



SPOKES

NEWSLETTER OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF HATTIESBURG

629 NORTH MAIN STREET • HATTIESBURG, MS 39401

PICTURED L-R: SEAN PRIEBE, JUSTICE O'KEEFE DUHON, CECI DUHON, DR. RANDY HENDERSON, AND JACLYN ADAMS



3RD ANNUAL ROTARY CLUB OF HATTIESBURG

BIKE-A-THON

SATURDAY • OCTOBER 10 • LONGLEAF TRACE

MINUTES: AUGUST 11, 2015

President Sean Priebe presided over the meeting. Thanks to Ryan Kelly who gave the invocation and to Bill MacLauchlan who led us in the Pledge of Allegiance. Thanks to Curtis Bishop and Jennifer Payne who served as our greeters today.

Sean again passed the club directory around and asked folks to check their information and make any necessary corrections. He also passed around a club service sign-up sheet and asked members to volunteer to assist with future meetings.

Sean reminded everyone that the Bike-a-Thon is coming up October 10th. A volunteer sign-up sheet will be available in the near future. We still need sponsors for the event.

Jaclyn Adams thanked those who participated in today's meeting and welcomed our guests and visiting Rotarians. Charles Dillon is visiting from the Petal club. Will Russell is a guest of Bill McLeod.

This week's Mystery Rotarian is Bill MacLauchlan. He met his wife on the first day of a new job in a foreign land. They've now celebrated 41 years together.

Jaclyn then introduced our guest speakers, Dr. Randy Henderson and Justice O'Keefe Duhon. Dr. Henderson is a partner at Southern Mississippi Neonatology where he has been for the past nineteen

years. In 2007 he was named Hattiesburg American's "12 Who Made a Difference" for his work in newborn screening. Justice is originally from Ocean Springs. She is a stay-home mom who does community service for the Junior Auxiliary of Hattiesburg, the Greater Pinebelt Community Foundation and the local March of Dimes chapter.

Dr. Henderson reports that the March of Dimes was founded in 1930 by Franklin Roosevelt after contracting polio at the age of 39. President Roosevelt is the only sitting president who has founded a charitable organization. When founded, the March of Dimes' focus was on polio. In addition to spending millions each year to care for polio patients, the organization also spent millions on a vaccine to prevent the disease. In the 1950's there was concern about being attacked by Russia but a greater fear for most American parents was that their child would not contract polio. After the Salk Vaccine was invented the organization changed its focus to protecting unborn and newly born babies.

Mississippi is one of four states that lead the nation in the rate of premature births. We are at 16.6 percent, which is about 4 times that of the other states. Today the March of Dimes spends money on research and testing improvements that make it possible to prevent many premature births and to find infant health risks early when they can more successfully be treated. Because of the work of

the March of Dimes children can be screened for 56 identifiable problems that can be treated if caught early, including heart defects. The March of Dimes was the first to create a successful Neonatal Intensive Care Unit. Because of their research they have also identified ways to help educate new mothers and prevent AIDS.

Justice then shared her premature birth experience and introduced her healthy four year old, Cecilia who was born at 29 weeks and 5 days. Justice was on strict bed rest for the last 6 weeks of her pregnancy in an effort to give Cecilia every fighting chance possible. When born, she was just over 3 pounds.

During that 6 weeks of bed rest Justice says she learned how to identify the really important things in life that matter. Her focus was changed from a professional career and personal plans to just having a healthy baby.

Because of the assistance she received as the result of the work that March of Dimes has done, she wanted to become a voice in our community to help further their work. She says that pregnant mothers need to realize that what they do during the pregnancy sets their children up for the rest of their lives.

(Minutes continued on pg. 4)



OUR GUEST

CHRISTIE BRADY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, TIDE SCHOOL

I am Executive Director of the newly formed TIDE School, which is a special purpose private, nonprofit school for middle and high school students with learning differences, specifically dyslexia, ADHD and anxiety disorders. The school is a culmination of my experiences with my own son, now 15, who struggles with all of these, and with the broad view I have of education from pre-k through higher education.

The Institute for Diverse Education was formed as a nonprofit corporation in September, 2014, with the goal of opening for school in August, 2015. We will welcome our first 13 students on Monday, August 10!

THE INSTITUTE FOR DIVERSE EDUCATION

The Institute for Diverse Education, a Mississippi nonprofit corporation, is a group of educators, parents, behavioral health professionals and business professionals committed to creating a dynamic educational setting where every student is taught in his optimal zone, and empowered to become his best.

TIDE School will begin operation in August, 2015 as a special purpose coeducational middle- and high school for students who have average or higher intellectual ability, yet experience learning challenges such as Dyslexia or other specific learning disorder, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder, Anxiety Disorders, and/or other issues that complicate their learning experiences.

The vision for TIDE School emerged primarily because of the needs of my own son, who will be among TIDE School's first graduating class of 2018! Partly because he has a high IQ, his dyslexia went unidentified in public school, and he was not reaching his potential. We began home schooling in 7th grade, but learning in isolation did not meet his needs. He and I together knew there had to be a place where learning isn't torture. Thankfully, my professional background provided me with experience and a network that helped shape the vision into TIDE School.

I have a Master's Degree in Counseling Psychology. After working in clinical mental health settings, mostly with children, for about 5 years, I moved into educational settings. My journey has taken me from Head Start, through DuBard School for Language Disorders and Pearl River Community College. With Head Start and DuBard School, I worked in administration, focused on policy and procedure development, grant writing and fundraising. At Pearl River Community College, I have been a classroom instructor, teaching Introductory Psychology, Child Psychology, Adolescent Psychology Human Growth and Development, Psychology of Personal Adjustment and College Study Skills. I have been at PRCC for 10 years, with 8 of those being full time.

(Minutes cont.)

Justice says everyone benefits from the March of Dimes work. The local chapter supports the national efforts that bring benefits back to our local community. She encouraged Rotarians to support the March of Dimes. Their annual Signature Chef event is coming up on October 15th. Although most tables have been purchased, sponsorship opportunities still remain.

In addition, she volunteered to share her story with moms who are having difficulties during their pregnancy or moms who are living through a very scary time in their lives with a premature child. To learn more or to get involved visit <http://www.marchofdimes.org/mississippi/>.

AUGUST 29

**District Foundation,
P.R. & Membership
Seminars**

SEPTEMBER 1

Civil Air Patrol

SEPTEMBER 8

**John Cornwell
District Governor**

SEPTEMBER 15

**James Wilcox, Director
Center for Economic
Entrepreneurship
Education**

SEPTEMBER 22

**Robert Hopkins
USM Chief of Police**

SEPTEMBER 29

**Cameron Griffith
Southern Eye Center**

OCTOBER 6

**Brady Raanes
C3 Wine Company**

OCTOBER 10

**3rd Annual
BIKE-A-THON**



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