



ARKANSAS
community foundation
ST. FRANCIS COUNTY
Smart Giving to Improve Communities

Vision Statement

The St. Francis Community Foundation makes grants to improve the quality of life in St. Francis County and partners with individuals, families and organizations to build our local community through philanthropy. You can be a part of our family of philanthropists working for good, for St. Francis County, for ever.

Forrest City Athletic Hall of Fame

September 20, 2024

The 24th Annual Forrest City Athletic Hall of Fame induction ceremony will honor eleven new members this year. The honorees are chosen from three eras: Lincoln High School, Forrest City High School before 1970 and Forrest City High School after 1970.

This year's honorees include: Joseph Beard and Andrew Swift

from Lincoln; Vernon Lockhart and Dotsie Clark Clifton from Forrest City before 1970; Yolanda Anthony-Harrison, Torre' Hunter, William Boomer Mitchell, Jr., Matt Howton, Shaquille Brown, Jaylin Johnson, and the 1975 Forrest City Mustang Football Team, from Forrest City after 1970.

The induction ceremony will be held September 20, 2024 at the

Forrest City High School Cafeteria at 4:30 pm. Tickets are \$20 each and can be purchased at Cedric Williams State Farm, Delta OfficeWorks, Forrest City High School or the Forrest City Area Chamber of Commerce.

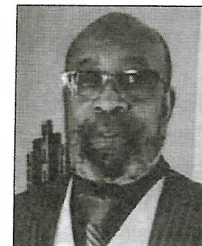
For more information on the Hall of Fame or to purchase your tickets, please call Fredrick Freeman at 870-270-6853.



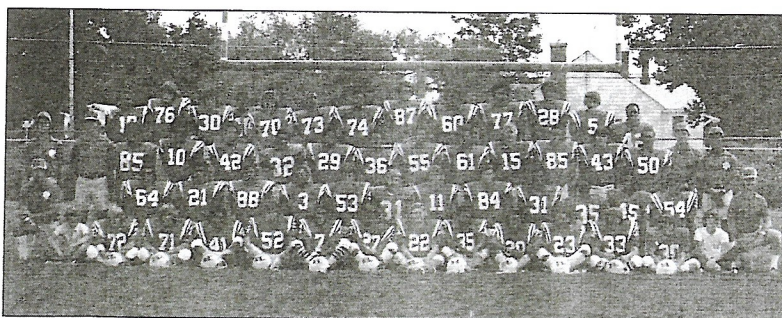
YOLANDA HARRISON a 1991 graduate of Forrest City High School was an accomplished high school basketball player. She played for the Mustangs from 1986-1991. Yolanda was a starter and the leading scorer her junior and senior years in high school. She was selected for All-State, All-Tournament and All-Conference in her role as guard for the high school basketball team. She coached girls' basketball at Second Baptist Church in Little Rock, AR from 2004-2006. She joined the Arkansas National Guard in 1990 as a field medic.



DOTSIE CLARK CLIFTON is a 1958 graduate of Forrest City High School. She played basketball and served as a cheerleader during her 9th-12th grade years. She lettered 3 years during her high school basketball career. Dotsie received the All District, All Tournament and Overall Tournament high scorer her junior year.

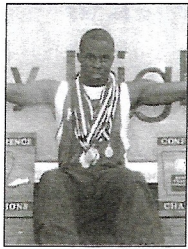


ANDREW SWIFT a 1970 graduate, he was placed on the offensive line by Coach Eugene Rooks, where he played all positions on the offensive line for 4 years. During his 4-years, they went undefeated 3 years. He was a key player for Lincoln's offense. He lettered for 3 years and received several honors during his football career. Andrew also on the track team. He competed in the field events, particularly the shot put and discus events.



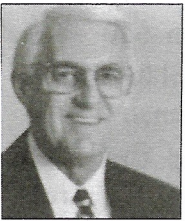
1975 FOOTBALL TEAM coached by First Year Coach Al Miller. They participated in the Arkansas High School State Championship in 1975. This team is the first Mustang Team to play in the Arkansas State Championship. A strong defense and high powered offense was the backbone of the team. Several of the team members were selected to all conference and all state honors.

Coach Al Miller was named Coach of the Year.



WILLIAM BOOMER MITCHELL, JR. a 2007 graduate of Forrest City High School, was an outstanding track and football athlete. During his tenure at Forrest City High School he accomplished the following:

- Indoor Track and Field State Champion (2006)
- Indoor 100m Dash State Champion (2006)
- Indoor & Outdoor 200m Dash State Champion (2006)
- Indoor 4x400m Relay State Champion (2006)
- Meet of Champions 200m Dash Champ (2006)
- All-Arkansas Track & Field Team (2007)
- 2x All-Conference Selection (2006-2007)
- 2x Outdoor Track & Field Conference Champion (2006-07)
- Outdoor Track & Field Champion (2007)
- All-State Track & Field Selection (2007)
- Outdoor 4x400 Relay State Champion (2007)
- 2x Triple Crown
- A football letterman



VERNON LOCKHART is a 1958 graduate of Forrest City High School. He lettered in football, basketball and track for 3 consecutive years, 1954-1957. The basketball team was District Champs his junior year, and State runner-up his junior and senior years. In football, he started on two undefeated teams, the 1957 team as tight end. The undefeated and un-tied team was the first in the history of the school. Vernon was an indispensable part of this team.

Vernon was an active participant in the FCHS Letterman's Club and represented Forrest City at Boys State. He graduated from the Tennessee College of Pharmacy in Memphis, Tennessee. After graduation he served Forrest City for over 40 years as a pharmacist. He served on the board of First National Bank of Eastern Arkansas for over 40 years. He is a member of 1st United Methodist Church in Forrest City where he has served in various positions.



TORRE' HUNTER is a 2007 graduate of Forrest City High School. Torre was an outstanding track athlete and member of a great track team. Some of Torre's accomplishments are as follows:

- Junior Olympics 110m Hurdles & Triple Jump Regional Qualifier (2005)
- Indoor Track & Field State Champion (2006)
- 110m Hurdles Conference Champion (2006)
- Track & Field State Qualifier - Long & Triple Jump (2006)
- 2x All-Conference Selection (2006-2007)
- 2x Outdoor Track & Field Conference Champ (2006-2007)
- Outdoor Track & Field Champion (2007)
- All State Track & Field Selection (2007)
- AAU District 110m Hurdler Champion (2007)
- 3-year Football and 2-year Baseball Letter Awards



JOSEPH BEARD graduated 1970 graduate of from Lincoln High School. He lettered in football and track for the Tigers. He played left half back, and started for 3 years. In 9th grade, the 9th grade team went undefeated. In one game he scored 5 touchdowns. He started at left half back for the undefeated 1968 and 1969 football teams. Joseph was tagged as the Jim Brown of Lincoln High School Football Team. Additionally, he scored a total of 36 touchdowns and approximately 3100 yards

during his 3-year tenure. Joseph participated and lettered 4 years, (9-12) in track for the Lincoln Tigers. He ran in the 100-yard dash, anchored the 440 relay and 880 relay teams for the Tigers. The 440-relay team never lost a race during his 4-year participation in track. The 880-relay team was bestowed the distinguished honor of (BC Special), in honor of a great educator and coach, Mr. B C Williams.



SHAQUILLE BROWN is a 2009 graduate of Forrest City High School was an outstanding track athlete. During his high school track years, he accomplished the following:

- Indoor Track & Field State Champion (2006)
- Outdoor Track & Field State Champion (2007)
- 3X Outdoor Conference Champion (2007-2009)
- Track & Field All-State (2007, 2008 & 2009)
- Track & Field All-Conference (2007, 2008, & 2009)
- 6A East Conference MVP (2008)
- 5A East Conference (2009)
- All-Arkansas (2009)
- Arkansas Meet of Champions-200 Meters Champion (2009)
- Arkansas Meet of Champions 4x400 Relay Champion (2009)
- Placed 6th in the 100 Meter at The Meet of Champions



MATT HOWTON a 2008 graduate of Forrest City High School. Matt was a 3-year letterman in golf and accomplished the following:

Outstanding Golfer of the Year, He carried a 74 average during the 2006-2007 and shot a low round of 66.

He is a 4-time outstanding high school golfer

He was awarded the Rauth Award in 2005

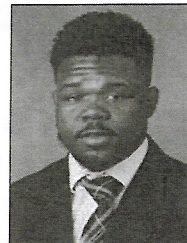
He was a Blazer Invitation Co-Champion in 2007

Matt was a Tri-Champ in 2006

Named to the Hurricane Classic All-Tournament Team in 2006 and 2007

He qualified for the State Championship 2004-2007

Matt played golf at Arkansas State University 2009-2013



JAYLIN JOHNSON a 2014 graduate of Forrest City High School. A highly recruited football player, some of his accomplishments are listed below:

3 x 5A East Football All-Conference (2012-2014)

2 x 5A Football All-State (2013-2-14)

ArkansasVarsity.Com's All-Senior, 1st Team Defense (2013)

ArkansasVarsity.Com's Linebacker MVP (2013)

Arkansas High School All-State Defensive Back MVP (2014)

Most tackles in a single game (27)

All Conference in Shot Put (2012)

Jaylin turned down a Division 1 offer to walk on at the University of Arkansas

He played at U of A and finished his football career at Arkansas Tech where he lettered (2015)



St. Francis County Community Foundation

The St. Francis County Community Foundation is an affiliate office of the Arkansas Community Foundation. We are a nonprofit organization working statewide to empower people to make smart giving decisions. We offer several options for donors interested in Smart Giving. We offer donors the kind of experience and guidance necessary in making smart giving decisions to improve local communities. Donors want to give where it matters most. A charitable gift should be an investment in a cause you care about that will generate returns for your entire community. The Foundation has the tools a donor needs to get started.

This year the SFC Community Foundation targeted food security during our 2024 Spring Grant Cycle. The Foundation was able to give a grant to the Together We Foster program to establish their organization in the St. Francis County area. The grant helped Together We Foster to purchase a refrigerator/freezer, the refrigerator/freezer will allow the organization to offer healthy foods to clients visiting their facility. There are many efforts in our state working to end food insecurity, and in St. Francis County we are happy to be a part of the effort.

The Foundation is also happy to be a leader in Early Literacy for students in the Forrest City and Palestine/Wheatley School Districts. Through grants to the Forrest City Public Library, St. Francis County Museum summer program, and the Cara McCollum Birthday Book Project, we are helping to put books in children's hands outside of the school day. Children will be more successful in school when books are read at an early age and when children begin to read at an early age. Reading on grade level by 3rd grade can determine if a child will graduate from high school.

Anyone interested information on the Foundation please contact Robin Jayroe, Executive Director at stfranciscounty@arcf.org or 870-261-2060.

ST. FRANCIS COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

For Good - For St. Francis County - Forever

2024 Scholarships

The William Cohn Memorial Scholarship was awarded to Madisen Farrell this year. Madisen is in her last year of study at Arkansas State University. The William Cohn Scholarship is awarded annually to a St. Francis County student enrolled in a 4-year university and having completed at least 60 hours towards a degree.

The Abbie Robinson Scholarship was awarded to Nia Williams and Janaya Moore. Both students are attending the University of Central Arkansas in Conway. The Robinson Scholarship is awarded annually to a senior at Forrest City High School.

If you want to set up an endowment for your favorite charity, contribute to an existing endowment or become a Founder's Club member by helping with the operating endowment, contact Robin Jayroe, Exec. Director at 261-2060 or email stfranciscounty@arcf.org



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