

Central Holmes Christian School Sixth Grade Graduation

DURANT NEWS

by Rowena Hill

Love and prayers are for the family of Mr. Harold Payton, who recently passed away. Him and his wife Jo Nell were residents of our town for many years. We miss them lots and hope to see other good people move here.

Prayers are with Dr. Fletcher Shrock as he has recently not been well. We all feel it when he gets sick. May God bless and keep him and his family well. We love and need them.

My daughter Shirley Hill Higginbotham spent time with me last week and came for Jay. He had been here for the week. I sure miss him.

Prayers and healing are for Mrs. Cynthia Bratcher that she will receive complete healing after a recent heart attack. She is a really good Sunday school teacher and Christian. May God continue to bless her and brother, as they work on their family home on Castalian St.

We missed Nancy Irby Sunday. She very seldom misses church, but last week, due to illness, she was out. I hear she is somewhat better.

Joey and I met Shirley in Jackson last Thursday for a visit to my doctor. Thankfully I received a good report.

Mr. and Mrs. John Brown have returned from a trip to their family in California. We sure miss them when they are away. They are kind people everyone welcomes and true assets to any community. We love and appreciate them and hope to keep them with us always.

Mrs. C.H. (Dot) Blanton is home after visiting family. We are all very glad to welcome her back home.

Judy and Ed Hathcock were among those who enjoyed a few days free of duties last Memorial Day weekend. Hope they, and others, had a relaxing time.

The work on the former railroad depot is looking better but still has a long way to go before it will be finished. Wish we would get a restaurant in part of it. We need it.

I haven't seen Mr. and Mrs. Billy Stonestreet out and about for a while. Hope all is well. Call on us if needed. We don't want anyone to need help and receive none.

It is a sad thing to me, and many others I'm sure, to see landmarks, such as the Ritz Cafe, burnt completely to ashes. Whatever happened to the landmarks I pray won't happen again. We don't have a "sit down" place to go except Mile Away Cafe. They are open only open two or three days a week. We are thankful for it, but look forward to a daily and nightly place to eat.

May God bless and heal those of our community who need help of any kind. We need things of help and care here.

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Thank You



Bridal Registry

Jordan Pratt
Drew Trehern
June 15

Mackenzie McCleskey
Kirk Douglas
August 2

Howell & Heggie Drug Co.

389 N. W. Depot St.
Durant
662-653-6441

The family of Patricia Rodgers would like to express our sincere gratitude for each and every act of kindness shown to our family during our recent time of loss. We are very fortunate to have such a caring community. Please continue to remember our family in prayer.

Thank you,
The Family of
Patricia Rodgers



Central Holmes Christian School in Lexington held its 6th grade graduation in May with 21 graduates. Pictured above are (front row, from left): Daynie Parish, Hattie Melton, Anna Duke, Kate Riley, Ryleigh Scott, Mckenzie Lloyd, Zarai Hammond, Katelyn Weatherby, and Susie Lane Pritchard; Back row (from left): Collin McGee, Brandon Byrd, Cardell Mitchell, Logan Engle, Bryan Gallagher, Hayes Hester, Steven Thomas Holder, Kade Ward, William Thomas Clarke, Carson Burrell, Bennett Word and Matthew Jefferson. (Photo submitted)

THE WICKER REPORT

By: United States Senator Roger Wicker



Application process for alligator hunting season ends June 7

As a point of clarification, the application deadline for the 2019 alligator hunting season is 10:00 a.m. on Friday, June 7.

A total of 960 permits are available within seven hunting zones across the state for the 10-day season. The 2019 Public Waters Alligator Hunting Season in Mississippi will be open from August 30 – September 9. Permits are limited by a random drawing and an application is required. The application is free but there is a \$2.34 processing fee. Applicants may only apply in one alligator hunting zone of their choice. Applications are accepted on-line at www.mdwfp.com or at any point of sale location where Mississippi hunting and fishing licenses are sold. The first drawing will take place on June 12. Applicants whose names are drawn will be notified by email and will have 48-hours to purchase their permit via an electronic link. Any unpurchased permits from the first drawing will be approved a \$16 billion aid program for this very purpose.

Americans Deserve a Level Playing Field

Americans succeed where the playing field is level and when there are clear rules of the road. We have seen this here at home with the economic growth Republicans unleashed through regulatory rollbacks and tax reform. Improved trade deals will bring that success to the international stage.

Better deals will mean more ships flowing in and out of Mississippi ports; those ships will carry more goods; those goods will be made in our factories and come from our fields; and those manufacturers and farmers will create more jobs for Americans ready and willing to work. The potential rewards are worth the effort to get this right.

entered in a second drawing of remaining available applicants. Drawn applicants from the second drawing will also be notified by email and will have 48-hours to purchase their permit via the electronic link. A credit card or debit card is required to complete the online permit purchase.

To be eligible to apply for an alligator hunting permit you must be a resident of Mississippi, at least 16 years of age at the time of application. Non-residents with a Mississippi Lifetime License are eligible. Applicants must have one of the following licenses to be eligible to apply: a valid Mississippi Sportsman License, All-Game Hunting/Fishing License, Small Game Hunting/Fishing License, Apprentice Sportsman License, Apprentice All Game License, Apprentice Small Game License, Senior Exempt License, Disabled Exempt License, or Lifetime License.

For more information regarding alligator hunting rules and regulations, visit our website at www.mdwfp.com/alligator or call us at 601-432-2199. Follow us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/mdwfp or on Twitter at www.twitter.com/MDWFPonline.

Wicker Highlights Path Ahead for Trade

The Stakes are High for Global Commerce

The United States has less than five percent of the world's population. Yet Americans produce more than 20 percent of global economic output. We sell those goods and services to one another, but we also trade them with the 95 percent of consumers who live outside our country, creating economic growth, investment, and jobs right here at home.

Mississippi is a leader in trade. Last year our state exported almost \$12 billion of Made-in-America goods. These exports supported over 51,000 Mississippi jobs. Trade has benefited our economy, but unfair and outdated trading policies have hurt some of our most productive sectors.

One of President Trump's top priorities has been getting trade deals right, renegotiating the 25-year-old NAFTA agreement and standing up to China's corruption of global supply chains. Since the Constitution gives Congress the power to regulate commerce with foreign nations, I am actively working with the executive branch to ensure ongoing trade negotiations will benefit all Americans.

Progress and Perils Ahead

There has already been significant progress to improve America's position in the global trading system. Under the NAFTA agreement, American-made dairy, eggs, and poultry products have increasingly been disadvantaged, hurting Mississippi farmers. I am hopeful Congress will fix this and other flaws by approving the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA). This deal would bring many ben-

efits to American exporters, including improved market access for our agricultural sector. Meanwhile, Mississippi has a \$526 million trading relationship with Japan, and President Trump's negotiations to open that country's famously closed beef markets to America's ranchers will only strengthen those ties. Also, thanks to a recent determination by the International Trade Administration, Vietnamese frozen catfish fillet exporters are going to face stiffer penalties for dumping their products on American consumers.

While these are victories, some countries still take advantage of the markets to harm American exporters and undercut our economy. China violates the terms of international trade in a variety of ways, including by stealing intellectual property and innovations and improperly subsidizing nearly every sector of its economy. USMCA's strengthening of copyright and patent protections should be a signal to the Chinese government of our seriousness about safeguarding American ingenuity.

The current tariffs between the U.S. and China are causing pain on both sides of the Pacific, especially for our farmers. Congress can help, and I was glad to give certainty to the agricultural sector by voting for the farm bill in December. Congress and President Trump are working to bolster farmers further during negotiations with China by using tariff revenue from Chinese imports to offset potential losses for domestic exporters. The Secretary of Agriculture recently



Tom Smith LAND AND HOMES



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