



### Meridian Housing Authority Rewards Academic Success

The Meridian Housing Authority's 2018 Jeanelle Kidd Scholarship luncheon was hosted at Meridian Community college's Magnolia Hall on May 22, 2018. The purpose of the luncheon was to recognize and encourage deserving MHA residents on their decision to continue their academic endeavors. The 2018 MHA Scholars include: Malik Brown (Magnolia Courts), Tyler Clark (Magnolia Courts), Joe'Viante Clayton (Eastern Gardens), Ruth Franklin (Sowashee Courts), LaBresha Henderson (Western Gardens), Stephon Overstreet (Sowashee Courts), Angel Stevens (Western Gardens), Kentavius Walker (Mtn. View Village), and Tempest Young (Eastern Gardens). These outstanding young women and men have done well to represent their affordable housing communities and MHA. Congratulations to each of them and best of luck in their future endeavors.

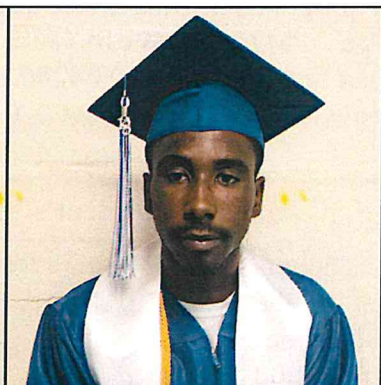


Commissioner Jeanelle Kidd and Tyler Clark

WTOK-TV also highlighted the achievements of the MHA Scholars during several of its news broadcast. The graduates are also currently featured on "MHA's Wall of Fame" located at the agency Central Office. Featured speakers included: Meridian High School Principal, Victor Hubbard and MHA Resident Advisory Board President, Brenda Griffin. State Representative, Attorney Adrienne Hooper-Wooten delivered the keynote address. MHA staff and proud parents were present to show support. Tyler Clark received the Jeanelle Kidd Hope VI Endowment Trust Scholarship in the amount of \$60,000.00 and plans to enter Millsap College in Jackson, Mississippi this fall. Congratulations to each of these graduating seniors on reaching this high mile stone. Visit the MHA website at: [www.meridianhousing.net](http://www.meridianhousing.net)



Tempest Young



Kentavius Walker



LaBresha Henderson



Tyler Clark



Ruth Franklin



Malik Brown



Joe'Viante Clayton



Angel Stevens



# "Committed"



**Ronald J. Turner, Sr.**  
**Executive Director**

## Executive Director's Message

The Meridian Housing Authority's Board of Commissioners along with its staff and Resident Advisory Board is pleased to announce the MHA has awarded approximately \$70,000.00 to eight promising public housing graduates to continue their academic endeavors. MHA's Board Chairman, Wilbert Jones says, "Investing in families living in MHA's ten affordable housing communities guarantees a brighter future for themselves and their families." On September 17, 2009, MHA partnered with the Community Foundation of East Mississippi for the purpose of managing its "Jeanelle Kidd HOPE VI Endowment Trust Scholarship Fund." The Fund was named in honor of current and long-time MHA Board Commissioner, Jeanelle Kidd. The fund encourages the educational advancement of qualifying MHA residents. The Meridian Housing Authority exists to provide safe and affordable housing opportunities for 3,500 eligible citizens of Meridian. Additionally, MHA owns and operates 1235 affordable housing apartments and administers 215 Housing Choice Vouchers. MHA also provides (10) Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing Vouchers (VASH) to local veterans facing chronic homelessness in the City of Meridian. For more information regarding programs at MHA, visit our website at [www.meridianhousing.net](http://www.meridianhousing.net) or contact our Community and Supportive Services Department at (601) 693-2800.



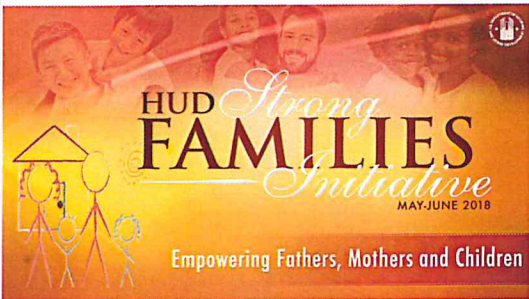
## MHA Resident Homeownership Training

Any resident of MHA wanting to buy a home and gain a greater degree of self-sufficiency is invited to attend the Home ownership workshops. These workshops are scheduled to meet from June to November of 2018. For more information regarding the programs at MHA, feel free to visit the MHA website at

[www.meridianhousing.net](http://www.meridianhousing.net) or contact Cecil Johnson or Kimmea Spears at 601-693-4285 exts 227 or 229. You may also contact Elaine Dubose or Sheila Austin at 601-693-2800 ext 230.



## RESIDENT ACTIVITIES



Residents are highly encouraged to participate in the Resident Advisory Board activity June 23, 2018 from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. The HUD Strong Families Initiative will have activities for the entire family. You will be able to learn about buying a home, checking on your blood pressure, looking into going back to school or maybe getting your GED. Sign up for the summer track and field program. Come out and enjoy an informative and fun filled day.

## Resident's Monthly Meeting Schedule

|      |                    |              |
|------|--------------------|--------------|
| 6/12 | George Reese Court | @ 3:30 p.m.  |
| 6/13 | Magnolia Court     | @ 3:30 p.m.  |
| 6/14 | Oakland Heights    | @ 10:00 a.m. |
| 6/15 | Western Garden     | @ 3:30 p.m.  |
| 6/20 | Mt. Barton         | @ 3:30 p.m.  |
| 6/21 | Eastern Garden     | @ 3:30 p.m.  |
| 6/18 | Sowashee Courts    | @ 3:30 p.m.  |
| 6/19 | Highway Village    | @ 2:30 p.m.  |
| 6/28 | Mt. View Village   | @ 3:30 p.m.  |

All meetings will be held in the sites  
Community Center

## MHA IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

Maintenance Department 601 483-3328; Social Services 601 693-2800; Frank Berry Courts 601 482-1880; Eastern Gardens 601 482-3311; Mountain View Village 601 481-3424; Western Gardens 601 483-8612; Oakland Heights 601 481-3421; Highway Village, 8th & 9th Av 601 483-1816; George Reese Courts/Magnolia Courts 601 693-4586; Mount Barton/Sowashee Courts 601 483-0202; Carousel Place 601 483-0085; J.T. Davis 601 482-0077; MHA Police Liaison Cell (601) 527-0407; Meridian Police Dispatch 601-601-484-6845



# to Excellence"

## MHA STARS OF THE MONTH



Ms. Clark poses with her son Tyler

MHA is pleased to announce the mother-son team of Ms. Clark along with her son, Tyler, as the MHA Stars of the Month. Ms. Clark was recently named the Meridian High School "Parent of the Year" for her role in providing outstanding support to her family and the Meridian Public School district.

Her son Tyler has demonstrated outstanding leadership and academic performance and has earned many honors at Meridian High School. He is the recipient of the 2018 Mississippi Scholars and Tech Masters Awards. He is a member of the National Honor Society, Honor Roll, Senior Class officer, and the recipient of the MHA's prestigious Jeanelle Kidd HOPE VI Endowment Trust Scholarship.

Tyler was awarded \$60,000.00 from the MHA Scholarship and plans to enter Millsap College in the fall.

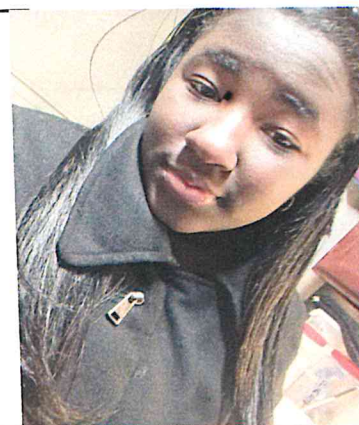
Congratulations to this well-deserved Mother - Son team.

## Meridian Housing Authority Hero

MHA is pleased to recognize the heroic deeds of Diamond Cole who currently resides in the George Reese Courts affordable housing community. When she was ten years old and attending Poplar Springs Elementary School, she smelled smoke in an apartment near-by and called 911 immediately. Her quick actions saved the lives of her neighbors and reduced any possible damage to her building. She told "Home Life" that she remembered what to do in case of an emergency from her teachers at Poplars Springs.

Diamond now attends Northwest Junior High and is an Honor Student.

Congratulations Diamond and thank you for being an outstanding student and MHA Hero!



## MHA Awards "What Home Means to Me" Posters Contestants



Ms. Kira Nickey was selected the first place winner of the annual "What Home Means to Me" contest, Kira is a third grader at Poplar Springs Elementary School, who currently resides in the Sowashee community. Kira said that when she grows up that she want to own her own home in Meridian.



Ms. Brooklyn O. Jones lives at Highway Village and placed second in the poster contest. She loves to draw and wants to be an artist.



Ms. Marshayla Evans who resides at Mtn. Village was the third place winner and wants to continue her education to become a college graduate one day.

### The MHA Home Life Newsletter For Residents

The MHA Home Life Newsletter For Residents is published monthly by the Community & Supportive Services Department. We welcome submissions and we reserve the right to edit all materials used. Materials may be submitted to: Meridian Housing Authority Resident Services Department, Attn. Newsletter 2305 D. Street, Meridian, MS 39301

E-mail to: [cjohnson@meridianhousing.net](mailto:cjohnson@meridianhousing.net)  
[edubose@meridianhousing.net](mailto:edubose@meridianhousing.net)  
[kspears@meridianhousing.net](mailto:kspears@meridianhousing.net)





"Committed to Excellence"

Please visit the new MHA website: [www.meridianhousing.net](http://www.meridianhousing.net)

**Meridian Housing Authority  
Board of Commissioners**

Wilbert Jones Chairman  
Donnie Smith Vice Chairman  
Jeanelle Kidd Commissioner  
Rob Arline Commissioner  
Greg Lane Commissioner

Mail To:

**June 2018**

| Sunday | Monday   | Tuesday  | Wednesday  | Thursday   | Friday 1<br>Rent Due                                     | Saturday 2 |
|--------|--|--|--|--|--|------------|
| 3      | 4  | 5  | 6 RAB<br>Meeting<br>11:00 a.m.<br>Social Service   | 7  | 8  |            |
| 10     | 11   | 12 George<br>Reece Resi-<br>dent Meeting<br>3:30 p.m.    | 13 Magnolia<br>Courts Resi-<br>dent Meeting<br>3:30 p.m.                                   | 14 Oakland<br>Heights Resident<br>Meeting 10:00 a.m.<br>Home Buying 101<br>5:30-7:00<br>EMR Office<br>4927 HWY 493 | 15 Western<br>Gardens Resi-<br>dent Meeting<br>3:30 p.m. |            |
| 17     | 18<br>Sowashee Courts<br>Resident Meeting<br>3:00 p.m. | 19 Highway<br>Village Resi-<br>dent Meeting<br>2:30 p.m. | 20 RAB<br>Meeting 11:00 a.m.<br>Social Service<br>Mt. Barton Resident<br>meeting 3:30 p.m. | 21 Eastern<br>Gardens<br>Resident<br>Meeting<br>3:30 p.m.  | 22   |            |
| 24     | 25   | 26   | 27   | 28 Mt. View<br>Resident<br>Meeting<br>3:30 p.m.  | 29   |            |
|        |  |  |  |  |  | 30         |