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# Wesson News

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**Wesson News**  
PO Box 1028  
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Volume 5, Number 11

*"Good News You Can Use"*

November 14, 2017

## Town turning into holiday season setting

By Bob Arnold

Wesson residents are once again turning their town into a unique southern holiday season setting, characterized by the merriment, conviviality, food, sounds and colors that create a special community spirit at this time every year.

In the weeks ahead, there will be a community fellowship luncheon, Institute for Learning in Retirement travel and workshop experiences, special worship services and events at area churches, the annual downtown Christmas parade, with the arrival of Santa Claus; a new community Christmas party in the municipal park and a seasonal ceremony remembering local military heroes.

*cont. on page 4*



*Special to Wesson News*

The Wesson Christmas parade on December 1 will bring Santa to town.



*Special to Wesson News*

Upwards of a thousand adults, youth and children enjoyed a community party on Halloween night at the Wesson municipal park -- an event that helped usher in the local holiday season. On December 16, a similar event in the park will help set the stage for Christmas celebrations around town.

## Hester becomes town clerk

**Wesson News**

The Wesson Board of Aldermen appointed Angela Marie Hester municipal clerk after accepting the resignation of Mandy Cain, who left the position for personal reasons after assuming it in July.

Hester has been serving as town court clerk since July, when Linda Dykes retired from the town clerk and court clerk positions in which she had served for more than twenty-two years. Hester will continue working as court clerk, as well as taking over the duties of town clerk.

Hester, a Tuscaloosa, Alabama, native, graduated from Wesson High School and attended Co-Lin. Her government experience encompasses service as a

dispatcher for the Crystal Springs Police Department, deputy clerk court in Crystal Springs and assisting the Copiah County Justice Court on an as-needed basis, which she has continued as municipal court clerk in Wesson. She has been office director for Hester Production Services, her husband's consulting firm. She and her husband Chad have three grown children -- Trace Roberts, 27, and Taylor Roberts, 22, J.C. Hester, Jr., 23 (Nickoles Roberts is deceased) -- and two grandchildren -- Laney Roberts, 7, Rhylee Roberts, 4, and Hewitt Roberts.

In other personnel matters, the Board of Aldermen promoted Troy Floyd to assistant police chief to replace Chad Sills, who was honored for his fourteen years

of service in the post. Floyd has served as a Wesson Police Force (WPF) captain, along with Garret Starkey, who will continue as a captain. Mike Stogner will return to WPF as a patrolman.

The Board of Aldermen also approved members of town's zoning board and Old School Community Center management committee.

Zoning board members are Jean Ricks, Sharon Hughes, Larry Ashley and Jeff Knight. The Old School Community Center management committee members are Beverly King, Marilyn Britt, Deemie Letchworth, Cindy Durr, Melanie Hall, Terri Ellison and Sonya Cowen. Melissa Meredith will serve as executive director for the Old School Community Center.



*Special to Wesson News*

Angela Hester has become Wesson municipal clerk.

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## Police Blotter

*Special to Wesson News*

During October, Wesson Police Department activity also encompassed

**Response to:**

- One shoplifting
- Three vehicular accidents
- Two petty larcenies
- One telephone harassment
- Four general complaints
- One disturbing family peace
- One vandalism
- Three burglaries
- One check fraud/forgery
- One counterfeit money

**Citations & arrests:**

- One possession of a controlled substance with intent to distribute
- Three marijuana possession in a motor vehicle
- One open container
- One disregard of a stop sign
- One expired driver's license
- Four driving with license
- One forgery
- Four speeding violations
- One domestic violence/simple assault
- One possession of drug paraphernalia

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.

# WAC earns "B" accountability grade



*Special to Wesson News*

The faculty and staff at Wesson Attendance Center shared a beautifully decorated cake at a celebration of the "B" accountability rating WAC received from the Mississippi Department of Education.

## Wesson News

Wesson Attendance Center (WAC) earned a B grade in the Mississippi Department of Education (MDE) accountability ratings for the 2016-17 school year -- an improvement from last year's C that made it one of four area high schools graded similarly by MDE. West Lincoln School, Brookhaven High School and Lawrence County High School also earned Bs. Among other high schools in the area, Crystal Springs, Hazlehurst and Loyd Star received Cs.

The MBE system also graded Brookhaven School District (C), Copiah County School District (C), Hazlehurst City School District (D), Lawrence County School District (C) and Lincoln County School District (B) and elementary and middle schools in the area. Statewide, district grades for 2016-17 include 15 with As, 43 with Bs, 43 with Cs, 36 with Ds and nine with Fs.

MBE bases the grades on points awarded, in part, for how well students at schools -- particularly the lowest-performing 25 per cent -- perform and progress from year to year on the Mississippi Academic Assessment Program (MAAP) tests. MAAP tests, are aligned with the Mississippi College and Career Ready Standards and administered

annually to students in grades three through eight and high school. The accountability system also considers:

- Student performance on science tests in grades five and eight;
- The four-year graduation rate of high schools;
- Student performance on biology, U.S. history, Algebra I, English and ACT tests;
- Student participation and performance in advanced coursework, such as Advanced Placement and dual/credit enrollment course.

WAC fell short of 626 required points for a B in the 2015-16 school year with 623, but improved by 41 points during the 2016-17 school to earn a solid B.

MBE used the 2016-17 accountability data to set new baseline thresholds for earning each letter grade to correct artificially high growth rates reflected in 2015-16 grades. The highest grade districts and schools achieved based on current thresholds or the new baseline determined their 2016-17 accountability grades.

"We were delighted with our B rating, as a result of scoring 41 points above our 2015-16 rating score," WAC principal Marilyn Philips said. "To maintain the

B rating for this school year, however, we are focusing on our weak areas to achieve at least a 679 point score."

Phillips explained Wesson Attendance Center, like similar facilities throughout the state with combined elementary, middle school, and high school programs, could not meet testing deadlines to receive ratings for grades below the high school level. Among stand-alone elementary and middle schools in the area, Brookhaven Elementary School, Mamie Martin Elementary School and Alexander Junior High School earned Cs.

"Accountability rating systems are not an exact science, and Mississippi's model is experiencing growing pains," said Nancy Loomer of the Mississippi Parents Campaign. "Fortunately, the MDE and the Mississippi Board of Education have acknowledged that the system has weaknesses and have pledged to hear educators' concerns and consider making adjustments. But the takeaway from the new accountability grades is that public school teachers and students are forging ahead, continuing the very positive statewide trend of improved achievement -- with the most significant progress being made at the lower end of the spectrum."



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cont. from page 1

# Town turning into holiday season setting

Today, Co-Lin will host a buffet luncheon for more than 300 persons, including its staff and employees, officials of the Town of Wesson, area businesses and not-for-profit organizations, members of social and civic groups and families and individuals at the Thames Center from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. They will enjoy good food and fellowship in a relaxing atmosphere at the annual event, which started in 2002 to showcase of the Co-Lin meetings facility for prospective profit and not-for-profit users and has evolved into a traditional community holiday get-together. The cost is \$15 per person.

Among the new events this year:

- Wesson Baptist Church will host its first community **Thanksgiving Day dinner** at noon on November 23 for persons who do not have friends or family with whom they can spend the holiday.
- At a "Small Town Christmas" party, which will start at 4 p.m. on December 16 in the municipal park, there will be movies in the pavilion for children, an adult scavenger hunt and caroling. Children will also make ornaments and snacks for Santa. The Wesson Lions Club will provide free hot chocolate, candy and cookies. The Club is asking for donations of used eye glasses for gifts to needy persons with sight problems.
- Locally, as part of Wreaths Across America, **Socks for Heroes** and the **American Legion Auxiliary** expect to lay 170 fresh evergreen wreaths in Wesson Cemetery at grave sites of town military heroes, who sacrificed for their country. Nationwide, wreaths will be laid at Arlington National Cemetery and more than 1,200 veterans cemeteries in fifty U.S. states and overseas. The local sponsors are seeking contributions from individuals, businesses, clubs and

civic organizations and churches to cover the \$15 purchase price of each wreath laid at Wesson Cemetery. For information, contact Kathy Stroud (601-695-4140) or Sharon Alexander Langley (601-757-2085)

Also new are three **Institute for Learning in Retirement** seasonal travel and educational events:

- **A member trip to Ridgeland, Mississippi**, on November 16 for *A Christmas Musical Extravaganza*, which features Bill Clark in a live performance.
- **Christmas workshop and luncheon** on November 28, which will feature a hands-on competitive learning experience in which participants in small teams will decorate their luncheon tables in Christmas themes and awarded prizes for creativity. Co-Lin Day Care children will sing carols during the luncheon. There is a \$15 fee for the event, which starts at 10 a.m. at the Co-Lin Thames Center.
- **Lights & Leisure tour** at Mobile and Point Clear, Alabama, December 4-5. Highlights: Shopping at Robert Moore & Company, a year-round gifts, doll and toy store. Bellingrath Gardens decorated grounds with poinsettias and after-dark Magic of Lights, with three million twinkling lights, displays and Christmas scenes. Christmas lights tour of the Fairhope area.

For information about these events, contact Marilyn Brown or Tricia Russell (601-643-8701/02, Marilyn.Brown@colin.edu, Tricia.Russell@colin.edu).

Traditional town events will also continue to highlight the Wesson holiday season:

**Decorating the town.** On Sunday, November 26, following the Thanksgiving holiday, the Wesson Volunteer Fire Department will unpack the



Special to Wesson News

A community lunch at Co-Lin is part of the Wesson holiday season.

town's stored Christmas decorations and lights and put them up in the downtown area, transforming Wesson into a post card Christmas scene and setting the stage for the annual Christmas parade and the arrival of Santa Claus on Friday, December 1.

**Christmas parade.** With Wesson Attendance Center (WAC) letting its students out of school early on parade day, upwards of 1000 children and adults will line both sides of Highway 51 from the south stop light north to Wesson Baptist Church. They will welcome Santa, enjoy the Co-Lin Blue Wave Show Band and Wesson High School marching band and wave to dignitaries and special townspeople in cars and floats created by local organizations.

The parade, which rolls at 4 p.m., will feature football homecoming Queens and maidens from Co-Lin and Wesson High School, Wesson Baptist Pre-School and Precious Moments Day Care Center children, Co-Lin and Wesson High School cheerleading squads, Nena Smith dancers and Co-Lin Colettes, Wesson Attendance Center beauty and beau winners, lo-

cal business leaders, and community service volunteers from Keep Copiah County Beautiful, the Wesson Chamber of Commerce, Wesson Volunteer Fire Department and Boy Scouts, Cub Scouts and Girl Scouts.

Following the parade, Santa will meet children, hear their Christmas wishes and give them gifts of candy and fruit at the Wesson Volunteer Fire Department fire house on Spring Street, and City officials will officially light the town Christmas tree in the municipal park.

Friends of the Library will also host its annual Christmas with Friends open house at its building, garden and pavilion, with refreshments, caroling, and special children's activities, including a movie with popcorn, pictures with the Grinch and face painting.

See the Community Calendar elsewhere in this issue for more details.

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** *Wesson News will continue to report on area holiday events in its December 8 issue. Send information on events to bobarnold@wessonnews.com.*

A seasonal treat offered in the Wesson area for visitors and residents are Christmas lights and decorations that make the town and its environs distinctive.

Wesson News is again planning to play a part in encouraging creative seasonal displays with sponsorship of the Spirit of Christmas Awards. The awards recognize the efforts of businesses and residents to make Wesson a special place during the holiday season. An official entry is not required, but those who want to assure they are considered should complete the form in the display ad in this issue and mail it to P.O. Box 1028, Wesson, MS 39191, or email bobarnold@wessonnews.com.

There are also lighting display pace-setters, like David and Kelly Parks, who motivate other area Christmas decorators. Thirty years ago, they ran a single string of lights outside their home near Port Gibson. Today, they run more than 100,000 stationary lights and a synchronized display with flashing lights controlled by 330 channels (electrical circuits) along nearly an eighth of a mile stretch of road winding past their house, utility buildings, yard, and fields on a 43 acre property in southwestern Copiah County near the Claiborne County border 25 miles from Wesson, Hazlehurst, Brookhaven and Port Gibson. More than 300 carloads of holiday season visitors come to Santa's Runway to marvel at the multi-colored display with scenes of Santa and his elves and the nativity. They tune their car radios to a low-power FM station on which the Parks broadcast Christmas music to accompany the display. On December 1, the Parks turn on their lights and keep them on seven days a week through Christmas -- 5 p.m. to 10 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays and 5 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. on Sundays through Thursdays.



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# Jobs, bands, telemarketers, disease & honors

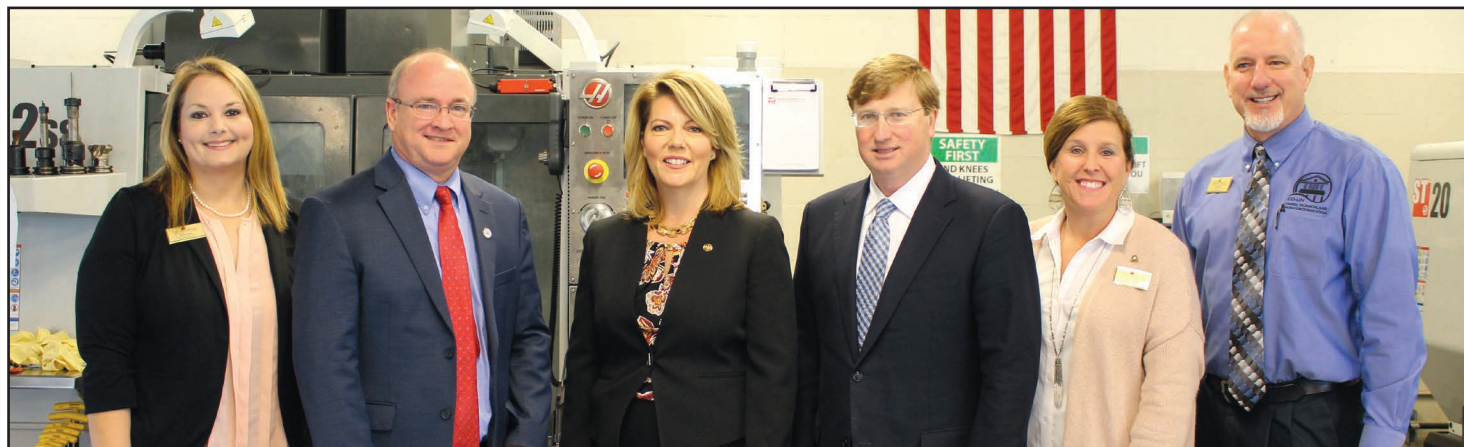
Special to Wesson News

**Jobs outlook improves.** Area workers continue to find it easier to find jobs, with unemployment rates falling throughout the area. In Copiah, Lawrence and Lincoln Counties, unemployment is down to 5.2 per cent, 5.9 per cent and 4.7 per cent respectively, compared to 6.5 per cent, 6.7. per cent and 5.7 per cent a year ago. Rankin and Union Counties had the state's lowest employment rate -- 3.4 per cent. The overall unemployment in Mississippi is 5.2 per cent, compared to 4.2 per cent throughout the nation.

**Bands stand out.** Area high school bands earned superior and excellent ratings in a state evaluation of marching bands at Pearl. Wesson Attendance Center and Lawrence County High School were recognized as excellent, while Brookhaven High School (BHS) and Loyd Star finished with overall superior ratings. The Mississippi High School Athletic Association requires bands to earn ratings in performance evaluations of their drum majors, color guards and percussion components.

**Zapping telemarketers.** The Mississippi Public Service Commission has unveiled a new smart phone app to fight annoying calls from telemarketers. Through MS No-Call, which is available for both Apple and Android devices, users can register their landline and cell phones on the Mississippi No Call List and file complaints against callers from their phone and at no cost. For more information about Mississippi's No Call Law, visit [www.psc.state.ms.us](http://www.psc.state.ms.us) or call 1-800-637-7722.

**Flu protection.** Pediatric flu shots are now available at all Mississippi State Department of Health (MSDH) county clinics and underinsured or uninsured persons at high-risk, including those at least 65 years old, pregnant women, and those with chronic illnesses, can get the adult vaccine. The seasonal flu vaccination is recommended for anyone age six months and older.



Special to Wesson News

Mississippi Lieutenant Governor Tate Reeves (third from right) and District 39 Senator Sally Doty (third from left) visited Co-Lin's Wesson Campus and toured the Precision Machining Technology lab. Also pictured (from left) is Jackie Martin, Dean of Career, Technical and Workforce Education at the college; Co-Lin President Dr. Ronnie Nettles, Wesson Campus Vice President Dr. Jane Hulon, and Brent Duguid, Co-Lin Assistant Dean of Career, Technical and Workforce Education.



Special to Wesson News

Wesson Attendance Center recently recognized Elementary Students of the Month in grades one to six: (left to right) Ember Pickering (first grade), Payton Cloy (second grade), Aubrey Windom (third grade), Kaleb Waldrop (fourth grade), Aubree Smith (fifth grade), and Christopher Watson (sixth grade).

Insurance, Medicaid and Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) is accepted for children's flu shots, and the vaccination is also available for \$10 to those 18 years old and under, who are eligible for the Vaccines for Children program. Nationwide, the flu causes up to 200,000 hospitalizations and 3,000 to 49,000 deaths each year. To locate a county health department clinic and for more information, visit [www.HealthyMS.com/flu](http://www.HealthyMS.com/flu).

## NEWS NUGGETS

**WNV toll at 61.** One new case of the mosquito-transmitted West Nile Virus (WNV) in Hinds County has brought the state's total to 61 for the year, the Mississippi State Department of Health (MSDH) reports. Although the WNV season peaked in September, MSCH still advises the following precautions: Use a mosquito repellent with an EPA-registered ingredient such as DEET while you are outdoors. Remove all sources of standing water around your

home and yard to prevent mosquito breeding. Wear loose, light-colored, long clothing to cover the arms and legs when outdoors. Avoid areas where mosquitoes are prevalent. For more information on mosquito-borne illnesses, visit the [HealthyMS.com/westnile](http://HealthyMS.com/westnile).

**Honor society students.** Twelve Co-Lin students from the business and office technology, computer networking technology and early childhood development programs were recently inducted into the National Technical Honor Society. The business and office technology students were Kasie Allen of McCall Creek, Calah Channel of Wesson and Cayla Hight of Crystal Springs. The computer networking technology students were David Adams of Crystal Springs, Jonathan Berry of Monticello, Tyia Bridges of Silver Creek, Joshua Cone of Wesson, and Dillon Hall of D'Lo. The early childhood development students were Letha Gordon of Crystal Springs, Shania Kendrick of Hazelhurst, Cambry Parnell of Crystal Springs and Jade Reid of Jayess. The National Technical Honor Society encourages and rewards outstanding student achievement in workforce education. Instructors recommend students for membership, who have exhibited skilled workmanship, honesty, responsibility, leadership, citizenship, and scholastic achievement.

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# Hoopsters look to capitalize on experience

Special to Wesson News

Co-Lin's men's and women's basketball teams are looking to capitalize on experience to spur success during the 2017-18 season. After a 12-13 record in 2016-17, with only one sophomore on its roster, the men's team -- now loaded with sophomores returning with experience from last year -- should be able to "contend in any game if we play together and defend well," says head coach Kenny Bizot, adding "we expect big things." At the same time, Lady Wolves head coach Gwyn Young says the experience gained by freshmen in last year's 20-5 season that ended in the Mississippi Association of Community and Junior Colleges (MACJC) State Semifinals can help propel the 2017-18 team deep into playoff games again.

"Our sophomores realize what the commitment is and how hard you have to play at the end to win games," Young says. "Our girls are seeking an opportunity to get back in that position."

Returning sophomores on the men's team are Jonathan "Biscuit" Floyd, a Harrison Central High School graduate from Gulfport; Darrian Wilson from Brookhaven; Anthony Jones, a Wesson Attendance Center graduate; Ronnie Edwards from Bogue Chitto; Carl Terrell, a Gulfport High School graduate; Johnnelius Anderson, a St. Martin High School graduate from Gulfport; Youry White, a Tara High School graduate from Baton Rouge; and Mike McWilliams from Gautier.

Floyd, a 5'10 standout point guard, started in 22 contests, averaged 14.5 points per game and led the Wolves with 4.4 assists and 1.1 steals per game. The 6'4 Wilson, who can heat up from three-point range and punish teams that do not respect him on the perimeter, started ten contests, saw action in 23, and averaged 7.3 points per game, shooting 44.9 percent from the floor. The 6'5 Jones, who can play above the rim, averaged 18.6 minutes in 23 contests last season with 9.5 points and 3.2 rebounds per game, leading Co-Lin's guards with a 49.4 shooting percentage from the floor.

Edwards, a 5'11 threat from beyond



Special to Wesson News

Members of the 2017-2018 Co-Lin men's basketball team are (seated left to right) Jimmy Hill (staff), Lazorian McNulty, Xavier Heidelberg, Jonathan Floyd, Miles Daniels, Damarius Brooks, Ronnie Edwards, Miquell Powell (staff), (standing left to right) Landon Lewis (staff), Jake Reed (staff), Mike McWilliams, Jeremy Treauo, Carl Terrell, Youry White, Anthony Jones, Tray Lawson, Johnnelius Anderson, Darrian Wilson, Coach Kenny Bizot and Will Hulon (staff).



Special to Wesson News

Members of the 2017-2018 Lady Wolves basketball team are (seated left to right) Shaina Price (staff), Krysten Kenner, Kyeonia Harris, Brittany Rose, Alexis Holt, Destiny Hemphill, T'Kyra Hicks, Desmesha Deer, (standing left to right) Coach Gwyn Young, Jasmine Holloway (staff), Karry Callahan, Kiara Bolton, Shemiah Amos, Diamond Smith, Alexandria Patton, Nakeisha Holcomb, Ciara Norwood, Amisayur Robinson and Lane Young (staff).

the arc, with a knack for making the tough shots, averaged 9.9 minutes on the floor in 23 contests, with 4.7 points per game. Terrell, a 6'5 forward, is an excellent spot up jumper, who hopes to improve on his 1.5 points and 1.5 rebounds averages through 13 games. Anderson, an athletic forward who can score down low and battle for rebounds, started nine games, played in 22 and led the Wolves with a 64.5 shooting percentage from the floor. The 6'7 White started 14 contests and saw action in 22, averaging 5.6 points per game and a team-high 5.5 rebounds per game. McWilliams, a 6'4

guard, played in 14 games last year and racked up 19 rebounds.

New to the men's team this season are Lazorian McNulty, a Brookhaven High School graduate who was red-shited last year; Damarius Brooks, also from Brookhaven High School; Tray Lawson, a Northeast Mississippi Community College transfer from Brandon; Miles Daniels from Gulfport High School, Xavier Heidelberg, a Russell Christian Academy graduate from Meridian; and Jeremy Treauo, a Dodge City Community College transfer from New Orleans.

McNulty, a 6'0 guard, averaged 14.8 points, 3.1 rebounds, and 4.2 assists per in his senior year. Brooks, a 6'1 guard, averaged 21 points, 5 rebounds, and 4 assists per game as a senior and led his team to the 5A State Quarterfinals. Lawson, a 6'6 forward, is a former *Clarion Ledger* All-State high school Third Team player, who will be dangerous from both the inside and out. Daniels, an athletic 6'2 guard, averaged 13.3 points, 2.6 rebounds, and 3.6 assists per game during his senior season and can knock down shots from beyond the arc. Heidelberg, a 5'11 point guard, who has the leadership qualities to run a team effectively, averaged 29.2 points, 6.1 rebounds, and 4.3 assists per game and earned All-State AISA honors. Treauo, a 6'5 guard, averaged 15 points, 5 rebounds, and 5 assists during his senior year at Helen Cox High School, where he was ranked eighth in *The Times-Picayune* Dandy Dozen Class of 2015.

Returning to the Lady Wolves are Alexis Holt from Epps, Louisiana; Karry Callahan from Vicksburg; Brittany Rose, a Lamar High School graduate; Diamond Smith from Union Church; and Kyeonia Harris, a Raymond High School graduate who missed last season.

Holt, a 5'7 guard, can play guard or wing and averaged nearly 10 points and 2.8 assists per game, while shooting 40 percent from the field. Callahan, a 5'7 guard, saw the court in all 25 games last season, started in 21 and led the team with 8.1 rebounds and 7.4 points per game, while shooting 46.8 percent from the field. Rose, a 5'9 guard, started in 24 games last year, averaging 31.3 minutes on the floor, and led the Lady Wolves with 15.2 points and 3.5 assists per game last season. Smith, a 6'3 forward, played in 24 contests last season, with team-high 2.2 blocks per game and a 51.1 shooting percentage, and grabbed 5.7 rebounds per game. Harris, a 5'4 point guard, averaged 12 points, 3 rebounds, and 6 assists per game as a high school senior.

New to the Lady Wolves are Krysten  
*cont. on page 14*

## SPORTS SHORTS

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# Cagle and Turnage honored as Alumni of Year

*Special to Wesson News*

James V. (Jim) Cagle of Carson and Dr. Casey Carlton Turnage of Brandon are Co-Lin Alumni of the Year.

Cagle, a 1956 graduate of Co-Lin Agricultural High School, played in the college's marching band and orchestra when he was a high school sophomore as a scholarship recipient. He attended Mississippi State University and Mississippi College and received a bachelor's degree in psychology from Troy State University and a master's degree in counseling from Liberty University. He served in the United

States Army from 1958-1964 as a pilot flight instructor and flew aircraft as a pilot for Delta Airlines for 31 years -- 20 years as a captain -- after his discharge as a captain. Cagle received the Wright Brothers Master Pilot Award from the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), was honored in 2003 by the National Association of Flight Instructors for completing 39 years as an FAA Certified Flight Instructor, and received the Civil Air Patrol Achievement Award in 2010. He founded two ministries for teenagers -- Teens Inc. and Harvest Ministries. He is an ordained elder at First Presbyterian Church of Columbia and active in the

Co-Lin Alumni Association.

Turnage, a 1992 graduate of Co-Lin, was a cheerleader at the college in her first year and a Colette during her second year. She earned bachelor's, master's, and doctoral degrees at the University of Southern Mississippi (USM), where she spent the first 17 years of her professional career in various administrative roles, including associate registrar and director for teacher education programs at the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education. For the past five years, Dr. Turnage has served the Mississippi Institutions of Higher Learning, the

governing board for Mississippi's eight public universities, as director of policy and strategic initiatives in which she works closely with K-12, community colleges, and universities to support a seamless kindergarten through college educational system. She worked with university and community college registrars to implement a reverse transfer process, and is currently overseeing the "Complete 2 Compete" initiative, a statewide university and community college campaign aimed at helping adults return to college to finish degree program which they had previously started.

# For what should we give thanks?

*By Guest Columnist Nelson Santa Ana*

Thanksgiving is a holiday that I have always enjoyed, but has never really stood out. When I was growing up, the Thanksgiving meal really wasn't much different from any other meal. We frequently ate as a family around the table and talked about what was going on in our lives. For Thanksgiving, the dress was different. We used fancy silverware and china and, obviously, there was a lot more food than usual, but it wasn't anything particularly special. That is, until one Thanksgiving when we did things just a little differently than usual.

For most families, I assume, what we did on this Thanksgiving is not that big a deal. Most families probably already do it. For us, it was ground breaking. That year, my dad decided that we would go around the table and each of us would share something for which we were thankful. This question has become part of the routine of my family's Thanksgiving feasts, and I want to consider it in this article.

What does the Bible say we ought to be thankful for?

First, and most obviously, we ought to be thankful for the things we have

received from God. Things like the breath in our lungs, family, the changing of seasons, food on our table, the freedoms we have as Americans, among other things, should draw our hearts to praise the God, who provides it all. Though we may, from time-to-time, take these things for granted, as a whole, these are the kinds of things for which most people tend to naturally be thankful. "We give thanks to you, O God, we give thanks, for your Name is near; men tell of your wonderful deeds" (Psalm 75:1).

Secondly, we should be thankful for the things we will receive from God. A story illustrates: Two men walking through a field spotted an enraged bull. Instantly, they darted toward the nearest fence. The storming bull followed in hot pursuit, and it was soon apparent they wouldn't make it. Terrified, one man shouted to the other: "Pray!" He answered: "I can't. I don't know how." "Just do it!" implored his companion. "The bull is catching up to us." "All right," panted the man. He thought "I'll say the only prayer I know, the one my father used to say at the table: 'Thank you Lord, for what we are about to receive.'" You see, we not only need to be thankful for what God has done and is doing, but what

He will continue to do. This requires faith, and that is exactly the point. The Bible teaches that "faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see" (Hebrews 11:1) and that "without faith it is impossible to please God" (Hebrews 11:6). The heart that is thankful for what God will do even before He does it is the heart that understands God. If we trust that God is fully able, fully loving, and fully good, then we can thank Him for accomplishing good in our lives even before He's through doing it.

Finally, and most importantly, we need to be thankful for being received by God. I Thessalonians 5:16-18 says "Be joyful always; pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." Part of God's will for all people is to be thankful no matter what. How can that be? How can we be thankful in the worst kinds of hurt, on our hardest days, when the world is unfair and people are unkind? We can only be thankful in all circumstances if we are thankful for what is greater and more enduring than that which harms us. And only one person is worthy of that kind of gratitude: the One whose Word does not fail, the One who does

not leave nor forsake, the One who makes all things new. Jesus Christ the Lord. If we are in Christ, we can be thankful in all circumstances because He is greater than -- and in control of -- all our circumstances. And when our circumstances pass away, His love will always remain!

I always tell my church if somehow all of my thoughts, motives, and actions were placed on a movie screen for all to see, you'd not only fire me as your pastor, but you would run me out of town. Yet, Jesus sees all of these things in all of us, knows each of their consequences, and the guilt and shame that they carry, and STILL chooses to love us unconditionally and receive us into His family for all eternity. That is incomparable, incomprehensible love! Because of it, Jesus is worthy of all the praise and thanksgiving we can muster for the love He has so willingly poured out on us through the cross of Calvary. A short hymn written in 1940 by Seth and Bessie Sykes called "Thank You Lord" best sums it up: Thank you, Lord, for saving my soul/Thank you, Lord, for making me whole/Thank you, Lord, for giving to me/Thy great salvation so rich and free.

*EDITOR'S NOTE: Nelson Santa Ana is pastor at Wesson Baptist Church.*



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# Preparing for flu season

By Guest Columnist  
Dr. Stephanie Duguid

November is National Diabetes Awareness Month -- an important time for Mississippians to pay attention, because the Magnolia State is first in the nation for overall diabetic prevalence, with more than 14.7% of the population living with the condition.

Diabetes involves the relationship between glucose (sugar/carbohydrates) and insulin. There are two kinds of diabetes: Type 1 and Type 2.

You either have Type 1 diabetes at birth or develop it very early in life. The pancreas, which produces insulin in response to glucose levels, does not function correctly or at all. Type 1 diabetics must take insulin injections or use an insulin pump for all their lives, under the direction of a physician. Type 2 diabetes, on the other hand, is serious, controllable and preventable. It tends to develop over time due to poor choices about activity/exercise and nutrition. In Type 2 diabetes, the pancreas of an inactive person or someone who eats foods high in carbohydrates and fats (including fried food) cannot release enough insulin to keep up with the high levels of glucose (sugar) consumed. Over time, the pancreas begins to function improperly, resulting in higher and higher levels of glucose (sugar) in the body.

Normal levels of glucose should be between 80 and 120 mg / D L. Anyone with glucose levels consistently below that is hypoglycemic, with low blood sugar. Anyone with glucose levels consistently above is hyperglycemic, or diabetic.

The challenge is becoming aware that you may be diabetic. Many people do not know they have the condition because they do not have physicals annually with blood tests. Here's why they need to know, according to the American Diabetes Association:

- Diabetes is the leading cause of kidney failure, non-traumatic lower limb amputations, and new cases of blindness. It is also the major cause of heart disease and stroke.
- Diabetes kills more Americans each

year than breast cancer and AIDS combined.

- In the next 24 hours, more than 130 people will develop kidney failure because of diabetes.
- Recent estimates project that as many as one in three American adults will have diabetes by 2050 unless we take steps to stop it.
- Every 19 seconds, someone is diagnosed with diabetes.
- One in eleven Americans has diabetes.
- One in four adults has diabetes, but doesn't know it.

Are you at risk of developing Type 2 diabetes? Add one point for each question to which you answer "yes." Are you a man? If you are a woman, have you ever been diagnosed with gestational diabetes? Do you have a mother, father, sister or brother with diabetes? Have you ever been diagnosed with high blood

pressure? Are you physically inactive? Are you overweight? If you are 40 to 49 years old, add one point. If you are 50 to 59 years old, add two points. If you are over 60 years old, add 3 points. According to the American Diabetes Association, you are at increased risk for having Type 2 diabetes if you scored five or higher. Talk to your doctor about your specific risk, testing and recommendations..

The good news is that Type 2 diabetes can be managed, towards reducing the risk of complications. Exercise for 60 minutes every day, quit using

tobacco, get a blood test for glucose and cholesterol (lipids) annually, regularly check your blood pressure, and practice preventive care for your eyes, feet and kidneys. For those with challenges controlling glucose or cholesterol

levels, see your doctor. Research shows that lifestyle intervention to lose weight and increase physical activity can reduce the development of Type 2 diabetes by 58% for most adults and up to 71% for adults over 60 years old. Small steps can make a big difference in helping you live longer, healthier lives!

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



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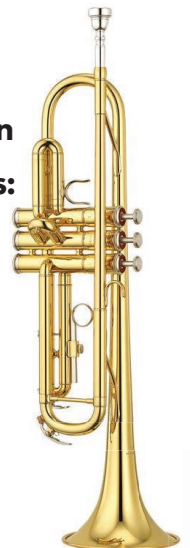
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# Time to bring your plants indoors



Wesson News

*By Guest Columnist Rebecca Bates*

My houseplants love being outdoors during spring, summer and fall. I've been slow to bring them indoors due to our warm weather, but now is the time to prepare them for their return to the house. Most of our common indoor plants are native to the tropical or subtropical regions and cannot tolerate temperatures below 40 degrees.

Many plants will drop leaves in response to the lower light conditions inside most homes. Gradually exposing them to lower light intensity before permanently moving them indoors should help lessen the shock. However, some leaf drop is unavoidable.

Plants will likely slow down their growth considerably, so less water and fertilizer will be needed. The best moisture meter is your finger. For most plants, allow the soil to dry slightly between waterings. Reduce your fertilizer applications or discontinue them if plants seem to be in a

resting period.

Be sure to inspect your plants closely for signs or symptoms of insect attack. Insect pests, such as white flies and aphids, can be prolific outdoors and may further increase their population once they are brought indoors. Also, these pests may spread to other plants very quickly.

Often a sharp spray from a garden hose will remove insect pests from houseplant foliage. Insecticidal soaps also work well, particularly on soft-bodied insects such as aphids. Several treatments may be necessary to be sure that the pests are gone. Start checking your plants now, so that control measures will have time to work before bringing your plants indoors.

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

# TENDING YOUR GARDEN

houseplant foliage. Insecticidal soaps also work well, particularly on soft-bodied insects such as aphids. Sev-



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# Nettles is retiring from Co-Lin

Wesson News

After more than 33 years in education, Co-Lin President Dr. Ronnie Nettles is retiring.

"I believe that our success as a college is because of the strong administrative team that has stood with me throughout my years as President," Nettles told Co-Lin's board of trustees in making his announcement. "They have worked tirelessly with our employees to help our college achieve national rankings in student completion rates, minority graduation rates, and veteran's services."

Nettles, whose retirement is effective June 30, 2018, has spent the last 10 years of his career as President of Co-Lin, which he served as the Director of Community and Economic Development from 1994-1997, Dean of the Natchez campus and Executive Vice President from 2004-2008 before succeeding Dr. Howell Garner as the chief executive.

During his tenure as president, Co-Lin's enrollment has grown to an all-time high, its Foundation's endowment has doubled to more than \$8 million, new instructional programs and services have been instituted, student graduation rates have increased, and new buildings have been constructed and others renovated on all three of college's campuses.

The Alton Greenlee Pro Shop (2010), Howell C. Garner Instructional Building (2011), Eugene Bates Men's Residence Hall (2012), Stone Stadium Press Box (2014) and Early Childhood Education Building (2015) have been built during Nettles service as President and a New Women's Residence Hall, a \$5.5 million project, will be completed in 2018 to house students, who scored 21 or above on the ACT and maintain a 3.0 grade point average. Renovations and repairs during his administration have encompassed improvements of Mullen Gymnasium (2011), Henley Cafeteria (2012), Pitts Field House (2012), the Anderson Building, Smith Hall Chemistry Lab, Ewing Fine Arts Auditorium (2014), Ellzey Hall (2016), the Diesel Mechanics Classroom (2016) and Callendar Hall (2017); and included lighting on the softball and soccer fields (2009), the softball/soccer restrooms and concession stand (2012), softball bleachers (2013), new hitting facilities at the baseball and softball fields (2013 and



Special to Wesson News

2017), visitors restrooms at Stone Stadium (2013), energy/mechanical and roofing projects totaling more than \$2.9 million and \$1.5 million respectively, and two new parking lots and paving projects.

During Nettles' tenure as President, Co-Lin has been recognized by the Aspen Institute College Excellence Program and *The Chronicle for Higher Education's Great Colleges To Work For*, designated as a Purple Heart College and one of the Best Colleges in Mississippi, received the Military Friendly Award three times and is currently developing the first ACT Work Ready Region in the state.

Nettles serves as President of the Southern Association of Colleges with Associate Degrees, President of the Mississippi Community College Presidents Association, and Secretary of the Mississippi Commission of College Accreditation. He has served as past president of the Mississippi Association of Colleges (MAC) and is past president of the Copiah County Economic Development District.

Nettles is a member of numerous professional organizations and civic clubs, including the Mississippi Humanities Council, Wesson Lions Club, Wesson Chamber of Commerce and the Brookhaven Rotary Club. He has received the National Institute for Organizational Development Excellence Award, Co-Lin's Howell C. Garner High Performance Award, Phi Theta Kappa's Shirley B. Gordon Award of Distinction and the Co-Lin Trailblazers Ann Bradberry Award for a faculty, staff, or administrator of the college who has made an extra effort to assist students. Nettles was a member of Mississippi Economic Council's Leadership Mississippi Class.

A graduate of Trinity Episcopal Day School in Natchez, Nettles received his bachelor of science degree in political science and a master of education degree in counseling and personnel services from the University of Southern Mississippi. He received his PhD. From the University of Mississippi in educational leadership. Nettles and his wife, Rosie, were inducted into the Co-Lin Foundation Hall of Fame in 2016, are parents of two children -- a daughter, Jordan, and a son, Brandon, and are members of St. Francis Church in Brookhaven.

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# Linda Marbury likes people-pleasing work

By Bob Arnold

Her friends at Magnolia Blues Sports Bar and Restaurant in Brookhaven, where she was a waitress and bar manager, know Linda Marbury as a highly sociable person, and she calls herself a "people-pleaser."

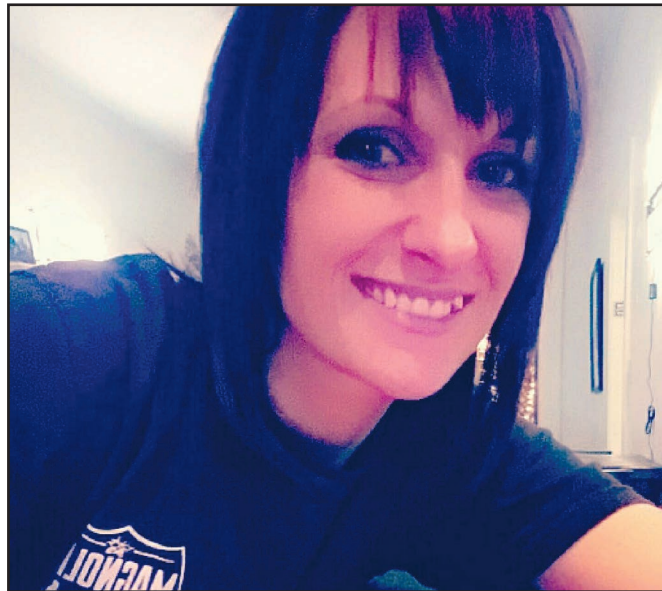
"I like to make people happy," she says simply. Yet you can throw Marbury into the wilderness alone and she knows how to thrive by living off the land.

"When I was a kid, my dad taught me how to survive on the natural materials around me," she says. "I can find and prepare my food, build a shelter and make my clothes." Her dad, she notes, was a bit of a pessimist, who wasn't sure the civilized world would last and adds, "I guess I am a little like him."

Today, Marbury focuses on her people-pleasing side.

Marbury is a native of Mt. Herman, Louisiana, not far from Kentwood, just across the Mississippi border. She moved to Monticello when she was in the tenth grade and graduated from Lawrence County High School in 2006, where she ran cross country. In junior high school, she was a cheerleader and played softball and basketball.

She came to Wesson in 2007 to earn her cosmetology certificate at Co-Lin. Since then, she has worked as a hair stylist and restaurant worker. Over the



Wesson News

decade, her job stops have included a hair salon in Monticello, Smart Style, the Inez Salon, the Cracker Barrel Old Country Restaurant and Store and Magnolia Blues. She has also worked

as a bail bondsman.

Although Marbury currently is working as a hair stylist again at the Barber Shop in Brookhaven, she says

bartending was her favorite job, and she hopes someday to own a business. She lives two miles from Wesson on four acres on New Sight Drive. She has two children -- John, 9, and Jace, 4.

**What are your hobbies?**

I work on nurturing my creative side. Arts and crafts, particularly painting. I make wooden signs. I also enjoy yard work, planting and caring for flowers and vegetables.

**Are you a reader?**

I keep up with a variety of interests -- history, politics, the local scene and just random things that are interesting -- through articles, Facebook and the

Sandler Adam Sandler -- the stand-up comedian, who started on Saturday Night Live and starred as a quirky jokester, later showed his dramatic talents and has enjoyed a career as a leading man. His movie credits include *Happy Gilmore*, *The Waterboy*, *The Wedding Singer*, *Punch-Drunk Love*, *Spanglish*, *The Longest Yard*, *Billy Madison*, *Big Daddy*, *Click*, *Reign Over Me*, *I Now Pronounce You Chuck and Larry*, *Funny People* and *The Cobbler*.

**Music favorites?**

Except for heavy metal, I am into most music -- rock, country, rap, classical. I enjoy Wednesday Night Open Mic at Magnolia Blues, where you hear new people.

**Would you change anything about your life?**

Everything that has happened to me has brought me to where I am. So I wouldn't change anything.

**Do you have any wishes you would ask the good fairy to grant you?**

That my kids grow up to be successful, happy and to enjoy life.

**Would you change the world in any way?**

Communication is a problem today. People need to relate directly, rather than hiding behind screens as they engage people on social media.

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# Band & Colette alumni honor Huffman & Different

*Special to Wesson News*

The Band and Colette chapter of the Col-Lin Alumni Association has inducted Zoula Hennington Huffman of Wesson into its Hall of Fame and honored Andrew Different of Brookhaven as Stanley Stewart Outstanding Young Alumnus

Huffman, a 1960 graduate of Co-Lin High School and a 1962 graduate of the college, was a Colette during her high school years as well as in college, when she was head Colette as a sophomore.

She received a bachelor's degree in medical technology from the University of Southern Mississippi (USM), was board certified by the American Society of Clinical Pathology and earned master's and specialist degrees from USM. She became the first full-time instructor and director of the medical laboratory program at Co-Lin in 1972 and was named assistant dean of Vocational-Technical Education (now known as Career Tech) in 1984. She worked for Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College (MSGCC) for five years before retiring there as central office dean of academic instruction and student services. Huffman is a past president of the Mississippi State Society of Medical Technology (MSSMT) and served on the board of directors of the American Society of Medical Technology. Among

her many honors, she was MSSMT Technologist of the Year, MSGCC central office administrator of the year, 1976 Co-Lin Alumna of the Year and 1982 Co-Lin Vocational-Technical Instructor of the Year; a member of Theta Chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma Honor Society and was cited for distinguished service in industrial education. She is a past president of the Co-Lin Alumni Association and is a life member of the Band and Colette Alumni Chapter, in which she has served as president, and was instrumental in the publication of the organization's history book. Huffman is a member of Beauregard United Methodist Church, where she serves on the social committee and is president of the women's group. She is married to Dr. George Huffman and they have four children -- Eric Strong, Dena Owens, Dr. George "Bo" Huffman and Darla Goolsby -- eleven grandchildren and four great grandchildren.

Andrew Different, a 2011 graduate of Co-Lin from Brookhaven, was a member of the Blue Wave Show Band, the basketball pep band, and the jazz band. He received a bachelor's degree in music from the University of Southern Mississippi, where he was a member of the Pride of Mississippi Marching Band, the concert band and a saxophone

quartet. He currently serves as assistant band director in South Pike School District and teaches music. Different is a member of the Ole Brook Wind Symphony, in which he plays the saxophone. He plays lead guitar in the Charlie Hewitt

Band and is a member of the worship team band at First Baptist Church in Brookhaven. He was recently featured in the singer/songwriter night at Brookstock and enjoys performing his original pieces. He is married to the former Kayla Furlow.



*Special to Wesson News*

Zoula Huffman



*Special to Wesson News*

Andrew Different

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# Community Calendar

**November & December weather forecast:** The Old Farmer's Almanac calls for an average of temperature of 52 degrees F (three degrees below average) with precipitation of four inches (one inch below average) in November and 49 degrees F (one degree above average) with precipitation of eight inches (three inches above average) in December. November 11-23: rainy periods, cool; November 24-27: sunny, mild; November 28-30: rainy, turning cold; December 1-2: rainy, mild; December 3-8: rainy, warm; December 9-11: sunny, cold.

## NOVEMBER 14

Co-Lin community buffet luncheon for college staff and employees, officials of the Town of Wesson, area businesses and not-for-profit organizations, members of social and civic groups, families and individuals. \$15 per person. 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Thames Center on Co-Lin campus.

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

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

## NOVEMBER 15

WorkKeys Assessment for Career Readiness Certificate. Call 601-643-8707 to register in advance. Thames Center on the Co-Lin campus. 8:45 a.m.-12 Noon. Also November 29 & December 13.

## NOVEMBER 16

Institute for Learning in Retirement trip to Ridgeland, Mississippi, for Bill Clark's live Christmas Musical Extravaganza. \$28 fee.

Taste of the Trust sponsored by history/culture/arts-fundraising Brookhaven Trust will feature live music and sample foods from more than twenty area restaurants, eateries and caterers. Proceeds from ticket donations -- \$35 in advance and \$40 at the door -- will go to Mississippi School of the Arts for its renovations. 5:30 p.m.-9:30 p.m. Ole Towne Church in downtown Brookhaven.

## NOVEMBER 17

Lincoln County Farmers Market sponsored by Lincoln County Extension Service. Local growers and others will sell fresh vegetables and baked goods. There will be a Thanksgiving market on November 21. Live music. The Farm Bureau will sell hamburgers. Railroad Park in downtown Brookhaven. 7:30 a.m.-12 noon.

## NOVEMBER 20

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

## NOVEMBER 21

Copiah County Master Gardeners monthly meeting. Mississippi State University Extension Office at Gallman. 6 p.m.

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

## NOVEMBER 23

Thanksgiving Day.

Community Thanksgiving Day dinner for persons without have friends or family to spend the holiday. Free. Noon. Wesson Baptist Church. See full story.

## NOVEMBER 26

Wesson Volunteer Fire Department will unpack the town's stored Christmas decorations and lights and put them up in the downtown area.

## NOVEMBER 27

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

## NOVEMBER 28

Institute for Learning in Retirement Christmas workshop and luncheon. Participants in small team will decorate their luncheon tables in Christmas themes and receive prizes for creativity. Co-Lin Day Care children will sing carols during the luncheon. \$15. Thames Center on Co-Lin campus. 10 a.m. See full story.

## NOVEMBER 30

Microsoft Word Mail Merge Class focuses on personalize letters, mailing labels & pre-addressed

envelopes for mass mailings. \$10. Thames Center on Co-Lin campus. 9 a.m.-11 a.m. For information, call 601-643-8707.

Fifty Plus Club luncheon. Anderson Building on Co-Lin campus. 10:30 a.m.

## DECEMBER 1

Wesson Christmas parade brings Santa to town. Rolls at 4 p.m. Following the parade, Santa will meet children at the Wesson Volunteer Fire Department fire house on Spring Street. City officials will officially light the town Christmas tree in the municipal park and Friends of the Library will host its annual Christmas with Friends open house, with refreshments, caroling, and special children's activities. See full story.

The musical version of *Miracle on 34th Street* presented by Brookhaven Little Theater begins performances. Haven Theater, downtown Brookhaven. Performance are also on December 2, 3, 8, 9 and 10. To order tickets, call 601-990-2243 or visit at [tickets@brookhavenlittletheatre.com](mailto:tickets@brookhavenlittletheatre.com).

## DECEMBER 4

Institute for Learning in Retirement Lights & Leisure tour at Mobile & Point Clear, Alabama, starts and continues on December 5. Highlights: Shopping at Robert Moore & Company -- a year-round gift, doll and toy store. Bellingrath Gardens, with its decorated grounds featuring poinsettias and its after-dark Magic of Lights, with three million twinkling lights, displays and Christmas scenes. Christmas lights tour of the Fairhope area.

## DECEMBER 5

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

## DECEMBER 11

Lincoln County Master Gardeners meet the second Monday of each month. Mississippi State University Lincoln County Agricultural Extension Service at Lincoln County Court House in Brookhaven. 5 p.m. The meeting is not open to the public, but persons interested in becoming a Master Gardener should

contact Rebecca Bates at 601-835-3460.

## DECEMBER 13

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

## DECEMBER 14

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

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

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

## CONTINUING

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

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

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

Email Community Calendar items to [bobarnold@wessonnews.com](mailto:bobarnold@wessonnews.com).

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cont. from page 6

# Co-Lin Hoopsters

Kenner from Destrehan, Louisiana, Nakeisha Holcomb, a graduate of Jim Hill High School; Kiara Bolton, a graduate of Provine High School from Jackson; Shemiah Amos, a graduate of Franklin County High School from Bude; Ciara Norwood, a Magee High School graduate; T'Kyra Hicks from Greenville; Destiny Hemphill, a Greenville High School graduate; and Alexandria Patton from Brandon.

Kenner, a 5'7 guard, led her team to the 5A State Championship last year, averaging 18 points, 5 rebounds, 5 assists, and 3 steals per game. Holcomb, an All-District player and District MVP, averaged 12.3 points, 10 rebounds, and 2 assists per game in her senior season as a 5'9 forward. Bolton, a 5'9 forward,

averaged 13.8 points, 9.8 rebounds, and 3.2 steals per game in her senior season. The 6'1 Amos averaged 4.1 points, 11 rebounds and 5.5 blocks per game during a solid senior season. The 5'8 Norwood, a 2016 All-District player, averaged 20.7 points and 6 rebounds her senior year. Hicks, a 5'7 2016 North Mississippi All-Star guard, averaged 22.9 points, 10.1 rebounds, 3.7 assists, and 2.1 steals per game as a senior. Hemphill, a 2015 North Mississippi All-Star, averaged 22.7 points, 2.4 rebounds, 7.2 assists, and 3.7 steals per game as a senior guard. Patton, a 6'0 All-District Team forward, averaged 11.9 points and 5.8 rebounds per game in her senior year.

## Upcoming sporting events

### NOVEMBER 14

Co-Lin basketball Lady Wolves plays Baton Rouge Community College at Southwest Mississippi. 1 p.m.

Wesson Attendance Center girls and boys Junior High & High School varsity basketball Cobras play Bogue Chitto. 4 p.m., 5 p.m., 6 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.

Wesson High School junior varsity & High School girls and boys varsity soccer Cobras play at Brookhaven. 5 p.m., 6 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.

### NOVEMBER 17

Wesson High School girls and boys varsity soccer Cobras play Morton. 5 p.m. & 6:30 p.m.

Wesson Attendance Center girls and boys Junior High & High School varsity basketball Cobras play at Loyd Star. 4 p.m., 5 p.m., 6 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.

### NOVEMBER 18

Co-Lin basketball Men & Lady Wolves play at Delgado Community College. 2 p.m. & 4 p.m.

### NOVEMBER 20 & 21

Wesson High School girls and boys varsity basketball Cobras play in tournament at Lawrence County. TBA.

### NOVEMBER 27

Wesson Junior High School girls and boys basketball Cobras play at Topeka. 5 p.m. & 6 p.m.

Co-Lin basketball Men & Lady Wolves play Mississippi Delta Community College. 6 p.m. & 8 p.m.

### NOVEMBER 28

Wesson High School girls and boys varsity soccer Cobras play at North Pike. 5:30 p.m. & 6:30 p.m.

### NOVEMBER 30

Wesson Attendance Center girls and boys Junior High & High School varsity basketball Cobras play at Enterprise. 4 p.m., 5 p.m., 6 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.

Co-Lin basketball Men & Lady Wolves play Coahoma Community College. 6 p.m. & 8 p.m.

### DECEMBER 1

Wesson High School junior varsity & girls & boys varsity soccer Cobras play Brookhaven. 5 p.m., 6 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.

### DECEMBER 4

Co-Lin basketball Men & Lady Wolves play Jones County Junior College. 6 p.m. & 8 p.m.

### DECEMBER 5

Wesson High School girls and boys varsity soccer Cobras play at Morton. 5 p.m. & 6:30 p.m.

Wesson High School junior varsity and girls and boys varsity basketball Cobras play Crystal Springs. 5 p.m., 6 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.

### DECEMBER 7

Wesson Junior High School girls and boys basketball Cobras play Topeka. 5 p.m. & 6 p.m.

### DECEMBER 8

Wesson High School junior varsity and girls and boys varsity basketball Cobras play Franklin County. 5 p.m., 6 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.

Wesson High School girls junior varsity & girls & boys varsity soccer Cobras play Loyd Star. 5 p.m., 6 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.

### DECEMBER 9

Co-Lin basketball Men & Lady Wolves play Delgado Community College. 1 p.m. & 3 p.m.

### DECEMBER 12

Wesson Attendance Center girls and boys Junior High & High School varsity basketball Cobras play Loyd Star. 4 p.m., 5 p.m., 6 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.

Wesson High School boys junior varsity & girls & boys varsity soccer Cobras play at Franklin County. 5 p.m., 6 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.

## Scoreboard October 9 - November 19

### WHS Cobras

Football

Record: 4-7.

Recent Losses: Seminary. 34-6. West Marion. 28-19. Tylertown. 36-20. Jefferson Davis County. 47-7

Softball

Record: 20-10.

Recent Wins: Raleigh. 18-6 & 9-6. Purvis. 13-12 & 18-4. Northeast Lauderdale. 16-5 & 12-3. Recent Losses: Lawrence County. 14-3. Newton County. 21-1 & 22-6.

### Co-Lin Wolves

Football

Record: 4-4. Recent Wins: Southwest. 45-3.

Recent Losses: Holmes. 35-27. Pearl River. 40-21.

Golf

Third in MACJC Conference event at Wolf Hollow, Wesson. Third in MACJC Conference event at Grand Bear, Saucier.

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# A busy time for the arts and artists

By Guest Columnist Shaw Furlow

This is a busy time of year for music, the visual arts, and even drama in our little corner of the world.

Holiday season happenings:

- With the Wesson High School marching band wrapping up a successful marching season just a few weeks ago, it has shifted gears into concerts. Its annual Christmas performance is December 3 at New Zion Baptist Church. The event will start at 7 p.m. Suzi Phillips and Mark Dickerson are the conductors.

- The Co-Lin Singers Christmas Concert is November 16 at 7 p.m. in Rea Auditorium on the Wesson campus. The choral director is Christian Scott.

- The Brookhaven High School Choir concert is December 12 at 6 p.m. at the school. Charles Bridges is the conductor.

- The Alexander Junior High holiday band concert is November 27 in the school auditorium, with Daniel Bush and Charles McClendon conducting.

- Brookhaven Little Theater performs the musical version of *Miracle on 34th Street* on December 1, 2, 3, 8, 9 and 10.

- Christmas parades are scheduled in Brookhaven on November 30 (6:30 p.m.), Wesson on December 1 (4 p.m.), and Crystal Springs on December 2 (10 a.m.).

**A Brookhaven Christmas CD:** Eleven local singer/songwriters have collaborated on a special CD project. *A Brookhaven Christmas* will feature original songs and will be available in area gift shops. All proceeds will go to Mississippi School for the Arts.

**Public painting projects:** Renowned Mississippi artist Don Jacobs has completed a mural in downtown Brookhaven in the alley between the



Special to Wesson News

Brookhaven Regional Arts Guild art competition winners included (front row left to right) Ashlyn McEwen, Becky Corken, Kay Calcote, Dianne Burris, (back row left to right) Bill Perkins, Hardy Kergosien, Linnea Stonecypher, Maxine Minter, Ed Patten Jr., James Minter, Kelly Parks, Mackenzie Ritchie, Rosemary Leggett and Gwin Roberson.

old Staffers Jewelry store and The Footlocker to launch the beginning of its development as an outdoor entertainment setting, soon to be known as Cherokee Alley, as Jacob's mural proclaims at the entry. Jacobs, originally from Brookhaven, has painted murals all over Mississippi -- in such venues as antebellum homes, new construction and the Governor's Mansion.

Work is also underway on another mural on the campus of the Mississippi School for the Arts by MSA graduate Michael Roy.

**Art show winners:** Brookhaven Regional Arts Guild (BRAG) culminated its annual ninth annual art competition last month with an awards ceremony in which Co-Lin Division of Fine Arts director Janet Campbell Smith won the Best of the Show award, among some 60 entries, for *Rudy Dog*, an oil painting. Nineteen area artists received awards. The Best of the Show winner also received the first place award for *Long Tall Spike*, a 3-D work. Dianne Burris won three awards -- first place for *Still Life With Peacock Feathers* in acrylics, third place for *Broken Pitch-*

*er With Iris* a in oils and honorable mention for *Pumpkin Time* in water media. Six other artists received two awards each: Becky Corken, second place and honorable mention for *Ancient Crucifix* and *Medieval Nativity*

in mixed media. Nancy Hanks-Myers, third places for *Theodora And Crispin* in acrylics and *Welcome To My Belly Little Bird* in 3-D. Janice Hoaglund, first and third place in photography for *High Winds* and

*A Moment of Reflection*. Hardy Kergosien, second place for *Atchafalaya Morning* in acrylics and third place for *Song Birds* in mixed media. Prudence McGehee, first place for *Necropolis* in mixed media and third place for *Reflections* in pastels and drawings. Ed Patten, Jr., first and third place for *Asian Peasant* and *Taylor Mississippi In Snow* in water media.

Other winners were: Maxine Minter, first place for *The Trombonist*; Kelly Parks, second place for *Summer Gardening*; and Ashlyn McEwen, honorable mention for *Jelly Fish* in oils. Kathleen Smith, honorable mention



Special to Wesson News

Janet Campbell Smith's *Ruby Barn* was Best of Show winner in Brookhaven Regional Arts Guild competition.

for *Evening Tide* in acrylics. Mackenzie Ritchie, second place for *Rainbow Barn* in water media. Rosemary Leggett, first place for *Purple Hat*; Gwin Robertson, second place for *Double Trouble*; and Kay Calcote, honorable mention for *A Glimpse of Gdamsk* in pastels and drawings. Bill Perkins, second place for *So Happy*; and Alan Creel, honorable mention for *The Color of Water* in photography. James Minter, second place for *Knotted Leg Stand*; and Linnea Stonecypher, honorable mention for *Let It Snow* in 3-D.

BRAG presented cash awards for Best of the Show (\$150); first, second and third places in the seven categories (\$100, \$75, and \$50) with ribbons; and honorable mention ribbons.

Coverage next month will focus on Nativity Scenes, light shows, special holiday music and more! There's a lot happening. Check it out. Until next time, support the arts.

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



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