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Wesson News

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Wesson News
 PO Box 1028
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Volume 6, Number 6

"Good News You Can Use"

June 12, 2018

Local volunteers launch cleanup event

Wesson News

More than 200 volunteers from around Copiah County and other parts of the state kicked off Mississippi's Keep America Beautiful (KAB) annual Great American Cleanup by addressing needed repairs and sprucing up the Lake Hazle park area at Hazlehurst.

Keep Copiah County Beautiful (KCCB) hosted its first ever state launching of the national cleanup drive, bringing together not only its members, but volunteers from other area service and civic groups, churches, local schools, the Job Corps Center and Keep Mississippi Beautiful (KMB) affiliates from

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Wesson News



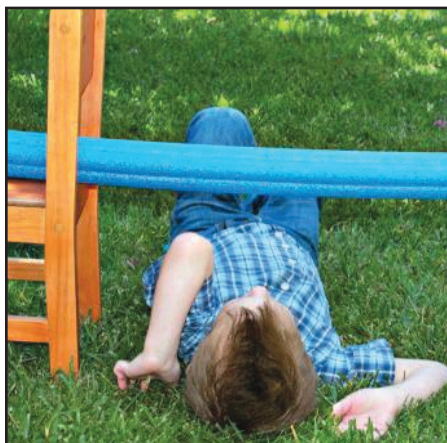
Wesson News

Camping season starts for kids & youth

Special to Wesson News

The summer camping season is underway for children and youth on Co-Lin's Wesson and Natchez campuses and at its Simpson County Center, with opportunities to stretch their minds, improve their physical capacities and have fun at the same time. The camps offer practice in their favorite arts, skills-development in sports and studies in science and computer technology, among an array of other options. The camp timeframes range from a half-day to more than a week with fees from \$10 to \$95.

Late last month and earlier this month, Co-Lin coaches led basketball, softball and baseball camps. A four-day camp for the high school boy hoopsters, which ends tomorrow,



Special to Wesson News

followed a junior high camp June 6-8. From June 4-6, the Wolfpack baseball coaching staff worked with six-year-olds to twelve-year-olds on diamond fundamentals -- mechanics and drills for fielding, throwing and hitting and



Special to Wesson News

basics of pitching and catching.

On the camp calendar in the coming weeks:

June 11-13. **Archery Camp** at Simpson County Center for ten-

year-olds to fifteen-year-olds. The introduction to archery covers safety rules, eye dominance testing, practicing form with a string bow, bow fitting, shooting on a range with a coach or mentor, 11 steps to archery success, targets and scoring and archery competition. Campers should be able to pull back a bow at a minimum of 15 pounds to participate. \$50. Bows and arrows will be provided at no extra charge. 9 a.m.-11:30 a.m. For more information, contact jason.cooley@colin.edu/601-573-9844 or beverly.barnes@colin.edu/601-894-0121.

June 14-15. **Cheer Camp** on Wesson campus for three-year-olds to ten-year-olds led by Co-Lin cheerleaders will cover dance, several cheers and

Cont. on page 13

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Police Blotter

Special to Wesson News

During May, Wesson Police Department activity encompassed:

Responses to:

- One simple assault
- Two vehicle accidents
- Three petit larcenies

Arrests & citations:

- Two expired driver's licenses
- Four without driver's licenses
- Two without insurance
- Ten speeding violations
- One disregard for a traffic device
- One felony possession of a controlled substance
- Three misdemeanor possessions of controlled substances
- Five arrest warrants served

Wesson Police conduct nightly business checks. On school days, the Wesson Police Department facilitates traffic flow at Wesson Attendance Center, with officers on duty between 7 a.m. and 8 a.m. and 3 p.m. and 3:30 p.m.

Taking action to stop Alzheimer's

By Guest Columnist
Dr. Stephanie Duguid

Everyone who has a brain is at risk to develop Alzheimer's -- a disease that is often misunderstood. Alzheimer's is the only cause of death among the top ten in the U.S. that America that does not currently have a way to prevent, cure, or even slow its progression.



Special to Wesson News

During June -- Alzheimer's and Brain Awareness Month -- the goal is to rally involvement and raise awareness about Alzheimer's disease and other dementias. The greater the awareness about of the seriousness of this disease, the more likely action will be taken to stop it.

Alzheimer's is fatal, not normal aging and is more than memory loss. It is the most common type of dementia, caused by damage to nerve cells in the brain that leads to problems with memory, thinking and behavior. Experts agree that, in the vast majority of cases, it probably develops as a result of complex interactions among multiple factors, including age, genetics, environment, lifestyle, and coexisting medication. Some risk factors like age and genes you cannot control, while others such as high blood pressure and lack of exercise, you can control.

As of 2018, Alzheimer's is the sixth

leading cause of death in the United States and is responsible for one in three deaths of persons age 65 and older. Every 65 seconds, someone in the United States develops the disease, with nearly 44 million people worldwide currently diagnosed. Yet only one in four persons with Alzheimer's is diagnosed. So many are living with the disease and do not know it. This disease kills more than breast and prostate cancers combined. Between 2000 and 2015, deaths from heart disease decreased 11 percent, while deaths from Alzheimer's disease increased 123 percent. More than 5.7 million Americans are living with Alzheimer's. By 2050, this number is projected to rise to more than 14 million.

So what can you do to help reduce your chances of developing Alzheimer's? First, you can focus on the six pillars of a brain-healthy, Alzheimer's prevention lifestyle:

- Regular Exercise
- Healthy diet
- Mental stimulation
- Quality Sleep
- Stress management
- An active social life

As you age, it is also important to recognize the warning signs. Early detection can improve access to medical and support services. It also provides an opportunity to make any legal, financial, and care plans while you can. And finally, it may

reduce health care costs by delaying placement in a facility. According to the Alzheimer's Association, there are ten key warning signs of Alzheimer's disease:

- Memory loss that disrupts daily life
- Challenges in planning or solving problems
- Difficulty completing familiar tasks
- Confusion with time or place
- Trouble understanding visual images and spatial relationships
- New problems with words in speaking or writing
- Misplacing things and losing the ability to retrace steps
- Decreased or poor judgment
- Withdrawal from work or social activities
- Changes in mood and personality

Now is the time to get involved, learn more, help build awareness about Alzheimer's and to be an advocate for those affected. Contact the Alzheimer's Association for more information at alz.org or at 800-272-3900.

Stephanie Duguid is Assistant Dean of Academic Instruction and the Health, Physical Education, and Recreation Division Chair at Co-Lin. She is also an athletic trainer and nutrition specialist and has been teaching courses related to those two areas as well as practicing what she preaches for more than twenty years.

Cont. from page 1

Local volunteers launch cleanup event

throughout the state to join the event at Lake Hazle. Members of Socks for Heroes and the Garden Club from Wesson were on hand.

Opening ceremonies in the morning rallied the volunteers with speakers and a countdown before they spread out through Lake Hazle's environs to do their assigned work. Hazlehurst Mayor Shirley Sandifer convened the event, with Rev. John Matthews of Hazlehurst First Baptist Church offering the invocation. Renee Berry of Hazlehurst sang The National Anthem. Speakers included State Representative Greg Holloway, Michael Flood from the Mississippi Department of Transportation, and Sarah Kountouris, Executive Director of KMB. KCCB Co-Directors Nora Berch and Kim Palmer led the countdown and made sure volunteers knew their tasks. Bill Russell and a cooking team from the Natural Resources Conservation Services prepared lunch under the shade trees around the Lake Hazle pavilion to culminate the half-day

work project.

The work at Lake Hazle focused on the southern pavilion and park, the western entrance, including picnic areas; the walking trail; the northern pavilion and central stage area. With the help of auger-

equipped tractors that dug into the dry ground, volunteers placed hundreds of plants. Teams of workers spread new grey gravel on the walking trail. Several groups picked up trash and debris.

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Firearms dealer opens Wesson business

Wesson News

If Michael Keller has anything to do with it, Wesson is about to become a venue for law enforcement authorities, hunters, shooters, gun collectors and others who use firearms.

He and his father, Lonnie Keller, have just opened Wesson Arms Company in downtown Wesson in the small cottage-like business venue in front of the Milltown Mall.

"We're unique in that we emphasize services, while selling a full-range of firearms, accessories and related products, and plan to manufacture our own firearms, as well," says Keller.

In the small retail location on Highway 51, Keller has also created a unique environment in which customers can relax, be comfortable, discuss and learn about products they're interested in buying. There are stools on which they can sit while drinking coffee or soft drinks. A television monitor and video equipment are available for product demonstrations and training.

Although its space is small, Wesson Arms is selling all types and brands of firearms -- pistols, rifles, shotguns, concealed-carry weapons; ammunition and accessories, as well as a selection of knives and non-lethal professional and consumer stun guns and pepper spray devices. The



Special to Wesson News

Michael Keller opens new business.

local dealer is also getting a Special Occupation Tax (SOT) account to sell and transfer full-auto weapons, short barrel rifles and shotguns and suppressors covered by the National Firearms Act to law enforcement customers.

Customization is a key service. Wesson Arms customers can start with a particular firearms platform from a specific manufacturer, but

vary the barrel, action, furniture and accessories according to preference.

"We're not a cookie-cutter service that sells products as-is from its inventory," says Keller. "Whether it is a \$1 or \$1,000 product, we will give customers what they want at a competitive price."

At the store, customers can utilize a computerized special order platform to purchase products not in stock. They can view all available models, specify modifications, and pick up an order at Wesson Arms in three to five days. Keller will also process transfers of firearms purchased through mail order outlets and acquired elsewhere for \$15.

Before firearms purchasers leave his store, Keller makes sure they know their product, teaching them how to disassemble weapons, clean and reassemble them.

"We don't want them struggling to understand a manual or make sense of what is on a computer screen," he explains.

Ongoing customer service is also an integral part of Keller's business -- cleaning and repairing firearms as needed and installing accessories.

Keller and his wife settled in Wesson five years ago because they wanted to be near family in southern Mississippi

and Louisiana. Over the past few years, he has worked in property management, but wanted to focus his work on something he was passionate about.

"I became interested in repairing and customizing firearms about fifteen years ago," he relates. "For several years, I worked for a manufacturer of large, long-range military rifles."

Keller and his father chose Wesson as the site of their new business because they like the town and want to help it grow and prosper, "bringing people here from throughout the state," he says. Initially, Keller is targeting customers in Copiah and Lincoln counties, but believes his unique business will attract people from outside the area.

Down the road, the Wesson Arms business plan calls for producing a line of firearms, including a product that carries the name of the Town of Wesson. Keller says he wants to build high quality rifles similar to, but more affordable than, products manufactured and sold by Heckler & Koch, the well-known and respected German firm. Keller also envisions an indoor shooting range associated with Wesson Arms.

"We're taking the baby steps now," he says. "You have to walk before you run."

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Brookhaven travelers talk about Cuba

Special to Wesson News

Majestic scenery and buildings that were beautiful even in decay were memories of Cuba that Dr. Bettie Bullard and Beverly Britt of Brookhaven shared with members of Co-Lin's Institute for Learning in Retirement (ILR) in a workshop last month. Bullard and Britt toured the island after travel restrictions were eased.

The Brookhaven pair took a direct three-hour flight from Atlanta and joined a People to People group to tour the western half of the country, including Havana, Las Terrazas, where they found the best coffee in the world; Vinales, the Bay of Pigs, Cienfuegos, Trinidad and Santa Clara.

First stop was Finca La Vigia, the Cuban home of Ernest Hemingway, who purchased the property ten miles east of Havana in 1940 -- the same year the United States installed Batista as president of Cuba. The estate has a tower from which you can see all of Havana and the property's tennis court, pool and guest house. It was restored under an agreement by the U.S. to purchase materials and Cuba to furnish workers. Bullard's and Britt's tour included the nearby fishing village, the main bars Hemingway frequented and the hotel room where he wrote *For Whom the Bell Tolls*.

Other tour highlights were:

- Capitol, built in 1920, which was designed after the U.S. Congressional Building. Now headquarters of the Academy of Sciences and National Library, the building features the third tallest indoor sculpture in the world -- an Indian maiden.
- The Ballet Theater, which features four towers, each topped with a white



Beverly Britt (left) and Bettie Bullard (right) discuss their Cuba trip with ILR Program Coordinator Marilyn Brown.

marble angel reaching for heaven. Maria Callas and other great artists from around the world performed there before the Revolution which brought Castro to power.

- The village of Jaminitas, where artist Jose Furster transformed his home and 40 others into works of mosaic art.

Bullard and Britt stayed in private homes (casa particulares) and hung out with the locals. Their breakfasts were veritable feasts of eggs, bread, cucumbers, tomato, mango, banana, pineapple and many other fruits and juices. All foods are organic because pesticides are unavailable.

Every day was jam-packed with Cuban music, food and dancing

the salsa. There was plenty of art to admire throughout the island -- statues of poets and a School of the Arts that has produced artists with international stature.

Britt was impressed that she could wander the streets unafraid because crime is practically non-existent.

Bullard said that many of her preconceived ideas about Cuba turned out to be wrong, including a misconception about the high literacy rate in Cuba. As an educator, she knew that Cuban elementary schools now have a 97 per cent literacy rate compared to 67 percent when Castro took over, but she didn't know that a peer mentor program generated the improvement. She learned that

Castro asked for 14-and-15-year-old volunteers to tutor younger children. Some 105,000 13-to-16-year-olds volunteered, lived with families in the country, worked in their fields during the day and tutored at night. The symbol of the volunteer program was a lantern.

Bullard also wondered why members of the tour group were told to keep a diary about their trip: "We had to list every place we visited, everywhere we ate or spent the night. At the end of the tour I wanted to know where to turn in my diary. People were laughing at me: 'It was for USA! It must be kept for seven years.'"

Britt and Bullard credited their tour guides with making their Cuban experience a good one -- Rolando and Alexis. Rolando told them about economic life in Cuba. Workers earn an average salary of about \$30 per week. Although housing and a job are provided, many people work at two or three jobs to make ends meet. Private enterprise was again allowed on the island in 2000. Rolando completed college at 15. He is a teacher, a guide and also cares for someone's property. Both Rolando and Alexis were proud to show the group the newly restored capitol and ballet theater, which was being rehabilitated.

Britt and Bullard said Americans can still enjoy the same travel experiences they had in Cuba. Although the Trump administration changed travel to Cuba when it cancelled the Obama administration's deal with Cuba, the Cuban Embassy remains open in the U.S., and Americans can arrange to travel under 12 guidelines, including participation in the People to People program.

Mill Town Mall

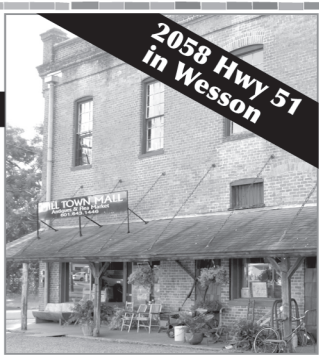
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WHS recognizes honor-worthy seniors

Special to Wesson News

Wesson High School (WHS) recognized senior Amber Brinson and Rod Martin as STAR Student and teacher for the 2017-18 school year at ceremonies last month also honoring members of its graduating class for overall academic achievement, specific classroom performance, participation in extracurricular activities and athletics and service.

The Mississippi Economic Council and its M.B. Swayze Foundation sponsors the Student-Teacher Achievement Recognition to encourage achievement among the state's high school students by honoring scholastic excellence and effort and recognizing the contribution of teachers.

At the ceremonies, Brinson was also recognized for achieving the highest grade point average among WHS seniors.

Faculty and staff at WHS also voted

to induct Brinson, Reid Crow and C.J. Sills into the school's Hall of Fame. Faculty and staff selected Megan Jones and Ashton Letchworth for Senior Citizenship Awards; Jasmine King and Crow for Senior Service Awards; and Brinson and Collin Britt for Senior Cobra Character Awards. King also received the Class President Award.

Class performance awards were presented for outstanding achievement to Britt, Julia Fant and Letchworth in U.S. Government; King, Sills, and Perry Farmer in Economics; Anna Beth Roberts in Humanities and Law Related Education; Kellie Wolfe in Accounting; Farmer in Web Design; Roberts in English IV; Britt, Brooke Jones and King in English Comp II; Britt, Fant and Sills in College Algebra; King in Algebra 3; Jasmine Glasper, Meagan Jones and Samaiyah McCullough in Resource Management; Roberts, Laina Thames and Caitlyn Silvan in Family Dynamics; Nikki Guess, Isabella Case and Rayanna

Granger in Environmental Science; Brianna Coley, Glasper and Rayanna Granger in Genetics; and Brinson and Sills in Physics.

Receiving plaques for highest class averages were Misty Tanksley (U.S. Government), Brinson (Economics, English Comp II and College Algebra), Brianna Coley (Web Design), Crow (Choral Music), Brooke Jones (English Comp I), Letchworth (Algebra 3 and Physics), Roberts (Resource Management), Meagan Jones (Family Dynamics), Kimberly San (Environmental Science and Genetics).

Other awards and their recipients were:

Teacher Academy Two-Year Program Completer Awards (given cords for graduation) and **Medallion Awards** for scoring above 80 percent on the MSCPAS2 state exam: King, Carrie McSweyn and Konnie Terrebonne.

Yearbook Awards (given pins for

graduation stoles): Seniors Madison Berch, Anna Moore and Roberts and yearbook co-editors (also awarded plaque for their service) King and McSweyn.

Student Council Awards: Seniors King and Sills and Student Body Co-Presidents Crow and Brinson.

Perfect Attendance Awards: Britt, Letchworth, Sills and Dell Thigpen.

DAR Good Citizenship Award: Britt.

Lindy Callahan Scholar Athlete Award: Sills and Brinson.

Academic Team Member Award: Tristian Jaudon.

Tennis State Championship Medals: Brinson (second in state girls doubles) and Crow (second in state boys singles).

John Philip Sousa Band Award: Dontrel Brown.

Bryan Runyan was recognized as a dual graduate of Wesson Attendance Center and Co-Lin's Welding Program.

Sports success & All-state picks

Special to Wesson News

Softball success awarded. Six Co-Lin softball players earned Mississippi Association of Community and Junior Colleges (MACJC) AllState recognition after helping the 2018 Lady Wolves finish 26-19 overall and 17-13 in MACJC play. Sophomores Bailey Root, Alex Anthony and freshman Mackenzie Gros earned MACJC First Team All-State recognition, while sophomore Taylor Bryant and freshmen Paige Hulin, Tori Pettit earned a Second Team All-State nod. Root, a Silsbee, Texas native, recorded 10 wins as a pitcher in 25 appearances, including 17 starts and hit .287 with 18 RBIs and four home runs on offense. At shortstop, Anthony had a .905 fielding percentage and batted .311 with 14 RBIs and eight doubles. Gros, a pitcher from Labadieville, Louisiana, posted a 2.59 ERA in 23 appearances and 14 starts, racking up 36 strikeouts. Bryant, from Mize, Mississippi, led

the team with eight home runs, batted .315 and had a team-high 29 RBIs. Hulin, a centerfielder from Mandeville, Louisiana, batted .311 with 27 RBIs and stole 22 bases. Pettit, from Florence, Mississippi, batted .319 and drove in 15 runs.

Co-Lin's softball success also helped it recruit eleven additions for its next season: Wesson's Amber Brinson, an athletic player with a good bat, who can see action nearly anywhere on the field; April Lynn, another versatile player from Warren Central with a good glove, solid arm and a lot of bat-head speed.

Also recruited were St. Thomas Aquinas High School's Fallon Plaisance, a utility style player who can see action in all parts of the field and provide a strong bat in the lineup; Copiah Academy's Hannah Walls, who will likely assume an infield role;

and Katelyn Hayman, a Clinton High School graduate, who is very athletic, with good speed.

Rounding out the signees were Kaytlyn Ward from Grant (Louisiana) High School, a pitcher who led her team to the state tournament and racked up 592 strikeouts; Marley Poole from Loyd Star High School, a catcher with a strong arm, who handles the bat well and can step into several other positions; and Ky'Albri Washington with raw power on offense and Delaine McMillan with quick hands and a strong arm on defense, from Northeast Jones.

Tennis court prowess. Three MACJC State Titles landed the 2018 Co-Lin tennis team in NJCAA DI National Championship in Plano, Texas, where the Wolves picked up four wins against the strongest teams in the nation. The trip was the men's team first trip to the

national tournament since 2001.

Co-Lin grabbed three key wins at No. 1, No. 2, and No. 3 singles early in the tournament to bolster the team to their final No. 21 ranking. Sebastian Osorio defeated Jorge Sala of Mesa, Arizona, 6-1, 1-6, 6-3 at Number 1. Juan Pablo Pinilla, Co-Lin's Number 2 player, cruised past Zach Frisbie of Collin Community College out of Texas, 6-3, 6-2, and Trip Case dominated Donny Camp of Wallace State (Alabama) 6-0, 6-2 at Number 3 singles.

Golf. Co-Lin's Zachary Smith of Madison fired a 69 in the final round of the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) Division II Men's Golf Championship to finish in 16th place. This year's tournament was played at Glenlakes in Foley, Alabama. Smith was one of over 130 of the nation's best community college golfers competing in the four-day tournament.

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Wesson MSA students win three film awards



Wesson News

MSA Tupelo Film Festival winners were (left to right) Alison Brown, Thomas Hart, Nicolas Pace, Zachary Rast, and Clinton Hart

Wesson News

Three Wesson students at Mississippi School of the Arts won first place in the 2018 Mississippi High School Film Competition, a part of the Tupelo Film Festival.

MSA senior Zachary Rast of Wesson received the \$600 first place award among more the thirty films submitted in the competition for "Theft Amongst the Stables." Watkins College of Art and Design & Film in Nashville, Tennessee, also awarded Rast a \$16,000 scholarship at the event, which MSA students participated in for the first time. Thomas Hart also received the \$100 third place award for "The Library" and Clinton Hart, a finalist runner-up award for a documentary, "Brookhaven Music and Sound," and "Schizophrenia."

This year, the Brookhaven-based school graduated its first class of Media Arts film students. Two other MSA seniors won prizes at Tupelo:

Nicolas Pace, Waveland, received the \$300 second place award for "The Doppelganger."

Alison Brown, Florence, received a finalist runner-up award for his "Fate of a Sister" documentary.

MSA officials said the awards received by the MSA students are "a first-hand example of the quality of programming taking place at Mississippi School of the Arts."

In its Media Arts program, MSA goes beyond the traditional classroom experience and provides students with master-level film and cinema instruction on writing scripts,

setting up scenes, and filming shots on location. Students use industry standard hardware and software, such as Sony professional cameras, Zoom audio recorders and boom microphones, advanced lighting, Apple OSX workstations, as well as Adobe Premiere and After Effects to finalize film productions.

Professional filmmakers from abroad saw the work of the MSA filmmakers at Tupelo.

The Mississippi School of the Arts (MSA) held auditions for its Dance and Media Arts/Filmmaking programs late last month. MSA is a public statewide eleventh and twelfth grade residential high school located in Brookhaven on the historic Whitworth College campus. Annually, MSA enrolls approximately 145 students, who meet and exceed the traditional Mississippi high school curriculum by receiving intensive instruction in dance, literary arts, theatre, visual arts, vocal music as well as media arts/filmmaking. In its 2017 graduating class, 55 Seniors, received \$10.2 million in college scholarship offers and MSA students have the third highest average in the state on the ACT college admissions examination. Students interested in MSA apply during their sophomore year in high school. Prospective students must submit an application, audition and interview. Accepted students attend their Junior and Senior years of high school at MSA.

MSA applications are available online at www.msabrookhaven.org. For more information, call 601-823-1300 or e-mail admissions@msabrookhaven.org.

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Bob Arnold, Editor

Adding summer color to beautify your yard

By Guest Columnist Rebecca Bates

Summer is here, and the weather is really heating up; but don't let that keep you from adding a little bit of extra color to your landscape. Your local nurseries still have a good selection of colorful bedding plants that will thrive in whatever weather this summer throws at them.

Here are a few excellent summer bedding plants for you to enjoy until frost:

Angelonia is still rather new to gardeners. It is heat tolerant and produces a fairly tall, shrubby plant perfect for the middle or back of flower beds. Flower production is nearly continuous and the blooms come in shades of purple, lavender, white, pink and rose.

Blue Daze is a low growing, shrubby bedding plant that loves summer heat and sun. It is insect and disease resistant. The grayish foliage and clear blue flowers add a cool note to the garden.

Wishbone Flower is a versatile and very reliable plant that does well in full sun to part shade. This virtually foolproof annual will provide a tre-

mendous display of blue, purple, lavender, rose, pink or white flowers.

Pentas stay in constant bloom all summer and fall, with flowers in shades of white, pink, rose lavender and red. Pentas are irresistible to butterflies!

Lantana is one of the few plants that combines heat tolerance, ease of care and constant blooming. There are many varieties available including dwarf forms that stay under two feet. My favorite is the Bandana series.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Rebecca Bates is the Mississippi State University Agricultural Extension Agent based at the Lincoln County Court House in Brookhaven.



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New trees respond to environmental call



Special to Wesson News

Brookhaven-Lincoln County Rotarians, among them retiring Co-Lin President Dr. Ronnie Nettles, plant trees on the college campus as part Rotary International's environmental response. Pictured in the front row with shovels are Rotary Assistant District Governor Mark Anderson, Nettles and Brookhaven-Lincoln County Rotary Club president Luke Horton.

Special to Wesson News

Responding to a challenge issued by their international president, members of the Brookhaven-Lincoln County Rotary Club planted trees on the Co-Lin campus last month as part of their group's involvement in working for environmental sustainability.

Rotary International President Ian Riseley, in accepting his election by the worldwide service organization to serve in 2017-18, declared that environmental sustainability must be a concern of the Rotary and called on Rotary Clubs around the world to make a difference by planting a tree for each of their members.

Brookhaven-Lincoln County Rotary Club president Luke Horton led a team, including Rotary Assistant District Governor Mark Anderson, outgoing Co-Lin President and Rotary Club Foundation Director Dr. Ronnie Nettles, incoming Co-Lin President Dr. Jane Hulon and other members of the local organization to the Co-Lin campus, where they planted twenty trees on the marching band practice field to answer Riseley's call, add beauty and one day offer a shady respite for students at the college.

Riseley cited environmental improvement and curbing climate change as essential Rotarian goals within the context of his presidential

theme -- Rotary: Making a Difference -- last year at Rotary's International Assembly in San Diego, California.

Environmental degradation and global climate change are serious threats to everyone, he said.

"They are having a disproportionate impact on those who are most vulnerable, those to whom Rotary has the greatest responsibility," Riseley said. "Yet environmental issues rarely register on the Rotary agenda."

"The time is long past when environmental sustainability can be dismissed as not Rotary's concern. It is, and must be, everyone's concern."

Riseley offered the tree-planting

project as a starting point for Rotary Clubs because trees remove carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases from the air, which slows global warming. A worldwide tree-planting effort by Rotarians would mean about 1.2 million oxygen-generating new trees globally, but Riseley's challenge went further:

"It is my hope that the result of that effort will be far greater than the environmental benefit than those 1.2 million new trees will bring. I believe the greater result will be a Rotary that recognizes our responsibility, not only to the people on our planet, but to the planet itself."



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Rock festival returns in July

By Guest Columnist Shaw Furlow

"After eighteen years, you'd think it would get easier," Don Jacobs, creator of Brookstock, told me. "But it doesn't." Brookstock, Brookhaven's original rock festival, returns to the Brookhaven Building July 14.



Special to Wesson News

"Securing the venue, lining up the acts, lights and sound, making sure food and beverage are there, plus the work that goes into setting up the venue day takes a toll," Jacobs pointed out. But for eighteen years, what started with Jacobs and a handful of musicians has developed into a three-evening event with separate venues for different music genres.

The main event is held annually in the Brookhaven Building (formerly known as the FEMA Building) just around the corner from the Brookhaven-Lincoln Country Airport, adjacent to the sports complex and Lincoln County Civic Center on Industrial Park Road. The doors will open at 5 p.m., with music start-

ing at 7 p.m. The admission cost is \$10. If you want an adult beverage or soft drinks, bring coolers. They are welcome.

Returning this year is crowd favorite Ed Tree, originally from Brookhaven, now a guitarist, pro-



ducer and songwriter from San Gabriel, California, who performs regularly with the Tall Man Group. Growing up in Brookhaven, he played lead guitar in the legendary band, The Laughter of Ruin, with Bryan Batson on guitar and lead vocals and Danny Dickey on bass. This year, the whole group will reassemble and play a set.

The host band is another old Brookhaven favorite, The Brutes, that plays a set yearly. It includes Jacobs and Mississippi blues man, Virgil Brawley, The Brutes never fail to bring the crowd to the front of the stage

Memphis musician, Andy Tannas,

another favorite in this area, will be doing a full band set. Tannas played with Black Oak Arkansas and Krokus several years back.

The toughest on-stage jobs belong to bassist Tyler Bridge and drummer Nick Bridge, who make up the house band that is on stage for the entire show. They are at the venue for most of the day for the load-in, rehearsals, sound check and, of course, the show itself.

As with any other event of this size, Jacobs doesn't do all the work. Volunteers begin putting up publicity posters weeks in advance. Many come to help set up the tables and chairs and cleanup afterwards. Among the regulars is Jimmy Nations, who helps Jacobs do anything that's needed. Nations is also Dr. Love, the character who serves as the unofficial emcee, complete with terrible jokes and a ukulele.

"The stage has gotten easier to manage over the years," according to Virgil Brawley, who used to serve as a drill sergeant/stage manager in the earlier years. "It's like breaking a horse. He don't like that bit the first time, but he learns. That's what's happened here. I had to be tough on some of these guys who wanted to run over their time. But

they learned."

Brookstock weekend begins on Thursday night at Recess 101 with singer/songwriter night. The music begins at 7 p.m., and admission is free. Snack food, soft drinks and beer are for sale. This year, it will feature Tommy McClymont, who currently lives in Germany, but grew up in Scotland. He and Jacobs met when they were in college, and while they are a world apart, still collaborate when writing songs.

Friday is Brookstock Too at the Haven Theater. Two bands of teenage youth will play. Ten bucks gets you in, with proceeds going to BL Teens, the Brookhaven Little Theater program for youth.

This is a big time for music in our corner of the world. Come and enjoy any or all of the shows. Other local venues in the area will have live music that weekend, as well. It's live music y'all! Don't miss out.

That's it for this month. There's a lot going on. Until next time, support the arts!

EDITOR'S NOTE: R. Shaw Furlow is a local composer, musician and arts promoter. He is a consultant to school bands in the region for Brookhaven Music and Sound.

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On the Courts: Junior tennis program has started for children & youth. Adults can schedule tennis lessons, clinics and drills. Call the pro shop.

Tavern & Grill: Live bands on weekends. Buffet lunches 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Sunday & Tuesday-Thursday. Order Friday lunch (11 a.m.-2 p.m.) and Thursday-Saturday dinners (5 p.m.-11 p.m.) from our varied menu. Happy hour at the bar 4 p.m.-6 p.m.

On-going Improvements: On the golf course, we are verticutting, top dressing, plugging & spraying for moles & crickets & to kill weeds in sand traps. On the tennis courts, we are working on wind screens, fencing & gates.

Membership. Pool membership until Labor Day is \$125 per month. Full-year tennis and pool membership is \$75 per month. Full Club membership covering all facilities is \$150 per month plus a golf cart plan. Ask about special membership rates for juniors, seniors and out-of-county residents. Non-members can play on our 18-hole golf course for a daily fee and our food and bar service is available to the public.



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Wesson area Community Calendar

June weather forecast: The Old Farmer's Almanac calls for an average of temperature of 79degrees F (one degree above average) with precipitation of 6 inches (one inch above average). June 12: A few t-storms, warm. June 13-17: Sunny, cool. June 18-30: Scattered t-storms, warm.

JUNE 12

Brookhaven Farmers Market sponsored by Lincoln County Extension Service. Fruits, vegetables, breads, pies and canned goods on sale. Goldbold Transportation Center, downtown Brookhaven. Every Tuesday afternoon in August.

"Libraries Rock" is the theme of programming for children and youth at Brookhaven-Lincoln County public library in downtown Brookhaven throughout June, including a summer reading program on Tuesdays, Lego Club on Wednesdays and movies on Thursdays -- all starting at 10 a.m. Entertainment will also be featured on Tuesdays at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. for both children and adults. All programs are free. Registration is required for the summer reading program.

Diabetes support group. Meets weekly on Tuesdays. Education Annex at King's Daughters Medical Center, Brookhaven. 1:30 p.m. For information, call Natalie Ybarra at 601-835-9489.

Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) and VFW Auxiliary Post 2618 meet. \$5for meal. VFW Hall on Industrial Park Road, Brookhaven. 5:30 p.m.

JUNE 13

WorkKeys Assessment examination for Career Readiness Certificate. Thames Center on Co-Lin campus. Also June 27. 8:45 a.m.-12 noon. Participants must register in advance.

Keep Copiah County Beautiful meets. USDA Service Center (27169 Highway 28, Suite A, Hazlehurst). 9 a.m.

JUNE 14

Flag Day

American Legion John Edwards Post 12 meets. All members, veterans and their spouses are welcome. 4 p.m. Jimmy Furlow Senior Citizens Center. For information, call 601-835-8173.

Widows Support Group meets. The group supports widows, who are walking through the grief process, with programs on pertinent issues related to their situation. Brookhaven. 5 p.m. For further information, contact Becky Vaughn Furlow at bvaughnfurlow@gmail.com or 601-540-4308.

"Night at the Museum" hosted by the Lincoln County Historical and Genealogical Society (227 South Church Street). The members-only program will feature a recorded interview from the 1990s with lawyer/author Robert Jones and Chuck Ivey. Reservations required. Society membership is \$20 per year. 7 p.m.

NAMI 4Rivers family support group. Free, confidential, peer-led group for family members, caregivers and loved ones of individuals living with mental illness. Cannon Hall, First Episcopal Church, downtown Brookhaven. 6:30 p.m.-8 p.m.

JUNE 15

Brookhaven Farmers Market sponsored by Lincoln County Extension Services. Fruits, vegetables, breads, pies and canned goods on sale. Railroad Park next to South Whitworth Avenue, downtown Brookhaven. Every Friday from 7:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

JUNE 16

Auditions for "If These Porches Could Talk," a sequel to the Travis Mills film feature, "Porches and Private Eyes." Bring headshot and resume. Hurst Review Services, 127 S. Railroad Avenue, downtown Brookhaven. 9 a.m.- 9 p.m.

JUNE 18

Blood drive every second and fourth Monday. King's Daughters Medical Center Hospital Annex. 1 p.m.- 6 p.m. Call 800-817-7449 for information.

Beginner clogging classes for persons of all ages beyond five-years-old are held every Monday night. A small fee is charged each month. Brookhaven Recreation Department on Highway 51. Call 601-833-3791.

JUNE 19

Copiah County Master Gardeners meet on third Tuesday each month. Mississippi State University Extension Office at Gallman. Members' meeting, 5 pm. Educational program open to public at 6 pm.

JUNE 25

Juniors Camp, including tennis, swimming, golf fishing for children and youth aged four-years-old to eighteen-years-old, starts and runs through June 29. \$175. The Country Club of Brookhaven. 8:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m.

JUNE 26

American Legion Post #79 meets. American Legion Lodge on Main Street, Wesson. 6:30 p.m. For information, call 601-563-5438.

JUNE 28

Wesson Lions Club meets. Student cafeteria conference room at Co-Lin. 6:30 p.m.

JUNE 30

Tomato Festival sponsored by Crystal Springs Chamber of Commerce. Arts and crafts vendors. Food. Music. Railroad Park, downtown Crystal Springs. All day.

JULY 3

Wesson Board of Aldermen meet. City Hall. 6 p.m.

JULY 4

Independence Day fireworks celebrations at Chautauqua Park, Crystal Springs; and Hazle Lake, Hazlehurst.

JULY 5

Summer reading program starts for elementary school children. Every Thursday morning in the month. Wesson Public Library, downtown Wesson.

CONTINUING

Alcoholics Anonymous meets at convenient times seven days of every week. First United Methodist Church, 215 West Cherokee Street, Brookhaven. Open meetings are Mondays at noon and Tuesdays (Big Book Study), Fridays and Saturdays at 7:30 p.m. Closed meetings are Wednesdays and Fridays (Big Book Study) at noon and Thursdays and Sundays at 7:30 p.m.

Overeaters Anonymous meets every Tuesday. Church of the Redeemer Episcopal, downtown Brookhaven. 6 p.m. Call 601-754-0213 for information.

Brookhaven Regional Arts Guild members work on projects every Thursday of the month from 9 a.m.-12 noon at the Brookhaven-Lincoln County Public Library in the Vernon Room when it is available.

Brookhaven 55 South Flea Market is open on Saturdays and Sundays next to the Lincoln County Civic Center. Ten per cent of the profits each weekend are donated to a local charity. 9 a.m.-4 p.m

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Cont. from page 1

Camping season starts for kids & youth

chants and different jumps. \$35. 9 a.m.- noon. Campers will be divided by grade and ability and perform for their parents at the end of the camp.

Children's Agility Camp at Callender Gym on the Wesson campus for children three-years-old to ten-years-old. Co-Lin cheerleaders will teach campers skills to develop their agility, speed, coordination, balance and self-confidence that gives them an edge in sports performance. \$35. 9 a.m.-noon. To register and for more information, call Micah Allen at 601-757-4110.

June 18-22. **Wolfpack Kids Recreational Camp** on Wesson Campus for six-year-olds to ten-year-olds. Limited to thirty participants. Structured recreational activities directed and supervised by health and physical education professionals, with developmentally appropriate, engaging instruction to foster active participation in an active, positive and exciting environment. Each camp fun leader is first-aid and CPR certified. \$90 includes backpack and water bottle. 8 a.m.-noon. Registration deadline is June 8. For more information or to register, contact Crystal Cronin at 601-643-8637 or crystal.cronin@colin.edu.

June 18 – 21. **Kids College** on the Natchez Co-Lin campus.

Art Attack for first-and second-graders led by Alicia Spiller expands the imagination of campers, while learning the basics of color and experimenting with multiple kinds of paints, media, and unique projects that inspire creativity. \$55.

Cooking It Up in the Kitchen for children in the third to fifth grades led by Susanna Johnson-Sharp helps campers discover their inner chef, while learning about healthy food alternatives and how to make their very own healthy snacks: \$60.

Young Outdoor Adventurers for children in the third to fifth grades led by Eddie Ray encourages the

adventurous spirits of campers as they learn about their natural environment, important skills of survival, such things as first aid, plants, animals; and improve their confidence and comfort in being outdoors, while having a great time. \$50

June 25 – 28. **Kids College** on the Natchez Co-Lin campus.

3D Art Making II for children in the third to fifth grades led by Salongo Lee encourages campers to let their imaginations run free through a series of sculpting, printmaking, pour paintings, collages, and homemade books and journals. \$55.

Cooking It Up in the Kitchen for first-and second-graders led by Susanna Johnson-Sharp. \$60.

Kids Yoga & Fitness for children in the second to fifth grades led by Melinda Laird explores the world of yoga and fitness through poses, activities, and games; teaches campers healthy habits, focus, flexibility, relaxation techniques and balance; and develops their self-confidence. \$50.

Tennis for children in the third to fifth grades led by Tina Montagnet teaches basic strokes, rules, scoring, footwork, tennis etiquette and effective ways to practice at Duncan Park from 9 a.m.-11 a.m. \$65

June 25-28. **College for Kids (C4K)** at Simpson County Center for children seven years old to ten years-old. Day 1: Jr. Scientist. Day 2: Hooked on Books. Day 3: Healthy Habits. Day 4: Outdoor Fun. \$60 (includes snacks and supplies). Registration deadline is June 15. For more information call 601-849-0124.

June 26-29. **Art Camp** on Wesson Campus for youth in eight to twelfth grades. Activities will focus on ceramics and pottery. 1 p.m.-3 p.m. \$25. Registration deadline is June 20. Contact janet.smith@colin.edu for more information.

July 10-12. **Photography Camp** on

Wesson Campus for children seven years old to ten years old. Limited to twenty-five participants. Activities will require campers to move around comfortably outside and include costumes on one day. Although cameras will be available, campers may also bring a digital camera. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. \$25. For information, contact Mary Warren at 601-643-8493 or mary.warren@colin.edu.

July 16 – 19. **Kids College** on the Natchez Co-Lin campus.

Science Explorers for first-and second-graders led by Samantha Fielder features exciting, hands on experiments designed to pique curiosity and teach lessons about this marvelous world. \$55.

Fun with Numbers for children in the third to fifth grades led by Skye Lanna equips campers to become the math whiz in them. \$50.

Art Academy for children in the third to fifth grades led by Alicia Spiller indulges to creative side of campers, while teaching the basics of color mixing and experimenting with multiple kinds of paints, media, and unique projects that inspire creativity. \$55.

F2TK (Farm to Table for Kids) I for first-and second-graders led by Peyton Johnson dives into the wonderful world of farming as campers explore nature and become aware of sustainable gardening in a variety of exciting ways, including field trips. \$50.

July 16-20. **Robotics Camp** at Wesson Attendance Center for children and youth in grades four to eight. Sponsored by the Wesson Bionic Cobras and Co-Lin Seawolves. Participants will build Lego Mindstorm NXT Robots, program the robots on computers, complete challenges by programming the robots to do a series of tasks. 8 a.m.-12 noon. \$100. Make checks payable to Co-Lin. Mail application to WAC, c/o Ladona Anderson, 1048 Grove



Special to Wesson News

Street, Wesson, MS 39191 or leave completed application at WAC High School office. For more information, call 601-826-4640 or email ladona.anderson@copiah.ms.

July 17-19. **Choir Camp** on Wesson campus for high school students. For information, contact Christian Scott at christian.scott@colin.edu.

July 23 – 26. **Kids College** on the Natchez Co-Lin campus.

Mad Science for children in the third to fifth grades led by Samantha Fielder captivates campers each day with a new topic and new experiments that quench their thirst for the new, the unusual, and the joy of science. \$55.

3D Art Making I for first-and second-graders led by Salongo Lee. \$50.

Kids Yoga & Fitness for children in the second to fifth grades led by Melinda Laird. \$50.

F2TK (Farm to Table for Kids) II for children in the third to fifth grades led by Peyton Johnson. \$50.

For detailed information about the camps and to download registration forms, visit www.colin.edu.

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Police, the economy, opioids & storms

Special to Wesson News

New police hire. Paul Rejoin, a patrolman for the Lincoln County Sheriff's Office, has joined the Wesson Police Department part time in a similar capacity. Rejoin came to Mississippi seven years ago after military service, earned an Automotive Technology certificate at Co-Lin and went to work for the Brookhaven Police Department. He and his wife Elizabeth live in Bogue Chitto and have two children.

New business still hopeful. A wood pellets manufacturer that had planned to renovate the old Universal building in Copiah County Industrial Park and start operations two years ago before its market collapsed has put new funds into an escrow account towards purchasing the plant facility. The development raised hope for economic development in the area as Advance Auto parts announced it was closing its operation in the industrial park at Gallman. Advance promised to make its existing employees a number one priority for relocation or placing them in jobs with other companies,

Copiah County Economic District (CCED) Executive Director Arthur Lee (Pokey) Evans, Jr. told a meeting of CCED.

Work ready status for Copiah. Copiah County has joined Adams, Claiborne and Lincoln Counties as the fourth Work Ready Community in Mississippi certified by ACT, the Iowa-based testing service that works broadly in lifelong learning to help people achieve their potentials for success in schools and workplaces. In Copiah County, 138 persons in the emerging workforce, 115 current workers and 167 workers in transition successfully completed the ACT certification test. Co-Lin is partnering with ACT in promoting Work Ready Communities in southwest Mississippi.

Opioid suit. Lincoln County is joining a sweeping lawsuit by local governments in fourteen states against drug-makers and distribution companies to seek reimbursement for municipal and law enforcement expenditures in dealing with opioid-addicted patients, establishing education programs on the dangers of

prescription opioids and creating opioid treatment centers. It claims the companies have misled the public about the power and addictiveness of their products. Local attorney Will Allen is the Lincoln County pointman for the suit. The Centers for Disease Control reports almost

NEWS NUGGETS

17,000 Americans died in 2016 as a result of overdosing on prescription opioids and that Mississippi and other southern states have the highest rate of prescriptions for these drugs.

Hurricane preparedness. Governor Phil Bryant focused the state last month on Atlantic Hurricane season, which started June 1 and runs through November 30, in declaring a week dedicated to preparing for tropical weather.

Government is prepared to respond to storms, but personal responsibility is the real key to survival -- having a plan, not putting yourself in harm's way, and preparing for the aftermath of an event, Mississippi Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) officials say. MEMA recommends individuals and families set aside non-perishable food and water for at least five days, a first aid kit with prescription medicines, a battery-powered radio with extra batteries, cash and traveler's checks and special items, such as baby formula and pet care products.

Grant for life skills classes. Georgia Pacific has given the Mississippi School of the Arts in Brookhaven a \$10,000 grant to fund junior and senior seminar life skills classes that cover decision-making around college choices, ACT college examination preparation, financial management, personal work-life balance, car maintenance, CPR, use of fire extinguishers, insurance, taxes, basic sewing and other aspects of adulthood.

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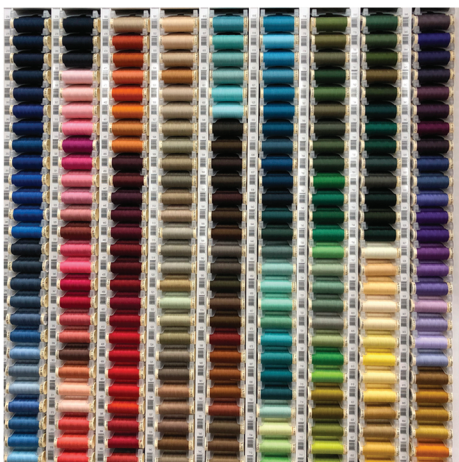
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Academic team selections



Wesson News

Co-Lin sophomores Alex Hamilton (second from left) and Kelsi Baldwin (fourth from left), both from Florence, Mississippi, receive congratulations on being named to state and national academic teams. Hamilton was one of twenty selections nationally on the All-USA Academic Team and an All-Mississippi Academic First Team selection. Baldwin was an All-Mississippi Academic Second Team selection. From left to right with Hamilton and Baldwin are Tiffany Perryman, co-advisor of the Co-Lin Eta Omega Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa; Dr. Jane Hulon, Vice President of the Co-Lin Wesson Campus and the college's President-Elect; and Eta Omega Chapter Co-Advisor Mary Warren. The All-Mississippi Academic Team recognized the scholarly achievements and leadership accomplishments of 48 community and junior college students, with fifteen First Team members receiving a \$1,000 stipend. The prestigious All-USA Academic Team is sponsored by Follett Higher Education Group and supported by the American Association of Community Colleges (AACC) and Phi Theta Kappa. Baldwin serves as Vice President of Leadership for the Co-Lin Eta Omega Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa and President of Sigma Kappa Delta. She is a member of Mu Alpha Theta, College Republicans, Centurions, President's Council and the Creative Writing Club. She was PTK Officer of the Year, is a Who's Who at Co-Lin selection, and Campus Favorite. Hamilton serves as Student Government Association President and Vice President of Research for the Eta Omega Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa. He is a member of Mu Alpha Theta, Student Voices, Trailblazers and Phi Beta Lambda. He was selected as a Campus Favorite and for Who's Who at Co-Lin.



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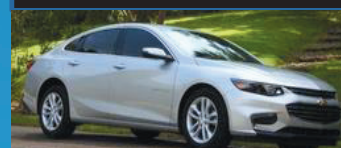
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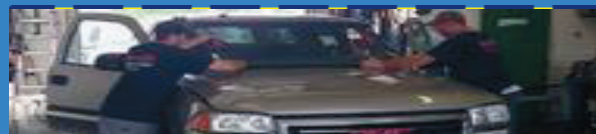
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