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Good News You Can Use • April 3, 2025 • Vol. 11, No. 4 • Canton, Mississippi

Canton planning bold campaign to protect historic buildings

By Guest Columnist Donna Yowell

The City of Canton has announced a bold new strategy to protect, preserve and revitalize historic buildings in the City of Canton. Canton has some of the most important historic buildings in the south. It is important for the economy and healthy future of Canton to revitalize and preserve these valuable community assets.

Yet, the city of Canton with all of its charm and character is at risk of losing many historically significant buildings throughout the city. The City has introduced a citywide initiative and educational campaign to help protect these valuable assets. The campaign will feature an awareness and education component to help building owners to understand the tax and grant benefits available for the revitalization and protection of historic buildings.

Part of the education campaign will include state, federal and local laws regarding historic buildings. A variety of other related topics will be publicly shared, so that citizens can learn more about the process and understand the benefits of preserving historic buildings. The campaign will appeal to all citizens to get involved in saving these valuable places and sharing the history that surrounds these sites.

“Historic properties are very important to Canton’s future,” said Canton Mayor William Truly. “By initiating this educational campaign, we hope to advance the revitalization and preservation of historic Canton structures.”

Protection and maintenance of these sites can contribute many benefits to the community and its citizens. Some of these benefits include support of sustainable economic development, beautification, less crime, higher property values, more jobs, housing, work force training and more business and higher sales tax revenue for the city.

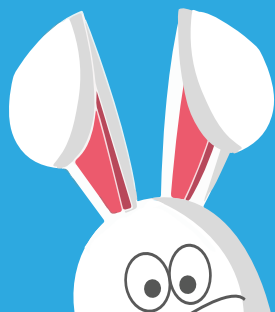
Through this campaign, you will learn about the many benefits associated with preserving historic structures, the process, the cost and why it is important. Citizens will learn more about the history of Canton and include a focus on improved quality of places to live, work and play.

Some of the information and benefits that will be highlighted include supporting local economy and increases in local sales tax revenue; creating quality places to live, work, and play; providing education about city, county, state and federal requirements for historic properties; understanding the benefits to property owners; creating downtown housing; promoting cultural preservation; tax credits; building work force training programs; and protecting community character and quality of life, all while looking at local history and guiding revitalization.

For more information about the initiative, contact Donna Yowell at 601-672-0755 or dyowell@aol.com.



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WIUFC promotes literacy at Camden Elementary's Dr. Seuss event



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On March 3, Women in Unity for Christ (WIUFC), a local nonprofit dedicated to empowering the community, sponsored the Dr. Seuss Read Across America event at Camden Elementary School. To create a fun and engaging at-

mosphere, several WIUFC members dressed as the Cat in the Hat, setting the stage for lively classroom presentations. Each class enjoyed a captivating reading of a Dr. Seuss story, enhanced with props, interactive activities, and an infectious enthusiasm for

learning.

In addition to fostering a love of reading, WIUFC provided each student with a gift bag filled with educational materials, dental and healthcare items, information on literacy program registration, and healthy snacks—fresh apples and

oranges generously donated by Piggly Wiggly of Canton.

Women in Unity for Christ remains committed to promoting literacy and encouraging academic success by supporting local schools and empowering students to thrive.



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Metro Master Gardeners to hold annual plant sale

Special to The Canton News

The Metro Master Gardeners will hold their annual plant sale at Mynelle Gardens, located at 4736 Clinton Boulevard in Jackson, on Saturday, April 26. The plant sale begins at 8 a.m. and will end at noon. Cash and checks are welcome (no credit cards).

Members of the Metro Master Gardeners come from all over the Jackson metropolitan area. The Master Gardeners have propagated a variety of native and naturalized heirloom plants, perennials, shrubs and trees that are perfectly suited to southern soils and climate. Many of these heirloom plants have come from project and demonstration gardens located throughout the metro Jackson area. Due to the last two to three years of extreme weather, the quantity and variety of plants may be more limited than in previous years.

Master Gardeners are a volunteer branch of the Mississippi State University Extension Service that advises and educates the public on gardening and horticulture issues. Members of the Metro Master Gardeners will be on hand at the plant sale to answer gardening questions. After finalizing their plant purchases,



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es, shoppers are invited to enjoy a free stroll through Mynelle Gardens.

Proceeds from the plant sale go to support gardening projects located at Mynelle Gardens, the Doctor's Herb Garden at the Agriculture and Forestry Museum, Greenwood Cemetery, Clinton Visitors Center,

and various demonstration, educational and scholarship projects in the metro Jackson area.

For additional information, contact Laura Lillard at 601-613-5223 or sadiecat17@comcast.net. "Like" Metro Master Gardeners on Facebook for updates.

Canton Board of Aldermen holds infrastructure talks

By Courtney Warren

The City of Canton Mayor and Board of Aldermen gathered for a meeting at City Hall to discuss various community concerns, hear departmental reports, and review upcoming City initiatives.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor William Truly, Jr., M.D., followed by an invocation. A roll call was conducted to confirm the presence of City officials before moving forward with the agenda.

Several presenters addressed the board, including Theresa Kelly-Reed from Our Daily Bread, Eric Gilkey, Bertha McGruder, and John Greer. Their presentations provided insights into community programs and initiatives affecting Canton residents.

City department heads gave updates on their respective areas of responsibility. Jacqueline Amos, Chief Administrative Officer, reported on City operations. Police Chief Otha Brown provided updates on law enforcement

activities, while Public Works Director Tony Coffey discussed ongoing infrastructure and maintenance efforts. Alvin Davis, Parks and Recreation Director, shared developments in the City's parks and recreational programs. Additional reports were presented by Melon Garrett from the landfill department, Fire Chief Kenna Pierce, Building and Zoning

they authorized the purchase of a Dirt Pan from Deere & Company for \$201,777.36. Additionally, the board approved a payment of \$21,895.80 to Ingram Equipment Company for cameras to be installed on four automated side loaders. A monthly subscription of \$378 was also approved for the addition of third-eye camera systems to the automated side loaders.

During the consent agenda portion of the meeting, the board authorized a payment of \$20,612.26 to the Canton Convention & Visitors' Bureau for advertisements promoting the October 2024 Flea Market. They also approved an in-kind donation allowing Our Daily Bread to use the

Multipurpose Complex for their Annual Drawdown Fundraiser in June. Other approvals included the ratification of a \$50,000 purchase of a pothole machine and the transfer of \$941,835.12 from General Funds to Sinking Funds. The board also authorized a \$230,054.76 payment for the

cont. on page 20



representative Mack Pigg, and City Clerk Dr. Chuonna Anderson.

A major portion of the meeting was dedicated to addressing critical infrastructure issues. The board discussed updates on erosion problems along Johnson Street and the condition of culverts on North Canal Street. To support City maintenance,

CHS Tiger Tycoons a success



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The Canton High Tiger Tycoons are one of only six teams statewide that qualified to compete in the 2025 Personal Finance State Championship in the High School Division II (Access Zone). The in-person competition is scheduled for Tuesday, April 10, at 9 a.m. at the Mississippi Public Broadcasting Studios in Jackson.

The Tiger Tycoons team includes Alexandria Luckett, Jalynn Dungan, Nelly Cardona-Rosales and

Henser Vicente. Last year, the young scholars achieved a perfect score, becoming state champions and representing Mississippi at the Council for Economic Education National Personal Finance Challenge in Cleveland, Ohio.

Although they did not advance to the final round at the national level, each of the four NGA scholars received a \$500 college scholarship for their accomplishments as state champions.

The team is led by their coach, Mrs. Teena Ruth.

Griffin joins CPSD school board



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The Canton Public School District (CPSD) Board of Trustees recently welcomed a new member to its board. Mrs. Jacqueline Griffin, a retired CPSD administrator and educator, replaces Dr. Shivochie Dinkins, whose term has expired. Griffin brings a wealth of experience and knowledge to the board that will help it continue advancing educational excellence in the district.

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Canton Public School District announces teachers of the year

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Canton Public School District (CPSD) Superintendent Gary Hannah, alongside the members of the CPSD Board of Trustees, recently honored exemplary educators for their outstanding commitment to their students and the district.

Among the distinguished honorees was Shavonda Chesser Griffin, recognized as the 2024-25 District Teacher of the Year and celebrated as the Teacher of the Year for the Reuben B. Myers Canton School of Arts & Sciences. District officials say her dedication and passion for teaching have made a significant impact on her students and the educational environment.

The following talented individuals were also named 2024-25 Teachers of the Year, each representing their respective schools with excellence and enthusiasm:

- **Canton High School:** Shayla Kirksey, known for her innovative teaching techniques that inspire her students to excel.
- **Canton Career Center:** Trina Nichols, who fosters career readiness and empowers students to pursue their passions.
- **Huey Porter Middle School:** Briana Brim, praised for her engaging classroom atmosphere and unwavering support for her students.
- **Goodloe Elementary:** Daffney



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Pictured is the District Teacher of the Year Shavonda Chesser Griffin.

- Banks, who creates a nurturing environment where young learners thrive.
- **Canton Elementary School:** Delsey Dew, recognized for her creativity and dedication to fostering a love of learning in her students.
- **McNeal Elementary School:**

- Alexis Kelley, celebrated for her inspiring leadership and commitment to educational excellence.
- **Nichols Middle School:** Dotta Miller Thompson, honored for her passion for teaching, her ability to connect with students in meaningful

ways, and her unwavering dedication. Officials say each of the educators exemplifies the core values of the district, making a profound difference in the lives of their students and the community as a whole.

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Madison County Executive Leadership Government Day



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Pictured (l to r) are, first row: Rep. Clay Mansell, Rep. Jonathan McMillan, Senator Walter Michel, Rep. Lawrence Blackmon, Rep. Jill Ford, Senator Bradford Blackmon and Senator Briggs Hopson; second row: Brent Bailey, Efficient Power & Light; Bethany Stanfill, BSS Global; Katie Hutson, Harper Rains Knight Company; Kristen Ellis, C Sprie; Amanda Wyrick, Community Bank; and Calvin Hill, Nissan North America; third row: Wesley Self, Wages Civil LLC; Sammy Brown, Brown Legal Group; Brad Gatlin, BankPlus; Nick Newcomb, StorageMax; and Nathan Witt, Ergon; fourth row: Kendall Gregory, CRH; Camp Murphy, Capitol Resources LLC; and Jarrett Taylor, Neel Schaffer.

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The Madison County Executive Leadership class kicked off their program year with Government Day on Wednesday, February 26. The 2025 class toured the Mississippi

State Capitol, met with the Madison County legislative delegation, toured the Mississippi Supreme Court, received updates on County road projects from Central District Transportation Commissioner Willie

Simmons and MDOT Executive Director Brad White, and engaged with statewide elected officials. It was an incredible opportunity to gain insight into how the government operates and to stay informed about what's

happening in Madison County. The MCEL program is sponsored by the Madison County Economic Development Authority (MCEDA) and the Madison County Business League & Foundation.

Madison County Farm Bureau Federation update for April 2025

By Guest Columnist Joy Foy



Special to The Canton News

Madison County Farm Bureau Federation hosted a public meeting on March 13 to inform and allow citizens to get their questions answered concerning solar farms and the new Amazon Web Services (AWS) development. Madison County Farm Bureau President Russell Cauthen introduced Mississippi Farm Bureau President Mike McCormick, who gave an update on the farm bill and talked about the federal disaster farm payments.

Jeff Jacobs, project manager and operations leader with EDP Renewables of Houston, Texas, began the presentation with an overview of the capabilities of solar panels and explained how the panels operate. He explained that the power created at the Ragsdale

Solar Park along highway 43 outside Canton is feeding electricity into Entergy lines through an arrangement with AWS.

AWS purchases solar to give them some needed tax credits for green energy.

Jacobs said that oftentimes smaller companies come into an area and "put together a project," in hopes of flipping it with a company like EDP, which is how they are involved with Ragsdale. He stressed that to know what is being considered for solar farms, watch for announcements in the paper or for a rezoning sign.

The main things that a solar company takes into consideration is the location of transmission lines and single owned property.

Jacobs surmised that between twelve to fourteen percent of electricity for Mississippi comes from solar.

After a flurry of questions and answers, Chad Wages, civil engineer for the Amazon Web Services (AWS) project, talked about the five buildings under construction of the twelve



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planned over the next five years. Four buildings will be built along Highland Colony Parkway in Ridgeland as phase two of the project. After the Ridgeland project is completed, the other buildings will be constructed in Canton.

The AWS project followed the Amazon-dot-com development to come to Canton. The decision was made due mainly to the availability of sufficient and reliable power. There are approximately 175 people working on the

construction of this project.

The biggest obstacle now is getting easements for the sewer lines to Bettie Bluff Sewer Treatment plant. The waste will be treated there, and then the clean water will be returned and used as a coolant for the computer rooms.

Wages took questions at the end. When the meeting was adjourned, the crowd of 55 continued to visit with the speakers and each other over brownies and drinks, as they were leaving.

Panthers learn life saving skills



Special to The Canton News

By Courtney Warren

A Canton Academy fifth grader can now save your life! In correlation with their study of the circulatory and respiratory systems in science, fifth graders participated in Mississippi CPR Stars training and are now CPR certified.

According to the American Red Cross, CPR can significantly improve someone's chance of surviving when bystanders take prompt action. Even if someone survives cardiac arrest, they

may suffer permanent brain damage when they don't receive enough blood flow and oxygen to the brain.

CPR certification can help prevent brain damage and death by keeping oxygenated blood moving throughout the body. Another benefit of CPR is that this life saving training is for everyone. It only takes a few hours, and it can give individuals the skills and confidence to act in an emergency and help save a life.

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Williamson named DAR Good Citizen

Cook named DAR Good Citizen



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Makyla Williamson has been selected by Velma Jackson High School the 2025 DAR Good Citizen. Pictured making the award is member Betsy Sligh with Sundra King, school counselor.



Special to The Canton News

Amelia Cook was selected by Canton Academy as the 2025 Daughters of the American Revolution Good Citizen. Members Marian Durfey and Betsy Sligh of Canton's Doak's Treaty Chapter presented the award.

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CHS visits Season's Assisted Living



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A group of enthusiastic FCCLA students from Canton High School brightened the day for residents at Season's Assisted Living in Canton by delivering thoughtfully curated goodie baskets. Throughout the week, the students worked diligently to gather treats, carefully selecting a variety of delightful snacks

and sweets to fill the colorful baskets. This gesture not only brought smiles to the residents' faces but also created a memorable experience for the students, as they witnessed the joy their efforts brought to the community. The exchange fostered a sense of connection and camaraderie, making it a truly rewarding occasion for everyone in-

Way Back When: John McCrady



Photo Courtesy of the Canton-Madison County Historical Society

By Courtney Warren

John McCrady (1911–1968), a renowned Southern artist from Canton, captured the spirit of the South through his vivid paintings. His artwork preserves the region's culture,

history, and everyday life, ensuring its traditions endure for future generations. To learn more about Canton's rich history, visit the Canton-Madison County Historical Society.

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On the shelf: Great books to read this spring

By Courtney Warren

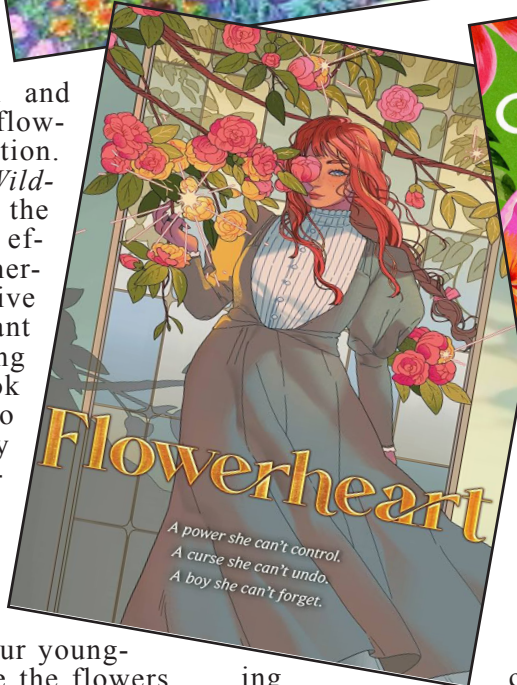
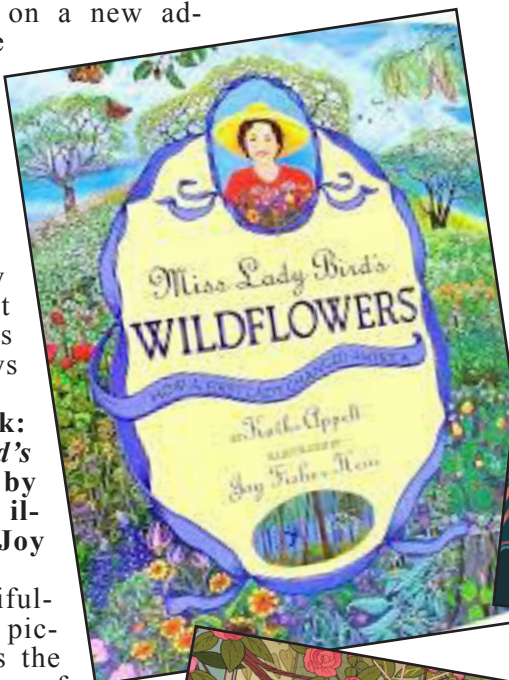
Spring is a season of transformation, and the books we read can reflect that journey. Whether you're watching a garden bloom, exploring the magic of a hidden world, or embarking on a new adventure, these stories will add a touch of spring's magic to your reading list. So, grab a cozy blanket, find a sunny spot, and let these books usher in the joys of the season!

Picture Book: *Miss Lady Bird's Wildflowers* by Kathi Appelt, illustrated by Joy Fisher Hein

This beautifully illustrated picture book tells the inspiring story of Lady Bird Johnson and her passion for wildflowers and conservation. *Miss Lady Bird's Wildflowers* brings to life the former First Lady's efforts to beautify America and protect native plants. With its vibrant artwork and engaging storytelling, this book is a wonderful way to celebrate the beauty of spring and the importance of nature. I love any opportunity to read about important historical figures, and what a fun way to inspire our younger readers to explore the flowers in their own backyard. You could even pair this with a lesson in native flowers in Canton or make a visit to the Master Gardeners.

Middle Grade: *The Vanderbeekers and the Hidden Garden* by Karina Yan Glaser

The Vanderbeekers are a lovable family living in Harlem, and in this second book of the series, they embark on a mission to transform a neglected lot into a



thriving garden. With themes of friendship, perseverance, and the joy of nurturing plants, this novel embodies the essence of spring and is sure to warm young readers' hearts.

Young Adult: *Flowerheart* by

Catherine Bakewell

A magical and enchanting YA novel, *Flowerheart* follows Clara, a girl with an uncontrollable magic that causes flowers to bloom whenever her emotions run high. As she struggles to control her power, she seeks help from an estranged childhood friend, leading to a story filled with self-discovery, healing and love. With its lush descriptions and heartwarming themes, this book is a perfect choice for springtime reading.

Adult: *The Paradise Problem* by Christina Lauren

For a delightful and romantic read that captures the vibrancy of spring, *The Paradise Problem* by Christina Lauren is an excellent choice. This novel follows a charming and heartfelt journey of love, self-discovery and unexpected twists as the protagonist navigates family expectations and personal desires. With its lush settings and engaging characters, this book is a perfect escape into the warmth and renewal of the season. I am a big fan of Christina Lauren, and all of her books leave me satisfied and excited for her next one. She is great if you love a good rom-com or are a fan of Katherine Center books!

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2025 Young Filmmaker's Camp sign ups begin



Special to The Canton News

By Courtney Warren

The Canton Convention and Visitors Bureau and Film Office are once again offering the Canton Young Filmmakers Workshop for 2025. The program boasts 21 years of success and creates an environment for storytelling, scriptwriting, directing and acting. Many former campers have become professional filmmakers and

have gone to school and majored in academic film programs.

Canton Young Filmmakers is more than a camp. The program prides itself in providing an opportunity to see, feel and touch the beginning process of how movies are made with young filmmakers and provides increased opportunity for the older students to progress at a higher level

of achievement.

This year, the camp will once again be partnering with the Madison County Library for their enhanced equipment toward the creation and implementation of the student projects. The Mississippi Film Office will partner with the group to provide curriculum and experienced instructors with filmmaking experience.

Camp for ages 8-12 will be July 7-July 11. Camp for ages 13-18 will be July 14-18. Lunch, snacks and materials are included; however, students may be asked to bring props for filming. The price for camp is \$175. For more information, contact Canton Tourism at 601-859-1307 or 800-844-3369, or email info@canton-tourism.com.

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Canton Schools Celebrate Dr. Seuss Day & READ ACROSS AMERICA

All photos Special to The Canton News

Students across the Canton Public School District and Canton Academy joined in the nationwide celebration of Dr. Seuss Day and Read Across America, bringing stories to life with exciting activities and guest readers. Dressed in colorful costumes inspired by beloved Seuss characters, students enjoyed a day filled with reading, laughter, and creativity. Teachers, community leaders, and special guests engaged young minds with read-aloud sessions, emphasizing the joy of reading and the importance of literacy. The event showcased the schools' commitment to fostering a love for books and learning in students of all ages.

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Recently, Canton High School students had the opportunity to participate in Think Fast Interactive.

Thanks to Nissan, American students are being exposed to an innovative driving safety program that will save many lives. ThinkFast Interactive received a six-figure educational grant to produce interactive driving safety awareness programs for middle and

high school students in Michigan, Tennessee, Mississippi, Texas and Arizona.

ThinkFast Interactive is also onboard with the new Red Thumb initiative. The "Red Thumb Reminder" initiative encourages people to paint one of their thumbnails red as a visual reminder to avoid texting and driving, aiming to promote safer driving habits. For more information about the program, visit www.nissanusa.com/redthumb.

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Nissan Frontier named “Coolest Thing Made in Mississippi”

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The Nissan Frontier has been named the “Coolest Thing Made in Mississippi” for winning the 2025 Mississippi Makers’ Challenge hosted by the Mississippi Manufacturers Association. The award recognizes the Frontier for its craftsmanship and innovation. The vehicle is manufactured at Nissan’s Canton facility and is powered by engines built at Nissan’s powertrain plant in Decherd, Tennessee.

“The rugged appearance, strong V6 engine, and capability are what makes the Frontier super cool. However, it is Nissan employees’ dedication and passion that make our vehicles really stand out,” said David Johnson, senior vice president, Manufacturing, Supply Chain Management and Purchasing, Nissan Americas. “Their hard work has made the Frontier a great product, and we are proud to be part of Mississippi’s vibrant manufacturing community.”

This year’s competition received seventy nominations for Mississippi’s manufacturers, highlighting the diversity in the state’s manufacturing sector. The Frontier advanced through four competitive rounds of public voting to claim the top spot with more than forty one percent of the vote in the final round.

“The craftsmanship from Canton employees ensures that our vehicles perform at their very best - making it a reliable, versatile and capable truck,” said Victor Taylor, vice president, Manufacturing, Canton Vehicle Assembly Plant, Nissan U.S. “Our pride in what we do shines through in every Frontier that rolls off the assembly line, and this recognition celebrates our employees’ efforts and commitment.”

The award was presented during a ceremony at the Mississippi State Capitol. The event honored the top four finalists and celebrated the state’s manufacturing industry.



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The 2025 Nissan Frontier features a refreshed design, higher towing capacities and updated technology. All grades sport a new front fascia, grille and bumper, along with a telescopic steering wheel for better driver accommodation. The long-wheelbase, six-foot-bed configuration is now available on more models, including PRO-4X and SL grades, with towing ratings increased to a maximum of 7,160 pounds.

Additional updates include a larger 12.3-inch touchscreen on SV grades

and higher, a striking Afterburn Orange paint option (PRO-X/PRO-4X only), and a new 17-inch wheel design. Safety and driver assistance technologies such as lane departure warning, blind spot warning, rear cross traffic alert, rear parking sensors, high beam assist, and intelligent cruise control are now standard.

The 2025 Frontier also comes with the Nissan Maintenance Care program, offering three pre-paid oil changes for up to two years or 24,000 miles.

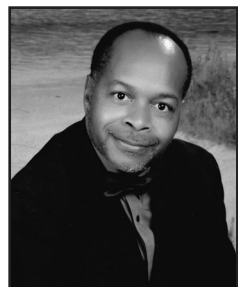
Since 1951, the Mississippi Manufacturers Association (MMA) has been the clear and united voice of industry in the Magnolia State. In its fourth year, the MMA Mississippi Makers’ Challenge begins with a two-week nominating period, followed by four rounds of voting. The contest is an opportunity to celebrate the workforce in Mississippi and rally around the amazing products that are built here. For further details on the Nissan Canton Vehicle Assembly Plant, visit NissanManufacturing.com.

Canton’s Leroy Lacy elected president of ECA of Mississippi

By Courtney Warren

Madison County Election Commissioner Leroy Lacy has recently been elected as the President of the Election Commissioners Association of Mississippi. Lacy will serve in the role for the next two years, overseeing election commissioners across the state and working to ensure the integrity and efficiency of the election process.

Lacy, who has dedicated years of service to election administration, expressed his enthusiasm and commitment to his new role.



Leroy Lacy

Special to The Canton News

“I am very passionate about the Election Commissioner Association, because we are the first line of the election process,” he stated. “We, as commissioners, may not always get the credit for handling the election process, but we play a crucial role in recruiting poll workers, providing training, assisting on election days at all precincts, and working with Circuit Clerks and Supervisors across Mississippi.”

Lacy emphasized that it is a vital public service role that benefits both individual counties and the entire state.

“The passion I have comes from allowing the public to realize that we are running fair, non-partisan elections with integrity across the state. Mississippi has some of the best election commissioners in the country, and we

are committed to ongoing training and education to stay updated on new changes and equipment to better serve voters.”

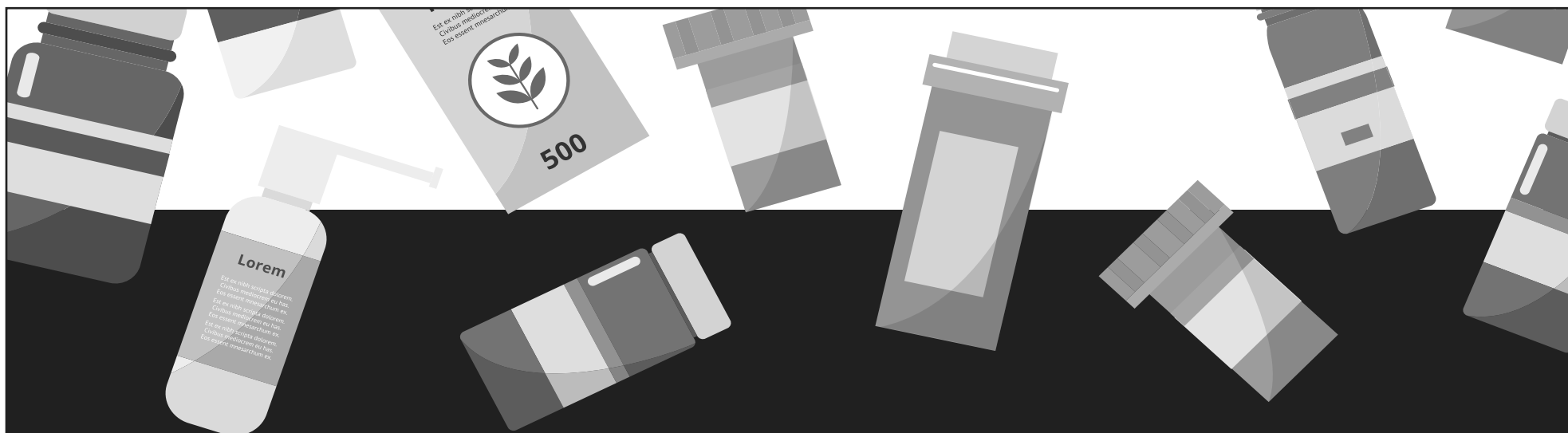
Lacy is no stranger to leadership within the association. Having previously served as president, he has a track record of advocating for key legislative advancements.

“During my past administration, we were able to accomplish many things, including passing bills that increased poll worker pay, securing new voting equipment statewide, and updating election commissioners’ pay. We also strengthened our relationship with Secretary of State Michael Watson to ensure our association’s voice is heard.”

Looking ahead, Lacy has outlined ambitious goals for his tenure. “I hope to keep our association work-

ing together as a team—410 members strong. Collaborating with Secretary of State Watson, county supervisors, and circuit clerks across the state is essential. We also aim to maintain an open dialogue with our state legislators to keep them informed about how we perform our duties and what support we need to advance Mississippi’s election system.”

Lacy underscored his leadership philosophy with a powerful message: “My goal is to lead with accountability, integrity, and compassion for this association. ‘I’ can’t do anything alone, but as a group, ‘WE’ can accomplish it ‘TOGETHER.’” As he embarks on this new chapter, Lacy plans for his leadership to be poised to strengthen the Election Commissioners Association of Mississippi and enhance the electoral process statewide.



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Support Our Local Pharmacies – And Win!

As one of Madison's state representative and the publisher of *The Canton News*, I have had the privilege of working with many local businesses to help them grow and thrive. Three of our community's most dedicated supporters—Mississippi Discount Drugs, Canton Discount Drugs, and Mosby's Drug Store—have been there for us, and now it's time for us to be there for them.

Right now, independent pharmacies across Mississippi are facing serious challenges due to unfair practices by Pharmacy Benefit Managers (PBMs). These small businesses are essential to our town, providing personal service and care that big chains simply can't match. We must support them to ensure they remain a vital part of our community.

To encourage that support, we're launching a special giveaway! Anyone who shops at Mississippi Discount Drugs, Canton Discount Drugs, or Mosby's Drug Store during the month of April will have a chance to win a **\$250 gift certificate** to the drugstore of their choice. Just send a picture of your receipt to our Facebook page or email ClayMansell@CantonNews.net to enter. This applies to any purchase.

Let's stand with our local pharmacies. They've invested in us—now let's show them that we appreciate and support them in return!

-Clay Mansell

Publisher, The Canton House
State Representative, Hinds and Madison Counties

To enter to win the \$250 Gift Certificate:

Take a picture of your receipt during April and email it to: ClayMansell@CantonNews.net or message the receipt to us on Facebook. <https://www.facebook.com/cantonnews>



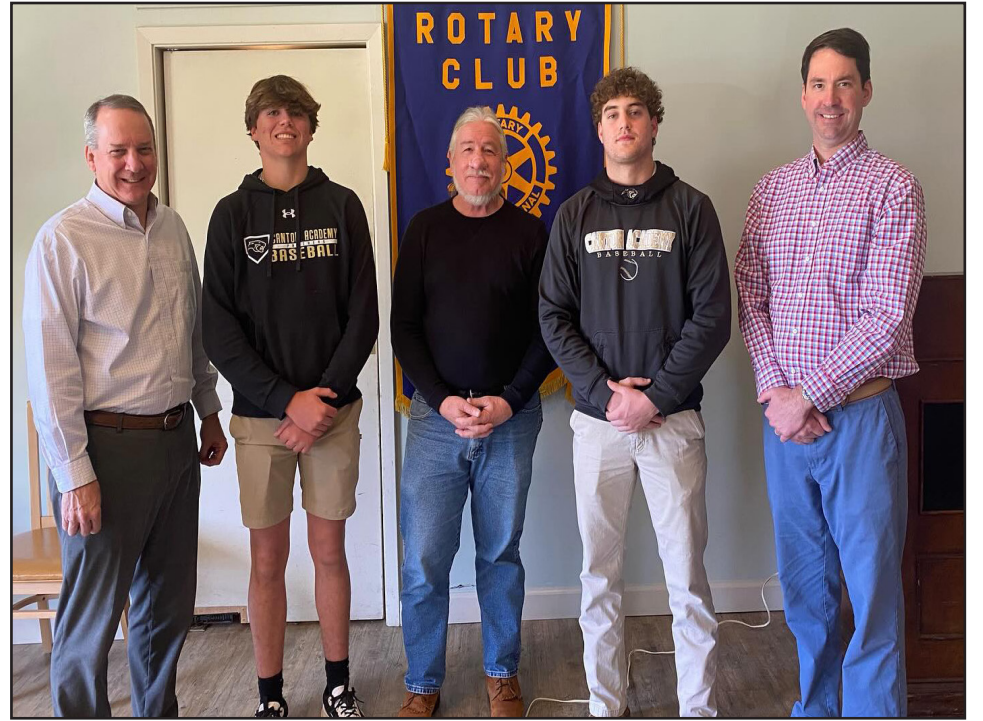
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Canton Academy's Harris and Pace represent at Rotary



Special to The Canton News

Pictured are John Martin (Rotary President), Chew, Lofton Harris, William Pace, Webster Ford (Rotary Vice President), De La Riva, and Tommy Sullivan (Rotarian).



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Pictured are Jay Carter (Rotary Secretary/Treasurer), Lofton Harris, Frazier Riddell, William Pace, and Webster Ford (Rotary Vice President).

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Canton Academy representatives of the month for March for Canton Rotary Club were seniors Lofton Harris and William Pace.

Rotary speaker for March 6 was CA alum Frazier Riddell (Class of '79). Frazier spoke about the music business and sang a few songs from his new album entitled *Communion Bells*.

On March 20, Rotary speakers were Lucas De La Riva and Steven Chew from Merit Health in Canton. De La Riva is the director of Merit's emergency department, and Chew is director of

radiology. They spoke on the breadth of emergency and general surgical services, diagnostic imaging, and exceptional patient care available in this smaller community hospital.

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Tigers honored at State Capitol



Special to The Canton News

The Canton High School Boys Basketball Team was honored recently at the Mississippi State Capitol, a proud moment that showcased their hard work and dedication. The district extends their heartfelt gratitude to everyone who took the time to celebrate and recognize the students' remarkable achievements.

Panthers donate to MADCAAP



Special to The Canton News

By Courtney Warren

The Canton Academy Student Council held a food drive for Madison Countians Allied Against Poverty (MadCAAP) recently. They challenged each class in grades 6-12 to compete to bring in the most items. The class winner was the ninth grade. These freshmen will choose between an ice cream party

or a dress down day as a reward for their contribution to the community.

Class presidents Paxton Hunt, Ava Hughes, Harper Lampkin, Mary Alice Holmes and Emily Dearman helped to deliver the goods to MadCAAP. MadCAAP is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization dedicated to assisting families living in poverty.



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Canton Academy students represent their student body



Special to The Canton News

The Canton Academy Student Body representatives were recently announced. These students, who campaigned and were voted upon by their peers, each exemplify what it means to truly be a Canton Academy Panther. Pictured (l to r) are Mackenzie Turner, Vice President; Sophie Rainey, Secretary; Addison Cado, President; William Woods, Parliamentarian; Mary Alice Holmes, Chaplain; and Harper Lampkin, Treasurer.

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Canton Driver's License station opens



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The Department of Public Safety recently celebrated the grand opening of the new Canton Driver License Station on Tuesday, April 1. The facility, located at 152 Watford Parkway Dr., Canton, MS 39046, will provide essential driver ser-

vices to the community. While the new station offers license-related services, officials remind the public that it is not a testing site. Residents are encouraged to visit for renewals, replacements, and other licensing needs. For more information, contact the Department of Public Safety.

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Canton

Mississippi Municipal Liability Plan and allocated \$2,000 for deductible repairs to Chief Brown's unit.

Ongoing City maintenance and infrastructure concerns were also discussed. The board addressed plans for cleaning ditches and removing debris, as well as updates on the Crisco Ditch cleanup. Flooding concerns throughout the city were examined, including the situation on Lillie Drive and Adeline, along with a proposed action plan for mitigation. Street repairs were reviewed, with specific attention given to Northwest Street in front of Joe Prichard Homes. Updates were provided on the condition of several city buildings, including the Old Rings hardware build-

ing, Old Gowdy's building, and the Shackelford House. The removal of a sidewalk leading up to Nichols Middle School was also discussed.

The meeting concluded with an executive session, during which personnel matters related to Parks and Recreation, Public Works, and the Police Department were reviewed. The board also discussed prospective litigation, as well as the sale and lease of certain City properties.

The board remains committed to addressing the needs of Canton residents through infrastructure improvements, public safety measures, and ongoing community engagement. Further updates on these matters will be provided in future meetings.

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