

INSIDE:	
Community Calendar.....	5
Mums sales begin	6
Dancers explore femininity.....	7
Summer & snakes	10
Green going to MSU.....	11



SPOTLIGHT:
Keeping Summer Safe
Page 8

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Wesson News
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Students, parents and educators prepare for new school year

By Bob Arnold

More than 1,000 children and youth in kindergarten through the twelfth grade will start the 2014-15 school year along with teachers and staff at Wesson Attendance Center (WAC) on Wednesday, August 6.

Before the big day, new students need to be registered; incoming seventh graders must get mandatory Tdap vaccinations for protection against tetanus, diphtheria, and whooping cough (pertussis); and required school supplies should be purchased for children who will enter kindergarten and the elementary grades.

- New students, including those who are new to the district, have been previously home-schooled, missed earlier registrations, or have not reg-



Wesson Attendance Center principal Marilyn Phillips (left) discusses coming school year with assistant principals Barbie Roberson and Ron Greer.

See page 3 for school transportation rules of the road and page 4 for our list of K-6 school supplies.

istered for other reasons, can register at WAC for enrollment on July 25 and July 29.

“To attend WAC, students must reside within its district or have been released by their local school board and approved by the Copiah County School Board,” principal Marilyn Phillips explains. “Otherwise, law requires students to go to school in the districts where they live. Residency means a student resides full time, days and nights throughout the week and on weekends, at a place of abode

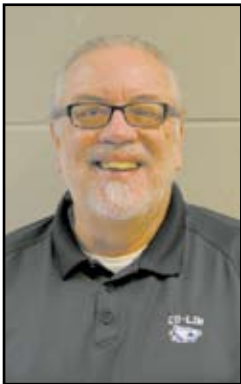
cont. on page 2

Brookstock music festival returns for 14th year

By Guest Columnist R. Shaw Furlow

What began in the summer of 1998 as a class reunion has become Brookhaven’s most anticipated rock music event of the year. On July 19, Brookstock returns for year number fourteen, and it promises to be bigger and better.

Sixteen years ago, Don Jacobs, a member of the Brookhaven High School Class of ’68 reunion committee, suggested a one-night performance by his old high school rock band—the Brutes—to add some interest to the event. Everyone liked



Special to Wesson News

the idea, but making it happen was another thing. Jacobs knew a couple of the band members, who had stayed active in music, but he had lost touch with some of the others.

The determined Jacobs, however, got local guitar-slinger Ricky Brown, who had played keys with the Brutes, and Virgil Brawley on board. Brawley, now the “Big Juv” who led the blues band, The Juvenators, had never put his guitar down and was quite busy as a solo artist, band leader, and promoter. With Jacobs, the maraca shaking, harp playing, electrifying front man, the band was back together.

The Brutes stepped onto the stage for the first time in 30 years the night of the reunion, played from their old set list, and never sounded better. So all agreed to reunite in 1999 for a second go at it. As is often the case, ideas are cheered on by

cont. on page 2



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cont. from front page

Students, parents and educators prepare for new school year

within the limits of the school district. Students must reside full time at the address used for registration. Further, students must live with a natural parent or have legal documentation on file with WAC that they are under the guardianship of someone.”

- All students entering the seventh grade will need to show proof of a recent Tdap vaccination, a requirement instituted in the 2012–13 school year due to increasing concern about pertussis, a highly contagious and life-threatening disease that adolescents can contract and easily transmit to younger children and

infants. Immunity to pertussis from early childhood vaccinations weakens over time. Doctors, other health care providers, and county health departments provide vaccinations and the Form 121 proof of vaccination to present to schools. The Mississippi State Department of Health also suggests consideration of vaccinations against meningococcal disease and human papillomavirus (HPV), and a varicella (chickenpox) booster as well for teenagers.

- Children enrolled in the WAC kindergarten and grades one through six must bring a variety of supplies,

including tools for their school work such as pencils, crayons, scissors, and notebook; and personal hygiene items such as hand soap, wipes, sanitizers, and paper towels.

To assure a smooth start for the school year, teachers will participate in staff development days on August 1, 4 and 5, Phillips reports. In addition, WAC has scheduled two special events to set the stage for the year ahead:

- **Prayer Walk** at 2 p.m. on Sunday, August 3. An opportunity for children and youth in kindergarten through grade 12, their parents, and interested persons from the commu-

nity at large to prepare spiritually for the school year. There will be a brief worship service, after which students and parents can go with teachers to classrooms for a time of prayer.

- **Meet the Teacher Hour** on August 4 between 6 p.m. and 7 p.m. An opportunity for kindergarten and elementary school children, along with their parents, to meet and talk with their teachers in the upcoming school year. They will bring the required school supplies to the meeting and discuss the learning experience the children will have over the next ten months.

cont. from front page

Brookstock music festival returns for 14th year

others but the work seems to fall to a few. Jacobs knew he would have to shoulder much of the responsibility and work to pull off the second event. It's not like he has a lot of spare time either. He is an artist, a mural painter, whose work, by the way, you can see at the Governor's Mansion, if you are ever lucky enough to be invited for dinner there.

Jacobs called a few friends to help him. And as fate would have it, record producer, guitar player, and singer-songwriter Ed Safley Tree from Brookhaven was going to be in town the weekend of the second event for his mother's birthday. Jacobs persuaded Safley to put his old high school group, the Rooks, back together and join the Brutes on stage. Not only did the audience grow for the second event, but other musicians "came out of the wood work" to "sit in" and be a part of it. Jacobs credits Tree's appearance as the big draw. At the end of the night, keyboard player and stained glass artist, the late Bill Lauderdale, stepped to the mike and thanked everyone for coming to "Brookstock," recalling the historic rock concert at Woodstock, New York. Brookstock has been happening every year since then.

No longer a class reunion or an event for Brookhaven High School graduates, Brookstock crosses age, county, and state lines today. From the back yard of some friends, it has moved to the Brookhaven Recreation Department on Highway 51—the National Guard Armory that hosted our dances when many of us were growing up. A logical venue choice.

and the food vendor. "In the beginning, it was simple," he recalls. "I just called a few musician friends, and we got together and just had fun. Now people are planning their vacations around Brookstock. It has become its own entity. It's a labor of love but always worth it when Brookstock day rolls around."

Attendance varies from year to year,

your own beverages.

This year, there will be a new twist. The night before Brookstock, Brookhaven Little Theater will host Brookstock Teens in the John Landress Auditorium at the Haven Theatre on Cherokee Street. The next generation of Brookstock performers will take the stage. For \$5, the audience will see three local teenage acts. Jonas Raguse, a solo blues player, will open the show at 7 p.m. The awesome cover band, Out of Nowhere, will follow. The high energy of the Sam Mooney band will close the evening. All proceeds go to Brookhaven Little Theater Teens to help support their productions.

Jacobs' amazement continues that Brookstock goes on. He takes it one year at a time, but is committed to its future. "I guess as long as the key musicians are available, I will keep at it," he says. "It seems I have hit on a good thing."

Editor's Note: R. Shaw Furlow is Director of the Bands Program at Co-Lin and oversees the college's Community Arts Series. He is a regular contributor to Wesson News on the area arts scene.

Shaw Furlow and the Wonder Boys will perform at Brookstock this year — my first time to participate other than as an audience member. I am looking forward to it.

At the end of each of my columns I encourage my readers to support live music. Brookstock reminds me of my sense of urgency. When I was a teen, we had several venues in the area that featured local bands. That doesn't exist anymore, and I wonder where the next generation of rock and roll or country artists will come from. Music has filled my life. Standing on stage at 12 years old gave me confidence. While my days of belting out a song on stage are mainly behind me, I still enjoy a great music festival. Brookstock weekend is just that.

Jacobs never imagined Brookstock would go past the third year. "I didn't think I could keep the attention of the musicians that long." Yet keep our attention he did. He begins working on Brookstock in January of each year. He lines up the venue, the sound, the artists,

but usually 250 to 300 people bring their lawn chairs and settle in for a night of live music beginning at 7 p.m. and running into the evening, with local solo artists, established bands, the Brutes, and finally, an all-star jam session. There is a \$10 admission charge, and you bring

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Rules of the road for school transportation

Special to Wesson News

Rules of the road for the everyday task of going to and from school are the difference between a safe routine and an emergency.

If you take a bus:

- Board and get off buses on time at assigned stops only. Bus drivers are not required to wait unless they see a student coming to the bus. In the afternoon, buses leave the school

promptly at 3:15.

- Walk to the bus stop facing traffic (if there is no sidewalk) so drivers on the road can see you.
- Do not play on or near the road while waiting for a bus.
- Do not cross a road to get on a bus until it arrives. On discharge from a bus, wait until the driver gives the signal to cross. Students who live on roads with retraces should get on their bus at stops that do not

require crossing the road.

- Load and unload, using the hand-rail, only after the bus comes to a complete stop.
- Respect bus drivers, who are responsible for the safety and conduct of riders. They have the authority to assign seating. Disruptive behaviors that distract bus drivers are prohibited, and acts of misconduct are subject to discipline—fighting, smoking, use of profane language, possession/use of alcohol and/or drugs, public displays of affection, sexual activity, throwing objects on the bus (i.e., shooting spitballs with rubber bands or bobby pins), etc. Conduct of students determines whether or not they will be entitled to bus transportation.

For transportation of students in private vehicles:

- Drop off students before 7:40 a.m. for classes, which start at 7:45 a.m. Drop-off points are in front of old gym and high school area for grades seven to twelve and the elementary school parking lot (where two attendants are on duty) for kin-

dergarten through sixth grades.

- Pick up students in kindergarten through sixth grade in the elementary school parking lot. Line up on the north side of the road east of the building, enter parking lot on the east, load students from the inside lane, and exit parking lot on the west. Use the outside lane when leaving the pickup line. Children should not walk to vehicles parked along the side of the road.
- Pick up students in grades seven through twelve and their younger siblings in the parking lot by the old gym and high school area. Enter on the east, park in inside (north) lane while waiting for students to pick up, and exit on the west via the outside (south) lane.
- Older and younger siblings will meet in old gym and walk together to their pickup vehicle in the high school parking lot.
- Children who walk or bike to school will wait in the old gym until 3:15 p.m., when buses and most cars have left the campus
- Do not pick up students at the rear of school where buses load.

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Storm response



Photo by Wesson News

A crew from Magnolia Electric Power Association was part of the response by utility companies and public works agencies to a June storm that wreaked havoc in the Wesson area. Heavy winds, which accompanied the storm, uprooted trees, tore off tree limbs, and downed power lines. In the wake of the storm, close to 10,000 residents and businesses in Lincoln and Covich Counties lost electricity. Hampered by downed trees that blocked roads, Magnolia and Entergy restored power over a two-day period. For some area residents, the storm damage recalled the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina.

K-6 school supplies list

Special to Wesson News

Kindergarten: Kleenex (100 or more), Fiskar scissors, three rolls of paper towels, two boxes of eight Crayola crayons, four boxes of twenty-four Crayola crayons, pack of non-tablet construction paper, four two-pocket plastic folders with brads, Elmers Glue, large bottle of hand sanitizer, foaming hand soap, 24 non-decorative wood pencils (Ticonderoga is recommended), four glue stick four-packs, pack of 12 x 18-inch manila paper, container of disinfectant wipes, zippered bank bag, book bag (large enough for folder and extra clothing), gallon Ziploc bags (girls), Ziploc freezer bags (boys). The child's backpack should include a change of clothes (shirt, pants, underwear, socks) in a gallon Ziploc bag with his/her name on it.



First grade: Eight-line (5/8-inch wide) tablet, zippered bank bag, six boxes of twenty-four Crayola crayons, Fiskar scissors, two bottles of Elmers Glue, three boxes of Kleenex (100 or more), pack of non-tablet construction paper, four rolls of paper towels, primary journal, twelve-inch ruler marked in both inches and centimeters, ruled spiral notebook, package of typing paper, two plastic folders, two packs of cap erasers and two hand-held erasers, four packs of non-decorative #2 pencils (no pencil sharpeners or Dixon pencils), large bottle of hand sanitizer and concentrated cleaner (girls), hand soap and container of adult disinfectant wipes (boys).

Second grade: Eight glue sticks, package of wide-ruled loose leaf paper, three boxes of Kleenex (100 or more), package of four dry erase markers, scissors, zippered bank bag, five plastic pocketed folders, package of construction paper, package of manila paper, three one-subject notebooks, three boxes of twenty-four Crayola crayons, four rolls of paper towels, two packages of cap erasers, gallon freezer bags and hand sanitizer (girls), quart Ziploc freezer bags and disinfectant wipes (boys).

Third grade: Two boxes of crayons and crayon pouch, hand sanitizer, four packs of cap erasers, three glue sticks, six packs of twenty-four non-decorative wooden pencils (no Dixon pencils), plastic folder with prongs, scissors, three boxes of Kleenex, dis-

infectant wipes, two rolls of paper towels, four-pack of EXPO markers, five black/white wireless composition notebooks, two packs of wide-ruled notebook paper, manila paper and gallon Ziploc bags (girls), construction paper and quart Ziploc bags (boys).

Fourth grade: Four packs of twenty-four non-decorative wooden pencils (no Dixon pencils), one-subject wide-ruled spiral notebook, two plastic pocketed folders with prongs, two boxes of twenty-four Crayola crayons, four packs of cap erasers, disinfectant wipes, four packs of 10 ct mechanical pencils, wide-ruled loose leaf notebook paper, graph paper, four wide-ruled spiral notebooks, three boxes of Kleenex (100 or more), eight-pack of Crayola markers, roll of paper towels, 18 x 12-inch sketch pad or pack of 18 x 12-inch construction paper, two glue sticks, large bottle of hand sanitizer.

Fifth grade: Four #2 mechanical pencils and two packs of replacement lead (.09 or .07), box of twenty-four Crayola crayons, box of standard/washable Crayola markers, two red ballpoint pens, one box of coloring pencils, two yellow highlighters, two pink pearl block erasers, twelve-inch ruler marked in both inches and centimeters, two large glue sticks, three-ring pencil pouch with zipper, two wide-ruled spiral notebooks, two pocketed folders with fasteners, four packages of reinforced-edge notebook paper, set of subject dividers, one-inch and three 1/2-inch heavy duty three-ring binders, quart or gallon Ziploc bags, two boxes of Kleenex (100 or more), two rolls of paper towels, two containers of disinfectant wipes, two large bottles of hand sanitizers, Lysol spray disinfectant.

Sixth grade: #2 mechanical pencils and replacement lead (.09 or .07), two block erasers, two-inch heavy duty binder, one-inch binder, three-hole binder pouch, plastic pocketed folder without prongs, six pronged color folders (purple, blue, red, green, yellow, and orange), two packages of reinforced-edge loose leaf paper or regular loose leaf paper with one package of reinforcement labels, two sets of pocketed dividers, two highlighters, package of colored markers, package of two-pack EXPO black dry erase markers, three boxes of Kleenex (100 or more), container of disinfectant wipes, large bottle of hand sanitizer.

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Wesson's Community Calendar

July weather forecast: The Old Farmers Almanac calls for an average temperature of 82.5 degrees F (3 degrees above average) and total precipitation 5.5 inches (1 inch above average).

JULY 8

Summer Reading Program for children five-years-old thru twelve-years-old. Longie Dale Hamilton Memorial Library, Wesson. Sessions will be held on subsequent Tuesdays through July (15, 22, and 29). 10 to 11 a.m.

JULY 10

Lions Club meeting. Conference room at Co-Lin student cafeteria building. 6:30 p.m.

JULY 11

Orientation/registration for incoming freshmen and new students at Co-Lin. Dow-Young Instructional Technology Building on Co-Lin campus. Also August 14. 9 a.m.

JULY 12

Copiah Animal Shelter Third Anniversary **Take-Out BBQ Chicken Plates Fundraiser**. \$8 per plate. Tickets available at varied locations. Pick up plates in Crystal Springs and Hazlehurst between 5:30 and 7 p.m. For information, call 601-954-6447 or visit copiahanimalshelter.net on the web.

JULY 14

Fire Academy for Kids. A full week (running through July 18) of hands-on learning about fire fighting and safety for children ages seven through twelve years old at Wesson Volunteer Fire Department. Guest trainers from Wesson Police Department, Copiah County Sheriff's Office, ASAP Ambulance Service, Lamar County Emergency Management, and Air Care. \$20 fee. Limited to 30 participants. Get in applications as soon as possible. Contact Wesson Volunteer Fire Department. 6 to 9 p.m.

JULY 15

American Legion Post 79 meeting. American Legion

Lodge on Main Street, Wesson. 6:30 p.m.

JULY 18

Rock concert hosted by Brookstock Teens and featuring solo blues artist Jonas Raguse and the Out of Nowhere and Sam Mooney bands. \$5 admission fee, with the proceeds to support the productions of the Brookhaven Little Theater Teens. John Landress Auditorium at the Haven Theater on Cherokee Street, Brookhaven. 7 p.m.

JULY 19

Brookstock, annual rock festival featuring area solo artists, bands, and concluding with jam session. \$10 admission fee. Brookhaven Recreation Department on Highway 51. 7 p.m.

JULY 21

Brookhaven Animal Rescue League's (BARL) fifth annual Dog Days of Summer Kids Camp. Brookhaven City Park. Registration form with fee of \$75 (covering snacks and camp t-shirt) due July 15. 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. through July 25.

JULY 24

Lions Club meeting. Conference room at Co-Lin student cafeteria building. 6:30 p.m.

JULY 25

Registration of new students (children who have been home-schooled or are new residents of the school district) at Wesson Attendance Center. Registration continues on July 29.

JULY 26

Chicken Sales. Other farm animals (rabbits, ducks, pigs, etc.), produce, jellies and jams also on sale. Brad Turner's lot beside the police station on Highway 51. Every fourth Saturday of the month. 7 a.m. to 12 noon. For information, call 601-835-9037 or 601-384-7346.

AUGUST 3

Prayer Walk at Wesson Attendance Center, including

worship service and private prayer time focused on the coming school year for faculty, staff, students, and parents. 2 p.m.

AUGUST 4

Meet the Teacher at Wesson Attendance Center for children in kindergarten through the sixth grade and their parents to meet faculty and discuss the coming school year. 6-7 p.m.

AUGUST 6

Classes start at Wesson Attendance Center.

AUGUST 8

Deadline for ordering chrysanthemums from Wesson Garden Club during its annual fundraiser to support local beautification projects. Cost of mums in eight-inch pots is \$7 each. Contact Kate Hampton (601-754-3888/kathrynwhampton@gmail.com) or visit Wesson Garden on Facebook.

AUGUST 9

Reunion of all former students and staff of the Old Wesson School. \$20 fee includes lunch. Old Wesson School Community Center. Make checks payable to Sonya Cowen/School Reunion, send to Trustmark National Bank/Wesson Branch, Old Wesson School Reunion, P.O. Box 307, Wesson, MS 39191. Payment deadline: August 4. For information, contact Carolyn Graham at 601-643-5215.

AUGUST 14

Institute for Learning in Retirement Open House & Membership Social. Co-Lin Thames Conference Center. 10:30 a.m.

AUGUST 18

Fall semester classes start at Co-Lin.

Email Community Calendar items to
bobarnold@wessonnews.com

Summer reading program to focus on science

Special to Wesson news

Science will be the focus of the annual summer reading program starting at the Longie Dale Hamilton Memorial Library starting on Tuesday, July 8.

Children five years old to twelve years old will meet at the library on Tuesdays from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. through July 29 for programs, including presentations, under the umbrella

theme "Fizz, Boom, Read," and refreshments. Children under age five are also welcome if accompanied by an adult. The programs will feature:

July 8. Ventriloquist William Durr, who will bring his puppet friends along to entertain and inform

July 15. Staff from the Jackson Zoological Park, who will introduce some of the animals from the facility and talk about them

July 22. A time for conducting science experiments to learn and increase understanding of the world

July 29. The Wesson Fire Department to explore fire safety and then provide a water party for reading program participants as they open up their hoses for some fun in the summer heat

Registration for the program started on June 2. For information, call 601-643-5725.

Police Blotter

Special to Wesson News

During June, Wesson Police Department activity encompassed:

Eleven responses to:

- Five general complaints
- One shoplifting report
- Three motor vehicle accidents
- One simple assault
- One embezzlement complaint

Thirty-four citations:

- Eleven for general traffic violations
- Thirteen for speeding
- One for leaving the scene of an accident
- Four for no motor vehicle insurance
- Three for possession of beer
- Two for open container violations

Nine arrests:

- Four for contempt of court
- Five for possession of controlled substances

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Youth Bible Study
Children's Activities

Sunday Evening
5:00 p.m. Discipleship Training
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6:00 p.m. Evening Worship Service

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Mums sales fund local beautification



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The Wesson Garden Club's annual sale of chrysanthemums to fund local beautification projects runs through August 8.

The yellow, red, bronze, white, and lavender mums from the Standing Pine Nursey are \$7 each in eight-inch

pots. They will be available for pick-up from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. on September 19 at the Pavillion of the Wesson Public Library.

Make checks payable to Wesson Garden Club. For information, contact Kate Hampton at 601-754-3888, kathrynwhampton@gmail.com) or visit Wesson Garden on Facebook.





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Dance Haven Studio explores femininity in dance concert



Photos by Mike Collins

Jazz I and II Dance Haven Studio students (left to right) Tabitha Cline, Alyssa Smith, Deanna Parker, and Calia Beard performed in the Our Girls concert, which explored aspects of femininity through dance routines. At the concert, Cline and Smith received Senior Recognition awards, and Beard and Parker were honored as Most Passionate Dancers. Dance Haven Studio seeks to help dancers at all levels from two years old to twenty-one years old master their passion for dancing in an environment in which they can mature as persons, develop as individual thinkers, and have fun dancing and making friends.



Photos by Mike Collins

Our Girls, a Dance Haven Studio concert featuring an all-female cast, portrayed women as carefree, powerful, venerable, and sassy through dance routines—ballet, hip hop, jazz, and creative movement. Among the dancers who performed at The Haven Theater in Brookhaven were (left to right) Olivia Avants, Mary Elizabeth Boyd, Michala Britt, Jya Burns, Sayerd Harveston, Kayla Jenkins, Breanna Meche, Zakiyah Newton, Riley Ray, Ja'Riyah Reid, Haley Waldrop, and Cambrie Wallace—six- to eight year-olds in Creative Movement classes at the studio, which Bethany and Justin Fortenberry started in 2013. At the concert, Reid received the Strongest Memory award, and Ray was recognized as the Most Potential Dancer.



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Keeping summer safe: preventing stings, burns and dehydration

Special to Wesson News

The outdoors and increased activity of the summer months bring with them perils to life and health, according to the Mississippi Department of Health (MDH). Fire alone is a big problem in the state, which has one of the highest mortality rates in the nation related to blazes, Wesson Volunteer Department Fire Chief Ken Carraway says.

MDH offers these tips:

- **Bug Off!** When outside, protect yourself from mosquitoes by using an insect repellant that contains DEET, picaridin, or oil of lemon eucalyptus.
- **Tip and Toss!** Mosquitoes breed in standing water. Stop the next generation of mosquitoes before they start by tipping over and changing out water from bird feeders and fountains. Toss out any open container from your yard that you can do without.
- **Flame On!** If you're planning on grilling out this summer, be sure to cook the food at a high enough temperature to kill the bacteria that cause food-borne illness. Roasts, pork, and fish should be cooked to at least 145 degrees Fahrenheit;

ground beef to at least 155 degrees Fahrenheit; and poultry to 165 degrees Fahrenheit. Use a clean meat thermometer to measure the internal temperature of all foods.

- **Wash Up!** When cooking outside, fight the spread of bacteria by washing your hands, cutting boards, dishes and utensils with hot, soapy water before preparing a meal.
- **Grill It and Chill It!** Remember to refrigerate all left-over food promptly after grilling out. Refrigerators should be set no higher than 41 degrees Fahrenheit; freezer units at zero degrees Fahrenheit.
- **Use Sunscreen!** Be sure to use plenty of sunscreen, and apply it at least 30 minutes before going outside. The sunscreen you use should be rated SPF-15 or higher and offer both UVA and UBA protection.
- **Look Out!** The summer sun can damage your eyes. Be sure to wear only sunglasses that offer 100 percent UVA protection. The wrap-around kind protects both your eyes and the sensitive skin around them.
- **Drink Up!** When you're working or playing hard in hot weather, be sure to drink two to four glasses

of cool, non-alcoholic fluids each hour.

- **Slow Down!** Avoid strenuous activity during the day when the temperature is at its hottest.
- **Go In!** Seek shade during the mid-day when UV rays are the strongest. Try to avoid direct sun exposure between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m.

Carraway offers this fire-specific safety counsel:

Install smoke detectors. Smoke detectors sense abnormal amounts of smoke or invisible combustion gases in the air. They can detect both smoldering and burning fires. At least one smoke detector should be installed on every level of a structure. Check them once a month, and change their batteries at least once a year.

Post emergency numbers near telephones. If a fire threatens your home, do not call emergency services from inside the home. Call fire authorities from a safe location outside the home.

Have a safe fire escape method. You may have installed a very expensive home security system. But if you cannot escape the burning structure, you have a false level of confidence.

Space heaters need space. During those cool evenings when you turn on

a portable or space heater, make sure it is at least three feet from anything that may burn. Never leave heaters on when you leave home or go to sleep. Children and pets should always be kept away from heating devices.

Smokers beware. Never smoke in bed or when you are sleepy. Carelessly discarded cigarettes are a leading cause of fire deaths in the United States.

Use caution in the kitchen. Keep cooking areas clear of combustibles, and wear short or tight-fitting sleeves when you cook. Keep the handles of your pots turned inward so they do not overhang the stove. If grease catches fire, carefully slide a lid over the pan and smother the flames, then turn off the burner.

Matches and lighters are dangerous. In the hands of a child, matches and lighters can be deadly! Store matches where kids can't reach them, preferably in a locked area. Teach children that matches and lighters are tools and should only be used by adults.

Use electricity safely. If an appliance smokes or has an unusual smell, unplug it immediately and have it repaired. Replace frayed or cracked electrical cords, and don't overload extension

cont. on page 9



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New Co-Lin students can pre-register for fall classes

Special to Wesson News

Co-Lin will hold orientation/registration sessions during July and August on each of its three campuses for incoming freshmen and new students attending in the fall. They are scheduled as follows:

- **Wesson Campus.** July 11 and August 14. Dow-Young Instructional Technology Building. 9 a.m.
- **Natchez Campus.** July 24 and August 14. Nelson Multi-Purpose Room at Redd/Watkins Career and Technical Center. 1 p.m.
- **Simpson County Center.** July 18 and August 14. Multi-Purpose Room at the Parker Academic Building. 8:30 a.m.

At the pre-registration and orientation sessions, new students become further acquainted with Co-Lin, obtain academ-

ic and career-technical curriculum-planning advice, schedule their fall semester courses, and acquire their college identification cards and parking permits.

It is to the student's advantage to have ACT scores on file in Co-Lin's admissions office before attending an orientation session. All Co-Lin academic and technical students are required to take the ACT college entrance examination. Those attending sessions without ACT scores will have to take the placement test at a cost of \$30 and show photo identification before pre-registering.

Although students at the sessions reserve a schedule for the fall term, they are not required to pay tuition and fees then unless they desire to do so. Further information on orientation may be obtained by calling 601-643-8490.

cont. from page 8

Safe summer with prevention

cords. They should not be run under rugs. Never tamper with the fuse box or use the improper size fuse.

Cool a burn. If someone gets burned, immediately place the wound under cool water for ten to fifteen minutes. If the burn blisters or chars, see a doc-

tor immediately!

Watch out for halogen lights. If you have high-wattage halogen lights, make sure they are away from flammable drapes and low ceiling areas. Never leave them on when you leave your home or office.



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Summer brings snakes



Photo by Wesson News

Heat and wet weather are bringing out snakes in the area, as Jimmy Lovette (left) has discovered. Here, Lovette shows the third rattlesnake he has killed this year to his cousin Julia Arnold. Both Lovette and Arnold live on Mission Hill Road. Of the 55 species of snakes found in Mississippi, only six of them are venomous—pit vipers (the canebrake rattlesnake, copperhead, cottonmouth, eastern diamondback rattlesnake, and the pigmy rattlesnake) and coral snakes. Becoming familiar with them is a sensible precaution, says Rob Ballinger of the Mississippi Fish & Wildlife Foundation. Pit vipers have vertically elliptical pupils, much like a cat, a large head distinctly wider than the neck, and long, hollow fangs. The term "pit" describes a sensory organ located between and slightly below each eye and nostril on each side of a snake's head. Coral snakes have a round pupil, no facial pits, a small head compared to pit vipers, a very small mouth, and short, fixed fangs. When left alone, most snakes are docile and will either try to flee or remain motionless in an attempt to blend into their surroundings, Ballinger says. To play it safe, walk in clear areas, and pay close attention to where you are stepping, since snakes like to hide in stump holes and brush piles, under debris, and around fallen logs. When possible, wear leather boots at least 10 inches in height. In the unlikely event of a snake bite, keep the victim calm, immobilize the bitten limb (as in a fracture), treat for shock, and get to the nearest hospital or medical doctor.

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Wesson's Green going to MSU

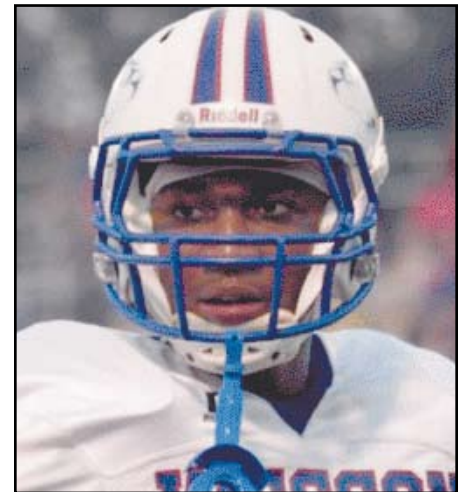
Special to Wesson News

Wesson High School's Farrod Green, a wide receiver for the Cobras on the gridiron, has committed to play football at Mississippi State University.

The 6-foot-4, 223-pound athlete became MSU's 17th commitment to the Class of 2015 and the ninth commitment from Mississippi after attending a three-day camp at the university in early June and earning a Bulldog offer for his performance. Green had unofficially visited the Bulldogs several times over the past year and has remained on the Mississippi State radar since the start of his junior campaign.

"Coach (Dan) Mullen told me I got the offer, and I was really excited," said Green. "I had an idea it was coming, and I knew then that I was going to commit pretty soon. I talked it over with my family; and then I called Coach Mullen, and he welcomed me to the family. It is just a dream come true, and I am thanking God. I had a good feeling the offer was coming because I felt I worked hard for it and that I earned it. I always have fun up here. It is a good family environment, and I like the coaches here and their players, too. Plus, this is my home state, and I like that part, too."

At the MSU camp, Green spent a lot of time with the Mississippi State



Special to Wesson News

coaches and observing the current Bulldogs in workout sessions while proving his worth at the same time. Green will switch from wide receiver to tight end at MSU, which would be a perfect fit in Mullen's offense, where a tight end is expected to be a big part of the spread option passing game.

"Mississippi State liked me as a tight end, and I like that position," Green said. "I am just ready to work, and I am down for everything. They really like what I can do at tight end, and I think I fit in well at that position. I've always wanted to play for Mississippi State, and now I've just got to adapt to that position and keep working."



Orientation/Registration

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Keeping cool and healthy

By Guest Columnist
Dr. Stephanie Duguid

When the temperature goes up, heat illnesses can occur and develop into life-threatening conditions.

The human body is always working to keep its temperature at 98.6 degrees Fahrenheit. The natural process that helps cool the body down when we get hot is sweating. However, when you sweat, you lose vital water and electrolytes that assist other natural body processes, including muscle contraction.

Dehydration—loss of too many fluids without replenishing them—can cause heat cramps, or painful, sudden muscle spasms, that affect the back of the legs or abdomen. For heat cramps, rest in a cool place, drink a commercial sports drink (diluted with water for faster absorption), and stretch the muscle.

Continued, prolonged dehydration coupled with physical exertion can lead to heat exhaustion. This happens in a hot environment when your body creates heat faster than it can lose it through profuse sweating. Severe thirst, fatigue, headache, nausea, and vomiting are symptoms. You may feel like you have the flu. Bring down the body temperature of affected persons as quickly as possible by getting them out of the heat, giving them cool liquids, and placing cool, wet towels on them around the large blood vessel areas of the chest,



Special to Wesson News

neck, armpits, and groin area.

Heat stroke—a life threatening condition which typically affects elderly, chronically ill, alcoholics, and obese individuals—is the most severe heat-related illness, with a fifty per cent death rate. During a heat stroke, the body is so dehydrated that sweating stops and the skin becomes hot, perhaps even dry. Confusion, agitation, disorientation, unresponsiveness are symptoms. In this life-threatening emergency, get the affected person to a cool place, keep his/her head and shoulders elevated, and cool the person down as soon as possible with ice, cool water, and towels on the neck, chest, armpits and groin. You may even need to place the victim in a cool water bath. And get medical assistance.

To avoid these problems:

- Stay hydrated (if you are thirsty, you are dehydrated!)
- Stay cool (try to stay in the shade or work during cooler times of the day)
- Stay safe (always let someone know where you are and what you are doing!)
- When in doubt about the way someone is feeling or behaving, call 911.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Dr. Stephanie Duguid, Assistant Dean of Academic Instruction and Health, Physical Education, and Recreation Division Chair at Co-Lin, makes regular contributions to Wesson News on healthy living topics. 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 20 years. She is an avid reader and learner on health issues and encourages people to follow her example.

WAC graduates 61 seniors

Special to Wesson News

Wesson Attendance Center (WAC) said good bye this year to sixty-one seniors who have excelled in academics and extracurricular activities.

Thirty are going to college on scholarship. Fifteen per cent of them were members of the Honor Society. Nine per cent scored advanced on all high school subject area tests. Eighty-five per cent participated in sports, arts, or academic bowl teams.

At graduation ceremonies, Valedictorian Marti Calhoun and Salutatorian Gabriel Mosley challenged their classmates to pursue success in the future, and thanked the people at WAC who helped them. Mosley, WAC's Star Student with an ACT score of 33, chose Daniel Hux, Wesson High School World and US history teacher, as his Star Teacher.

Calhoun and Mosely will be going to Belhaven University and the University

of Mississippi, respectively, on scholarship. Twenty-eight other seniors received endowment, leadership, academic or athletic scholarships to Co-Lin: Jase Alexander, Tanner Allen, Olivia Barlow, Andy Bates, Dalton Burns, Joseph Campbell, Tyler Carlisle, Austin Crow, Lindsay Day, Samanta Garduno, Adam Hamilton, Blake Harrison, Joey Jackson, Dominic King, Connon Lowery, Dylan Lyle, Lindsey McCardle, Victoria McCraine, Brandi Mcinnis, Bailey Middleton, Ashley Munn, Justice Orgeron, Ryan Shirley, Brittany Sills, Markeita Stapleton, Gabby Thomas, Samantha Walker, and Elise Whittington.

Following Calhoun and Mosley, the top ten 2014 graduating seniors, as determined by weighted GPA, included Ashley Munn (3), Brandi McInnis (4), Markeita Stapleton (5), Andrew Bates (6), Keylee Morgan (7), Joseph Campbell (8), Victoria McCraine (9), and Elise Whittington (10).