

## Quarterly Newsletter



Website Address: <http://www.co.hinds.ms.us/pgs/ctydivision/eoc.asp>

## Tribute to Jimmie Lewis, Former EOC Director

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Mr. Jimmie Ray Lewis left this world to join His Father in heaven on April 9, 2013. Jimmie was born January 23, 1958 to James Jamison and Vernia Lewis in Hinds County, MS. He was a long time member and one of the lead singers of The Mississippi Mass Choir, The Southern Tones and The Westhaven Memorial Funeral Home Choir. He was also a former member of the Jackson Fire Department, Bolton Volunteer Fire Department and retired Hinds County EOC Director. Funeral services were held Sunday, April 14, 2013 at Blacks Chapel M.B. Church., with burial in Mount Elizabeth in Bolton, MS.



His presence will be greatly missed in Hinds County by family, friends and co-workers. We can all imagine him singing with the choir of angels for eternity. Our loss is definitely heaven's gain.

### EOC Staff

Mark Young,  
Director

Joey Perkins, Asst. Director  
Fire Coordinator

Rosilind Longino,  
Deputy Director of  
Administration

Tracy Funches,  
Deputy Director of  
Field Services

Lavonne Berryhill,  
Emergency Management  
Specialist

Robin Garrard,  
Emergency Management  
Specialist

Kenneth Smith,  
911 Coordinator

## Code Red 911 Notification System is Online

The Code Red, 911 notification system is up and running in Hinds County. Code Red is an alert system that sends emergency messages to landlines, cell phones, text and email. Citizens of Hinds County with a landline have been automatically enrolled through the 911 database. Notifications will be used for emergencies such as severe weather alerts or evacuation notifications. If the original call is missed, redial the number on your caller ID to hear the last message delivered to your phone through the Code RED system. The system is monitored 24/7 and alerts are generated automatically after warnings have been issued by the National Weather Service. Code RED Weather Warning is designed to rapidly alert citizens in the path of severe weather. The authorities of Hinds County believe this will improve the ability to keep the public safe.

Citizens who would like to receive alerts via cell, text or email, may enroll by visiting the Hinds County Website ([www.co.hinds.ms.us](http://www.co.hinds.ms.us)) and clicking on the Code Red logo on the right hand side of the screen or follow this link: (<https://public.coderedweb.com/CNE/BF969C4D687E>)



## Heat Safety Awareness

The leading weather related cause of death in the United States is heat, which results in hundreds of deaths each year. During times of extreme heat and humidity the ability for the body to cool itself is affected. When the body heats too quickly or loses too much salt or fluid thru sweat or dehydration, the body temperature rises and heat-related illnesses may occur.

Four types of heat disorders that occur and their symptoms include:

- ◆ Sunburn: Redness and pain. (also swelling, blisters, fever and headaches)
- ◆ Heat cramps: Painful spasms usually in legs and abdomen. (also heavy sweating)
- ◆ Heat exhaustion: Heavy sweating and weakness, along with cold, pale and clammy skin.
- ◆ Heat stroke: High body temperature, hot and dry skin, rapid and strong pulse and possible unconsciousness.

All illnesses brought on by heat require attention, but heat stroke can result in death and requires immediate medical attention.

Following simple safety tips can assist in prevention of heat related issues:

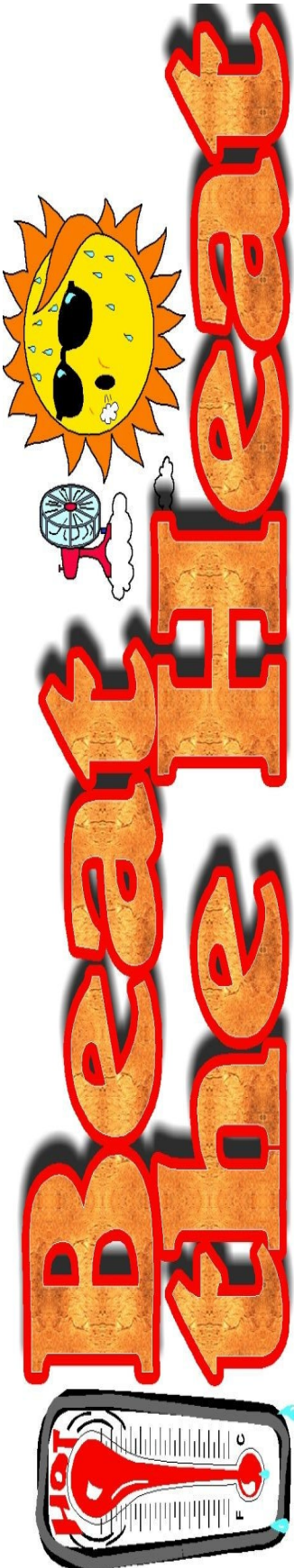
- ◆ Slow down. Reduce, eliminate or reschedule strenuous activities until the coolest time of the day.
- ◆ Dress for summer. Wear lightweight, light colored clothing to reflect the heat and sunlight.
- ◆ Put less fuel on your inner fires. Foods, like meat and other proteins that increase metabolic heat production also increase water loss.
- ◆ Drink plenty of water. The body needs water to keep cool. Drink even if you don't feel thirsty. People with epilepsy, heart, kidney or liver disease that are on fluid restrictive diets or have a problem with fluid retention should consult a physician before increasing their consumption of fluids. Do not drink alcoholic beverages and limit caffeinated beverages.
- ◆ During excessive heat periods, spend more time in air-conditioned places. Air conditioning in homes and other buildings markedly reduces the danger from the heat. If you can not afford an air conditioner, go to a library, store or other location with air conditioning for part of the day.
- ◆ Don't get too much sun. Sunburn reduces the body's ability to dissipate heat.
- ◆ Do not take salt tablets unless specified by a physician.

*Hyperthermia* is an acute condition that takes place when the body absorbs more heat than it can handle. It can occur even on a mild day. Studies show that the inside temperature of a parked vehicle can rapidly rise to a dangerous level for children, pets and even adults. Slightly open windows do not decrease the heating rate enough to make a difference. The effects can be more severe in children because their bodies warm faster than adults. Every year, many children and pets left in parked vehicles die from hyperthermia therefore, never leave anybody in a parked vehicle.

Safety Tips Concerning Children

- ◆ Make sure your child's safety seat and buckles aren't too hot before securing child in seat.
- ◆ Never leave a child unattended in a vehicle, even with the windows down.
- ◆ Teach children not to play in, on or around cars.
- ◆ Always lock car doors and trunks, even at home. Keep keys out of children's reach.
- ◆ Always make sure ALL children have left the vehicle upon reaching destination.

The content for this article was obtained from the National Weather Service's website. If you would like more information concerning heat safety you can visit [www.nws.noaa.gov](http://www.nws.noaa.gov)



## Hurricane Season 2013

The Atlantic Hurricane Season runs from June 1 thru November 30. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) has predicted between 13 and 20 named storms for the 2013 season. Seven (7) to eleven (11) of those storms could possibly become a Category 1 or higher hurricane and as many as three (3) to six (6) of them having the potential to become a Category 3 or higher hurricane.

The names of the storms will be:

Andrea	Barry	Chantal	Dorian	Erin
Fernand	Gabrielle	Humberto	Ingrid	Jerry
Karen	Lorenzo	Melissa	Nestor	Olga
Pablo	Rebekah	Sebastien	Tanya	Van
Wendy				

History teaches that a lack of preparation and awareness are the common thread of major hurricane disasters. You can reduce the effects of a hurricane disaster by being aware of your vulnerability and what actions should be taken in the event of a hurricane.

There are many forms of hazards that come from hurricanes, including heavy rainfall, high winds, tornadoes, inland flooding, rip currents and storm surge. Below are some tips for being prepared.

Everyone needs to be prepared for the unexpected. Your friends and family may not be together when disaster strikes. How will you find each other? Will you know if your children or parents are safe? You may have to evacuate or be confined to your home. What will you do if water, gas, electricity or phone services are shut off?

Put together a basic disaster supplies kit and consider storage locations for different situations. Help community members do the same. Go to this site to find out how: <http://www.ready.gov/basic-disaster-supplies-kit>

Know if you live in an evacuation area. Review the FEMA Evacuation Guidelines to allow for enough time to pack and inform friends and family if you need to leave your home. FOLLOW instructions issued by local officials. Leave immediately if ordered! Consider your protection options to decide whether to stay or evacuate your home if you are not ordered to evacuate.

Be familiar with the different types of watches and warnings that are issued by the National Weather Service (NWS). The NWS is responsible for protecting life and property by the issuance of timely watches and warnings. It is necessary that your family be prepared before the storm arrives.

Keep a list of contact information for reference.

- ◆ Local Emergency Management Office
- ◆ County Law Enforcement
- ◆ County Public Safety Fire/Rescue
- ◆ State, County and City/Town Government
- ◆ Local Hospitals
- ◆ Local Utilities
- ◆ Local American Red Cross
- ◆ Local TV Stations
- ◆ Local Radio Stations
- ◆ Your Property Insurance Agent

You can get further information by visiting the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) website ([www.ready.gov/hurricanes](http://www.ready.gov/hurricanes)).



## Hinds EOC Staff Training & Development

The Department of Emergency Management & Fire Service is aware of the importance of staying up to date with the most recent information in their respective fields of expertise. During the past few months the staff has been busy attending training, conferences and earning certifications.

### EOC Staff:

- ◆ Modular Emergency Response Radiological Transportation Training
- ◆ Code Red 911 Notification System Training
- ◆ Fundamentals for Radiological Response (preparation for Grand Gulf Drill)

### Mark Young:

- ◆ Annual Mississippi Civil Defense/Emergency Management Association Conference
- ◆ ICS-300, Intermediate Incident Command for Expanding Incidents
- ◆ ICS-400, Advanced Incident Command System

### Joey Perkins:

- ◆ Annual Mississippi Civil Defense/Emergency Management Association Conference
- ◆ National Fire Academy Politics with the White Helmet Training
- ◆ Emergency Medical Services Operations Class
- ◆ Statewide Fire Coordinators Meeting

### Lavonne Berryhill:

- ◆ Annual Emergency Services Administrative Professionals Association Conference
- ◆ Completed Certification for Emergency Services Administrative Professionals Association

### Robin Garrard:

- ◆ Certified Emergency Manager Level 1, MCDEMA
- ◆ Public Information Officer Training
- ◆ Annual Emergency Services Administrative Professionals Association Conference
- ◆ Completed Certification for Emergency Services Administrative Professionals Association



## Community Outreach Projects

### Tougaloo Spring Fest

Tougaloo College hosted the first annual "Spring Fest" Health Fair on April 5, 2013. They provided a number of different screenings, safety and emergency preparedness giveaways. The Department of Emergency Management represented Hinds County with a booth providing useful information to attendees.



### "Jobs for Eagles" Hinds CC Job Fair

As part of the community outreach effort in Hinds County, the Department of Emergency Management set up an Emergency Preparedness booth at the "Jobs for Eagles" Job Fair at Hinds Community College in Raymond, MS. This took place on May 8, 2013 in the Career Services Center located at the Adult Education Center. The fair was hosted for current Hinds CC students and alumni to provide quality employment opportunities and to assist with skills such as cover letter and resume writing, interview preparation, professional dress and networking.

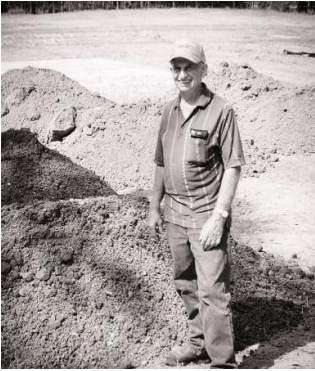


### EOC Supports "Tasty Bite Out of Crime" 2013

The Tasty Bite Out of Crime Team sponsored a fundraiser to promote safe communities within Hinds, Madison and Rankin counties. This event took place on May 6 at Highland Village. Department of Emergency Management Director Mark Young, pictured here with Sheriff Lewis, attended the function to show support for the cause. The Sheriff's Office provided security at the event to ensure everyone was safe and had a great time.



## Tribute to Chief Jim Williams, Brownsville



On April 9, 2013 a great man left this world to join his Lord and Savior in heaven. Services for Mr. James R. "Jim" Williams, 82, were held at 11:00 am, Saturday April 13, 2013 at First Baptist Church in Flora and he was buried at Lakewood Memorial Park. He was owner of Jim's Auto Service and a member of First Baptist Church of Flora. He was a veteran of the US Army and served as the long time Chief of the Brownsville Volunteer Fire Department. He was beloved in his community and respected for his service. Hinds County will always cherish the legacy he left behind. Those of us at the Hinds EOC always looked forward to his visits; he was kind and genuine and his presence will be greatly missed.

Our thoughts and prayers are with his family, wife of 57 years, Mrs. Shirley Williams; daughters, Denise Stubbs (Randy) and Pam Smith (Scott); grandchildren, Tyler Stubbs and Brandon Smith; sisters, Helen Posey and Frances Simmons; and brother, A.J. Williams.

## What's Happening in Fire Services



Following the death of Chief Jim Williams, the department elected Ricky Huerta to the position of chief. Chief Huerta is ready and willing to give his best to the department and citizens of Hinds County. Brownsville VFD & Crossroads VFD each held their Annual Fish Fry Fundraiser in this last quarter.

Fire Services has ordered a new pumper truck for the West Hinds VFD and 2000 gallon tanker for Brownsville VFD. Joey Perkins, the Hinds County Fire Coordinator is working with the Mississippi Forestry Commission to acquire additional equipment for Hinds County. Utica VFD has already received a Tanker from the Forestry Commission.

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*Mitigation ~ Preparedness ~ Response ~ Recovery*

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*Emergency Management protects communities by coordinating and integrating all activities necessary to build, sustain, and improve the capability to mitigate against, prepare for, respond to, and recover from threatened or actual natural disasters, acts of terrorism, or other manmade disasters.*