



# IMPACT

Volume 43, No. 1 • January 2, 2019

Postal Customer Local  
PRSR  
STD  
US Postage Paid  
IMPACT  
ECRWSS

Two Locations to Serve You: Inside Both Grocery Depot Locations!

**Thomas PHARMACY**

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>GARDINER CENTER</b><br>(Inside Grocery Depot)<br>170 Leontyne Price Blvd.<br>Laurel<br>601-428-5977 | <b>PINE TREE VILLAGE</b><br>(Inside Grocery Depot)<br>2341 Hwy. 15 N.<br>Laurel<br>601-428-4641 |
|--|---|

www.ThomasPharmacyRX.com

## Charles Cross ready for next level at MSU

By James Pugh

Previously committed to Florida State, then switching to Mississippi State, Laurel's four-star OT signed his National Letter of Intent with the Bulldogs on Wednesday, December 19 as a part of the NCAA's early signing period.

"It's been a long and I wouldn't say stressful, but an interesting process," said Cross inside the Laurel High School Auditorium. "I've enjoyed it."

Upon his decision to decommit from Florida State in late November, Mississippi State became the obvious choice for Cross after a 19-day decision process. "It felt like a family environment, and I felt comfortable with it," said Cross added. "I enjoyed my visits there. They care about their football players. I felt that it was the best place for me."

"He's such an outstanding young man," said Laurel head coach Todd Breland. "Everything good that comes to him, he deserves it. He works hard, and he's a humble young man. We here at Laurel are certainly proud of him. Mississippi State has a good one coming."

Accolades and awards seemed non-stop of the nation's No. 194 overall player as rated by ESPN 300. Back in September, Cross was selected to play in the U.S.



Laurel's Charles Cross was a dominant force in the practices leading up to the MS-AL All-Star game and helped lead Mississippi to its second straight win in the series. He has signed to play with Mississippi State. See more sports at Sports601.com. Photo/James Pugh

Army All-American Bowl along with another Jones County standout, Byron Young from West Jones. Young is currently committed to Alabama and will sign his NLI in February. The All-American Bowl is set for early January. Cross played in the Mississippi-Alabama All-Star foot-

ball game in Montgomery, Alabama. He was also selected to Sports601's All-Area Team for the 2018 season.

Mississippi State finished the early signing period with the No. 14 ranked class in the nation, according to ESPN.com. Their ranking according to 247 Sports is cur-

rently No. 19 in the nation. The Bulldogs presently have 22 commits or signees, including Cross, and MSU head coach Joe Moorhead is looking to add several more players by the February late signing date. The Bulldogs have seven four-stars in its 2019 class, including Cross, according to the 247 composite rankings.

"I'm happy to be able to stay in the state [of Mississippi]," said Cross. "I love Mississippi, and I'm not ashamed of where I come from. I'll keep on representing."

Cross added that he loves the idea of playing nearby in Starkville, where family and friends can easily watch him play.

### INSIDE THIS EDITION:

- Laurel Housing Christmas Event....Page 2
- The Story Teller....Page 3
- Classifieds.....Page 4
- WJ Girls B-ball.....Page 8

Executive Director: Rashad N. Ali, MD, JD, FACOG

Medical Director: Bernard De Asis, MD

## Family Health Center

"Quality Care...Because We Care So Much"

Internal Medicine • Obstetrics & Gynecology  
Pediatrics • Pharmacy • Dentistry

| LAUREL - MAIN CLINIC                                 | LAUREL - OB-GYN CLINIC                       |
|--|--|
| 117 South 11th Ave • Laurel, MS • 601-425-3033       | 113 South 12th Ave • Laurel, MS 601-399-1959 |
| Mon & Tues .....8:00 am - 7:00 pm                    | Mon & Tues .....8:00 am - 7:00 pm            |
| Wed & Thur .....8:00 am - 5:00 pm                    | Wed & Thur .....8:00 am - 5:00 pm            |
| Friday .....8:00 am - 12:00 pm                       | Friday .....8:00 am - 12:00 pm               |
| Saturday .....9:00 am - 1:00 pm<br>(Pediatrics Only) |  |

Board Certified Physicians & AAAHC Accredited Organization

- Veterans Welcome
- Allergy Testing Available
- Ryan White Program
- Tobacco Cessation Available
- WIC
- Family Planning
- Social Services
- EPSDT Screening/Medical Screening

Serving Jasper, Jones, Clarke, Wayne and Smith Counties

www.LFHC.net

## HAPPY NEW YEAR 2019!

**FRUIT TREES** from Turner Farms are here!

**ATTN. CATTLE FARMERS!**

- 28% Positive Feed Tubs...\$95.00/225 lb.
- 24% Sweet Lix Tubs.....\$59.95/200 lb.

**Nutrena® Range Cubes \$8.95**

**Southern SEED AND FEED**

- Range Meal \$8.95
- Beef Grower \$6.95

**OLD SOUTH FARM SUPPLY**

Bo Welborn-Owner • Mickey Holloway-Manger

244 E. HICKORY STREET • LAUREL • 601-428-7447

**BUCK STOVE**

Model# 34ZC MANHATTAN  
**VENT FREE GAS FIREPLACE FREESTANDING OR INSERT**

**\$1,349**

MANY OTHER WOOD AND GAS MODELS AVAILABLE AND IN STOCK!

- BTU Output - 33,000
- BLOWER - Yes
- Oxygen Depletion Sensor - Yes
- Piezo Matchless Ignition - Yes
- Manufactured Home Approved - Yes

•Optional Trim Kit \$149 •Optional Digital Remote \$159  
•Optional Oak Mantel \$799

# Alexander's

Since 1924

Bay Springs 601-764-2161  
Buck Stove in Bay Springs Only.

## Year End Clearance!

- BUNKBED** SALE PRICE \$159
- DOUBLE RECLINING SOFA** SALE PRICE \$449
- QUEEN SLEIGH BED** SALE PRICE \$199
- QUEEN PILLOW TOP MATTRESS** SALE PRICE \$199

**SOUTHERN FURNITURE AND MATTRESS**

2909 Wheeler Drive • Laurel, MS 601-649-0733

VISIT US ONLINE AT SOUTHERNFURNITURE.ORG



# 'Tis the season for giving!



'Tis the season for giving! Laurel High School students collected canned goods and toys to assist the Glory House during the holiday season. The Future Business Leaders of America, Cheerleading Squad and Key Club all worked to help meet the needs of the community through the local organization. Pictured (L-R) are LHS Cheerleaders Lexi Jones and Darrien Hardy. Photo/Lacy Walters Slay, Laurel Schools

# WJHS Harris signs letter of intent with JC



West Jones High School senior Colson Harris recently signed a letter of intent to play baseball with Jones College. Pictured are (seated): Stephanie Harris, mom; Colson; Dr. Chad Harris, dad; (standing): Coach Chansel Yelverton; Head Coach Trey Sutton; Hudson Harris, brother; and Coach Michael Gavin.

# IMPACT

"Advertising That Works!"

- Ronnie Buckley (Publisher)
- Kevin Williamson (GM)
- Jerry Clark (Circulation Sup.)
- Sherry Hearn (Admin)
- Missy Clark (Production Sup.)

**GRAPHIC DESIGNERS**

- Stephanie White
- Trerica Roberson
- Candice Pittman
- Russ Farris

**SALES CONSULTANTS**

- Carolyn Buckley
- Betty Busby
- Kim Wilbanks
- Heath Walley
- Marquita Robinson

**WRITERS/PHOTOGRAPHERS**

- James Pugh

WHILE THE IMPACT makes an effort to verify the offerings made in these ads, we cannot guarantee the integrity of every advertiser. We strongly recommend that readers investigate the companies involved before sending them any money.

**Weekly Ad Deadlines:**

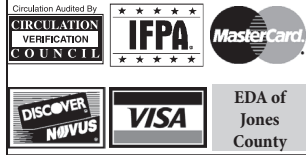
Display Ads: Thursday @ 3 p.m.  
Classifieds: Thursday @ 4 p.m.

**LAUREL IMPACT**

1010 N. 15th Ave  
Laurel, MS 39441

Ph. 601.649.1129  
Fax: 601.649.0424

Email:  
Admin@laurelimpact.com



# Laurel Housing Authority annual senior Christmas event a success

By Eloria Newell James,  
Laurel Housing Authority

Smiles, laughter and joy filled the Laurel Train Depot recently as senior residents of the Laurel Housing Authority enjoyed an evening of fun, fellowship, food and dancing.

The local housing agency conducted its annual Senior Christmas Party which got numerous senior citizens out of the house to experience some Christmas spirit.

LHA Board of Commissioners, LHA Executive Director Ailrick Young, and the employees of the Laurel Housing Authority and several community organizations sponsor the event each year.

Vionne Angeletta, a LHA resident, participated in the event and thanked the housing authority for sponsoring it. "Everything is beautiful. The food is good, the people are nice and it's a good event," she said. "It's just good to be able to get out, talk to the people and have a good time."

Charlie Stewart, another LHA resident, said she enjoyed just fellowshiping with the other residents.

Young said the Christmas event is important to the Housing Authority because of the joy it brings to the residents.

"We enjoy doing this every year and being able to fellowship with each of you," he told the crowd. "The staff works hard to prepare for this and they look forward to



Several senior residents of the Laurel Housing Authority's homes attended the annual event and enjoyed a hot meal, gifts, fellowship and dancing. Photos/Eloria Newell James

assist the residents during the event. Staff said they try to provide cheer for all the senior residents of the housing authority. During the event staff and volunteers pass out door prizes and ensures that every senior present at the party leaves with a gift. Senior citizens unable to attend the event are also delivered a hot Christmas dinner on that day. Young said the LHA is working to provide affordable housing opportunities while enhancing the lives of residents. Laurel Housing Authority Commissioners George Barnes and Tensie Wheeler attended the annual event. The Laurel Housing Authority's mission is to provide and create affordable housing opportunities that promote and provide safe housing, self-sufficiency and viable productive communities for individuals and families within Laurel and Jones County. Anyone wanting more information about the Housing Authority can call 601-425-4651.



**LS Tractor** **Happy New Year**  
from **Tractors Unlimited!**

**2019 is here!**  
We are offering **19% OFF** of any Implement with a tractor purchase in the month of January.

*We quote custom packages everyday!*

www.tractorsunlimitedms.com  
MON-FRI 7:30-4:30, SAT 8:00-4:00

Financing available up to 84 months WAC.  
5 yr Drive Train Warranty

*Need Help with Holiday Bills?*

**WE HAVE THE CASH YOU NEED!**

**601-649-7121**

CALL TONYA, KRISTY OR BOBBIE TODAY!

**LAUREL LOANS, INC.**  
744 West 5th • Laurel ♦ For EMERGENCY CASH call 601-649-3106

PINE BELT CASHING SERVICE

**TRACTORS UNLIMITED, LLC**  
**601-583-6453** 1507 N. MAIN ST HATTIESBURG, MS **800-321-2701**



# The Story Teller - Building on the bank of Big Creek

By Martha McCarty

"It'll take us a good month to get to Mississippi, even on these horses, and there ain't no tellin' what we'll find along the way. Should be safe enough, once we get into Alabama, but Georgia's likely to have Yankee troops still around."

Ed was talking to himself and pretty much thinking out loud. Clariesa didn't speak much that he could understand, and she surely couldn't understand much of what he said to her either.

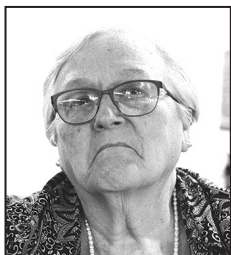
She had understood that her brother and Ed had agreed that she go with Ed, and she hadn't hesitated to do so; she'd grown fond of him over the last few weeks. He could travel now, and life for her people wasn't what it ought to be any more.

There had been soldiers passing through off and on for quite a while, and most of them had helped themselves to whatever they'd seen and wanted, women included. They all knew things for the Indian would never be right again. So many had been made to leave their homes, and life was uncertain for those still scattered around. Yet, she had no real idea of where he was taking her or of how far from her home she would always be. Whether or not he was really a good man she didn't know, but she figured she had no choice but to make of her situation what she could, and she'd give it her best regardless.

Edward was 46 years her senior and likely was leaving a family in Carolina when he and Clariesa set out for Mississippi. He was at least 63 at the time, and any children he might be leaving were most likely grown. Nor was it unusual for a man of his age to take a young wife as he had taken her. He had agreed to come to Mississippi as an Indian agent, and his having a Choctaw Indian 'wife' certainly was to his advantage. Clariesa's having been a mid-wife among her people would make her an even more valuable asset to Ed as he moved among the tribes to whom he'd been sent.

It did take a bit over two months for them to reach Jones County and the area that they would call home. The war hadn't had much effect on the area, since no real battles had been fought nearby. Not many of their soon-to-be friends and neighbors had gone to the war. Most had felt it wasn't their war to fight, and some locals had even hidden out to avoid being made to join up, so he wasn't given a whole lot of attention one way or the other when they arrived. His worn, tattered and bloody uniform had been burned weeks ago back in the Indian settlement, so what he wore didn't make him look like a soldier anyway. What was most important to him now was the building of a cabin and the getting some sort of garden planted.

They stopped briefly at farms they passed to introduce themselves. He agreed with several that they had to get in touch with the preacher to make their marriage official and legal, and that they would do. But first a cabin had to go up,



and that was something Clariesa would have a say about. The community in which they chose to settle had for years been called Big Creek, because of its creek that swelled so in the spring.

Edward picked out a spot where he wanted to put the cabin. He thought how nice it would be to have the creek so close to the house. "I'm thinking I could almost fish from the porch," he laughingly said.

But she had other, better ideas. Being an Indian, after all, she had a pretty good understanding of choosing house sites. Her people had moved round more than they had wanted to as of late. So, she studied the lay of the land, the width and current of the creek, and the height of the banks, and she could tell that the place he had chosen would more than likely be under water come spring. Therefore, they put the new cabin up on the hill above the creek and back about a hundred feet from the edge of the bank. "The poor boy will have to walk a ways to drown his worms," she giggled to herself, as he began to lay the logs for the room.

Edward knew quite a bit about the home life of an Indian family, and he was most pleased with what she expected of him. To her way of thinking, the home and the running of it was her job. Not only would she keep house, prepare meals and rear children, but also would she be responsible for most of the work around the place. She had been brought up to take good care of her husband, and that she would do. Putting in and working the garden was woman's work, and she did so with an ox.

Clariesa expected Ed to keep danger away from their door and meat on their table. He spent most of his time hunting in the winter and fishing in the summer. If he even tried to lighten her work load, she got insulted. Again, her way of thinking was well engrained in her consciousness. "No woman worth her salt would allow a man to do her work and certainly not where any friend or neighbor might see him doing it," she told herself and her husband.

Between the years 1864 and 1886, she birthed nine babies of her own and reared all of them. They had four daughters and five sons. Clariesa cooked in the fireplace of their cabin and often was seen to move the hot coals around the pots with her bare, calloused hands. If you were a customer of Shorty Royal's Western Ware in Soso when he was still its owner, you might remember having seen Clariesa's picture hanging on the wall there. Shorty was one proud grandson of this couple. A great percentage of the folks now in and around Jones County, Mississippi, are descended from this hearty couple. My mother-in-law, Frances Eugina McCarty, was the youngest child of Ed and Clariesa's third child, John Sampson, who married Mary Ardella Coats. And it is my pleasure to be able to know and to say that my children inherited much from these steady, hard-working pioneers. I have heard our Granny Mac speak so fondly of the stories of Edward and Clariesa that her parents shared with her and am so glad that they lived long enough for many of their grandchildren to know and to love them.

# Jones College's associate degree nursing students graduate

By Teresa McCreery

Jones College's Associate Degree Nursing program held a pinning and graduation ceremony for 26 graduates who have spent almost two years preparing to be of service to others. This intense education and rigorous clinical training has prepared them for the challenges they will encounter on the job.

"We have the best faculty and they are dedicated to this difficult curriculum because lives are at stake," said Jones College President Dr. Jesse Smith. "These folks are going to touch lives, save lives and they're going to ease the transition of some lives into the next life and they're going to be prepared. I want to congratulate families for supporting these graduates and allowing them to concentrate on this difficult task."

Class President April Phillips of Purvis agreed with Dr. Smith. While her classmates have sacrificed a lot, they have also been encouraged by faculty, friends and family to help them reach this goal.

"We've all had different reasons for pursuing this profession; we've sacrificed a lot. In some form or fashion, we've also been encouraged by someone to pursue our dreams. Whatever employer hires from this group, they are getting a well-trained, skilled, educated, safe, caring nurse. I am so proud of each of you," said Phillips.

Jones College nursing faculty played a significant role in preparing confident nurses, graduate Alex Hill of Laurel shared with the audience. On the first day of classes, Hill said the classes' fears impaired them from remembering how to do simple tasks but waned with more experience and support from faculty. She explained, "We knew they'd be watching our every move. We knew what to do but we were unsure of ourselves. However, I don't believe any of us will be able to thank them enough for sharing their knowledge, teaching us things we need to know, and even teaching us things to do at clinical to make our lives a little bit easier. They are not only our instructors, but they are also our role models."

As the students endured through the nursing program, several students earned special honors and were recognized by the Associate Degree Nursing Program Division Chair Erin Knight, MSN, RN. Four students were inducted into the National Honor Society for Associate Degree Nursing programs, Alpha Delta Nu, including Emily Davis of Laurel, Austin Griffith of Laurel, MacCalla Matthews of Laurel and Haley Merritt of Lucedale. Eight students had perfect attendance in both the classroom and clinical meetings: Cheyanne Boyd of Laurel,

Continued on Page 6

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

The Community Calendar section is a schedule of activities for non-profit groups only - such as schools, churches and other not-for-profit organizations or family events. You may send your events to: Admin@laurelimpact.com.

### January 7

Laurel Little Theatre's 58th Season continues this spring with the funny and moving Neil Simon comedy "Biloxi Blues." The Tony Award winning Best Play was based on Simon's real life story when he was drafted into the Army during World War II and was stationed in the muggy swamps of steamy coastal Mississippi. Auditions are at LLT's Downtown Arabian Theatre on Monday and Tuesday, January 7-8 at 7 p.m. No preparation necessary - just come down and read from the script

with everyone else. Director Rick Youngblood will need a cast of 7 men and 2 women (a few high school/college ages will be cast in some of these roles). There's the hard-as-nails platoon leader, a half dozen of the enlisted privates (of all ages) and then a couple of ladies the men meet at the local USO dances. Rehearsals will run through February and March three nights a week, and then, pick up a few extra rehearsals the last two weeks before performances begin. Drop a line at LLLaurelIMS@aol.com with any questions.

The Jones County Federation of Democratic Women will hold its monthly meeting on Monday, January 7 at 6:00 p.m. in the Cook Avenue Center.

### January 8

Join us at the Genealogy Library, 307 2nd Avenue in

Hattiesburg, at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 8 to hear Hattiesburg pioneer of the Civil Rights Movement, LTC Raylawni Branch, USAF, Retired. LTC Branch is best known for her role in integrating the University of Southern Mississippi. She will share her experiences growing up in rural Mississippi, life in the North, and work as a flight and nursing instructor nurse in the U.S. Air Force, local colleges and the Red Cross. Her efforts to research her family's genealogy have met difficulties similar to other African American descendants of slaves. All meetings are free and open to the public. The Genealogy Library is open Saturdays, 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m., Wednesdays from 9:00 - 1:00, and before monthly meetings at 6:00 p.m. For more information contact Kathy Goss at 601-549-3983.

## TOY DRIVE



**Shriners Hospitals  
for Children®**  
Love to the rescue.™



### Items Needed:

- Toys for all ages. *Must be new and in package.*
- Diapers - all sizes
- Wipes
- Antibacterial soap

### Drop-off Locations:

- Laurel Impact - 1010 N. 16th Ave., Laurel
- Extreme Nutrition - downtown Laurel
- Decibel Audio - 2514 Hwy. 15 N., Laurel
- Action Automotive - 4415 Hwy. 15 N., Laurel
- CBR Machinists - 11 County Barn Rd., Laurel
- The Hunter's Edge - 407 US 11, Ellisville
- Buffalo Wild Wings - 3 Churchill St., Hattiesburg



**We need your help!**

The Laurel Shrine Club is accepting donations to fill this enclosed trailer with toys, diapers and wipes to deliver to the Shriners Children's Hospital in Shreveport, LA. on **February 14, 2019.**

For more information please contact:  
**Brad Hearn**  
**601-319-1540**

Cash and Paypal donations are also accepted and welcomed!

**Thank You and God Bless!**



**Classified Index**

- Apartments for Rent 5
- Attorneys 4
- Autos - Cars 5
- Autos - Trucks 5
- Campers 4
- Equipment 4
- Farm 4
- Firewood 5
- Fish 4
- Furniture 4
- General 4
- Handyman 4
- Help Wanted 4
- Houses for Rent 5
- Houses for Sale 5
- Land 4
- Massage 4
- Mobile Homes 5
- Musical 4
- Pets 4
- Portable Buildings 4
- Services Offered 4
- Timber and Lumber 5
- Vacation 5
- Wanted to Buy 4
- Wanted to Buy 5

**NEED CASH?**



Call Verna She will hold your personal check and give you **CASH!**

**Loans from \$50 to \$410**

**LAUREL CHECK CASHING**  
134 Beacon St., Ste. C  
Laurel • 601-426-2432

**GENERAL**

**Lawncare: Serving Hattiesburg, Lumberton, Laurel, Sumrall, Petal, Brooklyn, Ellisville, Purvis and Moselle areas.** Reasonable rates. 601-325-5008. www.fullservicelawncarems.com

**Flooring, remodeling, painting, pressure washing & more.** Licensed. Insured. References. 24 years experience. Wilson 8:21 Painting, Remodeling & More LLC. II Corinthians 8:21. 601-268-7603.

**Have a Rebel Christmas at Flag Heads, located on Hwy. 49 North at CW's Flea Market.** Flags - Tags - Stickers - Hats - Smoke Shop. Open Thursday-Friday-Saturday, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. You won't find it at Walmart!

**Need Prayer? Sick? Depressed?** Financial Problems? (21) I tell you the truth, if you have faith and do not doubt. (22) If you believe, you will receive whatever you ask for in prayer. Matthew 21:21-22. Call us anytime free of charge. 24/7. We are here for you. Elder McDaniel. Amazing Grace Prayer Ministries: 662-207-2936

**EQUIPMENT**

**For Sale 1997 Freightliner FLD-120 Day Cab, \$8500; 1996 Fontaine 48ft. Curtinside Flatbed, \$8500; 1994 Trans Craft 48ft. Spread Axle, \$5500 or all 3 as package, \$20,000. Call 601-577-2578.**

**FARM**

**Deer corn 2018 crop, triple cleaned, 50lb. sacks, \$6.25.** Jones Co., Hwy 84 West, Hebron. 601-433-5063. Close at 2 p.m. Saturdays.

**WALTER'S SEPTIC & BACKHOE**

- Septic Tanks
- Field Lines
- Treatment Plants

**649-6418**  
**498-8204**  
MS Health Dept. Approved

**ATTORNEYS**

**Bankruptcy & Social Security,** Tracy A. Walley, 1616 West 3rd Street, Laurel, 601-651-2186

**MASSAGE**

**Massage One. Members enjoy \$45.00.** Deep tissue 1 Hr. Massage session. By Robert Lowe, LMT #1362. Call to book yours today! 601-466-2199. www.MassageOne.US

**HANDYMAN**

**Justin's Lawncare and Pressure Washing LLC.** Painting, Flooring, Commercial and Residential. Free Estimates. Call 601-498-6170.

**The Maintenance Man Home Repairs and Painting.** All aspects of home repairs and remodels. Painting, Plumbing, Flooring, Carpentry Work, Decks, Fences and more. Call Larry Foster: 601-310-2598. tmm05@att.net

**Handyman Services: carpentry, electrical, plumbing, porches, and more, all aspects of home repairs and remodels.** No job too small. Call 601-935-8325.

**SERVICES OFFERED**

**Kool-Seal Mobile homes, travel trailers, campers, sheds, etc.** Energy efficient, 10% reduction. Call Craig or leave message, 601-544-9614

**TRI County Tree Service, Inc.** Licensed and insured. Call 601-335-4309.

**John Pearson Lawncare, LLC:** Commercial & Residential. Call today for a Free Consultation. 601-319-9255.

**I buy junk cars, buses and heavy equipment.** U Call. We Haul! We pickup 24/7. Call 601-297-2778.

**Lawncare: Serving Hattiesburg, Lumberton, Laurel, Sumrall, Petal, Brooklyn, Ellisville, Purvis and Moselle areas.** Reasonable rates. 601-

**Joey's Remodeling & Construction**

**Handyman Work**

**NO JOB TOO BIG OR TOO SMALL**

*We got ya covered!*

**FREE ESTIMATES**

**601-543-3928**

**WE APPRECIATE YOUR BUSINESS**

325-5008. www.fullservicelawncarems.com

**Dozier & Excavation Land Clearing.** Insured. Site prep, ponds. Call Wesley Butler at 601-335-4309.

**20 years flooring experience,** from cleaning to subfloor problems. Installing, fixing, patching and sanding, even grout cleaning. Tile, wood, plank, vinyl. Call Steve @ 601-818-3457.

**R&R Contracting Laborer Services.** All home improvements, roofing, floors, carpentry, hardwood, ceramic, sheet rock, painting. Avg. \$20.00/hour., professional, labor service. Why pay 100's/1000's, 20 years experience. 601-310-9025. Proverbs 13:11.

**Jack's Custom Handrails.** Worried about mom or pop climbing those steps. A set of hand rails will help them feel and be safer. Call 601-470-1192. 1210 West Main St, Sandersville, MS.

**Miller Tree Service: bucket truck, professional, 30 years experience, insured; Bobcat - dump truck and chipper available, senior citizen discount, free estimates.** 601-498-3836, 601-649-0174.

**Full Service Lawncare.** Mowing, weeding, mulching, pruning, irrigation systems and more. Reasonable rates, dependable service. Call 601-325-5008. www.fullservicelawncarems.com

**Painting, pressure washing, flooring, remodeling & more.** Licensed. Insured. References. 24 years experience. Wilson 8:21 Painting, Remodeling & More LLC. II Corinthians 8:21. 601-268-7603.

**Residential Stump Grinding, no job too small.** Call 601-477-3862 or 601-433-1531 for free estimate. Fully Insured.

**Taylor's Sewing Machine Center** We repair all makes. Free estimates. Complete line of parts & bags, Kirby, Electrolux, Eureka, Hoover, Compact, Filter Queen and many others. 955 Hwy 28 West, Soso, MS. 601-425-1832.

**Thames Concrete Finishing.** Set forms, patios, finishing slabs, driveways, brick work, painting, stamp concrete, home improvements, great work. Percy Thames, 601-543-8712.

**House Leveling Foundation Repairs.** Replace bad sills, floor joist, or flooring. Sagging or shaky floor or dragging door, we can fix this. Let us make your foundation safe. Insured. 601-543-7007

**D&W Home Care Services.** Free estimates, reasonable rates. Vinyl siding, painting, decks, plumbing, home repairs, A/C inspection and repair. Licensed and insured. Wayne Williams, 601-516-1994.

**WANTED TO BUY**

**I buy junk cars, buses and heavy equipment.** U Call. We Haul! We pickup 24/7. Call 601-297-2778.

**PETS**

**Pet Grooming Services, Pet Boarding Services, Pet Training Classes, Pet Grooming Classes.** We are here to help you. We offer competitive rates in all of the services above. We have a special love for our furry friends and furry families. Call us and compare our rates, our services and most of all our love. Over 30 years of experience. 601-268-1999,

**HELP WANTED**

**Blake's Mobile Home. Hiring for all positions.** Must have a valid drivers license and transportation. Pay depending on experience. Call 601-422-8588.

**FURNITURE**

**Leather couches: Reclining couch/loveseat** in burgandy fair condition. \$150. Call 601-596-5209.

**FISH**

**Slade Channel Catfish Fingerlings, Bass, Bream, Grass Carp, KOI fathead-tuffy Minnows, Electrofishing, etc.** Free water analysis. State licensed. Randall Slade 601-796-2000 www.sladesfish.com

**MUSICAL**

**Lynn Evans Piano Service:** Registered craftsman with Piano Technicians Guild. Used pianos for sale. B.M.E. USM. 601-729-2823

**CAMPERS**

**2006 Raptor, 37ft. toy hauler.** 5th wheel. Sleeps at least 8. triple axels, 2 slide-outs, lots of storage space, extra tall ceilings w/ceiling fan, 2 A/C, sep. shower/toilet. Photos text 601-520-5918. \$18,000.

**PORTABLE BUILDINGS**

**Payne Portable Buildings.** 12 months Same as Cash or Rent to

**Own Financing Available** wac. Office located at 342 Maxey Rd., Hwy 84W, Laurel. 601-426-9484 or 601-319-3555.

**LAND**

**+/- 219 Acres priced to sell Quick!** Located on just outside of Topton, AL, and one hour from Mobile, AL. Has road frontage on CR 19 along with power and water available. Has 7 acre Lake. Has great secluded House/Camp Site sitting underneath beautiful mature longleaf pines and hardwoods. Dark and Rich Waters of Bilbo Creek runs through the property with Hardwoods make for great wildlife habitat. Has several cleared areas that will make large and plentiful food plots. Has some young pine and some thickets for deer to bed in. This tract truly has it all!!!!!! Don't miss this one of a kind Hunting/Recreational Tract. Reduced! \$306,600 Call Woods & Waters Realty at 800-526-3961. See more at mfmiland.com.

**+/- 160 Acres Located on Bart Anderson Rd, Just West of Stateline, MS and Southwest of Buckatunna, MS in Wayne County, MS.** This property consists of 10 year old Loblolly Pine Plantation that is growing well. Located on a low traffic blacktop road this tract offers serenity for those looking for a get away, hunting or recreational tract of land with Timber Investment. Power is available for a house or camp. Great Hunting in the area close to Chichasawh WMA and Big Creek which provides fishing and boating. Priced to sale!! \$240,000. Call Rob McCraw @ 601-498-9143 or Woods & Waters Realty at 800-526-3961. See more at mfmiland.com.

**+/- 183 Acres Very Secluded** Located just South of Shubuta-Euccutta Rd, this tract offers +/- 44 acres of 15 year old pine plantation, +/- 20 acres of 12 year old pine plantation, +/- 10 acres of 8 year old pine plantation, +/-90 acres of natural timber, and +/- 20 acres of unthinned 22 year old pine. Has great topography and lake site. This property offers Great Hunting. Has gas line crossing property which is planted in wildlife plants. Has deeded Right of Way. Can't beat the PRICE!!!!!! \$275,000 Call Woods & Waters Realty at 800-526-3961. See more at mfmiland.com.

**+/- 160 Acres Located just off of Chicora-Greene Co Road in Wayne County** this tract consists of 10 year old Long Leaf Plantation and Mixed Pine/Hwd. Has over 1/2 Mile of Big Creek Water Frontage which offers boating, fishing and relaxation on beautiful sandbars. Great Hunting Tract with endless possibilities. Access Pending. Adjoining acres also available; please call for details. \$304,000 Call Rob McCraw @ 601-498-9143 for more info. Call Woods & Waters Realty at 800-526-3961. See more at mfmiland.com.

**Perry Co. +/- 12 Acres.** With 1/4-mile frontage along the Leaf River, this listing offers an excellent spot for a hunting & fishing camp, a weekend retreat or a secluded homesite. The property features a mix of mature natural hardwoods and pines. With easy access from Old Hwy 24, the property is just three miles west of New Augusta. Priced at \$75,000. Call Phil 601-381-0678 at Walley Properties, LLC for more info.

# Butler Dental

Across from Court House, Butler, Alabama  
Julie Utsey, D.M.D.P.C.  
General Dentistry

**205-459-2700 1-888-851-8512**  
Tuesday thru Friday 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

- ONE DAY DENTURES
- PARTIALS AND EXTRACTIONS
- FREE CONSULTATIONS

*New Prices Effective May 1st, 2018*

|   | Single                                       | Set       |
|---|--|-----------|
| Standard Dentures.....                          | \$250.00                                     | \$400.00  |
| Deluxe Dentures.....                            | \$450.00                                     | \$800.00  |
| Custom Dentures.....                            | \$650.00                                     | \$1200.00 |
| Glamour Dentures.....                           | \$1000.00                                    | \$2000.00 |
| Acrylic Partial.....\$300.00                    | Cast Metal Partial.....\$800.00              |           |
| Gold Tooth on Dentures/<br>Partial.....\$175.00 | Extractions.....\$150.00<br>(X-Ray included) |           |

# Audiology Services

## Hearing Health Care

DeAnne Harris, M.S., CCC-A  
Certified Audiologist

**Credentials & Service Make the Difference**

- ◇Bachelor's Degree in Communicative Disorders
- ◇Master's Degree in Audiology
- ◇Certified with American Speech & Hearing Association
- ◇Private Practice in Newton for 20 years

601.683.3086 Newton, MS  
TheAudiologyServices.com



# COOK AVENUE APARTMENTS

Now Accepting Application for  
**One & Two Bedroom Apartments**  
Effective August 3, 2018

- Central Heat & Air •Stove •Refrigerator



For More Information  
**Call 649-4204**  
Office Located 415 Sorrell Dr., Laurel, MS  
Hours: 8 a.m. • 5 p.m., Mon. - Fri.

**HI HOWARD INDUSTRIES**

**NOW HIRING ALL JOBS**

**ENTRY LEVEL HELPER AND ASSEMBLERS STARTING AT \$11.00.**

**CORE LACERS, WELDERS, COIL WINDERS AND MORE STARTING AT \$12.50.**

**NO EXPERIENCE REQUIRED.**

*Howard Industries Inc. offers excellent pay and benefits including: Health Insurance, Life Insurance, Paid Vacation, Holiday Pay & More.*

Apply Online at [www.howard.com/jobs](http://www.howard.com/jobs)

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER VET/DISABLED

**HI HOWARD INDUSTRIES**

**SUBSTATION DIVISION NOW HIRING!**

**Experienced Welder/Fabricator**

**Required Skills:**

- Must have both MIG and TIG welding experience
- Minimum 2 years of experience
- Will be responsible for welding production quotas
- Train and assist others
- Starting wage \$17.00 per hour
- Follow directions and adhere to safety requirements
- Be a team player that's self-motivated
- Pass a background and drug test

**Location: Ellisville, MS**

Howard Industries, Inc. offers excellent pay and benefits including: Health Insurance, Free Life Insurance, 401K, Paid Vacation, Holiday Pay & More

Apply Online at [www.howard.com/careers](http://www.howard.com/careers)

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER VET/DISABLED



# SERVICE DIRECTORY

**PINE BELT GUTTERS & REMODELING**  
SPECIALIZING IN SEAMLESS GUTTERS, VINYL SIDING, PATIO COVERS, REPLACEMENT WINDOWS & DOORS.  
Gutter cleaning service is also available.

**NOW OFFERING: 7 Inch Gutters**  
Exclusively at Pine Belt Gutters

FREE ESTIMATES **601-265-6010**  
WE WILL BEAT ANY COMPETITOR'S PRICE!

**FARRIS**  
Mobile Home TRANSPORT

STATEWIDE MOVING  
Licensed & Insured  
TRANSPORTING SINCE 1979

**SALES & SERVICE**

Tony Farris  
**601-422-4144**

"We've got you covered!"

**ROOFING**

Residential and Commercial  
• TEAR-OFFS & RE-ROOFING  
• REPAIRS & MAINTENANCE

**Financing Available!**

15-YR. WARRANTY ON SHINGLES & LABOR!

Jonathan Cox Free Estimates  
Laurel, MS • **601-319-7857**

**DOZIER & EXCAVATION**  
LAND CLEARING

INSURED  
• SITE PREP • PONDS

CALL: **WESLEY BUTLER**  
**601-335-4309**

**JUSTIN'S LAWN CARE**  
AND PRESSURE WASHING LLC

• PAINTING  
• FLOORING

COMMERCIAL AND RESIDENTIAL  
FREE ESTIMATES!

**601-498-6170**

**HAIGLER ROOFING & REPAIR**

• New Construction • Leaks  
• Repairs • Shingles • Metal  
• Flat Roofs • Chimneys

FREE ESTIMATES  
30 Yrs. Experience

Call Dennis Haigler  
**601-319-2522**

**WE HAVE MOVED!**  
955 Hwy. 28 W., Soso

**VACUUM CLEANER REPAIR**

• We Repair All Makes  
• Free Estimates  
• Complete Line of Parts & Bags  
• Kirby • Electrolux  
• Eureka • Hoover • Compact  
• Filter Queen • Many Others

**TAYLOR'S SEWING MACHINE CENTER**  
601-425-1832

**A&A SEPTIC SERVICES, LLC**  
PLUMBING SERVICES  
Now Available!

Install and Repair

• Septic tanks  
• Treatment Plants  
• Field Line  
• Grease Traps

Family Owned & Operated for over 34 Years

**601-649-8838**  
**601-433-2947**

**TNT TRANSPORT**

**MOBILE HOME SERVICES**

DELIVER - SET UP - SKIRTING  
Licensed • Bonded • Insured

Todd Delk - Owner  
**601-335-4211**

**Tri-County TREE SERVICE**

INSURED

Call Today!  
**601-335-4309**

**LONNIE LOFTON**  
ROOFING CONTRACTING  
Free Estimates

since 1968

**601-425-4484**  
**601-422-3003**

**BOLIVAR'S**  
Mobile Home Delivery & Setup

Statewide Moving

• Licensed  
• Insured

Nathan Bolivar  
**601-580-9900**

**LOW COST DENTURES SINCE 1978**  
**DENTAL SERVICES OF SOUTH MS P.A.**

**GENERAL DENTISTS**

DENTURES • PARTIALS • RELIGNS • REPAIRS

2019 Hardy St, Hattiesburg

**601-545-1905**

Visit us on Facebook or contact by email: [dentalservices222@gmail.com](mailto:dentalservices222@gmail.com)

**IMPACT 601**

**SERVICE DIRECTORY**

To advertise call  
**601.649.1129**  
or visit our website  
[www.impact601.com](http://www.impact601.com)

HELP FOR VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC ABUSE  
24-Hour Crisis Line  
**1-800-649-1092**

Toll Free in Forrest, Lamar, Marion, Jones, Covington, Wayne, Greene, Perry, Jasper, Smith, and Jefferson Davis Counties.

- Temporary Shelter
- Information, Referral, Advocacy
- Support Groups
- Counseling Service for Victims and Abusers
- Community Education

**COATS TREE SERVICE**

Mark **601-498-5916** Kimble **601-433-6996**

- All Types of Tree Work
- 24 Hr. Emergency Service
- Storm Damage
- Debris Removal
- Bucket Truck
- Crane Truck
- Bobcat Skidder
- Bush Hogging
- Mulching
- Lot Clean Up

Propane Industrial Gases

**RESIDENTIAL COMMERCIAL INDUSTRIAL**

**TANK SET SPECIAL**

Ellisville: 601-477-3462  
Collins: 601-765-6800  
Hattiesburg: 601-583-6269  
Taylorsville: 601-785-4789  
Mon. - Fri. 7 A.M. - 4 P.M.

**MOBILE HOMES**

**TNT Transport Mobile Home Services:** Deliver, Set Up, Skirting. Licensed, bonded and insured. Todd Delk, owner, 601-335-4211.

**2000 Horton, 16x76, 3BR/2BA.,** \$12,500 as is. Price is subject to change with remodeling. 601-520-0710.

**Blake's Mobile Home Transport.** Specializing in delivery, set-up, anchoring, releveling. Statewide service. Licensed, bonded, insured. 601-422-8588.

**2000 Chandeleur, 28x70, 5BR/2BA.,** \$10,000/obo. Price is subject to change with remodeling. 601-520-0710.

**2000 Redman Home, 16x76, Zone 1, 3BR/2BA.,** \$14,500 as is. Price is subject to change with remodeling. 601-520-0710.

**HOUSES FOR RENT**

**Large 2br/1ba., 1030 N. 4th Ave.,** \$525 month, \$400 deposit, 601-319-2938.

**1, 2, 3, and 4 bedroom houses and mobile homes.** Hattiesburg. Call for list, 601-620-0021, 601-270-2608.

**Shoemaker Property : Move-in Special** Everywhere. 1, 2 and 3 bedroom houses and apartments. Hattiesburg, Oak Grove, Petal areas. Call today for a list of available properties, 601-268-6022.

**2br/1ba house; 2br/1ba mobile home,** Rose Hill area. No pets. References required. Must be employed. \$400 rent and \$200 deposit for each. Call 601-513-0009.

**2BR and 3BR Apartments** available immediately. Ask about our move-in special. [www.sigiproperties.com](http://www.sigiproperties.com) 866-991-7444 ext 117 or 601-336-5687.

**WANTED TO BUY**

I buy junk cars, buses and heavy equipment. U Call. We Haul! We pickup 24/7. Call 601-297-2778.

**TIMBER AND LUMBER**

**Cypress Lumber for sale.** Rough or plained. T&G&V and beaded. Beveled and log siding, white and yellow pine and Poplar. T&G&V. Cypress beams, cut up to 32 foot long. Open 7:00AM-3:30PM, Monday-Friday, Saturday, 7:00AM-12PM. 601-315-5533, fax 601-344-0950. [frankssawmill.com](http://frankssawmill.com)

**FIREWOOD**

Seasoned split oak firewood, 30+ years experience. Free delivery. 601-550-2502 or 601-583-6310.

**AUTOS - CARS**

**2016 Chrysler Town & Country Limited,** white, 33,000 miles, entertainment package, premium sound, leather, seats 7, sto-n-go, alloy wheels, privacy package, no damage, no smoke. \$22,350. 601-543-6340.

**AUTOS - TRUCKS**

**1992 Ford 150 xlt,** good condition. \$2595. Call 601-422-3003.

**2000 Sunshine, 16x76, large kitchen** with lots of cabinet space, \$19,900 as is. Price is subject to change with remodeling. 601-520-0710.

**1998, Cappaert, 28x56, Zone 1, 3BR/2BA.,** \$17,500 as is. Price is subject to change with remodeling. 601-520-0710.

**2001 Southern 28x76, Zone 1, 3BR/2BA.,** \$10,000/obo. Price is subject to change with remodeling. 601-520-0710.

**2000 Southern, Zone 2, 16x80,** \$15,500 as is. Price is subject to change with remodeling. 601-520-0710.

**HOUSES FOR SALE**

**Small house peacefully situated** on a small lot in Lumberton. Needs work. Serious inquiries only. Price negotiable. 601-297-0203.

**3br/1ba, 1800 sq.ft., 232 Reedy Creek Rd.** \$137,296.00. Contact 601-577-0993. Listed on Willow.

**2br/2ba river home/camp, includes** in-ground pool w/pool house, standby generator, river access in backyard, less than 5 minutes from town. Located on Chickasawhay River in Wayne County/Waynesboro, MS. Call Monday-Friday 9am-5pm. 601-735-6037 or 601-381-0425, leave message. Serious inquiries only.

**APARTMENTS FOR RENT**

**For Rent! Fantastic 2 bedroom apartment** in downtown Laurel. Stainless steel appliances, granite counter-tops and washer/dryer. References required. Great Location! Call June 601-498-9389.

**LAND SALES & TIMBER MANAGEMENT**

**WALLEY**

PROPERTIES, LLC • FORESTRY CONSULTANTS, INC.

[walleyproperties.com](http://walleyproperties.com)  
**601-477-3014**

Spend too much on CHRISTMAS?

We Can Help!

**MONEY LENDERS**

134 Leontyne Price Blvd • Laurel  
**601-426-7600**  
Call Dot, Shelly or Steve

**DRIVERS,** are you tired of having to jump through hoops, such as gimmicky revenue and retention bonuses? Do you want to earn what you are worth? At **Baggett Transportation,** we pay you what you are worth, without the hassle!

We offer the best benefits in town, which include

- Health Insurance
- Company Matching 401-K Plan
- Paid Vacation

CELEBRATING 90 YEARS

**Baggett TRANSPORTATION**

Pay starting at **28%**

Now leasing Owner Operators! Flats

Call for details.

DON'T MARK IT RUSH, JUST TAG IT BAGGETT. SINCE 1928.

Call for more information or apply in person at: **2815 Industrial Blvd. • Laurel, MS 601-426-3462**

**Commercial Residential**

**John Pearson Lawncare, LLC**

**601-319-9255**

Call Today for a **FREE CONSULTATION**





Jones College Associate Degree Nursing graduates pose for a class picture in front of Jones Hall. Pictured in random order are: Cheyanne Boyd, Laurel; Mason Brewer, Richton; Luke Cargile, Bay Springs; Jessica Carter, Seminary; Allie Cross, Purvis; Emily Davis, Laurel; Ronterrius Fisher, Hattiesburg; Jacelia Fountain, Woodville; Austin Griffin, Laurel; Daniel Haas, Laurel; Seairra Hayes, Petal; Alex Hill, Laurel; Megan Livingston, Laurel; MaCalla Matthews, Laurel; Meagan McCarty, Waynesboro; Amber McGill, Laurel; Haley Merritt, Lucedale; Stephanie Myers, Waynesboro; April Phillips, Purvis; M. Baylea Powell, Mt. Olive; Martha Ramirez, Laurel; Alexis Riddle, Hattiesburg; Bailey Rogers, Bay Springs; Kwadric Smith, Hattiesburg; Holly Sturdivant, Meadville and Carole Grace Wilson, Seminary. Photo/Jennifer Vaughn

Emily Davis of Laurel, Daniel Haas of Laurel, Megan Livingston of Laurel, MaCalla Matthews of Laurel, Megan McCarty of Waynesboro, Kwadric Smith of Hattiesburg and Carole Grace Wilson of Seminary.

During the Pinning and Graduation program, Knight also challenged the 26 new nursing graduates to never stop learning and continue to make a difference. As she explained the purpose behind the pinning ceremony, she reminded graduates that they've answered a higher calling and have dedicated their lives to serving others.

"The nurses' pin has a Maltese cross with eight points. Each of these points represents Christian values. It's a source of pride because it symbolizes you have earned the right to serve others," said Knight. During the traditional Lamp Lighting ceremony, Knight also shared the nurses' purpose as demonstrated by the modern founder of nursing, Florence Nightingale. "This lamp, such as the one she carried, symbolizes the demonstration of compassion for people. In addition, the lamp symbolizes the passing on of knowledge and experience from the faculty to you graduates. We challenge you to never forget the cornerstone or hallmark of nursing, which is compassion and is shown to every patient that comes your way. Never let your flame go dim."

**PRIDESTAFF**  
 INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS TO EVERYDAY CHALLENGES  
**NOW HIRING**  
 Machine Operators  
 Forklift Operators  
 Packers & Production Workers  
 (Background Check & Drug Screen)  
 Administrative Assistant  
 Bookkeeper  
**601.582.8881**  
 WWW.PRIDESTAFF.COM

**Onin Staffing**  
 Our business is people.  
**NOW HIRING**  
 2261 HWY 15 N • Laurel, MS 39440 • 601-398-9625  
 154 West Central • Petal, MS 39465 • 601-588-2174  
 APPLICATION 9:00AM-4:00PM  
 MONDAY-FRIDAY  
 • MACHINE OPERATORS  
 \*Must Pass a Drug Test and have own Transportation\*

**SELLING or SHOPPING?  
 WE FINANCE  
 IMPACT  
 CLASSIFIED  
 ITEMS**  
 68729  
**JONES COUNTY  
 FINANCE**  
 105 S 16th Ave. • Laurel  
**601-649-1944**

# Fifteen Bobcats sign with senior colleges

By Shawn Wansley

ELLISVILLE – Jones College head coach Steve Buckley enjoyed a little early Christmas present on December 19. Fifteen of his Bobcats signed with Division I programs that Wednesday, the first day of the early national signing period for college football.

"The two most exciting days of the year for me as a head coach would be our signing day when we bring our new class in and then watching our own kids realize the fruits of their labor," he said. "To see them go on and sign with a four-year college is exciting and puts a stamp on the things we told them that could happen for them if they came in and committed to the program – trusting the process, so to speak. They did everything athletically and academically to achieve this goal."

Four players will be heading to play in the Southeastern Conference, including safeties Jonathan Haynes (Ray Brooks) to Ole Miss and Fred Peters (Columbia) to Mississippi State, cornerback Jamar Richardson (Aliceville, Alabama) to Ole Miss and end/linebacker Marquez Bemby (Atlanta, Georgia) to Kentucky.

Tackle DaShawn Crawford (Bay Springs) is headed to the Atlantic Coast Conference to play for Virginia Tech. Three Bobcats will be playing in the American Athletic Conference, including cornerback Gabe Rogers (Jackson Callaway) and end Wardalis Ducksworth (Mize) to Memphis and linebacker Nick Anderson (Vicksburg) to Tulane.

Three Bobcat offensive linemen are going to play for Tennessee-Martin of the Ohio Valley Conference – tackle Cru Birdyshaw (Jasper, Alabama), guard Kordel Watts (Vicksburg) and guard Malcom Miller (Warren Central). Linebacker Davis Harrison (Lamar School) signed with the University Central Arkansas of the Southland Conference, defensive tackle Edward Haralson (Yazoo County) signed with



DaShawn Crawford

Louisiana-Monroe of the Sun Belt Conference, end Devonte Toles (Pass Christian) signed with the University of North Alabama of the Atlantic Sun Conference and offensive tackle Bryce Wade (Albuquerque, New Mexico) is going to the University of Massachusetts, which competes as an independent.

Buckley notes that all 15 of these players are going to Division I schools.

"Look back over the last three signing classes with our kids going on to four-year schools and we have had 63 kids to sign and 53 of those have signed Division I," he said. "It speaks volumes to the kids' commitment and what they have done for the program and our assistant coaches for doing a great job of recruiting the right kids."

Each signee graduated from Jones earlier this month and will be enrolled at their respective four-year schools for the spring semester.

"All of these players will be enrolled in January and ready to go for spring training, which is so, so important," Buckley said. "It's important for our kids that come in as freshmen that they know they must graduate in December (sophomore year) for your stock to be most valuable."

The head coach expects a couple of more Bobcats to sign in the near future.

"I think we will have at least two more sign in the next few days or weeks," he said. "Every kid that signs (Wednesday) will have graduated in three semesters. That's pretty incredible. We have brought in 76 kids over the past three years and 74 of them have graduated in three semesters. The other two have graduated or will graduate in May."

Buckley said it's enjoyable to keep up with the players as they go on to play senior college football, noting that 11 former Bobcats are involved in bowl games this postseason.

"Just look at the bowl games right now and we have several kids playing in those games," he said. "It's fun to turn on the TV and see our kids becoming successful in the four-year programs. We stay in contact with these kids and talk to them all of the time. It's just a lot of fun."

National Signing Day for Jones and other two-year schools will be Feb. 6.

**T. THORNSBERRY SERVICES LLC**  
 Fencing | Automated Security Gates | Custom Decks  
 Financing Available!  
 \*with approved credit  
**TONY THORNSBERRY - 601-577-0927**

**Onin Staffing**  
 Our business is people.  
**NOW HIRING**  
 224 Russell Dr. • Waynesboro, MS 39367  
 APPLICATION 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM  
 MONDAY - FRIDAY  
 601-671-2203  
 WAYNESBORO, MS  
 • Fork Lift Drivers - All Shifts\*  
 • Packers & Assemblers - All Shifts  
 \*experience required  
 \*Must Pass a Drug Test and have own Transportation\*

**PARISH TRANSPORT**  
**HAS IMMEDIATE OPENINGS FOR GOOD  
 OTR Truck Drivers  
 and Owner Operators  
 HIRING ALL DIVISIONS**  
 Benefits include:  
 • Health Insurance • Vision Insurance  
 • Dental Insurance • Paid Vacation  
**NOW OFFERING:  
 • SIGN ON BONUS  
 • SAFETY BONUS  
 • REVENUE BONUS  
 • RETENTION BONUS**  
 Ever dreamed of owning your own truck? If so, contact us.  
**call us at 601-342-2314 today!**  
 Located in Ellisville, MS

**Onin Staffing**  
 Our business is people.  
**NOW HIRING**  
 2261 HWY 15 N • Laurel, MS 39440  
 APPLICATION MONDAY-FRIDAY  
 601-398-9625  
 LAUREL, MS  
 Industrial/skilled candidates. Day shift, some experience required: Electrical, carpentry, read blue prints and tape measure.  
 MOSELLE, MS  
 Poultry plant/Debone production line day shift.  
 Sanitation night shift.  
 TAYLORSVILLE, MS  
 Material handler/Production line, day shift.  
 HATTIESBURG, MS  
 Poultry plant/Debone production line, day/night shift.  
 \*Must Pass a Drug Test and have own Transportation\*



# Look to the future by first letting go of your past

By Dr. Bill Myers

Do you feel worthless because of your past? Are you still living in guilt and shame?

“Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the desert and streams in the wasteland,” declares the Lord. (Isaiah 43: 18-19)

I believe one of the greatest struggles that Christians experience is letting go of their past. This might be from past sins, relationships, etc. Many are living in chains and bondage due to past experiences in their lives. Why do we look back at our past when today is a new day? Some Christians remind themselves (or listen to the devil accuse them) that because of their past, they are terrible sinners and unworthy to receive anything from God. Sadly, they are being robbed of God’s blessings, mercy and grace. They don’t believe that God truly “forgives their sins and remembers them no more.” They read in the Bible about the blood of Jesus cleansing them from their sins; they even sing hymns about the blood, but just won’t receive their freedom due to self-condemnation.



In an old Hollywood movie, Dolly Parton quotes a humorous, but poignant line regarding continuous self-condemnation of our past. She quotes, “Honey, it’s time to get off the cross; someone else needs the wood!” Ha!

Friends, it’s time to let it go! Those guilt chains that have kept you in the prison of guilt and shame need to be broken in the Name of Jesus! Yes, it’s time to be set free from the past and look forward to a wonderful future with God!

Also, pointing fingers and judging others for their past sins will keep them from walking in freedom. To some religious church attenders, “perfection” is more important than God’s Word (truth), which can set them free. Many churches won’t even hire a staff member because of a tarnished past. As you study God’s Word you see the disciples of Jesus all had past lives that today would be looked down upon. I personally enjoy hearing someone’s testimony that has been “through the fire.” Their testimony of change offers hope.

There’s no sinless person living on this earth! “We have all sinned and come short of the glory of God!”

“If you, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand? But with you there is forgiveness.” (Psalm 130: 3-4)

God has called us to forgive which includes forgiving ourselves. The past can’t be changed! “It is what it is!” He desires to change and restore us! He never looks back at our past sins, and neither should we. Remember, you can’t change the past, but you can choose to make a difference today regarding your future! Jesus is The Answer! Jesus is your answer! Trust combined with thankfulness is the key to a wonderful future! Forgive yourself.

# Glade VFD, Tucker's Crossing Baptist Church deliver to needy families

Glade volunteer fire department partnered with Tucker's Crossing Baptist Church to deliver food to needy families in the community today. Glade held a food drive during the month of December and a "fill the boot" drive for those who wished to donate money. Dollar General in the Glade community allowed the church and fire department to set up shop in the parking lot several days so that the community could help.

The food drive was a success and the "fill the boot" drive raised over \$275, which was used to purchase more food for those in need. Members from Glade VFD and the church met at noon today and distributed the food to fifteen families. Thank you to everyone who made this mission a success! Photos/Submitted



**RUSTIN METAL BUILDINGS AND CONSTRUCTION**  
 Laurel, Mississippi  
 Rustin Construction Since 1933  
 COMMERCIAL • RESIDENTIAL

26 Gauge Colored Panels  
 Licensed General Contractor in MS and LA

**WE MANUFACTURE AND WE BUILD**  
 Red Iron Metal Buildings **601-649-9949**

**FARRIS**  
 MOBILE HOME TRANSPORTING  
 Statewide moving, licensed & insured.  
 Transporting since 1979  
**SALES & SERVICE**  
 Tony Farris  
**601-422-4144**

**IMPACT**  
 POSITION AVAILABLE

The Laurel Impact is looking for a reporter/photographer to help with our plans for expanded news coverage in the Laurel/Jones County area. Interested candidates should note the following:

- Excellent writing skills required.
- Must be able to cover “hard” news and write feature articles.
- Must be able to work a flexible schedule.
- Must be able to meet deadlines.
- Photography skills a plus.
- Degree in journalism, English, political science or paralegal studies preferred.
- Experience as a news editor/reporter helpful.
- Competitive salary and benefits.

**Send resume to: Kevin@impactads.com**

**Onin Staffing**  
 Our business is people.

**NOW HIRING**

Laurel Office  
 2261 HWY. 15 N. • LAUREL, MS 39440  
 601-398-9625

Petal Office  
 154 WEST CENTRAL AVE • PETAL, MS 39465  
 601-588-2174

**APPLICATION 9:00AM - 4:00PM MONDAY-FRIDAY**

**POULTRY LINE WORKER**

**JOB DESCRIPTION:**  
 Local poultry processing facility has openings for live hang and production line workers for DAY SHIFT. 40 hrs/week plus overtime. No previous experience required. **Responsibilities may include:** Deboning chicken, packing, and cleaning chickens.

**STARTING RATES:** Live hang: \$10.91/hr  
 Production: rates starting at \$9.13/hr to \$20/hr  
 Sanitation (night shift): rates starting at \$9.36/hr  
 Weekly attendance bonus: \$50/wk

**JOB REQUIREMENTS:**

- May be required to use knives or scissors
- May be required to frequently lift up to 10 lbs.
- Perform job in a safe manner

**HATTIESBURG, MS**  
**POULTRY LINE WORKER**

**PRODUCTION:** Day Shift: \$10.90/hr after 90 days \$10.90  
 Night Shift: \$10.00/hr to \$11.25/hr  
 Shoulder Cutter: Day Shift \$11.20/hr. Night Shift \$11.55/hr  
 Live Hanger: Day Shift \$10.40/hr. Night Shift \$10.75/hr

**Must be able to pass a background check and drug screen.**

**carhartt**

**PHILLIPS BUILDING SUPPLY**

1104 HWY 15N • LAUREL **601-649-0855**  
**WWW.PHILLIPSBUILDINGSUPPLY.COM**



# West Jones girls basketball in great shape heading into Christmas break unbeaten

By James Pugh

Heading into the Christmas break, West Jones is perfect on the season in girls basketball. Only one other team in the immediate area is without a loss on the season thus far. County and Region 5-5A rivals South Jones are holding steady at 12-0. Both are set to begin region play on Jan. 4th, squaring off against each other in Ellisville.

"It's hard to get ready for region play," said West Jones head coach Sharon Murray. "Some of the best teams are in our region, and they are our rival games. You don't know what's going to happen on a given night that you play."

Before that day comes though, Murray said some areas need to be addressed.

"We have to clean up our rebounding and blocking out," said Murray. "Communication on the floor needs some work, too. We have to communicate defensively."

"Our focus, though, is on ourselves. You try not to focus on other teams as much and focus on getting better as we go along."

As it currently stands, three Lady Mustangs score in double-digits through 13 games. Junior guard Brikeyla Gray leads the way with 16.8 PPG (Points Per Game). Senior Jurnee McLaurin and Briana Carr fall in second and third with 15.3 and 10.3, respectively.

"We have three girls in double-digits and a fourth that's not far behind," Murray said. "Those girls give us a lot of offense. Our



West Jones head coach Sharon Murray

Photo/James Pugh

goal, though, is to build chemistry among our players.

"Towards the end of last season, I thought our girls had a lot of chemistry. Right now as we play every game, we're trying to improve on our chemistry and half-court offense. We're getting better every game, but our focus is on playing as a team. We have to be patient."

A fourth member of the Lady Mustangs, senior Mia Moore, is not far behind Gray, McLaurin and Carr with 8.8 PPG. Her main

contribution to the team though is in rebounds. She is currently second on the team in rebounds with 86.

"Moore has good hands," said Murray. "She can clean things up with her hands. She has a nice touch inside for us."

"Moore is feeling her way through right now. It's her first year here with us. But she's definitely helping us."

Girls basketball at West Jones, especially in the last several years, has been known for its team speed. This year the makeup is a

little different.

"At times we have speed, but this year we're trying to run our half-court game," said Murray. "We're not trying to rely on speed as much as we have in the past, mainly because we don't have as many quick players as I normally have. So we try to slow [the game] down when we can. If we can fast break some, then we still like to do that, but we try to control and pace it. We have some speed, but we want to run our half-court stuff too."

Of the Lady Mustangs' 13 wins thus far, none have been relatively close, or to say, within single digits. Murray says solid defense has been the key.

"I think we're solid defensively," said Murray. "I'm a defensive minded coach, so I like to focus on defense. And being able to score helps also."

"I say being good defensively gives us more opportunities to score. You have to defend well to compete and win state championships. To make it to the Coliseum, you have to be able to stop teams from scoring. So we are sure to focus on that as well as having a good offense."

West Jones suffered a heartbreaking loss in the Class 5A State Championship game last season versus Hattiesburg. The Lady Mustangs are hoping to make the trip back and thus far are making the case as one of the South's best 5A team at 13-0.

## Ellisville Auto Supply recognized with prestigious award

Ellisville Auto Supply was recently recognized with the 2017 Million Dollar Dealer Award. The recognition took place at a reception in San Antonio, Texas, and acknowledged the Ellisville store as a Kioti top performer among hundreds of other dealerships. Ellisville Auto Supply ranked 7th internationally for Kioti sales for the year 2017.

"We feel very honored to receive this award," noted Jacquelyn Walters, who traveled with owners Ken and Debbie Blackledge to San Antonio to receive the award. "This is due to the business loyalty of our customers and the friendships we have established with them. We treasure those friendships, and our success depends on them. We appreciate all of our customers."

In 1961, Ellisville Auto Supply Inc. was established by Wayne Blackledge of Laurel, Mississippi, as a NAPA Auto Parts dealership. The business was first located at 203 South Front Street in Ellisville. Throughout the years Mr. Blackledge began adding product lines to the business, such as farm tractors, lawn mowers, ATV's, and golf carts. His business savvy expanded horizons for Ellisville Auto and made the business very successful.

In 1978, Ellisville Auto Supply Inc. moved to 704 Hill Street in Ellisville, where it still operates from today. During the years, Mr. Wayne's sons, Ken & Stan Blackledge, became very involved with day to day business operations. When Mr. Blackledge retired, Ken took over. Stan left the business for a short period and returned in 2007. The Blackledges have been a part of the Ellisville and Jones County

community for 48 years. Wayne Blackledge's philosophy of exceptional customer service still stands strong today.

Ellisville Auto Supply's motto is "Customer Service," and they strive to give their customers the best service. If they don't have the part you are looking for, they will do their best to find it. This includes NAPA and all other product lines they carry. Our trained service technicians have years of experience to perform work on various types of equipment. Ellisville Auto Supply offers ATV/UTVs, tractors, lawn & garden equipment, golf carts, and small engine maintenance and repair.



Debbie and Ken Blackledge of Ellisville Auto Supply. Photo/submitted

Contact:  
**Larry Jones**  
 888-317-5852

**Immediate Openings - only 3 positions remaining**  
**TOP WAGES FOR THIS AREA!**  
**\$0.50 PER MILE**

- NO WAITING on pay!
- Monthly Safety BONUS
- \$66 per day PER DIEM
- All Trucks have Owner/Operator Specs

**NOW OFFERING HEALTH, DENTAL & VISION BENEFITS!**  
 Deal with a name you can trust!

**Owned & Operated by Larry Jones: 888-317-5852**  
**ALLISON TRANSPORTATION, LLC**  
 5212 Hwy 11 North • Ellisville, MS 39437

**Whitestone TRANSPORTATION 2019**

**Seeking Team & Solo Drivers!** *Happy New Year!*

- Home Every Weekend
- Excellent Pay & Benefits

**Long Term Contracts!**  
 Company Paid Insurance Premiums

**2019** Call: **844-WS-TRANS**  
 or apply online: [whitestonetrans.com](http://whitestonetrans.com)

**ACM TRANSPORTATION**  
**NOW HIRING**  
**Experienced Drivers**  
**Class B-N (Day Shift)**

- Needed to haul oil
- Must have clear driving record
- Must have at least 2 yrs. experience
- Great pay and benefits including: vacation, sick time, paid holidays, insurance and 401K

Please apply in person:  
 1253 Hillcrest Drive • Laurel, MS 39440



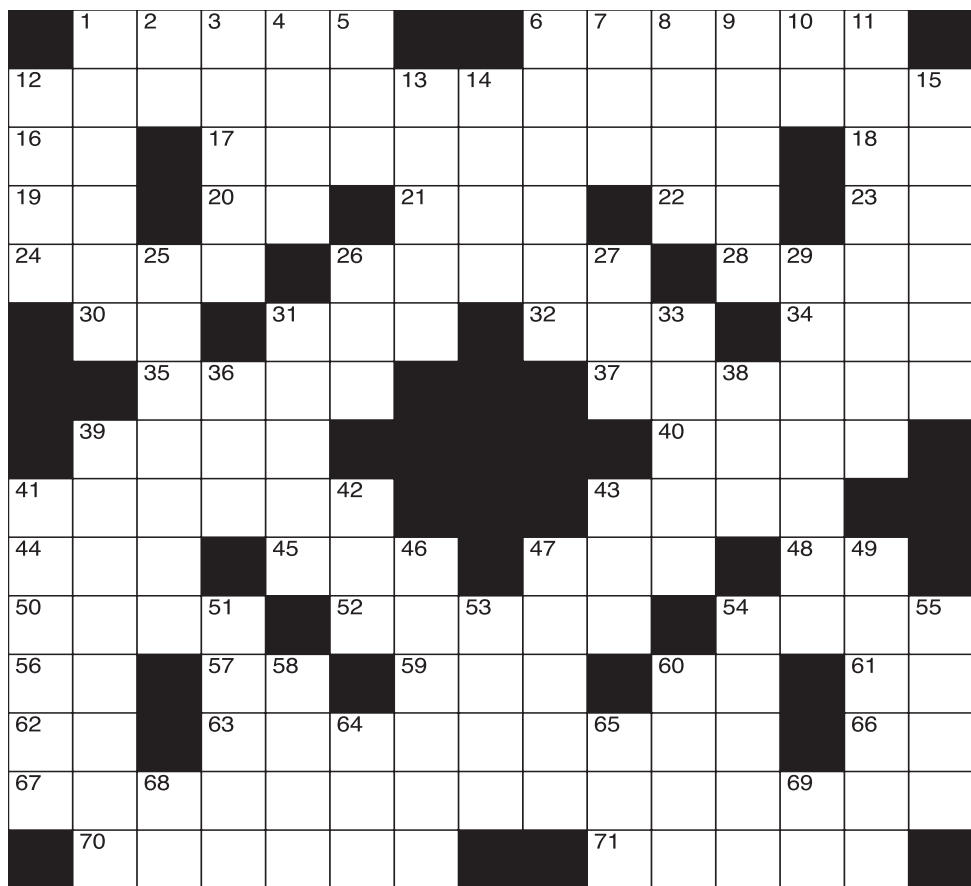
# FIREPLACE WORD SEARCH

D U C H H U D K I N D L I N G P E D U E  
 A H A B E T A T S O M R E H T U F G C P  
 K E N L A P G A S S I X T I L A E N B L  
 U X R O R I G I P T O I R F C C A E F P  
 V H K W T P O G S B O E V A I I U L P N  
 P A X E H E R R E H L E D R L T M V O Y  
 T U Y R T T T R F B N E C P P I L O T V  
 I S E M N R I H I T R U P V F H M B L X  
 U T L K E F O T K E L A B B I T I Y E S  
 E S T S N U S N E A C C D M R D F A U O  
 F R N A G U Y K T R O U O G E C K T F U  
 F I A T B M D I C N U O E X P B U N K R  
 I E M M V L O B V I R T L W L T F A H C  
 C L O I H N O E C G R C A G A U W I I E  
 I C D P P E C H N O T B Y R C H G D C V  
 E E X P T T I I E N O T S E E M T A O G  
 N I N I I M V R E T A E H B R P U R H Y  
 C A N V N I Y V E L O C I T Y V M P X R  
 Y G E E L F A M K E S A H C Y B K E A S  
 I B Y E N E R G Y O Y U D O O W H P T I

APPLIANCE  
 BLOWER  
 BRICK  
 BTU  
 CHASE  
 CHIMNEY  
 CIRCULATION  
 COMBUSTIBLE  
 CONVECTIVE  
 EFFICIENCY  
 ENERGY  
 EXHAUST

FACADE  
 FIREBOX  
 FIREPLACE  
 FLUE  
 FUEL  
 GAS  
 HEARTH  
 HEATER  
 IGNITE  
 INSERT  
 KINDLING  
 LIVING ROOM

MANTLE  
 PILOT  
 PIPE  
 RADIANT  
 SOURCE  
 STONE  
 TEMPERATURE  
 THERMOSTAT  
 VELOCITY  
 VENT  
 WOOD



### CLUES ACROSS

1. Class
6. Husband or wife
12. All the same
16. Exclamation of surprise
17. Lived in
18. Hawaiian entertainer
19. Of I
20. Belonging to me
21. One thousandth of an inch
22. Midway between south and east
23. Article
24. Pitchers have them
26. Steps
28. Mars crater
30. \_\_\_ route: on the way
31. Diego, Francisco, Anselmo
32. A baglike structure in a plant or animal
34. These three follow A
35. Frail
37. Platforms
39. Level
40. Computers
41. Where spiders live
43. An enemy to Batman
44. Mineral
45. Body part
47. Give
48. Atomic #21 (abbr.)
50. European tax

52. Bleated
54. Capital of Norway
56. Pa's partner
57. Stephen King's clown tale
59. Atomic #50
60. Military policeman
61. One quintillion bytes
62. Where impulses manifest
63. Offers as a candidate
66. Spielberg film
67. Great job!
70. Live in
71. Cares for

14. Invests in little enterprises
15. Organs that produce gametes
25. Mediterranean city
26. Peter's last name
27. Unhappy
29. Swollen area within tissue
31. "No \_\_\_!"
33. Soap
36. Chop or cut
38. "Atonement" author McEwan
39. Bullfighter
41. Of the universe
42. Founder of Babism
43. Not good
46. Large, flightless bird
47. Punitive
49. Makes less messy
51. Belts out a tune
53. Aboriginal people of Japan
54. An eye protein
55. Broad sashes
58. Actress Spelling
60. Distribute
64. Unpleased
65. Body art
68. Midway between north and east
69. Overdose

### CLUES DOWN

1. Form a whole
2. Indicates position
3. Moves in water
4. Diminutive
5. Old English letter
6. "Save the Last Dance" actress
7. Dab
8. Digits
9. Female cattle's mammary gland
10. Yes
11. Improves
12. We all have one
13. Book of Esther antagonist



## GUESS WHO?

I am a shock rocker born in Ohio on January 5, 1969. I first worked for a music magazine while trying to break into journalism. My stage name blends two cultural icons of 1960s, and I am known for theatrical concerts and stage makeup.

Answers on Page 10

## Louisiana St. No. 1 In Collegiate Baseball Poll; all three Mississippi teams make Top 40

TUCSON, Ariz. — Louisiana St. is ranked No. 1 in Collegiate Baseball's Fabulous 40 NCAA Division I pre-season poll presented by Big League Chew bubble gum. The Tigers, winners of six national titles, will field its best ball club since 2017 when LSU finished second at the College World Series. Five returning position player starters are back and six superb pitchers. Plus, key players return after sitting out virtually all last season because of injuries.

RHP Eric Walker (8-2, 3.48 ERA, 78 K in 2017 and a Freshman All-American by Collegiate Baseball) didn't pitch in 2018 as he recovered from Tommy John surgery in 2017. Shortstop Josh Smith suffered a stress fracture in his back during the season-opening Notre Dame series last season and only played in six games before he was shut down. The Tigers have a number of high profile pro prospects, including RHP Zack Hess (7-6, 107 K, 49 BB in 92.6 IP), SS Josh Smith (.281, 5 HR, 16 2B, 48 RBI in 2017), CF Zach Watson (.308, 7 HR, 15 2B, 34 RBI, 14 SB), RF Antoine Duplantis (.328, 2 HR, 13 2B, 48 RBI, 19 SB) and LF Daniel Cabrera (.315, 8 HR, 18 2B, 54 RBI) to name a few. Plus, LSU landed the No. 1 recruiting class in the nation last fall by Collegiate Baseball with an impressive haul of 16 newcomers that features seven drafted players.

"We should have a very fine ball club in 2019," said LSU Head Coach Paul Mainieri. "I feel as though we had three separate recruiting classes during the past year. We had our regular recruiting class that was ranked No. 1 in the nation. We also were able to bring back Zack Hess, Zach Watson and Antoine Duplantis, who were drafted after last season but didn't sign with pro teams. Then we got back two superb players who were injured last season in RHP Eric Walker and SS Josh Smith."

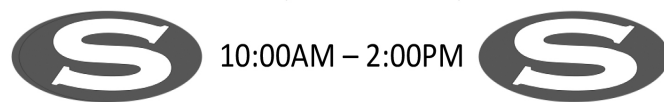
"With all of these players coming together on one team during the past fall, our 2019 ball club reminds me a lot of our 2017 team that finished second at the College World Series to Florida. We have a nice blend of veterans back and new guys.

"Last season, we fought through some key injuries to players, and we showed a lot of character. While we didn't finish where we wanted to (College World Series), our players gained a lot of confidence and played well at the end of the year," he continued. "We beat three teams in the SEC Tournament that ultimately made it to the College World Series in Arkansas, Florida and Mississippi St.

The Collegiate Baseball newspaper poll is the oldest college baseball poll. Its birth took place during the 1959 college baseball season.

### 8th ANNUAL STRINGER WINTER BASEBALL CAMP

SATURDAY, JANUARY 19, 2019



10:00AM – 2:00PM

STRINGER HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL FIELD

FOR ALL BOYS & GIRLS IN GRADES K-8



CAMPERS WILL LEARN THE FUNDAMENTALS OF BASEBALL (BASERUNNING, HITTING, FIELDING, PITCHING) FROM NUMEROUS FORMER COLLEGE ATHLETES INCLUDING:

**JARROD PARKS** – FORMER MISS. STATE BASEBALL 3<sup>RD</sup> BASEMAN, 2011 SEC LEADING HITTER, AND CURRENT ASSISTANT COACH AT MS DELTA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

**SETH HESTER** – FORMER SOUTHERN MISS PITCHER. APPEARED IN THE COLLEGE WORLD SERIES  
**JOHNATHAN JOHNSTON** – FORMER SOUTHERN MISS PITCHER. APPEARED IN THE COLLEGE WORLD SERIES.

**IAN SHARP** – FORMER WILLIAM CAREY BASEBALL PLAYER AND CURRENT WAYNE COUNTY BASEBALL COACH.

**WADE WEATHERS** – FORMER SOUTHERN MISS PITCHER AND CURRENT STRINGER HEAD COACH

\*\*CONTACT STRINGER HEAD BASEBALL COACH WADE WEATHERS VIA EMAIL ([wwathers@westjasper.k12.ms.us](mailto:wwathers@westjasper.k12.ms.us)) FOR REGISTRATION FORM AND MORE INFORMATION.

ALL CAMPERS SHOULD BRING A GLOVE AND PROPER CLOTHING. BATS, HELMETS, AND CLEATS ARE OPTIONAL, BUT ENCOURAGED.

*Cost of camp is \$35 and includes lunch and a camp tee shirt*





# 5 ways to raise a confident, adventurous child

*(Family Features)* From taking steps toward the stairs to learning that bubbles don't taste good, exploration is a part of development for babies and young children. While it's an exciting time, it also can be coupled with anxiety and hesitation as parents find themselves saying "no" or jumping in when baby discovers a new space.

An Open for Adventure survey from Babyganics found a majority of parents (69 percent) believe a child can learn to be more confident if he or she is allowed to explore freely as a baby. However, letting go doesn't always come naturally for parents.

Clinical health psychologist Dr. Bobbi Wegner encourages parents to be explorer parents, which focuses on raising resilient, confident and adventurous humans through challenge and discovery. She offers these tips for parents:

- **Aid in discovery.** Encourage and applaud baby's healthy risk-taking, such as mastering a challenging stair climb or pushing through moments of frustration and failure. Additionally, create teachable moments that introduce your child to necessary limits. For example, if you have hot coffee in the morning and your little one wants to touch the mug, let him or her gently touch a warm area of the mug with a fingertip and repeat that the mug is "hot" to help encourage exploration and flex baby's senses.

- **Let baby be free.** While you may think baby gadgets are necessary for playtime, consider rethinking those toys. Instead of searching for stimulation through lights and sounds from a toy, allow your baby to explore the natural environment. Look for opportunities that allow him or her to make a manageable mess and even get wet or dirty. This could be as simple as playing with a container filled with water or letting your baby pull up grass in the backyard. These small unstructured play adventures can help develop independence and confidence.

- **Engage the senses.** Exposing your baby to new flavors and smells helps engage him or her on a multi-sensory level. For example, allowing your baby (at an appropriate age, typically between 4-7 months) to try new foods can provide a feeling of accomplishment while also exposing him or her to different textures and flavors. Encourage even more sensory exploration by allowing your baby to smell the food and even play with it using his or her fingers.

- **Provide early exposure to new places.** Bringing baby along to restaurants and other public spaces allows for positive exposure to new places, people and sounds, which can help build the immune system, encourage social interaction and support development. While letting a child explore in a public setting like an airport or train station can make many parents anxious, carrying products such as Babyganics Alcohol-Free Hand Sanitizing Wipes can help ease parents' apprehension and keep little hands germ-free while on the go.

- **Wait a moment.** It's common for parents to intervene the moment baby awakes from a nap or starts moving toward the stairs. Try pausing, allowing your little one to naturally find his or her limits while managing your own fears and worries. This tactic can allow your young explorer an opportunity for cognitive and social-emotional development with you as a safety net nearby.

"Parents often look to their own internal response to guide parenting: 'If I am worried then it must be dangerous, and I should not allow my baby to do it,'" Wegner said. "When in fact, parents should prioritize their baby's exploration and needs to provide learning opportunities rather than allowing their own anxieties to impede their children."

For more information, visit [babyganics.com](http://babyganics.com).



## Auditions set for January 7-8 for Biloxi Blues

Laurel Little Theatre's 58th Season continues this spring with the funny and moving Neil Simon comedy "Biloxi Blues." The Tony Award winning Best Play was based on Simon's real life story when he was drafted into the Army during World War II and was stationed in the muggy swamps of steamy coastal Mississippi. Auditions are at LLT's Downtown Arabian Theatre on Monday and Tuesday, January 7-8 at 7 p.m. No preparation necessary – just come down and read from the script with everyone else. Director Rick Youngblood will need a cast of 7 men and 2 women (a few high school/college ages will be cast in some of these roles). There's the hard-as-nails platoon leader, a half dozen of the enlisted privates (of all ages) and then a couple of ladies the men meet at the local USO dances. Rehearsals will run through February and March three nights a week, and then, pick up a few extra rehearsals the last two weeks before performances begin. Drop a line at [LLTLaurelIMS@aol.com](mailto:LLTLaurelIMS@aol.com) with any questions.

## Answers to Today's Puzzle Page

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| C | A | S | T | E | S | P | O | U | S | E |   |   |   |   |
| N | O | T | W | I | T | H | S | T | A | N | D | I | N | G |
| A | H | I | N | H | A | B | I | T | E | D | H | O |   |   |
| M | E | M | Y | M | I | L | S | E | A | N |   |   |   |   |
| E | R | A | S | P | A | C | E | S | R | A | N | A |   |   |
| E | N | S | A | N | S | A | C | B | C | D |   |   |   |   |
| T | H | I | N | D | A | I | S | E | S |   |   |   |   |   |
| T | I | E | R | M | A | C | S |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| C | O | B | W | E | B | B | A | N | E |   |   |   |   |   |
| O | R | E | E | A | R | P | A | Y | S | C |   |   |   |   |
| S | E | S | S | B | A | A | E | D | O | S | L | O |   |   |
| M | A | I | T | T | I | N | M | P | E | B |   |   |   |   |
| I | D | N | O | M | I | N | A | T | E | S | A | I |   |   |
| C | O | N | G | R | A | T | U | L | A | T | I | O | N | S |
| R | E | S | I | D | E | T | E | N | D | S |   |   |   |   |

# Southern Miss baseball adds 11 for 2020 campaign, including West Jones' Dickerson

HATTIESBURG, Miss. – Southern Miss baseball coach Scott Berry announced 11 additions to the 2020 roster who were added during the early signing period. Those individuals include right-handed pitcher/infielder Michael Brewer (Hillsboro, Mo.), catcher/outfielder Cody Milligan (Binger, Kan.), infielder Brady Faust (New Orleans, La.), outfielder Billy Garrity (Hattiesburg, Miss.), infielder Dustin Dickerson (Laurel, Miss., West Jones), left-handed pitcher Chandler Best (Mobile, Ala.), along with right-handed pitchers Matt Adams (Pearland, Texas), Dallas Dyar (Raymond, Miss.), Ben Ethridge (Collinsville, Miss.), Isaiah Rhodes (McKinney, Texas) and Blake Wehunt (Carnesville, Ga.).

"We have put together another solid group of additions for our program starting for the 2020 season," said Southern Miss coach Scott Berry. "Associate head coach Chad Caillet and Christian Ostrander did a great job of going out and identifying the types of players that thrive in our baseball program – ones that excel both on the field and in the classroom. We look forward to them joining us next fall."

Brewer, at 6-foot-4, 215 lbs., batted .429 last season for Hillsboro High School, where he collected four doubles, four triples, two home runs and 20 RBI in 56 at bats. In addition, he posted a 3-1 pitching record over 10 appearance (six starts) with a 3.73 ERA which included 52 strikeouts and 14 walks over 35 2/3 innings of work. He earned first-team honors on both the Jefferson County Activities Association in both basketball and baseball.

Milligan, at 5-foot-9, 170, comes to Southern Miss after playing this spring at Cowley County (Kan.) Community College. He originally signed at Oklahoma State and was 1-for-8 with the Cowboys in 15 games during the 2018 season. He helped lead Binger-Oney High School to back-to-back Class A state championships as a junior and senior, while batting .571 with 10 home runs and 49 RBI as a senior, to go along with 12 doubles and five triples. Milligan was named a 2017 MaxPreps Small Schools All-American.

Faust, at 5-foot-10, 175 lbs., hit .352 with 13 RBI and 11 stolen bases as a junior at Brother Martin High School on his way to all-district honors. He was also an all-district wide receiver for the Crusaders football team, catching the game-winning touchdown pass in the waning seconds of Brother Martin's victory over Bastrop.

Garrity, at 6-foot, 200 lbs., has seen action for Sumrall High School since his freshman season. In his career, he has played 96 games, with a .315 batting average, 15 home runs and 87 RBI. He hit .377 as a sophomore with hit seven homers, and then followed that up with a .341 season and eight long balls as a junior. He played football as well for the Bobcats.

Dickerson, at 5-foot-4, 160 lbs., played for former Golden Eagle great Trey Sutton at West Jones High School. Dickerson has been a starter for the West Jones baseball

program since his freshman year. He holds a .283 career batting average, including at a .333 clip his junior season. As a junior, Dickerson helped West Jones (27-5) advance to the MHSAA Class 5A South State Championship series for just the fourth time in school history, standing out at both short-stop and on the mound. In 2018, Dickerson finished 8-1 from the mound in 14 appearances with a 1.18 ERA and led all Mustang pitchers with 83 strikeouts in 66.1 innings pitched.

Best, at 5-foot-11, 185 lbs., has seen action for McGill-Toolen High School since his freshman year. Best holds a 25-1 record with 194 strikeouts over his career, including 103 as a junior. His ERA is at 0.66, while also hitting .327 at the plate with 20 RBI. Last season, he fanned 15 of 21 batters to throw a perfect game against rival Murphy and went on to earn ASWA Class 7A first-team all-state honors.

Adams, at 6-foot-1, 170 lbs., helped his school – Pearland High School – to a 25-11 record his junior season. He threw a six-inning no hitter as a sophomore in a district game and has earned first-team All-District 23-6A the last two seasons. He also was a member of the Pearland Little League that went to the 2014 World Series in Williamsport, Va.

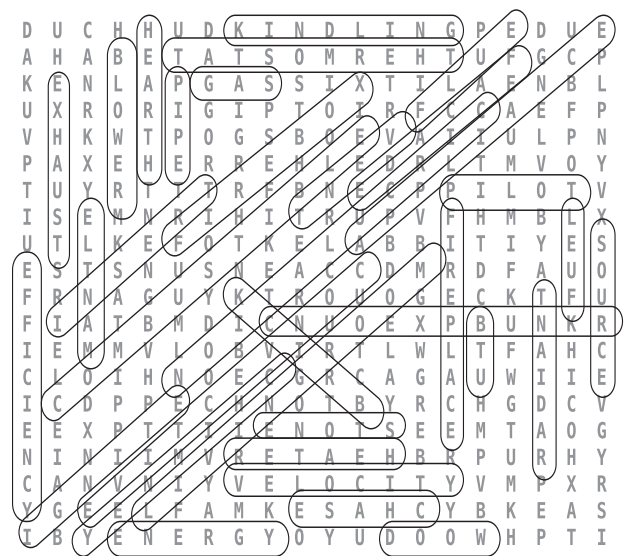
Dyar, at 6-foot-3, 195 lbs., posted a 5-2 record over 14 appearance the last two seasons for the Clinton High School Arrows. He has a 2.69 earned run average with 65 strikeouts and only 30 walks over 54 2/3 innings of work. In addition, he was a member of the 2018 Mississippi State Games played last summer.

Ethridge, at 6-foot-1, 170 lbs., plays at West Lauderdale High School where over the last three years the school has won 76 games and won the 2017 MHSAA Class 4A state. He carried a 9-2 record as a starter behind a 1.07 earned run average last spring with 90 strikeouts and only 14 walks in 59 innings pitched. As a hitter, Ethridge posted a .377 batting average and accumulated nine RBIs with 15 runs.

Rhodes, at 6-foot-2, 155 lbs., preps at McKinney North High School where he has been an all-district performer the last two seasons. He threw a no-hitter as a sophomore with seven strikeouts and just one walk.

Wehunt, at 6-foot-6, 218 lbs., was an all-region 8-AAA performer last season both as a position player and as a pitcher at Franklin County High School in Georgia. The right-hander earned Region 8-AAA Player of the Year honors as a junior and threw a five-inning perfect game as a sophomore, in which he fanned 10 in the contest.

Southern Miss opens the 2019 season on Feb. 15-17 when they play host to Purdue for a three-game series at Pete Taylor Park. Season tickets are now available and can be purchased at [SouthernMissTickets.com](http://SouthernMissTickets.com), by calling 1-800-844-TICK (8425) or by visiting the Pat Ferlise Athletic Ticket Office Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m.



Today's "Guess Who?" answer:  
**Marilyn Manson**



# Fight the cold with better-for-you comfort foods

*(Family Features)* Few things go together quite like cold weather and comfort foods. However, those hearty dishes that are typically craved on blustery days are usually not classified as "healthy."

With the right approach, though, you can put a better-for-you twist on some of your favorite dishes that can keep you cozy and satiated during the winter season. For example, you can put a grown-up twist on grilled cheese and tomato soup with this recipe for Creamy Tomato and Roasted Pepper Soup with Cheddar Cracker Melts.

Pairing flavorful seasonal dishes like soups and stews with a wholesome snack cracker like gluten-free, non-GMO Crunchmaster Tuscan Peasant Crackers can help satisfy those comfort food cravings while also contributing to a healthy lifestyle. With 20 grams of whole grains per serving, these crunchy, robust baked crackers are also cholesterol-free, allowing you to take a back-to-basics approach to your diet using simple ingredients and no artificial flavors or colors.

For other seasonal recipes, coupons, tips and nutritional information, visit [crunchmaster.com](http://crunchmaster.com).

## Creamy Tomato and Roasted Pepper Soup with Cheddar Cracker Melts

Prep time: 15 minutes  
Cook time: 25 minutes  
Servings: 6

### Creamy Tomato and Roasted Pepper Soup:

- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 1 onion, chopped
- 1 carrot, chopped
- 3 cloves garlic, chopped
- 1 teaspoon salt, divided
- 1/2 teaspoon pepper
- 1/2 teaspoon paprika
- 1 pinch chili flakes
- 4 cups organic no-salt-added vegetable

- broth
- 1 can (28 ounces) no-salt-added diced tomatoes
- 1 cup chopped prepared roasted red peppers
- 2 bay leaves
- 1/3 cup 35 percent heavy cream
- 2 tablespoons finely chopped fresh chives, divided
- 1 teaspoon cider vinegar

### Cheddar Cracker Melts:

- 24 Crunchmaster Tuscan Peasant Fire Roasted Tomato Basil Crackers
- 3/4 cup shredded cheddar cheese

1. In Dutch oven or large saucepan over medium heat, heat oil. Cook onion, carrot, garlic, 1/2 teaspoon salt, pepper, paprika and chili flakes about 5 minutes, or until vegetables are slightly softened.

2. Stir in broth, tomatoes, roasted red peppers and bay leaves; bring to boil. Reduce heat to medium-low. Simmer 15-20 minutes, or until vegetables are tender. Discard bay leaves. Let cool slightly. Transfer to blender; puree in batches until smooth. Stir in cream, remaining salt, 1 tablespoon chives and vinegar.

**To make Cheddar Cracker Melts:** Heat broiler to high and position rack in center of oven. Arrange crackers on parchment paper-lined baking sheet. Sprinkle with cheese. Broil 1-2 minutes, or until cheese is melted.

Divide soup among six bowls. Sprinkle with remaining chives and serve with Cheddar Cracker Melts.

**Tip:** Use mild, medium or aged cheddar cheese. Smoked mozzarella can be substituted, if desired.

*Nutrition information per serving: 250 calories; 15 g fat; 7 g saturated fat; 30 mg cholesterol; 730 mg sodium; 22 g carbohydrates; 2 g fiber; 11 g sugar; 6 g protein.*

# Maddox Principal selected Laurel Administrator of the Year

By Lacey Slay, PIO - Laurel City Schools

For her outstanding leadership and dedicated service, Maddox Elementary School Principal Tammy Griffith was selected as the Laurel School District's Administrator of the Year.

"Mrs. Griffith has been a longstanding administrator in the Laurel School District with proven leadership," Superintendent Dr. Toy L. Watts said. "I'm grateful to have someone who has a big heart for children working in our district."

Griffith, along with the work of dedicated teachers, received a B accountability rating at Nora Davis Magnet School on the 2017-18 state testing results, moving the school from a C. At the beginning of the current school year, Griffith was selected to take over the leadership role at Maddox Elementary to assist in moving the school to greater levels of success.

"We believe that with her leadership, Maddox will achieve the A rating the school has worked diligently to attain," Watts said.

Griffith received a bachelor's degree in elementary education and a master's degree in educational administration from the University of Southern Mississippi.

Due to her selection as the Laurel School District's Administrator of the Year, Griffith's nomination was forwarded to the Mississippi Department of Education Administrator of the Year Program for consideration on the state level.

"It is truly a blessing to receive an award for work that I have loved for 25 years," Griffith said. "I am indeed thankful and honored."



Maddox Elementary School Principal Tammy Griffith was named Laurel School District Administrator of the Year. Pictured: Griffith, Superintendent Dr. Toy L. Watts and Assistant Superintendent Kenda Covington. Photo/submitted

# PAYNE HOUSE MOVERS

We Relocate Houses & Buildings  
• 39 Years Experience •

Call us for an estimate: **601-319-3555**

## GROCERY DEPOT

GroceryDepotMS.com

We buy **BIG** so you **SAVE MORE!**

\$1.78 lb

Plus 10% added at the register

77¢ lb

Plus 10% added at the register

\$2.48

Plus 10% added at the register

\$2.68 lb

Plus 10% added at the register

91¢ lb

Plus 10% added at the register

\$5.98

Plus 10% added at the register

43¢

Plus 10% added at the register

\$1.39

Plus 10% added at the register

\$1.50

Plus 10% added at the register

\$1.87

Plus 10% added at the register

\$2.50

Plus 10% added at the register

\$3.17

Plus 10% added at the register

\$3.88

Plus 10% added at the register

\$3.25

Plus 10% added at the register

We buy **BIG** so you **SAVE MORE!**

2339 Hwy. 15 North  
Laurel, MS 601-518-3583

170 Leontyne Price Blvd.  
Laurel, MS 601-426-2273

12233 Dedeaux Road  
Gulfport, MS 228-265-9747

Prices effective January 2 - January 8, 2019

Start the New Year with

# TOYO TIRES

driven to perform

OIL CHANGE SPECIAL

\$24.95

UP TO 5 QTS  
Most vehicles, excludes diesels

WITH COUPON. CAN NOT BE COMBINED WITH OTHER OFFERS. EXPIRES 1-31-19

FULL SYNTHETIC OIL CHANGE

\$39.95

UP TO 5 QTS  
Most vehicles, excludes diesels

WITH COUPON. CAN NOT BE COMBINED WITH OTHER OFFERS. EXPIRES 1-31-19

4 WHEEL ALIGNMENT

\$39.95

Most Vehicles

WITH COUPON. CAN NOT BE COMBINED WITH OTHER OFFERS. EXPIRES 1-31-19

FREE BRAKE CHECK

WITH COUPON. CAN NOT BE COMBINED WITH OTHER OFFERS. EXPIRES 1-31-19

## Southern Tire Mart

Best in Class Service on America's Favorite Brands

2926 Ellisville Blvd., Laurel • 601-428-4375

stmtires.com M-F: 7am-5pm Sat: 8am-12pm



BOK HOMA CASINO

# \$40K CASH BLIZZARD

THURSDAYS & FRIDAYS  
IN JANUARY

6PM - 10PM  
Bok Homa Casino

WINNER EVERY HOUR!

GRAB AS MUCH AS YOU CAN  
IN THE WIND MACHINE!

# TAX PROMO

January 14-April 30 • DAILY  
Bok Homa Casino

Bring in your check & spin the wheel for a chance to win!

**WIN UP TO \$100 BonusBet!**

\$10 check cashing fee. See Players Services for details.

*Bok Homa*

C A S I N O

*A Pearl River Resort Property*



Follow Us!