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See page 7

Pitts Swabbing nominated for Freedom Award from Secretary of Defense ESGR

By Linda Cranford

Billy Joe Pitts, owner of Pitts Swabbing in Laurel, was presented with a certificate honoring him for being nominated to receive the prestigious Employer Support Freedom Award issued by the Secretary of Defense ESGR (Employer Support of the Guard and Reserves).

"The Freedom Award is the next to the highest award you can receive on the civilian side," said Staff Sgt. September Wallace from Camp Shelby, who volunteers for the ESGR, when presenting the certificate to Pitts, Monday morning, April 23.

According to Wallace, "The Freedom Award is the highest recognition given by the U.S. Government to employers for their outstanding support of employees serving in the Guard and Reserves. Each year, Guard and Reserve employees have the opportunity to nominate their employer for the Employer Support Freedom Award. Pitts was nominated by his employee Timothy Harrison. The ESGR State Committees review nominations and submit the recommendations to advance to the next level. The Freedom Award was instituted in 1996." The certificate states that the ESGR "Honors Pitts Swabbing in recognition of exemplary support of National Guard and Reserve member employees." Signed by Juliet A. Perkins, Captain, USN and Executive Director of the ESGR and Craig R. McKinley, National Chair of the ESGR.



Pictured L-R, Tony Couch, Waylon Couch, Becky Pitts Roney, Jacob Lindsey (6), Jennifer Lindsey, Billy Joe Pitts, Sr., Daniel A. Pitts, and SSG September Wallace. Photo/Linda Cranford

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Firefighters learn tactics to fight Liquefied Petroleum Gas Fires

By Linda Cranford

Flames could be seen shooting approximately 30 to 40 feet in the air from the northwest corner parking lot of the Sawmill Square Mall in Laurel Wednesday night, April 25, as firefighters learned tactics in fighting Liquefied Petroleum Gas fires. The Jones County Fire Council presented the Mississippi State Fire Academy class "Liquefied Petroleum Gas Tactics & Live Fire Drill" on Tuesday, April 24, and Wednesday, April 25. The class was open to firefighters in Jones County, Laurel, and surrounding counties. However, only firefighters from Jones County took advantage of the opportunity which included 35 firefighters from Glade, Powers, M&M, Ovett, Union, Southwest, South Jones, Shady Grove, and Hebron Volunteer Fire Departments.



A team of nine firefighters, with four firefighters each on two separate fire hoses and a firefighter in the middle guiding the team, approach the burning residential propane tank creating a water shield to protect them from the flames and heat. Once at the tank the middle firefighter shuts off the valve. Photos/Linda Cranford

Jones County Fire Coordinator Dan McKenna said, "The class is designed to help the responders better understand the hazards of LP gases and prepare for a response to a release or a fire. The first night was a discussion on the chemical and physical properties as well as the proper tactical procedures to use in the event of an uncontrolled release or fire. The second night consists of actual propane fires under controlled situations. Approximately 2,000 gallons of propane was burned." The live fire drill involved fighting two different types

of LPG fires; a smaller version of a propane delivery tanker truck and a regular residential propane tank. The propane tanks were set on fire one at a time and a team of twelve firefighters, four firefighters on two separate fire hose, approached the burning "propane delivery tanker truck" with a Mississippi Fire Academy instructor in the middle and another three man team, including a MFA instructor at the lead, on a third hose that was hooked up to a separate pumper which served as a safety team. The team created a shield of water as they approached the burning truck shielding them from the flames and



The simulated propane delivery truck was set fire with flames shooting approximately 40 feet in the air at times.

the intense heat that could be felt more than a hundred feet away in all directions. Once the team reached the burning truck, the firefighter in the middle, who was the Mississippi Fire Academy instructor in this drill, can then turn the valve off and the water shield will put out the fire. The drill was repeated in the same way with the regular residential propane tank being set on fire.

The supporting agencies for the event were Jones County Emergency Management, Mississippi State Fire Academy, Blossman Gas and Sawmill Square Mall. Funds for the exercise were provided by the Mississippi Liquefied Compressed Gas Board through their Propane Education and Research program.



The regular residential propane tank was set fire for the drill.



A team of nine firefighters, with four firefighters each on two separate fire hoses and a firefighter in the middle guiding the team, approach the burning "propane delivery tank truck" creating a water shield to protect them from the flames and heat.

IMPACT

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- Linda Cranford
- James Pugh

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Laurel Main Street Annual Awards



Laurel Main Street held their annual appreciation dinner Thursday, April 26 at the home of Jim and Mallorie Rasberry. The Business of the Year Award went to The Knight Butcher (owners Chad and Terri Knight). This award is given to the business that has done the most to beautify it's storefront, create an engaging and inviting atmosphere, and works to benefit all of the downtown community. *Photosubmitted*



Laurel Main Street held their annual appreciation dinner Thursday, April 26 at the home of Jim and Mallorie Rasberry. The "ONE" Award goes to volunteers of the year, and this year the ONE Award winners were Nece and James Hill and the Agape Church. This is given in recognition of their service, dedication, and loyalty to the board and mission of Laurel Main Street. We identify them as the "ONE". "The ones who say it can't be done need to get out of the way of the ones who are doing it!" *Photosubmitted*

NEJ Tiger Pride Marching Band holds fundraiser

The Northeast Jones Tiger Pride Marching Band held an outdoor "Spring Fling" fundraiser on March 24. Among the many activities were "Trunker Games," utilizing the hatch backs and trunks of vehicles for Kiddie games, slides, jump house, chicken drop cash fundraiser, dunking booth, baby chick sale and cake auction. Band director Zach Langley and assistant band director Lindsey Langley led the jazz, concert, 6th and 7th grade, 8th grade, and high school bands throughout the day to showcase their talents. Mississippi Blood Services mobile unit also well exceeded their goal during the event. The NEJ Tiger Pride Band Booster Club would like to Thank all the businesses, vendors, and volunteers for their donations. Howard Industries, C & C Specialties-Metal Art(the Cranford family), Crumbley Paper, The Craft Room, Corner Market, Monograms by Jo Ann Powell, Grocery Depot, Krogers, Sweet Somethings, Sugar Bakers, Mississippi Made in Ellisville, Hill Street Bakery in Ellisville, Knight Butcher, Shabby Sheet Cake Bakery, So so Volunteer Fire Department, Powers Fire & Rescue, Shady Grove Feed & Seed, and Holly's Jumps. Food Vendors were Bo Holifield Concessions, McAlisters sweet tea and lemonade, and Kassies Kones.



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May 3
The South Side Alumni Association Community Outreach Organization will meet on Thursday, May 3 at 5:00 p.m. The meeting will be held at Shady Grove MB Church, 18 CR 64, Heidelberg. For more information call Mandy Strong-White at 601-927-4165, Naretha Coleman 601-727-7442, Jesse Jones 601-935-2565.

May 4
The Laurel Shrine Club is holding its annual chicken cook on Friday, May 4. Chicken Plates (1/2 chicken, baked beans, potato salad, & bread) will be available 10:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. Plates are \$10 each. Dine in or carry out. Ten or more plates will be delivered will be delivered in the local area on request. The location is the Laurel Shrine Club at 4751 Hwy. 15 North. For information and tickets contact Jackie Rawls at 601-433-2282 or Jeff Gardner at 601-323-1609 or Bart Gavin at 601-580-4857.

May 5
An evening with Ann Downing, the Bibletones and Beyond Blessed will be held on Saturday, May 5 at Glade Baptist Church. The sing will start at 6:00 p.m. Everyone is invited.

AREA HAPPENINGS

The Area Happenings section is a schedule of activities 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.

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May 7
The Jones County Federation of Democratic Women will hold its monthly meeting on Monday, May 7 at 6:00 p.m. in the Cook Avenue Center.

The Smith County Republicans will meet Monday, May 7 7:00 p.m., at the Chancery Court Building in Raleigh. Everyone is invited. Hope to see you there. For more info call 601-725-4544.

May 12
The Magnolia Boys will be at Antioch UM Church, 845 Lower Myrick Road, Laurel, on May 12 at 6:30 p.m.

Gospel sing on Saturday, May 12, beginning at 6:30 p.m. at Sanford Community Center, located at 663 Old Highway 49, Sanford. The featured artists will be "Southern Heritage," "Leaf River," and "Faithway Singers." Admission is free; a love offering will be received. For more information, call 601-765-6485.

The 47th annual Gospel Singing Jubilee will be held on Saturday, May 12 beginning at 6:30 p.m. at the Pearl Community Center. Tickets available at Baptist Bible & Book House, Laurel.

May 14
Providence MB Church, Laurel, cordially invites you to our annual Spring Revival. May 14-18, at 7:15 nightly. The evangelist for the week will be Rev. Cornelius of John the Baptist Church, Barnett, MS.

May 19
Ovett Wildwood Chapel is hosting Brannon Robertson group, "Down South" on Saturday, May 19 at 7:00 p.m. A love offering will be taken. We are located on 495 Lower Ovett Road. For more information, call 601-344-7595.

March for Jesus! Join us as we exalt the Name of Jesus with praise and worship on Saturday, May 19 at 10:00 a.m. at Daphne Park in Laurel! Come early! Banners & flags encouraged! All signage should promote Jesus, not churches, causes or orga-

nizations. Wear comfortable shoes and hats! For more information, call 601-580-8446.

May 20
Blue Mt. MB Church in Bay Springs invites everyone to worship with us on May 20 during our mission program. The program will begin at 1:00 p.m. The speakers for the occasion will be our very own, Rev. Eugene and Sis. Mar Payton.

May 24
LLT's annual Kids' Camp this summer will feature the hilarious "Shrek Jr – The Musical." The camp will run for a full week of workshops and rehearsals starting May 24, with a weekend of performances May 31-June 3. Registration has just opened and will run until all the slots are filled in the next month. Check the LLT website LaurelLittleTheatre.com for a link to full camp information and to complete the online registration.

June 4
First through sixth graders will have the opportunity to check out college this summer as a part of Jones County Junior College's Kids' College summer camp. Campers will gather Monday, June 4 through Friday, June 8 from 8:30 a.m. until 11:30 a.m. The \$95 non-refundable tuition includes all supplies and snacks. Kids' College courses include Heebie-Jeebies and Creepy Crawlies, Food Science, Zoology: Animals Up Close and Personal, Art, Survey of Science and Physical Education. For more information call program director Missie Meeks at 601-477-5427 or email missie.meeks@jcjc.edu or check out the webpage at www.jcjc.edu/camps

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. 601-335-1453.

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 FaceBook, 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.

TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) meets every week on Thursday, 9:15 a.m., in the Magnolia Baptist Church fellowship hall, 1040 Wansley Road in Laurel. For more information, call or text 601-323-0830 or 601-319-6931.

New Creation Apostolic Church, 204 Ford Street, Taylorsville, invites everyone to join us for Sunday school at 10:00 a.m. and morning worship at 11:30 a.m. We also have a prayer service on Tuesdays and Bible study on Thursdays at 7:00 p.m. The pastor is Rev. Elder Bolton.

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JCJC employees honored for service

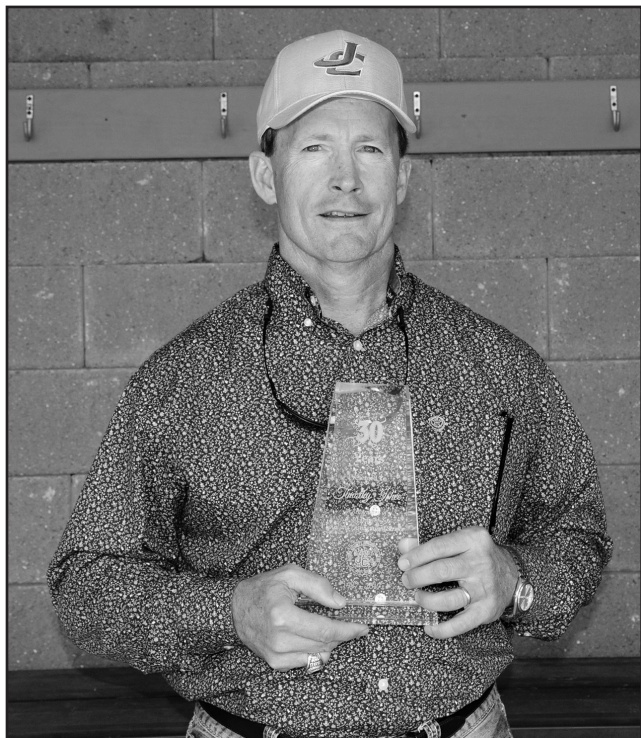
By Teresa McCreery

Fifty Jones County Junior College faculty and staff members were recently honored for their years of service to the college. Administrators and the JCJC Foundation treated everyone to a catfish lunch and an afternoon of softball. JCJC administrators honored employees for their service at five-year increments, beginning with those who have served at least five years.

The first honoree, Tim Ishee has taught Agriculture Science at Jones for thirty-years. He said he doesn't have plans to retire because he enjoys teaching students. In fact, the Jones County resident and JCJC alumnus said he can remember the students he's lost too.

"I've lost five students who were involved in car accidents; those were the toughest times for me. However, I love teaching my students so I plan to keep doing what I love," said Ishee.

Two employees, Teresa Welch and Tim Rayner celebrated 25 years with JCJC. Rayner has been a part of the math department his entire teaching career. After receiving his acrylic trophy he said, "I enjoy going into the classroom at JCJC today as much as I did 25 years ago. Someone once asked me when I would retire and I said when I quit loving going to work."



Agriculture Science instructor, Tim Ishee (Jones County) was recognized for 30-years of teaching at JCJC at the annual Employee Recognition luncheon. Photos/Teresa McCreery

Welch has served as the administrative assistant to the president for the last eight years after working 12 years in the Athletics department and three years in the Humanities department. Her favorite thing about working at Jones is the interaction with the students and the blessings she receives from them on a daily basis.

"My greatest reward is having a student leave my office with a smile, understanding why we may not be able to do exactly what they have requested but leave with an understanding that we care and are here for them. I will always treat each student as I would want someone to treat my own children," said Welch.

Eight JCJC employees were recognized for their 20 years of service: Tucker Beech-maintenance; Jennifer Powell-computer information systems instructor; Teresa McCreery-public relations director; Diane Johnson-business & office technology instructor; Stephanie Green-social science instructor; David Ray-business administration instructor; Wendy Wilkerson-horticulture instructor; Rick Youngblood-VP of Business Affairs.

Celebrating 15 years of employment at JCJC were Chris Robinson-softball coach; April Phillips-IT; Terri Stringer-health care assistant instructor; Michael Bradshaw-campus operations director; Patti Smith-English instructor; Kerri Pippin-math instructor; Eric Williams-EMT-Paramedic instructor; Stephanie Jones-pharmacy technology instructor.

Twenty-three JCJC employees were recognized for their 10 years of service including Paula Harrison-fine arts; Judy Prine-support services; Willie Jo Breland-housekeeping; Marva Ransom-housekeeping; Crystal Hinton-veterans affairs; Denise Wood-A.D. Nursing secretary; Dr. Giselle Marks-chemistry instructor; Jo Anna Newcomb-alumni association; Deborah Rowell-child care; Webb Evans-workforce development; Shawn Wansley-sports information director; Gabe Bozeman-marketing; Lela Bryan-Jasper County Center; Erica Brock-computer lab; Barry Bradshaw-automotive instructor and industrial services division chair; Brandi Linares-A.D. Nursing instructor; Tina Chisholm-sociology; Margaret Anne James-math instructor; John Burks-speech instructor; Stacy Forbes-mailroom; Jeremiah Estes-biology instructor; Finee' Ruffin-VP of Marketing; Brian Johnson-turf management.

After five years of employment at JCJC, these eight employees were honored for their service: Josh Ishee-commercial/residential maintenance instructor; Mary Evans-housekeeping; Katelyn Hutchison-humanities & social science secretary; Daniel Pittman-IT; Fred Houston-IT; Menyone Barrow-Greene County Center; Daryll McDonald-Wayne County Center; Shan Cargile-maintenance.

Each honored employee was given a special item designed for each level of achievement: 5 years-small plaque; 10 years-large plaque; 15 years-clock; 20 years-small acrylic trophy; 25 years-medium acrylic trophy; 30 years-large acrylic trophy.



Eight JCJC employees were recently honored for working five years in various roles at Jones. Pictured left to right are: Josh Ishee (Jones County), Shan Cargile (Smith County), Mary Evans (Rich-ton) and Daniel Pittman (Petal). Not pictured: Fred Houston, Katelyn Hutchison, Menyone Barrow and Daryll McDonald.



Two JCJC employees were recently honored for their 25 years of employment at JCJC at the annual Employee Recognition luncheon. Pictured left to right are: Teresa Welch (Jones County) and Tim Rayner (Jones County).



Eight JCJC employees were recently honored for working 20 years at Jones at the Employee Recognition luncheon. Pictured left to right are: Dianne Johnson (Jones County) business & office technology instructor; David Ray (Petal) business administration instructor; and Teresa McCreery (Jones County) public relations director. Not pictured: Tucker Beech, Jennifer Powell, Stephanie Green, Wendy Wilkerson and Rick Youngblood.



Eight JCJC employees were recently honored for working 15 years at Jones. Pictured left to right are: April Phillips (Jones County) IT; Terri Stringer (Jones County) health care assistant instructor; Stephanie Jones (Jones County) pharmacy technology instructor; Kerri Pippin (Jones County) math instructor; Michael Bradshaw (Jones County) campus operations director. Not pictured: Chris Robinson, Patti Smith and Eric Williams.



Thirteen JCJC employees were recently honored for working 10 years at Jones and are pictured in the front row left to right: Stacy Forbes (Jones County), Lela Bryan (Jasper County), Erica Brock (Petal), Margaret Anne James (Jones County), Judy Prine (Hattiesburg), Marva Ransom (Jones County) and Brandi Linares (Hattiesburg). Pictured in the back row left to right are Gabe Bozeman (Jones County), Jo Anna Newcomb (Jones County), Denise Wood (Jones County), Brian Johnson (Jones County), Tina Chisholm (Jones County) and Barry Bradshaw (Covington County). Not pictured: Paula Harrison, Willie Jo Breland, Crystal Hinton, Dr. Giselle Marks, Deborah Rowell, Webb Evans, Shawn Wansley, John Burks, Jeremiah Estes and Finee' Ruffin.

West Jones takes game one over Brookhaven in close contest

By James Pugh

West Jones head baseball coach Trey Sutton spoke in plain terms Friday night. "At the end of the night, it's about scoring more runs than your opponent."

West Jones did that in Game 1 of its second-round Class 5A playoff series vs. Brookhaven. Its solo run in the bottom of the fifth proved to be the game-winner Friday night in Soso as West Jones collected its 24th "W" on the year with a 3-2 win over Brookhaven.



Dustin Dickerson celebrates a strikeout against Brookhaven. Photo/James Pugh

West Jones traveled to Brookhaven Saturday night for Game 2 of the series and came back home with an 11-8 win to close out the series.

In the opening game, junior RHP Dustin Dickerson earned his seventh win on the mound, tossing a complete game and striking out a total of 11 Panther batters. Though he gave up two runs - one earned - on five hits and walked three, Dickerson proved clutch, especially in the third. With two down, bases loaded and a full count with the runners on the move, Dickerson forced Brookhaven to fly out to left field and ended the threat. His 11 strikeout performance was his best of the season, topping his 10 strikeout outing versus Richland back on March 12.

Evan Bynum led West Jones at the plate with two base hits. Bynum's leadoff double off the left-field wall in the fifth led to the Mustangs' go-ahead run. Sley Lyon, who came in to pinch run for Bynum, later scored on a passed ball. It gave West Jones the 3-2 lead.

Garrett McLaurin and Sam Hill recorded back-to-back RBI singles in the fourth to put West Jones on top 2-0. In the next frame, Brookhaven tied the game, 2-2, by taking advantage of two passed balls in the dirt. Both runners reached base on back-to-back hits to start the fifth.

Senior LHP Trace Owen took the loss on the mound for Brookhaven. Owen tossed a complete game as well, giving up three runs - one earned - on five hits and five strikeouts. The senior lasted the whole night without giving up a walk.

The Panthers finished the season at 18-10, while West Jones improves to 25-2 overall.

Robertson leaving Taylorsville to take non-coaching position at JCJC

By James Pugh

Chuck Robertson is leaving Taylorsville High School after two years as its head football coach. Robertson confirmed the news to Sports601.com on Saturday, April 21.

"I would like to thank Taylorsville High School and the community for the opportunity to be the head football coach the last two seasons," said Robertson. "I am so proud of our kids and staff for what we were able to accomplish during that time."

Taylorsville finished 15-1 in 2017 under Robertson and claimed the MHSAA Class 2A title with a 41-26 win over Winona. Taylorsville advanced to the title game with playoff wins over Bogue Chitto, Perry Central, North Forrest and Collins.

They entered the playoffs as a No. 1 seed after

a perfect 4-0 finish in Region 5-2A.

"This past season was extremely exciting," Robertson said, "especially being able to bring a sixth state title to Taylorsville. The future is very bright for the Tartars, and I wish them the best of luck next season."

While at Taylorsville, Robertson compiled a 19-8 overall record.

Robertson leaves Taylorsville to accept the position as Men's Housing Director at Jones County Junior College.

"I'm very excited about my new opportunity," said Robertson. "It will be different not coaching, and I am sure I will miss it, but it will give me the freedom to spend more time with my daughters, which is the most important thing."

For breaking sports news and sports features, visit Sports601.com.

South Jones softball narrowly falls to North Pike in round two

By James Pugh

Unable to deliver a crushing blow inning - much like it did in Game 2 with a five-run sixth - South Jones narrowly fell to North Pike, 3-2, in Game 3 of the MHSAA Class 5A second-round softball playoffs Thursday night. North Pike advances to round three with the series win.

South Jones forced Game 3 in Ellisville earlier in the evening with a 7-3 win over North Pike in Game 2, by scoring five runs in the bottom of the sixth.

South Jones had its opportunities. In the bottom of the seventh, trailing North Pike 3-1, South Jones loaded the bases with one out on two singles and a walk. Leadoff batter Cabrea Thrash singled to score South Jones' second run of the ball game.

Thrash led the Lady Braves at the plate with two hits and two RBIs. Her first hit and RBI of Game 3 came in the bottom of the sixth. It put South Jones on the board and narrowed North Pike's lead to 3-1.

With another opportunity to deliver a crushing blow to North Pike, South Jones three-hole hitter Jade Hall flew out to shallow right field as pinch runner Lexi Bullock at third base is thrown out at the plate trying to tie the game at three runs apiece. The double-play by North Pike ended the game and began its celebration.

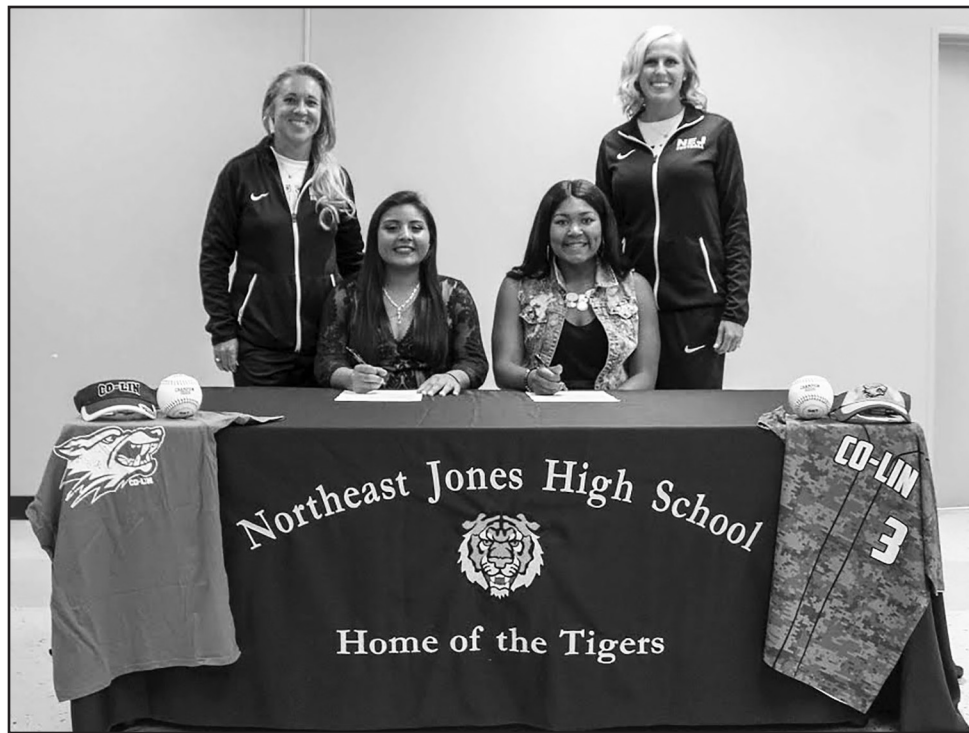
South Jones also loaded the bases in the sixth with two outs but a fly out to center field ended

the threat.

Grace Stringer went the distance in Game 2 and 3 on the rubber. Stringer had a total of 10 strikeouts on Thursday, tossing 14 innings in the two games combined. The senior allowed six runs on 10 North Pike hits.



Lady Braves pitcher Grace Stringer pitches against North Pike. Photo/James Pugh



Ky' Albri Washington and Delaine McMillian signed their LOI with Co-Lin. Photo/James Pugh

Northeast Jones duo ink with Co-Lin softball

By James Pugh

Copiah-Lincoln Community College signed two Northeast Jones softball standouts recently.

Ky' Albri Washington and Delaine McMillian signed their LOI with Co-Lin inside the Media Center at Northeast Jones High School.

Head Softball Coach Allen Kent says he believes the outfielder and shortstop have a lot to offer.

"Ky'Albri is so strong and has a lot of raw power. We feel like she hasn't reached her full potential, as she is capable of putting up some really good offensive numbers. She's a great looking athlete who should only continue to develop, now that she is not playing basketball anymore.

"Melanie has quick hands and is just a good all-around player. She's solid defensively and has a strong arm. She brings a lot to the table. Both of them are very likable and should fit in well with our program."

Kent is in his 16th season directing the Lady Wolves, having notched three state championships and two regional titles. His squads have been national runner-ups, as well as a third-place finish in the National Tournament. The MACJC has widely been regarded as the strongest in the country.

The Wolfpack also has a history of ranking in the top 10 academically. They have boasted numerous Academic and Athletic All-Americans.

May 2018 proclaimed Older American Month

By Linda Cranford

The Board of Directors and staff of DJ Transit, Inc. met with Mayor Johnny Magee on Thursday April 19, for the signing of a proclamation declaring May 2018 as Older Americans Month in the City of Laurel.

The signing of the proclamation helps bring awareness to the fact that like many small cities across the nation Laurel has a large number of older Americans who continue to enrich and strengthen our community. It states, "The importance of a person's participation in activities that promote physical, mental, and emotional well-being - no matter the age - is well-documented. The City of Laurel recognizes that it can participate in the enrichment of the lives of individuals of every age by committing to the following: promoting home- and community-based services that support independent living; involving older adults in community planning, events, and other activities; and providing opportunities for older adults to work, volunteer, learn, lead, and mentor."

According to Donna Bailey, mobility manager for DJ Transit, Inc., for 55 years, Older Americans Month (OAM) has been observed to recognize older Americans and their contributions to our communities. Led by the Administration for Community Living's Administration on Aging, every May offers an opportunity to hear from, support, and celebrate our nation's seniors. This year's theme "Engage at Every Age," emphasizes the importance of being active and involved, no matter where you are in life. Remaining socially engaged truly enhances the lives of older adults. With the services of DJ Transit, Inc., the challenge of transportation is no longer a problem for local community seniors.

Older Americans will be honored by the organization during the month of May with two WIN-A-RIDE campaigns for those 60 plus. DJ Transit is also networking with area agencies to promote Older Americans Appreciation Month by sharing a display at Sawmill Square Mall where each organization can pay tribute to local seniors that continue to stay "engaged" and truly make an impact in Jones County. DJ Transit will be available to assist those interested in sharing their resources at the Sawmill Square Mall display. Please Call 601-682-0701 for more details.



Laurel Mayor Johnny Magee signs a proclamation to recognize May as Older American Month in Laurel. Photo/Linda Cranford

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Christian Food Mission in Laurel gets a new home

By Linda Cranford

After spending more than six years planning and 35 years of service, the Christian Food Mission in Laurel has a new home for the ministry. During their 33rd annual meeting, the Board of Directors of the Christian Food Mission held a ribbon cutting ceremony and open house Thursday afternoon, April 26, to celebrate the new location on Moose Drive off Hillcrest Drive in Laurel.

In 1983, shortly after becoming a Christian, Robert Smith opened the Christian Food Mission as a ministry outreach and serves as its director. Greg Brown, who has been volunteering with Smith and the Mission for 21 years, serves as Volunteer Coordinator. The Board of Directors includes Steve Thrash – president, Steven Morgan – vice president, David Dill – treasurer, Rev. Gerald Henson – secretary, Al Moore, Chuck May, Greg Baldwin, Richard Walls, Dr. Charles Boone, and Smith – ex officio.

Thrash thanked everyone for making the mission possible in donating food, time and money. “We prepare food for those in need five days a week,” said Thrash. “It’s amaz-

ing, the Lord has provided over and over again. Now He has provided again with a new home.”

Smith said a lot of time and hard work went into renovating the 9,000 square foot building to meet the needs of the ministry and that it now includes a first class kitchen. “We removed three layers of tiles,” exclaimed Smith. “We were also looking for a place with a fair amount of parking space,” added Smith. They had very limited parking space at the old building which was located on Chantilly Street. “With this building we have room to expand and offer other ministry opportunities.”

Smith said the purchase and renovation of the building was made possible from grants received from the Asberry Foundation as well as a sizeable individual donation of \$200,000. Businesses have also pitched in to help by providing for different items including lights and light fixtures as well as a much needed walk-in cooler provided by Laurel Thermo-Cool.

In addition to the CFM being blessed with a new building, The Glory House Global Operations directed by Grant



EDA and Chamber Ambassador Chris Tullios, right, presented CFM Director Robert Smith, left, with their first dollar of profit as Board President Steve Thrash, center, looks on. Photo/Linda Cranford

and Hope Staples will also be blessed. According to the Staples, the Board of Directors voted to give the old building on Chantilly to their ministry.

West Jones High School names Hall of Fame students for 2018

West Jones High School 2018 Hall of Fame students are as follows:

- *Matthew Boykin,
- *Wil Bridges,

- *Kate Broom,
- *Claudia Chambliss,
- *Jess Cooley,
- *Brittani Dozier,
- *Lauren Flynt,
- *Anna Grace Gieger,

- *Amanda Grice,
- *Hannah Harrison,
- *Haven Howell,
- *River Howell,
- *Allie James,
- *India Jones,

- *Jacob Kilpatrick,
- *Jacob Morgan,
- *Logan Parker,
- *J.P. Person,
- *Logan Pitts,
- *Bailey Smith,

- *Dylan Stockstill,
- *Jack Taylor,
- *Reagan Todd,
- *Ashley Sumrall,
- *Olivia Williams,
- *Cassie Winship.



Matthew Boykin



Wil Bridges



Kate Broom



Claudia Chambliss



Jess Cooley



Brittani Dozier



Lauren Flynt



Anna Grace Gieger



Amanda Grice



Hannah Harrison



Haven Howell



River Howell



Allie James



India Jones



Jacob Kilpatrick



Jacob Morgan



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New listing. Greene county +/- 40 Acres. Now is the time to start getting ready for next hunting season and this tract of land is the perfect place to begin. Located on Hwy 594 and Gray Road with one-quarter mile road frontage about 8 miles southeast of Leakesville near the Alabama line, this listing is heavily wooded with three nice sized clearings perfect for food plots. Lott Branch flows through the property providing a great water source for the wildlife. This land has several nice spots for a home or campsites. Priced at \$114,500. For more information contact Walley Properties, LLC at 601-477-3014 or visit walleyproperties.com.

+/- 81 Acres Located on Sandersville-Eucutta Rd and Florence Church Rd. just a few miles from East of I-59 and the town of Sandersville. This property offers Timber Investment, Recreation and Great Hunting along with Several Great House/Campsites. Property would make great pasture as well. Conveniently located for an Out of Town Get-a-way!!!! \$206,550 Call Woods & Waters Realty at 800-526-3961. See more at mfmiland.com.

Lots for sale, owner financing Lots for sale Sandersville, owner financing with \$1000.00 down, payments start at \$175.00 month. City water & sewer & cable. Call 228-918-9068

Lamar County +/- 194 Acres. This tract of land has lots of options to offer potential landowners. For the outdoorsman, wildlife is plentiful. Five ponds offer great watering sources for animals and good fishing holes for humans. Located six miles NW of Baxterville, this property is easily accessible with frontage on Johnson Road. There are several good sites for a home or camp. Priced at \$717,800. For more information contact Clifton at Walley Properties, LLC

at 601-606-4336 or visit walleyproperties.com.

Clarke County +/- 35 Acres. This beautiful property is located just east of Quitman on CR 685 only minutes from Archusa Water Park and the Quitman Country Club. The land has recently been sheared and will be raked soon leaving a clean slate for many possibilities. This location contains multiple home sites 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.

Perry County +/- 32 Acres. Perfect for someone who wants a smaller tract of land for recreational purposes, this property is located on Gravel Pit Lake Road SE of Hintonville. It boasts 1/4 mile frontage on Thompson Creek with gorgeous sandbars, natural pines and hardwoods and a four-acre field perfect for a dove field or a food plot. This property will make someone a great campsite. Priced at \$94,500. For more information contact Clifton at Walley Properties, LLC at 601-606-4336 or visit walleyproperties.com.

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

+/- 17 Acres Located on Hwy 15 just 2 miles from the Red Apple in Stringer, MS. This piece of property is a perfect for someone looking to build their dream home on looking out over a 2 acre pond. Property has mature timber which makes this place a hard to find property in the Stinger School District. Don't let this one pass you by!!!! Call Rob McCraw 601-498-9143. \$127,500 Reduced to \$90,000 Call Woods & Waters Realty at 800-526-3961. See more at mfmiland.com.

LAND SALES & TIMBER MANAGEMENT
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Jones County +/- 83 Acres. A property like this one doesn't come around very often. This prime piece of land joins the west side of beautiful Lake Bogue Homa where the fishing is great! With one-quarter mile frontage on Magnolia Road, this tract boasts a mix of pines and hardwoods making it a gorgeous area for a nice estate, a weekend getaway camp or to subdivide into several home sites. Located in Northeast Jones School District, this property is priced to sell at \$228,000. Call Bennett at Walley Properties, LLC at 601-913-0340 or visit walleyproperties.com for maps and more information.

Wayne County +/-332 Acres Sealed Bid Land and/or Timber Sale. This fantastic property with road frontage on Matherville-Diamond and Waynesboro-Matherville Roads is 7 miles northeast of Waynesboro. With a historic home that predates the Civil War, this land could easily be a country estate, weekend getaway or hunting camp. Features include a small pond, 89 acres pasture land, 50 acres young pine plantation and 104 acres natural pines and hardwoods. Sealed bids for land and/or timber are being accepted for this property. Bids will be opened on Wednesday, May 3, 2018, at 3:30 p.m. at the Law Office of Freida Gunn Collins, 202 Ivy Street, Ellisville, MS 39437. For more information, contact Walley Properties LLC at 601-477-3014 or visit walleyproperties.com, click on Timber for Sale tab and download the sealed bid information.

Lincoln County +/-76.5 acres. This little piece of paradise is a hunter's dream! Located near Brookhaven and Wesson, just three miles from Lake Lincoln, the property boasts a creek and a small pond. This is a prime Mississippi location for hunting whitetail deer, turkey, and small game. It is also a great timber investment with beautiful hardwoods and pines. With excellent roads on both sides of the property, access is easy. There are three options for purchasing this real estate. The 23 acres north of the road are listed at \$2700/acre. The 53.5 tract south of

the road is listed at \$2250/acre. Or buy all of it for \$2250/acre. Call Jeff Windham at 601-297-1958 or Ralph Franks at 601-441-9706 at Walley Properties, LLC or visit walleyproperties.com for maps and info on this listing.

+/- 128 Acres Located on CR 31 just North of Hwy 528 and 4 miles West of Heidelberg, MS, Minutes from Interstate 59, this tract has 7 year old planted pines that have been sprayed. Has rolling hills and beautiful vistas. Has a powerline running through the property with food plots in place. Great Hunting, Recreation, and Investment. Has power and county water, several home or camp sites. Don't let this one pass you by!!!! \$224,000 Call Woods & Waters Realty at 800-526-3961. See more at mfmiland.com.

Jones County +/- 109 Acres. Situated in the Moss Community of Jones County near the Jasper County line, this beautiful wooded property contains a mix of natural pines and hardwoods. With plenty of frontage on Shady Grove-Moss Road, this location offers numerous possibilities for a home site or mini-farm. Its amenities include fenced pasture land with a barn and shed on site. Water sources for area wildlife include a small pond and the Tallahoma Creek which runs along a portion of the property's southeast border. Whoever buys this listing will enjoy the benefits of country living with the convenience of being less than 15 minutes away from Laurel, Stringer and Bay Springs. This property is located in the West Jones High School/North Jones Elementary School area. Priced at \$400,000. Call Marc at Walley Properties, LLC at 601-670-5429 or visit walleyproperties.com for maps and more information.

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+/- 4 Acres Located on CR 17 between Stinger and Bay Springs, MS. This 3br/2ba 2012 Deluxe Wide Manufactured Home is in excellent condition. Beautiful upland lot with

nice trees and a stocked pond. Property has a large shop and covered carport. 4 miles from Stringer High School. Call Rob McCraw @ 601-498-9143 for more info. \$88,000 Call Woods & Waters Realty at 800-526-3961. See more at mfmland.com.

+/- 2 Acres Located Northeast Jones School District 3 bedroom/2 bath 2011 Sunshine Doublewide manufactured home is in excellent condition with 2 porches and large carport. Call 601-335-4374 for more info. Serious inquiries only please.

Ellisville - 3BR, 2BA. Feels brand new! This immaculate home offers prime location! Convenient to so much with the town of Ellisville being right around the corner and a 15-minute drive to Hattiesburg or Laurel. Small, quiet, family friendly neighborhood that ends in a cul-de-sac so you get the feel of a subdivision with little to no traffic but still lots of space to spread out on this 1.49 acre mol level lot! The kitchen offers beautifully finished cabinetry and high grade granite that can also be found in the master bath. Sellers have recently installed wood look ceramic tile through hallway and all bedrooms so this home has no carpet! Also has office space! This home will not last! Call Shammah Beech, Realtor - Coldwell Banker Don Nace Inc. Realtors. 601.264.1900.

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North West Jones "West Jones" Class of 69 will have a rummage sale for scholarships on May 5th, from 7am until, in the lot adjacent to Southeastern Baptist College, Hwy 15 North. There will be lot of clothes, furniture, and a lot more.

Multi-family Garage Sale, Saturday, May 5th, 7:00-until, 18 Bay Circle, Laurel.

Saturday, May 5th, at 28 Wilcher Drive (next to Laurel Nursery on Hwy 15 North). Clothes, plants, plant stands, pot, pictures, books, miscellaneous items.

May 4th & 5th, 990 Poole Creek Road, Laurel, 7am-until. Travel trailer (\$3000), small furniture, clothes, household items, Christmas decor, flower arrangements all kinds. 601-433-2306.

Rummage Sale -- 60 Reid Road, Laurel, Fri.-Sat., May 4-5. 8am-until. Clothes, puzzles, books, pictures, dishes, much more.

Moving sale: 2007 Honda Hybrid, 83,000 miles, ladies car civic, Samsung stackable washer & dryer, furniture, household items, decor, too much to list! Saturday, May 12th, 8am-4pm, Sunday, May 13th, 1pm-4pm, 3428 University Avenue, Laurel, MS.

Rummage Sale -- Fri.-Sat., May 4-5, 7am-until, 329 Reedy Creek Road, Sharon Community. French doors, new push lawn mower, tv's, what-nots, boat, clothes & lots of miscellaneous.

Rummage Sale: Saturday, May 5th, 7:00-until. Women & men's name brand clothing, purses, shoes, lamps, jewelry & what-nots. Located behind Wendy's on 16th Avenue.

Massive 4-family rummage sale, Fri.-Sat., May 4-5, 1903 Wansley Road. Men, women, & boys clothing, household items, bedspreads, toys, purses, etc...

May 11-12, 8am-2pm. Household items, some furniture. No Early Birds. 548 Shady Grove Moss Road.

Saturday, May 5th, 8am-1pm, at 104 S 13th Avenue, Laurel. 3t/girl's clothes, women's clothes, shoes, home items. Cupcakes and Lemonade Stand!

May 5th & 6th, at 159 Lower Myrick Road, from 7am-3pm. Papaw has cleaned out his tool shed, selling lots of tools, fishing, electrical, tractor & plumbing supplies!!! Nana's cleaning out all her collectibles, tablecloths, silver, quilts, home decor, kitchen, etc. Children & grandchildren joining in with their treasures. Please come. Everything must go!

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Continued on ... Page 14

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Continued on ... Page 17

JCJC welding students create trophies for Kids Hub car show

By Teresa McCreery

Unique connections have forged a new partnership between Kids Hub and the Jones County Junior College welding program. The idea was hatched by Karie Chatham, Kids Hub Community Outreach Coordinator and JCJC graduate, along with her husband, Chris Chatham, who is the current Baptist Student Union assistant director. After meeting welding and art student, Alana Jolly who regularly “hangs out” at the BSU, the group approached welding instructor, Billy Clark about the idea of students making trophies for the new child advocacy center’s fundraising event.

“It’s helping kids in the community,” said Clark. “Some of our students talk about their backgrounds and some have had a rough time. Our students jumped on board along with the JCJC automotive and machining departments who offered their time, equipment and used parts. But it was a lot of fun and hard work for our welding students who created these trophies, which are really works of art. The finished products show the creative side of welding and our student welders,” said Clark.

Four JCJC welding students -- Alana Jolly of Clinton, Richard West of Petal, Billy Joe Clark of Taylorsville and Logan Pippen

of Ellisville -- took on the task of fabricating trophies with used car parts for the first Kids Hub Car Show, which will be held on May 5 at the Lucky Rabbit in Hattiesburg. They had to find time between their school projects to complete this extra assignment for Kids Hub.

“I like cars and doing custom work. This was fun and challenging to get everything to work together,” said Billy Joe Clark who hopes to own his own automotive custom shop. He enjoyed it so much Clark designed two trophies to be used for the event. “I love these trophies!” exclaimed Chatham. “I wasn’t sure what to expect, maybe something simple like a block of metal but I didn’t expect these works of art. This is beyond my expectations.”

Students utilized pistons, spark plugs, chains, gears, valves, brakes and rotors to construct their welded works of art. Richard West used a trailer ball hitch to make one of the more unique trophies for the winner of the “Best Rat Rod” category.

“I knew what I wanted to do when I saw this category and Mr. Clark thought the trailer hitch ball could be formed to create the rat for my Rat trophy,” said West.

Jolly’s creation will be used for the Best in Show winner because it’s the biggest

trophy, the group decided. Pippen’s trophy with the pistons will be awarded to the winner of the Kid’s Choice category. The “Mayor’s Pick” will get Clark’s “V8” trophy and his creation featuring gears and valves will be raffled off. Chatham said she hopes to be able to build upon this new partnership with Jones students in an effort to create awareness about resources available to help end child abuse.

“This is really a unique partnership with Mr. Clark. To have him and his students passionate about helping us may begin a conversation with more people about Kids Hub and the available resources we offer. These men can be very influential with our work in the community,” said Chatham.

For more information about the Kids Hub event contact the Center at 601-909-6294.



JCJC welding students (pictured left to right), Alana Jolly, Richard West, Billy Joe Clark, Logan Pippen and their instructor Billy Clark show off the trophies the students welded for Kids Hub Community Outreach Coordinator, Karie Chatham (right) to use in the child advocacy center’s Car Show, in Hattiesburg. Photo/Teresa McCreery

JCJC inducts two into nursing honor society

Two Jones County Junior College students were inducted into the Associate Degree Nursing Alpha Delta Nu Honor Society April 12. During the ceremony, Donna Collins of Ovet and Amanda McKenzie of Seminary were recognized for excelling in the college’s nursing program. These members of the honor society’s Gamma Mu chapter, along with their fellow graduates, will participate in a pinning ceremony May 3 and graduation ceremonies May 4. Pictured, left to right, are JCJC AD nursing instructor and Alpha Delta Nu advisor Casey Herrington, inductees Donna Collins and Amanda McKenzie, and JCJC AD nursing instructor and Alpha Delta Nu advisor Danielle Matthews. Photo/submitted



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BA12304

2017 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

M&M Water Association

PWS ID: 0340010

April 2018

We’re pleased to present to you this year’s Annual Quality Water Report. This report is designed to inform you about the quality water and services we deliver to you every day. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water. Our water source is from wells drawing from the Catahoula Formation and Miocene Aquifer.

The source water assessment has been completed for our public water system to determine the overall susceptibility of its drinking water supply to identified potential sources of contamination. A report containing detailed information on how the susceptibility determinations were made has been furnished to our public water system and is available for viewing upon request. The wells for the M&M Water Association have received lower to moderate susceptibility rankings to contamination.

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact Chad Walters at 601-425-1001. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled meetings. They are held on the second Tuesday of each month at 5:00 PM at 8 Old Hwy 84 E, Laurel, MS 39443.

We routinely monitor for contaminants in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. This table below lists all of the drinking water contaminants that were detected during the period of January 1st to December 31st, 2017. In cases where monitoring wasn’t required in 2017, the table reflects the most recent results. As water travels over the surface of land or underground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive materials and can pick up substances or contaminants from the presence of animals or from human activity; microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, that may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife; inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or result from urban storm-water runoff, industrial, or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming; pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm-water runoff, and residential uses; organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations and septic systems; radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities. In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. All drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. It’s important to remember that the presence of these contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk.

In this table you will find many terms and abbreviations you might not be familiar with. To help you better understand these terms we’ve provided the following definitions:

Action Level - the concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

Treatment Technique (TT) - A treatment technique is a required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) - The “Maximum Allowed” (MCL) is the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG) - The “Goal” (MCLG) is the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL) - The highest level of disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control microbial contaminants.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG) - The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk of health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

TEST RESULTS

Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Date Collected	Level Detected	Range of Detects or # of Samples Exceeding MCL/ACL	Unit Measure -ment	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
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Radioactive Contaminants

5. Gross Alpha	N	2013*	8	No Range	pCi/L	0	15	Erosion of natural deposits
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Inorganic Contaminants

10. Barium	N	2017	.0055	No Range	ppm	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
14. Copper	N	2014/16*	4	0	ppm	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
16. Fluoride	N	2017	.115	No Range	ppm	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
17. Lead	N	2014/16*	3	0	ppb	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits

Volatile Organic Contaminants

56. Carbon tetrachloride	N	2017	.671	.514 - .671	ppb	0	5	Discharge from chemical plants and other industrial activities
66. Ethylbenzene	N	2017	.001	No Range	ppb	700	700	Discharge from petroleum refineries

Disinfection By-products

81. HAA5	N	2015*	2	No Range	ppb	0	60	By-Product of drinking water disinfection.
Chlorine	N	2017	1.6	1.45 - 1.89	Mg/l	0	MDRL = 4	Water additive used to control microbes

* Most recent sample. No sample required for 2017.

As you can see by the table, our system had no contaminant violations. We’re proud that your drinking water meets or exceeds all Federal and State requirements. We have learned through our monitoring and testing that some contaminants have been detected however the EPA has determined that your water IS SAFE at these levels.

We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a monthly basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not your drinking water meets health standards. We did complete the monitoring requirements for bacteriological sampling that showed no coliform present. In an effort to ensure systems complete all monitoring requirements, MSDH now notifies systems of any missing samples prior to the end of the compliance period.

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. Our water system is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>. The Mississippi State Department of Health Public Health Laboratory offers lead testing. Please contact 601-576-7582 if you wish to have your water tested.

All sources of drinking water are subject to potential contamination by substances that are naturally occurring or man made. These substances can be microbes, inorganic or organic chemicals and radioactive substances. All drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency’s Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by cryptosporidium and other microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline 1-800-426-4791.

The M&M Water Association works around the clock to provide top quality water to every tap. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community, our way of life and our children’s future.

Please note: This report will not be mailed out to customers individually, however a copy may be requested from our office.

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JCJC dedicates plaque in honor of Ellisville native and former Major Leaguer Buddy Myer

By Shawn Wansley

One of Mississippi's top professional baseball players was recognized recently at Jones County Junior College's Community Bank Park.

Charles Solomon "Buddy" Myer, an Ellisville native, had a plaque dedicated in his honor prior to the April 21 doubleheader between JCJC and Mississippi Delta. Myer was born on March 16, 1904, in Ellisville. He attended Ellisville Agricultural High School and Mississippi A&M College, which later became Mississippi State University.

Myer began his Major League career in 1925 with the Washington Senators. He played with the Boston Red Sox

in 1927 and 1928 before going back to the Senators, where he would continue playing until he retired in 1941. He had a career batting average of .303 in his 16-year big league career.

Ellisville resident Mac Haynes found out about Myer while reading a story about him in the Jackson Clarion-Ledger in the 1980s. In recent years, Haynes, who considers Myer to be Mississippi's best big league ballplayer, thought something should be done to recognize Myer in his hometown. So, Haynes spearheaded an effort to have a bronze plaque placed at Community Bank Park in his honor.

After his retirement, Myer lived in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, until his death in 1974. His grandson, Charles Myer, who still lives in Baton Rouge, was on hand for the unveiling of the plaque. Myer was the American League batting champion in 1935 with a .349 average and had 215 hits that season. He was an All-Star in 1935 and 1937. He led the American League in stolen bases in 1928 with 30 steals. He had a .250 batting average in the 1925 World Series as the Senators lost to the Pittsburgh Pirates and he had a .300 batting average in the 1933 World Series as the Senators lost to the New York Giants. During his career, Myer had 2,131 hits and 38 home runs.

Myer is a member of the Mississippi Sports Hall of Fame, the Mississippi State University Sports Hall of Fame and the Jewish Sports Hall of Fame.



JCJC head baseball coach Chris Kirtland talks with Charles Myer (left) and Mac Haynes prior to the April 21 ceremony where a bronze plaque was unveiled at Community Bank Park to honor Ellisville native and former Major Leaguer Buddy Myer. Charles Myer is Buddy Myer's grandson and Haynes spearheaded the effort to get the plaque.

Photo/Shawn Wansley, JCJC Sports Information

Golf classic to benefit FCA set for May 4

Submitted

The 6th Annual Bobby Myrick FCA Golf Classic is set for Friday, May 4 at the Hattiesburg Country Club. The tournament, named in honor of the late Hattiesburg High, Mississippi State and New York Mets star, is a four-man scramble. All proceeds benefit the local chapter of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes.

Title, corporate, team and hole sponsorships are available. Morning and afternoon flights are scheduled. Also a silent auction will be held at the course. A number of those auction items can be seen on Facebook at FCA of Southeast Mississippi beginning on May 2. Last year's event was played by over 120 golfers from all around the area.

For more information, go to southeastmsfca.org and click on events, email FCA Multi-Area Director at mitchellwilliams@fca.org or call the local FCA office at 601-543-7428.

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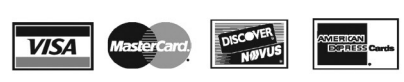
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WJHS' Hosey announced as 2018 HOBY recipient

Submitted

West Jones High School's administration is proud to announce Kasia Hosey as this year's HOBY recipient. For over five decades, Hugh O'Brian Youth Leadership (HOBY) has inspired young people to make a difference and become catalysts for positive change in their home, school, workplace, and community. As America's foremost youth leadership organization, HOBY has a long and impressive history of successfully motivating youth and volunteers to outstanding leadership. HOBY aims to inspire and develop our global community of youth & volunteers to a life dedicated to leadership, service, and innovation. HOBY's flagship program allows high school sophomores to recognize their leadership talents and apply them in becoming effective, ethical leaders in their home, school, workplace and community.



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2007 F-150 extended cab, 2wd, 163,000 miles. \$6200. 601-319-4465.

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JCJC's A.T. Bassett Scholarship awarded

By Teresa McCreery, JCJC Media & Public Relations Director

Six Smith County students were recently awarded the Jones County Junior College A.T. Bassett Memorial Scholarship. English teachers from the three Smith County schools were asked to choose several students to compete by writing an essay on various topics for the Writing Competition facilitated by JCJC's English department. Nine students competed for the A.T. Bassett Memorial Scholarship with first and second place winners earning tuition scholarships. The A.T. Bassett Scholarship was established in memory of A.T. Bassett by his wife Sue and daughters Lona Bassett and Morrett Ellzey of Moselle. Winners of the scholarships are:

- Mize High School:**
 1st place: Breanna Lowery
 2nd place: Kaylee Lucky
- Raleigh High School:**
 1st place: Jennifer Scott
 2nd place: Brooke Phillips
- Taylorsville High School:**
 1st place: Jewel Nelson
 2nd place: Kadasia Keyes

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Students at the JCJC Jasper County Center welding competition get instruction from JCJC and Hol-Mac employees. Photo/submitted

Stringer's Walley finishes in top five at welding competition

Submitted

Twenty-two students went head-to-head in a welding competition held on Monday, April 23 at the JCJC Jasper County Center. Schools represented by the students included Wayne County, Biloxi High School, Quitman High School, Enterprise High School, Hancock County, Greene County, George County, Smith County, Stringer Attendance Center, Heidelberg High School, and Sylva Bay.

"The state (of Mississippi) has some competitions, but this one was held at the Jasper County Center," explained Hol-Mac CEO Jamie Holder. "We want to build excitement for these young men and women who love the welding field. This was a great thing today . . . to see them excited about competing. I think it grew their skills and helped them grow

and develop as individuals."

Winners of the competition were as follows: 1st place, Andrew Allen of Greene County; 2nd place, Jason Fricke of Hancock County; 3rd place, Kameron Mounteer of George County; 4th place, Jordan Hunt of Greene County; and 5th place, Daltan Walley of Stringer Attendance Center.

"There is a huge skill shortage across the United States," added Holder. "Everywhere I go I hear that employers can't find welders and machinists. Future jobs are in these fields. It's good to see them get this recognition; hopefully this will get others interested in skills training."

Sponsors of the welding competition included Airgas, B & R Industrial, Farm Bureau - Chris Stockman, H & H Welding, Hol-Mac, JCJC/ATC, McNeil Cabinets, and Peco Foods.

"We really appreciate what the people here at the JCJC Center here in Jasper County did in putting this together and the support they get from the whole JCJC organization," ended Holder. "This is important to our community, our company, and these kids."

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JCJC hosts 19th annual Alumni Association Golf Tournament

By Shawn Wansley

A field of 33 teams participated in the 19th annual Jones County Junior College Alumni Association Golf Tournament on the afternoon of April 6 at Laurel Country Club. The Oral Maxillofacial Surgery team of Dr. Scott Thames, Brent Smithers, Carl Blackledge and Greg Walters won the event with a 22-under par 50.

There was a tie for second place with three teams posting a score of 19-under par 53. The Sanderson Farms team of Bobby Hill, Steve Monroe, Markas Holifield and Thomas Shows finished second in a scorecard play-off. The Impact team of Zach Buckley, Arnold Cook, Jamie Chandler and Scott Davis finished third and the Educational Furniture and Equipment Company team of Ben Webb, Joey Landrum, J.T. Jernigan and Mark Herrington was fourth.

Closest to the Pin on No. 4 was Justin Sanford of the RJ Young team. Straightest



Buddy Dukes hit a chip shot as teammate Lewis Holifield watches during the 19th annual Jones County Junior College Alumni Association Golf Tournament. Photos/Shawn Wansley, JCJC Sports Information

Drive went to Thomas Shows of the Sanderson Farms team and Longest Drive went to Rich Fulkerson of the President's team.

Golfers were treated to a pulled pork lunch with cole slaw and homemade chips. Sausage dogs, snacks and beverages were available on the course.

The tournament raises money each year for students in each of JCJC's eight-county district, which consists of Jones, Covington, Jasper, Smith, Wayne, Clarke, Greene and Perry counties.

JCJC Alumni Association officials praised the work of LCC General Manager Andy Loving, club professional Jim Dorman and numerous volunteers from JCJC with making the tournament a success.



Zach Buckley putts as teammate Jamie Chandler watches during the 19th annual Jones County Junior College Alumni Association Golf Tournament.

First Laurel Rotary Club Magnolia St. Derby May 12

By Linda Cranford

Entry forms are being taken for the first Laurel Rotary Club Magnolia St. Derby scheduled to run Saturday, May 12 in downtown Laurel beginning at 8 a.m. and ending around 6 p.m. The starting line will be at the top of the hill near the Main Laurel Post Office and the finish line will be at the five point stop. Deadline to enter is May 6. For more information on entering the Derby visit the Facebook page Laurel Rotary Club Magnolia Street Derby.

"We have over sixty sponsors to date," exclaimed LRC member Thomas Rogers who is helping to organize the event. Anyone interested in becoming a sponsor or

wants more information about the race can call Rogers at 601-319-3189 or email lrcmagnoliastderby@gmail.com.

According to Rogers, there will be three classes; Youth - under 12 years old, Teen - 13 - 17 years old, and Open - any age. The first three places will be awarded prizes which includes for the Youth and Teen Class \$500 and a trophy for first place, \$300 plus trophy for second place, and \$100 plus trophy for third place. Only cash prizes will be awarded in the Open Class which includes \$1,000 for first place, \$750 for second place, and \$300 for third place. Entry fee is \$40 for the Youth and Teen classes and \$75 for the Open class.



This is 10-year old Charlie Walters racing in the 2017 Hammerhead 500 Brick Street Derby in Bay Springs. His grandfather, Thomas Rogers, said he will be racing in the first LRC Magnolia St. Derby in Laurel. Photo/submitted

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