



September News and Updates

Summit to address career education, high-demand jobs

By Dennis Seid - Daily Journal

Tens of thousands of jobs in Mississippi are unfilled simply because of a lack of qualified workers.

The Summit on Career Education and High-Demand Jobs hopes to address the issues behind the problem and ways to fix it.

The summit will be held on September 11 at the Itawamba Community College Belden Center from 9 a.m to 1:30 p.m.

The keynote speaker for the noon luncheon is Ron Wanek, chairman of Ashley Furniture Industries, the world's largest furniture company and Mississippi's largest furniture employer with more than 3,200 workers.

The CREATE Foundation, the Community Development Foundation, ICC and Three Rivers Planning and Development District are sponsoring the meeting.

To read the entire article, please click [here](#).



TOYOTA WELLSPRING EDUCATION FUND HIRES CAREER COACHES FOR LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICTS

The Toyota Wellspring Education Endowment Fund at the CREATE Foundation is a \$50 million gift created to perpetually enhance education in the eight school districts in Pontotoc, Union,

and Lee (PUL) counties. The primary focus of the fund is career awareness and readiness. The most recent initiative, via the Wellspring Fund, provides 11 Career Coaches to 14 high schools in the eight PUL school districts.



The Career Coaches will help develop the most career-aware graduates, preparing students for postsecondary education and training. Career Coach responsibilities will include guidance to define students' career aspirations, certifications, apprenticeships, and workforce training. Additionally, Career Coaches will support students in achieving their educational, career and financial goals while complementing existing school site programs and industry partnerships. The Career Coach will be responsible for documentation of student/parent/community interaction, networking for business partnerships, and additional training prior to and during the school year.

Read entire press release [here](#).

Tupelo and Lee County join nationwide collaboration to improve third-grade reading

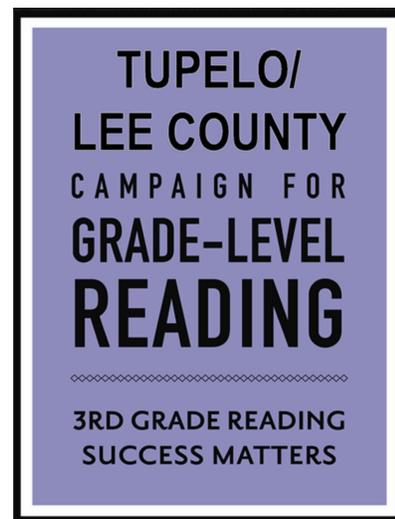
By Dillon Mullan Daily Journal

Tupelo and Lee County have joined a nationwide collaborative effort to improve reading proficiency and early learning for children from low-income families. As part of the Campaign for Grade-Level Reading, United Way of Northeast Mississippi and the Toyota Wellspring Education Fund at the CREATE Foundation have developed a plan of action to ensure that children from both school districts are reading at their grade level by the end of third grade.

The coalition plans to address three underlying barriers to reading proficiently: school readiness, school attendance and summer learning.

According to research by sociologist Donald J. Hernandez, students who are not proficient readers by the end of third grade are four times more likely to drop out of high school than their peers. In fourth grade, students stop learning to read and start reading to learn.

“Learning to read is what happens in primary grades. That’s when kids are learning sight words and learning to sound out words phonetically,” Rankin Elementary third-grade reading teacher Maria Foster said. “Reading to learn, that’s not only just in reading class, it’s anything you might read for a math or history class or out in the community. It’s being able to think critically about what you read.” Click [here](#) to read the entire article.



Heart for the Hungry Children



Thank you to Lee County Hunger Coalition and the Family Resource Center of Tupelo for donating 600 food boxes for our K-8 students to receive Monday at Back to School Registration. Food boxes will be available to all students at the BES and BHS 5-8th campuses Monday after completing registration. Each box contains a week's supply of food for a child.

Imagine the Possibilities Career Expo Announces Public Hours



Imagine
the possibilities

Northeast Mississippi Career Expo
In affiliation with Pathways2Possibilities

October 2-4, 2018

Sponsored by the Toyota Wellspring Education Fund at CREATE

IMAGINE THE POSSIBILITIES
CAREER EXPO

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
WEDNESDAY ONLY
OCTOBER 3
FROM 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM



**GIVE US YOUR 2 CENTS
AND WE'LL GIVE YOU CHANGE**

Join the Community Conversation

giveyour2cents.org

text **2CENTS** to **50503**



**United Way
of Northeast Mississippi**

#FromCharitytoChange



VOLUNTEER
NORTHEAST MISSISSIPPI
Connecting Volunteers & Non-Profits

volunteernems.org

a chapter of Volunteer Mississippi | a partnership of United Way and CREATE Foundation

Volunteer Northeast Mississippi is the online resource to connect nonprofit organizations with volunteers looking for opportunities in Alcorn, Benton, Chickasaw, Clay, Itawamba, Lee, Marshall, Monroe, Pontotoc, Prentiss, Tippah, Tishomingo, and Union counties. Powered by the GiveGab platform, use Volunteer Northeast Mississippi to manage volunteers, log volunteer hours, find opportunities by interest, and more!

For more information, contact:

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Jason Martin, Tupelo/Lee Hunger Coalition, jason@unitedwaynems.org



Charitable giving through CREATE is a very effective way to give to organizations and people in need. CREATE has the knowledge and ability to quickly process donations to almost any existing charity. Plus with online secure access to your donor advised account, you can transact this business from anywhere, anytime, and know you have good records of what you have done. I serve on the CREATE board because I was asked and considered it a wonderful opportunity to be inspired to help others more. If you have the heart to give to help others, there is no better way to achieve that end than through CREATE.

- Randy Long

OUR MISSION

CREATE Foundation is committed to improving the quality of life for the people of Northeast Mississippi through:

- Building permanent community endowment assets
- Encouraging philanthropy and managing charitable funds contributed by individuals, families, organizations and corporations
- Strengthening the regional community development capacity

- Taking a leadership role on key community issues and impacting the region through gifts and targeted grant-making

CREATE Foundation | 662-844-8989 | 662-844-8149 | www.createfoundation.com

