

Newsire

On 61st Anniversary of Bloody Sunday, worries about the future of voting rights and calls to action

By Kim Chandler, Associated Press and other sources



People crossing the Edmund Pettus bridge on Sunday

SELMA, Ala. (AP) — Sixty-one years after state troopers attacked Civil Rights marchers on the Edmund Pettus Bridge in Selma, thousands gathered in the Alabama city this weekend amid new concerns about the future of the Voting Rights Act. The March 7, 1965, violence that became known as Bloody Sunday shocked the nation and helped spur passage of the landmark legislation that dismantled barriers to voting for Black Americans in the Jim Crow South.

See Bloody Sunday, p. 8

After a president-filled celebration, Rev. Jesse Jackson's family gathers for an intimate homegoing

By The Associated Press



Private family funeral for Rev. Jesse Jackson

CHICAGO — A day after former presidents, sitting governors and local Chicago residents alike attended a vibrant, televised celebration for the late Rev. Jesse Jackson Sr., the family and friends who knew him best hosted a more intimate gathering Saturday to grieve the civil rights leader at his organization's headquarters.

The private memorial service at the Rainbow PUSH Coalition's headquarters on the South Side of Chicago includes only a few hundred attendees, most of whom are family members, allies and confidants. The homegoing is meant as a capstone to a week of services held across the country.

See Rev. Jesse Jackson, p. 6

Iran War already increasing gas prices, mortgage rates

President Donald Trump said he wasn't concerned about rising gas prices, despite celebrating how low prices were during the State of the Union.

By Joe Jurado, NewsOne



Higher gas prices on gas station sign

Last week, President Donald Trump shocked the world when he authorized targeted strikes against Iran while still negotiating terms over Iran's nuclear capabilities. The consequences for this war are already being felt stateside as gas prices and mortgage rates have increased.

See Gas Prices, p. 6

President Trump refuses to sign bills until SAVE America Act passes

By NewsOne staff

On Sunday, President Donald Trump posted on social media that he wouldn't sign any more legislation unless Congress passes the SAVE America Act.

According to NPR, Trump took to Truth Social, demanding that the SAVE America Act "be done immediately" and "supersedes everything else." While Republicans have tried to position the SAVE America Act as a simple voter ID bill, the changes the bill would make to voting would disenfranchise millions.

See SAVE America, p. 6

March 14, 2026 Charity Day at Palace Live

Greene County Commission meets, approves way for the public to support ambulance services

The Greene County Commission met on Monday, March 9, 2026, for its regular monthly meeting. Three commissioners were present for the roll call: Garria Spencer, Chair, Tennyson Smith and Allen Turner. The other two commissioners: Latasha Johnson and Roshonda Summerville arrived late and participated in the meeting when they arrived.

The meeting began with a report from Assistant Engineer Culliver who asked that the Commission approve a resolution designating Noah's Way as a county road for repair and maintenance purposes. The road is in District 5 and Commissioner Summerville has been trying

for some time to get the road designated as a county road. At the earlier Commission work session the status of Noah's Way was discussed. The Commissioners decided to send the official decision to the Commission meeting, where the resolution was adopted.

Culliver asked the Commission to approve the agreement with ALDOT to pursue the TAP grant to redo the sidewalks on the interior of the Old Courthouse Square, now named for Sheriff Thomas Gilmore. This project will compliment the Street Scape project which was completed last year by the City of Eutaw on the outside perimeter of the

Thomas Gilmore Square.

The TAP grant which totals over a million dollars with an 80% state grant and 20% matching for engineering and construction, will redo all of the interior sidewalks on the square. This will make it easier for the many people who use this pathway to exercise and stay healthy.

The third item on the agenda, which dealt with approving a contract for a Water Park Administration and Engineering firm, to help design a "splash pad for children" was tabled.

The Commission approved travel for the Engineer and Assistant Engineer to attend a training conference on May 5 and 6 at Perdido Beach.

The next item was added to the agenda at the meeting. Legal Counsel Mark Parnell proposed that the commission could establish an account, under the Commission's General Fund, where individuals and businesses could contribute to support the ambulance service and have their contribution be tax deductible, since the Commission and the ambulance service are public corporations - providing a service not trying to be for-profit. The resolution creating a fund for contributions to the ambulance service was approved.

See Commission, p. 7

Greene County

The Democrat

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Greene County Health Systems launches Career Tech Program

By Maya Quinn
Managing Editor

Thursday, March 5th, Greene County Hospital launched its career tech program for Eutaw High School students with the induction of seven students. Hospital Administrator Rodgerick Williams welcomed students, along with Chief Nursing Officer Lakisha Gill and Nicole Henley, director of nursing at the Greene County Nursing Home. The goal of the program is to prepare students for employment opportunities and address the ongoing rural healthcare crisis in the community.

Retention of students is essential to reshaping the culture of Greene County Health Systems. Each summer, students may experience a phenomenon known as "brain drain": a lack of academic stimulation that leads to learning loss. Greene County Health Systems aims to combat that with the career tech program. Henley stated that the program aims to provide students with in-



Lakisha Gills, Nicole Henley, and Rodgerick Williams are pictured in the nursing home waiting room.

valuable work experience to equip them for positions here in Greene County. Students practiced completing applications, drafting resumes, and handling

other daily tasks for introductory positions across disciplines. The program's staff and teachers are bridging a gap by ensuring that students have the nec-

essary soft skills to be employed in college or immediately after graduation.

GCHS, p. 2

Joe N. Webb a candidate for Greene County Board of Education, District 5



To the Citizens of District 5,

My name is Joe N. Webb, and I am a candidate for the Greene County

Board of Education representing District 5. I am seeking this position to bring fresh vision and innovative ideas that will inspire and motivate our students to reach their fullest potential.

I am a proud 1982 graduate of Eutaw High School and earned my bachelor's degree in criminal justice from the University of Phoenix. My life and career have been dedicated to serving Greene County and investing in our children, families, and community.

For 22 years, I worked for the Greene County

School System in various roles. I began my career as the Transportation Supervisor, ensuring safe arrivals and departures for our students. I also worked as a Parent Involvement Facilitator, Substitute Teacher, Alternative School Instructor, Behavior Aide, Resource Officer/Security Guard, Maintenance Department and Truancy Officer. These roles gave me firsthand experience with the academic, behavioral, and safety needs of our students.

Currently, I am employed at the University of

Alabama as a driver for HEAR-HERE Alabama, a program that brings healthcare to those with hearing loss in rural Alabama. I previously served as the Coordinator for COVID-19 Vaccine Education at the Rural Alabama Prevention Center for three years under a grant funded by the State of Alabama. In that role, I worked to educate and protect our community during a critical time.

See Webb, p. 2

Sheriff's Department reports two arrests

Greene County Sheriff Department reported the following arrests.

2/27- Deandre Gray 35, of Eutaw, AL was arrested for two count of menacing, assault 3rd degree, and two counts of harassment.

3/3- Deeric Gray 35, of Forkland, AL was arrested for criminal trespass.

Greene County Sheriff

Department reported the following incidents.

2/19- Phillis Belcher of Greene County Industrial Board reported criminal littering

2/24- Leroy Peebles reported aggravated theft by deception.

2/24- Marcus Pearson reported harassment.

2/24- Vera Brown reported theft of property 3rd

degree, Item Stolen: female wallet value unknown, identification cards value unknown.

3/3- Jerry Scott reported theft of property 1st degree, Item Stolen: 2025 Chevrolet K1500 White.

3/4- Wanda Carpenter-Morrow reported harassment.

3/4- James Gray reported an incident.

3/4- Li'Daisy Thomas

reported unlawful breaking and entering a vehicle.

Greene County Sheriff Department reported the following bonds.

2/27- Daniel Mack was released on a bond of \$10,000 for bonding prosecution.

3/7- Deeric Gray was released on a bond of \$500 for Criminal trespass.

Carol's Notes

A Tribute for Women's History Month

God Created Woman

**And God created Woman
A being longing to be
everything to everybody
knowing very well this is
something beyond her gifts**

**And God created Woman
A being deeply touched
by the pain of others
knowing very well this is
something she cannot lift**

**And God created Woman
A being determined to resolve
all conflicts and confusion
knowing very well this is
something she cannot heal**

**And God created Woman
A being committed to seek
justice and equity for all
knowing very well this is
something beyond her power**

**And God created Woman
A being so filled with love
so consumed with compassion
so willing to sacrifice and risk
knowing very well that
God is on her side**

**And God created Woman
A being humbled in leadership
That God said: You are filled with grace
Move through these struggles
Move through your Faith**

Carol Prejean Zippert

Lakisha Gill highlighted the importance of programs like these in preparing students for clinical and professional schools. Alongside patient care tech training, students are developing key employability skills, including communication, self-management, digital literacy, teamwork, and problem-solving. The program will partner with Wallace Community College's LPN (licensed practical nurse) program and Workforce Alabama to procure stipends for students. "These kids need to be involved in something," Gill stated, "we need to give back as a unit to the students here." Upon completion of CNA (certified nursing assistant) training, students will be offered CNA positions in the Greene County Health System.

Williams is also working closely with the UAB Alabama Rural Health Collaborative to decrease rural hospital bypass, the tendency of residents to seek care beyond their closest hospital. The collaborative will help the hospital procure funds for new imaging equipment and a surgery suite. Williams asserted that these improvements are imperative to serve Greene County's residents better. A study from the University of North Carolina's Rural Health Research Program found that traveling beyond the local hospital for care in rural areas is associated with higher inpatient mortality rates. In emergencies such as sepsis, rural hospital bypass can lead to patients missing a critical period of care that means the difference between life and death.

Rural bypass behaviors result in a significant loss of revenue for the hospital. Revenue loss leads to a detrimental cascading effect, leaving hospitals understaffed. Understaffing means the hospital will lack key services such as critical illness care and obstetrics. Greene County Health Systems is not a for-profit institution and relies on county members to keep its doors open. Williams urges community members to use the hospital for all their care needs and not just emergencies, "to make sure that in this rural environment they can get service in their golden hour of need."

Webb

In addition to my professional experience, I am Pastor of New Generation Community Outreach Center and have served as President of the PTA at Greene County High School and Carver Middle School. My community service also includes serving on the Children's Policy Council Board, the Greene County Parks and Recreation Board, Greene County DHR Policy Council Board, and as both a member and president of several other local organizations throughout Greene County.

My vision for our school system is to provide a successful and productive learning environment for our students. This can be achieved by:

- Housing students in safe and secure buildings
- Increasing parent and community involvement
- Giving teachers tools and resources to motivate students

I will work diligently alongside the Superintendent and fellow Board mem-

bers to ensure that both students and teachers have the tools, resources, and support they need to succeed.

Strong schools build strong communities. I respectfully ask for your support and your vote on May 19, 2026, as we work together to strengthen the future of Greene County.

Joe N. Webb
Candidate, Greene
County
Board of
Education – District 5

Community Calendar

March 15- Mount Olive Missionary Baptist Church, Boligee, will celebrate Men's Day on Sunday March 15, at 11:00 a.m. Rev. Brian Croom, pastor of New Light Missionary Baptist Church, Clinton, will be the guest speaker. The public is invited. Rev. John C. Glass, Jr., Pastor.

Luke Worship Center will host their Pastor Appreciation for Pastor Michael Barton at 3:00 p.m. Rev. Antroy Gavin of Greater First Baptist Baton Rouge, LA, will serve as guest speaker. The public is invited.

March 28- Mt. Zoar Missionary Baptist Church Boligee, AL will host a

Love Program for Minsiter Gloria Cullbert at 5:00 p.m. Sponsored by the Missionary Gospel Singer for more information contact Bro. Eddie Pippen 205-301-0330, Bro. James Crawford 205-500-3649, Sis. Jerdina Grays 205-346-3926 or Rev. Edward Culbert at 205-609-8520.

The Greene County Board Of Education

**will meet in a REGULAR MEETING
on Thursday, March 12, 2026
@ 4:30 p.m.in the Central Office
Auditorium**

GIANT KILLERS: MORE THAN TWO (2) BILLION DOLLARS FOR CLIENTS

We, Chestnut, Sanders & Sanders, have won more than two (2) Billion – that's billions not millions - of dollars for our clients. We take on the giants – giant insurance companies, giant corporations, giant governments, etc. We are the Giant Killers. You need the Giant Killers to fight the giants when you have an injury from an auto accident or other harm.

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LUNG CANCER – Lung Cancer may be caused by various chemical products in the work place – Call the Giant Killers.

SEVERE LUNG DISEASE – Severe Lung disease may be caused by exposure to various chemical products in the work place - Call the Giant Killers.

XARELTO – If you took the blood thinner Xarelto and suffered serious bleeding – Call the Giant Killers.

PELVIC MESH/TRANSVAGINAL MESH IMPLANTS – If you had a pelvic mesh implant following a hysterectomy or to treat pelvic organ prolapsed and/or urinary stress incontinence – Call the Giant Killers.

**Don't wait, Call the Giant Killers at
Chestnut, Sanders & Sanders, LLC @ 334-526-4531.**

Disclaimer

These recoveries and testimonials are not an indication of future results. Every case is different regardless of what friends, family or other individuals say about what a case is worth. Each case must be evaluated on its own facts and circumstances as they apply to the law. The valuation of a case depends on the facts, the injuries, the jurisdiction, the venue, the witnesses, the parties and the testimony among other factors. Furthermore, No representation that the quality of legal services to be performed are greater than the services performed by other lawyers.

**Renaissance
Theater Multiplex Center-Eutaw**

205) 496-0908



eutawrenaissance.theatre@gmail.com
Saturday March 21, 2026
Movie this weekend
**America's Civil Rights
Movement:
Eyes On The Prize**

Free Admission
at 5:00 p.m.

Carol Zippert's Poetry Books Available



Poetry Book Order Form

Signed copies of Carol P. Zippert's second book of poetry are available through the Greene County Democrat *Meeting Myself 'Round The Corner* published by New South Books, Montgomery, AL

Carol's first book, *I Don't Want To Be Rich, Just Able* is also available through the Democrat

Please Send

_____ Copies of poetry book, *Meeting Myself 'Round The Corner*, at \$20; plus \$5.00 shipping & handling to:

_____ Copies of poetry book, *I Don't Want To Be Rich, Just Able* at \$20; plus \$5.00 shipping & handling to:

Name _____

Address _____

Mail to Carol P. Zippert, P.O. Box 82; Eutaw, Alabama 35462

PALACE LIVE

Come Join Us For Charity Day

Saturday, March 14, 2026



*Support Local Charities by
Supporting Simulcast- Greyhounds, Horses & HHR machine
Charity Day grants support school projects and field
trips, volunteer fire departments, youth leadership
projects, community healthy projects, youth recreation,
Greene County Charities.*

*Sponsored by Greene County Racing Commission
Linette Brown, Donald Means, Morris Hardy*

**Greene County
The Democrat**

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Women's History Month: Built on Black Women's Backs



By Julianne Malveaux

(TriceEdneyWire.com) - Every March, Women's History Month brings a familiar rhythm of celebration — panels, proclamations, and tributes to pioneers who shattered glass ceilings. Those stories matter. But if we are honest, the story of women in America cannot be told without confronting another truth: this nation has been built, quite literally, on the backs of Black women.

From the earliest days of the republic, Black women's labor has been both indispensable and invisible. Enslaved women worked fields, cooked meals, nursed children, and produced wealth they would never see. Their bodies were exploited for labor and reproduction alike. Even after emancipation, many were pushed into the lowest-paid work—domestic labor, laundry, caregiving—while their own families struggled to survive.

Economists often talk about productivity and growth as if they emerge

from neutral markets. But the American economy was built on coerced labor and unequal pay structures whose echoes remain today. Black women remain among the most reliable workers in the labor force—and among the most underpaid.

Black women working full time are typically paid about 64 cents for every dollar paid to white, non-Hispanic men. Over the course of a career, that gap can cost the average Black woman a million dollars or more in lost earnings and wealth. Because Social Security benefits are calculated from lifetime earnings, lower wages also translate into smaller retirement benefits, compounding inequality long after women leave the workforce.

The devaluation of Black women does not stop at wages. When a society treats a group's labor as expendable, it often treats their lives the same way. The same systems that underpay Black women also too often criminalize and punish them.

Consider the case of Kemba Smith.

As a Hampton University student, Smith received a 24-year federal sentence because her abusive boyfriend was involved in drug trafficking. She had no prior record and was not accused of violence. Yet the system treated her as fully responsible for the actions of a man. After serving six

years, she received clemency from Bill Clinton. Her case helped expose the cruelty of mandatory minimum sentencing and the ways Black women are often punished for proximity to men's crimes.

Smith's story is not an anomaly. Across American history, Black women have borne the consequences of policies and practices designed without them in mind.

More than a century ago, educator and activist Nannie Helen Burroughs warned that when society devalues Black women, the entire nation suffers. She understood that the progress of women could not be measured only by the advancement of the privileged. It had to be measured by the condition of those at the bottom.

That lesson remains painfully relevant.

Black women are still paid less than white men and white women. They carry disproportionate student debt. They are more likely to be primary breadwinners while also providing unpaid care to children, elders, and communities.

In politics, they remain among the most loyal defenders of democratic participation, organizing, voting, and mobilizing communities even when the policies that follow rarely center their needs. In recent elections, Black women voters have been among the most decisive forces protecting demo-

cratic participation itself. Yet Black women continue to organize, lead, and save this country from its worst instincts.

They did it in the civil rights movement. They did it in the labor movement. They did it in the fight for voting rights. And they continue to do it today.

Women's History Month should celebrate achievement. But celebration alone is not enough.

If we are serious about equality, we must confront a reality that is both historical and contemporary: America's wealth, its democracy, and much of its moral progress have been carried forward on the labor, loyalty, and sacrifice of Black women.

For centuries this nation has relied on their work, their votes, their organizing, and their resilience—while paying them less, protecting them less, and too often ignoring them altogether.

So this Women's History Month, let's move beyond the flowers, the panels, and the polite applause. Don't just celebrate women. Pay them.

Dr. Julianne Malveaux is a DC based economist and author. Reach her at www.juliannemalveaux.com. Subscribe to her newsletter at malveauxnewsletter@gmail.com



Nashville, an epicenter of resistance against authoritarianism, will be the scene of National Urban League's 2026 Conference



Marc Morial, President and CEO, National Urban League

(TriceEdneyWire.com) - "Nashville prepared me. If it hadn't been for Nashville, I would not be the person I am now." — Congressman John Lewis

Nashville's streets have long carried the echoes of America's most disciplined and courageous civil-rights activism. It was here, in 1960, that students from local colleges launched a sit-in campaign so strategic and unwavering that it became a national blueprint for nonviolent resistance. Their actions not only made Nashville the first major Southern city to desegregate its lunch counters—they shaped the moral and tactical core of the civil-rights movement and helped forge the leadership of icons like John Lewis and Diane Nash. Nashville's history is not just remembered; it is lived, embedded in the city's identity, and carried forward by every new generation confronting injustice.

This enduring legacy was powerfully present when I visited Nashville this week to announce that the city will host this summer's National Urban League Conference. The annual gathering—one of the country's most influential convenings on civil-rights, economic empowerment, and racial justice—will bring thousands of leaders, advocates, and changemakers to a city whose past and present make it uniquely positioned to shape the nation's democratic future.

Nashville is not simply a venue; it is a living testament to movement building itself. Today, the city continues to stand at the crossroads of democracy and civil rights. Tennessee has become a testing ground for voter suppression, and Nashville has been central to pushing back. It was Nashville's own dynamic young legislator, Justin Jones, who—along with

Justin J. Pearson of Memphis and Gloria Johnson of Knoxville—drew national attention to the intertwined crises of gun violence and racism by leading a gun-safety protest directly on the House floor. Local activists have fought tirelessly against gerrymandering schemes that fracture Black political representation. And when state lawmakers attempted to slash Nashville's Metro Council in half, the city took the battle all the way to the Tennessee Supreme Court, where the fight for fair governance continues.

It is this spirit of resistance, courage, and collective determination that will energize the thousands attending the National Urban League Conference. As leaders confront an ongoing assault on racial justice and equal opportunity, they will do so in a place where ordinary citizens have repeatedly reshaped the national conversation through their willingness to stand up—and stand together.

Nashville's example is reflected in cities across the country. In Minneapolis, residents braved tear gas, pepper spray, and sub-zero temperatures to protest lawless immigration enforcement. In New York City, home the National Urban League's headquarters, leaders continue to mount a multi-front pushback against federal overreach, from unlawful militarization to crackdowns on immigrant communities, while strengthening sanctuary protections and reaffirming commitments to diversity and inclusion.

Taken together, these local efforts form a national mosaic of democratic resilience. Each city—through lawsuits, organizing, public-policy innovation, and mass protest—has played a vital role in defending voting rights and upholding the rule of law.

In an era defined by rapid political shifts and escalating threats to democratic norms, the future of American democracy does not rest in Washington alone. It lives in cities like Nashville, where history meets activism, and where the work of building a more just and equitable nation persists—one protest, one policy, one gathering at a time. This summer's National Urban League Conference will honor that legacy and propel it forward.

The White Privilege Predicament



By Ben Jealous

Last week I wrote about something my father, who is white, has said for years: when many white Americans hear the phrase "white privilege," they respond by listing all the ways their lives have been hard. But if you talk about "white advantage," the conversation changes. Advantage is measurable. It doesn't erase suffering. It simply acknowledges that race still tilts the system.

After that column ran, readers reached out asking me to elaborate.

To understand why, we have to go back to the beginning of the American story.

Early in colonial America, poor Europeans and enslaved Africans sometimes recognized that they shared a common predicament. They ran away together. They rebelled together. For a brief mo-

ment in our history, working people across color lines sometimes saw each other as allies rather than enemies.

That possibility deeply unsettled the people who held power. So over time, colonial elites built a system designed to prevent that unity. Europeans were given small advantages—permission to carry weapons, positions in militias, small measures of authority over enslaved Africans. At the same time, racial contempt was deliberately cultivated between the groups.

Racism itself became a tool of political control. The wedge worked. In many ways, it still does.

White communities across America are hurting. Factories have closed. Life expectancy for many working-class Americans has fallen. Addiction and suicide have devastated entire towns.

Acknowledging white advantage doesn't deny any of that.

It simply says this: if two people walk into the same job interview with the same résumé, race still affects the outcome. If two families try to build wealth across generations, race still shapes the odds. Social scientists have measured this for years. In a well-

known study, Princeton sociologist Devah Pager sent out identical résumés to employers.

Applicants with traditionally white-sounding names received far more callbacks than those with Black-sounding names, even when their qualifications were the same.

Suffering and advantage can exist at the same time.

My father understood something many activists forget: language can open conversations, or it can shut them down.

For decades he worked with thousands of men—mostly white—helping them confront trauma and take responsibility for their actions. He saw how quickly people shut down when they feel their suffering is being dismissed.

That's the predicament. The reality of racial advantage is undeniable. But the language we use to describe it sometimes pushes away the very people who need to be part of the solution.

Rev. Jesse Jackson understood this better than anyone. His Rainbow Coalition was built on a simple insight: racism has long been the oldest political wedge in America. Divide working people by race and those in power stay secure. But if working people across racial lines

ever truly unite, the coalition would be powerful enough to transform the country.

The opposite of racism isn't just tolerance. It's solidarity. Our history shows both possibilities. At times we have been divided by race so completely that we could barely see our shared interests. At other moments—Reconstruction, the labor movement, the civil rights era—we have glimpsed what multiracial democracy can look like.

That history should give us hope. Because if racism was built to divide us, it can also be dismantled.

Rev. Jesse Jackson spent a lifetime trying to show us what comes next. When working people finally refuse the wedge—when we stand together from union halls to houses of worship, from big cities to small towns—the coalition that emerges will be stronger than the politics that have kept us apart for generations.

Ben Jealous is a professor of practice at the University of Pennsylvania and former national president and CEO of the NAACP. He also served as the founding director of Amnesty International USA's domestic human rights program.

All must die, but legends live on



Barbara Reynolds

(TriceEdneyWire.com) - All must die. But legends live on.

Few living Americans

embody that truth more than the Rev. Jesse L. Jackson. At a time when public discourse has become harsh, when entire communities are demeaned in political rhetoric, and when cruelty often masquerades as strength, it is vital to remember the power of a voice that demanded human dignity.

Rev. Jackson was more than a speaker; he instilled a generation with self-worth. His memorable words — "I Am Somebody" and "Keep Hope Alive" — continue to res-

onate. These phrases were not mere slogans crafted by consultants. They were lifelines for the soul, providing language to children dismissed in classrooms, workers denied opportunity, and citizens told—subtly or bluntly—that they did not belong. Jackson understood a fundamental truth: before policy can change, people must believe they are worthy of change.

A Personal Perspective

My perspective comes

not as a distant observer, but as someone who wrote Jackson's first unauthorized biography and covered him as a journalist beginning in the 1970s, shortly after the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. I visited his Chicago home. His wife, Jacqueline, once took me to Ethiopia to report on famine. I witnessed the movement from the inside; I was part of it and lived it.

See Barbara Reynolds, p. 5

Barbara Reynolds

Private Struggles and Public Triumphs

To understand Jackson's public ministry, it is necessary to understand his private wounds. As a boy in Greenville, South Carolina, he endured the stigma of being born outside of marriage during a period when such labels carried social cruelty. He faced threats, humiliation, and the daily degradations of segregation. A white man once pulled a gun on him for whistling in his store. A lesser spirit might have retreated inward.

Instead, Jackson ran. A ninth-grade teacher recalled that he was always running for something—class president, honor society, student leadership. Even when he lost, he ran as if the act itself was defiance. That instinct to move forward—boldly and publicly—became the rhythm of his life.

Jackson's Emergence in Chicago

When I began covering him in Chicago in 1970, the city still bore scars of unrest from riots following Dr. King's assassination. Charred buildings stood as reminders of what despair can produce. The nation had lost King, and the North was discovering that its racial realities were no gentler than those of the South. Black pride surged alongside deep frustration.

Jackson emerged in that crucible—charismatic, camera-ready, unapologetically visible. He was not merely theatrical; he was strategic. King had begun to shift the movement's focus from access to ownership—from riding the bus in dignity to owning the bus. Jackson absorbed that lesson and expanded it. Through Operation PUSH, he combined moral protest with economic leverage. Corporations were pressed to sign agreements to hire and promote Black employees and stock Black-owned products. Churches mobilized consumers. Boycotts became organized instruments, not outbursts.

Within a few years, the results were visible: Black managers in grocery chains, Black drivers operating delivery trucks, and economic inclusion that moved beyond symbolism into payroll.

The Political Impact

Jackson understood that politics without economics is hollow. When he ran for president in 1984 and 1988, the chants of "Run, Jesse, Run" filled arenas. Yet he often reminded supporters that he was urging thousands to run with him—for sheriff, state legislature, and Congress. His Rainbow Coalition was not just racial; it was aspirational. Farmers, laborers, environmentalists, and stu-

dents—a broad tent of Americans who believed democracy should work for those outside the traditional corridors of power.

His campaigns surprised the political establishment. With limited resources compared to rivals, he won millions of votes and expanded the electorate. He registered new voters and forced his party to reckon with constituencies long treated as peripheral.

Diplomatic Actions and Recognition

Jackson also showed daring independence. In 1983, against the caution of the State Department, he traveled to Syria to negotiate the release of a captured U.S. Navy pilot. Later, he helped secure the freedom of hostages in Cuba. He entered diplomatic arenas not because protocol invited him, but because conscience compelled him.

Over the decades, accolades accumulated: honorary degrees, national recognition, and the Presidential Medal of Freedom. Many historians argue that without the infrastructure of voter mobilization and coalition politics Jackson built, the path to the presidency for Barack Obama would have been much steeper.

The Moral Core of Jackson's Legacy

Yet, reducing Jackson's legacy to electoral milestones would miss its moral core. He gave wounded people language for their worth. In times when immigrants are described as disposable, when entire nations are disparaged, and when racial caricatures reappear in digital form, the need for moral uplift remains urgent.

In later years, Jackson's body showed the frailty of age and illness. But movements are not confined to muscle. They endure in memory, in institutions, and in generations who learned to stand straighter because someone told them they were somebody.

Conclusion

All must die. But legends live on—not as nostalgia, but as obligation.

We know Rev. Jesse Jackson changed America. The larger question is whether we will continue with his audacity and courage to insist on changing public policy until all of us are indeed somebody.

Rev. Dr. Barbara Reynolds is an author, journalist, and ordained minister. Among her books, she co-authored the memoir, *My Life, My Love, My Legacy with Coretta Scott King* and authored the biography, *Jesse Jackson, America's David*.

Senate Sketches #2020....by Hank Sanders

Jubilee Once Again

years because it was so emotionally painful. I also worked on media and other issues and attended the Jubilee Mock Trial even though I was late. *Jubilee once again.*

On Saturday, Frank Baragan and I facilitated a discussion on Black and Brown peoples uniting with one another in struggle. There was confusion about where the Black and Brown Session would take place. It was supposed to be at the Dallas County Courthouse, but some documents mistakenly had stated Tabernacle Baptist Church as the meeting place. We finally met at Tabernacle but time was cut short. It was still a powerful discussion. *Jubilee once again.*

The Freedom Flame Awards Gala on Saturday night was very special. The place was so beautifully decorated. Awards were given to a number of worthy persons. Faya Rose Toure and I presented the award to Ezra Levin and Leah Greenberg, founders of Indivisible. Indivisible has facilitated millions of persons participating in marches at thousands of locations simultaneously across the country. They are truly impactful. *Jubilee once again.*

The personal highlight of the Freedom Flame Awards Gala was the surprise Tribute to Faya Rose Toure at the end of the program. Asher HaVon gave a musical presentation dedicated to Faya. He recently won the national television musical contest called "The Voice." He talked about being in Faya's Youth group BBAC (Black Belt Arts and Cultural Center) from 13 years of age. He sang a number of songs written by Faya and targeted them to his age at different points in life. I was joyful for Faya. I was glad for Asher. I was just glad and joyful. *Jubilee once again.*

Sunday was the Martin and Coretta King Unity Breakfast, which I co-chaired with Dr. James Mitchell, the recently retired President of Wallace Community College Selma. It was challenging work because there were so many speakers to be coordinated within a limited timeframe. Also, I presented special awards for Attorney Fred Gray, Sr. and Rev. Dr. Bernard Lafayette. Attorney Gray, at 95 years of age, was unable to attend the program. Dr. Lafayette transitioned just last week but he was there in spirit. Fred Gray, Sr.'s son, Fred Gray Jr. stood in for him. Ainka Jackson of the Selma Non-violence Center and DeMark Liggins of SCLC received the award for Dr. Lafayette because he had chaired both of their Board of Directors for many years. *Jubilee once again.*

I then attended the memorial program for Reverend Jesse Louis Jackson. Reverend Jackson's youngest son, Yusef Jackson, now heads the Rainbow PUSH Coalition. He said that his father valued the Bridge Crossing Jubilee experience so much he would have wanted a service in Selma even after multiple services in Chicago, South Carolina and Washington, D.C. Reverend Jackson said on many occasions that "every person should make the Pilgrimage to Selma annually." *Jubilee once again.*

I did not participate in the March across the Bridge. I cannot stand on these 83-year-old legs very long. The Jubilee was powerful in so many ways. However, there were some concerning developments which I will deal with in a

future Sketches. I just want to share the successful feeling in my spirit for the time being. *Jubilee once again.*

Now on to the Daily Diary.

SATURDAY, February 28, 2026 – I handled many matters as I worked into the night on Jubilee and other matters. Among others, I communicated with the following: Sharon Wheeler of Montgomery; Josephine Curtis of Selma; Former Alabama State Senator Malika Fortier; and Ainka Sanders Jackson of the Selma Nonviolence Center and the Bridge Crossing Jubilee.

SUNDAY – I hosted the Sunday School Lesson with Faya Rose Toure of the Bridge Crossing Jubilee on Facebook Live and Z105.3 FM Radio Station and worked into the night on various matters. Among others, I communicated with the following: Demopolis City Councilman Charles Jones, Jr.; Fourth Judicial Circuit Chief Judge Marvin Wiggins; Jeannie Frasier of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.; Brenda Myles of Selma; and Annie Pearl Avery of the Ancient Africa and Enslavement Museum.

MONDAY – I handled many matters, participated in a press conference and a Zoom meeting, did an interview with a radio host in Washington, D.C. and worked into the night on Jubilee and other matters. Among others, I communicated with the following: Television reporter George McDonald; Montgomery businessman Frank Jenkins; Lowndes County School Superintendent Samita Jeter; Marilyn Cosby and Karen Jackson of Selma; Tamika Mason of Congressman James Clyburn's office; Andy Marks of Washington, D.C.; Greg Francis of Orlando, Florida; Andy Howlett of Washington, D.C.; Yohance Gregory of the Bridge Crossing Jubilee; and Reverend Deves Toon of the National Action Network.

TUESDAY – I handled many matters including various Jubilee challenges and worked into the night. Among others, I communicated with the following: Retired College President Dr. James Mitchell; Former Alabama Agriculture and Industry Commissioner Ron Sparks; Christmas Green and Brandon Wooten of Selma; Greene County School Superintendent Dr. Timothy Thurman; Leo Branch of the Greene County Board of Education; Associated Press Reporter Kim Chandler; and Fred Gray, Jr. of Tuskegee.



WEDNESDAY – I handled many matters including legal and Jubilee matters, shared dinner with friends from New Orleans and worked into the night. Among others, I communicated with the following: Ted Quant, Florence Wilson, Mary Wilson and others from New Orleans, Louisiana; Co-Publishers of The Greene County Democrat Dr. Carol P. Zippert and John Zippert; Jennifer Cole of the staff of Martin Luther King, III; Richard Graham of Jefferson County; Khadijah Ishaq, Lametrius Dillard, Frank Blocton, Junior Oliver and Charlene Williams of Selma; Priscilla Mitchell of North Carolina; and Sabrina Marie of iHeart Radio.

THURSDAY – This was the first day of the Bridge Crossing Jubilee. I handled many matters, participated in Jubilee events and worked into the night. Among others, I communicated with the following: Latia Parker of the Bridge Crossing Jubilee; Barbara Pitts of Decatur, Georgia; Karen Jones of Montgomery; Law Professor Emerita Martha Morgan; Rev Jahmal Sanders of Selma; Jefferson County Commissioner Sheila Tyson concerning her birthday; K.C. Bailey of Selma; KeChebe Robinson of Massachusetts.; and Frank Barragan of ACIJ (Alabama Coalition for Immigrant Justice).

FRIDAY – I handled many matters, participated in Jubilee events and worked into the night. Among others, I communicated with the following: Jane Sapp and Robert Sapp of Douglasville, Georgia; Minnesota Attorney General Keith Ellison; Dr. Robert White of Alabama State University; Dr. Rhoda Johnson of Tuscaloosa; and Latonia Tisdale of Alabama Power.

EPILOGUE – It is a special experience to help create something that grows in the largest of its kind in the whole country. The experience is even more special when we understand that "something brings" all kinds of peoples together across lines of differences from all across the world. *Jubilee once again.*

Calling all Expecting Moms, Dads, Grandparents & Caregivers of children ages 0-5!

Born Ready UNIVERSITY

Learn, Prepare & Connect!

WHERE:
Greene County Resource Center
506 Greenbriar Street, Fortson, AL 35462

TIME: 5:30pm - 8:30pm

SESSION DATES:

- March 12, 2026: Child Development
- March 26, 2026: Social Emotional Development
- April 9, 2026: School Readiness
- April 23, 2026: Social Healthy and Safe Environments

✓ Free Dinner | Free childcare | Free books
✓ \$25 Gift card for each session attended

End of Program Incentives:

- ✓ Strollers | Leap Pad Learning Tablets
- ✓ Car Seats | Booster Seats
- ✓ Pack n Play | Baby Bed

Department of Early Childhood Education | Cortnei Hood (205) 372-6942
Sponsored by Greene County Children's Policy Council

Neighborhood Day

March 21, 2026
Boligee Park
12 PM - 6 PM

BBQ Bird & DJ Birdman

Vendors Welcome!

SPONSORED BY CITIZENS TO ELECT WESLEY HODGES

EARTH TALK

Questions & Answers About Our Environment

EarthTalk®
From the Editors of E - The Environmental Magazine

Dear EarthTalk: Are disposable plastic straws really so terrible for the environment and what are some good alternatives that won't get mushy in liquid?
-- Mary B., San Francisco, CA

A single-use straw, also known as a disposable straw, is made of plastic and is intended to be thrown away after one drink. The materials that make these straws are non-biodegradable, meaning that their



waste is not broken down naturally and often leads to landfill pollution. These plastic straws can take up to 200 years to decompose, and unlike organic materials, they are only fragmented into smaller pieces known as microplastics that have lasting impacts on ecosystems.

Straws are among the top waste items found in beach clean-ups and are often ingested by marine animals, leading to injury and death. According to the Journal of

Science Advances, over eight million metric tons of plastic enter oceans annually, with single-use plastic straws being significant contributors.

When microplastics are consumed by marine life and enter the food chain, they eventually harm human health. "It's an ingestion issue," says Jon Forrest Dohlin, Director of the Wildlife Conservation Society New York Aquarium. "And as it does break down to smaller and smaller

pieces, it works its way into the food chain and is absorbed by animals, including, by the way, humans." Moreover, due to the small size of disposable straws, they often fall through recycling machinery and are left to be discarded in landfills and oceans. Disposable straws also pose health risks to humans and animals through the harmful BPA chemicals that can lead to medical problems like reproductive issues, developmental delays and more.

Despite these environmental and health harms, disposable straws continue to be used as a result of the low production costs of plastic and convenience, but with plastic straws becoming an increasing climate concern, alternative straws have become a greater priority. These substitutes include straws that are either made of biodegradable or reusable materials, including paper, metal, bamboo,

glass, silicone and more.

Oftentimes, the biggest complaint against low-cost biodegradable straws, specifically those made out of paper, is that they get mushy in liquid. However, it is possible to prioritize health and sustainability while also avoiding the awkward feeling of mushy materials in daily drinks. For example, metal and silicone straws drastically reduce waste, being both reusable for years and easy to clean without changing the taste of your favorite drinks. In 2019, Samantha Grindell, an author at Business Insider, wrote that while pasta straws (yes, made from pasta) worked for water, she preferred other alternatives for drinks like coffee. "I think they're a great alternative to plastic or paper straws in restaurants, but I'd prefer to use a reusable metal straw on a day-to-day basis," she says.

CONTACTS: Eco-Cycle Straw-Free Pledge, HYPERLINK "https://ecocycle.org/eco-living/refuse-and-reduce/be-straw-free" https://ecocycle.org/eco-living/refuse-and-reduce/be-straw-free; Plastic Pollution Coalition Pledge, H Y P E R L I N K "http://www.plasticpollutioncoalition.org/takeaction/pledge" www.plasticpollutioncoalition.org/takeaction/pledge.

EarthTalk® is produced by Roddy Scheer & Doug Moss for the 501(c)3 nonprofit EarthTalk. See more at H Y P E R L I N K "file:///\\emag-server\Users\Doug\My%20Documents\EarthTalk\%20https:\emagazine.com" https://emagazine.com. To donate, visit HYPERLINK "https://earthtalk.org/" https://earthtalk.org/. Send questions, but I'd prefer to use a reusable metal straw on a day-to-day basis," she says.

SAVE America

The voter ID aspects would require a voter to provide two forms of ID that prove citizenship, such as a passport or birth certificate. This could create problems for married women who could have a different name on their birth certificate than on their driver's license.

The bill would also place a blanket ban on mail-in ballots except for military and people with disabilities. The GOP's justification for all these changes is that it's intended to prevent noncitizens from voting, despite all evidence showing that's an incredibly uncommon occurrence. Trump and the GOP seem to think these changes will exclusively hurt Democrat voters, despite 1 in 3 voters using mail-in ballots.

"MUST GO TO THE FRONT OF THE LINE. I, as President, will not sign other Bills until this is passed, AND NOT THE WATERED DOWN VERSION - GO FOR THE GOLD," he wrote. The Guardian reports that Trump also demanded new provisions be added to the bill that would ban transgender people from participating in women's sports and gender-affirming surgeries for minors.

Trump is a deeply unpopular president, as more and more voters disapprove of his handling of the economy, the tactics employed by ICE in their mass deportation campaign, and the war in Iran, which is already having a pronounced, negative impact on the American economy. It was already looking like the Democrats would flip the House last year, which is why Trump pushed several red states to engage in mid-decade redistricting efforts. Several blue states, most notably California, began redistricting efforts of their own to neutralize the gains.

So now Trump is trying to make it that much harder to vote in the hopes that the GOP maintains its narrow majority in Congress. In addition to pushing for the SAVE Act, Trump has also called for the transfer of control over elections from states to the federal government. Several of Trump's advisers are reportedly drafting an executive order that would declare a national emergency and allow the president to make changes to how elections are conducted.

While the SAVE America Act passed in the House, it's facing significant pushback in the Senate, where it needs to clear a 60-vote threshold to pass. The GOP has only a 53-47 majority in the House, meaning several Democrats would need to vote for the bill. Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer has publicly stated that no Democrats will vote for the bill.

Additionally, a study by the Brennan Center found that 21.3 million Americans lack immediate access to proof of citizenship, meaning nearly a quarter of eligible voters could be disenfranchised. "The SAVE Act would disenfranchise Americans of all ages and races, but younger voters and voters of color would suffer disproportionately," the Brennan Center for Justice wrote in February.

"If Trump is saying he won't sign any bills until the SAVE Act is passed, then so be it: there will be total gridlock in the Senate," Schumer posted on X Sunday. "Senate Democrats will not help pass the SAVE Act under any circumstances."

Gas Prices

CBS News reports that gas prices have gone up on average by 26 cents since the war started. Patrick De Haan, a petroleum expert at GasBuddy, told CBS News that the increase represents an "unusually strong weekly climb.

While prices dipped below \$3 in December, they've been steadily rising as the conflict between Iran and the United States has begun to simmer. "Oil prices have been creeping up on the possibility of attacks," De Haan told CBS News. "The actual attacks themselves, obviously, are a major escalation." De Haan predicts that prices will continue to increase by another 10 to 15 cents in the upcoming week before stabilizing.

One of the key oil shipping routes is the Strait of Hormuz, which runs through Iran. The prolonged bombings have slowed shipments through the Strait of Hormuz to a crawl, with Iran's counterattacks also impacting oil production in Saudi Arabia. De Haan estimates that the United States is losing access to 20 million barrels of oil supply a day as a result of the bombings.

"Nothing can replace that," De Haan told CBS News.

Like many of us, I've seen the impact of the Iran war on gas prices firsthand. Two weeks ago, gas prices in my native area of Phoenix were around \$3.15. Last week, when I filled my tank up on Wednesday, it was about \$3.60. On Thursday night, as my best friend and I were driving home from a Joey Valence and Brae concert, we were both shocked to see gas prices had increased to \$4.15 in just a day. Nothing quite kills a post-concert high like the realities of the U.S. economy.

The increases come just over a week after Trump bragged about how low gas prices have been during his State of the Union address. Trump was asked by Reuters if he had any concern about how the Iran war would affect domestic gas prices.

"I don't have any concern about it," Trump replied. "They'll drop very rapidly when this is over, and, if they rise, they rise, but this is far more important than having gasoline prices go up a little bit."

The lack of concern is crazy work, considering that affordability is one of the biggest issues facing Americans. We're in the buildup to the midterm elections, and Trump has no concern about how his shortsighted actions in Iran. Polling shows that the majority of voters already disapprove of Trump taking military action in Iran. According to the Hill, a poll by Fox News also revealed that the majority of voters feel that Trump's actions in Iran have made the United States less safe.

If it's only been a week and the majority of people aren't on board with the war, public opinion is only going to fall further as the war in Iran continues to negatively impact their wallets. According to NBC News, the effects have already extended past the gas pump, as mortgage interest rates have ticked up from 5.98% to 6.13%.

The reason the Iran war is affecting mortgage prices is that mortgage rates are heavily tied to the price of U.S. 10-year Treasury bonds. The yield on those bonds has increased as concerns rise that the war in Iran will lead to higher inflation. Should inflation increase, it could also lead the Federal Reserve to refuse to cut interest rates.

At a time when the average American is already struggling to afford the cost-of-living, and the labor market continues to contract, Trump decided to make that problem worse over weapons of mass destruction that Iran doesn't even have.

Trump's second term really feels like a donkey's paw moment for Republicans. On paper, they've been getting everything they've wanted from mass deportation to a more hawkish approach to foreign policy, yet it's only resulted in more widespread disapproval for the GOP.

Jesse Jackson

"I foresee tomorrow will represent everything that Rev. Jackson stood for," the Rev. Chauncey D. Brown, a pastor to a Chicago-area church and mentee of Jackson's, said Friday.. "It will include dignitaries and icons, as well as many from where the true power lies, with the people in the streets."

Some members of the public who gathered outside the PUSH headquarters were allowed to enter the chamber.

"Over the last two weeks, we've been focusing on connecting to people that Reverend worked with across the years," said Rev. Janette Wilson, a longtime senior advisor to Jackson and executive director at Rainbow PUSH Coalition. "When you look at his work, it is so vast in the economic and political arenas."

Since his death last month, Jackson's family and allies have honored the late reverend with commemorations, community service and demonstrations they say continue his work.

Mourners were first allowed public visitations at the Rainbow PUSH headquarters in February, giving Jackson's longtime neighbors a chance to say goodbye to the civil rights leader.

The late reverend then lay in state at the South Carolina Capitol. Jackson grew up in segregated Greenville, South Carolina. As a high schooler, he led fellow students into a protest that desegregated a local library, starting a lifetime of civil rights activism.

Services honoring Jackson in Washington, D.C., were postponed after a request for him to lie in honor at the U.S. Capitol was denied. House Republican leadership cited the precedent that only former presidents and senior generals regularly receive the privilege.

Jackson's mentees also honored his legacy by organizing on issues such as voting rights, economic inequality and political organizing in the weeks after his passing. Rainbow PUSH hosted a forum for community organizers and clergy whom Jackson mentored to discuss his impact on their careers.

Wilson said that the best way to honor Jackson is to continue advocating for progressive, inclusive solutions to the pressing economic and political challenges of the day. She cited policies that addressed the impending socioeconomic effects of artificial intelligence, improved public schools and a focus on youth mental health as areas he was contemplative on at the end of his life.

She also said that Jackson never shied away from being political.

"We're in a global moment where peace in the world is in jeopardy, where we just have bombs being dropped carelessly, killing children, innocent victims of political actions," said Wilson of the ongoing war in the Middle East. "When the government cuts SNAP benefits and you have millions of children and families who will be food insecure, I think you have to tell them that we're fighting for you."

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The headquarters also greeted nearly 100 progressive activists from Minnesota. The assembled groups represented civil, labor and immigrants' rights groups who were recently thrust into the national spot-

light after President Donald Trump's administration's enhanced immigration enforcement operation in the state sparked protests.

"It's really empowering, at least for me, to see the coalition coming together and to understand the history of civil rights and human rights and immigrants' rights," said Yeng Her, the organizing director at the Immigrant Defense Network, one of the organizations that has protested the Trump administration in Minnesota.

The Jackson family invited the activists to Chicago to learn more about Jackson's strategies and find resources for their own organizations. Organizers met Rainbow PUSH alumni and some of Jackson's children.

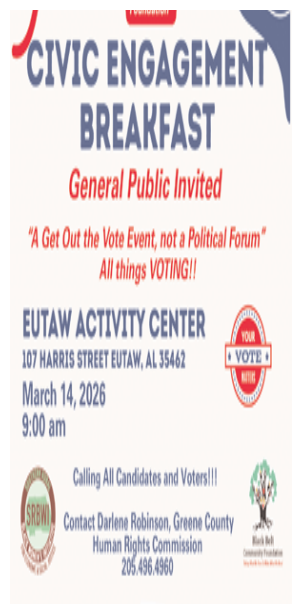
The gathering was a prelude to both the private service for Jackson's family and another commemoration.

On Sunday, members of the Jackson family and many of Jackson's mentees will travel to Selma, Alabama, to commemorate the "Bloody Sunday" protest marches when civil rights activists were beaten by police on the Edmund Pettus Bridge in 1965.

Jackson himself often attended the same anniversary march.

"Reverend always thought three-dimensionally," said Jimmy Coleman, a longtime aide to Jackson and native of Selma.

"Selma has always stood for the basics of what civil rights is, what we are debating in policy. He was always focused on what we needed in terms of policy in any given political moment, and that's what the march represents," said Coleman.



-Announcement-
The Greene County Missionary Baptist District Association 2026 Joint Board Session will be Saturday, March 28, 2026, at 10:00 A.M., at the Greene County Baptist District Christian Center, located on Finches Ferry Road in Eutaw, Alabama. Rev. Cedric D. Royal, Moderator.

--Legal Notices--

Legal Notice

Probate Office of Greene County
Case Number :2025-017
Estate of
Charles E. Hardy,
Deceased

Letters of Administration of said deceased having been granted to Greene County Sheriff, Jonathan Benison, as Personal Representative on the 19th day of February, 2026, by the Honorable Rolonda M. Wedgeworth, Judge of Probate Court of Greene County, notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

G. Stephen Wiggins
CAPE & HOWARD, PC
1490 Northback
Parkway, Suite 226
Tuscaloosa, AL 35406

3tcg 2/25, 3/4, 11

Legal Notice

In Re: The Estate of
Carrie Lee Johnson
Coleman, Deceased

Letter of Testamentary having been granted to Elizabeth Ann Coleman Phippen on the 24th day of February, 2026, by the Honorable Rolonda M. Wedgeworth, Judge of Probate for the Greene County, Alabama, notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said Estate are required to present same within time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

Elizabeth Ann Coleman
Phippen
Executrix of the Estate
of Carrie Lee Johnson
Coleman

Walter A. Griess
Attorney for the
Executrix
Griess, Shaw &
Willingham, P.C.
315 Main Street
P.O. Box 528
Eutaw, AL 35463
Phone 205-372-9333
Fax 205-372-4027
Email
infor@eutawlaw.com

Legal Notice

MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE. Default having been made in the payment of the indebtedness secured by that certain mortgage executed by Mary Alma Chambers, a

single woman, originally in favor of James B. Nutter & Company, on July 26, 2008, said mortgage recorded in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Greene County, Alabama, in Mortgage Book 68 Page 813; the undersigned GITSIT Solutions, LLC, not in its individual capacity but solely in its capacity as Separate Trustee of GV Trust 2026-1, as Mortgagee/Transferee, under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in said mortgage, will sell at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash, in front of the main entrance of the Courthouse at Eutaw, Greene County, Alabama, on April 14, 2026, during the legal hours of sale, all of its rights, title, and interest in and to the following described real estate, situated in Greene County, Alabama, to-wit: Three -Fourth (3/4) acre, more or less, in the NW 1/4 of NW 1/4 of Section 4, Township 23 North, Range 2 East, described as: From the intersection of the Southeast Right-of-Way of Greene County Highway 51, with the East line of said NW 1/4 of NW 1/4, Section 4, run South along the East line of the NW 1/4 of NW 1/4 of Section 4, Township 23 North, Range 2 East, a distance of 140 feet; thence North 69 degrees 45 minutes West for 366 feet to the Southeast Right-of-Way of Greene County Highway 51; thence North-easterly along said Right-of-Way for 173 feet, thence South 63 degrees 00 minutes East for 242 feet to the Point of Beginning.. Property street address for informational purposes: 8484 County Road 191, Eutaw, AL 35462. THIS PROPERTY WILL BE SOLD ON AN "AS IS, WHERE IS" BASIS, WITHOUT WARRANTY OR RECOURSE, EXPRESSED OR IMPLIED AS TO TITLE, USE AND/OR ENJOYMENT AND WILL BE SOLD SUBJECT TO THE RIGHT OF REDEMPTION OF ALL PARTIES ENTITLED THERETO. Alabama law gives some persons who have an interest in property the right to redeem the property under certain circumstances. Programs may

also exist that help persons avoid or delay the foreclosure process. An attorney should be consulted to help you understand these rights and programs as a part of the foreclosure process. This sale is made for the purpose of paying the indebtedness secured by said mortgage, as well as the expenses of foreclosure. The successful bidder must tender certified funds in the amount of the winning bid made payable to Tiffany & Bosco, P.A. at the time and place of the sale. The sale will be conducted subject to: (1) confirmation that the sale is not prohibited under the U.S. Bankruptcy Code, (2) final confirmation with the Mortgage/Transferee, and if applicable, (3) collection of purchaser information needed to comply with the reporting requirements under the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network's Residential Real Estate Reporting Rule (31 C.F.R. Part 1031) and reimbursement of any expenses incurred as a result of the collection of such information. The Mortgage/Transferee and Tiffany & Bosco, P.A shall not be liable for any damages whatsoever. If the sale is set aside for any reason, the purchaser at the sale shall be only entitled to a return of the bid amount. The Mortgage/Transferee reserves the right to bid for and purchase the real estate and to credit its purchase price against the expenses of sale and the indebtedness secured by the real estate. This sale is subject to postponement or cancellation. GITSIT Solutions, LLC, not in its individual capacity but solely in its capacity as Separate Trustee of GV Trust 2026-1, ("Transferee") Tiffany & Bosco, P.A., 2501 20th Place South, Suite 300, Homewood, AL 35223 www.tblaw.com TB File Number: 26-01614-KO-AL 03/04/2026, 03/11/2026, 03/18/2026

In accordance with Chapter 1, Title 39, Code of Alabama, 1975, as amended, notice is hereby given that Frasier-Ousley Construction and Engineering, Inc., Contractor, has completed the Contract for Park Improvements Project, for The Town of Forkland, Owner, and have made request for final settlement of said Contract.

All persons having any claim for labor, materials, or otherwise in connection with this project should immediately notify 5020 Engineering Resource Group Incorporated, 130 CR 164, Jemison, AL 35085.

Frasier-Ousley Construction and Engineering, Inc.

1105 Singleton Drive

Selma, AL 36701
3tcg 3/11, 18, 25

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE GREENE COUNTY

Default having been made in the payment of the indebtedness secured by that certain mortgage executed by Bessie Hall, a widow, originally in favor of United States of America, acting through the Farmers Home Administration, United States Department of Agriculture on August 25, 1993, said mortgage recorded in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Greene County, Alabama, at Book 37, Page 154; the undersigned United States of America, acting through the Farmers Home Administration, United States Department of Agriculture, as Mortgage/Transferee, under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in said mortgage, will sell at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash or certified funds, in front of the main entrance of the Courthouse at Greene County, Alabama, on April 9, 2026, during the legal hours of sale, all of its right, title, and interest in and to the following described real estate, situated in Greene County, Alabama, to-wit:

A ONE (1) ACRE TRACT IN NE 1/4 OF SECTION 3, TOWNSHIP 21 NORTH, RANGE 1 EAST, IN GREENE COUNTY ALABAMA:

DESCRIBED AS BEGINNING AT A POINT ON THE EAST SECTION LINE AT THE NORTH MARGIN OF A PUBLIC ROAD, SAID POINT BEING 2,744 FEET NORTH OF THE SE CORNER OF SAID SECTION 3, TOWNSHIP 21 NORTH, RANGE 1 EAST, PROCEED NORTH 4°50' WEST 208.7 FEET TO AN IRON

PIN, THENCE NORTH 88° WEST 208.7 FEET TO AN IRON PIN, THENCE SOUTH 4°50' EAST 208.7 FEET TO AN IRON PIN ON THE NORTH MARGIN OF SAID PUBLIC ROAD, THENCE SOUTH 88° EAST 208.7 FEET TO AN IRON PIN AND POINT OF BEGINNING.

Property street address for informational purposes: RR 2 Box 164-A Boligee, AL 35443

THIS PROPERTY WILL BE SOLD ON AN "AS IS, WHERE IS" BASIS, SUBJECT TO ANY EASEMENTS, ENCUMBRANCES, AND EXCEPTIONS REFLECTED IN THE MORTGAGE AND THOSE CONTAINED IN THE RECORDS OF THE OFFICE OF THE JUDGE OF PROBATE OF THE COUNTY WHERE THE ABOVE-DESCRIBED PROPERTY IS SITUATED. THIS PROPERTY WILL BE SOLD WITHOUT WARRANTY OR RECOURSE. EXPRESSED OR IMPLIED AS TO TITLE, USE AND/OR ENJOYMENT AND WILL BE SOLD SUBJECT TO THE RIGHT OF REDEMPTION OF ALL PARTIES ENTITLED THERETO.

Alabama law gives some persons who have an interest in property the right to redeem the property under certain circumstances. Programs may also exist that help persons avoid or delay the foreclosure process. An attorney should be consulted to help you understand these rights and programs as a part of the foreclosure process. This sale is made for the purpose of paying the indebtedness secured by said mortgage, as well as the expenses of foreclosure. The successful bidder must tender cash or certified funds made payable to Aldridge Pite, LLP at the time and place of the sale. If sale is voided, Mortgage/Transferee shall return the bid amount to the successful purchaser. The Mortgage/Transferee and Aldridge Pite, LLP shall not be liable to the purchaser for any damages. If the sale is set aside for any reason, the purchaser at the sale shall be only entitled to a return of the bid amount. The Mortgage/Transferee re-

serves the right to bid for and purchase the real estate and to credit its purchase price against the expenses of sale and the indebtedness secured by the real estate. This sale is subject to postponement or cancellation. United States of America, acting through the Farmers Home Administration, United States Department of Agriculture, Mortgage/Transferee ALDRIDGE PITE, LLP Six Piedmont Center 3525 Piedmont Road, N.E., Suite 700 Atlanta, GA 30305. Attorney for Mortgage/Transferee.

Newspaper: Greene County Democrat
Publication Dates: 3/11/2026, 3/18/2026, 3/25/2026

THIS OFFICE IS ACTING AS A DEBT COLLECTOR AND IS ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

3tcg 3/11,18, 25

Legal Notice
In the Matter of
The Estate of
James Willice Lashley,
Deceased

Notice to Creditors

Letters Testamentary under the last will and testament of James Willice Lashley, deceased, having been granted to the undersigned on the 24th day of February, 2025, by the Hon. Rolonda M. Wedgeworth, Probate Judge of Greene County, Alabama, notice is hereby given that all person having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

Dawn Elizabeth Lashley
Abram
Danah Ruth Lashley
Graham, Co- Personal
Representatives of the
Estate of James Willice
Lashley, deceased

Richard G. Cross
Watkins Cross, LLC
P.O. Box 1528
Livingston, Alabama
35470

3tcg 3/11,18, 25

See Legal Notices,
p. 9

Commission

Two members of the new ambulance board were present at the meeting, Luther "Nat" Winn, Chair and Loretta Webb Wilson, member. Ms. Wilson said she was planning to put a proposal in to Congresswoman Sewell's office for a 2027 appropriation for a second ambulance and wanted to be sure that the ambulance service would be considered a non-profit public corporation.

Ms. Altheria Wilder, Commission CFO presented the financial report for the Commission, as of February 28, 2026. The Commission had \$8,021,006 in Citizens Trust Bank and \$2,193,479 in Merchants and Farmers Bank for a total of \$10,214,485. Of This total \$4.2 million is in unrestricted funds and \$6.0 was in restricted funds. Another \$1.9 million was in Certifi-

cates of Deposit and Investments.

For February 2026, the Commission spent \$1,772,434 for accounts payable and payroll, with another \$97, 395 in electronic claims for employee taxes and retirement. All departments wrestle operating within their budgets at the end of the fifth month of the fiscal year which began October 1, 2025.

Fundraiser Program for EMS Ambulance
March 29, 2026 at 2:00 p.m.
New Generation Church Eutaw, Al

"Super Bowl Pastors"

- Pastor Joe N. Webb & Men of Praise
- Pastor Randy Miller & Choir, Mt. Zion, Mt. Hebron
- Pastor Eugene Foster & Choir, Second Baptist
- Pastor Samuel Ezell & Choir, Zion Brush Creek Eutaw, And Friendship Baptist Hale County.

EMS Ambulance Need All of Us to Pack the Church Be A Helping Hand

Public Hearing Notice

The Town of Forkland will hold a public hearing on Thursday March 19, 2026 at 10:00 am at the Town of Forkland Town Hall to discuss the completion of the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG Project Number SM-CE-PF-22-030) that involved the park improvements. The Town is interested in obtaining all citizens' input on the performance of local officials, the Town staff, staff, consultants, administrators, engineers, and contractors, and the actual use of CDBG funding during the implementation of the project. Citizens will also be requested to assess the performance of the Town of Forkland in resolving identified community development needs and in achieving community development goals and objectives. All citizens, including those in the targeted area are encouraged to attend in order to comment on the proposed activities. For more information or if you require special accommodations at the hearing, contact Kinya Isaac-Turner, Town Clerk at (334) 289-3032.

EXERT

SUMMER EXPERIENCE EXERT CAMP

5 DAYS AT CAMP CHANDLER. EXPERIENCING THE NEXT GENERATION OF CHANGE MAKERS THROUGH EXTENSION, EDUCATION AND RESEARCH.

JUNE 7-13 2026

REGISTRATION AND COST: \$100 PER STUDENT

STUDENTS WILL EXPERIENCE A HANDS-ON ACTIVITIES SUMMER CAMP

CAMP ADDRESS: 1248 JORDAN DAM RD, WETUMPKA, AL

CAMP FEE
\$100

INCLUDES
Dinner, snacks, and drink
Personal protective equipment
Jackets and
Documentation materials

EXERT INFORMATION

FOR MORE INFORMATION
CONTACT: KINYA ISAAC-TURNER
TOWN CLERK
334-289-3032

FOR MORE INFORMATION
CONTACT: KINYA ISAAC-TURNER
TOWN CLERK
334-289-3032

Carolyn's Tid Bits...by Carolyn Young



that you have to shuffle back to the center of the ring, fight one more round. When your arms are so tired that you can hardly lift your hand to come on guard, fight one more round. When your arms are so tired that you can hardly lift your hands to come on guard, fight one more round. When your nose is bleeding and your eyes are black and you are so tired that your wish your opponent would crack you one

on the jaw and put you to sleep, fight one more round -remembering that the man who always fight one more round is never whipped.

Happy birthday to Henry Miles Jr., Jacqueline Allen, Tabitha J. Scott, Darrell Lockett Jr., LaToya Soto, Ayesha Robertson, Kenya Kennedy, Cynthia C. Brown, Harmonii Long, Annie Welsey, Cassandra Palmer, Derrick Chavers, Charles William, Alayshia

Bester, Lou Branch Jr., Adrianna Dixon, Diane Johnson, Shyla Hunter, Kakeisha Smoot, Rev. Esmer Davis, Daffany Colvin, Desario Little, Elizabeth Lewis and James Beck.

Happy Anniversary to Mr. and Mrs. Renea & Charles Finch.

"The man who get ahead is the one who does more than is necessary - and keeps on doing it."

Fight one more round. When your feet are so tired

Johnni Strode-Morning volunteered for games



Submitted by: Johnni Strode-Morning,

Alumni of Stillman College, Johnni Strode-Morning volunteered February 24th and 25th for the 2026 HBCUAC Hope Credit Union Men's and Women's Basketball Championships which took place at the Birthright Alumni Hall on the campus of Stillman College (3601 Stillman Blvd, Tuscaloosa, AL 35401)!

Her job and shift duties were to be a Team Host/Greeter on Tuesday, February 24th and Wednesday, February 25th, 2026.

Each Team Host effectively greeted, directed, and assisted the team and coaching staff to the assigned locker room and the court, ensuring they have a

smooth and positive experience at the facility.

All events were located inside Birthright Alumni Hall. Each Hostess/Greeter had access to food and drinks and received a volunteer polo shirt.

Johnni Strode-Morning, a native of Boligee is a graduate of Stillman College and is a member of the Tuscaloosa Stillman College Alumni Association, Tuscaloosa, Alabama. Numerous other Tuscaloosa Stillman College Alumni members volunteered for the HBCUAC Hope Credit Union Men's and Women's Basketball Championships week long games. The year 2026 is Johnni's second year to volunteer at her Alma Mater for the HBCU Championship Tournament Games.

---Legal Notices---

MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE NOTICE

Default having been made in the terms of the mortgage executed to Peoples Bank of Greensboro by Kashundria Williams and Javorris L. Conner on the 26th day of April, 2022, " which said mortgage is recorded in the office of the Judge of Probate of Greene County, Alabama, in Mortgage Book 0091 at page 101, and said default continuing, the undersigned will sell at public outcry for cash to the highest bidder, in front of the Court House door of Greene County, Alabama, between the legal hours of sale, on the 31 st day of March, 2026, the following described real estate situated in Greene, Alabama, to-wit:

Commence at the Northwest corner of the Southeast Quarter of the Southwest Quarter of Section 15 Township 24 North,

Range 2 East, Greene County, Alabama, and run South 00 degrees 54 minutes 20 seconds West a distance of 352.45 feet to a Yz inch iron pin capped

"HOGGLE PLS #22677"; thence run South 89 degrees 24 minutes 14 seconds East a distance of 1.260.81 feet to a Yz inch iron pin capped "HOGGLE PLS #22677" on the West right of way of Greene County Highway # 191, said highway having an 80 foot wide right-of-way margin as shown on Right-of-Way Map, Snoddy Iena Road, S.A.C.P. 354-B; thence run North 07 degrees 08 minutes 19 seconds West along said right-of-way margin a distance of 355.68 feet to a Y2 inch Iron pin capped "HOGGLE PLS #22677", and thence run North 89 degrees 24 minutes 14 seconds West a distance of 1,211.03 feet to the point of beginning.

Said parcel containing 10.00 acres, more or less.

Said sale is made for the purpose of paying the mortgage debt and the costs and expenses of foreclosure.

PEOPLES BANK OF GREENSBORO

Mortgagee NICHOLAS H. COBBS, JR. Attorney for Mortgagee 1110 Main Street Greensboro, AL 36744 (334) 507-3950 3tcg 3/4,11,18

Legal Notice In Re: The Estate of Erma Myrtle Hitt, Deceased

Letter of Testamentary having been granted to Adrianna Hitt Williams on the 3rd day of March, 2026, by the Honorable Rolonda M. Wedgeworth, Judge of Probate for Greene County, Alabama, notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said Estate are required to present same with in the time allowed by law

of the same will barred. Adrianna Hitt Williams Executrix of the Estate of Erma Myrtle Hitt, Deceased

Walter A. Griess Attorney for the Executrix Griess, Shaw & Willingham, P.C. 315 Main Street P.O. Box 528 Eutaw, Al 35462 Phone: 205-9333 Fax : 205- 372-4027

3tcg 3/11, 28, 25

Eutaw Mini Storage P.O. Box 529 Eutaw, Al 35462 205-372-9321

Notice is hereby to Melba Craig that the contest in Unit #5 will be sold to the highest bidder at 10:00 on March 31, 2026 at the Eutaw Mini-Storage located at Finches Ferry Road in Eutaw, Alabama.

3tcg 3/11,18, 25

FREE MAMMOGRAMS AND PAP TESTS
 with FREE CANCER TREATMENT AVAILABLE TO ELIGIBLE WOMEN
 • Breast Cancer Screenings 40-64 yrs old
 • Cervical Cancer Screenings 21-64 yrs old

DON'T DELAY DO IT FOR YOURSELF DO IT FOR YOUR FAMILY

For a referral or more information go to:
www.alabama.gov/publichealth.gov/handc
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 or contact the hotline: 1-877-252-3324

Will Sit with Elderly For more information
 call 205 - 344-2718 or 1-659-216-4529
 Doris Newell

STOP Elder Abuse, Neglect & Exploitation

Submit a report to the Alabama Department of Human Resources Adult Protective Services Division

1-800-458-7214
aps@dhr.alabama.gov

Dental Clinic

Sponsored by:
 NAPS
 April 4, 2026

New Generation Church
 119 Louis Barnett Jr. St.
 Eutaw, Alabama
 7:00 AM TO 3:00 PM
 (No appointments: First come, First serve. Limited Space Available)
 334-624-2593 www.ngchf.org

Help Wanted

License Clerk need in the Probate Office. Must have computer experience and be able to travel. You can pick up application and job description in the office of Brenda Burke on the Commissions side. All applications must be in by 4 p.m. March 25th.

STOP Elder Abuse, Neglect & Exploitation

Contact DHR to Make a Report

1-800-458-7214
aps@dhr.alabama.gov

Become an **ADULT FOSTER CARE Provider**

ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES
 1-800-458-7214
dhr.alabama.gov/AFC

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 Eutaw, Alabama 35462
 (205) 372-3302

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 Monday –Friday
 Timeline to Apply: Ongoing

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Reginald Cheatem
Proprietor

JOSHUA J. SWORDS

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329 Prairie Ave
Eutaw, AL 35462

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