



What a community pillar looks like

“Thank God for His continuous mercy and grace over my life,” Rev Argustus “AG” Harper, Sr.

By Christopher Young
Contributing Writer

First things first: First, you come through the daughter, then you come through two granddaughters, and only then do you meet the patriarch of the family, Reverend Argustus Harper affectionately known as daddy, granddaddy, and “AG.” It was just like that the evening of June 20, 2024, when *The Mississippi Link* newspaper was invited into the home of Reverend Argustus Harper. A simple question was asked a week prior to this interview. “Who knows the most about the history of the St. Thomas community?” Reverend Harper was the very first name uttered.



Reverend Argustus S. Harper, Sr.

Born on February 3, 1931, his 93 years is a testimony of love and service to the St. Thomas community. His parents, Jessie and Mary, had ten children consisting of seven boys and three girls. Reverend Harper and Shirley Burns are the last living siblings with Shirley living next door. A close cousin, Barbara Ann Smith lives in Chicago, Illinois.

His school aged years began in Hinds County Public Schools. He matriculated to Southern Christian Institute (SCI) in Edwards, MS to complete his final two years of high school. SCI merged with Tougaloo College the following year where his school records are stored.

During his years of high school at SCI, he met the love of his life, Edna Earl Smith. They married in 1955 and remained in that marriage for fifty years, one month

and twenty-five days until her death in 2005.

The Harpers have two children, Margaret Perry and Argustus “Gus” Harper Jr.; three granddaughters from Margaret, Chera, LaWanda, and Brandy; and one grandson from Argustus Jr. named Geoffrey. In sitting with Reverend Harper, Margaret, Chera, and LaWanda, it is easy to become emotional. The love and closeness that is visible in this family is so powerful, yet so ordinary for them.

When Reverend Harper was asked about the message that he passes on to his grandchildren in these times, he indicated it is the same as he had for his children, “Nothing is more important than a tight knit family, remember where



St. Thomas Missionary Baptist Church, 4699 St. Thomas Road, Bolton, MS 39041

you came from and the family tradition, and watch out for one another.”

LaWanda, the middle granddaughter was asked the question, “what is the best thing about Reverend Harper?” Without hesitation, she said, “His heart. It beats for God first, it beats for his family, and it beats for others.”

Reverend Harper grew up farming corn, cotton and hay. In 1965, he took a job at Vickers/Eaton starting as janitor. He later advanced to developing critical aerospace machinery parts before retiring. Being the entrepreneur he is, and for the love of his life, Edna, he built Harper’s Beauty Salon investing in her natural talent for styling and caring for cli-

ent’s hair. That investment created a legacy while the daughter, Margaret, and all three granddaughters are engaged in keeping the legacy going with old, new and impressive hairstyles.

Years later, he saw the need in the community for a laundromat. And so it was, a laundromat was added on to the existing hair salon. Both businesses are still thriving today and are among the first Black-owned businesses in the Bolton, Clinton area. When asked about the impact of his businesses, he replied, “We try to help others. People come here for help. Sometimes my wife would work until nine o’clock and later. We tried to

Harper
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Buttigieg tours Mississippi civil rights site and says transportation is key to equity in the US



U.S. Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg, second from right, U.S. Rep. Bennie Thompson, D-Miss., second from left, and Mississippi Transportation Commissioner for the Central District Willie Simmons, left, listen as Reena Evers-Everette, speaks about her life as a young child in the home of assassinated civil rights leader Medgar Evers, Friday, June 21, 2024, in Jackson, Miss. The house, the Medgar and Myrlie Evers National Monument, was one of the stops Buttigieg made as he spent Thursday and Friday in Mississippi, promoting projects that will be helped or will be receiving money from a federal infrastructure act. AP PHOTO/ROGELIO V. SOLIS, POOL

By Emily Wagster Pettus
The Associated Press

Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg on Friday toured the home of assassinated civil rights leader Medgar Evers in Mississippi’s capital city, saying afterward that transportation is important to securing equity and justice in the United States.

“Disparities in access to transportation affect everything else — education, economic opportunity, quality of life, safety,” Buttigieg said.

Buttigieg spent Thursday and Friday in Mississippi, his first trip to the state, to promote projects that are receiving money from a 2021 federal infrastructure act. One is a planned \$20 million improvement to Medgar Evers Boulevard in Jackson, which is a stretch of U.S. Highway 49.

Evers’ daughter, Reena Evers-Everette, talked to Buttigieg about growing up in the modest one-story home that her family moved into in 1956 — about how she and her older brother would put on clean white socks and slide on the hardwood floors after their mother, Myrlie, waxed them.

It’s the same home where Myrlie Evers talked to her husband, the Mississippi NAACP leader, about the work he was doing to register Black voters and to challenge the state’s strictly segregated society.

Medgar Evers had just arrived home in the early hours of June 12, 1963, when a white supremacist fatally shot him, hours after President John F. Kennedy delivered a televised speech about civil rights.

After touring the Evers home, Buttigieg talked about the recent anniversary of the assassination. He also noted that Friday marked 60 years since Ku Klux Klansmen ambushed and killed three civil rights workers — Michael Schwerner, James Chaney and Andrew Goodman — in Neshoba County, Mississippi, as they were investigating the burning of a Black church.

“As we bear the moral weight of our inheritance, it feels a little bit strange to be talking about street lights and ports and highway funding and some of the other day-to-day transportation needs that we are here to do something about,” Buttigieg said.

Yet, he said equitable transportation has always been “one of the most important battlegrounds of the struggle for racial and economic justice and civil rights in this country.”

Buttigieg said Evers called for a boycott of gas stations that wouldn’t allow Black customers to use their restrooms, and Rosa Parks refused to give up her seat to a white man on a bus in Montgomery, Alabama.

U.S. Rep. Bennie Thompson, who toured sites in his Mississippi district with Buttigieg, said the majority-Black city of Jackson has been “left out of so many funding opportunities” for years, while money to expand roads has gone to more affluent suburbs. He called the \$20 million a “down payment” toward future funding.

“This down payment will fix some of the problems associated with years of neglect — potholes, businesses that have closed because there’s no traffic,” Thompson said.

Thompson is the only Democrat representing Mississippi in Congress and is the only member of the state’s U.S. House delegation who voted for the infrastructure bill. Buttigieg also said Mississippi Republican U.S. Sen. Roger Wicker voted for it.

Biden-Harris investment in Black Press goes beyond swing states

By Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Sr. National Correspondent

The Biden-Harris Campaign announced last week, at the NNPA Convention in Baltimore, MD, a \$1.5 million advertising deal. The announcement goes beyond swing states and serves as a reminder of what the current administration has done for African-American-owned small businesses, including the Black Press of America.



NNPA publishers visited The White House during Black Press Week

“In August of last year, our campaign announced the earliest and largest investment into Black media for any reelection campaign in history,” said Jasmine Harris, director of National Black Media for Biden-Harris 2024. “This partnership with the NNPA is a continuation of those efforts and will strengthen our work in meeting Black voters where they are, to underscore the stakes of this election for Black America. President Biden and Vice President Harris are responsible for creating millions of new jobs for Black workers and record low Black unemployment. Black America has far too much to lose this election.”

The Black Press, which dates to 1827, has remained a steadfast pillar for African-American voices. That mission persists today as the Black Press approaches its 200th anniversary in 2027. “I think the campaign realizes that, by advertising with NNPA newspapers, it also serves to support the 230+ Black-owned small business media companies, which will have the effect of stimulating the local economy,” said NNPA Sales and Business Development Director Ron Burke.

The NNPA is a trade association made up of Black-owned media companies.

President Biden and Vice President Harris have already unveiled a comprehensive plan aimed at economic growth, job creation

and business support. The administration earlier announced that over 18 million new business applications have been filed since they took office, with Black-owned small businesses reaching their highest levels in 25 years.

Officials at the Small Business Administration noted that, “Under the Biden-Harris Administration, the United States has experienced a historic small business boom being led by women and people of color, and FY23 furthered that trend with 11 percent more loans delivered to small businesses than in FY22. Black-owned small businesses are crucial to this monumental growth.”

The administration’s economic policies have led to the creation of over 2.5 million jobs for Black workers, helping to reduce the Black unemployment rate to historic lows. As of April 2023, the unemployment rate for Black workers fell to 4.8%, the lowest on record, and has continued to trend below historical averages.

The administration is also prioritizing homeownership as a means to build generational wealth. The American Rescue Plan has provided significant support through emergency rental assistance and mortgage forbearance programs, benefiting millions of Americans, including a large proportion of

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Medgar Evers Library Celebrates 4th Year of Juneteenth

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Greater Bethlehem Temple Church's third annual Community Fair reigns victorious

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

Activities inside and outside Greater Bethlehem Temple Church, located at 1505 Robinson Street in Jackson, MS, demonstrated the spirit of community-mindedness Saturday, June 8, 2024. The 3rd Annual Community Fair, from 9 a.m.-1 p.m., was the welcome mat for youth and adults alike who found themselves benefitting from information pertaining to health, storms, mortgages, wills, photography and other matters.

Bishop Robert Fortson, Sr. — leader of GBTC — reflected on relations with the community when he voiced, “Our relationships have been significant blessings, and we are pleased with today’s turnout. Coming out for this cause produces meaningful and gratifying rewards for both the church and the community.”

This year’s community fair was organized by GBTC’s Department of Social Services. In conjunction with Children’s Day weekend celebrations and in keeping with the church’s mission, team members provided services for people to find hope, support and assistance to help build community solidarity.

Solidarity was exemplified via interactions from public service agencies; local businesses; health clinics; mental health providers;



Atty. Damon Stevenson appealed to seniors to take control of legal issues for their overall well being.



Janice Huff is a disability advocate who assists the disabled with low-income health facilities.

pro bono legal services; law enforcement agencies; food banks; clothes closets; fitness clubs; se-



Boys at play.

PHOTOS BY JANICE K. NEAL-VINCENT, PH.D.



Devote time to kids.

nior service agencies; employers; educators and more.

No stone was unturned as there

were many benefits for all who attended the affair. Helpful information occurred from presentations,

handouts, flyers and notetaking. Many comments, questions and responses were made, thereby infusing a reciprocal process among facilitators, vendors and patrons.

During the community outreach, attorney Damon Stevenson, one of the speakers, spoke to seniors about legal issues that they should consider. He emphasized that state planning, wills, power of attorney and health care issues were essentials for seniors’ well-being. The attorney strongly advised seniors to avoid reverse mortgages. “A lot of homes and properties in our community are being lost because of reverse mortgage,” he said.

Stevenson went on to say that when grandparents’ homes are paid for and a loan is taken out from some financial institution, a major asset is passed on, and if no family member can pay the debt off with interest, the property could be lost.

Seniors were encouraged to find out which one of their children is trustworthy to pay their bills upon their deaths. Also, seniors were advised that if they end up in nursing homes, Medicare or Medicaid could put a lien on their homes. If, however, they add somebody else’s name on the deed, then Medicare or Medicaid would be prevented from enforcing a lien.

Kristiana Allen, Sea Grant representative of Mississippi and

Alabama, explained that the community has to depend on radar at night, and people may not have a clue that tornadoes are coming. “It takes about 70 miles per hour to destroy a mobile home, and people must be prepared year-round. The Weather-Wise Workshop’s goal is to visit every library throughout Mississippi to render tornado safety workshops to encourage proactive participation for safety measures.

Disability Advocate Janice Huff helps people with disabilities get organized by assisting them in the completion of paper work. If they are approved, they begin receiving monthly benefits and get a Medicare card. Huff acknowledged that part of her job is to help the disabled find low-income health facilities.

Demetrice Boone, medical records clerk, is supervisor for Hamilton Davis Mental Health, Inc. Mental health service, she indicated, is needed in our communities because “peoples’ voices are silent. Services enable the residents to continue to survive daily living.

Christa Bennett is a case manager community support specialist. She works with youth and encourages them to build positive self-esteem. She visits schools and speaks with students one-on-one via face-to-face communication to help them achieve their goal.

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Harper

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be the heartbeat of the community by taking care of one another.”

In 1968, at the age of thirty-seven, he was called into the ministry which led to him enrolling in Reformed Theological Seminary in Jackson, MS. In 1969, he became an ordained Minister of the Gospel under the leadership of Reverend H.T. Frazier, senior pastor of St. Thomas Missionary Baptist Church in Bolton, MS. Reverend Darryl L. Magee is the current senior pastor of St. Thomas where Reverend Harper is still on the list of ministers. He was active for thirty-three years of his fifty-five years in the ministry.

Reverend Harper’s ministry led him to pastor churches including St. Thomas Missionary Baptist Church (MBC), Hopewell MBC in Raymond, MS, Strawbridge Baptist Church in Utica, MS, Mt. Olive MBC in Bolton, MS, and El Bethel Baptist Church in Bolton, MS.

He was and is a presence in his family, spiritually shepherding numerous congregations for decades, farming, developing, and responding to the needs of the community. *The Mississippi Link* asked the son of the deceased St. Thomas Missionary Baptist Church senior pastor



Harper's Beauty Salon & Coin Laundry, 1904 N. Frontage Road, Clinton, MS
PHOTOS BY CHRIS YOUNG

who ordained Reverend Harper to comment. Mississippi State Senator Hillman T. Frazier responded, “He was the rock of the community, a dedicated family man, and servant. He always had time to mentor the young people in the church and the community.” How about that, from one giant about another, “the rock of the community.”

We also reached out to the current senior pastor of St. Thomas MBC, Reverend Darryl L. Magee, who shared, “Reverend Harper is our senior associate pastor. He was in the pulpit about a year ago and is often invited to preach at other churches. He never misses Sunday School, and he teaches a men’s class. He is steadfast; he has helped me with his wisdom and leader-

ship. We still call him pastor. It is proper because I look at him as being the father-figure of our church since Reverend H.T. Frazier passed. He is a great man.”

Near the end of the interview, Reverend Harper was asked who it was that had the most significant influence on the man that he would become. He immediately responded, “Sarah Davis, my grandmother on my mother’s side.” Later he added, “Serving the Lord is a challenge. I always took the minimum salary for ordinary preachers. I’m a father and I have tried to be a father to the community.” His favorite Bible verse, “Do not cast me away when I am old; do not forsake me when my strength is gone.” (Psalm 71:9 New International Version (NIV))

Swing States

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Black families. The Federal Housing Administration has played a key role in supporting mortgages for Black and Hispanic borrowers, ensuring stability and security for senior homeowners through its Home Equity Conversion Mortgage programs.

Addressing the burden of student loan debt, which disproportionately affects Black Americans, President Biden has delivered over \$167 billion in student loan debt relief, despite interference by Republicans, federal judges and the U.S. Supreme Court.

Further, the administration’s expansion of the child tax credit under the American Rescue Plan has significantly reduced poverty rates among Black children. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, Black child poverty nearly halved from 2020 to 2021, showcasing the direct impact of these policies on vulnerable communities.

The Biden-Harris administration said they remain committed to reversing these trends and ensuring that economic growth benefits all Americans, particularly those who have been historically marginalized, including

a commitment to closing the racial wealth gap and empowering Black families.

For the Black Press to tell the story properly, it must have resources, *Michigan Chronicle* publisher and Real Times Media CEO Hiram Jackson said.

“The initial advertising deal between the campaign and the Black Press is a great first step. It symbolizes that the campaign understands the significance of the Black Press, but it can’t only be a first step. There must be many more steps to increase engagement, voter registration and excitement,” said Jackson.



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Celebrating the Life & Legacy of Dr. Barbara Crockett Dease

September 16, 1937 – June 9, 2024



Barbara Laverne Crockett Dease (Cricket), was born on September 16, 1937, in Raleigh, North Carolina to Manuel H. Crockett, Sr. and Myrtle Rose Creecy Crockett. She transitioned to her eternal home on Sunday, June 9, 2024, surrounded by family. Her life and legacy was celebrated on June

17, 2024 at Pearl Street AME Church in Jackson.

Barbara married William (Billy) King Dease, Sr. on April 2, 1960, and they were married 64 years. She accepted Christ at an early age and united with Pearl Street A.M.E. Church when she and Billy moved to Jackson, Mississippi in 1963. She was a faithful member until her death.

She was an early entrant into the Ford Program at Fisk College, attending college at 16 years old. While at Fisk, she was initiated into the Pi Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated on December 3, 1955. Shortly after she was initiated at Fisk, her father insisted she come home to Raleigh, North Carolina to attend North Carolina Central

University where she received her Bachelor of Arts degree in French in 1958. She earned her Master's Degree in French Education from Atlanta University in 1960. She later received her Ph.D. in Negritude and Black French Literature from The Florida State University in 1976.

Barbara worked in higher education for over 50 years, 45 of them in HBCUs, molding and shaping young minds, teaching French, English, and Freshman Experience courses. She taught at Clark College (1958-1962), Jackson State University (1963-1988), Spelman College (1988-1993), University of Southern Mississippi (1993-1997), Rust College (1997-1999) and Tougaloo College (2000-2010) throughout her career. She

served as the Dean of Humanities at both Rust College and Tougaloo College. One of her crowning achievements was serving as a mentor to Dr. Jarvis C. McInnis, Tougaloo College's first Truman Fellow and the first Truman Fellow from an HBCU in the state of Mississippi. She retired from Tougaloo College in 2010.

She served on many boards, but the one nearest to her heart was her tenure as a member of the Mississippi Humanities Council. She has been recognized for her professional achievements and as a member of many professional and civic organizations. Even as her health began to fail, she continued to be active in most of the civic organizations in which she had been a member all these

years. At Pearl Street A.M.E. Church, she was a member of Stewardess Board #1, Unit 5 of the Laura Felts Women's Missionary Society, and she served as a Vacation Bible School Teacher of the young adults. She was a Charter Member of the Jackson (MS) Chapter of Jack and Jill of America, Incorporated, a member of Mary Church Terrell Literary Club, and a 68-year Pearl member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated, Beta Delta Omega Chapter.

Her daughter, three (3) of her seven (7) granddaughters, and a bonus granddaughter, are all proud and active members of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated. She also had six nieces and four other close family members in the sorority. She

truly left a legacy of service through teaching and her community involvement.

Barbara was preceded in death by her father, Manuel H. Crockett, Sr., and her mother, Myrtle Creecy Crockett, and her two brothers, Manuel H. Crockett, Jr. and William Charles Crockett. She leaves to cherish her memory: her devoted husband of 64 years, William King Dease, Sr. of Jackson, MS; her daughter, Mitzi (James) Paige of Jackson, MS; her son, William (Trinette) King Dease, II of Jacksonville, FL; her seven grandgirls-Bria, Amber, Kelyn, Kamryn, Kayla, Kara and Kinley; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, other relatives, friends, colleagues, church, sorority and club members and former students.

PHOTOS BY JAY JOHNSON



Traveling exhibit details life of Andrew Young, diplomat, civil rights icon

The Associated Press
The life, achievements and contributions of Andrew Young, the first African American U.S. ambassador to the United Nations and an invaluable aide to the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., went on display at the University of Mississippi.

The traveling exhibit landed at the J.D. Williams Library on the campus in Oxford Tuesday, June 25th. The public can get a look at "The Many Lives of Andrew Young" in the library's first-floor atrium through July 31.

An opening reception, which Young attended, was held at 4 p.m. followed by a book signing. The event was free and open to the public.

"I am eager to share my journey and discuss where we are in bringing diversity, equity, and inclusion to all and the future of our collaborations," Young said in a news release.

The exhibit, created by the Na-

tional Monuments Foundation, chronicles Young's life through photographs, memorabilia and his own words, based on Ernie Suggs' book, "The Many Lives of Andrew Young."

The James Armistead Brown Family Endowment paid for the exhibit's trip to Ole Miss, the third university to host the collection. Elizabeth Batte, outreach and strategic initiatives librarian, said the exhibit fits with the library's mission of "celebrating and preserving history."

"The life that Andrew Young lived is not only relevant to people in Mississippi but to our whole nation," she said. "So, it's really special to us to be able to host this. I'm hoping that having Andrew Young come helps the younger visitors realize that this Civil Rights fight wasn't that long ago, and these conversations are still relevant."

The public can visit the exhibit any time the library is open.



Civil Rights icon Andrew Young AP PHOTO/BRYNN ANDERSON, FILE



The Rev. Andrew Young, executive vice president of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, speaks during a meeting about an unprovoked police attack on participants of the Poor People's March, May 14, 1968, in Detroit. AP PHOTO/ALVIN QUINN, FILE

Supervisors vote to allow solar panel farm in central MS over residents' objections



Paulette Robinson, a Hinds County resident, speaks against what could become the state's largest solar energy project if placed in a rural portion of Hinds County, while at the county's supervisors meeting Monday, June 17, 2024, in Jackson, Miss. AP PHOTO/ROGELIO V. SOLIS

The Associated Press

What could become Mississippi's largest solar energy project was approved by a county board Monday over objections from people who live near the proposed site.

Hinds County supervisors voted 3-2 in favor of a conditional use permit for the Soul City Solar project, which would be developed near the Jackson suburbs of Raymond and Bolton.

After hearing open public comments, the board voted to approve the project. Opponents had expressed concerns about how the solar panels might affect wildlife, nature and property values.

The company behind the project, Apex Clean Energy, is based in Charlottesville, Virginia. Apex says on its website that Soul City Solar would generate enough electricity to power about 95,000 homes.

County officials said they expect the solar farm to be in operation by the end of 2027.

Man accused in killing and kidnappings in Louisiana waives extradition

The Associated Press

A man arrested in the slaying of a Louisiana woman and abduction of her two daughters and subsequent death of one of them waived extradition Friday in federal court in Mississippi, clearing the way for his return to Louisiana to face trial.

During his court appearance

in Jackson, Daniel Callihan, 36, waived his right to a preliminary hearing and his detention hearing, multiple news outlets reported. He will remain in the custody of the U.S. Marshals Service until he is transferred to Louisiana for those proceedings, the stations said. It was not immediately known when that

would occur.

Callihan has been charged with federal conspiracy in Mississippi. He and another suspect, Victoria Cox, are expected to be charged with several state and federal charges in Mississippi and Louisiana, including first-degree murder, sexual battery and kidnapping. Jail records

did not list attorneys for either suspect and the U.S. Attorney's Office in Louisiana declined to comment when asked about the cases.

They're accused in last week's death of Callie Brunett, 35, of Loranger, Louisiana, and kidnapping and death of Brunett's 4-year-old daughter, whose ab-

duction crossed from Louisiana into Mississippi. Brunett's 6-year-old daughter survived the abduction and has since been returned to family in Louisiana.

Although he waived his rights to federal hearings, Callihan must return to Mississippi to face state charges in relation to the alleged crimes.



Callihan

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America's enduring racism on front street with its leading man

Lying about election results yet supported in-person at criminal trial by U.S. House Speaker

By Christopher Young
Contributing Writer

We can agree that cable news and the major broadcast stations' incessant coverage of Trump is downright exhausting for us all. He loves being the center of attention and a showman, and so it's a perfect, and highly lucrative, match for them.

ABC is owned by Disney, NBC by Comcast, CBS by Paramount, CNN by Warner, MSNBC by NBC Universal/Comcast, and Fox and News Corp are controlled by the Murdoch family. The first five of these are among the 150 most profitable companies in America, per Fortune.com. We are left with the reality that these news outlets – loaded with infotainment programming – thrive while de facto showcasing the unethical, racist, and criminal Trump, who will trade democracy for fame and power in a heartbeat.

In November 2016, shortly after Trump's election, nearly half (46%) said his election would lead to worse race relations, while 25% expected his election to lead to improved race relations, and another 26% expected little change. A year into his presidency, a majority of Americans (60%) say that his election has led to worse race relations, just 8% said his election has led to better race relations, and 30% said it has not made a difference, all per The Pew Research Center.

Think that through for a mo-



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COMMENTARY

ment as he is now on the ballot once again, and this time even those who are too young to vote can easily see his willful disregard for others and his blatant vengefulness.

With just a little over four months until the general election, on November 5, 2024, a consensus of polls have President Biden ahead, but by only a sliver, overall. Per Fivethirtyeight.com, polls of registered voters done by The Economist, Fox News, Fox News again, Morning Consult, New York Post, and Morning Consult again – taken at various times between June 11th and June

18th – revealed the following in the same order listed.

The Economist shows the race is dead even, and the others show Biden +1, +2, +1, +1, +2, and +1, respectively.

On June 20, 2024, The Hill reported that in the key swing states, polling by New Emerson College found Trump up 4 points over President Biden in Arizona and Georgia, 3 points up in Wisconsin and Nevada, 2 points up in Pennsylvania, and 1 point up in Michigan. They found the race dead even in Minnesota. Of note, this polling has seen little change since November 2023.

Let's consider what is says about the American electorate,

since all of these polls were taken after Trump was found guilty on 34 felony counts of fraud/falsifying business records. These polls also came well over a year after Trump was found guilty of sexual abuse and defamation of a woman named E. Jean Carroll. These polls also came a full eighteen months after two different Trump Organization companies were found guilty of criminal tax fraud and falsifying business records in a scheme extending over a 15-year period.

National reporting is jam-packed with attacks by the former president against religious and ethnic minorities,

women, the judicial system, and of course, his political rivals. Some Trump comments are so twisted, yet here we are with the polling indicating he actually has a chance to win the presidency.

Remember when he told a crowd in New Hampshire, "We pledge to you that we will root out the communists, Marxists, fascists, and the radical left thugs that live like vermin within the confines of our country?" Or in the book, *Trumped*, by John R. O'Donnell, the former president of Trump Plaza Hotel & Casinos, said that Trump told him, "I have black guys counting my money. ... I hate it. The only guys I want counting my money are short guys that wear yarmulkes all day." He went on to say that "laziness is a trait in blacks. It really is, I believe that."

During the 2016 campaign, Politico quoted Trump making a speech to include, "When Mexico sends its people, they're not sending their best. They're sending people that have lots of problems, and they're bringing those problems with them. They're bringing drugs. They're bringing crime. They're rapists. And some, I assume, are good people. They're sending us not the right people." There it is – the true underbelly – "not the right people."

There is nothing normal about a presidential candidate, especially a former president,

who speaks these words. Our country was founded under the sin of slavery. Every gain we have made toward equality and justice for all has been connected to our nation as a representative democracy, and to a Constitution; and thankfully to many amendments – course corrections – to that Constitution. None of that is off-limits for Trump to tear down.

He has lied about the results of the last election – the one that he lost by 7,052,770 votes per Federal Election Commission, a government agency. He incited a violent insurrection on January 6, 2021, to overthrow the Constitution. For over three hours during the insurrection, he did nothing as members of congress sought safety, and insurrectionists chanted "Hang Mike Pence," the Vice President.

America being at a crossroads is certainly nothing new, yet we now see a renewed vigor on the national political stage. We could summarize it by saying it's personal gain versus public interest. A win at all costs mentality that includes politics without ethics, to acquire personal gain that favors 'the right people,' over the public interest of all people.

That is the definition of fascism, which goes hand in hand with racism – now fully out of the shadows and on front street, with Trump as its leading man.

Republican Adam Kinzinger endorses Biden-Harris ahead of first presidential debate

By Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Newswire Senior
National Correspondent

Former Republican Congressman Adam Kinzinger has announced his endorsement of President Joe Biden and Vice President Kamala Harris just ahead of the first presidential debate in Atlanta.

Kinzinger, a self-described Republican moderate, served as an Illinois congressman from 2011 until last year. He gained prominence for his opposition to his party's direction, particularly after the January 6 Capitol attack. "This is what putting your country before your party looks like," Biden said.

Kinzinger was one of only two Republicans, alongside former Wyoming Congresswoman Liz Cheney, to serve on the House Select Committee to Investigate the January 6th attack. He was also among the ten House Republicans who voted to impeach Trump in 2021, subsequently deciding not to seek reelection.

In his recent book, "Renegade," Kinzinger reflects on his political career, the challenges of working within a fractured political system, and



President Joe Biden and Vice President Kamala Harris

his growing disillusionment with the Republican Party after Trump's presidency and impeachment trials.

Kinzinger, a vocal critic of former President Donald Trump, cited the "existential threat" Trump poses to American democracy as a critical reason for his endorsement. He referenced Trump's role in the January 6 insurrection and praised President Biden's steadfast commitment to protecting and strengthening democracy.

Kinzinger's endorsement sets the stage for a stark contrast at tomorrow's debate. Trump's election denialism and support for political violence will be starkly juxtaposed against Biden's unwavering advocacy for democracy and law and order, a contrast that will be hard to miss.

Conversely, Biden has fostered a sense of unity in his coalition, welcoming Republicans like Kinzinger. His campaign has invested millions in outreach efforts targeting



Kinzinger

Nikki Haley's primary voters and organizing Republican outreach with dedicated staff, demonstrating a commitment to inclusivity.

"I'm a proud conservative. I always have been. As a proud conservative, I've always put democracy and our Constitution above all else," Kinzinger asserted. "And it's because of my unwavering support for democracy, that today, as a proud conservative, I am endorsing Joe Biden for reelection." The former congressman claimed

that the belief that America is a shining example of freedom, liberty, and democracy has guided him throughout his life.

"So, while I certainly don't agree with President Biden on everything – and I never thought I'd be endorsing a Democrat for president – I know that he will always protect the very thing that makes America the best country in the world: our democracy," he insisted. "Donald Trump poses a direct threat to every fundamental American value. He doesn't care about our country. He doesn't care about you. He only cares about himself, and he will hurt anyone or anything in pursuit of power. We saw that when he tried to overturn an election, he knew he lost in 2020.

"He attacked the foundation of this nation, encouraging a violent mob of his supporters to march on the Capitol to prevent the peaceful transition of power. Now, he has become even more dangerous. He's called for the "termination" of the Constitution. He wants to be a dictator on day one, he actually said that. And he's continuing to stoke the flames of political violence. There is too much at stake to sit on the

sidelines."

Julie Chavez Rodriguez, Biden-Harris 2024 campaign manager, released a statement regarding Kinzinger's endorsement:

"Our campaign is proud to earn the support of Congressman Kinzinger, a true public servant who is a model for putting our country and our democracy over party and blind concession to Trump. Congressman Kinzinger represents the countless Americans that Donald Trump's Republican Party has left behind. Those Americans have a home in President Biden's coalition, and our campaign knows we need to show up and earn their support.

"President Biden will always fight for American democracy, the rule of law, treating each other with decency, dignity, and respect, and working to find common ground – even when we disagree. Congressman Kinzinger's endorsement doesn't just make our campaign stronger; it will better equip us to win the hearts and minds of voters committed to fighting for the future of our democracy and stopping Donald Trump."

West Nile virus

Mississippi Department of Health

Mosquito-borne illnesses in Mississippi include West Nile virus, St. Louis encephalitis, Chikungunya virus and Eastern Equine encephalitis. These illnesses affect birds, animals and humans, causing flu-like symptoms in people who are bitten by infected mosquitoes. Occasionally, illness can be severe, leading to meningitis or encephalitis.

The Mississippi State Department of Health urges all Mississippians to avoid mosquito bites whenever possible. The risk of a healthy person getting West Nile virus from a mosquito bite is "very low," however all people still should protect themselves.

West Nile virus is transmitted primarily through the bite of an infected mosquito; although, there have been isolated cases occurring in blood transfusion and organ donation recipients,



from mother to baby during pregnancy and through breast milk. People cannot become infected through ordinary contact with an infected bird, horse or human.

• Protect Yourself

Avoid mosquitoes whenever possible. Stay indoors or take personal protective measures, especially between dusk and dawn, which are peak mosquito biting times.

• Use mosquito repellent with DEET. Products with up to 30 percent DEET will provide adequate protection under most conditions. Use DEET concentrations of 10 percent or less on children ages two years -12 years of age, as recommended

by the American Academy of Pediatrics. For children less than two year of age, parents should consult their pediatrician. Always follow the manufacturer's directions for use as printed on the product label.

• Wear long-sleeved, long-legged clothing with socks and shoes when practical.

• Individuals should wear gloves when handling any dead bird or mammal because of the possibility of other diseases.

• Protect your home: prevent mosquito breeding around your home.

• Dispose of tin cans, plastic containers, ceramic pots or similar water-holding containers.

• Remove all discarded tires on the property. Used tires have become the most common mosquito breeding site in the country.

• Remove all leaf debris.

• Close garbage can lids. Be sure water does not collect in the bottom of garbage cans.

• Drill holes in the bottoms of all recycling containers that are kept outdoors.

• Make sure roof gutters drain properly, and clean clogged gutters in the spring and fall.

• Turn over plastic wading pools and wheelbarrows when not in use.

• Change the water in bird baths frequently (every 2-3 days).

• Clean vegetation and debris from the edge of ponds.

• Clean and chlorinate swimming pools, outdoor saunas and hot tubs.

• Drain water from pool covers.

• Use landscaping to eliminate standing water that collects on your property.

• Repair damaged or torn window and door screens.

• Remove outdoor pet food and water dishes that are not being use.

• Flush livestock water troughs twice a week.

Why men should talk about their health



StatePoint

American men may be neglecting their health and wellness, particularly when it comes to their urological health. But an open line of communication between men and their healthcare providers, and among family members, can lead to better care.

A Cleveland Clinic survey found that only 3 out of 5 men get annual physicals and 55% do not get regular health screenings. What's more, many men shy away from the subject of their health, with 77% reporting that they don't know their complete family history when it comes to urological issues.

"There is a clear need to fill care gaps and destigmatize men's health issues," says Shaun Noorian, CEO and founder of Empower Pharmacy, a compounding pharmacy that supports patients with men's health concerns such as testosterone, sexual wellness, prostate health and gynecostasia.

Fortunately, innovations in the health care industry that are expanding access to tailored care are helping fill these gaps and helping health care providers support their patients' needs more effectively.

Noorian's own story shows how a compounding pharmacy helped him optimize his health. His doctor recommended compounded medications after a health and wellness check of his hormones. The compounded medications provided the exact dosage and strength prescription he needed, which can't always be found through traditional medicines.

But compounding goes beyond hormones. Noorian discovered it could also address various men's health concerns like testosterone, sexual wellness, urology and dermatology.

Noorian says that men can use these tips for a happy, healthier life:

• Don't wait until you have a serious medical condition to

see your doctor. Schedule annual physicals and all recommended health care screenings.

• Destigmatize men's health issues by talking to male family members about prostate cancer. Prostate cancer is the second leading cause of cancer deaths for men in the United States and a man is two to three times more likely to get prostate cancer if his father, brother or son had it. You should also talk to your primary care doctor or urologist about having a blood test and examination, particularly if you have a family history of the disease.

• Erectile dysfunction affects nearly 30 million men of all ages across the United States, according to the Indiana University School of Medicine, which notes that it could be the sign of another underlying health issue. Your urologist can help rule out causes, like heart disease and high blood pressure.

• When dealing with men's health issues, talk to your healthcare provider about all available treatment options,

including the potential benefits of using a compounding pharmacy. Compounded medicine enables healthcare providers to prescribe treatments that are specifically tailored to individual biomarkers (biological molecules found in body fluids or tissues that are a sign of a condition or disease) by dosage and formulation. By analyzing biomarker data, compounded medications can be formulated with precise dosages and combinations of more than one active pharmaceutical ingredient, optimizing therapeutic outcomes for a wide range of health conditions.

"For the best care possible, men should be proactive about their health, and providers should explore with their patients all available treatment options, including personalized solutions," says Noorian.

To learn more about how compounding pharmacies can support men's health, visit empowerpharmacy.com.

Why a healthier mouth equals a healthier you

StatePoint

Better oral health is strongly linked to better overall health, helping you speak properly, eat healthfully, and prevent certain infections and disease. According to experts, it all starts with preserving your natural teeth.

"Your natural teeth are not disposable. They are designed to last a lifetime," says Dr. Natasha M. Flake, president of the American Association of Endodontists (AAE). "Taking steps to preserve your teeth is fundamental to a healthy mouth, a healthy body and a happy life."

Unfortunately, millions of U.S. adults don't have dental insurance, and many low-income adults lack the means to acquire dental services. As a result, they may forgo preventive care and even emergency care when issues arise.

"Delaying or avoiding care can cause a snowball effect of additional oral health and systemic health issues," says Dr. Flake. "Even a minor oral infection can escalate into a life-threatening situation if left untreated."

In an effort to urge Americans to get timely oral health care, the AAE has launched a multipronged campaign highlighting the link between oral health and overall health. The campaign includes digital billboards in Times Square, advocacy messages in building



Awareness campaigns draw the link between oral health and overall health.

lights, and pop-up educational events where free dental care kits are distributed.

Many AAE members even provide free root canal treatments to those in need through organized free root canal days. Flake points out how critical this service is.

"All too often, the default treatment for infection and tooth decay is tooth extraction," says Dr. Flake. "The truth is that we can do better

for all patients, particularly those in underserved communities. In fact, outreach efforts funded by the Foundation for Endodontics help patients in underserved communities receive much-needed dental care and save their teeth."

Endodontists are highly skilled dental specialists in diagnosing and treating tooth pain. When performing root canals, they use the latest in 3D imaging and advanced technology

to put safety first and reduce the risk of infection. With 25 million procedures performed every year, root canal treatments are safe, convenient and widely recommended. To locate a nearby endodontist, visit the AAE's useful patient tool findmyendodontist.com.

If you're experiencing tooth pain or sensitivity, don't delay your care. Visit an endodontist to protect your smile and your health.

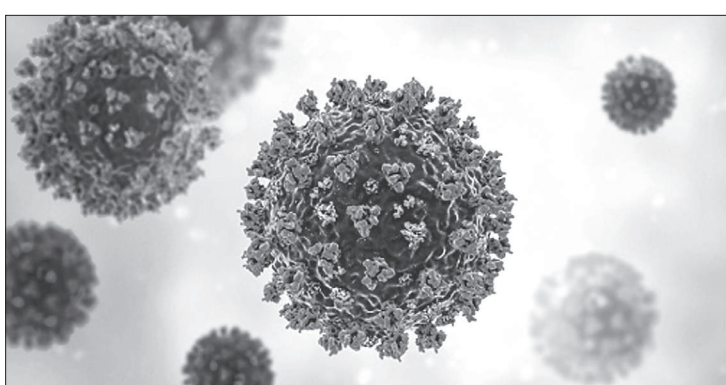
Past COVID infections may help protect against certain colds. Could it lead to better vaccines?

By Laura Ungar
AP Science Writer

If you've been sick with COVID-19, you may have some protection against certain versions of the common cold.

A new study suggests previous COVID-19 infections lower the risk of getting colds caused by milder coronavirus cousins, which could provide a key to broader COVID-19 vaccines.

"We think there's going to be a future outbreak of a coronavirus," said Dr. Manish Sagar, senior author of the study published Wednesday in the journal *Science Translational Medicine*.



"Vaccines potentially could be improved if we could replicate some of the immune responses that are provided by natural infection."

The study looked at COVID-19 PCR tests from more than 4,900 people who sought medical care between November 2020 and October 2021. After

controlling for things like age, gender and preexisting conditions, Sagar said he and his colleagues found people previously infected with COVID-19 had about a 50% lower chance of having a symptomatic coronavirus-caused common cold compared with people who were, at the time, fully vaccinated and hadn't yet gotten COVID-19.

Several viruses cause colds; coronaviruses are thought to be responsible for about 1 in 5 colds.

Researchers linked the protection against coronavirus-caused colds to virus-killing

cell responses for two specific viral proteins. These proteins aren't used in most vaccines now, but researchers propose adding them in the future.

"Our studies would suggest that these may be novel strategies for better vaccines that not only tackle the current coronaviruses, but any potential future one that may emerge," said Sagar of Boston Medical Center.

Dr. Wesley Long, a pathologist at Houston Methodist in Texas who was not involved in the study, said the findings shouldn't be seen as a knock

against current vaccines, which target the "spike" protein studing the surface of the SARS-CoV-2 virus that causes COVID-19.

These vaccines, he said, are "still your best defense against severe COVID-19 infection, hospitalization and death."

But he added: "If we can find targets that cross-protect among multiple viruses, we can either add those to specific vaccines or start to use those as vaccine targets that would give us broader-based immunity from a single vaccination. And that would be really cool."

LEGAL

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF LARRY COLEMAN, DECEASED CAUSE NO. P24-244 H/3

NOTICE TO UNKNOWN CREDITORS

Letters Testamentary having been granted by the Chancery Court of Hinds County, Mississippi to the undersigned Executor upon the Estate of Larry Coleman, 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 14th day of June, 2024.

Jeanette Coleman
Jeanette Coleman

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI
COUNTY OF HINDS

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

Ann James

NOTARY

MY COMMISSION EXPIRES



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

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI
COUNTY OF HINDS

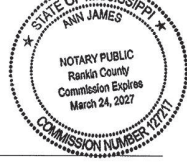
PERSONALLY, came and appeared before me, this the undersigned authority in and for said County and State, the within named Jeanette Coleman who having been by me first duly sworn, stated on her oath that the matters, facts and averments set forth in the above and foregoing PETITION are true and correct as therein stated.

Jeanette Coleman
Jeanette Coleman

SWORN TO AND SUBSCRIBED before me this the 14th day of June, 2024.

Ann James

Notary Public



MY COMMISSION EXPIRES:

6/20/2024, 6/27/2024, 7/4/2024

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, JULY 10, 2024 AT 12:00PM IN THE ANDREW JACKSON CONFERENCE ROOM (RM. 105) OF THE WARREN HOOD BUILDING, 200 SOUTH PRESIDENT STREET, JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI.

I. APPLICATIONS FOR CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS

New Business

A. CASE NO. HPNC-24-11
LOCATION: 114 WOODLAND CIR (PARCEL 3-74)
HISTORIC DISTRICT: N/A APPLICANT: GARLAND STRINGFELLOW
REQUEST: INSTALL GENERAC GENERATOR THAT WILL BE ATTACHED TO A DESIGNATED HISTORIC LANDMARK.

B. CASE NO. HPNC-24-12
LOCATION: 2025 RIVERSIDE DR (PARCEL 9-35)
HISTORIC DISTRICT: BELHAVEN APPLICANT: STANLEY PHILLIPS
REQUEST: REPLACE SIDING AS NEEDED, RECONSTRUCT 1ST FLOOR DECK WHILE REMOVING LOWER LEVEL PORTION OF 1ST FLOOR DECK, RECONSTRUCT 2ND FLOOR DECK, (BOTH ON WESTERN ELEVATION).

C. CASE NO. HPNC-24-14
LOCATION: 1016 FAIRVIEW ST (PARCEL 11-28)
HISTORIC DISTRICT: BELHAVEN APPLICANT: ANGIE SENAC
REQUEST: INSTALL 10X16 TUFF SHED ON CONCRETE FOUNDATION THAT PREVIOUS SHED SAT ON.

D. CASE NO. HPNC-24-15
LOCATION: 829 BELHAVEN ST UNIT 1/2 (PARCEL 13-59-1)
HISTORIC DISTRICT: BELHAVEN APPLICANT: JOSEPH CANTER
REQUEST: REPLACE FOUR WINDOWS ON REAR APARTMENT BUILDING; TWO ON THE EASTERN ELEVATION, ONE ON THE WESTERN ELEVATION, AND ONE ON THE SOUTH ELEVATION.

E. CASE NO. HPNC-22-39
LOCATION: 103 BOTNICK CT (PARCEL 73-18)
HISTORIC DISTRICT: BELHAVEN APPLICANT: STEPHANIE STEWART
REQUEST: AMEND ORIGINAL COA TO REFLECT THAT RSTORATION HAS CHANGED TO NEW CONSTRUCTION.

F. CASE NO. HPNC-22-87
LOCATION: 718 NORTH MILL ST (PARCEL 73-18)
HISTORIC DISTRICT: BELHAVEN APPLICANT: STEPHANIE STEWART
REQUEST: AMEND ORIGINAL COA TO REFLECT THAT RSTORATION HAS CHANGED TO NEW CONSTRUCTION.

G. CASE NO. HPNC-22-45
LOCATION: 827 NORTH FARISH ST (PARCEL 73-18)
HISTORIC DISTRICT: BELHAVEN APPLICANT: STEPHANIE STEWART
REQUEST: AMEND ORIGINAL COA TO REFLECT THAT RSTORATION HAS CHANGED TO NEW CONSTRUCTION.

II. OTHER ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION
A. OTHER

ADJOURNMENT

6/20/2024, 6/27/2024

LEGAL

PUBLIC NOTICE

Request for Statement of Qualifications

The Department of Parks and Recreation is seeking statements of qualifications (SOQ's) from management firms or individuals desiring to provide professional management services for Dorothy Vest Tennis Center, located at 953 West Porter Street, Jackson, Mississippi, a City-owned facility.

Sealed proposals will be received by the City of Jackson, Mississippi, until 3:30 p.m. CST, Tuesday, July 16, 2024, at the City Clerk's Office located at 219 S. President St

Statements of Qualifications packets may be secured from the Department of Parks and Recreation, 633 North State Street, 5th Floor, Jackson, Mississippi, 39202, telephone number (601) 960-0471.

A Pre-Bid Conference will be held on Tuesday, July 9, 2024, at 10:30 A.M. local time, in the City of Jackson Parks and Recreation Office at 633 North State Street, 5th Floor, Jackson, MS 39202. All interested parties are encouraged to attend.

Proposals shall be submitted in triplicate, sealed, and deposited with the City of Jackson's City Clerk before the hour and date designated above. Each bidder shall write its certificate of responsibility number on the outside of the sealed envelope containing its proposal.

The City of Jackson reserves the right to reject any bids and to waive any informalities.

Dr. Abram Muhammad., Director
Louis Wright, Chief Administrative Officer (CAO)
Department of Parks and Recreation
City of Jackson, Mississippi
City of Jackson, Mississippi
Office of the Mayor

6/20/2024, 6/27/2024

LEGAL

**Advertisement for ReBid 3260
Lawn and Site Care for JPSD**

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) Monday, July 15, 2024, at which time and place they will be publicly opened and read aloud. A Pre-Bid Conference concerning the project Lawn Care Services will be held at 101 Near Street, Jackson, MS 39203 on June 26, 2024, 8:00 A.M. Attendance at the pre-bid conference is not mandatory but strongly encouraged.

The Board of Trustees reserves the right to reject any and all bids, to waive informalities, and to withhold the acceptance of any bid if approved for forty-five calendar days from the date bids are opened. Proposal forms and detailed specifications may be obtained free of charge by emailing mmays@jackson.k12.ms.us, calling (601) 973-8582, or documents may be picked up at the above address. or downloaded from JPS website at www.jackson.k12.ms.us.

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

6/20/2024, 6/27/2024

LEGAL

**Advertisement for RFQ 2024-01
Project Management and Communications Contractor to Support the JPS-Hinds Early Learning Collaborative**

Electronic RFP proposals for the above RFP will be received by the Board of Trustees of the Jackson Public School District, in the Business Office, 662 South President Street, Jackson, Mississippi, until 10:00 A.M. (Local Prevailing Time), Friday, July 12, 2024, at which time and place they will be publicly opened and read aloud. The Board of Trustees reserves the right to reject all RFPs, waive informalities, and withhold the acceptance of any RFP if approved forty-five calendar days from the date RFPs are opened.

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

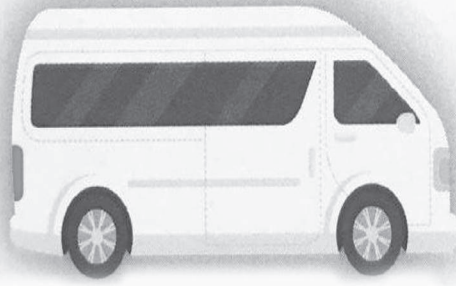
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Also, until further notice, all opening will be recorded and uploaded to the JPSD web site at https://www.youtube.com/jpsitv for public viewing due to covid 19. Vendors will not be allowed to sit in on the bid openings.

6/27/2024, 7/4/2024

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While we appreciate every donation, in some cases, we find that we are unable to accept certain vehicles, watercraft, and/or recreational vehicles due to the prohibitive costs of acquisition. If you have any questions, please give us a call at (866) 428-0305.

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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	26
27			28		29	30			
31					32				
33									
						34			

ACROSS
1. On
5. Flightless birds
9. Express indifference
11. Ancien German character
12. Waitress on "Cheers"
13. Land mass
14. Every
15. Illinois (abbr.)
17. Possessive pronoun
18. Administrative unit
20. Like a new book
22. Card game
23. Road (abbr.)
24. Workplace
27. Cosecant's opposite
29. Parry
31. Engrave
32. Set again
33. Shallow area
34. Bunsen burner

DOWN
1. U.S. Department of Agriculture
2. Mr. Donahue
3. Voiced
4. Catholic sister
5. Epoch
6. Score
7. Identity
8. Salty water masses
10. ___ counter
16. Conductor
18. Arkansas
19. Neodymium (abbr.)
20. Blend
21. Time being
22. Drug doer
24. Crave
25. A cozy room (2 wds.)
26. Second letter of the greek alphabet
28. Extremely high frequency (abbr.)
30. Downwind

© Feature Exchange

Crossword Solution

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

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THE MISSISSIPPI LINK
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CASH & CARRY
Capitol Street and Monument Street
CITY HALL
219 S President St
GARRETT OFFICE COMPLEX
2659 Livingston Road
DOLLAR GENERAL
3957 Northview Dr (North Jackson)
DOLLAR GENERAL
2030 N Siwell Rd
DOLLAR GENERAL
4331 Highway 80W
DOLLAR GENERAL
5990 Medgar Evers Blvd
DOLLAR GENERAL
1214 Capitol St (Downtown Jackson)
DOLLAR GENERAL
304 Briarwood Dr
DOLLAR GENERAL
2855 McDowell Rd
DOLLAR GENERAL
104 Terry Rd
J & A FUEL STORES
3249 Medgar Evers Blvd.
LIBERTY BANK AND TRUST
2325 Livingston Rd.
MCDADDE'S MARKET
Northside Drive
MCDADDE'S MARKET #2
653 Duling Avenue
PICADILLY CAFETERIA
Jackson Medical Mall
350 W Woodrow Wilson Avenue
SHELL FOOD MART
5492 Watkins Drive

SPORTS MEDICINE
Fortification and I-55
MURPHY USA
6394 Ridgewood Rd (North Jackson)
REVELL ACE HARDWARE
Terry Rd (South Jackson)
WALGREENS
380 W. Woodrow Wilson Ave

CANTON
A & I
716 Roby Street - Canton, MS
B & B
702 West North Street - Canton, MS
BOUTIQUE STORE
3355 North Liberty - Canton, MS
BULLY'S STORE
Church Street - Canton, MS
COMMUNITY MART
743 Ruby Street - Canton, MS
FRYER LANE GROCERY
Martin Luther King Drive - Canton, MS
HAMLIN FLORAL DESIGN
285 Peace Street - Canton, MS
JOE'S SANDWICH & GROCERY
507 Church Street - Canton, MS
K & K ONE STOP
110 West Fulton Street - Canton, MS
LACY'S INSURANCE
421 Peace Street - Canton, MS
SOUL SET BARBER SHOP
257 Peace Street - Canton, MS
TRAILER PARK GROCERY
22 Westside Drive - Canton, MS

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DOLLAR GENERAL
125 Swinging Bridge Dr.
HAVIOR'S AUTO CARE
5495 I-55 South Frontage Road

VOWELL'S MARKET PLACE
5777 Terry Road
CITY HALL
Terry Road

CLINTON
DOLLAR GENERAL
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P R E S E R V E D

Cutting back to grow forward

By Shewanda Riley
Columnist



"I'm going to cut my cable like I cut my hair" is what I declared boldly to one of my sisters a few years ago. I was visiting my parents in San Antonio, and she had just showed me and my mama how to attach an indoor antenna and add a streaming service to a non-smart television. Even though I had been talking about it for a few years, watching her show how easy it was gave me the courage to finally cut the cable cord. I became even more convinced a few days later when a bad summer thunderstorm here in Fort Worth knocked out my home phone, internet and cable television. At first, I was frustrated that I'd lost

my cable and internet. Then I considered it a chance to experiment and see whether I could really live without cable. Surprisingly after the first 24 hours, I realized that not only could I do it, but I was also now intrigued by the challenge of finding the right streaming service to watch my favorite television shows. By the time AT&T came to replace the defective router/gateway four days later, I'd adjusted to life without cable and decided to end my cable TV service. When the cable was actually cut a few days later, I felt a little sad that I could no longer watch some of my favorite cable shows (even though most were reruns), but the sadness was replaced with the joy of knowing I was now saving about 70% off my bill. Truth be told, the first few days without cable gave me the time and focus to finish

reading 3 books and writing projects. Gaining something unexpected by cutting something I thought I needed also happened in early June of that same year when I did the "big chop," and cut off my permed hair and went all natural. Even though I'd been preparing to go natural for a few years by wearing a protective crochet braid hairstyle, it still took me a few days to adjust to seeing myself in my teeny weenie afro. The shorter hairstyle made it harder to hide my few strands of grey hair, but I grew to love it. Truthfully, I was afraid of what others would say about my natural hair (especially my mama) but slowly built up the sassy confidence to say that my hair didn't make me; I make my hair. My hair is now stronger than it was when I had it

permed even though the annoying gray hairs remain. Both of these experiences have showed me that pruning is necessary to get us to grow as it says in John 15:2, "Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit He takes away; and every branch that bears fruit He prunes, that it may bear more fruit." It may be hard to initially do but sometimes God wants us to cut out people, places, things, attitudes and behaviors out of our lives. He can then give us more of what we need so we can grow into who he has called us to be. Shewanda Riley is a Fort Worth-based author of "Love Hangover: Moving from Pain to Purpose After a Relationship Ends" and "Writing to the Beat of God's Heart: A Book of Prayers for Writers." Email her at preservedbypurpose@gmail.com or follow her on Twitter @shewanda.

Both heaven and hell are real

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



Now, I know that hell has been talked about by the world and used in a slang expression, probably more than any other slang word. People have been condemned by others to go there. People have told jokes about hell and have said that if they go there, they will have plenty of company. Others do not even believe in such a place, but that cannot change the fact that such a place does exist. Many people who do not believe in hell believe in God's love, in His kindness, in His mercy, in His judgment and in heaven, but not hell. Think about the truth; we would not know a thing about God's love, His kindness, His mercy, His judgment, or Heaven unless we read about it in the Bible. If heaven is real then hell is also real. Why would people believe all these other attributes taught in God's Word and not believe in the existence of hell, which is taught in the same Bible. There is more talk about hell than about heaven in the Bible. Why is it that people like to pick and choose?"

they value. However, there are things that they take with them into eternity. Speaking of the rich man in Luke 16:23 Jesus said, "And in hell he lift up his eyes being in torments, and seeth Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom." Notice that the rich man took his sight and his feelings with him. He could see what he was missing by going to hell, and he could feel suffering that he had never known in his earthly life. Remember, this individual fared sumptuously every day. The rich man could speak in hell; he had his voice, and he could plead for mercy. Something else went with him: the worm that dies not, or his soul. Also, he took his memory with him. He realized something else: he was in a fixed condition. He also had compassion there, something he had not shown in his earthly life. Today, we are not back in the dark ages when the Bible was closed. Today, it is very easy to get hold of a Bible if we want one. Almost everyone can travel to a revival or a camp meeting if they really want to. They have transportation, they have telephones or cell phones. They have all these things going for them. They are going to answer or their neglect.. I know our country is gradually getting away from the thought of being born again or being saved, but it is the Word of God that is going to judge us. Once a person ends up in hell, his or her eternal destiny is fixed; it is settled, and it is unchangeable. My advice to you is to take the blood of Jesus with you to the judgment. Be safe in the arms of Jesus. Simeon R. Green III, Richmond First Church of God, 6517 Walmsley Blvd., Richmond, Virginia 23224.

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Is the Boeing Company telling us the truth about the safety of its airplanes?

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



On Sunday evenings, my dad would take us to two places after dinner. First, he would take us to get ice cream at the Sealtest dairy. After that, we would go and watch the planes take off and come in at Smith Reynolds airport.

Yes, our town of Winston-Salem NC back in the day had an airport. Piedmont Airlines which later became USAir was one of the carriers. Watching airplanes come and go gave me something to talk about with my friends.

Being young, I never thought

about them not being safe. Airplanes having problems really didn't occur to me. To me, passengers got on them, arrived at their destination and went on their way.

Many years ago, I boarded my first flight with my parents. It was a thrill. Feeling the lift-off of a plane was a unique sensation. It still is.

Maybe it was my age as I wasn't apprehensive. Now, I must admit to a bit of apprehension mainly because of what is happening in the world today.

Many of us now fear getting on planes also because of safety concerns. Critics of the industry say that planes are not being built with the meticulous attention that is required. Some will go so far as to say that the

assembly lines are missing both parts and workers. Additionally, the deadlines are unreasonable. That's scary.

Life is in a hurry, and we don't want to slow down. Double checking and adjusting have gone out of style. The question at the plant is who is checking the checker?

According to reports by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), the Air Traffic Organization (ATO) services over 45,000 flights and 2.9 million airline passengers daily. This takes place across more than 29 million square miles of air space with up to 5,400 aircraft in the air at any given time.

This report gives an interesting account of what goes on in the "friendly skies." We are fly-

ing more than ever these days. The average cost of an airline ticket within the US is between \$261.63 and \$465.68 according to the Bureau of Transportation Statistics.

These price points depend upon when we book our flights. Airline observers always tell us that fares are constantly changing. As a result, we, as consumers, must keep a watchful eye on them.

When you get on an aircraft, do you ever wonder who built it? More of us are asking that question.

A report that was released in January of this year says that Airbus and Boeing are the world's largest commercial airline manufacturers by deliveries. There is also a backlog in

aircraft production. Simply put, airlines are ordering more airplanes.

If you have been keeping up with the airlines, you know that Boeing has had some "turbulence." Their aircraft have been experiencing more investigations and production delays. There are also people spilling the beans on their practices.

Sam Salehpour, a Boeing engineer, has alleged the company took shortcuts when manufacturing its 777 and 787 Dreamliner jets. *The New York Times*, in its reporting, says these shortcuts could reduce the lifespan of the aircraft by 50 years.

The company said recently, "These claims about the structural integrity of the 787 are

inaccurate and do not represent the comprehensive work Boeing has done to ensure the quality and long-term safety of the aircraft. We are fully confident in the safety and durability of the 777 family."

If you recall in January, a part of an Alaska Airlines 737 was involved in a malfunction directly after take-off. The Boeing Company has some explaining to do. They also have some work to do as well. Press releases in the public square won't turn the tide of public opinion. The opinions of many suggest that something is terribly wrong at Boeing and needs to be fixed.

We the people want friendly skies, but we also want safe skies, too.

The scorching truth: extreme heat is a wake-up call to act on climate change

By Ben Jealous
People For the American Way



Are you one of the more than 100 million Americans who live somewhere that was (or still is) under a heat advisory?

As I write these words, the mercury is soaring. The world is reeling from the deadly impact of extreme heat and weather events. This is climate change in action. We are living it. And the thermometer-busting temperatures are just the tip of the (melting) iceberg.

Jocelyn Richards of Manassas, Virginia is currently staying in Maine to escape the summer heat in the South. She suffers from chronic inflammatory response syndrome (CIRS) from past exposure to mold. Heat is a major trigger for her due to mast cell activation syndrome (MCAS), a common component of CIRS.

Richards says, "Not only is the heat itself a major trigger, but heat releases VOCs [volatile organic compounds] from asphalt. It becomes unbearable to even take a walk outside or run errands because it's so difficult to breathe from the VOCs in the air. Along with other MCAS symptoms triggered by the heat like tachycardia, high blood pressure and dizziness, it can quickly turn into a medical emergency if I'm out in the extreme heat for even half an hour."

Richards is still looking for a permanent place to reside with mild temperatures and low levels of the environmental toxins that also trigger her illness. And stories like hers are increasingly common.

A host of illnesses are caused, or dangerously exacerbated, by extreme heat. Air quality is generally worse during periods of extreme heat. Ground-level ozone – the main component in smog – presents one such threat. It is produced when pollutants, like those from burning fossil fuels, react with heat and sunlight. The stagnant, hot air during heat waves worsens ozone pollution.

The infamous 2022 summer heat wave in Europe is now thought to be responsible for up to 70,000 excess deaths, with ozone pollution playing a big part. Julie Nicely, an atmospheric chemist at the University of Maryland who worked on a report on the 2022 heat wave, noted the mix of conditions created by such a heat wave "is very bad for the lungs and the cardiovascular system. It's just very unhealthy."

Then there is the smoke from wildfires. In addition to the destruction they cause, wildfires are making it harder for millions of Americans to breathe. It is a problem that is getting worse with longer, hotter fire seasons – another feature of climate change. The still-burning Post Fire northwest of Los Angeles is just the most recent high-profile fire in California to get national attention. And wildfire smoke has now become an issue for even more parts of the country.

At one point last summer, Chicago officially had the worst air quality in the world. Other major American cities across the Midwest and East Coast were similarly impacted, as smoke pollution from Canadian wildfires poured over the continent. The threat of a repeat this summer is still there. Wildfires in Canada are still raging, and experts say the 2024 season still could be as bad as or worse than last year's.

In places where the wildfires occur, once the flames subside, flooding becomes a threat. According to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the removal of trees and shrubs increases the the speed and volume of runoff and hot fires can "create a water-repellent layer of topsoil, which further amplifies runoff volume and speed," increasing the risk of flash floods.

The heat itself dries out the ground and makes water absorption more difficult, which creates a threat of flash floods. And as the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences points out, "Warmer air holds more moisture, resulting in heavy rainfall, snowstorms, and flooding." And

"warming seawater can fuel stronger, more destructive hurricanes." NOAA predicts an 85% chance of an above-normal hurricane season this year.

Beyond the threat of hurricanes along our eastern and southern coasts, inland storms are a growing threat for more and more Americans. The regions impacted by serious tornados are expanding. And once-rare derechos, another kind of incredibly destructive windstorm, are becoming more frequent.

Sadly, the list goes on. Around the world, threats from increasing temperatures include: rising sea levels, food insecurity from the loss of land suitable for crop cultivation, increased risk of infectious disease outbreaks and another pandemic like COVID-19, and the extinction of pollinators that sustain the natural life cycles on which we all depend. But although the situation is dire, we cannot give in to despair.

We must invest in climate-resilient infrastructure and support communities most affected by climate change. The more than \$1 billion investment by the Biden-Harris administration to expand shade-producing and air-cleaning tree canopies in cities across the country is one example. I was recently in Michigan with US Department of Agriculture Undersecretary Homer Wilkes to promote the many benefits of the urban forestry initiative in that state.

At the end of the day, though, when it comes to the cascade of devastation caused by rising temperatures, there can be no substitute for tackling the climate crisis head on. First and foremost, that means hastening our transition from an economy that runs on fossil fuels to one powered by clean, renewable energy. The extreme heat and weather events we're experiencing are not only a wake-up call; they are an immediate call to action to redouble our efforts towards that transition.

Ben Jealous is the executive director of the Sierra Club and a professor of practice at the University of Pennsylvania.

My Beautiful Jumping Cables

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



I do not have a distinguished laugh as most people do. My laugh involves lots of smiling, sparkling eyes, and sometimes, jumping shoulders. I know that this sounds strange, but I do not have a natural laugh and when I do laugh extremely hard – nothing comes out verbally. However, oddly enough, one of my greatest joys is making people laugh.

I have always enjoyed making people laugh since childhood by mimicking my peers, the voices of actors, family members, etc. I have even had students express that if I ever did standup comedy – they would buy a ticket and be in the front row.

I can't help it – laughter is what helps define who I am. I don't think my life would be the same without some form of laughter. I love saying or doing the unexpected especially when most are not expecting that from me. One of the things that I do that our daughter especially finds the most hilarious is when we go through a drive thru line, and they ask me for a name for my order. It never fails – I am going to come up with a creative name. One of the most popular names that I share with them is, "Brown Sugar." The response is shock and lots of laughter.

Laughter is also the foundation of my marriage. In fact, what attracted me to my husband besides his dreadlocks, sexy hazel eyes, and kindness was his sense of humor. We both mimic voices, create voices, have attended comedy shows together and we enjoy listening to Rickey Smiley's phone pranks series, etc. Unfortunately for some, we both have occasionally implemented some humor practices into our routines at work, leisure and church; for example, my husband has been known to drop a few stink bombs...

God even supports laughter. Proverbs 17:22 states: "A merry heart does good, like medicine, but a broken spirit dries the bones." Yes, you read correctly – merry in Hebrew means joy, happy, cheerful, etc. a joyful heart – laughter/smiling is like medicine. What is the benefit of medicine? Medicine can be a cure, healing ailment, etc.

The Mayo Clinic experts believe that laughter can't cure all ailments, but it can help relieve stress. Further, the Mayo Clinic also advises that laughter has the following short- and long-term benefits.

Short Term Effects
Stimulates many organs – enhances your intake of oxygen-rich air, stimulates

your heart, lungs, muscles and increases the endorphins that are released by your brain.

Activate and relieve your stress response – cools down stress response and it increase and then decrease your heart rate and blood pressure

Soothe tension – stimulate circulation and aid muscle relaxation which can help reduce some of the physical symptoms of stress

Long Term Effects

Improve your immune system – positive thoughts can release neuropeptides that help fight stress and potentially more serious illnesses

Relieve pain – laughter may ease pain by causing the body to produce its own natural painkillers

Increase personal satisfaction – makes it easier to cope with difficult situations and helps you connect with other people

Improve your mood – can help lessen depression, anxiety, and stress sometimes caused by chronic illness.

Overall, laughter is beneficial for the heart, mind, body and soul. You don't have to pay for laughter – it's free. Your only job is to find something to laugh about – if you look for a reason to laugh – you will find it.

In conclusion, several weeks ago my husband received a phone call. I looked over at his phone and saw, "My Beautiful Jumping Cables." Well, of course, I immediately thought to myself – who the beeeeeeeeeeeep is...? I looked closer and saw my picture along with the contact title. Therefore, I looked down at my phone and realized I had mistakenly called my husband. I didn't know rather I should be offended by the new contact title, but he explained that he got the idea from Tik Tok and wanted it to be funny when I eventually saw it and he added the beautiful part to ensure that he meant no harm... yeah right. Let me tell you, we laughed until we cried. I concluded that I didn't mind being referred to as jumping cables because they represent high energy, reviving dead situations, keeping things charged, and it had a sexy vibe to it. But most importantly it made us share a much-needed laugh together that I still smile about to this very moment. And yes, my husband still has me saved as "My Beautiful Jumping Cables."

Contact Dr. LaShunda Calvert for speaking engagements (motivational, ministering, marriage counseling, marriage workshops, marriage seminars, marriage conferences, etc.) on: Instagram: letsstay2gether4ever (Dr. LaShunda Calvert) Facebook: Dr. LaShunda Calvert Email: letsstaytogether4eva@gmail.com or call 601 596-2528.

JSU's Metro Jackson Community Prevention Coalition awarded \$306,749 by MS Department of Mental Health

The Mississippi Link Newswire

Jackson State University's (JSU) Metro Jackson Community Prevention Coalition (MJPCPC) was awarded \$306,749.92 via the Substance Use Prevention, Treatment and Recovery Services Grant from the Mississippi Department of Mental Health's Bureau of Alcohol and Drug Services. The amount is a \$2,000 increase from last year's funding.

"We're very thankful to receive funding from the Mississippi Department of Mental Health once again. It has been a true blessing to educate our youth and community about the dangers of alcohol, tobacco and other drugs," said MJPCPC Director and Principal Investigator Henry Thompson.

The funding applies to the 2024-2025 fiscal year, making it 33 years for the MJPCPC to receive funding from the Department of Mental Health in substance abuse prevention to continue its work in the Jackson Metropolitan area. The grant aids the coalition in offering its services to local schools, colleges, and communities.

During the 2023-2024 fiscal year, the MJPCPC held its annual Prom Promise event on the JSU campus for the first time. The occasion encouraged local high school students to make safe and informed decisions as they celebrate prom season, and featured a special performance by rapper, singer and trumpeter Dear Silas. It was supported by the hashtag #PleaseComeHomeonMonday.

According to LawsforKids.org, 27% of fatal teen motor vehicle accidents in 2013 occurred in April, May and June, accounting for the deaths of 676 teenagers during the peak of prom season. Additionally, out of all vehicle deaths involving a teenager, 54% occurred on a Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and results from the 2020 National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH) indicated that the estimated number of U.S. residents ages 16 years and older who drove under the influence in the past year was:

- 18.5 million for alcohol (7.2% of respondents ages 16 years and older),
- 11.7 million for marijuana (4.5% of respondents ages 16 years and older), and
- 2.4 million for illicit drugs other than marijuana (0.9% of respondents ages 16 years and older).

"It is an honor to be recognized by the Mississippi Department of Mental Health for our work. I think it's a testament to the great work the Metro Jackson Community



Rapper, singer and trumpeter Dear Silas joins students from local high schools at the Metro Jackson Community Prevention Coalition Prom Promise event. Silas performed at the event.



Students were exposed to a variety of educational activities and speakers at the Prom Promise event, including a drunk driving simulator.



The Metro Jackson Community Prevention Coalition at Jackson State University is shown with the Prom Promise committee, volunteers and staff.

Prevention Coalition staff has done throughout the years," said Senior Prevention Specialist Pamela McCoy, DrPH. "Our youth need the prevention messages that we provide them with because oftentimes they don't know how detrimental drugs and alcohol can be to their bodies."

About Jackson State University: Challenging Minds, Changing Lives

Jackson State University, founded in 1877, is a historically black, high-research activity university located in Jackson, the capital city of Mississippi. Jackson State's nurturing academic environment challenges individuals to change lives through teaching, research and service.

Officially designated as Mississippi's Urban University, Jackson State continues to en-

hance the state, nation and world through comprehensive economic development, healthcare, technological and educational initiatives.

The only public university in the Jackson metropolitan area, Jackson State is located near downtown, with four satellite locations.

For more information, visit www.jsu.ms.edu or call 601-979-2121.

New York City Councilman Yusef Salaam to address Black Men's Health Equity Conference in Jackson, MS

Special to The Mississippi Link

Yusef Salaam, activist, New York City Councilman, and member of the Exonerated "Central Park" Five, will deliver the morning keynote address at the Black Men's Health Equity Conference at 9 a.m., Saturday, June 29, 2024, at the Hilton Hotel. The Hilton is located at 1001 E. County Line Road, Jackson, MS.



Salaam

Salaam is an advocate for criminal justice reform and social equity. Wrongfully convicted as a teenager in the infamous Central Park jogger case, Salaam was later exonerated and has since dedicated his life to advocating for justice and equality.

Salaam's keynote address will focus on the intersection of justice, health and equity. Drawing from his own experiences and advocacy work, Salaam's story and insights will provide a powerful perspective on the importance of addressing systemic inequalities in the areas of mass incarceration, healthcare and social justice.

The Black Men's Health Equity Conference is dedicated to tackling the health disparities that disproportionately affect Black men and developing strategies to achieve health equity. Conference attendees are healthcare professionals, community leaders, policymakers, and advocates who are committed to improving health

outcomes for Black men. Topics of discussion include heart and prostate health, business equity, tobacco cessation, and mental wellness.

Sponsored by the Institute for the Advancement of Minority Health, the Black Men's Health Equity Council, and the Mississippi State Conference of the NAACP, the conference is held annually. For more information about the Black Men's Health Equity Conference, visit www.minority-institute.org

The Institute for the Advancement of Minority Health was established in 2019 to reduce health disparities among disadvantaged and underserved minority populations in Mississippi through the development of collaborative partnerships with community stakeholders and the implementation of evidence-based public health interventions with a particular focus on health equity.

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Special to The Mississippi Link

For over 30 years, Cade has worked with Walton Elementary School to ensure that it continues to be the "Address of Excellence." Getting parents to enroll their children early for the new school year is a priority for the administration at Walton. Cade is supporting the school's effort by presenting "Giggles and Kicks," comedy for a cause.

Proceeds will be used to provide sneakers (kicks) to the first 100 students to enroll at Walton for the 2024-2025 school year in the Jackson Public School District. The community is asked to support this event by purchasing a ticket for \$40.

Not only will you laugh, but you will help to put a smile on a child's and assist a family with

back-to-school sneakers.

Come out and enjoy an evening of laughter featuring the renowned comedian Marcus Wiley, co-host for the Yolanda Adams Morning Show. He is the son of a pastor, also known as a trendsetter for bringing clean stand-up comedy to the masses.

Cade will host the event, Thursday, July 11, 2024, in the Willie Wright Family Life Center, 1000 West Ridgeway Street, Jackson, MS, at 7 p.m. The doors will open at 6.

Tickets can be purchased by scanning the QR Code on the promotion flyer, TINYURL.COM/GIGGLESANDKICKS, or contact Frances Ashley at 601-953-2400. Tickets can also be purchased at cadechapel.org.



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My Head Start success story

By Masada Ellis, Business MBA
NotApologeticStudios, MC, Speaker,
Writer, Artist, ECS Board of Directors

There's nothing like adversity to prove who you are. I've always been a strong-willed person but having children of my own has made me laser-focused on how to use my perseverance to carve out a legacy they will be proud of. Until I enlisted in the Marine Corps at 18 years old, I lived at home in Hattiesburg, Mississippi, with my mother and six sisters. Three of them were god sisters, but we were raised as biological siblings.

Like many other cities in the Deep South, Hattiesburg had an integral role in the Civil Rights Movement. It was the largest site for the Freedom Summer voting registration campaign in 1964. This historical connection isn't lost on me when I think about how, decades later, I was four years old in Head Start, memorizing Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s, "I Have a Dream" speech. I often recall this memory be-



Masada and his family at the Washington Monument in D.C., built to honor George Washington, America's first president.

cause Dr. King is one of my heroes, and it reminds me that my Head Start teacher saw potential and capability in me beyond my

years. She saw the determination in me.

Life was tough growing up. My mother, sisters, and I dealt

with the persistent challenge of insufficient money, food and no access to quality healthcare. Since I was young, I wanted to make a difference and improve the lives of those in circumstances like the ones faced by my family. I also wanted to go to college, so I joined the Marines as a path to get there. I think it's true that ingenuity is born of necessity.

While in the Corps, I made some mistakes that resulted in time in the brig and the loss of military benefits, but I'm a fighter. I don't believe in giving up. After my military service, I had limited resources, so I found a way to work several jobs to pay for school and earn my bachelor's degree while supporting a young family.

When my physical disabilities made it painfully obvious that working a standard, "9-to-5" job wasn't going to work for me, I took my degree in audio engineering and my passion for music and launched a business as

an event planner and songwriter. And when hard times hit my business, the memory of reciting Dr. King's speech resurfaced. I turned to Head Start. "The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of convenience and comfort, but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy." – Martin Luther King, Jr.

Head Start was pivotal in preparing my twin boys for school while my wife and I regrouped financially. It's one thing to experience Head Start as a student, but as a parent, I gained an even deeper appreciation for the depth and scale of Head Start's impact on families and communities. As parents, Head Start invited my wife and me into our children's classrooms.

The teachers identified a speech issue with one of our boys and connected us with a speech therapist. He speaks clearly (and non-stop) now. The staff saw how engaged I was as a dad and

invited me to start a fatherhood group. I also got involved with the policy council, was elected chairperson, and now I serve on the Episcopal Community Services (ECS) Board of Directors.

Today, I use all my platforms and relationships to advocate for and promote Head Start and champion the needs of children, families and veterans in my community, state and nationally.

After years of making appeals, my military benefits have been partially restored, which has helped my wife and I purchase a family home. Together, we have the privilege of raising the most amazing human beings in the world.

At times my circumstances have been mentally and physically debilitating, but I get up every day and keep going so my children can see that setbacks are on the flip side of success, and the two can coexist. I want them to remember me as someone who never gave up.

JSU students take second place at national competition with AI-powered hair care plan



JSU students showcase their exceptional business acumen with their innovative business model, "Elena G. Beauty Bar." (L-R) Kaysi Harris, Gabrielle Holliday, Jeff Alexander, Macy Barkum-Robinson and Kia Warner. PHOTO SPECIAL TO JSU

By Aron Smith
JSU newswire

Jackson State University students showcased their entrepreneurial prowess by clinching second place in the HBCU/MI Entrepreneur Innovation Competition in Atlanta, Georgia. Their collective efforts earned them a \$5,000 prize for their innovative business plan centered around specialized natural hair care products using AI technology titled "Elena G. Beauty Bar."

Jennifer Steele, the special projects coordinator at the College of Business, carefully selected JSU's team: Gabrielle Holliday, Jeff Alexander IV, Kaysi Harris, Kia Warner and Macy Barkum-Robinson. Within four weeks, the team developed a comprehensive 35-

page business plan, competing against 23 teams from Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) and Minority Institutions (MI) nationwide.

Fidelis Ikem, Ph.D., dean of the College of Business, articulated the reasons behind supporting his students' competitive endeavors.

"We encourage our students to participate in competitions and external events, as we believe that our students are well-prepared and on par with their peers from around the nation. We urge them to showcase their talent," he said.

The team's innovative business idea was conceived in 2020 by Holliday, a graduate business administration major who served as the team's chief executive officer. She collaborated

with her team to refine the concept and ensure it met competition standards.

Ultimately, the plan focused on natural hair care products tailored through AI technology for hair analysis, allowing customers to customize their hair care solutions.

"One of the biggest challenges was ensuring everyone shared the same passion for the project," Holliday explained. "We had to relay that passion so that when we pitched, we all believed in the product equally."

The team presented their business plan to a panel of six judges in attendance. The presentation required them to demonstrate their business idea and ability to work together under pressure.

Holliday said support from people like Steele played a cru-

cial role in the team's success. "Ms. Steele was instrumental in our success. She believed in our idea and helped us get the needed resources," she said.

Macy Barkum-Robinson, a junior business administration major, served as the team's chief financial officer. She said the competition pushed her to enhance her knowledge of finance and time management.

"While most students were resting during spring break, we held Zoom calls from 5-9 p.m., sometimes even later," Barkum-Robinson said. "I ensured our business plan was credible, the financials were accurate, and the marketing was solid."

Despite facing significant challenges, including balancing a heavy course load and various extracurricular commitments,

Barkum-Robinson persevered with the support of her team and mentors.

"There were times I wanted to drop out, but Ms. Steele and Gabrielle believed in me and kept encouraging me," she said. "In the end, we all performed well and showed our passion for the business to the judges."

Barkum-Robinson credited her advisor and College of Business Assistant Professor of Entrepreneurship, Donald Causey, Ph.D., for his support and guidance. "Dr. Causey helped break down the financials for me and build my confidence in presenting them," she said. "He made sure I understood everything and could explain it in a way that was comfortable for me."

Ikem emphasized the importance of such competitions

in preparing students for real-world challenges.

"Participating in these programs exposes students to recruiters and potential employers, giving them confidence that their education at Jackson State is comparable or better than any other school," he explained. "We continually update our curriculum to remain current and reflect real-world demands."

Looking ahead, Holliday and her team continue to develop their business, utilizing the skills and knowledge gained from the competition.

"This experience taught us the importance of faith and teamwork. We prayed together before and after meetings, which helped us stay grounded. This routine will continue as we move forward," she said.



Dean Fidelis Ikem and Jennifer Steele smile together with the team, showing their support and belief that students sharing their successful competition experiences and monetary rewards will inspire peers to participate in future opportunities. PHOTO SPECIAL TO JSU



BOOK REVIEW: BOOKS ABOUT THE CIVIL WAR

BY VARIOUS AUTHORS
C.2024, VARIOUS PUBLISHERS
\$29.00 - \$32.00 • VARIOUS PAGE COUNTS

By Terri Schlichenmeyer
Columnist

You're already familiar with the argument. Chances are, in this contentious climate we live in, you know what it's like to have a fractured family, or to have to defend your beliefs.

So this summer, read about a period in history when war rent the country, pitted brother against brother, righted a very large wrong, and left scars on the land, on people and on families...

Sometimes, history is in the details and in "Voices from Get-

tysburg" by Allen C. Guelzo (Kensington, \$29.00), you'll read a day-by-day, person-by-person account of what is arguably the most influential battle of the Civil War.

Using real letters written by prisoners, soldiers and others who were at Gettysburg on those days in July 1863, you'll get an intimate sense of what it was like to be on the battlefield or near it. Filled with authentic voices, maps, and other documents, this is a puts-you-in-the-action kind of book that you won't be able to put down.

At some point in your lifetime, you've undoubtedly read or learned something about Harriet Tubman. In your mind, she may seem invincible, like some sort of being with superpowers, due to her bravery during the Civil War and the lives she helped ferry to freedom. In "Night Flyer: Harriet Tubman and the Faith Dreams of a Free People" by Tiya Miles (Penguin Press, \$30), you'll learn that some of what you think you know are myths, and that there's actually so much more to Tubman's life and actions.

It's true that Tubman helped free hundreds of people but this book explores more, including the environment that nurtured her and the relationships she had with the women she helped, and others. We get a fresher, deeper look at the person Tubman was, allowing readers to learn more about the spiritual life that soothed her in times of trouble. That alone might offer inspiration for today's sojourners.

And finally, if you'd like a little bit of surprise with your summertime reading, reach for

"Wide Awake: The Forgotten Force that Elected Lincoln and Spurred the Civil War" by Jon Grinspan (Bloomsbury, \$32).

Despite what you may think, the elections we've seen lately in this country weren't the most contentious: at the beginning of the 1860 political season, a bunch of young Northerners, both men and women, Black and white, began organizing on behalf of antislavery speakers and abolitionists. They called themselves the Wide Awakes and during the election, they became a political force to be reck-

oned with. It's possible, says Grinspan, that the Wide Awakes were one of the major catalysts for the War. This book packs the action in, and it'll show you that history can be full of surprises.

If these books merely whet your appetite for more, you're in luck: there are literally thousands and thousands of books about the Civil War available. All you have to do is ask your favorite bookstore or librarian for help, and they can put the book you want directly in your hands, without a single argument.

ZACK WALLACE HINDS COUNTY CIRCUIT CLERK

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(Except on legal holiday)



2024 GENERAL ELECTION CALENDAR

**Voter Registration
Deadline for General**
October 7

Absentee Ballots Available
September 23

Last Day to Absentee Vote
November 2
8:00 a.m. - 12 noon

General Election Day November 5

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Hinds County School District Weekly Update

ENGAGING-EMPOWERING-ENSURING-EXCELLENCE

HINDS COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD AWARDS CEREMONY

The Hinds County School Board hosted an awards ceremony for the students of Hinds County to recognize their excellency in academic, sports and performing arts. Parents and students gathered in the Performance Arts Center at Raymond High School to celebrate these achievements Friday, May 3, 2024.



HINDS COUNTY HUMAN RESOURCE AGENCY Project Head Start

Now Accepting Applications for the 2024-2025 School Year!

- Preschool Education
 - Literacy
 - Leadership Development
 - Disability
- Medical and Dental Screenings
- Nutrition
- Mental Health
- Limited Transportation

ALL AT NO COST TO PARENTS!



APPLY EARLY BECAUSE SPACE IS LIMITED!

Priority is given to children with diagnosed disabilities (certified IEP or IFSP), so families of children with disabilities are encouraged to apply regardless of income.



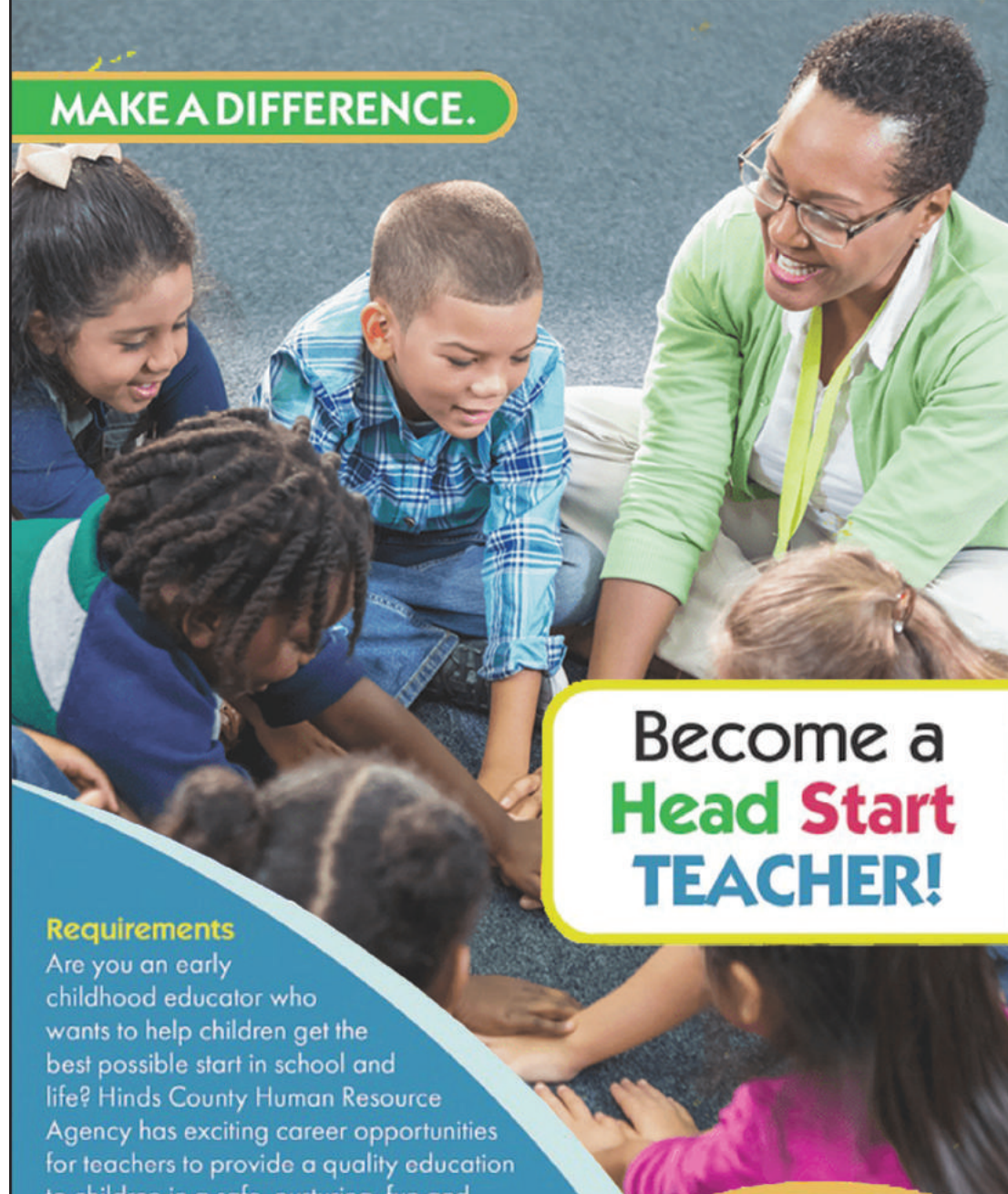
To qualify your child must be 3 or 4 on or before September 1st. and part of a low-income family based on the federal poverty level within Hinds County

For more information about HEAD START or EARLY HEAD START, call 601-923-3950



Helping Families, Strengthening Communities

MAKE A DIFFERENCE.



Become a Head Start TEACHER!

Requirements

Are you an early childhood educator who wants to help children get the best possible start in school and life? Hinds County Human Resource Agency has exciting career opportunities for teachers to provide a quality education to children in a safe, nurturing, fun and engaging environment. You must have a bachelor's degree in early childhood education or a related field and pass all background checks.

Why Head Start?

- Small class sizes
- Every classroom has a teacher assistant
- Strong parent participation
- Excellent insurance benefits
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- Competitive pay

Teachers Are Also Family

Teachers take part in sit-down family-style meals with their students. During mealtime, they discuss the foods they eat and talk about the events of the day to encourage the development of social and emotional skills.

Apply at hchra.jobs.net



Helping Families, Strengthening Communities

Medgar Evers Library Celebrates 4th Year of Juneteenth in the Jackson Community

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

Medgar Evers Library staff did not fall short on their commitment of community engagement in the City of Jackson Tuesday, June 18, 2024, from 9:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., as they celebrated Juneteenth – a defining event known as “Freedom Day,” “Black Independence Day” and “Teenth.”

Present were children’s groups who were escorted by their leaders, parents, grandparents, city officials, school teachers, line dancers and their leader, wild life leaders, game organizers, performers, storytellers, a disc jockey, vendors, out-of-state visitors and many others. Various library sites (inside and out) allowed all to mingle and to enter and exit from one site to another.

Morgan Hedglin – deputy director of The Jackson Hinds Library System – indicated that this year marked the 4th An-

nual system Wide Juneteenth celebration at the library. This celebration of the emancipation of enslaved Black Americans provided “a chance to educate community children about what the Juneteenth celebration is all about.” Branch Manager Anne Sanders added, “We are so grateful to all who came out today, and we want everyone to have a good time.”

Minister Lachelle Hodges of Fresh Start Christian Church (5210 Manhattan Rd, Jackson, MS 39206) accommodated children from the church’s summer camp which is free for children during the month of June. “This event is important for our kids to know our truth coming from us because the powers that be want to keep Mississippi from prospering as it should. The less of our truth [shared with] the kids, the farther back they’re being pushed,” Hodges noted.

Cheryl Johnson directs Little Saints Academy at Greater

Bethlehem Temple Church (1505 Robinson Rd., Jackson, MS 39203). She quipped that when people come together on Juneteenth, “it is important for our children to know that it is more than just a family gathering and a great cookout. It is important to understand how far we have come as well as how much work we have put in to prepare for our future.”

Johnson further stated that she was proud of the history of the race and proud of “what God has allowed us to become.” While reminiscing, she mentioned “great inventors, congressmen/women, preachers, teachers, etc.

Then there was Johnson’s dad, Bobby Johnson, who mentioned that he rode with GBTC’s van driver to assist him with the children, and that this was his first-time visiting Medgar Evers Library. Johnson acknowledged that he would be returning to the library after seeing the chil-

dren’s and adults’ enthusiasm. “I will make it my business to bring my grandchildren. The excitement in the air is wonderful, and I’m glad to be part of it.”

The grandfather further commented that the village concept is important. “We’re out of touch with community involvement with family life. We need to get back to community values.”

Johnson explained that for community values to be up to par, “God needs to be at the top because teaching the values instills values in the family: order, love, kindness, generosity.” According to Johnson, these values should be nourished with parents making sure that their children grow up in the church. “They may walk away for a while, but eventually they will return, [so] train up a child,” he concluded.

Jackson resident, Brian Reynolds, mentioned that he was impressed that the library was

overflowing with people. This, he spoke, was a great sign of community concern for positivity. “Look at the library named after Medgar Evers. He had dreams. I’m impressed that [those who are here] can benefit culturally, socially and spiritually. We want to keep youth engaged by explaining the historical significance of Juneteenth... Look at the city of Jackson. Crime is up, and education is down. Community nurturers must know who they are [before they can successfully] nurture the community. He ended his remarks with: “It’s important that we get every generation, child and adult, to understand his/her surroundings. Look around. [Many of] our people are psychologically conditioned. But it’s on us to clean up the ghetto [by coming together].”

Familiar to the City of Jackson were several people with key roles. The First Lady of Jackson, Ebony Lumumba,

read two books to children; Bo Brown motivated the youth with words of inspiration. Wanda Evers answered questions raised by the youth.

Each person encouraged youth to set goals and to aim high to achieve them. They seemed to concur that beginning with a purpose would steer them in the direction of success.

Entertainment was provided by several people. Aaron Honey-sucker guided a large crowd in line dancing. MADDRAMA students from JSU performed an original version of James Weldon Johnson’s poem, “The Creation.” Included were Paige Stewart, Kaylyn Johnson, Cody Powell, Alexandria Williams and Naomi Elim.

Medgar Evers Library is located at 4215 Medgar Evers Blvd., Jackson, Miss. 39213.

To learn how to get involved with the Calendar of Events, contact Anne Sanders at 601-982-2867 (www.jhlibrary.com)

PHOTOS BY JANICE K. NEAL-VINCENT

