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Lions & Legion Officers Page 9 PRSRT STD U.S. POSTAGE PAID WESSON, MS PERMIT NO. 3

Wesson News PO Box 1028 Wesson, MS 39191

Volume 7, Number 9

"Good News You Can Use"

September 10, 2019

# Hood vs. Reeves to headline

Special to Wesson News

While candidates will be actively campaigning for important state offices over the next couple of months until general elections in November, many officeholders serving Lincoln and Copiah counties were already elected outright in primary and runoff elections last month.

In what promises to be one of the most competitive races for governor in Mississippi in a number of years, Democrat Jim Hood, current Mississippi Attorney General, and Republican Tate Reeves, current Lieutenant Governor, will go head-to-head.

In other state races, Democrat State Representative Jay Hughes will oppose Republican Delbert Hosemann for Lieutenant Governor; Democrat Johnny Dupree, former Hattiesburg Mayor, and Republican State Senator Michael Watson, will contend for Secretary of State; Democrat Jennifer R. Collins will battle current Republican State Treasurer Lynn Fitch for Attorney General; Democrat Addie Lee Green goes against Republican David McRae for State Treasurer; Democrat Rickey L. Cole and Republican incumbent Andy Gipson are vying for Commissioner of Agriculture; and Democrat Robert E. Amos will challenge incumbent Republican Mike Chaney for Commissioner of Insurance.

In State Representative District 92 and State Senate District 39, Republicans Becky Currie and Sally Doty won re-election in primary voting

re-election in primary voting.

In Lincoln County, other Republicans securing their elections in the primaries or runoffs were Alisha McGehee (Chancery Clerk), Steven H. Rushing (Sheriff), Blake Pickering (Tax Assessor/Collector), Clay McMorris (Coroner), Joe W. Byrd (County Surveyor), Ian Smith (Justice Court Judge 1), Kelly Porter (Constable

1); and Supervisors C.E. (Eddie) Brown (District 4), Doug Falvey (District 5) and Nolan Williamson (District 3).

In a big upset, Hazlehurst Police Chief Byron Swilley unseated incumbent Copiah County Sheriff Harold Jones, securing election in the Democrat primary, along with most of the county's Democrat incumbents.

The other Copiah County outright winners in the primary or runoff were Democrats Steven Amos (Chancery Clerk), Edna Stevens (Circuit Clerk), Ellis Stuart (Coroner), Elise Munn (County Attorney), Todd Mooney (Tax Assessor), April Holloway (Tax Collector), Terry Channell (District Supervisor 2), Perry Hood (District Supervisor 3), Kenneth Ray Powell (District Supervisor 4), Teresa G. Bozeman (Justice Court Post 1), Vicki Bass Ramsey (Justice Court Post 2), Jimmy Dale White (Constable Post 1) and Chris Granger (Constable Post 2).

On the general election ballot in November, incumbent Democrat Vince Mangold will be pitted against independent Rita Wilkinson Goss for District 53 State Representative and Democrat Dee Bates will be squared off against Republican Joey Norton for District Attorney 14.

elections

In the November elections in Lincoln County, Democrat Valerie Moore will contend with Republican Roger Martin for Justice Court Judge 2; Democrat Mary H. Wilson will face Republican W. Lavon Boyd for Constable 2; and Democrats Jerry L. Wilson and Cynthia Price will battle Republicans Dwayne Gill and Jerry McGehee in the contests for Supervisors in Districts 1 and 2. In Copiah County, incumbent Democrats Daryl McMillian, Sr., and Dwayne Thompson will face independents Sue Barlow Johnson, and Judson Jackson and Darren "Big D" Powell for Supervisor in Districts 1 and 5.

# Wesson ice cream



Special to Wesson News

Wesson Chamber of Commerce members and community leaders helped Michael and Jennifer Johnson and their family celebrate the opening of Park Place Ice Cream across from the municipal park. When the Johnsons moved to Wesson from Crystal Springs two years ago, they discovered the town lacked a place where children and adults could get ice cream treats, and they decided to the fill the gap and supplement their income with the new business. At the grand opening in July were (left to right in front) Chamber members Libby Kirton and Marty Stroud, Alderman Billy Ellison, the Johnson's daughter Elizabeth, Jennifer Johnson with daughter Harper, Michael Johnson with son Jeremiah, the Johnson's son Clayton, Park Place employee Shelby Lang, Wesson Baptist Church Pastor Nelson Santa Ana, Chamber members Janet Currie and Marilyn Britt; (left to right in back) Park Place employee Lauren Palmer and Jennifer Johnson's parents Walter and Charlotte Hunter. Sidney Dunbar, another Park Place employee, is not pictured. Jennifer Johnson is also a medical social worker at Fresarius Kidney Care, and Michael Johnson works at Nissan in Canton, Mississippi.

# Institute for Learning in Retirement fall semester is underway

Wesson News

Music and dancing kick off the 2019 Institute for Learning in Retirement (ILR) fall semester at Co-Lin today. Singer Denise Riley, accompanied by Steve Russell, will provide musical entertainment at the group's inaugural fall luncheon, and Edna Boudreaux will lead those who have been stirred to exercise and keep moving after their meal in some line dancing routines in a workshop immediately following.

Through November, ILR will present another four workshops and also host luncheons in October, November and December.

The workshop schedule also includes:

September 24.

Paper-making, a demonstration led by a team from Georgia Pacific at Monticello, Mississippi, on how paper is produced, starting from trees. Participants will see and feel wood

cont. on page 5

The Institute for Learning in Retirement is a member-driven organization. Its 2018-2020 officers are Bettie Bullard, president; Tommy Sasser, vice president; Bettie Kelly, secretary; Joy Wesbrooks, associate secretary; Patricia Hall, treasurer; Nora Berch, immediate past president; members-at-large Elner Fuller and Kim Whittington.



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#### Police Blotter

Special to Wesson News

**During July, Wesson Police Department** activity encompassed:

#### Responses to:

- 21 suspicious people & vehicles
- · Eight stranded motorists
- Three accidents
- One petit larcenies
- One telephone harrassment
- One malicious mischief
- One shop lifting
- · One identity theft
- · One attempted breaking & entering
- One auto burglary

#### Arrests & citations for:

- One stolen vehicle
- One larceny
- 26 speeding violations
- One improper equipment
- Two expired tags • Five driving with expired license
- Five contempt of court
- One disregard for a traffic device
- Two driving without seatbelts
- One driving without insurance

# **Community Calendar**

September weather forecast: The Old Farmer's Almanac calls for an average temperature of 74 degrees (two degrees below average) with precipitation of 4.5 inches (average). September 10-17: T-storms, then sunny, cool. September 18-30: Rain, then sunny, chilly.

#### **SEPTEMBER 10**

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.

Patriot Day. Wesson Baptist Church Day Care children parade through downtown Wesson. 10 a.m.

#### **SEPTEMBER 12**

Copiah County Master Gardeners meets. Mississippi State University Extension Office at Gallman. 5 p.m. business meeting.

American Legion John Edwards Post 12 meets. All members, veterans and their spouses are welcome. Jimmy Furlow Senior Citizens Center in Brookhaven, 4 p.m. For information, call 601-835-8137.

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

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

#### **SEPTEMBER 16**

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.

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

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.

#### **SEPTEMBER 24**

Free GED Classes. The next open enrollment for free GED classes offered by the Copiah-Lincoln Community College will be held at 5:00 on each campus. Individuals 18+ years of age should present a current, state-issued photo ID and a Social Security Number. Call 601-643-8655 for additional information.

#### **SEPTEMBER 26**

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

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

#### **CONTINUING**

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

Overeaters Anonymous meets every Tuesday. Church of the Redeemer Episcopal, downtown Brookhaven. 6 p.m. Call 601-754-0213 for information.

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

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

Email Community Calendar items to bobarnold@wessonnews.com



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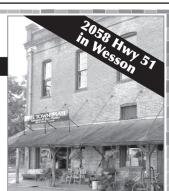
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# Flag ceremony & political rally at park

Special to Wesson News

A bi-partisan group of state, district and local office-seekers from Lincoln County will lay out their competing visions of public service on Saturday, September 28, across from Lake Lincoln State Park.

Fresh from primary elections that culminated last month with runoffs for varied offices, Republican and Democrat victors, who will contend against each other in the November general elections, and outright winners, who will run unopposed in November, will be part of the event that is expected to draw some 300

Uncle Rays, a store, bait shop, and restaurant across from the Lake Lincoln State Park entrance, will host the Patriotic Political Rally and Lake Lincoln State Park Flag Dedication, which will also feature the presentation by members of Woodmenlife of new American and Mississippi State flags to be flown at the park gate.

The flag presentation ceremony at 11 a.m. will officially retire the current flags that fly at the Lincoln State Park entrance as bugler Chuck Wallace plays taps. Military veter-

ans will carry the new flags, which Woodmenlife officials will present to park officials, and which then, in turn will be raised on the flag poles at the park entrance.

From 11:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., candidates Joey Norton and Dee Bates (District Attorney 14). Rickey Cole (Commissioner of Agriculture), Vince Mangold and Rita Goss (State House), Roger Martin and Valerie Moore (Post 2 Judge), among others -- some who have already won office -- will speak for about ten minutes each. State Representative Becky Currie, who will run unopposed in the general election, will moderate.

The event will begin at 10 a.m. with entertainment until the flag ceremony starts. There will be tents, where candidates will meet and greet voters. Uncle Rays will sell refreshments and serve light meals throughout the day.

Event proceeds, including fees paid by the candidates to participate and ten percent of profits on sales of food and refreshments donated by Uncle Rays., will benefit the Berean Home for children operated by Pastor Herbert Davis.

# **Uncle Rays determined** to make location work

Special to Wesson News

Following a succession of store/ restaurants across from the entrance to Lake Lincoln State Park, Charles Ray Fortson and his partner and finance Diane Sullivan are determined to make their new one -- Uncle Rays -- work at the location.

Towards that end, they are creating special events and developing promotions aimed at various target audiences -- first responders, veterans, Co-Lin, businesses. The latest attempt to draw attention to their store, bait shop and eatery is the Patriotic Political Rally and Lake Lincoln State Park Flag Dedication scheduled September 28.

Fortson and Sullivan are both Louisiana natives. He moved to the McComb-Summit area from Houma when he was in the fifth grade. She grew up in Independence and worked in hotel management in Louisiana, Mississippi and Florida, including a time at the Hampton Inn in Brookhaven.

After working in carpentry for fif-

teen years, including construction work at the Brookhaven Walmart, and in some other "hit and miss work," Fortson started a career in insurance sales with Independent Life in Brookhaven in 1990 that spanned thirty years in the area, also with American General and in his own agency for Alfa Insurance.

"All along, I indulged my passion for cooking, grilling and creating my own recipes," Fortson says.

In 1998, Fortson even looked at buying the store/restaurant at Lake Lincoln, but couldn't put a deal together. Over time, he owned and managed rental properties and "learned tricks of the trade," he re-This March, he finally acquired the Lake Lincoln location and opened for business there with Sullivan in April. Uncle Rays is open for lunch seven days a week from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. and for dinner from 5 p.m. to 7:45 p.m. on Friday and Saturday. Its menu includes seafood, steaks and barbeque chicken and ribs.

Call 601-643-0175.

# Wesson News September 10, 2019 Football outlook for Co-Lin & WHS

Special to Wesson News

Coming off a 6-4 season that culminated in a 31-7 loss to eventual national champion East Mississippi in the Mississippi Association of Community and Junior Colleges (MACJC) playoffs, the Co-Lin football Wolves expect to be top MACJC contenders during the 2019 grid season.

Danny Clark, a redshirt sophomore transfer from the University of Kentucky, directs the Wolves on offense at quarterback, with one of the best receiving corps in junior college football ready to catch his passes -- sophomores Kundarrius Taylor, Malik Heath (Callaway High School), Dell Thigpen (Wesson High School), Antoine Robinson (Canton High School) and Trent Tyre (Jackson Academy), and freshmen Erick Rodgers (Shannon High School) and Atavius Jones (Starkville). After Co-Lin, Taylor and Heath are headed for the Memphis Tigers and Mississippi State Bulldogs. In the backfield with Clark will be returning sophomore J.J. Jernigan (Amory High School). Another Kentucky transfer, guard Sebastien Dolcine will boost the offensive line, joining freshman Demarcus Gordon (Rosa Fort High School) and sophomore Jason Judge (Wingfield), who have solidified their positions.

The defensive line features sophomore All-American candidate Jordan Davis, a Memphis native committed to Mississippi State; and sophomore Keyshawn Brinkey (Jefferson County).

At linebacker, the Wolves are looking to returning sophomores Tyrus Wheat (Amite City, Louisiana), Khehlan Kennedy (Heidelberg High School), and R'Tavius McGee; and freshmen Hayden Hill (Northwest Rankin) and Chris Rias (J.Z. George High School) to be strong defenders. In the secondary, the Wolves are deploying sophomores Natrone Brooks and Jalen Ware from Starkville, Tavarian McCullum (Collins High School), Treshon Cooper (Calhoun City High School) and Brookhaven High School brothers Jemaurian



Special to Wesson News

Co-Lin quarterback Danny Clark led Wolves to 27-21 victory over Holmes in opening game with his passing.

Jones, a Southern Mississippi transfer, and freshman Axavian Jones.

Co-Lin signed Bryce Lofton (Pisgah) as kicker/punter and a former Brookhaven High School kicker competed for the spot during the Wolves pre-season camp.

Glenn Davis enters his sixteenth season as Co-Lin's head football coach

assisted by Williams Jones, Micah Davis, Jason Guthrie, Calvin Green, Maurice Johnson and Ethan Hut-

WHS region favorite. After struggling

the past few years as one of the smallest 3A Region football teams against the likes of Seminary, Columbia and West Marion, the Wesson High School Cobra gridders return to 7-2A Regional play as the favorite this

It's a young team with only five seniors and loaded with sophomores.

On offense, a major goal of Coach Jeremy Loy is getting more out of the Cobra passing game, with the return of junior signal caller Antrelle Sims, who rushed for 1,009 yards and ten score last season, while completing 45 of

100 attempted passes for 656 yards and six scores. Freshmen Chris Davis and Tony Sanders, sophomore Anterio Miller and junior Terrance Haley are his pass catching

www.CopiahWorks.com

options this year.

In the backfield with Sims are senior running back Damien Smith, who gained 415 yards and scored six times on 52 carries last year; and junior rush-

er Jason Edwards, who gained 461 yards and scored five times in 2018.

Senior Ethan Ainsworth at center is the lone returnee to the offensive line. Gideon Forrest is playing both on the offensive and defensive lines, and Trey Cunningham has moved up from a backup to starter on the offensive line.

Smith and Edwards are bringing their speed to the defensive side of the ball as well, along with Sims at safety. Senior Scott Hutt returns as linebacker along with sophomore Collin McGowen. The defensive line features Nick Lopez and Justin Beall at nose tackle.

On October 4, the Cobras start regional play at West Lincoln, with subsequent home games against Bogue Chitto and Amite County followed by road games at Loyd Star and Enterprise.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Excerpted from articles by Cliff Furr in The Daily Leader Gridiron.

601-894-4126





cont. from page 1

### ILR fall semester is underway

and pulp and make their own sheets of hand-crafter paper.

#### October 10.

Chair exercises. Following another luncheon, exercise will be an option. Idela Byrd will teach chair exercises and stretching techniques.

#### October 17.

The Smithsonian Asian-Pacific-America Poster Exhibit. Dr. Tim Lea, Co-Lin Director of Veterans Services, will present a Smithsonian Poster Exhibit on the Asian-Pacific-American people and cultures. The exhibits will include personal items from times Dr. Lea was overseas. Asian inspired refreshments will be served.

#### November 6.

Mississippi History for You. Story teller, author and freelance writer Anne McKee will draw on her original short stories, plays, skits, vignettes and newspaper columns inspired by "her life in the south lane" in a presentation spiced with south-

The ILR luncheon lineup will feature:

#### October 10.

Dr. Catherine Perry Cotton, University of Southern Mississippi, will talk about her role and participation in the League of Women Voters and the one hundredth anniversary of women's right to vote.

#### November 12.

Brookhaven's Vonda Laird will entertain. A singer since an early age, she recently sang the National Anthem at the opening ceremony of the Dixie National Rodeo.

#### December 17.

Craig Ray, Director of Visit Mississippi, the Mississippi Development Authority tourism division, will discuss tourism offerings throughout the state.

On October 31, ILR members will celebrate Halloween with games, a costume contest and prizes. light-hearted fun day to be a kid again.

ILR, a Co-Lin-sponsored membership organization, provides continuing education experiences for retired and semi-retired older adults. In ILR, participants define their own informal educational goals and pursue them at their own pace, based on their own choices and talents. Members, who design the group's program, come from wide ranging backgrounds and bring varied experiences to the organization. Co-Lin staff administers ILR and the college provides facilities for the organization, which is fully funded by member dues.

#### Four planned **ILR** trips by

Special to Wesson News

Travelers on a special Co-Lin Institute for Learning in Retirement (ILR) day trip next week will come home with new knowledge and understanding about car and whiskey

The trip on September 19 is one of four ILR travel experiences planned through December:

- Next week's travel experience includes tours of the Nissan plant --Mississippi's largest employer -- and the Rich Grain Distillery Company at Canton. At Nissan, visitors, riding on an indoor tram, will look at how an automobile is made from a coil of raw steel. At the distillery, they will see how whiskey is made and aged. It starts at the Thames Center at Co-Lin and the Hazlehurst First Baptist Church at 8 a.m. and 8:30 a.m., and the travel bus returns following a 45-minute driving tour of Canton's historic district. The cost is \$44 for ILR members (plus \$25 for non-members), but the trip is fully booked at this time.
- A second day trip on October 22 will take travelers to a performance of Fiddler on the Roof at Thalia Mara in Jackson at 7:30 p.m. Departures are at 3:30 p.m. and 3:45 p.m. from the Thames Center at Co-Lin and the Hazlehurst First Baptist Church. The cost is \$95 for ILR members (plus \$25 for non-members), but the trip is fully

booked at this time.

- An overnight trip November 19 and 20 features a train ride to New Orleans to tour the World War II Museum, with lunch and a matinee performance of "Songs That Won the War." Travelers will leave the Godbold Transportation Center at Brookhaven at 11:45 a.m. on November 19, stay at the Higgins Hotel and return by bus with a dinner stop at Middendorf's. Cost is \$270 (single room) and \$200 (double room) for ILR members (plus \$25 for non-members), but the trip is fully booked at this time.
- Á four-day trip December 3-6 featuring visits to the Billy Graham Library, homeplace and burial site at Charlotte, North Carolina, and the Biltmore House and Gardens at Asheville, North Carolina. Included are lunches at the Graham Brothers Dairy Barn and Biltmore House Stable Cafe, candlelight buffet at the Biltmore Estate Deer Park Restaurant, candlelight evening tour at Biltmore House, daytime Christmas visit at the Biltmore House and Gardens and the Downton Abbey Exhibition at Biltmore. Cost is \$565 (quad occupancy), \$585 (triple occupancy), \$685 (double occupancy) and \$\$910 (single occupancy) for ILR members (plus \$25 for non-members). \$100 deposit is due September 20 and final payment on October 25.

For information, call ILR at 601-





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# Music store dies, but there's new life

By Guest Columnist Shaw Furlow

I spent nearly every Wedneseverv afternoon and Saturday mornings at Music Wright Store when I lived in Jackson. At music stores, you run into many gifted musicians on Saturday mornings --



special to Wesson News

band directors discussing last night's halftime, local and touring bands needing strings and things, and others who just like the vibe. A young musician/teacher can learn a lot hanging around with older, more experienced musicians.

But times change. As with Ringling Circus, Oldsmobile and Blockbusters, the public ultimately decides who stays in business and who doesn't. Online sales with front door delivery make it just too easy to order from home. Such was the story of Brookhaven Music and Sound, the Brookhaven music store that operated for nearly twenty years, providing guitars, ukuleles and drums to students from around the area. Big box and online music stores made it too easy to select that Fender Stratocaster from the comfort of your chair at home. So six months ago, Tyler Bridge made the tough decision to shut the doors, leaving southwest Mississippi without a local store. It was a sad moment for all concerned.

Like Phoenix rising from the ashes, however, two new businesses are filling in the gaps left by the venerable Brookhaven music store. Musicians/entrepreneurs Tony Norton and Greg Smith, who formerly worked there, have moved up Railroad Avenue and opened Downtown Music Academy. The former doctor's office was the perfect location for their business model. What were once examination rooms became music studios for a faculty of nine to teach lessons. There is also a rehearsal hall for the



pecial to Wesson News

Gregory Smith, a partner in the Brookhaven Downtown Music Academy cuts ribbon at grand opening of the business. Some 50 people, including customers, former students, instructors, friends, family and Brookhaven city officials, were on hand. At the event, The Hewitt Family Band entertained as guests celebrated with food and drink. Smith and Tony Norton (back center) operate the company, which rents and repairs instruments and teaches music and instrumental performance.

various rock bands that form during the school year. Beginning around 2 p.m., you might think it's the site of a track meet, with students coming and going every half hour for their lessons. Students, young and not-soyoung, arrive carrying guitar, violin

AREA PARTS

and saxophone cases or vocal and piano books, eager to go to their lessons. Smith, who coordinates all the lessons, schedules and manages that part of the business, setting a positive tone for all the students and faculty. As a former music teacher, I can tell you it does my heart good to see smiles on faces as students enter and exit their lessons

"If you ever hear of me complaining about this job, just punch me," says Norton, who runs the instrument repair and band and orchestra rental part of the business.

"I never had a chance to be in a band, since Loyd Star didn't have one at the time I was in school. But helping make local bands function and meeting all the band directors is fun." Norton, whose workshop overlooks the comfortable waiting room, also tears musical instruments to the barebones and repairs anything that is wrong with them. "This is the best job ever" he gushes

ever," he gushes.

Meanwhile, Bridge -- once the owner of Brookhaven Music and Sound -- has moved around the corner on Cherokee Street and opened Brookhaven Music Studios, where he has set up a recording studio and preserves another part of his old store.

"This space is perfect for what I need," he says. I took the tour and was surprised when I stepped into

the isolation booth. The treatment on the walls completely deadens the sound, perfect for recording voices. Since opening the studio, Bridge has remained busy, recording albums and cutting music for many of the dance groups in the area.

groups in the area.
"You gotta see this," says Bridge, as I follow him to the enormous back room where the Bridge Band Rehearses. From the lobby to the control room to the rehearsal hall, this is a first class facility.

Yes, we miss the old music store, but check out Downtown Music Academy on Saturday morning. The vibe remains!

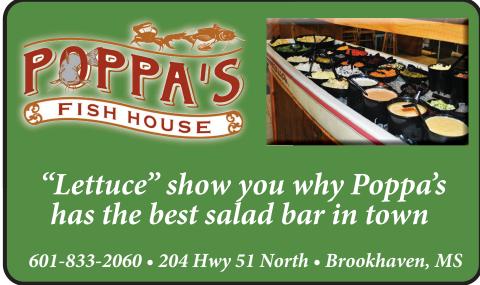
That's it this month. Remember to support the arts -- and "music education is life education."

EDITORS 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.



# WESSON AREA DINING GUIDE













# Virus, degrees, jobless & park party

Special to Wesson News

West Nile Virus in Copiah. One of the seven cases of West Nile Virus (WNV) reported so far this year by the Mississippi State Department of Health (MSDH) occurred in Copiah County. Last month, MSDH reported the second case in Forrest County. The other five cases occurred in Hinds, Lamar, Leake and Smith counties. Last year, Mississippi had 50 WNV cases and no deaths. WNV is a mosquito-borne illness that generally occurs from July through September. Its symptoms are often mild -- fever, headache, nausea, vomiting, a rash, muscle weakness or swollen lymph nodes, but can cause encephalitis or meningitis, which can lead to paralysis, coma and possibly death in a small number of cases. MSDH advises these precautions: Using a mosquito repellent with an EPA-registered ingredient such as DEET when outdoors. Removing all sources of standing water around homes and yards to prevent mosquito breeding. Wearing loose, long clothing to cover arms and legs when outdoors. Avoiding areas where mosquitoes are prevalent. Visit the MSDH website at HealthyMS. com/westnile for information.

**Seventh in Online Degrees.** Study. com has ranked Co-Lin as number seven in the nation for Best Online Associate Degree Programs -- the only com-

munity college in Mississippi on the list which highlights the top 50 colleges in the nation. The rankings are based on affordability -- tuition cost and financial aid; accessibility -- admittance rates and educational support and resources; quality and value -- retention and graduation rates, student-to-faculty ratio and career resources and job placement.

Co-Lin offers 33 fully online degrees in arts and humanities, education, criminal justice, business, health sciences, and even career-technical programs. See the full list of Best Online Associates

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Jobless rate dips. Even with the number of people seeking jobs in Lincoln County increasing during July, the county's unemployment rate dipped to 5.8 percent, placing it in a three-way tie with Hinds and Tishomimgo for Mississippi's nineteenth lowest jobless rate and the lowest in the area. The jobless rates in Copiah and Lawrence Counties were 7.3 percent and 7.4 percent respectively. Lincoln County's work force totaled 15,090, with 890 persons hunting for jobs. Overall, the state unemployment rate stood at 6.1 percent with twenty-six of its eighty-two counties below the average rate. Rankin County has the lowest jobless rate at 4.2 percent, while Jefferson has the highest rate at 18.3 percent.

WAC student studies science. Fourteen-year-old Wesson Attendance Center (WAC) student Orrin Ainsworth gained in depth experience in areas of science, technology, engineering and mathematics at the prestigious Explore STEM program, a part of the Nation-

al Youth Leadership Forum in July at Emory College in Atlanta. Ainsworth, the son of Chad and Keli Ainsworth of Wesson, focused on robotics at the event and also took courses in forensics,

medicine and engineering at the weeklong event. He helped build and program a robot that performed calculations to generate a simulated sustainable life habitat on Mars. At WAC, Ainsworth is a member of the robotics team, participates in football and track and is a percussionist in the marching band. WAC teacher Ladonna Anderson nominated Ainsworth to attend the Forum.

Halloween party. The community Tent-A-Treat Halloween party will again bring Wesson residents together in the municipal park next month, and the City Hall-coordinated Play It Up program is seeking people and organizations to set up and staff tents for games and trick-or-treating at the event.

To volunteer, complete an information form, which is available at City Hall, or contact Angela Hester (601-643-5221), Alana Hughes (601-754-9883) or Brittany Ashley (601-669-4475). The event will start at 6 p.m. and run until 8 p.m. on October 31.

New employees. Additions to Co-Lin's faculty and staff going into the new semester are Michelle Boyd, senior accountant/business manager; Bradley Boykin, director of golf operations; Rosalyn Breakfield, office secretary; Nikki Britt, administrative assistant to the president; Bradford Carr, foundation and alumni relations office manager Jason Dry, technology specialist; Reed Freeman, academic instructor/science; Fredrequez Gary, grounds maintenance; Dale Hale, health, physical education and recreation director chair and instructor and men's and women's tennis coach; Bobby Helms, director of choral activities; Ethan Hutson, assistant football coach; Maurice Johnson, assistant football coach; Larry Lewis, golf course maintenance; Thalman Marshall, adult education instructor; Heather Martin, academic instructor/business; Albert Smith, grounds maintenance; Stephanie Sullivan, workforce center director; Christy Washington, business office clerk; Kendra Washington, academic instructor/music/color guard; and Kentrell Wilson, grounds maintenance.

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# CHAPTER 7

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# **CHAPTER 13**

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## Lions & Legion install officers



Wesson News

Billy Crow (far right) is new Wesson American Legion Post 79 Commanders with (left to right) Service Officer Libby Kirton, Chaplain Charles Abbey, Finance Officer John Wesley, First Vice President Richard Miller, Adjutant A.C. Currie and Sergeant-at-Arms Bobby Thornton (at podium).

Wesson News

Wesson's Lions Club, American Legion Post 79 and its auxiliary installed 2019-20 officers at recent meetings.

Billy Crow is new Legion Commander, and Sharon Langley and Glenda Gemilli continue to serve as presidents of the Legion Auxiliary and Lions Club, respectively.

At the Legion installation ceremony, Charles Abbey, chaplain of the local post, spoke about the connection between truth and freedom, citing Jesus' teaching that "the truth shall set you free." Abbey noted that Legionnaires stand for freedom, and, in the current year of political campaigning, it was "important to look for candidates who speak the truth, regardless of party." Past Lions District President Jim O'Roark from McComb highlighted Lions Clubs "dedication to service" in reminding local Lions officers of their responsibilities.

In addition to Commander Crow, Legionnaire Ralph Frazier of the Wesson post swore in Vice President Richard Miller, Finance Officer John Wesley, Adjutant A.C. Currie, Sergeant-at-Arms Bobby Thornton, Service Offi-

cer Libby Kirton and Chaplain Abbey. American Legion Auxiliary President Kathy Dungan, a member of the Wesson Auxiliary, presided at the local organization's installation ceremony of President Langley, Vice President Annie Wingo, Secretary-Treasury Melanie Hall, Historian Melnee Frazier and Chaplain Mary Turner.

At Wesson Lions Club, O'Roark installed and charged President Gemelli, First Vice President Julia Arnold, Second Vice President Randy Davis, Secretary Bob Arnold, Treasurer Bob McCreary, Tail Twister Suzanne Davis, Lion Tamer William Brownh, Lion Greeter Kenneth Furr, Directors Ric Crockett, Hubert Greer, Prentice Horton and Larry Williams; Immediate Past President William Brown, Lions Club International Foundation Coordinator Randy Davis and Membership Committee Alton Ricks (Chair) and Mike Lusk (Vice Chair). O'Roark also recognized new Lions Club Melvin Jones Fellowship honorees Bob Arnold, Julia Arnold and William Brown as "dedicated local servants in the spirit of the Lions Club."



# Time to study your landscape

By Guest Columnist Rebecca Bates

Landscapes are dynamic creations that are always changing. Plants grow larger. New plants are added and other plants die. Trees may be lost in storms. Over the years, a landscape can change radically from its original

How your family uses the landscape will change over time. Children grow up, so you no longer need a play area. As gardeners grow older, they often must change a landscape to make it less labor intensive.

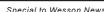
This is a great time of year to study your landscape and develop plans for change.

As you plan, consider future maintenance of your new plantings. Select insect and disease resistant plants that are well adapted to our area. Make sure they will not grow too large for the location on which you intend to plant

them. Consider the amount of sun they will receive. and soil conditions.

Don't feel that you are indulging yourself when purchasing trees, shrubs,

flowers and other plants for your landscape. Landscaping your home brings



pumps, providing shade in the summer and shelter from cold winter

Landscapes also benefit the environment. À mature tree removes 26 pounds of carbon dioxide from the air each year and releases approximately 13 pounds of oxygen. Lawns slow erosion and allow water to be more readily absorbed into the soil. Trees, shrubs and flowers provide food and shelter for birds and other wildlife.

It's nice to add to the value of your property and help the environment, but the most important benefit of landscaping is the enjoyment it brings to outdoor living. So, go ahead and indulge yourself! It will pay off in vears to come.

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



price than comparable homes lacking a nice landscape. Trees add economic value to a home by reducing heat-

sells more quick-

ly and at a higher

ing and cooling costs. Trees work as nature's air conditioners and heat

quite a few economic benefits!

A well landscaped home generally

### **BLT** plans six shows for season

Special to Wesson News

Brookhaven Little Theater (BLT) is bringing six plays to the area for its new season.

The season starts next month with "Roald Dahl's Matilda the Musical." Its three-week run includes shows on October 4-6, October 11-13 and October 18-20, with special performances for schools shows on October 4 and October

"Disney's Frozen Jr." is BLT's Christmas offering, with performances on December 13-15 and Dec. 20-22, with school shows on December 14 and December 20. The season's drama is "The Diary of Anne Frank," which will be performed February 14-16 and February 21-23, with school shows on February 14 and February 21 "Disney's Beauty and the Beast: The Broadway Musical" will return to the BLT stage April 17-19, April 24-26 and May 1-3, with school shows on April 17, April 24 and May 1.

BLTeens will host a workshop June 1-28 that culminates with performances of "Disney's High School Musical Jr." June 25-28. The Haven Kids will conclude the BLT season following its annual Drama Camp July 13-21 with performances of "Roald Dahl's Willy Wonka Kids" July 23-24.

Roles are available for adults and children in each show.

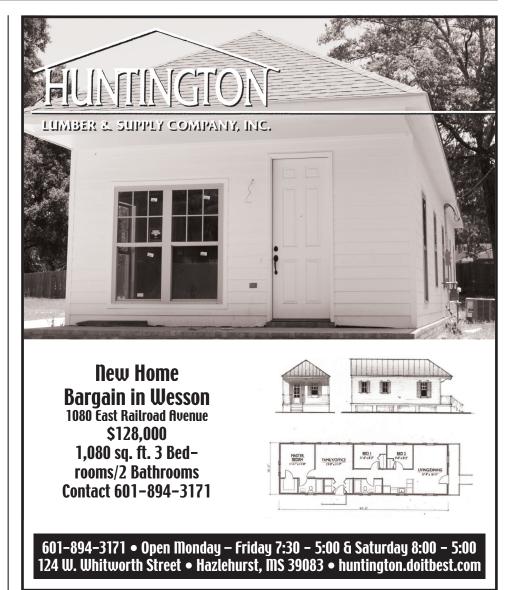
BLT Executive Director Emily Wa-

terloo reports that nearly17,000 people saw the Theater's shows at The Haven in downtown Brookhaven during the past season, generating more than \$725,000 for the community. BLT is the longest continuously running community theater in Mississippi.

Last season, "Disney's The Little Mermaid" was the highest grossing show of all time for the community theater, according to Waterloo. BLT honored actors, technicians and shows for the past season:

- Best Actor: Connor Cagle as Jack Kelly in "Newsies"
- Best Actress: Anna Walker as Ariel in "The Little Mermaid"
- Best Supporting Actor: Josh Brown as Crutchie in "Newsies"
- Best Supporting Actress: Jessica Scott as Ursula in "The Little Mermaid"
- Best Costumes: "The Little Mermaid"
- Best Set Design: "Newsies"
- Best Lighting and Sound Design: "The Little Mermaid"
- Best Hair and Makeup: "The Little Mermaid"
- Best Show of the Season: "Newsies"
- Best Directing Team Collaboration: Nick Rocz, Tonya Mathews and Holly Moore for "Newsies"
- Most Valuable Actor: McLain Boyd
- Volunteer of the Year: Larry Baker
- Rising Star Actor: Austin Tanksley

• Rising Star Actress: Lela Beth Waterloo





# Begin to age healthy this month

By Guest Columnist Dr. Stephanie Duguid

It's Healthy Aging Month, focusing

national attention positive on the aspects of growing older, providing inspiration and practical ideas for adults, aged 50plus, to improve their physical, mental, social, and financial well-



being, while adapting

to change and developing new skills and interests.

Six generational groups are living today: **Greatest Generation** (Born 1916-1928) -- 3.79 million; **Silent** Generation (Born 1929-1946)--28.32 million; Baby Boomers (Born 1947-1965)-- 75.52 million; Gen-X (Born 1966-1981) -- 65.72 million; **Millennials** (Born 1982-1999) --79.41 million; Gen-Z (Born 2000-2016) -- 73.61 million.

The number of people over 50 years old is growing every year. The attention used to be on the baby boomers, and the focus will soon shift to the millennials. The Generation X-ers are pushing their way in and have many of the same interests as the previous generation -- staying active and vibrant as long as possible. In 2019, millennials are expected to overtake the baby boomers as the largest U.S. population group.

In September, reflect on where you have been, determine your ultimate goals and begin working toward them today! Use this stage in your life to rediscover yourself. Healthy Aging Magazine (www.healthyaging.net) offers ten tips:

- Do not act your age or at least what you think your current age should act like. What was your best year so far? 28? 40? Now? Picture yourself at that age and be it.
- Be positive in your conversations and your actions every day. When you

catch yourself complaining, check yourself right there, and change the conversation to something positive.

- Ditch downer friends. Have negative friends who complain all of the time and constantly talk about how awful everything is? Drop them. As cruel as that may sound, distance yourself from people who do not have a positive outlook on life.
- · Walk like a vibrant, healthy
- person. Analyze your gait.
   Stand up straight! You can knock off the appearance of a few extra years with this trick your mother kept trying to tell you. Look at yourself in the mirror. Is your stomach in, shoulders back, chin up?
- How's your smile? Research shows people who smile more often are happier. Your teeth are just as important to your good health as the rest of your body. Not only is it the first thing people notice, but good oral health is a gateway to your overall well-being.
- Lonely? Stop brooding and complaining about having no friends or family. Do something about it now. Pick up the phone and call to

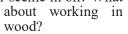
volunteer your time, take a class or invite someone to meet for lunch, brunch, dinner, or coffee.

 Start walking not only for your health, but to see neighbors.

Have a dog? You'll be amazed how the dog can be a conversation starter. (If you don't have time for a dog, go to your local animal shelter and volunteer. You will be thrilled by the puppy love!)

- Get a physical. Make this month the time to set up your annual physical and other health screenings. Go to the appointments and then, hopefully, you can stop worrying about ailments
- Find your inner artist. Who says taking music lessons is for young

school children? You may have an artist lurking inside you just waiting to be tapped. Have you always wanted to play the piano, violin, or tuba? Have you ever wondered if you could paint a portrait or scenic in oil? What



Here are additional healthy lifestyle Ideas for Healthy

Month provided by Mansion Senior Living:

1. **Take cat naps.** A study reveals that people who take naps are 37% less likely to die from heart disease.

- 2. Mix and mingle with the right **crowd.** Surround yourself with positive people who help lift you up and encourage you to follow your
- 3. Stay active. Exercise regularly. Get at least 2.5 hours of exercise a
- 4. **Set realistic goals.** Make a plan to clearly define where you are going and how you will get there. Research

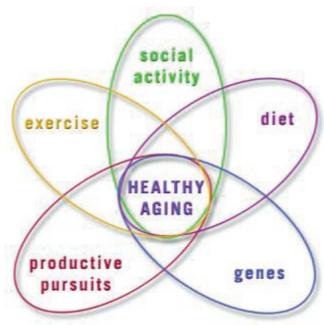
shows that those who have a clear sense of purpose and drive have a less chance of getting Alzheimer's disease.

5. Budget and spend your money wisely. Try to cut down on your expenses. Not being able to afford the things you want to do can add stress to your life!

6. Eat foods that give you natural energy. It is one thing to eat one or two healthy foods a day, but if you add the right foods, at the right times together, it will give you more energy. Stay away from processed sugar foods. Eat foods that are as natural as possible.

Stay vibrant and active by taking charge of your life, following your passion, and look happily toward what's next in life!

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



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# **August Honor Yards**







Special to Wesson News

Wesson Garden Club recognized the landscaping efforts of Porches Restaurant (top), Ramona Smith at 1010 Bayou Pierre (center) and Larry and Dianne Miller at 1017 Dickerson (bottom) for Yard of the Month honors in organizational, town residential and rural residential categories. The awards, based on maintenance principles and elements of landscape design, seek to encourage ongoing beautification and cleanliness of the Wesson area and cultivate a citizenry that values and protects natural resources and assumes responsibility for enhancing the environment. The Garden Club's Yard of the Month awards honor properties during the spring, summer and fall.

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