

INSIDE:

Area Arts.....	2
Healthy Living	3
Community Calnedar	4
Tending Your Garden	6
News Nuggets	9
Sports Shorts.....	12



Volume 7, Number 3

"Good News You Can Use"
SPOTLIGHT
Black History Month Fete

Page 8

 PRSRT STD
 U.S. POSTAGE
 PAID
 WESSON, MS
 PERMIT NO. 3

 Wesson News
 PO Box 1028
 Wesson, MS 39191

March 12, 2019

Beer now for sale in Wesson

Wesson News

Shoppers and patrons of restaurants and cafes can now legally purchase beer and light wine in Wesson. But not on Sundays.

Last month, the Wesson Board of Aldermen unanimously approved an implementing ordinance defining the parameters of beer and light wine sales in town following a referendum in which 70 per cent of voters consented to its legalization. Thirty percent of the electorate voted 187-78 to authorize sales of beer and light wine within the Wesson corporate limits in the special election on January 15.

Town officials are eyeing important economic impact from the vote to help make up for the tax loss sustained when Newmans liquor store moved to Brookhaven after the city legalized hard liquor and wine sales. With hard liquor and wine sales legal throughout Copiah County for some fifty years, authorized Wesson stores have benefited and generated significant tax revenues for the town. Wesson lost close to \$4,000 per month of these tax revenues, however, with Newmans' relocation.

A decision by Lincoln County Chancery Court Judge to allow Wesson to annex a strip of Highway 51 that extended the town's corporate boundary to three miles north of Brookhaven cleared the way for the vote under a state law that permits municipalities with populations of at least 1,500 to legalize beer and light wine sales if they are within three miles of another municipality in which they are legal.

At the Board of Aldermen meeting, a number of visitors contended over provisions of the implementing ordinance. Many of them, citing their religious beliefs, argued for varied restrictions on beer and light wine sales, including limitations on sales hours, the distance of sellers from certain buildings and public areas and, particularly, outlawing Sunday sales, while others countered their opinions.

Conceding he did not speak for his congregation, and that the Bible did not necessarily support his viewpoint, the Reverend Brandon Halford from Decell United Methodist Church -- the only local clergyperson present, urged Aldermen to consider respect for holy days as well as economic issues in shaping the ordinance. Wesson businessman Larry Ashley, on the other hand, warned Alderman that prohibiting Sunday sales would mean "a significant economic loss," and distance restrictions could severely limit the number of establishments able to sell beer and light wine, noting that "500 feet is more than one and one half football fields."

Whether or not those advocating the sales restrictions influenced the vote on the ordinance, the Aldermen were unanimous in opposing Sunday beer and light wine sales. Alderman Stephen Ashley said other clergypersons had told him that they and members of their congregations opposed Sunday sales.

"Sunday sales are too radical for the community at this time, and we need to ease into beer sales," Alderman Michael King said. Aldermen Larry

Hall and Billy Ellison said they believed their constituents did not want Sunday sales. Alderman Jarrad Ashley, a businessman, did not vote or participate in discussion because of conflict-of-interest consideration.

The Aldermen also voted to:

- Prohibit sales of beer and light wine within 250 feet of any church, school, funeral home, public library, day care center, public park or kindergarten in a commercial or industrial zone and within 500 feet in other areas;
- Limit sales of beer and light wine to between 7 a.m. and 10 p.m. in grocery, variety and convenience stores and 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. in restaurants and cafes.

Mayor Alton Shaw said the most important restrictions "maintained the character of the community" -- namely, limiting sales of beer and

light wine to grocery, variety and convenience stores that derive 50 percent or more of gross sales from merchandise other than alcohol and restaurants and cafes with 50 per cent of gross receipts from prepared food and prohibiting (1) service at the curb outside an establishment, to visibly or noticeably intoxicated individuals and to persons of ill repute and (2) licensure of sellers with "lewd, immoral or improper entertainment" and gambling and that permit loud, boisterous or disorderly conduct.

"Wesson will be the same," says Shaw. "The town will not have bars on every corner. The ordinance incorporates existing local and state laws related to alcohol, such as those covering open containers and the legal drinking age."

WAC Hall-of-Famers



Special to Wesson News
 Four students have been chosen by the faculty and staff of Wesson Attendance Center (WAC) to be inducted into WAC's Hall of Fame. They are (left to right) Jim (LJ) Guess, Melody Ashley, Elizabeth Shirley and Will McInnis. The outstanding seniors -- five percent the Wesson High School Class of 2019 -- were honored for academics, character, service, and leadership.

GUNS • AMMO • ACCESSORIES • ELECTRONICS • JEWELRY • PET SUPPLIES • TOOLS • APPLIANCES & LOTS MORE



**51 PAWN &
GUN, LLC**

601-835-2661

750 Hwy. 51 SE, Brookhaven MS (next to Bobby's Alternator & Starter)
 Family owned and operated: Ryan, Candice, Josh and Sissy Strange.



Like us on Facebook!

Open Monday-Friday 8 am-5pm Sat 8 am -12 noon. Come see us!

A real "gotcha" moment for Co-Lin band

By Guest Columnist Shaw Furlow

Over the forty-one years I taught band in Mississippi schools, I have a number of vivid memories -- some of victory, and some of defeat. There's nothing like the feeling you get when that light bulb goes off when that sixth grade trumpet player first figures out the second valve plays F#.

I have another great memory when I was Director of Bands at Co-Lin on the band's first trip to the Natchez Christmas Parade. We arrived early allowing the kids to visit the city. I walked over to the river walk, where a lone color guard girl stood, staring at the river. We talked a minute before she turned and looked at me with misty eyes and said: "I've never seen the Mississippi River."

Real gotcha moments.

Now a gotcha moment has come for sixty Co-Lin Band students, who will load buses and head to Chicago on March 21 to participate in the Percy Grainger Wind Band Festival



Special to Wesson News

held at the prestigious Orchestra Hall, home of the renowned Chicago Symphony Orchestra.

Percy Grainger was an Australian born composer who moved to the United States and became a citizen in 1918. He spent the war years playing in the Army Band. Grainger is known primarily for reviving interest in English folk songs. He traveled extensively and collected melodies that he brought home and arranged for piano and later for ensembles. Today, he is best known for his wind band arrangements. Hence, the Percy Grainger Festival.

Juanita Proffitt, Co-Lin Director of Bands, submitted a video of a live performance to the festival, and the band was selected as one of four to participate in this year's festival.

"There are two college bands and two high school bands performing this year, and I am so proud of these students," says Proffitt. "They have worked hard all year preparing the music and raising funds."

The trip to Chicago is not all work. On Friday, March 22, the band will

visit the Hancock Tower, Millennial Park, the Field Museum "as well as get some authentic Chicago pizza," Proffitt says. The students will experience "The Miracle Mile," one of the country's best shopping venues, on Sunday, March 24. Saturday, March 23, however, is the big day.

"The band gets a short run through and sound check, then the concert begins at 1 p.m.," says Proffitt. "We are the second band."

"We were actually invited a year ago, but the task of raising the money needed in a short amount of time was just too much," she relates. You can imagine the expense is great to travel with many band students for four days "So they deferred us to this year," says Proffitt. "We've been very fortunate. Our administration, our student body and the community have all gotten behind this and have supported us greatly."

The students themselves paid a portion of the expense, and donors have helped, as well.

"We received grants from the Walmart stores in Brookhaven, Ma-

gee and Natchez that really helped," says Proffitt. "Others have been so generous, and I am just so proud of this whole endeavor."

Traveling with the band will be Dr Stephanie Diuguid, Dean of Instruction; Proffitt; Assistant Director of Bands Charles Pounder and percussion instructor Chad Austin.

Dr. Jane Hulon, president of Co-Lin, will fly to Chicago on March 23 for the concert. "Now that's real support," says Proffitt.

If you are interested in making a contribution to help support the band, call the Co-Lin Foundation at 601-643-5101 and designate a gift for the trip. I have travelled all over on a bus with band students. There is nothing quite like it. This experience will be one they will never forget.

That's it for now. Remember my friends, support the arts!

EDITOR'S NOTE: R. Shaw Furlow is a local composer, musician and arts promoter. He produces an internet-based video show -- From the Shadyside -- that spotlights area musical talent and is a consultant to school bands in the region.

AREA ARTS

TV-EARS
Voice Clarifying TV Headset

Put on your TV Ears
and hear TV with unmatched clarity

A powerful hearing aid
for television since 1998

TV-Ears Original™

~~\$129.95~~

**NEW SPECIAL OFFER
NOW \$59.95**
+s&h

Use promo code MB59
30-day risk free trial

Call 1-888-369-0122
M-F 6am-6pm PST

Over 2 million
satisfied customers



**JOIN THE
TEAM THAT
MAKES A
DIFFERENCE.**

For every would be hacker there is a cyber professional ready to combat the enemy. The Army projects power in and through cyberspace and will not be defeated.

goarmy.com
#ArmyTeam



Healthy eating requires concentration

By Guest Columnist
Dr. Stephanie Duguid

March is National Nutrition Month. Take time to reevaluate your food choices and your plate.



Special to Wesson News

It is easy to get caught up in the daily hustle and choose quick, tasty foods prepared for us, whether it is fast food or pre-packaged food from the grocery store. When we choose those quick options, we are also choosing foods higher in sodium (salt) and fats, which can lead to high blood pressure and excessive weight gain, among other things. Choose foods that will make a big difference in your waistline, your overall health, and your energy levels.

Some pointers:

- **Balance your calories:** Stay physically active to burn the calories in your food choices.
- **Enjoy your food, but eat less:** When eating too fast or while your attention is focused elsewhere (i.e., on the television), you will consume too many calories. Pay attention to what you are consuming.
- **Avoid oversized portions:** Use a smaller plate, bowl, or glass. When eating out, share a dish or take part of your meal home for later.
- **Switch to fat-free or low-fat milk:** They have the same amount of calcium with a lot less fat!
- **Drink water instead of sugary drinks:** Cut calories by drinking water or unsweetened beverages. Most individuals forget to count the calories in sugary drinks consumed. Soda can have more than 200

LIVING + HEALTHY+

calories per serving!

Many times, we simply eat the foods we are served, even when the choices are healthy. The problem is that the standard size of foods have continually increased over the years while our activity levels have decreased. Twenty years ago, people consumed, on average, three-inch bagels (140 calories), 6.5-ounce sodas (82 calories) and five cups of popcorn (270 calories). Today, it's six-inch bagels (350 calories), 20-ounce sodas (250 calories) and eleven cups of popcorn (630 calories).

To make your decisions a little easier when thinking about meals, focus on the new "My Plate." Make your plate:

- Half fruits and vegetables
- One-quarter grains (whole grains preferred)

- One-quarter protein (lean proteins preferred)

- A small amount dairy

A final thought: When you go to the grocery store, concentrate on the perimeter of the store (outside area), where you will find the fresh fruits, fresh breads, fresh meats and dairy. When you begin to walk up and down the aisles, you find the processed foods. The longer a food lasts, the more preservatives (typically sodium/salt) it contains. Make a conscious choice to make the healthy foods your basic foods.

Here's to healthy eating!

EDITOR'S NOTE: Stephanie Duguid is Dean of Academic Instruction 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.

Benefit for veterans held at Lake Haze

Special to Wesson News

A 5K walk/run around Lake Haze at Hazlehurst will raise funds to assist veterans in Veterans Administration Nursing Homes.

Wesson-based Socks for Heroes is sponsoring "Hop Around the Lake" on Saturday, March 30, at the lake. The event will be held rain or shine and starts at 8 a.m.

Walkers and runners will compete in six male and female age categories: 19 and under, 20-29, 30-39, 40-49, 50-59 and 60 and over. All participants who finish the race will receive a finisher medal. Awards will be presented to men and women competitors who are winners in the overall race and in the

age group categories.

The fee is \$20 payable until March 15 during the early registration period and \$25 on race day. Registrants should choose to participate as walkers or runners. "Ghost runners" who cannot participate in the event can make a donation. Early registrants will receive event t-shirts.

For information and event registration forms, contact Cathy Stroud at 601-695-4140. Registrants can email completed forms to socksforheroes@yahoo.com and pay through PayPal or send forms and checks (payable to Socks for Heroes) to 1032 Cotton Street, Wesson, Mississippi 39191.

Skeetburger in Beauregard
Best Burger in Town
Salads, Baskets, Plates lunches,
PoBoys & Beverages
Tu-Th 11-7 • Fri-Sat 11-8
Closed on Sundays and Mondays
601-643-0048
Checks and all major credit cards

STIHL
WESSON ACE HARDWARE
2057 Hwy. 51 South • PO Box 547
Wesson, Mississippi 39191
wessonacehardware.com
TIM SUTTON – owner
YETI COOLERS 601-643-2636
601-643-9906 fax
601-695-4144 cell
BENCHMADE

Alfred's
Pharmacy & Gifts
214 W. Gallatin St. Hazlehurst, MS 39083
601-894-3571
Open Mon-Fri 8-6 Sat 8-5
Serving the Copiah County area for over 100 years

Job Fair FREE & OPEN TO THE PUBLIC!
<https://workforce.colin.edu/job-fair/>
MARCH 26, 2019
10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Copiah-Lincoln Community College, Thames Conference Center

TOP QUALITY MEMORIALS
WHEN IT'S PERMANENT, TRUST THE PROFESSIONALS
CHECK OUT OUR HUGE SELECTION
REMEMBER THE PEOPLE YOU LOVE
WITH A TOP QUALITY MEMORIAL FROM BROOKHAVEN MONUMENT COMPANY.
SPRINGTIME MEANS NEW INVENTORY ARRIVING WEEKLY
BROOKHAVEN MONUMENT COMPANY, INC.
YOUR FIRST CHOICE FOR OVER 70 YEARS
807 HIGHWAY 51 NORTH • P.O. BOX 727 • BROOKHAVEN, MS 39602
601-833-5701

Mill Town Mall

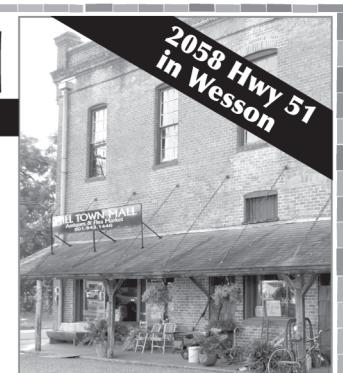
Over 50 Vendor Booths & 15,000 sq. ft. of Merchandise

Antiques, Collectibles
&
Flea Market Items

Something for everyone!

9 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Saturday

601-643-1446





P.O. Box 1028
Wesson, MS 39191
601-990-3003
ClayMansell@WessonNews.com

Volume 7, Number 3
Circulation 5,000

Publisher/Owner
Clay Mansell
ClayMansell@WessonNews.com

Editor
Bob Arnold
BobArnold@WessonNews.com

Designer
Brad Henderson
Designer@WessonNews.com

Special Contributors

Dr. Stephanie Duguid
Healthy Living
R. Shaw Furlow
Area Arts
Rebecca Bates
Tending Your Garden

Sales
Susalyn Bennett
susalyn@ourhometownpaper.com

Wesson News is published on the second Tuesday of every month in Wesson, Mississippi.

For submission information, email ClayMansell@WessonNews.com

Copyright © 2019 All rights reserved.
Materials may not be reproduced in whole or in part without written permission of the publisher.

For reprints of any article, please contact the editor.

Police Blotter

Special to Wesson News

During February, Wesson Police Department activity encompassed:

Reported

- Five vehicle accidents
- One petit larceny
- One trespassing
- One shoplifting
- One family disturbance

Arrests & citations:

- One contempt of court
- One improper passing
- One expired driver's license
- Five no insurance
- One careless driving
- 29 speeding

A Wesson Police officer is on duty during school hours at Wesson Attendance Center every day. Wesson Police also conduct nightly business checks at the school. On school days, they facilitate traffic, with officers on duty between 7 a.m. and 8 a.m. and 3 p.m. and 3:30 p.m.

Community Calendar

March weather forecast: The Old Farmer's Almanac calls for an average temperatures 60 degrees (four degrees above average) with precipitation five inches (one inch below average). March 12-19: A few t-storms; warm, then cool. March 20-24: Sunny, turning warm. March 25-31: T-storms, the sunny cool.

MARCH 12

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. \$5 for meal. VFW Hall on Industrial Park Road, Brookhaven. 5:30 p.m.

MARCH 14

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 601-835-8137.

NAMI 4Rivers family support group meets on the second Thursday of each month. Free, confidential and peer-led, the group includes caregivers and loved ones of individuals living with mental illness. Cannon Hall at First Episcopal Church, Brookhaven. 6:30 p.m.-8 p.m.

Wesson Lions Club meets. Co-Lin Student Cafeteria. 6 p.m. (Board). 6:30 p.m. (Membership).

MARCH 18

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.

MARCH 19

Copiah County Master Gardeners meeting on third Tuesday of each month. Mississippi State University Extension Office at Gallman. Member meeting at 5 p.m. & educational program open to the public at 6 p.m.

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

WorkKeys Assessment for Career Readiness. Must register in advance. 601-643-8707. Thames Center on Co-Lin campus. 8:45 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Also March 20, April 3 & 4.

MARCH 20

OSHA 10-hour construction training covers health and safety topics related to construction industry. Must register in advance. Call 601-643-8707. 8 a.m.-3 p.m. on Co-Lin Wesson campus.

MARCH 21

Wings & Warriors Weekend begins with meet & greets, with sponsors from Walmart, Sam's & Socks for Heroes on hand. 9a.m.-1 p.m. registration. Full-day of hunting for Turkey Teams on March 22. Hunting, Biggest Bird Contest & Memorial Bonfire on March 23. Church service & testimonials on March 24. Slay Wilderness at Martinsville, Mississippi.

Institute for Learning in Retirement Day trip to Philadelphia, Mississippi, includes stops at Holy Rosary Catholic Church, Choctaw Indian Reservation and Cultural Center, Ye Ole Drug Store Deli and Williams Store. \$75 Departs Thames Center at 7 a.m.

MARCH 28

Institute for Learning in Retirement workshop, "Helpful Hints for Consumers," led by Dr. Alex Washington, Chief Policy

Advisor at the Mississippi Public Service Commission, will explore computer and phone safety, scams and other consumer protection issues. \$3. Thames Center. 10 a.m.

MARCH 25

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.

MARCH 26

Co-Lin's 2019 Pathways Job Fair will match job hunters and employers. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Thames Conference Center on the college's Wesson campus.

MARCH 28

Planning continues for 2019 Relay For Life of Copiah/Lincoln event scheduled April 5 at Exchange Club Park in Brookhaven. Team captains will meet. Exchange Club Park. 12 Noon.

Wesson Lions Club membership meeting. 6:30 p.m. Co-Lin Student Cafeteria.

MARCH 30

Disc Golf Clash Doubles. Chautauqua Park at Crystal Springs, Mississippi. 7:30 a.m.

A 5K walk/run sponsored by Wesson-based Socks for Heroes will raise funds to assist veterans in Veterans Administration Nursing Homes. Fee is \$20 payable until March 15 during the early registration period and \$25 on race day. Around Lake Haze at Hazlehurst. Starts at 8 a.m. rain or shine. For information and event registration forms, contact Cathy Stroud at 601-695-0414

APRIL 2

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

APRIL 6

Combined Co-Lin band program Colette and Color Guard High School clinics. The cost of the clinics is \$20 per student and includes lunch. There is a \$5 discount for each clinic previously attended by the student. Mullen Gymnasium on Co-Lin campus. 9:30 a.m.-3 p.m.

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.

GREAT PRICES ON USED CARS & TRUCKS
COME SEE US, AT WILSON AUTO SALES!

410 HIGHWAY 51 N., BROOKHAVEN 601-823-0077

ADVERTISE WITH



Mailed for Free to every home in the 39191 Zip Code
www.WessonNews.com
601-990-3003
Bob Arnold, Editor

New program trains aspiring teachers

Special to Wesson News

The Mississippi Department of Education (MDE) is inviting aspiring teachers -- people of color, veterans and community college students -- to apply for the new Mississippi Teacher Residency (MTR), a two-year program that combines coursework and on-the-job training to prepare 35 prospective educators for the teaching profession. Applications for the 2019-20 school year will be accepted through March 15.

The MTR program is for people who want to become teachers but are not currently enrolled in an educator preparation program at a four-year college or university. MTR applicants must have an associate

degree or at least 60 college credits in a degree program. The program is part of a statewide strategy to expand and diversify the teacher pipeline so that all students have teachers who are well-prepared, appropriately licensed and can serve as role models. The project is funded by a \$4.1 million grant from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation.

Teacher residents will complete a two-year undergraduate elementary education and special education program, while working alongside an experienced teacher mentor in one of four participating districts -- Jackson Public Schools, Sunflower County Consolidated School District, Gulfport School District and Ocean Springs School

District. Residents will receive a full scholarship funded by the W.K. Kellogg Foundation and may receive a housing allowance through the AmeriCorps program. Participants who successfully complete the MTR program and pass required licensure exams will receive a three-year educator license. Residents must commit to teaching for three years in the district where they completed their residency.

"The Mississippi Teacher Residency program will create a new pathway for educators to enter the profession and get the support they need to be successful," said Dr. Carey Wright, state superintendent of education. "Innovative models such as teacher residency programs

are needed to address the national and statewide teacher shortage."

W.K. Kellogg is also funding a performance-based licensure pilot program to help a select group of Mississippi teachers with provisional licenses become fully licensed. The program is aimed at teachers who have proven to be effective in the classroom, but are struggling to pass licensure exams. Recruitment for the performance-based licensure pilot program is starting this month.

For more information and for a complete list of MTR program requirements, visit <https://mdek12.org/OTL/MTR>. Email questions to mtr@mdek12.org or call the MDE Office of Teaching and Leading at 601-359-3631.

Wesson MSA student receives award

Special to Wesson News

A Mississippi School of the Arts (MSA) Visual Arts student from Wesson was among award winner in the prestigious Regional Scholastic Art Competition hosted by The Mississippi Museum of Art.

Katherine Westbrook, a senior literary student from Wesson, received a Silver Key and an Honorable Mention. In total, MSA students received two American Visions Award Nominations, twenty-four Gold Keys (two portfolios), eighteen Silver Keys (1 portfolio), and forty-three Honorable Mentions (4 portfolios).

The works of Westbrook and the other talented young artists receiving American Visions and Gold and Silver Keys will be on display at the Mississippi Museum of Art in Jackson through March 24 as part of the exhibition for the Scholastic Art Awards Competition.

The Mississippi Museum of Art hosts the Mississippi Regional Competition each year. Students from middle,

junior high, and senior high schools from across the state participate in the competition. A panel of judges evaluates approximately 2,000 entries in a wide variety of categories over several days. They look for works that exemplify the Awards' core values of originality, technical skill, and the emergence of personal voice or vision. Works awarded American Visions and Gold Keys advance to the national competition.

MSA is an eleventh and twelfth grade visual and performing arts residential, public high school located on the historic Whitworth College campus in Brookhaven. Students meet and exceed the traditional Mississippi high school curriculum and receive special instruction in visual arts, vocal music, dance, literary arts, filmmaking/media arts and theatre. The school's ACT average is second in the state. Its 2018 graduating class of 65 seniors received \$10.8 million dollars in college scholarship offers. For more information, visit www.msabrookhaven.org or call 601-823-1300.

Job fair matches job hunters & employers

Special to Wesson News

Co-Lin's 2019 Pathways Job Fair will match job hunters and employers on Tuesday, March 26, at the Billy B. Thames Conference Center on the college's Wesson campus.

The doors will be open from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m., and members of the community, as well Co-Lin students looking for jobs, are welcome to the free event. Human resource recruiters representing local and regional employers will be available to speak with job seekers. Employers at the event will accept resumes and applications, as well as provide career information.

"We are expecting a record number of employers this year and would love to see the community benefit from this opportunity," says Workforce Education Director Angela Berch. "All job seekers should make this event a priority by perfecting their

resume and preparing their interview skills.

This event is part of ongoing activities of Co-Lin to promote the business climate of the college's district, surrounding areas and Mississippi as a whole. Its Workforce Education division also oversees a regional work ready initiative that documents skills of workers through ACT WorkKeys testing and the National Career Readiness Certificate (NCRC), which gives job seekers an advantage in launching or advancing careers and assists employers in identifying foundational skills applicants possess, improving retention and reducing hiring and training time.

Learn more about the Job Fair and WorkKeys testing at <https://workforce.colin.edu/news/go2jobfair/> and <https://workforce.colin.edu/calendar/all/> or call the Co-Lin Workforce Education division at 601-643-8707.

Southern Welding Supply, INC.



676 Industrial Park Rd NE
Brookhaven 601-833-5037

COME CHECK OUT OUR FULL STOCK OF TRAILERS



Time for White Cemetery Irises

By Guest Columnist Rebecca Bates

This is a good time to look for one of our more prevalent heirloom iris – a tough survivor known as the "White Cemetery Iris," or Iris albicans. It's a plant that has had a long journey – first used in North Africa as a decoration on gravesites, from there to Spain, and finally to the New World.

White Cemetery Iris is a species cross that is unable to make seed on its own. Instead, it is spread by being passed from hand to hand. You will often see it blooming where a house once stood, and it's able to survive unaided in pastures along the roadside. The flash of bluetinged white blooms give away the location of the plants in the spring.

Although the recommended time for digging and relocating bearded iris is during the dry time of late summer, White Cemetery Iris recover well if dug when flowering.

Trim off older portions of the rhizomes and cut the leaves back to 1/3 their length. Iris should be planted with the tops of the rhizomes almost out on the surface of the ground. They do not need coddling with extra water and fertilizer once established.

An often-repeated gardeners' tale about White Cemetery Iris is that they "take over" patches of purple iris until very quickly the purple blooms are gone for good. Even though this should not happen if iris don't set seed, there are plenty of people who swear they have seen individual plants which began with purple flowers, then purple and white, until finally only white remained.

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

TENDING YOUR GARDEN



51 Diner
Good Home Cooking
Dine-In or Takeout
1096 Highway 51
Wesson, Mississippi 39191
601-643-5100

BF
Bank of Franklin
601-990-3020
Real People. Real Answers.
Real Community Banking.
FDIC

CC Copiah County Economic Development District
A black and white photograph of a man and a woman standing together. The man is wearing glasses and a dark jacket, and the woman is wearing a striped shirt.

Let's Do Business!

Come share a bright future with us!

Business Friendly County Government
Abundant Natural Resources

Close Proximity to Major Markets
Family Friendly Communities

www.CopiahWorks.com **601-894-4126**

BANE DRUGS

Spring Treats!



Tart & rich. The ultimate indulgence.



Delicious duo of sweet caramel & finely grained sea salt.

Next to Piggly Wiggly, across from the Mississippi School of the Arts

Hours: Monday-Friday: 8am - 6pm Saturday: 9am - 1pm

601-833-1922



TEAM CLAIRE

Heroes Discount Program

Fairway Independent Mortgage Corporation is proud to support our **hometown heroes** by waiving lender fees (processing and underwriting)* for all:

- Police
- Firefighters
- Nurses
- Doctors
- EMTs
- Teachers

Claire Crow
Branch Sales Manager | NMLS #826544
Cell: 601-757-3476
claire.crow@fairwaymc.com

Jo Ann Miller
Loan Officer Assistant

I am not licensed to discuss loan products. Please contact the branch directly and ask to speak with a licensed Loan Officer if you are looking for a loan.

601-276-5050 • 275 South Railroad Ave., #2 • Brookhaven, MS 39601

Contact Claire today for more information or apply online!
www.loanswithclaire.com

*May not be redeemed for cash. One \$1,145 discount on Lender Fee per loan. Discount will be applied as a lender credit on a Closing Disclosure at closing. Loan must close and fund with Fairway Branch 573. Offer not available on bond loans. Special incentive offer subject to change without notice. This offer not valid with any other incentives or discounts. Borrower is responsible for the down payment. No part of credit can apply to or offset down payment. Copyright©2019 Fairway Independent Mortgage Corporation. NMLS#2289. 4750 S. Biltmore Lane, Madison, WI 53718, 1-866-912-4800. All rights reserved. This is not an offer to enter into an agreement. Not all customers will qualify. Information, rates and programs are subject to change without notice. All products are subject to credit and property approval. Other restrictions and limitations may apply. Equal Housing Lender. Loan must close on or before December 31, 2019.



WESSON AREA DINING GUIDE

MAGNOLIA Blues
GOOD TIMES
EST. 2013

Steaks served starting Thursdays & continuing while supply lasts. Our menu also features homemade burgers, fried chicken & barbecue pork & chicken.

Sports Bar & Restaurant



505 West Monticello Street • Brookhaven 601-990-2366
3 p.m.-10 p.m. Monday-Thursday || 3 p.m.-Midnight Friday || 2 p.m. to Midnight Saturday
Happy Hour 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. Trivia on Tuesdays Open Mic Night Wed. 8 p.m. Live Music Fri. & Sat. 8 p.m.
Steaks Served While Supply Lasts Starting Thursdays. Baseball on Big Screen TV.

POPPA'S FISH HOUSE



"Lettuce" show you why Poppa's has the best salad bar in town

601-833-2060 • 204 Hwy 51 North • Brookhaven, MS

ASHLEY'S 51 STOP
2061 Hwy 51 • Wesson • 601-643-0072 • Open Everyday

MUCH MORE THAN A C-STORE!
for all your feed needs



\$1.00 BAG ICE • 12 PACK COKE PRODUCTS • NON-ETHANOL GAS

PORCHES RESTAURANT

WEEKDAY LUNCHES
TUESDAY-FRIDAY, 11 A.M.-2 P.M.

SUNDAY LUNCH
11:30 A.M.-2 P.M.

601-643-9035
1193 HIGHWAY 51 WESSON, MS



Food Now Served From Our New Kitchen.



CHICKEN ON A STICK • SWEET TEA •

HUNT BROTHERS PIZZA
Whole or By the Hunk

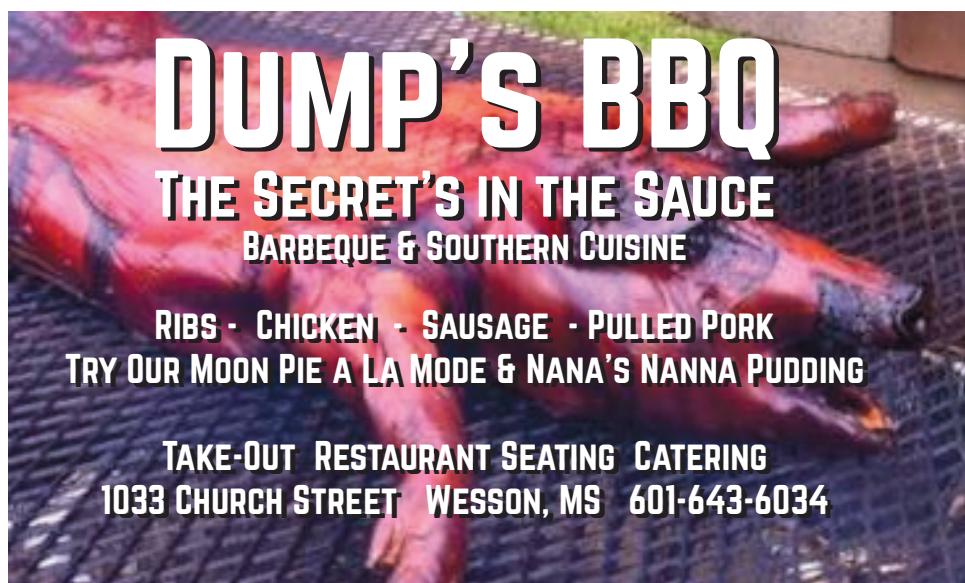
SHOP 'N WASH
510 Main Street • Wesson
601-643-5676 • Open Everyday

MARATHON

DUMP'S BBQ
THE SECRET'S IN THE SAUCE
BARBECUE & SOUTHERN CUISINE

RIBS - CHICKEN - SAUSAGE - PULLED PORK
TRY OUR MOON PIE A LA MODE & NANA'S NANNA PUDDING

TAKE-OUT RESTAURANT SEATING CATERING
1033 CHURCH STREET WESSON, MS 601-643-6034



Black History Month celebrated



The Cobra Steppers



Minister Davion Brown



WHS Gospel Ensemble



The Cobra Spirit Daners

Wesson News

Wesson News

By Bob Arnold

"You are here on earth for a reason -- to do something -- and it's never too early to discover your purpose," Minister Davion Brown, an associate pastor at Mt. Wade Missionary Baptist Church in Brookhaven, told a student assembly at Wesson High School's (WHS) 13th annual celebration of Black History Month.

Brown, also a 19-year old student at Mississippi College who aspires to be a mortician and continuing to be a preacher, said "discovering your purpose starts with knowing your passions."

"Ask yourself five great questions," he counseled. "What are you willing to struggle for? Everything sucks some of the time, but what will you tolerate and be willing to handle during the rough patches? What did you love doing as your eight-year-old self? What did you do for the joy of the fun of it, without rewards? What makes you forget to eat? Time passes quickly when you're doing something your love. How are you going to save the world? There are many things in which you can lose yourself in making a difference and a contribution to the world -- education, economic development, fighting poverty or corruption. If you know you're going to die a year from now, what would you do and how would you want to be remembered? Thinking about death is useful. What do you want your obituary to say?"

Purpose-driven people, Brown pointed out, also surround themselves

with people who push them towards their purpose.

"Your circle should encompass people who help you realize your destiny, not those pulling you away from it," he said. "We often hook up with people in our same dysfunction so we will feel normal, but we all can find that one person who always helps and never hinders us," he added. "Jesus, who will never forsake you!"

At the celebration framed by "Representing Yesterday's Struggle, Today's Progress & Tomorrow's Success" as its theme, the WHS Gospel Ensemble interspersed inspirational music, including Stephen Hurd's "Hallelujah, Salvation & Glory," Anthony Brown's "Trust in You," Travis Greene's "Intentional" and Rev. Timothy Wright's "Who's on the Lord's Side." The ensemble's featured soloists were Tyler Fuller, Kierra Hermans and guest Mrs. Tamica Steward. Performances by WHS's Cobra Spirit Dancers and Cobra Steppers and Brookhaven-based God's Movement Mime Ministry included a dance interpretation of Tauren Wells' "Known" choreographed and directed by WHS student Elizabeth Shirley; a routine directed by O'Kaya Barlow and Stacey Martin incorporating stepping, clapping and words that recaptured the African tradition of foot music, created when drums were banned; and an interpretation of John Legend's "Glory." Taliyah Whitcomb and Paris Dickerson read Countee Cullen's "Hey, Black Child." and Maya Angelou's "Phenomenal

Woman."

A display of more than 800 posters on the walls of the WAC old gym surrounded the speakers, readers, singers and dancers during the program and told a visual story of African American history. The posters, an annual tradition at the event, are a product of students in the English and theater classes taught by Albert Brown, who has coordinated the Black History Month celebration program since its inception.

Brown's students select and research a person or event important in the history of African Americans and

report on it in their classes through the posters and other visuals and a narrative. Brown archives the posters and displays them at the Black History event every year with new ones.

In addition to Brown, Kendra Armistad, Skye Heard and others who were part of the the program, Coach Phillip Knight, Coach Rusty Newman, Jay Waller, Nias Mendez, Latonya Collins, Mark Dickerson, Diego Mendez and Caitlyn Williams assisted in producing the event. Brown's theater classes in grades nine through twelve did the stage and production work.



Riverwood Family

Funeral Service • Memorial Park • Cremation Service • Monuments



- Honoring ALL policies and arrangements made and written by any other funeral service provider
- Most Experienced Staff to serve your family
- Most Spacious Facility offered in our area
- Best Priced and Most Thoughtfully arranged services
- Offering the most affordable pricing on Pre-Arrangements or Time of Need Services
- Also offering Monuments and Markers for all Cemeteries for any budget

601-833-6680

76 US-51, Brookhaven www.riverwoodfamily.com

**NEED A FLAG?
ANY FLAG?**

LITTLE DIXIE SUTLER

RAILROAD CROSSING
OPEN

FLAGS BAGS TAGS RAGS
STUFF YOU'LL NEVER FIND AT WALMART

1015 Eighth Street Wesson
Contact Mike Webb 601-757-6322
WEBBYJOE@AOL.COM

Little Dixie Sutler

FLAGS BAGS TAGS RAGS
STUFF YOU'LL NEVER FIND AT WALMART

1015 Eighth Street Wesson
Contact Mike Webb 601-757-6322
WEBBYJOE@AOL.COM

Family-friendly customer service builds business

By Bob Arnold

Back in 1998, Sissy Strange tried purchasing an existing pawn shop in McComb to go into a business that has been a part of her life since she grew up in Natchez, but the deal fell through. Her husband, Bobby Strange, who, for many years, had operated Bobby's Starter Alternator & Electric Service between Brookhaven and Bogue Chitto on Highway 51, consoled his wife: "We'll build a pawn shop." And that they did.

On January 1, 2000, she and her son, Ryan, opened 51 Pawn and Gun across the driveway from the starter/alternator repair business. That was the much-feared Y2K, the day all computers were supposed to crash, when the turn-of-the century date change would cause them to fail, along with everything they controlled -- lifelines and infrastructure, airplanes, manufacturing, just about anything that's critical in the modern world.

The media-driven fears aside, the world didn't stop that day. In the midst of worries about impending disaster world-wide, however, it was the beginning of two decades of growth for the new Strange family business.

"With the exception of the roof and exterior walls, we built the store entirely from scratch -- doing all the inside work, including shelving, flooring and electrical," Ryan recounts.

For Sissy, it was a matter of coming back to a family business in which she was reared. She had worked

in construction and became part owner of Bobby's Starter Alternator & Electric Service and its secretary after her marriage before starting the store. Her business interests now also include rental homes, but 51 Pawn and Gun is her main focus.

For Ryan, then 17 years old, it was an opportunity to make a good living in a business with a secure future.

"The pawn profession is the second oldest," he points out. "People have borrowed small amounts of money for collateral since before Biblical times. There has always been a need and always will be." Ryan is a member of the Pawn Association and attributes much of the success he has helped bring to the store to his "networking and listening to people with twenty years experience in the business."

Today, 51 Pawn and Gun is one of the largest pawn shops and firearms dealers in a market area that reaches as far north as Jackson and encompasses Copiah, Franklin, Lawrence and Lincoln Counties. Firearms and fishing equipment were sold at the store from the start to complement the pawn trade, and both components of the business have grown together.

The store sold some 2,500 firearms to hunters and gun enthusiasts last year from a selection of about 500, including pistols, shotguns, various rifles and collectibles. Commercial fishermen also patronize the store, searching



Management crew at 51 Pawn and Gun (left to right) are Sissy Strange, president/owner; Josh Strange, assistant manager; Candice Strange, secretary; and Ryan Strange, manager.

for specialized equipment they want. Pawn borrowers add electronic equipment, shop, yard and garden tools; and jewelry to the product mix.

As with most small businesses, 51 Pawn and Gun struggled for its first three years, but Bobby's Starter Alternator & Electric Service gave it the financial help it needed during its early life and generated the initial customer traffic, which has steadily grown as others have discovered the friendly customer service of the family business. The store occupied some 3,000 square feet initially and has doubled its space since opening. Two other family members have also come on board -- Candice Strange, Sissy's daughter-in-law and Ryan's wife, in 2003 as secretary; Sissy's son Josh, in 2015 as assistant manager.

"Today, we number our customers in the thousands," Ryan relates. "When

we're busy from Christmas through the hunting season, we get about 125-130 customers a day. It's thirty to fifty customers a day in the slower season." Sissy adds: "Our customers pass by seven or eight other places to come to us."

The store has emphasized involvement in the community both as good citizenship and good business. In the Bogue Chitto area, it cooperates with schools and other organizations in sponsoring sports teams and local events -- gaining attention for its business and recognition for its community service at the same time. From November through January each year, it also sponsors a popular Big Buck contest for hunters, who brought 70 deer they had bagged to the store to be measured for the annual prize last year.

Customer service is 51 Pawn and Gun strong suit, however, the Stranges says. "Our customers come here to both conduct business and hang out," Candice explains. "They drink coffee with us while they shop or borrow money. We prepare seven pots a day." The pawn borrowers, she says, appreciate that "we're lenient on due dates and try not to sell their items if they have the capacity to repay loans." Ryan stresses: "We're not predatory lenders. We don't sue people or place liens on their property." The store also offers very competitive prices that generate a profitable turnover, while pleasing shoppers at the same time.

Airport, babies, pecans, armories, jobs & trains

Special to Wesson News

Airport renovation. Brookhaven aldermen have approved a \$12 million capital improvement plan at the Brookhaven-Lincoln County Airport for additions and renovations over the next two decades. They voted to borrow \$600,000 on a five-year note to begin design and bidding on a strip hangar, which gets the ball rolling toward completion of a list of short-term goals laid out by engineer Ryan Holmes with Dungan Engineering. In January, the aldermen approved a \$41,000 refurbishing of the airport's Automated Weather Observing System, which provides real-time information on barometric pressure, wind speed, visibility and precipitation. The system had been down for several months.

Baby-Friendly hospital. King's Daughters Medical Center in Brookhaven has received prestigious international recognition by Baby-Friendly USA, an offshoot of the World Health Organization and

United Nations Children's Fund, as a designated Baby-Friendly facility for offering an optimal level of care for breastfeeding mothers and their babies. There are more than 20,000 designated Baby-Friendly hospitals and birth centers worldwide and 557 active Baby-Friendly hospitals and birth centers in the United States. The award was made following a rigorous on-site survey.

Pecan-growing workshop. Commercial pecan growers can learn about orchard establishment and management during the 2019 Pecan Education Workshop March 20 at the Raymond Central Mississippi Research and Extension Center. Experts with the Mississippi State University Extension Service and Mississippi Agricultural and Forestry Experiment Station will cover horticulture and pest

management

topics, including grafting, irrigation, pecan varieties, and weed, disease, insect and wildlife management. The workshop begins at 8:30 a.m. and ends at 4:30 p.m. Preregistration is required by March 12 and costs \$35

per person. The fee includes lunch, refreshments and educational materials. To register after March 12, contact Rebecca Melanson at 601-857-2284 to check seating availability.

National Guard location changes. Lawrence County will be the new home for the Mississippi National Guard Headquarters Company, which is moving from Laurel to the Monticello armory. The Headquarters Detachment, 106th Support Battalion, is moving from Monticello to Hattiesburg. The

battalion's Company B, 106th BSB, formerly at Camp Shelby, is now based at the Laurel Army National Guard Readiness Center. Brig. Gen. Clint Walker, commander of the 184th SC at Camp Buehring, Kuwait, is expecting a smooth transition to Lawrence County from Laurel and Hattiesburg.

Jobless rates. Current unemployment rates are 5.1 percent in Lincoln County, 5.4 percent in Lawrence County, 6 percent in Copiah County and 6.5 percent in Franklin County compared to the 4.7 percent state average and 3.7 percent nationally.

More trains coming. With Amtrak changes, the area could see more tourists coming to the area in the future. Amtrak plans to add more trains between Memphis and New Orleans. Currently, The City of New Orleans is the only passenger train that runs through the area, with stops in Jackson, Brookhaven and McComb.

NEWS NUGGETS

MSA teams winners in stock market game

Special to Wesson News

Most people consult their financial advisors for investing tips and strategies. Now you might find the top advisors at your local school. Students from the Mississippi School of the Arts (MSA), coached by Vickie Malone, were named Region Five first place winners in the fall high school division of the Mississippi Stock Market Game (SMG).

The simulation is one of the most effective learning tools focused on the free enterprise system for students in grades four through 12. The program enables teams of students to invest a hypothetical \$100,000 in the stock market over a 13-week period. Winners are determined on the percentage return above or below S&P 500 growth. The MSA first place team outperformed the S&P by 3.4% with a portfolio of \$94,135.

First and second place teams in each region from each division will receive awards in awards ceremonies at their schools.

SMG is an online education program used in thousands of classrooms nationwide to help teach math, social studies, business, economics and language skills. It uses a curriculum correlated with Mississippi College and Career Ready Standards that meets the criteria of a Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) program. Students in grades four through twelve participate in teams and manage a simulated investment portfolio during the school year. Teachers report that math scores increase when the SMG is used in the classroom.

More than 600 securities firms sponsor SMG with grassroots supporters in schools and communities. It is the only stock market simulation supported by the New York Stock Exchange and the NASDAQ Stock Market. BancorpSouth, Entergy, Ingalls Ship Building, MGM Resorts Foundation, Regions Bank, and Trustmark National Bank are 2018-19 sponsors.

MARKETPLACE MOTORS Little Lot - Big Savings



Roland Price
110 Market Place
Hazlehurst, MS 39083

marketplacemotors.net
601-750-2277
Across from Walmart



2007 Escalade Premium

AWD, moon roof, DVD, NAVI, leather, chrome 20's, sharp

- 2007 Volvo S60 One Owner, Leather, Sunroof, New Tires
- 2012 Chev. Traverse 2LT One Owner, Third Row Seat, Low Mileage, Rear A/C & Heat
- 2008 Chev. Avalanche LTX Low Mileage, Heated Leather Buckets, Tow Package, Bose Music, SHARP!
- 2014 Nissan Altima S Model Black Beauty, Only 47k Miles, Great Gas Mileage, Nice
- 2014 GMC Yukon XL **SOLD!** Leather, Bose, Rear A/C & Heat, "Family Ready"
- 2014 Chrysler Town & Country Touring Package, stowaway seats, Rear A/C & heat, leather, DVD
- 2012 Mazda Miata Convertible Touring Edition, automatic new tires, power hardtop, ONLY 18,000 actual miles - LIKE NEW
- 2011 Ford Expedition Leather buckets, DVD, new tires, power lift gate, heated seats, third row seats
- 2011 Chevrolet Malibu **SOLD!** 2LT pkg., power seat, windows, locks,
- 2013 KIA Soul Special Edition Premium Pkg., new tires, automatic, Alloy Wheels, Great Gas Mileage!
- 2008 Ford F250 Super Duty W/Tommy Lift, V8, gas, XL work truck pkg., one owner \$5000
- 2012 Mercedes GLK 350 4 matic Premium package



2010 Chevy Tahoe LTZ

4WD, every option, nav, rear camera, sun roof, leather

- 2014 Hyundai Sonata GLS Low mileage, fully loaded, great gas mileage, Black Beauty!
- 2011 KIA Sorento EX Leather, sunroof, power seats, windows, cruise, tilt, Great SUV
- 2012 Jeep Patriot Sport SUV **SOLD!** Low mileage, power windows, locks, cruise, tilt, Great First Car!
- 2011 Ford F150 Supercrew 4X4, XLT, One Owner, Leather, Off Road Pkg., Bargain!
- 2013 Dodge Journey SXT Third Row Seat, 6 Cyl., Almost New Tires, Perfect!
- 2005 Chevy Suburban LT X-Tra Nice, Leather, Rear A/C, DVD, Bucket Seats
- 2004 Ford Thunderbird Convertible 1 Owner, Only 66k Miles, Both Tops, Leather!
- 2013 GMC Yukon XL leather, Denali grill, Rear A/C & Heat, new tires
- 2009 Dodge Dakota SLT Longhorn **SOLD!** Club Cab 4-door, 6-Cyl, New Tires, Nice Truck!
- 2011 Buick Enclave CXL Third-Row Seat w/Leather, New Michelin Tires
- 2007 Chevy Tahoe LT Heated Leather Buckets, Bose Music, Tow Package, Great Price!

VIEW MORE ONLINE AT MARKETPLACEMOTORS.NET or
COME SEE US TODAY ACROSS FROM WALMART ON LAKE STREET!



WE FINANCE
Just bring in your last pay stub and your
down payment and drive out TODAY!

TAX-REFUND SALES

- DINING, LIVING ROOM & BEDROOM GROUPS
 - SECTIONALS • ACCENT CABINETS
 - CONSOLES • RECLINERS • MATTRESS SETS •
 - LEATHER

TH. PERKINS FURNITURE CO.

Highland Square Shopping Center • 830 Brookway Blvd. • 601-833-1143
520 Brookway Blvd. • Brookhaven • 601-833-7351 • Mon.-Sat. 9-6
Visit us at www.thperkinsfurniture.com

FAMILY OWNED & OPERATED FOR 131 YEARS

Lowery, Payn, and Leggett

Certified Public Accountants
ACCOUNTING, TAX, AND AUDITING SERVICES

Patrick E. Lowery, CPA
Sharon E. Payn, CPA
Stacy B. Leggett, CPA

601-833-1456 • FAX 601-833-9896
207 SOUTH RAILROAD AVENUE • BROOKHAVEN

Wesson

By Bob Arnold

Some 45 percent of students on Co-Lin's Wesson campus come from outside Copiah and Lincoln Counties -- 24 percent from other counties that are part of the college's district (Adams, Franklin, Jefferson, Lawrence and Simpson), 19 percent from other parts of Mississippi and two per cent from out-of-state. Almost 600, with another 100 joining them when the college's new women's honors dormitory opens -- live on campus, becoming residents of Wesson and part of the community's life.

Art student Rachel Hollingsworth, a freshman fine arts student from Franklin County, which sends Co-Lin six percent of its Wesson student population, is one of those campus residents.

Hollingsworth chose Co-Lin as "the place to be," in line with the college's promotion theme, to be near home while getting away from it and living on her own.

"Co-Lin was the smartest option," she says. "My sisters went to Co-Lin, and I know people who are also attending the college. I like the small atmosphere, and it's a good place to prepare academically for pursuing a degree at a four-year school."

For a small town girl like Hollingsworth, it can be life-changing. Jack and Elaine Hollingsworth are her parents, and her father, a school administrator and former teacher, "is known by everybody in Franklin County," she says. "I couldn't get away with anything," she jokes. So while small, Co-Lin is liberating for the Meadville native.

offers new life for student

In Franklin County, where there is one elementary school, one middle/junior high school and one high school, Hollingsworth went to school with the same classmates from grade one until graduating from Franklin County High School. So Co-Lin has brought new faces into her life.

Since starting to think about careers as a student in Franklin County schools, Hollingsworth thought she would pursue a career in healthcare and concentrated on science courses. Then in her senior year at Franklin County High School, an art teacher -- Sara Stebins -- changed her direction.

"Her class wasn't just about drawing and working with art media, but explored art history and the lives of artists whose works we tried to emulate," she explains. At Co-Lin, she is starting to build the life of an artist.

"I am not the best artist, but I am alright and bettering myself," Hollingsworth says of her experience in the Co-Lin program. "I am drawing, painting and working in ceramics. I now want to teach art and also see myself creating my own works in a studio." Hollingsworth cites Vincent Van Gogh as her favorite painter and likes his works featuring lavender fields.

Hollingsworth was a cheerleader at Franklin County High School when she wasn't studying. She also started working to help her parents pay for her college education -- babysitting, waitressing at a Bude restaurant, making and selling snow cones at a stand and teaching little girls jumps and moves at a cheer

gym. Since coming to Co-Lin, she has waitressed at Magnolia Blues restaurant in Brookhaven.

After Co-Lin, Collingsworth is looking at the University of Southern Mississippi to complete work on her four-year degree.

Have you discovered a life in Wesson?

My life is largely about studies, but I have discovered the 51 Diner.

Do you have a life -- hobbies, for example -- outside of your studies and working to pay for school?

I like animals. I worked as a volunteer for Brookhaven Animal Rescue League, cleaning cages, walking dogs. I now care for my own pets -- two cats, a black and chocolate Labrador, and a catqhoula cur -- a spotted hunting dog, which was a graduation present from an ex-boyfriend. I also continue to be active in Meadville Baptist Church, where I have spent most of my life, and work with pre-kindergartners in the Sunday School.

Are you a reader?

To Kill a Mocking Bird is my favorite book. The era it describes seems weird to me today, and the good character it demonstrates is inspiring. For my biology class, I am currently reading *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks* about a poor black tobacco farmer whose cells -- taken without her knowledge in 1951 -- became one of the most important tools in developing the polio vaccine, cloning, gene mapping, and in vitro fertilization, and more. Her so-called HeLa cells have been bought and sold by the billions, yet she remains virtually unknown, and her

family can't afford health insurance.

How about movies and theater?

I enjoy comedies and old 1980s movies. *Ferris Bueller's Day Off* is a favorite. I remember visiting New York City and seeing *Lion King* and *Wicked* on Broadway.

Jennifer Joanna Aniston, the daughter of actors John Aniston and Nancy Dow, is my favorite actress. She portrayed Rachel Green in the television sitcom *Friends* and played in numerous comedies and romantic comedies -- *Bruce Almighty*, *The Break-Up*, *Marley & Me*, *Just Go with It*, *Horrible Bosses*, *We're the Millers*.

And music?

My taste in music is eclectic. The Beatles, Nirvana, Pink Floyd, 3 Doors Down, rapper J Cole. I am a listener and play no musical instrument.

If you won the lottery, how would you spend your winnings?

I would first pay off my student loans, then invest some, build a dog shelter and contribute to some veterans causes.

What great wish do you have for yourself?

Money to pay off student loans. When students leave college today, they are \$20,000 to \$25,000 in debt!

Do you have a great wish for the world?

Hate is so unnecessary! I would wish for peace among the nations of the world.

WAC honoree sees honor as job

Special to Wesson News

Stephanie Allen, Wesson Attendance Center's Faculty Staff Person of the Month, shrugs off the honor, saying her job is comparatively easy and other people do the hard work.

Actually, Allen considers her job at WAC an honor.

"As the school counselor, I assist, support and serve the people who have the hard jobs -- the teachers," she says. And she couldn't be happier to be working with those people at WAC. "This is a good place to be," Allen affirms. "I enjoy

working with the people here. They have the hard job, working with a variety of personalities in different situations."

Allen's father was a principal, and she grew up in Lincoln County in what she calls "a school-minded family," but waited until 2001 to actually work in a school. She attended school and graduated at Enterprise Attendance Center, and initially pursued a social work career that spanned twelve years in Copiah and Pike Counties with the Mississippi Department of Human Services and the Health Department. She graduated from Co-Lin in 1986 and received a degree

in social work from the University of Southern Mississippi in 1988.

"God's timing took me back to school to work with students, but in my social work jobs I learned to assist families in a variety of difficult situations," Allen says. She came to WAC eighteen years ago as a school social worker and became the school counselor after receiving an MA degree in school counseling at Mississippi College in 2005.

"My reward is seeing students realize their dreams by helping them to obtain scholarships and to overcome their

struggles with testing," she says.

Allen is a widow with four grown children. If she sees her job as supportive of her teaching and administration colleagues at WAC, Allen is also grateful for their support, particularly for helping her move forward in life after the death of her husband six and a half years ago.

Allen is 30-year member of Shady Grove Baptist Church at Bogue Chitto. When she isn't working, she also follows sports on television and as a spectator in the stands at WAC sports events. Basketball is her favorite sport.

Brookhaven Funeral Home

Pre-arrangement Special Offer

\$2,350.00 off of original price!

Full Traditional Funeral Services and
your choice of either quality steel or wood casket

Pre-arranging locks in today's price and
ensures your family will know your true wishes

for \$6,195.00*

*monthly payments are available



"A Family Serving Families"

As a minister and a father to five daughters, Lance Moak understands the importance of family. Lance specializes in helping people pre-arrange funeral services, taking away the difficult task of tough decisions at a most stressful time from your loved ones.

To discuss the many options available to you, contact Lance Moak at 601-384-7290 or Wayne Smith 601-833-1441

"Because a Life Well Lived Deserves a Service Well Planned"

894 Natchez Dr. & 230 N. Jackson St., Brookhaven • 601-833-1441 • www.brookhavenfuneralhome.net

WHS signee, archery winners & recruits

Special to Wesson News

Wesson High School (WHS) offensive lineman Malik Clay will continue his football career at the Bellhaven University Blazers.

The Blazers, coached by Blaine McCorkle, posted a 2-8 last year -- their fifth in NCAA Division III after playing in the NAIA since 1998, when Bellhaven launched its football program. The Blazers compete in the American Southwest Conference, replacing Mississippi College, which moved up to NCAA Division II. McCorkle came to them last year after serving as defensive line coach at the University of Delaware following a playing career at LSU, where he was a four-year letter winner.

The Blazers see Clay, 6-foot-3 and 320 pounds, playing offensive tackle. Clay played with WHS in Region 8-3A, facing some of the stoutest defensive linemen in the state, such as Seminary's Nathan Pickering.

Cobras Coach Jeremy Loy lauds Clay. "Malik has come a long way," he says. "He told me when he was younger that he wanted to 'make it' one day and sign a scholarship. He has worked hard to earn the offer from Bellhaven recruiters and we're just happy for that opportunity. He was the guy making calls on the line for us this season. He knew where everyone was supposed to be on every play and he has a feel for the game."

Archers cop national honors. Three Co-Lin Archery Team members were among 3,700 registered shooters from colleges and universities across the nation who qualified to compete at the National Field Archery Association (NFAA) Vegas Shootout in Las Vegas, Nevada. Among their competitors at the event were shooters from Iowa State, Mississippi State University

and the University of California. Co-Lin was one of only three community/technical colleges represented in the competition,

In the first round of their division, all three Co-Lin students knocked a university student out of the lead. In an elimination round, KrysLynne Poole of Meadville placed third in the nation in Women's Basic Bow

and Mark McNeese of Sontag and Austin Smith of Mount Olive placed third fourth in the nation in Men's Basic Bow. Smith and Poole placed third overall as a mixed team.

Co-Lin is the only community college in the state to have competitive archery teams. The team is coached by John McDonald.

SPORTS SHORTS



Malik Clay (front row center) inks football scholarship to play football with the Belhaven Blazers. His mother Yolanda Clay and grandfather Johnny Clay flank him on right and left. In back row (left to right) are Wesson High School Assistant Coach Sammy Byther and Head Coach Jeremy Loy.



Co-Lin's KrysLynne Poole of Meadville (far right) won third place in the Women's Basic Bow Division at the National Field Archery Association Vegas Shootout.



Co-Lin's Mark McNeese of Sontag (far right) won third place in the Men's Basic Bow at the National Field Archery Association Vegas Shootout.

26 gridders sign at Co-Lin. Co-Lin has signed 26 football recruits, including transfers Danny Clark, quarterback from the University of Kentucky, defensive back Jemaurian Jones (6'1/270) from the University of Southern Mississippi and Kerrick Jones (6'0/195) from the U.S. Naval Academy. Three running backs are coming on board: Drexlan Allen (5'10/185) of Hattiesburg High School, La-Kenith Thompson (6'1/235) of Callaway High School, and Dennis Andrews (5'11/190) of Long Beach High School. Wide receiver Erick Rogers (5'11/190) tight end Atavius Jones (6'4/255) from Starkville High School are also additions. Six new offensive linemen will join the Wolves: Jalen Armstrong (6'4/300) from Calhoun City High School, Grant Thompson (6'5/295) of Hamilton High School, Demarcus Gordon (6'4/320) of Rosa Fort High School, Zailen Clark (6'4/335) of Yazoo County High School, Marquise Howard (6'2/250) of Yazoo County High School, and Blayn Rich (6'4/285) of Tri County Academy. On the defensive line, the Wolves added Verdell Clemons (6'3/300) of Noxubee County High School, LaMarcus Faulkner (5'11/275) of Oxford High School, and Jacquess White (6'1/250) of Tupelo High School. New linebackers are Jarion Gardner (6'1/205) of Rosa Fort High School, Jalen Campbell (6'0/210) of Winona High School, Hayden Hill (6'1/220) of Northwest Ranking High School, and Chris Rias (6'3/195) of J.Z. George High School. Lamar Gray (6'1/185) of Warren Central High School, Daquarius Ruffin (6'1/195) of Southeast Lauderdale High School, Chardarius Moore (6'0/170) of O'Bannon High School and Axavian Jones (5'11/160) of Brookhaven High School will join the ranks in the secondary.

PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Sponsored By:
WESSON LIONS CLUB



WESSON BAPTIST CHURCH

SATURDAY ~ APRIL 6, 2019
6:00 A.M. ~ 10:00 A.M.
Tickets \$ 6.00

THE PARTY PLACE

YOUR ONE-STOP PARTY SHOP

NEW OWNER AND MANAGEMENT

GENDER REVEAL • BIRTHDAY PARTY SUPPLIES • ALL AGES AND TYPES • WEDDING/BABY SHOWERS GRADUATION • HELIUM BALLOONS INCLUDING NUMBER BALLOONS • GIFT WRAPPING • YOU NAME IT!

M-F 9:30 AM - 5 PM
SAT 9:30 AM - 1 PM

601-835-0064

450 BROOKWAY BLVD., BROOKHAVEN MS

