



# Tulsa Race Massacre Descendants

*Esteemed in Black pride, resistance, and resilience - Call for Reparations while fighting 105 years of racial destruction and injustice that killed 300 & destroyed a thriving community*

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

Following World War I, a resurgence of white supremacists flooded the country, giving rise to numerous lynchings and other acts of racially motivated violence. The Tulsa Race Massacre has been recorded in American history as one of the most destructive acts of violence. Tulsa, Oklahoma became a hot spot of violence when news circulated that the South Main Street Drexel Building's young white elevator operator Sarah Page screamed of sexual assault as Dick Rowland – a Black teen – entered the elevator on May 30, 1921. Then Rowland fled the scene. The incident led to his arrest on May 31st.

Rowland's arrest and Black wealth induced The Tulsa Race Massacre which lasted beyond 18 hours (May 31st to June 1st). Thousands of white Tulsans instituted a false narrative that numerous Black Tulsans, aided by Blacks from nearby towns and cities were having a "large-scale insurrection." Hysteria spread. An angry white mob stood outside the courthouse and demanded that Sheriff Willard McCullom release Rowland to them. Instead, McCullom barricaded the top floor to protect the teen.

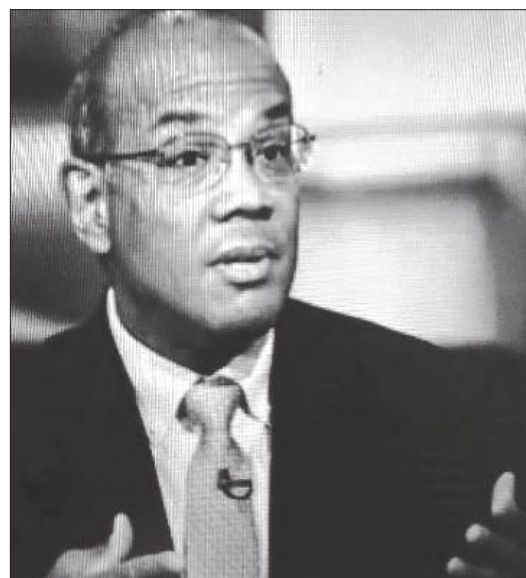
Foundational scholar and civil rights activist W.E.B. Du Bois coined "the psychological wages of whiteness" in his 1935 magnum opus, Black Recon-



Mother Lessie Benningfield Randle at age 111 continues her court case for reparations. PHOTO, MEDIA COURTESY



Senator Regina Goodwin, Greenwood District representative.



John W. Rogers, Jr., descendant of J. B. Stradford, Tulsa's wealthiest Black man in 1921.

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# The 2026 FIFA World Cup and America's Big Test

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

By Christopher Young  
Contributing Writer

In just days, the United States will host the largest sporting event in history. The 2026 FIFA World Cup, spread across the U.S., Mexico, and Canada, is expected to bring millions of international visitors, heightened security, enormous economic activity, and intense global attention to eleven U.S. host cities, including Los Angeles, Houston, Miami, Seattle, Atlanta, and the New York/New Jersey region. But is the U.S. ready to welcome the world?

As kickoff approaches, journalists and organizations are asking urgent questions: Will visa systems and border policies facilitate international travel? How will host cities balance security with civil liberties? What protections are in place for workers staffing stadiums, hospitality, transportation, and tourism services? And what impact will the tournament have on immigrant communities?

On May 29, 2026, American Community Media's Pilar Marrero moderated a briefing on the opportunities, challenges, and unresolved questions surrounding the 2026 FIFA World Cup, and what ethnic and community media should be watching as the tournament begins. Sixty-five media

*World Cup*  
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Minky Worden. PHOTO: HUMAN RIGHTS WATCH



Katherine La Puente. PHOTO: HUMAN RIGHTS WATCH



Jamal R. Watkins. PHOTO: NAACP



Ariel Ruiz Soto. PHOTO: LINKEDIN

# The NAACP is calling for athletes to help fight for Voting Rights: New 'Out of Bounds' campaign launches

By Caleb Pugh  
Our Weekly

The NAACP is calling on athletes to hold Southern states accountable for their radicalization of state maps, as many disfranchise black voters and leaders. While this has been an ongoing problem in various Southern states over the years, Louisiana recently made headlines after redrawing its congressional map, eliminating two predominantly Black districts by splitting them and forcing former district leaders, Tony Carter and Castro

Fields, to compete against each other for one district. They also limited the importance of the Black vote, as now predominantly Black communities are overshadowed by the majority of white voters in those districts.

On May 19, the NAACP launched the "Out of Bounds" campaign that targets public universities in eight Southern states that have redrawn or moved to redraw their congressional maps after the Supreme Court weakened a key provision of the Voting Rights Act earlier this month.

The campaign, according to the release, focuses on flagship public universities that generate more than \$100 million in annual revenue in eight Southern states: Mississippi, Tennessee, Louisiana, Alabama, Florida, South Carolina, Texas, and Georgia. This would include Ole Miss and Mississippi State



"These actions happened in days, in some cases in hours, of a Supreme Court ruling that gives extremist lawmakers a playbook to erode Black representation" stated NAACP President Derrick Johnson in a statement.

University. "This generation of Black athletes understands something that those who came before them were never afforded

the chance to say so plainly: your talent is yours, and so is your community's political power," stated Tylik McMillan, the national director of the

NAACP's Youth and College Division, in the release. "The state that is working to erase your grandmother's congressional district is the same state

whose governor will stand on the field and celebrate your touchdown or game-winning shot."

Republicans deny that their actions erase Black voting power in their states and claim that changes are needed to comply with the court's ruling and ensure maps meet legal standards. "These actions happened in days, in some cases in hours, of a Supreme Court ruling that gives extremist lawmakers a playbook to erode Black representation," NAACP President Derrick Johnson said in a statement. "The same power that built these programs can be redirected."

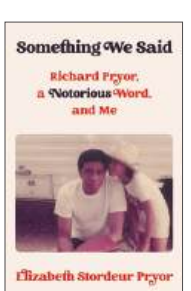
While it's seldom that players have spoken up about the racial messages on their school campus, as Kylin Hill, a former running back for Mississippi State, posted on social media

NAACP  
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**Inside**  
Jackson Memorial Funeral Services, LLC, provides seven scholarships to JPS's graduating seniors



**Something We Said**

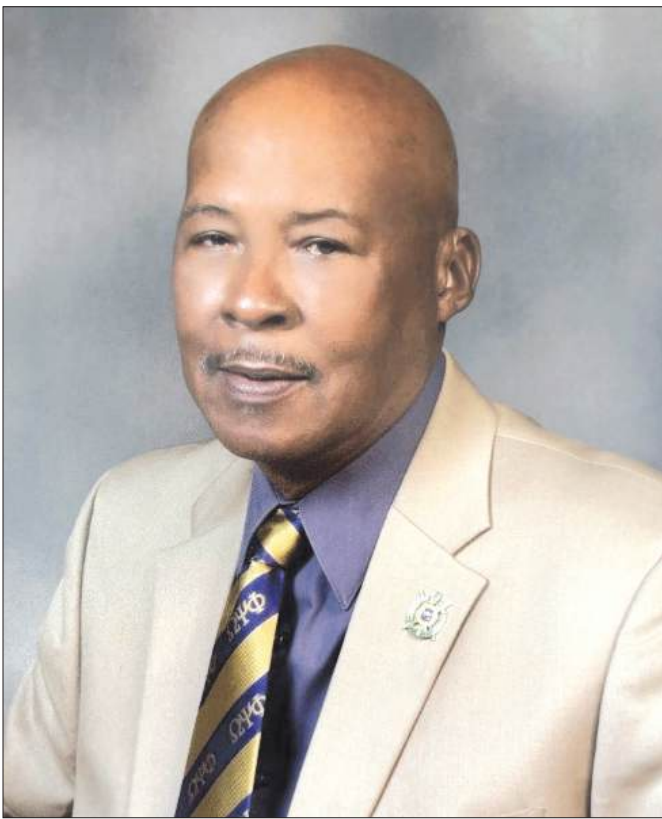


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## *A Life Well Lived*

# Alphonse Raymond Taylor, Jr.

*June 18, 1953 – May 26, 2026*



Alphonse Raymond Taylor, Jr.

Alphonse Raymond Taylor Jr., affectionately known as “Al,” passed away on May 26, 2026, in Jackson, Mississippi, at the age of 72.

Born on June 18, 1953, in Jackson, Mississippi, Al spent his life deeply rooted in the community he loved. He was the son of the late Alphonse Raymond Taylor Sr. and Catherine Anderson Taylor. He was also preceded in death by his brother, John Darrell Taylor.

Al was a proud graduate of Jim Hill High School and Wingfield High School and later attended Tuskegee University. Throughout his distinguished professional career, he served as a Real Estate Agent, USDA Loan Manager, and Parliamentarian. His leadership, dedication, and commitment to service earned him the respect of colleagues and community members alike.

A lifelong servant leader, Al devoted countless hours to civic and community organizations. He was a lifetime member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., a Gold Plus member of Blacks in Government, an active

member of the NAACP, and a member of the Madison County Democratic Executive Committee. His leadership roles included serving as President of the Madison-Ridgeland-Tougaloo Branch of the NAACP, President of the Mississippi Association of Credit Specialists, President and Vice President of the Magnolia Chapter of Blacks in Government, and Chairman of the Board for the Madison County Human Resource Agency.

Above all else, Al was a devoted family man. He is survived by his beloved wife, Janet Taylor; his children, Alecia N. Harris (De’Mario), Alphonse “Trey” Raymond Taylor III (Crystal), and Allison Taylor; and his cherished grandchildren, Taylor Harris, Dylan Harris, Andrew Harris, Alyana Taylor, and Alphonse Raymond Taylor IV (“Ray”). He is also survived by his sisters, Catherine Taylor and Roberta Taylor of Atlanta, Georgia, along with a host of cousins, extended family members, and dear friends.

Al loved spending time with his family and enjoyed many passions throughout his life. He was an avid golfer and hunter, loved

watching sports and classic westerns, and had a special appreciation for horses. He enjoyed R&B and soul music and was known as a pillar of the community who never met a stranger. His warm smile, generous spirit, and genuine concern for others left a lasting impression on everyone who was fortunate enough to know him.

Family and friends remember Al for his caring personality, unwavering kindness, and ability to make everyone feel welcome. He instilled the values of family first, hard work, and financial responsibility in those he loved. His legacy is one of service, leadership, faith, and love.

Al’s faith was an important part of his life. He joined College Hill Missionary Baptist Church in the early 1960s and remained committed to serving God and others throughout his life.

Though his presence will be deeply missed, his loving and kind spirit will continue to live on through the family he cherished, the community he served, and the countless lives he touched.

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It’s good to be blue.



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## Tulsa

Continued from page 1

struction in America when he referenced Black prosperity as a threat, a provocation and a collective narcissistic injury. More than a century has passed in this post-civil rights era and the Age of Trump, but Du Bois's phrase hangs as an indisputable truth. According to media reports, at least 300 Blacks were killed during the massacre in the prosperous neighborhood of Greenwood, Oklahoma, referenced as "The Black Wall Street." Machine guns, loads of kerosene, and bombs dropping from airplanes were among weapons that were used. More than 1,200 homes and at least 60 businesses were destroyed. Furthermore, generational wealth was emptied. Total damages in today's money were approximately \$200 million.

Like her predecessors and heirs, last known survivor Mother Lessie Benningfield Randle (111) has not received full restitution. She and her family have experienced financial, emotional, and social hardships due to the massacre and public nuisance. The fight for justice, however, continues as lawyers persist in keeping her case alive.

Oklahoma State Senator Regina Goodwin represents the Greenwood District. Her great-grandparents – James Henri and Carlie Marie Goodwin – migrated from Mississippi to Tulsa in 1913 while seeking to rid their four children from the atrocity of the Jim Crow South. James owned a grocery store, a funeral home, and a real estate office. His businesses were destroyed during the massacre, and he fought significantly for restitution for his livelihood and that of his neighbors on Black Wall Street.

Senator Goodwin continues that legacy. She insists that reparations for the descendants of survivors of the massacre are in keeping with everything that they lost. To her, it is worth the effort to continue the struggle.

John W. Rogers Jr. CEO of Ariel Capital

Management is the descendant of J.B. Stradford, considered the wealthiest Black man in Tulsa in 1921. Not only did he own the Stradford Hotel on Black Wall Street, but he was an outspoken critic of the Jim Crow South and racism toward the Black race. White supremacists burned down the Stradford Hotel on the night of the massacre and reported to authorities that Stradford incited the riot, thereby forcing him to flee to Chicago, but he never achieved the same financial success there.

Rogers often thinks about the Tulsa tragedy. Like his great-grandfather was, he is outspoken when it comes to racism. He said to The Mirror US, "Sometimes, your comments aren't welcome," but they are necessary. Accordingly, Rogers demands reparations for the Tulsa victims' descendants. Further, he charges Americans to fight for their own freedom. If they do not fight, "a similar attack on another thriving Black community could occur... Things can shift. We cannot accept the changes that are happening in our society."

Malee Craft, the daughter of Tulsa Race Massacre survivor Hughes Van Ellis, was shielded from the tragedy until 1921. Her father and his siblings fled Tulsa after Black Wall Street was destroyed. Craft shared that what was utmost important for the descendants as growing children was the unification that existed within the community. Unification from the massacre is the trademark that she teaches about to Black school children in different schools.

Have things changed in Greenwood today? Goodwin elaborates, "The flames; the fire; the death. That trauma still exists today. Even when you go through Greenwood today. There have been no charges, no convictions and [no consequences] for the crimes. You really feel it if you're tied to this community."

## NAACP

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in 2020, politicians need to "change the flag or I won't be representing this state anymore." That year, the state changed its Confederate-themed flag to the current magnolia version.

"For generations, Black athletes have helped build college athletics into one of the most powerful and profitable industries in American life," the caucus said in a statement. "Yet at the very moment those same communities

face coordinated attacks on their democratic representation, too many leaders across college athletics have chosen silence."

The campaign also asks fans, alumni, and donors to stop buying tickets, merchandise, and licensed apparel from targeted programs and divert those funds to historically Black colleges and universities and related organizations.

## World Cup

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outlets joined the call with four expert panelists.

Minky Worden serves as Director of Global Initiatives at Human Rights Watch. "The World Cup catastrophes in 2018 in Russia and 2022 in Qatar are the right places to start this discussion. This World Cup is the largest ever, and it is governed by a human rights framework that was really put in place because of the human rights nightmares around previous World Cups – especially in Qatar, where were talking about thousands of deaths, preventable deaths of migrant workers - building stadiums, infrastructure development, hotel rooms... human rights were in the bidding requirements for both the countries that were bidding and there was actually a human rights strategy that is a beautiful and yet meaningless document that was published.

Seventy-eight of the 104 matches will be held in the United States. You can think of the matches like 78 Super Bowls. The trends on human rights in the United States are not good. This World Cup will be held amidst violent immigration crackdown, lack of protections for LGBT people, and the lack of child safeguarding. One of the biggest risks is sports is going to be weaponized by the Trump Administration. The report has on its cover the FIFA Peace Prize, which is a form of corruption, or currying favor. A prize given to Trump that had no process, no judges, no nominees – just a prize to Trump by the head of FIFA, Gianni Infantino. Due to VISA bans by Trump, is this even truly a World Cup? Many of the athletes are exempted from the bans, but their families and supporters are not." The 2026 FIFA World Cup begins June 11th and will conclude July 18th.

Katherine La Puente serves as Children's Rights Senior Coordinator at Human Rights Watch, and shared, "My team has worked to document and expose risk of children's rights and risks to immigrant communities in the context of mega sporting events, particularly the World Cup. We are concerned that this upcoming World Cup risks being defined by a lack of comprehensive sort of safeguarding protections for children, exclusion and fear for immigrant communities. Comprehensive child safeguarding would include human trafficking, sex trafficking, child labor, family separation, and other concerns. Only recently has FIFA taken steps to pass and develop child safeguarding statements. We fear that it's too little and too late for this current World Cup because there is not enough time to implement these measures."

The next panelist, Jamal R. Watkins, is Se-

nior Vice President of Strategy and Advancement at the NAACP. His comments included, "Imagine if you will, as many of ten million visitors to the United States for what is the world's largest sporting event in history and it is shrouded in the backdrop of major concerns across workers' rights, worker security, immigration, public health, high costs, etc... what does it mean to address the heightened threats of First Amendment expression suppression for the general public and for journalists alike.

The NAACP's advocacy focuses on three primary objectives. The first is this notion of inclusion and safeguarding. Over the years we have been advocating working with our partners to promote a comprehensive set of racial equity standards to ensure that the tournament remains safe. But it also is an inclusive environment for all players, journalists, fans, and the communities that these events are happening within. Second, there is the issue of workers' rights. We know from past experience if we don't protect the labor rights of those constructing the venues, preparing for the games themselves, and operating during the World Cup itself in terms of the facilities that there is going to be abuses, if you will. Lastly, there is the notion of access to remedy - what happens in terms of providing avenues for recourse if human rights standards are violated during the games. And so, when we think about this, it sounds like the onslaught of the perfect making the of negativity. But what we found is that with our coalition and advocates, we decided to issue a travel advisory, a warning for fans players, journalists and other visitors coming to the 2026 FIFA World Cup." The NAACP advisory can be viewed at

<https://naacp.org/articles/naacp-joins-growing-coalition-over-120-organizations-issue-travel-advisory-2026-fifa-world>.

Ariel G. Ruiz Soto is Senior Policy Analyst at the Migration Policy Institute. "Despite the three countries working together, it is important to also consider when talking about immigration how folks will be traveling to Mexico or Canada. What the conditions of their travel will be, and not just to the United States. That's what we should talk about and pay close attention to how Mexico and Canada will actually respond to some of the same or different issues that they've seen. International travel to the United States now brings a different set of conditions making travel difficult."

This entire briefing can be viewed at <https://americancommunitymedia.org/media-briefings/the-2026-fifa-world-cup-and-americas-big-test>.

# Jackson State receives gold level recognition as a 2026-2027 Military Friendly® School

By William H. Kelly III  
JSU Newswire

Jackson State University (JSU) has earned the 2026-2027 Military Friendly® Schools and Military Spouse Friendly® School Designation, recognized as a gold-level institution. The designation highlights JSU's ability to meet and exceed in areas such as student recruitment, retention, academic progress, graduation rates, career placement and support services for veterans, transitioning service members, and military spouses.

"This honor highlights the institution's dedication to creating a welcoming, resource-rich environment where military-connected students and their families can thrive academically and professionally. This achievement is not only a celebration of our efforts but also a motivation to continue enhancing the services and opportunities we provide to those who have served our nation," said Kimberly Alcorn, director of JSU's Veterans and Military Students Support Center.

The Veterans and Military Students Support Center at JSU was designed to provide student support services focused on the special needs and requirements of today's military veterans, service members, dependents and survivors. The center works closely as liaisons between JSU's Department of Military Science in the College of Liberal Arts, Department of Aerospace Science in the College of Science, En-



Buyuna Carter is a member of JSU's Army ROTC, a first-generation college student and active service member currently studying business administration at Jackson State University. Carter is able to fund her education while enlisted in the military thanks to the Veterans and Military Students Support Center. WILLIAM H. KELLY III/JACKSON STATE UNIVERSITY

gineering and Technology, and the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to ensure students receive the tools necessary to increase their academic success post-service, while actively serving, or supporting a disabled veteran.

JSU offers programs and services such as the JSU Air Force ROTC, JSU Army ROTC, veteran career transition program, work-study program, counseling and mental health services, academic guidance, and various social and networking activities. Additional VA educational benefits can include the GI Bill, stipends, out-of-state fee waivers, tuition assistance, and more for veterans and dependents.



Kimberly Alcorn, director of JSU's Veterans and Military Student Support Center, ARON SMITH/JACKSON STATE UNIVERSITY

**RAGTIME**  
★ THE MUSICAL ★

**MAY 26 – JUNE 7, 2026**

New Stage Theatre located at 1100 Carlisle Street, Jackson, MS is continuing its performances of Ragtime: June 4 and 6, 2026 at 7 pm and June 7, 2026, at 2 PM.

Tickets: \$50; \$45 Seniors/Students/Military Available at 601-948-3533, Ext. 223 & [www.newstagetheatre.com](http://www.newstagetheatre.com).

Student Rush Discount: One hour prior to curtain for any performance, students with a current academic ID may purchase an available seat for \$10. (Limit one ticket per ID.)

## Jackson Memorial Funeral Services, LLC, provides seven scholarships to Jackson Public School's graduating seniors

By Jackie Hampton  
Publisher

Jackson Memorial Funeral Services, LLC awarded seven \$1,000 scholarships to deserving graduate seniors during a private Scholarship Luncheon Tuesday, May 19, 2026, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Georgetown Community Event Center, located at 800 West Woodrow Wilson Avenue in Jackson, Mississippi.

The event recognized and honored the seven scholarship recipients and their special guests.

As part of his commitment to giving back to the community where he was raised, Damian Murriel, owner of Jackson Memorial Funeral Services established this scholarship initiative to support students throughout the Jackson Public School District. The scholarships were awarded to graduating seniors who have demonstrated academic improvement, leadership, strong character, and a commitment to continuing their education beyond high school.

Awardees can use the scholarship funds for tuition, books, or other educational expenses at an accredited college, university, trade school, or vocational program. This initiative shows Jackson Memorial Funeral Services' ongoing commitment to community development and supporting local students' educational advancement.

Dr. Laketia Marshall-Thomas, Assistant Superintendent of High Schools, for Jackson Public



Callaway High School's Male Choir

PHOTOS BY KEVIN BRADLEY



JPS Scholars received a \$1,000.00 Scholarship, which will be provided to the college they are admitted to. (L-R) Damian Murriel, Krishna Murriel, Aleria Banks, Coryn Carter, Zycameron Williams, Omarion Tanner, Julius Yarbrough, Roberto Jacinto-Garcia, Jordan Broadway



Damian Murriel, Alicia Williams, Maggie Wade, Jacqueline Berry, Krishna Murriel, and Sylvia Watley



Damian Murriel, owner of Jackson Memorial Funeral Services, Dr. Laketia Marshall-Thomas, Assistant Superintendent of High School Division, and Krishna Murriel

Schools stated, We are deeply grateful for community partners like Jackson Memorial Funeral

Services, LLC, who recognize the importance of investing in our scholars. These scholarships

not only provide financial support, but they also affirm the hard work, resilience, and potential of

our graduating seniors. We commend Mr. Damian Murriel for his commitment to uplifting students

and strengthening the future of our community through education."

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# Just another day in Small town Mississippi

*Systems of justice and power permeate every small town in Mississippi – not just Mt. Olive*

Christopher Young  
Contributing Writer

At 10:30 AM Wednesday, May 13, 2026, there were just a few cars parked outside Mt. Olive Town Hall, but by 11AM, the time set for a monthly Justice Court Hearing, there were far more. Some thirty people filled the Conference Room (makeshift Courtroom), the lobby area and some groups were conversing just outside the building. These were litigants, witnesses, and supporters of those connected to the days docket in some way. The presiding Judge, Bobby Wayne Mooney, is one of two Covington County Justice Court Judges, and he arrived 40 minutes late, along with Mount Olive Municipal Court Prosecutor and attorney for the Town of Mt. Olive, John Alan Buffington and attorney Thomas Tullos of Tullos and Tullos, PLLC in Raleigh, MS.

Once the court was opened, the deputy announced there would be no recording or cell phones allowed. Judge Mooney added that restriction included Metaglasses and that he did not make these laws. He acknowledged that he did not have a robe and that if anyone objected to his not having his robe that he would try to have one brought to him. He stated that there will be respect in the courtroom – we'll get back to that – and that if anyone gets out of hand they may go to jail. He



Mt. Olive, Mississippi City Hall. PHOTO: WWW.TOWNOFMTOLEVMS.COM

## COMMENTARY

stated that he had many friends here today, which seemed downright bizarre. He indicated there would be no hearsay, just facts, and “we’re gonna do the best we can, and Mississippi has an appeals process and if you don’t like the decisions today you can move it on up.”

A sort of attendance was called by Buffington, calling the names of those listed on what appeared to be a dozen packets containing charges. At least one person was found guilty after not showing up. There was mention of various charges including petty larceny and in at least one case Buffington recommended a defendant be found not guilty because the affiant did not show up despite receiving notice of the hearing. One man was brought in wearing

a jumpsuit and ankle restraints. It was said that he had been in jail for about a week. At one point Judge Mooney pointed out that Buffington was the prosecutor and that Thomas Tullos was hired to be the defense attorney because there were charges on the docket that carried jail time.

The names of Mrs. Mia Walton and Mr. Stricjavvar Strickland were on a charge packet, and they were both present on this day. Walton is a native of Mt. Olive, wife, mother, disabled veteran, graduate of the U.S. Army Sergeants Majors Academy, and business owner. Strickland is the pastor of Galilee Missionary Baptist Church in Mt. Olive, about whom much has been publicized. Strickland filed charges against Walton for cyberstalking, in January 2025, and she was arrested on March 5, 2025, in Covington

County and booked in the Smith County Detention Center before being released on a \$5,000 bond, per WDAM News on March 5, 2025. The case filed against her by Strickland was dismissed – a full year later – in a letter signed by Assistant District Attorney for the Thirteenth District, Jonas W. Bowen, indicating it did not meet the requirements for cyberstalking and could not be presented to a Grand Jury.

During that year-long period, on November 4, 2025, Walton filed charges against Strickland for stalking, and those charges were now being heard by Judge Mooney. The attorney prosecuting Walton’s charges against Strickland was John Alan Buffington. Walton had filed a complaint against Buffington with the Mississippi Ethics Commission just two months earlier, which

questioned “his upholding integrity and independence of the judiciary, avoiding impropriety and the appearance of impropriety, and performing judicial duties competently and impartially,” yet here he was prosecuting her case. Should he have recused himself? Should the District Attorney, Chris D. Hennis have assigned a different prosecutor? Do you suppose Buffington told the Judge that under those circumstances he should sit this one out?

On the other side, Strickland was being defended by attorney Thomas Tullos, whose firm Tullos and Tullos sent a cease-and-desist letter to Mary Barnes, an officer of Galilee Missionary Baptist Church, dated December 20, 2024. Should Tullos have recused himself? Did Tullos tell Judge Mooney that his firm has involvement with Strickland and should not serve as his defense counsel in this case? Maybe it was mentioned in the car when he and the robe-less Judge and Buffington all rode up together to Mt. Olive from Collins?

In the end, after the conferences, after the defense attorney vigorously questioned Walton, while the prosecutor never once questioned Strickland, he was found not guilty of stalking, with Judge Mooney stating, “I just can’t see there’s enough where I would feel reasonable fear.” The white

male Justice Court Judge was not threatened, publicly called a church terrorist, or had his proceedings disturbed like worship services had been. That was an African American woman. The Judge didn’t stay out of the state for months on end due to fear. That was an African American woman. Is that the kind of respect the Judge was referring to when he said there would be respect in the courtroom?

How many people in Mississippi are subjected to a justice system, a system of power, that does not look or feel fair? In democracies, fairness is manifested through constitutional principles, yet this is Mississippi. How many people running into Mississippi’s system of justice possess the education, knowledge, and resources to fight for themselves and their rights?

Separately, on April 20, 2026, Mrs. Walton has filed charges against Smith County, Mississippi and Pastor Strickland for violating her Fourth and Fourteenth Amendment protections related to her arrest and imprisonment. That case, filed in the US District Court for the Southern District, is styled, Civil Action No. 3:26-cv-00146-KHJ-MTP. A woman, an African American daughter of Mississippi, who has served her country with distinction, is saying you can’t treat me this way.

## 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 withdraw 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 [timlee@TCLFinancialTaxServices.com](mailto:timlee@TCLFinancialTaxServices.com)

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## Black babies used for Medical Trials by Feds, lawsuit filed

NY Carib News

A federal lawsuit filed by prominent civil rights attorney Ben Crump alleges that two Black infants were used as subjects in a government-sponsored experimental vaccine study without their parents' knowledge or consent, resulting in tragic consequences that continue to reverberate decades later.

The complaint, filed May 22, centers on the deaths of Ross Otto Hambrick and Victor Marcellus King, who were allegedly administered an experimental respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) vaccine developed by the National Institutes of Health (NIH) during the mid-1960s.

According to the lawsuit, Ross was two months old and Victor was four months old when they were injected with a vaccine identified as "Lot 100" at a Washington, D.C. hospital in the winter of 1965. The suit contends that their parents were never informed of the experimental nature of the vaccine nor asked to provide consent.



Attorney Ben Crump files lawsuit alleging two Black infants were used as subjects in government-sponsored experimental study without their parent's knowledge

RSV is a common and highly contagious respiratory virus that often causes mild cold-like symptoms in healthy adults. However, it can lead to severe illness and even death among infants, older adults, and other

vulnerable populations.

The lawsuit alleges that both children became critically ill following exposure to the virus the following year. Victor died on January 1, 1967, at 16 months old, while Ross died

the next day at 14 months old.

According to court filings, medical findings at the time suggested that the children's deaths may have been linked not only to RSV infection but also to an enhanced immune

response allegedly triggered by the experimental vaccine, compounded by bacterial pneumonia.

The complaint further claims that tissue samples collected during the infants' autopsies were preserved and later used by researchers studying why the vaccine had produced such severe outcomes. Attorneys for the families argue that the scientific knowledge derived from those studies contributed to later advancements in RSV research, including vaccines and antibody therapies approved decades afterward.

The lawsuit alleges that the families were never informed of the role their children's tissue samples played in subsequent research and were never compensated for their contribution to medical advancements.

Crump and his legal team have filed claims including wrongful death, lack of informed consent, and civil battery. Co-counsel William H. Murphy Jr. argued that federal researchers proceeded with testing despite concerns about earlier RSV vaccine trials and

the potential risks posed to young children.

The complaint also references previous RSV vaccine studies conducted during the 1960s, alleging that researchers continued testing despite reports of severe illness among some participants.

"The families of Ross Otto and Victor have waited nearly sixty years for answers and accountability," Crump said in a statement announcing the lawsuit.

The NIH has not publicly responded to the allegations contained in the complaint. As the case proceeds through the courts, the lawsuit is expected to renew debate over medical ethics, informed consent, and the historical treatment of minority communities in medical research.

The allegations also draw attention to broader discussions about past instances of unethical experimentation in the United States and the importance of maintaining strict safeguards for human subjects participating in medical studies.

## Osaka and Townsend's dinner for Black players at French Open caused 'bit of a stir' on social media

By Andrew Dampf  
AP Sports Writer

Naomi Osaka and Taylor Townsend are piling up wins on the court at the French Open.

Their success comes after drawing attention off the court for organizing a dinner for Black players before the tournament started.

"It caused a bit of a stir, which I thought was pretty funny because for so long we have been the ones that (are) the minority in a sport where we kind of stick out," Townsend said about chatter on social media. "And now coming together all of a sudden seems like a problem."

While Townsend said the reaction from her Instagram post about the evening was "mostly positive," she said there was also online criticism.

Several comments on Osaka's and Townsend's posts suggested the dinner as "segregation," while another asked, "When are the white, Latino, and Asian parties?"

It all prompted Townsend to quote a lyric from the rapper Finesse2tymes: "He said, 'It's cool when they do it; it's a problem when I do it.'"

Keeping in the rap theme, Townsend quoted Tupac Shakur in her post about the evening: "Some say the blacker the berry, the sweeter the juice; I say the darker the flesh, then the deeper the roots."

Besides Osaka and Townsend, the other attendees of the dinner were 2025 French Open champion Coco Gauff, retiring Frenchman Gael Monfils, doubles specialist Asia Muhammad and retired player turned TV commentator Chris Eubanks.

"Growing up, there weren't



Coco Gauff and Taylor Townsend hug after their first round women's singles tennis match at the French Open tennis tournament in Paris, Tuesday, May 26, 2026. AP PHOTO/CHRISTOPHE ENA

a lot of tennis players I could look up to that looked like me," Osaka — whose father is from Haiti and mother is from Japan — said in her Instagram post about the dinner. "Being a minority in a sport like tennis is very isolating but the positive is that you keep tabs on everyone that ... being blunt, is black. There's a fellowship, a camaraderie."

"I felt like everyone in that room was a part of my family," Osaka — who represents Japan but grew up mostly in the U.S. — added in a news conference.

For Townsend, "it wasn't just

about the culture, it was healing for us to all be able to speak about our journeys."

While Gauff's title defense ended with a loss to Anastasia Potapova on Saturday, Osaka has reached the fourth round in Paris for the first time in her career while showing off her taste for fashion with her elaborate walk-on outfits. American player Townsend and Czech partner Katerina Siniakova — the top-seeded doubles team — have won their opening three matches and are into the quarterfinals.

Althea Gibson broke tennis'



Taylor Townsend of the U.S. returns to Coco Gauff of the U.S. during their first round women's singles tennis match at the French Open tennis tournament in Paris, Tuesday, May 26, 2026. AP PHOTO/CHRISTOPHE ENA

color barrier

Gauff beat Townsend in the opening round of singles, after which a ceremony was held on Court Philippe-Chatrier to honor the 70th anniversary of Althea Gibson's 1956 French Open victory — the first Grand Slam title for a Black tennis player.

Gibson was also the first Black player to compete at a major tennis tournament when she fought with the U.S. Lawn Tennis Association just to get admitted in 1950 to what was then called the U.S. Nationals — now the U.S. Open.

"Taylor and I playing on Philippe-Chatrier is a direct product of Althea Gibson," Gauff told the crowd after beating Townsend. "It just shows the importance of breaking barriers in all aspects of the world, but especially in sport. I'm very grateful for people like her and Serena and Venus (Williams), Zina Garrison for paving the way for us."

'Soul Food' Sunday at Wimbledon

The dinner recalls how going back to the Harlem Renaissance, Black athletes, entertainers, musicians and writers held

salons and dinners to celebrate their successes in a familial space. Such events were not meant as a slight to non-Blacks.

Katrina Adams, a former pro and then the first Black president of the U.S. Tennis Association, said she was pleased to see "an old tradition" re-emerging.

"In our era in the 80's/90's, we hosted 'Soul Food' Sunday on the middle Sunday of Wimbledon, when there was no play," Adams said in a comment on Townsend's post. "All the black players, got together, cooked, ate and enjoyed each other."

Adams said players like Garrison and Lori McNeil hosted the Wimbledon gatherings for years and that she passed on the tradition to the likes of Chanda Rubin, the Williams sisters, MaliVai Washington and Roger Smith.

Townsend's unexpected vacation with Osaka

Townsend and Osaka hardly knew each other before Osaka surprised Townsend by inviting her on a vacation last year to the Turks and Caicos. Townsend is an extrovert and Osaka a very quiet introvert.

"I didn't know why she invited me," Townsend said. "(But) it ended up being the best time and Naomi and I floated in the ocean on a surfboard for three hours and talked to each other. ... We've been friends ever since."

Both players are mothers. "We share a lot of the same values and principles and morals of how we go about life and how we want to treat people and what type of mothers that we want to be for our children," Townsend said. "It goes way beyond tennis."

## Scared politicians are redrawing voting districts; however, American voters know what is right

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



It's today but some people want it to be yesterday. Some would like to turn back the clock. There are those Americans who want to do something that is totally against our value system. What are they trying to do? They are attempting to push some forward and keep others back.

There is an evil that permeates the current political and social environment. I grew up in the South where segregation was practiced daily. Schools, facilities and businesses were all defined by race. There were certain places that Black

people couldn't go. Signs were placed on doors and/or people were standing there letting you know you couldn't enter.

It was stupefying to me that because of our skin color, barriers were always in front of us. Was a monopoly of rights and privileges given specifically to another race of people? What type of psychology is practiced when you tell someone they can't because you don't look like them?

Racism is a stigma that has been attached to the South for a very long time. Back then, it was more overt. Now, it is more subtle. For some, they hide it wearing a suit or wearing a dress. Don't be fooled, it's still there.

Gerrymandering in Southern states is happening now. State

legislative bodies are jockeying for position to decrease the number of majority-Black voting districts. Those in charge are smiling while dialing back Black influence in the polls.

Louisiana is leading the charge to eliminate African American voting power. The effort is concentrated and intentional. Until recently, there were two mostly Black voting districts. Now there is only one.

According to confirmed reports, "Following recent legal decisions, Louisiana currently has only one majority-Black congressional district. The state's previous two-district map was struck down by the U.S. Supreme Court in April". This district called the 2nd Congressional district is represented by Representative Troy

Carter.

All these Louisiana legislative moves have caused unrest among many Black and White citizens. It's clear that it was a ploy to weaken votes cast by African Americans. Marc Morial, president of the National Urban League and former mayor of New Orleans said, "It will impact how you are seen in history". Unfortunately, most of them don't care about how they are viewed. Character and integrity counted yesterday, and it counts today.

They take cover behind some type of false righteousness. Their constituents are filled with an unbridled disdain for anyone interested in fairness and justice.

How wise is it to create pot-holes for failure instead of path-

ways for progress? Wouldn't it be better to have all citizens feel hopeful? I believe it would be.

Redrawing state voting maps that are detrimental to people who look like me is shameful and painful. The state of South Carolina also comes readily to mind as the district represented by Representative James Clyburn(D-SC) has been redrawn.

Congressman James Clyburn said, "I was led, like everybody else, to believe that the government would respect what the Supreme Court did two years ago. Disappointed but not surprised". He is South Carolina's only Democrat in Congress. This esteemed lawmaker has been in the United States Congress over 33 years. He took of-

fice in 1993 representing South Carolina's 6th Congressional District.

With all this redistricting posturing, the Republicans are having their way politically and racially. Making it harder to vote and lessening the impact of our vote are their goals. This maniacal behavior by them is an affront to our democracy.

These methods put forth by the GOP in the South may backfire on them. America is failing its Black, Brown and White citizens now. Many believe that this group represents a clear and present danger to the future of this nation.

The votes Republicans want may not be the votes Republicans get. Stay tuned and stay uplifted. This isn't how the story ends.

## On Juneteenth, I will celebrate Black Music at Andrew Jackson's Plantation

By Ben Jealous  
People For the American Way



This Juneteenth I will stand at the Hermitage and help celebrate Black music. The Hermitage was Andrew Jackson's plantation, outside Nashville. I want to be honest about how strange that is.

I am descended from slaves and from the men who owned and abused them. The men who denied them their God-given right to freedom. My family was enslaved by the Blands of Virginia. Richard Bland was the famous one. He was a patriot before there was a country. He told the king and Parliament that a shackle chafes a man no matter how well you polish it. His young cousin Thomas Jefferson asked him to bring a bill to make it easier to free the enslaved. Bland did it. He was denounced as an enemy of his country. Then he went home and kept his thirty. He died still holding them.

That is my inheritance. My grandmother, Mamie Bland Todd, is the griot of our family. She carries two hundred years of it. Her great-grandfather Frederick was the only enslaved man named in his owner's will, and the will was written to protect him. The man who owned Frederick was his own brother. That is how close the blood runs. Thomas Jefferson is my cousin. He wrote that all men are created equal. Robert E. Lee is my cousin too. He took up arms to keep my other ancestors in chains. I carry the blood of the man who argued for free-

dom and the blood of those he would not free. I resent his cruelty. I pray my children show his courage against the men who would be kings. That is the duality of this nation.

So, I know something about awkward ground.

The Hermitage is beautiful. A thousand acres. A white mansion. Gardens. The tombs of the seventh president and his wife. It is also a graveyard. More than three hundred men, women, and children were enslaved there. Archaeologists are still finding their graves. The land was Native land first. He signed the Indian Removal Act. He set the Trail of Tears in motion. Settlers' bones are in that ground. The bones of the enslaved. The ground is sacred for what is buried in it. It is stained for the same reason.

And we are going to sing on it.

Jackson owned the people there. He fathered no children, white or Black. Betty cooked for him, as her mother had before her. Her son Alfred was born on that land and lived there longer than any man. After freedom came he stayed. They put "Faithful Servant" on his stone. But once a white man told him slavery had its comforts, and Alfred asked him, "How would you like to be a slave?" The man had no answer.

For a while that felt like trespassing. Who brings a celebration into a wound? Black music was not made in spite of that ground. It was made on it. The field holler. The spiritual. The work song that timed a hoe. People who were called property made them, and the songs said they were not. "Follow the Drinking

Gourd" was a map to freedom. They sang it where the men who owned them could hear.

Juneteenth is the right day for it. Freedom came late, two and a half years after it was declared, to people who had been free in the eyes of God the whole time. The day does not pretend the delay away. It celebrates anyway.

So, I will go. I will stand where Jackson stood, and where the people he enslaved stood. I will not soften either truth. I will say their names if they let me.

We are more curious now than ever about how we are joined. I have a cousin who descends from the people who own mine. We are kin. The country is like that.

Nothing feeds the American need for unity and hope like the music made by enslaved people and their children. It is the true thing this country has made. And we are still singing it.

So, this Juneteenth, on sacred and stained ground, we will sing. And we will remember the oldest truth Mamie Bland Todd ever taught me: our people were always free.

And — oddly, ironically, and even somewhat poetically — it happens to be the same lesson her own slaveholding forebear, Richard, helped teach both his young cousin Thomas and King George.

Freedom is inherent. It belongs to us from the beginning.

*Ben Jealous is a professor of practice at the University of Pennsylvania and former president and CEO of the NAACP.*

## Is her name on the marriage license?

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



One of the most joyous days of many married couples' lives is the day they say, "I do," to each other. The confessions of, "I do," is a guarantee, reassurance, a proclamation, a commitment, a lifetime assurance, a vow, a promise, a God given declaration that you are expressing I do to no one but the person who is standing at the altar, in the courthouse, the Chapel, the beach, etc. And then the happy couple soon receive this declaration in a document called the Marriage License that clearly identifies the two of you who made a promise to be faithful and committed to each other until death do you part. Husbands, if it's only you and your wife on this document only — please explain why are you saying I do to her — your side piece? Is her name on the Marriage License?

One of the leading causes of elevated divorce rates in America is infidelity — that's one of the fancy terms utilized to describe unfaithfulness, extramarital relationships, affairs, cheating, messing around, and adultery, etc. I think you understand the point! In other words, a major contributor to the breakup of happy homes and homes in general are due to a spouse settling for a side piece. A side piece is the other woman (OW) or other man (OM) in addition to your spouse. Today, let's focus on the OW! The OW can be your best friend, friend, classmate, church member, sister, cousin, sorority sister, neighbor, colleague, - ladies, it's not always the one you are fearful of, sometimes the OW or the potential OW can be right under your nose and you not have a clue — pay attention, honey!

Many married men including entrepreneurs, pastors, ministers, politicians (local and national), law enforcers, physicians, lawyers, teachers, professors, athletes, maintenance workers, landscapers, etc. engage in affairs. Husbands read this next line carefully - according to Proverbs, side pieces have taken down strong men, brought them down to breadcrumbs, and have led many husbands to destruction and premature death.

Proverbs 7: 26-27 (NIV):  
26 Many are the victims she has brought down; her slain are a mighty throng (strong men). 27 Her house is a highway to the grave, leading down to the chambers of death.

Proverbs 6:26 (NIV):

For a prostitute can be had for a loaf of bread, but another man's wife preys on your very life.

What's her name (Sister Cheeks) only prey on married men for two main reasons. First, many sidepieces are only interested in accessing what you and your wives have worked hard for, like your money, and for pastors some even want your wife's titles - the sidepiece desire your established businesses, they desire your homes, vehicles, property, vacation homes, benefits, and even your last name especially for the sake of the benefits — it is rarely ever about true love. etc. If you don't believe it, go broke and not be able to pay their bills, etc. she will only be a piece to you if that much. Husbands, will sidepieces truly be there like your wives have? Will your sidepiece hold you down while you are in school, unemployed, lose a vehicle/home, bankruptcy, sickness, low testosterone, etc. I believe the answer is no in most instances.

Secondly, many of these women prey on married men because they desire to bring the ultimate hurt to your wife because she wants what God has blessed your wife with.

In conclusion, husbands is her name on the Marriage License? No, it's not! So, if her name is not on your Marriage License then why are you committing to meeting her needs and desires, why are you taking care of her home, why are you trying to play her husband/hero, why are you trying to play daddy to her children while neglecting your own, why are you changing your diet, wardrobe for her, why risk losing your COVENANT wife and children and why risk ripping your wife's heart out her body, etc. No, your wives are not perfect and no marriage is easy, but God gave you your wife — not another woman! Husbands if you are not happy with your wife — try and fight for your marriage, seek help and if it doesn't help — keep doing right by God and watch God bless you with your true desires but do right and simply divorce if God leads you to but don't bring another woman into your marriage who isn't on your Marriage License.

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: letsstaytogether4ever (Dr. LaShunda Calvert) Facebook: Dr. LaShunda Calvert Email:letsstaytogether4eva@gmail.com Contact # 601-596-2528

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**LEGAL**

**NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR A USE PERMIT  
ZONING CASE NO. 4333**

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 Tommy L. Smith has filed with the Planning Board for the City of Jackson, an application requesting a Use Permit to allow for a personal care facility to house seven (7) to twelve (12) residents (non-medical) excluding staff within a R-1A (Single-Family) Residential District on property located at 4825 N. State St. (Parcel: 432-369), in the First Judicial District of Hinds County, Mississippi, and being more particularly described as:

Lots 8,9 and 12, West Broadmoor Subdivision, 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 6 at Page 35, 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, June 24, 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 JUNE 17, 2026.

WITNESS my signature this 28TH day of May 2026.

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

6/4/2026, 6/18/2026

**LEGAL**

**NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR A REZONING  
ZONING CASE NO. 4334**

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 James L. Henley, Jr. has filed with the Planning Board for the City of Jackson, an application requesting a Rezoning from R-1 (Single-Family) Residential District to C-1A (Restricted) Commercial District to allow for a professional office for the property located at 4860 N. State St. (Parcel 432-9), in the First Judicial District of Hinds County, Mississippi, and being more particularly described as:

Lots 4, BLOCK C, BROADMOOR SUBDIVISION, PART ONE, 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 5 at Page 15, (Plat Cabinet A at Slot 355) 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, June 24, 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.

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WITNESS my signature this 28TH day of May 2026.

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

6/4/2026, 6/18/2026

**LEGAL**

**NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR A REZONING  
ZONING CASE NO. 4335**

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 Nsombi Lambright & Jhai Keeton d/b/a One Voice have filed with the Planning Board for the City of Jackson, an application requesting a Rezoning from SUD - Special Use District to CMU-1 (Community) Mixed-Use District for allow for the adaptive reuse of a former school building to a community mixed-use building on property located at 2909 Oak Forest Dr. (Parcel 628-525), in the First Judicial District of Hinds County, Mississippi, and being more particularly described as:

A certain parcel of land being situated in Section 24, TSN, R1W, Hinds County, Mississippi, and being more particularly described by metes and bounds as follows:

Beginning at a point in the west line of Oak Forest Drive which point is 60 feet measured westerly from the east line of said Oak Forest Drive and at a right angle from the southwest corner of Lot 12 Block "D" of Oak Forest Subdivision, which point is at the Northwest intersection of Oak Forest Drive and Smallwood Street, and from said point of beginning run thence northerly along the west line of Oak Forest Drive and 60 feet west of the east line thereof for a distance of 668 feet to a point which is 180 feet south of the South line of Woodburn Street, turn thence through an angle of 90 degrees and run westerly along a projection of the South line of Block "1" of Oak Forest Subdivision, Part 4, and along the South line of said Block "1" for a distance of 653 feet to the East boundary line of Oak Forest Subdivision, Part 6; thence Southerly, parallel with the west line of Oak Forest Drive and along the East line of Oak Forest Subdivision, Part 6, for a distance of 668 feet to a point on the North line of Smallwood Street; thence easterly along the North line of Smallwood Street for a distance of 653 feet, more or less, to the point of beginning and containing 10 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, June 24, 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.

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WITNESS my signature this 28TH day of May 2026.

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

6/4/2026, 6/18/2026

**LEGAL**

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT A PUBLIC HEARING IS SET FOR MONDAY, JUNE 22, 2026, AT 6:00 P.M. IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS OF CITY HALL, 219 S. PRESIDENT STREET, JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI 39201. IT IS HEREBY SCHEDULED TO DISCUSS THE ORDINANCE APPROVING AMENDMENTS TO THE OFFICIAL ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI IN ORDER TO PROVE FOR AND ESTABLISH A REGULATORY FRAMEWORK FOR EVALUATING DATA CENTERS.

IN CONSIDERATION OF THE FOLLOWING: ORDINANCE APPROVING AMENDMENTS TO THE OFFICIAL ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI IN ORDER TO PROVE FOR AND ESTABLISH

5/28/2026, 6/4/2026

**LEGAL**

**NOTICE OF INVITATION TO BID ON CITY OWNED PROPERTY  
CITY OF JACKSON**

Notice is hereby given that sealed bids will be received by the City Clerk of the City of Jackson, Mississippi before 3:30 p.m. on Tuesday, June 23rd, 2026, for the purchase of certain City-owned property: parcel 70-79, located on 218 E. Cohea Street in Jackson, Mississippi. Bidding for the property will start at \$500.00. The City will retain all mineral rights it owns, together with the right of ingress and egress to remove same from said property. For additional information or for a "bid form", contact Vic Sexton at (601) 960 1055 or e-mail vsexton@city.jackson.ms.us.

BID INSTRUCTIONS: All bids must be placed in a sealed envelope and delivered to the City Clerk of the City of Jackson, (located in City Hall at 219 S. President St. Jackson, Mississippi 39201), or submitted through PH Bidding Group bid@phbidding.com. If submitted to the City Clerk, the outside of the envelope must be plainly marked to identify the parcel number being bid on, along with the bidder's name. Enclose one (1) original and one (1) copy of the bid. Bids will be opened on Tuesday, June 23rd, 2026, at 3:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall, 219 South President Street, Jackson, Mississippi.

Preferential preference will be granted to all equivalent high bidders that submitted an application to the Surplus Property Committee. If multiple equivalent high bidders submitted applications, a re-bid process utilizing the Best and Final Offer (BAFO) between those bidders will be granted to determine a winner. If multiple equivalent high bidders persist after BAFO, the re-bid process will be repeated, if necessary, until a sole high bidder is certified.

If multiple equivalent high bidders did not submit applications to the Surplus Property Committee, a re-bid process utilizing the Best and Final Offer (BAFO) between those bidders will be granted to determine a winner. If multiple equivalent high bidders persist after BAFO, the re-bid process will be repeated, if necessary, until a sole high bidder is certified.

If multiple equivalent high bidders consist of, one equivalent high bidder that submitted an application to the Surplus Property Committee and the other equivalent high bidder(s) that did not submit an application to the Surplus Property Committee, preferential preference will be granted to the bidder that submitted an application to the Surplus Property Committee.

City reserves the right to reject any and all bids  
CITY OF JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI

6/4/2026, 6/11/2026, 6/18/2026

**LEGAL**

**NOTICE OF INVITATION TO BID ON CITY OWNED PROPERTY  
CITY OF JACKSON**

Notice is hereby given that sealed bids will be received by the City Clerk of the City of Jackson, Mississippi before 3:30 p.m. on Tuesday, June 23rd, 2026, for the purchase of certain City-owned property: parcel 110-25, located on Amite Street in Jackson, Mississippi. Bidding for the property will start at \$500.00. The City will retain all mineral rights it owns, together with the right of ingress and egress to remove same from said property. For additional information or for a "bid form", contact Vic Sexton at (601) 960 1055 or e-mail vsexton@city.jackson.ms.us.

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City reserves the right to reject any and all bids  
CITY OF JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI

6/4/2026, 6/11/2026, 6/18/2026

**LEGAL**

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

**IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF  
MARLIN BENNETT KING SR., DECEASED  
CAUSE NO.: P2025-00089 M/4**

**PETITIONERS: APRIL KING**

**NOTICE TO UNKNOWN CREDITORS**

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

This the \_\_\_\_\_ day of April, 2026.

April King  
STATE OF MISSISSIPPI  
COUNTY OF HINDS

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

NOTARY

6/4/2026

**LEGAL**

**NOTICE OF INVITATION TO BID ON CITY OWNED PROPERTY  
CITY OF JACKSON**

Notice is hereby given that sealed bids will be received by the City Clerk of the City of Jackson, Mississippi before 3:30 p.m. on Tuesday, June 23rd, 2026, for the purchase of certain City-owned property: parcel 110-24, located on Amite Street in Jackson, Mississippi. Bidding for the property will start at \$500.00. The City will retain all mineral rights it owns, together with the right of ingress and egress to remove same from said property. For additional information or for a "bid form", contact Vic Sexton at (601) 960 1055 or e-mail vsexton@city.jackson.ms.us.

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City reserves the right to reject any and all bids  
CITY OF JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI

6/4/2026, 6/11/2026, 6/18/2026

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## Crossword Puzzle

1	2	3		4	5	6	7	8	9
10				11					
12				13					
14			15				16		
17					18	19			
		20	21		22	23	24	25	
26	27	28		29	30				
31			32				33		
34							35		
36							37		

**ACROSS**

- Dual
- Boiled
- Rend
- Expand
- Shoshonean
- Flyers
- Penman
- Open forcefully
- Pillow covering
- Scale note
- Lead (abbr.)
- Interbreeding population within a species
- Resort hotel
- Scan pattern used by tv's
- National capital
- Card game
- Earn interest
- Lemon
- Lagging
- Compass point

**DOWN**

- Tie
- Wizard
- Musical production
- Jab
- Looter
- Make a mistake
- Weakling
- Always
- Refuse to believe
- Pixy
- Advertisements
- Strength
- Music used as practice
- Meal listings
- Wear away
- Dab
- Bpm
- Bridge support
- Reverent
- \_\_ Lanka

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## Cryptogram

A cryptogram is a puzzle where a sentence is encoded by substituting the actual letters of the sentence with different letters. The challenge of the puzzle is to "decode" the sentence to reveal the original English sentence. We have provided a few of the decoded letters to help get you started.

Hint: Quote by Jerry Lewis

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

K JLBZ E CTAZ BZWG DZWC TML O  
E E E E E  
SZZOKMEC LNTPX DTOKKIC  
T T T T T  
NPX KUTM X EZX KMXT KX NZILPCZ  
E E E E E  
K UT ITAZUG LOWZLUG

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## Crossword Solution

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

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## Cryptogram Solution

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

I HAVE SOME VERY PERSONAL  
K JLBZ CTAZ BZWG DZWC TML O  
FEELINGS ABOUT POLITICS  
SZZOKMEC LNTPX DTOKKIC  
BUT I DON'T GET INTO IT BECAUSE  
NPX KUTM X EZX KMXT KX NZILPCZ  
I DO COMEDY ALREADY  
K UT ITAZUG LOWZLUG

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**DOLLAR GENERAL**  
2030 N Siwell Rd

**DOLLAR GENERAL**  
4331 Highway 80W

**DOLLAR GENERAL**  
5990 Medgar Evers Blvd

**DOLLAR GENERAL**  
1214 Capitol St (Downtown Jackson)

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2855 McDowell Rd

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Fortification and I-55

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**RAYMOND**

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WELCOME CENTER  
505 E. Main Street

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**RAYMOND CITY HALL**  
110 Courtyard Square, Raymond

**RAYMOND COURTHOUSE**

**UTICA**

**HUBBARD'S TRUCK STOP**  
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P R E S E R V E D

## Is God Is: Who's Got the Power?

By Shewanda Riley  
Columnist



A few months ago, I convinced a friend to help me with a do-it-yourself home project.

It was simple enough: replace an outlet and light switch in my bedroom and bathroom. What we thought would take less than an hour turned into a 6-hour ordeal. What took so long was the fact that some wires got crossed that eventually led to the breaker switch not working. We kept losing power to the room even though we had the new outlet installed. It was frustrating because at one point it looked like we had no power in the room, but one outlet was working. After switching wires, we realized that one little wire caused the power to go off to the rest of the room. More importantly, there was power available in the room, but we just didn't

realize it.

When this happened, I thought it was an insightful lesson into power and realizing how even though it may not seem like it, you have the power. But after seeing the new revenge movie *Is God Is*, I'm thinking there is more to that do-it-yourself lesson. The critically acclaimed movie, which was released right before Memorial Day weekend, is the story of twin sisters who are told by their mother to find their father and kill him. The mother named God was disfigured by him and so were the twins when he set her on fire years ago. In many ways, getting this assignment from their mother gives them a unique sense of purpose. And in striving to fulfill that purpose, they also start to realize power that they possess but have never tapped into.

The idea is that the power, meaning insight and wisdom, resides in both. While on their revenge journey, they acquire additional knowledge and a

deeper understanding. But

they must do something first to access that power. What the movie skillfully shows is the complicated relationship between African American women, emotions, and power. We are told to push down our emotions so we can function and seem more powerful (Strong black woman sound familiar?). Yet it seeps out little by little as rage, anger, fear, and pity. But in this movie, you see the young women having full moments of emotional release. The catharsis or purging of emotions is real and necessary. As the movie concludes, you feel a similar emotional release and realize that the true power was being blocked by those emotions. You also feel a sense of freedom and new strength that comes from cleaning all of that negative stuff out of you. The purging of emotions is like the process of meticulously making sure that the electrical wires were prop-

erly attached in that it took time, attention to detail and became frustrating at times.

Matthew 12: 34 is a scripture that alludes to purging. "O brood of vipers, out of the abundance of the heart, the mouth speaks, right?" What is in you, whether it is good or evil, comes out of you through your words and action. The most important thing is you've got to be purged and healed from the inside out, which is what this movie is about. You have to get those unhealthy emotions cleansed then you can tap into the real power of emotional strength that is inside of you.

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](mailto:preservedbypurpose@gmail.com) or follow her on Twitter @shewanda

## In the black church, women's hats still testify



By Rev. Dorothy S. Boulware  
Word in Black

In Black churches, women's hats are more than elegant accessories. Rooted in scripture, history, and cultural expression, the tradition reflects generations of faith, dignity, creativity, and resistance — a visible testimony worn proudly into the sanctuary each Sunday.

The Apostle Paul's mandates toward women in church have often caused more fury than faith, but not the one about women needing to cover their heads. In the Black Church, hats have, for generations, held a prominent place in Sunday worship — one that continues to block the view of even the tallest worshippers.

Before the first hymn is lifted or the opening prayer is spoken, a quiet procession tells its own story. Women enter the sanctuary with heads held high, adorned in hats that are as varied as they are meaningful — with or without brims, sculpted felt, delicate netting, bold colors.

Rooted in History

In Black church tradition, women's hat-wearing has long stood at the intersection of faith, culture, and dignity. What may appear to outsiders as fashion is, for many, an act of reverence — a visible expression of inward devotion shaped by scripture, history, and lived experience.

Black women's church millinery also traces back to the post-Emancipation era, when formerly enslaved Black men and women sought to redefine themselves in public and sacred spaces. Clothing became a language of freedom. For Black women in particular, dressing for church was a way to assert dignity in a society that routinely denied it.

Back then, Sunday worship of-

ferred one of the few spaces where Black women could freely express themselves. Hats signaled care, creativity, and self-worth. In communities where resources were limited, a well-kept hat could transform an outfit and, more importantly, affirm identity.

Defiant Self-Expression

The larger ones were often greeted with the inquiry, "Trying to catch God's eye?" according to artist Clara Nartey, who gave her well-known 2020 creation that same title.

"I learned that wearing a hat is a form of creative expression. Enslaved Africans were not allowed to dress the way they wanted," Nartey said. "The only times they got to express themselves in clothes was when they got the rare occasion to congregate at church."

Sunday worship "was just as much a form of social gathering," Nartey said. "To Black women, making and wearing elegant hats was a fusion of fashion and faith. Their tall hats have a striking resemblance to African headdresses."

The right choice of hat is "the crown of glory, brings it all together," says Settles, who recently styled a few women for the annual AFRO tea in Baltimore. "It needs to match their personality, their persona, and their silhouette. It's the final touch."

Declaration of Self-Worth

There is also an element of quiet resistance embedded in the tradition of Black women and Sunday hats. In a world that has frequently sought to diminish Black women's presence, the act of dressing with care and distinction for worship asserts worth. It declares that entering the house of God is not casual, and neither is the person entering.

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# When Ice Cream is not Ice Cream

## *How to spot a fake frozen treat*

By Vince Faust MA  
Health Educator and Motivational Writer

Ice cream is one of the most popular desserts in America. Kids love it, adults love it and even pets try to sneak a lick when no one is looking. But here's something most people don't know, not everything sold in the freezer aisle is actually ice cream. Some products look like ice cream, taste like ice cream and even come in the same kinds of containers, but legally, they are not allowed to use the name "ice cream" on the label.

So how can something that looks so real actually be a fake? And how can you tell the difference before you buy it? To understand that, we have to look at what ice cream really is, what rules it has to follow and why some companies choose to make "almosticecream" instead.

In the United States, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) sets rules for many foods, including ice cream. These rules are called standards of identity and they tell companies exactly what a food must contain in order to use a certain name.

For ice cream, the rules are surprisingly strict. To be labeled "ice cream," a frozen dessert must:

- Contain at least 10% milk fat
- Be made from real dairy ingredients like milk or cream
- Have a certain amount of milk solids
- Not contain too much air whipped into it

If a product does not meet these requirements, it cannot legally be called ice cream, even if it tastes good and comes in a tub with a picture of a scoop on the front.



This means that some brands you may have eaten for years might not actually be selling ice cream at all. Instead, they use names like "frozen dairy dessert" or "frozen treat."

You might wonder why a company would choose to make something that isn't real ice cream. The answer usually comes down to money, texture and shelf life.

1. It's cheaper to make.

Real ice cream requires a lot of milk fat, which comes from cream. Cream is expensive. If a company replaces some of the cream with cheaper ingredients, like vegetable oil or corn syrup, they can save money. But once they do that,

they can't call it ice cream anymore.

2. It lasts longer.

Some imitation ice creams use stabilizers and gums that help the product stay smooth for months. Real ice cream can get icy or grainy over time, especially if it melts and refreezes.

3. It's easier to scoop.

Some frozen dairy desserts stay soft even in very cold freezers. That makes them easier to scoop, especially for kids.

So while fake ice cream isn't necessarily bad or unsafe, it's definitely different. And if you want the real thing, you need to know how to spot it.

You can spot the difference between

real ice cream and products that only look like ice cream by checking a few key clues on the package. Once you know what to look for, it becomes surprisingly obvious.

1. Look at the front label. The name tells you everything.

The FDA requires the product to use the correct term right on the front.

If it says:

- Ice cream - meets the legal dairy + fat requirements
- Frozen dairy dessert - not ice cream
- Nondairy frozen dessert - plant-based
- Sherbet - low dairy
- Sorbet - no dairy
- Gelato - different fat/air ratio
- Frozen custard - contains egg yolks

If the front avoids the words "ice cream," that's intentional.

2. Check the ingredients list

Real ice cream has a short, dairy-heavy list:

- Cream
- Milk
- Sugar
- Egg yolks (optional)
- Vanilla/cocoa/fruit

If you see lots of stabilizers or fillers, it's usually not ice cream:

- Mono and diglycerides
- Vegetable oils
- Guar gum
- Carrageenan
- Corn syrup solids
- Whey protein concentrate

These aren't "bad," but they're a sign the product doesn't meet the icecream standard.

3. Look at the fat content

Ice cream must contain at least 10% milk fat.

You can spot this by checking:

• Nutrition label "Total Fat per serving"

• Higher fat usually means it's real ice cream

• Very low fat often means sherbet or frozen dairy dessert

4. Texture clues (once you open it) These aren't legal indicators, but they're reliable:

• Ice cream: dense, creamy, melts slowly

• Frozen dairy dessert: lighter, fluffier, melts faster, sometimes "foamy"

• Gelato: very dense, smooth, less air

• Soft serve: can be ice cream, but often isn't unless labeled

5. Brand behavior patterns

Some brands switch between categories depending on flavor.

For example:

• Some Breyers flavors are labeled "ice cream"

• Others are labeled "frozen dairy dessert" because the recipe changed

So even within one brand, you have to check the front label.

Whether you prefer classic vanilla, rich chocolate or wild flavors like cotton candy or birthday cake, you'll be able to choose the real ice cream every time.

Remember if the front label doesn't say ice cream, it isn't.

I want to hear what you think about this article. If you have a fitness question or concern you would like addressed tipstobefit@gmail.com

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If you've missed an article of "Tips to be Fit" just search "Vince Faust" "Tips to be Fit"

# Understanding Stroke: Risk factors, early signs, and life after

StatePoint

A stroke is caused by an interruption of blood flow to the brain, often resulting in impaired mobility, permanent loss of speech or vision, or even death, according to Bayer. One in four people will have a stroke in their lifetime, according to the World Stroke Organization, yet many don't know the risk factors or understand the path to recovery (Feigin et al., 2025).

Dr. Sara Hegab, vice president, Stroke & Thrombosis, Specialty and Pipeline, U.S. Medical Affairs at Bayer, is sharing stroke facts that everyone should know.

What lifestyle changes reduce stroke risk?

There are five general lifestyle changes you can focus on to help reduce your risk for having a stroke:

1. Incorporate basic exercise into your daily routine.
2. Control cholesterol levels, high blood pressure, and diabetes. Talk with your doctor about any medicines or lifestyle changes you may need to help you with this.
3. Avoid smoking, which greatly increases stroke and cardiovascular disease in general.
4. Maintain a healthy weight.
5. Pay attention to nutrition.

A healthy, balanced diet helps ensure you're getting vital vitamins and nutrients and helps control other risk factors.

What are the warning signs of a stroke?

According to Bayer, the most common warning signs of



PHOTO SOURCE: (C) MONKEYBUSINESSIMAGES / FOTOLIA

stroke are weakness in the face, arm or leg, particularly on one side of the body; trouble speaking; vision problems out of one or both eyes; severe headache; and dizziness or loss of balance and coordination. Rapid medical treatment is vital.

Patients and care partners should know the "FAST" signs (Face drooping, Arm weakness, Speech slurring, and Time to call 911) to recognize if someone might be having a stroke.

What can I expect after experiencing a stroke?

No two strokes are the same. Some survivors experience minor short-term effects. For others, it's a life-altering event with long-term disability and complications, impacting everyday

things we sometimes take for granted, like speech, balance, and coordination.

Recovery is a process addressing a combination of the physical effects (like weakness, stiffness, and numbness), cognitive effects (challenges recognizing, remembering, and processing information), and emotional effects (like anxiety, sadness, anger, and frustration), according to Bayer.

In addition to medication, your doctor may recommend gentle rehabilitation exercises and structured rehab programs, either in a hospital, inpatient facility, or at home, which may include physical therapy to rebuild strength and mobility, occupational therapy to support daily

activities, and speech therapy if communication or swallowing is affected. Patient support networks can also be crucial for mental well-being and recovery.

What lingering symptoms are normal after a stroke?

Because the brain is such a complex organ, not every stroke affects every person the same way. However, it's normal to experience fatigue, vision problems, and difficulties with balance, coordination, or general movement. Be patient with yourself if you find it hard to remember, recognize, and process information the way you did before the stroke. Talk to family, friends, or doctors about your anxieties or fears. It's important to be seen and heard, and to

know that you're not alone.

Can you fully recover from a stroke?

Full recovery from a stroke is possible for some, but many patients will continue to experience minor impairments or lifelong disabilities.

Depending on the severity of the stroke, recovery may take weeks, months, or even years, but tends to be most rapid in the first three months after the event, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Rehabilitation with speech, physical, and occupational therapists may help your brain and body more quickly "relearn" the skills you can lose after a stroke.

How can a caregiver support someone recovering from a stroke?

Behind every survivor is someone who helps lighten their burden. Caregivers should be patient with anyone adjusting to life after stroke. Celebrate their small victories, listen to their fears and anxieties, and help them conduct research and explore support groups if desired.

If possible, accompany them to doctor appointments. Patient empowerment through education, making lifestyle changes, speaking up, and shared decision-making with their health-care team can help shape their road to recovery. Being a care partner can be a demanding role, so take breaks, lean on family and friends for help, consider joining a care partner support group, and maintain your own health through nutrition,

exercise, and rest.

What increases my risk of another stroke?

In addition to lifestyle factors, people who have already experienced a stroke face a high risk of a second event (Feigin et al., 2023). It is estimated that 20-30% of the 12 million people who experience a stroke worldwide each year will have a recurrent stroke, with one in five survivors suffering another within five years (Feigin & Owolabi, 2023; Kolmos et al., 2021). That's why it's crucial to remain under a doctor's supervision, to take any medications as prescribed, and to adopt healthy habits.

How do I prevent another stroke?

Research shows that 80% of recurrent, clot-related (ischemic) strokes can be prevented (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention), and a second stroke is often more disabling than the first (Feigin et al., 2023). Work with your health care team to address the underlying factors that led to your stroke. Bring a list of questions to your doctor appointments and help create a tailored prevention plan. This may include medicine or procedures or lifestyle changes. Be sure to take your medicine as directed and follow your doctor's instructions.

To learn more about stroke, visit <https://www.stroke.org/>. By understanding stroke, you can reduce your risk and better navigate recovery.

## Michael D. Johnson Foundation presents scholarships to students at the annual 5K Walk/Run

By Jackie Hampton  
Publisher

On Saturday, May 30th, the Michael D. Johnson Memorial Foundation(MDJ) had their 16th annual 5K walk/run starting at War Memorial Grounds at State and Capital, near the area where the namesake of this foundation was killed, June 4, 2005, by a repeat offender drunk driver. Chief of Police, Dr. RaShall Brackney, served as MDJ 5K Walk Run "Grand Marshal".

Michael Johnson was a star student athlete at Murrah High School. He led the Murrah Mustangs to a state basketball championship in 2005. He was also a standout baseball shortstop and had received an athletic scholarship to play baseball at Copiah-Lincoln College and from there, according to family, the sky was the limit for him.

Even though the loss of Michael's life is still very painful for family and friends, his memory lives on through the Michael D. Johnson Memorial Foundation which was created in his memory shortly after his death.

After the walk/run, scholarship recipients were recognized.

Family and friends of Johnson were present for the awarding of scholarships and book stipends, including his parents: Emmett Johnson Sr., Glo-

ria Johnson, Michael's siblings: Jerrrell Payton, Emmely Johnson, & Emmett Johnson, Jr. Also present was his cousin and best friend, Clinton "Trey" Johnson, recently named as the new Jackson State University Men's Basketball Head Coach.

There were two \$1500, 2026 MDJ Athletic Scholarship winners and two \$250 book stipend scholarship winners for the runner ups. The recipients were: Samecia Brinson- Velma Jackson High School 2026 MDJ \$1500 scholarship winner #1; Layla Ba- Callaway High School -#2 \$1500 MDJ Scholarship Winner; Kinsley Pierce-Canton High School -1st runner up \$250 MDJ book scholarship; and Kameron Dakarai Wallace -Ridgeland High School - 2nd place \$250 MDJ \$250 book scholarship winner

For over 15 years, the foundation has awarded over \$20,000 in scholarships to graduating high school students.

To learn more about the foundation, you may visit <https://michaeldjohnsonfoundation.org> or you can inquire through email at [mdjohnsonfoundation@gmail.com](mailto:mdjohnsonfoundation@gmail.com). You may also call or send a text to (601) 707-9001. Contact person is Veronica Johnson Crawford, Vice President & Event Coordinator for MDJ.



Samecia Brinson  
Velma Jackson High School



Layla Ba  
Callaway High School

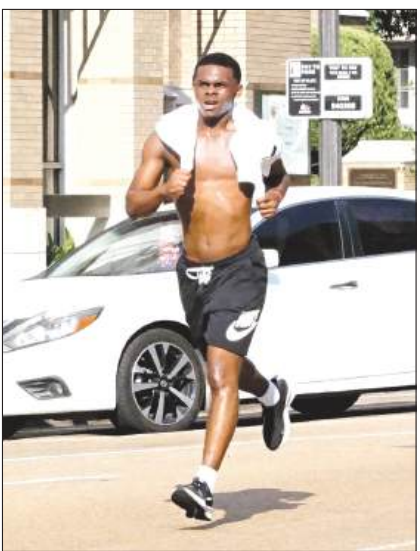


Kinsley Pierce  
Canton High School



Kameron D. Wallace  
Ridgeland High School

PHOTOS BY JAY JOHNSON





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## Friends of Jackson climaxes activities at Key Elementary School for 2025-2026



Keynote Speaker Ms. Lady Garth highlights "Life's Climbing Process and Challenges" for Key Elementary School's 5th grade class. PHOTO BY JANICE NEAL-VINCENT

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

This academic school year, Friends of Jackson steered graduating mentors at Key Elementary School (699 W McDowell Rd, Jackson, MS 39204) toward a promising future in character development. Under the leadership of Principal Amanda Thomas, they directed the following children with a variety of academic exercises that focused on human relations: Wy'Lasia Griffin; Isaac Griffin; Ivory Griffin; Shira Sessions; Kyra Sessions; Karson Barnes; and Trinity Lomas. Observing the children in numerous school and community settings, they concluded that evolving growth of self-awareness to mastery of personality traits was the ultimate means of effective communication, a lifetime process. Leading seven graduating mentees to greater heights rested well with Principal Thomas and FOJ. Mentees engaged in mirror exercises that caused them to look at themselves and to imagine where they might be in the near future. Of consideration was the need for money, an essential for paying bills. Employment allows people to support themselves. Potential employment often demands background checks. Studying potential workers' records will determine who will be hired and who will be denied work.

Piercing further in the mirror provided a "home view." Mentees were advised to study the behaviors of their relatives. If they saw bad behavior, they were to move beyond it by doing the complete opposite. A clear message that resonated was: "Somebody's always watching and listening."

Focusing on being considerate of others was an overarching element. Consideration involves self-respect; empathy; caring; kindness; honesty; dutifulness; punctuality; responsibility; accountability; and trustworthiness. From these seeds, mentees will blossom into the flowers that will produce generosity and compassion for humanity.

Mentees continued their mirror exercises with an original poem by this writer for their speech choir presentation at Key

Elementary's program in February. That poem produced self-reflection and came vividly to their minds during their school outing several weeks ago when Mentee Ramona Jones put them on the spot to say it. The mentees demonstrated their conversational memory as a speech choir.

During the school's end-of-the-school year program, FOJ awarded certificates to the mentees for their strides to process and put into action what they had learned. "Every student needs a mentor for a season. I've enjoyed serving as a mentor and have seen growth," stated Jones with a chuckle.

Brittney Bowman - President of Friends of Jackson - commented: "character development is essential because it teaches students the importance of understanding who they are as individuals while fostering integrity, respect, responsibility, and ambition. Through these efforts, students are learning not only how to succeed academically, but also how to effectively articulate themselves, make positive decisions, and become productive leaders within their schools and communities. The goal is to continue being a bright light in the lives of the students that are serviced at Key Elementary School. Considerably, the remarkable work at Key Elementary School led by Dr. Janice Neal-Vincent, Ms. Willa Watson, Ms. Cheri Carradine, and Ms. Ramona Jones has made a meaningful impact on student learning and personal growth. Their dedication to character development and effective communication is helping students build confidence, leadership skills, and a stronger sense of self-worth."



Mentee Shira Sessions at mic, conducts Key Elementary School scholars.

## JSU, Blackburn Middle School bring fresh produce to the community with student-led farmers' market

By Jatavian Walker JSU Newswire

Families living near Jackson State University (JSU) didn't have to go far to get fresh produce last week. That's because the JSU Office of Community Engagement, in partnership with Blackburn Middle School, held its annual Student-Led Farmers' Market on May 13 at the JSU/Blackburn Learning Garden.

8th-grader Jacob Edwards expressed joy at seeing the community come together to support their work.

"Seeing the younger kids, growing adults and people from JSU come along to buy our fruit from what we planted and put all our hard work into, it's a really warming sight for me," said Edwards.

Another student, Niobe Cooper, 13, expressed how much she loved seeing everyone enjoy the garden's beauty.

"Events like the farmers market allows for everyone to come and spread love and kindness for the community and hopefully will inspire them to want to get involved in gardening like us," said Cooper.

The middle school's partnership with JSU started nearly eight years ago, creating an opportunity for students from Blackburn to learn how to produce and sustain their own food. Blackburn's Gardening Club grew the produce over months of hard work, dedication, and excitement, eager to give back to the community. The proceeds of the event are distributed amongst the students, helping them practice entrepreneurship skills and learn that hard work pays off.

"They were able to do the hard work to plant the vegetables when there was nothing in the ground and so they grew the vegetables, watered them, harvested them and now they're selling them." It's a full-circle moment where they see that their hard work is going to pay off," said Heather Denne', Ph.D., Director of Community Engagement at Jackson State. "It's just really about letting the students know that they can do it, they can grow healthy food, healthy vegetables on their own and that they can have some entrepreneurship skills in there as well by being able to sell it to the public."

Overall, the day was filled with soft sunlight, cool breezes, machine-blown bubbles, and the scent of fresh vegetables at reasonable prices. Food was also prepared in a cookout style by Sodexo and JSU's Department of Health, Physical Education, and Recreation. Assisting the students



PHOTOS BY ARON SMITH/JACKSON STATE UNIVERSITY



8th Graders Jacob Edwards (left) and Niobe Cooper (right) are friends who have been a part of Blackburn's gardening club for years.



Heather Denne', Ph.D., Director of Community Engagement at Jackson State, welcoming attendees to the garden.



Blackburn science teacher Germaine Kirton is helping students sell their produce.



Vernon Hartley, Vice President of Jackson City Council and Ward 5 City Council Member, was excited to purchase a watermelon.

was Blackburn science teacher Germaine Kirton, who has been a part of the Gardening Club for over seven years. He expressed the students' interest in going to the garden and learning to grow their own vegetables with their friends.

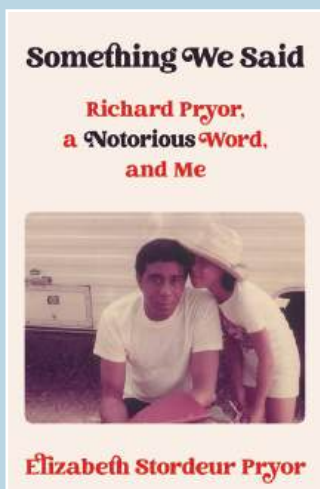
"The students are always asking when we're going back to the garden," Kirton said. "Moments like this are what they look forward to most. The goal is to teach them how food is grown, from the process to the business side, so they understand where it comes from and how to sell it. Along the way, they're learning patience and valuable life lessons they wouldn't typically get in a classroom."

The event brought together people of different generations as community members, young and old, came together to enjoy the garden and the vegetables grown there. Among them was Vernon Hartley, Vice President of Jackson City Council and Ward 5 City Council Member, who has attended every Farmers Market event held in the garden. He remarked that events like the market help sustain the community and that they help students learn life skills through the gardening experience.

"Seeing the students involved in the food process from the beginning to the end is something just outstanding. It's great that our kids can have that type of education," said Councilman Hartley. "Understanding that groceries don't just come from a grocery store. It comes from labor and having them put their label on it and grow something that they can see. It's just amazing."

To expand engagement in the garden, the JSU/Blackburn Learning Garden received a 40k Title III grant from JSU President Denise Jones Gregory through the "All in All Year" Initiative to support additional programming events for JSU Gardening Club students. This funding has enabled additional programming, including yoga, writing workshops, and painting birdhouses.

"We are very grateful to President Gregory for allowing us to receive those funds so that we can do events in the garden like the farmers market and other events that the students have put on because it really is helping with mental health," said Denne. "Being outdoors, breathing fresh air, hearing the birds chirping, and getting their hands dirty in the soil play a powerful role in supporting the mental well-being of our students, and events like this help in that."



# BOOK REVIEW: SOMETHING WE SAID: RICHARD PRYOR, A NOTORIOUS WORD, AND ME

BY ELIZABETH STORDEUR PRYOR  
C.2026, SIMON & SCHUSTER  
\$29.00 • 304 PAGES

By Terri Schlichenmeyer  
Columnist

Sticks and stones may break my bones.

You know the rest of that childhood rhyme, and you know it's not true: words have meaning, and they can cut like a knife. And yet, though sticks and stones and words are weapons, as in the new memoir, "Something We Said" by Elizabeth Stordeur Pryor, they can also hold people together.

The college lecture was supposed to have been about the 1850 Fugitive Slave Act.

It was supposed to have been a lively discourse and discussion but without intention, it quickly veered sideways. When a white student quoted a movie line featuring the "n-word," the room went quiet and Professor Elizabeth Stordeur Pryor panicked.

She'd grown up hearing that word, and seeing it, and she'd experienced the painful feelings attached to it. She knew who wrote that movie line. It was her father, Richard Pryor.

In her first few years, Pryor spent most of her time in a

white world, hearing her mother's tales of her larger-than-life father, and trying to grasp meaning in her father's albums, peppered as they were with a word that was off-limits to her.

When she was six, she met her father for the first time. She began to visit him regularly.

It was fun at her Dad's house; though he was sometimes moody, he taught her to fish and play dominoes. She became close with her siblings, fearful of her great-grandmother, and confused about a word that her father's uncles threw

around like a beach ball. It was a forbidden word at her mother's house, but her father used it. Differently. Often.

The word hurt. She knew first-hand that it did.

"The word became a degrading slur that shackled all Black people together into a single, inescapable tribe," she says.

So why was it okay if certain people said it?

Knowing that, in the years since Richard Pryor's accident and his death from multiple sclerosis, he's become somewhat of a legend is a very satis-

fying thing, isn't it? So is reading about him, especially from the viewpoint of one of his seven children. But his is not the only story you get inside "Something We Said."

Wrapped around the life of Richard Pryor is the life of a word that straddles a line between danger and provocation, a word that author Elizabeth Stordeur Pryor refuses to say or even print. As she tells readers about her father and her loving-but-difficult relationship with him, she warily circles that word, as if it might bite. You

may cringe, but she weighs it carefully, helping readers see as a chameleon before always bringing us back to her father, his work, and his life before and after her and that word.

It's a push-pull balance that holds readers fast, and keeps them there. It's perfect for fans of this genre, or Richard Pryor, or of language – and it's going to make you think. If you want a good memoir this week, one that may send you to your old album collection, "Something We Said" is rock-solid.

**ZACK WALLACE**  
Hinds County Circuit Clerk

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# HINDS COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT WEEKLY UPDATE

## Inaugural Alumni Celebration

What a memorable experience! We proudly hosted our inaugural Alumni Celebration, honoring the 25th Silver Class of 2001 and the 50th Golden Class of 1976. It was a joy to welcome these distinguished alumni back to celebrate their accomplishments, reconnect with classmates, share cherished memories, and reflect on the lasting impact of their educational journey.

Thank you to everyone who helped make this first celebration such a special occasion. We are honored to celebrate the generations of graduates who continue to leave their mark on the world.

Class of 1977 and Class of 2002, you're up next! More details to come.



# we must vote

## THIS IS WHAT PEOPLE



### POWERED ADVOCACY LOOKS LIKE.



We proudly mobilized more than 600 rural voters to Jackson, Mississippi for the VRA Rally, bringing together communities committed to protecting voting rights and ensuring fair representation.

Through our **We Must Impact Youth Program**, 75 high school students participated and witnessed firsthand the power of civic engagement, advocacy, and collective action.

Our efforts reached across **Humphreys, Coahoma, Sunflower, Lincoln, Hinds, Washington, and Monroe Counties**, helping deliver a powerful call to action and clear next steps in the ongoing fight for fair redistricting.

**THE WORK DOES NOT STOP HERE...**

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