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Life Church thanks Jones County Fire Service
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Volume 39, No. 36 • September 2, 2015

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Jones County EMA remembers Katrina

By Linda Cranford

Jones County Emergency Management Agency Director Marda Tullos, who served as Deputy Director during Katrina, led an unveiling ceremony of a plaque marking the date of Hurricane Katrina. The plaque is located at the base of the flag poles in front of the Jones County Emergency Operations Center in Laurel, and contains the words, "Honoring the people of Jones County and the events that occurred August 29, 2005 Hurricane Katrina."

"Ten years ago, three to four times a day, we met in the Operations Room listening to the National Weather Service tell us what we could be facing on Monday, August 29, 2005," described Tullos, "a hurricane in comparison to Hurricane Camille, something we did not want to hear. At 5:30 a.m., Monday morning, a transformer blew, and the EOC is on generator power. At noon, sustained winds are at 60 miles per hour with gusts of 100 miles per hour, and this goes on for several hours. The storm shutters on the EOC go down. At four o'clock, sustained winds are at 90 miles per hour with gusts of 120 miles per hour. The South Tower has blown over, and the console communication is down meaning that dispatch is operating on hand-



Jones County Emergency Management Agency Director Marda Tullos describes the events that unfolded around the Emergency Operations Center on August 29, 2005 as Hurricane Katrina delivered sustained winds of 90 mph with gusts up to 120 mph for hours in the Laurel-Jones County area.

Photo/Linda Cranford

held radios, and inundated with calls – trees down, gas leaks, power outages. We cannot get communication to MEMA about our situation. For days and weeks

after, the EOC was a hub of activity, and the center of all decision making. But, I don't have to re-live the events, you lived them, and you worked them. Response and recovery could not have happened without you responders in the field, in an office, or on the telephone. You were important. We will have more hurricanes, and we will meet for more weather briefings, which we will prepare for, and respond to. I thank you every day for what you do, and your dedication."

"We certainly want to remember the seven Jones County lives that were lost due to Katrina," continued Tullos, choking up as she said the words. Gathering herself

See EMA REMEMBERS, page 2

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Life Church thanks Jones Co. Fire Service

By Linda Cranford, Jones County Fire Service PIO
Pastor David Hagan, and the members of Life Church, showed their thanks to the Jones County Fire Service for their service to Jones County during Katrina, and every day, with a banquet for all the volunteers on Saturday night, August 29.

“What a beautiful day we had today. The skies look a whole lot different today, than they did ten years ago,” exclaimed Hagan when welcoming the volunteers. “When remembering the people that made a difference, you were the first to come to mind. We want to thank you for being there then, and thank you for what you do today.”

Jones County Fire Coordinator Dan McKenna thanked Hagan and the Life Church members for hosting the banquet for the volunteers as did Jones County Fire Council President Stacy Brownlee, and Powers VFD firefighter and emergency medical responder Lance Chancellor. Also on hand for the banquet were Jones County Emergency Management Agency Deputy Director Rodney Parker, and the City of Ellisville Fire Department Fire Chief Ronnie McGilberry.

“Pastor Hagan, I was not the Fire Coordinator during Katrina, Mike Hodge was,” explained McKenna. “But, I’ve heard all the stories. In my fire career I’ve fought California forest fires, and dealt with earthquakes, and I hope I never have to experience a hurricane like Katrina.”

Chancellor, who worked very closely with former EMA Director Don



L-R Lance Chancellor, Stacey Brownlee, Jennifer Hagan, Ronnie McGilberry, Pastor David Hagan, Rodney Parker, and Dan McKenna. Photo/Linda Cranford

McKinnon during Katrina, shared a few stories of his Katrina experience, and personally thanked his fellow volunteers for what they did then, and continue to do today on a daily basis.

Pastor Hagan also invited the volunteers to return to Life Church Sunday morning for the church services where all first responders were recognized, and Hagan delivered his message, “Ten Years Later – What did we learn?”

EMA REMEMBERS, continued from page 1

she said, “There are key words we would like not to remember such as ice, water, fuel, fuel lines, the sound of generators, food spoiling in refrigerators and freezers, hot temperatures, and most of all, love bugs!”

Tullos invited Laurel Mayor Johnny Magee and Jones County Board of Supervisors President Andy Dial to say a few words on behalf of the city and the county.

“Saturday marks ten years that our community changed forever. There were a lot of hours spent in that building during that time,” exclaimed Magee referring to the Jones County EOC. “And, really, the person that should be representing the City of Laurel this morning, about Katrina, is the man standing over there, Mayor Melvin Mack, because, he had just been elected into office when Katrina hit. His first term was pretty much defined by Katrina; by the storm and by the recovery. He spent his first term trying to get us back to where we needed to be. And we are still not there, yet. We still have blue roofs. Before Katrina, I didn’t know what a blue roof or a blue tarp was. But, after Katrina they stayed around for quite a while, and there are still a few blue roofs left from Katrina. One thing about Katrina is that no matter what color you were, what religion you were, what your education was, or what your bank account said,

your power went out. So, for just awhile, we were all equal, whether you were with Mississippi Power or Dixie Electric, you were in the dark like everyone else. But, we were fortunate that we came together to help our recovery. Not just the people in this area, but we had people from all over the United States converge on Jones County, Mississippi. We were so blessed to have so many people show up, and out of the goodness of their hearts, help get Jones County rolling again. We are still not where we were before the storm, but we are so much more fortunate than we were on August 29, 2005. We are blessed that we have recovered as much as we have. So, as we remember Katrina, remember all the blessings that we were fortunate enough to receive.”

“I’ve always said the reason we are so special here in Jones County is because of our people,” said Dial. “Our people came together and worked together in order to overcome this. It was a learning experience, and we’ve all learned a lot.” Dial said during the recovery process Jones County needed to pay out 14 million dollars, and after expressing the needs to James Huff at a Farm Bureau meeting, Huff was able to help Jones County out along with providing 18 million dollars

to Harrison County. “We were blessed with those efforts, and didn’t have to pay that off with our tax dollars. So, yes we were blessed.”

“If you were here during that time, you played an important part in the recovery of Katrina. And, I’m glad to know we are going to have people in place if it happens again. People that know what to do, and will do it in order that our county can overcome.”

A lot of stories were shared afterwards including stories of sleeping on floors and cots in the EOC for weeks, without returning home. Of the feeling of fear, as the winds blew continuously, and cars started slowly jogging away from their parking space under the pressure of the winds. Watching tin wrap around power lines, and debris role through the streets. And, the feeling of isolation from the world with no outside communications. Stories that are repeated throughout the county, by so many people. Everyone has a story to tell. If you lived in Jones County at the time of Katrina, or the entire state of Mississippi for that matter, you have your own story to tell; a story that will never be forgotten, and one that everyone hopes will never be repeated.

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September 2

The Laurel Jones County Library System, Inc. is celebrating National Library Card Sign-up Month throughout September! We will be giving away free t-shirts to all new and renewing patrons (while supplies last). Children will have a choice between a t-shirt or kid's meal from DQ. The main library is located in Laurel at 530 Commerce Street and the Ellisville Public Library is located at 201 Poplar Street. A valid government issued ID and a piece of mail less than 90 days old are required to obtain a library card or renew your account. Children under 18 must be accompanied by their parent or legal guardian.

Rebecca Krevi-Lewis is accepting new students for piano lessons at the YWCO this fall. Call 601-428-5694 for more information.

The Smith County Republicans will not meet the first Monday night in September to better enjoy the Labor Day Holiday. Instead the meeting will be held the second Monday night, September 14, 7:00pm at the courthouse in Raleigh. Everyone is invited to join us!

September 3

First Baptist Church of Laurel will host a Precept Upon Precept Bible Study on the New Testament Gospel of "the Acts of the Apostles" Part 1, Chapters 1-12, Titled Jesus, Witnesses Empowered by His Spirit. The eight week study will begin Thursday, September 3rd from 9:30am-11:30am led by Margie Hauenstein with Kay Arthur lecture on video. And identical study will begin Monday September 14th from 5:30pm-7:30pm with Danny West Teaching. For more information call 601-649-5710 or email judyg@mail.fbclaurel.org.

Join the Pine Woods Audubon Society Thursday, September 3 at 6:30p.m. at the Hattiesburg Zoo's Education Center. Program will begin at 7:00p.m. Refreshments served at 6:30p.m. Attendance is free to everyone. For local chapter information call 601-264-9654.

The Lauren Rogers Museum of Art education staff has planned pottery classes for the month of September. On Tuesdays and Thursdays for grades K5-6th, children's pottery will be held in the LRMA Carriage House Studio from 3:30- 5:00 p.m. All supplies are included for both classes. To sign up or for more information, call the Museum at 601.649.6374, go to LRMA.org under "classes", or email mbuchanan@LRMA.org.

September 4

The Ellisville Masonic Lodge will have Delicious "Pulled Pork" Bar B Que "to go" plates for sale for Labor Day on Friday September 4th, 8:00a.m. to 1:00p.m. at the Lodge in downtown Ellisville. Plates are \$10, featuring, Pulled pork, baked beans, cole slaw, bread and dessert. As always a limited number is available, so call to reserve yours now. We will deliver orders for 10 or more plates. Call to order 601-477-9608 or 601-433-5229 or see any member for tickets.

The deadline to register for ServSafe training at the Wayne Co. Extension Office is Thursday, September 4th. The fee for the class is \$140 which includes the 6th Edition ServSafe Manager book and class. To register for and purchase a copy of the book using a credit card, you can do so online at <http://www.fsnhp.msstate.edu/workshops/servsafe/registration.asp>. Or you can come by the office and pay with a certified bank check or money order made out to MSU in the amount of \$135 (No shipping charge). The class will be held Thursday, October 1 from 7:30a.m. to 4:00p.m.

September 5

The Northeast Jones High School Class of 1975 has announced that they will celebrate their 40th anniversary with a reunion at the old First National Bank Building (Rasberry Building) on Saturday, September 5. Tickets are just \$45 and include dinner, entertainment, and FUN! Payments can be made to: NEJ Class of 1975, P.O. Box 6237, Laurel, MS 39441. Reception will begin at 5 p.m. at the old First National Bank Building in downtown Laurel,

401 Central Avenue. Please contact Bobbie Hales McCowan at 601-818-2855 or email at bhales6202@me.com; Danny Rasberry at danny@rasberrypg.com or 601-649-2822; or Greg Miles 601-331-1719.

The Jones County Alcorn Chapter will meet September 5 at 12:00 noon at the Cook Avenue Community Center. We are encouraging all Alcornites to please attend. For more information please call Ann Martin at 601-729-2334.

There will be a benefit for Ronnie Waller on Saturday, September 5th, at the Big Creek Community Center from 6:00p.m. until. There will be a party jump for children and an auction. For more information contact Donna Waller at 601-433-8521.

September 6

The annual Phillips/Mosley reunion is set for September 6th 2015 at Bay Springs City Hall. Festivities are planned to start at 10:00a.m until. Bring a basket full of food and come visit and fellowship with us.

The Annual Windham/Pittman reunion will be held at Walters Chapel Church on Sunday, September 6 at 10:45a.m. Bring a covered dish and enjoy the fellowship.

Morning Star MB Church, Laurel, will host their Annual Usher Program on Sunday, September 6 at 3:00p.m. Rev. Marshall Myers of Christian Valley MB Church will be the guest speaker. Everyone is invited. For more information call 601-447-0470 or 601-428-1894.

September 7

Jones County Garbage Service trucks will be running regular routes in September; however, the billing office will be closed for Labor Day, September 7th. The office will reopen on Tuesday, September 8th.

Wayne County Extension is offering the program "Walk-a-Wiegh" again this fall starting Monday, September 7 at 5:30p.m. If you want to participate, please contact Lanette Crocker, 601-735-2243 to pre-register. The registration fee is \$10 and will be used to help pay for the taste tests and prizes for participants.

September 8

The Wildwood Family and Friends luncheon will be held at the YWCO September 8th at 11:00a.m.

United Blood Services' invites you to join the Laurel Community Blood Drive on Tuesday, September 8th from 12 p.m. – 6 p.m. at the Cameron Center, located at 711 North 10th Avenue in Laurel to remember, honor and support those of 9-11. Each donor will receive a special 9/11 T-shirt, while supplies last.

The DMA (Don't Mention Age) group will meet Tuesday, September 8th at the YWCO at 11:00a.m. Mary Louise Allred will be our speaker on the YWCO with stories and specifics. Lunch will be served at 12:00. If you have questions call the "Y" at 601-428-5694.

Encore Performing Arts Theatre Tryouts for Community of Talent II will be held September 8-10th at 7:00p.m. at Dance Etc. , 2606 Old Bay Springs Road, Laurel. Singers, Dancers and Instrumentalists of all ages, join us for this fun, talented and low rehearsal revue. If you already have a piece or number prepared to sing, play or dance, please have it ready for tryouts. All music must be from the musical theatre genre. We will hold a short song segment for those who do not have anything prepared. If you have any questions, please contact Juna Broome at 601.297.2157.


The Wayne County Extension Office will participate in the fall small business webinar series that is being offered through MSU Extension Service on the 2nd Thursday each month, Sept.-Dec. from noon until 1:00p.m. Call 601-735-2243 by noon on the Monday prior to the topic you are interested in attending. The topics and dates are: Business Branding Online, Sept. 10th; Exploiting Google Tools, October 8th; Online Management & Event Planning Tools, Nov. 12th; Facebook Ads, Dec. 10th.



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September 11

Mt. Olive UM Church located on Hwy 29S in the Whitfield Community in Ovett, is having its annual church-wide rummage sale on Friday, September 11th and Saturday, September 12th from 8am-2pm each day. We will have old jewelry, whatnots, clothes, toys, kitchen items, furniture and much more. Proceeds are for the Building Fund.

September 12

The annual reunion for the descendants of Roland and Eva Adams, Will and Ollie Ishee and A.G. (Jack and Annice) Kitchens will be held on Saturday, Sept. 12th, beginning at 10:00a.m. at the Myrick Community Center, located on the Lower Myrick Road. All friends and family members are invited to bring your memorabilia, a covered dish and enjoy an afternoon of fellowship. For more information call Dorothy Scott @ 601-649-4706 or Oscar Kitchens @ 601-425-2005.

There will be a Gospel Sing at Sanford Community Center located at 663 Old Hwy 49, Sanford, on Saturday, September 12, beginning at 6:30p.m. The featured guests are "The Faithful Four", "The Floyds" and "Faithway Singers". Admission is free. A love offering will be accepted. For more information call 601-765-6485.

Join us for Sandra Hancock Ministries' Day of Hope Conference September 12, 2015 from 10:30 am to 12:30 pm at "The Gathering Place" 3227 Audubon Dr. in Laurel. God has given Sandra a word just for you! The SHM praise band will lead worship. Bring your friends and come expecting your miracle! There are no admission costs! For more information call 1-800-579-7350 or see our webpage at www.sandrahancock.org

September 13

Red Springs Baptist Church, Butler, AL invites everyone to our Homecoming, Sunday, September 13 at 10:00a.m. The church is located 1007 Pleasant Hill Road, 7 miles south of Butler, AL. Master's Voice will be in concert and a love offering taken. Call 601-527-9195 if you need more information.

Faith Community Church, Hwy 28W, Soso, invites you to a program presented by Animal Tales from Mayfield Kentucky, "Created Creatures", a 50 minute Live animal education program packed with fun and excitement, featuring 5 to 7 live exotic wildlife. The program will be September 13th at 6:00p.m. There is no admission charge and is for all ages. For more info call 601-498-6320.

September 14

The Crochet Club will meet at the Wayne Co. Extension office September 14th at 4:00p.m. Bring your yarn, crochet hooks, patterns to share and join the fun. Call 601-735-2243 for more info.

September 15

We are offering a workshop where you can make your own Paper Mache Santa on Tuesdays, Sept 15 and 22 at 5:30 at the Wayne County Extension Office. Registration fee for the class is \$10 and seating is limited to 15. Call 601-735-2243 to pre-register. Our instructor is Trina Holifield with Striped Sheep Art Parties. All supplies will be furnished. It will take both weeks to finish the project.

The Jones Co. Extension Office, 515 N. Fifth Ave., Laurel, is offering private pesticide applicator training for farmers needing certification to purchase and use restricted-use-pesticides. The class will be held September 15 at 6:00p.m. There is a \$10 registration fee and it is limited to the first 15 to register.

September 25

Tickets are now available for the Jones County Cattlemen's Association Ribeye Steak Sandwich Plate. This is a fundraiser for the Veterans Memorial Museum. Plates consist of Ribeye Steak Sandwich, bag of chips, soda/water, and cookie. Price per ticket is \$10. The plates can be picked up on Friday, September 25th in front of the Grocery Depot, Laurel, from 10:00a.m.-3:00p.m. Call for tickets at 601-428-4008.

September 26

You are invited to the 1950's Class Reunion of Soso High School, September 26th at Community Center (Old Legion Hut) Soso, MS. from 4:00p.m until. Cost is \$15.00 each and will be catered; meal at 5:00p.m. If you have any questions contact Merle Jefcoat at 601-422-3076.

The Lauren Rogers Museum of Art in historic downtown Laurel, Miss. welcomes Escape to Tranquility: The New American Landscape, on display through September 27. The Escape to Tranquility exhibition features approximately 45 paintings by five contemporary artists including Richard Kelso of Jackson Miss., Robert Kipniss of New York, T. Allen Lawson of Maine, Myra Meade of Hattiesburg Miss., and Lisa Thames of Laurel Miss. The galleries are open from 10:00 a.m. until 4:45 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday and 1:00 p.m. until 4:00 p.m. on Sunday. Admission is free, but donations are accepted. For more information call 601-649-6374 or visit www.LRMA.org.

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+/-58 acres, located 5 miles south of Ellisville, MS with road frontage on Kitchens Loop. Has pond with several great lake sites. Also joins a nice lake on the North of property. Merchantable mixed pine/hwd timber with beautiful mature hardwood and a good road system. an abundance of wildlife and hunting. great site index for timber investment. Several great house sites. Power and water available. This place is beautiful!!!! \$145,000. 601-408-0615, McCraw Forest Management, www.mfmland.com.

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+/-83 acres located 5 miles south of Ellisville, MS with road frontage on both Augusta Road and Kitchens Loop. Cleer Creek running through the property. Several great lake sites. Merchantable mixed pine/hwd timber and good road system. Food plots in place for the abundance of wildlife and hunting. Great site index for timber investment. Several

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15 +/-acres, South Jones School District. This tract, with a 16 year old pine plantation, is located one mile south of Ellisville. Priced to sell at \$48,000. ID#J015 www.walleyproperties.com, 601-248-4396.

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Continued on ... Page 9



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2005 Chevrolet Trailblazer LS, \$9,995. 601-310-1403.

2006 Ford Expedition LTD, \$11,995. 601-543-7359.

2007 Ford Explorer EB Ed. \$12,995. 601-543-7359.

2007 Ford Explorer Sport, \$13,995. 601-543-7359.

AUTOS - SPORTS

2007 Jeep Wrangler Sahara, \$18,995. 334-730-3248.

AUTOS - TRUCKS

2007 Ford F150, XLT, One Owner, crew cab, 5.4Li V8, white/charcoal,

cloth interior, very clean, \$14,999. Warranty Available. 601-580-0358 or 601-498-6335. See more at www.EllisvilleMotors.com.

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Royals Western Wear celebrates 80 years

By Linda Cranford

Royals Western Wear, one of the oldest continuous retail businesses in Jones County, is celebrating 80 years of business. Still at its original location in downtown Soso, present owners Reon and Judy Wade recently remodeled and expanded the building into a now 5,000 square foot store, with pine interior, a new store front, and new sign. On Friday, September 5, Reon and Judy, along with their son, Derek, will hold a Boots, Blue Grass, and Barbecue Grand Opening Celebration and 80 Year Anniversary Sale.

“It’s going to be an all day celebration, and we invite everyone to stop in, see our new store, and tell us your memories of the old store,” exclaimed Reon. “Come and enjoy Blue Grass music with local pickers, including myself, delicious barbecue from Hog Heaven, and a fantastic boot and storewide sale. We are very appreciative of our customers. Many are loyal customers, who come by often. We appreciate everybody; we couldn’t have done it without them.”

“Bootsy is coming back, too,” exclaimed Judy, chuckling. Bootsy is the store cat, who had to stay at home during the remodeling process.

Wade added that Hog Heaven owner, Chris Lindsey, will donate 100 percent of the proceeds to the Texas Longhorn Association Scholarship program that awards scholarships for college to youth exhibiting Texas Longhorns in shows throughout the country. The Dixie Texas Longhorn Association was recently organized in Jones County, and will hold its inaugural Deep South Longhorn Show on September 12, at the Magnolia Center in Laurel. According to Lindsey, there will be approximately 60 Longhorns with exhibitors from all over the south.

In 1935, the Royals family first opened the business as Royals Mercantile, a grocery and dry goods store. Being located across from the cotton gin, their main business came from the cotton pickers and workers at the mill. Reon said that he can remember Stubby, who was one of the sons of the Royals and the previous owner of Royals Western Wear, telling him about how Stubby’s mother would make him and his brother get up at 4 a.m. every morning to help open the store to sell to the cotton pickers who were on their way to the cotton fields. “In the fall of the year, during the ginning season, the cotton gin ran 24 hours a day, and Mrs. Royals would stay open 24 hours for



Derek Wade stocks a new shipment of Ladies’ Western Hats.
Photo/Linda Cranford

the workers to buy their snacks and drinks. They probably didn’t make five dollars a day, but she stayed opened 24 hours a day.”

In 1977, when the big grocery store was built in Soso, Stubby, who now owned the business, transformed the grocery store into a boot store. In the 1980’s, when the movie “Urban Cowboy” hit the big screen, the Urban Cowboy fad spread, and Stubby stocked the, now, Royals Western Store to the ceiling with all types of western boots and accessories, and work boots. The oil industry was also booming in the eighties, and the oil workers had plenty of money to spend.

During that same time, the Laurel Impact was created by Dr. Frank Buckley, a retired journalism professor from the University of Southern Mississippi, who along with his family, owned and ran two newspapers in Smith County. Reon was the first sales representative for the Laurel Impact, and Judy helped in laying out the new paper.

“Stubby bought my first ad,” exclaimed Reon. “He bought an ad every week. He believed in advertising. One day when I came by, he told me he was on track to do a million dollars that year. I told him I didn’t believe it, that there wasn’t a mom and pop shop in Laurel or Jones



Royals Western Wear owners Reon and Judy Wade.
Photo/Linda Cranford

County that had ever done a million dollars in sales in a year. He said, ‘Well, we’re going to do it this year, right here in Soso.’ That was 1984, I think. He had the store packed to the ceiling with merchandise. He had so much inventory he didn’t have enough places to store it. The little house he lived in behind the store was packed with inventory. Every closet was packed. He even had shirts stacked under his bed. He had all types of western style boots including high dollar boots like Alligator Boots, all types of western shirts and belts, as well as the steel toed work boots, and he had a booming business.”

Reon said when Stubby died in 1993, the ownership transferred to his step-daughter, Sylvia Cochran, who, by 2001, wanted to sell the business, and move to Alabama.

Reon knew how well the business had done in the past. “We were looking at the Impact one day, and I saw where Royals Western Store was for sale, and was having a going out of business sale. I told Judy I couldn’t believe that someone hadn’t snatched up that business. She looked at me and said, ‘Why don’t we buy it.’ I hadn’t even thought about that. But, I said, ‘why not.’ It was right after 9/11.

See ROYALS, page 13

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ROYALS, continued from page 12

People thought we were crazy, because the economy was going flat. But, we took a leap of faith and bought it. After about three or four years, we had built it back up again, and going strong. Sylvia had depleted a lot of the inventory while trying to sell the business.”

“Then Katrina hit,” exclaimed Judy, “and we thought we were sunk.”

“We had minor damage to the store, but were without power. So, we were shut down for about ten days,” said Reon. “But, we got back up running, power back on, and money started circulating again in Jones County. People started buying boots and clothing. The power companies were in here, and needed work boots. It was the biggest year I ever had, due to the hurricane.”

Reon said ever since he bought the business, he wanted to expand it. “The old store was getting well worn, leaking, and deteriorating. I knew that I was going to have to do something if I was intending on staying. This year, my son, Derek came in to work with us. So, this year we decided to go ahead and remodel. I wanted to use old saw-mill lumber. It has pine interior, which gives it the western look. Everybody loves it, and, we are pleased with how it all turned out.”

Royals Western Wear carries many of the major brands such as Ariat, Justin, Tony Lama, Georgia, Dan Post, John Deere, and Twisted X. They carry Wrangler and Lee jeans, a large selection of western shirts for men and women, a

full line of Carhart for adults and children, Liberty Overalls, and pocket T-Shirts. You can find all types of western accessories such as cowboy hats for men and women, belts, buckles, wallets, and more.

“We have a large selection of women’s and children’s western boots,” said Reon, “and we have, in stock, the best fire retardant clothing for the oil field industry, as well as safety gloves. And, for cold weather, we have the insulated jackets and coveralls.” He added that he has the new line of Montana jewelry coming in, a new selection of belts, and will be carrying the new line of Cinch boots. He already carries the Cinch western style steel-toed work boot, and Cinch is coming out with a new line of regular western style boots.

“We invite everyone to come celebrate with us, see our new store, and enjoy some good food and music,” exclaimed Reon. “There will also be free prizes and giveaways throughout the day, as well as storewide savings.” See their ad in this edition of the Impact.



Royals Western Wear has a large selection of boots for women and children.

Photo/Linda Cranford

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To the voters of Beat 3, I want to say thank you for the humbling vote of support that you gave me on August 25, 2015. I ask for your continued support as we get closer to the **NOVEMBER 3rd GENERAL ELECTION**. If you supported another candidate, I ask for your consideration in order that I may complete the vision I have for Beat 3.

Barry Saul

I SINCERELY AND HUMBLY THANK YOU FOR YOUR VOTE.

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Braves keep rolling, Tigers and Tornadoes face tough opponents

By Heath Hinton

There have been a lot of surprises already this season. Lets see what week 3 has in store for us...

South Jones at Pass Christian

South Jones is off to their best start in years, beating Richton in week one and coming from behind to beat Long Beach last week. The kids are excited and there is a buzz in Ellisville that has not been seen in many years. I look for the Braves to be 3-0 after this game.

South Jones 28

Pass Christian 20

Quitman at West Jones

West is off to an 0-2 start for the first time under Scott Pierson. This is a rebuilding season at West, and this writer looks for a tough time in Soso. I don't think West gets their first W this week.

Quitman 24

West Jones 10

Laurel at Oak Grove

Laurel lost the Little Brown Jug in a game that came down to the wire. I think after the way Laurel lost that game they will be ready to play this Friday Night. Oak Grove is a tough place to play and they have an awe-some home field advantage, but I think Laurel bounces back this week.

Laurel 35

Oak Grove 28

Wayne County at Meridian

The War Eagles come into this one 1-1, while Meridian is 0-2. Both of these teams have played some tough competition early. This game should be football fan favorite.

Meridian 28

Wayne County 24

Bay Spring at Northeast Jones

Northeast got its first victory over West

Jones since 2008 last week. The Tigers will try and ride that momentum to a victory this week, but Bay Springs is a really good team. Expect Bay Springs to be 3-0 after this game.

Bay Springs 21

Northeast 17

Stringer at Enterprise

Stringer is 0-2 for the first time in years. Traveling to Enterprise will not be easy, but this should be a bounce back game from the Red Devils. This win could get them back on track.

Stringer 17

Enterprise 0

Taylorsville at Madison Ridgeland

Taylorsville recovered last week with a win over Bay High. This will be a long bus ride, but I like the Tarters and expect them to be 2-1 after Friday night.

Taylorsville 35

Madison Ridgeland 21

Prentiss at Heidelberg

This is always a fun game to go watch. This is a game that is always competitive, but I have to go with the Oilers in this one.

Heidelberg 27

Prentiss 24

Other Games of Interests:

East Rankin 21, Heidelberg Academy 14

Sylva Bay 24, Columbus Academy 7

Wayne Academy 10, Clarckdale 24

Please tune into the Pne Belt Scoreboard Show on 98.1 WMXI from 10pm to 1230am every friday night. Call in and tell us about the game you saw and also to nominate a player for the Pine Belt Sports Drive/Impact player of the week. The winner gets a trophy, sponsored by Micky's Trophy in Laurel. We cant wait to hear from you this week. The-numbers are 6012610898 or 6016490898 or #981 from any Cspire phone.

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USM-MSU will be great theatre

By Mitchell Williams

Well, finally it's here. College foot-ball will be in full throttle this week-end!! And without a doubt the best game in the area will be Mississippi State ver-sus Southern Mississippi. Might be the biggest game on campus in decades . . . Just might!

So here's the question? Are you go-ing to the game? Hope so. I know a number of people who are going? A bunch of folks, actually, can't wait until Saturday. There is a significant group of folks that will be in attendance; we should take special notice. Most of them are not old enough to vote.

Yep . . . Kids! There will be a ton of them at MM Roberts Stadium for the 9 p.m. kickoff on Saturday. (Pastors, give grace if some of our children are a little late for church service on Sunday). These young people will be from our area, from the Starkville area, and from all over the state of Mississippi. Isn't

that wonderful? Yeah, it is.

You tell me what's a better venue on a Saturday for our children in south Mississippi than to witness fellowship, food and football . . . and that it happens to be offered at the best football game in the state this weekend. Plus, what comes with it is the opportunity to see the athletic face of two fine universities: Southern Miss and Mississippi State.

I've had the opportunity to be on the sideline of several of the MSU-USM games in the last 30 years. And, of course, there will be a lot of passion. But the theatre of Saturday could be one for the ages. I tell you this: The young people who come will have a lasting memory of a college football atmo-sphere here at home that can't do noth-ing but help create a thought of, "Maybe I want to be part of something like this when I grow up."

Ain't that good? Yeah, it is. See you at a game soon.

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