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JCJC's EMT program earns "Excellence in Action" National Award by Advance CTE

Submitted
Jones County Junior College's Emergency Medical Technology program recently received the prestigious "Excellence in Action" award, which recognizes the best Career Technical Education (CTE) programs across the nation by Advance CTE. Jones was one of eleven programs selected nationwide to earn this award in the Health Science career cluster category. All programs recognized by Advance CTE provided compelling data demonstrating impressive graduation rates, credential attainment, dual enrollment completion and

work-based learning participation, and glowing letters of recommendation. These programs are preparing their students for a lifetime of career success.
Advance CTE's Katie Fitzgerald explained, "We have around 100 applicants each year across 16 career clusters. However, the Health Science career cluster is one of the most competitive by far. The staff does an initial review of all applications and narrows it down to around 50 and then the selection committee, made up of state CTE directors and past award winners, reviews the remaining programs

against a rubric. An award winner is selected for each career cluster."
The Emergency Medical Technology (EMT) program at JCJC trains EMTs and paramedics to become knowledgeable health care providers through a strong relationship with secondary education schools and industry, ensuring a seamless pathway across systems. The program is critical to providing a pipeline of qualified healthcare professionals, and it has emerged as one of the top programs in the South, boasting a 90 percent first-time pass rate on the National Registry of EMTs, compared to a national average of 60 percent.
"It is quite an honor for myself, the Emergency Technology Program, and the college to receive this award," said M. Eric

Williams, assistant director of Emergency Technology Studies at JCJC. "Our motto at Jones is to inspire greatness, and we see the fruit of that labor today. We have always known our college was a leader in health care education, but it is wonderful to be recognized on the national stage for the accomplishments of our faculty and students."
Williams is proud to have the Advance CTE organization's "seal of approval" by earning the national award. That's because the national Excellence in Action award in the Health Science Career Cluster was based on JCJC's track record of providing clear pathways into college and careers, the rigorous academic and technical coursework, strong partnerships

See JCJC EMT, page 5

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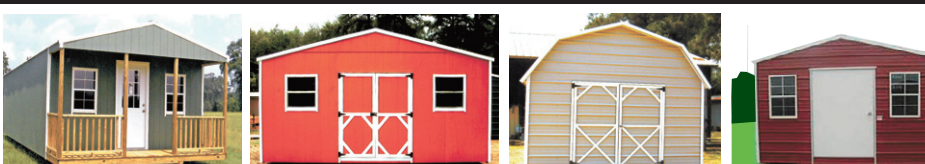
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Southern Miss Autism Research and Treatment Lab offering programs for children, adolescents

Submitted

The University of Southern Mississippi's Autism Research and Treatment (SMART) Lab is offering two programs for children and adolescents with autism spectrum disorder and their peers, beginning May 31 on the USM Hattiesburg campus.

***Summer Social Skills Program:** The SMART Lab's Summer Social Skills Program is designed for children ages 4-12 and focuses on behavioral and social skills, such as joining in groups and conversation skills, and will include strategies to promote skill use in home and community settings. The twice-weekly instruction (Tuesdays and Thursdays starting at 1 p.m.; sessions will be 2.5 hours in duration) will be held for eight weeks, with groups divided by age.

***Social Skills and Games Group:** This new program for adolescents age 13-19 targets social skills such as joining in groups and conversation skills in a fun, game-based setting. The twice-weekly instruction (Tuesdays and Thursdays starting at 1 p.m.; sessions will be 2.5 hours in duration) will be held for eight weeks, with groups divided by age.

These sessions will be taught by trained USM graduate students and led by USM Department of Psychology faculty members Evan Dart and Keith Radley in the USM School Psychology Service Center/SMART Lab, located in Owings-McQuagge Hall. Program fees are \$100 per individual, which is adjustable based on income. For more information, contact Brandy Lowe at 601.266.5255 or email brandy.lowe@usm.edu.

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May 17
You are cordially invited to our spring revival at Providence Missionary Baptist Church, 1908 N. Joe Wheeler Avenue in Laurel. Dates: Monday, May 15 - Wednesday, May 17 at 7:15 nightly. Guest evangelist will be Rev. Cornelius McDonald of John the Baptist Pachuta.

Coast Community Church of Biloxi, MS, is a non-denominational ministry which will be bringing 40+ member Mission Team to Laurel and the immediate surrounding areas from June 19-23. We desire to work for the handicapped, the impoverished, the elderly, those in dire financial situations and single parents. We are able to accomplish a variety of projects. We provide the tools and labor absolutely free! All we ask is that those for whom we work provide all necessary supplies, paints and/or materials to complete the particular projects. Home inspections from our leadership team will be made on Sunday afternoon, May 21 through Monday evening, May 22. Please fill out and return all applications through fax to 228-392-5685, by early Friday, May 19, if at all possible. Or you may call Deen Brashear (Senior Minister) at 228-860-1584. Applications may be obtained and faxed at: City Clerk's Office in City Hall, 401 North 5th Avenue, Laurel, MS, 601-428-6444.

May 18
The annual Hunting Heritage Event for the Tallahala Longbeards Chapter of the National Wild Turkey Federation will be held on Thursday, May 18, in Bay Springs. The event site will be the Jasper County Extension Building. Doors will open at 5:30 p.m. for the reviewing of an auction and raffle items. The evening meal will be served at 6:45 p.m. Other activities will follow. For more information or for tickets, contact Jim Sims at 601-764-7293.

May 20
The S.T.A.R.S. of Laurel presents a "Denim & Pearls Affair" May 20 at The American Legion Hut Post 210, 1038 East Elmo St., Laurel. 9:00 p.m. - until. \$10 a person. Must be 21 to enter. Free food, drinks and DJ spinning top on the 1's & 2's.

Jones County March for Jesus will be held Saturday, May 20 in Laurel. The March begins at 10:00 a.m. at Daphne Park. Bring your family & friends! Bring your banners and signs! Let's demonstrate our love for Jesus together! For more information call 601-580-8446.

There will be a Masonite Neighborhood Reunion on May 20 at the Glade Community Center from 10:00 a.m. until. If you lived near

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The annual reunion for the descendants of Edward F. Parish and Lillie Dyess Parish will be Saturday at a family residence (65 Frosty Hinton Road, Soso). Bring your favorite covered dish and join us for lots of fun.

The Lindsey McCullum Chapter 5A HRAM will host their Annual Zerubbabel program at William Chapel United Methodist Church (1345 Highway 503, Vossburg) The speaker will be Rev. Stanley Talbert from Philadelphia, Miss. Come enjoy the program with us. For more information, contact Tony McCullum at (601) 433-7647 or Joey Tribble at (601) 286-0303.

New Prospect MB Church, Rose Hill, invites you to our annual Family and Friends Day cookout. This event will begin at 12:00 p.m. with plenty of food, fun, games and entertainment for the entire family. On May 21, everyone is invited to conclude our Family and Friends Day worship during worship service at 11:00 a.m.

Everyone is invited as Boyles Chapel United Methodist Church celebrates its annual homecoming on Sunday, May 21. Morning service will be at 11:00 a.m. with guest speaker Sean Dunlap. If you would like to sing a special please bring your materials. Bring a covered dish and enjoy lunch and fellowship at 12:30. Boyles Chapel is located about 1/2 mile off Hwy 84 on the Eucutta Road in the Whistler community.

The Greater Hattiesburg and Pine Belt Chapter, Greater Laurel/Jones County Chapter of The National League of Junior Cotillions has announced the official kickoff for registration for the 2017-2018 fall season this week. The National League of Junior Cotillions is an etiquette and social dance training program that involves thousands of students nationwide. The invitation for registration for our students can be upcoming boys and girls 5th-9th graders and older in the High School ages. Registration is open online at the web site www.nljc.com and go to the website chapter page. For information regarding the program, call 601-264-7019 and or visit the web site, or contact by email at roma.graham@nljc.com. National League of Junior Cotillions.

Pine Valley M.B. Church, 924 SCR 8 A, Taylorsville Ms. invite you to a Spring Revival on May 22nd -24th. The Speaker for Monday night will be Rev. George Dawson of St. Joh Baptist Church in Laurel, Ms. On Tuesday night, the Rev. Richard Ward, the pastor of St. Elmo Baptist Church will be the speaker. On Wednesday night Rev. A.G. McSwann, the Pastor of Morning Star Baptist Church in Laurel will be the speaker. Service will begin nightly at 7: 30 P.M.

Choices Family Clinic presents "Festival for Life" on Wednesday, May 24 from 6:30-7:45 p.m. at Life Church, 5021 Hwy 84 West, Laurel. Join us for an evening of worship, testimonies, music and videos to learn how vital your church is to the pro-life movement. Please call 601-428-4357 to reserve your seats today!

Congregation Church of God Shubuta will have their pastor Dolly Evans' first year appreciation, May 26-27, with each night service at 7:00 p.m., and on Sunday May 28 at 1:00 p.m. Speakers for this occasion will be: Friday night - Bishop Anthony Evans of Power Temple Pentecostal Church, Enterprise, MS; Saturday night - Pastor Andrew George of Hands of God, Newton, MS; and Sunday - Pastor Willie Price, CCOG, Meridian, MS.

Wayne County 4-H and Maynor Creek Water Park are partnering to present a United States Flag Retirement ceremony beginning at 7:00 p.m. at Maynor Creek Reservoir. Everyone is invited to attend with a special invitation to current military, veterans, military families, and other patriotic individuals and groups to attend this ceremony. Drop off your aged and tattered USA flags to be retired at Mississippi State University-Extension Service, Wayne County Extension Office, 810-A Chickasawhay Street, Waynesboro, or Maynor Creek Water Park, 1351 Reservoir Road, Waynesboro, by May 24.

The Women's Ministry of Pleasant Grove Moss MB Church would like to invite you to our two-night Pre-Women's Conference on May 26 starting at 7:00 p.m. and May 27 starting at 6:00 p.m. Two dynamic speakers will be delivering the Word of God.

"Empowered to Know Who You Are" Women's Conference will be held at Grace and Mercy, 202 Hwy. 528, Bay Springs, at 1:00 p.m. on May 27. This conference is hosted by Grace and Mercy Women's Department. There will be dinner & door prizes.

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A Memorial Day Program will be held at Joe D. Hudgies American Legion Post #210 (1038 E. Elmo St., Laurel) on May 27 at 6:00 p.m. Guest speaker will be Lt. Col. Earnest Dixon, Retired.

Please come join the Jones County Genealogical and Historical Organization on Saturday, May 27, for the monthly meeting of the organization. This meeting will begin at 10 a.m. and will be held at the Laurel-Jones County Library, 530 Commerce St., Laurel. Everyone is welcome.

Magnolia Boys will be in concert Saturday at 6:30 p.m. at Antioch UM Church, 845 Lower Myrick Road. A nursery will be provided. Come out for a good time and a blessing.

May 28
Calvary Baptist Church, 143 Central Avenue, Laurel, invites you and your church family to our Annual Choir Day on May 28 @ 3:00 p.m. Our theme for this occasion is "No Greater Love" John 15:13. Your groups, soloist, and praise dancers are all welcome.

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May 20th is March for Jesus Jones County Day

By Linda Cranford

Laurel Mayor Johnny Magee signed a proclamation Thursday, May 11 proclaiming Saturday May 20 "March for Jesus Jones County Day." Retha Clements, the march coordinator, said it has been approximately 14 years since she put together a March for Jesus event gathering Christians of all denominations together not in protest but as an outward procession of prayer. Christians from across the area are encouraged to gather at Daphne Park beginning at 9 a.m. The march will leave Daphne Park at 10 a.m. and follow a route through downtown Laurel and back to Daphne Park.

"This is a parade for Jesus," said Clements. "We're going to walk down the streets singing songs for Jesus and fellowship together." Clements said there will be a rally at the end of the parade, where several local pastors will gather to pray for our city, county and nation.

Mayor Magee said the City supports and welcomes all friends of Jesus to gather in His honor saying, "You can't have too much prayer."



Photo/Linda Cranford

JCJC EMT, continued from page 1

with industry leaders, and the program's impactful work-based learning experiences which offers opportunities for career exploration and subject-matter mastery. Kimberly Green, executive director of Advance CTE, shared that JCJC's EMT program's commitment to providing real-world learning experiences through mentorships with industry experts, clinical internships and field placements stood out to them. She added, over the course of over 500 internship hours and a demanding academic course load, JCJC students are prepared to enter directly into the healthcare sector, a field that is in high-demand in rural Mississippi.

"I am so proud of these exemplary programs and all they offer learners across the country," said Green. "Boasting impressive graduation and completion rates, credential attainment, and hands-on learning experiences, these programs demonstrate what high-quality CTE has to offer and its ability to set students up for success across the spectrum of careers."

Advance CTE Excellence in Action award winners cover 11 Career Clusters® from 10 states and represents some of the best CTE programs in the country. These high-quality programs serve a combined 1,500 students in communities ranging from rural Mississippi to the bustling metro area of Dallas, Texas, providing all students – no matter their race or income – with a world-class education. While each of the programs is unique, they all offer a rigorous sequence of courses beginning with fundamental skills to subject-matter mastery; real-world, hands-on experiences in the classroom led by dedicated educators; and meaningful work-based experiences facilitated by industry partners. The programs boast not only stellar



JCJC's assistant director of the Emergency Technology program, Eric Williams (right) received the prestigious Excellence in Action award from the Advance CTE organizations' meeting recently held in Washington D.C. Pictured left to right are: Jean Massey, Executive Director of Mississippi Secondary Education; Jo Ann Honeycutt, President of Advance CTE and State CTE Director for North Carolina, and M. Eric Williams, Assistant Director of Emergency Technology at Jones County Junior College. Photo/submitted

industry partnerships but also partnerships with other educational institutions supporting a seamless transition from secondary education into post-secondary education.

The list of 11 national winners can be found by clicking on the link: Advance CTE Excellence in Action Awards. For more information about JCJC's EMT program contact the office at 601-477-4848.

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LRMA Blues Bash set for June 2

Submitted

The 24th annual Lauren Rogers Museum of Art Blues Bash will be held Friday, June 2 from 6:30 - 10:00 p.m. on the Museum's front lawn. The Bash will feature the music of Keith Johnson and the Big Muddy Band and barbecue by Laurel's own Hog Heaven.

Tickets in advance are \$25 with a limited number of tickets available at the event for \$30. Tickets include barbecue and beverages, and may be purchased at the LRMA front desk or by contacting 601.649.6374 or info@LRMA.org. Guests should bring a lawn chair or blanket.

A Shepherd's Heart – Follow Me

By Dr. Timothy L. Hubbard

The next day, Jesus decided to leave for Galilee. Finding Philip, he said to him, "Follow me." – John 1:43 (NIV)

"Follow me," are two words of invitation spoken by Jesus that will change the life of any individual who will respond. It certainly changed the life of Philip, Nathanael, Andrew and Peter, who all responded positively to the invitation. I don't know about you, but I am thankful that the invitation that Christ offers is not too complicated to understand. As a matter of fact, it's really pretty simple, isn't it? As I have thought about this invitation over the years, I have struggled to find ways to help people understand its simplicity when there seems to be so much confusion concerning the "complexity" of becoming a follower of Christ in the world today.



I recall as a child learning how to build balsa wood airplanes. My dad would scrape up enough money to go to the hobby store and buy airplane kits for me, my brothers and, yes, he bought one for himself too. He would gather us together around the dining room table (our workshop) and as he opened his box, we would follow and do the same thing. Dad would teach us how to build our models by allowing us to watch him and follow his example. In this process, I don't ever remember him saying to us, "just do what I say," – rather he would simply show us how to accomplish the task by encouraging us to follow his example. I was always amazed at how patient my dad was when building his model air-

plane. Always careful to sand every inch of the plane until it was smooth as glass. I can hear him saying that the smoother you sanded, the better the finished paint job would look. Looking back at my finished products, I should have followed those instructions better. I just never seemed to be able to get mine to look as good as Dad's.

Just about the time I would grow frustrated and want to throw my plane to the floor, he would gently take it from my hands and once again demonstrate how to sand for the smooth finish. Jesus' invitation to us is much like this example from my childhood. He calls us to follow Him, to follow His example. His purpose is to develop us into His disciples and just as he did with those early disciples, he will lead us by example. When we want to give up and throw in the towel, He will gently guide us through life, instructing us as we go. There is one key that must be realized in the process. That is the key component of "surrender."

As I am willing to follow Christ, I must be willing to surrender my will over to His. If I want my life to be a reflection of Him, I have got to get all of me out of the way. Jesus also said, "If anyone would follow after me, let him deny self, daily take up his cross and follow me." It is this surrender that is necessary to follow after Christ. Just as I wanted my airplane to look just like my Dad's, I want my life to look just like Jesus. My prayer is that I would faithfully surrender my all to Christ each day. How about you . . . would you make that your prayer as well? The hymnist, Judson W. Van DeVenter, states it well in the following words: "All to Jesus I surrender, All to Him I freely give; I will ever love and trust Him, In His presence daily live. I surrender all, I surrender all; All to Thee, my blessed Savior, I surrender all."

Open Garden Daylily Tour, Daylily Show dates set

Submitted

The May meeting of the Hattiesburg Area Daylily Society (HADS) will feature HADS show chairman John Tibbetts. Co-chair of the show is Barbara Watts. The program will focus on the topic "What's a Daylily Show All About?" A question and answer session will follow the presentation.

The meeting will be held, Sunday, May 21 at 2:00 p.m. in the Extension Service Conference Room at the Forrest County Multi-Purpose Center on Hwy. 49 South. In addition to the program, the meeting will feature a plant auction and door prizes. Refreshments

are served prior to the beginning of the meeting. Visitors and new members are always welcome.

Also on the HADS calendar are two programs that have grown to be area favorites. The 2017 Annual Open Garden Daylily Tour will be on Memorial Day, one day only, on May 29. The 22nd Annual Daylily Show will be Saturday, June 3 at the Lake Terrace Convention Center.

Additional information about the Society, the upcoming meetings and future events may be obtained by visiting the web site at www.hattiesburgdaylily.com

William Carey University students inducted into Sigma Tau Delta

Submitted

William Carey University recently inducted 11 students into the Alpha Gamma Gamma chapter of Sigma Tau Delta English honor society. The inductees are Raechel Abney of Diamondhead, Ticochie Groves of Magee, Sara Jolley of Hattiesburg, Abby Magee of Columbia, Cody Patrick of Laurel, Joshua Caleb Pitts of Ellisville, Ian Pittman of Columbia, McKenzie Rigney of Picayune, Olivia Russell of McComb, Liberty Sites of Crestview, Florida, and Kayla

Wagner of Leakesville.

Admission to the chapter is open to undergraduate and graduate students with an overall "B" average in English courses and ranking in the highest 35 percent of the student's class in general scholarship. The honor society was founded in 1924 as "an order designed to promote the mastery of written expression, encourage worthwhile reading and foster a spirit of fellowship among those specializing in the English language and literature."



Participating in the recent Sigma Tau Delta induction ceremony at William Carey University are: (front, from left) inductees Sara Jolley, McKenzie Rigney, Kayla Wagner, Abby Magee, Sigma Tau Delta President Deborah Nevill, inductee Liberty Sites; (back row, from left) faculty advisors Dolores O'Mary and Dr. Marsha Newman, inductees Cody Patrick, Joshua Caleb Pitts, Ian Pittman, English instructor Edison Williams, Language and Literature Department Chairman Dr. Tom Richardson. Photos submitted

WCU students inducted into Alpha Chi National Honor Society

Submitted

William Carey University inducted 42 students into the Mississippi Beta chapter of Alpha Chi National College Honor Society on April 19. Membership into Alpha Chi is limited to no more than 10 percent of the junior, senior, and graduate class members. Carey students must have at least a 3.70 grade point average on the 4.0 scale to qualify for membership.

The new members are: Emily Batley of Leakesville,

Thomas Bush of Ellisville, Emily Crawford of Pearl, Shelbi Daughdrill of Wiggins, Kara Dyess of Millry, Alabama, Micah Eastridge of Carriere, DeAnna Ellis of Seminary, Andrew English of Hattiesburg, Lindsey Farmer of Leakesville, Katelyn Farris of Baton Rouge, Louisiana, Brandon Grayson of Hattiesburg, Amia Green of Jackson, David Harris of Ocean Springs, Maren Hasselbusch of Petershagen, Germany, Kalon Hillman of Richton, Lydia Howard of Poplarville, Jessica Jenkins of Franklinton, Louisiana, Britannie Johnson of Wiggins, Houston Jones of Richland, Branden Lindsay of Simpsonville, South Carolina, John Lindsey of Hattiesburg,

Abby Magee of Columbia, Jena Mazique of Lena, Deanna Mikell of Bassfield, Maggie Mills of Hattiesburg, Jordyn Mitchell of Picayune, Aubreanna Moffett of Seminary, Kelsey Nobach of Pass Christian, Robert Owen of Wiggins, Cody Patrick of Laurel, Ian Pittman of Columbia, Rebecca Robinson of Hattiesburg, Saxon Houston of Lumberton, Savannah Sharkey of Waynesboro, Kevin Shows of Columbia, K'La Skipper of Soso, Rebecca Smith of Lucedale, Chelsea Sullivan of Carnes, Abigail Sullivan of Mendenhall, Ameriah Taylor of Magnolia, Katelee Thomas of McComb, and Morgan Thornhill of Hattiesburg.

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Participating in the April 19 Alpha Chi induction ceremony are (front, from left) chapter Secretary Chamapuwa Tinago, Vice President Sara Golson, Abby Magee, Amia Green, DeAnna Mikell, Katelyn Farris, Britannie Johnson, Morgan Thornhill, Lydia Howard, Jessica Jenkins, Ameriah Taylor, Kelsey Nobach; (second row) President Matthew Haymes, Jena Mazique, Jordyn Mitchell, K'La Skipper, Ian Pittman, Houston Saxon, Brandon Grayson, Aubreanna Moffet, Lindsey Farmer, Rebecca Robinson, Dr. Everett Roark, Dr. Read Diket, Mrs. Dolores O'Mary; (back row) Houston Jones, Deanna Ellis, Andrew English, Cody Patrick, Robert Owen, Branden Lindsay, Kara Dyess, John Lindsey, Dr. Thomas Richardson and Dr. Randall Harris. Photo/submitted

Bobcat Soccer Academy Summer Camp set for June 6-9

Submitted

The annual Bobcat Soccer Academy Summer Camp is set for June 6-9. The Mini Bobcats Camp is for youngsters ages 4-7 and will be from 9-11 a.m. each day. Cost is \$80 for pre-registration or \$100 on the day of the camp. Cost includes a t-shirt and soccer ball.

The full Bobcats Camp is for youngsters ages 8-14 and will be from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. each day. Cost is \$160 for pre-registration or \$180 on the day of the camp. Cost includes a t-shirt, soccer ball and lunch.

The overnight Bobcats Camp is for youngsters ages 10-14. Cost is \$300 with

\$100 pre-registration due by May 29. Cost includes t-shirt, soccer ball, meals and dorm.

Pre-registration deadline for all camps is May 29.

Go to www.jcathletics.com and click on "Soccer Academy" under Men's Soccer or Women's Soccer. Fill out the registration form and send it along with a check to Dolores Deasley, JCJC Academy Soccer Camps, 900 South Court St., Ellisville, MS 39437. Make checks to Bobcat Soccer.

For more information, contact Deasley at 601-447-4552 or dolores.deasley@jcjc.edu or Brendan Connolly at 601-325-7213 or brendan.connolly@jcjc.edu.

Hansbrough signs with MCC



Laurel High School basketball standout Jazz Hansbrough recently signed a letter of intent with Meridian Community College, where she plans to study nursing. While at Laurel High School, she played basketball, ran track and was an active member of Beta Club. She is an honors graduate and Superintendent's List Scholar. Pictured (seated L-R) are her grandmother Charlie Stewart, daughter Ja'Zaria Brown, Jazz Hansbrough, mother Naomi Hansbrough; (standing L-R) Assistant Principal Leander Bridges, sister JaNa Hansbrough, Assistant Coach Shasta Husband, Head Coach Alphaka Moore, Assistant Coach Kamita Thigpen and Principal Jeanine Agee. Photo/submitted

Mississippi Bicentennial Flag presented to Jones County Republican Women



At the Jones County Republican Women's last meeting before the summer break on Wednesday, May 10, the organization was presented with a Mississippi Bicentennial Flag from Representatives Gary Staples of District 88 and Donnie Scoggins of District 89. Pictured L-R: Stephen Moore, Nancy Bell, Tiffany Parish, Danielle Ashley, Mary Jo Wedgeworth, Delight Jefcoat, Betty Staples, Debbie Griffin, Gary Staples and Donnie Scoggins. Photo/Linda Cranford

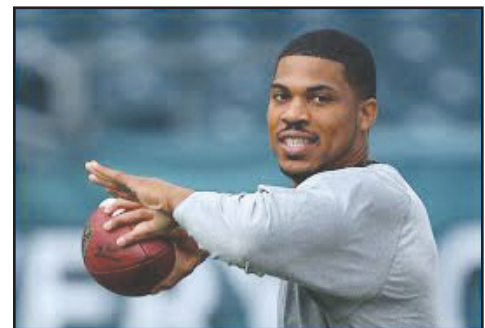
Jason Campbell FCA football camp dates set

Submitted

The 6th Annual Jason Campbell FCA Football Camp is set for Saturday, June 3, at JCJC. Youngsters aged 7 to 17 are invited to the annual FCA morning camp where area coaches teach and reinforce the fundamentals of football. Admission is free.

All campers will receive a t-shirt and lunch. Campbell, a former Taylorsville and Auburn standout, played 12 years in the NFL as a quarterback. Several National Football League players will also be in attendance for this camp.

All campers must have a signed release form to participate. All information can



be found at southeastmsfca.org, click on camps. Or email FCA Multi-Area Director Mitchell Williams at mitchellwilliams@fca.org.

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Why it's important cancer survivors play an active role in their own care

By Kimberly Randolph

Where once a diagnosis of cancer meant despair and hopelessness for patients stricken with the disease, thanks to tremendous advances in medicine and ongoing research around the world, survival is no longer just a dream for many, but an expected outcome. On June 4, the world honors those who have fought and stand in living tribute to the growing list of successes in the battle against cancer. The 30th annual National Cancer Survivors Day is also intended to help recently diagnosed individuals understand that cancer can be beaten with help and inspiration from their doctors, nurses, caregivers, families and friends . . . and with a solid plan for meeting the challenges head-on.

According to the American Cancer Society, more than 15 million cancer survivors are living in the United States and many are living longer after diagnosis, thanks in large part to advances in early detection and treatment. In fact, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) reports that two out of every three people with cancer are expected to live at least five years after diagnosis and the earlier the detection, the greater the likelihood for survival well beyond five years. Validating the more promising outlook was a study done by the American Cancer Society and the National Cancer Institute in 2016, which revealed that 17 percent of survivors – as of the study date – had been diagnosed 20 or more years prior.

In a November 2015 report, the CDC projected the number of cancer survivors in the U.S. will swell to about 24 million by 2025. A testament to modern medicine's greater understanding of how to combat the disease and the ever-improving diagnostic and treatment methods being deployed on a daily basis. Funding, of course, is critical to keeping cancer research on an upward trajectory. Continued appropriations from government – and significant private support – are leading to more and better treatment options and may push survivorship numbers beyond the CDC's rosy outlook in the years ahead. However, we all have within ourselves an innate ability that can provide a significant complement to the medications and therapies we offer as healthcare providers. A positive attitude and a strong will to

beat cancer can help support favorable patient outcomes for long-term survival.

Legendary UCLA hall-of-fame basketball coach John Wooden had a famous saying that applies here: "Failing to plan, is planning to fail." His message is applicable, not just in sports, but to life, and certainly it is apropos for cancer survivors. It is essential for survivors to have a plan. Sadly, many do not, and it is a distressing reality that a patient without a plan has a gap in their treatment regimen that may have negative consequences. A survivor with a plan is empowered with knowledge regarding what therapies and tests are needed and at what intervals. No two patients are exactly alike, so each survivor should have a customized medical plan that provides a proverbial road map for sharing information and scheduling treatments relative to their own condition(s) with their doctors so that the best care possible can be rendered.

I tell patients to stick with a plan – even after active treatment for their cancers may have concluded – and know that their plan should encompass all of their healthcare providers. Cancer survivors often become accustomed to the care given in treatment of their respective cancers and many believe they can forego their primary care physicians. Not true! Primary care is still very important to managing all of the patient's needs and to control chronic conditions that may or may not be related to cancer. A patient may become so focused on overcoming their cancer they ignore other vital diagnostic tests like mammograms, colonoscopies, prostate exams, routine physicals, etc. Key takeaways for survivors:

- Know who you need to see, when you need to see them, what tests you need and when, and what medications you need to take and for what duration for long-term health and quality of life.
- Have a comprehensive plan to help assure you stay on track.
- Combine quality medical care across multiple disciplines, a positive "can do" attitude and a clear plan to get well and stay well.

-Kimberly Randolph, MSN, FNP-BC, works in the Survivorship Department at Cancer Treatment Centers of America in the metropolitan Atlanta community of Newnan, where she cares for patients with a range of conditions. She is board-certified by the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners and the American Nurses Credentialing Center. She is trained in Advanced Cardiac Life Support and is a member of the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners.

Hoffman signs with GCC



Wayne County's Isaac Hoffman signed a tennis scholarship to attend Gulf Coast Community College. He is a 2-time all-district performer for the War Eagles in mixed-doubles. He placed second in singles district this spring and has played in the state tournament for three straight years. Photo/submitted

WJHS art students participate in Congressional District art contest



Students Win Congressional Awards -- West Jones High School art students recently participated in Congressman Steven Palazzo's 4th Congressional District Student Art Contest. Mason Dry (pictured middle bottom) was voted Best-in-Show. Mason's art will hang in the United States Capitol for the duration of a year, along with other Congressional winners from around the U.S. Mason's achievement won him airline tickets to the Congressional Art Forum in Washington, DC, this summer. Other West Jones students also placed in this competition. Painting: 1st place, Kayla Yates (left); 2nd place, Mason Dry. Mixed Media: 1st and 2nd place, J.P. Person; 3rd place, Sara Graves (middle left). Drawing: 3rd place, Mason Dry. Printmaking: 2nd place, Lauren Stevens (middle right). Overall runner-up, Katlin Clark (right). Photo/submitted

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Continued on ... Page 11



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- Must meet approved physical and medical standards
- Able to participate in required training.

Transporter - Jones County Route

- High School Diploma or Equivalent with at least one year of driving experience.
- Valid Mississippi Commercial Driver's License & Bus Driver Certification through the State of Mississippi.
- Medical Examination Certificate and PreDrug Screening required.

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Queen Olive II Head Start Center • P. O. Box 2086
518 Madison Street • Laurel, MS 39440

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FISH

Hendry's Catfish Farm: Channel Catfish, Catfish Fingerlings, all sizes, Grass Carp, Koi (Japanese Goldfish), Coppernose Bream, Red Ear Native Bream. Florida Bass, Large Mouth Bass. Pond Management. 601-735-9870, 601-818-3182, Waynesboro, State Licensed Hatchery, a private enterprise.

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Brewer Fishery. Coppernose, Shellcracker and Hybrid Bream, Black Crappie, Channel Catfish fingerlings, Bass, Fathead Minnows, Grass Carp, and Gold Fish. State licensed and delivery available. www.istockponds.com 601-270-1268, 601-989-2466.

COMPUTERS

Hp desktop computer, windows 7. Never been used. \$450. 601-735-3468.

CAMPERS

2004 Sunnybrook 28ft. 5th Wheel Camper, can be seen in the Myrick Community. 1 slide. Everything in great condition. 205-353-2474 or 205-353-2455.

2013 Aspen Ambassador pop up camper, hard top, opens into twin bed. Pulls behind vehicle, motorcycle or trike. Used one time. Paid \$8000, asking \$4000. Serious inquiries only. Includes a/c, heater, potty, pads for bed. 601-580-8319.

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AUCTIONS

European Antique Auction. Bull-ock Road Seminary, MS. Special Auction of fine antique furniture, May 20th at 2pm. Auctioneer Steve Neeley Lic#1325 www.eaa2.com. 601-543-3629 / 601-722-0130.

TIMBER AND LUMBER

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

Know the value of your timber before you sell. We provide timber appraisals and help landowners market their timber for the highest value. Walley Forestry Consultants, Inc., www.walleyforestry.com, 601-477-3014.

VACATION

Gulf Shores Condos, \$125/nights. Houses, \$250/nights. Weekly specials available. Connie Daughdrill, 1-251-510-3090.

GARAGE SALES

Three Family Rummage Sale: May 11, 12 & 13, 7:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Girls, boys, ladies & men clothes, household items and lots more. Go 12 miles on 84 East of Laurel, turn left onto Charlie Green Rd., then turn left on Smith-Holfield Rd., go to end of road.

Myrick Eastern Star multi-family rummage sale, sponsored by Myrick OES#35 and The Clyde Howard Lodge #525 will be held at the Clyde Howard Lodge at 306 Masonite Lake Road, Laurel on May 20th from 7am-2pm. We will also be selling sausage dogs, baked goods, and drinks. For more info call 601-428-7070.

MUSICAL

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

BUILDINGS

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Continued on ... Page 12

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