



THE CANTON NEWS

PRST STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
CANTON, MS
PERMIT NO. 3

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

On Location February 2, 2017 • Volume 3, Number 2 • Canton, Mississippi

Chamber honors Canton businesses at Annual Meeting

By Susie A. Wolfe

Canton businesses were recognized at the 2017 Annual Canton Chamber of Commerce Meeting for not only their dedicated service to the Chamber, but for their leadership and positive impact on the City of Canton. The meeting was held at the Nissan Canton manufacturing plant on January 19 with key city, county and state business leaders in attendance. Marshall Ramsey, author, public speaker and cartoonist, was the guest speaker.

"The Annual Meeting is the largest networking event of the year. It highlights the accomplishments of the past year and sets the stage for the upcoming year," said Chamber Executive Director Toya Veals.

Bill Mosby, Mosby Drug Store, was named Business Person of the Year. Though Mosby's is Mississippi's oldest drug store, founded in 1843, Mosby was one of the first pharmacies to incorporate the latest in tele-medicine, Tele-healthONE Walk-In Clinic, into the store.

Merit Health Madison was named the Business of the Year. They are one of the preferred healthcare facilities in Madison County, where their fundamental values are their commitment to the local community.

Michael Murphy with Mississippi Discount Drugs was named Merchant of the Year. The community pharmacy opened in 1969, and now has



Photo by Jud Meaders

Canton businesses were recognized at the 2017 Annual Canton Chamber of Commerce Meeting for their dedicated service, leadership and positive impact on the City of Canton. Merit Healthcare Madison was named Business of the Year; Bill Mosby was named Business Person of the Year; Mississippi Discount Drugs was named Merchant of the Year; ASSET Engineering received the Community Service Award; Jewelry Johnson was named Ambassador of the Year; and Grady Morgan was recognized for his retirement. Pictured (l to r) are, front row: Ashley Hindman (bowtie), Renea Foley, and Anne Kealhofer with Merit Healthcare; Jewelry Johnson with Canton Municipal Utilities; and Brian Anderson and Mike Yost with ASSET Engineering; and back row: Grady Morgan; Rick Hartzog, Brit Phelps, and Yolanda Foster with Merit; and Ben Barnette and Ron Reed with ASSET. Not shown is Bill Mosby and Michael Murphy.

two locations in Canton. They believe in full service for their customers, and have a convenient U.S. Post Office inside their store.

ASSET Engineering received the Community Service Award for taking the lead in the mentoring program with the Canton Public School District. A number of their employees are involved in working with kids at the school every week.

Jewelry Johnson, customer services manager at Canton Municipal Utilities, was named Ambassador of the Year. "Our

Ambassador of the year is one of our most diligent members,

Simpson retires from CRA

By Susie A. Wolfe

Maureen Simpson retired as executive director of the Canton Redevelopment Authority (CRA) on January 30 after almost 30 years. She taught school at Canton Academy for 15 years before she started working part time with the CRA in 1987.

What started as part time, turned into a life's work in preserving historical structures and developing them into viable enterprises that will continue into the next generation. She left her mark on the Illinois Central Railroad Depot,

she is a constant volunteer," said Veals. "She works for a company that gives her more than enough to do but always finds the time to help organize an event for this community. She is a true asset to this community and to our board."

Retiring Board of Directors were also recognized. They include Beverly Luckett, Canton Public Schools; John Martin, Montgomery McGraw Law Firm; Jon David Johnson, JD Johnson Realty and Investment; and Ed Hutchison, The Emporium on the Square.

The retiring businesspersons in town were spotlighted. They are Bill Mosby, Mosby Drug Store; Grady Morgan, Quality Cleaners; Maureen Simpson, Canton Redevelopment Authority; and Amber Sukhbaatar, Jackie's International.

Outgoing president Chan Chandler, from Canton Discount Drugs, ended the festive event when he passed the gavel to 2017 president, Michael Crandall, from Trustmark National Bank.

the Hollow, and the old Canton High School, to name a few visible projects.

Though born in Magee, Simpson is a true Cantonian who loves the City and its people. She moved to Canton in the eighth grade and graduated from Canton High School. Her husband, Billy, is a native Cantonian, who had a CPA firm intown until he retired in 2016. They have two sons, Bill and Stevie, and five grandchildren. Bill works at Mississippi Ag in Canton, and lives in Madison with his wife, Carol, and their children. Stevie and Cindy and their three children

Cont. on page 4

Inside this issue

Goodloe Dental has served Canton for 16 years.....	2
MCM receives new Altima as gift.....	3
Primer, Jr. donates to newly-renovated Museum.....	9
Craig Bowman named CA head football coach.....	11



Simplify your Life with myTrustmark
A new experience in online and mobile banking.

- Monitor accounts and information
- Pay bills electronically
- Transfer funds between accounts
- Create special alerts and reminders

Trustmark
trustmark.com/mytrustmark

Goodloe Dental has served in Canton for sixteen years

By Susie A. Wolfe

Goodloe Dental has been located on Highway 22 at Peace Street in Canton for 16 years.

“The Lord has been kind. He provided a way that I could be a hands-on mother and still provide services for people in need.”

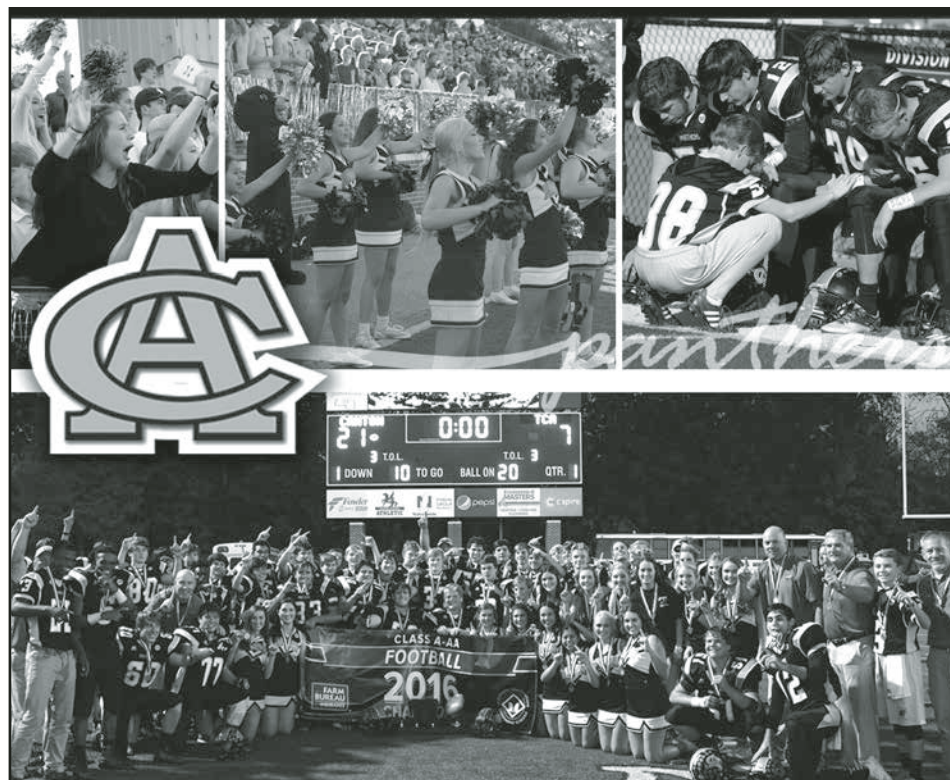


Photo by The Canton News

Erika Goodloe is from Jackson, but married into a Canton family. She and her husband, Marcus, have five children ranging from 8 to 20.

Goodloe graduated from Millsaps College and the University of Mississippi Medical Center School of Dentistry. She said,

A small business, she and office manager, Vasanti Rose, provide comprehensive dentistry with personalized service for children and adults. They take appointments Monday – Thursday, 9-5, and 9-12 on Friday, and also take walk-ins from 9-10:30 and 1:30-3:30.



congratulations,
Canton Academy
AA STATE CHAMPS
www.CantonAcademy.org



The Original Penn's Fish House celebrates 50 years!

Roger Penn built the Penn's Fish House franchise out of the Highway 43 restaurant that still operates seven days a week in South Canton.

Penn's Fish House on Highway 43 is open Mon.-Fri. from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. for lunch; Fri. and Sat. nights 5:00-9:00 p.m.; and Sunday lunch from 10:30-2:00 p.m. Mon./Wed./Fri. fish is served on the buffet. Tues. features Country Cooking, and Thurs. features pork chops.

In addition to the pond-raised catfish, Penn's all-you-can-eat buffet includes fried and baked chicken, and fried pork chops. Friday and Saturday nights, they also include frog legs, popcorn shrimp, and stuffed crab cakes in addition to their peach cobbler, cakes and pies.

Authentic Southern cooking and attention to fresh ingredients is the core of Penn's success. That, and making sure the customers are happy, said the 82-year-old Penn.



THE CANTON NEWS

It's your community.

Find us on



P.O. Box 1163
Canton, MS 39046
601-667-4667



Volume 3, Issue 2
Circulation 14,000

Publisher

Clay Mansell

ClayMansell@CantonNews.net

Managing Editor

Susie A. Wolfe

601-667-4667 x2

News@CantonNews.net

Sales Representative

Leon Whitehead

601-667-4667 X3

Graphic Designer

/ Layout

Megan Smith

Designer@CantonNews.net

The Canton News is published on the first Thursday of each month in Canton, Mississippi.

For submission information, email
news@cantonnews.net

Copyright © 2016. All rights reserved.
Materials may not be reproduced in whole or in part without the written permission of the publisher.
For reprints of any article, please contact the editor.

www.cantonnews.net

Know Your Neighbor: Henry Rings

By Guest Columnist Jim Ritchie

Few Cantonians have seen as much of the world as he has. Born in Jackson because Canton didn't

Henry's parents migrated from Germany and met in Canton, where they were married and began their family. Heini, as he was then known, graduated from the Can-



Special to The Canton News

have a hospital in 1926, he was brought to his family's apartment above their hardware store on Peace Street when he was three days old.

Meet Henry Rings, world traveler, seaman, business owner and member of the "Greatest Generation," having served his country during World War II.

ton school system and joined the Merchant Marines. He spent eight months at sea aboard ships transporting wartime supplies from the U.S. to England and Europe, sailing the Gulf of Mexico, the Atlantic and the Mediterranean, where German submarines lurked, seeking to sink the supply ships.

After the war, Henry graduated

from the Merchant Marine Academy, then began a career with Lykes Brothers Shipping Company. This career was cut short by a summons to return to Canton and take over the Rings' hardware store because his father's health was failing. Upon his return, he met and married Mary Elizabeth Fendlason, and this union produced two sons and two daughters. He ran the store until it closed in 1995.

When asked how many countries he has visited, he says, "I have no idea...a bunch, in Africa, Europe, the three Americas and the Caribbean." The quip beside his picture in the 1946 Merchant Marine Academy annual says, "This lively lad caused many a chuckle by his quick wit and dry humor." And at age ninety, he still does.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Jim Ritchie is a published author, storyteller, entertainer and grandfather of eleven. He is amazed at the number of talented and accomplished people who live in the Canton area, and he thinks you should know about some of them. Ritchie and professional artist wife, Perry, live in the Shocco community out from Canton. View their work at: www.southernstories.com.

MCM receives new Altima as gift

Special to The Canton News

On December 21, the Mississippi Children's Museum (MCM) unwrapped a very special Christmas present—a new 2016 Nissan Altima in Java Metallic, given by the Nissan Canton Vehicle Assembly Plant. This car replaced the original Nissan Altima that has been one of MCM's most beloved exhibit elements in the museum's World at Work gallery.

"The Mississippi Children's Museum offers the state's youth a place to have fun while also sparking curiosity about the world around them," said Steve Marsh, vice president of manufacturing, Nissan Canton. "Through the donation of a new Nissan Altima, assembled here in Canton, we are pleased to support the museum in this valuable mission and make a positive contribution to the local community."

In addition to the car, the museum also recognized Nissan's \$50,000 contribution to MCM's Forget-Me-Not Fund which was established by the Junior League of Jackson as a reserve to help the museum main-

tain and replace its exhibits. This donation helped to underwrite the retrofitting of the car and is significant because it is the first such gift that has been made to the fund by a MCM founding donor.

not only offer the best experiences possible to the children we serve now but also to those we will serve in the future," says Susan Garrard, MCM President and CEO.

As with the original, this Nissan Altima has been retrofitted to make the car into a safe, interactive, learning environment. Children will be able to gas up the car, change tires, investigate the engine under the hood, activate radio buttons and a back-up camera, and engage in a virtual driving experience while operating the pedals and steering wheel.

"Our World at Work Gallery showcases careers in Mississippi. Over the next couple of years, we plan to change several more elements to reflect the

way that our world has changed, gearing them more towards hands-on, STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) experiences. The gift of a new Altima is an amazing first step in this process," says Garrard.



Special to The Canton News

"We are so appreciative of Nissan. They shared in the original vision for the museum and have continued to support our ongoing efforts. We are grateful for their wisdom in seeing the importance of keeping our exhibits fresh and new so we

cont. from front page

Simpson retires from CRA

live in Atlanta.

Asked what she will be doing in retirement, Simpson said what she said when she joined CRA 30 years ago. She wants to play more



Special to The Canton News

tennis, and spend more time with her grandchildren.

Here is what key people Simpson has worked with will remember about her impact on Canton:

“Maureen Simpson has forged an imprint on Canton that can never be forgotten, nor erased. Her legacy will exist in the buildings she has fought to preserve, as well as the new developments she has formalized. For all of her hard work and dedication, Canton will be eternally grateful.” **-Mayor Arnel Bolden**

“Ever since Maureen Simpson left teaching and joined the City agency, she has been a partner in many beneficial projects. Through Canton Redevelopment, she helped rebuild West Peace Street back to normal. In addition, she worked to recondition the Rail Road Depot and Highway 22 west to the rail road. She oversaw the lighting and landscaping to the very high level it is today. We are all proud of what she has done in spearheading the Canton High School Project to put it into use. I sincerely appreciate Maureen coordinating in these projects, and including me.” **-John Wallace, former CEO, Canton Municipal Utilities**

“Maureen Simpson as executive director was heavily involved in the creation of the agency and granting to it the authority for rehabilitation of Canton and the preservation of significant buildings within the preservation district. Her efforts will be known and appreciated for years to come. She and her board did much, but, three accomplishments that come read-

ily to mind include turning West Peace Street, the Hollow, from honky tonk heaven into a thriving business district. She helped preserve and convert it; secondly, to complement the building of the Distillery building, she worked to complete the Hickory Street Project. Thirdly, in the first major development downtown in 30 years, she worked to turn the abandoned old Canton High School into an apartment complex that will be a substantial benefit to our citizens as well as the downtown Canton area. Construction is currently underway, and without Maureen's persistence, it would not have come about. **-Bob Montgomery, attorney for the CRA Board for 30 years**

I was on the of board when Maureen came to work for Canton Redevelopment Authority. She started as a part time employee, because she said she wanted to play more tennis. After a while she became full time after the tragic death of then Director Will Cooper, who was killed in a car accident going to a meeting in Jackson. A sad, sad day for all concerned. Maureen took the charge as director of the Board, and has done an outstanding job. Because of her love for this City and its citizens, she will be greatly missed! **-Hurstine Watts, CRA board member**

Maureen and I began the revitalization of Canton together. We sat in one little office together where we had to coordinate our chairs to move around. We worked close on a number of programs. She has been a mainstay in redevelopment in Canton all these years. It has been her due diligence to maintain the history and integrity of the redevelopment of Canton. **-Jo Ann Gordon, former Canton Tourism Executive Director**

When I think of Maureen Simpson what comes to mind is relentless, determined, supportive. Maureen has a memory that reaches back many years. She often speaks of the many changes she and other department heads and concerned citizens successfully completed and attempted in the past to move Canton forward. She told me, “maybe you all (this generation) can complete what we didn't.” **-Toya Veals, Canton Chamber Executive Director**

Seniors meet DS President



Special to The Canton News

Canton Academy recently welcomed Delta State University President William LaForge to campus to talk to juniors and seniors about great things happening at Delta State. Pictured (l to r) are: Austin Loft, Jared Greed, President LaForge, and Bill Lavender.



Linda P. Chambers, Nurse Practitioner

Camden Community Family Health Clinic
1493 Hwy 17, Camden, MS 39045
P: 662-468-2015

Located on Sacred Heart Church Campus,
privately and locally owned and operated.

WE ARE OPEN FOR APPOINTMENTS

Office Hours:
Mon-Wed 8am - 5pm
Thursday--Call for Appointment
Friday -- 8am --2pm

Services for the entire family--sports and school physicals, immunizations, wellness exams, blood pressure, cholesterol, and diabetes monitoring
Most insurances accepted

First Presbyterian Kindergarten



MAIS-certified

A Beka Christian curriculum, plus “Handwriting Without Tears”

202 East Peach Street | Canton | 601-854-3052, the church 601-854-4738 | www.facebook.com/firstpreskindergarten



Ruth Morgan, DDS

**ITS TIME FOR
A CHECKUP!**

www.RuthMorganDDS.com

601-859-2182

Office Hours
Monday-Thursday 8AM-5PM

After Hours Emergencies

601-940-2145

1309 E Peace Street
Canton, MS 39046

No representation is made that the quality of dental services to be performed is greater than the quality of dental services performed by other dentists.

From the Mayor's Desk

By Arnel Bolden, Mayor of Canton

In 1979, the disco group McFadden and Whitehead released the song, "Ain't No Stopping Us Now," which was



Special to The Canton News

a hit that sold over two million copies. It was about succeeding despite having faced many obstacles, and could be interpreted as the theme song for our city's renaissance during the last four years, and point five of my blueprint which focuses on community development. To gain further clarity, an excerpt of the lyrics are as follows, and I encourage you to listen to the song.

Ain't No Stoppin Us Now!
We're on the move!
Ain't No Stoppin Us Now!
We've got the groove!

**There's been so many things
that's held us down
But now it looks like things are
finally comin' around**

**I know we've got, a long, long
way to go
And where we'll end up, I don't
know**

**But we won't let nothin' hold us
back
We're putting ourselves together**

**We're polishing up our act!
If you felt we've been held down
before**

**I know you'll refuse to be held
down anymore!**

**Don't you let nothing, nothing
Stand in your way!**

I want ya'll to listen, listen

**To every word I say, every word
I say!**

Yes, Canton, we are on the move! If you are wondering what state our city is in, my response would be, "Just Look Around!" Look around at our beautiful Canton Square, which has recently undergone a magnificent facelift from the Historic Courthouse to the many beautiful buildings and storefronts surrounding it. Just look around at the Hickory Street area, more affectionately known as "The Hollow," which has been upgraded with new sidewalks, lighting, and street signage. Just look around at the Old High School, currently being renovated into a luxurious apartment community with many amenities. Just look around at the new Woodland Parkway extension by Canton Academy, home of our state AA-MAIS champions.

Let's finish what we started, and may God continue to richly bless our great city!

EDITOR'S NOTE: Arnel Bolden is currently serving as mayor since being elected in 2013. He and his wife, LaToya Bolden, are members of Canton United Methodist Church and are active in the community.

Students lead Pledge and National Anthem



Special to The Canton News

Two CPSD students participated in the Chamber's 2017 Annual Meeting at Nissan Canton on January 19. Jabari Townsend sang the National Anthem, and Kenna Pierce, Jr., led the Pledge of Allegiance. Pictured (l to r) are: Superintendent Cassandra Williams, Townsend, Pierce, and Public Relations Director Beverly Luckett.

HAPPY VALENTINES DAY
from THE
CANTON NEWS

Join us!



**FIRST
BAPTIST
CHURCH**
Canton, Mississippi

**Sunday Small Groups
9:00 a.m.**

**Morning Worship
10:15 a.m.**

**Wednesday Nights
6:00 p.m.**

Prayer Meeting
Children & Youth Activities
Choir Rehearsal

Canton Ambassadors give back on MLK, Jr. holiday

By Cassandra Williams, CPSD Superintendent

Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King once stated that “intelligence plus character—that is the goal of true education.” Dr. King’s quote is especially relevant to

a day off, our Canton Ambassadors, their mentors, and their parents spent the morning donating canned goods to Our Daily Bread Ministries in Can-



Special to The Canton News

About 100 students, mentors, and parents participated in a community service project on MLK Day. They donated more than 600 canned goods to the community pantry.

the work that we are doing in Canton Public School District. Our district’s motto, “Nurturing Our Community: One Student at a Time,” embraces the idea that students need more than academic support to be not only college and career ready, but also community ready.

This school year, we have established a partnership with Dr. Juanita Sims-Doty and Dr. Karla McCullough called the I!Can Mentor, We!Can Mentor Initiative. Under this initiative, members of the community serve as mentors to our students in developing their skills in the areas of communication, careers, citizenship, honesty, caring, self-discipline, and character.

Recently, our Canton Ambassadors from Nichols Middle School, Porter Middle School, and the 9th Grade Academy had the opportunity to demonstrate that they are building their character by participating in a community service project on MLK Day on January 16, 2017. Instead of using the holiday as

ton. In total, about 100 students, mentors, and parents donated over 600 canned goods to this community pantry. Many students expressed that they were proud to be able to devote their time in the name of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

At Canton Public School District, academics are paramount. But our focus is also on creating students who will lead our communities later. True leaders possess not only skills and abilities, but they also possess an innate desire to do the right thing. Doing the right thing is a measure of character, and our goal is to produce students who value character as much as they value academics.

EDITOR’S NOTE: With over twenty years in education, Cassandra Williams’ focus as superintendent of the Canton Public School District is to increase student achievement through an invigorated emphasis on teaching, learning, and nurturing.

Warren Used Cars



Three Generations of Warrens: Eddie, Jr., Eddie, Sr. and Kylie

Proudly Serving Canton and Madison County for 30 years.

Where Customers Become Friends

1215 E Peace Street, Canton | (601) 859-4207

Get the most from your tax refund



Come see one our professional tax specialist at:

Morgan Tax Service
227 West Peace Street
Canton, MS 39046
601.407.6125

We will take care of all your tax needs. We’re offering: REFUND ADVANCE with NO fees; \$500, 800, or 1200 check. Come in today with family and friends and leave out with your REFUND ADVANCE CHECK.

See you soon

Jesus loves all of us

By Guest Columnist Pastor Guy Odom

Many have heard the expression, "February is the month of LOVE."



Special to The Canton News

With Valentine's Day quickly approaching, I wanted to just run with this theme of "LOVE." I hope and pray that this will be

an encouragement to anyone who reads this. Have you ever asked the question "Where did love originate from?" Maybe you have, or maybe you haven't. Maybe you think that is an odd question, thinking that the answer has been, "ever since man and woman have been alive." Well, that is partly true, but that is not where it originated from. 1 John 4:10 passionately declares, "This is love: not that we loved God, but that he LOVED us

and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins." Love originated from God the Father manifested to us in the person of Jesus Christ, God's only begotten son. Jesus said, I and the Father are one. If you have seen me, then you have seen the Father. Jesus, who is God, demonstrated His own love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for the ungodly (John 10:30; John 14:9; Romans 10:8). And guess what? That means HE LOVES YOU! There are days I don't feel loved by God, nor do I feel like loving others. But, remember, it's not about me or you. God's love is based on FACT, not FEELING. NOTHING, and I mean NOTHING, will ever change that truth! Not only that, but read these verses from your Bible or, find a Bible, if you do not have one: Romans 8:31-39.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Guy Odom has been pastor at First Baptist Church of Canton since 2012. He and his wife, Tommi, have two sons, Ely and Cy. He is originally from Vicksburg.



TEEN CHALLENGE
Women's Ministries

JOB OPENING

Ministry seeking full time position for our shop with experience working with CNC router.

Starting salary 30k, benefit package, and paid vacation.

For information, please contact Harrell Bolding at 580-920-8529. Or send resume to Harrell.Bolding@womenstc.com.

MOSBY'S DRUG STORE



Serving Canton and Madison County since 1843

1301 East Peace Street, Canton 39046 | 601-859-4212

8:30-6:00 M-F
8:30-2:00 Sat

Growing in the wind

By Guest Columnist Kathy Amos

Did you know that when you decide to grow intentionally, you stir up the winds of change in your life?



Special to The Canton News

Yes! Growth comes through the process of change. My husband, Joe, calls it “growing in the wind.” Personal growth doesn’t happen by chance or luck. Neither is the process automatic. To assure your growth, you must have a specific strategy and a schedule so that when you encounter strong wind storms, you won’t be blown off course. Motivational speaker Earl Nightingale said, “If a person will spend one hour a day on the same subject for five years, that person will be an expert on that subject.” Now that’s amazing!

There are four success keys you can use to help you stay on course on your growth journey:

- (1) Set aside time to grow. The secret to success is your daily agenda. You will never change your life until you change what you do daily.
- (2) Identify the area of growth you want to focus on. Success comes when we identify our natural talents, and then work earnestly to develop them into exceptional skills.
- (3) Find resources in your area of growth. Stay close to passionate people. Associate with like-minded learners who will challenge your thinking and inspire you to grow.
- (4) Apply what you have learned. Seeking knowledge is fruitless unless you find a way to apply what you’ve learned.

EDITOR’S NOTE: Kathy Amos is a founding member of The John Maxwell Team and a certified coach, speaker and trainer. She serves as executive pastor of the Turning Point Fellowship Ministries International Church, along with her husband. She is the founder and life coach of Glamdezvous Resorts, and the president of the Turning Point Arts & Entertainment Studio in Canton, a performing arts school, event facility and internet cafe’.

Thank You Penn’s Fish House for



**It is an honor to work along
side you bringing visitors to
our Town. -Canton Tourism**

UNDERSTANDING YOU

 **RENASANT
BANK**

Understanding You.

3330 South Liberty Street | 601.859.1831
Canton, Mississippi | renasantbank.com

All loans subject to credit approval.  MEMBER FDIC

OXYGEN

Anytime. Anywhere.

No tanks to refill. No deliveries.
Only 4.8 pounds and FAA approved for air travel!
May be covered by medicare.

Call for FREE info kit: 844-857-2817



**Innovation
that excites**

BUILDING CARS, TRUCKS, SUVs AND COMMUNITY.

Together, Nissan and Canton build some of the finest vehicles on the road. But we’re also working together to build a great community. From providing over 6,000 jobs to supporting hundreds of organizations serving the metro Jackson area, we’re committed to making this a great home for all of us.

Visit nissanmotor.jobs to join our Canton team.

Primer donates guitar to Multicultural Museum

By Susie A. Wolfe

Canton gospel singer, Blues artist and former Canton High School (CHS) band director Jessie Primer, Jr. has donated his guitar “Jessie Mae” to the newly-renovated Canton Multicultural Center and Museum.

Primer was the CHS music department chair and band director for 31 years. He has produced nine band directors who are now employed in the field of music. He is also CEO of Yuric Records, Inc., and has performed with music greats, including Ray Charles, B.B. King, James Brown, and Bobby Rush. He has written and performed all types of music with his guitar “Jessie Mae,” which was included in the Blues marker section of the museum in December, 2016.

“We are very honored and excited about Mr. Primer donating ‘Miss Jessie Mae’ to our newly-renovated Multicultural Museum,” said Tourism Director Jana Padgett. “In the renovations, we created a trail wall that includes our Blues Trail and Freedom Trail markers, and Primer’s guitar fits perfectly on that wall. He has been a friend

to tourism for many years, and this is just one more act of his kindness towards us. We know this addition will be a draw for the visitors to our town.”

The permanent exhibit at the museum focuses on the history, family life, business and community life of diverse cultures like African Americans, and recounts their struggle for civil rights. There is an interactive video kiosk and large, eight-panel graphic displays spotlighting Early Struggles, Agricultural, Business Success, School Days, Voting Victories, Freedom Tri-

umphs, Community Spirit, and Family Ties.

Primer grew up as a kid shining shoes on Hickory Street in the Hollow, which is designated with a Blues Marker. He has written songs about Canton and his guitar, including “Dancin’ On Hickory Street (The Hollow),” “Confession to Jessie Mae (My Guitar),” and “Jessie Mae and War.” Some of his songs have been translated into foreign lan-



Special to The Canton News

guages.

Excerpt from “Confession to Jessie Mae”:

You know when we are on

stage

**I hold you close to my heart
Because you done so much for me**

**You put me through college
You put all my children
through school**

**You been a friend Jessie Mae
And I love you for that
But you bought me everything
I need**

“Jessie Mae is my comfort zone,” said Primer, “When I sit down and play, I solve all my problems.” He is still producing and helping others to find themselves in music. In 2009, Primer became a minister and received his doctor of divinity degree in ministry. In 2010, he released his first Christian CD, “Who Is the Holy Spirit?” and has signed and recorded “The 4 Spirits” gospel quartet from Canton. “I just love music,” said Primer. “Blues is my preference.”

One son, Jessie Primer III, is a saxophone player and works at Tougaloo. The other, Yurich, works at Nissan.

To schedule a tour of the museum, contact the Canton Welcome Center at 601-859-1307 or email then at:

canton@cantontourism.com.

Mississippi Discount Drugs



www.msdiscountdrugs.com



**We can also handle
your postal needs
7 days a week**

8:00 am - 7:00 pm weekdays

With two convenient locations in Canton:



*Keeping Canton and
Madison County*
Healthy since 1969

195 E. Peace Street | 276 Nissan Parkway | 601.859.3939 | 877.727.4780

Investment in education raises student achievement

By Guest Columnist Rosemary G. Aultman, Chair, Mississippi State Board of Education

The Mississippi State Board of Education (SBE) and the Mississippi Department of Education (MDE) have been working strategically over the



Special to The Canton News

past three years to improve student outcomes. Our work has been targeted, deliberate and focused to make the maximum impact with the resources and flexibility we have been afforded.

Mississippians are now seeing a significant return on investment (ROI) due to these efforts. This means potentially less money will be diverted for remediation costs and more money will be directed to classrooms. The long-term ROI will produce ongoing savings for the state because students are being prepared to be successful in college and the workforce, and to flourish as parents and citizens.

Literacy-Based Promotion Act
The Literacy-Based Promotion Act of 2013 provided \$9.5 million in the first year and \$15 million in subsequent years to raise literacy levels in grades K-3. Results for 2015-16 include:

Sixty-three percent of kindergarteners met or exceeded the end-of-the-year target score that categorizes them as transitional readers. Students at this level are beginning to read unfamiliar words and easy reader material. In 2014-15, 54 percent of kindergarteners achieved this score.

Eighty-seven percent of students passed the 3rd grade reading assessment on their first try, an increase

from eighty-five percent last year. After the final retest, ninety-two percent of students passed the test.

The passing rate (Levels three, four or five) on the third-grade English Language Arts assessment reached sixty-five percent, an increase from fifty-four percent the previous year.

Early Learning Collaborative Act
The Early Learning Collaborative Act of 2013 provided \$3 million in the first three years to create a pre-K infrastructure for four-year-olds. The MDE has overseen the administration of eleven Early Learning Collaboratives (ELCs) that serve 1,700 children annually. Results for 2015-16 include:

All eleven ELCs achieved the target score that indicates students are prepared for kindergarten.

Seventy-one percent of ELC students met the target kindergarten readiness score, an increase from fifty-nine percent in 2014-15. In other public pre-K classrooms, sixty-nine percent of students met the readiness score, compared to sixty-four percent in 2014-15.

The National Institute for Early Education Research (NIEER) recognized Mississippi's ELCs in its 2015 State of Preschool. This puts Mississippi among only six states in the nation that meet all ten quality standards for preschool.

A 2015 Mississippi State University study identified the powerful, long-term effect pre-K had on student achievement in Mississippi: Mississippi children who attended public pre-K were one and a half times more likely to be proficient in third grade reading, Mississippi children who were proficient readers in third grade are nine times more likely to be proficient readers in eighth grade, and Mississippi children who were proficient readers in eighth grade are three-and-a-half times more likely to graduate on time.

ACT for eleventh graders

The Mississippi Legislature appropriated \$1 million annually since 2014-

15 for all eleventh graders to take the ACT. The test measures college-readiness at a crucial time in high school when there is still time to provide interventions to improve achievement.

Eleventh graders earned an overall composite score of 18.3 on the ACT in 2016, an increase from 17.6 in 2015. Students made gains in each of the four categories of English, Mathematics, Reading, and Science.

Districts offered the Southern Regional Education Board's senior year math and literacy readiness courses to students whose scores fell between fifteen and eighteen. These courses were developed to help close the gap for students who are on the cusp of meeting the ACT benchmark scores.

The MDE provided districts training related to analyzing ACT data, evaluating course taking patterns and designing ACT preparation courses.

Professional Development

The Mississippi Legislature appropriated approximately \$1 million annually for professional development related to teaching reading and the effective implementation of the Mississippi College and Career Ready Standards. According to an independent report by the Southern Regional Education Board, the MDE sets strong expectations for high-quality professional learning for all educators and provides essential support for school districts. Results include:

Fourth grade reading and math scores improved on the latest National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP). Mississippi was the only state to show significant improvement since 2013 in both reading and math scores among fourth graders.

Eighth grade NAEP scores for reading held constant and math increased slightly, as the nation saw a decline in both subjects.

Mississippi's graduation rate reached an all-time high of 80.8 percent in 2016, up from 78.4 percent the previous year. At this rate of growth, Mississippi could surpass the national rate of eighty-two percent by next year.

The state's dropout rate fell to 11.8 percent from 12.8 percent the previous year, continuing the downward trend from 16.7 percent in 2011-12.

Mississippi Assessment Program (MAP) results showed students remained stable or improved from 2014-15 to 2015-16.

Mathematics:

31.1 percent of students scored Level four or higher (proficient and advanced)

Fifteen districts had greater than forty-five percent of students scoring Level four or higher

66.2 percent of students scored at Level three or higher (passing, proficient and advanced)

English language arts:

32.6 percent of students scored Level four or higher (proficient and advanced)

Fourteen districts had greater than forty-five percent of students scoring Level four or higher

Sixty-six percent of students scored at Level three or higher (passing, proficient and advanced)

Mississippians now have powerful evidence that the education reforms and legislative initiatives that have been implemented throughout our state are working. We are seeing a significant return on investment. Students, teachers, school administrators, parents and state leaders have all dedicated themselves to meeting higher academic standards. This shared mission, along with the SBE's strategic focus and the MDE's targeted, effective work, is making a significant impact on the lives of students and the future of the state.

G & S Baits, Special Creations & Gifts

Handcrafted Fishing Lures & Jigs
Handmade Jewelry
Yazoo City Dips
Cotton Café Dog Treats Made in Oxford
Devereux Sweet Pepper Jalapeno Jam & Pepper Sauce
Adult Clothes and Children's Sundresses
Hanging Wooden Letters / Tin Gift Baskets
Flavor of the South Dips

NEW PRODUCT:

Debutante Farmer's Bloody Mary Mix

Come see us under WGMO on the Square

Hamlin's Florist

make us a habit
www.hamlinsflowers.com

amos j. hamlin or alice r. hamlin
manager
amegaajh@aol.com
285 west peace st.
canton, ms 39046

1.601.859.8434
1.877.529.8332
1.601.859.3213



When your stuff needs to hibernate

601-855-0017

bearcreekstorage.net

2633 South Liberty Street
Canton, MS 39046

bcreekstorage@bellsouth.net
info@bearcreekstorage.net

Craig Bowman named CA head football coach for '17

Special to The Canton News

Coach Journey will be giving up his duties as head football coach at Canton Academy. Coach Bowman



Photo by Dan Evans

has been named as his replacement. "I have had a great experience working with the football program here at Canton Academy and have had the opportunity to coach some great kids and work with some very outstanding coaches. One of those coaches is Coach Bowman, and I am confident he will do an outstanding job with the program. I have known him for many years, and he is a quality coach who has a bright future in the coaching profession.

He is highly respected by our players and coaches, and I can think of no one better to run our football program. Knowing that our football program is in good hands, I can concentrate more on continuing to build our fine school," said Journey.

Journey was 57-29 overall as the Head Football Coach at Canton Academy for eight years. The Panthers won 3 District Titles (2014, 2015, and 2016) and 1 State AA Championship (2016) during that time period.

Craig Bowman is a 2002 graduate of Millsaps College, where he played football for four years. Coach Bowman has been at Canton Academy for the past two years and has served as Assistant Head Football Coach, Offensive Coordinator, and Assistant Athletic Director. Coach Bowman served stints at St. James School, Hartfield Academy, and Belhaven University. At Belhaven, he served as the Offensive Coordinator and QBs coach. He and his wife, Claire, have two sons, Ben and Sam.

Coach Bowman will take on his new duties as Head Football Coach on February 1.



Country Club of Canton | 601.859.6359 | 183 Country Club Road Canton, MS 39046

Special Rates ONLY for Canton News Readers

Public Welcome

Open 7 days a week

Call 601-859-6359 to book your tee time

Monday - Friday \$25/player (includes Green Fee, Cart & Tax)
Weekends & Holidays just \$35/player (includes Green Fee, Cart & Tax)
Must bring & present this coupon to receive this special discount
Good for 1 to 4 players | COUPONS EXPIRES MARCH 31, 2017



Public Welcome

Open 7 days a week

Call 601-859-6359 to book your tee time

Monday - Friday \$25/player (includes Green Fee, Cart & Tax)
Weekends & Holidays just \$35/player (includes Green Fee, Cart & Tax)

Must bring & present this coupon to receive this special discount
Good for 1 to 4 players | COUPONS EXPIRES MARCH 31, 2017

Kenny Wayne Jones, General Manager



CMU is proud to announce Kenny Wayne Jones as our new General Manager!

"It's an honor to be able to provide quality services to the people of Canton. CMU has good people who know their jobs and who work very hard. My first priority as General Manager is to redefine the stability and integrity that has been a staple with our company from the beginning."

CANTON
MUNICIPAL
UTILITIES
Where Utilities
Power Possibilities





100 Depot Drive
Canton, MS 39046
(601) 859-5816
www.canton-mississippi.com



Chamber President

MICHAEL CRANDALL



Executive Director

TOYA L. VEALS



Administrative Assistant

MARY CAROL PATRICK

New MEMBERS

Unique Antiques
171 W. Peace Street
601.209.3671

UPCOMING EVENTS

Breakfast with the Mayor
February 7, 2017 @ 8:30 AM
at the Hampton Inn - Canton, MS.
Location: 133 Soldiers Colony Rd

Business After Hours Chili Cook-Off
February 23, 2017 @ 5:30-7:30 PM
Rich Grain Distilling Company
Location: 3369 W. Peace Street



Canton Chamber of Commerce Main Street Association 2017 Board of Directors

1st row l-r; Michael Crandall, Trustmark - President, Toya Veals - Executive Director, David Rich, Rich Grain Distilling Co. - Vice President, 2nd row l-r; Mary Carol Patrick-Administrative Assistant, Jewelry Johnson-Canton Municipal Utilities, Chan Chandler, Canton Discount Drugs-Past President, Victoria Johnson-Canton Public Schools, Alison Spivey-LaDiDa, Dr. Vibha Vig-Sunshine Children's Clinic, 3rd row l-r; Yolanda Foster-Merit Health Madison, Tammie Watkins-TempStaff, Ken Morris-Barnett Phillips Lumber Co., Pamela Confer, Nissan North America - President - Elect 2018, Timmy Pickett-Region 8 Mental Health Services, and Graham Wells-JD Johnson Realty & Investment. Not pictured Priscilla Lott-BankPlus

Key Investors



Supporting Investors



Letter from our new President



(601) 859-5816
Fax: (601) 855-0149
100 Depot Drive
Canton, Mississippi 39046
www.canton-mississippi.com
ccna@canton-mississippi.com

Board of Directors:

Michael Crandall
President

Pamela Confer
President - Elect

David Rich
Vice President

Chan Chandler
Yolanda Foster
Priscilla Lott
Ken Morris
Timmy Pickett
Alison Spivey
Dr. Vibha Vig
Tammie Watkins
Graham Wells

Presidential Appointees

Jewelry Johnson
Victoria Johnson

Toya Veals
Executive Director

Mary Carol Patrick
Administrative Assistant

Chamber Members,

It is a privilege for me to serve as your 2017 President of the Canton Chamber of Commerce. Thank you for the honor, opportunity and challenge. I also want to thank our 2017 Chamber Board of Directors, staff and volunteers for their commitment and service to the Canton Chamber of Commerce.

Canton has a rich and proud history. In 2017 we hope to continue that tradition as we continue to grow the chamber, enhance our membership benefits and continue our efforts to promote the benefits of locating your business in Canton.

Our focus in 2017 will be to work with the future of our community. As a Chamber of Commerce, we believe that a vibrant educational system is the foundation to a vibrant community. We want to reach out to our local school systems and establish a Junior Ambassador program. It is our hope and desire to encourage our future leaders to be involved in our community by exposing to them the opportunities for civic, commercial and public leadership roles open to them.

In 2017 we want to hear from our membership. Do not be surprised if we show up at your place of business to hear from you. We want to know from you what we can do to help your business. We want to know what we are doing right and areas we need to improve. We want to know what creates value for you with your chamber membership.

Finally, we want you to be involved with your Chamber. What we want you to know is that the Canton Chamber of Commerce and each business supports you. 2017 is going to be an exciting year for the Canton Chamber and while the Chamber may be your voice, each member here is our backbone and lifeblood. Thank you for your past, current and future involvement in your Chamber of Commerce.

Sincerely,

Michael E. Crandall

Michael E. Crandall, President

Come Shop in Canton TODAY!

It's a new and exciting year!

COME SHOP CANTON



Patron Investors

KPNA blesses families

Special to The Canton News

The Knights of Pillar Nurses Association (KPNA) sponsored two families in the Madison County area in their second annual Angel Tree giveaway. The recipients

blessed with furniture. Jessica Jones and family were also blessed with a donation through Desmond & Puller Adult Day Care Center.

On Dec. 20, KPNA visited Cath-



Special to The Canton News

KPNA was honored to bless families at Christmas. The group is shown sharing gifts with a family.

this year were Brittany Polk and her two sons, K.J. and Kris, who were displaced by the Louisiana flood. Rakia Jackson, a student at Luther Branson, along with her mother, Linda Vaughan, were also recipients. Both families were blessed with gifts for Christmas.

Additionally, Mr. & Mrs. David Williams' names were submitted to Miskelly Furniture for their Christmas Furniture Giveaway through KPNA, and they were

olic Charities Women Division, where they presented hand-made knitted booties for women and children. The booties were made by Mrs. Betty Watts, one of group's honorary members.

KPNA is looking forward to another good year in 2017 with the installation ceremony of new officers, the Nurses Banquet along with Joyce Conway Adam Scholarship Fund, and Madison County's first-ever Pink Banquet.

Madison County Co-Op
Fertilizer • Feed • Seed • Farm Supplies



323 West Fulton Street • 601-859-1271



COME SEE US
during our new hours:
Monday-Friday 7:30-5:00
Saturday 7:00-12:00



CRA bids fond farewell to Simpson



"Maureen Simpson has forged an imprint on Canton that can never be forgotten, nor erased. Her legacy will exist in the buildings she has fought to preserve, as well as the new developments she has formalized. For all of her hard work and dedication, Canton will be eternally grateful."

- Mayor Arnel Bolden

"In the first major development in Downtown Canton in 30 years, Maureen worked to turn the abandoned old Canton High School into an apartment complex that will be a substantial benefit to our citizens as well as the whole Canton area. Construction is currently underway, and without Maureen's persistence, it would not have come about."

-Bob Montgomery, attorney for the CRA Board for 30 years



The Canton News is published the first Thursday of every month. Around 25,000 papers are mailed to every house and business in 39046 and put in racks in Canton, Madison-Ridgeland, Flora and Jackson.

Readership is 20,000+

PICK UP A PAPER AT THESE LOCATIONS TODAY:

Canton

Biomedical Collaboratory
Canton Multipurpose Complex
Canton Tourism @ Trolio Hotel on the Square
Culinary Cowboy
Louisiana Seafood Kitchen
McAlister's Deli
Merit Health Madison Hospital
Nissan Canton Manufacturing Facility
Penn's Fish House on 43
Piggly Wiggly – Union Street and 43 at Peace Street
Region 8 Mental Health Center

Flora

Livingston Mercantile

Jackson

Broad Street Bakery & Cafe

Madison

Beagle Bagel
Madison Healthplex

Ridgeland

Gateway Tires
Mama Hamil's Southern Cookin' and Bar B Que Buffet
Newk's Eatery

Susie Wolfe, editor
601-667-4667
news@cantonnews.net

www.cantonnews.net



© Copyright 2015 BankPlus.
Member FDIC.

ValuePlus Free Checking

You deserve better than fees and fine print.
With our ValuePlus Free Checking account, there are no tricky fees and no conditions. Enjoy your FREEdom.

No fees | No minimum balance | Free mobile check deposit
Free mobile banking | Free online banking |
Free instant issue CheckCard

BankPlus

BankPlus.net

Greater Refuge Temple Church Multipurpose Resource Center

Educating and Empowering the Community One Child at a Time



Day Care • Summer Camp • Music • After School • Computer Training • Banquet Hall Rental



Graduation of
pre-kindergarten class



After school/summer camp scholars
visit the Memphis Zoo



Our lovely banquet hall,
available for rental

375 Morgan Road • Canton, Mississippi • 39046 • 601-859-1900 • www.greaterrefugetemplecanton.com

Tougaloo College Concert Choir comes to Canton

By Guest Columnist Cynthia Goodloe Palmer

The Canton Gospel Music Association is hosting its Third Annual Black History “Sounds of Celebration” Scholarship Fund-raiser Concert on Sunday, February 26, at 3:00 p.m.

scholarships to aspiring musical grade school and high school students from the Madison County School District.

This program is free and open to the public. A free will offer-



Hear the soulful sounds of negro spirituals, hymns, gospel and civil rights songs in honor of Black History Month. This year’s special musical guest choir is the award-winning Tougaloo College Concert Choir, under the direction of Dr. Kathy Castilla. Other local choirs will also be featured.

For the last 12 years, the Canton Gospel Music Association has awarded more than 100 music

ing is appreciated to support the Scholarship Fund. All checks should be made payable to the Canton Gospel Music Association.

Canton native Dr. Jesse Primer, III is the Department Chair and Instructor of Music at Tougaloo.

For more information, call Cynthia Goodloe Palmer, Founder at 601-918-7809, Jearlean Jones 601-668-8563 or Erma Cole 601-859-5002.

Family Dentistry in Canton for 14 Years



Goodloe Dental

Erika C. Goodloe, DMD

**1207 Peace Street
601.859.9595**



Adults/Children

Walk-ins Welcome

Hours:

**Monday-Thursday
9:00 - 5:00**

**Friday
9:00 - 12:00**

**Office Hours
by Appointment**

Services:

**Routine Cleaning
Exams**

Extractions

Fillings/Restorations

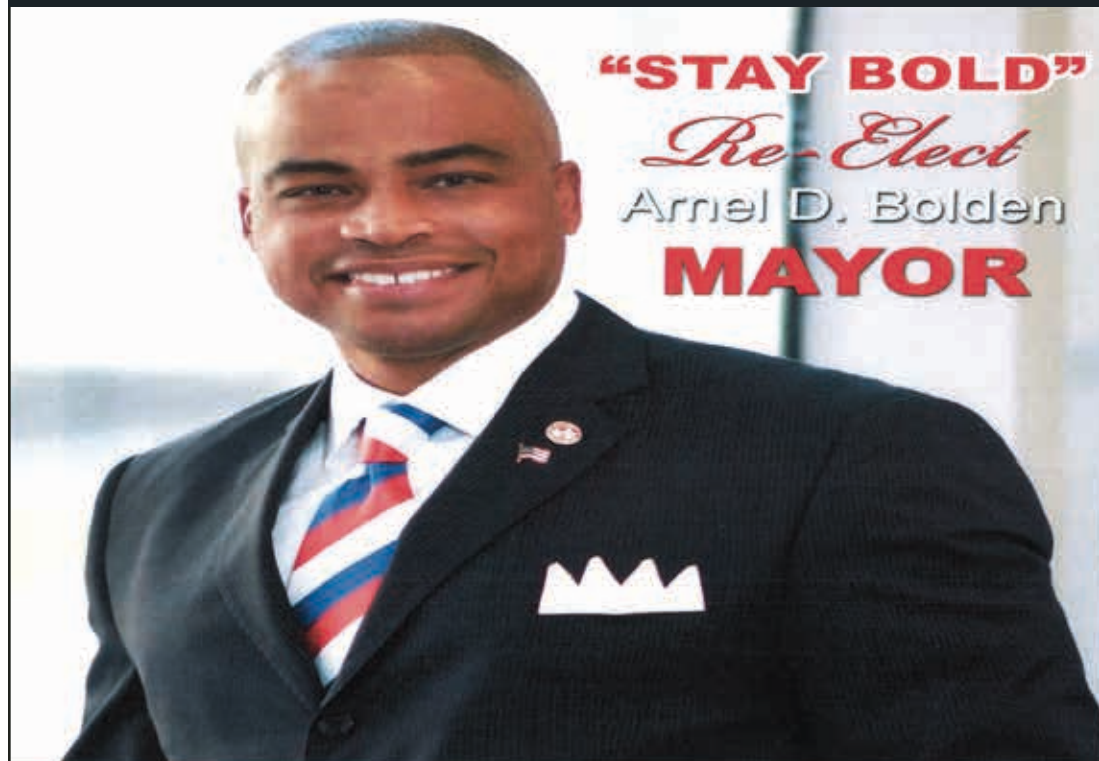
Crowns

Emergency Dental Care

Accepts all Insurance, Medicaid, CHIPS

Stay Bold in 2017-Re-Elect Arnel Bolden-Mayor

“All glory and honor to God”



**Let's continue to Build
a BETTER Canton...Together!**

Paid for by Friends to Re-Elect Arnel D. Bolden
P.O. Box 394
Canton, MS 39046

Real Progress for a Better Canton

1

Community Development:

- Completed Union Street paving project with sidewalks
- Completed Hickory Street/“The Hollow” revitalization project with sidewalks, new signs, and lighting
- Completed Woodland Parkway extension by Canton Academy School
- Developing sidewalks between Nicholls Middle and Canton Elementary School(Safe Routes to School Project)
- Revitalizing Old High School into Upscale Apartment Units

2

Economic Development: New Business Growth

- LA Seafood King (Old Western Sizzlin Building)
- Little Caesars Pizza
- Bettina's Soulfood Restaurant
- Mario's Backyard BBQ
- Dollar Tree Store(under construction)

3

Job Creation:

- Bio-Medical Collaboratory at Win Job Center
- Nissan Logistics Center
- Merit Health Medical Center Expansion
- “Careers for Cantonians Job Fair” started in 2016
- Established Human and Cultural Needs Department

CHS students honored at WIUFC tea meeting

Special to The Canton News

The Women in Unity for Christ (WIUFC) held their third annual fellowship tea October 16, at Mt. Able Fellowship Hall. The first scholarship winners, Canton High students Amber Cotton, Alexis Glover, Breanna J.

Horn, and Ladarious Johnson, were honored. Each recipient, a graduating senior, received \$400.00. Mrs. Nettie Travis, a member of the Pine Grove M.B. Church, helped coordinate the tea, along with other members of WIUFC.



THE CANTON NEWS

IS IN THE SEARCH FOR WRITERS AND SALES AGENTS.

IF INTERESTED CONTACT US AT 601-667-4667 OR
EMAIL US AT NEWS@CANTONNEWS.NET



Re-Elect

Vickie McNeill DISTRICT 5 Alderman

Alderman Vickie McNeill was born and raised in Canton's Ward 5 district. She wants to continue to fulfill her promise made to her predecessor, the late Reuben Myers, Sr., who asked her to run after he realized his health was failing.

Vickie McNeill keeps her promises. She secured a \$500,000 grant to install Safe Route sidewalks for children's safety. She secured financial assistance to refurbish more than 20 home in Ward 5, with another three underway. She joined others to secure funds to fix the sewage problems that plagued Ward 5 for 60 years.

**VOTE MARCH 3 TO RE-ELECT
VICKIE MCNEILL ALDERWOMAN WARD 5**

Randall Strong's CANTON DISCOUNT DRUGS



Home of Low Prescription Prices
(601)859-3827



Voted Best of Canton

- * Pharmacy
- * Customer Service
- * Employer