



THE CANTON NEWS

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Courthouse renovated



Photo by Jud Meaders

The Madison County Courthouse was undergoing renovations recently. Jud Meaders, who operates Academy Street Studios located on Peace Street in the Historic Canton Square, took this dramatic photo of the work.

CMU starts \$9M in projects



By Susie A. Wolfe

Special to The Canton News

Canton Municipal Utilities (CMU), the utility that provides Cantonians with electricity, water, gas and sewer services, currently has \$9 million in building projects, according to CFO Stephen Thompson.

Thompson said that CMU is striving to keep all infrastructure and equipment up-to-date to maintain the highest quality of service and

avoid interruptions.

CMU's current projects include laying the infrastructure for the 600-unit Trails Apartments being built in Canton over the next two years, a church construction project on Calhoun Parkway taking place this year, and a truck stop/convenience store being built on the Canton Parkway this year.

Thompson said that infrastructure improvements include \$3 million

Cont. on page 16

State law requires immunizations for school kids

Special to The Canton News

With the start of a new school year just weeks away, the Mississippi State Department of Health (MSDH) reminds parents that state law requires kids to be immunized against childhood diseases to enter public or private school, Head Start or daycare.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, approximately 95 percent of parents nationwide choose to vaccinate their children, protecting them against potentially deadly diseases.

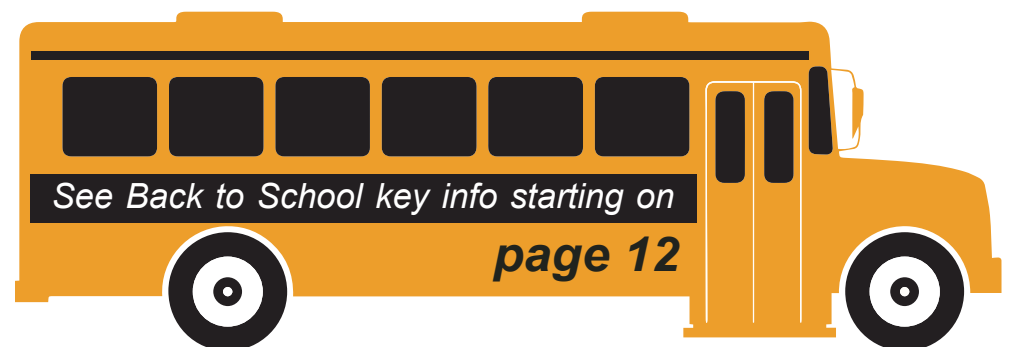
"There are many options for where to get your vaccinations now, including private medical providers and retail stores," said MSDH State Epidemiologist Dr. Paul Byers. "Regardless of where you go, it's incredibly important to make sure you're up-to-date on your immunizations. Not only are certain vaccines required for school entry, they are also the best way to protect your child and those around them."

Required vaccinations for children entering school in Mississippi for the first time include:

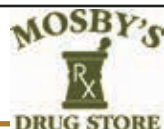
diphtheria, tetanus and pertussis (DTaP); polio (IPV); hepatitis B; measles, mumps and rubella (MMR); and varicella (chickenpox). There is also a requirement

for children entering seventh grade to receive the Tdap (tetanus, diphtheria and pertussis) vaccination. In addition, human papillomavirus vaccination (HPV)

Cont. on page 7



Immunization



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Stacey Cauthen Sanders
& Bill Mosby

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Come visit the Downtown Canton Historic District

Special to The Canton News

In 1982, the Canton Courthouse Square District was officially entered into the National Register of Historic Places and declared one of three best examples in the State of Mississippi.

The Courthouse Square and Downtown Historic District, still the focus of exciting ac-



tivities, is the scene twice yearly of the nationally famous Canton Flea Market Arts & Crafts Show. The Market attracts up to 100,000 visitors annually from across the United States and beyond.

In recent years, the beauty, uniqueness, and preservation efforts of the Courthouse Square and His-

toric District, with its beautiful homes, have attracted the attention of Hollywood. In addition to five major films, Canton is often used as scenes for commercials and documentaries.

The Historic District now includes many businesses, from retail, restaurants and professional to museums, county offices and a distillery. Canton has something for everyone any time of year.



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Know Your Neighbor: Frazier Riddell

By Guest Columnist Jim Ritchie

How would you like to be able to sing and to play, on a profes-



Special to The Canton News

Frazier Riddell, who can not only sing and play many instruments, offers private guitar, harmonica and saxophone lessons at his Small Town Music store in Canton.

sional level, the guitar, the harmonica and the saxophone? And be able to also play at various levels the banjo, mandolin, ukelele, trombone, trumpet, clarinet

and trombone?

Meet Frazier Riddell, who can not only sing and play these instruments, but offers private guitar, harmonica and saxophone lessons at his Small Town Music store in Canton.

Riddell, the youngest of four children, was born and raised in Canton. His father ran a successful farming and cotton gin business, and Riddell, while loading cotton bales, cleaning cotton pickers, and performing other chores associated with that environment, decided that farming and ginning was not to be his life's work. He loved music, so after graduating from Canton Academy, he earned his degree in music education from Ole Miss and headed for Nashville.

Big time musical success eluded him in Nashville, but his huge success there came in another sphere when he met a lovely young photographer named Susan, and convinced her to marry him. They were blessed with a son, and deciding that the big city wasn't the best environment

in which to raise him, they opted to move back to family and friends in Canton, and open their store.

A prolific songwriter, Riddell has recorded numerous CDs, and gives performances both individually and with bands all over the state. His musical talent is also shared with the parishioners at Sacred Heart Catholic Church, where he is music director.

One thing is for certain to folks here. Big town Nashville's loss has been small town Canton's gain!

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.

CA clay shooting team, MS state champs



Special to The Canton News

The Canton Academy clay shooting team was recently named the state champions. Pictured (l to r) are: Holden Chandler, Hayden Vaughn, Ben Barr, Parker Crosswhite, Brett Lovelace, Nick Price, Harris Coleman, Brayden Brumfield, Case Lambert, Barnes Wadford, Jake Ramsey, Carson Toder, Colt Yoder, Joseph Price, Lane Martin, Drew Galloway, Colson Lambert, Sarah Grace Thompson, Zan Ellis, and Taylor Pratt.

Prepare for the unexpected

By Guest Columnist Pastor Guy Odom,
First Baptist Canton



Photo by The Canton News

When I played quarterback on my high-school football team, I was often tackled from the back while attempting to pass, not seeing the tackler. I was blindsided. Less than a year after my wedding, I received a call that my daddy had died of a sudden heart attack. I was caught unaware and devastated. I was once terminated from a job where I had been employed for seventeen years, completely unanticipated. In each case, everything seemed good at one moment, and then the next moment- WHAM- I was blindsided.

Jarius knew that feeling. He was a synagogue leader whose daughter was sick. Going to Jesus, he entreated Him to heal her. Jesus followed Jarius toward his house, but on the way there, He stopped to heal a sick woman. Jesus was never in a hurry. He did not panic even when the bad news came that Jarius' daughter

had died. Jesus' simple admonition to Jarius in the midst of receiving the bad news was simply, "Don't be afraid. Only believe."

Jesus can turn bad news into something better, but it hinges on our faith. Fear or faith are the two choices we have when responding to devastating news. Fear occurs when we take our eyes off of Jesus. Faith is focusing on Him, believing that somehow He can bring good out of bad. Faith is believing that Jesus can show up and do something good in an impossible situation. Bad news will surely come. Believe in Jesus. He can transform devastation into hope!

"The great fact of the Christian life is that which looks completely impossible with men is possible with God."

-William Barclay, from *Stand Firm Magazine*, Lifeway Christian Resources

You Are Loved,
Pastor Guy

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.

Jones spent summer at MC



Special to The Canton News

Residents of Mississippi College's (MC) summer support staff, including Princess Jones of Canton, put in long hours at Mississippi College in June and July. Pictured (l to r) are: Carly Chappell of Gardendale, Alabama (seated); Leuveruia Smith of Pace, Mississippi; Joelle Youngblood of Meridian; Rebekah Walker of Brandon; Princess Jones of Canton and Rebeckah Mardis of Lucedale. All are MC students on the Clinton campus.

Act on abandoned buildings



Photo by The Canton News

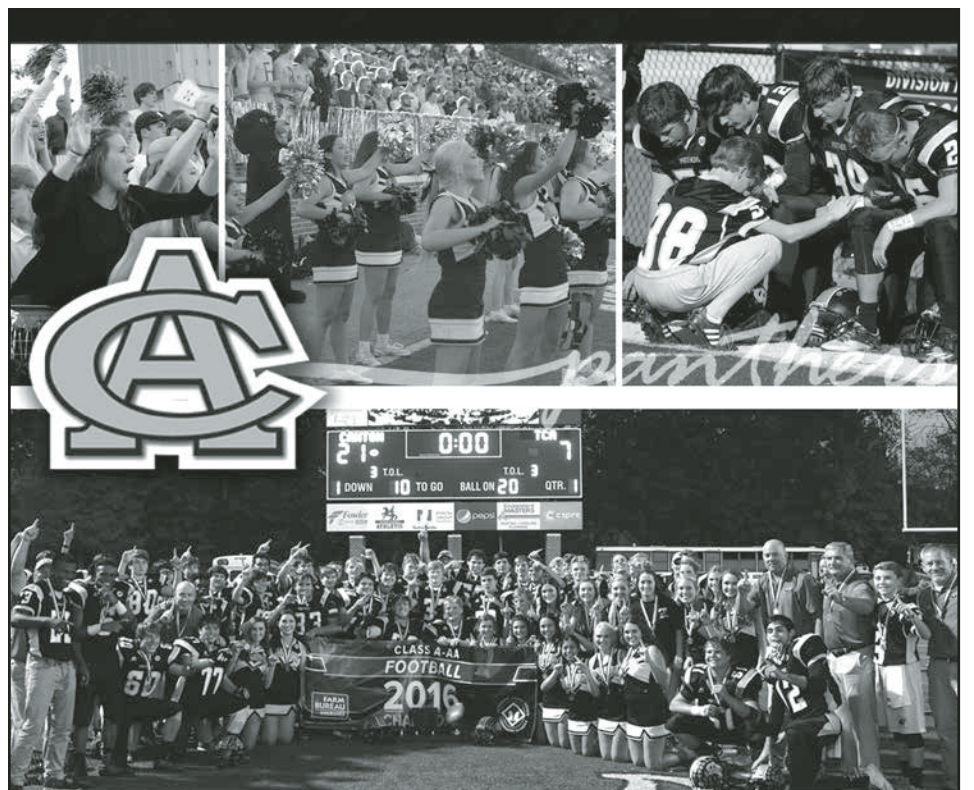
By Joy Dodson, president, Keep Canton Beautiful

Attention, all Cantonians! Do you see a car or truck that looks like it's been in the same spot for the past decade? Do you drive past a building that is obviously abandoned, and has been for many years?

Keep Canton Beautiful wants to know about it. Please provide us with the location of either the vehicle or building by emailing joydodson@hotmail.com or visiting Keep Canton Beautiful's Face-

book page and messaging us there. We will research the property with the city, and find out what we can do to make it better. Remember, if you personally have a vehicle you would like towed free of charge, you can call Gilmore Towing at 769-257-4707.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Joy Dodson lives in Canton with her husband Gary and their two sons. She is the director of Keep Canton Beautiful.



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Tori Bowie talks about her life after the Olympics

By Susie A. Wolfe

Tori Bowie represented Mississippi at the Rio Olympics, where she placed second in the 100 meter dash with a time of 10.83s, and third in the 200 meter dash with a time of 22.15s. In college, she competed for the University of Southern Mississippi, and she began com-



Photo by Susie A. Wolfe

peting professionally in 2013. We recently had the opportunity to talk first-hand with her, and to ask her a few questions.

Who were your mentors in getting and staying with the sport?

I consider my family as mentors; they supported me from the start. In staying with the sport, my father, sister and coach have been very important in continuously encouraging me.

What is your best memory of high school? Of college at USM? High school –winning basketball championships after we played the #1 team and beat them; my entire family was there and we were taking photos, etc.

College –graduating!

What do you miss most about home / Mississippi?

The people.

Where are you living now and describe your life...travel, track meets, how often back home?

I live in Winter Garden, Florida. From April to August, it's weekends of track meets around the world; then I head back to Mississippi from August to November to visit and spend time with family; then return to Florida to train again until the April season starts.

What was most memorable for you at the Rio Olympics?

Getting a bronze medal in the

200m when I felt like I was already exhausted.

You just ran your best time ever. How many more Olympics do you want to participate in?

At least one more, 2020.

What are your near-future plans, and for the future after Olympics/track? Move to Mississippi?

I don't have any set plans yet, but I look forward to getting married, starting a family and simplifying things. Enjoying the small things in life. I don't have plans to move back to Mississippi, but it will always be "home" and where family is.

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Annual Awards & Gospel Celebration to be held August 27

By Guest Columnist Cynthia Goodloe Palmer

The 14th Annual Scholarship Awards & Gospel Music Celebration will take place on Sunday, August 27, at 5 p.m. at

“It is fitting that Canton, with its rich heritage, deep spiritual roots and strong church affiliations hosts an event to honor



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Greater Faith Calvary Pentecostal Church, 305 N. Railroad St. in Canton. This celebration is sponsored by the Canton Gospel Music Association (CGMA). Lifetime Achievement Music Awards will be presented to The Brothers In Christ, The Rembert Washington Memorial Chorale, The Canton Community Fellowship Choir (The Ship) and Rev. Clyde Tate.

The highlight of the celebration is the awarding of thirteen music scholarships to up and coming musicians. Rev. James Sims serves as scholarship chairman. To date, the CGMA has awarded 114 scholarships. Special musical guest is 2015 Sunday Best Award Winner, Dathan Thigpen of Atlanta, Georgia. Pastor John Woodard, Jr. serves as musical director.



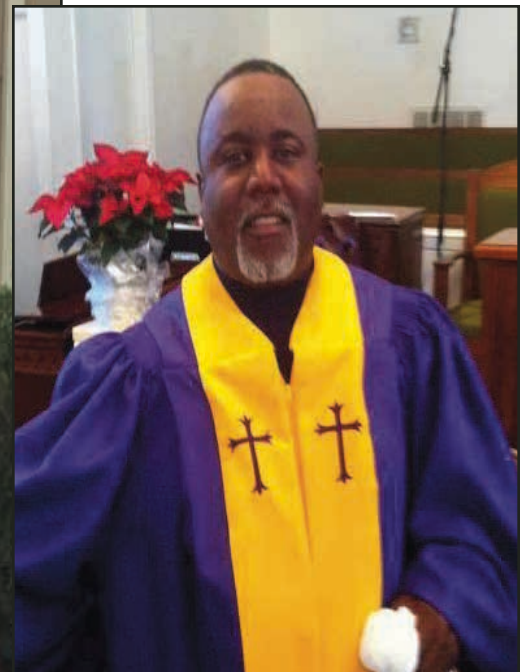
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one of music’s finest genres,” said Cynthia Goodloe Palmer, founder and president of the CGMA.

For more information, call Cynthia Goodloe Palmer, 601-

918-7809, Erma Cole 601-859-5002 or Jearlean Jones 601-668-8563. For more information contact us at:

CantonGospelMusic@gmail.com.



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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.*

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Sims awarded EPWA award



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Alderwoman Daphne Johnson Sims was awarded the Empowering Progressive Women's Association (EPWA) Business Women's Leadership Award for Canton. The award was given at their monthly Power M.E.A.L. (Marketplace Empowerment Acceleration Luncheon) at the Culinary Cowboy on July 11.

Sims, a native of Canton, is the daughter of Thomas and Ruby Johnson. She is a graduate of Canton Public Schools, and continued her education at Southern University, where she received a Bachelor's Degree in accounting, with a minor in administration. She is married to Constable Johnny Sims, and together they have three children, Johnathan, Jalise, and Jordan.

Sims is the alderwoman of Ward

Four and was just reelected to a second term. She serves the community by spearheading annual Thanksgiving dinners for the elderly, scholarships for local students and book bag giveaways. She is also a member of Greater Saint Matthew Missionary Baptist Church. She is also a member of Greater Saint Matthew Missionary Baptist Church.

According to EPWA President Kathy Amos, "Daphne is a hard worker and determined to make a difference. She loves to teach and help others get on the road to success."

Tickets are available for the next luncheon, which is the Third Annual Honorary Conference Luncheon, on Saturday, August 26. For more information on how to participate, visit www.epwawomen.com.

cont. from front page

State law requires immunizations for school kids

and a meningococcal vaccination (MCV4) are recommended for adolescents 11 to 15 years of age, and a meningococcal vaccination (MCV4) is recommended at age 16 to 18 years.

Parents must provide the school with a Certificate of Immunization Compliance (Form 121) from their immunization provider prior to school entry.

Physicians or county health

departments can answer questions about which immunizations children will need. Parents can contact their local county health department about the best dates and times to bring children in for immunizations.

For more information on immunization requirements or medical exemptions for school entry, visit www.HealthyMS.com/immunizations.

Canton's Christmas in July



Special to The Canton News

Canton Tourism recently held their annual "Christmas in July" as part of their monthly Third Thursday events. Area businesses were invited to compete in the "Sip N' Shop" event, and The Farmhouse served the winning drink of the summer, "Three Suns." For more information about upcoming Canton Tourism events, call 601-859-1307.

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Football legends attend Legends of Mississippi opening



Photo by Jud Meaders

Retired professional football players now living in Mississippi attended the grand opening celebration for Legends of Mississippi Sports Bar in the Historic Canton Square on Friday, July 21. The following football players attended to celebrate with owner and former Buffalo Bills player Leon Seals: Noland Smith, Kansas City Chiefs; Eddie Payton, Minnesota Vikings; Lewis Tillman, New York Giants; Vernon Terry, Houston Oilers; Lawrence Pillars, San Francisco 49ers; Jeffery Moore, San Francisco 49ers; Chris Burkett, Buffalo Bills and New York Jets; and Mike Jones, Dallas Cowboys.

Sisters serving in the Navy



Special to The Canton News

Special to The Canton News

Two of George and Ollie Washington's granddaughters and Marva J. Hall's daughters are currently serving in our country, Navy Sailor Antoiwauna D. Southern and Navy Sailor Lakorsha K. Hall.

Southern, a 2013 Canton High School graduate, attended Jackson State University and Navy A-School in Great Lakes, Illinois before being stationed on the



Special to The Canton News

USS Gerald R. Ford CVN-78 in Norfolk, Virginia. She graduated from Navy boot camp in on Dec. 4, 2015, and has been promoted to Petty Officer Third Class.

Hall recently graduated from Navy boot camp at Great Lakes, Illinois on June 23. She is a 2009 graduate of Velma Jackson High School, and attend Jackson State University. She will be attending A-School at Ft. Lee, Virginia, and then on to her next duty station.

KPNA delivers storm supplies



Special to The Canton News

Knights of Pillar Nursing Association (KPNA) visited the storm area of Durant in July to deliver cleaning and personal hygiene items. The group was greeted by Mayor Robinson at the City Hall. The area itself still needs help and support from the surrounding areas. Even though all members were not able to go, each member did their part in donating. Members who attended are pictured (l to r): Katie Hamlin, Cassandra Sojourner, Beverly Washington, Nettie Travis, Ruth Gray, Rachiel Johnson, Helen Owens and Bertha McGruder.

CPSD public relations director receives honors

By Susie A. Wolfe

Mississippi's public schools work in numerous ways to communicate with



Special to The Canton News

their students, parents, staff, and communities. Some of those public relations efforts were recently recognized.

Beverly Luckett, Canton Public School District's (CPSD) public relations director, was honored during

the Mississippi School Public Relations Association's annual Awards of Excellence program. Luckett competed with school public relations professionals from school districts across the state who were honored for their publications, marketing efforts and online communications. Luckett won the following awards: Second Place, Electronic Newsletters; Second Place, Multimedia Projects; Second Place, Excellence in Photography; Third Place, Multimedia Projects; and Third Place, Audiovisual Programs and Presentations.

"CPSD honors Beverly Luckett for her tireless efforts to tell the district's own story of achievement every single day," said Cassandra Williams, superintendent.

Ray honored for 50 years of Canton Lions service

By Susie A. Wolfe

The Canton Lions Club recognized members for years of service in their July 26 meeting.

ris, 45 years; Bobby Long, 30 years; Herb Power, 25 years; and Danny Murphy, 25 years.

The following members have served 10-15 years: Jauquine



Photo by The Canton News

Among the Lions honored at the July 26 meeting are (l to r), Danny Murphy, 25 years; Melvin Ray, 50 years; Daniel Logan, 10 years; and Timmy Pickett, 10 years.

Melvin Ray, retired Madison County Superintendent, was honored for his 53 years of service to the community.

For service 25 years and above, the following members were given certificates: John McPhail, 45 years; Ken Mor-

McPhail, 15 years; Danny Pres-
tel, 15 years; Gil Kyker, 15 years; Chan Chandler, 15 years; Doug Knight, 15 years; Daniel Logan, 10 years; Tom Corlett, 10 years; Arnel Bolden, 10 years; and Timmy Pickett, 10 years.

Martin receives trustee award

Special to The Canton News

Robert Martin, a Madison County Nursing Home (MCNH) Board of Trustees member, recently received the Not for Profit Trustee Award from the American Health Care Association (CONFIRM).

Martin, a 15-year board member, has been involved in various projects, including constructing an Alzheimer's unit, increasing the number of beds in the nursing

care center, and approving the addition of television sets in the residents' bedrooms.

According to Daniel Logan, MCNH administrator, "Robert serves with passion and is frequently at our nursing center looking for ways to make things better for our residents. It is without a doubt that I can say that Madison County Nursing Home is a better place because of Mr. Martin."



160 E. Peace St., Canton, MS 39046

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.

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Automotive industry drives Mississippi's economic growth

Special to The Canton News

The automotive industry is Mississippi's fastest growing industry and offers a salary more than 30 percent higher than the state average, according to a study released by Move Mississippi Forward and the Mississippi Economic Council.

The groups have studied the economic impact of specified manufacturers in the past, but the new report – conducted by the independent National Strategic Planning & Analysis Research Center (NSPARC) at Mississippi State University – examined the entire sector. The automotive industry in Mississippi includes two major manufacturing facilities – Toyota in Blue Springs and Nissan in Canton – as well as numerous suppliers.

Highlights of the study include:

- Automotive industry employment grew by more than 64 percent between 2010 and 2016, making it the fastest growing industry in the state.
 - The industry employs approximately 18,251 state-wide.
 - The average salary is \$50,510, more than 1.34 times greater than state average of \$37,642.
 - The automotive industry accounts for an estimated \$5.7 billion of the state gross domestic product – or what the state produces each year.
- “This report informs all Mississippians of the tremendous economic impact that the automotive industry has made in our state,” said Dr. Dolphus Weary, co-chair of Move Mississippi Forward and a long-time community civic and

community leader. “This sector has always been important to our state, but in the last 15 years has gained unbelievable momentum. It has changed our state for the better.”

The growth began in 2003 when Nissan opened the first manufacturing facility in central Mississippi, which was followed by Toyota's north Mississippi plant that began production in 2011. Major automotive companies such as PACCAR, Grammer, and Tower International followed suit with construction of new operations. The growth has included Yokohama Tire locating in West Point and a major expansion by Cooper Tires within the state.

“Dozens of companies have located in Mississippi because of the favorable tax structure, willingness of state and local governments to partner with them and a workforce that produces highly skilled labor,” said Duane O'Neill, co-chair of Move Mississippi Forward and President & CEO of the Greater Jackson Chamber Partnership. “This sector has benefitted the entire state, not just a couple of communities. Automotive industries are located in 32 counties, and some of the large facilities employ workers from numerous counties, so there is a domino effect across our state.”

NSPARC, an interdisciplinary research center, began its research this spring and used data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics and the Mississippi Department of Employment Security to build the report.

The full report can be found at <http://www.movemississippiforward.com/impactreport/>.

“What we have achieved with the automotive industry is



Special to The Canton News

a part of the story about Mississippi that quite often goes untold,” said Dr. Domenico “Misso” Parisi, NSPARC's executive director. “We are a great state, and we have become just as progressive in our effort to provide economic opportunities to our citizens as many other states. The results unequivocally show that the automotive industry is a powerful economic force for Mississippi.”

The MEC – the state's chamber of commerce – believes the automotive industry's advanced manufacturing facilities have changed the perception of Mississippi nationally,

and even globally.

“Mississippi has built a reputation as a good place to do business, and we see even greater things ahead,” said Scott Waller, MEC's interim president and CEO. “Continental Tire's \$1.4 billion plant is scheduled to open in 2019, and we believe additional suppliers will find Mississippi an attractive location as they begin to site their operations.”

“Mississippi is gaining stature in the Southern Auto Corridor, and we don't see it slowing down, which is why it is so important that we work to maintain a competitive business environment.”



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The Canton Lions Club installed new officers at their July 5 meeting. The following will serve for the 2017-2018 term: Webster Ford, president; Bobby Long, vice president; Tom Corlett, secretary / treasurer; Al Salmi, Lion tamer; and David Robertson, tail twister. The two-year Board members are Simon Collier and Darlene Austin. The one-year Board members are Richard Case and William (Skeeter) Power. Pictured (l to r) are: Board members Richard Case and Darlene Austin; Secretary/Treasurer Tom Corlett; President Webster Ford; and Past President Danny Murphy.

A young boy with dark hair is seen from the side, hugging a small, fluffy white dog. The scene is intimate and warm, with soft lighting. The dog's fur is very soft and white, contrasting with the boy's dark hair. The background is slightly blurred, showing hints of a home environment.

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Who is on your dream team?

By Guest Columnist Kathy Amos



Special to The Canton News

Have you ever had a dream that perhaps one day, you would own your own business, build your dream home or maybe even buy that new Lamborghini? You realize the moment you decide to push, you would need someone on your team. If it's buying your dream home, you'll need a contractor, mortgage lender, appraiser, and attorney just to name a few people who will make up your dream team. These people are skilled experts who know how to help you achieve your goals. Without them, it would be very difficult to achieve it alone.

Nehemiah, a faithful cupbearer, had a burden and desire to rebuild the ruined walls back home in Jerusalem. But before he could start the rebuilding process, he needed

a team of people who were just as committed as he was in making his dream a reality. The bible declares that he went before the king and was granted permission to go home and gave him resources to assist him in his mission. Then, Nehemiah gathers his community and expresses his concerns saying, "Come, let us rebuild the wall of Jerusalem, and we will no longer be in disgrace." And they began this good work, Nehemiah 2:17-18.

It's very important that we understand that if we are to ever achieve greatness in our community, we must learn to work together. John Maxwell says, "One is too small of a number to achieve greatness."

EDITOR'S NOTE: Kathy Amos is a coach, speaker and teacher with The John Maxwell Team. She serves as executive pastor of the Turning Point Fellowship Ministries International Church, along with her husband Joe. Amos is also the president and founder of the Empowering Progressive Women's Association.

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BACK TO SCHOOL!

CMU encourages everyone to stay in school and welcomes you to a new year!

This is a reminder for drivers to be aware of School Zones and follow the law to keep everyone safe!



Discover more at:
www.cmu.com

HAVE A GREAT SCHOOL YEAR!

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Welcome back to school

By Guest Columnist Cassandra Williams, CPSD Superintendent

My favorite time of the year is just around the corner... the first day of school! We have spent all summer pre-



Special to The Canton News

paring to provide our boys and girls with the best school year ever. Last year, we provided extra time and support to our students to help them meet grade-level content and skills expectations. In addition to small-group targeted support for students throughout the regular school day, our students came out by the hundreds for Saturday School, and our teachers and administrators went above and beyond the call of duty to ensure that our students were prepared to be college and career ready, even if they were in kindergarten. We developed processes and protocols to ensure that we were consistent with our instruction, curriculum, and assessment. We are anticipating gains on our state assessment results as a result of this focus. Additionally, many of our Class of 2017 graduates will enter college this fall with credits that they earned while they were still in high school-an amazing achievement!

After a year of implementation, we will now begin a year

of increase. The tools that we put in place for schools last school year should now come with ease, and our new staff has spent the summer becoming familiar with these tools. Our boys and girls now know that we have high expectations for their performance, and we are confident that they will continue to rise to our expectations. Our parents, community, and businesses have supported us in an unprecedented manner, and we hope to welcome new faces into our extended family! As a team, I am confident that we can provide our boys and girls with the top-tier education that they deserve. We invite you to attend our Back to School Rally on Friday, August 4, from 6 p.m.-8 p.m. at Canton High School to help us show our children how excited we are about the new school year.

This year, I invite you to continue to watch Canton Public School District transform before your eyes. We will remain focused on our students' content knowledge and skill level through rigorous teaching; additionally, we will embed other layers of support for our students through mentoring, co-curricular activities, and enrichment services.

August 3 officially marked the beginning of our new school year. We have the best and the brightest teachers, staff, and administrators, and we are ready to welcome the jewels of the Canton community: our boys and girls!

Seasons Assisted Living



Seasons Assisted Living's goal is to create a small community feel with our 2-year-old facility located in Canton, Mississippi.

We offer 10 private rooms with 11 private baths. We offer three meals a day plus snacks, 24-hour staffing, as well as a nurse on the day shift. We offer assistance in activities of daily living if needed. Laundry and housekeeping are provided, as are many other amenities, including access to an indoor pool and hot tub. Call us now to find out more information!

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SUMMER SCHEDULE

Sunday Small Groups
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Morning Worship
10:15 a.m.

Wednesday Nights
6:00 p.m.

Prayer Meeting
Children & Youth Activities
Choir Rehearsal



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Visit nissanmotor.jobs to join our Canton team.



Teachers will go to summer school for upcoming year



Special to The Canton News

CPSD welcomed new Tigers aboard with summer professional development for the upcoming school year. Angela Jones, CPSD's Executive Director of Curriculum & Instruction for High Schools, led the Fast Facts Training. Presenters shared district protocols and procedures while covering the following topics: the Media and Social Media, Enrollment and the Student Registration Process, Parent Engagement and School Attendance.

Teachers prepare for new school year for 2017-2018



Special to The Canton News

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*Weekly Worship
Schedule*

SUNDAY SERVICE 10:30 A.M.
SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30 A.M.



Special to The Canton News

Dr. Shelita Brown gave CPSD Math coaches a lesson on how to "power up" math classrooms by sharing strategies to inspire teachers and students from bell to bell.

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cantonnews

Canton Academy 2017-2018 Calendar of Events

- **Meet the Panthers / Meet the Teachers**.....Wednesday, August 9, 2017
- **CA Campus Work Day**.....Saturday, August 5, 2017
- **Teacher Orientation**.....Monday – Wednesday, August 7-9, 2017
- **First Day of School**Thursday, August 10, 2017 (8:00-11:30 a.m.)
- **Labor Day Holiday**.....Monday, September 4, 2017
- **Annual Stockholder’s Meeting**.....Tuesday, September 12, 2017
- **Flea Market Holiday**.....Thursday, October 12, 2017
- **Thanksgiving Holidays**.....Monday-Friday, November 20-24, 2017
- **MAIS Teacher’s Meeting**.....Friday, December, 1 2017
- **Holiday Hustle 5K Run**.....Thursday, December 14, 2017
- **Christmas Holidays**.....Friday, December 22-Friday, January 5
- **Return to school**.....Monday, January 8, 2018
- **Martin Luther King Holiday**.....Monday, January 15, 2018
- **Who’s Who**.....Saturday, January 20, 2018
- **President’s Day Holiday**.....Monday, February 19, 2018
- **Spring Break**.....Friday, March 9-16, 2018
- **Easter Holidays**.....Friday-Monday, March 30 - April 2, 2018
- **CA Drawdown Fundraiser**.....Friday, April 6, 2018
- **Kindergarten Graduation**.....Tuesday, May 8, 2018
- **Flea Market Holiday**.....Thursday, May 10, 2018
- **Grades 7-11 Awards Day**.....Friday, May 11, 2018

CSPD Open House and Back to School Nights

Canton Elementary
Open House: August 2, 2-4 p.m.
Back to School: August 10, 5-7 p.m.

McNeal Elementary
Open House: August 2, 2:30-5 p.m.
Back to School: August 15, 5-6:30 p.m.

Goodloe Elementary
Open House: August 2, 4-6 p.m.
Back to School: August 17, 5:30-6:30 p.m.

Rueben Myers Elementary
Open House: August 2, 2-4 p.m.
Back to School: August 17, 5-6:30 p.m.

Nichols Middle School
6th Orientation: July 26, 6-7 p.m.
Back to School: August 22, 6-7:30 p.m.

Porter Middle School
6th Orientation: July 27, 6-7 p.m.
Back to School: August 24, 6-7:30 p.m.

9th Academy
Back to School: July 25, 6 p.m.

CHS
Back to School: July 31, noon-5:30 p.m.

CPSD Board of Trustees 2017- 2018 School Year

- | | |
|---|---|
| • August 8
Canton Career Center | • January 9
Nichols Middle School |
| • September 12
9th Grade Academy | • February 13
Porter Middle School |
| • October 10
Reuben B. Myers CSAS | • March 20
Canton High School |
| • November 14
Goodloe Elementary School | • April 10, May 8, and June 12
Canton Career Center |
| • December 12
Canton Elementary School | |

Canton Public Schools August calendar of events

August 1
District Convocation (first day for teachers)

August 2
All day District Professional Development Day
2 - 4 p.m. Canton Elementary School Open House
2 - 4 p.m. Reuben Myers CSAS Open House
2:30 – 5 p.m. McNeal Elementary Open House
4 – 6 p.m. Goodloe Elementary Open House

August 3
First Day for Students- First Term Begins

August 10
5 – 7 p.m. Canton Elementary Back to School Night/Title I Night

August 11
7 – 8 p.m. CHS Football Jamboree/ CHS vs Yazoo Co. at CHS

August 13
5 – 7 p.m.: CHS Meet the Tigers Celebration

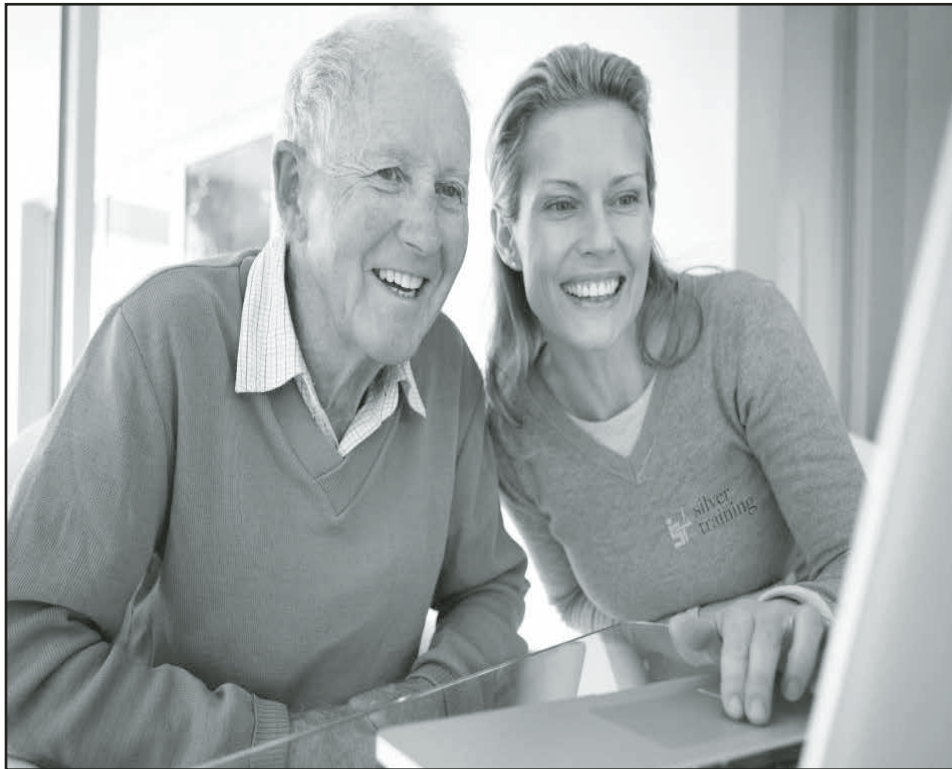
August 15
5 – 6:30 p.m. McNeal Elementary Back to School/ Title I Night

August 17
5 – 6:30 p.m. Reuben Myers CSAS Back to School/ Title I
5:30 – 6:30 p.m. Goodloe Elementary Back to School/Title I Night
6 – 7:30 p.m. Huey Porter Back to School Night

August 18
7 p.m. CHS vs Hazlehurst (away) football

August 21
6 – 7 p.m. CHS Title I Parent Meeting & PTO

Merit Health doctors now schedule appointments online



Special to The Canton News

Special to The Canton News

Merit Health has introduced a new service that helps patients more seamlessly access their physicians via online scheduling. At launch, the service facilitates online appointment-making with participating primary care providers.

To use this free service, patients visit MyMeritDoctor.com.

Patients can then see doctors' schedules in real time, along with qualifications, verified patient reviews, photos and additional tools for selecting providers who best fit their needs. Patients can then choose an open timeslot and schedule their

own appointment with a few clicks. This enhances the patient experience by helping patients book with Merit Health Medical Group doctors 24/7 (even when the office is closed), as well as providing email and text reminders about upcoming appointments.

"Merit Health is proud to unite modern patients and doctors with this cutting-edge technology, and to deliver the great healthcare experience patients expect and deserve," Merit Health CEO Steve Dobbs said. "We look forward to introducing additional physicians and specialties in the coming months."

Cantonian Club will hold annual meeting on Square



Special to The Canton News

Susie A. Wolfe

The 39-year-old Cantonian Club is meeting in Canton for their yearly get-together August 4 -5. Saturday, a group of 700 people will be attending the sold-out A Taste of Canton on the Historic Canton Square, where they will have a fish fry catered by Marlo's Bar-B-Que, and live entertainment by local band Soul on Ice. There will be a 5K from 8-9:30 that morning at Rogers Park and a golf tournament at Canton Country Club from 8 - 1.

Canton Municipal Utility's VP of Operations John Garrett, who is

part of the group, said that Union Street will be blocked from Center to Peace Street to accommodate the crowd. Only those who purchased tickets to the weekend affair will be allowed to attend the event.

The Cantonian Club originated in Chicago, Illinois, after the death of Cantonian Hattie Green. Since that time, the club has grown, and is now in Chicago, Detroit, Dallas and Atlanta. There are two inactive chapters in St. Louis and Cleveland. Next year's event will be held in Chicago.

cont. from front page

CMU starts \$9M in projects

for cast iron gas pipes, \$1 million in street repairs, \$1 million in electric circuit updates over the next two years, and \$1 million in equipment purchases, such as bucket trucks and backhoes.

"CMU normally spends about \$2 million a year in capital expenditures," said Thompson, "so this estimate is within normal projections."

CMU is also planning to construct a new \$1.2 million water well in the city limits to prevent water shortages.

The engineering department said that the new well is a 1,000 gallon

per minute well that will add 1.5 million gallons per day. This will connect to the existing two City water plants providing 4.5 million gallons per day. It is expected to be completed by the end of 2018.

Street repairs began July 24 and will continue for about a year. CMU completed 19 streets on the West side in the first work order the last of July. CMU encourages Cantonians to be patient with delays around town during repair times.

For more information on these projects, contact Thompson at 601-859-2921.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Breakfast with the Mayor
August 17, 2017
TBD at 8:30 a.m.

Canton's Third Thursday
August 17, 2017
Shop, Eat, and Play on the Square from 6:30-9:00 p.m.

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Patron Investors

Madison County leads state economic growth

Special to The Canton News

The Madison County Business League & Foundation (MCBL&F) announced the 2017 Madison County economic indicators based on a report researched by the University of Southern Mississippi Trent Lott National Center. The report was presented in June to the boards of both the Madison County Economic Development Authority and MCBL&F.

Madison County had above the national average growth in areas like job growth, and is also contributing a larger share of retail sales than many other counties in Mississippi states the most recent data and statistics available. Comparing Madison County to other counties across the state paints a positive picture of how well Madison County is progressing currently. This report also provides a snapshot of the overall economic health of Madison County in comparison to other Mississippi counties, state, and where possible, national economic trends.

A summary of findings indicate:

Madison County has a current population of 104,951 with an 8.1% growth in the last five years. This growth rate is the highest among the five counties in the Jackson Metropolitan Area.

The Madison County population is close to 50-50 of residents commuting into the county and the number commuting out of the county.

Table 3: Madison County Gross Sales and Tax by Industry, Fiscal Years 2015 and 2016

Industry	Fiscal Year 2015 Gross Sales	Fiscal Year 2015 Sales Tax	Fiscal Year 2016 Gross Sales	Fiscal Year 2016 Sales Tax
Retail Trade	\$ 1,219,423,539	\$ 82,446,703	\$ 1,344,300,540	\$ 90,804,457
Accommodation and Food Services	\$ 273,745,055	\$ 19,162,209	\$ 288,552,222	\$ 20,198,656
Construction	\$ 239,626,352	\$ 10,160,211	\$ 166,932,754	\$ 6,978,677
Wholesale Trade	\$ 103,834,233	\$ 6,536,701	\$ 113,267,844	\$ 7,405,528
Information	\$ 88,441,329	\$ 6,190,486	\$ 92,116,212	\$ 6,448,135
Other Services	\$ 61,420,110	\$ 4,298,397	\$ 66,759,856	\$ 4,671,059
Real Estate & Rental/Lease	\$ 32,472,509	\$ 2,266,071	\$ 51,017,412	\$ 3,561,816
Utilities	\$ 38,343,092	\$ 2,504,444	\$ 34,582,660	\$ 2,265,838
Manufacturing	\$ 24,418,344	\$ 1,683,909	\$ 28,237,712	\$ 1,925,665
Administrative & Support & Waste Management & Remediation Services	\$ 15,291,319	\$ 1,070,392	\$ 17,968,235	\$ 1,257,776
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	\$ 13,004,160	\$ 910,190	\$ 13,387,554	\$ 936,913
Mining, Quarrying, Oil & Gas Extraction	\$ 15,593,178	\$ 1,091,522	\$ 12,047,628	\$ 822,080
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	\$ 3,343,458	\$ 234,042	\$ 3,173,866	\$ 222,171
Finance and Insurance	\$ 1,323,170	\$ 92,622	\$ 731,656	\$ 51,216
Health Care and Social Assistance	\$ 264,712	\$ 18,530	\$ 297,612	\$ 20,833
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, and Hunting	\$ 70,058	\$ 4,904	\$ 223,506	\$ 15,645
Transportation and Warehousing	\$ 144,820	\$ 10,137	\$ 135,112	\$ 9,458
Educational Services	\$ 1,020	\$ 71	\$ 4,510	\$ 316
Miscellaneous	\$ 3,732,750	\$ 251,055	\$ 3,161,885	\$ 216,294
Total	\$ 2,134,493,187	\$ 138,932,596	\$ 2,236,898,776	\$ 147,812,533

Madison County has 22,973 residents who both live and work in the county and 24,469 residents who commute into the county for work. This could reflect a higher cost of living in Madison County compared to the surrounding areas.

Madison County has had a 4% job growth over the last year, adding over 2,169 jobs, whereas the state average is 0.8% and national average is 1.3% change over the last year, both of which are below

the county. The percentage of people living below poverty in Madison County is 13.5%; Mississippi's poverty rate is 22.5%. From the 2011 - 2015 census data, the median household income for Madison County is \$64,376, well above the state average of \$39,665.

The region of Madison, Hinds and Rankin Counties has the largest labor force in Mississippi. The combined three counties in the Jackson Metropolitan Service Area

positions Madison County to be highly competitive in attracting workers into high paying jobs.

Manufacturing has a strong presence in Madison County, and ranks third largest county in the state in the number of manufacturing employees with 8,627. Countywide workforce totals show that manufacturing holds 16% of the workforce. The number of manufacturing employees of the surrounding counties is low compared to Madison County. This indicates that the county is attracting manufacturing employees in the region.

As a single industry, Madison County Retail Trade gross sales was once again the largest represented industry contributing 60% of gross sales, up 3% from the year prior. For the State of Mississippi, Retail Trade represented only 45% of gross sales. This indicates Madison County is contributing a larger share of retail sales than many other counties in Mississippi.

Table 2: Fastest Growing Madison County Occupations, 2012 to 2017

Occupation	2012 Jobs	2017 Jobs	Change in Jobs (2012-2017)	% Change
Healthcare Support	1,228	1,787	558	45%
Production	5,233	7,248	2,015	39%
Transportation & Material Moving	2,621	3,470	849	32%
Healthcare Practitioners & Technical	1,585	2,098	512	32%
Food Preparation & Serving Related	4,919	5,895	976	20%
Installation, Maintenance, & Repair	2,192	2,641	449	20%
Building & Grounds Cleaning/Maintenance	1,965	2,309	344	18%
Office & Administrative Support	8,230	9,544	1,315	16%
Management	3,295	3,676	382	12%
Sales	6,902	7,311	409	6%

Source: EMSI

City of Canton Youth Baseball Closing Ceremony



Canton's ROSS program promoting self-sufficiency

Special to The Canton News

The Canton Housing Authority, with funding from the U.S. Department Housing and Urban Development, provides the Resident Opportunity and Self-Sufficiency (ROSS) Program to residents of Joe Prichard and Pat Doherty apartments in Canton. Angela Carson, program coordinator, said the main focus of the program is to coordinate supportive services

and other activities designed to help residents attain economic and housing self-sufficiency. This is done by linking residents with community resources in the areas of education, housing, medical assistance, financial literacy and youth development. Another component of the program is to help residents maintain independence, improve their quality of life, and in some cases, maintain stable housing as they age. This is accomplished by working with many partner

organizations.

The summer months have been spent hosting the Seeds of Hope Boys Mentoring

MadCAAP, Broadmoor Baptist Church, Madison County Citizens Service Agency, Highland Presbyterian Church, Mississippi State Extension Service, Priestley Chapel Baptist Church and My Brother's Keeper, who worked with residents both young and old. Contact Angela Carson at 601-859-4032 or acarson@canton-housing.org for information on partnering with the ROSS Program.



Special to The Canton News

The boys who participated in our Seeds of Hope Mentoring Program this summer cooked and served dinner for their moms. Pictured (l to r) are: Tyterrious Ross, Markevon Abron and Jadarious Rushing.

Program, honoring the residents who are mothers and fathers, participating in youth enrichment activities along with other seminars for residents. Partners in these activities include



Special to The Canton News

Volunteers from MadCAAP and Broadmoor Baptist Church participated in enrichment games with Canton youth. They work year-round with them conducting afterschool tutoring during the school year and enrichment games during the summer.

Residents are provided assistance in the following areas:

- GED/College Preparation*
- Adult Computer Classes*
- Computer Access*
- Childcare*
- Credit Issues*
- Community Services*
- Educational Goals*
- Employment Readiness*
- Financial Literacy*
- Housing*
- Home-ownership Counseling*
- Disability Counseling*
- Support Services*
- Nutrition Information*
- Healthcare*
- Accessible Resources*
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CA tennis program excels, win state doubles



Special to The Canton News

CA Panthers had a great 2017 tennis season, with doubles team Betsy Pace and Kate Bowen winning state doubles championships. The whole team, pictured, also placed third in the MAIS AA state tournament, featuring Cate Simpson, Betsy Pace, Kate Bowen, Mary Breiten Webb, Garret Clack, Brayden Brumfield, Jacob Carter, Chris Gill, Hayden Vaughn, and Coach Lucy West.

Mississippi has reported a new West Nile virus case

Special to The Canton News

The Mississippi State Department of Health (MSDH) reports seven new human case of West Nile virus (WNV) the last week in July, bringing the state total to 10 for 2017. The reported cases are in Covington, Hinds (3), Humphreys, Leflore and Perry counties.

So far, this year cases have been reported in Covington, Forrest (2), Hinds (3), Humphreys, Leflore, Perry and Rankin counties. The MSDH only reports laboratory-confirmed cases to the public. In 2016, Mississippi had 43 WNV cases and two deaths.

“We are now in peak season for West Nile virus in Mississippi, and even if there has not been a reported human

case in your county, our surveillance has shown that mosquitoes that carry the virus are active in all parts of the state,” said MSDH State Epidemiologist Dr. Paul Byers.

Symptoms of WNV infection are often mild and may include fever, headache, nausea, vomiting, a rash, muscle weakness or swollen lymph nodes. In a small number of cases, infection can result in encephalitis or meningitis, which can lead to paralysis, coma and possibly death.

The MSDH suggests the following precautions to protect yourself and your environment from mosquito-borne illnesses:

- Use a mosquito repellent with an EPA-registered ingredient such as DEET while you are outdoors.



Special to The Canton News

- Remove all sources of standing water around your home and yard to prevent mosquito breeding.
- Wear loose, light-colored, long clothing to cover the arms and legs when outdoors.

- Avoid areas where mosquitoes are prevalent.
- For more information on mosquito-borne illnesses, visit the MSDH website at HealthyMS/westnile. Follow MSDH by e-mail and social media at HealthyMS.com/connect.



Roscoe: A Respectable Dog with Good Moral Principles

In the exposition of this book, ten-year-old James “Johnny Ray” Thompson wants a dog of his own so badly, so that he could make his dog attack and scare his friends. Unfortunately, Johnny Ray’s mother didn’t want him to have a dog at their home, but his father told him that, with him, owning a dog would be okay. Since his father highly respected his mother and sided with her, Johnny Ray was faced with the challenge of finding a place to keep his dog. Later, Mr. Lambert, a good neighbor and close family friend, told Johnny Ray that he could keep his dog at his house. Fortunately, Johnny Ray was given a beautiful solid black half German-Shepherd and half Labrador-Retriever puppy by an elderly lady who lived just a few blocks away from him. He named this puppy Roscoe. After having raised this puppy, with the help of his father, into a big beautiful dog, Johnny Ray tried repeatedly, by also whipping him, but to no avail, to get Roscoe to attack his friends. As soon as he started fighting Roscoe with other dogs, he soon realized that he had raised a gentleman of a dog because Roscoe wouldn’t fight a girl dog. However, he didn’t understand this until after his daddy had explained that the average boy dog wouldn’t fight a girl dog to him. And, that Roscoe was a respectable dog toward girl dogs. So, the moral of this story about Roscoe’s life is to teach as many kids and adults as possible that no boy or man should never beat and whip a girl or a woman.

“Roscoe: A Respectable Dog with Good Moral Principles

James L. Thompson

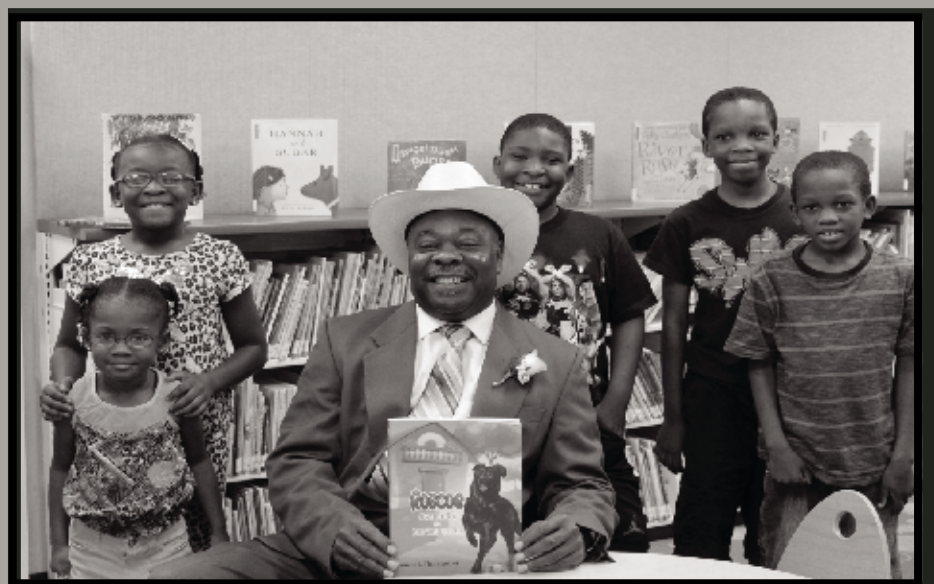
Paperback | \$15.99 E-book | \$6.00

Book copies are available at LitFire Publishing, Amazon, Barnes & Noble, and other online book retailers.

About the Author

James L. Thompson is a resident of Canton, Mississippi. He wrote the book in the hopes of encouraging readers to join the fight against domestic violence.

601-941-8281



Citizens urged to stay weather aware this hurricane season

Special to The Canton News

With the 2017 Atlantic hurricane season underway, Attorney General Jim Hood urges Mississippians to make provisions for possible tropical storms and hurricanes in the upcoming months.

Hurricanes and tropical storms can bring storm surges, flooding and high winds. These storms have the ability to cause massive destruction from hundreds of miles inland, and residents need to be prepared both before and after the storm.

“We are getting the message out now, so people can be ready to respond if they are in a hurricane’s path,” said General Hood. “After a storm hits, the recovery process begins immediately, and we want to make sure Mississippians know how to protect their families and their homes from also falling victim to fraud during that time.”

Some suggestions to help Mississippians be proactive in preparing for future storm threats include:

- Assemble an emergency sup-

ply kit, filled with flashlights, batteries, cash, first aid supplies and duplicates of crucial information if evacuation becomes a reality.

- Decide which evacuation route would be best for your family by reviewing a hurricane evacuation map, and plan how all family members and pets will evacuate safely. Contact your local emergency management agency for more information.
- If you are not in an area that is advised to evacuate, supply your home with adequate amounts of food and water, in case you lose power for several days. Also, consider any special circumstances for individuals with disabilities or the elderly, and plan according to their needs.
- Find an emergency notification system for your area. To find these alerts, search the word “alerts” on the internet with your town, city or county name.

The Attorney General’s Consumer Protection Division also has resources available through



Special to The Canton News

National Aeronautics and Space Administration, (NASA): Hurricanes/Tropical Cyclones

an online guide for those who fall victim to a storm. The guide includes tips for natural disaster recovery and how to avoid home-repair scams. It also contains a “model contract,” which can help Mississippians avoid becoming a victim of home repair fraud.

Visit www.ago.state.ms.us to download the Consumer Tips for

Storm Victims guide.

In the aftermath of any storm, Mississippians who suspect home repair fraud or think they may be the victim of a scam are encouraged to contact the Office of the Attorney General, Consumer Protection Division at 601-359-4230 or 800-281-4418.

For additional tips and services on preparing for possible hurricanes,

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Esco dedicated to Canton

By Susie A. Wolfe

Fred Esco, Jr. was sworn in as Alderman Ward Two on June 28. He previously served as Mayor, 2002-2009, and Alderman Ward Five for 18 ½ years.



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“We all want to see Canton grow,” said Esco, who was born and raised in Canton. “I will use my experience in business and real estate to work along with the mayor and Board to make Canton a model city where business is booming, and to promote restaurants and retail in East Canton.”

Esco operates Esco Insurance Agency on West Peace Street, as well as a bonding company, a tax service and a used car company. He got started in insurance while a student at Mississippi Valley State, where he majored in business administration and minored

in accounting. After graduation, he went to work with Coastal State Life Insurance Company, and three years later opened his own business in Canton. He has also studied real estate and had his license at one point.

When Esco was the City’s mayor, he served as second VP of the Mississippi Conference of Black Mayors, and also as VP over technology transfer with the World Conference of Black Mayors. He also served as president and a charter member of the 100 Black Men of Canton. He is a life member of the NAACP, and has a certificate of completion in biblical studies and Christian education at the Mississippi Baptist Seminary. He served as VP on the Optimist’s International Foundation Board. He is a third-degree mason, usher / junior deacon at Mt. Zion MBC, and members of the Elk Club, Lion’s Club and Mississippi Valley State Alumni Association.

Esco is married to the former Fleeta Marie Jones, also a Canton native, and has three daughters Freda, Kristi and Ariel. Kristi is currently a Navy lieutenant serving in Virginia Beach, Virginia.

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