

## Flea Market vendors put out a special kind of call

By Courtney Warren

The Canton Flea Market is always a great way to learn about new crafts and the processes of various artists.

Two vendors who stood out this year were Doug Morgan with Old Timers Gobbler Club and Penny Jackson with Penny's Clay Art.

Morgan has been turkey hunting since he was a young boy and attended the flea market to sell hand-crafted turkey calls makes with domestic and exotic hardwoods.

Morgan's tent was not hard to find, as patrons of the market could hear the scratching of a striker to a pot call, calling them to his booth as if they were hens themselves.

"I went on my first turkey hunt when I was around eight years old. I started making calls years ago. If you turkey hunt long enough, you want to make your own call. I like pot calls and wanted to make my

own," said Morgan.

A turkey pot call is a friction call that uses a "pot" that can have different surfaces - from glass to slate and even metal. A "striker" is used to initiate the call when contacting the surface of the pot.

Morgan's calls lined the table and ranged in material from walnut, canary wood, zebra wood, to aluminum.

In front of the tourism department, visitors were drawn to what looked like colorful pots decorated in elaborate floral patterns. While these might seem like any other piece of pottery, these pieces are actually hummingbird feeders.

Focusing on creating something just as beautiful as the birds, Penny Jackson of Penny's Clay Art displayed painted, clay hummingbird feeders.

"I make the feeder, clean it, glaze them, fire it in the kiln, paint them, fire it again. It's a long process. We

cont. on page 6



Special to The Canton News

Vendors come from all over the country to sell their creations at the Canton Flea Market

## Garrett appreciates people taking care of people

By Inesha Jackson

The City of Canton's Landfill Director, Melon Garrett, has been proudly serving the Canton community for almost 30 years. Garrett is the proud husband of Gloria Garrett and together they have one daughter. Aside from work, Garrett attends First Baptist Church in Lexington, Mississippi where he serves as a deacon and a southern baptist preacher.

As landfill director, Garrett oversees the operations of two facilities, a solid waste landfill and a Class I rubbish site. Garrett is responsible for training and ensuring that his staff is certified by the state of Mississippi and nationally as landfill operators.

"The best part of the job is dealing with people and solid waste. . .



Special to The Canton News

We would normally call it garbage, but the professional name for it is solid waste. I have developed people coming along behind me and instilled in them the same values about the environment and recycling and just being a better person as it relates to dealing with solid waste. It has all really evolved into creating a safe and clean environment for our children and for the future," Garrett said.

Garrett first got his beginnings in this line of work as a mechanic for a solid waste company and a position for a certified landfill operator finally opened. He then went through a series of tests and training and received his certification and was assigned to his first landfill to operate in Leflore County,

cont. on page 6



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## MCLS celebrates Native American Heritage



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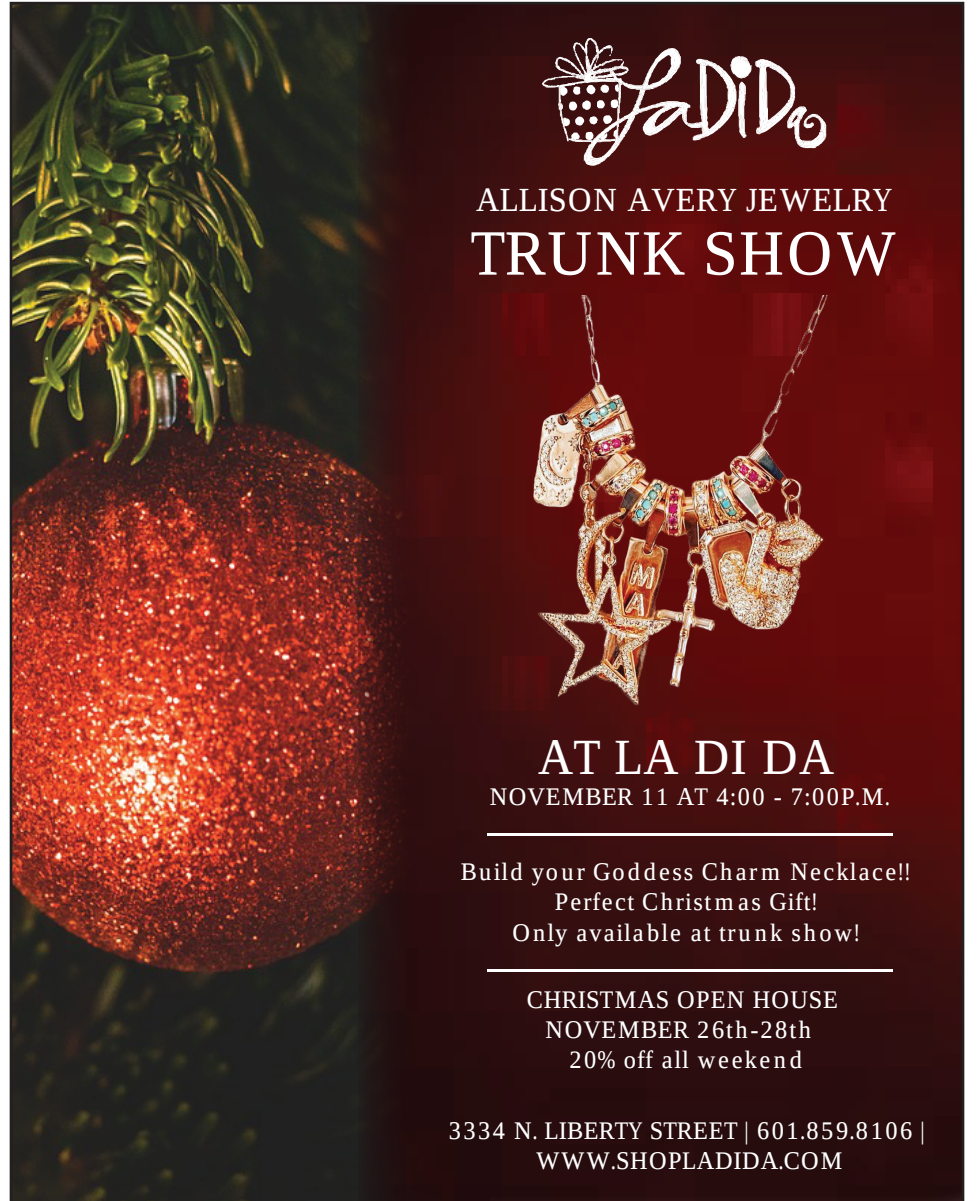
In honor of Native American Heritage Month, the Madison County Library System will host a presentation by John M. Sullivan, State Archaeologist-Tribal Liaison and Deputy Preservation Officer for the Bureau of Land Management. Sullivan will dress up in early 1700's frontier clothes and teach about American archeology and early Native American lifeways through show and tell. All ages are welcome.

The Ridgeland Library will host on November 9 at 4 p.m. The Canton Library will host on November 17 at 4 p.m., and the Madison Library will host on November 18 at 4 p.m.

According to the Library of Congress, what started at the turn of the

century as an effort to gain a day of recognition for the significant contributions the first Americans made to the establishment and growth of the U.S. has resulted in a whole month being designated for that purpose.

The first American Indian Day in a state was declared on the second Saturday in May 1916 by the governor of New York. Several states celebrate the fourth Friday in September. In Illinois, for example, legislators enacted such a day in 1919. Presently, several states have designated Columbus Day as Native American Day, but it continues to be a day Americans observe without any recognition as a national legal holiday.



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**Publisher**

Clay Mansell

ClayMansell@CantonNews.net

**Editor in Chief**

Stephanie Tracy

**Editor**

Courtney Warren

News@CantonNews.net

**Office Manager**

Doris Bynum

**Distribution**

Patrice Peacock

**Sales Representatives**

Clay Mansell

Lori Lycette

Courtney Warren

**Graphic Designer  
/ Layout**

Megan Smith

Designer@CantonNews.net

**Intern**

Inesha Jackson

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news@cantonnews.net

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## Letter from the Editor: Fall in the love with the season

By Courtney Warren

November is my favorite month. I might be known for being a Warren (an identifier I adore, by the way.) I am a Georgia Peach through and through. Yes, I know we mainly grow peanuts, and, yes, I did cry during “that” Superbowl.

I was born and raised in Georgia and spent a great deal of my childhood in the North Georgia mountains. Dressed in sweaters and boots, we took to the woods to visit annual apple festivals, went leaf-peeping, and our pumpkins didn’t melt from the heat of October.

While I always loved fall, November became my favorite month for a very different reason. November 24 is my favorite day of the year, and I both dread the day and look forward to it with giddy anticipation.

The most special person in my life was born five years ago on November 24. It was Thanksgiving Day. I woke up early to watch the parade and just knew. Luckily, due to the holiday, my dad was visiting and spent the entire day with us in the hospital overseeing the incessant beeping monitors, all while putting my mind at ease. My grandmother sat at my bedside and stroked my hair, while she told me how beautiful I was over and over. My sweet husband even lied and said the Thanksgiving meal in the hospital was disgusting, just so he could spare me from the envy.

Berit is actually pronounced “bah-reet.” It’s the Hebrew word for covenant, and I found it in the Old Testament when studying the Israelites.



Photo by Riley Lambert

They were dedicating their firstborn children to God. These children were His and would glorify Him in wonderful ways.

I have no doubt she will do that and so much more. Berit Warren is bounce and grace, she is giggles and sticky fingers, she is glitter and unicorns and sprinkles and icing on your nose.

She calls Skittles “skootles” and loves spooky stories so much that she

spooks herself just enough to have to sleep with Mommy and Daddy.

She makes me better. So, this month, as we crunch the “leafies” just to hear the sound, as we read more spooky stories, sing Taylor Swift with the windows down, and have midnight feasts when Daddy has an away game, I’ll be smiling bigger. My heart will be lighter. Because November is my favorite month.

## McNeal Elementary School celebrates careers



Special to The Canton News

McNeal Elementary School recently celebrated Career Day. Students dressed as their future careers, including doctors, police officers, military personnel and CEOs.



# Nichols Tigers win championship



Special to The Canton News

After a nail-biting final game, the Nichols Middle School Tigers won the Middle MS Junior Athletic Conference (MMJAC). The Tigers were undefeated, with an 8-0 record for the season.

# CHS Tigers win big on homecoming



Special to The Canton News

The Canton High School (CHS) Tigers were victorious on homecoming night after playing Forest Hill High School. With the final score CHS 20 and FHS 12, CHS Head Football Coach Calvin Bolton said he was proud of the entire team and wanted MVPs for both offense and defense to go to every athlete. Bolton named Curtis Brown, junior, as having the most valuable play. Brown had a strip-sack and fumble recovery during the game.

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# Biggers wins crown



Photo by Courtney Warren

Bethany Biggers of Canton Academy wins Miss Hometown Mississippi.

By Courtney Warren

With a smile and a heart of gold, it's no surprise that Bethany Biggers of Canton recently won Miss Hometown Mississippi. The pageant was held at Brandon High School.

Biggers also won Best Smile. "It was on my bucket list to do a pageant, and I had so much fun and got to interact with some truly wonderful people," said Biggers.

Biggers, daughter of Vickie and Cresley Pierce, is a graduate of Canton Academy, where she was valedictorian. She is a pre-med major who is active on the Holmes Community College campus. She is an Ambassador, a member of Focus Factor and president of both Phi Theta Kappa honor society and the STEM Club. Biggers is a member of Apostolic Lighthouse Church and, in her free time, en-

joys spending time with friends, four-wheeler riding, writing, traveling, meeting dogs, learning new things, going on adventures and shopping. Her future plans include going to medical school and becoming a pediatrician.

Katherine Coward, a Canton Academy graduate and Biggers' best friend, received runner-up in the pageant, as well.

Known for her quick wit and passion for all she does, Coward says she was excited to participate in the pageant. Coward, daughter of Sharon and Tony Coward, is a pre-physical therapy major at Holmes Community College in Ridgeland. She is a current member of Phi Theta Kappa honor society. She enjoys mud riding, working at Trace Nutrition, and hanging out with her friends.

cont. from front page

# Flea

have a lot of hummingbirds, which made me want to make these," she said.

"I like to use the Christmas colors. It's the most popular one," said Jackson.

Whether it's decorating your home, finding a new tool, or stuffing yourself with Cajun Pistols, the Canton Flea Market will come back again in May and is an event not to be missed.

# Scouts teach "Leave No Trace"

Special to The Canton News

GirlScout troops and volunteers come up with a community-inspired goal to make a difference. Girls use their GSPromise and GSLaw and incorporate this into their project, to make it sustainable and gain knowledge of how to help others around the world.

The community and girls work together to help girls achieve the highest honor a GirlScout Junior can earn, which is the Bronze Award.

Girls were given a task to look on their travels to notice community needs.

Scouts discussed bent signs, always overflowing recycling, debris-filled cemeteries, and much more.

The girls decided that recycling could help communities and wildlife. Scouts talked to different ones

who came to recycle their items, learning that everyone has a different reason why they do their part.

Teaching the community how to leave no trace was their overall goal. "Leave No Trace" means to leave a place better than you found it and

help keep communities cleaner while respecting wildlife.

There are three recycling locations in Canton.

One location is on Highway 51 by the Sheriff's Department, one is across from the Canton Courts, and one is located where the old hospital was on Highway 16. Each can-

ister has info for what belongs inside. When items are mixed into a canister, the entire contents are no longer recyclable. That's why Scouts say it is important to know the locations and understand how to separate accordingly for "Leave No Trace."



Special to The Canton News

GirlScouts include Amber Martin, Emily Thomas, Kate Murray, Miley Sanders and Piper Cooley.

cont. from front page

# Garrett

Mississippi at the Leflore County landfill. From there, he eventually became a landfill operator for the City of Canton. Garrett also serves as the treasurer for the Solid Waste Authority of North America for the state of Mississippi.

"I have the opportunity to live out my faith and what the Bible teaches about being a peculiar per-

son. Being a landfill operator is a very peculiar position because you encounter all kinds of people from different walks of life. At some point in life, everyone has thrown away something. . . There are only 18 landfills in the state of Mississippi and I get to operate one of them so that makes me a part of an elite group," Garrett said.

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# Word of Prayer: Power of prayerful woman

By Guest Columnist Jacqueline V. Carson

Over the past months, Canton has had several tragic events due to violence. My spirit has been burdened by the senseless violence, and I have been wondering what can I do to help to reduce it. I began to pray asking God, “What can I do?” God laid it on my heart that I need to pray and ask other women to pray. I was hesitant, but I began moving in faith. As a result, in July, I reached out to a group of women and asked, “Are you willing to come and pray collectively for one hour once a month with me?” Let me tell you, God has brought some powerful praying women warriors. This has been the start of “The Women’s Prayer Hour.” We come together not based on denomination, ethnic background or church affiliation, our common ground is God and His Word.

In Romans 12:12, it says “Rejoice



Jacqueline V. Carson

Special to The Canton News

in hope, be patient in tribulation, be patient in prayer.” The prayer warriors have prayed for the entire city of Canton, including all leadership and staff, families, our children, schools, the health and safety of all citizens, the faith community and women. You may ask why am I asking women to pray, well, let me tell you.

In the Bible in 1 Samuel 1, we read about Hannah, a woman who lived with her husband, his other wife Peninnah and their children. At that time, Hannah was barren, bullied, and broken; however she was a woman of strong faith. Hannah desperately wanted to have a son.



Special to The Canton News

However, God would not allow it at that time, because he had greater plans. Hannah turned to God and prayed for a son. She promised God that if he would give her a son, she would give him back to him. God blessed Hannah with a son, Samuel, and when he was about three, Hannah gave him back to God. Samuel became a prophet and a judge over Israel. He was instrumental in the establishment of Israel’s monarchy and anointed David as King. Through David’s lineage, we have received our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. In Hannah’s story, we see that the prayer she prayed changed the

course of history; it saved Israel. If Hannah could pray to God and he gave her a son, we can collectively pray for this city and see the manifestation of great things to come.

Powerful things happen when women pray. We have the ear of God, and he listens and responds. When a woman prays, she fortifies the armor of God around herself, her family and anyone who she prays for. This is the reason why I ask women to pray. Now we know God gave Hannah Samuel, how do we not know that our modern-day Samuel is among us in Canton. We as women must do as Hannah did; she humbly approached God, prayed and continued to believe. Come pray and believe with me.

I am inviting ALL women in Canton and surrounding areas to join us on the third Saturday of each month at Grace Episcopal Church at 161 E. Peace Street. We meet from 8 a.m. to 9 a.m. If you are a prayer warrior who believes that God can do miraculous things for our city and want to pray, contact me at [jvcarson@comcast.net](mailto:jvcarson@comcast.net) or 630-661-6056.



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# Day crowned Canton High School Homecoming Queen



Special to The Canton News

Jamijah Roshon Day was recently crowned the Canton High School (CHS) Homecoming Queen. Day is the daughter of Jacqueline Brown and Johnny Day, Jr. She has four brothers and one sister and loves to paint, read online books and listen to music in her spare time. Day, a CHS senior, is a member of the Young Writers Club, the Ignite Mentoring Program, and the Future Scientists of America Organization. After graduation, she plans to attend college and receive her degree in early childhood development, which she will use to open a daycare center for disabled children.

## Jerry Kerner for Congress 2022

2nd Congressional District From the Great State of Mississippi

### THE PRINCIPLE:

We the People of the United States on September 17, 1787 did ordain and establish the Constitution for the United States of America, and on December 15, 1791 the States did Ratify the Bill of Rights.

### THE PROBLEM:

The current un-American administration occupying the White House has tried to ignore the Rights and Liberty of the People by promoting chaos at our Southern border, by Unconstitutional "mandates" created to attempt to nullify the Bill of Rights, and by using tyrannical measures to try to silence dissent and create an irrational fear of each other among the People.

Many elected officials have actively or cowardly joined in these un-American activities, and have voted for several Unconstitutional pieces of Legislation attempting to promote election fraud, attempting to reward criminals who enter our Country illegally and shamelessly attempting to buy votes with the illusion of "free stuff".

### HOWEVER:

We are The People who will remind the un-American elected officials that when they took and signed their Oath of Office to Support and Defend the Constitution of the United States that we were listening and We demand that they keep their word.

We are The People who will remind the un-American elected officials that they work for Us - The People, and that We are neither their subjects nor subject to their attempts at tyranny.

We are The People who will remind the un-American elected officials that our unalienable Rights including Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness are endowed by God, not by any government.

We are The People who have the Courage to stand up to attempts at tyranny by many of our un-American elected and non-elected officials just as millions of American soldiers have stood up to foreign tyranny.

### THEREFORE:

All Loyal Americans – those who sincerely Support and Defend the Constitution, are "We The People". We are The People who will refuse to re-elect any un-American official, and We are The People who will vote only for Patriots in the 2022 Primary and General elections so this Country will return to the Ideals that the United States of America was Founded upon.

Whether you are a blue Democrat, a red Republican or Independent, you can join US in this United "purple" political movement of We are The People.

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# Canton Sports Shorts

OCTOBER 1  
CANTON ACADEMY VS. CENTRAL HOLMES

56 ..... 28

**Most Valuable Offensive Player:** *Chris Hunter, sophomore*  
**Most Valuable Defensive Player:** *Daniel Ford, junior*  
**Most Valuable Play:** *Chris Hunter, sophomore, with an 83-yard TD run in the second quarter*

OCTOBER 1  
TRI COUNTY ACADEMY VS. CARROL ACADEMY

56 ..... 18

**Most Valuable Offensive Player:** *Christian Howell, Zachary Parks, Nathan Selph, Aiden Barker, Connor Hillman, Layton Horne, and Aiden Williams helped our backs rush for an incredible 597-rushing yards*  
**Most Valuable Defensive Player:** *Thomas Murphy, junior*  
**Most Valuable Play:** *Zac Clark, senior, with a 72-yard TD run.*

OCTOBER 1  
CANTON HIGH SCHOOL VS. NESHOPA CENTRAL HIGH

7 ..... 46

OCTOBER 8  
VELMA JACKSON HIGH SCHOOL VS. PISGAH HIGH

35 ..... 0

OCTOBER 8  
TRI COUNTY ACADEMY VS. ADAMS CHRISTIAN

18 ..... 19

OCTOBER 8  
CANTON ACADEMY VS. CLINTON CHRISTIAN

49 ..... 7

**Most Valuable Offensive Player:** *Marcus Goodloe, senior*  
**Most Valuable Defensive Player:** *Bert Goodloe, junior*  
**Most Valuable Play:** *Marcus Goodloe with a 50-yard TD on the second play of the game*

OCTOBER 15  
CANTON HIGH SCHOOL VS. FOREST HILL HIGH

20 ..... 12

**Most Valuable Offensive Player:** *Total team effort*  
**Most Valuable Defensive Player:** *Total team effort*  
**Most Valuable Play:** *Strip sack and FR by Curtis Brown, junior*

OCTOBER 15  
TRI COUNTY ACADEMY VS. CLINTON CHRISTIAN

61 ..... 0

**Most Valuable Offensive Player:** *Zac Clark*  
**Most Valuable Defensive Player:** *Tanner Lee*  
**Most Valuable Play:** *Trace Dearman fumble recovery and score for 90-yard TD*

OCTOBER 15  
CANTON ACADEMY VS. BENTON ACADEMY

40 ..... 21

**Most Valuable Offensive Player:** *Chris Hunter, sophomore*  
**Most Valuable Defensive Player:** *Reeves Meredith, junior*  
**Most Valuable Play:** *Chris Hunter with a 99-yard TD run*

OCTOBER 15  
VELMA JACKSON HIGH VS. PUCKETT

49 ..... 7

*Editors Note: The Canton News will begin covering local sports contests. Coaches from each team will award their players Most Valuable Player awards as well as the Game Changer Play.*

## THE CANTON GARDEN CLUB

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# Cantonians recognized for achievements

*Special to The Canton News*

The second annual Best of Mississippi Awards Gala was held on October 2 at The Oak Crest Mansion in Pass Christian, Mississippi. This prestigious state-wide event is hosted by Business Empowered Mississippi Chamber of Commerce and was created to recognize and honor citizens across Mississippi in twelve categories for their notable contributions to Mississippi communities. This year's theme was "Honored to Serve," with Dorothy Wison as keynote speaker.

Representing the City of Canton was Tameka Amos, the Governor's Choice "Rising Star" Award; Ashton Teer, Kid Entrepreneur of the Year; Clara Thompson, Pastor of the Year; and Courtney Warren, Teacher of the Year.

Tameka Amos is the Owner/chef of Assembled Blessings Baking And Catering LLC. She's the wife of Derrick Amos and the mother of five children. Her business platform is bringing families together at the table. Life is hard for everyone sometimes. "All people really want to do is go to their corners but when there's a delicious hot meal on the table,

everyone can forget, if even for a short while, the problems of the day," said Amos.

Courtney Warren is an educator and journalist. With a BA from Delta State and an MFA in Children's Literature from Hollins University,

Warren is entering her eighth year in education. She is the English Chair at Canton Academy, Yearbook Advisor, Junior Class Sponsor, as well as the Managing Editor for *The Canton News*. She is the Membership Coordinator for the Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators. Warren has been recognized nationally for her writing and teaching skills as she brings fun and games to her classroom through

interactive lessons, costumes, and even rubber ducks. Warren resides in Canton with her husband and their daughter Berit.

Pastor Clara Thompson is a wife and the mother of five children. She has tremendous compassion for God's people from all walks of life. She serves as Senior Pastor of Turning Point Fellowship Ministries International Church in Canton whose mission strives after fulfilling the desires of God's heart for his kingdom, his purpose, and plans. Clara also enjoys her business Joy Destiny Sewing and Alterations. She is passionate about seeing new creative ideas unfold before my eyes. She sees it as threading the pieces of her

life together as she works with her hands. Her favorite scripture is Proverbs 3:5-6 "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding, in all your ways acknowledge Him and He will direct your path."

Ashton Teer is a fourth-grader at Canton Academy. He began his business during the flea market in Canton. He was excited to receive his award at the gala and said "Congratulations to everyone else!" With a kind heart and positive spirit, Teer is known around the CA campus for being a good friend and a loving classmate.

The Honorees are nominated and voted on by the public. Additionally, this year President's Award, presented by BE Mississippi President Glendora Williams, and the Governors' Awards, presented by the BE Mississippi Board of Governors Founders Drs. Joe and Kathy Amos and Governor Tate Reeves, were presented as the highest honors of the awards ceremony. For more information about Business Empowered Mississippi Chamber of Commerce, visit [www.bemississippi.com](http://www.bemississippi.com).



*Special to The Canton News*

Ashton Teer and Tameka Amos were excited to accept their awards.

purpose, and plans. Clara also enjoys her business Joy Destiny Sewing and Alterations. She is passionate about seeing new creative ideas unfold before my eyes. She sees it as threading the pieces of her

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# Lions enjoy programs and service

Special to The Canton News

Canton Lions say they enjoyed some very interesting programs at the weekly Wednesday meetings in October. The programs included an update of Canton Parks and Recreation from Alvin Davis, an overview of Gluckstadt the Town from Mayor Walter Morrison IV, and an update of the Canton Zoning Commission and the Canton Garden Club's Upstairs Downtown event from Kathy Hammack. Lions parked cars as a fundraiser in October at the Chapel of the Cross for the "Day in the Country." Several Lions par-

ticipated in numerous Flea Market cleanup projects around town. Lions also donated candy for the City's Trunk or Treat Halloween event. The Club meets the first three Wednesdays at the Canton Country Club and, on the fourth Wednesdays, the meetings are held on the square at the Canton Tourism's Rose Room. Lunches for the fourth Wednesdays are prepared by Marlo's BBQ. President Moses Thompson initiated this fourth-week change-up to allow members to become better acquainted and to take care of any business items for the month.



President Moses Thompson working the Day in the Country parking detail



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- Replace worn tires and check tire air pressure.
- Keep gas tank full to avoid ice in tank and fuel lines.
- Make a winter emergency kit to keep in your car.

**Prepare yourself for exposure to winter weather.**

- Bring your pets indoors as temperatures drop!
- Dress warmly and limit exposure to the cold to prevent frostbite.
- Avoid getting wet to prevent hypothermia.

**If power lines are down, call your local utility and emergency services.**

**If power lines fall on your car, warn people not to touch the car or power lines.**



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# Canton Academy enjoys Harvest Fest fun



All Photos by Courtney Warren

## Harvest Fest

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CA Hunter can't be stopped



Due to his speed, Canton News reporters failed to get an action photo that wasn't blurry.

By Courtney Warren

Chris Hunter, a sophomore at Canton Academy, has taken the ball and run with it...literally. With playoffs ahead, Hunter has had an impressive season with 56 carries, 928 rushing yards, 17 rushing touchdowns, 14 catches, 133 passing yards, two receiving touchdowns, 33 tackles, one

fumble recovery touchdown, and one pick-six. "I really love being part of this team. I've enjoyed playing under the new coaching staff, and I know they are doing all they can to support me and make me a better athlete. I'm going to keep doing everything I can to perform well," said Hunter.

Reed named student of the month



Special to The Canton News

Madison County Business League & Foundation (MCBL&F) member Thrash Construction presented a gift to Canton Career & Technical Center student Christian Reed. Christian, a junior in the Construction program was selected CCTC Student of the Month. Pictured (l to r) are: Jan Collins, MCBL&F Executive Director; Jimmy Madison, CCTC Construction Instructor; Luke Walker, Thrash Construction Business Development Manager; Christian Reed, CCTC Student of the Month; and Michael Ellis, CCTC Director.

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# Thomas crowned 2021-22 CA Homecoming Queen



Photo by Brian Hull

Maggie Claire Thomas, senior, was recently crowned the Canton Academy (CA) Homecoming Queen. Thomas is co-captain of the varsity cheer team, a member of the CA softball team, tennis team, basketball team, track team, and is a Diamond Girl for the CA baseball team. She also serves as student body vice-president and is a member of the Madison County Civitans, where she serves as nursing home chair. Thomas is a member of First Baptist Church of Canton, where she is active in youth Sunday school, activities and is on the youth praise team. She is a three-time UCA All American Cheerleader, a Pin It Forward recipient, and was invited to try out for UCA Cheerleader. After graduating from Canton Academy, Thomas plans to attend Mississippi State University.

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# Economic development overview in North Madison County

By Guest Columnist Joy Foy

North Madison County Economic Development Council (NMED) was organized in April, 2016, to improve housing and economic development in North-east Madison County. The group chaired by Dr. Pallasence Cole has been busy pushing forward the possibilities and options for needed changes to enhance the economic development potential for the north end of Madison County. (A map of the county that NMED represents is pictured.) According to Dr. Cole, "NMED is a private entity independent of any political affiliation."



Joy Foy

On Thursday, August 19, 2021, a meeting of the NMED and the Madison County Business League & Foundation's Diversity & Inclusion Committee heard from Madison County Supervisor Paul Griffin, Madison County Economic Development Authority's (MCEDA) Chief Operating Officer, Stacy Lester, Superintendent of Education for Madison County Schools, Charlotte Seals, along with members of the NMED Board. The meeting was informal with Superintendent Seals serving as Facilitator and members of the audience offering opinions and recommendations during the presentations. The NMED and Supervisor Paul Griffin outlined and discussed the concerns the groups are focusing on in the area. Everyone seemed to agree the issues were 1.) lack of available housing; 2.) having nothing to do and 3.) broad band accessibility and their importance in that order.

John Wallace, retired Director of Canton Municipal Utilities and long-time Madison County economic developer has always said, "The jobs will follow infrastructure, but true economic development is measured basically by the people you can attract to live in your area." Dr. Cole and her Board which include First Vice Chair Earnestine Bilbrew, Second Vice Chair Dr. Pollia Griffin, Secretary Doris Sutherland, Treasurer Dr. Mary Sims-Johnson, Financial Advisor Diane Shaw-Day, and Board Members Major Willie Cline and Edd Hightower, are working with MCEDA and the Madison County Board of Supervisors to get things into place to attract people to live in north Madison County.

Supervisor Griffin talked about the Sulfur Springs Lake and he also reported that the county has \$10M in federal funds to invest in roads, sewer, and/or broadband with an

additional \$10M coming. According to him, the 300 miles of broadband needed by the north east Madison County area would cost around \$16M. He is very hopeful that some of this federal funding can go toward the north county broad band infrastructure, thus making it possible to live in rural Madison County and work anywhere in the world. Arnel Bolden, a member of the Diversity and Inclusion Committee made the observation that cabins in the area would help to attract people to north Madison County. Several in the group agreed with his recommendation noting the beauty of the rural area as a natural draw to anyone who visited.

Stacy Lester reported on the role that MCEDA is addressing to put the north end of the county in a better position to attract growth. She pointed out that the needs for the north end are different than for the south end of the county. She said that MCEDA is working with the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) to obtain a sewer system for this area. She talked about the five-acre site MCEDA has purchased at the corner of Highway 17 and Sulfur Springs Road, and that they are taking bids now for clearing and grubbing of the site. Both a new sewer and cleared available land are expected to help attract developers. She announced that a housing developer from California had expressed interest to MCEDA in the area. She also shared that MCEDA is looking to partner with Sacred Heart Parish to build a retirement community. Stacy explained that MCEDA is exploring all leads hoping to build adequate housing in a price range that makes sense for the area and begin addressing the housing shortage. "Getting sewer to this area will be a big plus in the housing issue and as well as helping to attract other development," Stacy said.

Back when I worked at MCEDA, a group from Madison County went to Chattanooga to look at rural lake development as a means to create an inviting area for people to purchase property and build homes. The efforts failed twenty years ago because developers were unwilling to invest in a market that could possibly take years to see returns. Back then, it was noted that the remoteness of the area and the distance from the economic growth of the metro area were big obstacles to selling lots even around a designed lake development. For those people who have lived for years in the Velma Jackson, Farmhaven, or Sharon areas, a drive into town doesn't seem too far. However, for the person making the trip for the first time, it feels really inconvenient and slow

to get to the doctor, grocery or service stations. Now that a recreational seventeen-acre lake is a reality, thanks to the Madison County Board of Supervisors, complete with a Healthplex center, picnic pavilion, restrooms, walking trails, and recreational grounds, the residents have something to do and the lake is also seen as an attraction to draw others to north Madison County.

While this area is in the Madison County School District, usually a big plus in driving development, the schools (Velma Jackson, Shirley Simmons, and Camden Elementary) in this area have been declining in enrollment. The dropping in enrollment of the schools has been a concern for several years according to Superintendent Seals, however, the schools report card scores are improving.

To keep the communities informed, the group distributes flyers and post updates on the NMCD website and on their Facebook page. They have obtained a 501c3 status and are currently working with the USDA to get funding for a youth internship program. They envision these youths will be hired to train local citizens in using new tech-

nology for possible online classes and telemedicine opportunities. They are serving as an advisory committee to the Supervisors for the startup to the Sulphur Springs Healthplex and the Recreation Park. NMED is very excited with the investment MCEDA and the Madison County Board of Supervisors have given to north end of the county and that developer's interest in the area has improved. Dr. Cole and the NMED Board agree that it is exciting times and the potential improves with each of these accomplishments. Soon the lake development will have the fencing complete and the NMED Board invites everyone to come and visit.

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



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# Last one out, meet me at the craft store

By Ashlyn Thompson, Riley Lambert and Chance Persac

Canton Academy is more than just yellow paint and metal siding. Several of the teachers have made their rooms unique and welcoming spaces.

Mark Millet, high school art instructor, is known for his creativity in the classroom. He uses previous students' artwork to spark creativity in the minds of current students.

"Kids nowadays have not been taught how to let their creativity shine. My job as a teacher is to teach them how to be a leader and be able to speak out and stand up for what they believe in," said Millet.

On the other side of the building, Kathleen Penn, high school math teacher, uses her posters to mentor her students who struggle to remember formulas.

"I use math word walls to ease text and quiz anxiety; sometimes they need a quick reminder. All students have had it one way or another. Of-



Special to The Canton News

ten, they need a jump start or a place to look to jog their memory. I also incorporate blue light covers to induce a calming environment and reduce glare and flickering. If they

get tired or doze off, all they see is math. So, one way or the other, they are seeing math," said Penn.

English chair and yearbook advisor Courtney Warren is known for her

bright personality and lively classroom decorations. With the help of the yearbook Editor-in-Chief, Eliza Lighheart, they revamped the yearbook room.

"We felt that changing the yearbook room was important, so that students could look forward to coming to class, instead of it feeling like a task. The change gave the new yearbook staff an inviting room to design the upcoming yearbook in," said Lighheart.

*EDITOR'S NOTE: With the Canton Academy Reflections Yearbook Staff celebrating the 50th volume of the yearbook, it was important to choose a great title and an outstanding focus. The staff announced the title, "Last One Out, Hit the Lights," and Editor-in-Chief Eliza Lighheart was inspired to present a family feel for the book. With that in mind, staffers explored the idea of family within CA. The following is an excerpt from the upcoming volume.*

## Remember When: The brave Mr. Davis

By Mary Jane Boutwell

Sometimes it does not take much to trigger a memory. Driving home, I saw an ice cream freezer sitting out on a counter. It reminded me of a neighbor and World War II veteran who would show up Sunday afternoon to eat homemade ice cream and tell stories.

Hubert Davis served in the European Theatre. He actually drove General George Patton and General Eisenhower. One story was Mr. Davis was sitting under a tree reading the *Stars and Stripes*, the military newsletter, and a German fighter plane kept buzzing him. This disturbed his reading and upset him. Mr. Davis shook his fist and then his rifle. The pilot just grinned and did it again. The next pass Mr. Davis shot the pilot. The plane crashed and all the men went to retrieve anything they could use. Mr. Davis was still mad because the pilots would not quit.

Another time, the troops were pinned down by artillery fire. The Allies were unable to destroy it, as it was in a roofed bunker. Finally, Mr. Davis got a weapon, got in a Jeep, and drove closer. Three shots: one too high, one too low, and one down the barrel. The Allies moved on. He received a Silver Star.

Mr. Davis also drove *The Red Ball*

*Express* hauling supplies. His was the lead truck. When trucks arrived in the yard, the men worked on them to increase power and speed. The standard muffler actually choked the engine. The muffler was replaced with a "yard pipe." This increased power and noise.

A new lieutenant arrived to take over. When everyone was lined up, the officer told Mr. Davis he, the lieutenant, would lead. Mr. Davis lined up immediately behind the Jeep. After everything was lined up and moving, he placed his bumper right on the Jeep's bumper, changing gears and revving the engine up and down, even more than the terrain re-

quired. The loud sound and the tall front of the truck were all but in the backseat. After a short distance, the lieutenant motioned the convoy over. He got out, walked back to Mr. Davis, and told him to lead. The lieutenant would follow in case someone had trouble.

Remember, Mr. Davis was just a boy from a small town in Mississippi, very like many others in our military.

*EDITOR'S NOTE: Mary Jane Boutwell is a passionate historian and is thrilled to share stories about way back when.*



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- 1 teaspoon each of any 5  
flavoring extracts

**ON THE TABLE:**  
BUNDT CAKE  
RECIPE FROM MARIAH HARRIS

By Mariah Harris

There has been a cake in my family for many years. It all started with my great grandmother, who had a passion to bake. In 2000, she couldn't find a cake recipe that was immaculate enough for her taste. As time went by, she started mixing different flavors into one cake until it was perfect. Once she found the right amount of flavors, she made this cake more often. This cake is important to my great grandmother, because, once she started bringing it to family events, our family started to love it. They cherished it so much that it became a tradition that my great grandmother would bring it to all family events.

In 2005, she became closer to "the daughter she never had." So, she decided to pass it down to her daughter-in-law (my grandmother). After a while, the recipe grew on my grandmother after she saw how important it was to her mother-in-law. My grandmother wasn't a big fan of baking at first, but after the both of them spent time baking together, it seemed like she would bake almost every holiday season and even year-round. The history behind this cake will forever influence my identity to who I am today, a family person who likes to bake.

**Directions:**

1. Preheat oven to 325 degrees.
2. In one bowl, add sour cream and butter, then whisk together until it forms a cream.
3. Slowly add sugar while beating, mix until fluffy.
4. Add eggs one at a time, beating between each.
5. Add flour, 1/2 at a time, beating additionally.
6. Repeat until all dry ingredients are added.
7. After battering up, pour cake batter into the cake pan.
8. Bake approximately 1 hour and 30 minutes.

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## Courthouse lawn a renovated treasure



Photo by Courtney Warren

By Courtney Warren

The Canton Courthouse grounds recently got a facelift, thanks to the efforts of the Madison County Board of Supervisors.

The sidewalks were reconstructed, and the old sidewalks were removed, with new concrete poured to make new sidewalks around the square.

Another huge improvement was the installation of an irrigation system.

According to Madison County Administrator Shelton Vance, “we contoured the property to provide for proper drainage and installed sod.”

This project has been considered for several years.

Madison County Supervisor Sheila

Jones said, “That courthouse and the lawn are a treasure to the community and to the county. We need to make sure it lasts for future generations.”

The board will be considering restrictions after seeing the impact of the fall flea market. Right now, the only new restriction is that no tent stakes can be used and no motorized vehicles on the sod.

“We are going to ensure all of the Canton traditions remain intact,” said Jones.

Nothing official has been decided for the Christmas events, however, restrictions will be in place to protect all of the hard work done by the county.

## Breast cancer survivors recognized



Special to The Canton News

By Courtney Warren

The Knights of Pillar Nurses Association recently recognized and celebrated local breast cancer survivors to promise breast cancer awareness. Those included were Joyce Cheeks, Shirley Cross, Betty Daughtrey, Orzzie Daughtrey, Luretha Dawson, Dorothy Grant, Beverly Harris, Katie Jackson, Vanessa Johnson, Annie Jones, Margaret Jones, Mary Luckett, Renee Middleton, Laverne Watts, Ruth Simpson, and LaShandrea Whitehead.

The Knights of Pillar Nurses Association honored these ladies during the month of October at Holy Child Jesus Church.

Throughout Breast Cancer Awareness month many educated the community on breast cancer. Breast cancer

is a disease in which malignant (cancer) cells form in the tissues of the breast.

According to the National Breast Cancer Foundation, in 2021, an estimated 281,550 new cases of invasive breast cancer will be diagnosed in women in the U.S. as well as 49,290 new cases of non-invasive (in situ) breast cancer. According to the American Cancer Society, when breast cancer is detected early, and is in the localized stage, the 5-year relative survival rate is 99 percent. Early detection includes doing monthly breast self-exams, and scheduling regular clinical breast exams and mammograms.

For more information about breast cancer and early detection, visit your family doctor or [Nationalbreastcancer.org](http://Nationalbreastcancer.org).

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# CANTON'S ADULT PROGRAMMING Calendar

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## Program Name: Seated Pilates at the Canton Public Library

Date: Tuesdays, November 02, 09 & 16th  
Time: 10:am-10:45am

Description: You can get a full-body workout in from the safety of your chair. Ms. Jacqueline Carson, Certified Personal Trainer, will lead this ongoing class to help you to improve your posture, increase your flexibility, or to develop your core strength. Come to the Canton branch on every Tuesdays and join in our FREE Pilates exercise class! This is a form of low-impact exercise that is excellent for people looking to start a new exercise routine. For adults ages 18+ only.

## Program Name: Family Movie Nights

Date: Tuesdays, November, 09, 16 & 30th (Black Panther, Coco, a Pixar Animated Studios Film and Finding Nemo)

Time: 3:30pm-5:15pm

Description: Enjoy this month's free movies for the entire family on the big screen at 'your' library in the meeting room. Bring your pillows and blankets for comfy floor seating or enjoy seating with our chair setup.

## Program Name: The Mississippi Homemaker Volunteers of Madison County Quilts, Arts and Crafts Show & Tell

Date: November 4th, 2021

Time: 11:am-12:00pm

Description: The Mississippi Homemaker Volunteers of Madison County in partnership with the Canton Public Library, cordially invite you to their annual Show & Tell where they will be displaying beautifully designed handmade quilts and other arts and crafts.

## Program Name: Popcorn Fridays

Date: Fridays, November, 05, 12 & 19

Time: 9:00am-5:00pm

Description: What's better than a movie and free popcorn? When you pick up a movie at 'your' library, you'll also get a free bag of popcorn! Only while supplies last, so don't miss out on the fun!

## Program Name: First Time Home Buyers Seminar

Date: Wednesday, November, 10th

Time: 10am-11am (Facebook Live)

Description:

Agenda Topics: Why Buy? Rent vs. Buy | Budgeting | Credit and Alternative Credit | Inspector | Preliminary Approval | Loan Process

Join Ms. Lynette M. Suttler, Broker/Owner of 1STAR Realty LLC will prepare potential first time homebuyers for homeownership. This seminar will provide a complete step-by-step guidelines of the entire home buying process including credit, savings, inspections, appraisals, down payments, and insurance. You will be ready for your first home buying experience.

## Program Name: Celebrate Native American Heritage Month with the Canton Public Library in November

Date: Wednesday, November 17th

Time: 4:00 pm-5:00 pm

Description: Celebrate Native American Heritage Month with the Canton Public Library on November, 17th. The presenter of this program will be Mr. John Sullivan from the Bureau of Land Management. We are inviting all to listen, read, learn and rediscover Native American heritage.

## Program Name: Cheerful Hearts Seniors Workshop

Date: Saturday, November, 20th

Time: 11:00am-1:00 pm

Description: Cheerful Heart Seniors is a nonprofit organization that provides recreational therapy activities for veterans and seniors. This group of retired teachers and veterans' mission is to stay active and provide community service, including: job fairs, job training, job placement, frequent visits St. Jude, deliver gifts to Batson Children's Hospital and, do blanket drives to give to homeless shelters.

## Program Name: Women's Empowerment Group Lunch Chat

Date: Friday, November, 19th

Time: 12:00 pm-1:00 pm

Description: "Empowered women empower women". This group is designed for women who want to achieve more serenity, contentment and peace. Join Jacqueline Carson, M.S. - Certified Personal Trainer and Health Coach as she discusses topics relating to: relationship stress, anxiety, depression, feeling overwhelmed or isolated, intimacy, self-care, self-esteem, body image, fatigue, family problems, and much more.

## Program Name: National Diabetes Awareness Month Seminar

Date: Thursday, November, 18th

Time: 10am-11:00am

Description: November is National Diabetes Awareness Month and during this month, there is an emphasis on the disease and those who are affected by it. Let us educate ourselves on living with diabetes as well as supporting those we love. Join Shelia Spann, PharmD.CDE, as she discusses day-to-day blood sugar level tests, recommendations regarding exercise, nutrition, meal planning, grocery shopping, exercise plans, and creating a diabetes care schedule. Stay safe and healthy!

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# Eighth-grade Shirley Simmons School ranks high



Special to the Canton News

The current eighth grade class at Shirley Simmons was very excited after state testing. On the English Language Arts state test, as seventh-graders, the class

was ranked eleven out of over 250 other classes in the state of Mississippi. This year the students took the Pre-ACT. This year the Madison County School District administered the Pre-

ACT to all eighth grade students in the district. According to the Pre-ACT standards, the test empowers students with a unique ACT test practice experience. Pre-ACT reporting includes both

academic and career indicators, which are designed to identify strengths and areas for improvement, providing a complete view of students' college and career readiness.

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