

# Indianola native's novel awarded

Rose Mary Stiffin, Ph.D., earned honorable mention in the Amsterdam Book Festival for her first novel "Walk in Bethel."

Stiffin, an Indianola native who now lives in Miami Gardens, Fla., traveled to Paris, France, recently to accept the award in the general fiction category.

Stiffin said in a statement she believes the characters helped her earn the recognition.

"I am humbled and honored by this award," she said. "When writing this book, the characters guided me through the process. When I started to push them, they started to push my pen. Characters will tell a story if you allow them."

She described the novel as "an earthy, spell-binding drama set in her birthplace, the Mississippi Delta. Using period vernacular, Stiffin



Stiffin


links three families across multiple generations to ultimately reveal a story of survival that travels the corridors of freedom, forgiveness and love of family."

Stiffin also has a number of short stories, as well as three other books. Currently, she is writing another novel, "Casino Blues." She is chair of the Department of Health and Natural Sciences and a tenured associate chemistry professor at Florida Memorial University. She holds chemistry degrees from MVSU, MSU and the University of Tennessee-Memphis.



## Car tag sales help nursing student

Derreon Johnson, a nursing student at Holmes Community College from Indianola, accepts a scholarship notice from Rosalyn Howard, executive director of the Mississippi Nurses Foundation. Johnson received a \$6,000 Car Tag stipend which is funded by sales of the "Nurses Touch Lives" car tags. Johnson will receive a check for \$500 for 12 consecutive months to support his education. In return for receiving the money, recipients contract with the Nurses Foundation to work as a full-time nurse in Mississippi for two years following graduation.



THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT ON AUGUST 4,  
NOW ON TO AUGUST 25!

✓ Re-Elect  
**DENNIS W.  
HOLMES**

- Lifelong resident of Indianola and Sunflower County
- 1965 Graduate Indianola High School
- Two years Mississippi Delta Community College
- Married Merle Hamilton, 1966, 2 children, 10 grands, 1 great-grand
- Graduated Mississippi Law Enforcement Training Academy
- Former policeman, City of Indianola
- Former constable
- Former Miss. Highway Patrol ICS Communications
- 16 years current supervisor District 3
- President of Board of Supervisors, 2 terms
- Member of Eastwood Baptist Church
- Past President of Indianola Lions Club
- Past board of directors member Mid-Delta Credit Union
- Board of Directors Sunflower County Humane Society

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