

# Outstanding Black Women of Yalobusha County: The Project continues

## Rosa Wright: From Legacy To Dynasty

I got my driver's license at 15, and one of my short cuts from school was through what we called the North End. I always looked for Mrs. Rosa Wright sitting on her porch at 219 West Lee Street. The same was true when I was much younger and walked home with my Aunt Pit (Betsy Finch).

On our way my Aunt always stopped to chat with Mrs. Rosa, who personified what we do not have any more - neighbors who watched out for the school children and the neighborhood. Legacy is the word that her daughter, Carolyn, a retired Army veteran, used in her account below about her mother, but Dynasty is a much more appropriate description!

From the 11 offspring born to Rosa and Hezzie Wright, have come several college graduates, bankers, entrepreneurs, a chemical engineer, a preacher, an educator, an army reservist, active duty and retired military. They have degrees from Mississippi State University, Ole Miss, and Delta State to name a few.

A great grandson currently attends the University of Kentucky and announces UK basketball. Their accomplishments are beyond remarkable. I am proud to claim some kinship. Her late daughter, Earline and

her husband, John Hawkins, never missed an opportunity to encourage me when I was in school, and then they sent a courageous first black cheerleader to Ole Miss, who took a victorious stand against using the Rebel flag.

Now another son serves as the Chief of University Police at Ole Miss in Oxford.

And I, the first black Ole Miss Admissions Counselor, the first black hired on the administration level - am more than proud and humbled to have known Mrs. Rosa and Mr. Hezzie Wright.



**Rosa White-Wright**

Now enjoy what Carolyn shares with us about her mother:

### A Woman with a LEGACY:

**ROSA WHITE-WRIGHT**

*By Carolyn Wright*

Rosa Virginia White Wright, a determined and courageous black wom-



*By Dottie Chapman Reed*

*Reed is a native of Water Valley and graduated from Davidson High School in 1970. She has launched a project to compile and share info about women in the county who have made an impact on the African American community. Her column appears bi-monthly, with occasional exceptions. She can be reached at (678) 825-2356 or reed2318@bellsouth.net*

an of the past, began as a sharecropper's daughter, and the oldest child of Hattie and William White. Rosa was taught leadership and how to become a hard worker. She believed in human rights and stood firmly on her beliefs.

Rosa's parents moved from Water Valley, but she remained in Yalobusha County. She raised a family of her own with her husband, Hezzie Wright, and 11 children on the land of white owners, until they were able to purchase their own home on West Lee Street in 1957.

Living in the City of Water Valley,

Rosa became a caregiver to those who were elderly, hungry, or without family to help and the sick. She worked occasionally for Peewee and Frances Sartain's Restaurant and often catered for the First Baptist Church in Water Valley.

My mother was there for her family and produced

high school and college graduates, something she and my father were unable to achieve. They were born in a time when such achievements for African Americans were not only difficult, but most times impossible. Rosa was determined her family would have a better life.

Spirituality, hard work and education were principles that my mother instilled in our family prior to her death in 1979 at the age of 60. Through our families and our accomplishments, our aim has been to encourage and impact future generations in keeping with our mother's example. From the fruits of her labor our mother's dreams have become a reality and her descendants continue to achieve excellence and give service to mankind and the community. Her legacy lives on and the dynasty reigns.

Thank you Mama!

*(Editor's Note: Last week's article on Rosa White-Wright had the wrong picture. The Herald apologizes for the error.*

## The Facts About CWD Should Scare You

### Kyle's News & Reviews

#### In Agriculture



**By Kyle Jeffreys**

Mississippi State Extension Service ANR Agent

is that feeders that have drop tubes or just a corn pile in general is way more likely to pass the disease on. It is also really scary to me that a deer can have this disease for 16 months without ever showing a sign. I can tell you that every deer that I harvest will be tested, which can be done by submitting samples at the district MDWFP office at Enid. I can also tell you that I have never worn gloves or really any kind of protective material while processing a deer but I will from now on.

All of the instructions for submitting samples can be found on the MDWFP website. I CAN ASSURE YOU THIS IS A PROBLEM THAT SHOULD BE TAKEN SERIOUSLY AND MORE THAN LIKELY WILL NEVER GO AWAY.

For more information, read the article provided by the Mississippi State Extension office on Page 1 of this week's Herald.

CWD is exchanged from deer to deer through saliva, feces, blood, and urine. A deer can have CWD for 16 months before it shows any symptoms of the disease up to four years before showing symptoms. A deer that had CWD becomes contagious within six months of contracting the disease. Prion is the word that the biologist used to describe the "germ" that infects the deer and it can remain in the soil for several years.

My translation of this



**Don't let heartburn ruin your life.**

Acid reflux disease affects approximately 30% of the American population, causing daily heartburn symptoms - but heartburn is only one sign that you may have gastroesophageal reflux disease, or GERD, a serious condition that has been linked to esophageal cancer. Baptist Heartburn Treatment Center at Baptist North Mississippi can diagnose GERD and offers minimally invasive treatment that can help stop reflux. Please go to [baptistonline.org/heartburn](http://baptistonline.org/heartburn) to learn more and take our short online quiz to find out if you might have GERD.

**BAPTIST**  
northmiss.baptistonline.org 662-636-1000

**Get Better.**

A Legato Heartburn Treatment Center

## Street Talk

*(Continued From Page Four)*

are classic Snooky getting in the last say. He's thinking of the fight and backing those still in the ring.

"I think right now in Water Valley, it's the greatest opportunity since I moved

here," he said with gusto. "If I was younger, I'd be buying property. These young girls, they've got spunk, they're going to make it... These girls, they are jumping on the tide, they are adjusting, finding a niche, they're opening eyes."

This Saturday, after Black Friday, is Shop Small Saturday. It is a nationwide campaign reminding people in their shopping for the holiday season to shop local merchants and downtown. Keep Water Valley Punchy.

## NOTICE!!!

## COUNTY TAX COLLECTION BEGINS DECEMBER 3

For your convenience, the personal and real property tax can be paid beginning Monday, December 3, for your 2018 County ad valorem and drainage taxes.

Please remember the deadline for paying your 2018 taxes is Friday, February 1, 2019.

The Coffeeville and Water Valley Offices will be closed December 24 & 25 and December 31 & January 1.

When your County Tax Collector's office can be of service - Please call on us!

Thanks,

Linda Rae Shuffield  
Assessor-Tax Collector  
Yalobusha County