Gridiron Gals electrify Memorial Stadium for annual football clinic

More than 70 women showed up at Veteran’s Memorial Stadium for Jackson State University’s 3rd annual Gridiron Gals football clinic on Saturday, May 16. The clinic aims to teach woman JSU football fans the ins and outs of the game.

Because of the steady growth of the clinic, the Gridiron Gals decided to expand from just a one-day clinic to a season-long club, complete with benefits such as discounts at the JSU store and game day T-shirts. The Gals will have a special cheering section at games so they can support the Tigers at home games.

JSU to celebrate 100th birthday of Margaret Walker Alexander

The Margaret Walker Center at Jackson State University will celebrate what would have been the 100th birthday of its founder, Dr. Margaret Walker Alexander, with its annual Jubilee Picnic on Tuesday, July 7, and a Centennial Gala on Friday, July 10.

In 1949, Margaret Walker Alexander joined the English faculty at then Jackson State College, where she taught for 30 years before retiring in 1979. While at Jackson State in 1968, she founded the Institute for the Study of the History, Life and Culture of Black People, one of the first Black Studies programs in the nation. Today named in her honor, the Margaret Walker Center is a museum and special collections archive dedicated to the African-American experience.

On July 7, the Margaret Walker Center will host its annual Jubilee Picnic in honor of Walker Alexander. Then, on July 10, the Margaret Walker Centennial Gala will begin with a reception at 5 p.m. in the JSU Student Center Ballroom. The highlight of the gala will be the performance of a special concert, “For My People: A New Musical Work.”

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The Emergence of West Jackson Blog was created by Jackson State University’s Center for University-Based Development. If you want to know more about the good news, people and things to do in the Westside—this blog is for you.

Some of our bi-weekly features include:

The Menu – This post highlights restaurants in West Jackson. It will feature one delicious menu item from a West Jackson restaurant. We LOVE suggestions, so if you just ate something that was finger licking good, let us know!

A Good Deed — We want to showcase an individual or organization that is positively impacting the West Jackson Community. The deed can be as small as helping someone cross the street, or a large-scale project impacting several lives.

If you have some good news or general announcements to share about West Jackson, let us know! Contact Jason Brookins at jason.h.brookins@jsums.edu or 601.979.2255. Also, check us out on Twitter and Facebook.
CSET’s growth shakes up earth during campus groundbreaking ceremony

With an influx in enrollment and additional degree programs, the College of Science, Engineering and Technology (CSET) at Jackson State University hosted a groundbreaking ceremony Thursday for a new 24,000 square-foot, two-story wing to its structure on the main campus.

The Phase II addition will accommodate student areas of the Department of Computer Science and the newly renamed Industrial Systems and Technology Department.

JSU’s CSET Dean Richard A. Aló said, “The new edifice will help support efforts to boost Mississippi’s economy with colossal opportunities for the state. It will help nurture the unceasing curiosity of our students who will help shape the 21st century by maintaining the security and longevity of our world.”

New JSU events director Woodson helping to stage activities

If you’re wondering who’s responsible for events running smoothly at Jackson State University, wonder no more. That would be Carol J. Woodson. Woodson became events director in March, but the Jackson native has more than 15 years experience in the event planning and management industry.

She spent the last four years as events manager for the Jackson Zoo.

“I’m excited to be a part of the JSU family,” Woodson said. “Jackson is my home, and being able to work with such an important entity in our city in an honor.”

Youths prepare to spin wheels during 3rd Annual Cruising the Community event

Let’s roll! On Friday, July 31, Jackson State University’s main campus will be the site of the 3rd Annual “Cruising the Community” event. This is a 1-3 mile ride around the JSU campus. The event, for children up to 18 years old, can include anything on wheels – bikes, scooters, wagons, tricycles, roller skates, in-line skates, wheelchairs and skateboards.

Children who attend will receive free helmets, goody bags and lunch. The entire event is free and open to the public. Individuals who don’t register online may register on the day of the event from 8 a.m. to 9 a.m. at the JSU Recreation Complex. The ride will start at 9 a.m., and the event will end at noon.

Ready for some football? 2015 JSU season tickets on sale

2015 JSU football season tickets may be purchased through September 4, 2015. All sales are final. Home football game dates, times and locations are subject to change.

General admission tickets are $75. Reserved seating tickets are $150. Box seating tickets are $225. For more information, call the JSU Athletics ticket office at 601-979-2420.