

# Outdoor Truths

By Gary Miller

I took another trip to the woods the other day. I hadn't been for nearly a month. My deer season ended at the end of December and since then I have been trying to catch up on work. My weapon this time was not a gun or bow, but a chainsaw. The winter seemed to start a little early in my neck of the woods and I'm running out of firewood quickly. The temperatures were in the mid 30's. It was a perfect day to pull and tug on a few logs and do a little after-the-season-scouting as well. This time of year you can kick around without the fear of spooking the deer or ruining a hunt. One can also see where they are bedding when there is no pressure from outside influences. I even found a shed. What I noticed, however, was how I was just as fulfilled with a chainsaw in my hand as I was with a weapon. The smell of the outdoors was just as exhilarating when hunting season is closed, and felling a tree was just as exciting as sitting in one. What all of this tells me is that part of my love of hunting and fishing is actually a love for the outdoors. And that's interesting to me. Let me tell you why.

Most Christians believe that God draws a person to himself through his spirit, called the Holy Spirit. The Spirit takes the things of God and draws us to God himself. And while God partners with us in creating many things, he didn't partner with us in creating this wonderful universe we call the world. Whether a planet, a particle, or a plant; God is the sole designer. Each is his handiwork and his alone. Long before the Word of God was printed and the Son of God was revealed, God's creation was there, drawing anyone who would look and listen to its author, designer, and Lord. King David penned it this way.

1 The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands.

2 Day after day they pour forth speech; night after night they reveal knowledge.

3 They have no speech, they use no words; no sound is heard from them.

4 Yet their voice goes out into all the earth, their words to the ends of the world. (Psalm 19:1-4 NIV)

Creation was the first instrument the Spirit used to draw

## \*Pickens Man

(Continued from page 1.)  
January 10, to the conspiracy charge and will be sentenced by Judge Reeves on March 29.

Corey Hughes was scheduled to plead guilty on Tuesday, February 13, 2018, before Judge Reeves to being a felon in possession of a firearm.

Darnell Branch is scheduled for trial on March 5, before

men to God. And its song is still ringing throughout time.  
gary@outdoortruths.org

Judge Reeves.

Estelle Cook, Jr. will be sentenced by Judge Reeves on May 15, in Jackson. He faces a maximum penalty of 10 years in prison and a \$250,000 fine.

This case was investigated by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives. It is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Jennifer Case.

The public is reminded that an indictment is merely a charge and should not be considered as evidence of guilt. The defendant is presumed innocent until proven guilty.

## DURANT NEWS

by Rowena Hill

Sympathy and prayers are for Plez White and family because of the loss of a family member. Plez still isn't well. We miss seeing him and regret the family's loss.

The Valentine Banquet held Saturday night was lots of fun, the decorations made things beautiful and the food was very good. Thanks to all who made it possible.

There was a special event Sunday afternoon at Liberty Garden on Depot Street. The City of Durant held a memorial dedication in memory of Mrs. Jo Nell Payton. Among those present were her loving family.. She did a lot for our town and we shall be forever grateful. We all need to care and work to keep the town clean and homes well kept. When the Garden Clubs were active, the town was clean and pretty.

Mrs. Warren (Jamie) Conner and children visited during the week with Joey and Jackie

Hill enroute home to Millington, Tennessee after driving to San Diego, California for a visit with friends.

Mr. and Mrs. Ed Hathcock were among those attending the funeral services of Jake Marchant in Winona on Saturday morning. Others of the family had plans to go from here but didn't because of the downpour. Prayers are for his family and friends. He had been in failing health for some time.

Prayers continue for Mrs. Betty Faye Hathcock Edwards. She hasn't been well for several weeks now. Prayers continue for her and others who aren't well. She's one that never misses church when she's well.

Mark Underwood and Eddy Johnson enjoyed an event in Jackson last Friday night.

The First Baptist Church choir and friends have begun practicing for the Easter program. We all look forward to it and look forward to seeing you there.

Prayers are for Mrs. Scott (Marjorie) Binegar. She goes often to Georgia to help care for her mother, who is very sick. May God bless her and the family during these sad times.

The many friends of Billy and Barbara May are missing being with them. They are very special to a host of Durant friends. Hope to see them often though.

Joey and Jackie Hill spent time last Saturday in Stewart with Derek and Jodi May and the family. They had just returned from visiting missionaries and places.

Local church and city events need to be in the local paper. Many were unaware of the event last Sunday in memory of Jo Nell Payton and had made other plans. She deserved recognition from her church family and the town even if the weather wasn't that great.



Jordan Brooks dominated the Commercial Doe goat competition at the Delta District Show in Greenwood winning the Grand Champion Commercial Doe Goat honors and winning his age division of Junior Goat Showmanship.

(Photo by Betsy Padgett)



Livi Howell is pictured at the Delta District Show in Greenwood after having won the 14 year old division of Beef Showmanship. Livi is the daughter of Tara and Scott Howell of Coxburg.

(Photo by Betsy Padgett)

## PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE RURAL AREA PROGRAM

The **Sunflower-Humphreys Counties Progress, Inc.** of Indianola, Mississippi, is considering applying to the Mississippi Department of Transportation, Public Transportation Division, for assistance through its Rural Area Program to provide public transportation services within **Holmes County**. Funding is available to state agencies, local public bodies and agencies thereof, non-profit organizations, operators of public transportation services in locations other than urbanized Area, and, under special circumstances, private operators of public transportation on a competitive basis to undertake eligible transportation activities.

The goals of the Rural Area Program are: to enhance the access of people in non-urbanized Area to health care, shopping, education, employment, public services and recreation; to assist in the maintenance, development, improvement, and use of public transportation systems in rural and small urban Area; to encourage and facilitate the most efficient use of all Federal funds used to provide passenger transportation in non-urbanized Area through the coordination of programs and services; and to provide for the participation of private transportation providers in non-urbanized transportation to the maximum extent feasible.

The purposes for which these funds can be used are capital purchases that include such items as support vehicles, communication equipment, wheelchair lifts, etc.; administrative costs that include such items as salaries, office supplies, insurance, etc.; and operating expenses that include such items as driver's wages, fuel, oil, etc. More specific details regarding eligible activities, program requirements and the program criteria will be provided at a public hearing which will be held at **12:00 pm, on February 27, 2018** at 303 Yazoo Street, Lexington, MS.

The purpose of this hearing will be to obtain citizen input into the development of the application.

## IN AND AROUND LEXINGTON BY LEONA (LENA) FIELDS

Emma Carnegie had a wreck. She broke two ribs and messed up her neck and face. She spent a few days in the hospital and is now at home in Tchula. Her truck was tore up but thank God she is alive. Let us uplift Emma in prayer.

Cleotha Hill of the Howard community was working on a trailer when it fell on him and broke his toes on his right foot. Pray for Mr. Hill as he is on crutches.

Robert Meeky, the elderly gentleman that had a white mustache and beard, that always walked around town, burned up in a house fire recently. Word on the street is he was using small gas tanks inside the house.

Beatrice Grant burned up in her house on February 4. She got around in a wheelchair. She was ninety something years old. Her funeral was the second Sunday at Pilgrim Rest M.B. Church. She lived near West.

TRIAD met on the second at the Lexington Multi-Purpose Building. Sheriff March reported that there has been only one shooting-killing in Holmes County and he is at a stand still. No witnesses are speaking up. The evidence, bullet, was lost due to the truck being moved. Some of the people in jail are speaking up for a lesser plea. In related matters, medical problems cost the sheriff's department a lot of money.

Crime Stoppers has spent a lot of money for tips on crime. The sheriff has recently been going to schools to speak to the children about crime. Interestingly, domestic violence can not be expunged or erased from criminal records. People should speak up against wrong doings or if they see crime in order to deter crime from continuing.

The guest speaker for TRIAD was Caroline Primer from the new state Civil Rights museum. She shared that some pictures in the museum are of Holmes



Malachi Williams won his age division of Junior Beef Showmanship at the Delta District Show in Greenwood. Malachi showed in the 10 year old division.

(Photo by Betsy Padgett)



John Thomas Murtagh won the Reserve Champion Market Barrow with his Mississippi bred Crossbred barrow at the Delta District Livestock Show in Greenwood. John Thomas is the son of Johnny and Kathy Murtagh of Ebenezer.

(Photo by Betsy Padgett)



Hallie Murtagh  
Bailey Rutledge  
May 25

Anna Weems  
Reid Sumrall  
June 2

**Peoples  
Drug Store**

Court Square 834-2721 Lexington