

Jackson Native Glen Collins amongst seven stars inducted into the Mississippi Sports Hall of Fame

By Jackie Hampton
Publisher

Jackson Native, Glen Leon Collins, along with six other stars were inducted into The Mississippi Sports Hall of Fame on Saturday, August 1, 2026, at the Clyde Muse Center in Pearl, MS. There was a 5:30 p.m. reception followed by a 7 p.m. dinner and recognition program. Inductee Collins was incredibly pleased to be surrounded by many of his family members for this special occasion. He is a 1978 graduate of Jim Hill High School in Jackson, MS, where he was named the Mississippi High Schools All-Star Game MVP.

After graduating from Jim Hill, Collins attended Mississippi State University where he played defensive lineman. In 1983, he was selected to the first round of the NFL draft pick of the Cincinnati Bengals.

Collins enjoyed a five-year NFL career that included time with the San Francisco 49ers. The Jackson native was named SEC Football Legend in 2013 and selected to Mississippi State's All-Century Team in 2014.

In an interview with The Mississippi Link, Collins said, "It is a great honor for me to have been inducted into the Sports



Glen Collins sitting in front of display case.

PHOTOS BY JAY JOHNSON

Hall of Fame. I grew up around football and have been a sports fanatic since I was a kid.

He spoke of guys he admired in sports like Walter Peyton, Robert Brazille, and Jackie Slayter, adding that when playing football in junior high, high school, and college, he wore Jersey #79 because that is the number Slayter wore. Collins said when he went to college, that

number was already taken.

While growing up around Jackson State University, he said Robert Brazille was like a dad to him. "He even spanked me when I did something I should not have," Collins added.

In his retirement, he is enjoying watching the achievements of his three children and three grandchildren. He is proud of the legacy he will leave through

them.

Other celebrated 2026 inductees were:

Louis Guy, an All-SEC performer at Ole Miss, who went on to play professionally with the New York Giants and Oakland Raiders;

Michael Haddix, a two-time All-SEC running back at Mississippi State and the 8th overall pick in the 1983 NFL Draft;



2026 inductees holding their Mississippi Hall of Fame 2026 trophies with pride (L-R) Bobby Halford, Ronnie Mayers, Brittney Reese, Louis Guy, Michael Haddix and Glen Collins. (Johnny Parker, not pictured.)



Collins (center) with Huntington Bank representatives.

Bobby Halford, the longtime William Carey University baseball coach who accumulated more than 1,300 career wins;

Ronnie Mayers, a legendary swimming and diving coach and later athletic director at Delta State University who led his teams to 11 conference titles,

15 NCAA championship appearances, and produced 56 All-Americans;

Johnny Parker, a pioneer in strength and conditioning, coached for 35 years at the college and professional levels,

Collins

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Scott Colom holds Voting Rights Town Hall at Farish Street Baptist Church

By Jackie Hampton
Publisher

Mississippi U. S. Senate candidate Attorney Scott Colom, along with Congressman Bennie Thompson (D) 2nd District and U. S. Senator Angela Alsobrooks – Democrat from Maryland, participated in a Town Hall Voting Rights conversation held in the historical district of Farish Street in Jackson, MS, at Farish Street Baptist Church.

The Town Hall was held Saturday afternoon at 4 p.m. The sitting congresspersons were joined by Executive Director Charles Taylor Jr., of the Mississippi State Conference NAACP.

Theresa Kennedy, political director for Scott Colom's Campaign, greeted those in attendance and asked Rev. Eric Williams, pastor of Farish Street Church, if he would offer a prayer. After the prayer, Kennedy offered a few remarks, stated, "Our right to vote ... is our right to protect it, and Mississippi has always been at the



(L-R) US Senator Angela Alsobrooks, (D) Maryland, US Senate Candidate Scott Colom responds to first question; Exec. Director Charles Taylor, MS State Conference NAACP, Congressman Bennie Thompson (D) MS 2nd District, and Theresa Kennedy (standing at the podium)

PHOTOS BY JACKIE HAMPTON

center of that fight."

In his opening remarks, Colom stated that many of his values – such as "truth, justice and putting people first," were passed down to him by his parents. He added that those values were particularly important to him in doing his job as a prosecutor.

Colom expressed many concerns regarding issues Mississippians are facing, such as the cost of health care. He shared that according to the Republican health care commissioner, 400,000 Mississippians do not have health insurance and probably by next year, another 100,000 will lose their insurance.

He emphasized citizens are being betrayed because certain leaders continue to put politics over people, adding, "Real leadership is about people and making sure the voters are heard."

Thompson encouraged those present to do whatever is required to get friends, family, church members, co-workers, and others energized for the November election.

Alsobrooks, in her remarks stated that she was in Mississippi because of the "Super Candidate," Scott Colom. "I came all the way to Mississippi because I know we can win in Mississippi," she added.

Taylor then thanked Senator Alsobrooks for being in Jack-

son and for her support of candidate Scott Colom. He further expressed his appreciation for Congressman Thompson and his leadership as Chairman of the House Select Committee investigating the January 6th attack on the U.S. Capitol, which he said probably resulted in many sleepless nights for the Congressman and many death threats.

After these opening remarks, Kennedy spearheaded the conversation by posing several questions to the panel. One question was what should voters do as they prepare for the November election? Candidate Colom said voters should first check their registration status



Candidate Scott Colom giving opening remarks



Congressman Thompson responding to a question.



Charles Taylor responds to a question



Senator Alsobrooks responds to a question.

to make sure they were still on the voter rolls and to check their precinct in case they have been moved.

Congressman Thompson in furthering that point stated that

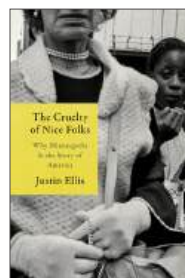
Colom

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Mayor John Horhn releases statement regarding JTRAN Strike



Daily Life Along the Underground Railroad





A Life Well Lived Dr. Jay T. Smith, Sr.



March 6, 1934 – July 30, 2026

Dr. Jay T. Smith, Sr. was affectionately known as “Tiny,” was born on March 6, 1934, in the rural community of “Hooker”, near Silver Creek, Missis-

issippi. He was the only child of the late Mamie Lee Baggett Smith and Clem Smith. At a time when higher education was uncommon for many in his

community, his parents encouraged him to pursue learning and excellence, laying the foundation for a lifetime devoted to education.

Jay obtained his high school diploma from Prentiss Institute and went on to graduate from Alcorn A&M College, earning a degree in Industrial Arts Education. He subsequently earned a master’s degree in industrial arts education from Bradley University. His pursuit of academic excellence culminated in earning a Doctor of Education (Ed.D.) degree in Industrial Arts Education from the University of Missouri (Columbia).

After graduating from college, Jay spent two years abroad serving in the United States Army, and upon returning home, he began his career as a professional educator. Over the course of his career, Jay taught at John J. Jefferson High School in Columbia, Mississippi; Velma Jackson High School in Camden, Mississippi; Valena C. Jones in Bay St. Louis, Mississippi; and Savannah State College in Savannah, Georgia. His journey in educa-

tion culminated at Jackson State University with nineteen years of service. During his tenure, Dr. Smith served as the first and only Dean of the School of Industrial and Technical Studies from 1973 to 1985. He also served as Department Chair and an instructor. He retired from Jackson State University in 1992. Whether in the classroom or mentoring others, Dr. Smith gave his very best and left an enduring impact on countless lives.

Dr. Smith’s greatest calling was serving the Lord. Jay confessed his faith in Christ at an early age and was a faithful member of Pleasant Grove Church. After moving to Jackson, Mississippi, in 1973, he united with New Hope Baptist Church and remained a devoted member for many years, serving under the pastoral leadership of Dr. Jerry Young. He devoted himself wholeheartedly to the work of the church, faithfully serving as a Choir Member, Sunday School Superintendent/Teacher, Deacon, Trustee, and in other capacities, including participation in the Prison Min-

istry. Jay also enjoyed taking part in the church’s annual 5K Walk/Run, often earning first place in his age division. His discipline, enthusiasm, and joyful spirit reflected the vibrant faith that guided his life.

Dr. Smith’s commitment to community service was a defining thread throughout his life, reflected in his longstanding involvement in civic, fraternal, educational, and professional organizations. He was a Life Member of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc., and a member of Prosperity Lodge No. 193, an affiliated body of M.W. King Hiram Grand Lodge AF & AM. He was also a Life Member of the Retired Teachers’ Association, where he faithfully served as president and treasurer. His dedication extended to the Alcorn State University Alumni Association, the Mississippi Retired Public Employees Association, the Valley North Homeowners Association, and AARP Local Chapter #850, where he served as treasurer.

Dr. Jay Smith, Sr. departed this life on July 30, 2026, in Jackson, Mississippi at the age

of 92.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Clem and Mamie Smith, and wife, Evelean Smith. Dr. Smith is survived by his loving wife, Eula Anderson Smith; his daughter, Dr. Rochelle Smith Glenn; his son, Jay T. (Sonya) Smith, Jr.; grandchildren, Jayson Richard Smith, Jared Peterson Smith, and Paris Marie Dixon; great-granddaughter, Eden Evelean Dixon; special sons, Claude (Shaleika) Anderson and Craig Anderson; special grandchildren, De’Von Grant, Xavier Anderson, Alexis Anderson, and Jasmin Anderson; special great-grandchildren, Genesis Anderson, Xuri Anderson, and Cersei Love; goddaughter, Maya Maria Moman Brown, and other cherished family members and friends.

Homegoing services will be held Saturday, August 8, 2026, 1:00 P.M. at New Hope Baptist Church, 5202 Watkins Drive, Jackson, MS. Family Hour will be at Lakeover Funeral Home Friday, August 7, 2026, from 4:30 – 6:30 P.M., 1225 Beasley Road in Jackson.

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MISSISSIPPI



Collins

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Close friends and family members of Glen Collins attended the induction PHOTOS BY JAY JOHNSON

winning three Super Bowl rings with the New York Giants and Tampa Bay Buccaneer, and Brittney Reese, one of the

most decorated athletes in Mississippi history. She is a four-time Olympian and seven-time world champion in the long

jump. Gulfport, MS native, remains among the greatest long jumpers in world history.

Colom

Continued from page 1

the Secretary of State had spent \$50,000 just to run every registered voter's name. After which he sent each county a list of people who showed up with names different than on the voter registration roll. The problem, Thompson explained, is some of our election commissioners started taking people off the roll because the Secretary of State said to do so. He added that this is not how the process work.

Alsobrooks remarked that she had filed a piece of legislation to prevent deceptive practices and to make it illegal to confuse vot-

ers, but in order for this type of legislation to pass, it is important that democrats win back the majority.

Taylor responded to a question regarding "why some people believe their vote does not count and therefore do not vote?" His response was to cite several close races that could have been won in Mississippi if more registered voters actually cast their votes.

He said in order to get registered voters to believe their vote counts, candidates and campaign workers must knock on

more doors and send out more mail regarding the importance of voting.

Congressman Thompson said more people need to register to vote and that churches, sororities, fraternities, and other organizations need to become a committee of one and not only help get people registered to vote but also encourage them to go to the polls and vote in the upcoming election.

The Congressman added, "We have to make it a crusade and not just a campaign in order to win."



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Senate Minority Leader Senator Derrick T. Simmons Statement that Mississippi Youth Court Overhaul was a Rushed, Misguided Response to Address CPS Administrative Failures

Mississippi Link Newswire

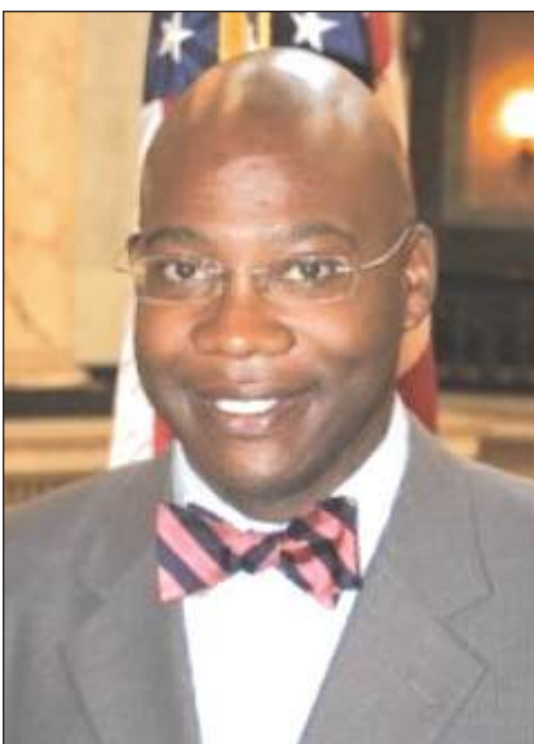
According to Sen. Derrick T. Simmons, an overhaul of Mississippi’s Youth Court system and an implicit attack on our dedicated and committed Youth Court judges will never solve the ongoing failures of the Mississippi Department of Child Protection Services to comply with the federal mandates established in Olivia Y.

The July 29, 2026, court monitor report cited recently in Mississippi Today (<https://mississippitoday.org/2026/08/04/foster-care-system-safety-standards/>) underscores what many have been saying for years: the fundamental problem is not our Youth Court judges. The problem is an agency that continues to struggle to meet the safety, accountability, and performance standards required to protect Mississippi’s most vulnerable children.

According to the July 29th report, the Department met only 22 of 107 applicable safety measures, while significant concerns remain regarding child safety, caseworker visits, placement practices, and data reporting.

The Youth Court judges make difficult decisions every day based upon the information presented to them by the very agencies charged with protecting children. They deserve the resources, cooperation, and competent casework necessary to make informed decisions – not to be made the scapegoats for systemic administrative failures.

Mississippi’s children deserve more than political rhetoric and misplaced blame. They deserve a child welfare system that functions as



Sen. Derrick T. Simmons

intended, complies with federal court orders, and places their safety and well-being above all else.

Real reform begins with fixing the agency responsible for carrying out the mission – not by undermining the independent judiciary that is trying to protect children with the information it is given

Mayor John Horhn releases statement regarding JTRAN Strike

Mississippi Link Newswire

City of Jackson JTRAN bus workers are continuing to strike after nearly three weeks. The strike began on July 13, 2026, following unsuccessful contract negotiations with MV Transportation.

The Amalgamated Transit Union (ATU) Local 1208, representing about 60 to 70 JTRAN drivers, is pushing for higher wages, improved working conditions, better safety policies, and more benefits – such as up to six weeks of vacation, twelve sick days, thirteen paid holidays, etc.

On July 31, both sides met with a federal mediator in Pearl, Mississippi, but no agreement was reached.

City of Jackson Mayor, John Horhn, on Monday, August 3, issued the following statement to the media regarding the strike:

“My responsibility as Mayor is to the people of Jackson, and my highest priority in this situation is making sure our residents have access to reliable transportation, so they can get to work, school, medical appointments, and other essential destinations.

“I appreciate the hard work and dedication of JTRAN drivers. They are our neighbors and taxpayers who deserve respect and a fair agreement.

“While there may be disagreement about how best to move forward, I do not view this as a choice between supporting workers and serving riders. We need both. That is why I have supported maintaining service during the strike and why I continue to encourage the union represen-



Mayor John Horhn

tatives to come to the table with the mediator.

“The only way we reach a solution is through goodfaith negotiations that keep the interests of our residents and our employees at the center of the conversation. I remain committed to working with all parties to ensure that JTRAN continues to be operated by wellqualified, professional drivers.”

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Natchez’s Greg Iles and Ser Boxley featured in Mississippi Encyclopedia

The Mississippi Link Newswire

Greg Iles and Ser Seshsh Ab Heter-C. M. Boxley, both of Natchez, are featured in the Mississippi Encyclopedia, and their entries are spotlighted on the publication’s homepage.

Iles was a New York Times bestselling author whose acclaimed thrillers and mysteries were often set in and around Natchez. His works include “The Quiet Game,” “Turning Angel,” “The Devil’s Punchbowl,” “Natchez Burning,” and “Southern Man,” among others.

Iles was a friend and admirer of Stanley Nelson, the longtime editor of the Concordia Sentinel and author of “Devils Walking,” a book chronicling Ku Klux Klan violence in Southwest Mississippi during the 1960s. Iles drew inspiration from Nelson’s career in journalism.

Following Nelson’s death on June 5, 2025, at age 69, Iles published a mov-



Author Greg Iles (left) and historian and preservationist Ser Seshsh Ab Heter-C. M. Boxley (right) both of Natchez, are featured in the Mississippi Encyclopedia . PHOTOS COURTESY OF MISSISSIPPI ENCYCLOPEDIA.

ing tribute describing him as a “genuine hero” who always did the right thing regardless of fear or favor. Iles wrote that Nelson’s “brave and tireless work” in-

spired him to model Henry Sexton, the heroic journalist in his Natchez trilogy, after Nelson.

Iles won the 2015 Barry Award for

Best Novel for “Natchez Burning” and received the Mississippi Author Award for Fiction for his 1995 thriller “Black Cross.”

Iles died of cancer on August 15, 2025; he was 65. His Mississippi Encyclopedia entry was written by Riley Moran of Tampa, Florida.

Boxley is a local historian, preservationist, and civil rights activist who worked with the Natchez Deacons for Defense and Justice during the Civil Rights Movement of the 1960s.

He serves as coordinator of the Friends of the Forks of the Road Society and is known for his decades-long efforts to promote and preserve the history of the Forks of the Road slave market at 105 Liberty Road.

The site, now managed by the National Park Service, was once the second-largest slave market in the Deep South.

In March 2026, Boxley donated his

Forks of the Road exhibition to the Southwest Mississippi Center for Culture & Learning at Alcorn State University, Lorman Campus.

That same month, the Natchez Historical Society honored him with its Historic Preservation Award, which recognizes individuals or organizations that have made significant contributions to historic preservation or the study of history in the Natchez area.

Boxley’s Mississippi Encyclopedia entry was written by Roscoe Barnes III, cultural heritage tourism manager for Visit Natchez.

The Mississippi Encyclopedia is published by the Center for the Study of Southern Culture at the University of Mississippi and has been funded by the Mississippi Humanities Council.

The entries on Iles and Boxley may be viewed at: <https://mississippiencyclopedia.org/>

Mississippi Regional Housing Authority VI Celebrates Ribbon-Cutting and Open House for Pattison Homes I & II

The Mississippi Link Newswire

The Mississippi Regional Housing Authority, No. VI (MRHA VI) announces the official opening and Ribbon-Cutting for Pattison Homes I & II, a 40-unit affordable housing development located at 1041 Pattison-Hermanville Rd., Pattison, Mississippi.

The Ribbon-Cutting ceremony will be held on Wednesday, August 12, 2026, at 10 a.m. This represents a concerted effort in revitalizing the housing stock within Claiborne County – a partnership with the Claiborne County Board of Supervisors and the Mississippi Regional Housing Authority, No. VI.



The costs of rehabilitating Pattison Housing I & II were more than \$4M, made possible by the Mississippi

Regional Housing Authority, the Atlanta and Dallas Federal Home Loan Banks, the Enterprise Community

Loan Fund Inc., and BankPlus.

A significant improvement to the development was the installation of a Spray Field Wastewater Treatment plant, replacing the outdated lagoon waste-water treatment source.

Dr. Hickman M. Johnson, Executive Director, Mississippi Regional Housing Authority, No. VI said, “This is a happy day – a success story and the fulfillment of a dream. We are grateful to the Board of Supervisors, who ignited the interest and those who committed themselves to the challenge.

“We would have failed were it not for the dedicated support of our partners: Enterprise Community

Loan Fund Inc., BankPlus, the Federal Home Loan Banks of Atlanta and Dallas and the Board of Commissioners.”

The public is invited to attend the Ribbon-Cutting and open house. Persons interested in making application for housing can log onto the PHA’s website: www.mrha6.org.

Dr. Johnson said, “Applications will be received until all units are filled. Unit sizes are: one, two and three bedrooms. All units are subsidized and rents are income-determined.”

For additional information, you can call the PHA at: (601) 373-7040. Office hours are Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.



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Black Mayors: Climate Change is in America’s Top Five Crucial Issues

By Hazel Trice Edney
CEO, Trice Edney Newswire

As the Trump Administration continues to deny the reality and community impact of climate change, Black mayors have united to protect African-Americans and other people of color, who are increasingly and disparately in danger across the nation.

“Even though we have an administration that doesn’t even believe that climate change is real, we’re smart and we know that it is real,” says Baltimore Mayor Brandon Scott, president of the African American Mayors Association (AAMA), in an interview with the Trice Edney News Wire.

“People can see these storms that are causing flooding in areas that have never been flooded. People know it’s hotter. They can see that. What we’re doing now is just allowing ourselves to be prepared for the world that we know we want.”

Baltimore’s Mayor since 2020, Scott has earned a reputation for using his power to actively prepare for the world that he envisions. For example, three years into his administration, he signed into law City Council Bill 21-0159, sponsored by Councilman Mark Conway.

That Bill was to help “facilitate a transition to zero emissions vehicles for the City’s administrative fleet. Under the law, by 2030, all procurements for the City’s administrative fleet – comprised of light-duty, standard-occupancy vehicles, including sedans, small pickups, and SUVs – will be required to be zero emission vehicles, most likely all electric,” according to a press release describing the bill.

This action followed the 2022 announcement of Scott’s vision



Flint, Michigan Mayor Sheldon Neeley

for a goal of 100 percent carbon neutrality by 2045. Among his earliest legislative actions, the Baltimore Mayor also signed a bill requiring the city’s three pension funds to divest from the fossil fuel industry.

“My administration knows the critical importance of ensuring our city is able to confront the climate crisis head-on and do everything in our power to ensure Baltimore is leading the way in sustainability and climate resilience,” he said in a press statement.

“Doing so requires us to look at the steps city government can take to change the way it operates, and work to modernize our systems to be more climate conscious.”

In the interview, the Baltimore Mayor said he wants Baltimore to lead the nation by example. “When you look at the milestones that we’re setting for ourselves, that’s how we’re holding ourselves accountable.”

He said he hopes this vision will spread around the nation to mayors of AAMA as effects of climate change – including global warming, pandemics and other health crisis – have histori-

cally affected Black and other people of color disparately.

Scott represents the 641 African American mayors of the AAMA, an organization that grew out of the 50-year-old National Conference of Black Mayors, which merged with the AAMA in 2016. Black mayors represent 48 million citizens across the country.

It has been widely reported by credible environmental agencies that climate change causes frequent and severe weather events, heavier than normal rainfalls, dangerous thunder and lightning storms, droughts and scorching heat waves such as those taking place this summer.

Coupled with long time environmental racism in poor Black neighborhoods, climate issues have risen to crisis level. Among America’s worst recent environmental crisis was the Flint, Mich., water crisis from 2014-2019. Between 6-12,000 Flint children were exposed to high levels of lead in Flint’s drinking water after residents complained about the taste, smell and appearance of the water for years. Lead affects the brain and central nervous system when consumed.



Baltimore Mayor Brandon Scott, President, African American Mayors Association

Flint Mayor Sheldon Neeley, mayor since 2019, is still dealing with the aftermath of the crisis. In an interview, he agreed with observers that Flint suffered the inattention that led to the crisis largely because the community was poor and Black.

“We would not have had to experience the things that we are still currently experiencing had we been a community of not so many minority members of our society,” he said.

Environmental racism doesn’t just impact physical health. The continued fear and mistrust of the government also impact mental health. “When we talk about the psychological and social impact that we’ve had, you know, there’s a crisis of confidence, especially in government,” Neeley added.

“Definitely the psychological impact is something that we cannot see and we have to really understand what that is. And so, segments of our community still believe that we’re still in crisis.”

Neeley says climate change is among the top five most important issues America currently faces. That is why the AAMA now partners with organizations

studying and advocating issues pertaining to climate change.

AAMA, a non-partisan organization, works alongside climate organizations, such as the Climate Action Campaign (CAC), which has kept a sharp eye on moves made by the Trump Administration against climate change issues. CAC pushes for “equitable federal action to tackle the climate crisis.”

For example, CAC has a web feature called, “Trump’s Climate and Clean Energy Rollback Tracker.” Currently, it states, “The Trump administration has accelerated the climate crisis and endangered communities’ health, driven up costs and undermined economic growth.

“The rollbacks tracked below – cuts to extreme weather preparedness, frozen investments, and blocked pollution protections, and more – will have a devastating impact on every American, and particularly the most vulnerable.”

Neeley stresses that he works from a non-partisan perspective; and therefore, will do everything possible to fill gaps where funds have been cut by the federal government.

Meanwhile, the damage continues to grow in the Black community as the AAMA fights back.

The Environmental Defense Fund (EDF) reports, “African American communities are more vulnerable to severe weather and floods. More than half of African Americans in the United States live in the South, an area that is and will continue to see stronger hurricanes and increased flooding from climate change.

“Many communities adjacent to power plants, petrochemical plants, factories, and other

sources of pollution, are African American or other people of color. Unfortunately, recent hurricanes have shown that many of these facilities are ill equipped to deal with flooding from increasingly stronger storms, often leading to releases of air and water pollution.”

The report continues, “For example, after Hurricane Harvey [in 2017], independent monitors found petrochemical plants released cancer-causing benzene at rates six times higher than safe levels.

“Neighborhoods near Superfund sites, which have also seen flooding from recent storms, are also more likely to be African American. Historic segregation has resulted in African Americans living in less desirable low-lying and flood prone areas in many cities throughout the United States.”

The EDF reports it will only get worse. But Scott says it won’t be difficult to measure the impact the mayors are making. “When you talk about our legacy residents who now have heating and air in their homes. Even things like cool roofs and mitigating extreme flooding,” Scott said.

“And people’s basements aren’t being ruined year after year after year. We can hold ourselves accountable for that.” Scott concludes that the key will be the mayors working together and sharing strategies for success.

“As president of the African American Mayors Association, we do this on every issue, making sure that we’re looking for best practices across the country, putting things together and helping each other to make policy better - not just for one city, but for all cities.”

Ex-deputy who shot Sonya Massey is denied a request for medical release from prison

By Cybele Mayes-Osterman
Associated Press/Report for America

A former Illinois sheriff’s deputy won’t get an early medical release from his two-decade prison sentence for killing Sonya Massey inside her home after the Black woman called 911 about a possible prowler, state officials decided Friday.

Sean Grayson had been diagnosed with colon cancer prior to the 2024 shooting, and his attorney noted in January that the cancer had advanced to his liver and lungs.

The three-member Illinois Prisoner Review Board voted unanimously Friday to deny Grayson’s application for early medical release, Liz Mitchell, a board spokesperson, said in an email.

Grayson, who is white, was convicted in October of second-degree murder for Massey’s killing, a case that sparked protests over systemic racism and a U.S. Department of Justice review.

Body camera footage showed Grayson and another deputy enter Massey’s home in Springfield, Illinois. Minutes later, Grayson shot the 36-year-old single mother in the face as she moved a pot of hot water from the stove and told him, “I rebuke you in the name of Jesus.”



In this image from body camera video released by Illinois State Police, Sangamon County Sheriff’s Deputy Sean Grayson, left, points his gun at Sonya Massey, who called 911 for help, before shooting and killing her inside her home in Springfield, Ill., July 6, 2024. ILLINOIS STATE POLICE VIA AP, FILE

Grayson was given the maximum possible sentence.

He filed for early release from prison in May, six months into his sentence, according to a copy of his application

published by Capitol News Illinois. Grayson apologized for Massey’s death at his January sentencing but in the release application wrote she had “attacked me with a pot of boiling

water.”

Daniel Fultz, an attorney who has represented Grayson, declined to comment Friday.

In a letter to the board opposing Grayson’s release, San-

gamon County State’s Attorney John Milhiser said the former deputy’s medical condition was already considered at sentencing.

“To release Grayson under

these circumstances would be a miscarriage of justice,” he wrote, “and an insult to Sonya Massey’s memory and family.”

Ben Crump and Antonio Romanucci, attorneys representing Massey’s family, said Friday that the board “made the right decision.”

“Today the board recognized what this family has said from the start,” they said in a statement. “No one is above accountability, and a badge does not provide an early way out.”

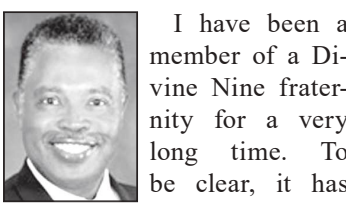
Democratic Gov. JB Pritzker said in a statement that Illinois law requires the Prisoner Review Board to consider medical release requests. He called Massey’s killing “a profound loss.”

“Sonya was innocent, unarmed, and calling law enforcement for help,” he said. “It was a painful reminder that too many innocent Black Americans have faced this kind of violence — and they deserve justice.”

Mayes-Osterman is a corps member for The Associated Press/Report for America Statehouse News Initiative. Report for America is a nonprofit national service program that places journalists in local newsrooms to report on undercovered issues

The Divine Nine sets the bar high for civic engagement

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



I have been a member of a Divine Nine fraternity for a very long time. To be clear, it has been over fifty years since I crossed the burning sands. I have some great memories of my undergraduate days and made some lasting friendships.

Both fraternities and sororities bring strangers together and you make unbreakable bonds. The brotherhood and sisterhood circles are everlasting and in fact they grow. While we hear about the worldwide reach of them, we can't

really grasp the magnitude of it. It is because we are on a college campus and we just see the brothers and sisters around us.

At least that was my experience when I was in undergraduate school. It was only when I moved to another region in the country did I realize the reach of my fraternity. Wearing my fraternity colors gave me instant recognition with complete strangers. I can't tell you the number of times I was stopped for instant conversations and fellowship.

Now, it is also being a friend on social media as well. Ideas, contacts and potential employment positions are shared, too. The network is both inspiring and empowering.

I am a member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity. It was founded in 1906 at Cornell University in Ithaca, New York. I pledged at Johnson C. Smith University in Charlotte, North Carolina.

The Divine Nine has always had a strong commitment to civic and community engagement. Giving scholarships, providing mentorship programs and sponsoring leadership programs are only a few of these initiatives.

The organization has also partnered with other like-minded groups to bring hope and encouragement to people. The mission of helping and assisting has never been compromised or negotiated.

Civically, voting has always

been important to the Divine Nine. Members were imprisoned and lost their lives for the right to vote in America. Those members championed our right to vote. They were unafraid and undeterred in moving our country forward, as they didn't give in to the pressures of the day.

Within the voting realm, there are many factors to consider. First and foremost, it is important to be registered to vote. Knowing where to vote and what documents to have in your possession will make the voting process easier.

The Divine Nine will be important as future elections unfold. They understand the issues and what is at stake. The relevance of these elections

can't be overstated. In order to get better, we must stay in tune with all the pressing issues of the day.

According to reports, there are nearly 4 million members of the Divine Nine. Their influence and importance have given them a voice in the marketplace of ideas. You will find members leading and guiding in various fields of endeavor.

As new members are made, new commitments to excellence are also created. Watching new members grow and learn means the continuation of good deeds and community service.

A confirmed statement says, "While commemorating the illustrious history and lasting influence of the Divine Nine,

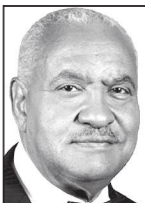
many can draw inspiration from their journey of advancement, empowerment and optimism, it's their service to others that remains their primary objective."

These venerable fraternities and sororities have etched out a place in the archives of history. Generations of men and women have become difference-makers in the world. The Divine Nine is the umbrella that covers all of us. We will continue to light the path of right so that others will see hope and not hurt. They will be helped and not hindered.

The Divine Nine will always move in places and areas where service is needed. Giving a hand and lending a hand will always be our top priority.

The Trusted Messenger and the Black Vote

By Dr. John Warren
Publisher, San Diego Voice & Viewpoint
Newspaper, Chairman of the Board of Directors, NNPA



It is a well-established fact that the Black Press is and always has been the "Trusted Messenger" of the Black community. With this being said, it is also remarkably interesting that when many political organizations and donors decided to support Voter Registration and Get Out the Vote, those donors give their dollars to predominantly Black organizations like the Urban League or NAACP, League of Voters, or other nonprofit groups.

Those groups will prepare and send out press releases about such voter participation efforts since Black people were responsible primarily for the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

What is most interesting is that those press releases rarely find their way onto CNN or the major news networks. Those press releases and calls to Black voter participation are carried in the Black Press.

However, the dollars that support those press releases getting written, nor ads to carry the message of those releases do not reach the Black Press. Historically, the dollars behind those messages do not find their way to the very Black Press that carries those messages.

Now as we approach one of the most important Midterm elections in

the history of this nation, it appears that once again the Black Press will be expected to carry the message of voter turnout, while the political and campaign dollars go to the White mainstream media.

Those who are spending billions of dollars that will go to Campaign Finance appear to have forgotten that elections are won and lost on a single vote. Now is the time to remind the candidates, the political Initiatives and Propositions that will appear on the ballots across this nation, that the Black Vote must not be taken for granted.

It does not belong to any particular political party or interest group. It cannot be judged by whether it exists in a Blue or Red State. The Democrats, Republicans and Independents and the supporters of Initiatives should not assume that our vote is not important. Elections are won on a single vote.

The United States Supreme Court in Reynolds vs. Sims, 1964: That case established the One Person, One Vote rule. The rule in that case made it mandatory to base legislative seats on population in districts rather than geography and guaranteed the Equal Protection coverage of the Fourteenth Amendment to the Constitution.

That principle has not been abolished and neither should function as if our one vote does not count. Let us not forget our own values as we look toward the Midterm elections. The "Trusted Messenger" can make the difference.

My Fuchsia Pink Radio: Protect What's Yours

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



I don't remember having too many special toys or gadgets growing up, but I distinctly remember my mother purchasing a fuchsia pink radio for me during my junior or senior year of high school. Of course, we didn't have the major online markets like Amazon, Temu, etc.; we had another sophisticated system that allowed many to buy, called "layaway."

When my mother finally paid her layaway out and we got to bring it home – I could not wait to open it. My fuchsia pink radio had a cassette tape and CD section and all the radio stations one could desire.

I loved my radio – I listened mostly to symphony music and when I started working, I immediately bought all of Whitney Houston's CDs, Al Green's, and Luther Vandross. Comparing this to our daughter's music playlist today – my limited music choices seem sad, but it has expanded since then.

I went out of my way to protect my pink, fuchsia radio – I guarded it with my life. My siblings even knew not to look at it too long because it would be a major problem. I took good care of it; I cleaned it, secured it in a safe space, watched it, and no one could access it without a fight.

Are you going out of your way to protect and fight for your marriage? When should a married couple start fighting for their marriage? The fight for your marriage starts on your wedding day, the moment you BOTH exchange vows with each other.

When does the fight for your marriage end? The fight ends when death do you part!

How do you protect and fight for your

marriage? You can protect and fight for your marriage in the following ways:

- Pray for your spouse and marriage without ceasing – COVER your marriage in prayer
- NUTURE your marriage the way you would a plant
- Love each other UNCONDITIONALLY
- Forsaking all others – you two became one flesh – check your marriage license and see if anyone else name is on their representing your union - keep people and things out of your marriage in other words
- Reflect on your Marriage Vows often
- Be faithful to each other
- If you have been unfaithful or betrayed your spouse with abandonment, verbal abuse, financial infidelity, etc.
- identify the toxic root in YOU that triggered this and exterminate it in a healthy way through repentance, counseling, surrendering your ALL to God, rebuild the trust, don't repeat the offense/hurt and make amends
- Hold each other accountable; DO NOT be an enabler
- Communicate about EVERYTHING!
- Spend quality time with each other
- Be patient; remember you both are human
- Forgive quickly; try not to hold on to yesterday; it is hard, but it is necessary for having a happy and healthy marriage
- Compromise
- Support each other's endeavors
- Reduce or eliminate criticism as much as possible
- Show appreciation; be grateful; express your gratitude to each other often
- DATE each other; be creative; have fun
- Be affectionate; hold hands, hug, kiss, put your arms around each other

- Learn each other's love language and APPLY IT; according to Dr. Gary Chapman, there are five love languages: words of affirmation, acts of service, receiving gifts, quality time, and physical
- Be intimate; be romantic; quench your spouse thirst and remember foreplay starts before you proceed to the bedroom
- Protect each other's hearts by treating each other the way you wanted to be treated

In conclusion, I know your spouse and your marriage are not my special pink, fuchsia radio but guess what the spouse and marriage that God blessed you with is even the more special. My radio didn't last forever, years later it eventually began to break down to the point that some of my cassette tape buttons were stuck, but I kept it and took care of it until the death of it.

Yes, in marriage, breakdowns and maybe even breakups will occur but don't give your spouse away, don't exchange your radio for a different radio (new and different doesn't mean you won't have problems honey).

If you know God joined you together – let no man including YOU put asunder what He joined together. Please go out of your way to protect each other and your marriage the way I protected my radio and we protect our property, etc. Protect what's yours - period!

Contact Dr. LaShunda Calvert for speaking engagements (Motivational, Ministering, Marriage Counseling, Marriage Workshops, Marriage Seminars, Marriage Conferences, etc.) Marriage Ministry: The Restoration Church, 3931 Hanging Moss Road, Suite H, Jackson, MS. 39206, on: Instagram: letsstay2gether4ever (Dr. LaShunda Calvert) Facebook: Dr. LaShunda Calvert Email:letsstaytogether4eva@gmail.com Contact # 601-596-2528

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The Mississippi Link™

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August 6 - 12, 2026

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LEGAL

LEGAL NOTICE
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Lease Purchase Financing Interest Rate Proposal
RFP#94654-081826

Notice is hereby given that sealed proposals will be received by the City of Jackson, Mississippi on August 18, 2026, at 3:30 p.m. at City Hall, 219 South President Street. Proposals will be received for lease purchase interest rate financing for the purchase of, vehicles and equipment.

Request for proposal documents can be downloaded from the City of Jackson bid website at www.jacksonmsbids.com.

Please submit two (2) copies of sealed proposals, marked; "RFP#94654-081826 Lease Purchase Financing Interest Rate Proposal." Proposals should be mailed to the following address prior to or on August 18, 2026.

City of Jackson, Mississippi
Attention: Municipal Clerk Department
219 South President Street
Jackson, MS 39201

Electronic Bids may be submitted in lieu of sealed bids at the following site: www.jacksonmsbids.com.

Questions regarding the bid shall be directed to the City of Jackson, Mississippi as follows:

Department of Administration
Attention: Courtney Bell
200 South President Street
Jackson, MS 39201

LEGAL

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

NOTICE is hereby given that the City Council of the City of Jackson will receive unpriced proposals for prequalification until 10:00 AM on August 18, 2026, for furnishing the City of Jackson's requirements for the following:

IT INFRASTRUCTURE & NETWORK MODERNIZATION

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

Unpriced proposals shall be submitted through the bid site. Responses will be reviewed and vendors meeting the requirements in the bid package will be invited to participate in the online reverse auction, which will be held on August 25, 2026, at 10:00 a.m. Pricing will only be received by approved bidders through the online reverse auction.

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

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

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

CITY OF JACKSON
Monica Oliver, Purchasing Manager

7/30/2026, 8/6/2026

LEGAL

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR A VARIANCE

ZONING CASE NO. 4340

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 Annie Lewis has filed with the Planning Board for the City of Jackson, an application requesting a Variance of up to five (5) ft. from the required twenty-five feet for the front yard setbacks to build carport within a R-1A (Single-Family) Residential District on property located at 1021 Westway St. (Parcel 839-315), in the First Judicial District of Hinds County, Mississippi, and being more particularly described as:

Lot 18, Block "E", Woodville Heights, Part 2, a subdivision according to the 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 17, at page 46, reference to which is hereby made.

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, August 26, 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 GENRAL PUBLIC HAVE THE OPTION TO ATTEND THE MEETING VIA TELECONFERENCE/VIDEO. PLEASE EMAIL ERICL@JACKSONMS.GOV TO REGISTER FOR THE TELECONFERENCE/VIDEO INFORMATION PRIOR TO AUGUST 19, 2026.

WITNESS my signature this 3RD day of August 2026.

/s/Eric D. Lewis
Interim Zoning Administrator
City of Jackson, Mississippi

8/6/2026 8/20/2026

LEGAL

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

The City of Jackson is seeking bids from responsible firms to provide Third Party Administration for the City of Jackson Medical, Dental and Vision Benefit Plans. Sealed bids will be received by the City Clerk of Jackson, Mississippi at 219 S. President Street Jackson, MS 39201 or at Post Office Box 17, Jackson, Mississippi 39205 until 3:30 PM, local time (CT), Tuesday September 1, 2026 at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud for:

To provide Third Party Administration for the City of Jackson Medical, Dental and Vision Benefit Plans. Anticipated date of change is January 1, 2027.

Electronic Proposals MUST be submitted at www.jacksonmsbids.com. For any questions related to the electronic bidding process, contact PH Bidding at admin@phbidding.com or call 662-407-0193.

Proposals are to be in a sealed envelope plainly marked on the outside. "Bid to Provide Third Party Administration of Jackson's Health, Dental and Vision Benefit Plans."

The City of Jackson is committed to the principle of non-discrimination in public contracting. It is the policy of the City of Jackson to promote full and equal business opportunity for all persons doing business with the City.

Bid preparation will be in accordance with the Instructions to Bidders.

A mandatory pre-bid conference will be held at 1:00 p.m., on Monday, August 17, 2026 at 633 North State Street, Jackson, Mississippi 39205, 3rd floor. Responders may participate in-person or remotely. All questions regarding the request for proposal, must be submitted in writing by August 14, 2026 by 12:00 noon. Questions must be emailed to Toya Martin, Director of Human Resources, at tmartin@jacksonms.gov. All questions and responses will be read and answered during the pre-bid conference.

The City reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to waive any and all irregularities in respect to any bid submitted or to accept any bid which is deemed most favorable to the City of Jackson.

Sincerely,

7/30/2026, 8/6/2026

LEGAL

NOTICE OF REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Workforce Training & Contractor Development Services
GreenWorks Clean Energy Jobs Training
C2: Connect & Compete - Unlocking Opportunities for Contractors
City of Jackson, Mississippi
RFP No. 92416-082526

Notice is hereby given that the City of Jackson, Mississippi, acting through its Department of Planning & Development, will receive proposals from qualified organizations to provide workforce training, technical assistance, contractor development, and participant support services under two related City initiatives: Track 1 - GreenWorks: Clean Energy and Resilience Jobs Training Program; and Track 2 - C2: Connect & Compete - Unlocking Opportunities for Contractors.

Track 1 will provide clean-energy and resilience workforce training for forty (40) participants across four (4) cohorts of ten (10) participants each. Services include HVAC and/or electrical core training, technical microcertifications, OSHA 10, ACT WorkKeys, life-skills instruction, a specialized GreenWorks Bootcamp, field-based training, and preparation for a national certification examination.

Track 2 will provide contractor-development services for seventy-five (75) participants across five (5) cohorts of fifteen (15) participants each. The RFP is divided into five Lots: (1) Licensure & Certification Support; (2) Business Development Training; (3) Financial Readiness & Ownership Pathways; (4) Life & Durable Skills; and (5) Market Access & Mentorship. Proposers may respond to one or more Lots and are not required to propose for both Tracks.

Proposals shall be submitted electronically through the City of Jackson's official procurement portal at www.jacksonmsbids.com no later than 3:30 P.M. on August 25, 2026. Each submission must comply with the format, technical, cost, certification, reference, and service-requirement provisions contained in the RFP. Late proposals will not be accepted.

A virtual pre-proposal conference is scheduled for August 13, 2026, at 10:00 A.M. Attendance is strongly encouraged. Conference access information and any updates will be posted through the City's procurement portal.

Written questions must be submitted no later than 10:00 A.M. on August 11, 2026, to thoover@city.jackson.ms.us with the subject line "92416-082526 Question." Official responses, clarifications, and changes will be issued only by written addendum posted on the City's procurement portal.

This procurement is anticipated to be funded in whole or in part through workforce-development grant sources and the National League of Cities State and Local Certified Economic Inclusion initiative. Funding is subject to final grant award and City Council appropriation. Applicable grant requirements, including 2 CFR Part 200 where federal pass-through funds are involved, may apply.

The City reserves the right to reject any or all proposals, waive informalities or irregularities, request clarifications, conduct interviews, award individual Lots to different proposers, decline to award one or more Lots, cancel or reissue the RFP, and proceed in the manner deemed to be in the City's best interest and consistent with applicable law. Minority- and women-owned business enterprises are strongly encouraged to participate.

CITY OF JACKSON
Monica Oliver, Purchasing Manager

7/30/2026, 8/6/2026

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

To all interested parties, known and unknown,Pursuant to the MS State Code of 1972, Section 21-39-21, the City of Jackson, Mississippi, will sell at Public Auction, the impounded, abandoned, lost, stolen, or misplaced motor vehicles and equipment listed on the attached schedule. Unclaimed motor vehicles and equipment may be sold after the expiration of ninety (90) days from their receipt or recovery by the City of Jackson. The auction will be held online at <https://marketplace.autura.com/auctions/jac-ms/> on August 26 at 10:00 amA1

A list and description of abandoned/unclaimed vehicles will be posted pursuant to statutory requirements in the following locations:
Hinds County Court House
Hinds Country Chancery Court Building

Jackson City Hall/City Clerk's Office” (8/4/2026)

8840022 2013/HYUNDAI/ ELANTRA/GRAY • 5NPDH4AE8DH198217

8840338 • 2011/NISSAN/ MAXIMA/BLUE • 1N4AA5AP1BC819004

8840443 • 2022/CHRYSLER/ PACIFICA/BLUE • 2C4RC1BG4NR218020

8840908 • 2000/FORD/RANGER/ GOLD • 1FTYR14XXYT08204

8841036 • 2019/NISSAN/ ALTIMA/BLACK • 1N4BL4BV1KC100762

8841128 • 2006/KIA/OPTIMA/ RED • KNAME123065026636

8841181 • 2000/TOYOTA/ AVALON/SILVER • 4T1BF28B1YU084614

8841230 • 2003/BUICK/ LESABRE/GOLD • 1G4HP54K434121078

8841251 • 1998/FORD/ EXPLORER/WHITE • 1FMZU32E6WZA23188

8841268 • 2003/FORD/F150/ BLUE • 1FTRX18L73NA78726

8841296 • 1984/FORD/F150/TAN • 1FTCF15F4ELA02323

8841320 • 2020/DODGE/ DURANGO/BLUE • 1C4SDJGJ1LC222437

8843484 • 2007/FORD/ EXPLORER/GRAY • 1FMEU31K47UA22044

8843559 • 2004/BUICK/ LESABRE/SILVER • 1G4HP52K744165578

8843633 • 2012/FORD/FUSION/ WHITE • 3FAHP0HA0CR177881

8843671 • 2011/FORD/FUSION/ SILVER • 3FAHP0GA7BR226770

8843870 • 2017/JEEP/ CHEROKEE/BLACK • 1C4PJUMBS7HW501140

8844002 • 1996/CHEVROLET/ OTHER/BLACK • 1GCCS19X2T8114844

8844155 • 2002/CHEVROLET/ TAHOE/WHITE • 1GNEC13Z62R270076

8844391 • 2012/ACURA/TL/ BLACK • 19UUA8F25CA016023

8844457 • 2004/DODGE/RAM/ BLUE • 1D7HA18N54S564443

8844477 • 2015/HYUNDAI/ SONATA/BLUE • 5NPE24AF2FH066894

8844609 • 2018/MERCEDES/E CLASS/SILVER • WDDZF4JB6JA328165

8844645 • 2019/HYUNDAI/ SONATA/BLACK • 5NPE24AF3KH787025

8844701 • 2012/CHEVROLET/ MALIBU/SILVER • 1G1ZA5EU8CF165642

8844710 • 2016/HYUNDAI/ TUCSON/BLUE • KM8J33A43GU194469

8844874 • 2007/NISSAN/VERSA/ BLACK • 3N1BC13E77L425342

8847181 • 2004/DODGE/RAM/ WHITE • 1D7HA18D04S678423

8847190 • 2020/ MITSUBISHI/MIRAGE/RED • ML32A5HJ9LH004377

8847212 • 2006/DODGE/ CHARGER/BLUE • 2B3KA43GX6H429495

8847217 • -/OTHER-NOT FOUND/OTHER/RED • L9NL1NBRXP1909706

8847240 • -/OTHER-NOT FOUND/OTHER/RED • L0FGAG1C0DA010284

8847244 • 2017/INFINITI/Q50/ SILVER • JN1EV7AP2HMT39065

8847275 • 2011/CHEVROLET/ SILVERADO/SILVER • 3GCPCSE0XBG156345

8847294 • 2001/ KAWASAKI/OTHER/RED • JKAZXBD101B513198

8847319 • 2006/SUZUKI/OTHER/ BLACK • JS1GT76A462113164

8847322 • 2016/YAMAHA/ OTHER/SILVER • JYARM06E6GA009963

8847337 • 2001/YAMAHA/ YZF-R1/SILVER • JYARN05EX1A008384

8847348 • 1992/YAMAHA/ OTHER/PURPLE • JYA3HHE05NA039838

8847355 • 1999/SUZUKI/OTHER/ RED • JS1VP52A9X2100790

8847395 • 2003/SUZUKI/OTHER/ WHITE • JS1GN7BA732101733

8847418 • 2007/HONDA/ CBR1000/BLACK • JH2SC57037M304145

8847521 • 2021/KIA/FORTE/ GRAY • 3KPF24AD7ME305344

8847578 • 2012/HYUNDAI/ SONATA/BLACK • 5NPEB4AC7CH420071

8847860 • 2019/KIA/FORTE/ WHITE • 3KPF24AD8KE060941

8847908 • 2006/HONDA/ ACCORD/SILVER • 1HGCM665X6A040341

8847926 • 2018/GENESIS/G90/ WHITE • KMHG34JA6JU039668

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9385310 • 2008/MERCURY/ MILAN/BLACK • 3MEHM071X8R649949

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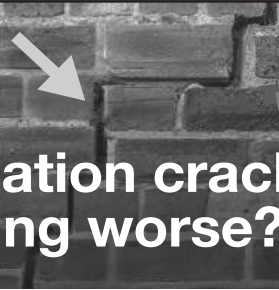
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WEEK OF JULY 26, 2026

P R E S E R V E D

Miracles in the Desert

By Shewanda Riley
Columnist



We are officially more than halfway through 2026, which is something to be happy about. Yet, fear and uncertainty are the two most common emotions that are expressed when people share how this year makes them feel.

Our current President is known more for the many lies he tells than for uniting our country. In addition, with an increase in acts of racial violence, international political conflict and economic insecurity, others say that our

country is going in the wrong direction and that we are in desert of despair.

However, what I've learned over the years is that sometimes God will place us in a situation that is out of our control so that we will see that He is truly still in control. Even in the midst of despair, God still performs miracles.

By definition, miracles are positive circumstances that come out of the impossible. We have to remember that being in a desert can also be a place of miracles. Deserts can be uncomfortable places for a number of reasons.

First, a desert can be a place of isolation. Second, the isolation

that you feel in the desert may influence you to do desperate things. For example, if you are in a relationship desert, you may begin a relationship with someone even if they really don't offer you what you want. However, you will try to make the relationship work, not out of love but because of desperation.

God does his best work in the desert. There are so many biblical stories where people found themselves in a desert and they were able to flourish. The desert is a place where you can hear God without distraction and know that he is concerned about you.

Genesis 16:7 says: "The angel of the LORD found Hagar near

a spring in the desert; it was the spring that is beside the road to Shur." Hagar was depressed and fled to the desert to escape Sarai's mistreatment of her. However, the angel of the Lord found her and spoke to her about the child that she was carrying and his future destiny.

Moreover, the desert is a place of isolation but being there can also be the first step in fulfilling an even greater purpose. Genesis 37:22 shares part of the story of Joseph and how his brothers faked his death out of jealousy: "Don't shed any blood. Throw him into this cistern here in the desert, but don't lay a hand on him."

This was the first step that

eventually led to him being one of the great leaders of Egypt. It took him a few years to reach the place that God had shown him through dreams as a teenager, but God's favor and protection were with him every step of the way. Joseph's pathway to the palace began in the desert.

Deuteronomy 8:2 also states, "Remember how the LORD your God led you all the way in the desert these forty years, to humble you and to test you in order to know what was in your heart, whether or not you would keep his commands." God provided food and protection for them while they were in the desert. However, the children of Israel

needed to be reminded that their years in the desert had a purpose.

Rather than complain about our desert places, know that it is in desert places that God is really setting us up to receive His miracles. Whether emotional, physical, or spiritual, desert places show us that God is with us, is faithful and full of mercy.

Shewanda Riley is a Fort Worth-based author of "Love Hangover: Moving from Pain to Purpose After a Relationship Ends" and "Writing to the Beat of God's Heart: A Book of Prayers for Writers." Email her at preservedbypurpose@gmail.com or follow her on Twitter @shewanda

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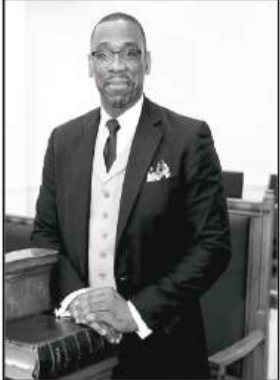
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How to Avoid Being Misdiagnosed: What Patients Should Know in 2026

By Vince Faust MA
Health Educator
and Motivational Instructor

When you go to the doctor, you expect to get answers. You expect to be heard, understood and treated with care. Most doctors work hard to help their patients, but even skilled professionals can make mistakes.

One of the most common medical problems today is misdiagnosis, which happens when a doctor identifies the wrong condition or misses the correct one. Misdiagnosis can delay treatment, cause stress, and sometimes lead to serious health issues.

The good news is that patients can take steps to reduce the chances of being misdiagnosed. This does not mean arguing with your doctor or trying to diagnose yourself. Instead, it means becoming an active partner in your own healthcare.

In 2026, with busy clinics and fast appointments, being prepared matters more than ever. Here, I will explain how you can communicate clearly, stay organized and work with your doctor to get the most accurate care possible.

Doctors are trained to recognize patterns. They listen to symptoms, look at test results and use their experience to figure out what might be wrong. But medicine is complicated. Many conditions share similar symptoms. A headache could be stress, dehydration, or something more serious. Fatigue could be caused by poor sleep, anemia or a thyroid problem.

Misdiagnosis can happen for several reasons:

- Symptoms may be vague or unclear
- Appointments may be short
- Patients may forget to mention important details
- Test results may be confusing



ing

- Some conditions are rare or hard to detect

Understanding these challenges helps you see why your role as a patient is so important.

Come Prepared to Every Appointment: One of the best ways to avoid misdiagnosis is to prepare before you walk into the doctor's office. When you are nervous or not feeling well, it is easy to forget things. Writing them down helps you stay focused.

Here are things to prepare:

- A list of your symptoms
- When each symptom started
- How often the symptoms happen
- What makes the symptoms better or worse
- Any medications, vitamins or supplements you take
- Any recent changes in your life, such as stress, travel or new foods

Being organized helps your doctor see the full picture. It also shows that you are serious

about your health.

Describe Your Symptoms Clearly: Doctors rely heavily on what you tell them. The more specific you are, the better they can understand what is going on. Instead of saying, "I feel bad," try describing exactly what you feel.

- For example:
- Where is the pain
 - What the pain feels like (sharp, dull, burning, throbbing)
 - How long it lasts
 - What you were doing when it started

Clear descriptions help your doctor narrow down the possibilities.

Be Honest, Even About Things That Feel Embarrassing: Some people avoid telling their doctor certain details because they feel embarrassed or worried about being judged. But doctors hear all kinds of information every day. They need the truth to help you.

If you leave out important details like smoking, drinking, stress, sexual activity or drug

use, your doctor may not understand what is causing your symptoms. Being honest protects your health.

Ask Questions When You Do Not Understand: Doctors sometimes use medical terms that are confusing. If something does not make sense, it is okay to ask for clarification. You are not being difficult, you are being responsible.

- You can ask:
- "What does that word mean"
 - "Can you explain that in a simpler way"
 - "What other conditions could cause these symptoms"
 - "Are there other tests that might help"

Asking questions helps you understand your care and gives your doctor a chance to think more deeply about your case.

Take Notes or Bring Someone With You: Appointments can feel rushed, and it's easy to forget what the doctor said. Taking notes helps you remember instructions, test names, and next steps. Some people

bring a friend or family member to help listen and ask questions. This can be especially helpful if you are feeling sick or overwhelmed.

Share Your Full Medical History: Your medical history is like a map. It shows where you have been and helps your doctor understand where you might be going.

Make sure your doctor knows:

- Past illnesses
- Surgeries
- Allergies
- Family medical history
- Past test results
- Any chronic conditions

Sometimes a small detail like a family member with a certain disease can help your doctor make a more accurate diagnosis.

Speak Up If Something Doesn't Feel Right: You know your body better than anyone else. If a diagnosis does not seem to match your symptoms, it is okay to say so. You can be respectful and still express concern.

- For example:
- "I'm still worried because the symptoms don't seem to be improving"
 - "Is it possible this could be something else"
 - "Can we explore other explanations"

You are not questioning your doctor's intelligence. You are participating in your own care.

Follow Up After Tests and Appointments: Sometimes misdiagnosis happens because test results get lost or follow up appointments are missed.

- Make sure you know:
- When your test results will be ready
 - How you will receive them
 - Whether you need another appointment
 - What symptoms should make you return sooner

If you do not hear back, call

the office. Following up shows that you are paying attention and helps prevent mistakes.

Avoid Self-Diagnosing Online: The internet can be helpful for learning, but it can also be misleading. Many symptoms overlap across different conditions. Reading online can make you worry about the worstcase scenario or lead you to believe you have something rare.

Use the internet to learn general information, not to diagnose yourself. Bring your questions to your doctor instead of assuming the answer.

Get a Second Opinion When Needed: Sometimes, getting another doctor's perspective can help. A second opinion is not an insult; it's a normal part of healthcare.

People seek second opinions when:

- Symptoms continue without explanation
- A diagnosis does not feel right
- A treatment is not working
- A condition is serious or longterm

A second doctor may notice something the first one missed. This can lead to better care.

Build a Strong Relationship with Your Doctor: Trust and communication are key. When you feel comfortable with your doctor, you are more likely to share important details. When your doctor knows you well, they can spot changes in your health more easily.

A strong doctorpatient relationship is one of the best protections against misdiagnosis.

Avoiding misdiagnosis does not mean doing your doctor's job. It means being an active, informed, and organized patient. It means speaking up, asking questions, and paying attention to your body. It means working together with your doctor as a team.

Five things you can do to lower your healthcare costs

StatePoint

Healthcare is expensive. Families feel it every time they pay an insurance premium, pick up a prescription, open a medical bill, or put off care because of worries about the cost.

For many people, it's getting even harder. Changes to Medicaid, healthcare tax credits, and new program rules will make it more difficult for some families to keep their insurance or afford care.

Advocates say that people should not have to fight this hard to see a doctor or pay for medicine. They also say that healthcare should be about helping people live healthy lives, not about confusing bills, paperwork, high costs, and record profits.

Big changes are needed to make healthcare more affordable. But there are practical steps you can take now to help avoid extra costs.

1. Use what you've got. If you have health insurance, federal law says most health plans must cover preventive care at no cost to you. This includes annual check-ups, vaccines, blood pressure checks, cancer screenings, and other basic care to keep you healthy.

These visits matter. Detecting a health problem early can help you avoid a bigger, more expensive problem later. When



PHOTO SOURCE: (C) ANNASTILLS / ISTOCK VIA GETTY IMAGES PLUS

you schedule your next doctor's appointment, ask two simple questions: "Is this preventive care?" and "Will I have to pay anything for this visit?"

Researching this ahead of time can help you avoid a surprise bill.

2. Shop around.

Not every doctor, hospital, or pharmacy costs the same. Your insurance plan usually has a list of "in-network" doctors and facilities where care costs less. Before you make an appointment, check whether the doctor or clinic is in your network.

If you go out of network, you could pay much more. If you don't have insurance, many communities support occasional access to free health screenings and care.

Also ask where a medical test or procedure will cost the least. Sometimes the same scan, blood test, or treatment costs more at a hospital than at a clinic, imaging center, or outpatient office. A call to your health insurance plan may save you big bucks.

3. Ask for help. Don't ignore bills you cannot afford. Call the billing office and ask for help. You can ask: "Do you offer financial assistance?" "Do you have charity care?" "Can I get a payment plan?" "Can this bill be lowered?"

Many hospitals and clinics have programs that can reduce bills for people who qualify. You can also ask them to check for mistakes. Medical bills are confusing, and errors happen.

4. Take care of your health.

No one can control everything about their health, and many people face barriers that make it harder to stay healthy. But small steps can help prevent bigger health problems and bigger bills.

If you are able, take your medicine as directed. Keep up with care for conditions like diabetes, asthma, high blood pressure, or heart disease. Try to move your body, eat nourishing foods, and get help when something feels wrong.

5. Speak up and take action. One person cannot fix America's healthcare affordability crisis alone.

"One Nation, Overcharged" is a grassroots movement that is bringing people together to demand better. That means speaking up, sharing your story, and calling for a system that puts people over profits.

The grassroots effort is powered by voices like yours. Whether you have thousands of dollars in medical debt, are fed up with high healthcare costs, or simply believe that we all deserve better, you can visit OneNationOvercharged.org to learn more, sign up, and add your voice.

Medical costs are on the rise, but people can take steps to reduce their own bills, as well as join efforts to change the status quo.

New Research Shows How Root Canal Treatment Helps Protect Your Whole Body

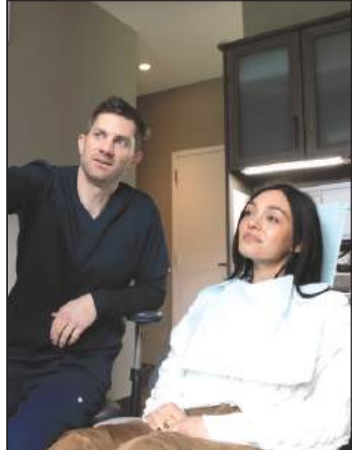
StatePoint

Root canal treatment is not only a tooth-saving procedure that preserves smiles and improves dental health; new research suggests that it can have far-reaching medical benefits that impact the entire body.

While it's long been known that some untreated dental infections can be associated with an increased risk of heart disease and diabetes, the positive impacts of treatment have not been as well studied.

In order to understand how a successful root canal treatment can benefit heart and metabolic health, a team of researchers at King's College London tracked changes in the blood chemistry of patients who had undergone the procedure due to the common dental infection, apical periodontitis. What they discovered were improved glucose metabolism, a key factor in preventing diabetes, better lipid profiles, which are linked to heart health, and reduced inflammation.

The reason that root canal treatment is so effective is that during the procedure, the endodontist removes inflamed or infected pulp, carefully cleans and shapes the inside of the root canal, then fills and seals the space. By doing so, they are stopping the spread of infection and preventing harmful bacteria from entering the bloodstream.



"When you experience symptoms of swelling or pain indicating an infection, it's important to act immediately by making an appointment with an endodontist to save your tooth and protect your body," says Dr. W. Craig Noblett, president of the American Association of Endodontists (AAE).

More information about dental symptoms and the benefits of root canal treatment can be found by visiting <https://www.aae.org/patients/>, the patient education site of the AAE.

"We now have a deeper understanding than ever before of how intrinsically linked oral health care and overall health truly are. This understanding serves to reinforce the importance of a whole-body approach to care that helps protect smiles and prevent systemic complications," says Dr. Noblett.



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Celebrating 20 years of service in the Greater Jackson Area.

Jackson State University earns A+ rating for teacher preparation and literacy

By William H. Kelly III
JSU Media

Jackson State University (JSU) has earned an A+ rating from the National Council on Teacher Quality (NCTQ) for excelling in the science of reading and elementary teacher preparation.

Through the Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education (K-6) degree program in the College of Education and Human Development (CEHD), JSU meets standards set by literacy experts for coverage of the most effective methods of reading instruction.

“This recognition by the NCTQ is a testament to the dedication and hard work of our faculty in the elementary education program. Their commitment extends beyond preparing pre-service teachers through evidence-based reading instruction,” said Tony Latiker, Ed.D., dean and associate professor in the College of Education and Human Development.

“Our faculty are leading Mississippi’s efforts to improve literacy outcomes for all learners through participating in and conducting professional development and evaluating reading instruction.”

The Teacher Prep Review: Decoding Progress in Reading Preparation Report shows that Jackson State is preparing aspiring teachers in all five components of scientifically based reading instruction, including phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, comprehension, and vocabulary.

Brailyn Luckett, a spring 2025 JSU graduate and second grade reading teacher at Bates Elementary School in Jackson Public Schools, enters her second year as a teacher in JPS, where she says the teachers are proud to continue their mission to enhance the lives of every scholar.

“The College of Education really instilled in me the importance of the science of reading and language comprehension models like the Scarborough Rope. This has made an impact in my classrooms, and I’m excited to continue using it more in the development of our scholars,” said Luckett.

She added, “Outside of parents, teachers make the biggest impact on the students’ personalities, and I take that to heart. Data moves instruction. It helps us see growth, and it makes me feel happy to be a part of the initiative and progress happening in Mississippi and JPS.”

In 2023, Jackson State also earned the NCTQ’s A+ rating and has since produced 133 teachers in areas such as special education, social science education, music education, math education, health education, physical education and English education,



PHOTO BY CHARLES A. SMITH, JACKSON STATE UNIVERSITY(C)

with 95 being elementary education.

Teacher candidates in JSU’s College of Education are prepared in the fundamentals and science of reading, regardless of their licensure area, in order to ensure and foster student success across various grade levels and subject areas.

Aspiring student teachers also gain hands-on, literacy-aligned practicum experience in K-12 classrooms across Mississippi, with over 17 district partners, including Clinton Public Schools, Hazlehurst Public Schools, Jackson Public Schools, Madison County Schools, and Pearl Public Schools.

The future educators work alongside faculty mentors and experienced educators to complete over 480 hours of teacher training and ultimately prepare the next generation of leaders.

“The distinction from the National Council on Teacher Quality reaffirms the College of Education and Human Development’s longstanding commitment to preparing highly effective educators for Mississippi’s workforce,” said Stephanie R. Davidson-Herndon, Ph.D., department chair and associate professor in JSU’s Department of Elementary and Early Childhood Education.

“This recognition reflects the Elementary Education program’s dedication to aligning coursework, clinical experiences, and instructional practices with research-based literacy instruction that equips future teachers to address the diverse learning needs of students.”

According to the NCTQ, researchers estimate more than 90% of all students could learn to read if they have access to instruction. Additionally, research shows that students who are not reading at grade level by fourth grade are four times more likely to drop out of high school, leading to increasing their risk of earning a lower income, facing unemployment, and future involvement with the criminal justice system.

View the link to find out more about JSU’s Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education (K-6) degree program: <https://teacherquality.nctq.org/review/viewProgram/Jackson-State-University-MS-1>.

Key Elementary School Underscores a Purpose-Driven 2026-2027 Academic School Year

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

The first day of school (Wednesday, July 29, 2026) was a blast at Key Elementary School, 699 West McDowell Road, Jackson, MS 39204. The cool breeze at 7:30 a.m. was the right temperature for the students and their well-wishers.

Friends of Jackson, Jackson State University’s Lady Tigers Volleyball Team and Key Elementary School leaders exuded pride and dignity for the students in their special way. Better than a telephone, email or virtual communication was face-to-face communication – the appropriate messenger for the occasion.

These well-wishers’ warm smiles, air-filled bubbles, high fives and lots of cheers were the type of welcome that filled the schoolers with joy, as they walked up the walkway to the school’s entrance.

Bus drivers, parents, and passersby could not help but gaze on from a distance. From a glimpse, they, too, were caught up with the dynamics lurking at Key. Witnessing the exuberance was like catching a wave of pure sunlight.

Senior JSU Lady Tiger Kyra Dove eagerly shared her thoughts about community engagement and the students who were arriving at the school. “The Lady Tigers participate in a lot of community activities. We are extremely excited to support our community and allow Key Elementary to see the true blessing it is to have an amazing education and other things they can experience in the world.”

Parents set the tone for academics by escorting their children to the front door entrance where officials were waiting to receive them. This role-modeling technique spoke volumes. Parents bridging the gap between home and school



Friends of Jackson receive Certificate of Appreciation.



JSU students on Key Elementary School grounds. PHOTOS BY JANICE VINCENT.

was a great sendoff for the school year.

The children at Key Elementary School found the underlying beauty of “the village” that was willing to open the door, giving these entering “Cougars confidence” and beginning the process of successful skill-development for survival in a world that awaits their presence that will lead to their added contributions.

That village is determined to push them forward in the academic days ahead. That village is equipped to see them through. As the bulletin boards are displayed throughout the school’s quarters and corri-

dors, they show tools of learning proudly displayed. These images offer a safe space, physically and emotionally, for learning during the academic year 2026-2027.

This academic school year, elementary school children are expected to spend a full-day schedule, encompassing 7 hours total – including before and after instruction. Based on the district’s calendar, the students are expected to attend approximately 180 instructional days. What this comes to is 180 days and 8.75 hours/day = 1,575 hours of scheduled school time.

Heading Key Elementary



Lady Tigers Volleyball Team welcome Key



Students wait to enter the building.

School is Principal Amanda Thomas, who has served as principal since January 2026. She is no stranger to leadership-related responsibilities. Prior to coming to Key, she was the Executive Director of Climatic and Wellness for Jackson Public Schools. In that role she oversaw the nursing department, counseling services and programs focusing on mental health support, student due process and social-emotional learning.

Additionally, Thomas has been an assistant principal, principal, lead interventionist and director of Multi-Tiered Systems of Support.

Denise Thaggard to Lead Boyd Elementary

JPS Newswire

Mrs. Denise Thaggard has been named the Principal of Boyd Elementary School for the 2026-2027 school year.

Thaggard brings more than 20 years of dedicated service to Jackson Public Schools, where she has faithfully served scholars, families, and educators through both teaching and leadership.

Throughout her career,

she has served in a variety of roles, including teacher, interventionist, and assistant principal, gaining extensive experience in curriculum, instruction, school improvement, and building strong relationships that foster student success.

Her passion for educational excellence and servant leadership has prepared her to lead with vision, integrity, and a commitment to helping every scholar reach

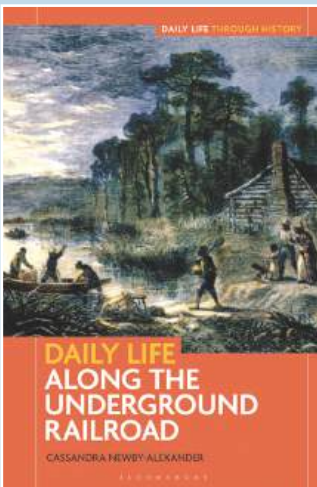
their full potential.

Mrs. Thaggard earned both her bachelor’s and master’s degrees from Belhaven University and holds an Educational Specialist (Ed.S.) degree from Liberty University.

She is dedicated to creating a positive school culture where students thrive, teachers are empowered, and families are valued as essential partners in education.



Denise Thaggard



BOOK REVIEW: DAILY LIFE ALONG THE UNDERGROUND RAILROAD

BY CASSANDRA NEWBY-ALEXANDER
C.2026, BLOOMSBURY ACADEMIC
\$75.00 • 184 PAGES

By Terri Schlichenmeyer
Columnist

Head down. Keep it covered. Make yourself as small as possible and don't say a word. Don't even sneeze, but when the time is right, be ready to jump and run. Run, zig-zag, crouched and quiet and don't stop.

As in "Daily Life Along the Underground Railroad" by Cassandra Newby-Alexander, it's not easy but people did it every day for decades.

It was 1853 and Harriet Jacobs was "miserable."

"The monster who owned her" was abusing her, and his wife was

jealous. Resulting children "bore too strong a resemblance to him," and it naturally vexed Jacobs. In 1861, she published a book about it.

Says Newby-Alexander, "... the story of Harriet Jacobs ... represents the life of many who were victims of slavery yet managed to escape...."

Though the danger existed for those who helped the enslaved escape, the Underground Railroad was strengthened by many people willing to shelter and shield those on the run. Cooks and stewards, Quakers, stationmasters and the formerly enslaved did their part,

knowing that if they were caught, it could mean imprisonment or worse, says Newby-Alexander.

Slavery was "big business," often more lucrative than grain and tobacco crops the enslaved harvested. Escaped slaves were lost money.

The reasons for escape were many and varied, as were the methods of escape. Some formerly enslaved people walked away from their owners, just like that. Some ran, in broad daylight or overnight, leaving behind spouses and children with the hopes of reunion later.

Some methodically made their

way to seaports, where Black mariners would ferry them north to safe American cities; while others went to Mexico or to Canada. Still others found their way to "Free Black Communities," to the Great Dismal Swamp near Norfolk, Virginia, or "Maroon communities" or among Indigenous people.

Kidnappings back into slavery was a constant threat, and being caught could make things worse. Laws were often lax. And while freedom was obviously overwhelmingly desirable, Newby-Alexander says that it was still "not a perfect happy ending...."

No doubt, you've heard the story of Harriet Tubman many times – so much, perhaps, that her larger-than-life tale might seem to overshadow the help that others lent.

"Daily Life Along the Underground Railroad" shows readers that Moses (Harriet) was far from the only conductor. In this book, stirring accounts of action, terror, abuse, and righteous desperation will make you forget about any repetition you'll find reading it.

Author Cassandra Newby-Alexander brings to life tales of little-known conductors along the Underground Railroad, and

enslaved people who were all but anonymous before. Readers may be particularly struck by the multitude of those who left family behind, often out of necessity, and by the complicated planning an escape took.

These things, told plainly and with an urgency that still rings over the decades, will keep you glued to your seat.

If you are a student of Black history, "Daily Life Along the Underground Railroad" is a must-have, a book you'll reach for again and again. You want to be educated about that period of time? This book covers it well.



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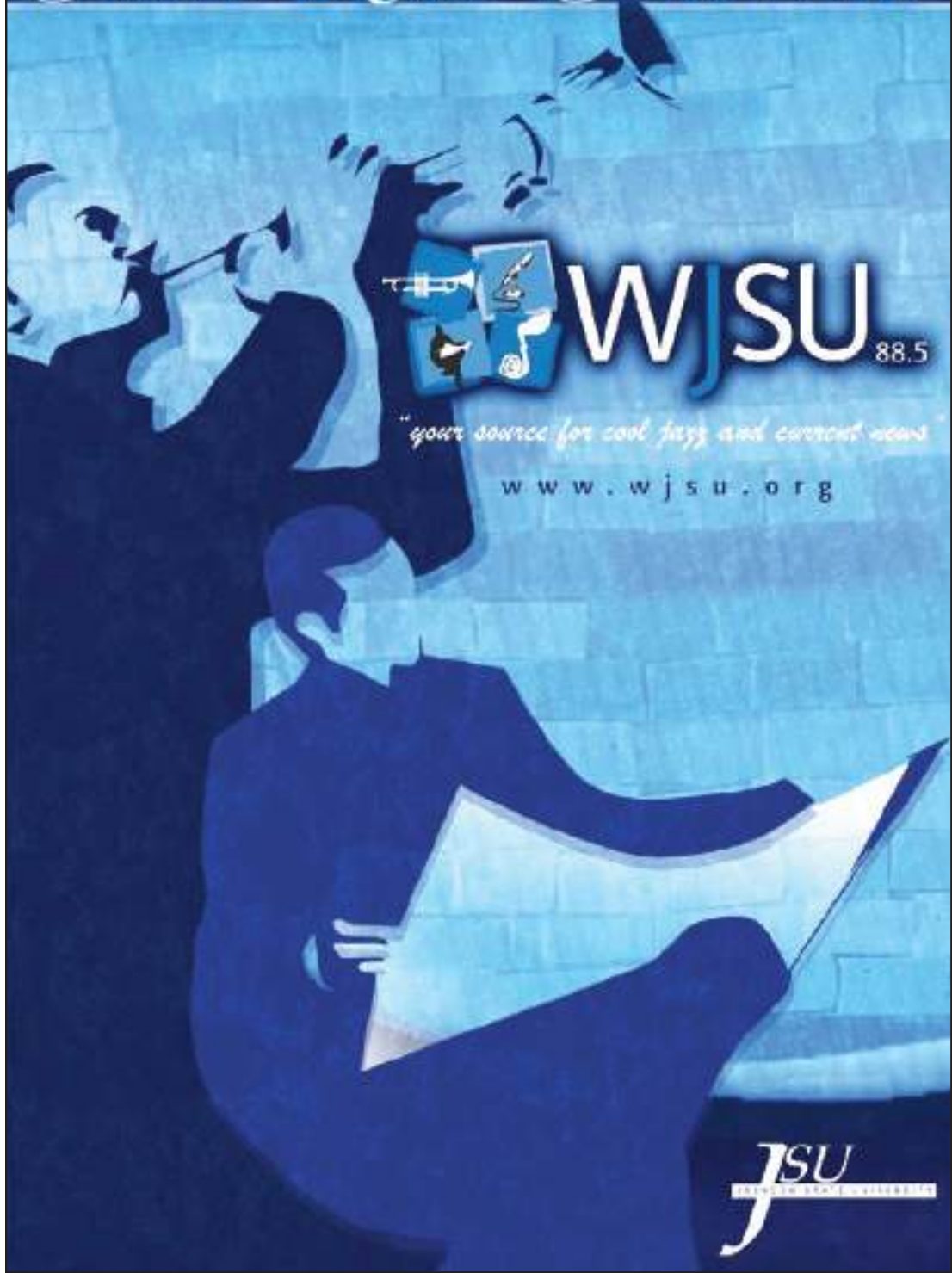
- You must be registered 30 days before the Election.
- Absentee Voting begins 45 days before the Election

MARRIAGE INFORMATION

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

Website: www.hindscountymiss.com
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HINDS COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT WEEKLY UPDATE

At Bolton/Edwards, we have the BEST school adopters EVER!

Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc., Upsilon Kappa Sigma, our staff loves unexpected gifts! Thank each of you for stopping by each classroom and delivering a first day snack to every teacher and staff member! Let's continue to Discover, Imagine, and Achieve, this school year!





**we
must
vote**



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