THURSDAY, PAGE 6 **COUNTY**

THE WICKER REPORT

By: United States Senator Roger Wicker

Wicker Event Demonstrates Safe Disposal of Unwanted Prescriptions

National Drug Take

Back Day's Success Shows Path Forward

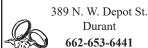
It is difficult to convey the annually, or 2.1 percent of scope and despair of the opi- Mississippi's total gross dooid crisis. The Centers for mestic product. Disease Control and Prevencosts our state \$2.2 billion



Jordan Pratt Drew Trehern June 15

Mackenzie McCleskey Kirk Douglas August 2

Howell & Heggie Drug Co.



This crisis demands a nation estimates that approxi- tional response, and I have mately 70,000 drug overdose collaborated with the Addeaths occurred last year ministration to take action. in the United States, more Working with Congress, than half of them involving President Trump signed a opioids. That is more Ameri- thorough legislative packcan deaths than in the entire age targeting the interna-Vietnam War. Nearly every tional shipment of opioids day in 2018, one Mississip- and providing grants to pian died from a drug over- states, cities, and communidose. Further, a study by the ty organizations to promote American Enterprise Insti- treatment and rehabilitation tute shows that this scourge and to prevent drug misuse.

> The solution will not come entirely from Washington. In fact, it starts closer to home. In the medicine cabi-

Get Pills Out of **Our Cabinets**

Opioid addiction began for many individuals in a medical setting. Drugs are often prescribed for real pain, but their addictive nature sometimes leads to abuse. Many of these pills have also been lost or stolen, ending up in unintended hands.

On April 19th, I led a drug take back event with U.S. Attorney Michael Hurst at the Canton Mart Walgreens in Jackson. It took place in advance of the Drug Enforcement Administration's

Take Back Day on April 27. These events provide opportunities for people to turn in safely, anonymously, and with no questions asked unneeded prescription drugs. Getting unused pills out of our cabinets and off the streets curbs potential opioid abuse.

I also met Sidney Smith at the Jackson event. He told his story about being addicted to drugs for 27 years and spending more than a decade behind bars. Thanks to a faith-based program called the Adult & Teen Challenge, Mr. Smith was able to turn his life around and get sober. He is now in graduate school studying social work to help those who struggle as he once did.

That this event happened on Good Friday made it all the more memorable. The story of grace that is Easter is a reminder of the power of redemption and the love we owe to our fellow man. As Mr. Hurst said, "The public is the first line of defense."

Ask Your Local Pharmacist

National Prescription Drug Take Back Day comes once a year. Since the fall of 2010, the DEA has collected almost 11,000,000 pounds of unwanted pills nationally that will not become parts of the cycle of drug abuse. That is almost four pounds of prescriptions per person in Mississippi.

Governments, social organizations, and individuals forming little platoons can National Prescription Drug turn the tide on the opioid

Youth group collects toiletries for Tchula flood victims



Holmes County youth and members of Rho Nu Zeta Chapter of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. collected toiletries items for the flood victims of Tchula recently. This effort part of the youth auxiliaries group Z-HOPE Project: Meeting Basic Needs. Pictured are (from left): Zula Patterson, former mayor of Tchula; Lasonja Hardy-Moore, youth advisor; Caitlyn Landfair; Pearlette; Madison Pickett, Achornette and Latonya Hardy. Not pictured are Zuri Wilson, Pearlette, Kiara Hardy and Jada Head, Amicettes.

(Photo submitted)

epidemic. Groups like Adult & Teen challenge are formed by staff and volunteers who want to end addiction. There are also private sector partners, like Walgreens, who work together with residents to clean up our communities. Many other local pharmacies provide bins where anyone can bring unnecessary medications throughout the year, not just on special days.

Happy Anniversary

May 25 - Timmy and Glynda Boatner, Mark and Angelia Langford, Daniel and Laura Gottschalck, Buddy and Julie Hathcock, Roger and Linda Dishroom

May 26 - Billy and Sheila Russell, Tri and Brittany Nason, Bryan and Jamie Ware, Stephan and Melinda Mathis

May 27 - Vendell and Ella Benson, Justin and Allison Langford, David and Anissa **McGinnis**

May 28 - Joe W. and Carolyn C. Smart

May 29 - Rufus and Belinda Waddell

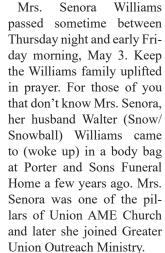


On Wednesday, March 15, West Civic members made their annual trip. This year we went to Mr. Joby Jackson's home in Winona. Mr. Jackson is a landscaper, has a nursery on Highway 51 in Winona, and in his spare time he works on this own home. The back yard is beautiful, he has taken a hillside and terraced into three levels. The upper level is grass and Joby has put bistro lights along with azaleas, hydrangeas, some smaller trees, hedges on all three terraces along you Mr. Joby. After our

with seasonal flowers. They also have a waterfall going from one side of the lot to the other along with some water fountains on the back patio. There are pots of succulents that use less water and less sun. Other than his first grandson, his pride and joy is a baby grand piano that he was able to acquire by landscaping a neighbor's yard. Mr. Joby is a very talented pianist as well. We were very lucky to have him play a couple of songs. Thank

tour, eight members along with three guests, Adielaide Burge Chapman, Sara Starns and Louise McAllister, went to the Tracks for our installation of officers and our meal While waiting for our meals, Mary Ann Stevens gave the oath of office to Carol Black president, Jean Aldridge vice-president, and Sara McLellan, secretary, Leca Dew, our treasurer, was not able to attend due to conflicts but, will be sworn in the near future. The outgoing treasurer, Ruth Aldridge, gave a very good report on the outcome of the school reunion. If anyone of you out there is interested in becoming a member of the West Civic Club you may contact any of the current ladies, and they will be more than glad to answer your questions.

IN AND AROUND LEXINGTON BY LEONA (LENA) FIELDS



Joe Morgan and his son was doing some work with a tractor. Somehow by accident he got some of his toes messed up, but he is still able to drive around. Pray that his toes heal quickly. He's waiting on me to report this accident in the paper. I'm sorry

Joe; I don't have any details

my brother's health. Pray for Day, in Memphis. all the sick and shut-ins.

Intended for 5-16-19

family from Chicago came me. by fro a while. Her son Sam-

Keep Fred Horton of Tchula, in your prayers. Healthwise, he has good days and bad days. My brother Rayon the accident. But I do mond also has good days wish you a speedy recovery. a nd bad days. On Friday Joe is the community helper. before first Sunday, he had He helps any and everybody. sinus surgery. That night One of my brothers had he was carried to the emersinus surgery. Right now, gency room. That Saturday he's stuffy and feeling awful. evening he was carried to Pray that he will be alright. the emergency room. On When the doctor did the sur- Mother's Day night, he was gery, he found out my broth- carried back to the emerer has a skull leak. He will be gency room. Now he is dosent to Memphis to correct ing pretty good. His skull this problem. Please pray for surgery will be on Memorial To the Benson family, I'm

sorry for reporting your dad For Mother's Day week- passed when he is still alive. end, Mrs. Katie Horton of But honestly somebody told Tchula, had plenty company. me that a few years ago. I Her sister Evelyn Jones and don't remember who told

Friday, Robert Randle went mie Horton and his fam- to Jackson for his check-up. ily from Texas came for the His sister Deborah carried weekend. Her daughter Wen- him. His sister Alice said he dy cooked a fabulous dinner. is doing okay.

