



THE CANTON NEWS

Good News You Can Use • September 2, 2021 • Vol. 7, No. 9 • Canton, Mississippi

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Canton News
P.O. Box 1163, Canton, MS 39046

Dear says thanks and farewell to Canton

By Courtney Warren

Jana Dear is known and loved by many for all she has done in her role as Canton Tourism Director. Recently, Dear submitted her resignation as director to begin a new chapter and new adventure.

Canton Tourism is funded by the restaurants and hotels in Canton; but much more falls under the tourism umbrella, including the flea market, Christmas light festival, hot air balloon festival, Canton Beautification, Ladies Night Out, Young Filmmakers Workshop, and Upstairs Downtown. With Dear at the helm for many years, Canton Tourism has flourished.

As usual, when asked about her experiences as the tourism director, Dear pointed all of the fingers at her staff.

“My staff is amazing! Most of them have been with me for over ten years, and they really are the magic behind our doors! They know how to greet a visitor and make them feel like they are at



Photo by Courtney Warren

home, and I believe that is the main reason we have repeat visitors each year. They feel welcome here, because they are greeted and remembered by our staff,” she

said.

Forever supporting not just the restaurants and hotels, but local businesses as well, Dear said there is much to love about these small-

owned treasures.

“Canton has more locally-owned restaurants than any small town I know of, and that speaks volumes to a visitor who wants to experience the ‘local’ cuisine. Getting to know the hearts and souls of our restaurants and grill owners has been one of my greatest blessings here in Canton. Any time we have a group of visitors, whether it be two or fifty, these hotels and restaurants will bend over backwards for them,” she said.

Dear works closely with not only the Canton Board of Aldermen, but all Canton city employees. From Canton Municipal Utilities (CMU) to the Canton Fire Department, all city employees have gotten their hands dirty to make Canton Tourism better.

“The city really is blessed with some of the best of the best. Any event we put on requires help from the police department, fire department, and public works, and they all just know what it takes to make it work. We have had a great

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Canton Public School District returns to in-person learning

By Courtney Warren

After many months of virtual learning, CPSD returned to in-person learning.

Superintendent Gary Hannah shares important updates after the district’s first week of in-person instruction.

“We’ve had a few hiccups this week, some that are to be expected with the start of a new school year, and some are new to us as we experience in-person learning under the cloud of COVID,” said Hannah.

Dr. Sharon Brown was recently named COVID Coordinator for the district.

After the first week of school,

CPSD had 14 students who had tested positive for the virus and five teachers who tested positive. Forty students were quarantined.

“We are working diligently to keep our students safe. Parents, we beg you - if your student is showing symptoms or has been around someone that has tested positive, please keep them quarantined until you can have them tested,” said Hannah.


He stressed to parents that the district is cleaning and disinfecting all areas of the schools, as well as mandating mask usage.

“We need your help in ensuring symptomatic students are not in the

cont. on page 5



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Bridgeman proud to be Mr. Tougaloo College

By Inesha Jackson

Timmy Bridgeman, a Canton native, is set to serve as the 21st Mister Tougaloo College for the 2021-2022 academic school year. The rising senior English major at Tougaloo College is not only a presidential scholar with a 3.8 GPA, but also a student leader in various organizations on campus. He currently is the vice president of the Beta Rho chapter of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Incorporated, is a Jackson Heart Study scholar, and is a Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellow.

“Being Mister Tougaloo College is an honor and a privilege. I am grateful that the student body believed in me and what I stood for. I believe that the position allows one to create real change through inspiring, educating, and serving others,” Bridgeman said.

With a campaign mirroring a professional politician, Bridgeman utilized advertisements and endorsements from his peers to promote his campaign slogan,

“Bridging the G.A.P.” The idea behind the slogan was spurred from his last name and means going above and beyond, advancing the institution, and putting students first.

“I seek to engage others around me in change. I seek to advance our institution by advocating for innovative progress. Without students, I would not be Mister Tougaloo, which was a position created to serve the student body; therefore, the students’ needs are prioritized,” Bridgeman said.

Due to COVID-19, candidates had to find new and creative ways to campaign. For Bridgeman, that meant creating a virtual environment where his peers could connect with one another and enjoy campaigning events, like a virtual poetry slam.

“During the times where in-person interaction was allowed, I cherished seeing my peers smiling, laughing, and most importantly I enjoyed listening to their concerns and suggestions. I will always keep those memories close to my heart,” Bridgeman said.

Bridgeman’s dedication to positive change and supporting his peers has inspired him to run for Mr. Tougaloo College. He credits his upbringing in Canton for

instilling certain core values in him, such as respecting and honoring history, in particularly, the history of Canton.

“With an understanding of the importance of history in our lives, I attended Tougaloo, where ‘History Meets the Future.’ I wanted to continue to bring positivity and progress to my college, community, family, and friends to ensure that the future that history meets is as bright as possible. Also, I believe that connection is one of the most important aspects of our lives. Being connected to the student body, I was inspired to continue to help, advocate for, and empower others through the position,” Bridgeman said.

He plans to leave his mark on Tougaloo’s campus by connecting with and educating his peers. As a leader, he aims to know students personally and for them to know him. In doing this, Bridgeman plans to host many open discussions around social and political change to engage his peers in current events. Bridgeman stated, “When my time at the Eagle Queen comes to an end, I want others to think ‘Timmy was a great Mister Tougaloo.’”

“My entire life has prepared me for this role; however, there are outstanding experiences.

Having amazing teachers such as Mrs. Terwinda Banks, Mrs. Aleatrice Liddell, and many more teachers in Canton taught me the value of education and brought a light to my passion for leadership and education. As the former president and current vice president of the Beta Rho chapter of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc., I took that light and honed my leadership skills and service skills. Now, I feel empowered to share that light with all around me,” Bridgeman said.

During his leisure time, Bridgeman enjoys reading, writing poetry, and videography. He seeks to inspire, empower, and uplift members of his community as he pursues a Ph.D. in English and a career as a college professor. He lives by the quote by Maya Angelou, “I’ve learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel.”

“I want younger kids in our community to know what I wish I knew at that time. You are incredible. You are amazing. You are loved and capable of doing anything you put your mind to. As a nerdy kid from Garfield street, you can remain yourself while doing it,” Bridgeman said.



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Senate Youth Program opens applications

Special to The Canton News

U.S. Senators Roger Wicker (R-Miss.) and Cindy Hyde-Smith (R-Miss.) are encouraging high school juniors and seniors in Mississippi to apply to represent the state at the 60th annual United States Senate Youth Program (USSYP) Washington Week.

Two students selected for the 2022 USSYP Washington Week will each receive an all-expense-paid trip to Washington, D.C., and a \$10,000 undergraduate college scholarship. This year's program will be March 5-12, 2022.

"The U.S. Senate Youth Program brings some of America's most promising young leaders together to explore future careers in public service and engage with representatives from each of our branches of government," Wicker said. "I highly encourage all eligible Mississippi students to apply for this once-in-a-lifetime experience."

"The United States Senate Youth Program offers opportunities for a couple of Mississippi's brightest, community-minded students to interact with national leaders and their peers from around the country. I hope many students in Mississippi will apply for the 2022 program," Hyde-Smith said.

In addition to outstanding leadership



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abilities and a strong commitment to volunteer work, USSYP delegates generally rank high academically in their states among high school juniors and seniors.

The USSYP brings the highest-level officials from each branch of government to meet with high school juniors or seniors representing all fifty states, the District of Columbia, and the Department of Defense Education Activity. The weeklong education and leadership program includes meetings with Senators, the President, cabinet secretaries, a justice of the Supreme Court, senior members of the national media, and other key policymakers. The Hearst Foundation fully funds

and administers the USSYP without the use of any government funding.

Interested students and educators can visit www.usenateyouth.org for more information.

The deadline to apply for the USSYP program in Mississippi is October 1, 2021.

Applicants may also contact their high school principal or Mississippi's state-level selection administrator: Mrs. Sandra Hilliard, Education Specialist, Sr., Mississippi Department of Education, at shilliard@mdek12.org.

Mississippi's 2021 USSYP delegates were Jacob Pearson of Corinth and Weston "Archer" Taylor of Petal.



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Volume 7, Issue 9
Circulation 14,000

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The Canton News is published on the first Thursday of each month in Canton, Mississippi.

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Sign up for a library card during September

Special to The Canton News

September is Library Card Sign-up Month, a time when MCLS joins the American Library Association (ALA) and libraries nationwide to remind parents, caregivers, and students, that signing up for a library card is the first step on the path to academic achievement and lifelong learning.

There is nothing more empowering than signing up for your own library card. Through access to technology, media resources, and educational programs, a library card gives students the tools to succeed in the classroom and provides people of all ages opportunities to pursue their dreams and passions. Believing that patrons are the reason the library exists, MCLS provides quality services in a fair and accommodating manner and the library staff is friendly, polite, and ready to serve anyone who comes through the door.

MCLS offers everything from early literacy programs with on-line fun time to virtual homework help with Tutor.com. On the website, you'll find a wide variety of educational resources and activ-

ities, including, Universal Class, Rocket Language, EBSCO Learning Express, Libby, Hoopla, and more. MCLS branches offer public access to computers, the Internet,



Photo by Courtney Warren

WiFi, scanning, and fax services. Through the eLibrary services, one can download free eBooks, Audio-books, and online magazines.

"Libraries not only play an important role in the education and development of children but are also essential for a neighborhood's vitality," said Tonja Johnson, MCLS Director. "We have library programs that serve students of all ages and backgrounds. Our doors are open to everyone and everyone comes."

Madison County Library System, along with library systems everywhere, continues to adapt and expand services to meet the evolving needs of our community. To sign up for a library card, please visit mclsms.org

This year, Marley Dias, founder of #1000BlackGirlBooks, author, and executive producer is taking on a new role as honorary chair of Library Card Sign-Up Month. In her new role, Dias will promote the value of libraries and encourage everyone to get their very own library card. Since 1987, Library Card Sign-up Month has been held each September to mark the beginning of the school year. During the month, the ALA and libraries work together in a national effort to ensure every child signs up for their own library card.

CPSD ready for new year



Special to The Canton News

The Canton Public School District not only welcomed faculty and staff, but also the grounds and maintenance crews back to campuses. While their jobs don't take a pause in the summer, the crew was ready to brave the elements to ensure the entire district is running smoothly.

CHS students get vaccinated



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While picking up class schedules and meeting teachers, thirty Canton High School (CHS) sophomores and juniors also got vaccinated to protect themselves from the coronavirus. G.A. Carmichael Family Health Center provided the services to help keep students safe.

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CAVS-E great addition to industry with a bright future

By Guest Columnist Joy Foy

Wonderful things go on every day in our local industries and businesses that we locals never hear about.



Special to The Canton News

Back in 1990, I was working for Electro National Corporation (ENC). We got a call that the temperatures were so hot in Saudi Arabia that the glue ENC was using on the bomb release units was malfunctioning. Our drafting department, which included August Taylor, a local Canton guy, immediately made the needed switch to another composite and had the American weapons back in business that same day. I also remember announcing to the Lions Club that the Director of the CAVS Center was going to be the program for the upcoming week. John Taylor, a long-time Lion Club member, was shocked when it wasn't someone dealing with agriculture and baby calves. Mississippi State University saw a need when Nissan came to Madison County with the learning curve this new automotive industry would present. The Center for Advanced Vehicle

lar Systems Extension (CAVS-E) was created right across Interstate 55 from Nissan. CAVS-E was initially led by Dean Norman to address challenges Nissan and their suppliers would face with production, design and training. According to the CAVS-E website, "MSU's Bagley College of Engineering faculty uses data gathering equipment and analysis software to solve chronic, live, on-the-job problems." The expertise of CAVS-E has grown the problem solving organization to branch out and now also support marine, aerospace and new start-up businesses across the entire state. In June, Glenn Dennis, the prior Director, retired after eighteen years at CAVS-E. Clay Walden, the Executive Director of CAVS, (the unit on the MSU Campus in Starkville) turned over the Director role of the CAVS Extension Center to Tonya McCall. Tonya is the first lady to head the CAVS-E in Canton, and she is a native Mississippi girl. She was working for Nissan before CAVS-E hired her in 2015. As part of their site master planning project work, she explained that CAVS-E has the capability to scan buildings and use the scanned data to analyze renovations, additions, manufacturing process improvements and production line redesign options - all from a desk instead of at the site.

Equipment like the Faro 3D Laser Scanner can help our companies to make improvements without the wasted time and cost of traditional trial and error ways of performing changes. One project Tonya is especially proud of is her work with Matthew Summers, owner of SPEED Box, LLC. This is a Ridgeland company; and Matt, a former special forces soldier himself, designed and built a modular container system to make transporting military equipment easier. These snap together containers are lightweight and virtually indestructible. The Army Special Forces, Navy EOD, and Air Force Pararescue Jumpers were his original market. Later, Matt saw an opportunity to redesign and resize his product for the civilian market. Tonya and a team from CAVS-E worked with Matt's team. The partnership was able to be very successful, with a redesigned product resulting in a 227% increase in sales and \$375,000 in cost savings. Tonya said, "These last six and half years have been so energizing. Every customer brings a new set of talented people and a new set of opportunities. It feels like a new job with each project." Local industry sure supports Canton's slogan, "Rich History and Bright Future." For more years than I have been in Madison County, industry has provided jobs for locals and goods and

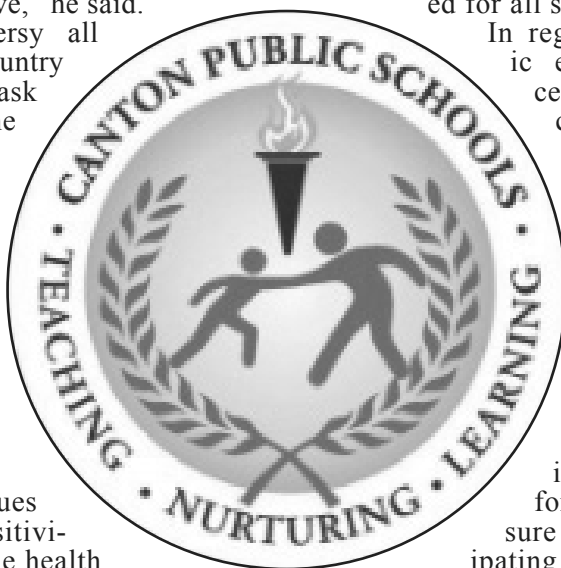
services worldwide to both government and civilian customers. CAVS-E is a great addition to local industry, as well as industry anywhere in the state, in that the engineers strive to meet the needs of manufacturing by providing technical expertise and advanced engineering tools that otherwise would not be available. Mississippi Economic Development Council awarded CAVS-E the Community Economic Development Award for its work in bringing advanced manufacturing jobs back to America. Matthew Summers said it best, "CAVS-E were subject matter experts who helped a new company without a lot of in-house technical expertise make smart decisions, which saved money in tooling, labor and materials." Now that is exciting news; and, with Tonya and her team, the future just gets brighter.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Joy Foy is married to James Foy and is a retired Economic Developer with the Mississippi Economic Development Authority. Foy is an active participant in the community of Canton. She is a member of the Canton Lions Club, the Keep Canton Beautiful Committee and the Canton Beautification Committee.

cont. from front page

Canton

classrooms," said Hannah. "Your children are our number one priority, and their health and comfort is of the utmost importance to us. Our doors and phone lines are always open. Our strength is in unity; and, with that unity, our district will continue to thrive," he said. With controversy all over the country regarding mask mandates in the public school system, many districts have been victim to verbal abuse from parents and even protests and assaults after board meetings. However, CPSD continues to focus on positivity, unity, and the health and safety of their students. All students returned to the CPSD wearing masks. According to the schools' Plan for Safe Return, "Our district has also employed a Lead Nurse, who will be available daily to assist in health screening, evaluating symptoms,



and helping schools implement safety measures. Staff and students will undergo temperature checks daily at each site. All students and staff of the Canton Public School District are required to always wear masks, and masks will be provided for all students." In regards to athletic events, a concern due to large crowds, the district wrote, "The Canton Public School District's Athletic Department will provide temperature scanning stations and sanitizing products for usage to ensure that all participating athletes wear masks during the designated times. During indoor activities, masks will be mandatory. After all indoor athletic contest/practice sessions, sanitizing will occur by using a Backpack Electrostatic Sprayer once the areas have been vacated."

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cont. from front page

Dear

team here for years, and I honestly could not have done my job if it wasn't for them.

"I couldn't have done my job with CMU. Every department out there helps me in any way I need it. They move our stage for us at the balloon fest, they set up all the lights and haul all the decorations in for Christmas, and so much more."

Full of unique experiences and life changing moments as the tourism director, Dear smiled as she remembered a few fond moments.

"For years, I thought in my head we did the Christmas festival to attract visitors to town to shop and eat and give children an experience. One year, I was walking the square checking on things, and an elderly couple was walking hand-in-hand in front of me. I stopped and asked them where they were from, and they told me, and I asked if they had children or grandchildren with them on our rides. They both smiled and said, 'no we come every year to walk around this town at Christmas, because it reminds us of our courting days!' I just cried, because I knew then my job touched more than children and merchants - it touched all ages of life," she said.

While sweet moments are ones we cherish, many of the laugh lines on Dear's face are due to the shenanigans at Canton Tourism.

"I had just started working at Canton Tourism, and there was a little fire truck we used to have that went around the square at Christmas time. They asked me to drive it in the city Christmas parade. Well, it was an older lawn mower converted to a fire truck, and I had several aldermen and the fire chief in the back of it. I had come to a stop in the parade; and, when I let off the clutch, it almost flipped - and I looked back and saw the legs of aldermen flying and the fire chief jump out of it! I just knew then I was fired," she said through laughter at the memory.

There are hidden jewels all over Mississippi; and, because of her position, Dear has been able to uncover the jewels in Canton.

"Canton is such a small town and community, you can't just be tourism director and not be involved. It has allowed me to meet people in all walks of life and get to know them and their hearts in ways I never would have. It will be the one thing I miss the most! Canton's heart for its people is huge," she said.

Before her departure, several Cantonians wanted to ensure Dear knew the impact she had on both the people and the community.

"It has been a joy to work with Jana at Canton Tourism. Her leadership, her drive, her hard work, and her creativity has made my job fun! She will be missed by all of us at Canton Tourism. May

good times and bad. Jana will be missed tremendously at Canton Tourism, but I am so happy for her new venture in life. She will be an asset wherever she is."

"I could say so much on how



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God bless her as she begins a new adventure at her new job," said Charlotte Wilson.

Ann Stringer said, "Jana and I have worked together for 12 years at Tourism. She has always tried to do what she thought would be the best to showcase Canton! Her creative mind, her organizational skills, and mostly, her friendship will be missed!"

"Jana and I have been friends for many years before we started working together at Canton Tourism. I am not only blessed to have been able to call her my boss, but also one of my very best friends. It has been a great pleasure spending the last year working with Jana in planning and delivering all the outstanding Canton activities," said Stacy Hodges.

Anne Mansell said, "I call her my 'Bossy' but in all honesty there is nothing bossy about Jana. She is my boss at the Canton Welcome Center, but mostly she is my dear, precious friend. We have laughed and cried together as she has been by my side through

Jana helped me, but I'm going to keep it short and sweet. When I moved to Canton after going through a divorce, I was living with my relatives. Jana helped me get my own place to stay. Now I'm living on my own since she gave me a job. I'm going to miss her so much! I will miss my little sister/Boss Lady every day. I feel very blessed for my family at Canton Tourism and Jana is the reason I have them all in my life," said Lorenzo Williams

"Jana Dear has been a dear and devoted friend, co-worker and outstanding leader. She is a pillar in the Canton community, and she works tirelessly for the improvements of our city. Her work and emphasis on shared leadership has plateaued the city to new heights. She deserves lots of credit for her work with the flea market and the Christmas festival. We owe her a huge thanks for her time, patience, diligence, persistence, and vision in working with the city. Jana is an astonishing person" said Clyde

Brown.

Joy Foy said, "I have known Jana for years and have the most respect for her as I watch her deal fairly with everyone. I also admire the salt Jana has in her to stand up for what is right and to stand her ground. I doubt there is another tourism director in our whole state that has a committee to manage litter and beautification matters, but when Jana sees a need, she finds a people to help her manage the issue. I am delighted that she contact me and Kathy Hammack about being her Beautification Committee chairs. We have both enjoyed getting to work with Jana and being involved in making Canton look better. My best wishes to you Jana."

Ruby Coleman at the Canton Welcome Center was sure to add in her thoughts about Dear.

"When you can call your boss by her first name says a lot! Whether you are on the scene, behind the scene, or on scene, Jana is Jana. She is one of the most laid back bosses I've ever encountered. However, she expected you to do your job, and do it well! She always made me feel appreciated. It didn't matter if my job was cleaning or in charge of the office, she treated me with the most high respect. Those who know her, know that she is a very hard worker an takes pride in what she does! Tourism has been her "Baby" ever since it was placed under her watch when Joann Gordon retired. She has nourished and perfected everything it represents. None of which was done with dread, but with enthusiasm and great joy! She never claimed that she knew it all, but she always had a vision for where we were going so, she put the right people in places to get it accomplished. She made our small family like unit, Canton Welcome Center & Tourism, a big part in Canton's success. Jana, I admire how you handle your business and how you are working and praying to ensure that everything stays intact and in capable hands for a smooth transition.

"Jana with blurred vision from my tears, we will miss you dearly. I pray that Canton realizes what a 'jewel' they had in you as our Tourism Director, because we that worked for you have always known. We saw every day that you were the best. I love you Jana."

Dear's last day as director will be September 9; and, while she will still be back to visit, she leaves incredibly large shoes to fill at the tourism office.



FALL CANTON FLEA MARKET

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CCC ready to make a difference



Special to The Canton News

By Courtney Warren

With the tagline, “Make a difference in a child, in a family, and in this city,” the Canton Connect Center recently opened doors in preparation for serving the community.

The Connect Center is aiming to serve the people of Canton through the English as a Second Language (ESL) classes and tutoring services that it will provide.

“Through this, we hope to develop lasting relationships with the people of Canton and to make a difference in the lives of children, families, and the city,” said Anthony Britt, the missions pastor at First Baptist Church Madison.

Britt is currently the director of the Connect Center. Most of the volunteers are retired school teachers.

“As a church, we realized that we were serving in various parts of the world, but we wanted to be sure that we serve locally, too. Through the pandemic, we saw that ESL classes and tutoring services would be very helpful for the community of Canton. After prayer and discussion, we became excited for how God will use the ministry of the Connect Center,” said Britt.

In the midst of COVID-19, the center is adhering to CDC guidelines and following closely with how the schools are handling the pandemic. The actions of schools will have a great influence on how the Connect Center functions regarding COVID-19.

For more information, visit www.cantonconnectcenter.org.

Dr. Dobbs ZOOMs with Lions

By Joy Foy

The Canton Lions have assigned each member a week to be responsible for a program in the new fiscal year, which began in August. Rolanda Anderson, a new member, started things off with a ZOOM presentation by Dr. Thomas Dobbs. The club enjoyed visiting with Dr. Dobbs through ZOOM. Getting members participating in the program is President Moses Thompson’s first effort of recruiting members to come back to the meetings.

“Being in the funeral home business, I am very aware of the dangers of public meetings, but Dr. Dobbs reminded us that getting vaccinated is our best

line of defense against COVID. I want our members to get back involved in doing our civic duty to the community and keeping abreast of new things happening in Canton, and that starts with attending weekly meetings,” Moses said.



Canton Lions meet every Wednesday, at noon, at the Canton Country Club for public interest programs and fellowship. Meeting in the ballroom, there is ample space for social distancing. Members, and those interested in becoming a member, are encouraged to join the group each week. Those interested can also keep up with the Lions by following Canton Lions Club on Facebook.

Madison Auxiliary chalks it up



Special to The Canton News

By Courtney Warren

Beginning a new school year can be a bit nerve-wracking; but, add in a pandemic, masks, and extra hand sanitizer, and it can be downright overwhelming! The Madison County Junior Auxiliary (MCJA) wanted to bring some smiles to the faces behind the masks as students return to school. The Chalk It Up School Project is part of the many community projects that MCJA creates where the group “spreads cheer to both students and teachers as they return to classrooms. We will visit

any school in Madison County who invite us out, and this is just one way to give back to our community,” said Delila Vance of the MCJA PR Committee.

Junior Auxiliary of Madison County, then Junior Auxiliary of Madison-Ridgeland, was chartered by a group of caring, enthusiastic women in 1986 and continues to grow and thrive throughout Madison County. Volunteers work tirelessly throughout the year on a variety of projects that focus on local children and families in need of assistance.



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Canton Sports Shorts

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Most Valuable Defensive Player: *Samuel Wadford, junior, OLB*
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JAMBOREE GAME

AUGUST 20
TRICOUNTY ACADEMY VS. INDIANOLA ACADEMY

47 7

Most Valuable Offensive Player: *EJ Luckett, junior, RB*
Most Valuable Defensive Player: *Samuel Wadford, junior, OLB*
Most Valuable Play: *Samuel Wadford, junior, big sack to help seal win*

AUGUST 27
CANTON ACADEMY VS. WINSTON ACADEMY

24 36

AUGUST 27
TRICOUNTY ACADEMY VS. MADISON ST. JOSEPH

44 0

Most Valuable Offensive Player: *Rouse Boyce, senior, QB*
Most Valuable Defensive Player: *Tanner Lee, senior, OL/DL*
Most Valuable Play: *Thomas Murphy, junior, RB/LB sacked QB early in game*

AUGUST 27
CANTON HIGH VS. VELMA JACKSON

0 7

Editors Note: The Canton News will begin covering local sports contests. Coaches from each team will award their players Most Valuable Player awards as well as the Game Changer Play.



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Lady Rebels victorious win

CA brightens up uniforms



Special to The Canton News

With a score of 13 to 4, the Tri County Academy (TCA) Lady Rebels defeated the Clinton Christian Lady Warriors. TCA takes the regular season series 2-0. Madye Bath, sophomore, slid into home and collected three hits for the varsity team. Bath doubled on the first pitch of the at bat and later went on to have a successful game.



Photo by Courtney Warren

Co-Advisor for Student Council Garrett Smith hands off the coveted lanyards to senior Madi Cochran.

By Canton Academy Yearbook Staff

Canton Academy Student Council officers greeted both old and new students on the first day of school with schedules and locker assignments. Seniors were excited to show off their backpacks, themed after what they might have carried in elementary school. New lanyards were approved as part of a student council fundraiser.

cil fundraiser.

With Student Council Advisor Kathleen Penn at the helm, students and teachers alike were sporting the new accessory. Adding a little color to the typical black and gold uniforms was an exciting change.

“We’re excited to begin the year and add in some new traditions for the students,” said Student Body President Carter Martin.

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Vertex donates school supplies



Special to The Canton News

Goodloe Elementary School is incredibly grateful to Vertex Aerospace for its generous donation of school supplies for scholars. Vertex's Diversity & Inclusion Team collected supplies to support and help future leaders become successful. Vertex marketing representative Kimber Riley says they wanted to give back to their community especially during these troubling times as people deal with the pandemic. The Canton Public School District is thankful to their community partner.

It's a CA parking lot party



Photo by Courtney Warren

Senior Barnes Wadford painted his spot in a graffiti style with his football number and name.

By Canton Academy Yearbook Staff

With a new year comes new traditions, and this year's Canton Academy (CA) seniors are ensuring they make their mark. After years of wishing, hoping, and dreaming, the class of 2022 was approved to paint their parking spots. By paying a fee, students raised funds for the CA Student Council. Supporting a local

business, all seniors purchased their paint from Barnett Phillips Lumber. The process began with choosing a design that expressed that senior's personality, drawing it with chalk on the space, and then mixing the paint with sand so the asphalt did not become slippery. The parking lot at CA is now decorated with smiley faces, ducks, splatter paint, rainbows, and even a loaded tea.



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DAVIS RETURNS TO ALMA MATER



all photos Special to The Canton News

Special to the Canton News

Mississippi State University (MSU) standout, and Canton High School (CHS) alumnus, Javian Davis came back to his old stomping grounds to give back to his community. Davis said he held a basketball camp at Canton High School to help students in his hometown take their skills to the next lev-

el. He brought the following MSU teammates and friends to help him: Garrison Brooks, Gerdarius Troutman, Emmanuel Ejeh, Lewis Watts, Andre-al Fleming, and LaDarius Johnson. Students say they loved the skills training and one-on-one instruction from such an inspirational CHS alumnus.

Lady Tigers vs. Chargers



all photos Special to The Canton News

The Canton High School (CHS) Lady Tigers volleyball team recently played Callaway High School Chargers. They won the game and are excited to be back on the court with proper COVID safety restrictions in place.

PASS, HIT, SWING, TACKLE, SHOOT!

CHS VS. MCHS JAMBOREE



all photos Special to The Canton News



Special to The Canton News

REBEL AINSWORTH THROWS PERFECT GAME

Special to The Canton News

The Tri County Academy Lady Rebels took on the Jackson Prep Patriots, the Magnolia Heights Academy Chiefs, and Simpson Academy Cougars in a tournament recently. The Rebels went 2-1, beating both Jackson Prep and Simpson, with the score 4-0 against the Patriots and 7-2 over the Cougars.

Senior pitcher Anna Leigh Ainsworth threw a perfect game against Jackson Prep. It's a rare feat in baseball or softball to pitch a "perfect game." That happens when no opponent reaches base — not by a hit or a fielding error or a walk. Ainsworth also induced a groundout to end the game.

The team fell short against Mag Heights with a score of 3-1.

The Lady Rebels continued their season with another tournament at Bayou Academy on August 22.

Panther softball season begins



Special to The Canton News

By Courtney Warren

The Canton Academy Lady Panthers softball team defeated Sylva Bay Academy 15-14 in extra innings at home. The Panthers battled from behind in the last three innings to pull out the win.

Trinity Craig, an eighth-grad-

er, hit her first career home run and was met at the plate by her cheering teammates.

"I was so excited and proud. It was great to see my teammates cheering for me as I ran home," said Craig.

The JV team was also victorious, 5-1.

CA Panthers solve the case



Special to The Canton News

Seniors Jordan Price and Taylor Pratt examine the fake blood at the scene

By Courtney Warren

Note: this crime scene and all items involved are FAKE, including the blood.

Mr. Garrett Smith's senior forensics class came across a crime scene at Canton Academy. By working together, viewing the scene, and gath-

ering evidence, students were able to successfully solve the case. These seniors learned why observation skills are important in forensic investigations, as well as how the brain processes information, and the dangers of jumping to conclusions during an investigation.

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Ivermectin cures heartworms in cows, not COVID-19 in humans

Special to The Canton News

Mississippians looking for a COVID-19 cure or preventative are potentially putting their lives in danger by taking the drug Ivermectin, sold at livestock supply stores as a treatment for heartworms and parasites in cows and horses.

“There’s no evidence that Ivermectin can either prevent or treat COVID-19, and the risk of attempting to use this is much greater than any potential benefits,” said Dr. David Vearrier, a toxicologist and professor of emergency medicine at the University of Mississippi Medical Center.

Ivermectin is not approved by the FDA for COVID-19 treatment or prevention. The COVID-19 vaccine and monoclonal antibody treatment, however, have been approved by the FDA through an emergency use authorization.

Both the vaccine and monoclonal antibodies are expected to have full FDA approval in coming weeks.

Misinformation on social media is driving people to purchase Ivermectin from their local feed stores or livestock supply businesses. “When these things become viral, a lot of people will jump on them,” said Vearrier, who works with the Mississippi Poison Control Center, which operates under UMMC’s umbrella.

“Folks are believing that it’s some-

how possible that this medication will either reduce transmission, or reduce the degree of symptoms of COVID-19, none of which is correct,” he said.

One of the biggest dangers of human Ivermectin ingestion is how easily a person can overdose, said Vearrier and Jenna Davis, a family nurse practitioner and the Poison Control Center’s managing director.

“People are buying a livestock medication intended for an animal five to 10 times their weight,” Davis said. “Generally it’s safe for animals, but depending on the dose you take, it could potentially lead to side effects that could cause death.”

Side effects can include neurological events such as dizziness, seizures and confusion; sudden drop in blood pressure; elevated heartbeat or cardiovascular issues; liver injuries such as hepatitis; and severe skin rash, “all of which can land you in the hospital,” Vearrier said.

That’s in addition to nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, stomach pain, facial or limb swelling, and abnormalities that include a decrease in white cell count.

The Mississippi State Department of Health confirms at least one person has been hospitalized for Ivermectin toxicity and Friday issued a health advisory warning against ingestion of the drug as a COVID-19 treatment or preventative.

“People don’t understand that with all prescriptions, the dose matters,” Vearrier said. “People are buying formulations of Ivermectin that you’d use for a 1,200-pound cow or horse, compared to a 120-pound human. That’s a big difference.”

Ivermectin is commonly sold as paste in a tube, although it’s also marketed in topical cream, liquid that can be ingested or injected, and pill form. “You can feed the paste to the 1,200-pound animal, but because it’s a paste, it’s difficult for a human to measure a dose,” Vearrier said. “People who are squirting this tube in their mouth or putting the paste into orange juice are using super concentrations that can result in toxicity.”

The Poison Control Center has taken a number of calls recently from people wanting to know if the misinformation about Ivermectin is true, and whether it’s safe for humans, or how best to use it for their animals. “We appreciate that,” Davis said.

Other callers have been individuals who Googled the drug and then gave it to a family member, adults who took Ivermectin themselves and suffered side effects, and accidental ingestions by children, Davis said.

People report ingesting Ivermectin by drawing up the liquid into a syringe and squirting it into their mouth, Davis said. Others “are going online to try to find out how to take it, and they are inaccurately dosing it.

We’ve referred to at least one person to the hospital for doing that.”

And although they were hospitalized for severe cases of COVID-19, some UMMC patients have reported they took Ivermectin, Davis said.

Ivermectin does have a legitimate, FDA-approved use in humans when it’s prescribed for treatment of scabies, a contagious, intensely itchy skin condition caused by mites that burrow into the upper layer of skin and lay eggs.

“When it’s used as prescribed for scabies, it’s a relatively safe treatment,” Vearrier said “It’s only available by prescription, so if you are using it to treat COVID, the difference in dosing between a tablet for human use and the livestock formulation is where you’re going to get in trouble.”

The MSDH advisory urges those who have become ill from taking Ivermectin to call the Poison Control Center at 1-800-222-1222.

Vearrier and Davis advise people not to request an Ivermectin prescription from their provider.

“Most physicians, including physicians who are knowledgeable about COVID, know not to prescribe this medication for COVID,” Vearrier said. “Any physician who is doing so is not following the currently known science. They are increasing the risk to their patient and to the population in general who might believe it to be safe.”

Lord of the Flies shelter challenge



Photo by Courtney Warren

The Canton Academy 8th grade students have begun reading *Lord of the Flies* by William Golding. As part of the tradition, students were put into group and raced to complete a shelter. They had to use one item from their backpacks and work together to create a space that could withstand the force of a leaf blower. The winning team included Jack Cliburn, Mac Stacey, Rhett Hale, and JD Kelly. Students will complete the book in the coming weeks and then begin playing *Survivor* where they are placed into tribes to see who can “outwin, outplay, and outlast.”

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Letter to the Editor: Growth rather than the Penn

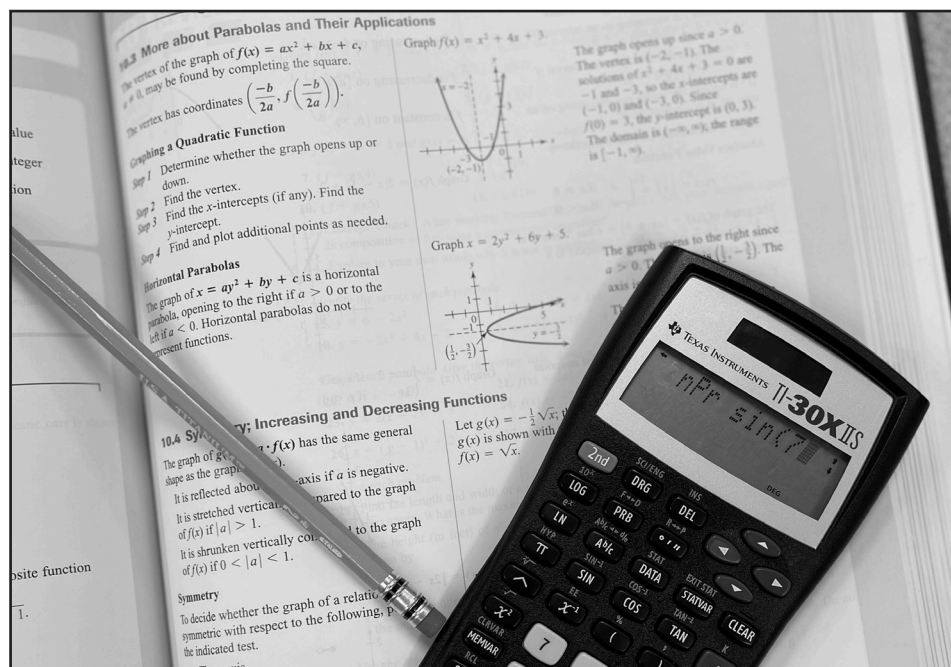
By Courtney Warren

It was dark inside the wolf. I heard this line not long again as an author taught about different writing perspectives and loved it so much I immediately wrote it down. It's from the perspective of Little Red Riding Hood. Wow! That changes things doesn't it? The story doesn't seem quite as sweet as we might remember (between you and me, it was never sweet. Check out the Brothers Grimm version). Either way, the perspective was what drew me to the line.

Perspective is just a fickle thing. I think many are familiar with the famous *To Kill a Mockingbird* Atticus Finch line "walk around in another person's skin," and we all like to say we do it. But how often do we follow up with "I get where they're coming from, but..." And there it is: "but."

How often do we change our opinion after hearing that perspective? And more importantly, how often are we genuinely open to listening to another person's perspective? Especially when we don't agree or are different from that person? Culturally? Politically? Religiously? We label someone something, and then that's absolutely all we see.

How often have you been labeled something you aren't? And then be-



Special to The Canton News

cause of that label, you're not heard or seen. Isn't it infuriating? If only that person would just change their perspective and see that I'm not so. If only they would listen and know I'm speaking from my heart. If only they considered how I felt when they said those things. If only, if only, if only. If only they had a different perspective.

I have a dear friend whom I'm bless-


ed to see every day. She is my opposite in almost every single way. While we're both teachers, our teaching perspective couldn't be more different. Where I'm glitter, she's steel; and where she's calming waters, I'm ocean waves. However, something that I've noticed she does brilliantly is provide perspective. She explains an idea or issue while giving

all points of view. She points out my perspective, then gives her own and explains why she sees this issue differently. I can't tell you how many times I've changed my mind simply based on the delivery of her perspective.

Wouldn't it be incredible to have the ability to make that same kind of delivery? So that other people saw things in a completely different way than they've always seen? To provide a perspective as powerful as "it was dark inside the wolf" comes from a very loving place. Never has this friend made me feel stupid, too young, or unqualified when explaining her thoughts. I'm heard, recognized, and provided with new information. And she always ends with "you see?"

All she wants is for me to see it another way. Now, sometimes I don't want to, and she knows it, so she'll stroke my hair and tell me it's okay but we're going to get over it together, because this is the way it must be. And, almost always, she's right.

I hope that one day, when I grow up, I can be the kind of person that gives that perspective. The kind my friend provided. The kind that leaves you changed for the better, inspired, and rushing to grab a pen, because "it was dark inside the wolf."




CANTON ACADEMY

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MCBL&F gives grant to ensure supplies for students



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Pictured from left to right: Madison County Business League & Foundation Executive Director Jan Collins, Dr. Pollia Griffin, Dr. Mary Johnson and Billie Anthony



Special to The Canton News

Madison County Preschool Staff and Students

Special to the Canton News

The Madison County Business League & Foundation (MCBL&F) and the Madison County Community Trust presented a grant to the North Madison County Excel By 5 Coalition to purchase backpacks for all the 0-5 years of age students in preschool classes and daycares. Excel By 5 is an innovative initia-

tive designed to encourage and assist communities to become actively involved in preparing children for kindergarten and first grade. The MCBL&F serves as Co-Lead Agencies for the North Madison County Excel By 5 initiative. For more information go to www.excelby5.com or call Bob Clay at (601)-918-9152.



Curfew issued by Mayor Truly

City Of Canton

CURFEW

Effective tonight, all citizens of Canton, MS under the age of 18 must be off the streets by 8 P.M.

Enforced by City of Canton Chief of Police

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By Courtney Warren

In an effort to curb violent crimes, a curfew is in effect in Canton for the next two weeks for all residents under the age of 18 years old. The curfew mandates that children must be off the streets by 8:00 p.m. unless they are accompanied by their parents.

“We have had a large amount of gun violence amongst our young people recently in Canton. We put the curfew in place because we want to deter our young people from being on the streets with no purpose. We are looking for those loitering and out driving around without a destination. We have never done this before but

want to try it for a couple of weeks in the hopes that we can keep our young people safe,” said Truly.

“This does not include those who are attending school social events or church social events. There is security at these events, and they are at functions where we hope they will remain safe,” he added.

“It’s better to have a child with a gun off the streets and we are going to do everything we can to ensure we get this gun violence under control and stopped by protecting the young people of Canton,” said Truly.

The Canton Police Department will enforce this curfew.

JV Panthers bring home big win



Special to The Canton News

Special to the Canton News

The Canton Academy JV football team is starting their season off strong. After traveling to Benton Academy for their first home game, the Panthers were victorious with the scoreboard reading 24-0. Despite an

hour-long weather delay, the Panther offense remained efficient, aggressive, and scored two more touchdowns in the second half to extend the lead. Freshman John Thomas rushed for a big gain in one of the many successful run plays of the offense.



Canton Fire Department visits students

By Courtney Warren

Normally, when firefighters aren't keeping the community safe, they are visiting elementary students to educate children about firemen and fire safety. However, the freshman class at Canton Academy (CA) got a special treat when the Canton Fire Department stopped by the school.

The freshmen are currently reading *Fahrenheit 451* by Ray Bradbury, a 1953 dystopian novel. Often regarded as one of his best works, the novel presents a future American society where books are outlawed, and "firemen" burn any that are found as an act of censorship.

Fire Chief Kenna Pierce, Asst. Chief Timothy Dixon, Captain Redmond, and their team of firemen studied up on the novel to talk to the students about fire science.

Students learned about the four phases of a fire, which include incipient phase, roll-over phase, steady-burning phase, flash-smol-phase, back-draft, and Chief Pierce excitedly about the experience. Firefighters explained that house fires are not like what is seen on television. The men also discussed their pride in their job, and Lieutenant Joshua Millsap said, "You know, in the book you all are reading, these firemen aren't heroes. They have taken the job and turned it into something that doesn't help people but hurts people. We are very proud of what we do, and I would be incredibly disappointed if I saw this actually happen."



The men showed students how to control the water hose, the basics of rescuing someone when they can't see in a house fire, and how the trucks operate. While Guy Montag, the fire chief in the novel, felt "it was a pleasure to burn," the Panthers say they are very glad to have the CFD protecting the city from flames and much more.

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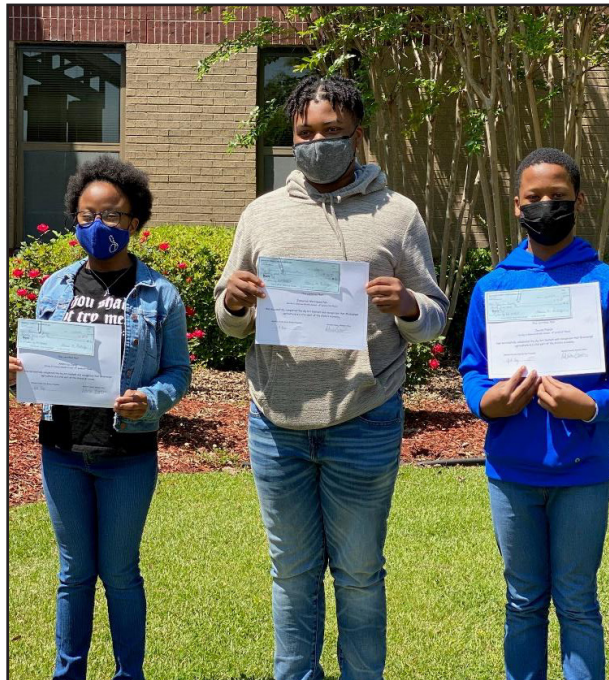


CONGRATULATIONS FROM MADISON COUNTY FARM BUREAU!



Special to The Canton News

Madison County Farm Bureau's William G. McMullen, Jr. and Laverne Wilder Scholarship Winner was Alissa Burgess. She received \$500.00 toward her education.



Special to The Canton News

The Farm Bureau Art Contest Winners from left to right: Ahmirica Jones 2nd place, \$25 8th grade, Shirley D. Simmons Middle School, Jamarion Merriweather, 3rd place, \$20, Shirley D. Simmons Middle School, Javion Fields, 1st place, \$35 Ag Art Contest, Shirley D. Simmons Middle School.



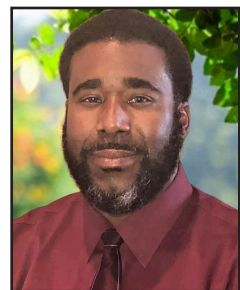
Special to The Canton News

The Mississippi Farm Bureau Federation recently hosted its 50th annual Youth Safety Camp at Camp Tanglewood in Newton County. More than 35 students in 7th-12th grades attended the four-day camp. Safety Camp is a weeklong event held each year for the students of Mississippi to learn about safety in many forms. David Miller Mosby and Ashlyn Thompson from Madison County participated.

Doyle named principal of Huey L. Porter Middle

By Inesha Jackson

Now that school has begun, Huey L. Porter Middle School's newly appointed principal, Henry Doyle Jr., Ed.S., is elated about this school year and his new role as principal.



Henry Doyle Jr., Ed.S

"Things are going well at Huey L. Porter Middle School! We have established a culture of high expectations, and we have developed routines and procedures as well. Our theme for this year is 'Success Under Construction.' Right now, we are laying the foundation for success by creating an atmosphere of teaching and learning. Everything we do has student success at the nucleus. If we cannot see how something positively affects students' outcomes, we do not do it," Doyle said.

According to Doyle, the vision at

Huey L. Porter Middle School is to construct a safe, energetic, and successful school that embraces a high expectation of teaching and learning. Also, to construct a school that empowers students to be productive, responsible, creative, and one that builds a strong foundation for life-long learning.

"I expect the students and staff to do their absolute best in everything they do in academics, athletics, and everything else. I express often that if everyone does their best, I cannot ask for anything more," Doyle said.

Doyle takes after his late high school principal, Huey L. Porter, with a quote that he'd often tell his students, "Do me proud!" Doyle has found himself consistently encouraging his students with the same quote.

"I have used it so much that now the students have begun telling me that they are going to 'do me proud' before I get the chance to say it! It has become our mantra and I count it an honor to be able to carry that part of Mr. Porter's legacy into Huey L.

Porter Middle School," Doyle said.

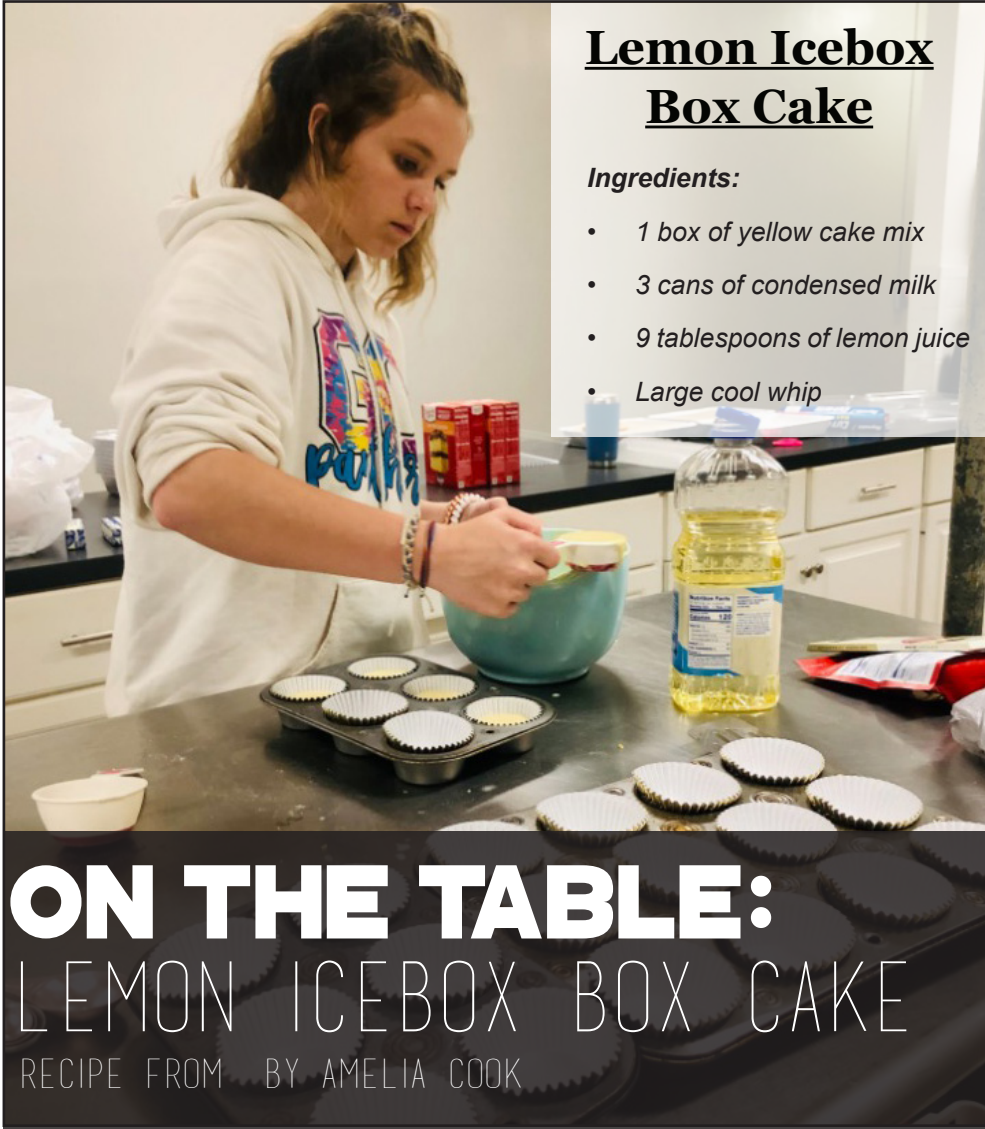
Doyle explained that the transition from teacher to principal has been a huge adjustment for him. A role as such comes greater responsibility. "I quickly learned that I cannot do it all by myself. Having a carefully chosen leadership team and an experienced office staff is making the transition much easier. Each person on the team carries out their roles and responsibilities that feed into our overall vision for the school," Doyle said.

"Teachers, students, and staff can learn that a good leader supports the people he leads. I do not ask teachers, students, or staff to do anything I am not willing to help them do. I am in the trenches with them. I am visual and available," Doyle said. He found a passion for teaching and working with children while serving as a substitute and assistant teacher in the Canton Public School District (CPSD). He has also worked as a permanent substitute at the former Sacred Heart Catholic School and unit director for the Boys and Girls

Club of Central Mississippi Walker Unit.

Doyle's goal for the school year is to create a culture and climate that is conducive to learning. He strongly believes there is a correlation between the learning environment and successful schools. "I plan to achieve this goal by modeling expectations, keeping an open line of communication with both the teachers and the community, and last but not least, giving the students a voice, giving them respect, and giving them direction. Many adults do not realize the value of showing students respect and recognizing that what we say and how we treat them, impacts the adults they become. Once a student knows that you care, they will move mountains to make you proud," Doyle said.

To the students of Huey L. Porter Middle School, Principal Henry Doyle Jr., Ed.S said "You are a Tiger, a Huey Porter Tiger, and your success is under construction . . . Your destiny is in your hands. You will overcome obstacles that stand in your way!"



Lemon Icebox Box Cake

Ingredients:

- 1 box of yellow cake mix
- 3 cans of condensed milk
- 9 tablespoons of lemon juice
- Large cool whip

Directions:

- Follow the directions to make a yellow cake box recipe, using two round pans to make the cake, then let cool.
- Split the two round cakes into halves to make 4 layers of cake.
- Combine the condensed milk and the lemon juice to make the filling, and set aside about ½ a cup of this for the topping.
- Layer the remaining filling on one half of a layer, and place the other half on top. Do the same with the other cake layer.
- Put filling on top of one of the halves, and place the other half (two layers) on top to make one cake.
- In a separate bowl, combine the cool whip and the ½ cup of filling that was put aside.
- Cover the entire cake with the cool whip mixture.
- Slice 3 thin slices of a lemon and place on top of the cake.
- Refrigerate immediately, and enjoy.

By Amelia Cook

When I was 7, a picture of a little girl named Liang came in the mail with my monthly sponsored children through Holt International. It explained that little Liang needed cleft palate surgery in order to get adopted in a certain time span. I immediately thought, “maybe I can raise \$75 to at least help towards a small part of the surgery.” My mom posted on Facebook that I was baking cakes to raise a small portion of money. By the end of my summer, I ended up raising \$1,700 which covered her full surgery, part of another child’s heart surgery, barnyard animals for a family, a sewing kit for a single mom, school supplies for 10 children, shoes for ten children, school tuition for a child living in the Mongolian Dump, and much more. In

other separate fundraisers, I paid for an elderly lady’s hip surgery, \$200 to give to my previous school’s library that was being repaired from termite damage, and much more. Through that, my mom remembered she had a Lemon IceBox Box cake recipe from Mrs. Shanny, who was incredibly close to our family, and I also started to use that recipe. Recently, Mrs. Shanny passed away, and I’m incredibly honored to continue her family recipe from one of her amazing, talented, recipes she made. I now have my own charity, Cakes For a Cause, and I’ve received Mississippi’s middle Level State Honoree through The Prudential Spirit of Community Awards. I hope to continue with my charity, and hope to share that even when you’re young, and you may think you can’t change the world, you can still change someone’s life.

ON THE TABLE:
LEMON ICEBOX BOX CAKE
RECIPE FROM BY AMELIA COOK

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Holmes CC Ambassadors bring cheer



Special to The Canton News

Holmes Community College Ridgeland Campus Ambassadors handed out goody bags and a kind word to students, faculty and staff during the second week of school. Local Bulldogs include Anna Goodloe and Bethany Biggers.

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CGMA awards music scholarships

Special to the Canton News

The Canton Gospel Music Association (CGMA) is proud to announce the recipients of the 2021 Music Scholarship Awards. The awards will be presented at the 18th Annual "VIRTUAL" Scholarship Awards and Gospel Music Celebration on Sunday, September 12, 2021 at 5p.m.

"This is the 15th consecutive year that our organization has awarded these worthwhile music scholarships to deserving students," says president and founder, Cynthia Goodloe Palmer. "Each year since 2006, we have awarded these scholarships to students of Madison County and as of today, we



Isaiah Smith

have awarded 165 scholarships. "It is only fitting that we carry on this legacy of excellence in the field of gospel music by awarding these scholarships each year," said Palmer.

Pictured are graduating high school seniors, Isaiah Smith and Javian Doyle, who are the recipients of a \$1000.00 music scholarship each. Javian was a drummer, the section leader in the Canton High School Band and plays the drums at his home church, the Mt. Able M.B. Church. Javian will attend Jackson State University. Isaiah played the trombone, was the first chair and section leader in the Leake Central Varsity Band and is a soloist and the musician at his home church, the Greenwood Chapel United Methodist Church. Isaiah will attend Alcorn State University and will play in the band.

The other music scholarship recipients for 2021 are as follows:

Jeremiah Smith, Madison Smith, Wesley Dinkins, Jr., Morgan Smith, Moryah Smith, LeeAndrea Chandler, Zola Jones, Layla Garrett, Victoria Garrett, Mary Brown, Christine Morales and Rebecca Morales. These students will receive a \$100 scholarship to continue their music



Javian Doyle

lessons at the Love and Unity Music Ministry under the direction of Rev. David Jackson.

Please tune in to the website, www.CantonGospelMusic.com or log onto the Facebook page to view the presentations and to view the entire awards program. For more information, please contact Minister Jearlean Bacon Jones or Ms. Cynthia Goodloe Palmer, CantonGospelMusic@gmail.com or 601-918-7809.

Panthers ensuring safety of athletes

By Courtney Warren

In the midst of the pandemic, there is fear of canceled games and even canceled seasons hanging over their heads, the Canton Academy coaching staff and administration is taking precautions.

Head football coach Gage Posey said, "We are going to do all we can to ensure the health and safety of all of our athletes."

Football players are now using individual water bottles on the field during games and practices to discourage bottle sharing while additional hand sanitizing stations have been set up throughout the campus.

The cheerleading squad is also taking precautions and have adjusted their pep rally cheers and schedules to remain at least 6 feet apart and not include games that involve physical contact.

"We have a COVID policy in place and we are following that closely,"

said Principal Ryan Laster.

With all of that in mind, more and more students are getting vaccinated or doing what they can to remain healthy if they are unable to get the vaccine.

8th-grader Mac Stacey said, "I got vaccinated because my grandmother got very sick and I can't be around her otherwise. I want to make sure I'm keeping my own family safe as well as my teammates at school. It was the best decision for me."

"I've gotten my first vaccine and am scheduled for my second. My mom wanted me to get it because we knew I would be safer if I came into contact with someone that was COVID positive. On the softball team, we're washing hands before and after practices and I keep sanitizer in my backpack," said 8th-grader Tillie Olgesbee.

With a positive attitude and Christian mindset, CA is focused on providing quality education and a safe environment for all students.



Photo by Courtney Warren

Ainsley Belle Burke dances at the recent outdoor pep rally and send off

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Word of Prayer: Where does God fit in your Life.....

By Guest Columnist James Allen

“I am the Lord thy God, which hath brought thee out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage. Thou shalt have no other gods before me” (Exod. 20:2-3).

The Ten Commandments are the cornerstone upon which Western civilization has built its house. When men ignore or defy these ten principles, the house begins to fall. The Ten Commandments are not ten statements from an arbitrary and capricious God; they are a revelation of the religious and moral attitudes and practices that are absolutely necessary if life is to be worthwhile.

The law of gravity is basic to life on the earth. There is no way by which mankind can do away with this law. So it is with the Ten Commandments. They are as necessary for a wholesome society as the law of gravity is to our physical universe.

The Ten Commandments are divided into two sections: The first four have to do with a person’s relationship and duty to God, and the remaining six have to do with a person’s attitude toward and relationship to fellow humans.

Duty to God stands first and lays the needful foundations for the right

discharge of our duties to others. The love of God is the foundation of all love to our fellowmen. Neglect the spiritual duties to God, and you will soon neglect your duties to your neighbors.

I. The first commandment declares the authority of God.

A. People have a tendency to reject the authority of God. People are inclined to substitute the authority of their own personal whims or the authority of tradition or the authority of fleeting fads and fashions for the authority of God.

B. God’s authority is based on three great principles:

1. The principle of creation (Ps. 19). We are his property: he owes us nothing, and we owe him everything. He has the right to rule. Loyalty to anything or anyone that conflicts with your loyalty to God can ever be legitimate.

2. The principle of redemption. In the Old

Son Jesus Christ to redeem people of all ages from their sin.

3. The principle of providence. As the children of Israel journeyed through the wilderness toward the Promised Land, God adequately provided for their needs, even supernaturally supplying manna every morning. Today, the God who feeds the sparrows and clothes the lilies of the field continues to provide for those who both work and put their faith in him (Matt. 6:26-30). Our loyalty to our God should be absolutely unmixed and unshared.

If people lack a constant awareness of the true God, they are in danger of sinking into sub humanity, for, if they do not see life as belonging to the true God, they will live as if they belong to a false god.

EDITOR’S NOTE: Reverend James Allen is the Senior Pastor of Harvest of Hope Christian Center 3091 South Liberty Street, Canton Ms 39046. Pastor Allen lives in Canton with his wife Eyvette Allen.



James Allen

Special to The Canton News

Testament, God redeemed his people from bondage in Israel. In the New Testament, he sent his



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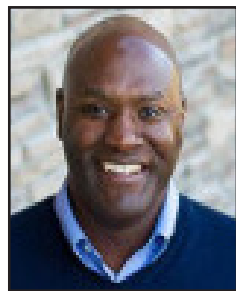
Follow Us!



Youth for Christ strives to build relationships

By Courtney Warren

With the goal of using relational ministry to build relationships with young people everywhere,



Henry Murphy

Youth for Christ (YFC) works with local churches and other like-minded partners to introduce them to Christ and uncover God's story of hope in their lives.

Jenny Ozier, executive director said, "Geared to the times, Anchored to the Rock" is the story of the past seven decades and how the Holy Spirit

motivated and empowered men and women to take the message of Jesus to young people everywhere. With the rapid expansion of the movement, there soon became a need for leadership. Torrey Johnson was the first Youth For Christ's president, and Billy Graham became the first full-time evangelist.

"From holding rallies with Billy Graham in the '40s, to campuses reaching students in the '60s, to now empowering community leaders to build meaningful relationships with young people wherever they

may be," she explained. Jackson, Mississippi, is one of the oldest YFC chapters in the U.S. Most recently Henry Murphy (HAM) was the Executive Director.

"He was, and I quote, a 'Rock Star.' He was able to lead his team to reach a multitude of students in three Jackson Public Schools middle schools through campus life ministry. He unfortunately passed in 2019, but he will always be in our hearts. Then, COVID hit. Ministry has been absent for over two years, so that is why it

is essential we rebuild Youth For Christ," said Ozier. With the main goal to get YFC ministry programs up and running in the community, the team is looking for help.

"Our mission goals take volunteers, which we desperately need, and funding. With COVID on the rise again, ministry may look a little bit different. This time next year, we hope to have our Advisory Board established, grow our Campus Life Ministry and Juvenile Justice Ministry, and have a Ministry Site Director," said Ozier.

For more information or to get involved and bring YFC to your community or organization, contact Jenny Ozier at jozier@yfc.net, or call 601-613-4008. To volunteer, visit jlf.galaxydigital.com.



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