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Volume 40, No. 51 • December 21, 2016

Advertising that works!

### Ulmer named Most Valubable Offensive Player in Bernard Blackwell All-Star game



Laurel's TyQuan Ulmer (8) was named the Most Valuable Offensive Player for the South All-Stars Saturday during the Bernard Blackwell All-Star game. Ulmer passed for a touchdown and caught the game-winner late in the fourth quarter. The South All-Stars defeated the North All-Stars, 21-14. Photo/Zac Chamblee

### "Just Say Merry Christmas Turkey Giveaway" This Friday

By Linda Cranford

The 11th annual Senator Chris McDaniel's "Just Say Merry Christmas" turkey give away will take place this Friday, December 23, at West Ellisville First Baptist Church parking lot in Ellisville, beginning at 4 p.m. The only requirement to receive a turkey is that each person must say "Merry Christmas" as they drive up; only one turkey will be given per vehicle, and no walk-ups allowed.

McDaniel began the turkey giveaway in 2005 as a way



of making a statement against the war that was raging on Christmas when companies were forbidding their employees to say "Merry Christmas" and instead instructing them to say "Happy Holidays." Sadly, the war on Christmas continues today, eleven years later. Volunteers are needed to assist in the giveaway. If you are interested in volunteering, donating your own turkey, or making a monetary donation, contact Jack Fairchild at 601-415-









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

Classified and ROP Ad Deadline Sunday Edition -Wednesday at 12:00 Noon Wednesday Edition -Thursday at 3:00

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# Ribbon cutting for It's Party Time



It's Party Time, located at 3140 Audubon Drive in Laurel, held their ribbon cutting on December 16 and they are now open for business! It's Party Time offers party supplies for all occasions, including jump rentals. They are open Monday through Saturday from 9 a.m. until 6 p.m. Left to right are: Madisin Harris, Jordan Norwood, Jamie Lowie (manager), Bobby Brady (owner), Laurel Mayor Johnny Magee, Jones County Supervisor Johnny Burnett, Bayleigh Brady and Joshua Brady. *Photo/submitted* 

# Kia of Laurel holds grand opening



Kia of Laurel held a grand opening last Thursday to celebrate their new facility located at 2018 Highway 15 North. Owner Jimmy Walker, surrounded by friends, family and employees along with business and community leaders, cut the ribbon to the new building opening the doors to the public. Walker also owns Laurel Ford/Lincoln next door. Call 602-428-2900. *Photo/Ryan Griffin* 

## Sylva-Bay Academy juniors sponser "Ugly Christmas Sweater Day"



Nothing says Christmas fashion like an ugly sweater! Sylva-Bay Academy's junior class sponsored "Ugly Christmas Sweater Day" to spread holiday cheer while raising money for a special cause. To participate in this fun event, students donated money to forgo wearing school uniforms and donned festive, funny Christmas sweaters instead. The money raised will be used for a worthy cause within the community. Back row, left to right – Tyla Hamm, Jamie Ainsworth, Camryn Graves, Brooklyn Odom; front row, left to right – Macie McCormick, Savannah Sims.



### Christ or Santa Claus: Which story do you tell?

By Katelyn Williamson

Santa Claus, St. Nick or Kris Cringle all evoke a little excitement in American children around the holidays. Children have been taught to see Santa as a jolly, generous grandfather figure who brings gifts on Christmas as a reward for good behavior. Parents often use the legend of St. Nick as a disciplinary method for their



children, but what if this is actually doing more harm than good?

While using Santa to promote good behavior may be effective, parents are teaching children to be obedient for the sake of reward and not because it is the right thing to do. Children develop a sense that Santa is a transcendent figure who cares about how they treat others and has the power to punish or reward. When the kids refuse to behave, do you remind them that Santa is watching? I bet you do. Marketing also puts a lot of emphasis on him this time of year, and most of the kids' Christmas shows are centered on St. Nick – ultimately he is the center of their Christmas.

Many Christian parents have adopted the practice of teaching their kids that Santa is real; that may seem harmless, but is it? They are told the true meaning of Christmas is to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ, but Santa seems to have taken the lead on this holiday. Jesus is pushed into the background as kids make Christmas lists, get their pictures taken with Santa, and leave him milk and cookies on Christmas Eve night. When your kids wake up on Christmas morning, are they excited about the true meaning of the holiday or do they just rush to see what Santa Claus has left them?

Children have known of Santa just as long as they have known about Jesus, so when parents confess that Santa is not real, does it also cast a seed of doubt in the child's mind about the story of Christ? Attempt to tell a child the truth about Santa and expect to be met with a fight, because they are willing to defend what they have been taught to believe. Is there something wrong with telling children the truth about Christmas? As they grow older, children eventually accept that what they were told about Santa is fictitious, that the evidence was never real, and then they reason past the times that St. Nick supposedly left presents, the tooth fairy left a dollar under their pillow and the Easter bunny brought them an Easter basket. So, what do they then reason about Jesus? Is He just another figure in a fictitious narrative, or is He the Son of God who lowered Himself to the level of a man so that salvation could come to humanity? How you tell His story is important. Your children are listening.

# JCJC offering Welding Fabrication for beginners

Submitted

Jones County Junior College's Workforce College will be offering a Welding Fabrication class for beginners at the Whitehead Advanced Technology Center in Ellisville. The evening class will meet on Mondays and Thursdays from 5 p.m. until 9 p.m. starting on January 17, and ending on March 30. The Welding Fabrication class for beginners is an eighty-hour classroom and hands-on, instructor-led course that teaches students basic welding skills. In this course, students will learn skills such as welding safety, general cutting and fabrication, ornamental iron working, stick welding, wire welding and farm welding.

This course is for anyone with limited or no welding training. The course will teach students basic welding skills and could prepare them for more advanced welding courses offered by JCJC. Upon successful completion of the course students will receive a JCJC Workforce College Certificate with the number of course-hours completed. The cost for this course is \$150. Students are responsible for purchasing their own personal protective equipment (PPE).

To register, pay and get a PPE list for the class please come to the Advanced Technology Center at 72 Technology Blvd, Ellisville, or call Carmen Sumrall at (601) 477-4105.

### HELP FOR VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC ABUSE



24-Hour Crisis Line **1-800-649-1092** 

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

- Temporary Shelter
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### GENERAL

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Smoke Shop -- Papers, water pipes, grinders, pipe cleaners, detox, loose tobacco. Flag Heads, 490 Hwy. 49, Seminary. Open 10-5, Monday-Saturday. "You won't find it at Walmart." 601.466.4141.

ruptcy, divorce, off-shore boat accidents, 18-wheeler accidents, criminal defense and more. For all your legal needs, contact a professional. Jones Law Firm 601-582-9177. Let me know you saw my ad in IMPACT.

Entire Holiday Dinners. Order yours today. All dinners feed a up to 4 people easily. Choose 1: Baked chicken or ham. Choose 3: Cornbread dressing, collard greens, green beans, field peas, candied yams. Choose 1: Cornbread or rolls. We also have other menus avail-

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Selling Home and Business. Everything must go. Wedding equipment, evening gowns, desk, file cabinet, clothes dryer, many household goods. Too much to list. All reduced to sell by 12/18/16. All sold on a first come basis. 601-606-9168, 601-

Men's Suits for only \$65.00, 2 Suits for only \$120.00. All ministers receive a special discount Mention that you saw this is ad in the Impact and receive yet another additional discount. Call George at 601-261-

Double Insert for home or office 601-433-1285.

Tornado Shelters: Underground, 6 x 8 steel shelters, \$4,995.00. Installed: \$7,495.00. FEMA approved. Open M-Sat.. 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. "You won't find it at Walmart."

Avon Cape Cod Collection. \$250.

Train Like a Pro with NFL veteran Jeff Posey. Boys and girls 8 and up. Cardio. Fitness. Speed. Agility, 601-620-7363.

People with Disabilities Take Part in Study- Compensation. The University of Southern Mississippi is currently conducting a study examining mental health-related outcomes in individuals with various physical disabilities. Participants will be asked to answer questions about different aspects of their disabilities, beliefs, and mental and physical health. Accessibility software and equipment will be provided so that individuals with various forms of physical disabilities can use our laptop computers. Participants needing an American Sign Language Interpreter will be provided one by study staff. Financial compensation in the form of \$45 Amazon gift cards will be provided. Participation in the study will take place at the University of Southern Mississippi in Hattiesburg, Mississippi. For more information about this study, or if you are interested in participating, please contact us at 214-236-6106 or usm disability.study@gmail.com

Men's 26" Roadmaster Bike: boys rangler bike; fireplace log holder with accessories; 70 feet drain pipe; grass spreader; 1 cabinet 24x24; 1 cabinet 36x20: 3 metal cabinets. Call 601-467-8493.

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

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For Sale: Service Age - Simmental & Sim-Angus Bulls. Calving ease

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40x30x16-\$9500. Farm Barns. 30x30x10-\$7500. Metal roof and sides. Price includes labor. 601-296-

#### LAND

Jasper County 35 +/- Acres This tract is located 7 miles northwest of Heidelberg, MS on County Road 14 and offers an abundance of wildlife that is sure to satisfy any hunters needs. The property was planted with Loblolly Pines in the winter of 2016. The property will be sprayed for release in the summer of 2016. This property is offered at \$52,500. Call Marc 601-670-5429 at Walley Properties LLC or visit walleyproperties.com for maps of this listing.

Jones County +/- 123 Acres. Located 5 miles from downtown Ellisville off of HWY 29 South on Pecan Grove Road. This Property has endless opportunities! From hunting, fishing, building a home/farm, or just for an investment. Property contains mature pine plantation and a fully stocked pond that would be great to build a home/camp next too. \$455,100. For more details, Contact Marc 601-670-5429 at Walley walleyproperties.com for maps and more information of this listing.

Continued on ... Page 5









Locally owned and operated by Tony & Sandy Farris Intersection of Hwy. 84 and 28 in Calhoun

601-422-4144

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### **Grace Pointe Church**

Welcomes

The Watson Family

334 Indian Springs Road • Laurel

# A Shepherd's Heart - From mute to manifold praises

Dr. Timothy L. Hubbard

Zechariah's song is found in Luke 1:67-79 and is part of Luke's narrative of the events leading up to the birth of Christ. The prophet, Isaiah, had foretold the coming of one who would prepare the way of the Lord (Isaiah 40), and Luke ties the Old Testament prophecy to the story of



the birth of John to Zechariah and Elizabeth. Luke begins with the story with Zechariah fulfilling his priestly duties. Gabriel brought him the news from God that he and Elizabeth would become parents even in their old age. He told him that his son was to be named John and that he would be filled with the Holy Spirit. Also Gabriel stated that John would come in the spirit of Elijah to turn the hearts of many to the Lord and that he would prepare the way for the Lord.

Zechariah replied to Gabriel, "How can this be? For I am and old man, and my wife is advanced in years." This response prompted Gabriel to state emphatically that God had sent him with this good news and that since he had not believed that he would be unable to speak until the child has been born. So Zechariah was mute until the baby was born. Once the baby was born, he was to be circumcised on the eighth day, as was their custom. Those who were there were going to name the child after his father but Elizabeth cried out that his name is to be John.

Not understanding this requests, they summoned Zechariah to ask him what the child's name was to be. The Scripture reveals that he was handed a tablet to write on and he wrote, "His name is John!" This is the backdrop for the song of Zechariah. The first words out of Zechariah's mouth, once his tongue was loosed, were words of manifold praise to the Lord. In his song we find the following: 1) His song was filled with great emotion and was a song of praise. 2) His song was a song of salvation. 3) His song was a song of prophecy.

A song of praise: Praise offered to God for redeeming His people through the promised Messiah who was to come from the house of David. Zechariah knew the prophecy of the coming of the Messiah, certainly as he had these nine months of silence, he had plenty of time to be reminded of how God was fulfilling them and that he had been chosen to be part of that fulfillment. This led to an emotionally charged song of praise, blessing and thanksgiving to God.

A song of salvation: A reminder of God's faithfulness to His people to provide a way of salvation for them. This knowledge, and the confidence it brought, led to the people of God being able to serve Him without fear throughout all

A song of prophecy: Zechariah spoke directly to John the things that the angel Gabriel had told him that he would accomplish in his life. He spoke the Word of God over his son on that day as prophetic words that would prove true as John grew and became strong in the Spirit. Maybe you are asking, "What does this song have to do with the story of the birth of Christ?" This song is important because it reveals to us that God's Word is truth and that whatever God says, He will do! In order for the prophecies of the birth of a Savior to be fulfilled, this birth of John, who was to be the forerunner of Christ, had to take place as well.

You see, God does not leave any detail lacking in the fulfillment of His plan. Does this apply to me and to you? You better believe it does. None of us could experience that gift of salvation that is offered to us by God without His word being proven true, especially as it related to the coming of the Messiah, Jesus Christ. The birth of John was but one of many details that remind us that God's word is truth! Do you know the truth? If so, be sure that you are singing the songs of Christmas to any who will listen, so that you might help them to know that God's Word is true!

### **NEW YEARS EVE GOSPEL SING**

SATURDAY • DECEMBER 31 • 7 P.M. BRIAR HILL BAPTIST CHURCH 707 HWY 469 NORTH • FLORENCE, MS

- TIM FRITH & GOSPEL ECHOES
- FAITHFUL 4 JASON RUNNELS REVELATIONS

A Love Offering will be taken

for more details 601-906-0677

December 22

December 24

Voices of Mobile, from the University of Mobile, will present their final concert on their Christmas tour at Highland Baptist Church in Laurel on Thursday, December 22 at 7:00 p.m. Join us for a night of worship and celebration. Admission is free but a love offering will be taken. Doors open at 6:00.

Life Church will host two services on Christmas Eve at 7 p.m. and 9 p.m. The identical 70-minute services will feature an exhilarating worship service with a multi-media presentation and special effects as we worship and praise our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Come to the service time of your choice and be blessed with instrumental performances by pianist Andrew Ishee, songs by the Life Church choir, and a message from Senior Pastor David Hagan. Inspiring testimonies of answered prayer will also be presented, and there will be congregational singing of Christmas carols. There will be food and fellowship before and after each service. Everyone is welcome! Bring your family and enjoy this special Christmas Eve service. Life Church is located on Highway 84 West across from the Sportsplex.

December 25

Pastor John D. Hall and congregation invites everyone to come join us as we celebrate Jesus' birth Sunday, December

25th at 4:00 p.m. at Harvest Time Baptist Church in Mount Olive, MS. The church is located across Hwy 49 from Keith's and in front of Reeves Funeral Home. Due to our remodeling, please bring a lawn chair if possible. For more information, call December 31

Big New Year's Eve Gospel Singing Saturday, December 31st @ 7:00 p.m. at Briar Hill Baptist Church, 707 Hwy 469 North, Florence, MS. Featured guest are "Tim Frith & Gospel Echoes", "Faithful 4", "The Revelations", and "Jason Runnels". A love offering will be taken. For more information, call 601-906-0677 or 601-720-8870. January 9

First Baptist Church of Laurel will be having a Grief Share

**Support Group** beginning Monday at 5:15 p.m. in the Educational Building, Room #111. The cost of the book is \$15.00; Patty Mauldin, facilitator. Please call Tina @ 601-649-5710 to sign up.

Gospel sing on Saturday beginning at 6:30 p.m. at Sanford Community Center, located at 663 Old Highway 49, Sanford. Featured guest will be "The Floyds," "The Trustys of Da Va Crossing," and "Faithway Singers." Free admission; a love offering will be received. For information call 601-765-6485.

January 23 Jones County Junior College baseball will host a Hitting Camp for players in grades 7-12 from Jan. 23-26 at Community Bank Park. The camp will be from 6-7:15 each evening. Camp cost is \$100 per player with the camp limited to the first 40 players that register. Each night, campers will get hitting instructions from current JCJC players and coaches. Three of the four days will be hitting on the field, while the other night will be done in the cages. Go to jcjcathletics.com, click on "Baseball" and click on "Hitting Camp." Fill out the registration form and medical waiver and send along with a check payable to Bobcat Dugout Club to: Chris Kirtland, Head Baseball Coach, Jones County Junior College, 900 South Court St., Ellisville, MS 39437. For more information, contact assistant coach Zach Allen at zachery. allen@jcjc.edu or 228-990-3729.



The 2016 World Series champion Jones County Junior College Bobcats received their championship rings Tuesday night at the Whitehead Advanced Technology Center. Photo/submitted

# **Baseball Bobcats receive National Championship rings**

By Shawn Wansley

JCJC Sports Information Director

ELLISVILLE - The 2016 Jones County Junior College baseball Bobcats will go down in history as the first team from Mississippi to win the NJCAA Division II National Championship. The Bobcats claimed the World Series title in Enid, Oklahoma, on June 4 when they defeated GateWay College (Arizona), 7-1. JCJC celebrated that championship with a dinner and ring ceremony Dec. 13 at the Ronald E. Whitehead Advanced Technology Center in the Howard Technology Park. Chris Kirtland, who guided Jones to a 54-9 record (a school record for wins) and the championship in his first year as head coach, was proud to welcome players, studentmanagers, coaches, parents, family members and others to the

"At Jones, we always like to think we are the best and we are number one," he said. "That's a mindset that we coach our guys to have. You don't always get that type of feedback to say you are number one, so it's nice to have some tangible evidence that you are, in fact, number one and the best. This thing does not happen by itself. Obviously, we have talented players that have a lot of gumption and attitude and are ready to buy into what it takes to be a champion. But there are so many people who help us behind the scenes."

Members of the national champion Bobcats include Clint Sasser (South Jones), T.J. Hollis (Lafayette), Dalton Skelton (Magnolia Heights), Jonathan Parker (New Orleans, Louisiana), Dalton Kittrell (Greene County), Reed Michel (West Lauderdale), J.D. Polles (Presbyterian Christian), Chris Richardson (Simpson Academy), Mason Irby (West Lauderdale), Tanner Huddleston (George County), Jay Simpson (Presbyterian Christian), Mason Strickland (South Jones), Fred Franklin (West Lauderdale), Josh Keel (Lafayette), Ben Stiglets (Gulfport), Tyler Spring (Stone), Anthony Williams (Petal), Logan Robbins (George County), John Alan Wall (Northwest Rankin), Shelton Wallace (Northwest Rankin), Jacob Hiatt (Petal), Erick Hoard (Brandon), Dylan Dover (Amite, Louisiana), Calder Mikell (Petal), Bryce Fagan (Petal), Cameron McCarty (Raleigh), Brayden Hodge (South Jones), Will Brand (Newton County), Zach Taylor (Brandon), Marcus Hardy (Hattiesburg) and Tristan Labove (Petal). Managers were Jeremy Newsom, Madison Manning and Ramsey Mabile. Assis-

tant coaches were Travis Creel, Zach Allen and Matt Durst. JCJC President Dr. Jesse Smith praised the team and its

"Two years ago, we said we are going to change the way we recruit," he said. "We are going to recruit athletes who are not only very good, but we are looking at the kids who have all of their values right. We wanted athletes who believe in family believe in brotherhood and believe in hard work. We wanted those athletes because when times get tough, good kids catch another gear. Those kids who don't have that courage fall in the face of it all. You are the perfect example of what we try to put together at JCJC. I hope you know that was a defining moment in your life. I hope you look back on that with great fondness and memories."

JCJC Board of Trustees Chairman David Garner told the Bobcats to imagine themselves 50 years from now.

"The year 2066 seems like a long time away," he said "Jones will grow and change and adapt in a world we cannot even imagine. How did we get there? We got there in the same way this wonderful group of young men won a World Series We got there through hard work, dedication, discipline and faith in a loving God. We got there through trust, obedience and a belief in our Creator and ourselves.

"In 2066, I won't be the Chair, Jones will have a different President and Coach Kirtland will probably be in the islands retired. But in 2066, you will still be world champions and you will still feel that same warmth, joy and that proud heart that let you be champions. And in 2066, Jones will be just as proud of you then as we are today."

The JCJC Alumni Association sponsored the event.

### 2016 JCJC Baseball Highlights

- School record for wins 54
- Won first 17 games of the season
- Never lost two straight games - Outscored opponents 62-28 in World Series
- Of the team's nine losses, five were by 1 run, two were by

2 runs and two were by 3 runs.

- then use your lot as down payment

acre parcel is located in the heart of Stringer School District. The property consist of various merchantable timber types with multiple home sites. With an abundance of wildlife the property could also be used as a hunting retreat. The property can be divided. Priced to sell at \$207,000. Contact Marc 601-670-5429 at Walley Properties, LLC.

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

Lake eddins: a great Place To Be. NOW OFFERING Offwater Lots As LOW AS \$3500.00 Call CrossRoads Realty 601-727-7653

+/- 46 Acres Located on 5 miles South of Ellisville, MS with road frontage on both Augusta Road and Kitchens Loop. Clear Creek running through the property. Merchantable good road system. Power and water available. \$125.000.Call us for a free consultation. 601-408-0615. McCraw Forest Management, www.



20 acre farm/ranch in Janice. around porch, Pond, horse stalls, fenced and cross fenced, huge shop. Bordered on two sides by National Forest lands. Lots of wildlife call Shawn, Southern Coastal Realty, LLC 601-408-3570.

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

Waterfront lot +/-1acre, Gautier, Ms. \$54,900. 228-497-2787, 228-218-0774

South Jones County +/- 130 acres. Located on the Leaf River, 9 miles North of Hattiesburg on Church St. between I-59 and Hwy. 11. Great hunting/fishing opportunity, over a 1/2 mile of river frontage, big sand bar, food plots, mature hardwood bottoms, young pine plantation. \$305,500 For more information on this outdoorsman paradise, contact Marc 601-670-5429 at Walley Properties. LLC.



+/- 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. Bilbo Creek runs through the property. Has Lake. REDUCED \$306,600. Call us for a free consultation, 601-408-0615. McCraw Forest Management, www.mfmland.com.

Jones County +/- 35 Acres with 1850 sq ft home. Great Location!! Located in Southeast Jones County on Old Progress Road just minutes from Hattiesburg. This property consist of a 3br/2ba house along with shop. Timber has recently been harvested and chemical has been sprayed for replanting. \$230,000. Contact Marc 601-670-5429 at Walley Properties, LLC. Please visit walleyproperties com for maps of this listing.

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

Jones County +/- 30 Acres Located just minutes from the Howard Technology Park, I-59/Hwy 590/Hwy 11, and Ellisville. This property has paved road frontage on Dacetown Road and has a 10 yr. old pine plantation. \$89,500. Contact Marc 601-670-5429 at Walley Properties, LLC. Please visit walleyproperties.com for maps of this listing.

+/- 120 Acres Located on 3 miles South of Waynesboro off Hwy 63 in Clara, 13 Year old pine plantation. \$330,000. Call us for a free consultation. 601-408-0615. McCraw Forest Management, www.mfmland.com.

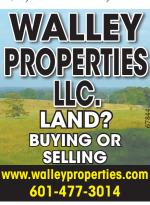
For sale: 12.75 acres planted in

long leaf pines, 3 years old. Prop-

erty is located on CR 237 off CR 23.

Stringer School District. \$51,000. J. E. Smith Real Estate 601-670-5170. Covington County +/- 74 Acres.

Located 4 miles from downtown Seminary off hwy 590 on the corner of Shirley Sanford Road and Johnny



be perfect for a home-site with plenty of recreational opportunities. Property consist of mature pine plantation, gorgeous hardwoods, and a stream that flows throughout the property. Great for hunting. \$244,200. For more details, Contact Marc 601-670-5429 at Walley Properties, LLC. Or visit our website walleyproperties. com for maps and more information of this listing.

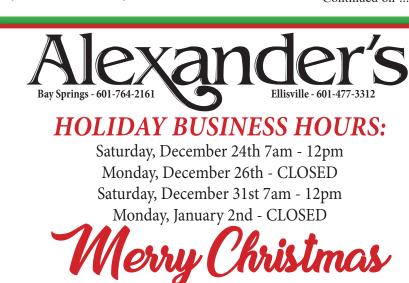
+/- 83 Acres Located on 5 miles South of Ellisville, MS with road frontage on both Augusta Road and Kitchens Loop. Cleer Creek running through the property. Merchantable Mixed pine/hwd timber and good road system. Power and water available. \$207,500. Call us for a free consultation. 601-408-0615. McCraw Forest Management, www.mfmland



+/- 163 Acres Located just North of Sandersville, MS with frontage on Hwy 11. This tract is "One of a Kind". Has +/- 120 Acres in Merchantable Hardwoods, +/-15 acres of Mature Pine/Hardwood and has a beautiful +/-25 acre Beaver Pond for duck hunting. Beautiful Bogue Homa Creek runs across the property. Property has a powerline that runs across property that has been recently planted for deer season. Updated road system. Several great camp/cabin/sites with power and water available. This is a hard to find Hardwood Tract with great Hunting and Recreation close to amenities and Interstate 59. Don't let this one pass you by!!!!! Shown By Appointment Only....Priced to sell Quickly!!!!! \$295.000.00. 601-408-0615. Mc-Craw Forest Management, www. mfmland.com.

Continued on ... Page 6





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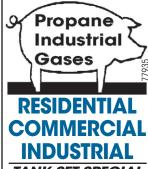
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1987 12x60 2br/1.5ba, water and garbage provided, in a trailer park. \$300, \$200 deposit. 601-498-2488,

### **HOUSES FOR SALE**

3br/1ba, 30x30 insulated shop, 1100sq.ft., c/h/a, 3 acres of land. \$60,000, 601-470-4938.

4br/3ba w/carport, has living room. dining room and den, up to date kitchen & utility room, large master bath, lots of closets, screened back porch, on large lot, fully fenced. This is a nice home for someone. Inside town of Taylorsville, MS. Call 1-601-

4.5 miles from Waynesboro, 3br/2ba, living room, den, kitchen

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735-6632. House for Sale: 3 br/2 ba, brick house on 2 acres located in Seminary School District on Liberty Rd., Collins, MS. Completely remodeled. Granite countertops and custom

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### HOUSES FOR RENT

shower/bath. Call 601-517-4802.

3br/1.5ba brick home in Northeast Jones School District. Good neighborhood. Taking applications. \$725/ month. 601-498-5020, 601-498-

2br/1ba brick home in West Jones School District on 1 acre. Good neighborhood. Taking applications. \$700/month. 601-498-5020, 601-498-3520.

Building for rent for residence, of-

fices or both 513 N 6th Ave., Laurel, MS. 1-1/2 story, (3) bedroom, 2-1/2 bath with double carport & private patio. Terrazo & natural stone floors in entrance, den, kitchen and laundry room. 2" wooden blinds thru-out. Kitchen appliances, new washer/ dryer. Walking distance of downtown and historical district. Recently used as offices for TV production company. Phone or text 601.577.7162.

located at 1156 west 20th street. Has large living space and yard. Central h/a. \$1000/month. Call 601-577-2576 for more info.

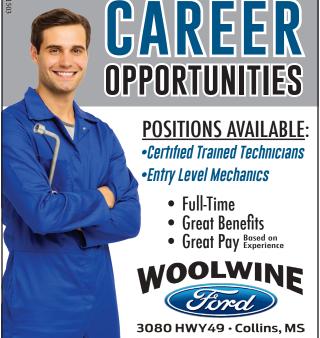
For rent: 3 bedroom 2 bath home

North Laurel: 2809 Carter Ave. 2 Bed, 1 Bath. \$400.00 deposit. \$575 Month. 601-319-2938

2/3 bedroom homes for rent. 601-

2br/1ba house, large lot, stove/ fridge, \$500 deposit, \$600 rent. Call 601-433-9158.

Continued on ... Page 9



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bedroom apartments. \$500 down, \$500 monthly. 601-649-9459.

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For Sale: Wheels 20" Fuel Wheels \$999. Tires 35"x12.50" R20 Mud tires \$844. Toolbox Low Pro \$299. Call Sullivan Bros. Auto Outfitters LLC 601-837-5125.

### **AUTO SERVICES**

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### **AUTOS - CARS**

2012 Chrysler 300, call or text, 601-508-3980.

2015 Nissan Altima. \$13,900 Southeastern Auto Brokers, (844) 312-8785. See more at Cars601.

2015 Chevrolet Cruze, \$13,500 at Ryan Chevrolet (855) 534-3769. See

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601-649-1944 2008 Nissan Altima. \$8,999 at Toy-

ota of Hattiesburg. (855) 221-8310.

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2010 Toyota Prius. \$7.995 at Hattiesburg Cars. Call our Local toll free number 855-242-0775. See more at Cars601.com

2001 Chevrolet Impala, \$5.950 at Paul Garner Motors (844) 452-4569. See more at Cars601.com.

2014 Ford Focus. \$12,995 at Hattiesburg Cars. Call our Local toll free

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2015 Chevrolet Sonic. \$13,500 at Ryan Chevrolet (855) 534-3769. See more at Cars601.com

2007 Cadillac DTS, white, very clean. For Details Call 601-765-

2016 Buick Regal \$20,990. Call 601-517-8408.

2013 Hyundai Elantra. \$13,000 at Ryan Chevrolet (855) 534-3769 See more at Cars601.com

YYlerry Christmas

FROM DR. HUBBERT & STAFF!!

2015 Chevrolet Cruze \$12,000 at Rvan Chevrolet. (855) 534-3769 See more at Cars601.com

2011 Toyota Camry. \$9,999 at Toyota of Hattiesburg. (855) 221-8310 See more at Cars601.com.

Continued on ... Page 10

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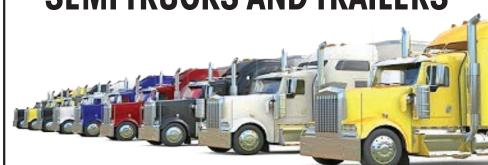
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2006 Ford Mustang, blue. For more information, call Auto Credit of Collins. 601-765-0013.

2010 Chevrolet Impala. \$7,950 at Paul Garner Motors (844) 452-4569. See more at Cars601.com.

2012 Chevrolet Sonic \$8,000 at Ryan Chevrolet. (855) 534-3769. See more at Cars601.com

2010 Chevrolet Cobalt. \$7,900 at Paul Garner Motors (844) 452-4569 See more at Cars601.com.

2012 Toyota Prius. \$12,500 at Ryan Chevrolet (855) 534-3769. See more at Cars601.com

1995 Nissan Maxima GE, moon roof, runs good, \$1000 obo, 601-422-3815.

2015 Kia optima LX. Only 39k miles, 34 package. Call 601-765-8287. 2008 Nissan Altima. \$5,695 Mack

Grubbs Hyundai, (844) 373-0806. See more at Cars601.com.

2007 Infiniti G35, \$11,995, call or text. 601-508-3980.

Affordable Auto Insurance, especially if you don't have any now. Call 601-765-4060

2010 Hyundai Accent. \$8.950 at Paul Garner Motors (844) 452-4569. See more at Cars601.com.

Ryan Chevrolet (855) 534-3769. See more at Cars601.com 2015 Kia Optima at Laurel Ford, Lincoln, Kia. Call 844-319-5854. See

2015 Chevrolet Cruze. \$13,000 at

more at Cars601.com. 2013 Hyundai Elantra. \$13,000 at Ryan Chevrolet (855) 534-3769 or

Cars601.com 2006 Pontiac Vibe. \$6,950 at Paul Garner Motors (844) 452-4569. See

text DW1B to 27414. See more at

2009 Chevrolet Malibu. \$7,950 at Paul Garner Motors (844) 452-4569. See more at Cars601.com.

more at Cars601.com

2013 Nissan Altima. \$13,863 Mack Grubbs Hyundai, (844) 373-0806. See more at Cars601.com.

2005 Ford Five Hundred. \$4,950 at Paul Garner Motors (844) 452-4569. See more at Cars601.com.

2002 Toyota Camry. \$5,995 at Hattiesburg Cars. Call our Local toll free number 855-242-0775. See more at

2015 Chevrolet Cruze. \$12,000 at Ryan Chevrolet. (855) 534-3769. See more at Cars601.com

2008 Toyota Sienna. \$9,999 at Toyota of Hattiesburg. (855) 221-8310. See more at Cars601.com.

2015 Chevrolet Sonic. \$12,500 at Rvan Chevrolet (855) 534-3769. See more at Cars601.com

2015 Toyota Highlander, \$26,500. call or text, 601-450-9630.

2008 Acura mdx. \$12,963 Mack Grubbs Hyundai, (844) 373-0806. See more at Cars601.com.

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2002 Ford Taurus, white. For more information, Call Auto Credit in Collins. 601-765-0013.

2002 Honda Accord, gold. For more information, call Auto Credit of Collins. 601-765-0013.

2010 Chevrolet Impala LT. Gold Mist Metallic exterior color . Very clean car with 188,395 miles . Asking \$6.900. Call Dean for details 601-433-0796.

2009 BMW X5, 79,500 miles, one owner, excellent condition, all BMW scheduled maintenance. \$16,900. 601-498-3014.

2015 Hyundai Veloster, \$13,000 at Ryan Chevrolet (855) 534-3769. See more at Cars601.com

2016 Ford Focus \$13,999. Call 601-

2005 Ford Taurus SE. Many Features! Asking \$5,980. Call 601-765-

2014 Ford Escape. \$13,963 Mack Grubbs Hyundai, (844) 373-0806. See more at Cars601.com.

2008 Ford Focus. \$5,900 at Paul Garner Motors (844) 452-4569. See more at Cars601.com.

2014 Ford Focus. \$10,500 at Ryan Chevrolet (855) 534-3769. See more at Cars601.com

> 2015 Chevrolet Sonic. \$13,500 at Ryan Chevrolet (855) 534-3769 or text PRV0 to 27414

### **AUTOS - SUVS**

2014 Ford Explorer XLT 70K Miles. \$21,995. Call 601-765-1828.

2007 Hyundai Tucson \$8,950 at Paul Garner Motors. (844) 452-4569. See more at Cars601.com.

2014 Gmc terrain sle. 60K miles. Only \$14,996. Call 601-765-1828

2003 Mitsubishi Outlander, \$5,999 at Auto Express in Laurel. (844) 402-3154. See more at Cars601.com.

2003 Chevy Suburban, white. For more information, call Auto Credit of Collins 601-765-0013 2011 Ford Escape. \$8,599 at Auto

Express in Laurel, (844) 402-3154. See more at Cars601.com. 2013 Ford Explorer at Laurel Ford

Lincoln, Kia. Call 844-319-5854 See more at Cars601.com.

2015 Cadillac SRX Luxury. One Owner. \$34,280. Call 601-765-8287. 2008 Ford Mustang. \$5,999 at Auto

Express in Laurel, (844) 402-3154. See more at Cars601.com. 2012 Chevrolet Equinox LS Excel-

lent Condition! \$15,945. Call 601-

Continued on ... Page 11



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## **Winston signs with Southwest Mississippi Community College**



Laurel High School basketball standout Charles Winston signed with Southwest Mississippi Community College. Pictured (seated L-R) are his mother Taletha Winston, Charles Winston, (standing L-R) Laurel Golden Tornadoes assistant basketball coaches Kendrick Purvis and Rashidi McCormick, Head Coach Marcus Price, LHS Principal Jeannine Agee, Assistant Coach Randy Pettis and Assistant Principal Leander Bridges, II. Winston was a member of the 2016 5-A State Championship winning Golden Tornado Basketball Team. An Honor-Roll Student, he plans to major in business and one day play for the National Basketball Association. Photo/submitted

2007 Toyota FJ Cruiser. \$16,900. Southeastern Auto Brokers, (844) 312-8785. See more at Cars601.com

1996 Chevrolet Suburban. \$7,999 at Auto Express in Laurel, (844) 402-3154. See more at Cars601.com.

2011 MINI Countryman. \$13,900 Southeastern Auto Brokers. (844) 312-8785. See more at Cars601.com

### **AUTOS - TRUCKS**

2005 Chevrolet Silverado 1500. \$17,900 Southeastern Auto Brokers, (844) 312-8785. See more at Cars601.com

2015 Chevrolet Silverado 1500. Double Cab Standard Box 4-Wheel Drive LT. 5.3L V-8 . Blue in color and only 8,120 miles on it . Very Nice Truck . Only Asking \$32,980. Call Dean @ 601-433-0796 for details.

2011 Ram 1500. \$7,999 at Auto Express in Laurel, (844) 402-3154. See more at Cars601.com.

2006 Ford f-150 only \$9,965. Call 601-517-8408.

2004 Dodge Ram Diesel 2500. 4Wd, only \$12,995. Call 601-765-

2014 Chevy Express Van, \$21,995. Call or text. 601-508-3980.

2005 Chevy Silverado, white. For more information, call Auto Credit of Collins. 601-765-0013.

2014 Ford F-150 at Laurel Ford, Lincoln, Kia. Call 844-319-5854. See more at Cars601.com.

2006 Toyota Tacoma. \$10,599 at Toyota of Hattiesburg. (855) 221-8310. See more at Cars601.com.

2011 Toyota Tundra at Laurel Ford, Lincoln, Kia. Call 844-319-5854. See more at Cars601.com.

1999 Chevrolet Silverado 1500. \$7,999 at Toyota of Hattiesburg. (855) 221-8310. See more at Cars601.com.

2009 Ford F-150. \$17,900. j300 Southeastern Auto Brokers. (844) 312-8785. See more at Cars601.com

2004 Toyota Tundra. \$10,995 at Hattiesburg Cars. Call our Local toll free number 855-242-0775. See more at Cars601.com

2002 Ford F-150-Lariat. 148K Miles, Super Crew. Only \$7,995. Call 601-

2007 Dodge Dakota \$9,850 at Paul Garner Motors. (844) 452-4569. See more at Cars601.com.

2008 Chevrolet Silverado 1500 at Laurel Ford, Lincoln, Kia. Call 844

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319-5854. See more at Cars601

### **ATVS**

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### **CARPORTS**

Carports and Buildings: Financing Available! 18x21 carport \$795; includes installation! All sizes available. We also offer storage buildings & barns. Call John at 601-323-0464, 303 Hwy 11 South, Ellisville MS (between Pizza Hut and JCJC)

Rose Hill, MS

# Ellisville State School's October **Employees of the Month**



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**BUILDINGS!** 

The Direct Support Employee of the Month winners for October 2016 were recently announced at Ellisville State School. Congratulating the winners are (standing left to right): Norton Holifield, director of Paul D. Cotten Sr. Unit; Shonda Burre, director of Prentiss Community Homes; Harriett Cooley, director of Workforce Development; and Kevin Polk, program director. Winners for the month (seated left to right) are: Deon Thompson, Taylorsville; Rosetta Williams, Prentiss; Crystal Marsh, Laurel; and Jeffery Carter, Moselle. Not pictured is Molly Tamberg, Seminary. Photo/submitted

### Patti Scuderi earns NAR's **Military Relocation Professional Certification**

Patti Scuderi with Woodland Realty, Inc. has been awarded the nationally recognized Military Relocation Professional Certification. The National Association of Realtors® awards the MRP certification to Realtors® who help military personnel, veterans, and



Patti Scuderi

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"Service members may only have a couple of days to view properties and make an offer, and others might be deployed at the time and need someone who can repre-

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### SCUDERI, continued from page11

sent them while they're away. Working with a Realtor® who understands the singular complications that arise with military service can help make the home buying process simpler, faster and less stressful," said National Association of Realtors® President Tom Salomone, broker-owner of Real Estate II Inc. in Coral Springs, Florida. "The MRP certification lets home buyers and sellers know that a Realtor® knows the ins and outs of military housing benefits, such as zero-down payment loans, and the specific needs service members and veterans have when searching for their new home."

The certification provides NAR's

members with resources to accommodate current and former military service members at any stage of their military career and is an approved elective for NAR's Accredited Buyers Representative designation. To earn the MRP certification, Realtors must be in good standing with NAR; complete the MRP Certification Core Course; complete a reading providing background information on the military, included acronyms and understanding military culture; and complete two

For more information about the MRP certification, visit www.militaryrelocationpro.org





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From left are members of Dr. MLK Jr. Celebration - Andrew Brown, Jimmy Stanfield, and Nicole McSwain, then Lowe's Heroes Team members Seletia Simpson, Sharon Peters, Zach Byrd, Dwight Fayard, Mark Smith, Andrew Bennett, April Austin, Septien Marquez, and Kristi Bolton. Photo/Linda Cranford

### Lowe's Heroes Team receives **Humanitarian Award**

By Linda Cranford

"They told me that now I have to build a trophy case," exclaimed Lowe's employee and member of the Lowe's Heroes Team Dwight Fayard on Wednesday, December 14, after the team was presented the 2016 Humanitarian of the Year Award trophy from the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration of the Pine Belt.

Throughout the year the Lowe's Heroes Team provides labor and material for various projects as Lowe's way of giving back to the community. One of those projects was the remodeling of the Soup Kitchen, which sometimes feeds up to 400 meals per day. Assistant Store Manager Andrew Bennett, who has been with Lowe's for approximately 12 years said, "Of all the projects we've done, this one meant the most to all of us.'

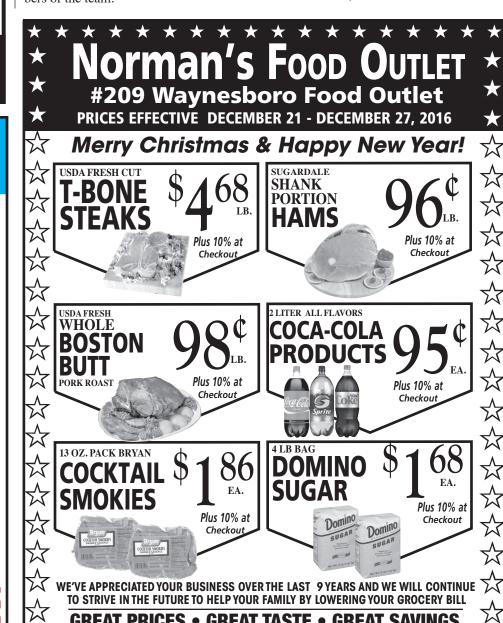
'To see the looks on their faces and the gratitude they had, meant so much," said Heroes Team member Seletia Simpson.

The team as a whole said they felt like they got more out of the project than what they actually did for the Soup Kitchen. The reaction of the people and learning their plight in life made an impact on the members of the team.

Assisting the team with the project was Mr. Stevens and the students of the LHS VoTech CTC. While working with the students, many of whom said they had never picked up a hammer, paint brush, or electric tool, the Lowe's Heroes Team found another project. After learning of the LHS VoTech CTC's need for working tools, the Lowe's Heroes Team delivered a box containing approximately \$1000 worth of tools to Mr. Stevens and his students.

Each year the Dr. MLK Jr. Celebration of the Pine Belt awards a Humanitarian of the Year Award to an individual or group of individuals who perform an exemplary act of kindness. Members of the organization remarked that Lowe's Heroes Team's Soup Kitchen project was a perfect example of "a great humanitarian act of kindness, and deserving of the award."

While presenting the trophy to the Lowe's Heroes Team, Thaddeus Edmonson, president of the Dr. MLK Jr. Celebration of the Pine Belt, said, "The hard work and dedication of this team is remarkable Their efforts in this project proves that when corporations come together to help the community, we all win."



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# Sideline View: Laurel's Ulmer named M

The USM Golden Eagles won their first bowl game in five years with a hard fought 28-21 win over Louisiana-Lafayette in the Superdome last Saturday night. Allenzae Staggers set a New Orleans Bowl record as he hauled in 11 catches for 230 yards and a TD. USM



quarterback Nick Mullens ended his career as the all-time school leader in yards and passing touchdowns by throwing for 346 yards and two scores. The Eagles ended the season at 7-6 for their second straight winning season.

#### Never Know about Those Saints

The Saints are the most unpredictable team in the NFL. The Saints had averaged over 30 points per game until the last two weeks when they averaged only 12 points per contest, and quarterback Drew Brees had no touchdowns and six interceptions. Now came the Arizona Cardinals, one of the best defensive teams in the NFL and to make matters worse the game was at Arizona. So what do Brees and the Saints do? They rack up 48 points and Brees throws for four scores and 389 yards with no interceptions in the win. For the 11th straight season Brees has thrown for over 4,000 yards. It was Brees' 100th victory as the Saints' quarterback. His coach Sean Payton gained his 93rd win, tying him with former Saints coach Jim Mora for the most wins in team history. Even with the win the Saints were eliminated from the playoffs because Atlanta won. The Saints play their final home game this Saturday against an improving Tampa Bay team at 3:25 p.m. before heading to Atlanta on January 1 for the final game of 2016.

### Dak & The Boys Move to 12-2

The Dallas Cowboys are still money in the bank to the TV networks. The Cowboys (12-2), behind the rookie sensations of Dak Prescott and Ezekiel Elliott, are leading the way as they are also winning the TV ratings in a big way. Five of the top six most watched games this year have been Cowboy games. The Dallas Thanksgiving game against Washington drew over 35 million viewers, making it the most watched regular season game in Fox Sports history.

The two games against the Giants and their games against the Packers and the Steelers all drew large viewing audiences that are NFL highs for the season.

Staying with the Cowboys, Jerry Jones's grandson John Stephen Jones led his Highland Park team to the Texas state high school football championship. The younger Jones led Highland Park past Temple, 16-7, as he claimed the MVP of the game. He passed for 96 yards and scored a rushing TD. The game drew over 35,000 fans to AT&T Stadium.

### Ty'Quan Grabs MVP

The 68th annual Bernard Blackwell High School Football All-Star game was played at Gulfport High School last Saturday with the South coming from behind to claim a 21-14 win. Laurel's head coach Todd Breland led the South team, while Ty'quan Ulmer of the Tornadoes was named the South's MVP. Ulmer caught a TD pass in the game, while

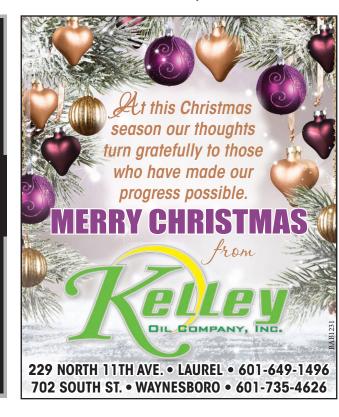
Wayne County's Chris Cooley recovered a fumble for a

### Lady Dawgs Down USC

The nationally-ranked Mississippi State Lady Bulldogs basketball team improved to 12-0 by claiming the Troy Championship with a 76-72 win over host USC. The Bulldogs completed a nine-game road trip with the win over USC that covered six states and 17,190 miles in 24 days. MSU returns to Starkville and will play five of their next seven games at home. The Lady Dogs will open SEC play by hosting LSU on Sunday, January 1, at 2 p.m. in the

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### How to prevent car theft

Few motorists think much about preventing vehicle theft ... until their cars are stolen. According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, a vehicle is stolen every 44 seconds in the United States. Many of those are recovered, but being victimized by car thieves can be a nervewracking and unsettling experience for car owners.

While car thefts are unpredictable, they can be prevented. While even the most proactive anti-theft car owner can be victimized by car thieves, there are ways to reduce that risk.

- Avoid the most stolen vehicle makes. The 2016 "Hot Wheels" report from the National Insurance Crime Bureau lists the most frequently stolen vehicles from 2015, the most recent year for reporting. These include: the 1997, 1996 & 1997 Honda Accord; 1998 & 2000 Honda Civic; 2005 & 2006 Ford F-Series pickup truck; 2004 & 2005 Chevrolet full-size pickup; and the 2014 Toyota Camry.
- Lock your car. Keep your vehicle locked at all times, even when driving. Many cars are stolen while left unlocked, even though power locks now require just the push of a button to lock the entire vehicle. Similarly, close all windows and the sunroof when the car is parked.
- Keep the vehicle registration in your wallet. Geico notes that car thieves can escape arrest if they can produce the vehicle's registration upon being pulled over. Keep your registration out of the car and on your person.
- Keep track of your keys. Do not hide a car key outside of the vehicle in the event you get locked out of your car. Thieves are aware of this trick and can steal your car.
- Keep valuables out of sight. Do not leave money, jewelry, electronics, or any other valuable items in plain sight in the car. Remove them promptly, or keep them in a trunk or under a cargo bed so they're not visible to potential thieves.
- Park in well-lit, heavily trafficked areas. Parking in a well-lit area can deter criminals, but parking close to building entrances and near parking lot security cameras adds extra layers of protection. If you must park in a parking garage, try to park close to the attendant.
- Employ an anti-theft device. Anti-theft devices include vehicle immobilizer systems and car alarms. Insurance companies may discount premiums for vehicles that are equipped with anti-theft devices.
- Use technological recovery tools. GPS technology can pinpoint your car if it is stolen and send that information to law enforcement officials. Some of these devices also can slow down vehicles or remotely block the car's ignition switch.
- Use VIN window etching. Have each window etched with the vehicle identification number. This will make the car less attractive to thieves looking to sell car parts or the entire

Motorists can take an active role in preventing car theft and safeguarding their automotive investments.



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# Southern Miss captures New Orleans **Bowl win over Louisiana-Lafayette**

Southern Miss entered the 2016 season with a whole lot of expectations. Ten wins was possible, as was a chance to compete for a sixth Conference USA Championship. A 3-game losing streak late in the season and a hand injury to quarterback Nick Mullens squandered those opportunities. Mullens came back though three weeks ago in the team's regular season finale, a win against rival Louisiana Tech, and helped the Golden Eagles finish the season on a winning note Saturday, defeating Louisiana-Lafayette, 28-21, in the New Orleans Bowl.

"Last year I was crying because I lost in a bowl game," Mullens said. "Now I'm trying not to cry because we won a bowl game."

Mullens passed for 346 yards and two touchdowns in his final game in a Southern Miss uniform. Mullens, who owns pretty much every USM passing record, will unarguably go down as one of the best quarterbacks in school history. He went out on top Saturday, helping Southern Miss win their first bowl win since 2011.

"I've had some success in my career, but I've never held up a trophy," Mullens said. "The fact that we got to hold up a trophy and be proud of something we're bringing back for the trophy case, that's something we'll always be proud of."

Mullens was the headliner in Saturday's win, but it was one of his wide receivers, Allenzae Staggers, who captured MVP honors in the game. Staggers finished with 11 catches for a New Orleans Bowl-record 230 receiving yards and a touchdown.

"It's just a blessing," Staggers, a junior who previously played at East Mississippi, said. "We executed the plays. We took our time. We had great precision. I was just open."

Not to be outdone, Southern Miss running back Ito Smith ran for 138 yards and three total touchdowns (2 rushing, 1 receiving). Smith scored twice in game's first quarter to help the Golden Eagles race out to a 14-0 lead. Louisiana-Lafayette would respond though, tying the game up at 14-14 near the midway point of the second quarter. A third touchdown from Smith in the fourth quarter, as well as a big defensive stand in the game's final minute, helped the Golden Eagles capture the win. First-year coach Jay Hopson took time to thank the fans for their support and patience after the game.

"Our fan base has been just amazing all year," Hopson said. "These guys can tell you, our coaches can tell you, our fans have been there. We couldn't get the bus out of the Hilton because the fans were blocking the way. I just want to thank the Southern Miss family. They don't know how much we appreciate it."

Hopson's Golden Eagles finish their season with an overall record of 7-6. They'll kick off the 2017 season Sept. 2 at home against Kentucky.



The Golden Eagles celebrate after winning the New Orleans Bowl. Photos/Zac Chamblee



The Golden Eagles take the field in the Superdome.



Southern Miss running back Ito Smith (25) carries the ball in

the New Orleans Bowl.



Southern Miss defensive lineman Ja'Boree Poole (85) celebrates one of his three sacks.



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Southern Miss quarterback Nick Mullens (9) walks off the field after his final game in a Southern Miss uniform.



Southern Miss legend Jeff Bower chats with athletic director Bill McGillis on the sideline.

# JCJC selects New Century Scholars/ All-State American Team representatives

By Teresa McCreery, JCJC Media & Public Relations Director

Nine Jones County Junior College sophomores were selected to compete for the New Century Scholars/All-State Academic Team through the International Honor Society, Phi Theta Kappa. These students were nominated by faculty members and then selected by the JCJC Scholarship Committee. Some of the requirements to earn a spot in this prestigious group include maintaining a 3.5 to 4.0 GPA, taking challenging academic courses, completing a minimum of 36-hours, volunteering their service in their communities and college, and doing well in an interview with the Scholarship

The nominees were Elijah Cummins, a business administration major from Hattiesburg; Samantha Dean, an English major from Laurel; Alyssa Hopkins, a biological sciences/pre-med major from Lucedale, Morgan Lewis, an art major from Ellisville; Ashley McDonald, an English major from Louin; Shreyaben Patel, an engineering major from Hattiesburg; April Pierce, an engineering major from Lucedale; Katelyn Stone, a biology major from Hattiesburg and Makayla Waites, an accounting major from Waynesboro made the final cut. However, Samantha Dean and Katelyn Stone were chosen to represent JCJC in the statewide and international competition for academic honors and scholarships.

"Both ladies have passion and are compassionate about what they have been doing as volunteers. Both of their academic lives are preparing themselves for their futures. Their academics are lining up with their passions, but they are also phenomenal leaders, academic students and are dedicated to their passions," said Julie Atwood, JCJC PTK advisor.

The nine students were treated to a special luncheon held in their honor with PTK sponsors and administrators. JCJC president Dr. Jesse Smith challenged all of them to really focus on their future academic endeavors and life goals. "Because we have smart people who are leaders, we expect you to do great things. Our future depends on your success. We need you to be your absolute best, add value to society. Take the skills you have and let them take you as far as you want them to. Be deliberate about living a life of blessings and make a difference."

Dean has been able to be a leader with numerous opportunities as president of Phi Theta Kappa international honor society, an intern for the Fellowship of Christian Athletes in Jones County, and she is on the FCA leadership team at JCJC. In high school, Dean was a member of the GenerationFREE Youth Advisory Board for four years, Peer Council Community Outreach and Education, Teens Getting Involved in the Future, FOCUS College Ministry Leadership Council, President of the Key Club at West Jones High School and was a member of the swim team for six years.

"This is an incredible opportunity! I'm very grateful for the leadership opportunity through PTK. It is really an honor to be involved with this group and to be chosen to represent Jones," said Dean.

Some of Dean's honors include earning the Waller English Award, Letter "J" Award, Tullos Scholarship recipient and earning a Presidential Scholarship at JCJC. While she aspires to teach college English one day, she said she hopes to able to continue serving in the mission field. With her knowledge of the Spanish language, Dean said she has been able to participate in community outreach in Peru, South America, and Spanish Wells, Bahamas. Ultimately, Dean said she would like to teach English in a foreign country.

"Through Grace Covenant Church, I've been able to work with Grace International which serves nine countries. However, it was in Stacy Ruth's sociology class at JCJC that really inspired me to work with inner city kids," said Dean. "Now my goal is to get my Bachelor of Arts at Mississippi College and my masters in English and Sociology."

Stone has a variety of talents and leadership skills. However, her love of horses changed her vision for her future. While helping with the care of about 200 rescue horses at a farm near her Hattiesburg home, Stone's desire to rehabilitate her favorite animal also led to the idea of rehabilitating her friend. Having an inoperable brain tumor and battling depression, her friend joined Stone on the horse farm. While watching her friend Beth care for the horses, Stone realized both the horses and Beth could benefit from the interaction. Now Stone's goal is to establish an equine therapy program in Hattiesburg.

"I am forever grateful for the opportunity to work with the amazing animals and people at the farm. The experience I have gained through working with rescue horses is so valuable to me because it has helped prepare me for a future with horses. It has inspired me to formulate a goal that could change the lives of so many people in my community," said Stone.

At JCJC, Stone serves at the PTK Vice President of Fellowship and was chosen as JCJC's Most Beautiful, a Tullos Scholar, she received the Thomas H. Harris Scholarship, was voted as a Fresh-



JCJC sophomores nominated to compete for the New Century Scholars/All-State American Team were recently chosen and include: (pictured left to right) Ashley McDonald, Morgan Lewis, Elijah Cummins, Samantha Dean, Makayla Waites, Katelyn Stone, Alyssa Hopkins, April Pierce and Shreyaben Patel. Photo/Teresa McCreery

scholarship, Art Department scholarship, Musical Theater Production Assistant scholarship, ACT scholarship and a Jr. Auxiliary Scholarship. The South Jones High School graduate, earned the Mississippi Scholars designation, was voted Most Intellectual, Principals Award for Exceptional Conduct and Service, she won the South Jones Spanish Spelling Bee, received the Mississippi Theater Association's All-Star Cast Award in Acting, an SJHS Bobcat Math League Regional Semi-finalist team member, and she graduated with Highest Honors. She is especially proud to have been nominated for PTK's New Century Scholars/ All-State American Team.

"It is one of the largest, if not the largest honor I've received. Being nominated confirms in my mind, that working hard and doing what I love really can have a huge impact on my life. I never thought I would be nominated for something like this because of my work with horses," said Stone.

Both Dean and Stone will have to complete an application and essay about their volunteer efforts for the PTK selection committee. They will be honored next spring in Jackson upon the conclusion of the competition. The USA Today Academic Team program annually recognizes 60 outstanding two-year college students. First, and Second Teams, each consisting of 20 members, are selected from the nominees. The 20 First Team members receive stipends of \$2,500 each. All 60 members of the All- USA Academic Team and their colleges receive extensive national recognition through coverage in USA TODAY.





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# God desires a close relationship with you

By Dr. Bill Myers

God loves you and will answer your prayers, I promise! "If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you." John 15:7.

Our loving Father desires a close relationship with us. He is our Heavenly Father, but also our Abba Father (Daddy), and our friend. When we are hurt



and broken, we can go to Him with confidence that He will comfort us with His loving arms and not leave our side. Have you ever gone to somebody for comfort when you were hurting only to have him or her tell you, "It's okay, don't cry. You must be strong...."? Friends, that's not much comfort. When my children were small and would come to me with a broken heart, I would hold them tight in my arms and continuously whisper in their ears how much Daddy loved them. I would normally hold them until they felt better. They always knew they could come to me if they were hurting and I would be there for them. That's a small example of the insurmountable love God has for us. He knows us personally and intimately. He knew us before we were born. Yes, He knows our

His Word tells us that if we will remain in relationship with Him, we can ask Him for anything we wish and He

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will do it. The "remain in me" part is to increase our faith. We don't have to convince God by praying more, but instead convince ourselves by believing His every Word. Need a job promotion? Hungering for a relationship? Need help with a test? Praying for a financial miracle? The answer is in this verse, His promise. Spend time with Him, read His Word, worship Him, choose to be thankful, and believe. He will answer your prayers! That's His promise! Faith means that we believe that His Word is true!

"Those who have faith are blessed." Galatians 3:9.

We don't love Him for what He can do for us, but instead we love Him for who He is.....We love Him because He first loved us. But because we are His children and have a relationship with Him, His Word promises He will answer our prayers! What a package deal! "The Lord is faithful to all His promises and loving toward all He has made." Psalm 145:13.

Choose to remain in His presence in the good times AND the storms...He will never leave you! Remember, His promises are true.....so believe..... your answers are coming!

Dr. Bill Myers is the Show Choir director at Northeast Jones High School, is a frequent contributor to publications in south Mississippi, and has recently released a book, "Surviving the Storms of Life."

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