

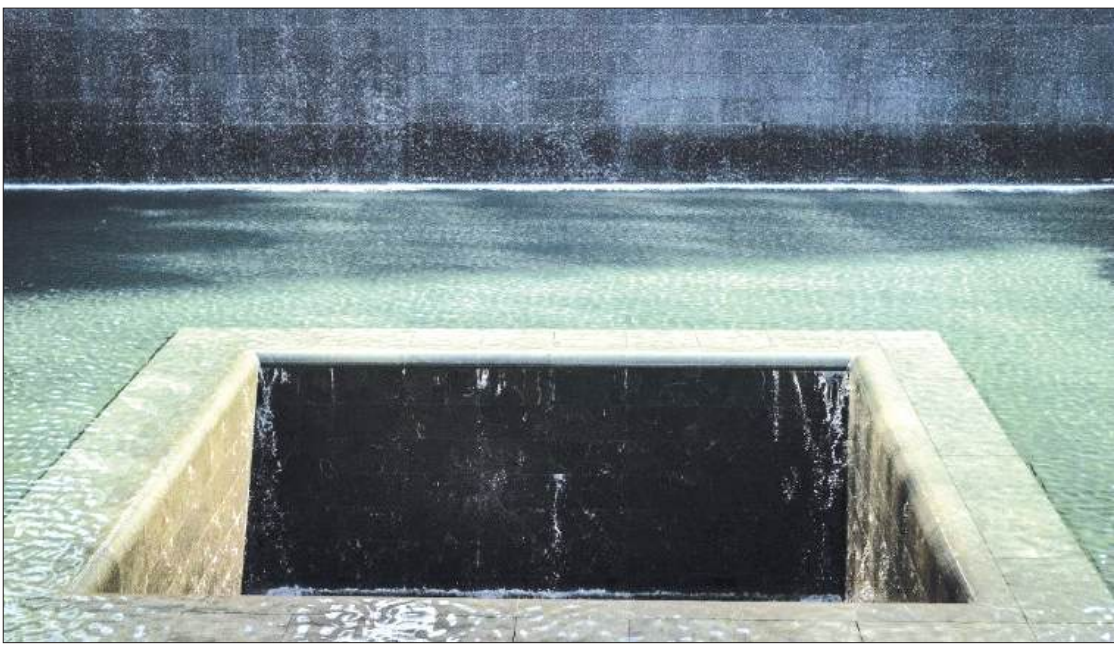
Unity versus Division – Reflections at the 25th Anniversary of 9/11

By Christopher Young
Contributing Writer

Everyone remembers where they were and what they were doing when the news filled our collective screens, America as an institution was under attack. The attacks on The World Trade Center buildings in New York City, the Pentagon, and the subverted attempt by hijackers to attack the U.S. Capitol Building on September 11, 2001, pierced our national consciousness. All total, 2,977 lives were lost. From the first crash, into the World Trade Center Building 1, to the crash of United Airlines Flight 93 into the Shanksville, Pennsylvania field just one hour and seventeen minutes had passed. On many levels, life in America has never been the same. The country came together. The bright light of unity extinguished any divisions, at least for a time.

Many events have brought Americans together in the same or similar ways. The Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor in 1941 brought the United States into World War II. Over two thousand lives were lost that day. The country came together. Enlistments in the armed forces skyrocketed. Our national economy pivoted to support the war effort. In 1945 the Allied Powers defeated the Axis Powers. Over 405 thousand American lives were lost in the battle to prevent totalitarianism, imperialism, and fascism – global dominance.

In 1986, the space shuttle Challenger exploded before our eyes just 73 seconds into flight, and the country paused to mourn and grieve the loss of the seven crew members, including a schoolteacher from New Hampshire. In 1995, the stunning bombing of the Al-



Reflecting pool at 9/11 Memorial & Museum. Photo by Dan Winters. www.911MEMORIAL.ORG.

fred P. Murrah federal building in Oklahoma City – 186 dead, including 19 children. America stood as one. Help came from every corner. In 2005, Hurricane Katrina struck the Gulf Coast. It had been Category 5 (175 mph), yet weakened to Category 3 (125 mph), before making landfall. The devastation claimed 1,800 lives. Reports vary, but at least 1.5 million were displaced. The response of the U.S. Government was a horrible failure, yet Americans from all 50 states came to the aid of the stricken region. Regular people opened their homes to refugees, ad hoc work crews arrived, funds poured in, and feeding stations sprang up. Political divisions and social divisions ceased. For a season, just like in the aftermath of other events, Americans stood as one, grieving, resilient, and determined to help.

Conversely, there have been many events where our country was sharply divided. The Colonists were divided over breaking away from Great Bri-

tan. Most sources indicate that only 25 percent wanted independence, the vast majority remained neutral. Just prior to the Civil War, pro-slavery and anti-slavery settlers in Kansas did unthinkable battle – some sources called it guerilla warfare being waged – would Kansas be admitted to the Union as a free-state or a slave-state? In the end Kansas became a free-state, and hundreds died in the process.

The Civil War claimed the lives of 600,000 as a divided United States raged on. Eleven Southern States seceded from the United States to form the Confederate States of America. The slaveholding Confederacy was an economic juggernaut, supplying 75 percent of the world's cotton. Using his authority for good cause, President Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation mid-way through the war, freeing all slaves in the Confederate States. This country has never fully recovered from the horrors of slavery, a direct and on-

going impact of division. What is known as The Gilded Age which included the labor movements of the late 19th century divided America – massive industrial advancement created a classist society – wealthy business owners battling the very workers that delivered their immense profits on their backs.

Leading up to World War I the country was divided over entering the war – often referred to as The Isolationism Debate. The U.S. Government responded by cracking down on the dissent and on free speech. The grossly unpopular Vietnam War lasted from 1955 to 1975 and claimed the lives of over 58,000 Americans and a reported two million Vietnamese. Running in parallel, The Civil Rights Movement sought to end the legal racial segregation and discrimination against African Americans still surging 91 years after The Emancipation Proclamation.

Despite winning nearly 63

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Continued on page 3

Scott Colom's fight for Mississippi; why the Black vote could decide it

By Othor Cain
Contributing Writer

For generations, Black Mississippians have understood a fundamental truth about democracy: **power is never simply given. It must be exercised.**

This November, Mississippi voters will make a decision that could reverberate far beyond the state line. District Attorney Scott Colom, the Democratic nomi-

nee for the United States Senate, is challenging Republican incumbent Cindy Hyde-Smith in a race that raises questions not only about party and politics, but about justice, representation and whether Mississippi's Black electorate will use its considerable voting strength to demand something different.

COMMENTARY

Colom enters this race with something many political candidates cannot claim: a record, voters can examine.

A prosecutor focused on Accountability and Fair Justice

Scott Colom was elected district attorney for Mississippi's 16th Circuit Court District in 2015 at just 32 years old, defeating an incumbent who had held



Colom

the office for nearly three decades. He became the first Black person elected as the district's top prosecutor.

His approach challenged the false choice that communities

must choose between public safety and criminal-justice reform.

Colom has emphasized prosecuting violent crime while directing resources away from treating every offense as though it deserves the same response. His campaign says he has won 94 percent of his trials, secured convictions in more than 15 high-profile murder cases and helped close a record number of cold cases. He also prosecuted a sheriff accused of abusing his position – even though that sheriff was a fellow Democrat.

That last point matters. Accountability cannot mean holding only the other political party accountable. Justice worthy

Colom
Continued on page 16

To Vote or Not to Vote demands attention at “Be Voter Ready” Event



Politicians and other leaders issue voter appeals. Zakiya Summers (MS House Representative - District 68) - says communities can be made whole when their citizens vote. PHOTO BY JANICE K. NEAL-VINCENT

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

Votes are vital for election outcomes. Voters can make a difference in the voting process. But when people do not vote, their voices are muted to how everyday situations are handled. At the same time, their mutation lends itself to voter outcomes that may not have their best interest at heart.

Senator Sollie Norwood (MS State Senate, District 28) orchestrated the “Be Voter Ready” Event at For Your Occasions (1015 West Northside Drive, Jackson, MS 39213) on Monday, September, Sep. 14, 2026 from 12:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. The purpose of the event was to encourage people to vote in the upcoming November election.

Upon entering the event, Line Dancers from Golden Key Community Center, 3450 Albermarle Road were dancing to the beat of the music which was being provided by Randy “Wildman Brown” of WMPR Radio. Attendees were also provided with a delicious buffet lunch.

Several hundred people attended and were informed of voting essentialities and their significant impact upon their lives in the near future. A number of leaders were onsite and provided information for the attendants' benefit.

Crucial to the voting process were handouts that were distributed to atten-

dants. Detailed explanations were given for understanding purposes. For instance, the 2026 Elections Calendar from the Mississippi Secretary of State's Office Division was addressed. The month of September was targeted in regards to significant dates. September 21st is the earliest day to vote by an absentee ballot in the Circuit Clerk's Office in the General Election. The absentee ballot deadline for permanently disabled voters is to be mailed from the Circuit Clerk's Offices on September 24th. Further, the Circuit Clerks' offices may remain open from September 28th, 29th, and 30th for Voter Registration (General) from 8:00 a.m. until 7 p.m., including the noon hour.

Other significant dates to remember are the following: Monday, October 5th: Voter Registration Deadline. People registering by this date are eligible to vote in the General Election. Saturday, October 24th & October 31st: In-Person Absentee Voting Deadline (the Circuit Clerk's office must remain open from 8 a.m. to 12 noon. Tuesday, November 3rd: General Election Day & Regular Special Election Day. Polls are open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Zakiya Summers, MS House of Representatives (District 68), and Hillman Frazier, Mississippi Senate

Vote
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Golden Key Line Dancers PHOTO BY JACKIE HAMPTON

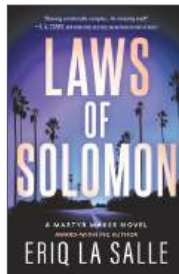
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Inside

Jackson State looks to stay unbeaten as Tuskegee comes to town for the W.C. Gorden Classic



Laws of Solomon



In loving memory

Lisa Denise Murrell Webster

April 18, 1960 - July 28, 2026



Lisa Denise Murrell Webster

A TIME TO BE BORN: Lisa Denise Murrell Webster’s earthly journey began on April 18, 1960, when her mother Margaret Murrell Swinney brought this beautiful new life into this world. The Bible says that “Children are a heritage of the Lord: And the fruit of the womb is His reward” Psalm 127:3. Lisa Denise Murrell Webster is the first of three children born to her mother. Lisa was born in Toledo, OH, and at five months she made her debut in Forest, MS, where she spent her childhood. She was reared by her grandparents Sylvester and Cleo Murrell. Lisa, then, became the seventh child of their union and brought

her grandparents so much happiness. Her mother later married Ned Swinney and he became her earthly father and raised her as his own.

HER JOURNEY CONTINUES: At an early age, she confessed in Christ as her Lord personal Savior and joined the Little Rock Missionary Baptist Church in Forest, Mississippi, under the auspices of Reverend Willie Croft. She grew in wisdom and stature in the church attending Sunday School, Bible School, Sunday worship services, and revivals. All of these Christian value experience provided a foundation for the lifelong learning skills much needed

ed hi the “Curriculum of Life” and this Christian journey.

In adult life, she became an active and faithful member of New Hope Baptist Church in Jackson, Mississippi under the leadership of Doctor Jerry Young. Later after marriage, she moved her membership to Mount Center Baptist Church in Flora, MS, under the direction of Pastor Ricky D. Jenkins where she was an active and faithful member of several ministries. She attended Sunday School, was a member of the adult choir, women’s mission, and many other areas of the church where she served.

Lisa received her primary and secondary education in the Scott County School District. She was a graduate of Sebastopol High School, class of 1978. She later continued her education at Hinds Community College and her beloved Jackson State University.

Her career in education began at Saint Mary’s Catholic School Jackson, MS. Lisa then went on and served over 30 years with Jackson Public Schools teaching at several elementary schools in

the district where she touched the lives of many Students. She also offered her expertise to children in the Jackson Head-Start Program for couple years before returning to Jackson Public Schools to continue her journey impacting many other children leaving a mark of love and support on their educational journey.

On August 9, 1986: Lisa was united in holy matrimony to Mr. Ricky Darnell Webster and to this union, two bouncing baby boys were born, Ricky Darnell Webster II and Rakendric Dion’ta Webster, both of which were their pride and joy.

Lisa also embraced her nieces and nephews as her own, fostering a beautiful relationship with each in her own way.

A TIME TO DIE: The gift of life on earth is just for a season. Lisa ended this earthly journey and entered eternity with her Heavenly Father on Tuesday evening July 28, 2026, at home.

She is preceded in death by her grandfather, Sylvester Murrell; grandmother, Cleo Murrell; father, Ned Swinney; aunt, Maggie Lucille Murrell; uncle,

Archie Calvin Murrell; father-in-law, Lloyd Webster Jr.; and brother-in-law, Ken West (Doria).

Lisa’s dedication to family, contributions to the community, infinite inspiration, and monumental memories will forever be engraved in the hearts of her loved ones. Her legacy of love and devotion will live on through her husband Ricky D. Webster I of Jackson, MS; sons, Ricky D. Webster II and Rakendric D. Webster (Tora) Gulfport, MS; mother, Margaret Lee Swinney (Ned) Jackson, MS ; sister, Sheila Swinney Lowe (James) Gluckstadt, MS; brother, Randy Earl Swinney, Jackson, MS; sister-in-law, Doria LaChon (Ken) Fort Worth, TX; Tymickla Latresa (Greg) Mansfield, TX; brother-in-law, Dexter Webster (Dora), Raymond, MS; MS; mother-in-law, Pearly Webster; three grandchildren, Tristian Taylor, Aurora and Kiyson Webster, who were Nana and Papa’s world. Plus, a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends. She will truly be missed by a multitude of family members that care.

Thank-You Note



Lisa Denise Murrell Webster will forever be Remembered & Forever Missed

Thank you so much for your love, kindness and support during these difficult days. Your prayers and comforting words have been such a blessing to our family. We are grateful to God for those who are helping carry us through our grief.

The family of Lisa Denise Murrell Webster

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MISSISSIPPI



Vote

Continued from page 1

(District 27) were among politicians beyond Norwood who spoke to the crowd. During this defining moment for democracy, representation and voting rights throughout the State of Mississippi and the nation, they specified that the upcoming election caters to whether communities have a seat at the table regarding decisions that affect their daily lives. Matters of health, public education, cost of living, affordable childcare by working families, are germane to a community’s well-being.

The Rev. Tonie L. Crisler, Senior Pastor of Belmont Missionary Baptist Church, 14011 Highway 18, Raymond, MS 39154, has 250 to 300 members. He asserted, “We have to stop being silent about voting. Pastors and preachers are not addressing voting. We need to be specific. We must educate our people. I tell people who I’m voting for, and I give my parishioners a copy of the sample ballot. On that note, he claimed that he was endorsing Congressman Bennie Thompson and Scott Colom. “

“At my church, candidates come and have opportunity to explain their platform,” the pastor said. He then emphasized that low turnout results from (1) candidates who are not allowed to speak in the churches and (2) families not discussing voting in the homes. He said additionally that people don’t vote “because they don’t know who to vote for” due to a lack of knowledge.

Crysler maintained that he works with One Voice and the NAACP while encouraging people to vote. “You’ve got to get personal,” he voiced. He then mentioned his favorite scriptural verse when it comes to this: 2 Chronicles 7:14: “If my people who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn

from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land.” The believer backed his claim by saying that God has done His part, but the people have to do their part.

Apart from pastoring, Crisler is Grand Master/CEO of M. W. Stringer Grand Lodge (1072 John R. Lynch St, Jackson, MS 39203). He commented that under his leadership visibility has come to the Masonic Temple. “We have voting power throughout every Mississippi county, we’re also partnering with the Diabetes Association of Mississippi, working with the school district by having free insulin and bringing awareness to the disease. We’re trying to make sure that children and their parents in the Delta (where diabetes is high) have free insulin,” he said.

Crisler noted that the organization has also invited the Jackson Public School System to the table. Two youth groups, Palace of Children and Star Lights, mentor youth and give them \$2,500 to \$3,500 scholarships per semester to attend college.

Jackson State University students Caprice Epps and Zaniyan Truitt opined about the voting occasion. According to Epps, “Voting is essential to me because it affects my school, community, and future. Coming to JSU as an out-of-state student also showed me how important it is to be involved in the community that I am not part of. Being involved goes way beyond the school community, but knowing what’s going on in the city too. “Voting is essential because it gives people a voice of decision about their lives. It gives citizens the opportunity to make a difference in the community and world in which we live,” said Truitt.



JSU seniors Caprice and Zaniyan Truitt concur that voting matters. PHOTO BY JANICE K. NEAL-VINCENT



Pastor Tonie Crisler being interviewed by Dr. PHOTO BY JACKIE HAMPTON



Participants singing ‘Lift Every Voice and Sing.’ PHOTO BY JANICE K. NEAL-VINCENT



A time to reflect and mingle. PHOTO BY JANICE K. NEAL-VINCENT



Randy Wildman Brown and wife, Janice PHOTO BY JACKIE HAMPTON

9/11

Continued from page 1

percent of the popular vote and nearly 68 percent of the electoral vote in the 2008 Presidential election, conservative resistance rose vigorously toward the policies of the nations first African American President, Barack Obama. The modern Tea Party was formed. In the next mid-term elections, 63 seats changed hands to Republicans, who seized control of the U.S. House of Representatives. Despite the conservative uprising, in the 2012 Presidential elec-

tion, President Obama won over 51 percent of the popular vote and nearly 62 percent of the electoral vote.

Now, in the era of Trump, who never secured 50 percent of the popular vote in 2016 or 2024, per The American Presidency Project at University of California – Santa Barbara, we see clearly that fear and division have fueled the masses - instead of presidential performance. Do Americans and our country’s longstand-

ing problems benefit from the divisive behavior of a president? Does creating existential threats (boogeymen) solve anything? As culture wars rage on, major corporations’ pedal outrage and misinformation, leading to higher levels of public engagement, and therefore, monumental profits. We are never helped by division, and yet, here we are again.

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Revive Collegiate Celebrates Grandparents Day

By Jackie Hampton
Publisher

Scholars enjoyed eating pastries with their grandparents at Revive Collegiate School on September 11th, 2026, where kindergarten through first graders celebrated National Grandparents Day which is celebrated annually the first Sunday after Labor Day.

The celebration was held from 8:30 AM-9:00 AM for Kinder and first grandparents and 9:15 AM-9:45 AM for second- fourth grade grandparents.

The grandparents were full of smiles, and the little scholars were happy to be with them and away from their classrooms for a short while.

Revive Collegiate is a kindergarten – fourth grade charter school located at 5301 Old Canton Road in Jackson. The principal is Justin Clark. In welcoming the grandparents to the school, he thanked them for being there and praised them for the roles they play in the lives of their grandchildren. He said to them, “You mean the world to us and because of you, the children are.” Clark reflected on his own grandmother whom he lost two years ago on his September 2nd birthday. He said, “All the things that I am is because of my grandmother’s love.” He said not only was his grandmother a pillar to the family, but she was also a pillar to the community.

Clark paused in his welcome to salute Takiah Page; the vision-



Principal Justin Clark welcoming everyone to Grandparents Day at Revive Collegiate School.
PHOTOS BY JACKIE HAMPTON



Grandparents enjoying fellowship with grandchildren.



Nancy Gaynor, founder of Grandparents Really Do Matter.

ary of Grandparents Day being celebrated at the school. Page, a fourth-grade math teacher, is the PBIS Coordinator. She along with the school’s assistant principal ? Jackson had the idea of Grandparents Day being celebrated with the grandparents two years ago making this celebration the second annual. The chair of Grandparents Day, Brittany Bustillos teaches electives and creative writing to all grade levels. She, along with Page, were all smiles as they passed out treats to those present.

Nancy Gaynor, the creator of Grandparents Really Do Matter welcomed the group and expressed her gratitude to not only the grandparents but also the parents that are such supports of the



(L-R) Teachers Brittany Bustillos and Takiah Page.

school.

Revive Collegiate School is a charter school that aims to ensure scholars are on the path to college from the moment they step into the building and hold the scholars to high behavior and academic expectations.



Grandparent all smiles having pastries with her grandson.



Revive School students ran toward Principal Clark to take a picture with him.

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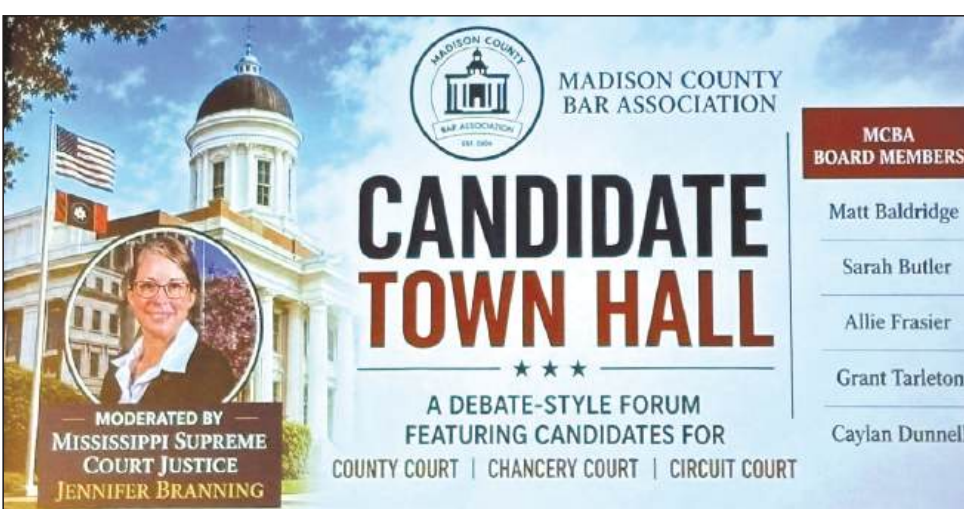
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STRONG FAMILIES BUILD STRONGER COMMUNITIES

Judicial Candidates Take Questions at Madison County Bar Association Town Hall



By Rasheida Bell,
Contributing Writer

Candidates for Chancery, Circuit and County Court judgeships outlined their experience, priorities and vision for the bench during a Sept. 10 forum.

Voters got a closer look at the candidates seeking judicial office during a meet-the-candidate Town Hall hosted by the Madison County Bar Association Sept. 10.

Held at the Parkway Education Auditorium, the debate-style forum brought candidates for Chancery, Circuit and County Court judgeships before an audience of constituents and community members. Mississippi Supreme Court Justice Jennifer Branning moderated the event.

With the Nov. 3 general election approaching, candidates used the forum to discuss their qualifications and answer questions about judicial temperament, preparation, experience and the responsibilities of the courts they hope to serve.

One message emerged consistently: fairness matters, and cases should move through the courts in a timely manner.

Chancery Court District 11, Place 2

The race for Chancery Court Judge, District 11, Place 2, serving Madison and Leake counties, pits incumbent Joyce Brewer against Rhonda Cooper.

Brewer emphasized more than two decades on the bench, pointing to patience, kindness, knowledge, and faithful application of the law as defining qualities of her judicial service.

Cooper brings 38 years of legal experience, including extensive practice before Chancery Court. Her experience as a practicing attorney and pre-law student advisor has shaped three principles, she says, that should guide her work: listen carefully, respect the facts of each case, and apply the law fairly.

Cooper said her years of courtroom experience will bring a practical perspective to the bench.

"My years of service allow me to interact with clients with real-world practice while providing connectivity with people's issues through a lens of activism; be the judge for all the people; and be able to get to the heart of the matter through active communication," Cooper said.

Chancery Court District 11, Place 3
Gene Berry, David Bridges and Alan

Rhea are seeking the Chancery Court Judge seat for District 11, Place 3, which includes Madison, Leake, Holmes and Yazoo counties.

Berry enters the race with 40 years of legal experience in Chancery, Circuit, federal, and appellate courts. He summarized his judicial priorities as "Faith, Family, and Fairness."

Bridges has practiced law for 38 years and is a nationally recognized family law attorney. He is a former chair of the State Bar Family Law Section and emphasized his experience and standing within the legal community.

Rhea has more than 35 years of legal experience and served as a Municipal Court Judge. He stressed his belief that "the court system belongs to the people, not the Judge."

"I'm ready to serve with integrity," Rhea said.

Circuit Court Judge, Madison and Rankin Counties, Place 1

Scott Gilbert, Carter Smith and Sara Butler are candidates for Circuit Court Judge, Place 1, serving Madison and Rankin counties.

Gilbert's background includes work

as a firefighter, nationally registered medical technician and part-time law enforcement officer. He has 20 years of litigation experience and described his path to the bench as moving "from the trench to the bench."

Smith also has two decades of legal experience and previously served as a district attorney. He highlighted his public service record and his focus on protecting communities from violent crime.

Butler did not attend the forum but submitted a statement for the audience. She emphasized her work as a senior attorney and 13 years of experience addressing legal issues affecting families.

County Court Judge, Place 2

Linsey Herr and Todd McAlpin are competing for the County Court Judge, Place 2 seat.

Herr, a practicing attorney and current professor in a Youth Law Program, said effective Youth Court work requires looking beyond the immediate case to understand the "Why?" behind a young person's circumstances.

She also emphasized face-to-face time with clients and familiarity with the agencies and community resources

that serve families involved with Youth Court.

McAlpin brings a background in business and a career in prosecution. He said his priorities include protecting families and holding offenders accountable. He described himself as "family-focused and faith-driven."

A Question for Every Candidate

The forum's final question put every candidate on the spot:

"At the end of your first term, by what measure should the citizens judge your success?"

Although the answers differed, the candidates repeatedly returned to professional competence, fairness and effective performance as measures of success.

The forum gave voters an opportunity to hear directly from the candidates and compare their experience, judicial priorities and approaches to the responsibilities of the bench.

With Election Day set for Nov. 3, voters will now have the final say on who will serve Madison County and the surrounding communities in these judicial positions.

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‘Post-Racial America’ – A myth destroying a half-century of gains

The term coined by white people, now furthered by the Majority of the US Supreme Court

By Christopher Young
Contributing Writer

By now the world is familiar with the Supreme Court of the United States decision in the Louisiana v. Callais case, gutting Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act. The High Court, not the Congress, changed the interpretation that once protected racial vote dilution. Before this decision a plaintiff would have to prove discriminatory effects of redistricting, now – based on the 6-3 majority ruling – a plaintiff must prove discriminatory intent, a much higher burden. Justice Samuel Alito wrote the opinion, and was joined by Justices Clarence Thomas, Brett Kavanaugh, Amy Coney Barrett, Neil Gorsuch, and Chief Justice John Roberts. Justice Clarence Thomas went further with a separate concurring opinion, which was joined by Justice Gorsuch.

The dissenting opinion was written by Justice Elena Kagan and joined by Justices Sonia Sotomayor and Ketanji Brown Jackson, is 48 pages long. It begins on page 45 of the opinion –https://www.supremecourt.gov/opinions/25pdf/24-109_21o3.pdf.

It is an undeniable lesson in U.S. History, un-white washable, and erasure proof. Here is an excerpt, “And for 40 years now, this Court has recognized that language to encompass districting decisions that, in the way illustrated above, result in vote dilution—the “minimiz[ing]” of minority voters’ “ability to elect their preferred candidates.” But no longer. Under the Court’s new view of Section 2, a State can, without legal consequence, systematically dilute minority citizens’ voting power. Of course, the majority does not announce today’s holding that way. Its opinion is understated, even antiseptic. The majority claims only to be “updat[ing]” our Section 2 law, as though through a few technical tweaks. But in fact, those “updates” eviscerate the law,



The Supreme Court of the United States as composed June 30, 2022, to present. Front row, left to right: Associate Justice Sonia Sotomayor, Associate Justice Clarence Thomas, Chief Justice John G. Roberts, Jr., Associate Justice Samuel A. Alito, Jr., and Associate Justice Elena Kagan. Back row, left to right: Associate Justice Amy Coney Barrett, Associate Justice Neil M. Gorsuch, Associate Justice Brett M. Kavanaugh, and Associate Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson. Credit: Fred Schilling, Collection of the Supreme Court of the United States CREDIT: FRED SCHILLING, COLLECTION OF THE SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES

so that it will not remedy even the classic example of vote dilution given above. Without a basis in Section 2’s text or the Constitution, the majority formulates new proof requirements for plaintiffs alleging vote dilution.”

Justice Kagan continued, “The majority tells us that the inability to make out a Section 2 claim will just be a mark of the Nation’s progress, and therefore “cause for celebration.” I dissent. The Voting Rights Act is—or, now more accurately, was—“one of the most consequential, efficacious, and amply justified exercises of federal legislative power in our Na-

tion’s history.” It was born of the literal blood of Union soldiers and civil rights marchers. It ushered in awe-inspiring change, bringing this Nation closer to fulfilling the ideals of democracy and racial equality. And it has been repeatedly, and overwhelmingly, reauthorized by the people’s representatives in Congress. Only they have the right to say it is no longer needed—not the Members of this Court. I dissent, then, from this latest chapter in the majority’s now-completed demolition of the Voting Rights Act.”

Would it help if the conservative majority of the Court could spend part of

their three-month Summer-recess visiting Jackson, Mississippi or Lowndes County, Alabama or Baton Rouge, Louisiana? I’m guessing they go to some mighty nice places. It seems like an annual salary of \$306,600 dollars ought to cover a truly inspiring vacation. These are people with brilliant minds, yet I wonder if they ever deliberately select vacation destinations where they can learn or grow more in their knowledge of what real-life in America is like for all Americans.

Do you suppose there are any active racial preferences alive in Mississippi,

for example? Ninety-five percent of state agencies are headed up by white people. A solid 70 percent of the State Legislature is white, yet the white population of the state is 54.7 percent based on Census. African American legislators in the state account for the remaining 30 percent, yet African American population in the state is at least 38 percent. Are those preferences, or something more?

In response to a Mississippi Today question at the Neshoba County Fair in June, following the Callais decision, Lieutenant Governor Delbert Hosemann indicated, “the one thing that the Supreme Court decision said was that you cannot consider race in redistricting. We can consider Democrats and Republicans....I don’t know how it’s going to turn out but I will tell you that the districts will be different because we’re going to consider Democrats and Republicans, and the way we get in trouble, and we’ve gotten in trouble before, is if it’s race related.” What you will never hear Hosemann say is “wow, that decision is horribly wrong because it will hurt so many of my fellow Mississippians. We have the highest African American population per capita in the nation, and this decision will reduce their ability to select the representation they want and that is flat-out wrong.”

The Supreme Court’s 6-3 decision in the Callais case welds the barn wide doors open, especially in states like Mississippi, where everything is about race, to go back to doing business the old way – destroying decades of gains toward fairer representation. Non-white voters will absolutely lose representation as soon as the Governor signs the new redistricting plan into law. The idea of a post-racial America is complete myth. Falsely recasting America’s racial truth is devastatingly painful, and now a majority of the U.S. Supreme Court is in on it in broad daylight.

If AI is the new language of power, then NAN wants Black Communities fluent

By Rev. Al Sharpton
BlackPressUSA



Through a new National Action Network initiative, artificial intelligence is framed as a practical tool for industry preparedness.

We are at the forefront of a fundamental shift of access and opportunity. When new technology emerges, marginalized communities are often told to catch up with systems we did not design and adjust to landscapes that would sooner leave us behind than include us in their architecture. Often during these shifts, our communities become the least resourced and must navigate industries whose rate of change outpaces their rate of exposure. To combat this, these communities must develop emerging systems of knowledge through internal networks of education, skill-exchange, and entrepreneurship. This is a civil rights issue.

Now, at the dawn of the artificial intelligence era, the same systems our communities have always built for ourselves must rise again. We had to teach one another how to navigate every new language of power, often because nobody was coming to teach us. AI cannot be different.

If Black and Brown communities are going to compete at the highest levels of industry, then practical AI training cannot be reserved for Silicon Valley

COMMENTARY

boardrooms, elite universities, or people who already have a seat at the table. It has to reach our residents, our clergy, our organizers, our entrepreneurs, our young people, and our families.

For this reason, National Action Network is putting AI education directly in the hands of the community with a new initiative led by AI fluency strategist Susan Hearn. The AI Fluency Initiative’s premise combines the doctrines of racial equity with technology and culture, elevating how access makes AI such a consequential force in determining who gets to shape the next era of American life.

Too often, our communities are spoken for as populations that technology is happening to, rather than working for. We hear about the jobs AI might eliminate, the algorithms that discriminate, and the industries being disrupted. Those concerns are real, but that cannot be where the conversation ends.

We must proactively shift this narrative. We are not just workers to be displaced and demographics to be reached after AI has already disrupted the landscape. We are purveyors and engineers of this technology and should be considered active participants in its use.

For over three-decades, NAN has understood that civil rights advocacy must be practiced wherever inequality shows up. Technology education is included in this conversation because of what it bestows on the communities it reaches. It is one component of a broader commitment, ensuring that communities historically excluded from emerging industries have the tools to participate fully in the economic and cultural shifts of our future.

Economic self-determination is just as much a pillar of equity as it is a part of voting rights and equal legal protections.

For us, access is not meaningful if it arrives after everyone else has already learned the rules. So, we start with the fundamentals. The AI Fluency Initiative is designed as a repeated working session to meet people where they are. Students are introduced to the technology across various use cases, then sent home with usable skills based on the work produced during the session.

NAN has always fought to ensure that no community is locked out of the economy. From the fight for fair employment and access to capital to the push for equity in education and homeownership, we have consistently been at the forefront of keeping the doors of opportunity open to all. This fight is no different.

AI is the next gate through which the mechanisms of opportunity will pass through. It is quickly becoming part of how people apply for jobs, build

businesses, and articulate themselves. The use cases are vast, and the adoption has been swift. If these tools are becoming part of everyday life, then access to understanding them must become an element of everyday empowerment. It is paramount to us that Black communities are not only exposed, but at the helm.

We know that progress does not always distribute evenly. Communities have to demand access and request inclusion in

the infrastructure of change. This self-advocacy is often the only way to ensure that hegemony does not continue to inflict exclusion and disenfranchisement on those who could most benefit from seismic shifts in industry. We must refuse to be told to wait our turn and instead harness the tools of self-education and empowerment.

To be serious about the wealth gap means confronting the technologies reshaping work cul-

ture. Amending the academic achievement gap requires us to refuse a literacy discrepancy from arising in the first place. Equity requires preparation, and we are in the unique position to harness these emerging tools so that it is our voices that are heard, our perspectives that are amplified, and our communities that are enfranchised.

The AI Fluency Initiative is an access measure addressing an economic gap.

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Can you sign a pro- contract and then play college football again?

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



There has been rapid growth in college sports. Increased scholarships, television deals and new conference alignments have all been a part of it. Now let's add the possibility of players signing professional football contracts and then returning to play in college.

I'm watching now only as a fan. Years ago, I was a college athlete and enjoyed my time playing the sport that I loved. I didn't know much about conference rules and regulations.

What I did know was that I had four years of scholarship eligibility and had to

get good grades to keep it. And of course, winning was a part of it. Thankfully and humbly, things worked out well for me. My college experience was fulfilling and fun.

Is it different being a student-athlete today? Is there more pressure to perform? Yes, there is. I have often said that you may be the best in your house, the best on your block and the best in your community. However, is that enough to receive a college scholarship?

According to the NCAA, there are approximately 180,000 students on some type of athletic scholarship. If you are in that number, you are fortunate so don't take it for granted. If you are trying to get in that number, keep working hard and you'll get there.

Today, college student-athletes leave college early to pursue professional sports careers. Here is where it gets confusing, at least for me and for many others from the old school.

I am perplexed and confounded that a college student athlete can sign a professional sports contract and then return to play in college. Recently, a confirmed report says, "A Louisiana state judge granted a temporary restraining order allowing a group that includes 16 college football players, some of whom participated in NFL training camps to return to college sports and enter the transfer portal for the 2026 season".

Paul Finebaum of ESPN said, "College football has officially plunged into an abyss". If you are a college football purist,

you'll say this is unbelievable. Madness is happening right in front of us.

However not everyone is on this play football at all costs love train. Just a few weeks ago, the SEC presidents and chancellors released the following statement: "College athletes not former professional athletes have been at the heart of the Southeastern Conference. Individuals who choose to leave college athletics, sign professional contracts, and compete professionally should not then be permitted to return to college competition."

The Big Ten Conference and the Big 12 Conference have already issued similar statements. Other conferences have weighed in with their displeasure about athletes who have

signed professional contracts returning to playing college ball. All of them realize that something is wrong with this picture.

Will this get worse before it gets better? Having the courts seemingly in charge of college athletics isn't right. Student athletes who leave college for the pros continue to run the risk of not making it. They are receiving bad advice and poor counseling from their advisors.

The college football season has already started. Lane Kiffin, coach of LSU (Louisiana State University), stated at one point that he would be recruiting some of these professional players who have returned to the transfer portal. Fortunately, this did not happen. Everyone knows that football is king in

the Bayou state.

The SEC was going to enforce a half-season suspension for coaches who use former professional players. This was going to happen if LSU added Dae'Quan Wright and Zxavian Harris to their 105-player roster. Records show that neither player was a part of their team roster. It is my opinion that LSU made the right decision.

College sports rules have become arbitrary and capricious. The NCAA, once the athletic vanguard, is losing its shine. Athletic conferences are beginning to wield more power and control. However, courts and athletes themselves are now the new contestants in this football takeover. Who will have the last word? It depends upon who you ask.

A wedding party that looked like a funeral

Next June marks 60 years since Loving v. Virginia. My parents did not wait for it.

By Ben Jealous
People For the American Way



This month my parents are beginning their seventh decade of marriage despite a law that tried to stop them.

Sixty years ago, they were married in a church in Washington, D.C. They had to leave Maryland to do it. My mother is Black. My father is White. In Maryland, their marriage was a crime.

They met in West Baltimore, her city. Two student teachers at Harlem Park Junior High, the same classroom, one semester after the other.

They wrote to each other every week that spring. Their students. Life back on campus. What they believed. When my mother came home to Baltimore for the summer, they were both seeing other people. They went on a date anyway.

That date was at the recently desegregated movie theater. They slipped in like racial fugitives. They found two empty seats. He walked down one aisle. She walked down the other. They sat side by side but did not want their entrance or exit to cause a stir. They knew the looks would not all come from White people. It was the summer of Black Power, after all.

My father proposed three times in two weeks. She turned him down twice. She was not being coy. What he asked was against the law. The third time she said yes.

My father's uncle told him he believed their love was real. Then he explained that if my father wanted to stay in the family, and in his grandfather's will, he would need to fall in love with someone else instead. Others said, "Think about what it will be like for the children."

They married two months later. They arrived at the church separately, the way a bride and groom do. This time it was tradition.

Afterward the caravan drove back to Baltimore with its headlights on. Cars on the highway pulled aside to let it pass. In the city people stopped walking to turn and stare and then pray for them. Men took off their hats. Everyone thought it was a funeral. The lights were only so nobody would get lost on the way to my grandparents' house in West Baltimore, where the reception was.

At the reception, my father danced with my mother. He is red-headed and freckled and looks as English and Irish as he is. One woman watching them decided the groom had to be Black. Apparently, she could not imagine a White boy dancing like that. My father was delighted.

Somewhere in there my father made her an offer. Jealous is a strange name to carry. He told her he would take hers instead. He would become Fred Todd.

She said no. She took the name Jealous. Telling that used to make me chuckle. Who turns down any name for such a notorious adjective? I hear it a little differently now.

His grandfather had already disowned him and cut him out of the will. His own father had died years earlier, of his third heart attack. My father was the eldest grandson of an industrialist. He had a great deal to lose, and he lost all of it. His mother and his brothers stood by him. Much of the rest of the family did not. His name was the last thing that was his to give, and he offered to give that up too. She would not let him.

The following June the Supreme Court decided Loving v. Virginia. When my parents stood in that church, nobody knew it was coming. They married anyway.

They went west. With Loving grinding through the courts, they apparently decided the nation did not need Jealous v. Maryland too.

San Diego first, then the Monterey Peninsula. There my father taught soldiers home from Vietnam, many of whom could not read. Later he founded a community where men learn to listen to one another, and to be listened to, most of them for the first time. My mother spent her career as a therapist. They raised us in California, far from her mother and her church and her city.

Every summer they sent me back east. Baltimore for her people. Maine for his. The move had cut them off from all of it. They handed it to me.

A decade ago, they returned to St. James Episcopal Church on Lafayette Square and renewed their vows for the 50th anniversary of Loving. My mother was baptized in that church. So was I. So was my son.

My mother wore the dress. Her grandmother sewed it for her in 1966, when my mother was twenty-five. She sewed it for that church, where she worshipped. Then the law sent the wedding to Washington, and the dress never went down that aisle.

Half a century later it did. My mother was crying. I told her to stop bragging. She looked at me, confused, tears still on her face. I told her she just wanted everybody to know it still fit.

Sixty years. My father is still the man who offered to give up his name. My mother is still the woman who would not let him.

They were never a test case. They were married. They still are.

Happy anniversary, Mom and Dad. Thank you for being so courageous in love. My sister and I literally would never have existed but for it.

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

Parents' seasons change but your love should not

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



I don't know any parents including churchgoers who are not having some type of challenge with their children. Unfortunately, there are many parents who are worried, panicking, getting extra hair dye to hide those fast-acclimating grey strands of hair, stressed, humiliated, depressed, disappointed, disgusted, and many married couples are divided on how to properly manage their children/teens, which is destroying many marriages – a house that is divided amongst itself shall not stand.

My husband and I were recently communicating about rearing our children. Yes, by the Grace of God, our children have made us extremely proud in so many areas, and they have accomplished things that some adults have not accomplished. However, they are not perfect. In fact, they can easily turn into Chucky and Chuckena on any given day and have done so. So anyways, I asked my husband the following questions, what do we do on difficult days of parenting? How do you parent when it is hard? Do you stop sharing and providing resources like the extra privileges that excels meeting their basic needs?

My husband thought for a moment, grabbed one side of his salt and pepper bearded cheek, his hazel eyes twinkled across the room and in a very light tone he responded... As a parent and as a mother, I could not wait to hear his response. I thought to myself what could he possibly say that will adequately answer my questions and appease my tender, motherly heart? My

husband responded with the following, "Just because the season changes it doesn't mean that your love should change." He went on to compare it to a plant, he said, "It's like having a plant, you learn to take care of it through the fall, winter, spring, and summer, you don't exterminate it or stop taking care of it just because the season changes; keep doing what you are doing, keep loving your child even when they are having a winter like season you may have to love differently in each season but don't stop loving them." Let me tell you I didn't know whether to run, shout, turn flips, slap him, pick my husband up, etc. I will never forget his response, it fascinated me.

So, parents, when your older children disappoint you, fail to meet your expectations, don't succeed as expected, when they fail at something, when they quit, make mistakes, make bad decisions often emulating you, what can you do? You do the following: Let God be their foundation (instill this especially when they are younger)– neither private or public-school, brand-named clothes, fancy shoes, having the latest technology, etc. will help your child become a strong, healthy, and stable adult as God will, communicate with them, teach them the Word, correct them with the Word, parent in love, not hate, not anger, not in violence, not in verbal abuse, not in fear, etc. (this one is major – fear only leads to trouble)... - stop thinking about your expectations, stop expecting perfection when you or your spouse wasn't perfect children and aren't perfect adults, stop entertaining or considering what others feel about your children (we only have enough room to pray for each other's children – it may be your child today and it can be someone's else's child

tomorrow), stop panicking, keep your child/teen in church especially if they are living with you, consistently pray for them, if you caused your child any hurt/offense- seek counsel, reconcile and heal their wounds as long as it takes, be patient, stop spending thousands trying to create a perfect child – you are wasting money – there's no such thing as a perfect child, let God direct their paths, love them in every season, love them unconditionally Additionally, this is love too – do not enable your child's inappropriate behaviors/actions, teach them accountability and responsibility, and don't let your children destroy your marriage – you must seek God for parental strategies and be in unity.

To conclude, please don't get me wrong, my husband and I don't have all the answers, we are not perfect parents, we are still learning how to be Godly parents, and we only have room to pray for our children and yours. But we have decided to trust God as the Potter and know that our children like us are the clay and regardless of what season our children are in – we may love differently according to the season, but we will never stop loving them!

Contact Dr. LaShunda Calvert for speaking engagements (Motivational, Ministering, Marriage Counseling, Marriage Workshop, Marriage Seminars, Marriage Conferences, etc.) Marriage Ministry: The Restoration Church, 3931 Hanging Moss Road, Suite H, Jackson, MS. 39206, on: Instagram: letsstay-2gether4ever (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 • 3KPF24AD7ME305344

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 • JNKC64E78M131422

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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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 • 2HGEJ2148PH513231

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

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

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

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

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

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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

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8855955 • 2018/CHEVROLET/TRAX/SPORTS UTILITY/SILVER • 3GNCJKSB2JL358653

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 • 3KPF24AD3LE148135

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

8862142 • 1988/CHEVROLET/GMT-400/OTHER/MULTI-COLOR • 2GCDK14K4J1200332

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 • 3FA6P0H7XHR278025

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

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 17th 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, 9/17/2026

LEGAL

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR A REZONING

ZONING CASE NO. 4342

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 Tera Sheriff has filed with the Planning Board for the City of Jackson, an application requesting a Rezoning from C-2 (Limited) Commercial District & R-1A (Single-Family) Residential District to PUD - Planned Unit Development District to allow for the construction of affordable residential housing on the properties located at 5356 N. State St. (Parcel 500-1050) in the First Judicial District of Hinds County, Mississippi, and being more particularly described as:

PROPERTY IN THE SE ¼ OF SECTION 11, T6N, R1E, HINDS COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

Beginning at an iron pipe at a fence corner at the SW corner of Lot 2 of Hanging Moss Gardens, a subdivision according to a plat on file in the office of the Chancery Clerk of Hinds County, Mississippi in Plat Book 4 at Page 85; thence North 01 degree 33 minutes 58 seconds West 353.47 feet, along a fence line, to iron pin at a fence corner, 29.33 feet from the center-line of Cedars of Lebanon Road; thence South 89 degrees 58 minutes 48 seconds West 735.13 feet to a point 22.90 feet from the center-line of Cedars of Lebanon Street and 47.28 feet from the center-line of North State Street; thence South 27 degrees 29 minutes 05 seconds West 378.19 feet, parallel to the center-line of North State Street, to an iron pipe; thence South 88 degrees 54 minutes 16 seconds East 919.50 feet, partly along a fence line, to an iron pipe and the Point of Beginning, containing 6.56 acres, more or less, subject to any easements of record, and any Right-of-Way of Cedars of Lebanon Street and/or North State Street, in the SE ¼ of Section 11, TON, R1E, Hinds County, Mississippi.

LESS AND EXCEPT:

The land and property described in Book 3544 at Page 161 as being located in the SW ¼ of the SE ¼ of Section 11, T6N, R1E, City of Jackson, First Judicial District, Hinds County, Mississippi, and containing 440 square feet or 0.010 acres, more or less, more particularly described in said book and page as follows:

Commence at the intersection of the East right-of-way line of North State Street and the South right-of-way line of Cedars of Lebanon Road; run thence along the South right-of-way line of Cedars of Lebanon Road South 89 degrees 40 minutes 51 seconds East 32 feet to a point; run thence South 58 degrees 58 minutes 40 seconds West for a distance of 53.86 feet to a point on the East right-of-way line of North State Street; run thence North 27 degrees 10 minutes 14 seconds East along the East right-of-way line of North State Street 31 feet to the Point of Beginning.

LESS AND EXCEPT:

PARCEL NO. 500-1040

5344 N STATE ST., JACKSON, MS 39206

185.3 FT N & S X 120 FT E & W BEG 185.3 FT SWLY INT. E/L NORTH STATE ST & S/L CEDARS OF LEBANON BEING PT LOT 1 HANGING MOSS GARDENS.

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, September 23, 2026, at which time all parties interested in or affected thereby will be heard both pro and con on said question, after which a record will be established upon which the City Planning Board can make its recommendation to the City Council of Jackson. Any objection thereto may be made by any person owning property within the area, and if made in writing must be filed with the City Zoning Administrator before said time if a hearing thereof or consideration thereof is desired, or by counsel on said date. If a request is made to the Zoning Administrator at least 72 hours in advance, the City will take steps to accommodate citizens need for interpreters or auxiliary aids for the visually/hearing impaired.

DUE TO THE CONCERN FOR THE PUBLIC HEALTH, SAFETY AND WELFARE, THE PLANNING BOARD MEMBERS, APPLICANTS AND THE GENERAL PUBLIC HAVE THE OPTION TO ATTEND THE MEETING VIA TELECONFERENCE/VIDEO. PLEASE EMAIL ERICL@JACKSONMS.GOV TO REGISTER FOR THE TELECONFERENCE/VIDEO INFORMATION PRIOR TO SEPTEMBER 16, 2026.

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

9/3/2026, 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

9/10/2026, 9/17/2026

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.



(SEAL)
Prepared by:
JOSEPH A. DENSON, JR. 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

HINDS COUNTY CLERK OF HINDS COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI
[Signature]
Deputy Clerk

9/3/2026, 9/10/2026, 9/17/2026

LEGAL

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING OF THE

JACKSON HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE JACKSON HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION (JHPC) WILL HOLD ITS MONTHLY MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC ON WEDNESDAY, October 7, 2026 AT 11:00aM IN THE ANDREW JACKSON CONFERENCE ROOM (RM. 105) OF THE WARREN HOOD BUILDING, 200 SOUTH PRESIDENT STREET, JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI.

APPLICATIONS FOR CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS

NEW BUSINESS

CASE NO. HPNC-26-29
LOCATION: 1525 DEVINE ST (PARCEL 9-253)
HISTORIC DISTRICT: BELHAVEN APPLICANT: JOHN SHARP
REQUEST: ADD SUPPORT COLLUMNS FOR PRINCESS BALCONY

CASE NO. HPNC-26-30
LOCATION: 1331 ST MARY ST (PARCEL 16-39)
HISTORIC DISTRICT: BELHAVEN APPLICANT: WALT WOFFORD
AMENDED REQUEST: CONSTRUCT A STORAGE ROOM ON THE NORTH ELEVATION OF THE HOME

OTHER ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION
OTHER

ADJOURNMENT

9/17/2026, 9/24/2026

LEGAL

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR A USE PERMIT

ZONING CASE NO. 4341

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 Ishley's Payroll Management Services, LLC has filed with the Planning Board for the City of Jackson, an application requesting an Use Permit to allow for a demolition of the current parking lot to rebuild a new parking lot within a C-4 - Central Business District on property located at 277 E. Pearl St. (Parcel: 191-35) in the First Judicial District of Hinds County, Mississippi, and being more particularly described as:

A parcel of land lying and being situated in Lot 2 South, Section 3, Township 5 North, Range 1 East, in the City of Jackson, Hinds County, Mississippi, and being more particularly described as follows:

Beginning at the intersection of the South right-of-way line of Pearl Street, as now laid out, and the West right-of-way line of West Street, as now laid out, said point being 10 feet South of the original Northeast Corner of Lot 2 South, as shown on the Official Map of the city of Jackson as made in 1875 by Henry C. Daniel; thence run in a Southerly direction along the West right-of-way line of West Street turn through an interior angle of 90° and run along a party-wall and its extension, Northerly for a distance of 150.0 feet, as recorded in Deed Book 148 at Page 273, Deed Book 160 at Page 203 and Deed Book 237 at Page 256, to a point on the South right-of-way line of Pearl Street as now laid out; thence turn through an interior angle of 90° and run Easterly along said right-of-way line for a distance of 150.0 feet, to the Point of Beginning, containing 22,500 sq. ft. (0.516 acres)), more or less.

And being the same property described in instrument recorded in Book 7205 at Page 2452

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, September 23, 2026, at which time all parties interested in or affected thereby will be heard both pro and con on said question, after which a record will be established upon which the City Planning Board can make its recommendation to the City Council of Jackson. Any objection thereto may be made by any person owning property within the area, and if made in writing must be filed with the City Zoning Administrator before said time if a hearing thereof or consideration thereof is desired, or by counsel on said date. If a request is made to the Zoning Administrator at least 72 hours in advance, the City will take steps to accommodate citizens need for interpreters or auxiliary aids for the visually/hearing impaired.

DUE TO THE CONCERN FOR THE PUBLIC HEALTH, SAFETY AND WELFARE, THE PLANNING BOARD MEMBERS, APPLICANTS AND THE GENERAL PUBLIC HAVE THE OPTION TO ATTEND THE MEETING VIA TELECONFERENCE/VIDEO. PLEASE EMAIL ERICL@JACKSONMS.GOV TO REGISTER FOR THE TELECONFERENCE/VIDEO INFORMATION PRIOR TO SEPTEMBER 16, 2026.

WITNESS my signature this 28TH day of August 2026.

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

9/3/2026, 9/17/2026

LEGAL

RULE 81 SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF HINDS COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF
NETRA COOPER, DECEASED

CAUSE NO. P2025-430 G/2

PETITIONER: GABRIELLE COOPER

SUMMONS

THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

TO: THE UNKNOWN HEIRS OF NETRA COOPER, DECEASED

You have been made a Defendant in the suit filed in this Court by Gabrielle Cooper Petitioner, seeking the adjudication of heirs of Netra Cooper, Deceased.

You are summoned to appear and defend against the complaint or petition filed against you in this action at 9:00 a.m. o'clock, on the 19th day of October, 2026, in the Chancery Courtroom of Hinds County before Honorable Tiffany Grove, Chancellor. In case of your failure to appear and defend a judgment will be entered against you for the money or other things demanded in the complaint or petition.

You are not required to file an answer or other pleading but you may do so if you desire.

Issued under my hand and the seal of said Court, this the 9th day of September, 2026.

EDDIE JEAN CARR
CHANCERY CLERK OF HINDS COUNTY,
MISSISSIPPI

BY: *[Signature]*



9/17/2026

LEGAL

ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI
AMENDING CHAPTER 2, ARTICLE IV OF THE CITY OF JACKSON
CODE OF ORDINANCES RELATING TO DEPARTMENTS.

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Jackson, Mississippi, previously adopted an ordinance creating Chapter 2, Article IV, Section 2-336 of the City of Jackson Code of Ordinances, entitled "Departments," governing the establishment of City departments; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Mississippi Code §21-19-1 et seq., the City Council has the authority to enact, amend, and repeal ordinances in the interest of the public health, safety, and welfare. Pursuant to Mississippi Code § 21-8-23, the City Council may establish or disestablish departments by ordinance; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has determined that it is in the best interest of the City of Jackson to amend Chapter 2, Article IV, Section 2-336 of the City of Jackson Code of Ordinances.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI, that Chapter 2, Article IV, Section 2-336 of the City of Jackson Code of Ordinances, entitled "Departments" be amended as follows:

Sec. 2-336. Creation; functions.

There are hereby created the following departments which shall have the following principal functions:

Administration. The department of administration shall perform the functions of finance, budget, and management, fleet management, purchasing, and municipal court services.

Fire. The fire department shall perform the functions of fire prevention, suppression and education.

Police. The police department shall perform the functions of crime prevention and suppression, animal control, youth court, and community improvement.

Public works. The public works department shall perform the functions of water and sewer engineering and maintenance; streets, bridges and drainage engineering and maintenance; traffic engineering and maintenance; right-of-way maintenance; cemetery maintenance; park maintenance; building maintenance; solid waste collection contract administration; administration of the pest control contract; central supply; and custodial services.

Human and cultural services. The human and cultural services department shall perform the functions of senior services, early childhood education, museums, art galleries, arts centers, auditoriums, and planetariums, as well as administration of a variety of recreational services, including park reservations, community center rental, athletic and recreational programming, special events, and the administration of contract facilities.

Human resources. The human resources department shall perform all human resources functions including the administration of benefits.

Planning and development. The planning and development department shall perform the functions of planning and zoning, developmental assistance including, but not limited to, housing, economic development and grants, federal programs, public transportation/JATRA, building and permits, and community improvement.

Constituent services and communications. The constituent services and communications department shall be responsible for the quality and content of information regarding city government. This department will serve as an information conduit for the city council, department heads, employees, and citizens. This department will also conduct site visits with businesses and citizens to identify problems and find solutions before they become unmanageable. The divisions of Action Line, Public Education and Government (PEG) Television, publications, public relations and quality of life, Office of Publications, and related duties shall be under this department.

Municipal clerk. The department of municipal clerk shall perform the functions of and duties of the municipal clerk as inherent by law, and those duties referenced in the Mississippi Code Annotated (1972), as amended as belonging to the "clerk", "municipal clerk", or "city clerk". The municipal clerk shall attend all council meetings and, subsequent to the meeting, shall receive the compiled minutes from the clerk of council for recordation. The municipal clerk shall keep the official minutes of the proceedings of the council, shall have custody of records of the municipality and be responsible for record retention, and shall be responsible for publication of all matters which require publication by law. In the absence of the municipal clerk, the duties of the municipal clerk shall be performed by that person serving as the chief deputy clerk of municipality. The municipal clerk shall plan and assign work and exercise general supervision of the deputy municipal clerks, and clerical employees that are assigned to the municipal clerk.

Information technology. The department of information technology shall perform all the functions of information technology, information systems, and

Council Member Stokes moved adoption; Council Member Brown-Thomas seconded.

Yeas – Brown-Thomas, Foote, Grizzell, Hartley, Parkinson and Stokes.
Nays – None.
Abstention – Clay.
Absent – None.

ATTEST:
Angela Harris
Municipal Clerk

I, Angela Harris, the duly appointed qualified Municipal Clerk and lawful custodian of records and seal of said City of Jackson, Mississippi, certify that the foregoing is a true and exact copy of an Order passed by the City Council at its Regular Council Meeting May 5, 2026 and recorded in Minute Book "7D, Pgs. 195-197".

WITNESS my signature and official seal of office, this the 14th day of September 2026.

Angela Harris, Municipal Clerk

9/17/2026

LEGAL

ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI, AMENDING CHAPTER 46, ARTICLE II OF THE CITY OF JACKSON CODE OF ORDINANCES.

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Jackson, Mississippi, adopted an ordinance creating Chapter 46, Article II of the City of Jackson Code of Ordinances, entitled "Municipal Court," governing the creation and regulation of municipal courts within the City; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 46-48, et seq., of the Jackson Code of Ordinances, the administration of municipal courts within the City is created with duties conferred upon the office of administrator; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 46-77, et seq., of the Jackson Code of Ordinances, the selection and compensation of municipal judges are addressed; and

WHEREAS, the Office of the City Attorney recommends amending the ordinance to change the number of municipal court judges, establish the position of Presiding Judge within the municipal court, and place the municipal court administrator under the direction of the Presiding Judge; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 21-19-1 et seq., Mississippi Code Annotated, the City Council has the authority to enact, amend, and repeal ordinances in the interest of the public health, safety, and welfare; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has determined that it is in the best interest of the City of Jackson to amend Chapter 46, Article II of the City of Jackson Code of Ordinances.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI, THAT Chapter 46, Article II, Sections 46-48 and 46-77 of the City of Jackson Code of Ordinances, be amended as follows:

Sec. 46-48. - Office of administrator created; duties generally.

The duties heretofore invested in the clerk of the municipal court under MCA 1972, § 21-23-11 are hereby invested in an administrator of the municipal court, who shall be appointed by the city council and work under the direction of the judges of the municipal court, with the Presiding Judge being the primary authority in such instances.

The administrator described in subsection (a) of this section of the municipal court and his staff shall constitute a new city department, operating under the judges of the municipal court and being known as municipal court services.

The administrator of the municipal court shall keep a permanent docket, upon which all cases shall be entered for trial. This docket shall contain the style of the case, the nature of the charge against an accused, and the names of witnesses for the prosecution and defendant. The administrator shall also keep a minute book in which all orders and judgments shall be entered. He shall issue all process from the court. He shall have power to take acknowledgements, administer any oaths required by law to be taken by any person, and take affidavits charging any crimes against the municipality or state.

The administrator shall purchase all dockets, minute books and stationery for the municipal court, and have the account allowed by the municipal judge. The order allowing the account shall be entered upon the minutes, and the municipal authorities shall pay the same.

Sec. 46-77. - Appointment; equivalency of compensation and authority.

At the time provided for the appointment of other officers, not more than five municipal judges shall be appointed by the mayor and confirmed by an affirmative vote of a majority of the council present and voting.

The mayor shall appoint one of the five judges as the Presiding Judge, whose term will run from January 1 to December 31 of the year of appointment. Should the Mayor decline or otherwise neglect to appoint a new presiding judge by February 15th, the Presiding Judge will retain their role as Presiding Judge for an additional year.

The Mayor may revoke their appointment of a Presiding Judge at any time.

Each municipal judge shall receive the same compensation and exercise the same authority and prerogatives of their office, regardless of the presence or absence of the other municipal judges. The Presiding Judge's salary shall exceed the salary of the other municipal judges reflecting the position's additional authority and responsibilities, in an amount not to exceed a 35% increase.

BE IT, FURTHER ORDAINED that the Code of Ordinances of the City of Jackson, Mississippi, is hereby amended to reflect the amendment of certain sections of Chapter 46, Article II, as set forth above, and the City Clerk is authorized to take all actions necessary to effectuate this codification.

BE IT, FURTHER ORDAINED that this ordinance shall take effect and be in force from and after its adoption as provided by law.

Vice President Parkinson moved adoption; Council Member Grizzell seconded.

Yeas – Brown-Thomas, Foote, Grizzell, Hartley, Parkinson and Stokes.
Nays – None.
Absent – Clay.

ATTEST:
Angela Harris
Municipal Clerk

I, Angela Harris, the duly appointed qualified Municipal Clerk and lawful custodian of records and seal of said City of Jackson, Mississippi, certify that the foregoing is a true and exact copy of an Order passed by the City Council at its Regular Council Meeting July 28, 2026 and recorded in Minute Book "7D, Pgs. 959-961".

WITNESS my signature and official seal of office, this the 14th day of September 2026.

Angela Harris, Municipal Clerk

9/17/2026

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P R E S E R V E D

Tales from the Pole

By Shewanda Riley
Columnist



"It's what you used to slide down!" blurted out the 25-year-old brother to his 5 months pregnant 23-year-old

sister. For a few seconds, everyone at the table was too shocked to do anything but look down at the Taboo game pieces. The awkward silence that followed was broken when the young lady quickly grabbed her purse and car keys and rushed from the house in tears. Her brother, now sure that the time he'd spent over the Christmas vacation rebuilding his relation-

ship with his estranged mother and sister was now irrevocably shattered, followed her in hot pursuit all the while pleading with her to forgive him for his ill-spoken words. He didn't do it out of anger but sincerely was trying to help her with the word clue.

Within minutes the mother of both of them joined them outside as the brother blocked his sister's attempts to get inside her car. As the mother yelled insults at the brother, the other family members did their best to calm the situation. It took a few minutes but finally everyone came back inside the house.

I couldn't believe it when my sister recounted this drama

that happened at her in laws on Christmas day a number of years ago. What started as a friendly game of Taboo ended up ruining her in laws Christmas celebration. My sister said that it wasn't a big secret that the young lady had been a stripper when she was younger. However, the young lady had turned her life around and was trying to put that part of her past behind her. She was frustrated

because it seemed like every step she made towards a positive future was ruined by others reminding her of where she'd been, as if she needed help remembering.

Many of us may not have

slid down a stripper's pole in our past, but we all have things that we are trying to move past. Why is it such a struggle to move forward? You may want to lose weight but get discouraged when you see how you look in the mirror even after weeks of working out and dieting. Or you may boldly claim that you will have peace of mind concerning your finances but worry as you shoulder the burden of more debt caused by higher prices on things like gas and living expenses.

As much as we try to change, we are constantly reminded in the present of how we failed in the past. In fact, some of us have friends and family mem-

bers who feel it is their duty to remind us of where we come from. However, these reminders are not about celebrating your successes in changing your life. Often their reminders are designed to remind you of those people, attitudes, and values that you have left behind. In some cases, these people remind you of where you come from because they secretly envy the fact that you were able to escape and transform your life into something better and healthier.

However, Isaiah 43:18 says "Forget about what's happened; don't keep going over old history. Be alert, be present. I'm about to do something brand-

new. It's bursting out! Don't you see it? There it is! I'm making a road through the desert, rivers in the badlands." It's not the change itself that makes the biggest difference in our lives...it's developing the discipline and wisdom to recognize that it's God who keeps us even as God completes the process of change.

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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“Pals” going strong for sixty years and sharing memories beyond measure

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

Friendship – a shared bond like no other that people hold dear - grasps its own with mutual respect, an increasingly rarity in contemporary society. Seeking no power, it is built neither on female dominance nor male dominance. Its goal is empathy, the glue that allows us to psychologically see a situation through another person’s eyes. Emotional sharing ciphers through as we feel an aspect of a person’s emotional state. Striving to help or improve another’s well-being is the benchmark of compassion. Being a non-judgmental listener while acknowledging a person’s feelings without critiquing or dismissing her/him opens the door for valuing each other’s boundaries, opinions and differences. Empathy – that seed that builds trust – causes friends to be supportive and kind. Whether experiencing smooth times or tough times, friends are loyal and honest, one to the other.

The above came to mind when Willa McChelle Watson and Gregory Walker were interviewed by the Mississippi Link in Jackson last week. They recalled that their friendship began when they became students at Watkins Elementary School on the first day of school in Virden Addition on Tuesday, September 6, 1966. On the school campus they reminisced about the time period, the principal, their teachers and their student peers.

“I remember Mr. Drake, our neighbor, asking daddy if he was going to let his children go to the white school (Watkins Elementary),” said Watson. She explained that her daddy quipped that his children would be attending the white school, and they were going to be supported every step of the way. When we approached the classroom door at Watkins, Watson mentioned the anxiety she felt regarding racial turmoil and civil rights marches – highlights of “back-in-the day” news. “It took about three minutes before I went inside, although I was accommodated by my sister Ramona. I didn’t understand, but I felt the tension. I remember seeing on tv the water hoses, dogs, police, and people being beaten.

The interviewees shared that they were baffled to see these things on tv. They were “innocent children” who did not see “color.” Chimed Walker, “We didn’t measure segregation or racism at a young age like that.”

“The neighborhood played a big part in our upbringing.



Besties Willa McChelle Watson and Gregory Walker at Watkins Elementary School - the beginning of their formal education and school integration.



It was fun for best friends Gregory Walker and Willa McChelle Watson to play around before opening the classroom door for lesson when they were student peers at Watkins Elementary School.



Willa McChelle Watkins and Gregory Walker at their first-grade classroom door where an inoperable Watkins Elementary School building has been closed many years.

ing. We respected our parents and were obedient. We respected adults. If we acted up in the neighborhood, I got a spanking from Dr. Estus Smith (a former Vice President of Jackson State University), Mr. Amos Wright (former Deputy Superintendent of Jackson Public Schools), Mr. Robert Cooper (who headed the JSU Campus Union), Ms. Albertine Mason (former Murrah High School teacher) and Mr. Frank Conic from Conic Beauty Supply which was on Farish Street,” Walker disclosed while adding that the adults taught him and the other children to be respectful by addressing all adults as “Mr.” and “Miss” or “Mrs.”

Watson mentioned that people don’t believe that members of the opposite sex can be friends. To her that’s a myth. Of her and Walker’s platonic relationship, she claimed, “We refuse to let our friendship go.”

The besties concurred that

Mississippi was compelled by law to integrate the schools. Nevertheless, Watson and Walker said that race relations at Chastain and Callaway were “overall friendly.” The white students and Black students were mixed early, but many of them didn’t have problems working together. Out of thirty Chargettes at Callaway, only seven were Black.

Watson was one of the seven. She and Walker dressed alike at the school gatherings, rode around with their friends who they referenced as “the gang” and got into mischief such as throwing eggs on people for a laugh. Hanging out, however, did not deter them from getting home on time. There was no way that they were going to ruin their chances to be together, especially since Watson’s parents trusted this neighborhood child with their daughter by many years.

Both Watson and Walker

confided that they thought the Callaway peers would continue to cultivate their friendships beyond their senior year. An abundance of Blacks and whites showed up for the tenth and twentieth year class reunions. Thereafter, the numbers began to decline. They are anticipating their 50th class reunion, thereby encouraging both Black and white students to attend.

These pals’ friendship escalated throughout their matriculation at JSU and their professional development classes at Hinds Community College. They recalled that things got a little rocky there - when in their “40s and 50s”- they were almost suspended for some mischief that had captivated them. For some reason, however, the tides turned in their favor and they were permitted to remain in school.

Walker acknowledged that being a friend to someone takes work. He admitted that he had



Youngsters Gregory and Willa McChelle dreaming of a bright future.

to learn Watson’s personality and to learn to respect her. He mentioned the time he had one of his friends take Watson home because he was trying to date a girl. “I said, ‘no,’ because I left the house with you,” Watson replied. She added that after the young man made a couple of passes at her, she beat him down. As a result, Watson “stayed mad at me for two months,” Walker recalled.

Watson and Walker highlight the significance of “acknowledging the presence of the significant other.” “I care about Chelle’s feelings. I care what she thinks about me. I love making her laugh. When she sees me, a smile comes on her face,” chuckled Walker.

“It is not important to always be right, but to allow each other room to express themselves with honesty and truth. I am glad that I met my forever best friend in the fall of 1966 in the doorway of my first-grade class

at Watkins Elementary School. I love my bestie and look forward to 60 more beautiful years together,” smiled Watson.

While Willa McChelle Watson resides in Jackson, Gregory Walker resides in Brookhaven. They talk to each other regularly. They understand and value the support they have for each other.

What advice do these longtime friends have for the community? In their soundness, they stipulate that in order for relationships to be sustained, there must be mutual respect. It has to be earned by the parties involved. Listening is a key aspect of respect. While hearing entails merely picking up sound, listening demands concentration (paying attention to what is being said). Connected to this is speaking time and listening time. Allowing the speaker to finish her/his comment without interruption before responding is essential.

Jackson-Hinds Healthy Start announces 4th Annual Infant Mortality Awareness Summit

“Celebrating Day 366: Every Assist, Every Shot, Every Baby Counts”

Mississippi Link Newswire

Jackson-Hinds Healthy Start, a program of Jackson-Hinds Comprehensive Health Center (JHCHC), will host its 4th Annual Infant Mortality Awareness Summit Thursday, September 24, 2026, from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Jackson-Hinds Comprehensive Health Center Multipurpose Building, 3502 W. Northside Drive, Jackson, Mississippi 39213.

This year’s theme, “Celebrat-

ing Day 366: Every Assist, Every Shot, Every Baby Counts,” emphasizes the collective effort required to help babies reach—and thrive beyond—their first birthday. Inspired by the teamwork of basketball, the theme recognizes that improving infant health outcomes requires everyone on the court: parents and caregivers, healthcare professionals, community organizations, advocates, and neighbors.

The summit will bring families, healthcare professionals, community partners, and advocates together for education, conversation, resources, and support focused on reducing infant mortality and strengthening maternal and infant health throughout the community.

Attendees will receive practical, potentially life-saving information addressing critical issues affecting mothers and babies, including safe sleep practices,

infant safety, nutrition, maternal health, preterm birth and low birth weight, birth defects, Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS), unintentional injuries, and maternal pregnancy complications.

The event is free, family-friendly, and open to the public. In addition to educational presentations, community resources, and discussions with healthcare professionals and advocates, attendees can enjoy

complimentary lunch, free snow cones, and exciting giveaways.

“Reaching Day 366 takes a team. From healthcare professionals providing quality care to parents and caregivers creating safe and healthy environments at home, every effort matters. Every assist, every shot, and every baby counts. This summit is about equipping families with knowledge, connecting them with resources, and reminding our community that protecting

mothers and babies is a responsibility we all share.”

Jackson-Hinds Healthy Start encourages parents, expectant families, caregivers, healthcare professionals, community organizations, and concerned citizens throughout the Jackson metropolitan area to attend.

Come learn, connect, and celebrate with us—and have lunch on us—as we work together to help every baby reach Day 366 and beyond.



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Celebrating 20 years of service in the Greater Jackson Area.

Jackson Middle College welcomes 11 new scholars to Cohort IV



(L-R) Brayden Griffin, Morgan Madison, Johkeria Smith, Camryn Tabb and Kailee Taylor

The JPS Newswire

Jackson Public Schools is proud to welcome 11 outstanding scholars to Cohort IV of Jackson Middle College. The newest members of the program were celebrated during a signing ceremony held Thursday, August 27, at the Jackson State University Liberal Arts Building.

The 11 scholars selected for Cohort IV are Jamiya Bennett, Kirsten Bratton, Daelon Gilmore, Brayden Griffin, Ti'Mya Johnson, Morgan Madison, Johkeria Smith, Camryn Tabb, Kailee Taylor, Kristina Williams and Cornelius Woodberry.

Since its establishment, Jackson Middle College scholars have demonstrated a strong commitment to academic excellence, perseverance and continued growth. The program has achieved several notable accomplishments, including:

An average cohort GPA of 3.3.

Nine of the 14 members of Cohort I completed their third year with GPAs ranging from 3.5 to 4.0.

Sixty-six percent of Mathematics Education majors who have attempted the Praxis Algebra examination have passed.

All scholars in the Mathematics Education track have been admitted to Teacher Education and are enrolled in their Pre-Clinical Internship course.

Scholars have been selected for membership in the Jackson State University

Honors College.

Scholars have served as Integrated Mathematics and Computer Science Ambassadors.

These accomplishments reflect the impact of Jackson Middle College in providing scholars with opportunities to pursue rigorous academic coursework while preparing for successful careers and continued education.

Jackson Public Schools congratulates the newest members of Jackson Middle College Cohort IV and celebrates their dedication, determination and commitment to excellence. Their achievements demonstrate what is possible when opportunity, hard work and perseverance come together.

JSU junior gains congressional experience through Congressman Thompson Summer Internship

By Jatavian Walker
JSU University Communications

Jackson State University junior Brooke Williams gained firsthand experience in the federal government this summer after completing the Bennie G. Thompson Congressional Summer Internship in Washington, D.C. Williams spent the summer working alongside congressional professionals and gaining insight into the legislative process.

The internship brought together Mississippi residents and college students enrolled at Mississippi institutions. Interns lived at The Washington Center and had opportunities to enroll in classes designed to strengthen their professional and congressional knowledge.

"I was able to speak with constituents firsthand and hear their issues and concerns. My biggest takeaway was definitely helping people from my hometown and my home state, and being a voice for those marginalized communities," Williams said.

Williams primarily worked with Congressman Bennie G. Thompson, U.S. representative for Mississippi's 2nd Congressional District. Her responsibilities included preparing media briefings on current events affecting the nation and the district. She also created social media content, answered constituent calls, studied voting demographics in Mississippi and researched legislation moving through Congress.

"It was a pleasure to have Ms. Williams as a Summer 2026 intern in my Washington, D.C. office. It is not often that I get to see young talent come into a fast-paced environment and adapt as quickly as Brooke did," Thompson said. "What impressed me most was her willingness to take initiative. Our conversations throughout the summer made it clear to me that



U. S. Congressman Bennie Thompson, MS (D) Dist. 2 and JSU student Brooke Williams pose for picture in his office on Capitol Hill

Brooke is someone who is going somewhere."

Williams said one of the highlights of the summer was meeting and networking with congressional leaders, including U.S. Rep. Jasmine Crockett of Texas' 30th Congressional District. The experience reinforced Williams' goal of earning a law degree and pursuing a career in public service.

Jackson, Mississippi native and political science major, Williams said she learned about the internship through a friend and quickly applied with the support of her political science professor, D'Andrea Orey, Ph.D.

"Brooke was exactly the kind of student we hoped would represent Jackson State in a moment like that. She had a sharp, informed grasp of the progressive issues facing marginalized communities, the very communities Congressman Bennie Thompson has spent his career fighting for. Brooke put in the work, and that internship

was a well-earned spotlight on that effort. She represented JSU with distinction," Orey said.

Williams' family has a long history with Jackson State. She chose to continue her parents' legacy at JSU and has embraced opportunities to lead and serve her community.

"I ran for freshman class secretary, and God willing, I got the position and became a student leader myself. I've had so many great opportunities in student leadership and making an impact on campus. That means the world to me," Williams said.

Williams has since held leadership roles in several student organizations, including the Student Government Association, Campus Activity Board, Collegiate 100 and JSU's NAACP chapter.

Her experience on Capitol Hill builds on that record of leadership and gives Williams another opportunity to apply her political science education beyond the classroom.

JPS selected for National Initiative to expand access to rigorous coursework and student success

The JPS Newswire

Jackson Public Schools has been selected as one of only 24 school districts nationwide to join the inaugural Social Mobility Leadership Network (SMLN), a new three-year initiative led by the Aspen Institute and the College Board.

The network brings together district leaders from across the country to expand access to high quality coursework and opportunities that support long-term student success. Collectively, participating districts will work toward reaching more than one million students nationwide.

tionwide.

As a member of the inaugural cohort, JPS will collaborate with peer districts to identify and share strategies that increase access to rigorous academic pathways, strengthen college and career readiness, and advance social mobility through education.

The selection places Jackson Public Schools among a distinguished group of districts chosen to help shape the future of the national network. Over the next three years, participating districts will engage in leadership development, learning opportunities and collaborative problem-solving focused on improving outcomes for students.

The Social Mobility Leadership Network is led by the Aspen Institute's Education & Society Program in partnership with the College Board. The initiative supports school systems committed to ensuring students have access to the coursework, resources and opportunities needed to succeed after high school.

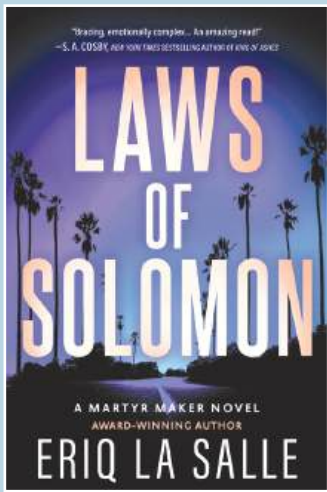
The recognition reflects Jackson Public Schools' continued focus on expanding opportunities for scholars and preparing them for success in college, careers and life.

"This recognition reflects our commitment to ensuring every scholar has access to the opportunities, experiences and support needed to thrive," said JPS Superintendent Dr. Errick L. Greene. "We are honored to join this national network and collaborate with other districts that are working to remove barriers and create stronger pathways to college, careers and lifelong success."

them for success in college, careers and life.

"This recognition reflects our commitment to ensuring every scholar has access to the opportunities, experiences and support needed to thrive," said JPS Superintendent Dr. Errick L. Greene. "We are honored to join this national network and collaborate with other districts that are working to remove barriers and create stronger pathways to college, careers and lifelong success."





BOOK REVIEW:

LAWS OF SOLOMON

BY ERIQ LA SALLE

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\$18.99 • 304 PAGES

By Terri Schlichenmeyer
Columnist

Finally, after so much work, you’ve left your past behind. That’s what you tell yourself: what’s done is done and you can’t undo history. It’s over. You try not to think about last month, last year, a decade back because what does it matter? As in the new novel, “Laws of Solomon” by Eriq La Salle, remembering is too full of pain. The monsters that came to him early in his sleep were the easy ones. It was the later demons that

stole Solomon Nangobi’s sleep, the spirits of all the people he killed when he was a child soldier in Uganda, and when he was a fixer in New York as an adult. Their ghosts called to him with urgent voices, though he left that life behind long ago. Now his days were filled working the soil in gardens near Malibu, and he loved the quite life. Still, he kept his guns. And he was glad: when Solomon recognized two Zeta gunmen stalking a well-dressed man, woman, and child through the

gardens, he couldn’t walk away. He stopped the gangsters with bullets, but not before the adults and their bodyguards were dead. The child, an eight-year-old boy named Gaby, was safe, but Gaby couldn’t tell Solomon what was going on. What became quickly certain, however, was that Solomon was now Gaby’s guardian, and the Zeta crime boss wanted them dead, too. When he was the same age as Gaby, Solomon saw unspeakable things, the murder of his parents,

the destruction of his homeland, and the atrocities that Idi Amin’s soldiers committed. He learned to kill, he observed, and he was hardened, understanding as a small boy that revenge was often necessary and needed, and that blood would shed at those times. But Gaby was pure, an innocent, a child. Solomon reached out to his contacts to try to get the boy to safety, but being a contact of a marked man was likewise a dangerous thing: the monsters outside were worse than the ones

inside him... Two words for you: Whoa weee. That’s what you’re going to say when you close the back cover of “Laws of Solomon,” knowing that you’ve just been taken on a wild up-and-down, around-and-round ride. Author Eriq La Salle makes it impossible not to like Solomon, an African man who has, over time, lost nearly everything dear to him and who has no faith in much of anything. Readers get that part of the story eventually, and there’s historical authenticity

in some of it, but we never really get to know Solomon, which makes the book feel dark and dangerous. Along the way, we meet and get to know his helpers, which buoys Solomon’s chase to find safety for the boy, and your heart won’t stop pounding. Keep in mind that this is a thriller partially set in 1970s Uganda, so expect lots of violence but don’t expect a lot of people to live. If you’re up for that, find “Laws of Solomon. You won’t be able to leave it behind.



ZACK WALLACE
Hinds County Circuit Clerk

FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT
Circuit Clerk's Office
P.O. BOX 327
Jackson, MS 39205
Phone: (601) 968-6628
Fax: (601) 973-5547

Jury Duty Recording:
First Judicial District
(601) 969-0052

SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT
Circuit Clerk's Office
P.O. Box 999
Raymond, MS 39154
Phone: (601) 857-8038
Fax: (601) 857-0535

Jury Duty Recording:
Second Judicial District
(601) 857-8869

Office Hours:
8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Monday - Friday
(Except on legal holiday)

Services of the Clerk:

- Civil/Criminal Filings of Circuit and County Court
- Marriage License
- Medical License
- Voter Registration/Absentee Voting

VOTER INFORMATION
Verify/Update your Registration Today

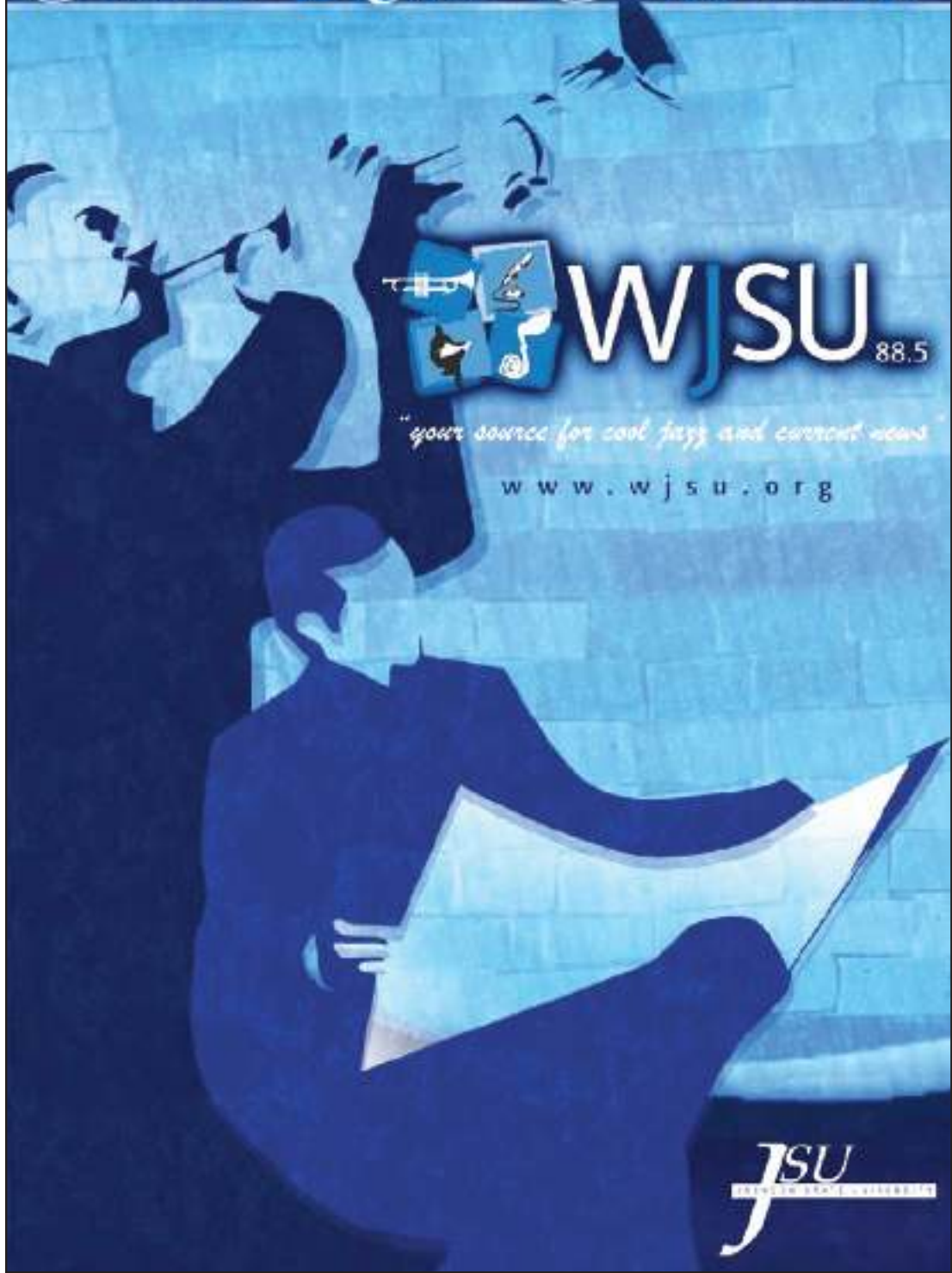
- You must be registered 30 days before the Election.
- Absentee Voting begins 45 days before the Election

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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Jackson State looks to stay unbeaten as Tuskegee comes to town for the W.C. Gorden Classic

By Tim Ward
Sports Writer

Tiger Nation is riding high right now. Jackson State sits at 2 and 0 heading into this week's matchup, and this past week the Tigers got a bye to rest up before Tuskegee rolls into "The Vet" for the W.C. Gorden Classic. Kickoff is set for 6 pm at Mississippi Veterans Memorial Stadium, and honestly, after the -way- the last two games went, Tiger Nation has every reason to show up early.

It started in Nashville on August 29, when Jackson State went into FirstBank Stadium for the John Merritt Classic and escaped with a 26 to 24 win over Tennessee State in front of 32,467 people. Not pretty, but a road win in a rivalry atmosphere is a road win, and Coach T.C. Taylor's team found a way. That's four seasons (in) now for Taylor, and he's sitting on a 28 and 9 record with a Celebration Bowl championship in 2024 and a trip to the SWAC title game last year already on the resume. This program doesn't rebuild; it reloads.

Then came Edward Waters September 5 for the HOPE Labor Day Classic back home in Jackson, and that one was never in doubt. Sophomore quarterback Jared Lockhart, the reigning SWAC co-Freshman of the Year, put together the best game of his young career. 17 for 25, 388 yards, 4 touch-

downs, zero picks. Spread the ball to four different receivers and walked away with offensive MVP honors. Jackson State scored on nine of their first 10 possessions, and it was 52 to nothing at the half. 704 yards of total offense, 316 of it on the ground.

Tuskegee opened its season with a 27-17 loss to West Alabama before responding with a dramatic 24-23 victory over Fort Valley State in the Port City Classic.

One player Jackson State's defense will have to be prepared for is Tuskegee quarterback Bryson McGrew.

McGrew came off the bench against Fort Valley State and threw for 171 yards and three second-half touchdowns, helping Tuskegee erase a double-digit deficit. His performance earned him SIAC Offensive Player of the Week honors. Kicker Lorcan Ryans also earned conference recognition after connecting on a fourth-quarter 35-yard field goal in the comeback victory.

That comeback showed that Tuskegee is capable of staying composed when a game begins moving against it. Jackson State is expected to win, but they cannot take Tuskegee lightly. Tuskegee will also want revenge from losing to JSU last year.



Head Coach TC Taylor



QB Jared Lockhart



Tiger Nation

HINDS COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT WEEKLY UPDATE

Librarians Appreciation

Appreciation begins with listening. Superintendent Dr. Mitchell Shears recently hosted HCSD librarians for breakfast to thank them for the important work they do each day. The gathering also created space for an open and honest

conversation. Dr. Shears invited our librarians to share their experiences, concerns and ideas about how the district can better support their work and the students they serve.

We appreciate our librarians for helping students discover new worlds and develop a lifelong love of learning. Their voices matter and we are grateful for the opportunity to listen.

