



Most of the county was covered in the cold white stuff all day Tuesday causing most area businesses to close down either all day or part of the day. Liberty Park in Durant was beginning to become coated early Tuesday morning, January 16. Temperatures for the weekend are expected to be around the mid 60s. (Photo by Matthew Breazeale)



Durant Public School District along with Holmes County Central Schools and Central Holmes Christian School were out on a snow day Tuesday, January 16. Most school staff, faculty and students have enjoyed essentially a five-day weekend with the observed Monday holiday, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day and winter weather also on Friday, January 12. (Photo by Matthew Breazeale)

Are we a world of non-thinkers?

By Gary Andrews
gary@gadevotionals.com
In the late 1990's I taught Journalism, part-time, to high school students. I am not a certified teacher however I did, at that time, have over 25 years of journalism experience and was considered a professional in the field. This qualified me to help our local high school which was short a teacher.

this student an "A" for the semester even though he was barely above failing. I tell this story because a couple of years later I ran into this student who was a stock person for a local retailer. He spoke to me and told me he didn't appreciate me giving him a "B" for the year. He thought I should have given him a better grade.

It was refreshing to be with most of these students. It was a challenge to be around some of the others. School had changed so much from my days of high school and college. Having no textbooks for this elective course, I had to bring in materials I had gathered over my print media span and use it to the best of my ability. The students were hungry for what I had to say, but did not appreciate the fact that I made them write a lot of stories, read a lot of material, but most of them really hated my spelling tests. They couldn't believe juniors and seniors in high school had to take spelling tests, which was desperately needed. Most of them did not want to think on their own. They wanted every answer given to them and it bothered them that I wouldn't do that. I thought students needed to learn the way I did when I was in school.

My reply to him, which I said in haste, that he was correct. I should have given him what he earned. The only way he was awarded the grade he got for the year was because of the promise I made, during the first semester, for the first one to get the answer to the puzzle, which he didn't do on his own. At this time he was walking away but I had to tell him his grades were below normal and that's what he really earned.

Be grateful for what I gave you! There are so many in our country that is just like this young man. They want all the answers given to them so that they can prosper at someone else's expense. They are not willing to put forth the effort of trying to solve their own problems, let alone, anyone else's problem. It is all about them and

if anyone tries to help or teach them something new, they are not interested.

This young man has very successful and well educated parents. His brother is a highly motivated coach and teacher. I wish I knew where this young man is today and I hope that he continued to get an education and learned to listen from those who are more experienced than he is. I know he went to church and I hope he learned from where true wisdom comes. In Proverbs 1:7 it tells us, "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and discipline."

Prayer: Father God I give you all of the praise for where I am today. Thank you for your word and thank you for leading me. I pray that I will and can be the example you want me to be. Amen.

Suggested daily Bible readings: Sunday - Proverbs 1:1-7; Monday - Daniel 1:17; Tuesday - Ecclesiastes 1:1-11; Wednesday - Daniel 1:1-20; Thursday - Luke 6:39-40; Friday - Hebrews 6:1-12; Saturday - John 13:12-17.

Gary Andrews is the author of Encouraging Words: 30-days in God's Word. To obtain a copy go to his website www.gadevotionals.com.



The Holmes County Mississippi Homemaker Volunteers (MHV) Club is selling chances on a hand-quilted quilt. The funds raised in the raffle will help the members purchase fabric and other sewing supplies to help them continue their community service projects. The group makes quilts and other items to donate to the residents of local nursing homes and other health care facilities. The MHV club consists of ladies participating in the North Central Planning Senior Citizen feeding program. The ladies meet at the Multi-purpose building in Lexington 2-3 days a week to sew and quilt projects to be donated to community health care facility residents. To purchase a chance, please contact Tara Howell at the MSU Extension service 662-834-2795. Pictured above (from left): Mary Helen Kohn, Rose Howze, Leona Fields, Willie Mae Kimbrough, Betty Levy, Barbara Kimbrough, Mary Calhoun and Wyonia Hester, site manager. (Photo submitted)

MISSISSIPPI

38,076

Total number of farms.

Average age of farmer: 60.4 years

4% under age 35, 40% 65 and older in 2012.

What will the upcoming census tell us?

www.agcensus.usda.gov

U.S. Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service

2017 CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE

Source: 2012 Census of Agriculture

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