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Dr. David Sullivan speaks at SCRMC's
"Go Red for Women" luncheon...page 13



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#1 in Advertising

LHS football standouts sign with state universities



Laurel High School football standout Keon Howard signed a letter of intent with the University of Southern Mississippi as part of National Signing Day. Pictured (seated) are his mother Karen Howard, Keon Howard, mother Charlotte Woods, (standing) grandfather Ledrow Smith, father Anthony Howard, aunt Jeanette Brown Byrd, and uncle John Stennis. Photos/submitted



Laurel High School football standout Octavious Cooley signed a letter of intent with the University of Mississippi as part of National Signing Day. Pictured (seated) are his grandfather Carl Blakely, Octavious Cooley, mother Lori Cooley, (standing) LHS Head Coach Todd Breland, his brother Joseph Clanton, aunt Jeanella Rahming, great grandfather Lornza Cooley, cousin Carlita Dempsey, cousin Kyle Cooley and LHS Coach Ray Pickering.

SEE MORE PHOTOS FROM SIGNING DAY ON PAGES 14 & 15

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 **EDA**
of Jones County



HINT OF LACE HOLDS RIBBON CUTTING - Hint of Lace Lingerie Boutique owner, Lauree Ward, held a ribbon cutting and grand opening last week with friends and family, as well as local business and community leaders. Pictured with Ward is her husband, Sean Ward, daughters, Mollie and Tessa, sons, Bryce and Carson, employee, Courtney Purivs, Sonja and Buddy Myers, Ricky and Stacy Pitts and Mayor Johnny Magee. Hint of Lace is located in the Sawmill Square Mall and is open from 10 am - 9 pm Monday - Saturday and 1 pm - 5 pm Sunday.
Photo/Kim Wilbanks

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Enough about the weather!

By Kay Scarborough

Let's talk about birds today. The life of a bird in the winter may not be as stress-free as many people think. Winter can be a difficult time for birds. The days are short, and nights are often cold and long. Most insects are dead or dormant. Water can be hard to find, and food needed to provide the energy to keep birds warm might be scarce. Finding shelter may not be easy. If there are limited natural evergreens or shelter, birds may seek man-made houses or habitats that can provide refuge from the winds, rains and ice of winter.



By the way, did you know that adult birds do NOT sleep in their nests; unless they are incubating eggs or feeding young chicks. Birds roost in thick brush, wood piles, dense shrubs and some like evergreen trees. Walk near a cedar or sweet olive or big gardenia at dusk; you may be startled by birds flying out to check on the commotion.

Birds are warm-blooded. This means that they maintain their body temperature within a certain range even when the temperature around them changes. The maintenance of body temperature within a normal range depends on the amount of heat the bird produces. On cold, wintry days, most birds fluff up their feathers, creating air pockets, which help keep the birds warm. The more air spaces, the better the insulation. Some birds perch on one leg, drawing the other leg to the breast for warmth.

To keep up their high metabolic rate, most backyard birds eat rich, energy foods such as seeds, insects and suet. You can feed the birds at any time of year. A feeder simply attracts birds in close so that you can watch them. Birds get their food from a variety of sources and migrate on their own schedule, so your feeding doesn't have much impact.

The birds around our house are enjoying sunflower seeds, except for the bluebirds (yes we're partial), they get wax worms that we order on-line. They also enjoy a nice buffet of nandina and wild yaupon berries and seeds on the ornamental grasses. Our birds are currently loving the small fruit on our oleagnus (autumn olive).

According to those "in the know", wait until mid to late February to prune your roses. A Master Gardener friend said she follows the rule to "prune by Mardi Gras and have roses for Mother's Day". This sounds good to me; and easy to remember. This year Mardi Gras is February 9 which is real early, be sure to remember Mothers on May 8.

Soil pH should be tested at least every three years. Since winter is pretty slow for yard work, this might be a good time to start collecting soil samples from various spots around your lawn and gardens. Call the Extension office for information on the best way to label your samples and send them in for testing. If you do it now, there will be time to amend the soil as needed before you start planting for spring.

If you plan to grow your own transplants from seed, now is the time to develop your schedule. We need to get started on this, my husband bought seeds of some heirloom vegetables to try this year. We haven't been very successful with seeds, but we keep trying.

Enjoy your slothful life while you can. Things are about to get very busy in the garden!

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National Wear Red Dress Day in Laurel

By Linda Cranford

Mayor Johnny Magee signed a proclamation Tuesday morning, February 2, declaring Friday, February 5, as National Wear Red Dress Day in Laurel, and encouraged all citizens to educate themselves about the risk factors of heart disease in women, the seriousness of the impact of heart disease on women and their families, and the importance of women taking actions to protect their heart health.

Joining Mayor Magee for the proclamation signing were Faye Jackson, her mother, Mary F. Jones, and members of the Golden Star Chapter #26 of the Eastern Star, Bobbie Whitfield, Florence McCormick, Cynthia Arrington, Dariah Harrison, and Earline Hosey.

Jackson expressed the importance of women staying aware and paying attention to the risk factors of heart disease. "Know your numbers; heart rate, blood pressure, cholesterol, glucose, and weight," said Jackson. Her daughter, Kaila Porter, died in 2006, at the age of 23, as a result of heart disease, and her father is presently suffering from a condition associated with heart disease.

Red Dress Day is a program which was begun in 2001 when seventy leading experts in women's health sought to develop a national action plan to reduce the toll of heart disease on American women.

The first Friday in February of each year has been designated as Red Dress Day by The Heart Truth, which is the national campaign for awareness of women's heart health sponsored by the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI), part of the National Institutes of Health, U.S.

Mayor Johnny Magee, center, is joined by, L-R, Florence McCormick Faye Jackson, Cynthia Arrington, Bobbie Whitfield, Dariah Harrison, Mary F. Jones, and Earline Hosey, for the signing of the Wear Red Dress Day proclamation. Photo/Linda Cranford



Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS).

The proclamation states, "Heart disease is the number one killer of women, causing one in every four deaths among women. Women's risk of heart disease begins to increase between ages forty and sixty. Women historically, have failed to make the connection between risk factors such as high blood pressure and high cholesterol, and their personal risk of developing heart disease. Research reveals that most wom-

en underestimate their personal risk and do not fully understand the devastating impact that heart disease has on one's life and family. Red Dress Day is designed to get attention, to convey the seriousness of heart disease, and to change the perception that heart disease is only a man's issue."

A luncheon will be held at the Eastern Star Golden Star Chapter #26, located on Buchanan Street, at noon on Friday.



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ARL is currently in need of newspapers, bleach, and cat litter.

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February 10
Attention Senior Citizens. Learn to use your flip phone, smart phone or tablet at B.E. Murph Center for Seniors. Free electronic classes are offered to everyone 50 years and older. Classes are held each Wednesday beginning February 10th at 1:00p.m. For additional classes or activities held at B.E. Murph Center for stop by the Center 715 N.10th Ave, Laurel, MS or dial 601-428-6142. Open Monday, 12:00 pm to 4:00pm; Tuesday and Wednesday from 7: am to 4:00 pm.

The Jones County Republican Women will have their monthly meeting Wednesday, February 10th at 12:00 p.m. noon, at The Gables, 1915 Bush Dairy Road, Laurel, MS. Mayor Hal Marx will be the guest speaker. Mayor Marx is currently serving his second term as Mayor of the City of Petal, MS.

February 11
The Ellisville Public Library will be having their annual Valentine's Party on 02-11-16 @ 3:30 p.m. at the George Harrison Multipurpose Center adjacent to the library. This event is hosted and sponsored by the Friends of the Ellisville Public Library. Children of all ages are invited to attend. Come join us for a "love-ly", fun-filled afternoon!

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The Lauren Rogers Museum of Art education staff will offer pottery classes for children in grades K5-6. Classes will be held in the LRMA Carriage House Studio on Thursdays, February 11 and 18 from 3:30-5:00 p.m. Participants will be introduced to a variety of wheel-throwing and hand-building techniques. All supplies are included. To sign up or for more information, call the Museum at 601.649.6374, or visit www.LRMA.org/education/classes.

February 12
The Junior Auxiliary of Laurel is hosting their 3rd annual Casino Night on Friday, February 12th from 7pm-midnight. It is being held at Studio 550 in downtown Laurel. At the event there will be casino-style gambling, dinner, drinks, dancing and a silent auction. With each ticket you will receive \$100 in "fun-money" to play at the gaming tables! All proceeds from the gaming and silent auction go towards service projects that directly benefit and help the children of Laurel and Jones County! The \$50 per person tickets can be purchased by calling 601-422-3614 or stopping by Bella Bella. Tickets can also be purchased on the Junior Auxiliary of Laurel's Facebook page.

Hills Chapel MB Church invites you to celebrate with us on Friday, February 12th at 7:00p.m. for our "Pre-Anniversary" in honor of 12 years of Pastoral Ministry for Pastor Kimble Windham and Minister Lisa Windham. All choirs, praise dance teams, mime teams, drill teams, vocal groups and soloist are invited.

The Great Backyard Bird Count is a free event now in its 19th Year. It is open to anyone. Join us for the count February 12th-15th. Participants count birds and report their sightings online at <http://gbbc.birdcount.org/> Submit Observations. There is no fee or registration. Those who would like to participate but aren't online can try their local library or call in your results to (264-9654).

February 13
Gospel Sing Saturday, February 13th beginning at 6:30p.m. at Sanford Community Center located at 663 Old Hwy 49, Sanford. Featuring: "Shallow Creek", "McRaney Family" and "Faithway Singers. Admission is free. A love offering will be received. For more information, call 601-765-6485.

Joe D. Hudgies American Legion Post #210, 1308 E. Elmo Street, Laure, I will have a "Valentine Day Dance" on Saturday, February 13th. Doors open at 7:30 p.m. with the "Thro-Bak Band" as entertainment; 1st show, 9:00p.m. Dress is semi-formal. Free food, B.Y.O.B. Admission is \$10.

The Black Heritage Celebration Association invites you to celebrate with us at our "Beauty & Beau Pageant," (0 months - High School) being held at Collins Elementary School Auditorium, 401 Dogwood Ave., on Saturday, February 13th at 4:00p.m.

Join us for Sandra Hancock Ministries' All Things Are Possible Conference February 13, 2016 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

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On Saturday, February 13th we will celebrate the life and legacy of a Laurel High School educator, coach, and friend, Coach Luke Leggett. Remembrances from colleagues and former LHS alumni along with a dedication of the LHS Baseball field for Coach Luke Leggett will begin at 11:00a.m. This will be an event-filled day culminating in the LHS Legends Alumni Game. If you would like to speak or for more event information, contact Nicki Leggett at 601-577-8804.

February 14
Pastor Leander Bridges, I & the Springhill Missionary Baptist Church located at 1403 Dubose Street, Ellisville cordially invite the general public to our Annual Cultural Heritage Celebration program to be held Sunday, February 14, 2016, at 6:30 p.m. Come be a part of these services, if your schedules are available.

Oak Grove Baptist Church, Ellisville, invites you to come and worship with us in the celebration of our church's 106th Year Anniversary on Sunday, February 14th at 2:30p.m. The guest speaker for the occasion will be Rev. Dr. Arthur Logan, Pastor of Union Baptist Church, Laurel.

United Missionary Baptist Church cordially invites your entire Church family to join us in celebration of our 42nd Year Church Anniversary on February 14th at 3:00 p.m. Pastor Washington McKenzie, Jr. of Mt. Rose M. B. Church of Quitman, MS, will be the speaker for the occasion, along with the Church choir. Special guest vocalist includes the Holy Messengers and William and the Harmony Doves of United M. B. Church of Laurel.

February 15
There will be an Annual Membership Meeting of the J.P. Utility District on Monday, February 15th at 7:00p.m. The meeting will be held at the office building located at 2280 Hwy 29 South next to the Johnson Volunteer Fire Department, For more info call, 601-477-3215.

February 16
Free basic computer class for Senior Citizens in Laurel & Jones County or Seniors in 30-mile radius to Laurel. Stop by B.E. Murph Center N 10th Avenue, Laurel, MS. Classes are given for anyone 50 years or older. Classes are held at 10:00a.m. each Tuesday beginning February 9th. Individual computers are available or you may use your own. Call 601-428-6142 for more info.

Wayne County 4-H, Waynesboro-Wayne County Library, and First State Bank are offering FREE Family Movie Night featuring "Transylvania 2" on Tuesday, February 16 starting at 6:00 pm. Please make plans now to attend as seating is limited. You can pick up your free movie tickets at Mississippi State University Extension Service, Wayne County office or the Waynesboro-Wayne County Library. This free ticket serves as your admission into the movie. A small popcorn and small drink or water will be available for 50 cents each.

February 20
Gospel Sing at First Baptist Church, Ovett, featuring "The Magnolia Boys", on Saturday, February 20th at 6:30p.m. Everyone welcome.

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Chapman Tractor Company: 1510 Azalea Drive, Waynesboro. Phone 1-800-816-2826. Massey Ferguson and Kubota tractors and equipment sales, 601-735-3103, 601-735-3104 or 601-735-4461

LAND

Jones County 15+/- Acres- This tract is located a few miles from the Ellisville city limits. This timbered (16 year pine plantation) tract offers a nice country setting for a home or mini-farm. Smaller acreage available nearby. \$48,000.00. Walley Properties, LLC. For more information call 601-477-3014. walleyproperties.com

Jones County 57+/- Acres- Five miles south of Ellisville on Busby Road. Rolling terrain suitable for small farm or country home with recreational opportunities. Priced at \$150,000.00. For more info call Walley Properties, LLC at 601-477-3014. 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

24 acres in Runnells town. Lots of mature timber and wildlife. Unbelievable hunting!! May subdivide. Call Shawn with Southern Coastal Realty at 601-408-3570.

Jasper County 135+/- Acres- Rolling Terrain, mostly 2 year old loblolly pine plantation and mixed hardwood.

Covered metal shed with 2 container buildings for storage and RV electric hookup. Excellent hunting and timber investment. Only 5 minutes from I-59 at the Heidelberg, MS exit. Priced at \$212,000.00. Walley Properties, LLC. For more information call Marc at 601-670-5429. walleyproperties.com

Land for sale: 40 acres with timber. Good hunting. Approximately 2 miles from Manor Creek in Waynesboro. 601-755-0083.

I buy timber and timberlands. Call Shawn at 601 408 3570.

Jasper County 68+/- Acres- Rolling Terrain with two year old pine plantation and mature pine, 3+/- acre stocked lake with metal pier and 20x20 pavilion. Camp house is approximately 2400 square feet finished area with 1125 square feet of porches. Perfect weekend get-a-way with year round recreational opportunities. Only 5 minutes from I-59 at the Heidelberg, Ms. exit. Priced at \$190,000.00. Walley Properties, LLC. For more information call Marc at 601-670-5429. walleyproperties.com.

2-choice Cemetery Lots, Hickory Grove Addn. City of Laurel. Near intersection of Old Bay Springs Road & W. 15th St. Secure location near 3

Street Lights. Look for the American Flags under the tree. \$500 per lot. 601-573-8686.

Covington County 85+/- Acres- Price Reduced! Beautiful rolling terrain. Mix of young pine plantation and hardwood along the creek bottom. Interior roads and trails, pipeline r.o.w perfect for food plots. Excellent timber investment and hunting. Only 4 miles North of Seminary at the intersection of Hwy 535 and Lebanon Church Road. \$212,500.00. Walley Properties, LLC. For more information or to schedule an appointment to see this property call Bennett Burris at 601-913-0340. walleyproperties.com

Rare Opportunity Lake Eddins! 5.5 Acres, Beautiful water view, And Inside A Gated Community. Will Sell All 8 Lots for only \$50,000 Or Will consider separating. For More Info Call CrossRoads Realty At 601-727-7653.

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Forrest County 72+/- Acres- Price Reduced! Excellent development potential or country estate property. Frontage on Rawls Springs/ Pitts Road, 2 miles west of Hwy 49 North of Hattiesburg. \$201,600.00. Walley Properties, LLC. Call Bennett Burris for more information at 601-913-0340. walleyproperties.com

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Continued on ... Page 6

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+/-83 acres located 5 miles south of Ellisville, MS with road frontage on both Augusta Road and Kitchens Loop. Clear 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 great house sites. Power and water available. This place is beautiful!!! \$207,500 +/- 140 Acres Located in North Jasper County on County Rd 2424 in Garlandville, MS just 15 minutes from Newton, MS. Just minutes from the National Forest. This tract has it All! 5 Bedroom/3 Bath with huge den/game room and large deck overlooking a pond with pier and gazebo. Large Metal Shop with skinning station. RV Hook Up. Property is fenced all with a 60 foot clearing all the way around the property boundaries. Ready to be High Fenced. This property offers great hunting and recreation. +/- 70 acres

of pre-merchantable pine plantation, +/-40 acres of Hardwood, and +/-25 acres of Merchantable Pine/Hwd. This property is perfect for a family get away or a corporate retreat. \$371,000; +/-42 acres Jones County, MS. Frontage road on Claiborne Road, mature Red Oak timber, wildlife plots. Nice yard with camp-house. Set up nicely for all season hunting. \$115K; +/- 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 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 Lake Site. 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. Call McCraw/Forest Management for a free consultation, 601-408-0615, www.mfmland.com.

Jones County 50+/- Acres- NEW LISTING- South Jones County fronting on Hwy 29. Improved pasture with ranch style brick home.

Home is approximately 1900 square feet with 3 bedrooms and 2 baths. Two additional outbuilding for storage. Excellent small farm or country estate. Priced at \$205,000.00. For more info call Walley Properties, LLC at 601-477-3014. walleyproperties.com

Jones County 30+/- Acres- Great residential potential property in Southwest Jones County. Can be divided into three-10 acres parcels. \$117,000.00. Walley Properties, LLC. For more information call 601-477-3014. walleyproperties.com

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Continued on ... Page 7

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Continued on ... Page 9

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JA of Laurel hosts Girl Talk



For the past 6 years, the Junior Auxiliary of Laurel has hosted Girl Talk at the Laurel Middle School. This day is educational and fun for approximately 100, 8th grade girls. Girl Talk teaches the girls about the importance of making healthy choices for a brighter future. This year we have former Miss Mississippi, Jasmine Murray, as our keynote speaker along with 5 other topic speakers. This one-day workshop shares information on topics such as hygiene, social media, internet safety, and the importance of education. We finish the day with Ian Bergin teaching self-defense and a performance by JCJC Jones on Stage. *Photo/submitted*

Sign up now for the 5th Annual Magnolia State Bank Chili Cook Off



The Jones County Sheriff's Department's Chili Chili Bang Bang team was the 1st Place Winner of last year's Magnolia State Bank Chili Cook Off with "Chef" Patti Firment's New Mexico Green Chili recipe - L-R, Sharla Hodge, Sheriff Alex Hodge, Patti Firment, Frank Firment, and Karen Bustin. *Photo/Linda Cranford*

Submitted

Laurel Main Street is calling on all chefs, home cooks, and friends with a great chili recipe to register for the 5th Annual Magnolia State Bank Chili Cook Off that will take place Saturday, February 20, in downtown Laurel from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m.

Registration, which costs \$100, is open until the evening of Monday, February 15. Teams can include up to five members and must prepare three gallons of chili for the judges and patrons to taste. Everything must be made from scratch at the cook off no earlier than 7:00 a.m.

Laurel Main Street altered the categories this year to include a \$1,000 prize for homestyle chili as well as \$1,000 for traditional chili. This change raises the stakes and gives more teams a chance to take home the grand prize. Additionally, the winner in the traditional category will have the traveling red chili pepper trophy, carved by master chainsaw artist Dayton Scoggins, for an entire year.

Patrons will determine the People's Choice Award and tent with the best decorations may receive the Spirit Award.

Interested participants can find registration forms, rules and regulations, and the event schedule at www.laurelmainstreet.com/event/chili-cook-off.

For more information, please contact Judi Holifield, executive director of Laurel Main Street, at (601) 433-3255 or info@laurelmainstreet.com.

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Dr. David Sullivan speaks at SCRMC "Go Red for Women" luncheon

By Linda Cranford

February is American Heart Month, a campaign to bring awareness to women about the risk of heart disease. Friday, February 5, women attending the monthly South Central Regional Medical Center Speaking of Women program were encouraged to wear red for the "Go Red for Women" day in celebration of American Heart Month. SCRMC staff member Dr. David Sullivan, a cardiologist with Jefferson Medical Associates in Laurel, was the guest speaker.

"Why do women need to know about heart disease," asked Sullivan, "because, between the ages of 45 and 64, in this country, one in nine women will have some type of heart problem. After age 65, it goes to one in three. Generally speaking, on average, women are ten years older than men when they come down with their first heart problem."

"Heart disease is the number one killer of women. It is a surprise to most women that heart disease, and its brothers and sisters, like stroke and heart failure, kill more women than breast cancer, or in fact, all cancers."

Sullivan said heart disease can permanently damage the heart even without a failed event, such as a heart attack. It is for this reason that the American Heart Association, the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI), and physicians across the country have joined in the "Wear Red" campaign to bring awareness to women of the dangers and causes of heart disease.

"Most women underestimate their risk of heart disease," stressed Sullivan. "Heart disease is largely preventable. In our country, we are just starting to think about diet in its entirety as a risk factor. In the 80s and 90s, we heard saturated fats are bad. What did food manufactures do; they replaced the fats with sugar. That didn't really do us a whole lot of good. The three bad things in your diet are fats, sugar, and salt. So, you can't have a fat-free candy bar, which is loaded with sugar and sodium, and say you did something good for yourself."

There are two types of heart disease –



Cardiologist Dr. David Sullivan was the guest speaker for the SCRMC Speaking of Women program. Photos/Linda Cranford

coronary heart disease (CHD), which affects the blood vessels of the heart, and coronary microvascular disease (MVD), which affects the tiny coronary arteries.

"Coronary artery disease leads to a heart attack, and occurs over a long period of time," said Sullivan. "By starting now to watch our diet and increase our exercise we can delay or prevent the occurrence of heart disease."

According to the NHLBI The Heart Truth literature, a healthy heart diet consist of "putting together an eating plan that offers the balance of calories that is right for you, including vegetables, fruits, whole grains, and low-fat or fat-free dairy products. The number of calories you need each day depends on your age and how physically active you are. Add seafood, lean meats, poultry, beans, eggs, and unsalted nuts for protein. Limit saturated and trans fats, sodium (salt), and added sugars. Grill, steam, or bake instead of frying, and flavor with spices, not sauces."

There are two types of risk factors associated with heart disease – those you can't change and those you can control. You can't change your family history of heart disease



"Go Red for Women" guests listened to Dr. David Sullivan, cardiologist with Jefferson Medical Associates, talk about heart health.

or your age. What you can do something about is smoking, high blood pressure, high blood cholesterol, overweight and obesity, lack of physical activity, unhealthy diet, diabetes and prediabetes, and metabolic syndrome.

"There is zero acceptance of these risk factors," said Sullivan. Meaning having any one of these risk factors can lead to heart disease.

Other risk factors include sleep apnea, stress, depression, and excessive alcohol consumption.

"Controlling your numbers is the best way of preventing a heart attack," exclaimed Sullivan. "That is why you hear all of us preach and preach about getting those numbers down, and controlling those numbers."

According to the NHLBI The Heart Truth literature, a normal blood pressure is 120/80. Your are at risk of coronary heart disease if your total cholesterol level is greater than 200 mg/dL, LDL ("bad") cholesterol level is greater than 100 mg/dL, and HDL ("good") cholesterol is less than 50 mg/dL. You are also at risk if your triglyceride level is greater than 150 mg/dL.

"Another number you need to know is zero, for cigarettes," said Sullivan. He added that women, who smoke, lose their 10-year advantage over men in having heart problems show up, and are at the same risk as men. "Don't smoke. If you smoke, quit."

Sullivan said the signs and symptoms associated with having a heart attack include chest pain (squeezing and tightening in the chest), shortness of breath, nausea and vomiting, breaking out in a cold sweat, or light headedness, dizziness and passing out.

"The main number you need to know is 9-1-1," exclaimed Sullivan. "If you think you are having a heart attack call 911. Don't call your sister to come get you, and take you to the doctor's office, and don't try to drive yourself. Call 911."

Karen Vanderslice, SCRMC Community Education Coordinator and director of the Speaking of Women program said next month will be "Go Blue" month in recognition of Colon Cancer Awareness. Guest speaker for the March Speaking of Women, Friday, March 4, will be Dr. Stephen Johnson, gastroenterologist with Jefferson Medical Association.

SouthGroup Sponsors 5K Run/Walk for Blair Batson Children's Hospital

Submitted

SouthGroup Insurance Services has again joined with Friends of Children's Hospital to present the SouthGroup Make•A•Difference 5K Run/Walk on February 20, 2016 in Ridgeland. Last year's event attracted over 500 runners and walkers, along with a host of co-sponsors from the insurance industry across the nation and local SouthGroup clients, to raise \$30,000 for the Blair E. Batson Children's Hospital at The University of Mississippi Medical Center in Jackson. The run/walk, which has contributed over \$180,000 for the hospital over the past 7 years, will begin at 8:30 AM at the SouthGroup headquarters offices in The Woodlands Office Park at County Line Road and Woodlands Parkway in Ridgeland. Pre-registration is available at www.southgroup.net.

According to Brad Kent of SouthGroup in Laurel, the Blair E. Batson Children's Hospital treats over 150,000



Blair Batson Heart Patient, Christopher McRae of Soso crosses the finish line during the SouthGroup Make A Difference Fun Run with his grandmother, Ellen Bigbie, Office Manager at SouthGroup of Laurel and his mother, Krysta McRae. Photo/Submitted

children from every county in Mississippi each year for everything from cystic fibrosis and juvenile diabetes to

pediatric heart disease, neurological disorders and other childhood illnesses. "Many of us are blessed with healthy children and this is one way we are able to make sure those less fortunate receive the world-class medical treatment they need", Kent said.

The event will also include a one-mile fun run as well as activities for children. "Runners and walkers came from all over Mississippi last year and we are, again, looking for over 500 participants

and hope to raise another \$30,000 for the treatment of our children", Kent continued. "We would love to see participants from Laurel and Jones County join us in Ridgeland the morning of February 20 either competing in the race for medals or just walking or simply making a contribution to support the children's hospital", he added.

For more information, call the local SouthGroup office at 601-649-4062.

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Signing Day in the Pine Belt 2016



WAYNE COUNTY - A dozen Wayne County High School football players signed football scholarships Wednesday. The lone Division 1 signee was five-star recruit Benito Jones. Jones (DL) was an early enrollee at Ole Miss this month. Two other December graduates Denzel Bonner (LB) and TyRee Evans (DE) signed with East Mississippi Community College earlier. Seven War Eagles signed with Hinds Community College on Wednesday in Freddy Jordan Jr. (RB), Reggie Stewart (QB), RaMeik Wallace (WR), Hamilton Hudson (OL), Tyler Hopkins (LB), Hunter James (LS) and Quindaris Bivens (DL). Two other players also inked Wednesday with East Central Community College in Deon Smith (DB) and DeAndre Gandy (LB). (Submitted)



JCJC BOBCAT - JCJC's Tevin Moore signs a scholarship with the University of North Alabama Wednesday in the Bobcat Fieldhouse. As a short-yardage quarterback, he rushed 43 times for 199 yards and eight touchdowns in 2015. As a wide receiver, he caught 15 passes for 228 yards and a touchdown. As a freshman, Moore rushed 76 times for 149 yards and nine touchdowns. He had 23 receptions for 218 yards in 2014. The Stringer High School product led the Red Devils to the 1A state championship in 2012. (Photo/JCJC Football)



West Jones High School senior Brandon Young recently signed a letter of intent to play football at Jones County Junior College. Pictured are: Seated--Melissa Young (mom); Young; Kenny Young (dad) Standing--WJHS Head Coach Scott Pierson; Coach Chris White; Kendrick Young (brother); Shavon Young (sister); Byron Young (brother); Coach Benji Merchant; Retired WJHS Coach Wayne Graves. (Submitted)



West Jones High School senior Larry Keys recently signed a letter of intent to play football at Jones County Junior College. Pictured are: Seated: Paulet Keys (mom); Keys; Larry Keys, Sr. (dad) Standing: WJHS Head Football Coach--Scott Pierson; Coach Chris White; Rhonda Bells (Grandmother); Kendra Keys (sister); Coach Benji Merchant; Retired WJHS Coach Wayne Graves. (Submitted)



West Jones High School senior Tyone Clemons recently signed a letter of intent to play football at East Central Community College. Pictured are: Seated: Dalton McLean (friend); Clemons; Cristy McLean (friend) Standing: WJHS Head Coach Scott Pierson; Coach Chris White; Ke-Shandra Moore (friend); Coach Benji Merchant; Retired WJHS Coach Wayne Graves. (Submitted)



Laurel High School football standout Thakarius Keyes signed a letter of intent with East Mississippi Community College as part of National Signing Day. Pictured (seated) are his sister Raven Hudgies holding his nephew Amari Kirk, Thakarius Keyes, mother Tonya Weathersby, (standing) his aunt and LHS Counselor Roslyn Haskin, Head Coach Todd Breland and Principal Jaymar Jackson. (Submitted)

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Proceeds Benefit the South Central Health Care Foundation.



Laurel High School football standout Malik Cooley signed a letter of intent with Jones County Junior College as part of National Signing Day. Pictured (seated) are his father Ricky Cooley, Malik Cooley holding his niece Nazaro Evans, mother Latasha Smith, (standing) Principal Jaymar Jackson, Coach Ray Pickering, Head Coach Todd Breland, Coach Buddy Duke, and Coach William Clay. (Submitted)



Bay Springs product, Jamari Riptoe signed to play football for Southwest Community College. Pictured with Jamari is his brother, Jayland Riptoe, his mother, Joyce McCullum and coach Dan Brady. (Submitted)



Bay Springs product, Trevion Brunson signed to play football for Southwest Community College. Pictured with Trevion is his mother, Karen Brunson, grandmother, Josephine Brown, SWCC coach Dave McCrory and coach Dan Brady. (Submitted)



Heidelberg corner back Xavier Williamson signed with East Central Community College... Xavier is a two year starter ... He is an explosive athlete posting 4.48 40 times and 39inch vertical jump. Pictured: Brandy Bramlett (mom), Left : Coach Joshua Stephens, Middle: Head Coach Darius Dear Right: Uncle Randy Craft (Submitted)



Laurel High School soccer standout Steven Caston signed a letter of intent with Meridian Community College as part of National Signing Day. Pictured (seated) are his grandmother Ada Holden, Steven Caston, mother Linda Caston, (standing) his sister Amanda Wiltz, father Michael Caston, sister Samantha Smith and LHS Head Soccer Coach Julio Martinez. (Submitted)



Laurel High School soccer standout Zaria Husband signed a letter of intent with Meridian Community College as part of National Signing Day. Pictured (seated) are her grandmother Karen Simmons, Zaria Husband, mother Latonya Husband, (standing) Head Soccer Coach Julio Martinez, father Antwain Husband, friends Konika Page, Jakai Epps, Carlita Dempsey and Pastor Jeff Guined of Christ's Church. (Submitted)



Laurel High School soccer standout Kross Carmichael signed a letter of intent with William Carey University as part of National Signing Day. Pictured (seated) his father Malcom Carmichael, Kross Carmichael, mother Mari Carmichael, (standing) Head Soccer Coach Julio Martinez, his brother Mac Carmichael, Assistant Athletic Director Jeff Davis and Coach Rick Sager. (Submitted)



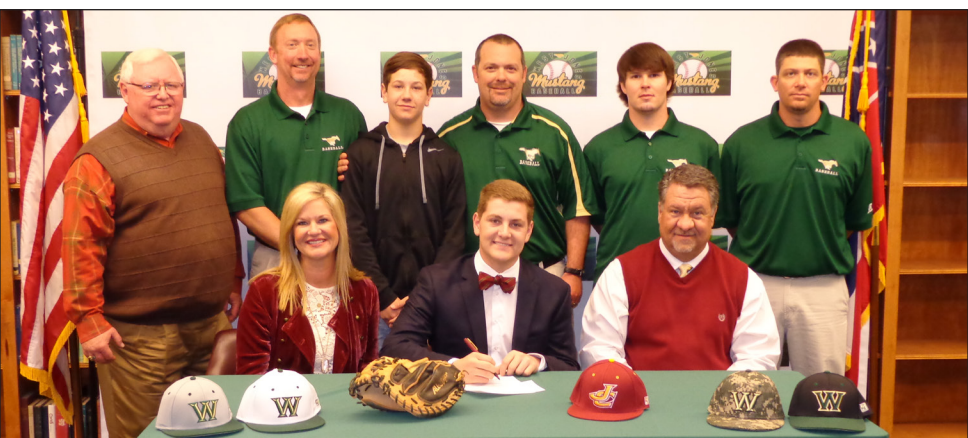
Laurel High School soccer standout Jonathan Atencio signed a letter of intent with Meridian Community College as part of National Signing Day. Pictured (seated) are his father, Miguel Atencio, Jonathan Atencio, mother Teresa Castillo, (standing) Head Soccer Coach Julio Martinez, friend Allison Smith, brother Yorck Atencio and sister Jiana Atencio. (Submitted)



Laurel High School soccer standout Quan Ducksworth signed a letter of intent with Meridian Community College as part of National Signing Day. Pictured (seated) are his father Kevin Smith, Quan Ducksworth, mother Demetrice Smith, (standing) Head Soccer Coach Julio Martinez, his uncle Tony Moffett, teammates Jonathan Atencio, Raquavious Clark and Kross Carmichael. (Submitted)



FOUR JONES COUNTY SOCCER STANDOUTS HEADED TO MCC - Four from Jones County recently signed to play soccer at Meridian Community College. (L to R) Logan Phippen (Northeast Jones), Kayla Jefcoat (West Jones), Lindsey Jenkins (South Jones) and Juan Twillie (Northeast Jones) (Submitted)



West Jones High School senior Hudson Harris recently signed a letter of intent to play baseball at Jones County Junior College. Pictured is Seated: Stephanie Harris (mom); Harris; Chad Harris (dad) Standing: WJHS Supervising Principal Lynn Lyon; Coach David Gavin; Colson Harris (brother); WJHS Head Baseball Coach Joey Ward; Coach Chanse Yelverton; and Coach Corey Tolbert (Submitted)



West Jones High School Senior Jackson Wedgeworth recently signed a letter of intent to play golf for Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College. Pictured are Sitting L-r: Jackson Wedgeworth and Natalie Wedgeworth, mom. Back Row: Lynn Lyon, WJHS Supervising Principal; Coach Tony Johnson, WJHS Golf; Reuben Wedgeworth, dad; and Emma Wedgeworth, sister. (Submitted)

No. 23 tennis Bobcats excited about upcoming season

By Shawn Wansley, JCJC Sports Information Director

Mark Easley likes the squad he has assembled to comprise his 23rd-ranked 2016 Jones County Junior College men's tennis team.

"It's a good group of guys we have," said Easley, who is in his 16th season as head coach. "They all get along well together, they work hard and they are a pleasure to coach. Not only do we try to recruit good tennis players, but good kids, too. They like to be around one another and it's just one big family."

"They can practice together, go out and eat together and hang out in the dorm together. Team camaraderie plays a big part in the success of a team."

The Bobcats return only two sopho-

mores from a squad that finished third in the MACJC/Region 23 Tournament and No. 20 in the final ITA rankings last year.

JCJC finished No. 22 in the NJCAA Division I Tournament in Plano, Texas. It was the fourth appearance in seven years in the national tournament for the Bobcats.

Back from last year are Josh Hester from Florence and Taylor Tamberg from South Jones.

Hester and Tamberg teamed to win a match in No. 3 doubles at nationals.

"Last year, they were our No. 6 and No. 7 players, but they have really improved a lot," Easley said. "Taylor and Josh have been through a season, so there is a world of difference in those guys from last year to this year."

Tamberg has show tremendous improvement since his freshman year.

"Taylor has really come on and picked up his game a lot," he said. "He's played a lot of tennis since last year and has gotten a lot better. He will be in the lineup and do well for us."

"It's a difference between night and day in the way Taylor is hitting the ball between last year and this year. He is a lot more confident and that comes from just being here for a year."

Hester was 11-2 in regular season singles play last season.

"Josh played No. 6 singles and No. 3 doubles last year," Easley said. "He had success last year and is just so steady. He is a 4.0 student in engineering. He has to balance a busy schedule with his studies and practice, but he is able to do that. He is a top-notch guy and you know what you are getting with him."

"He is a great leader and he pushes the guys when it comes to conditioning."

International players are allowed again this season in the MACJC/Region 23 and the Bobcats will have two foreign students.

Taquel Lewis is from St. Lucia and Diego Leal arrived from Colombia during the Christmas holiday break.

Easley expects both of those players to do well.

"Taquel and Diego are very competitive players," he said. "They are very good players and will help us. They will be the No. 1 doubles team and will be the top two players in the singles lineup, depending on how they do head to head. They are really pushing each other and we are very fortunate to have those guys here."

Three players from the Jackson metro area will boost the Bobcats.

Chase Pennington is from Madison-Ridgeland Academy, Luke Armstrong is from Hartfield Academy in Flowood and Blake Taylor is from Northwest Rankin.

"Chase has a great mind for the game," Easley said. "His father is a tennis coach and he's been playing a lot of sports growing up. But now he's devoting all of his time to tennis and he knows what he wants to do on the court. He is a quality student and person."

"Luke was mainly a doubles player in high school and knows the doubles game well. As of now, he and Chase seem to be pairing together well in doubles. Luke works hard and makes adjustments during the match. He finds a way to give himself a chance to win."

"Blake has great strokes. The biggest thing he needs to overcome is the confidence factor in not getting down when he makes mistakes. He is a lefthander and strokes the ball well."

Three local players round out the roster. John Leggett is from Laurel Christian



The 2016 Jones County Junior College Bobcats will open the season in Meridian on Feb. 6 vs. Oxford University of Emory (Georgia). Pictured, kneeling from left, are Taylor Tamberg (South Jones), Blake Taylor (Northwest Rankin), Taquel Lewis (St. Lucia), Diego Leal (Colombia) and John Leggett (Laurel Christian School). Standing, from left, are Brandon McCary (Wayne County), Peyton Ramsey (Northeast Jones), Josh Hester (Florence), Luke Armstrong (Hartfield Academy, Flowood), Chase Pennington (Madison-Ridgeland Academy) and head coach Mark Easley. Photo/Shawn Wansley, JCJC Sports Information

School, Peyton Ramsey is from Northeast Jones and Brandon McCary is from Wayne County.

Easley is pleased with what that trio brings to the court.

"We knew John was a good player and he has gotten better in the semester that he has been here," he said. "Brandon and Peyton have really come a long way in the fall. Hitting every day against competitive players has really raised their game."

"John is a good singles players and has good strokes. Again, he has to stay positive throughout a match. He just has to learn to move on from point to point. But he is going to get there and he is a real solid player for us."

The Bobcats have 10 players on the roster battling for playing spots in singles and doubles.

Easley said practice and early season matches would determine the lineup heading into MACJC/Region 23 play.

"All of the players are fighting for positions," he said. "It's very competitive and that's good. We are using drills, practices and head to head matches to see how where we stand."

In MACJC/Region 23 play, Easley believes it will be another competitive season.

"Meridian has a singles guy from New Zealand who, from all reports, is out of this world," he said. "Gulf Coast will be strong. We played them in the fall and they are very solid. They have their No. 1 and 3 players returning. Itawamba is always good, Co-Lin has a number of players back and Hinds is better."

"It's a well-balanced league. It should be an interesting year and a great tournament at the end of the season."

Mississippi Gulf Coast will host the MACJC/Region 23 Tournament April 20-23. The top three teams from there will advance to the NCJAA Division I National Tournament May 16-20 in Plano, Texas.

JCJC's first home match will be at 2 p.m. on Feb. 18 vs. Hinds.

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