



*Merry Christmas
from the Mississippi Link*

PHOTO BY DONOVAN E. SCOTT

Retired NFL players in the spirit of giving this Christmas



Jackson police officer Juliana Chisholm and retired NFL player Victor Brazile at bike give-away
PHOTO BY STEPHANIE R. JONES

By Stephanie R. Jones
Contributing Writer

There could be traffic jams on sidewalks and streets in Metro Jackson on Christmas morning thanks to the state's retired NFL players.

For the third year, the MS Retired Players Association in partnership with the group Reading on Wheels handed out 500 free children's bicycles during their annual Celebrity Bike Give Away.

The group gathered Saturday morning at Smith Wills Stadium to load the bikes in cars, greet people and just have a fun time.

Jackson police officer Julianna Chisholm, who was at last year's event and picked up two bikes this year, said the giveaway was

the best yet. In addition to bikes, Chisholm said there were more giveaway items. "They had a lot more items this year" such as toys and stuffed animals, she said. "People even came from out of state this time."

The two she picked up were for children of families she met on her police beat.

During the give away a local DJ played music and broadcasted live while the Protégé Allstars dance troupe performed. The troupe is comprised of girls ages 5 to 18, said director Charey Robinson, whose uncle is Players Association president Vernon Perry.

Murrah High School cheerleaders were

Give away
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Obamas unveil their final White House Holiday Card

Stephanie R. Jones

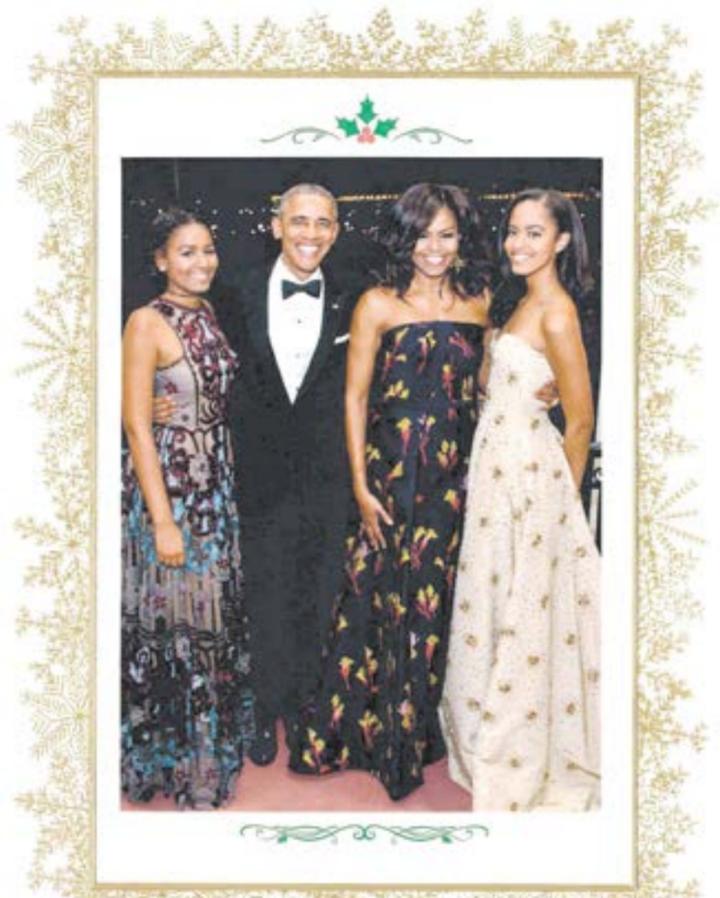
By Adam Howard
nbcnews

For fans of the outgoing first family, this holiday season will be bittersweet. It will be the Obamas' last year of appearing on their annual Christmas cards.

This year's card features a much grayer President Obama than the one Americans elected for the first time eight years ago, alongside first lady Michelle Obama and his two daughters Malia and Sasha, who have grown up in the White House.

"As our family reflects on our many happy years spent in the White House, we are grateful for the friends we've made, the joy we've shared, and the gifts of kindness we've received," the card reads. "We wish you and your loved ones a joyous holiday season and a wonderful new year."

It's signed by President Obama, first lady Michelle Obama, Malia and Sasha, as well as the two adorable White House dogs Bo and Sunny by their paw prints.



*The White House
2016*

President-elect Donald trump meets with black celebrities

By Lauren Victoria Burke
NNPA Newswire Contributor

In an effort to show that he plans to be the "president for all Americans" and to bolster support in the black community, President-elect Donald Trump has met with a number of black celebrities and businessmen including rapper Kanye West, billionaire Robert Johnson and NFL Hall of Famers Jim Brown and Ray Lewis.

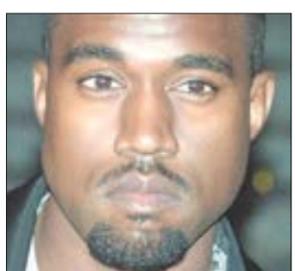
Unlike so many other visitors to Trump Tower, Trump greeted West in the lobby; members of the media snapped pictures and yelled questions.

"We've been friends for a long time," Trump told reporters at the end of the meeting. "We discussed life."

With rumors swirling that Trump is having difficulty finding someone to perform at his January 20, 2017 inaugural, there



Trump



President-elect Donald Trump recently met with Kanye West. This photo was taken during the Vanity Fair kickoff event for the 2009 Tribeca Film Festival. PHOTO BY DAVID SHANKBONE/WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

was unconfirmed speculation that West may serve as some form of entertainment at an inaugural event.

In a separate meeting, Trump talked to Brown and Lewis about economic empowerment in the black community and urban de-

velopment.

Trump recently selected famed neurosurgeon and former presidential candidate Ben Carson to lead the Department of Housing

Trump
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Trump wins Electoral College vote as insurgency fizzles



Members of the Mississippi Electoral College sign certificates of vote in the process of formally casting their electoral votes in Jackson, Miss. Dec. 19, 2016. PHOTO: ROGELIO V. SOLIS, AP

By Heidi M. Przxbyle
TheAssociated Press

WASHINGTON – Donald Trump will officially become president next month. Trump surpassed the 270 electoral votes needed from 538 electors casting their ballots, in a day of normally ceremonial voting that drew attention amid intense social media pressure and protests in state capitols.

Electoral College
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Mississippi Electors' Named

The following are the Republican presidential electors.

- Ann Hebert
- Joe F. Sanderson Jr.
- Charles Evers
- J. Kelley Williams
- William G. Yates Jr.
- Wirt A. Yerger, Jr.

A quick glance at who Mississippi's Republican electors are: Charles Evers, a radio station owner and host and former Mayor of Fayette; Ann Herbert of Lucedale, who's on the state Republican executive committee; Joe Frank Sanderson Jr. of Laurel, chairman and CEO of poultry company Sanderson Farms; J. Kelley Williams of Jackson, retired chairman and president of chemical company First Mississippi Corp.; William G. Yates Jr. of Philadelphia, chairman of Yates Construction; and Wirt A. Yerger Jr., of Jackson, a retired insurance broker who was state GOP chairman from 1956-1966.

Evers was a last-minute addition to replace Brad White of Braxton, a former state GOP chairman who was chosen as an elector months ago but said he couldn't fulfill the duty because he recently started a federal job, as chief of staff for Republican Sen. Thad Cochran.

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