



# Employee Newsletter



## Judge's Corner



March is Juvenile Justice Month. In recognition of Juvenile Justice Month, Juvenile Court of Memphis and Shelby County hosted a community initiative entitled "Prayer Circle for Faith and Healing" on March 15th. The initiative was organized by Mike Smith of HOPE Academy.

All congregations of faith, various schools, colleges and universities were invited to join us as we prayed for our children, our community and the Court.

I would like to say "thank you" to everyone whose participation

made the "Prayer Circle of Faith and Healing" a success. Continued support of unified events of this nature have a positive impact on us individually and as a community.

The Court will also host an Open Meeting on March 30th, 5:30pm-7:00pm at the Benjamin L. Hooks Central Library.

The Court's current compliance with the requirements of the Memorandum of Agreement entered into with the United States Department of Justice will be discussed. Any questions you may have regarding

the Agreement and our current status will be addressed.

I'm pleased to say March has been a month filled with community outreach projects. We must continue our increased visibility in the community.

Our visibility makes us more approachable and plants seeds of trust with our citizens.

Keep up the great work!

*"If you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go together."*  
*African Proverb*

### Welcome New Auxiliary Probation Officers! (3/7/16)



Shaquille Fullwiley, Gina Jones, Veronica Brown, Shontelle Hunt, Kenya Lee, Marilyn Robinson-Kent

#### Inside this issue:

Congrats, Law Symposium, Open Meeting	2
Striving for Excellence, Toastmasters, Recipe	3
U/M Law Fair, Wellness Center, COMEC, Family Safety Center	4-5
Remington College, Congrats, TCCY, Special Employee Dates	6-7
Ceasefire Gun Safety, Congrats, Retirement, Prayer Circle	8-9

#### Special points of interest:

- Motivational Moments
- Employee Birthdays, Anniversary Dates
- New Hires/Welcomes



## Congratulations, Destiny Brown!



*Destiny Brown* won Miss City Wide Youth on Saturday, February 20, 2016. *Destiny* will be competing in the state competition in April 2016.

*Destiny is the daughter of Sharon Brown, Clerk's Office.*

Destiny Brown

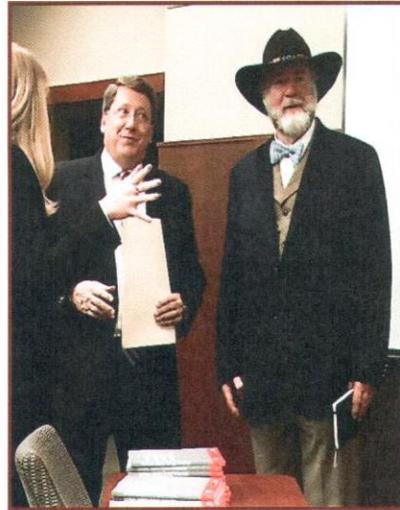
*"Beauty begins the moment you decide to be yourself." Coco Channel*

## University of Memphis Institute for Health Policy

*Judge Dan H. Michael* presented at the University of Memphis Institute for Health Policy 3rd Annual Law Symposium "An ACE in the Hand of Policy Makers" on February 19, 2016.



Judge Michael



Senator Mark Norris, Judge Michael



## Open Meeting



*Juvenile Court of Memphis & Shelby County* will hold an open meeting on Wednesday, March 30, 2016, 5:30pm-7:00pm at the Benjamin L. Hooks Central Library/3030 Poplar Avenue to discuss the Court's current compliance with the Memorandum of Agreement entered into with the United States Department of Justice. Questions and comments will be welcome. For additional information, please contact **Thomas Coupe'** or **Yolanda Joshua** at (901) 222-0904 or [JAC@shelbycountyttn.gov](mailto:JAC@shelbycountyttn.gov).

**Brittany Looney** (Volunteer Services), **Michelle Macklin** (Youth Services Bureau), **Lisa Hughes** (Children's Bureau) and **Toni White** (Volunteer Services) successfully completed the *Shelby County Government Clerical Training Program IV*.



Brittany Looney, Michelle Macklin, Lisa Hughes, Toni White

## Toastmasters



Do you want to become a confident public speaker? If so, Toastmasters is the place for you. You'll find a supportive learn-by-doing environment that allows you to achieve your goals at your own pace. To learn how Toastmasters has changed the lives of members, join The Brainbuilders on any Tuesday at noon at the Urban Child Institute or contact **LaKeisa Martin** by telephone at (901) 222-0792 or via email at [lakeisa.martin@shelbycountyttn.gov](mailto:lakeisa.martin@shelbycountyttn.gov).

## Recipe: Shepherd's Pie

### Ingredients:

1 lb ground beef, 2 cups hot mashed potatoes, 4 ounces cream cheese (cubed), 1 cup shredded cheddar cheese (divided), 2 cloves garlic (minced), 4 cups frozen mixed vegetables (thawed), 1 cup beef gravy.

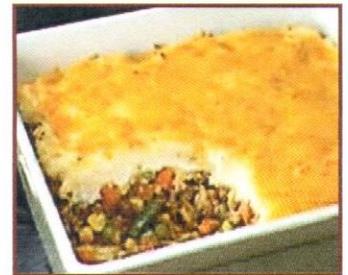
### Directions:

1. Preheat oven to 375 degrees Fahrenheit.
2. Brown meat in large skillet.

### Directions (continued):

3. Mix potatoes, cream cheese, 1/2 of the shredded cheese and the garlic until well blended.
4. Drain meat. Return to skillet; stir in vegetables and gravy.
5. Spoon meat and vegetables into 9 inch square baking dish. Cover with potato mixture and remaining 1/2 cup shredded cheese.
6. Bake 20 minutes or until heated through.

*\* If using instant potatoes, prepare as directed but omit the milk, so the potatoes stay fluffy when the cream cheese is added.*



## University of Memphis 2nd Annual Public Interest Fair (2/17/16)



Pam Taylor (Volunteer Services), CAO Pam Skelton, Belynda Dwyer (Guardian ad Litem)

## Shelby County Government Wellness Center Grand Opening (3/3/16)



Carolyn Cunningham (Administrative Services), Debbie Hunter (Youth Services Bureau), Pam James (Youth Court), Sandra Johnson, Shirley Armstrong, Jennifer McKissick (Children's Bureau), Shirley Terrell (Youth Services Bureau)



Shirley Terrell (Youth Services Bureau), Carolyn Cunningham (Administrative Services), Gold Medal Olympian Rochelle Stevens, Debbie Hunter (Youth Services Bureau), Pam James (Youth Court), Sandra Johnson (Children's Bureau)

## Commission on Missing & Exploited Children (COMEC)

*The Commission on Missing & Exploited Children (COMEC)* is a non-profit charitable agency that has been providing parental and children's services at Juvenile Court of Memphis & Shelby County since 1984. Yes, for over 30 years, COMEC has provided aid and assistance to parents, caregivers and the children that they care for. Court Personnel, Law Enforcement, and Educators also utilize many of our complimentary programs.



Vonyale Montgomery, Mary Rogers

Some of our programs include: the complimentary Teen Substance Abuse Testing Program whereby, children whose parents suspect illicit drug use can be confidentially tested free of charge. In 2015, nearly 100 children enrolled in an Alternative School have utilized our drug testing program in order to return to their home school. As many of these children do not have the financial ability to pay for drug screening, without this program they would be hard pressed to pay for it elsewhere.

In addition to substance abuse screening and subsequent counseling, COMEC has two Master's level counselors who provide complimentary counseling with parents and children in regard to delinquency, drug use, running away, internet safety and human trafficking.

COMEC also receives considerable referrals from Juvenile Court personnel regarding Custodial Interference and Parental Abduction situations. In these cases, COMEC works hard to mediate these parental disputes rather than to direct them to Law Enforcement and the Courts. If we can contact the fleeing parent and make them aware they can co-parent their children without anger and violence then they are more likely to raise healthy children.

The AMBER Alert Coordinator is also stationed at the COMEC office.

COMEC is proud that its work aids and abets the mission of the Court. Protecting children and promoting strong families is what we are all about.

COMEC extends their grateful appreciation to Juvenile Court of Memphis & Shelby County for their continued support of this mutually benefitting collaborative effort.



*Article submitted by Len Edwards, Captain MPD (Ret.), COMEC Executive Director. (right)*

## Welcome Family Safety Center



Effective March 23rd, the *Family Safety Center* began facilitating monthly workshops on Domestic Violence issues in Detention. They will collaborate with a partner to provide similar workshops for batterers.

Additionally, the Center will facilitate a Domestic Violence training workshop for all magistrates and provide the Court with a resource guide on Domestic Violence for all Court staff.

We are excited to have established this new partnership and look forward to our continued collaboration.

## Remington College Spring Career Day (3/8/16)

---



Tonya Watson, Brittany Looney (Volunteer Services)

## Congratulations, Jacob Roberts!

---

*Jacob Roberts* (#24) plays the position of point guard for the Bellevue Bobcats. *Jacob* was the only 6th grader on their 2015-2016 championship team. Bellevue now has back to back state championships.

*Jacob is the son of Eric Roberts, Children's Bureau.*



## TCCY's Children's Advocacy Days 2016 (3/9/16)

---

*Judge Dan H. Michael* (center in photo) served on a judicial panel at TCCY's Children's Advocacy Days 2016 in Nashville, TN.



Happy Birthday, March Birthdays:

Barbara Jackson

Patricee Minner

Alisa Sellers

Kweilyn Wiseman

Yolanda Joshua

Scot Bearup

Bryan Branch

Kimbrell Owens

Wyvonne Galloway

Sharon Fuller

Candice Brown

Felicia Banks

Joan Maxwell Pewitt

Nancy Kessler

Judge Dan H. Michael

**Welcome New Hires**

Youth Services Bureau:

**Theoplias Benson**

*Juvenile Services Counselor II*

Advocate for Non-Custodial Parents:

**Nancy Schiller**

*Attorney*

Volunteer Services Bureau:

**Shamika Caldwell**

*Clerical Specialist-Temporary*

Children's Bureau:

**Dayna Johnson**

*Juvenile Services Counselor II*

**Audrena James**

*Clerical Specialist-Temporary*

**March Anniversary Dates**

Children's Bureau:

**Debra Hill, 25 years**

**Shirley Armstrong, 21 years**

**Jennifer Brown, 14 years**

**Patricee Minner, 8 years**

Juvenile Detention Alternatives

Initiative (JDAl):

**Kimbrell Owens, 5 years**

Youth Services Bureau:

**Charles Cook, 8 years**

Judicial:

**Wyvonne Galloway, 21 years**

**Judge Dan H. Michael, 18 years**

Administrative Services:

**Patricia Monteil, 20 years**

**Joanne Monti, 9 years**

Child Support:

**Mitchell Morgan, 21 years**

*Happy Anniversary*

*Thank you for your hard work and dedicated service!*

## Juvenile Ceasefire Gun Safety Program

---

Over the past 15 years, numerous cities across the country have successfully reduced relatively high rates of gang and youth gun violence through a strategy that brings together - and assigns specific roles to - criminal justice agencies, organizations that provide employment training and placement, social service agencies, community and faith leaders, and gang outreach programs.

This strategy, based upon extensive research and experience, has evolved from a primary focus on deterring serious gang and youth gun violence, to a comprehensive approach that combines deterrence with workforce training, employment, and other services.

On March 14, 2016, Juvenile Court of Memphis and Shelby County entered into a collaborative agreement with the Tennessee Department of Corrections (Community Supervision), U.S. Attorney's Office and Memphis Police Department (Project Safe Neighborhood). The first Juvenile Cease Fire class will be held on Tuesday, April 26, 2016. Thereafter, the classes will be on the 4th Tuesday of each month. The classes will be held in courtroom #1 from 6:00pm-7:00pm with registration beginning at 5:15pm. If you have any questions about the program please feel free to contact Martha Rogers at (901) 222-0751 or by email at [martha.rogers@shelbycountyttn.gov](mailto:martha.rogers@shelbycountyttn.gov).

## Congratulations, Officer Dedrick Sears!

---



Mike Smith (HOPE Academy), Officer Dedrick Sears

On March 17, 2016, *Officer Dedrick Sears* (Sheriff's Office-Detention) was recognized by HOPE Academy for his outstanding service and dedication to his work.

## Retirement Ceremony for Honorable Larry K. Scroggs (1/22/16)

---

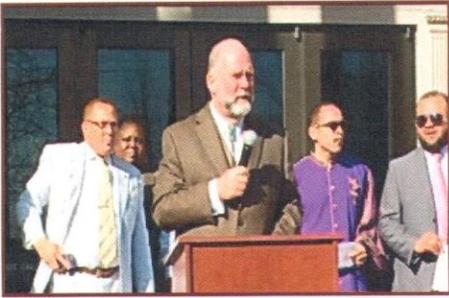


County Commissioner  
Mark Billingsley, District 4,  
Larry Scroggs



Honorable Mark White,  
TN Representative

# Prayer Circle for Faith & Healing (3/16/16)



Judge Michael



Mike Smith, HOPE Academy



Reginald Porter, Shelby County Schools



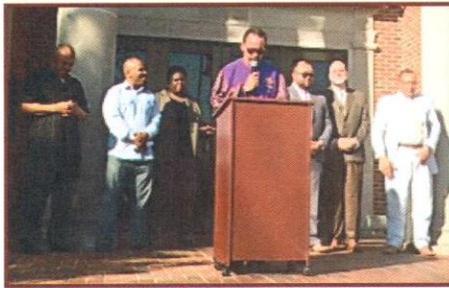
Pastor Marron Thomas, Innovation Church



Pastor Greg Diaz, Nuevo Direccion



Pastor Cheryl J Beard, The Place of the Outpouring



Dr. Kenneth T. Whalum, Jr., New Olivet Baptist Church

