

Espy advances to runoff with GOP challenger



Espy, with family standing with him, addresses supporters on election night at the Hilton Jackson, County Line Road, Jackson, MS

By Othor Cain
Editor

The U.S. Senate special election is headed to a runoff, Nov. 27. The state could elect for the first time – in modern day history – a black man.

Mike Espy, a former U.S. Congressman and U.S. Secretary of Agriculture, hit the campaign trail early Wednesday morning after receiving 358,752 or 41 percent of the vote in Tuesday’s

special election.

Espy told potential voters at Broadstreet Baking Company in Jackson Wednesday that Health care is the primary issue in his campaign for two reasons.

“In Mississippi, we lead the nation, unfortunately, in the number of rural hospitals closing just because we wouldn’t accept the Medicaid expansion money that we were offered a few years before,” Espy said. “I

will also fight to protect those with pre-existing medical conditions.”

As coffee drinkers flooded the staple breakfast spot, Espy greeted them with a cup of coffee, a smile and a message. “Mississippians do not want their insurance companies canceling their policy for pre-existing conditions. Those who voted before will likely come again. We persuaded them before, we will persuade

them again,” Espy said.

Espy advanced to the runoff from a field of four candidates, two republicans and one democrat, though in special elections, party identification isn’t included on the ballot.

Espy faces Republican Cindy Hyde-Smith who was appointed by Governor Phil Bryant to fill the seat vacated by Thad Cochran, until an election could be held.

U.S. Senator defeats State Representative

By Othor Cain
Editor

In the other U.S. Senate race held in Mississippi Tuesday, Republican Senator Roger Wicker was re-elected, keeping the seat he has held since 2007.

Wicker defeated Democratic state Rep. David Baria and two others.

Wicker was elected to the House in 1994, when Republicans gained control of Congress halfway through President Bill

Clinton’s first term.

After Republican Sen. Trent Lott resigned in late 2007, then-Gov. Haley Barbour appointed Wicker to temporarily fill the seat. Wicker won a special election in 2008 to complete Lott’s term, and was re-elected in 2012.

Baria is the chairman of the NCSL Gulf and Atlantic States Task Force. He is also a mem-

Wicker
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Wicker



Baria

Democrats take the House, win sweeping power in congress

Gillum loses governor’s race in Florida, Abrams awaiting final ballots in Georgia



Democratic leader Nancy Pelosi celebrates the Democratic win in the House of Representatives saying the win will be about “restoring the Constitution’s checks and balances to the Trump Administration.” Assistant Democratic Leader Jim Clyburn looks on.

By Frederick H. Lowe
NorthStarNewsToday.com

Democrats took over the U.S. House of Representatives in Tuesday’s midterm elections, which will boost the power and influence of representatives Maxine Waters, John Lewis and Elijah Cummings.

Under the new order, Waters, a California Democrat, will become chair of the Financial Services Committee, and Elijah Cummings, a Maryland Democrat, is expected to become chair of the House Oversight Committee. This gives Democrats sweeping new powers, including the power to subpoena President Trump’s tightly held income tax records if they so choose.

Congressman John Lewis, a Georgia Democrat, is a member of the Ways and Means Committee and he is the ranking House member on the Subcommittee on Oversight.

President Trump has spoken by phone to current House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, calling her to acknowledge the Democratic win.

Also, at least four African Americans were elected to Congress for the first time. They include Colin Allred, who defeated an incumbent Republican in Texas’ 32nd District in Dallas and Ayanna Pressley, the first black woman elected to Congress from Massachusetts. Pressley, a Chicago native, will represent Massachusetts’ 7th Congressional District, which includes sections of Boston. She ran unopposed. All of the newly elected members of the House are Democrats.

The Democratic Party now controls 230 seats to the Republican Party’s 205. A political party needs only 218 votes to control the House of Representatives. Republicans maintained control of the Senate, adding several seats. Four Senate races were still undecided Wednesday morning.

In Mississippi, former U.S. Secretary of Agriculture

Congress
Continued on page 3

PHOTO OF THE WEEK

Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for 4th Avenue Lounge, 211 South Lamar Street, Jackson, November 6. Mayor Lumumba addressed the crowd. Chad and Ja’nee Powell, owners.

PHOTOS BY JAY JOHNSON



The Stars are Out at this year's Holiday Top Hat Brunch

Mississippi Link Newswire

The National Coalition of 100 Black Women, Incorporated, Central Mississippi Chapter, will celebrate its 27th Annual Holiday Top Hat Brunch Saturday, November 24, 2018, at the Jackson Hilton Hotel on County Line Road.

President Rita Wray stated, "This event serves as the signature fundraiser for the chapter's annual scholarship awards and other programs that impact the community in the areas of Education, Health, Economic Empowerment and Leadership Development. Over the years, the Central Mississippi Chapter has given more than \$240,000 in scholarships to deserving young ladies throughout Central Mississippi."

As one of the holiday season's most anticipated events, it promises to be an afternoon filled with music, fun and door prizes. This year's theme is S.T.A.R.S. in Hats and Heels and all guests (men, women and youth) are invited to participate in the Legendary Parade of Hats competition in the various categories. Participants will be judged, with winners selected in each category.

This year's Holiday Top Hat Bruch Chair Jerelyn Butler said, "I'm excited about the new hat categories being showcased this year – Lady Mae, Beyoncé and Aretha – and look forward to seeing individuals strut the runway showcasing their hats in these categories and others."

The fun begins with seating at 10:30 a.m., and the program starts at 11 a.m. The vendors' Holiday Shopping Extravaganza starts at 9 a.m. Tickets are \$50 and can be purchased in advance from members.

For additional information you may contact Katrina B. Myricks (Public Relations chair) at 601 940-3262 or Jerelyn Butler (Top Hat chair) at 601 955-8469.



First Row (left to right) Rita Wray, president, National Coalition of 100 Black Women; Jerelyn Butler, Holiday Top Hat chair. Second Row (left to right) Wauline Carter, Corinne Anderson, Terryce Walker, Mariea Jackson, Ethel Gibson, Debra Sturgis Stamps, Jennifer Young Wallace, LaVerne Gentry and Brenda Cox

Holiday Top Hat Categories

ASHANTI – Designed for the action-oriented, energetic, strong-willed and undefeatable tigress who adores animal prints and dares to "walk on the wild side." From leopard to zebra, tiger to panther or any animal print, this hat ROARS "jungle fever."

LADY MAE – Representing the first Lady of the church and/or the fashionable church lady; the wearer of this hat is a class act always decked out in coordinating hat, gloves, suit or dress. This hat is the essence of conservative ladyship and "Sunday Morning" sermons and the wearer epitomizes the proverb: "Who Can Tell a Virtuous Woman?"

DIVA – Worn bodaciously by the style-conscious woman, this hat, small, me-

dium or large, is fashionably adorned with jewels, bling, feathers, beads or flowers coordinated with a trendy ensemble and accessories... If your hat says I am Demanding, Inspiring, Vibrant and Alluring; it's now your time to shine.

ENJOLI – Anything goes. This hat is designed for the woman who struts her own style, it may be plain or bold. Worn with an ensemble chosen for the occasion (or not), it simply says, "My Style."

LABELLE – This head garment is the bomb and is bedecked with lots of glitter...a single feather, jewel-tipped hackle feathers or flowers, – the bling just can't be missed. **BOLD** and dramatic, a stand-out ensemble that says, "Work It!" Soul Sista.

ARETHA – This hat like the crystal-embellished bow-tied, felt hat that Aretha Franklin wore at President Obama's inauguration; the colorful Nefertiti head wraps; the wide-brimmed fedoras cocked to one side or fancy, gospel-inspired top hats – each worn with a well-conceived matching ensemble and accessories in a manner befitting royalty.

BEYONCE – Whether touring in Europe, attending a big music event or cruising around town, in a "Do not Disturb" wide-brimmed hat; a stylish Fedora, or a decorative Parisian beret, the outfits are trendy and selected for the occasion. The hat and ensemble say, "Naughty Girl" and definitely represents "the Forever Young" female at any age.

NE-YO (K-16) – Worn by a young, aspiring male who turns heads with hats. Fedoras; Italian Flat Cap; short bill caps; and so on; it is always stylish and appropriate for the occasion, this hat says "Think like a Man." The wearer of this hat respects his elders, accepts advice and makes wise choices, including the clothes he wears with the confidence that he is "One in a Million."

SOPHISTICATED GENTS – Designed for the distinguished, debonair man who knows how to don a hat and how to accessorize and complement his choice of business, dressy, conservative or ethnocentric apparel. Symbolizing class, style, sophistication and fashion, the hat makes the statement, "You've got the power."

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Wicker

Continued from page 1

ber of the National Conference of Environmental Legislators, Bay St. Louis Rotary Club, Kiwanis Club, Leadership Hancock County, Mississippi Bar and a Fellow of the Mississippi Bar Foundation.

Congress

Continued from page 1

Mike Espy, an African-American Democrat, will compete in a runoff election against Republican Cindy Hyde for Mississippi's U.S. Senate seat.

Democrats winning the House smoothed over some big disappointments in state governor's races. Stacey Abrams, still trailing, has strategical-

ly refused to concede her contest to become Georgia's first black woman governor. With 99 percent of ballots counted, she is at 48.6 percent and her opponent, Secretary of State Brian Kemp is at 50.5 percent. Kemp, secretary of state, had been widely criticized for refusing to step down from his oversight of the election,

giving an appearance of a conflict of interest. Technical failures in majority black precincts caused the NAACP to initiate court action to extend balloting for three hours, until 10 p.m. Abrams is hoping additional absentee and provisional ballots will bring the vote count close enough to warrant a run-off vote Dec. 4.

Andrew Gillum lost his hard-fought campaign to become Florida's first black governor.

In Maryland, incumbent Republican governor Larry Hogan defeated Democrat Ben Jealous, the former president/CEO of the NAACP.

The Trice Edney News Wire contributed to this story.

Mike Espy for U.S. Senate Get Out the Vote Gospel Explosion

Anderson U.M. Church • November 5, 2018 • Jackson, MS

PHOTOS BY JAY JOHNSON



WE TIED THE GAME.



NOW WE ARE HEADED INTO OVERTIME.

"Hello Mississippi! We are here today because the people in this state are ready to rise above. And I am grateful for the time, the effort, the support and the prayers that so many of you have given to this campaign."

-Mike Espy

WE NEED YOUR HELP TO MAKE THIS HAPPEN. DO NOT FORGET TO **VOTE ON TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 27TH!**



WWW.ESPYFORSENATE.COM

PAID FOR BY THE MIKE ESPY FOR SENATE CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE

JCPTA Mock Elections

On Tuesday, October 23, all 9th-12th grade students across the Jackson Public School district participated in mock elections in each of seven high schools in JPS.

The Jackson Council PTA hosted the event as part of a 6-week civic engagement plan that included voter education and voter registration. The JCPTA youth ambassadors in each school were responsible for

coordinating efforts in their schools to engage their peers in the voting process.

Over 4000 JPS students cast sample ballots; and the day ended with a watch party where student ambassadors engaged in conversations with members of the JPS Board of Trustees, principals and NAACP President and CEO Derrick Johnson. The mock election process was

hosted by the Jackson Council PTA and made possible by partnerships with Jackson Public Schools, Hinds County Election Commission, Hinds County Circuit Clerk, NAACP Jackson Branch, One Voice and Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc-Jackson Alumnae Chapter.

Local sponsors are Sugar's Place, Farish Street Community of Shalom and Central UM Church.



Unique designs of Forest Hill art students to adorn ‘Mississippi Tree’ at National Christmas Tree Lighting

Mississippi Link Newswire

Forest Hill High School is one of 56 secondary schools across the country selected to create one-of-a-kind ornaments for the 2018 National Christmas Tree Lighting experience. Only one school per state is selected for this national honor. The Forest Hill art students produced 24 ornaments that they will send to the National Park Service. Their handiwork will adorn the tree representing the state of Mississippi as part of the America Celebrates display.

“The best part of the experience was watching my scholars work together,” said teacher Renna Moore. “By pooling their strengths, multiple scholars had a hand in the completion of each individual ornament. The strongest drawers drew out the designs, the best painters worked on detail work, others filled in where needed. It was officially a group effort.”

“The ornaments were designed to show images of Mississippi writers, artists, musicians and local landmarks and symbols,” said Brittany Bradley, a senior art student at Forest Hill. “This lets people see the creativity of Mississippi. It was an honor to work on this. I really enjoyed painting them.”

“Being a part of the process was an amazing experience,” said junior Ashley Thurman. “I am grateful to have been given the opportunity to have the work of my Forest Hill art class



Student artists from Forest Hill High School holding the Christmas ornaments they created are (alphabetically by last name): Travis Adams; Brianna Ard; Torrieze Bell; Brittany Bradley; Makayla Calvin; Breunna Collins; Michaela Dennis ; Nattyanna Evans; Petagay Evans; Mario Jackson; Michaela Jacobs; Ty'Mya Kelly; De'Lonte Lewis; Candace Mayfield ; Nicolas Milton; JaKaylin Rand; Jocelyn Reese; Jada Robinson; Ashley Thurman; Nancy Trejo; Selah Tucker; Edgardo Urbano-Areola; and Kyra Williams. All students are not pictured.

displayed on a national level.”

The National Park Service and the U.S. Department of Education worked with state art and education agencies to identify the schools invited to participate.

Moore and her students have earned regional and national art awards in recent years. She has helped to shape the talent of dozens of art prodigies in her five years at the school. Both Bradley and Thurman were

2018 Mississippi Scholastic Art Gold Key winners. Two of Moore’s students have won the Scholastic Art National Gold Medal Award in back-to-back years. In 2018, Brandon Minor (class of 2018) won the award for a mixed media work titled “Speak, Hear, See.” The year before, Jeremy Donahue (class of 2017) was awarded the National Gold Medal Award for a work entitled “Man Eater.” Donahue was also the 2016-2017

overall winner for the state of Mississippi in the Youth Art Month “Flags Across America” Design competition. The 2017-2018 state winner was Candace Mayfield, a current Forest Hill art student and one of the participants in the ornament design project. Donahue’s and Mayfield’s winning designs were made into flags and displayed at the annual conventions of the National Art Education Association (NAEA) for the years



Forest Hill art teacher Renna Moore helps a student with an ornament destined for the National Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony.

they won.

The NAEA presented Moore the 2018 Mississippi Art Educator Award. The award honors outstanding NAEA members from each state or province association whose service and contribution to art education merits recognition and acclaim. Most recently, Moore was recognized by Ask for More Jackson and the Community Foundation of Greater Jackson as a 2018 Outstanding Educator of the Year.

The 96th Annual National Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony will take place November 28. The National Christmas Tree is surrounded by 56 six-foot trees representing each U.S. state, district and territory as part of the America Celebrates display. These trees are decorated with ornaments created by students across the country. About 1,500 middle and high school students participated this year.

Senator Roger Wicker announces passing of ‘JROTC Act’ during Visit to Jim Hill High

Mississippi Link Newswire

U.S. Senator Roger Wicker visited Jim Hill High School October 23. He met with the cadets and instructors of the school’s JROTC unit and shared that legislation he authored last May had been signed into law and would add JROTC programs to more communities.

“I enjoyed meeting with the JROTC cadets and instructors at Jim Hill High School and hearing firsthand how this program has benefited not only these students, but also the entire community,” Wicker said. “I am proud to be the author of the JROTC Act, which will expand this successful program to more schools, particularly in the areas where it will have the greatest impact.”

Earlier this year, Wicker introduced a bill in Congress aimed at expanding JROTC to include 100 more programs in rural and underserved areas. The JROTC Act – short for JROTC Opportunities for Transformational Change Act – was passed by Congress in August and signed into law in September. As a result, funding for JROTC increased by nearly \$10 million. This funding will support about 150 new JROTC units across the country.

Wicker credited the proven success of the JROTC program in JPS as his inspiration for pursuing new funding to support more programs.

Jackson Public Schools serves more than 1,000 students enrolled in the JROTC units at all seven of its high

schools. The graduation rate of its cadets is about 95 percent. As City Councilman Ashby Foote pointed out in a *Clarion-Ledger* guest column, that’s higher than both the state and the national high school graduation rates. There is also an above 90 percent acceptance rate for JROTC graduates to institutions of higher education. Collectively, the program’s graduates receive millions of dollars in scholarships on an annual basis.

The JPS JROTC Program is the largest in the state of Mississippi and among the largest in the region. JPS JROTC cadets are exposed to the ideals of leadership, character development and citizenship training throughout their time in the program.



Also attending the announcement were Virgil Lindsey, Jackson City Council member, Ward 6; Jeanne M. Hairston, JPS School Board president; Jean Listen, accompanying Charles Tillman; Shonda Allen, associate director, Interdisciplinary Nanotoxicity Center, Jackson State University; Ashby Foote, Jackson City Council member, Ward 1; Steve Guyton, Office of Senator Roger Wicker and Congressman Gregg Harper; Col. (Ret.) Paul Wills, director of Army Instruction, JPS; Maj. (Ret.) Frank Branch, Jim Hill High; Lt. Col. (Ret.) Raymond Leonard, senior army instructor, Jim Hill High; Charles Tillman, Jackson City Council member, Ward 4; Dr. Jerzy Leszczynski, Director, Interdisciplinary Nanotoxicity Center, Jackson State University; Sam Kursar, assistant principal, Jim Hill High; and Edwin Butler, JROTC Bureau director, Mississippi Department of Education.

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Hinds CC Student VOICES meet legislators at annual luncheon



Student VOICES members Addison Bridges of Clinton, Brittany Ellis of Pearl, Nadia Tompkins of Byram with Raymond Campus math instructor and sponsor Jeff Hughes of Terry.

The Mississippi Link Newswire

Members of Hinds Community College’s Student VOICES class were among those who met with legislators at the annual Oct. 30 Legislative luncheon. Student VOICES is a state-wide organization designed to

empower community college students to become civically engaged at the local, state, national and global levels. One of their missions is to support community college efforts toward fair and equitable funding at the state level.

As Mississippi’s largest community college, Hinds Community College is a comprehensive institution offering quality, affordable educational opportunities with academic programs of study leading to seamless university transfer and career

and technical programs teaching job-ready skills. With six locations in central Mississippi, Hinds enrolls about 12,000 students each fall semester. To learn more, visit www.hindscc.edu or call 1.800.HindsCC.

Hinds CC to hold Veterans Day program to honor those who served

The Mississippi Link Newswire

Hinds Community College plans to salute veterans who served in the U.S. armed forces during a special program Nov. 12. The Salute to Veterans program, hosted by the college’s Office of Veterans Services, is at 11

a.m. at the Muse Center on the Rankin Campus and will bring together many who served in various branches of the military for fellowship and reflection. The Brio Choir and junior ROTC students from Brandon High School will be featured,

as well as ROTC units from Pearl, Pelahatchie, Richland and McLaurin high schools. Pelahatchie High School JROTC will present the colors. The keynote speaker is Stanley Whitfield, a retired Air Force pilot and former commercial airline

pilot. He is also a retired district director of Aviation Technology at Hinds. Information tables will be available for veterans on an array of social services, including opportunities for continuing education at Hinds.

I N M E M O R I A M

Funeral services scheduled for Jayla Gray Justus Reed

The Mississippi Link Newswire

Alcorn State University sophomore Jayla Alexandria Gray will be laid to rest during her homegoing service this weekend. The Celebration of Life services for Gray will be held Saturday, Nov. 10, at 11 a.m. at Cade Chapel Missionary Baptist Church, located on 1000 W Ridgeway St. in Jackson, Mississippi. Visitation will be held Friday, Nov. 9, at the Jackson Memorial Funeral Services, located at 922 Woodrow Wilson Ave, from 5 to 7 p.m. Gray will be laid to rest at Garden Memorial Park on 8001 Highway 49 in Jackson. Gray is remembered fondly by those who knew her as a genuine spirit who was always ready to lend a helping hand. Daniel Stallworth, a student at Alcorn and one of Gray’s friends, remembers her as someone who would brighten his day when he was in a bad mood. “She was my friend,” said Stallworth. “I could tell her anything. She always knew how to make me laugh and smile through any situation. I



Reed

admired our friendship.” Interim President Donzell Lee offered his condolences to Gray’s loved ones on behalf of the university. “Jayla’s passing has touched so many because of her fun-

loving and vibrant spirit,” said Lee. “She was an incredibly smart and caring individual who captured the hearts of everyone who knew her. Alcorn thanks the Gray family for sharing Jayla with us and will

keep them and her friends in our prayers.” The university is offering and will continue to provide counseling and support services to the Alcorn community throughout their time of need.

Sumner Hill counselor is MS School Counselor of the Year



Cory Uselton, superintendent of the DeSoto County School District and president of the Mississippi Association of School Administrators, presents the Mississippi School Counselor of the Year award to Sumner Hill Junior High School counselor Heather Norton.

The Mississippi Link Newswire

Sumner Hill Junior High School counselor Heather Norton is Mississippi’s School Counselor of the Year. She received the award in October during the Mississippi Association of School Administrators conference and awards luncheon. The award is given through the Mississippi Counseling Association. Norton is the counselor for Clinton’s ninth-grade school, and in this role she plans programs and activities including the annual Commitment to Graduate Ceremony, All Pro Dads, the Peer Guidance Committee, Coffee Talks for parents and more. “Heather is like the Energizer Bunny,” said CHS Career Complex counselor Lisa Lann. “She never stops. She is up and down the halls, calling parents, counseling students, assisting teachers and administrators. She is totally focused and devoted to serving students from the time she enters her school until she leaves.” MCA School Counselor of the Year is open to all school counselors across the state of Mississippi who are members

of the Mississippi Counseling Association. Applicants from various school levels apply in September before a committee reviews the application packets and selects the one school counselor in the state to be named the MCA School Counselor of the Year. The MCA School Counselor of the Year is a professional who has exemplified the positive impact school counselors can have on student growth and achievement through the delivery of a comprehensive school counseling program that focuses on academic development, social/ emotional development and college and career readiness. This MCA SCOY then represents the state of Mississippi in the application process for the American School Counselor Association School Counselor of the Year competition. “It is impossible to be around Heather and not be personally influenced to be a better counselor and provide the best services to students,” Lann said. “The individual attention she provides to more than 400 students is remarkable.”

CLINTON HIGH SCHOOL 2018-2019 ARROW BASKETBALL SCHEDULE *-Denotes District Game						
Date	Opponent	Location	JVG	JVB	VG	VB
Nov. 1	Gentry	Away		5:00	6:00	7:30
Nov. 6	Florence	Home			6:00	7:30
Nov. 8	Magee	Home	4:00	5:00	6:00	7:30
Nov. 13	Terry	Away	4:00	5:00	6:00	7:30
Nov. 15	Wingfield	Away			6:00	7:30
Nov. 19	Columbus	Warren Central				5:30
Nov. 20	Vicksburg	Away	4:00	5:00	6:00	7:30
Nov. 24	Holmes Co. Central	Touslog				12:00
Nov. 27	McComb	Home			6:00	7:30
Nov. 30	Raymond	Home	4:00	5:00	6:00	7:30
Dec. 4	Brandon	Home	4:00	5:00	6:00	7:30
Dec. 8	Pearl Cancer Classic	Pearl			TBA	
Dec. 11	Pearl	Away	4:00	5:00	6:00	7:30
Dec. 14	Madison Central	Home		5:00	6:00	7:30
Dec. 21	Philadelphia	Away			4:00	5:30
Dec. 22	Titan Shootout	Ridgeland			9:00	10:30
Dec. 27	Pearl Shootout	Pearl			12:30	5:00
Dec. 28	Pearl Shootout	Pearl			9:30	5:00
Jan. 4	Germantown	Home	4:00	5:00	6:00	7:30
Jan. 5	Meridian Classic	Meridian			TBA	
Jan. 8	Warren Central*	Away		5:00	6:00	7:30
Jan. 11	Greenville*	Away	4:00	5:00	6:00	7:30
Jan. 15	Northwest Rankin	Away		5:00	6:00	7:30
Jan. 18	Yazoo City	Away		5:00	6:00	7:30
Jan. 19	MLK Classic	Lanier				TBA
Jan. 21	MLK Classic	Lanier			TBA	
Jan. 22	Provine*	Home			6:00	7:30
Jan. 25	Greenville*	Home	4:00	5:00	6:00	7:30
Jan. 29	Warren Central*	Home		5:00	6:00	7:30
Feb. 1	Provine*	Away			6:00	7:30
Feb. 5	Vicksburg District	Home	4:00	5:00	6:00	7:30
Feb. 11-15	Tournament	Clinton			TBA	TBA
Feb. 18,19	First Round of Playoffs	TBA			TBA	TBA
Feb. 22, 23	Second Round of Playoffs	TBA			TBA	TBA
Feb. 25,26	Third Round of Playoffs	TBA			TBA	TBA
March 1-9	State Tournament	MG Coliseum			TBA	TBA

Mission MS celebrates 25 years of reconciliation and racial healing

Mississippi Link Newswire

Mission Mississippi will host “Living Reconciled: Mission Mississippi’s 25th Anniversary Celebration” November 8 at the Jackson Convention Complex. Individual tickets are \$100 each. Tickets and sponsorship may be purchased online at www.MissionMississippi.org or by calling 601 353-6477. Students, with valid student ID, may attend at no charge.

Neddie Winters, president of Mission Mississippi stated, “As we look forward to the next twenty-five years, we are engaging champions to continue to work toward fulfilling the vision of seeing Christians living out the grace of the gospel from one generation to the next.”

Participating panelists include: Justice Dawn Beam, Samuel Bolen, Diann Payne, Donavon Thigpen, Cade Smith, Robert Johnson, Scott

Thomas and Rodney Francis.

What: Living Reconciled: Mission Mississippi’s 25th Anniversary Celebration

When: Thursday, November 8, 2018. Summit at 4 p.m. Banquet at 6:30 p.m.

Where: Jackson Convention Complex, 105 E Pascagoula Street, Jackson, MS

Why: Mission Mississippi encourages Mississippians to live reconciled and help end racial division.

About Mission Mississippi

Mission Mississippi has been leading the way in reconciliation and racial healing in Mississippi for the past 25 years. Our model is to bring people together to build relationships across racial lines so they can work together to better their communities.

Visit Jackson scores International Award - Innovative Influencer Campaign

The Mississippi Link Newswire

“City with Soul”

Visit Jackson has been awarded a silver medal in the international HSMAI Adrian Awards. The honor was bestowed on the destination marketing organization for its new “influencer marketing” campaign. Visit Jackson will officially receive the award at the organization’s annual gala January 22, 2019 in New York City.

The Adrian Awards are produced by the Hospitality and Sales Marketing Association International (HSMAI). 2018 is the first year that the awards program included an “influencer campaign” category.

“We’re really excited to have received recognition for our influencer marketing efforts this early into its existence,” said Jonathan Pettus, vice president of marketing for Visit Jackson. 2018 is the first year Visit Jackson invested in an influencer marketing program.

The HSMAI Adrian Awards receives over 1,200 entries every year from destination marketing campaigns across the globe. Judging criteria include considerations for the creative quality of campaign content, as well as innovative and strategic im-

plementation of campaign delivery.

“The City with Soul is blessed with a diversity of hospitality assets that are frankly perfect for promotion through social platforms,” said Rickety Thigpen, interim president & CEO of Visit Jackson. “Couple this with our existing digital assets, such as our documentary series, and you have the building blocks for what proved to be a very successful influencer-based outreach effort.”

The campaign resulted in over 22 million impressions and over 243,000 engagements among 2.7 million potential Visit Jackson audience members. This equates to nearly \$180,000 in marketing value, more than six-times the actual cost of the campaign.

An “influencer campaign” engages highly followed social media personalities to experience and post about specific aspects of interests. Travel and tourism oriented social content make up one of the most followed interest sectors in social media.

The HSMAI Adrian Awards are in its 62nd year and recognize hospitality brands and agencies for creativity and innovation in advertising, digital marketing and public relations.

Operation Shoestring to celebrate its Golden Anniversary with time-honored conversation about community event and concert



The Mississippi Link Newswire

Operation Shoestring will celebrate its 50-year legacy of service to students and families in central Jackson with its annual Conversation About Community Friday, November 16, at the Jackson Convention Complex from 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

The event will include an opening plenary breakfast, a series of interactive workshops and Operation Shoestring’s signature Conversation About Community luncheon – featuring award-winning author and creator of the #HipHopEd move-

ment, Christopher Emdin.

The organization will also host the Rise to the Future concert at the Mississippi Museum of Art from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m., featuring performances of songs from and inspired by 1968 by local artists.

Who: Operation Shoestring

What: Conversation About Community

When: Friday, November 16, 2018, from 8:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Where: Jackson Convention Complex

Registration is available at www.operationshoestring.com.

U.S. Department of State’s International Visitor Leadership Program



Standing left to right are: (front), Amanda Masono, referendum director, Department of Peace Agreement Implementation, Papua, New Guinea; Kreshnik Spahiu, director of IT Department, Central Election Commission, Republic of Kosovo; Senator Frazier; Sachin Timalsena, national coordinator of Youth Congress in Nepal; Milton Eduardo Reyes Rodriguez, vice minister of Planning and Development Ministry of Youth, Dominican Republic; and Ruta Miliute, member of Parliament, Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania

Political leaders from around the world under the U.S. Department of State’s International Visitor Leadership Program learned more about the American electoral process November 5 at the Capitol with Senator Hillman T. Frazier, Mississippi Association of Educators Executive Director Tyrone Hendrix and Jackson City Council President Melvin Priestler Jr.

The officials also learned about the relationship between state and local governments.

Growing Up Knowing recipient of \$150,000 Hardin Foundation grant



GROWING UP KNOWING

The Phil Hardin FOUNDATION

Mississippi Link Newswire

Growing Up Knowing, a nonprofit that works with young people and their families to address issues of sexual health and abuse prevention, will receive a \$150,000 grant from The Phil Hardin Foundation.

The three-year grant, to be disbursed in annual increments of \$50,000 beginning in 2019, is designed to help Growing Up Knowing build capacity and expand its programming, primarily in the Jackson and Meridian areas. The Hardin Foundation Board of Directors approved the grant at its October meeting.

“Growing Up Knowing takes a unique approach to sex education, including abuse prevention, by directly involving parents with their children in honest, open discussions about sexuality and sexual health in ways that are medically sound and proven effective,” said Lloyd Gray, executive director of The Phil Hardin Foundation. “We are impressed with what they’ve already done in a few short years in working with middle schoolers to prevent teenage pregnancy and more recently with abuse prevention for younger children. The Hardin Foundation is excited about our partnership to help Growing Up Knowing expand and sustain its good work with schools, congregations, and

community organizations in addressing these far too prevalent problems in Mississippi.”

Growing Up Knowing implements their two preventative, evidence-based programs with youth and their parents or caregivers. In the comprehensive sex education program, middle schoolers and their families learn how to make healthier life decisions in a safe, trusting environment. This interactive, eight-hour program teaches families facts about reproduction and sexually transmitted infections, the consequences of risky sexual behavior, pregnancy prevention (abstinence and contraception), how to resist peer pressure, and better communication skills between teens and parents/caregivers.

My Body, My Boundaries, for elementary schoolers and their families, provides the knowledge and tools children need to stay safe and grow into healthy individuals. This one-hour, one-time program inspires ongoing conversations at home by teaching children how to correctly name body parts, recognize physical boundaries, say “NO” to abuse and bullying, and report abuse to trusted adults. My Body, My Boundaries has also been translated to Spanish.

“We are so grateful to The Hardin Foundation for believing in our crucial

work and partnering with us to positively impact more Mississippi families. I have seen firsthand how Growing Up Knowing’s programs

influence young people’s lives – whether it be a teenager and mother better able to communicate with each other, an elementary schooler confiding in a trusted adult about abuse, or a teen truly comprehending the consequences of engaging in risky sexual behavior,” said Dana Larkin, executive director of Growing Up Knowing. “We are thrilled about this next step in Growing Up Knowing’s journey and cannot wait to form new partnerships and engage more families in Jackson and Meridian.”

The Phil Hardin Foundation, based in Meridian, is a statewide education philanthropy established in 1964 by the owner of Hardin’s Bakeries. It will disburse approximately \$2.8 million in grant payments in 2018 to in-school, afterschool, early childhood and other educational institutions and initiatives throughout the state, with special emphasis on Meridian and Lauderdale County.

If you are interested in learning more about Growing Up Knowing or partnering to implement a program, please visit our website, www.growingupknowing.org, or contact Dana Larkin.

Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Mississippi to Dedicate Seventh Habitat Home on November 9

Mississippi Link Newswire

Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Mississippi and Habitat for Humanity Mississippi Capital Area (HFHMCA) will dedicate a home for a local family as part of a Covenant Build project. Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Mississippi’s dedicated employee volunteer program, Team Blue, provided 100 percent of the volunteer labor for the project which began in August and was completed in October. Team Blue volunteers, along with Habitat for Humanity construction professionals, worked on Saturdays throughout the build process on the home for Yolanda Brinston and

her two children.

The homeowner, volunteers from Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Mississippi and HFHMCA Board members and staff will join together at 12:00 noon on November 9, 2018 to dedicate the home located at 2966 Smith Robinson Street in Jackson.

“I am very excited to have BCB-SMS sponsor my build,” Brinston said. “They are the best! This is a fresh start for me and my children.”

“Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Mississippi is honored to partner with organizations like Habitat for Humanity that share in our vision of a healthy

future for our state and support people in transforming their lives in positive, healthy ways,” said Sheila Grogan, vice president, community and public relations with Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Mississippi. “Our desire is to support individuals in making healthy choices for themselves and their families in every aspect of life.”

To learn more about Team Blue and Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Mississippi’s community involvement, visit www.bcbSMS.com. For more information about Habitat for Humanity Mississippi Capital Area, please call 601-353-6060 or visit www.habitatmca.org.

A Wrinkle in Time: Deceased Montford Point Marine awarded Congressional Gold Medal



Towanda C. Lee of Mechanicsville cries as she and her brother, Damon R. Charity, right, receive the Congressional Gold Medal for their father, the late Sgt. Herman Russell Charity Sr., who was one of the nation's Montford Point Marines. Retired Master Sgt. Forest E. Spencer Jr., left, presented the award. PHOTO: SANDRA SELLARS/RICHMOND FREE PRESS

By Vanessa Remmers
TriceEdneyWire.com

Towanda C. Lee's father left many stories untold. He was a man of few words, she said. And when she was a child, she simply ignored his old war tales.

It wasn't until after he died in January 1991 that Lee discovered documents stowed in the basement that shed light on his hidden history.

Her father, Herman Russell Charity Sr., a lifelong Richmond resident, was among a pioneering group of African-American U.S. Marine Corps members known as the Montford Point Marines, and he was eligible to receive the highest civilian honor bestowed by Congress.

Last Sunday, Lee dissolved into tears when retired Master Sgt. Forest E. Spencer Jr., national president of the Montford Point Marine Association, arrived at her Mechanicsville home and cracked open a velvet blue box to reveal a Congressional Gold Medal being awarded posthumously to Charity.

Lee and her brother, Damon R. Charity, also were presented a certificate of recognition from the association, a nonprofit military veterans organization begun to memorialize the historic contributions of the first African Americans to serve in the Marine Corps. "He would have been so proud," Lee whispered of her dad as she stared at the medal and wiped away tears.

"My father would have been so proud of this. He wouldn't have said anything, but he would have been so proud," Lee said.

"This is unbelievable. I just want to thank you all so much for ... bestowing this honor on our father and making sure that everyone knows about the Montford Point Marines. Just like the Tuskegee Airmen, the Montford Point Marines are right there with them."

In November 2011, President Obama signed legislation directing the Congressional Gold Medal be given to all Montford Point Marines, a group of about 20,000 men who were trained between 1942 and 1949 at the segregated camp in Jacksonville, N.C.

In June 1941, under the threat of a major march in Washington by African Americans protesting being shut out of war jobs with gov-

ernment agencies and contractors, President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed an executive order banning such employment discrimination.

The presidential directive also enabled African Americans to join the Marine Corps. But the Marine Corps segregated these newly enlisted Marines and sent them to basic training at a facility outside Camp Lejeune in North Carolina known as Camp Montford Point.

Traditionally, Marines were sent to boot camps at Parris Island, S.C. or in San Diego, Calif., association officials said.

These initial African-American Marines were assigned laborious duties to essentially build the new facility, transforming the land from thick pine forest with mosquitoes and snakes into Camp Montford Point, according to the association.

Less than a year after the first African-American recruits reported to Montford Point, Charity enlisted as a stated 18-year-old. But Lee and the family would later learn that Charity falsely made himself older on his enlistment documents so that he could become a Marine.

He was trained as an electronic stockman, but served as a munitions worker. He would later serve in the Asia Pacific from December 1943 to December 1945.

Lee's family photos include one of a young Charity not long after he joined the Marine Corps in 1943. The family had it retouched in preparation for the ceremony.

The original photo was signed to Lee's mother, Edna Henry Charity, who her father affectionately called "Mutt."

"Despite being denied many basic rights, the Montford Point Marines committed to serve our country with selfless patriotism," President Obama wrote in a 2011 letter to all Montford Point Marines in celebration of their congressional recognition. "Choosing to put their lives on the line, these men helped advance civil rights and influenced President Harry Truman's decision to desegregate the Armed Forces in 1948."

Since the legislation's passage, the Montford Point Marine Association has recognized many of these Marines whose stories, association officials said, have largely been buried.

"It's still alarming that Marines past and present, and most Ameri-

cans today, are not aware of the Montford Point Marines and the importance of their service in the Marine Corps," said Carmen Cole, a retired Marine chief warrant officer and president of the Quantico Chapter #32 of the Montford Point Marine Association, who participated in the ceremony.

"These great warriors ... are who we consider barrier-breaking American heroes whose shoulders we stand on, because without them, African Americans would not have had the opportunity to serve in the Marine Corps."

Muster and payroll records indicate that some African Americans served in the Marines as far back as the Revolutionary War, but weren't followed by others of their race until June 1942, according to the Montford Point Marine Association.

Officials also noted that the Montford Point Marines were assigned to only two units, neither of which saw combat during World War II. Eventually, the segregated units were disbanded or integrated with all-white units following President Truman's order ending racial discrimination in the armed services.

However, many of the Montford Point Marines acknowledged their mixed feelings of pride and bitterness as they fought to defend a country that continued to deny basic rights to African Americans.

Lee said she would give anything now to hear her father tell his story about being a Montford Point Marine. She said a chance conversation with a Marine at a family reunion led her to ask more about her father's military history.

She said the Marine suggested that her father may have been a Montford Point Marine, something she and her siblings had never heard of, Lee said. She dug through documents in albums and others tucked away in her basement. They were sent off to Quantico, and officials confirmed her father's status.

She agreed with Spencer that she now has a duty to spread her father's otherwise hidden story.

"This is not a February story; this is a 365-day story. This is American history," Spencer said. "The responsibility now is to share this with the community."

Part two of two-part series: Private facility offers clues for rethinking dtubborn challenges in U.S. incarceration



Ninety-four inmates in the Continuum of Care Program at the Graceville Correctional Center in Jackson County, Florida have earned their GEDs this year alone.

By Hazel Trice Edney
TriceEdneyWire.com

The NAACP Legal Defense and Education Fund has described the U. S. government's use of for-profit private prisons as "an embarrassing and degrading stain on our democracy." The organization contends "the maintenance and treatment of those who the state assigns to incarceration is the responsibility of the state, not private entities, and especially not those driven by a profit motive."

On purely economic or commercial terms, the concept of a for-profit prison appears to encourage mass incarceration and therefore more injustice, the key issues fueling angst against the private prison industry. In fact, the private companies are not fueling the incarceration. Rather, they are contracted by federal and state governments to grapple with it. One such company appears to have discovered at least part of the solution — a part that manages both prison populations and recidivism.

Derrick D. Schofield, Ph.D., executive vice president, Continuum of Care (COC) and Reentry Services at GEO Care, a private prison operator, underscores that the firm "does not go looking for prisoners" but simply serves clients. Those clients are federal and state governments, which facilities are sometimes inadequately staffed and/or overcrowded.

Scholars have identified several factors that largely account for the growing prison population. Those factors include enduring economic injustice and racial profiling. It also includes "get-tough-on-crime," "zero tolerance" and so-called "war on drugs" laws enacted in the 1990s.

In this regard, aggressive prosecutors are not only better funded than public defenders but also have incentives to be seen as hard on crime by the public who pays their salaries and — in some instances — who elects them. Therefore, people convicted of non-violent crimes have often been sent to prison under draconian "mandatory minimum" sentences that essentially ties the hands of judges who sends them away to correctional institutions.

"This service is going to be provided by government or private agencies," says Adam Hasner, executive vice president for public policy for the GEO Group, Inc. "The question is who can do it better? Who can get better results? Who's returning citizens back to the community more prepared to be successful?"

Hasner says 94 COC inmates at GEO's Graceville Correctional Center in Jackson County, Florida have earned their GEDs this year alone.

"I was in special ed my whole life," said one COC program inmate. "I've had nothing but support since I've been here."

Another, on track for release in just a few months, says he has been imprisoned for more than 30 years. "I'm not in here for being good," he says wryly. But when he came in, he says he was "functionally illiterate." Now, "I finally got my GED... It raised my self-esteem. It helped me to change my thinking; helped me to believe in myself more... You're not just a body, but a mind too."

Yet another recalls his period of incarceration under a public Department of corrections. "They just park you in there and store you like cattle," he said.

The steady increase in the percentage of the U.S. population behind bars in recent decades, especially the disproportionate percentage of African-American and Hispanic inmates, is also deeply enmeshed with America's history of slavery.

Therefore, regardless of the hope that such changes might portend for U.S. incarceration practices, many civil rights leaders, human rights advocates and policy makers remain staunchly opposed to the concept of private prisons.

Khalil Abdullah, a former executive director of the National Black Caucus of State Legislators (NBCSL) who once conducted extensive research on private prisons for NBCSL, is emphatic: "No one should profit from the incarceration or warehousing of another human being." Invoking the horrific transport of enslaved Africans to the West Indies, Abdullah calls private prisons the "third middle passage." In his view and the views of others, this issue transcends discussions about GEDs, addiction counseling and better food. For Abdullah, the question is not only why public prisons are establishing the necessary programs, but this: "What's the moral principle at play here?"

The moral objections to the very concept of for-profit prisons has fueled lawsuits by human rights groups alleging atrocities, including ICE (Immigration and Customs Enforcement) detainees making as little as \$1 an hour while in their facilities. GEO recently threatened to sue one such group, Florida-based Dream Defenders, for liable. But the ACLU contends that the civil rights group remains within legal bounds.

Though privately owned and privately run prisons were not established to remedy America's historic and enduring racial inequality or to revamp the American criminal justice system, the success of GEO Care and other companies in shifting from punishment to rehabilitation appears to offer lessons across the penal system. By helping inmates address addiction, develop meaningful skills needed by employers, and by dealing with some of the psychological and emotional disorders that can lead to repeated criminal behavior, GEO Care has decreased recidivism rates. These innovations alone could gradually change the racial disparities in prison population; therefore benefit society as a whole.

"There is a big difference in what the state is attempting to do and what we're doing," says Wilton Cloud, Graceville's assistant warden of programs, who retired from Florida's Department of Corrections where he spent the last 10 years as an assistant warden.

He recalled a recent conversation with a former participant in the COC program. "He thanked us for the program. He said he's got a good shot now. He's got custody of his kids, he's got a job — and that was just like last week," Cloud said.

Overburdened state departments of corrections and overcrowded prisons are often unable to do anything but warehouse inmates. With an inmate population that has tripled more than twice since 1970, overcrowding is now epidemic. The U.S. Justice Department has issued deeply disturbing reports about maintenance, security and services as state budgets fail to keep pace with the increased inmate population.

As a result, many correctional institutions now struggle to meet minimal health and safety standards, with plumbing and ventilation systems being the most susceptible to breakdowns. What little money is earmarked for maintenance is often diverted to fill operational shortfalls due largely to overcrowding. Treatment for addictions, counseling, educational programs and job training are lacking in many systems and recidivism rates are high.

Take heed to God’s Word

P A R T 2

By Pastor Simeon R. Green III
Special to The Mississippi Link



Joshua spoke of being old and stricken in age. Age has an effect upon the physical body, but sin has a destructive effect upon the body and the soul. The Psalmist cried in Psalm 37:25, “I have been young, and now am old; yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread.”

Because children starve today, as they did in David’s time, what did David mean by these words? The children of the righteous need not go hungry because other believers can help out in their time of need. In David’s day, Israel obeyed God’s laws that ensured that the poor were treated fairly and mercifully.

As long as Israel was obedient, there was enough food for everyone. When Israel forgot God, the rich took care only of themselves, and the poor suffered.

Even though Joshua’s body was stricken with old age, he still had a zest and a zeal for people to continue in the good way. Even though he was too

old to go out and conquer enemies as he once did, he wanted people to know that God was just the same, and they should put their faith and confidence in Him.

Friend, there is nothing good to look forward to in sin. Even though it might seem enjoyable, sin will destroy you. If you live long enough, you will get old, but you do not have to be captivated by sin. Sin is as much a threat to the young as it is to the old. I believe it is an even greater threat to the young because they tend to be careless and reckless.

Sin’s destructive power is sure if one lives long enough in it. Sin, when it is finished, will take full control of an individual. You may even laugh and make a mockery of sin. Proverbs 14:9 says, “Fools make a mock at sin.” They laugh at the sins of others. Fools make a mock of sin and take it lightly. We need to fear God. If you keep company with the wrong crowd and do what they do just to fit in, the devil will have control of you soon. Sin is nothing to laugh about; it is nothing to take lightly. “Sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death.”

Sin is a terrible thing. The Psalmist cried out in Psalm 119:133, “Order my steps in thy word: and let not any iniquity have dominion over me.” Psalm 119:9 says, “Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? By taking thereto according to thy word.” We are drowning in a sea of impurity.

Everywhere we look we find temptation to lead impure lives. The Psalmist asked a question that troubles us all: how do we stay pure in a filthy environment? We cannot do this on our own, but must have counsel and strength more dynamic than the tempting influences around us. How can we find that strength and wisdom? By reading God’s Word and doing what it says.

Young person if you want to have your life cleansed and want to have a good chance in life; let the Word of God guide you and establish you in good things of God. God is good!

The Apostle Paul said in Romans 15:4, “For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope.” If you are unsaved, I trust that you will

learn from the Scriptures and gain a hope of eternal life by giving up a career of sin, because sin is out to destroy you.

I am grateful for the things that are written in the Word, and I encourage people to spend time reading the Word. It gives insight into what God expects and requires of us in this life.

We sing a song entitled “Sin can never enter there.” It reads: *“Heaven is a holy place, filled with Glory and with Grace: Sin can never enter there; all within its gates are pure, from defilement kept secure, sin can never enter there. If you hope to dwell at last, when your life on earth is past, in that home so bright and fair, you must here be cleansed from sin, have the life of Christ within – sin can never enter there. Sin can never enter there, sin can never enter there; so if at the judgment bar sinful spots your soul shall mar, you can never enter there.”*

Rev. Simeon R. Green III is pastor of Joy nes Road Church of God, 31 Joy nes Road, Hampton VA 23669. He is a member of the National Association of Evangelism Church of God, Anderson, Ind.

Healthy Churches 2020 National Conference – A national multi-platform initiative bringing public health and faith together

The Mississippi Link Newswire

This year, The Balm In Gilead will host its fifth annual Healthy Churches 2020 National Conference November 13-16, in Point Clear, Ala. The three-day interactive training conference brings the nation’s most prominent public health and faith leaders together to address the alarming rates of health disparities amongst African Americans.

The conference is designed to strengthen the leadership and organizational capacity of pastors, ministers, nurses and healthcare professionals, who are all vital in improving the quality of life for congregations and communities.

“The Healthy Churches 2020 National Conference is the only conference of its kind that connects faith and public health networks for sustainable results,” comments Dr. Pernessa Seele, Founder and CEO of The Balm In Gilead, Inc. “We are building networks that find solutions to the issues that are endangering our communities. The power of the faith community paired with our health professionals is the key to creating change.”

With more than 60 speakers and presenters, including Seele, founder/president of the Balm In Gilead; renowned recording artist Regina Belle; Dr. Valerie Montgomery Rice, and The Right Reverend W. Darren Moore, and many others.

For registration, hotel information and a full list of speakers and conference workshops, please visit <http://www.healthychurches2020.org>.



Moore




Rice



Seele



Belle



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The time has come

By E. Faye Williams
Trice Edney Newswire



Several of us have begun our RESPECT US campaign against the degradation of women, especially black women. We face it on a daily basis.

We just heard of a rapper insulting the First Lady of the United States. No matter what we think of her, she doesn't deserve to be humiliated simply because she is married to a person who appears to not be well. The First Lady is obviously under duress.

You see the fear in her eyes whenever she's in the presence of her husband. Being a survivor of domestic violence, I can often detect the symptoms of an abused woman. I don't think she deserves to be treated like her husband. While he is deserving of every criticism, she's not responsible for his lewd, racist, ignorant behavior.

I read a story about a woman in line at a store being yelled at and called a bitch – a word often used by gangsta rappers to refer to black women. Yet, many radio stations play to audiences aimed at the black community, paid for by many of the corporations with which we spend our dollars. They do not see the connection of the filth to the dollars being used to denigrate us.

Well, many of us have had enough. Bob Law, president of the National Black Leadership Alliance, Rabena Rasuli of Clear the Airwaves and the National Congress of Black Women, the organization for which I serve as national president, have begun to do something about it.

We're monitoring radio stations and the companies advertising on them. We ask everyone to join us in limiting the money we spend at McDonald's, Subway Restaurants, Adidas, Penny's and Kohl's until we can report that these companies are no longer making it possible for filthy music to be promoted – especially during the hours little children are listening. These companies are some of the main advertisers on urban radio stations directed at the black community.

On the other hand, they spend little or nothing on radio that has conscious or positive music. We urge them to spend money where Melba Moore, Aretha Franklin, John Legend, the new Common and people who deserve to be heard are promoting good things.

Our RESPECT US campaign is simple. Don't buy products from the companies mentioned until they withdraw their support from the offending stations and companies. Make a special effort to refrain from patronizing any of these companies on Black Friday – the day after Thanksgiving. That's not a big ask to stop the degradation of our community.

Listen to a song by Kanye West called "I Love It" and any song by Niki Minaj. They glorify gang rape, illegal drugs, deadly violence, shooting up whole neighborhoods, etc. Think about your own daughters, sisters, mothers, grandmothers. Do they deserve the degradation when black women do so much to lift up our community and our nation?

The time has come for us to demand action from our leaders to put a halt to such harmful behavior all too prevalent in our society. Behavior that leads to deliberate harm to others must be made costly, not glorified

E. Faye Williams is president of the National Congress of Black Women (www.nationalcongressbw.org) and host of WPFW FM 89.3's "Wake Up and Stay Woke."

Urban League Movement mourns Ntozake Shange, "One of the Original Conjurers of Black Girl Magic"

By Marc H. Morial
President and CEO
National Urban League



*"somebody/
anybody
sing a black
girl's song
bring her out
to know her-
self*

*to know you
but sing her rhythms
carin/ struggle/ hard times
sing her song of life
she's been dead so long
closed in silence so long
she doesn't know the sound
of her own voice
her infinite beauty
she's half-notes scattered
without rhythm/ no tune
sing her sighs
sing the song of her possibili-
ties*

*sing a righteous gospel
let her be born
let her be born
& handled warmly."*



Shange

– Ntozake Shange, for colored girls who have considered suicide/ when the rainbow is enuf

The story of the civil rights movement in America is very much the story of black women in America. Yet their stories are seldom afforded the celebration they deserve. It was into this cultural shadow that Ntozake Shange's groundbreaking work, for colored girls who have considered suicide/ when the rainbow is enuf, flashed like

a bolt of lightning in 1976.

The Urban League Movement mourns the loss of the poet and playwright, who passed away this week at the age of 70.

Just 27 years old when For Colored Girls opened on Broadway, Shange coined the term "choreopoem" to describe the combination of poetry, dance, music and song. It was only the second play by a black woman to reach Broadway, after Lorraine Hansberry's Raisin in the Sun in 1959.

It's impossible to overstate the impact of Shange's work on black girls and young women, many of whom saw their experiences reflected artistically for the first time.

"For those of us who arrived at her words, whether as young girls or fully grown women, we found an altar erected in tribute to our stories, our traumas and our particular way of

being in the world," recording artist Maiysha Kai wrote in The Root, calling Shange "One of the original conjurers of what we now know as black girl magic."

Shange was born Paulette Williams to a physician and professor of social work in Trenton, New Jersey. The Zulu name she chose as an adult, Ntozake, means "she who comes with her own things," and Shange, means "one who walks like a lion. She grew up in St. Louis and was one of the first black children to integrate the city's public schools.

She was deeply influenced as a teenager in the 1960s by the Black Arts Movement, but felt the voices of women were missing. "Sojourner Truth wasn't a big enough role model for me," she told the Village Voice. "I couldn't go around abolishing slavery."

She was the author of 15

plays, 19 poetry collections, six novels, five children's books and three essay collections.

Performing in For Colored Girls – she said she used the outdated term so her grandmother would understand – has been a right of passage for black actresses for four decades. Nominated for or winning every major theater award, it has been adapted for television and film and performed all over the world. It has been set in beauty shops and prisons, and in different historical periods.

"I write for young girls of color, for girls who don't even exist yet, so that there is something there for them when they arrive," she said. In her honor, let us all remember that we are writing, working, speaking and creating a world for the children yet to be borne so there is something here when they arrive.

Hate and horror - when does it stop?

By Julianne Malveaux
NNPA News Wire Columnist



As strange as it seems, I now view the Bush years with nostalgia. Both Big Bush (POTUS 41) and his son Shrub (POTUS 43) incurred the ire of Democrats,

with Shrub's Supreme Court-complicit theft of the 2000 election prompting anger and protests. Both Bushes, perhaps because of their love of country, comported themselves as gentlemen despite the protests. In the face of Democratic anger, they exuded civility. And why not? Each won his election, each loved the country, neither had to be mean or hateful to Democrats, people of color, immigrants, Jewish people, the GBLTQ community or anyone else. They did not budge on their ideology, neither painted their political opponents as enemies.

Fast forward. Now we have a president who lost the popular vote by 3 million. He bullied his way into the Republican nomination, doing the kind of name-calling that we'd put a 5-year-old on a timeout for. And he has blustered his way into the presidency with the same invective, hate, anger and crowd-pleasing tirades that marked his campaign. Even when he attempts to be decent, which means merely reading from the teleprompter language someone else

has drafted, he has to stop, mid-comment, to pat himself on the back and remind us that he is "being good." Really. A 70-year-old man trumpets that he is "being good" and he expects applause.

The tragedy of Trump is that his Republican allies have not condemned his nonsense because they see political gains in his "leadership." Motivated by 45, Cesar Sayoc "allegedly" mailed at least 15 pipe bombs to Democratic political figures that Trump criticized. Instead of doing the decent thing (like calling his predecessors, Presidents Obama and Clinton to pledge to use federal resources to get to the bottom of this madness), he spent time speculating that perhaps this was a Democratic set-up. Even when Sayoc, with a van emblazoned with Trump paraphernalia and anti-CNN propaganda, was caught, he had little to say to condemn the bomber. We don't know if Sayoc worked alone, or had company. We do know that Democratic leaders are being forced, now, to take precautions against insanity.

During the same week that Sayoc was arrested, October 24, a white man, Gregory Bush, 51, tried to break his way into First Baptist Church, a black church in Jeffersonton, Kentucky, a suburb of Louisville. When he failed to gain entry to the church, he went to a nearby Kroger and shot a black woman Vicki Jones, 67, in the store. Then he shot

Maurice Stellard, 69, in the parking lot, in front of his 12-year-old grandson. A white man had the possibility of shooting him to stop him, but when Bush assured the white man that "white people don't shoot white people," he let him go.

Thankfully, law enforcement officers caught him, but it took them four days to declare his crimes a hate crime. Why? Have we so normalized the shooting of black people that it is okay for an armed bigot to go into a public space and kill black people and law enforcement officials have to think about whether this is a hate crime or not?

The end of a week when hate prevailed was the occasion of the worst crime of that week. Robert Gregory Bowers, 46, entered the Tree of Life Synagogue in Pittsburgh and massacred 11 people. The oldest was a Holocaust survivor in her 90s, the youngest, a pair of disabled brothers in their 50s. Bowers has now pleaded not guilty to 44 counts of murder, attempted murder and hate crimes. Our hateful president, despite community pleading, insisted on visiting Pittsburg for a photo op (he says to pay his respects).

It is futile to think that a man who uses hateful rhetoric as his stock in trade will back down, even as it is clear that the rhetoric is working. It is pointless to think that Republicans will call him to task because they are gaining

too much from his hate. It is fruitless to think that some of the Republican white men in power – Senator Mitch McConnell, House Speaker Paul Ryan, Senator Lindsey Graham, and others – will talk to white men like Gregory Bush, Robert Gregory Bowers, and Cesar Sayoc – to explain why their actions are unacceptable. The new reality is that we have an unchecked leader who spews hate and his loyal army follows with hateful actions, whether it is assaulting people who come to his rallies, chanting ugliness or sending bombs and killing people.

The week of October 22 may have been one of the saddest weeks in our nation's recent history. It is unfortunate because of the hate spewed and the lives lost, but also because of the delayed news coverage of the Jacksontown massacres of two black people at a Kroger's store. Initially, the media failed to connect the dots, leaving many black people ready to shout, again, Black Lives Matter.

Hate is hate is hate is hate, and we have to resist it all. Republicans of conscience, where are you?

Julianne Malveaux is an author and economist. Her latest book "Are We Better Off? Race, Obama and Public Policy" is available via www.amazon.com for booking, wholesale inquiries or for more info visit www.juliannemalveaux

The Gospel of White Supremacy: America's Brewing Holy Race War

By Keith Magee
TriceEdneyWire.com



The election of Donald Trump embodies white supremacy theology that is hostile toward non-whites black – in particular black men. He began spurring flames of discord,

as the driving force of the birther movement, and also called Mexicans rapists and targeted Muslims with a travel ban. These are underpinnings of the hate of the Ku Klux Klan and a deeply seeded evangelical apocalyptic theology of a Holy Race War. It is a fact that white evangelicals voted at a rate of 81 percent for Trump.

As someone who attended Vacation Bible School, in the conservative bayou of Louisiana, one of the first songs I

remember was "Yes, Jesus Love Me." Winan United Methodist Church was the place where a white, blonde hair and blue-eyed Christ was introduced to me as the Savior of the world. This Christ and his church was a place of safety from our personal sins, the social ills on the outside, yet assuredly as a place of his love.

The fact that, in 1915, a UMC minister, William J. Simmons, played a major role in the new charter of the KKK, was either unknown or accepted by many. Simmons' first public order was consecrating their Christian morality by setting a fire to the old rugged cross atop Stone Mountain, Georgia. And yet there is an idea of racial hierarchy, embedded into religious teachings, that has been a part of our culture for over 400 years.

While confined within the chattels of

slavery, religion was an outlet that gave hope in this faith of a suffering servant. The idea was that suffering with him might make it possible to reign with him in eternity. His blood shed on the cross, was the horror of death and yet the beauty of a saving grace for all. However, it is the same symbol of the cross that is burned, as a form of intimidation, to remind black people that even this white Savior can't save them from the venom of white hate.

It seems that daily, throughout America, another black life is suffocated to death at the hands of someone, in a blue uniform, who is protected by the government. Recently, the death of Botham Jean of Dallas has created a deeper level of anger and outrage. Now it is being communicated that not only are blacks in danger while driving, but also standing

on a street corner, and in their back yard.

Muslim mothers and children have been caged like animals and Jews are being reminded of the never-ending antisemitism through the loss of 11 lives during a baby naming ceremony.

The use of religion to stoke racial strife and violence is prevalent in our societies. This past August 2018, while meeting with Evangelical Christian leaders, Donald Trump told them that there would be "violence" if Republicans lost their majority in Congress, as a result of November's mid-term elections.

Dr. Keith Magee is a public intellectual, theologian and social justice scholar. He is Senior Fellow in Culture and Justice, University College London, England. For more information visit www.4justicesake.org or follow him at @keithlmagee.

Falls in the elderly - a leading health concern

By Glenn Ellis
TriceEdneyWire.com



If you or an older person you know has fallen, you're not alone.

According to the CDC, one out of every five falls causes a serious injury requiring some form of hospitalization. Falls are also the most common cause of traumatic brain injury, or TBI, among the elderly. With nearly 800,000 people hospitalized per year for a serious injury sustained as the result of a fall, senior falls are now one of the leading health concerns for our aging population.

In the United States, more than one-third of adults 65 and older fall each year. About 5.8 million people in this age group fell at least once during a recent 3-month period. Besides injuries caused by senior falls, the simple fear of falling can impact the lives of seniors by causing a reduction in their level of activity. This in turn leads to a decline in mobility and physical fitness, which can increase the actual risk of another fall.

Senior falls account for many injuries and even deaths, and the risk can be significantly reduced by using fall prevention practices or implementing a fall prevention program. Additionally, a lack of muscle tone and stamina that occurs with older age can cause poor balance. Poor eyesight or dimly lit hallways, bathrooms and stairwells are also big causes of senior falls.

The fear of falling becomes more common as people age, even among those who haven't fallen. It may lead older people to avoid activities such as walking, shopping, or taking part in social activities.

Many things can cause a fall. Your eyesight, hearing and reflexes might not be as sharp as they were when you were younger. Diabetes, heart disease, or problems with your thyroid, nerves, feet, or blood vessels can affect your balance. Some medicines can cause you to feel dizzy or sleepy, making you more likely to fall. Other causes include safety hazards in the home or community environment.

Scientists have linked several personal risk factors to falling, including muscle weakness, problems with balance and gait, and blood pressure that drops too much when you get up from lying down or sitting (called postural hypotension). Foot problems that cause pain and unsafe footwear, like backless shoes or high heels, can also increase your risk of falling.

Confusion can sometimes lead to falls. For example, if you wake up in an unfamiliar environment, you might feel unsure of where you are. If you feel confused, wait for your mind to clear or until someone comes to help you before trying to get up and walk around.

Some medications can increase a person's risk of falling because they cause side effects like dizziness or confusion. The more medications you take, the more likely you are to fall.

If you take care of your overall health, you may be able to lower your chances of falling. Most of the time, falls and accidents don't "just happen." Here are a few tips to

help you avoid falls and broken bones:

- Stay physically active. Plan an exercise program that is right for you. Regular exercise improves muscles and makes you stronger. It also helps keep your joints, tendons and ligaments flexible. Mild weight-bearing activities, such as walking or climbing stairs, may slow bone loss from osteoporosis.

- Have your eyes and hearing tested. Even small changes in sight and hearing may cause you to fall. When you get new eyeglasses or contact lenses, take time to get used to them. Always wear your glasses or contacts when you need them. If you have a hearing aid, be sure it fits well and wear it.

- Find out about the side effects of any medicine you take. If a drug makes you sleepy or dizzy, tell your doctor or pharmacist.

- Get enough sleep. If you are sleepy, you are more likely to fall.

- Limit the amount of alcohol you drink. Even a small amount of alcohol can affect your balance and reflexes. Studies show that the rate of hip fractures in older adults increases with alcohol use.

- Stand up slowly. Getting up too quickly can cause your blood pressure to drop. That can make you feel wobbly. Get your blood pressure checked when lying and standing.

- Use an assistive device if you need help feeling steady when you walk. Appropriate use of canes and walkers can prevent falls. If your doctor tells you to use a cane or walker, make sure it is the right size for you and the wheels roll smoothly. This is important when you're walking in areas you don't know well or where the walkways are uneven.

Having healthy bones won't prevent a fall, but if you fall, it might prevent breaking a hip or other bone, which may lead to a hospital or nursing home stay, disability, or even death. Getting enough calcium and vitamin D can help keep your bones strong; So can physical activity.

Other ways to maintain bone health include quitting smoking and limiting alcohol use, which can decrease bone mass and increase the chance of fractures.

Osteoporosis is a disease that makes bones weak and more likely to break. For people with osteoporosis, even a minor fall may be dangerous. Talk to your doctor about osteoporosis.

Remember, I'm not a doctor. I just sound like one. Take good care of yourself and live the best life possible!

The information included in this column is for educational purposes only. It is not intended nor implied to be a substitute for professional medical advice. The reader should always consult his or her healthcare provider to determine the appropriateness of the information for their own situation or if they have any questions regarding a medical condition or treatment plan.

Glenn Ellis, is a health advocacy communications specialist. He is the author of *Which Doctor? and Information is the Best Medicine*. He is a health columnist and radio commentator who lectures, nationally and internationally on health related topics. visit www.glennellis.com

Battle of the Bras 2018 raises \$158,000 for the American Cancer Society



R. Scott Barber, regional Ppresident, Caesars Mid-South, announces a donation to American Cancer Society from funds raised at Battle of the Bras 2018.

The Mississippi Link Newswire

The Battle of the Bras fashion show fundraiser raised \$158,000 for the American Cancer Society recently at Horseshoe Tunica.

The always lively and entertaining event featured prominent men including The Grizz, Memphis Grizzlies mascot; chef and restaurateur Kelly English; pro wrestler and TV personality Dustin Starr; Andrew Bettis, owner, AB Jet; Bill Seely, president, Varsity Spirit Corporation; Steve Ehrhart, president, AutoZone Liberty Bowl; Webster Franklin, CEO, Tunica Convention & Visitors Bureau; Jeffrey Goldberg, vice president, Contemporary Media; Leonard Pegues, personal trainer/fitness expert/model; Wilbur Hensley, entrepreneur and owner of Blues City; Patrick Collins, vice president, Morris Marketing Group; and executives from Caesars Mid-South modeling extravagantly decorated bras to raise awareness and funds for the American Cancer Society as part of Caesars Mid-South's observance of National Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

"Caesars Mid-South is proud to announce that Battle of the Bras 2018 shattered last year's total for the American Cancer Society, a cause that is very



Ricky Busey, vice president of Human Resources and Business Development, Caesars Mid-South presents a check for \$158,000 from Battle of the Bras 2018 to Tracy Trotter, senior community manager, American Cancer Society Memphis.

close to us," said R. Scott Barber, regional president, Caesars Mid-South. "We would like to thank our valued employees, our male models, our event partners and everyone in the community who supported and contributed to this unique annual fundraiser."

Caesars Mid-South has embraced National Breast Cancer

Awareness Month for the past seven years with the Battle of the Bras event. Educational seminars were provided for employees and guests on cancer detection, prevention and treatments throughout the month. Pink table felts were installed on blackjack tables at Horseshoe Tunica and Tunica Roadhouse. Employees wore grey

shirts and accessories on designated days in October. Volunteers supported and participated in the Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk. Employees decorated office doors and work areas in pink to remember cancer victims and celebrate survivors. Customer and social media awareness campaigns were executed.

Incarceration

Continued from page 10

On the other hand, at a fraction of the cost it would take to build more public prisons, GEO Care and other private companies provide an alternative that can be catalysts for change in the nature of incarceration. In contrast to the often-dismal prisons operated by governments in many southern states, every one of GEO's facilities are air conditioned. Nearly every one of GEO's facilities are less than 25 years old, while only a third of state correctional facilities are less than 25 years old.

GEO's facilities have a total of 800 academic and vocational classrooms, all of which have Smartboards for interactive learning. With daily attendance of more than 24,000 in vocational programs and 12,000 in academic programs, on average, inmates at GEO facilities earned 2,615 high school equivalency degrees and were awarded 7,814 vocational certifications.

In addition, the GEO Continuum of Care program seeks to address what often contributes to the commission of crime and recidivism, substance abuse and addiction. Part of the \$10 million allocated for the COC program has resulted in the completion of 16,632 substance abuse treatments, according to the company's annual report.

Regardless of the diversity of opinions on the morality of privately owned prisons, most sides likely agree that there is nothing that can be done quickly and easily to change the bleak reality of serving time in the United States. However, just as charter schools or private hospitals have maintained their existence as alternatives to their public counterparts and experiment with innovations to improve education or

health care, some privately run correctional institutions have apparently established ways to make incarceration more humane and decrease the odds that inmates will return.

Though only about 10 percent of state prisoners are in private facilities, in the long run correctional programs offering more human treatment may not only establish models for public prisons to possibly emulate,

but also lead to safer communities.

Hasner says GEO Care is not claiming to work magic. But they have hired people with decades of experience in state prisons and government agencies, who he calls "the best of the best."

The bottom line is success after release says Schofield. "Ultimately the goal is sustainability," he says. "Not just getting out, but staying out."

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REQUEST FOR PROFESSIONAL MANAGEMENT SERVICES OF SMITH WILLS STADIUM

SECTION I – INTRODUCTION / INVITATION

The City of Jackson, Department of Parks and Recreation is seeking assistance from management firms or individuals desiring to provide professional management services at a City of Jackson facility, known as Smith Wills Stadium, located at 1200 Lakeland Drive, Jackson, Mississippi 39216. Professional management firms or individuals that may be interested in contracting with the City of Jackson for such services are hereby invited to submit a response to this request in accordance with the requirements set forth herein.

Sealed Professional Management Service packets will be received by the City Clerk of Jackson, Mississippi, at 219 S. President Street, Jackson, Mississippi 39201 or at the Post Office Box 17, Jackson, Mississippi 39205, until 3:30 p.m., local time, Tuesday, January 8, 2019.

The bid advertises November 8, 2018 through December 20, 2018. Bids will continue to be accepted and must be stamped by the City Clerk, prior to 3:30 p.m. on Tuesday, January 8, 2019.

This Request For Professional Management Services is also being posted on the Central Bidding website at: <https://www.centralauctionhouse.com/main.php>. You may submit your bids electronically through this provider. Packets may also be secured from the Department of Parks and Recreation, 1000 Metro Center, Suite 104, Jackson, Mississippi, 39209, telephone number (601) 960-0471.

A Pre-Bid Conference will be held on Wednesday, November 28, 2018, from 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m., local time, in the City of Jackson Metro Conference Room, located at 1000 Metro Center, Suite 104, Jackson, MS 39209. All interested parties are encouraged to attend.

Professional Management Service packets shall be submitted in triplicate, sealed and deposited with the City of Jackson's City Clerk prior to the hour and date designated above. Each bidder shall write its certificate of responsibility number on the outside of the sealed envelope containing its proposal.

The City of Jackson reserves the right to reject any and all Professional Management Service packets and to waive any and all informalities.

Ison B. Harris, Jr., Director
Department of Parks and Recreation

Dr. Robert Blaine,
Chief Administrative Officer (CAO)
Office of the Mayor

11/8/2018, 11/15/2018, 11/22/2018, 11/29/2018,
12/6/2018, 12/13/2018, 12/20/2018,

LEGAL

RULE 81 SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF HINDS COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF
EDWARD L. TERRY, DECEASED

CAUSE #18-00023

BY: Shirley Terry Woodley, Doris Terry McPherson, Mamie Terry Smith,
Laura Hudson, Donald Terry, Kenny Terry, and Sandra Terry Turner

SUMMONS

THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

TO: THE UNKNOWN HEIRS OF MABEL SEATON, DECEASED

You have been made a Defendant in the suit filed in this Court by Shirley Terry Woodley, Doris Terry McPherson, Mamie Terry Smith, Laura Hudson, Donald Terry, Kenny Terry, and Sandra Terry Turner, Plaintiff, seeking the adjudication of heirs of Edward Terry.

You are summoned to appear and defend against the complaint or petition filed against you in this action at 9:00 o'clock a.m., on the 22nd day of January, 2018, in the Chancery Courtroom of Hinds County, Mississippi, before Honorable William Singletary and in case of your failure to appear and defend a judgment will be entered against you for the money or other things demanded in the complaint or petition.

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

Issued under my hand and the seal of said Court, this the 22nd day of October, 2018.



Eddie Carr
CHANCERY CLERK OF HINDS COUNTY
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FILM REVIEW: NOBODY'S FOOL

CLASSY AND TRASHY SISTERS SQUARE OFF IN FISH-OUT-OF-WATER COMEDY

By Kam Williams
Columnist

Danica (Tika Sumpter) and Tanya (Tiffany Haddish) may have been raised by the same mother (Whoopi Goldberg), but they're still as different as night and day. The former is a successful businesswoman who was recently promoted to vice president of a leading, Madison Avenue advertising firm. By contrast, the latter has spent the last five years behind bars while

her sis was climbing the corporate ladder. Against her better judgment, Danica decides to take Tanya under her wing when she's paroled. So, she not only lets the hot ghetto mess move into her upscale crib but helps her land a gig as a barista at a trendy coffee shop. Trouble is, the prison-hardened Tanya is so rough around the edges that she has no idea how to behave in polite society.

Consequently, she can often be found cursing, flirting, menacing and hurling racial slurs behind the counter indiscriminately. Tanya should thank her lucky stars that her gentlemanly boss, Frank (Omari Hardwick), has a crush on her sister. Otherwise, her job might be in jeopardy. Too bad Danica's already in a relationship with a shady character (Mehcad Brooks) she's never met and has only interacted with over the internet, or she

might give Mr. Right a chance. Thus unfolds Nobody's Fool, a fish-out-of-water comedy written and directed by Tyler Perry. Tyler's films invariably feature a sassy, trash-talking sister, whether played by him in drag as Madea or, as in this case, by an actual actress, the irrepressible Tiffany Haddish. Haddish has been hotter than a pistol since stealing every scene in Girls Trip a year ago. Since then, she's hosted Satur-

day Night Live and co-starred in Uncle Drew, The Oath and Night School. The problem with Nobody's Fool is that it feels like Tiffany briefly parachuted in to do her crude shtick and split without worrying about developing any chemistry with the rest of the cast. Yes, she is the comedienne of the moment and, if all you're looking for is her coarse act, there's plenty of that lowbrow fare to enjoy.

But when Haddish is not lighting up the screen with her over-the-top antics, what's left is just a predictable, poorly-plotted, Tyler Perry morality play. Fair (1 star) Rated R for sexuality, drug use, ethnic slurs and pervasive profanity Running time: 110 minutes Production Studio: Tyler Perry Studios / BET Films / Paramount Players Studio: Paramount Pictures

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JACKSON HEATH Library System

Kam's Kapsules

Weekly previews that make choosing a film fun

By Kam Williams
Columnist

For movies opening November 9, 2018
Wide Releases
The Girl in the Spider's Web (R for violence, profanity, sexuality and nudity) Reboot of the film franchise inspired by the late Stieg Larsson's trilogy of suspense thrillers revolves around a veteran journalist (Sverrir Gudnason) and young computer hacker (Claire Foy) caught in a web of espionage, corruption and cyber crime. With Sylvia Hoeks, Lakeith Stanfield and Stephen Merchant.
The Grinch (PG for brief rude humor) Animated adaptation of Dr. Seuss' children's classic about a bad-tempered grouch (Benedict Cumberbatch) who masquerades as Santa Claus in order to steal Christmas. Narrated by Pharrell, and featuring the voicework of Rashida Jones, Angela Lansbury and SNL's Kenan Thompson.
Overlord (R for profanity, graphic violence, disturbing images and brief sexuality) World War II horror flick about an advance team of American

paratroopers who encounter both Nazis and zombies when dropped behind enemy lines a few hours before D-Day. Co-starring Jovan Adepo, Wyatt Russell, Jacob Anderson and Bokeem Woodbine.
Independent & Foreign Films
Chef Flynn (Unrated) Fine dining documentary chronicling the culinary exploits of master chef Flynn McGarry, a precocious 10 year-old who serves sumptuous feasts for gourmets in his living room with the help of classmates.
The Front Runner (R for profanity and sexual references) Political biopic revisiting the 1988 presidential campaign of Democrat Gary Hart (Hugh Jackman) who dropped out of the race after being caught having an extramarital affair with former Miss South Carolina Donna Rice (Sara Paxton). With Vera Farmiga as Lee Hart, Michael Crider as Bob Dole, Spencer Garrett as Bob Woodward, Alfred Molina as Ben Bradlee and Braden Bunch as Tom Brokaw.
Lez Bomb (Unrated) Out-of-the-closet comedy about a young

woman (Jenna Laurenzo) whose family finds out she's gay when she brings her girlfriend (Caitlin Mehner) home for Thanksgiving. Cast includes Bruce Dern, Cloris Leachman, Kevin Pollak and Steve Guttenberg.
Narcissister Organ Player (Unrated) Brooklyn-based, performance artist Narcissister wrote, directed and stars in this loving tribute to her late mother.
Pimp (Unrated) Inner-city saga revolving around a female pimp (Keke Palmer) exploiting a stable of prostitutes working the streets of a rough 'hood. With Vanessa Morgan, Aunjanue Ellis and DMX.
River Runs Red (Unrated) Vigilante thriller about a judge (Taye Diggs) who, with the help of another grieving father (George Lopez), exacts revenge on the corrupt cops (Luke Hemsworth and Gianni Capaldi) who killed his son. With John Cusack, RJ Mitte and Jennifer Tao.
They Fight (Unrated) Boxing biopic about Walt Manigan, legendary coach and mentor to many aspiring, young pugilists in a popular after-school program in Washington, D.C.

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PHOTOS BY JAY JOHNSON





BOOK REVIEW:

“FARMING WHILE BLACK:
SOUL FIRE FARM’S PRACTICAL
GUIDE TO LIBERATION ON THE LAND”

BY LEAH PENNIMAN, FOREWORD BY KAREN WASHINGTON
C.2018, CHELSEA GREEN PUBLISHING
\$34.95 / \$47.50 CANADA • 368 PAGES

By Terri Schlichenmeyer
Columnist

Your hands are filthy.
Dirt lines every crease and covers much of your knuckles. It’s beneath your fingernails, all the way up to your wrists, soiling the edges of your sweatshirt and down your front. Yes, your hands are filthy but once you’ve read “Farming While Black” by Leah Penniman, your smile will be wide.
Years ago, in search of a way to make a difference in black lives, Penniman fell in love with cilantro. She met it on the

first day of an urban program to teach people to grow food, and when she smelled the herb, it was “magical.” It made her want her own farm, to feed her children, to ease the dire statistics she knew about obesity and heart disease among African Americans and Native Americans, and to lessen the terrible commonness of “food deserts.”
To begin, she says, “Aspiring farmers need three essential ingredients... training, land and material resources.” Training can be received through classes or intern programs, but be

careful what you ask for: some programs might require you to work for free, which may be “all too reminiscent of the exploitation of [your] ancestors.”
As for acquiring land, you may find what you need by “squatting” (check local laws), or by finding a farmer who’s retiring. Know your options when it comes to financing, and make a business plan; in fact, never tackle a farm without a plan.
If the land you want has been ill-cared for, don’t despair. There are ways of restoring land that has been neglected.

Know what to “feed” it, and then know proper land management methods to maintain soil health. Think carefully about what you’ll plant; food and medicine may both be welcome in your community. Know the proper (and safe) way to use tools and how to take care of those you use. Add animals to your farm.
And finally, remember that you don’t have to have acres and acres to farm; a small, abandoned corner is a perfectly valid way to dip your toes in the dirt. Although it’s a little pricey,

as paperbacks go, “Farming While Black” is absolutely one of those books where you get your money’s worth.
Starting with the illustrative story of Soul Fire Farm’s beginning, Penniman offers statistics to prove on-going need, and history to show that farming isn’t anything new for black Americans. In today’s world, though, Penniman advocates community-based farms that are tended not by one set of hands but by many – and she takes their creation step-by-step so that readers don’t feel overwhelmed.

Indeed, her thoroughness here (it seems as though every little detail is covered) makes this a solid reference book for farms and community gardens of all sizes.
Be aware that this book may seem somewhat new-agey at times, and it can over-reach, too; some chapters seem superfluous. Even so, for budding farmers, new green thumbs or aspiring back-to-the-landers, it could be the exact right book to have. For you, missing “Farming While Black” would be a dirty shame.

Hinds County School District Weekly Update

ENGAGING-EMPOWERING-ENSURING-EXCELLENCE

Dr. Delesicia Martin Recognized by Mississippi Association of School Administrators for Superintendent of the Year Nomination

Hinds County School District Superintendent’s Track Record of Success Highlighted by Statewide Organization

Dr. Delesicia Martin, superintendent of the Hinds County School District (HCSD), was recently recognized by the Mississippi Association of School Administrators (MASA) for being nominated for the 2019 Superintendent of the Year. The district has made tremendous strides under Martin’s leadership, including improving student achievement with more than half of HCSD schools earning at least a “B” rating. In addition, the passage of the 2017 bond issue has poised the district for continued growth with the addition and renovation of academic, athletic, and arts facilities.



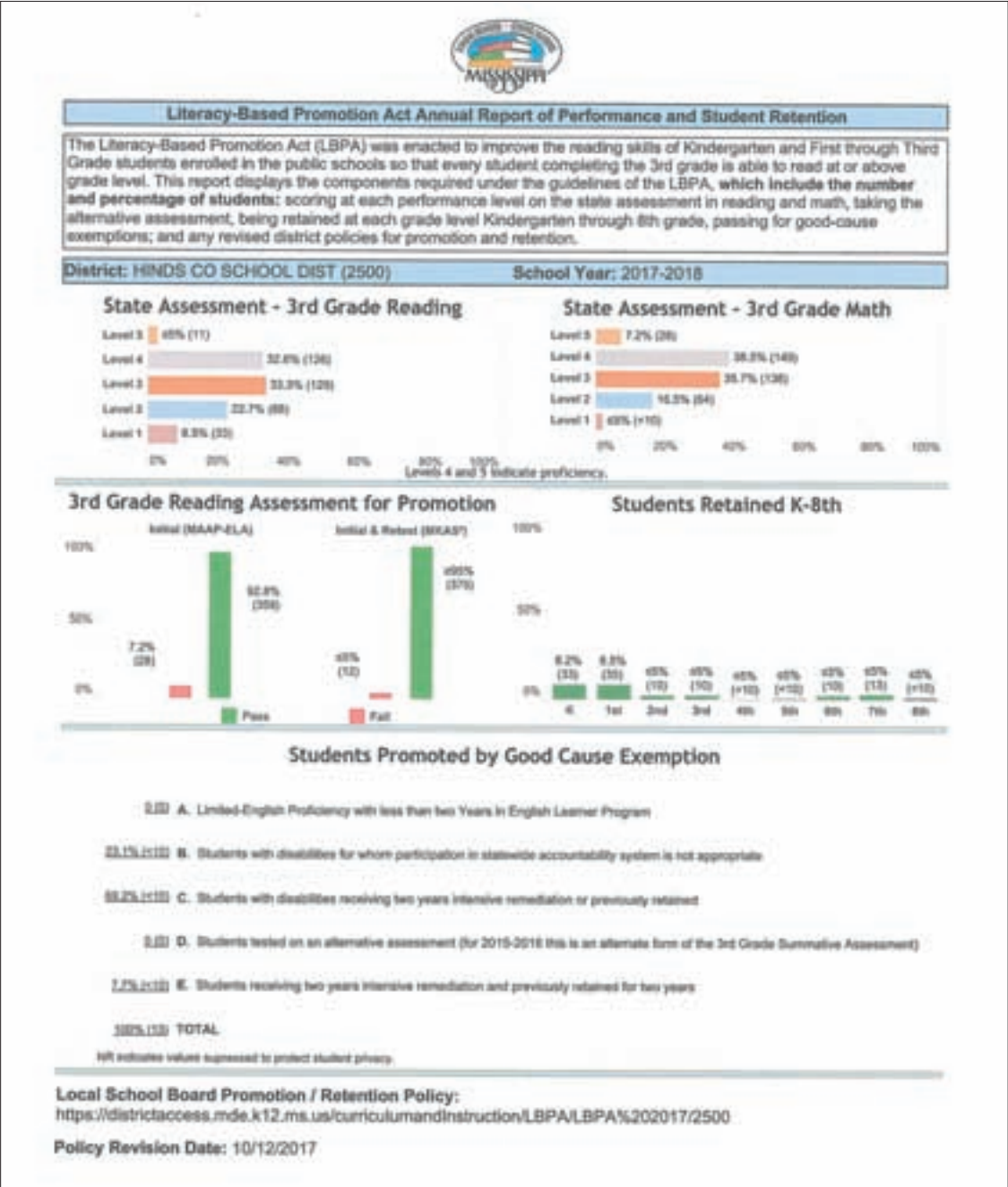
Martin

“I am honored and humbled to have been nominated for this prestigious award, which is a testament to the hard work of our faculty, staff and board,” said Martin. “I am also pleased that people across the state are recognizing the progress we’re making as a district as we work to prepare each of our students for college and careers.”

Earlier this year, the HCSD was named a “District of Innovation” by the Mississippi State Board of Education (MSBE), becoming only one of seven districts in the state to receive the designation. Martin has focused on increasing exposure to STEM for students at every level, including the introduction of career academies that offer career pathways in STEM. In HCSD, students are immersed in STEM activities as early as kindergarten, which helps build a foundation for future success.

“We have witnessed first-hand the passion and commitment Dr. Martin brings to the job every day,” said Linda Laws, president of the HCSD board of trustees. “Her focus on student achievement and student involvement have helped transform the district, and we are pleased that her efforts have been recognized by others in the state.”

HCSD 2017-2018 Literacy-Based Promotion Act Reports Released



HCSD 2017-2018 district’s scores.



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