

Scaling Mountains

I have never considered steps to be such an obstacle before now and now it seems as I stand at the bottom of six little wooden steps it’s as if I am facing Mount Everest. I have pondered, deliberated, and contemplated how I might scale this “mountain” in front of me and so far, nothing nor anyone has been able to solve this predicament and help me to climb

this “mountain”. We have just a couple of months ago gotten our log home built back from the horrendous fire and complete loss and I just barely got the new furniture into the little house before I broke my leg. We have yet to stay over-night. I have had curtains made, rugs brought in, pictures hung, and I am looking at pictures family and friends

have made for me to see how everything looks. There is still so very much to do, and I WANT TO DO IT!! I am a mother, and I am the caretaker, the one who takes care of my family and my home but now it seems I am dependent on others to do my job and I don’t like it. My husband has planted our summer garden and I am usually out there when the vegetables begin to bear fruit so I can freeze and can for the winter and where am I this year, stuck in a chair with big rolling wheels. I imagine for much of my day how I can scale those steps and get in for myself. I considered going up backwards on my “seat” but then I must figure out how I will get up right when I reach the pinnacle as I can only put weight on one leg coming from a floor sitting position. We have bought a small ramp to get me in and out of our house in town but it’s only one small step up not a lofty mountain. I



Peggy’s Take

go back to see my surgeon in 2 weeks, 2 days, and 1 hour and if I am still “no weight bearing”, I will call our contractor and buy some of that expensive lumber and oversee a long ramp to help me climb “Mount Circle S”. I have mastered cooking while rolling just as long as I can get it into the oven to cook. Here is one of my dinners.... **BAKED FAJITAS** 1-pound boneless chicken breasts cut into thin strips, 1 can diced tomatoes with green chilies, 1 medium onion and 1 bell pepper sliced into thin strips, 2 T. oil, 2 t. chili powder, 2 t. cumin, salt and pepper Mix all together and place on a sheet pan and cook at 400* for 20 – 25 minutes. Wrap into warmed tortillas and add sour cream, shredded cheese, and guacamole. *Peggy Sims is a life-long resident of Attala County and columnist.*

Obituaries

EDWIN O’BRIANT

Edwin O’Briant, 87, of Durant Passed away Monday, June 7, 2021 at the Mississippi State Veteran Home in Kosciusko. Edwin had retired from the Mississippi State Highway Department after 13 years. The last few years he worded maintenance at the rest area on Highway 55. He also had served in the U.S. Navy and was a member of Calvary Baptist Church in Durant. Edwin was preceded in death by his parents, D.C and Nellie Welch O’Briant and his wife Eleanor O’Briant. Edwin is survived by his son Eddie (Chie) O’Briant of Madison, MS; daughters, Dolores Petersen (Steve) of Kosciusko, MS and Diane Cole of Little Rock, AR. He is survived by his brothers, Durward (Dorothy) O’Briant of West, MS and Bobby Joe O’Briant (Linda Kay) of Kosciusko, MS; and

five grandchildren, 12 great grandchildren and nine great great grandchildren. Visitation was held Wednesday, June 9 at Southern Funeral Home in Lexington from 12 Noon until service time at 2:00 p.m. in the Chapel, with burial at Mizpah Cemetery in Durant. **JOLENE ROGERS WUESTENHOEFER** Jolene Rogers Wuestenhoefer, 76, passed away Monday, June 1, 2021 at her son’s home in Minter City MS. Jolene was a resident of Greenville and was a beautician with First Impressions Beauty Shop for a number of years. She was preceded in death by her parents Doyle and Flora Ables Rogers, and her husband James Patrick Wuestenhoefer, and was a member of Harland Creek Baptist Church in Lexington MS. Jolene is survived by her sons, Brady (Nikki) Wuestenhoefer of Minter City, MS and Jason Patrick Wuestenhoefer (Marcy) of Greenwood, MS; her sister Glenda Rogers McDaniel of Lexington, MS; and brother Doyle Shelton Rogers of Wesson, MS. She is also survived by her grandchildren, Allie (Perry Ramsey-fiance) Wuestenhoefer, Sidney and Anna-Reid Wuestenhoefer of Greenville, MS, Maddox Wuestenhoefer of Greenwood, MS, Landry Powell (Jarrett), Kendall Jones (Chris), and Harper Horton. She is also survived by her great grandchildren, Payton and Molly Harper Powell and Landon Jones; a niece Angie Hearn Chitty (Chuck); and great nieces Hannah and Sarah Chitty. Graveside services were held at 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, June 5, 2021 at Harland Creek Baptist Church Cemetery near Lexington, MS.

*A Life Taken
A Life that mattered
Remembering our
Grandmother, Mother,
Sister, Aunt and
Friend*
**ORA LEE
TRAVIS IRVIN**
4-6-44 ~ 5-3-19



**IRVIN,
TRAVIS,
GIBSON
FAMILY**



KELSEY GILMORE

Yazoo Valley Electric Power Association announced the 2020 Youth Leadership students who participated in Cooperative University and Youth Leadership Workshop last year. They were not able to attend the Washington, D.C., trip due to constraints and complications arising from the COVID-19 pandemic. Despite the difficult circumstances, they have demonstrated extraordinary accomplishments and shown true leadership in their communities. They were awarded \$2,500 scholarships to aid in their future educational goals. The student from Holmes County, who was awarded the scholarship, is Kelsey Gilmore. Kelsey graduated from Central Holmes Christian School in 2021. She was an active member of the Honor Society and Student Council. She also worked as a writer and editor for the school newsletter.

After graduating from Central Holmes Christian School, Kelsey plans to attend Holmes Community College for two years before transferring to a university. She hopes to pursue a career as a history professor. Kelsey said, “I had an amazing time at the 2020 Youth Leadership Workshop in Jackson, Mississippi. It helped me improve both my leadership skills and my communication skills. It also allowed me to forge many new friendships. I loved visiting the Mississippi State Capitol Building, getting to know people over the ice cream social and pushing the limits of the elevator with the other workshop participants. I am sad that we were not able to go to Washington, D.C., but I understand that it was for the best. I am extremely thankful to Yazoo Valley Electric for everything that it has done for me!”

You could save someone from Sickel Cell Disease

(NAPSI)—On World Sickel Cell Day, June 19, and all through the year, disparities in healthcare can result in unequal outcomes for people of color—but that can be remedied. **The Problem** Sickel cell disease affects 100,000 people in the U.S., mostly Black and bi-racial. People living with sickel cell disease experience ongoing crises where cells block the blood stream, causing excruciating pain and damage to the organs and tissues, and a shorter lifespan. While new developments in bone marrow and stem cell transplantation now offer the hope of a cure and a healthy life to these patients, most have a hard time accessing treatment. One reason is that while there are more than 38 million registered donors from 55 countries in the worldwide registries, 75 percent of African-American, Caribbean or bi-racial people cannot find a life-saving match. The best chance for a life-saving marrow match lies with those of similar ethnic or racial ancestry, yet due to a dire need for diversity in the registries, many people die needlessly. Some patients have a family member who can donate, but in 70% of cases a volunteer donor is required. **A Solution** That’s where the Gift of Life Marrow Registry comes in. It’s a non-profit organization that facilitates stem cell and bone marrow transplants. Now, the registry has launched a campaign,

“Blood Is Thicker,” aimed at improving health outcomes for Black patients. The message is simple: Everyone has the power to save a life—starting with a simple cheek swab. The non-profit is joined in the effort by such organizations as the NAACP and health experts nationwide to encourage more people in the community to join in this fight, while also dispelling misconceptions about the registration and donation processes. **Doctor’s Advice** “As a doctor who treats sickel cell patients, I am all too familiar with the fact that history is still affecting the ways we approach medicine and treatment for all,” explained Ahmar Urooj Zaidi, M.D., a hematologist and sickel cell physician at Children’s Hospital of Michigan. “One in 13 African-Americans is born with the sickel cell trait and, unfortunately, there is no disease more intertwined with racism, prejudice and bias than sickel cell disease. Working with Gift of Life, I hope to help shine a spotlight on the disparities that sickel cell patients face, including low access to possible cures such as a bone marrow or stem cell transplant.” **What You Can Do** Volunteer donors 18 to 35 and in good health can support the effort by joining the registry and using their voice to educate others. **Learn More** For more information about the “Blood Is Thicker” campaign, visit giftoflife.org/bloodisthicker.



MISSISSIPPI SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTER WORKSHOP Mississippi Small Business Development Center and McLean Institute for Public Service and Community Engagement will host an in person or online webinar on Thursday, June 24 from noon to 1:00 p.m. at 112 Spring Street in Lexington. You can register with one of these options:
Virtual - <http://clients.mssbdc.org/reg.spx?event&event=28410011> or In-Person - <https://clients.mssbdc.org/reg.aspx?mode=event&event=28410012>.
6-10,17



**(USPS 247-680)
HOLMES COUNTY
HERALD**
Periodicals postage paid at Lexington, Mississippi by Holmes County Herald, Lexington, Mississippi.
POSTMASTER: Send address changes to: Holmes County Herald, P.O. Box 60, Lexington, MS 39095. Published each Thursday at 308 Court Square, Lexington, MS 39095. Telephone 662-834-1151; Fax 662-834-1074; Email hcherald@gmail.com; Website www.holmescounty-herald.com
Julie Ellison...Gen. Manager
SUBSCRIPTION RATES
In Holmes County - \$35.00
In Mississippi - \$40.00
Outside Mississippi - \$50.00