



THE CANTON NEWS

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

Madison County Mega Site construction has begun

By Lori Lycette

The Madison County Economic Development Authority (MCEDA) has big plans for the Madison County Mega Site, located at the intersection of Highway 22 and the Nissan Parkway.

“MCEDA had their sites on the property back in 2012, when options were obtained on the site. In October of 2018, I came on board, and I wanted to figure out what to do with the site to make it more marketable,” said MCEDA Executive Director Joey Deason. “I knew the one item we could do was to purchase a portion of the site to assist projects in speed to market. We were able to acquire 325 acres of the 875-acre site, and MCEDA still maintains an option on the remaining 550 acres.”

Entergy made a commitment to Madison County and the local region that when fully constructed, the Mega Site would be home to a 300 megawatt, \$60 million dollar substation with triple redundancy to support the Mega Site and

Madison County. To economic developers, and more importantly to companies, that means more reliability, capacity and opportunity. Construction of the substation is set to begin between now and the end of this year, with completion of the substation by fourth quarter 2021.

Entergy Economic and Business Development Director Ed Gardner stated, “There’s no one in the state who we serve that goes up to eighty megawatts. That right there makes this one of the most capable sites in our service territory from an electrical standpoint.”

“If you have driven by, you’ve seen there is quite a bit of activity,” said Deason. “We are in the process of constructing the mega site access road, which will ultimately be a five-lane road that will give direct access to the site. We were very fortunate to receive a \$450 thousand dollar grant from the Delta Regional Authority, as well as a \$250 thousand dollar site development grant from the MDA Mississippi Development Authority.”



Special to The Canton News

Madison County Mega Site overhead view

MCEDA matched those grants with an additional \$250 thousand dollars for a total of \$950 thousand dollars for Phase I road construction.

“It basically gives us 2300 feet of dirt work and graded roadway property,” added Deason.

Amazon purchased sixty-nine acres of this property. MCEDA is currently under a confidentiality agreement, so they are not at liberty to give details, but a spokesperson for Amazon recently released a statement.

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Cantonian Grant shares his story of redemption

By Lori Lycette

Cantonian Marquis Grant shares his life story and testimony through an autobiography, which will hopefully be told through a television docuseries in the near future.

Grant was born at Madison General Hospital in 1973 to parents Frankie and Bessie Grant. At the age of ten, his family migrated to Houston, Texas, where he eventually attended Prairie View A&M University.

His father, Frankie Grant, saw the opportunity in retail in Canton, so he moved his family back to build a family business. It started out of the bed of his truck, and the first storefront of Grant and Sons Fashion I PRINT-TZ was established in the early 1990s.

Marquis Grant transferred to Jackson State University during his sophomore year to be close to his father and help with the family business.

Grant says he made some poor life choices and was incarcerated from 1998-2018.

“I made a lot of bad decisions that landed me in prison for twenty years. About halfway through that time, I finally reached my bottom; and, as a result, I gave my life to God. He led me to write my autobiography,” said Grant.

A teaser, recently filmed in Canton by Red Light Arts Production Company,

will be pitched to the television networks. Grant is asking for prayer that the book will be published, and that one of the networks will pick it up, so it will reach a much broader audience.

“God has blessed me. It’s been a passion of mine to help others through my testimony,” said Grant. “I feel that I can help a lot of brothers

and sisters by deterring them from taking the same path. My prayer is that my



Photo by Lori Lycette

Marquis Grant in front of his family business

book and this movie will be an avenue to reach the generations coming up behind us, especially in my hometown of Canton.”

Frankie Grant passed away in 2018, and Marquis and his brother Gregory are continuing the family business in an effort to honor their father and keep his legacy alive.

“My strong desires and ambition come from what my father instilled in me. He was a pillar of the community, and my brother and I are trying to continue his legacy,” said Marquis Grant.

Marquis’ and Gregory’s mother, Bessie Grant, has always been the backbone of the family and a true prayer warrior. After Frankie passed away, she made the tough decision to retire early from her career in order to keep the family business running until her sons made it home.

“I met my wife, Angelia, while I was

cont. on page 14

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Free Alzheimer's virtual educational conference

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The Alzheimer's Foundation of America (AFA) will host a free virtual educational conference as part of its national Educating America Tour to help Mississippi residents affected by Alzheimer's disease during the COVID-19 crisis on Tuesday, September 15, from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The conference, which is free and open to everyone, will provide information and advice from health, legal and caregiving experts.

"Knowledge is a useful and powerful tool that can help make any situation easier to navigate. That's especially true now as more than 57,000 Mississippi families are caring for a loved one with Alzheimer's in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic," said Charles J. Fuschillo, Jr., AFA's President & CEO. "We want individuals who are caring for someone with Alzheimer's to know about the resources available to help them and steps that they can take to improve their loved one's care and quality of life. This conference will bring that information directly to families without having to leave their homes."

Dr. Mehmet Oz, host of The Dr. Oz Show, will be a guest speaker and share his family's personal Alzheimer's story regarding the diagnosis of his mother, Suna Oz, last year. Dr. Oz will de-

scribe how the diagnosis impacted his family, as well as share tips to promote good brain health and healthy aging.

Sessions during the AFA virtual conference will include:



- **Unraveling Alzheimer's Disease** – George Perry, Ph.D., will provide an overview of Alzheimer's disease, an update on Alzheimer's research and clinical trials, and what we can expect on the horizon. Dr. Perry is a Professor and Semmes Foundation Distinguished University Chair in Neu-

robiology, College of Sciences, Department of Biology at the University of Texas at San Antonio and a Member of AFA's Medical, Scientific and Memory Screening

fessional (DCP) and Owner and Director of Operations of Com-ForCare Home Care, in Columbus, Mississippi, will offer important tips on how to build that support structure to aid in caregiving. He will discuss seven tips to select the right medical team, rally friends and family, explore community resources, and more in order to provide the best possible care for a loved one.

- **Reducing Caregiver Stress and Importance of Brain Health During COVID-19** – TJ Harvey, Executive Director for Alzheimer's Mississippi, will discuss the importance of modifying tasks and activities to reduce caregiver stress. He will also offer tips to cope with COVID-19 and lessen anxiety, while maintaining brain health.

For more information or to register, visit www.alzfdn.org/tour. Those who can't participate in the virtual conference or have immediate questions about Alzheimer's disease can connect with licensed social workers seven days a week through AFA's National Toll-Free Helpline at 866-232-8484 or via our online web chat system (available in 90+ languages) at www.alzfdn.org by clicking the blue and white chat icon in the right hand corner of the page.

Advisory Board.

- **Seven Steps to Creating Your Caregiver Support Team in the Time of COVID-19** – Having a strong network is essential for caregivers to reduce stress, prevent burnout, and ultimately provide the best care possible. Columbus Jones, Certified Direct Care Pro-

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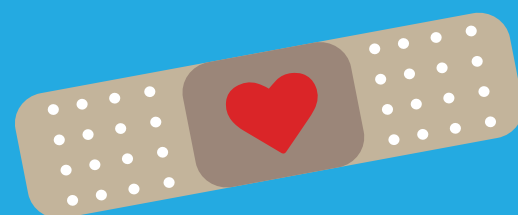


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Reaves named Employee of the Month



Special to The Canton News

Rilanda "Denia" Reaves was awarded City of Canton Employee of the Month during an August city council meeting. Reaves has been with the Canton Parks & Recreation Department for twelve years and has recently been helping Alvin and his crew by driving a zero-turn mower and a bulldozer. Pictured with Reaves are: Parks and Recreation Director Alvin Davis (left) and Lisa Champion (right).

Gipson provides guidance to recipients of unsolicited seeds

Special to The Canton News

Mississippi Commissioner of Agriculture and Commerce Andy Gipson instructs anyone receiving packages of unsolicited seeds from China, or any foreign country, in recent days to immediately contact the Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce's Bureau of Plant Industry by phoning 662-325-3390. Those receiving the seeds are instructed to hold onto the seeds and packaging, including the mailing label, until someone from MDAC's Bureau of Plant Industry contacts with further instructions. Do not plant seeds from unknown origins.

"We are aware that citizens in Mississippi, as well as other states, have received unsolicited packages

of seed appearing to be from China over the last few days. We are working closely with the USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service on this issue," said Gipson. "If you have received these seeds, please call the Bureau of Plant Industry, and we will send an inspector to your location to pick up the seeds from you."

"Please don't plant the seeds," Gipson continued. "I don't want to scare people, because there is no indication these seeds pose a danger to human health. But any foreign seeds can have a negative impact on our environment as a threat to plant and animal health, and to agriculture. Also, foreign seeds could carry fungi or pests which could cause great destruction to our native ecosystem. So, I can't stress enough the

importance of contacting our office regarding this matter. Your assistance will help us to prevent the unlawful entry of prohibited seeds into the country and protect against invasive pests and noxious weeds."

At this time, the USDA does not have any evidence indicating this is something other than a "brushing scam," where people receive unsolicited items from a seller who then posts false customer reviews to boost sales. That scam can involve many different random products, but foreign seeds could be an environmental threat. USDA is currently collecting seed packages from recipients and will test their contents and determine if they contain anything that could be of concern to U.S. agriculture or the environment.

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CPSD provides meals for students



All photos Special to The Canton News

The Canton Public School District Office of Child Nutrition has been providing a free, nutritious breakfast and lunch for CPSD students at four schools in the district: Canton Elementary School, McNeal Elementary School, Porter Middle School and Nichols Middle School. Breakfast is served from 6:30 a.m. until 8 a.m., and lunch is served from 11:30 a.m. until 12:50 p.m., out of each school's gymnasium. Moving forward, CPSD plans to eventually serve meals throughout the district. Additional schools will be posted on the Canton Public School District Facebook page.

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A tribute to John Robert Lewis: “A Soul Giant”

By Guest Columnist Dr. Flonzie Brown Wright

Our paths crossed in 1965 in Mississippi. I had seen him numerous times on TV, especially in 1963 at the March on Washington. Many activists spent a lot of time working in Mississippi, particularly in counties where there was a high concentration of potential unregistered African American voters.

In meeting this “Soul Giant,” it was obvious that his commitment to the Civil Rights Movement had been clearly defined. He had suffered much physical harm at the hands of a system called...the ugliness of racism.

It was also clear to me that, just as Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., espoused that you cannot victimize yourself by hating those who perpetrated unequal and discriminatory treatment of the oppressed. John epitomized that philosophy.

John, as he liked to be called, was passionate about using his voice and his body to obtain the right to vote for our people, no matter the cost; and it was extremely costly.

Shortly after the passage of the Voting Rights Act in 1965, John concentrated his efforts on providing funds for Blacks who were running for political office, particularly in counties where there was a Black majority.

day(s), as well as food for the drivers. It was not unusual for John to come into my hometown of Canton, Mississippi, and other towns with funds for this purpose. Other times, he would send funds to the NAACP of-

note the 40th anniversary observance of Mississippi Freedom Summer at Miami University in Oxford, Ohio. As Student Affairs Scholar in Residence, it was my honor and privilege to introduce him.

In 2018, he was invited to be the Keynote Speaker at New Hope Baptist Church during the annual “Back in the Day” Black History celebration. I was surprised that he called me personally to express his regrets that he could not attend because of pressing business “on the Hill.”

I will always take with me his legacy as a “Soul Giant,” because he lived and breathed his passion, which was to do all he could, while he could, to elevate the cause of human dignity. Even though, like Martin, he was short in stature, his words and actions towered well above racism, bigotry and hate.

Allow me to suggest how we

can all honor him, whether your paths crossed or not...let's go to the polls in record numbers this November to honor him and continue the work he left behind. Every generation has an assignment. His, Dr. C.T. Vivian and Rev. Joseph Lowery, all of whom we lost this year, provided the bridge for us to continue to seek justice for all.

One of the best ways to remember John is to look and listen to the young voices who are speaking out today for human and civil rights.

John often spoke to youth of all races and nationalities and challenged them: “Do not get lost in a sea of despair. Be hopeful, be optimistic. Our struggle is not the struggle of a day, a week, a month, or a year, it is the struggle of a lifetime. Never, ever be afraid to make some noise and get in good trouble, necessary trouble.”

My life is better, and I am stronger, because our paths crossed.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Dr. Flonzie Brown Wright is a native Cantonian who has been a civil rights activist for over fifty years. She was the first African American female elected to public office in a biracial town in the State of Mississippi.



John Lewis and Flonzie Brown Wright

Special to The Canton News

He founded The Voter Education Project (VEP), for the purpose of funding rides to the polls on election

office, where I worked.

When I was elected to the position of Election Commissioner in 1968, VEP provided

financial assistance to me for that purpose. Thanks to John, we were able to organize, hire and feed drivers to ensure that anyone who was registered to vote would have the opportunity.

After my election, I invited John and Georgia Legislator Julian Bond as featured speakers at the first community meeting in the Madison County Court House. Incidentally, this is the same courthouse where scores of Blacks had been, in some cases, savagely escorted and/or blocked from attempting to register.

During the Meredith March in 1966, he was a visible representative of Dr. King and others during this historic event. To the credit of the Alabama Department of Archives and History, two photos are provided.

Mrs. Annie Divine, known as the “Mother of the Movement,” is standing on top of a ladder addressing a huge crowd of marchers from across the country. They were in Canton in support of the 1966 march. John, a number of other supporters, and I are featured in this photo. Just after Mrs. Divine spoke, I am speaking from that same ladder.

John and I kept in touch over the years. In 2004, he was invited to key-



Photo by Alabama Department of Archives and History

Pictured are Flonzie Brown Wright, on left in black dress; Annie Divine on ladder; and John Lewis, in striped shirt on the right



Photo by Alabama Department of Archives and History

Flonzie Brown Wright addressing the marchers at McNeal Elementary School

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Canton, Mississippi charter school a possibility

Special to The Canton News

Two potential charter schools in the Mississippi Delta and Canton made it to the final step of the application process.

The Mississippi Charter School Authorizer Board approved the applicants to move forward at their regular board meeting last month.

SR1, a K-5 school to open in the Canton Public School District, would serve 450 students.

SR1 applied in both 2018 and 2019 but was denied.

According to their website, the company, SR1 (Scientific Research) was founded by Tamu Green in 2005 and incorporated in 2007.

“Being a native of Mississippi,” the site explains, “Green understands firsthand the various factors resulting from lack of health, education, and technology that plague Mississippi and the nation. Acknowledging the factors at large, Green formed a team of dedicated, driven, and passionate leaders to help obtain his mission of eliminating disparities in health, education and technology.”

The website also explains that the company operates the C.O.O.L. Education Project, which “provides an opportunity for AmeriCorps members to apply their college majors while volunteering with a non-school hour

based program designed to assist students in grades K-12 with developing 21st century skills necessary for academic success, character building, and dropout prevention. The program achieves its goals through innovative tutoring, mentoring, and enrichment activities.”

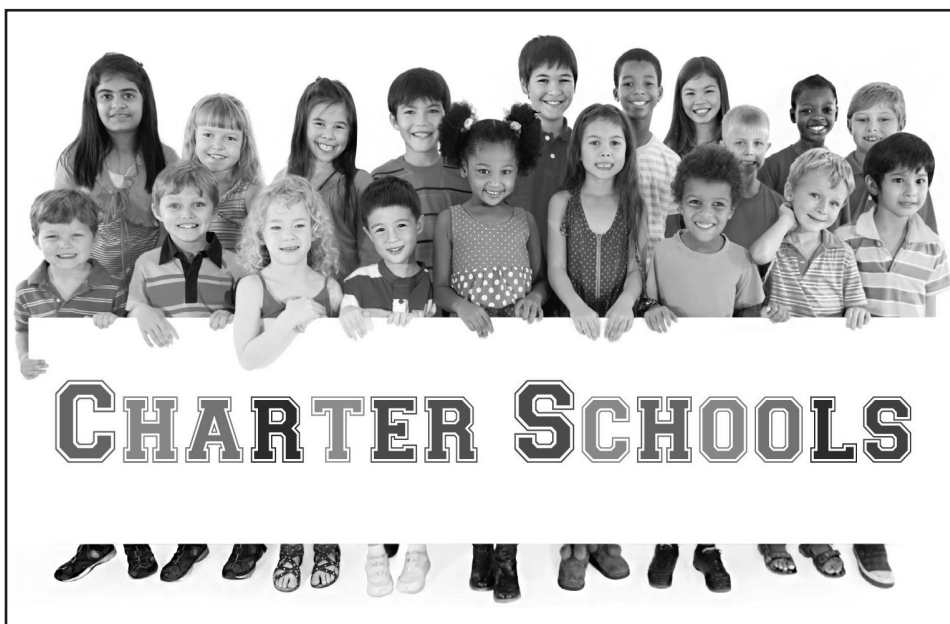
In Canton, the C.O.O.L.™ Education Project serves Nichols Middle School.

This past school year, Mississippi had six operating charter schools, which included one in Clarksdale and five in Jackson. A seventh, LeFlore Legacy Academy in Greenwood, is set to open this fall.

Charters schools are public schools that do not charge tuition. Though they are funded by local school districts based on their enrollment, charter schools operate independently from local school districts, but they are held to the same academic and accountability standards as traditional public schools. By law, charter schools have the capacity for more flexibility for teachers and administrators when it comes to student instruction.

For charter school operators who wish to open in a district with an A, B, or C rating, approval must be obtained from the local school board. However, for those who want to open in a district rated D or F, an application can be placed directly with the authorizer board.

The authorizer board goes through



Special to The Canton News

a screening and review process of potential operators each year that typically takes several months.

Following application submittal in June, the authorizer board announced the schools that would move forward in the process in July. Public meetings and interviews will be held in September, on specific dates yet to be determined, and the board and an outside evaluator will also conduct evaluations of the operators. The evaluations will

look at eligible applications to review the financials, operations and educational programs of each operator.

The process is delayed this year because of the pandemic, but final decisions are expected sometime in mid-October, currently expected to be October 12.

For more information about Mississippi's charter school process and status, visit www.CharterSchoolBoard.ms.gov.



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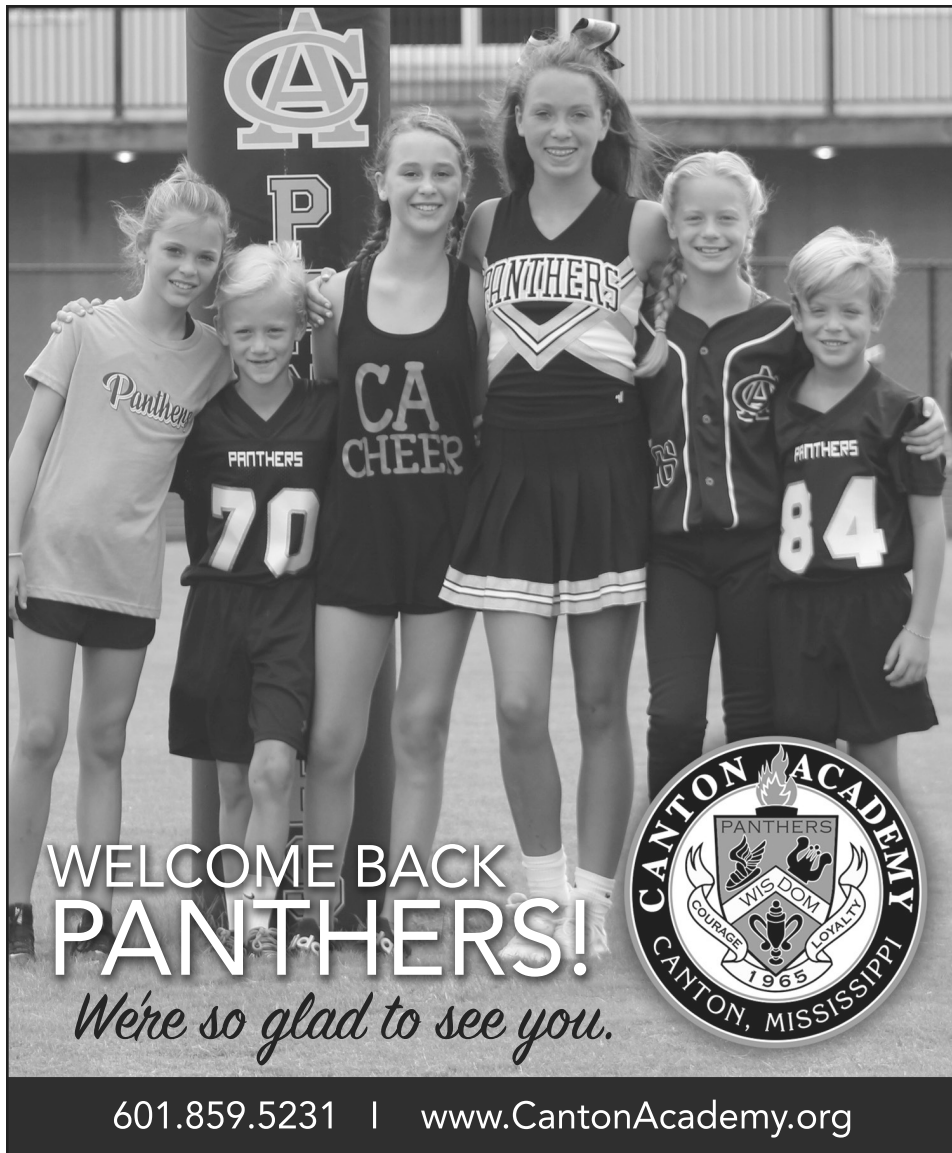
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Pinelake blesses Canton Academy teachers



Special to The Canton News

Pinelake Madison served Canton Academy faculty and staff lunch during Teacher Orientation. Campus Pastor Jason Smitty prayed over all students and teachers for a safe school year. Pictured (l to r) are: Linda Martin, Chris Schopmeyer, Smitty, and Head of School Ron Jurney.

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Canton Lions Club changes meeting location due to COVID-19

By Guest Columnist Joy Foy

Darlene Austin, the newly elected President of Canton Lions Club, postponed meetings for three weeks due to COVID-19, however, meetings resumed on August 25, 2020.

Joy Foy

On Wednesday, September 2, Canton Lions Club will relocate their meetings to the ballroom of the Canton Country Club, where there will be plenty of room to social distance. The club is located at 183 County Club Road. The weekly meetings begin at 12 p.m. and are usually over by 1 p.m. Many of our members are still uneasy about being in crowds, so our numbers have been low in

recent meetings. However, those who are attending continue to brainstorm and plan for ways the Canton Lions Club can continue to support local students, our city and national Lions programs in 2021. Some of the national programs supported by the Canton Lions Club are White Cane, Leader Dog, Lions Band and the Addie McBryde House, which is located at the University of Mississippi Medical Center in Jackson. We invite civic-minded individuals to come and join the Canton Lions and the good work of Lions. Follow us on Facebook at the Canton Lions for future updates.



EDITOR'S NOTE: Joy Foy is married to James Foy and is an active participant in the community of Canton. She is the publicity manager for the Canton Lions Club.



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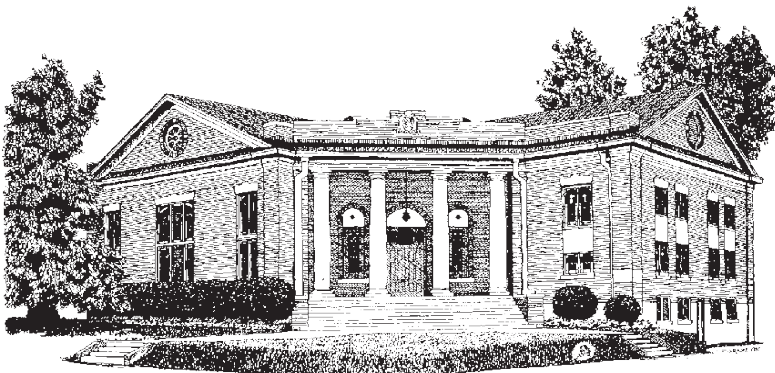
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Madison County Library is adapting to COVID-19

Special to The Canton News

With COVID-19 forcing the close of the library buildings to the public, Madison County Library System (MCLS) has found creative ways to reach their patrons in a safe manner. "Doors Closed, Libraries Open" has been the theme.

Currently, all of the branches offer curbside pick-up for checking out materials, printing, making copies and sending faxes each Monday-Friday. Patrons may request materials by telephone, email or through the online catalog.

Public computers are available by appointment at Canton, Flora and Ridgeland. The library system's Facebook page has been especially active since the pandemic hit.

"We've been using it to keep patrons informed about virtual programming events for children and adults as well as in-person masked events," said MCLS Public Information and Marketing Specialist Maggie Mayer. "Summer Reading this year was a big

success, with story time videos and weekly activities in summer reading kits that families picked up during curbside each week."

This event ended with the library's Summer Reading Challenge Book Giveaway, a drive-thru masked event.

"We're learning to adapt to the new normal, and people have been patient with us. We will be adding more virtual programming for adults,

and we have some exciting things in the works for September, including Census

and voter registration events," said Mayer. "Of course, it is still our mission to meet the needs of the public by providing books, media, library resources and information that will serve our patrons and enhance community life."

Like the Madison County Library System on Facebook to stay informed about library news and virtual events. Hours, full details about curbside services, computer appointments and more can be found on the website mclsms.org.



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CA Jordan ranked by state



Special to The Canton News

Canton Academy junior Dakota Jordan was recently ranked 3 stars and 8th in the state for football by Rivals.com for the class of 2022. Rivals is the most respected authority on team-specific college sports coverage and college football and basketball recruiting. Jordan works hard both on the field and in the classroom.



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Maxine George wins Shelby Smith contest



Special to The Canton News

Shelby Smith's TV & Appliances recently held a "like, comment and share" contest on Facebook in which a brand-new TV was given away. Maxine George was beaming when she picked up her new 55-inch 4K UHD flatscreen TV.

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Nissan doubles funding to food banks

Special to The Canton News

The Nissan Neighbors program recently doubled funding to local food banks in Middle Tennessee and Mississippi, including Our Daily Bread in Canton and Mississippi Food Network.

Nissan North America is extending its fight to curb hunger by doubling its annual contributions to local food banks in response to rising rates of food insecurity due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Nissan's donations will help purchase more than one million meals for residents in need across Middle Tennessee and Mississippi.

According to a report from Feeding America, nearly fifty-four million people may face food insecurity in 2020, including eighteen million children. This means one in four children in the United States may be unsure of where their next meal will come from.

"Our food bank partners have been significantly impacted by COVID-19 in a number of ways, from an increase in the number of people they serve to a decrease in food donations to the reduced number of volunteers allowed in warehouses to assist with food packing for distribution," says Parul Bajaj, senior manager, Philanthropy. "Increasing Nissan's annual donations will help our community partners better meet this expanded level of need as we all continue to navigate these unprecedented times."

Nissan's Vehicle Assembly Plant in Canton has a years-long partnership with both Mississippi Food Network and Our Daily Bread food banks. Contributions in Mississippi total more than \$311,000.

Canton Nissan employees regularly volunteer at both organizations to help pack backpacks with healthy lunches and snacks for kids with food sensitivities.



Special to The Canton News

At Our Daily Bread, which also operates as a soup kitchen, employee volunteers serve lunch to residents in need, and Nissan was able to donate a van to the organization's "Meals on Wheels" program. Nissan's recent donations will provide more than 200,000 meals to the local community.

Our Daily Bread Executive Director Shavetta Leflore said, "It's friends like Nissan that Our Daily Bread call heroes because they're not only there in the time of need, they're always, always there."

"There is a saying that every cloud has

a silver lining, and if there is a silver lining to the COVID pandemic cloud that is overshadowing us, it is how graciously those who are able, like Nissan, have responded with their financial gifts to help support the increased demand for food this unprecedented health crisis is causing," said Dr. Charles Beady, CEO of Mississippi Food Network. "Nissan has been an integral community part-

ner with Mississippi Food Network for many years and we look forward to the continued partnership."

Nissan's donations to Second Harvest of Middle Tennessee, Mississippi Food Network and Our Daily Bread are through its Nissan Neighbors charitable giving program, a community-focused initiative dedicated to improving communities through charitable contributions and in-kind donations to nonprofit organizations working in three focus areas: education, the environment and humanitarian aid.

cont. from front page

Cantonian Grant shares his story of redemption

serving my prison term, and we married the day I was released," said Grant. "She is my gift from God and was in His plan as my helpmate."

"My goal is to be a person of influence in my community by sharing my testimony," said Grant. "Since I've been home, I've had the opportunity to speak to parolees at City Hall, churches in town, Velma Jackson, Canton High and alternative schools in Jackson."

Grant said he wants to thank Mayor Truly and the City Council, Canton Tourism and the Canton Police Department for their support and assistance with this project. He's really wanting to bring new life and exposure to Canton through this project, like the movie *A Time to Kill* did in the 1990s.

"I just want to be a model for my community and let them know it's not how you start, but how you finish," said Grant. "Most importantly, I want to uphold my Lord and Savior Jesus Christ."



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Five ways to prep for continuous blooms, starting now

By Sherry Lucas

This heat is enough to wilt the best of us, but who still turns a happy face to that summer sunshine? Sunflowers. And zinnias. And a host of other flowers that can perk up tabletops and gardenscapes.

Flower Growers of Mississippi has tips to expand that pretty picture with blooms year-round. The statewide program takes growing professional-quality cut flowers out of the garden arena and into the agricultural realm. About eighty percent of cut flowers sold in America are imported from another country, program founder Donna Yowell says, and of that, about ninety percent can be grown in America, and a large percentage in Mississippi.

"It's a big market potential for a new ag crop in Mississippi," and more people are jumping in, to put limited resources to work for a profit, she says. Or, maybe even just for fun. Flower Growers of Mississippi's federally-funded training program started last spring with packed classes at the Ag and Forestry Museum, but the pandemic moved it online, with Zoom classes every two weeks. To join those meetings (called Tulip Tuesday at 10), email dyowell@aol.com for an invitation. Keep up with topics on Flower Growers of Mississippi's Facebook page.

Lynda Hunsicker of Canton grew up around gardening and experimented some on her own; but, in master gardener classes, she learned the most, from the conditions that make plants thrive, to between-season tasks and preparations for success. Her rose garden, made as a tribute to the husband and daughter she lost more than a year ago, has become a personal project.

"It's been my passion to plant a rose for them that will be a good remembrance, a pretty remembrance, a positive remembrance."

Long-term, she's at work, too, on landscaping, repurposing items for vi-

sual effect, and moving flowers planted by previous owners to her preferred design (and flowers' preferred conditions to thrive).

"I like blooming flowers, and I love fall leaves and flowers and the foliage. That's what I'm really looking forward to. I have lots of things that will be pretty for Thanksgiving and Halloween."

Now, she's keeping day-lilies clean and weed-free and beginning to build smaller beds for plants she knows she'll put out next spring and summer.

"I have to plan that now, looking ahead and planning ahead and putting in the structure, so to speak, so I can let it settle and it'll be ready to be planted early next year."

She's also tending to the crepe myrtles that line her driveway, removing the sprouts and trimming branches so blooms will have just the right effect.

"I'm spending time to get them back to the shape I like, so they'll droop the way I want them to droop next year," with a showy effect akin to exploding fireworks.

Here are five ways shape up your garden for year-round beauty:

• **Get soil smart:** Dig in and know what're dealing with.

The Mason jar soil test is an easy one that'll tell you about the texture of your garden soil. Fill a jar half-way with soil, top it up with water, shake vigorously and let it sit twenty-four hours to settle out, to determine how much silt, sand and clay you have, so you'll know how to amend it for better

potassium, Yowell says. Get a soil test kit from your local county extension office, or purchase one from a co-op or garden center for about \$15.

• **Continue key maintenance:** Weeding, fertilizing, trimming and dead-heading keep things healthy and neat.

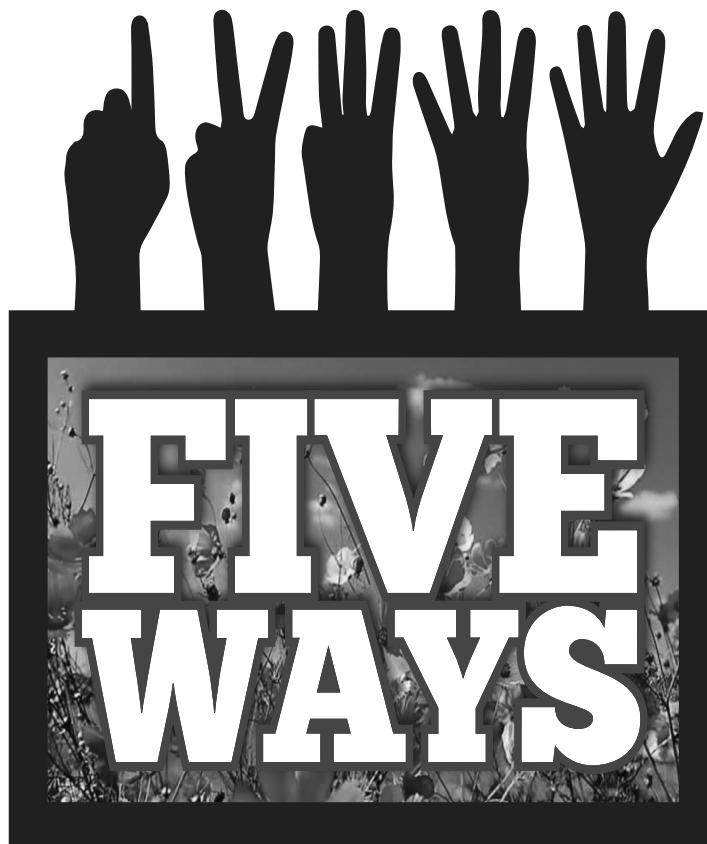
• **Prep beds for fall planting:** Determine your bed sites, and start the process now to get the soil ready. Yowell burns weeds first with a propane torch to prepare a new site, then covers it with a tarp.

"A lot of people put a tarp down now and leave it for three months, and that pretty much takes out ninety percent of the weeds," Yowell says. Do that step now, before you break up the hardpan, till and add soil amendments. That way, you'll be ready to direct-seed cool flowers in fall.

• **Get your plants in order:** Order seeds for cool flowers that can be direct-seeded in October and November, such as bachelor button, centaurea, nigella, poppies and larkspur, Yowell says, that'll overwinter in your garden and be a delight come spring. Look into fall bulbs, such as daffodils, and find perennials and flowering shrubs and trees that can expand your bloom potential.

• **Get a head start:** Start seeds in pots, and when seedlings get to a healthy level, plant them out in the garden.

"You can do plant plugs as annuals or perennials," Yowell says. When it's too soon for cool flowers and too late for summer flowers, order seeds and grow them out in trays. By October, they'll be large enough to get in the ground.



Special to The Canton News

drainage, or improved water retention.

It's also a good time to do a soil test to determine if you've got the right balance of nitrogen, phosphorous and

OBITUARY

**Manuel Anthony Oliveros
Quitman, Mississippi
March 26, 1951 - August 16, 2020**

Manuel Anthony Oliveros, 69, of Quitman, Mississippi passed away on August 16, 2020 at Anderson's Hospital.

He was born on March 26, 1951 to Manuel and Rose (Gutierrez) Oliveros in Sutherland, NE.

He retired as a Metal Chief from the United State Navy and was awarded Sailor of the Year in 1982. He was a longtime resident of Canton, MS where he served in the Lion's Club.

Manuel is survived by his wife, Beverly Oliveros; daughters, Kathy (Prentiss) Cumberland, Kim (Michael) Douglas, Stacey (Shannon) Pelas, and Jessica (Kevin) Ritchie; brothers, John Hernandez and Daniel Hernandez; sister, Lupe Mohr; grand-

children, Nicholas Jones, Ryan Scott, Justin Miller, Chasidy Miller, Drew Scott, Jenna Miller, Wesley Douglas, Katie Ritchie, Jack Douglas, Kaleb Ritchie, and Levi Douglas; and great grandchild, Chandler Jones.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Manuel and Rose O. Oliveros and his sister, Maria Chafco.

Visitation will be held Wednesday, August 19, 2020, 11:00 am - 12:00 pm at Wright's Funeral Home, Quitman, Mississippi.

Funeral services will be held on Wednesday, August 19, 2020, 12:00 pm at the Wright's Funeral Home Chapel, with Dr. Gene Neal and Rev. Guy Odom officiating.

In lieu of flowers, memorials are suggested to the Wounded Warrior Project or your favorite charity. Online condolences can be given at www.wrightsfuneral.com.

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cont. from front page

Madison County Mega Site construction has begun



Special to The Canton News



Photo by Lori Lycette

Madison County Mega Site access road

Madison County Mega Site in progress

“Amazon is a dynamic business, and we are constantly exploring new locations and weighing a variety of factors when deciding where to develop future sites to best serve customers; however, we have

a policy of not commenting on our future roadmap,” said Owen Torres, public relations specialist with Amazon. “This land purchase in Madison County, MS, provides us with the flexibility to quickly

respond to our future network needs. Stay tuned for more information.”
As far as the rest of the property, Deason said, “We’re actively marketing the sites to auto suppliers, telecom providers,

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Retired Canton Public School District couple continues to support the schools



All photos Special to The Canton News

Retired Canton Public School District employees Mr. and Mrs. Hosea Anderson are continuing to support Canton Public Schools by trimming hedges and sprucing up the entrance to Nichols Middle School.



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Canton Academy takes precautions against COVID-19



Special to The Canton News

Canton Academy's first day of school involved taking recommended precautions to help prevent COVID-19. Pictured in the left photo is Berit Warren washing her hands before starting her first day in Mrs. Robin Hunt's 3K class, and the right photo pictures sophomore Hannah Dill getting her temperature checked by Coach Parks before entering the school.

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Telecommunicator CPR turns Mississippi bystanders into heroes

Special to The Canton News

While CPR as a lifesaving skill continues to be a first line of help for victims experiencing out-of-hospital cardiac arrests, something called “T-CPR,” short for Telecommunicator CPR, can help save lives by turning bystanders into heroes.

“T-CPR is different from CPR training,” said Jennifer Hopping, executive director for the Metro Jackson American Heart Association. “It’s a literal lifeline when someone needs help. If adopted as a policy in Mississippi, it would require all 9-1-1 telecommunicators to be trained on how to provide high-quality T-CPR instructions.”

Every year, more than 350,000 Americans fall victim to out-of-hospital cardiac arrest, the unexpected loss of heart func-

tion. Only about one in ten victims survive. Successful resuscitation of victims requires an immediate response to improve their chance of survival. Telecommunicators can be lifesaving coaches when seconds matter.

The American Heart Association, the world’s leading nonprofit organization focused on heart and brain health for all, hopes T-CPR training will be given to all emergency dispatchers and 9-1-1 operators to save lives.

“A telecommunicator who effectively engages the caller, identifies

the cardiac arrest, and coaches effective CPR could double or triple the chances

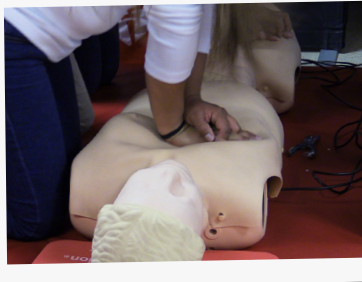
of survival from sudden cardiac arrest,” said statement author Michael Kurz, M.D., immediate past-chair of the Emergency Cardiac Care subcommittee on systems of care for the American Heart Association. “Through these actions, the telecommunicator can make the difference between life and death.”

Right now, more than half of the na-

tion’s emergency medical telecommunicators do not provide any T-CPR instructions for responding to out-of-hospital cardiac arrest. Standardizing and improving the delivery of high-quality T-CPR instructions will save as many as 13,000 lives annually in the United States.

“A program of T-CPR offers the safest, most cost-efficient and most effective approach to substantially increase community lay rescuer CPR,” added Kurz. “Thousands of additional lives can be saved each year if we can achieve this goal.”

Earlier this year, a new Policy Statement released by the American Heart Association provided guidance and resources to construct and maintain a science-based T-CPR program. To learn more about the program and the importance of T-CPR, visit heart.org.



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A telecommunicator who effectively engages the caller, identifies the cardiac arrest, and coaches effective CPR could double or triple the chances of survival from sudden cardiac arrest.

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