



THE CANTON NEWS

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

Canton Flea Market has a long history

By Lori Lycette

In 1965, the manager of the Canton Chamber of Commerce, Tom Maynor, pitched the idea of having an arts and craft show and sale to the Tourism Promotion Committee. He had run across several in his travels around the South and told the members, "This sort of thing should be just a natural for Canton." The committee was headed by W. D. Myers, who owned a local hardware store, and also included Lloyd Spivey, the only member still living today. The members all agreed, as did the Canton Arts Association members.

On May 20, 1965, the first official Canton Flea Market was held. Twelve artists hung their paintings on the iron fence on the south and east sides of the Square courtyard. Six were from Canton: Mary Ethel Cole, Mary Jane Dow, Inez Wallace, M. J. Barrow, Frances Simpson and Bonnie Simpson. The flea market was an instant hit! An estimated 2,000



Wyatt Waters' watercolor of the Courthouse Square

Special to The Canton News

people showed up for the event, and the paintings sold unusually well. Tourists who stopped by were enthralled and said they would never forget Canton.

The spring flea market was such a hit that they immediately began plans for a fall show, which was held on October 14, 1965. Sales reached \$1,400, and the number of exhibitors doubled

to twenty-four, and continued to basically double in size for many years to come. In the early years, there were two major obstacles that were eventually overcome: for the flea market committee to retain the proceeds from the events, rather than the Chamber of Commerce, and also the petitions from merchants on the Square trying to ban the market

due to lost sales on that day. A restriction was eventually adopted to limit vendors to display only handmade products, as a result of some trying to sell items such as snakes in bottles.

Each space was initially free, but there was an eventual charge of \$3 per exhibitor. The fee has gradually increased to the current \$150 per 10x12 space. This biannual event has grown from a handful of locals on the Courthouse Square to an event which now includes the entire Square and the Old Jail District. It involves over 1,000 vendors from thirty-five states attracting over 30,000 visitors per market. It's a huge source of income to many organizations and individuals, as well as the City of Canton. The event now takes place every year on the second Thursday in May and October from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. The Canton Flea Market has become one of the largest outdoor craft markets in the South and has been voted one of the Top Twenty Events in the Southeast.

Library's new Bookmobile is ready to hit the road



Photo by Lori Lycette



Photo by Lori Lycette

The Madison County Library System's brand new Bookmobile will officially be on the road the first week of May and will be stopping at different pre-scheduled locations all over the county. Special Needs Programming and Outreach Specialist Evanne Flanders will be heading out into the community with the main goal of assisting those who can't easily access a traditional library, such as nursing home residents and homebound individuals. The Bookmobile will also be found at local schools on a regular basis and is equipped to help those with a special need for sensory therapy. The truck is stocked with books for all ages, as well as a cellular modem for broadband connection, a mobile lab consisting of ten laptops for classes, a retro gaming system and also a virtual reality system. The Bookmobile's Pop-Up Library will be available upon request for special events, such as festivals or parties. Contact Flanders with any questions or to schedule an event at 601-859-7733 Ext. 107, 601-856-2749 or eflanders@mcls.ms.

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Hinds Community College names Hinds Hero, Levy



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The Spring 2019 group of honorees in the Hinds Heroes employee recognition program have been named. Hinds Heroes are chosen because they represent the college well, provide exceptional customer service to all its customers and consistently promote the Hinds mission of service. Heroes selected receive a lapel pin, a token of appreciation and one free day off work. Dr. Leroy Levy (pictured), dean for the Jackson Campus Academic/Technical Center, is from Canton. His duties at Hinds include the daily operations of the campus, and he has been with the college for twenty-five years.

C.C. of Canton welcomes new Head Golf Professional



Special to The Canton News

Ralph "Butch" Webb has recently been appointed to the position of General Manager and Head Golf Professional at the Country Club of Canton. He comes to Canton from the Rolling Pines Golf Course in Berwick, Pennsylvania, where he served as Golf Professional and General Manager. Webb is a Class A PGA Professional with twenty-five years of experience. He is also certified by Titleist Performance Institute, Level 2 Golf and Level 2 Junior. His wife, Helen, will be joining him soon from Pennsylvania.

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Know Your Neighbor: Dr. Pamela Self

By Guest Columnist Jim Ritchie

Thank you very much, Notre Dame University, for being expensive and for being late in processing young Pamela Smith's application for financial aid to attend there. Otherwise, we probably wouldn't have her here, and that would be Canton's loss.

Meet Dr. Pamela Self, wife, mother, accountant, college professor, public school teacher, counselor, assistant school principal, consultant and presently principal at Canton High School. Born and raised a Catholic in Columbia, Maryland, she aspired to attend Notre Dame and was accepted there, but the university's high tuition cost necessitated her application for financial aid. Notre Dame hadn't responded to her request in time to enroll for her freshman year. Pamela's grandparents and a cousin resided in Columbia, Mississippi, and her cousin persuaded her to apply at Jackson State University. She did so, planning to spend one year there, giving her enough time to get her financial aid package together and transfer to Notre Dame. Plans changed, however, and her adaptation to Jackson State (along with meeting another young Jackson State student named Gerald Self) culminated in not only making her stay in Mississippi permanent, but also her earning a Bachelor of Science in finance degree

with a minor in math, a master's of business administration degree and a master's in science teaching in math education degree- all from Jackson State. She went on to earn her Ph.D. in curriculum and instruction from Mississippi State University. She began her teaching career at Piney Woods Country Life School. She then began working in Jackson Public School District in several capacities, including a math teacher at Jim Hill High School and as an Assistant Principal of Curriculum and Instruction at Callaway High School until her retirement from Jackson Public Schools. During all of the above listed activities, she also found time to marry Gerald and raise their three children: Jeral, who just earned her own Ph.D; Janet, an attorney; and Rodney, who is an advanced freshman this year at Mississippi State.

Since taking over the principal's office at Canton High School, she has guided Canton High School, one of the state's lowest performing schools in 2016 with a grade of "F", to eleven points below a "B" last year. She emphatically states that the school will be an "A" by next year, although she says that it may be accomplished this year. The graduation rate has increased from 63.3% to 74%, and she expects it to be 80% this year, with a goal of 85% next year. These changes are not by chance. Innovative programs like dual enrollment, which allows high performing students to enroll in college courses while they complete their high school curriculum, have placed an emphasis on high achievement. Dr. Self says that the enthusiastic acceptance

of these programs by the students has been truly remarkable. Dr. Self also credits a culture at Canton High School, which has been largely misunderstood by many in the community, for much of the recent successes. A classic example of this culture was exhibited when the Canton High basketball team lost to Forest Hill in the semifinals of the state tournament. In the past, when an emotionally charged event like this occurred, there was always a chance that a fight might result. When the game ended, the Canton team walked over to the Forest Hill team, shook their hands and wished them good luck in their next game. "Coach Evans", says Dr. Self, "has instilled in those young men the attitude that we compete fiercely, but if we lose, we lose with dignity and exhibit the class that sets us apart." That attitude describes the pride and class that permeates through both the athletic and academic endeavors at Canton High School under the leadership of Dr. Self. She deserves Canton's thanks for the job that she's doing, and we again thank Notre Dame for blowing their chance at enrolling her!

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 local citizens 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.



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Canton couple selected as Mr. and Mrs. Mississippi

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Kathy Amos and husband Joe have been selected to represent the Magnolia State as Mr. and Mrs. Mississippi 2019. Kathy was officially crowned, and Joe received the Golden Scepter in Orlando, Florida. Kathy will compete in the Mrs. Black America Pageant in October in Atlanta, Georgia.

Joe and Kathy are residents and community leaders in Canton. Joe has served as senior pastor of Turning Point Fellowship Ministries International Church for twenty-three years. He has also served as a volunteer for the Madison County Nursing Home for the past twenty-four years. Kathy serves as executive pastor of Turning Point, where she oversees community outreach events and programs, as well as leadership development and training. She is also the founder and president of Empowering Progressive Women's Association. The organization's mission is to empower women to transform their communities through compassion, education and honor. Empower-

ing Progressive Women's Association (EPWA) has honored over 150 women over the past five years and has educated hundreds

of women in the areas of personal, professional and leadership growth and development. Kathy is also an author as well as a certified coach, speaker and trainer with The John Maxwell Team. She is CEO/owner of Kathy Amos Coaching and Consulting, LLC, as well as pastor and senior coach of SafeHouse Ministries, where

their mission is to share the love of God and spread the gospel of Jesus Christ one space at a time.

Joe and Kathy have been visible in their community for the past ten years. They started out meeting at the Canton City Hall in a weekly prayer group praying for city transformation. A few years

later, they pitched a tent in the Canton Courtyard Square and held "Blessing Canton Week," a week of revival and fellowship

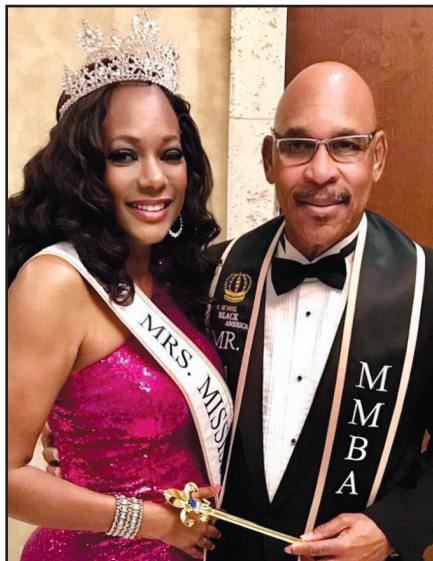
both day and night to bring forth city transformation. Many of the community leaders including the mayor, school superintendents (public and private), pastors and merchant leaders partnered with them in hopes that God would bless their city and transformation would take place. Joe and Kathy say they have been blessed to work with

many of the pastors and churches in their community to make the event a success each year. They also hosted City Appreciation Luncheons twice a year at the Canton City Hall, where they fed up to one-hundred or more of the City of Canton employees, including the mayor, aldermen and

administration.

Kathy plans to use her platform to educate women in the areas of leadership, as well as personal and professional growth and development to transform their community. For her community service project for the national pageant this fall, Kathy will honor and celebrate pioneering and trailblazing women in the community who have made great contributions.

For the past four years, EPWA has celebrated and honored women who have and are still making a difference in their communities. The Fifth Annual Honorary Inaugural Ball will take place at 6 p.m. on Saturday, August 24, 2019, at the Hilton Jackson, located at 1001 East County Line Road. Tickets will be available as early as May 15, 2019, at www.epwanetwork.org. Proceeds from the event will go to the EPWA Scholastic Achievers Awards Program for deserving college, high school students and women who desire to advance in their education, career or personal growth and development.



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Kathy Amos and husband, Joe Amos

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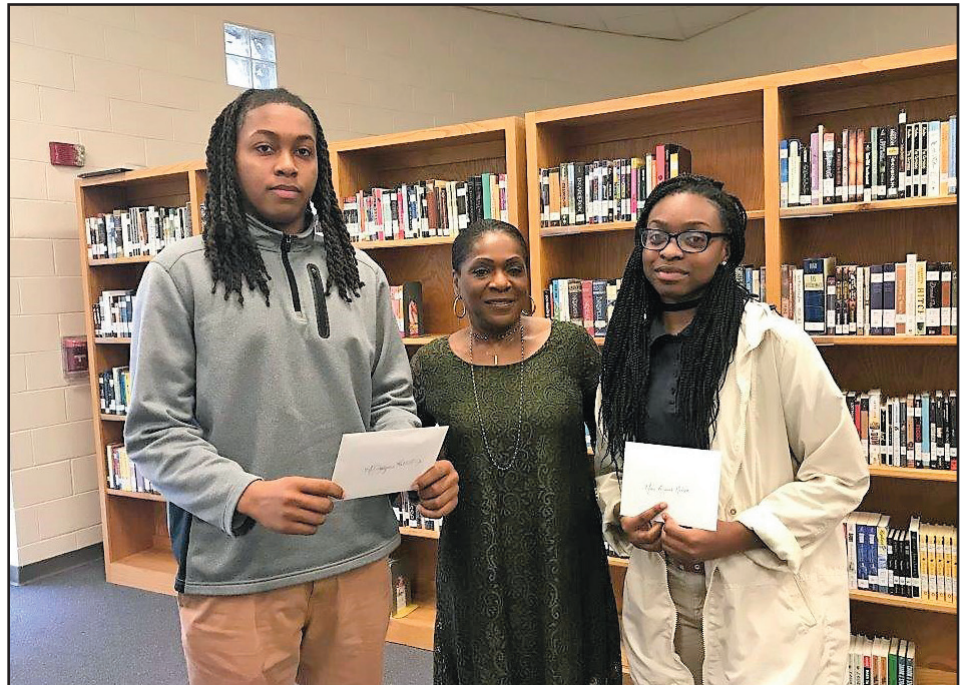
CHS senior receives WAPT Blitz Scholar Athlete Award



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Canton High School (CHS) senior Jordyn Manning recently received the WAPT Blitz 16 BankPlus Scholar Athlete Award. It is given to students who excel in the classroom as well as in the athletic arena. Manning currently maintains a 3.92 GPA and plans to major in Computer Drafting and Graphic Design. She has played basketball and volleyball for four years, run track and field for three and has won numerous awards for her athletic ability as well as her performance in the classroom. She is a member of the National Honor Society, Mu Alpha Theta and the National Beta Club. Her volunteer work includes Habitat for Humanity, Friends of Children of MS and the Ignite Mentor Program. Pictured with Manning are WAPT's Marcus Hunter (left) and Josh Jackson (right).

CHS juniors are awarded scholarships from MCYL



Special to The Canton News

Madison County Youth Leadership (MCYL) Committee Member Rochelle Thompson presented scholarships to Canton High School (CHS) juniors Jacques Ratliff, Jr. and Alyssa Nelson for their successful completion of the 2018-19 MCYL program. This program is an investment in the future of Madison County's emerging workforce by empowering and igniting the youth of Canton. The MCYL program is sponsored by the Madison County Business League & Foundation and the Madison County Economic Development Authority/MCEDA. Pictured (l to r) are: Jacques Ratliff, Jr.; Rochelle Thompson; and Alyssa Nelson.

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Clifford visits Canton Academy Elementary Book Fair



Special to The Canton News



Special to The Canton News

Canton Academy recently hosted the Scholastic Book Fair. Despite an overcast morning, Clifford the Big Red Dog brought sunshine to elementary students as they were greeted at the door and encouraged to attend the book fair. Pictured (left photo) is Jack Coon being greeted by Clifford. Pictured (right photo) is Bowen Coleman getting a big hug from Clifford.



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CA senior receives WAPT Blitz Scholar Athlete Award



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Canton Academy (CA) senior Betsy Pace recently received the WAPT Blitz 16 BankPlus Scholar Athlete Award. It is given to students who excel in the classroom as well as in the athletic arena. Pace has been a member of the Student Council, National Honor Society, FCA Leadership Team and on the Headmaster's List. She also lettered in cross-country, basketball, track and field, tennis and archery, all while maintaining a 4.0 GPA. She has devoted many hours to community service as well. Pace was also selected as a state finalist for the Wendy's High School Heisman scholarship. Pictured with Pace are WAPT's Marcus Hunter (left) and Josh Jackson (right).

CA STAR Student chooses STAR Teacher for 18-19



Special to The Canton News

Canton Academy (CA) STAR Student for the 2018-2019 school year is Joseph Price. The STAR program was originated by the Mississippi Economic Council and seeks to recognize students for academic and ACT test achievement. The student is awarded a certificate and a medallion and also chooses a teacher who has made the greatest contribution to his/her scholastic achievement. Price, a graduating senior, chose Coach Jonathan Broome as his STAR Teacher. Coach Broome has been at CA for about seven years and has taught several of Price's math classes during that time. Pictured are: Coach Jonathan Broome (left) and Joseph Price (right).

Children's Vision Bill is signed by Governor Bryant

Special to The Canton News

Governor Phil Bryant recently signed House Bill 1322, also known as the Children's Vision Bill, into law.



Governor Phil Bryant

This law, which goes into effect July 1, calls for a face-to-face comprehensive vision examination by an optometrist or ophthalmologist for any child who fails a school vision screening. The Mississippi Optometric Association (MOA) and the Mississippi Vision Foundation (MVF) support the bill.

The Children's Vision Bill is designed to benefit students like Jaylen Lenoir of Columbus, whose amblyopia (lazy eye) and astigmatism was discovered during a comprehensive eye exam by Dr. Stacie Moore, OD. It is very likely that a school vision screening would not have caught Jaylen's condition. Therapy and corrective lenses opened a whole new world for Jaylen who has excelled in academics and athletics.

“Our hope is to prevent any child's vision from being a hindrance to their learning and education,” said MOA President Dr. Amy Crigler, OD. “Eighty percent of a student's learning in a classroom is visual so good eyesight and visual skills are crucial.”

Although existing screening programs offered by many schools are helpful and can uncover some vision problems, they are not the same as an eye exam. Many screenings test only for distance. While this is important, it does not test how well the eyes focus up close or work together. Vision screenings are also limited by the lack of equipment needed to fully assess a child's overall eye health.

When young Sloane Montgomery said she saw “two daddies and two mommies” and her parents noticed her eye had suddenly turned in they feared the worst. Rather than going to the emergency room, they contacted their local optometrist, Dr. James Bearden, OD, who met them at his office and conducted a thorough exam and tests. Sloane and her parents were immediately relieved when they found her condition, accommodative esotropia, could easily be remedied with glasses.

Sloane's case is another example of why a comprehensive, face-to-face eye exam, using specialized equipment and conducted by an optometrist or ophthalmologist, is needed to fully evaluate a child's visual skills that are essential for optimal learning. Most comprehensive eye exams will:

- Assess the sharpness of a child's vision using the Snellen or “Big E” chart.
- Determine a child's possible blind spots or peripheral vision issues.
- Check eye alignment and how eyes work as a pair.
- Approximate and then fine-tune a child's eyeglass prescription.
- Detect common eye diseases

and assess its health.

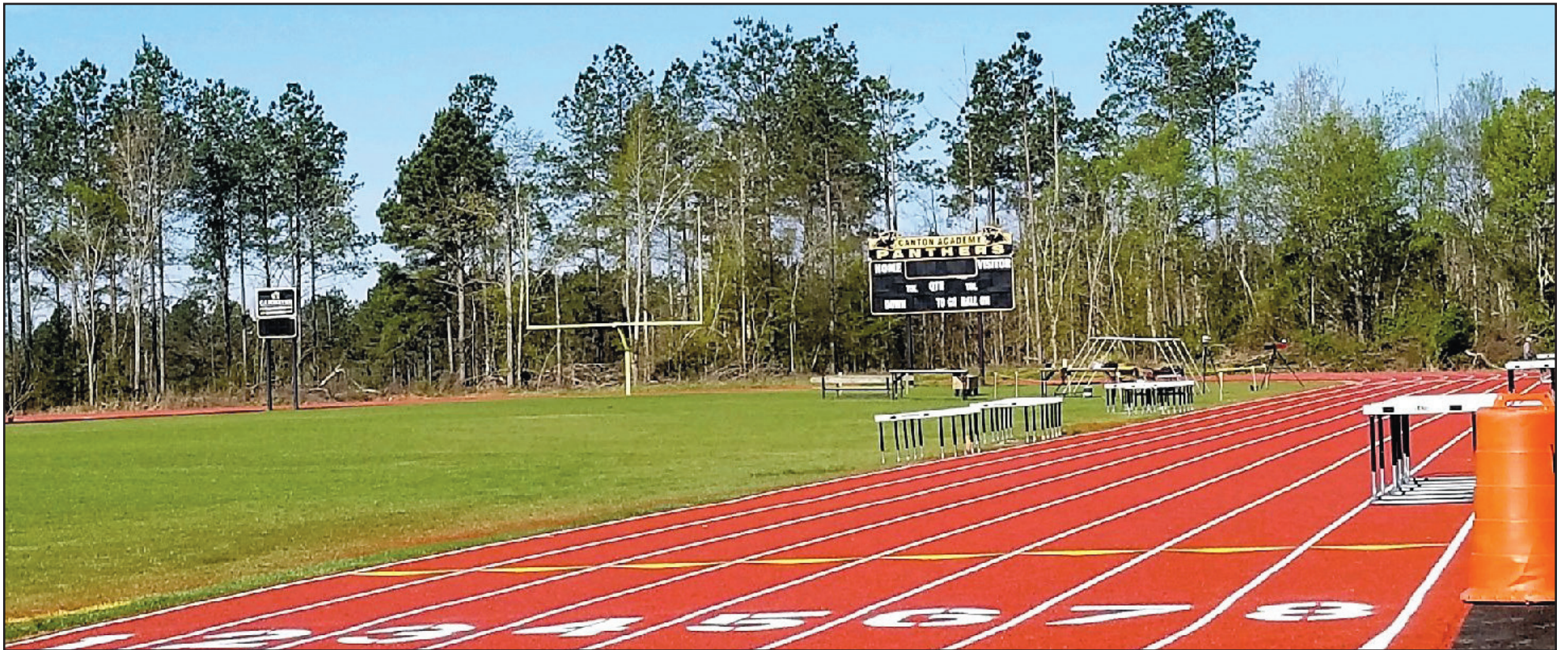
- Examine the optic nerve, retina, and blood vessels.

Eye exams for young children are important because vision problems can negatively affect your child's performance in school long before you are aware of the issue. The American Optometric Association reports that five to ten percent of preschoolers and twenty-five percent of school-age children are diagnosed with vision problems once they receive proper eye care. The earlier vision issues are diagnosed and corrected the better for a child's academic success.

“Comprehensive, yearly eye exams are one of the most important, preventive ways to preserve vision, and the only way to accurately assess eye health, diagnose an eye disorder or disease, and determine if your child needs corrective lenses,” Crigler said.

For more information on children's eye health, or to locate a family eye doctor, visit mseyes.com.

Canton Academy completes all new synthetic track



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Canton Academy (CA) continues to improve facilities as a new eight lane rubber track has been installed around the football field to benefit not only track team members but other student athletes. The synthetic surface is much easier on an athlete's legs, which was the main motivation for the upgrade. In addition, having eight lanes now gives CA the ability to host State and South State Track Meets, as well as host competitions which include more schools than they were able to accommodate with the previous track.

Alumnus Herring to speak at the CA graduation

Special to The Canton News

James Herring, Jr., a managing director in the Investment Management Division (IMD) of Goldman Sachs in New York will be delivering the commencement address at Canton Academy's graduation ceremonies to be held on May 17, 2019. Herring has been advis-



James Herring, Jr.

Special to The Canton News

ing executives, non-profits and families since he joined the firm in 1989, just five years removed from his 1984 graduation at Canton Academy. He also serves on the Private Wealth Management Advisors Council, as part of the Investment Experience Group and as a member of the Wealth Management Forum Editorial Board. From 1996 to 2000, he was regional manager of the Equities and Private Wealth Management businesses in the Southeast, based in Memphis. During 2001, Herring was regional manager for Salt Lake City, Utah's GS.com, an online wealth management start-

up initiative. In 2002, he moved to New York to advise many of the firm's key relationships in IMD, and in 2006, he was named co-head of the Family Investment Office, a multifamily office business that he developed, launched and led until 2009. He was named managing director in 2012. Prior to joining the firm, Herring served as an officer in the United States Army Reserve for nine years. Herring earned a BA and an MBA from Vanderbilt University. He is also a former president of the Owen Graduate School Alumni Board, a member of the Economic Club of New York and is active as

a board member and fundraiser for his church and several nonprofits.

Herring graduated from Canton Academy in 1984. His numerous honors his senior year included serving as the Student Body President, Valedictorian, Star Student, Hall of Fame inductee and recipient of the Dan Forth Award and the Governor's Scholarship. He was selected by his classmates as "Most Intellectual," "Most Likely to Succeed" and "Most Dependable." Herring was also a member of the Canton Academy tennis team. Canton Academy is honored to welcome back this esteemed alumni.



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Miss Mississippi visits Greater St. Matthew M. B. Church



Photo by Lori Lycette



Photo by Lori Lycette

Reigning Miss Mississippi Asya Branch recently spoke at Greater St. Matthew M. B. Church in Canton. She told about her trials beginning at a young age and her determination to overcome adversity, with God's help. Miss Branch mainly addressed the Girls' and Young Ladies' Ministry, the Royal Pearls, and stressed the importance of having a positive attitude, setting goals and refusing to give up. She also encouraged each young lady to love themselves exactly as they are and to have the courage, character and conduct to just walk away when confronted with peer pressure. The ladies of the church had a reception for all in attendance immediately following the service. Pictured (l to r) are, front row: Dyasty Carson, Haley Johnson; and back row: Taneshia Davenport, Jameria Stokes, Arielle Robinson, Ashlyn Robinson, Miss Mississippi Asya Branch, Kasey Johnson, Ariel Brown, Kristin Washington, Layla Smith, Mikinzie Sanders, and Ms. Willie Robinson.

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Canton Career Center holds Kick Butts Day for students



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Representatives from the Mississippi Tobacco-Free Coalition of Madison, Yazoo and Holmes Counties recently shared facts about the harmful effects of smoking with Canton Career Center (CCC) students. They learned that cigarettes contain over 7,000 chemicals, and that one out of every three smokers will die from a tobacco-related disease. Students not only learned about the dangers but then encouraged their peers not to start smoking and those who already have, to stop. CCC officials say they are thankful for the Mississippi Tobacco-Free Coalition of Madison, Yazoo and Holmes Counties and all the participants for sharing vital information with the students. Pictured (l to r) are: Jarvis Jones, Richard Austin, Lachesha McKay, Cadaijha Smith, Jayla Harper, Sharon Nettles, Rosie Riley and Rodney Harris.



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City officials set May 12-18 as Law Enforcement Week



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The City of Canton Mayor and Board of Aldermen adopted a resolution proclaiming May 12-18, 2019, as Madison County Law Enforcement Appreciation Week. This is the fifth year that all economic development support organizations in Madison County have collaborated to promote the celebration and commemoration of the outstanding work of the municipal and county law enforcement officers and first responders in Madison County. All businesses, schools, churches, organizations and individuals are invited to participate in recognizing our law enforcement officers for their dedication and commitment to the protection of the citizens of Madison County. Pictured (l to r) are: Alderman Andrew Grant, Alderman Fred Esco, Alderwoman Daphne Sims, Mayor William Truly, Alderman Rodriguez Brown, Chief Otha Brown, and Alderman Les Penn.

Canton Public Schools plan to end school year strong

By Guest Columnist Gary Hannah



Gary Hannah

Are you as amazed as I am that we are almost at the end of another school year? These last few months have been a whirlwind as our district simultaneously adjusted to new leadership and prepared our students to finish strong on their state assessments. Our children, teachers, staff and administration have worked so hard to ensure that we maximize our last few weeks of instruction. They have been busy with interventions during the school day, completing focused homework assignments during the week and attending Saturday School. It's no wonder that many people in our Canton Public School District (CPSD) family are looking forward to a well-deserved summer break beginning May 20! There are a few activities that we've planned for the summer that will help our students retain the knowledge that they've gained over the last school year.

We've identified students at each elementary and middle school who need additional summer instruction and high school students who need to recover missed credits. Additionally, any 3rd grader who did not pass the 3rd Grade Gate Exam will have the opportunity to receive additional instruction during the summer, and they will be given another opportunity to pass this very important state test. All identified students' parents will be notified about our Extended School Year that will run Monday-Thursday from June 3 through June 27. Our sites will be Goodloe Elementary School, Huey Porter Middle School, Canton Ninth Grade Academy and Canton High School.

Parents, your children will receive Summer Reading Packets in May. These packets will contain the lists of books that students at all grade levels should read during the summer. The packet will also include assignments that will be graded during the first week of school in August. We've contacted our local

library to request that they stock these books and help students and parents in the book selection process. Parents can also contact the Office of Curriculum and Instruction at 601-859-6720 if they have questions. The Summer Reading Packet and a list of free learning websites can also be found on our district's website at www.canton-schools.net.

I would like to personally thank everyone who has welcomed me with open arms into the Canton Public School District. Though I've only been here a semester, I know that I am already part of the family! We expect to receive our preliminary data from the Mississippi Department of Education (MDE) in July, and we are anticipating gains in many areas. We anticipate that we will have great news to report to our stakeholders soon! I look forward to your continued support of the Canton Public School District. Have a great summer!

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Safety has positive effect on economic development

By Guest Columnist Joy Foy



Special to The Canton News

Since 1962, the week of May 15 has been known as National Police Week. Mayor Truly has declared May 12-18 as Law Enforcement Appreciation Week this year in Canton.

The Canton Tourism office, along with the Madison County Business League and Foundation, have several activities planned to show the city's appreciation to the Canton Police Department.

According to an "IBM Institute for Business Value" study, public safety plays a critical role in supporting economic growth, both in reducing cost (U.S. average cost of crime per taxpayer is \$3,257.20 according to the referenced study) and enhancing the image of an area. Available, skilled laborers and good

neighborhoods are a necessity to attract jobs to an area. Safe towns and cities reduce the cost of doing business with less security and insurance needed and this helps to attract more people and businesses. Residential developers also look at the safety of an area before building new subdivisions, so safety plays a direct role to available housing, which in turn, is a necessity to attract a trained labor pool.

Low crime in an area allows businesses to spend their profits for productive uses in place of having to spend those same dollars for security systems, fences, guards, etc. The IBM study states, "Cities with lower crime levels have a higher proportion of better paying jobs."

Public safety perceptions are widely used in measuring quality of life, and that fact is confirmed right here in Madison County with the safer places selling for higher prices and attracting higher skilled people. People and businesses need and want to be in safe locations. It stands to rea-

son that businesses will locate in areas where they can attract and retain skilled labor and make the most profit. It all works together. Safe communities are where people want to live, invest and work. Population density means a better pool of laborers to attract more businesses to bring more jobs to the area.

Canton Chief of Police Otha Brown agrees that he and his staff play a big role in economic vitality of Canton. The overall crime rate in Canton is 3% lower than the national average. Another way to state this is that Canton is safer than 41% of other cities in the United States. Chief Brown encourages citizen participation in order to reduce and limit the opportunities for criminals or would-be criminals to break the law.

Canton Tourism has recruited the local civic clubs and retail businesses to help in making sure that our local law enforcement know that we appreciate their role in economic development for Canton. As a matter of

fact, with the degree of effort that is going into these preparations, Canton could qualify the celebration as part of Governor Phil Bryant's Economic Development Week, which takes place May 6-11. The Governor and the Mississippi Economic Development Council are asking communities to "highlight the importance of economic development and the good work that they do every day."

Guys and gals of the Canton Police Force: Thank you for all you do to make our community safe and your role in economic development for Canton by the way your work creates a desirable place to live, invest and work!

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



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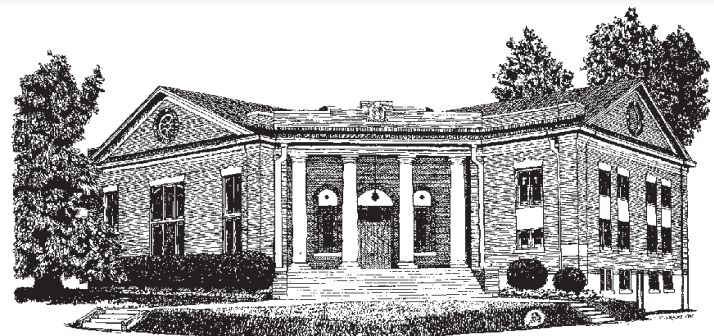
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SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30 A.M.



Thornton Chapel UMC holds Easter celebration



Photo by Lori Lycette

On Palm Sunday, the children of Thornton Chapel sang for the congregation before taking part in the Annual Easter Egg Hunt, followed by a reception in the Rob Fellowship Hall. Shown is everyone in attendance that day.

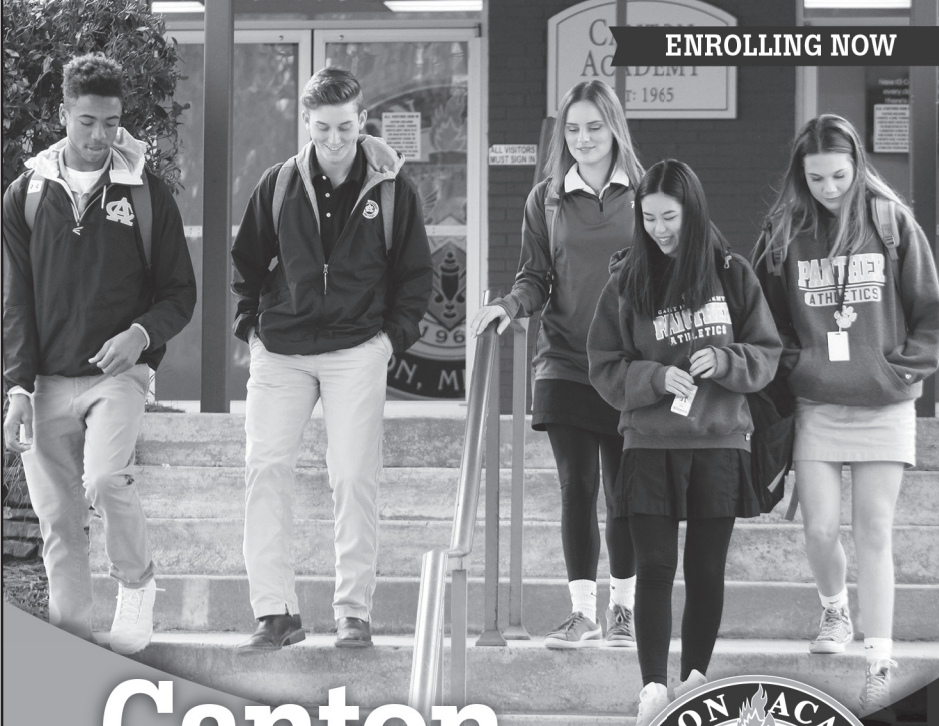
Air Force General Wallace addresses the Rotary Club



Special to The Canton News

Retired United States Air Force two-star General John Wallace made a recent presentation to the Canton Rotary Club concerning his last flight in an F-16 over the Camp Shelby practice fields in Hattiesburg, and also over the largest supersonic air training field in the United States, which is offshore from Keesler Air Force Base over the Gulf of Mexico. The F-16 flown by the Thunderbirds is the most used fighter plane in the world by NATO allies. The first version of the F-16 cost \$18 million each, but the current F-16, which contains improved and updated electronics, missile systems and radar to enable it to reach top speed, runs \$200 million. Wallace has logged over 7,000 flight hours. He is shown wearing his original flight suit, which happens to still fit. Pictured with General Wallace is Rotary Vice President and Rich Grain Distillery owner David Rich.

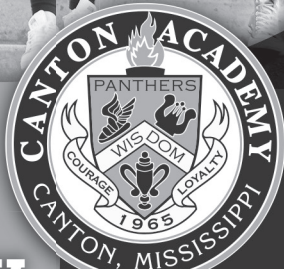
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Civil rights study tour returns to Canton, Mississippi



Photo by Lori Lycette

Pictured (l to r) are, front row: Elizabeth Stephenson; Sophia Tragesse; Flonzie Brown-Wright; Cynthia Fraction, M.A.; Jordy Chavez-Estrada; and back row: Xavier Abdullahi; Elisha Maxfield; Savannah Ellison; Habtamu Lajebo; Todd Lawrence, PhD; and David Willard, PhD.

By Lori Lycette

We March for Justice is a one-week tour and study of the American civil rights movement which focuses on parts of the South. Several students of the University of St. Thomas in St. Paul, Minnesota, recently travelled with professors David

Willard and Todd Lawrence, as well as Excel! Research Scholars Director Cynthia Fraction, throughout Mississippi, Tennessee and Alabama to study the civil rights movement. This was their ninth study tour of the South, and the eighth which has included Canton. The group investigates the landscape of jus-

tice in America through a culmination of field experiences, museum study, readings, videos, meetings with foot soldiers and class discussions. Together, they examine issues relating to race and oppression, Jim Crow, the strength of race and community as a collective and how working together helps to move America

forward. They also met with Ms. Flonzie Brown-Wright, a foot soldier of the civil rights movement, who gave them a tour of Canton, which ended with a lecture on speaking up for what's right, staying strong and making sure that your space is better when you leave than when you arrived.



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Easter Bike Drawing**

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Tourist thankful for Good Samaritans in Canton

By Guest Columnist Bob Thomas

My name is Bob Thomas, and I reside in Waterdown, Ontario, Canada. Last week, a friend from Canada and I toured through your city on our motorcycles. As I approached the old Fire Hall on the main street, my clutch cable broke. Just as I pulled over, a young man on a sport motorcycle stopped and offered assistance. He helped me arrange for a tow truck and stayed with me until my travelling companion returned. Just as he left, a gentleman, Mr. Gerald Pickle, and his wife pulled into the driveway. He offered to go home and get his trailer and take me to the

Harley Davidson dealer in Jackson. As the tow truck was on the way, I declined. Mr. Pickle called

advised them that I would be in early the next day. They stayed with me for almost two hours to

truck to drop me off at the hotel in Canton where we were staying for the night. The next morning, I arranged for the same tow truck to take me into Jackson. When I went outside the hotel, Mr. Pickle was there with his trailer in case the tow truck didn't show up. I didn't get the name of the young man who initially helped, however, both he and Mr. Pickle are a real credit to your community. It is never a pleasant experience to break down in a strange place, however, in this instance it gave me an opportunity to meet some of your finest people. I thought that your local media and readers should know about these Good Samaritans in your community.



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the dealership to inquire if they had the part and once confirmed,

make sure that I was comfortable and safe. We arranged for the tow

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