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THE RICHTON DISPATCH

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VOLUME 110 ISSUE 06 PERRY COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI ONE SECTION USPS 465-660 THURSDAY, MAY 21, 2015 50¢ PER COPY

Community Calendar

HEALING OILS CLASS

The 12 Healing Oils of the Bible this coming Saturday, May 23, from 5 until 8 p.m. Taught by Carolyn Russell of Mandeville, LA, the class will focus on spiritual oils used in healing, not only in Biblical times, but today as well. We are all familiar with Frankincense and Myrrh, but there are others such as Cassia, Sandalwood and Spikenard. Join us as Carolyn shares what we know about these great oils God gave us from the very beginning of time. There is a \$5 charge per attendee to cover costs of supplies used in the class. If you need additional information, call Penny Hyde at 601 818 2735.

CHURCH ANNIVERSARY

Oak Grove MBC of Brooklyn, MS will celebrate their "Annual Church Anniversary" on Sunday, May 24, 2015, at 2:30 PM. The speaker will be Reverend Theophilus McSwain, Pastor of Good Hope Baptist Church of New Augusta, MS and Carter Hill Baptist Church of Beaumont, MS. Everyone is invited to attend. Bro. John Warren is Pastor. For additional information, contact Deacon Ray Benjamin at 601-598-2041.

HICKORY GROVE CEMETERY DUES

Annual cemetery dues are due in May for the Hickory Grove Cemetery on Hickory Grove Church Road. Please send a \$25 check to Robbie Merrill at P.O. Box 434, New Augusta, MS, 39462.

BIBLE SCHOOL

Kittrell Congregational Methodist Church will be having its Bible School on May 31st-June 5th, from 5:30-8:30 PM. All three year olds through teens are invited. The theme is "Camp Discovery: Jesus at work through us". For more information call Beverly Hestern at 601-620-8258. Pastor is Bro. Delton Parker.

CLASS REUNION

Perry Central Class of 1995 will have their 20th year class reunion on Saturday, May 30, 2015, from 5-8 PM. It will be held at the Catfish Wagon Restaurant in Runnelstown. RSVP to April Clark Bryars at acbr-yars@comcast.net. For more information call, 601-408-9900.

DAYLILY GARDEN TOUR

The Annual Daylily Garden Tours, in Hattiesburg, will be May 23rd and 25th, presented by The Hattiesburg Daylily Society (HADS). The schedule of participating gardens, directions, and the days and times each will be open and will be available nearer the tour dates at Hattiesburg Visitors Center, Main Street Books, or visit www.hattiesburgdaylily.com for the schedule and HADS information.

MEMORIAL DAY SERVICE

There will be a Memorial Day Service on Monday, May 25th, at 10 AM, in the New Augusta Courtroom. Please join in the service to pay tribute and remember all those who served and our fallen heroes.

FAMILY REUNION

The Robert and Annie Shoemake Family Reunion will be held Saturday, May 30, 2015, from 10 AM- Until. It will be held at the Barrontown Community Center, 610 Herrington Rd, Petal, MS. Contact Sandra at 251-649-1486, if you have any questions.

RUNNELSTOWN CHEERLEADING REGISTRATION

Cheerleading registration will be held Friday, May 22nd, from 5 PM-7 PM and Saturday, May 23rd, from 10 AM- 12 Noon, outside of the school cafeteria at the picnic tables. The registration fee will be \$50 per participant. The total estimated costs this year is \$300. The remaining balance will be due by June 26th. Your child must be 4 years old to be eligible for registration. Please contact Heather Meeler at 601-408-1386, if you have questions.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

Submit your events to Community Calendar by faxing to 601-788-6031 or e-mail to: news@therichtondispatch.com

Richton announces 2015 Valedictorian and Salutatorian

Mr. Daniel Henley, principal at Richton High School, proudly announces that Anna Claire Mercer has earned the honor of valedictorian of the 2015 senior class. Michaela Dianne Nowell has achieved the honor of salutatorian.

Anna Claire is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Shawn Mercer. The current Miss RHS, she holds a 4.0 GPA and has consistently been on the All "A" Honor Roll. She is a Mississippi Scholar and a Rebel Scholar, and represents Perry County as its Distinguished Young Woman 2015. Anna Claire was Richton High School's HOBY Ambassador to the Mississippi Leadership Conference in 2013. She then represented the state at the Hugh O'Brian World Leadership Conference in Chicago, along with representatives from all over the United States and 16 other countries. She has been selected to represent RHS at Mississippi Girls' State and People to People International. She was named Congressional Youth Leadership Council Nominee, and has received Perry County Exchange Club Student of the Month and the Richton Rotary Student of the Month.

Miss Mercer has held many leadership positions through high school. She is currently Beta president and a member of the Leadership Committee for First Priority. She has represented her class by being elected Freshman Class President, Sophomore Class Vice-President, Junior Class President, and Senior Class president. She was chosen by her classmates as Most Intellectual four consecutive years.

She has received numerous



Anna Claire Mercer

subject area awards, including Chemistry I, Speech and Debate, AP English Language and Composition, U.S. History, World History, AP U.S. Government and Politics, Microbiology, Genetics, Geography, Mississippi Studies, Technology Discovery, and English I. She also made the top score on the 2013 English II SATP II.

Anna Claire has been part of the Maroon Marionettes dance team for four years, and served as Captain the past two years. She was selected as an American All-Star Dancer for three years.

Miss Mercer has been an active member of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Academic Quiz Bowl team, Bobcat Math League team, Science Club, Mu Alpha Theta Math Honor Society, Students Against Destructive Decisions, and Diamond Girls.

Miss Mercer enjoys worshipping with her church family at First Baptist Church of Richton, where she is an active member of the youth group and is involved with various committees and activities including vacation bible school, World Changers, and



Michaela Nowell

community outreach.

Anna Claire has been awarded the Elaine Moser Scholarship, the Mamie Allen Christian Leadership Award (for two consecutive years), the U.S. Air Force Math & Science Award, and was chosen the Outstanding Senior for the Class of 2015. She was named a Lucky Day Scholar to the University of Southern Mississippi where she will begin classes in the fall to study political science. Anna Claire later plans to attend law school at the University of Mississippi.

Michaela Nowell is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Mike Nowell. She holds a 4.0 GPA and will graduate as a Mississippi Scholar and a Rebel Scholar. Michaela has maintained All "A" Honor Roll recognition throughout school, and she has received numerous subject area awards including Geometry, Geography, Biology, English II, English IV, Family Dynamics, Nutrition and Wellness, U.S. History, Genetics, and AP U.S. Government and Politics, Top SATP II U.S. History Score, and Top SATP II Biology Score.

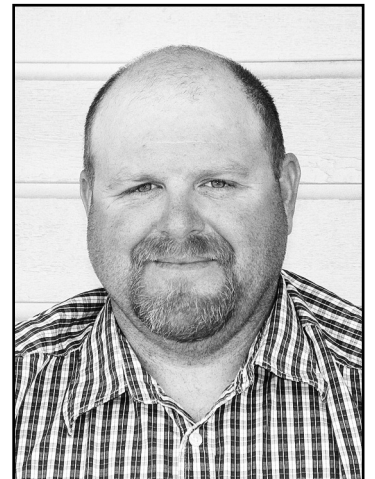
Miss Nowell is a member of the Beta Club, Mu Alpha Theta Math Honor Society, Maroon Marionettes where she served as co-captain her junior year, and Diamond Girls. She represented Richton High School as a delegate to Girls' State her junior year. In addition to school activities, she is involved with many worthwhile activities that have benefited the community such as Forrest General Spirit Girls. Michaela has been a member of the ACE Allstars Competitive Cheer Organization for 11 years. Her team won Nationals this year and is currently ranked 11th in the world.

Michaela earned the distinction of RHS Star Student, the Gulf Coast Education Initiative Consortium Superintendent's Nominee, Richton Rotary Club Student of the Month, and the RHS Senior Achievement Award 2015.

Miss Nowell has been awarded the Get2College Essay Scholarship from the Education Services Foundation, and numerous scholarships from the University of Mississippi including Academic Excellence Scholarship, Bledsoe Scholarship, Salutatorian Scholarship, Star Student Scholarship, and Girls State Participation Scholarship.

Michaela has been accepted into the Early Entry Pharmacy Program at the University of Mississippi where she will pursue a career in Pharmacy.

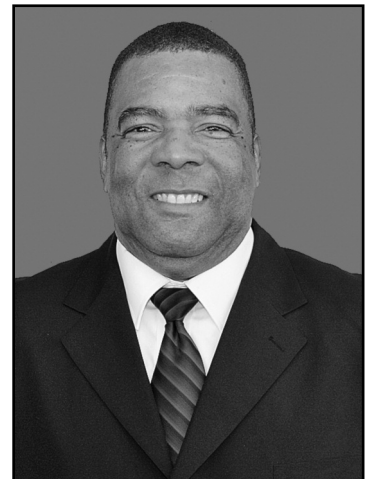
We congratulate Miss Mercer and Miss Nowell on this very important achievement and wish them continued success in their future endeavors.



Johnnie Wayne Barnes, Jr. announces for Constable District 1

I, Johnnie Wayne Barnes, Jr., am hereby announcing my candidacy for the office of Constable District 1 in Perry County, Mississippi. A formal statement will appear at a later date.

Johnnie Wayne Barnes, Jr.
PAID POLITICAL ADVERTISEMENT



Curtis R. Gates announces for Constable Judicial District #2

I, Curtis R. Gates, would like to formally announce my candidacy for Constable for Judicial District #2 in Perry County.

After talking to many concerned citizens throughout the county, you have encouraged me to run for this political office.

There are many reasons why I know I am qualified to become your next constable.

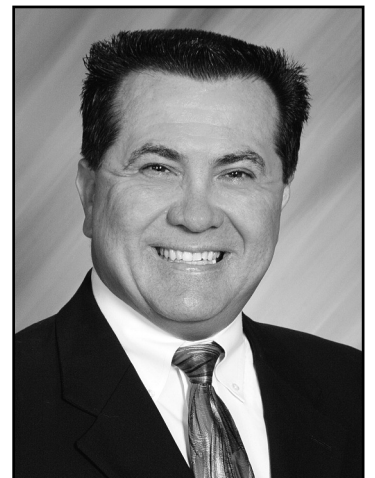
I am a true Christian for the love of God Almighty.

I am an all around "people's person". I am always concerned about the quality and the condition of our lives. I believe in helping people as long as they want to help themselves. My eyes see no race or color of skin. We all are God's children.

I have 35 years of military and law enforcement experience.

I have a full time state cert.

See Gates, Page 3
PAID POLITICAL ADVERTISEMENT



Dale Goodin announces for Superintendent of Education post

I, Dale Goodin, am hereby announcing my candidacy for the office of Superintendent of Education of Perry County Schools. A formal statement will follow at a later date.

Dale Goodin
PAID POLITICAL ADVERTISEMENT

Perry Central announces 2015 Valedictorian and Salutatorian

Perry Central High School's Principal, Mr. Titus M. Hines has announced that the graduating class of 2015's Valedictorian and Salutatorian are Dierra Shauntrell Myers and Haley Olivia Brown.

Dierra S. Myers, Valedictorian, will be graduating with high honors as a Mississippi Scholar. She has been a member of BETA for 4 years, the National Technical Honor Society for 2 years, served as president of her sophomore class, and currently serves as President of the Student Council. Dierra also served as cheerleader (2 years), a member of HOSA (2 years), DECA (1 year) and Mu Alpha Theta (2 years). She attended the Hugh O'Brian Youth Leadership Conference during the summer of 2013 and served as delegate to the Dixie Electric Youth Leadership University during the fall of her junior year. Dierra was chosen as Perry County's Exchange Club Student of the Month her senior year and was voted Senior Maid for Perry Central High School's Homecoming festivities.

Dierra has been recognized as Student of the Month multiple times. She has been a Principal's list student (4 years) and scored advanced on all of her subject area exams. Dierra received academic excellence awards for Algebra I, Art I, English I (Accelerated), MS Studies, Biology I, World History, Accelerated English II, Physical Science, U.S. History, World Literature,



Dierra Myers

Pre-Calculus, U. S. Government, English III (Accelerated), Economics, and Spanish II. She also received Academic Excellence for the highest cumulative average (over 4 years) in English, math, science and social studies. Dierra

has completed 6 hours of college credit (English Composition I and College Algebra I)

and served over 100 volunteer hours for various charities. She was inducted into the Hall of Fame during Perry Central's senior night ceremony.

Dierra has been offered the Second Century Scholarship and a Study Abroad Scholarship from Millsaps College, a Presidential Scholarship from Jones County Junior College, the Golden Opportunity Scholarship from the University of Southern Mississippi and a Full Technical Scholarship from Pearl River Community College.

Dierra attends Nicholson



Haley Brown

Temple Church of God in Christ and is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert T. Myers from the Indian Springs community. Dierra will be attending Millsaps College in the fall as a Majors' cheerleader and pursue her degree in the field of medicine.

Earning the status of Salutatorian is Haley O. Brown. Haley is graduating with high honors with Mississippi Scholar status. She has been named to the Principal's List all four years of high school and has been selected Student of the Month in several classes by individual teachers.

In addition to academics, Haley is a member of the Ivy Pearls of Hattiesburg, BETA club (treasurer-2 years), the Bible Club (3 years), the Fellowship of Christian Athletes (president-3 years), the Mu Alpha Theta Math Team, the FCCA (Public Relations Leader), the National Society of High School Scholars, the Student Council (2 years), and is currently Student Body Vice President. Other activities

that Haley is involved in are being a member of the Lady Bulldogs basketball team (4 years) and the varsity track team (2 years). Haley has completed six college hours (English Composition I and College Algebra). She has also donated 343 service hours to her community. Haley has been selected Most Courteous and Most Likely to Succeed in Perry Central's Who's Who and was named the 2014-2015 Perry Central High School Homecoming Queen.

Haley received numerous awards during Perry Central's senior night ceremony, including the Essence of Light (Chapter 189) Scholarship, the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. Scholarship and placed second in the Pink Cotillion pageant sponsored by the sorority during the summer of 2014. She has been offered a Heritage Scholarship from Mississippi College and a Presidential Scholarship from JJCJ and was awarded the Good Hope Baptist Church Scholarship. In addition, Haley was selected to Perry Central's Hall of Fame and voted Student of the Year by Perry Central's faculty.

Haley attends the Church of God in Christ in McLain, MS and is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jason Sumrall of New Augusta, MS. Haley will attend Alcorn State University in the fall to pursue her degree in nursing.

Congratulations to Dierra and Haley on their accomplishments. We know you both will make us proud!