



# BULLDOG BUZZ

Volume 2, Number 3

Packer's Bend, Alabama

April 2009

## A Struggling Economy



By Jessica Harmon, Sponsor

*In an ever changing economy, a local community loses yet another mill in a matter of weeks apart. Shortly after the announcement of the closing of The Weyerhaeuser Company, which closed its sawmill and veneer mills near Pine Hill, AL, Scotch Lumber Company of Fulton, AL, also announces the soon closing of its mill. Another hit to the unemployment rate for Clarke and Monroe Counties.*

*Scotch Lumber has been a means of support for the local and surrounding communities. The little to no demand for soft wood has caused a layoff of 100 to 175 workers from the mill. While the remaining workers are thankful for jobs, they wait prayerfully on a change in the economy.*

*Layoffs have been on the up rise. In addition to Weyerhaeuser's cut of 300 jobs, other wood products manufacturers' cutbacks include Georgia Pacific in Peterman, 300 jobs; Alabama River Newsprint, 170 jobs; Louisiana Pacific, 135 jobs. Additional closings of, Standard Furniture Manufacturing in Frisco City and Vanity Fair Brands LP have also made cuts. Vanity Fair has announced that it will close its knitting plant in Jackson by the end of 2009, with the loss of about 90 jobs.*

*Clarke County's unemployment rate was 9.8 percent in December, almost double from 5.5 percent in December 2007, to 11.6 percent; Wilcox 15.1 percent (the state's highest); Washington County.*

*Scotch Lumber has been a pillar in the lumber industry. Scotch Lumber Company dates back to 1888 and is the area's oldest wood products industry. It has always been a constant in employing people through ups and downs in the economy and wood products business for many years.*

*I can even remember being a young girl riding with my grandmother to Fulton, AL, to take my granddaddy his lunch or dinner for work. I always remembered riding by Scotch and seeing all those big logs being processed. This had to be an awesome place to work. My favorite sound to hear was the whistle blowing.*

*There are many memories about Scotch Lumber, but this news of closing is not one I care to cherish. So, to the families and communities affected by this economic downfall, hold on a change will come.*

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# Editorials



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Buzz  
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## Our Mission

The mission of the Bulldog Buzz is to provide a product for the community that will exhibit the talent and potential of M.I.S. students as journalists and to promote life learners.

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## What's Lies In The Future For Me?

Everyone knows that Monroe Intermediate School is smaller than most schools. When we complete eighth grade we have to either go to Clarke County High, Thomasville High, Jackson High, or Wilcox Central High. Mainly, everyone who graduates from the eighth grade at M.I.S. usually goes to Clarke County High School in Grove Hill. I am only in the seventh grade so I still have time to think about my future decision.

I really wouldn't mind going to Clarke County School. If I go to Clarke County High I know most of my cousins and friends will also be attending. That makes me feel good knowing I'll know somebody there, so I don't have anything to worry about. Many of them want me to come to Clarke County High.

Will I miss M.I.S.? Yes, I would miss my school, because there's just no place like it. The teachers are great, and because of our school being so small we get help one on one. Our principal has done an outstanding job with the progress of the school.

Therefore, we are very smart. My feelings about going to Clarke County are good, except the accident that happened a year ago with Clarke County students and M.I.S. students. This kind of changed my way of thinking. Some people stated that Clarke County High School principal said, "I don't want anymore students from Lower Peachtree coming to CCHS." Just for the record if this statement is true, I want the principal to know that we are not all the same.

On the other hand, I wish the Monroe County Board of Education would make a decision to re-open our 9<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grades. Don't get me wrong, there's nothing wrong with Clarke County High School. However, it's nothing like my school.



By Kelnesha Stabler  
Editor-In-Chief

## Small School Makes Big Changes

As many already know, Monroe Intermediate School is located in a small rural town called Lower Peachtree. The school consists of less than one hundred students. Even though we are a small school we are well educated and deserve better. That is why we are making a lot of changes.

One change is the renovations in the teacher lounge and the principal office. We have received new tiles and a new ceiling in both places. The lounge has also received a new copier.

Another change was the new PA system that we have received for the gym. Before the PA system you couldn't hear anything that was said in the gym. If you can't hear anything that is said in that small gym with a microphone it is a (Ha, Ha, Ha) moment.

Soon, we are getting the school exterior repaired and painted. We are also getting a replacement for the old sewer system.

The school also received new gym equipment. We received two new goals with the net and rim. It's a good thing we did because the other two wasn't the best.

There are many other repairs underway. So be a good supporter and watch our school grow.



By Lakeiya Cheeseboro  
School Editor

# Community News



## Church of the Month

### Glorious Temple Apostolic Church Inc.

*Bishop Raymond McConnell Sr., Pastor*

*Sunday School 10:00 a.m.  
Worship Service 11:30 a.m.  
Bible Study Tuesday 7:30 p.m.  
Prayer Service Thursday, 7:30 p.m.*



**Airman 1C Travis Kidd  
Son of Mr. And Mrs. John Kidd**

## I Count It Another Blessing!!!

During one of the most historical events of our time, the Inauguration of President Obama, the first African American president.

A part of The Packers' Bend Community was represented. Airman 1C Travis Kidd was on duty to protect and serve our new president. Words alone could never express the feeling of pride I felt just knowing one of our very own was making history on a national level.



**By Mrs. Glorious Kidd  
Community Reporter**



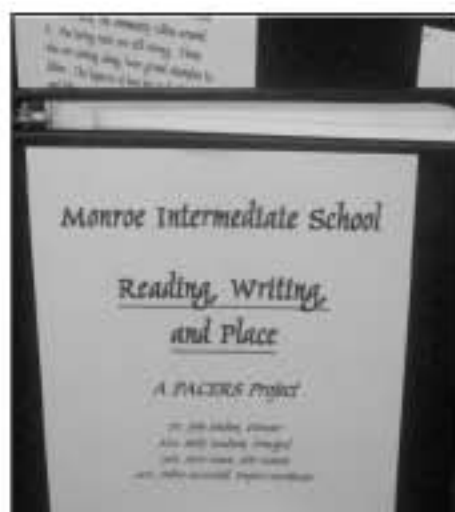
## Documentation Through the Arts History of PACERS Schools

PACERS is an organization that strives to instill an attitude of excellence in the schools that it serves; which brings us to Monroe Intermediate School, formerly known by the initial PACERS initiative as Monroe Senior High School.

In 1989, PACERS was introduced to Monroe Senior High School. This partnership has survived threats of school closings, administrative changes, and even a school name change. This brings us to the Packers Bend Community. It is impossible to speak of the beloved school that is located in this quaint haven without in the same breath speaking of the beloved Packers Bend Community. The two are virtually inseparable. The school is the heartbeat of the community. PACERS joined this partnership under the then leadership of Mr. H.B. Williams, principal of the then, Monroe Senior High School, and later reconnected under the leadership of Mrs. Betty Madison, the current principal of the now, Monroe Intermediate School. Much has been accomplished since the joining of this three-strand cord.

change, the history that has already been made through this bond shall be etched in the windows of time.

The partnership between the little community located near the banks of the Alabama River, the school that is the heartbeat of that community, and PACERS, creates a three-strand cord that cannot be easily broken. Though times may change, the history that has already been made through this bond shall be etched in the windows of time.



# Elementary News

Elementary  
Department  
Honor Roll Students

## Elementary Highlights

### Fourth Six Weeks

#### First Grade

*Demetrius Cunningham*  
*Justin Campbell*  
*Kierra Davis*  
*Lazarus Davis*  
*Tatiana Flowers*  
*Dalvin Houston*  
*Kendric Moore*  
*Tyquan Norwood*  
*Derrick Patrick*  
*Olivia Tate*  
*Octavia Taite*  
*Cedashia Welch*  
*Lapatrck Molton*

#### Second Grade

*Tonae Gates*  
*Jasmine Cheeseboro*  
*Sylvester Davis*  
*Keyshawn Davis*  
*Terell Jones*  
*Cadarius Pactrick*

#### Third Grade

*Ja'Mya Kidd*  
*Armillya Carstarphen*

#### Fourth Grade

*Shatima Patrick*



**K-1 Enjoys Read  
Across Alabama Day**



**M.I.S. Elementary Queen  
Keirra Davis**



**KEEP UP THE GREAT  
WORK**

**M.I.S. SUPERSTARS!!!**

Honorable Mention Students  
Fourth Six Week

Quinton Morris  
Zakira Welch



# JUNIOR HIGH DEPARTMENT

## Fourth Six Weeks Honor Students

**Eighth Grade**  
 Keldrick Carstarphen  
 Taquita Carstarphen  
 Lakeiya Cheeseboro  
 Kabrechia Portis  
 Chassity McCaskill  
 Shelton Frye  
 Christina Bumpers

**Seventh Grade**  
 Kelnesha Stabler

**Sixth Grade**  
 Shamus Foster

**Fifth Grade**  
 Dekendric Thomas  
 Cedrice Carstarphen  
 Javarus Carstarphen  
 Shamar Carstarphen  
 Tremaine Cheeseboro  
 Manuel Davis  
 Avaery Kidd



## Read Across Alabama Day



## Honorable Mention Fourth Six Weeks

Zamira Taylor  
 James Gates  
 Adam Williams

Juawanna Morrisette  
 Jermaine Carstarphen  
 Brionica Myles

Clarissa Patrick  
 Kasajian Cunningham  
 Jamarcus Packer



# ACTIVITIES & ENTERTAINMENT

## M.I.S. Beauty's A Night to Remember




Congratulations  
M.I.S. Queen  
Laquisha  
Kimbrough



# FEATURE



Left, Mrs. Betty Madison, Senator Hank Sanders, and Mr. Raymond McConnell Sr.

## Senator Hank Sanders Makes a Donation

Principal, Betty Madison and Bishop Raymond McConnell Sr. along with other schools received a monetary donation from Senator Hank Sanders in Selma, Alabama for the educational growth and enhancement of schools in his district.

## Junior Beta Club Attend Annual Convention



## M. I. S. Junior Beta Club Celebrate Read Across Alabama



# REFLECTIONS

## Remember When???



The New Improved  
Supreme's  
**LOOK OUT  
WORLD!!!**

Left, Mrs. Carstarphen, Ms. Johnson, Mrs. Tunstall, Mrs. Nettles, and Mrs. Johnson

# Black History Month Celebration



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