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Wesson News

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recognizes students
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Volume 3, Number 6 "Good News You Can Use" June 9, 2015

Marine robotics team to contend in Canada

By Bob Arnold

Co-Lin's Seawolves, a marine robotics team, will contend with similar groups from secondary schools, colleges and universities from throughout the world in the fourteenth Marine Advanced Technology Education (MATE) international Remotely Operated Vehicles (ROV) competition June 25-27 at St. John's, Newfoundland, and Labrador, Canada.

The all-volunteer group, including members from Co-Lin academic and technical programs, will compete in the event for the fourth consecutive year in the advanced Explorer Class with more than thirty other teams. They come from Canada, China, Egypt, Hong Kong, India, Iran, Mexico, Norway, Russia, the United Kingdom and the United

States, including Mississippi State University, Ohio State University, the University of Massachusetts, the University of New Hampshire and the University of Washington, among other institutions. The Seawolves placed eighth in the event last year and sixth in 2013.

The Marine Institute of Memorial University of New Foundland and the Canadian National Research Council's Ocean, Coastal, and River Engineering facility is hosting the 2015 competition. The Marine Advanced Technology Education Center, a national partnership of organizations working to improve marine technical education, sponsors the event. Based at Monterey Peninsula College (MPC) in Monterey, California, the MATE Center works with community colleges, high schools, universities, *cont. on page 4*



Photo by Wesson News

Blake Pryor, Lauren Brouillette, and Josh Hart (left to right) of Co-Lin Seawolves, a marine robotics team, demonstrate Seawolf IV, the new remotely operated vehicle their team is taking to international competition in Canada later this month.

Municipal park moves along

Wesson News

A long-planned municipal park at the corner of Beech and Church Streets has moved two steps closer to reality with approval of expenditures for fencing and a pavilion by the Wesson Board of Aldermen.

The Aldermen authorized purchase and installation of a 384-foot steel fence around the perimeter of the one and one-half acre property at a cost of approximately \$8500 and construction and purchase of materials for a tubular steel-framed pavilion at the park site for another \$14,750. The Aldermen are still considering options for playground equipment estimated to cost \$70,000 to \$80,000.

The Town of Wesson is funding development of the park through a 25 per cent \$125,000 matching grant and

a 50 per cent \$115,000 matching grant from the Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks (MDWFP) that will allow it to spend a total of \$157,500 on the project. It will not cost taxpayers since the grants can be matched against each other.

Local leaders have been working on plans for the municipal park for several years, and WDWFP awarded the grants to Wesson in late 2014.

Plans for the park beyond the fencing, pavilion and playground equipment also include benches, a walk path, splash pool and a veterans memorial. Copiah County is assisting Wesson with landscaping to conserve costs. No funds will be available presently for the splash pool, and it is not clear whether or not the Town can draw on monies from the grants for the Veterans Memorial.

Legislature took small steps for towns

By Guest Columnist
 Mayor Alton Shaw

It has been an interesting year, having the opportunity and privilege to serve as president of our statewide municipal organization. The Mississippi Municipal League represents the nearly 300 cities and towns throughout our state. One of its main objectives is lobbying our legislature for laws that will allow our communities to grow and prosper. This past legislative session was no different from any other with both ups and downs.

One specific piece of legislation that passed, while many may not think it that important, has a direct effect on over half of the municipalities throughout our state. A few years ago, a law was enacted to require publication of yearly tax millage rates in newspapers, even if they had not changed. While this may not seem

like a big deal, the cost of compliance could easily reach to over \$1,000 annually due to the size and frequency requirements of advertising. This is a large amount for many of our smaller municipalities. We were able to get the law amended to allow towns with a population of less than 1,500 to post their intent regarding millage rate in three public places if they did not plan to change them. In the event taxes were going to be raised, then newspaper publication would also be required.

Another success was getting Small Municipality Grant funding raised. The population-based program aimed at helping smaller communities compete for funding had \$1 million available statewide during the past year. We were able to get that pool of funding raised to \$4 million. While that may sound like a lot of money, the Mississippi Development Authority *cont. on page 6*



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Athletes continue playing careers

Special to Wesson News

Outstanding Co-Lin athletes will continue their playing careers at new schools next year:

- Two Co-Lin baseball outfielders, Adrian Brown and Choc Hubbard, are going to William Carey University. Brown, a McComb native, had a .318 batting average, seven homeruns, and 44 RBIs during the Wolfpack's 2015 season. Hubbard, from Mendenhall, averaged .324 at bat with 33 RBIs. They will join Mitch Little, a former Wolves player, at William Carey.

- Troy University awarded a basketball scholarship to Co-Lin womens' Hoops standout guard Claresa Banks, who was National Junior College Athletic Association All Region and MACJC All State in her freshman and sophomore years.

- Will Lee, who ranked twenty-second among Mississippi community college golfers with a 78.3 average in six tournaments with Co-Lin, has accepted a golf scholarship at Blue Mountain College, a private Christian liberal arts school near Albany, Mississippi, which competes in the NAIA Southern States Athletic

Conference.

Meanwhile, the Wolfpack awarded Wesson High School shortstop Tyler McLeod a baseball scholarship. For the Cobras in his senior year, McLeod batted .481 with six homeruns and 31 RBIs. It all signed Chantel Quarles, a Brookhaven girls' doubles tennis star, to take her talents to the next level.

SPORTS SHORTS

Baseball standouts.

Co-Lin sophomore baseball outfielder Adrian Brown has been named to the Mississippi Association of Community and Junior Colleges (MACJC) First Team All-State and to the National Junior College Athletic Association All-Region 23 team. MACJC also named Shane Brown (pitcher), Choc Hubbard (right fielder), Austin Resser (first baseman), Jeremy Moore (outfielder), Cole Langdon (pitcher) and Reed Taylor (catcher) to its Second Team All-State.

WAC coach retires.

Phillip L. Knight, formerly boys' head basketball, junior high football and baseball coach at Wesson Attendance Center (WAC) and a current assistant football coach at the school, is retiring after twenty-five years at Wesson. Knight came to WAC after receiving his Bachelor's Degree at Mississippi State University and Master's Degree at Mississippi College and teaching three years at St. Martin High School in the Jackson County School District. He has taught mathematics in grades seven through twelve at WAC and is an adjunct instructor at Co-Lin. Knight is a five-time Wesson High School Teacher of the Year and STAR Teacher, Wesson Chamber of Commerce Educator of the Year, and Copiah County District Teacher of the Year. He is an Eagle Scout and a multiple-year nominee for



Photo by Wesson News

The Mississippi Association of Community and Junior Colleges has named Co-Lin freshmen softball players Lauren Bashier (above) and Jessica Crum (below) to its All-State team. Brashier, from Heidelberg Academy, saw action as infielder, outfielder and pitcher and sported a .381 batting average with 15 RBIs. Crum, a catcher and designated hitter from Dutchtown (Louisiana) High School, rewrote the Lady Wolves record books in her first season with a .480 batting average, 16 homeruns, and 59 RBIs.

Outstanding Young Men of America. Knight is married to the former Lea Ann Cavin, and they have one daughter, Whitney, a graduate student at Mississippi State University.

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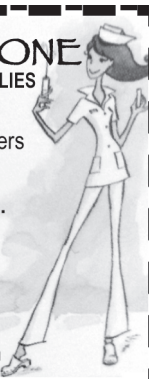
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Wesson partners in forming tourism board

Special to Wesson News

Wesson is joining Copiah County, Crystal Springs and Hazlehurst to form a County Tourism Board that will make recommendations to the municipalities and the County Board of Supervisors on advancing tourism in the county and coordinate its activities with the Copiah County Economic Development District. The funds contributed by Wesson, the county, and the other municipalities will pay for a part-time Tourism Director and equipment, travel and other necessities. The Mayors of Crystal Springs, Hazlehurst and Wesson; a member of the Copiah County Board of Supervisors and two members of the general public -- initially, Dr. Jim Brewer and Randall Day -- will serve on the board.

Co-Lin personnel changes.

Michael Tanner, who started his career as an accountant at Co-Lin thirty-eight years ago after earning Bachelor's and Master's Degrees at Jackson State University and Alcorn State University, is retiring as the college's vice president of business affairs. Stan Patrick, current comptroller, is moving into his position. Also retiring at Co-Lin are applications support assistant Mary Pearson, Mathematics/Computer Science Division Chairperson Carol Ford, campus police officer David Freeman, director of bands R. Shaw

Furlow, history instructor Jim Wiggins, Jr., public speaking/Spanish instructor Carol Royals, foreign language instructor Vicki Mathews and adult basic education teacher Sarah Marchbanks. Social science instructor Brett Shufelt and fine arts

instructor R o b e r t o Bonilla have resigned from their positions. New hires include math instructor Charlotte Stewart, Spanish instructor D a v i d

Higginbotham, assistant band director Jason Mathena, early childhood education instructor Lenora Magee, welding instructor Don Blandon, college navigator Tuwanna Williams to assist diesel program students and IBest instructors Melia Bassett and Amye Howell to teach special remedial skills.

Graduate of elite school.

Jesse Beeson II of Wesson, son of Jesse and Iris Beeson, is one of 103 students in the 2015 Mississippi School of Mathematics and Science (MSMS) graduating class. Beeson, who came MSMS for his junior and senior years in high school from Wesson Attendance Center, plans

to major in neuroscience at Tulane University starting this fall. MSMS is a public residential high school for academically-talented high school juniors and seniors in mathematics and science located in Columbus and rated by the Daily Beast as the fifty-

seventh best high school in America and twenty-fourth best in the American Southeast. Members of the MSMS 2015 class have been offered \$22 million in scholarships.

High performers.

Three Co-Lin employees -- Lisa Bodin, career-technical education student services director; Lee Meredith from the maintenance division, and Shirley Williams from the cafeteria -- have received the Howell C. Garner High Performance Award, including a rotating statuette, a certificate, and a \$100 check, for their outstanding service to the college.

New honor society members.

Copiah, Lawrence and Lincoln County students were among new members of the National Technical Honor Society at Co-Lin,

which encourages achievement in workforce education: Judy Boyte, Danielle Brady, Josh Fuller, Gabby Madrid, Elisabeth Steiner, Quintessa Tucker and Daphne Williams of Brookhaven; Lauren Brouillette and Philip Dinicola II of Wesson; Chastity Flowers and Nafarra Williams of Crystal Springs; DaShada Harris of Bude, Precious James and Julia Young of Bogue Citto; Alexis Joiner, Paula Stewart and Latrece Stewart of Hazlehurst and Jeremy Nall of Monticello.

Sheriffs fight MDOC action.

Mississippi country sheriffs are seeking to reverse a Mississippi Department of Corrections (MDOC) decision to move inmates assigned to joint state-county work programs to its own work centers. While MDOC hopes to save \$3.2 million by the action, sheriffs say their counties will lose free labor for picking up roadside litter, cleaning government buildings, cutting grass, filling potholes and helping supervisors or other officials with a variety of small tasks.

Tuition hike.

Full-time Co-Lin students are paying \$45 more in tuition each semester, and the college is either hiring part-time personnel or not rehiring for some positions to craft a budget that accounts for reduced enrollment due to an improving jobs market.



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cont. from page 1

Marine robotics team to contend in Canada

research institutions, marine industries, professional societies and working professionals to facilitate the development of courses and programs based on industry-established guidelines.

In the international MATE ROV competition, members of teams must think of themselves as "entrepreneurs" and participants in companies that manufacture and market products. Judges, who are working professionals, evaluate engineering of ROVs -- the companies' products -- and technical reports, poster displays and engineering presentations prepared by teams.

"The approximately sixty competing teams in the advanced Explorer and intermediate Ranger Classes are winnowed down from more than six hundred teams that seek to prove the viability of their vehicles in regional contests or demonstrations," explains Wes Burkett, Co-Lin drafting and design technology instructor, who is a team mentor. "Although the event is competitive, teams learn from each other, providing mutual assistance during the experience."

The Seawolves are taking an all new ROV -- the Seawolf IV -- to the international competition, Burkett says. "The team started developing the concept for the new robotic vehicle in August," he recounts. "It designed and created the ROV for a regional

demonstration in April. In water at a depth of fourteen feet, the remotely-controlled vehicle removed a wellhead cap, returned it after installing a seal and then retrieved a hot stab to shut off flow."

Seawolf team members are Lauren Brouillette Westrope, Joshua Hart, Philip Dinicola, Timothy Jones, Thomas Westrope, Blake Pryor, Bryan Miles and Jeremy Nall.

"They bring their experience and skills from machine shop, electronics, drafting, English and computer networking classes at Co-Lin to a team effort that requires crafting parts from building materials, design work, drawing plans, writing technical papers and raising the \$20,000 needed for materials, equipment and travel to participate in the competition," says Burkett.

In addition to Burkett, the team mentors are Kevin McKone, Carey Williamson and Bo Johnson. McCone and Williamson organized the Seawolves in 2011 after they attended a meeting at the MATE Center in Monterey, California.

"In our first competition in 2012, our robot failed, and we didn't even place," Burkett recalls. "Based on that learning experience, we jumped all the way to sixth in 2013 and fell to eighth last year. We're hoping for a top five finish this month."

Keeping summer fun & safe

By Guest Columnist
Dr. Stephanie Duguid

For adults and children alike, the hot summer months are a special time of year for enjoying time outside, swimming pools and bike riding. But potential dangers come with the pleasures.



Special to Wesson News

Water safety.

With children, practice what the American Academy of Pediatrics calls "touch supervision." A supervising adult should be within an arm's length of a child near or in the water. Teach kids to swim and learn cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR). No child or adult is "drown proof." Children can drown in bathtubs, toilets, buckets, baby, backyard swimming and community pools; streams, creeks, lakes, rivers and oceans.

Sun protection.

Avoid sun exposure during peak hours -- 10 a.m. until 6 p.m. Wear protective clothing, a wide-brimmed hat and sunglasses with ninety-nine to one hundred per cent ultraviolet rays (UV) protection. Look for shade. Sunscreen is a must on both sunny and cloudy days. The American Academy of Pediatrics and the American Association of Dermatology recommend products

that provide protection from UVA and UVB rays and have a Sun Protection Factor (SPF) of at least 15. Apply sunscreen liberally thirty minutes before going into the sun, and reapply it every two hours or sooner if swimming, sweating or toweling off.

Dehydration & heat-related illnesses.

Keeping well-hydrated is very important. Children and adults must remember to drink. A child may not ask for thirst-quenching fluids until already dehydrated. Drink water or other appropriate fluids before going outside, while you're in the heat, and after coming back inside. Lots of fluid loss occurs in the hot summer fun during activity. Schedule outdoor activities for morning and evening hours. Avoid strenuous activity during the peak 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. sun hours.

Look for shade, and take lots of breaks. Never leave infants, children or pets in a parked car even if the windows are cracked open. Dress infants and children in loose,

lightweight, light-colored clothing. Stay cool with cool showers or baths. Seek medical attention immediately when you or others experience any signs of heat-related illness.

Helmet Safety.

Children and adults on wheels -- bicycles, scooters, skates, rollerblades and -- should wear a properly-fitting helmet designed for the activity -- i.e., a bicycle helmet for biking. Helmets can be life-saving, providing protection from a serious injury. Be sure the right type of helmet is being used.

Enjoy the summer. Stay safe!

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Police Blotter

Special to Wesson News

During May, the Wesson Police
Department activity encompassed:

Response to:

- One burglary
- Three traffic accidents
- One harassment
- Two disturbances
- One petty larceny
- One suspicious person
- One dog complaint
- One locked vehicle
- Three general complaints

Citations & arrests:

- One resisting arrest & driving with a suspended license
- One possession of marijuana
- One felony fleeing (with officer pursuit) & driving with a suspended license
- One burglary
- One possession of firearm felony
- One possession of a controlled substance with intent to distribute felony
- Eight speeding violations
- One improperly working headlights
- One reckless driving
- Two running a stop sign
- Five driving with no insurance
- One driving with improper equipment
- One driving with no tag
- One driving with no child restraint

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

Sitting in the catbird seat

By Guest Columnist Rebecca Bates

I've heard the phrase "sitting in the catbird seat" all of my life. I never thought much about it until last summer. I was having an early morning cup of coffee on my back porch and heard what I thought was a kitten meowing in a large camellia shrub near the porch. Realizing that it was a bird, I pulled out my phone and searched for catbird. The picture popped up and so did a link to hear the bird's call. As my phone played the call, the catbird flew out of the camellia and perched on my porch railing to listen.

This piqued my curiosity about these beautiful little birds that have come back to the same camellia this spring. "Sitting in the catbird seat" means you are in a superior position and, indeed, catbirds seek out the highest perches to sing and display, suggesting the origin of the phrase. It might also be the source of an earlier term with much the same meaning – "sitting pretty."

Catbirds are relatives of mockingbirds and thrashers, and share that group's vocal abilities,

than mockingbirds and lack the white markings on their wings with a gray body, dark cap and reddish colored under-tail coverts.

Catbirds live in dense shrubs, small trees, vines and along forest edges. They are secretive and energetic birds, hopping and fluttering from branch to branch through tangles of vegetation. Once you have heard their catty mew, you will never forget them.

Even if you aren't "sitting in the catbird seat" or "sitting pretty," these beautiful birds will make you feel as if you are. Another generation will be born in my backyard, so I am definitely "sitting in the catbird seat."

EDITOR'SNOTE: Rebecca Bates is a Mississippi State University Agricultural Extension Agent based in Lincoln County at the court house in Brookhaven.

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cont. from page 1

Legislature took small steps for towns

routinely receives about \$30 million in requests each year for this funding, so it is extremely competitive. Several years ago, the Town of Wesson took advantage of the fund to paint our North water tank at a cost of \$125,000. We are looking forward to applying again this year, and are currently weighing our options as to the best approach and request.

Lastly, we made great headway, but were unsuccessful in implementing an idea taken from several surrounding states: to offset the amount people owe on an old police fine against what they owe on any state tax. It would be similar to the law currently in effect that applies to someone who does not pay their child support. The state can

put in a request to the Department of Revenue for money to pay off that debt before the person received any state tax refund. Considering the Town of Wesson is owed nearly \$250,000 in outstanding fines, this could be a potentially great benefit in helping us address infrastructure repairs and upgrades. With \$250,000, we could pave around three miles of roadway throughout the town. I look forward to working on this proposal again during the next legislative session.

As always, if you have any questions or ideas, please don't hesitate to give us a call. May God bless you.

Editor's Note: Alton Shaw is Mayor of Wesson and current president of the Mississippi Municipal League.

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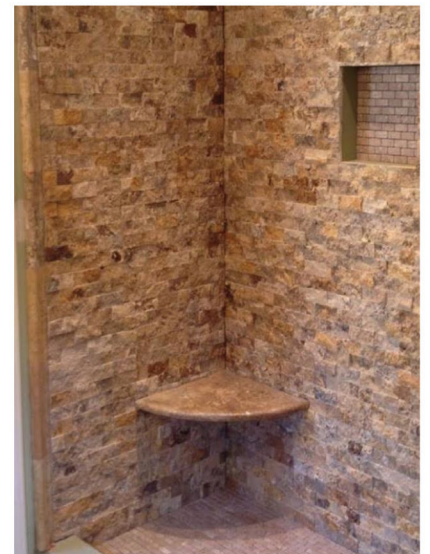
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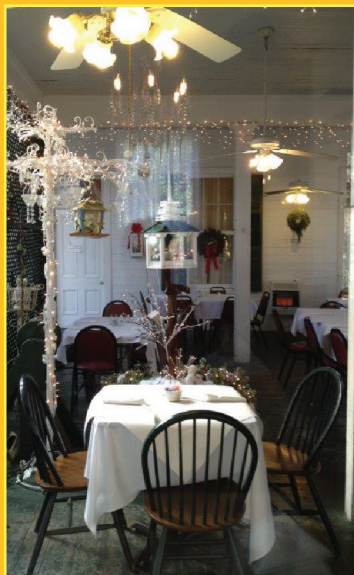
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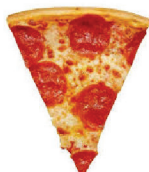
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Ups & downs of creating a video show

By Guest Columnist Shaw Furlow

I'm an idea man. Ideas bounce off my head at all times night and day. Most are not great, but some contributed to much of the success I had as a marching band director, along with a brilliant cast of assistant directors and students who bought into my craziness. One recent good idea came to me last fall: putting local song writers on an internet video show. Making it a reality was a challenge. Here's the story.



I reviewed *Front Porch Sessions*, *Oxford Sounds*, *Nightique*, *Music from the Hall*, and other video casts to determine the best format and sought advice from people I trust -- Tyler Bridge, my son Cole, my brother Bill. Discovering no consensus, I realized I would have to trust my own judgment. A scary thought for a guy who is a team player. There were larger issues beyond format -- like just how to get started: Building a website. Posting on YouTube. As I said, I'm an idea man, not necessarily a guy who knows how to put ideas in motion. I'm also

a team guy -- a band member. Not a soloist. I faced decisions on things I knew nothing about. I read, asked questions and looked at YouTube.

Another large hurdle -- and a potential deal breaker: I knew no one with camera and editing expertise who would work within my next-to-nothing budget. I met a young lady who had the background and the same excitement I had about the project. I also found four very eager artists: Tony Norton, Andi Cotton, Cole Powell and Sam Mooney. I was pumped. *Music from the Shady Side* was about to become a reality. Pre-production meetings were held. Shooting schedules established. Broadcast/podcast options developed.

Then disaster! My videographer informed me in a text message that she was backing out thirty hours before the first session. I was crushed and for twenty-four hours scrambled for a contingency plan. My friend Tyler told me to pull the plug rather than do something I wouldn't be proud of. A bitter pill to swallow. But I knew he

was right. I called the talent with the bad news, embarrassed and feeling like a failure. I wasn't used to defeat. I called my friend and Co-Lin Hall of Fame member Tricia Walker, crying in my beer and lamenting my project's sad state of affairs. Tricia, who is director of the Music Institute at Delta State University, suggested I talk to a student there -- Kelli Leach, a senior with an emphasis in TV and film production. Coincidentally, her brother John played bass guitar in Co-Lin's Sojourners rock band, which I directed. She loved

the idea. As a senior, who was about to graduate, she also needed some resume fodder; so my meager budget was satisfactory.

I was back in business. Now all I had to do was make sure the talent still believed in me and could work their schedules around the small window we had in which to shoot.

We shot the first episode on a chilly Friday night in my living room on Shady Side Street in Brookhaven. Kelli showed up with her father Burell in tow, bringing all the equipment it took to turn my living

room into a television studio. Lights and microphones were placed and replaced and moved yet again for the best look and sound we could get. Furniture had to be placed for the interview segments then moved for the musical performances. Tyler helped get the sound right, and two of my students, Joseph Bagwell and Jared Griffith, worked for cheeseburgers as grips. My son Cole wrote a beautiful theme song.

The music segments were shot first. Tony Norton, a jovial guy who has a talent that is beyond belief as a songwriter, was the first up on that Friday night. We had discussed his three songs. Tony needed no second takes, as he had performed these songs hundreds of times, and we had all the tech things set correctly.

Then came the interviews. In pre-production, I had asked each of the four artists if they wanted a list of the questions. Tony said "let's just wing it." I couldn't believe his confidence in me. But the interviews are another story. Stay tuned for future columns that will share the stories of some of our area's most talented musicians.

Until then, support live music!

EDITOR'S NOTE: R. Shaw Furlow retires as director of the bands program at Co-Lin at the end of June and will become director of the Mississippi Musicians Hall of Fame.

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Copiah County group is Environmental Hero

Wesson News

Keep Copiah County Beautiful is one of seven Environmental Hero Award winners named by the Mississippi Recycling Coalition (MRC).

Through its awards each year, MRC, a consortium of public and private sector organizations which promotes and encourages responsible solid waste management, honors businesses, agencies, schools, local governments and other entities that have excelled in environmental program efforts such as source reduction, reuse, recycling and composting.

Keep Copiah County Beautiful (KCCB) was also a co-recipient of the Recycler of the Year Award for Non-Profit Organizations in the State of Mississippi. The organization is an active affiliate of Keep Mississippi Beautiful (KMB) and a key supporter and strong promoter of recycling programs and services in Copiah County such as recycling programs in Wesson and Crystal Springs.

Because of KCCB, recycling programs are wide-ranging throughout Copiah County with major expansion over just a few years. With

the support of KCCB, the Wesson recycling center collected some 3,600 tons of recyclables and the Crystal Springs recycling center collected 3,900 tons of material during 2014. In addition, KCCB collected more than 115,000 pounds of clothes for reuse purposes. It is also involved in an ongoing partnership with local Lions Clubs to collect and recycle used eyeglasses. Numerous businesses, including banks and retail outlets in Copiah County, have begun successful recycling efforts as a result of KCCB's promotional efforts. The organization has also promoted recycling in area schools and kindergarten classes.

Other Environment Hero Award winners were the Greenwood Leflore Recycling Program, Recycle One of McComb and Pike County, the Southwire Company Plant at Starkville, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration's John C. Stennis Space Center, Natchez Green Alliance and the Oxford School District.

For more information on the MRC and its Environmental Hero Awards, visit the MRC web page at <http://www.msrecycles.org/>.

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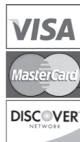
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Funding for this ad was provided by the Mississippi Community College Board.



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Community Calendar

June weather forecast: The Old Farmers Almanac calls for an average temperature 79 degrees F (one degree above average) and precipitation of 4 inches (one inch below average).

JUNE 9

Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) and VFW Auxiliary Post 2618 meet. \$5.00 for meal. VFW Hall on Industrial Park Road, Brookhaven. 5:30 p.m.

JUNE 11

Lunch and Learn Talk sponsored by Friends of Lincoln County Library. Free. Vernon Room at Lincoln County Public Library in Brookhaven. 11:30 a.m.- 1 p.m. Email modestyann@aol.com for information.

Wesson Lions Club meets. Conference Room at Co-Lin student cafeteria building. 6:30 p.m.

JUNE 15

Explore Music Camp for Kids. \$100 fee. Co-Lin Wesson campus. 8:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m. for first to third graders and 1:30 p.m.- 4:30 p.m. for fourth and fifth graders. Runs thru June 18. For detailed information and to download registration forms, visit www.colin.edu.

Sports camps. Softball coaching & play (\$80 fee) for grades one to five (9 a.m.- 12 noon) and grades six to twelve (1 p.m.- 4 p.m.) runs through June 17. Baseball coaching & play (\$80 fee) for six- to twelve-year-olds runs through June 18. Co-Lin Wesson campus. For detailed information and to download registration forms, visit www.colin.edu.

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

J.M. Wesson Masonic Lodge # 317 meeting. Masonic Lodge building on Highway 51. 6 p.m.

JUNE 18

Introduction to Microsoft Word. Learn basic word processing skills. Furlow Senior Center, Brookhaven. 8:30 a.m. - 12 noon.

Fifty Plus Club. Paul Ott, the "Voice of the South," who hosts Listen to the Eagle, a weekly radio/television show aired in Mississippi and Alabama, will speak. Crystal Springs Steak House. 10:30 a.m.

Theater Thursday at Lincoln County Public Library. Free. Bring snacks. 1:30 p.m. For information, email Modestyann@aol.com.

American Legion Post #79 meets. American Legion Lodge on Main Street, Wesson. 6:30 p.m.

Brookhaven Regional Arts Guild (BRAG) meets. BRAG membership encompasses both artists and art lovers. Lemanedi Arts and Interiors in downtown Brookhaven. 5:30 p.m. Email modestyann@aol.com for information.

I 55 Cruisers Club. An antique car & truck club in its formative stages. Wesson Fire Department. 6:30 p.m.

JUNE 22

Recreational summer day camp sponsored by Co-Lin's Wolfpack Wellness Initiative for children six- to eight-years-old. Structured indoor & outdoor age & developmentally-appropriate activities, including baseball, softball, basketball, soccer, bowling, disc golf, regular golf, dodge ball, flag football, hoola hoops, juggling, jump ropes, nutrition bingo, scooter derby & frisbee, among other games & recreational opportunities. \$75 fee. 9 a.m.- 3 p.m. through June 25. For detailed information and to download registration forms, visit www.colin.edu.

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

JUNE 23

iPad for Beginners. Learn to operate the iPad or iPad mini, including associated software. Registration deadline is June 16. Furlow Senior Center, Brookhaven. 10 a.m.-12 noon. Register with Bonnie Brown at the Furlow Center or Celeste Williams at 601-643-8711/celesete.williamson@colin.edu.

JUNE 25

Wesson Lions Club meets. Conference Room at Co-Lin student cafeteria building. 6:30 p.m.

JUNE 30

Registration concludes for second Co-Lin summer session (July 1- 28). Classes offered on the Wesson Campus include Human A&P II & Lab, English Comp I, English Comp II, World Literature II, World Civilization II, American History II, Weightlifting for Men II, Weight Lifting for Men IV, Football Theory, College Algebra, Calculus II, General Psychology I & Introduction to Sociology. Registration is 8 a.m.- 4:30 p.m. Monday thru Thursday & 8 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Friday at the counseling center in the Henley Building.

JULY 7

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

JULY 11

Brookhaven Watercolor Workshop. Billie Mathis, who has painted for more than forty years, will emphasize design, the intuitive self, and creativity in the workshop for beginners, intermediate & advanced artists. Fee is \$100 with an advance \$50 non-refundable deposit required. First floor of the Johnson Institute Building on the Mississippi School of the Arts campus in Brookhaven. 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. James & Sue Minter will host a reception for Mathis at their Brookhaven residence at 6:30 p.m. on July 10. Email Brookhavenregionalartsguild@gmail.com for detailed information & a registration form.

JULY 13

Cheerleading camp. Three-year-old kindergartners to sixth graders, divided by grade and ability, will learn dance, cheers, chants, jumps & perform for their parents. \$40 fee. Runs through July 15. For detailed information and to download registration forms, visit www.colin.edu

Email Community Calendar items to bobarnold@wessonnews.com.

Co-Lin honors business partners



Photo by Wesson News

Lorraine Stephenson, human resources manager at Brookhaven-based Rex Lumber Company, accepts Co-Lin's President's Award for her company's partnership with the college's Career Tech and Workforce Education programs. Co-Lin President Dr. Ronnie Nettles (left) also presented Special Recognition Awards to representatives of Rogel Ford, Crystal Springs, and Pioneer Health Services, Magee, for their partnerships with the college.



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Recognition & honors cap school year

Special to Wesson News

With the close of the school year, Wesson Attendance Center (WAC) recognized a teacher for outstanding performance, its graduating seniors for service, character and academic achievement; and students in its elementary grades for character and scholarship.

WAC named Ashley Windom as its STAR Teacher for her work with high school students inside and outside the classroom and senior John "Mack" Smith as STAR student for his scholarship and participation in the life of the school. WAC also inducted three seniors -- Kayla Britt, Rebekah Shirley and Anna Speights -- into its Hall of Fame for their grades, participation in activities, character, and leadership. The school also presented:

- Citizenship Awards to Rebekah Shirley and Joshua Cone for demonstrating the best school citizenship in their interest in betterment of the school and working on its behalf.

- School Service Awards to Anna Speights and David Thames for serving the school through involvement in activities and exemplifying high standards.

- Character Awards to Kayla Britt and Tyler McLeod for their high standards of characters, leadership, scholarship and cooperation.

WAC also recognized seniors who were honored by other organizations:

- Marlee Hughes, recipient of the Daughters of the American Revolution Citizen Award.

- John "Mack" Smith and Rebekah Shirley, recipients of the Lindy



Photo by Wesson News

Kayla Britt, Rebekah Shirley and Anna Speights (left to right) are new members of Wesson Attendance Center Hall of Fame based on their grades, participation in activities, character and leadership.

Callahan Scholar Athlete Award.

- Co-Lin scholarship recipients Alexis Britt (Greg Holloway, Southern Pine Electric), Andrew Britt (Trustmark Scholarship), Kayla Britt (Graydon L. & Helen Muller Memorial Endowment Scholarship, Softball), Haleigh Chinn (ACT, Trustmark Scholarship), Joshua Cone (ACT, Michael Edward & Susan Lofton Keys Math Scholarship), Carley Brooke Fleming (ACT, Band), Diamond Harris (Band, Jimmy Hodges Lions), Marlee Hughes (ACT, Charlie & Johnnie Ferguson Martin Vo-Tech Scholarship, Rogel Ford), Samuel King (ACT, Band), Tyler McLeod (John Matthew McClelland Memorial Scholarship), Kenneth McQuage (ACT, Alton & Lucille

Martin Keys Science Scholarship, Plum Creek), Kelsey Pell (Band, Color Guard; Lee, Will, and Mary Berry Scholarship), Brianna Leigh Savage (Color Guard), John "Mack" Smith (ACT, Entergy, Leadership), Anna Frances Speights (ACT, Colette, J.J. Wesson Scholarship, Pitts Scholarship), Holly Steen (ACT, Jewel Knight Memorial Scholarship), David Thames (ACT, Band, Dennis White Scholarship, James Robert "Jim" Lowery Scholarship, Leadership, Lions Club), Robert Traxler (ACT, Noah "Cap" Wallace Family Scholarship) and Brandi Nichol Wages (ACT, Color Guard).

- General scholarship recipient Aariq Vaughn (Copiah County Ministerial

Alliance).

- Holmes Community College scholarship recipients Tyler Christmas (Football) and Madison Mosley (Academic Excellence and Color Guard).

- Mississippi State University scholarship recipient Rebekah Shirley (Academic Excellence and Color Guard).

WAC presented its annual Cobra Awards to elementary school students in grades one through six for their character and academic achievement:

First grade. Girls: Dakiyah Butler, Abbey Cameron, Danica Perkins and Dakota Rushing. Boys: Will Bizot, Tripp Martin, Gustavo Ruiz-Garcia and Ty Turner.

Second grade. Girls: Joyelyn Barner, Amanda Grace Martin, Maggie Rannels and Aubree Smith. Boys: Hunter Blaylock, Clifford Jackson, Brett Thompson, and Meredith, William "Cotton" Westbrook.

Third grade. Girls: Tilly Forrest, Cami Miller and Corley Sandifer. Boys: Kaleb Chase, Jojo Howington and Brody Smith

Fourth grade. Girls: Abbiegail Bailey, Emilie Hart, Hannah Meredith and Mercedes Smith. Boys: Harlan Brewer, Noah Cameron, Lucas McRee and Jacob Smith.

Fifth grade. Girls: Angel Butler, Kayla Smith, Amber Westbrook and Alayna Westrope. Boys: Adam Curtis, Logan Hux, Dalton Orgeron and Lane Westrope.

Sixth grade. Girls: Kayla Barfield, Avery Kyle, Katie Papizan and Bre Westbrook. Boys: Cooper Brinson, Cody Brown, Peyton Lewis, and Hayden Miller.

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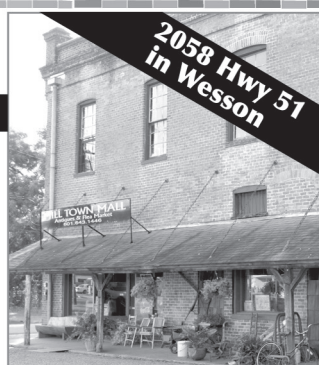
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Wesson Fire Department seeking new volunteers

Wesson News

The Wesson Volunteer Fire Department (WVFD) is seeking to expand its membership.

"We're accepting applications for new membership," reports Rev. Frank Newell, a volunteer emergency responder and firefighter for the Department. "Anyone who is interested should come to the Wesson Volunteer Fire Department at 1038 Spring Street on Monday nights between 6 p.m. and 8 p.m. to complete an application and meet current volunteers."

The Department is targeting its new volunteer recruiting efforts at high school seniors, Co-Lin students who live within five miles of the Wesson campus, and retirees.

WVFD currently has twenty volunteer members and considers thirty an ideal number. On a fire call, the Department would like to dispatch three to four volunteers to the scene, but with its current numbers often can send only one with backup support from other departments.

No experience is necessary, but applicants should be at least eighteen

years old and be able to perform under the physical and emotional stress at emergency scenes. WVFD will provide training and direct new volunteers to appropriate training provided by other organizations. In addition to completing and submitting an application, becoming a member of WVFD involves a vote of acceptance by current volunteers.

"Member volunteers hold the lives of each other in their hands," explains Newell. "So it is important that current members trust prospective new volunteers."

New volunteers must attend four consecutive Monday night Department meetings and serve a six-month probationary period before becoming full members of WVFD.

WVFD responds to minor and catastrophic incidents, including fires, road and medical emergencies and downed trees following storms.

"Incidents range from burned biscuits that set off a smoke alarm to house fires; and stubbed toes to cardiac arrest medical emergencies," Newell says. "The majority of incidents are medical emergencies."

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