



# The Delta Council Review

Vol. 15, Issue No. 2

THE NEWSLETTER FOR FRIENDS AND MEMBERS OF DELTA COUNCIL

June 2021

## SENATOR CINDY HYDE-SMITH TO HEADLINE 86TH ANNUAL MEETING OF DELTA COUNCIL ON JUNE 4

Delta Council President, **Paul Hollis** of Rolling Fork, and Chairman **Tom Gresham** of Indianola are pleased to announce the 86th Annual Meeting of Delta Council to be held in-person Friday, June 4, 2021, at Delta State University's Bologna Performing Arts Center (BPAC) in Cleveland, Mississippi.



Sen. Hyde-Smith

who serves as President. "Delta Council is also grateful that **Senator Hyde-Smith** will be joining us as the keynote speaker for the business session of the meeting. Her dedication to fundamental legislative issues in the Delta is remarkable, and we look forward to and hope you will join us in welcoming her."

**Senator Hyde-Smith** was elected to a six-year term in November 2020, following her 2018 appointment to fill U.S. **Senator Thad Cochran's** long-term seat. As the first woman elected to represent Mississippi in Washington, D.C., **Hyde-Smith** serves on four key standing committees in the 117th Congress

– Agriculture, Appropriations, Energy & Natural Resources, and Rules.

She serves on six Appropriations Subcommittees, including: Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies; Energy and Water Development; Homeland Security; Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies; Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies; and Financial Services and General Government, on which she serves as Ranking Member.

On the Agriculture Committee, **Hyde-Smith** serves on three subcommittees, including: Commodities, Risk

MEETING *continued on page 3*



Mississippi



## MEETING AGENDA

### JUNE 4, 2021

9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.  
2021 SALUTE TO  
DELTA HONOR GRADUATES

Lt. Governor **Delbert Hosemann**

Location: Lawn of the  
Bologna Performing Arts Center

10:30 a.m.  
WELCOME &  
OPENING REMARKS

**Paul Hollis**

Delta Council President

**Tom Gresham**

Delta Council Chairman

INVOCATION

Revered **Holly Burris**  
Church of the Epiphany  
Tunica, MS

PRESENTATION OF COLORS

Boy Scout Troop 4200  
Scoutmaster **Dennis Waldo**

PATRIOTIC MUSIC

**Tricia Walker**  
Cleveland, MS

BUSINESS SESSION

- Recognition of Special Guests
- Wear Cotton Recognition
- Good Middling Community Service Award Recognition
- Recognition of Honor Graduates & Scholarship Recipient
- Introduction of New Officers

INTRODUCTION OF  
KEYNOTE SPEAKER

**Paul Hollis**

Delta Council President

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

Senator **Cindy Hyde-Smith**

12:00 NOON  
CATFISH LUNCHEON

Location: Delta State University  
Quadrangle Lawn

RECOGNITION OF  
2020-2021  
ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

**Paul Hollis**

Delta Council President

# MAKE WEEDS BEG FOR MERCY. FOR UP TO 8 WEEKS.



## FIERCE

HERBICIDE 999



## DELTA COUNCIL

### 2020–2021 Delta Council Officers

President: PAUL HOLLIS, Rolling Fork  
Vice-President: PIERCE BROWN, Schlater  
Vice-President: CARTER MURRELL, Avon  
Vice-President: ANDY PROSSER, Yazoo City  
Vice-President: HENRY REED, Belzoni  
Vice-President: KIRK SATTERFIELD, Benoit  
Vice-President: JIMMY WALKER, JR., Clarksdale  
Treasurer: KEITH MITCHELL, Grenada

#### POSTMASTER:

Send all address changes to  
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P.O. Box 257, Stoneville, MS 38776

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*Layout and design of The Delta Council Review*

Coopwood Communications  
Cleveland, MS

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## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

BY PAUL HOLLIS



Hollis

As my term of service concludes in a month, I would like to thank our group of Officers and Presidential Directors for

servicing with me this year. They have been engaged, not only at the Officers Meetings, but throughout the year on various policy discussions on a wide range of issues that Delta Council works on.

**Pierce Brown** of Schlater, **Carter Murrell** of Avon, **Andy Prosser** of Yazoo City, **Henry Reed** of Belzoni, **Kirk Satterfield** of Benoit and **Jimmy Walker, Jr.** of Clarksdale, have all made tremendous contributions to this organization and region. We also thank **Keith Mitchell**, who has served a two-year term as Treasurer.

The incoming President of Delta Council has the prerogative of appointing members to the Board of Directors. The group chosen this past year is outstanding. **Tyler Cannon** of Cleveland, **Kevin Corban** of Rolling Fork, **Clayton Davis** of Greenville, **Justin Jefcoat** of Greenwood, **Michael Johnson** of Tunica, **Stacie Koger** of Belzoni, **Bill Walker** of Marks, **Nott Wheeler, Jr.** of Merigold, **Grey Windham** of Rolling Fork, have all made valuable contributions.

Because of the pandemic, I have asked incoming Delta Council President **Patrick Johnson** of Tunica to keep the same Presidential Appointees in place and also

include all of the outgoing Officers in the meetings with the incoming Officers. He graciously agreed.

Speaking of **Patrick** and new Officers, he has a wonderful team to assist him this year during his tenure as President. You can find their picture on the back page of this newsletter and while I will let him introduce them in the next edition, we are excited to have more and more people that take leadership and ownership in Delta Council.

As I continue to be reminded by other Delta Council leaders, your service as an Officer of Delta Council is just the beginning of the ways you can impact the Delta. This group of men and women who have served this year are impressive, and while the Delta has many challenges, we are blessed with an overabundance of leadership.

This year has been a wonderful and humbling experience to serve as President. I promise to help **Patrick** and his team as much as **Tom Gresham** and others have assisted me this year. The leadership model of Delta Council is dynamic and I am grateful for the friends and experiences we have enjoyed this year – not to mention the many positive outcomes for the Delta.

## TWO DELTA COUNCIL COMMITTEES CONVENE



Delta Council Flood Control Committee Meeting was held May 19, 2021. Presiding was Chairman **John Phillips**. Guest panelists were (from l to r) **Bill Sheppard**, Yazoo Mississippi Delta Levee District Chief Engineer; **Peter Nimrod**, Mississippi Levee Board Chief Engineer; **Hunt Shipman**, Consultant; **Don Underwood**, MS Soil and Water Conservation Commission Project Manager; **Kent Parish**, US Army Corps of Engineers Senior Project Manager.



The Highways and Transportation Committee Meeting met Thursday, May 20 with Chairman **Walton Gresham** presiding. Northern District Transportation Commissioner **John Caldwell** followed by Central District Commissioner **Willie Simmons** addressed the committee concerning district projects and priorities.

## WARRINGTON COMPLETES INTERNSHIP AT DELTA COUNCIL



**Mollie Warrington**

**Mollie Warrington** has been assisting Delta Council over the Spring 2021 semester as an intern, while finishing her senior year at Washington School. **Mollie** is the daughter of **Mr. and Mrs. Robert Warrington** of Greenville.

**Mollie** has served as an active student council member, and last year served as student body President where she was named the Mississippi Association of Independent Schools Outstanding Student Body President. **Mollie** also participated

in Rho Kappa Honors Society, Beta Club Honors Society, Mu Alpha Theta Math Honors Society, and Fellowship of Christian Students. **Mollie** is an active volunteer in her community through The Washington County Community Foundation and The Delta Volunteer Hub.

**Mollie** will be attending the University of Mississippi this fall. She was admitted into the Sally Barksdale Honors College, the Trent Lott Leadership Institute, and the Chancellor's Leadership class. She plans to earn a degree in Public Policy Leadership, and one day hopes to attend law school.

"While interning this semester at Delta Council, I have learned many computer skills, including how to edit a website," said **Mollie**. "I have also learned more about not only Delta Council, but also Delta Wildlife and Delta Strong, and the ways they are working to better our community and region. One thing I really enjoyed was attending the Delta Council officers' meeting and getting to hear other people's perspectives from different areas of the region!"

"**Mollie** has been a valuable asset to Delta Council staff this semester," said **Paul Hollis**, Delta Council President. "Her willingness to find time to intern while balancing extra circular and senior activities, graduation requirements and preparing to go to Ole Miss shows her dedication and drive for success, and we deeply appreciate her time dedicated to Delta Council and wish her the best."

## SHERILYN JONES NAMED GOOD MIDDLING COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD RECIPIENT

**Sherilyn Jones** of Inverness has been named the Good Middling Community Service Award Recipient for 2021 and will be recognized at the 86th Annual Meeting of Delta Council.

Coined after the term "good middling", the highest grade in quality cotton production, the Good Middling Community Service Award recognizes individuals who have sustained significant efforts to promote community and economic vitality in the Mississippi Delta.

"**Sherilyn Jones** has always been very involved in the life of her local community and the greater Delta area. **Sherilyn** has willingly shared her talents and her time, and we are all fortunate and appreciative of her efforts," said Delta Council Arrangements Chairwoman **Irene Long** of Indianola.

**Sherilyn** earned a bachelor's degree in Sociology and Psychology from Auburn University, a Master of Education in Guidance and Counseling from Mississippi State University and a master's degree in Sociology from Delta State University. She has continued educational course work from a variety of universities as well.

She is a longstanding leader with the American Association of University Women (AAUW). During her tenure with AAUW, she served on the College/University National Committee of which she was also the Chair. She was a member of the Legal Advocacy Fund Board, served as Southeastern Regional Director, as well as the AAUW Mississippi State President. **Sherilyn**



**Sherilyn Jones**

also started the first community college branch of AAUW in the Nation at Mississippi Delta Community College.

In addition to this work, she has moderated several political forums from local mayoral elections to U.S. Representative, Mississippi Governor and U.S. Senator elections.

In the community, **Sherilyn** has served as the first President of Mississippi Women for Agriculture since 2010 and is treasurer for the Sunflower County Humane

Society Board. She is on multiple community boards of directors including the Indianola Literacy Board, Indianola Excel by Five, Indianola Open Air Market, Mississippi Tennis Association, MS Delta Community College Center for Career & Workforce Development Advisory Board, MS Council for the Humanities and the Coalition for Mississippi's Children. She is also a member of the Delta Rockers dance team.

Born and raised in Atlanta, Georgia, **Sherilyn** now resides in Inverness with her husband of 44 years, **Austin Jones**. They have one son, **Andy**, and daughter-in-law **Christy** and two grandchildren. They are members of First United Methodist Church in Indianola where she serves as a youth teacher, office assistant and assists with Bible studies.

In her spare time, **Sherilyn** enjoys playing tennis, traveling, Bible study, tending to dogs and horses, and watching Mississippi State University sports and the New Orleans Saints.

### MEETING *from page 1*

Management, and Trade; Conservation, Forestry, and Natural Resources; and Livestock, Dairy, Poultry, Local Food Systems, and Food Safety and Security, on which she serves as Ranking Member. On the Energy and Natural Resources Committee, **Hyde-Smith** also serves on three subcommittees, including: Energy; Public Lands, Forests, and Mining; and Water and Power, on which she serves as Ranking Member.

"**Senator Hyde-Smith** has been a strong advocate for the Delta, engaged and effective in the legislative process, working diligently to improve flood control, economic growth, infrastructure, agriculture and public health in our region," said **Gresham**, an Indianola businessman serving as Chairman of the organization. "Following the devastation caused by the historical 2019 Yazoo Backwater Flood, **Senator Hyde-Smith** has shown her unwavering support of the completion

of the pumps for the South Delta by helping secure commitments from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Environmental Protection Agency. She has also championed policies to support and protect all facets of our largest industry in the Delta - agriculture."

As a U.S. Senator, **Hyde-Smith** has received the Award for Conservative Achievement from the American Conservative Union Foundation and the Spirit of Enterprise Award from the U.S. Chamber of Commerce. **Hyde-Smith** also received numerous awards and honors for her work as a state legislator and champion of agriculture, including the highest grade for a strong pro-business and fiscally conservative voting record from the Business and Industry Political Education Committee.

Prior to becoming a U.S. Senator for Mississippi, **Hyde-Smith** served as the Mississippi Commissioner of Agriculture and Commerce, elected in 2011 and reelected in 2015.

**Hyde-Smith** and her husband **Mike** have a daughter, **Anna-Michael**. They reside in Brookhaven and are active members of Macedonia Baptist Church. A fifth-generation farming family, the Senator's family raises beef cattle and are partners in a local stockyard auction market in Brookhaven.

The 2021 Delta Council Day will commence with the 18th annual Salute to Delta Honor Graduates Event at 9:15 a.m., held outside of the BPAC on the lawn. **Lt. Governor Delbert Hosemann** will welcome the graduates, their families and school officials and present the graduates with certificates.

At 10:30 a.m. in the auditorium of the BPAC, after the inaugural presentation of the colors, and God and Country, the Business Session will proceed into the recognition of the 2020-2021 Good Middling Community Service Award and the tradition of the Wear Cotton contest, followed by a special message from

**Senator Cindy Hyde-Smith** and an introduction of her by **Hollis**.

The tradition of a fried catfish luncheon and Achievement Awards Ceremony will wrap-up Delta Council Day on the grounds of the Quadrangle on the Delta State University campus. Delta Council invites and encourages all of you to attend and participate in this 86-year-old Delta "red-letter" day. Safety precautions will be taken due to COVID-19 and will follow university policy. Delta State University policy currently allows for 75 percent capacity and requires patrons to wear a mask inside the Bologna Performing Arts Center.

Sponsors for the meeting are BankPlus, Catfish Farmers of Mississippi, Cotton, Inc., Delta State University, Mississippi Corn Promotion Board, Mississippi Land Bank, Mississippi Rice Promotion Board, Mississippi Soybean Promotion Board, Simplot, and Southern Ag Credit.

# ACHIEVEMENT AWARD WINNERS FOR 2021 ANNUAL MEETING



**OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTIONS  
TO DELTA AQUACULTURE:**

**Dr. Menghe Li**

Delta Research & Extension Center – MSU  
Stoneville



**OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTIONS  
TO COTTON GINNING:**

**David Cochran, Jr.**

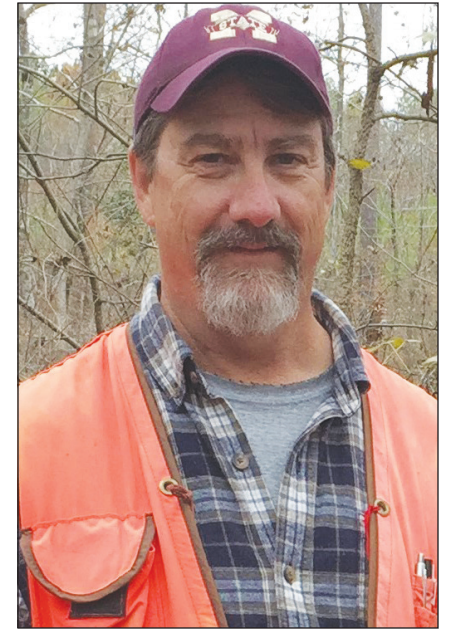
Avon Gin  
Greenville



**OUTSTANDING  
SOYBEAN PRODUCER:**

**Pierce Brown**

Brown Farms  
Schlater



**OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTIONS  
TO HARDWOOD FORESTRY:**

**Conner Fristoe**

Weyerhaeuser Company  
Hattiesburg



**OUTSTANDING  
RICE PRODUCER:**

**Allan Gritman**

Gritman Farms  
Drew



**CONSERVATION  
FARMER OF THE YEAR:**

**Gary Bailey**

Robinsonville



**OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTIONS  
TO RESEARCH :**

**Dr. Jeff Gore**

Delta Research & Extension Center - MSU  
Stoneville



**PACE-SETTER AWARD  
(MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN):**

**Scott Coopwood**

Cleveland

# 2021 ANNUAL MEETING SPONSORS



**Lewis Poindexter**  
*Southeast Regional  
Manager*



The J.R. Simplot Company is one of the largest privately held food and agribusiness companies in the nation, though at heart we're as small as a single farmer. We pioneer innovations in plant nutrition and food processing, research new ways to feed animals and sustain ecosystems, and strive to feed a growing global population. At Simplot, we're in the business of Bringing Earth's Resources to Life.



**Bill Allen**  
*President  
Belzoni Branch*



Founded in 1909, BankPlus is one of the Southeast's premier regional banks serving consumers and businesses with the latest technology through a full suite of financial services, including retail banking, commercial banking, mortgage lending and wealth management. With more than \$4.5 billion in total assets, BankPlus operates 79 financial centers throughout Mississippi, Alabama and Louisiana.



**SOUTHERN AGCREDIT**  
SouthernAgCredit.com



**Phillip D. Morgan**  
*CEO*

Southern AgCredit is a full-service cooperative lender that specializes in financing rural land and agricultural operations in Mississippi and Louisiana. It is a member of the Farm Credit System, a nationwide network of lending cooperatives that finance agriculture, agribusiness, rural real estate and country homes. For more information, visit [www.southernagcredit.com](http://www.southernagcredit.com).



**Abbott Myers**  
*Chairman of Board  
of Directors*

For over 100 years, Mississippi Land Bank has been one of the premier lenders for land in the northern 32 counties of Mississippi. From a homesite with a few acres to an agriculture or hunting property with a few thousand acres – we offer long-term financing for land purchases and refinancing, and we have the knowledge and expertise to meet your financing needs. We also offer financing and refinancing solutions for many other needs that go along with the ownership of rural properties.



**William LaForge**  
*President*



Delta State University is a four-year public institution whose more than 3,500 students come from most U.S. states and more than 50 countries. The university offers numerous unique programs, including the Delta Music Institute entertainment industry program, and is the only university in Mississippi to offer undergraduate and graduate aviation programs. Situated in the heart of the Mississippi Delta, which is recognized as the birthplace of American music, Delta State has become the center of music and culture for the state and the region. The university is also the academic center for the blues, offering an online blues studies curriculum that leads to a certificate for advanced study of blues music. In addition, Delta State offers top-notch academic programs in business, arts, sciences, nursing, and education, among other areas.



**Cotton  
Incorporated**



**Coley Bailey III**  
*Cotton Inc. State Support  
Committee Chairman  
Grenada*

**Kendall Garraway**, Bolton  
**Bernie Jordan**, Yazoo City  
**Lawrence Long**, Indianola



**James Allison**  
*Rice Board Chairman  
Sarab*

**Ronnie Aguzzi**, Cleveland  
**Curtis Berry**, Robinsonville  
**Nolen Canon**, Tunica  
**Marvin Cochran**, Avon  
**Larry Davis**, Sharw  
**Gary Fioranelli**, Cleveland  
**Donald Gant**, Merigold  
**Randy Howarth**, Boyle  
**Carter Murrell**, Avon  
**Gibb Steele**, Greenville  
**Patrick Swindoll**, Hernando



**Turner Massey**  
*Corn Board Chairman  
Clarksdale*

**Preston Arrington**, Inverness  
**Jake Dornbusch**, Louise  
**Philip Good**, Macon  
**Jan Hill**, Meridian  
**Mike Graves**, Ripley  
**Larry Killebrew**, Lexington  
**George King**, Chatbam  
**Will Long**, Indianola  
**Danny Murphy**, Canton  
**Jack Phillips**, Yazoo City  
**Todd Williams**, Olive Branch



**Andy Jones**  
*Catfish Board Chairman  
Moorhead*

**Chris McGlawn**, President, Swiftown  
**Will Nobile**, Vice President, Moorhead  
**Andy Prosser**, Secretary/Treasurer, Yazoo City  
**Houston Battle**, Tunica  
**Dan Bradshaw**, Yazoo City  
**Bobby Jones**, Glen Allan  
**Shorty Jones**, Glen Allan  
**Ben Pentecost**, Doddsville  
**Ed Pentecost**, Cleveland  
**Brad Phillips**, Eden  
**Joe Oglesby**, Director Emeritus, Indianola



**Bubba Simmons**  
*Soybean Board Chairman  
Arcola*

**Bill Ryan Tabb**, Cleveland  
**Tim Clements**, Greenville  
**Jan DeRegt**, Hollandale  
**Paul Dees**, Leland  
**Wayne Dulaney**, Clarksdale  
**Louis Guedon**, Natchez  
**Keith Morton**, Falkner  
**Reese Pillion**, Greenwood  
**Jerry Slocum**, Coldwater  
**Jimmy Sneed**, Hernando  
**David Wansley**, Valley Park

# 2021 MISSISSIPPI DELTA HONOR GRADUATES

## BOLIVAR

**Kourtney "Mia" Barfield** Bayou Academy  
**Kydrian Blocker** Northside High  
**Mary Ansley Chrestman** Bayou Academy  
**Shanyla Edwards** West Bolivar High  
**Tyler Feltson** McEvans School  
**Jykeviun Ford** West Bolivar High  
**Ashleigh McKinney** Cleveland Central High  
**Alyssa Robinson** Northside High  
**Laranyshaw Shaw** McEvans School  
**L'Kenna Whitehead** Cleveland Central High

## CARROLL

**Hannah Lynn Campbell** Carroll Academy  
**McKenzie Henson** J.Z. George High  
**Jason Alan Matthews** Carroll Academy  
**Teddra Randle** J.Z. George High

## COAHOMA

**Elizabeth Basha** Lee Academy  
**Xavier Cannon** Coahoma County High  
**Merri Evelyn Evans** Lee Academy  
**Addison Gooden** Coahoma Early College High  
**Miriam Howard** Clarksdale High  
**Jay'lin Johnson** Coahoma County High  
**Chelnieh Pollard** Clarksdale High  
**Jordan Turner** Coahoma Early College High

## DESOTO

**Adriana Bermudez Loya** Horn Lake High  
**Serenity Blanch** Southaven High  
**Riley Kate Box** Hernando High  
**Ric Browning** Lewisburg High  
**Isabella Grace Desio-Dorian** Lewisburg High  
**Logan Deutschmann** Desoto Central High  
**Tucker Henley** Center Hill High  
**Heaven Hubbard** Horn Lake High  
**Omar Jamil** Desoto Central High  
**Joseph Jenkins** Southaven High  
**Christian Lesure** Olive Branch High  
**Madison Lott** Northpoint Christian School  
**Farrak Oswald** Lake Cormorant High  
**Emily Ott** Lake Cormorant High  
**Lauren Rusk** Hernando High  
**Mary Stevenson** Northpoint Christian School  
**Tyreaahna Tillman** Center Hill High  
**Faith Troutt** Olive Branch High

## GRENADA

**Lillian Love Gober** Kirk Academy  
**Allie Grace Holland** Grenada High  
**Anna James** Grenada High  
**Anna Grace Lane** Kirk Academy

## HOLMES

**Breann Bell** Central Holmes Christian School  
**Kelsey Gilmore** Central Holmes Christian School  
**Cameron Keys** Holmes County Central High School  
**Kaitlin Kimbrough** Holmes County Central High School

## HUMPHREYS

**Colby Alderman** Humphreys Academy  
**Riley Bellipanni** Humphreys Academy  
**Shemariah York** Humphreys Co. High  
**Avarius Young** Humphreys Co. High

## LEFLORE

**Shakiya Addison** Leflore County High  
**Caroline Hurst Brock** Pillow Academy  
**River Brownlee** Greenwood High  
**Ashley Cooper** Amanda Elzy High  
**Maggie Farmer** North New Summit School  
**Mariah Gardner** Greenwood High  
**Alijah Jones** Amanda Elzy High  
**Shelby Littleton** North New Summit School  
**JaMarkus McChristian** Delta Streets Academy  
**Heaven Patrick-Lacy** Leflore County High  
**Arushi Thakur** Pillow Academy

## PANOLA

**Cate Amis** North Delta School  
**Theodore Henley, III** North Panola High  
**Jamauria Lyons** North Panola High  
**Olivia D Neal** South Panola High  
**Kylie Stephens** North Delta School  
**Levi Williams** South Panola High

## QUITMAN

**Sara Booth** Delta Academy  
**Case Bynum** Delta Academy  
**Zandaisha Crawford** Madison S. Palmer High  
**Zylah Strickland** Madison S. Palmer High

## SHARKEY/ISSAQUENA

**Beyonce Kenny** South Delta High  
**Jaylen Maxey** South Delta High  
**Juliana Scott** Sharkey-Issaquena Academy  
**Ethan Willard** Sharkey-Issaquena Academy

## SUNFLOWER

**John Clayton Chism** Indianola Academy  
**Emmanuel Clark** Thomas E. Edwards, Sr. High School  
**Bre'Anna Coleman** Thomas E. Edwards, Sr. High School  
**Denise Ginn** Gentry High  
**Jacob Henley** North Sunflower Academy  
**Preslie McCool** North Sunflower Academy  
**T'Rossi Pernell** Gentry High  
**Temple Williamson** Indianola Academy

## TALLAHATCHIE

**Jaime Fairlee, Jr.** West Tallahatchie High  
**Breyona Gammill** Charleston High  
**Enochius Harris** Charleston High  
**Eboni Nicole Jones** West Tallahatchie High

## TATE

**Dylan Flippo** Strayhorn High  
**Taylor Johnston** Magnolia Heights School  
**Kaitlyn Lindsey** Independence High  
**Kenyon Latrell Page** Coldwater High School  
**Rebecca Renteria** Coldwater High School  
**Faith Shingler** Strayhorn High  
**Bryson Taylor** Senatobia High  
**Robin Tinnel** Senatobia High  
**Madison Whitehurst** Independence High  
**Gavin Woods** Magnolia Heights School

## TUNICA

**Cordaveon Carter** Rosa Fort High  
**Savannah Mann** Tunica Academy  
**Madelyn Swindoll** Tunica Academy  
**Myahia Watson** Rosa Fort High

## WARREN

**Bailey Andrews** Porter's Chapel Academy  
**Hailey Henderson** Vicksburg High  
**Ashley Nicole Jarratt** St Aloysius High School  
**Anna Marie Lamanilao** St Aloysius High School  
**Michael Montgomery** Vicksburg High  
**Brianna Poole** Porter's Chapel Academy  
**Anita Reed** Warren Central High  
**Scott Wallace** Warren Central High

## WASHINGTON

**Ethan Allegranza** Deer Creek School  
**Antorie Barber** Unity Christian Academy  
**Erika Nycole Brisco** Leland High  
**Jayla Edwards** Simmons High  
**Jakhyra Ford** Greenville Christian School  
**Perry L Gibson Jr** O'Bannon High  
**Alana Henderson** Greenville High  
**Haley Hoover** Riverside High  
**Justin Irion** Riverside High  
**Cam'ron Jones** Greenville High  
**Elyssia Jones** Greenville Christian School  
**Jeremiah Jones** Unity Christian Academy  
**Diamond Kingdom** O'Bannon High  
**Bryant Lucas, Jr.** Leland High  
**John Chandler Lyles** Washington School  
**Anna Grace McGaugh** St Joseph Catholic School  
**Austin Rexrode** Deer Creek School  
**Simar Thomas** St Joseph Catholic School  
**Mollie Warrington** Washington School  
**Takira Williams** Simmons High

## YAZOO

**Caliyah Benson** Yazoo County High  
**Lucas Clark** Yazoo County High  
**Chan'cey Figures** Yazoo City High  
**Ciniaya Grayer** Yazoo City High  
**Grace Jones** Benton Academy  
**William Quitman Peeler** Manchester Academy  
**Yash Dilipkumar Sharma** Manchester Academy  
**Jewell Vandevere** Benton Academy

# News

## DELTAN ON THE MOVE | JORDAN COOPWOOD



Coopwood

### PERSONAL INFORMATION:

“I grew up in Cleveland, Miss., where I attended Bayou Academy and participated in sports, hunting, Boy Scouts, etc. I majored in Real Estate and Marketing at the University of Mississippi and graduated in 2018 with a Bachelor of Business Administration. I then earned a Master of Business Administration degree from Millsaps College. A summer internship in 2017 with **U.S. Senator Roger Wicker** convinced me that I wanted to live in Washington. In September 2019, I accepted an internship with **Congressman Steven Palazzo** and then received a full-time position offer in October 2019 to join **U.S. Senator Cindy Hyde-Smith’s** D.C. staff.”

### CURRENT JOB TITLE AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

“I serve as a Legislative Aide for **Senator Hyde-Smith** with a portfolio focused on Small Business, Banking, and Agriculture. My responsibilities include meeting with constituent groups within these areas, which has broadened my understanding of how policies and issues affect Mississippi. I am also responsible for researching and preparing materials to help brief the Senator and/or staff. Additionally, I respond to constituent inquiries and outreach in these areas.”

### WHAT DO YOU LIKE MOST ABOUT YOUR POSITION?

“I appreciate how relative Mississippi is to Capitol Hill. I feel we have strength in numbers here in D.C. and that collectively we all help better the state. Whether I am out on a run, walking down a hall in the Hart Senate Office Building, or in a meeting, I regularly encounter a Mississippian. Sometimes it’s a former classmate, another congressional staff member, someone working in private industry up here, or even a tourist. It doesn’t matter, we all interact and treat each other like family. As the saying goes, “You learn something new every day,” and that is certainly true. I’ve found these relationships to be extremely important in my role working for **Senator Hyde-Smith**. If you run into a question you can’t answer, a problem you can’t solve, you can always rely on a fellow Mississippian for help or advice.”

**Senator Hyde-Smith** is a strong voice for the agricultural community of Mississippi. From her experience as Mississippi’s former Ag Commissioner, her role in the Senate Committee on Agriculture, and her family life, I’m grateful she comes from a position of strength and knowledge so she can move policies forward that will greatly help our state and country.

Considering my role in the agricultural portfolio, I am also lucky to have grown up in the Mississippi Delta. Although I did not come from a farming family, being exposed to such a large farming community on a daily basis gave me the background I needed to work on the various issues that cross my desk each day.”

## 18TH ANNUAL SALUTE TO DELTA HONOR GRADUATES HELD IN CONJUNCTION WITH DELTA COUNCIL DAY

### LT. GOVERNOR DELBERT HOSEMANN TO SERVE AS KEYNOTE SPEAKER



Hosemann

On Friday, June 4, 2021, Delta Council will hold its 18th Annual Salute to Delta Honor Graduates event during the 86th Annual Meeting of the regional organization at Delta State University. The event is slated for 9:00 a.m. on the lawn of the Bologna Performing Arts Center. **Lt. Governor Delbert Hosemann** will be the keynote speaker for the event.

The Honorable **Delbert Hosemann** is serving as the 33rd Lieutenant Governor and previously served as Secretary of State. Under his leadership, the Senate has consolidated workforce development efforts, increased training opportunities for high-skill jobs, and retooled economic development incentives to be competitive and performance-based. In two years, the Legislature has doubled its investment in pre-K, raised teacher pay, increased funding for classroom supplies, and provided every student with a computer or tablet.

Raised in Warren County, Mississippi, **Lt. Governor Hosemann** has substantial experience in the private sector as a businessman

and tax lawyer. He is a former partner of **Phelps Dunbar, LLP**. He received his undergraduate degree in Business from the University of Notre Dame, a law degree from the University of Mississippi, and a Master of Laws in Taxation from New York University. Prior to attending law school, **Lt. Governor Hosemann** served his country in the United States Army Reserve.

**Lt. Governor Hosemann’s** tenure as Secretary of State was marked by several major accomplishments including requiring 16th Section land, a revenue source for public schools, to be leased for fair value. By the end of his third term, the Office raised more than \$1 billion for public education. He was also instrumental in acquiring over 20,000 acres of now public land.

In his spare time, **Lt. Governor Hosemann** is an avid hunter and runner. He belongs to the National Rifle Association and is a past recipient of the NRA’s Kirk Fordice Freedom Award. He is also a member of the Delta Wildlife Foundation and Ducks Unlimited. He has completed both the New York Marathon

and the Boston Marathon.

He and **Lynn**, his wife of 50 years, are members of St. Richard Catholic Church. They are extremely proud of their three children: **Kristen, Chad, and Mark**; and grandchildren **Grace, Nora Lynn, Carson, Charlie, Manse, Charlotte, and Howard Delbert**.

The Honor Graduate Event is designed to bestow special honor upon two exemplary students from each of the high schools throughout the Mississippi Delta Region, including public, parochial and private schools. Students are selected by school administrators based on leadership, extra-curricular, scholastic, and community service.

In addition, a \$2,500 scholarship will be awarded to the top Delta Honor Graduate as selected by higher education officials in the Delta, to help defray tuition and expenses as the student’s college of choice sees fit. The top Delta Honor Graduate will be recognized from the stage of the Annual Meeting during the Business Session, which begins at 10:30 a.m.

# Delta Council

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