



# THE CANTON NEWS

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

Good News You Can Use • October 3, 2024 • Vol. 10, No. 10 • Canton, Mississippi

## CPSD EARNNS C

**Special to The Canton News**

The Canton Public School District has earned a C-rating for the 2023-2024 school year from the Mississippi Department of Education's accountability system. According to Superintendent Gary Hannah, "We are proud to remain successful for three years in a row. All of our elementary schools earned A and B ratings. While we lost some momentum in our middle and high schools, we are working diligently to regain their B-ratings. Our dedicated teachers, students, and administrators are persevering as we continue to work hard to achieve our goals as we strive for excellence."

DISTRICT -C (557)	McNEAL ELEMENTARY -B (379)
REUBEN B. MYERS CSAS -A (490)	CANTON HIGH/CNGA -C (588)
CANTON ELEMENTARY -A (471)	HUEY PORTER MIDDLE -C (330)
GOODLOE ELEMENTARY -B (387)	NICHOLS MIDDLE -F (242)

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& Bill Mosby*

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# Football season calls for simple but delicious apps

The Canton News

It's the most wonderful time of the year – football season! While some would say that sentiment is reserved for the holidays that fall closer to the end of the calendar year, most Southerners would agree that football season is indeed something special down South – especially on Saturdays. This appetizers can be made in a very short time and takes FIVE ingredients or less, including the crackers you'll serve it with! Whip it up, set it out, and go enjoy some gridiron competition!

## Ingredients:

- 1 pkg cream cheese, softened
- 1 pkg ranch dressing mix
- Cavender's Greek Seasoning
- Black pepper
- Party crackers

## Ranch Cheese Ball



## Preparation:

1. Thoroughly blend cream cheese and ranch dressing mix.
2. Place blended cream cheese mixture on a large piece of plastic wrap.
3. Wrap up cheese mixture in the plastic wrap, and shape into ball.
4. Open up plastic wrap, and coat entire ball with generous portions of black pepper and Cavender's.
5. Chill and serve with crackers.



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www.cantonnews.net

# Letter from the editor: Find your people

By Courtney Warren

Thank you cards are a pain. Texting is literally so easy, and you can fire one off without a thought...and yet, I can almost feel my grandmother's glare. If you listen closely...one might even be able to hear her disappointed sigh.

As my hand cramps this week, I am reminded how amazing it is to have people. There is a song called "You gotta find your people," and it's one that I've really enjoyed - and one I've thought of a lot recently.

September was a full month for me when it comes to emotions. There was excitement, heartbreak, travel and celebrations. I turned 35 this month - an exciting milestone that I had the joy of celebrating with my family at the Mississippi Book Festival.

My day started with my nieces singing happy birthday to me (loudly and slightly off key) before I was given VIP passes to the festival by a wonderful friend. I was so blessed to be surrounded by fellow readers and writers - my people.

Then, I had the honor of traveling to our nation's capital to be celebrated, along with eleven other incredible educators, as one of the Herzog Foundation's National Christian Teachers of the Year. This was easily a once-in-a-lifetime experience. The travel was exhausting - we had to arrive at the airport at 4 a.m., and yet my people did so without complaint. They showed up for me.

During the banquet, as I looked around my table, I had to take a second and talk to God: "Lord, thank you for my people. Thank you for blessing me with people who see me."

I was seen. I was loved. I was supported and told over and over that I mattered and that I'd made them proud. And sometimes, that's really all we need, isn't it? For someone to see us, the good and the bad, and love us anyway. For someone to see us and, no



Photo by Laura Stevens

Courtney Warren and Lindsay Pecou at the Herzog National Christian Teacher of the Year awards in Washington D.C.

matter what mistake, no matter what victory, they never walk away. They are committed to walking through life with us.

Our people.

The lyrics to the song that I love most include, "You got to find your people, The ones that make you feel whole, That won't leave your side when you lose control, The ones that don't let you lose your soul." It's one thing to say you love someone. It's another to show up for them. To see them. To be their people.

It's so easy to lose ourselves in the labels that people place on us - why is it that the labels that always seem to stick the hardest come from the people who have no business placing them in

the first place? Do they truly know our hearts? Are those people the ones that we want beside us when we have our failures? Are they our anchors? Our safety nets? Our lighthouses? Why is it that the people who are the first ones to turn the lights off are the ones whose opinions we hear?

We can't listen to them.

They aren't our people.

Our people show up. Our people pick up the phone. Our people will take the 4 a.m. flight. Our people will write the thank you card. Our people will stand beside us and have the tough conversations and stand for us in the crowd. Our people are worth more than a text message.

We've got to find our people. Because through our people, we find ourselves.

# Canton's Nissan thanked by United Way

Special to The Canton News

Every year, Nissan Canton members work together to pledge their support for the annual United Way campaign. Nikki McCelleis, President and CEO of United Way of the Capital Area sent this heartfelt note to the Nissan team: "Thank you, Nissan Canton, for your continued and unwavering support of United Way of the Capital Area. Your commitment to making a difference in our community is truly inspiring, and we deeply appreciate your partnership in helping improve lives and create lasting change. Together, we are United In Purpose."

According to their website, United Way brings people together to build strong, equitable communities



Special to The Canton News

where everyone can thrive. As one of the world's largest privately funded charities, United Way servse 95 per-

cent of U.S. communities and 37 countries and territories -- making life better for 48 million people every year. Through United Way, communities tackle tough challenges and work with private, public, and non-profit partners to boost education, economic mobility, and health resources.

United Way is the mission of choice for 1.5 million volunteers, 6.8 million donors, and 45,000 corporate partners in more than 1,100 communities worldwide. In their second century of service, they are building resilient, equitable communities across the globe.

# Remember When: Making connections and basketball limitations

By Guest Columnist Mary Jane Boutwell

I was in the lobby at tourism and saw a lady looking at the information about places to visit. I walked over to speak, thinking she was an out-of-state visitor, and I asked where she lives. Camden. My response was a usual, "I was born in Camden."

When she asked my name, I responded by including my maiden name.

She said she went to school in Camden with two sour boys. When I told her the names of my two oldest brothers, she said they were the ones.

My family moved from Camden to Canton in 1943. This happened in 2024.

My second older brother started school at Camden. As far back as I can remember, he was mad, because they started their students as preschoolers. This added a year to the standard twelve years. The preschool start was the same age as the regular first grade. This way, the school made an entire year of income per student.

I started in Canton at five. I was seventeen when I graduated in May 1960. I started college in June and was a second semes-

ter freshman when I turned eighteen. My brother was still mad.

None of this happened because I was smart. I just passed.

Back in the day when Doug Allen was superintendent of the Canton separate school district, school always started the day after Labor Day. All the preliminary work - enrolling, etc. - was done the week before, so students walked into the classroom ready to go.

Watching the women's basketball Olympic team and the WNBA games brought to mind several family stories from the early 1900s. One of my daddy's sisters played basketball. I was told that she was good. One of the best stories is about one of my mother's



Special to The Canton News

sisters. She played basketball, but was not allowed to be on the high school team. She would have played wearing bloomers. My granddaddy said no.

"No daughter of mine is going to appear in bloomers."

For the youngsters, bloomers

were worn under dresses as long as underwear. They had elastic at the waist and ankle.

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

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# On the shelf: Fun and frightening books to cozy up with this fall

By Courtney Warren

As autumn leaves begin to fall and the nights grow longer, there's nothing quite like curling up with a book that embraces the spirit of the season. Whether you're in the mood for a spine-tingling thriller, a light-hearted romp with a spooky twist, or a heartfelt tale that weaves together romance and the supernatural, this fall has a fantastic selection of books that cater to all tastes. Here are three must-reads to add to your fall reading list.

**Cackle by Rachel Harrison**

I was surprised when I found that *Cackle* was Harrison's debut, but she has now become an "auto buy" author for me. This book took me by surprise because of the fresh take it has on friends, relationships, and a little magic.

The story centers on Annie, a young woman grappling with her recent breakup and seeking a new start in the small, eerie town of Cape May. There, she meets the enigmatic Sophie, a local who is charming yet cloaked in mystery.



As their friendship deepens, Annie un-

covers secrets about Sophie's magical past and the dark history of the town.

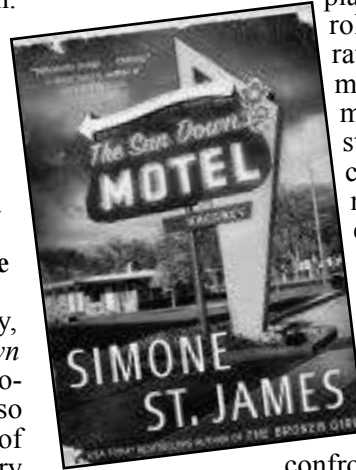
Annie and Sophie have a chemistry that immediately gripped me, because it wasn't a friendship that could truly make sense or be completely trusted. As odd as it may be, the book was both uplifting and unsettling, as Harrison spun a light-hearted and spooky tale.

**The Sundown Motel by Simone St. James**

For those craving a chilling mystery, look no further than *The Sundown Motel* by Simone St. James. This story literally kept me awake—I was so scared! It reminded me of the late nights of elementary school where I'd hide under the covers to finish a Goosebumps book. This novel alternates between the perspectives of two women: Viv, who in 1982 takes a job at a mysterious motel in upstate New York, and her niece, Carly, who in the present day is determined to uncover the truth about her aunt's disappearance and the dark secrets of the *Sundown Motel*.

I love this book because the setting itself was a character. A once-thriv-

ing motel that harbors dark memories



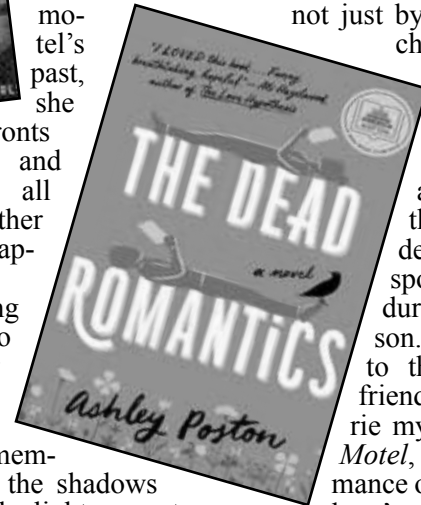
plays a pivotal role in the narrative and immediately drew me in. I can still picture the creepy swimming pool and empty parking lot. As Carly delves deeper into the

motel's past, she

confronts ghostly apparitions and long-buried secrets, all while piecing together the mystery of what happened to Viv.

If you want something that is really going to make you a scaredy cat, this is the book. The novel expertly explores themes of memory, family ties, and the shadows that linger long after the lights go out. This haunting tale is sure to keep you on the edge of your seat, making it an ideal read for those dark fall nights.

**The Dead Romantics by Ashley Poston**



**Poston**

*The Dead Romantics* is next on my life after reading so many great reviews. According to the publisher, Poston delivers a heartwarming narrative that proves love can transcend even the boundaries of life and death. The protagonist, Florence, is a ghostwriter for a popular romance novelist who has lost her belief in love after a family tragedy. When she returns to her hometown to bury her estranged father, she finds herself haunted—not just by memories, but by the charming ghost of her father's best friend, who has unfinished business.

As the leaves change and the air turns crisp, these three books offer a delightful mix of fun and spooky narratives to enjoy during this magical season. Whether you're drawn to the enchanting tale of friendship in *Cackle*, the eerie mystery of *The Sundown Motel*, or the heartfelt romance of *The Dead Romantics*, there's something for everyone to enjoy. So, grab your favorite cozy blanket, a warm drink, and get ready to laugh or be spooked! Happy reading!



## Why you need dental insurance in retirement.

**Medicare doesn't pay for dental care.<sup>1</sup>**

As good as Medicare is, it was never meant to cover everything. If you want protection, you need to purchase individual insurance.

**Early detection can prevent small problems from becoming expensive ones.**

The best way to avoid large dental bills is preventive care. Experts recommend checkups twice a year.

**Previous dental work can wear out.**

Your odds of having a dental problem only go up as you age.<sup>2</sup>

**Treatment is expensive — especially the services people over 50 often need.**

Unexpected bills, like \$190 for a filling, or \$1,213 for a crown<sup>3</sup> can be a real burden, especially if you're on a fixed income.

**When you're comparing plans ...**

- ▶ Look for coverage that helps pay for major services.
- ▶ Look for coverage with no deductibles.
- ▶ Shop for coverage with no annual maximum on cash benefits.

**Simply put — without dental insurance, there may be an important gap in your healthcare coverage.**

1 "Medicare & You," Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, 2024. 2 "Aging changes in teeth and gums", medlineplus.gov, 4/17/2022. 3 American Dental Association, Health Policy Institute, 2020 Survey of Dental Fees, Copyright 2020, American Dental Association.

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# Madison Community Trust presents to CCC

# Millions of dollars in lost life insurance



Special to The Canton News

Pictured left to right are Barney Daly, Community Bank of MS; Michael Ellis, Canton Career Center Director; Kevin Loud, Lobaki CEO; Vinny Jordan, Lobaki Director of Development; Jan Collins, MCBLF Executive Director.

Special to The Canton News

The Madison County Community Trust, philanthropic arm of the Madison County Business League & Foundation, was proud to present the Canton Public Schools Career Center with a check for Virtual Reality headsets

provided by MCBL&F member Lobaki.

These headsets allow students the ability to experience career exploration virtually, and are equipped with training simulations for certain career choices.



Special to the Canton News

Special to The Canton News

In 2023, more than 1,600 Mississippians used the Life Insurance Policy Locator Tool to find more than \$46 million in lost policy benefits. The Locator is a free tool, maintained by the National Association of Insurance Commissioners (NAIC). It has helped more than 4,400 Mississippi consumers claim more than \$99 million in benefits since its inception in November 2016.

"The policy locator requests are free and confidential," said Insurance Commissioner Mike Chaney. "Any matches found are reported to insurance companies, and the companies then contact beneficiaries. The locator helps us to meet our goal of protecting

consumers."

Life insurance policies are designed to pay money to the "named beneficiaries" when the insured individual dies. The beneficiaries can be one or more individuals - or even an organization. In most cases, policies are purchased by the person whose life is insured, but life insurance policies can be taken out by spouses or anyone who can prove they have an insurable interest in the person. There are many different types of life insurance policies. Those who are interested in purchasing life insurance are encouraged to talk to an insurance agent about their options.

To use the Life Insurance Policy Locator, visit <https://eapps.naic.org/life-policy-locator/#/welcome>.



# THE CANTON NEWS

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# CHS students register to vote



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With election season right around the corner, many are learning more about the importance of voting. Canton High School students recently participated in a Delta Sigma Theta Sorority voter registration drive. To register in Mississippi you must: Be a citizen of the United States; have lived in Mississippi and in your coun-

ty (and city, if applicable) 30 days before Election Day; be 18 years old by the time of the general election in which you want to vote; have not been convicted of voter fraud or any other disenfranchising crime (or, if you have been convicted, you must have had your rights restored); not have been declared mentally incompetent by a court.



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# Nissan pairs with museum



Special to The Canton News

By Courtney Warren

Nissan of Canton recently joined the future leaders in STEM for the Mississippi Science Fest, hosted by the Mississippi Children's Museum. This annual event invites over five hundred students, families and educa-

tors to explore STEM industries, organizations and innovation happening across the state. Canton team members helped showcase automotive technology, like the brand-new, all-electric ARIYA, to curious students and families alike at the Nissan booth.

# High School to Grad School

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# Diamond selected as hoco maid



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Jakayla Diamond of Canton has been selected as one of the 2024-25 Homecoming Court Maids for Hinds Community College. Pictured left to right are Raymond Campus Sophomore Maid **Destiny Young** of Raymond, Nursing Allied Health Sophomore Maid **Lynette McDonald** of Carson, Vicksburg-Warren Campus Sophomore Maid **Amariah Hill** of Vicksburg, Utica Campus Sophomore Maid **Kyra Williams** of Jackson, Raymond Campus Sophomore Maid **Jamiya Sharp** of Kosciusko, Raymond Campus Sophomore Maid **Denver Jackson** of Jackson, Rankin

Campus Sophomore Maid **Kamy Johnson** of Brandon, Utica Campus Freshman Maid **Jakayla Diamond** of Canton, Rankin Campus Freshman Maid **Brianna Seaney** of Morton, Vicksburg-Warren Campus Maid **Alexis Edgemon** of Baton Rouge, Raymond Campus Maid **Kedilyn Griffin** of Memphis, Raymond Campus Freshman Maid **Kenya Qualls** of Vicksburg, Jackson Campus Freshman Maid **Mildriana Roberts** of Jackson and Raymond Campus Freshman Maid **Je'Lasia Badon** of Tylertown. The Homecoming queen will be named on October 24 as part of the homecoming game with Pearl River Community College.

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# Anthony wins pennant contest




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Canton Career Center student Ka'mia Anthony.

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Canton Career Center students recently participated in the Historical-Black College or University Week

pennant contest. The winner was Ka'mia Anthony. Honorable mentions were Javeyon Carter, Damion Harris and Jamarian Worthy.

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# Canton Sports Schedule

## CANTON HIGH SCHOOL

COACH: CALVIN BOLTON

Oct. 4	OPEN
Oct. 11	at Cleveland Central
Oct. 18	Yazoo City
Oct. 25	at Greenville
Nov. 1	Gentry
Nov. 7	at Holmes County

## CANTON ACADEMY

COACH: GAGE POSEY

Oct. 4	at Central Holmes
Oct. 11	Boston Academy
Oct. 18	Riverfield (La.)
Oct. 25	at Indianola Academy

  
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# Turner and Moses named to Madison County Youth Leadership



Special to The Canton News

Pictured (l to r) are, front row: Christy Rutledge, Jackson Prep; Kashvi Sukhadia, Ridgeland High School; Katie Lancaster, St. Joseph Catholic School; and Avonna Mendenhall, Germantown High School; middle row: Mackenzie Turner, Canton Academy; Mary Lamar Chustz, Jackson Academy; Adelaide Jacobs, Madison Ridgeland Academy; and John William Walker, St. Andrews Episcopal School; and back row: Giancarlo Rosales, Canton High School; Mae Moses, Tri County Academy; Pranavi Buddala, Madison Central High School; and Jovun Ray, Velma Jackson High School.

Special to The Canton News

Canton Academy junior Mackenzie Turner and Canton High School junior Mae Moses were recently selected as part of The Madison County Business League & Foun-

dation and MCEDA 2024-25 Madison County Youth Leadership (MCYL) Class. All public, private and parochial schools in Madison County, plus Jackson Academy and Jackson Prep, select one junior to represent their respective school in

the program.

Madison County Youth Leadership's mission is to provide students with a deeper understanding of the careers available in Madison County in an environment that develops their leadership skills and encour-

ages graduates to take their knowledge and their experience into the community for the betterment of Madison County as a whole. The students receive a scholarship upon the successful completion of the program.

# Canton High School volleyball undefeated in district play



all photos Special to The Canton News

The Canton High School Varsity volleyball team is the 5A Region 2 District Champion after defeating Yazoo City 3-1. The ladies are undefeated in district competition.

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# First grade buddies meet up at CA

By Courtney Warren

In a long-standing tradition, the Canton Academy first graders met their senior buddies in an exciting reveal on the playground. Seniors and first graders will partner for various activities throughout the school year.

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# Joni and Friends to host Barnyard Dance for those with disabilities



All photos Special to The Canton News

By Courtney Warren

The Joni and Friends Barnyard Dance at Moseley Meadows promises an enjoyable and engaging time for families and friends affected by disability. The event will feature food, hayrides, horses and dancing.

The Barnyard Dance will be an outdoor event. There is some cover, in case of inclement weather.

The event staff has made necessary adjustments around the farm to create an environment that is accessible for wheelchair users to provide a day of fun and fellowship for all ages.

Only volunteers are required to register before the Barnyard Dance. Those who are joining the event as a participant, are a family impacted

by disability, or are a group home are welcome to attend without prior on-line registration.

Volunteers will serve in various roles throughout the day, helping with face painting, games and activities, the horse station, hayride assistance, food stations, and more. After completing the online volunteer registration, volunteers will select their specific area of service upon arrival at volunteer check-in on the event day. Volunteer roles will be assigned based on the greatest area of need.

The event will be held October 18, 2024 at Moseley Meadows at 466 Yandell Road in Canton starting at 4 p.m. For more information, or to volunteer, call 769-243-8976.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

# NEWSPAPER READERS DETERMINE ELECTIONS

I VOTED I VOTED I VOTED I VOTED

VOTING DAY

## Almost 8 out of 10 newspaper readers vote in national or state elections.



Source: America's Newspapers 2023 Local Newspaper Study conducted by Coda Ventures.

# Holmes to host state's first AWS Pre-Apprenticeship Program



Special to The Canton News

Special to The Canton News

Holmes Community College is set to launch Mississippi's first Amazon Web Services (AWS) Information Infrastructure Pre-Apprenticeship (I2PA) program, designed to equip participants with in-demand skills for careers in information infrastructure. The four-week program will run from November 4 through December 6, with classes meeting from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. daily, excluding the week of Thanksgiving.

The AWS I2PA program offers thirty hours of hands-on training each week, focusing on equipping participants with the skills needed to build, connect, power and operate the infrastructure that drives the global information economy. Training is conducted using the tools and materials found in the field, providing practical, job-ready experience in AWS cloud technology, networking and security. Everything students need is included: protective gear, supplies and a laptop computer.

Participants will explore key elements of mission-critical building projects, including fiber optics, electrical and mechanical systems, computer servers and the software used in the design and construction of these facilities and systems. They will gain insights into high-demand careers and perform work functions typically found in real-world job set-

tings.

Each week also incorporates practice with essential durable skills applicable to any career, including problem-solving, time management, teamwork, persistence and effective collaboration. Additionally, participants will earn industry-required certificates - including AWS I2PA and OSHA 10 - while being paid a competitive hourly wage of \$20 an hour. At the conclusion of the pre-apprenticeship, those in the program will have the opportunity to network with subject matter experts from AWS, as well as other vendors and contractors.

"Holmes Community College is thrilled to bring this groundbreaking opportunity to our students and community," said Holmes Vice President of Workforce Development Dr. Mike Blankenship. "As the first institution in the state to offer this program, we are opening doors to high-demand careers in information infrastructure, which are crucial to the future of our workforce."

The program is part of AWS's broader commitment to creating a more diverse and inclusive tech workforce by providing accessible pathways into high-growth careers. It aligns with Holmes' mission to provide relevant, high-quality educational opportunities that empower individuals to succeed in a global society.

# Cantonians among UM summer grads



Special to The Canton News

Special to The Canton News

More than 900 students graduated from the University of Mississippi in August 2024. Undergraduate and graduate candidates received degrees from the College of Liberal Arts, General Studies and schools of Law, Pharmacy, Journalism and New Media, Engineering, Education, Business Administration, Applied Sciences and Patterson School of Accountancy.

Canton graduates included William Fairly, who majored in Taxation and Data Analytics and received a Master of Taxation and Data Analytics from

the Graduate School. Gurpreet Singh majored in Accountancy and received a Bachelor of Accountancy from the Patterson School of Accountancy. Mallory Palmertree, who majored in Criminal Justice, received a Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice from the School of Applied Sciences. Kayla Jackson and Cade Wilkinson majored in General Business and received Bachelors of Business Administration from the School of Business Administration. Laurel Lee majored in Juris Doctor Law and received a Juris Doctor from the School of Law.





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# Welch voted CA 2024 Hoco Queen



Special to The Canton News

Senior Gates Welch was named homecoming queen at Canton Academy.

Special to The Canton News

Senior Gates Welch was recently voted by her peers as the 2024 Canton Academy Homecoming Queen.

Welch is the daughter of Kevin and Margaret Welch and the sister of Evan and Austin Welch. Welch resides in Canton and attends the First Baptist Church of Canton. She has attended Canton Academy since the fourth grade. She has consistently excelled in academics throughout her high school career.

As a member of the National Honor society, Welch has served as the National Honor Society parliamentarian in her junior year. She has also been honored as an Academic All-Star, as well as earned a place on the Principal's List for maintaining high grades. Welch has been active in leadership roles and honors at Canton Academy. She was voted Best All-Around junior high student and served as tenth-grade Class President and Student Body Secretary for her junior and senior years. As a member of the Fellowship of Christian High School Students, she was elected treasurer for the 2023-2024 school year.

Welch has participated in the Beauty and Beau pageants and Who's Who Review at Canton Academy and has been voted a Top 5 beauty, as well as Class Favorite and Most

Athletic.

In her time at Canton Academy, Welch has participated in numerous sports, including cheer, track, softball and basketball. She also supports the Canton Academy baseball team as a Diamond Girl. She has served as the JV cheer co-captain and now serves as the Varsity Cheer Captain.

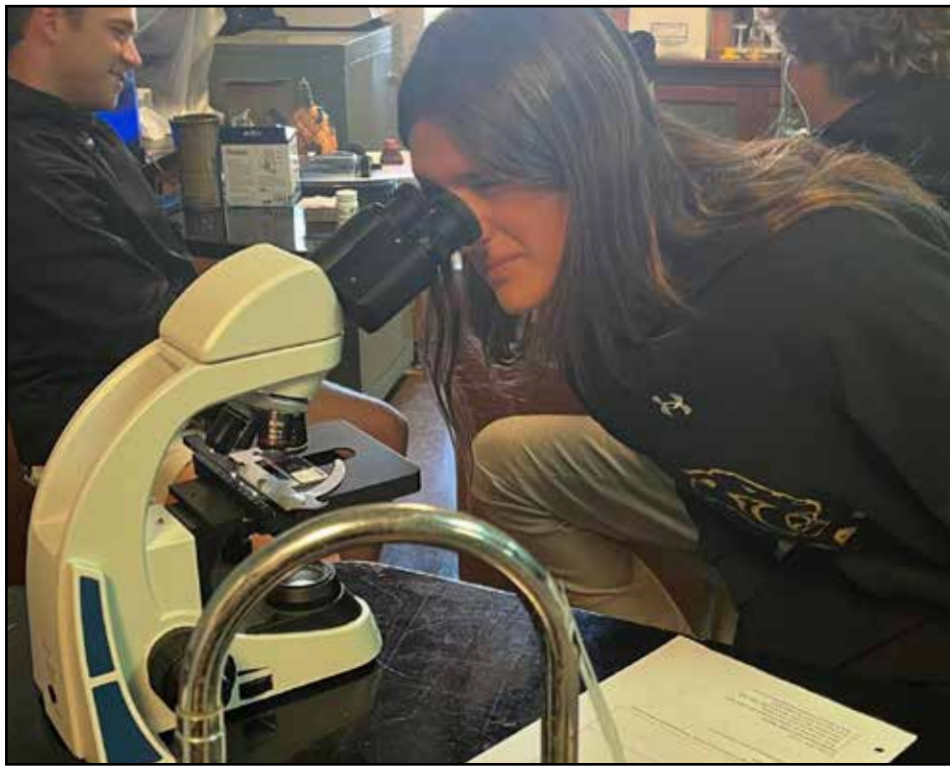
In cheer, she has competed and been named an All-American cheerleader five years, as well as a Pin It Forward recipient three times. In softball, she has been named Most Valuable Player and All District player for 4A MAIS District 3. Track awards include overall State discus champion and multiple district and state championships in discus and shot put.

Welch holds the school's record in both discus and shot put. She also earned the Offensive MVP for varsity girl's basketball her junior year.

Outside of Canton Academy, Welch is a member of the Madison County Civinettes, where she participates in numerous charitable activities aimed at making a positive impact in her community.

Some of Welch's favorite activities are shopping, spending time with her friends and family and cheering on the Mississippi State Bulldogs. Upon graduation, she plans to attend Mississippi State University to major in nursing.

# CA's A&P class compares cells



Special to The Canton News

Mary Alice Holmes learns about muscle tissue types.

Special to The Canton News

Ms. Moseley's human anatomy and physiology class at Canton Academy recently worked with microscopes to

look at different muscle tissue types. In a "Muscle and Tissue Comparative Lab," they compared different cells from epithelial, muscular, connective and neural tissues.



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- Look for electrical system damage once power is restored.
- Stay alert for natural gas leaks.
- Check for sewage and water line damage.

# CA Swim says eat their bubbles



Special to The Canton News

Canton Academy recently began a swim team and participated in the MAIS elementary swim meet. Coaches Lisman Walker and Jacki Miller were proud of the team's performance at their very first meet. Coach Miller said, "They were so absolutely amazing!! They were all fearless today!! Pretty impressive."

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# Flowers, flowers, everywhere for Garden Club's meeting

By Guest Columnist Jessica Stein

Canton Garden Club reunited for the 2024-2025 organizational year on the tenth of September. It was wonderful to gather together again, with refreshments provided by hosts Labonne Corcoran, Rose Bradberry and Jeanee Shell.

Members who attended last year's flower arranging talks had the chance to put all of their knowledge to the test, under the guidance of Master Gardener John Malanchek. Malanchek is the president of the Master Gardeners of Mississippi, and spends his time gardening and teaching people with disabilities. He spreads his talents with youth, as well as the elderly; and fell in love with flower arranging when trying to figure out what to practice with

his students when the days become too hot.

Inside the Sacred Heart Parish Center, we, too, escaped the heat and listened to his arrangement advice. We learned the Seven Principles of Design (balance, proportion, rhythm, scale, unity, dominance and harmony) compared to the Seven Elements of Design (color, form, fragrance, line, pattern, space and texture). We then put these

tools to practice with flowers and vases brought to share by Garden Club members.

John also advised that each bouquet should be one and a half to two times the height of the vase.



Special to The Canton News

Arrangers should remove all plant matter that touches the water, besides the stems, and cut each stem at a forty-five degree angle.

Members left with one or more gorgeous arrangements to take home.

Canton Garden Club will also be decorating the Square with fall garlands on October 14. Over the summer, the Keep Canton Beautiful committee managed four workdays, with an average of eight volunteers each time, including partners from JSU and Parks and Rec. As a result, the committee won the Beautification Award from Keep America Beautiful.

Some of this funding and funds from the Canton Garden Club will soon be directed towards completing the beautification and functionality of the Outdoor Classroom, across from the Madison County Co-Op. Canton Garden Club feels strongly about continuing to give back to this community by cleaning up litter, installing low maintenance landscaping and encouraging beauty across the whole town.

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