



THE CANTON NEWS

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TOP 10 of 2022



1

The movie *The Minute You Wake Up Dead* is filmed in Canton and starred Morgan Freeman, Jaimie Alexander and Cole Hauser. It featured several businesses and first responders.



2

Canton Academy won the football State Championship for the first time since 2016.

3.



The Canton-Madison County History Society began hosting a Farmer's Market at the Historic Old Jail.

4

The new Mega Site at 1978 Highway 22, a 1,025 acre industrial park, officially opened.



6 Grace Episcopal Church opened up their property for the Fall Flea Market for the first time since COVID.

NISSAN

Nissan announced it will begin transforming its Mississippi operations with the latest in EV manufacturing technology to support production of all-new Nissan and Infiniti EV vehicles, scheduled to begin in 2025. The project includes upskilling nearly 2,000 employees at Nissan Canton and will help ensure these jobs remain in Mississippi.

8

9

Mid South Renewables announced the creation of 47 jobs with average salaries of \$50,000/year and the upskilling of nearly 2,000 employees.



5

Canton Christmas Lights expands with donation of Christmas village.



7 Nissan announced it plans to invest \$500 million in its Canton facility to support two all new electric vehicles projects, marking nearly \$4 billion invested in Mississippi since 2003.



10

The Canton Public School District raised their rating to a B, and all four elementary schools received an A rating.

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Carson selected as Mississippi Christian Living Leader of Year

Special to The Canton News

For the fourth year in a row, Mississippi Christian Living (MCL) has taken nominations for Christian Leaders of the Year, and, this year, Cantonian Angela Carson was selected.

Carson is the founder and executive director of the Canton-based Pine Grove Association, which serves youth, the elderly, the Hispanic community and others.

She is the founder and president of Carson Consulting Services, which offers training, consulting and coaching for nonprofits, small businesses and government entities.

She is a member, secretary and Sunday school teacher at Priestley Chapel Missionary Baptist Church, Canton.

Verna M. Myers, a friend and colleague of Carson, told MCL, “Angela displays love and concern for those in need at all times, but especially when a person needs encouragement, when their spirits are low, and circumstances are difficult. In other words, her leadership enables her to jump aboard the ship with those experiencing hard times and help them ‘ride out the storm.’”

Carson said there were many Christian leaders that influenced her, but several stood out.

“My mom, just in [my] growing up. In those morning routines, she



Special to the Canton News

Pictured (l to r) are: Tom Washburn, minister to senior adults at First Baptist Jackson; Matt Nalker, executive director of The Arc Mississippi; Jonathan Lancaster, CFO of We Will Go; Preston Crowe, counseling pastor and director of The Center for Hope and Healing at Broadmoor Baptist Church; and Angela Carson, founder of the Pine Grove Association and Carson Consulting Services.

would have gospel music playing. Her words of encouragement ... She’s a retired social worker. She was quiet in nature. She would just be that calm. [She modeled] time

with God.”

Carson continued: “Also my pastor, Rev. Robert McCallum.... He’s my boss but also my pastor. He models treating those who have

not treated you as they should. I’ve [also learned from him], ‘Every excuse is a good excuse ... but what is it that God wants you to be doing?’” said Carson.



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Canton High School Tigers move to next level

By Courtney Warren

Canton High School (CHS) Head Football Coach Calvin Bolton is proud to announce that three of his former players will continue their play at the next level after their December graduations.

Quinzavious Warren, a Northwest Mississippi Community College (NMCC) student-athlete, is committed



Special to The Canton News

Defensive lineman Quinzavious Warren

to play at Jacksonville State University. Warren helped Northwest to a 9-3 overall record, the MACCC Championship, and made an appearance in the inaugural NJCAA Division I Football Championship.

Warren played in seven games last season, totaling eight tackles and a quarterback hurry, and posted a season-best four tackles in the Rangers' MACCC Championship victory against Hinds.

As a CHS Tiger, Warren played for Coach Bolton and was the Region 2-5A co-defensive lineman of the year. He was recognized with multiple awards during his senior season for the Tigers and represented Mississippi in the Mississippi/Alabama All-Star game. He was selected to the Mississippi Association of Coaches 5A All-State first team and received recruiting interest from multiple MACCC programs.

Jalen Nettles, also a NMCC student-athlete, signed with the Universi-

ty of Alabama Birmingham.

Nettles helped Northwest to a 9-3 overall record, the MACCC Championship, and made an appearance in the inaugural NJCAA Division I Football Playoffs. Nettles also saw action in seven games last season.

As a CHS Tiger, Nettles played for Coach Bolton and was the Region 2-5A offensive lineman of the year. He piled up the awards during his senior season for the Tigers.

Nettles represented Mississippi in the Mississippi/Alabama All-Star game and was selected to the Mississippi Association of Coaches 5A All-State first team, the *Clarion-Ledger* All-State team, and the SBLive All-State second team. He was also chosen to the PriorityOne Bank All-Metro first team, competed in track and field while at Canton, and received recruiting interest from Dodge City Community College and multiple MACCC schools.

Tyquan Henderson will continue his career at the University of Southern Mississippi.

During his time at Copiah Lincoln Community College, Henderson led Co-Lin CC with 41 receptions and 541 yards, respectively this season, en route to being named All-MACCC



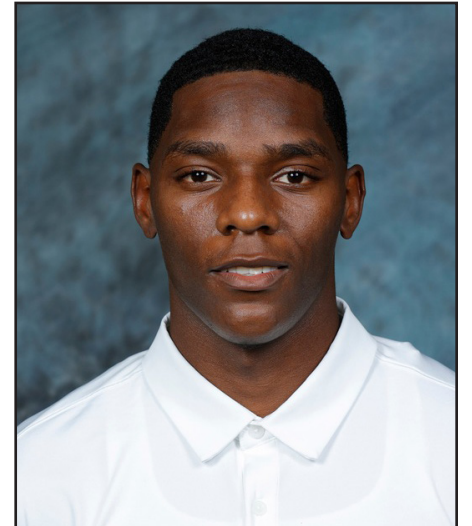
Special to The Canton News

Offensive lineman Jalen Nettles

All-South first team. He started in all nine games and led the team in receptions per game at 4.6, receiving yards

per game at 63.0, and averaged 13.8 yards per catch while hauling in two touchdown passes on the season.

Henderson earned MACCC second-team All-South honors in 2021 after finishing with 35 receptions for 599 yards and four touchdowns while



Special to The Canton News

Wide receiver Tyquan Henderson

starting in all nine games. He averaged 62.1 yards per game, giving him a spot in the Top 20 of the NJCAA rankings in both total yards and yards per game. Henderson's final four games were his most productive, as he had at least four catches and 85-plus yards in those contests, with his best performance coming on the road against Hinds CC, where he hauled in 11 receptions for 135 yards. He had 15 catches for 192 yards and three touchdowns in a COVID-shortened season in 2020.

As a CHS Tiger, Henderson played for Coach Bolton and won District Wide Receiver of the year in 2019. He posted 1,895 career receiving yards on 102 catches for 18.6 yards per catch, to go along with 22 receiving touchdowns. He was chosen to play in the Bernard Blackwell North/South All-Star football game and received recruiting interest from multiple MACCC schools.

Coach Bolton, as well as all of Canton Public School District, say they are thrilled to see these student-athletes continue their careers at the next level.

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Lady Tigers win MMJAC Championship



Photo by Betsy Sligh

Recently, the Nichols Middle School Lady Tigers basketball team won the Middle School MS Junior Athletic Conference (MMJAC) in a victory over Shirley Simmons Middle School. The girls won the championship 30-24 in overtime. Kylei Rogers was awarded Most Valuable Player, Alona Dudley was awarded All-Conference, and Mariah Johnson was awarded All-Conference.

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State Board of Education seeks high school sophomores as reps.

Special to The Canton News

The Mississippi State Board of Education (SBE) is seeking applications from high school sophomores to serve as the new high school junior student representative on the SBE Board for the 2023-24 school year. The application deadline is January 27, 2023.

Now in its fifth year, the Student

Representatives of the Mississippi State Board of Education program includes a

high school junior and a high school senior, who serve as non-voting SBE members, to share their viewpoints on policy decisions regarding Mississippi's public schools.

The current SBE junior representative, Charlie Frugé of Oxford High School, will serve as the senior representative in 2023-24. Through a competitive process, the SBE will appoint a new junior representative to serve a two-year term starting July 1, 2023.

The top ten semi-finalists among applicants, including the junior representative appointed and an



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alternate representative, automatically get to serve on the State Superintendent's Student Advisory Council. There were thirty-five students who applied to be the 2022-23 junior representative.

The SBE adopted policy in 2018 outlining criteria for adding student representatives to the State Board.

Student representatives are responsible for attending monthly SBE meetings and any standing committees or

subcommittees to which they are assigned. They are excused from school to attend SBE meetings as official school business, and they also work as liaisons for their peers to SBE.

The application packet must be mailed and postmarked by January 27, 2023. The application is available at www.mdek12.org/MBE/Student-Representatives. A video component of the application must be uploaded by 5 p.m. on January 27.

For questions, contact Donna Hales at 601-359-2331 or dhaless@mdek12.org.

CHS visits Civil Rights Museum



Special to the Canton News

Canton High School scholars enjoyed their visit to the Civil Rights Institute in Birmingham, Alabama. They learned more about the Civil Rights Movement. They even viewed a replica of a Freedom Riders bus and the actual jail cell door from behind which Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. penned his famous "Letter From Birmingham Jail." The institute is also home to an expansive archive of documents from the Civil Rights Movement and nearly 500 recorded oral histories relevant to the period.

COVID \$

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100 Black Men continue to serve Canton



Special to The Canton News

Members of 100 Black Men of Canton with students from McNeal Elementary School

By Courtney Warren

With the slogan of “what they see is what they will be,” the 100 Black Men of Canton have worked with mentees since No-

vember 2003 to better the young men of Canton, and the Christmas season is no different. Reaching out to children throughout the Canton Public

School District, 100 Black Men of Canton spread Christmas cheer as they continue their mission. The 100 Black Men of America,

Inc. is recognized as the nation’s top African-American-led mentoring organization. For more information, visit: www.100blackmen.org

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Jackson honored by district Steering members announced



Robert Jackson and Lee Partee

Special to The Canton News

Canton Public School District Chief of Security Robert Jackson recently honored Student Resource Officer Lee Partee as the SRO of the Month. Chief Jackson says Officer Partee has contributed countless hours of dedicated service to help protect and serve the district’s scholars and staff. Partee served as the district’s first

chief of security with the creation of the department in 2008. According to CPSD, “Over the years, his expertise has helped keep the district safe. Officer Partee graduated in 1978 from Mississippi’s first Trooper class, where African Americans were allowed to integrate.” CPSD’s Board of Trustees and Superintendent Gary Hannah praised his devoted service.



Special to the Canton News

Pictured (l to r) are, seated: Emily Harrison from MCEDA and MCEL Steering Committee Chair Grant Montgomery from Cadence Bank; and standing: Kristy Daniels from Priority One Bank, Krystal Minor from Bfac.com, Austin Stewart from Adams and Reese and Rochelle Thompson from the American Lung Association.

Special to The Canton News

The Canton Public School District, The Madison County Business League & Foundation (MCBL&F) and the Madison County Economic Development Authority (MCEDA) recently announced the 2023 Madison County Executive Leadership Steering Committee. The mission of the Madison County Executive Leadership program is to provide MCBL&F members with a deeper understanding of the opportunities in Madison County in an environment that enhances their leadership skills and prepares graduates to take their knowledge and their experience into the community for the betterment of Madison County. The Committee plans engaging, empowering and interesting program days for the class, addressing topics that impact Madison County’s economy, including economic development, education, public policy, healthcare, law and order, and infrastructure.

standing of the opportunities in Madison County in an environment that enhances their leadership skills and prepares graduates to take their knowledge and their experience into the community for the betterment of Madison County. The Committee plans engaging, empowering and interesting program days for the class, addressing topics that impact Madison County’s economy, including economic development, education, public policy, healthcare, law and order, and infrastructure.

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Canton Elementary Divas and Dads Sneakerball 2022



all photos Special to the Canton News

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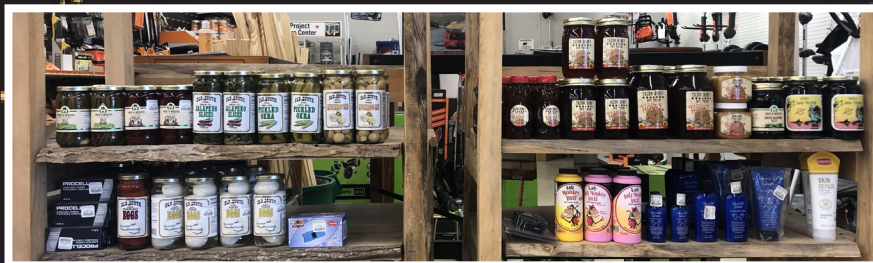
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2023

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Canton through a lens: “Still Standing Strong”



Photo by Betsy Sligh

This month's photo was taken at Noble Farms of their vintage barn under the Milky Way. This is the actual position of the Milky Way in the sky that night. The photo was taken by Cantonian photographer Betsy Sligh.

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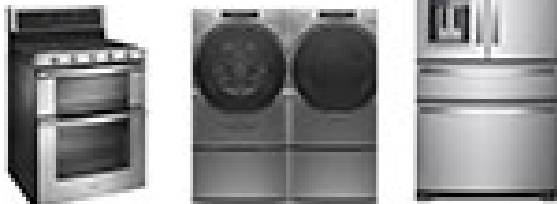
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Letter from the Editor: When God plays Where's Waldo

By Courtney Warren

School is back in session; but, before students returned to our classroom, my school hosted an in-house conference called Teach Live. It was all about teachers teaching other teachers. It was an incredible way to meet new friends and learn from my colleagues, so when I saw that a teacher I greatly admire was hosting a session, I knew I wanted to attend, aside from leading my own session.

The session was called "Where's Waldo: Finding the Gospel in Everyday Moments with Students." The essential question was, "What if we looked as intently for God and real people as we do for Waldo?" Do we see our students? Do we love them? He led us to consider: are we living and teaching with intention? Am I looking and seeking Him every day? In my classroom? In the hearts of my students? But more importantly... have I sought Him for myself?

I came away from that session feeling so encouraged, as this colleague leaves me feeling after most of our conversations. I began to consider, when was the last time I truly sought God? When did I calm myself enough to hear His voice?

Honestly? I don't know that I have ever sought God with intention and then heard His voice. However, I have two moments where I know I heard Him without seeking Him. He came to me. In a pit of despair.

In 2020, I was blessed to carry a sweet baby. My family was so excited to be pregnant again and to share that pregnancy with my daughter. When I went to my very first appointment, the young nurse doing the sonogram said, a little surprised herself, "I'm so sorry, I'm just not hearing a heartbeat today."

I was alone due to COVID rules, so I kept my tears in until I got to the car. I played the guessing game all the way home, wondering what I did, what was wrong, or why this happened.

I returned to school two days later and kept it all to myself.

About three months later, we were blessed with another pregnancy. This time, I got far enough along that I got to hear my beautiful sweetheart's heartbeat. Twice! She was wonderful. Her name was Mary Pepper Warren, and she was named by her big sister, Berit. We were so excited to meet her.

I was terrified. I spent a lot of time praying. I wasn't necessarily seeking God, but rather praying for com-

fort, peace, and protection.

I went to another routine appointment, excited to hear her heart again, only for the doctor to tell me she couldn't find it. She sent me downstairs for another sonogram. I saw my sweetheart on the screen, but there was no movement where her heart was.

"Why?" I shouted and cried in the room.

The nurse, in that moment, snatched her mask off of her face and wrapped her arms around me. "I'm so sorry. I'm so sorry," was her mantra.

She helped me calm down and took me upstairs to meet with my doctor again. I sat on the table waiting,

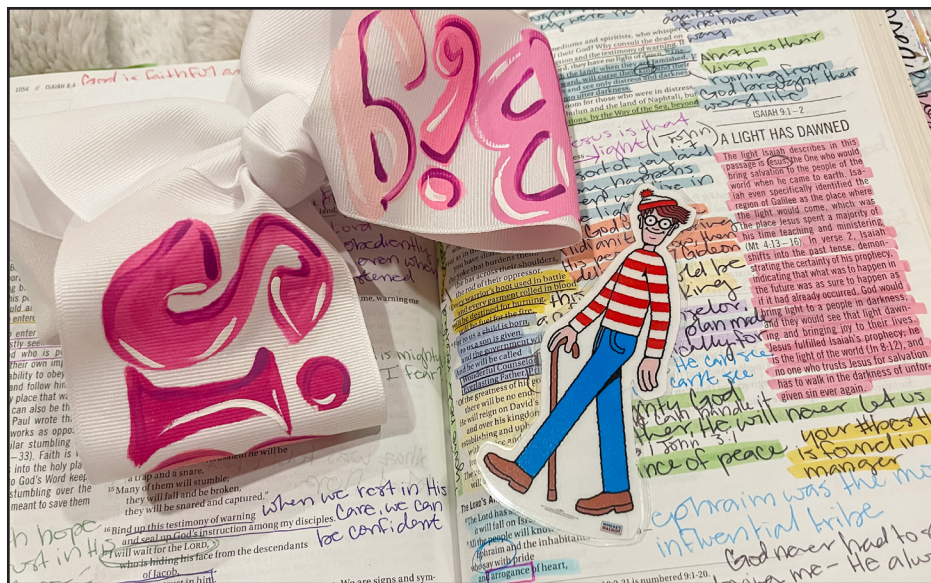


Photo by Courtney Warren

numb, and heartsick. I apologized to Baby Pep over and over. I was so sorry.

Again, I wasn't seeking Him. I just sat in the pit. Just being.

The doctor came in and said the baby had a genetic mutation that most likely caused this.

She said those words.

We were the only two people in the room.

We are both females.

A man's voice spoke with full force behind my left shoulder, "I took care of you."

I know it was God.

Period.

I knew it like I knew my own name.

I wasn't seeking Him. I wasn't praying for Him.

He came to me. He took care of me.

I don't quite know what that means, but I do know the exact same words were spoken to my mother-in-law years prior: "I will take care of your family."

If we were "Where's Waldo-ing," I was Waldo and He found me.

I went home and told my husband and daughter. We cried together and healed in the best ways that one can heal from being 1 in 4.

We decided we now had two sweethearts with Jesus and would take

time being a family of three.

That next summer, I began to wonder what they were doing. Do they grow up? Are they in heaven? Are they taken care of?

But again, I didn't seek these answers. I sat in church and praised Him, thanked Him, loved Him, but I never posed the question to Him. I wondered, but I trusted Him. Because He took care of me.

However, one night I woke up. I knew I was awake. There is no question.

My husband and daughter slept beside me, and a man stood in my bedroom. He was a black shadow, around 5'11, and did not cause me

fear. I sat up and looked at him. He was holding an infant. As he stood in our bedroom over my sweet family, he

bounced this infant baby in his arms. As he bounced the baby, the form of the infant changed and shifted to the form of a toddler, and sat on his hip.

I didn't feel as if I was being shown something to come. Instead, it was more of a feeling of comfort. It was an answer to a question I was seeking without realizing that I was seeking it.

They were okay.

The next Sunday, I shared this with a church leader who is very dear to me. I hadn't told a soul, but somehow she has a way of getting me to share things with her, as if she were reading me like a book.

"Well...about this time is the age she would be right? A toddler?"

I burst into tears.

"Why don't you go sit with that. Sit with Him. He showed you something wonderful," she said.

I wasn't seeking Him. I didn't pose the question. I didn't ask.

But twice, God gave me a gift.

If that's what He shares when I'm in the pit, when I'm wondering, when I DON'T seek Him...what will He share when I do?

That was the thought I had when I sat in the "Where's Waldo" session. What will God share when I take the time to see Him?

Whatever it is, my word for 2023 and beyond is SEEK. I'm going to seek in every aspect. Seek and listen.

I'm all ears, Lord.

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cantonnews

CCC Golf Scramble a success



Champions Tristan Booker and Mac Stacey

Special to The Canton News

The Country Club of Canton (CCC) hosted the 2022 Annual Christmas Golf Scramble recently. Champions were Tristan Booker

and Mac Stacey. Runner-ups were Philip Thornton and Robert Smith. The Second Flight Winners were James and Andy Manning. Runner-Ups were John Bryant Stewart and an unnamed partner.

OBITUARY



Bobby M. and Annette A. Daniels

Bobby M. Daniels
October 8, 1930 -
December 6, 2022

Annette A. Daniels
May 3, 1935 -
December 6, 2022

Mrs. Daniels was born on May 3, 1935, to Noah Lloyd and Edna Saxton Alderman. She was a retired employee of the Mississippi Employment Security Commission.

Services for Mr. Bobby M. Daniels, age 92, who passed away Tuesday, December 6, and his wife of seventy-one years, Annette Alderman Daniels, age 87, who passed away Friday, December 9, of Vaiden, formerly of Canton and Yazoo County, were December 11 at Bethel Black Jack Baptist Church Cemetery near Vaughan, Mississippi. Rev. Randy Bridges officiated.

Mr. and Mrs. Daniels are survived by daughters, Lisa Hamilton of Duck Hill, Mississippi, and Suzanne Pinkston of Grenada, Mississippi; five grandchildren, Kayla Phillips, Megan Bridges, Daniel Hamilton, Rachel Cockroft and Cole Pinkston; three great-granddaughters, Sadie Grace Hamilton, Bailey Hamilton and Kinley Hamilton; and a host of nieces and nephews.

Mr. Daniels was born in Yazoo County on October 8, 1930, to Cecil and Tommie Brister Daniels. He was a U.S. Air Force Veteran and retired plant food manager for MFC Services in Madison, Mississippi.

Oliver Funeral Home of Winona is in charge of arrangements. An online guestbook may be signed at www.ofhwinona.com.

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

Medical Documentation

Suppose you have a qualifying condition with medical documentation (such as medical records, office visit summaries, or a letter from a doctor stating your diagnosis.) In that case, you are ready to get certified!

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Brown retires after 27 yrs



Special to the Canton News

By Courtney Warren

Canton Municipal Clerk Debra Brown recently celebrated her retirement after serving the City of Canton for 27 years.

The Department of City Clerk and Finance is responsible for all accounting, purchasing, information systems, debt management, investments, accounts payable, and payroll functions of the City.

Additional responsibilities of this department include minutes preparation of the mayor and Canton Board of Aldermen meetings, maintaining the official City records and documents, City elections, City licenses, and working alongside the Canton Mayor and Canton Board of Aldermen.

Brown was named City Clerk in early 2021.

Brown has worked for the City of Canton since 1995 in several ca-

pacities, including accounts payable, purchasing, payroll, and human resources.

A graduate from Ashford University with a degree in business and human resources management, Brown is also a certified Mississippi Municipal Clerk through Mississippi State University Extension.

Brown began working for the City in May 1995, moving from a dispatcher to a Deputy Clerk, to the Director of Human Resources, and finally to the Municipal Clerk and in charge of all other Municipal Deputy Clerks here in the City of Canton. She is married to Johnny Brown, and the two have two sons, Jontarius and Jarvis Brown.

Representatives from the City said, "This City thanks you for the 27 years you gave, for the allegiance and loyalty you shared, the knowledge you possess, and the care you exhibited."

Aspiring educators eligible for free graduate degree

Special to The Canton News

Applications are now open for new candidates to the Mississippi Department of Education's Mississippi Teacher Residency (MTR) program, where up to two hundred aspiring educators can receive a graduate degree in elementary and secondary education and professional mentorship at no cost.

The priority deadline to submit applications is February 15, 2023. Applicants must have a bachelor's degree and either meet the minimum required passing score on the Praxis Core, have a 21 or higher on the ACT/SAT equivalent or have a 3.0 GPA (last 60 hours of coursework).

Last year, the MDE used \$9.8 million of its American Rescue Plan Elementary and Secondary

School Emergency Relief (ESSER) funds to award grants to five universities – Delta State University, Jackson State University, Mississippi State University, University of Southern Mississippi and William Carey University – in the MTR program over a two-year period. A total of 103 candidates were admitted with several MTR partner universities currently initiating a midyear application process.

In this next round, those universities will once again enroll diverse participants into their educator preparation programs to work toward their graduate degree and Mississippi teacher certification. Individuals accepted into the MTR program will receive full scholarships, testing fees,

books and mentor stipends. MTR will include training alongside a mentor teacher, testing support, professional development, ongoing assessment and a commitment to teach in a geographical critical shortage district serving low-income children, racial/ethnic minorities and children with disabilities disproportionately impacted by COVID-19. Candidates admitted in the latest round of the MTR program should graduate by summer 2024.

When applying, applicants will indicate what university program they want to join and select up to two school district options to work in. Confirmed participating school districts are included in the application and will be updated as needed on the MTR website based on each university's established process for

selecting district partners in geographical critical shortage areas.

All complete applications will be provided to MTR universities to determine candidate eligibility. Eligible applications will then be provided to each candidate's top-choice MTR partner school districts, which may then opt to interview applicants either in-person or virtually.

After interviews are complete, the MDE will conduct a matching process based on information from MTR applicants, universities and school districts. Applicants will be notified of their possible acceptance into the MTR program by May 2023.

For more information on the MTR program, visit mdek12.org/OTL/MTR.



PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Latasha Jackson Banks, intend to submit an application for a liquor permit. As provided for by the Local Option Alcoholic beverage control laws, Section 67-1-1, et seq., of the Mississippi Code of 1972, Annotated. If granted such permit, I will operate as a sole owner LLC. Under the trade name Jane 2 Go LLC. Located at 1438 W Peace Street, Canton, MS 39046. I, Latasha Jackson Banks, am the sole owner of Jane 2 Go LLC, address 319 W North Street, Canton, MS 39046. If any person wishes to request a hearing to object to the issuance of this permit a request for a hearing must be made in writing and received by the Department of Revenue within (15) fifteen days from the first date this notice was published.

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Wadford wins HS Heisman



Special to the Canton News

Canton Academy senior, Samuel Wadford, was selected for the High School Heisman Scholarship. "The Heisman High School Scholarship program extends the national Heisman trophy prestige to the nation's most esteemed high school seniors by celebrating and rewarding outstanding male and female scholar-athletes who understand that the most important victories happen not only on the field, but also in their schools and communities." Wadford was nominated by Canton Academy Head of School, Ryan Laster.

Chap Cook commits to PRCC



Photo by Courtney Warren

By Courtney Warren

Canton Academy junior Chap Cook recently committed to play baseball at Pearl River Community College (PRCC).

PRCC, a community college in Poplarville, Mississippi, won the National Championship in 2022. According to PRCC, this fall, they boasted eight Wildcat sophomores signing on the dotted line to continue their baseball careers at the four-year level.

After claiming the MACCC Championship — for a second consecutive year — and the Region 23 Tournament title, Pearl River capped the season with a 5-1 record in Enid, Oklahoma, to claim the program's first National Championship.

Canton Academy coaches say they are excited for their Panther to continue his education and, after completing his junior and senior years at CA, become a Wildcat.

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Lady Panthers enjoying season with new Coach Galloway

By Courtney Warren and Riley Lambert

The Canton Academy Lady Panthers began their season with new coach Hope Galloway. While Coach Galloway is new to the faculty, she is not new to CA, as she has had children attending the school for several years, her youngest, Matthew, being a junior.

Galloway is known by many as the mother who weekly walks up and down the halls of the school praying for each teacher and student. Her kindness and love of the Panthers and the school is evident, and even more so as she now leads the Lady Panthers basketball team.

Galloway said, "I enjoy being involved with my kids and any of their friends. Life is short, and I hope to make every minute something good. I'm excited to see Canton grow and students learn to be successful in life."

With the addition of coaching a team added to her schedule, Galloway still makes it a priority to pray over the students and school.

"I pray each week over the school and everyone there - that the spirit of God would surround the place like a mighty army, that no force of evil can come against it. I pray for each staff, teacher, coach, by name for guidance and wisdom to not only teach

but be a Godly example. I pray for the students to be healthy and have protection from harm or evil. If any one of these doesn't

know Jesus, I pray that, through someone's kindness or spoken word, they would be drawn to Christ."

With a young team, Galloway is excited to see what the team can achieve.

"I hope to let them know that they are loved and that I will be there for them no matter what, to pray with them or to help them learn," she said.

For more information about the season, or about Canton Academy, visit www.cantonacademy.org.



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Wadford men celebrate 30 years of All-Stars

Special to The Canton News

In the fall of 1993, Canton Academy senior Jay Wadford never guessed when he was selected to the MPSA All-Star football team that a legacy had begun.

"It was exciting, and I was extremely honored – especially when I began the All-Star week with all those guys and realized I was playing with the best of the best in Mississippi – guys from other schools who I thought highly of all through high school. It was a fun experience," he explained.

Jay said his drive for football came from a combination of two things: motivation from the encouragement of great coaches and a need for an emotional outlet most teenagers have.

"Of course, I knew I would love for my boys to be able to have the same experience, I just expected them to do their best, make corrections when they did not, and then move on to the next game giving it their all," he said.

Jay and his wife Jenny were married in 1999 and moved back to Canton when they found out they were having their second child within a year.

Jenny said, "When Barnes was born, and we found out shortly after that we were having Samuel, I just really wanted a small hometown experience for my children. I wanted them to have the experience Jay had growing

up in Canton and the opportunities that Canton Academy offered him."

The Wadford brothers started playing flag football in the first grade with the Upward Sports organization, and the rest is history.

There were a few physical and mental setbacks.

"Barnes broke his arm playing football on the playground in the third grade. He was a little skittish for a while after that. It took time, but he overcame that. So then

when he broke his collarbone riding dirtbikes right before his eighth-grade season, I thought his fears may stop him again," Jay shared.

Instead, as soon as Barnes was allowed to practice again, his coaches couldn't believe his ferocity. That emotional outlet Jay mentioned was just what Barnes needed after being stuck on the sidelines.

Barnes, now a college freshman, remembers, "My coaches and my brother came and got me out of class during my senior year. They told me that I had been chosen for the MAIS All-Star team. I felt grateful and proud at the same time. My coaches had always praised me for my speed and determination, but I wasn't expecting the All-Star selection. It was a fun experience, and I mostly was happy because I look up to my dad and felt proud to

achieve something he had achieved." Meanwhile, younger brother Samuel never had a major injury that kept him from playing, but he did use football as an outlet for any frustrations like his dad and brother. One of his elementary coaches named him "The Bull" when he played on the CA pee wee football team. In fact, his parents said he would come straight out

of football season and foul out in the first basketball games because he wanted to mow everyone down to get the ball. The nickname "The Bull" stuck.

This year as a senior, Samuel was also selected to the all star team. The Wadford men now share a rare experience as three players from the same immediate family to qualify as All-Star team members.

CA Head Football Coach Gage Posey said, "The Wadford family has been a blessing to me since I came to Canton. They have always gone above and beyond for anything we needed. The Wadford boys are everything that we preach our athletes to be. I consider it a privilege to have coached both Barnes and Samuel."

Coach Ryan Laster, CA Head of School and Defensive Coordinator for the Panthers shared, "In my sixteen years as a football coach, I haven't heard of a family with the father and sons all making the All-Star team. The Wadford family bleeds black and gold on the field and in the community. I was fortunate to have coached Barnes and Samuel on the defensive side of the ball, and they both were true leaders on the field and off. We missed Barnes on defense this year, and we will miss the Bull next season."



Special to the Canton News

Samuel, Jay, and Barnes Wadford wearing their All-Star jerseys



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- Don't walk in flooded areas or standing water.
- Look for electrical system damage once power is restored.
- Stay alert for natural gas leaks.
- Check for sewage and water line damage.

Reams and Holmes Junior Most Beautiful



At the annual Canton Academy Junior High Beauty and Beau Who's Who competition hosted by the Reflections staff, participants were judged on beauty and poise. This year Most Handsome was freshman Adyn Reams, and Most Beautiful was eighth-grader Mary Alice Holmes.

Reams and Cado CA's Best All Around



At the annual Canton Academy Beauty and Beau Who's Who competition freshmen, Adyn Reams and Addison Cado won the student-voted award Best All-Around Junior High.

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Canton Academy Panthers' clay shooting season underway



Photo by Megan Lyon



Photo by Megan Lyon

The Canton Academy clay shooting team recently competed in Sardis, Mississippi, at the McIvor Shooting Facility. The team is led by Coach Greg Smith.

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