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District Foundation presents*



**OCTOBER 7, 2021
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HPSDFOUNDATION.ORG**

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THE VISION AND MISSION
OF HATTIESBURG PUBLIC
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Hattiesburg Public School District Foundation

presents the

2021



Thursday, October 7, 2021
Livestream Event
Hattiesburg, Mississippi

*A benefit to support the vision and mission
of Hattiesburg Public School District.*

Livestream event viewable at: HPSDFoundation.org

Eye of the Tiger

Every four years, flags flutter, hopes are heightened and athletes around the world are ready to be faster, higher, stronger.

The Olympics are the leading international sporting events, featuring summer and winter sports competitions in which thousands of athletes from around the world participate in a variety of competitions. The Olympic Games are considered the world's foremost sports competition with more than 200 nations participating.

Since their inception, the Games have grown so much that nearly every nation is now represented. Samone Biles' experience with the "twisties" reminds us that this growth has created numerous challenges and controversies, including boycotts, doping, bribery, and a terrorist attack in 1972. The Olympics and its media exposure provide athletes with the chance to attain national and sometimes international fame. The Games also provide an opportunity for the host city and country to showcase themselves to the world.

Hattiesburg Public School District students, a long way from the site of this year's pandemic-delayed Summer Olympics in Japan, will also be measured in the future by their accomplishments and how they have prepared themselves to meet global standards and the challenge of their peers in an ever-increasing international world and marketplace.

FASTER

Citius is the Latin word for "faster." Some would say that today's synthetic tracks and starting blocks have helped modern-day runners perform faster. Others would credit better-conditioned athletes and more knowledgeable coaches. Still others contend that the grooming process of today's athletes begins at an earlier age than before. Statistics don't lie, however, and the numbers show that the pace is faster than ever in Olympic track events.

You are no doubt familiar with the name Usain St. Leo Bolt. He is the Jamaican sprinter regarded as the fastest human being ever timed. The Jamaican speed merchant is the first man ever to hold both the 100 meters and 200 meters world records since fully automatic time became mandatory. Bolt, the sprint king, is a world celebrity and has the uncanny ability to take his 6' 5" 207 lb. frame at what seems to be lightning speed.

The challenge for this year's student body is to work quickly but competently. Examine the incredible work that WDAM-TV Golden Apple Recipient and Hattiesburg High School HOSA Sponsor Mimi Wilson is realizing with her students. Preparing for careers in health and science, two weekends ago they hosted Schools Against Vaping's table exhibit at the Image for Teens conference at Jackie Dole Community Center. Mid-week, dressed in their signature white lab coats, the students spoke at a media conference hosted by the YMCA, helping to launch the education initiative Pine Belt: This Is Our Shot and this past weekend, they were the bearers of accurate health information as part of the Mobile Street Festival. Going faster... not a problem for these Tigers who have earned their stripes.

HIGHER

Altius is the Latin word for "higher." Basketball players are increasing their vertical jump with each passing decade. High jumpers continue to set new marks as they soar to new elevations year after year. The pole-vaulters almost seem to defy the law of gravity as they hurl themselves over those precariously perched bars extended ever higher and higher. These physical achievements, however, serve only to illustrate the high ideals inspired by the Olympic games.

The speed, strength, and technique of pole-vaulters permit them to go higher and higher. In 1896 William Welles Hoyt of the United States won the gold medal in Athens, Greece with a jump of 10 feet, 10 inches. In the Rio

Olympics, Brazil's Thiago Braz da Silva propelled himself over a bar raised 6.03 meters (19.8 feet) above the track and destroyed the Olympic record set earlier in the evening by Renaud Lavillenie from France, who won the silver medal.

The sky is the limit for HHS Tigers willing to make the commitment to train and prepare for the future. HHS DMT Instructor Chris Johnson knows what's up. When I visited with him on campus, he described the incredible work ethic that he was instilling in his students. Helping them understand that last minute preparation only brings a mediocre product. He is the living embodiment of professionalism as a hallmark of victory. No wonder one of our inductees requested that his students design her ad page for this publication and special night. Chris didn't flinch at all when I tacked on the request of airing inductee bio videos on the jumbo scoreboard at tomorrow night's football clash on campus. Reaching higher... an everyday task for the purple and gold.

STRONGER

Fortius is the Latin word for "stronger." You could look at the hulking power lifters and see an example of strength and fortitude. Just as the 100-meter sprint defines the world's fastest athletes, so weightlifting identifies the world's strongest. Powerlifting demands vast amounts of power, technique, and determination. This sport pushes the human body to its limits. Not long ago in Rio, Long Qingquan won a gold medal in the 56kg category with a new world record of 307 kg (676.8 pounds), which surpassed Halil Mutlu's world record of 305 kg set at the Sydney Olympics in 2000. But almost every Olympic event requires an amazing measure of strength.

HHS Sophomore Logan Green beat out thousands of high school students from across the United States to attain the title of National Champion in Original Spoken Word Poetry. Buoyed by the excellent coaching of her HHS debate faculty mentors Reggie Chapman and Scott Waldrop, she has a fundamental understanding of what it takes to be the best in the country. She proves the National Speech and Debate Association axiom that, year in and year out, Hattiesburg's best is often the best in the land. Strength and endurance on the world stage... checked.

Every four years the Olympic games provide a new benchmark in strength as the participants prove themselves. If records are meant to be broken, the Olympics prove it. So do our city's public school graduates. There is something about the human spirit that calls us to new frontiers, conquer new worlds, expand our horizons, and beat the best. This year's Hall of Fame inductees, alumni all, have done just that. From the historic halls of Eureka on her 100th Anniversary to the reincarnation of Old Hattiesburg High School as Preservation Crossing in Downtown Hattiesburg, they are living proof that the tough benchmarks set by staff and administration in the Hattiesburg Public School District through the years are necessary, not only to set international standards but to maintain a higher career calling and mark of excellence... the Eye of the Tiger.



MICHAEL MARKS

Hattiesburg Hall of Fame, Chair
America's 1996 Outstanding Teacher of the Performing Arts

Program

Emcee:

Randy Swan, FOX23 News Director and HOF Class of 2019

WelcomeMichael Marks, *Chair of Hall of Fame*
OccasionHonorable Toby Barker, *Mayor of Hattiesburg*
GreetingsDr. Robert Williams, *HPSD Superintendent*
Remarks Marlo Dorsey, *VisitHATTIESBURG*

Induction Ceremony

Entertainment.....Logan Green, *NSDA National Champion in Original Spoken Word Poetry*

Jennifer Abraham
Rosie Butler
Larry Doleac
Mildred Gaddis

Entertainment.....Angela White-Carter

Jeremy Hirsch
John R. Huff
Robert James
Larry Leflore

Entertainment.....Jacobi T. Daugherty

Dean Meador Smith
Andy Stetelman
Larry Whigham
Andrew Wiest

Entertainment.....Eyeshia McSwain

AcknowledgmentsMichael Marks, *Chair of Hall of Fame*



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Event Emcee

RANDY SWAN

FOX23 News

Hattiesburg Hall of Fame Class of 2019



JACOBI T. DAUGHRITY

*Assistant Band Director
Hattiesburg High School*



ANGELA WHITE-CARTER

*Administrative Assistant
Lillie Burney Learning Center*



EYESHIA MCSWAIN

*Hattiesburg High School
Class of 2009*



LOGAN GREEN

*NSDA National Champion
in Original Spoken Word Poetry
Sophomore at Hattiesburg High School*

Hattiesburg Hall of Fame

JENNIFER ABRAHAM

JENNIFER ABRAHAM (Hattiesburg High, 1991), as an external relations officer for the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, gets celebrities involved in supporting the UN Refugee Agency.

She works with celebrities like Angelina Jolie, Cate Blanchett, Jack Black, Ben Stiller, Scarlett Johansson and Meryl Streep, getting them involved in the mission of protecting and assisting refugees around the world.

Abraham was involved in events in New York and Los Angeles that raised \$1.5 million and \$1.2 million for UNHCR. But not all her job activities are in the U.S.; Abraham has traveled throughout the world in an effort to make people's lives better.

In a previous job, Abraham managed the day-to-day business affairs of five-time Grammy-winning singer Christina Aguilera.

At Hattiesburg High, Abraham was in Student Council, Mu Alpha Theta, National Honor Society and was the valedictorian, a cheerleader and on the homecoming court.



ROSIE M. BUTLER

ROSIE M. BUTLER (Hattiesburg High, 1974) is a former model with Ebony Fashion Fair and businesswoman, but she changed directions after her youngest son was born with a liver disease.

That's when Butler became a champion in raising funds for the medical community. Over 30 years, Butler raised more than \$22 million.

She sold cosmetics in her younger days in Hattiesburg, and later founded the Alabama Chapter of the American Liver Foundation and served on the executive committee of the National Board of the America Liver Foundation, becoming responsible for 25 chapters. She started the fundraising arm for the Liver Center at the Alabama-Birmingham Hospital and raised more than \$800,000. For her efforts, the hospital established the Rosie M. Butler Endowed Support Fund for Viral Hepatitis in 2008.

Butler, who has faced several health issues and is now semi-retired in Texas, was active in pageants and talent shows during her school days.



LARRY DOLEAC

LARRY DOLEAC (S.H. Blair, 1970) is Vice-President and co-owner of Doleac Electric Company, Inc., who spent decades running Hattiesburg's Dixie Youth Baseball program.

Doleac Electric's main markets are industrial, heavy commercial and government work. It is one of the largest electrical contracting companies in the South.

Doleac became a coach in the Hattiesburg Dixie Youth Baseball Association in 1983, was appointed to the Board of Directors in 1985, became director of the program in 1990, was co-chairman of the Dixie Youth World Series in 1989 and chairman in 1998.

He spearheaded a campaign to create a youth baseball complex at Tatum Park in 2008. Now named the Larry Doleac Youth Baseball Complex, it hosted the Dixie Youth World Series in 2015.

Doleac has served as the president of the Hattiesburg Exchange Club three times and is past president of the Hattiesburg Country Club.

Doleac was in the Tigermen and Sock & Buskin clubs in school.



Class of 2021

MILDRED GADDIS

MILDRED GADDIS (Hattiesburg High, 1972) has been a broadcast journalist on radio for 45 years and has done political commentary with CNN, CBS, NBC and ABC.

Time Magazine says Gaddis is one of the most politically astute minds in southern Michigan, where she has lived for decades.

Her career began in 1975 at KENR Country Radio in Houston, then she spent 10 years at KMOX radio in St. Louis. She moved to Detroit after that and became well known for her "Mildred in the Morning" radio show.

Gaddis has been news director at Booth Broadcasting at WJLB-FM and has served as host of "The Mildred Gaddis Show" and has been Director of Community Affairs for Radio One's radio cluster.

Gaddis also is president and owner of Media Advantage One imaging and marketing company and is a communications professor at Wayne County Community College.



JEREMY HIRSCH

JEREMY HIRSCH (Hattiesburg High, 1995) is co-founder of Spartan Mosquito, a South Mississippi company that has seen tremendous growth since its conception just a few short years ago to become one of the fastest growing businesses in the country.

While Hirsch's goal was to control the mosquito population in back yards without using chemicals that are harmful to humans, his efforts have led him around the world in an effort to save lives.

He has built a school in Laos and has sent Mississippi teachers there to help educate students in learning English during summer workshops. Hirsch's company has made donations to multiple natural disaster relief programs, veteran support through free product giveaways, law enforcement, assistance for local school and community athletic programs, the Civitan Camp and Girl Scouts of Greater Mississippi.

At Hattiesburg High, Hirsch was a thespian, cast in two plays, "A Few Good Men" and "The Diviners."



JOHN R. HUFF

JOHN R. HUFF (Hattiesburg High, 1964) was Governor of Boys State who became Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer of Oceaneering International, Inc., a company that employs more than 12,000 people.

Huff retired as active CEO in May and is now Chairman Emeritus of Oceaneering, which provides technical solutions for industries working in harsh environments, principally underwater to the offshore oil and gas business.

Huff, who played football, basketball and baseball at Hattiesburg High and was All-Big 8 Conference in football, currently serves as Chairman and CEO at Huff International, a company that invests in international energy and technology opportunities.

He has been inducted into the Ocean Energy Museum Hall of Fame, the National Academy of Engineering and the Georgia Tech Engineering Hall of Fame and earned a Financial World CEO of the Year Bronze Award.

Huff said his greatest accomplishment was having his family say he is "a good man."



Hattiesburg Hall of Fame

ROBERT E. JAMES, SR.

ROBERT E. JAMES, SR. (L.J. Rowan High, 1964) played tuba in the Rowan and Morris Brown College bands but made a name for himself in the field of banking.

In 1971, after Harvard Business School, James became President and CEO of Carver State Bank in Savannah, GA., one of the oldest African American-owned commercial banks. With 50 years at the helm, he is the longest serving African American bank president.

James also served as Chairman of the National Bankers Association, purchased two newspapers in Georgia and was Chairman of the Foundation for Public Broadcasting in Georgia.

James was named one of the 100 Most Influential Black Americans by Ebony Magazine in 2003, and has been awarded the Distinguished Service Award by the National Bankers Association.

At Rowan, James was also in the Esquire Organization for Males, the Glee Club, played baseball, was the Student Council President and was the Mississippi State Student Council President.



DR. LARRY LEFLORE, Ph.D.

DR. LARRY LEFLORE, Ph.D. (L.J. Rowan High, 1967) is a Professor and Dean Emeritus at Texas Woman's University since his retirement in 2016. He has published referred articles and book chapters in the areas of children and youth development, family and juvenile justice.

Other jobs in LeFlore's career were Executive Assistant to the President and Assistant Vice-President for Academic Affairs at Southern Miss and Chair and Professor in the Department of Family Sciences at TWU.

He also was Regional Director of the Mississippi Department of Youth Services and held posts at West Virginia University.

Leflore, who ran track at Rowan, has received a Most Distinguished Alumni honor from William Carey and is in WHO'S WHO Among Black Americans.

He has served on multiple boards, including the Pine Belt Boys and Girls Club, the District Boy Scouts of America and the Greater Hattiesburg Area Development Partnership.



DEAN MEADOR SMITH

DEAN MEADOR SMITH (S.H. Blair, 1971) is a former high school cheerleader, teacher and show choir director who became a playwright, a national bestselling author and more.

One of Smith's books is "Momma Dean's Southern Cooking at Meador Homestead." Meador Homestead is a bed and breakfast that Smith owns on the outskirts of Hattiesburg that was ranked the No. 1 bed and breakfast in Mississippi. She also owns Simply TeaVine, which has been ranked the No. 1 tea room in the state.

Smith wrote a play, "Riding the Wind," about the Meador family, one of the oldest in Hattiesburg, and has served many years at various church positions and as an English Language Institute instructor at Southern Miss.

Smith taught in several public schools, including Hattiesburg High and Rowan Junior High.

She was a sophomore class favorite, a Key Club sweetheart, Miss Hawkins Junior High, on the Student Council and in the All-School Productions, Mam'selles and Meistersingers.



Class of 2021

ANDY STETELMAN

ANDY STETELMAN (Hattiesburg High, 1979) began working in the commercial real estate business when he was in high school, got his real estate license two years after graduating from Hattiesburg High and has been in the business ever since, with London & Stetelman Commercial Realtors.

He has served on the Hattiesburg Area Association of Realtors Board of Directors and was president in 1992. Stetelman also was the Hattiesburg Realtor of the Year and was the first Mississippi Commercial Association of Realtors Realtor of the Year, also in 1992.

In addition, Stetelman has been named the William Carey University and Area Development Partnership Small Businessman of the Year, a Chamber of Commerce Leader for a New Century, is a member of the Forrest County Economic Development Foundation and numerous other boards and is in the University of Southern Mississippi Hall of Fame. He also was the recipient of the prestigious 2019 Hub Award.



LARRY WHIGHAM

LARRY WHIGHAM (Hattiesburg High, 1990) played nine years in the National Football League, was selected to the Pro Bowl twice as a special teams player, and also played in the 1997 Super Bowl.

Whigham helped the Tigers to a South State title and later played at Pearl River Community College, where he made the state all-star team as a defensive back.

Whigham signed with Northeast Louisiana, starting as a safety. He was drafted by the Seattle Seahawks but was cut and claimed by the New England Patriots. There, in 1996, Whigham was voted by NFL players as the American Football Conference Special Teams Player of the Year. He made the Pro Bowl twice, once for the Patriots and once for the Chicago Bears.

Whigham, who has coached football at several schools, including Hattiesburg High, is in the Pearl River and Mississippi Community College Sports Halls of Fame.



DR. ANDREW WIEST, Ph.D.

DR. ANDREW WIEST, Ph.D. (Hattiesburg High, 1978) is a Distinguished Professor of History and Founding Director of the Dale Center for the Study of War and Society at the University of Southern Mississippi.

Dr. Wiest has written several books, including "The Boys of '67," which had a National Geographic "Brothers In War" documentary based on it. Dr. Wiest was lead historian for the documentary, which received an Emmy nomination.

His "Vietnam's Forgotten Army" won the Society for Military History's Distinguished Book Award. Wiest was Chief Historical Consultant for the Vietnam in HD documentary, which won the New York Film Festivals Gold World Medal.

Dr. Wiest, who has written 14 historical books, coaches youth baseball and basketball and plays drums and sings in the popular local band The Mississippi Tornados.

At HHS, Wiest was in the Key Club, the band and all-school productions and won the Leadership and Social Studies awards.





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ABOUT THE FOUNDATION

The Hattiesburg Public School District Foundation is a non-profit Mississippi corporation that exists to support the Hattiesburg Public School District. The Foundation is an independent entity from the school district and is governed by its own Board of Directors.

MISSION & VISION

The Foundation's mission is to provide the resources for today's learner and tomorrow's leaders to excel. Our vision is that dedicated educators play a major role in shaping and inspiring tomorrow's strong leaders. We believe that by securing the necessary resources, we can help equip our teachers to empower our students through educational excellence.

WHAT THE FOUNDATION FUNDS

The Foundation funds classroom enrichment grants to the faculty and staff of Hattiesburg's schools, supports early childhood and school readiness efforts, awards student college scholarships, supports the school district's arts and athletics programs, and works to meet emerging needs in the school district.

CHARITABLE ORGANIZATION

The Foundation is classified as a public charity under Section 501(c)(3) of the U. S. Internal Revenue Code. Donations to the Foundation are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.



Welcome to the 2021 Hattiesburg Hall of Fame!

On behalf of the Hattiesburg Public School District Foundation's Board of Directors and Hall of Fame Committee, I want to welcome you to the 2021 Hattiesburg Hall of Fame. All of us are delighted that you've been present and played a part in this historic event.

The Foundation is a non-profit public charity that exists to support the faculty, staff, and students of the Hattiesburg Public School District. Our mission is to help the District to provide resources for today's learners to become tomorrow's leaders. We do this by funding classroom innovation grants to teachers, early childhood and school readiness programs, and support for our district's artists and athletes. The money we raise from the Hall of Fame and other events goes to meet those needs.



Thank you for celebrating the outstanding accomplishments of the graduates of Hattiesburg's public schools and honoring those who have been inducted into the Hall of Fame. With your presence and your support, you are also helping us grow the next generation of the Hattiesburg Hall of Fame.

JEROME BROWN

President



Office of the Mayor
Toby Barker

Proclamation

HPSD Foundation 2021 Hattiesburg Hall of Fame

WHEREAS the Hattiesburg Public School District Foundation founded the Hattiesburg Hall of Fame to honor past graduates of Hattiesburg Public Schools;

WHEREAS the Hall of Fame was established to honor Hattiesburg Public School District alumni for outstanding community service, outstanding achievement in a professional career or excelling in their high school careers;

WHEREAS the Hattiesburg Hall of Fame fundraiser will help provide scholarships for students, grants for teachers and meet the emerging needs of school readiness;

WHEREAS the Hall of Fame will encourage Hattiesburg Public Schools students to follow in the footsteps of the Hall of Famers and become successful in their educational activities and in their adult lives;

WHEREAS the Hall of Fame activities will provide alumni and students the opportunity to interact with the Hall of Fame inductees;

WHEREAS the Hall of Fame encourages Hattiesburg alumni to support the Hattiesburg Public School District in its Alumni Reclamation project, in creating an alumni database and helping to mentor students; and

WHEREAS the Hall of Fame will serve to promote the Hattiesburg Public School District Foundation, the Hattiesburg Public School District and the City of Hattiesburg;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Toby Barker, Mayor of the City of Hattiesburg do hereby recognize the

HATTIESBURG HALL OF FAME 2021 INDUCTEES

Jennifer Abraham
Rosie M. Butler
Larry Dolac
Mildred Gaddis
Jeremy Hirsch
John R. Huff
Robert E. James, Sr.
Larry Leflore, Ph.D.
Dean Meador Smith
Andy Stetelman
Larry Whigham
Andrew Wiest, Ph.D.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the City of Hattiesburg to be affixed this 7th day of October, 2021.



Mayor Toby Barker

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI



A

PROCLAMATION

BY THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
AND REPRESENTATIVE MISSY MCGEE HONORING AND CONGRATULATING
2021 CLASS OF INDUCTEES INTO HATTIESBURG PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT'S
HALL OF FAME BY THE HATTIESBURG PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT FOUNDATION

WHEREAS, on the evenings of October 7 & 8, 2021, at the Eureka School Civil Rights Museum, which is proudly celebrating its centennial anniversary, thirteen distinguished alumni of the city schools of Hattiesburg Public School District will be inducted into the 2021 Hattiesburg Hall of Fame by the Hattiesburg Public School District Foundation; and

WHEREAS, representing the fields of business, science, education, entertainment, journalism and sports, each class member represents the successes which highlight the unique accomplishments, yet common theme of excellence that has evolved from Hattiesburg, Rowan, Eureka and Royal Street High Schools, and whose recognition by the Hattiesburg Public School District Foundation serves as an opportunity to convey a scholarship benefit to the students and staff of the Hattiesburg Public School District in the form of student scholarships, teacher grants and early childhood education readiness; and

WHEREAS, members of the 2021 Class of inductees include: Jennifer Abraham (1991); Wanda Geddie Erickner (1976); Rosie M. Butler (1974); Larry Doleac (1970); Mildred Gaddis (1972); Jeremy Hirsch (1995); John R. Huff (1964); Robert James (1964); Larry LeFlore (1967); Dean Meador Smith (1971); Andy Stetelman (1979); Larry Whigham (1990); and Andy Wiest (1978); and

WHEREAS, the laudable service and contributions of this year's class of inductees, whose richness and diversity are indicative of the notable quote espoused by Mahatma Gandhi, which states, "The best way to find yourself, is to lose yourself in the service of others," as each of these remarkable individuals have or continue to evidence extraordinary and immeasurable selflessness in their unmitigated desire to pay it forward; and

WHEREAS, it is most fittingly appropriate to recognize and commend the kind, nurturing, benevolent and philanthropic acts of such an esteemed caliber of individuals who have endeavored to be benefactors of educational, economic, scientific, social and civic progress throughout this state and nation:

NOW, THEREFORE, as members of the House of Representatives of the State of Mississippi, we do hereby honor and congratulate the 2021 Class of inductees into Hattiesburg Public School District's Hall of Fame by the Hattiesburg Public School District Foundation and extend best wishes for continued success in all of their future endeavors.

THIS, the 7th day of October, 2021.


PHILIP GUNN, SPEAKER
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES


MISSY MCGEE, DISTRICT 182
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

The Hattiesburg Hall of Fame Committee gratefully acknowledges the contributions of the

Alumni of the Hub City's Legacy Schools

- **Eureka High School** •
- **Hattiesburg High School** (Blair) •
(Hutchinson Avenue Location)
- **Hattiesburg High School** •
(North Main Street Location)
- **L.J. Rowan High School** •
- **Royal Street High School** •



Quite unplanned, as fate would have it, each of Hattiesburg High School's predecessor institutions unknowingly shared a common mascot - the tiger.

HEAR US ROAR!

Help pick next year's Hall of Fame Class

Through its selection of an annual Hall of Fame Class, the Hattiesburg Public School District Foundation acknowledges the contributions of the alumni from the Hub City's five legacy public schools. Students who finished their last year of high school on the campuses of these schools are eligible for inclusion in the Hattiesburg Hall of Fame.

The Foundation invites the public to give input regarding future Hall of Fame nominations. Interested parties should go to HPSDFoundation.org to offer suggestions about who should be inducted into the Class of 2022. Public participation will help to ensure that future classes are equally as diverse when it comes to race, gender and career paths.

All nominations will be presented to the Selection Committee regardless of how many times a name is submitted. Only one nomination is needed for an alumnus to be considered by the committee and eventually inducted. This helps us dispel the notion of inductees being recognized solely because of popularity.

The Hattiesburg Hall of Fame Committee's recommendations for future inductees will be presented to the HPSD Foundation Board of Directors, which is responsible for the final selections.



A very public thank you to our primary publicity partner
THE PINE BELT NEWS for coordinating our public
engagement and input.

THE HISTORIC EUREKA SCHOOL
Celebrating One Hundred Years
1921 – 2021

The Historic Eureka School recently hosted their Centennial Celebration with several events taking place in both August and September. To continue celebrating the history of this school, here's a look at a brief timeline of this historic piece of Hattiesburg.

Historic Eureka School Timeline

1918 – a red-frame school building on East Sixth Street serves as a school for African American students.

1920 – A bond issue for \$75,000 passed to build a school on the site of the red-frame school

September 1921 – With W.H. Jones as its Principal, Eureka School opens its doors. Eureka was a union school, housing African American students in grades 1 – 12 from 1921-1949. As many who attended Eureka have said, “Eureka was not only a union school, it was the unifying element and most significant educational and social resource of the African American community during that time period. The school was dedicated with the name Eureka in lieu of any community consensus for another name.

1940 – Eureka School's enrollment reaches 800.

1940 – Eureka School's football team goes undefeated for the second consecutive year.

1947 – Eureka School's enrollment reaches 1400.

1950 – Royal Street High School (later Rowan High School) is built for African American students, and Eureka becomes an elementary and junior high school.

1958 – W. H. Jones Junior High opens. Eureka then becomes an elementary school for grades 1st – 6th.

1958 - Plans are approved for additions and renovations to Eureka School.

1960 – Eureka School hosts open house and rededication program.

1987 – Under the approval of a new desegregation plan for elementary schools, Eureka School was closed.

1987 – Eureka became a Community Education Center, housing a variety of education programs including adult and community education as well as a number of district services under the direction of Clara Weathersby.

A portion of the space at Eureka was devoted to the sole use of EURO the Eureka-Royal Street -Rowan Alumni Association.

Mid-1990s – The Community Education Center was closed, but other educational organizations such as HELP, an adult education and literacy program, and a computer training program continued to operate there.

Late-1990s – The EURO Alumni Association funded the first adaptive reuse plan for the building.

July 14, 2005 – MS Department of Archives and History designates the school as a state landmark and serves as a focal point of history and heritage for African Americans in the Hattiesburg community.

2006 – The Hattiesburg Convention Commission, in agreement with the Hattiesburg Public School District, takes ownership of Eureka and begins plans for renovations.

February 2013 – A tornado destroys portions of the Eureka roof, causing major damage. Renovations are delayed.

2018 – Renovations on Eureka School are completed and a ribbon cutting is held to introduce the beautiful, updated, ADA accessible building to the Hattiesburg community.

2019 to present – With the restoration of the Historic Eureka School complete, plans continue with its revival as a museum. The Historic Eureka School Museum will chronicle African American heritage and culture and the Civil Rights Movement, particularly highlighting the activities of Freedom Summer 1964.

Eureka School Administrators: W.H. Jones, J.W. Addison, E.L. Washburn, Edward Tademy, N.R. Burger, Jessie Patrick, Hollie Leggett, Della Ruth Jones, Stave Weathersby

The Historic Eureka School is a part of the Sixth Street Museum District, and is an attraction and project of the Hattiesburg Convention Commission.



THE DIRECTORS AND STAFF OF CARVER STATE BANK

Savannah, GA

salute

President Robert E. James

A Legacy of Service, Leadership and Success

Will attend Harvard

1964 Rowan graduate wins \$5,000 fellowship



Robert E. James, a 1964 Rowan graduate in Morris Brown College, has recently received a \$5,000 fellowship for the Harvard University Graduate School of Business Administration.

The fellow for this award was the candidate's general academic record as indicated by the undergraduate academic and extracurricular records, test scores, and a personal interview. It also is the fact that the student of Business Administration Degree at Harvard for summer.

At present, James is a dual candidate for the Bachelor of Arts Degree in Economics and Business Administration from Morris Brown College in Atlanta.

During his college career, he has participated in numerous social activities while also maintaining honor and status as the most prominent of his age.

While still at Morris Brown, he was in the Executive Committee of Morris Brown Phi Psi Fraternity, and a member of the college's governing body, the Morris Brown College Board of Trustees. He is also a member of the Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society and the Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society.

Robert E. James, 28, is the son of the late Dr. James M. James, Sr., pastor of the Morris Brown Church, 28th St. S.E., Savannah, Ga.

From The Morningstar-American

1963

Elected President of the Magnolia State Association of Student Councils in 11th Grade

1968

Graduated Morris Brown College with High Honors and admitted to the MBA Program at Harvard Business School. He graduated in 1970

1964

Named "Boy of the Year", Young People's Division, Women's Missionary Society of the AME Church. Awarded a full scholarship to Morris Brown College that was funded by The Ford Foundation



1968

Married Shirley Barber of Georgetown, SC. Robert and Shirley have 3 children and 6 grandchildren



1971

Named President of Carver State Bank, Savannah GA at the age of 24, and became the youngest bank president in the nation



1977

Led a delegation of minority bank presidents to meet with US President Jimmie Carter



1977

Elected Chair of the National Bankers Association, his first of two terms as Chair



2014

Met with Federal Reserve Board Chairwoman Janet Yellen & current House Financial Services Chair Maxine Waters



2020

Carver makes history as lead bank in first-ever transaction between Black-owned banks and a major sports franchise

USA TODAY

Opinion: Atlanta Hawks, pairing with network of Black-owned banks, keep leading off the court

By Mike Roseman | 1/16/20

2021

Celebrates 50 years as President of Carver State Bank



Congratulations

Dean Meador Smith



*On your induction into the
Hattiesburg Hall of Fame*

*From the S.H. Blair
High Class of 1971*

Hattiesburg Public Schools Foundation

Hall of Fame Inductee 2021

Dr. Larry LeFlore, Ph.D.



Congratulations!

From your:

Wife, Amanda

Son, Thomas Gerald

Daughter-in-law, Chandanise

Grandchildren, Nylah and El

Congratulations



Jennifer Abraham

&

All the 2021 Hall of Fame Inductees



*Created by HHS CTE
Digital Media 2nd
Year Students

The Abrahams

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Hattiesburg
HALL OF FAME
CLASS OF 2021!

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CONGRATULATIONS TO
LARRY "BULL" DOLEAC
AND
THE 2021 CLASS OF
HATTIESBURG HALL OF FAME

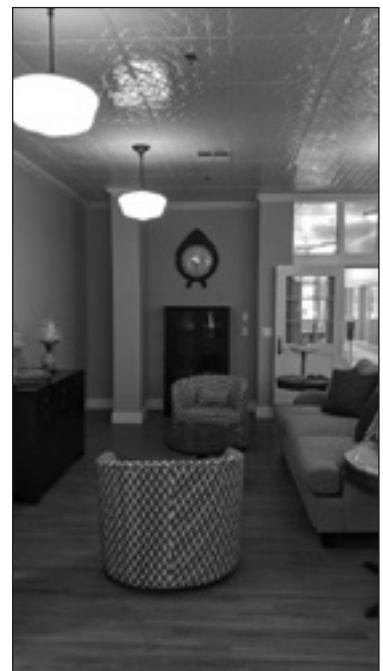


“Old” Hattiesburg High School Now Preservation Crossing

Public Schools continue to play a pivotal role in the legacy of this city. The “Old” Hattiesburg High, constructed in 1911, was listed as a Mississippi landmark in 1986, and added to the National Registry of Historic Places in 1987. After sitting vacant for almost 20 years, this historic landmark will now live on as Preservation Crossing, which will provide 74 units of affordable housing to residents who are 55 and older.

The school closed in 1959 but served as offices for the School District and later, as an antiques mall. The Downtown Association acquired the property in 2002, with the expectation of restoration. The building was heavily damaged in 2005 by Katrina, then in 2007 it was set on fire. In spite of the damage, long-term restoration plans continued, including stabilization of the front façade and fencing of the property.

In 2019, DHA sold the property to developer Steve Nail of Intervest Corp. who completed the \$15.5 million construction on Preservation Crossing in late 2020.



CONGRATULATIONS

to The Hattiesburg Public School Foundation
from Ms. Rosie M. Draughn Butler and Family.



*Mrs. Clara Dennis Johnson -
Mother (Deceased)*



*Mrs. Rosie M. Draughn Butler
2021 Hall of Fame Honoree*



*Christopher (Son) & Wife
Leigh Butler*

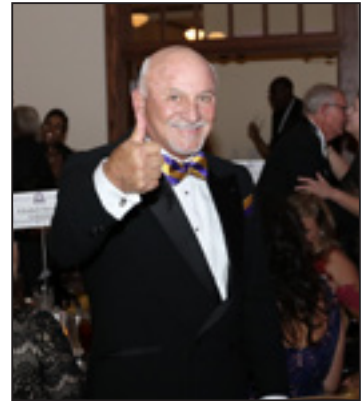


*Jordan (Son) & Wife
Lindsey Butler*



*Grandchildren - Caleb, Gavin
& Dylan Butler*

Hall of Fame Class of 2019 Memories





CONGRATULATIONS!

Hattiesburg Publishing is a proud sponsor of the Hattiesburg Hall of Fame Class of 2021.

SIGNATURE

The Pine Belt News

H'BURG PUBLISHING

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A TIP OF THE CAP TO YOU!

Hattiesburg Coca-Cola
celebrates the 2021
Hattiesburg Hall of Fame
Inductee Class

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Hattiesburg Hall of Fame

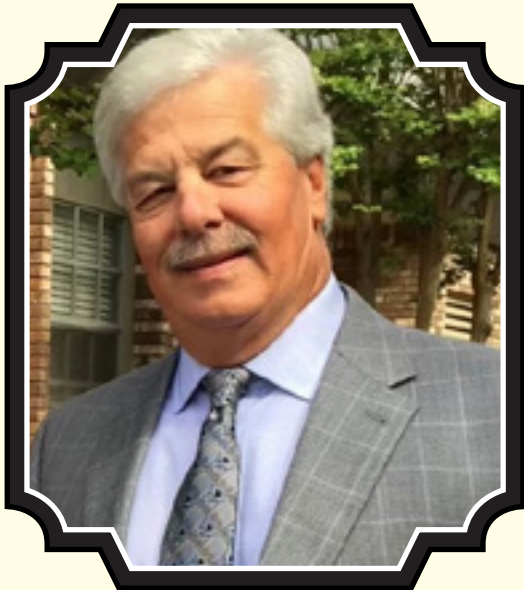
Class of 2021



JENNIFER ABRAHAM



ROSIE M. BUTLER



LARRY DOLEAC



MILDRED GADDIS

Hattiesburg Hall of Fame

Class of 2021



JEREMY HIRSCH



JOHN R. HUFF



ROBERT E. JAMES, SR.



DR. LARRY LEFLORE, PH.D.

Hattiesburg Hall of Fame

Class of 2021



DEAN MEADOR SMITH



ANDY STETELMAN



LARRY WHIGHAM



DR. ANDREW WIEST, PH.D.

Hattiesburg Hall of Fame Committee



Henry Bethley ('59)
*Commission
Liaison*



Hugh Bolton ('72)
*Inductee Logistics /
Sponsorships*



Jerome Brown ('91)
*Luncheon /
Sponsorships*



Russ Headley ('82)
*Inductee
Hospitality*



Alan Hinton ('71)
*Media /
Inductee Logistics*



Dr. Eddie Holloway ('70)
Scholarships



Tina Hoda
*Class Reunions
Liaison*



Stephanie Hozé ('70, Staff)
Decor / Legislative Liaison



Myron Lott ('00)
*Inductee Transportation /
Apparel / Reception*



Michael Marks (Staff)
Chair / Production



Don McCleskey ('72)
Gala Logistics



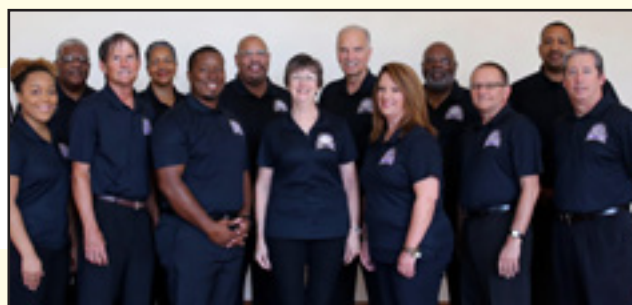
Beth Moore ('98)
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Liaison*



Samone Wilson ('06, Staff)
HPSD / Homecoming Liaison



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OCT. 23 | DOWNTOWN FAM JAM · PETAL | 6PM-9PM

NOV. 13 | PURVIS STREET FESTIVAL · PURVIS | 9AM-4PM



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Chris Bowen
Supervisor
DISTRICT 5

Forrest County Board of Supervisors



Congratulations To The 2021 Hall of Fame Inductees. We Salute You and Celebrate Your Accomplishments!

Hattiesburg Public School District celebrates with the 2021 Hall of Fame Inductees! Proudly, we look forward to your prestigious Hattiesburg tradition of excellence in academics, athletics, extracurricular activities, and partnerships. The students, teachers, and staff of HPSD appreciate your continued support!

5A State Champions:

Girls' Basketball
Boys' Track
Baseball

5A South State

Champions/State Runner-Up:
Football
Girls' Track

Career and Technical Education:

Sports Medicine ranks #2 in MS
Law & Public Safety ranks #7 in MS
Health Science ranks #10 in MS

Early Literacy Initiative:

*Hattiesburg Early Learning
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Full Performing Arts Program: Strings, Band, Dance, Chorus

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Built for Greatness



*The City of Hattiesburg congratulates
these 2021 Hall of Fame Recipients:*

*Jennifer Abraham (Class of 1991)
Rosie M. Butler (Class of 1974)
Larry Doleac (Class of 1970)
Mildred Gaddis (Class of 1972)
Jeremy Hirsch (Class of 1995)
John R. Huff (Class of 1964)
Robert James (Class of 1964)
Larry LeFlore (Class of 1967)
Dean Meador Smith (Class of 1971)
Andy Stetelman (Class of 1979)
Larry Whigham (Class of 1990)
Andy Wiest (Class of 1978)*

*Thank you for representing our
school district and our city so well!*

TOBY BARKER, MAYOR
JEFFREY GEORGE, WARD ONE
DEBORAH DENARD DELGADO, WARD TWO
CARTER CARROLL, WARD THREE
DAVE WARE, WARD FOUR
NICHOLAS BROWN, WARD FIVE

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A Message from The Hattiesburg Public School District Foundation

The Hattiesburg Public School District Foundation is proud to present the Hattiesburg Hall of Fame and we thank you for being a part of the historic induction ceremony.

The Foundation's mission is to provide the resources for today's learners to become tomorrow's leaders. To do that, we need your help. Your support helps to fund classroom innovation grants for our teachers, college scholarships for our students, early childhood and school readiness programs, and support for our district's artists and athletes.

Checks may be made payable to "HPSD Foundation" and mailed to:
HPSD Foundation
P.O. Box 1374
Hattiesburg, MS 39401



Please help us grow and support the next generation of our Hall of Fame!

*The Foundation is a public charity under Section 501(c)(3) of the United States Internal Revenue Code.
Deductions are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by the law.*

Congratulations!



Dr. Andrew Wiest

Class of 1978

For more than 30 years at Southern Miss, Dr. Wiest has dedicated himself to educating students about the past to help them understand the present. His storytelling, on paper and at the podium, captivates audiences of all ages. We could not be prouder of our founding director.

Congratulations on this honor, Dr. Wiest!





HATS OFF TO MISSISSIPPI LEGENDS

Please join us in honoring and remembering the years of dedicated community service represented among the Hattiesburg Hall of Fame 2019 inductees. This legacy of leadership and commitment continues to inspire and influence our region and its future leaders.





EXPECT GREAT THINGS FROM GOD;
ATTEMPT GREAT THINGS FOR GOD.

**CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2021
HATTIESBURG HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES
AND OUR FELLOW CRUSADER!**

Dr. Larry LeFlore

**William Carey College
Class of 1971**



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HATTIESBURG
TRADITION (BILOXI)
BATON ROUGE

Congratulations *Jennifer Abraham*



2021 Hattiesburg Hall of Fame Inductee



***Created by HHS CTE Digital Media 1st Year Students**



**Remembering
Richard H. Clark, Jr., MD,
a founding physician of**



With heavy hearts, Hattiesburg Clinic mourns the loss of Dr. Richard Clark, one of the true pioneers of health care in South Mississippi.



"I look back on all of this with great pride; but let me tell you that the vision is for the great future. The secret is cohesiveness, intelligence, cooperation, integrity, and forthrightness."

- Richard H. Clark, Jr., MD

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MICHAEL MARKS

Hattiesburg Hall of Fame, Chair



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the 2021***

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John R. Huff

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Jennifer Abraham

Larry Doleac

Mildred Gaddis

Andy Stetelman

Jeremy Hirsch

Larry Leflore

Robert James

Rosie Butler

Larry Whigham

Dean Meador Smith



HPSDFoundation.org

Acknowledgments

- Videography J-Mac Productions
- Inductee Interviews Chloe Rouse
- Media Relations Amanda Kirby
- Livestream Tech Paramount Design and Production
- Eye of the Tiger Trophies Erik Eaves
- Business Arrangements/Business Manager Lamar Evans
- State Resolution Representative Missy McGee
- Mayoral Resolution Betsy Mercier, Samantha McCain
- Official Hall of Fame Logo Design Ann Marie Mapp ('90)
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- Home Care and Hospice services, including Asbury Hospice House
- Neuroscience and Orthopedic Services, including The Orthopedic Institute
- Pine Grove Behavioral Health and Addiction Services
- Rehabilitation Center
- Surgical Services
- Women and Children's Services, including: The Family Birthplace, NICU, Pediatrics and the Women's Surgery Center
- Wound Healing Center



To view a complete list of services, visit forrestgeneral.com.



Forrest General Congratulates

HATTIESBURG HIGH HALL OF FAME

Inductees!



Class of 2019



Raylawni Branch



Charles J. Brown



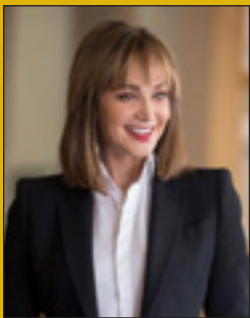
Dr. Eddie Holloway



Steve Knight



Dr. Richard Clark



Janet Gurwitch



Dr. Lynn McMahan



Carlton "Corky" Palmer



Ora Lee Shaheed



Randy Swan



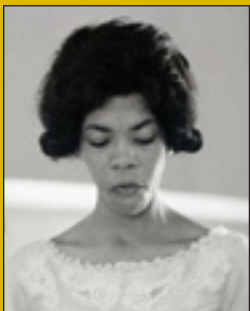
Lawrence Warren



Rep. Percy Watson



POSTHUMOUS INDUCTEES



Peggy Jean Gould
Connor



Jackie Dole Sherrill



Iola Craft Williams

