



The Delta Council Review

Vol. 16, Issue No. 2

THE NEWSLETTER FOR FRIENDS AND MEMBERS OF DELTA COUNCIL

June 2023

SAYLOR WHEEL MANUFACTURER LANDS IN DELTA



Saylor Wheel LLC is locating manufacturing operations in Greenwood. The project represents a \$23.4 million corporate investment that will create 145 new jobs.

Saylor Wheel will manufacture tire and steel wheel assemblies for the trailer industry with the steel wheels vertically integrated into the manufacturing process. The investment includes the purchase and rehabilitation of an existing building in Greenwood, as well the purchase of manufacturing and non-manufacturing equipment.

The Mississippi Development Authority is providing assistance in support of the project through the Mississippi Flexible Tax Incentive, or MFLEX. Leflore County and Greenwood also are assisting with the project.

Rehabilitation of the building will soon be underway, and the company aims to begin operations in the coming months.

"This \$23.4 million investment and 145 new jobs is a testament to

SAYLOR *cont. on page 3*

JOIN US FOR THE 88TH ANNUAL MEETING TO BE HELD FRIDAY, JUNE 2

Delta Council President, **Wade Litton** of Greenwood, is pleased to announce U.S. Senator for Arkansas, **John Boozman**, as the Keynote Speaker for the organization's 88th Annual Meeting to be held Friday, June 2, 2023, at Delta State University's Bologna Performing Arts Center (BPAC) in Cleveland, Mississippi.



Boozman

"We are looking forward to the traditional celebration of regional cooperation through the work of Delta Council," said **Litton**. "In addition to all the customary activities that are part of Delta Council Day, we are also honored that **Senator Boozman's** colleague, our own

Senator Cindy Hyde-Smith, will introduce him to the audience."
John Boozman is Arkansas's Senior U.S. Senator and the Dean of the State's Congressional delegation. A fifth-generation Arkansan, **Senator Boozman** was raised in Fort Smith and went on to play football for the University of Arkansas Razorbacks. He graduated from the Southern College of Optometry in 1977 and entered private practice that same year, co-founding a family business with his brother that would ultimately become a major provider of

MEETING *cont. on page 3*

20TH ANNUAL SALUTE TO DELTA HONOR GRADUATES HELD IN CONJUNCTION WITH DELTA COUNCIL DAY

LT. GOVERNOR DELBERT HOSEMANN TO SERVE AS KEYNOTE SPEAKER



Past Delta Honor Graduate **Bre-Anna Coleman** with **Lt. Gov. Hosemann**

On Friday, June 2, 2023, Delta Council will hold the 20th Annual Salute to Delta Honor Graduates event during its 88th Annual Meeting 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.

GRADUATES *cont. on page 3*

MEETING AGENDA

FRIDAY, JUNE 2, 2023

9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.
20th ANNUAL SALUTE TO
DELTA HONOR GRADUATES

Keynote Speaker

Lt. Governor Delbert Hosemann

Location: Lawn of the
Bologna Performing Arts Center

10:30 a.m.
GENERAL BUSINESS SESSION

WELCOME & OPENING REMARKS

Dr. Daniel Ennis

President, Delta State University

INVOCATION

Rev. Dr. Andrew Chaney
Frist Presbyterian Church
Greenwood, MS

PRESENTATION OF COLORS

Boy Scout Troop 4200
Scoutmaster Dennis Waldo
Greenwood, MS

PATRIOTIC MUSIC

Caroline Chaney
Pillow Academy
Greenwood, MS

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

INTRODUCTION OF
KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Senator Cindy Hyde-Smith,
United States Senator
for Mississippi

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

Senator John Boozman
United States Senator
for Arkansas

12:00 Noon

CATFISH LUNCHEON

Location: Delta State University
Quadrangle Lawn

RECOGNITION OF 2022-2023
ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS
Wade Litton, President

DELTA STATE
UNIVERSITY



SOUTHERN AGCREDIT

CATFISH FARMERS
OF MISSISSIPPI



BankPlus



Simplot

GROWER SOLUTIONS



Cotton
Incorporated





DELTA COUNCIL

2022–2023 Delta Council Officers

President: WADE LITTON, Greenwood

Vice-President: VICTOR BYAS, Indianola

Vice-President: JULIA CLARK, Rolling Fork

Vice-President: TIM CLEMENTS, Greenville

Vice-President: PARKER ENGLAND, Greenville

Vice-President: HUNTER FORDICE, Vicksburg

Vice-President: LEWIS POINDEXTER, Indianola

Treasurer: CRAIG SHIDELER, Senatobia

POSTMASTER:

Send all address changes to

Delta Council

P.O. Box 257, Stoneville, MS 38776

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CONTACT INFORMATION:

Mailing Address:

P.O. Box 257, Stoneville, MS 38776

Shipping Address:

433 Stoneville Rd., Leland, MS 38756

Phone: (662) 686-3350

Web Address:

www.deltacouncil.org

Email: info@deltacouncil.org

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

BY WADE LITTON



Litton

As I conclude my term as President of Delta Council, Meagan and I would like to thank the members and friends of this organization who have supported us and the work of Delta Council over the past year. It is no secret that Delta Council is a policy-driven workhorse for our region, and I am honored to serve in this capacity.

I was privileged to extend the invitation to our Arkansas neighbor U.S. Senator John Boozman, to keynote the 88th Annual Meeting of Delta Council. With his strong background in small business, health care, the agricultural economy and rural America, I'm sure our members and guests will enjoy his message, especially as we are on the cusp of a new multi-year Farm Bill that he will play a critical role in its development.

As we look forward to Delta Council Day, I would be remiss if I did not recognize the men and women who served alongside me this year as Delta Council Officers. Vice-Presidents include **Victor Byas** of Indianola, **Julia Clark** of Rolling Fork, **Tim Clements** of Greenville, **Parker England** of Greenville, **Hunter Fordice** of Vicksburg, and **Lewis Poindexter** of Indianola, along with **Craig Shideler**, who has served a two-year term as Treasurer.

I would also like to thank the Presidential Appointees selected to serve on the Board of Directors this past year. **Will Boggan** of Sumner, **Richard Brown** of Greenwood, **Brennan Chapman** of Clarksdale, **Will Fountain** of Oxford, **Patrick Martin** of Greenwood, **Thomas Neblett** of Cleveland, **Jack Phillips** of Yazoo City, **Clifton Thach** of Greenwood, **Andrew Wilbourn** of Oxford, and **Billy Willis** of Tunica. Each of these leaders has played a crucial role in moving the needle for the betterment of the Delta this year, whether it be health care, flood control, transportation,

or economic development.

As I write my last message as President, I can assure you that it is not the end of my service with Delta Council. It has been a pleasure to work with the men and women of the Delta to make our home a better place to live, and I plan to continue to serve in any capacity that is needed.

As you will see on page 3, a new Delta Strong project was announced just a few days ago in Greenwood by the Greenwood Leflore Carroll Economic Development Foundation. We are very pleased to welcome Saylor Wheel to the Delta and look forward to working with **David Saylor** and his team for years to come.

I hope to see you all this Friday, June 2, at Delta State University's Bologna Performing Arts Center for the 88th Annual Meeting. As you flip through the pages of this newspaper, you'll see we have a great program planned, and we look forward to celebrating the traditions of Delta Council Day with you all.

RICHARD COWART TO ADDRESS HEALTH CARE AT DELTA1000 EVENT

Richard Cowart, Chair of Baker Donelson Health Law, Government Relations and Public Policy Department, will keynote the Delta 1000 event in conjunction with the 88th Annual Meeting of Delta Council on Friday, June 2, 2023. The presentation will be held in the McPherson Recital Hall of the Bologna Performing Arts Center at Delta State University at 9:15 a.m.



Cowart

Cowart was retained in late 2022 by the B.F. Smith Foundation of Delta Council to assist the region in navigating the increasingly more complex world of rural health care.

"We are pleased **Dick** is on board, and he has had a huge impact in a short amount of time," said **Wade Litton**, Delta Council President. "We are looking forward to him educating the Delta 1000 members and guests about the challenges and opportunities in rural health care."

Cowart is a recognized authority in advising senior management regarding policy, regulatory and business issues related to health care. He serves as strategic counsel to health care companies (both for profit and not-for-profit) and counsels providers on business, policy and governance issues, with an emphasis on business transactions.

He is a nationally known speaker and writer on health care issues. He was the national columnist for *Medical News*,

Inc. for 18 years and the health business columnist for *The Tennessean* for more than ten years.

Delta 1000 is a program initiated by Delta Council over 30 years ago to ask members of Delta Council to pay \$100 above and beyond their regular membership dues. This support through the Delta 1000 program has helped Delta Council maintain one of the most effective area-wide economic development programs in the nation.



CAROLINE CHANEY TO PERFORM PATRIOTIC MUSIC AT ANNUAL MEETING



Caroline with her father, Rev. Dr. Andrew Chaney

Caroline Elizabeth Chaney of Greenwood is a multi-instrumentalist student at Pillow Academy. She is the daughter of **Christine Chaney** and the **Rev. Dr. Andrew Derby Chaney**.

Caroline began piano lessons at the age of seven and harp at nine years old and learned to play the violin in her junior high school orchestra class in Springfield, Missouri. She was awarded the Missouri Music Teachers Association State Winner in Harp in 2018 and later performed at the State Winners Concert at Missouri State University in 2019.

She also received a rating of Superior on the piano numerous times at MMTA state-level evaluations.

Caroline enjoys sharing her gifts with her church, First Presbyterian Church in Greenwood, and performing for the residents at Indywood Personal Care Home. **Caroline** performed the National Anthem on violin in February at the 5A State Basketball Tournament at Pillow Academy. She also recently received the YELL (Young Emerging Leaders Leflore County) Youth Leadership Impact Award.

ANNUAL MEETING *from page 1*

eye care to Northwest Arkansas.

Decades of experience as a successful healthcare provider and a small business owner guide **Sen. Boozman's** approach to governing. He is committed to advocating for economic policies that help small businesses continue to grow and add jobs to the economy. He has been a consistent champion for farmers, ranchers, and loggers and was instrumental in the fight for an equitable farm bill.

Sen. Boozman serves as the Ranking Member of the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry during the 118th Congress. This position enables him to play a key role in influencing policy that relates to the agriculture economy, nutrition programs and quality of life in rural America. He will also continue to serve on the Committee on Appropriations, which is responsible for allocating federal funds, and the Committee on the Environment and Public Works, where much of the nation's infrastructure policy is developed.

First elected to the Senate in 2010, **Sen. Boozman** was sworn in for a third term on January 3, 2023. Prior to serving in the Senate, he represented the people of the Third District of Arkansas in the U.S. House of Representatives.

Sen. Boozman is married to the former **Cathy Marley**, and they currently reside in Rogers, AR. The couple has three daughters and four grandchildren.

The 2023 Delta Council Day will commence with the 20th Annual Salute to Delta Honor Graduates Event at 9:00 a.m., held outside of the Bologna Performing Arts Center on the lawn. We will welcome the

high school graduates, their families, and school officials and present the graduates with awards. The 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. In addition, a \$2,500 scholarship will be awarded to the top Delta Honor Graduate selected by higher education officials in the Delta. The Top Delta Honor Graduate will be recognized on stage at the Delta Council Annual Meeting during the Business Session.

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 2023 Delta Council Community Service Award and the tradition of the Wear Cotton contest. Among other features of the Business Session, including a recap of the year's challenges and opportunities, will be the introduction of the 2023-2024 Delta Council Officers. The meeting will be highlighted by a message from Keynote Speaker **Senator Boozman**.

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 members and guests to attend and participate in this 88-year-old Delta "red-letter" day.

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 Grower Solutions, and Southern Ag Credit.

HONOR GRADS *from page 1*

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.

The Honorable **Delbert Hosemann** is serving as the 33rd Lieutenant Governor and previously served as Secretary of State. He and **Lynn**, his wife of 50 years, are members of St. Richard Catholic Church. They are extremely proud of their three children and grandchildren.

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, extracurricular, 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.

See page 6 for a list of 2023 Delta Honor Graduates by county.

SAYLOR *from page 1*

the strength and vitality of Mississippi's economy," said **Governor Tate Reeves**. "The products produced by Saylor Wheel right here in Mississippi will help drive economic growth and strengthen Leflore County. I'm thankful for Saylor Wheel and look forward to seeing the positive impact of their manufacturing operations in Leflore County."

"Two words come to mind regarding the start of Saylor Wheel: gratitude, and teamwork. Teamwork by Delta Council, the Economic Development Foundation, the city, the county, the state of Mississippi, the USDA, our political leaders, our investors, the community development entities MRC

and Southern Bancorp, and the numerous professionals that critically contributed to this project – they made this company a reality. My gratitude for their help exceeds my reach for words. Now is the time to make wheels in the Delta," said **David Saylor**, President, Saylor Wheel, LLC.

"We are pleased to add Saylor Wheel to the growing list of companies that Delta Strong has worked to locate in our region. This is a great example of what can happen when our development partners at the local, state, and federal level work together to increase capital investment with the private business impetus provided by Delta Strong," said **Wade Litton**, Chairman, Delta Strong.

ACHIEVEMENT AWARD WINNERS FOR 2023 ANNUAL MEETING



**OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTIONS TO
DELTA AQUACULTURE:**
Jim Tackett
*Heartland Catfish Company
Itta Bena*



**OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTIONS
TO COTTON GINNING:**
Patrick Martin
*Holmes Gin Company
Tchula*



**OUTSTANDING
SOYBEAN PRODUCER:**
Rob Baker
*Bourbon Plantation
Leland*



**OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTIONS
TO DELTA HARDWOOD FORESTRY**
Dr. Krishna Poudel
*Department of Forestry
Mississippi State University*



OUTSTANDING RICE PRODUCER:
Daniel Shannon
*Canon Farms
Dundee*



CONSERVATION FARMER OF THE YEAR:
Andy Schmidt
*Big River Farms
Clarksdale*



**OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTIONS
TO RESEARCH**
Dr. Jason Bond
*Delta Research & Extension
Center – MSU*



PACE-SETTER AWARD:
Sledge Taylor
Como

2023 ANNUAL MEETING SPONSORS



Lewis Poindexter
*Southeast Regional
Manager*



Simplot

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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
Delta Region*



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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.



Abbott Myers
Board Chairman

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.



Dr. Daniel Ennis
President



DELTA STATE UNIVERSITY

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.



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Kendall Garraway, Bolton
Bernie Jordan, Yazoo City



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James Allison, Sarab
Curtis Berry, Robinsonville
Nolen Canon, Tunica
Marvin Cochran, Avon
Larry Davis, Shaw
Gary Fioranelli, Cleveland
Donald Gant, Merigold
Randy Howarth, Boyle
Gibb Steele, Greenville
Patrick Swindoll, Hernando



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*Corn Board Chairman
Indianola*

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Mike Graves, Ripley
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George King, Chatham
Jeffrey Mitchell, Cary
Jack Phillips, Yazoo City
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Moorhead*

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Andy Prosser, *Secretary/Treasurer, Yazoo City*
Houston Battle, Tunica
Dan Bradshaw, Yazoo City
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Shorty Jones, Glen Allan
Ben Pentecost, Doddsville
Ed Pentecost, Cleveland
Brad Phillips, Eden



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*Soybean Board Chairman
Greenwood*

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Judd Davis, Cleveland
Wayne Dulaney, Clarksdale
Louis Guedon, Natchez
Keith Morton, Falkner
Jan de Regt, Hollandale
C.D. "Bubba" Simmons, Leland
Jerry Slocum, Coldwater
Will Smythe, Leland
Jimmy Sneed, Hernando
Bill Ryan Tabb, Cleveland

2023 MISSISSIPPI DELTA HONOR GRADUATES

BOLIVAR

Tuck LaMastus Bayou Academy
Mary Taylor Montesi Bayou Academy
Paris Parks Cleveland Central High School
Caleb Dodd Cleveland Central High School
Destiny Shaw McEvans School
Omarion Blakes McEvans School
Alaysha Jones Northside High School
Jacquia Johnson Northside High School
Nyreeal Edwards West Bolivar High School
Ja’Kaden Lee West Bolivar High School

CARROLL

Meri Brynn Reeves Carroll Academy
Kristian “Drake” Dunn Carroll Academy

COAHOMA

Anna Gooden Clarksdale High School
Gregory Neely, III Clarksdale High School
KeiJuan Neese Coahoma County High School
Zanedria Martin Coahoma County High School
Luke Agostinelli Lee Academy
Bryan Ray Lee Academy

DESOTO

Alexs Chen Center Hill High School
Drew Dunning Center Hill High School
Avery Stratton Desoto Central High School
Adrianna Cantrell Desoto Central High School
Peyton Williamson Hernando High School
Jane Sharp Hernando High School
Mia McKinney Horn Lake High School
Amari Phipps Horn Lake High School
Whitney Wiltshire Lewisburg High School
Alyssa Norris Lewisburg High School
Andrew Kamler Northpoint Christian School
Hannah Owens Northpoint Christian School
Fantasia Jones Olive Branch High School
Josh Youngblood Olive Branch High School
Noah Graham Southaven High School
Luke Brenn Southaven High School

GRENADA

Luke Hardin Grenada High School
Meredith Meriwether Grenada High School
Emily Lane Kirk Academy
Abby Beissel Kirk Academy

HOLMES

Aiden Adcock Central Holmes Christian School
Eli Carr Central Holmes Christian School
Jazmaree Richardson Holmes County
Central High School
Adriana Johnson Holmes County
Central High School

HUMPHREYS

Mary Kiker Davis Humphreys Academy
Sara Kyle Millican Humphreys Academy
Jaliel Moore Humphreys County High School
Marie Sanders Humphreys County High School

LEFLORE

Zoreya Beckworth Amanda Elzy High School
Christopher Carter Amanda Elzy High School
Adrian Escudero Delta Streets Academy
Alandria Gandy Greenwood High School
Amari Johnson Greenwood High School
Madison Harper Leflore County High School
Anterrion Collins Leflore County High School
Sumner Tackett Pillow Academy
Andrew Brock Pillow Academy

PANOLA

Millie Williams North Delta School
Sophie Williams North Delta School
De’Anthony Smith North Panola High School
Zykiah Oliver North Panola High School
Emma Bainer South Panola High School
Aidan Williams South Panola High School

QUITMAN

Wyatt Vance Delta Academy
Cody Mitchell Delta Academy
Jordyn Conley Madison S. Palmer High School
SaNiya Clay Madison S. Palmer High School

SHARKEY/ ISSAQUENA

Katie Dean Sharkey-Issaquena Academy
Keleigh Jo Stigall Sharkey-Issaquena Academy
Kaylyn Davis South Delta High School
Jonathan Nicholson South Delta High School

SUNFLOWER

Javin Beaman Gentry High School
Kayla Brison Gentry High School
Emma Grace Koger Indianola Academy
Anna Gresham Veazey Indianola Academy
Cooper Neal North Sunflower Academy
Trevor Parks North Sunflower Academy
Markayla Moore Thomas E. Edwards
Sr High School
Akyrion Calvin-Brown Thomas E. Edwards
Sr High School

TALLAHATCHIE

Lakeria McCord Charleston High
Jaylon Brooks Charleston High
Tony Young, Jr. West Tallahatchie High
Aniya Lewis West Tallahatchie High

TATE

Jayden Moore Coldwater High
Tarus Thomas Coldwater High
Gabriella Miller Independence High
Hector Najera Independence High
Jackson Jenkins Magnolia Heights School
Shelby Wells Magnolia Heights School
Meagan Richardson Senatobia High
Logan Sinquefield Senatobia High
Hogan Stone Strayhorn High
Jose Arturo Rosiles Strayhorn High

TUNICA

Christian Ramos Rosa Fort High
Demetrick Stringer Rosa Fort High
Curtis Berry Jr. Tunica Academy
Talen Houston Tunica Academy

WARREN

Lawson Selby Porter’s Chapel Academy
Taylor Palmer Porter’s Chapel Academy
Noah Taylor Vicksburg Catholic School
Will Keen Vicksburg Catholic School
Aisha Williams Vicksburg High
A’Daniel Johnson Vicksburg High
Mason Harvey Warren Central High
Laila Brown Warren Central High

WASHINGTON

Anna Sophia Millwood Deer Creek School
Katie Trainer Deer Creek School
T’Niyah Jefferson Greenville High
Chasmine White Greenville High
Jimmy Whitley Greenville Christian School
Edward Moore Greenville Christian School
Kameron Jenkins Leland High
Tikayla Bernard Leland High
Mikeira Howard O’Bannon High
Lakisha Sutton O’Bannon High
Nicole Guillen-Dianas Riverside High
Mauricio Gonzalez Riverside High
Trinadie Douglas Simmons High
Antoine Washington Simmons High
Margaret Brown St Joseph High School
Allyson Moss St Joseph High School
Morgan Dees Washington School
Brantley Nimrod Washington School

YAZOO

Anna Grace Campbell Benton Academy
Rye Yeates Benton Academy
James Kemp Black Manchester Academy
Tiffany Fulton Manchester Academy
Troy Goston Yazoo City High
Melinea Felton Yazoo City High
Destiny Bush Yazoo County High
Gabrielle McCrary Yazoo County High

DELTA COUNCIL OFFICERS AND PRESIDENTIAL APPOINTEES MEET IN STONEVILLE



Bubba Simmons, Jack Phillips, and Julia Clark

Delta Council officers and presidential appointees met in Stoneville recently at the Delta Council headquarters. President **Wade Litton** opened the meeting, followed by an overview from **Bubba Simmons**, Advisory Research Committee Chairman, about Delta Council's work in agricultural research. **Richard Cowart**, Chair of the Health

Law/Government Relations & Public Policy Department at Baker Donelson, presented a briefing on regional health care in the Delta. After the introduction of **Ron Selby**, Delta Wildlife and Delta F.A.R.M.'s new Executive Director, **Wade Litton** and **Patrick Johnson**, Executive Committee Chairman, closed out the meeting with an issue briefing.

HYDE-SMITH WANTS MORE AG PERSPECTIVES CONSIDERED IN EPA PESTICIDE REVIEWS

MISS. SENATOR ASKS NOMINEE TO COMMIT TO IMPROVING USDA-EPA COORDINATION

U.S. Senator Cindy Hyde-Smith received a commitment from a U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) nominee to ensure agriculture interests are truly considered as the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regulates the pesticides on which American agriculture relies.

Hyde-Smith broached the subject during Senate Agriculture Committee confirmation hearing for **Xochitl Torres Small**, who has been nominated to be Deputy Secretary of Agriculture. **Torres Small** is currently the USDA Under Secretary of Rural Development.

Hyde-Smith is among a growing number of farm state lawmakers concerned that USDA Office of Pest Management Policy data on pesticides and integrated pest management is not given adequate consideration by the EPA Office of Pesticide Programs in its pesticide registration and re-registration processes.



Senator Cindy Hyde-Smith

Torres Small said she will work to ensure the perspectives of farmers and ranchers are communicated across the federal government, and committed to "making sure the USDA is helping provide, in our areas of expertise, information to the agency."

2022-2023 OFFICERS



Wade Litton
President
Greenwood



Victor Byas
Vice President
Indianola



Julia Clark
Vice President
Rolling Fork



Tim Clements
Vice President
Greenville



Parker England
Vice President
Greenville



Hunter Fordice
Vice President
Vicksburg



Lewis Poindexter
Vice President
Indianola



Craig Shideler
Treasurer
Senatobia

2023-2024 OFFICERS



Bubba Simmons
President
Leland



Alan Byrd
Vice President
Clarksdale



Jack Phillips
Vice President
Yazoo City



Hank Reichle
Vice President
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Vice President
Cleveland



Bill Walker
Vice President
Marks



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433 Stoneville Rd
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