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Legislative Black Caucuses from Mississippi and Tennessee Gather

By Dr. Phyllis Qualls
Guest Writer

Members of the Legislative Black Caucus from Mississippi and Tennessee joined together to present issues in their respective state legislatures. During the panel discussion the legislators stressed the importance of voting, regardless of what it looks like now, voting does count. A longtime member of the legislature from Mississippi, Senator Hillman Frazier, (D-Dist.27) explained how important the voting process really is, "We can't stop now, and we must learn from our history to press on."

Tennessee Senator Charlane Oliver, (D-Dist. 19) who has been stripped of her ability to serve on committees by the Senate Leadership, and salary has been cut, had strong words in her defense of her action. "When I stood on my desk in the Tennessee Senate, I was committed to standing firm for the rights in which our ancestors fought for, and to be denied that right caused me to take action that would make an impact beyond the Senate walls. I reflected on our past, looked at this dismal present, while working for a better future and knew, 'I would not be moved' "

Mississippi Legislators explained, because of the action in Tennessee, there was no special session in Mississippi. However, MS Rep. Lataisha Jackson, (D – Dist. 11) stated, "I was prepared to do what was necessary. It takes courage to vote and courage to stand up to those who do not want us to vote and take us back to a time, when we could not vote."

The discussions dealt with a plethora of issues all the legislators face regardless of the states they are in; the struggle continues. TN Rep. Harold M. Love, Jr., (D-Dist. 58) said, "It is important to stay engaged and be a participant. Regardless of these difficult times, we have to be educated about voting; register and vote. Also, understand, no one candidate may fit all of the requirements a constituent may require, however, if that candidate can make a positive impact, other requirements can be addressed later." It was summed up by one attendee who said," Getting some of all is better than all of nothing."

Mississippi has 55 Black members in the legislature and uses the power of those numbers to best represent the people of the state.

Tennessee Black Caucus Chair, Rep. Jesse Chism, (D-Dist. 85) explained the elected officials need to hold more informational sessions, within our state and with other states, to make a strong footprint for the people. The reception/panel session was held Friday, August 28th, before the Big Game between Tennessee State University in Nashville and Jackson State University, in Jackson.

The event was a natural fit, held at the African Methodist Episcopal Church Sunday School Publishing House. "The symbolism of that connection is that the AME denomination has always had a fierce attitude, resulting in impactful action toward social justice, which includes voting," said Walter Searcy, a member of Greater Bethel AME Church and a Steward.

The take-away from the gathering, clearly was VOTE!

Members of the Legislative Black Caucus from MS and TN at the African Methodist Episcopal Church Sunday School Publishing House in Nashville, Friday, Aug. 28 before the big game between JSU and TSU.

Adolpho Birch, III Tennessee Titans, standing center, shared comments about how important it is to be a team player within organizations and working outside to develop coalitions. In the background are Rep. Harold Love, Jr., Sen. Charlane Oliver and Mississippi Legislator, Rep. Zakiya Summers PHOTOS BY KENYA MCGRUDER

Old friends meet again, Rep. Hillman Frazier and Dr. Phyllis Qualls

Dr. Flonzie Brown-Wright Statewide Voter Registration Day

PHOTOS BY JAY JOHNSON

By Christopher Young
Contributing Writer

A press conference was held on the second-floor rotunda of the Mississippi Capitol Friday, August 28, 2026, at high noon. At its core was the naming of the Mississippi version of National Voter Registration Day – September 15, 2026 – for our very own living legend, Dr. Flonzie Brown-Wright. Brown-Wright is known the world over for her courage and determination as a civil rights activist and voting rights activist. She is a highly respected educator and author, who at fourscore and four, shows no signs of slowing down. In 1968, she became the first African American woman elected to public office in Mississippi since Reconstruction when she was elected as Election Commissioner in Madison County. She was accompanied her son, Lloyd Goodloe and her niece Vanessa Edmond.

State Representative Justice Robert Gibbs (D-72) served as moderator for the event. The revered Pastor of New Hope Baptist Church, Dr. Jerry Young, provided a powerful opening prayer with a special focus on the responsibility to vote and the need for selfless elected officials. Brown-Wright's niece, Vanessa Edmond, shared "today is a day to honor a legacy…a Mississippi civil rights pioneer….honor the legacy, register the future…Flonzie Brown Goodloe Wright inspires me to move beyond words, and to see her legacy continue while she is here, and receive her flowers while she is on this earth, makes a difference in all of our lives."

The Call to Action was provided by Pauline Rogers, Co-Founder of the RECH (Reaching and Educating for Community Hope) Organization. "To me today is about honor. When you don't honor you lead with dishonor. We have dishonorable leadership all across this country…today we name this states voter registration day in honor of Dr. Flonzie Brown-Wright. It will be a day of honor every year and it will be about education and registration leading to participation. If you can't honor the person, you can't honor the purpose. If you're honoring what voting is, what it stands for, and the price that has been paid for it, you cannot honor going to the polls and checking a box. We're trying to take you back to a place of honor that was dropped in our spirits years ago. We memorialize too much. Legacy is for the living, and we are glad that she is still here. We are putting purpose behind the name, acknowledging the sacrifices she made, the barriers she confronted, the doors she walked though, and the responsibility and the sacrifice…she carried the weight of voting in this state…today this gives worthy credit…honor must become action, honor is carried forward."

Gibbs reminded the audience that "Dr. Brown Wright helped thousands of Mississippians to register to vote. She moved Mississippi forward…she ensured that generations received greater opportunities." State Senator Kamesha Mumford (D-26) shared that the very first time she heard the name of Flonzie Brown she was in the fourth grade at Holy Child Jesus School in Canton, and her teacher, Mrs. Starling, told the class that when Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was coming to Canton he called Flonzie Brown and asked her to arrange for housing and food for 3,000 people. Even as a fourth grader I knew that was a big deal, not like some after church potluck, and in true Flonzie Brown fashion, she gave a resounding yes. Her yes is now part of history." She spoke about the relationship between fear and courage, the terror that was going on in 1966, and the importance of remembering the people who fought so that people like her could one day have a seat at the table of democracy.

State Representative Tamarra Grace Butler-Washington (D-69) gave remarks focused on the right to vote and the price that was paid to obtain that right. She honored Brown-Wright for her courage, persistence, and reinforcing that our voices matter. She spoke about the appropriateness of Missis-

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83rd National Folk Festival and Mississippi Arts Commission unveil captivating program for Festival's Mississippi Folklife Area

The Mississippi Link Wire

The wide-ranging program for the 83rd National Folk Festival's Mississippi Folklife Area & Stage was announced this week at a press conference inside the House Chamber at the Old Capitol Museum. This is the event's second year of a three-year residency, scheduled to take place November 13-15, 2026, in Downtown Jackson.

On hand for the announcement were Mississippi Arts Commission (MAC) Executive Director David Lewis, and Director of the Two Mississippi Museums Michael Morris. Also participating were Shaquita Chapman, Community Engagement & Strategic Communications Coordinator, National Folk Festival; and Blaine Waide, Executive Director, National Council for the Traditional Arts (NCTA).

The Mississippi Folklife Area & Stage is a special component of the National Folk Festival, celebrating and showcasing the traditions held deeply in the state's diverse communities. The Folklife Area shines a spotlight on the distinctive music, rituals, crafts, occupations, foodways, and other traditions at the heart of Mississippi's cultural heritage, expressing both the state's deep history and its evolving character.

"America's rich palette and sounds are rooted right here in Mississippi," said David Lewis, executive director of the Mississippi Arts Commission "The Folklife Area is always a vital part of the National Folk Festival experience, but that's especially true this year, " said NCTA Executive Director Blaine Waide.

Mississippi Flavor: At the Crossroads of the American Story will feature:

Alan Sibley & the Magnolia Ramblers of Ackerman, combining classic bluegrass standards, original gospel sounds, and classic instrumental licks in a style that harkens back to the music's founding generation.

Annie & the Caldwells of West Point, blending fiery gospel sounds with the slow-burn groove of soul, making this family band a longtime favorite on the gospel circuit in Mississippi's Golden Triangle, and of late, across the world

Big Apple Inn of Jackson, a community staple for nearly 80 years, serving up classic southern soul food like their famous pig ear sandwiches.

Cedric Burnside of Holly Springs, an innovator and torch bearer for the spellbinding Hill Country blues tradition, bridging the music's legacy and future, transmitting deeply held blues stories in a fresh, contemporary voice.

Chimneyville Weavers & Spinners Guild of Jackson, sharing the time-honored practice of creating textiles by hand using tools that predate modern technology.

Eddie Cotton, Jr. of Clinton, a master of soul blues moving audiences, body and spirit, with blistering guitar work, stirring vocals, and a hard-driving style rooted in the church of his youth.

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Jackson City Branch NAACP Announces 98th Annual Freedom Fund Banquet Celebrating the "Year of Medgar"

Mississippi Link Newswire

The Jackson City Branch NAACP will host its 98th Annual Freedom Fund Banquet on Saturday, September 12, 2026 at 6 p.m. at the historic M.W. Stringer Grand Lodge, located at 1072 J.R. Lynch Street in Jackson.

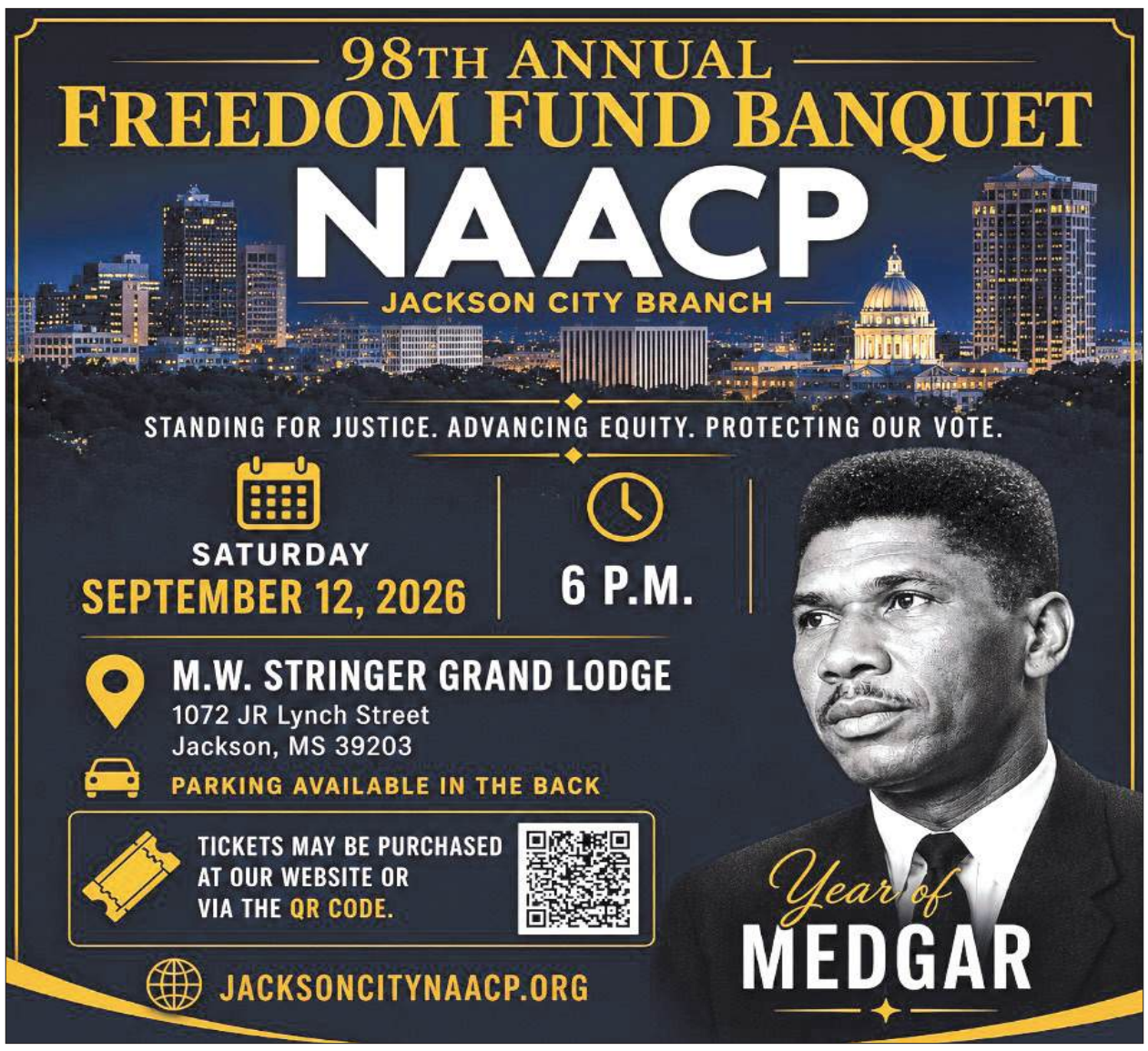
Presented under the theme "Year of Medgar," this year's banquet will honor the life, courage and enduring legacy of Mississippi civil rights leader Medgar Wiley Evers. The program will connect Evers' unfinished work to the Jackson City Branch NAACP's continuing efforts to advance justice, protect voting rights and expand opportunities for residents throughout Jackson and Hinds County.

The evening will feature special performances by students from Murrah High School and MADDRAMA, Mississippi's acclaimed performing arts organization based at Jackson State University. Through music, drama and creative expression, the performances will celebrate Black history, resilience and the power of the arts in advancing social change.

"Medgar Evers understood that progress requires ordinary people to demonstrate extraordinary courage," said Jackson City Branch NAACP President Nsombi Lambright-Haynes. "As we celebrate the Year of Medgar, we are not only remembering his sacrifice. We are recommitting ourselves to the work he gave his life to—protecting the vote, confronting injustice and building a Mississippi where every person can live with dignity and opportunity."

For nearly a century, the Jackson City Branch NAACP Freedom Fund Banquet has brought together civil rights advocates, community leaders, educators, faith leaders, business partners and residents committed to racial justice and equality. The annual event also helps sustain the branch's advocacy, youth engagement, and community-service initiatives.

"This banquet is both a celebration and a call to action," said Queen Hatfield, Banquet Chair. "We invite the entire community to join us as we honor the life of Medgar Evers, recognize local changemakers, and strengthen the collective movement for justice."



Registration

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sippi's Voter Registration Day being named in her honor, a day that will be celebrated for the power of civic participation.

Mississippi's Director for The Southern Poverty Law Center, Waikinya Clanton, came next and drew attention to the importance of dates, and focused on August 28th. Emmitt Till was abducted and brutally murdered on August 28, 1955. Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. delivered his I Have a Dream speech on August 28, 1963. And in 1968, Dr. Flonzie Brown-Wright was elected to public office as Beat 1 Election Commissioner in Madison County. "Her's is a legacy of courage, sacrifice, and participation..."

Prior to concluding the press conference, Gibbs gave thanks to the family of Brown-Wright. He provided a closing prayer asking for strength as we try to move our state forward. Lloyd Goodloe presented a proclamation from Jackson Mayor John Horhn to his mother. Dr. Brown-Wright gave thanks for the event and all the attendees before leaning in hard. "No matter what goes on at 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, I am not going back." She spoke very briefly about the importance of voting, and encouraged voter participation in a way we don't often hear. "Go for your ancestors who couldn't vote."

An excellent article about Dr. Brown-Wright's life can be found at https://voicesofthecivilrightsmovement.com/articles/voting-rights.

PHOTOS BY JAY JOHNSON

Festival

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Eden Brent of Greenville, a blues pianist, vocalist, songwriter, and educator carrying forward the rich sounds of Mississippi Delta blues and boogie-woogie piano.

Edna Nicole & Rev. Slim of Clarksdale, performing their mix of Delta blues, gospel, soul, and funk that draws inspiration from the community and people around them.

Hollywood Luck of Jackson, a hip hop artist, producer, and songwriter, celebrating the creativity and energy of southern hip hop.

Jarita Frazier-King of Natchez, sharing her signature twist on traditional southern soul food and Creole classics.

Jemero Carter & Kingdomology of Oxford, playing a compelling mix of traditional, contemporary, and trap gospel—creating music that celebrates the continuing evolution of a signature southern sound.

The Church of the Living God, "Home of the Sacred Steel Players," of Tupelo, offering a rare opportunity to experience the distinctive sacred steel musical tradition of the Church of the Living God, Jewell Dominion.

Lady Trucker of Holly Springs, a cousin of Jessie Mae Hemphill, performing the blues and gospel of her roots, celebrating the rich musical traditions of North Mississippi's Hill Country.

Las Delicias of Leland, demonstrating their award-winning version of a distinctive Mississippi staple, Delta tamales.

Leda & Annie Issac of Choctaw, sharing their knowledge of traditional Choctaw culinary traditions that have been practiced in Mississippi for millennia.

Los Preeminentes of Greenwood, a family band that has transported Northern Mexico's classic norteño sounds to the Delta.

Melony Armstrong of Tupelo, showcasing her skills as an expert hairbraider and sharing her craft with festivalgoers of all ages.

Mississippi Cultural Crossroads of Port Gibson, sharing the rich quilting traditions of the region, including string quilts and their newest collaborative quilt celebrating America's 250th anniversary.

Mississippi Delta Chinese Heritage Museum of Cleveland, showcasing the rich and vibrant customs brought to the Delta by Chinese immigrants, from grocery stores to wok demonstrations, chopstick tutorials, and mahjong.

Palmer Robbins of Jackson, demonstrating traditional blacksmithing techniques.

Peter Sherman of Natchez, a bowl hewer, showcasing a form of woodworking using an adze, a seldom-seen, historic woodworking tool.

Rising Stars Fife & Drum of Coldwater, infusing the centuries-old African American fife and drum tradition with a new energy and youthful spirit, keeping the flame of her grandfather Otha Turner's legacy.

Shane Sekul of Ocean Springs, demonstrating boatbuilding and boat restoration by sharing the time-honored skills that serve Mississippi boatbuilders of past and present.

Southern Boyz Grabbling of Olive Branch, sharing the uniquely southern practice of catfish grabbling, also known as noodling.

Bringing the tailgating traditions of a Saturday college gameday to the festival, with tailgaters from Jackson State University, Mississippi State University, the University of Southern Mississippi, and the University of Mississippi.

To learn more about these artists and their stories, please visit nationalfolkfestival.com/artists. The National Folk Festival will feature individual artists on its Facebook page. (facebook.com/NFFJackson) and Instagram (instagram.com/NFFJackson) throughout the summer.

NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PROPOSED BUDGET AND PROPOSED TAX LEVIES FOR THE UPCOMING FISCAL YEAR FOR THE CITY OF JACKSON

The City of Jackson will hold a public hearing on its proposed budget and proposed tax levies for fiscal year 2026-2027 on Thursday, September 3, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. in Council Chambers located in City Hall, 219 South President Street, Jackson, Mississippi 39201.

The City of Jackson is now operating projected total budget revenue of $337,921,621 (23.0 percent) or $77,766,333 of such revenue is obtained through ad valorem taxes. For the next fiscal year, the proposed budget has total projected revenue of $340,558,694. Of that amount, (23.4 percent) or $79,517,344, is proposed to be financed through a total ad valorem tax levy. The decision to not increase the ad valorem tax millage rate for fiscal year 2026-2027 above the current fiscal year's ad valorem tax millage rate means you will not pay more in ad valorem taxes on your home, automobile tag, utilities, business fixtures and equipment, and rental real property unless the assessed value of your property has increased for fiscal year 2026-2027. Any citizen of City of Jackson is invited to attend this public hearing on the proposed budget and tax levies for fiscal year 2026-2027 and will be allowed to speak for a reasonable amount of time and offer tangible evidence before any vote is taken.

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Emmitt Till Remembered

By Jackie Hampton
Publisher

Three days of activities were held in Mississippi to commemorate the 71st anniversary of the death of Emmett Till, an African American who was abducted and lynched in Mississippi in 1955 at the age of fourteen. Emmett Till's Legacy Foundation, family members, and Civil Rights advocates hosted the events.

A press conference at the Mississippi State Capitol Friday, Aug. 28, 2026 kicked off the commemoration. Speakers included family members, civil rights leaders, and elected officials.

Deborah Watts, the cousin of Emmett Till spoke about the "heavy lift" of carrying the family's legacy. She emphasized the ongoing responsibility of educating future generations so they will be able to carry forward the legacy of Emmett Till and his mother, Mamie Till-Mobley.

City of Jackson Mayor John Horhn stated, "On this day, a 14-year-old, innocent young man's life was taken in a heinous, brutal, thoughtless crime because of the way he looked."

A historical guided bus tour, 'Trail of Tears and Terror' departed Jackson Aug. 29th at 12:00 noon, transporting attendees to key historical sites and national monuments in the Mississippi Delta.

On Sunday, 30th a Worship in White Service was held 11:00 AM at the historical Farish Street Baptist Church located at 619 N. Farish Street in Jackson. The service honored the memory of Emmett Till. Many surviving members of his family traveled from all over the county were present, and dressed in white as were many church members, visitors, and friends.

The service focused on how Emmett Till's name continues to serve as a catalyst for civil rights and social change. In his sermon, Farish Street Pastor, Rev. Eric Williams shared biblical parallels regarding Emmett Till's lynching and the courage of Till's mother, Mamie Till-Mobly.

Emmett Till's cousin Watts also spoke during this service. "Faith is what grounded our family," she said. "Faith is something that brought meaning to Mamie and gave her the ability to stand and speak truth to power."

Jay Johnson who was at both the press conference and service at Farish Street was very pleased with the activities surrounding the commemoration of his death in Mississippi; however, in recalling his own visit several years ago to the sites where Till was brutally murdered, thrown into the river, pulled out of the river, and other historical sites relating to Till's death, Johnson stated, "I'm still surprised at where we are in this state as far as race relations are concerned. It is a shame that similar situations are going on all over the country simply due to hatred.

After the service, a community gathering and dinner send-off, 'Breaking Bread Together' was held at the church.

Till

PHOTOS BY JAY JOHNSON

An Open Letter to local media leadership

By Chris Young
Contributing Writer

Open Letter to the leadership of WLBT and WDBD (Gray Media), WAPT (Hearst Television), WJTV (Nexstar), Clarion Ledger (Gannett/USA Today), Mississippi Today (Deep South Today), and Mississippi Free Press.

While other news outlets provide coverage of news in Mississippi, it could easily be said that your platforms make up what are considered mainstream print and digital media leaders in our state. Combined with African American focused platforms like The Mississippi Link newspaper and The Jackson Advocate, Mississippians and often those far beyond our state, are served well by your commitment to journalism and telling the stories of our lives. On a personal level, I consume your news products daily and contribute a small amount annually to the non-profits Mississippi Today and Mississippi Free Press.

Each of your platforms publishes policy statements where words like truthfulness, fairness, independence, responsibility, quality, lack of bias, ethical standards and practices, sourcing, and factchecking can be found. These policies independently and collectively become the foundation of your professionalism, deserving of the gratitude and respect of the public.

Yet over the past several months, I have reached out via email to each of your platform leaders about a specific topic and have not received a single response. The topic is Minority Contracting in Mississippi. In FY2025, Mississippi awarded contracts totaling $5.5 billion dollars per the Mississippi Development Authority Annual Minority Participation Report. The numbers contained in this comprehensive and bulky report demonstrate that over 99 percent of contract expenditures went to white people. Less than 1 percent went to non-white people (Asian, Asian Pacific, Hispanic, African American, and Native Americans.) While I have been writing about this state-sponsored and legislature approved discrimination for the last four years for The Mississippi Link newspaper, none of you have truly been covering it.

Please ask yourselves why you are not covering this atrocity that has been going on year after year in our state government for as long as can be remembered? Where are the watchdogs? Where is the Fourth Estate when it comes to state-sponsored discrimination that uses the tax dollars of all Mississippians.

Surely, we know this behavior is not limited to Mississippi. Corruption and discrimination can be found in every state. Yet isn't it not especially hellish that this goes on in the poorest state in the nation? What does it say about media organizations that are quick to devote their resources to providing coverage of people hanging from trees in Mississippi, but not cover a system that uses approximately 20 percent of the state's annual budget while crippling the economics of a rock-bottom minimum of 42 percent of our state's population?

Maybe, just maybe, it's all perfectly legal. But on its face, it is unethical and immoral. For those reasons alone, it must be covered by people and organizations that are anchored in fairness and justice for all. To continue not covering this subject is to enable the state's behavior to continue, perhaps even being considered complicit. I'm sure you all remember Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr's. quote about silence. In his book, Stride Toward Freedom, he wrote, "We will have to repent in this generation, not only for the evil words and deeds of the bad people, but for the appalling silence of the good people."

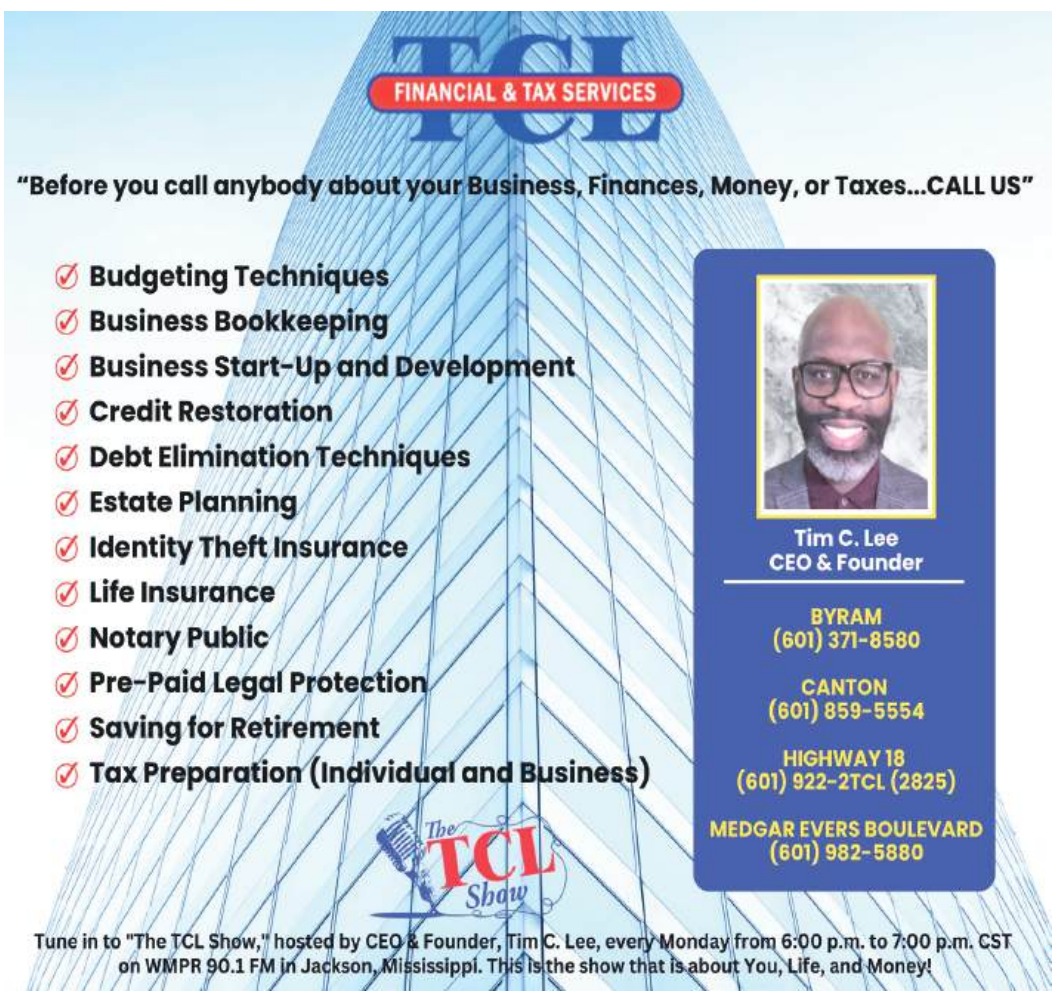
President Emeritus, Dr. John A. Peoples celebrated his 100th Birthday in his home

The Mississippi Link Newswire

Former Jackson State University President, Dr. John A. Peoples turned 100 years old August 26, 2026. He celebrated this amazing milestone in his home where JSU and other community leaders had the honor of celebrating with him while listening to him reflect on his educational and leadership journey at JSU.

Dr. Peoples became the very first graduate of Jackson State to serve as president of the university. He graduated in 1950 with a bachelor's degree in mathematics. He served as president from 1967 to 1984.

PHOTO BY JAY JOHNSON



Civil rights groups make urgent plea for voting rights in DC, ahead of midterm elections

By Matt Brown and Matthew Junkroski
Associated Press

Demonstrators listen to speakers during the March on Washington, near the Lincoln Memorial, Friday (AP)

Voting rights, the work of the Civil Rights Movement and racial justice took center stage on the National Mall last week, with protesters gathering ahead of midterm elections and following a wave of changes to voting laws and redistricting that some have condemned as detrimental to Black Americans.

Hundreds of people rallied on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial for the 2026 "Defend the Vote" March on Washington, organized by the Rev. Al Sharpton and Martin Luther King III, echoing the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.'s 1963 march. The event follows the U.S. Supreme Court's landmark April decision in Louisiana v. Callais that reinterpreted key provisions of the Voting Rights Act of 1965, allowing Southern states to redraw their congressional maps in a way that erodes equal representation in Black communities.

"We've been doing these marches for years, but this is probably the most important because this is the first year we are marching that the voting rights bill has been nullified by the Supreme Court," Sharpton, founder of the National Action Network, said in an interview with The Associated Press.

Civil rights leaders and major Democratic political figures rallied attendees before rallygoers marched past national monuments, including the late King's memorial.

Some call it a 'very dangerous moment in American history'

The event harkened back to King Jr.'s historic March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom in 1963, when more than 200,000 people gathered at the foot of the Lincoln Memorial. That march, an inflection point in the Civil Rights Movement, came at a fraught moment, when economic headwinds, civil unrest, political division and the Vietnam War bitterly divided Americans.

Sen. Bernie Sanders, I-Vt., one of dozens of speakers at the event, said that now is a "very dangerous moment in American history" and that the "dream of a more just and equitable society has never been under greater threat than it is right now."

He placed blame on Republican President Donald Trump and the Supreme Court's conservative majority, listing attempts to purge voter rolls, obtain sensitive voter data, restrict mail-in and early voting, and redraw congressional districts as part of threats to voting rights.

"Today, we have a president along with the Supreme Court members he appointed carrying out the most significant assault on voting rights since segregation, targeting virtually every aspect of the electoral system," Sanders said.

Martin Luther King III told the AP the Civil Rights Movement's work "is further eroding" in the wake of the April ruling.

He said his father would be disappointed with the state of the country, but current civil rights advocates should be undaunted.

"Had he lived, we'd be on a totally different trajectory," the younger King said. "These would not be issues; they would have been resolved. I don't think he would be surprised because he understands our history and understands those who are trying to retain power. But the challenge is challenging our communities to engage even more."

King's Drum Major Institute, a progressive think tank and community action group, co-hosted the march with Sharpton's group.

Ray Turner, a 65-year-old Maryland retiree, sat Friday on the steps in front of the Lincoln Memorial. He came independently, carrying a sign that read "(Puny) Hands off our elections."

"The lies about the 2020 election being stolen continue to be sounded, even though they've been disproved," Turner said, adding, "Now they're trying to use this to prevent people who are legal citizens, legal voters, from voting."

Sharpton said the Trump administration's immigration policy for Haitians and white South Africans, as well as cuts to social programs, are unifying concerns for this year's march attendees. But redistricting efforts by Republican-led states that reduce the number of Black lawmakers in Congress loom large.

"This march is about people who refuse to be counted out. When the courts and the legislature broke apart District 6, they did not just redraw lines," Rep. Cleo Fields, D-La., said in a texted statement. "They told hundreds of thousands of Black families from Baton Rouge up through the Delta that their voice could be taken away at any moment."

Fields' district was central in the Supreme Court decision that hollowed out the Voting Rights Act of 1965. The court ruled that his district, created just one term ago to permit a second majority-Black district in a state where Blacks make up 33% of the population, was unconstitutional because it relied too heavily on race.

The court has held that maps can be redrawn for partisan reasons.

Louisiana's legislature rushed to redraw the district after the decision, reshaping it to cluster around predominantly white communities in the Baton Rouge area and southern Louisiana.

Fields has opted not to seek reelection to Congress and instead is pursuing a seat in the state Senate.

Rep. Troy Carter, D-La., said that communities in his district "have felt the pain of being the tip of the spear" of the national redistricting fight. He warned that the ruling will likely impact state and local legislative seats during the 2028 election cycle.

"The scene of the crime is Louisiana, but the reverberation of its impact will be throughout the entire country," said Carter.

Embattled Black lawmakers see need for continued rights push

Rep. Shomari Figures, an Alabama Democrat whose majority-Black district was targeted by the state's Republican-led redistricting effort, said the original voting rights fight required local movements, national figures, lots of coordination and strategy. He sees this year's march as a continuation of that legacy.

"My district includes Montgomery, which was the birthplace of it all. It started with a bus boycott in 1955 and that, ultimately, morphed into a broader struggle for civil rights and led to a broader Civil Rights Movement," Figures told the AP.

Ahead of this event, organizations participating in the march filed new claims in their federal lawsuit against President Donald Trump's executive order restricting mail-in voting. The Supreme Court cleared a path Monday for possible implementation of the order, though it remains unclear how much can be put in place before the midterms.

Late last week, a federal judge in Boston who is hearing some of the lawsuits against that executive order temporarily halted the administration from moving forward with it. Time is running short to make any significant changes to voting in the midterms, with the first mail ballots scheduled to be sent out next week.

Angie Nixon will turn you into a 'Democratic Socialist' if Donald Trump hasn't already

By Emil Amok Guillermo
Oakland Post

COMMENTARY

The midterm elections are more important than ever as we fight back.

And we all know "affordability" is the No. 1 issue in the U.S.

So, how are you doing? A new survey says that, for a single person, being comfortable in California requires an income of $126,797. Or $302,682 for a family of four.

Did those numbers make you uncomfortable?

A single person making just $102,794 could be comfortable in Utah. But wouldn't you rather just look at the Mormon Temple in Oakland from 580?

The survey defined "comfortable" as spending 50 percent of income on necessities, 30 percent on "like-to-haves," and putting 20 percent in savings.

Are your percentages way out of whack? Like 100 percent on necessities?

What if the car breaks down? What if the kids need x, y, or z? What if overtime gets cut back? What if Social Security goes bankrupt?

Are you a democratic socialist yet?

That's not where Blues go Red and turn communist. It's about a government that puts people before profits. And cares for all of us. Not just the billionaires.

Angie Nixon

In last week's Florida primary, people around the country saw Florida legislator Angie Nixon win the Democratic U.S. Senate primary with a stunning upset over Alex Vindman.

Vindman was well-funded ($16.3 million to Nixon's $975,000), and well-connected nationally. But Nixon—an African American with state house cred, union organizing experience, and a fighter who was arrested protesting Gov. Ron DeSantis' redistricting efforts— proved to be unbeatable. She's officially aligned with the Democratic Socialists of America (DSA).

That means Nixon, 42, believes in universal health care, a/k/a "Medicare for all," taxing the wealthy, and a minimum wage of $25 an hour.

Think back to that comfort level survey. At 40 hours a week, $25 an hour is just $1,000 a week or $52,000 a year. It's not even half what that survey said was needed for a single person to be "comfortable" in California.

We're forced to get 3-4 low-wage jobs.

Nixon and the DSA want to set the floor, so no one sinks into oblivion.

Republicans would simply let us all sink.

Nixon now goes up against Republican Sen. Ashley Moody in November. Florida's Republicans outnumber Dems by 1.5 million voters. And Nixon's DSA tag makes her a clear underdog, maybe even unelectable.

But the Dems are sticking with her. Voters seem to be turning out for someone who will directly and boldly address affordability.

Meanwhile, Trump is turning the Iran War, which has caused the oil price run-up and high inflation, into an economic war on the world. At the same time, he's declared a tariff war on our good ally, Canada, guaranteed to raise prices on imports to America.

That could make Nixon the one in Florida 2026. And it would move Dems closer to flipping both houses of Congress, a vote for super normalcy.

Trump is so far down in the polls, he's resorted to election disruption and voter suppression.

But the antidote in Florida at least is Angie Nixon, a woman worth watching, who'll turn you into a Democratic Socialist if Donald Trump hasn't done so already.

About the Author

Emil Amok Guillermo is a veteran journalist, commentator, and comic monologist. He does a micro-talk show on YouTube.com/@emilamok1

Celebrating Labor Day in America is a rich and time-honored tradition

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

I have some fond remembrances of Labor Day when I was coming of age. The kids in my neighborhood were out playing all summer long. The days never seemed to end, and we were as happy as could be.

Celebrating Labor Day in Winston-Salem NC also meant the start of a new school year. That brought on mixed emotions. I would be happy to see my friends and teachers at school and unhappy to stop playing as much outside.

It was a day off work for adults. Some had outdoor activities while others simply relaxed. Life was good and everybody had joy and happiness.

As I grew older, I understood more about the significance of Labor Day. With research, I found out this was a meaningful day in the American workforce.

Records show that Labor Day was created as a federal holiday on June 28, 1894. The president during this period was Grover Cleveland. The first parade was held Tuesday, September 5, 1882, in New York.

A direct quote about Labor Day says, "The holiday is rooted in the late nineteenth century, when labor activists pushed for a federal holiday to recognize the many contributions workers have made to America's strength, prosperity and well-being."

The American economy in my opinion has always been the envy of other countries. It was built on vision, fair wages and a strong workforce. People wanted to work and employers wanted to hire them.

There has always been a high degree of pride within our workforce. It was important that men and women wanted to be with their respective companies.

We will celebrate Labor Day on Monday, September 7th. Celebrations will take place and speakers will extoll the history of our labor force.

Over time, America has had stalwart labor organizers whose causes resulted in more jobs and better working conditions. Our history books highlight the accomplishments of men like Samuel Gompers and women like Mary Harris Jones also known as Mother Jones.

According to published reports, Samuel Gompers was the first president of the American Federation of Labor and Mary Harris Jones was a strong advocate for coal miners and textile workers.

If you are traveling by train for a weekend getaway, you cannot forget A. Phillip Randolph. He led the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters. An African American, Randolph led the organization to win a famous collective bargaining agreement.

African American women also played prominent roles in the labor movement. The National Association of Wage Earners founded by Nannie Helen Burroughs created an initiative in 1921 to assist African American domestic workers. Addie Wyatt was a part of the United Packinghouse Workers of America and the first Black woman to hold a major international union office.

As Labor Day comes, the question is how is our American economy? It gets an average grade according to some pundits. This is based upon average job growth and higher price points for consumer goods and services.

However, Rebecca Christie, senior fellow at the Brussels think tank Bruegel said, "Americans are very solutions-oriented and much more comfortable with taking a short-term risk in service of a long-term advantage."

What will be the threats and opportunities for the labor force and the American economy in the coming months? I don't know if there is a clear answer to that question.

Celebrating and honoring Labor Day is an important tradition in the United States of America. Despite some changes in our economy, our American workers deserve congratulations for a job well done. If you have friends or family members in our workforce, give them a surprise gift or take them out to dinner.

Two civil rights men, different parties, one Bill of Rights

By Ben Jealous
People For the American Way

Most gun deaths in this country are suicides. We argue about guns as if they were all murders.

When I was a boy two brothers lived on our block and we ran together every weekend. Ball in the street, made-up games, War!

Then one day they were gone. My buddy said their father had lost his job at the tire factory and taken his own life in the basement, with a gun the family already owned.

That was a gun death in America. Quiet street, good schools. In all my years arguing guns, a death like that almost never came up.

Our children are back in school, and September is Suicide Prevention Month.

Guns, children, and despair are one subject. We rarely treat them so.

My friend Lenny McAllister has never made me pick. He is a Black Republican, a voice on Rust Belt radio from WVON in Chicago to KDKA in Pittsburgh. I was the Democratic nominee for governor of Maryland. We have gone at each other's parties twenty years and stayed friends.

What people miss is that we are both civil rights men, and civil rights work is Bill of Rights work.

The First Amendment is why we could march. The Fourth is why an officer needs a reason to search you. The Second sits in that same document, and we believe in all of it.

Lenny's father was shot on a Rust Belt street and spent nearly a year in the hospital. In 2001 a man broke into Lenny's home and tied him up. He tells it in his new book, "A Venn Diagram of One", an honest book about refusing to be one thing in a country that insists you choose.

My cousin was shot and killed at a gas station in Columbia, Maryland, at noon. A cousin I called uncle agreed to testify against a Prince George's County drug dealer, who shot him at his door. He lived. At the hospital they would not let us up to his room, for fear the shooter's friends would come finish the job.

When Lenny writes that we can respect the Second Amendment and still use common sense about who buys a gun, I hear no man splitting a difference. I hear a man who has waited on word about his father, and lain on his own floor with a gun at his head.

Then he writes this. "There is a right greater than the right to bear arms; it is the right to a liberty-filled life."

Now let me tell you what I got wrong.

Thirty years ago at Oxford I needed a thesis topic. A headline in the International Herald Tribune stopped me on the sidewalk. Black teen suicides were surging. I was sure I knew why. Handguns were flooding the inner cities.

I was wrong. The children dying were not in the cities. They were in the suburbs.

Black families moved out there in the late sixties and seventies. Twenty years later their children began killing themselves. Children like me, with the big backyard and the shiny bike.

Our mothers gave us what they had been denied in the projects and tenements and row houses they came up in. Without meaning to, they cost us the one thing those places had, a house full of family who would listen no matter what.

One of the strongest predictors of a suicide attempt is isolation. Ask a woman how many people she talks to after her worst day and she names two or three. Ask a man and he names one, or nobody. Her circle grows all her life. His shrinks toward zero.

That headline should have said the Black teen suicide rate was catching up to the White one. Among young Black men it has passed it.

About nine in ten suicide attempts with a gun end in death. With most other methods people live, and most who live never die by suicide.

In 2024 there were 27,593 gun suicides, well over half of all gun deaths.

Money is no shield. A gun in a cul-de-sac is as final as a gun on a corner.

The Bill of Rights is not a menu. You do not get to order the Second and send the rest back to the kitchen. None of it means much to a child who does not live to grow into the promise of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

So set partisanship aside. Lock your own guns in a safe at home. Keep them away from people in crisis. And build friendships across party lines that bind this nation back together for all our children.

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

Do you hear crickets in your bedroom?

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

One of the many challenges that married couples struggle with is a lack of intimacy. Many husbands typically complain the most about the lack of intercourse in marriages, yet wives are being neglected too. As Marvin Gaye sang, "What's Going on?" Why are couples struggling with intimacy? Why are couples not quenching each other's thirst? Why is it hard for husbands and wives to get in the mood?

There are a variety of factors that help play a vital role in the reduction of intimacy in marriage. They are as follows:

• Unresolved past situations whether it stems from childhood, old relationship baggage, unhealed wounds in general, etc.

• Lack of communication

• Bad communication

• Super busy – life can be hectic especially when you are in school. Have small children, work, careers, etc.

• Health issues/Complications/Medication (s) – this requires spouses to be empathetic, patient, and understanding.

• Mental Health

• Excessive weight – if you can do something about this in a productive and healthy way – please do because this can reduce your lifestyle and lifespan

• Stress/anxiety from life in general

• Exhaustion

• Financial Stress/Worry – it's hard to get in the mood when you are struggling financially, etc.

• Parenting – parenting can be a beast especially when dealing with the Terrible Two's and the Terrible Teens – all I can say is, "Lawdy have mercy!"

• Life changes like Perimenopause, men-o-pause, midlife crisis

• Loss of trust – it takes time to rebuild trust – it depends on what broke it

• Feeling rejected – this can occur when a spouse initiate sex and is consistently denied intimacy or is rejected by the spouse in other areas like communication, support, etc.

• Lack of respect – this could be an entire article right here – no one in their right mind is going to want to be intimate with someone who is always angry, disrespectful, a gas lighter, nagger, criticizer, complainer, ungrateful, judgmental, etc.

• Lack of appreciation

• Lack of romance – you must help get your spouse in the mood

• Lack of attraction – you know who you married at twenty-eight years old not going look like they did then - hunny – get you some blindfolds

• Lack of woo woo woo – must date, spend quality time together, be affectionate, learn each other's love language, etc.

• Lack of foreplay – please read below for more details

Foreplay begins before any of the physical touching proceeds. Yes, you read correctly, foreplay begins before the ripping off clothes, the caressing, touching, grabbing, woo,woo,woo talk, etc. How can foreplay begin before going into the bedroom or wherever your special spot may be (if you come to my house – this is a warning – be careful where you sit).

Good foreplay first begins with Respect- a positive attitude goes a long way in marriage. If you don't believe it – start going out your way to respect and treat your spouse well and see how much quenching your thirst will happen! Secondly, good foreplay also involves helping one another like with household chores, etc. Nothing says I love you like a man helping wash the dishes, vacuuming, mopping, sweeping, and even dusting – turns us on, OOoo LA, LA! Thirdly, nothing says I love you and I am in love with you, like the way you communicate with one another; consistent, good tone and taking out time to talk to each other daily is essential in helping enhance your sexual relationship. Fourth, spouses need to WOO woo, woo one another outside of the bedroom first. Wooing one another can involve going on dates, taking trips (cruise – rock the boat), picnics, trying exotic foods, and learning new hobbies/adventures with one another can help enhance your sexual relationship. Fifth, foreplay, of course, does involve affection/physical touching too; holding hands, hugging, kissing, holding one another, massaging one another, implement some sauces in your marriage like some chocolate sauce, applesauce, or whatever sauce you all like. Sixth, acknowledge and reassure your spouse that you love them (show it too) and appreciate everything they do, be specific. How often do you compliment your spouse? Do you make them feel special, desired, and wanted? Lastly, spice things up in your marriage like try new colognes/perfumes, put on something sexy, try a new spot, do something spontaneously, flirt, play, laugh, etc.

In conclusion, do you hear crickets in your bedroom? Do you remember the last time you…? Do you desire a better sex life with your spouse? If so, I believe you will see a big difference in your sex life if you consistently apply the above foreplay strategies in your marriage.

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

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Graphics.....Marcus Johnson
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Member:

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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, RIE, 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 Street; 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, RIE, 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, RIE, 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 GENRAL PUBLIC HAVE THE OPTION TO ATTEND THE MEETING VIA TELECONFERENCE/VIDEO. PLEASE EMAIL mailto: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

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF
WILLIAM WILSON, DECEASED

CAUSE NO:P2026-153 T/I

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 William Wilson, 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 27th day of May, 2026.

Ann James, Executrix
Ann James

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI
COUNTY OF HINDS

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

Ann James
Ann James

Ali Ira John
NOTARY

Nov 2, 2029
MY COMMISSION EXPIRES

Ali M. Shamsiddeen, Esq. MSB #101013
Ali M. Shamsiddeen, Attorney at Law
1010 N. West Street Ste 300
Jackson, MS 39202
Tel: (769) 251-0207
Facsimile: (601) 608-7872

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI NOTARY PUBLIC ID# 497328 DEBRA F. JOHNSON Commission Expires Nov. 2, 2029 HINDS COUNTY

9/3/2026

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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 GENRAL PUBLIC HAVE THE OPTION TO ATTEND THE MEETING VIA TELECONFERENCE/VIDEO. PLEASE EMAIL mailto: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

ORDINANCE GRANTING ONE VOICE A REZONING FROM SUD - SPECIAL USE DISTRICT TO CMU-1 (COMMUNITY) MIXED-USE DISTRICT, PEDESTRIAN ORIENTED TO ALLOW FOR THE ADAPTIVE REUSE OF A FORMER SCHOOL BUILDING TO A COMMUNITY MIXED-USE BUILDING FOR THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 2909 OAK FOREST DR. (PARCEL 628-525). CASE NO. 4335.

WHEREAS, One Voice has filed a petition to rezone the property located at 2909 Oak Forest Dr. (Parcel 628-525), in the City of Jackson, First Judicial District of Hinds County, Mississippi from SUD - Special Use District to CMU-1 (Community) Mixed-Use District, Pedestrian Oriented to allow for the adaptive reuse of a former school building to a community mixed-use building; and

WHEREAS, the Jackson City Planning Board, after holding the required public hearing, has offered the recommendation to rezone the property from SUD - Special Use District to CMU-1 (Community) Mixed-Use District, Pedestrian Oriented to allow for the adaptive reuse of a former school building to a community mixed-use building; and

WHEREAS, notice was duly and legally given to property owners and interested citizens that a meeting of the Council would be held at the City Hall at 2:30 p.m., Monday, July 20, 2026 to consider said change based upon the record of the case as developed before the Jackson City Planning Board; and

WHEREAS, it appeared to the satisfaction of the Jackson City Council that notice of said petition had been published in the Mississippi Link on June 4, 2026 and June 18, 2026 that a hearing had been held by the Jackson City Planning Board on June 24, 2026, all as provided for by ordinances of the City of Jackson and the laws of the State of Mississippi, and that the Jackson City Planning Board has offered the recommendation to rezone the above described properties from SUD - Special Use District to CMU-1 (Community) Mixed-Use District, Pedestrian Oriented to allow for the adaptive reuse of a former school building to a community mixed-use building; and

WHEREAS, the Jackson City Council after having considered the matter, is of the opinion that such changes would be in keeping with sound land use practices and to the best interest of the City and that there has been a substantial change in the land use character of the surrounding area that justifies rezoning the property and there is a public need for additional properties in that area zoned in accordance with the request in said application since any previous Jackson City Council action.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI:

SECTION 1. That the properties are located in the City of Jackson, First Judicial District of Hinds County, Mississippi, more particularly described as follows:

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

Beginning at a point in the west line of Oak Forest Drive which point is 60 feet measured westerly from the east line of said Oak Forest Drive and at a right angle from the southwest corner of Lot 12 Block "D11 of Oak Forest Subdivision, which point is at the Northwest intersection of Oak Forest Drive and Smallwood Street, and from said point of beginning run thence northerly along the west line of Oak Forest Drive and 60 feet west of the east line thereof for a distance of 668 feet to a point which is 180 feet south of the South line of Woodburn Street, tum thence through an angle of 90 degrees and run westerly along a projection of the South line of Block II 1" of Oak Forest Subdivision, Part 4, and along the South line of said Block 111" for a distance of 653 feet to the East boundary line of Oak Forest Subdivision, Part 6; thence Southerly, parallel with the west line of Oak Forest Drive and along the East line of Oak Forest Subdivision, Part 6, for a distance of 668 feet to a point on the North line of Smallwood Street; thence easterly along the North line of Smallwood Street for a distance of 653 feet, more or less, to the point of beginning and containing 10 acres, more or less.

is hereby modified so as to approve the rezoning of the property located at 2909 Oak Forest Dr. (Parcel 628-525) from SUD - Special Use District to CMU-1 (Community) Mixed-Use District, Pedestrian Oriented to allow for the adaptive reuse of a former school building to a community mixed-use building. However, that before any structure is erected or use thereof on the said properties, the applicant must meet the requirements established through the Site Plan Review process. The Zoning Administrator is ordered to note such change on the Official Zoning Map to the City of Jackson, Mississippi.

SECTION 2. That the cost of publication of this Ordinance shall be borne by the petitioner.

SECTION 3. That this Ordinance shall be effective thirty (30) days after its passage and after publication of same by the petitioner.

Council Member Clay moved adoption; **Council Member Grizzell** seconded.

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

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 Zoning Council Meeting July 20, 2026 and recorded in Minute Book "7D, Pgs. 935-936".

WITNESS my signature and official seal of office, this the 27th day of August 2026.

CITY OF JACKSON MISSISSIPPI

Angela Harris
Angela Harris, Municipal Clerk

9/3/2026

LEGAL

NOTICE OF REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) System
City of Jackson, Mississippi
RFP No. 20477-092226

Notice is hereby given that the City of Jackson, Mississippi, acting through its Department of Administration—Purchasing Division, will receive proposals from qualified vendors to provide and implement a modern, cloud-based Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) system for municipal operations across Planning & Development, Permitting & Licensing, Building Inspections, Code Enforcement, Project Tracking, Grant Monitoring, Stormwater Management, and Public Works asset and service request management functions.

The requested solution includes planning and zoning, permitting and licensing, building inspections, code enforcement, project tracking, grant monitoring, citizen self-service, 311 resident services, Public Works asset and stormwater management, housing programs, reporting, analytics, integrations, data migration, training, implementation, and ongoing support. The selected vendor will provide both the software and implementation services.

Sealed Proposals shall be submitted to the City Clerk's Office, P.O. Box 17, Jackson, MS 39205, or hand-delivered to the City Clerk's Office, 219 South President Street, Jackson, MS 39201, no later than 3:30 PM Central Time on September 22, 2026. Electronic bids may be submitted through the City of Jackson's official procurement portal at www.jacksonmsbids.com. Late proposals will not be accepted. The technical proposal and cost proposal must be uploaded as separate files, and all required forms, certifications, references, functional-requirements responses, and addendum acknowledgments must be included.

A virtual pre-proposal conference is scheduled for September 10, 2026, at 11:00 AM Central Time via Microsoft Teams. Attendance is optional but strongly encouraged. Conference access information and procurement updates will be posted through the City's procurement portal.

Written questions must be submitted no later than 12:00 Noon Central Time on September 11, 2026, to procurement@jacksonms.gov with the subject line "COJ-ERP-2026-001 – Question." Official responses, clarifications, and changes will be issued only by written addendum posted on the City's procurement portal.

This project is anticipated to be funded through a combination of general-fund appropriations and federal grant allocations, subject to City Council approval. Applicable federal grant requirements, including 2 CFR Part 200 where applicable, may apply.

This RFP does not commit the City to award a contract, pay any costs incurred in the preparation of proposals, or procure or contract for services. The City reserves the right to reject any or all proposals, waive informalities or irregularities, request clarifications, conduct interviews or demonstrations, negotiate with one or more proposers, cancel or reissue the RFP, and make an award in the manner deemed most advantageous to the City and consistent with applicable law.

This procurement is subject to the laws of the State of Mississippi, the City of Jackson Code of Ordinances, and applicable federal regulations. Minority- and women-owned business enterprises (MBE/WBE) are encouraged to participate.

CITY OF JACKSON

Monica Oliver, Purchasing Manager

8/27/2026, 9/3/2026

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.

HINDS COUNTY, MISS. CHANCERY COURT

CHANCERY CLERK OF HINDS COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI
BY: K. Howard
Deputy Clerk

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

9/3/2026

LEGAL

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF HINDS COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT

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

GABRIELLE COOPER, ADMINISTRATOR

NOTICE TO UNKNOWN CREDITORS

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

This the _____ day of April, 2026.

Gabrielle Cooper, Administrator

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI
COUNTY OF HINDS

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

Gabrielle Cooper

9/3/2026

LEGAL

ORDINANCE GRANTING JAMES L. HENLEY, JR. A REZONING FROM R-1 (SINGLE-FAMILY) RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT TO C-lA (RESTRICTED) COMMERCIAL DISTRICT TO ALLOW FOR A PROFESSIONAL OFFICE (LAW) FOR THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 4860 N. STATE ST. (PARCEL 432-9). CASE NO. 4334.

WHEREAS, James L. Henley, Jr. has filed a petition to rezone the property located at 4860 N. State St. (Parcel 432-9), in the City of Jackson, First Judicial District of Hinds County, Mississippi from R-1 (Single-Family) Residential District to C-lA (Restricted) Commercial District to allow for a professional office (law); and

WHEREAS, the Jackson City Planning Board, after holding the required public hearing, has offered the recommendation to rezone the property from R-1 (Single-Family) Residential District to C-lA (Restricted) Commercial District to allow for a professional office (law); and

WHEREAS, notice was duly and legally given to property owners and interested citizens that a meeting of the Council would be held at the City Hall at 2:30 p.m., Monday, July 20, 2026 to consider said change based upon the record of the case as developed before the Jackson City Planning Board; and

WHEREAS, it appeared to the satisfaction of the Jackson City Council that notice of said petition had been published in the Mississippi Link on June 4, 2026 and June 18, 2026 that a hearing had been held by the Jackson City Planning Board on June 24, 2026, all as provided for by ordinances of the City of Jackson and the laws of the State of Mississippi, and that the Jackson City Planning Board has offered the recommendation to rezone the above described property from R-1 (Single-Family) Residential District to C-lA (Restricted) Commercial District to allow for a professional office (law); and

WHEREAS, the Jackson City Council after having considered the matter, is of the opinion that such changes would be in keeping with sound land use practices and to the best interest of the City and that there has been a substantial change in the land use character of the surrounding area that justifies rezoning the property and there is a public need for additional property in that area zoned in accordance with the request in said application since any previous Jackson City Council action.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI:

SECTION 1. That the property is located in the City of Jackson, First Judicial District of Hinds County, Mississippi, more particularly described as follows:

Lot 4, BLOCK C, BROADMOOR SUBDIVISION, PART ONE, a subdivision according to a map or plat thereof which is on file and of record in the Office of the Chancery Clerk of Hinds County at Jackson, Mississippi, in Plat Book 5 at Page 15, (Plat Cabinet A at Slot 355) reference to which is hereby made in aid of and as a part of this description.

is hereby modified so as to approve the rezoning of the property located at 4860 N. State St. (Parcel 432-9) from R-1 (Single-Family) Residential District to C-IA (Restricted) Commercial District to allow for a professional office (law). However, that before any structure is erected or use thereof on the said property, the applicant must meet the requirements established through the Site Plan Review process. The Zoning Administrator is ordered to note such change on the Official Zoning Map to the City of Jackson, Mississippi.

SECTION 2. That the cost of publication of this Ordinance shall be borne by the petitioner.

SECTION 3. That this Ordinance shall be effective thirty (30) days after its passage and after publication of same by the petitioner.

Council Member Clay moved adoption; **Council Member Brown-Thomas** seconded.

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

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 Zoning Council Meeting July 20, 2026 and recorded in Minute Book "7D, Pgs. 933-935".

WITNESS my signature and official seal of office, this the 27th day of August 2026.

Angela Harris, Municipal Clerk

9/3/2026

LEGAL

ORDINANCE GRANTING HOPE FEDERAL CREDIT UNION A REZONING FROM R-7 (MOBILE HOME PARK) RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT TO C2 (LIMITED) COMMERCIAL DISTRICT FOR THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 1748 UNIVERSITY BLVD. (PARCEL 166-5-4) TO ALLOW FOR THE CONTINUED USE OF THE PROPERTY AS A FINANCIAL INSTITUTION, CASE NO. 4331.

WHEREAS, Hope Federal Credit Union has filed a petition to rezone the property located at 1748 University Blvd. (Parcel 166-5-4), in the City of Jackson, First Judicial District of Hinds County, Mississippi from R-7 (Mobile Home) Residential District to C-2 (Limited) Commercial District to allow for the continued use of the property as a financial institution; and

WHEREAS, the Jackson City Planning Board, after holding the required public hearing, has offered the recommendation to rezone the property from R-7 (Mobile Home) Residential District to C-2 (Limited) Commercial District to allow for the continued use of the property as a financial institution; and

WHEREAS, notice was duly and legally given to property owners and interested citizens that a meeting of the Council would be held at the City Hall at 2:30 p.m., Monday, June 15, 2026 to consider said change based upon the record of the case as developed before the Jackson City Planning Board; and

WHEREAS, it appeared to the satisfaction of the Jackson City Council that notice of said petition had been published in the Mississippi Link on May 7, 2026 and May 21, 2026 that a hearing had been held by the Jackson City Planning Board on May 27, 2026, all as provided for by ordinances of the City of Jackson and the laws of the State of Mississippi, and that the Jackson City Planning Board has offered the recommendation to rezone the above described property from R-7 (Mobile Home) Residential District to C-2 (Limited) Commercial District to allow for the continued use of the property as a financial institution; and

WHEREAS, the Jackson City Council after having considered the matter, is of the opinion that such changes would be in keeping with sound land use practice and to the best interest of the City and that there has been a substantial change in the land use character of the surrounding area that justifies rezoning the property and there is a public need for additional property in that area zoned in accordance with the request in said application since any previous Jackson City Council action.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI:

SECTION 1. That the property located in the City of Jackson, First Judicial District of Hinds County, Mississippi, more particularly described as follows:

A parcel of land situated in the Southwest Quarter (SW ½) of Section Nine (9), Township Five (5), Range One (1) East, and more particularly described as follows, to-wit:

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

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

is hereby modified so as to approve the rezoning of the of the property located at 1748 University Blvd. (Parcel 166-5-4) from R-7 (Mobile Home) Residential District to C-2 (Limited) Commercial District to allow for the continued use of the property as a financial institution. However, that before for any structure is erected or use thereof on the said property, the applicant must meet the requirements established through the Site Plan Review process. The Zoning Administrator is ordered to note such change on the Official Zoning Map to the City of Jackson, Mississippi.

SECTION 2. That the cost of publication of this Ordinance shall be borne by the petitioner.

SECTION 3. That this Ordinance shall be effective thirty (30) days after its passage and after publication of same by the petitioner.

Council Member Parkinson moved adoption; **Council Member Clay** seconded.

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

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 Special Zoning Meeting June 22, 2026 and recorded in Minute Book "7D, Pgs. 550-552".

WITNESS my signature and official seal of office, this the 27th day of August 2026.

Angela Harris, Municipal Clerk

9/3/2026

LEGAL

ORDINANCE OF THE JACKSON CITY COUNCIL ESTABLISHING A TEMPORARY MORATORIUM ON THE DEVELOPMENT AND EXPANSION OF DATA CENTERS UNTIL A REGULATORY FRAMEWORK IS APPROVED BY THE GOVERNING AUTHORITY.

WHEREAS, the City of Jackson is currently undergoing critical infrastructure stabilization efforts, including but not limited to water, wastewater, drainage, and electrical reliability; and

WHEREAS, large-scale data centers, particularly hyperscale facilities, require substantial and continuous consumption of water and electricity, and may place additional strain on municipal systems; and

WHEREAS, jurisdictions across the United States have identified risks associated with data center development, including excessive utility consumption, environmental impacts, noise pollution, and land use incompatibility; and

WHEREAS, the City of Jackson must ensure that any new industrial-scale development aligns with its infrastructure capacity, public health priorities, and long-term economic development strategy; and

WHEREAS, existing zoning classifications do not adequately distinguish between traditional commercial uses and industrial-scale data processing facilities; and

WHEREAS, the City Council finds it necessary to temporarily suspend certain data center and data center-related facility developments while establishing appropriate regulatory standards to protect residents and municipal resources.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council of the City of Jackson, Mississippi following review, consideration, and discussion, that a temporary moratorium on accepting special use permits, conditional use permits, Zoning Map Amendments (rezoning requests), building permits (except for interior renovations that do not expand capacity or impact exterior appearance/noise), and any other development approval required by law for data centers and data center-related facilities be utilized to allow the City of Jackson time to further study the concerns expressed by residents and taxpayers, and develop comprehensive rules and regulations for the siting of data centers and data center-related facilities.

NOW, THEREFORE, the City Council of the City of Jackson, the following shall be known and cited as the City of Jackson's Data Center and Data Center-Related Facilities Moratorium Ordinance.

SECTION 1. PURPOSE

The purpose of this ordinance is to:

• Protect the City's water, sewer, and electrical infrastructure.

• Ensure compatibility of land use with surrounding communities.

• Prevent disproportionate environmental burdens on vulnerable neighborhoods.

• Establish a regulatory framework for future data center development.

SECTION 2. DEFINITIONS

For purposes of this ordinance:

(a) Data Center

A facility which houses the necessary computer servers, systems, or networks and related hardware, wiring, data transmitters, and other components required for the remote storage or processing, transfer, backup and recovery, analysis, or processing of digital data. Further, a data center may also include a facility that engages in developing computer technology, software development, programming, data analytics, and digital media.

(b) Data Center-Related Facilities

This term shall include the on-site exterior equipment and facilities necessary for the safe, secure, and compatible operation of a Data Center, including but not limited to: HVAC equipment, emergency and primary power generation equipment and facilities, including those necessary to interface with the electric grid system; and sound or emissions attenuation devices.

SECTION 3. TEMPORARY MORATORIUM

(a) A temporary moratorium is hereby imposed for a period of 183 calendar days from the effective date of this Ordinance. During this period, the City of Jackson shall not accept, process, or approve any application for the following development approvals:

• Special Use Permits

• Conditional Use Permits

• Zoning Map Amendments (rezoning requests)

• Building Permits (except for interior renovations that do not expand capacity or impact exterior appearance/noise)

• Any other development approval required by law for the establishment, construction, erection, alteration, or expansion of any data center or data center-related facilities.

(b) This moratorium shall remain in effect unless it is earlier terminated, extended, or modified by the City Council following state law.

SECTION 4. EXEMPTIONS

The following are exempt:

Any development that has received a valid development approval in accordance with the City's Zoning Ordinance prior to the effective date of this Ordinance;

Existing data centers conducting routine maintenance or minor upgrades;

Facilities supporting public safety, emergency management, or government operations;

Projects that have received full and final site plan approval prior to the effective date; and

Emissions disclosures (including backup generators).

Any lands that are adjacent to the Jackson-Medgar Wiley Evers International Airport.

SECTION 5. COMMUNITY PROTECTION REQUIREMENTS

All future data center proposals may, at the discretion of the Department of Planning and Development, include:

A Community Impact Statement.

A Public Hearing prior to approval.

A Community Benefits Agreement, where applicable.

SECTION 6. ZONING AND LAND USE REVIEW

During the moratorium period, the City shall take the following actions:

Investigate the potential impacts of data centers and data-center related facilities.

Draft specific land use ordinance amendments and standards to regulate these facilities, including appropriate zoning districts, setback requirements, noise limitations, and utility capacity conditions.

Distinguish between commercial-scale and industrial-scale operations

Consider holding public workshops and Planning Board meetings to review the draft amendments and gather public input.

Identify appropriate districts for potential development

Consider prohibiting placement near residential zones, schools, and critical community facilities unless special approval is granted.

SECTION 7. SEVERABILITY

If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, or provision of this Ordinance is declared invalid or unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this Ordinance. The City Council hereby declares that it would have adopted this Ordinance, and each section, subsection, sentence, clause, and provision thereof, irrespective of the fact that any one or more portions may be declared invalid.

SECTION 8. EFFECTIVE DATE

The City Council finds that immediate enactment of this Ordinance is necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health, safety, and welfare, and that good cause exists for its immediate effectiveness. The City currently lacks zoning, permitting, and development standards governing data centers and requires additional time to evaluate potential impacts on public infrastructure, utilities, and surrounding properties, as well as to consider appropriate regulations. Absent this temporary moratorium, applications may be submitted and vested rights may arise before such regulations can be adopted. Accordingly, upon passage by the unanimous vote required by law, this Ordinance shall become effective immediately.

Otherwise, this Ordinance shall take effect one month after its passage, and publication under applicable law and City procedures.

SO ORDAINED, this 14th day of July 2026.

Council Member Clay moved adoption; Council Member Parkinson seconded.

Yeas – Brown-Thomas, Clay, Grizzell, Parkinson and Stokes.
Nays – Foote and Hartley.
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 July 14, 2026 and recorded in Minute Book "7D, Pgs. 782-784".

WITNESS my signature and official seal of office, this the 26th day of August 2026.

Angela Harris, Municipal Clerk

9/3/2026

Jackson Municipal Airport Authority Shares Labor Day Travel Tips and Highlights Upcoming TSA Military Traveler Support Press Conference

Mississippi Link Newswire

As Labor Day travel gets underway, the Jackson Municipal Airport Authority (JMAA) is welcoming travelers to Jackson-Medgar Wiley Evers International Airport (JAN) and encouraging passengers to plan ahead for a safe, smooth, and stress-free holiday journey.

The Labor Day travel period is expected to increase beginning Thursday, September 3, through Tuesday, September 8. Travelers are encouraged to check their airline's flight status before leaving for the airport, allow extra time for check-in and security screening, and arrive at least two hours before scheduled departure.

Know Before You Go

JAN offers convenient parking options for travelers:

• Economy/Remote Lot: $13 per day, with frequent shuttle service

• Surface Lot: $17 per day, within a short walk of the terminal

• Garage: $19 per day, conveniently located at the terminal

• Hourly Parking: $5 per hour

• First 10 Minutes: Free

• Cellphone Lot: Free

Economy/Remote Lot shuttles operate 24 hours a day. For the latest parking information, travelers can call 601-360-8690.

JAN travelers also have access to nonstop service from American Airlines, Delta Air Lines, Southwest Airlines, and United Airlines, connecting Mississippi to major global hubs and hundreds of one-stop destinations across six continents. Travelers are encouraged to check with their airline for available fall and early-winter fares and book early.

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PRESERVED

What's in a Name?

By Shewanda Riley
Columnist

What is a simple way to show that you care about somebody? Buy them something? Cook a good homemade meal? These are all good, but one way is easier: learn their name. I realized this recently when one of my students told me how much he appreciated me trying to learn student names. He said that it showed I cared.

Much like knowing the names of others can show that we care about them, knowing the names of God can do the exact same thing. Proverbs 18:10 says, "The name of the LORD is a strong tower; the righteous run to it and are safe." But we have to know what the names of God are in order to run to them for safety.

God is known as Jehovah Shalom or the Lord is Peace in Judges 6:24. In this instance, God reveals himself as one who is complete and without strife. We are reminded to follow this example in Romans 12:18 where we are encouraged to live at peace with others.

In addition, there are other times in the bible when God's name is combined with other words to show specific aspects of his nature. 1 Samuel 1:3 is just one of 285 times that Sabaoth is paired with Jehovah or Elohim in the Old Testament. This is for good reason. Jehovah Sabaoth means the Lord of armies. This is so powerful as we are reminded throughout scriptures to let the Lord fight our battles, spiritual and otherwise.

"Jehovah Mekoddishkem" means to call on the Lord who sanctifies you. This Lord will set you apart in holiness and dedication to him. It's not just limited to not drinking or smoking… it's about making the choice to submit to the process of sanctification by God. References to this are found in Exodus 31:13.

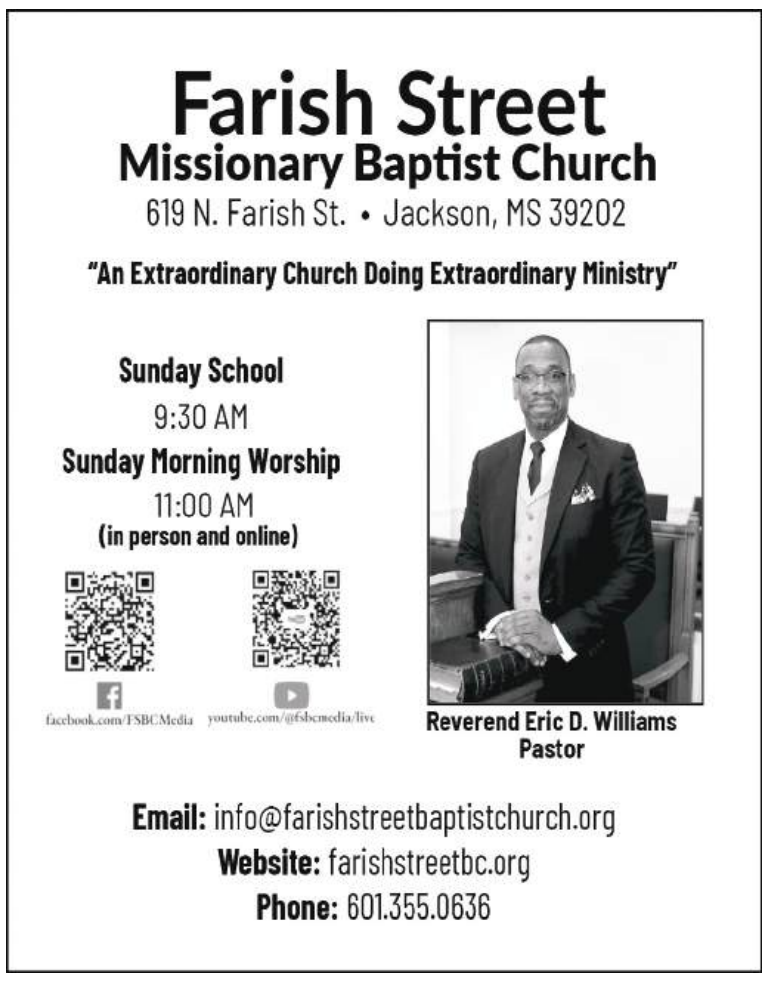
"Jehovah Shammah" means that the Lord is there. Despite how we may feel abandoned by or forgotten by God, this name reminds us that he is always with us. And not only is he with us when we feel like we are at our lowest, he is also there when we have our greatest triumphs. A reference for this is found in Ezekiel 48:35.

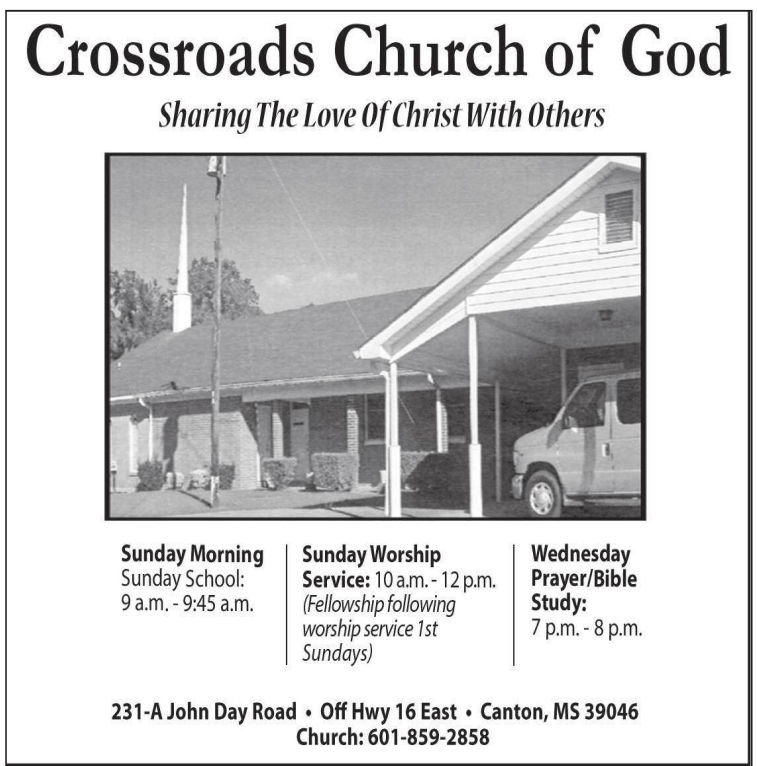
Jehovah Raah is one that we are familiar with because of Psalm 23. This meanes that the Lord is my Shepherd who nurtures and leads the flock. This one especially brings to mind the intimacy that God desires with us in worship.

Just like we are not known by just one name, God is known by and wants us to know him by his different names. Think about it: I am known as Wanda to my family, Auntie Wanda my nieces and nephews, Dr. Riley to my coworkers and Sis. Riley to my church family. I am the same person but with each name I take on a different aspect of my identity.

It's the same way with God. He may be known as Jehovah Jireh one week or Jehovah Shalom the next. The wonderful part is that he is the same majestic God that we are honored to worship.

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





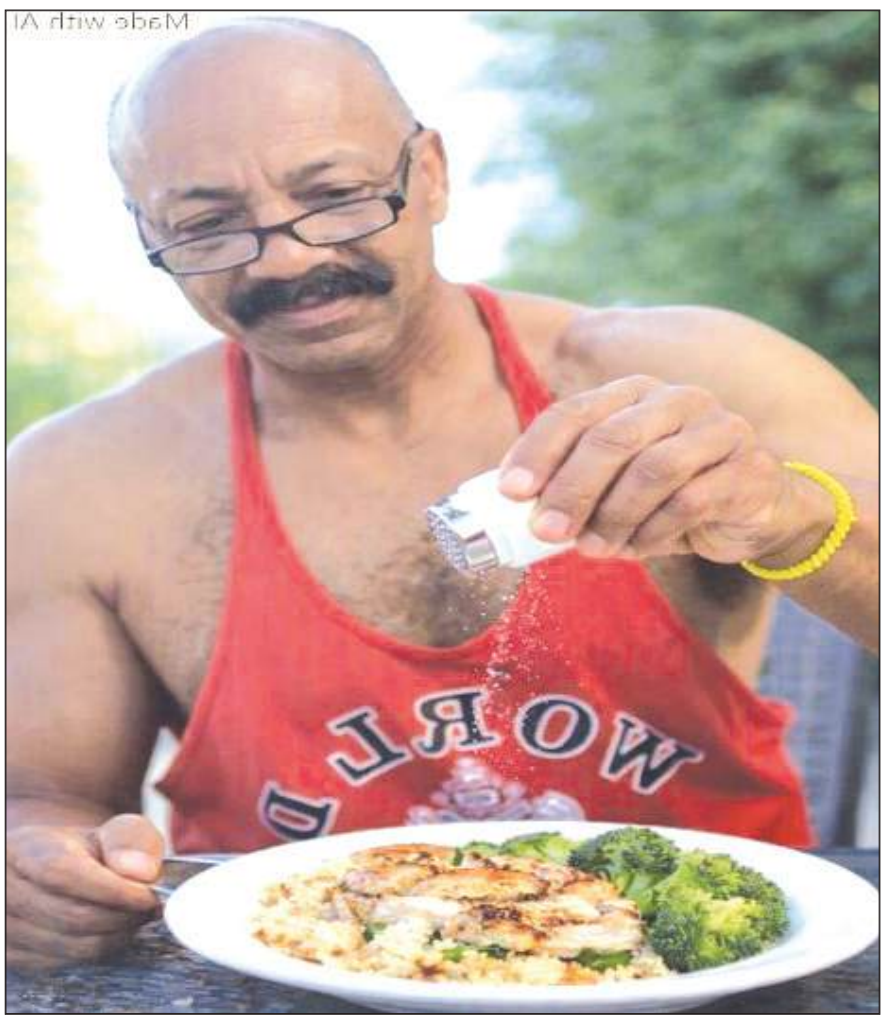
Why they put Iodine in salt and why your body needs it

By Vince Faust MA
Health Educator and Motivational Writer

If you look closely at a container of table salt, you might notice the words "iodized salt." Many people see that label every day but never stop to think about what it means or why it matters. Iodized salt is one of the simplest and most successful public-health tools ever created. It has helped protect millions of people from serious health problems. To understand why iodine is added to salt, we first need to understand what iodine is, how the body uses it and what can happen when we don't get enough.

Iodine is a natural mineral found in soil, seawater and certain foods. Even though we only need tiny amounts, iodine is essential for life. The body uses iodine to make thyroid hormones, which come from the thyroid gland a small, butterfly-shaped organ in the front of your neck. These hormones help control metabolism, which is the process that turns food into energy. They also help regulate heart rate, body temperature and growth and development, especially in babies and children.

Without enough iodine, the thyroid cannot make the hormones your body needs. When that happens, the thyroid tries to work harder, often swelling in size. This swelling is called a goiter and it can become large enough to see or feel. Goiters were once very common in certain parts of the United States, especially in areas where the soil lacked iodine.



Before the 1920s, iodine deficiency was widespread in the Great Lakes, Appalachian and Northwestern regions. People living in these areas ate food grown in iodine-poor soil, so they didn't get enough iodine from their diets. Many developed goiters and some suffered from fatigue, weight gain and sensitivity to cold all signs of an underactive thyroid. Even more concerning, children born to iodine-deficient mothers often had problems with growth and learning. Severe iodine deficiency during pregnancy can lead to intellectual disabilities and developmental delays in babies.

Scientists realized that iodine deficiency was harming entire communities. They needed a simple way to get iodine to everyone, regardless of income or location. The solution turned out to be something almost every household used every day: salt.

Salt was chosen for iodization for several smart reasons:

- Everyone uses it. Salt is a basic ingredient in cooking and food preservation.
- It's inexpensive. Adding iodine costs very little.
- It's easy to control the dose. Manufacturers can add a safe, consistent amount of iodine to each batch.

In 1924, the United States began adding iodine to table salt. Almost immediately, rates of goiter and other thyroid problems dropped. Today, iodized salt is considered one of the most successful nutrition programs in history.

Iodine's main job is helping the thyroid make hormones. These hormones affect almost every cell in the body. Here are some of the most important roles iodine plays:

- Supports metabolism: Thyroid hormones help the body use energy efficiently.
- Regulates body temperature: They help keep you warm or cool as needed.
- Supports brain development: Babies and children need iodine for healthy brain growth.
- Helps the heart: Thyroid hormones help regulate heart rate.

When iodine levels are too low, the thyroid cannot keep up. This can lead to hypothyroidism, which causes tiredness, dry skin, constipation and weight gain. In children, even mild iodine deficiency can affect learning and memory.

Most adults need about 150 micrograms of iodine per day. Pregnant and breastfeeding women need more because they must supply iodine for their babies' development.

You can get iodine from:

- Iodized salt
- Seafood
- Dairy products
- Eggs
- Some breads

However, many processed foods use non-iodized salt, so people who rely heavily on packaged foods may not get enough iodine unless they use iodized salt at home.

Even though iodine deficiency is less common in the United States today, it has not disappeared. Some people choose sea salt or specialty salts, which often do not contain iodine. Others avoid dairy or seafood, which are natural iodine sources. Pregnant women are especially at risk because they need extra iodine for their babies' brain development.

Iodized salt remains a simple, reliable way to make sure people get the iodine they need.

Even today, choosing iodized salt is one of the easiest ways to support your thyroid and overall health.

Tips to lower your 'Blood Pressure' as you age

StatePoint

As you age, there's a pretty good chance you'll eventually develop high blood pressure, also known as hypertension. In fact, according to one study, about 60 percent of people get hypertension by the time they reach age 60.

Fortunately, high blood pressure is highly treatable and manageable through a combination of lifestyle changes and, when necessary, medication. Unfortunately, it often appears without symptoms, putting people at risk of stroke, heart failure, kidney disease, and death, without them even knowing it.

"High blood pressure is sometimes called the silent killer," said Dr. Jennifer Ziemianin, chief medical officer for HealthSpring. "But we're not going to be quiet about it. We want older adults to know about the risks and take action to manage hypertension."

The first step is to get your blood pressure checked. The American Heart Association recommends adults get their blood pressure checked at least once a year. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, high blood pressure is an upper reading of 130 or above or a lower reading of 80 or above.

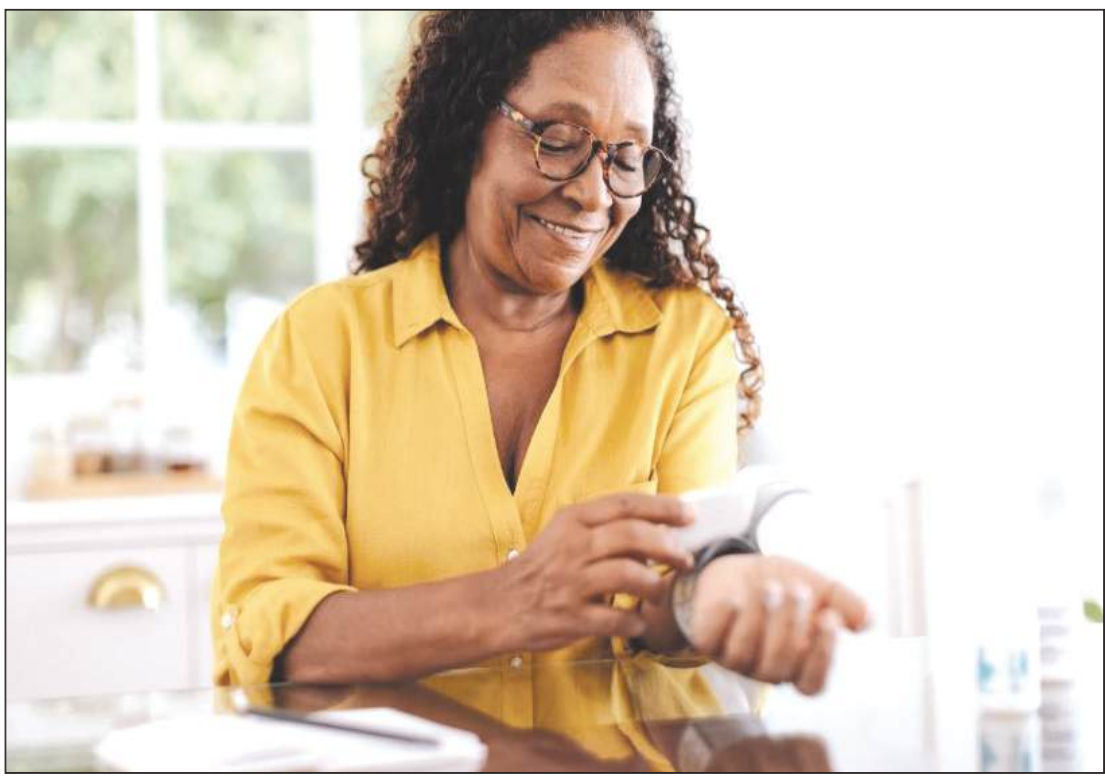


PHOTO SOURCE: (C) JLCO - JULIA AMARAL / ISTOCK VIA GETTY IMAGES PLUS

If your blood pressure is high, you should check it regularly using an automatic, upper arm cuff-style monitor. These monitors are widely available, affordable and easy to use. You can ask your doctor for tips if needed.

Although hypertension generally can't be cured, it can be effectively managed through a variety of measures, Ziemianin said, including the following:

Exercise. Moderate activity, such as brisk walking or swimming, can lower high blood pressure. Always talk with your doctor before starting an exercise plan. If you belong to a Medicare Advantage (MA) plan, you may have access to a fitness program at no extra cost to you.

Eat a heart-healthy diet. Having a higher body mass index is a risk factor for hypertension. That's why it's important to eat a balanced diet, including vegetables, fruits, grains, protein, dairy and oils.

Cut down on salt. As you get older, the body becomes more sensitive to salt. Too much salt can increase your blood pressure. Limit the amount of salt in your diet by choosing low-sodium seasonings when preparing meals.

Drink less alcohol. Even moderate alcohol use can increase your blood pressure. The American Health Associations recommends no more than two drinks per day for men and one drink per day for women.

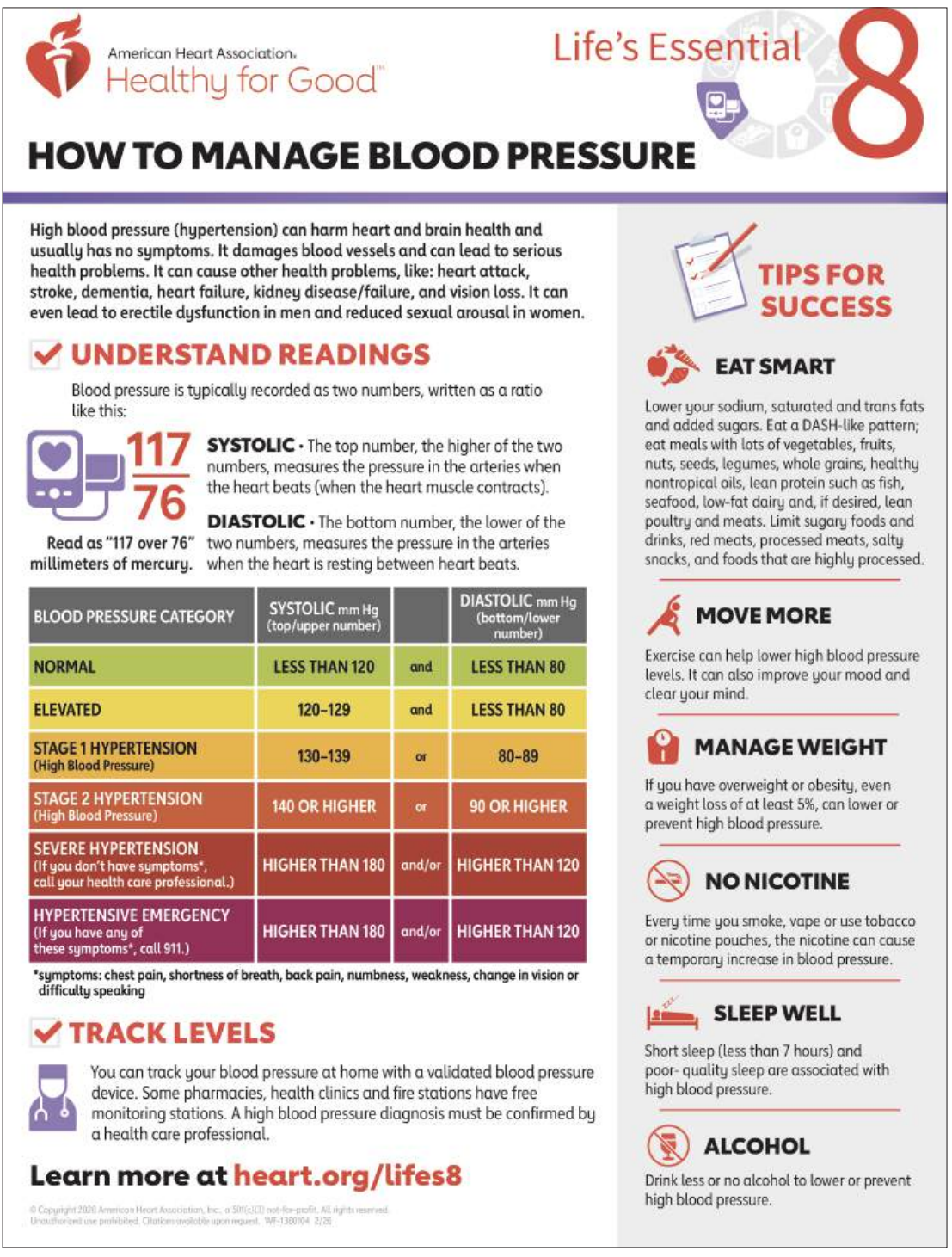
Quit smoking or don't start. Smoking increases your risk for high blood pressure, heart disease, stroke, and other health problems. It's never too late to quit. If you have a Medicare plan, you have access to counseling services to help you quit. Additionally, a Medicare Part D plan may cover medications to help you stop smoking.

Manage stress. Stress can increase your blood pressure. Medicare and MA plans cover counseling services, including telehealth in some cases, to help you cope with stress.

Talk to your doctor about medication. There are several medications available to help lower your blood pressure. You may need to try several types or combinations before you find a plan that works for you. Once you find the right plan, always take your medication as prescribed. If cost is an issue, an MA plan with drug coverage, or a standalone drug plan, helps pay for most blood pressure medications.

For more information about Medicare and MA benefits that can help you lower your blood pressure, visit https://www.healthspring.com.

"Lowering blood pressure, even a small amount, can make a big difference," Ziemianin said. "That's why it's so critical for you to identify high blood pressure early and then work very closely with your primary care physician to develop a plan for managing your hypertension so you can live a longer, healthier life."



22nd Annual Canton Scholarship Awards & Gospel Music Celebration

Mississippi Link Newswire

The 22nd Annual Canton Scholarship Awards & Gospel Music Celebration was held Sunday, August 23, 2026, from 5:00 PM to 7:30 PM at Greater Faith Calvary Pentecostal Church, 305 North Railroad Street, Canton, MS.

The Canton Gospel Music Association (CGMA) in partnership with community sponsors, honored outstanding high school students by awarding music scholarships while celebrating gospel music with live performances and recognitions.

Serving as guest host was LaJesca Woodard.

Lifetime Achievement Awards were presented by Georgia Sims and Jeffrey Luckett. The recipients were Retired Judge Mamie McClendon Chinn & Dr. Flonzie Brown Goodloe Wright. Nathaniel Cole was presented with the 20th Year Member Award by Rev. Jacqueline Rucker Stokes. In addition to other presentations, The Mayor's Award was presented by Mayor Tim Scott Taylor and Jerlene Jones. The recipient was Dewey Henry. Scholarship presentations were presented to high school students by Emma Cole and Rev. Jacqueline Rucker Stokes

PHOTOS BY JAY JOHNSON

Dr. Charles "Smarty Pants" King Jr.'s Educational Services, a nontraditional approach to learning inspires youth

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

Dr. Charles "Smarty Pants" Jr. was born in Memphis, Tenn., but much of his childhood was spent in Battle Creek, Mich. He recalls having struggled during the learning process. He saw the traditional system as one that embarked on the rights of children by insisting that they should all learn the same way. He saw repeatedly how authoritative figures lumped the children into "one category" of learning. He realized that he was hindered and that his educational growth was stifled.

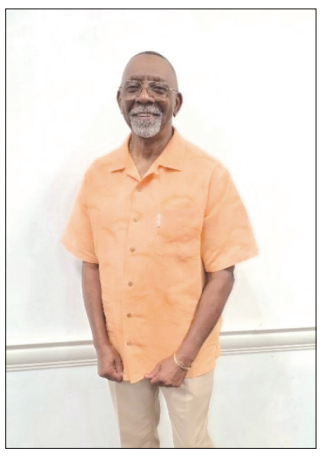
"I believe that I wasn't taught to think in school, so I created my own program. That program – "Dr. Charles Smarty Pants King Jr.'s Educational Services" – was founded in 1980. The program emphasizes that children learn better by seeing; they do what they see. Consequently, King asks participants to look at him. When they look, "they copy me."

In his book, "My Pants Make Me Smart," the author specifies his targeted audience from age two to seniors. He explains that everybody comes to earth with a purpose. Thus, "there is no box in teaching out the box." What he means is children should be taught to use imagination. "They shouldn't get caught up in thinking a certain way."

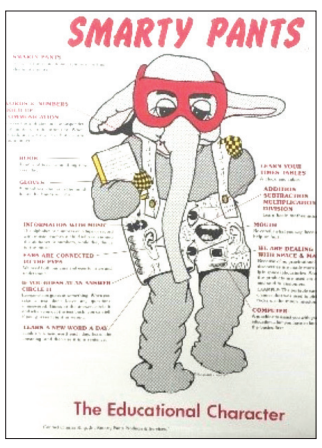
The dominant animal of the book is the elephant. "Smarty Pants" references the educational symbols on the elephant's pants. A few are mentioned here. "Words and symbols hold up communication. The book says read and learn something new every day. Gloves symbolize what's in the mind and heart…A child is taught the alphabet and numbers while dancing to the music. The ears are connected to the eyes, and we need both our ears and eyes to listen and understand."

The nontraditional representative is calling youth to use the voice – the steer – inside of them. He advocates that they should look and listen to that particular voice. "If bad voices tell them to do something wrong, if they know that's wrong, they should not do it," he said.

King devoted thirty years to getting children acclimated to learning that was consistent to their individual needs. Apart from traditional learning implemented in states' systems, this new approach entails avenues that spread directly to the individual's specific interests that encourage learning. Upon his retirement from teaching Mississippi children, King received House Resolution No. 50 from the House of Representatives for having inspired youth throughout the state. Teaching included magic, brain teasers and art work which encompassed 2,000 pieces by disguising puzzles or riddles or symbols.



For thirty years, Dr. Charles "Smarty Pants" King, Jr. has instilled in Mississippi youth the art of imaginative thinking.
PHOTOS BY JANICE-NEAL VINCENT



The elephant is the dominant animal utilized in King's book, "My Pants Make Me Smart." Symbols are denoted to highlight the significance and value of learning for a child's imagination to grasp meanings.

The honoree identifies himself as one who is self-taught. "Virtually all the great Black folk artists were self-taught and relate that they were initially inspired to create through divine calling, or dreams. True to that mode, I talk to God as one of my major influences in the same way another young artist would credit an old master," he voiced.

The educator is a firm advocate of his philosophy, "If [children] can't learn the way I teach, then I must learn to teach the way [they] can learn." He supports this tenet by emphasizing that all children are "teachable." All children are different. While some persons have to study with no sound, King asserted that during his college days, "I played music while I studied."

The nontraditional teaching advocate desires that Mississippi youth "leave this world in a better place than what they found it." They should not look at the way things are [and be content]. Rather, "they should use their imagination and ask, how can things be improved."

What does King have to say about his experiences with people? He expresses joy in having learned from them. Summarizing conditions on earth, he emphasizes that both heaven and hell are here. Instead of living in fear, he concentrates on looking for the good in people. Further, he reminds parents that children are our future. Every word we use has "vibration" and meaning.

King is a stickler for separating truth from falsehood. He cites an example of a 17-year-old female, one of forty- six students of gang affiliation, who was "put out of" the Jackson Public School System. "She stated that she was raised by her grandmother, and she has three young boys. Her grandmother told her that if she kissed a boy, she would get pregnant. She said she never kissed a boy, and yet, she has three boys." The mother explained that if she knew the truth, she perhaps would not have gotten pregnant.

On another note, King contends that a person's thoughts can make the difference between failure and success. Thus, he recommends that instead of saying, "I'm going to try," say, "I'm going to do it." Therein lies "power."

King advises the State of Mississippi to give its educational institutions the authority to implement his system of learning for today's youth. Rather than saying, "no," being open to this new idea of teaching would allow teachers and administrators to use a new teaching tool and youth to benefit for a new outlook on life and productivity.

Not one to run away from work, productivity, and human relations, King continues to thrive and aid others in reaching their utopia. He understands the need to meet people where they are and to work with them accordingly. He serves as a volunteer for the Two Mississippi Museums, Urban League Food Program, Cooperation Jackson and Alternatives Do Matter Second Chance Program which serves communities through education, support, empowerment and meaningful service.

"What Does This Moment Require of Us?" - President Wiggins Challenges Tougaloo College at the 2026–27 Academic Year Annual Convocation

By Rasheda Bell
Contributing Writer

President Corey Wiggins challenges the Tougaloo community to honor its legacy while building an institution that is prepared, proud, purposeful, and progressive.

On August 26, the Tougaloo College family gathered for its annual Convocation, welcoming the 2026–27 academic year and honoring the College's 15th President, Dr. Corey Wiggins. Students, faculty, staff, trustees, alumni, donors, partners, community leaders, and friends filled the arena, creating a powerful display of unity around the institution's mission and the work ahead.

Among the distinguished guests were President Blake Thompson, the 20th President of Mississippi Christian University, and Dr. Beverly Hogan, Tougaloo College's first female president and its 13th president.

Evoking the spirit of Tougaloo's institutional ancestors and grounding his remarks in faith, Wiggins reflected on the experiences and connections that brought him to his current role. His message emphasized that Tougaloo's history is not simply something to remember, but a foundation from which the College must continue to move forward.

He challenged faculty to push students through rigorous, meaningful instruction, encouraging them to foster curiosity and deeper thinking. Students were urged to question what they believe they already know and to remain open to learning. Staff members were reminded that every interaction with a student is significant, while alumni were encouraged to remain engaged and to support their alma mater through continued service and giving.

President Corey Wiggins

"What must we be willing to protect, build, and become?"

President Wiggins highlighted the American Missionary Association (AMA), which founded Tougaloo College in 1869 and provided educational opportunities for formerly enslaved people and their descendants. He also honored the Tougaloo Nine, the nine Tougaloo College students who staged a historic read-in at the Jackson Municipal Library on March 27, 1961, challenging the library's whites-only policy and becoming an important part of Mississippi's Civil Rights history.

Wiggins also recognized the legacy of Civil Rights figures whose work intersected with Tougaloo College, including Bob Moses, Fannie Lou Hamer, Medgar Evers, and Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Their stories, he reminded students, represent more than moments in history. They demonstrate what can happen when individuals are willing to act with courage, conviction, and purpose.

Students were encouraged to embrace the purpose of Tougaloo College: the audacity to build generational legacy, to prepare, to educate, to lead, and to be free.

"What does this moment require of us?"

The answer, he suggested, begins with Tougaloo's enduring mission: "To learn, lead, and serve."

Wiggins emphasized that the College must pair courage with common sense, ensuring that bold action remains rooted in purpose.

Wiggins described his responsibility as both an honor and a charge: "To honor what Tougaloo has been doing, while making sure Tougaloo is strong enough to become what this moment requires."

That commitment includes asking difficult questions and maintaining an honest assessment of the institution—recognizing what is working, acknowledging what is not, and having the courage to make necessary changes.

Respecting tradition, Wiggins noted, does not mean preserving every practice simply because it has always been done. Sometimes, he said, the most courageous thing an institution can do is change.

President Wiggins closed with a vision of an institution committed to continuous improvement - one that prepares its students not merely to enter the world, but to lead within it, making Tougaloo better today for the students of tomorrow.

Statement from MayorJohn Horhn on the passing of Grammy award-winning artist Cassandra Wilson

The Mississippi Link Newswire

Mayor John Horhn issued the following statement on the passing of Cassandra Wilson:

"Jackson has lost an extraordinary native daughter, and the world has lost a singular musical voice. Cassandra Wilson carried the sound, spirit and history of Mississippi with her wherever her music reached.

She built a remarkable career rooted in jazz, blues, gospel, folk and the many traditions that shape our state's musical identity. Her work had rare depth of character and a profound understanding of how music moves people, tells stories and connects generations. Through every performance and recording, she carried forward the legacy of jazz, blues and gospel.

TIME magazine once recognized Cassandra Wilson as 'America's best singer,' a fitting tribute to an artist whose voice and imagination were unmistakable. Her Grammy Award wins reflected the respect she earned across the music world, while her artistry made an impression on audiences far beyond the jazz community.

Cassandra Wilson showed the world the richness of Jackson and Mississippi music. Her legacy will continue to be heard in the artists she inspired and the pride she brought to her hometown. On behalf of the City of Jackson, I extend my condolences to her family, friends, fellow musicians and all who loved her music."

BOOK REVIEW: KIDS BOOKS FOR ALMOST-FALL

BY VARIOUS AUTHORS AND ILLUSTRATORS
C.2026, VARIOUS PUBLISHERS
$19.99 EACH • VARIOUS PAGE COUNTS

By Terri Schlichenmeyer
Columnist

Pretty soon, you'll want to add another blanket to your bed at night.

You'll want a jacket or sweater when you go outside, and your shoes won't be sandals pretty soon. Fall is coming, and you'll be staying indoors a little bit more, which means you'll have time to read and these books are great for your fall…

Have you had a good summer? Most people have – but some kids are sad this fall, and in the new book "Love Lives On" by Dorena Williamson, illustrated by Ana Latese (Magination Press, $19.99), Will's family has experienced a tragedy and it's pretty scary.

How the adults around him react, dealing with loss and gun violence, grief and healing are at the heart of this book. Beware of that before you hand it to a sensitive child – but if your 4-to-7-year-old needs a book like this, here's a helpful story for you all.

Determination. That's what you want for your child, and "Better Than a Touchdown" by Philadelphia Eagles quarterback Jalen Hurts, illustrated by Nneka Myers (Flamingo Books, $19.99) will get your child in the right direction.

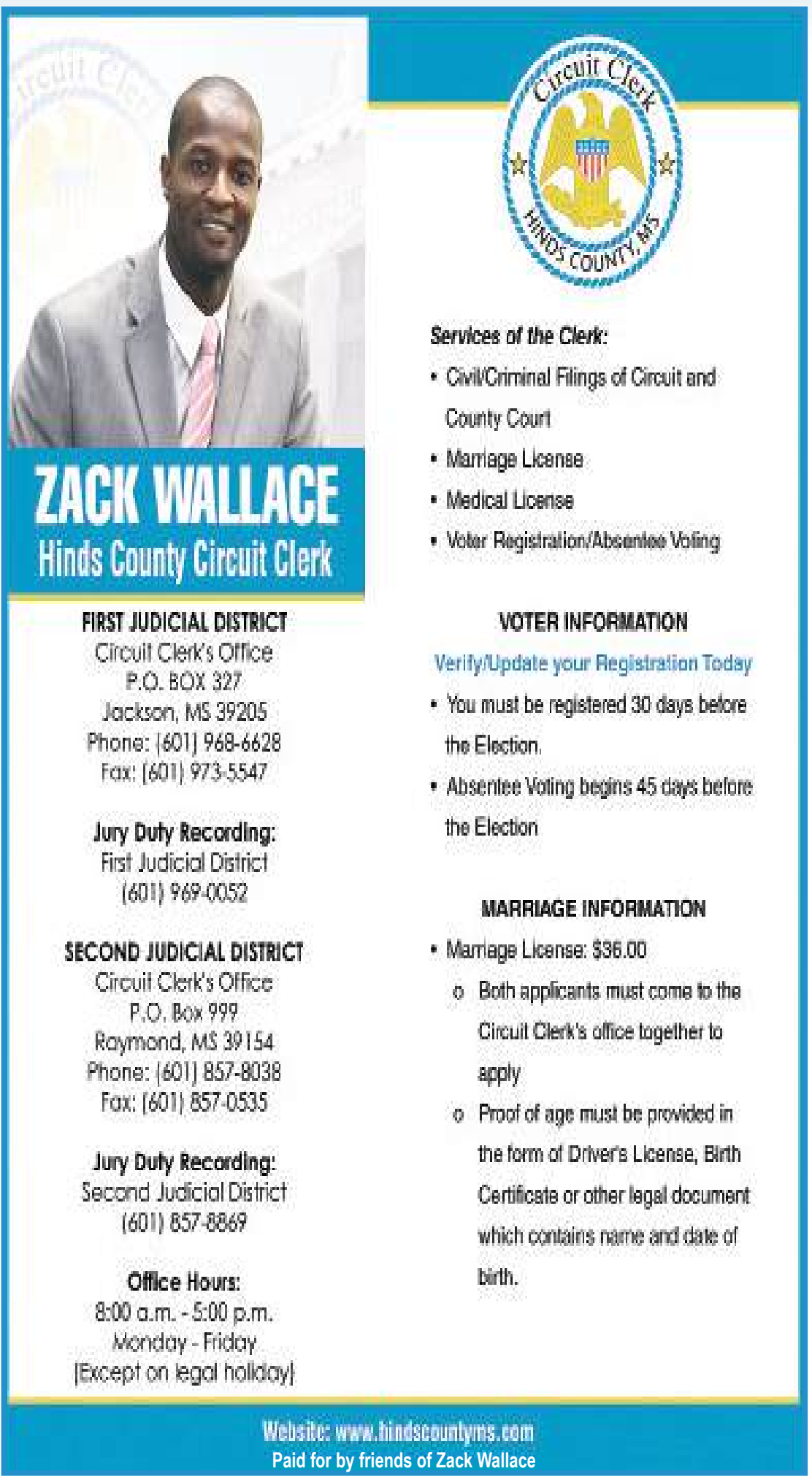
When Jalen arrives for his first day of school, his friends break the bad news to him: there won't be any school football this year. What? Jalen was sure that this year, the perfect touchdown was within his grasp. He tried other activities, but nothing compared to football – and then he thought of an idea that just might work. Was it possible, with teamwork, to have a football season of their own? Your 3-to-7-year-old will want to find out.

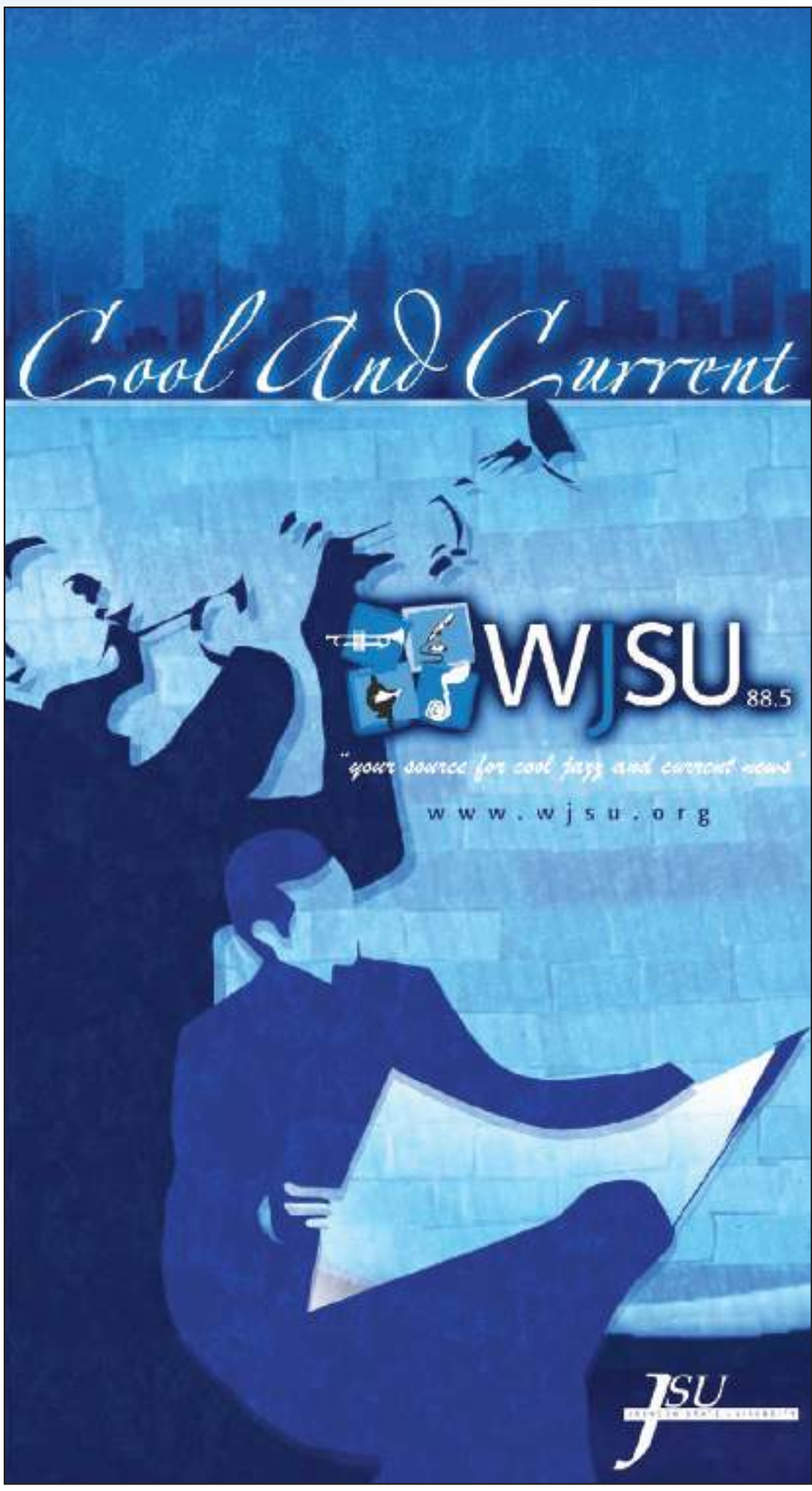
So your child is a little bit different. Big deal. In "Simply Winnie" by Supermodel Winnie Harlow, illustrated by Sawyer Cloud (Penguin Workshop, $19.99), that difference is actually a benefit.

Willie is an artist, a painter, a designer, a glam-girl, and she's fabulous! But Winnie doesn't fit in sometimes, and she hates looking like everybody else. Even her new best friend likes to go along with the crowd, so Winnie wonders which is better: to be like other kids or to just be Winnie? How can a one-of-a-kind girl be true to her one-in-a-million self? Kids ages 3-to-7 will love this book, especially if they're uniquely beautiful, too.

And finally, for the kid who wants a story with meaning and lots of pictures, look for "Black Hands: Builders of Our Nation" by Carole Boston Weatherford, illustrated by R. Gregory Christie (Crown, $19.99). Black history isn't just a once in a year thing, as this book shows. Its powerful but spare narrative is great for quiet times, and the words are such that you can read them every day. For your 2-to-5-year-old, they'll sink in quick.

If these books are not exactly what your child will enjoy, then head to your favorite bookstore or library and ask to be directed to the kids' section. There, you'll find lots to read, and access to even more books for kids of any age. Find these four books or more, and sit down pretty soon.





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Jackson State starts season in Nashville with a 26-24 win over Tennessee State

By Tim Ward
Sports Writer

Over 32,000 people packed FirstBank Stadium in Nashville Saturday night for the John A. Merritt Classic. Jackson State versus Tennessee State. Two HBCU programs with plenty of history, plenty of pride, and two fan bases expecting a good football game. They got one. Jackson State escaped Nashville with a 26 to 24 victory, but Tennessee State made them work for every bit of it. Jackson State wasted little time making some noise. Quarterback Jared Lockhart connected with Jabari Jones for an 88 yard touchdown in the first quarter. Crowd goes wild! Jackson State strikes first. On the next drive, Tennessee State answered. Running back Brenton Paul scored on a 9 yard touchdown run to tie the game.

In the second quarter, Tennessee State quarterback Daylin Lee scored on a 1 yard run. Tennessee State would score again. Preston Hurless added a 45 yard field goal and suddenly TSU had control of the game. At halftime, Tennessee State led Jackson State 17 to 10.

Tiger Nation had to be a little nervous at this point. Coming out of halftime, Jackson State started battling back. Freshman kicker Andrew Ivaniciuc became one of the biggest players in the game. He connected on field goals from 45 and 51 yards. Fifty-one yards. JSU's got a kicker!

Jackson State kept putting pressure on Tennessee State, and Emari Matthews scored on a 2 yard touchdown run. Just like that, Jackson State had scored 13 unanswered points and taken a 23 to 17 lead. Crowd breathing easier now. Sonic Boom of the South starts to get crunk. Momentum had completely changed. But Tennessee State wasn't done. The "other" Tigers have pride too. Like a good heavyweight fight, TSU punched back. Daylin Lee led Tennessee State on a long drive that took more than seven minutes off the clock. Lee eventually connected with Francisco Pratts III for a 5 yard touchdown. Tennessee State was back in front, 24 to 23, with 8:48 left in the game.

Now the pressure was back on Jackson State. Could they respond? They did. Jackson State started at its own 20 yard line and put together one of the biggest drives of the night. Fifteen plays. Seventy-seven yards. More than six minutes off the clock. Tennessee State's defense did a good job keeping JSU out of the endzone, but Andrew Ivaniciuc came back onto the field.Once again, the freshman delivered. Ivaniciuc nailed a 21 yard field goal with 2:31 left in the game. Jackson State 26. Tennessee State 24.

Daylin Lee and the TSU offense started moving the ball. Lee connected with Jayden Guy for 16 yards and then found Dylan Rodd for 20 more. Tennessee State eventually worked the ball all the way down near the Jackson State goal line. Tiger Nation watching nervously.

Tennessee State fans believed they were about to steal the game. Then everything started going wrong. A delay of game penalty pushed Tennessee State backward. Jackson State's defense came up with a sack. TSU still attempted to set up for a potential game-winning field goal. Ball is snapped, but the snap was mishandled. Jackson State got to the holder and ended the play. Ballgame! JSU players are smiling and running all over the field. Final score, Jackson State 26 Tennessee State 24.

Quarterback Jared Lockhart completed 17 of 26 passes for 222 yards and a touchdown. Jabari Jones caught four passes for 117 yards, including the 88 yard touchdown that started the scoring. Jones would go on to win offensive Player of the game! Nate Blount IV also had a strong game on the ground, rushing for 101 yards. But you have to give some love to Andrew Ivaniciuc. The freshman kicker connected on four field goals from 38, 45, 51 and 21 yards.

For Tennessee State, Daylin Lee completed 23 of 41 passes for 265 yards and a touchdown. He also rushed for 40 yards and scored a touchdown on the ground. Jayden Guy was one of the biggest playmakers for TSU. Guy caught nine passes for 148 yards. Tennessee State had plenty of opportunities to win this football game. They converted 12 of 19 third downs, held the football for more than 33 minutes and did not turn the ball over. Still wasn't enough. Jackson State found a way. Not everything has to look pretty. Sometimes you just have to survive. Saturday night in Nashville, Jackson State survived.

Two proud HBCU programs battled for four quarters. The crowd was into it. The momentum went back and forth. Both teams had opportunities. In the end, one field goal separated them. What a way to start the season.

Defensive MVP Kam Sallis and Offensive MVP Jabari Jones

Fans PHOTOS BY TIM WARD

Andrew Ivaniciuc nails a 51 yard field goal

QB Daylin Lee avoids pressure

Nate Blount rushed for 101 yards

Jabari Jones scored on a 88 yard pass

JSU team receives trophy for John Merritt Classic

JSU Cheer

Fans

Nate Blount

HINDS COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT WEEKLY UPDATE

Hinds Early College Academy

The vision is now reality! Our inaugural Hinds Early College Academy achievers have officially completed their first few days of college classes at Hinds Community College - Utica Campus.

Just a few months ago, we celebrated the signing of this historic partnership between Hinds County School District and Hinds Community College. Today, our students are walking the campus, attending classes and beginning an incredible journey that allows them to earn college credit while still in high school.

These photos represent so much more than a first day. They represent access, opportunity and a pathway forward. We are incredibly proud of our Hinds achievers from Raymond High School and Terry High School as they begin this new chapter. This is what expanding possibilities for students looks like… and we're only getting started!

we must vote

MISSISSIPPI REDISTRICTING HEARINGS

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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