



# THE CANTON NEWS

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## Canton church celebrates twenty-year milestone

Special to The Canton News

Greater Love Worship Center (GLWC) will soon celebrate twenty years of ministry here in Canton.

To commemorate this special occasion, Pastors Calvin and Fredia Day will host a community outreach drive-through prayer, in the parking lot adjacent to The Venue of Canton, from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. on Saturday, June 28. Visitors will be able to drive into the parking lot and receive prayer and a goodie bag, without getting out of their car.

A free indoor “yard sale” is also planned during this time and will take place inside the venue itself.

“On Sunday, June 29, we will have a special morning service, beginning at 10 a.m., which will include an ordination ceremony for the first graduates of our Ministers-In-Training Program,” said Pastor Fredia. “All are welcome and encouraged to attend.”

Native Cantonian Calvin Day had known for many years that God was calling him and his wife, Fredia, to establish a church in order to serve the Canton area.

In 1996, the Days were called to relocate to Ypsilanti, Michigan, and, while there, were trained extensively by Apostle Robert Hill, his wife, Pastor Barbara Hill, and the seasoned members of the Pastoral Council at Christian Love Fellowship Ministries, International (CLFMI).

For the next five years and through many hours of prayer, study, Bible courses and hands-on experience, the Days were molded, shaped and prepared to do the work of the Lord.

The couple were then both ordained as ministers, under the direction of the Holy Spirit, by Apostle Hill and the governing body of CLFMI, receiving their credentials.

As they patiently waited for God’s release to launch a church, the Days made prayerful preparation.

During this time, God ordered their steps to Springs of Praise World Outreach Center in Crystal Springs, led by Pastor Darryl



Special to The Canton News

Greater Love Worship Center

Blankenship and his wife, Sharon. This was an insightful, multi-racial congregation who exemplified the love of Christ and really showed the Days in a tangible way how to minister effectively to ALL people.

After four years of prayer, the Days began the process of establishing a church. It began with just a handful of people who had expressed an interest in nondenominational ministry.

In the initial meeting, Pastor Calvin Day shared the vision God had given to him, as well as some preliminary plans. As a result, Day and his wife, five adult supporters and five children held their first worship service on July 10, 2005, at

357 West Peace Street in Canton, still known today as Greater Love Worship Center.

“In the years that followed, God has blessed the ministry,” said Pastor Fredia. “He has taken us through times of growth, weeding out, maturing, refocusing and regrowth. In September 2008, we purchased the building, and, during the summer of 2010, we built the sanctuary we’re now in.”

As they embrace the work that God has placed in their hands, the Days strive to ensure that the vision of the church remains the driving force behind all that is said and done from that institution.

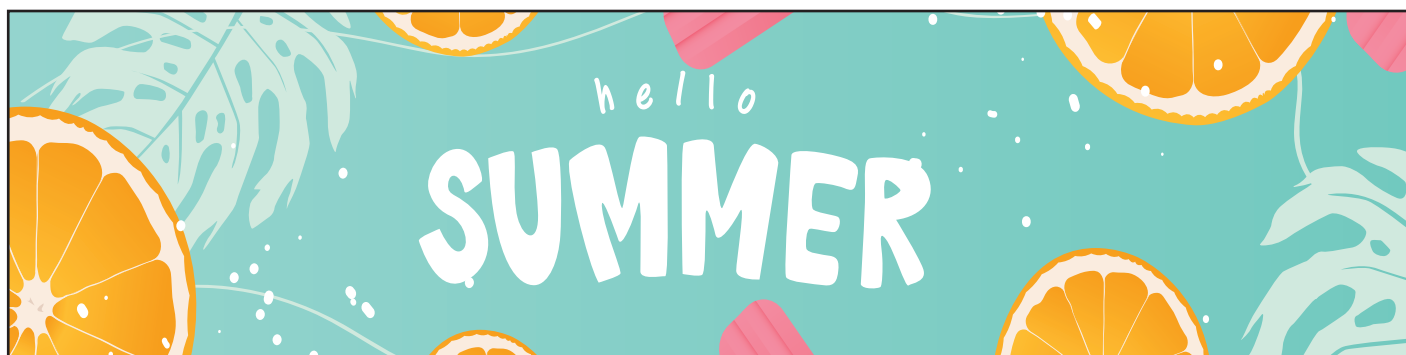
The leaders and members of Great-

er Love Worship Center seek to be a body of believers, disciples of Christ, sanctified to the purposes of God, holy in character and conduct.

In addition to the Sunday morning service, GLWC also offers Enriched Adult Bible Study, Kingdom Kidz Youth Ministry, Ministers-In-Training Program and the Pregnancy Resource Room.

The Venue of Canton features Christian entertainment, and the stage play *Are You Ready?* will be sponsored by the church and performed locally in early 2026.

For more information on Greater Love Worship Center, contact Pastor Calvin Day at 601-624-1462 or Pastor Fredia Day at 601-624-3440.



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# Canton High School announces Class of 2025 Valedictorian and Salutatorian



All photos Special to The Canton News

CHS Valedictorian Kenyatta Brown Jr.

CHS Salutatorian Shamiyah Jones

Special to The Canton News

Canton High School has named Kenyatta Brown Jr. as the valedictorian and Shamiyah Jones as the salutatorian for the Class of 2025. Brown, described by Principal Kari Johnson as “diligent, inquisitive, disciplined, and extremely well-round-

ed,” will attend the University of Mississippi in the fall. School officials say he has been recognized as a natural leader and expect him to thrive in college and in his future career. “Kenyatta is a born leader, and we know that he will excel,” Johnson said.

Jones, the 2025 salutatorian, is also earning praise from school leadership. Johnson described her as “hard-working, poised, and compassionate.” Jones plans to begin her college journey at Holmes Community College in the fall. “We are so excited for Shamiyah’s

future and the impact that she will make on the world,” Johnson said. Canton High School extends its congratulations to both students for their academic accomplishments and wishes them continued success as they begin the next chapter of their education.



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## Financial literacy grant given to CHS Tycoons



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Pictured (l to r) are Selena Swartzfager, Teena Ruth, Alexandria Luckett, Nelly Rosales, Henser Vicente, Jalynn Dunigan, Barney Daly, and Jan Collins.

Special to The Canton News

The Madison County Business League & Foundation and the Madison County Community Trust recently sponsored a financial literacy grant for the Canton High School Tiger Tycoons as they prepare to compete in the National Person-

al Finance Challenge, taking place June 1–2, 2025, in Atlanta, Georgia.

Grant organizers said, “The Tiger Tycoons team—Nelly Cardona-Rosales, Alexandria Luckett, Jalynn Dunigan, and Henser Vicente—represent a group of exceptional students whose

hard work and financial literacy skills have earned them this prestigious opportunity. We congratulate these students and wish them the very best as they represent Canton High School and the state of Mississippi on the national stage!”

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## Canton Public School District honors 2024–25 retirees



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Canton Public School District Superintendent Gary Hannah and the Board of Trustees recently recognized the dedicated service and outstanding careers of the district's 2024–25 retirees.

The celebration honored eight retirees whose commitment to excellence and passion for education have left a lasting impact on the school commu-

nity. District leaders expressed gratitude for the retirees' contributions, noting that their work consistently surpassed expectations and served as an inspiration to others.

“We thank each of them for their unwavering dedication and service,” Hannah said. “Their legacy will continue to inspire future generations.”

**The 2024–25 retirees are:**

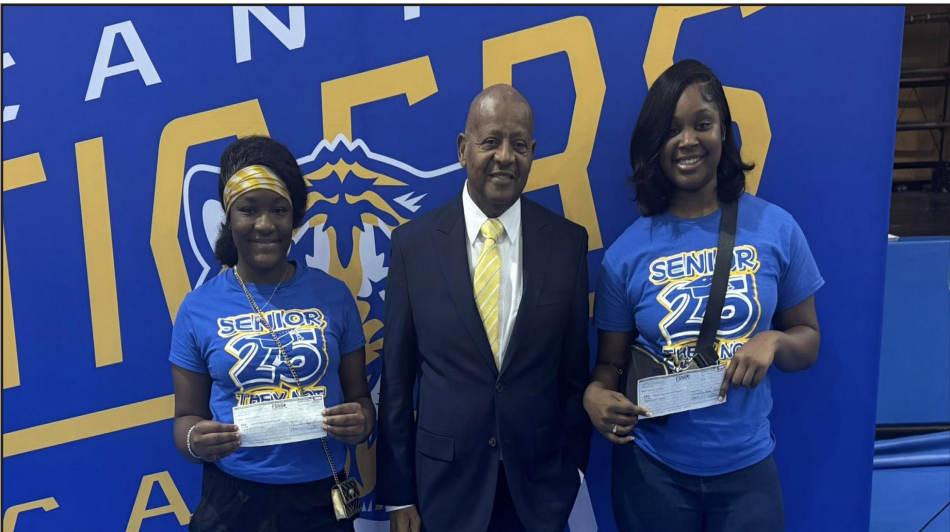
• **Richard Austin**

- **Shalondia Washington**
- **Joe Thompson**
- **Calvin Bolton**
- **Adrienne Parker**
- **Carolyn White**
- **Shirley White**
- **Connie Williams**

District officials wished the retirees a fulfilling new chapter filled with rest, discovery, and new opportunities.



# Canton alderman presents memorial scholarships to Canton High seniors



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Canton Alderman Tim Taylor recently awarded two scholarships in memory of his late mother, Emma Pearl Williams, to Canton High School seniors Anya McDonald and Jaziriah Mormont.

The scholarships were presented to support and empower the recipients as they pursue their educational goals.

During the ceremony, Taylor addressed the Class of 2025, delivering

an encouraging message centered on resilience and faith. He urged students to remain steadfast in the face of challenges and to place their trust in God.

“‘For I know the plans I have for you,’ declares the Lord, ‘plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future,’” Taylor said, quoting Scripture.

His remarks resonated with the audience, offering motivation and reflection as the graduating class prepares for the next chapter of their lives.

# Robinson named a Distinguished Scholar



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Canton High School has recognized Arianna Robinson as a Class of 2025 Distinguished Scholar.

A Distinguished Scholar is a student whose grade point average would typically qualify them for Valedictorian or Salutatorian honors but who did not complete both junior and senior years at Canton High School, in accordance with the Canton Public School District’s class ranking poli-

cy.

Robinson joined the Canton High School family during the 2024–25 school year as a junior. She has since completed all coursework and graduation requirements ahead of schedule and will graduate early.

Principal Kari Johnson described Robinson as “focused, ambitious, and a high achiever.”

Robinson plans to attend Holmes Community College in the fall.

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# Canton Lions Club hosts May meeting with guest speakers



Daniel Logan and Nolan Williamson



Brad Martin and Lion President Gary Teasley

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The Canton Lions Club held its regular monthly meeting in May, featuring guest speakers who shared updates and information relevant to the local community.

Lion Daniel Logan presented the

program and introduced Nolan Williamson of the Bear Creek Water Association. Williamson spoke to club members about the association's work and services in the area.

Also at the meeting were Brad Martin with the Gertrude C. Ford

MIND Center at the University of Mississippi Medical Center (UMMC) and Lion President Gary Teasley.

The Canton Lions Club is part of Lions Clubs International, a global service organization with a focus

on supporting vision care, health initiatives, and community development. The local chapter meets regularly to hear from community leaders, support service projects, and promote civic engagement in Canton and surrounding areas.



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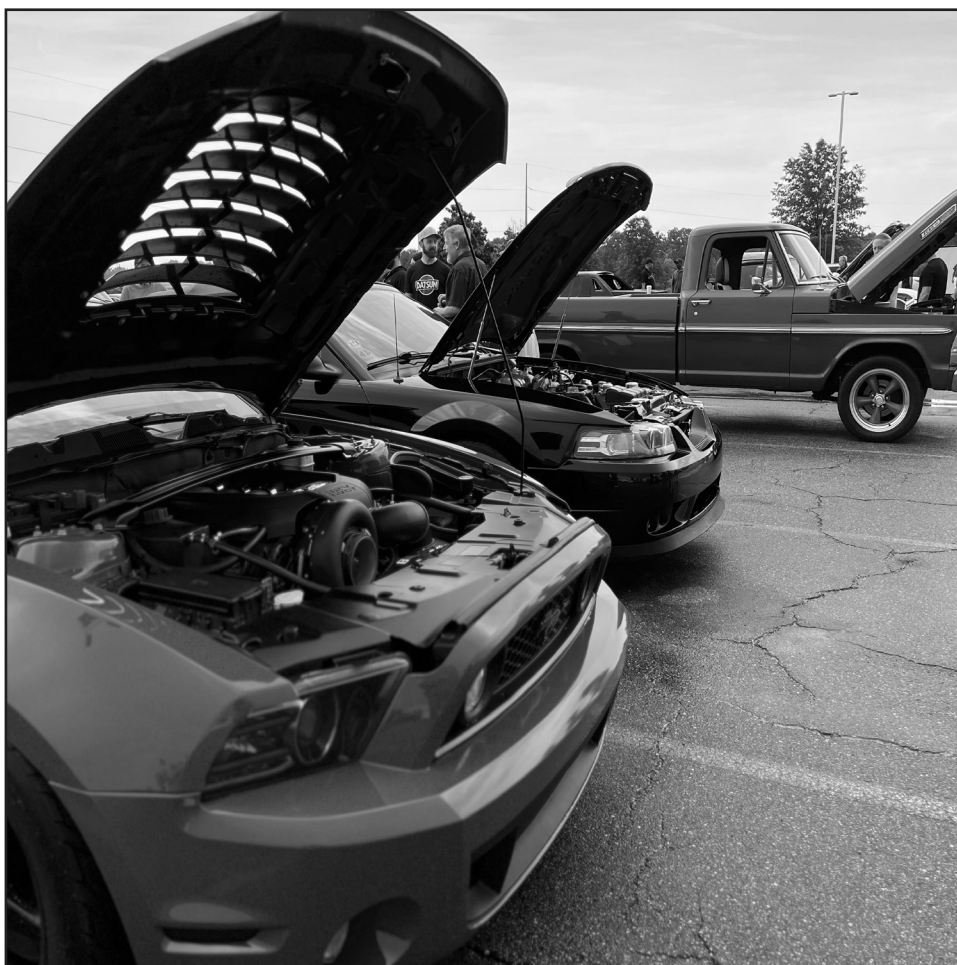
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# Nissan hosts second annual Cars and Coffee event in Canton



*All photos Special to The Canton News*

## Special to The Canton News

Nissan held its second annual Cars and Coffee community event on Saturday, May 17, from 8 a.m. to noon. The event, which was free and open to the public, took place in the parking lot of the Nissan Training Center at 300 Nissan Drive.

The gathering welcomed individuals of all ages and featured a variety of vehicles, including classic, modern, and custom automobiles. No registration was required to attend or display a vehicle. Coffee and breakfast items were available for purchase from on-site vendors.

In addition to the cars brought by attendees, Nissan displayed several of its own models, including the 50th anniversary GT-R, the Nissan Z NISMO, and the TITAN dually.

Victor Taylor, vice president of manufacturing at the Canton Vehicle Assembly Plant, said the event was

intended to bring people together around a shared interest in automobiles.

The event drew a steady stream of visitors throughout the morning. Organizers reported a strong turnout and a diverse range of vehicles, noting positive engagement from attendees.



# Canton celebrates law enforcement appreciation week with gratitude and food



Special to The Canton News

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Law Enforcement Appreciation Week wrapped up in Canton with full hearts and full plates as the community came together to honor the dedicated service of its police and fire departments. Canton Tourism officials say they were very excited to celebrate all of Canton law enforcement, offering a special thank you to the Canton Police and Fire Departments for their tireless work and dai-

ly sacrifices to keep the city safe. To show their appreciation, the community treated first responders to a delicious lunch, generously provided by Chill Way Kitchen. The gesture was a heartfelt reminder of the city's ongoing gratitude for those who serve and protect. Canton residents say they are proud to stand behind their first responders — not just during appreciation week, but every day.

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# Canton to host Juneteenth Celebration

Special to The Canton News

The city of Canton is preparing to honor Juneteenth with a dynamic three-day celebration from Thursday, June 19, through Saturday, June 21, 2025. Hosted by the Pine Grove Association, this year's events promise a vibrant mix of family fun, community service, and empowerment activities.

According to the National Museum of African American History and Culture Juneteenth, also known as Emancipation Day, commemorates June 19, 1865, the day when Union troops arrived in Galveston, Texas, to enforce the end of slavery—two and a half years after the Emancipation Proclamation was issued. It marks the effective end of slavery in the United States and has been celebrated by African American communities ever since. In 2021, Juneteenth became a federal holiday.

The Canton celebration kicks off on Thursday, June 19, with an 11:30 a.m. Kickoff event at Our Daily Bread, followed by an afternoon of excitement during Youth Fun Day on Hickory Street from 1 p.m. to 6 p.m. On Friday, June 20, residents will come together for a

Community Clean-up at 9 a.m., happening citywide. The day wraps up with a lively Block Party at 6 p.m. in Canton Square, featuring music, fun, and fellowship.

Saturday, June 21, is packed with events beginning at 6 a.m. with a Vendor/Health Fair lasting until 10 a.m. At 7 a.m., participants can join the 5K Run/Walk at the HOPE Center. A vital Expungement Clinic will be offered at 9 a.m. at the Baptist Family Life Center, providing legal assistance for those seeking to clear their records.

Rounding out the day are forums designed to uplift and educate. At 11 a.m., Girls/Women and Boys/Men Forums will be held simultaneously at McNeal Elementary, focusing on growth, leadership, and community dialogue.

With its theme, "Three Days. One Celebration. Countless Memories," the Canton Juneteenth Celebration invites everyone to come together in honor of freedom, resilience, and community progress.

To learn more or to register, visit [www.cantonjuneteenth.com](http://www.cantonjuneteenth.com) or email [cantonjuneteenth@gmail.com](mailto:cantonjuneteenth@gmail.com)



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# On the shelf: Books to dive into this summer

By Courtney Warren

As summer approaches, book lovers are eager to dive into new releases that promise to captivate and entertain. Whether you're lounging by the pool, relaxing on the beach, or enjoying a quiet afternoon at home, here are some standout books to add to your reading list this season:

## 1. *One Golden Summer* by Carley Fortune

Carley Fortune's *One Golden Summer* offers a heartfelt exploration of love, longing, and the transformative power of a single unforgettable season. Set in a sun-soaked lakeside town, the story follows two characters brought together by fate and forced to confront their past. Fortune's signature blend of emotional depth and compelling characters makes this a must-read for fans of contemporary romance. Fortune is my perfect beach read. I have never read one of her books that I didn't like, and, if you are looking for something that will get you in the mood for summer, look no further!

## 2. *Atmosphere* by Taylor Jenkins Reid

In *Atmosphere*, Taylor Jenkins Reid delves into the world of music and fame, crafting a narrative that intertwines the lives of two individuals drawn together by their shared passion for sound. Known for her rich storytelling, Reid delivers a tale that examines the intersections of ambition, identity, and connection. Reid

is another one of those auto-buy authors for me. I have yet to read her newest book, but the hype surrounding it tells me it's going to be another great one.

## 3. *The Love Haters* by Katherine Center



Katherine Center's *The Love Haters* presents a witty and poignant enemies-to-lovers romance set within the vibrant world of a literary festival. The novel explores themes of personal transformation, the power of storytelling, and the unexpected paths to love. Center's trademark humor and heart shine through in this engaging summer read. I got an advanced readers copy of *The Love Haters* and was such a fan! It was an easy read, but the

characters were beautifully fleshed out and relatable.

## 4. *The Poisoned King* by Katherine Rundell

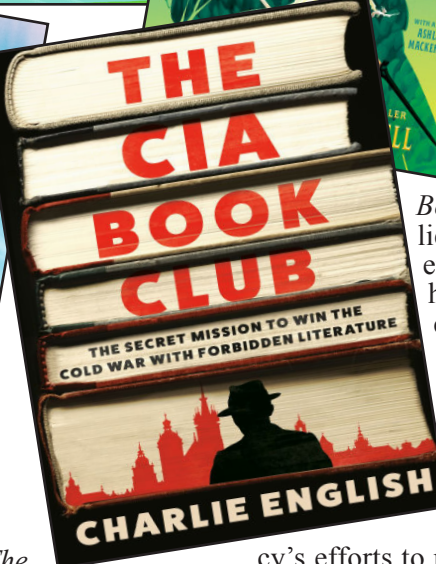
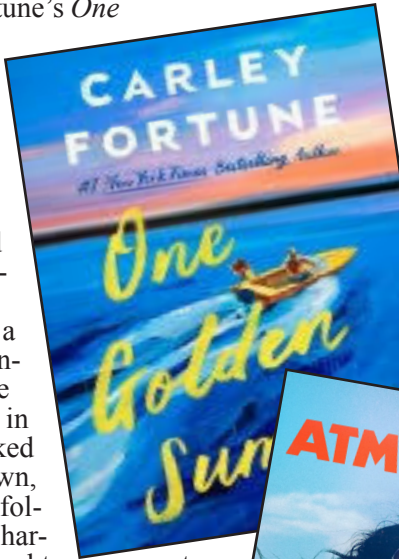
For those interested in historical narratives, *The Poisoned King* by Katherine Rundell offers a gripping account of Mithridates VI, the ancient king known for his resistance against Roman domination. Rundell's meticulous research and vivid prose bring to life the complexities of

power, betrayal, and survival in the ancient world.

## 5. *The CIA Book Club* by Charlie English

In *The CIA Book Club*, Charlie English uncovers the fascinating history of the CIA's covert operation to smuggle Western literature behind the Iron Curtain during the Cold War. This nonfiction work sheds light on the agency's efforts to promote intellectual freedom and counter Soviet propaganda through the distribution of forbidden books. English's narrative offers a unique perspective on the intersection of espionage and literature.

Whether you're seeking romance, historical intrigue, or nonfiction narratives that challenge the mind, this summer's reading selections offer a diverse array of stories to enjoy. Happy reading!



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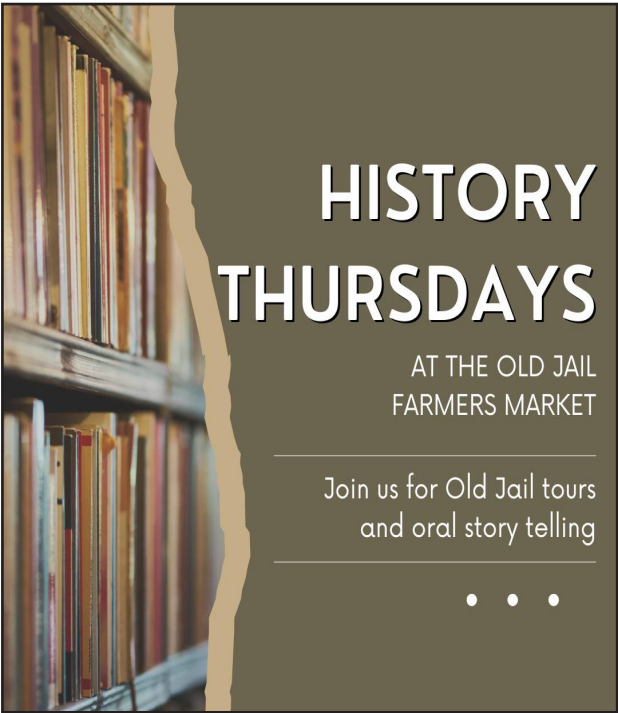


# Old Jail tours and storytelling join Canton Farmers Market events

By Courtney Warren

New this year, visitors to the Old Jail Farmers Market will have the opportunity to step inside a piece of local history. On June 5 and July 3, the Old Jail at 234 East Fulton Street will be open for tours and storytelling beginning at 5 p.m., in conjunction with the weekly market. The tours, made possible by volunteers from the Canton-Madison County Historical Society, offer a rare chance to explore the historic jail building and its evolving history room. In addition to learning

about the building's past, visitors are encouraged to participate in oral storytelling—sharing family stories, heirlooms, and local history with neighbors and friends.



Special to The Canton News

Those interested can find sign-up links through social media platforms.

The Old Jail Farmers Market is held every Thursday in June and July from 4 to 7 p.m., offering local produce, handmade goods, and community engagement in the heart of Canton. Organizers are also seeking volunteers to help facilitate the oral storytelling area during the June 5 and July 3 events.

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James admitted to Mississippi Bar



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Lauren James and Justice Branning

Special to The Canton News

Lauren James was officially admitted to the Mississippi Bar on April 24, 2025, authorizing her to practice law in the state. The oath of office was administered by Mississippi Supreme Court Associate Justice Jennifer B. Branning, who represents District 1, Place 3. James also serves as Justice Branning’s junior law clerk. Admission to the Bar follows successful completion of the Missis-

sippi Bar Exam, a rigorous multi-day test that assesses knowledge of both state and federal law. The exam is widely regarded as one of the most challenging steps in becoming a licensed attorney, requiring months of intensive preparation. James joins the legal profession at a time when newly admitted attorneys play a vital role in addressing the evolving legal needs of communities across Mississippi.

UM student wins Stamps Impact Prize



Special to The Canton News

Jacob King

Special to The Canton News

Jacob King, from Canton, a junior biochemistry major at the University of Mississippi, was named one of 15 Stamps Impact Prize winners for spring 2025. Matching a \$100,000 renewable gift from the Stamps family, the university created the competitive award in fall 2023 to enhance undergraduate students’ academic experience by supporting innovative, faculty-mentored endeavors

beyond the classroom. Students receive up to \$5,000 to support their work. King is working on a project titled “Quantifying Genetic Diversity in Nematode Feeding Rate.” His faculty mentor is Peter Zee, associate professor of biology. The support for King and the other enterprising students enriches their academic experience while advancing a variety of outstanding projects, said program director Kenneth Sufka.

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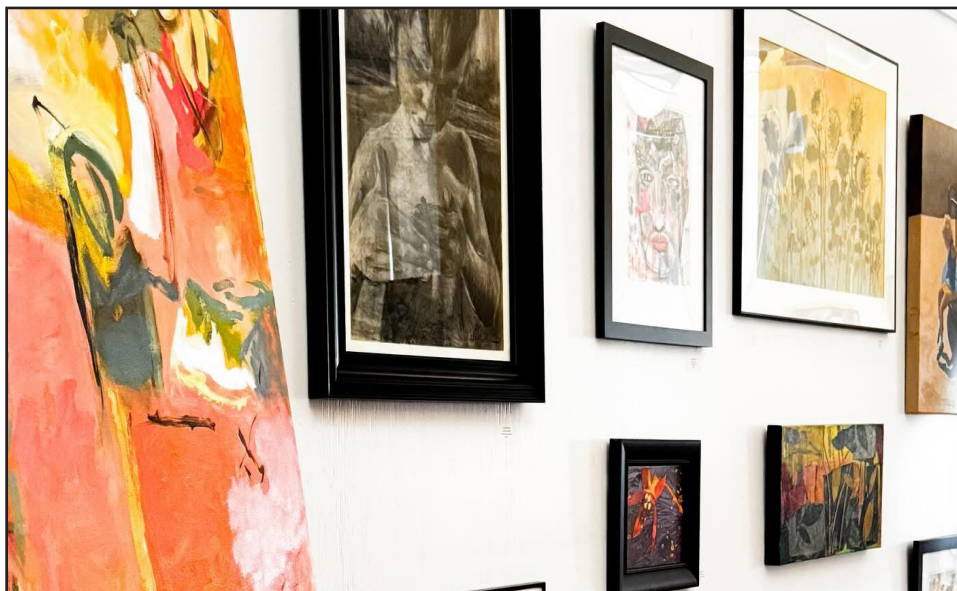
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## Mississippi Art Colony spring exhibit on display



*Special to The Canton News*

*A photo from a current exhibit in Canton.*

*Special to The Canton News*

The Mississippi Art Colony, the nation's oldest artist-run organization, is showcasing its spring 2025 exhibit at the Canton Welcome Center/Alison Wells Center for the Arts, located on the historic Canton Square.

The exhibit, featuring a diverse collection of works by artists from across the region, is open to the public now through June 9.

Gallery hours are Monday through

Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Saturday from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. Admission is free.

Founded in 1948, the Mississippi Art Colony has a long-standing tradition of fostering creativity, collaboration, and the advancement of visual arts. The spring exhibit offers visitors an opportunity to experience a wide range of artistic styles and mediums in a welcoming, community-centered space.



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# Eight Canton High alumni march again, 50 years later

*Special to The Canton News*

History repeated itself in golden fashion at Canton Public High School recently, as eight proud members of the Class of 1975 returned to their alma mater to march once more—this time in celebration of a 50-year milestone.

Dr. Marilyn Johnson-Luckett, Dr. Ruth Evans-Bowen, Dr. Linda Williams-Taylor, Mary Griffin, Erma Jackson West, Master Gunnery Sgt. Sam Young Jr., Charles Ware, and Staff Sgt. James Luckett opened the school's 151st commencement ceremony at Tiger Stadium. Clad in golden caps and gowns, they crossed the field to resounding cheers from a crowd that welcomed them like returning heroes.

Superintendent Gary P. Hannah, school board chairman Johnny Brown, board members, Principal K.R. Johnson, and faculty greeted the distinguished alumni with applause and congratulations.

"It's difficult to believe that five decades have passed since we marched out onto the grounds of Canton Public High School to receive our high school diplomas, our passport to the future," said Dr. Johnson-Luckett. "It was surpassed only by the excitement on Saturday when we marched again, fifty years later, to receive a golden

diploma. We are living the GOLDEN LIFE."

Johnson-Luckett also announced that her foundation, the Marilyn Johnson-Luckett Foundation, Inc., will award five \$500 book scholarships to the Class of 2025.

Her ties to the school run deep. In 1975, Canton High teachers played a basketball game to raise funds for her to attend the Presidential Classroom for Young Americans in Washington, D.C., where she was one of only five African American students among 375 national participants. That experience, she said, helped shape her path toward earning a Ph.D. and MPPA in Public Policy and Administration.

The Class of 1975 continues its legacy by giving back. Members are funding the construction of an outdoor classroom to promote innovative learning and offer fresh-air instruction in STEM, the arts, and other disciplines. Dr. Evans-Bowen, a longtime educator, emphasized the importance of such a space to meet evolving student needs.

In addition, Dr. Williams-Taylor, a psychology graduate of Texas Southern University, highlighted mental health support and announced that Canton High graduates attending Texas Southern may apply for her



*Special to The Canton News*

Master Sergeant Sam Young Jr., Dr. Marilyn Johnson-Luckett, Dr. Linda Williams-Taylor, Mary Griffin, James Ware, Erma Jackson West, and Dr. Ruth Evans-Bowen

existing education endowment.

The celebration included spiritual support from Rev. Robert E. McCallum of Priestley Chapel MB Church, who recognized the "golden marchers" during the baccalaureate service

and offered words of encouragement to both the Class of 1975 and the graduating Class of 2025.

Fifty years later, these alumni marched again—not just in honor of the past, but to help shape the future.

## Canton Flea Market celebrates 60 years of tradition and community spirit



*All photos Special to The Canton News*

*Special to The Canton News*

The historic Canton Flea Market celebrated its 60th anniversary with thousands of visitors filling the streets around the Canton Courthouse Square. Known as one of Mississippi's most beloved arts and crafts shows, the market brought together artisans, shoppers, and community members for a day of

unique finds and festive atmosphere.

Originally started in 1965 with just a few local artists, the Canton Flea Market has grown into a major regional event, now held twice a year in May and October. The 60th anniversary celebration featured hundreds of vendors offering handmade crafts, art, jewelry, clothing, home décor, and

more.

Crowds from across the state—and beyond—gathered to enjoy the lively marketplace, take in live music, and sample local food offerings, all while enjoying the rich history of Canton's downtown square.

The success of this milestone event highlights the community pride and

long-standing tradition that have defined the Canton Flea Market for six decades. Organizers and attendees alike are already looking ahead to the next market, set for October.

For more information about the upcoming market, visit the City of Canton's official website or follow the Canton Flea Market on social media.



# Canton Academy chemistry students complete capstone projects



All photos Special to The Canton News

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Ms. Moseley’s chemistry classes at Canton Academy wrapped up the school year with individual capstone

projects. Students were tasked with choosing a topic, conducting research, and creating a 20-minute presentation, where

they took on the role of the teacher. These presentations included bell work, homework, a lesson, a quiz, and even mini-labs in some cases.

Throughout the process, students explored the chemistry behind various topics, such as frying fish, butter, hair dye, and even slime.



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Letter from the Editor: Lifelong students never truly leave us



Reagan and I on her graduation day.



All photos by Dell Taylor

Reagan and my daughter Berit on Berit's first day of school. Reagan was in middle school.

By Courtney Warren

As teachers, it's not uncommon to have students who leave an impression—but every so often, someone truly special walks into your life and leaves a permanent mark. Reagan is that student for me.

From the moment she entered my classroom in the seventh grade, I knew she was different. Not just bright—brilliant. Not just motivated—driven. Being her teacher wasn't easy, but it was one of the most rewarding challenges I've ever taken on. Even in middle school, her writing already outshined that of many high schoolers I'd taught. She pushed me to be better—to dig deeper for more rigorous material, to raise my standards, and to constantly search for content that would keep her curious and inspired. She kept me on my toes in the best

possible way.

Then came her freshman year. I'll never forget the day she walked back into my classroom—her face said everything, before she even spoke. Tears streamed down her cheeks as she told me she would be transferring to another school after the first nine weeks. We hugged. We cried. And, even though my heart ached, I knew deep down that this was the right path for her. She was going to grow, to thrive, and I couldn't stand in the way of that.

What I didn't know was that God had plans for me, too.

I finished out that school year, and, in an unexpected twist, ended up accepting a job at her new school—the same one she'd transferred to. Suddenly, we were reunited, and, from the very first day back on campus together, it felt like we'd never missed a beat.

When I became the yearbook advisor,

Reagan was one of the first students to join my staff. There was no question—she was destined to lead it. From the start, we both knew that, one day, she would be editor. And now, that day has come.

Last weekend, I watched her walk across the graduation stage, surrounded by friends, family, and so much love. She's no longer the little girl who sat in my classroom, devouring writing prompts and asking the tough questions. She's grown into a poised, capable, compassionate young woman—ready to take on the world. She's heading to Ole Miss to major in sports journalism, and I could not be more proud of her.

Creating her senior yearbook alongside her was an absolute gift. It felt like everything had come full circle.

Reagan is the kind of student every teacher dreams of having. I could

give her a job—any job—and never worry about it again, because I knew it would be done thoroughly, thoughtfully, and with excellence. She is dependable, sharp, and an incredible leader.

But, beyond the classroom, she holds a special place in my heart. Reagan is the only person I've ever trusted to babysit Berit. That's how much I trust her—not just as a student, but as a person. I knew my daughter was always in good hands with Reagan, and that kind of trust is priceless.

There are students who come and go. And then there are students like Reagan—the ones who stay with you forever. So, congratulations to the class of 2025. You are going to do big things. And Reagan, know that I'm ready to tell everyone "I told you she'd do it."

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CPSD to offer free summer meals for children



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Canton Public Schools will once again participate in the federally funded Summer Food Service Program, offering free nutritious meals to children ages 18 and under throughout the month of June. The program is open to all chil-

dren regardless of income, and no registration is required. Canton Public Schools and the USDA are committed to ensuring equal access to this program without discrimination based on race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, or previous civil rights activity.

Meals will be served at McNeal Elementary School on a first-come, first-served basis. Breakfast will be offered from 7 to 8 a.m., and lunch from 10:30 a.m. to 12 p.m., Monday through Thursday on the following dates:

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# CA sixth graders have unforgettable day at TopGolf and Old Mountain Adventure

Special to The Canton News

Canton Academy's sixth-grade class had a memorable day that didn't go quite as planned—but ended up being even better than expected. The students were en route to their graduation canoeing trip at the Okatoma River when they received the unfortunate news that the trip had been canceled. But there was no need for disappointment with Mrs. Walker, Mrs. Miller, and Mrs. Curro behind the wheel of the school van. A few quick phone calls, and the day was swiftly reimagined into an exciting adventure.



Special to The Canton News

The students headed to TopGolf in the morning, where they enjoyed swinging clubs and some friendly competition. Afterward, the group ventured to Old Mountain Adventure for an exhilarating ropes course. From swinging golf clubs to swinging from trees, the day offered plenty of excitement as the sixth graders capped off their final moments as elementary students with a fun-filled day. Now, they say they are looking forward to swinging into seventh grade as they enter the next chapter of their academic journey.

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Board of Aldermen reviews financials and upcoming events

Special to The Canton News

The City of Canton Board of Aldermen convened for its regular meeting with Mayor William Truly, Jr., M.D., presiding. The agenda covered a range of municipal matters including financial authorizations, community reimbursements, and planning for



Mayor William Truly, Jr., M.D.

future events and expenditures. Presenters for the evening included Andrea Ousley and Iveanna Murry. The board moved forward with the approval of ClaimsContractual Claims Docket, Exhibit "B." A significant item on the agenda was the authorization of an \$850 reimbursement to Jacqueline James for the rental of the Multipurpose Building, which was affected by rain. Additionally, the board discussed the continuation of disclosure procedures for the City of Canton, referencing the last disclosures completed in June 2024. Financial planning for upcoming infrastructure needs was a key topic. The board considered a resolution to allocate \$270,000 from the 2025

promissory note into a dedicated account for multipurpose complex repair and \$290,000 into a separate account for a garbage side loader. Another item included approval of the 8038G form for the 2024-2025 Commercial Promissory Note. Under the consent agenda, the board approved a \$1,000 donation to the Atlanta Division Cantonian Club Gala and supported an in-kind donation for Exit 119 Booster Club's use of the Multipurpose Complex on May 29, 2025, for their Annual Athletic Awards Banquet. Further approvals included: \$4,350 to James Williams for tree removal on Lyon Street and East North Street. \$175 for Attorney Kimberly

Banks' registration to MMA 2025 through the Mississippi Municipal Attorney's Association. \$250 to Liberty Exterminating for termite treatment at Fire Station #4. The board then entered Executive Session to discuss personnel matters within the Police Department and Parks & Recreation Department, as well as other confidential matters including: Security planning (1 matter), Land transactions (3 matters), Legal strategy and negotiations (3 matters). The meeting concluded after addressing all scheduled items and executive matters.

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