

BIOGRAPHY

Maggie B. Lewis-Butler

Mrs. Lewis-Butler was born in Brewton, Alabama, but she calls Pensacola her home because she spent her formative years there. She received her B.S. and M.Ed. degrees from Florida A & M University. She has also completed further studies at Florida State University. Mrs. Lewis-Butler is married to Rev. Robert M. Butler, Jr., and has four children, eight grandchildren and one great grandchild.

Mrs. Lewis-Butler was a classroom teacher for 30 years in the Leon County School District. Twenty-seven of those years were at Belle Vue Middle School, where she served as head of the Science Department and Team Leader. Additionally, she has taught Science at Florida A & M University and in the Leon County Community Education Program. In 1990, she was named the *Teacher of the Year* for Belle Vue Middle School.

In 1996, Mrs. Lewis-Butler retired from the classroom, but continued her work for Leon County Schools (LCS) when she was elected to the Leon County School Board as the representative for School Board District 3. She was the first African-American female to serve as School Board Chair, a position she has held three times. She is a board member of the Florida School Boards Association, Inc. She works directly with several schools as well; she has served as a member of the Partnership Committee at Rickards High School, and is a member of the School Advisory Council for both Bond Elementary and Fort Braden Schools. She also serves on the Coalition of Excellence Board and has served as School Board Liaison to the LCS District Advisory Council.

In addition to her professional activities, Mrs. Lewis-Butler is busy in the community in such organizations as Jack and Jill of America Inc., Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority (Past Advisor for FSU undergraduates), Delta Kappa, NAACP, FAMU Alumni Association, Urban League Association, and many more. Mrs. Lewis-Butler served as 4th Vice President of the NAACP under Mr. Allen Stucks and 3rd and 4th Vice President under Mrs. Anita Davis. She has co-chaired the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. March in 1999 and chaired the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. March in 2001 and 2002. Mrs. Lewis-Butler is a member of the Riley House Museum Board and she served on the Executive Board of the Suwannee River Area Council of Boy Scouts of America. She is a member of the Tallahassee League of Women Voters and the Democratic Women's Club. Mrs. Lewis-Butler received certified training from the City of Tallahassee and Community Neighborhood Leadership Workshop, 2005. She serves as Chair on the board of Kids Incorporated of the Big Bend. Mrs. Lewis-Butler is also a faithful and dedicated member of Little St. John M.B. Church where she teaches Sunday school and is Chair of the Women's Ministry. Her home church is Bethel Missionary Baptist Church.

Mrs. Lewis-Butler was presented with the Gold Star Award from National Hook-up of Black Women, Inc. in 2000. The Humanitarian Award from Kappa Alpha Psi was presented to Mrs. Lewis-Butler in 2001. She was awarded the NAACP George W. Conoly Community Service Award in 2002. She has published an article in *Creating Change Challenging Traditions: Florida Commission of the Status of Women* entitled "Profiles of Women in Office." Mrs. Lewis-Butler is featured in the Tallahassee Community College 2004 calendar that highlights African American achievers who have made significant contributions to Leon and surrounding counties. Mrs. Lewis-Butler was honored by Tallahassee Community College at their 2003 Women's History Month Celebration, "Pioneering the Future in our Community," and by Bethel Missionary Baptist Church with their "Women of Excellence Award." Mrs. Lewis-Butler received recognitions from the Florida Public Service Commission for Participation in Energy Awareness Month for 2004, 2005, and 2006, and from WIN for Women Supporting Education 2005. Mrs. Lewis-Butler received the Tallahassee Democrat Volunteer Finalist Award in 2007 and was a "Roastee" for Miracle Hill Convalescent Home fundraiser in 2008. In the current year of 2009 Mrs. Lewis-Butler has been recognized as a "LifeLine Leader" by the Florida Public Service Commission, an Honoree of the Florida Department of Children & Families for Women of Excellence during Black History Month Celebrations and also is on the "25 Women You Need to Know" list from the Tallahassee Democrat. In 2009, Mrs. Lewis-Butler was a Women's History Month honoree by the Democratic Club of North Florida. In 2010, Mrs. Lewis-Butler was inducted into the FAMU College of Education Gallery of Distinction and in 2011 she was recognized as an Honoree at the Riley Museum Gala.

Mrs. Lewis-Butler enjoys reading, public speaking, traveling, meeting people and helping others.

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