

In Memory of

Cassandra Wilson

1955–2026

By Michael West
Freelance Writer, Washington DC

Cassandra Wilson, a singer, songwriter and producer who was one of the most acclaimed and successful jazz vocalists of her generation, died Sept. 2 at her home in Jackson, Mississippi. She was 70. Her death was announced by her long-time manager, Robert Torre, in a statement to the media. Torre did not specify a cause of death but said that she passed “peacefully at home, surrounded by family, close friends and her manager.”

A native of Jackson, Wilson wove both contemporary pop music and strands of the musical traditions associated with her home state — country, blues, folk and gospel —into jazz. Combined with her instantly distinctive voice, a low, dark and smoky contralto, it made for a unique and idiosyncratic brand of music that was completely her own.

Recording 19 albums over 30 years, she gained a reputation particularly for unusual choices of covers in this hybrid idiom. She sang songs from a wide range of sources, from Bob Dylan and U2 to Glen Campbell and Mississippi Fred McDowell, as well as the jazz standard repertoire. Her 1995 recording of Son House’s “Death Letter” became a calling card of sorts, a staple of her live set and the theme to the third season of the HBO series True Detective.

Wilson regarded this openness to all sonic avenues as a virtue. “The muse comes to you through pianos, guitars, drums, sticks, stones, trees,” she told the National Endowment of the Arts. “Trusting my intuition enough, and trusting my ears enough, to know, ‘OK, this is good. I like it. It feels good. It makes me feel good.’ So, I know that when I sing it, it’s going to make other people feel good as well.”

That ability to connect to audiences helped Wilson win two Grammy awards and multiple other accolades, including honorary doctorates from Jackson’s Millsaps College (her alma mater) and Boston’s Berklee College of Music. Time magazine in 2001 proclaimed her “America’s Best Singer”; she was named an NEA Jazz Master in 2022.

Among the many tributes issued upon her passing was one from Jackson’s mayor, John Horhn, who said that the city “has lost an extraordinary native daughter, and the world has lost a singular musical voice. Cassandra Wilson carried the sound, spirit and history of Mis-



Wilson’s ability to connect to audiences helped her win two Grammy awards and multiple other accolades. She was named NEA Jazz Master in 2022. PHOTO BY MARK SHELDON



PHOTO CREDIT: MARK ROBBINS

issippi with her wherever her music reached. ... Her work had rare depth of character and a profound understanding of how music moves people, tells stories and connects generations.”

Cassandra Marie Fowlkes was born Dec. 4, 1955, in Jackson, the third and youngest child of Herman Fowlkes, a jazz and blues guitarist and a high school music teacher, and Mary McDaniel, an elementary school teacher. Her mother loved Motown, which along with her father’s jazz records became the soundtrack to young Cassandra’s life.

She studied classical piano, learned some rudimentary guitar from her father, and took up the clarinet in the Murrah High School marching band. She also found herself drawn to the folk and folk-rock singer-songwriters of the period, especially Bob Dylan and Joni Mitchell, and performed as part of a high-school folk trio. She matriculated at Millsaps College, transferred to Jackson State University and graduated in 1980 with a degree in mass communication.

The following year, she married radio personality Anthony Wilson, and from that marriage they had one son, Jeris Wilson. The couple moved to New Or-

leans where Cassandra took a job at a television station. A year after that, they moved to New Jersey, where Cassandra decided to try her luck on the New York jazz scene. She met alto saxophonist Steve Coleman at a jam session and soon became a founding member of the experimental M-BASE collective. She also started working with Vernon Reid’s Black Rock Collective, the influence of both collectives filtering into her first two albums, 1985’s Point Of View and 1987’s Days Awake.

However, it was with Wilson’s third album, the 1988 standards date Blue Skies, that she broke through, reaching number two on the Billboard jazz albums chart and garnering critical acclaim. She continued to straddle both lanes of the music. However, a turning point came with her signing to Blue Note Records in 1993. Her debut that year for the label, Blue Light ‘Til Dawn, was the first on which she explored blues, folk and rock repertoire and was both a critical and commercial success. She compounded those successes with her 1995 follow-up, New Moon Daughter, which won a Grammy for Best Jazz Vocal Performance and is now considered a classic.

Now a major star in the jazz

world, Wilson continued moving freely between traditional jazz and more cutting-edge experiments, with the combination coming to define her sound. Her albums and live performances were consistently lucrative commercially and critically. (Another standards collection, 2008’s Loverly, won her a second Grammy.) After her 2010 jazz and blues album Silver Pony, she left Blue Note; two subsequent recordings (2012’s Another Country, for eOne Records, and 2015’s Coming Forth By Day, for Legacy) proved to be her last.

Wilson moved in 2015 back to Jackson, Mississippi, where she and a longtime friend, singer Rhonda Richmond, cofounded a jazz club, The Yellow Scarf, and a label, Ojah Records, working together to promote and support arts and culture in Mississippi. These and other considerations kept Wilson largely off the road and out of the larger jazz world’s limelight, even as she won the NEA Jazz Masters fellowship in 2022. However, her appearance at 2025’s Saratoga and Exit Zero Cape May Jazz Festivals, celebrating 30 years of New Moon Daughter, were widely seen as a triumphant comeback.

Public Visitation is scheduled for Thursday, September 10, 2026, at New Horizon Church International 1750 Bobby Rush Blvd. to include an Ivy Beyond the Wall Ceremony at 10:30 AM by Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. at 10:30 AM and home-going services at 12:00 PM.

A Celebration of Life will be held Friday, September 11, 2026, at New Horizon Church International 1750 Bobby Rush Blvd. to include an Ivy Beyond the Wall Ceremony at 10:30 AM by Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. at 10:30 AM and home-going services at 12:00 PM.

A scholarship fund in Cassandra’s honor is being established at Jackson State University. Contribution details will be announced at a later date.

A Tribute to

Cassandra Wilson

By H Ralph Samuels, Jr.

Her voice now rises softly
beyond this earthly realm;
fusing a smooth jazzy melody
with a bluesy African hymn.

She conquered the music world
with a special gift of song.
She stirred our hearts and souls
and invited us all to sing along.

She represented us well
No matter the stage or the scene;
She made the “City with Soul” proud.
She was one of Jackson’s musical queens.

A product of the Shady Oaks
neighborhood
where she played and was raised.
Millsaps College and Jackson State
University
was where she spent her college days.

Make no mistake about it
her music will live with us forever;
Take time and listen to her closely.
Enjoy her sound in any weather.

“Wouldn’t it be Loverly”
“Strange Fruit”, like Billie, she sang;
“Time after Time” is so “Fragile”
She swoons on “I Can’t Stand the Rain”.

Her unique lyrical interprétations
coupled with her sultry voice;
Made her a two-time Grammy winner
The Jazz Masters also made the right
choice.

And now like others before her
this pink and green ivy is beyond the
wall.
Her voice silenced by “A Little Warm
Death”
she’s made her final curtain call.

We will remember the joy she brought to
the world and to us.
Her legacy is etched in musical lore.
Time Magazine hailed her as America’s
best singer.
This “New Moon Daughter” was all that
and more.

(c) 2026 H Ralph Samuels, Jr.
“The Name Inspires the Pen”

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Inside

Legacy of Organizing
and the Struggle for
Democracy



Curved Air



A Visit with Jackson City Councilwoman ‘Tina’ Clay

Over and over, I keep hearing she’s “the voice of reason” on the Council

By Christopher Young
Contributing Writer

We hear something - okay, I hear you. Then we hear the same thing again, yet in a totally different circle - hmm, well that’s interesting. When the same thing pops up yet again - maybe it’s time to pick up the telephone. That’s just the way it was - three different times, three different circles, the same words - Montyne ‘Tina’ King Clay is the voice of reason on the Jackson City Council. She answered on the first ring, from 1,400 miles away, and we agreed to set up a meeting after she got back home.

We had not spoken in nearly two years, since she began running to serve as Councilwoman for Ward 2, after the resignation of Angelique Lee. The pool of candidates started at eight. She went on to win over sixty-two percent of the vote to fill the remainder of the term. Six months later, she carried over sixty-four percent of the vote in the Democratic Primary for the next term. The General Election followed where she earned over ninety-three percent of the vote for the four-year term. A lot different than Ward 1’s Ashby Foote who is in office yet again



Ward 2 Councilwoman Tina Clay. PHOTO BY JAY JOHNSON

COMMENTARY

after winning by just 8 votes.

At Broadstreet Bakery early on Wednesday, September 2, 2026, I gained insight into why I keep hearing about Councilwoman Clay being the council’s voice of reason. She doesn’t bloviate; she serves. She doesn’t squander taxpayer money. In fact, she sometimes uses her own money to push projects across the finish line in Ward 2. She listens intently, and you can see it clearly at council meetings. Her long experience as a businesswoman, philanthropist, and lover of Jackson becomes crystal clear

when having a discussion with her. She looks you in the eye and she speaks directly. She has lived in Ward 2 for 31 years - she knows the issues because she has lived the issues.

Since joining the council, she has served on the Finance, Internal Audit, and Public Works committees. She expressed her displeasure at hearing administration officials claim Jackson has a \$135 million dollar budget, “when it is actually more like \$112 million, and this City should be operating at \$100 million.” Shifting the conversation to the workload of serving on the council, she shared, “it’s not the hours that bother me, it’s

the stupidity. My friends tell me I should stop saying the word ‘stupidity’, but there’s no other way to say it. That’s what it is.”

She spoke at length about how reducing crime, elevating education, and economic development are critical to Jackson’s success, and those are her unmistakable priorities. She believes there is a strong connection between having a robust Parks and Recreation Department and reducing crime. Young people need to have things to do and safe places for recreation and fitness and socialization. “I personally bought the paint to redo two basketball courts at two parks in Ward 2. I got help with the painting from Terun Moore of Strong Arms of Mississippi (formerly Strong Arms of Jackson). They had a basketball tournament I attended, and my friends were playing tennis. It was a Saturday and there were no problems, it was peaceful. No need for police or extra security. The sad part though, no water. We should have splash pads for the kids at all parks. A City Employee told me there is no water in the parks because people would steal it if it was there. It’s so sad, this city is

broken. All the money goes to Downtown and Fondren, and nothing is left for the remainder of the city.”

On September 7, 2026, she provided an update that there is no running water or ability to flush toilets at Manhattan Park or Brown Park. Do you think the same is true in Ward 1?

“The people come and talk to the council, but they are not talking about amenities. We don’t have a sports complex in Jackson.” I asked if she ever gets to bend the ear of Mayor John Horn, and she indicated, “I respect the mayor highly, yet disagree often with his thoughts and opinions. Our relationship is limited. That’s the way it is on the council - limited. After he was elected, he met with many people and said it’s okay to disagree but don’t do it in public. I understand that, but I can’t be that way because everything we do affects the public. We are in these positions to serve the public.”

When I brought up Jackson’s difficulties against the never-ending backdrop of oppression by the state government, she indicated, “despite that, we are capable of doing better if we weren’t so dysfunctional. You don’t get positive results when

everything is dysfunctional.”

When asked what she views as the biggest challenges facing the council for the remainder of this year, the answer was as simple as it was revealing. “Truly deciding that we will represent our own Wards and the City. That is the biggest challenge. Seventy-five percent of the city is in disarray. Poverty, killings, homelessness, dumping, all of it. We are grateful we have a “C” rated school district, but we have far too many failing elementary schools and no “A” rated high schools, and only one “A” rated middle school. And Ward 2 is without representation again on the school board. Ward 2 was represented by a well-qualified person with experience as an education administrator. She was filling an unexpired term and was appointed in March 2025, but the term expired June 30, 2026, and no new appointment has been made.”

We have a new mayor, a new administration, some new council members, a chance to turn the page for a better Jackson. Tina Clay doesn’t go along to get along. She is serving the people, and through her candor we can see why many see her as the voice of reason on the council.

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we must vote

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REVISED SCHEDULE - ALL HEARINGS BEGIN AT 6:00 P.M.

Thursday, Aug. 27 - Northwest - Northwest Mississippi Community College, Ranger Center Conference Room 107-109, 1210 Church Rd., Southaven, MS

Tuesday, Sept. 1 - Delta - Delta State University, Bologna Performing Arts Center (BPAC), 1003 West Sunflower Rd., Cleveland, MS

Tuesday, Sept. 8 - Southwest - Alcorn State University, MBA Building Auditorium, Natchez ASU Campus, 15 Campus Dr., Natchez, MS

Thursday, Sept. 10 - East Central - Meridian Community College, McCain Theater, 910 Highway 19 North, Meridian, MS

Thursday, Sept. 17 - Pine Belt - University of Southern Mississippi, Mannoni Performing Arts Center, 3057 Hardy St., Hattiesburg, MS

Tuesday, Sept. 22 - Gulf Coast - Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College, Hospitality and Resort Management Center, 420 Debuys Rd., Biloxi, MS

Thursday, Oct. 1 - Metro - Mississippi Legislature, State Capitol, 400 High St., Jackson, MS

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Legacy of Organizing and the Struggle for Democracy

Evers Lectures Series Gen Z II

Former U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations and longtime Civil Rights Leader Andrew Young visited Mississippi September 2-4, 2026 as part of the Medgar Evers lecture series Fen Z II.

Young's schedule included a guided tour of the Medgar & Myrlie Evers home, a tour of the Mississippi Civil Rights Museum where he delivered a lecture, and a visit to Jackson State University where he spoke at a luncheon and panel titled, "The Legacy of Organizing and the Struggle for Democracy." The luncheon was hosted by the Medgar and Myrlie Evers Institute.

PHOTOS BY JAY JOHNSON





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Love Beyond Degree

Does it boil down to a lack of ability, or is it far worse?

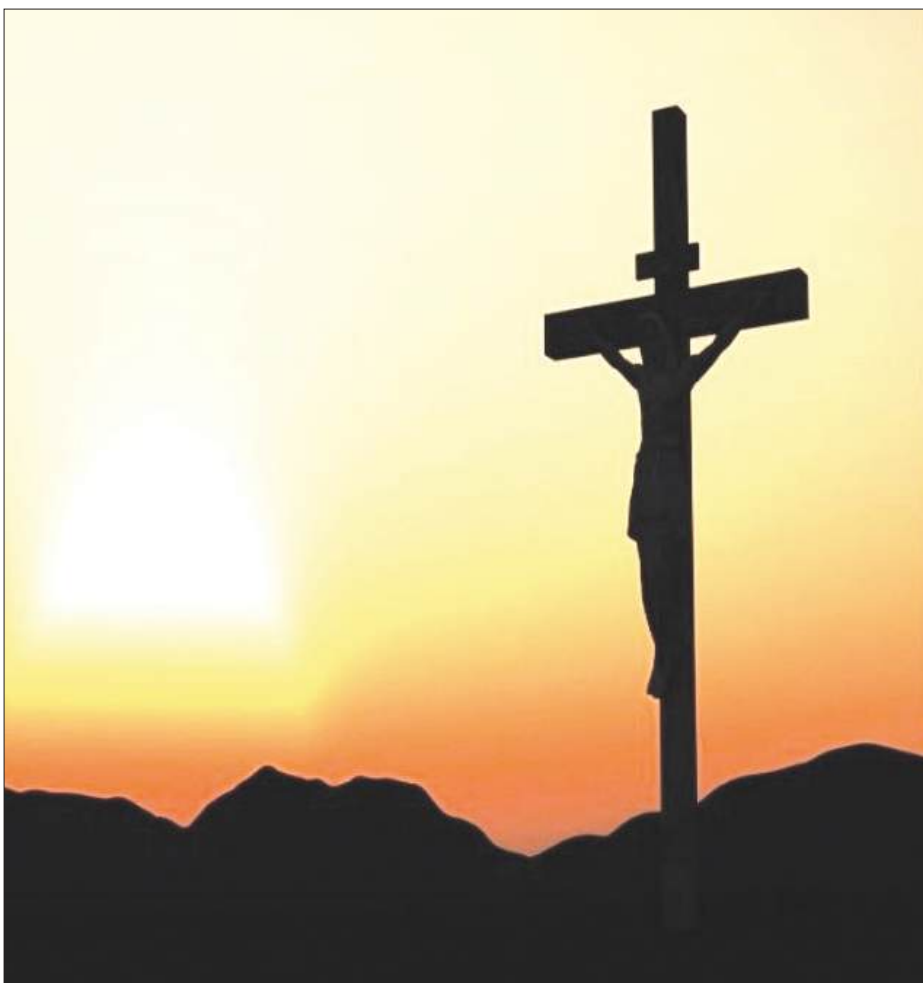
By Christopher Young
Contributing Writer

The path is clear. Presidential candidates proclaim their positions on the issues, solidify their platform, try to convince voters they love America, and promise change – always seeking support – if you support me, I’ll do this and I’ll do that, and America will be better. The people decide who they think is up to the job, who they think will deliver on what is important to them, and conceivably, for our country. We cast our ballot, the votes are tallied, and the winner is announced. On Inauguration Day, the winner stands, usually with their hand on a Bible, and takes an oath, televised for the world to see. “I, _____, do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will faithfully execute the Office of President of the United States, and will to the best of my ability, preserve, protect, and defend the Constitution of the United States.” Most add four words at the ending, “so help me God.” The Oath of Office comes from Article II, Section 1, Clause 8 of the Constitution.

In the midst of the whole process, it is implied or assumed or stated directly, that the head of the Executive Branch of our democracy, or as some like to call it, our Constitutional Federal Republic, loves America and Americans. Who would vote for a president who does not love our country? In my lifetime there have been twelve presidents, six proclaimed Republicans and six Democrats. Arguments could be made that all of them took actions while in office that damaged public trust or were unloving, and arguments could be made that all of them took actions that demonstrated their love of country.

Last Sunday, I should have been focused more on the pastor as he dug deep into Acts, yet my brain was still lingering on the song we had just sung - At the Cross (<https://www.hymnal.net/en/hymn/h/999>) - and the words in the second verse – love beyond degree.

I don’t see a love of America go-



Depiction of Christ on the Cross. IMAGE BY CROSSWALK.COM.

ing on today at 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue. I see the ripping and tearing of principals and norms. I see a form of pride in being indecent. I see name calling, insults, and lack of regard for large swaths of Americans. And perhaps worst of all, I see a president who has reneged on the Oath of Office - that, is not a love of America.

If presidential politics is about power, and getting things done the way your supporters want them done, then policies are the plans, principals, or rules designed to achieve those outcomes. Harold Lasswell, a deceased Yale law professor, political scientist, and communications theorist, once said, “politics determine who gets what, when, and how.”

Is that the way it is with The One Big Beautiful Bill Act, that was signed into law on July 4, 2025? It made tax

rate cuts permanent for the wealthy, while reducing social program spending by one trillion dollars over the next ten years, for the non-wealthy. Under Medicaid, between 10 and 15 million will lose health insurance due to compliance challenges. For SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program), the OBBBA shifts federal matching funds for program administration from matching funds to seventy-five percent state and twenty-five percent federal – impacting between 4.5 and 5.6 million people per the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities. For TANF (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families) the bill slashed federal funding by ten percent and eliminated the federal contingency fund, impacting 2.1 million people per the US House Ways and Means Committee.

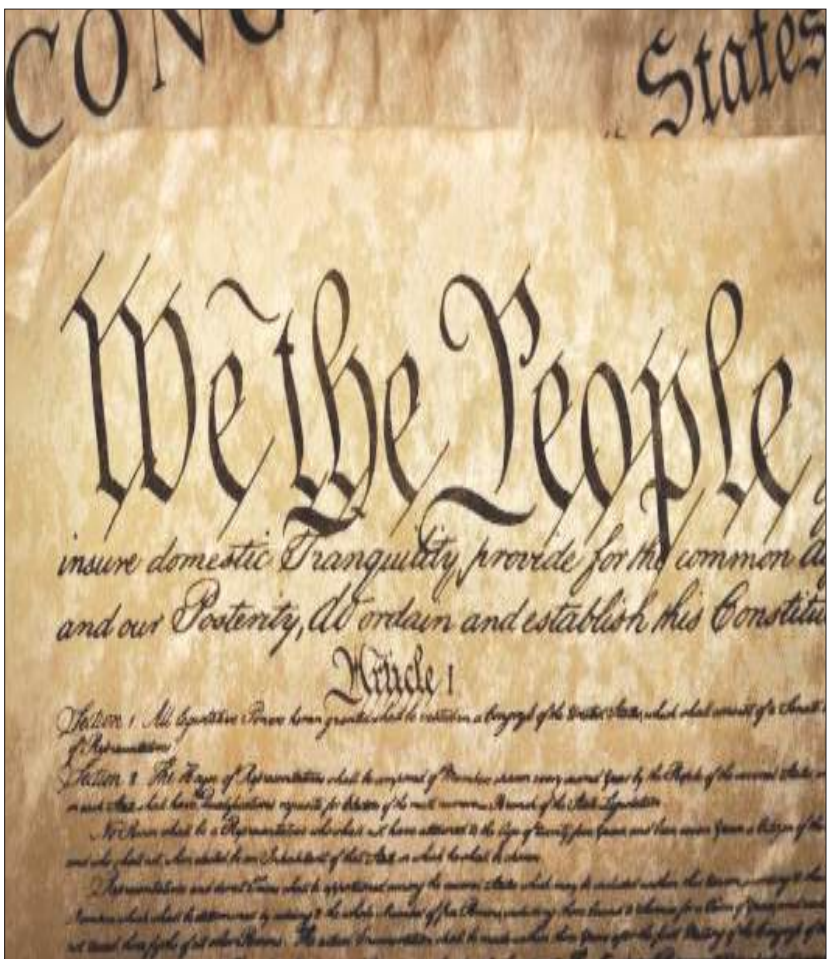


Image of the U.S. Constitution by SHUTTERSTOCK.COM, PUBLISHED BY WWW.LIVESCIENCE.COM.

In one sweeping bill, we can see the Yale professor is right. We see just who gets what, when, and how. It can easily be translated to love of the wealthy and disdain for the poor. In a report published by Newsweek on Labor Day, just 34 percent of Americans approve of President Trump, while 60 percent disapprove. Doesn’t sound like Americans believe that he is ‘faithfully executing the Office of the President of the United States.’

What about our federal protections for voting that were codified in the 14th, 15th, 19th, 24th, and 26th Amendments to the Constitution? Those sure demonstrated love of Americans – natural born or naturalized, non-white races, all women, eliminating poll taxes, and everyone 18 or older. Yet we have a president who swore an oath with his hand on

the Bible – “and will to the best of my ability, preserve, protect, and defend the Constitution of the United States,” who has tried repeatedly to end or limit birthright citizenship. We have a president who claims massive voter fraud without any evidence and repeatedly asks the Supreme Court to restrict mail-in voting.

Is it possible to love all Americans and hurt so many at the same time? We know the answer. Will justice prevail in the Trump-stacked High Court? We truly don’t know that answer. We need a President who loves America beyond degree, and that means all Americans, not just the wealthy, the white, and the Republicans. It isn’t that he doesn’t have ability. It’s far worse than that. It’s that he doesn’t have enough heart for America.

John Patterson Green, A Black man who fathered Labor Day, triumphed over hurdles, yet mystified critics about Black Advancement

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

Before 1865, life in North Carolina was depicted by enslavement; poverty; violent white supremacy; vagrancy laws; and sharecropping thereafter. Enslaved children and the elderly worked from sunrise to sunset. Survival entailed barely enough food, clothing and shelter.

John Patterson Green was born in New Bern, North Carolina April 2, 1845, to John Rice Green (a tailor) and Temperance Durden Green (a seamstress). Free persons of color and mixed ancestry, his parents sufficiently provided for Green and his two sisters. Tides began to turn, however, in 1850 when John Rice died.

Life’s sudden twist compelled Temperance to envision a better future for her children. She thought long and hard for seven years, then she uprooted her children to Cleveland, Ohio, a place that provided greater educational and economic opportunities. In Cleveland there

were liberal white community leaders, mostly of New England origin who, despite Antebellum times, advocated for racial fairness, integration and tolerance.

“An indication of the civilized spirit of the city of Cleveland is found in the fact that colored children attend our schools, colored people are permitted to attend all public lectures and public affairs where the fashion and culture of the city congregate, and nobody is offended,” wrote the Cleveland Leader in 1865. This “welcoming format” allowed Green to work odd jobs while attending integrated local grammar and high schools. A lover of learning, the errand boy and hotel waiter published in 1866 (at his own expense) his thirty-eight- page pamphlet, “Miscellaneous Subjects by a Self-Educated Colored Youth,” thereby selling in Ohio, Pennsylvania and New York almost 1,500 copies. He graduated ahead of his class and became Valedictorian from Central Catholic High School in two

years, rather than the four-year graduation time allotment.

Green moved forward in time and passed the South Carolina bar in 1870, after studying law in 1869. He practiced law and was an active Republican campaign orator in both the South and in Cleveland. From there, he eyed politics and in 1873, he won the position Justice of the Peace in Cleveland. Then the Republican Party nominated him to serve in the lower house of the Ohio General Assembly.

Overcoming defeat by sixty-two votes in 1883, Green was elected to the Ohio House of Representatives in 1889. Then a new phenomenon occurred in 1890. The representative introduced Ohio’s 1890 bill creating Labor Day. That year, he was dubbed Ohio’s Father of Labor Day. Four years later, Labor Day became an official federal holiday. Hence, the Cleveland lawyer, author, politician, orator – John Patterson Green – is known throughout the land as the Father of Labor Day.

This highly respected, accomplished, conservative Black man – John Patterson Green – was active in William McKinley’s presidential campaign in 1896. In 1897, he was granted a newly created position – U.S. Postage Stamp Agent in Washington, D.C. – a position he served in until 1905. He also served in the United States Post Office Department as acting superintendent of finance in 1906.

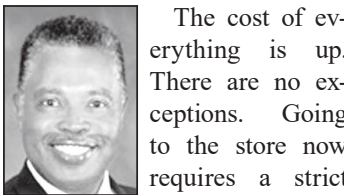
Despite Green’s likeability and productivity, historians criticize him for taking a “back seat” to openly challenging racial oppression and disfranchisement of Southern Blacks at the turn of the century. Critics charge that though Green had access to many prominent political and social leaders, he did not take advantage of opportunities to vouch for Southern Blacks. His silence remains a mystery as to what accomplishments could have been made for the advancement of Black dignity in the midst of human frailties.



John Patterson Green, WIKIPEDIA ENCYCLOPEDIA

When will the high cost of Healthcare and Prescription Drugs be lowered?

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



The cost of everything is up. There are no exceptions. Going to the store now requires a strict budget and discipline. Anything extra that we purchased before does not happen during these days and times. There are some necessities that we need, and we can't compromise about them. They cost more, yet we will pay the extra costs for them. That is just the reality now in our country.

Overall, we know costs for healthcare have increased dramatically. Records indicate that

it has reached \$4.9 to \$ 5.2 trillion dollars. Going to the doctor, paying for insurance, going to the hospital and paying for prescription drugs are just out of control.

This has resulted in people not going for scheduled doctor appointments. Co-pays have increased or in some cases aren't available anymore. Unfortunately, healthcare isn't a priority anymore when compared to putting food on the table. That's sad but these are the choices we are having to make.

Confirmed reports say, "Surveys indicate that roughly 15% to 25% of adults skip routine doctor visits or care when sick because of financial strain or limited local access."

Another concerning report is about the Gen Z population. At least 25% of this population do not have primary care physicians. Doctor visits just aren't on their radar screen.

Dr. Leana Wen, an emergency physician and clinical associate professor at George Washington University said, "An annual visit isn't just about today's health. It helps identify future risks, keeps preventative care on schedule and gives you a trusted clinician who knows your medical condition and can help navigate medical concerns."

I believe if you assess all demographics and age groups, you will find senior citizens have the most need for overall healthcare and prescription drugs. Increasingly, seniors are being challenged by the cost of healthcare.

Some in the industry suggest that if you are retired, you'll probably spend around \$185,000.00 during this period in your life. By any measurement, that is a lot of money to use for a specific part of one's life.

"Older adults are stuck in a healthcare system that is not responsive to their goals and preferences. Boomers want healthcare that maximizes their health and ability to function, and they want their providers to listen to them," said Terry Fulmer, president of The John A. Hartford Foundation.

In a survey, 82% of older Americans say the U.S. healthcare industry is ill equipped to understand their needs. Are you a senior citizen who isn't going to see a healthcare specialist?

You're sitting at home, not feeling well and not getting the care you need. Organizations like AARP are trying to provide resources and information to seniors that will help them in this stage of their life. There are studies that show that quality of life is important for those who have retired.

Being able to do things at a decent level is important for retirees. Getting exercise, eating properly and being emotionally stable are all important ingredients to aging well with dignity.

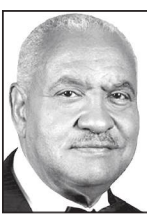
Being retired is a privilege. Not everyone gets the chance

to close one chapter and open another chapter. Life is far from over so you must live it that way. It is a mindset that you must acquire. Become an unofficial ambassador for senior citizens and spread the word. Becoming sedentary is not a good option.

While federal legislation has intervened in putting caps on spending, it still presents a financial burden. Currently the cap is \$2,100.00 with Medicare Part D. Some may have a different view; however upcoming midterm elections may set the groundwork for changes in the future. Healthcare is an important topic for all Americans. It is something that we all need and opinions about the direction of it will not stop.

Making November 3rd the true No Kings Day

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



During the last two years, we have seen millions of Americans from all walks of life turn out to participate in the "No Kings Day" protest marches across this nation. The demonstrations have been against the illegal practices and activities of President Trump in violation of the Constitution and all democracy stands for. We have seen the United States Congress surrender its Constitutional authority to Trump without question. We have seen people murdered by officials who called their actions all in the line of duty; we have seen American citizens arrested and placed in camps and deported in violation of their citizenship, the law and due process.

While the demonstrations in and of themselves made statements of protest, the President and his administration were basically unmoved, in most instances, because there were no forcible actions such moves could take against the White House. Trump has considered himself King and the United States Supreme Court has basically reinforced that position.

But November 3rd, 2026, the Mid-term General Election is a day of reckoning if we just get out and vote. Our individual votes can do the following:

- Change the control of the U.S. House of Representatives by replacing those

Republican members who rubber stamp the President's illegal actions instead of providing oversight, checks and balances;

- At the local level, we must vote and ensure that candidates who support Donald Trump are not elected to office as they seek to implement his policies at the local level.

- Those persons running for School Board, City Council, Supervisor, Congress, State legislatures, and Governor must not get elected because some of us just refused to vote. The "my vote doesn't count" excuse must end. This is how we ensure "NO KING"; This is how we stop ICE, Deportations without due process, troops on our streets, and unauthorized military conflicts that put our nation's security at risk.

If the millions of people who protested "No Kings Days" join those who are already committed to outvoting the Gerry-mander Election Districts, overwhelm the President's efforts to stop the vote or intimidate voters, we can put an end to this would be King before the next two years of his term are up.

We the people, by getting out our vote and the votes of those around us can truly make November 3rd, 2026, No Kings Day and take back our lives; our jobs, healthcare, gas prices, food prices, housing, and guaranteed freedoms of speech and movement. Let's be ready to vote and we won't have to get ready. Let's vote early and undermine the efforts to delay our vote on Election Day.

Old Maid and Blondies

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



Life is hectic! Those three words right there – it's a lot in these three words. If one is honest including my Holy churchgoers who never wants to admit the reality of things but would rather claim, "I'm too blessed to be stressed," or "nothing worries me," be real– life can be challenging at times. In other words, as the young folk exclaims, "life be lifing!"

Life can easily become stressful and overwhelming for the following reasons: school, balancing jobs/careers, managing businesses, overseeing your home, dealing with finances, tending to ill family members, adapting and or adjusting to societal pressures, coping with the political climate, pastoring, and I saved the best one for last – parenting!

As a parent(s), when you are: looking at baby names, designing your nursery, putting your gift registry together, planning your reveal party, pink or blue baby showers, opening and collecting your baby's first gifts like precious baby bags, cute little socks, darling baby bibs, sweet pacifiers and baby bottles, strollers, diapers and Lawdy, I can't forget Johnson's and Johnson's wash set but anyways you get my point – no one tells you that all this swooshy, wooshy cute stuff turns to eventually rearing Chuckies and Chuckneikas!

Nothing prepares one for parenting! It starts off with baby shoes, homework, fundraises (do you know how much popcorn, cookies, raffle tickets, fancy candy – six pieces of candies in a fancy box for \$48 we

had to help sell so that our babies could participate in the limo rides, pajama party? etc.), the annual reading/science fair projects, after school events, after school programs, 109 meetings with teachers, Awards Day Programs (We would be proud though of our babies collecting their awards) band, sports, proms, field trip fees, senior fees, college applications/tours, college tuition, move in/out days, monetary requests for gas, door dash, dining out with friends, (I recently let my Cash App go – it is out of service Hunny) etc. Additionally, lawdy, please don't let me forget to mention Chucky and Chuckneika tudes, moodiness, the slick-slick-sneak-sneak, messy rooms, hair drama, neglecting the curfews, etc. If you are a young parent starting off – I am so sorry in advance for all the popcorn you will have to sell and all the money that will be drained from you. But I will advise however, – GOD does prepare one for parenting. God tells parents to TRAIN up a child in the way that he/she should go and when he/she is old, they will not depart from it. My husband and I decided early on that Proverbs, Book of Daniel, etc. would replace, "The Three Little Pigs," and no it's nothing wrong with books. In fact, we have a small library of all the books that our children read. But we emphasized the main Book – the Word of God because "The Three Little Pigs," not going keep your child as God promises... to be continued soon.

So, what do married couples do when life gets hectic? One of the best investments that a married couple can make is to date.

As you know my husband and I are working on rekindling our in-love spark, so we have planned fun dates

for the remainder of this year if the Lord's willing. We recently had a Thursday date night; we worked out together in a new Healthplex/Gym, went to Applebee's and ordered my favorite dessert, a Blondie –umph, umph... the pecans, blond brownie, vanilla ice-cream, cream cheese sauce – Hallelujer – it was so good! Yes, we sure did celebrate our workout!

Anyways, I pulled out a new deck of Old Maid Cards and we began playing. Somehow after joking with our waitress that we were there celebrating love of twenty plus years with Old Maid – she assumed we were celebrating our anniversary and placed penmanship in scripted napkins under our desserts which read, "Happy Anniversary!" Of course, we made a big deal out of it, took pictures, and expressed our appreciation. We had so much fun! We laughed until we cried and my mouth was hurting. You, already know who won first – I did! Man, I wish you could have seen how disappointed my husband was to be holding his last card featuring the one and only Old Maid.

Concluding, spouses please do not wait until a special occasion or retirement to enjoy each other – do it now because life is not guaranteed. Old Maid and Blondies were less than \$25, yet it created a lifetime memory of love that makes me smile at this very moment. I look forward to our next date night of Old Maid and Blondies!

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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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 September 22 at 10:00 am

A list and description of abandoned/unclaimed vehicles will be posted pursuant to statutory requirements in the following locations: Hinds County Court House Hinds Country Chancery Court Building Jackson City Hall/City Clerk's Office” (9/3/2026)

8840443 • 2022/CHRYSLER/PACIFICA/4 DOOR/BLUE • 2C4RC1BG4NR218020

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

8844710 • 2016/HYUNDAI/TUCSON/SPORTS UTILITY/BLUE • KM8J33A43GU194469

8847521 • 2021/KIA/FORTE/4 DOOR/GRAY • 3KPPF24AD7ME305344

8850908 • 2012/HYUNDAI/SONATA/4 DOOR/BLACK • 5NPEB4AC1CH418008

8850929 • 2018/CHEVROLET/TRAX/SPORTS UTILITY/RED • 3GNCJLSB9JL410320

8851072 • 2015/CHEVROLET/MALIBU/4 DOOR/BLACK • 1G11B5SL5FF271380

8851121 • 2001/TOYOTA/TUNDRA/OTHER/BLACK • 5TBRN34121S154441

8851198 • 2008/INFINITI/G37/OTHER/TEAL • JNKCVC64E78M131422

8851249 • 1999/FORD/F150/OTHER/SILVER • 1FTRX17W7XNB24329

8851298 • 2015/KIA/OPTIMA/4 DOOR/WHITE • 5XXGM4A76FG431195

8851328 • 1996/TOYOTA/CAMRY/4 DOOR/SILVER • 4T1BG12K9TU780386

8851421 • 2020/NISSAN/ROGUE/SPORTS UTILITY/GRAY • JN8AT2MT3LW037030

8851808 • 2014/CHEVROLET/MALIBU/4 DOOR/RED • 1G11C5SL0EF250030

8851970 • 2007/DODGE/RAM/OTHER/BLACK • 1D7HA18257S196288

8852067 • 2011/NISSAN/MAXIMA/4 DOOR/GRAY •

1N4AA5AP9BC807229

8852093 • 2007/LEXUS/ES/4 DOOR/SILVER • JTHBJ46G072017119

8852153 • 2012/CHRYSLER/200/4 DOOR/SILVER • 1C3CCBAB5CN298427

8852245 • 1994/GMC/SIERRA/OTHER/MULTI-COLOR • 1GDDC14K6RZ508942

8852303 • 1994/GMC/SIERRA/OTHER/TAN • 1GTGC24K4RE566398

8852331 • 2017/HYUNDAI/SONATA/4 DOOR/BLUE • 5NPE24AFXHH580043

8854640 • 2013/HYUNDAI/ELANTRA/4 DOOR/SILVER • 5NPDH4AE2DH368278

8854653 • 2006/NISSAN/MAXIMA/4 DOOR/MULTI-COLOR • 1N4BA41E36C805981

8854686 • 2014/FORD/FIESTA/4 DOOR/GRAY • 3FADP4BJ5EM211165

8854696 • 2000/CHEVROLET/SILVERADO/OTHER/WHITE • 2GCEK19V9Y1130671

8854712 • 2012/NISSAN/ALTIMA/4 DOOR/GRAY • 1N4AL2AP3CN459863

8854739 • 2007/TOYOTA/CAMRY/4 DOOR/GRAY • 4T1BE46K97U005111

8854760 • 2007/CHEVROLET/IMPALA/4 DOOR/SILVER • 2G1WT58KX79198230

8854776 • 2015/CHEVROLET/CORVETTE/OTHER/BLACK • 1G1YF2D77F5107863

8854792 • 1994/TOYOTA/CAMRY/4 DOOR/WHITE • 4T1SK12E2RU851705

8854814 • 1991/DODGE/OTHER/VAN/MULTI-COLOR • 2B5WB35Z8MK457486

8854825 • 2007/CADILLAC/ESCALADE/SPORTS UTILITY/WHITE • 1GYEC63827R397230

8854877 • 2022/CHEVROLET/SILVERADO/OTHER/BLUE • 3GCUDFED1NG671281

8854888 • 1995/TOYOTA/CAMRY/OTHER/MULTI-COLOR • 4T1SK12C9SU494897

8854955 • 2014/KIA/OPTIMA/4 DOOR/WHITE • 5XXGM4A73EG263644

8854962 • 2012/DODGE/RAM/OTHER/BLACK • 1C6RD6KT9CS194002

8854980 • 2007/FORD/EDGE/SPORTS UTILITY/SILVER • 2FMDK39C67BA32787

8855007 • -/CHEVROLET/OTHER/2 DOOR/YELLOW • F1L4769JS87329

8855017 • 1995/CHEVROLET/OTHER/SPORTS UTILITY/

BLUE • 2CNBJ1868S6903667

8855030 • 2006/CHEVROLET/MALIBU/4 DOOR/MULTI-COLOR • 1G1ZT61836F177372

8855060 • 1983/BUICK/LESABRE/4 DOOR/SILVER • 1G4AN69Y9DH455322

8855074 • 2001/CHEVROLET/SILVERADO/OTHER/RED • 1GCEK19TX1E161530

8855078 • 2012/KIA/OPTIMA/4 DOOR/RED • 5XXGM4A73CG047208

8855124 • 1994/CHEVROLET/CAPRICE/4 DOOR/RED • 1G1BL52W6RR153305

8855145 • 2008/FORD/CROWN VICT/4 DOOR/WHITE • 2FAFP71V78X136489

8855158 • 1999/LINCOLN/TOWN CAR/4 DOOR/BLACK • 1LNHM82W7XY717817

8855223 • 1987/HONDA/CIVIC/4 DOOR/RED • 1HGEC4533HA040863

8855255 • 1993/HONDA/CIVIC/OTHER/RED • 2HGJEJ2148PH513231

8855260 • 1978/CHEVROLET/CHEYENNE/PICK UP/WHITE • CKL148Z122214

8855264 • 2013/CHRYSLER/300/4 DOOR/OTHER • 2C3CCAAG7DH743220

8855466 • 2004/NISSAN/MAXIMA/4 DOOR/WHITE • 1N4BA41EX4C880786

8855497 • 2006/CHEVROLET/IMPALA/4 DOOR/GOLD • 2G1WC581769219380

8855553 • 2007/TOYOTA/CAMRY/4 DOOR/GOLD • 4T1BE46K57U060414

8855565 • 1998/FORD/CROWN VICT/4 DOOR/WHITE • 2FAFP73W5WX158767

8855592 • 2015/INFINITI/Q50/4 DOOR/MULTI-COLOR • JN1BV7AP4FM331554

8855605 • 2002/DODGE/INTREPID/4 DOOR/MULTI-COLOR • 2B3HD46R22H268147

8855616 • 2007/VOLVO/S40/4 DOOR/BLACK • YV1MS382X72291991

8855777 • 2014/KIA/FORTE/HATCH BACK/GRAY • KNAFX5A88E5168015

8855797 • 2009/BUICK/ENCLAVE/SPORTS UTILITY/WHITE • 5GAER23D19J117746

8855807 • 2004/LINCOLN/TOWN CAR/4 DOOR/WHITE • 1LNHM81W24Y638987

8855815 • 2003/MERCURY/GRAND MARQUIS/4 DOOR/WHITE • 2MEFM75WX3X627846

8855882 • 2003/HONDA/ELEMENT/SPORTS UTILITY/GREEN • 5J6YH28593L053011

8855890 • 1998/NISSAN/ALTIMA/4 DOOR/BLACK • 1N4DL01D8WC138165

8855931 • 1996/NISSAN/MAXIMA/4 DOOR/BLACK • JN1CA21D1TT135999

8855955 • 2018/CHEVROLET/TRAX/SPORTS UTILITY/SILVER • 3GNCJKSBJL358653

8855978 • 2005/CHEVROLET/IMPALA/4 DOOR/GOLD • 2G1WF52E859274728

8858479 • 2011/CADILLAC/DTS/4 DOOR/RED • 1G6KA5E6XBU110570

8858494 • 2005/CADILLAC/DEVILLE/4 DOOR/SILVER • 1G6KD54Y85U245626

8858538 • 2001/NISSAN/MAXIMA/4 DOOR/RED • JN1CA31D51T833616

8858571 • -/OTHER-NOT FOUND/OTHER/ALL TERAİN VEHICLE/GREEN • L6ZSCKLA9P1001238

8858931 • 1996/TOYOTA/COROLLA/4 DOOR/GRAY • 1NXBA02E6TZ378668

8858991 • 2001/HYUNDAI/SANTA FE/SPORTS UTILITY/BLACK • KM8SC83D71U096454

8859032 • 1998/TOYOTA/TACOMA/OTHER/BLACK • 4TAWN72N9WZ161010

8859037 • 2008/MERCURY/MILAN/4 DOOR/SILVER • 3MEHM08128R628799

8859050 • 2003/FORD/F150/OTHER/WHITE • 2FTRX17W83CA55425

8859074 • 2016/JEEP/PATRIOT/SPORTS UTILITY/BLUE • 1C4NJPBB7GD763579

8859080 • 2002/CHEVROLET/TRAILBLAZER/SPORTS UTILITY/WHITE • 1GNDT13S422295341

8859127 • 1999/MERCURY/GRAND MARQUIS/4 DOOR/WHITE • 2MEFM74W9XX630180

8859303 • 2002/FORD/EXPLORER/SPORTS UTILITY/BLUE • 1FMDU74WX2UA79472

8859316 • 2003/CHEVROLET/IMPALA/4 DOOR/GRAY • 2G1WH52K339439646

8859335 • 2003/NISSAN/XTERRA/SPORTS UTILITY/WHITE • 5N1ED28T53C683980

8859396 • 2007/CHRYSLER/PACIFICA/SPORTS UTILITY/RED • 2A8GM78X47R175356

8861479 • 2017/OTHER-NOT FOUND/OTHER/TRAILER/BLACK • 5RHCT1622HH002843

8861547 • 2008/NISSAN/ALTIMA/4 DOOR/RED • 1N4AL21E08N494253

8861632 • 2015/HYUNDAI/SONATA/4 DOOR/BLACK • 5NPE34AF1FH022446

8861651 • 1998/FORD/EXPLORER/SPORTS UTILITY/BLACK • 1FMYU24E9WUB23110

8861657 • 2006/LINCOLN/OTHER/4 DOOR/WHITE • 3LNHM261X6R627991

8861675 • -/TOYOTA/CAMRY/4 DOOR/SILVER • 4T1BG22K3YU708130

8861693 • 1998/INFINITI/I30/4 DOOR/GRAY • JNKCA21A5WT610544

8861738 • 2014/TOYOTA/COROLLA/4 DOOR/GRAY • 5YFBURHE0EP093732

8861935 • 2009/TOYOTA/CAMRY/4 DOOR/GOLD • 4T1BK46K39U074999

8862010 • 2006/NISSAN/ALTIMA/4 DOOR/GRAY • 1N4AL11E06N334784

8862066 • 2001/CHEVROLET/TAHOE/SPORTS UTILITY/SILVER • 1GNEC13TX1J130363

8862083 • 2007/FORD/TAURUS/4 DOOR/SILVER • 1FAFP56U97A199931

8862111 • 2020/KIA/FORTE/4 DOOR/GRAY • 3KPPF24AD3LE148135

8862124 • 2000/MERCURY/GRAND MARQUIS/4 DOOR/GOLD • 2MEFM75W0YX621755

8862142 • 1988/CHEVROLET/GMT-400/OTHER/MULTI-COLOR • 2GCDCC14K4J1200332

8862144 • 2013/CHEVROLET/CRUZE/4 DOOR/BLUE • 1G1PE5SB7D7144470

8864104 • 2011/TOYOTA/CAMRY/4 DOOR/BLACK • 4T1BF3EK8BU209674

8864178 • 2013/HYUNDAI/ELANTRA/4 DOOR/WHITE • 5NPDH4AE0DH285352

8864281 • 2005/FORD/TAURUS/4 DOOR/WHITE • 1FAFP53U55A252447

8864612 • 2007/CHEVROLET/SILVERADO/OTHER/TAN • 1GCEC19V57E140950

8871593 • 2013/DODGE/AVENGER/4 DOOR/BLACK • 1C3CDZABXDN536120

8872250 • 2007/CHEVROLET/IMPALA/4 DOOR/BLUE • 2G1WS55R479191259C118

8872323 • 2016/CHEVROLET/SONIC/4 DOOR/BLACK • 1G1JC5SHXG4125367

8879600 • -/OTHER-NOT FOUND/OTHER/ALL TERAİN VEHICLE/RED •

3JB3GA548RJ000272

8912537 • 2006/HONDA/MC-CBR-SERIES/MOTORCYCLE/BLUE • JH2PC37046M309184

8912552 • 2002/SUZUKI/OTHER/MOTORCYCLE/BLACK • JS1GN7BA322102473

8912578 • 2008/YAMAHA/YZFR6/MOTORCYCLE/BLUE • JYARJ06E38A036709

8936757 • 2006/KAWASAKI/OTHER/MOTORCYCLE/BLUE • JKAEXMF166DA18252

9398417 • 2015/FORD/EXPEDITION/SPORTS UTILITY/OTHER • 1FMJK1JT4FEF48054

9409126 • 2000/MERCURY/GRAND MARQUIS/4 DOOR/WHITE • 2MEFM75W4YX667802

9413048 • 1995/CHEVROLET/TAHOE/SPORTS UTILITY/GREEN • 1GNEK13K5SJ366625

9422210 • 2007/TOYOTA/CAMRY/4 DOOR/SILVER • 4T1BK46K67U549591

9422247 • 2003/FORD/EXPLORER/SPORTS UTILITY/WHITE • 1FMZU63K53ZA91435

9429288 • 2024/OTHER-NOT FOUND/OTHER/OTHER/BLUE • L2BB9NCC3RB518391

9433014 • 2012/HONDA/CIVIC/4 DOOR/BLUE • 19XFB2F84CE343922

9433045 • 2004/CHEVROLET/SILVERADO/OTHER/BLUE • 2GCEC19V841170375

9433095 • 2001/LINCOLN/TOWN CAR/4 DOOR/TAN • 1LNHM83W31Y653121

9446157 • 2005/GMC/SIERRA/PICK UP/BLUE • 2GTEK13T851124329

9446412 • 2003/HYUNDAI/SANTA FE/SPORTS UTILITY/BLACK • KM8SC13E53U514156

9449542 • 2006/NISSAN/ALTIMA/4 DOOR/SILVER • 1N4AL11D96C237537

9469463 • 2017/FORD/FUSION/4 DOOR/BLACK • 3FA6POH7XHR278025

9469519 • 2005/CHEVROLET/SILVERADO/PICK UP/GRAY • 1GCEC14X65Z274395

9469597 • -/HONDA/OTHER/RECREATIONAL VEH/RED • 1HFTE3500A4303580

9470415 • 1999/ISUZU/OTHER/SPORTS UTILITY/ORANGE • 4S2CK58W0X4337045

9472704 • 2e005/JEEP/LIBERTY/SPORTS UTILITY/BLUE • 1J4GK48K15W540459

9/10/2026, 9/17/2026

LEGAL

LEGAL NOTICE REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS Lease Purchase Financing Interest Rate Proposal RFP#94654-092926 Notice is hereby given that sealed proposals will be received by the City of Jackson, Mississippi on Tuesday September 29, 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#94654-092926 Lease Purchase Financing Interest Rate Proposal." Proposals should be mailed to the following address prior to or on September 29, 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 (601) 960-2005
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LEGAL

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF
NETA COOPER, DECEASED

CAUSE NO:P2025-430 G/2

GABRIELLE COOPER, ADMINISTRATOR

NOTICE TO UNKNOWN CREDITORS

Letters of Administration having been granted by the Chancery Court of Hinds County, Mississippi to the undersigned Administrator upon the Estate of Netra Cooper, Deceased, notice is hereby given to all persons having claims against said estate to present the same to the Clerk of this Court for probation 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 2nd day of April, 2026.

Gabrielle Cooper, Administrator

[Signature]

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI
COUNTY OF HINDS

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



[Signature]
Gabrielle Cooper

Ann James

MY COMMISSION EXPIRES

Frank C. Jones, III Attorney at Law
Frank C. Jones Law Office
1010 N. West Street
Jackson, MS 39202
Tel: (769) 251-0207
Facsimile: (601) 608-7872

9/10/2026

LEGAL

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF HINDS COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE
OF ALICE JONES, DECEASED

SADIE SABIR, ADMINISTATRIX

PLAINTIFF

VS.

CIVIL ACTION NO. 21-443

THE KNOWN AND UNKNOWN HEIRS-AT-LAW
OF ALICE JONES, DECEASED

DEFENDANTS

SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION

THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

TO: Rosland Jones
2066 Sprinkle Rd Apt 3
Kalamazoo, Michigan 49001

You have been made a Defendant in the suit filed in this Court by Sadie Sabir, Plaintiff(s), to determine the heirship of Alice Jones., deceased.

You are summoned to appear and defend against said AMENDED Motion for Determination of Heirship at 9:00a.m. on the 30th day of November 2026, in the Chancery courtroom of Hinds County Courthouse in Jackson Mississippi, located at 316 S. President Street Jackson, MS, 39201, and in case of your failure to appear and defend a judgment may be entered against you for the money or other things demanded in the Motion.

You are not required to file an answer or other pleading, but you may do so if you desire. Such should be served by mailing to Joseph A. Denson, Attorney for Plaintiff, whose address is P.O. Box 5022, 1931 23rd Avenue, Meridian, Mississippi 39302, Telephone (601) 693-5400.

Issued under my hand and the seal of said Court, this the 27th day of August, 2026.



K. Howard
Deputy Clerk

(SEAL)
Prepared by:
JOSEPH A. DENSON 101910
DENSON AND ASSOCIATES, PLLC
1931 TWENTY-THIRD AVENUE
POST OFFICE BOX 5022
MERIDIAN, MS 39302-5022
PHONE: 601-693-5400
FAX: 601-693-5983

9/3/2026, 9/10/2026

LEGAL

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF HINDS COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF NETA COOPER, DECEASED
CAUSE NO:P2025-430 G/2

GABRIELLE COOPER, ADMINISTRATOR

NOTICE TO UNKNOWN CREDITORS

Letters of Administration having been granted by the Chancery Court of Hinds County, Mississippi to the undersigned Administrator upon the Estate of Netra Cooper, Deceased, notice is hereby given to all persons having claims against said estate to present the same to the Clerk of this Court for probation 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.

Gabrielle Cooper, Administrator

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI
COUNTY OF HINDS

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

Gabrielle Cooper

9/3/2026, 9/10/2026

HUGE 1-DAY PUBLIC AUCTION

Wednesday, September 16th

Auction Starts at 9:00am

1042 Holland Ave • Philadelphia, Mississippi
Live Online and Onsite Bidding



Selling All Types of Construction Equipment, including: Dozers, Excavators, Motor Graders, Rubber-tired Loaders, Backhoes, Skid Steers, Compaction Eq.. Also selling Dump Trucks, Truck Tractors, Specialty Trucks, Trailers, Forklifts, Logging Equip., Farm Tractors, Pickups, Vehicles, Attachments, Misc. & Much More!!

Deanco Auction 601-656-9768 www.deancoauction.com
1042 Holland Ave (PO Box 1248) • Philadelphia, Mississippi 39350 Auctioneer: Donnie W Dean, #733, MSGL #635
10% Buyers Premium on the first \$5000 of each lot and then a 3% buyers premium and the remaining balance of each lot.

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The Mississippi Link
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Capitol Street and Monument Street

CITY HALL

219 S President St

GARRETT OFFICE COMPLEX

2659 Livingston Road

DOLLAR GENERAL

3957 Northview Dr (North Jackson)

DOLLAR GENERAL

2030 N Siwell Rd

DOLLAR GENERAL

4331 Highway 80W

DOLLAR GENERAL

5990 Medgar Evers Blvd

DOLLAR GENERAL

1214 Capitol St (Downtown Jackson)

DOLLAR GENERAL

304 Briarwood Dr

DOLLAR GENERAL

2855 McDowell Rd

DOLLAR GENERAL

104 Terry Rd

J & A FUEL STORES

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P R E S E R V E D

Falling in Love with Laughter

By Shewanda Riley
Columnist



Before I could stop it from happening, I was already on my side on the floor and unable to move for a few minutes. It was actually probably just a few seconds, but the stunned looks on my students' faces made it seem much longer. I left like a California Redwood tree as I was falling and like I should have been yelling, "Timber!" What was the "it?" I fell

on my side in front of a college class that I was teaching a number of years ago.

Because I fell on my left side, I couldn't easily maneuver my body so I could sit up. And because the loose strings on my boots kept my feet twisted together, I couldn't even attempt to stand up. Because my skirt was so long, they didn't know that I couldn't stand up since they couldn't see my legs. My students didn't know if they should help me or if they would get in trouble if they laughed at me. So, they did neither and kept staring at me

as I struggled to roll over and get up.

One student got over her shock and quickly assisted me in getting up; she even offered me a chair to sit in so I could finish teaching class without hurting myself. My now wounded body and pride wouldn't let me sit in the chair. By the time class was over, I regretted hastily pushing the chair back into the corner since both my upper arm and back were starting to throb with pain.

From that point until the end of class, every time I moved

during the lecture, I could feel the students watching to make sure I didn't fall again. It was a little awkward in the classroom as I tried to finish teaching about learning from examples in our everyday lives. I ended up telling them that it was okay for them to laugh and we had a quick 2-minute laugh break which we all needed.

Finally, we were able to finish class but not before the topic of my fall came up a few more times. As they filed out of the room when the class was over, a few jokingly told me to be careful going home; one

male student even apologized for laughing at me.

If there was a deeper spiritual lesson, I may have missed it. Maybe I should learn to be more graceful; I've been working on that one since I was a child...obviously without much success. Rather than get angry or more embarrassed, I made the connection to the lecture topic of learning from real-life examples. Without trying, it seems like I'd given them a real-life example of trying to learn how not to die of embarrassment. As I've gotten older, I have

also learned to laugh more at myself and my many failings. Proverbs 17:22 teaches an important lesson that laughter is sometimes the best medicine when it says, "A cheerful heart is good medicine..."

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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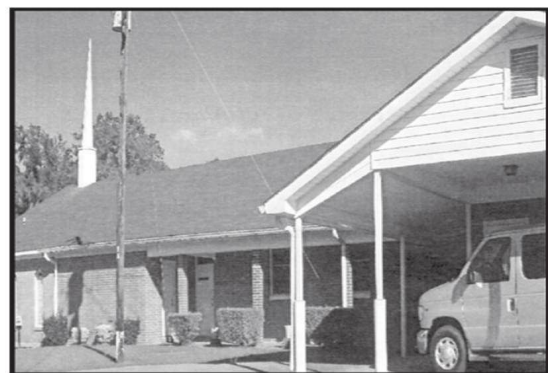
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Peptides: Why We Need Them

By Vince Faust MA
Health Educator and Motivational Writer

Peptides may sound like a complicated scientific term, but they are actually a simple and important part of how the human body works. In recent years, peptides have become popular in medicine, nutrition, skin care and even fitness supplements. Because of this growing interest, it's important for you to understand what peptides are, why they matter and whether taking extra peptides is truly helpful or potentially harmful.

Peptides are short chains of amino acids. Amino acids are the basic building blocks of protein. If you imagine protein as a long necklace made of beads, peptides are shorter pieces of that necklace. Most peptides contain between 2 and 50 amino acids, while full proteins can contain hundreds.

Your body makes peptides naturally. They act as messengers, carrying signals from one cell to another. These signals help control many important functions, such as appetite, blood sugar, healing, growth and even mood. Because peptides are small and easy for the body to use, they can act quickly and precisely.

Peptides are found in every part of the body. They help your muscles move, your skin stay firm, your immune system fight germs and your organs work properly. They are also found in foods like meat, eggs, dairy, beans and fish. When you eat protein, your body breaks it down into peptides and amino acids, which it then uses to build and repair tissues.

Peptides play a major role in keeping you healthy. Here are some of the most important ways they help:

- **Hormones:** Some hormones, like insulin, are peptides. Insulin helps control blood sugar. Without it, the body cannot use energy properly.
- **Digestion:** Peptides help regulate hunger and fullness. They tell your brain when to eat and when to stop.
- **Immune system:** Certain peptides help your body fight infections by breaking down bacteria and viruses.
- **Healing and repair:** Some peptides help repair skin, muscles and organs after injury.
- **Brain function:** Peptides act as messengers in the brain, helping control mood, stress and pain.



Because peptides are involved in so many important processes, having the right balance of them is essential for good health. Most people get what they need naturally through normal body function and a balanced diet.

This is one of the biggest questions people ask today. Peptide supplements are sold in powders, pills, drinks and skin creams. Some people also buy injectable peptides online, hoping to improve muscle growth, weight loss or skin appearance.

Do you need extra peptides? For most healthy people, the answer is no. The body already makes the peptides it needs. Eating a balanced diet with enough protein gives your body the raw materials to produce them naturally.

- There are a few exceptions:
- Older adults may benefit from collagen peptides for joint health or skin moisture.
 - People recovering from injury may use certain peptides under medical supervision.
 - Patients with specific medical conditions may need peptidebased

medications prescribed by a doctor.

But for the average person, extra peptides are not necessary. Many claims made by supplement companies are not backed by strong scientific evidence.

Are supplemental peptides safe? Peptides made by your own body are safe. Peptides found in food are also safe. The concern comes from synthetic peptides, especially those sold online or in gyms.

- Some risks include:
- **Contamination:** Many injectable peptides sold online are not regulated. They may contain bacteria, impurities or incorrect ingredients.
 - **Incorrect dosing:** Peptides can affect hormones, appetite and immune function. Taking too much can disrupt your body's natural balance.
 - **Side effects:** Some peptides can cause swelling, headaches, nausea or changes in blood pressure.
 - **Unknown longterm effects:** Many popular peptides have not been studied enough to know their longterm safety.

Doctors warn that selfinjecting pep-



tides bought online are risky. These products are not approved by the FDA and many have been found to contain harmful substances.

Peptide supplements like collagen powders are generally safe, but they may not provide the dramatic results some advertisements promise.

Your decision to take supplemental peptides should be made carefully. Here are some guidelines to help you think it through:

- **Talk to a healthcare professional first.** They can help you understand whether a peptide supplement is appropriate for your situation.
- **Avoid injectable peptides unless prescribed.** These carry the highest risk.
- **Be cautious of big claims.** If a product promises fast weight loss, instant muscle growth or miracle skin repair, it is likely exaggerated.
- **Choose reputable brands.** If you decide to try collagen or other peptide supplements, look for companies that test their products for purity.
- **Remember that food is the best source.** Eating lean meats, beans,

dairy, nuts and fish give your body the amino acids it needs to make peptides naturally.

For most people, lifestyle habits, such as eating well, staying active, sleeping enough and managing stress, do far more for peptide balance than any supplement.

Peptides play a major role in modern medicine. In fact, some of the most important drugs today are peptidebased. Here are a few examples:

- **Insulin:** A lifesaving peptide for people with diabetes.
- **GLP1 medications:** Drugs like semaglutide and tirzepatide help control blood sugar and appetite. They are used for diabetes and weight management.
- **Blood pressure medications:** Some drugs that regulate fluid balance and blood pressure are peptides.
- **Osteoporosis treatments:** Certain peptides help build bone and prevent fractures.
- **Skin treatments:** Dermatologists use peptidebased creams to help with wound healing and skin repair.
- **Cancer research:** Scientists are studying peptides that may help target cancer cells more precisely.

In medicine, peptides are powerful tools because they can act quickly and target specific cells without affecting the whole body. This makes them useful for treating diseases while reducing side effects.

Remember peptides are small but mighty molecules that help your body function every day. They regulate hormones, support healing, protect against infection and help control appetite and digestion. Most people do not need extra peptides, and many supplements or injections sold online can be risky. Peptidebased medications, however, are an important part of modern healthcare and have helped millions of people manage chronic conditions.

Understanding peptides helps you make smarter choices about your health. As with any supplement or treatment, it's best to rely on trusted medical advice rather than marketing claims. Your body already knows how to make the peptides it needs. Your job is to support it with good nutrition, regular activity and healthy habits.

How people living with PAH are shaping better support and education

StatePoint

Pulmonary hypertension (PH) is a serious condition that causes abnormally high pressure in the blood vessels between the lungs and the heart. In Pulmonary Arterial Hypertension (PAH), a rare and progressive form of PH, the tiny arteries in the lungs become thickened and narrowed, making it harder for the heart to pump blood.

Listening to the PAH Community

The American Lung Association, with independent grant funding from Merck, has launched a new campaign to gain insight from people living with PAH to help shape the development of educational resources for those living with the disease. Through online social listening and storyteller interviews, the campaign identified key needs for:

- Better recognition of symptoms and steps to take when talking to healthcare providers
- Easy-to-understand information on disease management and treatment options
- Support while navigating the often long and complex path to diagnosis and treatment

Shaping Education and Resources

Diagnosis of PAH is often delayed (sometimes 3 years or more) because symptoms mimic other more common conditions. Patient stories illustrate how frustrating this experience can be and highlight the need for greater awareness of PAH among patients and providers alike.

"I went to my primary care provider, had multiple emergency department visits and had seen more than one pulmonologist before finally being diagnosed with PAH. My symptoms were originally dismissed as asthma and being out of shape," shared Jen C.

Patients also reported a need for more understanding of how to manage PAH. That's why the American Lung Association is now providing free education online in easy-to-understand formats, including the PH Basics and Living with PAH 15-minute learning tools. The organization has also expanded resources focused on symptom recognition and advocating for comprehensive disease management.

Above all, the campaign highlights how important it is to elevate the patient voice.

People living with PAH experience both emotional and physical impacts throughout their diagnostic and treatment journey. Their stories can help others better understand the disease and see practical examples of self-advocacy.

Take Jenna, who has lived with PAH for over a decade. "I told my specialist from the beginning that I wanted to keep traveling and working while managing my disease," she said. Her determination and openness helped shape her treatment plan. And when Jenna found obstacles to traveling with medical devices and living with what she calls "an invisible disease," she took action and researched traveling with a medical condition. Now she maintains a blog to help others. "I wanted to share real-life experiences for people like me that were missing from existing resources."

For more information about PAH and access to free educational tools and support, visit Lung.org/pah.

Thanks to the collective voices of patients, those living with PAH can anticipate more support and better resources to guide them in their journey.



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

MVSU B.B. King Day Symposium reveals new insights into his legacy

Many were surprised to learn that King embraced emerging music technologies long before today's AI era

By Jeriah King
MVSU Mass Comm Student Journalist

Mississippi Valley State University celebrated the life and lasting influence of blues legend B.B. King during its 12th annual B.B. King Day Symposium Sept. 3, bringing musicians, scholars and blues historians together to examine how technology has shaped the music King helped bring to the world.

The symposium, held in the Carver A. Randle Sr. Auditorium inside the W.A. Butts Social Sciences Building, focused on the theme, “Blues, Its Present and Future — The Advancement of AI Technology and the Preservation of a Blues Culture.”

MVSU President Dr. Jerryl Briggs Sr. welcomed students, faculty and visitors and emphasized the importance of continuing to celebrate King and the culture of the Mississippi Delta.

Briggs said events such as the symposium allow the university

and surrounding community to recognize their history while creating opportunities for students to learn from it.

“It’s a great day to be in the Valley,” Briggs said before encouraging students to listen, ask questions and take advantage of the discussions throughout the day.

The program was moderated by symposium founder Alphonso Sanders and included presentations from Robert Terrell, deputy director of the B.B. King Museum and Delta Interpretive Center; Scott Barretta, a Mississippi blues researcher and writer; and Dr. Tom Attah, an assistant professor of sociology and Southern studies at the University of Mississippi.

Terrell opened his presentation with archival footage showing King throughout different stages of his life and career. The footage highlighted not only King’s musicianship but his willingness to embrace new technology.

Terrell said King was often among the first to become interested in emerging devices and used technology throughout his career, including computers, mobile phones and advanced entertainment systems aboard his tour bus.

“He really thought that technology was really important,” Terrell said.

The presentation also showed that King’s musical interests stretched beyond the blues. Terrell noted that King performed and recorded blues, gospel, R&B, jazz and country music during his career.

Barretta continued the discussion by tracing the development of technology King experienced from his childhood in rural Mississippi to becoming an internationally recognized performer.

Barretta explained that King grew up during a period when many rural Mississippi households did not yet have electric-

ity. Radio, phonograph records and jukeboxes became important ways for King and other musicians to hear music outside their communities.

King later used radio to reach audiences of his own. Before becoming an international star, he performed with the Famous St. John’s Gospel Singers on WGRM in Greenwood and later worked as a disc jockey at WDIA in Memphis.

Barretta said technology continued to follow King throughout his career as music moved from 78 rpm records to 45s, LPs, reel-to-reel tape, cassettes, CDs and eventually digital media.

Even as those formats changed, King consistently adapted.

The symposium also placed King’s career within the larger history of the Mississippi Delta, where generations of blues musicians developed music that would influence R&B, Rock ‘n’ Roll, Soul and other genres.

Attah offered another perspective on the blues and its influence during an interview at the symposium. Originally from England, Attah said people sometimes assume he knows little about the blues because of his origins.

His connection to the genre began when a friend introduced him to Chess Records, where he discovered Muddy Waters and developed a love for blues music.

“All music leads back to the blues,” Attah said.

Attah also spoke about what makes the blues relatable to people regardless of their circumstances or emotions.

“If you’re sad, you can listen to the blues. If you’re happy, you can listen to the blues. If you’ve just lost your mate, you can listen to the blues,” Attah said. “It does not matter.”

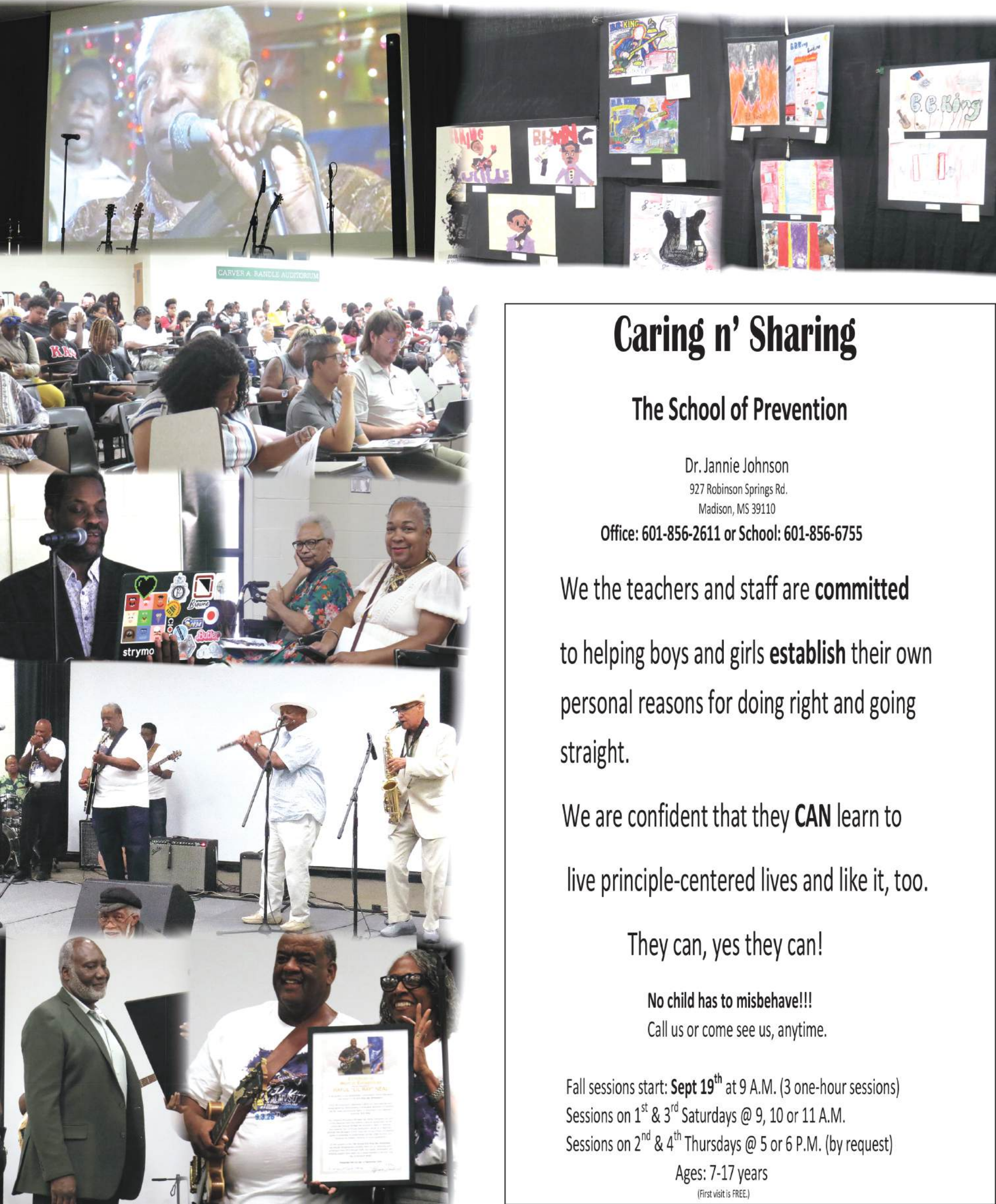
Also, a blues scholar-musician, Attah gave an insightful and innovative presentation on how AI and other technologies may reshape or

preserve the blues and other music in the future. (<https://olemiss.edu/profiles/tattah>)

For students, the symposium offered a chance to see B.B. King as more than the musician behind songs such as “The Thrill Is Gone.” Presenters described a performer who remained curious about new ideas throughout his life and used changing technology to preserve, study and share music.

The event concluded with recognition of the B.B. King Art Competition and a finale featuring King’s famous guitar, Lucille, played by blues guitarist Lil’ Ray Neal. Evening performances were also scheduled at Club Ebony in Indianola.

More than a decade after King’s death, the annual MVSU symposium continues to connect his Mississippi Delta roots to new generations while examining how the Blues can survive and evolve in an increasingly digital world.



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John R. Lynch, first African-American Speaker and Analyst of Southern Politics, stood tall

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



John Roy Lynch was born on September 10, 1847 in Vidalia, LA. He was a member of the U.S. House of Representatives, Speaker of the Mississippi House and State House member. He adamantly opposed discrimination against Blacks. PHOTO CREDIT: WIKIPEDIA

what was most outstanding was the debate to ban discrimination in public accommodations, in support of the Civil Rights Act of 1875. “What we ask for is protection in the enjoyment of public rights – rights that are or should be accorded to every citizen alike,” he asserted. In 1884, he delivered the Republican National Convention’s keynote address where he was elected as temporary chair.

The speaker forged ahead and in time studied law and engaged in politics. In several key states he held national positions, thereby receiving a federal appointment from President Benjamin Harrison to represent the Navy Department as an auditor. In 1896, he was admitted to the state bar in Mississippi. He found himself from 1897 to 1898 practicing law in Washington, D.C., while appointed by President William McKinley to serve as a US Army paymaster during the Spanish-American War.

In 1911, Lynch retired from the army, moved to Chicago and reestablished law and embarked upon a writing career. He knew what Reconstruction was, having experienced it firsthand. That is why he

opposed William Archibald Dunning’s written scholarship that defended portrayal of Reconstruction as an era of Republican corruption, former slaves’ barbarity and federal vindictiveness. Such opposition gave rise to Lynch’s 1913 book, “The Facts of Reconstruction.” This book is considered a primary source in the study of Reconstruction. Dunning School historiography favored former slave owners’ assertions of slavery as opposed to acknowledging positive contributions of African Americans during Reconstruction. Furthermore, the author criticized Dunning for falsifying that African Americans could not manage any political power.

Who was John R. Lynch? He was an American writer, lawyer, military officer, and politician. He was a member of the U.S. House of Representatives from Mississippi’s 6th district. He held office from April 29, 1882 to March 4, 1883. He was the 33rd Speaker of the Mississippi House of Representatives. He served from 1872 – 1873. He died in Chicago at age 92 on November 2, 1939; nevertheless, John R. Lynch stood the test of time.

When Praises Go Up: SUGC Nominated for Prestigious Stellar Award



The Southern University Gospel Choir recruiting at the fall student organizational fair the Mini-Dome. SOURCE -SOUTHERN DIGEST

By Myla'Shay Harris
Staff Writer, Black Press USA Wire

What does it take for a campus choir to get noticed by the biggest names in gospel music? For Southern University’s Gospel Choir (SUGC), it took countless late rehearsals, unwavering faith, and a powerful sound.

Here on the bluff, SUGC captures audiences with strong praises and an uplifting spirit. Witnessing their performance is an unforgettable experience. The DIGEST had the honor of interviewing Mr. Ernest Bowman Jr., the Director of SUGC, regarding the choir’s recent Stellar Award nomination for HBCU Choir of the Year.

“To be nominated in the first year of this category was historical,” Bowman stated. “Although we did not bring home the award, SUGC will always be recognized as one of the first choirs nominated in a category of its kind. Nearly every artist I met already knew about us and had great things to say, confirming that SUGC is one of the

premier collegiate gospel choirs in the country. Our legacy reaches well beyond campus.”

The experience was also monumental for student director D’Arius Roland, who represented the Jaguar Nation on a national platform. Bowman notes that while the recognition serves as a powerful recruiting tool, budget limitations unfortunately prevented the entire choir from traveling.

“I pray this historic honor helps our administration realize what a jewel SUGC truly is and begin supporting us accordingly,” Bowman said. “Moving forward, we want to expand travel, record original music, strengthen our digital presence, and secure additional student scholarships. This nomination was not the finish line.”

Kyra Long, a Junior Nursing major, Dance minor, and SUGC President, shared how surreal the moment felt. “To see our choir receive recognition on that level is a reminder that our work goes far beyond singing. We use our gifts

to minister, represent our university, and glorify God,” Long said. “SUGC has truly changed my life. It gave me a family, strengthened my faith, and challenged me to grow as a leader.”

Curtis Williams Jr., a second-year member majoring in Rehabilitation Services and Counseling, echoed that excitement. “The nomination was shocking and exciting; we found out during Spring 2026 graduation and were so grateful,” Williams said. “SUGC has helped me grow not only as a singer, but also as a person.”

Well Jaguar Nation, there you have it! History is in the making and there’s a lot more to go and achieve. The Southern University Gospel Choir has achieved so much and changed the lives of many.

As we all shall remember: When the music in your spirit matches the joy in your heart, heaven listens and a Stellar Award nomination follows.

Based on reporting by Southern University - SouthernDIGEST.

McInnis challenges Valley community to choose excellence at Fall Convocation

By Jeriah King
MVSU/Mass Comm Student Journalist



MVSU NAA President LaShunna McInnis stresses “excellence” to students during the university’s Fall 2026 Convocation. PHOTO BY MVSU COMMUNICATION & MARKETING/KARRINGTON STOCKSTILL

president and is a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. MVSU records note her longtime involvement with the sorority’s Rho Lambda Omega Chapter.

Now serving as president and board chair of the MVSU National Alumni Association, McInnis returned to her alma mater to encourage students to recognize the role their everyday decisions can play in determining their success.

She told students that excellence should not be confused with perfection. Instead, she said excellence requires learning from mistakes, remaining disci-



Incoming freshmen and other audience members listen to and applaud McInnis as she speaks, offering words of encouragement and inspiration PHOTO BY MVSU COMMUNICATION & MARKETING/KARRINGTON STOCKSTILL

plined in difficult circumstances, and refusing to allow failure to have the final word.

“Small decisions create habits. Habits shape character, and character determines destiny,” McInnis said.

McInnis encouraged students to attend class, complete assignments, seek help when needed and surround themselves with people who strengthen their purpose.

She also addressed students who may question whether they belong at MVSU because of financial concerns, family expectations, academic struggles or

other challenges.

“You were not admitted by accident,” McInnis said. “You are here because you have the potential inside of you that deserves to be developed.”

Throughout her address, McInnis emphasized the responsibility of the entire university community to protect what she described as the Valley “house.”

She said protecting the university includes respecting others, rejecting bullying, hazing and harassment, caring for the campus and representing MVSU positively.

“That is our house, and we will

protect our house,” McInnis said.

Her challenge extended beyond students. McInnis called on faculty, staff, administrators and alumni to raise the standard in academic achievement, professionalism, customer service, campus engagement and accountability.

Student leaders also helped welcome the university community to the new academic year.

SGA President Jamison Ware encouraged students to become involved, take advantage of opportunities and create lasting experiences at Valley.

“Don’t just come to the Valley,” Ware said. “Come and grow and leave long-lasting memories.”

Mr. MVSU Terrell Booker opened the ceremony with the invocation, while Miss MVSU Ava Anderson introduced McInnis before her keynote address. The program also showcased student talent through musical selections, including a solo by freshman music performance major Maya Thompson.

MVSU President Dr. Jerryl Briggs Sr. reinforced the key-

note’s emphasis on community during his closing remarks, telling students that Valley should become more than the campus where they attend classes.

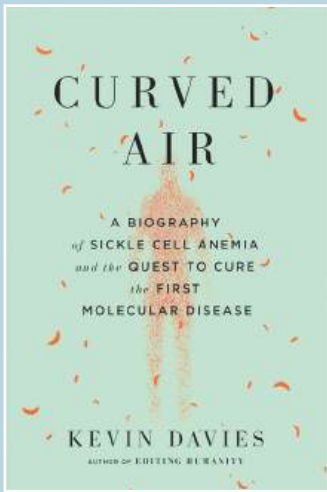
“This is now your house and your home,” Briggs said.

Briggs encouraged students to recognize the support available to them and the role each member of the Valley community plays in the university’s future. He also said that after celebrating its 75th anniversary, MVSU is planning not only for the next few years but for its next 75 years and beyond.

McInnis concluded her address by challenging students to begin pursuing excellence immediately rather than waiting until they face academic or professional difficulties.

“The time to become excellent is now,” McInnis said.

Her message left the Valley community with a charge for the new academic year: reject mediocrity, raise the standard and continue moving the university forward under the motto, “One Goal. One Team. One Valley. In Motion.”



BOOK REVIEW: CURVED AIR: A BIOGRAPHY OF SICKLE CELL ANEMIA AND THE QUEST TO CURE THE FIRST MOLECULAR DISEASE BY KEVIN DAVIES - C.2026, THE BELKNAP PRESS OF HARVARD UNIVERSITY PRESS \$29.95 EACH • 338 PAGES

By Terri Schlichenmeyer
Columnist

Four weeks of testing, and you're exhausted. Two gallons of blood, maybe three, have been removed, no die. You've laid on tables, slid through machines, been scanned so much you lost count and finally, your doctors have a diagnosis. As in the new book "Curved Air" by Kevin Davies, you have hope there's a what next? Though the disease was known in parts of Africa and likely existed here in the United States for hundreds of years, sickle cell disease (SCD) is a

relative newcomer in disease research. Says Davies, "Sickle cell was first identified more than 120 years ago" and it was considered as a "Black disease." Because of that, discrimination followed "sickle cell warriors" and research was scant, though white people can and do get SCD. With "agonizing" pain as a major symptom, "SCD is one of roughly seven thousand genetic diseases" currently known to science. When someone has SCD, a genetic mutation causes their red blood cells to curve and get stuck in blood vessels, rather

than flowing freely as blood cells are supposed to do. This diminishes the oxygen supply "to various parts of the body... which causes inflammation and pain," jaundice, stroke, and damaged organs. Anemia, Davies says, can leave a patient with fatigue and shortness of breath. Anticipating pain crises causes anxiety and PTSD. Says Davies, "More than forty million people carry" one copy of the genetic mutation that causes SCD, and "five hundred thousand affected" babies are born with the disease per year, worldwide.

Over decades, research was done, haphazardly. Papers were written, treatments were tried, used, or discarded. Doctors discovered that genetic testing could prevent new cases, a heartbreak for would-be parents. Researchers discovered that "a perfect storm" of confluence spread SCD: malaria, human population, and mosquitoes. There was always hope that someday, sickle cell disease might be cured. And then CRISPR gene editing therapy was approved by the FDA, and a brave volunteer named Victoria Gray stepped

forward... So you want to – need to – learn more about sickle cell disease. It's imperative for you, and this is your book but there are things you'll want to know before you dive into "Curved Air." Because author Kevin Davies is the editor of The CRISPR Journal, you can expect up-to-date, cutting-edge information but that's a two-sided coin: the information is heavy-duty, not always easily grasped, and it's burdened by acronyms that are easily overwhelming. Yes, that'll inform you, but it may

also send you elsewhere for further understanding, which really should've come from this book. And yet, if you or someone you love has SCD, this is your book. It explains where the disease came from, why it hasn't been completely cured yet, and what kind of hope you can hold. It's a good start on a path to comprehension. Also be aware that the narrative here is sometimes padded with journalistic fluff that might annoy you, if you're eager to get to the science. Indeed, "Curved Air" will teach you. Then again, it also might test you.



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Jackson State wins home opener in impressive fashion

By Tim Ward
Sports Writer

Despite a 30-minute weather delay, ‘Friends and Family’ Weekend brought the Tigers home to “The Vet” this past Saturday for the HOPE Labor Day Classic, and Edward Waters never had a chance. Jackson State put up 704 yards of total offense and turned what was supposed to be a first meeting between two programs into a track meet, running away with a win 66 to 14. It didn’t start that way initially. Edward Waters opened Saturday night’s HOPE Labor Day Classic by driving 90 yards down the field. The Tigers reached the Jackson State 3-yard line and faced fourth-and-goal with an opportunity to strike first. Jackson State’s Darkside defense said no. JSU made the stop, took possession and went in the other direction on a 97-yard touchdown drive. It was all over from there for Edward Waters.

Two touchdown drives, one going 97 yards in 2:41, the other needing just 5 plays. The Darkside Defense was setting the tone early too, forcing Edward Waters into three and outs and giving Lockhart a short field all night.

Then the second quarter happened and the game basically ended as a competitive event. Nate Blount IV punched it in from 8 yards to make it 21 to 0, Lockhart connected with K. Paul for an 18-yard touchdown, Andrew Ivaniciuc drilled a 41-yard field goal, and Lockhart closed the half with a 25 yard strike to Sebastien Saint-Louis. JSU went into halftime with a 38 to 0 score. Jackson State scored on every single possession of the first half. Not a lot to say there other than dominant.

Edward Waters tried to find something in the third quarter and actually did, in exciting fashion. Dylan McCarthy jumps the route, picks off the pass, and he’s gone. 52 yards the other way. Edward Waters Tigers on the board. They will not be shut-out. But Jackson State answered right back, CJ Tolbert III scooping up a fumble and walking it in, and Nate Blount IV punching in his second rushing touchdown of the night from 7 yards. 52 to 7 through three.

Jared Lockhart was balling all



Nate Rembert had a 179 yards receiving

night! The sophomore quarterback completed 17 of 25 passes for a career-high 388 yards and four touchdowns without an interception. He also rushed for 22 yards and a touchdown, accounting for five scores on the night. Lockhart’s four touchdown passes went to four different receivers — Jency Riley Jr., Kobe Paul, Sebastien Saint-Louis and Nate Rembert. His performance earned him Offensive MVP honors for the game. Two days later, another honor followed. The SWAC named Lockhart the SWAC Offensive Player of the Week. Through Jackson State’s first two games, Lockhart has thrown for 610 yards and five touchdowns.

Back to the game. Jared Lockhart was balling, but he also had some help. Nate Rembert provided one of the biggest performances in the passing game, catching four passes for 179 yards, including receptions of 53 and 51 yards. Jackson State also showed balance. The Tigers rushed for 316 yards and finished the game with 704 yards of total offense. Nate Blount IV led JSU on the ground with 67 rushing yards and two touchdowns, while Caron Tyler added 56 yards on four carries. Jackson State averaged nine yards per play and converted 8 of 10 third-down opportunities, helping the Tigers keep drives alive and maintain control.



Sonic Boom Marching in



Hope Credit Union makes donation to JSU

The Darkside made an impact in their home opener. After EWU progressed down to the 3 yard and was held out of the endzone on their initial drive, they could do no more offensively. The Tigers eventually held Edward Waters to 231 total yards, including just 48 rushing yards on 30 attempts. Jackson State’s

defense also recorded four sacks and 10 tackles for loss. Swipe Marshall, who earned Defensive MVP honors for the game, finished with five tackles, a pass breakup and a quarterback hurry. It was the kind of defensive performance that complemented what Jackson State was doing offensively.

A reported 16,726 fans attended the game Saturday night. It was half the crowd number of Nashville a week earlier, but still good numbers considering the weather before the game. JSU has a bye week this weekend. Jackson State moves to 2-0 and stays home for the W.C. Gorden Clas-

sic on September 19th against Tuskegee, kickoff set for 6 pm. SWAC play kicks off the week after that when Southern comes to town. Southern always travels well and it will be Marshall Faulk’s introduction to Jackson, MS. Tiger Nation will be ready, but there is business to handle before that game.



QB Jared Lockhart was the SWAC Offensive Player Of the week



Nate Rembert had a 179 yards receiving

HBCU Labor Day Classic Battle of the Bands

September 6 • Mississippi Veterans Memorial Stadium • Jackson MS

PHOTOS BY KEVIN ROBINSON



HINDS COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT WEEKLY UPDATE

Gary Road Intermediate School Recognizes August Students of the Month

Gary Road Intermediate School is proud to recognize its outstanding third-, fourth-, and fifth-grade Students of the Month for August.

These students have demonstrated excellence through their hard work, positive attitudes, good citizenship, and commitment to doing their best

each day. Their achievements are a reflection of their dedication in the classroom and throughout the school community.

Gary Road Intermediate School congratulates each of these deserving students on this special recognition. We are proud of their

accomplishments and encourage them to continue striving for excellence.

Congratulations to our August Students of the Month, and keep up the great work!

