

# LEADER-CALL

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## Winning design for new Jones County flag unveiled

BY SUZANNE MONK  
News editor

A new Jones County flag was unveiled at the Jones County Courthouse in Laurel Tuesday afternoon — the result of a Leadership Jones County (LJC) project.

The LJC team, made up of Karen Blackledge, Bo Bounds, Jane Hulon and Sid Tucker, sponsored a flag-design contest last fall.

They received 37 entries — from residents as young as seven years and as old as 86 years.

When the dust settled, the design of 28-year old Michael L. Johnson was chosen. John-

son is from the Red Hill Community, and works for Cellular One in Hattiesburg.

He is a free-lance artist who hopes to make a career in design and commercial art.

"I read about the contest, and got an entry form. I just looked at the blank sheet of paper for a minute, and the design came into my head," Johnson said. "After that, it was just a matter of tinkering around with it."

The design has several symbolic features. The green field represents growth, white stands for truthfulness and blue for victory.

The trees represent the

beginnings of the timber industry, as well as the beauty of the county. The circle represents the sun as a symbol of rising hope.

Finally, the two stars represent the two county courthouses — one in Ellisville and one in Laurel.

The new flag now flies over the county's twin courthouses, as well as the Jones County Economic Development Authority/Chamber of Commerce.

For more about the Jones County flag, please contact the Chamber of Commerce at 428-0574.



Michael Johnson submitted the winning design in a flag contest sponsored by Leadership Jones County.