

Outdoor Truths

By Gary Miller

I just finished putting in a food plot for the upcoming deer season. I have always enjoyed getting on a tractor and preparing the soil for seed. This year, instead of tilling the ground, I simply ran my disc harrow over it sev-

eral times until I had turned up enough dirt to uproot what was presently growing and make it loose enough for the seed I was going to plant. The clincher was waiting until a day of rain had soaked the dirt. This made it loose

enough for my disc to easily turn it over. It really was amazing what a day of rain did to the soil.

I'm pretty excited to see what this ground produces. I'll need to throw a little fertilizer on it, but it should make for a great green field for the deer during the cold days of winter.

Some of the most common illustrations used all throughout the Bible are the ones that deal with farmers, farms, seed, and soil. Jesus, as well as many prophets and disciples used this common practice to illustrate some great truths about God and

his ways. Jesus gave a parable about the different types of soil. The Apostle Paul talked about reaping and sowing. And James, the brother of Jesus, talked about the patience of the farmer. Each of these, gave a clear picture to listeners what God and his ways are really like.

Most of the time, those who listened and read after each of these leaders could easily understand what message each teacher was trying to convey. After all, most everyone there had some experience farming.

What worked then, also

works now. Relatable illustrations will always give listeners some anchor point. They will always give those we are trying to reach some tangible example of Biblical truth. And while no illustration is perfectly comparable, they will still draw a faithful picture as to what God is like and what his desire is for us. So, are you struggling with a picture of God? Do you want to know what he is like? Just look at the farmer who patiently waits for the harvest after he has faithfully sowed the seed. Then you will know that God is not only sowing seeds of belief into your life, he is

also patiently waiting for the harvest of your soul to him.



Bridal Registry
 Brianna Watson
 Mac Cain
 September 8, 2018

Howell & Heggie Drug Co.
 389 N. W. Depot St.
 Durant
 662-653-6441

MDOT urges preparedness on Hurricane Katrina anniversary

Less than a day after Hurricane Katrina surged through south Mississippi on August 29, 2005, the Mississippi Department of Transportation (MDOT) began the difficult task of immediately restoring travel infrastructure on the Gulf Coast. Now, 13 years later, MDOT reminds residents to be prepared for the next storm.

Within six hours of Katrina's landfall, MDOT officials opened all structurally safe roadways to emergency response teams. Within 16 hours, all state maintained highway lanes were clear and open for the public to access. However, Hurricane Katrina unleashed a total of more than \$1 billion in damage to the state's transportation infrastructure.

Just as individuals, businesses and communities all worked together to rebuild, MDOT focused not just on replacing and repairing, but reconnecting communities. This vision rebuilt bridges and restored mobility, and also helped to renew the Gulf Coast's economy, infrastructure and culture. That vision continues today with projects along the frequently traveled Interstate 10 and U.S. Highway 90 corridors.

Examples of this vision are found in recent and current projects along the Gulf Coast such as the U.S. Highway 90 pedestrian bridge in Harrison County, the recent Interstate 10 widening in Jackson County and the State Route 43 intersection improvements in Hancock County. Read more about how far transportation infrastructure has

come since the storm in Katrina+10: Bridging the Road to Renewal. The e-book is currently available at GoMDOT.com/katrina.

On the 13th anniversary of Hurricane Katrina, MDOT reminds the public that now is the time to prepare for a hurricane. The 2018 Hurricane Evacuation Guide, an essential resource, is just a click away. Order a free copy today at GoMDOT.com/maps. The guide features information to assist in developing a preparedness plan such as evacuation routes, contraflow information, radio coverage areas through Mississippi Public Broadcasting and important contact information for the Mississippi Highway Patrol, American Red Cross, Mississippi Emergency Management Agency and bordering state departments of transportation and highway patrols.

MDOT also offers a disaster-kit checklist and instructional videos on hurricane preparation at GoMDOT.com/hurricanes.

During a storm, the public can stay updated on live travel and weather information 24/7 with MDOT's free travel resources. Visit MDOTtraffic.com or download the MDOT Traffic Mobile App.

"Now is an important time to remind south Mississippi residents to be prepared and have a plan together for the remainder of hurricane season," said Commissioner Tom King, Southern Transportation District. "It's never too early. Take advantage of these free preparedness resources today."

NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PROPOSED BUDGET AND PROPOSED TAX LEVY FOR HOLMES COUNTY NO COUNTYWIDE TAX LEVY INCREASE

The Holmes County Board of Supervisors will hold a public hearing on its proposed budget and proposed tax levies for fiscal year 2019 on August 31, 2018, 8:00 A.M., at the Board of Supervisors Meeting Room in Lexington, Mississippi.

The Holmes County Board of Supervisors is now operating with projected total budget revenue of \$17,153,050. 45.06%, or \$7,728,600, of such revenue is obtained through ad valorem taxes. For next fiscal year, the proposed budget has total projected revenue of \$13,905,230. Of that amount, 56.74%, or \$7,890,029 is proposed to be financed through a total ad valorem tax levy.

For next fiscal year, the Holmes County county-wide ad valorem tax millage, excluding the Holmes County Consolidated School District rate remains the same as last year at 75.89 mills. The new Holmes County Consolidated School District millage rate will be 55.48 mills. This amount is necessary to honor the new Holmes County Consolidated School District's request for a 7% increase in our local contribution from ad valorem taxes. If you lived in the old Durant Separate School District, your millage rate will decrease by 8.95 mills; the old Holmes County School district will increase by 3.7 mills. If you live in the old Holmes County School District, this means that your ad valorem taxes on your home, automobile tag, utilities, business fixtures, equipment and rental real property will increase. Any citizen of Holmes County is invited to attend this public hearing on the proposed budget and tax levy and will be allowed to speak for a reasonable amount of time and offer tangible evidence before any vote is taken.

