

# First woman appointed to serve Mississippi in Congress

Governor Phil Bryant announced on Wednesday, march 21, that he will appoint Mississippi Commissioner of Agriculture and Commerce Cindy Hyde-Smith to the United States Senate. Commissioner Hyde-Smith will replace Sen. Thad Cochran, who is retiring after nearly 50 years of service to the state of Mississippi.

Commissioner Hyde-Smith's appointment will be effective on April 2.

"Commissioner Hyde-Smith has worked tirelessly on behalf of the men and women in agriculture, Mississippi's largest industry and a treasured way of life in our state," Gov. Bryant said. "Her intellect, compassion, toughness and determination to get things done exemplify everything Mississippi needs in the United States Senate. I know she will continue to faithfully serve every Mississippian in her new role."

Commissioner Hyde-Smith was elected commissioner of agriculture and commerce by Mississippi voters in November 2011, following a 12-year career as a state senator representing District 39. With her election, Commissioner Hyde-Smith made Mississippi history as the first woman to ever be elected to the statewide position.

"I am truly humbled and honored that Governor Phil Bryant has asked me to serve as your next U.S. Senator. I am eager and excited to get to Washington to begin work on issues that are important to every Mississippian. I am extremely grateful for the work of Senator Thad Cochran. His contributions to the state of Mississippi have been invaluable," Commissioner Hyde-Smith said.

Elected to the Mississippi State Senate in 1999, Commissioner Hyde-Smith quickly be-



CINDY HYDE-SMITH

came known as a passionate advocate of farmers and ranchers in Mississippi, serving as chairwoman of the Agriculture Committee for eight years and as an influential member of numerous other committees. She has authored legislation and supported efforts to promote and protect all facets of the agriculture industry, defending private property rights, endorsing right-to-farm legislation, and working to increase country-of-origin labeling requirements.

Commissioner Hyde-Smith successfully advocated for USDA inspection of catfish to ensure food safety and equity in the marketplace and secured funding for investments in infrastructure to generate economic activity. Through her leadership roles as President of the Southern Association of States Departments of Agriculture and the Southern US Trade Association, Commissioner Hyde-Smith has been on the forefront of national and regional issues impacting agriculture. Her service as the Co-chairman of the Agriculture Policy Advisory Council for President Donald Trump has been instrumental in ensuring Mississippi farmers and ranch-

ers a voice during key decision making.

"I hope colleagues will join me in welcoming Cindy Hyde-Smith, who will join us in the Senate in April," U.S. Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Kentucky, said. "Gov. Bryant made an excellent choice to serve the people of Mississippi in the United States Senate. Commissioner Hyde-Smith has had a long outstanding career of public service in Mississippi, first in the state senate and most recently as the first female Commissioner for Agriculture and Commerce. She will also make history here in Washington as Mississippi's first female U.S. Senator. We've got important work to do for the American people and are eager for her to join us here in the Senate."

Commissioner Hyde-Smith has received numerous awards and honors for her exemplary leadership, including the Distinguished Service Award, Agriculture Legislator of the Year and Agriculture Ambassador of the Year from the Mississippi Farm Bureau and was named a 2017 Women in Leadership Honoree from the Governing Institute.

She is a graduate of Copiah-Lincoln Community College and the University of Southern Mississippi.

Commissioner Hyde-Smith and her husband Mike are the proud parents of Anna-Michael, the family's fifth generation farmer. Together, they raise beef cattle and are partners in Lincoln County Livestock, the local stockyard auction market in Brookhaven, which has held a live cattle auction every Tuesday since 1942. She and her family reside in Brookhaven and are active members of Macedonia Baptist Church.



Larry Randle died third Sunday evening. He attended church, came home and passed out that evening. His funeral was Saturday, march 24.

Mrs. Wynonia Hester fell and broke her arm. Keep her in prayer so she can soon be out and about.

Mrs. Leola Montgomery is in

or was in the hospital recently. Mr. Joe Morgan Sr., went to the Greenwood-Leflore Hospital one day last week. The doctors are working on his arm again. His wife, Mrs. Lou Ethel, sure takes good care of him, even though she had a fall last year and broke her hip.

Congratulations to the former



## Use a Portable Prayer

Some people excel in prayer. They are the SEAL Team 6 of intercession. They would rather pray than sleep. Why is it I sleep when I pray? It's not that we don't pray at all. We all pray some. Surveys indicate one in

five unbelievers prays daily. Just in case, perhaps? When the disciples asked Jesus to teach them to pray, He gave them a prayer...a quotable, repeatable, portable prayer. Could you use the same?



**3 CEMETERY PLOTS** in Odd Fellows Cemetery, Lexington, known as Lot No. 606 in the 1967 Addition. Includes a Trust Receipt, No. 376, held in trust by the City of Lexington with the interest to be used for the upkeep and maintenance of Lot 606. Call Bruce Hill at 662-417-9944 to arrange for transfer of Trust Receipt and warranty deed for Lot 606. \$1500 total. 2-1ftfn

**FOR SALE: 12' x 36'** metal building, beauty shop equipment included. Air, heat, ½ bath, great condition!! 662-834-2839, leave message if no answer. 2-8---3-29p

## New efforts taken to track drug overdose deaths

On Wednesday, March 21, the Mississippi Bureau of Narcotics and the Mississippi Coroners and Medical Examiners Association announced new efforts to track drug overdose deaths occurring in the state of Mississippi. The announcement stems from continued dialogue between both organizations and a jointly acknowledged need to better track this vital statistic. The accuracy of this data is important as historically drug overdoses rise each year. Efforts to combat the opioid epidemic are better focused when opioid overdose statistics are correct.

In 2017, the Bureau of Narcotics, the state's Coroner's, and Medical Examiners achieved significant cooperation with over 50 of the Coroners and Medical Examiners reporting drug overdose deaths to the Bureau of Narcotics. Unfortunately, this cooperation produced a grim statistic with an estimated 255 drug overdose deaths being reported statewide.

Electronic reporting and the response of Bureau of Narcotics Agents to the scene of drug overdose deaths are some of the new efforts to assist in providing the state with an accurate overdose statistic. The Bureau of Narcotics and the state's Coroners and Medical Examiners are committed to improved interac-

tion and communication in order to assist in the accurate reporting of overdose deaths.

"When I started at MBN in November of 2016, reporting of drug overdoses was less than effective. After increased communications and efforts throughout 2017, the plan moving forward is to build upon what we started last year," said MBN Director John Dowdy. "Through conversations with and input from Coroners around the state, we believe that an excellent co-operative effort has been born and will continue to grow" said Dowdy. "The State's Coroners and Medical Examiners do a good job in their counties and have expressed their willingness to improve the reporting of drug overdose deaths, which is a step in a positive direction," Dowdy concluded.

"Coroners in the state of Mississippi will continue to work with the Mississippi Bureau of Narcotics to report and enhance the reporting mechanisms we have been working on. We feel it is a joint effort and look forward to continuing the partnership with the Bureau of Narcotics to effectively address drug overdoses across the state," said Ginger Meriwether, President of the Coroners and Medical Examiners Association of Mississippi.

## SERVICE MAN

**Scott Petroleum Corporation** is seeking a **SERVICE MAN** for our **LEXINGTON, MISSISSIPPI** branch.

**Applicants Should Possess:**  
Class B CDL  
Hazmat/Tanker endorsement (X)  
Pipe fitting experience  
Ability To Work Efficiently With Others  
A Strong Work Ethic

**Benefits Include:**  
401k - Vacation - Sick Leave  
Health Insurance - Life Insurance  
Salary Commensurate With Experience

**SEND RESUME & REFERENCES TO:**  
Scott Petroleum Corporation  
Attn: Kenny Joiner  
309 Depot Street • Lexington, MS 39095  
or via email to:  
kjoiner@scottpetroleuminc.com  
(NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE)

## Lexington Manor Senior Care

56 Rockport Road  
Lexington, MS 39095

IS CURRENTLY ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR

**CNA'S**

12 HOUR SHIFTS  
and  
**PRN CNA'S**

3-11 and 11-7 SHIFTS

**MUST COME TO NURSING HOME TO PICK UP APPLICATION. ONLY SERIOUS APPLICANTS NEED APPLY.**

## PROPANE DRIVER

**SCOTT PETROLEUM CORPORATION** is seeking a **PROPANE DRIVER** for the **LEXINGTON, MISSISSIPPI** area.

- **Ability to work efficiently with other employees & a strong work ethic.**  
- **Must be 25 years of age.**  
- **CDL class B license**  
- **Must have or be able to obtain hazmat & tanker endorsement**  
- **Must have good customer service skills and satisfactory completion of a D.O.T. physical, drug test, and background check**

Health Insurance - Life Insurance - 401K  
Competitive Wages - Sick Leave - Vacation

**SEND RESUME & REFERENCES TO:**  
Scott Petroleum Corporation  
Attn: Kenny Joiner  
309 Depot St. • Lexington, MS 39095  
or send via email to:  
kjoiner@scottpetroleuminc.com  
(NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE)