

HCC nursing students assist at diabetes conference



Special to The Clinton Courier

Associate Degree Nursing students from the Hinds Community College Jackson Campus-Nursing/Allied Health Center assisted recently at a diabetes conference geared to those in the community who have diabetes as well as parents of diabetes. Pictured (l to r) are, kneeling: Brittnie Towes of Clarksdale and Mary Caldwell of Clinton; second row: Bailey Russell of Canton, Haley Herrod of Vicksburg and Nickeysha Nathanie of McComb; third row: Cain and Kimberly Jones-Brewster of Pearl; and back row: Sabrina Givens of Madison, Paul Coe of Jackson, Daemion Cooper of Jackson, Mya Brown of Jackson, Myra Hayes of Byram, Kyisha Mayfield of Vicksburg, Raegan Pope of Houston, Texas, Breland Sullivan of Brandon, Stephanie Roach of Vicksburg, Johnathon Lowery of Louisville, Elizabeth Easterling of Tupelo, Sarah Chandler of Utica, Kennedy Wellington of Vicksburg and Jessica Perry of Vicksburg.

MDOT encourages motorists to secure loads

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At first instinct, many begin fastening seatbelts for their children and themselves, but what about the load in the back of the pickup truck?

Over the span of four years, there have been more than 400,000 crashes caused by road debris, according to the AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety. Additionally, it has been reported that approximately 39,000 injuries and 500 deaths have resulted between 2011 and 2014.

The Mississippi Department of Transportation's (MDOT) top priority is the safety of the traveling public.

To help prevent crashes and fatalities caused by debris from unsecured loads, MDOT recently

proclaimed June 6 as "Secure Your Load Day."

"Load-securing should be a standard practice of Mississippi motorists," said Melinda McGrath, P.E., MDOT Executive Director. "Debris from unsecured loads not only becomes a road hazard for other motorists, but it also contributes to forty percent of roadside litter. It is also illegal."

Motorists responsible for debris from unsecured loads could face fines up to \$500 and up to six months in prison.

"Secure Your Load Day" is part of a nationwide effort to raise awareness about the dangers of debris falling from vehicles. It was spearheaded by Robin Abel after her daughter was killed in a crash caused by an unsecured load.

Mississippi motorists can help keep others safe and avoid legal troubles by:

1. Tying down the load with rope, netting or straps.
2. Tying large objects directly to the vehicle or trailer.
3. Covering the entire load with a sturdy tarp.
4. Not overloading the vehicle.
5. Always double checking the load to make sure it is secure.
6. Using safety chains when hauling trailers.

"Secure your load as if everyone you love is driving in the car behind you," Abel said.

To learn more about travel safety, visit GoMDOT.com/DriveSmartMS, download the MDOT Traffic mobile app and follow @MississippiDOT on social media channels like Facebook and Twitter.

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