

# *The New* SOUTHERN VIEW

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ARTICLES • INFORMATION • COMMUNITY CALENDAR

VOL 5 ♦ NO 1

A QUARTERLY JOURNAL EXPLORING THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

SUMMER 2005

## LeTourneau

## A T-Rex Named Sue!

## Kudzu's Other Side

## Moon Trees?

## Sea Jellies

## The Wolf River

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It is a late evening in May, and I have been looking through an old photo album at some vacation pictures of our camp on the Wolf River when I was a kid. I now recall these summer trips with fondness.

Three pictures catch my attention because they were taken before I was born. In the first, a boy of four, dressed as Davy Crockett, stands in the foreground. This is my brother, Ben Jr. It is twilight in this picture forty-eight years ago. My mother, Dorothy, a pretty but nervous woman, stands to the far left, smiling at a frolicking fox terrier. She is pregnant with me. There is a small trash fire lit, and in the background, our rough-hewn cabin is silhouetted against its own brilliant interior—a violent orange light in the near dusk, creating the illusion that the camp itself is burning inside, while my small family, untroubled by heat or mosquitoes, poses for my father's camera.

In the second photo, two young women wearing plaid, homemade dresses are sitting in lawn chairs. This was taken on a picnic down to the Wolf shortly before my parents were married. My father would accompany Dorothy's family to this camp, just outside of Pass Christian, and sleep virtuously on an army cot in the front room. The woman reclining is my Aunt Shirley. In most photographs of her at that age she is posing. In this picture, she doesn't know that the camera is on her, and she is relaxed. The other woman, Dorothy, leans forward—elbows on her knees—sighting with a rifle somewhere upstream of the Wolf River which flows in the immediate background.



*Dorothy Norwood Root, 1928–2005*

The third picture is the one that you are looking at here. My father must have been camera happy on this day, as I have before me a series of photos from the overgrown boat launch. I like this one especially because it looks like Dorothy is sizing up her target, which is probably just a tin can. She looks tough and determined. She was not really that way at all.

It is strange to look at photographs of my family before I was born. For five years there were just my brother and my parents. I told Ben once that it was odd to think of them as existing without me, but Ben reassured me that I hadn't missed much.

Later, of course, I was with them on these trips. I recall my mother packing and worrying. What if the septic tank overflowed? What if we ran out of evaporated milk or cornflakes? At night, she would lie in the hammock on the screened porch and try to enjoy herself. I think she succeeded. She was remembering the time her family spent when she was a child during the thirties. World War II. They lived with an Uncle Vin on Bayou Teche. There wasn't any work, and they had to raise much of their own food. They used lanterns and slept several to a bed.

Dorothy was a young child then, and though the grown-ups struggled, she remembered being happy.

*Kathy*

Editor/Publisher

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## The New SOUTHERN VIEW

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**On the cover:**

The *George Keller* inches its way  
towards the Mississippi River.  
Photo by Bill Pitts

## A NOTE TO OUR READERS

If you have an **idea** for an article that you'd like to submit, if there's a **category** you'd like to see added to the pages of our magazine, if you'd like to become a **distributor** for our magazine (remember it is freely distributed...there's no cost to you), if you'd like to **advertise** in our magazine, or if you simply want to **comment** on our magazine, feel free to e-mail us at [info@newssouthernview.com](mailto:info@newssouthernview.com) or send us a letter to **PO Box 7962 Jackson, Mississippi 39284-7962**.



# Scenic & HISTORIC Mississippi #1

## The Sound of Locusts

by Benjamin Root, Sr., first published in The Southwest Guide, September 11, 1975.

Photo by Joe Feil

I know a place where people still can hear the sound of the wind in tall pine trees, where there are no telephones, and where in late summer the whirling sound of locusts makes a music fit for the most troubled soul. It is a small camp hidden on the bank of the Wolf River, near Pass Christian. Being rustic, it makes a most favorable comparison to the highly scheduled and pressured life of the city. Having no air conditioner, its windows must remain open, and one hears again all of the outdoors. Hearing was meant for just such as that. How soon a city dweller forgets that the good Earth breathes and sighs and occasionally washes itself in the slow drip of rain, tinkling as it falls into a secluded woodland puddle. It is restful—hypnotic.

The smell of pine punctuates and penetrates the air on which those many sounds travel. In the afternoons there is the fresh smell of rain, even before it falls, always



blended with the salt smell of the Gulf. It is cleansing, being the most non-city combination of odors which one might imagine.

The soil is sandy and dark along the river, and everything which touches it seems to grow vigorously with a tropical greenery, making that place a different kind of Mississippi. If we were suddenly forced to live

off the land itself, the Wolf River bottomlands would offer the least resistance to our efforts. This small river itself would be in tune with our survival, containing a most diverse combination of water life, as depending on the tide in the nearby Gulf, the Wolf contains both fresh and saltwater fish in abundance.

How easy it is in the city to forget the land. Only when some kind of financial disaster strikes does one then return to the hope which Earth itself has to offer—the land. It is such a natural thing to do and people who are driven there are soon

reminded that it was provided especially for humankind.

How significant it will be if myriads of space venturers arrive at the final conclusion that there is no other planet like our own, meant for human habitation and sustenance. Spacemen who might dare to

*continued on page 7*

## Whatever Happened To . . . ?

### Mississippi's Moon Trees

by Bill Pitts

Since the early days of manned space missions, astronauts have taken personal items into orbit with them—coins, stamps, religious relics, and corned beef sandwiches to name a few. From the prosaic to the downright peculiar, the “presentos” carried in the astronauts’ Personal Preference Kits have caught the imagination of collectors from around the world.

One of the more interesting flew aboard Apollo 14 with Astronaut Stuart Roosa in early 1971. Roosa had been a smoke jumper for the U.S. Forest Service during the 1950s, parachuting into remote locations to battle forest fires. After having been chosen for the Apollo 14 mission, he was contacted by Ed Cliff, chief of the Forest Service, with the idea of carrying tree seeds to the Moon and back. Cliff had known Roosa from his days as a smoke jumper and was aware of his love for the outdoors. Roosa’s son, Air Force Lt. Col. Jack Roosa recalls “My father had an affinity for the outdoors. He often reminisced about the tall Ponderosa pine trees from his smoke jumping days.”

As “part science, part publicity stunt,” the seeds were selected by Stan Krugman, the U.S. Forest Service’s staff director

for forest genetics research: Loblolly pine, sycamore, sweetgum, redwood, and Douglas fir trees. Approximately 450 to 500 seeds accompanied Roosa aboard the Command Module Kitty Hawk while a similar number were kept on Earth for comparison.

Upon returning to Earth, the seeds were sent to the western Forest Service station in Placerville, California and the southern station in Gulfport, Mississippi. Nearly all of the seeds were germinated successfully, and the resulting Moon Trees were planted along with the control trees that had stayed on Earth during the mission.

It was found that there was no difference between the two sets of seeds; their 34 orbits around the Moon had not affected them in any physical way. But the trip did set them apart from all other Earth-bound trees and it is just this sort of difference that makes them special.

As part of the nation’s Bicentennial

*continued on page 11*



Growing strong, Mississippi’s two Moon Trees are thriving on the campus of MSU (left) and the Mississippi Forestry Commission’s Waynesboro Nursery (below).



Photos: Marco Nicovich/MSU Office of Agricultural Communications; Philip Wilson/MS Forestry Commission/Waynesboro Nursery



## Business Flash

# LeTourneau Marine Group Literally Building From The Ground Up

by Bill Pitts

On the banks of the Mississippi River, just south of Vicksburg, Mississippi, is a sight one would not expect to see in a locale such as this. In an area that is prone to flooding—an agricultural zone at the south end of the Delta—sits a marine construction facility that builds and launches gargantuan offshore oil rigs. This facility, the LeTourneau Marine Group, is the largest builder of jack-up (or self-elevating) oil rigs in the world.

The workers, a multi-national lot, were in the process of moving the *George Keller*, the second in the Tarzan class of jack-up rigs currently being built there, to the river's edge during my visit last May. The Tarzan class rigs are smaller and less expensive than the company's much larger Gorilla class which were in-

*continued on page 14*

*Component fabrication for the next Tarzan class rig (right) is carried out on-site.*



Walking the rig into the river (above) is a very slow, around-the-clock process, moving about 1-1/2 to 2 feet per hour in a rocking/sliding motion. Six bulldozers push dirt into a mound behind the hull of the *George Keller* (from the right) and the sequence slides the huge rig slowly toward the river. The legs cycle at 1-1/2 feet a minute, and travel up and down about 35 to 40 feet per cycle. The two orange cylinders in the foreground are the cores of two of the feet of the third Tarzan class rig being built on the banks of the river.



Sailing high and dry on its way to the North Sea, the Rowan Gorilla VII is transported aboard the heavy transport *Black Marlin*, the sister ship of the craft that brought the damaged *USS Cole* back from Yemen to Ingalls Shipyard in Pascagoula, Mississippi.

*Rig photos by Bill Pitts; Ship photo courtesy of Dockwise Shipping B.V., The Netherlands*

## OUTDOOR TREASURES

### The Wolf River Mississippi's First Scenic River

by Kathy Root Pitts

The Wolf River, Mississippi's first officially designated scenic river, is described on the National Park Service's *River, Trails, and Conservation Program* web site as "Natural, outstandingly beautiful East Coastal Plain stream [with] rare and endangered species." Its remarkable values are listed as beautiful natural scenery, fish, and wildlife populations and favorable habitat, and recreational potential. The Wolf River is included in our state's proud Scenic Streams Stewardship Program. (*The New Southern*



*Whether you're canoeing with a group or enjoying the solitary splendor of an early morning mist (right), any visit to the Wolf River is a memorable occasion.*

*View's Spring 2005 issue discusses this organization at greater length.)*

The Wolf River, named for red wolves that once lived on our Gulf Coast, runs sixty-six miles from southeast Mississippi's

*continued on page 11*



*Photos by Joe Feil*



# talk to the animals

## Diaphanous Denizens of Our Mississippi Gulf Waters

by Harriet M. Perry

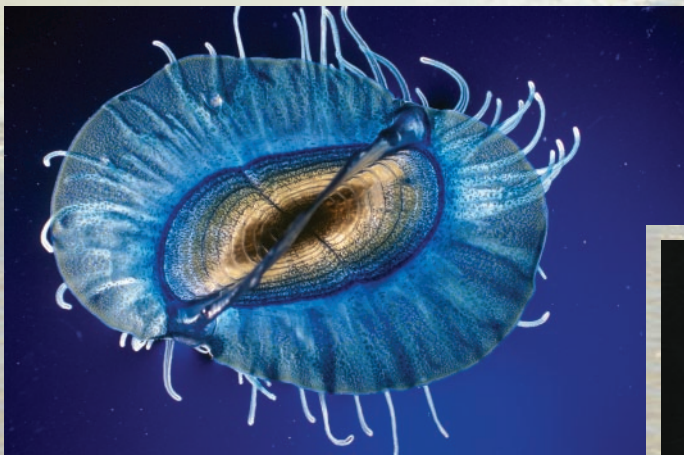
Ninety-five percent water and lacking complex organ systems, jellyfish still manage to navigate the world's oceans and thrive. Cannibalistic species usually have long trailing tentacles with specialized stinging cells to paralyze prey. Other species strain microscopic organisms from the water column and lack elongate tentacles. On earth for more than 650 million years, jellyfish were here before the sharks and dinosaurs.

Ranging in size from those visible only under a microscope to individuals with diameters larger than washtubs, the sea jellies are important members of coastal and marine ecosystems.

Harriet M. Perry, the director of Fisheries Research and Development at the University of Southern Mississippi's Gulf Coast Research Laboratory in Ocean Springs, Mississippi, is in the process of preparing a guide to the jellyfish, or sea jellies, of Mississippi. She agreed to share several of the photos from her guide with us.

**Verella velella** (left): a free-floating colony of individuals, the by-the-wind-sailor is an occasional visitor to the waters of the northern Gulf. With their deep blue disc and triangular "sail," they are propelled over the sea surface like tiny sailboats. They can occur in great numbers and when blown ashore they form an amazing blue driftline along the beach.

Photo by Peter Parks/imagequestmarine.com



**Chiropsalmus quadrumanus** (left): a relative of the deadly box jelly of the Indo-Pacific, the Gulf sea wasp delivers a nasty sting, but its venom is not fatal. Highly transparent and square in shape, they belong to the jellyfish group known as the cubozoans. They are distinguished from other jellyfish by the flattened base from which the tentacles are suspended.

Photo by Alvaro Migotto



**Phyllorhiza punctata** (above): an exotic species from "down under," the Australian spotted jellyfish invaded Mississippi waters in the summer of 2000 in the hundreds of thousands. Arriving as small tennis-ball sized individuals, they soon grew to washtub size weighing over 25 pounds. Filter feeders, they strain tiny plants and animals from the water column and there was some concern that they were feeding on the larvae of important fish and shellfish in local waters.

Photo by Alvaro Migotto



**Aurelia aurita** (above): moon jellies seem to float as serenely as their namesake. Dinner plate-sized, they have a flattened disc, thick at the center, that tapers to a delicate edge fringed with short tentacles. Mature individuals have four, pink horseshoe-shaped gonads arranged around the center of the disc. These non-threatening summer visitors often occur in large numbers.

Photo by Peter Parks/imagequestmarine.com



**Stomolophus meleagris** (above): near soccer-ball size, the cannonball jellyfish is a common sight in the winter and spring. With their thick, pulsating bell, they move rhythmically and rapidly through the water, seemingly with purpose. Often abundant near the barrier islands, they clog shrimp trawls making them difficult to haul in. Dried, salted, and cut into strips, they can be purchased in local Asian markets and are often used in salads.

Photo by Ron Larson



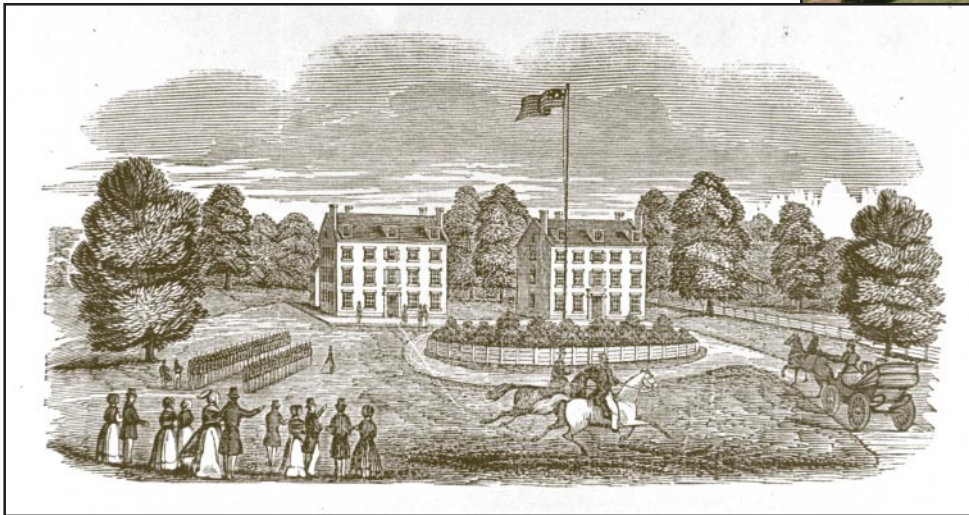
# Scenic & HISTORIC Mississippi #2

## Historic Jefferson College A Site Steeped In Mississippi History

by Cheryl Munyer Branyan

Jefferson College, incorporated by an act of the first General Assembly of the Mississippi Territory in 1802, was named in honor of Thomas Jefferson, the third president of the United States. Today the site is preserved and administered by the Mississippi Department of Archives and History and is not only special for its celebrated past as the state's first chartered educational institution, but also for its

Mississippi from Illinois to the Gulf and bring about peaceful settlement of the Civil War. Near Washington, too, Abd al-Rahman Ibrahima, the well-educated Muslim Prince of the Fulbe people, was enslaved on the Foster Plantation. He



significance in the developing history of the state of Mississippi. Jefferson College is in Washington, a town once bustling with activity, located in southeast Mississippi, near Natchez. Washington served as Mississippi's territorial capital from 1802-1817. Territorial Governor William C. C. Claiborne served as President of the college's first Board of Trustees, and by 1817, the school had become a full-fledged college for both young men and young ladies.

Many notable individuals are associated with the school, including renowned artist John James Audubon, who sent his sons to Jefferson for their education. Ten-year-old Jefferson Davis, who later became President of the Confederacy, attended in 1818. The East Wing of the College was designed by prominent Natchez architect Levi Weeks in 1819. Such military greats as Zebulon Pike, who discovered Pike's Peak in Colorado, and United States President General Andrew Jackson were connected with Washington's early history. Major General Winfield Scott is also associated with Jefferson College. He is the author of the Anaconda Plan at the outbreak of the Civil War, a military strategy that was hoped would blockade the South down the

was discovered by Dr. John C. Cox who had known Ibrahima in Africa.

It is on what is now part of Jefferson's grounds that Mississippi began its journey to statehood. It was in the Washington

*Historic Jefferson College, listed on the National Register of Historic Places, was restored by the Mississippi Department of Archives and History in phases completed in 1977 and 1984. The restoration was funded in part by the Friends of Jefferson College, a non-profit corporation.*

Methodist Church that the 1817 Statehood Convention was held and Mississippi's first constitution was drafted. That church was later purchased by Jefferson and renovated for classroom space. The church building itself was destroyed by a storm in 1873, and a monument with a listing of the territory's counties and their representatives now marks the place.

In the summer of 1865, Jefferson College was used to house a Freeman's Bureau School for former slaves, and in November of that year the school was returned to the Jefferson College Board of Trustees. It reopened again in 1866 as a preparatory

*continued on next page*

Photo and engraving courtesy of Jefferson Historic College, MDAH

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# A Child's World

## A T-Rex Named Sue Coming To Our Museum of Natural Science

Information from a press release by the Chicago Field Museum

Photos courtesy of Chicago's Field Museum

Children and adults will have the chance to see a full-sized replica and informative exhibit of the most complete *Tyrannosaurus Rex* skeletal fossil ever discovered: A *T. Rex* Named Sue. Sue was found by fossil hunter Sue Hendrickson near Faith, South Dakota on August 12, 2000.

A *T. Rex* Named Sue is the product of a massive research effort by The Field Museum in Chicago, and supported by the McDonald's Corporation and Disney. The exhibit will be on display from June 18 at the Mississippi Museum of Natural Science in Jackson until September 11, 2005.

The Sue exhibit is a multi-sensory experience. Visitors will be able to look eye-to-eye with the skull, touch models of the bones and twelve inch teeth, hear the story of Sue's discovery and her display, control mechanical models, see animated videos on people's past perceptions of *Tyrannosaurus Rex*, and even enjoy a "smell interactive" that lets visitors find food and water like Sue may have done.

Sue is especially valuable to scientists, as her well preserved 67-million-year-old skeleton shows features never before realized. Like birds, Sue has a wishbone, the "furcula." She has a delicate ear bone called the "stapes." There is evidence of how the muscles were attached to bones. Foot bones and the length of her stride reveal that Sue, a seven ton animal, would not have been able to walk or run faster than around 10 miles per hour, about as fast as an elephant moves. Each toe was able to move individually.

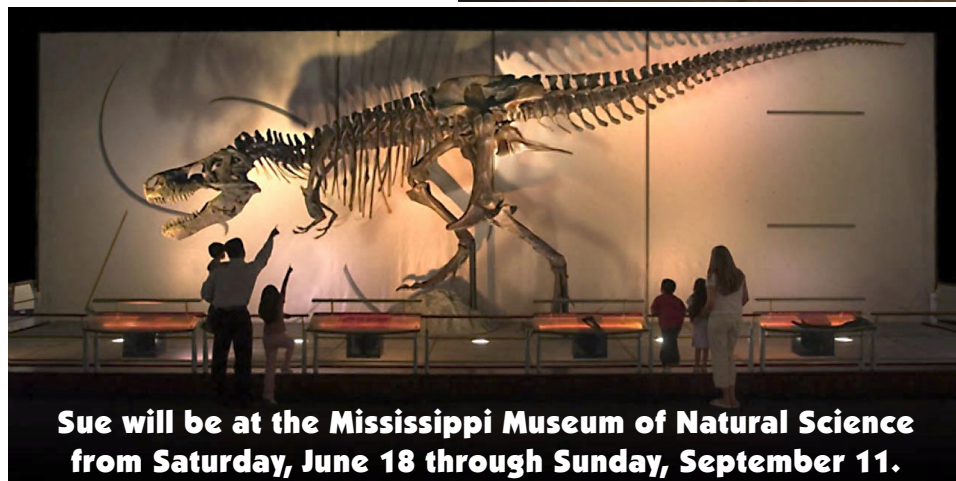
Sue would have had a very developed sense of smell, as her olfactory bulbs were

large. Her snout, too, was very sensitive, as deduced from the alignment of holes in her upper jaw.

Despite her name, scientists are not really sure if Sue is male or female. The configuration of her pelvis leaves some debate on this point.

Sue was an old animal for a *Tyrannosaurus*. She had stopped growing. Normal wear-and-tear on her body shows that she had a rough though resilient life. She seems to have healed from most afflictions, and simply died of old age.

A *T. Rex* Named Sue will be a fun and instructive exhibit for anyone with an interest in dinosaurs. Remember too that our own Natural Science Museum has fossils and skeletons on permanent display for the young paleontologist who wants to expand his or her researches.



**Sue will be at the Mississippi Museum of Natural Science  
from Saturday, June 18 through Sunday, September 11.**

## Historic Jefferson College

school for young men in the Deep South, and toward the end of the century it became known as Jefferson Military College. In more recent years, the school was made a Hollywood setting for several legendary films, including John Wayne's *Horse Soldiers*, Elijah Woods' *Huckleberry Finn*, and Patrick Swayze's *North and South*.

Jefferson College remained open until 1964, when decreased enrollment forced its closure. Today Historic Jefferson College is a museum, and visitors can stand on the grounds where statehood started. They can see historic buildings. There is a restored dormitory room, student dining room, and separate kitchen buildings. The site provides picnic areas and nature trails that wind through a wooded ravine and over bridges passing Ellicott Springs and an historic cemetery. Plants and trees along

*continued from previous page*

the trails are clearly identified. Ellicott Springs, an historic site itself, is the place where Andrew Ellicott camped in 1797 on surveying the 31st parallel that then marked the boundary separating United States and Spanish territories.

Historic Jefferson College is open seven days a week, year round. Admission is free. For more information, please contact 601/442-2901 or [hjc@mdah.state.ms.us](mailto:hjc@mdah.state.ms.us).

*Cheryl Munyer Branyan is the director of Historic Jefferson College which is administered by the Mississippi Department of Archives and History. Historic Jefferson College is located off Highway 61 just north of Natchez, and is comprised of eight historic buildings dating from 1819-1937, a museum exhibit, gift shop, and nature trails.*

## Locusts

*continued from page 3*

travel even beyond the moon are still attached to the planet Earth by invisible linkages, all of which mean that they must return. Every excursion into space so far has offered one major conclusion—we had better appreciate what we have.

We are standing on a miracle. If Earth's precarious position in relation to the sun were altered only a very small distance, then human life in the universe would disappear. We are anchored perhaps to the only living thing which floats in God's heaven.

Whether we stand at the water's edge on the banks of the Wolf River or somewhere to the northeast along our Pontotoc Ridge with its panoramic overlooks, we commune. Silent in the presence of unutterable wonder, I am spoken to by the wind in tall pine trees, the dripping of rain, and the late summer drone of locusts.



# INTERIORS & EXTERIORS



This long wall (left areas of the building photographs in this Four conference or pods, as they



The skylight (left) that runs the length of the building's west wing provides a pleasant illumination to both floors, reaching the lower level through a series of stairwells.

The main entrance (right) is attractive and well-lighted, an inviting approach for the visitor.

*Photos by Bill Pitts*





# The Mississippi Department of Employment Security's

new building, designed by the Jackson architectural firm of Johnson, Bailey, Henderson, and McNeel, replaces the original headquarters on West Capitol Street in downtown Jackson, which had served the agency since 1959. The cost for the land and the building came entirely from federal funds provided to all 50 states by the U.S. Department of Labor in 2002. The three-story building contains 113,000 square feet of space, over 24,000 more square feet than the former location, and can accommodate over 350 employees. Construction by Roy Anderson Corporation of Gulfport began in May of 2002 and most employees were moved in by November of 2004.

Situated on a lake alongside Interstate 220 in North Jackson, the MDES building is sure to become a well-known landmark.



and far left) separates the public and private  
g and can be seen in several of the  
pictorial.

rooms (below) are located in the two turrets—  
called by the employees—(right) that overlook  
the spacious patio (lower right) and lake.



Stylish and appealing in its design,  
the new building was more than three  
years in planning and construction.



The shallow reflecting pool just  
outside the break area (below) has  
played host to visiting ducks from  
the adjacent lake.

A 600-square foot fitness room,  
a half-mile walking track, and  
an employee mail center round  
out the amenities available to  
the people who work at the  
Mississippi Employment  
Security Commission building.





# *mens sana in corpore sano* **SOUND MIND & SOUND BODY**

## **By The Numbers**—*The University of Mississippi Medical Center Celebrates Fifty Years of Outstanding Accomplishments*

*from the UMC web site, with permission*



**1955** Established in 1955, the University of Mississippi Medical Center houses the Schools of Medicine, Nursing, Health Related Professions and Dentistry; Graduate Programs in the Medical and Clinical Health Sciences; and the University Hospitals and Clinics, teaching laboratories for the Medical Center's educational programs. More than 1,800 students are enrolled on the health sciences campus.

**622** The 622-bed University Hospital and Clinics serves as a diagnostic referral center for the entire state and offers many one-of-a-kind services available nowhere else in Mississippi: the highest level of perinatal care, a full range of treatment for infertile couples, and organ transplantation. Other specialized hospital services include an artificial kidney unit, coronary, intensive care and stroke units, cardiopulmonary and work evaluation laboratories, linear accelerator, an MRI, computerized tomography for brain and total body scanning, transcranial doppler, a sleep disorders laboratory, and hyperbaric oxygen therapy.

**25,000** The University Hospitals admit approximately 25,000 patients annually; they come from all of the state's 82 counties. Clinic and emergency room visits total more than 250,000.

**ONE** The adult and pediatric emergency rooms at UMC are easily the state's busiest ERs and the only ones in Mississippi which meet the requirements for designation as a level one trauma center.

**300** Currently, there are approximately 300 research projects ongoing at the Medical Center. UMC scientists study the mechanisms of hypertension, shock, the immune system (how we fight disease) and factors which put African Americans at risk for heart disease.

**\$17 Million** UMC receives more than \$17 million annually from outside agencies for research and special programs. These funds come from the federal government, voluntary health agencies and private foundations which pay for basic and clinical research on a multitude of subjects which ultimately mean better health care for all Mississippians.

**\$164,000,000** UMC has \$164,000,000 million in construction projects underway. These projects are estimated to create about 8,439 jobs and \$168,032,436 in total economic growth over several years.

**12,000** UMC is the most densely populated piece of real estate in the state. On any weekday, patients, visitors, students, employees, and vendors swell the daytime population to more than 12,000.

**6,000** With 6,000 employees and an annual payroll of \$207,073,541, the Medical Center is the greater Jackson area's largest employer.

**3.8 Million** The Children's Miracle Network has raised more than \$3.8 million for the Blair E. Batson Hospital For Children at UMC.

**3,748** University Hospital recorded 3,748 births in 1996; more than 70 percent were high risk and were referred to the University because it is the only hospital in the state which offers the highest level of perinatal care.

**1963/1964** In 1963, a UMC transplant team led by Dr. James Hardy performed the world's first human lung transplant. In 1964, the same team transplanted the heart of a chimpanzee into man—the first heart transplant in man. The operations were astonishing news in the early '60s, and they paved the way for all transplant surgery.

**\$435 Million** The Medical Center's budget for 1997-1998 is \$435,225,350. Because each dollar turns over in the market place 2.1 times, this budget has almost a billion dollar impact on the state.

**10,000** The University of Mississippi has awarded more than 10,000 degrees and certificates to health professionals. The overwhelming majority of those are in Mississippi.

**62%** More than 62 percent of the School of Medicine's graduates who are in practice are in Mississippi, and at least 50 percent of every graduating medical school class chooses a primary care specialty, the state's greatest physician need.

**70%** The School of Dentistry also has an exceptional retention record. More than 70 percent of its graduates practice in Mississippi.

*Photos by Bill Pitts*



## Mississippi's Moon Trees

Photo courtesy of NASA

Celebration in 1976, many of the Moon Trees were planted across the country—in twenty-one states from Massachusetts to Oregon and at the White House in Washington, D.C.—as well as in Brazil, Switzerland, and Japan. A small number have not survived, but the majority are thriving and reproducing with 'Earth' trees, resulting in what are known as "half-Moon Trees."

But no records were kept as to exactly where the trees went. Dr. Dave Williams, of NASA's National Space Science Data Center in Maryland, started a web site to track the trees after being approached by Joan Groble, a third-grade teacher from Indiana. She asked Williams for more information about the Moon Trees; he had no idea. But his research led to the list that he posts at [http://nssdc.gsfc.nasa.gov/planetary/lunar/moon\\_tree.html](http://nssdc.gsfc.nasa.gov/planetary/lunar/moon_tree.html).

Two sycamore trees in Mississippi are on the list: one can be found on the campus of Mississippi State University in

Starkville just outside of Dorman Hall, and the other is at the Mississippi Forestry Commission's Waynesboro Nursery. According to the University's web site, "This tree is the source for the second-generation Moon Tree seedlings sold by the American Forests' Historic Tree Nursery." This organization sells tree seedlings with historic connections—from the Gettysburg Address Honey Locust to the Elvis Presley Weeping Willow, and of course, the Moon Sycamore—through their web site at [www.historictrees.org](http://www.historictrees.org).

Stuart Roosa died in 1994 at the age of 61 while visiting with one of his children in Washington, D.C. A long-time resident of the Mississippi Gulf Coast, Roosa was president and owner of Gulf Coast Coors in Gulfport, the very same city



Apollo 14 crew portrait (left to right) Command Module Pilot Stuart Roosa, Commander Alan Shepard, and Lunar Module Pilot Ed Mitchell.

where half of the Moon Trees' seeds were sent after his (and their) trip to the Moon.

## The Wolf River

pinebelt to Bay St. Louis. Joe Feil, founder of Wolf River Canoe and Kayak, first canoed the Wolf in 1981. Later, working with proponents from the Mississippi Power Company, the Wolf River Conservation Society was founded. The Wolf River Conservation Society is a non-profit organization dedicated to preserving the natural beauty of the Wolf River and its watershed. Wolf River Canoe and Kayak sponsors river cleanups and participates in the Adopt-a-Stream Program. An annual float trip to clean along the Wolf is sponsored by Wolf River Canoes.

Wolf River Canoe and Kayak gives the visitor a chance to enjoy scenic nature while drifting down one of the most beautiful rivers in the South. Interesting clay formations, white sand bars, and pristine woods are to be found all along the four to eleven mile trip. Visitors can explore backwater lakes and estuaries on the way. The water in the Wolf is clean and invites swimming, one attraction being a mile-long tube float. Wolf guests can choose a spot and camp overnight, or stop on a sandbar for a picnic.

As Ernest Herndon, author of *Canoeing Mississippi*, relates, "What I like about the Wolf is its amazing variety. You're on a narrow, swift, clay-bottom creek. Round a bend, and you've got a wide river with high bluffs and sandbars. Then the woods close in overhead and it's another environment altogether. The Wolf is a tricky little river. Swift water, sharp bends, and logs keep you paying attention and sharpen your paddling skills, whether in canoe or kayak."

Wolf River Canoe and Kayak offers group accommodations: shuttles, lunches, guides, and instruction on canoeing and

sea-kayaking, which takes in "coastal beaches and barrier islands." Just call ahead at 228/452-7666 for arrangements.

It is interesting to note how nature and technology sometimes serve each other. Mississippi's Stennis Space Center is now working with the Wolf River Conservation Society as they perfect high-resolution

Earth observation satellite technology. While developing imaging tools, they will be able to identify conservation management needs along the Wolf. "IKONOS, the first commercial, high resolution observation satellite," will possibly make the Wolf River "one of the most often imaged locations in the South."

continued from page 4

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# Cookhouse Special . . . . .

## Kudzu Bloom Jelly

### Made At Pontotoc Ridge Blueberry Farm

information from Teresa Holifield

Teresa Holifield's Kudzu Bloom Jelly is made from the bloom of the kudzu plant. The Soil Conservation Service promoted kudzu for erosion control in the 1930s. The common names for kudzu include: Mile-a-Minute Vine, Foot-a-Night Vine, and The Vine That Ate the South. The blooms have a sweet smell and look like a cluster of grapes. Chinese people use kudzu in herbal medicines, but, to quote James Dickey, Southerners must "close the windows at night to keep the kudzu out."

Kudzu Bloom Jelly is suggested with toast, bagels, and biscuits. Teresa Holifield compares the taste to crabapples. She hopes that you like her Kudzu Bloom Jelly, as she waded through snakes for you!



"Sweet and tart, makes me think of marmalade"  
Kathy Root Pitts

**The editor of *The New Southern View* advises against collecting kudzu for consumption in an unfamiliar place, as sometimes kudzu is treated with herbicides. And of course, never consume any plant or plant part that you have not confirmed to be edible by an expert.**

Photo by Bill Pitts

## The Garden Gate

### The Plant That Ate The South And A Goodly Portion Of The Rest Of The Country!

by Kathy Root Pitts

Kudzu, that well-recognized vine which one sees so much of along the sides of rural roads in Mississippi, is a rapidly-climbing vine with a broad three-leaf formation. The dangling purple flowers, which develop in late summer, smell and look like clusters of grapes. These are followed by seed pods, although the vine travels mostly by nodules which attach themselves to most anything in sight. Kudzu, a legume with both deep roots and a controversial history, is said to have no natural enemies in our South, but it does incite opinions.

Kudzu was first seen at the 1876 Philadelphia Pennsylvania Centennial Exposition as a Japanese novelty. Due to its rapid growth and abundant shade, this flowering vine was cultivated in Southern gardens. In the early 1900s, kudzu was promoted as cheap fodder for livestock. In the 1930s, kudzu was spread throughout the South by the Soil Conservation Service to prevent erosion. Through the encouragement of Roosevelt's "New Deal" philosophy and the help of monetary government incentives, approximately three million acres of kudzu had been planted by the mid-forties.

By the 1950s, the once welcome vine was considered an aggressive weed, and kudzu now covers about seven million acres or more in the



*Kudzu, a perennial vine in the pea family, blankets this hillside and is beginning to overgrow the trees in the background.*

Southeast. Those shady, tenuous vines that turn-of-the-century Southerners appreciated on their verandas so long ago tend to smother and strangle other plants. Still, "weed" seems an unfortunate appellation for a plant which has been recognized in the Orient as a food source for humans as well as farm animals. The food starch "kuzuko" is made from the tuber-like kudzu root.

Kudzu has been used medicinally in China since at least as early as 100 A.D. It has been used by the Japanese for the production of paper and the roots as a food stuff during times of famine. In our "Cookhouse Special" article, we feature Teresa Holifield's aromatic and flavorful Kudzu Bloom Jelly from Pontotoc, Mississippi. Juanitta Baldwin offers recipes for a Kudzu Syrup and a Kudzu Wine, both of which can be found in her book, *Kudzu Cuisine*. Baskets, furniture, candles, and artwork can be made from kudzu as well.

Holly Springs in extreme north Mississippi will be holding its 17th Annual Kudzu Festival this June 2, 3, and 4. This family event, held at the Thomas Arena located off the intersection of Highways 7 and 78, features basket making, a rodeo, a gospel jamboree, a carnival, and barbeque. This little town has wisely chosen to

*continued on page 14*

Kudzu photos by Juanitta Baldwin



## A Transition Of Talent From Stained Glass To Blown Glass

by Bill Pitts

Photos by Robby Scruggs/Scruggs Photography

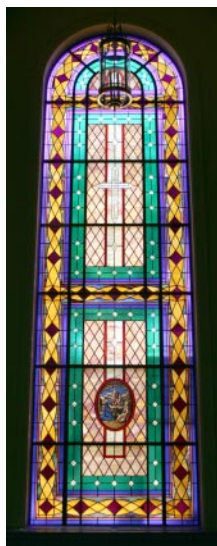
From photography to stained glass—not an immediate transition of talent for John Whitt of Sweetwater Studios in Moselle, Mississippi—but, both of these arts are all about envisioning a final product.

A stained-glass artist for 25 years, John started as a newspaper photographer while majoring in photography, but he decided that it wasn't the kind of job he really wanted. While finishing his major at the University of Southern Mississippi in Hattiesburg, he and a friend opened up a college bar and nightclub. "When everybody else graduated and were looking for jobs, I already had a job," he relates with a laugh. But that, too, changed.

While operating a nursery in the '70s, John ordered a stained-glass kit from the *Mother Earth News* magazine. It was also during this time that Hurricane Frederic came crashing ashore. John told his wife, Kim, that "If the hurricane gets the greenhouses, we're not rebuilding!" And in John's words, "It got 'em good!" New chapter—new occupation.

That was the beginning of John's stained-glass career and he says it's been going strong ever since. Workshops were followed by an article in the local paper which led to glass jobs. But there were also pipeline jobs and waiting tables in between. "It wasn't quite as simple as it sounds," he laughs. Most of the jobs come by word-of-mouth. "I'll work wherever people call me to go, but I don't do any advertising—or very little," he admits.

"Church work" provides the bulk of their commissions. "I enjoy doing church work," he says. Last year brought a job building six windows for the First United Methodist Church in



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Laurel, Mississippi. Seven feet wide and twenty-three feet tall—that's close to 1,000 square feet of stained glass—the whole job involved from 10,000 to 13,000 individual pieces of glass.

John's son Ian started helping him with the stained glass in 1996 at the age of 12. Now attending junior college, Ian comes in afternoons to help with the blown glass. "Ian was going to school to become a marine biologist but decided he didn't want to do that. He was in a kind of limbo." During a trip to Hawaii in 2002, they met some glass-blowers and another chapter of their lives opened.

They started classes at Glass Works in New Orleans. Attending a three-hour class every Saturday for nine months, they

*continued on page 14*



*From the geometric elegance of this window in the First United Methodist Church of Laurel to the sensuous organic shapes of these blown bottles by Ian and the fluted bowl by John, the Whitt's glass work is a pleasure to behold.*

## TO THE NINES! Hancock Fabrics From A Shade Tree Stand To A National Company

by Kathy Root Pitts

Photos by Bill Pitts

Hancock Fabrics was begun by Lawrence Doyce Hancock on Tupelo's Gloster Street in 1957 as a panel truck "sundries" concession parked "under the cottonwood tree." When Hancock journeyed to Atlanta to purchase only part of the going stock of a failing textile vendor, he returned with the entire inventory. Friends and relatives displayed the goods on boards laid across sawhorses.

Here was the beginning of Hancock's success—specializing in one thing and doing that one thing well. Hancock mastered the concept of tremendous selection within an exclusive category—what he called "Piling it high and selling it cheap."

By the 1970s, Hancock Textile Company had expanded to an 80 store

operation, along with "over 200 independent wholesale buyers." By February 1972, Lucky Stores, a supermarket chain out of California, acquired Hancock Textiles. Sadly, the "Double-Knit Crash of 1973" left Hancock Fabrics with a critical inventory of overvalued and unmarketable stock. Hancock faced the 1970s glutted with an overabundance of polyesters. Fortunately, they were diversified enough with a variety of fabrics to survive.

In 1980, the North Mississippi mortician, Morris Jarvis, took on the third presidency of Hancock Textile Company and pushed to

*continued on page 14*

*This store on Ellis Avenue in Jackson, Mississippi is one of four such stores in the Greater Jackson Metropolitan Area.*





## LeTourneau Marine Group

continued from page 4

tended primarily for the harsh environments of the North Sea and Eastern Canada offshore oil fields. Designed to be more competitive in the new deep-gas Gulf of Mexico market, the Tarzans are equipped to drill to subsurface depths below 25,000 feet, and to operate in water depths of up to 300 feet.

Jack-up rigs sit directly on the ocean floor. The legs on the Tarzan class are 360 feet long. They keep the drilling platform above the wave action and provide a very stable drilling platform. The body of the rig is constructed much in the same manner as a ship's hull, resulting in a structure that floats when the legs are jacked all of the way up above the platform.

Launched into the Mississippi River, the *George Keller* will be towed to the Gulf of Mexico, then westward along the Inter-coastal Waterway to the Rowan facility at Sabine Pass in Texas for final outfitting, part of which involves attaching the rest of the three long legs. If the rig were towed downriver with the legs complete, it wouldn't be able to pass under the many bridges enroute, as the craft is towed with the feet flush with the bottom of the hull and the upper portions of the legs extending high above the upper deck. The legs are built in sections at the Vicksburg location and shipped by flat barge ahead of the rig.

Once readied at Sabine Pass, the *George Keller* will be moved by ocean-going tugs to its deep-water destination where the legs

will be extended downward and the hull jacked-up above the waves. For delivery overseas, these rigs can be loaded onto a heavy transport ship, such as the Norwegian-built *Blue Marlin*, the same ship that brought the damaged Navy destroyer USS *Cole* back from Yemen in October of 2000.

Three more Tarzan class rigs are in the plans—depending on the vagaries of the market. At this writing, a third rig is currently under construction. The three massive feet are taking shape literally on the grounds of the facility just south of the present location of the *George Keller*. The feet form a rough triangle, surrounded by large cranes and assorted equipment. In the center of this area, the hull of this rig is being formed. Laid out flat on the earth, the emerging shape is supported by bleacher-shaped jigs that guide the workers as they build the beginnings of the next massive structure that will one day be inching its way towards the swirling waters of the Mississippi and then downstream to the Gulf and points beyond—all in the never-ending search of the oil and gas needed to keep our economy moving ever forward.

Rowan Companies, Inc. is a major provider of international and domestic contract drilling services. The company also operates a mini-steel mill, a manufacturing facility that produces heavy equipment for the mining and timber industries, and a drilling products division that has designed or built about one-third of all mobile offshore jack-up drilling rigs.

## Webventuring<sup>@</sup>

by Bill Pitts

It's easy to see from this column where my interests lie. When I was going through my "what I want to be when I grow up" phase of life, astronomer had a high position on my list. I still find the science enjoyable. So come on—join me on a virtual visit to three of the world's great observatories.

*All addresses current as of press time.*

### [www.griffithobs.org](http://www.griffithobs.org)

The Griffith Observatory, a major Los Angeles landmark since 1935, sits on the southern slope of Mount Hollywood where it commands a stunning view of the city. Closed from 2002 until 2006 for major renovations, the facility is still "open" through this site.

### [www.noao.edu/kpno](http://www.noao.edu/kpno)

Kitt Peak National Observatory, located 56 miles southwest of Tucson, Arizona, is the world's largest collection of telescopes.

### [www.ifa.hawaii.edu/mko/maunakea.htm](http://www.ifa.hawaii.edu/mko/maunakea.htm)

High atop Hawaii's Mauna Kea, the highest point in the Pacific basin, stands the Mauna Kea Observatory, with optical and radio telescopes operated by astronomers from eleven countries.

### contact us:

[info@newsouthernview.com](mailto:info@newsouthernview.com)

What is YOUR favorite Web site?

## The Plant That Ate The South

embrace what it cannot subdue.

Whether kudzu is a nuisance or an unrecognized gift to Southerners, it is undeniably a fascinating plant. Kudzu show an inextinguishable hunger for

life, and the way it sculpts the wild landscape, especially around Holly Springs and Yazoo City, is eerie come dusk in summer. In the half light, it looks as if the sides of the road are haunted by the

continued from page 12

huge and silent figures of strange animals and the twisted torsos of giants. And though the monsters stand quiet, the kudzu keeps growing and blanketing its surrounding.

## Sweetwater Studios

followed this with a workshop at the Appalachian Center for Craft, a satellite campus of Tennessee Tech University. John values interaction with the other students as much as the instruction received.

The future of Sweetwater Studios has been occupying John's thoughts a lot lately. "We'll see what happens when Ian gets

out of school and what direction he wants to go. We've also thought about...opening a studio/gallery...in more of a tourist town instead of way out here in the woods. We don't have a lot of foot traffic here." He continues, "We're selling at galleries and we're represented at the Southern Breeze Gallery in Jackson, the Quarter Moon Gal-

continued from page 13

lery in Bay St. Louis, and the A Gallery and the Impressions Gallery in Hattiesburg, to name a few."

But the bottom line is the art. "It's gratifying doing [blown glass] with my son. We've really learned a lot about glass and a lot about each other by spending all this time together."

## Hancock Fabrics

expand Hancock holdings through the purchase of the 100-store Minnesota Fabrics in the mid-West. By 1985, Hancock Fabrics, that little shade tree stand from Tupelo, was supporting 320 stores across the country.

Restructuring by Lucky, following a takeover attempt in 1986, placed Hancock Textiles—rechristened Hancock Fabrics, Inc.—on the stock exchange. Lucky began dealing again solely in food, with Hancock treated as a separate common stock.

Hancock Fabrics, though, lost millions as a result of Lucky's debts. Yet, even with this burden, Hancock Fabrics Inc. grew as the world watched. Wall Street's attention energized Hancock's management, and prosperity seemed certain, until the late 1980s and 1990s, when inexpensive ready-to-wear clothing from overseas slowed the home-seamstress market, and Hancock Fabrics had to reach out to a different customer-base.

Presently, the Tupelo company that be-

gan so long ago is going strong, marketing to the home-décor and craft sewing trade, and enjoying a partnership with Laurie Smith from the program "Trading Spaces." Home decor, though, is just one successful aspect of Hancock Fabrics. Hancock Fabric's faithful following of commercial and home seamstresses will be glad to know that Hancock still remains primarily a fabric store with a new and larger distribution center opened in Baldwin, Mississippi as recently as 2003.

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# our community calendar

All information current as of press time.  
We accept no legal responsibility for errors or omissions.

**EXTRA EVENTS**  
[www.newsouthernview.com](http://www.newsouthernview.com)  
**FOR EVENTS THAT DIDN'T MAKE  
IT INTO THE MAGAZINE!**

## EXHIBITS

**through Sunday, July 3**  
**Mississippi Invitational**

Initiated in 1997 and selected by New York-based curator Elizabeth Ferrer, this exhibition is organized by the Museum of Art and is accompanied by an illustrated catalogue. Admission. Mississippi Museum of Art. 601/960-1515 or [www.msmuseumart.org](http://www.msmuseumart.org)

**Tuesday, June 7 – Saturday, August 18**  
**Manships Abroad**

Examines what travel was like for middle-class southern families of that era. Free. Reservations for groups of ten or more. Manship House Museum. 601/961-4724

**through Sunday, September 11**  
**Mississippi History A to Z**

Drawn from the museum's permanent collection, this original exhibit features artifacts corresponding to a letter of the alphabet and provides a glimpse into Mississippi's rich history. Free. Old Capitol Museum. 601/576-6920

**Thursday, March 17–Saturday, September 17**  
**Summer Dress at the Manship House**

The museum exhibits the Victorian practice of preparing the home for the heat, insects and dirt of the summer months. Free. Reservations for groups of ten or more. Manship House Museum. 601/961-4724

**through Wednesday, October 26**  
**Eudora Welty House Garden Tours**

The gardens developed by Miss Welty and her mother will open for tours every Wednesday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the historic Jackson neighborhood of Belhaven. Free. Reservations for groups of ten or more. 601/576-6965 or [www.mdah.state.ms.us](http://www.mdah.state.ms.us).

**through Tuesday, November 1**  
**The Human Body**

The Human Body in a way never seen before exploring the daily biological processes that go on without our control and often without our even noticing. Admission. Davis Planetarium. 601/960-1550 or [www.thedavisplanetarium.com](http://www.thedavisplanetarium.com)

## EVENTS & HAPPENINGS

**JUNE•JUNE•JUNE•JUNE•JUNE**

**Jackson/Hinds Library System's  
Summer Reading Program  
Wednesday, June 1–Friday, July 8**

The 2005 Summer Reading Program theme is **Funtastic Reading!** Registration begins June 1 and the program will run through July 9th. We hope to promote reading while exposing children to music, dance, storytelling, and other art forms. Friends of the Library and local businesses support the program to encourage the best in our kids. Parents may contact their neighborhood branch for program dates.

**Friday, June 3 & Saturday, June 4**  
**Personal Treasures: Their Identification and Care**

This program will provide information by experts on the identification and care of historical objects submitted by the public. Various categories will include textiles; military items; archeological objects; paper, photographs, and maps; small household furnishings. Limit 5 objects per person per category. Free. Old Capitol Museum. 601/576-6920

**Friday, June 3–Sunday, June 5**  
**Elvis Presley Festival**

A hometown tribute to the King of Rock 'n' Roll featuring live music to suit a wide range of tastes, regional food, plus Chuck Berry on Friday night, an Elvis Look Alike Pet Parade, and the World Famous Recliner Race. Admission. Tupelo. 888/273-7798 or [www.tupeloelvisfestival.com](http://www.tupeloelvisfestival.com)

**Saturday, June 4**  
**Heatwave Classic Triathlon**

The 20th Heatwave Classic Triathlon: a 1/2 mile swim in the Ross Barnett Reservoir, a 24–1/2 mile bike ride along the scenic and historic Natchez Trace Parkway, and a 10K run along Ridgeland's heavily shaded Multi-Use Trail. Free. 601/853-2011 or <http://ridgelandms.org> (click events).

**Saturday, June 4 & Sunday, June 5**  
**Jackson Zoo: Dora the Explorer**

Have your photo taken with Dora the Explorer. Must purchase photo ticket to have photo taken with Dora. Admission. Jackson Zoological Park. 601/352-2581 or [www.jacksonzoo.com](http://www.jacksonzoo.com)

**through Sunday, June 12**  
**Idols of the King**

If you liked "Always....Patsy Cline", you'll love "Idols of the King," a look at what made Elvis Presley such a compelling figure for so many fans. Admission. New Stage Theatre. 601/948-3533 or [www.newstageattheatre.com](http://www.newstageattheatre.com)

**Friday, June 17 & Saturday, June 18**  
**Jubilee!JAM in Downtown Jackson**

Jubilee!Jam brings a wild mix of great music talent to Jackson. Large downtown music festival encompassing many styles on multiple stages. Food, crafts, and children's activities. Admission. 601/353-9800 or [www.jubileejam.com](http://www.jubileejam.com)

**Tuesday, June 21**

**Unburied Treasures: Building the Collection**

Join us for our third year of our monthly series exploring visual arts, music, and literature. Complimentary hors d'oeuvres, cash bar, and free with museum admission. Admission. Mississippi Museum of Art. 601-960-1515 or [www.msmuseumart.org](http://www.msmuseumart.org)

**Friday, June 24 & Saturday, June 25**  
**Tomato Festival in Crystal Springs**

Enjoy a full day of flea market, farmers' market, kiddie parade, and all day entertainment. Great family fun and good food. Free. Downtown Crystal Springs. 601/892-2711 or [www2.msstate.edu/~ricks/cstomato/tomfest.html](http://www2.msstate.edu/~ricks/cstomato/tomfest.html)

**Saturday, June 25 & Sunday, June 26**

**Jackson Zoo: Reptile Rendezvous**

Snakes, snakes and more snakes!!! Over 100 reptiles and over 22 different species of rattlesnakes in the annual North American Rattlesnake Exhibit. Spend some quality time with these fascinating, slithery creatures at this popular annual event. Admission. Jackson Zoological Park. 601/352-2581 or [www.jacksonzoo.com](http://www.jacksonzoo.com)

**Thursday, June 30**

**Jazz, Art & Friends**

Enjoy cool jazz, cocktails, and hors d'oeuvres in a smoke-free environment amid the backdrop of world-class art. Admission. Mississippi Museum of Art. 601/960-1515 or [www.msmuseumart.org](http://www.msmuseumart.org)

**JULY•JULY•JULY•JULY•JULY•JULY**

**Friday, July 1**

**Balloon Glow at Northpark**

Starting after 6 p.m., watch tethered hot air balloons light up the night, then finish off your evening with a spectacular fireworks display. Free. Northpark Mall. 601/957-3744, 601/956-3438 or [www.visitnorthpark.com](http://www.visitnorthpark.com)

**Saturday, July 2**

**Old Fashioned 4th of July Celebration**

Enjoy an old fashioned 4th of July celebration featuring live patriotic entertainment, food, carnival games, and prizes for the kids in the setting of "Small Town" Mississippi! Free

watermelon plus train, carousel, and pony rides. Admission. Mississippi Agriculture & Forestry Museum. 601/713-3365

**Monday, July 4**

**16th Annual 4th of July Fireworks Extravaganza**

Balloons, games, space walk, and an assortment of food plus live entertainment with a special guest band. The evening will end with a brilliant display of fireworks. Free. Traceway Park. 601/924-5912 or [www.clintonchamber.org](http://www.clintonchamber.org)

**Wednesday, July 13–Saturday, July 16**  
**Choctaw Indian Fair**

This one-of-a-kind fair comes complete with celebrity entertainers, traditional Indian dancing, World Series Stickball, blowgun, bow and arrow, and drum-beating contests. Admission. For directions, call 601/650-1537 or visit their web site at [www.choctawindianfair.com](http://www.choctawindianfair.com)

**Tuesday, July 19**

**Unburied Treasures: Building the Collection**

Join us as we explore the visual arts, music, and literature. Complimentary hors d'oeuvres, cash bar, and free with museum admission. Mississippi Museum of Art. 601-960-1515 or [www.msmuseumart.org](http://www.msmuseumart.org)

**Saturday, July 23**

**Jackson Zoo: Ice Cream Safari**

Enjoy great ice cream and vote on your local media celebrity scoopers while you visit the animals. Admission. Jackson Zoological Park. 601/352-2581 or [www.jacksonzoo.com](http://www.jacksonzoo.com)

**Friday, July 22–Friday, July 29**

**Neshoba County Fair/Philadelphia**

"Mississippi's Giant House Party" offers political speeches, livestock exhibits, flea market/crafts show, rides, live entertainment, food, and harness racing. Admission. Philadelphia. 601/656-8480 or [www.neshobacountyfair.org/](http://www.neshobacountyfair.org/)

**Thursday, July 28**

**Jazz, Art & Friends**

Enjoy cool jazz, cocktails, and hors d'oeuvres in a smoke-free environment amid the backdrop of world-class art. Admission. Mississippi Museum of Art. 601/960-1515 or [www.msmuseumart.org](http://www.msmuseumart.org)

**AUGUST•AUGUST•AUGUST•AUGUST**

**The Tougaloo Art Colony**

**Friday, July 22–Friday, July 29**

Retreat for nationally acclaimed artists, emerging artists, art educators, art students, and interested adult learners to engage in dialog and to create works that help extend the multicultural dimensions of America's visual culture. A week of intensive study with daily studio workshops and shared evening sessions. Admission. Tougaloo College. 601/977-7839 or [www.tougaloo.edu/artcolony](http://www.tougaloo.edu/artcolony)

**Thursday, August 25**

**Jazz, Art & Friends**

Enjoy cool jazz, cocktails, and hors d'oeuvres in a smoke-free environment amid the backdrop of world-class art. Admission. Mississippi Museum of Art. 601/960-1515 or [www.msmuseumart.org](http://www.msmuseumart.org)

**Saturday, August 27 & Sunday, August 28**

**Jackson Zoo: Animal Enrichment Day—  
Kids, Creatures & Keepers**

Come out and get a chance to meet and talk with Zoo Keepers about their favorite animals at the Jackson Zoo. Kids can become official Honorary Zoo Keepers and learn how the keepers work daily with the animals. Admission. Jackson Zoological Park. 601/352-2581 or [www.jacksonzoo.com](http://www.jacksonzoo.com)

Join us on-line at the first of each month for events that didn't make it into the magazine!



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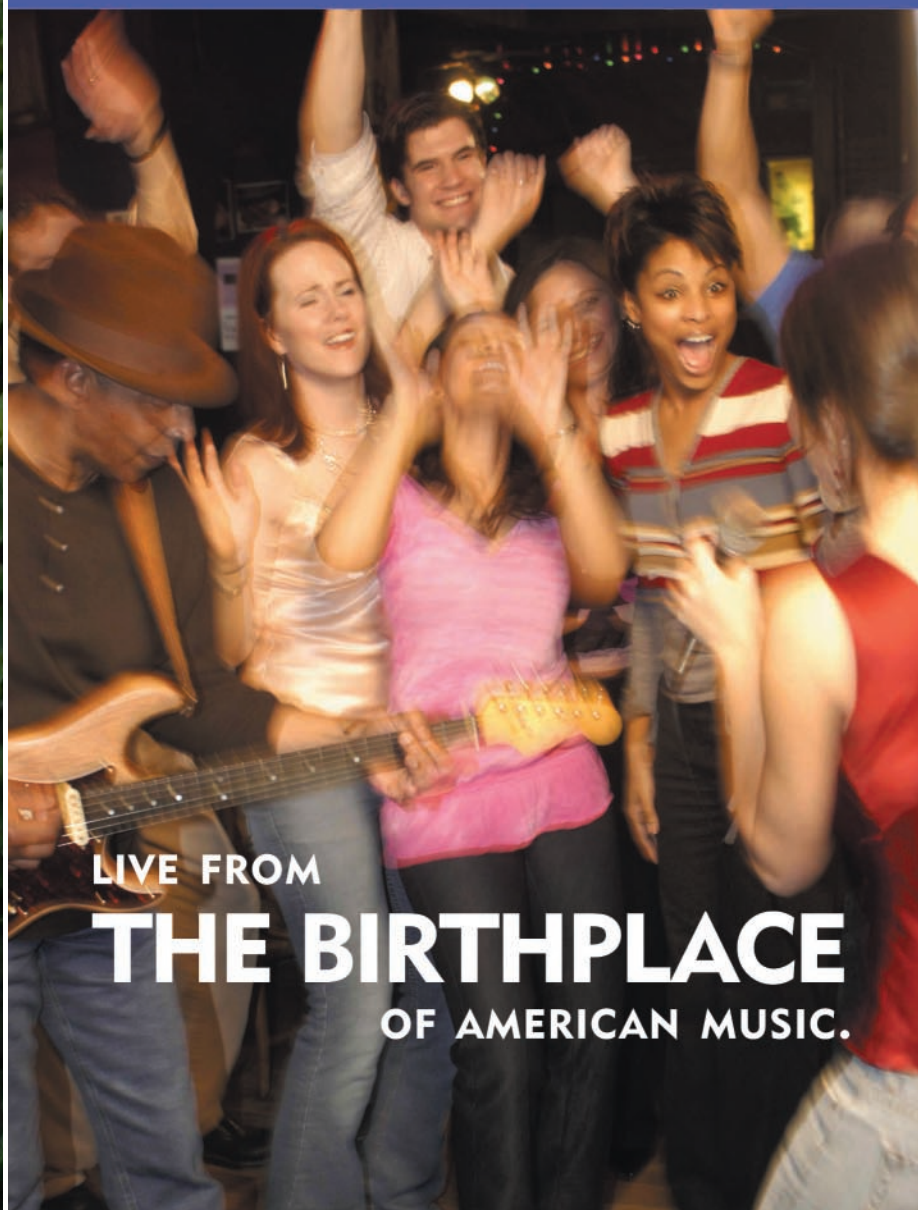
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