



SPOKES

NEWSLETTER OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF HATTIESBURG

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Rotary Club of

Hattiesburg

629 N. Main St.

Hattiesburg, MS 39402

Children's Center Director, Sarah Case-Price providing a tour for Hattiesburg Rotarians last Tuesday.



MINUTES: MARCH 29, 2016

This special meeting of the Hattiesburg Rotary Club was held at the Children’s Center for Communication and Development. President Sean Priebe presided over the meeting. Wes Brooks sat in for Jaclyn Adams and thanked Lynn Walton for providing the invocation and Sean Priebe for leading the club in the pledge of allegiance.

Thanks to Kemi Simmons, Maura McLaughlin and Jennifer Payne who served as our greeters today.

There were no visitors and no visiting Rotarians at today’s meeting.

Sean reminded members that the District Conference is coming up April 7 – 10 at the Island View on the coast. Volunteers will be needed for the food fest event being co-sponsored by our club and the Sunrise Club. If you are interested, please let Sean know.

The Night-in-Italy event is scheduled for May 3. Volunteer sign-ups will begin next month.

Sean then introduced today’s guest Sarah Case Price who is the executive director of the Children’s Center for Communication and Development. Sean also thanked her for hosting our club meeting today.

The Center began some forty years ago as a Pre-School Language Program. In the beginning it had one classroom. Because there is such a need for the types of services that could be provided by the Center, it grew and developed and in 1999 became the Center for Communications and Development. It

now has five renovated classrooms, an outside play area and specialized equipment for their clients.

The Center provides a comprehensive concept of care for their clients. It now serves 100 on-campus children from birth to the age of five. The Center has nine professional staff including Occupational Therapists, Physical Therapist a social worker, behavioral therapists and speech and development professionals. The Center also utilizes six graduate assistance and a number of undergraduate internship opportunities.

In addition to the on-campus clients the center also serves children and families in thirteen other counties across the state. The primary goal of the Center is to provide the client and their families with the necessary tools to transition into a school system when they leave the Center.

Sarah thanked members of the Hattiesburg Rotary Club for our support over the last few years. Most of the money contributed to the Center by our club has been used to renovate the classrooms, provide equipment and help with the development of the specialized play areas.

Please support our Club’s Night in Italy event coming up in May. All of the proceeds will go to the Children’s Center. To learn more about the Center visit their website at <http://www.usm.edu/early-intervention-childrens>.

**Minutes recorded by:
Lamar Evans, Executive Secretary**



Hattiesburg Rotarians enjoy lunch at The Children’s Center for Communication and Development at The University of Southern Mississippi.

Larry Blakeney

Community Outreach Coordinator

Larry grew up in Taylorsville and graduated from Taylorsville High School in 1979. Upon graduation, he attended Jones County Junior College, where he obtained an AA degree. He is a Certified Loss Control Professional with the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association through the University of Nebraska.

He served in the National Guard for 20 years, retiring in 2001. He is a Desert Storm Veteran.

He has been with Southern Pine for 31 years, where he has served as Safety and Compliance Director for 22 years. He is a deacon at Mt. Zion Baptist Church in Taylorsville. He is actively involved in youth summer sports. He serves as a first responder with Taylorsville Volunteer Fire Department. He is also a Nationally Registered EMT.

His wife, Marilyn, is a retired teacher from the Smith County school system.

They have two children: Chris, who graduated from USM with a Banking and Finance degree, is currently working with FDIC. Ashleigh is a second-year student at JCJC. She is planning to attend USM and pursue a degree in accounting.

Our Speaker



Club President Sean Priebe goes "Over The Edge" for Extra Table on Saturday!

UPCOMING

APRIL 12

LLOYD LUNCEFORD
USM BAPTIST STUDENT UNION

APRIL 19

BRETT HARRIS
DIRECTOR, OSHER LIFELONG LEARNING
INSTITUTE

APRIL 26

THE HONORABLE EUGENE "GENE" L. FAIR,
MISSISSIPPI COURT OF APPEALS

APRIL 7-10

DISTRICT CONFERENCE

MAY 28—JUNE 1

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION
(SEOUL, SOUTH KOREA)

ROTARY CLUB OF HATTIESBURG
BIKE-A-THON
SEPT 24
longleaf trace



A Night in Italy

The Children's Center
FOR COMMUNICATION AND DEVELOPMENT

May 3, 2016



**WE BUILD
LIFELONG
RELATIONSHIPS.**
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