

Governor Reeves, MDES launch Lost Wages Assistance Program for unemployed Mississippians

Press Release
On Thursday, August 20, Governor Tate Reeves and the Mississippi Department of Employment Security (MDES) announced that Mississippi will apply for an additional \$300 of benefits a week from the Lost Wages Assistance (LWA) program. Once Mississippi's application is approved, MDES will

implement the program and funds will be available within three to four weeks. On August 8, 2020, President Donald Trump signed a Presidential Memorandum making grant funding available to states and territories through the U.S. Department

of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C. § 5174 (the "Stafford Act"). The Memorandum enables electing states to offer additional "Lost Wages Assistance" to eligible unemployed workers receiving unemployment benefits. Benefits will be available for weeks of unemployment beginning the week ending August 1, 2020, through weeks of unemployment ending no later than December 27, 2020, or when the balance in FEMA's Disaster Relief Fund (DRF) reaches \$25 billion, or when the \$44 billion from the DRF designated for LWA is exhausted, or when the state matching funds have been exhausted, which-

ever occurs first. Conversely, funding for these benefits would also terminate upon enactment of legislation providing, due to the COVID-19 outbreak, supplemental federal unemployment compensation, or similar compensation, for unemployed or underemployed individuals. Mississippians who are unemployed or partially unemployed due to COVID-19 and are currently receiving a weekly unemployment benefit amount of \$100 or more from one of the following programs will be eligible to receive an additional \$300 a week in the LWA FEMA program:

- Unemployment Insurance (UI)
- Unemployment Compensation for Federal Employees (UCFE)
- Unemployment Compensation for Ex-Servicemembers (UCX)
- Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation (PEUC)
- Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA)
- Extended Benefits (EB)
- Trade Readjustment Allowances (TRA)
- Self-Employment Assistance (SEA)

Claimants do not need to file a separate application to receive LWA. MDES will make the LWA payments in the same manner as any payment from one of the above-listed programs payable for the week involved for all participating claimants. The \$300 LWA payment is subject to both federal and state income taxes. To learn more about Mississippi Unemployment Benefits and for additional updates and information about unemployment assistance programs in MS, visit our website at www.mdes.ms.gov.

Nursing program achieves 100 percent pass rate on national exam

Press Release
The Holmes Community College Practical Nursing (PN) program at the Attala Center in Kosciusko had a 100 percent pass rate on the National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX-PN) exam. This was the first year that the program offered both face-to-face and hybrid program options.

of Richland, Sherita Latiker of Carthage, Lisa Nipper of Chatham, Jennifer Potts of Water Valley, Brandy Raines of Pontotoc and Cherry Singh of Ridgeland.

"We really need to see success stories like this," said Vice President for Career Technical Education Dr. Amy Whittington. "While times changed drastically for education in the spring, this Practical Nursing program demonstrated the commitment to excellence that is upheld no matter what at Holmes. Dr. Christi Blair does an excellent job leading our Practical Nursing program as Chair. We are very proud of what this class has accomplished and their dedication during these times."

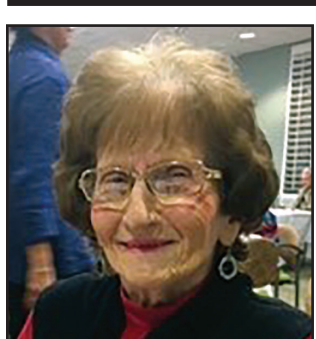
"I am so incredibly proud of this PN class," said Practical Nursing Department Chair Dr. Christi Blair. "For this class to have achieved 100 percent NCLEX pass rate through this extremely tough year is amazing. They worked hard and went above and beyond what we asked of them. I know each and every one will be a fantastic nurse. I'm honored they chose Holmes for their nursing education. 'There's No Place like Holmes!'"

The PN program prepares students to assist in providing general nursing care under the direction of a registered nurse, licensed physician or dentist. Intensive preparation for the NCLEX-PN Exam and transitioning from student to employee is provided in the program.

There were 19 graduates total in the 2020 Attala Center PN Class. Graduates from the face-to-face program included Kristi Bagwell of McCool; Brianna Branch of Sallis; Lexie Brown of Kosciusko; Lanie Davis of Lexington; Christina Dossett of Winona; Jordan Eldridge of Winona; Meagan Henry of Carthage; LaKenya Latiker of Carthage; Carrie Lee of Kosciusko; Carley McClain of French Camp; Brittany McDaniel of McCool; Tiffany Sisney of Kosciusko; and Lanikka Thompson of Durant. The hybrid program graduates were Erin Hopkins

Potential students must have a high school diploma or a High School Equivalency (HSE) certificate and provide official transcripts from all schools/colleges previously attended. Although college credit is not required for application to the program, applicants with any college credit must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.0 to be considered for selection.

Obituaries



MARY INEZ SHELTON SMITH

Private family graveside service for Mrs. Mary Inez Shelton Smith began at 2:00 p.m., Tuesday, August 25, 2020 at Glenwood Cemetery in Yazoo City, MS. Robert Barham Family Funeral Home is honored to be entrusted with the arrangements.

Mrs. Smith passed away Friday, August 21, 2020 in Meridian, MS. Born on March 18, 1924, Inez was a longtime resident of Thornton, MS, then living in Yazoo City, Ridgeland, and the past 8½ years, in Meridian at Aldersgate Retirement Community.

She was a graduate of Greenwood High School and employed by Coca Cola Bottling in her early years. She spent most her life as a homemaker on a farm in

Holmes County. She volunteered at Cruger-Tchula Academy, teaching a majorette group when her daughter was a student. She was the owner of the Prissy Chic women's clothing store for several years in Yazoo City. After moving to Ridgeland, she was a hostess for several years at Olive Garden Restaurant. She belonged to a Bridge Club in Holmes County and the Young at Heart Dance Club in Greenwood, where she and her husband enjoyed many evenings of dancing.

She is survived by her daughter Ethel Ann (Jeff) McCoy of Meridian and son Mart (Fran) Smith of Thornton; grandchildren, Kyle (Angie) McCoy and Leah (Josh) Lack, both of Olive Branch, Meredith (Brandon) Dill of Madison and Matt (Laura) Smith of Brandon; great grandchildren, Jonah, Charlie, Ella and Georgia McCoy, Annelea, Zoe and Landon Smith, Thade Wilkinson and Savannah Dill; and several nephews and a niece. She was preceded in death by her husband Billy Martin Smith, her parents, Ethel and Albert

Shelton and nine siblings.

The family would like to extend their heartfelt gratitude to Aldersgate Retirement Community and their resident assistants for their untiring love and compassion. Also, thanks to Compassus Hospice for their loving care and attention.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Aldersgate Retirement Community, Chapel Fund, 6600 Poplar Springs Drive, Meridian, MS 39305 or to ALSAC/St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105 or online at www.stjude.org in honor of her great grandson Jonah.

FAY BROWN HART

Fay Brown Hart, 95, of Ruston, LA, formerly of Lexington and Brandon passed away Thursday, August 20, 2020.

A graveside service was held on Saturday, August 22, 2020 at the Ebenezer Baptist Cemetery.

ELAINE DUNN

Elaine Dunn, age 89, went to be with the Lord on Thursday, August 20, 2020 at her home in Lexington, MS. She was preceded in death by her parents Choice and Elsie Beckham and her husband Fred.

She is survived by her children, Mike Dunn, Pat Dunn (Jeanne) and Carol Roark (Al). She also leaves six grandchildren, Jillian Bolton, Patrick Dunn, Hallet Graham, Joel Dunn, Liz Roark and Abbi Roark and two great-grandchildren.

Graveside services were held Saturday, August 22, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. at Odd Fellows Cemetery in Lexington, MS. In lieu of flowers, please send memorials to First United Methodist Church, 108 Tchula Street, Lexington, MS 39095.

ROBERT "NEWTON" FOX

Mr. Robert "Newton" Fox, 80, of Sallis, passed away Tuesday, August 18, 2020 at his residence.

Funeral services were held at 2:00 p.m., Friday, August 21 at Jordan Funeral Home Chapel. Burial followed at Mizpah Cemetery. Rev. Jerry Meggs officiated. Jordan Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

Mr. Fox was retired from the oilfield and was in the National Guard.

He is survived by his son Robert (Pam) Fox of Sallis; daughters, Debra Fox of Madison and Teresa Fox of Brandon; grandchildren,

Wesley Williams (Erin), Anna Williams, Carly Temple, Gavin Fox, Willow Fox, Courtney Blaine; great grandchildren, J.D. Tagert and Rhett Williams; three nieces; six nephews; and a host of great nieces and nephews.

Preceding him in death is his wife Linda Fox; parents, Robert Cecil and Katie Mae Millwood Fox; and brothers, James Fox and Buddy Fox.

Pallbearers were Tony Fox, Wesley Potter, Kade Atwood, Jayson Self, Jack Winters and David Potter.

For online condolences visit www.jordanfuneral-home.com

NOTICE:
If you have relatives buried at Gages Spring Cemetery located in Durant, MS, please contact Madeline Coleman at 662-834-2344 as soon as possible.



*Durant deaths

(Continued from page 1.)

Officials report that the two Malones were married but, it was understood, they were separated. Chief Johnson said the incident was a domestic dispute.

"Upon his arrival, Assistant Chief Haynes was told that suspect Freddie Malone shot victim Edna Malone," Chief Johnson said in the release.

The Holmes County Sheriff's Department and the Mississippi Bureau of Investigations also responded to the scene.

Howard added that MBI was investigating the ballistics from the scene.

When asked who shot Freddie Malone and the motive, Chief Johnson said the case was still under investigation.

Chief Johnson said no other injuries were reported, no arrests were made and police are not currently looking for any suspects.

Howard also added that with the backlog of cases and the staffing shortage at the Mississippi State Crime Lab, he did not expect a report back for at least two weeks.

Official causes of death have not been determined pending state crime lab results.

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