



SPORTS

HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS SIGN TO PLAY COLLEGE LEVEL SPORTS

Neshoba Central, Leake Academy — Page 6B

COOK OF THE WEEK

STOKES ENJOYS JAZZ IN THE KITCHEN

Will Stokes — Page 1B



THE NESHOPA DEMOCRAT

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WANTED SINCE NOVEMBER

Tip leads to felon on early release

By **DUNCAN DENT**
duncan@neshobademocrat.com

A convicted felon out on early release and wanted by the Mississippi Department of Corrections for violating his early release is back behind bars after Neshoba County Sheriff's deputies arrested him Sunday morning at Walmart on a tip.

Lamar Catchings, 35, of 406 E. Pizzia Street, Crystal Springs, was arrested in the Philadelphia

Walmart parking lot between 7 a.m. and 8 a.m. Sunday, according to Neshoba County Sheriff Eric Clark.

The arrest came after the Sheriff's Office received tips that led to his apprehension on a November 2020 warrant for absconding MDOC supervision under the terms of his early release.

"We received a tip that led us to that location," Clark said. "We looked for him this week-

end. We started receiving calls after he started moving again."

A tipster gave the Sheriff's office information describing Catching's vehicle and revealed a couple of residences that he frequents in the county as well as the one that Clark said led them to the Walmart arrest.

"We sealed the deal when he



Lamar Catchings

started moving around during daylight hours," Clark said. "I'm always amazed at the timing of some of these tips."

Catchings had been serving a 17-year prison sentence for auto burglary in Leake County and strong-armed robbery and auto burglary convictions in Neshoba County when he gained an earned early release in March 2020.

Catchings, who has used Neshoba and Copiah county addresses, was arrested again last month and accused of stealing two purses from a parked vehicle downtown. He bonded out four days later.

Last December, Catchings was arrested in Neshoba County and charged with three counts of grand larceny, including the theft of a rifle from a Mississippi Bureau of Investigations agent's vehicle during a

November revival at The First Baptist Church.

Local law enforcement officials didn't know at the time of his arrests in December and March about the violation of the early release warrant issued by MDOC in November 2020, they said.

The MDOC warrant for Catchings' arrest on the absconding supervision charge in connection with his early release was issued in November 2020, they said. See **FELON**, page 8A



City officials are continuing to fine the owner of Hardy Tire after they visited the property last week and determined more work needs to be done. At left is Mayor James A. Young. Ward 2 Alderman Jim Fulton is at right.

City: Tire store needs more cleanup

By **STEVE SWOGETINSKY**
steve@neshobademocrat.com

City officials are continuing to fine the owner of a tire business after they visited the property last week and determined more work needs to be done.

The mayor and aldermen visited the business following their April 20 meeting to check on the cleanup efforts.

They began fining Hardy Tire, 293 W Beacon St., \$500 per day on April 12 due to what they've said is the owner's failure to keep his property clean of old tires, junk and other debris.

Owner Bobby Hardy said Monday the tires keep coming in, and he disposes of them as fast as he can.

During the board's April 20 meeting, Mayor James A. Young asked the aldermen for guidance as to what standard of cleanliness the business must meet to end the fines.

"We need to be able to give him an endpoint to where you move forward with no fine," Young said. "The fine is ongoing but you need to decide when he gets to a point, the fine ceases."



City officials are continuing to fine the owner of Hardy Tire after they visited the property last week and determined more work needs to be done.

The aldermen decided to visit the business April 20 following their meeting to see what had been done.

All agreed that progress had been made but

felt more needed to be done.

"It looks like there is some work to be done," said Ward 2 Alderman Jim Fulton, which summed up the general feeling of the board.

See **TIRES**, page 2A

800 JOBS

Grenada lands new tool factory

By **ADAM PRESTRIDGE**
The Grenada Star

GRENADA — Milwaukee Tool will expand its footprint in Mississippi with the construction of an accessories manufacturing facility in the I-55 Business and Technology Park bringing 800 new jobs, it was announced last week.

Once constructed, the state-of-the-art building will be the equivalent size of more than 10 football fields at a mammoth 500,000 square feet with 14 acres under roof.

The manufacturer has committed to creating 400 more jobs to be added to any of its existing Mississippi locations in Greenwood, Jackson, Olive Branch or at the new Grenada location.

"When an industry leader such as Milwaukee Tool chooses to grow its footprint in Mississippi by building a new manufacturing facility — in addition to its existing facilities — it sends a strong message to the world that we take business seriously and work hard to ensure companies' long-term success in our state," Gov. Tate Reeves said.

"This newest investment by Milwaukee Tool in Grenada County will benefit the region and its 800 new employees well into the future, just as Milwaukee Tool once again will benefit from having the best workforce in the nation producing the high-quality tools and accessories for which the company is known around the world."

Milwaukee Tool last expanded in Mississippi in February 2020, See **TOOL**, page 5A

PHILADELPHIA HIGH SENIOR

Griffin accepted into Naval Academy

By **JOHN LEE**
john@neshobademocrat.com

Philadelphia's Talease Griffin was officially accepted into the United States Naval Academy on April 16 after receiving a nomination from U.S. Sen. Cindy Hyde-Smith and U.S. Rep. Michael Guest in January.

Griffin, 18, was the first female and African-American to receive a service academy nomination in Philadelphia High School history.

She plans to attend the United States Naval Academy Prep School (nicknamed NAPS) in Rhode Island this July and will start at the Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland, in the summer of 2022.

She will be graduating from Philadelphia on May 20.

Griffin will be receiving a full ride from the academy, where she will get a room, textbooks, equipment, and a guaranteed job after she graduates.

"Being accepted into the academy was such a great feeling. I was in absolute shock," Griffin said. "I just so happened to check my phone and saw an email from the academy telling me that I had been accepted. I started screaming around my house since I was so excited."

Griffin said she'll be attending the prep school to give her a boost on her academics. She plans to study chemistry, English and other basic subjects before moving to the academy in Maryland. She has not yet decided what her major will be.

She is well-respected by her peers and teachers at Philadelphia High and has a long list of accomplishments there, including being the vice president of the Mississippi Beta Club, the captain of the Bible Bow Team, and was selected to be a part of Leadership Neshoba, an organization designed to help juniors with knowing their potential and being involved in the community.

"For anyone that has a dream or goal, it's never too late to accomplish it," Griffin said. "Take the time, stick with it, and everything will pay off."

David Carter, Griffin's "Blue and Gold" officer, her admissions counselor at Philadelphia High School, See **GRIFFIN**, page 3A



Philadelphia High School's Talease Griffin stands in front of the school's sign that congratulates her recent acceptance to the U.S. Naval Academy.

OPINION
Rich Lowry

PAGE 4A

JUST AMONG FRIENDS
Marianne Enochs

PAGE 1B

OPINION
Patrick Buchanan

PAGE 4A



SUBMIT YOUR NEWS

Engagements & Weddings

There is no charge for engagement and wedding announcements. Submit them to weddings@neshobademocrat.com.

The deadline for submitting engagements and weddings is at noon on Friday before the Wednesday publication.

Every effort will be made to run the announcement on the date requested, but space requirements and time sometimes prohibit it.

Wedding copy must not exceed the equivalent of more than two 8 1/2 x 11 inch pages.

The Democrat reserves the right to edit articles to fit space requirements and style.

News of parties relating to engagements or weddings can be submitted.

Obituary policy

The Democrat publishes a standard format obituary at no charge.

The standard obituary includes: service, burial and funeral home details, date of death, age, place of residence, a sentence or two of personal information (no opinionated comments) detailing occupation, education, church affiliation, military service, listing spouse or children, immediate survivors (list only spouses, children, siblings, number of grandchildren, number of nieces and nephews) and pallbearers. In-laws, aunts, uncles, friends and honorary pallbearers are not included in the free listing. The standard obituary may be up to 150 words in length.

To list extended family and more details, there is a charge of \$125 for up to 300 words total; \$250 for up to 500 words total; \$500 up to 1,200 words total. Photos may be included for an additional charge of \$25.

Obituaries must be submitted electronically by funeral homes to obituaries@neshobademocrat.com no later than Tuesday at noon for publication in Wednesday's edition. Any obituary not submitted electronically is subject to a \$25 charge.

School and community news

The Democrat welcomes school and community news. Send to news@neshobademocrat.com or neshobademocrat.com/submit.

Of Local Interest

Let us know about your events at least a week in advance. Send announcements to local@neshobademocrat.com

Tips and breaking news

Let us know when you see news happening. Send tips to tips@neshobademocrat.com. News tips are encouraged and can be kept confidential.

Sports

Headed to a sporting event with a camera or have sports news, contact Sports Editor Steve Swogetinsky: sports@neshobademocrat.com

Letters to the editor

Letters to the editor expressing your views and opinions (please limit them to 250 words or less) are welcome and encouraged: neshobademocrat.com/submit or directly to Jim Prince at jprince@neshobademocrat.com.

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Telephone: 601-656-4000
Facsimile: 601-656-6379

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neshobademocrat.com
Facebook: [/neshobademocrat](https://www.facebook.com/neshobademocrat)
Twitter: [@NeshobaDemocrat](https://twitter.com/NeshobaDemocrat)

Physical address

439 Beacon ST
Philadelphia, MS 39350

Mailing address

P.O. Box 30
Philadelphia, MS 39350

Advertising sales

Joy Stewart
601-676-0998
joy@neshobademocrat.com

Editor & Publisher

Jim Prince
601-676-0992
jprince@neshobademocrat.com

Managing Editor

Steve Swogetinsky
steve@neshobademocrat.com
601-676-0993

Sports editor

Steve Swogetinsky
steve@neshobademocrat.com
601-676-0993

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Faith Shumaker, third from left, was named 2022 Distinguished Young Woman of Neshoba County Saturday during the annual program. She is pictured with award winners, from left, Laurel Brantley (Spirit Award), Mallory Chunn (Overall Fit-

ness Award, Talent Award, and 1st Alternate), Faith Shumaker (DYW of Neshoba County 2022), Sydney Sisson (2nd Alternate), and Carlyn Vaughn (Scholastic Award, Self-Expression Award, and 3rd Alternate).

Shumaker named Distinguished Young Woman of Neshoba County

By STEVE SWOGETINSKY
steve@neshobademocrat.com

Faith Shumaker was named 2022 Distinguished Young Woman of Neshoba County on Saturday during the annual program which was held at the Neshoba Central Elementary Auditorium.

She will represent Neshoba County in the State Distinguished Young Woman Program, which will be held in Meridian later this summer.

"I have been waiting so long for this," Shumaker said. "I have been watching the program when I was little. When they called my name, it was like a dream."

Shumaker performed a Lyrical Dance to "Hold On To Me" as her talent.

Other awards went to:

- Laurel Brantley, Spirit Award;
- Carlyn Vaughn, Self-Expression Award, Scholastic Award, third alternate;

Sydney Sisson, second alternate;

Mallory Chunn, Fitness Award; Talent Award, first alternate.

"The program was so much fun," said Shumaker, who is a junior at Neshoba Central. "All of the girls had so much fun."

Shumaker plans to major in communications when she goes to college and one day hopes to be a sports broadcaster.

"We have Rocket News at our school and they have a position for a sports broadcaster," Shumaker said. "I am interested in looking at that next year to see if this is something I would truly like to do."

When she is not at school, she spends a lot of time at dance practice. She likes sports and likes to go to the ball games, depending on the season.

Faith is the daughter of Reggie and Tammy Shumaker.

Tires

Continued from page 1A

On Monday, Young again visited the property.

"He is making some progress and has had some delays," Young said. "He couldn't move some stuff that was loaded. We still have a long way to go. There may be some things we can do to mitigate some things. I told him we are going to work with him as we would any other business."

Young said the city realizes it is a tire shop and some tires will always be on the property.

"But there are other things

we can do to ensure we are all on the same page," Young said.

Hardy said he has an expensive tire shredding machine on the property that he is using to shred the tires.

"We shredded at least three days last week," Hardy said. "There's a dumpster out there almost full of shredded material."

Hardy said he had yet to receive a fine or a citation from the city in regard to the property's directive to clean the property.

"The \$500 per day fine is still on," Young said Monday, adding the board has not rescinded the order. "It is in their power to do so and that's a decision they will have to make. We have to get to a

point where this is where we want to be (as far as property upkeep). We want to make sure he is treated as fair as anyone else."

In other matters at the board's April 20 meeting, aldermen voted to:

- Approve the minutes of the previous meeting and the claims docket;
- Approve to pay MBC \$9,836 for work done at the Depot;
- Approve the payment of \$67,460 to Tony Watson Electric for work done on the new Automated Weather Observing System (AWOS) being installed at the Philadelphia Airport;
- Approve hiring Steve Carter to work for the Street Department;

• Approve a road bore along Poplar Avenue by AT&T;

• Approve the hiring of Virginia McDonald as a corporal for the police department. • Accepted the resignation of Melissa Shackelford in the PD; and,

• Approve a travel request for fire chief Pierce Clark to travel to Volk Field, Wisconsin, for task force training. Travel expenses will be reimbursed.

• Clark asked the city for a letter to the Wireless Commission stating the city will be moving forward to the change over with MSWIN radio system.

Scott Hawkins contributed to this report.

Has COVID-19 had a negative impact on your mental health? Experiencing increased anxiety, depression, substance use or other mental health problems? Research indicates that COVID-19 has caused an increase in alcohol consumption, unemployment, homelessness, domestic violence, post-traumatic stress disorder, and other drug use. All of these issues elevate suicide risk!



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Entertainment district incentives unused

By STEVE SWOGETINSKY
steve@neshobademocrat.com

An Entertainment District approved a decade ago offers new or existing businesses tax incentives if they expanded or build, but so far no one has used the program, according to the Mississippi Tax Commission.

The incentives created by the Mississippi Legislature in the Entertainment District Act in 2009 were for such businesses as theaters, amphitheaters, golf courses, automobile racetracks, museums, zoos, arenas, stadiums or similar venues.

The district would allow for new or existing businesses to receive a five-year tax incentive for capital invest-

ments made in the Entertainment District.

The status allows a business to depreciate capital investment on construction or renovation projects over a five-year period, instead of the current 39 1/2-year period.

In return, the qualifying business must collect an additional \$2 per ticket, pass or admission for five years which goes back into the state's general fund.

"The city of Philadelphia did make application and was approved as a qualified Entertainment District," said Jacob Manley of the State Tax Commission in Jackson. "However, the Mississippi Department of Revenue has not received a request from any business wishing to participate in the

program.

"Any entertainment facility wishing to participate in the program must submit an Application for Certification for Economic Development Incentives to the Department, a statement of election to participate in the program, a detailed description of the construction or renovation project, a listing of the entertainment services to be provided and the date they wish to start."

The district boundaries encompass an area extending from Eastgate Plaza on east Main Street to near Walmart on west Beacon Street.

The district would also encompass as far north as a section of Gum Street and south to Main and Walnut

streets and Lakeside Drive.

Plans called for the Ellis Theater, Neshoba County Historical Museum, the historic Benwalt Hotel, the old jail on Myrtle Street and the Warehouse on Walnut Street to be included of the Entertainment District.

The proposed \$30 million Marty Stuart Congress of Country Music downtown at the Ellis itself until it is open does not qualify, said David Vowell of the Community Development Partnership.

"The way I read the guidelines through the Mississippi Tourism rebate program, the attraction in 'an entertainment district' must be open to the public and accommodate at least 40 for seating; be open five days per week; provide

live entertainment three nights per week, and serve food and beverage," Vowell said. "We hope to satisfy all these requirements once the facility is at or near completion."

Mayor James A. Young said the district is another tool in the toolbox when it comes to economic development.

"The legislators at the time were looking for ways to enhance our downtown area," Young said. "We tried to cover our main areas in case someone wanted to put up some sort of entertainment."

Young said that if a business decided to apply, the city would not be involved.

"The city doesn't get any direct income," Young said. "This is an incentive for the owners to come in and reno-

vate and things of that nature."

The proposed \$30 million for the Congress of Country Music still needs a funding source, but officials are optimistic.

Rep. Scott Bounds was responsible for helping to secure about \$4 million in state funding last year to renovate the Ellis at the center of the venue.

"We were able to get the needed \$4.5 million dollars from the state, and the renovation of Ellis Theatre was phase one of the whole process," Bounds told the Democrat last year. "It's a good day for Mississippi, and especially the city of Philadelphia."

Only 15 new cases of COVID

Neshoba County recorded only 15 new cases of COVID-19 and no new deaths over the past week.

Since the pandemic began in March 2020, Neshoba County's total confirmed COVID-19 cases now stands at 4,024, which is up from 4,009, last week and the death toll remains at 176 where it has been for at least two weeks, according to the Mississippi State Department of Health's Tuesday COVID-19 report.

The caseload and death toll is dropping as more COVID-19 vaccinations are being administered in the county with 386 total doses administered last week in Neshoba County for a total of 10,210 vaccine doses administered in Neshoba County, up from 9,824 doses reported last week, according to MSDH's Tuesday COVID-19 report.

Neshoba County Schools reported between one and five

new cases of COVID-19 among teachers and staff at Neshoba Central Elementary School between April 12 and 16, the latest date for which figures are available, according to Tuesday's MSDH report.

The Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians has reported one new positive case of COVID-19 as of April 25, putting the total number of positive cases from the Tribe at 1,834.

Griffin

Continued from page 1A

said he is beyond excited for Griffin and complimented her as a leader of the community.

"She is highly respected by her peers and she's been a special project over the years," Carter said. "She's put in a lot of work and hasn't given up. I'm very proud of her, and it's great to see her hard work pay off."



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Opinion

FOUNDED 1881

THE NESHOPA DEMOCRAT

*Truth, justice and progress, without fear or favor*JAMES E. PRINCE III, *Editor and Publisher*STEVE SWOGETINSKY, *Managing Editor*JOY STEWART, *Interim Advertising Director*STEVE SWOGETINSKY, *Sports Editor*ARTHUR STANLEY DEARMAN, *Editor and Publisher 1966-2000*
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EDITORIALS

Court-packing is partisan

In the most memorable — albeit apocryphal — quote of the Vietnam War, it was said of U.S. troops in the 1968 Battle of Ben Tre against the Viet Cong, “We had to destroy the village in order to save it.”

The same could be said of radical Democrats’ equally apocalyptic intent to pack the Supreme Court with four liberal activist judges: “We had to destroy the Supreme Court in order to save it.”

On April 15, Sen. Ed Markey of Massachusetts and Rep. Jerrold Nadler of New York announced the newest iteration of the judicial “nuclear option.” They’re demanding the addition of four more judges to a court whose membership has stood at nine for 152 years.

Mr. Markey and Mr. Nadler unpersuasively dispute the accusation that they’re out to pack the court. To the contrary, Mr. Nadler risibly insisted, they’re actually seeking to “unpack” the court — “unpack” it, that is, of its current 6-to-3 majority of constitutional conservative justices appointed by Republican presidents.

That’s because the left views the current court as standing athwart a utopia to be imposed by unelected left-wing judges.

James O’Keefe, Project Veritas sues CNN, Ana Cabrera for defamation

Those four new justices would be chosen by President Biden, who would surely nominate not just left-wing activist judges who disregard the Constitution, but jurists who would send a Chris Matthews-style thrill up the legs of affirmative-action racial, ethnic and gender bean counters.

Messrs. Markey and Nadler are undaunted by then-Sen. Joe Biden in 1983 having correctly characterized President Franklin D. Roosevelt’s misbegotten 1937 bid to pack

the court as a “bonehead idea” and “a terrible, terrible mistake.”

FDR sought to add not four, but six, new justices to the high court, which had been ruling much of his New Deal agenda unconstitutional. He expected his six-pack would supply the votes to crash through that roadblock.

Curiously, the Markey-Nadler court-packing scheme came just six days after Mr. Biden on April 9 empaneled a 36-member commission to “study” the issue of court “reform” for the next six months. The president did so despite reaffirming, as recently as October, that he was “not a fan of court-packing.”

It’s unclear why Messrs. Markey and Nadler couldn’t wait for the commission’s (preordained?) findings, when its report might give them cover smoke for their subversion of the judiciary.

Their move also comes despite the fact that now-deceased liberal icon Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg and Justice Stephen Breyer, the court’s senior liberal, both spoke out against court-packing.

In a July 2019 interview with NPR, Justice Ginsburg said court-packing “[i]f anything, would make the court look partisan.” Justice Breyer on April 7 said it would erode the public’s confidence in the legitimacy of the court’s decisions and the belief that its rulings are driven by legal principles and not politics.

FDR’s court-packing ploy was rightly rejected by Congress, including by his fellow Democrats. The Markey-Nadler end-justifies-the-means scheme should meet that same fate.

— *The Washington Times*

FLASHBACKS

MAY 2, 1941

James Otis Mayo, of Quitman, senior in the School of Business and Industry at Mississippi State College, a native of Philadelphia, has been awarded a full fellowship by the General Education Board to the University of Virginia. Mayo will enter the University of Virginia in September to begin work on his Ph.D. degree in Economics. He is majoring in accounting, banking, and finance at the State College with minors in Economics and English.

John Batton, of Laurel, was named President in the recent election for officers of the Youth Government at the Hattiesburg NYA Boy’s Resident Work Experience Center. The new president is shown in the drafting room of the Center where he is gaining work experience.

APRIL 26, 1951

Joe Dollar was employed by the Board of Trustees as head coach of the local high school, and Coach Gresham of Waynesboro was named basketball coach at the same time. Coach Dollar has resigned his position with the Okoloma High School effective at the end of this school year. He is a graduate of Mississippi State College, being an outstanding athlete at that institution during his college days.

APRIL 27, 1961

Miss Eunice L. Andrews, daughter of Mr. and Mrs.

Lonnie Andrews, of Union, has returned to active duty with the regular Navy Waves in New Orleans. She has been assigned to the Eighth Naval District headquarters Medical department. A chief hospital corpsman, Miss Andrews last served on active duty in the U.S. Naval Hospital in Pensacola.

APRIL 30, 1971

Winners at Philadelphia Elementary School of the clean-up and beautification poster contest. The kids are; Keith Warren, second place, Lucia Daws, honorable mention, Jo Carmen Williams, first place, Dawn Nicholson, honorable mention, Laura Cole, honorable mention, and Belinda Peebles, third place. Rack Burt, President of the Philadelphia-Neshoba County Chamber of Commerce.

Jackie Walton, and Mike Seales, receive checks for their posters entered in the clean up and beautification poster contest. Presenting the checks is Mrs. Connie Sampsell, manager of the Philadelphia-Neshoba County Chamber of Commerce. The children are students at Neshoba Central Elementary School.

APRIL 23, 1981

Cindy Fulton, a junior majoring in business management, was recently crowned Miss Mississippi College for 1981. She will compete in the Miss Mississippi Pageant in Vicksburg. Cindy is the

daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Clayton Fulton. She is the granddaughter of Mrs. Ida McKay and the late Mr. McKay, and the late Mr. and Mrs. Sing Fulton.

MAY 1, 1991

Mandy McKay and her horse Jet were named 1990 Super team winners in the East Central Mississippi Horse Show Association. She and Jet compiled more points than any other horse and rider team in the ECMSHSA during the 1990 horse show season. McKay is the daughter of Ricky and Kathy McKay.

APRIL 25, 2001

Tobe Gill of Philadelphia was presented the Bell Ringer Award in recognition of his generous service in bringing peace and goodwill to the community through The Salvation Army Christmas Effort.

APRIL 27, 2011

Neshoba Central High School senior, Deanna Burt, and Philadelphia High School senior, Mollie McKay, were selected Rotary Students of the Month for March. Rotary President, Clara Reynolds, presented the awards.

Robert Greer rounds third base and heads for home Friday at Neshoba Central’s second game with Indianola. Greer was the winning pitcher in the first game. The Rockets swept the series, 17-0 and 14-0.

PATRICK J. BUCHANAN

D.C. statehood power grab

“How many legs does a dog have if you call his tail a leg?” asked President Abraham Lincoln, who answered his own question:

“Four. Saying that a tail is a leg doesn’t make it a leg.”

And Congress’ saying that D.C. is a state would equally contradict truth and reality, as our nation’s capital lacks all of the attributes of a 51st state of the Union.

When came our capital of Washington, D.C.?

The city was carved out of Maryland and Virginia in 1790, which voted to cede 100 square miles on the Potomac for a capital city of the United States to become the domicile of the federal government.

In 1846, Virginia’s share of the land, some 32 square miles, was ceded back. What was left was today’s Washington, D.C., of 68 square miles.

Is that sufficient for a state of the Union? Only if one wishes to change the character and composition of that Union.

Consider. The smallest state for 230 years has been Rhode Island. At 1,214 square miles, it is still 18 times as large as D.C. If D.C. were to become a state, it would be a microstate, smaller than every one of the 24 remaining counties of the state, Maryland, from which it was carved.

The Maryland counties that border D.C., Montgomery and Prince George’s, are eight times the size of Washington, D.C., and each has a million people, dwarfing the 700,000 residents of D.C.

Directly across the Potomac in Virginia is Fairfax County, also eight times as large as D.C., and with hundreds of thousands more people.

Supporters of statehood say D.C. has more people than Wyoming.

True, but Wyoming is also roughly the size of the United Kingdom, and more than 1,000 times the size of Washington, D.C.

Even by the standards of American cities, Washington

Making D.C. a state would send two Democrats to the Senate indefinitely.

ranks no higher than 20th in population.

Texas — with Houston, Dallas, San Antonio and Fort Worth — and California — with Los Angeles, San Jose, San Diego and San Francisco — both have four cities larger and more populous than our aspiring city-state of D.C.

By the terms of its admission to the United States as a state, the Republic of Texas was ceded a right to split into as many as five states of the Union, which it was joining. FDR’s future vice president, the Texan John Nance “Cactus Jack” Garner, was all for it.

“An area twice as large and rapidly becoming as populous as New England should have at least ten Senators,” Garner told The New York Times in April 1921, “and the only way we can get them is to make five States, not five small States, mind you, but five great States.”

Statehood for little D.C. could start a trend where mega-cities like Chicago and New York, with five and 10 times the size and population of D.C., secede from their respective states and seek full statehood as well.

What is at the root of this drive to make D.C. a state?

The answer may be found in the political character of our capital city.

Since the 23rd Amendment was ratified, 60 years ago, D.C. residents have voted in 15 presidential elections. In all 15 elections, D.C.’s three electoral votes have gone to the Democratic nominee.

Even in the 49-state Nixon and Reagan landslides of 1972 and 1984, D.C. went four- and five-to-one Democratic. In eight presidential elections since 1990, the GOP nominee has failed to win 10% of the

D.C. vote.

Since the mid-1970s, D.C. has had home rule and, in every election since, has chosen a Democratic mayor and a Democratic city council.

How irredeemably Democratic is D.C.?

Voter registration statistics in the city as of last December was 403,000 Democrats and 30,000 Republicans, a ratio of 13-1.

Which brings the question: What is D.C.’s grievance that America must somehow rectify by making it a state?

Answer: Democrats want D.C. to have two senators to cement their control of the U.S. Senate, as they pack the Supreme Court by expanding the number of justices from nine to 13.

This is a naked national power grab — pure and simple.

If the real concern were the inability of the D.C. electorate to vote for members of Congress, that could be remedied — by returning the residential portions of D.C. to Maryland, whence they came, or by allowing D.C. residents to vote in Maryland’s congressional elections.

Making D.C. a state would send two Democrats to the Senate indefinitely. But it would violate the constitution and compact under which the nation was founded. And it would start a stampede for other disfiguring alterations, like packing the Supreme Court by adding four new justices.

Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, the Northern Mariana Islands, Guam and American Samoa could soon follow and enter claims to become states of the American Union.

And a second unraveling of the republic would begin.

Patrick J. Buchanan is the author of “Nixon’s White House Wars: The Battles That Made and Broke a President and Divided America Forever.”

RICH LOWRY

Joe Biden’s radical gambit

There’s believing your own press releases. And then, there’s believing your own delusions of grandeur.

Joe Biden should look at the mirror every day and see a president elected on the basis of the unpopularity of his predecessor at a time when the country was slammed by a once-in-100-years pandemic.

Instead, by every account, he sees a transformative leader with a mandate to change America as rapidly and irreversibly as possible.

As the news site Axios noted, Biden wants his next 100 days to be “more audacious” than his first 100, as he seeks “to re-engineer the very fundamentals of America — inequality, voting rights and government’s role in directing economic growth.”

Oh, is that all?

Biden’s drive to make himself the next FDR and erect a massive progressive edifice on the slightest of political foundations is monumentally arrogant and almost certainly bound to fail.

Biden is contemplating the sort of the bait-and-switch that rarely goes over well. Yes, the policy plans he ran on last year were further to the left of Barack Obama’s and of Biden’s own lengthy record as a U.S. senator. But Biden described himself as a moderate who wanted to work with Republicans and restore a sense of normality to Washington.

He said, as he put it when urging Republicans not to fill the Ruth Bader Ginsburg seat on the Supreme Court, “We need to de-escalate, not escalate.”

No one listening to that or a thousand other things Biden

With his legislative margin of error so thin, it’s unlikely that Biden will get his way on much besides spending and taxes.

said during the campaign would have had him pegged as the guy who’d immediately set about making wrenching changes in the American way of life.

For a would-be FDR, Biden doesn’t seem to understand that a fundamental source of the New Dealer’s power was enormous congressional majorities.

FDR came into office in 1932 with almost a 200-seat majority in the House, 313-117, after Republicans lost more than 100 seats.

Biden came into office in 2020 with a bare 9-seat majority in the House after Democrats surprisingly lost ground all over the country. It’s the narrowest Democratic House majority since the last two years of the administration of Rutherford B. Hayes.

In the Senate, FDR had 58 Democrats, as Republicans lost 12 seats in 1932 in one of the worst senatorial drubbings in history.

Biden has a 50-50 tie after Democrats eked out two special election victories in Georgia earlier this year, with Vice President Kamala Harris on standby to break ties.

The fate of Biden’s legislative agenda hangs by a thread, depending on whether Sens. Joe Manchin and Kyrsten Sinema, relatively moderate Democrats, support his pro-

posals. If FDR had been equally dependent on a couple of ideologically unsympathetic Democrats from the outset of his administration, he wouldn’t be FDR.

If Biden feels emboldened by his first 100 days, he’s defining achievement downward. FDR signed into law more than a dozen major measures addressing the Great Depression during his first 100 days, while Biden got a \$1.9 trillion COVID-19 relief bill — a huge amount of spending, yes, but much of it is temporary.

Pro-Biden pundits are currently exulting that he has about a 53% approval rating, a respectable showing, if hardly a position of overwhelming strength from which to try to revolutionize the country. Importantly, FDR initially got even more powerful after 1932. Republicans dropped down to only 17 senators and 89 congressmen in 1936, whereas Biden will be lucky to hold on to his slender congressional majorities next year.

With his legislative margin of error so thin, it’s unlikely that Biden will get his way on much besides spending and taxes. Almost all of his sweeping proposals, from federalizing elections to making D.C. a state, will fall by the wayside.

More to the point, it’s wrong for Biden to attempt force through such radical measures when his mandate for them exists only in his ridiculously inflated self-image.

Rich Lowery is editor of National Review, a leading conservative magazine founded by William F. Buckley.

LETTERS

The Democrat welcomes letters, comments or suggestions: Editor and Publisher Jim Prince
jprince@neshobademocrat.com

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BIBLE SELECTION

for it is written, “As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall confess to God.”

— **Romans 14:11 (ESV)**

Neshoba County unemployment rate increases

By STEVE SWOGETINSKY
sve@neshobademocrat.com

Neshoba County's unemployment rate went up three-tenths of a point during March, according to numbers from the Mississippi Employment Security Commission.

Neshoba County's rate stood at 6.1% during March, up from 5.8% in February. Unemployment stood at 6.3% in March 2020.

Neshoba County's labor force in March was at 10,050 people. Of that, 620 people were out of work.

Here is a look at the unemployment rates in neighboring

Counties	March 2021	February 2021	March 2020
Kemper	7.9	7.3	8.5
Leake	6.2	6.2	6.5
Lauderdale	5.9	5.8	6.3
Newton	6.1	5.8	5.7
Scott	5.0	4.9	4.6
Noxubee	9.0	8.9	8.1

Winston 7.0 6.9 6.2
Attala 6.9 6.7 6.5
Mississippi's not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for March 2021 was 6.3%, an increase of two-tenths of a percentage point over the month and one-tenth of a percentage point over the year.
The estimated number of

unemployed people increased 1,900 over the month, while the employed total decreased 4,500 from the prior month. The nation's not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for March 2021 at 6.2% decreased four-tenths of a percentage point over the month but increased 1.7 percentage point over the year.

For the month of March 2021, 33 counties in Mississippi posted unemployment rates less than or equal to the state's rate of 6.3%. Rankin County posted the lowest unemployment rate for the month of March at 3.9%. Jefferson County had the highest unemployment rate for March at 16.7%.

Tool

Continued from page 5A

adding a new distribution center in Olive Branch.

The company's expansion in Grenada represents a \$60 million corporate investment in advanced technology and manufacturing equipment to support the operation.

Available jobs will include machine operators, technicians, warehousing/inventory, shipping/receiving, engineering and management roles.

"Our people and our culture have clearly made the difference in our growth and success," Milwaukee Tool Group President Steve Richman said.

"As we seek out new opportunities to attract, retain and recruit the best talent in the country, the State of Mississippi has continued to be a valued partner. We look forward to bringing more jobs to this state."

Milwaukee Tool, headquartered in Brookfield, Wis., is a leading manufacturer of heavy-duty power tools, hand tools, storage and accessories for professional construction trades worldwide. In recent years, the

company has invested significantly in its Greenwood, Jackson and Olive Branch manufacturing, distribution and operations facilities, creating hundreds of jobs for the regions' workers.

Matthew Harrison, CEO of the Greater Grenada Partnership and president of the Grenada Chamber of Commerce, said that a project of this magnitude did not materialize overnight, having taken countless hours for more than a year to come to fruition.

"Long-term economic advancement is the core mission of the Greater Grenada Partnership," he said. "As a world-renowned brand, the Milwaukee Tool company is set to bring quality careers and significant capital investment to Grenada County. Our office is proud to bring a project of this caliber to the citizens of Grenada County that will measurably move the economic needle in our community, region and state. No project of this size is ever done in a vacuum. For the last 16 months, we have worked tirelessly with all of our partners to make this project a reality. I personally want to thank the Grenada County Board of Supervisors,

Gov. Reeves, Rep. Kevin Horan, Sen. Lydia Chassaniol and MDA for remaining dedicated to seeing Grenada County blossom. The great news, we are just getting started."

Greater Grenada Foundation for Economic Development chairman Keith Mitchell added that he is confident that Milwaukee Tool's expansion will be the catalyst for additional growth in the county for years to follow.

"It really sets the table for future growth as well," he said. "Having the capacity and ability to make Milwaukee products right here is a huge feather in the county's cap. If you look at the landscape of manufacturing in Grenada, this new addition to our community is a testament to our ability to provide the needs of world-class manufacturers. News like this will continue to place us as a top location for industrial growth in the Delta."

Mississippi Development Authority Executive Director John Rounsaville said Milwaukee's latest announcement is a game-changer not only for Grenada, but for the entire state.

"The partnership between Milwaukee Tool and Mississippi continues to strengthen through this new manufacturing location in Grenada County," he said. "The region's talented workforce and robust transportation network make Grenada an ideal location for this new facility, and the commitment of 400 additional new Milwaukee Tool jobs within the company's existing locations reflects the great business climate Mississippi provides. MDA thanks the teams at the Greater Grenada Partnership, Grenada County, Delta Strong, Tallahatchie Valley Electric Power Association and the Tennessee Valley Authority for their hard work in bringing these new operations and jobs to our great state."

According to MDA, the company has grown its employee headcount in the state from 526 in 2010 to more than 2,343 in 2020, by delivering on its 2017 commitment to create 660 jobs over four years at its Mississippi locations.

"TVA and Tallahatchie Valley Electric Power Association congratulate Milwaukee Tool on its decision to expand operations and create hundreds of jobs in Grenada, Miss.," TVA Senior Vice President of Economic Development John Bradley said. "Helping to create job opportunities and invest-

ment in the Valley is fundamental to TVA's mission of service. We are proud to partner with Grenada County, Mississippi Development Authority and Greater Grenada Partnership to help further that mission and support Milwaukee Tool's business success in the region."

Harrison added that MDA is providing assistance for facility construction. Grenada County and TVA are also assisting with the project.

"We are excited to welcome Milwaukee Tool to Grenada County," Michael Lott, president of the Grenada County Board of Supervisors, said. "I am proud that our community continues to be a destination for manufacturing companies seeking to expand and create jobs. The Grenada County Board of Supervisors has worked diligently to create a pro-business community. With an announcement such as this, we are seeing our investments bring about a great return."

According to Wade Litton, chairman of the Delta Council Development Department, the expansion by Milwaukee Tool is a prime example "affirming" that the business case in Mississippi is strong and ultimately

they chose a location that provides the best return on their investment.

"Milwaukee Tool's commitment and expanding footprint in this region and state are tremendous," he said. "We will work hard with them and everyone to ensure that we deliver results. Delta Strong is proud to have played a small role in this effort and commend the Grenada community and the Governor, along with his team at MDA for their persistence in landing this project."

Grenada School District Superintendent Dr. David Daigneault added that his staff is ready to assist in preparing potential employees for the workforce.

"The Grenada School District is excited to provide the educational needs for our new industry in Grenada," he said. "The support offered by our district, including the Career and Technical Center, will be unparalleled by others. We are committed and enthusiastic about offering our industry partners the necessary access and instruction for our students who will be the future employees of this industry in Grenada."

OBITUARIES

Bidwell Allen Green

Bidwell Allen Green, 91 of Kosciusko passed away April 21, 2021 at Baptist Memorial Hospital-Attala. He was born in Neshoba county to Henry D. Greene and Polly Kate Wilson Greene on July 7, 1929.



He was a member of the Steam Mill Cumberland Presbyterian Church and Cumberland Presbyterian Church in Kosciusko, where he was an elder. He was also a member of the Pearl River Masonic Lodge # 105. He was a veteran and served in the United States Army.

He was an electrician for Ivey Mechanical for 50 1/2 years. He traveled all over the United States for Ivey's until retiring in 2006.

He was preceded in death by his parents, brother, Travis Greene and Virgil O. Greene; two sisters, Kay Turner and Ollie Faye Wells.

He is survived by his wife of 65 years, Dorothy Brown Green; one daughter, Melissa Green Myers (Steve) all of Kosciusko. He is survived by two grandsons, Steven Holland Myers, II (Drew) of Kosciusko and Wesley Hardage Myers (Shea) of Brandon; great-grandchildren; William Holland Myers and Samuel Ewing Myers of Kosciusko, Dottie Kate Myers and Riggs Matthew Myers of Brandon.

Visitation will be 9:00a.m. till 11 a.m. on Friday, April 23, 2021. Funeral at 11 a.m. in Jordan Funeral Home Chapel. Burial to follow immediately in Parkway Cemetery. Minister Patricia Carter will officiate. Jordan Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Pallbearers will be, Wes Myers, William Myers, Holland Myers, Steve Myers, Clell Allred, Robert Barham and Terry Cooksey. Honorary Pallbearers are Ivey employees. For online condolences visit www.jordanfuneralhome.com

Sylvia Barrier

Funeral service for Ms. Sylvia Barrier was held at 10AM Tuesday, April 27, 2021 at John E. Stephens Chapel with Rev. Randall Dunaway, Rev. Jason Martin, and Rev. Johnny Peden officiating. Burial was in North Bend Pentecostal Church Cemetery. John E. Stephens Chapel was in charge.

Ms. Barrier, 73, passed away Sunday, April 25, 2021 at Neshoba County Nursing Home. Her hobbies and special interest were her grandchildren and collecting porcelain dolls, angels, and butterflies.

She is preceded in death by

her husband, Cecil Barrier; parents, Samuel Fenton Landrum and Mildred McArthur Landrum.

Survivors include daughters, Charlotte Alford (Kevin), Ashley Benson (Chad); sons, Brian Higginbotham, Brad Higginbotham; sisters, Mary Jane Flake, Donna Creekmore; (7) grandchildren; (1) great-grandchild; several nieces and nephews.

Pallbearers: Kevin Johnson, Timmy Barrier, Philip Barrier, Delmar Pedigrew, Sam Pedigrew, Kevin Copeland, Kory Alford, Zach Benson.

Mary Waudine Akins

Services for Mary Waudine Akins were Sunday, April 25, 2021, at 2:00 P.M. from McClain-Hays Chapel with Dr. Mike Carr officiating and Pam Fulton delivering the eulogy. Burial followed in Henry's Chapel Cemetery in Neshoba County. McClain-Hays Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

Mrs. Akins, 94, of Philadelphia, died Friday, April 23, 2021.

A native of Neshoba County, she was manager of TWL and later owner/manager of City Market. She loved gardening, quilting, and sewing. Mrs. Akins was a member of Henry's Chapel United Methodist Church.

Survivors include daughters, Norma Byrd and Debbie Steed; son, Dwight Akins; four grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; one brother, Hays Posey.

Mrs. Akins was preceded in death by husband, Elmer Crawley Akins; father, William Frank Posey; mother, Mabel Pearl Posey; infant sister, Audine Posey and infant brother, Lomer Hays Posey.

Family requests donations be made to St. Jude Children's Hospital.

Billy Royce McMillan

Services for Billy Royce McMillan were Monday, April 26, 2021, at 11:00 a.m. from McClain-Hays Chapel with Bro. Mike Jolly officiating. Burial followed in Carolina Cemetery in Neshoba County. McClain-Hays Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

Mr. McMillan, 85, of Neshoba County, died Saturday, April 24, 2021.

A native of the Dowdville Community, he was a graduate of Madden High School and a veteran of the U. S. Air Force. He retired from Howard-Wilson Chrysler in 2003, and moved back to Neshoba County after retirement.

Survivors include his wife of 36 years, Dianne McMillan of Philadelphia; daughters, Suzie Stovall of Philadelphia, Kathy McMillan of Brandon, Tonya Brown of Hurley, Alicia Williams of Lexington, TN; son, Bill McMillan of Pearl; 11

grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren; sister, Judy Lay of Edinburg.

Mr. McMillan was preceded in death by parents, Ross and Nina McMillan.

Otis Neese, Jr.

Services for Otis Neese, Jr., were held Monday, April 26, 2021, from McClain-Hays Chapel at 2:00 p.m. with Bro. Nick Ulmer officiating. Interment followed in Fellowship Baptist Cemetery. McClain-Hays Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

Mr. Neese, 72, of Philadelphia, died Saturday, April 24, 2021.

Otis Neese, Jr., was born on March 26, 1949, in Marks, MS, to Lois Lee Gipson Neese and Otis Alvin Neese. He served in the U. S. Army until retirement. After retiring he lived in Philadelphia.

Survivors include one son, Kristopher Ray Neese of Lilburn, GA; seven grandchildren; one sister, Brenda Robinson; brothers, Donnie Ray Neese and Alvin Neese, both of Philadelphia.

Mr. Neese was preceded in death by an infant brother; parents, Lois Lee Gipson Neese and Otis Alvin Neese; three sisters, Louella Vance, Doris Eshee, and Jenny Wildhaber; brother, Horace Neese.

Sarah Marie Pilgrim

Services for Sarah Marie Pilgrim were held on Saturday, April 24, 2021, from McClain-Hays Chapel with Bro. Eddie Pilgrim officiating. Burial followed in Vardaman Cemetery in Kemper County. McClain-Hays Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

Mrs. Pilgrim, 75, of Gore Springs, MS, died April 22, 2021.

She was raised in Neshoba County and retired after working many years for Williams Brothers in Philadelphia. Mrs. Pilgrim was a member of Vardaman Baptist Church.

Survivors include daughter, Laura Denley of Gore Springs, MS; son, Joey Pilgrim of Prattville, AL; eight grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren; sisters, Catherine Adkins and Gertrude Herrington, both of Philadelphia, Lena Davis of Edinburg, MS; brothers, David Ellingburg of Edinburg, MS, Charles Ellingburg of Philadelphia, MS, Glen Ellingburg of Meridian, MS.

Mrs. Pilgrim was preceded in death by husband, Luther Pilgrim; daughter, Sheila Pilgrim Hamby; sister, Louise Cumberland; brothers, Leslie Ellingburg and Pete Ellingburg.

Alice Emeline McArthur

Memorial service for Mrs. Alice Emeline McArthur will be

held at 11 AM Saturday, May 22, 2021 at Pleasant Springs Presbyterian Church. John E. Stephens Chapel in charge.

Mrs. McArthur, 75, passed away on Sunday, April 25, 2021 at her home. She was a member of Pleasant Springs Presbyterian Church and the Eastern Star.

She is preceded in death by her parents, Arthur Barker and Frances Hodges; sister, Ann Carter; brother, Lawrence Estavez.

Survivors include husband, John McArthur; daughters, Deborah Shannon, Dawn Martin, Eva (Marty) Lee, Michelle (Josh) Pinter; son, Anthony Franklin; sisters, Jane Arnold, Phyllis Tanguma, Judy Chandler; brother, Bobby Soddell; 8 grandchildren, host of nieces and nephews.

Claudie Mae Spears

Funeral services for Ms. Claudie Mae Spears will be held at 2 PM Tuesday, April 27, 2021 at John E. Stephens Chapel with Rev. Howard Beam officiating. Visitation will be held from 12:30 PM til time of service. Burial will be in Ococha Cemetery. John E. Stephens Chapel in charge.

Ms. Spears, 97, passed away on Friday, April 23, 2021 at her daughter's home in Grenada, MS. She enjoyed cooking, house work, gardening and her children.

She is preceded in death by her husband, Clea Spears; daughters, Virginia Beckham Austin, Diane Beckham Robertson, Jeanette Beckham McCary, Rita Beckham Misho; sons, Herbert Beckham, Neil Beckham, Ricky Beckham, Billy Robert Beckham; parents, William C. Smith and Birdie B. Robinson Smith; sister, Margaret Smith.

Survivors include daughters, Robin Sumner, DeeDee Par-

tridge, Esta Lee; son, Pete Beckham; 25 grandchildren, 50 great-grandchildren and a host of great-great-grandchildren.

Pallbearers: Dillon Long, Robert Smith, Tyler Cumberland, Timmy Bozeman, Milton McLain, Michael Clark.

Evelyn Young

Funeral services for Mrs. Evelyn Tucker Young were held on Sunday, April 25, 2021, at 2 P.M. from Jerusalem Temple Church with Bishop Clifton Jones officiating. Burial was at Bibleway Pentecostal Church Cemetery in Noxapater. Beck Funeral Home, Inc. was in charge of arrangements.

Mrs. Young, 68, of Philadelphia, passed away on Wednesday, April 21, 2021 at St. Dominic Hospital in Jackson.

She is survived by her children, Yolanda Hudson, Latresia Young, Mark Young and Kevin Young all of Philadelphia, MS, and Timothy Young of Houston, TX, eight siblings, Robert Tucker, Marie Roberts, Asalean Tucker, Zell Muhammad, John Lockhart, Andrea Anderson, Ricky Tucker-Hameed, and Renee Bailey, 15 grandchildren, four great grandchildren and one aunt.

Her sons and grandsons served as pallbearers.

Master Lakaizo Harrington, Jr.

Graveside service for Master Lakaizo Harrington, Jr. will be held 2 PM Sunday, April 25, 2021 at Pearl River Community Cemetery with Bro. Ricky Thompson officiating. No visitation. John E. Stephens Chapel in charge.

Master Harrington, 5, passed away on Saturday, April 17, 2021 at Montgomery Children's Specialty Hospital in Montgomery, AL. He enjoyed watching tv, especially Paw Patrol and playing with toy trucks.

He is preceded in death by his sister, Ava Leach.

Survivors include mother, Kaitlin E. Leach; brothers, Xaiden Leach and Cross Leach.

Pallbearers: Brayson Samuel, Brice Ketcher, Braydon Bell-Ben, Zaymian Williamson.



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Getting the Message/Rev. Chris Shelton

Conflict gives the church deacons

Chapter 6 begins with the church establishing the office of deacon. The growing church was experiencing conflict over the distribution of help to widows. Organizing this mercy ministry threatened to take the apostles away from prayer and the ministry of the Word (verse 4). So the office of deacon was created. Seven men, "full of the Spirit and wisdom," were selected. One of them was Stephen.

Stephen was a man "full of faith" (verse 5). He was also "full of grace and power, and was doing great wonders and signs among the people" (verse 8). That he was full does not mean he was perfect. It refers to his maturity in the faith. He was emptied of self and full of Christ, reflecting the image of Christ (See John 1:14).

The sanctification of Christians means to be set apart from the rest of the world for God's use and service. God has sealed his people for himself and distinguished them from the rest of men. Stephen had prepared himself for every good work in the Master's use. He will be the first martyr.

In Christ, we are purged from the guilt and the power of sin that pollutes the soul. All Christians have the Spirit of God, but Stephen was adorned with sanctifying graces in fullness to prepare him for what God was going to use him for.

Whatever gifts we are given by the Lord, we are to be ready to use them in his service. Stephen valued Christ highly, unlike the world, which lays a low value on Christ. Judas valued him at 30 pieces of silver. Stephen valued the Lord to the extent that he lost his life for him. He gained life in the end (verse 59). Stephen was zealous for the glory of Christ, who saved him from his sin.

In verse 9, we see that Jews from many different countries rose up to dispute with Stephen over his teaching about Christ. The confrontation began with an objection to Stephen's teaching, but when the opposition couldn't withstand Stephen's wisdom (verse 10); they resorted to digging up false witnesses. They accused Stephen of blasphemy, a charge that carried the threat of the death penalty.

Stephen is charged with speaking against the Law of Moses and the temple. He is brought before the council to stand

trial (verses 11-12). The apostles taught that Jesus fulfilled the symbols of the temple and the law. The sacrifices and the presence of God among his people in the Old Testament represented the work Christ would do to save sinners and give them peace in the presence of God. Stephen was teaching the same: the good news of salvation in Christ as prophesied in God's word.

The Jews who objected to the gospel believed they could attain a righteousness of their own before God. In doing so, they were rejecting the true teaching of Moses and the Law of God. Ironically, they are the ones speaking blasphemy against God.

We need to learn from this that Christ came to save sinners. We are in great need of salvation. We cannot attain it of our own doing. It was man's guilt that rendered the cross necessary. If that guilt is not removed, all else is in vain. God is holy and just; he does not overlook sin. We have to account for our sin. And only in Christ can it be blotted out.

We may think God is like us, but he is not. He is angry with sin every day. He is angry with the sinners who commit it. He shows no partiality, and he will not compromise his holy nature. The men opposed to Stephen believed they were righteous before God. They didn't understand the Scriptures.

God's standard, however, is not that of man. God will indeed judge men according to his law, but no one has the righteousness to meet that demand. The Jews judging Stephen were the men God was most angry with among all men. They thought God was pleased with them. They were wrong, blind to their own sinful hearts and God's disposition toward that sin.

We may have a tendency to look at our decadent culture and the perverseness in it, and think a holy God surely is offended. And God's wrath is coming because of it. But none of us have any standing before God without Christ's death on the cross. If we aren't truly united to Christ by faith, we will perish.

God's mercy and justice are united. Christ was given for sinners because he alone can meet the justice of God. Stephen's wisdom was from God's Spirit. He points us to Christ and the grace of God.

This Devotional and Directory is made possible by these businesses who encourage all of us to, attend worship services. If your church is not listed this week, please look in next week's edition.

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"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!"
— 1 Corinthians 5:17 (NIV)

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Choctaw Indian Fair set for July 14-17

By JOHN LEE
john@neshobademocrat.com

The Choctaw Indian Fair is back with its 71st edition July 14-17 with the theme "The Choctaw Spirit Lives On."

Tribal Chief Cyrus Ben said the fair is a time of homecoming and celebration after the COVID-19 pandemic.

"This is our comeback year and we are ready to welcome everyone to enjoy the Choctaw spirit this summer," he said.

Scheduled artists on the main stage this year are:

- Jimmie Allen, Thursday, July 15
- Zach Williams, Friday, July 16
- Brett Young, Saturday, July 17.

The fair did not happen in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic, but it will be back in full swing this year, said Misty Brescia, director of public information for the Tribe.

Everything that usually happens at the fair is planned to happen this year, Brescia said. "People can expect what they've seen in the past, along with a few extra surprises."

Ben said the Tribe is excited to host the fair once again.

"Last year, with the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic, many events worldwide were canceled and unfortunately our fair was one of those," Ben said.

"Over the course of the last



One of the highlights of the Choctaw Indian Fair each year is Stickball. This traditional Tribal game brings together teams from all across the South to compete for the championship. Live music, games and food are also big staples of the fair each year.

year, we have adjusted to a new normal and implemented safety practices and protocols on Choctaw Tribal Lands."

Brescia encouraged people to make plans now to celebrate the fair that will include social celebrations, cultural activities, arts and crafts demonstrations, stickball tournaments and professional nightly entertainment.

Other events at the fair include the carnival and midway, 66th Annual Choctaw Indian Princess Pageant, Iron Warrior Competition, Entertainment House, a reptile walk-through experience and more.

Season tickets are \$20 for adults 18 and older and \$12 for a single day.

Season tickets for students

ages 6-17 are \$10 and \$7 for a single day.

Tickets are free to Tribal senior citizens 57 and older and children ages five or younger.

"We hope people will come out to the fair this year and that everyone is excited," Brescia said.

The fair gates will open at 11 a.m. on July 14.

For more information, visit the Choctaw Indian Fair on Facebook or the website at choctawindianfair.com.



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COUNTY JAIL DOCKET

Neshoba County Jail Docket from 4/17-4/26

• Patrick Atkinson, 41, of 10471 Road 365 of Union, 2 counts of petit larceny- less than \$1000.00

• Perry Thomas Carter, 35, of 11854 Highway 16 West, serving sentence

• Nicholas Lamar Catchings, 35, of 406 E. Pizzia Street of Crystal Springs, hold for other agency, 3 counts of grand larceny- more than \$1000.00

• Dustin Chapman, 26, of 937 Cow Creek Road of Preston, possession of controlled substance, possession of paraphernalia

• Sky Cotton, 26, of 113 Mahalin Drive, contempt of court

• Jesse Lee Cravatt, 33, of 186 Goat Ranch Road, contempt of court, possession of paraphernalia, possession of controlled substance

• Mercedes Villega Flora, 39, of 10181 Windmill Lake #611 of Houston, Texas, driving under the influence- 1st offense

• Brittany Millelte Franklin, 33, of 10011 Road 426, of Union, driving under the influence- 2nd offense, careless driving, possession of controlled substance

• Brandon Charles, Goodin, 20, of 11373 Road 723 of Union, murder-capital

• Ciarra Harley 35, of 518 Dubulin Avenue of Jackson, sexual battery

• Rigoberto Hernandez, 43, of 563 Holland, driving under the influence- 1st offense, no drivers license

• R.L. Hickman, 33, of 524 Pleasant Valley Drive, charges unknown

• RL Hickman, 53, of 2929 31 Street Apartment #8 of Gulfport, hold for investigations, possession of controlled substance

• Brian Lee Higginbotham, 48, of 10061 Road 2822, 3 counts of child neglect and contempt of court

• Richard Lynn Hopson, 42, of 51 Old Rock Road of Lauderdale, charges unknown

• Casey Horton, 34, 10010 Road 1311, contempt of court

• Corey Brian Hubbard, 45, of 10300 Road 298, possession of controlled substance

• Stephen Michael Huntley, 33, of 675 Pearson Road of Louisville, 2 counts of contempt of court, probation violation

• Norkesha S. Hutchins, 39, of 4661 Attalla Road of Sallis, speeding- 1 to 20 miles over limit, no insurance, seat belt violation, possession of marijuana- 1st offense, driving under the influence- 1st offense

• Jaryl Deandric Ingram Jr., 24, of 206 Wright Street, driving under the influence other substance, possession of a stolen firearm

• Zachary W. Keen, 19, of 405 North Street of Union, possession of marijuana, vehicle, possession of controlled substance

• Jordan Lee Kennedy, 18, of 10140 Road 424, driving under the influence- 1st offense, alcoholic beverage, possession under 21

• Christopher J. King, 43, of 5772 Highway 492 of Union, possession of controlled substance, possession of paraphernalia

• Danan L. King, 38, of 1590 Mills Road of Conehatta, disorderly conduct, failure to appear, resisting arrest, possession of controlled substance, tampered with evidence

• Dustin Page, age unknown, of 280 Little Rock Road of Decatur, possession of controlled substance, possession of marijuana, vehicle, possession of paraphernalia

• Johnny Elvis, 56, of 385 Old Mills Road of Walnut Grove, seat belt violation, contempt of court

• Anthony C. Russell, 61, of 304 Spring Hill Road, driving under the influence- 1st offense, no drivers license, no insurance

• Marvin Smith, 32, of 1913 15th Avenue of Meridian, driving under the influence- 1st offense, possession of marijuana, vehicle

• Roderick Jerimah Talley, 21, of 505 Pleasant Valley Drive, sentenced to time served

• Jonica G. Thomas, 25, of 127 Wolftrail Road, simple assault on a police officer, disorderly conduct, resisting arrest, no insurance, 2 counts of child restraint law, expired license tag

• Bailey Lauren Vance, 26, of 327 Cherry Avenue, possession of controlled substance

• Cleveland Williams, 40, of 4431 C. Place of Meridian, hold for investigations

• Kaeleen L Anderson, 23, of 390 Oswald Rd; shoplifting

• Gary M Anthony, 65, of 237 Yount Rd, Morton; DUI-1st offense, controlled substance-possession of marijuana-1 kilogram or more but less than 5 kilograms

• Brandon D Barret, 25, of 3443 Mount Pleasant Rd, Noxapater; MV-accident-leaving the scene-attended vehicle-property damage only, contempt of court-municipal court

• Ron A Collins, 36, of 116 Patrick St; simple assault-causing bodily injury

• Lawrence Davis Jr, 32, of 256A Carver Ave; domestic violence-simple assault-1st or 2nd offense

• Justin W Dorman, 31, of 509 Valley View Dr; embezzlement-property held in trust or received on contract

• Latonya M Evans, 27, of 2409 Hwy 503, Newton; controlled substance-possession of marijuana less than 30 grams or synthetic cannabinoids 10 grams or less in motor vehicle

• Darzell Mccallum, 32, of 266 Beulah Church Rd, DeKalb; possession of controlled substance, controlled substance-possession of marijuana less than 30 grams or

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• Raymond R Murrell, 26, of 226 Homer Ave; controlled substance-possession of marijuana less than 30 grams or synthetic cannabinoids 10 grams or less in motor vehicle, public drunk

• Sheron R Turk, 34, of 402 Stribling St; contempt of court-municipal court

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Meet the Candidates

The Neshoba Democrat is authorized to announce the names of the following candidates:

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James A. Young

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Wright Griffis

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Ajathi Nicols
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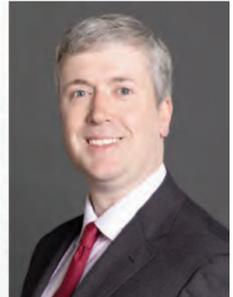
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Jacob Drury to take helm at Neshoba Middle School

By **DEBBIE BURT MYERS**
Special to the Democrat

A new Neshoba Central Middle School principal was hired last Tuesday morning by a unanimous vote of the Neshoba County School Board.

Jacob Drury, currently the assistant principal of Northeast Lauderdale High School, will take the helm at Neshoba Middle School on July 1, replacing Cody Killen who resigned to take a position in another school district.

Drury and his wife, Courtney, currently reside in Neshoba County. They have four children: Kinsley, 3, Aiden, 7, Reiney, 8 months and Ashtyn, 15.

Drury is originally from Noxapater and his wife, from Meridian.

He introduced his family to the School Board Tuesday and called his new position "a dream job."

Neshoba County Superintendent of Education Lundy Brantley said Drury "brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to our district. He truly shares the 'One Neshoba' mindset that we have developed over the past four years. Mr. Drury is a true 'academic' who is focused on student achievement and seeing that all of our students and staff members grow each day. We are very excited about having Mr. Drury on our team."

Drury told the School Board that he was "humbled and honored to be given this opportunity. It's honestly a dream job for me. It's not something that I tried to get, the Lord let it happen. He let it come to me. My family lives here. My kids go or will go to school here. So I have just as much of a stake for not just the middle school, but all the schools to be successful."

"I want you to know that I am going to give it my all. Go Rockets!"



Jacob Drury was named the new Neshoba Central Middle School principal Tuesday morning. He introduced his wife, Courtney, and three children, Reiney, Aiden and Kinsley, to the School Board. Not pictured is daughter, Ashtyn.

The Drurys have lived in Neshoba County since June 2017. They attend Mars Hill Baptist Church.

He loves baseball, basketball and football and spending time with his family.

The Drurys like to travel. While he favors the mountains, his wife prefers the beach! They also enjoy camping.

"I like to grill because I like to eat," Drury said.

His goal at Neshoba Middle School is to help the school continue to go in the right direction to make it as great as it can be.

"I think that is my number one priority," he said. "I want the school to continue to grow and be successful. I want the community to be proud of the school and the students to be proud to be a part of the school as well."

Drury said he would like to finish his career at Neshoba Central.

"I've got 21 years left. It

would be awesome to look up in 21 years and still be here," he said.

Before going to Northeast Lauderdale, Drury was an assistant principal at Meridian High School and an academic coach for the Meridian Public School District.

In his earlier years, he was a mathematics teacher at Carver Middle School in Meridian, where he was named Teacher of the Year in 2015-2016. Before that, he was a mathematics teacher and football coach at Armstrong Middle School in Starkville.

Drury earned his Master of Education in Educational Leadership from Arkansas State University in Jonesboro, Ark., his Bachelor's Degree in Elementary Education from Mississippi State University and an associate degree from East Central Community College.

Bridge repairs set to start this week

By **STEVE SWOGETINSKY**
steve@neshobademocrat.com

Repairs are expected to start this week on a bridge closed last October by inspectors over an abandoned railroad line that will temporarily re-open the road between Union and Madden until an estimated almost \$2 million replacement can be constructed.

Neshoba County supervisors accepted a \$27,820 repair bid from McKee Construction on the Road 210 bridge during their April 19 meeting.

The bridge, which overpasses the unused Kansas City Southern railway connector from Union to

Sebastopol, must be replaced and meet railroad standards, even though the railroad isn't using the line and has no plans to do so, officials said.

While the bridge is closed, it is causing an 11-mile detour for many residents in the area.

Supervisors have put the \$1,964,000 replacement project in line, they said.

"This is going to start the process," said County Administrator Jeff Mayo. "Once we get it approved by the office of State Aid Road Construction, it will start the process of design and engineering wetlands, environmental studies and start the engineering and design process."

The bridge is just off of Highway 492 west of Union on what is also known as Ideal Store Road and the Union-Madden Road. The bridge was undergoing routine inspection by contracted bridge inspectors when it was closed.

The bridge will have to be inspected again before it can reopen to traffic, officials said.

In other matters during the April 19 meeting, supervisors voted to:

- Approve the hiring of three new correction officers for the jail, the resignation of two correctional officers, and the change in status from full-time to part-time for two officers.
- Supervisors also accepted the meal log and detailed billing report from the jail.
- Approve a request from Central Water Association for a road bore.
- Approve a school bus turn-

around for the Neshoba County School District.

- Approve the hiring of two full-time telecommunicators for Emergency Management, and the resignation of a part-time telecommunicator.

- Approve travel request for the Justice Court Clerk Spring 2021 Hybrid Conference May 6 and 7 at Silver Star Convention Center.

- Approve membership requests for the Mississippi Justice Court Clerk's Association for Justice Court Clerk Kim Yates (\$150) and deputy clerks Patsy Long and Twyla Lovern (\$50 each).

- Approve a request from the District Attorney's office for a supplemental salary for Investigator Carolyn Ford-Jones and a pay raise request for paralegal Lisa Nowell.

- Approve the county employees payroll ending April 5 and totaling \$173,786.

- Approve the elected officials payroll ending April 15 and totaling \$55,895.

- Approve payment of the out of order claims and the claims docket.

- Accept and approve the VISA travel card April 2021 — \$5,292.

- Accept and execute the Small Municipality and Limited Population Counties Grant for improvements to Road 236 Grant No. SM-20-1035.

- Approve the request of Neshoba County's Miss Hospitality Landry Payne to advertise in Miss Hospitality Mississippi Program — 1/2 page ad for \$175.

- Approve the observance of Confederate Memorial Day Holiday on Monday, April 26.

- Supervisors were notified by the Mississippi Department of Archives and History that the Booker T. Washington School's nomination to the registry of historic places has been approved.

THE LORD'S DAY

Morning Worship
11:00 a.m.

Sunday School (All Ages)
9:45 a.m.

Wednesday Evening Activities

Family Night Dinner
6:00 p.m. (Fellowship Hall)

Bible Study and Prayer Service
7:00 p.m. (Sanctuary)

Children's Program
7:00 p.m.

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Felon

Continued from page 1A

release was issued on Nov. 19, 2020, and reported for the first time in The Neshoba Democrat last week.

"His parole officer contacted us after The Neshoba Democrat story," Clark said. "The Neshoba County Sheriff's Office has been actively searching for him."

Stokes enjoys listening to jazz while cooking

By SARAH KATHRYN WATKINS
news@neshobademocrat.com

Will Stokes grew up being the youngest of all his cousins and the youngest grandchild of Mary Walker. During the summers growing up, Stokes spent his time at his Nanny Mary's house close to Chattanooga, Tennessee. Because Stokes was younger than his older cousins, he would spend his time in the kitchen.

Stokes is the son of James (Bubba) Stokes and Susan Walker-Stokes. Stokes graduated from Neshoba Central and attended Delta State University, where he was studying to get a degree in Political Science. Stokes changed his major after working at different camps during the summer for disabled adults and some adolescents. He realized he loved helping people and got his master's at Mississippi State University in special education.

Stokes started teaching at Philadelphia Public school and stayed with them until 2019. In 2019 Stokes got a job in the transportation industry where he travels and sees the United States. The only places Stokes has not been to are North Dakota, Alaska, and Hawaii. Since Stokes is usually on the road, he enjoys trying different foods and mentions traveling has opened his palette for other foods. Stokes's favorite state so far has been Maine, where there is always fresh seafood.

When Stokes returns home from being gone, he enjoys getting together with his friends and family. Stokes' dad cooks for him, and then Stokes will cook for his father the next day. When Stokes cooks, he enjoys listening to jazz music and enjoying a fresh cocktail.

Cooking for Stokes is a huge part of who he is. He considers himself a triple threat because he can grill, cook on the stove-top, and bake. His red velvet cake recipe comes from his great great grandmother. Stokes cherishes this recipe.

Stokes mentioned that he likes to eat at local restaurants and try new food when he is in different states. He enjoys eating Indian food. Indian has become one of his favorite cuisines.

Stokes loves cooking for his friends and having a good conversation. His favorite part of cooking is trial and error; when Stokes finds a recipe he likes, he puts his spin on it.

RED VELVET CAKE

- 1 ½ cup sugar
- 2 cup cooking oil
- 1 tsp vinegar
- 2 eggs
- 1 oz. red food coloring
- 2 ½ cup plain flour
- 1 tsp soda

- 1 tsp salt
- 2 tsp cocoa
- 1 cup buttermilk
- 1 tsp vanilla
- Frosting:**
- 1 stick oleo
- 1 (8 oz) cream cheese
- 1 tsp vanilla
- 1 box powdered sugar
- 1 cup chopped pecans
- Cream sugar and oil; add eggs and beat well. Add vinegar and coloring. Sift dry ingredients. Add alternately with buttermilk; add vanilla

COOK OF THE WEEK

and beat well. Pour into greased pans. Bake at 350 for 30 minutes.

LEMON-BLUEBERRY CUSTARD PIE

- 1 Pie crust (store bought or homemade)
- ½ cup all-purpose flour,

- plus more for surface
- 2 tablespoons rough grind cornmeal
- ½ teaspoon kosher salt
- 1 cup sugar
- ½ cup plus 2 tablespoons unsalted butter, room temperature
- 1 finely grated whole lemon
- 1 vanilla bean, split length-wise
- OR 1 tablespoon vanilla extra. Plus a splash
- 4 large eggs, room temper-

- ature
- 1¼ cups buttermilk, room temperature
- 2 cups fresh (or frozen, thawed) blueberries

Step 1

Roll out pie dough on a lightly floured work surface to a 13" round about ⅛" thick. Transfer dough to a 9" pie dish and allow dough to slump down into dish, leaving about 2" overhang. Fold edges under and crimp all the

way around, making sure dough extends to the outer edge of the lip of the pie dish (this will create a shelf for the dough to sit on, preventing it from sliding back into dish). Chill in freezer until dough is very cold, about 20 minutes.

Step 2

Place a rack in middle of oven and preheat to 350°. Line pie dough with parchment paper or heavy-duty foil, leaving a 1½" overhang, See COOK, page 2B



Will Stokes

Just Among Friends

By MARIANNE ENOCHS
friends@neshobademocrat.com

Cousins can be forever friends as well as first friends from childhood. A gathering of cousins was held recently which brought Joyce Hardy's cousins together for a day of fun at the Hardy's camp house on their lake. It was a beautiful setting for a party.

Joyce's aunt, Sue Fulton, who is the sole surviving sibling of six children, thought it was a great time for all of the cousins to have a reunion. She arranged the whole event and, according to Joyce, did a wonderful job. Aunt Sue will be 93 on her birthday in May, and she was excited to have a family gathering with so many family members present.

Ben Evans was totally surprised when everyone sang "Happy Birthday" to him since he thought no one knew it was his actual birthday! He was so pleased. Everyone enjoyed visiting with one another, and catching up on family news. There was much laughter and storytelling of long remembered days gone by. This family has many outstanding cooks among its members, so the food was fabulous! Everyone had a wonderful time!

Those enjoying the celebration were Jennifer Nance Rogers from Meridian; Ralph and Carolyn Stokes from Birmingham; Rodney and Donna Holder from Murfreesboro, Tennessee; from Jackson came Ronnie Stokes, Lucinda and Buster Jenkins; Jan and Ben Evans; from Clinton came Jenny Nance. Philadelphia guests included Skylar and Bryan Hailey; Sue Fulton; Art and Jean Fulton; Bridget and Al Fulton; Jerry and Cindi

Byrd; Ann Taylor Adams; Tyler and Julianna Pope; Rivers Pope; Brinley Kate Pope; Davis Fulton; Graham Fulton; and Bobby and Joyce Hardy. It was a day filled with fun.

Philadelphia High School has the very unique distinction of having FOUR sets of twins graduating in its Class of 2021. This is a very special occurrence in a class of its size.

The students are Kara and Owen Daly, parents are Gina Daly and Doug and Candi Daly; Zach and Zoey Jones, parents are Byron and Chiquita Moor Jones; Kamary and Kam'bree Houston, parents are Bobby and Jennifer Houston; ad Aayanna and Janna Coleman, parents are Christ and Justin Coleman. Congratulations to each of you!

Philadelphia High School has announced the Valedictorian and Salutatorian for the graduating class of 2021. The Valedictorian is Emma Taylor, the daughter of Mark and Amy Kilpatrick Taylor. Salutatorian is Mary Ellen Booker whose parents are Melisha Bozeman Hancock and Thomas Booker. Congratulations to each of you for earning this distinction after four years of hard work. You are to be commended for attaining your goals!

Neshoba Central High School added several new names to its NCHS ACT Wall of Excellence for those students who earned an ACT score of 30 and above.

The new Wall of Excellence Members are Christian Collins, Dylan Gomez, Mary Kate Moran, Jess Thrash, Marlee Thomas, and Jordan Turk,

All are members of the Class of 2021. Congratulations and best wishes to each one of you.

Sofia Euyoque is the recipient of a National Honor Society Scholarship. She was selected from almost 10,000 applicants to receive a \$3,200 scholarship to further her education after graduation in May. Recipients are chosen based on their demonstrated work in support of scholarship, service, leadership, and character. Congratulations on this distinctive honor!

The Turquoise Place in Orange Beach was the perfect destination for a bachelorette party. Macy Martin's bridesmaids and friends took her to this luxurious resort for a weekend getaway from Thursday through Sunday. The bride's mother, Carla Cox Martin went along for the fun!

The group enjoyed eating at Doc's Seafood Shack, Cosmo's, and Cobalt. On days when it rained, they got into the huge hot tub and on sunny days, they hit the beach wearing their festive hats. Macy's was white with "Bride" across the front in pink and the bridesmaids wore pink with "Bridesmaid" on the front in white. Her friends wore the same style of hat in a pretty shade of green.

The girls gave Macy a See FRIENDS, page 2B

Call in your news to Just Among Friends, 601-656-4000, or mail it to the Democrat, P.O. Box 30, Philadelphia, 39350; friends@neshobademocrat.com



- Mary Lauren Wilson & Thomas Deweese..... December 27, 2020
- Shania Hoskins & Brian Edwards March 27, 2021
- Mary Rhea & Haden Johnson May 8, 2021
- Madalyn McMahon & Taylor Irby May 15, 2021
- Amelia Henson & Austin Rowell May 29, 2021
- Macy Martin & Tanner Rhodes..... June 5, 2021
- Cecily Kate Price & Lane Waltman..... June 26, 2021
- Taylor Fulkerson & Nathan Roseberry July 10, 2021
- Kinsey Gentry & Cooper Smith..... July 17, 2021
- Kalee McCann & Anthony Cypher September 4, 2021
- Caroline Willis & Dave Crasto September 25, 2021
- Shelby Herrington & Brandon Garner..... October 23, 2021
- Sara Watson & Jeremy Bowen..... November 13, 2021
- Margaret Jordan & Sam Webb..... November 20, 2021

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Community policing

It's test week at Philadelphia Elementary School and the Philadelphia Police Department was honored to be on hand Monday morning to give the wonderful kids some extra motivation! Chief of Police Eric Lyons spoke to the entire elementary school and told them to "Rock Their Test!!" Other first responders attending included the Philadelphia Fire Department and Neshoba EMS.

Engagements

Macy Cox Martin to wed Tanner Thomas Rhodes June 5

Ike and Carla Martin are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter, Macy Cox to Tanner Thomas Rhodes, son of Derrick and Celeste Rhodes of Philadelphia.

Macy is a 2013 graduate of Philadelphia High School and a 2017 graduate of Mississippi State University where she earned a Bachelor of Science in Psychology. She was a member of the Kappa Delta Sorority. Macy is a 2019 graduate of The University of Mississippi Medical School, School of Nursing where she earned a BSN in Nursing. She is currently employed as a Pediatric ICU nurse at Children's of Mississippi in Jackson.

Tanner is a 2013 graduate of Neshoba Central High School and a 2018 graduate of Mississippi State University where he earned a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering. He was a member of the Kappa Sigma Fraternity. He is currently employed with Superior Foundation in Ridgeland.

Macy is the granddaughter of Tom Wallace and Shirley Cox of Philadelphia and the late Ike and Fleta Martin of Meridian.

Tanner is the grandson of Felton and Lucille Myatt of



Macy Cox Martin and Tanner Thomas Rhodes

Philadelphia and Marvin and Barbara Rhodes of Hendersonville, North Carolina.

The ceremony will be June 5, 2021 at 6:00 PM at The First United Methodist Church in Philadelphia and reception to follow at The Philadelphia Country Club in Philadelphia. You are invited through the medium of the press.

Morgan Hollis to wed Wesley Cameron in November

Mr. and Mrs. Clifton Hollis of Laurel Hill, Mississippi announce the engagement of their daughter Morgan Hollis to Wesley Cameron, son of Kevin and Brenda Cameron of Runnelstown, Mississippi.

Morgan, will be graduating this semester at Mississippi State University, with bachelor's degree in graphic design and is currently contracted as a graphic designer with Hol-Mac in Bay Springs, MS.

Wesley graduated from Mississippi State University as a mechanical engineer and works at Comp Cams in Memphis TN.

A November wedding is currently being planned.



Morgan Hollis and Wesley Cameron

Friends

Continued from page 1B

bridal shower in their condo with decorations for the occasion and a sign saying, "Mama Mia, Macy's Getting Married" above the gift table. The guests

played a wedding game. There was a lot of laughter, talk, exchanging news, and reminiscing during the entire weekend.

Those having a good time were her sister, Meagan Martin Anthony, Marlee Rhodes, the groom's sister; Rebecca Prince, Ali Gray, Bailey McCarver, Macy's cousin; her

good friend Cecily Price; and her mother, Carly Cox Martin. The groom's sister, Maggie Rhodes, was unable to attend due to a schedule conflict.

Macy Martin and Tanner Rhodes will be married on June 5, 2021, in the First United Methodist Church, Philadelphia, Mississippi.

Cook

Continued from page 1B

and fill with pie weights or dried beans. Bake until crust is golden around the edge, 20-25 minutes. Remove from oven and lift out parchment and pie weights and bake until surface of crust looks dry and is golden, 10-15 minutes longer. Transfer to a wire rack and let cool.

Step 3
Meanwhile, reduce oven temperature to 325°. Whisk cornmeal, salt, and ½ cup flour in a small bowl. Combine sugar, butter, and lemon zest in a large bowl and scrape in vanilla seeds or extract (or both like me); reserve pod for another use. Using an electric mixer on medium speed, beat until light and fluffy, about 4 minutes. Add eggs one at a time, beating to blend after each addition and occasionally scraping down sides and bottom of bowl. Beat until well blended. Reduce speed to low and add dry ingredients; beat just to combine. With motor running, gradually add buttermilk; beat just to combine (mixture may look broken, which is okay). Using a rubber spatula, gently fold in blueberries. Scrape filling into cooled pie crust just to fill to

crust edge (you might have some left over). Bake pie until filling is puffed and golden and center wobbles slightly when jostled, 50-60 minutes. Transfer dish to a wire rack and let pie cool before slicing, at least 2 hours.

EASY BROWN BUTTER PASTA ALL LIMONE
1 pound uncooked pasta (whatever your prefer)
Sea Salt or Kosher
1/2 cup (4 ounces) salted butter*
1 lemon, zested and juiced
1 ounce freshly-grated Parmesan

Cook the pasta. Heat a large stockpot of generously-salted water until boiling. Add the pasta (at the same time you being browning the butter, see below) and cook until 2 minutes shy of al dente.

Brown the butter. At the same time* that you add the pasta to the boiling water, begin cooking the butter in a large sauté pan over medium-high heat. Continue cooking until the butter has melted and begins to foam, stirring frequently to ensure that the butter cooks evenly. Add in the lemon zest and a few twists of black pepper and continue cooking the butter, stirring frequently, until it starts to turn golden brown and very smells tasty. (Keep a very close eye on the butter so

that it does not burn; it can go from golden to burnt very quickly!)

Add the remaining sauce ingredients. Using a heat-safe measuring cup, scoop out 1 cup of the starchy pasta water from the stockpot and immediately pour it into the brown butter mixture. (Be careful and pour slowly because it will bubble.) Let the mixture simmer and reduce for a few minutes until it has thickened slightly, stirring occasionally. Add in the grated Parmesan and lemon juice and whisk until combined.

Finish the pasta. Once the pasta is 2 minutes shy of al dente, use a strainer to transfer the pasta directly to the brown butter sauce. Then toss it with the sauce, stirring gently and constantly, until the pasta is al dente and the sauce is thick and glossy and coats the pasta evenly. (If the sauce seems too dry, just add in an extra 1/4 cup at a time of the remaining starchy pasta water as needed.) Taste and season with extra salt, if needed.

Serve. Serve immediately, garnished with an extra sprinkle of Parmesan and cracked black pepper if desired, and enjoy!



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- Sydney Keith & Brady Stephenson October 10, 2020
- Virgina Risher & Bass Price November 21, 2020
- Kelsey Hill & Will Lipsey December 12, 2020
- Kayla Pinter & Brandon Clark March 27, 2021
- Danielle Pierce & Grant McDaniel March 6, 2021
- Madalene Cudabac & Zach Graham March 20, 2021
- Madalyn McMahan & Taylor Irby May 15, 2021
- Amelia Henson & Austin Rowell May 29, 2021
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Kid's Art Winners 2021



Lee wins 1st Place in Kid's Art Contest

Leake Academy's Karoline Lee, a fourth grader in Mrs. Adams' class, won 1st Place in the Neshoba Democrat's Kid's Art Contest with her coloring of The Clothesline. She donated her prize money and the pizza party funds to Church at the Arc ministry in Philadelphia.



Winstead wins 2nd Place in Kid's Art Contest

Leake Academy's Maggie Winstead, a fifth grader in Mrs. Jones' class, won 2nd Place in the Neshoba Democrat's Kid's Art Contest with her coloring of Kademi.



Willis wins 3rd Place in Kid's Art Contest

Pearl River Elementary's Brooklyn Willis, a third grader in Dolores Russell's class, won 3rd Place in the Neshoba Democrat's Kid's Art Contest with her coloring of Air Park Family Dentistry.

LEGALS

LEGALS

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF NESHOPA COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI IN THE MATTER OF THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE ESTATE OF KENNETH EARL TOWNSEND, DECEASED CIVIL ACTION FILE NO. 19-428 NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Letters of Administration on the Estate of Kenneth Earl Townsend, Deceased, having been granted to the undersigned on the 18th day of February, 2020, by the Chancery Court of Neshoba County, Mississippi in Civil Action, File No. 2019-428, notice is hereby given to all persons having claims against said estate to have such claims probated and registered by the Chancery Clerk of Neshoba County, Mississippi, within ninety (90) days from the date of the first publication of this notice, or said claims will be forever barred. Bonnie Townsend Administratrix of the Estate of Kenneth Earl Townsend, Deceased JIM ARNOLDMSB NO. 1625435 EAST BEACON STREETPHILADELPHIA, MS 39053TELEPHONE: (601) 656-6914FACSIMILE: (601) 656-6958E-MAIL: jarnoldlawoffice@att.net Publish: April 14, 21 and 28 52515

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF NESHOPA COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF KENNETH EARL TOWNSEND, DECEASED CIVIL ACTION FILE NO. 19-428 RULE 81 SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI COUNTY OF NESHOPA

TO: All unknown heirs of Kenneth Earl Townsend, Deceased You have been made a respondent in the Petition to Determine Heirs filed with the Court by Bonnie Townsend seeking a judicial determination of the rightful heirs at law of Kenneth Earl Townsend. All other known heirs are Petitioner, Bonnie Townsend and Isaiah Townsend. You are summoned to appear and defend against said Petition filed against you in this action at 9:00 o'clock A.M. on the 25th day of May, 2021, at the Neshoba County Chancery Court-house, Philadelphia, Mississippi, and in case of your failure to appear and defend a judgment will be entered against you for the things demanded in the Petition. You are not required to file an answer or other pleading but you may do so if you desire. ISSUED UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL OF THIS COURT, this the 8th day of April, 2019. GUY NOWELLNESHOPA COUNTY CHANCERY CLERKBY: /s/G Tate D.C. Jim Arnold435 East Beacon StreetPhiladelphia, MS 39350Telephone : 601-656-6914Facsimile: 601-656-6958E-Mail: jarnoldlawoffice@att.net Publish: April 14, 21 and 28 52517

IN THE CHOCTAW TRIBAL COURT MISSISSIPPI BAND OF CHOCTAW INDIANS IN THE MATTER OF THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE ESTATE OF CHRISTOPHER PAUL ISAAC, DECEASED, DOROTHY LUDLOW, ADMINISTRATRIX CAUSE NO.: 2020-555 NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Letters of Administration having been granted on the 23rd day of September, 2020, by the Choctaw Tribal Court Clerk, Mississippi, to the undersigned, Dorothy Ludlow, upon the Estate of Christopher Paul Isaac, deceased, notice is hereby given to all persons having claims against said Estate to present the same to the Clerk of this Court for probate and registration according to law within ninety (90) days from the date of the first publication of this Notice or they will be forever barred. This the 12th day of March, 2021. /S/DOROTHY LUDLOWDOROTHY LUDLOW,ADMINISTRATRIX OF THE ESTATE OF CHRISTOPHER PAUL ISAAC,DECEASED 52520

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI COUNTY OF NESHOPA SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE'S NOTICE OF SALE

WHEREAS, on May 11, 2013, a Real Estate Deed of Trust was executed by JAY and CHRISTINA BRADFORD to James M. Mars, II, Trustee for Larry Dewayne McKinion and Cekelia Annette Gray, to secure an indebtedness therein described, which Real Estate Deed of Trust is recorded in Deed of Trust Book 2013 at Page 4397, in the office of the Chancery Court of Neshoba County, Mississippi,

and WHEREAS, on the 8th day of June, 2020, the Holders of said Real Estate Deed of Trust substituted and appointed Tammy C. Smith, as Trustee of said Real Estate Deed of Trust, by instrument recorded in the office of the aforesaid Chancery Clerk in Deed of Trust Book 2021, at Page 3055; and WHEREAS, default having been made in the payments of the indebtedness secured by the said Real Estate Deed of Trust, and the holders of said Real Estate Deed of Trust, having requested the undersigned so to do, on the 6th day of May, 2021, I will during legal hours, at public outcry, offer for sale and will sell, at the North door of the Neshoba County Courthouse at Philadelphia, Mississippi, for cash to the highest bidder, the following described land and property situated in Neshoba County, Mississippi, to-wit: Beginning at the SW Corner of the SE 1/4 of NE 1/4, Section 4, Township 9 North, Range 12 East, for the point of beginning; thence run East along the North right-of-way line of a county road known as Sharp Road 210 feet; thence run North 210 feet; thence run West 210 feet to the Eastern right-of-way of Deemer Road; thence run South along the Eastern right-of-way 210 feet to the point of beginning; containing one (1) acre, more or less, being one (1) acre in the SW corner of the SE 1/4 of NE 1/4, Section 4, Township 9 North, Range 12 East, Neshoba County, Mississippi. Together with all buildings and improvements situated thereon but not limited to, One 1999 doublewide Southern Energy mobile home, off white in color, being 28w x 68l, and being serial # DSEAL13566AB with all attachments located therein. I will only convey such title as is vested in me as Substituted Trustee. WITNESS MY SIGNATURE, this the 12th day of April, 2021. /s/Tammy C. Smith TAMMY C. SMITH, MSBN 9528SUBSTITUTED TRUSTEE ATTORNEY AT LAW P.O. BOX 624 PHILADELPHIA, MS 39350 TELEPHONE: (601) 389-5888 PUBLISH: April 14, 2021, April 21, 2021, April 28, 2021, and May 5, 2021.

TITLE OF ABANDONMENT MOTOR VEHICLE

Triple P. Services Center 929 Gum Street Philadelphia, Ms 39350 MAKE: 2008 Kia SPCVIN #: KNAFE-121485533892PLACE OF SALE: Triple P. Services Center SALE DATE: 04/28/2021 at 8am at 929 Gum Street Philadelphia, MS 39350 OWNED BY: Ann Jones or Richard Jr, 961 Tatum Camp Rd Apt B, Hattiesburg, MS 39402 LIEN HOLDER: Capital One Auto Finance, PO Box 22, Madden, MS 39109 LIEN HOLDER: Household Auto Finance, PO Box 17548, Baltimore, MD 21297

TITLE OF ABANDONMENT MOTOR VEHICLE

Triple P. Services Center 929 Gum Street Philadelphia, Ms 39350 MAKE: 1998 Ford EPTVIN #: 1FMRU1763WL-C21056PLACE OF SALE: Triple P. Services Center SALE DATE: 04/28/2021 at 8am at 929 Gum Street Philadelphia, MS 39350 OWNED BY: Derrick L. Pickens, PO Box 22, Madden, MS 39109 LIEN HOLDER: Household Auto Finance, PO Box 17548, Baltimore, MD 21297

TITLE OF ABANDONMENT MOTOR VEHICLE

Triple P. Services Center 929 Gum Street Philadelphia, Ms 39350 MAKE: 2010 Dodge Journey VIN #: 3D4P-G5V3AT274939PLACE OF SALE: Triple P. Services Center SALE DATE: 04/28/2021 at 8am at 929 Gum Street Philadelphia, MS 39350 OWNED BY: Laura B Clark, 321 Breland Street, Philadelphia, MS 39350 LIEN HOLDER: Credit Acceptance Corp, 25505 West 12 Mile Rd #3000, Southfield, MI 48034

INVITATION FOR BIDS

Open to All Bidders DATE ISSUED: April 21, 2021 BY: Choctaw Housing Authority P. O. Box 6088 Choctaw, MS 39350 PROJECT: HVAC Replacements for (29) Housing Units ICDBG Project-LOCATION: Neshoba County Pearl River Community CONTRACTING OFFICER: Eric T. Willis, Executive Director DESCRIPTION OF SERVICES: The contractor shall provide project administration, job supervision, skilled and common labor, equipment, adhere to the Davis-Bacon Labor Law, provide

Indian preference, provide insurance as required by Choctaw Housing Authority, perform and complete all requirements as specified in the Scope of Work(s). Choctaw Housing Authority request work to be done in a prioritized order. The contractor will be given a total of Twenty-five (29) weeks to complete the project. Bid forms and Scope of Work(s) will be picked up at the Choctaw Housing Authority for a (non-refundable) fee of \$50.00. Contact Peggy Thompson, Procurement Officer for more information at (601) 656-6617. Sealed bids must be accompanied by a 5% Bid Bond or will not be accepted. A Mandatory Pre-Bid Conference is scheduled for 10:00 a.m. on May 5, 2021 at the Maintenance Building of the Choctaw Housing Authority located at 13660 HWY 16 West, Choctaw, MS 39350. Sealed bids are due no later than: 10:00 a.m. ON May 18, 2021 - BID OPENING at the Procurement Office, ATTN: Peggy Thompson. No late bids will be accepted. At the set time, there will be a public bid opening where bids will be opened and read. Choctaw Housing Authority reserves the right to reject any and all bids. Indian Preference will be given to all qualified Indian-Owned companies. 52540

Invitation for Bids on Neshoba County School District Surplus Vehicles Sealed bids will be received by the Neshoba County School District Transportation Department for the right to purchase the following vehicles (minimum bid noted): 1. 99-3 Vin# 1U23CEAC9XCF10242 \$1000.00 Minimum 2. 95-5 Vin# 1HVBBABM2SH696366 \$1000.00 Minimum 3. 01-2 Vin# 4U23CEAC3X-CF10253 \$1000.00 Minimum For more information and/or to set up an appointment to view this equipment please call Ben Adams at 601-504-5218. Bids are to be submitted for each item. Blanket bids will not be accepted. Sealed bids will be received at the Neshoba County School District Superintendent's Office, 580 East Main Street, Philadelphia, MS 39350 up to and no later than 10 a.m. on Wednesday, May 12, 2021. The Neshoba County School District reserves the right to reject any and all bids. Publish: April 21, 2021, April 28, 2021 and May 5, 2021 52542

ADVERTISE FOR BIDS

The Neshoba County Board of Education as Trustees for the Neshoba County School District, Philadelphia, Mississippi, will receive bids at the County Superintendent's Office, 580 East Main Street, Philadelphia, Mississippi, until 10:00 A.M. Friday, May 7, 2021, for the County School Depository to be used by the Neshoba County Schools for three consecutive years beginning July 1, 2021. PARTICULARS CONCERNING SPECIFICATION MAY BE OBTAINED BY CONTACTING THE SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION'S OFFICE, 580 EAST MAIN STREET, PHILADELPHIA, MISSISSIPPI. ALL BIDS SHALL BE SUBMITTED ON THE BID PROPOSAL FORM, WHICH MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT. Bids will be opened and tabulated on Friday, May 7, 2021, and awarded on Friday May 14, 2021. The board reserves the right to reject any and/or all bids and to waive informalities. BY ORDER OF THE NESHOPA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION AS TRUSTEES FOR THE NESHOPA COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT, PHILADELPHIA, MISSISSIPPI, MARCH 12, 2021. ATTEST: D. Lundy Brantley, Superintendent of Education Neshoba County School District BY: Davis Fulton, President-Neshoba County Board of Education as Trustees for the Neshoba County School District 52543

IN THE TRIBAL COURT OF THEMIS-SISSIPPI BAND OF CHOCTAW INDIANS IN RE: B.P.A.K., A MINOR - SANNIA R. THOMAS PETITIONERVS. CAUSE NO: 2020-773 LYNNITA ANN KING, ANY UNKNOWN FATHER DEFENDANTS SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

TO: LYNNITA ANN KING Whose mailing address is unknown and whose post office and street address is unknown after diligent search and inquiry. NOTICE TO DEFENDANT(S) You have been made a respondent in this Court by ROSAN-

NA R. THOMAS, Plaintiff, which seeks to obtain guardianship of the minor child. You are summoned to appear and defend against said complaint, petition or motion at 9:00 o'clock A.M. on the 26th day of May, 2021, in the Tribal courtroom of the Smith John Memorial Judicial Complex located on the Pearl River Reservation, Choctaw, Mississippi. In case of your failure to appear and defend a judgment will be entered against you for the money or other things demanded in the complaint, petition or motion. You are not required to file an answer or other pleading but may do so if you desire. Issued under my hand and the seal of this Court, this the 9th day of April, 2021. TRIBAL COURT CLERK BY: /s/ Jennileen Young 52547

Notice of Finding of No Significant Impact and Notice of Intent to Request Release of funds April 2021 Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians (MBCI) Choctaw Housing Authority P.O. Box 6088 Choctaw, MS 39350 This notice shall satisfy two procedural requirements activities to be undertaken by the Choctaw Housing Authority. REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS Following the end of the required fifteen day comment period, the Choctaw Housing Authority will submit a request to the Chicago Office of Native American Programs, DHUD, for release of Indian Housing Block Grant Cares funds under the Native American Housing and Self-Determination act of 1996. The 55-IH-28-02600 project includes 18 new units and modernization of 37 act units on the Choctaw Indian reservation. The funding of \$3,227,785 includes \$1,627,785 for the development of new housing units and \$1,600,000 for subsidizing/modernization units. FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians has determined that the project will have no significant impact on the human environment. Therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement under the National Environmental Review Record is on file at The Choctaw Housing Authority Office in the Pearl River Community and may be reviewed or copied on week days between 8:00 am and 4:30 pm. PUBLIC COMMENTS As individual, group or agency disagreeing with this determination or wishing to comment on the project may submit written comments to the Choctaw Housing Authority Office. All comments received within 15 days following the publication date of this notice will be considered prior to submission of a request for release of funds. RELEASE OF FUNDS The MBCI certifies to DHUD/ONAP that Chief Cyrus Ben in his capacity as Tribal Chief consents to accept the Jurisdiction of Federal Courts if an action is brought to enforce the environmental review process and that these responsibilities have been satisfied. HUD's approval of the certification satisfies its responsibilities under NEPA and allows the Choctaw Housing Authority to use IHBG Funds. OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS HUD will accept objections to its release of funds and Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians' certification for a period of fifteen days following the actual receipt of the request only if based on one of the following reasons: (a) Certification not executed by Certifying Officer of the MBCI; (b) MBCI has failed to make a finding required by 24 CFR part 58; (c) the grantee has committed funds or incurred cost before approval of release of Funds by HUD; or (d) another federal agency acting pursuant to 40 CFR part 1504 has submitted a written finding that the project does not meet environmental quality standards. Objections must be in accord with 24 CFR part 58 and addressed to the Office of Native American Programs, Department of Housing & Urban Development, 77 West Jackson Blvd., Chicago, IL 60604-3507. /s/Jerry W. Cain Jerry W. Cain Certifying Officer- Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians 52548

6251.79001-161 CIRCUIT COURT 16279.14001-163 JUVENILE COURT 700.00001-164 JUVENILE DRUG COURT 475.44001-166 JUSTICE COURT 81.67001-167 CORONER/MEDICAL EXAMINER 292.87001-171 COURT ADMINISTRATOR 1697.92001-180 ELECTIONS 5482.81001-200 SHERIFF ADMINISTRATION 15900.15001-220 CUSTODY OF PRISONERS 56484.25001-232 MEDICAL SERVICE - PRISONERS 3545.27001-260 EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT 176.39001-262 CON-STABLES 169.33001-420 HEALTH CENTER 114.00001-452 COUNCIL ON AGING 51.66001-540 RECREATION/COLISEUM 309.92001-631 COUNTY EXTENSION 2044.98097-265 COUNTY WIDE E-911 1205.00097-890 CO WIDE E-911 - LEASE/PURCHASE 9757.79104-172 LAW LIBRARY 244.01106-254 LINWOOD VFD 37.74106-255 DIXON VFD 79.02110-265 EMS SERVICES 4633.46150-300 COUNTY UNIT ROAD 14979.12150-890 CO UNIT RD - LEASE/PURCHASE 880.24160-300 COUNTY WIDE BRIDGE & CULVERT 28983.37400-340 SOLID WASTE - 16312.94400-890 SOLID WASTE - LEASE/PURCHASE 5628.69650-000 ASSESSMENTS 4025.00681-000 PAY-ROLL CLEARING FUND 442.75701 DISBURSEMENTS: 244322-25 THIS IS A SUMMARY OF EXPENDITURES FOR PERIOD ENDING APRIL 19, 2021 LISTING THE TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS BY EACH DEPARTMENT/ FUND PUBLISHED IN ACCORDANCE WITH MISSISSIPPI CODE ANN. § 19-3-35. A COMPLETE LIST OF ALL EXPENDITURES REPRESENTING THESE TOTALS IS RECORDED IN THE DOCKET OF CLAIMS AND IS OPEN FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION IN THE CHANCERY CLERKS OFFICE OR BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OFFICE DURING REGULAR BUSINESS HOURS. /S/ GUY NOWELL CLERK OF THE BOARD NESHOPA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS 52552

TITLE OF ABANDONMENT MOTOR VEHICLE

MAXWELL'S AUTO SERVICE 10411 Highway 16 East Philadelphia, MS 39350 MAKE: 2007 Chevrolet Cobalt VIN#: 1G1AK55F877347644PLACE OF SALE: Maxwell's Auto Service SALE DATE: May 22nd, 2021, 8:00a.m. OWNED BY: Tanya Jones ADDRESS: 10810 Road 468 Philadelphia, MS 39350 52557

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF NESHOPA COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI TELITHA TATE JONES, PLAINTIFF VS. KELVIN JONES, DEFENDANT CAUSE NO. 2021-98 NON-RESIDENT SUMMONS THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

TO: Kelvin Jones A Non-Resident of the State of Mississippi NOTICE TO DEFENDANT THE COMPLAINT WHICH IS ATTACHED TO THIS SUMMONS IS IMPORTANT, AND YOU MUST TAKE IMMEDIATE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR RIGHTS. You are required to mail or hand-deliver a copy of written response to the Complaint for Divorce to Honorable Tammy C. Smith, the attorney for the Plaintiff, whose address is 326 Main Street, Suite A, Philadelphia, MS 39350. Your response must be mailed or delivered within thirty (30) days from the date of the delivery of this summons and complaint or a judgment by default will be entered against you for the money or other things demanded in the complaint. You must also file the original of your response with the Clerk of this Court within a reasonable time afterward. Issued under my hand and seal of said Court, this the 19th day of April, 2021. (SEAL)/s/Guy Nowell NESHOPA COUNTY CHANCERY CLERK BY: /s/W. Savell, D.C. 52558

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE INITIAL HEARING

Neshoba County, Mississippi, is considering applying to the Mississippi Development Authority for a Small Cities Community Development Block Grant of up to \$600,000 for building improvements. The State of Mississippi has been allocated approximately \$25 million that will be made available to cities, towns, and counties on a competitive basis to undertake eligible community development activities.

These funds must be used to benefit low- and moderate-income persons. The activities for which these funds may be used are in the areas of public facilities and economic development. More specific details regarding eligible activities, program requirements and the rating system will be provided at a public hearing which will be held at Neshoba County Courthouse, 401 Beacon Street, Suite 201, Philadelphia, Mississippi, on May 13, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. The purpose of this hearing will be to obtain citizen input into the development of the application. The location for this hearing is accessible to persons with disabilities. If a translator is needed for non-English speaking persons, please contact Jeff Mayor at 601-656-6281 at least three (3) days prior to the meeting in an effort to accommodate this request. In an effort to further affirm fair housing, information will be provided on the Federal Fair Housing Law at this hearing. The County does not discriminate against any person because of Race, Color, Religion, Sex, Handicap, Familial Status, or National Origin in the admissions or access to or treatment or employment in its programs or activities. All comments are welcome and must be submitted in writing. For those unable to attend this meeting, written comments will be considered until the close of business on May 20, 2021. Written comments should be mailed to Neshoba County to Jeff Mayo, County Administrator at 401 Beacon Street, Suite 201, Philadelphia, Mississippi 3950. 52559

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF NESHOPA COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI NESHOPA COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF CHILD PROTECTION SERVICES, BY MARCUS D. DAVENPORT, AND EASTON GAUGE ELMORE, A MINOR, BY AND THROUGH HIS NEXT FRIEND, MARCUS D. DAVENPORT, PETITIONERS VS. HEATHER ELIZABETH HURST AKA ELMORE, DANIEL LEE ELMORE, JR., THOMAS GILES AND UNKNOWN PUTATIVE FATHER, RESPONDENTS CIVIL ACTION, FILE NO. 2020-320 CHANCERY COURT SUMMONS THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

TO: Heather Elizabeth Hurst AKA Elmora, who is not to be found in the State of Mississippi on diligent inquiry and whose post office address is 215 Lincoln Avenue, Apt. 205, York, NB 68467-3572. TO: Thomas Giles, who is not to be found in the State of Mississippi on diligent inquiry and whose post office address is 215 Lincoln Avenue, York, NB 68467-3572. TO: Unknown Putative Father, who is not to be found in the State of Mississippi on diligent inquiry and whose post office address is not known to the Petitioners after diligent inquiry made by said Petitioners. You have been made a Respondent in the suit filed in this Court by the Neshoba County Department of Child Protection Services by Marcus D. Davenport, Social Services Regional Director, and Easton Gauge Elmora, a minor, seeking to terminate your parental rights as those rights relate to said minor and demanding that full custody, control and authority to act on behalf of said minor be placed with the Neshoba County Department of Child Protection Services. Respondent other than you in this action is Daniel Lee Elmora, Jr. YOU ARE SUMMONED TO APPEAR AND DEFEND AGAINST THE PETITION FILED AGAINST YOU IN THIS ACTION AT 9 O'CLOCK A.M. ON THE 29TH DAY OF JUNE, 2021, IN THE COURTROOM OF THE NESHOPA COUNTY CHANCERY YOUTH COURTHOUSE AT 401 E. BEACON STREET, STE. 107, PHILADELPHIA, MISSISSIPPI, AND IN CASE OF YOUR FAILURE TO APPEAR AND DEFEND, A JUDGMENT WILL BE ENTERED AGAINST YOU FOR THE RELIEF DEMANDED IN THE PETITION. You are not required to file an answer or other pleading, but you may do so if you desire. ISSUED under my hand and seal of said Court, this 23rd day of April, 2021. /s/Guy Nowell GUY NOWELL, CHANCERY CLERK NESHOPA COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI PHILADELPHIA, MISSISSIPPI 39350 BY: /s/K. Greer, DC Deputy Clerk SEAL Briana Keeler, MSB#105474 Office of the Attorney General Post Office Box 220 Jackson, MS 39205 Telephone No. (601) 359-4239 Email: Briana.Keeler@ago.ms.gov 52562

TO: All unknown heirs of Kenneth Earl Townsend, Deceased You have been made a respondent in the Petition to Determine Heirs filed with the Court by Bonnie Townsend seeking a judicial determination of the rightful heirs at law of Kenneth Earl Townsend. All other known heirs are Petitioner, Bonnie Townsend and Isaiah Townsend. You are summoned to appear and defend against said Petition filed against you in this action at 9:00 o'clock A.M. on the 25th day of May, 2021, at the Neshoba County Chancery Court-house, Philadelphia, Mississippi, and in case of your failure to appear and defend a judgment will be entered against you for the things demanded in the Petition. You are not required to file an answer or other pleading but you may do so if you desire. ISSUED UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL OF THIS COURT, this the 8th day of April, 2019. GUY NOWELL NESHOPA COUNTY CHANCERY CLERK BY: /s/G Tate D.C. Jim Arnold 435 East Beacon Street Philadelphia, MS 39350 Telephone : 601-656-6914 Facsimile: 601-656-6958 E-Mail: jarnoldlawoffice@att.net Publish: April 14, 21 and 28 52517

Neshoba Central to add drone program in the Fall

By **DEBBIE BURT MYERS**
Special to the Democrat

A group of students graduating from Neshoba Central High School in 2022 could quite possibly go directly into the workforce as certified drone pilots, thanks to a new program being added next fall.

The new drone program will be embedded into others at Neshoba Central such as agriculture, digital media, JROTC and engineering. The new program coincides with the school district's mission for all students to graduate both college and career ready with courses, certifications and external opportunities beyond a high school diploma.

Neshoba Central High School Principal Jason Gentry said the school would love to have a standalone drone program, but lacks the needed personnel at the present time.

"We are going to try to embed it with programs that we already have," he said. "For example, Capt. Regan Kieff is going to embed it with his JROTC program."

The ultimate goal is to get participating students certified and licensed through the Federal Aviation Administration so they can fly drones.

Superintendent of Education Lundy Brantley said the drone certification program "is another tool in our toolbox to give our students opportunities for great careers. We are always working with a future focused mindset to enhance our students' education experience."

In order to fly a drone under the FAA's Small UAS Rule (Part 107), a person, 16 years or older, must obtain a Remote

Pilot Certificate from the FAA. This certificate demonstrates that they understand the regulations, operating requirements and procedures for safely flying drones commercially.

Working through the Mississippi Department of Education, administrators and others at Neshoba Central began researching curriculums, which include flight time, for drone programs.

Now with federal stimulus monies and potential grants through MDE, the new program is coming to fruition, Gentry said.

He believes the students who succeed in the program will have numerous job opportunities right out of high school, noting that a Jackson television station recently paid pilots \$1,500 to \$2,000 to go up and take photos/videos during the recent

Pearl River flooding.

"Many of our engineering students are not so much wanting to fly drones but wanting to build them," he said. "Some of our stimulus money will allow us to not only buy drones but also materials to build drones."

One current senior digital media student at Neshoba Central has already obtained his pilot license and has created his own small company.

"He goes out and gets aerial pictures and videos for church camps and youth groups," Gentry said, noting that he also did a video for the school district's superintendent for a Mississippi School Board Association presentation.

The one-year certification process ends with a 60-question test, which must be completed and passed within two hours. That is followed by a back-

ground check.

Capt. Kieff, who is a 22-year veteran of the Marine Corps, said most people don't realize that drones are connected to a number of jobs these days, pointing to the energy sector, agriculture and medical field, among others.

Drones are used to fly along high power lines looking for problems as well as by realtors to fly properties, he said.

"It's huge in agriculture because they fly over crops a lot and survey for potential crop dusting," Kieff said. "It's really big in the medical sector."

Working with Hinds Community College's drone program, Kieff learned about a mass casualty drill where a drone was used to communicate with a doctor over his computer.

"The doctor was able to triage and see how to treat each

patient from a laptop," he said. "He typed in a code and the first aid box under the drone opened a certain compartment for a particular medication that a person onsite administered. That is one really cool story that I like to tell about drones in the workforce."

Kieff also pointed out that Ingalls Shipbuilding on the Coast uses drones to fly over newly built ships to visually examine welded seams to ensure their integrity.

Drones today can be the size of a full-size aircraft, he said.

"These students will hold the same license you get as a regular private pilot flying a Cessna aircraft," he said. "They will be commercially flying an unmanned system."

Kieff and Gentry said the targeted audience for the new drone program will be upcoming juniors and seniors.

601-656-4000

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YARD SALE

American Legion Post 238. 1037 RD 553, Philadelphia, MS 39350. Event: Christmas in May-Giant Yard Sale. Date: May 1, 2021. Time: 7AM-until. Contact: Betty-601-504-2042. \$10-yard sale booth. \$25-food truck booth--

First Church of God on 435 Columbus Avenue is having a yard sale inside the Family Life Center on May 1st. 7AM-12PM--

Four family yard sale, Saturday at 7AM. 1122 East Avenue near Smith Bargain Center.--

HELP WANTED

Manager Wanted:Management experience in a convenience store, retail, or fast food operations preferred but not required, willing to train the right person. Must have the ability to work in a fast paced environment, be willing to work nights, weekends, and all

holidays. Have strong written, verbal, and people skills. Be able to stand for long periods of time. Will be in charge of recruiting, hiring, training employees, making schedules, and overseeing the day to day operations of the store. If you are a motivated, hard-working, multi-tasking, friendly person please send your resume to: powwow-inc@live.com attention MJ. Please no phone calls.--

Drivers WantedSpaceway Transport LLC. Needs Over The Road Drivers to run South East, North East, and Mid West. Pay 58 cents Per Mile Solo and 60 cents Per Mile Team, Loaded or Empty. Home weekly, Health Insurance offered, Vacation with pay, Sick pay and other Benefits. Also Wanted Owner Operators. Call Richard for details at 601-504-5791 cell or 601-774-9213 office--

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MS REGIONAL HOUSING AUTHORITY POSITION OPENING DIRECTOR OF FINANCE

Serve as member of administrative management team of the Authority and directly responsible for finance, purchasing, and maintenance. Responsible for the efficient and effective operation of the Authority's financial and purchasing functions including, but not limited to, accounting, cash management, systems management, payroll operations, purchasing and procurement, and insurance programs. Assist in the formulation of plans and programs, evaluation of existing programs, and establishment of organization goals. Assist the executive director in administering the day-to-day operations of the housing authority. Works under the Supervision of the Executive Director.

- Knowledge of HUD, and other federal, state, and local policies, procedures, and regulations related to the operation of a public housing authority
- Knowledge of the principles and practices of management and supervision
- Knowledge of the principles and practices of communication
- Knowledge of the principles and practices of budgeting and budget administration
- Knowledge of report preparation techniques
- Knowledge of the principles and practices of accounting and finance

Minimum Qualifications

Bachelor's degree in accounting, finance, business administration or closely related field plus 5 years of progressively responsible experience in public or governmental accounting, which includes a minimum of 2 years of supervisory experience, planning, and fiscal responsibility, and the use of computers in maintaining records, or an equivalent combination of education and experience. CPA, and experience in public housing preferred.

Other: Must be able to be covered under the Authority's Fidelity Bond Insurance and Valid driving license

Individuals wishing to apply for this position should apply in person at:
Mississippi Regional Housing Authority No. V
298 Northside Drive
Newton, MS 39345

This job opening is subject to the requirements of Section 3 of the HUD Act of 1968. This act requires that whenever HUD financial assistance is expended for housing or community development, to the greatest extent feasible, economic opportunities be directed toward low- and very-low income persons, particularly those who are recipients of government assistance for housing (Section 3 Residents). Low income is defined as 80% or below the median income of that area. Very low income is defined as 50% or below the median income of that area.

MRHAV encourages residents, and those receiving housing assistance to apply.

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CHAPTER 7 BANKRUPTCY
\$545 + Costs
CHAPTER 13 BANKRUPTCY
Court Fees Up Front
Jim Arnold, Attorney
601-656-6914

Neshoba County Nursing Home Offering CNA Classes
Classes begin May 10th, 2021
All applicants will be subject to Neshoba General hiring requirements.
Now taking Applications online at neshobageneral.com. To apply choose Careers and Student CNA positions. Applicants will be interviewed that meet New Hire requirements.
Application Closing Date April 23rd, 2021

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Neshoba County General Hospital - Nursing Home complies with applicable Federal civil rights laws and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex. ATTENTION: si habla español, here a su disposición servicios gratuitos de asistencia lingüística. Llame al (801) 963-1200. CHÚ Ý: Nếu bạn nói Tiếng Việt, có các dịch vụ hỗ trợ ngôn ngữ miễn phí dành cho bạn. Gọi số (801) 963-1200.

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CERTIFIED STAFF OPENINGS
For School Year 2021-2022
Location: Choctaw Indian Reservation in Pearl River Community, 6 miles west of Philadelphia, MS. For more information contact: Human Resources Office, P.O. Box 6033, Choctaw Branch, Choctaw, MS 39350
CLOSING DATE: 4/5/21 or until filled
CONEHATTA EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER
Teacher
Qualifications: In accordance with Federal Regulation: (i) No less than 50% of all Head Start teachers, nationwide, must have a baccalaureate degree in child development, early childhood education, or equivalent coursework. (ii) At least an associate's or bachelor's degree in child development or early childhood education equivalent coursework, or otherwise meet the requirements of section 648 (a)(3)(B) of the Act.-REQUIRED. Must have dependable transportation, a valid Mississippi Driver's License, and Liability Insurance as required by the state law, and must renew accordingly.-REQUIRED. Continued employment will be contingent upon satisfactory Child Abuse and Criminal Background check-REQUIRED.
ALL APPLICATIONS MUST BE REQUESTED OR SUBMITTED TO:
Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians
Attention: Human Resources
P.O. Box 6033, Choctaw Branch
Choctaw, Mississippi 39350

**MS REGIONAL HOUSING AUTHORITY
POSITION OPENING
RECEPTIONIST**
The Authority has a position opening for a Receptionist based in the Central Office in Newton. This position requires knowledge of typing, computer skills including the use of Microsoft Word, Excel and other general office machines. This person is responsible for answering all telephone lines, routing calls, processing mail, waiting on the front and supporting the Low-Rent and Section 8 Staff. This position works under the general supervision of the Executive Director. This individual must have a pleasant telephone voice and work well with the public.
Individuals wishing to apply for this position should apply in person at:
Mississippi Regional Housing Authority No. V
298 Northside Drive
Newton, MS 39345

This job opening is subject to the requirements of Section 3 of the HUD Act of 1968. This act requires that whenever HUD financial assistance is expended for housing or community development, to the greatest extent feasible, economic opportunities be directed toward low- and very-low income persons, particularly those who are recipients of government assistance for housing (Section 3 Residents). Low income is defined as 80% or below the median income of that area. Very low income is defined as 50% or below the median income of that area.
MRHAV encourages residents, and those receiving housing assistance to apply.
EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

Attala Steel Industries HELP WANTED
LOOKING FOR A JOB?
How would you like to join a growing energy renewal division?
**GREAT BENEFITS - COMPETITIVE WAGES
LOTS OF HOURS**
QUALIFICATIONS:
• Be a minimum of 16 years old.
• Must be able to lift 65+ pounds.
• Able to work some Saturday's.
• Have steel toe shoes
Apply in person at,
Attala Steel Industries, 2730 Attala Road 2247, Kosciusko, MS 39090
or if you have any questions call: Judy Horne at 662-290-0094

CERTIFIED STAFF OPENINGS
For School Year 2021-2022
CLOSING DATE: 5/4/21 or until filled
CHOCTAW CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL
Secondary Teacher, Music
Qualifications: Possess a valid Educator License issued by the Mississippi State Department of Education with appropriate endorsement.
PEARL RIVER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
School Nurse
Qualifications: Valid Mississippi Board of Nursing License as a Registered Nurse. Preference for three (3) years' experience as a Registered Nurse in a school or clinical setting.
TUCKER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
Teacher
Qualifications: Possess a valid Mississippi Educator License issued by the Mississippi State Department of Education with appropriate endorsement and emphasis on grade level and/or subject area being taught.
Teacher, Computer Application
Qualifications: Possess a valid Mississippi Educator License issued by the Mississippi State Department of Education with appropriate endorsement and emphasis on grade level and/or subject area being taught.
Ability to work in a rural school system with bilingual students. Complete a criminal background check on county, state and national levels. Any record or conviction of criminal or child abuse charges will result in immediate termination. Employee in this position is subject to random drug testing. Must possess a valid Mississippi Driver's License, adequate transportation and personal automobile liability insurance.
ALL APPLICATIONS MUST BE REQUESTED OR SUBMITTED TO:
Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians
Attention: Human Resources
P.O. Box 6033, Choctaw Branch
Choctaw, Mississippi 39350



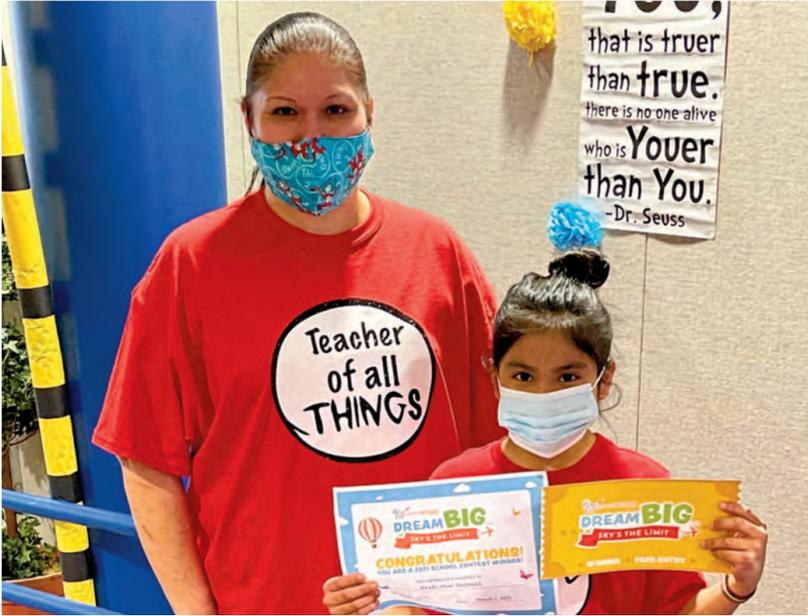
Students attend Band Clinic

The following Neshoba Central students attend ECCC Band clinic and they each earned first chair and a half tuition scholarship. Pictured, left to right, are Jessie Pettigrew, Christ Gentry, Zeb Spire, Leigh Allyn Stroud, and Riley Yeatman.



Neshoba Central Golf wins regional tournament

Neshoba Central's Golf team won the Regional Golf Tournament. They will compete at MHSAA State Competition on May 3 and May 4. Bryon McLellan was the Medalist for the Region. Pictured, from left: TJ Phillips, Byron McClellan, Eli Lewis, Blake Sanders, Luke Pettifrew and Ethan Doss.



Thomas wins "Dream Big, Sky's the Limit" Contest

Braelynn Thomas, a third grade student at Tucker Elementary School, pictured here with her teacher Tanya Tullos, recently competed in the Mississippi Children's Museum-Meridian's "Dream Big, Sky's the Limit" contest sponsored by East Mississippi Retired Educators Association and Alan and Marilyn Brown. Contestants were asked to write about their 'Big Dreams.' Out of 420-plus entries, Braelynn was one of 10 winners. She received a Mississippi Children's Museum-Meridian T-shirt, bag and two general admission tickets.



Neshoba Central NJROTC wins 1st at Drill Meet

Neshoba Central's NJROTC took first place finish at Lafayette drill meet on April 17. Team trophies include first place in personnel inspection, commanded by Lacie Chickaway. First place in unarmed basic drill, commanded by Lindsey Beckham. First place in armed basic drill, commanded by Oscar Bell. First place in armed exhibition drill, commanded by Oscar Bell. First place in color guard drill, commanded by Liberty Kaufman. First place in two man tandem drill by Oscar Bell and Damien Clark.

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Silver Star or Golden Moon Cage

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CONGRATULATIONS SENIORS!

Graduation 2021

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Joy Stewart, 601-500-0746
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Henley Wilson, 769-233-6985
henley@neshobademocrat.com

THE NESHOPA DEMOCRAT



Collins signs with William Carey

Neshoba Central's Christian Collins signed today with William Carey University to further his career in soccer. Christian will be a 2021 graduate of Neshoba Central. He is the son of Jennifer Collins. (Front) His grandfather, Joey Boler, his mom, Jennifer Collins, Christian, his Aunt Glenda Boler (Back) Brent Pouncey, Assistant Principal, Dana McLain, Assistant Principal, Coach Katlyn Duke, his brother, Logan Collins, Coach Jared Lee, Principal Jason Gentry, Tommy Holland, Athletic Director, Lashon Horne, Assistant Principal.



Martin signs with EMCC

Leake Academy senior Will Martin, of Philadelphia, will be continuing his career with the East Mississippi Community baseball team. Martin is a three-year starter for the Rebels and has also played with the East Coast Sox organization. Martin had a .365 average with 23 RBIs this season for the Rebels. Martin is the son of Craig and Amy Martin. On the back row is Leake Academy Athletics Director Josh Ray, brother Seth Martin, sister Meg Martin, head baseball coach Cory Burns and assistant baseball coach Lee Myers.



Hunter awarded Mr. Football

Lonnie Tillman, associate director of the MHSAA, presented the Mr. Football for 5A trophy to Neshoba Central's Jarquez Hunter. Pictured, from left, are Coach Patrick Schooler, Jarquez Hunter and Lonnie Tillman. Six players — one from each MHSAA classification — were selected as Mississippi Mr. Football recipients for the 2020 season in partnership with the New Orleans Saints, Mississippi High School Activities Association and the Mississippi Association of Coaches. The winners were selected by a statewide committee of high school coaches and media who cover high school football.



Boyd, Mayfield sign with ECCC

Leake Academy seniors Emily Boyd, left, and Mabry Mayfield, right, will be attending East Central Community College and be a part of the Centralettes dance squad. They are shown with Leake Academy dance squad coach Julie Weaver.



NOTICE

Neshoba County Fair Cabin Utility Activation

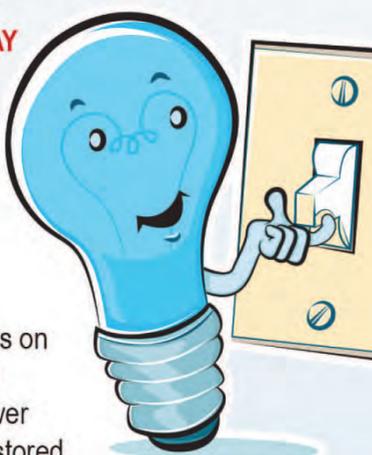
ONCE MAIN BREAKER TO YOUR CABIN IS TURNED ON PLEASE STAY AT LEAST 2 HOURS TO INSURE THE WIRING IS SECURE FROM FIRE HAZARDS!

ELECTRICAL SERVICE

will be turned on at the Fairgrounds on Monday, May 3rd (SUBJECT TO CHANGE). Cabins with their power breaker on at the time power is restored will have their **SERVICE TERMINATED** and

a **\$500**

FINE WILL BE ASSESSED



ELECTRICAL SERVICE WILL NOT BE RESTORED UNTIL THE \$500 FINE IS PAID.

All cabin owners are expected to conserve energy. **DO NOT** leave your air conditioners running through the week or weekend in an unoccupied cabin.

WATER SERVICE

will be restored on Monday, May 3rd (SUBJECT TO CHANGE). If it is determined that water is running in or from an unattended cabin a

\$50

FINE WILL BE ASSESSED

These measures are not an attempt to punish anyone, but are necessary to make our fair safe and affordable for everyone.

2021 FAIR JULY 23-30

IT'S NEVER TOO EARLY TO PREPARE TO FAIR!



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The Fair Times

Joy Stewart, 601-500-0746
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Henley Wilson, 769-233-6985
henley@neshobademocrat.com

THE NESHOBA DEMOCRAT

Rockets enter baseball playoffs as region champs

By STEVE SWOGETINSKY
steve@neshobademocrat.com

The Neshoba Central Rockets wrapped up the Region 3-5A baseball championship and have drawn a first round bye going into the Class 5A state playoffs.

The Rockets will be playing Thursday night when they visit Germantown.

"They won their region and we won ours," Coach Jonathan Jones said. "We didn't want to go too long without a game so we scheduled one with them."

Last week, the Rockets defeated Cleveland Central 10-6 to conclude their region schedule. They closed out the regular season with a 7-6 win over West Lauderdale.

Against Cleveland Central, the Rockets scored one in the first, one in the third, four in the fifth and four in the sixth. The Wolves scored two in the first and four in the fourth.

Bryceton Spencer was the winning pitcher. He helped his cause with a single while scoring one run and knocking in two

more.

Cade Hall hit a triple and a single. He scored two runs and knocked in two more. Dagan Martin hit a triple and a single while scoring two runs. Reid Hall hit a double and scored two runs. Ramie Harrison hit a double, scored a run and knocked in three more. Jacob Killens had two hits, scored two runs and knocked in another.

With his team down 6-5 in the bottom of the seventh, Harrison hit a two-run homer to lift the Rockets over West Lauderdale.

Harrison went four-for-four on the night. He scored two runs and knocked in five.

"Some of our players have never beaten West so this was a big thing," Jones said. "We have been playing a lot better over the last 10 or 15 ballgames so we have the confidence to beat somebody the caliber of them."

Neshoba Central had scored two in the first, one in the third, one in the fourth and one in the fifth. West Lauderdale scored one in the third, one in the fourth, one in the fifth, one in the fifth, one in

the sixth and two in the seventh.

Rhett Stovall was the winning pitcher. Reid Hall hit a double and a single while scoring two runs.

Playoffs

The Philadelphia Tornados wrapped up their regular baseball season with a 5-15 record. In the final week, the Tornados lost 11-0 to Northeast Lauderdale and 17-1 to Nanih Waiya. The Tornados finished third in their region and will enter the playoffs Thursday against the second place team from Region 8.

The Choctaw Central Warriors will play Corinth in the first round of the Class 4A playoffs. The Warriors, 8-10, visit Corinth in the first game Thursday. They will host on Friday. If a third game is needed, it will be played Saturday at Corinth.

The Warriors closed out their season last week with an 8-1 loss to Choctaw County and 8-0 loss to Kosciusko. Andre' Jim hit a double and a single against Choctaw County.



BUSINESS & INDUSTRY



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joy@neshobademocrat.com

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THE NESHOPA DEMOCRAT

Lady Rockets stand at 25-0

By STEVE SWOGETINSKY
steve@neshobademocrat.com

The Neshoba Central Lady Rockets opened Class 5A play-off action Monday with a 12-1 victory over Center Hill in fast-pitch softball action.

The two teams were to meet again Tuesday for the second game at Neshoba Central. The Lady Rockets are ranked No. 1 in the nation and stand at 25-0.

The Lady Rockets tuned up for the playoffs with two close games against Region 4-4A champion West Lauderdale last week. They won the first game 3-2 and the second 9-4.

Elleigh Willis was the winning pitcher in both games. She struck out eight in game one

and four in game two.

In the first game, Neshoba scored one in the first, one in the third and one in the seventh. West Lauderdale scored one in the second and one in the bottom of the seventh. Tenly Grisham had two hits and scored two runs.

In the second game, the Lady Rockets scored one in the first, one in the second, four in the third and four in the fifth.

Kylee Thompson had one hit, scored two runs and knocked in two more. Char-mayne Morris had two hits and scored a run. AnnaLeigh Jones hit a double and knocked in two runs. Shante Beaulieu hit a double.

Playoffs

The Philadelphia Lady Tornados lost two games to West Lincoln in the first round of the Class 2A playoffs and were eliminated. They finished with an 8-10 record.

The Choctaw Central girls defeated North Pontotoc in two games to advance to the second round of the Class 4A playoffs. The Lady Warriors were playing Yazoo City in the second round.

The Union girls opened the Class 2A playoffs with a two-game sweep of Bogue Chitto. The Lady Yellowjackets were playing St. Patrick in the second round.

Of Local Interest

CHURCH HOMECOMING

May 2. Homecoming Salem Baptist Church, Kemper County. Services begin at 10:45 with pot-luck lunch to follow. Pastor: Rev Alan Hawkins

MOTHER'S DAY SERVICE

Memorial/Mother's Day service will be held at Salem Baptist Church in Neshoba County on May 2, 2021. Service begins at 10:30. Bring lunch and join us for the service and lunch afterwards. Pastor: Matt Pittman

HOMECOMING

Mt. Olive Baptist Church in the Stephens Town Community will be having a Homecoming/Memorial service Sunday May 16th starting at 10:30. After the service we will have a fellowship dinner. If you have loved ones buried in the cemetery, we would like for you to come and be a part of our service. Everyone that will be staying please bring your favorite dish of food. We will have a great time in the Lords House. Joe Beckham 601-416-5896

CHUNN REUNION

Join us for the 33rd Annual Chunn Reunion Sunday, May 2, 2021 @ Union City Park. Family gathering at 11:30 potluck lunch at 12:00. Contact 601-604-7950 (Arron) or 601-416-3310 (Thurman). Due to damage to the building we will use the open site next door.

NESHOPA CENTRAL PRE-K

The Pre-Kindergarten Program is located at the Neshoba County School District, Office of Federal Programs/Pre-K building at 1125 Golf Course Road. Students are screened for enrollment by a pre-kindergarten test. The program is designed to serve those children with the most academic/developmental needs, and will be 4 years old on or before September 1, 2021.

The classes will begin and end to coincide with the regular school term at Neshoba County Schools. Participating students' parents will be required to provide transportation to and from the center. As other students in the school district, pre-k students will be offered breakfasts and lunches by the Neshoba County School District Food Services.

Registration and testing will be conducted from 8:30 a.m.-2 p.m., on May 19 - 21. We ask that one parent attend with the child being tested.

To register a child for the pre-k program, guardians must provide the following documents:

Two (2) of the following proofs of residency:

- IF RENTING/LEASING: Current notarized official home/apartment lease/rental agreement with length of lease and Parent's or Guardian's name included on lease/rental agreement (THIS MUST BE ONE OF THE PROOFS IF LEASING OR RENTING and one of the following #3-#6)
- Filed Homestead Exemption application form OR current mortgage document or property deed
- Valid driver's license OR voter identification card
- Current utility bill (dated within 60 days) showing the service location with parent's or guardian's name listed (acceptable bills: electricity, gas, water, or landline telephone)
- Automobile registration receipt
- Any other document that will objectively and unequivocally establish that the parent or guardian resides with in the school district, and in the case of a student living with a legal guardian who is a bona fide resident of the school district. (Official government documentation - i.e. current tax year return, social security statement, DHS statement, etc.)
- Property Tax Card, Property Deed, or other doc-

ument that states the residency property's

Section, Township, and Range.

C. The child's certified birth certificate from Mississippi State Department of Health Vital Records (601-206-8200) (child must be 4 years of age on or before September 1, 2021).

D. The child's social security card,

E. The child's MS certificate of immunization compliance form (Form no. 121) checked and signed,

F. CDIB (if applicable).

CPC ANNUAL FUNDRAISER

The CPC's Annual Fundraiser is Thursday, May 6. Local pastors and volunteers will be serving at Bloomo Diner, City Limits, Laredo Grill, McAlister's Deli, and Ronnie's Steak N Grill from 5 to 9 pm. All tips and gifts that night benefit the CPC-Pregnancy & Family Resource Center. Contact Pauline Karcher or at 601-656-9712.

CHURCH ANNIVERSARY

Northside Pentecostal Church 10 year anniversary Sunday May 2, 2021 at 1:00 pm. Music by the Dunaways and Stan Cook and guest speaker Reverend Arrie Fulton. Join us for a great time of worship and fellowship.

NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER

The 2021 National Day of Prayer is planned for Thursday, May 6 at the Mississippi Coliseum beginning at 11 a.m.

This year's theme is "Love, Life and Liberty" from II Corinthians 3:17, which reads, "Now the Lord is Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is Liberty."

This is a time for the body of Christ to come together and pray for our state and nation! Please mark your calendars and join us.

DRIVE-THRU DEA DRUG TAKE BACK DAY

Safe and anonymously dispose of your unused or expired medications!



SATURDAY, APRIL 24 • 10AM-2PM
CHC MAIN ENTRANCE

Scratch out all identifying information on the prescription bottle to make it unreadable. This will help to protect your identity and privacy of your personal health information.

*Items like syringes, inhalers, and vape products will not be accepted. To abide by COVID-19 Guidelines, please wear a mask and stay in your vehicle.



For questions call Choctaw Behavioral Health
(601) 389-4150

Thank You for your Continued Support!

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Jeannette C. Mars

GOLD

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David & Roberta Byars
Patrick & Tracye Eakes
Bill & Nancy Yates
The Neshoba Democrat

SILVER

Community Development
Partnership of Philadelphia
Horn Family Dental
Don & Ellen Kilgore
Northside Storage, LLC
Don & Evelyn Perry
Dr. Mike & Darlene Shrock
Steve's on the Square
Dorothy L. Thomas
Dr. Thomas Tisher &
Elizabeth Frohse
Charlene Webb

BRONZE

Airpark Family Dentistry

Atwood Personal Care Home

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Allen & Jane Crosswhite
Terri Donald

Richard & Virginia Eakes
Kinsey Goldman
Wanda L. Haas
KADEMI

Kay Kilpatrick
Patti Duncan Lee
Bryan & LeAnna Linkins
Rebecca B. McClain
Tim & Andrea Moore
Steve & Linda Murray
Kenneth & Pat Posey
Jennifer Prince
Stacey Thomas
Jan Todd

FAMILY

Marvin & Mary Louise Blanks
Bruce & Christy Bounds
Richard & Lynn Boykin
Jeremy & Dawn Lea Chalmers
Patt & Carol Fiedler
Becky Fowler
Wendell & Florine Holmes

Rusty & Jane Kynerd

Glenn & Emma Myers
Ms. Tina's Studio
Daniel & Dana Sharp
Bill & Donita Stephens
Larry & Debra Stribling
Stan & Debbie Webb

SENIOR

Nelwyn Brantley
Linda Breazeale
Neda Byars
Jane Cole
Frankie Germany
Dawn Mars
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**ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DRIVE • THURSDAY, MAY 13 • 6:00PM
AT THE DEPOT • 6:30PM - DRAWINGS FOR DOOR PRIZES**

When you join or renew your membership, you are automatically entered into the drawings. Door prizes include our "Fair City" Basket which includes 2 season tickets to The Choctaw Indian Fair & The Neshoba County Fair.

For more information contact: 601-656-1000 (ext. 1805) • pncartscouncil@gmail.com
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