

CSLC names eleven winners in scholarship essay contest

By Beulah Greer
Exec. Dir. CSLC

Small town folks are always excited when one of their hometown boys grow up, do well, and return to give back of himself to his community. That was exactly the case for a packed audience of mostly Holmes Countians at the Community Students Learning Center's (CSLC) Seventh Annual Scholarship Awards Banquet, Saturday night, January 28, in Lexington.

Native Attorney Gregory Johnson, Program Manager for the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, returned as keynote speaker and supercharged not only the scholarship candidates but also the audience to go after their goals with vigor. "I need you to understand, young people, that in America, education provides the knowledge; politics provides the franchise; economic provides the capital; and that we have to mix those values with mutual and self-respect so that all of us can achieve that great American Dream of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness," Johnson said.

Reflecting on the banquet's theme, Education Empowers, Johnson stated that, "You have to expose yourself to many different things to acquire the many different experiential degrees of knowledge that you will need to make the decisions that you are



SHANIA CLAY

going to have to make to be successful in this life."

This year, there were 11 contestants, up by eight and nine from previous years. "This is why we are so excited about this year's scholarship banquet," commented CSLC Executive Director and Co-Founder Beulah Greer. "Our young people are not shying away from competition when it comes to an opportunity to do better. I am so proud of them. They are all winners just for trying in my opinion."

Speaking of the winners, each of them was thrilled to learn that they had placed in the scholarship's essay competition. "I felt very enthusiastic after being informed that I had won first place," said Shania Clay. "With

this scholarship, I plan to cover some of my book expenses."

Second place winner, Vanetta Brownlow, said that she could not put into words how overjoyed she felt upon knowing that she had won second place. "I am deeply honored and grateful," she said. "Being a part of this competition meant a lot to me. It allowed me to compete against some of the most intelligent, driven seniors within my class. Thank you again, CSLC, for the recognition and generous scholarship."

"It was very eye opening and enlightening to participate in this competition," said third-place winner, JaLesia Garvis. After the results were revealed, I was amazed because I was able to share this opportunity with many other talented students like myself, and how my essay stood out along with the other two winners."

The audience shared many positive comments about the banquet. Speaker Johnson also expressed gratitude to the Co-founder and President of the Board, Leslie Greer for being his Cub Scout leader when he was a young boy. "I am proud to see some of the success of our work with the Holmes County Cub Scouts," said Leslie Greer.

The CSLC founders presented



Participants of the scholarship essay competition received a gift during the CSLC awards banquet on Saturday, January 28. Pictured above (from left) are: CSLC Co-founder/CSLC Executive Director Beulah Greer, contestants Kayla Ollie, Jazmine Lofton, D'Johnna Jordan, Ja'Marra Shaw, keynote speaker Attorney Gregory Johnson, third-place winner JaLesia Garvis, 2nd-place winner Venetta Brownlow, contestants Detrick Barnett and Alexandria Johnson, and Leslie Greer, Co-founder and Board President. Not pictured are first-place winner Shania Clay, participants Tazae Rule and Shakilra Brown. (Photo by Gail Brown)

Johnson a plaque and offered their utmost appreciation to him and to everyone participating on the program and supporting the banquet. Special recognition was given to Silver Sponsors: Dr. Arena C. Mallory Community Health Center, Top Quality Computer Services; and Bronze Sponsors: Major Design Studio, K&T Construction, Academic Technologies, Porter and Sons Funeral Home, and Nine's Enterprisers A.H.D., Inc. for their generous support in helping to make the scholarship and education services available for the students of Holmes County.



CSLC 2017 Scholarship Awards Banquet Keynote Speaker and native Attorney Gregory Johnson (center) and program manager with the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, received a plaque of appreciation from CSLC Founders Beulah Greer (left) and Leslie Greer, during the event held Saturday, January 28. (Photo by Gail Brown)

LETTER TO THE EDITOR POLICY

The *Holmes County Herald* welcomes your comments on editorial opinions and news items on most subjects important to you. All letters-to-the-editor should include the name, address and phone number of the writer, and must be handsigned by the writer. Letters will always be checked for verification purposes only. Letters may be no more than 250 words. Letters may be delivered to our office or mailed to P.O. Box 60, Lexington, MS 39095 with a copy emailed to hcherald@gmail.com.

The *Holmes County Herald* reserves the right to edit or refuse to publish any letter deemed inappropriate.



Keep it simple

Dear Dave,

I'm looking for a good accounting program for small business. Do you have any suggestions?

Julie

Dear Julie,

The best one I've seen is called FreshBooks. I like it so much that we're actually endorsing it on some of our podcasts and a few other places. It's a cloud-based program for small business, and it's a pretty simple accounting system.

Honestly, you don't want anything super complicated for small-business accounting. You just need something that allows you to write out invoices and keep up with your expenses while categorizing them. It's important you know what's going on in your business — to be able to continually analyze what's happening — and have the ability to look in your rear-view mirror and see if anything's coming up behind you!

Dave

Husband's business is dying

Dear Dave,

My husband and I have four kids, and I make \$50,000 a year. He runs a small business that has been floundering for a while now, so we're basically living off my income. Part of that income is going into the business. Plus, we don't have much in savings, and we're behind on our house payments. Do you have any advice?

Paige

Dear Paige,

First of all, you and your husband have to get on the same page financially. Sit down together, and do a household budget and a profit and loss statement on the business. A profit and loss statement will tell you the money that comes in minus the money that goes out.

Here's the thing. If you're putting other money into a business

account, that's a clue that you're not making money on the business. Put his rent, supplies and any other business expenses on the profit and loss list, and write out — step by step — what it will take for you to break even in the business each month. If you don't at least break even, then it's time for him to do something else for a living.

I'm an entrepreneur and a business owner. I get the allure and excitement that goes along with running your own business.



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Bishop C.D. Mitchell (pictured left) and Deacon Robert Nash made a second trip to Hattiesburg, making one earlier in the year, with a load of nonperishable items and monetary donations for the victims of the recent tornados and storms. Area donations came from Wesley Youth Foundation, Acona Community Outreach, Community Learning Center, Rev. Mary Willis and Theo Huston. Mitchell and Nash and seen here Tuesday morning, February 14 after gassing up in Lexington before their trek. (Photo submitted)

But family and your financial responsibilities come first. You don't need to put any money into the business account, except for the income he creates. And while you two are sorting this out, use your income to get current on your house payments and attack any other debt!

Dave Ramsey is America's trusted voice on money and business, and CEO of Ramsey Solutions. He has authored seven best-selling books. *The Dave Ramsey Show* is heard by more than 12 million listeners each week on 575 radio stations and multiple digital platforms. Follow Dave on Twitter at @DaveRamsey and on the web at daveramsey.com.

PUBLIC NOTICE

All interested public and private transit and paratransit operators within **Holmes County**, are hereby advised that **The City of Durant** is applying to the Mississippi Department of Transportation, Jackson, Mississippi, for a grant under Section 5310 Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities Transportation Program of the Federal Public Transportation Act, as amended, for the provision of elderly and disabled transportation services. **The City of Durant** will purchase transit services from **Mississippi Valley State University Mass Transit**, service (is being) (would be) provided within **Attala, Carroll, Grenada, Holmes, Humphreys, Leflore, Sunflower, Tallahatchie and Washington Counties**. MVSU - Mass Transit program consists of **31 (thirty-one) vehicles, buses and vans with a total capacity of 581 with 23 (twenty-three) of those vehicles being ADA accessible.**

The purpose of this notice is to advise all interested parties, including transit and paratransit operators, of the service being planned for providing transportation services for the elderly and disabled within the area as described above, and to ensure that such a program would not represent a duplication of current or of proposed services provided by existing transit or paratransit operators in the area.

Comments either for or against this service will be received at any time within ***fifteen (15) days** from the date of this notice. All comments should be addressed to **Tasha Davis, Mayor of The City of Durant, P.O. Box 272 Durant, MS 39063** or by calling **(662) 635-3314**.

More specific details regarding eligible activities, program requirements and the program criteria will be provided at a public hearing which will be held at **The City Hall, 253 W Mulberry Durant, MS 39063** on **February 24, 2017** at **2:00 p.m.**