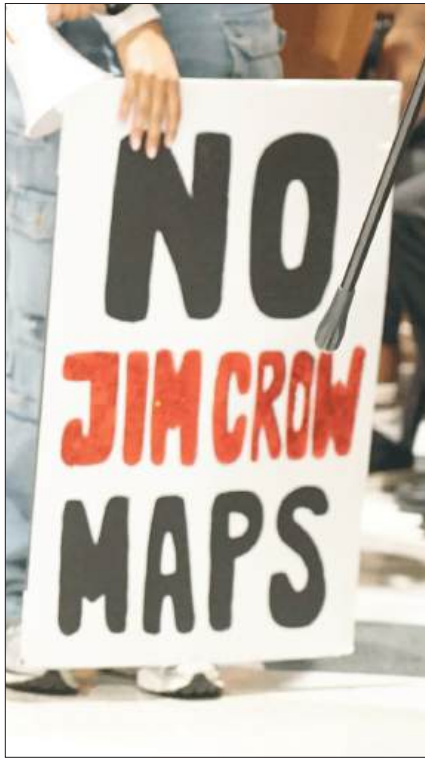


Returning to the Crime Scene: Black Mississippians and others rise again for voting rights

PHOTOS BY JAY JOHNSON AND CHRISTOPHER YOUNG



By Othor Cain
Contributing Writer

The rally at the Old Mississippi Capitol carried the weight of history. For many gathered there, it felt like returning to the crime scene, standing on the same ground where lawmakers once used the power of government to strip Black Mississippians of their rights and silence their voices at the ballot box.

The Capitol remains a symbol of decisions rooted in racism, where elected officials once designed laws meant to push Black citizens out of democracy. Now, generations later, hundreds returned to that same place with a different message, Mississippi will not go backward.

Voices echoed across the Capitol grounds as speakers warned that new efforts to redraw voting lines threaten to repeat the injustices of the past. The crowd carried a common theme throughout the morning, "We are not going back." Organizers and community leaders said attempts to dilute the Black vote through unfair district maps cannot be allowed to happen again. They argued that every person in Mississippi deserves fair representation and that racially drawn maps only keep communities divided.

Speaker after speaker reminded the crowd that the people are paying attention. What once happened quietly behind closed doors is now being challenged publicly by citizens determined to protect the right to vote. Many described the gathering as both a warning and a declaration, a refusal to allow history to repeat itself in the same halls where Black political power was once



'History Started Here' A new Voting Rights Movement rises in Selma and Montgomery



March attendees walk across the Edmund Pettus Bridge on Saturday, May 16. MARIKA N. JOHNSON, FOR THE BIRMINGHAM TIMES

By Shauna Stuart
For the Birmingham Times

When the Rev. Otis Dion Culliver, pastor of Tabernacle Baptist Church, got the request to host the mass meeting for a national day of action to mobilize a new voting rights era, he knew the church had to heed the call.

In 1963, the historic church was the site of the first mass meeting of the Selma voting rights movement. On Saturday, May 16, more than 60 years later, the church was the launch space for "All Roads Lead to the South," a campaign for thousands of people to return to Alabama's battleground cities of the historic voting rights movement as a clarion call to protest Republican-led states' efforts to redraw redistricting maps in a way opponents say will weaken the power of the Black vote. The effort called for attendees to march across the Edmund Pettus Bridge in Selma, followed by a rally in Montgomery at the Alabama State House.

"So many national organizations felt the summoning in their souls to do something about what's going on in our country," said Culliver. "And of course, coming to Selma is symbolic, but it's also inspirational. And Tabernacle has a special place in history in the movement. So we were honored."

Organizers and parishioners rallied together to work down to the wire overnight on May 15 to prepare the church and get details in order. Saturday morning, the area outside the church was a groundswell. Buses and cars pulled into the surrounding parking lots as mass meeting attendees made their way to the side doors. Wearing white shirts with the phrase "history started here," Tabernacle Baptist Church parishioners stood on the church steps and passed out water bottles as temperatures began to rise.

Outside the church, parishioners Verdell Lett Dawson and Margaret Broadnax sat behind a table, greeting attendees and inviting them to take coffee, donuts, and wa-



The Rev. Otis Dion Culliver, pastor of Tabernacle Baptist Church, speaks from the pulpit during the mass meeting on Saturday, May 16. MARIKA N. JOHNSON, FOR THE BIRMINGHAM TIMES



Civil Rights activist Annie Pearl Avery sits outside of Tabernacle Baptist Church after the mass meeting. SHAUNA STUART, FOR THE BIRMINGHAM TIMES

ter. "It's a part of the mission of our church to offer hospitality to people who come here," said Dawson. "This church is where the voting rights movement started with the first mass meeting in 1963 that Dr. Bernard Lafayette and Mrs. Amelia Boynton co-organized. It was also a memorial tribute to her husband, Samuel Boynton, upon his passing."

Broadnax was a senior at R.B. Hudson High School when Selma's marches for voting rights started. She says she attended school with LeRoy Morton, the 19-year-old activist who was riding in the passenger seat with fellow civil rights Viola Liuzzo when she was shot dead on March 25, 1965 by members of the Ku Klux Klan after shuttling fellow demonstrators between cities after

Selma
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Inside

MEMORIAL DAY
REMEMBER AND HONOR

Soldiers
Wife

A SOLDIER'S WIFE
BLAIR UNDERWOOD

Wesley G. Williams, II – Artistic Speech Choir Director - calls for perseverance, having learned from the best

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

Since the days of his youth, Wesley G. Williams, II has been fascinated with speech choirs. Under the direction of Malena Dow and Dr. I.D. Thompson, Williams stated he was privileged to participate in what he describes as the ‘College Hill Baptist Church Speech Choir.’

Dr. Hymethia Thompson (Williams’ high school honors English teacher at the magnet high school in Jackson Public Schools) introduced Williams and his classmates to the speech choir artform and prepared them for competition in a speech choir tournament. Williams recollected that the year was 1988, he was a junior, and they won first place.

As time progressed, Williams recognized that his love for speech choirs had grown far beyond his imagination. “After graduating from high school, I continued to participate in speech choir performances as a student at the W.E.B. Dubois Honor’s College at Jackson State University under the direction of Professor Dr. Janice K. Neal. During my years as an English Literature teacher, I established speech choirs at each school where I taught: Nichols Middle School in Canton and Powell Middle School in Jackson.”

Looking back at his speech choir experiences, Williams attested that the above directors inspired him deeply to appreciate



Wesley G. Williams, II founded and directs the Anderson UMC Adult Speech Choir

the artform and to share it nationwide. “Their chorally arranged selections inspired me to learn how to listen to human voices and hear the beauty of the tones: light tones, medium tones, and deep tones. Hearing these tones inform how you chorally arrange a selection once you write it,” said the messenger.

Williams has been directing speech choirs for 15 years. “I thoroughly enjoy and cherish the process of working with a group of multiple speaking voices, balanced by vocal groups (light, medium, and deep) and working together to discover the spirit and rhythm of the piece that I have been inspired to write and chorally arrange. A believer of co-creation, the director underscores the process of speech choir spirit: working together to discover the rhythm and spirit of each selection during intense, focused rehearsals. Emphasizing the need to work in vocal groups during the first two to three re-



Director Wesley Williams II (Left) and Anderson UMC Adult Speech Choir Feb. 22, 2026, during a Celebration of Black History Month in honor of Dr. Margaret Walker PHOTOS COURTESY OF WESLEY G. WILLIAMS

hearsals, he maintains that “we can discover the power of sounding like one voice as light voices, one voice as medium voices, and one voice as deep voices.”

The exercise paves the way for the speech choir members to come back together as a group and repetitiously journey through the piece. Such repetition creates thought and reflection that sparks discussion. Said Williams, “The power of intentional repetition is essential.” From there, Williams engages in the spirit and rhythm of the selection by recording the read through for all to “listen and reflect on another level because we can hear ourselves and share constructive feedback based on that recording.” The director asserted that the recordings from each rehearsal are essential for the speech choir to “witness and experience our iterative process and progress in discovering the spirit and rhythm of the selection.”

In late June of 2023, Williams left Columbus, Ohio and returned

to his hometown of Jackson, MS to care for his mother. Through the Music Ministry at Anderson United Methodist Church (6205 Hanging Moss Rd, Jackson, MS 39206) he became a member of the choir and shared eventually with Minister of Music Sondra Bell his desire to start an adult speech choir. The idea was approved, and choir members volunteered to join.

Williams has written, chorally arranged, and directed literary selections at AUMC that can be seen online. The author’s first premiere performance was on February 25, 2024. Earlier this year (February 22, 2026), he directed the Anderson UMC Adult Speech Choir in a selection he wrote and chorally arranged entitled “A 21st Century Response to For My People by Dr. Margaret Walker Alexander.” “My selection reflected the following written flow: (a) special video introduction honoring Dr. Alexander and a dramatic reader of

her poem “I Want to Write;” (b) choral arrangement and reading of Dr. Alexander’s “For My People;” and (c) choral arrangement and reading of Response to “For My People.”

Williams asserts that Alexander’s “For My People” “is a lament and song of sorrow of the dehumanization of Blacks during Middle Passage, 250 years of slavery, and Jim Crow. It celebrates daily living that details our resilience, courage, strength, ability to experience joy with family, friends, and congregants despite sorrow and pain. It describes our own imperfections, greed, selfishness as humans and how we can be, do, and engage in a collaborative process as a community to improve every aspect of our communities so that all can thrive professionally, creatively, and personally. Lastly, it reflects that we are not a monolithic people.”

People who have seen the Anderson UMC Adult Speech Choir in action have poured out their views overwhelmingly. Accolades come in a variety of forms. Standing ovations, face-to-face sentiments of gratitude, and personal text messages have generated some of these comments.

How is Williams motivated to write? Said the creative, “When I am inspired to write anything new, usually, I am awakened in the early morning hours to write. I have learned to get up and write immediately when I am inspired. My writing is an iterative process.

Williams considers speech choirs essential in today’s society. Accordingly, they create a sense of community to youth, children, or adults who are committed to expressing and making powerful, thought-provoking, relevant, and inspirational words, phrases, sentences, and ideas come to life through the human voice(s). Further, they inspire and challenge the listeners and audience to act by using their own sphere of influence to engage in the multiple forms of humanizing activism in their respective communities.

Wesley G. Williams, II, is a Senior Research Director II at NORC at the University of Chicago. He will be honored to work in partnership with a congregation interested in developing this artform as a ministry at their church by serving as a coach and customizing a learning workshop in preparation for the newly formed speech choir’s first performance. He also desires to serve as an executive artistic coach to support churches. “In the 21st century, we must choose to build community and actively participate and contribute to multiple communities in humanizing, loving, and culturally responsive ways so that ultimately, we can influence how humans can thrive professionally, personally, and creatively. Now that’s good and beautiful living,” he said. For further inquiry, Williams can be contacted via email at genevalor@gmail.com or 614-940-0662.

At Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Mississippi,

we’re not just about providing health insurance. We’re creating a strong, supportive community that empowers every Mississippian to live their healthiest life. We make managing your health easier by empowering you with the tools and support you need to take proactive steps toward maintaining and improving your health. Working together, we’re ensuring quality healthcare and wellness opportunities are within reach for all. Because when you are at your best, Mississippi is too.

A healthy community begins with the health of its people — and when you thrive, we all do.

It’s good to be blue.



MISSISSIPPI



Selma

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the third march from Selma and Montgomery.

“I never thought that I would see this day,” said Broadnax. “I thought that we were moving forward. Now, all the gains that we made since the Civil Rights Movement in ‘65 are starting to be eroded. It’s a dark day. It is really a dark day.”

“It moved so quickly,” said Brenda Brown, referring to the states that immediately pivoted to reassess voting maps after the April 29 Louisiana vs. Callias decision struck down a landmark civil rights law that increased minority representation in Congress—a move that politicians and voting rights activists say guts Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act.

Brown, a 20-year member of the church, says she was taken aback. “Our ancestors... everything they fought so hard for. (Now) they’re trying to reverse everything.”

Inside of the church, people filled the pews and lined the walls as they listened to faith leaders from around the country offer prayers to protect attendees who had gathered in the sacred house of worship and condemn the dismantling of voting rights protections that foot soldiers fought and died for more than 60 years ago.

During his impassioned speech from the pulpit, Rev. Leodis Strong, the pastor of the historic Brown Chapel A.M.E. Church in Selma, recalled voter intimidation tactics in the Jim Crow South, including jellybean tests, where voting officials would ask Black people to count the number of jellybeans in a jar in order to register to vote.

“When they saw our collective power. They were afraid!” said Strong. “Now, there are no more jellybeans in jars, but jello and jelly in the spines of Congressmen who refuse to pass the John Lewis

Voting Rights Act.”

“In the battle for the right to vote, the Black church has never been a spectator,” said U.S. Rep. Terri Sewell, who said efforts to erase fair voting maps take the country “back to the age of Jim Crow.”

To close the mass meeting, faith leaders offered a final benediction and prayer of protection as attendees prepared to march a mile from the church to the Edmund Pettus Bridge.

Outside of the church, Annie Pearl Avery sat in a wheelchair holding a sign with her fist raised high. Avery decided to get involved in the civil rights movement in 1961 after the Freedom Riders were attacked in Birmingham. She participated in sit-ins and marches, including the Bloody Sunday march across the Edmund Pettus Bridge on March 7, 1965.

Voting rights

Continued from page A1



intentionally erased. “We cannot allow this to happen,” said Margaret Smith from Greenville, Mississippi. “I woke up the other morning and thought it was 1926 instead of 2026.”

As the rally continued, the message became larger than politics alone. Participants framed the fight for voting rights as a moral issue tied to dignity, equality, and justice. “Mississippi belongs to all of God’s people,” declared CJ Rhodes, pastor of the historic Mt. Helm church in Jackson, to applause from the crowd. And with that came the promise repeated throughout the morning, “We shall not go back.”

The crowd swelled at the 11:15 gathering, transforming what began as a town hall into what felt like a national stage. The convention center filled with energy as the Native Land podcast hosted a town hall-style event featuring Congressman Bennie Thompson and Congressman Jonathan Jackson of Illinois.

For some attendees, the program felt performative at times and lacking in substance. But Congressman Bennie Thompson cut through that perception with a direct reminder of the stakes facing Mississippi’s 2nd Congressional District.

“I can show you what terror looks like,” Thompson said. “We are not going anywhere.” Thompson’s comment was in direct response to a social media post made by Governor Tate Reeves.

His [Thompson] words reframed the moment, grounding the conversation in the reality of voter suppression and the ongoing attacks on Black political power.

Outside of the planned program, young people marched from the Old Capitol and interrupted the town hall. For many in attendance, it was a necessary interruption, a reminder that urgency cannot always be scripted or moderated.

NAACP President Derrick Johnson emphasized unity and collective responsibility, telling the crowd: “We are all that we need if we lean into each other.”

Thompson also underscored what he believes is at the heart of the current political fight, “We have an opportunity to level set what is happening in this country. They are trying to say the hands that picked cotton can’t pick our representatives or elected officials.”

The gathering ultimately became more than a podcast event. It reflected frustration, resistance, organizing, and the continuing debate over what meaningful political action should look like in this moment.



HOPE CEO makes the case for HBCUs as a necessary investment at Global Finance Conference



Todd O. McDonald, president of Liberty Bank and Trust Co.; Common, rapper and actor; Bobbie Knight, president of Miles College; Melissa Bradley, founder and managing partner of New Majority Ventures; Ayesha Rascoe, host of NPR’s Weekend Edition Sunday; Bill Bynum, founding CEO of HOPE; and Melanie Schwartz, associate director of Inclusive Capitalism at the Milken Institute



Panel for Built to Last: Investing in the Resiliency of HBCUs



Melissa Bradley and Bill Bynum

The Mississippi Link Newswire

With nearly \$200 million invested in Historically Black Colleges and Universities across the Deep South, Bill Bynum, CEO of HOPE, brought the case for HBCU investment to the 2026 Milken Institute Global Conference in Beverly Hills, California.

Bynum joined national leaders in finance, higher education and community development for the featured panel discussion, “Built to Last: Investing in the Resiliency of HBCUs.”

“If you’re an investor, you look for undervalued assets,” Bynum told the audience. “HBCUs are woefully undervalued,

but the return is immense.”

Bynum said the return on investment is tied to the growing diversity of the nation’s workforce and consumer economy, noting that HBCUs remain among the most underinvested institutions preparing students for that future. Panelists also discussed why HBCUs represent significant long-term investment opportunities because of their role as major employers, research institutions, landowners, workforce pipelines and economic drivers within surrounding communities.

“When HBCUs get the resources, they actually do more. They overperform. They out-

perform their peers,” Bynum said.

HOPE’s investments in Mississippi and across the region have supported research infrastructure, institutional financial stability, housing and community development at partner HBCUs. In Mississippi, those partners include Tougaloo College, Jackson State University and Alcorn State University. Bynum also discussed a joint investment with Liberty Bank and Trust supporting a medical research project involving Xavier University of Louisiana and Ochsner Health, which he said demonstrates how mission-driven financial institutions can

collaborate on co

Collaborate on complex, high-impact investments.

The panel, moderated by Ayesha Rascoe, host of NPR’s Weekend Edition Sunday, also featured Melissa Bradley, founder and managing partner of New Majority Ventures; Bobbie Knight, president of Miles College; and Todd O. McDonald, president of Liberty Bank and Trust Co. During the discussion, Knight acknowledged HOPE’s partnership with Miles College. “Proud to be a partner with HOPE Credit Union, with Mr. Bill Bynum, and we appreciate all of the support,” Knight said.

The conversation also addressed expanding research capacity, strengthening HBCU

balance sheets, developing land assets, building workforce pipelines and increasing public-private investment partnerships.

The 2026 Milken Institute Global Conference brought together the world’s brightest minds to address the most urgent challenges and unlock the most promising opportunities of our time. This premier event connected individuals with the capital and influence to drive change with experts and innovators transforming health, finance, business, technology, philanthropy, industry, and society.

You can watch the full panel discussion at www.milkeninstitute.org.

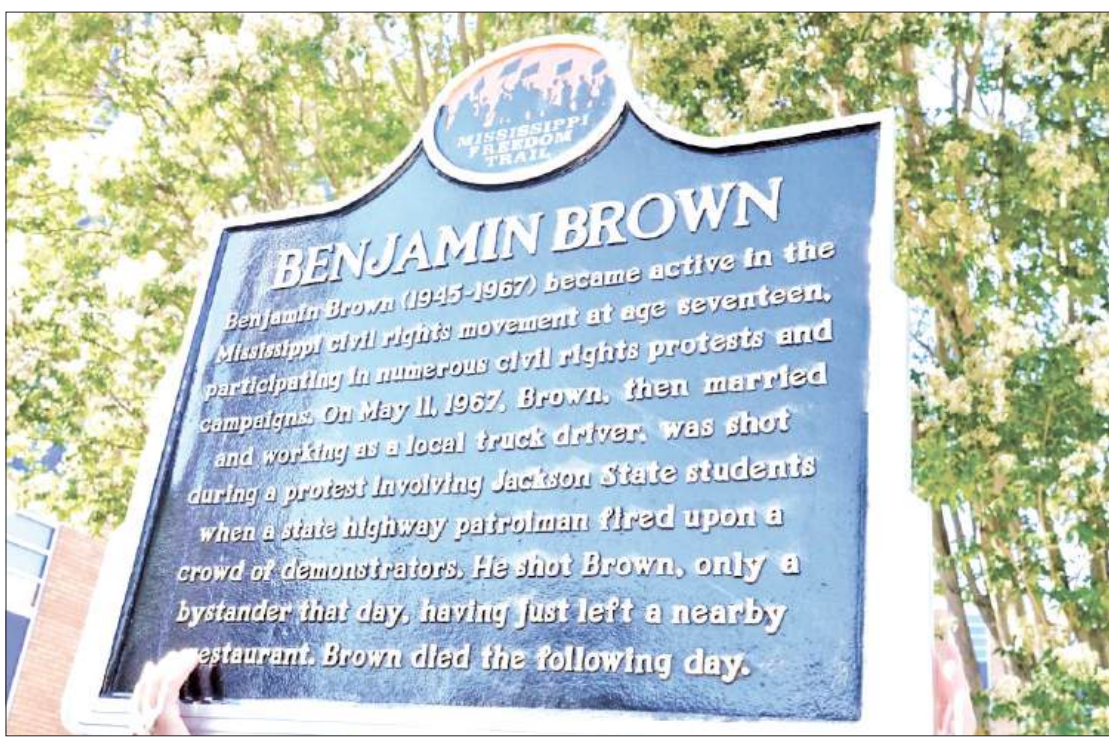
About HOPE HOPE (Hope Enterprise Corporation, Hope Credit Union and Hope Policy Institute) provides financial services; leverages resources; and engages in advocacy that strengthens the financial health of people in under-resourced communities in Alabama, Arkansas, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi and Tennessee. Since 1994, these efforts have benefited more than three million people across the Deep South and influenced billions in investments for persistent poverty communities nationwide.

Mississippi Freedom Trail unveiling of marker in honor of civil rights protester Benjamin Brown

By Jackie Hampton
Publisher

It was at the age of sixteen when Benjamin Brown, along with his peers, protested the arrest of Freedom Riders and helped to organize an economic boycott of downtown Jackson businesses, when he became a target of police harassment and surveillance. And it was almost 60 years ago when students at then Jackson State College started a protest against the involvement of city police on campus. The demonstration started May 10, 1967, and continued into the next day leading to the involvement of state highway patrol and the National Guard.

Brown, along with a friend arrived on Lynch Street to buy food and as they exited the Kon-Tiki Café, the police suddenly opened fire on the crowd of protesters and an officer shot Brown in the leg, back, and head. He died the next morning at the age of twenty-two.



A Mississippi Freedom Trail marker was unveiled in Brown's honor May 14, 2026, during the annual Gibbs-Green Commemoration. The ceremony recognizes Phillip Lafayette

Gibbs who was a 21-year-old Jackson State student, and James Earl Green, who was a 17-year-old high school student who were shot to death during a 1970 protest on the campus.

The unveiling began at 4:00 PM at the Jackson State University Gibbs-Green Memorial Plaza. It was a very warm day, but organizers made certain everyone had hand-held fans as

they witnessed a moving and emotional event.

Director of the Margaret Walker Center, Robert Luckett, PhD served as program guide. He stated that the marker would be permanently installed near COFO Center on J. R. Lynch Street where Ben Brown lost his life in 1967.

JSU President Denise Jones Gregory, PhD and MS State Rep., Zakia Summers House District 68 brought greetings. President Gregory said this annual event is designed to keep the spirits of not only Gibbs and Green alive, but also James "Lap" Baker, who was a student at JSU and survived the 1970 shooting. Baker died at the age of seventy-seven on January 30, 2026.

President Gregory said, "We promise to speak their names and tell their stories here at JSU and beyond." Summers stated Baker was a bridge between generations where he spent a lifetime keeping the tragic

memories of Gibbs and Green alive.

Summers presented a plaque to Renae Baker and D'Angelo Baker, sister, and nephew of James "Lap" Baker, who sang a very moving duet, "Someday We'll All Be Free," by Donny Hathaway.

A Gibbs-Green Memorial Wreath Laying was done by Quilly Turner, Gailya Porter, and Lee Benard who were students of JSU at the time of this tragedy followed the unveiling ceremony.

Porter who was at the dorm when the shooting started told The Mississippi Link, "The fear of the Gibbs-Green massacre could occur again if we don't study our history and learn how to prevent a similar disaster."

After laying the wreath, Rev. Charles Holbrook gave the benediction that was followed by a reception in the Johnson Art Gallery at Jackson State.

PHOTOS BY JAY JOHNSON



we must vote

CALLAIS V. LOUISIANA & MISSISSIPPI VOTING RIGHTS THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW:

A major court case could weaken or eliminate **Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act (VRA)**—a key protection against racial discrimination in voting.

FOR MISSISSIPPI, THIS COULD MEAN SERIOUS SETBACKS FOR BLACK VOTERS AND FAIR REPRESENTATION.

WHY SECTION 2 MATTERS:

Section 2 helps communities fight unfair voting laws and maps. It has been used to:

- STOP DISCRIMINATORY REDISTRICTING
- PROTECT MAJORITY-BLACK DISTRICTS
- ENSURE FAIR REPRESENTATION AT ALL LEVELS

IF SECTION 2 IS WEAKENED:

- FEWER LEGAL PROTECTIONS AGAINST UNFAIR VOTING LAWS
- MORE RACIAL GERRYMANDERING (MANIPULATED DISTRICT LINES)
- INCREASED VOTER SUPPRESSION WITH LESS ACCOUNTABILITY

WHAT THIS MEANS FOR MISSISSIPPI:

- LOSS OF BLACK REPRESENTATION IN LOCAL AND STATE GOVERNMENT
- MAJORITY-BLACK DISTRICTS WEAKENED OR ELIMINATED
- LESS POWER IN DECISIONS ON SCHOOLS, HEALTHCARE, AND JUSTICE

we must vote

MISSISSIPPI'S SHIELD ACT (SB 2588) PRIVACY & YOUR RIGHTS:

KEY CONCERNS:

Providing sensitive information (like Social Security numbers) can raise concerns about how data is used or shared.

WHAT TO KNOW:

- Government systems already use secure identity verification
- Data sharing across agencies exists but raises valid concerns
- Trust in data protection varies across communities

WHY IT MATTERS:

Additional data requirements can:

- Discourage voter registration
- Increase confusion and fear
- Create more barriers to participation

OUR POSITION:

- No one should choose between privacy and voting
- Voter education must be clear and honest
- Communities deserve transparency and protection

TAKE ACTION

- Get Informed: Check requirements and registration status
- Help Others: Support community members with documents
- Stay Engaged: Join voter education and advocacy efforts

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We Must Vote, Inc. is organizing across Mississippi to ensure every eligible voter is informed, prepared, and empowered.

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Progressive Baptist Church celebrates the 27th anniversary of Pastor & First Lady Arthur Sutton

By Jackie Hampton
Publisher

PHOTOS BY JAY JOHNSON

“Still Standing, Still Serving, Still Strong: Steadfast and Unwavering was the theme for the 27th Pastoral Anniversary of Pastor & First Lady Arthur Sutton of Progressive Baptist Church located at 2323 Powers Avenue in Jackson.

The celebration was held Sunday, May 17, 2026, at 2:00 p.m. Associate Minister, Rev. Eric Rhodes along with his wife Evangelist Kellye Rhodes served as Program Guides.

Dr. Adriane Dorsey Kidd gave the welcome and occasion. She said, “This anniversary is more than a milestone; it’s a testimony of God’s sustaining power of the faithful leadership of a pastor and first lady who has stood strong through every season.”

The speaker for the occasion was Pastor Perry Fletcher of Friendship Baptist Church. He was introduced by his wife, First Lady DaVida Monya Fletcher. Fletcher used as his title, “I’m Still Here,” using as his scriptural text, Acts Chapter 28.

Music was provided by Progressive Baptist Church Inspirational Choirs as well as music from guest choirs.

The service ended with a Roll/Call of Progressive Baptist Church Ministers by program guides Rev. Rhodes & Evangelist Rhodes.



Veterans of Foreign Wars hold annual Loyalty Day program

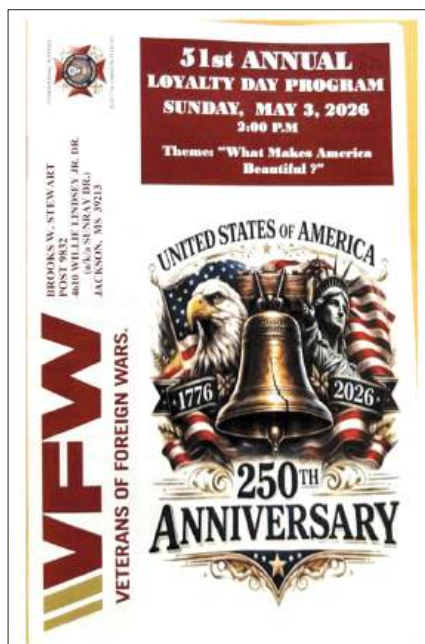
By Jeffery McKenzie
VFW Historian, Post 9832

The Veterans of Foreign Wars at VFW Post 9832, on Sunray Drive in Jackson, held its 51st Annual Loyalty Day program on May 3, 2026. The VFW Loyalty Day program rewards and recognizes youths in the 6th – 8th grades for their participation in the VFW annual Patriot's Pen Youth Scholarship essay contest and 9th – 12th grade youth for their participation in the VFW annual Voice of Democracy audio-essay contest.

In addition, the program gives recognition and honor to all metro Jackson and surrounding area Junior ROTC high school Top Cadets and Jackson State University's Top Army and Air Force Senior ROTC Cadets, for their outstanding achievements and accomplishments.

The City of Jackson and Central MS area First Responders of the Year are recognized and honored for their dedication and commitment to professionalism.

The Veterans of Foreign Wars at VFW Post 9832 believe that the Loyalty Day program would not be complete if it did not honor and recognize the many people and organizations that give so much of their time to volunteer service and serving the public.



Callaway High School Color Guard Team, Posts the Colors for the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 9832, 51st Annual Loyalty Day Program



Auxiliary Chaplain Sherry Ellis and Post Trustee Jeffery McKenzie conduct the Laying of the Memorial Wreath ceremony, in memory of our departed Comrades and Auxiliary members



Shunta Mallett sings the National Anthem and the song "America"



Comrade Darius Williams tells what Loyalty Day means to the VFW



Auxiliary President Elaine Martin welcomes everyone to the 51st Annual Loyalty Day program



(l to r): Sherry Ellis, Auxiliary Chaplain; Elaine Martin, Auxiliary President; Evelyn Fletcher, Post 9832 Sr. Vice Cmdr.; Herman Horton, Post 9832 Jr. Vice Cmdr.; Keynote speaker Cadet Jeremiah Rufus, and Jeffery McKenzie, Post 9832 Trustee and Post Commander elect for the 2026-2027 year, recite the Pledge of Allegiance and renders a salute during the singing of the National Anthem



Post 9832 Patriot's Pen essay contest winner, 8th grader Kayden Guise from Old Town Middle School reads her essay and is presented with a Certificate of Appreciation and honorarium gift by Sr. Vice Cmdr. Fletcher, Essay Chairperson Comrade Aaron Honeysucker and Auxiliary President Martin. Kayden came in 1st place at the Post level, 1st place at the District level and 2nd place overall in the State among all VFW Posts



Post 9832 Voice of Democracy audio essay contest winner, 12th grader London McKenzie from Clinton High School reads her essay and is presented with a Certificate of Appreciation and honorarium gift. London came in 1st place at the Post level, 1st place at the District level and 1st place overall in the State among all VFW Posts. London received a \$4,000 college scholarship, and an all-expense paid 4 day trip to Valley Forge National Historic Park in Pennsylvania, where he participated in the VFW Founding Forward's Spirit of America Youth Leadership training camp.



Auxiliary Sr. Vice President Dorothy Loggins-Lewis and Post Jr. Vice Cmdr. Herman Horton, escorts the memorial wreath.



Jackson State University ARMY-SROTC Top Cadet, Cadet Arion Hart was recognized, honored and rewarded for his outstanding achievements in the JSU- ARMY-SROTC program.



Callaway High School and JPS-JROTC ARMY Top Cadet, Cadet Jeremiah Rufus delivers the keynote address to the Veterans of Foreign Wars and to all in attendance. His message to everyone was "What Makes America Beautiful."



Sr. Vice Cmdr. Evelyn Fletcher is placing a red rose in memory of our departed Comrade, Comrade Leon Johnson



(l-r) JPS-ARMY JROTC- Forest Hill H.S. Top Cadet, Cadet Khalyse Johnson; Jim Hill H.S. Top Cadet, Cadet Jon Travis Alston; Lanier H.S. Top Cadet, Cadet Shamara Camper; Murrh H.S. Top Cadet, Cadet Victoria Calvin; Provine H.S. Top Cadet, Cadet Kaitlynn Bingham



(l-r) MCJROTC- Germantown H.S. Top Cadet, Cadet Jerry Purnell; NJROTC- Pearl H.S. Top Cadet, Cadet Noah James; AFJROTC-Madison H.S. Top Cadet, Cadet Trinity Harrell; CGJROTC-Clinton H.S. Top Cadet, Cadet Kadarius Riley



Auxiliary President Elaine Martin is placing a white rose in memory of our departed members Annie Porter, Carolyn Dart and Dorothy Harvey

Miss-Lou Memorial Day Parade returns May 25 with historic marker unveiling

The Mississippi Link Newswire

This year's Miss-Lou Memorial Day Parade, set for Monday, May 25, will include an unveiling ceremony for a Mississippi state historical marker commemorating the parade, according to Laura Jackson, chair of the Natchez parade committee, and Sheila Trust Gardner, chair of the Vidalia parade committee.

The parade, which has roots in the African American community, dates to the late 1800s and is one of the oldest Memorial Day traditions in the country. It was

previously known as the "30th of May Parade."

Sgt. Anita R. Washington Jackson of the U.S. Army National Guard will serve as the Vidalia grand marshal, and Mayor Dan M. Gibson will serve as the Natchez grand marshal.

The unveiling ceremony will be held at 9:30 a.m. at 639 S. Canal St., in front of the Holiday Inn Express. The program will feature presentations by Roscoe Barnes III, cultural heritage tourism manager at Visit Natchez; Mayor Dan M. Gibson; Robert

Gardner, Vidalia alderman for District 2; and Annette Sharp, general manager of the Holiday Inn Express.

The unveiling will be followed by an 11 a.m. ceremony at Natchez National Cemetery. The guest speaker will be Glenn R. Powers, deputy under secretary for Field Programs and Cemetery Operations at the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs National Cemetery Administration.

Lineup for the parade will begin at 7:30 a.m. at Zion Baptist Church, located at 601 Magnolia

St. in Vidalia. From there, the procession will travel to the foot of the Louisiana side of the bridge, cross into Natchez, and continue to the Natchez Visitor Center at 640 S. Canal St. Shuttle service will be available at the Visitor Center and the cemetery.

From the Visitor Center, participants will proceed north on Canal Street to Franklin Street, continue to Pearl Street, then travel from Pearl to Oak Street before proceeding to Maple Street and continuing north to Cemetery Road.



Sgt. Anita R. Washington Jackson



Mayor Dan Gibson

Trump Accounts: Is it a good idea for children?

By Tim C. Lee
CEO & Founder of TCL Financial & Tax Services



If you go to the website, TrumpAccounts.com, the first thing you will see is a header that says, "Trump Accounts jumpstart the American Dream. We're building long-term financial security for millions of children by creating tax-advantaged investment accounts for U.S. citizens under the age of 18."

On the website, there is plenty of information to fully understand how the Trump Accounts work.

The Trump Accounts is one of the agendas included in the "One Big Beautiful Bill Act."

This legislation was signed into law by President Donald J. Trump on July 4, 2025 while currently in his second, non-consecutive term as President of the United States of America.

On July 4, 2026, Trump Accounts will officially launch!

For every American child born between January 1, 2025 and December 31, 2028, the government will contribute \$1,000 into a Trump Account for the child. The account will be in the legal guardian and child's name.

Once the child turns 18 years of age, they become the sole owner of the account.

The initial contribution of \$1,000 is not automatically given to children born in the qualifying years stated. To receive the contribution for the child, the legal guardian must set up a Trump Account and request the funds.

There are several ways to set up a Trump Account and request the initial contribution of \$1,000:

- 1) By filing Form 4547 on your Tax Year 2025 through 2028 individual tax return.
- 2) By completing Form 4547 electronically on TrumpAccounts.gov.
- 3) By completing Form 4547, printing it out, and mailing it to the Internal Revenue Service (IRS).

If you have not figured it out, Form 4547 is named after President Trump being the 45th and 47th president in office.

Once the Trump Account is created and funded the \$1,000, there will be no additional contributions made by the government. Also, no further deposits (contributions) are required by the legal guardian or any third parties. However, further contributions up to \$5,000 annually can be made to the account to maximize the growth.

To reach the \$5,000 contribution limit, deposits can be made by certain governmental entities, family members, friends, nonprofit organizations, philanthropists, the child, the child's employer, the legal guardian, and the legal guardian's employer.

In addition to American children born between Janu-

ary 1, 2025 and December 31, 2028, all children under the age of 18 are eligible to have a Trump Account.

The only difference is, children born outside of those four years will not receive the initial contribution of \$1,000 from the government, but the same rules apply in regard to making deposits to the account up to \$5,000 annually.

When it pertains to the money held in the Trump Accounts, they are invested in American companies, specifically Exchange-Traded Funds (ETFs) and/or mutual funds that mirror stock market indexes, such as the S&P 500.

Again, at the age of 18, the child becomes the sole owner of their Trump Account, which is now treated as a Traditional Individual Retirement Account (IRA), and the account holder must adhere to all guidelines, regulations, and tax consequences of it being labeled that way.

The account holder has the option to continue to contribute to the account to accelerate gains.

At the age of 18, and before 59 1/2, the account holder has the option to withdrawal funds for reasons that include a first-time home purchase, higher education, medical expenses, and many more without facing a 10 percent penalty on the amount withdrawn.

Although the amount withdrawn will not face a 10 percent penalty, it is still subject to the ordinary income tax rate on the account holder's individual income tax return.

After reviewing the details of Trump Accounts, I strongly believe, and is convinced that they are an excellent resource and tool to teach children how money works, as well as a means to educate them on the stock market.

Throughout the years of having the account, the account holder will have the capability to log into their account to see their money grow over time.

Based on projections, contributing the maximum amount of \$5,000 per year from birth, by the age of 18, an account holder's balance would be \$271,000

By the age of 27, an account holder's balance would be \$742,000.

Finally, by the age of 55, an account holder's balance would be \$13,000,000!

As you can see, when you understand the power of compound interest and time, you will understand that they are two of the key components to becoming financially independent and wealthy.

All children under the age of 18 need a Trump Account!

Tim C. Lee is the CEO & Founder of TCL Financial & Tax Services, and the host of "The TCL Show" that airs every Monday from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. CST on WMPR 90.1 FM in Jackson, MS. This is the show that is about "You, Life, and Money." Got an article idea or a question you would like answered, e-mail Tim at timclee@TCLFinancialTaxServices.com



www.TCLFinancialTaxServices.com

We Don't Just Do Taxes... WE KNOW TAXES



This is the show that is about You, Life, and Money!

Hosted by CEO & Founder
of TCL Financial & Tax Services

TIM C. LEE

every Monday from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. CST

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Erasing the Black vote in the Deep South

Five voting rights activists fight back

In Partnership with American Community Media – National Briefing Series In Partnership with American Community Media - National Briefing Series

By Christopher Young
Contributing Writer

On April 29, the Supreme Court struck down Louisiana's congressional map with two majority-Black districts, gutting Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act, which prohibits voting procedures that dilute minority representation. Within hours, state legislators across the South called for emergency redistricting sessions in what voting rights advocates see as the latest in a decades-long pattern to dismantle Black voting power.

On Friday, May 15, 2026, Pilar Marrero, co-producer of American Community Media's National Briefing Series, moderated a discussion with panelists who are voting rights activists in Louisiana, Alabama, North Carolina, and Georgia. The impact of the SCOTUS decision was discussed as well as the strategies being used to fight back. Eighty media outlets from over the globe joined the call.

Mitchell Brown, Voting Rights Senior Counsel and Coordinator, Southern Leadership for Voter Engagement Network (SOLVE), a project of the Southern Coalition for Social Justice spoke first. He is based in Durham, North Carolina. "Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act has two portions; one is about voting dilution and the other is vote denial. The Calais case from Louisiana deals with vote dilution – the drawing of maps and whether or not these maps have the effect of diluting voters of color voices in the



Mitchell Brown

elections. It's not denying them the right to vote, they can still vote, it's about whether or not their voice carries as much power and weight as other voters in their communities. Before this decision, Congress allowed us to challenge maps that had the effect of diluting those votes, and now it's much harder to do that. Dividing Black communities is always the goal."

Amir Badat, is a Voting Rights Attorney and political strategist at Fair Fight Action. Fair Fight Action was founded in 2018 by Stacey Abrams to address voter suppression in Georgia and across the United States. He is based in Georgia but was born in Mississippi. "I want to talk about the context in terms of the struggle in America for Civil Rights and for Black political power through blood sweat tears or like in the Civil War, which resulted in the enactment of the thirteenth and fourteenth and fifteenth amendments to the Constitution, which enshrined the rights of Black people across the country. That progress has historically been met



Amir Badat

with white supremacist backlash. Following Reconstruction after the civil war, we had the reconstruction amendments passed without dramatic expansion of black political power, black elected officials across the south at every level of government, black individuals of voting at extremely high rates and just a kind of historic black expansion or expansion of black political power, which was then met with violence and terrorism and eventually the codification of laws that were framed as race neutral. So they didn't specifically say that they were trying to disenfranchise black people, but they were intended to disenfranchise black people - like poll taxes and literacy tests, grandfather causes and those were ultimately codified in the context of Jim Crow laws that started with the Mississippi Constitution of 1890, which was then adopted across the South, or provisions of it."

Attorney Badat continued, "So then comes the Civil Rights struggle in the 50's and 60's which resulted in the enact-



Davante Lewis

ment of the Voting Rights Act of 1965, including Section 2 – again leading to a dramatic expansion of black political power. You saw voter registration rates among black communities in the south go from the single digits to fifty, sixty, seventy percent. You saw the election of black elected officials across local state and federal government... Section 2 promised equal access, equal opportunity for minority voters in the political process. That is the protection that SCOTUS just took away. Now we see Southern states rush as quickly as they can through the door that was opened by the Supreme Court to discriminate against Black voters."

Davante Lewis, an elected Public Service Commissioner from Louisiana's 3rd District, including Baton Rouge and New Orleans shared next. "In the last year we have seen our majority move rapidly to redistribute our state. Just this week, following the Calais decision, they had a hearing until 4:30am to district. 42 thousand Louisianians have already voted by mail and ab-



Jerome Dees

sentee ballot. Our Governor, using executive powers reserved for use during natural disasters, says the Calais decision is a direct violation of the integrity of the election. The Governor has suspended the election and said those votes won't count, that he's going to throw them out. It is a battle in Louisiana."

Jerome Dees, Policy Director for the Southern Poverty Law Center, based in Birmingham, Alabama, shared next. "In the interest of time, I'll be brief. I would highlight a phrase that we're all familiar with - those who don't learn from their history are doomed to repeat it - and we are presently in a moment of a second post reconstruction era – a reference that we know well as Jim Crow." He spoke at length about Alabama's struggles, and reminded that the Shelby V Holder decision to remove preclearance came out of Alabama.

Rhyane Wagner, Policy, Narrative and Community Partnerships Director at Alabama Values Progress, was the final panelist. "This is about power.



Rhyane Wagner

This is about representation. This is about whether Black communities and other communities of color will have a meaningful voice in our democracy. What's happening in Alabama and across the South now cannot be separated from this country's history. It's showing up now with this race-neutral, color-blind lens – a modern iteration with the same discriminatory outcomes. The goal remains to limit the political power and representation of Black communities and frameworks that claim to be color-blind only make that harder to confront because when the law ignores structural racism and white supremacy and how race actually shapes power, it becomes much harder to prove discrimination or fix it."

To view the entire 60-minute briefing, including full questions and answers, please go to <https://americancommunitymedia.org/media-briefings/erasing-the-black-vote-in-the-deep-south-five-voting-rights-activists-fight-back>.

The voice of the people – directly and through representation – on the line

In 'The Land of the free, the home of the brave,' the fight for justice rages once again

By Christopher Young
Contributing Writer

We live in a country that prides itself on 'with liberty and justice for all' – those suspicious six words at the very end of The Pledge of Allegiance. For many, the words are recited by rote at certain gatherings, in schools, service organization meetings, and more with seemingly little thought as to their authenticity. For others, the words are pledged with the full knowledge that they represent an ideal, an ideal never fully achieved in the United States of America. America wants all citizens to pledge allegiance to it, but it does not pledge allegiance to all Americans. The Pledge was born in 1892 – fifteen years into Reconstruction. Seventy-three years later, the Voting Rights Act of 1965 became law.

Nothing is free in America, and anything truly just – for those not in the racial majority – has had to be fought for. It has always been that way. It is a reality in these United States that the racial majority never ceases any form of power altruistically, only when the rule of law forces them. Sharing, a concept learned by most in kindergarten, does not apply for the White majority.

Some scholars consider the Voting Rights Act of 1965 to be the most significant legislation in America's history. It passed the Senate with a vote of 77-19, and nine weeks later it passed in the House 328-74. The law's



Reverend George Lee, murdered for his refusal to end voting registration efforts in Humphreys County, Mississippi in 1955.

signing by President Johnson began the process of eliminating Jim Crow laws, prohibited racial discrimination in voting, and affirmed the right to vote. Immediately 250,000 African Americans were able to vote. By 1967, that number rose by millions. Thank God for the advances in television. The world saw what happened on that Edmund Pettus Bridge in Selma, Alabama, March 7, 1965, and the Senate acted just over two months later, with the House just over two months after that.

The Voting Rights Act helped deliver fairness in a country that calls itself exceptional yet always resists true equity. Progress yes, true equity no. Per www.congress.gov "in 1970, Black representation in Congress increased from 13 to 15, while Asian and Hispanic representation remained in the single digits. By 1990, Black representation had grown from 26 to 39, while the other non-White



Mrs. Fannie Lou Hamer testifying at the Democratic National Convention in 1964.

numbers grew as well. By 2010, non-White representation made up 20 percent of the Congress, driven by surges in Asian and Hispanic American victories. In 2020, overall non-White representation had grown to 25 percent, with Black representation broadly proportional to U.S. population, while Hispanics remained underrepresented."

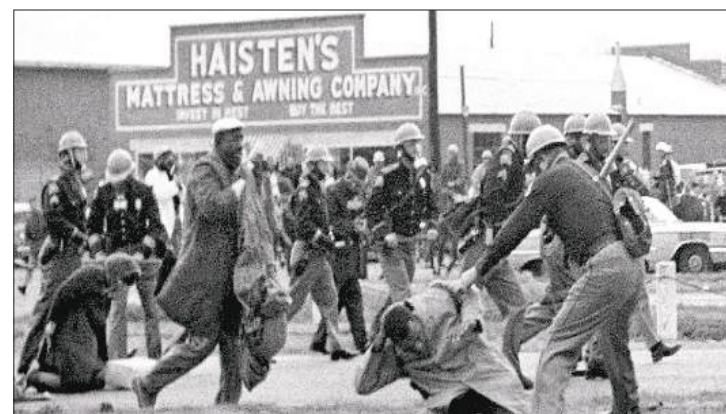
Then came 2013's Shelby County v. Holder case when the High Court was weighted 5-4 with Republican appointees – invalidating the coverage formula thereby eliminating the pre-clearance requirements for known bad-actor states before they redrew or altered legislative maps. Those states were Alaska, Alabama, Arizona, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, South Carolina, Texas, and Virginia. A landmark decision, with a 5-4 vote, with Chief Justice John Roberts saying, "the disparate treatment of the states is based on 40-year-old facts having no



Vernon Dahmer, targeted and killed by the Klan for helping African Americans register to vote in Forrest County, Mississippi.

logical relationship to the present day." The late Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg wrote, in part, in dissent, "throwing out preclearance when it has worked and is continuing to work to stop discriminatory changes is like throwing away your umbrella in a rainstorm because you are not getting wet."

Ten years later, in 2023, in Allen v. Milligan, Roberts and Kavanaugh sided with Justice's Sotomayor, Kagan, and Brown Jackson to uphold Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act and struck down Alabama's congressional map for diluting the power of Black voters, per www.scotusblog.org. And now, on April 29, 2026, the Court's 6-3 ruling in Louisiana v Callais saying that Louisiana does not have to create a second majority-minority voting district, therefore race cannot be used as a primary factor to draw district lines. Hence force, when claiming that lines are diluting minority vot-



Peaceful protester John Lewis beaten by Alabama State Troopers on March 7, 1965. PHOTO: AP

ing power, litigants will have to prove discriminatory intent versus discriminatory effect.

In her dissent, Justice Elena Kagan wrote in part, "I dissent because the Court betrays its duty to faithfully implement the great statute Congress wrote. I dissent because the Court's decision will set back the foundational right Congress granted of racial equality in electoral opportunity."

Read the decision at https://www.supremecourt.gov/opinions/25pdf/24-109_21o3.pdf.

An analysis by National Public Radio finds the ruling could "put at risk at least 15 House districts currently represented by Black members of Congress." Today, 14 percent of the U.S. House members are African American – 63 of 435. Of the 100 member U.S. Senate, 83 percent are White, per The Journal of Blacks in Higher Education.

What do you suppose Reverend George Lee, Mrs. Fannie Lou Hamer, Representative John Lewis, and Vernon Dahmer would have to say about all of this? What would they tell us to do? How about Medgar Evers, Lamar Smith, or Herbert Lee?

In a post on Instagram, scholar Eric Michael Dyson condemned the Supreme Court decision in Callais, saying "this is not a return to colorblindness, but a calculated mechanism to silence marginalized voices and dilute Black political power across the South." He spoke about the legacy of the Confederacy and the judicial philosophy of 'states rights' having consistently been weaponized to marginalize people of African descent. As is his norm, he pleads for moral mobilization, urging communities of faith, activists, and everyday citizens to "respond with conviction, action, and active resistance against these systemic attacks."



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JPS Scholars win MHSAA State Speech & Debate Championships

JPS Newswire

Two JPS Speech & Debate competitors brought home state championship awards from the 2026 MHSAA Speech & Debate State Tournament held at Millsaps College on April 24-25.

Over 150 competitors from 12 MHSAA schools gathered at Millsaps to compete in the tournament. Competitors qualified for the tournament based on the records at invitational tournaments hosted by high schools and colleges around the state throughout the past school year.

Serenity Moore, a 10th-grade scholar at Forest Hill High School, won the State Championship in the event of Storytelling. Per the National Speech & Debate Association (NSDA), "Storytelling is a five-minute event in which students perform a published story as if presenting to a group of young children."

This is Forest Hill's first MHSAA State Championship in Speech & Debate. The Forest Hill team's head coach is Dr. Brad Blake.

Clarissa Coleman, a 12th-grade scholar at Murrah High School and JPS-Tougaloo Early College High School, won the State Championship in Impromptu Speaking. According to the NSDA, "Impromptu Speaking is a public speaking event in which students are given seven minutes (with a 30-second grace period) to select a topic, brainstorm ideas, organize a speech, and deliver it without the use of notes."

Clarissa also was named the Overall Top Individual Performer, an award given to the student who has earned the most points at the tournament across all events, and was offered a



Serenity Moore, Forest Hill



Clarissa Coleman, Murrah

\$2,500 scholarship by Millsaps College. In addition to taking 1st place in Impromptu, Clarissa was a finalist in Congressional Debate and Extemporaneous Speaking, and reached Semifinals in Lincoln-Douglas Debate.

This is the first time in MHSAA history that a student from JPS has been named Overall Top Individual Performer. The Murrah team's head coach is Mr. Micah Everson.

Both scholars advance to the NCFL and NSDA national tournaments this summer in Washington, D.C., and Richmond, VA. They are currently fundraising to support travel and competition costs. You can donate here if you'd like. Want to support the teams in another way? Please reach out to Dr. Blake or Mr. Everson.

Civil Rights Leader Medgar Wiley Evers receives posthumous Honorary Degree at Mississippi College School of Law Spring Commencement

State Treasurer David McRae Provides Commencement Address

The Mississippi Link Newswire

The Mississippi College School of Law today (May 15) hosted its Spring Commencement, where university leadership presented a posthumous Honorary Doctor of Laws degree to the family of Mississippi civil rights leader Medgar Wiley Evers. During the ceremony, alumnus and State Treasurer David McRae delivered the commencement address to more than 100 graduates and gathered guests.

"As Mississippi College marks its bicentennial, we are proud to welcome MC Law alum and State Treasurer David McRae as our speaker, and honored to recognize Medgar Wiley Evers with this posthumous degree," said Dr. Blake Thompson, president of Mississippi College.

This recognition comes at a meaningful moment for Mississippi College, as the University celebrates its bicentennial and MC Law marks its 50th anniversary. At the ceremony, the Evers family was presented with the Honorary Doctor of Laws degree along with a framed citation commemorating Evers' life, leadership and impact. The ceremony also included a prerecorded message from his wife, Myrlie Evers-Williams.

"MC Law is humbled and honored that its name will now be forever linked with that of Medgar Wiley Evers through



On stage during the presentation of the Honorary Doctor of Laws degree are, from left, MC Provost and Executive Vice President Mike Highfield, Chris Daniel, Wanda Evers, Carolyn Evers Cockrell, Reena Evers-Everette, MC President Blake Thompson, and MC Law Dean John Anderson.

the awarding of this Honorary Doctor of Laws degree," said MC Law Dean John Anderson.

Though widely remembered for his leadership and impact in the civil rights movement, Evers also held a personal aspiration to attend law school. The presentation of this posthumous degree reflects both that aspiration and the Evers family's desire to see it honored.

"It was a dream of our father's to attend law school, but he was denied that opportunity," said Reena Evers-Everette, daughter of Medgar Wiley Evers. "That rejection fueled his passion to fight for desegregation in the South for the rest of his life. This honor means so much to us as his family members and honors our father's life and all that he advocated for in a powerful way."

Accepting the degree were members of Evers' family, including his daughter, Reena Evers-Everette; Wanda Evers;

and Carolyn Evers Cockrell. Chris Daniel, a 2002 graduate of MC Law who proposed the degree initiative and has longstanding ties to the Evers family, accompanied the family for the presentation.

"I felt a connection to Medgar as a fellow war veteran," explained Daniel. "It's apparent to me that he would have been a great law student and lawyer had he been given the same opportunity I received."

"Evers' courage, intellect and strong moral compass encapsulate everything MC represents. Our hope is that this moment acknowledges his incredible legacy and his aspiration to pursue a legal education," said Patricia Bennett, Dean Emerita at MC Law.

The 2026 MC Law commencement address was given by State Treasurer David McRae, a member of the MC Law Class of 2010 who has served as Treasurer for the

State of Mississippi since 2020. He also serves on the Board of Directors for both the National Association of State Treasurers and the National Association of State Auditors, Comptrollers and Treasurers, and is a member of the Mississippi Bar. Before taking office, McRae was Managing Partner of McRae Investments. During his time at MC Law, McRae served as Chief Justice of the Honor Court.

"I'm honored to deliver the keynote at my alma mater on this momentous occasion," said McRae. "Medgar Wiley Evers' enduring legacy and dedication to fairness and equality are inspirations for all Mississippians, and this recognition is a meaningful step in honoring a man who continues to impact both our state and nation."

More information about Spring Commencement can be found at law.mc.edu/students/graduation.

From Nigeria to JSU, Ebele Okoye shares her journey of purpose and impact

By Kelli Sharpe and Anthony Howard JSU newswire

When Ebele Okoye began searching for a doctoral program, she had a clear vision of what she needed: rigorous academics, meaningful research opportunities and a supportive environment that would allow her to grow as both a scholar and a leader. The international student said Jackson State University checked all of the boxes and was the perfect match.

That perfect match has now led to a remarkable milestone. Okoye graduated with a Doctor of Public Health (DrPH) with a concentration in epidemiology from the College of Health Sciences on May 1, 2026. She will graduate with a 3.777 GPA, a reflection of both her academic excellence and unwavering commitment to improving public health outcomes.

"My education at Jackson State has provided the mentorship, training, and collaborative op-



Ebele Okoye stands proudly among the newly hooded doctoral candidates during the 2026 Spring Commencement Graduate Ceremony. ARON SMITH/JACKSON STATE UNIVERSITY

portunities that have shaped my professional development," said Okoye. "JSU has prepared me to make meaningful contributions to public health research and practice."

Okoye's doctoral dissertation examined maternal obesity and pregnancy complications among Mississippi women of reproductive age, a critical issue that continues to plague the state with significant maternal health

disparities statistics. Through this work, she strengthened her ability to design research, analyze complex data, and translate findings into actionable strategies that improve health outcomes.

She came to the United States driven by a passion to address complex public health challenges, particularly those affecting underserved communities. Originally from Nigeria, she says she found more than a degree program. She found a place where her purpose could take shape at Jackson State. Okoye developed advanced expertise in public health research, data analysis, and evidence-based strategies, all grounded in real-world application.

"From the moment that I interviewed Ebele for the position of Graduate Research Assistant with the Mississippi Delta Center of Excellence in Maternal Health, I knew that she was a very special young lady," said Mary Shaw, PhD, principal investigator for

the Mississippi Delta Center of Excellence in Maternal Health. "She has a genuine interest in serving others locally and internationally."

Okoye's impact extended far beyond the classroom. As a graduate research assistant at the Mississippi Delta Center of Excellence in Maternal Health, she played a key role in advancing research and community initiatives. Her work also involved collaboration with leading institutions, including Harvard University and the University of Mississippi Medical Center. These partnerships gave her invaluable experience working across disciplines to address real-world health challenges in the Mississippi Delta.

Okoye's commitment to service and research also led her to a one-year public health residency with Special Olympics Mississippi, where she contributed to research promoting health equity

for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Her work resulted in two peer-reviewed publications, further strengthening her expertise in applied public health research and dissemination. She became a certified fellow through the Community Research Fellowship Training at the Mississippi Public Health Institute, where she honed her skills in community-based participatory research, partnership building, and translating research into practice.

Okoye's journey at Jackson State has positioned her for continued success. Following graduation, she has accepted a postdoctoral research position at the Mississippi Delta Center of Excellence in Maternal Health, where she will continue her work to improve maternal health outcomes and address health disparities.

"These experiences have prepared me for the next step in my

career," she said. "JSU provided the mentorship, training and collaborative opportunities that shaped my professional development."

For Okoye, Jackson State University offered more than academic excellence. She believed it provided a community.

"As an HBCU, Jackson State University offers a welcoming environment and strong academic resources that foster and support academic growth," she said. "That has been a critical part of my journey."

Okoye represents the very best of Jackson State University's resilience, scholarship, leadership and a commitment to service. From Nigeria to Jackson State, her journey reflects the power of education and embodies the JSU motto of challenging minds and changing lives. It also reflects the impact one determined scholar can have on communities around the world.

Does cooking with aluminum foil affect your health? What you should know

By Vince Faust MA
Health Educator and Motivational Writer

Do you wrap your grill with aluminum foil? Aluminum foil is a common item in almost every kitchen. We use it to wrap leftovers, line baking pans and cook food on the grill. It is light, flexible and easy to use. But many people wonder whether cooking with aluminum foil can affect their health. The short answer is that aluminum foil is generally safe, but there are some important things you should understand about how it interacts with food and heat.

Aluminum is a natural metal found in soil, water and many foods. It is also used in cookware, cans and food packaging. Most adults take in small amounts of aluminum every day from food and water. The body absorbs only a tiny fraction of it, and the rest passes out through the kidneys.

Health experts say that most people take in far below the level considered harmful. But certain cooking methods can increase how much aluminum gets into your food and that is where the concern begins.

When aluminum foil is heated, especially at high temperatures, small amounts of aluminum can move from the foil into the food. This process is called "leaching." Several factors make leaching more likely:

- High heat such as grilling, broiling or roasting
- Acidic foods like tomatoes, citrus fruits, vinegar or marinades
- Long cooking times
- Thin or crinkled foil, which breaks



down more easily

Studies show that aluminum levels in food can rise when these conditions are present. While the total amount is still usually below harmful limits, repeated exposure over time may increase your overall intake.

For most healthy adults, the small amount of aluminum that enters food during cooking is not considered dangerous. However, some groups may want to limit their exposure:

- People with kidney disease
- The kidneys remove aluminum from the body. If they are not working well, aluminum can build up more

easily.

Older adults

As people age, kidney function naturally slows. Reducing unnecessary aluminum exposure is a simple precaution.

People who cook with foil every day

Daily highheat cooking with foil can raise longterm exposure.

Families preparing food for children

Children absorb more of what they eat compared to adults.

For many years, people have wondered whether aluminum causes Al-

zheimer's disease. Scientists have found aluminum in the brains of some people with Alzheimer's, but they have not proven that aluminum is the cause. Most major health organizations say there is no strong evidence that normal aluminum exposure from cooking leads to Alzheimer's.

Still, many experts agree that reducing unnecessary exposure is a reasonable step, especially for older adults.

You do not need to throw away your aluminum foil. Instead, use it wisely. Here are simple ways to reduce exposure:

- Use parchment paper as a barrier. Place it between the food and the foil.
- Avoid wrapping acidic foods directly in foil. Use glass or ceramic dishes instead.
- Lower the cooking temperature when possible.
- Use foil mainly for storage, not cooking.
- Choose heavyduty foil. It breaks down less during cooking.
- Use glass, ceramic or stainless steel pans for roasting or baking.

These small changes can make a big difference over time.

Not all uses of foil are the same. Some methods release very little aluminum:

- Covering a dish in the oven
- Wrapping nonacidic leftovers for shortterm storage
- Lining a pan for easy cleanup at moderate temperatures

These everyday uses are considered safe for most people.

Exposure increases when:

- Cooking at 400°F or higher
- Grilling foil packets over open flames
- Roasting tomatoes, citrus or vinegarbased foods in foil

• Using thin or damaged foil

If you cook this way often, consider switching to other materials.

Aluminum foil is a helpful tool, and you do not need to stop using it. The goal is to be aware of how heat and acidity affect aluminum exposure and to make simple adjustments when needed.

For example:

- Roast vegetables in a glass dish instead of wrapping them in foil.
- Grill fish in a stainlesssteel basket instead of a foil packet.
- Store tomato sauce in a glass container instead of wrapping it in foil.

These small habits protect your health without adding extra work.

Aluminum foil is safe for most people when used properly. Remember, high heat and acidic foods can increase how much aluminum gets into your meals. By understanding when exposure rises and using easy alternatives, you can enjoy the convenience of foil while keeping your health in mind.

As a community, especially for older adults and people managing chronic conditions, taking simple steps to reduce aluminum exposure is a smart and practical choice. Good health often comes from small decisions made every day, and this is one change that is easy to make.

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New Horizon Church International Broaches spiritual connection, guidance, and strength at Prayer Vigil

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

New Horizon Church International Prayer Ministry drew community with "A Mother's Covering" that referenced God in control. This occasion rested on an original prose selection entitled "When a Mother Prays" that was well received. A representative from every leadership core prayed fervently. Included were Rasheda Walker (Women's Ministry); Anita Levy (Children's Ministry); Tanna Williams (Deaconettes); Sylvia Anderson (Prayer Ministry); Lisa Jackson (Elderettes) and others. Prayer for Healing that ushered women and youth into circles emphasized that we are healed to do God's will. He is who He is because He is the only one in control. He calls on us to trust Him, and He appeals to us to be who He calls us to be.

Sadell Sweet made it clear that women are influencers. She pointed the crowd to scripture while emphasizing that Abigail – an Old Testament heroine was praised for her intelligence, beauty, and bravery. Reaching back to 1 Samuel 25, Sweet maintained that through her diplomacy and generosity, Abigail saved her household from being slaughtered by King David. Ultimately, these recognizable qualities touched David who made Abigail one of his wives.

Susan Forrest – representative of the Mothers Board – prayed for supernatural healing of First Lady Deborah Joseph. "Lead her on the right path. Bless her husband Bishop Henry Joseph and their children."

Anita Levy headed Prayers for the Children. Relying on Psalm 127:3 which references children coming from the Lord, she prayed: "We lift up all mothers, grandchildren, and children.



Sadell Sweet prays fervently for First Lady Deborah Joseph, Bishop Henry Joseph III and their children.



Prayers went up for teacher Camille Magee.

Open their ears so they will hear your voice, O God, and follow you. Latch them from the hands of the enemy. Make them spiritual and speak life to them. Protect them, and be a bubble around them, wherever they go. Cover them in decision making. Give them divine wisdom, compassion, and love. I ask that they will grow up to be great men and great women for you."

"We speak the glory of Jesus. Resurrect your word in a mighty way. Move in and through them in a mighty and miraculous way. Remind them of the promise you have for them. The word of God is moving to and fro. Restore

and keep them," prayed Rasheda Walker, leader of the Women's Ministry.

Dr. Earnestine Spires took her prayer to people experiencing grief. According to Children's Pastor, Gail Coney Smith, "[This was] a very poignant moment when a mother whose child committed suicide walked through the doors late but just in time for that particular prayer. I personally felt that she needed that release and God ordered her steps that Saturday morning to receive a portion of His Healing Grace."

The prayer vigil then turned to those who were seeking answers from God for their mar-



Children's Pastor Gail Coney Smith calls for private requests to God.



First Lady Deborah Joseph presses her gratefulness to God, the community, and church.



The circle will be unbroken PHOTOS BY JANICE K. NEAL-VINCENT

riages. Walker used herself as an example of the trials and tribulations she had faced in her marriage. She noted that God healed her and gave her and her spouse marriage restoration. "I'm a living testimony that God can save your marriage. He will fix your marriage. He is the one God we serve. Pray a bold prayer. I ask that the women who are searching will not be the same from this day forward. Save them, Lord. Cleanse them. Heal them. Release, Lord God, a seed for them. Let them come boldly to the throne of grace. Produce, deliver, prepare the best marriage on earth," she prayed.

A special charge was given by Smith: "You have to feel comfortable serving with people in the Church and wherever you are. God knows who you are. Write on the card given you what you need and what you want. Don't write your name. The Prayer Ministry is going to pray."

At the end of the gathering, prayer warriors were available for one-on-one sessions in a nearby room. Those private sessions were designed to minister to the individual needs of those who entered. Hence, they provided the comfort needed for intimacy with God, independent of distractions.

New Horizon Church International is located at 1750 Bobby Rush Blvd #200, Jackson, MS 39204. The Church believes in building people, strengthening families, and transforming communities through the power of Jesus Christ. In pursuing God's presence and His word, members and community meet Sundays at 9:30 a.m. and Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. Bishop Henry T. Joseph III is the Senior Pastor. His ministry has reached across nations, blending biblical truth with strategic action to advance the Kingdom. For further inquiry, visit the church's website or call 601-371-1427.

Greater Bethlehem Temple Church provides community nourishment with food, prayers and testimonies at Senior Luncheon

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

On the rise were people who paid respect to God for His miraculous powers and healings at the Jackson Campus of Greater Bethlehem Temple Church Thursday, May 7, 2026, at 12:00 noon. The Care Ministry and Department of Outreach & Social Services held a Senior Luncheon titled, "Anchored in the Lord," while relying on Hebrews 6:19-20. "We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure. It enters the inner sanctuary behind the curtain (19), "where our forerunner, Jesus, has entered on our behalf. He has become a high priest forever, in the order of Melchizedek (20)." [NIV]

Heartfelt testimonies were shared by many people. Sis. Margie Marrow acknowledged that she had come a long way in the Lord and "I just want to thank him. He's all we've got." Sis. Gladys Macklin also went back in time. "It's been 43 years. I was bound, but He [the Lord] set me free. I was tired of running the streets. I loved to dance...I never went back and don't want to go back," she voiced.

"My happiness is not contingent on what's going on around me. Never estimate the value of your presence. Know the impact that your presence has on the people of God...It's a blessing when you can say, "God has been good to me," stated Pastor Damon R. Stevenson.

Bishop Virgilio Wanser de Jesus from the Republic of Dominica appeared with his



Bishop Virgilio Wanser de Jesus - accompanied by his interpreter - testifies that he is free from cancer.



Elder J C Johnson, Jr. conducts the luncheon as Master of Ceremony.



Pastor Damon Stevenson shares a message of God's promises.



Louise Thompson sings, "My Soul Has Been Anchored."

interpreter and testified about his hospital visits in Jackson: "I don't have words to express. I'm connected to a lot of people saying 'I'm praying for you.' The doctor confirmed the miracle – I have no cancer – and God wanted me to be here."

Dr. Mangle Shanks centered her remarks around a number of scriptures: Rom. 12:12; 1 Cor. 1:21; Psalm 118:8; Jeremiah 29:11; and Isaiah 40:31. She

highlighted praying to God for answers. "I started 55 Alive when I was 20-years-old to get seniors involved in ministry," she said. Then she advised listeners to: (1) never share that they live alone; (2) never share their public information alone at the doctor's office; (3) never answer unknown calls; (4) never touch things that people put on their windshields; (5) if driving late in the evening and blue



The crowd enjoys remarks from another speaker. PHOTOS BY JANICE K. NEAL-VINCENT

lights come on, they should call and report the incident to a 911 operator; and (6) check their house thoroughly when they are at home.

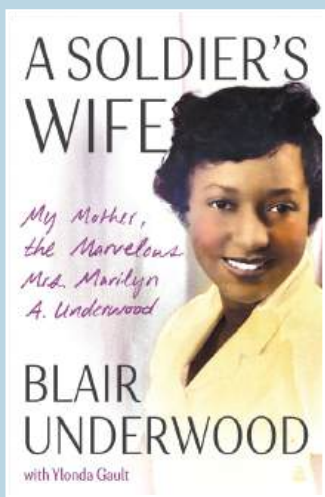
Several songs were shared. Louise Thompson sang "My Soul Has Been Anchored in the Lord." Pastor Almata Taylor sang "Long Winding Road." Evangelist Marcella Davis sang "The Anchor Holds."

Elder J C Johnson, Jr. served

as Master of Ceremony. He brought to the podium inspirational words, filled with enthusiasm and encouragement. Throughout the luncheon, Johnson shared that being anchored in the Lord is reliance on Him and allowing the Holy Spirit to guide our emotions rather than being driven by them.

Greater Bethlehem Temple Church has two primary locations in MS. The Jackson

Campus, pastored by Bishop Dr. Robert N. Fortson, Sr., is at 1505 Robinson St, Jackson, MS 39203. The telephone number is 601-354-2599. The Aberdeen Campus, pastored by Elder Timothy Foster, is at 201 S Columbus St, Aberdeen, MS 39730. Visit the Greater Bethlehem Temple Church website for more information on service times and ministries.



BOOK REVIEW: A SOLDIER'S WIFE: MY MOTHER, THE MARVELOUS MRS. MARILYN A. UNDERWOOD BY BLAIR UNDERWOOD WITH YLONDA GAULT C.2026, AMISTAD \$28.00 • 208PAGES

By Terri Schlichenmeyer
Columnist

I'm telling Mom!
When you were small, those words were often enough to send a chill down your spine. One quick tattle to the woman who bore you, and you were in trouble. That simple phrase always kept you in line, at least until you were grown. By then, as in the new book, "A Soldier's Wife" by Blair Underwood with Ylonda Gault, Mom had something to tell you.

Marilyn Underwood had kept every scrap of paper that ever

passed through her fingers. That, says her son, author and actor Blair Underwood, is how it seemed. After her death from multiple sclerosis nearly six years ago, Mrs. Underwood's children found piles and piles of notes, notebooks, lists, random thoughts, and memories she'd written down. Paper was everywhere.

She'd said many times that she was "putting together a memoir of sorts," and after looking over what she'd left, Underwood thought the collection would make a good children's book.

He was later convinced that his mother's story was bigger than that.

Marilyn Ann Scales Underwood was an only child, and was raised to be independent. Born and reared in Buffalo, New York, she attended an all-girls school with a big dream to work in the fashion industry. She indicated that her mother was brave to let her go, but Underwood knew that her career was really in New York City. She was right; she thrived there.

Laser-focused on her work, Underwood was in no hurry to

do as most late-1950s women did, and get married; though friends urged her to date, it was not a priority until she met the love of her life, Frank. She loved him instantly. They were engaged three weeks after meeting, and married three months later.

"One thing about me," she wrote. "When I set my mind on something, you can believe it's as good as done."

There are really two ways to look at "A Soldier's Wife."

On one side, it feels almost random. Marilyn Underwood was a strong, independent



woman, an inspiration to those who knew her – but most of us didn't. While the writings author Blair Underwood compiles here are wise and funny, they're not earth-shattering and there may be times when they won't hold your interest.

But they're exactly what you need, exactly when you need them.

Reading this book is like getting a letter from your grandma. The essays here are warm, with reminders to pray to a purposeful Higher Power, that life's a struggle but it's worth living, and that

suffering happens. There's love in this book – lots of it! - gratitude, gentleness, and old-fashioned values. It's sweetly quaint, but firm. And yes, it's random, but consider it as a hug from somebody's mom when you're down, because that's rather what it is.

Just remember that no book has to be read cover-to-cover. You can skip around, and you'll be fine with this one, whenever you need its comfort. "A Soldier's Wife" could be meaningful or meaningless to you at various times, only you can tell.

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P R E S E R V E D

Following and Marching in Faith

By Shewanda Riley
Columnist



As part of my vacation in California over a decade ago, one of my cousins who lived about 2 hours away from Los Angeles agreed to take me and my sister shopping in Los Angeles. Having lived in southern California for a few years but still not used to the traffic, my sister was hoping that we could all ride in my cousin's car. However, there was no room in her car for all of us. Thinking it might be fun, I volunteered to drive. I'd never driven in Los Angeles traffic but figured it couldn't be any worse than Dallas Fort Worth area traffic.

For a variety of reasons, driving in Los Angeles was one of the least favorite parts of my otherwise fantastic 2011 Christmas vacation. I saw "Immortal," the

acclaimed Michael Jackson Cirque Du Soleil tribute show and even drove 22 hours from Los Angeles to San Antonio, Texas with my sister and her children. Ironically, the most challenging part of my vacation was driving in Los Angeles rush hour traffic.

Before we began our trip into Los Angeles, I'd tried to get my cousin to tell us what freeways we'd be driving on, but she quickly dismissed my request saying that it would be easy for us to follow her. The part of me that likes to have a plan for EVERYTHING honestly had a challenging time following her and not knowing exactly where we were headed. I had to trust in my cousin and hope that she wouldn't mislead us.

My cousin did her best to drive the speed limit but as we got closer to the LA city limits, she drove faster. Meanwhile, my sister was sooo nervous as I did my best

weaving in and out of traffic keeping pace with my cousin's car. I told her that since we didn't have the address for where we were headed, I needed to make sure that I didn't lose sight of our cousin's car. However, at a certain point, I finally relaxed and just enjoyed not having to focus on anything but following. We finally made it safely to our destination. And I had to admit to my cousin that she was right: once I relaxed and gave up wanting to control the situation, it was easy to follow her.

From this experience, I learned that we still have to trust God especially when we may not know all of God's plan or even be able to see what's ahead. Joshua 6 describes how this happened with Joshua and the destruction of Jericho. Joshua first got the word from God on verses 2-3 what needed to happen. He then told the people of the Lord's command

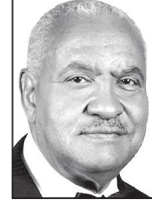
in verses 6-7 to silently walk around the walls of the city of Jericho for six days. Hebrews 11: 30 says that it was faith that ultimately made the walls come down. Similarly, we have to learn to faithfully follow God and his plan for our lives. Even when we can't see the plan, we have to trust God's heart.

Join me and other believers as we march out our faith at the free 2nd Annual March for Jesus Saturday, May 23rd in Burnett Park in downtown Fort Worth. You can still register by visiting www.marchforjesusfortworth.com.

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

When Hate Crimes Hit Home

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



While we all grieve the loss of life and the attack on our local Islamic house of worship, we must not allow our condolences to become a band-aid on the manifestation of hate expressed in this violent attack. Freedom of Religion, as guaranteed by the First Amendment to the Constitution, means everyone has that right and not just a chosen few. The fact that two young men would have such a "learned" hatred is indicative of the growing problem in America, where a few people assume that their rights override the lives and rights of others who do not either agree with them or worship as they do.

Once again, we have the deadly misuse of the right to keep and bear arms. Once again, we must

COMMENTARY

remind the people of this state that while the attack was on members of our Muslim community, Blacks still have the highest incidents of hate crimes in the State of California.

The tragic attacks and loss of life at the Islamic Center of San Diego is a reminder that hate is a "Clear and Present Danger" right here at home, that the "Stop The Hate" Project that this newspaper conducted during the past two years is needed now more than ever, and that those who publicly mourn and express their outrage at times like this, must step up their support for all our anti hate efforts so that we fight this problem before we experience more such attacks and threats to all our safety, just because of how we worship.

Where do you stand? Let's have your voice and response to such efforts.

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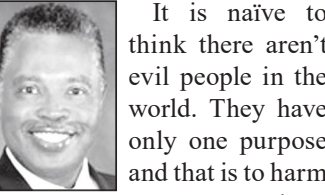
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Let evil run its course. Staying strong and working together will bring positive results

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



It is naïve to think there aren't evil people in the world. They have only one purpose and that is to harm as many people as they can. In simple terms, there are no boundaries to what they will do.

I have wondered at times what makes a person want to intentionally hurt another person or group. Is there some mean gene that overwhelms them to inflict harm whether physically, economically or emotionally on someone else.

As long as we live and

breathe, there will be sinister people who are up to no good. They go to sleep thinking evil and they up practicing it.

There are a few categories of evildoers. First, there is the evildoer who does evil without giving it a second thought. It doesn't matter what people say about them. In fact, they enjoy the publicity they get as a result of it.

The second type is the hide your hand evildoer. He/she is the one doing the evil stuff, but you don't know they are the culprits. They usually work behind the scenes with no celebrity attached to their name.

The next type is the go along to get along evildoer. He/she is a part of the cool crowd, at

least that's what they think. They lack self-confidence and have no real direction in their lives. Another characteristic is that they are easily influenced. Some might say that is happening in today's political climate.

Another evil doers' group might be called the smiling in your face bunch. They grin in front of you and create havoc behind you. We must be cautious and careful because they are always plotting and planning.

With all the evilness and meanness surrounding us, what must we do to combat it? How can we move forward in the United States of America these days? It is my fervent belief that we can, we must and we will

overcome these potholes of despair.

First and foremost, we must be more intentional in finding people with character and integrity. People who know right and won't shy away from actualizing it.

Clubs and organizations must also become more engaged in these struggles today. For example, if you are a member of the Divine Nine, social justice must be at the top of your agenda. This organization has millions of members and must exert its power and influence on the political terrain.

Prince Hall Freemasonry and the Prince Hall Order of the Eastern Star continue to hold high the values of our great na-

tion. Their civic goals and humanitarian efforts have given us visionary leaders and exemplary programs. Its founding year was 1775 in Boston, Massachusetts.

Neighborhoods and community groups must provide their residents with helpful information that will allow them to make informed decisions. Join your neighborhood group so that your voice can be heard.

There is a rumbling in our country according to reports that say we are tired of mishandling and mismanagement. We have become politically nauseated with those trying to convince us that wrong is right. We know better.

I can see better days ahead.

Many others share this position. We must be resolute in our efforts to be together and stay together. Our country is a country of rules and laws. Tampering with them will be unwise.

When you can go about your daily lives, take a listen to a song made famous by The Jackson 5. It is titled, "Show You The Way To Go". Some of the lyrics are, "The job is hard to do. But only we can let us down. Cause we can help each other to overcome. We can do it, we can do it now".

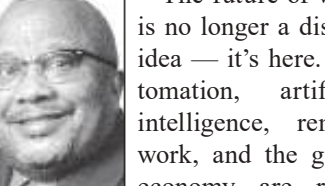
Our lives are interwoven. Your pain is my pain. Your hurt is my hurt. However, in the end, our victory will be a victory that we achieve together.

The Future of Work



PHOTO: ISTOCKPHOTO / NNPA.

By Louis J. King II
President & CEO, OIC of America



The future of work is no longer a distant idea — it's here. Automation, artificial intelligence, remote work, and the green economy are redefining the workforce, and at breakneck speed. For the communities we serve and partner with, this moment presents both a challenge and a huge opportunity. The question is: will we be passengers or drivers of this transformation?

At OIC of America, we're preparing people to lead in this new world of work and not get left behind. That means teaching digital and AI skills, expanding access to technology, and making sure every learner has the tools to succeed in a tech-enabled economy. But it also means investing in emotional intelligence, critical thinking, and adaptability

— skills that are just as important in a fast-changing and increasingly competitive world.

The World Economic Forum predicts that by 2030, up to 85 million jobs may be displaced by automation — but 97 million new roles will emerge. These new jobs will require new skillsets. The future will reward lifelong learners — those who are willing to train, pivot, and grow. And for the skilled trades where we focus on preparing people for the workforce, the possibilities to chart new paths are endless.

In Pennsylvania, our Delaware Valley Alliance (DVA) serves as the blueprint for this evolution. The DVA is an essential component of the infrastructure needed to ensure communities secure the necessary resources to thrive long-term.

By integrating housing, public safety, career training, health and more into a cohesive advocacy framework, we aren't just filling

jobs; we are securing economic independence for Pennsylvania's talented, yet untapped (and overlooked) workers. This coordinated effort is structured so that the Commonwealth's booming industry surges in life sciences, data centers, and advanced manufacturing also benefit its citizens more equitably. These wins reflect a statewide victory for its citizens; as the "future of work" arrives, no community is left on the sidelines of progress. We look forward to scaling this approach in other communities where we serve.

For communities that have historically been left out of opportunity and forgotten, the future of work must include justice, not just jobs. That means policy change, corporate investment, and community-based solutions that put people at the center.

This is a defining moment. Let's make sure our people are prepared to not just survive — but lead.

Are you listening to your spouse?

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



Listening is one of the most important skills that one must have to have a healthy, happy, and loving marriage. Yet, many spouses do not know how to listen and some refuse to listen and some simply don't understand the importance of listening. Do you take the time to listen to your spouse? If so, are you a good listener? What makes a good listener? A good listener gives eye contact, nods and make brief statements to let the communicator know they are paying attention, empathize, put away all possible distractions like technology, take notes (to retain, share their thoughts with you post your communication) show patience, and a good listener is intentional about hearing every detail of your verbiage, etc., Or are you a bad listener? Do you give your spouse sufficient time to talk, show impatience, do you make comments like hurry up, all you do is run your mouth, land the plane, I have stuff to do, this can't wait to later, text me, talk to someone else about it, you repeats yourself, non-supportive, combative, lack empathy, talk over your spouse, interrupt your spouse, don't provide sufficient communication back — only say enough to conclude the conversation, and it basically leads to gas lighting, emotional outbursts, arguments, contention, and the slow death of your marriage, etc.

Husbands and wives - read this next line carefully - do you realize that if you would take time to listen to each other it can help save your marriage and help you grow as one. Unfortunately, it is only when a Divorce Attorney intervenes that spouses realize that they failed to listen to each other and now are faced with forcing each other to listen in court proceedings with inflated divorce costs, etc. Listen now or later in other words!

While yes, it is important to communicate, spend quality time with each other, date, etc. in marriage - it is also important to LISTEN too. One of my favorite bible scriptures comes from a New Testament scripture, James 1:19, which states: "So then, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, and slow to wrath..." The LC (Dr. LaShunda Calvert) biblical translation: pay thou attention spouses to what God is saying — even God says to be quick to hear — be quick to LISTEN to your spouse — be in a hurry to hear what your spouse is trying to say FIRST before assuming, judging, criticizing, speaking, yelling screaming, fussing, and cussing, etc. Be slow to speak — one of the reasons that God says listen first and be slow to speak — you may speak out of presumptions versus facts, which creates an op-

portunity for marriage trouble. I believe that listening can help be the difference between separation and divorce and having a happy home.

How Do You Listen to Your Spouse?

- Intentional about hearing your spouse
- Give eye contact
- Eliminate ALL distractions
- Eliminate presumptions
- Do not Interrupt your spouse - this is rude and annoying on both parts!
- Be Patience — don't rush your spouse
- Be open minded
- Do not be critical
- Validate your spouse
- Create comfortable and safe zone to communicate
- Talk and Avoid texting if possible — texting can misconstrue or misinterpret your message
- Empathize
- Take notes
- Be in tuned to listen to your spouse silence, in other words, listen to what your spouse is not saying — what is the silence saying? Watch their body language...
- Be grateful that your spouse is still willing to talk to you

What Are the Benefits of Listening in Marriage?

- Builds trust/respect
- Increasing communication
- Turns a house into a home
- Helps prevent arguments and fights
- Enhances intimacy
- Promotes empathy
- Validation grows
- Friendship grows
- Creates safeness with each other
- Promotes teamwork
- Helps eliminate the need to talk to someone else like family, strangers like Sister Cheeks and Brother Cheeks (I know right) but spouses please realize if you refuse to listen to your spouse — someone else is always willing to listen! Hello!

In conclusion, do you know how many spouses are hurting and/or separated because they refused to listen to each other? Do you know how many marriages have ended because spouses refused to listen to each other? I know it's not always easy but what's easier listening or getting a divorce, breaking up with your family? If you genuinely love your God given spouse, then go out your way to listen to each other because listening matters too!

Contact Dr. LaShunda Calvert for speaking engagements (Motivational, Ministering, Marriage Counseling, Marriage Workshops, Marriage Seminars, Marriage Conferences, etc.) Marriage Ministry: The Restoration Church, Suite H, Jackson, MS. 39206, on: Instagram: letsstay2gether4ever (Dr. LaShunda Calvert) Facebook: Dr. LaShunda Calvert Email: letsstaytogether4eva@gmail.com Contact # 601-596-2528

MEMORIAL

★ ★ ★ DAY ★ ★ ★

REMEMBER AND HONOR

LEGAL

PUBLIC NOTICE

REQUEST FOR PUBLIC COMMENT AND PUBLIC HEARINGS

The City of Jackson ("City") hereby provides public notice of its intent to receive public comments and conduct public hearings regarding the proposed Solid Ground Housing Initiative, a program designed to address the needs of individuals experiencing homelessness and to support the transition to stable and sustainable housing opportunities within the City of Jackson.

The purpose of these public hearings is to provide citizens, stakeholders, community organizations, and interested parties an opportunity to review the proposed initiative and provide feedback, recommendations, and comments regarding the program and its proposed implementation.

Detailed information regarding the proposed initiative may be obtained from the City of Jackson Department of Planning and Development, Office of Housing and Community Development, located at the Warren Hood Building, Suite 229, 200 South President Street, Jackson, Mississippi 39201. For additional information, please contact Angela Brown at (601) 960-1172 or via email at afbrown@jackson.ms.gov.

The City will accept public comments regarding this proposed initiative beginning May 26, 2026, through June 23, 2026, in accordance with the required public participation and comment period established by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

Public hearings will be held at the following dates, times, and locations:

- May 26, 2026 – 6:00 p.m.
Grove Park Community Center
4126 Parkway Ave.
- June 2, 2026 – 6:00 p.m.
Bolden Moore Library/Westside
1444 Wiggins Rd.
- June 9, 2026 – 6:00 p.m.
Champion Gymnasium
1355 Hattiesburg St.
- June 23, 2026 – 10:00 a.m.
Warren Hood Building
200 South President Street
(Final Public Hearing)

Written comments will be accepted through June 23, 2026, until 4:00 p.m.

No displacement is anticipated as a result of the activities described herein. Should displacement occur, the City of Jackson will comply with the provisions outlined in 24 CFR 570.606 (Residential Anti-Displacement and Relocation Assistance Plan). The City of Jackson is committed to the principle of non-discrimination in public contracting and professional services. It is the policy of the City to promote full and equal business opportunities for all persons doing business with the City. The City of Jackson does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, or familial status in the administration of its programs and activities.

Interpreter services and reasonable accommodations are available upon request for persons with limited English proficiency or disabilities.

Requests for accommodations should be directed to:

Celestial Gordon-Griffin
Department of Planning and Development

Office of Housing and Development
(601) 960-2083

cgordon@jacksonms.org

5/14/2026, 5/21/2026

LEGAL

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

NOTICE is hereby given that the City Council of the City of Jackson will receive unpriced proposals for prequalification until 10:00 AM on June 2, 2026, for furnishing the City of Jackson's requirements for the following:

ONE (1) CRAWLER DOZER

Copies of the Bid Package are available for free download at www.jacksonmsbids.com. Documents must be downloaded through the website to be on the official plan holders list. For questions regarding website accessibility or obtaining bid documents, please contact PH Bidding Group at 662-407-0195 or via email at bids@phbidding.com.

Unpriced proposals shall be submitted through the bid site. Responses will be reviewed and vendors meeting the requirements in the bid package will be invited to participate in the online reverse auction, which will be held on June 9, 2026, at 10:00 a.m. Pricing will only be received by approved bidders through the online reverse auction.

Bid preparation will be in accordance with the Instructions to Bidders bound in the Documents. The City of Jackson reserves the right to waive irregularities and to reject any and/or all bids.

Minority and women's business enterprises are solicited to bid on this contract as prime bidders and are encouraged to make inquiries regarding potential subcontracting opportunities and equipment, material, and/or supply needs.

Any contract or contracts awarded under this invitation for bids are expected to be funded in whole by the City of Jackson. This procurement will be subject to the provisions of Section 31-7-13 of the Mississippi Code of 1972.

CITY OF JACKSON
Monica Oliver, Purchasing Manager

5/14/2026, 5/21/2026

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, JUNE 3, 2026 AT 11:00aM IN THE ANDREW JACKSON CONFERENCE ROOM (RM. 105) OF THE WARREN HOOD BUILDING, 200 SOUTH PRESIDENT STREET, JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI.

APPLICATIONS FOR CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS

NEW BUSINESS

CASE NO. HPNC-26-14
LOCATION: 421 W PORTER ST (PARCEL 171-90)
HISTORIC DISTRICT: LOCAL LANDMARK APPLICANT: AARON JENKINS
REQUEST: REHAB FIRE STATION. (REPLACE & REPAIR WINDOWS)

CASE NO. HPNC-26-15
LOCATION: 1846 ST MARY ST (PARCEL 9-66)
HISTORIC DISTRICT: BELHAVEN APPLICANT: MARY WOODWARD
AMENDED REQUEST: REPLACE FIVE (5) WINDOWS WITH ALUMINUM CLAD DOUBLE HUNG 6/6 WINDOWS.

CASE NO. HPNC-26-16
LOCATION: 1332 BELVOIR PL (PARCEL 10-30)
HISTORIC DISTRICT: BELHAVEN APPLICANT: PAUL PURSER
AMENDED REQUEST: REHAB HOUSE.

CITY OF JACKSON HISTORIC PRESERVATION TEXT AMENDMENTS
PETITIONER: CITY OF JACKSON/ DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT/ ZONING DIVISION/ HISTORIC PRESERVATION
REQUEST: TEXT AMENDMENTS TO THE OFFICIAL CITY OF JACKSON HISTORIC PRESERVATION ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR AND ESTABLISH MORE EFFECTIVE REGULATIONS FOR HISTOIRC RESOURCES LIN THE CITY OF JACKSON.

OTHER ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION
CASE nO. hpnc-26-13 (BURNED STRUCTURE)
OTHER

ADJOURNMENT

5/21/2026, 5/28/2026

LEGAL

PUBLIC NOTICE

The City of Jackson, MS will conduct Public Hearings regarding the development of its 2026 One-Year Action Plan. The Annual Action Planning process requires broad public participation by citizens and entities which are interested in, or are providing assistance in, the areas of housing, services for unhooded individuals, public services and other community development activities.

The draft 2026 One Year Action Plan will contain applications for funding from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The City of Jackson estimates that we will receive \$1,851,991 in Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds; \$784,387.39 in Home Investment Partnerships (HOME) funds; \$157,114.00 in Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funds; and \$1,811,878.00 in Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA) funds for a total of \$4,605,367.39, in federal entitlement funds. Upon award of these funds, the City proposes to undertake eligible activities housing and community development needs.

The Public Hearings will explain the purpose of the City's Annual Action Plan; discuss the City's goals and accomplishments with HUD funds; and consult with the public by accepting public comments regarding proposed activities for the programs. The Public Hearings will be held at the following locations:

- May 26, 2026 6:00 p.m. Grove Park Community Center, 4126 Parkway Ave.
- June 2, 2026 6:00 p.m. Bolden Moore Library/Westside, 1444 Wiggins Rd.
- June 9, 2026 6:00 p.m. Champion Gymnasium, 1355 Hattiesburg St.
- June 23, 2026 10:00 a.m. Warren Hood Building, 200 S. President St. (Final Public Hearing)

The draft Annual Action Plan will be available for review at the final public hearing and on the City's website at www.jacksonms.gov on June 23, 2026. The City will be accepting public comments on the draft Annual Action Plan until no later than 5:00 p.m., on Monday, June 15, 2026. Residents with disabilities are encouraged to notify the City at least five (5) days before the public hearing of any needed accommodations. For more details contact the Office of Housing and Development at 601-960-2083.

No displacement will occur as a result of the activities described herein. Should displacement occur, the City of Jackson will implement the provisions as required by CFR 570.606 (Residential Anti-Displacement and Relocation Assistance). The City of Jackson does not discriminate on the basis of disability in the admission of, access to, or treatment of, or employment, the programs and activities described herein. An interpreter is available upon request to assist persons with limited English proficiency. Any requests for reasonable accommodation required by an individual to fully participate in any open meetings, programs, or activities of the City of Jackson's Office of Housing and Community Development should be directed to: Ms. Angela Brown, Director of Planning, (601) 960-1615 or afbrown@jacksonms.gov.

5/14/2026, 5/21/2026

LEGAL

NOTICE OF REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS

Professional Architectural and Engineering Design Services for the Rehabilitation of Fire Stations 1, 5, 10, 19, and 26 City of Jackson, Mississippi RFQ# 90610-061626

Notice is hereby given that the City of Jackson, Mississippi, will receive sealed statements of qualification from qualified architectural and engineering firms to provide professional design services for the rehabilitation of Fire Stations 1, 5, 10, 19, and 26.

Documents are available for viewing and obtaining at www.jacksonmsbids.com. Interested and qualified respondents may submit Request for Qualifications (RFQ) Packages, according to the requirements described herein, by hand delivery to City Clerk's Office of Jackson, 219 South President Street, Jackson, MS 39201. Packages may also be mailed to the City Clerk's Office, at P.O. Box 17, Jackson, MS 39205. Electronic submissions may be submitted at www.jacksonmsbids.com

All RFQ Packages are due by or before 3:30 PM p.m. (CT) on June 16, 2026.

The requested services include existing-conditions assessment, programming, cost estimating, schematic design, design development, construction documents, permitting support, bidding assistance, construction administration, and project closeout support. The City intends to use a Design-Bid-Build delivery method. This solicitation is for professional design services only and does not award construction work.

Submissions shall be clearly marked: " RFQ - PROFESSIONAL DESIGN SERVICES FOR FIRE STATIONS 1, 5, 10, 19, AND 26."

No fee proposal shall be submitted with the submission. Compensation will be negotiated only after the City ranks the most qualified firm or firms.

Minority-owned, women-owned, disadvantaged, Section 3, small, and local firms are encouraged to participate, either as prime consultants or subconsultants, consistent with applicable law and City requirements.

The City reserves the right to reject any or all submissions, waive informalities or irregularities, request clarifications, negotiate with the highest-ranked firm, and cancel or reissue this solicitation if determined to be in the City's best interest and consistent with applicable law.

CITY OF JACKSON

Monica Oliver, Purchasing Manager

5/14/2026, 5/21/2026

LEGAL

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR A VARIANCE

ZONING CASE NO. 4329

By virtue of and pursuant to the authority and direction of that Ordinance by the City Council of Jackson, Mississippi, appearing in Minute Book 3G at page 115 thereof, notice is hereby given to all persons interested in or in any way affected thereby, that Donald Jordan has filed with the Planning Board for the City of Jackson, an application requesting a Variance of up to ten (10) ft. from the required twenty-five feet for the front and/or rear yard setbacks within a R-2 (Single-Family & Two-Family) Residential District on property located at 1203 Pinehurst St. (Parcel 15-42), in the First Judicial District of Hinds County, Mississippi, and being more particularly described as:

Lot 5, Block 6, Magruder's Second Subdivision of Block P of North Park Addition, a subdivision according to a map or plat thereof which is on file and of record in the Office of the Chancery Clerk of Hinds County at Jackson, Mississippi, in Plat Book at Slide 69, reference to which is hereby made in aid of and as a part of this description.

Said application will be heard at the City Planning Board Hearing in the Andrew Jackson Conference Room, First Floor, Warren A. Hood Building, 200 S. President Street in Jackson, Mississippi, at 1:30 p.m., on Wednesday, May 27, 2026, at which time all parties interested in or affected thereby will be heard both pro and con on said question, after which a record will be established upon which the City Planning Board can make its recommendation to the City Council of Jackson. Any objection thereto may be made by any person owning property within the area, and if made in writing must be filed with the City Zoning Administrator before said time if a hearing thereof or consideration thereof is desired, or by counsel on said date. If a request is made to the Zoning Administrator at least 72 hours in advance, the City will take steps to accommodate citizens need for interpreters or auxiliary aids for the visually/hearing impaired.

DUE TO THE CONCERN FOR THE PUBLIC HEALTH, SAFETY AND WELFARE, THE PLANNING BOARD MEMBERS, APPLICANTS AND THE GENERAL PUBLIC HAVE THE OPTION TO ATTEND THE MEETING VIA TELECONFERENCE/VIDEO. PLEASE EMAIL EAINSWORTH@CITY.JACKSON.MS.US TO REGISTER FOR THE TELECONFERENCE/VIDEO INFORMATION PRIOR TO MAY 20, 2026.

WITNESS my signature this 30TH day of April 2026.

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

5/7/2026, 5/21/2026

LEGAL

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR A USE PERMIT

ZONING CASE NO. 4328

By virtue of and pursuant to the authority and direction of that Ordinance by the City Council of Jackson, Mississippi, appearing in Minute Book 3G at page 115 thereof, notice is hereby given to all persons interested in or in any way affected thereby, that Keith Dishmon has filed with the Planning Board for the City of Jackson, an application requesting a Use Permit to allow for the placement of a manufactured house within a R-2 (Single-Family & Two-Family) Residential District on property located at 0 Grant St. (Parcel: 707-109), in the First Judicial District of Hinds County, Mississippi, and being more particularly described as:

280 FT E & W X 270 FT N & S BEG 170 FT S OF NW COR LOT 19

SCHROEDERS 3RD SUBN*JD1*

Said application will be heard at the City Planning Board Hearing in the Andrew Jackson Conference Room, First Floor, Warren A. Hood Building, 200 S. President Street in Jackson, Mississippi, at 1:30 p.m., on Wednesday, May 27, 2026, at which time all parties interested in or affected thereby will be heard both pro and con on said question, after which a record will be established upon which the City Planning Board can make its recommendation to the City Council of Jackson. Any objection thereto may be made by any person owning property within the area, and if made in writing must be filed with the City Zoning Administrator before said time if a hearing thereof or consideration thereof is desired, or by counsel on said date. If a request is made to the Zoning Administrator at least 72 hours in advance, the City will take steps to accommodate citizens need for interpreters or auxiliary aids for the visually/hearing impaired.

DUE TO THE CONCERN FOR THE PUBLIC HEALTH, SAFETY AND WELFARE, THE PLANNING BOARD MEMBERS, APPLICANTS AND THE GENERAL PUBLIC HAVE THE OPTION TO ATTEND THE MEETING VIA TELECONFERENCE/VIDEO. PLEASE EMAIL EAINSWORTH@CITY.JACKSON.MS.US TO REGISTER FOR THE TELECONFERENCE/VIDEO INFORMATION PRIOR TO MAY 20, 2026.

WITNESS my signature this 30TH day of April 2026.

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

5/7/2026, 5/21/2026

LEGAL

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR A USE PERMIT

ZONING CASE NO. 4332

By virtue of and pursuant to the authority and direction of that Ordinance by the City Council of Jackson, Mississippi, appearing in Minute Book 3G at page 115 thereof, notice is hereby given to all persons interested in or in any way affected thereby, that Kenny Ellis has filed with the Planning Board for the City of Jackson, an application requesting a Use Permit to allow for bar (lounge/tavern) within a C-2 (Limited) Commercial District on property located at 975 W. Northside Dr. (Parcel 425-10), in the First Judicial District of Hinds County, Mississippi, and being more particularly described as:

975 W Northside Dr Jackson, MS 39213; Lots 10 23 & 42

Cottage Grove Subn Less 14.25 Ft x 13 Ft W/S

Said application will be heard at the City Planning Board Hearing in the Andrew Jackson Conference Room, First Floor, Warren A. Hood Building, 200 S. President Street in Jackson, Mississippi, at 1:30 p.m., on Wednesday, May 27, 2026, at which time all parties interested in or affected thereby will be heard both pro and con on said question, after which a record will be established upon which the City Planning Board can make its recommendation to the City Council of Jackson. Any objection thereto may be made by any person owning property within the area, and if made in writing must be filed with the City Zoning Administrator before said time if a hearing thereof or consideration thereof is desired, or by counsel on said date. If a request is made to the Zoning Administrator at least 72 hours in advance, the City will take steps to accommodate citizens need for interpreters or auxiliary aids for the visually/hearing impaired.

DUE TO THE CONCERN FOR THE PUBLIC HEALTH, SAFETY AND WELFARE, THE PLANNING BOARD MEMBERS, APPLICANTS AND THE GENERAL PUBLIC HAVE THE OPTION TO ATTEND THE MEETING VIA TELECONFERENCE/VIDEO. PLEASE EMAIL EAINSWORTH@CITY.JACKSON.MS.US TO REGISTER FOR THE TELECONFERENCE/VIDEO INFORMATION PRIOR TO MAY 20, 2026.

WITNESS my signature this 30TH day of April 2026.

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

5/7/2026, 5/21/2026

LEGAL

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR A REZONING

ZONING CASE NO. 4331

By virtue of and pursuant to the authority and direction of that Ordinance by the City Council of Jackson, Mississippi, appearing in Minute Book 3G at page 115 thereof, notice is hereby given to all persons interested in or in any way affected thereby, that Hope Federal Credit Union (Alan Branson) has filed with the Planning Board for the City of Jackson, an application requesting a Rezoning from R-7 (Mobile Home Park) Residential District to C-2 (Limited) Commercial District to allow for the continued use of the property as a financial institution on property located at 1748 University Blvd. (Parcel 166-5-4), in the First Judicial District of Hinds County, Mississippi, and being more particularly described as:

A parcel of land situated in the Southwest Quarter (SW ¼) of Section Nine (9), Township Five (5), Range One (1) East, and more particularly described as follows, to-wit:

For the point of beginning of said parcel of land begin at a point on the south line of Section Nine (9), Township Five (5) North, Range One (1) East where said line is intersected by the center line of the Linde Air Products Road as now laid out and improved in the City of Jackson, said point is also described as being 415.6 feet west of the southwest corner of the Southeast Quarter (SE) of the Southwest Quarter (SW4) of said Section Nine (9), Township Five (5) North, Range One (1) East; run thence westerly along the south line of Section Nine (9) for a distance of 211 feet; turn thence to the right through the angle of 34 degrees and 22 minutes and run northwesterly along the north right-of-way of the Lynch Creek drainage channel for a distance of 207.35 feet to the eastern right-of-way line of U.S. Highway 51; hence run in a northeasterly direction along the east right-of-way line of said new U.S. Highway 51, 188.3 feet to the center line of the Linde Air Products Road as now laid out and improved, said road being 60 feet in width, said point also being 125 feet measured southeasterly from and at right angles to the center line of the new U.S. Highway 51 as laid out and improved; run thence southeasterly along the center line of the said Linde Air Products Road for a distance of 371.3 feet to the point of beginning; said property being otherwise described as that part of the Southwest Quarter (SW ¼) of said Section Nine (9), Township Five (5) North, Range One (1) East bounded as follows: On the northeastern side by the center line of the Linde Air Products Road as now laid out and improved; on the south by the south line of Section Nine (9) of said township and range; on the southwest side by the northern boundary line of the Lynch Creek channel; and on the western side by the east right-of-way line of new U.S. Highway 51 as now laid out and improved (the "Property")

TOGETHER WITH any and all rights, privileges, easements, improvements and appurtenances to the same belonging.

Said application will be heard at the City Planning Board Hearing in the Andrew Jackson Conference Room, First Floor, Warren A. Hood Building, 200 S. President Street in Jackson, Mississippi, at 1:30 p.m., on Wednesday, May 27, 2026, at which time all parties interested in or affected thereby will be heard both pro and con on said question, after which a record will be established upon which the City Planning Board can make its recommendation to the City Council of Jackson. Any objection thereto may be made by any person owning property within the area, and if made in writing must be filed with the City Zoning Administrator before said time if a hearing thereof or consideration thereof is desired, or by counsel on said date. If a request is made to the Zoning Administrator at least 72 hours in advance, the City will take steps to accommodate citizens need for interpreters or auxiliary aids for the visually/hearing impaired.

DUE TO THE CONCERN FOR THE PUBLIC HEALTH, SAFETY AND WELFARE, THE PLANNING BOARD MEMBERS, APPLICANTS AND THE GENERAL PUBLIC HAVE THE OPTION TO ATTEND THE MEETING VIA TELECONFERENCE/VIDEO. PLEASE EMAIL EAINSWORTH@CITY.JACKSON.MS.US TO REGISTER FOR THE TELECONFERENCE/VIDEO INFORMATION PRIOR TO MAY 20, 2026.

WITNESS my signature this 30TH day of April 2026.

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

5/7/2026, 5/21/2026

AUCTION FOR CITY OF JACKSON ABANDONED, STOLEN, SEIZED VEHICLES, EVIDENCE, AND RECOVERED PROPERTY

To all interested parties, known and unknown, Pursuant to the MS State Code of 1972, Section 21-39-21, the City of Jackson, Mississippi, will sell at Public Auction, the impounded, abandoned, lost, stolen, or misplaced motor vehicles and equipment listed on the attached schedule. Unclaimed motor vehicles and equipment may be sold after the expiration of ninety (90) days from their receipt or recovery by the City of Jackson. The auction will be held online at <https://marketplace.atura.com/auctions/jac-ms/> on May 27 at 10:00 am

A list and description of abandoned/unclaimed vehicles will be posted pursuant to statutory requirements in the following locations:

Hinds County Court House
Hinds Country Chancery Court Building
Jackson City Hall/City Clerk's Office" (5/6/2026)

8840115 2002/LEXUS/RX/GRAY
JTJGF10U220121957

8840121 2001/TOYOTA/CAMRY/
WHITE JT2BF22K110300528

8840208 2009/TOYOTA/CAMRY/
WHITE 4T1BE46K29U827249

8840221 2024/NISSAN/SENTRA/
SILVER 3N1AB8CVXRY228369

8840373 2011/NISSAN/
ALTIMA/MULTI-COLOR
1N4AL2AP4BN427700

8840442 2013/FORD/ESCAPE/
WHITE 1FMCU0HX4DUD36182

8843391 2001/GMC/YUKON/
BLACK 1GKEC13V61R182587

8843518 2010/CHEVROLET/
MALIBU/GOLD
1G1ZB5EB3AF182468

8843542 2003/DODGE/
STRATUS/RED
4B3AG42G23E144898

8843580 2019/DODGE/
CHARGER/BLACK
2C3CDXCT4KH506272

8843595 1998/PONTIAC/
GRAND PRIX/GREEN
1G2WP52K9WF251093

8843649 2014/VOLKSWAGEN/
TIGUAN/BLUE
WVGAV3AX3EW545029

8843651 2007/HONDA/CIVIC/
SILVER 2HGFG12827H522702

8843659 2015/NISSAN/ROGUE/
GRAY 5N1AT2ML3FC854513

8843683 2019/CHEVROLET/
BLAZER/BLACK
3GNKBBRA6KS653445

8843727 2006/VOLVO/S80/
WHITE YV1TS592261438458

8843743 2003/HONDA/
ACCORD/SILVER
JHMCM56393C017011

8843765 2020/NISSAN/SENTRA/
GRAY 3N1AB8BV3LY24348

8843776 2015/KIA/OPTIMA/
GRAY 5XXGM4A74FG486440

8843803 2008/JEEP/LIBERTY/
WHITE 1J8GP58K38W236334

8843850 2013/HYUNDAI/
ELANTRA/WHITE
5NPDH4AE7DH382936

8843857 2017/HYUNDAI/
ELANTRA/WHITE
5NPD74LF6HH080407

8843863 2016/HYUNDAI/
SONATA/OTHER
5NPE34AF1GH287790

8843886 2008/NISSAN/ALTIMA/
GRAY 1N4BL21E28C270305

8843896 2019/NISSAN/ALTIMA/
BLACK 1N4BL4BV9KC251588

8843922 2005/NISSAN/ALTIMA/
GRAY 1N4AL11D55N435650

8843928 2007/TOYOTA/CAMRY/
GOLD 4T1BK46K67U545346

8843937 2006/CHEVROLET/
COLORADO/RED
1GCCS198X68213408

8843941 2005/CADILLAC/
ESCALADE/BLACK
1GYEK63NX5R209320

8843981 2007/HONDA/
ACCORD/BLUE
1HGCM56477A060453

8844367 2014/KIA/OPTIMA/
SILVER KNAGM4A79E5483503

8844395 2000/CHEVROLET/
TAHOE/GRAY
1GNEC13T6YJ177903

8844406 1999/TOYOTA/CAMRY/
WHITE JT2BF22KXX0177515

8844521 1998/MERCURY/
GRAND MARQUIS/SILVER
2MEFM75W4WX682944

8844545 2007/TOYOTA/
COROLLA/WHITE
1NXBR32EX7Z831156

8844558 2011/HONDA/
ACCORD/RED
1HGCP3F89BA006384

8844560 2008/LINCOLN/MKZ/
BLACK 3LNHM26T38R647939

8844709 2005/CHEVROLET/
TAHOE/WHITE
1GNEC13T45R189965

8844854 2006/FORD/MUSTANG/
SILVER 1ZVFT80N665148772

8844863 2013/LINCOLN/
OTHER/SILVER
2LMDJ6JK7DBL16291

8844882 2004/TOYOTA/
SEQUOIA/WHITE
5TDZT38A34S205781

8844901 2008/MERCURY/
GRAND MARQUIS/BLACK
2MEFM74V28X607915

8844913 2002/CHEVROLET/
TAHOE/GOLD
1GNEC13Z62R173573

8844925 2013/HYUNDAI/
ELANTRA/BLUE
5NPDH4AE6DH261685

8844934 2024/NISSAN/VERSA/
BLUE 3N1CN8DV7RL868941

8847263 2008/PONTIAC/G6/
GOLD 1G2ZF57B984177648

8847448 2017/MERCEDES/C
CLASS/GRAY
55SWF6EB5HU194624

8847508 2005/BUICK/
LESABRE/SILVER
1G4HP52K05U127417

88477518 2013/NISSAN/ALTIMA/
WHITE 1N4AL3AP2DC147987

8847706 2003/LEXUS/OTHER/
GREEN JT8BD69SX30191496

8847721 2018/KIA/SPORTAGE/
BROWN KNDPM3AC4J7348406

8847734 1999/FORD/
EXPLORER/WHITE
1FMZU32P4XUC05391

8847847 2007/MERCEDES/S
CLASS/GRAY
WDDNG71X37A067904

8847895 2011/HONDA/
ACCORD/WHITE
1HGCP2F31BA027972

8848075 2004/FORD/
EXPLORER/RED
1FMZU75W24UC12247

8848245 2022/CHEVROLET/
TAHOE/GRAY
1GNSKPKD3NR191421

8848267 2005/GMC/CANYON/
BLACK 1GTCS136758235288

8848297 2001/CHEVROLET/
SUBURBAN/BLACK
3GNEC16T71G180151

8848433 2003/HONDA/
ACCORD/GOLD
1HGCM5633A089026

8848455 2012/HONDA/
ACCORD/BLACK
1HGCS1B88CA007973

8848564 2007/FORD/
EXPLORER/WHITE
1FMEU33K77UA24819

8848574 2009/HONDA/
ODYSSEY/BLUE
5FNRL389X9B040362

8848608 1982/FORD/ESCORT/
GRAY 1FABP0549CW212208

8848648 2005/FORD/
EXPLORER/BLACK
1FMDU73E15UA62430

8850943 2015/HYUNDAI/
SONATA/SILVER
5NPE24AA3FH180911

8850952 2022/HONDA/
ACCORD/WHITE
1HGCV1F35NA049493

8850997 2017/KIA/OPTIMA/
BLACK KNAGT4L34H5147551

8851435 2007/CHEVROLET/
SILVERADO/WHITE
3GCEC14X57G253296

8851523 2012/NISSAN/ALTIMA/
SILVER 1N4AL2AP3CN498534

8851821 2020/HONDA/CRV/
WHITE 2HKRW1H27LH402932

8851840 2018/FORD/FIESTA/
BLACK 3FADP4E2JM100322

8852175 2023/HYUNDAI/
ELANTRA/BLACK
KMHL4AG3PU384832

8852286 2015/HYUNDAI/
SONATA/BLUE
5NPE24AF9FH061238

8854767 2015/CHEVROLET/
MALIBU/SILVER
1G11D5SL9FF321143

8855209 2006/NISSAN/
ALTIMA/MULTI-COLOR
1N4AL11D56N458170

8855713 2003/BUICK/
CENTURY/MULTI-COLOR
2G4WS52J5Y1199145

2G4WS52J5Y1199145

8855906 2018/NISSAN/ALTIMA/
SILVER 1N4AL3AP9JC174261

8858780 2015/HYUNDAI/
SONATA/SILVER
5NPE24AF2FH037802

8858796 2005/CHEVROLET/
MALIBU/BLUE
1G1ZT52865F322055

8858929 2009/MERCEDES/C
CLASS/BLACK
WDDGF54X19F214612

8858945 2009/HONDA/
ACCORD/BLACK
1HGCP26849A009200

8859095 2015/FORD/FUSION/
WHITE 3FA6P0H77FR134722

8859137 2008/NISSAN/TITAN/
WHITE 1N6BA07C88N310916

8859214 1997/CHEVROLET/
TAHOE/RED
1GNEC13R7VJ425933

8859368 2007/CHEVROLET/
IMPALA/SILVER
2G1WB55K179298210

8861487 2005/KIA/SPECTRA/
SILVER KNAFE121655143890

8861492 2025/MAZDA/
CX-30/GRAY
3MVDMB6M6SM832652

8861523 2012/CHEVROLET/
MALIBU/SILVER
1G1ZG5E79CF365079

8861767 2015/NISSAN/ALTIMA/
BLACK 1N4AL3AP7FN302525

8861794 2006/HONDA/
ACCORD/WHITE
1HGCM56396A180261

8861885 2014/CHEVROLET/
CAMARO/BLACK
2G1FA1E34E9256955

8862024 2006/HONDA/
ACCORD/WHITE
1HGCM72646A024558

8862155 2011/DODGE/RAM/
WHITE 1D7RV1CT2BS589781

886232 2010/CHEVROLET/
MALIBU/WHITE
1G1ZA5E02AF313519

8864599 2012/HONDA/CIVIC/
SILVER 2HGFG3B52CH563150

8865333 2006/DODGE/OTHER/
RED 2D4GP44L46R659304

8865346 2001/HONDA/
ACCORD/SILVER
1HGCG16491A043869

8865348 2002/ACURA/RL/
BROWN JH4KA96582C014273

8867448 2006/ACURA/RL/
WHITE JH4KB165X6C009645

8867532 2011/NISSAN/MAXIMA/
BLUE 1N4AA5AP9BC867608

8868031 2008/NISSAN/ALTIMA/
GOLD 1N4AL21E58N404708

8868035 2004/JEEP/
GRAND CHER/BLACK
1J4GX48S74C143856

8868267 2008/CADILLAC/
ESCALADE/GRAY
1GYEC63858R226280

8868352 2000/BUICK/
CENTURY/GREEN
2G4WS52J5Y1199145

8868634 2020/KIA/OPTIMA/
GRAY 5XXGT4L38LG441641

8868670 2017/HONDA/
ACCORD/BLACK
1HGCR3F95HA003347

8871111 2013/HONDA/
ACCORD/GRAY
1HGCR2F30DA235080

8871176 2018/FORD/F150/
WHITE 1FTEW1E50JFC60296

8871177 2016/HONDA/CRV/
BLUE 5J6RM4H43GL042160

8871211 1986/FORD/F150/RED
1FTEX15N8GKA79475

8871457 2010/FORD/F150/RED
1FTEW1E85AFA52358

8871573 2019/CHEVROLET/
TAHOE/BLACK
1GNSKBKC8KR377266

8871596 2021/DODGE/
CHALLENGER/GREEN
2C3CDZJG4MH649937

8871675 2016/HYUNDAI/
SONATA/BLACK
5NPE24AF9GH379314

8871712 2006/CHEVROLET/
IMPALA/GOLD
2G1WU581469290596

8871799 1998/MERCEDES/M
CLASS/RED
4JGAB54E4WA009445

8872102 2002/CHEVROLET/
TRAILBLAZER/GOLD
1GNDT13S822479861

8872159 2008/HONDA/
ACCORD/WHITE
JHMCP268X8C050964

8872164 2011/GMC/ACADIA/
GRAY 1GKKRPED3BJ180045

8872212 2018/HYUNDAI/
SONATA/GRAY
5NPE24AF7JH625879

8872215 2001/CADILLAC/
DEVILLE/WHITE
1G6KD54Y81U219845

8872233 2017/HYUNDAI/
SONATA/SILVER
5NPE34AB5HH494973

8872275 2008/JEEP/
COMMANDER/SILVER
1J8HH48K28C142944

8872306 1997/DODGE/OTHER/
WHITE 2B4GP45R5VR115065

8872392 2010/INFINITI/G37/
BLACK JN1CV6AP3AM402024

8872464 2012/NISSAN/ALTIMA/
BLACK 1N4AL2AP4CN476655

8872483 2007/LEXUS/LS/WHITE
JTHBL46F975029267

8872485 2012/TOYOTA/CAMRY/
SILVER 4T1BF1FK1CU074316

8872511 2008/LAND ROVER/
RANGE ROVER SPORT/BLUE
SALSF25478A176315

8912310 2017/OTHER-NOT
FOUND/OTHER/RED
LWGPCML08HA041653

8912327 2017/OTHER-NOT
FOUND/OTHER/WHITE
LWGPCML21HA084488

8912332 2020/OTHER-NOT
FOUND/OTHER/RED
LWGPCGLC5LA121724

8957600 2005/GMC/SAVANA/
WHITE 1GJHG39U751107868

8979173 2000/FORD/F150/RED
1FTRX18L2YNA29490

8988288 2004/MERCURY/
SABLE/SILVER
1MEFM55S74G612570

8992953 2011/NISSAN/SENTRA/
SILVER 3N1AB6AP3BL625126

8995648 2008/SATURN/AURA/
WHITE 1G8ZS57B98F251706

8995669 1999/TOYOTA/
COROLLA/BLACK
1NXBR12E8XZ149560

8995702 2005/CHEVROLET/
EQUINOX/WHITE
2CNDL63F156137745

8995709 2007/HYUNDAI/
SONATA/SILVER
5NPEU46F47H221174

8998305 2014/TOYOTA/
COROLLA/OTHER
2T1BURHE0EC094735

9002191 2026/TOYOTA/CAMRY/
BLUE 4T1DAACK7TU695023

9010312 2007/CHRYSLER/300/
RED 2C3KA43R67H753677

9010345 2007/TOYOTA/CAMRY/
RED 4T1BE46K27U141970

9010351 2009/PONTIAC/VIBE/
WHITE 5Y2SP67859Z458581

9010929 2011/CADILLAC/SRX/
BLACK 3GYFNDEY5BS675673

9021742 2009/NISSAN/ALTIMA/
WHITE 1N4AL21E49N488683

9024615 2008/CHRYSLER/300/
GOLD 2C3LA53G08H140996

9027557 2017/VOLKSWAGEN/
JETTA/BLUE
3VW2B7AJXHM295200

9027766 2001/CHEVROLET/
SILVERADO/WHITE
2GCEC19T111132979

9028051 2008/INFINITI/G35/
WHITE JNKBV61E98M224930

9033494 2015/KIA/OPTIMA/RED
5XXGM4A72FG490020

9036062 2014/NISSAN/ALTIMA/
SILVER 1N4AL3AP7EN379247

9042909 2012/CHEVROLET/
CRUZE/SILVER
1G1

LEGAL

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR A REZONING

ZONING CASE NO. 4330

By virtue of and pursuant to the authority and direction of that Ordinance by the City Council of Jackson, Mississippi, appearing in Minute Book 3G at page 115 thereof, notice is hereby given to all persons interested in or in any way affected thereby, that Saxum Investment Company, LLC has filed with the Planning Board for the City of Jackson, an application requesting a Rezoning from R-1 (Single-Family) Residential District, C-3 (General) Commercial District and I-1 (Light) Industrial District to I-2 (Heavy) Industrial District to allow for the development of property for a combination of compatible commercial and industrial development opportunities on property located at Forest Ave. Ext. (Parcels 730-12-3, 731-5, 731-11, 731-14 & 731-15-1), in the First Judicial District of Hinds County, Mississippi, and being more particularly described as:

TRACT I

A parcel of land lying in the East 1/2 of the NE 1/4 of the NW 1/4 and in the East 1/2 of the SE 1/4 of the NW 1/4 and in the East 1/4 of the NE 1/4 of the SW 1/4 of Section 18, T6N, R1E, First Judicial, District, Hinds County, Miss. and being more particularly described as follows:

Commencing at the intersection of the West line of Section 18, T6N, R1E, First Judicial District, Hinds County, Miss. with the Easterly Right of Way of U. S. Highway 49 and run thence S 42 degrees 46 minutes 00 seconds W - 3,141.50' along the Easterly Right of Way of U. S. Highway 49 as the same existed prior to May 7, 1965 to a point that is now in the Right of Way of Interstate Highway 220; run thence N 00 degrees 02 minutes 00 seconds W - 330.40' to an iron pin in the Northerly Right of Way of Interstate Highway 220 and the POINT OF BEGINNING; run thence N 85 degrees 20 minutes 30 seconds E - 527.82' along the Northerly Right of Way of Interstate Highway 220 to an iron pin; run thence N 00 degrees 02 minutes 00 seconds W - 3,106.30' to an iron pin in the South Line of Forest Avenue; run thence N 88 degrees 56 minutes 00 seconds W - 526.20' along the South line of Forest Avenue to an iron pin; thence leaving Forest Avenue run thence S 00 degrees 02 minutes 00 seconds E - 3,158.96' to an iron pin and the POINT OF BEGINNING.

Containing 37.835 acres more or less.

Less and except:

A certain parcel of land being situated in the East 1/2 of the Northwest 1/4 of Section 18, T6N-R1E in the City of Jackson, Hinds County, Mississippi, and being more particularly described as follows:

Commence at an existing 1/2" iron pin marking the Northwest corner of Lot 56, Ashley Acres, a subdivision according to the map or plat thereof, on file and of record in the office of the Chancery Clerk of Hinds County at Jackson, Mississippi, as now recorded in Plat Book 20 at Page 18 and run thence South 88 degrees 13 minutes 08 seconds East for a distance of 1,655.52 feet to an existing 1/2" iron pin; run thence South 00 degrees 02 minutes 34 seconds West for a distance of 1,565.89 feet to an existing "T" post marking the POINT OF BEGINNING of the parcel of land herein described; from said POINT OF BEGINNING, run thence South 77 degrees 28 minutes 39 seconds East for a distance of 109.25 feet to a set 1/2" iron pin; run thence South 00 degrees 02 minutes 34 seconds West for a distance of 168.40 feet to a set 1/2" iron pin; run thence South 89 degrees 57 minutes 26 seconds East for a distance of 164.45 feet to an existing "T" post; run thence South 01 degrees 53 minutes 48 seconds West for a distance of 234.06 feet to an existing "T" post; run thence North 82 degrees 19 minutes 57 seconds West for a distance of 265.90 feet to an existing "T" post; run thence North 00 degrees 02 minutes 34 seconds East for a distance of 390.66 feet to the POINT OF BEGINNING, containing 1.77025 acres, more or less.

TRACT II

All of Lots 17, 18 and 19 and that part of Lots 15 and 16 lying North and West of Interstate Highway I-220, Garland Community Farms, a subdivision according to a map or plat thereof which is on file and of record in the office of the Chancery Clerk of Hinds County at Jackson, Mississippi, in Survey Plat Book B at Page 67, reference to which is hereby made in aid of and as part of this description.

LESS AND EXCEPT:

A certain parcel of land situated in and being a part of Lot 19, Garland Community Farms; according to the plat of file in the office of the Chancery Clerk of Jackson, Hinds County, Mississippi, as now recorded in Plat Book B at Page 67 and being more particularly described as follows;

Beginning at the intersection of the South right of way of Forest Avenue Extension (as now laid out and in use, April, 1980) with the line between said Lot 19 and Lot 20 of said Garland

Community Farms, run thence South 01 degrees 41 minutes 50 seconds West and along the said line between Lots 19 and 20 for a distance of 544.70 feet; thence leaving the said line between Lots 19 and 20, run South 88 degrees 08 minutes 45 seconds West for a distance of 159.80; run thence North 00 degrees 31 minutes 44 seconds West for a distance of 542.50 feet to the aforementioned South right of way of Forest Avenue Extension; run thence North 87 degrees 44 minutes 10 seconds East and along the said South right of way of Forest Avenue Extension for a distance of 181.0 feet to the POINT OF BEGINNING, containing 2.12 acres, more or less.

A parcel of land containing 144.44 acres (6,291,976.95 square feet), more or less, being situated in Lots 15, 16, 17, 18, and 19 of Garland Community Farms, a subdivision according to the map or plat on file in the Office of the Hinds County Chancery Clerk in Slide A-112, reference to said plat being made as a part of this description, said parcel being in Section 17 and 18, Township 6 North, Range 1 West, First Judicial District, Hinds County, Mississippi, and being more particularly described by metes and bounds as follows:

Commence at a found iron pipe marking the Southwest corner of Lot 17, Garland Community Farms, said pipe also being the POINT OF BEGINNING for the parcel herein described;

run thence North 00 degrees 36 minutes 24 seconds East for a distance of 2590.17 feet to the South line of Forest Avenue (a 60 foot right of way);

thence run along said South line of Forest Avenue South 89 degrees 06 minutes 24 seconds East for a distance of 456.74 feet;

thence South 89 degrees 45 minutes 02 seconds East for distance of 1995.44 feet;

thence South 88 degrees 52 minutes 32 seconds East for distance of 102.73 feet;

thence leave said right of way and run South 00 degrees 46 minutes 30 seconds East for a distance of 542.50 feet;

thence North 87 degrees 53 minutes 59 seconds East for a distance of 159.80 feet;

thence South 01 degree 20 minutes 25 seconds West for a distance of 737.28 feet to a found iron pipe;

thence North 89 degree 33 minutes 39 seconds East for a distance of 268.84 feet to the Northern Right of Way line of Interstate 220 (a variable right of way);

thence run along said right of way South 50 degrees 31 minutes 30 seconds West for a distance of 2112.21 feet;

thence leave said right of way and run North 88 degrees 14 minutes 39 seconds West for a distance of 1371.43 feet to the POINT OF BEGINNING.

TRACT III

A parcel of land located in the North 1/2 of the NW 1/4 of the SE 1/4 of Section 18, T6N, R1E, Hinds County, Mississippi, and being more particularly described as follows:

Commence at the NW corner of the SE 1/4 of said Section 18, T6N, R1E, Hinds County, Mississippi, and being marked by a found 1 inch iron pin set in concrete, and being the Point of Beginning; thence South 88 degrees 49 minutes 06 seconds East along the South right of way line of Mississippi Power and Light Company 150 foot easement (DB 2076 Page 517) marked by a meandering barbed wire fence for a distance of 1312.14 feet to a set 1/2 inch iron pin; thence leaving said South right of way line run South 00 degrees 15 minutes 01 seconds East for a distance of 29.11 feet to a found 1 inch iron pin a chain link fence on the Northwestern right of way line of Interstate Highway 220, as it is now laid out and exists, (08/06/93); thence along said Northwestern right of way line, marked by a chain link fence, the following: South 50 degrees 31 minutes 30 seconds West for a distance of 74.12 feet to a found concrete monument; South 58 degrees 20 minutes 19 seconds West for a distance of 662.11 feet to a found concrete monument; South 35 degrees 27 minutes 29 seconds West for a distance of 691.17 feet to a set 1/2 inch iron pin; thence leaving said Northwestern right of way run North 00 degrees 15 minutes 01 seconds West for a distance of 505.57 feet to the Point of Beginning, containing 472.983 square feet, being 10.86 acres, more or less.

TRACT IV

A parcel of land containing 37.66 acres more or less, being situated in the West Half of the Northwest Quarter of Section 18, Township 6 North, Range 1 East, Hinds County, Mississippi and being more particularly described as follows:

Commence at a found 1/2 inch rebar marking the Southeast corner of Lot 34 of Ashley Acres, a subdivision on file in the office of the Chancery Clerk of Hinds County, Mississippi and

recorded in Plat Cabinet B on Slide 353, reference to which is hereby made in aid of and as a part of this description, and run thence South 28 Degrees 59 Minutes 24 Seconds East for a distance of 1703.28 feet to a set 1/2 inch rebar marking the Southwest corner of Tract 4 of that certain parcel of land conveyed to William T. Neely and Barbara B. Neely, by deed recorded in Book 7126 at page 7118 in the office of the Chancery Clerk of Hinds County, Mississippi, reference to which is hereby made in aid of and as a part of this description, and the Point of Beginning:

Run thence North 00 Degrees 03 Minutes 07 Seconds East along the West line of said Tract 4 for a distance of 2658.43 feet to a found 3 inch pipe on the South right of way line of Forest Avenue, as now laid out and exist; Run thence South 88 Degrees 47 Minutes 48 Seconds East along said South right of way line of Forest Avenue for a distance of 626.81 feet to a found 5/8 1/2 inch rebar on the East line of said Tract 4; Run thence South 00 Degrees 02 Minutes 08 Seconds West along the East line of said Tract 4 for a distance of 2579.07 feet to a set 1/2 inch rebar marking the Northeast corner of that certain parcel of land conveyed to Larue Sulton and Larry Sulton by deed recorded in Deed Book 3726 at page 458, reference to is hereby made in aid of and as a part of this description; Run thence South 84 Degrees 58 Minutes 37 Seconds West along the North line of said parcel for a distance of 405.74 feet to a set 1/2 inch rebar marking the Northwest of said parcel; Run thence South 43 Degrees 00 Minutes 51 Seconds East along the west line of said parcel for a distance of 7.98 feet to a set 1/2 inch rebar marking the Northeast corner of that certain parcel of land conveyed to Pritchard Oil Company by deed recorded in Deed Book 2368 at page 79, reference to is hereby made in aid of and as a part of this description; Run thence South 83 Degrees 48 Minutes 13 Seconds West along the North line of said parcel for a distance of 230.09 feet to the Point of Beginning.

TRACT V

A certain parcel of land being situated in the East 1/2 of the Northwest 1/4 of Section 18, T6N-R1E in the City of Jackson, Hinds County, Mississippi, and being more particularly described as follows:

Commence at an existing 1/2" iron pin marking the Northwest corner of Lot 56, Ashley Acres, a subdivision according to the map or plat thereof, on file and of record in the office of the Chancery Clerk of Hinds County at Jackson, Mississippi, as now recorded in Plat Book 20 at Page 18 and run thence South 88 degrees 13 minutes 08 seconds East for a distance of 1,655.52 feet to an existing 1/2" iron pin; run thence South 00 degrees 02 minutes 34 seconds West for a distance of 1,565.89 feet to an existing "T" post marking the POINT OF BEGINNING of the parcel of land herein described; from said POINT OF BEGINNING, run thence South 77 degrees 28 minutes 39 seconds East for a distance of 109.25 feet to a set 1/2" iron pin; run thence South 00 degrees 02 minutes 34 seconds West for a distance of 168.40 feet to a set 1/2" iron pin; run thence South 89 degrees 57 minutes 26 seconds East for a distance of 164.45 feet to an existing "T" post; run thence South 01 degrees 53 minutes 48 seconds West for a distance of 234.06 feet to an existing "T" post; run thence North 82 degrees 19 minutes 57 seconds West for a distance of 265.90 feet to an existing "T" post; run thence North 00 degrees 02 minutes 34 seconds East for a distance of 390.66 feet to the POINT OF BEGINNING, containing 1.77025 acres, more or less.

Said application will be heard at the City Planning Board Hearing in the Andrew Jackson Conference Room, First Floor, Warren A. Hood Building, 200 S. President Street in Jackson, Mississippi, at 1:30 p.m., on Wednesday, May 27, 2026, at which time all parties interested in or affected thereby will be heard both pro and con on said question, after which a record will be established upon which the City Planning Board can make its recommendation to the City Council of Jackson. Any objection thereto may be made by any person owning property within the area, and if made in writing must be filed with the City Zoning Administrator before said time if a hearing thereof or consideration thereof is desired, or by counsel on said date. If a request is made to the Zoning Administrator at least 72 hours in advance, the City will take steps to accommodate citizens need for interpreters or auxiliary aids for the visually/hearing impaired.

DUE TO THE CONCERN FOR THE PUBLIC HEALTH, SAFETY AND WELFARE, THE PLANNING BOARD MEMBERS, APPLICANTS AND THE GENERAL PUBLIC HAVE THE OPTION TO ATTEND THE MEETING VIA TELECONFERENCE/VIDEO. PLEASE EMAIL EAINSWORTH@CITY.JACKSON.MS.US TO REGISTER FOR THE TELECONFERENCE/VIDEO INFORMATION PRIOR TO MAY 20, 2026.

WITNESS my signature this 30TH day of April 2026.

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

5/7/2026, 5/21/2026

LEGAL

Legal Advertisement Notice:

RFP#2026-01

The City of Jackson is soliciting sealed proposals from qualified contractors to provide comprehensive landscaping and grounds maintenance services for its transit facilities. Proposals must be received by 3:30 PM on June 2, 2026.

Proposals must be submitted in a sealed envelope or via the City's electronic procurement system at www.jacksonsbids.com and clearly marked with RFP Number #2026-01.

A non-mandatory pre-bid meeting will be held on Friday, May 8, 2026, at 2:00 PM CST at JTRAN Administrative and Maintenance Facility (JAMF) located at 1785 Highway 80W, Jackson, MS 39209.

Documents can be viewed and obtained by visiting www.jacksonsbids.com. Documents are non-refundable and must be purchased through the website. For questions regarding website registration or the bid process, please contact PH Bidding Group at 662-407-0193.

The City reserves the right to reject any or all proposals, waive informalities or irregularities, and award the contract in the best interest of the City.

This notice was published in accordance with the City of Jackson's professional service procurement policy. Shape

4/30/2026, 5/7/2026, 5/14/2026, 5/21/2026, 5/28/2026


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WEEK OF MAY 17, 2026

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HINDS COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT WEEKLY UPDATE

Teachers' Appreciation Week

Supervisor Wanda Evers and Representative Stephanie McKenzie Foster had a great day celebrating Teachers' Appreciation Week with the Faculty and Staff at Main Street Restart Center School.

