

Nashville Recording Artist and EC Alumnus Randy Houser Performs for Carson Benefit

Country music star Randy Houser performs one of his many hits during a benefit concert held Saturday, Nov. 12, 2011, at the Neshoba County Coliseum in Philadelphia for East Central Community College Director of Bands Thomas W. Carson. Houser, a Lake native and ECCC alumnus, donated his time and talents to perform at the concert, which raised more than \$11,000 for the Army of Tom Fund, designated to assist Carson with medical and other expenses in his battle with esophageal cancer. Houser, who recently signed a contract with Stoney Creek Records, expressed his appreciation to Carson – who attended the concert with family members – for his “encouragement and inspiration” in convincing Houser to not only attend college but to further develop his musical talents which has led to a successful career in country music. Houser, a member of the ECCC Class of 1997, is a former vocalist with the Collegians, the College’s rock ‘n’ roll band directed by Carson. Houser was also a vocalist for the ‘Round Midnight blues group and the Ac’cents, the College’s show choir, and was a member of the Wall O’ Sound Marching Band. Also performing for the benefit concert were area bands Cotton Row, South Bound, Deluxe Southern Impalas, Remedy, and Rico and the Border Patrol. Several band members are ECCC alumni and former members of the Collegians. Grant Morris, a member of Remedy and a former Collegian, presented Carson with a Fender electric guitar on behalf of and signed by all band members. Carson, who recently completed six weeks of radiation and chemotherapy to battle the cancer, is scheduled for surgery on December 1.



Reed, Taylor Selected Pageant Winners

Raychal Reed (sixth from left) of Louisville and DeMarcus Taylor (fifth from left) of Enterprise were crowned Most Beautiful and Most Handsome, respectively, at East Central Community College on Oct. 25. Those selected beauties and beaus included (from left) Colby McLain of Philadelphia; Brittany Burton and Lucas Calvert, both of Louisville; LaTia Peavy of Carthage; Taylor; Reed; Taylor Lynch of Morton; Nathan Stone of Philadelphia; Lindsey Miller of Decatur; and Justin Snow of Stallo.





'Notes' from the Wall O' Sound Band

by Thomas W. Carson, Director of Bands

As I was preparing to begin my 30th year as Head Band Director at ECCC, I was anticipating some added excitement and unexpected things to surface, as there is never a dull moment with the Wall O' Sound Band. The one thing I NEVER expected was being diagnosed with esophageal cancer on August 18th, the week after band camp concluded. This was a huge shock, and the news for my survival was very bleak. When told the news and given the "you have 6 months to live" speech, I was SOOOO over that in about 5 seconds!!! For those of you that know me, that diagnosis was totally unacceptable, and since August 18th, I have taken a medical leave of absence and fought furiously every single day to beat this alien that is trying to destroy me; ain't gonna happen!!! Cancer survival and recovery is never a sure thing, but I have done VERY well with my chemo and radiation treatments and am looking forward to December 1st.....the day of my surgery to remove the alien from my chest; I have no doubt I will recover and have many more years to enjoy the great life I have. One SURE thing for our area band seniors is the arrival of your 2012 BAND SCHOLARSHIP! Although I was not able to visit games this time, I was glad to be able to come by your band hall and visit with all seniors and get your addresses, and I am very excited about the upcoming fall semester as I anticipate a super new group of band signees for this next school year! Visiting with all the seniors is one of my highlights of the semester, and I am thrilled I got that part in before my upcoming surgery. I am always impressed with the talent and hope all seniors will make ECCC and the Wall O' Sound Band your choice as you pursue your post-secondary education.

This fall semester was very busy as we experienced super weather and were able to perform week after week as we brought our "SPACE show" to the field. The special appearances by Darth Vader, Princess Leia and several rowdy space aliens made for a fun show!

Following an exciting season of shows and trips, the band wound up the semester with the ever popular Christmas parades as we marched in several local towns.

Joining me in putting together another outstanding marching band was assistant band director Ed Girling, Centralette instructor Nichol Hillman and Color Guard coordinator Janie Mayfield. Color guard Captain Rachel Sharp did an outstanding job writing the routines for the squad.

I would like to give a special thank you to my assistant, Mr. Ed Girling, who, without any notice or time to think about it, had to take over the Wall O' Sound Band, and all the daily duties of running my band program this semester, as I take my medical leave, and have had very limited time at work, only able to do some office paperwork. He has done a great job and I can never thank him enough.

Of course, EC always jams out with their own in house rock band, The Collegians!!! Because of my medical leave and surgery, The Collegians will be a little delayed with their first concert, but will be ready to ROCK in the spring for their spring concert, senior days, and hopefully at some local schools and other events. Always playing to a packed, on-their-feet crowd at their campus concerts, the popular ECCC rock and roll band will again show the world what sets our college apart from others....an official school sponsored LIVE rock band. Stay tuned for a show at your school this spring!!!

All band seniors should receive their band scholarships during the Christmas holidays and all of you are encouraged to mail back your signed copy in order to secure your position on the horn line or your tryout slot on the drum line and color guard. As a graduating band senior, your talents developed during high school will now provide you with much needed assistance with your college expenses. Our band members come from all college majors and being in the Wall O' Sound will be the highlight of your college experience....just ask any ECCC band member!

For more information on our band program, please contact me at 1-601-635-6228 or e-mail me at tcarson@eccc.edu or Mr. Girling at egirling@eccc.edu. All band members receive full tuition scholarships and above, depending on participation.

Important Band Dates!

January

27-28 ECCC Band Clinic

March

5 Asst' Drum Major tryouts
6 Drum Line Tryouts
7 Color Guard Tryouts
8 Spring Band Concert

April

9 Spring Collegians Campus Concert
12 Centralette Tryouts

Accreditation

East Central Community College is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools to award the Associate Degree. Contact the Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia, 30033-4097 or call 404-679-4500 for questions about the accreditation of East Central Community College.

Non-Discrimination

East Central Community College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, religion, or age in admissions or access to, or treatment or employment in its programs and activities. Compliance with Section 504 and Title IX is coordinated by Dr. Lavinia Sparkman, Vice President for Instruction, Walter Arno Vincent Administration Building, Rm. 171, and P.O. Box 129, Decatur, MS 39327. Telephone: 601-635-6202. Fax: 601-635-4011.

The EC Express, a publication for high school juniors and seniors in ECCC's five-county district (Leake, Neshoba, Newton, Scott and Winston counties), is published three times a year (December, February and May) by the Office of Public Information with assistance provided by the Office of the Vice President for Student Services.



ECCC Hosts DISTRICT CHORAL FESTIVAL

The East Central Community College music department hosted its annual District High School Choir Festival Thursday, October 27, 2011, in Huff Auditorium. Approximately 350 area students attended and Donna W. McCommon (right), who retired as Chairman of the Fine Arts Department for Pearl Public Schools and Director of Choral Activities at Pearl High School, served as guest clinician. The day's activities included an exhibition performance by the College's Concert Choir and Ac'cents show choir and concluded in the afternoon with a mass choir performance by festival participants. Vicki Blaylock, who serves as ECCC vocal/choral music director, organized the event.

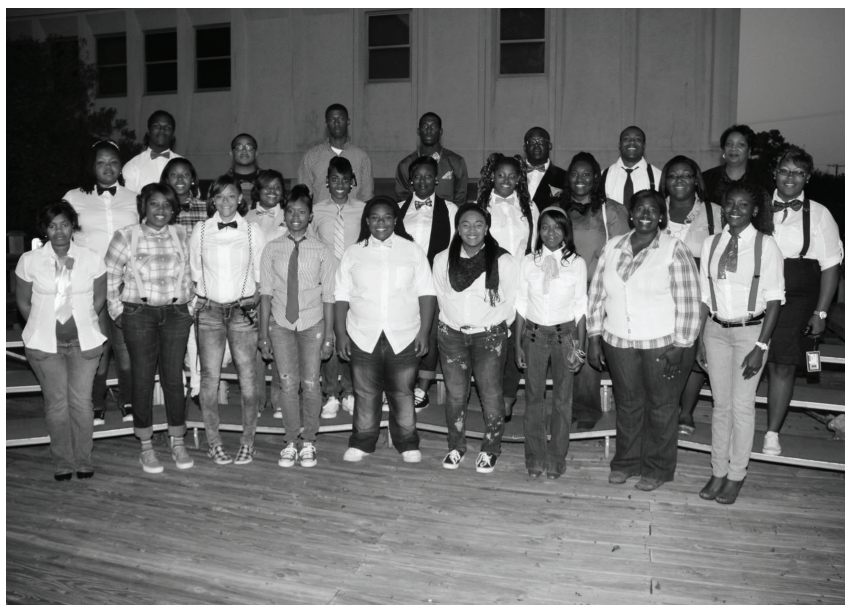


Endowed Scholarship Packets will be available January 27 from your high school counselor. These packets will be due March 9, 2012, so make sure and inquire about them! You can also contact Student Services to have a packet mailed to you!

ECCC Campus Leaders

The 2011-2012 student government leaders at East Central Community College in Decatur and their respective high schools include (front row, from left) Sophomore Class Treasurer Katie Reeves, Newton County; Sophomore Class Secretary Hannah Clay, Lake; Student Body Association (SBA) Vice President Alyse Webb, Noxapater; Sophomore Class President Whitney Stokes, Neshoba Central; SBA Treasurer Raychal Reed, Winston Academy; and Sophomore Class Vice President Latia Peavy, Carthage; (back row, from left) Freshman Class President Jeremy Carson, Newton County; SBA Secretary Bailee Viverette, Union; SBA President Nicole Bounds, Newton County; Freshman Class Secretary Kourtney Johnson, Union; Freshman Class Vice President Hannah Farmer, Newton County; and Freshman Class Treasurer Chris Evans, Meridian. Director of Housing/Student Activities Marcie Pinson serves as sponsor.





GOSPEL CHOIR PERFORMS

Above are members of the East Central Community College Gospel Choir, who are shown prior to the group's annual fall concert held Nov. 2, 2011, in Huff Auditorium on the Decatur campus. Special guest performers were Sierra Ward of Lisa Knowles and the Brown Singers, and the Scott County Youth Mass Choir. Gospel Choir members include (first row, from left) Felicity White, Forest; Jah Myia Dickinson, Scooba; Persephiney Wingo, Morton; Kara Edwards, Newton; Chadeidra Hunt, Philadelphia; Kenyatta Griffin, Newton; Andrea McSwain, Decatur; l'Oshore May, Carthage; and Raenica Bryant, Meridian; (second row, from left) Brittany White, Carthage; Brittany Brown, Meridian; Asa Evans, Newton; Ariel Portis, Meridian; Andreylla Holder, Jackson; Kierra Ealy, Morton; Tiffany Sims, Decatur; Shekeria Curry, Louisville; and Corsica Carter, Noxapater; and (third row, from left) Keith Phillips, Carthage; T.J. Davis, Louisville; Chris Lyons, Philadelphia; Chris Thames, Decatur; Tom Jackson, Louisville; Kiery Stribling, Philadelphia; and sponsor Brenda K. Johnson of Lawrence.

Warrior Baseball 2012 Spring Schedule

February

11	Bossier Parish	1 p.m.	Decatur
15	Alabama Southern	Noon	Monroeville, AL
17-19	RUSH Invitational	T.B.A.	Decatur
21	Lawson State	Noon	Birmingham, AL
25	East Mississippi	1 p.m.	Decatur
29	Meridian	2 p.m.	Decatur

March

3	Mississippi Delta	1 p.m.	Decatur
7	Northeast MS	1 p.m.	Decatur
10	Itawamba	2 p.m.	Fulton
14	Northwest MS	3 p.m.	Decatur
17	Southwest MS	2 p.m.	Summit
20	Hinds	3 p.m.	Raymond
24	MS Gulf Coast	1 p.m.	Decatur
28	Jones	3 p.m.	Decatur
31	Pearl River	1 p.m.	Poplarville

April

3	Copiah-Lincoln	3 p.m.	Decatur
6	Northwest MS	Noon	Senatobia
11	Southwest MS	3 p.m.	Decatur
14	Hinds	1 p.m.	Decatur
17	MS Gulf Coast	2 p.m.	Perkinston
21	Jones	2 p.m.	Ellisville
25	Pearl River	3 p.m.	Decatur
28	Copiah-Lincoln	2 p.m.	Wesson

May

4-5	First Round Playoffs	T.B.A.	
10-12	MACJC Tournament		
	North Division-Highest Seed		
17-19	Region 23 Tournament		Eunice, LA
26-June 2	NJCAA World Series		Enid, OK

5 Easy Steps to Becoming A Warrior!

STEP 1

APPLY ONLINE: WWW.ECCC.EDU

Click on the photo of the computer mouse that says "Apply Online."

STEP 2

TRANSCRIPTS

Have your transcripts sent to the ECCC Admissions Office after completing high school and/or college.

STEP 3

TAKE THE NATIONAL ACT

ECCC uses ACT English and mathematics scores for placement in those respective courses. Register at www.act.org. The ECCC ACT code is 2192.

STEP 4

APPLY FOR FINANCIAL AID

It is most important that students file for financial aid during the February/March 2011 time frame. The website to apply is www.fafsa.ed.gov. East Central's college code is 002404.

STEP 5

Advance Register

Once the above steps are completed, students may advance register for fall classes during ECCC's Summer Orientation Sessions scheduled Saturday, June 2; Friday, June 22; Friday, July 13; and Friday, August 3.



Peavy Crowned Queen

Members of the 2011 Homecoming Court at East Central Community College in Decatur include (front row, from left) freshman maids Kristen Carson of Carthage, Kaleigh McCool and Cydney Stuart, both of Philadelphia; queen LaTia Peavy of Carthage; maid of honor Ava Marie Adkins of Union; and sophomore maids Bailee Viverette of Union and Madison Nowell and Raychal Reed both of Louisville; and (back row, from left) escorts Percy Lewis of Morton, Bobby Wrench of Carthage, Lucas Calvert of Louisville, Dylan Alford of Philadelphia, Darryl Cooks of Carthage, Casey Wells of Laurel, Kirby Keith of Decatur, Drew Smith of Louisville and Justin Gates of Decatur. Not pictured is freshman maid Ronda Morris of Carthage.



Concert Choir Presents Fall Program

East Central Community College's Concert Choir is shown prior to the group's annual fall concert of sacred and secular holiday music held Thursday, November 17, 2011, at Clarke-Venable Baptist Church in Decatur. Members and their respective hometowns include (first row, from left) accompanist Natalie Emmons; Heather



Roebuck and Kimberly Joyner, both of Little Rock; Whitney Myers and Polly Vaughn, both of Decatur; Hailey Dunavant, Newton; Audrey Cannon, Flowood; Jon' Marie Baucum, Decatur; Shawn Windham, Morton; Jacob King, Sebastopol; Tyler Yates, Decatur; Sarah LaBue, Conehatta; Andrea McSwain, Decatur; Robin Coker, Hickory; Jessica Barnett, Forest; Ellen Gibbs, Newton; Tiffany Sims, Decatur; Kierra Ealy, Morton; and director Vicki Blaylock; (second row, from left) Katie Reeves, Decatur; Alex Weir, Philadelphia; Brittany Bobo, Union; Kelsie Mann, Hickory; Macy Seale, Philadelphia; Kirk Griffin, Union; Christopher Newman, Shuqualak; Matthew Dempsey, Louisville; James Parker, Puckett; Ryan Gillis, Decatur; Tom Jackson, Louisville; Cayla Engle, Decatur; Layna Shackelford, Columbus; Lindsey Miller, Decatur; and Alyse Webb, Noxapater; (third row, from left) Kelsey Tadlock, Decatur; Melissa Manues, Hickory; Kourtney Johnson, Union; Persephiney Wingo, Morton; Tyler Gilmore, Sebastopol; Jeremy Carson, Decatur; Jessie Armstrong, Collinsville; Daniel Kersgaard, Morton; Jason Mann, Newton; Troy Gregory, Little Rock; Joshua Peoples, Carthage; Oshima McKee, Newton; Erin Thornton, Sebastopol; and Summer Richardson and Corie Skinner, both of Union; and (back row, from left) Savannah Vance, Natchez; Courtney Mackey, Meridian; Nickie Farmer, Hickory; Ashley Swearingen, Union; Lindsay Gibbs, Morton; Colton Hurst, Hickory; Drew Smith, Louisville; Austin Jay, Union; Kirby Keith, Decatur; Johnny Kight, Louisville; Hunter Brooks, Puckett; Corey Jackson, Nanih Waiya; Bo Foster, Hickory; Tiffany Benson, Philadelphia; Sandy Alexander, Duffee; Ava Marie Adkins, Union; Melody Mann, Hickory; and Claire Griffin, Decatur.



Need Money For College?

Apply Now for Financial Aid

Students who are planning to attend college in 2012-13 must complete the financial aid application process as soon as possible after January 1, 2012.

**Please DO NOT pay any company to assist you with the financial aid application process. If anyone contacts you offering to do this, please contact the ECCC financial aid office before committing to them.*

Applications:

2012-13 FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) – Grants, work-study, loans and other programs require the application results. Apply online at www.fafsa.ed.gov (preferred method) or request a paper application for mailing (alternate method) by calling the Federal Student Information Center at 1-800-433-3243 or download and print the form at federalstudentaid.ed.gov/fafsa_options.html

2012-13 Application for Mississippi Student Financial Aid - MTAG, MESG, HELP and other programs require this application. It must be completed online at www.mississippi.edu (select "Financial Aid").

2012-13 ECCC Freshman or Sophomore Scholarship Application Packet - Applications are available from the ECCC Student Services Office.

Deadlines:

ECCC priority date: April 1 - (FAFSA processed by federal processors on or before this date) *Note: Applications processed after that date will be accepted and are encouraged; however, no assurance can be given that funds will be available in all programs.*

Mississippi Student Aid: MTAG, MESG - September 15; HELP - March 31; Check Mississippi Student Aid Web site for deadline dates for other programs – www.mississippi.edu (select "Financial Aid")

ECCC Freshman and Sophomore Scholarship Packet: Available January 27, 2012; Due March 9, 2012

Helpful Information:

ECCC School Code (Title IV code) for FAFSA – 002404

ECCC Telephone 601-635-2111 or toll free 1-877-GO2-ECCC

Financial Aid Office, 601-635-2111, Ext. 218

Student Services Office, 601-635-2111, Ext. 204

2011-12 ECCC Basketball Schedule

(Remaining Games)

January

10	East MS	Home	6:00 & 8:00 pm
17	Northwest	Away	6:00 & 8:00 pm
19	Southwest	Away	5:00 & 7:00 pm
23	Hinds	Away	6:00 & 8:00 pm
26	Co-Lin	Away	5:00 & 7:00 pm
30	Pearl River	Home	6:00 & 8:00 pm

February

2	MS Gulf Coast	Away	6:00 & 8:00 pm
6	Jones	Home	6:00 & 8:00 pm
9	Northwest	Home	6:00 & 8:00 pm

13	Southwest	Home	6:00 & 8:00 pm
16	Hinds	Home	6:00 & 8:00 pm
20	Co-Lin	Home	6:00 & 8:00 pm
23	Pearl River	Away	5:00 & 7:00 pm

February 27-March 1

	State Tourney	North Women	TBA
March 7-10	Region 23	Clinton, MS	TBA

March 20-24

	NJCAA Tourney		
	Women-Salina, KS		TBA
	Men-Hutchinson, KS		TBA



Lady Warrior Softball 2012 Spring Schedule

February

10	L.B. Wallace	Andalusia, AL	3 p.m.
11	L.B. Wallace Tourney	Andalusia, AL	10 a.m.
16	East MS	Scooba	1 p.m.
22	East MS	Decatur	3 p.m.
24-25	Northeast Invitational	Booneville	TBA
27	Holmes	Goodman	3 p.m.
29	Baton Rouge	Decatur	3 p.m.

March

3	Hinds	Raymond	TBA
6	Pearl River	Poplarville	3 p.m.
9	Jones	Decatur	3 p.m.
17	Baton Rouge	Baton Rouge	Noon
21	Co-Lin	Wesson	3 p.m.
24	MS Gulf Coast	Perkinson	Noon
26	Southwest	Decatur	3 p.m.
30	Northwest	Senatobia	2 p.m.

April

2	Hinds	Decatur	3 p.m.
4	Pearl River	Decatur	3 p.m.
10	Jones	Ellisville	3 p.m.
14	Co-Lin	Decatur	1 p.m.
17	MS Gulf Coast	Poplarville	Noon
20	Southwest MS	Summit	1 p.m.
26-27	MACJC State Tournament		
	South Champion	TBA	

May

3-5	Division Tournament	Clinton	
	(Traceway Park)	TBA	
17-19	NJCAA National Tournament		
	Clinton, MS		
	(Traceway Park)	TBA	

Make Dormitory Reservations Now!

ECCC's popular campus resident halls are filling up now, although the fall 2012 semester is still eight months away! There are numerous advantages to living on campus and students planning to do so next fall need to complete an Application for Housing and pay the \$60 "refundable" deposit as soon as possible. The application can be accessed on the homepage of the College's website: www.eccc.edu.



The Student Housing Office predicts filling every available bed by March 1, 2012, for the fall 2012 semester and encourages students to not delay if they think they may live on campus. Those deciding not to live on campus can send a written request by August 1, 2012, and receive a refund of the \$60 deposit.

Rooms are assigned on a first-come, first served basis and both roommates must complete the process before rooms are assigned.

For more information on campus housing, contact Marcie Pinson at mpinson@eccc.edu or call 601-635-6213.

2012 Warrior Golf Schedule

February

26-27	Gulf Coast Invitational	The Oaks Golf Club (Pass Christian)
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March

3-4	Hinds	Eagle Ridge Golf Club (Raymond)
5-6	Co-Lin	Wolf Hollow Golf Club (Wesson) and Brookhaven Country Club
25-26	East MS	MSU Golf Course (Starkville)

April

2-3	Northwest	North Creek (Horn Lake) Wedgewood (Olive Branch)
16-17	MACJC Championship	Riverbirch (Amory) (Hosted by Itawamba)
22-23	NJCAA Region 23	Big Oaks (Tupelo) (Hosted by Northeast)

May

20-25	National Championship	Swan Lake Resort Indiana National Golf Club
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2012 Tennis Schedule

February

15	MCC	Meridian	2 p.m.
21	Hinds	Forest	Noon
23	Holmes	Goodman	2 p.m.
28	Gulf Coast	Perkinson	Noon

March

1	Co-Lin	Wesson	2 p.m.
5	Northeast	Meridian	2 p.m.
6	Gulf Coast	Forest	Noon
8	Holmes	Decatur	2 p.m.

20	Jones	Ellisville	2 p.m.
22	Itawamba	Forest	Noon
29	Co-Lin	Forest	Noon

April

2	Northeast	Booneville	1 p.m.
3	Itawamba	Fulton	2 p.m.
10	Jones	Decatur	2 p.m.
19-20	State Tourney	Booneville	8 a.m.
24-26	Region Tourney	Meridian	8 a.m.



Ac'cents Present Fall Show

The Ac'cents, East Central Community College's Show Choir, presented their fall concert Thursday, Dec. 1, 2011, in the Vickers Fine Arts Center auditorium. Selections included "Beautiful Day" by the Black-Eyed Peas, "Born to Be Somebody" by Justin Bieber, "I Want to Know What Love Is" recorded by Foreigner and Mariah Carey, "Viva La Vida" by Coldplay, "Somebody to Love" by Queen, "Orphans of God" from the collection of "Joy in the House," "Billionaire" made popular by Bruno Mars, "Telephone" by Beyonce, "Just the Way You Are" recorded by Bruno Mars, "I Look to You" recorded by Whitney Houston,



"Express Yourself: The Music of Madonna," and "Firework" by Katy Perry. Ac'cents members and their respective high school include (front row, from left) Kourtney Johnson, Union, and Polly Vaughn, Sandy Alexander and Claire Giffin, all of Newton County; and (back row, from left) Kirk Griffin, Tadarin Foster and Jeremy Carson, all of Newton County; Alex Weir, Leake Academy; Macy Seale, Neshoba Central; Christopher Newman, Central Academy; Tyler Gilmore, Newton County; and Matthew Dempsey, Louisville. ECCC music instructor Vicki Blaylock serves as director. Austin Jay of Union and Josh Jarriel of Neshoba Central serve as sound technicians.

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR! FROM EAST CENTRAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE

East Central Community College

Office of Student Services
P.O. Box 129
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