine throughout 2023, as they battle back against Russian invasion.

The Governor of Mississippi, and other elected officials like Attorney General Lynn Fitch, shared Christmas messages on social media evoking Isaiah 7:14 and 9:6, respectively. Elected officials cloaking themselves in Bible verses as they take actions that are the exact opposite of what Jesus would do and what the Bible teaches; the TANF scandal, felony voter disenfranchisement, a host of takeover laws in 2023 quickly come to mind. It’s tough to muster hope for a brighter, more equitable 2024.

Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. reminds us, “The time is always right to do the right thing.”

## Garrett

Continued from page 1

and came out to vote in large numbers although there were voting issues in the largest county of our state. Hinds County ran out of ballots causing many candidates to cry foul.

Governor Reeves retained his seat and assured Mississippians that Mississippi would not change its ways and promised to keep Mississippi red until Moses returns to part her ways.

The African-American political leadership continues to turn on itself.

The unfortunate accident that caused the death of Dexter Wade, a black man, was buried in a pauper’s grave site while the family continued to search for him allowed the blame game to continue. We blamed one another as to who was at fault. This led to the opportunity for national black representation to

come in swiftly to denigrate local black leaders and to enrich themselves. Al Sharpton came to preach the funeral and Ben Crump came as legal council.

This year we saw the bold outrageous treatment of blacks by the Rankin County Goon squad that violated every civil right and moral standard of the men by shooting one in the mouth and using tasers and a dildo in the harassment.

2023 overall has been a difficult year for Mississippi. Youth violence is at an all time high and the mass exodus out of the city of Jackson includes a great deal of black flight as well.

Our hope is that we have bottomed out so that the city and state can begin the process of rebuilding trust and confidence in sisters and brothers whether they be black or white.

## Icons

Continued from page 1

• George McGinnis: Indiana Basketball Legend (1951-2023)

Indiana mourned the loss of basketball legend George McGinnis, whose impact on the sport spanned from his All-American days at Indiana University to his championship runs with the Pacers. McGinnis will be remembered as a symbol of Hoosier basketball excellence.

• Jean Knight: Soulful Songstress and Grammy-Nominated Artist (1943-2023)

The soulful voice behind “Mr. Big Stuff,” Jean Knight, passed away, leaving a void in the world of R&B. Knight’s legacy extends beyond her musical achievements.

• George “Funky” Brown: Kool & The Gang Drummer and Songwriter (1949-2023)

The rhythmic heartbeat of Kool & The Gang, George “Funky” Brown, left an indelible mark with his contributions to iconic songs like “Celebration” and “Ladies Night.” Brown’s musical genius and resilience were evident even in the face of a battle with stage-4 cancer.

• D.J. Hayden: Former NFL Cornerback and Athlete (1989-2023)

Tragedy struck the sports world with the untimely death of former NFL cornerback D.J. Hayden. The car crash that claimed his life has left the sports community in shock. Hayden’s athleticism and contributions to the game will

be remembered.

• C-Knight (Arnez Blount): Rapper and “Cha Cha Slide” Creator (1971-2023)

The hip-hop community lost a creative force with the passing of C-Knight, known for birthing the international dance craze with the “Cha Cha Slide.” His legacy lives on through the rhythmic beats that brought joy to countless dance floors, making him a lasting presence in music.

• Walter Davis: NBA All-Star and UNC Basketball Legend (1954-2023)

UNC basketball mourned the loss of one of its finest players, Walter Davis, a two-time All-ACC honoree and NBA All-Star. Davis, whose basketball prowess extended from the 1976 USA Olympic team to an illustrious NBA career, remains a symbol of skill and sportsmanship.

• Bertie Bowman: Capitol Hill Veteran with a Legacy of Service (1931-2023)

Capitol Hill bid farewell to Bertie Bowman, whose more than 60 years of service spanned roles from custodial to politically significant. Colleagues and the Capitol community will remember his legacy as a dedicated public servant.

• Rudolph Isley: Founding Father of The Isley Brothers (1938-2023)

The music world said goodbye to Rudolph Isley, a founding member of The Isley Brothers. His musical genius and timeless contributions

to the industry, including hits like “Shout” and “Twist and Shout,” cemented the Isley Brothers’ place in music history.

• Charles Porter Jr.: Houston’s First Black Reporter and Resonant Voice (1942–2023)

Houston mourned the loss of Charles Porter Jr., a trailblazer who became the city’s first black reporter and anchor. His deep, resonant voice and coverage of significant events, including the swearing-in of late Congresswoman Barbara Jordan, left an indelible mark on Houston’s media landscape.

• Hughes Van Ellis: Tulsa Race Massacre Survivor and WWII Veteran (1921–2023)

The nation bid farewell to Hughes Van Ellis, one of the last surviving witnesses of the Tulsa Race Massacre. A proud US Army veteran who fought alongside the British in WWII, Ellis symbolized resilience and a living connection to a crucial chapter in American history.

• Zoleka Mandela: Granddaughter of Nelson Mandela (1980-2023)

South Africa mourned the loss of Zoleka Mandela, Nelson Mandela’s granddaughter. Her battle with cancer came to an end, leaving behind a legacy intertwined with the struggle for justice and freedom.

• Irish Grinstead: R&B Singer of 702 (1979-2023)

R&B lost a soulful voice with the passing of Irish Grinstead, part of the award-winning trio 702. Fans all over the world will remember her contribution to the late 1990s R&B scene and her enduring influence on the genre.

• Clarence Avant: “The Black Godfather” of Music (1931-2023)

The music industry lost a true legend with the passing of Clarence Avant, known as “The Black Godfather.” Those he inspired will always recognize Avant’s contribution to the entertainment industry.

• Sheila Oliver: New Jersey Lieutenant Governor (1952-2023)

New Jersey mourned the loss of Lt. Governor Sheila Oliver, the first black woman to serve in a statewide elected position. Oliver’s dedication

to public service and pioneering role in New Jersey’s political landscape will be remembered.

• John Beasley: Actor and Activist (1943-2023)

Best known for his roles on *Everwood* and *The Soul Man*, died at 79. The actor died after being hospitalized in his hometown of Omaha, Nebraska, after his health took an “unexpected turn for the worst” following testing on his liver, according to reports.

• Jim Brown: Football Legend, Activist, and Actor (1936-2023)

The sports and entertainment world lost a multifaceted icon with the passing of Jim Brown, a football legend, activist, and actor. Brown’s influence extended beyond the field, making him a prominent figure in popular culture.

• Vida Blue: MLB Pitcher and World Series Champion (1949-2023)

Baseball mourned the loss of Vida Blue, a former MLB pitcher who led the Oakland Athletics to three consecutive World Series victories in the 1970s.

• Tori Bowie: Olympic Gold Medalist in Track and Field (1990-2023)

The world of athletics lost Tori Bowie, an Olympic gold medalist in track and field. The track and field community celebrates Bowie’s remarkable achievements and impact on the sport.


• Willis Reed: NBA Hall of Famer and Knicks Legend (1942-2023)

In basketball, fans mourned the loss of Willis Reed, an NBA Hall of Famer, and iconic Knicks captain. His contributions to the sport, including leading the Knicks to two NBA championships, made him a basketball legend.

• Lola Chantrelle “Gangsta Boo” Mitchell: Rapper (1979-2023)

Memphis and the hip-hop community mourned the loss of Gangsta Boo, one-third of the award-winning R&B trio 702.

Many others were also lost in 2023, and though they are too numerous to print, they are also fondly recalled, and their contributions are not forgotten.





Family Caregiving


# Get the Family Caregiving Support You Need


WITH RESOURCES IN MISSISSIPPI

To order a print copy of the AARP Mississippi Family Caregiver Resource Guide, call the AARP Family Caregiving Resource Line at **1-877-333-5885** and request the Family Caregiver Resource Guide. Or, order the guide online at **[aarp.org/caregiverresources](https://aarp.org/caregiverresources)**.

 /AARPMs

 @AARPMs





# COMMUNITY FORUM

Discussion on Proposed Head Start Program Changes



**Tuesday, January 9, 2024**  
**6:00 – 7:30p.m.**  
**258 Maddox Rd, Jackson, MS**

**YOU'RE INVITED!**

Parents, Staff, Board And Policy Council Members, Agency Partners, And Community Members

**Hinds County Human Resource Agency - Project Head Start**

is hosting a Community Forum to discuss its Change In Scope enrollment proposal. Those in attendance will be able to share their thoughts, offer constructive feedback, and help in the decision making process of the final proposal. Your attendance and comments are strongly encouraged.





# Lenora Reed celebrates 90 years' young

## Her advice: "Keep on moving and be prayerful in everything you do."

PHOTOS BY JAY JOHNSON AND JACKIE HAMPTON

Lenora Barnes Reed celebrated her 90th birthday on December 26th in the College Hill Baptist Church Family Life Center located at 1600 Florence Avenue in Jackson, Miss. It was beautifully decorated for the birthday party which was held from 3-5 p.m. Reed's actual birthday is December. 28, 2023.

There were over 100 attendees comprised of family members, friends and church members, several of whom took to the mic and expressed sentiments of the enjoyable moments and fond memories spent with the honoree. Everyone seemed to enjoy the good food, replete with desserts and all the trimmings.

Reed, a member of Alpha Delta Zeta Chapter of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc., taught school for 38 years. She taught at Carver High School in Pascagoula, Miss. for four years prior to beginning a long career in the Jackson Public Schools system. After retiring from JPS she worked at the Piney Woods Country Life School.

Reed is an active member of College Hill M. B. Church pastored by Rev. Chauncy L. Jordan.



PHOTO BY BRIGITTE DOW





# Drake turned 101 and still encouraging others to “Stay Fired Up”

PHOTOS BY CHARLES ANTHONY SMITH

Dr. H. T. Drake observed his 101st birthday with family and friends on November 11, 2023 during a drive-through celebration on the Tougaloo College campus located at 500 W. County Line Road in Tougaloo, Mississippi. Drake is a 1950 graduate of Tougaloo College.

Approximately 100 people participated and came by vehicles, walk-ups, drive-thrus and many parked to visit...it was a true reunion of family and friends from various decades of his life and family generations.

The event is part of Drake's annual fundraising efforts for Tougaloo College through birthday donations to the Henry T. and Maggie Burkhead Drake Endowed Scholarship Fund at Tougaloo College. Cake and ice cream and souvenir bags were provided to all in attendance. Donations are accepted year-round with special emphasis during his birthday month of November. A grand time was had by all.

For more information regarding his annual fundraising contact Denise Drake at 601 955-3635 or contact the Tougaloo College Office of Institutional Advancement. Drake thanked all his supporters for their well wishes and prayers and encourages everyone to “Stay Fired Up” as we journey into the 2024 New Year.





# Kwanzaa celebration at Two Museums in Jackson, Miss.

PHOTOS BY THE PERFECT SHOT

Kwanzaa, an annual celebration of African-American culture, is observed from December 26, to January 1. It focuses on seven principles: unity, self-determination, work, responsibility, economic development, purpose, creativity and faith.

Women in Progress, in partnership with Two MS Museums, celebrated the first night of Kwanzaa Tuesday, Dec. 26th. It was held at the Two Mississippi Museums located at 222 North Street in Jackson.

Willie Jones is the current president of Women for Progress.





# Make these 10 doctor-recommended health resolutions in the New Year

## StatePoint

The New Year is the perfect time to hit the reset button on your health and wellness. Not sure where to start? Doctors say you can make the biggest impact with small, incremental tweaks to your routine.

“It is quite common after the holidays to think about all you’ve eaten or your reduced physical activity and get discouraged,” says Jesse M. Ehrenfeld, M.D., MPH, president of the American Medical Association (AMA). “But the good news is you don’t have to make major health changes in one fell swoop. You can make small, positive health choices right now that can have long-lasting effects.”

Want to get started today? Here are the 10 resolutions the AMA recommends top your list this year:

**1. Get moving.** Exercise is essential for your physical and mental health. The American Heart Association recommends that adults get at least 150 minutes a week of moderate-intensity activity, or 75 minutes a week of vigorous-intensity activity. Just can’t get to the gym? No problem: start off by going for a family walk, taking the stairs at work or parking a little farther away from the mall entrance when you’re making those post-holiday gift



(C) PEOPLEIMAGES / ISTOCK VIA GETTY IMAGES PLUS

returns.

**2. Tweak your diet to include more water and less sugar-sweetened beverages.** Replace processed foods – especially those with added sodium and sugar – with nutritious, whole foods. Stock your fridge and pantry with fruits, vegetables, whole grains, nuts and seeds, low-fat dairy products and lean meats and poultry.

**3. A number of respiratory viruses circulating this winter can be serious and even life-threatening.** Get up to date on your vaccines to protect yourself and your family. These include the annual flu shot and the updated COVID-19 vaccine for everyone 6 months and older. Vaccines are also available to protect older adults from severe RSV. New tools to protect infants dur-

ing RSV season include maternal vaccination and monoclonal antibody immunization. If you have questions, speak with your physician and review trusted resources, including [getvaccineanswers.org](#).

**4. Get screened.** Estimates based on statistical models show that since April 2020, millions of screenings for breast, colorectal and prostate cancer may have

been missed due to pandemic-related care disruptions. Check in with your physician. If you’re due for preventive care, tests or screenings, make an appointment. These measures are designed to keep you healthy and help your doctor spot certain conditions before they become more serious.

**5. High blood pressure**, often referred to as hypertension, can increase your risk of heart attack or stroke, and it affects millions of Americans. Visit [ManageYourBP.org](#) to understand what your blood pressure numbers mean and what you can do to get your blood pressure under control.

**6. One in 3 American adults has prediabetes**, a condition that can lead to type 2 diabetes if left unmanaged. However, healthy eating and exercise can help delay or even prevent the onset of type 2 diabetes. Learn your risk by taking a simple 2-minute self-screening test at [DoIHavePrediabetes.org](#). This resource also features helpful lifestyle tips that can help you reverse prediabetes.

**7. If consuming alcohol, drink only in moderation.** The U.S. Dietary Guidelines for Americans defines that as up to one drink per day for women and two drinks per day for men, and only by adults of legal drinking age.

**8. Your health care provider can offer resources and guidance for quitting tobacco and nicotine.** Declare your home and car smoke-free to eliminate secondhand smoke exposure.

**9. Follow your doctor’s instructions when taking prescription drugs** – especially opioids. Always store and dispose of medications safely to prevent misuse. Whenever prescribed antibiotics, take them exactly as directed. Not taking the full course can lead to antibiotic resistance, a serious public health problem, and will not make you feel better if you have a virus, such as a cold or flu.

**10. Good mental health is part of good overall health.** Manage your stress, get sufficient sleep, exercise and seek help from a mental health professional when you need it.

If you don’t have health insurance, the AMA encourages you to sign up for coverage because those with coverage live healthier and longer. [Healthcare.gov](#) has new, affordable insurance options. The enrollment deadline for 2024 coverage is Jan. 15, 2024. Find more health resources at [ama-assn.org](#).

For a healthy 2024 and beyond, invest in your wellness with these doctor-recommended New Year’s resolutions.

## 5 things we learned about Alzheimer’s disease in 2023

### StatePoint

2023 was a landmark year for Alzheimer’s disease research, including advancements in treatment, risk factors and diagnosis. Here are five significant discoveries made this year:

There are three new approved treatments for Alzheimer’s, with a fourth on the way.

In July, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) granted traditional approval for Leqembi for mild cognitive impairment due to Alzheimer’s and mild Alzheimer’s dementia. This treatment slows cognitive decline and can help people with early Alzheimer’s maintain their independence.

In June 2021, the FDA granted accelerated approval to Aduhelm for the same purpose. At the Alzheimer’s Association International Conference (AAIC) in July 2023, Lilly reported positive results for a third similar treatment: donanemab. The company expects FDA action in early 2024.

In May, the FDA approved the first treatment for agitation in people with Alzheimer’s – brexpiprazole.

Hearing aids could slow cognitive decline for at-risk older adults.

In the largest clinical trial to investigate whether a hearing loss treatment can reduce risk of cognitive decline, researchers found that older adults with hearing loss cut their cognitive decline in half by using hearing aids for three years.

The intervention included hearing aids, a hearing “tool-kit,” and ongoing instruction and counseling. Though the positive results were in a subgroup of the total study population, they are encouraging and merit further investigation.

Blood tests for Alzheimer’s



er’s are coming soon.

Blood tests show promise for improving how Alzheimer’s is diagnosed. Advancements reported for the first time at AAIC 2023 demonstrate the simplicity and value to doctors of blood-based markers for Alzheimer’s.

Blood tests are already being implemented in Alzheimer’s drug trials. And they are incorporated into proposed new diagnostic criteria for the disease. Blood tests – once verified and approved by the FDA – would offer a noninvasive and cost-effective option for identifying the disease.

First-ever U.S. county-level Alzheimer’s prevalence estimates:

The first-ever county-level estimates of the prevalence of Alzheimer’s dementia – in all 3,142 U.S. counties – were reported at AAIC 2023. For counties with a population of more than 10,000 people age 65 and older, the highest Alzheimer’s prevalence rates are in:

- Miami-Dade County, Fla. (16.6%)
- Baltimore City, Md. (16.6%)
- Bronx County, N.Y. (16.6%)
- Prince George’s County, Md. (16.1%)
- Hinds County, Miss. (15.5%)

Certain characteristics of these counties may explain the higher prevalence,

including older age and a higher percentage of Black and Hispanic residents, which are communities disproportionately impacted by Alzheimer’s disease. According to the Alzheimer’s Association, these statistics can help officials determine the burden on the health care system, and pinpoint areas for culturally-sensitive caregiver training.

Chronic constipation is associated with poor cognitive function:

Approximately 16% of the world’s population struggles with constipation. This year, researchers reported that less frequent bowel movements were associated with significantly worse cognitive function.

People in the study with bowel movements every three days or more had worse memory and thinking equal to three years of cognitive aging. These results stress the importance of clinicians discussing gut health with their older patients.

While there is still much to learn about Alzheimer’s, 2023 was a year of discovery, giving researchers and families impacted by the disease hope for the year ahead.

To learn more about Alzheimer’s and dementia research, plus available care and support – and to join the cause or make a donation – visit the Alzheimer’s Association at [www.alz.org](#).

## When doing CPR, skip the mouth to mouth

By Vince Faust  
*Tips to Be Fit*

There has been a major change in how you perform CPR. We now skip the mouth-to-mouth portion of this saving technique. Now a dispatcher no longer tell callers who are untrained in cardiac pulmonary resuscitation (CPR) to skip the mouth to mouth part of the procedure and go directly to chest compressions. The biggest reason for the change is that it takes too long to explain the mouth-to-mouth technique.

Most people trying to help a person suffering a heart attack, breathing problems or other medical emergencies are too nervous to remember their CPR training. Another reason is the thought of giving rescue breaths makes bystanders less likely to want to perform CPR. A second reason is that rescue breaths interrupt lifesaving chest compressions. A third reason is the risk of disease transmission.

You are not required to give help. There are a few states that issue fines to bystanders that don’t help in an emergency, but there are no laws that would force a person to give CPR to person in need. I would hope everyone would help.

CPR rescue breathing is a type of first aid that’s given to people who have stopped breathing. During rescue breathing, you blow air into a person’s mouth to supply them with vital oxygen.

When you see something has gone wrong this is what The American Red Cross recommends.

Check the scene and the person. Make sure the scene is safe, then tap the person on the shoulder and shout, “Are you OK?” to ensure that the person needs help.

Call 911 for assistance. If it’s evident that the person needs help, call (or ask a bystander to call) 911, then send someone to get an AED. (If an AED is unavailable, or a there is no by-

stander to access it, stay with the victim, call 911 and begin administering assistance.)

Open the airway. With the person lying on his or her back, tilt the head back slightly to lift the chin.

Check for breathing. Listen carefully, for no more than 10 seconds, for sounds of breathing. (Occasional gasping sounds do not equate to breathing.) If there is no breathing begin CPR

Push hard, push fast. Place your hands, one on top of the other, in the middle of the chest. Use your body weight to help you administer compressions that are at least 2 inches deep and delivered at a rate of at least 100 compressions per minute.

There are a few mistakes people make when doing CPR. The most common mistakes committed when performing CPR are not giving deep enough compressions, as well as, giving too slow or fast compressions. Even healthcare professionals fail in the process because they either don’t push fast or deep enough.

Once you begin CPR, do not stop except in one of these situations:

Obvious Death. When you witness cardiac arrest, starting CPR immediately gives the victim the highest chance of survival.

Cold to the Touch  
Rigor Mortis.  
Livor Mortis (Lividity)  
Injuries Not Compatible With Life.

Physical Fatigue.  
Advanced Help Arrives.

You see an obvious sign of life, such as breathing.

An AED is available and ready to use.

Another trained responder or EMS personnel take over.

You are too exhausted to continue.

The scene becomes unsafe.

It always comes up when someone helps someone in an emergency “Can I be sued if I give some help.” According to

The American Red Cross, most states have Good Samaritan laws. These laws give you legal protection when you provide emergency care to an ill or injured person.

When you respond to an emergency and you act in a reasonable and prudent manner, Good Samaritan Immunity laws generally prevail. This legal immunity protects you as a rescuer, from being sued and found financially responsible for the victim’s injury.

Examples of acting in a prudent and reasonable manner can include:

Not moving a victim unless they are in life threatening situation.

Getting permission from a conscious victim before giving care.

Getting professional help as soon as you can.

Provide reasonable care until a professional help arrives.

Good Samaritan laws were developed to get people to help others in emergency situation. While Good Samaritan Laws don’t mean you can’t be sued, courts rarely give judgments against a person giving reasonable and prudent care to an injured person.

If you’re interested in knowing more about the “Good Samaritan” laws in your state, you should contact a legal professional, your local Red Cross or your local library.

Remember more than 70% Sudden Cardiac Arrests (SCA) occurs at home or similar private settings. 95% of SCA victims die prior to even reaching the hospital. Out of all these numbers, only 6% survive cardiac arrest.

Getting trained and acquainted with the basics of CPR and learning how to perform CPR will help you save life of a loved one.

Before starting any health or fitness program consult your physician.



LEGAL

Advertisement for RFP Reverse Auction

RFP 2023-21 EV Charging as a Service

Reverse Auction bidding 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, at 10:00 A.M. (Local Prevailing Time), January 19, 2024 at which time the Reverse Auction bidding begins electronically. A Pre-Bid Mandatory Site Visit for sites 1 & 2 will be held., Thursday, January 11, 2024. Location Site #1, 4015 Watkins Drive, Jackson, MS 39206 at 10:00 A.M. and Location Site #2 will be held at 2:00 P.M. at 1525 Linde Road, Jackson, MS 39204. All participating vendors must attend. This is not an option. 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 the Reverse Auction bid opening ends.

Unpriced Specification responses must be submitted for this bid event. Specifications are due no later than January 16, 2024 @5:00 PM local time to be the given the opportunity to participate in the auction. Vendors submitting acceptable specification responses will be invited to participate in the live electronic reverse auction at <https://southernprocurement.marketdojo.com> on January 19, 2023 beginning at 10:00 a.m. local time. Vendors must be registered with Southern Procurement and accept the Southern Procurement Supplier Agreement in order to participate in the reverse auction. For any questions concerning the reverse auction process or how to register, please contact Southern Procurement directly at 662.275.4663.

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

12/21/23, 12/28/23

LEGAL

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF NORNEE SIMPSON,  
DECEASED

CAUSE NO. P2023-491 M/4

PETITIONER: ARUNDEL SIMPSON

NOTICE TO UNKNOWN CREDITORS

Letters of Administration having been granted by the Chancery Court of Hinds County, Mississippi to the undersigned Administrator upon the Estate of Nornee Simpson, Deceased, notice is hereby given to all persons having claims against said estate to present the same to the Clerk of this Court for probation and registration according to the law, within ninety (90) days from the first publication of this notice, or they will be forever barred.

This the 4 day of December, 2023.

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI  
COUNTY OF Hinds

Personally appeared before me, the undersigned authority in and for the jurisdiction aforesaid, the within named, Arundel Simpson, Administrator for the Estate of Nornee Simpson, deceased, who having been by me first duly sworn, states that the above Notice to Creditors is true and correct as therein stated.

Arundel Simpson, Administrator

NOTARY

Damon Stevenson  
Stevenson Legal Group, PLLC  
1010 N. West Street  
Jackson, MS 39202  
Telephone: (769) 251-0207, Facsimile: (601) 608-7872

12/14/2023 12/21/23 12/28/23

LEGAL

**RESOLUTION DECLARING THE INTENTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI TO ENTER INTO A LOAN WITH THE MISSISSIPPI DEVELOPMENT BANK IN AN AGGREGATE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF NOT TO EXCEED FORTY MILLION DOLLARS (\$40,000,000) TO RAISE MONEY FOR THE PURPOSE OF THE (A) REPAIR, MAINTENANCE AND/OR RECONSTRUCTION OF ROADS, STREETS AND BRIDGES BASED UPON AN EQUAL SHARE OF THE BOND PROCEEDS TO BE EVENLY DISTRIBUTED TO EACH OF THE SEVEN (7) WARDS THROUGHOUT THE CITY OR AS AGREED UPON BY THE GOVERNING BODY LESS THE COSTS OF ISSUANCE; (B) STORM WATER AND DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS BASED UPON AN EQUAL SHARE OF THE BOND PROCEEDS TO BE EVENLY DISTRIBUTED TO EACH OF THE SEVEN (7) WARDS THROUGHOUT THE CITY OR AS AGREED UPON BY THE GOVERNING BODY LESS THE COSTS OF ISSUANCE AS AUTHORIZED BY SECTIONS 27-67-31 THROUGH 27-67-35, AS AMENDED AND SUPPLEMENTED FROM TIME TO TIME AND SECTIONS 31-25-1 ET SEQ., MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, AS AMENDED AND SUPPLEMENTED FROM TIME TO TIME; (C) AUTHORIZING THE USE OF THE BOND PROCEEDS FOR EMERGENCY PURPOSES AS AGREED UPON BY THE GOVERNING BODY FOR USES ALLOWED UNDER THE ACT; AND (D) FUNDING CAPITALIZED INTEREST AND A DEBT SERVICE RESERVE FUND, IF APPLICABLE, AND PAYING THE COSTS OF ISSUANCE FOR THE BONDS AND DIRECTING THE PUBLICATION OF A NOTICE OF SUCH INTENTION; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.**

WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Council of the City of Jackson, Mississippi (the "Governing Body"), acting for and on behalf of the City of Jackson, Mississippi (the "City"), is authorized under the provisions Sections 27-67-31 through 27-67-35 of the Mississippi Code of 1972, as amended from time to time (the "Infrastructure Modernization Act") and Sections 31-25-1 et seq., Mississippi Code of 1972, as amended and supplemented from time to time (the "Bank Act," and together with the Infrastructure Modernization Act, the "Act") to enter into indebtedness of the City in such amounts as it may find necessary and proper and for the purposes set forth in the Act, including, but not limited to the (a) repair, maintenance and/or reconstruction of roads, streets and bridges based upon an equal share of the Bond proceeds to be evenly distributed to each of the seven (7) wards throughout the City or as agreed upon by the Governing Body less the costs of issuance; (b) storm water and drainage improvements based upon an equal share of the Bond proceeds to be evenly distributed to each of the seven (7) wards throughout the City or as agreed upon by the Governing Body the costs of issuance; (c) authorizing the use of the Bond proceeds for emergency purposes as agreed upon by the Governing Body for uses as allowed under the Act and as approved by the Governing Body; and (d) funding capitalized interest and a debt service reserve fund, if applicable and paying the costs of issuance of the borrowing (the "Project"); and

WHEREAS, the Governing Body, acting for and on behalf of the City, is also authorized under the Act and other applicable laws of the State of Mississippi (the "State") to enter into a loan with the Mississippi Development Bank (the "Bank") to borrow money to finance the costs of the Project; and

WHEREAS, the Governing Body finds and determines that it is necessary and proper to finance the costs of the Project; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary for the health and wellbeing of the citizens of the City to provide funding for the costs of the Project by entering into a Loan with the Bank (the

"Loan") pursuant to the Act to borrow money from the Bank through the issuance of its Mississippi Development Bank Special Obligation Bonds, Series 2024 (City of Jackson, MS Modernization Revenue Bond Project) (the "Bonds") all in a total aggregate principal amount not to exceed Forty Million Dollars (\$40,000,000); and

WHEREAS, the Governing Body has caused an estimate to be made of the costs of the Project by the City from which estimate the Governing Body finds and determines that the contemplated costs thereof will not exceed Forty Million Dollars (\$40,000,000); and

WHEREAS, the Governing Body has determined that the Project and the costs thereof are economically feasible and would be in the best interests of the citizens of the City; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary and advisable and in the best interest of the City for the Governing Body, acting for and on behalf of the City, to provide funding for the costs of the Project by borrowing money by entering into the Loan with the Bank and the issuance of the Bonds by the Bank, all in accordance with the Act; and

WHEREAS, the City reasonably expects that it will incur expenditures in connection with the Project for which the City intends to reimburse itself with the proceeds of the Bonds. This declaration of official intent to reimburse expenditures made prior to the issuance of the Bonds in anticipation of the issuance of the Bonds is made pursuant to Department of Treasury Regulations Section 1.150-2 (the "Reimbursement Regulations"). The Project for which such expenditures are made is the same as described herein. The maximum principal amount of debt expected to be issued for the Project is the amount herein set forth.

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

The Governing Body, acting for and on behalf of the City, hereby declares its intention to enter into the Loan with the Bank all in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed Forty Million Dollars (\$40,000,000).

The Loan will be entered into for the purpose of financing the Project, as authorized by the Act.

The principal and interest on the Loan and the issuance of the Bonds through Bank shall be payable over a period not to exceed sixteen (16) years solely from those revenues (the "Use Tax Revenue") derived from those certain monies remitted from the State of Mississippi (the "State") to the City in January and July of each calendar year pursuant to the Infrastructure Modernization Act. The Loan and Bonds of the Bank shall not constitute an indebtedness of the City within the meaning of any statutory or charter restriction, limitation, or provision, and the taxing power of the City will not be pledged to the payment of the Loan or the Bonds, but the same, together with the interest thereon, shall be payable solely from the Use Tax Revenue allowed to be pledged for the payment of debt service pursuant to the Act.

Unless a protest in writing signed by fifteen percent (15%) of the qualified electors of the City or fifteen hundred (1,500) qualified electors of the City, whichever is lesser, objecting to and protesting against the issuance of the Bonds or entering into the Loan is filed with the City Clerk at City Hall located at 219 S. President Street, Jackson, Mississippi in the City on or before 10:00 o'clock a.m. on January 2, 2024, which date shall be not more than seven (7) days after the date of the last publication of this resolution, the Governing Body will authorize entering into the Loan at said time or at some meeting or meetings subsequent thereto. If such

sufficient protest and objection is filed on or before the date and hour hereinabove set forth, the question of the issuance of said Bonds or entering into said Loan shall be submitted to an election to as provided in the Bank Act.

This resolution shall be published once a week for at least three consecutive weeks in The Clarion Ledger and The Mississippi Link, both newspapers published in the City, and having general circulation therein and qualified under the provisions of the laws of the State, and the last publication of this resolution shall be not more than seven (7) days prior to the date hereinabove set forth as the deadline for the filing of objection or protest.

The City Clerk is hereby directed to procure from the publisher of the aforesaid newspaper the customary proof of publication of this resolution and have the same before the Governing Body on the day and hour hereinabove specified.

The City reasonably expects that it will incur expenditures prior to entering into the Loan and the issuance of the Bonds by the Bank, which it intends to reimburse with the proceeds of the Bonds upon the issuance thereof. This declaration of official intent to reimburse expenditures made prior to the issuance of the Bonds is made pursuant to Department of Treasury Regulations Section 1.150-2 (the reimbursement regulations). The Project for which such expenditures are made is the same as described herein above. The maximum principal amount of debt expected to be issued for the Project is the amount herein above set forth.

The Governing Body herein approves of and employs the law firm Butler Snow LLP, as Bond Counsel, and authorizes and directs the Mayor to execute and deliver an engagement letter with certain conditions and terms set forth therein concerning said employment.

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

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

COUNCILPERSON	YEA	NAY
Ashby Foote	Yea	
Angelique C. Lee	Yea	
Kenneth I. Stokes	Yea	
Brian C. Grizzell	Yea	
Vernon Hartley	Yea	
Aaron Banks	Yea	
Virgi Lindsay	Yea	

The President of the Council then declared the resolution passes and adopted this the 21st day of November 2023.

APPROVED BY:  
/s/ Aaron Banks  
PRESIDENT OF THE CITY COUNCIL

/s/ Chokwe A. Lumumba  
MAYOR  
ATTEST:

/s/ Angela Harris

CITY CLERK

12/7/2023; 12/14/2023; 12/21/2023; 12/28/2023

LEGAL

Advertisement For Bids

MEDIUM TO HEAVY DUTY LOW OR NO EMISSION TRANSIT BUSES

CITY PROJECT NO. RFP#2023-04

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, February 6, 2024, from qualified providers to manufacture and delivery of medium to heavy duty Low or No Emission Transit Buses, along with training, testing/diagnostic equipment and special tools in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth in RFP #2023-04. The Contract shall be a firm-fixed-price contract over the term of five (5) years. 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](http://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 MEDIUM TO HEAVY DUTY LOW OR NO EMISSION TRANSIT BUSES (RFP)#2023-04." 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](http://www.centralbidding.com). Electronic Bids may be submitted at [www.centralbidding.com](http://www.centralbidding.com). For any questions related to the electronic bidding process, please call Central Bidding at 225-810-4814.

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

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

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

Christine Welch, Deputy Director  
Office of Transportation

12/7/2023; 12/14/2023; 12/28/2023; 1/4/2024; 1/11/2024; 1/18/2024; 1/25/2024; 2/1/2024

LEGAL

Notice of Sale

Abandoned Vehicle

Notice of Sale is hereby given in accordance with the Mississippi Statutes governing the sale of abandoned motor vehicles that the following vehicle will be sold for repair and storage charges and for cost of this sale.

2013 Chevrolet Avalanche: 3GNTKGE76DG257212  
Registered to: Christopher Robinson  
Capital One, Lien Holder  
Date of Sale: December 30, 2023  
Place of Sale: Unlimited Cars and Accessories – 3522 Medgar Evers Blvd., Jackson, MS 39213

Sellers reserve the right to bid on the above property and to reject any and all bids.  
Time: 10:00 A.M.

12/14/2023; 12/21/2023; 12/28/23

Professional Paralegal  
Legal Advocate  
James Scott  
769-990-3874

12/28/23

ANYTIME ONLINE

Breaking News  
Streaming Videos  
Interactive Blogs

Visit our newly designed website:  
[www.mississippilink.com](http://www.mississippilink.com)





**It's not just a generator.  
It's a power move.™**

Receive a free 7-year warranty with qualifying purchase\* - valued at \$735.

**Call 844-316-8630 to schedule your free quote!**

\*Terms and Conditions apply.

**GENERAC**

**FREE INTERNET**

**Qualify today for the Government Free Internet Program**

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



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

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

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



**Call today and receive a  
FREE SHOWER PACKAGE  
PLUS \$1600 OFF**



**1-855-532-0066**

With purchase of a new Safe Step Walk-in Tub. Not applicable with any previous walk-in tub purchase. Offer available while supplies last. No cash value. Must present offer at time of purchase. CSLB 1082165 NSCB 0082999 0083445



**FINANCING AVAILABLE WITH APPROVED CREDIT**



**Sudoku**

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

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

© Feature Exchange

**Sudoku Solution**

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

© Feature Exchange

**LEGAL**

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING OF THE  
JACKSON HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE JACKSON HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION (JHPC) WILL HOLD ITS MONTHLY MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC ON WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 10, 2024 AT 12:00 NOON IN THE ANDREW JACKSON CONFERENCE ROOM (RM. 105) OF THE WARREN HOOD BUILDING, 200 SOUTH PRESIDENT STREET, JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI.

APPLICATIONS FOR CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS

Old Business  
N/A

New Business  
CASE NO. HPNC-23-12  
LOCATION: 1442 GREYMONT ST. (PARCEL 15-143-4)  
HISTORIC DISTRICT: BELHAVEN APPLICANT: SHARON POLLARD  
REQUEST: TO REPLACE SHAKE STYLE METAL ROOFING WITH CORRUGATED METAL ROOF.

CASE NO. HPNC-23-21  
LOCATION: 300 FARISH ST. (PARCEL 83-3-1)  
HISTORIC DISTRICT: FARISH ST APPLICANT: ANDERSON ERVIN  
REQUEST: CONSTRUCT NEW TWO STORY SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENCE AS A PERSON HOME ON PARCEL NUMBER 83-3-1. THE NEW RESIDENCE WILL MATCH THE AESTHETIC OF THE BUILDING LOCATED ON 83-3 WITH BRICK AS THE PRIMARY BUILDING MATERIAL FOR THE EXTERIOR ELEVATIONS, ARCH WINDOWS ON THE SECOND FLOOR, AND A LOW SLOPED ROOF

TIED TO AN INTERNAL DRAINAGE SYSTEM.

CASE NO. HPNC-23-23  
LOCATION: 205 N LAMAR ST UNIT 15. (PARCEL 84-13-2)  
HISTORIC DISTRICT: FARISH ST APPLICANT: KIMBERLY VIVERETTE  
REQUEST: INSTALL RAYNOR ALUMNA VIEW AV300 GARAGE DOOR STYLE WINDOWS ON EXISTING STRUCTURE. THIS REQUEST IS IN CONJUNCTION WITH CASE# HPNC-22-34.

CASE NO. HPNC-23-25  
LOCATION: 760 ARLINGTON ST. (PARCEL 12-67)  
HISTORIC DISTRICT: BELHAVEN APPLICANT: LOUIS WILKINSON  
REQUEST: REBUILD SINGLE CAR GARAGE THAT WAS DESTROYED BY A FALLEN TREE.

CASE NO. HPNC-23-27  
LOCATION: 1836 LYNCREST AVE. (PARCEL 9-88)  
HISTORIC DISTRICT: BELHAVEN APPLICANT: MARCUS SANDERS  
REQUEST: REPLACE ROTTING SIDING WITH NEW SIDING CALLED LP SMARTSIDE. IT LOOKS AND FEELS LIKE THE EXISTING MATERIAL BUT IT LASTS LONGER WITH VERY LITTLE MAINTENANCE.

OTHER ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION  
VOTE FOR CHAIRMAN, VICE-CHAIRMAN, AND SECRETARY.  
ESTABLISH REGULAR MEETING TIME FOR THE HP COMMISSION.

ADJOURNMENT

12/28/2023; 1/4/2024;

**U-RENTAL  
Van Company**



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



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

**MCAN**  
**Mississippi Classified Advertising Network**  
To place your statewide classified ad order, call MS Press Services at 601-981-3060

**For Sale**

**PREPARE FOR POWER OUTAGES** today with a GENERAC Home Standby Generator. \$0 Money Down plus low monthly payment options. Request a FREE QUOTE - Call now before the next power outage: 1-844-316-8630

**TROUBLE HEARING YOUR TV?** Try TV EARS - Voice Clarifying Wireless TV Speaker. Better than a soundbar and/or turning the TV volume way up. Special, limited time \$50 off offer. Call TV Ears. Use code MBSP50. Call 1-833-994-0778

**Home Improvement**

**ELIMINATE GUTTER CLEANING FOREVER!** LeafFilter, the most advanced debris-blocking gutter protection. Schedule a FREE LeafFilter estimate today. 20% off Entire Purchase. Plus 10% Senior and Military Discounts. Call 1-866-479-1028

**SAFE STEP. North America is #1 Walk-In Tub.** Comprehensive lifetime warranty. Top-of-the-line installation and service. Now featuring our FREE shower package and \$1600 Off for a limited time! Call today! Financing available. Call Safe Step 1-855-532-0066

**Insurance**

**DENTAL INSURANCE** from Physicians Mutual Insurance Company. Coverage for 350 plus procedures. Real dental insurance - NOT just a discount plan. Do not wait! Call now! Get your FREE Dental Information Kit with all the details! 1 - 8 5 5 - 3 9 7 - 7 0 4 5 [#6258](http://www.dental50plus.com/mspress)

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

**SAVE ON YOUR MEDICARE SUPPLEMENT! FREE QUOTES** from top providers. Excellent coverage. Call for a no obligation quote to see how much you can save! 855-454-6649

**Medical Supplies**

**VIAGRA and CIALIS USERS!** 50 Pills SPECIAL \$99.00 FREE Shipping! 100% guaranteed. CALL NOW! 844-821-3242

**Miscellaneous**

**DONATE YOUR CAR TO CHARITY.** Receive maximum value of write off for your taxes. Running or not! All conditions accepted. Free pickup. Call for details. 855-400-8263

**ADVERTISE STATEWIDE** with Mississippi Press Services. Call 601-981-3060.

**Pets / Livestock**

**ARE YOU A PET OWNER?** Do you want to get up to 100% back on Vet Bills? Physicians Mutual Insurance Company has pet coverage that can help! Call 1-855-516-3653 to get a free quote or visit [insurebarkmeow.com/msp](http://insurebarkmeow.com/msp)

**Services - General**

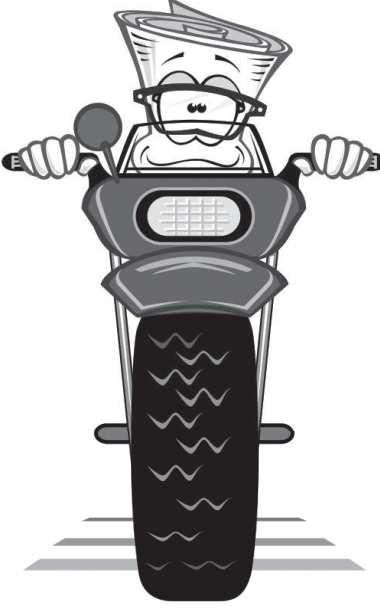
**CONNECT TO THE BEST WIRELESS HOME INTERNET** with EarthLink. Enjoy speeds from 5G and 4G LTE networks, no contracts, easy installation, and data plans up to 300 GB. Call 866-831-4021

**FREE HIGH SPEED INTERNET** for those that qualify. Government program for recipients of select programs incl. Medicaid, SNAP, Housing Assistance, WIC, Veterans Pension, Survivor Benefits, Lifeline, Tribal. 15 GB internet service. Bonus offer: Android tablet FREE with one-time \$20 copay. Free shipping & handling. Call Maxsip Telecom today! 1-855-215-7081

**SWITCH AND SAVE UP TO \$250/year** on your talk, text and data. No contract and no hidden fees. Unlimited talk and text with flexible data plans. Premium nationwide coverage. 100% U.S. based customer service. For more information, call 1-844-954-451

**SWITCH TO DISH** and get up to a \$300 gift card! Plus get the Multisport pack included for a limited time! Hurry, call for details: 1-877-628-3143

**REV UP BUSINESS  
In The  
Classifieds**



**Place Your Classified Ad  
STATEWIDE  
In 95 Newspapers!**

**STATEWIDE RATES:**  
**Up to 25 words.....\$230**  
**1 col. x 2 inch.....\$525**  
**1 col. x 3 inch.....\$785**  
**1 col. x 4 inch.....\$1050**

**Nationwide Placement Available**

**To Place Your Ad Order Call:**  
**MS Press Services**  
**601-981-3060**

**Week of December 24, 2023**



P R E S E R V E D

# The Year of ME (Maximized Expectations)

By Shewanda Riley  
Columnist



“2016 is going to be the Year of Me” This phrase came up in a conversation I had a few years ago with a friend who stated this with much enthusiasm. Curious about what she meant and if she was going to all of sudden become extremely self-centered, I asked her what she meant. At first, she paused and said, “I’m going to focus on myself.” I then asked her what that would look like? She paused again and then explained that in the last year she’d made many sacrifices for her family and that she was going to spend this year focusing on herself.

On the one hand, I agreed that she should take some time to refocus on herself after years of giving so much to others. However, I also

thought how the “ME” didn’t necessarily have to mean “me” in a selfish way but could also stand for something else. “ME” could also mean “Maximized Expectations.” Maximized means to make the most of something. For some, this means that even if you don’t get exactly what you want from God when you want it, you still win because you get the most while waiting for God’s blessings. You pray and seek His presence more while waiting. Eventually, there will be the manifestation of fruits of the spirit listed in Galatians 5:22-23: “love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.”

For some, the beginning of a new year is full of hope and anticipation, and it is easy to maximize expectations.

There is hope that the new year will be a different and much better one than the one that just ended. For some,

there is anticipation of the weight that will be lost as a result of new diets and workout plans. For others, there is the anticipation about the new jobs that will come and new relationships that will manifest in the coming year.

Yet, for some, the beginning of the new year is quite depressing. Despite how hard they try, they can’t be hopeful about the new year because the last year was so bad. They may have suffered the loss of loved ones, end of relationships, loss of jobs and poor health. For them, the Year of “ME” might end up being a year of “minimized expectations.” Because of what has happened in the past, it is just too painful to hope for something and be disappointed again. The solution is then to not hope in anything at all.

Psalms 126:5-6 provides insight on how to maximize our expectations. Verse 5 states that “those who sow with

tears will reap with songs of joy.” So many of us focus on where we are (tears) and miss praising God in advance for what the end will be (songs of joy).


When you maximize your expectations, your focus shifts from the tears that you may have shed in the past or even the ones you may be shedding currently and towards the future songs of joy that God will ultimately bring to your heart to sing.

Happy New Year and Happy New Year!

*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.*

# God is not mocked

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



The devil has many devices that he uses to try to bring a drought into our lives. One of the greatest of these is doubts. Doubts can bring droughts. When we are doubting, then we are not fully trusting; and when we are not fully trusting, that can cause maybe a little crack in our faith and some of that living water may begin to leak out of our hearts. It is in those times of doubt when I think we should try to remember things in the past that were definite answers to prayer and realize that it is Satan who brings doubts and lies to our minds.

Think of all the blessings God has given you and those cracks in your faith should begin to seal up, and that living water can fill you to overflowing again.

We sometimes see people who we know are not Christians, and yet they appear to be happy. Maybe some have a lot of money and seem to be so content in their lives. But if we could only see inside their hearts, what a dry place it must be, because without Christ being a part of their daily lives, they are living in drought

conditions. Many may not even recognize their condition, but I believe that some really do feel so empty inside, even though on the outside they pretend to be happy and content.

I wish sometimes that we could see down in the heart of some people. I think it would be much easier to try and witness to those people who we can see are just covering up a life of loneliness and emptiness. But I guess God did not give us that ability for a reason. We are to be a witness to all.

We should endeavor to make good of every opportunity we have to witness and help someone. That is another way to help keep away a spiritual drought in our own lives. By sharing our own experience of salvation and rehearsing from time to time what the Lord has done for us, we can be refreshed and renewed in our own spirit.

If the devil tries to get you to doubt your salvation, you can remind him, too, what the Lord did for you. Psalm 143:6 says, “I stretch forth my hands unto thee: my soul thirsteth after thee, as a thirsty land.”

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

## New Bethel Missionary Baptist Church

Pastor, Dr. F. R. Lenoir



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




*“A Church Preparing for a Home Not Built by Man”*

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

## Crossroads Church of God

Sharing The Love Of Christ With Others



**Sunday Morning**  
Sunday School: 9 a.m. - 9:45 a.m.

**Sunday Worship Service:** 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.  
(Fellowship following worship service 1st Sundays)

**Wednesday Prayer/Bible Study:** 7 p.m. - 8 p.m.

231-A John Day Road • Off Hwy 16 East • Canton, MS 39046  
Church: 601-859-2858



Moving the Masses Toward the Mission of the Master

1600 Florence Avenue  
Jackson, Mississippi 39204  
601-3552670 • 601-355-0760 (Fax)  
[www.collegehillchurch.org](http://www.collegehillchurch.org)  
[Chmbc@collegehillchurch.org](mailto:Chmbc@collegehillchurch.org)

### COLLEGE HILL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

## SUNDAY Worship Services

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



Pastor  
Chauncy L. Jordan

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

## True Light Baptist Church

224 E. Bell Street | Jackson, MS 39202  
Phone: 601.398.0915  
[WWW.TRUELIGHTJACKSON.ORG](http://WWW.TRUELIGHTJACKSON.ORG)

 @TRUELIGHTMBCHURCH  
 TRUE LIGHT BAPTIST CHURCH

# THE Light Line PRAYER

JOIN US EACH WEDNESDAY  
MORNING AT 6:00 AM  
CALL: 559-671-2546

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



REV. MARCUS E. CHEEKS, PASTOR



## New Horizon Church INTERNATIONAL

A place of love and victory.

**Bishop Ronnie C. Crudup, Sr.**  
1750 Ellis Avenue • Jackson, MS 39204  
OFFICE: 601-371-1427 • FAX: 601-371-8282  
[www.nhcms.org](http://www.nhcms.org)

**SUNDAY**  
8:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. - Worship Services

**WEDNESDAY**  
7:00 p.m. - Bible Class

**TV BROADCAST**  
8:00 a.m. - Channel 14 (Comcast)

Prayer Everyday: 6 a.m. and 6 p.m.





# Scotus will ultimately decide the fate of Trump – What will their decision be?

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



We make choices every day of our lives. Obviously, the choices we make have consequences. Some are good while others are not so good.

When our elected officials make decisions, they make them on behalf of we the people. If we don't like their decisions, we eventually vote them out of office.

Donald Trump was president of the United States of America however he lost his bid to be re-elected in 2020. Joe Biden is now the president of our America.

Former presidents like George Bush and Barak Obama have taken a backseat in the political arena. That has been a well-established tradition. They have not interfered with the present administration.

This is the opposite to what former president Donald Trump is doing. He still says that he won the 2020 election. That assertion made by him has been wrong since election night. America made a choice, and it wasn't him, yet he continues to whine about it.

Former president Trump has 4 indictments looming over him. He has been in and out of court for the past several months and there is no end in sight.

However, he continues to lead

in the Republican polls for president. It is my opinion that he will receive the nod to be their candidate and run to be president again. We the people can only imagine what that will look like. Trump is guilty of crimes and running to be president of the country. Unbelievable!

His name at this time will not be on the Colorado ballot as the Supreme Court there ruled Trump is not eligible to serve under the 14th Amendment's insurrection ban because of his actions associated with January 6th.

Will other states rule against him as well?

Last week, Michigan Secretary of State, Jocelyn Benson, in an interview with CNN anchor,

Laura Coates discussed the possibility. We will see where that goes.

*The Detroit News* has reported Trump can be heard on tape pressuring 2 GOP canvassers in Michigan not to certify the 2020 election results. Will hearing Trump on tape strengthen the case against him?

Mountains of evidence and rockslides of proof have shown Trump to be unfit to hold the highest office in the land. If this was any other citizen, they would have already been in prison. What level of guilt must Trump have for this assault on American democracy to stop?

Ten days ago, Special Counsel Jack Smith wanted to fast track the theory that Trump had

presidential immunity. The U.S. Supreme Court did not hear the case. Some are calling that a win for Trump. However, J. Michael Luttig, Retired U.S. Appeals Court Judge believes that it was not a defeat or a victory.

The primaries in Iowa and New Hampshire will be coming up soon. Trump is leading by double digits, so it is my thinking that he probably won't be around to debate.

The bigger issue for him is his legal woes. Some polling suggests that he is not worried and that he is cool, calm and collected. It begs the question why does he feel that way?

I believe strongly that his arrogance is rooted in the belief that the U. S. Supreme Court

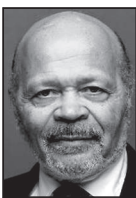
will ultimately rule in his favor. He thinks their decision will vindicate him and thus make him president. He appointed 3 justices during his first term in office and he probably thinks they will side with him. The sad and unnerving thought about that notion is that he just may be right.

For those of us who still believe in right and wrong that will become a living nightmare. Four more years of him will destroy the America that we know, and we will have no standing in the world. It will mean that rules and regulations have no consequences.

Let us hope mightily that does not happen. SCOTUS, America is watching you. Laws still matter.

# The Middle East that Colonialism made

By Oscar H. Blayton  
Pres. Black Chamber of Commerce



The Israel-Palestine conflict (which includes Gaza) has captured the recent attention of the Western World and there are so many dimensions to this problem, that it cannot be fully explored in any one book, let alone a short column.

As in so many other troubled areas today, the violence between Israel and Gaza has been due to perceived existential crises and constructed notions of "right" and "wrong." But regardless of whether there is a "right" or "wrong" in these types of conflicts, there is always blood, disaster and misery, and as citizens of our global community, we should not look away or dismiss the carnage as a natural consequence of human behavior. There are reasons why these conflicts arise, and most have roots that are deeply embedded in history.

For decades, the "Trouble in the Middle East" has had as its focal point the conflict arising out of the displacement of the people of Palestine by an influx of mostly European Jews after the Holocaust that occurred during World War II. The Holocaust was an embarrassment for all of Europe as well as for those around the world who identified with their European ancestry, and a pressing social need was felt to try to "make things right."

Millions upon millions of Jews had suffered an attempt to extinguish them and their culture by a nation gone mad with hatred and led by the worst sort of fascist dictator. When the fog of war had cleared after the Allied victory in 1945, the horror that the Nazis inflicted upon Jews created an impetus to accede to the decades-long call by Jewish activists for the safety of a Jewish state.

To get a clear understanding of the path that has led to the current intractable death struggle on the eastern shores of the Mediterranean Sea, we need to look back to events that took place during the waning years of the "First" World War.

In 1916, two years into World War I, it became apparent to England and France that the Ottoman Empire, which had sided with Germany, would not survive the conflict. Because of this, England and France entered into the secret Sykes-Picot Agreement that divided much of the Ottoman Empire's land between them like a holiday turkey. This agreement declared that Palestine was "Under the Protection of Great Britain, France and their ally, Russia." But that portion of the agreement placing Palestine under the protection of the three allies was upended when British forces entered Jerusalem on December 11, 1917, and took control of the region from the Turks. General Edmund Allenby, commander of the British forces in the area, had been

directed by Prime Minister David Lloyd George to take the city before the "Holidays," and after its seizure, declared it "a Christmas present for the British people." General Allenby, on his part, stated publicly, "The wars of the crusades are now complete."

A little more than a month before the British took Jerusalem, Lord Arthur James Balfour, the British foreign secretary, penned a significant letter to Baron Lionel Walter Rothschild, a leader of the Anglo-Jewish community. This letter, which has come to be known as the "Balfour Declaration," stated the intent of the British Government to use its best efforts to establish a national home for the Jewish people in Palestine. But the Declaration also stated, "it being clearly understood that nothing shall be done which may prejudice the civil and religious rights of existing non-Jewish communities in Palestine ...."

It has been stated by many legal scholars that the Balfour Declaration constitutes the beginning of the state of Israel's legitimation under international law. But international law is not always clearly black and white. However, with its foot in the door, through a series of events, conferences and treaties, Britain easily obtained its objective with the League of Nations mandating Palestine to Britain, in June of 1919, thereby sanctioning its authority and control under international law and guiding it towards self-determination.

However, it appears that the British never intended for the Palestinians to achieve self-determination. In February 1919, three months after World War I ended, Balfour wrote to Britain's Prime Minister, David Lloyd George that "in the case of Palestine, we deliberately and rightly decline to accept the principle of self-determination, since the present inhabitants would surely deliver an 'anti-Jewish verdict,'" But he expressed that since having a Jewish national home was of "world importance," that would be an exception, but that having such a Jewish national home should not dispossess or oppress the then current inhabitants.

Less than two decades after World War I ended, the world was again in a global War that included the horrific Holocaust carried out by Nazi Germany. After World War II and the defeat of Nazi Germany, there was a rekindled surge of support for the creation of a Jewish state to ensure that nothing like the Holocaust could ever happen again.

While large numbers of Jews had migrated to Palestine since the end of World War I, the end of the Second World War saw a much larger flow of refugees. In May 1947, Britain, anticipating the difficulty in managing its mandate with the sudden influx of Jewish refugees, announced that it was handing the Palestine problem

over to the newly formed United Nations and that it would unilaterally terminate its mandate on May 15, 1948.

Responding to an impending international crisis, the U.N. General Assembly voted on a partition plan and passed United Nations Resolution 181 in November 1947. The Palestinian Arab population denounced this Resolution, citing that while the Palestinian Arab population numbered as much as twice the Jewish population, more than half the land was allocated to become a Jewish state.

Declaring the allocation of land in Palestine to be unjust, five Arab nations invaded the territory following the announcement of the independence of the state of Israel in May 1948. These hostilities ended in 1949 when Armistice Agreements were signed between Israel and Egypt, Lebanon, Jordan and Syria. These agreements specifically stated that the Armistice Demarcation Lines were in no way to be considered political or territorial boundaries, leaving the territorial boundaries between Israel and Palestine open to question.

Wars and violent conflicts have plagued the region since Israel announced its independence in 1948. Notably, the Six Day War fought in 1967 between Israel and the former United Arab Republic, Syria, Jordan, Iraq and Lebanon. This war precipitated the U.N. Security Council passing its Resolution 242, which many believed mandated the creation of a Palestinian state. But recent arguments have been made that this is a "non-binding" resolution.

The history of modern-day Israel and Palestine is a narrative of failed statesmanship. The apparent racist assumptions by Britain and the Western powers about the inability of Palestinians to govern themselves led to distrust and disquiet on the part of Palestinians towards those nations. The perceived disparate treatment given to Palestinians as opposed to that given to Israelis has also fueled a sense of hopelessness, distrust and anger among the Palestinians towards the West. The West constructed a poorly conceived political "solution" to a problem for which it was partly to blame and placed the weight of that problem on the backs of a colonized people.

This very brief recounting of the diplomatic steps taken by Western nations regarding Israel and the Middle East points out how they created this mess. And as the rest of the world looks on, we see the leaders of those nations shirking their responsibility to make it right.

*Oscar H. Blayton is a former Marine Corps combat pilot and human rights activist who practices law in Virginia. His earlier commentaries may be found at <https://oblayton1.medium.com/>*

# My grits are boiling over

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



Of course, when I think about grits, poor Pastor Al Green comes to mind...that had to be a tragic day for him. Also, I can't help but think about my mother's grits...she is a dynamic cook but for some reason, she has never been able to properly cook grits...it's a joke amongst us. Although I love cooking grits and consider myself to be a pro in cooking grits, it can be challenging.

One of the main challenges of cooking grits is managing them not popping all over you and boiling over. If they boil over – that will be a problem. It's hard to manage, clean, etc. when grits boil over. Sometimes, in marriage, your pot of grits can boil over.

I know that many couples want you to think that they have an easy perfect made pot of grits and that their grits never boils over. However, their grits boil over sometimes too. This simply means that yes spouses can be upset, infuriated and mad at one another.

I remember recently getting upset with my husband to the point that I couldn't think of any way to explain my anger but that my grits were boiling over. And now, to be honest, I can't remember why he made me angry. But I think he was joking and teasing me about something I did that related to what I perceived was an emergency and he joked that it wasn't. I was upset for two days to say the least. In other words, my grits were boiling over for two days – you know that was a hot mess.

What do you do when your spouse causes your grits to boil over – when your spouse makes you mad? Well, you could do the following:

- Suppress it
- Unleash fierce silence
- Lash out
- Ignore
- Speak in a unique tongue
- Argue
- Use sign language
- Physically Fight
- Hold a grudge
- Don't forgive
- Don't seek help
- Gaslight

Guess what, all the above possible solutions will only make things worse. Yes, either solution can make you feel better when fury is your motivation. Let's be real spouses, fury will cause you to forget how in love you are with your spouse, all your rosey feelings will temporarily fade away in a matter of seconds and turn to rose bush thorns. Further, fury will cause you to lose sight of your marriage vows: for better or for worse, and it will cause you at times to ques-

tion why you got married in the first darn place, etc.

However, fury and anger towards your spouse can be addressed in a healthy way. The following are reasonable ways to respond when your spouse makes you angry:

- Be real – admit that your grits have or is boiling over – please don't suppress your anger
- Pray
- Beathe and try to calm down as much as you can
- Try to understand why you are upset – write what you are feeling
- Remain silent until you can reasonably communicate with your spouse – be honest and let your spouse know – I am unable to talk to you now without responding negatively. You need some communication space (can even agree about a time – one hours – 24 hours – shouldn't be prolonged for days – can make matters worse)
- When you do communicate – tell your spouse how they hurt and/or disappointed and angered you
- Communicate honestly with your spouse – tell them how you feel and why you feel the way you do
- If you can't communicate – write your spouse a letter
- Seek professional marriage counseling if you and/or your spouse can't solve this reasonably and fairly
- Be willing to forgive and forgive quick
- Allow your spouse to help you clean up the mess from your grits boiling over.

In conclusion, it is normal and necessary according to some marriage experts for married couples to have healthy fights because it promotes growth in the following areas: trust, communication, understanding and empathy.

But don't let your anger linger towards each other. Ephesians 4:26...do not let the sun go down on your wrath. In other words, it is best to address your anger towards your spouse immediately because it can provoke further trouble such as separation, divorce, premature death, etc.

However, the trouble can be avoided if spouses adhere to the possible solutions above. I love my husband dearly and he loves me too but we plan to inform one another when we have caused each other's grits to boil over.

*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.*

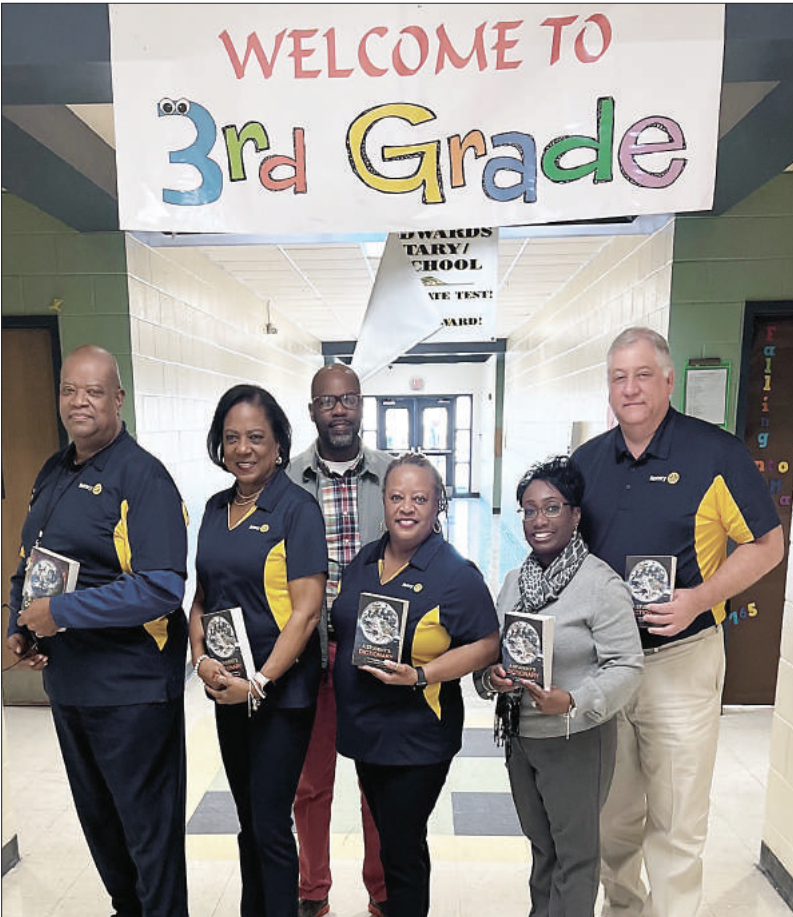


Hinds County School District Weekly Update

ENGAGING-EMPOWERING-ENSURING-EXCELLENCE

DICTIONARIES


South Hinds Rotary Club in partnership with Hinds County School District delivered 360 dictionaries to all third-grade students in Hinds County School District which included Utica Elementary, Bolton Edwards Elementary, Raymond Elementary and Gary Road Intermediate Schools. The South Hinds Rotary Club explained the function of a dictionary and how this book can be very instrumental in increasing the vocabulary of each student and enhancing their speech capabilities. Hinds County School District thanked the South Hinds Rotary Club for their commitment to Hinds County Schools District.







## Nissan believes in the power of education.



nissan-canton.com

# Krystal Chatman – leading AI learning in Mississippi &

*The JPS Newswire*

Krystal Chatman, an instructional technology facilitator and veteran JPS educator, is leading the charge in Mississippi for AI (artificial intelligence) instruction in K-12 computer science education. Her leadership in computer science education in Mississippi, has afforded Chatman a unique platform to promote and enhance AI integration into computer science instruction, especially in underserved areas.

Recently, Chatman moderated a panel as part of a White House Event on Inclusive Approaches to Education in Artificial Intelligence and Computer Science. The panel involved a discussion among educators from across the country who have been successful in implementing equitable and inclusive practices when introducing AI tools and tool creation to students in their computer science classes.

Themed Equitable Approaches to AI and Computer Science Education, the event was held during Computer Science Education Week (December 6-12) and was co-hosted by the Computer Science Teacher Association (CSTA), National Economic Council, and National Science Foundation.

Additionally, Chatman is



Krystal Chatman

involved in the Mississippi AI Collaborative, an organization comprised of AI education professionals across the state dedicated to building an AI ecosystem that supports, education, the economy, and the community across the state. This group has been awarded a grant from data.org as part of its Generative Skills AI Chal-

lenge. The Mississippi AI Collaborative was one of only five awardees worldwide, and the only awardees in the United States.

Through the collaborative, Chatman's role is to represent CSTA, as well as JPS in terms of training, to provide support to educators interested in learning how to teach and train

on using AI in the classroom. In addition to the education arm, the collaborative offers community training and supports business owners interested in using AI tools in their operations.

Chatman is a 2022-2023 Equity Fellow with the Computer Science Teachers Association and a member of its inaugural Instructional Allies Cohort. The nine-member cohort is composed of instructional leaders who uplift new ideas and methods to challenge inequities in computer science classrooms.

In addition to completing her Equity Fellowship this year, Chatman has been named CS-TA-Mississippi chapter president.

With more than 14 years of experience as a classroom educator and biomedical researcher, Chatman has taught students from high school to medical school.

She received her Bachelor of Science degree in biology from Millsaps College and her Master of Science in biological sciences from Mississippi College.

In her current role, she provides support to all pre-K-12 teachers in JPS to help them integrate technology into their daily instructional practices.

# JPS Board of Trustees vote to approve the Superintendent's Optimization Plan



*The Mississippi Link Newswire*

On December 19, 2023, the JPS Board of Trustees voted to pass the revised Optimization Plan presented by Superintendent Dr. Errick L. Greene during their regularly scheduled meeting. This plan, initially introduced in October, addresses the need for strategic measures due to a significant decline in district enrollment, amounting to approximately 9,500 students lost between the 2015-16 and 2023-24 school years.

According to the Optimization Plan, the following schools will be closed effective during the 2024-2025 school year:

- Dawson Elementary
- Lake Elementary
- Lester Elementary
- Marshall Elementary
- Raines Elementary
- Sykes Elementary
- Shirley Elementary
- G.N. Smith Elementary
- Chastain Middle
- Whitten Middle
- Wingfield High

“Our decision to close and consolidate schools was not an easy decision, but it was a necessary one, and I want to express my sincere appreciation to the Board of Trustees for their thoughtful deliberation and ultimate endorsement

of the Optimization Plan,” said Dr. Greene.

“During these challenging times of financial constraints and difficult decisions, the significance of unity and understanding cannot be emphasized enough. I express gratitude to those who supported the plan and recognize the voices of community members who did not support the proposed initiative. Let us unite as we persist in building and maintaining a fiscally sound school system for the improvement of our capital city,” he said.

The consolidation of Obama IB Elementary and Wells APAC Elementary with their respective middle schools—Northwest IB and Bailey APAC—will be postponed until 2025. This delay allows for the completion of renovations at Bailey APAC Middle School.

The plan also includes the establishment of a Facilities Repurposing Advisory Committee. This committee, overseen by a consultant, will make recommendations to the Board for each closed building. The consultant will actively pursue private and public funding to support redevelopment efforts, categorizing closed school buildings into sale/lease, redevelopment, or demolition.

# Aspen Institute names Hinds to top 150 national community colleges

*The Mississippi Link Newswire*

Hinds Community College is among the nation's top 150 community colleges that are eligible to compete for the 2025 Aspen Prize for Community College Excellence and \$1 million in prize funds.

“The institutions selected for this honor stand out among more than 1,000 community colleges nationwide as having high and improving levels of student success as well as equitable outcomes for Black and Hispanic students and those from lower-income backgrounds” The Aspen Institute said in a news release.

“We are pleased that the work of Hinds Community College's dedicated employees has been validated with the recognition that Hinds is in the top 150 community colleges,” said Hinds President Dr. Ste-

phen Vacik. “Now we roll up our sleeves and show the good work we're doing to serve our community and help our students find their purpose, passion and profession.”

The Aspen Prize spotlights exemplary community colleges in order to drive attention to colleges achieving post-graduate success for all students and is a central way Aspen researches highly effective student success strategies that are shared with the field.

“These 150 colleges have achieved high and improving levels of student success for all students, including those who are often failed by our institutions,” said Josh Wyner, executive director of the Aspen Institute College Excellence Program. “We're excited to learn over the coming months how they achieved that success

so we can share the most impressive practices with others in the field.”

The 150 eligible colleges have been invited to submit student success data and narratives about strategies to achieve better and more equitable student outcomes as the next step in an intensive review process that culminates in the naming of the Aspen Prize winner in spring 2025.

The top 25 semifinalists will be announced in April 2024. They are selected based on assessments of extensive data and strategy documents by the Prize selection panel, a group of 16 experts in community colleges, higher education and workforce training, and interviews with institutional leadership teams.

The 2025 Aspen Prize cycle began in October 2023 when

the Aspen Institute invited 150 community colleges to apply, based on data showing strong and improving student outcomes in key areas such as retention, completion, transfer and equity. Other Mississippi community colleges named to the top 150 are Copiah-Lincoln, Holmes, Itawamba, Mississippi Gulf Coast, Northeast Mississippi, Northwest Mississippi and Pearl River.

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

To learn more, visit [www.hindsc.edu](http://www.hindsc.edu) or call 1.800.HindsCC.



# THE BEST BOOKS OF 2023

By Terri Schlichenmeyer  
Columnist

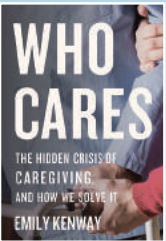
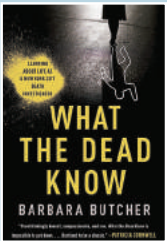
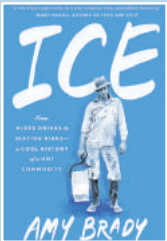
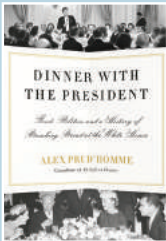
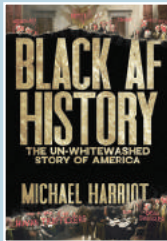
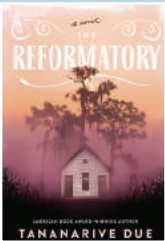
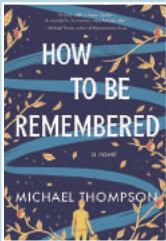
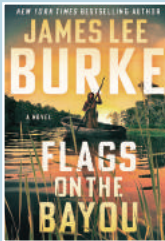
Sometimes, reading is like a roulette wheel. You put your money down on a book that looks good, and you take your chances. If you're lucky, you get a good story. If you grab one of these books, you'll have a great story...

## The Bookworm's Best of 2023

### Fiction

Almost everybody who had a college friends group harbors a soft spot in your heart for the people in it, and **"The Celebrants"** by Steve Rowley (Putnam, \$28.00), it's been years since they've all been together. Once, back when they were practically just kids, they planned their maybe-some-day funerals. And now one of them needs to do it, for real. This is a great stay-at-home-and-read book, bookmarks optional.

Imagine starting your life over and over every morning when you wake up. That's what Tommy does in **"How to Be Remembered"** by Michael Thompson (Sourcebooks Landmark, \$16.99) and it took him awhile to understand that that's the way things were going to be. So how can he keep the woman he loves, without



scaring her every morning for the rest of their lives? Beware that this clever, clever book starts out rough – but stick around a few pages, and you'll be irretrievably hooked.

Although **"Again and Again"** by Jonathan Evison (Dutton, \$28.00) might sound the same, it's not. This is the story of Eugene Miles, a curmudgeonly old man who lives in a home for seniors. Eugene is 105 years old – or is he? The man who cleans Eugene's room thinks he is, after he falls for Eugene's tale of love through 1,100 years. This book is a stunner, a great choice for your next book club round.

Fans of author James Lee Burke know that sometimes, he veers off from his usual Dave Robicheaux novels. **"Flags on the Bayou"** (Atlantic Monthly Press, \$28.00) is one of those stories. Set during the Civil War, it's a book about a duel gone awry, a slave

woman whose son was missing, a little bit of magic, and a violent man who held several lives in his evil, syphilitic, vengeful hands. **Happy Fact:** Burke has a new book due out in January, too.

Last in the Fiction list is **"The Reformatory"** by Tananarive Due (Gallery/Saga Press \$28.99), a scary story of a black boy who retaliates when a white boy tries to kiss his sister. This act sends the black boy, Robert, to a reformatory, a place with a fearful reputation. But Robert isn't alone: not only does he make friends quickly, but a few ghosts accompany him. He spots a few more along the way – ghosts who aren't exactly friendly ones. This is one of those novels you want on a dark night when you're snowed in. Sure, read it by candlelight.

### Nonfiction

Winter is an excellent time to read **"Ice: From Mixed Drinks to Skating Rinks – a Cool His-**

**tory of a Hot Commodity"** by Amy Brady (Putnam, \$29.00). Not only does this book share icy weather facts and information about the stuff you slip on, but it'll also send you poolside with ice in your summertime drink. Science-minded readers will love it. Curious readers will, too.

So what do you know about Black History? Don't answer. Read **"Black AF History: The Un-Whitewashed Story of America"** by Michael Harriot (Dey Street, \$32.50) first. This is an eye-opening book, one that'll make you wonder why you were never told this stuff, one that'll make you want to read more. Fortunately, that's not hard: this book is written in a fun way that'll have you laughing, too.

Here's a book that may take awhile to read, and you really won't mind: **"Dinner with the President: Food, Politics, and a History of Breaking Bread**

**at the White House"** by Alex Prud'Homme (Knopf, \$35.00). Beginning with George Washington, this book takes a peek at what (almost) every President liked to have on the dinner table, what he served at State Dinners, and the cooks and servers who made sure the meals were well-appointed and nutritious. There's drama in this tale, insider's gossip, personality peeks, and more. History lovers, of course, will want this book – but so will foodies and recipe collectors.


**"Who Cares: The Hidden Crisis of Caregiving, and How We Solve It"** by Emily Kenway (Seal Press, \$30.00) isn't exactly a sit-down-and-enjoy book for your winter reading, but if you're one of the approximately 53 million adults who are caretakers, it may be the most important one. This book is about you, if you're a caretaker of a spouse, parent, or child who needs extra day-to-day

assistance in their life. Kenway offers honest, useful help and advice, pointers, and words you need now, in a way that's warm and not at all clinical. Even if you're not a caretaker this week, it's a book to find and have around, just in case.


And last but not least in this Best of 2023 list is **"What the Dead Know: Learning about Life as a New York City Death Investigator"** by Barbara Butcher (Simon & Schuster, \$28.99), a book about crime scenes and forensics. Butcher was an MLI (medicolegal investigator) at New York City's OCME (Office of the Chief Medical Examiner) and her stories start out with a heart-clutching near-disaster. This is a memoir of finding yourself, finding your place in life, and true crime fans shouldn't wait to start it.

There you are. Ten books to start your new year off right.

Season's Readings!



**ZACK WALLACE**  
Hinds County Circuit Clerk



**Services of the Clerk:**

- Civil/Criminal Filings of Circuit and County Court
- Marriage License
- Medical License
- Voter Registration/Absentee Voting

**VOTER INFORMATION**

[Verify/Update your Registration Today](#)

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

**MARRIAGE INFORMATION**

- Marriage License: \$36.00
  - o Both applicants must come to the Circuit Clerk's office together to apply
  - o Proof of age must be provided in the form of Driver's License, Birth Certificate or other legal document which contains name and date of birth.

**FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT**  
Circuit Clerk's Office  
P.O. BOX 327  
Jackson, MS 39205  
Phone: (601) 968-6628  
Fax: (601) 973-5547

**Jury Duty Recording:**  
First Judicial District  
(601) 969-0052

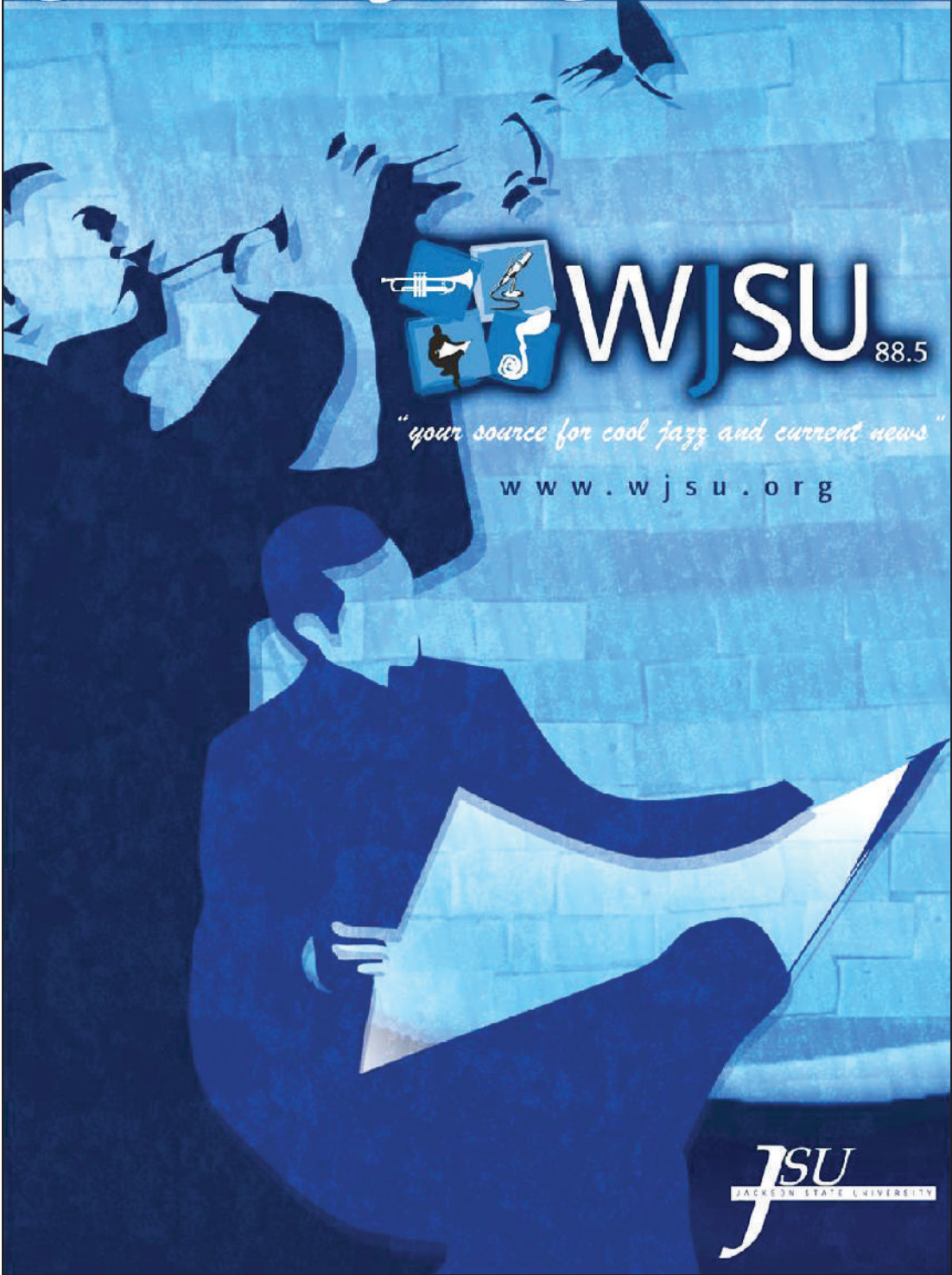
**SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT**  
Circuit Clerk's Office  
P.O. Box 999  
Raymond, MS 39154  
Phone: (601) 857-8038  
Fax: (601) 857-0535

**Jury Duty Recording:**  
Second Judicial District  
(601) 857-8869

**Office Hours:**  
8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.  
Monday - Friday  
(Except on legal holiday)

Paid for by friends of Zack Wallace  
Website: [www.hindscountymississippi.com](http://www.hindscountymississippi.com)

# Cool And Current



**WJSU 88.5**

*"your source for cool jazz and current news"*

[www.wjsu.org](http://www.wjsu.org)

**JSU**  
JACKSON STATE UNIVERSITY



## WRTM

SMOOTH 100.5 FM

WRTM-FM 100.5 FM, JACKSON'S SOUL, RHYTHM AND BLUES AND SOUTHERN SOUL STATION PLAYING MORE VARIETY, LESS TALK AND THE MUSIC ADULTS WANT TO HEAR!



# Jackson State signs 21 players

By Tim Ward  
*Sports Writer*

The first day of the early signing period was last Wednesday. Jackson State was able to land 21 players. Offensive line was a priority as the team signed 6 players.

In state recruiting was a priority also. JSU signed 9 players from Mississippi. DT Kazarius Bowie, WR Ja’Naylon Dupree, OL Cortney Lyles, WR Richard Mays, DB Tony McCray Jr., DB Robert McDaniel, OL Antonio Ross Jr., DB Saddiq Thompson and DT Tymon Wells are played in Mississippi Overall, Jackson State signed, 2 Defensive tackles, 1 running back, 6 defensive backs, 6 offensive lineman, 3 Wide Receivers, 1 defensive end, 1 linebacker, and 1 quarterback. Their recruiting class currently ranks #2 amongs HBCUs with FAMU coming in at number one. Jackson State is staying aggressive in attracting quality players to the program.

With one season under his belt, coach TC Taylor can focus on recruiting and not just learning the head coach position like last year. It’s a different ballgame being the coach in the hot seat. The time requirements, media require-

ments, etc can be taxing for a head coach. Now that coach understands how to navigate in the world, he will be even better and so will the team.

Also, knowing that Jacobian Morgan heads into next season as “QB1” makes a difference as well. Uncertainty can bring a program to its knees. JSU is sure of their head coach and their quarterback.

Below are the players who have committed and signed.

Here are the signees.  
Mason Barton  
OL | West Memphis HS | West Memphis Ark  
Kazarius Bowie  
DT | Mississippi Gulf Coast | Jackson, Miss.  
Kobe Boykin  
RB | Miami Edison HS | Miami, Fla.  
KJ Chisholm  
DB | Whale Branch Early College HS | Beaufort, S.C.  
Xavion Davis  
OL | Lewisville HS | Lewisville, Texas  
Ja’Naylon Dupree  
WR | Mississippi Gulf Coast | Philadelphia, Miss.  
Devin Lafayette  
DB | Northern Illinois | Brunswick, Ga.  
Devin Love  
OL | Lewisville HS | Lewisville, Texas

Cortney Lyles  
OL | Southwest Mississippi | Jackson, Miss.  
Richard Mays  
WR | Coiah-Lincoln | Ridge-land, Miss.  
Tony McCray Jr.  
DB | Georgia State | Clarksdale, Miss.  
Robert McDaniel  
DB | Alcorn State | Jackson, Miss.  
Brandon Mitchell  
DB | Middle College HS | Memphis, Tenn.  
Joshua Noble  
DE | Western Michigan | Blackwood, N.J.  
Adrian Owens Jr.  
LB | Hutch CC | Houston, Texas  
Antonio Ross Jr.  
OL | Hartfield Academy | Jackson, Miss.  
Ethan Terrell  
QB | Lewisville HS | Lewisville Texas  
Travis ‘Ape’ Terrell  
WR | Creekside HS | Fairburn, Ga.  
Saddiq Thompson  
DB | Jones College | Moss Point, Miss.  
Tymon Wells  
DT | Coahoma CC | Hollandale, Miss.  
Brian ‘Bam’ Williams  
OL | Creekside HS | Atlanta, Ga.



Jacobian Morgan

PHOTOS BY TIM WARD



Taylor, JSU head coach

# Basketball legend George McGinnis dies at 73

By Stacy M. Brown  
*NNPA Newswire Senior National Correspondent*

NBA Hall of Famer George McGinnis has died at 73. According to the Indiana Pacers organization, the legendary player, who won two ABA championships with the team and later made a name for himself in the NBA, died Thursday morning. McGinnis had been hospitalized following a cardiac arrest at this residence last week.

The Simon family and Pacers Sports & Entertainment expressed their condolences while highlighting McGinnis’s profound impact on the basketball community.

“George McGinnis shaped so many of the fondest basketball memories for generations of Hoosiers. He was the very definition of an Indiana basketball legend, a champion and a Hall of Fame athlete. But he was more than that. George was family,” the statement read.

Recognized for his exceptional contributions to the Pacers, McGinnis played a pivotal role during his two stints in the ABA and NBA Finals. His illustrious career included ABA titles with the Pacers in 1972 and 1973, with McGinnis earning playoff MVP honors during the latter championship run. The basketball maestro was also honored as the ABA co-MVP in the 1974–75 season with the legendary Julius Erving after achieving a career-high average of 29.8 points per game.

McGinnis transitioned to the NBA in 1975, join-



McGinnis

ing the Philadelphia 76ers, where he earned consecutive All-Star nods before departing in 1978. Before retiring with the Pacers in 1982, he had a brief stint with the Denver Nuggets (1978-80) and received another All-Star selection.

The basketball world formally recognized his monumental impact on the sport with his induction into the Naismith Hall of Fame in 2017, and the Pacers honored him by retiring his jersey number, No. 30. Before turning pro, McGinnis was a third-team All-American at Indiana University in 1970–71, leading the Big Ten in scoring and rebounding.

The Mississippi Link™  
Volume 30 • Number 10  
December 28, 2023 - January 3, 2024  
© copyright 2023. All rights reserved.

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

Member:



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

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

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

Postmaster:  
Send all address changes to The Mississippi Link, P.O. Box 11307, Jackson, MS 39283-1307.  
Advertising: For all advertising information, please call (601) 896-0084.

The Mississippi Link accepts no responsibility for unsolicited materials and in general does not return them to sender. Manuscripts and photographs submitted for publication are welcome by The Mississippi Link, but no responsibility can be taken for sources considered to be authoritative, because the publication cannot guarantee their accuracy. Reproduction or use, without permission, of editorial or graphic content, is prohibited.



FRONT PAGE REVIEW 2023

As The Mississippi Link closes out publication year 2023, we want to share some of our front page covers from throughout the year to remind you that we are a community newspaper that publishes what goes on in our community each week as well as what goes on in the state, nation and the world.

Inside our print and e-Edition we enjoy sharing with our readers health tips, religion, commentaries and opinions from individuals that care about the world in which we live, and the positive accomplishments of our students and educators.

We look forward to a new year of coverage.

Happy New Year from The Mississippi Link family!

**THE MISSISSIPPI LINK**  
www.themississippilink.com  
Vol. 29, No. 42 Jan. 5 - 11, 2023

**Iconic activist Ineva May-Pittman's death in a house fire rips the hearts of many**  
The shocking news flood the airways and social media

**Welfare scandal sharpens contrasts in long-poor Mississippi**

**Amid GOP division in Congress, Biden and McConnell bask in rare bipartisanship victory in Kentucky**

**Local and county candidates among first to file for re-election**

**Enslaved**

**Share this issue with a friend by mailing it to:**

**THE MISSISSIPPI LINK**  
www.themississippilink.com  
Vol. 29, No. 16 From Jan. 2 - 8, 2023

**THE MISSISSIPPI LINK CELEBRATES BLACK HISTORY MONTH**

**Opposing House Bill 1020 on the steps of the Capitol**

**Walking the walk, then and now**  
An afternoon with Clarence E. Magee, president of the NAACP-Forrest County Branch

**Oppression surging above the baseline**

**California Governor Gavin Newsom and family join College Hill in celebrating 166th church anniversary**

**Share this issue with a friend by mailing it to:**

**THE MISSISSIPPI LINK**  
www.themississippilink.com  
Vol. 29, No. 24 March 20 - April 6, 2023

**Born in Holly Springs, Mississippi... Women's History Month Salute to Ida B. Wells, Renowned Crusade Journalist, Newspaper Owner**

**Jackson Resident Shirley B. Johnson Shares Devastation from the Mississippi Tornado that Ripped Through Rolling Fork**

**Mississippi's Own Celebrated in Women's History Month "50 Years with WKXJ-107.5 FM Radio's Lady Vee"**

**Parade Day killing in Downtown Jackson**

**Share this issue with a friend by mailing it to:**

**THE MISSISSIPPI LINK**  
www.themississippilink.com  
Vol. 29, No. 25 April 6 - 12, 2023

**Donald Trump arrested, ex-prez is officially an accused felon**

**Council vote results in no trash collection**  
What's more important to Jackson City Council – being anti-mayor or being pro-residents?

**Jackson takeover legislation enroute to governor**  
HB1020 and SB243 steal municipality power in broad daylight

**Easter Sunday**

**Share this issue with a friend by mailing it to:**

**THE MISSISSIPPI LINK**  
www.themississippilink.com  
Vol. 29, No. 31 May 18 - 24, 2023

**Thank you for 20 Years and counting**

**HB 1020 power grab now in the Courts**

**In guns we trust**

**Lifechanging recommendations via color enlightenment for Jackson residents**

**King - A Life**

**Share this issue with a friend by mailing it to:**

**THE MISSISSIPPI LINK**  
www.themississippilink.com  
Vol. 29, No. 35 June 15 - 21, 2023

**CELEBRATING JUNETEENTH**

**Juneteenth marks our country's second Independence Day**

**The Life & Legacy of Medgar Evers**

**Rankin County NAACP hosts town hall**

**Happy Father's Day**

**Share this issue with a friend by mailing it to:**

**THE MISSISSIPPI LINK**  
www.themississippilink.com  
Vol. 29, No. 41 July 27 - August 2, 2023

**Mississippi continues rampant discrimination of black contractors**

**Biden pays tribute to Emmett Till**

**MS Civil Rights lawyer arrested for filming controversial traffic stop**

**V. P. Kamala Harris says Florida rules on Black History pushed by DeSantis are 'propaganda'**

**SFCWC 91st Anniversary and 54th Biennial Convention**

**An Army Air**

**Share this issue with a friend by mailing it to:**

**THE MISSISSIPPI LINK**  
www.themississippilink.com  
Vol. 29, No. 42 August 3 - 9, 2023

**GET OUT TO VOTE**

**Illusions don't help us, bare-bones truth reveals our path**

**'Sick and tired of being sick and tired?' It's your time - vote**

**U.S. District Judge Tanya S. Chutkan to oversee former President Trump's Election Interference Case**

**Alpha Phi Alpha gives method to Governor Desantis' madness of racist education curriculum/ convention moved**

**Share this issue with a friend by mailing it to:**

**THE MISSISSIPPI LINK**  
www.themississippilink.com  
Vol. 29, No. 50 September 28 - October 4, 2023

**IN-PERSON VOTER REGISTRATION DEADLINE IN MISSISSIPPI IS OCTOBER 10TH**

**Mississippi Freedom Fighter Hollis Watkins Muhammad, dead at 82**

**Can't see the forest for the trees**

**Multiracial democracy is the law in America, yet far from normal practice**

**Jackson State survives Home Opener**

**Boyd Rustin**

**Share this issue with a friend by mailing it to:**

**THE MISSISSIPPI LINK**  
www.themississippilink.com  
Vol. 29, No. 51 October 5 - 11, 2023

**Congressman Thompson commends House passage of crucial stopgap measure**

**Racism - let's talk about it**

**Massive resistance revisited to compare progress toward equality**

**JSU alumna Laphonia Butler to fill Senate seat of the late Sen. Dianne Feinstein, appointed by Gov. Gavin Newsom**

**Alcorn pulls out overtime victory 23 to 20 over Alabama State, prepares for homecoming**

**Night Train to Nashville**

**Share this issue with a friend by mailing it to:**

**THE MISSISSIPPI LINK**  
www.themississippilink.com  
Vol. 30, No. 3 November 5 - 11, 2023

**General election results dash hopes for many**

**Lawyer wants federal probe of why MS police waited months to tell a mother her son was killed**

**Mississippi leaders unite in plea to honor Medgar Evers with Medal of Freedom**

**JSU final victory on the final play**

**Invisible Archie**

**Share this issue with a friend by mailing it to:**

**THE MISSISSIPPI LINK**  
www.themississippilink.com  
Vol. 30, No. 7 December 13, 2023

**'Lord, have mercy' James Fox returns to spotlight at Critics Choice celebration**

**Discrimination by U.S. Department of Agriculture against black farmers**

**Zoleka Mandela, granddaughter of Nelson Mandela, dies at 43**

**Vice President Harris makes history in Senate with 32nd tie-breaking vote**

**Jackson State looks to the transfer portal**

**BlackTV**

**Share this issue with a friend by mailing it to:**