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Wesson News

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PO Box 1028
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Volume 4, Number 2

"Good News You Can Use"

February 9, 2016

Chamber honors organizations & citizens

By Bob Arnold

The Wesson Chamber of Commerce honored one business, two community organizations, and five citizens for their service to the town during 2015 in award ceremonies at its twenty-sixth annual banquet last month.

The Chamber presented awards to:

- Precious Moments Learning Center -- Business of the Year
- American Legion Post #79 and its Auxiliary Unit -- Organization of the Year
- The Wesson Cub Scout and Boy Scout program -- Community Service Award
- Julie Lowery -- Wesson Attendance Center Educator of the Year
- Blake Oberschmidt -- Co-Lin Educator of the Year
- Mike Hux -- Ageless Hero
- Dixie Thornton and Mark Hamilton -- special recognition for development of the Wesson Historical Museum

At the award ceremony, Chamber President Marilyn Britt commended the efforts of Precious Moments owner Debbie Brown in creating preschool and after school child care programs reflecting her beliefs that "children should be taught in a Christian environment and be loved and be given many hugs daily." Since Precious Moments opened on August 1, 1994, it has grown to encompass 75 children from six weeks old to thirteen years old and a staff of ten employees. It offers the Beka Christian Learning Program for preschoolers.

American Legion Post #79 Post Commander John Goza and Auxiliary Unit president Sharon Langley accepted the Chamber's Organization of the Year Award. Chamber member Janet Currie noted the primary mission of the Post and Auxiliary is serving Armed Forces veterans, while at the same time supporting community-wide programs such as Boy Scouts, Mississippi Boys and Girls State and local food pantries.

Wayne McKenzie and Ken Carraway, who oversee Wesson Cub Scouts and



Wesson News

Chamber member Beverly King (left) presented Wesson Attendance Center Educator of the Year award plaque to Julie Lowery.



Wesson News

American Legion Post #79 Commander John Goza and Auxiliary Unit president Sharon Langley (center left and right) accept Organization of the Year award plaques from Junior Chamber members Harmoni Ashley (left) and Mary Beth Munn (right).



Wesson News

Incoming Wesson Chamber of Commerce president Stephen Ashley and outgoing president Marilyn Britt.



Wesson News

Junior Chamber member Mary Beth Munn (left) presents Business of the Year award plaque to Precious Moments Learning Center owner Debbie Brown.



Wesson News

Junior Chamber member Mary Beth Munn (left) presents Co-Lin Educator of the Year award to Blake Oberschmidt.



Wesson News

Wayne McKenzie (center left) and Ken Carraway (center right) accepted Community Service award plaques on behalf of Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts from Junior Chamber members Harmoni Ashley (left) and Mary Beth Munn (right).



Wesson News

Dixie Thornton (second from left) and Mark Hamilton (right) were recognized for their efforts in development of a Wesson historical museum. Harmoni Ashley (left) and Mary Beth Munn (third from left), Junior Chamber members, presented plaques to them.



Wesson News

Junior Chamber member Harmoni Ashley (left) presents Ageless Hero award to Mike Hux.

Boy Scouts Pack 125 and Troop 125, accepted the Community Service Award on behalf of the local Scouting programs. Incoming Chamber president Stephen Ashley spoke personally about the impact of the Cub Scout program on the growth of his son and added "I have become a better parent because it requires my involvement." Through the Cub Scouts, boys from seven years old to ten years old engage in outdoor activities, sports and academics, and their families are helped in teaching them ideals such as honesty, good citizenship and respect, he explained. Boys develop into community leaders as they become older and progress through Boy Scouts to earn the Eagle rank, Ashley said.

Chamber member Beverly King pointed to Julie Lowery's twenty years as a first grade teacher in presenting the Wesson Attendance Center Educator of the Year Award to her. "She enjoys working with children because it never allows her a dull moment, and she can be creative," King said. "For her, the most rewarding moment of teaching is to watch a child grow and progress intellectually -- to see that light bulb go on for each student in her class."

Chamber member Jane Hulon called Blake Oberschmidt "a great guy who works well with everyone and always wants the best for his students" in presenting the Co-Lin Educator of the Year Award to the Automotive Technology instructor and program

coordinator at the college. A Co-Lin Automotive Technology graduate, he joined the college's faculty in 2011 after fourteen years as a service technician.

Chamber member Currie recounted the varied career stops of Mike Hux, recipient of the Chamber's Ageless Hero Award, who has continued working in retirement as a Wesson amateur historian and carpenter, who has remodeled historic Wesson mill houses. A 1963 graduate of Bogue Chitto High School, he was a teacher, coach, government worker, and businessman, formally retiring as a vice president and branch manager for Trustmark. He received graduate and undergraduate degrees at the

cont. on page 5



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Volume 4, Number 2
Circulation 5,000

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

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Police Blotter

Special to Wesson News

During January, Wesson Police
Department activity encompassed:

Citations & arrests:

- Fourteen speeding
- One auto burglary
- Two contempt of court violations
- One possession of controlled
substance felony
- One possession of marijuana

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.

Azaleas like shade and acid soil

By Guest Columnist Rebecca Bates

One of the most popular and widely
planted shrubs in Mississippi is the
azalea. Dwarf, intermediate and the
large growing Southern Indica varieties
are common on our landscapes.

Many times, from late fall through
winter, you may notice that its foliage is
reddish, yellow or spotted. Sometimes,
the plants will be partially defoliated,
even though the majority of azaleas we
commonly grow are evergreen.

Some azaleas, like the popular Fashion
variety, have bronzy to purple looking
foliage in the winter. All evergreen
azaleas go through a stage when old
foliage is being lost and new foliage is
emerging for spring.

Although yellow foliage could be an
indicator of old growth, it also could be
caused by a leaf spot fungus,
lack of nutrients or improper
soil pH.

Azaleas prefer a partly sunny
planting location. Plants in
more shade than sun normally
have thinner foliage during the
winter.

You should fertilize azaleas
in spring after flowering is



complete. You may also fertilize in late
summer. Apply late summer fertilizer at
a lower rate and before mid-September.
Applying too late in the fall can increase
cold damage to plants during winter. I
prefer a slow release fertilizer labeled
for azaleas and camellias.

Azaleas can benefit from applications
of an iron fertilizer. This would
primarily be recommended when they
are growing in a soil with a high pH.
Azaleas prefer an acid soil with a pH
between 5.0 and 5.5. You can use sulfur
fertilizer products to lower soil pH, but
follow directions found in a Mississippi
State University soil test result.

Azaleas are easy to grow in
Mississippi landscapes. Just look
around at old landscapes throughout
the state. Before adding them to your
landscape, remember that they prefer
part shade and acid soil and need
adequate nutrition.

Editor's Note:
Rebecca Bates is the Mississippi State University Agricultural Extension Agent based in Brookhaven at the Lincoln County Court House.

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Community Calendar

February weather forecast: The Old Farmers Almanac calls for an average temperature 46 degrees F (one degree below average) and precipitation of five inches (average).

FEBRUARY 9

Institute for Learning in Retirement book talk and signing. Dr. Bettie P. Bullard, Tammie Santos Brewer, Sue Dorman and Matti Parker will discuss their new book -- *Images of America: Lincoln County* -- and sign copies. Thames Center on the Co-Lin campus. 6 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

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. \$5.00 for meal. VFW Hall on Industrial Park Road, Brookhaven. 5:30 p.m.

Self Defense/Personal Safety class. Learn safety tips to prevent and avoid violence. Wear loose-fitting clothes and tennis shoes. Instructor is David Higgs. \$15 fee. Co-Lin campus (locations vary). 6 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. Contact Toni Dobbins at 601-643-8716.

FEBRUARY 11

Institute for Learning in Retirement day trip to River Road Plantations in Louisiana. \$92. Departs from Thames Center on Co-Lin campus at 7:45 a.m.

Widows support group meets second Thursday of each month. Furlow Senior Center, Brookhaven. 5 p.m. Call 601-823-6376 or email bvaugnfurlow@gmail.com.

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

FEBRUARY 13

Landing zone training for fire department personnel conducted by Life Flight Air Methods. Crystal Springs Fire station (308 Harmony Road). 10:30 a.m.

FEBRUARY 15

Beginner clogging classes for persons older than 5 are held every Monday night. A small fee is charged each month. Brookhaven Recreation Department on Highway 51. Call 601-833-3791.

FEBRUARY 16

Brookhaven Regional Arts Guild (BRAG) monthly meeting for artists and patrons. Discussion will focus on 2016 plans. Lemanadi Arts & Interiors in down town Brookhaven just off Cherokee Street. 5:30 p.m. Members present will select an Artist of

the Month, whose work will be displayed at Leamandi Studios. If you are an artist, bring a work for consideration. Contact Nancy Hanks-Myers at Modestyann@aol.com and visit Brookhaven Regional Arts Guild on Facebook.

FEBRUARY 17

Beginner and Intermediate Word 2013 classes. Learn word processing skills, including basic commands and ribbon navigation techniques, starting, saving and retrieving a document, basic formatting and document design. \$15 fee. Registration is on a first-come, first served basis. Co-Lin Wesson campus (locations vary). 9 a.m.-12 noon and 1 p.m.- 4 p.m. Contact Toni Dobbins at 601-643-8716.

FEBRUARY 18

The Lincoln County Historical Society will host Joe Fernald who will discuss one of the major Union Army raids in Lincoln County during the Civil War.

50+ Club. Anderson Building on the Co-Lin campus. 10:30 a.m.

Institute for Learning in Retirement (ILR) "Let's Make a Deal" game and social with prizes led by Riverwood Family Funeral Home staff. Thames Center on Co-Lin campus. 12:30 p.m.

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

FEBRUARY 19

HAZWOPER 8-hour refresher class. This eight-hour training is for general site workers who are exposed or potentially exposed to hazardous substances or health hazards. Participants will receive a completion card. \$50 fee. Thames Center on Co-Lin campus. 8 a.m.- 6 p.m. Contact Toni Dobbins at 601-643-8716.

FEBRUARY 20

The Krewe of Ceres forty-ninth Charity Ball to benefit United Way and other Lincoln County charitable organizations. \$50. Lincoln County Civic Center. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. and ball starts at 7 p.m. Contact Stacy Walker at 601-757-6141 for ticket information.

FEBRUARY 22

OSHA 30-hour General Industry classes start and continue on February 23, 24, 25 and 26. The training for supervisors and management covers recognition & prevention of hazards and compliance issues at general industry work sites. Students receive an OSHA Safety and Health 30-Hour Course Completion Card. Registration deadline is February 15 on a first-come, first-served basis. \$175 fee. Co-Lin Wesson campus (locations vary). 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Contact Toni Dobbins at 601-643-8716.

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.

FEBRUARY 25

African American History celebration at Wesson Attendance Center. Old Gymnasium. 9 a.m.

Master Gardener training starts and will be held every Tuesday and Thursday through March 29. Forty hours of intense training covering general concepts of plant science and building on them to provide a well-rounded knowledge of horticulture and gardening. \$90 fee plus forty hours of service time in Lincoln County assisting the Mississippi State University Extension Service with educational efforts in home horticulture. Registration deadline is February 12. Lincoln County Extension office at Court House in Brookhaven. 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Contact the Lincoln County Extension office at 601-835-3460.

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

MARCH 1

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

MARCH 5

Cat's Meow Rummage Sale fundraiser for Brookhaven Animal Rescue League (BARL). BARL will collect donations from February 23-28 between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. at 501 North Park Drive in Brookhaven: furniture, linens/towels, dishes, tools, computers, radios, TVs, cameras, accessories, toys, sports equipment and office/household/kitchen/ lawn and garden /electronics/clothing/infant items. Sale is at old Hudson building next to Sears. Early bird shoppers can start March 4 between 5:30 p.m. and 8 p.m. for a \$10 fee.. For information, contact info@barl.net or 601-757-4367.

MARCH 10

OSHA 10-hour General Industry class starts and continues on March 11. The training for employees and other personnel covers recognition and prevention of hazards at general industry work sites. Students receive an OSHA Safety and Health 10-Hour Completion Card. \$125 fee. Registration deadline is March 3 on a first-come, first served basis. Co-Lin Wesson campus. 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Contact Toni Dobbins at 601-643-8716.

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.

Email Community Calendar items to bobarnold@wessonnews.com

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cont. from page 1

Chamber honors organizations & citizens

University of Southern Mississippi in math, computer science and education; taught math and coached basketball, baseball, football and girl's track; supervised the maintenance program at Sylvarena Baptist Church for twenty years; and helped lead church mission trips in Montana and Kentucky, as well as in Mississippi.

Chamber president Britt reiterated the vision of many Wesson citizens to establish a permanent town historical museum in recognizing the special work of Dixie Thornton and Mark Hamilton. They laid the groundwork with two temporary museums that featured "beautiful displays" of historical items and pictures during the Wesson 150th anniversary celebration and at the 2015 Founders Day. "Thanks to Dixie and Mark for dedicating and volunteering your time for such an important and valuable project that showcased the town of Wesson," Britt said.

In comments before the awards presentations, Dr. Billy B. Thames, Co-Lin's longest-serving president from 1968 to 1997, prepared the audience for recognition of the outstanding 2015 organization and citizen service providers by reminding it of nineteenth century Wesson leaders, who would

have received honors from the Chamber had it existed then, and their legacy. He called Wesson "a sleepy little town with a lot of history behind it" and challenged the audience to look at it for ongoing inspiration.

Thames singled out and discussed the lives of Colonel James M. Wesson, who started Wesson's textile mill-based economy in the 1860s and from whom the town took its name; and the financiers and managers responsible for ongoing expansion of the town's mills that turned Wesson into one of the important early industrial cities of the South into the early 1900s: Captain William Oliver and John T. Hardy, New Orleans businessmen, and Colonel Edmund Richardson, the head of the largest cotton commission house in the U.S. and president of the Atlanta World Exposition of 1883. During their moment in history, Thames pointed out that "Wesson was the largest town between Jackson and New Orleans," and the Wesson mills employed 1,200 workers as the largest facility of its kind south of the Ohio River, manufactured a quality fabric -- Mississippi Silk, generated electricity for its operations and lighting the town before Chicago and New York City and provided an example of modern manufacturing processes studied by Henry Ford.

Wesson Mayor Alton Shaw and Co-Lin president Dr. Ronnie Nettles also spoke at the banquet. Shaw highlighted renovation of the City Hall and substantial progress on development of a municipal park, urged citizens to present their ideas for the town and concerns about it and told the audience: "We may not do everything right, but we'll do everything to make it right." Nettles said he delighted in Co-Lin's "special relationship with Wesson" and said recent participation of the college's choir members in a New York City Carnegie Hall performance and success of its marine robotics team in international competition with major colleges and universities demonstrated that the community and state "have the talent and ability to be just as competitive as anybody in the world."

At the banquet, Stephen Ashley became the new Chamber president. Past president Britt will continue as an ex-officio member of the Chamber board. Other Chamber 2016 board members will be Jacob Westbrook, Janet Currie, Deemie Letchworth, Melissa Meredith, Mike King and Bradley Smith. Beverly King, Brad Turner and Jane Hulon are retiring from the Chamber board.

At its annual banquet, the Chamber of Commerce spotlighted a Wesson native, who recently graduated with honors from the Marine Corps boot camp at Parris Island. Pfc. Jason B. Alexander led the Pledge of Allegiance to the U.S. Flag at the event. Over thirteen weeks in the South Carolina camp, Alexander accumulated a total score in performance on physical fitness, combat fitness and rifle range tests and in a personal interview and proficiency and conduct evaluations that qualified him as the honor graduate for Platoon 2005, Fox Company, Second Recruit Training Battalion. Alexander, who wanted to serve in the military since childhood, said the boot camp experience isn't quite as bad as it is portrayed in movies. "They can't beat you, but you are disciplined," he noted. "We crawl through the mud and run and carry a brother on our back." He said the hardest part of training was the crucible -- a 54-hour experience in which boot campers are allowed only six hours of sleep and three to four meals ready to eat. On his current leave, the 2014 Wesson Attendance Center (WAC) Graduate has been talking about his boot camp experience and the Marine Corps. Last month, he spoke to the junior and senior classes at WAC. Alexander will return to Camp Geiger, North Carolina, for training at the Marine school of infantry.

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Co-Lin plans 2016 Natchez arts celebration

By Guest Columnist Shaw Furlow

Nothing honors what's best about Mississippi better than the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration (NLCC), which has spotlighted the state's authors, historians and filmmakers for the past 27 years and has been called "Mississippi's number one yearly event." The 2016 celebration is February 26 and 27 at multiple venues around Natchez.



Co-Lin started the event in 1990, and it is now co-sponsored by the Mississippi Department of Archives and the Mississippi Humanities Council. The workshops, lectures, book readings, storytelling and films this year will be built around "Natchez at 300: A River Runs By It" as the theme, which reflects the "Natchez 300" year-long tri-centennial campaign celebrating the town's 1716 founding by French explorers and its status as the oldest continuous settlement along the Mississippi River. Along with NLCC, the tri-centennial events will include historical reenactments, parades, sporting events and musical concerts.

The keynote speaker at NLCC on Friday is Dr. William Ferris, professor of history and southern culture at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He is the author of ten books and has created fifteen documentary films, most of which deal with African-American music and other folklore from the Mississippi Delta. Dr. Ferris's

name may sound familiar because he was a professor at Ole Miss for eighteen years, where he created the Center for Southern Culture. He also hosted a blues show on Mississippi Public Broadcasting.

Saturday's keynote address will be delivered by John M Barry, author and historian, who may be best known for his book *The Great Mississippi Flood of 1927*, which appeared on the *New York Times* Best Sellers List. He has appeared on *Meet the Press*, the Public Broadcasting System *News Hour* and *ABC World News Tonight*. He received an Honorary Doctorate from Tulane university for his work after Hurricane Katrina and the ensuing flood that devastated New Orleans.

AREA ARTS

Also on Saturday there is scheduled a workshop entitled "Everyone Has a Story: How to Get it Told." If you are an aspiring author or poet, this round table discussion with publishing house executives is just what you need, with step-by-step lessons on how to get your manuscript into print. The literary world has changed and continues to do so. This workshop will provide information to keep current.

On Saturday, NLCC will also

27th Annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration

Natchez at 300:
A River Runs by It

February 26-27, 2016

recognize Jerry Mitchell, the long-time Jackson *Clarion Ledger* investigative reporter, who will receive the Richard Wright Literary Excellence Award, and Suzanne Marrs for her works covering Mississippi's First Lady of Letters, Eudora Welty.

The NLCC film festival has scheduled an array of features. I am most curious to see one entitled "The Rhythm Club Fire: A Documentary." Some of you may remember the night of the fire or have read about it. Two hundred and ninety persons, mostly African Americans, died in the blaze. The windows were blocked and the fire started at the front door, trapping the victims in the inferno.

NLCC tickets can be purchased online

at colin.edu/nlcc or by phone at 601-446-1208.

Our state has a proud history of great authors, artists and musicians. Mississippi also has a number of other festivals at this time of year: The Juke Joint Festival in Clarksdale, the Double Decker Festival in Oxford, the chili cook-off in Laurel, Arts Alive in Bay St. Louis, the Jimmie Rodgers Festival in Meridian, and the Anderson Art Festival in Ocean Springs. Go out and celebrate. Visit our museums and festivals. Until next time, my friends, support the arts.

Editor's Note: R. Shaw Furlow is director of the Mississippi Musicians Hall of Fame.

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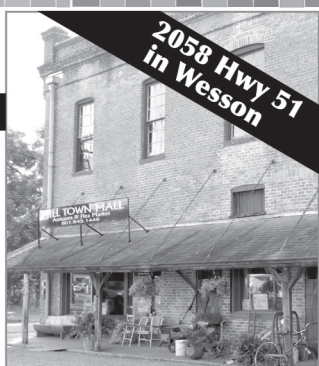
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Aldermen create citizens zoning board

Wesson News

Wesson’s Board of Aldermen is reconstituting a zoning board that will place initial decision-making about changes in neighborhoods in the hands of citizens.

“It’s about involving the people of the community -- giving the people affected by changes in neighborhoods greater ownership of the governmental process,” explains Wesson Mayor Alton Shaw. “A citizens zoning board will remove some of the politics from the decision-making on changes to neighborhoods, putting it into the hands of townspeople, who should be shaping the kind of community they want. The board will discuss requests and raise questions before the Aldermen vote.”

A request to construct a new building on Main Street prompted the move by the Town Aldermen to create the citizen zoning board. The request, which was brought to the Aldermen in January and approved in February, did not have necessary information about the size and nature of the structure, which will house a new hair salon. After Alderman Ric Crockett suggested a zoning board would have facilitated the process, Mayor Shaw and other Aldermen agreed and asked Crockett to reconstitute it.

The new board will recommend to the Town Aldermen approval or denial of new construction or renovations



Wesson Alderman Ric Crockett (second right) confers with new citizens zoning board members (left to right) Kenny Britt, Jean Ricks, Lee Meredith and Jeff Knight, who is chairing the board. Beth Adcock is not pictured.

governed by zoning laws, variances if requests do not comply with the law and changes in zoning laws.

Each Alderman, at Crockett’s request, appointed a member to serve on the new zoning board. They are Beth Adcock, Kenny Britt, Jeff Knight, Lee Meredith and Jean Ricks. Knight will chair the board, and Crockett will serve as the liaison between the board and the Aldermen.

The new board will meet at least

quarterly and on an as-needed basis normally on the Monday before the Aldermen meeting after it has received a written request with necessary documentation, Crockett reports.

“Anyone whose construction or renovation project is regulated by Wesson zoning laws needs to complete and file proper forms through the Town Clerk, who will pass them along to the zoning board,” Crockett relates. “Signs will be posted on properties,

and newspaper ads will run fourteen days in advance of board meetings to alert persons in the community about its zoning discussions as required. The recommendations of the board can be appealed to the Town Aldermen.”

A comprehensive manual on Wesson zoning laws, including ordinances, detailed explanations of them, and forms will guide the new board and is available for review at the Town Hall.

Britt Medical Group

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Co-Lin classes develop skilled labor force

By Bob Arnold

Highlighting expected growth of retail and office jobs in the area as well as current needs for retail and office employees, Co-Lin is launching a new program to equip people with the basic skills required to do the work.

Area economic development organizations and businesses in Adams, Copiah, Franklin, Jefferson, Lawrence, Lincoln and Simpson counties look to Co-Lin's Division of Career, Technical and Workforce Education to meet labor needs. Career and Technical programs prepare students for immediate employment through college credit, one year certificate programs and two year Associate Degree programs, which require fifteen hours of academic studies as well job-related training. Workforce Education classes provide non-credit short-term training for existing workers and unemployed persons to enhance their skills to find jobs.

The new basic retail and office skills Workforce Education program -- Business Office Pathway (BOP) -- offers 108 hours of training at a cost of \$250 over three months in work ethics, keyboarding, customer service, telephone etiquette, math for the workplace, resume writing, interview skills, business writing, time management and financial literacy. Co-Lin will award a Certificate

of Completion, Career Readiness Certificate and North Star Digital Literacy Certificate to students who successfully complete the training program.

After successfully completing BOP, students can also take Prior Learning Assessment (PLA) tests for a \$50 fee in Professional Development and Document Formatting to earn a total of six hours of college credit, if passed, in Business Office Technology (BOT), a new Co-Lin's Career and Technical program, at a cost of \$100.

During its spring semester, Co-Lin is also offering three other Workforce Education classes reflecting labor needs of area employers:

- Heating, Ventilating & Air Conditioning (HVAC) Level 2 class for students who successfully completed the National Center for Construction and Education Research (NCCER) Contren Core and Level 1 HVAC classes.

- Millwright NCCER Contren Core, Level 1 and Level 2 classes. Levels 3, 4, and 5 classes are planned for students who successfully complete this class.

- Welding class for NCCER Contren Core, Level 1 and Level 2 credentials to start in April. Cost: \$995.

Workforce Education classes and the content of the Technical and Career



Wesson News

Welding jobs are plentiful, and Co-Lin is training workers to fill them not only locally, but outside Mississippi as well.

program curriculum respond to needs of more than forty area businesses.

"Advisory committees with members from the business community meet regularly to inform development of Technical and Career programs," explains Workforce Education Center Director Angela Berch. "Workforce Education coordinators work directly with business leaders and a Workforce

Advisory Council to develop classes."

Every year, more than 700 students take courses that are part of Co-Lin Technical and Career programs, more than 5,000 first-time students enroll in Workforce Education classes for job-specific training and more than 17,000 students return for additional Workforce Education classes.

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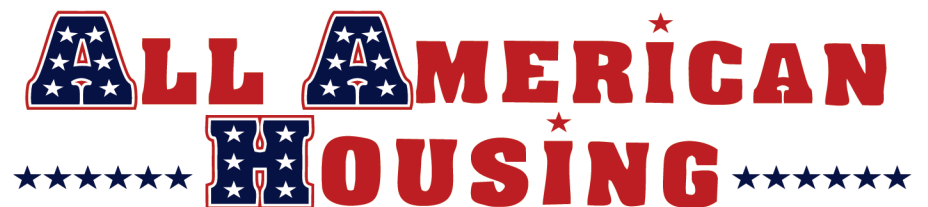
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Metal roofing & buildings drive area economy

Special to Wesson News

The metal roofing and metal building industry, driven by demand of energy, safety, conservation and cost conscious consumers, is helping to pace growth of the area economy.

Brookhaven-based Reed's Metals, which started in a Lawrence County portable shed in 1998, reflects the expanding importance of this sector of the economy in its growth into an industry giant with more than hundred employees at its Lincoln county manufacturing facility and store and ongoing expansion, which currently encompasses seven additional stores throughout the southeastern U.S.

Known for setting industry standards and quality metal products, which use Galvalume carbon steel sheet coated with an aluminum-zinc alloy in a continuous hot-dip process, Reed's sold some 911 pole barns, econo-buildings and rigid frames in 2015; handled approximately 500 customer telephone calls per day; processed 320,000 pieces of trim cut; and deployed its management and staff team on 610,000 miles of travel to manage its varied business needs.

Reed's believes economic success is a combination of products, customer service, and the people who work for a

company and represent it to the world.

A major product in propelling growth of Reed's and its industry has been cool metal roofing, which saves consumers up to twenty-five per cent in energy costs compared to shingle roofs, withstands heavy winds because of overlap design that provides superior resistance, and puts less stress on the structure of a house due to light weight. Among other advantages of metal roofs:

- They are fire-proof compared to shingle roofs, which may be treated to be fire resistant -- a safety consideration that can result in a lower premiums for homeowners insurance. The metal roof panels do not crack, warp, curl, or split as shingles can.
- They do not deteriorate in the sun or corrode like asphalt shingles.
- The Cool Metal Roofing Coalition and Oak Ridge National Laboratory document that installation of reflective metal roofing can save up to forty per cent in summer cooling energy costs, and highly emissive metal roofs can reduce air temperatures by as much as twelve degrees F to save consumers money, minimize dependence on energy resources and decrease air pollution.
- Metal roofing is recognized as a "green" product, because it is one hundred per cent recyclable when

ultimately removed as part of building renovation or demolition. Other roofing materials go by the ton into landfills when disposed. The Metal Roofing Alliance notes that metals are exceptional building materials that "can credibly claim both recycled content and recyclability by recognized definitions."

- A durable metal roofing system lasts two to three times longer than the seventeen-year average lifetime of a properly installed and maintained non-metal roof. Installed and maintained properly, a metal roof can last as long as desired, while asphalt roofing must be replaced every 10 to 20 years, often sooner. Metal roof coatings are stain resistant and warranted up to 40 years, regardless of the panel design.

The Metal Roofing Alliance, a small group of metal roofing manufacturers, which has been educating consumers about the beauty, durability, and money-saving advantages of metal roofing since 1998, concludes it's a product that responds to modern consumer need. "Homeowners are increasingly seeking out energy-saving building materials for their renovations and new homes -- products that not only secure and improve structures, but also provide long-term cost-cutting on energy bills while promoting environmental and

economic sustainability in the greater community," says the Alliance.

Reed's officials add that product alone does not assure economic growth.

Bernie Reed, owner and CEO of the company, points to Reed's customer service, its workers, and contractors, which have built a loyal customer base: "We pride ourselves on customer service. We offer 'order today, pick up today,' which sets us apart from competitors in our industry. No one else can offer the same fast and friendly service that we can. Our employees are hard workers. They are a huge reason we are so successful. Our loyal customers and local contractors are also another huge reason we have been so fortunate."

Ed Crawford, a Wesson resident who is Reed's Chief Financial Officer, points to processes and people: "We are always looking at different processes and how the flow of the process works. You have to get the flow right, and put the right person into the flow," says Crawford. The University of North Dakota MBA graduate, whose work helped bring recognition to Reed's as a "Mississippi Leader in Finance for 2015," believes employees, in the final analysis, are behind the economic success of companies.

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Early childhood technology education building opens

Special to Wesson News

Co-Lin has officially opened its new Early Childhood Technology Education building, which was completed in November at a cost of \$2.4 million.

The facility -- the latest addition on the Co-Lin Wesson campus -- will serve as the college's laboratory school for early childhood education. Students enrolled in the Early Childhood Education Technology Program assist in the care of children who are enrolled in Co-Lin's full-time day care center, which operates five days per week during the academic year.

"We are very pleased to continue upgrading facilities," Co-Lin President Dr. Ronnie Nettles says. "This new building supports our mission to provide a quality instructional program for our students."

The new masonry bearing wall building features classrooms for infants, one-year olds, two-year olds, and preschoolers along with dining space, child-friendly restrooms, a commercial kitchen and laundry. The building also includes office space for the program director Mary Price and early childhood technology instructor Amy Lewis, as well as a teacher workroom, student workroom, sick room/conference room, computer lab and student classroom.

Through a state of the art observation system with full-size plate glass windows throughout the building,

students and staff can constantly supervise children and view child development classrooms in action to learn best early childhood education practices. There is also a child-friendly playground with developmentally-appropriate outdoor play stations located on soft-surfaces, a covered play area for rainy days and abundant storage for tricycles and outdoor play gear.

The building, designed by Jackson-based Burris-Wagnon Architects and constructed by Paul Jackson and Sons of Brookhaven, is 8,046 square feet and sits at the north end of campus. Its modern design features a combination pitched roof and flat roof system featuring colorful light wells to bring the outdoors into the building. A covered drop-off area has a cantilever-style roof.

The facility is one of most energy efficient buildings on the Co-Lin Wesson campus, with automatic thermostatic controls, Variable Refrigerant Volume (VRV) cassette ceiling units for heating and cooling, and lighting that automatically dims and brightens based on the outdoor sun levels. It is the first building on campus to feature all LED lighting.

For information about the Early Childhood Education Technology Program, contact Sonya Sims at 601-643-8324.



Special to Wesson News

Pre-school instructor Melissa Kyzar demonstrates the early childhood technology's new smart board to Vice President of Instruction Dr. Jane Hulon.

Book talk & signing starts ILR semester

Special to Wesson News

The Institute for Learning in Retirement (ILR) will help launch a new book by four women associated with the Lincoln County Historical and Genealogical Society (LCHGS) at a special discussion and signing today at the Thames Center on the Co-Lin campus.

Tammie Brewer, Bettie Bullard, Sue Dorman and Marti Parker will talk about their unique pictorial history of Lincoln County and sign copies of *Images of America: Lincoln County* at the event from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. today.

The book talk and signing is one of five workshop seminars for retired and semi-retired persons at least 50 years old who participate in ILR continuing education programs at Co-Lin during its spring semester. The ILR spring agenda also includes four travel opportunities, three films and monthly luncheons through April.

ILR is a membership organization in which the participants define their own informal educational goals and pursue them at their own pace based on their own choices and talents. Members, who come from wide ranging backgrounds and bring varied experiences to the organization, design its program. Co-Lin staffs, administers and provides facilities for the organization, which is fully funded by member dues.

Other ILR events in the coming months are:

FEBRUARY 11

Day Trip to the River Road Plantations in Louisiana.

FEBRUARY 18

"Let's a Make a Deal," a fun event with prizes and refreshments led by staff from the Riverwood Family Funeral Home.

MARCH 3

Luncheon with entertainment provided by Zoe Brumfield, who plays the Great Highland Bagpipe.

MARCH 10

Presentation about the Brookhaven-based Mississippi Adolescent Center, which serves youth with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

"Age of Adeline," a film about a woman who remains twenty-nine years old for almost eight decades until a romance changes her life forever.

MARCH 24 & APRIL 7

An exploration of history portrayed in The Holy Bible, presented in two parts by Brother Josh Holloway from Brookway Church of Christ.

APRIL 5

Overview of the Mississippi Department of Archives and History as a resource.

APRIL 14

Luncheon with entertainment provided by the Co-Lin Jazz Band.

APRIL 19-22

Trip to Atlanta, Georgia.

APRIL 28

A workshop based on *The 101 Most Influential People Who Never Lived*, a book which examines how fictional characters have influenced our lives and society as a whole.

"War Room," a film about members of a family at war with each other and the daughter's newly energized faith, which enables her to fight for her family rather than against it.

MAY 2

Day trip to Mississippi Braves game.

MAY 18

End-of-year picnic.

Luncheons and workshops are normally held at the Thames Center on the Co-Lin campus with fees ranging from \$5 to \$10. Luncheons are \$2 more at the door for attendees who do not pay in advance.

For information, email Marilyn Brown@colin.edu or Tricia.Russell@colin.edu or call 601-643-8705. Details on events are also carried in the Wesson News Community Calendar.

NENA SMITH'S SCHOOL OF DANCE

Good Morning Miss Nena:

I should be ashamed! Southern Ladies do not write thank you's via email. We use the prettiest stationary, neatest handwriting (cursive you taught Lexie, if possible) and the United States Post Office, so please forgive this email.

I just wanted to send you a quick note thanking you for ALL that you have done for Alexis. She has many teachers whom she admires, but none more than you. Your influence is not limited to dance technique and Christian Character, but also includes the proper way to do ANYTHING. As she sat to write her first thank you note for a graduation gift, I began to give her pointers and she quickly stopped me and informed me that "Miss" Nena had taught her senior class how to write a proper thank-you note and what to say! PRICELESS!

God has many crowns waiting for you. You have touched the lives of many, many young girls, but you've also touched the lives of their families and friends through the messages of bravery and confidence in your recitals. I thank God every day for making the decision to enroll Lexie at your studio with you and your wonderful staff and you do have such a wonderful staff....little Mini-Nena's. THE DRIVE HAS BEEN WORTH EVERY MILE and then some.

Love and God Bless, Tracy P

For more information, call us at 601-643-2406

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Lawmakers bring their issues to table

Special to Wesson News

Returning more sales tax revenues to municipalities, sex education, revenues for hospitals, women's health, mental health and public education are among the issues Wesson area lawmakers want the state legislature to consider in its 2016 session.

District 39 Senator Sally Doty is co-authoring a bill that would return to state municipalities more of the sales tax revenues they collect, particularly for spending on infrastructure. In recent years, the percentage of revenues kept by the state has increased. Doty also wants to renew sex education legislation, which expires this year, with greater emphasis on teaching children and youth personal responsibility. She is also renewing her efforts for legislation that would allow King's Daughters Medical Center to collect delinquent fees through an individual's tax payments.

District 92 Representative Becky Currie plans to sponsor bills that would protect women from payment cuts by insurance companies for procedures such as pap smears. She also is seeking mental health reform that would emphasize crisis center treatment and encourage mentally-ill non-violent offenders to stay on their medications as an alternative to incarceration. Currie envisions mental health courts similar to drug courts.

Doty and Currie are both supporting Governor Bryant's move to create a separate foster care agency staffed by experts in the field, who will assure quality care for children and support for foster parents.

Along with their colleagues, Doty and Currie are grappling with balancing the goals of a smaller government and low tax burdens with public education needs, better allocation of funds among schools and a big increase in the Medicaid budget. Going into its session, the legislature faced a \$64 million budget deficit and shrinking revenues. Doty favors elimination of the franchise tax towards promoting small business

economic development and a cautious approach to eliminating the personal income tax based on defined revenue triggers.

Only 300 pieces of legislation of 3,000 introduced will reach the Governor's desk for his signature.

Brookhaven man new DHS director.

Governor Bryant has named John Davis of Brookhaven, former director of the Lincoln County Department of Human Services, as new director of

the Mississippi Department of Human Services (DHS). Davis, a graduate of the University of Southern Mississippi, moves into the post at DHS when it is facing federal court scrutiny over its handling of foster care.

Severe weather damage.

The National Weather Service confirmed a tornado in Lincoln and Copiah Counties just west of Wesson last month destroyed one home, uprooted and downed trees, and caused assorted damage to sheds

and barns. Winds reached a maximum of 100 mph, and the tornado cut a 5.4-mile, 200-yard wide swath.

Characters search. "American Pickers," the History Channel documentary series that explores antique picking, is coming to Mississippi in March and is looking for interesting characters with unique items -- vintage bicycles, musical equipment, automotive items and clothing, pre-50s western gear, early firefighting equipment, toys, unusual radios, movie memorabilia, advertising, military items and folk art. Email suggestions with photos to americanpickers@cinetix.com or call 855-Old-Rust.

History book. Four Lincoln County Historical and Genealogical Society (LCHGS) members -- Tammie Brewer, Bettie Bullard, Sue Dorman and Marti Parker -- present a pictorial history of the county in *Images of America: Lincoln County*, a new book published by Arcadia Publishing & The History Press. The 250 photographs in the book date to the 1860s before the state legislature created Lincoln County on April 7, 1870, and demonstrate how its present life evolved in economies dominated formerly by lumber, agriculture, and oil. The book will be available through local retailers, online bookstores and the publisher (www.arcadiapublishing.com/888-313-2665) for \$21.99, with a portion of the profits donated to LCHGS.

MRI accreditation for KDMC. The American College of Radiology (ARC) has awarded a three-year accreditation in magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) to King's Daughters Medical Center (KDMC) in Brookhaven that certifies KDMC MRI patient care within the ARC guidelines. MRI is a non-invasive medical diagnostic tool that utilizes magnetic fields to produce anatomical images of internal body organs to assist physicians.

NEWS NUGGETS



Wesson News

More than thirty dancers, teachers and chaperones from the Wesson-based Nena Smith Dance Studio attended the Dance Teachers United workshop (DTU) at the Convention Center in Vicksburg. Nena Smith is the chaplain and a Board Member of DTU, a non-profit association of dance studios from seven different southern states organized to promote the finest in dance education for its member students. Nena Smith dancers at the Vicksburg workshop were (first row left to right) Charity Irving, Issy Morse, Ryleigh Sheppard, Laney Jones, studio assistant teacher and Fruit Of The Spirit Class Captain Kaylen Boyte; (middle row left to right) studio teacher Abigail Hynum, Brianna Hynum, Allie Runnels, Amya Williams, Reagan Newman, Lydia Little and studio owner and teacher Nena Smith; (back row left to right) teacher Elizabeth Meese, Cierra Santos, Dacey Sivils, Summer Roberts, Isabella Little, Lainey Grace Brewer, Hannah Coleman and Mia Morehead. Workshop attendees Gracie Hutchinson, Abrianna Tarazona and Morgan Polk are not pictured. DTU will hold an all jazz classic workshop at Hattiesburg February 12 to 14. Many different forms of jazz dance will be featured. For more information on the February event, visit www.d-t-u.com.

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Cobras name new head football coach

Special to Wesson News

The assistant offensive coordinator at Brookhaven High School has joined Wesson High School as its new head football coach.

Jeremy Loy said he plans to build Wesson into a district title contender year in and year out while focusing not only on coaching his players to perform well on the field, but to grow into good young men.

“We are going to be a team that puts faith first, family next and football third,” the thirteen-year veteran coach said. “We are going to work hard every day to get better as men, as students and as players. Win or lose, teams are going to know that the Wesson Cobras play hard, play tough and will not quit.”

Loy served in assistant coaching positions at Vicksburg, Franklin County, Tupelo and Mendenhall high schools before coming to Brookhaven. A Mississippi State University graduate, he is certified to teach physical education.

Calling his new coaching job “a great opportunity,” he described Wesson as a “great place for me and my family.” “There is a lot of pride in the community for their school. Football is important.”

Ron Greer, whom Loy replaces at Wesson and continues as athletic director there, said the new coach “brings the experience and enthusiasm needed to get our football program back on track.” Wesson finished 3-8 last season and 0-5 in Region 7-3A.

Loy and his wife Sarah have three children -- Will, 11, Macy, 8, and Wesly, 6.

SPORTS SHORTS

Softball pitcher chooses Co-Lin. Lawrence County High School softball standout pitcher Elizabeth Smith has accepted an athletic scholarship to continue her playing career at Co-Lin. In her junior year at Lawrence County, she had a 15-5 pitching record with seventy-five strikeouts over 108 innings. She also batted .422 with twenty-two singles, five doubles, and twenty-five RBIs.

SCOREBOARD

January 8 - February 9

WESSON HIGH SCHOOL COBRAS

Basketball

Boy's Record: 14-8. Recent Wins: Loyd Star. 75-61. Hazlehurst. 72-63. Franklin County. 68-57. Wilkinson County. 80-79. Jefferson County. 83-79. Recent Losses: Jefferson County. 65-63. Pearl. 58-47. Port Gibson. 53-48.

Girls Record: 6-17. Recent Wins: Hazlehurst. 50-33. Recent Losses: Germantown. 46-23. Loyd Star. 54-23. Jefferson County. 50-31. Pearl. 51-26. Franklin County. 39-21. Wilkinson County 56-34. Port Gibson. 50-36. Jefferson County. 58-27.

Soccer

Boy's Record: 8-5. Recent Wins: Crystal Springs. 3-2; 3-1. Magee. 4-3. Loyd Star. 2-0. Recent Losses: Franklin County. 4-3.

Girl's Record: 9-5. Recent Wins: Crystal Springs. 4-0; 8-0. Magee. 2-1. Recent Losses: Franklin County. 1-0. Loyd Star. 3-0.

CO-LIN WOLVES

Basketball

Men's Record: 4-13. Recent Wins: Meridian. 108-96. Gulf Coast. 108-101. Recent Losses: Southwest Tennessee. 85-72. Jones. 84-73. East Central. 70-65. Southwest. 94-75. Hinds. 88-85

Women's Record: 15-2. Recent Wins: Southwest Tennessee. 79-74. Southwest. 80-67. Meridian. 68-67. Gulf Coast. 73-48. Hinds. 73-52. Recent Losses: Jones. 90-67. East Central. 80-60.

UPCOMING SPORTING EVENTS

FEBRUARY 9

Wesson High School girls & boys varsity basketball Cobras play at Port Gibson. 6 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.

FEBRUARY 11

Co-Lin women softball Wolves play at Baton Rouge. 1 p.m.

Co-Lin women & men basketball Wolves play Southwest. 6 p.m. & 8 p.m.

FEBRUARY 12

Wesson High School girls & boys varsity basketball Cobras play at Wilkinson County. 6 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.

FEBRUARY 15

Co-Lin women softball Wolves play Hinds. 1 p.m.

Wesson High School girls & boys varsity basketball Cobras begin District basketball tournament play at Wilkinson County. TBA.

Co-Lin women & men basketball Wolves play at Meridian. 5:30 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.

FEBRUARY 18

Co-Lin women & men basketball Wolves play at Gulf Coast. 5:30 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.

FEBRUARY 19

Co-Lin women softball Wolves play in Jones Tournament. 1 p.m. & 5 p.m.

FEBRUARY 20

Co-Lin women softball Wolves play in Meridian Tournament. 11 a.m.

FEBRUARY 22

Mississippi Association of Community and Junior Colleges state basketball tournament begins.

FEBRUARY 26

Co-Lin women softball Wolves play at Coahoma. 1 p.m.

FEBRUARY 27

Wesson High School varsity women softball Cobras play at Columbia. 10:30 a.m.

FEBRUARY 29

Wesson High School varsity women softball Cobras play Florence. 6:30 p.m.

MARCH 1

Co-Lin women softball Wolves play Southwest. 3 p.m.

MARCH 3

Co-Lin women softball Wolves play Meridian. 3 p.m.

Wesson High School varsity baseball Cobras play Loyd Star in Lincoln County Invitational at Brookhaven. 5 p.m.



Gulf Coast players guard Co-Lin's Tyler Turner in Wolves overtime win.

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Setting heart-healthy examples for kids

By Guest Columnist
Dr. Stephanie Duguid

Every parent wants the very best for their children. And we know that our children follow our lead with their habits that can last a lifetime.



Therefore, we must encourage them to develop healthy lifestyles and habits at the youngest possible age. Many of these habits, like the foods and beverages we consume and the amount of physical activity we get, can have a profound effect on the quality of our lives and our likelihood of developing major illnesses later in life, including heart disease. It's important to get kids off to the healthiest possible start, and that message has never been more urgent than it is today.

In recent years, we've seen the very troubling emergence of obesity as a national health crisis, impacting not only adults but also children. In 2012, more than one third of children and adolescents were overweight or obese. Among children today, obesity is causing a broad range of physical health problems -- high blood pressure, Type 2 diabetes and elevated blood cholesterol levels -- that previously weren't seen until adulthood. Excess weight at a young age has been linked to higher and earlier death rates in adulthood. In fact, obese children as young as age 3 show indicators for developing heart disease later in life. And overweight adolescents have an average of 40% (and up to 80%) chance of becoming obese as adults.

There is no quick and easy solution to childhood obesity. Children who grow up in healthy environments have a built-in advantage. If they have constant access to playgrounds or are encouraged to go outside rather than play on computers, watch TV, or play video games, physical activity is more likely to become an integral part of their lives. If meals at school and at home are rich in fruits and vegetables, they're more likely to pass on unhealthy snacks and processed foods.

Together, parents and the community can make a positive difference by helping to steer more kids along the

healthiest possible path. We know it can be done. Here are a few tips to help children develop healthy habits:

- Make dinnertime a family time. When everyone sits down together to eat, there's less chance of children eating the wrong foods or snacking too much. Get your kids involved in cooking and planning meals. Have fun picking out new fruits and vegetables at the grocery store. Focus on lean proteins and whole grains. Look for foods with the American Heart Association's trusted Heart-Check mark to make smarter food choices. Everyone develops good eating habits together, and the quality time with the family will be an added bonus.

- Get the whole family moving. Plan times for everyone to get moving together.

Take walks, ride bikes, go swimming, garden or just play hide-and-seek outside. Everyone will benefit from the exercise and the time together.

- Limit TV, video game and computer time. These habits lead to a sedentary lifestyle and excessive snacking, which increase risks for obesity and cardiovascular disease. Limit screen time to two hours per day.

- Learn to love the labels and focus on portion. Read food labels, as they can provide you with essential information. Pay attention to portion control in the package and at home. Pre-pack healthy snacks by keeping fresh fruit, veggies and healthy nuts on-hand.

- Be a good role model. You don't have to be perfect all the time, but kids see you trying to eat right and getting physically active. You'll send a message that good health is important to your family.

- Learn more about how to help your family be healthier at heart.org/healthyhome.

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

LIVING +HEALTHY+

MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR

Misti, waitress at 51 Diner

Wesson News

Misti Merrill has worked as a waitress at the 51 Diner in Wesson since it opened five years ago. A native of Franklin County and a graduate of Franklin High School, she lives in Copiah County just outside the Wesson corporate limits with her husband Shane and three sons -- Pierre, 12, Eric, 9, and Devin, 18.

What is your hobby?

Just being a wife.

What is your favorite book or movie?

The Twilight Saga. They are vampire romance fantasy films -- "Twilight," "New Moon" and "Eclipse" based on four novels by Stephanie Meyer. They star Kristen Stewart, Robert Pattinson and Taylor Lautner. I love vampire movies.

What kind of music do you like?

Anything that's good. R&B, country, blues. Just so it's good.

Do you have a favorite musician?

Eminem, the rapper.



Do you have one great wish for changing the world?

Finding a cure for cancer.

How would you spend \$1 million?

I'd use it so my family would never have to worry again. I'd probably quit my job. But I would continue to work. I'd go nuts without doing anything.

Editor's note: Suggest neighbors you want to read about via email to bobarnold@wessonnews.com.

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Ribbon-cutting launches clinic



Wesson News

Officers and members of the Brookhaven-Lincoln County Chamber of Commerce (BLCCC) helped Dr. Elaine Reinhardt open the Loving Hands Medical Clinic at 519 West Monticello Street in Brookhaven. On hand for the ribbon-cutting were (first row left to right) Imogene Ryan, John Reinhardt, Mary Reinhardt, Dr. Reinhardt, Catherine Dickey, Brenda Henderson, Martha Wilbert, Amy Watridge, (back row left to right) Garrick Combs (director of BLCCC), Colby Calcote, Fletch Grice, Mark Mathis and Jason Snider. When the new facility is fully staffed, Dr. Reinhardt envisions a nurse practitioner and lab technicians among nine employees. Dr. Reinhardt worked in hospital emergency rooms throughout the area before starting the clinic.

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