



The Belzoni Banner

Serving the Heart of the Yazoo-Mississippi Delta

Volume 113 Number 19

One Section 6 Pages, 75 Cents, Wednesday, May 12, 2021

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Web: www.thebelzonibanner.com

PAGES
FROM
THE PAST

1960

Members of the Belzoni Little League All-Stars, winners of the District Tournament were the guests of the Rotary club at the meeting Friday. Also present were their coaches Doyle Marshall and Bay Gammons. Johnny McBride represented the Mayor and Board of Aldermen at the meeting.

Dave Bridgers acted as master of ceremonies, and introduced the team and guests. The beautiful trophy won by the boys was on the speakers table.

Teddy Campbell of Mobile, Ala. and Rotarian Hugh Nichols of Greenville were guests.

Mrs. B. J. Chain, Jr. and daughter, Lynn of Olive Branch, are the guests of their parents and grandparents Mr. and Mrs. T. W. Smith.

The Delta Bells, name of the Junior Garden Club, sponsored by the Belzoni Garden Club, met September 8, 1960 in the home of Mrs. David Halbrook. The following officers were elected: president, Ann Halbrook; vice president, Sandra Tittle; secretary, Antonette Bell.

The following committee chairmen appointed: telephone, Hallie Gail Bridges; scrapbook, Sandra Dugas; reporter, Sandra Tittle. They were given coleus plants by Speed's Nursery. Mrs. Halbrook demonstrated how to plant them.

First meeting of the Delta Lassies 1960-61 was held September 2, with Jane Vickers. The meeting was called to order, roll called, and dues collected. Every year the Delta Lassies choose an elementary child to pay for their meals into the cafeteria at school. Honorary members were also chosen. Carol Mohamed and Jackie Paschal were asked.

The new officers of the year are president, Margaret Ann Bridgers; vice president, Shirley Biggs; secretary, Dianne Wade; treasury, Lynn Krutz; dance chairman, Dolly Sherlock; invitation chairman, Joanne Putnam; sergeant-at-arms, Sara Gregory; parliamentarian, Fairy Thornton; reporter, Edie Evers.

This year's sponsors are Mrs. Norman Duplain and Miss Elizabeth Brown.

Miss Rita Parks, bride-elect of Billy Joe Able was complimented with a miscellaneous shower Friday evening at the Gooden Lake Baptist Church with Miss Patsy Rice, Mrs. Dorothy Lloyd, Mrs. Lucius Ray and Mrs. O. L. Mitchell serving as hostesses.

Miss Parks was radiant in a blue pure silk dress, featuring a scoop neckline and bouffant skirt. Her gift corsage was of white carnations. The guests were greeted by Mrs. J. R. Halford, and Miss Patsy Rice at the register.

Mrs. Jack Linebarger presided at the punch bowl and Mrs. O. L. Mitchell served the dainty finger sandwiches and mints to the guests. A group of friends called during the appointed hours.

Sherilyn Jones of Inverness has been named the Good Middling Community Service Award Recipient for 2021 and will be recognized at the 86th Annual Meeting of Delta Council.

Coined after the term "good middling", the highest grade in quality cotton production, the Good Middling Community Service Award recognizes individuals who have sustained significant efforts to promote community and economic vitality in the Mississippi Delta.

"Sherilyn Jones has always been very involved in the life of her local community and the greater Delta area. Sherilyn has willingly shared her talents and her time, and we are all fortunate and appreciative of her efforts," said Delta Council Arrangements Chairwoman Irene Long of Indianola.

Sherilyn earned a bachelor's

degree in Sociology and Psychology from Auburn University, a Master of Education in Guidance and Counseling from Mississippi State University and a master's degree in Sociology from Delta State University. She has continued educational course work from a variety of universities as well.

She is a longstanding leader with the American Association of University Women (AAUW). During her tenure with AAUW, she served on the College/University National Committee of which she was also the Chair. She was a member of the Legal Advocacy Fund Board, served as Southeastern Regional Director, as well as the AAUW Mississippi State President. Sherilyn also started the first community college branch of AAUW in the Nation at Mississippi Delta Community College.

Born and raised in Atlanta,

In addition to this work, she has moderated several political forums from local mayoral elections to U.S. Representative, Mississippi Governor and U.S. Senator elections.

In the community, Sherilyn has served as the first President of Mississippi Women for Agriculture since 2010 and is treasurer for the Sunflower County Humane Society Board.

She is on multiple community boards of directors including the Indianola Literacy Board, Indianola Excel by Five, Indianola Open Air Market, Mississippi Tennis Association, MS Delta Community College Center for Career & Workforce Development Advisory Board, MS Council for the Humanities and the Coalition for Mississippi's Children. She is also a member of the Delta Rockers dance team.

In her spare time, Sherilyn enjoys playing tennis, traveling, Bible study, tending to dogs and horses, and watching Mississippi State University sports and the New Orleans Saints.

Georgia, Sherilyn now resides in Inverness with her husband of 44 years, Austin Jones. They have one son, Andy, and daughter-in-law Christy and two grandchildren. They are members of First United Methodist Church in Indianola where she serves as a youth teacher, office assistant and assists with Bible studies.

The 86th Annual Meeting of Delta Council will be held in person on Friday, June 4, 2021, at Delta State University's Bologna Performing Arts Center (BPAC) in Cleveland, Mississippi. Keynoting the business session of the meeting will be U.S. Senator Cindy Hyde-Smith.



Sherilyn Jones

Sponsors for the meeting are BankPlus, Catfish Farmers of Mississippi, Cotton, Inc., Delta State University, Mississippi Corn Promotion Board, Mississippi Land Bank, Mississippi Rice Promotion Board, Mississippi Soybean Promotion Board, Simplot, and Southern Ag Credit.

Auditor's Office partners with school districts to cut outside-the-classroom spending

Direct Education Money to Teachers and Students

JACKSON, Miss. — Mississippi public schools could eliminate ineffective outside-the-classroom spending to potentially redirect over \$200 million to teacher salaries and classroom expenses each year, according to reports released this month by State Auditor Shad White. White's office recently partnered with three school districts to find ways to improve how they operate. This pilot project was conducted with the help of the advanced data analytics firm GlimpseK12 and was funded by the Mississippi Office of the State Auditor.

For the project, GlimpseK12 reviewed every expenditure made by three school districts over a period of time and offered data-driven recommendations to eliminate useless spending.

After the Auditor's office released a series of education spending reports in 2019 and 2020, representatives from three school systems – Columbus Municipal School District, Hinds County School District, and Starkville Okfuskeha Consolidated School District – volunteered to have their operations and expenditures examined with these cutting-

edge data analytics techniques.

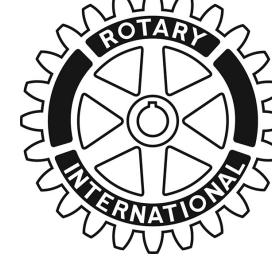
"I'm thankful for the leadership these school districts showed by volunteering to go under the microscope in the public view," said Auditor White. "I was happy to help these school districts identify ways they can prioritize their spending on teachers and the classroom."

Across the three school districts, GlimpseK12 identified opportunities to eliminate ineffective spending which would lead to annual savings of between \$7.5 and \$12.3 million. The spending areas with the largest opportuni-

ties for cost savings include software and digital products, maintenance, and supply chain management.

These school districts combined serve nearly 14,000 children. Together, they represent a range of municipal, county, and consolidated school systems. This level of savings spread across all public school students in the state could lead to over \$200 million of eliminated outside-the-classroom waste every year.

"I attended Mississippi public schools until I graduated from college, and I'm the child of a 35-year public school



Belzoni Rotary Club Offers Dr. Walter Mack Gorton Scholarship

Applications for the Dr. Walter Mack Gorton Scholarship can be picked up at Guaranty Bank & Trust Company front desk. This scholarship is restricted to a resident of Humphreys County and is only to be used at an Institution in the State of Mississippi. ONLY students already enrolled and working toward a degree as a HEALTH CARE PROVIDER qualify.

You must have completed at least 2 years of college study.

Applications will be received until July 31, 2021 and a selection will be made soon thereafter, if there is a qualified applicant.

National Day of Prayer



National Day of Prayer was observed in Belzoni at noon at the Humphreys County Courthouse.

THE BELZONI BANNER
PUBLISHED EVERY WEDNESDAY
115 E Jackson St. - Belzoni, MS 39038
Phone (662)247-3373 - Fax (662)247-3372
E-MAIL: editor@thebelzonibanner.com
JULIAN TONEY III - PRESIDENT & PUBLISHER
(USPS050000)
PERIODICALS POSTAGE PAID
AT BELZONI, MISSISSIPPI
POSTMASTER:
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18-20p

ESTATE SALE LIKE NEVER BEFORE
806 Weightman, Greenwood, May 13-16. Multiples of everything. Owners loved to shop and collect. From depression glass to Beanie Babies to Jim Shore figurines, etc. to the usual household furnishings, you will be amazed. For pictures and details go to estate-sales.net. Thu 9am-6pm, Fri 9am-4pm, Sat 9am-3pm, Sun 1pm-5pm
56

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NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Notice is hereby given that the Humphreys County Board of Supervisors will receive sealed bids in the office of the Chancery Clerk of Humphreys County, Mississippi at the Courthouse in Belzoni, Mississippi until 10:00 o'clock a.m. on June 21, 2021 for

Used Board Meeting Executive chairs/Meeting Chairs

All bids should be marked as such on the face of the envelope with the date and time of bid acceptance and sent to Mack D. Liddell Jr., Chancery Clerk of the Board of Supervisors of Humphreys County, Mississippi.

Bids will be opened shortly after 10:00 a.m. on the aforesaid date. The board reserves the right to reject any and all bids, to determine the best, and to waive all informalities.

Given under my hand and seal this the 6th day of May 2021.

Mack D. Liddell Jr.

Clerk of Humphreys County

Board of Supervisors

P.O. BOX 547

BELZONI, MS 39038

19-20

POSTED
All land owned or leased by Cheryl H. Nichols is posted against all forms of trespassing. All previous permission is hereby revoked. Violators will be prosecuted.

47-46

POSTED
All land owned by Jay Toney and Matthew Toney on Sky Lake is posted against all forms of trespassing. All previous permission is hereby revoked. Violators will be prosecuted.

19-21

POSTED
All land leased and owned by Steve Grisham is posted against all forms of trespassing. All previous permissions are revoked. Violators will be prosecuted.

45-44

POSTED
All land owned John Benard Smith III and Tortuga Farms, LLC (formerly the Jewell B Haga Estate) is posted against all forms of trespassing. All violators will be prosecuted.

48u

POSTED
All land owned by Pugh Farms, L.P. and Walter Pugh is posted against all forms of trespassing, including hunting, fishing & ATV riding. All previous permissions are revoked. Violators will be prosecuted.

27-26

POSTED
All land and buildings owned or leased (including the racetrack) by Aycock Farms, Inc., Aycock, LP and Brooks Aycock III is posted against all trespassing. Hunting, fishing, motorcycle riding is prohibited. All violators will be prosecuted.

10-9

POSTED
All land owned and leased by Holly Mound, Inc. and the Gardner Estate and farmed by McGlawn Farms is posted against all forms of trespassing. All previous permissions are hereby revoked. **VIOLATORS WILL BE PROSECUTED.**

44-43

THE BELZONI BANNER
OFFICE OF STATE AID ROAD CONSTRUCTION
MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
AND
HUMPHREYS COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
SECTION 900

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS:
Sealed bids will be received by the Board of Supervisors of Humphreys County, Mississippi at the Humphreys County Courthouse, Belzoni, Mississippi, until 10:00 am on the 4th day of June, 2021 and shortly thereafter publicly opened for the construction of 0.019 miles of BOX CULVERT on the PLUCK ROAD being known as Project No. LSBP-27(20) in Humphreys County, Mississippi.

PRINCIPAL ITEMS OF WORK ARE APPROXIMATELY AS FOLLOWS:

ITEM	QUANTITY	UNIT
ROADWAY ITEMS:		
MOBILIZATION	LUMP SUM	LS
CLEARING AND GRUBBING	LUMP SUM	LS
REMOVAL OF BRIDGE/TIMBER PILING @ STA 10 + 04.41	1.000	UN
UNCLASSIFIED EXCAVATION (FM)	50.000	CY
BORROW EXCAVATION) CONTRACTOR FURNISHED, LVM, CLASS 9)	105.000	CY
STRUCTURE EXCAVATION (FM)	120.000	CY
GEOTEXTILE FABRIC STABILIZATION (TYPE III) (AOS 0.15 - 0.43)	120.000	SY
GRANULAR MATERIAL (LVM), (CLASS 4, GROUP B)	80.000	CY
COARSE AGGREGATE COVER MATERIAL, SIZE 56, TYPE CRUSHED STONE	180.000	CY
CLASS BB STRUCTURAL CONCRETE REINFORCING STEEL	108.070	CY
RIGHT-OF-WAY MARKERS (TYPE I)	18,695.000	LB
MAINTENANCE OF TRAFFIC	4.000	EA
ADDITIONAL CONSTRUCTION SIGNS	0.000	SF
FLOWABLE FILL	120.000	CY
NON-PARTICIPATING ITEMS:		
HOT MIX ASPHALT, (ST) (12.5 MM)	50.000	TON
EROSION CONTROL ITEMS:		
AGRICULTURAL LIMESTONE	0.390	TON
COMMERCIAL FERTILIZER (13-13-13)	0.190	TON
SEEDING	0.190	AC
VEGETATIVE MATERIALS FOR MULCH	0.580	TON
EXCELSIOR BLANKET	30.000	SY
TEMPORARY SILT FENCE (TYPE I) (AOS 0.15 - 0.84)	200.000	LF
WATTLES 20"	100.000	LF
ROOSE RIPPAP, 300 LB.	200.000	TON
NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS:		
CONTRACT TIME: 60 Working Days		
BASIS OF AWARD:		
The award, if made, will be made to the lowest qualified bidder on the basis of published quantities.		
The Board of Supervisors hereby notifies all bidders that it will affirmatively insure that in any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, minority business enterprise will be afforded full opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, or national origin in consideration for an award.		
PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS are on file in the Office of the Chancery Clerk of Humphreys County, the LSBP Engineer's office and the Office of the State Aid Engineer, 412 E. Woodrow Wilson Avenue, Jackson, Mississippi. This project shall be constructed in accordance with the latest edition of the Mississippi Standard Specifications for State Aid Road and Bridge Construction.		
PLANS AND PROPOSALS may be secured from J. Wayne Morrison, LSBP Engineer for Humphreys County, Mississippi, P.O. Box 567, Yazoo City, MS. The Cost is fifty dollars (\$50.00) for plans and fifty dollars (\$50.00) for the proposal, non-refundable. Certified check or bid bond for five percent (5%) of the total bid, made payable to Humphreys County and the State of Mississippi must accompany each proposal.		
Bidders are hereby notified that any proposal accompanied by letters qualifying in any manner the condition under which the proposal is tendered will be considered an irregular bid and such proposal will not be considered in making the award.		

Richard Stevens, President
Humphreys County Board of Supervisors
507

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CLASSIFIEDS
One man's trash is another man's treasure. Sell it with a classified in The Belzoni Banner!

POSTED

All land owned by John Daniels is posted against all forms of trespassing. Violators will be prosecuted.

40u

43-42

POSTED

All land owned and/or leased by Anchor Planting Company, Inc. is posted against all forms of trespassing. All previous permission is revoked. Violators will be prosecuted.

51-50pd

51-50pd

POSTED

All land owned by Nancy Wood is posted against all forms of trespassing. All previous permission is hereby revoked. Violators will be prosecuted.

45-44

45-44

Employment

L. E. TUCKER & SON, INC. - CDL DRIVERS needed to run from S.E. to West Coast. Experienced Singles and Teams. Check out our new pay package. Singles, 41 cents per mile for 60 day probationary period. 46 cents per mile thereafter. Teams, 50 cents per mile for 60 day probationary period. 55 cents per mile thereafter. Late model conventional tractors. Home weekly. Benefits package. Pearl, MS. 601-939-8088. www.tuckerandson.com

HELP MY MOTHER WITH LONG TERM CARE?

Dear Toni:
You have written about other options for long term care in the past and have discussed life insurance with living benefits. This confuses me because I thought all life insurance plans were the same. I was only aware of term and whole life.

How does this new type of life insurance help one with a long-term care issue?

Currently, my mother has been diagnosed with Alzheimer's and at 75, is in the early stages, and her Alzheimer's can last for years. Would she be able to apply for one of these new living benefit policies?

Thank you for all you do to help us understand these complicated Medicare issues...Sally from Tampa, FL.

Hello Sally:

With 10,000 Baby Boomers turning 65 every day for the next 15+ years, the insurance industry has designed new products for those concerned about long term care issues, but do not want to spend their hard-earned retirement dollars on a long-term care policy they may never use. And so, life insurance with living benefits was born.

Life insurance with living benefits is a life insurance or annuity policy with accelerated benefit riders such as terminal, critical, or chronic illness benefits or has death benefits (tax free). Many insurance companies are offering these benefits because people want protection for a long-term care need and if they never have that need, they have coverage for death benefits.

Benefit riders include:

- Terminal Illness Rider:** Insured has an illness or condition that is expected to result in death within 24 months or less.

- Chronic Illness Rider:** Eligible insured is unable to perform 2 of the 6 activities of daily living (ADLs) or required constant supervision to protect from threats to health or safety due to severe cognitive impairment.

- Critical Illness Rider:** Specific critical illness such as heart attack, stroke, invasive cancer, and many more critical illnesses.

The face amount of the policy determines what the living benefits are based on and the severity of the condition will determine the percentage paid. Accelerated benefit riders are not a long-term care policy.

To qualify for a life policy with living benefits, one must answer health questions and meet underwriting



requirements. Many want to wait to qualify because they do not see the need while they are healthy.

Unfortunately, I do not believe that your mother will qualify for a policy because she will not pass the underwriting. Usually having Alzheimer's is a kick out question. Therefore, one should plan early.

Different life insurance companies have different face amounts for their living benefits riders with maximum amounts to make a claim. Living benefits are becoming the new way for various long-term care issues to be paid for instead of draining your 401K or life savings.

There are four ways which the Pandemic has affected issuing a traditional long-term care policy as written from www.Elderlawanswers.com:

- Qualifying for a Long-Term Care Policy:** Because older individuals are at a higher risk for Coronavirus this is changing the underwriting process and placing additional restrictions on qualifying when testing positive for COVID-19.

- Raising premiums:** Positive testing for COVID-19, may change rates for plans being issued not already issued plans.

- Moving out of Nursing Homes:** Be sure that "at home care" is included in your long-term care plan.

- At home care:** Home care workers are charging more for services during the Pandemic and while social distancing with masks of course.

2021 Confused about Medicare and LTC Zoom

webinar is Thursday, May 27th at 4:00 PM. Visit www.tonisays.com to sign up for Toni's new webinar event.

Toni King, Medicare author/advocate is giving a \$5 discount to the Toni Says® readers on the new 2021 Medicare Survival Guide® Advanced book at www.tonisays.com. Have a Medicare question? Call 832/519-8664 or email info@tonisays.com.

POSTED

All land owned or leased by Kenny Rodgers is posted against all forms of trespassing, including 16th Section land & all Lundy property. All violators will be prosecuted.

Kenny Rodgers

34-33

POSTED

All land owned, leased and rented by Little J Farms, Little J Hunt & Land, and James W. Sandifer, Jr. is posted against all forms of trespassing. All previous permissions are hereby revoked. Violators will be prosecuted.

James W. Sandifer, Jr.

11-10

34-33

The City of Belzoni Election Commissioners will be conducting Poll Workers training and training for the Resolution Board members on May 20, 2021 and May 27, 2021 at 5:30 p.m. at the neighborhood Facility building.

The resolution board members for the June 8, 2021 General Election are Barbaria Thomas, Kevin Hinnant and Shirley Johnson.

Obituaries

WALTER SHERMAN FOSTER

Walter Sherman Foster passed away on Tuesday, May 4, 2021, at Baptist Hospital in Jackson, from complications from a stroke. Walter was born April 6, 1943, in Louise, MS to the late Walter and Nannie Chaney Foster.

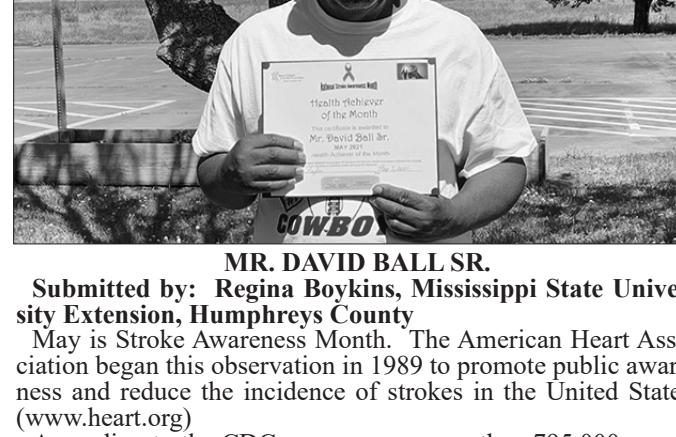
Walter grew up in Cary, MS and graduated from Rolling Fork High School. He served with the Mississippi Army National Guard Reserve from 1961-1967. Living in the Delta all of his life, he loved hunting, fishing, and trapping. He began his long life career with Delta Implement at the age of 18, until he retired. He was a member of the American Legion and First Presbyterian Church in Belzoni. His favorite past time was watching his grandchildren play sports.

He is survived by the love of his life, Jan Hughes Foster; sisters, Betty Bradshaw (Carl) and Beverly Bobbitt; his children, Barbara Newman (John), Scott Foster (Nurlana), Peri Hoffman (Lewis), Sharon Green (Allen), Jay Hughes (Amanda), Greg Hughes (Angie), and Jeff Hughes (Ruth); grandchildren, Steven Johnson, Anna Chatham (Steven), Chris Foster (Remy), Walter Foster, Mark Foster (Sarah), Michael Foster, Donna Hampton (Dalton), David Beachum, Heath Beachum (Lily), Benjamin James, Christian Hoffman, Zach Hoffman, Andrew Green, Lola Green, Nadia Hughes, Cory Hughes (Callie), Hunter Hughes, Hollis Hughes, Cole Heigle, Logan Heigle, Brett Hughes, and Ty Hughes; 14 great grandchildren; nieces, nephews, and numerous other family members and friends.

Graveside services were held at 11:00 am, Friday, May 7, 2021, at Gooden Lake Baptist Church Cemetery with Rev. Richard Wiman and Rev. Jonathan McGuire officiating. His grandsons served as pallbearers. Burton Funeral Home of Indianola has been entrusted with arrangements.

The online guestbook may be signed at www.burtonfuneralhome.net

HEALTH ACHIEVER - MAY 2021



MR. DAVID BALL SR.

Submitted by: Regina Boykins, Mississippi State University Extension, Humphreys County

May is Stroke Awareness Month. The American Heart Association began this observation in 1989 to promote public awareness and reduce the incidence of strokes in the United States. (www.heart.org)

According to the CDC, every year, more than 795,000 people in the United States have a stroke. The CDC also reports that up to 80% of strokes could be prevented through healthy lifestyle changes and working with one's health care team to control health conditions that raise one's risk for strokes.

Our May Health Achiever, Mr. David Ball Sr., is a stroke survivor who knows how blessed he is to tell his story. It was March 2018 when he had his stroke at the age of 61. Prior to the stroke, he had no health problems and was not taking any medications. Even days before the stroke, Mr. Ball says that he did not have any warning signs that led him to think that his health was heading for a crisis.

However, looking back, Mr. Ball can now see somethings that he could have done better, such as his diet. He recalls eating a lot of meat and not a lot of vegetables. He also had his share of stress and was always on the go.

Mr. Ball's stroke-survivor story began after getting back late one night from a basketball game in Jackson. The morning he woke up with a headache. As he was getting up, he fell on the floor only to get back up and fall again. That time he hit his head on the tub. When he tried to get up for the third time, it felt like someone had hit him on the right side of his head with a baseball bat. His nephew then saw his face drooping and told him not to get back up and called for help. Mr. Ball was then immediately taken to Indianola Hospital where it was confirmed that he had a stroke and that his blood pressure was so high that he was in danger of dying.

As he was air-lifted to UMMC, Mr. Ball could heard one of the medical attendants tell another that he was not going to make it if his blood pressure did not decrease. In hearing that, Mr. Ball, who was partially unconscious, stated that he silently cried out to God to spare his life. After a while, he heard another responder tell the first one, that he was going to make it because suddenly his blood pressure started to decrease.

Even with this miracle, Mr. Ball's road to recovery was a challenging one. He stayed in the hospital for almost one month. During his recovery, he went to therapy to improve his speech and correct his balance. There was also a great deal of working on memory recall and reading.

Three years later, Mr. Ball says his life is a little different after the stroke. His memory is not as sharp as it once was and his left hand gets stiff sometimes. But while somedays are better than others, Mr. Ball says that he feel almost 100% most days.

His daily regimen now includes walking more, eating a balanced meal with less meat and salt, worrying less, and getting enough rest. His advice to others in term of keeping their health in-check: eat more vegetables and get your blood pressure checked regularly!

Our congratulations and thanks goes to Mr. David Ball Sr. for sharing his story of surviving a stroke and the steps that he takes each day to live a longer, healthier life.

The Humphreys County Health Network encourages all residents to become more physically active and to increase the number of fruits and vegetables in their daily diet. Pictured is Mr. David Ball Sr. with his Health Achiever certificate. For more information about National Stroke Awareness Month, please go to www.heart.org or www.cdc.gov.

Bellipanni Eye Clinic

Dr. Matthew Bellipanni

Optometrist

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Long Shots



by Richard Wiman



Long Shots is brought to you by your friends at BankPlus

SUGGESTIONS

We use words many times without actually knowing what they mean. When asked, students use the word to define itself because they honestly don't know the meaning of the word. They have a vague idea what it means but can't articulate it to save their lives, well, their grades.

Take the word "suggestion" as an example. If asked, could you define it? Rule out saying, "It's when you suggest something." ☺ If you have a dictionary or access to a computer, look it up. While you're doing that, pause your reading of this article. While you're away, I will keep going. I have a deadline, don't you see?

According to my favorite online dictionary, Wikipedia, a suggestion is "an idea or plan put forward for consideration." The definition continues with other words which define suggestion: proposal, proposition, submission, recommendation, advice; something that implies or indicates a certain fact or situation." If you're like me, you probably thought, "That's what I thought it meant."

Let's go exploring for suggestions. They are all around us. Like so many other things, we see them, but we don't see them. In other words, we are so used to them that we ignore them as we hurry on our way wherever it is we are going. Suggestions, like roses, are all too often ignored because we don't stop to smell them.

Anywhere we go here in Belzoni, we see suggestions. They are on nearly every corner in our city. I confess that there have been times when I thought Belzoni must have the most suggestions of any city our size on the face of the planet. Do our politicians own the parts stores that sell brake shoes?

You know about all these suggestions, but I bet you have pretty much become numb to all those around us. We have suggestions where one would expect to see them, and we have them in the most unexpected places. We heed some suggestions while ignoring others. Sometimes we give a slow, casual nod to suggestions. Sometimes we actually stop and pay attention to the suggestions. Other times, we totally ignore the suggestions.

We truly do begin to grow weary of all the suggestions. If we have to pay attention to one more piece of advice, which, by the way, we never asked for in the first place, we are going to go crazy. Why do we need any more propositions or proposals? We don't want to vote for any more motions or agree to any more recommendations. Enough with all the suggestions! Stop implying and indicating a certain fact or situation that we have no sense of need for in the first place.

By now, you have come back from your dictionary search and have caught up with the drift of this article. Well, I hope you have, and I hope you know exactly what I'm talking about. Though I haven't counted them all, I am quite sure that the City of Belzoni has invested more tax dollars in these suggestions, per capita, than anywhere else I've ever been. I've never seen so many in one small town.

Driving in South Africa, for example, on the left side of the road in a right-hand side steering wheel, my son-in-law informed me that the law there allows motorists to ignore the suggestions as long as no one else has ignored it first. South Africans have an option to pay attention to the suggestion or ignore it. Evidently, we do too here in Belzoni!

Believing that we ought to take stop signs seriously, and not view them as suggestions, before someone gets killed or seriously injured, may be a long shot for some of you, but... whatever you do, don't be afraid to go with the long shots. Live life to its fullest every moment and be ready!

UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI STUDENTS NAMED TO PRESTIGIOUS HONOR SOCIETY

OXFORD, MISS. - The University of Mississippi welcomed more than 200 students into the UM chapter of Phi Kappa Phi for the spring 2021 semester. Phi Kappa Phi is the nation's oldest, largest and most selective honor society for all academic disciplines.

Phi Kappa Phi is the nation's oldest, largest and most selective honor society for all academic disciplines in its mission "to recognize and promote academic excellence in all fields of higher education and to engage the community of scholars in service to others."

Membership in Phi Kappa Phi is based on a student's sound character and academic standing. Juniors must have completed 72 credit hours and rank in the top 7.5 percent of their class, while seniors and graduate students must rank in the top 10 percent of their class.

The following Ole Miss students were recognized:

Olivia Lorayne Lloyd of Belzoni, MS, who is a Communication Sciences/Disorders major in the School of Applied Sciences.

Mary Katherine Reed of Isola, MS, who is a Integrated Marketing Comm major in the School of Journalism and New Media.

In a typical year, students are inducted into the society in a ceremony involving the university's top academic leaders, many of whom who are also members of Phi Kappa Phi. However, with safety protocols due to COVID-19 preventing large, in-person gatherings, the honor society's board still wanted to recognize its outstanding students.

"We are delighted that we are able to celebrate the academic achievements of these students. They have continued to excel in their studies even during these unprecedented times," said Carrie Veronica Smith, president of UM Phi Kappa Phi Advisory Board.

Phi Kappa Phi celebrated 60 years on the UM campus in 2019. The honor society was founded at the University of Maine in 1897. At Ole Miss, notable inductees include former chancellor Robert Khayat, the late Senator Thad Cochran and bestselling author John Grisham. Presidents, senators, Supreme Court Justices, governors, Pulitzer Prize winners, even astronauts count themselves as members of Phi Kappa Phi.

The University of Mississippi, affectionately known as Ole Miss, is the state's flagship university. Included in the elite group of R1: Doctoral Universities - Highest Research Activity by the Carnegie Classification, it has a long history of producing leaders in public service, academics and business. Its 16 academic divisions include a major medical school, nationally recognized schools of accountancy, law and pharmacy, and an Honors College acclaimed for a blend of academic rigor, experiential learning and opportunities for community action. Recognized among the nation's most beautiful, Ole Miss' main campus is in Oxford, which is routinely acknowledged as one of the country's best college towns.

34-33

MDCC HEALTH SCIENCE COMMENCEMENT

MOOREHEAD, Miss. (May 7, 2021) - Mississippi Delta Community College (MDCC) held its Health Science Pinning and Graduation Ceremony Thursday, May 5, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. at Jim Randall on the Moorhead Campus. The ceremony included graduates from the Associate Degree Nursing (AND) Program, the Dental Hygiene Program, the Medical Laboratory Technology (MLT) Program and the Radiologic Technology Program.

The processional was performed by Beverly Terrel and Derrick Fields provided the invocation with opening remarks by MDCC President Dr. Tyrone Jackson.

In total, sixty-nine students graduated from one of four health science programs. Each program prepares students for an exciting healthcare career. Graduates of these programs are awarded an Associate of Applied Science Degree from Mississippi Delta Community College.

Thirty-nine individuals completed the ADN Program. The ADN Program is designed to provide educational opportunities to qualified students for a rewarding career that will help meet the expanding health care needs of the community. The program prepares the individual to practice as a Registered Nurse, according to the State of Mississippi Law. Graduates receive an Associate of Applied Science Degree.

Nine individuals completed the Dental Hygiene Technology Program. The Dental Hygiene Program provides students with a general education and a comprehensive clinical dental hygiene experience that prepares them for a career in the dental hygiene profession. The program includes clinical experience in treating patients throughout the lifespan with normal oral care and general systemic conditions. All phases of dental hygiene education are covered and practiced by clinical experience.



Camden Forbes

the laboratory. Every day, new advances in genetic testing, biomarkers, and polymerase chain reaction technology are creating more challenges and job opportunities for clinical laboratory science professionals. It is a fast-growing field, and there will be great demand for clinical laboratory professionals in the future. Clinical laboratory professionals are the researchers, the investigators, and some say the real heroes of medicine.

Thirteen completed the Radiologic Technology Program. The Radiologic Technology Program provides a general education and clinical training program that prepares students for a career in radiography. The technical program combines theory through traditional classroom instruction and laboratory experience on campus, and clinical experiences in affiliating hospitals to provide opportunities for students to develop skills needed to enter the Radiology profession. The Radiologic Technology Program commences in August of each year and runs for 22 consecutive months with a projected graduation date in May.

THE BELZONI BANNER Special Pop-Up Vaccination Clinics Coming to Humphreys County

The Mississippi State Department of Health (MSDH) will host special pop-up COVID-19 vaccination clinics in Humphreys County on May 19-22.

No appointments necessary. Drop by, or make an appointment at <https://covidvaccine.umc.edu>.

Wednesday, May 19th

9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Thursday, May 20th

9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Friday, May 21st

9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Saturday, May 22nd

9 a.m. – noon

Humphreys County High School

700 Cohn Street

Belzoni, Mississippi

Anyone 16 years and older is eligible for vaccination. Pfizer two-dose vaccine and Johnson & Johnson single-dose vaccine (for those 18 and over) will be available. No documentation or identification is required. Second vaccine doses will be available in the area three weeks later.

Special Pop-Up Vaccination Clinics Coming to Sunflower County

The Mississippi State Department of Health (MSDH) will host special pop-up COVID-19 vaccination clinics in Sunflower County on May 19-22.

No appointments necessary. Drop by, or make an appointment at <https://covidvaccine.umc.edu>.

Wednesday, May 19th

9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Thursday, May 20th

9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Friday, May 21st

9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Saturday, May 22nd

9 a.m. – noon

Mississippi Delta Community College

J.T. Hall Coliseum

Highway 3 and Cherry Street

Moorehead, Mississippi

Anyone 16 years and older is eligible for vaccination. Pfizer two-dose vaccine and Johnson & Johnson single-dose vaccine (for those 18 and over) will be available. No documentation or identification is required. Second vaccine doses will be available in the area three weeks later.

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THURSDAY, MAY 20, 2021

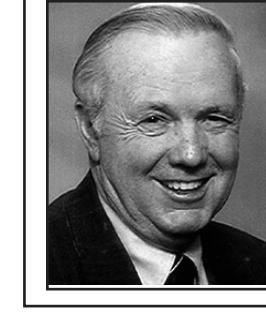
COME AND GO

2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

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BELZONI, MISSISSIPPI



Guest Columnist

Jim Davidson

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HUMAN BEINGS ARE IMPROVABLE!

A while back a friend gave me a list of personal improvement items labeled "Common New Year Resolutions." Now, you know that self-improvement is not just something to write down to start off the new year right, but is something to work on each day of our lives. This list contained 33 different actions that, when put into action, would certainly improve any of our lives. While viewing this list you will find that some are much more important than others, but each one can be used to improve our lives in some way.

At this point I would ask you to slow down a bit and think about each one. If you will relate each one to your own lifestyle, you will find that many will make a real difference in the way you do things. Here they are: "Eat healthier and less – Exercise more – Save or spend less – Learn something new – Read more – Spend more time with family and friends – Get organized – Stop procrastinating (ouch!) – Improve concentration and mental skills – Meet new people – Become more active – Reduce stress – Learn to be happier with your life – Get more quality sleep – Be more polite – Watch less TV – Volunteer and give more to charity."

"Let grudges go – Stop being late – Control your emotions – Less time on social media – Remember important dates – Start writing a book or journal – Stop gossiping – Give one compliment a day – Go a whole day without checking e-mail – Do random acts of kindness – Clear out the clutter – Write down one thing you are grateful for every night – Drink more water – Call a friend instead of texting – Send handwritten letters – Clean out your car."

At this point I would like to ask you to consider each item on this list and see if there are not some of them that will make a wonderful difference in your life. I would like to close by sharing something related that a friend sent me a while back. It is titled:

Four Pair of Shoes

First Pair: A pair of track shoes worn by a youngster who was badly burned and they said he would never walk again. But because of courage and determination, Glen Cunningham became the world champion indoor miler.

Second Pair: A pair of tennis shoes in the Olympic games before the World War II tennis championship was about to be decided. In the match point, the ball was driven down the right course out of bounds. The crowd roared, but Ivan Von Braun went to the judges and told them the ball had tipped his racket. He went on to lose the match, but his stand for honesty will never be forgotten.

Third Pair: These were the tattered shoes of a little news boy when he passed a blind man on the street. He did not say, "Let the United Way take care of him." He dropped a few coins in the tin cup from his hard-earned money. This is what charity really means.

Fourth Pair: These are a pair of shoes worn by the Galilean, and they remind me of the great love He had for

MDCC HONORS SCHOLARS

MOORHEAD, Miss. (Apr. 29, 2021) – Mississippi Delta Community College (MDCC) recognized its scholars on April 28 during its annual Honors Day Ceremony. MDCC Vice President of Instruction Teresa Webster welcomed those in attendance and informed them that the event was a special day set aside to honor students for their academic excellence.

Webster explained that two categories of awards would be given out throughout the ceremony. Achievement awards are given for excellence in a particular discipline, whereas departmental awards are the highest honor bestowed upon a student by a specific department.

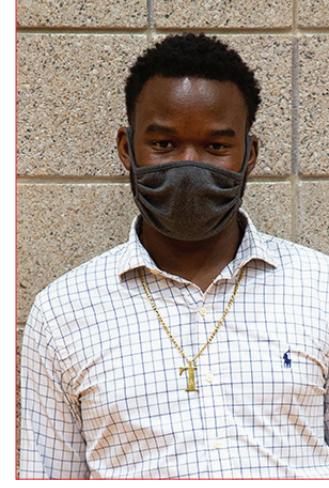
MDCC President Dr. Tyrone Jackson then took to the podium to issue words of encouragement to the honorees. He began his speech with the quote, "Education is the passport to the future, for tomorrow belongs to those who prepare for it today."

Before awards were presented, Christina Alford, a sophomore at MDCC and 2021 Hall of Fame recipient, performed a song written by her and her fellow students entitled "Conqueror." Co-writer Kenny Coalson accompanied her on piano.

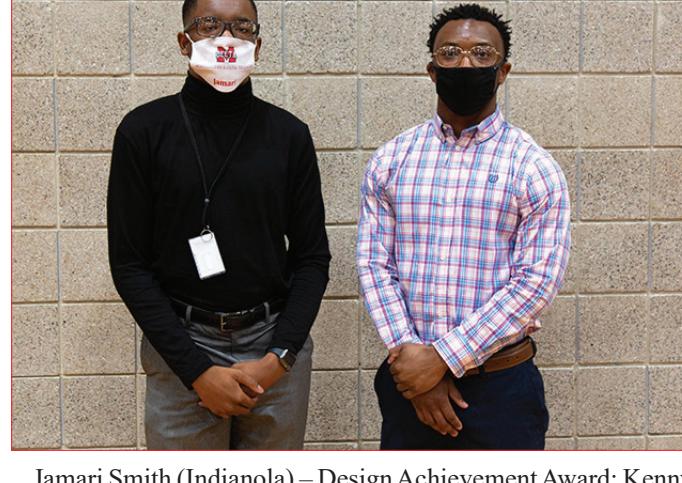
Amyia Rogers, Eli Stallings and Kalann Haymon were recognized alongside Alford as members of the 2021 MDCC Hall of Fame. In order to be eligible for this



Marcus Hart (Belzoni) – Welding Departmental Award



Fa'Darryl Cooper (Belzoni) – Social Sciences Departmental Award



Jamari Smith (Indianola) – Design Achievement Award; Kenny Coalson (Belzoni) – Music Achievement Award



English Awards - Christina Alford (Greenwood) - World Literature I Achievement Award; Peyton Stigall (Scott) - American Literature and World Civilization I & II Achievement Award; Roberto Montemayor (Cleveland) - British Literature Achievement Award; Kenny Coalson (Belzoni) - World Literature I Achievement Award; Amber Howard (Indianola) - English Departmental Award; Carly Williams (Carrollton) - World Literature I Achievement Award



Charmaine Prewitt (Belzoni) – Account Achievement Award; Bradley Childs (Silver City) - Gas Metal Arc Welding Achievement Award; Jaiden Little (Isola) - Welding Achievement Award

CONGRATULATIONS,

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H Riley
A Bellipanni

Congratulations, Riley. We love you-
Papa and Gran.

Belzoni Cable to begin accepting applications for \$50 discount on eligible internet access services

The FCC has notified that the emergency broadband benefit program will begin on May 12. Starting on that day, Belzoni Cable can begin accepting applications to participate in this program which provides a temporary \$50 discount on eligible internet access services.

Please understand that this is a temporary program that was authorized by Congress to aid in COVID-19 recovery and will end sometime in the future, either 6 months after the end of the pandemic declaration or when the funds allocated run out, whichever happens first.

New and existing customers are invited to apply starting May 12. Eligibility is based on lifeline service criteria. If your household has a student in Humphreys County or South Delta public schools, your household is approved as these school districts are 100% free or reduced lunch.

If you currently receive benefits such as EBT (food stamps) or other assistance, you may qualify. If you currently receive a lifeline subsidy on a cell phone you can receive this benefit as well.

This only applies to internet service portion of services. If you currently are on an internet package of \$50, the whole \$50 subsidy can still apply making the internet service no cost for the duration of this program. If you have TV and/or phone service, charges for those services will still apply.

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Congratulations Humphreys Academy Class of 2021



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Randa Nichole Barnes



Parker Manning Bell



Riley Dane Bellipanni



Jakobee Alexander Cobb



Jane Abner Dunn



Jennifer Michelle Foxworth



Logan Loyd Heigle



Bretton Payne Hughes



Bre'Anna Courtnise Scrivens



Ansley Frazier Stewart



Grant Henry Tirey



Don Ethan Whitt

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 CLASS OF
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