



Jay Jay McCaskill (at left) is pictured with Kim Moss, President, MS 4-H Horse Clubs, having won the Senior 4-H High Point Cattle and Goat Award at the State 4-H Horse Championships in Jackson.

(Photo by Betsy Padgett)

***Exhibitors**

(Continued from page 1.)
On Friday all of the halter classes were shown. Mikyah



Marquail Primers, Jr. (at left) is pictured with Mrs. Debbie Hughes, Vice President, MS 4-H Horse Clubs, having won the Junior 4-H High Point Cattle and Goat Award at the State 4-H Championships in Jackson.

(Photo by Betsy Padgett)

***HCCSD**

(Continued from page 1.)
period without a teaching assignment,” Henderson pointed out.

“We would be doing our children such a disservice if we did not give them every educational opportunity they need,” he added. Under Henderson’s administration, HCCHS will house a special wing designated as a Magnet School program. He introduced Durant native and Durant High School graduate Gregory Washington, Ph.D. as the new Coordinator of the Magnet program: a school-within-a-school.

Henderson also pointed out that the consolidation action to relocate DPS’s K-8 to William-Sullivan is also economically sound. “As I came up Highway 51 and happened to see where Williams-Sullivan is located, I discovered that it and this school are within a very short distance of each other,” he said.

“I know it is hard to let go, but this Board hired me to work on behalf of the children,” Henderson continued to express. “I am going to fight for these kids—all of the children of HCCSD—to get the best.”

Henderson, who has 20

years in public school administration, said parents have a right to ask for a meeting with their school leaders to address their concerns. “That is why I did not hesitate to agree to meet with them,” he later said. “Their opinions count.”

And speaking of the parents’ opinions, they also shared other vital concerns with Henderson during the Q&A segment.

Among their concerns were the fear of fights, bullying and lack of overall school safety at Holmes County Central High School. “Did your deep data gathering reveal anything about that?” one parent quipped. Another parent alleged that some adults also are bullying some of the children. Henderson answered that his research did not reveal any of that type information.

However, he indicated that his administration will be looking into those concerns, meeting with law enforcement, and “we are going to make sure a solid School Safety Plan is in place and enforced.”

One parent suggested installing metal detectors on the bus and at school. Another was concerned by the protection of her special

need son with physical disabilities. “He is smart as a whip and does not bother anyone. I do not want anything to happen to my child,” she said. Henderson responded: “We will have adult supervision with your child as well as other children, as needed.”

Retired Holmes County Educator Mrs. Sturgis made a statement and also raised a valid concern. “I was at the meeting in Jackson when the State Department approved the consolidation. The consolidation was established before Dr. Henderson came. Let’s work together with him and give him a chance to implement his plans for our children” she said. Sturgis, as well as one or two others, were concerned however about the Durant seniors who might be on target to be the Valedictorian and Salutatorian at DHS for the upcoming school year: What will happen to their class ranking once they relocate to Lexington?

“Great question, Mrs. Sturgis and thank you. For this first year, we might have to have two Vals and two Sals,” he said. “We will definitely address that.”

Several students were also in attendance. Henderson specifically addressed one

young recent DHS alum who refuted the data presented pertaining to their class schedule and teachers having multiple vacant periods. Henderson invited the young man to speak with him one-on-one and to assist in scheduling a meeting with the Durant HS students as he promised.

Regarding potential altercations that may occur between students from HCCHS and DHS, Henderson said, in his experience, he has found that if students are truly allowed to dialogue about their concerns or issues, conflicts can often be resolved.

“We will bring the kids together (from both schools) with guided conversations and give them an opportunity to express themselves,” said Henderson.

Parents were also concerned about over-crowdedness at HCCHS. Henderson said the high school is built to house 1200 students, and right now, it’s enrollment is around 700 plus.

However, he did say that later he would be asking for a bond referendum to build a state-of-the art high school. In an earlier report, Henderson said the same inoperable biology lab still exists from when he was a student at the high school.

HCCSD Board President Anthony Anderson and Vice President Louise Winters were also on hand for the meeting. They both asked the parents to give Dr. Henderson a chance. “The train has a new conductor now, and we, the Board members, are the engineers,” said Anderson “I know it is hard to let go, but we are going to fight hard to give students the best,” stressed Henderson.

As the new superintendent was shaking hands and briefly speaking to a line of parents who wanted to meet, one attendee said she shook his hand and whispered quietly in his ear: “Okay now Moses, I am going to trust you.”

Baker placed 5th with her mare, Sunny, while Tredell took 7th with his mare, Daisy. Colton Howell placed 6th with Frosty, his gelding. Saturday was “speed” day with Pole Bending, Barrel Racing and Stake Race classes. Orin Howell placed 7th in Barrels and Stakes and 8th in Pole Bending. Colton Howell placed 6th in Poles, 11th in Barrels and 12th in Stakes. Tredell Meeks won his class of Poles and 5th in Stakes with his fast time in Poles qualifying him to advance to Regionals. Cin’Kyra Mosley placed 6th in Barrels and Stakes and 12th in Pole Bending.

Semaja Clayton bested the Holmes County seniors in Poles placing 8th to Anthony Meeks’ 14th and Jay Jay’s 15th. Olivia Howell

placed 8th in the Stake Race and 12th in Barrels. Jay Jay placed 9th in Barrels to finish the day.

Tredell Meeks and Sinatra Clayton will advance to the Southeastern Regionals in Perry, Georgia, August 1-5, 2018, representing Holmes County and the State of Mississippi in numerous events. The Regionals (as they are called) will be the “National Finals” for these youth – as there is no contest that pits regions across the U.S.

Congratulations to these hard working 4-H’ers – this honor was earned and they will make super representatives for our program.

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2017 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report
West Hill Water Association
PWS# 0260018
June 2018

We’re pleased to present to you this year’s Annual Quality Water Report. This report is designed to inform you about the quality water and services we deliver to you every day. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water.

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact John Ellington at 662.770.9011. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled meetings. They are held on the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 PM at 103 China St, Lexington, MS 39095.

Our water source is purchased from the HUD that has wells drawing from the Meridian Upper Wilcox Aquifer. The source water assessment has been completed for our public water system to determine the overall susceptibility of its drinking water supply to identify potential sources of contamination. A report containing detailed information on how the susceptibility determinations were made has been furnished to our public water system and is available for viewing upon request. The wells for the Holmes Interstate Utility District have received moderate susceptibility rankings to contamination.

We routinely monitor for contaminants in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. This table below lists all of the drinking water contaminants that were detected during the period of January 1st to December 31st, 2017. In cases where monitoring wasn’t required in 2017, the table reflects the most recent results. As water travels over the surface of land or underground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive materials and can pick up substances or contaminants from the presence of animals or from human activity; microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, that may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife; inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or result from urban storm-water runoff, industrial, or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming; pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm-water runoff, and residential uses; and residential uses, organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations and septic systems; radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities. In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. All drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. It’s important to remember that the presence of these contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk.

In this table you will find many terms and abbreviations you might not be familiar with. To help you better understand these terms we’ve provided the following definitions:

Action Level - the concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) - The “Maximum Allowed” (MCL) is the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG) - The “Goal”(MCLG) is the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL) - The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary to control microbial contaminants.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG) - The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk of health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/l) - one part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in \$10,000.

Parts per billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter - one part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000.

TEST RESULTS									
Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Date Detected	Level Detected	Range of Detects or # of Samples Exceeding MCL/AACL	Unit Measurement	MCLG	MCL	AL	Likely Source of Contamination
Inorganic Contaminants									
10. Barium	N	2015*	0.637	No Range	ppm	2	2		Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
13. Chromium	N	2015*	1.7	No Range	ppb	100	100		Corrosion of steel and pulp mills; erosion of natural deposits
14. Copper	N	2015/17	.1	0	ppm	1.3	AL=1.3		Corrosion of household plumbing systems; leaching from wood preservatives
17. Lead	N	2015/17	0	0	ppb	0	AL=15		Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
19. Nitrate (as Nitrogen)	N	2017	.1	No Range	ppm	10	10		Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks; sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Disinfection By-Products									
81. HAA5	N	2017	1	No Range	ppb	0	60		By-Product of drinking water disinfection.
82. THM (Total Trihalomethanes)	N	2017	3.65	No Range	ppb	0	80		By-product of drinking water chlorination.
Chlorine	N	2017	1.8	1.2- 2.3	mg/l	0	MDRL= 4		Water additive used to control microbes

* Most recent sample. No sample required for 2017.

As you can see by the table, our system had no violations. We’re proud that your drinking water meets or exceeds all Federal and State requirements. We have learned through our monitoring and testing that some contaminants have been detected, however, the EPA has determined that your water is SAFE at these levels.

We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a monthly basis. Results of regular monitoring are the indicator of whether or not our drinking water meets health standards. In an effort to ensure systems complete all monitoring requirements, MSDH now notifies systems of any missing samples prior to the compliance period.

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. Our water system is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>. The Mississippi State Department of Health Public Health Laboratory offers lead testing. Please contact 601.576.7352 if you wish to have your water tested.

All sources of drinking water are subject to potential contamination by substances that are naturally occurring or man made. These substances can be microbes, inorganic or organic chemicals and radioactive substances. All drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency’s Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by cryptosporidium and other microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline 1-800-426-4791.

The West Hill Water Association works around the clock to provide top quality water to every tap. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community, our way of life and our children’s future.



Parents and school stakeholders took advantage of the opportunity earlier this month to hear from the new superintendent of the Holmes County Consolidated School District, Dr. James Henderson during a town hall style meeting. Attendees were able to hear Henderson’s plans for the district and also voice individual concerns about consolidation. (Photo submitted)