

Conservation Corner

by James Cummins
Executive Director
of Wildlife Mississippi

White-tailed deer are the most interesting and sought after animals in North America and Mississippi.

Depending on where you are located in the Magnolia State, deer usually breed between December 10 and Feb-

ruary 4. Does normally breed only once per year; however, they may come into "heat" 3 to 4 times a year beginning in December and ending in February. The periods of "heat" last about 24 to 36 hours and occur about 28 days apart. A doe may have from 1 to 3 fawns per year, depending on her physical

condition; about half the does in Mississippi produce 2 fawns per year. Does in Mississippi do not breed until they are 1.5 years old. Many people believe that old does do not breed but they do breed and produce young as long as they live.

Bucks do not come in "rut," but rather enter "rut." Rut consists of sparring, spreading of sign (rubs, scrapes, etc.), courtship, and breeding.

Sparring begins after bucks lose their velvet. Most bucks are fairly tolerant of each other during sparring. Sparring serves to establish which bucks in an area are dominant. Body and antler size are good indicators of a buck's social dominance. Bucks communicate with other deer during rut through various visual and scent signals. "Rubs" are trunks or stems of trees or bushes that bucks rub bark off with their antlers and head. Glands

com/flu. Follow MSDH by email and social media at HealthyMS.com/connect.

in the head leave scent on the rub. "Scrapes" consist of broken limbs 3 to 6 feet above ground, with a small depression pawed in the soil underneath on which the buck urinates. Bucks return often to scrapes to freshen their scent. A buck often locates the scent of a doe in "heat" near a scrape and will follow her with his nose to the ground while making a grunting sound. Bucks will also urinate on their inner leg glands to signal other deer. Rubs, scrapes, and urinating on the tarsal glands all serve to assert a buck's social dominance and to locate does.

During courtship, bucks become loners. Also, during courtship, tolerance among bucks disappears and fierce fights between bucks occur. Unless a doe is in "heat," she will run from a buck. Although all bucks court, only dominant bucks breed with does.

Peak fawning times in Mississippi occur between June 22 and July 22. Fawns

remain hidden near their birthplace for roughly 2 weeks, but by the time the

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Durant Parade winners announced

The town of Durant held its Christmas parade on Sunday, December 1 to ring in the holiday season.

Parade organizers announced the top entrants of the parade this week.

Bands: Callaway Marching Band, 1st place; Jim Hill Marching Band, 2nd place; and Yazoo City High School Marching Band, 3rd place.

Cars: Elrod Landfair, 1st place; Joey Corbitt, 2nd place; and Kalyn Davis, 3rd place.

Floats: UMMC, 1st place; Excel by 5, 2nd place; and Durant Mayor's Youth Council, 3rd place.

Social Clubs: DC Riders, 1st place; Holmes County Divas, 2nd place; and High Low Riders, 3rd place.

Dance Teams: Pretty in Pink, 1st place; and Leake County Dancers, 2nd place.

MSDH: public health lab confirms first Flu case of 2018-2019 season

The Mississippi State Department of Health (MSDH) is reporting its first laboratory-confirmed case of influenza for the 2018-2019 flu season. The case was reported in an adult.

While flu cases have been diagnosed and treated by healthcare providers throughout the state already this season, this is the first case confirmed in the MSDH Public Health Laboratory, detected through the Influenza-Like Illness (ILI) Sentinel Surveillance System.

Individual flu cases are not reported to MSDH, but the agency monitors flu activity through the ILI System, made up of healthcare providers in Mississippi who report the percentage of patients with flu-like symptoms to a statewide database. Providers participating in the system also submit respiratory samples for flu testing to the MSDH lab. State health officials use this information to determine the presence and spread of flu throughout the state.

"This not only indicates that flu is present in the state, but it also serves as a reminder that now is the time to get your flu shot if you

haven't done so already," said MSDH Interim State Health Officer Dr. Thomas Dobbs. "The flu shot takes one to two weeks to produce immunity, and flu season usually peaks in January through March in Mississippi."

"Last year an estimated 80,000 adults nationwide died from the flu, with 183 influenza deaths in children - three of which were in Mississippi," said Dr. Dobbs. "We know that nationally, 80 percent of the pediatric deaths were in children who were not vaccinated against the flu. Flu vaccine is the best way to protect both children and adults from serious complications, hospitalization, and in many cases, death."

Those 18 and under who are eligible for the Vaccines for Children program can receive flu vaccination for \$10. Insurance, Medicaid and Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) is accepted for children's flu shots.

Only those adults who are underinsured or uninsured and who meet certain high-risk criteria qualify for a flu vaccine at MSDH county health department clinics. Flu shots for insured adults are now widely available through private physicians, pharmacies, and retailers.

"Those particularly at risk for influenza complications include young children, adults 65 and older, pregnant women, and those with chronic illnesses. It is especially important for persons at high risk and those in close contact with them to be vaccinated to prevent the severe complications that can come with infection," said Dr. Dobbs.

Flu symptoms include fever, cough, sore throat, muscle and body aches and fatigue. Most people recover

from the flu without complications, but nationwide there are up to 200,000 hospitalizations from flu each year.

While vaccination is the best protection, basic infection control measures can also reduce the spread of flu and should be taken whether or not individuals are vaccinated. These measures include covering your mouth when coughing and sneezing, staying at home when you or your children are sick, and washing your hands frequently.

To locate a county health department clinic in your area or for more information on flu, visit the MSDH website at www.HealthyMS.com.

freedailycrosswords.com

6th December

ACROSS

- 1 Charwoman
- 5 Smashed a volleyball
- 11 Klutz's word
- 15 Steam engine man
- 19 Cornstarch name
- 20 Come
- 21 Bus passenger
- 22 Natural burn salve
- 23 Simba
- 24 Beyond tipsy
- 25 Part of a homeowner's acreage
- 27 Poet imprisoned in Pisa
- 29 Duct tape has many
- 31 Franz or Morgan
- 32 Defied the Gadsden flag
- 33 Permanent mark
- 34 In ruddy good health
- 35 Mete out
- 38 Jimmied
- 40 Bay
- 41 More, to Miguel
- 44 Local dialect
- 45 Devilish one
- 46 Grandmas, to some
- 47 Handicraft
- 48 Flutist Herbie
- 49 Bombshell Turner
- 50 "Stompin' at the

- 51 Dryad dwelling
- 52 Henhouse find
- 53 Utility employee
- 56 "___ Alone"
- 57 Enjoyed a playground toy
- 59 Sportscaster Mel
- 60 Strand
- 61 Barren
- 62 Man of the cloth
- 63 Holding a grudge
- 64 Transpires again
- 67 Trace, as of hope
- 68 Snafus
- 72 Peaceful harmony
- 73 Pretax take
- 75 Rebuttal word
- 76 Little feller
- 77 Cockscomb
- 78 Conscientiousness
- 79 Trudge
- 80 Flamenco "bravo"
- 81 Outerwear
- 82 Cupule's locale

DOWN

- 2 Mo Udall's st.
- 3 Inventor Sikorsky
- 4 Money for charity
- 5 Western watering hole
- 6 Haughty
- 7 Qom's nation
- 8 Skier Billy
- 9 Enos's granny
- 10 Figured out
- 11 Bid
- 12 Dory accessories
- 13 ___ rata
- 14 Dismiss
- 15 General known as Mad Anthony
- 16 Writer Sillitoe
- 17 "Icicle" singer Amos
- 18 Spreads out for drying
- 26 Reveals
- 28 Seniors' bash
- 30 Heavy-hearted
- 33 Trespass
- 34 It exists among thieves
- 35 Frosts
- 36 Maxim
- 37 Slight color

- 38 Yearned for
- 39 Rise on the hind legs
- 40 Safe harbor
- 41 Callous Antoinette
- 42 Action site
- 43 Mount
- 45 Bound by destiny
- 46 Ralph of the Green Party
- 49 Boxer Lennox
- 50 Hoagie meat
- 51 ___ for a loop
- 53 Shakespearean expletive
- 54 Least prevalent
- 55 Sports bureau name
- 56 Trey
- 58 Fry, yuppie-style
- 60 Founder of the Meltones
- 62 DDS's directive
- 63 Sneer at
- 64 '20s star Novarro
- 65 Rousseau's pedagogical novel
- 66 Quoted
- 67 Actress Garbo
- 68 False alarm
- 69 Join together

- 70 "Odd Couple" game
- 71 Dams up
- 73 Formal assessment
- 74 Sgts., e.g.
- 77 Using a luge
- 79 Great shakes
- 81 Bracelet component
- 82 Choctaw country
- 83 Peepers portrayer
- 84 Polanski film
- 87 Cote comment
- 88 Very strong
- 89 Full of ___ (feisty)
- 90 Multitudes
- 91 Certain tooth
- 92 Rarin' to go
- 93 Son of Jacob and Leah
- 94 Author Stoker
- 95 Unrivaled
- 96 Fashion trends
- 97 Tony's cousin
- 98 Sandwich cookie
- 99 Barbarous one
- 100 Camera eye
- 102 Author Harper
- 104 ___ gestae

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Bridal Registry

Lorene McCoy
Ben Courts
March 9, 2019

Peoples Drug Store

Court Square 834-2721 Lexington

EXPRESS GRAIN COMMODITY PRICES

Crop	CBOT Month	Delivery Period	Futures Price	EGT Basis	Net Change
Wheat	Jul 19	2019 Jun	5.37	-0.22	5.15 -0.03
Corn	Mar 19	2018 Dec	3.84	-0.02	3.82 -0.02
Corn	Sep 19	2019 Aug	3.99	-0.07	3.92 0.00
Soybeans Sidon	Nov 19	2018 Aug-Sep	9.57	-0.50	9.07 -0.04
Soybeans G'wood	Jan 19	2018 Dec - Deferred Pricing only	9.10	-0.57	8.53 -0.07
Soybeans G'wood	Jan 19	2019 Jan - Deferred Pricing only	9.10	-0.49	8.61 -0.07
Soybeans G'wood	Nov 19	2019 Aug-Sep	9.57	-0.37	9.20 -0.04
Soybeans Minter City	Nov 19	2019 Aug-Sep	9.57	-0.40	9.17 -0.04
Rice	Jan 19		10.665		-0.105
Rice	Mar 19		10.855		-0.105
Cotton	Mar 19		79.88		-0.350
Cotton	May 19		80.89		-0.280

Prices as of 2:00 p.m. on 12/10/18

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