



THE CANTON NEWS

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Canton News
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Thea's Turn plays in Canton

By Susie A. Wolfe

Thea's Turn is a stage play done by Cantonians about Cantonian Sister Thea Bowman. Other natives involved include the playwright, Mary Queen Donnelly, the director/

made peace with being a black nun embracing her heritage in the Catholic Church.

Dr. Henderson, the speech department chair at Jackson State University, said "directing this project has been a confirmation to me that Can-



Photo by The Canton News

The Canton connection that brought *Thea's Turn* to the stage are pictured, (l to r), Playwright Mary Queen Donnelly, Project Director Flonzie Brown Wright, Executive Producer Dr. Mark Henderson, and Executive Project Director Jana Padgett Dear.

executive producer, Dr. Mark G. Henderson, and the project director, Flonzie Brown Wright. Jessie Primer, Sr. also provided pre-entertainment.

The play was opened to the Canton community free of charge by Canton Tourism and executive project director Jana Padgett Dear. It was an official bicentennial project made possible by a grant from the Mississippi Humanities Council through support from the Mississippi Development Authority.

Thea's Turn was presented to the Canton High School students on Friday, April 21, and open to the public on the following Saturday night at the school auditorium. It is the story of how Thea Bowman

ton has and still is rich in its ability to produce change-agents who impact not only our local community but the entire world."

"When I read the script, I was amazed at how the playwright was able to capture the true essence of Thea," said Henderson. "In our first meeting with the cast, we watched her documentary, and, at the end, there was not a dry eye in the room. I knew then that we were bringing to life a story that had to be told."

Charence Higgins from Madison played the role of Thea. She said "embodying the essence of Sister Thea Bowman in this production has been a life-changing experience that I sincerely hope will inspire every audience member."

Davis and Brim named CPSD STAR student and teacher



Special to The Canton News

The Canton Public School District (CPSD) recognized its STAR Student, Natalyah Davis, and STAR Teacher, Dexter Brim. Davis scored a 28 on the ACT and has an overall average of 93 in her core academic subjects. Davis is also a Mississippi Scholar. She is the daughter of Gloria and Theodoes Davis, Jr. The STAR Student selects the teacher whom they feel is the person who has made the greatest contribution to their scholastic achievement. Davis chose Dexter Brim for inspiring his students to excel.

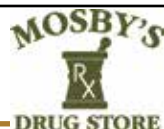
City promotes Madison County Law Enforcement



Special to The Canton News

The City of Canton Mayor and Board of Alderman join in a county-wide week of celebration and commemoration, May 15-21, of the outstanding work of the municipal and county law enforcement, like Lt. Shelby Burnside, who retired as a Canton policeman after 28 years. Pictured (l to r), are Mayor Arnel Bolden, Police Chief Otha Brown, Chamber Director Toya Veals, Fire Chief Andrew Hughes, and Burnside.

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Merit Madison designated as lung cancer screening center

Special to The Canton News

Merit Health Madison has been designated a Lung Cancer Screening Center by the American College of Radiology

are procedures in place for follow-up patient care, such as counseling and smoking cessation programs.

Lung cancer screening with low-dose computed tomog-



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The Merit Health registered radiography technologists that coordinate the Lung Cancer Screening Center pictured, (l to r) are: Jennifer Davis, nuclear medicine technology (CNMT); Steve Everett; Bryan Burnside, computed tomography; Sherree Givens; and Michael Moore, computed tomography.

(ACR). The ACR Lung Cancer Screening Center designation is a voluntary program that recognizes facilities that have committed to practice safe, effective diagnostic care for individuals at the highest risk for lung cancer.

In order to receive this elite distinction, facilities must be accredited by the ACR in computed tomography in the chest module, as well as undergo a rigorous assessment of its lung cancer screening protocol and infrastructure. Also required

raphy scans, and appropriate follow-up care, significantly reduces lung cancer deaths. In December 2013, the United States Preventive Services Task Force recommended screening of adults aged 55 to 80 years who have a 30 pack-year smoking history and currently smoke or have quit within the past 15 years. Lung cancer is the nation's leading cancer killer – taking the lives of more people each year than breast, colon and prostate cancers combined.

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Know Your Neighbor: Alice M. Scott

By Guest Columnist Jim Ritchie

"If your mind can conceive it, and you're willing to work hard for it, your heart can achieve it." That's

the earnings he received by driving a gravel truck. And that positive attitude laid the foundation for an incredible list of her achievements. Meet Alice Scott, whose accom-



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the sage advice she remembers receiving from her parents, Venola and T.C. Julius, Sr. while growing up in her hometown of Benton. Her father proved this truth to her by providing the funds for her and her three siblings to finish college with

plishments to date include holder of a master's degree, elementary school and college teacher, assistant principal, principal, Chapter 1 Right-to-Read supervisor, American College Testing supervisor for the Canton area, election commis-

sioner, alderman-at-large, movie actor and the first African American and female Mayor of Canton, and this list is not exhaustive. She's also a proud mother, grandmother and great grandmother, and has had a street and a library named in her honor.

In this day of scandals by public officials, she says that the only skeleton in her closet is that she once got a speeding ticket on the Natchez Trace. "But", she says, "I was speeding only because I was driving a relative to Jackson State to take an important test and we were behind schedule."

When asked about her future plans, she retorts, "I only want to serve the community in whatever capacity I can to help people." And with her background and talents, that capacity list could be very long.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Jim Ritchie is a published author, storyteller, entertainer and grandfather of eleven. He is amazed at the number of talented and accomplished people who live in the Canton area, and he thinks you should know about some of them. Ritchie and professional artist wife, Perry, live in the Shocco community out from Canton. View their work at: www.southernstories.com.

Praise to our mothers

By Guest Columnist Pastor Guy Odom

The old saying goes "Behind every great man is a great woman." I'm sure that is true, because I



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had a tremendous dad who married way above his head in my mom! God definitely knew what He was doing when He created a suitable helper for Adam named Eve. This month, we celebrate Mother's Day on Sunday, May 14. I have been tremendously blessed with a wonderful mother, mother-in-law, and

an incredible wife! God knew all along what kind of women I needed, and He definitely didn't make a mistake in blessing me with Tommi! Truly, words can't describe what she means to me and my two boys. However, what about having husband, son, daughter, adopted son or daughter, or even a guardian as your mom? What does she mean to you and your family? Proverbs 31:28 says, "Her children arise and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praises her". In a world where negative words seem to dominate headlines and the cool thing to do is to tear someone down, let's all take the time to praise our mothers by simply telling her how much we appreciate all she has done and will do for us!

EDITOR'S NOTE: Guy Odom has been pastor at First Baptist Church of Canton since 2012. He and his wife, Tommi, have two sons, Ely and Cy. He is originally from Vicksburg.

**HAPPY
MEMORIAL
DAY**
from
The Canton News

Group recognizes students



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Women in Unity for Children recognized students at their Seventh Annual Dr. Larry Lamont Day Memorial Golf Tournament held recently at the Canton Country Club in Canton. The Putt-Putt Tournament's first place winner was Aaliyah Wells, Mt. Zion in Cobbville, and second place winner was Ralph Arrington, Mt. Pilgrim M.B. Church.

Alexander awarded for 30-years service to MSH



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Mississippi State Hospital (MSH) recently honored employees with April anniversaries for their years of service to the hospital. April 2017 service award recipients pictured (l to r) are, front row: Deborah Parks Alexander of Canton, thirty years; Laresha Rushon Milton of Georgetown, one year; Angela Ragen Marcangeli of Morton, one year; Angela Michelle Tanner of Mendenhall, one year; and Amy Nicole Carruth of Brandon, five years; and second row: Dr. Joseph Kastner of Madison, five years; Delana Marie Thornton of Raleigh, one year; Nathan Craft of Mendenhall, five years; Angeline C. Billingsley of Harrisville, fifteen years; and Kendrell Laron Canada of Greenville, one year.



On December 15, 2016, Msurance acquired the assets of Roberts Insurance. We are operating both offices for a short period of time. The Roberts Insurance office on the Square will remain open no later than June 15, 2017. After June, all customer service will be provided out of Msurance's main office, located at 160 East Peace Street, conveniently located across from Regions Bank and next to McAlister's.

Msurance brings several more options for our customers along with Roberts Insurance customers. We have added several National Carriers within the last few months to provide further service to Canton.

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SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30 A.M.



From the Mayor's Desk

By Guest Columnist Arnel Bolden, Mayor, City of Canton

On May 2, you should have participated in one of the most important responsibilities you have as a



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U.S. citizen and a Cantonian-exercising your right to vote. This is a make or break time in our city, therefore I understand your hopes and dreams and also embrace your concerns when it comes to improving our educational system, creating jobs, and improving the overall quality of life in our community through better housing, recreational, and entertainment venues. You, as a citizen, can also help steer the course of our city by becoming active in city government and serving in whatever capacity your skills and interests allow. Familiarize yourself with the various boards and positions, and then make your interests known.

Also, during the month of May, there is a spirit of excitement as our local schools prepare for early childhood and high school graduations. These ceremonies bring students and families together to make memories they can cherish forever. Each student, ranging from our youngest kindergartner to our

high school seniors, will experience a transition that reflects their growth and achievement to the next milestone. Graduation day also brings a wide range of emotions for students and their families. For everyone, it will be a day to celebrate. For some, it will be a bittersweet moment as the students move on to the next phase of their lives.

Each year, it gives me great pride to present college scholarships to remarkable seniors at Canton High and Canton Academy. This has been my annual tradition for the past 14 years. I am also proud to represent organizations that care about the future of children in our community and humbled by the opportunity to play a role in helping our young people begin their educational journey and ultimately, reach productive careers. I need them to SUCCEED!

As we conclude this school year, it is my hope that all of the children in each of our schools experience the love and concern for them and feel what being a very special part of our great city is all about. To the Class of 2017, best wishes to each of you. Please remember that at City Hall, my door will always be open. May God bless and keep each and every one of you.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Arnel Bolden is currently serving as mayor since being elected in 2013. He and his wife, LaToya Bolden, are members of Canton United Methodist Church and are active in the community.

PSC announces progress in elimination of telephone scam

Special to The Canton News

Police in the Republic of India recently arrested the alleged mastermind of a scheme to collect money by calling telephone customers and claiming to be with the Internal Revenue Service. Sakar Thakkar, age twenty-four, was arrested in Mumbai as he arrived by plane from Dubai. Investigators are still trying to determine how much the scammers collected, but, initially, it looks like around \$300 million.

Central District Public Service Commissioner Cecil Brown said, "This is an excellent reminder

about how important it is to register your home and cell phones on the Federal and Mississippi No Call List. Once registered, you must file complaints when you receive these illegal calls, so that authorities can subpoena phone records and catch these criminals. This is the best chance we have for shutting down these kinds of operations."

Visit the Mississippi Public Service Commission website or contact the office at 601-961-5430 to register or file a complaint.

Oldest store on Canton Square is renovating

Special to The Canton News

Buttross has been on the Square since 1910, founded by David Buttross. It was originally named David Buttross and Sons. The

get rid of the old," said Miriam B. Koury, who manages the store.

She said the renovations involve redoing the facade and bringing it back to its original look of the early 1900s. They are exposing the



Special to The Canton News

sons, Ernest and Edward, bought the store from their father and called it Buttross Department Store, although many older customers still called it Dave Buttross.

The store was remodeled in 1960, the store's fiftieth anniversary, and is being remodeled again on the one hundredth seventh anniversary.

"It was in vogue at that time to

three windows on the front of the building, as well as restoring the cornice at the top of the building and around the windows. They are also putting in new front doors at this phase one stage.

"Buttross on the Square has always been successful, because we have changed with times," said Koury. "We are at that juncture again."

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Wednesday Nights
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Prayer Meeting
Children & Youth Activities
Choir Rehearsal

Mayoral forums held in April



Photos by The Canton News



Photos by The Canton News



Photos by The Canton News

Three different events with three sponsors sought to showcase the Canton mayoral candidates in April before the May 2 primary. On April 11, the Canton Chamber hosted a mayoral forum at the Multi Complex, and meet and greet for aldermen running for office. A few days later, the Madison County Library System hosted a similar Q & A event at the Canton branch. The final chance to listen to what the candidates plan to do if elected was held April 27 at the St. Paul's Recreation Center hosted by Delta Sigma Theta Sorority in partnership with the Canton NAACP.

Wilkes scores 30 on ACT



Special to The Canton News

Superintendent Cassandra Williams and CPD's Board of Trustees congratulated Canton High Junior Kayla Wilkes (center) for scoring a 30 on the ACT. Her mother, Sharon Williams, a second-grade teacher at Jimmie Goodloe Elementary, said she is proud of her daughter's outstanding accomplishments. Wilkes is also a Mississippi Scholar, a member of the ACT 25 & Above Club and an Ignite Mentor.

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MAY 18

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Canton Third Thursday

Canton Public School District prepares for state testing

By Guest Columnist Cassandra Williams, CPSD Superintendent

It is hard to believe, but the end of the school year is upon us. Just yesterday, we were welcoming our students and teachers to begin a new school year



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full of hope, goals, and a renewed spirit. This school year, we have devoted tremendous amounts of time, energy, and effort into increasing our students' academic achievement. We've learned two things from previous school years: first, we've learned that the key to supporting our students' growth is to increase the amount of time that they practice grade level

skills, and we've also learned that the materials that we use with our students matters. Because of these two factors, we increased the amount of time that our students spend with new and prerequisite material. We provided pull-out tutorials for students in their areas of weakness as well as their areas of strength. We used time that students would normally spend in electives to provide them with extra support in reading and mathematics. We are also hosting Saturday School at all of our sites with tested areas; our Saturday School sessions, in which we provide breakfast, lunch, and transportation, have been an amazing success. We have had three to over four hundred students each Saturday, and we are truly pleased with our results. Additionally, we have provided practice packets for students during Spring Break and the month of April. For our Saturday School sessions, pull-out tutorials, and practice packets, we've been

using research-based materials to ensure that our students are exposed to quality grade-level content that is standardized across the district.

Now, it's time to see if all of our hard work has paid off. Our Mississippi Assessment Program (MAP) officially kicks off on April 20 with our third grade ELA assessment. This is one of our most important assessments, as it determines whether or not students can move on to 4th grade. Our elementary principals have hosted informational sessions at their schools to inform parents about this critical assessment. May 2 -12, our third - eighth grade students will take important assessments in ELA, mathematics, and science in grades fifth and eighth. Our high school students will take assessments in Algebra I, Biology I, US History, and English II. Parents, it is especially important that you encourage your children to do their best on the assessments. In addition to determining if students have met grade level

el standards, the results of our state assessments help us determine course placement for students, and the results determine the ratings for our schools and district. We ask that you assist us by stressing the importance of the tests, encouraging your children to complete their homework packets, and ensuring that they get plenty of rest before the tests.

All year, I've had the same message in my columns: our students deserve the best. This year, our teachers and administrators have worked tirelessly to ensure that we give students our best work. We're excited to see them give us their best work on our upcoming state assessments.

EDITOR'S NOTE: With over twenty years in education, Cassandra Williams' focus as superintendent of the Canton Public School District is to increase student achievement through an invigorated emphasis on teaching, learning, and nurturing.



Canton Redevelopment Authority

Cordially invites you to a

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May 16th, 2017

5:00 - 6:30 PM

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CA baseball dedicates stadium



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Canton Public School District salutes top scholars

Special to The Canton News

The Canton Public School District (CPSD) salutes its top scholars. These students exemplify, with hard work and dedication, that achievement is possible. CPSD encourages all of its students to continue striving for excellence.

Canton High School Junior



Special to The Canton News

Kayla Wilkes is recognized for her outstanding achievement of scoring a 30 on the ACT. The district is also proud of Timmy Bridgeman and Natalyah Davis for scoring a 28 on

the ACT. The ACT 25 & Above Club is also commended for their excellent achievements.

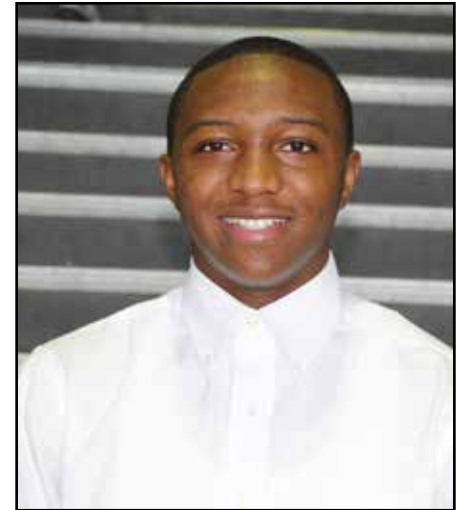


Special to The Canton News

Canton's Mississippi Scholars pictured (l to r) are, first row: Ardajha Brooks, Jasmine Meeks, and Nydaisha Dortch; second row: Myquashia Anderson, Trinity Torrey, Makayla Garrett, and Natalyah Davis; third row: Jamarius Brown, Kendontre Brown, and Vincent King; and fourth row: Mondarius Readirs and Stanton Readirs.

The Mississippi Scholars are also recognized for their outstanding achievements. The

purpose of the Mississippi Scholars Program is to encourage students to take more



Special to The Canton News

challenging courses in high school. All national data indicates that students with a more rigorous academic schedule of high school studies are better prepared for college and/or to enter today's competitive job market. The requirements include 40 hours of community service, a 2.5 and above cumulative GPA, 95 percent attendance, 18 ACT composite score, and no outside suspensions.

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CGMA announces all the Honorees for year of 2017

By Guest Columnist Cynthia Goodloe Palmer

The Canton Gospel Music Association announced the 2017 honorees who will be recognized at the Fourteenth Annual Scholarship Awards and Gospel Music Celebration, which will take place on Sunday, August 27, 5 p. m. at the Greater Faith Calvary Pentecostal Church in Canton.

The purpose of this music celebration each year is to recognize individuals who have made significant musical contributions to Madison County and abroad.

This Celebration is sponsored by the Canton Gospel Music Association (CGMA), which consists of choir directors, choir or group presidents, musicians, songwriters, recording artists, song leaders, soloists, radio announcers, ministers of music and pastors of Madison County. This year the association will honor "The Brothers in Christ," "The Rembert Washington Memorial Choir," and "The Canton Community Fellowship Choir." These singers have used their gifts and talents locally, statewide and nationally to lift up the name of the almighty.

It is unique this year that we will honor three groups that have such a diverse membership,

appeal and style of music. "The Brothers in Christ" consists of men from various churches and specializes in good old fashioned quartet music. The Rembert Washington Memorial Choir also consists of members from various churches and specializes in traditional, con-

temporary choir gospel music, always with a "special and unique blend and twist." The Canton Community Fellowship Choir, better known as "The Ship," were well remembered for their strong vocals, precision and great harmony.

Although "The Ship" is no longer together, their fans are still around.

For more information, call Cynthia Goodloe Palmer, 601-918-7809, CantonGospelMusicAssociation@gmail.com, Erma Cole, 601-859-5002 or Jearlean Jones, 601-668-8563.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Palmer is an award-winning recording artist and is a three-time winner at the Mississippi Gospel Music Awards. She serves as the founder and president of the Canton Gospel Music Association.



City hosts Annual Easter Egg Hunt at SAAB Park

Special to The Canton News

The City of Canton Annual Easter Egg Hunt hosted more than 200 children. The event held at SAAB Park also had two space jumps, egg dying, games and a DJ who entertained the children and adults.

There also was an Easter Battle between the sororities Alpha Kappa Alpha and Delta Sigma Theta and the fraternities, Alpha Phi Alpha, Kappa Alpha Psi, and Omega Psi Phi. The winners for the Easter Battle were Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority and Omega Psi Phi Fraternity.



Special to The Canton News



Special to The Canton News

More than 200 children hunted for eggs at the City of Canton's Easter Egg Hunt at SAAB Park.

Catholic Charities, Inc. to host TFC program this May

Special to The Canton News

Catholic Charities, Inc.'s Therapeutic Foster Care (TFC) program will host a therapeutic foster parent training every Saturday from 9 a.m. until noon in the month of May.

TFC provides services designed to help Mississippi foster children and youth with serious emotional disor-

ders develop the skills needed to function in the home and community settings. TFC's primary change agents are highly-trained foster families.

TFC is in need of individuals who are willing to become therapeutic foster parents. TFC is looking for caring individuals who are able to provide a stable and loving home environment for children and adolescents who are in need of

therapeutic services. Prospective foster parents should reside within a sixty-mile radius of Jackson and are required to attend all training courses held May 6, 13, 20 and 27.

All courses will be held at Catholic Charities Office, 840 E. River Place Suite 601 in Jackson.

Prospective foster parents will receive complete licensure training, ongoing sup-

port and monthly monetary payments for the cost of providing care for youth in the program. Catholic Charities promotes equal opportunity and encourages diversity in families. There is no cost to attend the training, but pre-registration is required. For more information about becoming a therapeutic foster parent, contact Shamir Lee at 601-624-5288.

Canton honors Miss JSU



Special to The Canton News

The Mayor and Aldermen honored Canton native, and former Canton High Salutatorian, Comelia Walker, who was recently elected Miss JSU. She was presented an official proclamation at City Hall in April. Walker is the first Miss JSU from Canton in over 30 years.

Canton Annual Easter Egg Hunt

The City of Canton Annual Easter Egg Hunt hosted more than 200 children. The event held at SAAB Park also had two space jumps, egg dying, games and a DJ who entertained the children and adults.



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8:30-9:30

Breakfast with Legal Shield

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Discuss identity theft protection and restoration, and
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May 15-21, 2017

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Canton Third Thursday

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Domino's opens a new location at Highway 43 and 16

By Susie A. Wolfe

Neal Anderson has had a Domino's Pizza franchise in Canton since 2008, but he now has a new location and a new partner. Anderson and Molly Clark are co-owners of the new location in the Pig-

Originally from Turkey, Clark started working at Domino's on High Street in Jackson when she was a business student at Belhaven. She was a Domino's supervisor in Boston from 2011 to 2016, but wanted to move back to Mississippi for the people, weather



Special to The Canton News

gly Wiggly shopping center at the intersection of Highways 16 and 43 in East Canton.

Both started out as Domino's delivery drivers who moved up to managers, and now owners. Anderson is originally from Grenada, Mississippi, but now lives in Cleveland, Mississippi, where he also owns a Domino's Pizza franchise.

and Southern hospitality.

"Pizza sauce is in our veins," said Anderson. "We are really excited to serve Canton in our new location, and the response has been good. It would not have been possible without the Nissan Parkway extension that was built."

Clark said that the local franchise plans to get involved in the community and with the schools.

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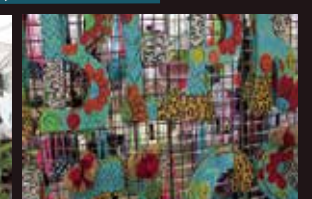
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Nissan promotes STEM through HBCU donation

Special to The Canton News

On April 19 at Nissan's Canton Assembly Plant, Nissan executives presented \$250,000 to seven local historically black col-

lege and Tougaloo College. "Nissan recognizes that STEM education is critical to developing the next generation of innovators. We are proud to continue



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Nissan executives are shown with seven Mississippi's HBCUs that received a total of \$250,000 for STEM education. Pictured (l to r) are, front row: Doris Ward, Rust College; Rodney Francis, Director, Human Resources, Nissan Canton; Dr. Richard Alo, Jackson State University; Dr. Debra Mays-Jackson, Hinds Community College, Utica Campus; Steve Marsh, Vice President, Manufacturing, Nissan Canton; Dr. David Beckley, President, Rust College; and Dr. William Bynum, President, MS Valley State University; and back row: Yasmin Gabriel, Tougaloo College; Dr. Alfred Rankin, President, Alcorn State University; Dr. Val Towner, President, Coahoma Community College; Jeffrey Webster, Director, Diversity and Inclusion, Nissan North America; and Pam Confer, Director, Community Relations, Nissan Canton.

leges and universities (HBCU) to promote science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) initiatives at each school to inspire and develop talent. To date, Nissan has invested more than \$1 million in local HBCUs—more than half which supports STEM-specific curriculums.

The donations were presented to representatives from Alcorn State University, Coahoma Community college, Hinds Community College, -Utica Campus, Jackson State University, Mississippi Valley State University, Rust

our commitment to Mississippi's HBCUs with another \$250,000 grant this year," said Jeffrey Webster, director of Diversity and Inclusion, Nissan North America.

Resources provided to each institution will be used to promote a range of STEM-related programs and department, including applied sciences, engineering, math, computer and information science and many more.

To learn more about Nissan's support of the Canton community, visit <http://www.nissan-canton.com/>.



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cantonnews

Confer named Woman of the Year in Jackson Advocate

Special to The Canton News

The *Jackson Advocate* recently selected Pamela Confer of Canton as its 2017 Woman of the Year for her unwavering dedi-



Special to The Canton News

cation to community. The publication's representatives said that Confer "is always willing to share her talents and skills to improve the lives of others. We applaud her unselfishness and celebrate her tenacity, her vigor, her soulfulness, her positivity, and most of all, her love of God."

Confer is the director of community and public relations for Nissan North America, Canton, the second largest employer in Mississippi. In this capacity, she serves as the face of Nissan in the Mississippi market and manages the corporation's outreach efforts.

Confer is a bilingual, international, award-winning professional speaker. Founder of the Speak BIG! concept, a communications and public speaking program, she has trained professionals and aspiring professionals alike. Participants in her courses say that her open mind,

personal stories and amusing training style inspire all to "Speak Up! Speak Out! and Speak Often!"

A writer and publicist, Confer is editor the book, *Spoken Success: Understanding the Art of Public Speaking*, by Robert Little. She is also the editor of a series of children's books by Little, including *What CAN I Be*, an Accelerated Reader (AR) book that was nominated for the Coretta Scott King award.

Confer is also an entertainer. Performing with her group, "Jazz Beautiful," she was voted "Best Local Jazz Artist" by the *Jackson Free Press* for 2012 and 2013, and was named the Jackson Music Awards' 2013 and 2015 "Jazz Group of the Year." She is also the MS Jazz Foundation's 2015 "Jazz Ambassador of the Year," and one of the *MS Business Journal's* 2015 "Top 50 Leading MS Businesswomen."

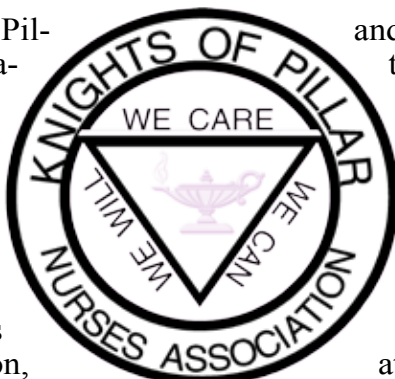
Confer is the first woman to serve as Constable in Hinds County. She is also an award-winning clay sharp-shooter. A member of Alpha Kappa Alpha, she holds a Master of Public Policy and Administration degree, and is currently at the dissertation stage of a Ph.D. from Jackson State University (JSU).

EDITOR'S NOTE: This article was originally published in the Jackson Advocate. It has been reprinted with permission from the publisher. Confer is currently serving as the Canton Chamber's vice president.

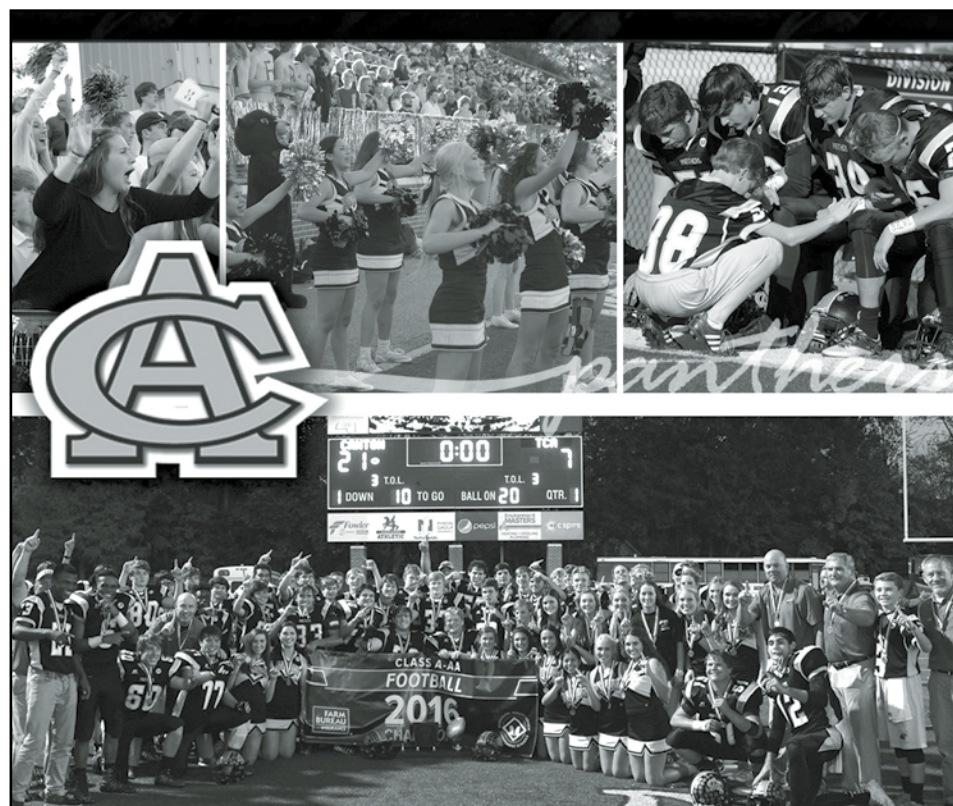
KPNA hosts banquet May 26

Special to The Canton News

The Knights of Pillar Nurses Association (KPNA) will be hosting their Second Annual Nurses Banquet on May 26 at 7 p.m. at the Multi-Purpose Complex. Tickets are \$20.00 per person,



and that can be paid at the door. The group will be awarding three Joyce Conway Adams scholarships to students in the surrounding area. For more information, contact KPNA at 601-953-8769.

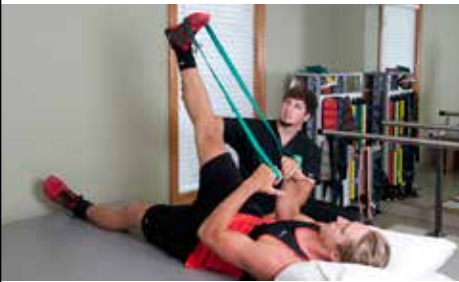


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Law Enforcement Apprec. Week to be held in May

Special to The Canton News

The Madison County Board of Supervisors signed a proclamation designating May 15-21, 2017, as Madison County

Madison County, commended and thanked its loyal force for its commitment to the County, and its further commitment to providing a safe and secure coun-



Special to The Canton News

Pictured (l-r) are, standing: Supervisor Paul Griffin; Madison County Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Jodi Maughon; Madison County Business League & Foundation Executive Director Jan Collins, and Sheriff Randy Tucker; and seated: Supervisor Sheila Jones; Supervisor David Bishop; president of the Board Trey Baxter; and Supervisor Gerald Steen.

Law Enforcement Appreciation Week. As a part of the commemoration of the outstanding work of the Madison County Sheriff's Department, the Board of Supervisors, as well as the citizens of

ty in which to live. The Board called upon its residents to recognize and participate in the special observance to honor law enforcement officials and first responders.

Canton, Mississippi: Stay Bold

First of all, I want to thank God for granting me the opportunity to lead our great city the last four years. With Him, all things are possible. As a humble community servant, my accomplishments include being founder of the Arnel D. Bolden Scholarship as well as providing over two thousand dollars in other scholarship awards annually. I also have had the privilege to serve on numerous boards and attain many notable achievements including President of the Canton Chamber of Commerce, board member of the Merit Health Medical Center in Canton, 2002 graduate of Leadership Madison County, 2012 graduate of the FBI Citizens Academy, 2013 graduate of Leadership Mississippi, and an active member of Canton United Methodist Church. I am a proud father of two and married to Dr. LaToya Bolden.

As Mayor, I provide integrity, leadership experience, and vision that has led to record job growth, economic development, and infrastructure improvements evident throughout the city, which has improved the overall quality of life for residents in the last four years. My major objectives for the next term include making measurable improvement of our educational system a top priority, increasing our retail and residential growth opportunities, recruiting employers that will hire and pay top tier wages to our residents, and solving the major flood crisis, which has plagued parts of our community for decades.

Help me continue to build a better Canton...Stay Bold and Re-Elect Arnel D. Bolden for Mayor

UNDER MY ADMINISTRATION

Education:

- Three new schools –
- Canton Elementary
- McNeal Elementary
- 9th Grade Academy

Economic

Development:

- Dollar Tree Opening
- Walmart Opening
- Legend's Sports Bar
- Bettina's Soulfood Restaurant
- Taco Bell – Opening 2017

Community

Development:

- Hickory Street Revitalization Project
- Canton High Apartments



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