



**EPSILON XI  
LAMBDA CHAPTER  
HOUSE #224**

# The "PREMIER"

Volume I Issue I

Newsletter Date July 2021

## Executive Officers

**Edward H. Hill**  
President  
Bolivar County

**Tracy Mims**  
Vice President  
Tallahatchie County

**Willie Gant Jr.**  
Recording Secretary  
Bolivar County

**Quintary Peller**  
Asst. Recording Secretary  
Washington County

**Samuel Blackburn**  
Treasurer  
Coahoma County

**Charles Hardy**  
Financial Secretary  
Washington County

**Charles Reid**  
Historian  
Coahoma County

**Terrence Liddell**  
Chaplain  
Bolivar County

**Travondrian White**  
Asst. Editor of the Sphinx  
Washington County

**Richard Rose**  
Sergeant at Arms  
Leflore County

**Octavus Mackin**  
Parliamentarian  
Washington County

**Aaron White**  
Director of Educational  
Activities  
Washington County

**Derrick Brown**  
Director of Intake  
Washington County

## DELTA-WIDE JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION

Wavering the slowing of the novel pandemic COVID-19, where hundreds of thousands lost their lives and the world effected, people are getting back to the origin of bonding again. It has been over a year that this pandemic surfaced upon people around the world and with vaccination being implemented, hope has become possible.

Juneteenth, in African American history, observed from the significant emancipation of the remaining enslaved, African Americans in the Confederacy became free. It is known as Freedom Day, Jubilee Day, Liberation Day, and within Texas, Emancipation Day.

Juneteenth is an annual holiday observing the end of slavery in the Confederate United States and marks the day (June 19, 1865) when news of emancipation reached people in the deepest parts of the former Confederacy in Galveston Texas. Throughout the years it was only observed by 47 states as a holiday with the exception of North Dakota, South Dakota and Hawaii. On last year Republican Governor Doug Burgum did proclaim Juneteenth Celebration Day on June 19th in North Dakota. This year North Dakota legislature pass Juneteenth as a Ceremonial Holiday. Even though its not a federal holiday, states across the United States celebrates the African American holiday being Texas was the first.

Our chapter, Epsilon Xi Lambda of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., the first intercollegiate Greek-letter fraternity established for African American men, is participating in the celebration. We will be enjoying and commemorating the 156 year-old celebration with a grand picnic, great food, car show, fishing, bounce houses, singing, music, and outdoor fellowshipping. We will also honor Mrs. Lusia Harris-Stewart, Minter City (MS) born, Delta State University grown, and world-renown women's basketball legend. We will also recognize Mound Bayou's oldest living citizen, Mrs. Anna Washington-Lee. She, being 103, was born on September 19, 1917 in Sunflower (MS) and currently resides in Mound Bayou, the first Black municipality in the United States established in 1887.

## WHAT IS JUNETEENTH?

### JOIN THE CONVERSATION

**Willie E. Gant, Jr.** **Edward H. Hill** **Clarence A. Holmes, Sr.**  
'16, '20  
Epsilon Xi Lambda Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.

**Tuesday, June 15, 2021 @ 12:30 PM**



Facebook Live @diversityandinclusionatdelstate

**DELTA-WIDE  
JUNETEENTH  
CELEBRATION**

SATURDAY  
JUNE 19TH 2021  
GATES OPEN AT 10 AM

Join us for a day of music, dancing, and amazing food! Celebrating the end of slavery in the United States along with fishing, car show, jumping bounces, health vendors, and more....

**Richard Coleman**  
Recreational Park & Lake  
Raney's Lake Road  
Mound Bayou, MS 38762

Bounce houses, tent fishing, birds, chairs....

ADMISSION PER ADULT: \$1.50 (KID FREE)  
(Children 12 & under free admission & 1 free meal ticket)



## Community Clean Up and Beautification

Recently the Greenville Parks and Recreation Department took on a challenge in the midst of the pandemic. A group of community organizations, along with the Divine 9, joined forces to clean up one of many areas, mainly local parks. Frisby Park is located at 1900 College Street in Greenville, Mississippi. This park was originally purchased by the City of Greenville and given to Greenville Mills. In October 1968, Greenville

Mills deeded back 20 acres of the land with stipulations that the property be used for school and recreational purposes only. In November 1968, the Greenville Public Schools and the Park Commission swapped the land. In 1969, it was dedicated to one of Greenville's well-known doctors, Dr. Noble Frisby, a native of Natchez, MS, who died at the age of 95. This area has playground equipment, a volley ball pit,

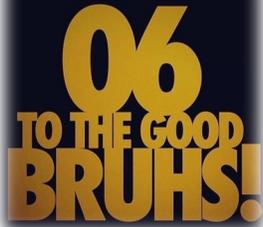


(L to R) Brother Robert Williams, Brother Aaron White, and Brother BJ Lance.

three ball fields, two regular size basketball courts, a concession stand, and restrooms.



## EXL BROTHERS ON THE MOVE!



**Bro. Victor White**

New Assistant Principal in the Meridian Public School District



**Bro. Maurice Johnson**

New Principal at Leland High School in the Leland School



**Bro. Darnell Pratt II**

Attorney & Counselor-at-Law, PLLC



L to R: Bro. Willie Gant Jr., Recording Secretary; Bro. Robert Williams, Bro. Aaron White, Director of Education Activities; Bro. Edward Hill, President. Other brothers certified are Bro. Charles Hardy, Financial Secretary; Bro. Tracy Mims, Vice President (not pictured).

## G-CAN Recognizes Epsilon Xi Lambda Brothers

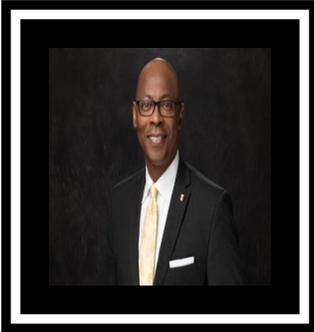
The Greenville College Access Network recognized EXL Chapter brothers and others who volunteered this year. After a three-week training, they became certified FAFSA advisors and went directly to work helping seniors prepare financially for college. Over hundreds of students throughout the Washington County area came during the time frame to walk through the process of getting prepared for readiness to obtain financial aid. Students in

Greenville and surrounding areas, whether attending a two-year junior college, or four-year university, MUST complete the FAFSA application package. This program extends throughout the academic year to provide federal and state financial aid application assistance throughout the summer months. Brother Aaron White, EXL Director of Education Activities stated, "It's important to continue to allow students to excel onward and upward during the higher

education process and it starts with finances." EXL Chapter President Edward H. Hill stated, "Chasing a dream requires effort, passion, and hard work and most require funds to start off." GCAN serves in two locations — the Alexander Percy Memorial Library and the Buster Brown Center, both located in Greenville, MS.

G-CAN is focused on creating a college-going culture by ensuring all students have the resources to access post-secondary education.

**SOUTHERN REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT— ELECT!!!**  
*ALPHA PHI ALPHA FRATERNITY, INC.*



As stated... “Boldly Going Where We’ve Never Gone Before” are the words of our newly elected Southern Regional Vice President Brother Cecil Howard! During our

90th Southern Region Convention in Mobile, Alabama held May 21-22, 2021, another historical moment was birthed. Running off the platform of B.E.S.T. (became the best overall), the vision is to make Alpha South the B.E.S.T. The mission is to leverage Alpha South’s influence to develop the B.E.S.T. servants and leaders around. His objectives cover Brotherhood (Good brotherhood drives good business), Economics (Building Wealth), Social Justice (Raising awareness and seeking justice), and Transparency (Governance in the Sunshine). In his exploration letter to us a few months ago during the

campaign, he told us that he was seeking a vision for a greater Alpha South that would enhance Alpha South’s footprint such that we as a region may “go where no one has ever gone before.” The borrowed reference from the old *Star Trek* series was just an attempt at using a catch phrase, it is his true desire, and it represents the vision he have for Alpha South. He is married to Priscilla Howard with four children – Alexandria, Coleman, Gabrielle, and Nataleh. He also has two grandchildren.



*“We need leaders not in love with money, but in love with justice. Not in love with publicity, but in love with humanity.”*

- Bro. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

**UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS**



**back to school bash**

IAMH is partnering with Urgent & Primary Care of Clarksdale and the Mississippi State Department of Health to provide COVID-19 vaccinations. Backpacks and school supplies will be given away. Please register using the link provided.

**July 17, 2021**  
 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM  
 Coahoma County Expo Center  
 1150 Wildcat Dr.  
 Clarksdale, MS 38614

**Registration:**  
<https://bit.ly/3w7oHxJ>

**MASKS REQUIRED**  
 \*This event will use the Pfizer vaccine, which requires a second dose to be administered within 21 days.

If you have any questions please contact Program Manager, Demitria Love at [dlove@advancingminorityhealth.org](mailto:dlove@advancingminorityhealth.org)

**Save the Date!**

**7<sup>th</sup>**

**Aug. 20th**

**ANNIVERSARY**

ALPHA PHI ALPHA  
FRATERNITY, INC.

EPSILON XI  
LAMBDA CHAPTER

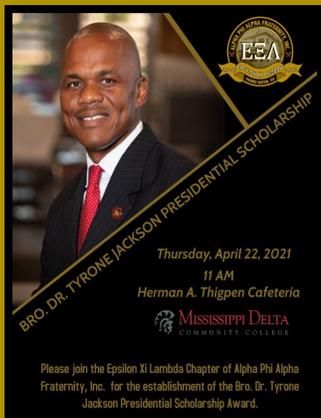
HOUSE #224  
MOUND BAYOU, MS

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Email: alphaexl1951@gmail.com  
Website: www.exl1951.org

Thursday, April 22, 2021  
Moorhead, Mississippi



## First of All, Servants of All, We Shall Transcend All!

Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. develops leaders, promotes brotherhood and academic excellence, while providing service and advocacy for our communities. That is why our motto - *First of All, Servants of All, We Shall Transcend All* - has become a fraternal brand throughout the world. "The Premier" Epsilon Xi Lambda Chapter was chartered on August 20, 1951 at 8:00 p.m. and is one of the fourteen dedicated alumni chapters situated throughout the State of Mississippi. We have been serving the Mississippi Delta area faithfully for 69 years with outstanding programs such as: Go-To-High, Go-To-College; A Voteless People is a Hopeless People; My Brother's Keeper; and Project Alpha. As we embark on our 70<sup>th</sup> year, we will continue to be the leading, dynamic, distinguished gentlemen who will continue to dedicate ourselves to aiding down-trodden humanity in its efforts to achieve higher social, economic, and intellectual status.



### Scholarship named for MDCC President Brother Dr. Tyrone Jackson

In April of 2021, the Brothers of Epsilon Xi Lambda Chapter ignited one of the most prestigious moves in the chapter's history by honoring and presenting one of our very own brothers a scholarship award named in his honor. Brother Dr. Tyrone Jackson, member of EXL, and President of Mississippi Delta Community College in Moorhead, Mississippi, was elated when he heard of the good news. "We promote scholarship and we are to honor Brother Dr. Tyrone Jackson," said Brother Dr. Brother Tracy Mims during the presentation. Brother Mims is the Vice President of the chapter. The Fraternity Chapter President, Brother Edward H. Hill, took the podium next and recounted not only his personal history at the college as an student, but MDCC's history as well. Hill pointed out the significance of this scholarship being established in April as that it is also the month that MDCC was established. "We here to support Mississippi Delta,"

explained Hill. "Not only our brother, but Mississippi Delta as a whole. An annual Sweetheart Ball will fund the scholarship each year. If you would like to contribute, Cash App \$EXL1906 for MDCC Dr. Tyrone Jackson.



(L to R) Brother Rep. Abe Hudson Jr. (MS), Brother Charles Hardy (Financial Secretary), Brother Richard Rose (Sergeant at Arms), Brother Edward Hill (President), Brother Dr. Tyrone Jackson (MDCC President), Brother Dr. Tracy Mims (Vice President), Brother Jimmy Washington, and Brother Clarence Holmes (Chief Financial Officer-Education Foundation).

