



THE CANTON NEWS

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Canton News
P.O. Box 1163, Canton, MS 39046



Good News You Can Use • November 3, 2022 • Vol. 8, No. 11 • Canton, Mississippi

CPSD final grades in

Special to The Canton News

Canton Public School District is rising to the top. Recently, the district announced a large improvement in academic performance for the overall district. Superintendent Gary Hannah and the School Board of Trustees celebrated the district's achievements for earning a B-rating and all four of CPSD elementary schools earning an A-rating, both middle schools earning a B-rating, and the high school combined with the ninth-grade academy earning a C-rating. They presented the principals of these schools with plaques.

Mississippi's schools and districts are graded on an A-F scale. The grades are part of the state's accountability system, which helps teachers, school leaders, parents and communities know how well their local schools and districts are serving their students.

CPSD Superintendent Gary Hannah said, Canton Public School District Family: WE DID IT! By now, I know that you've heard the news. If not... let me be the first to tell you: for the first time since MDE began assigning letter grades to districts, the Canton Public School District is a B district! That's B as in BETTER, BRILLIANT, and BREATHTAKING. This B was a team effort that took everyone, and for that, I want to say thank you. Thank you to our students, teachers, parents, principals, office staff, custodians, security officers, cafeteria staff, bus drivers, all department staff, and everyone who believed in the Canton Public School District. Whether you came to the district and worked hard every day, if you helped our children with their

homework at night, if you left a kind message on our Facebook page, or if you included us in your prayers, you helped us get to this B, and we are grateful. Our district's motto is Perseverance Conquers All, and never has there been a truer statement. This is only the beginning of where we will go."

Approximately 81% of schools and 87% of districts will be rated C or higher for the 2021-22 school year. Though overall grades appear to have improved since 2019, state officials advise caution when interpreting score changes between the 2018-19 and 2021-22 school years. In particular, substantial shifts in performance may be temporarily influenced by factors associated with pandemic disruptions.

"The pandemic not only disrupted teaching and learning, it also impacted the state's accountability system that evaluates the effectiveness of schools and districts," said Dr. Kim Benton, state superintendent of education, interim. "While we are encouraged by the tremendous growth, it is especially important this year to look at all the components that make up each school and district grade to get a complete picture of student growth and achievement."

The calculation of the state's A-F accountability grades relies heavily on the amount of progress students make in English Language Arts (ELA) and Mathematics from one year to the next, particularly the lowest performing 25% of students. Overall, students made significant progress between 2020-21 and 2021-22, as schools focused on accelerating learning after the first year of the pandemic. In addition, the passing requirements for high school Algebra I, English II, Biology and U.S. History assessments were waived in 2020-21, which will affect the graduation rate until all students who tested under the waivers graduate.

Federal law requires all states to assess students annually in ELA and Mathematics in grades 3-8 and once during high school. Mississippi law requires schools and districts to earn annual A-F grades based on student performance and growth.

Mississippi's accountability system includes the following components:

- Student proficiency and growth rates in ELA and Mathematics in grades 3-8
- Growth of the lowest performing 25% of students in ELA and Mathematics
- Science proficiency in grades 5 and 8
- English Learner progress toward becoming proficient in the English language
- Performance on the ACT and high school Algebra I, English II, Biology and U.S. History assessments
- Student participation and performance in advanced coursework such as Advanced Placement and dual credit/dual enrollment courses
- Four-year graduation rate

2021-2022 MDE ACCOUNTABILITY RATINGS:

CPSD 631-B

McNEAL ELEMENTARY 500-A

CANTON ELEMENTARY 490-A

REUBEN B. MYERS CSAS 453-A

GOODLOE ELEMENTARY 447-A

HUEY PORTER MIDDLE 415 -B

NICHOLS MIDDLE 392-B

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9TH GRADE ACADEMY 630-C

Ch. 1

Ch. 2

Ch. 3

Ch. 4

Ch. 5

Ch. 6

Ch. 7

Ch. 8

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MCBL and Econ announce luncheon

Special to The Canton News

The Madison County Business League & Foundation (MCBL&F) and the Madison County Economic Development Authority (MCE-DA) recently announced that Dr. Dave Altig, VP of Research at the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta, will be the



Jan Collins

keynote speaker at the 14th annual Vision Celebration Luncheon on Tuesday, October 18, at the Country Club of Jackson. The theme of the event is "Vision for Economic Growth." Four hundred eighty Madison County Business League & Foundation members, elected/appointed officials and special guests are attending.

The prestigious 2022 VISION and VISIONARY Leadership Awards will be presented as a means of recognizing and thanking certain stand out Madison County businesses and individuals for their contributions to the community, including their unique or remarkable accomplishments, their investments in people, and the result-



ing impact that their operations have on the local area economy. This year's recipient of the Vision Award is Nissan North America - Canton. Clint Herring, Founder and CEO of Kerioth Corporation, will receive the Visionary Leadership Award, and Hank Watterer, First Commercial Bank, will receive the 2022 Outstanding Madison County Young Professional award.

Miss Mississippi 2022 Emmie Perkins will provide entertainment along with the Raphael Semmes Jazz Ensemble featuring Temperance Babcock.

The Madison County Business League & Foundation was created in 2008 by the Madison County Economic Development Authority and the Madison County Board of Supervisors to promote economic planning and development.

"The mission of the Madison County Economic Development Authority is to assist our existing businesses and to attract new investment and higher paying jobs to Madison County in an effort to increase our tax base and improve the quality of life and economic wealth of our citizens."

For more information about the meeting, contact Jan Collins, executive director, at 601-832-5592 or collins.jan01@gmail.com.

Allison Wells Quilters' update



Special to the Canton News

The quilters with their award winning peices.

Special to The Canton News

Allisons Wells Quilters celebrated several blue ribbons won at the Mississippi State Fair in October by Mary Jane Boutwell, Susan Nall and Laura Key. Some of the members

also demonstrated hand quilting at the Fair. The quilters had a workshop on making fall and Christmas table runners. The group is meeting at the First Presbyterian Church Educational Building through November.

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Publisher
Clay Mansell
ClayMansell@CantonNews.net

Editor in Chief
Stephanie Tracy

Editor
Courtney Warren
News@CantonNews.net

Office Manager
Doris Bynum

Distribution
Patrice Peacock

Sales Representatives
Clay Mansell
Lori Lycette
Courtney Warren

Graphic Designer / Layout
Megan Smith
Designer@CantonNews.net

Freelance
Inesha Jackson

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news@cantonnews.net

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Letter from the Editor: I'd beat up anyone for you

By Courtney Warren

Love is such a fun topic to write about. I've written about my love for my daughter, my love for my students, and my love for my husband. But I think sometimes we forget one of the most important loves - and that's the friendship kind of love.

I typically describe myself as an extroverted introvert. I'm a great stage presence - when I'm on stage, I'm glitter, rainbows, high volume, and energy. But the minute I step off of the stage, I need to recharge away from people. I could easily spend days by myself without speaking to another person. While my husband was climbing the walls during the pandemic lockdown, I read every book we owned, re-designed the back garden, and taught myself how to sew a Busy Book for Nana. I can be alone, and I can be alone well.

A few weeks ago, our pastor talked about how we are created to be with people. God saw that man was alone, and He knew it wasn't good. We are meant for relationships. But I tend to find true relationships very difficult. Raised by a man who told me to speak my mind, I often find myself doing just that.

I'm a Slythern. I'm a type 8 Enneagram. I fail when it comes to keeping my thoughts to myself. And that can make relationships hard. So can changing schools a lot and then moving two states away, which is what my life experience included.

But God doesn't want us to be alone, and He has a plan. In spite of my pickiness when it comes to friendships and my outspokenness and my love of glitter, God put people in my life who are incredible friends - and He also gave me one who is perfectly suited for all of my idiosyncrasies.

Lindsay and I don't introduce ourselves as best friends, because it's honestly not enough. We say life partner...and frankly, that's what she is to me. I know that phrase can have other meanings, as well, but - to us - it means that God put us to-



Photo by Courtney Warren

Lindsay once again showing up for me at an event. She is always in my stands.

gether as partners to "do life." She loves me no matter what. She is the calm to my storm and the shadow to my glitter. We are the exact same - and yet not the same at all.

She is the friend that lets me say whatever is on my mind, and I have complete comfort in knowing she is going to love me when my tantrum is over.

She is the friend who showed up when no one else did. She is the friend I texted first when my dad had a heart attack, and her immediate response was "What do you need? I'm on the way."

She is the friend who saw me overwhelmed with moving from Cleveland to Canton and went house hunting with me for hours. She is the friend that saw me ready to fall apart but refusing to let anyone else know, so she stepped in and said "This is the house. Let's choose this one."

She is the friend that got married on my birthday and - even though it was her day, her moment, her memory...she made sure I had my favorite kind of birthday cake at the

rehearsal dinner.

She is the friend that will come over and sit with me for hours while we read and watch Nana (my daughter) play in the backyard. No words needed.

She is my second emergency contact. She is on the pickup list for Nana. She is the third on my favorite list in my cell phone.

She is spooky, kind, loving, accepting, and every bit the squish to my spikiness. She makes me better. She is to be protected at all costs - any friend like her is.

My prayer for all of us is that we find that friend that changes our entire soul. The one that becomes family and, despite any differences, time, distances, or seasons in life, we cling to them as we navigate life. Because God says we aren't supposed to do it alone.

It's her birthday. And because I am the worst at coming up with gifts, but not the worst at coming up with words, here they are. Thank you for being my person. Thank you for being my sister. Merp.

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Washington Principal of the Year

Davis awarded scholarship at Hinds



Special to the Canton News

Washington was celebrated by her district.

Special to The Canton News

Canton Public School District Superintendent Gary Hannah recently awarded Mrs. Shalondia Washington the Canton Public School District Principal of the Year. Mrs. Washington, who serves as the

principal of Canton Elementary, says she was "overjoyed and humbled to be recognized for her hard work."

She says she is "grateful to have an A-rated school and shares this award" with her scholars and staff."



Special to the Canton News

Davis received the Ben Fatherree Scholarship.

Special to The Canton News

The Hinds Community College Foundation recently recognized 2022-2023 scholarship recipients, donors and other honorees at a reception at the Muse Center on the Rankin Campus. Pictured (l to r) are Beverly Derden Fatherree of Clinton;

Regina Greer of Sallis, who received the A.P. & T.B. Fatherree Scholarship; Taylor Davis of Canton, who received the Ben Fatherree Scholarship; Amelia Blake of Jackson, who received the Mavis and Bill Derden Memorial Scholarship; and Melissa Derden Black of Brandon.

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Workshop

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Look through Santa's Workshop Window
to Find the Elve's Top 10 Favorite Toys!

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NOV 25 - 27, DEC 2 - 4, DEC 9 - 11, & DEC 16 - 23

PHOTOS WITH SANTA

One-on-one time with Santa & have your
picture taken
NOV 25 - 27, DEC 2 - 4, DEC 9 - 11, & DEC 16 - 23

CARRIAGE RIDES

Cozy up with a stroll around the Historic
Square driven by a horse-drawn
carriage!
NOV 25 - 27, DEC 2 - 4, DEC 9 - 11, & DEC 16 - 23

CANTON-MADISON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY OPEN HOUSE

234 E. Fulton Street at the Old Madison
County Jail
NOV 25 | 10AM - 2PM
NOV 27 | 2PM - 5PM

MERCHANTS OPEN HOUSE WEEKEND

Shop for gifts and antiques around the
historic square
NOV 25 & 26 | 10AM - 8PM
NOV 27 | 1PM - 5PM

16TH ANNUAL HOLIDAY SIP 'N CIDER

Participating merchants offer hot cider
DEC 9 | 5PM - 9PM

November 25 - December 23, 2022
Closed November 28th - December 1st

MCLS publishes Statement of Freedom

Provided by MCLS Board of Trustees

The mission of the Madison County Library System is to provide library resources and services necessary to meet the evolving informational, recreational, and cultural needs of the public, thus enhancing individual and community life.

Madison County Library System has earned a strong reputation for award-winning, best in the state library service because of the outstanding services, programming, and collection of library materials it provides for all the residents of Madison County. As such, we remain committed to excellence in all aspects of public service, which means that everyone can depend on us for their informational needs. All members of our community are represented and welcome in our libraries.

The Library Board and staff gladly serve all the people of Madison County with a wealth of cultures, religious beliefs, and views. The library's collection is for people of all ages, races, gender identities/expressions, and orientations. Our books are not only a mirror to reflect our community but a window into

different worlds and different experiences that enable us to learn. Our materials are available for all. Censorship has no place here in Madison County Library System. Our library is for everyone.

We stand behind the board-approved policies that allow us to meet the needs and interests of all the communities we serve. As stated in the Madison County Library System "Materials Selection Policy":

"The public library is the institution in our society that attempts to provide a diversity of viewpoints on a wide range of topics of interest, including political, social, and religious ones—no matter how controversial or objectionable those ideas may be to some people. The future of libraries will depend upon their ability to provide information to the public as a whole. Free speech and the open exchange of information cannot depend solely on the traditional producers of mass communications. Because of this, the Madison County Library System chooses materials representing different points of view, limited only by our selection criteria, budget, and the space in our facilities."

The primary objectives of the



Special to the Canton News

Madison County Library System are to collect, organize, produce, and make easily available materials of contemporary significance and of long-term value. The Libraries will always be guided by a sense of responsibility to both present and

future in adding materials that will enrich their collections.

"We look forward to continuing our tradition of excellent library service in Madison County," said Jerry Valdez, MCLS Board of Trustees President.

IHS Ministries partners with Church of Lanesville



Special to the Canton News

IHS says they are grateful for their mission partners

By Guest Columnist Sophielena Abuzeid

We have seen the Lord at work through our partnership with the Orthodox Congregational Church of Lanesville over the past 25 years. A group from the Massachusetts-based church has been coming to Mississippi each year to host a VBS in Canton and serve the surrounding community through home improvement projects and work at IHS campsite.

The Lanesville group came from

July 9-18, and the VBS camp took place during that week. Each year they attend, they always come with the desire to meet the needs at IHS and in Canton.

Peter Aberle, the pastor of youth and family at OCC Lanesville, is a long-time friend of the Bacons and partner with In His Steps Ministries. He was first introduced to the Bacons in 1996 through one of his mentees at Gordon-Conwell Seminary, who happened to be from

Mississippi. After getting connected, the first VBS and service mission took place in 1997.

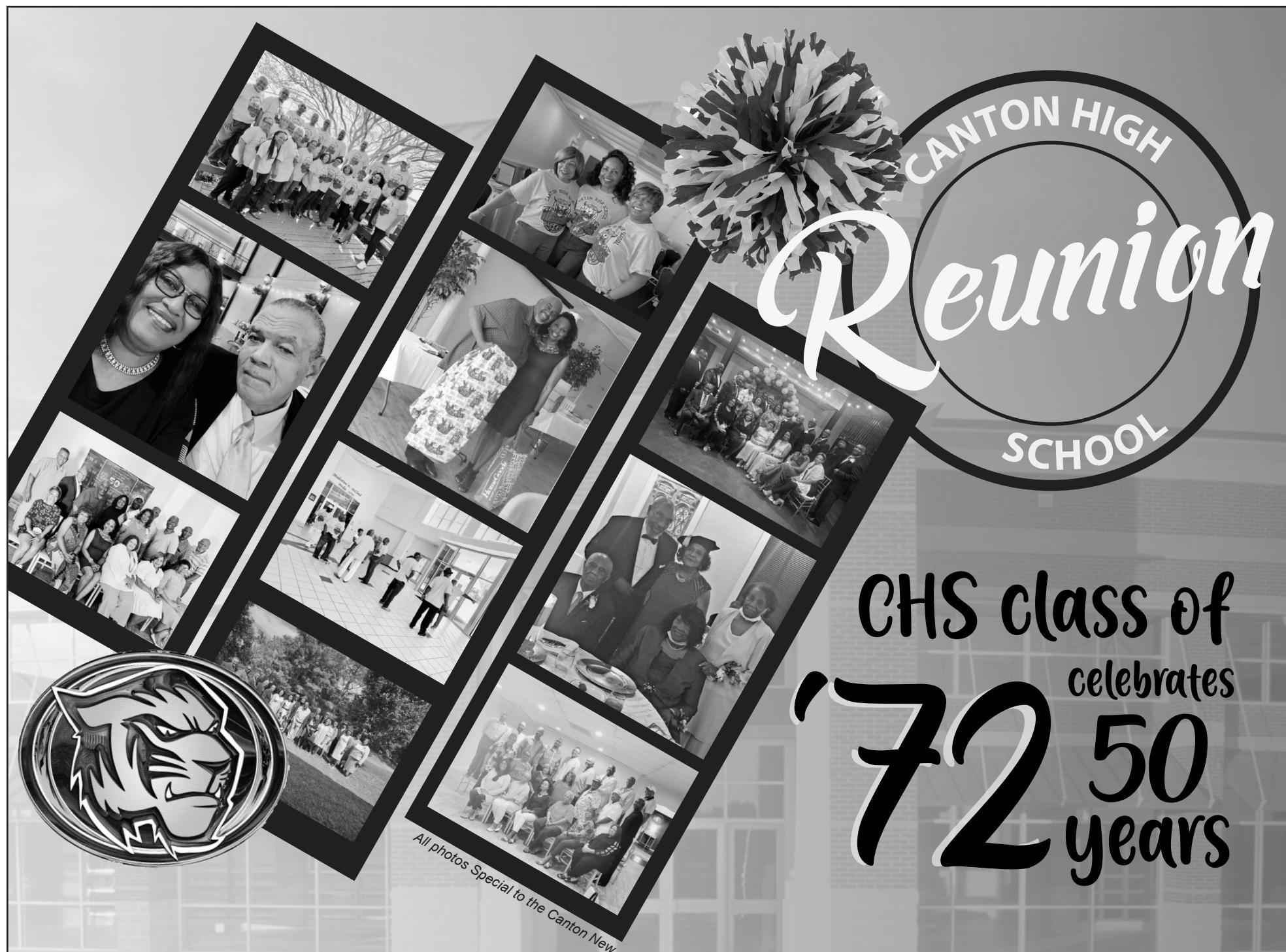
VBS started in Redbud Park and moved over to the Sawmill Quarters neighborhood in 1999.

Mr. Aberle said, "through the providence of God the ministry has morphed from what I thought it would be. God's providence brings people together to accomplish his works. It's pretty exciting!"

Rev. Jasper Bacon shared, "These

dear brothers and sisters epitomize Jesus' example and the statement in Mark 10:42 which states, 'The Son of Man didn't come to be served but to serve.'"

EDITOR'S NOTE: Sophie Abuzeid is the Media and Communications Specialist for In His Steps Ministries. Abuzeid is an alumna of Mississippi College and now resides in her hometown of San Antonio, TX.



By Guest Columnist Sherley Fleming

The Canton High School Class of 1972 celebrated their 50th Class Reunion in Canton.

“We decided to bring it back to where it all started, in Canton.”

The three-day celebration began on Friday, September 23, through Sunday, September 2. On Friday evening, the Class of 1972 held their meet and greet at the Country Club of Canton. On Saturday morning, breakfast was served at Reservoir Pointe. After breakfast, a tour was arranged at the Old Canton High School on North Mace Street, which is now Nichols Middle School. Later that evening, the long-awaited banquet was held at the beautiful and spectacular Sterling Hall Venue in downtown Canton.

Guests included three of our former teachers: Mrs. Emma Strickland, home economics and P.E., Mr. Percy Cain, our Chemistry Teacher and Dr. Emma Georgia our History Teacher and Class Sponsor. Our speaker for the evening was Dr. Mark Henderson of Canton. Live music was performed by Jessie Primer Jr. The night turned into a magical evening.

The Class of 1972 was the first class to graduate from the newly-named Canton High School, formerly Rogers High School. We were the largest class, with 215 graduates, who actually marched in May 1972, with 29 classmates not graduating until completion of summer school in August of 1972. Our classmates attended colleges and universities all across the country, becoming doctors, nurses, lawyers, judges, business owners, educators, scholars, ministers, military officers, engineers and Federal employees.

A Proclamation was issued by Mayor William Truly to the Class of 1972.

EIDLs available for businesses impacted by Jackson water crisis

Special to The Canton News

Mississippi small businesses, small agricultural cooperatives, small aquaculture businesses and private nonprofit organizations affected by the Jackson Water Crisis that began August 30, may apply for low-interest Economic Injury Disaster Loans (EIDLs) from the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA).

Eligible applicants in the SBA's declared disaster area can apply for low-interest disaster loans from the SBA. The declaration covers Hinds County and the adjacent counties of Claiborne, Copiah, Madison, Rankin, Simpson, Warren and Yazoo.

"SBA's mission-driven team stands ready to help small businesses and private nonprofit organizations in Hinds County impacted by the Jackson Water Crisis," said SBA Administrator Isabella Casillas Guzman. "We're committed to providing federal disaster loans swiftly and efficiently, with a customer-centric approach to help businesses and communities recover and rebuild."

"Needless to say, safe drinking water is a necessity, and the loss of this essential resource has resulted in devastating economic

impacts on the people and businesses of Jackson and surrounding communities," said Francisco Sanchez, Jr., Associate Adminis-



Isabella Casillas Guzman

trator, Office of Disaster Assistance, U.S. Small Business Administration. "Those that have suffered economic losses should find comfort that the SBA is now ready to move rapidly to provide federal disaster assistance."

"For eligible applicants, the SBA offers Economic Injury Disaster Loans (EIDLs) to help meet working capital needs caused by

the disaster," said SBA's Mississippi District Director Janita R. Stewart.

Interest rates are 3.04 percent for businesses and 1.875 percent for nonprofit organizations, with terms up to thirty years. Loan amounts and terms are set by the SBA and are based on each applicant's financial condition.

Applicants may apply online using the Electronic Loan Application (ELA) via SBA's secure website at DisasterLoanAssistance.sba.gov/ela/s and should apply under SBA declaration # 17621, not for the COVID-19 incident.

Disaster loan information and application forms may also be obtained by calling the SBA's Customer Service Center at 800-659-2955 (800-877-8339 for the deaf and hard-of-hearing) or emailing DisasterCustomerService@sba.gov. Loan applications may be downloaded at sba.gov/disaster. Completed applications should be returned to the center or mailed to: U.S. Small Business Administration, Processing and Disbursement Center, 14925 Kingsport Road, Fort Worth, TX 76155.

The filing deadline to return economic injury applications is June 14, 2023.

Nominations open for math and science teachers

Special to The Canton News

The Mississippi Department of Education (MDE) has opened nominations and applications for the Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching (PAEMST). The award is the highest honor the United States gives to teachers of science, technology, engineering, mathematics and computer science.

Two Mississippi seventh through twelfth teachers will be selected for the 2022-23 PAEMST award cycle. National honorees receive a \$10,000 award from the National Science Foundation, recognition at a White House ceremony, and the opportunity to provide input on policies to improve science, technology, engineering, mathematics and computer science education.

Parents, students, fellow educators or members of the public can nominate a seventh- through twelfth-grade teacher who teaches science, technology, engineering or mathematics as part of their contracted teaching responsibilities. Teachers may also nominate themselves.

Eligible teachers must have

at least five years of full-time employment as a kindergarten through twelfth-grade teacher prior to the 2022-2023 academic



Kim Benton

school year, with science, technology, engineering or mathematics teaching duties during each of the past five years. Nominations will be accepted until January 9, 2023. Teachers must complete the application process by February 6, 2023.

"There are so many Mississippi seventh- through twelfth-grade teachers deserving of a PAEMST award for their dedication to students in the subject areas of science and mathematics," said Dr. Kim Benton, state superintendent of education, interim. "I encourage friends, families and colleagues to nominate a teacher who is achieving positive student outcomes and is passionate about teaching and learning. Teachers may also strongly consider nominating themselves."

Congress established the PAEMST Awards in 1983. The awards recognizes teacher with deep content knowledge of the subjects they teach and the ability to motivate and enable students to be successful in those areas. Awardees reflect the expertise and dedication of the nation's teaching corps, and they demonstrate the positive impact of excellent teachers on student achievement. The National Science Foundation administers PAEMST on behalf of The White House Office of Science and Technology Policy.

To nominate a teacher or apply, visit paemst.org.

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What is the ERC?

In response to the many challenges faced by small businesses during the pandemic, Congress passed relief legislation which included the ERC. This credit recognizes employers who kept their employees and paid them wages during the worst of the pandemic.

However, it's not just for businesses. Non-profit organizations who have W-2 employees may also be eligible.

Why haven't I heard of it?

You've probably heard of PPP loans, but maybe not the ERC. Well, they come from the same legislation, but the ERC is not as well known due to previous uncertainty surrounding eligibility guidance. Now, with clearer guidance and professional help, your organization can receive the credit it has earned.

→ How do I get the ERC?

To get the ERC, you must amend your previously filed quarterly tax returns for tax years 2020 and 2021. Our firm can help you achieve this and maximize your ERC. We will also provide you a comprehensive claims package which details your eligibility, and we will stand by our work, giving you peace of mind.

→ Is my organization eligible?

Eligibility for the ERC is based on both numbers and facts associated with how your business was impacted by the pandemic. We would be happy to schedule a free, no obligation meeting to discuss your eligibility.

→ There's still time!

The IRS generally provides three years from when you originally filed to amend your tax returns and claim the credit!

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Homecoming week festivities for Canton High School were plentiful and included a powder puff football game.



All photos Special to the Canton New

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Canton High celebrates Hispanic Heritage Month



All photos Special to the Canton News

Special to The Canton News

At the Canton High School (CHS) Canton Public School District recently celebrated Hispanic Heritage Month to recognize the strong Hispanic community within the district. Each year, Americans observe National Hispanic Heritage Month, from September 15 to Oc-

tober 15, by celebrating the histories, cultures and contributions of American citizens whose ancestors came from Spain, Mexico, the Caribbean and Central and South America.

The observation started in 1968 as Hispanic Heritage Week under President Lyndon Johnson and was ex-

panded by President Ronald Reagan in 1988 to cover a thirty-day period starting on September 15 and ending on October 15. It was enacted into law on August 17, 1988, on the approval of Public Law 100-402.

The day of September 15 is significant, because it is the anniversary of independence for Latin American

countries Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua. In addition, Mexico and Chile celebrate their independence days on September 16 and September 18, respectively. Also, Columbus Day or Día de la Raza, which is October 12, falls within this thirty-day period.

Be Ready! Winter Weather

Weatherproof your home to protect against the cold.

- Have your chimney or flue inspected every year.
- Install a smoke detector and carbon monoxide detector in your home.
- Insulate walls and attic.
- Make sure the batteries are working!
- Caulk and weather-strip doors and windows.

Make sure your car is ready for winter travel

- Check antifreeze level and have radiator system serviced.
- Replace worn tires and check tire air pressure.
- Keep gas tank full to avoid ice in tank and fuel lines
- Make a winter emergency kit to keep in your car.

Prepare yourself for exposure to winter weather.

- Bring your pets indoors as temperatures drop!
- Dress warmly and limit exposure to the cold to prevent frostbite.
- Avoid getting wet to prevent hypothermia.

If power lines are down, call your local utility and emergency services.

If power lines fall on your car, warn people not to touch the car or power lines.



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AKA takes in donations for community in need



all photos Special to the Canton News

The Metro Jackson Chapters of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., Rho Lambda Omega, Upsilon Upsilon Omega and Beta Delta Omega, received a donation of 48 pallets of water from Kappa Theta Omega Chapter and the community of Hurlock, Maryland. The water was distributed to Canton Public Schools in Canton and New Galilean Missionary Baptist Church in Jackson to provide to the community. The chapter presidents, vice president and members were present to accept the delivery on behalf of the communities they serve.



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- Cancer
- Parkinson's disease
- Huntington's disease
- Muscular dystrophy
- Autism
- Spinal cord disease or severe injury
- Agitation of dementia
- In addition, a chronic, terminal, or debilitating disease or medical condition or its treatment that produces one or more of the following:
 - Chronic pain
 - Cachexia or wasting syndrome
 - Severe or intractable nausea
- Glaucoma
- Spastic quadriplegia
- HIV / AIDS
- Hepatitis
- Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS)
- Crohn's disease
- Ulcerative colitis
- Sickle-cell anemia
- Alzheimer's disease
- Seizures
- Severe and persistent muscle spasms including, but not limited to, those characteristics of multiple sclerosis

Medical Documentation

Suppose you have a qualifying condition with medical documentation (such as medical records, office visit summaries, or a letter from a doctor stating your diagnosis.) In that case, you are ready to get certified!
If you have a qualifying condition but do not have medical documentation, call us at 601-691-5175 or text the clinic at 601-714-0091 so that our staff can schedule you an appointment with the doctor or nurse practitioner that can diagnose and certify you.

Get Evaluated

Truly Healthcare providers will evaluate patients based on their health conditions, medical history, and any documentation the patient can provide to determine if they qualified. If a healthcare provider has not seen you for chronic disease, you can visit our clinic doctor and determine if you have a qualifying condition listed above. Our clinic offers payment arrangements!



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Friends of Children's Hospital CheckCard

The Friends Card cost \$12 per year, 100% of which is donated to Friends of Children's Hospital. BankPlus makes a donation to Friends each time the card is used. Available via instant issue. Since inception, the Friends CheckCard has raised over \$1,000,000.

Friends of Children's Hospital supports Batson Children's Hospital, part of University of Mississippi Health Care, Mississippi's ONLY hospital designed for the care and treatment of sick or injured children.
*NOTE: All donations subject to change on an annual basis.

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William Randolph Collins to wed Lauren Michelle Phifer



Lauren Michelle Phifer & William Randolph Collins
December 10, 2022
Collierville, Tennessee

Mr. and Mrs. Houston Ellis Phifer, Jr. of Memphis, Tennessee, announce the engagement of their daughter, Lauren Michelle Phifer, to William Randolph Collins, son of Mrs. Jan Coulter Collins and the late Mr. William Robert Collins, III of Madison, Mississippi. The bride-elect is the granddaughter of the late Lt. Col. and Mrs. Thomas Auburn Sims of Ocean Springs, Mississippi, and the late Mr. and Mrs. Houston Ellis Phifer, Sr. of Gulfport, Mississippi.

The prospective bridegroom is the grandson of the late Roger A. Coulter and Willie Belle Howard Coulter of Pascagoula, Mississippi, and the late Mr. William Robert Collins, Jr. of Simsboro, Louisiana, and Mrs. Mavis Purvis Collins of Brandon, Mississippi.

Miss Phifer is a 2019 high honor graduate of Harding Academy in Memphis, Tennessee. She graduated cum laude from Mississippi State University in 2014 with a bachelor's degree in exercise science where she was a member of Zeta Tau Alpha Sorority. She is currently attending the University of Tennessee Health Science Center in Memphis, Tennessee, and will receive her Doctor of Physical Therapy degree in May 2023. She is an accomplished equestrian rider, and her philanthropy includes working with children with special needs.

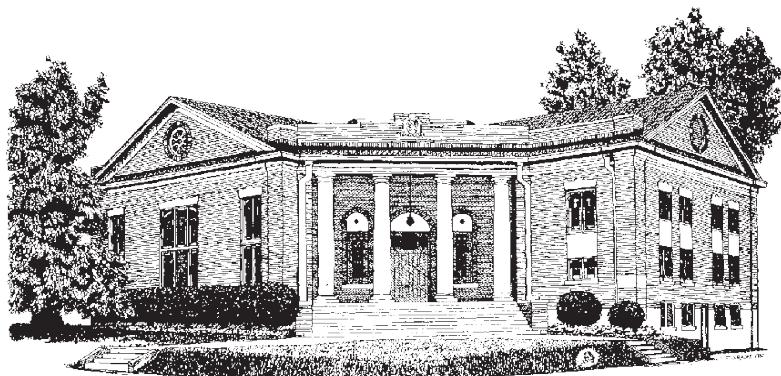
Mr. Collins is a 2008 honor graduate of Canton Academy in Canton, Mississippi. He graduated cum laude in 2012 from the University of Mississippi with a bachelor's degree in business and finance and was a member and officer of Sigma Alpha Epsilon Fraternity. He received his Doctorate of Jurisprudence from Mississippi College School of Law in 2017. After graduation, he worked with the Mississippi State Legislative Budget Office. Currently, he works as an attorney with the Madison County Chancery Court.

The couple will marry December 10 at Robinshaw in Collierville, Tennessee, and will reside in Madison, Mississippi.

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Canton Lions Update: Day in the Country



Special to the Canton News

Brennyn Bolden volunteering to park cars at the Day in the Country with the Canton Lions.

Special to The Canton News

The Canton Lions were hired again this year to park cars for the Day in the Country event, at the Chapel of the Cross on October 1, 2022. The Day in the Country committee has used the Lions to help with parking cars for the last 4 or 5 years. The day begins around 7:00, the gate opens at 8:00, and the Lions direct cars, take the parking fees, and keep the traffic moving until about 4:00 p.m. This year the weather was very nice, and there were more cars

parked than any other year. President Tamika Liddell thanked Canton Lions Gary Teasley, Timmy Pickett, Arnel Bolden, Brenda Beale, Mike & Kathy Ozborn, Joy Foy, and Danny Murphy for working the event. A special thanks is due to previous Lions Club member and now Vice Governor Tom Corlett who joined in helping with the fundraiser. Arnel's daughter, Brennyn also volunteered. The money this adds to the club helps in covering the cost for the 2023 projects.

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Old Jail Farmer's Market makes for a great success

By Guest Columnist Joy Foy

Thanks to all the customers who came and supported the first year of the Old Jail Farmers Market. Committee members Joy Foy, Misty Slay, Dana Nowell, Sarah Ellis, and Sherry Anderson worked with Canton Historical Society President Maureen Simpson to fund and provide this service to the city. The gold sponsors were G.A. Carmichael, Madison County Co-op, Madison County Farm Bureau Federation, and Bank Plus, silver sponsors were Performance Therapy and Merit Health. The committee is, also, very grateful to Moses Thompson for his generous donation.

Stone with Mansell Media designed a Farmers Market logo and added the Market to the Historical Society's Facebook page. The logo was used in posters, banners and on a cute black shopping bag that is still available for \$3.00 each. Hurstine Watts helped to promote the market on her radio show by interviewing

Foy about the details the week of the first market.

The huge oaks around the Old Jail was a perfect place to stage the market and made a convenient meeting place with ample parking, shade, and space for the kids to enjoy a sprinkler on the hot afternoons. G.A. Carmichael set up shop with the big travel trailer and gave medical advice and Covid vaccines. Performance Therapy was there to give advice and pass out therapy balls. Entertainment included local singers, Frazer Riddell and Tommy Sutherland. Gardening advice was available from Madison County master gardeners Lynda Hunsicker and John Malanchak. Evanne Flanders and Naomi Magola with the Canton Library brought the Bookmobile and offered crafts and games. New potatoes, green tomatoes, peppers were some of the vegetables available in the spring market along with eggs, homemade breads, brownies, cookies and other baked goods. The fall market offered sweet potatoes, peas, boiled peanuts, eggplant, squash, tomatoes, okra, bell peppers, mustard and turnip greens. Honey, and tomato salsa were available at both markets. There were wooden crafts both large (baskets, welcome signs, garden stakes, angles, etc.) and small (pens,



Special to the Canton News

keychains, cutting boards, etc.), candles, dolls, table linens, and jewelry. Flowers and garden plants were for sale.

It was lots of fun getting to catch up with old friends and meeting new ones. Episcopal Priest Beth Foose invited two of our craft vendors to come and display at the church for the Canton fall flea market. Crystal Brakebill with the Canton Chamber was one of the woodcraft vendors, and she has invited the farmer market vendors to the Chambers Holiday Market. The Old Jail Flea

Market added a food vendor from the Farmers Market. The Farmers Market proved to be a good networking event, as well as a fun way to get fresh foods. Thanks to you all.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Joy Foy is married to James Foy and is a retired Economic Developer with the Mississippi Development Authority. Foy is an active participant in the community of Canton. She is a member of the Canton Lions Club, the Keep Canton Beautiful Committee and the Canton Beautification Committee.

Happy Thanksgiving

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Thea Bowman documentary announced



Special to the Canton News

By Guest Columnist Flonzie Brown Wright

A new documentary from New-Group Media and the Diocese of Jackson, *Going Home Like a Shooting Star: Thea Bowman's Journey to Sainthood* presents the riveting life of my classmate and childhood friend Sister Thea Bowman, an African American Catholic Franciscan Sister who used her powerful gifts to educate and challenge the church and society to grow in racial inclusivity. Her skills of preaching, music, and teaching moved many to begin to confront their own racism while she urged her African American brothers and sisters to claim their gifts and share their "fully functioning" personhood. Thea worked tirelessly to proclaim this message until her untimely death from breast cancer in 1990.

The film features interviews and commentary from her family, Sisters in the community, colleagues, friends, and former students. Input from African-American scholars, clerics, and bishops will speak

to the ongoing issue of systemic racism in the church and country. Extensive use is made of archival media that portrays Thea in action-photographs, film, video, and audio recordings made in locations of significance to her life. The program title is drawn from a quotation attributed to Sojourner Truth. When Thea was asked what she wanted said at her funeral, she answered, "Just say what Sojourner Truth said: 'I'm not going to die. I'm going home like a shooting star.'"

I am honored to be featured in this movie film chronicling Thea's life's story, not only during our years as young girls at Holy Child Jesus Catholic School in our hometown of Canton but also during her transition in becoming the first African American FSPA Catholic Sister to her untimely passing.

The film began airing on ABC stations in October. The window for the program is sixty days. In addition to live broadcasts, the fifty-eight-minute film is available to watch free of charge on YouTube.

Amazon donates to MadCAAP



Special to the Canton News

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Amazon of Canton recently donated much-needed items to Madison Countyinains Allied Against Poverty (MadCAAP). MadCAAP partners with individuals, churches, businesses and civic groups to meet the varying needs of com-

munity brothers and sisters who are hungry and thirsty, in need of clothing and safer homes, as well as those who are lonely and in need of emotional support. For more information about MadCAAP and how to get involved, call 601-407-1404.

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Requests shall be sent to:

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Cochran named to EMCC 2022

Mabry represents CA as MCYL



Special to the Canton News

Cochran was escorted here by her brother, Landon Cochran.

Special to The Canton News

Canton resident Aislynn Cochran is a member of East Mississippi Community College's 2022 Homecoming Court and was recognized Oct. 22 during halftime of East Mississippi Community College's Homecoming football game. A sophomore maid, Cochran is the daughter Robert and Misti Mason, and Thomas and Meagan Cochran. She is escorted here by her brother, Landon Cochran. She graduated with honors from high school, where she was a member of the varsity

basketball, softball, track, tennis and archery teams. She was captain of her cheer squad and was named All American Cheerleader. In 2019-20, she was elected Miss Teen Madison County. At EMCC, Cochran is a member of Phi Theta Kappa and has been named to both the President's and Dean's lists. She is a member of the softball team, cheer captain and was chosen as an EMCC Top 5 Beauty. She is working on her degree in Nursing at EMCC. After graduation, she plans to pursue a career as a pediatric oncology or Pediatric Intensive Care Unit nurse.



Special to the Canton News

Special to The Canton News

Junior Anna Claire Mabry was recently announced as this year's 2022 Madison County Youth Leadership representative for Canton Academy. The Madison County Business League & Foundation selects juniors from area schools to participate in the MCYL program. Madison Coun-

ty Youth Leadership's mission is "to provide students with a deeper understanding of the careers available in Madison County in an environment that develops their leadership skills and encourages graduates to take their knowledge and their experience into the community for the betterment of Madison County as a whole."

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Falling in love with fall at CA

Chemical changes studied at CA



Special to the Canton News

Canton Academy kindergarteners in Mrs. Dawn's class read Leaf Man and went on a nature walk. As they learned all about fall and leaves, they created their very own leaf masterpieces.



Special to the Canton News

Coach Sam Berry's Canton Academy science classes recently studied chemical changes that occur for certain mixtures. Students enjoyed a hands-on learning experience as they created various mixtures themselves.

COVID \$

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Remember When: hay, driving, cotton gins, and Daddy

By Guest Columnist Mary Jane Boutwell

Part of what started these thoughts running through my mind were the big round bales of hay with the red, white, and blue waverounds just off Highway 22 on Virillia Road. When the sun and shade are just right the sight reminds me of the flag. If I were in the military, the urge to salute would be present.

A little late in the year, but I do remember hauling hay. For my early memories, Daddy had a 4-wheel, flat bed trailer pulled by Bob the horse and Nell the mule. I got to drive them after most of the day. When the trailer was loaded, Daddy drove to the barn, where square beds were unloaded and stacked.

The hay-leaving barn was on the place when bought. One side had an enclosed holding area, corn crib, and two stalls. On the other side was an add on, and, as it emptied, silage was fed in the trough along one side of the shed.

Side planks were put on the pickup to haul hay and cotton. Until then, we kids rode up and down the road (including highways) to visit kinfolk sitting on the wheel well in the back. Sometimes we were on the tailgate with our feet hanging off. Daddy's top speed was 60

miles per hour.

As my family traveled the U.S. on vacation every August (lay by time on the farm), we would stop when we saw something of interest. In the midwest, we saw hay barns with ramps built on to them to drive the hay trucks into the hay loft to unload.

The ramp added to our barn was dirt and wood. It took a long time before anyone other than Daddy was allowed to back up the ramp into the barn. So much hay! So many building blocks! As the hay was fed, my brothers and neighbors built trucks, tunnels, dead ends, and other things fun to them but not so fun to anyone that did not know the layout—fall into a pit, run into a square turn, etc. everything was covered with hay. When enough hay had been fed through, the games were over.

The guys stopped building their hay barn playground when the bales went from square to round—still small enough bales to lift easily.

One year, we were given some soybean hay. It had to be loaded and hauled to our barn. I would sell all the cows before I did that again. Just the thought makes me itch.



Special to the Canton News

My earliest memory of baling hay was a stationary square baler powered by a tractor driven belt. The hay was brought to a pile by the baler, usually by a mule with 12 to 16 bales to hand load.

My folks had a little bit of everything growing up on the farm. I actually picked a little using a fertilize sack with cotton boles in the open end to tie the shoulder strap onto. I did not like scraping,

as pulling the boles with cotton scrapping then punched and cut my hand.

The side planks on the pickup had an angled board with a cotton scale at the back for the cotton sacks. As the sack of handpicked cotton was weighed, it was tallied for the individual picker and for the bale total.

The first cotton picker on the place was one row and attached

cont. on page 24

Postal Service ready for holidays

By Guest Columnist Gloria Bilbrew,
U.S. Postal Service

The U.S. Postal Service (USPS) has been hard at work preparing for the holiday season since January. Rest assured, we're holiday ready and well prepared to deliver fast and reliable service to every address in Canton, MS and across America.

USPS has made significant investments to ensure your holiday greeting cards and packages reach their intended destination on-time. We've added 249 new package sorting machines across the nation which will allow us to process 60 million packages per day. This new equipment is part of \$40 billion in new investments made under Delivering for America, our 10-year plan to achieve financial sustainability and service excellence.

Additionally, we have the space we need to manage all packages and mail when they



reach us. We've strategically expanded our footprint by 8.5 million square feet throughout the country to augment space shortages at existing postal facilities, and we've deployed new technology on our workroom floors to make sure we can track and move mail and packages quickly and to get them on their way.

The 650,000 men and women of the U.S. Postal Service pride ourselves on playing an important role in delivering the holidays for the nation. We've had more than 100,000 part time employees convert to full time positions since January 2021. And there is still time to join our team for the holiday season. Open seasonal positions are posted at usps.com/hiring.

Thank you for continuing to support the Postal Service. Our Canton Postal Service team wishes you a wonderful holiday season.

Canton Through a Lens: "The best ride"



Photo by Beth MacNeill

The Canton News features a photo each month by a Cantonian or of Canton. This month's feature is by Canton local and beloved Beth MacNeill.

Canton Academy wins MSAIS State XC



Special to the Canton News

The Canton Academy Cross Country teams were victorious in the MSAIS Cross Country State Championship. The varsity Girls won first place, while the boys team won second place.

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CA homecoming game

Canton Academy was victorious on homecoming night and are now the District Champions. They will get a first-round bye in the playoffs.



Photos by Courtney Warren

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Reese Willis named '22 Canton Academy hoco queen



Photo by Courtney Warren

Reese Willis, escorted by her brother Andrew Willis.

By Courtney Warren

Canton Academy recently celebrated homecoming as the Panthers took to the field to play the Clinton Christian Academy Warriors. During the halftime performances, homecoming court was announced. Homecoming senior maids included Makaylah Walley, Mckenzie Pace and Reese Willis. Escorted by her younger brother Andrew Willis, the stadium erupted in applause as Reese was announced homecoming queen.

Willis is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Wes Willis of Flora and is a member of First United Methodist Church in Canton. She was in the first-ever CA K3 class and has been at CA since 2008. She is Captain of the Varsity Cheer squad and Presi-

dent of the Senior Class, and has been on the Head of School's List throughout her high school years. In addition, she is Vice President of the National Honor Society and Editor-in-Chief of the yearbook. Reese has represented Canton Academy outside the classroom as a Madison County Youth Leader Ambassador and as a part of the Hugh O'Brian Youth Leadership Team. Outside of school, Reese enjoys going to the gym, lying by the pool or on the beach with a good book, shopping, making trips to Oxford, and spending time with friends and family. She plans to attend the University of Mississippi to pursue a degree in Allied Health Sciences. Hotty Toddy and Go Panthers!

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cont. from page 20

Remember

to the John Deere Tractor. When it was in the field the tractor worked in reverse. As dark set in the picking came to a stop—to much moisture. Thirty years later, the four row picker had a built in sprayer. Everything can change.

For years, Ballard Gin, at Highway 22 and Virillia Road, is where our cotton was ginned. The Ray's Country store was there with the gin scales at the back of the store. Mr. Ray would come into the back room overlooking the scales, weigh the total weight and send the cotton to the gin. When empty, they would come back to get the tare weight.

Later, the scales were at the gin. The cotton carrier was pulled on

the scale, weighed, sucked off, re-weighed, and on to the next one.

As children, we wandered all over the working gin—no supervision. It was fun to watch cotton being pulled up into the separators and watch it tumble.

The gin was built so after the bands were placed around the bale in the compactor, the front was opened and the bale tumbled out. There were three levels. The compactor was slightly higher than the middle layer. The middle layer had steps down to the bottom level. The steps had large beams at an angle to slide the bales to the lowest level that was even with the truck bed for ease of loading.

A family story: my daddy Grady Sowell was a large extra strong man. Men standing around waiting can get into all kinds of things. Down at the gin, someone bet Daddy that he could not pick up a bale of ginned cotton. After picking the bale up in a bear hug and placing it on the truck, he collected his nickel or dime.

I have told this to a number of people, and several have said their grandfather or father used two cotton hooks to pick up a bale by placing it on their backs.

Bob and Nell were also used to harvest corn. The wagon had sides. Once again, I drove some. Either the corn was placed in a pile to be loaded into the wagon, or you drove

through the corn, and the pullers load the corn into the wagon as it was pulled. All of this was done by hand—no gloves.

Everything got more modern. The corn puller, one was now bolted to the John Deere Tractor. A trailer followed along to catch the corn.

At our house, if it was not green, it was not bought.

I not only learned to drive a tractor hauling hay, but the trucks, also. My daddy was constantly yelling “don't burn the clutch out.”

EDITOR'S NOTE: Mary Jane Boutwell is a passionate historian and is thrilled to share stories about way back when.