



Foxx

‘Lord, have mercy!’ Jamie Foxx returns to spotlight at Critics Choice celebration

By Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Newswire Senior Correspondent

In an emotional comeback, Oscar-winning actor Jamie Foxx took center stage at the Critics’ Choice Association’s Celebration of Cinema & Television Monday, December 4, marking his first major Hollywood appearance since

a medical emergency in April left him battling for his life.

Foxx, 55, made a surprise entrance at the event to honor Black, Latino and AAPI achievements in the entertainment industry.

Anita Bennett, the creator of Urban Hollywood 411, reported that Jurnee Smollett,

Foxx’s co-star in the Prime Video film “The Burial,” introduced a montage of clips from Foxx’s illustrious career and presented him with the night’s prestigious Vanguard Award.

Bennett noted that as Foxx stepped onto the stage, the audience erupted in applause. The actor, known for his ver-

satility in acting and music, delivered a mix of jokes, songs and heartfelt moments. However, emotions ran high as he opened up about his recent health struggles.

“I’ve been through something. I’ve been through some things. It’s crazy, I couldn’t do that six months ago, I couldn’t

actually walk to...” Foxx’s voice trailed off, and he fought back tears, prompting someone from the audience to encourage him to take his time.

“Six months ago, I could not fathom that I would be here,” Foxx continued, alluding to

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PART 1 Discrimination by U.S. Department of Agriculture against black farmers

“The People’s Department,” now making progress in righting past wrongs

By Christopher Young
Contributing Writer

In Mississippi, where racism and oppression persist in full force, we continually call on the Federal government for relief to stem a multitude of injustices. This year alone the Departments of Justice, Labor and Environmental Protection have been working in The Hospitality State on our behalf. In most cases we do get a measure of relief, but not in all cases. This article discusses the Department of Agriculture’s clear record of discrimination – not just in Mississippi, but across the nation – and the ongoing efforts they are making towards correction.

The Environmental Work Group is a non-profit founded in 1993 to empower people with breakthrough research to make informed choices and live a healthy life in a healthy environment. One of their main areas of focus is farming and agriculture, and this article draws heavily from their timeline of the nearly century-long discrimination of black farmers. In 1920 there were 925,708



L-R: Kara Boyd, founder/president of Association of American Indian Farmers, John Boyd, Jr., founder/president of National Black Farmers Association, Attorney Benjamin Crump, at NBFA National Rally and Press Conference at National Mall, October 12, 2022. PHOTO CREDIT: WWW.JOHNBOYDJR.COM

black farm operators in the United States, equating to 14 percent of all U.S. farmers. By 1964 that percentage had fallen

to 5.8%; by 1982 down to 2.0%, and by 1997 down to less than 1%. In 2017 the timeline reveals 1.7% of all farms in the US are

operated by black farmers.

In 1965, the U.S. Commis-

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Zoleka Mandela, granddaughter of Nelson Mandela, dies at 43



Mandela

NNPA newswire

Zoleka Mandela, granddaughter of the South African martyr and its first democratically elected president, died Sept. 25 after an 11-year battle with cancer. She was 43.

Mandela spent her last years raising awareness about cancer prevention, providing details about her treatment for the disease that had begun with a diagnosis of breast cancer when she was 32.

She was treated and she was in remission until the cancer came back, spreading to her liver, spine, lungs and brain.

The Nelson Mandela Foundation issued a statement Tuesday, news reports

say, saying it “extends its heartfelt condolences to the Mandela family on the passing of Zoleka Mandela, tragically last night.”

“We mourn the loss of a beloved grandchild of Mum Winnie and Madiba and a friend of the foundation.”

The foundation described her as “a tireless activist for health care and justice.”

“Her work in raising awareness about cancer prevention and her unwavering commitment to breaking down the stigma surrounding the disease will continue to inspire us all,” it said.

Treated as an outpatient until being admitted to the hospital last week, Mandela

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

By Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Newswire Senior Correspondent

On Tuesday, Dec. 5, Vice President Kamala Harris broke the previous record set by John C. Calhoun in the 19th century for the most tie-breaking votes cast in the U.S. Senate. Harris has now cast 32 tie-breaking votes, eclipsing Calhoun’s record of 31 during his tenure as vice president from 1825 to 1832.

The latest tiebreaker occurred during the confirmation of Loren Alikhan as a U.S. District Judge for the District of Columbia. As vice president, Harris serves as the president of the Senate, granting her constitutional authority to break ties.

Harris’s accomplishment is noteworthy not only for its historical significance but also in the context of the current political

landscape. The U.S. Senate has been narrowly divided throughout the Biden administration, comprising 48 Democrats, 49 Republicans, and three independents.

Of the independents, Senators Bernie Sanders of Vermont and Angus King of Maine caucus with Democrats, while Arizona Sen. Kyrsten Sinema left the Democratic Party in 2022 to register as an independent.

The surge in tie-breaking votes contrasts with previous administrations, as former Vice President Mike Pence cast 13 tie-breaking votes, while President Joe Biden did not cast any during his vice presidential tenure in the eight years of the Obama administration.

In a speech on the Senate floor earlier this year, Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer praised

her historic achievement. Schumer emphasized the circumstances of Harris’ tenure, characterized by a closely divided Senate and a highly partisan environment.

He acknowledged the weighty responsibility placed on the vice president as president of the Senate, noting that Harris has played a crucial role in passing pivotal legislation. From the American Rescue Plan to the Inflation Reduction Act and the confirmation of federal judges, Schumer commended Harris for her contributions to the functioning of the Senate.

“When it’s mattered most, Vice President Harris has provided the decisive vote on some of the most historic bills of modern times,” Schumer asserted.

“All of us thank her for making the work of the Senate possible.”



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The Beloved Community holding Dine & Dialogue community engagement event with Jackson's Ward 2 residents to discuss community survey data results, strategies and concerns

Mississippi Link Newswire

On Thursday, December 7, 2023, from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., The Beloved Community is hosting a "Ward 2 Dine and Dialogue Community Engagement Event" at Callaway High School for individuals who live, work, or attend school in Jackson's Ward 2. The purpose of this free event is to share data results from a community survey administered in Ward 2 and begin dialogue with residents on developing strategies to address critical areas of concern and opportunities for progress.

"The Ward 2 community is still very hopeful of a Jackson that can thrive and work together to improve the overall quality of life of its residents. This Dine & Dialogue event is just what the community needs to get the conversation started and begin to take steps toward a plan of action," says the Project Manager Najla Salahuddin.

Her call to the Ward 2 residents – "Come join us in building The Beloved Community."

Invited guests include Dr. Safiya Omari, City of Jackson; Angelique Lee, Ward 2 councilwoman; Dr. Donzell Lee, Tougaloo College president; Attorney Paloma Wu; and Ward 2 residents.

This event is sure to keep attendees

engaged with live entertainment by youth recording artist Malik Ca\$h, songstress Ikhlas Muhammed, and an unveiling of an original art piece by Sabrina Howard that is created in real-time during the event.

The program will open with an inter-faith prayer and will close with a community charge of unity, solidarity and action. School supplies and personal care kits will be distributed. Free childcare will also be provided.

The Beloved Community is an initiative of the International Museum of Muslim Cultures with an aim of building dynamic interfaith and broad-based community partnerships through a unique prophetic-based social justice model to heal the Soul of Mississippi.

The Beloved Community's team of partners include the City of Jackson, Tougaloo College, Working Together Jackson, People's Advocacy Institute, Masjid Muhammad, St. Christopher's Episcopal Church, Waggoner Engineering and other supporters.

Okolo Rashid, executive director/CEO and project director, asserts, "Our community partners stretch across multiple sections of our community and have the capacity and influence to help make the necessary changes to heal and improve the lives of Jacksonians. We are excited

to gather on December 7 to continue the work that began when the City Council with Mayor Lumumba's lead unanimously approved IMMC's resolution to take up the banner of creating a Beloved Community of Jackson."

About the Beloved Community

The Beloved Community is an inter-organizational, inter-generational and inter-faith project that consists of individuals and organizations committed to identifying and addressing concerns and inequities in Jackson and Mississippi. The Beloved Community is a community built by the community for the community and believes that poverty, hunger, homelessness, racism, hatred and violence are not tolerated. We believe in restoring human dignity, peace and pride to achieve racial equity, social justice and healing.

Funding for this project is provided by the Kellogg Foundation and the generous support of Waggoner Engineering.

This is a free event for Ward 2 residents, however, pre-registration is requested and appreciated.

To register or for more information, visit thebelovedcommunity.eventbrite.com, call 601 345-1122, or email jacksonbelovedcommunity@gmail.com.

Ward 2 Residents DINE & DIALOGUE

Discuss Community Survey Data Results & Next Steps for Change!

Thursday Dec. 7, 2023
6 - 8 pm

Callaway High School
601 Beasley Rd
Jackson, MS

RSVP here →
TheBelovedCommunity.eventbrite.com

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601-345-1122

The Beloved Community is an Initiative of the International Museum of Muslim Cultures

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Mandela

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had gained a following on social media for her candidness about the progress in her disease as well as some of the issues of her past, including depression, drug and alcohol addiction and being molested as a girl.

In addition to crusading for cancer awareness and fighting the stigma of the disease, Mandela had campaigned for road safety when her daughter was killed in a car accident in 2010.

“What do I tell my children?” Mandela posted on Instagram in August 2022. “How do I tell them that this time around I may not get to live my life as a survivor? How do I tell them everything will be OK when it’s not? I’m dying ... I don’t want to die.”

Foxx

Continued from page 1

the unexpected medical emergency that led to his hospitalization in Georgia on April 11 while filming the Netflix movie “Back in Action.” Although he did not disclose the specifics of his illness, he shared that there were moments when he doubted his recovery.

“It feels good to be here. I cherish every single minute now. It’s different,” Foxx said, while also humorously recounting moments when strangers recognized him during his low-key rehabilitation in Chicago. He told the audience that early on, he wasn’t sure he’d pull through. “I wouldn’t wish what I went through on my worst enemy because it’s tough... when it’s almost over, when you see the tunnel. I saw the tunnel – I didn’t see the light,” he said. “I want to thank you for all the prayers.”

Foxx continued: “The one thing that I have to get used to now is [when people say] ‘Lord, have mercy, Jesus. I’ll be driving, and somebody will pull up and hit me with that.” He then recalled undergoing physical

In April, Mandela told a radio host on Kaya FM “I’m learning to be okay with my eventuality.”

Zoleka was 10 years old when Nelson Mandela was released from Robben Island in 1990 where he had been imprisoned in South Africa for 27 years. President Mandela died in 2013.

Zoleka Mandela was named one of the BBC’s 100 Women of the Year in 2016.

She was preceded in death by her daughter Zenani, and her son Zenawe who was born prematurely. She is survived by four other children.

BET, BBC and News 24 were sources for this report.

rehabilitation in Chicago after being released from the hospital.

Foxx said his family went to great lengths to protect his privacy, and he wore a face mask so no one would recognize him. “No one knew where I was. No one knew what was going on,” he explained, adding that a woman who worked at the rehab center’s front desk eventually made him remove the mask.

“The black lady that was checking me in... at one point said, ‘Well baby, I’m gonna have to see your face if I’m going to sign you in here. I run a tight ship, and I’m gonna have to see your face,’” Foxx said while doing an impression of the woman.

As he continued the story, he began to get emotional. “I took the mask down and she saw me... she said, ‘Lord, have mercy, Jesus. I’ve been praying for you,’” Foxx recalled. “I said, ‘Wow.’ And that indicated that once I did get out of all of this, I was going to be alright.”

Discrimination

Continued from page 1

sion on Civil Rights found that USDA discriminated against black farmers when providing loans and conservation payments. In 1982, the Commission on Civil Rights documented a broader discrimination that led to the decline of black farmers. A year later in 1983, President Ronald Reagan dismantled the USDA Office of Civil Rights.

From 1990 to 2000 numerous entities have aided us in learning more about USDA’s discrimination, and about efforts toward accountability. They include the House Committee on Government Operations reporting on faulty loan programs, a report by Westover Consultants revealing that USDA was not being held accountable for civil rights violations, similar reports by the U.S. General Accounting Office, a report by consultant D.J. Miller highlighting inequity in subsidies disaster payments and loans.

There were demonstrations by National Black Farmers Association members outside the White House, and in 1999, John Boyd, president of the National Black Farmers Association, brought his mule, Struggle, to Washington, D.C., to protest USDA treatment of black farmers.

Later that year, a settlement was reached in Pigford v. USDA to pay black farmers \$1.03 billion. More than 22,000 black farmers sought claims, but only 15,645 received modest payments. More than 61,000 black farmers file late claims, but only 2,585 were accepted.

The Commission on Civil Rights found in 2001 that black farmers wait four times longer than white farmers for farm loans. This was especially stinging, because four years earlier the USDA had published their own Civil Rights Action Team Report detailing a long history of racial bias and discrimination by the agency. Yet it persisted.

In 2008 Congress allowed black farmers originally denied payments from the Pigford settlement to reopen their claims, and two years later provided \$1.25 billion in pay-

ments for black farmers previously denied payments.

Senators Cory Booker (D-N.J.), Elizabeth Warren (D-MA) and Kirstin Gillibrand (D-N.Y.) introduce Senate Bill 4929 – Justice for Black Farmers Act – in 2020. The Bill was referred to the Senate Finance Committee. Two years later, USDA announced a new program – Discrimination Financial Assistance Program – \$2.2 billion in funding available to farmers and ranchers who experienced discrimination by USDA prior to January 1, 2021.

The application process is forty pages long and can be found at www.22007apply.gov. The initial deadline of October 31, 2023 has been extended to January 13, 2024, and any questions about the program and the application can be answered by USDA representatives at 800 721-0970.

“The opening of the application process is an important step in delivering on our commitment of providing financial assistance to those who faced discrimination in USDA farm lending, as swiftly and efficiently as possible,” said Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack on July 7, 2023. “USDA will continue to work with our national vendor partners and community-based organizations to make sure eligible farmers, ranchers and forest landowners have clear information about what is available to them, how to apply, and where to obtain assistance with their questions at each step of the way.”

President Abraham Lincoln signed into law an act of Congress establishing the United States Department of Agriculture in 1862. Two and one-half years later, in what would be his final annual message to Congress, Lincoln called USDA “The People’s Department.”

In Part 2 of this article, we will discuss more grant programs and initiatives by USDA and how they are impacting our conditions on the ground in Mississippi and hear from experts on the topic.

Former Jackson city attorney sworn in as Hinds County Court Judge

The Mississippi Link Newswire

Former Jackson city attorney Pieter Teeuwissen was sworn in as County Court Judge for Hinds County second subdistrict on November 30th by Chancellor Crystal Wise- Martin.

Judge Teeuwissen was appointed to the position that was formerly held by the late Judge Larita Cooper-Stokes, by Gov-

ernor Tate Reeves on Nov. 27, 2023. Cooper-Stokes transitioned May 8, 2023 due to illness. She was the wife of City Councilman Kenneth Stokes.

Teeuwissen served as City of Jackson’s attorney for nine years. He also served as a board attorney for Hinds County and as a Circuit Judge for the Seventh Judicial District in Hinds County.



Chancellor Martin swears in Judge Teeuwissen while his wife Lisa holds the bible and their daughter Lisa looks on.



Judge Teeuwissen
PHOTOS BY JAY JOHNSON



Judge James E. Graves, Jr. of the Fifth U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals, gives his endorsement of Judge Teeuwissen at the swearing in ceremony.



(L-R) Paula Cable, Faye Jackson, Carolyn Brown & Crystal Allen attend the swearing-in.

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Celebrating The Life & Legacy of Anthony Ray Davis

Mount Nebo M.B. Church, Dec. 1, 2023
1245 Tunica Street, Jackson, MS 39204
Photos By Jay Johnson

Family and friends gathered at Mount Nebo M.B. Church Friday, Dec. 1, 2023, to honor the life and legacy of Anthony Ray Davis, who was known throughout the community for his love of music and his service at Westhaven Memorial Funeral Home in Jackson. Pastor, Rev. Dr. John A Wicks, Jr. officiated the service and gave remarks of comfort to the family. Rev. Dr. Hickman Johnson, pastor of Farish Street Baptist Church, was the eulogist. Both pastors had a close relationship with Davis, and expressed memories of the years of respect, love and friendship they shared with him. Music was provided by the newly named Anthony Ray Davis (ARD) Memorial Choir. Rev. Dennis Grant of Jerusalem M. B. Church of Brandon gave special remarks and recited a poem he wrote in memory of Davis.

A Tribute to Mr. Anthony Ray Davis ‘He Sprinkled Kindness Everywhere’

by Rev. Dennis M. Grant

A faithful brother to his siblings.
 A caring father to his sons.
 A cherished uncle to his nieces and nephews.
 An “honorary” uncle to everyone.

Anthony Ray Davis
 Yes, everybody knew his name.
 He was loved by so many people.
 He had celebrity-like status and fame.

Whether playing for a church choir
 or helping a family with funeral plans;
 Anthony always gave his all.
 He was a kind and generous man.

The Salvation Army and The Red Cross
 are known for their giving ways;
 But if the truth be told, we all know
 nobody gave like Anthony gave.

He never said I ain’t got it
 even if he didn’t have it at the time;
 He’d say, “Check with me tomorrow, baby
 I’ll have it for you in the morning by nine.”

Anthony never met a stranger.
 Everyone was like family to him.
 But Claude, Freddie, Calvin, Lucy, Linda,
 Catherine, Hursie, Harry and “Nemo”
 He loved and thought the world of each of them.

And when it came to the Westhaven Family,
 the entire staff was in his heart.
 If it was up to him, he’d never leave you,
 but God decided he’d played his part.

Of course, he had his faults and failures
 and his secret sins to confess.
 But who among us don’t have sins?
 Still we ask God our lives to bless.

He took the voices of Little Bethel in Terry
 and enhanced their harmonization
 The West Jackson Community Choir and the Meditation Trio
 were the fruits of Anthony’s musical collaboration.

And how many other musicians and church choirs
 did Anthony bless with the ministry of music?
 God gave him the gift of song
 And for God’s glory Anthony used it.

It’s befitting that he last played
 at Jerusalem in Brandon off Star Road
 And now his star will eternally shine bright
 In the New Jerusalem, his heavenly abode.

So as we remember Anthony
 let’s thank God for the time we shared.
 He sprinkled kindness everywhere.
 He was truly someone who cared.

Remember that crazy laugh of his.
 Remember his soft and gentle smile.
 I know that weeping endures for a night
 But this one, my friend, will take awhile.

God, comfort his family and give them strength.
 For only You know how they truly feel.
 Remind them that “Earth has no sorrow
 that heaven above cannot heal.”



Mississippi sheriff changes policies after violent abuse. Victims say it’s to escape accountability

By Michael Goldberg
Associated Press/Report for America

Attorneys for the victims of a racist episode of police torture say new policies unveiled by a Mississippi sheriff’s department this week were introduced so the sheriff can escape liability in a civil lawsuit and forestall a new federal probe.

With criminal sentencing for six former law officers scheduled for January and a \$400 million lawsuit against them and the sheriff pending, the Rankin County Sheriff’s Department unveiled a new policy manual Tuesday. The policies took effect on Nov. 20, the same day attorneys for Michael Corey Jenkins and Eddie Terrell Parker amended their June lawsuit.

The new complaint incorporates findings federal prosecutors unsealed from their criminal probe. In a news release, Sheriff Bryan Bailey outlined some of the changes his department has adopted, including hiring an internal affairs investigator, requiring officers to wear body cameras and adding an online submission page for civilian complaints. The policies were adopted due to the “inappropriate conduct” of deputies, Bailey said. Any body camera footage would only be released with the sheriff’s permission.

Five former Rankin County deputies and another officer from a nearby department admitted in August to abusing Jenkins and Parker in what Bailey called the worst case of police brutality he had ever seen. Hours after the officers pleaded guilty to a long list of charges in

federal court, Bailey promised to reform the department.

In an interview and in written comments provided to The Associated Press Thursday, Malik Shabazz, the attorney representing Jenkins and Parker, said Bailey is trying to avoid a broader federal probe.

“Why now, Sheriff Bailey? Is it because the Sheriff’s Department has been exposed as a bastion of depravity?” Shabazz said.

Jason Dare, an attorney representing the Rankin County Sheriff’s Department, did not respond to a request for comment Friday.

Shabazz said the department’s hiring an outside investigator to oversee compliance with procedures shows that before Jenkins’ torture, the agency “did not have even a quasi-independent overseer to investigate excessive force claims,” Shabazz said.

In March, an AP investigation linked some of the deputies to at least four violent encounters with black men since 2019 that left two dead and another with lasting injuries. For months, Bailey said little about the episode. That changed after the Justice Department unsealed its charges against the former officers.

The federal probe revealed that six former law officers, some of whom called themselves the “Goon Squad,” burst into a house without a warrant after someone phoned one of the deputies and complained that two black men were staying with a white woman.

Once inside, the officers hand-

cuffed and assaulted Jenkins and Parker with stun guns, a sex toy and other objects. The officers also used racial slurs over a 90- minute period that ended with one of them shooting Jenkins in the mouth during a “mock execution.” Then, the officers devised a cover-up that included planting drugs and a gun, leading to false charges that stood against the victims for months.

The former officers agreed to sentences recommended by prosecutors ranging from five to 30 years, although the judge isn’t bound by that. They are scheduled to be sentenced in January.

Dare has argued Bailey should be dismissed from the lawsuit because the sheriff is entitled to “qualified immunity,” a legal concept that often shields police officers from civil penalties for alleged abuses.

Jenkins and Parker’s legal team have requested a jury trial in the civil lawsuit and a broader federal inquiry into the department’s conduct.

“What happened in January with Mr. Jenkins and Mr. Parker was not an isolated incident, it was merely the crescendo of the violent culture that the man at the helm, at minimum, allowed to exist,” Shabazz said.

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

Infrequent grand juries can mean long pretrial waits in jail in Mississippi, survey shows

By Emily Wagster Pettus
Associated Press

Most people in Mississippi’s county jails have been locked up at least three months while waiting to go on trial. Some have longer wait times because two-thirds of the counties only convene grand juries two or three times a year, according to a survey released Thursday by a group that tracks justice issues.

Mississippi does not require consistency among the 82 counties about how often grand juries meet to consider indictments – the formal charging documents to send a case to trial.

“If you get arrested in one of these counties where grand juries seldom meet, you can wind up in jail for months or even years just waiting to be indicted, and you will spend more time behind bars simply because of geographic misfortune,” said Cliff Johnson, an attorney who is director of the Roderick and Solange MacArthur Justice Center at the University of Mississippi School of Law.

Starting during the summer, law students and staff at the center spent several weeks issuing more than 100 public records requests and calling the offices of district attorneys and court clerks to gather information about the frequency of grand jury sessions.

In releasing the survey results, Johnson said Mississippi should join most other states in limiting how long prosecutors can delay seeking indictments. Mississippi, Alabama, Massachusetts, Oklahoma and Virginia are the only states with no time limit on how long a person can be jailed without being indicted, he said.

Johnson estimated the cost for a Mississippi county to convene a grand jury at less than \$5,000.

longer than 90 days, more than 1,100 had been jailed at least nine months, and 747 had been jailed more than a year.

Johnson said the incarceration numbers are based on the most recent information that counties provided. Rules of criminal procedure only require sheriffs to say how many people have been detained at least 90 days, though some sheriffs release complete numbers of how many people are jailed, he said.

Some people are in Mississippi jails to serve short-term misdemeanor sentences. Some are there after a civil commitment for mental health issues or substance use. Those awaiting indictment are there because a judge would not set bond, or the person could not afford to post the bond that was set.

“So this is the big challenge – thousands of Mississippians are in our county jails, but it’s very difficult to know who is there, why, whether they have been indicted, whether they have a lawyer, or when they are supposed to get out,” Johnson said. “It’s a black hole.”

Five counties reported that grand juries meet monthly, but those results come with asterisks. DeSoto and Jackson counties “usually” meet that often, while Rankin County reported its grand jury meets “nearly every month.” Forrest and Stone are the other counties that reported monthly meetings.

The state’s largest county, Hinds, has two judicial districts. A grand jury meets six times a year in the Jackson-based district and three times a year in the Raymond-based district.

Another large county, Harrison, said a grand jury meets three times a year in each of its two judicial districts in Biloxi and Gulfport.

Two counties in the Delta – Leflore and Sunflower – reported that grand juries meet “as needed.” Leflore, Sunflower and Washington counties are in the same circuit court district and have the same district attorney

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Congressional leaders advocate for Rosa Parks Day Federal Holiday

By Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Newswire Senior
National Correspondent

As the nation approaches the 68th anniversary of Rosa Parks' historic arrest, U.S. Rep. Terri Sewell of Alabama's 7th District, along with Congressional Black Caucus (CBC) Chairman Steven Horsford and Representative Joyce Beatty, held a press conference on Capitol Hill to rally support for H.R. 308, the Rosa Parks Day Act. The proposed legislation aims to designate December 1 as a federal holiday in honor of Rosa Parks, recognizing her pivotal role in the Civil Rights Movement.

December 1, 1955, marked a turning point in American history when Rosa Parks, a courageous African-American woman, was arrested in Montgomery, Alabama, for refusing to surrender her bus seat to a white passenger. Her act of defiance ignited the Montgomery Bus Boycott and became a catalyst for the broader struggle for civil rights.

Sewell, representing the district where Rosa Parks' arrest occurred, emphasized the significance of recognizing this momentous occasion. As Rep. Sewell's first bill in the 118th Congress, the Rosa Parks Day Act (H.R. 308) is of particular significance to the congresswoman and CBC members.

"Rosa Parks' bravery on that December day changed the course of history, and it is only fitting that we honor her legacy



The proposed legislation aims to designate December 1 as a federal holiday in honor of Rosa Parks, recognizing her pivotal role in the Civil Rights Movement.

with a federal holiday," Sewell stated. "It's time for our nation to officially recognize the contributions of a woman and a black woman to the fight for equality."

Currently, the United States lacks a federal holiday dedicated explicitly to honoring a woman or a black woman. The Rosa Parks Day Act seeks to rectify this by amending Section 6103(a) of Title 5, United States Code, to include "Rosa Parks Day" as a legal public holiday, placing it alongside other significant national observances.

The bill's proponents argue that recognizing Rosa Parks' arrest as a federal holiday would pay tribute to her courage and serve as a broader symbol of the ongoing struggle for equality and justice.

Inmate who stabbed Derek Chauvin 22 times is charged with attempted murder, prosecutors say

By Michael R. Sisak
and Michael Balsamo
Associated Press

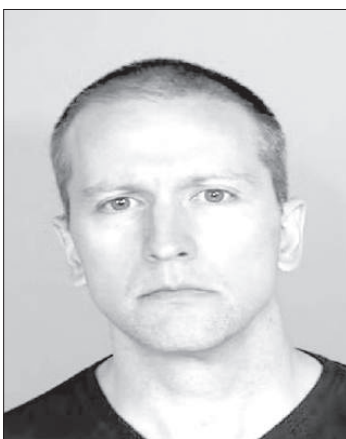
Derek Chauvin was stabbed in prison 22 times by a former gang leader and one-time FBI informant who told investigators he targeted the ex-Minneapolis police officer because of his notoriety for killing George Floyd, federal prosecutors said Friday.

John Turscak was charged with attempted murder a week after the Nov. 24 attack at the Federal Correctional Institution in Tucson, Arizona. He told correctional officers he would have killed Chauvin had they not responded so quickly, prosecutors said.

Turscak, who is serving a 30-year sentence for crimes committed while a member of the Mexican Mafia prison gang, told investigators he thought about attacking Chauvin for a month because he is a high-profile inmate but denied wanting to kill him, prosecutors said.

Turscak is accused of attacking Chauvin with an improvised knife in the prison law library around 12:30 p.m. on Black Friday, the day after Thanksgiving. Correctional officers used pepper spray to subdue Turscak, prosecutors said. The Bureau of Prisons said employees performed "life-saving measures." Chauvin was taken to a hospital for treatment.

Turscak told FBI agents interviewing him after the assault that he attacked Chauvin on Black Friday as a symbolic connection to the Black Lives Matter movement, which garnered widespread support in the wake of Floyd's murder in 2020, and the "Black Hand" symbol asso-



Chauvin

ciated with the Mexican Mafia, prosecutors said.

In addition to attempted murder, Turscak, 52, is charged with assault with intent to commit murder, assault with a dangerous weapon and assault resulting in serious bodily injury. The attempted murder and assault with intent to commit murder charges are each punishable by up to 20 years in prison. Turscak is scheduled to complete his current sentence in 2026.

A lawyer for Turscak was not listed in court records. Turscak has represented himself from prison in numerous court matters. After the stabbing, he was moved to an adjacent federal penitentiary in Tucson, where he remained in custody Friday, inmate records show.

Messages seeking comment were left with Chauvin's lawyers. His mother, Carolyn Runge Pawlenty, did not immediately respond to a Facebook message.

In a post earlier Friday, Pawlenty said prison officials had told her that Chauvin was in stable condition but were otherwise not forthcoming with details about the assault or his injuries.

A year of political fireworks: Trump's legal odyssey, GOP infighting and congressional expulsion

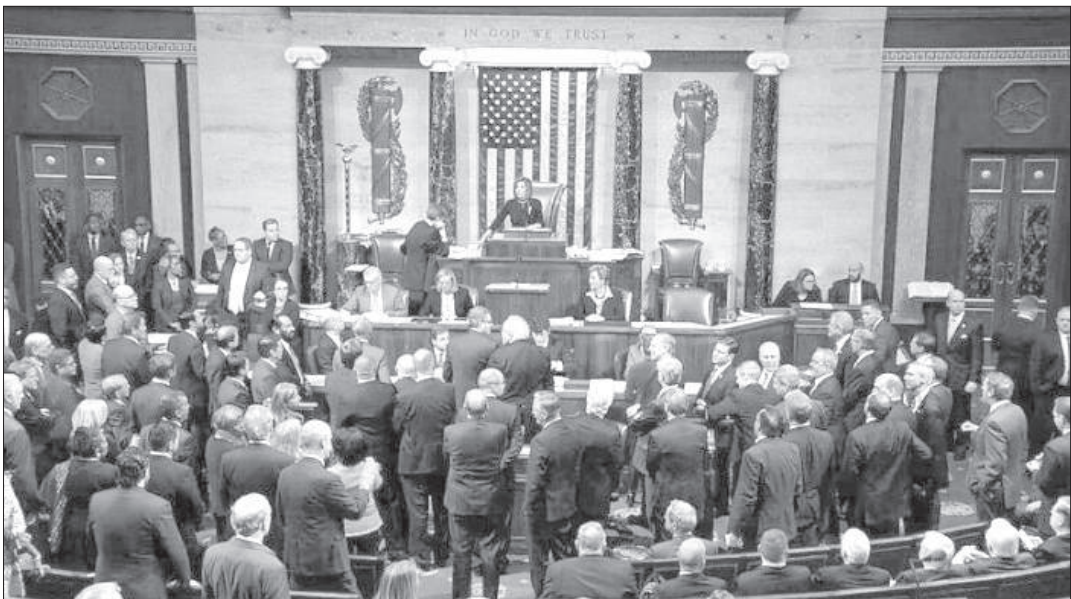
By Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Newswire Senior
National Correspondent

In a rollercoaster year of political drama, 2023 unfolded with Republicans engaged in a high-stakes power struggle, setting the stage for a cascade of events that would rock the political landscape.

The year kicked off with a heavyweight bout within the Republican ranks, as Kevin McCarthy clinched the Speaker of the House position after a fierce battle that took 15 rounds of voting. The twist? McCarthy had to agree to a provision allowing any caucus member to trigger a vote for his removal. This move would come back to haunt him when MAGA firebrand Matt Gaetz seized the opportunity after President Joe Biden decisively outmaneuvered McCarthy in negotiations to avert a government shutdown that former President Trump, the MAGA prince, had ardently sought.

In terms of Trump, the year began with the former president entangled in a legal web woven by New York politicians. E. Jean Carroll's lawsuit against Trump resulted from a one-year look-back window that Gov. Kathy Hochul signed and opened in November 2022. The civil jury sided with Carroll, awarding her a hefty \$5 million in damages. But that was just the tip of the legal iceberg for the wannabe dictator.

New York District Attorney Alvin Bragg upped the ante, bringing criminal charges against Trump related to alleged hush money payments intended to bury his extramarital affair with porn star Stormy Daniels. Special Counsel Jack Smith followed suit, indicting Trump separately for election interference and mishandling classified documents. Trump found



The year kicked off with a heavyweight bout within the Republican ranks, as Kevin McCarthy clinched the Speaker of the House position after a fierce battle that took 15 rounds of voting.

himself navigating a legal labyrinth, with Georgia District Attorney Fani Willis later adding racketeering charges, alleging an attempt to overturn the 2020 election results in Georgia.

The twice-impeached former president will be facing 91 felony criminal charges in 2024 after a civil jury found him guilty of sexually assaulting a woman.

Remarkably, amidst these legal storms, Trump maintained a strong lead as the GOP's top pick for the 2024 presidential nomination. Some polls showed him ahead of President Biden in a hypothetical general election matchup.

As the Republicans grappled with defending the events of January 6, 2021, and new House Speaker Mike Johnson faced allegations of using offensive language in a controversial book, the dramatic year continued for Republicans with the expulsion of New York Representative George Santos. Santos became the third congressman in the last 50 years to be ousted from the chamber, facing accusations ranging from lies and fraudulent activities to bizarre behav-

ior.

Santos's fabrications, including false claims about his mother's tragic demise during the 9/11 attacks and contradictory statements about his religious background, were laid bare. The Department of Justice delivered a stunning blow with a 23-count indictment, charging Santos with conspiracy, wire fraud, making false statements to the FEC, falsifying records, aggravated identity theft and access device fraud.

For Democrats, the off-year election outcomes hold greater significance for 2024 than current polling, offering a more pertinent gauge for the upcoming elections regarding resource allocation, investment and direct voter communication.

The Biden-Harris team believes big wins in the November 2023 elections showcase the Democrats' ability to outperform expectations. Biden eagerly monitored Tuesday's election returns, keen on swiftly congratulating the triumphant Democrats.

In Kentucky, Democratic Gov. Andy Beshear secured

a victory over Republican Daniel Cameron by skillfully navigating the state's increasingly conservative landscape. Simultaneously, in Pennsylvania, Democrat Dan McCaffery triumphed in the state's Supreme Court election, focusing his campaign on abortion and other rights. Virginia witnessed Democrats seizing complete control of the statehouse, dealing a setback to Republican Gov. Glenn Youngkin by emphasizing abortion access in legislative campaigns.

From winning the high-profile gubernatorial race in Kentucky to securing a pivotal ballot measure in Ohio and gaining majorities in Virginia's state legislature, Democrats emerged as the prevailing force, placing the issue of abortion at the forefront of their successes.

As the year drew to a close, Trump's legal battles and the GOP's internal strife set the stage for an electrifying 2024 election cycle, leaving political enthusiasts waiting for the next chapter in this gripping saga that has American democracy on the brink.

Sports Illustrated names Deion Sanders Sportsman of the Year for 2023

By Lauren Victoria Burke
NNPA Newswire Contributor

New Colorado Buffaloes coach Deion Sanders has been named Sports Illustrated's "Sportsman of the Year."

After all the controversy with his decision to leave an HBCU, Jackson State University, Sanders remains a winner even after a losing season. The Colorado Buffaloes record is 4-8.

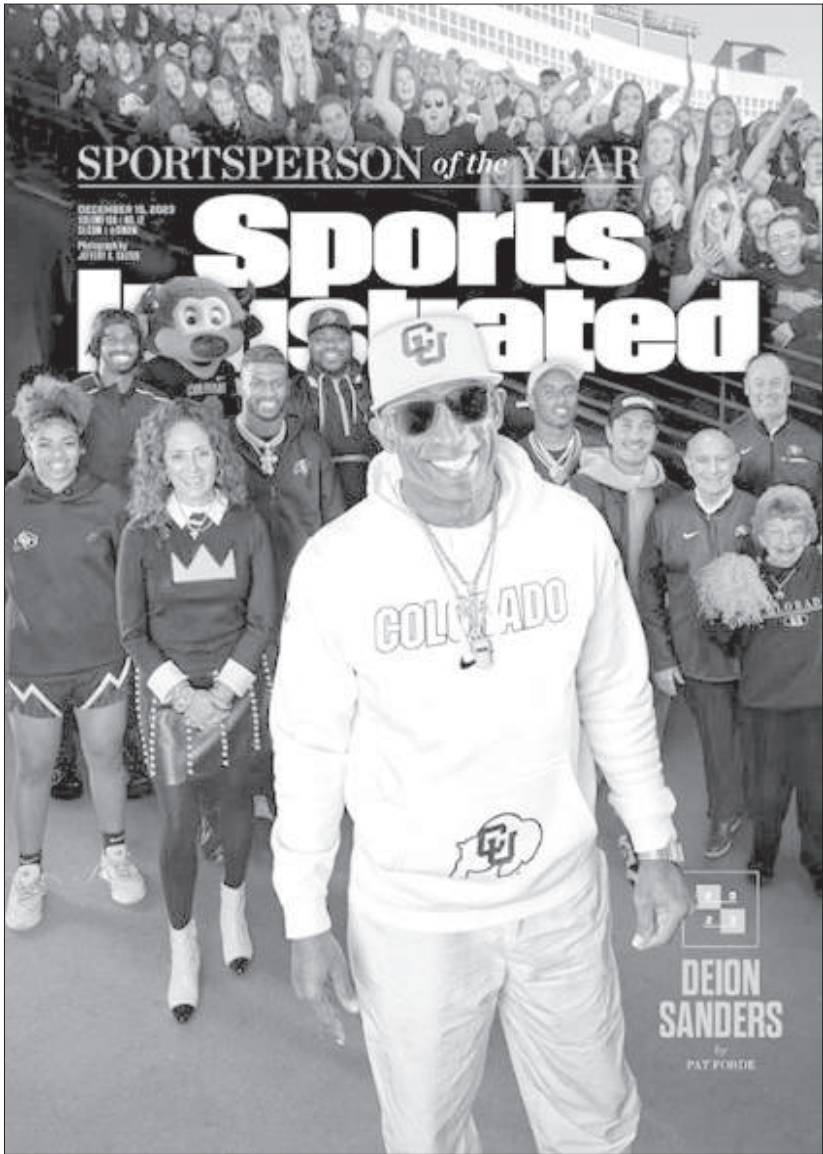
But the excitement around the Buffaloes, despite the record, led to excitement for all of college football.

Even though the Colorado Buffaloes did not make it to the Pac-12 championship and have lost their last six games, Sanders' short time as head coach has brought attention and money to a failing sports program in Colorado. Sanders' son, star quarterback Shedeur Sanders, did not finish the season for the Buffaloes after a leg injury.

But the excitement around Deion Sanders, 56, despite the team's record, has been undeniable. Sanders' had already been a legend because of his exceptional skills on the field and his impact on the sports world as a multi-sport athlete and a charismatic personality. Sanders was the first time two-time Super Bowl champion after winning with the San Francisco 49ers in Super Bowl XXIX and the Dallas Cowboys in Super Bowl XXX. Sanders was known for his exceptional speed and coverage skills, which earned him the nickname "Prime Time."

Deion Sanders attended Florida State University, where he played both football and baseball. In football, he played as a cornerback and a punt returner. He won the Jim Thorpe Award as the best defensive back in college football. Sanders was also an outstanding baseball player, playing as an outfielder. The New York Yankees drafted him in the 30th round of the 1988 MLB Draft.

Even after a season with an unimpressive record, Sanders remains optimistic. "Coach Prime" is causing excitement in the same way he did at Jackson State, even though the population at Colorado is only 1.3% black. Sanders is promising improvement next year.



After all the controversy that came with his decision to leave an HBCU, Jackson State University, Sanders remains a winner even after a losing season. The Colorado Buffaloes record is 4-8. But the excitement around the Buffaloes, despite the record, led to excitement for all of college football.

Facts about NTM lung disease

StatePoint

Nontuberculous mycobacteria (NTM) lung disease is a serious condition that can cause permanent lung damage, even if you have no symptoms.

More than 86,000 people are likely living with NTM lung disease in the United States, and rates appear to be increasing, especially among women and older age groups.

The American Lung Association, with support from Insmad, is sharing five fast facts to help you better understand this progressive disease:

1. Treatments vary. How NTM is treated depends on the type of organism causing the infection, the severity of symptoms and your health history.

Treatment of NTM lung disease varies from person to person and can last for a prolonged period of time.

2. Current guidelines. The progress of treatment will be monitored by collecting sputum samples. Once achieving a negative sputum culture, the 2020 NTM Guidelines recommend continuing your treatment regimen for 12 months post culture conversion. Because NTM lung disease can be challenging to clear from the body, it's a good idea to seek care from a pulmonologist or infectious disease specialist that specializes in NTM lung disease.

3. Side effects. Some of the medications you may be pre-

scribed may cause side effects. It is important to talk to your healthcare provider about possible side effects and how to manage them.

4. Clinical trials. There are clinical trials available for those living with NTM lung disease. Participating in a clinical trial supports medical advances and can help you access treatments. See if one is right for you.

5. Finding support. Having the right support while treating your NTM lung disease may help you follow your treatment plan. The Lung Association recommends patients and caregivers join the Living with Lung Disease Support Community to connect with others facing this

disease. You can also ask your healthcare provider about lung disease support groups in your area, or look online for a Better Breathers Club near you.

Everyone inhales NTM into their lungs as part of daily life. Unfortunately for some, this exposure can result in infection. Having the facts and tools you need to understand NTM lung disease can help you get the support you need.

To talk to a trained respiratory professional who can help answer your questions and connect you with support, call the Lung Association's Lung Helpline at 1-800-LUNGUSA.

For more information about NTM and lung health, visit lung.org.



CDC says America is at a crossroads with HIV/AIDS



The CDC estimates that 1.2 million people in America have HIV, and 1 in 8 carriers don't know it.

By Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Newswire Contributor

On the eve of World AIDS Day, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention put out a call for urgency and a collective commitment to ending the HIV pandemic in America.

Agency officials said while there has been recent progress in HIV prevention, the world remains at a crossroads.

"Without sufficient investment in HIV prevention, we risk turning back the clock on the progress we've worked so hard as a nation to achieve," Dr. Robyn Neblett Fanfair, Acting Division Director in the Division of HIV Prevention at the National Center for HIV and the CDC, wrote in a letter on Nov. 30.

"Together with ongoing commitment, we can honor the hundreds of thousands of lives lost to HIV-related illness in the United States and millions worldwide by ensuring that everyone benefits equally from four decades of groundbreaking scientific advances," Fanfair stated.

The CDC estimates that 1.2 million people in America have HIV, and 1 in 8 carriers don't know it. Although new infections have declined overall, the CDC noted that tens of thousands of people in America continue to get HIV each year, and progress isn't reaching all groups equitably due in part to deeply entrenched social determinants of health. Officials said expanded

efforts will be vital to reducing these disparities, and HIV prevention resources have not kept pace with needs.

"This progress is promising. However, substantial and widening disparities persist, and efforts must be further strengthened and expanded to reach all populations equitably," Fanfair continued.

CDC officials added that community engagement has been a crucial part of HIV prevention work since the beginning of the epidemic, and ongoing community engagement remains core to Ending the HIV Epidemic in the U.S (EHE's) success.

"Through EHE, CDC and its partners are implementing innovative, whole-person approaches designed to identify and address factors related to inequity and get powerful HIV prevention tools into the hands of every person who needs them," Fanfair wrote.

"For example, implementation in limited EHE jurisdictions of the pilot #ShesWell: PrEP for Women initiative, part of CDC's Let's Stop HIV Together (Together) campaign, showed increases in a range of outcomes, including PrEP knowledge and awareness and conversations with health care providers about PrEP."

For EHE to be successful, interventions must be brought to scale to address inequity and eliminate longstanding barriers to care that require a significant and sustained infusion of new re-

sources, Fanfair asserted. "However, HIV prevention resources have not kept pace with needs, and allocated funding has consistently fallen short of former and current president's requests for funding the EHE initiative," Fanfair added.

Investing in HIV prevention saves lives, health officials demanded, adding that effective HIV prevention is also cost-saving. Officials said reaching EHE goals by 2030 would prevent over 255,000 HIV cases and save over \$100 billion in direct lifetime medical costs.

However, the ability to make further progress in stopping HIV transmission hinges on the ability to bring to scale innovative approaches designed to address disparities and their drivers, including HIV stigma, racism, and other social and structural determinants of health, CDC officials cautioned.

"On the 35th anniversary of World AIDS Day, we stand at a crossroads. Without sufficient investment in HIV prevention, we risk turning back the clock on the progress we've worked so hard as a nation to achieve," Fanfair said. "Together with ongoing commitment, we can honor the hundreds of thousands of lives lost to HIV-related illness in the United States and millions worldwide by ensuring that everyone benefits equally from four decades of groundbreaking scientific advances."

Signs someone is having a stroke

By Vince Faust
Tips to Be Fit

Most people don't know the warning signs of a stroke nor what to do if someone had a stroke. Numbness or weakness in the face, arm, or leg; confusion or trouble speaking or understanding speech; trouble seeing in one or both eyes; trouble walking, dizziness, or problems with balance; severe headache with no known cause are the major signs of a stroke.

Every 45 seconds in the US, someone has a stroke. The economic impact can cost as much as \$40-\$70 billion per year. While women account for 6 in 10 stroke deaths, Black Americans are affected by stroke more often than any other US group. Black Americans are twice as likely to die from stroke as White Americans. 50% of all nursing home admissions are stroke victims. After the age of 55, the risks of stroke can double every 10 years. The number one reason for nursing home admissions is stroke. 750,000 people suffer a new or recurrent stroke in the United States. 160,000 of these people will die. There are 5.5 million US stroke survivors. While some stroke victims can recover completely, more than 2/3 of all survivors will have some type of disability.

A telephone survey of thousands of people in 11 states, District of Columbia and the Virgin Islands found that people didn't know most of the signs of a stroke nor what to do if someone had a stroke.

Fewer than two in five people surveyed knew most of the signs or to call 911. Older people and those that had a stroke were among the group. This group knew the least about a stroke and to call 911 immediately.

The implications of this survey shows that we need to educate people about the signs and symptoms of a stroke. The survey also revealed a big disparity in age, gender, ethnic background, income and education. No demographic group knew enough to get help, but minorities, people with lower incomes and those with less education did poorly.

A stroke or "brain attack" occurs when a blood vessel that carries oxygen and nutrients to the brain bursts or is clogged by a blood clot or some other particle. Ruptures and blockages prevent the brain from getting the blood and oxygen it needs. Without the blood and oxygen it needs, nerve cells in the brain die within minutes.

When brain cells die during a stroke, the brain's ability to control various areas of the brain are lost. These abilities can include speech, movement and memory. How a stroke patient's brain is affected depends on where the stroke occurs in the brain and how much the brain is damaged.

Anyone can have a stroke, but the chances of having one are higher for those with certain risk factors. Some stroke risk factors can be controlled and treated, while others can't.

Stroke risk factors that can be controlled and managed:

- High blood pressure or cholesterol
- Smoking
- Diabetes
- Heart disease
- History of mini strokes (transient isch-

emic attacks)

Obesity

Excessive alcohol or drug use.

If you have any stroke symptoms, seek immediate medical attention.

Stroke risk factors that can't be changed:

Genetics: If you or your family have a history of strokes, your chance of having one is greater.

Ethnic background: African Americans have a higher risk of stroke than other ethnic groups.

Age: Your chance of having a stroke more than doubles for each decade of life after 55.

Gender: Men have strokes more often, but women are more likely to die from a stroke.

Stroke Prevention Guidelines

1. Know your blood pressure. Have it checked at least annually. If it is elevated, work with your doctor to keep it under control.

2. Find out if you have arterial fibrillation. Arterial fibrillation (AF) is an irregular heartbeat that changes how your heart works and allows blood to collect in the chambers of your heart. Your doctor may choose to lower your risk for stroke by prescribing medicines called blood thinners.

3. If you smoke, stop. Smoking doubles the risk for stroke.

4. If you drink alcohol, do so in moderation.

5. Find out if you have high cholesterol. Know your cholesterol numbers. If your total cholesterol level (LDL and HDL) is over 200, talk to your doctor. You may be at increased risk for stroke.

6. If you are diabetic follow your doctor's advice carefully to control your diabetes.

7. Exercise. Include exercise in your daily activities. A brisk walk for as little as 30 minutes a day can improve your health in many ways, and may reduce your risk for stroke.

8. Enjoy a lower sodium (salt), lower fat diet. By cutting down on sodium and fat in your diet, you may be able to lower your blood pressure and, most importantly, lower your risk for stroke.

9. Ask your doctor if you have circulation problems, which increase your risk for stroke. If you have blood problems such as sickle cell disease, severe anemia (lower than normal number of red blood cells), or other diseases, work with your doctor to manage these problems; left untreated, these can cause stroke.

10. Symptoms. If you have any stroke symptoms, seek immediate medical attention.

If you think someone may be having a stroke, act F.A.S.T. and do this simple test:

Act F.A.S.T.

FACE Ask the person to smile. Does one side of the face droop?

ARMS Ask the person to raise both arms. Does one arm drift downward?

SPEECH Ask the person to repeat a simple sentence. Are the words slurred? Can he/she repeat the sentence correctly?

TIME If the person shows any of these symptoms, time is important. Call 911 or get to the hospital fast. Brain cells are dying.

Before starting any health or fitness program consult your physician.

P R E S E R V E D

Valuable imperfections

By Shewanda Riley
Columnist



“Perfect is boring. Be imperfectly you.” When I saw this phrase on t-shirt over the a few Christmases ago, I could not resist it. I had to buy it and not just because it was on sale. The underlying message of the shirt that imperfections were what made us more interesting (and unique) seemed to make a lot of sense to me at the time. It wasn’t until recently that I realized that the shirt was also an interesting reminder about graciously handling the imperfections of ourselves and others.

One of the areas of personal spiritual growth that God continues to challenge me is regarding how to respond to my imperfections as well as others. For example, how do you take a more gracious approach when

looking at imperfections? As a college English professor, I deal with this question often when grading papers.

Over the years, I worked very hard at finding ways to offer constructive criticism without completely crushing the esteem of students. It is not easy because sometimes I struggle to find a few good things in a paper where there may be 15 other things done ineffectively. Sometimes it works and sometimes I totally fail at it... but I keep trying to figure a way to make students see those things that others may label as “wrong” as valuable opportunities for growth.

2 Timothy 2:20-21, (MSG) says “In a well-furnished kitchen there are not only crystal goblets and silver platters, but waste cans and compost buckets – some containers used to serve fine meals, others to take out the garbage. Become the kind of container

God can use to present any and every kind of gift to his guests for their blessing.”

This scripture could be seen as a reminder that people who we perceive as having less value may actually have the most value. For example, after a fine meal, which is more valuable: the goblet that was used to drink out of or the trash can that was used to take out the trash? At the end of the meal, some would say that it is the trash can that has more value because it helps keep the kitchen clean.

Maybe we should try to think of deficiencies in others like imperfections in gemstones. According to the website, www.gemselect.com, the value of certain gemstones increases because of internal imperfections or inclusions in the gemstone. For example, rubies and sapphires that have certain internal inclusions are seen as more unique and considered

much more valuable than those that are man-made and seemingly perfect.

So, instead of judging someone for what they may have done, good, bad, criminal or otherwise, we should choose to see those life experiences as what makes them graciously unique. By doing this, it may be easier for us to see that through God’s grace the value of others is actually increased by what they experienced and survived.

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

‘God prevailed,’ JSU graduate champions over diagnosis, steps out on faith

By William Kelly
Division of University Communications

Ammiesta “Ammie” Stewart, 50, will graduate from Jackson State University’s Mississippi Teacher Residency (MTR) Program Friday, Dec. 8, after balancing motherhood, being an elementary school teacher and an unanticipated lupus diagnosis.

Stewart is a mother of three and currently teaches in Jackson Public Schools. In May 2022, she was told by doctors that what was originally diagnosed as fibromyalgia was actually lupus.

Nevertheless, this December, she declares that everyone will see the power of joy in her walk as she graces the stage at the Fall 2023 commencement ceremony.

“I’ve already picked out my outfit for graduation. My thing is to step, but I’m stepping with knowing that I did this. I’m stepping knowing that God was there,” Stewart said. “I trusted Him and trusted His plan. I kept going. I’m stepping for my children. I’m stepping for my students. I’m stepping for the mothers and fathers who wanted to step but couldn’t step.”

In March 2023, Stewart enrolled in JSU’s MTR Program, hosted by the College of Education and Human Development (COEHD). Since then, she has been inducted into the Alpha Kappa Mu Honor Society and will finish with a 3.9 GPA.

Stewart says the journey was rigorous, often battling flare-ups with lupus. Flare-ups can lead to extreme tiredness, fatigue and chronic pain. Lupus causes inflammation and occurs when the immune system attacks its own tissues, as opposed to its normal function of protecting the body from infections and disease.

“I know when to throw in the towel, but sometimes it’s not about throwing in that towel. Take that towel and wipe these



Stewart

tears with it because I cry and all that kind of stuff sometimes, but with that being said, I can say I did it,” Stewart said.

The God-fearing diva knows that her journey with lupus is meant to help someone else. She thanks God that she has a sense of humor and a smile to carry her throughout her life.

Stewart began her collegiate journey in 1997 at Tougaloo College, but she paused her academics to care for her children. She later finished at Tougaloo in 2007 with two associate’s degrees – one in early childhood and the other in childhood development, and a bachelor’s degree in childhood development.

The Canton native gives credit to family, friends, church members, coworkers deemed family, and even her neighbors for being a stable support system during this time. She adds that affirmations, taking time to stop and breathe, and Roman 8:37 scripture got her through.

“I am more than a conqueror. I have that on a bracelet, too. We are more than conquerors through Him that loves us, loves me, loves you.”

The Fall 2023 commencement ceremony begins at 9 a.m. in the Lee E. Williams Athletics and Assembly Center. Doors open at 7 a.m.



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Unlike Reeves in 2020, Presley accepted election math on Nov. 7

By Bobby Harrison
Mississippi Today

Despite election problems in Democratic-voter rich Hinds County, Brandon Presley did not delay his conces-

COMMENTARY

sion speech to incumbent Republican Gov. Tate Reeves on the night of Nov. 7.

Reeves has not been as quick in the past to accept election results. In 2020, Reeves cast doubt on the loss by Republican incumbent President Donald Trump despite more than 60

court cases, many decided by judges appointed by Trump, validating the election and despite the election results being confirmed by numerous Republican state officials throughout the country.

Still, Reeves and other Mississippi election officials argued that the election was not secure and fair in states Trump lost, even though those states operated under the same rules as states that Trump won.

On social media in 2020, Reeves said: “a safe and fair election here in Mississippi – not upended by last minute schemes to radically alter voting methods. Election integrity is vital.”

Just as the math – and remember, Reeves says he is “a numbers guy” – confirmed Trump’s defeat in 2020, the math also confirmed Presley’s loss on Nov. 7.

Presley could have cited Hinds County election problems as a reason not to concede. But he did not. And that has proven to be the right decision.

Even if the Democrat Presley had garnered the level of support in Hinds County as Barack Obama did in 2012, he still would not have had enough votes to defeat Reeves.

In 2012, Obama received 76,112 votes in Hinds County – the most ever for a candidate there – in his successful presidential reelection campaign. On Nov. 7, Presley won 54,006 votes in Hinds County – 22,106 votes less than Obama garnered in 2012. Reeves defeated Presley by 26,619 votes, meaning an Obama level of support in Hinds would not have put Presley over the top statewide.

The vote in Hinds County is important for a couple of reasons.

First of all, it is the state’s largest county and by far the biggest base of support for Democrats.

Second of all, there were numerous election problems in Hinds County on Nov. 7. Multiple precincts – at least eight, reportedly – ran out of ballots. There were reports of people leaving after waiting in lines for hours and, in some cases, not being able to vote at all.

It is difficult to believe that Presley, despite his and his team’s effort to get supporters to the polls, could have outdistanced the turnout Obama received in 2012. It was a watershed year in terms of turnout for Mississippi Democrats.

Granted, if Presley got all the votes that Obama received in Hinds County in 2012 and Reeves did not garner all the votes that Republican Mitt Romney won that year in Hinds County, there would have been a runoff election. Remember, Obama got 22,106 votes more than Presley in Hinds County. Presley came up only 15,466 votes short of what was needed to force a runoff. But it is unlikely to believe that Presley could match Obama numbers in Hinds County for a number of reasons, including the fact the county has lost significant population since 2012. The U.S. Census Bureau reported Hinds had a 4.4 % population loss during just a two-year period from 2020 to 2022. Numerous studies highlight much larger losses since 2010.

We will never know for sure how many people did not vote in Hinds County because of the election problems, but it is safe to say the numbers were not enough to cost Presley the election or even the chance of a runoff.

It also should be pointed out that the people running the elections in Hinds County are locally elected Democrats. The problems that occurred were unfortunate. But it is reasonable to assume they were not intentionally sabotaging Presley.

Going back a few years, it can be and has been mathematically proven that local Democratic officials did cost Democratic nominee Al Gore the White House in 2000.

The infamous butterfly ballot was designed by Democrats and used in Democratic-controlled Palm Beach County Florida. In that county, many people – 15,000 or more – thought they were voting for Gore, but accidentally voted for Reform Party candidate Pat Buchanan because of the confusing design of the ballot or voted for both Gore and Buchanan causing the ballot to be disqualified.

In an interview just after the election, Buchanan admitted, “When I took one look at that ballot on election night ... it’s very easy for me to see how someone could have voted for me in the belief they voted for Al Gore.”

Gore lost Florida and thus the White House by 537 votes.

Despite that math, Gore conceded. Presley did the same on Nov. 7.

Reeves and other Mississippi election officials did not in 2020.

A Little Snowflake is on the way...

Drive-Thru Baby Shower

Saturday, December 9th
11 am - 1 pm

Word and Worship Church
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Jackson, MS 39206

Institute for the
Advancement
of **Minority**
Health




Participants can expect to receive
diapers, onesies, and so much more!
Join us while supplies last!

For more information, please contact:
amccoy@advancingminorityhealth.org or 769-572-5263 ext. 1

Registration Link: <https://rb.gy/hjakot>

"One In A Million"
A NIGHT OF JUBILEE IN HONOR OF
REPRESENTATIVE ALYCE GRIFFIN CLARKE



FRIDAY, JANUARY 26, 2024 | 6:30 P.M.
JACKSON CONVENTION COMPLEX

"May the work I've done speak for me."
Presented by Connecting The Dots Foundation
For more information, call (601) 813-5045.



**Purchase tickets at the link below or
scan the QR Code ----->>>>**
<https://bit.ly/HonorRepClarke>





Gov. Tate Reeves speaks to reporters at his Flowood watch party on Nov. 7, 2023.
CREDIT: ERIC J. SHELTON/MISSISSIPPI TODAY

LEGAL

NOTICE TO BIDDERS
City of Jackson
Jackson, Mississippi

Sealed, signed bids are invited and will be received by the City of Jackson, Mississippi, until 3:30 P.M. in the City Clerk's Office of Jackson, the bid must be stamped in by 3:30 P.M. Tuesday, December 19, 2023 at which time said bids will be publicly opened at the City Hall located at 219 South President Street (City Council Chambers) in City Hall for the following:

93684-121923 RFP 36 —Month Maintenance & Repair of City Towers

BIDS ARE NOW AVAILABLE AT WWW.JACKSONMS.GOV AND WWW.CENTRALBIDDING.COM

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

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

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

Monica Oliver, Manager
Purchasing Division
(601) 960-1028/1025

11/30/23, 12/07/23

LEGAL

PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC REVIEW OF A DRAFT COPY OF THE CITY OF JACKSON'S
2022 CONSOLIDATED ANNUAL PERFORMANCE & EVALUATION REPORT

PUBLIC COMMENTS DUE BY: FRIDAY, DECEMBER 22, 2023 – 4:00 P.M.

The City of Jackson will solicit comments on its 2022 Consolidated Annual Performance & Evaluation Report at a Public Hearing to be held at 6:00 P.M. CST on Tuesday, December 19, 2023, at the Warren Hood Building, in the Andrew Jackson Conference Room (First Floor), located at 200 South President Street, Jackson, MS 39201.

The City will accept comments on the 2022 CAPER commencing Wednesday, December 6, 2023 and ending on Friday, December 22, 2023, which represents the City's 15-day public comment period. The City is required by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to annually submit a Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER). This report provides an assessment of the City's progress in carrying out its five-year strategic plan and its one-year action plan for the Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME) Program, Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG), and Housing Opportunities for People With AIDS (HOPWA). The purpose of this notice is to make the CAPER report available to the public for comments prior to its submittal to HUD.

Draft copies of the 2022 Consolidated Annual Performance & Evaluation Report will be available for examination and comment by the public at the City of Jackson's Office of Housing and Community Development located at 218 S. President St. Jackson, MS 39201 and on the City's website at <https://www.jacksonms.gov/caper/>.

The required public review ends Friday, December 22, 2023. The City will receive written comments until 4:00 P.M. on Friday, December 22, 2023.

No displacement will occur as a result of the activities described herein. Should displacement occur, the City of Jackson will implement the provisions as required by CFR 570.606 (Residential Anti-Displacement and Relocation Assistance). The City of Jackson does not discriminate on the basis of disability in the admission of, access to, or treatment of, or employment, the programs and activities described herein. An interpreter is available upon request to assist persons with limited English proficiency. Any requests for reasonable accommodation required by an individual to fully participate in any open meetings, programs, or activities of the City of Jackson's Office of Housing and Community Development should be directed to: Mr. Reginald Jefferson, Deputy Director, (601) 960-4238 or rjeferson@jacksonms.gov.

12/07/23

LEGAL

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF AREATHA S. RULE, DECEASED

CAUSE NO. P2022-622 G/2

PETITIONER: JAMAL RULE

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 Areatha S. Rule, Deceased, notice is hereby given to all persons having claims against said estate to present the same to the Clerk of this Court for probate 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 5th day of July, 2023.

Jamal Rule, Administrator

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI
COUNTY OF Hinds

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

NOTARY

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

12/7/2023 12/14/2023 12/21/2023

LEGAL

Electronic Bidding
Advertisement for Bids
Bid 3252 ESSER Renovations for Provine High School

Sealed, written formal bid proposals for the above bid will be received by the Board of Trustees of the Jackson Public School District, in the Business Office, 662 South President Street, Jackson, Mississippi, until 10:00 A.M. (Local Prevailing Time) Tuesday, January 16, 2024, at which time and place they will be publicly opened and read aloud. A Pre-Bid Conference concerning the project for Provine High School will be held at 2400 Robinson Street, Jackson, MS 39209 on Wednesday, January 10, 2024, at 10:30 a.m. Attendance at the pre-bid conference is not mandatory but strongly encouraged. The Board of Trustees reserves the right to reject any and all bids, to waive informalities, and to withhold the acceptance of any bid if approved for forty-five calendar days from the date bids are opened.

Plan holders are required to register and order bid documents at www.jpdsmsprojects.com. A \$300.00 Non-refundable deposit shall be required on each set of bid specs/documents and must be purchased through the website. All plan holders are required to have a valid email address for registration. Questions regarding website registration and online orders, please contact Plan House Printing, 607 W. Main Street, Tupelo, MS 38804, (662) 407-0193. Questions regarding bid documents please contact Cody Farris at Duvall Decker. Phone:601-713-1128 or Email: cnf@duvalldecker.com.

11/30/23 12/7/23

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.

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

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

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

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

Christine Welch, Deputy Director
Office of Transportation

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

Professional Paralegal
Legal Advocate
James Scott
769-990-3874

11/30/23

LEGAL

Electronic Bidding
Advertisement for Bids
Bid 3253 ESSER Renovations for Murrah High School

Sealed, written formal bid proposals for the above bid will be received by the Board of Trustees of the Jackson Public School District, in the Business Office, 662 South President Street, Jackson, Mississippi, until 10:00 A.M. (Local Prevailing Time) Tuesday, January 30, 2024, at which time and place they will be publicly opened and read aloud. A Pre-Bid Conference concerning the project for Murrah High School will be held at 1400 Murrah Drive, Jackson, MS 39202 on Thursday, January 18, 2024 at 2:00 p.m. Attendance at the pre-bid conference is not mandatory but strongly encouraged. The Board of Trustees reserves the right to reject any and all bids, to waive informalities, and to withhold the acceptance of any bid if approved for forty-five calendar days from the date bids are opened.

Plan holders are required to register and order bid documents at www.jpdsmsprojects.com. A \$300.00 Non-refundable deposit shall be required on each set of bid specs/documents and must be purchased through the website. All plan holders are required to have a valid email address for registration. Questions regarding website registration and online orders, please contact Plan House Printing, 607 W. Main Street, Tupelo, MS 38804, (662) 407-0193. Questions regarding bid documents please contact Cody Farris at Duvall Decker. Phone:601-713-1128 or Email: cnf@duvalldecker.com.

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

12/07/23, 12/14/23

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, DECEMBER 13, 2023 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
A. CASE NO. HPNC-23-6
LOCATION: 112 PINEHAVEN DR (PARCEL 16-82)
HISTORIC DISTRICT: BELHAVEN APPLICANT: Varuni Kern
REQUEST: REWVIEW OF DESIGN DOCUMENTS TO MAKE MODIFIED COA
RECOMMENDATION FOR WINDOW REPLACEMENT ON THE REAR OF HOME.

New Business
A. 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.

B. 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.

C. 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.

D. 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.

II. OTHER ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION
ADJOURNMENT

DATES OF PUBLICATION: NOVEMBER 30, 2023 & DECEMBER 7, 2023.

PLEASE SEND PROOF OF PUBLICATION TO: ERIC D. LEWIS (P. O. BOX 17, 200 S. PRESIDENT ST. SUITE 204, JACKSON, MS 39205-0017); HISTORIC PRESERVATION (601) 960-1857 OR EMAIL IT TO Erlc@Jacksonms.gov.

APPLICANTS MAY UTILIZE CONFERENCE CALLING OR VIDEO CONFERENCING TO PRESENT THEIR CASES.

COMMISSIONERS MAY UTILIZE CONFERENCE CALLING OR VIDEO CONFERENCING TO HEAR CASES & VOTE IN THE EVENT OF THEIR ABSENCE.

12/07/23

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32 gun capacity



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Liberty USA 30

Fire-rated 1200°
1 hour
30 gun capacity



\$1,499

Liberty Revere 64

Factory 2nd
Fire-rated 1200°
1 hour
64 gun capacity



\$1,599

Liberty USA 50

Fire-rated 1200°
1 hour
50 gun capacity



\$1,999

CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT AUCTION

500+ ITEMS SELL NO RESERVE!
THURSDAY, DEC 14



DP8741 '18 CAT D6T LGP dozer



NR9410 '19 Morbark Wood Hog 6400XT horizontal grinder



DP8742 '19 CAT 349FL excavator



DQ2274 '22 John Deere 260E haul truck

INVENTORY INCLUDES: dozers, wheel loaders, horizontal grinder, haul trucks, directional boring units, excavators, slipform paver, skid steers, service trucks, crane trucks, vacuum truck, bucket truck, dump trucks, backhoes and more. All items are sold "AS IS." 10% buyers premium applies.



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Crossword Puzzle

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8
9				10		11		
12						13		
14				15	16		17	
			18			19		
	20	21						
22				23			24	25
27			28		29	30		
31					32			
33						34		

ACROSS

1. Ardor
5. Syrian bishop
9. Poppinjay
11. Believe
12. Adult insect
13. Giant
14. Really cool
15. Ouch!
17. Pot
18. National capital
20. Small bus
22. Lemon
23. Doc
24. Southwestern Indian
27. Skip
29. Writings
31. Double-reed instrument
32. Pistol's counterpart
33. Memorization
34. Luge

DOWN

1. Native ruler in Africa
2. Dalai ____
3. Academy (abbr.)
4. Vex
5. Hubbub
6. Started
7. Baseball player Yogi
8. Prayer ending
10. Trying to win over
16. Mourner
18. Vermont (abbr.)
19. New York (abbr.)
20. Extra large
21. Dope
22. Portal
24. Defunct football league
25. Myth
26. Ogled
28. Ball holder
30. Sister for short

© Feature Exchange

Crossword Solution

E	L	A	N		A	B	B	A
M	A	C	A	W		D	E	E
I	M	A	G	O		O	G	R
R	A	D		O	W		U	R
			V	I	E	N	N	A
	J	I	T	N	E	Y		
D	U	D		G	P		U	T
O	M	I	T		E	S	S	A
O	B	O	E		R	I	F	L
R	O	T	E			S	L	E

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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 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 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 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

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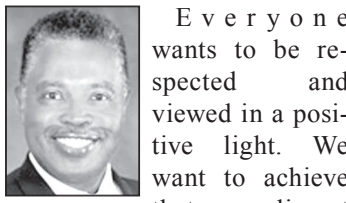
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Week of December 3, 2023

George Santos once powerful and now pitiful: Republicans don't want him

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



Everyone wants to be respected and viewed in a positive light. We want to achieve that compliment from our friends and colleagues. This goal of being respected starts at different points for each of us. When we achieve this platitude, we must remain humble. If you have a position of responsibility, you must continue to be a servant leader. It is my opinion that humility is a trait that can be outwardly seen.

Back in the day, I observed people who were successful, yet they were easy to talk with and to be around. They kept their egos in check. In some ways today, egos rule. It almost seems that being respected and liked is pushed to the backburner. Being respected endures the test of time. One of my mentors cautioned me years ago about the importance of being respected. He said that respect should always be the goal and that being liked is akin to the stock market. You are liked one day and disliked the next day. I have watched that philosophy unfold throughout my life. I wonder if George Santos thought about being respected or liked during his brief stay

in Congress. The former congressman from New York was expelled last week from Congress. He was booted out because of alleged ethics violations including using funds to get Botox treatments. He has denied these allegations and may mount a campaign to win back his seat. Santos' background was called into question before he was sworn into office in January. It was not if he would face trouble, it was simply how much trouble he would face. He believed that the Republicans would shield him however that was not the case. There were 105 Republicans who voted against him along with 206 Democrats. He is the sixth member of the

House of Representatives to be expelled. The last member expelled from the House was James Traficant (D-OH) in 2022. He was convicted of taking bribes. With the Santos saga, it only leaves the Republicans with a 3-seat advantage. There is continuous speculation about what is happening in GOP circles. Almost at every level, Republicans are in the spin cycle of chaos and confusion. As the Santos matter was being taken up by the House, Michael Guest, Republican from Mississippi and chairman of the House Ethics Committee, said, "In years past, many members have chosen to resign instead of forcing Congress to take a vote to expel.

But if you look at the report, if you read the findings again, they find substantial evidence of multiple violations which, in my case, clearly supported expulsion. We followed the Constitution in the way that this was to play out." News reports have surfaced that HBO Films has gotten the rights to Mark Chiusano's new book, The Fabulist: The Lying, Hustling, Grifting, Stealing And Very American Legend of George Santos. Santos won't be endorsing the book or the proposed movie. What he should be is embarrassed and ashamed that his moral code of conduct has made him the laughingstock in the eyes of many people. Now the political side of

this debacle requires the state of New York to hold a special election in less than 90 days. Who will be running for the seat? One of the candidates is Kellen Curry. He is African American and a graduate of the Air Force Academy. He wants to discuss kitchen-table issues such as the economy, crime and immigration. Does Curry support Donald Trump? In a recent interview on CNN, he said, "I can't worry about Donald Trump." Currently, he is walking a fine line regarding the former president. In the meantime, George Santos has been disgraced by his removal from Congress. He has no one to blame but himself.

The keeper of the springs

By Jannie Johnson
Caring n' Sharing



In his inspirational classic, Keeper of the Springs, Peter Marshall makes it clear that well-meaning folks can overlook the very cause or the very person who determines the success or failure in a business, the harmony or disharmony in a relationship or the increase or decrease in social problems/crimes. Marshall's story is about a town that depended on springs for all its water. High up in the town's hills a strange and quiet forest dweller took it upon him to be the keeper of the springs. He patrolled the hills and kept the springs clean. Fresh, clean, water, like a river of life, flowed down to the busy town. One day the city council scanned

the civic budget and found in it the salary of the keeper of the springs. They saw no need for this unseen ranger for their town, therefore, they voted to cut back cost by cutting out the keeper. With no keeper, the town soon had many problems. The water was not clean, and a green scum soon befouled its stagnant surface. An epidemic of sickness reached into every home. The council met again and acknowledged its mistake. The council members voted to seek the keeper and beg him to return to the job that they had thought was not needed. The keeper returned and it was not long before the stench disappeared, sickness waned and convalescent children laughed again. In the words of Peter Marshall, "Do not think me fanciful, too imaginative, or too extravagant in my language when I say, personally, that I

think of ... God as the keeper of our springs in America. But, America has allowed her diversity, inclusion and equity to cause her to make laws that cut back and cut out the keeper of her springs. She has convinced herself that the unseen God of her fathers is no longer needed in public life. And, His importance in her homes is marginalized. Now she is having multiplicity of problems. Her social problems are up and safety is down. Fear is all around." Like the town's council, America needs to acknowledge that she voted the mistake of downsizing God, the creator of diversity, the fountain of unity and the keeper of her springs. Fellow Americans, what are we going to do for our country that she might restore her keeper and again experience old-fashioned morality, old-fashioned honesty and old-fashioned kindness? Happy Holidays.

Tis' the season to fight for your marriage & family

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



Although, this is considered to be the most wonderful time of the year, there are so many broken and hurting marriages in our state and nation today. In other words, there are couples who are hurting due to a lack of communication, mistrust, drifting apart, internal conflicts, secrets, neglect, abandonment, infidelity, external family dynamics, mismanagement of financial resources, etc. which have ultimately led to many marriages falling into three of the following categories: convenient marriage arrangements, separation and divorce. Convenient marriages mean – the husband lives his own life as he pleases; the wife lives her own life as she pleases; he/she will have their own bedroom ideology. Further, convenient marriages are based on the concept that a couple will remain legally married for the conveniences of their finances, maintaining a certain lifestyle, sustaining properties, assets, businesses, churches and their status, and even for the sake of their children. (Many professionals argue that couples should not stay in unhealthy marriages for the sake of their children because it can essentially cause just as much negative impacts as a divorce or more depending on the circumstances). Further, some hurting and broken marriages have resulted in separation and divorce, which can be devastating for couples but especially for their children; includes younger and older children. You cannot let your marriage fall or remain in the three categories depicted above. Therefore, tis' the season to fight for your marriage. One of my favorite movies is titled, "War Room," produced by Alex Kendrick. If you are feeling discouraged in your marriage – watch this movie today. One of the greatest points emphasized in the movie was that many couples spend too much time fighting each other as if they are each other's enemy...the real enemy is the one that wants to destroy marriages. Yes, you read correctly your husband and/or wife is not your enemy – yes, they may certainly act like it and may be being used by the enemy but the real enemy is the one who has only one agenda which is to steal, kill and destroy. Stop fighting each other – no improvements or changes can occur in your marriage if you continue fighting each other; things will only get worse. Just like boxers and wrestlers have certain strategies to fight their components – we as married couples have strategies too.

How can couples fight for their marriage? Couples can fight for their marriages in the following ways:

- You have to start fighting the enemy with prayer. Pray for your spouse daily and pray for your marriage daily – every time your spouse and marriage come across your mind – pray. In fact, pray without ceasing.
- Communicate and listen – you have the right not to remain silent in your marriage – I don't care what it is about; the good and the bad – you have to talk to one another. Of course, just be careful in how you communicate. I know it's not easy – I've also communicated in unknown tongues but try to be careful. Proverbs 15:1 states a soft answer turns away wrath; but a harsh word stirs up anger.
- Seek professional counseling/pastoral counseling – even when things seem to be well – every marriage needs a tune up.
- Join a local marriage ministry – example; my church has a marriage ministry called, "Let's Stay Together," – we meet quarterly and/or based on the needs of the community. Reach out to us – my contact information is below.
- Reflect on your marriage vows – promises you made to each other and to God.
- Quality time – your relationship needs nurturing – picture this, you buy a plant – bring it home and sit it on a table for weeks – what happens if you don't properly plant it if needed, water it, expose it to sunlight, treat with fertilizer, etc. it will eventually die. Your marriage can die if you don't nurture it with love, commitment, time, trust, empathy, patience, forgiveness, affection, good communication, affirmation, reciprocity, intimacy, love making (can we woo woo...), and gratitude (say thank you – show appreciation).

In conclusion, if you truly love your spouse, isn't he or she worth fighting for? However, it does takes two to fight for a marriage. For those who are fighting alone – keeping fighting and you will know in your heart if and when you need to stop fighting for your marriage. If both of you are fighting for your marriage – keep fighting until death do you part.

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

My Truth

By Cheryl Smith
Publisher of I Messenger Media
Texas Metro News




While the number of complaints against airlines have increased considerably and altercations between passengers have also had an uptick, according to the report released by the U.S. Public Interest Research Group, "the number of flight passengers has fallen from 886 million in 2019 to 799 million last year." So less fliers, but more complaints, ranging from lost bags, delayed or canceled flights, rude employees, ticket refund delays, ticket agents who don't greet you when boarding because they are on the phone or deeply engrossed in a conversation with another employee; and the list goes on and on. I want to focus on a few customer complaints. It seems as though most people have not been schooled on proper airplane etiquette so some commence to complaining and grumbling. I'll start with an easy one – passenger talking loudly on cell phone before flight takes off and also while waiting to exit. This person tells quite a bit of their personal business while using their outside voice.

Somehow those calls never seem as important as the person talking appears to think. What say you? Why do they talk so loudly? One might say they may be hard of hearing or the person they are talking to may be. Then there's the one who is really not in too much of a hurry but they still fail to observe the unspoken rule of letting the person in the row before you go first when deplaning. Should you wait, especially if the person ahead of you is ready to go, or do you barrel ahead? Or what about the person who wants to stand up as soon as the sound alerts you that you can take your seat belt off. Since we are not in a person's shoes, we may not understand that a person may have a health issue. There was a time when you could stand more often or even walk around. And that was good for those who have circulatory issues because they shouldn't be sitting down for long periods of time, without stretching or moving their legs around. They know they should be moving around and as soon as they are able, they should get up and move around. Still people get upset. And, lest we forget, the crying, screaming baby. Here there's a need for a little compassion but at what age does the crying stop? At

what age should the child fall out of grace? Good question. Then too, somebody explain to me – does the person in the middle seat get both armrests and if so, why? More people are beginning to choose flying as the preferred choice of transportation so we are going to have more issues and more challenges. Which brings me to my truth. Yes, I do believe that there needs to be a major overhaul. There also needs to be an addressing of some of these issues in the many pieces of literature provided on flights. Some people just don't know. And I am not going to get into attire. That is opening a can of something that we don't have time for right now. Yes, some people don't dress anymore. They come to board a flight like they are going to the Greyhound Bus station or just rolled out of bed. Oh well. It's a sign of the times. Are you going to make a complaint? Some might say, just bring head sets, wear shades and pray for a safe flight. Cheryl Smith is the owner, publisher and editor of I Messenger Media LLC the umbrella for Texas Metro News, Garland Journal, and I Messenger digital magazine. Email her at www.penonfire2@gmail.com



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Friends of Jackson mentors youth at Key Elementary School



(LtoR) Conniea Perry; Willa Watson; Fabian Nelson; Rachel Jefferson; Brittney Bowman – ready to serve lunch to students at Environmental Learning Center.
PHOTOS BY JANICE NEAL VINCENT

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

Brittney Bowman made observations and shared her vision with others to serve the Jackson community by addressing residents’ psychological, physical and spiritual needs. This sharing resulted in several conversations. Then, on January 8, 2022, Bowman founded an establishment that became Friends of Jackson, Mississippi Mentorship Services. Included within the amenities are provisions for academic and social support to students.

Mentors come with their knowledge and expertise from a variety of fields. Since last academic year, the leaders have mentored students at Key Elementary School where Elana Tate is the principal. They visit the school four times a month for one hour each day. During each visit they work collectively with the students’ readiness in character development, skill development and situational understanding. Mentors believe that these tools are needed for lifelong experiences the students are sure to encounter.

Mentor Kenny Lewis observed that “habitual patterns” interfere with the students’ abilities to allow important messages to register. Social facilitation is one of those interferences that often times skates across the room once one or two students stray away from active participation from the mentors and other classmates. Upon this discovery, listening became a teaching tool. Friends of Jackson, Mississippi Mentorship Services finds that working with Key Elementary mentees is challenging, gratifying and rewarding.

Mentor Brittney Bowman looked back at her childhood school days and saw the need to instill “growth” in the children. “I love working with children because I was once in their shoes and several phenomenal educators shared a keen liking for me



Mentor and Founder Brittney Bowman observes students’ science project completion



Mentor Willa Watson approves of Key Elementary students’ progress from their falling leaves experiment.



Mentor Rachel Jefferson engages in lecture-discussion with Key Elementary School students.



Mentors Kenny & Vickie Lewis pose with proteges at a field outing for the youth.

and pushed me to my highest potential.” She believes that one way to encourage and inspire the youth is to change the narrative of our youth by introducing them to other role models right before their eyes. “When Brittney Bowman approached me with the idea of getting involved with schools in South Jackson because there was a tremendous need for mentors, I jumped at the opportunity. I was retired and had a lot of time on my hands. Instantly, it took me back to a time when I first began

working in JPS as a math assistant. The fit was natural, and I knew ‘multiplication facts’ was the area [of focus for me]. I enjoy working with the young scholars and watching their eyes light up when a concept has been mastered,” affirmed mentor Willa K. Watson. In September Friends of Jackson, Mississippi Services invited me as guest artist to come teach spoken word choir to Key Elementary students and to inspire them to share their skills with the school, their parents and friends

at a program for the month of February, 2024. After working with them for several weeks with original poems from my A Little of Me, A Little of You: Spoken Word Choir Book, I found the students to be enthusiastic, willing and capable of learning the art of poetic, choir performance. Accordingly, I am pleased and assured that they will be ready in February to demonstrate their skills.

According to mentor Ramona K. Jones, the spoken word choir is an invaluable tool for Key Elementary students. Observing them perform poetry proved beneficial to Jones. “Participating in the [spoken word choir] helps students overcome shyness and fear of public performance. It also boosts their confidence level and enhances their communication skills,” she stated.

As “community gatekeepers,” we are well aware that the students have school obligations and are on an academic timeframe for passing their subjects in order to move to the next grade level. Seeing them, however, take upon themselves this additional task within the learning process is a marvelous achievement. Thus, Watson notes the following: “As a reward for their hard work throughout the year, Friends of Jackson sponsors an all expense paid field trip to the beautiful JPS Environmental Leadership Center on Highway 18 where scholars are treated to games, fishing, walking trails, lunch and much more.”

Friends of Jackson, Mississippi Mentorship Services are: Brittney Bowman; Cheri Carradine; April Fairley; Ashley Floyd; Rachel Jefferson; Ramona K. Jones; Kenny Lewis; Vickie Lewis; Tiffany Matlock; Fabian Nelson; De’Keither Stamps; Willa K. Watson and Dr. Janice K. Neal-Vincent.

For further inquiry, contact Brittney Bowman at 601-421-0877.

Hinds CC honors Foundation scholarship recipients



Among those being recognized was Bryson Robinson of Jackson, center, who received the 100 Black Men of Jackson Scholarship. With him were, from left, Leroy Walker of Jackson, Lee Bush of Jackson, Donn Lewis of Florence and Garry Brown of Jackson.



Among those being recognized was Cedrick Fisher of Utica, second from left, who received the Hinds AHS Utica Golden Class of 1960-2010 Scholarship. With him were, from left, Alberteen London of Jackson, left, and Benjamin Harper and Annie Harper, both of Jackson.



Among those being recognized was DeLani Triplett of Brandon, center, who received the Jimmie Lewis Scholarship. With her were, from left, Caleb Rhodes and Audrey Wiley, both of Jackson, left, and Kenneth Smith of Terry and Angela Green of Jackson, right.

The Mississippi Link Newswire

The Hinds Community College Foundation recognized 2023-2024 Utica Campus scholarship recipients, donors and other honorees at a reception on Nov. 16.

The Hinds Community College Foundation will

award more than 800 scholarships during the 2023-2024 academic year.

The deadline to apply for a scholarship for fall 2024 (academic year 2024-2025), is Feb. 15, 2024.

For more information, visit www.hindscc.edu.



LENA HORNE: GODDESS RECLAIMED

BY DONALD BOGLE

BLACK TV: FIVE DECADES OF GROUNDBREAKING TELEVISION FROM SOUL TRAIN TO BLACK-ISH AND BEYOND

BY BETHONIE BUTLER

By Terri Schlichenmeyer
Columnist

The person on the screen looks just like you. And that’s important. Once was a time when you rarely saw a black face in entertainment unless you were specifically looking for one – which is why these great books on black entertainers are so essential to read...

First of all, elegance almost oozes from “Lena Horne: Goddess Reclaimed” by Donald Bogle, a gorgeous book, part of the TMC library. Bogle begins his narrative in

the spring of 1993, when “a radiant Lena Horne entered the famous MGM recording soundstage for the first time in nearly forty years.” She was there to shoot footage for a compilation movie on entertainment and, says Bogle, it was “a bittersweet experience.”

From there, he takes readers through the briefest of childhood biographies before getting to the good stuff: Horne’s career that began in Harlem. It was the Depression, and competition for the best positions at the Cotton Club was fierce; despite that the club

had other beautiful women onstage, it was Horne who “caught the eye of just about everyone who saw her.”

Filled with everything you want to know about Lena Horne, her life, loves and many of her contemporaries, “Lena Horne: Goddess Reclaimed” is comprehensive and wide. It’s one of those books you’ll want to keep on your coffee table, to browse and show off. Bonus: carefully chosen photos enhance what you’ll read.

If the small screen is more your thing and you want to remember

how far television’s come over the decades, then you’ll want “Black TV” by Bethonie Butler.

Ask any TV viewer about their favorite show or series and if it’s got a full cast of black actors, you’ll probably find it in this heavy volume. Comedies, dramas, even variety series have their own chapters; Flip Wilson, Redd Foxx, Arsenio Hall, Diahann Carroll, they’re all in here.

With this book on your lap, you’ll take a trip to the Soul Train studio, and visit the Huxtable living room. Remember how In Living Color skewered almost


everything? Remember the night James Evans died? Which Sister, Sister twin was your favorite? Is the new version of The Wonder Years realistic enough for black audiences?

This book is absolutely packed with insider information, memories, stars, guest stars, and lots of pictures to nudge your nostalgia and send you looking for something to binge-watch on repeat or to catch new. It’s a great book to share with generations who missed seeing these shows live. Or just sit and read “Black TV” and let that be tonight’s entertain-


ment.

If these books on black entertainment aren’t enough for you, then be sure to look around for more. Author Bogle has several other biographical volumes on the shelves. You’ll find books about and by black stars, books about specific movies and TV shows, retrospectives that will take you way back, and more behind-the-scenes peeks of your favorite series. Your bookseller or librarian will be able to put these books in your hand because they’re good like that.

And so are these books.



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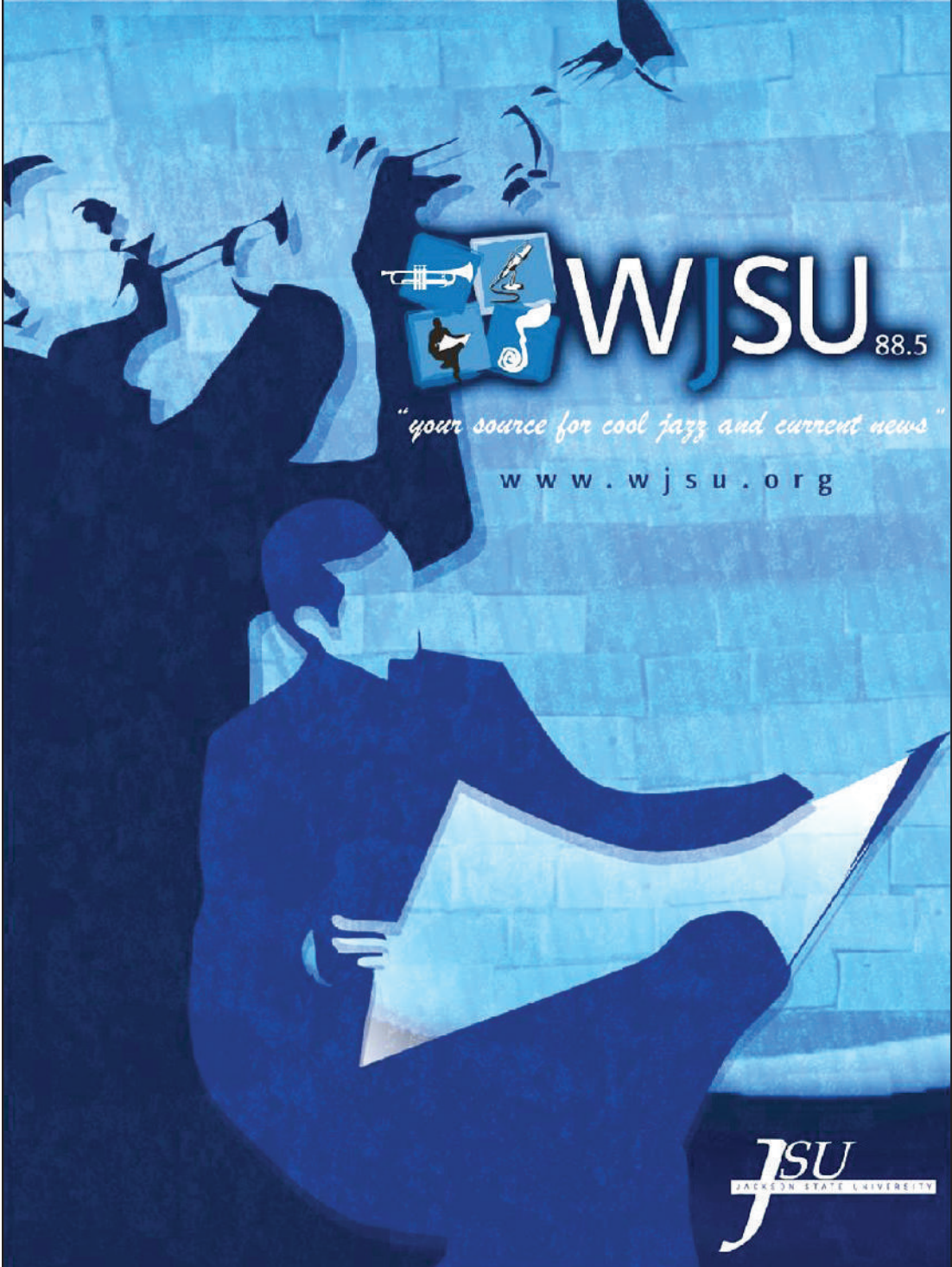
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Jackson State looks to the transfer portal and recruiting to improve team

By Tim Ward
Sports Writer

Head coach TC Taylor and his staff are on the hunt for players for next season's team. Going 7-4 in his first campaign as the head man was a good tone setter for the program. But after tasting back to back SWAC championships as an assistant coach, he wants that taste as the head coach.

Seven McGee is one of 5 players who have entered the transfer portal. McGee made his intentions known on social media. Other players that have entered are Tristen Sion, defensive back; Duke Miller, wide receiver; Greyson Thompson, quarterback; and Jackson Berry, linebacker.

One of the advantages for JSU this year is, coach Taylor doesn't have to put a coaching staff together. He's settled into his role and so are his coaches. Improving the team and building off last year is starting from a winning position.

Last season, the starting quarterback job changed hands mid season. Jason Brown came out throwing fire in the season opener. Tiger fans were ecstatic feeling like JSU had a solid replacement for Shedeur Sanders. In the following week versus FAMU, Brown was not nearly as effective. Zy McDonald came in to finish the game. That about sums up the quarterback position last season. Jason Brown starts, gets pulled for another quarterback.

After healing from his injured hand, Jacobian Morgan eased into the starting role. Initially coming in to run, his strength, speed and power were game changing for the offense. Morgan would start the final four games of the season. For the season, he finished with 842 yards passing with 10 touchdowns and 1 interception. He also rushed for 150 yards with 6 touchdowns. Morgan was injured in the final game against Alcorn. Jason Brown finished the game.

Texas Southern's quarterback Andrew Body has entered the transfer portal. Body is 3 inches short than Morgan but started for Texas Southern the past two seasons. He's amassed over 4100 yards passing with 27 touchdowns while rushing for 1287 yards with 9 touchdowns on the ground. He was preseason SWAC second team behind FAMU's Jer-

emy Moussa.

If JSU could land Body, it would strongly improve their quarterback depth. Body will be highly recruited; not just by SWAC teams, but teams across the country. JSU hasn't said publicly if they will actively recruit Body or not.

Taylor recruited Jacobian Morgan out of Canton, but he chose Syracuse University. Now with him back home, Taylor might not want to rock the boat by attempting to bring Body in. It remains to be seen how things play out.

Jackson State has been successful in the past bringing in players from the portal. Besides the quarterbacks, they brought in Irv Mulligan as running back who was one of the rushing leaders in the SWAC. Mulligan took over for JD Martin when he got hurt. Mulligan took the reigns and carried them until he became injured.

The trenches are where JSU is expected to concentrate on heavily as well. Being able to protect their quarterbacks and running backs is paramount. On the other side, the defensive line needs to improve on helping to stop the run this season. Expect an influx of recruiting in the trenches from the staff.

Lastly, one of the best stories from last season was also a history making one. Lelani Armenta, the freshman kicker, made history becoming the first woman to score in a division I football game. She announced that she will forgo playing soccer and concentrate on kicking for Jackson State.

"I would like to thank God, my parents and everyone who has supported me in my life. With that being said, I will be stepping away from soccer and pursuing collegiate football as a kicker," Armenta tweeted. "It has been my dream to play Division I football and playing for Coach TC Taylor has been a blessing. I am very thankful for the opportunity to continue playing for such an amazing program. I will continue pursuing my football career at Jackson State University and I would like to thank the Tiger family for supporting me and I can't wait to see what the future holds for the JSU football program."



JSU Head coach TC Taylor won 7 games first season.



Jason Brown



Andrew Body from Texas Southern has entered the transfer portal
PHOTOS BY TIM WARD



JSU Acting President Dr. Elayne Hayes-Anthony with Lelani Armenta who has committed to JSU football as kicker



Jacobian Morgan



Seven McGee has entered the transfer portal



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NEW HORIZON CHURCH
1750 ELLIS AVENUE #200
JACKSON, MS 39204
BISHOP RONNIE C. CRUDUP, SR. HOST PASTOR

**WORKSHOP SESSIONS:
SATURDAY, JAN. 6TH | 9AM - 5PM**

SCAN TO REGISTER FOR WORKSHOPS



DEADLINE JANUARY 5TH

Opening Christmas Season in Capitol City Downtown Jackson • December 1, 2023

PHOTOS BY JAY JOHNSON



Hinds County School District Weekly Update

ENGAGING-EMPOWERING-ENSURING-EXCELLENCE

2023 FORUM ON AMERICAN ENTERPRISE

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



Left to right: Tonie Crisler, Hinds County Community Relations; Tequia Willis, assistant director of CTE and Career Academies, Hinds County School District; Aleehsa Hudson, incorporator at Community Resource Foundation; Rashad Kennedy, student; Terquavius Evans, student; Zoie McCoy, student; Lanaya Wright, student; Julie Ingram, Career Academies

