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Summer camps at Anderson Square
 ...Page 12

Local author honors WWII treasure in,
 "A Falcon Pilot" ...Page 14

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Volume 39, No. 26 • June 24, 2015

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 #1 in Advertising

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The Glory House – Restoring Lives and Community

By Linda Cranford

On June 2, a restoration movement began in Laurel when, stepping out in faith, Grant and Hope Staples purchased the former Laurel Inn Bed and Breakfast, an historic home on 2nd Avenue. The beautiful home was built in 1917 by Laurel timber baron, John Murray Bissell, and has been vacant for several years. The Staples are in the process of turning the historic manor into a mission house to restore people's lives and the community.

This is not the first time the Staples have stepped out in faith to answer a calling on their life. While living in Ridgeland, Grant found himself leaving his college professor job of nine years to start a popcorn business with Hope, Sweet Daddy's Kettle Corn. The business grew, and became very successful.

After coming to Laurel for the South Mississippi Fair with their Sweet Daddy's Popcorn, the Staples felt like they were being

called to move back home. They were unsure if the popcorn business would be sustainable in Laurel, because they had experienced such success in the metro area of Ridgeland. Once again, they stepped out in faith and moved back home to Laurel in the summer of 2013.

Prior to moving back, Hope had delivered popcorn to Christ Church in Laurel, and had driven by the old Laurel Inn. When she saw that it was all grown up and a mess, she pulled into the driveway and wondered what had happened. She and Grant had a history with the home. When they worked with Alive Jones County through South Central, they used the Laurel Inn to house guest speakers.

"Delta Burk has stayed here, and so has Vicki Lawrence," explained Hope. "So, we had a history here. After seeing it that day, it never left my heart. For about six months, I prayed about it and asked if it was the house or the previous owner that stirred my heart.

Grant and I do missions all over the world, and I kept asking the Lord what is this house about. The more I prayed, the more I felt that we were to do something with the house. What He has impressed upon our hearts is that there is a restoration that needs to go on in Laurel. Not only a restoration of homes that need to be repaired, but people's hearts need to be reconnected with His. Marriages, relationships between siblings, and families need to be restored. He's impressed upon our hearts that "restoration" is the key word."

"It's bigger than us," exclaimed Grant. "I would have never planned my life in the way it has become. Really, a popcorn business and quitting a steady job of nine years. But, it was stepping out in faith to do the popcorn business, that has lead us to once again step out in faith and jump into this. This house has now gone from being an historic landmark, to being a place where people can be helped. And, it's all about giving Him the Glory, thus the name, 'The Glory House.' And, He's going to use it."

"It's going to be a place where people can come and serve," added Hope. "And, from here, we're going to serve the community.



The Glory House, 803 2nd Avenue in Laurel.
 Photo/Linda Cranford

We're going to love on our neighbors, and help them to the best of our ability."

She explained that mission teams will be brought in to help repair homes in the community, and the teams will be housed at The Glory House. Also, Missionaries on break from the mission fields will have a place to call home, while they prepare for their next mission. "It will be a place where they can restore their hearts and spirit," said Hope.

At some point, they plan to have a food pantry and clothes closet. They already have

See GLORY HOUSE, page 13

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2015 Candidates

JONES COUNTY



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Chancery Clerk
Jones County



Concetta Brooks
Circuit Clerk
Jones County



Richy Seals
Supervisor Beat 2
Jones County



Andy Dial
Supervisor Beat 4
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Wayne Myrick
Chancery Clerk
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Ryan Griffin
Circuit Clerk
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Danny Roy
Supervisor Beat 2
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Glen Robertson
Supervisor Beat 4
Jones County



Sylvester Busby
Sheriff
Jones County



Kirk Landrum
Circuit Clerk
Jones County



Donald Dale Holifield
Supervisor Beat 3
Jones County



David Scruggs
Supervisor Beat 4
Jones County



Alex Hodge
Sheriff
Jones County



Becky Firment
Stewart Clerk
Jones County



Joshua I. Taylor
Supervisor Beat 3
Jones County



Terry Graham
Constable Dist. 3
Jones County



Tommy Parker
Superint. of Edu.
Jones County



Johnny Burnett
Supervisor Beat 1
Jones County



Chad Walters
Supervisor Beat 3
Jones County



Daniel W. Johnson
Constable Dist. 3
Jones County



Jerel Wade
Superint. of Edu.
Jones County



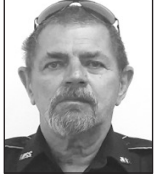
Mark Tucker
Supervisor Beat 1
Jones County



Willie T. Walters
Constable Dist. 1
Jones County



David Livingston
Constable Dist. 3
Jones County



Larry Strickland
Constable Dist. 2
Jones County



Ronald Sumrall
Constable Dist. 2
Jones County

STATE/DISTRICT



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Mississippi Rep.
Dist. 88



Gary Staples
Mississippi Rep.
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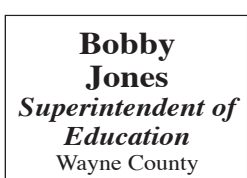
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SCRMC HEALTH TALK

Jones County Council on Aging presents pillow cases to South Central Regional Medical Center



Pictured with the pillow cases are Bonnie Smith, SCRMC Volunteer Coordinator, Bonnie Ekes, RN, Tammy Miller, LPN and Jill Burge, RN, SCRMC Maternal Child nurses. Photos/submitted

Submitted

Approximately 25 handmade pillow cases were presented to South Central Regional Medical Center's Pediatric Department by the Council on Aging Senior Volunteer Program of Jones County. "South Central Regional Medical Center and the Council on Aging of Jones County have been working together on ways to assist each other in their volunteer efforts to help the citizens of Jones County," states Bonnie Smith, Volunteer Coordinator for SCRMC.

Making the presentation were Margaret Jones, Coordinator for the Council on Aging (COA); James Minor, Chairman of the COA; Jerome Wyatt, COA Sponsor; Rev. Cecil Ashford, COA Board Member and COA volunteers, Ida Knight and Linda Rushton.

SCRMC Pediatric Charge Nurse, Char-

maine Winpiger, received the pillow cases on behalf of the hospital. Winpiger explained that the pillow cases will help to brighten the room for the children and their families. The children will be able to take the pillow cases home with them after their hospital stay is complete.

Margaret Jones explained that the pillow cases were handmade by the COA senior volunteers. Bright, cheerful, kid-friendly fabrics were carefully chosen, along with coordinating trim. Jones stated that the COA wants the children to know that others were thinking of them during their time of illness.

COA volunteers, Ida Knight, Linda Rushton and Sarah Ward sewed the pillow cases in memory of former RSVP Volunteer, Helen Moore, who started this project.

Ellzey, Hodge named MS Junior FFA Officers



Jones County FFA Chapters were well-represented when the 2015-2016 Mississippi Junior FFA Officer Team was named during the 2015 MS FFA Convention. Colleen Ellzey (2nd from right), a member of South Jones FFA, was named MS Junior FFA Vice-President. The daughter of Jason and Lindsey Ellzey of Ellisville, her Vocational-Agriculture Instructors/FFA Advisors are Ken Parker and Joe Robinson. Gabi Hodge (3rd from right), a member of the Northeast Jones FFA Chapter, was named MS Junior FFA Secretary. She is the daughter of Kevin and Dione Hodge of the Rustin Community. Her Vocational-Agriculture Instructors/FFA Advisors are Aaron Scammahorn and David Walters. Katie Barnes (far right) of Newton County is the 2015-2016 MS Junior FFA President, Thomas Hall (4th from right) of Purvis will serve as Junior Treasurer, while Sydney Davis (3rd from left) of Jumpertown will serve as Junior Reporter, and Jonie White (2nd from left) of Jumpertown will serve as Junior Sentinel. They are pictured with Mr. Lee James (far left) of the Mississippi FFA Association. Photo/submitted

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68 acres located just north of the Springhill Road/Highway 15 intersection. This is a project ready industrial site with over 1/4 mile of frontage on Hwy 15 North. Approximately 29 acres of the site is open with 14 acres on grade with minimal site work. The balance of the acreage is a small natural lake creek area that would offer excellent recreational opportunities, \$184,000. Call 601-477-3014 or visit www.walleyproperties.com.

Land sales: Let us assist you with your land sale or purchase. We provide full service forestry consulting and land brokerage. Call McCraw Forest Management for a free consultation. 601-498-9143

Land for sale: Wayne County. 116 acres of 12 year old Pine Plantation,

black top road runs thru the property. 81 acres on one side of road and 35 acres on the other side. Call 601-381-3060, section 23-8-6, 26-8-6.

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Continued on ... Page 6




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53 Oakcrest Drive, Laurel, MS, Friday, June 26 8:00a.m.-6:00p.m., Saturday, June 27 8:00am-1:00pm. Everything must go! Beautiful Duncan Phye sofa circa 1950, Duncan Phye mahogany dining table w/6 chairs, china cabinet, side board, tea cart, oval oak breakfast table w/6 chairs, two beautiful Ashley bedroom suites, three wing back chairs, recliner, 1958 Narumi China Shasta Pine pattern with serving dishes, silver plate serving pieces, 16 piece place settings of Christmas dishes plus stem ware, two punch bowl sets, washer, dryer, lamps, mirrors, beautiful comforter sets, pots, pans, flatware, two vacuum cleaners, hedge clippers, weedeater, two patio table sets, concrete statues. All this and much more! Check it out on estatesales.net. Please bring help to load heavy items.

Continued on ... Page 6

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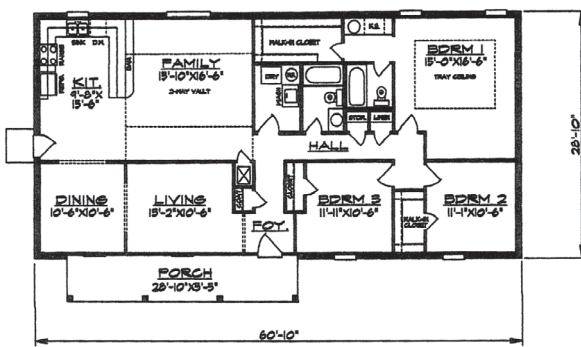
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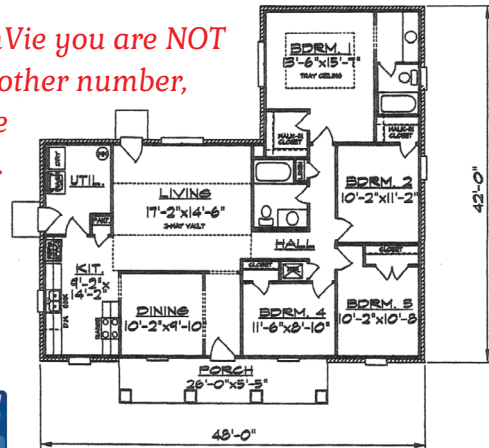
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FREEDOM HOMES OF HATTIESBURG

Summer Art Camps at Anderson Square

By Linda Cranford

The first week of Anderson Square's Summer Art Camps has come to an end, but three more weeks remain. Those attending the first week enjoyed making creative art inspired by the characters from the movie "Frozen." The projects included painting your own pottery goblet, origami snowflakes, fused glass sun catcher snowflakes, hand-built pottery and the girls made their own Tiaras and the boys made their own Sven the Reindeer antlers.

This week's camp, June 22 - 26, is "Under the Sea," where the children will make fused glass tile, create fish and other aquatic creatures out of pottery, personalized paint-your-own pottery plates, and origami sea creatures. Enrollment is still available for the remaining two camps. July 13-17, "Pirates Ahoy," will have the children making from pirate cups to treasure maps, boys and girls will have fun creating pirate themed art, and other crafts include a kaleidoscope and a Jolly Roger flag. In the July 20 - 24 camp, "The Secret Garden," the children will enjoy creating a range of projects from a garden inspired mug to a pottery bird, and motifs of antique keys, ivy leaves, and birds will be brought to life in this camp.

It's no telling what other projects the children will end up making by the end of each week with Suzanne Anderson Boyd, and her creativity, leading the camps.

Camp hours are from 9:30 a.m. until 12 p.m., Monday through Friday, and snacks are served daily. Anderson Square is located in the North Laurel Shopping Center. For more information contact Boyd at 601-498-6905.



Working on painting their goblets are L-R, A.J. McLeod, Maylee McLeod, Meghan Mackrell, and Molly McLeod. Photo/Linda Cranford



Camp instructor, Suzanne Anderson Boyd, shows the children how to draw their template for their fused glass sun catcher snowflake. Photo/Linda Cranford



On the last day of camp, the children showed off their finished art pieces which included a Tiera for the girls and Sven's reindeer antlers for A.J., and pendant and necklace. Pictured L-R, Maylee McLeod, Molly McLeod, A.J. McLeod, and Meghan Mackrell. Photo/submitted



Hand-painted goblets Photo/Linda Cranford

Sideline View: Rebels to look stingy on defense again

By Dale McKee

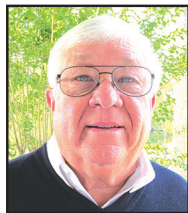
OXFORD - Ole Miss has improved their win totals each year under the guidance of Hugh Freeze. Freeze enters his fourth year at the helm of the Ole Miss football program, and the outlook is promising for another banner year. Coming off a bowl game in each of his three seasons, the Rebels finished last year in Atlanta in the Chick-fil-A Peach Bowl. The Rebels were embarrassed by the results as they lost to a much more motivated group of TCU Horn Frogs.

The 2014 Rebels won nine games, including four against teams that finished with 10 or more victories. A signature win over No. 1 Alabama and an Egg Bowl victory over No. 4 Mississippi State highlighted a spectacular SEC campaign for Freeze's team.

How can that be duplicated this season -- or can it? The Rebels have 58 lettermen and 16 position starters from last season, which include nine starters on offense and another seven starters from the nation's number one scoring defense. To boot, Freeze and his staff hauled in another top notch signing class, and five of those signees took part in spring drills. Not many in early predictions think the Rebels are a top ten team, but most experts feel the Rebels are a top 20 team entering the 2015 season despite the loss of their veteran quarterback of the last three seasons Bo Wallace.

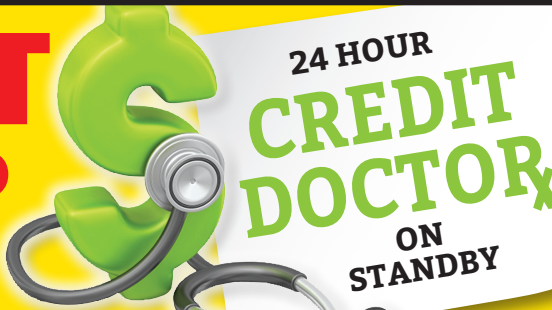
Since the John Vaught days at Ole Miss, it seems as if when the Rebels have had an experienced field general, then a good result usually followed. So who will replace Wallace, who led Ole Miss to three straight bowl games and set school records by throwing for over 10,00 yards

See MCKEE, page 14



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GLORY HOUSE, continued from page 1

in place people who will be able to teach English as a second language. "One lady, when she found out what we were going to do, said, 'I'll teach you how to make homemade tortillas, and cut your hair if you will only teach me how to speak English,'" added Hope.

The needs of the surrounding community have already surfaced at The Glory House. Individuals have stopped by asking for help with mattresses, beds, and home repairs. The Staples say they will do all they can to meet the needs of the community, but ultimately, it is going to require the help of the entire community of businesses, churches, and individuals.

"Already people have come to serve," said Hope.

In their first week, they have seen an outpouring of service from the community from individuals, groups, and businesses. On Tuesday, one week to the date on closing on the house, approximately 12 employees from Trustmark Bank were cleaning and painting as part of their community service program. A women's group from Mill Creek Baptist Church was also helping out, and individuals who had heard about what the Staples were doing had also stopped by to volunteer their time. Brookside Barn in Ellisville catered lunch on Tuesday for all the workers. A group was scheduled to come in on Saturday and begin work on the outside clearing timber and brush away from the house.

The house is in need of many repairs. Many things are broken including the air



Trustmark Bank employees lend a helping hand to The Glory House. L-R Deborah Gilbert, Tina Freeman, Kelly Lawson, and Diane Pitts. Photo/Linda Cranford

conditioning. The home is the Staples' permanent residence and right now they and their 22-year old daughter, Brooke Welborn, who is attending JCJC, are all staying in the master bedroom. "Grant and I have been on mission trips all over the world, and it's like we're on one now. We are literally camping out here."

Some of the immediate needs for the house include air conditioner repair; carpentry work and supplies to repair rotten wood and sheetrock; someone who can repair old windows; and tile work is needed in several rooms. There is also a lot of painting that needs to be done.

If you are interested in helping out financially, a "The Glory House" account has been set up at Trustmark Bank. To contact the Staples call 601-498-3310.

Worth the wait

By Ryan Griffin

Have you ever had to wait? Sure you have. Waited in line at a store, waited at a restaurant for a meal, waited on your wife to get ready. Was it worth it in the end? Once you get home with the item you purchased, finished that really good steak or hit the town with your significant other, you don't even remember the wait anymore.

Maybe you have been waiting on an honor, raise or award that you feel you've worked for or deserve. Last week former Golden Eagle and Oakland Raiders punter Ray Guy was the guest speaker at Kiwanis Club of Laurel. Want to talk about patience, talk to Ray. Ray Guy, recognized as the greatest punter to play the game, was an NFL Hall of Fame finalist seven times before he was inducted in 2014. With his induction he is the first punter to be enshrined in the Hall of Fame.

In his enshrinement speech, Ray said, "It has been a long and winding road...there have been many bumps, there have been many curbs, detours and bridges to cross along the way, but I finally made it."

I'm sure we have all felt that way at times. We work, fight, scratch and bleed for something, and then we wait and wait and wait. But once there, we forget the struggle and only remember the feeling of success.

Another guy that knew a thing or two



By the way, I waited patiently until everyone was finished talking to Ray before taking this photo.

about endurance was the Apostle Paul. He was stoned and left for dead yet lived, endured constant persecution from people who hated him for his beliefs – not to mention being jailed a time or two – and often barely had the basic necessities of life, but he kept pushing for the goal that was ahead of him. He would not give up. Paul had some good words about his life in Philipians 3:14, "I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus."

When we keep our eye on the prize, the journey isn't nearly as bad. It may seem rough for a season, but victory is just around the corner. And that victory is worth the wait!

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Local author honors WWII treasure in, "A Falcon Pilot"

By Linda Cranford

If you've ever known a veteran of war, chances are you hardly ever heard them talk about their experiences. Often times they would share stories with other veterans, but rarely spoke about their experiences with family members. Jones County WWII Veteran and German POW, Clarence Edward (Ed) Stevens, was no exception. However, his son-in-law, Lt. Colonel Larry Callahan, U.S. Army retired, who served in the Marine Corp during the Vietnam War and became an Army helicopter pilot, and Stevens developed a close "veteran" relationship shortly after Callahan married his daughter, Mary Carol Stevens.

To honor his father-in-law, and his service to our country, Callahan has written a book entitled "A Falcon Pilot," which depicts Stevens' life of growing up as an orphan in a small town during hard times, enduring the hardships of war as a fighter pilot and German POW, and returning home to settle back into his life with his wife, Elizabeth (Bib) Pearson Stevens and their family.

"Right after Mary Carol and I got married, Ed and I went on a dove hunt," said Callahan. "He handed me a cup of what I thought was Coke, and poured some more Coke into it. It was Coke, alright, but it had a little bourbon in it, too. We began to talk, and Ed shared one of his funny stories from World War II. Then I shared one of my funny stories from Vietnam, and that was the beginning of our 'veteran' relationship."

When Stevens was five years old, his father, Thomas Stevens, was the manager of a boarding house on Maple Street in Laurel when he was accidentally shot, and later died of his injuries. After his father's death, Stevens and his two brothers moved to the Glade community, where their moth-

er, Mary (Mollie) Stevens, grew up. Mollie had suffered from Rheumatoid Arthritis since her early childhood and died three years later from the disease. Stevens, now orphaned at age eight, and his two brothers moved back to Laurel to live with their Aunt Mattie, and Uncle C.C. (Tyte) Harris, who lived right next door to their neighborhood grocery store, Tyte's Place, at 10th Street and 3rd Avenue.

Growing up Stevens worked at the grocery store, and sold and delivered newspapers. "During the Ouida Keeton murder trial, Ed said he made more money selling newspapers than a grown man made working at Masonite," exclaimed Callahan.

The book describes more of Stevens growing up in Laurel, his hunting, fishing, and frog gigging adventures, and working hard to save money for college.

Stevens advanced rather quickly through the ranks during his military service, and by the time he entered the Army Air Force he had advanced to the rank of Captain. Stevens eventually was assigned to the 79th Flight Group, "the Falcons," where he soon became a flight leader in the 87th Squadron, "the Skeeters," flying in the new P-47 fighter planes.

On May 17, 1944, Stevens was shot down, after dropping back to check on one of his fighter pilots who had fallen behind the group. His plane caught fire and he managed to parachute from the plane. He was burned over 60 percent of his body, and was shot three times, before hitting the ground - once in the left knee, once in the left thigh, and once in the right shoulder. When he landed, he landed on his left shoulder, crushing it.

The book describes how he endured and survived the life of German POW. It describes how after being picked up and taken to a make shift facility in Italy for wounded prisoners, St. Francis of Assisi, he would crawl from the "dead group" to the "might survive group" several times before the



During the book signing at the Veterans Memorial Museum, Saturday, June 20, local author Lt. Larry Callahan, U.S. Army retired, center, signed his book for Judy Furr, left, and John Kiick, right. Judy and John are relatives of Thomas Steven's best friend, John Furr, who is mentioned often in the book. Photo/Linda Cranford

Nuns taking care of the wounded realized he was the same one they kept dragging to the dead group. It describes him enduring skin grafts without anesthesia, and brutal interrogations.

"Dad was so terribly injured during the war, that when he came back, the military doctors told him he may only live three months," exclaimed Mary Carol. "His response was, 'Umm, I don't think so.' Shot up, burned, and as beat up as he was, he never missed a beat. And, that's pretty much how he conducted himself every day." Stevens died at age 95, in September, 2011.

Mary Carol said her most cherished memories of her father were the fishing trips, and the Army Lullabies he would sing to her as a child.

The book describes Stevens life after the war, and the many lives he touched and cherished friends he made.

"During dad's last year, Larry, took care of him," said Mary Carol. "Dad's body was just worn out, and Larry had to literary do everything for him. I would pass by them

in the morning, and Larry would be helping him, and they would be talking war stories."

"Shortly after dad passed away, I noticed Larry was spending a lot of time on the computer," continued Mary Carol. "One day I finally asked him what on earth was he doing. He said I'm going to write his story. It's got to be told."

It took Callahan two years to write the book. In the last paragraph of the book, Callahan writes, "To ensure the safety of the ones he loved, Ed said he would go through all of it again. His only regret was for those who never returned to their families. The veterans of World War II are treasures, and Americans should give thanks for them. I know I do."

The book is available at the Veterans Memorial Museum on Hillcrest Drive in Laurel, for a \$30 donation to the museum. Anyone wishing to obtain a signed copy of the book may stop by the museum on any Thursday, which is the day Callahan volunteers at the museum.

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MCKEE continued from page 12

and completing 63 percent of his passes? The possible replacements are Ryan Buchanan and DeVante Kincade and East Mississippi All-American Chad Kelly. Kelly is the nephew of NFL legend Jim Kelly. Chad Kelly threw for almost 4,000 yards and 47 TDs in leading East Mississippi to the National JC title. He has had some off the field issues but has been a model citizen since his arrival in Oxford in January. Buchanan was given the slightest of leads after the spring game by Freeze, but many feel as though Kelly will see a lot of action during the upcoming season.

Two running backs return in Jaylen Walton and Jordan Wilkins. Akeem Judd, Eugene Brazley, and highly-ranked signee Eric Swinney will bolster the depth. The wide receivers are led by Laquon Treadwell. Treadwell is already the 13th-ranked receiver in Ole Miss history with 120 career catches. He has a talented group in Purvis native Markell Pack, Cody Core, Quincy Adeboyejo, and Damore'ea Stringfellow. Two highly ranked signees, DaMarkus Lodge and Van Jefferson, will add to a solid group. The tight end position has one of the league's best in Evan Engram, but no experience is behind the two-time All-SEC pick.

The offensive line returns all five starters and 13 lettermen from last year's team. All-American left tackle Laremy Tunsil leads the pack. Other returning starters are Aaron Morris, Ben Still, Justin Bell and Fahn Cooper. Others pushing for playing time are Petal's Javon Patterson, Rod Taylor, Robert Conyers and Christian Morris. Patterson is a five-star recruit who graduated last December from high school and enrolled at Ole Miss in January.

The defense that is one of the nation's best wreaks havoc on the field. C.J. Johnson, Fadol Brown and freshman All-American Marquis Haynes return at defensive end. Johnson is one of the SEC's best all-time sack leaders. Haynes led the team last year with 7.5 sacks. Robert Nkemdiche and Issac Gross are joined by JUCO transfer D.J. Jones at defensive tackles. Nkemdiche has been mentioned as an All-American candidate this season. Ole Miss returns six

linebackers led by two-time All-SEC pick Denzel Nkemdiche. He is recovering from a broken ankle at LSU back in October. Christian Russell, Temario Strong and JUCO transfer Terry Caldwell will see plenty of playing time in the fall. A couple of freshman signee's will figure into the rotation.

Bay Springs native and two-time All-American Cody Prewitt is gone, but six lettermen return in the secondary. Tony Conner is back along with three-year starter Trae Elston, and they will be joined by sophomores C.J. Hampton and the Bassfield twins of A.J. Moore and C.J. Moore, along with senior Chief Brown. Hattiesburg native Tony Bridges, Mike Hilton and Tee Shepard look to see plenty of action at cornerback. Both kicking specialists in Gary Wunderlich and Will Gleeson return as place-kicker and punter, respectively.

The Rebels should win their four non-conference (UT-Martin, Fresno St., Memphis and New Mexico St.) games, but life in the SEC West is a battle each and every Saturday. Trips to Alabama, Mississippi State, Florida and Auburn are never easy, and the home games against Vandy, A&M, Arkansas and LSU are no picnics.

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Mission At The Cross 3rd Annual 5K Run & 2 Mile Walk



The Mission At The Cross will host their 3rd Annual 5K Run & 2 Mile Walk on Saturday, June 27. The run/walk will start at 8:00 at the Mission located at 324 South Magnolia Street in Laurel. This event is a fundraiser for the Mission which provides housing, food, vocational training and biblical teaching and instruction to homeless men, and men of addiction. Since December of 2008, over 700 men have called the Mission "home" at some point in their lives. The Mission can house up to twenty-one men, and is generally full to capacity on any given night.

Photo/Linda Cranford

Laurel Lions Club adds new members

The Laurel Lions club has added the following new members in the month of June. In the first picture is Mrs. Mae Lynn Sykes of Laurel and Mrs. Mary Ann Stevens of Laurel, In the next picture is Mr. Alvis Hodge of Laurel and Stevens. In the last picture is Mrs. Sylvia Busby of Laurel, Mrs Becky Stewart of Laurel and Stevens. The Lions Club meets the 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month at Lee's Coffee Shop in downtown Laurel at 11a.m. Come join us.

Photos/submitted



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Hodge, Wright win in State Competition



Northeast Jones Junior FFA members Gabi Hodge and Lara Beth Wright brought home wins from the 2015 MS FFA State Convention. Gabi received first place in Junior Extemporaneous Speaking and Lara placed 2nd in Junior Creed Speaking. Gabi was also named the 2015-2016 MS Junior FFA State Secretary. Gabi is the daughter of Kevin and Dione Hodge of the Myrick community. Lara is the daughter of Johnny and Ashley Wright of the Glade community. Their Vocational-Agriculture Instructors/FFA Advisors are Aaron Scammahorn and David Walters. *Photo/submitted*

Wagnon receives State Degree



Mark Wagnon (left), a member of the Northeast Jones Chapter of FFA, received his State FFA Degree during the 2015 MS FFA State Convention. Wagnon is the son of Bill and Phyllis Wagnon of the Myrick community. His Vocational-Agriculture Instructors/FFA Advisors are Aaron Scammahorn and David Walters. *Photo/submitted*

Ellzey wins at State Convention



South Jones FFA's Colleen Ellzey (center) recently placed second in Prepared Public Speaking at the 2015 MS FFA State Convention. Ellzey was also named the 2015-2016 MS Junior FFA Vice-President. She is the daughter of Jason and Lindsey Ellzey of Ellisville. Her Vocational-Agriculture Instructors/FFA Advisors are Ken Parker (far left) and Joe Robinson (far right). *Photo/submitted*

Robertson Wins at State Convention



South Jones FFA's Chantry Robertson received his State FFA Degree during the 2015 MS FFA State Convention. Robertson was also named the South District Star in Agri-Business! He is pictured with his Vocational-Agriculture Instructors/FFA Advisors Ken Parker (left) and Joe Robinson (right). *Photo/submitted*

Bradshaw receives State Degree



Annalynn Bradshaw, daughter of Joey and Melinda Bradshaw of Ellisville, received her Junior FFA State Degree during the 2015 MS FFA State Convention. She is pictured with her Vocational-Agriculture Instructors/FFA Advisors Ken Parker (left) and Joe Robinson (right). *Photo/submitted*

Ezell receives State Degree



West Jones FFA's Jared Ezell, son of Chris and Kristy Ezell of Hebron, received his State FFA Degree during the 2015 MS FFA State Convention. His Vocational-Agriculture Instructors/FFA Advisors are Jonathon Clark and Chip Gieger. *Photo/submitted*

Turner receives State Degree



Hannah Turner, a member of West Jones FFA Chapter, received her State FFA Degree during the 2015 MS FFA State Convention. The daughter of Don and Rhonda Turner, Hannah is pictured with her Vocational-Agriculture Instructors/FFA Advisors Chip Gieger (left) and Jonathan Clark. *Photo/submitted*

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