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YWCO 19th annual Victorian Christmas Tea

By Linda Cranford

As guests arrived at the YWCO Thursday afternoon, December 7 for the 19th annual Victorian Christmas Tea, the sound of Christmas music was heard coming from the Gilchrist Room as pianist Carolyn Blackledge tickled the ivies. The hum of voices in conversation, and the occasional outbreak of laughter, could be heard throughout the event as approximately 50 ladies (and one man) from all over the Laurel and Jones County area enjoyed the afternoon tea in both the Tea Room and the Gilchrist room of the historical YWCO in beautiful downtown Laurel.

The graceful Victorian Christmas

Tea is reminiscent of an event which began in England around 1830, when one of Queen Victoria's ladies-in-waiting, Anna Marie Stanhope, known as the Duchess of Bedford, created the afternoon teatime. As the noon meal became skimpier, the Duchess would experience a "sinking feeling" by afternoon, and would have the servants sneak a pot of tea, a few breadstuffs and cake to her room. Soon she began to invite friends to join her for an additional afternoon meal in her room at Belvoir Castle and adopted the European tea service format. The menu centered around small cakes, bread and butter sandwiches, assorted sweets,

and, of course, tea.

Nineteen years ago a group of Y Board members visited Windsor Court in New Orleans to learn how to properly serve a traditional English tea. Since then, the board members of the YWCO have invited ladies of Laurel and Jones County to join them for an afternoon Victorian Christmas Tea, which has become one of the most popular activities during the Christmas season.

Led by President Mary Kay Rogers and Event Chair Mary Ann Stroka, the YWCO staff and board members prepared and served the traditional meals for the afternoon tea, which began at 3:30 p.m.

In accordance with the traditional tea service format, the guests were served a choice of teas, Mandarin Orange Spice or Earl Grey, followed by a light three course meal. The first course included three types of sandwiches: pimento cheese, tomato, and chicken salad. The second course consisted of lemon lavender scones, strawberry scones, and tree shaped lavender shortbread. The third and final course included orange date mini muffins or brownie cookies, and raspberry tarts or vanilla cupcakes with Christmas sprinkles.

See photos on page 2





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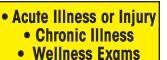




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Pianist Carolyn Blackledge played Christmas music in the Gilchrist room as guests arrived.



Meeting at the Y for the Victorian Christmas Tea has become a tradition for these ladies. L-R: Katherine Barker, Mary Louise Breland, Robin Robinson and Carolyn Stone.



YWCO Board President Mary Kay Rogers serves the first course to, L-R, Alyssa Green, Wanda Underwood, Peggy Schneider and Clara Smith.



Joanna Ashlay and Sarah Rice enjoyed visiting with one an-



Also enjoying the afternoon tea are, L-R, Marion Grumbir, Michelle Jones, Mary Margaret Anderson and Kandice Schwan.



YWCO Director Dawn Trest serves tea to Vicki Smith, right, and her daughter, Lauren Smith

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Carpenter Brothers Emporium of Wonderful Whatnots opens in Ellisville

By Linda Cranford

After months of renovations, the oldest building in downtown Ellisville, built in 1893, which formerly housed Vern Geddie's Western Auto, became the Carpenter Brothers Emporium of Wonderful Whatnots with its unique business model. Thursday, December 7, a ribbon cutting ceremony was held to formally open the Emporium with its approximately 35 vendors and their venues of unique items for sale. The Emporium is only open one week-end out of the month the first Thursday through Sunday.

Tana Henderson, known as the Junk Goddess, introduced this unique business model to the Jones County area when she opened The Rusty Chandelier. The Carpenter brothers (John Robert and Blaine) said they were vendors in the Rusty Chandelier for approximately five years. "We would not be here today if it wasn't for Tana and her guidance,"

"These guys are all about improving downtown Ellisville" exclaimed Jones

County Chamber of Commerce Ambassador Jonathan Strickler from The First Bank during the ribbon cutting ceremony. Strickler presented the Carpenters with a plaque of their first dollar of clear profit. Chamber Ambassador Shataura Sanders, with the Jones County Supervisors office, presented them with the EDA Membership artwork, which for this year's poster



Photos/Linda Cranford

Portable

ironically depicts Hotel Alice and Ward's Pharmacy in downtown Ellisville.

At the ribbon cutting ceremony, the Carpenter brothers were surrounded by family, friends, state and local government officials, including Representative Donnie Scoggins and Mayor Lynn Buckhaults, EDA President and CEO Ross Tucker, and Chamber of Commerce ambassadors.

The Emporium will be open the first weekend of each month from 9 a.m. until 6 p.m. Thursday through Saturday, and from 2 p.m. until 5 p.m. on Sunday.

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AREA HAPPENINGS

The Area Happenings section is a schedule of activi-ties for non-profit groups only – such as schools, churches and other not-for-profit organizations or family events. You may send your events to: Admin@laurelimpact.com.

<u>December 21</u>

The Laurel Shrine Club is holding a "ham cook" on Thursday, December 21. Smoked bone-in spiral cut hams will be available. The location is the Laurel Shrine Club building, located on Hwy 15 North. Contact 601-323-1609 or 601-433-2282 to place your order for other information.

The Nobles Foundation will host the annual Hometown Heroes holiday event and toy drive on Thursday, December 21 from 1:00 p.m. until 3:30 p.m. at the Waynesboro Library. This event is free and open to the public. Parents are invited to bring kids ages 12 and under to take part in the toy drive, raffles for cash prizes and be pictured with many of their favorite cartoon characters like Mickey & Minnie Mouse, Spiderman and The Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. A small appetizer dish and dessert will be served with a beverage during the event. Every child will receive a bag of candy and a gift from The Nobles Foundation. To be a sponsor or volunteer, contact Jules Nobles at thenoblesfoundation@

<u>December 23</u>

The Ellisville Masonic Lodge will have delicious, fully cooked, smoked Boston butts for sale for Christmas on Saturday, Dec. 23 at the Lodge in downtown Ellisville. \$25

CHRISTMAS BUSINESS HOURS:

Saturday, December 23rd 7am - 2pm

each from 8 a.m. to noon. Limited number is available, so call now to order yours. 601-433-5229 or 601-477-9608. If no answer, leave message with call back number. Credit cards and/or debit cards accepted.

December 24

Springhill Missionary Baptist Church, 1403 Dubose Street. Ellisville, cordially invites you to our annual Christmas program to be held Sunday, December 24, 2017, at 5:00 p.m. We will also have Christmas Day Worship on Monday, December 25, 2017, from 9:00 until 10:00 a.m.

New Life In Christ, 226 Ellisville Blvd., Laurel, will have the following holiday services: Christmas service, December 24 at 9:00 a.m.; New Year service, December 31 at 10:45 a.m.; Watch Night service, December 31 at 10:30 p.m.

December 25

Jones County Garbage Service will be running regular routes for Christmas & New Years. However, the billing office will be closed for the Christmas Holidays December 25 & 26 and the New Year's holiday on January 1. Have your trash out by 6:30 a.m. on your day of pick-up.

December 28

Southern Civitan will have their monthly meeting Thursday, December 28 from noon – 1:00 p.m. at The Laurel Country Club, 2011 Highway 84, Laurel. Our speakers this month will be Tiffany Parrish, Joy Ulland, Lacey Kux and Kelli Holston. Guests are welcome. southerncivitan@gmail. com, www.civitan.org or 601-422-7575 for more informa-

December 31

New Year's Eve gospel sing at Tiger Creek Baptist Church on December 31 beginning at 8:00 p.m. through midnight. The featured group will be the Magnolia Boys Quartet of

January 19 The Kingsmen Quartet will be in concert Friday, January 19 at 7 p.m. at Heritage United Methodist Church, Highway 98 W. at Baracuda Drive in Hattiesburg (Oak Grove). No ticket required. A \$12 donation per person will be requested at the door (no one turned away), and a love offering will be taken during the concert. Proceeds go to support The Kingsmen Quartet and Gospel Music ministry. Doors open at 6 p.m.; children are always welcome, 10 and under "free" when accompanied by adult. Plan to arrive early for best seats and parking. For directions or information call the church office at 601-261-3371 or 601-297-7922 or go to www.heritageumc.org.

Laurel. The church is located off Highway 15 South. Every-

Fifth Sunday Community Service will be December 31 at Bethlehem UM Church beginning at 11:30 a.m. Dr.

Llewellyn C. Peyton will present the message. Start the New

Year by showing love and pride toward our community.

one is invited to come out for a night of gospel music.

Misc.

Te Invito A Mi Iglesia to Iglesia El Faro, 544 East Street, Laurel, MS. Servicios, Sabados: 6:00 p.m., Domingos: 10:00 a.m. Pastores Rafael Y Cecilia Anderson. 601-335-

You are invited to join Wayne County 4-H. This is one of the only youth organizations that you can join where there is no enrollment fee. There are educational meetings, workshops, and more. 4-H is for youth ages 5-18. Call 601-735-2243 or drop by the Wayne County Extension Office at 810-A Chickasawhay Street to find out more. If you have Face-Book, you can also like our Wayne County Extension Office page to see some of the things we have going on.

If you have FaceBook, you can also like our Wayne County Extension Office page to see some of the things we have going on.

On the last Tuesday of each month, Covington County Hospital hosts a cancer support group at 5:30 p.m. in the hospital's classroom. For more information, or call 601-765-6711.

Al-Anon meetings are held each Monday night at 7:00 at the 24-hour Society Club House at 626 N. Magnolia Street (corner of 7th Street, Laurel). Al-Anon is for families and friends for those who have addiction problems. Al-Anon hotline is 601-426-4688.

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Cindy Brownlee and Wesley Payne, with 8-month old Anna-Belle Payne, shopped with Jermaine Nix, who chose to buy a 116-piece home repair tool kit.



Shopping with Calhoun firefighter Tyler Anderson, 11-year old Mega Johnson went straight for a 44 inch portable basketball goal system and a new basketball.

Olivia Annie Sullivan just

turned 5-years old, and

she and her mom Theresa Prince were very thankful to Calhoun VFD.



Shopping with 5-year old Mathieu Babineaux are, L-R: Lacey Bailey, Fabulous Jones, and Abbey Garick.



Calhoun Firefighter Doug Stewart was shopping with 6-year old

Third Annual Shop with a Firefighter

By Linda Cranford

Saturday afternoon, December 16, a Hummer Limousine furnished by Ralph Cahill and Elite Hummer Limousine of Laurel pulled up to the north entrance to Walmart. Seven children with a number of volunteer firefighters from the Calhoun Volunteer Fire Department piled out of the back door of the limo to begin an afternoon of shopping that the children will perhaps remember for the rest of their lives. Throughout the year the volunteer firefighters have been busy raising money for this very moment.

"We can't thank the community enough for the support they have shown this year," exclaimed Scott Rushing with Calhoun VFD. "We are able to help a total of ten this year have a Christmas that they possibly would not have had. Just since Thanksgiving, two of the families we're helping today lost everything in house fires and they are both from the Calhoun community."

Rushing said the department was able to raise \$2,600 this year, one hundred dollars over their goal, giving each child \$250 to spend. He said the extra \$100 will be applied to next year's goal.

"The greatest thing is to see the smiles on the kids face," said Rushing. "One young man looked at me with eyes wide opened

and asked, 'I can really have this?' Some of the children new exactly what they wanted, while others were so overwhelmed with the opportunity they just weren't sure. But as soon as they were all ready to begin the shopping spree, several headed straight to the toy department and others headed for the clothes department.

After shopping the kids headed to Mc-Donald's, where manager Stacy Chandler gifted the children with lunch, and then it was on to the Country Lanes Bowling Alley.



After choosing a new phone and tablet, Omarion Nix spent the remainder of his money on clothes as he shopped with Calhoun firefighter Jesse James. Photos/Linda Cranford







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Southern Miss, Miss. State among college bowl season participants

The 2017-18 college bowl season kicked off this past week. The bigger games are upcoming, with most of them being played between December 24 and January 1. Buzz

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Jack and Brian Jack give us their thoughts here on who the winners of the big bowls will be.

Hawaii Bowl (Houston vs. Fresno St.):

Brian - Houston Buzz - Fres-

Brian - Houston, Buzz - Fres-

Quick Lane Bowl (Duke vs. Northern Illinois): Brian - Duke, Buzz - Duke.

Independence Bowl (Florida St. vs. Southern Miss): Brian - FSU, Buzz - USM.

Texas Bowl (Texas vs.

Missouri): Brian - Texas, Buzz - Missouri.

Camping World Bowl (Oklahoma St. vs. Virginia Tech): Brian - OSU, Buzz - OSU.

Alamo Bowl (Stanford vs. TCU): Brian - Stanford, Buzz - TCU.

Holiday Bowl (Washington St. vs. Michigan St.): Brian - Washington St., Buzz - Washington St.

Belk Bowl (Texas A&M vs. Wake Forest): Brian - Texas A&M, Buzz - Texas A&M.

Sun Bowl (Arizona St. vs. North Carolina St.): Brian - ASU, Buzz - NC State.

Music City Bowl (Kentucky vs. Northwestern): Brian - Kentucky, Buzz - Northwestern.

Cotton Bowl (Ohio St. vs Southern California): Brian - Ohio St., Buzz - USC.

Taxslayer Bowl (Louisville vs. Miss.

State): Brian - Louisville, Buzz - MSU.

Liberty Bowl (Memphis vs. Iowa St.): Brian - Memphis, Buzz - Memphis.

Fiesta Bowl (Penn St. vs. Washington): Brian - Penn St., Buzz - Penn St.

Orange Bowl (Wisconsin vs. Miami): Brian - Wisconsin, Buzz - Miami.

Outback Bowl (Michigan vs. South Carolina): Brian - Michigan, Buzz - Michigan.

Peach Bowl (Auburn vs. UCF): Brian - Auburn, Buzz - Auburn.

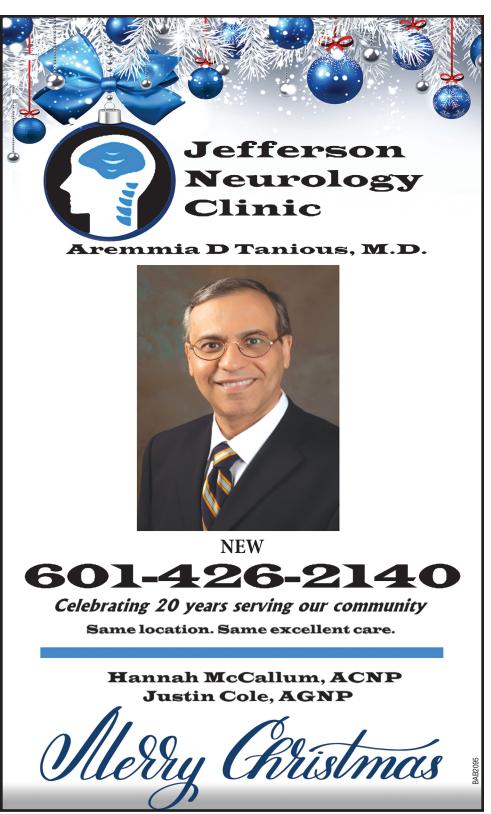
Citrus Bowl (LSU vs. Notre Dame): Brian - LSU, Buzz - LSU.

Rose Bowl (Georgia vs. Oklahoma in National Championship semifinal): Brian - Georgia, Buzz - Georgia.

Sugar Bowl (Clemson vs. Alabama in National Championship semifinal): Brian - Clemson, Buzz - Alabama.









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Southeastern Baptist College receives top rankings in several categories

By Linda Cranford

It has been said that Southeastern Baptist College is the best kept secret in Mississippi. The Christian college has recently received top rankings in several categories including 8th Best Christian College in Mississippi and 17th Best College in Mississippi by Niche.com.

Military Friendly® Schools has elevated SBC from its Silver status ranking in 2017 to the Gold level ranking for 2018 as a military friendly school. In October, SBC was ranked 6th by Online Christian Colleges among the 30 most affordable online Bible colleges in the United States. This ranking was created using the National Center for Education Statistics' College Navigator database. The 30 most afford-

able online Bible colleges were selected and ranked based on the following ranking methodology: tuition cost, student-to-faculty ratio, diversity of online degrees, and national recognition. Online Christian Colleges was created to help students make well-informed decisions when choosing an internet-based Christian degree program.

"Southeastern specializes in Christian hospitality and student satisfaction," said Dr. Scott Carson, SBC president. "We are proud to

provide our students an accessible and affordable Christian education and excited to be ranked among the most affordable online Bible colleges."

Carson came to the college at the first of 2016 as adjunct professor upon the invitation of SBC former president, Rev. Danny Pitts. Later in the year Carson became academic dean. With the sudden passing of Rev. Pitts in December 2016, Carson was appointed interim president in January and elected president in May.

SBC is located in Laurel and is a non-profit educational institution owned and operated by the Baptist Missionary Association of Mississippi. SBC offers degrees in general education, business, Bible and



church ministries. Mississippi teachers can also earn credits for recertification.

With a student-to-faculty ratio of 6-to-1, SBC offers three associate's degrees and one bachelor's degree, one hundred percent online. Southeastern is fully accredited on

the state level by the Mississippi Commission on College Accreditation (MCCA) and by the Association for Biblical Higher Education (ABHE) on the national level. To learn more about the college go to http://southeasternbaptist.edu/.









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Luke 2:10-11

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"Remember Mississippi" – A Story that Needed Telling

By Linda Cranford

In 2014, Mississippians witnessed a Senate Primary of historical proportions. The entire country had their eyes on Mississippi as State Senator Chris McDaniel challenged U.S. Senator Thad Cochran for the Senate seat. A book signing was held recently in Laurel by McDaniel and Ryan Walters for their book, "Remember Mississippi," which depicts the behind-the-scenes actions of the controversial race. During the book signing McDaniel said he will announce after the holidays if he will be running for a state or federal office.

"Ryan felt the story needed to be told," said McDaniel. "It's not simply a story about the campaign, it's a story about the campaign working within a corrupt system and how the establishment within that corrupt system brought every tool it had to crush our campaign. It's a book about redemption to a certain extent, a book about loss to a certain extent, and a book about betrayal. But, ultimately, I think what Ryan was trying to get across to the reader was that we are in a fight for the future of this country. And, for us to be successful we have to change the status quo. The establishment on the other hand seeks to maintain the status quo at all cost."

McDaniel added, "Remember Mississippi' is a battle cry for conservatives all over most of the country. If you remember what happened here, we can inspire people to make sure it never happens anywhere else. Ryan did a tremendous job researching. The book isn't simply Ryan's opinion; there are



Senator Chris McDaniel, seated left, and author/historian Ryan Walters, seated right, sign their new book "Remember Mississippi" for, standing L-R: Joey Harris, Susan Perkins, Ruth Johnston, and Melinda James. Photo/Linda Cranford

over 400 footnotes in the book. It is a thoroughly detailed piece of work written by an intellect who can tell the story better than

McDaniel and Walters said the book came about because they were both getting emails and calls from people all over the country months after the primary who were still angry about what happened in Mississippi and were encouraging them to tell the story.

When Walters decided to write the book

he called McDaniel to run the idea by him. "I told him I've got either a brilliant idea or a stupid idea," said Walters. McDaniel agreed that the story needed to be told and in May 2015 Walters started researching. He went back through the hundreds of articles he had written and posted on the website he had launched during the campaign entitled "Mississippi Conservative Daily."

Walters grew up in Ellisville and graduated from South Jones, Jones County Junior College, and USM. He has a master's degree in American history and has started working on his PhD. For the past four years he has lived in Arlington, Texas and has been teaching history at Tarrant County College (TCC), which is located in the Dallas/Fort Worth area. He has taken the last semester off to promote the book, and should McDaniel decide to run in 2018, he plans to join his team.

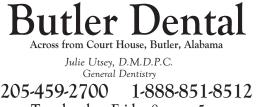
"Remember Mississippi" is Walters' second book to write. Approximately five years ago, Walters wrote a book entitled "The Last Libertarian" about President Grover Cleveland. "Grover Cleveland is a forgotten conservative president who gets lost in the shuffle," said Walters. "He is in that group of presidents between Lincoln and Theodore Roosevelt that is an obscured era of American history and most people don't know anything about him. I think he was one of the best presidents we've had, and he has gotten lost." Walters said he plans to release a new version of the Grover Cleveland book in a couple of months.

Walters said "Remember Mississippi" began as what is called a boys-on-the-bus type story about the campaign without much of a theme to it. "As the presidential campaign unfolded, and we started seeing Ted Cruz, Donald Trump, Ben Carson and Rand Paul - people that were anti-establishment unconventional candidates - soar to the top of the list, we said something's going on here," said Walters. "Chris called me up one day in the middle of the presidential campaign and said

I'm getting emails from people all over the country telling me they're supporting Trump because of what happened in Mississippi. They were angry about what happened and they were retaliating against the establishment. During the Presidential campaign, Erik Ericksen, who wrote the forward to the book, wrote an article for Red State entitled 'The Chris McDaniel Legacy Haunts the Republican Party.' That was a confirmation for us. Ericksen, a nationally recognized conservative commentator, was hearing the same thing as Chris and me. He was hearing things from people in Iowa and all over the country that they were retaliating because of what the establishment did to Chris McDaniel in Missis-

Walters said the major theme throughout the book is the fact that Trump doesn't become the nominee and win the Whitehouse if it hadn't been for Mississippi 2014. "People want to know what really happened. We had accusations flying everywhere, five people were arrested, we had two alleged breakins, there was race baiting, vote buying, vote stealing, a Supreme Court challenge, and we even had one suicide. How many people can say that about a Senate Primary? It's an exciting story, but there is also a point to it; how far will the establishment go to wreck a conservative candidate like Chris McDaniel. This is a detailed, behind the scenes inside baseball type stuff, of some of the decisions that were made."

Walters added, "One of the reasons we put so much detail in the book, with over 400 footnotes, is because we believe whatever campaign Chris runs, they're going to bring up some of those old allegations. Now we've got a book that we can say, go read this and learn the truth."



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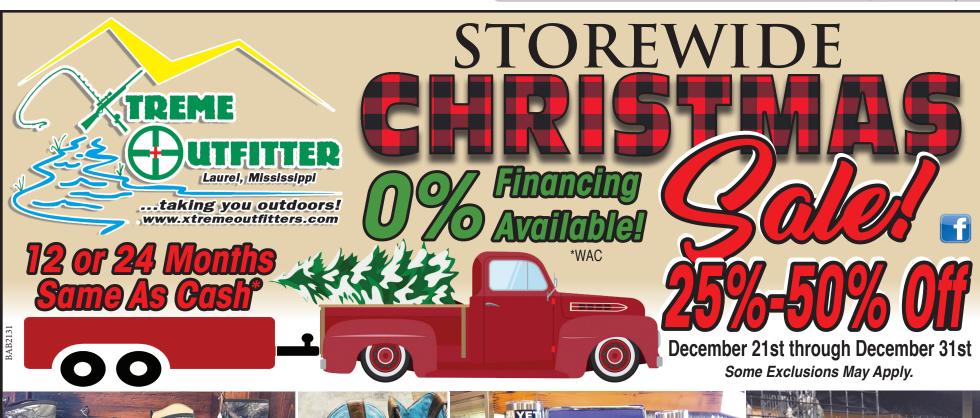
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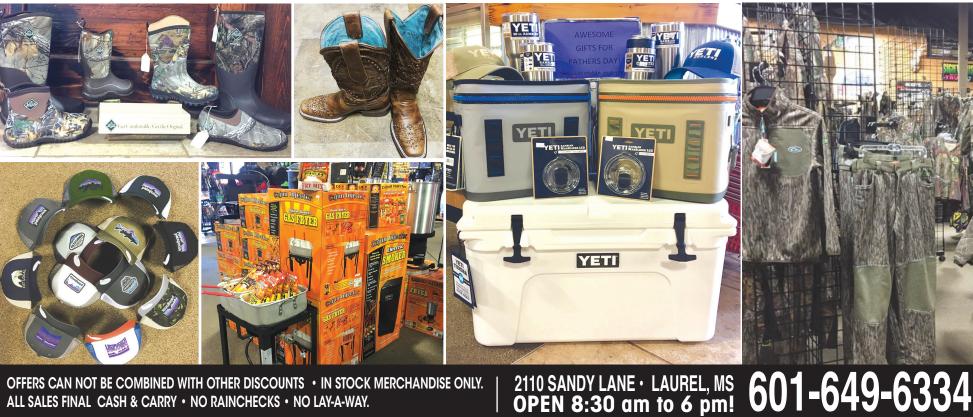




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+/- 104 Acres Located on J Walker Rd, just 5 miles West of Wiggins, MS, just off Hwy 26, this tract is one of a kind!!! Property has +/- 50 acres of improved pasture, two 4 acres lakes, four small ponds and the remainder of acreage in Hardwood/ Pine Mix timber. Good Fences and Cross Fences in place. Has beautiful house or cabin site looking over the lake with power and water already in place. Equipment shed and catch pin in place. The property has Bahalia Grass growing on it currently but will soon be harvested and Rye Grass planted for winter. This property is also just a few minutes away from Red Creek which offers boating and fishing. Don't let this one pass you by!! Shown by appointment \$312,000. Call Woods & Waters Realty at 800-526-3961. See more at mfmland.com.

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Leaf River Frontage! Perry County +/- 130 Acres. This property is located seconds from Downtown New Augusta along the Leaf River. This tract offers beautiful river bottoms, interior roads, and food plots. Excellent deer, turkey, squirrel, and hog hunting. This property will not be on the market long and is priced to sell at \$2,250/acre. Call Bennett Burris 601-913-0340 at Walley Properties, LLC. or visit our website at walleyproperties.com for more info on this

+/- 104 Acres Located on Chickasawhay River in Wayne County, MS just West of Waynesboro, MS this tract is perfect for hunting and recreation and even a place to call home. Property is a fresh cut over with hardwood/pine trees remaining on the River. Property has a lake site and a power line running across it with a planted field. Majestic Hills and Abundant Wildlife!!!! Will make a Great Timber Investment, Ask us about Cost Share with the reforestation of the property. \$182,000. Call Woods & Waters Realty at 800-526-3961. See more at mfmland.com.

Covington County +/- 74 Acres. Located in the Seminary School District just 4 miles from downtown Seminary off HWY 590 on the corner of Shirley Sanford Road and Johnny Sanford Road. This property is perfect for someone looking to build a home in the country but still have the convenience of being close to town. .Property consist of mature pine plantation, gorgeous hardwoods, and creek that flows throughout the property. Excellent hunting! \$222,000. For more details call Bennett today 601-913-0340 at Walley Properties, LLC. Or visit our website walleyproperties.com for maps and more info of this listing.

+/- 47 Acres Located on Hwy 594. just a few miles East of Leakesville, MS, this tract is perfect for someone looking for a Hunting Place or to Build a House on!!! Power and Water already in place. Good mixture of pine/hardwood timber across the property with a creek running on the West side of the property. Great Hunting and Recreation. Don't Let This One Pass You By!! \$108,000 Call Woods & Waters Realty at 800-526-3961. See more at mfmland

Simpson County +/- 79 Acres This beautiful property is located just 2 Miles off of Hwy 49 South on McNair Springs between Mt. Olive and Magee. Property consist of open

walleyproperties.com 601-477-3014

fields which are currently being used as hay fields, natural timber stands, 2 ponds, and a 3BR, 2BA house. This property is ideal for anvone looking for a weekend hunting retreat, cattle farm, or a beautiful setting to build a home. The open fields on the property are great for deer and turkey and could easily be used for cattle farming. The house located on the property would make for a great farm house, hunting camp or rental investment. This property is offered at \$199,500 Contact Bennett 601-913-0340 at Walley Properties, LLC. or visit walleyproperties.com for maps and info of this listing.

+/- 37 Acres Located on Brushy Creek Road, just NE of Lucedale, MS. This tract consist of 21 acres of row crop field with remainder in mixed hardwoods and pine. Great If you are looking for some land for Growing Crops Cows or Horses this is the place!!!! \$129,500 Call Woods & Waters Realty at 800-526-3961. See more at mfmland.com.

New Listing! Greene County +/- 40 Acres. Located on the Perry/Greene County Line just off hwy 42 between Richton and Sandhill. hunting opportunity! This property features the Piney Woods Creek which flows throughout the property, mature hardwoods and pines. The property does have a deeded easement and is easily acceptable. This property is great for anyone looking for excellent hunting/recreation property. Priced at \$120,000 Call Bennett Burris 601-913-0340 at Walley Properties, LLC. or visit our website at walleyproperties.com for more info on this property.

Jasper County +/- 40 Acres. Jasper County +/- 40 Acres. This beautiful property is located on a private lake in the Stringer School District. The property consist of 14 acres of mature pine/hardwood mix adjacent to the lake, 6 acres in the lake and 20 acres recently cut. The property offers many home/campsites. The property has deeded access on two private roads. Priced at \$145,000. Call Marc 601-670-5429 at Walley Properties, LLC or visit walleyprop-

Small acreage for sale, water, septic and power pole, owner finance, Jones area. 601-426-3696 or 601-470-7772.

+/- 93 Acres Located on Davis Hyatt Road, just North of Hw.y 28 in the Gitano Area, this tract is in both West Jones and Stringer School District. 15 acres recently cleared,

10 acres in mature hardwood/pine timber and the remainder in 12 year old regeneration timber. Would make good pasture. Several cleared pipeline for food plots and good access to entire tract. Several home sites along with great recreation and hunting!! \$165,000. Call Woods & Waters Realty at 800-526-3961. See more at mfmland.com.

Covington County 85 +/- Acres. Located in the Seminary School District just 4 miles North of Seminary at the intersection of Hwy 535 and Lebanon Church Road. Would make for a great home site. Features a mix of young pine plantations and hardwood stands along the creek bottom. Excellent timber investment and hunting opportunity. \$191,250 Call Bennett 601-913-0340 at Walley Properties LLC. Please visit walleyproperties.com for maps and mor info of this listing.

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Wayne County +/- 84 Acres. Property will not last long! Located on the Mabry Graham Road just north of Beat 4 in Wayne County, MS. This Remarkable Tract of Land offers endless possibilities. The topography is gently rolling with sandy clay soils The timber consist of 8-10 year old pine plantation. The property offers plenty of road frontage in a remote setting with an excellent internal road system and a natural gas pipeline for great access. Grass patches are in place and an abundance of wildlife that is sure to please any hunter. This property is offered at \$165,900.00 & can also be divided. Contact Marc 601-670-5429 at Walley Properties, LLC. or visit walleyproperties.com for maps and info of this listing.

35 Acres .This beautiful property is located just east of Quitman on CR The property is just minutes from Archusa Water Park and the Quitman Country Club. The property has recently been sheared and will be raked soon leaving a clean slate for many possibilities. There are multiple homesites and a nice pond site. Priced to sell at \$52,500 Contact Marc 601-670-5429 at Walley Properties, LLC. or visit walleyproperties com for maps and info of this listing.

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Laurel football and basketball shares in its success

By James Pugh

Those on the outside might see the situation differently.

Laurel's success on the gridiron in recent years, including five straight trips to the Class 5A South State Championship - a some beyond Thanksgiving week - has coincided with the success Laurel's also had on the basketball court.

Its gridiron success also comes at a price on the hardwood. Several weeks into the basketball season Laurel is made to do without (in some cases) its more talented athletes. It's a curse that is its own blessing and opportunity according to head basketball coach Marcus Price.

"It allows our younger guys to gain experience against quality teams," says Price. "These are the guys we rely upon down the road.

"And I know that with our football team going as far as they go, they're getting invaluable experience that they're going to be able to bring to the court and share with our other players that will be playing in some big-time games.

"We know that [basketball] state championships aren't won in November and December, so we use that as a time to get better. We obviously want to win, but we aren't that concerned about records [in the early going]. We say that our record will reflect who we are at the end of the season."

Nearly every year the same number of Laurel players make the sudden transition gridiron to the hardwood. This season Price retained nine players on the football team to join him on the hardwood.

"On average we have about nine or ten [that make the transition]," Price said. "We have nine this year, and every year we try to maintain that number. Kids sometimes don't understand how much basketball helps their football and vice versa. We have incredible coaches in both sports that help our players develop."

Football has benefitted from a solid core of wide receivers in recent years. Several receivers have been known to be two-sport athletes: some of the most notables include Dontario Drummond from a year ago and Omar Bayless in 2014.

The success of each other's program can be linked to the other.

"The same skill sets that are required for athletes to be elite in both football and basketball are one in the same," says Price. "There is a difference in a kid that's working on hand and eye coordination versus someone who's taking the season off and just lifting weights. That's why we have so many good receivers and defensive backs, and even our big guys have good hands because [in the football offseason] they're in here



Photo/James Pugh

doing something that helps them. They're staying in shape, gaining comradery with teammates and - I'd like to think - getting quality coaching from our coaching staff."

The transition from one program to the other is relatively smooth, largely in part to the friendship between each of its coaches.

"It takes two people with a friendship between them to make it work," said Laurel head football coach Todd Breland. "We both understand that our sports complement each other. I love seeing our receivers go up to the gym and run up and down the court catching a basketball. Its similar to what we do down here.

"And sometimes our linemen need to work on their footwork, so we send them up to the gym [to play basketball in the offseason]. It goes hand and hand and makes them better athletes. Obviously, both of us have benefitted from that."

Another area that the transition has benefitted Laurel basketball is its physicality.

"Every possession is a battle, and we want to win it," Price says. "To do that we have to be physical. We make a statement about who we are as a basketball team by our physically. We aren't here to hurt anyone, but at the same time, we want to win every possession. It helps to have guys that are physical on the football field to come over and be physical on the courts."

While Laurel football has a five-year semifinal streak currently in the process, Laurel basketball has advanced to "The Big House" in its last four seasons, pending a fifth this season.

"We work hard, but our kids need to understand that we work hard for a reason," says Price. "There's a process we have implemented, and we have a pretty good thing going we think.

"It's a blessing to have Coach Breland working alongside us, and that's going to send guys over and not try to hold them out. It portrays the idea that we are a family."

South Jones edges West Jones with goal in second overtime period

a lot of heart."

By James Pugh

Tuesday night's game was destined to end the way its did.

South Jones boys soccer head coach Jordan Hamilton would have it no other way.

"This is always our toughest game of the year, just because it's against our rivals," said Hamilton after his teams 2-1 win over West Jones. "It's tough, but I love it. It brings some much adrenaline, even for a coach. It makes you feel awesome when you come in and do the work and see your team come out on top."

Senior midfielder Hugo Gonzales goal in Tuesday night's second overtime period on The Reservation lifted South Jones over West Jones, 2-1, in both teams' Region 5-5A

"Our boys are ecstatic right now," Hamilton said as his team's cheer nearly drowned out his post-game interview. "Both teams came out and played great games, but there's something about our team right now. They

just have it going for them. "We played Northeast Jones a few weeks

ago and came back in that game as well to

tie it up, 3-3. [We were down in this game too], and tied it up to give ourselves a chance. That is because our team plays with

West Jones scored the games' first goal in the 14th minute. South Jones answered with its own in the first half when sophomore Fausto Reyes netted the equalizer under the two-minute mark.

As important as Reyes goal was, the greatest feat for South Jones was holding West Jones scoreless in the second half to force the overtime periods.

"Our defense did a great job," Hamilton said. "They communicated well. Everybody did what they could when they could. West Jones had some opportunities, but we were able to stop them from finishing.

"After West Jones scored the games' first goal, our defense said they needed to do better. And they did. They did the best job of correcting their errors."

South Jones improves to 3-4-1 on the season, but most importantly 1-0 in Region 5-5A. West Jones falls to 7-6-1, and 0-1 in region play.