



PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

April 23, 2020

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**Gold Medal Olympian and Wife Endorses
Shelia Edwards for District 4 Commissioner**

Mableton, GA – Marietta resident, War Hero, and Gold Medal Olympian Dr. Melvin Pender and his wife, Rev. Debbie Pender, announced today that they are endorsing Shelia Edwards for District 4 Commissioner.

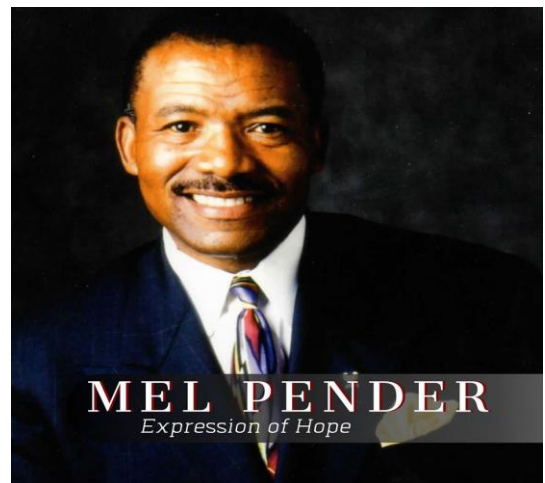


Melvin and Debbie's Statement

"We are supporting Shelia Edwards because she is the most qualified in the race to lead South Cobb. Shelia is extremely intelligent and is intensely knowledgeable of county government. She uses her skillsets for the betterment of our community, which was on full display when she led a grassroots group of citizens to stop an illegal household waste transfer station that was operating next to their homes and the Chattahoochee River. Shelia's work to halt this community nuisance allowed new growth, economic development, and additional housing to be created on nearby Riverview Road in its place. This grassroots legacy characterizes Shelia's

work and validates her genuine commitment to improving our quality of life. It also highlights her ability to work effectively and efficiently with others for the betterment of South Cobb. Shelia's strong leadership skills, her knowledge and understanding of government, her ability to make government work for us, and her unyielding desire to be of service to those in our community will be her best attributes as the next Commissioner for District 4."

About the Pender's. Melvin and Debbie Pender reside in Marietta and are recognized and respected as community leaders in Cobb County. Both are motivational speakers who spend an enormous amount of time traveling the world to share their personal stories and real-life experiences of adversity, challenges, and triumph. Debbie's distinguished career



includes serving as an international pastor in London, caring for orphans, and developing clean drinking water in Africa. Melvin has received national and international honors and awards for a lifetime of achievements including being a Gold Medal Olympian and a decorated Vietnam War Veteran. To capture his life's work, Melvin and Debbie co-authored his autobiography, *"Expressions of Hope: The Mel Pender Story."*

<https://melpender.com/>

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