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Wesson News

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Co-Lin Football Preview

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Volume 10, Number 8

“Good News You Can Use”

August, 2022

Aldermen advance Spring Street changes

By Bob Arnold

With the Wesson police and fire departments, library and city hall on the western stretch of Spring Street off Highway 51 in the downtown area, the roadway is turning into a government and municipal services thoroughfare, and Wesson Aldermen have taken two more steps to advance the progress.

At their July meeting, the Aldermen moved to purchase the property and small cottage-like house between the library and new police department headquarters and approved repairs and aesthetic changes for the fire department buildings.

The goal is to house all government and municipal functions on Spring Street and make the buildings architecturally compatible, officials say.

In other actions, the Aldermen:

- Delayed adoption of water ordinance changes pending customer notifications.
- Approved closures of 17th, 18th Streets and a portion of West Street in compliance with state law on property Larry Ashley intends to develop on the west of Highway 51. The abandoned streets are shown on town documents, but do not physically exist.
- Granted Wesson Volunteer Fire Department permission to purchase equipment funded by a CenterPoint Energy Community Partnership grant.
- Moved Police Officer Garrett Starkey from a full-time to part-time position.
- Set a public hearing on the proposed 2022-23 town budget for the August 2 Board of Aldermen meeting at 6 p.m. prior to a vote to approve it in September.
- Passed a resolution recommended by the Mississippi Municipal League on use of federal water infrastructure funds.



Special to Wesson News

Personnel from Wesson Volunteer Fire Department (WVFD) accepted \$2,500 in grant funds from CenterPoint Energy at recent town Aldermen's meeting. Pictured from left to right are Herbert Kimble, WVFD; Angela Hester, City Clerk; Lieutenant Sam Carraway, WVFD; Michael Wolfe, Byram Area Manager for CenterPoint Energy; Eric Benson, Operations Supervisor for CenterPoint Energy; and Captain Chris Wade, WVFD. WVFD is using the funds to purchase equipment, including a multi gas meter, Thermal Imaging Cameras (TICs) and pagers.

Wesson officials attend MML conference

By Bob Arnold

Mayor Alton Shaw, Town Clerk Angela Hester, Public Works Director Brad Turner and town Aldermen Jarred Ashley, Billy Ellison, Larry Hall and Michael King returned from the 91st annual conference of the Mississippi Municipal League (MML) conference at the convention center in Biloxi newly-prepared for their individual leadership roles and to work better as a team.

They joined some 3,000 municipal elected officials, municipal employees, state agency representatives, legislators and exhibitors, among others at the annual event. Representatives from state and federal agencies as featured speakers and leaders of educational sessions brought them the insights, knowledge and perspectives the



Wesson officials need for their jobs, and the locals polished their team-playing mindset and skills in a deep sea fishing experience they found at the coastal Mississippi conference site.

The MML annual conference is the largest association event held in the state each year.

"Blast Off to Municipal Excellence" framed an array of topics as the conference theme, including state laws, grant opportunities, medical marijuana, municipal liability, community and economic development, infrastructure funding, disaster recovery, and water and sewer issues.

Every year, the Wesson contingent finds a special team-building experience when they attend the conference, says Town Clerk Angela Hester. This year, it was a deep sea fishing adventure provided by Silver Dollar Three.



Special to Wesson News

Municipal officials turned deep seas fishers learned team playing lessons at Mississippi Municipal League (MML) annual conference. Sharing the experience (left to right) were Wesson Alderman Larry Hall, Brittney Ashley, Wesson Alderman Jarred Ashley, Zoe Ashley, Glenn Bartow -- the past president of MML and special guest of Wesson officials on the adventure, Wesson Town Clerk Angela Hester, Cristy Shaw, Parke Shaw, Wesson Mayor Alton Shaw, Terri Ellison, Wesson Alderman Billy Ellison, Chad Hester.

"We pick experiences that are not only fun and relaxing activities, but are also group exercises in which we learn about each other -- our strengths and

weaknesses," explains Hester. "We come out of them a stronger team that can work together better."

cont. on page 11



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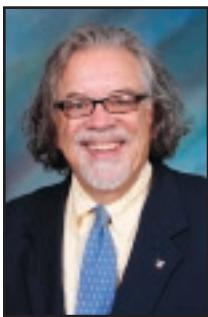


Little theater brings quality productions



By Guest Columnist R. Shaw Furlow

Over the years of writing for the *Wesson News*, I've covered about nearly every event that relates to the arts in our little corner of the world. But one of my favorites has been the success of the Brookhaven Little Theatre (BLT), one of the oldest amateur theaters in Mississippi.



I remember one Sunday afternoon, when I was a youngster, my mother got out the "good coffee cups" and made cookies and cheese straws for a meeting in our living room. I can't remember everyone there, but I remember Wesson's John Landress in attendance talking about beginning a little theatre in Brookhaven. I wasn't invited to the meeting, nor did I really want to be, but years later I was in my first play at BLT because Landress' idea had prevailed – *Arsenic and Old Lace*. Over the years, hundreds of local amateur actors have trod the boards in production after production at BLT. Men and women who had never been on stage found a home. Directors came from the ranks. Kids who grew up on stage have moved on, some professionally.

BLT bought the old Haven, the last remaining of the early movie theaters in Brookhaven. During the 1980s, it was abandoned and became a bit of an eyesore in the downtown area. Years of extensive renovations, done in phases as time and money became available, have produced a first class complex there. Of course, there is the John Landress auditorium, and there is a large meeting room for receptions, table readings and even set building. The old Haven, where a lot of young Brookhaven boys and girls may have had their first kiss, has come a long way from near ruin to what it is today as the home of BLT.

BLT has unveiled its production schedule for the 2022-2023 season, and once again, it promises to be filled with quality.

The season opens October 20 with the musical version of the classic comedy, *The Addams Family*, the ghoulish family first made popular by cartoonist Charles Addams. The two songs you may have heard from it are "Let's Not Talk About Anything Else" and "The Moon and Me."

In December, the set becomes 1940 Indiana, with the story is of Ralphie, a young boy who wanted a Red Ryder BB gun. Everyone's favorite: *A Christmas Story*. Does Ralphie get the BB gun? Maybe his song "It All Comes Down to Christmas" will

convince his parents.

Little Women begins the 2023 part of the season. The classic by Louisa M Alcott tells the story of Meg, Jo, Beth and Amy as they live through poverty, war and all the family endures. It's a heartwarming story.

The show I am looking forward to is the *Wizard of Oz*. It's a terrific telling of the story that scared us all when we were kids. Don't tell me the flying monkeys didn't get your attention.

The season rounds out with *Footloose* and *101 Dalmatians*. Of course, during the summer, there will be drama camps and productions involving teens and kids.

Brookhaven Little Theatre contributes to the quality of life in our corner of the world. Like music and visual arts, it all adds up to making our lives better.

That's it, folks. Support BLT and all the arts.

EDITOR'S NOTE: *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. Bob Arnold is Editor of the Wesson News.*



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Wesson Garden Club Honor Yards

In July, Wesson Garden Club recognized the landscaping efforts of Larry and Melanie Hall at 1027 Ninth Street and Dr. Leslie Carty's dental office at 2076 Highway 51 in its Yard of the Month town residential and organizational categories. The Club also recognized Joe and Sherri Carty at 2017 East Railroad Street and Sweetwater United Methodist Church at 1092 Jackson Liberty Road with its Patriotic Design and Special Summer awards. The Yard of the Month awards that recognize 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 landscapes during the spring, summer and fall.

All photos Special to Wesson News



Patriotic Design Award recognizes property of Joe and Sherri Carty



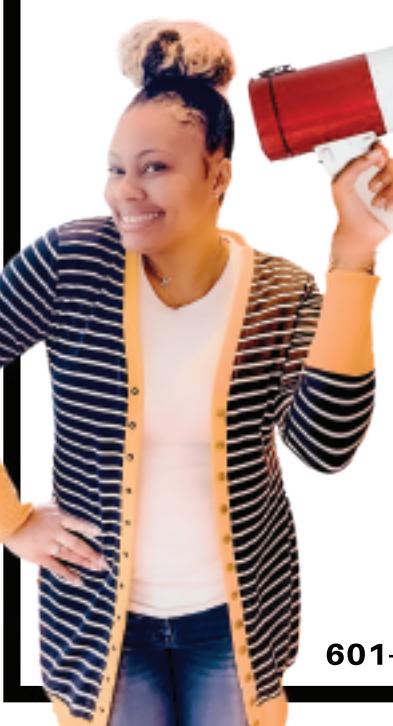
Landscaping at dental office of Dr. Leslie Carty



Property of Larry and Melanie Hall



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Keeping healthy on water

By Guest Columnist Stephanie Duguid

Did you know that more than half of the human body is made up of water -- up to 60% to be exact? It is important to stay hydrated for your body to work properly. Drinking enough water keeps you healthy in several ways:

- Strengthening brain and heart function.
- Improving digestion.
- Preventing kidney stones.
- Promoting weight loss.
- Reducing joint pain.
- Regulating temperature.
- Increasing energy levels.

A few additional benefits of water:

- Strengthens your immune system.
- Removes waste products from your body.
- Protects your spinal cord.
- Cushions your joints.
- Helps clear skin.
- Fuels muscles.
- Boosts productivity.

How do you know if you are drinking enough? How can you tell when you are dehydrated? Look for these key signs:

- Dry mouth or extreme thirst.
- Headache, dizziness, or lightheadedness.
- Dry skin, decreased skin elasticity and cracked lips.
- Little to no urine or darker urine than normal (healthy urine color for someone who is well hydrated is light yellow, close to clear).
- Heart palpitations.
- Low blood pressure.
- Sleepiness, fatigue or confusion.



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How much is enough?

Most people think they already drink enough water. But if you have some of the key signs above, you may not they have as much as you think. You have probably heard the advice to drink eight 8-ounce glasses of water a day. That is a reasonable goal, but everyone is different based on size and activity level. A great rule of thumb is to drink half your body weight in ounces. If you weigh 150 pounds, you should be drinking 75 ounces of water a day. Some may need less, while some may need more. If you are physically active or live in a hot climate, you will need to replace the water you are losing through the sweat.

Here's how to make sure you get enough water:

1. Take a water bottle with you when you are away from home. You can freeze one to have ice cold water on the go.
2. Keep a filled reusable water bottle with you at your desk or when you are out and about so you have it handy.
3. Choose water instead of sugar-sweetened drinks. Drinking water instead of one 20-ounce sugar-sweetened drink can save you 240 calories.
 4. Order water when you're eating out. Try adding a slice of lemon, cucumber, berries, or lime for a burst of flavor.
 5. Drink on a schedule, especially before, during, or after a workout
 6. Try drinking a glass of water when you are feeling hungry. You could just be thirsty.
 7. Eat some fruit, since they are full of water.
 - a. Watermelon -- up to 91%
 - b. Strawberries -- up to 91%
 - c. Grapefruit -- up to 91%
 - d. Cantaloupe -- up to 90%
 - e. Pineapple -- up to 86%

Take the time to evaluate your day to see what small changes you can make to increase your water consumption.

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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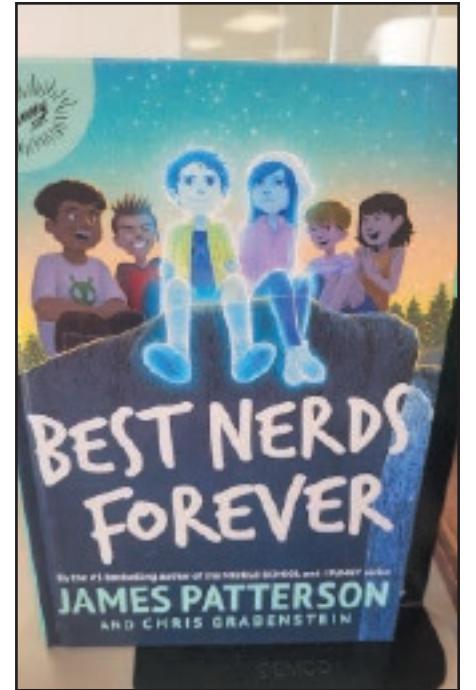
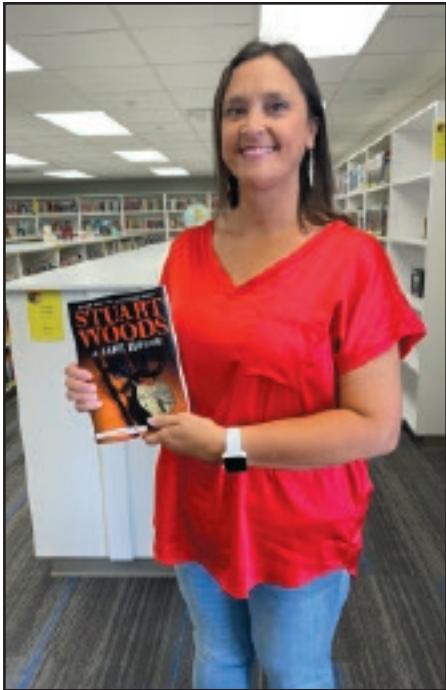
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Wesson Library winners



Special to Wesson News

Mandy Case and Walker Breazeale (not pictured) were July Wesson Public Library books giveaway winners. Case (above) proudly displays her prize in the adults category -- Stuart Woods' A Safe House. Breazeale, a WAC student, received the children/youth category prize -- Best Nerds Forever by James Patterson and Chris Grabenstein. Friends of the Library (FOL) funds the prize books awarded in drawings every month. At the July drawing (left to right) were FOL members Camille Johnson and Dr. Steven Liverman; Violet Correlles, FOL secretary; Marilyn Britt, FOL president; Wesson Mayor Alton Shaw, FOL member Barbara Locke, Jacque Coons, FOL treasurer; and FOL member Pat McCreary. Book winners must come to the library to register for the drawings. In the process, they will learn about how the library can meet their needs. FOL is a support organization that conducts fundraisers for the library and assists in its programming through advice and counsel, volunteers, and donations.

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6th grade horn spurs music man

By Bob Arnold

Back in the 1950s and 1960s when he was growing up in Brookhaven, Shaw Furlow really didn't have the skills to go far in sports, which he loved, nor did he enjoy the work his studies in school required. But from the sixth grade on, when he started playing the baritone horn (euphonium) and learning to be part of a band, music has been his passion.

"My father used to say he couldn't easily rouse me from bed to go to school, but when the band director called, I would jump and run," he says.

For 41 years, Furlow taught music and directed bands at schools across Mississippi and Co-Lin. In retirement, he has turned a hobby of writing songs and playing them on his guitar into a career of sorts, promotes his fellow musicians, and even finds time to write a column covering the arts world for the *Wesson News*.

Born in Alexandria, Louisiana, Furlow settled in Brookhaven at age 5 with his parents and siblings when his father returned to his hometown to build a retail business and play golf, which was his passion. He grew up with two brothers and later a sister and played baseball, football, golf and tennis before discovering band and music. In the ninth grade, he played on the football team, but "I decided I would rather sit in the back of the bus with girls as a band member than sweat at the bottom of a pile under a bunch of boys on the football field," he jokes.

Furlow graduated from Brookhaven High School in 1969 and attended Co-Lin, giving up plans to attend Mississippi State University after his father died in his senior year to be near his mother, left on her own at 45 years old. Following two years at Co-Lin, where he studied music education, he headed off to Delta State -- a school he didn't even know existed until Co-Lin professors told him it was the place for budding musicians and band directors to go. "I drove there, referring to a roadmap throughout the trip, and left two years later with a BA in music education to start a career teaching music and directing bands," he says.

He would later return to Delta State to earn a Master's Degree in music education after deciding that graduate studies in guidance counseling and secondary education to become a school principal didn't lead to careers he wanted to pursue. "That would have been hard work," he notes.

Although Furlow says his dream job was being the ring master for the Barnum & Bailey Circus, his career before retirement revolved around teaching music and directing bands -- first at Crystal Springs High School, where he rebuilt a band that had 13 students from sixth grade through high school when he came into one with 75 students at the high school level alone when he left five years later. He subsequently spent one year in Newton, Mississippi, seven years at Yazoo City High School and 13 years at Jackson Preparatory School before coming to Co-Lin, where he served as band director for 16 years.

"People will tell you the best part of being a band director is working with your students and their parents, getting to know the people," Furlow says. "All that is true, but I also enjoyed the events -- traveling on a bus and directing the Yazoo City jazz band at the All American Jazz Festival in Mobile, Alabama, going with the Co-Lin band to a football bowl game.

"At Jackson Prep, I directed a band from a school with a reputation for being aloof and snotty," he recalls. "At one stadium appearance, we were booed. When we returned the following year, we were greeted with a standing ovation. That was a great feeling."

When he retired from Co-Lin in 2015, Furlow recalls facing two options: "Sitting on a deck chair, drinking beer on my back porch or doing something productive." Furlow chose the latter.

For a brief period, he directed and managed the Mississippi Music Hall of Fame. He worked part time with area high school bands for Brookhaven Music

and Sound. In 2010, Furlow had started to become more serious about his songwriting and performing, and he intensified his work in retirement, turning what was once a hobby into a job. "My music has a country flare, and it tells stories," he says. "I'm not a poet -- I wish I was, but I try to write clever lyrics. My music isn't about beer, trucks or mama."

Trips to singer-songwriter festivals throughout the region connected him to "great people with real jobs who also want to share their music and help each other," inspiring him to start his own -- the annual Overbrook Singer-Songwriter Festival at Brookhaven, which brought 29 of them from throughout the southeast to five local venues this past weekend to perform and tell their stories for the third year since 2019. "In contrast to other festivals which charge musicians, we pay our artists," he says proudly.

In retirement, Furlow also started working in video production, hosting his own show that promotes local musicians, co-hosting one with local singer-songwriter Charlie Hewitt and helping produce a documentary on Brookstock, the annual summer Brookhaven rock festival.

Among his many accomplishments, Furlow cites rearing his son Cole as his most rewarding and satisfying. An accomplished musician in his own right, Cole writes and produces music and operates a recording studio, where Furlow has worked with him on projects. A few years ago, Furlow traveled with his son in Europe when he was on tour.

MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR

What are your hobbies?

Since writing songs and playing them became a job, playing with my dog Flint has been my chief diversion from work. Whether it's in work or play, I do enjoy working with words -- not only as a songwriter, but as a columnist for *Wesson News* on the overall arts scene, as well.

Are you a reader?

I am into fiction mainly, particularly murder mysteries, like the Greg Iles books. I also enjoy reading the late Larry Brown, a gritty Southern writer, the author of *Dirty Works*.

Do you enjoy movies or theater?

Like my reading, I enjoy shoot-em-up and crime stories, although I have directed and acted in musicals -- several as part of Brookhaven Little Theater. I have written plays that have never been produced. One takes place in an elevator. I called it *Going Up*. I've always wanted to play Cervantes in *Man from La Mancha* and wanted to write something like *Chorus Line*. I am also very much a television fan because I enjoy stories.

Do you enjoy any music beyond your own?

I am eclectic -- from Texas Blues guitarist Stevey Ray Vaughn to Beethoven, whose melodies can change any mood I am in. When I was in Yazoo City, I got into jazz, meeting and working with Allen Vizautti and Ray Poazy there.

What would you do with lottery winnings if you were so lucky?

I would redo my backyard, build a new garage, hire a full-time housekeeper, use it to live happily ever after and give away the rest, mostly for scholarships.

How would you change the world?

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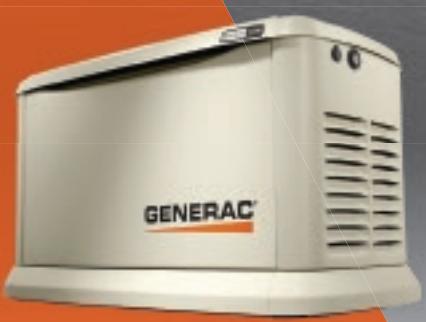
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Mayor thanks helpers in crisis

Wesson News

Assistance from citizens and a Co-Lin maintenance worker in helping labor-short town crews repair a water main drew special praise from Wesson Mayor Alton Shaw at the July Board of Aldermen meeting.

On July 4, the Wesson water department was caught short-handed when an eight-inch water main buried twelve feet underground ruptured and disrupted service near Highway 51.

"People who didn't need to be there came out to help in the midst of a major storm and assisted until midnight," Shaw said.

The Mayor singled out citizen Mark



Kirton, Co-Lin maintenance worker Dale Rushing and Chad Hester, husband of Town Clerk Angela Hester, for their service in the emergency in helping town worker Jonathan Hutt.

July events reach beyond students



Special to Wesson News

The Detective Comedy Dinner Theater performance at Thames Center.

Special to Wesson News



Special to Wesson News

Dr. Stephanie Duguid, Co-Lin Dean of Academic Instruction, was guest speaker at "Connect at the Library" event for seniors.

Co-Lin reached beyond its student populations to the wider community in two unique ways last month.

Through a "Connect at the Library" event, the college library brought seniors and retirees together for a half day to learn about its services and have some fun together at the same time. Aladdin Campus Dining, the college's food service, staged a dinner theater production at the Thames Center.

The get-together for seniors was one of two summer outreach events to community populations planned by Co-Lin Director of Libraries and Learning Resources Dr. Jacqueline Quinn. Quinn's plans also call for a "Connect at the Library" event for children, and possibly a community book club.

Seniors and retirees gathered from 9 a.m. until noon at the Co-Lin library for

the program, which featured Stephanie Duguid, Co-Lin Dean of Academic Instruction as guest speaker, arts and crafts, a sharing time and refreshments.

With a meal, including a fried green tomatoes appetizer, steak dinner and dessert, the Detective Comedy Dinner Theater treated diners to a murder mystery which they competed to solve. Aladdin Executive Chef Christ McSweyn says plans call for bringing the theater company back for future performances.

More than 60 persons attended the initial performance at the Thames Center for *When Cletus Met Elizabeth*. The dinner theater is part of an aggressive community outreach effort by McSweyn that also includes Sunday brunch buffets once a month, movie nights and other special events with meals.




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High expectations for grididders

By Bob Arnold

Head Co-Lin Football Coach Glenn Davis has high expectation for his team for the coming season after finishing 3-6 overall and 3-3 in Mississippi Association of Community and Junior Colleges (MACJC) South Division play last year.

"I think that we have a good mixture of experience coming back, including some third-year guys on both sides of the ball that will help us," says Davis. "Those guys are going to be big for us in terms of experience and maturity. They'll have now played in a lot of football games for us, and I think that helps us to have good expectations for our team."

The Wolves will have to rebuild their defensive secondary for the upcoming season as the unit saw the most sophomores graduated. "We have Ques McNeal (Ackerman) back after a great freshman year, and I expect his sophomore year to be even better," says Davis. "Jamal Pye (Byhalia) gives us some experience in the linebacking corps, while Nate White (Orlando, Florida) and Kadarius Miller (Magnolia) give us some experience up front on the defensive line. We also have some young guys that we have signed that will really help us on defense."

The offense will have more experience than the defense.

"In the offensive line, we have a good mixture of guys, including William McCollum (Jackson) and Tristan Marchioni (Biloxi), who are returning with playing time from last year, along with Josh Trask (Natchez), who started every game at guard for us," says Davis.



"We are going to be bigger on the offensive line than we have been the last few years, and I really like the mobility mixed with the size of our guys."

"Running back wise, Kyjuan Herndon (Jacksonville, Florida) is a transfer who will be in the mix, along with returners Bobby Shanklin, Jr. (Macon) and Antonio Luckett (Carthage), as well as Johnnie Daniels (Crystal Springs), who we signed back in the spring. At the receiver position, we have Tyquan Henderson (Canton) back, and that is big for us. Jaylen Smith (Jacksonville, Florida) and O'Ryan James (Houma, Louisiana) are two transfers that

we think will produce for us, along with Raheem Roberts (Bogalusa, Louisiana). I think we are more athletic, and we have more speed at the position. We also have some talented freshmen in Carlos Martin (Laurel), Tyron Henderson (Decatur) and Cade Dedeaux (Sumrall), and I really like what I am seeing from them so far.

"At quarterback, I think we are further along than what we were a year ago, as Colton Gardner (Madison) has picked up and grasped things quicker and is working hard this summer for us. I really like what I have seen from DeVon Tott (Mandeville, Louisiana) and

Tyler Fortenberry (Brookhaven). Harold Rhodes (Silver Creek) is back at tight end, which is a big boost for us, because we are a little thin at that position, and I think that he will be much improved from last year."

"Corey Case (Brookhaven) will be handling both kicking and punting duties for us on special teams. He was a good kicker and punter in high school, and I expect him to be able to handle those duties for us."

The Wolves will be road tested early in the year, as three of the first four games are on the road, including the first two at East Mississippi and Mississippi Delta, on September 1 and 8, respectively. The team then returns home to start South Division play against Jones on September 15, and then hits the road again to face off against rival Southwest Mississippi on September 22. The Wolves return home to face off against Coahoma on September 29 to close out the first month of play. Co-Lin then stays at home and hosts Mississippi Gulf Coast for Homecoming on October 6, then has back-to-back road games against Pearl River and East Central on October 13 and 20. The Wolves will return home to close out the regular season hosting Hinds on October 27.

"We must find a way to win those close games, which got away from us last year, especially against Gulf Coast and Hinds," Davis says. "I think with the maturity that our returners have developed, along with a full season of experience under their belts, it will help us in pulling out those close games and help us achieve our goals for the season."



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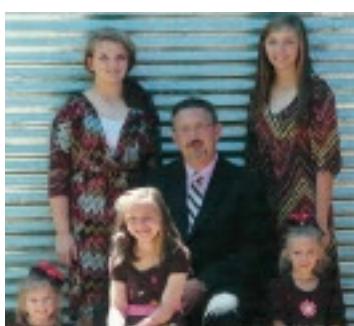
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Co-Lin athletes honored for academics

By Bob Arnold

The Mississippi Association Community College Conference (MACC) and National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) have honored Co-Lin student athletes for their prowess in the classroom on their respective academic team.

MACCC recognized 111 Co-Lin athletes and NJCAA honored 63.

The MACCC recognizes student-athletes who participated in a varsity sports and excelled as Distinguished Academic-All MACCC (3.8-4.0 GPA) and Academic All-MACCC (3.25-3.79 GPA). In the NJCAA, student-athletes are eligible to earn academic honors by achieving an overall grade point average of 3.60 or higher. Student-athletes who held a GPA of 4.0 earned first team selections, second team selections achieved a 3.80-3.99 GPA and third team earned a 3.60-3.79 GPA.

1. Distinguished Academic MACCC All-State (3.8-4.0 GPA)

Softball: Alli Albritton, Lila Blackburn, Laurel Breland, Malori Cade, Mary Ansley Chrestman, Faith Kivett, Shelbi Maxwell, Josie Meggs, Maggie West.

Baseball: Grant Allen, Wyatt Hodges, Jordan McKenzie, Harrison Mohead, Conner Wilson, Will Whittington, Colton Womack.

Football: Jalen Armstrong, Jalen Campbell, Tyrese Johnson-Fisher, Jordan Magee, Jamal Pye.

Men's Soccer: Will Ballenger, Triston Lee, Hardy Lewis, Lawson Pearson, Desmond Redmond.

Women's Soccer: Jenna Long, Alex Moon, Elise Mullins, Sarah Nalley, Mickie Palfreman.

Women's Tennis: Morgyn Brister, Cassidy Cupit, Gracee Warren.

Men's Tennis: Lawson Pearson, Mason Pounds.

Men's Basketball: Constantine Morant.

2. Academic All-MACCC (3.25-3.79 GPA)

Women's Soccer: Grace Arthur, Annelise Bell, Olivia Burnham, Madison Crain, Paula Duplessis, Taylor Ford, Adaisha Freeman, Jessie Heflin, Riely Laird, Anacia Leyland, Makayla Martin*, Madison Moore, Jane Claire Newman, Taylor Phillips, Kylie Robinson.

Softball: Faith Ashley, Cera Blanchard, Bela Dekovic, Julianna Frazier, Bridjette Jones-Talbert, Megan Loyd, Madi Miller, Skyler Speights, Maddie Weeks, Belle West, Madalyn Wilkinson.

Men's Soccer: Jacob Bynum, Bryce Dronet, Hugo Estrada, Eli Fratesi, Will Giachelli, Eli Harrist, Joel Ibanez, Zach Sorey, Carson Smith.

Baseball: Kenner Bizot, Josh Boone, Beau Coumbe, Kade May, Sam Thomas McInnis, Kade Parker, Andrew Smith, Jacob Spinks, Brady Spring.

Football: Gabe Denham, Ellis Fair, Tristan Marchioni, Bobby Shanklin, Trendon Gillon, Paul Hargrave, Ian Jackson, Demario Martin.

Men's Tennis: Rob Johnson, Jacob Lofton, Walker Mitchell, Caleb Myers, Ty Nelson, Bryce Oster, Julian Parada, Julian Toloza.

Women's Tennis: Britany Barnett, Makayla Martin, Valeria Rodriguez, Keegan Thurman.

Women's Basketball: Janya Blue, Jakiylah Esco, Leilani Lewis, Marvia Spann.

Golf: Tanner Harrison, Navid Mousavi, Alex Navarro, Ty Nelson.

Men's Basketball: Cole Chapman, Lorenzo Fort III.

3. All-Academic NJCAA First Team:

Football: Jalen Armstrong (Calhoun City), Jalen Campbell (Winona), Tyrese Johnson-Fisher (London, England).

Softball: Alli Albritton (Summit), Mary Ansley Chrestman (Cleveland), Shelbi Maxwell (Wesson).

Women's Soccer: Elise Mullins (Meadville), Sarah Nalley (Brandon).

Men's Soccer: Will Ballenger (Brandon), Desmond Redmond (Jackson).

Women's Tennis: Cassidy Cupit (Brookhaven).

Baseball: Jordan McKenzie (Franklinton, La.).

4. All-Academic NJCAA Second Team:

Softball: Lila Blackburn (Red Bay, Ala.), Laurel Breland (Lake), Malori Cade (Brookhaven), Faith Kivett (Tallulah, La.), Josie Meggs (Kosciusko), Maggie West (Waynesboro).

Baseball: Grant Allen (Puckett), Wyatt Hodges (Brookhaven), Harrison Mohead (Madison), Will Whittington (Hattiesburg), Conner Wilson (Osyka),

Colton Womack (Liberty).

Men's Soccer: Hardy Lewis (Brandon), Triston Lee (Bogue Chitto), Lawson Pearson (Wiggins).

Women's Soccer: Jenna Long (Meadville), Alex Moon (Poynton with Worth, England), Mickie Palfreman (London, England).

Football: Jordan Magee (Magee), Jamal Pye (Byhalia).

Men's Tennis: Lawson Pearson (Wiggins), Mason Pounds (McComb).

Women's Tennis: Morgyn Brister (Brookhaven), Gracee Warren (Brookhaven).

Men's Basketball: Constantine Morant (Hancock).

5. All-Academic NJCAA Third Team:

Women's Soccer: Grace Arthur (Braxton), Jessie Heflin (Florence), Anacia Leyland (St. Helens, England), Makayla Martin (Brookhaven), Jane Claire Newman (Caledonia), Kylie Robinson (Meadville).

Softball: Cera Blanchard (Metairie, La.), Bela Dekovic (Belle Chasse, La.), Bridjette Jones-Talbert (McComb), Skyler Speights (Monticello), Belle West (Byram).

Men's Tennis: Rob Johnson (Brookhaven), Caleb Myers (Brookhaven), Matthew Oster (Wesson), Julian Toloza (Bogota, Colombia).

Men's Soccer: Hugo Estrada (Byram), Eli Harrist (Brandon), Joel Ibanez (Man of Isle, England), Zach Sorey (Flowood).

Baseball: Kenner Bizot (Wesson), Beau Coumbe (Utica), Sam Thomas McInnis (Madison).

Football: Gabe Denham (Richland), Bobby Shanklin (Macon),

Women's Tennis: Britany Barnett (Brookhaven), Makayla Martin (Brookhaven).

Former Co-Lin player MLB pick



Josh Day

Special to Wesson News

Josh Day, who played two seasons with Co-Lin, was a 15th round pick – number 438 overall – by the Arizona Diamondbacks in the 2022 Major League draft.

The Natchez native had a breakout freshman season in 2018-19 playing in 41 games for the Wolves, with 44 hits in 132 at-bats for a batting average of .333, including 11 doubles, one triple and four home runs. He also had 31 RBIs, 13 stolen bases, and 43 runs scored; an on-base percentage of .485, a .523 slugging percentage and an .867 fielding percentage.

In his sophomore year at Co-Lin, he played in all 15 games for the Wolves in a season cut short by the COVID-19 pandemic, and had 12 hits in 45 at-bat, including one double and three

home runs with 11 RBIs, one stolen base, and 16 runs scored. Day finished his Co-Lin career with a .316 batting average, .463 on-base percentage, and .514 slugging percentage.

After Co-Lin, Day continued his college career at the University of Missouri, playing two seasons for the Tigers. Day had a stellar 2022 season for the team, shining at the top of the lineup in which he batted .340 with 10 doubles, one triple, seven home runs and 29 RBIs. He also had an on-base percentage of .435 and led the team in runs scored with 50. Day finished his career at Mizzou with a .296 average, 102 hits, including 14 doubles, one triple, and nine home runs along with 50 RBIs, 15 stolen bases and 66 runs scored in 93 games played. Day also had a career on-base percentage of .402 and a .420 slugging percentage.

Special to Wesson News

Co-Lin grads get med school scholarships

By Bob Arnold

Co-Lin graduates Morgan McCray of Ridgeland and Bailey Wilson of Brookhaven have earned full scholarships for medical school through the Mississippi Rural Physicians Scholarship Program (MRPSP).

MRPSP is a competitive scholarship program for outstanding Mississippi students committed to pursuing rural medicine and primary care. Once admitted into medical school, McCray and Wilson will have all four years paid for through the MRPSP, scholarships of \$35,000 per year.

"To say we are proud of Morgan and Bailey is quite an understatement," says Co-Lin President Dr. Jane Hulon Sims. "They made the most of their time at Co-Lin by dedicating themselves to academic and scholastic excellence, and their hard work has paid off. We feel honored that Co-Lin has played an important role in their success and look forward to watching them thrive as physicians."

McCray graduated from Co-Lin in 2021 and is a rising senior at The

University of Mississippi. She plans to go into pediatrics. While at Co-Lin, she was a stand-out student athlete. She served as Student Government Association President and Vice President of Service for Phi Theta Kappa. She was selected as Miss Co-Lin, Who's Who, and Phi Theta Kappa Officer of the Year. McCray was a member of the Lady Wolves Basketball team and was selected MACCC Academic All-State and NJCAA All-Academic. She was also selected to the PTK All-Mississippi Academic First Team and inducted into the college's Hall of Fame; the most prestigious honor bestowed on a student.

Wilson graduated from Co-Lin in May 2022, and is now headed to Mississippi State University to complete her bachelor's degree. At Co-Lin, she served as Vice President of the Student Government Association, Vice President of Communications for Phi Theta Kappa, and was a member of the Biomedical Research Team. She was selected to Who's Who at

Co-Lin, as a Campus Favorite, and a Taylor Presidential Scholar. She was also inducted to the college's Hall of Fame.

Wilson has been accepted into MRPSP's Early Assurance process. The Early Assurance process allows well-qualified sophomore applicants who have had successful interviews with the practicing physicians on the MRPSP Board to interview with the Admissions Committee. If the admissions committee sees the potential for the applicant to grow into a competent, competitive medical student, they are granted Early Assurance status. This means the student must maintain their grades during the junior and senior years, score well on the MCAT and actively participate in all MRPSP activities.

For McCray, her time at Co-Lin demonstrated the impact of close-knit community.

"Opting to play college basketball at Co-Lin allowed me to experience first-hand the positive impact of a small environment," she says. "Being

surrounded by people who truly care for one another for two years, Wesson became my home away from home. With my passion for science and caring for people, I saw how in small towns such as Wesson, I could build significant relationships that truly resemble a family while serving the health of the community. Co-Lin was a pivotal moment in my life when deciding to pursue rural medicine."

Wilson credits her time at Co-Lin for helping prepare her for the opportunity offered by her scholarship.

"Going to Co-Lin was the best decision I could have made for myself," Wilson says. "I was able to form connections with my teachers, while being pushed academically at the same time. I did not have a single bad experience with any of my instructors. I can't say enough good things about my time at Co-Lin."

"I want to especially thank Dr. Kevin McKone, Mrs. Lucy McKone, Mrs. Mary Warren, Mrs. Angela Smith, Mrs. Cliburn, and Dr. Price. Also, Amy Case and Jordan Stephens for their continuous support."

Disease concerns, Medicaid & COVID tests

Special to Wesson News

Monkeypox. The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) has reported the first case of monkeypox in Mississippi, but precautions already taken to prevent the spread of other diseases are expected to limit the spread of the virus in the state -- washing hands or using alcohol-based hand sanitizer and avoiding contact with people who have monkeypox. Though monkeypox is not as easily spread as COVID-19, it has become a public health concern, with case counts approaching 4,000 nationwide. The virus is part of the same family of viruses as smallpox, and its symptoms are similar but milder. According to the CDC, it is possible for humans to contract monkeypox by being scratched or bitten by infected animals. Preparing or eating meat and using products from an infected animal can also spread the virus. Two vaccines licensed by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration are available for preventing monkeypox infection -- JYNNEOS and ACAM2000.

Uncommon bacteria. An uncommon bacteria that has been found in soil samples from the Gulf Coast of Mississippi causes melioidosis, a rare infectious disease. Symptoms include fever, joint pain, and headache, and infection can lead to pneumonia and sepsis, a blood disorder. State Epidemiologist Dr. Paul Byers says most cases that occur in the U.S. are because of travel to other countries where the bacteria have been known to normally occur. Infection

is caused by direct contact with the bacteria, *Burkholderia pseudomallei*, in contaminated soil or water, but healthy people will not develop melioidosis. Persons who have chronic illnesses such as diabetes, chronic kidney disease, chronic lung disease, or whose alcohol use is excessive may be at risk. They should avoid contact with soil or muddy water -- especially after heavy rains, protect open wounds with waterproof dressing, wear waterproof boots when gardening, doing yard work or agricultural work (it is critical to prevent infection through the feet and lower legs) and wear gloves to protect their hands when working directly with soil.

Sale & suit. Mississippi's largest company -- Laurel-based poultry processor Sanderson Farms -- has finalized its \$4.5-billion sale to an out-of-state competitor and agreed to pay its part of millions of dollars in restitution to workers for its alleged role in a scheme to suppress wages. Cargill, Inc., and Continental Grain Company has closed the acquisition of Sanderson Farms and is combining the third largest chicken production company in the country with Wayne Farms, the sixth largest, to create Wayne-Sanderson Farms. At the same time, Cargill Inc., Sanderson Farms Inc., and Wayne Farms signed an agreement with the U.S. Justice Department to pay \$84.8

million in restitution to workers to resolve a lawsuit that outlined decades of communications and data sharing between the poultry industry's largest players, including Sanderson and its new owner, accusing the companies of working together to keep wages and benefits from being competitive.

Medicaid for mothers. Dr. Daniel Edney, incoming Mississippi health officer, has endorsed increased Medicaid coverage for poor mothers in the state after they give birth. Edney says he supports expanding

postpartum care from the state's current policy of two months to a full year as the "easiest thing to do" to improve health disparities. "We have got to look at moving postpartum care back out to a year again," he says. "Two months is not enough. We have women who are dying in months three, four and five from complications of pregnancy." Mississippi State Department of Health data shows that 136 Mississippi mothers died either during pregnancy or within one year of their pregnancy's end between 2013 and 2016. Of those deaths, 86% of them occurred postpartum.

Free COVID tests. Mississippians can now pick up free COVID-19 self-tests from their county health department. Under the program,

families can receive eight BinaxNow rapid tests each month. No doctor's note or documentation is needed, though the recipient's name, number of tests and zip code will be logged. The tests can be picked up during regular health department hours without an appointment. This move by the Mississippi State Department of Health comes as the state faces another surge in COVID-19 infections. The state was seeing an average of 105 new infections each day at the beginning of May, but is now seeing an average of 1,445. Hospitalizations have also increased by more than fifty percent.

Reducing lead. SipSafe, a Mississippi State University Extension Service program funded by a grant from the Environmental Protection Agency is working to reduce lead exposure in children from birth to 5 years. In anticipation of remediation monies, the program is building a list of facilities tested for lead in drinking water that will be flagged for funding on a first-come, first-served basis in order of participation date and highest levels of lead exposure. Funding must be used for actions to reduce the amount of lead in the drinking water system, such as replacing faucets and fixtures. Lead is harmful to human health and can negatively impact child development. While lead is a naturally occurring element, it can be toxic. For more information or to schedule a water screening, contact Leah Gann at leah.gann@msstate.edu or call 662-325-2301.

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cont. from page 1

Wesson town officials attend MML conference



Special to Wesson News

French Camp, Mississippi, Mayor Glenn Barlow, joined Wesson municipal officials and members of their families on a deep sea fishing adventure at the Mississippi Municipal League (MML) conference. Barlow, past president of MML, caught the biggest fish on the trip.

Other highlights of the conference were presentation of 2022 Municipal Excellence Awards, an induction ceremony for the 2022 Municipal Hall of Fame and an expo show, showcasing more than 150 businesses, state agencies and other organizations. The Certified Municipal Official program graduated more than 100 municipal leaders.

This year's conference also welcomed Municipal Court Clerks into the event for the first time. Mississippi Attorney General Lynn Fitch spoke to them about victims of human trafficking and the state's new Commercial Sexual Exploitation Fund that will be partially funded by fines that have been increased to \$1,000 on persons convicted of simple and aggravated assault, including aggravated domestic violence; human trafficking, statutory rape, including forcible sexual intercourse; sexual battery, offenses affecting children and procuring prostitution.

Going forward, the Court Clerks will be training alongside other MML members at the conference.

"This conference allows municipal elected officials from across the state to participate in educational sessions taught by subject matter experts on topics critical to the operation of municipal government," 2021-22 MML President Errick D. Simmons, Mayor of Greenville, Mississippi, said. "As we continue to work to strengthen Mississippi, we also have the opportunity to network and share ideas with each other to move our communities and our state forward together. The educational programs and networking opportunities were second to none. The sessions provided excellent resources for all of us as we face the various challenges and opportunities."

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WGC leads gardening week celebration



Wesson News

Wesson Garden Club (WGC) helped the town participate in a national celebration of gardening.

From the public library to Fountain Park to local businesses, the Club touched a wide spectrum of the community during National Garden Week in promoting the joys and benefits of gardening. Its wide-ranging projects during the celebration included:

- An educational setup on the benefits of gardening at Wesson public library.
- Decorating Fountain Park in the downtown area with butterfly sculptures made by Steel

Outdoors. Wesson Alderman interrupted their June meeting to help Club members dedicate the whimsical sculptures that uniquely honor frequent garden visitors and one of nature's special joys which adds color to the world.

- Gifts of gardening books for Wesson Public Library to make available to the public and spread gardening know-how and appreciation of its rewards and benefits.
- Gifts of flowers to local businesses to symbolize the importance of nature even in commercial life.



Special to Wesson News

Friends of Library members accepted Wesson Garden Club gardening book gifts on behalf of Wesson Public Library. Left to right are Garden Club members Nancy Sullivan and Marilyn Phillips, Friends of Library member Mildred Twiner, Garden Club members Joy Wesbrooks and Jennifer Peets, Garden Club President Dixie Thornton, Friends of Library member Dr. Steven Liverman, Friends of Library President Marilyn Britt and Jennifer Peets.

Gardening in America traces to 1565 when Spaniards brought plants from their native country and novelties from the West Indies to their new homes in St. Augustine, Florida. In 1607, English colonists carried seeds from their old homes to their new settlement in Virginia, where they also cultivated crops grown by Native Americans, such as tobacco, corn, beans, and squash. Between 1619 and 1865, African American slaves in the U.S. found time to cultivate garden plots, even as they attended to the crops of their owners, providing additional food to the enslaved

community and sometimes being able to sell their yields for profit.

John Bartram of Philadelphia, who established a botanic garden in 1728 -- the oldest one of its kind surviving in North America, is an important figure in American gardening. Considered the greatest naturalist in the world, he traded seeds and plants with Peter Collinson, a London merchant, and botanist; introduced 150 North American plant species to Europe and earned the title of "Royal Botanist" to King George III for his reputation in international trade and Botany.

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Retiring board members recognized



Special to Wesson News

Kenny Goza of Brookhaven with outgoing Co-Lin Foundation board President Dr. Donald Cotton (left) and college President Dr. Jane Hulon Sims.

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Danita Hobbs of Brookhaven with outgoing Co-Lin Foundation board President Dr. Donald Cotton (left) and college President Dr. Jane Hulon Sims.

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Wesson News

Five retiring members of the Co-Lin Foundation board received special recognition for their service at a recent ceremony. They were:

Andrew Calvit of Natchez (18 years).

Board President Dr. Donald Cotton of Hattiesburg.

Kenny Goza of Brookhaven (17 years).

Danita Hobbs of Brookhaven.

Geralyn Russell of Brookhaven (13 years).

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Lawmaker's post-Roe vs. Wade agenda

Special to Wesson News

The Brookhaven legislator who wrote the Mississippi law that prompted the U.S. Supreme Court to overturn the constitutional right to abortion says her focus now is advancing policies that allow women to thrive.

Becky Currie, a nurse, mom and devout Christian who serves Lincoln and Copiah Counties in the state's House of Representatives, told *Mississippi Today* in an interview that she is "as happy as I can be" that the legislation to outlaw abortion after 15 weeks in Mississippi, which she wrote, was the basis of the U.S. Supreme Court decision to end the 50-year-old precedent upholding Roe vs. Wade and abortion rights.

The 65-year-old lawmaker, however, says she will be "hell on wheels" going forward, pursuing pro-women policies in the post Roe vs. Wade environment.

"We're all wrapped up in the Supreme Court decision, but the work has just begun," she says. Affirming she is "one hundred percent pro life," she also says "I realize there are a lot of unhappy people right now," and "it's now our responsibility to help take care of women and children."

When Currie realized that the Supreme Court would probably reverse Roe vs. Wade, she started charting

a new course to be there for women. "I got with Representative Angela Cockerham and together, she and I wrote the new Mississippi equal pay law," she relates. "We let the Speaker know we need to be behind women. We had to make sure that if women want jobs, that we pay them equally, and assure that women are getting jobs and having a career so they can raise children. It's a shame Mississippi was last in the nation to do it, but we got that done."

Now, Currie says her agenda encompasses adequate funding for Children Advocacy Centers, quality adoption services and possible expansion along with reform of the state's Medicaid program, which, she says, leaks its funds out of state, or better yet, creating a State Health Department that provides services to people in need, particularly women who want birth control assistance.

"We are in a wonderful position," she says. "Our economics are good. Our rainy-day fund is good."

Children Advocacy Centers lost a lot of federal funding this year and are in desperate need, Currie points out. "We met some of the need, but it was not satisfactory to me," she says. "These agencies are the ones that take care of our children who have been abused or neglected or require help. The court

systems use them, and we failed them by not making sure that funding was where it should be."

The state health department is Currie's top priority. "I think that my number one bill, my number one legislation to work on is that we make sure every county health department is open and fully staffed," she says. "There are a lot of women who end up pregnant because they have no resources."

Currie charges that Mississippi gives its Medicaid monies to companies that take it out of state, instead of using it to care for the state's citizens, children and women; and she thus favors, as a first step, making sure every county health department is open with the ability to prescribe birth control.

"We failed to see some of the problems that we were going to cause when we decreased the State Health Department budget," she asserts. "Because we don't expand Medicaid, many people don't have the money to go to the doctor once a year. They don't have the money to buy prescriptions. And now, with the economy, and inflation the way it is, there is no way women can go to a doctor and get a prescription for monthly birth control. I will not rest until we have places for women to go. If you don't want to expand Medicaid, you've got to

expand access to care."

One thing not on Currie's to-do list is Crisis Pregnancy Centers, where women go after they are facing a problem. They don't prescribe birth control, but help them make decisions about women's pregnancies, she points out. "Today we need to make sure every woman in every Mississippi county has access to birth control," says Currie. "That may not sound like the Christian thing to say. But it's the most realistic thing. I'm a Christian, and I never want a woman to have to be in the position of having to decide to abort a child or not. In 2022, a woman should never have to come down to that decision with the technology we have. It's just plain access, non-access to care."

What about the budget impact of her proposals?

Currie argues: "We give pay raises. We gave enormous pay raises this year. We started a new agency this year for broadband and tried to start a new agency for tourism. I say let's spend the money instead on the basic needs of people. Let's put our money where we know it works, where people can get the care they need. If we don't do that, shame on all of us."

EDITOR'S NOTE: Excerpted from a Mississippi Today report.

PROGRAMS THAT WERE LAUNCHED TO COMBAT THE NEGATIVE ECONOMIC IMPACT OF THE CORONA VIRUS.

RECENT RESULTS*

*does not yet include Q3 2021

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Co-Lin PBL captures top awards

Special to Wesson News

Co-Lin's Nu Kappa Chapter of Phi Beta Lambda captured 10 individual awards and one chapter award at the PBL National Leadership Conference held in Chicago.

Award winners were:

- **Whitney Howell**, First Place, Integrated Marketing Campaign & Third Place, Small Business Management Plan.
- **Maeghan Lee**, Second Place, Business Presentation and Ninth Place, Statistical Analysis.
- **Emma Grice**, Small Business Management Plan.
- **Payne Walker**, Fourth Place, Economic Analysis and Decision Making.
- **John Chance**, Fifth Place, Business Decision Making and Eighth Place Project Management.
- **Brooke Brister**, Fifth Place, Business Decision Making.
- **Hugh Greer**, Tenth Place, Impromptu Speaking.
- **Nu Kappa Chapter**, Sixth Place, Local Chapter Annual Business Report.

The competition in each category includes students from community colleges as well as four-year colleges and universities. Co-Sponsors for the chapter are Richard Baker and Heather Martin.



Special to Wesson News

Members of the Nu Kappa Chapter of Phi Beta Lambda attending the National Leadership Conference were from left, Richard Baker, Co-Lin Vice President of Business Affairs/Nu Kappa Co-Sponsor, Hugh Greer of Bogue Chitto, John Chance of Brookhaven, Emma Grice of McCall Creek, Whitney Howell and Brooke Brister, both of Brookhaven; Maeghan Lee of Bude, Payne Walker of Brookhaven, Sam Papizas of Crystal Springs, and Heather Martin, PBL Co-Sponsor.

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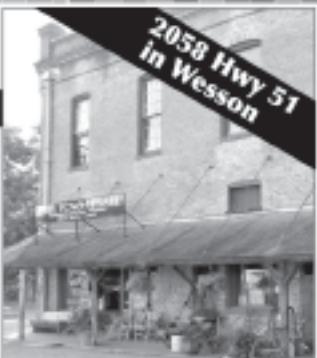
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- 2017 Malibu LT Sedan, 36 MPG, Pwr seat, windows, locks, mirrors, Rearview camera, Sharp!
- 2011 Land Rover, Range Rover **SOLD!** Size, Low Mileage, 4wd, Leather, Sunroof, Super Clean!
- 2012 Buick Regal Premium, Leather, Sunroof, Only 71,000 Miles!
- 2009 Chevy Avalanche, White LTZ, Sunroof, Leather, DVD, Sharp!
- 2014 RARE Find, E-Class 550, Mercedes Convertible, Super Nice!
- 2010 Chrysler Town and Country Touring with Low Mileage and Leather!
- 2014 Mercedes E350 Sedan, Black with Beige Leather!
- 20114 Ford Focus SE Sedan, Only 90k miles, 40 MPG, Clean!
- 2012 Dodge Ram 1500 Crew Cab 4x4, 5.7 HEMI, Burgundy Beauty!
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2014, Chevy LTZ Crew Cab



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Welding students earn credentials



Special to Wesson News

Co-Lin Workforce Education Welding program completers included (left to right) Dontrell Banks, Justin Gray, Zakarria Hill, and Antonio Lenoir of Brookhaven; Lamar Barnett of Jayess; Taylor Carr of Sontag; Jidaly Murray of Hazlehurst; Kendrick Smith and Rakim Williams of Mendenhall; Cody Sylvest of Wesson; and Cameron Thames of Ruth. Don Blandon (extreme right) conducted class sessions.

Special to Wesson News

Co-Lin Workforce Education welding students have completed a 10-month, non-credit evening welding course and secured the National Center for Construction Education & Research (NCCER) Welding CONTREN Level I and II certifications

Don Blandon, Co-Lin welding instructor, conducted his ninth session of workforce evening welding classes at Co-Lin.

The program introduces participants to introductory craft skills (Core), Metal Inert Gas Welding (MIG), and Flux Core Arc Welding (FCAW). Upon successful completion of the Welding Contren Learning Series, students can earn Level I and II certification through the NCCER. In addition to welding skills, students train to earn 10-hour Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) General Industry credentials.

With welders in high demand in the manufacturing, agriculture, and oil industries, Co-Lin's Workforce Education Division is currently offering evening classes at two locations within the college's district.

Upcoming non-credit welding training courses started August 8 at both the Wesson Campus and at the Simpson County Center in Mendenhall. Enrollment requirements include taking the ACT Work Keys Assessment and earning a bronze level or greater National Career Readiness Certificate.