



NEWS

BLOOD DRIVE HELD FOR MAN BATTLING CIRRHOSIS OF LIVER

71 donations — Page 7A

COOK OF THE WEEK

BECKHAM ENJOYS TENDING GARDEN

Bobbie Beckham — Page 1B



THE NESHOPA DEMOCRAT

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PROPOSED 9% INCREASE

Sheriff: Better pay needed for jailers

By STEVE SWOGETINSKY
steve@neshobademocrat.com

Constant personnel turnover is one of three major problems faced in operating the Neshoba County Detention Center, Sheriff Eric Clark told the Board of Supervisors.

The Sheriff is seeking a 9% increase in his proposed Fiscal

Year 2022 budget for the jail with much of the new monies going to staff pay raises. He presented his proposal last week.

He is asking the Neshoba County Board of Supervisors for \$1,525,106 for the new fiscal year that begins Oct. 1. That's an increase of \$139,340 when compared to the current

fiscal year budget of \$1,385,766.

Keeping an experienced staff to supervise the detention center is a problem.

"Currently, only one of the 20 employees has more than three years of service," Clark said.

Clark said there have been

16 resignations since he became Sheriff in January 2020. He pointed to low wages as the key issue.

"Our jail employees start at \$10 per hour vs. Lauderdale County's starting wage of \$11.38," Clark said. "During the COVID-19 pandemic, correction officers were considered essential workers and

required to report for duty."

He proposed a pay scale:

- New hire, \$11 per hour;
- After six months, 50 cents per hour raise;
- Upon completion of a Jail-er Certification, \$1 per hour raise;
- After three years, \$1 per hour raise;
- After five years, \$1 per

hour raise;

- Promoted to supervisor, \$1 per hour raise.

Clark said other problems include a deteriorating building and overcrowding.

Clark reported problems with the cell doors and locking mechanisms, plumbing, electri-

See JAIL, page 3A



Photo by COLEMAN EAKES

A carnival worker stands in the middle of the Ferris wheel on the grounds of the Choctaw Indian Fair Monday afternoon getting the ride set up for this week's festivities. The 71st Choctaw Indian Fair begins today and runs thru Saturday.

Choctaw Indian Fair now underway

By STAFF REPORTS
news@neshobademocrat.com

The 71st annual Choctaw Indian Fair officially begins today (Wednesday) at the Amphitheater with the Opening Ceremonies hosted by Chief Cyrus Ben at 6 p.m. followed by the Choctaw Indian Princess pageant at 7 p.m.

Thirteen beautiful young Chahta Ohoyos (Choctaw women) will compete for the honor of becoming the 66th Choctaw Indian Princess,

kicking off the nearly week-long fair that will feature midway rides, food, musical entertainment and more.

Professional shows at the Amphitheater are as follows:

- Thursday, July 15 — Jimmie Allen at 8:30 p.m.
- Friday, July 16 — Zach Williams at 8:30 p.m.
- Saturday, July 17 — Brett Young at 8:30 p.m.

There will be other events such as the Rez

Run on Saturday starting at 7 a.m.

Other features of the fair include exhibitions highlighting Choctaw history, culture and Tribal dances, and the Stickball tournament that is underway with teams in five brackets competing — Men, Women, Men over 35, and two youth divisions Tulli Okchi Ishko (ages 14-17) and Pushmataha (ages 10-13).

The Stickball tournament concludes with the championship at 10:15 p.m. Saturday.

Go to choctawindianfair.com for ticket information and the complete schedule.

SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Clark asks for 15% increase in SO budget

By STEVE SWOGETINSKY
steve@neshobademocrat.com

Neshoba County Sheriff Eric Clark is seeking a 15% increase in his budget with plans for pay raises, additional staff and equipment purchases

Clark submitted his proposed Fiscal 2022 budgets for the Sheriff's Department and the Neshoba County Detention Center (see related story) during last the July 6 meeting of the Board of Supervisors.

Clark's budget request for the Sheriff's Office totals \$1,744,822, a \$255,420 increase when compared to the current budget of \$1,489,402.

Clark's new budget calls for a 50 cents per hour raise for all employees in the Sheriff's Office.

Clark is also asking for two additional employees: a narcotics officer and another patrol deputy. He also recommended putting the chief investigator and fire investigator on salary.

When explaining the need for another narcotics officers, Clark said, "In the past nine months, we have made 617 drug-related arrests charges. We have sent 87 crystal-like substance submissions to the Mississippi Crime Lab for analysis."

As for the additional patrol deputy position, Clark said two patrol deputies are on each shift now to cover 570 square miles and to protect 30,000 people in Neshoba County.

Clark said the county has paid out 1,298 hours in overtime in the past nine months.

"So far this year, we have spent around \$47,000 on overtime," Clark said. "We spent \$42,000 on overtime all of the last fiscal year."

See BUDGET, page 2A

Price retires from DHS after 30 years

By JOHN LEE
john@neshobademocrat.com

Being able to help community members and her coworkers was the greatest reward of Kim Price's 36-year career in the Neshoba County Department of Human Services.

"Whenever I helped someone with a problem they were having, it was a great feeling. I felt I had accomplished something that day," Price said. "I've worked with so many people and developed many lasting friendships."

Price retired in May as director of the Neshoba County DHS, and her colleagues said they will miss her guidance and help.

"Kim always wanted to help people, and she volunteered for a ton of projects and just went out of her way to help others," said Andrea

Mitchell, case manager at the Neshoba County DHS, who worked under Price for 10 years. "Getting to know her as a person and knowing her family was by far my favorite part of working for her."

Price was the youngest employee at the Neshoba County DHS when she started working there in 1985 as an eligibility worker determining people's eligibility for food stamps and other benefits.

"The people I worked with at the beginning all went on to either retire or were hired elsewhere, but we're still friends and still get together from time to time," Price said. "That was a great thing about the job."

Price was promoted to supervisor over the eligibility workers in February 1993 and became the director of the DHS in Neshoba County in February 2002, the position

she held until her retirement in May.

The biggest challenge of being the director, Price said, was trying to please everyone and trying to keep everyone happy.

"Neshoba County has always had a good working staff and office," Price said. "That's the biggest challenge, having to work and know you can't please everyone. I try to be a people pleaser, and I want to make sure everyone is happy."

Price was born in Jackson but moved to Philadelphia with her family when she was 12. She and her husband, Cecil Price, have two children, Bass and Cicily. They also have a daughter-in-law, Virginia, and son-in-law, Layne.

Price said she does not have any specific retirement See PRICE, page 2A



Pictured are: Back row, from left, Andrea Mitchell, Joyce Wilkerson and Diane Killen. Front row, from left, Teresa Talbert, LaWanda Dawkins, Kim Price, Tammy Wells and Tia Graff.

OPINION
Rich Lowry

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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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Founded in 1881

The Democrat was founded in 1881 and has been locally owned ever since.

(USPS 377-160)

The Neshoba Democrat is published every Wednesday by The Neshoba Democrat Publishing Co., Inc., 439 Beacon Street, Philadelphia, Miss., James E. Prince III, president. Subscriptions are \$36 per year in Neshoba and adjoining counties, \$40 in other Mississippi counties and \$43 for out of state. Single copy price is \$1. Periodicals postage paid at Philadelphia, MS.

The Democrat reserves the right to reject or edit any or all advertising. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to: The Neshoba Democrat, P.O. Box 30, Philadelphia, MS 39350.



Grandson Rhea Tannehill, granddaughter Molly Tannehill, wife Judy Tannehill, Jack Rhea and son Rhea, far right, and his wife Robin.

Tannehill in MS Press Hall of Fame

By STAFF REPORTS

news@neshobademocrat.com

Jack Rhea Tannehill, who got his start in journalism in high school at The Neshoba Democrat and worked fearlessly in the newspaper industry for nearly 45 years, was inducted into the Mississippi Press Association Hall of Fame during the organization's 155th annual meeting this past weekend on the Mississippi Gulf Coast.

"He delivered papers, took photographs, wrote stories, and became an expert in running web offset printing presses," said Sid Salter, Chief Communications Officer at Mississippi State University, in a letter nominating Tannehill.

Tannehill's now-late father, Jack L. Tannehill, moved his family to Philadelphia when

he purchased an interest in Democrat in 1954 when Jack Rhea was 8-years old, said Salter, a Philadelphia native who himself worked on the Democrat eventually becoming associate editor and publisher for a stint in the 1980s.

Jack Rhea got involved in the newspaper business early on and later while attending the University of Mississippi worked at The Oxford Eagle where he was welcomed "with open arms because of his knowledge on how to run the printing press," Salter said.

Jack Rhea's father purchased The Union Appeal in 1967 but died in 1968 at the age of 55.

"Jack Rhea, and his [now-late] mother, Courtney Tannehill, quickly took command of The Union Appeal in 1968, and Jack Rhea owned and

published that newspaper until 2012," Salter said. The Union Appeal became the Newton County Appeal in 2009 after The Newton Record closed.

Salter quotes Jack Rhea's son, Rhea, an attorney in Oxford, saying his father never bowed to political pressure or fear of being shunned by others for writing an unpopular story during his career.

"He always believed that his job was to make sure that his community knew the whole story," Rhea said. "He endured death threats over the years for reporting things people did not like to hear, and he was even arrested and charged with disorderly conduct. The Union School Board attempted to go into executive session to discuss something that did not fall under the executive session privilege, and Jack

Rhea refused to leave, which led to his arrest. In typical Jack Rhea fashion, he took his case to trial on his own and was found not guilty.

Jack Rhea served as MPA president in 1981 during a period of rapid growth for the association.

"Jack Rhea is eminently qualified and most deserving of this very high honor," Salter said. "As a second-generation newspaper publisher, he grew up in the newspaper publishing business. But beyond that, Jack Rhea was an innovator in terms of newspaper design and production, photography, ad sales and design, pre-print insert design, sales and publishing, and exhibited courage in the way he covered controversial news and made timely editorial commentaries."

His father was inducted into the Hall of Fame in 1999.

Aldermen reappoint attorney, city clerk

By STEVE SWOGETINSKY

steve@neshobademocrat.com

The new Mayor and Board of Aldermen voted to retain department heads during their first meeting of the new term last week.

Aldermen voted to retain Robert Thomas as city attorney, Nikki Walton as city clerk and Amy Taylor as city judge.

Remaining as department heads are: Eric Lyons, police chief; Pierce Clark, fire chief;

Jay Eakes, building inspector; Rex Sable, streets; Larry McKinney, cemetery; Kevin Wilson, animal control; and, Marilyn Jackson, court clerk.

Thurman Chunn is working part-time out of retirement directing sanitation department and landfill. That full-time position is open.

The board also voted to retain all current city employees.

Mayor James Young selected Ward 2 Alderman Jim Ful-

ton to serve as mayor pro tempore. He appointed alderman Ward 3 Alderman James Tatum to serve as Streets Commissioner. The board approved both selections.

In other matters, aldermen voted to:

- Approve for the mayor and aldermen to attend MML conference on the Mississippi Gulf Coast July 26-28. The city will pay for registration and travel expenses;
- Approve the payment of

\$2,597 to Gilmer Electric for work on the Viking Metals project;

- Approve setting a public hearing date for Aug. 3 for rezoning of the property at 620 Columbus Ave. from R1 to R4;

- Approve hiring Justin Wyatt as patrolman 1st class for the police department. His starting pay is \$14.88 an hour;

- Approve a pay increase for firefighter Scott Clark to \$14.88 an hour

Price

Continued from page 1A

plans besides getting ready for the Neshoba County Fair — the Prices have owned a cabin since 1985 — and spending

time with her daughter, Cicily, who was recently married.

In her spare time, Price said she loves going to the beach, spending time outdoors and watching sports. She said she hopes to have grandchildren in the future, and she looks forward to planning all sorts of

fun things for them to do.

"I'm just enjoying retirement right now," Price said. "I'll also have more time to help out at my church, First United Methodist, and do some volunteering."

Mitchell said she is sad to see Price go.

"She was easy to talk to, she listened, and would stop what she was doing to help us," Mitchell said. "I'm very happy for her, and I know she's going to enjoy retirement."

Budget

Continued from page 1A

"I am monitoring the overtime, but if someone is out because of sickness, vacation or going to training, someone has to come in and work. And

that is done on overtime. The additional manpower would cut down on overtime," he said.

Clark is also requesting three new SUVs for the department. He said he would like to do that annually to keep the department's fleet of vehicles up-to-date.

In addition, the sheriff asks

that each sheriff's department vehicle be equipped with onboard computers if federal relief money allows. He is asking for 10 new tasers to replace outdated equipment which is now in use.

"Our goal is to present a reasonable budget proposal needed to carry out the powers, duties and daily opera-

tions of the sheriff's office," Clark said in a press release. "Public safety is the top priority of any government and our goal as the sheriff's office is to recruit, train and retain the best deputies we can. We must provide them with the equipment needed to protect themselves."



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Marijuana, firearms seized by deputies at weekend roadblock

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

A significant amount of marijuana resulted in two arrests and the confiscation of a firearm and cash at a weekend roadblock set up by the Neshoba County Sheriff's Office northeast of Philadelphia, officials said.

Javaskic J. Brown, 25, 5409 Hopewell Road, DeKalb, was arrested and charged with possession of a controlled substance, possession of drug paraphernalia, driving under a suspended license and posses-



Javaskic Brown



Joseph Beard

sion of a firearm by a convicted felon, the authorities said.

He remains in the Neshoba County Jail on \$10,000 bond and has been denied bond on the firearm possession charge.

Joseph Beard, 26, 10090

Country Lane Apt. 3, was arrested and charged with possession of a controlled substance. Beard remains in the jail on a \$10,000 bond.

Sheriff Eric Clark said that both men were caught with a significant amount of marijuana.

He said they were apprehended at a safety checkpoint on County Road 632 near Highway 482 in the Steele Town community near Sandtown on Saturday, July 10 late in the evening.

Supes apply for bridge repair grant

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

The Neshoba County Board of Supervisors will apply for an Emergency Road and Bridge Repair Fund Grant to help replace four bridges in the county.

The bridges slated to benefit from the grant include the Road 210 bridge which is open with a 3-ton weight limit, a bridge on Road 739 off of Highway 16 east and two bridges on Road 107 located north of Sebastopol.

Supervisors do not yet know how much the grant request will be for as engineers are still working on plans.

"We are waiting on the engineering report on the 107 project," said County Administrator Jeff Mayo. "It's two bridges but will be one project."

Supervisors acted during the board's July 6 meeting to meet an Aug. 6 deadline for applying for the grant program

administered by the Mississippi Department of Transportation.

Mississippi's Emergency Road and Bridge Repair Fund was established during the 2018 Legislative session to address Mississippi's failing bridges.

During the 2021 legislative session Senate Bill 2825 earmarked \$89 million of highway infrastructure program funds received by MDOT under the federal Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2021 for the Emergency Road and Bridge Repair Program.

In other matters, supervisors voted to:

- Approve the quarterly budget allocation for the Sheriff's Department (\$372,350) and the Neshoba County Detention Center (\$327,125);
- Accept the resignation of James Bradley from the Sheriff's Department;
- Accept the detailed bill report and daily meal log from

the jail. Supervisors also approved the payment of \$500 for the Health Department's sanitation inspection;

- Approve a request from Central Water Association to run a line across Road 802;
- Approve hiring Regan Carpenter as court reporter for the 8th Circuit Court District. Neshoba County is responsible for one fourth of her salary;
- Approve a PERS refund from the 2020 Annual Financial Report of \$704.62 for Constable Josh Burt;
- Approve continuation of emergency declaration from the February ice storm. Supervisors discontinued the local emergency for COVID-19;
- Approve a travel request for Kim Yates to attend the Mississippi Justice Court Clerk's Annual Convention Sept. 8-10 in Bay St. Louis; and
- Declare Thursday, July 29 as Neshoba County Fair Day Holiday

Man charged in alleged machete attack

By **SCOTT HAWKINS**
scott@neshobademocrat.com

A Frog Level man faces aggravated assault charges after his roommate said the man swung a machete at him and cut him during an argument, Philadelphia Police said.

Officers were dispatched to the Frog Level RV Park at 6 p.m. July 2 in response to a report of a disturbance and

assault, said Philadelphia Police Det. Bobby Pattillo.

"Once on scene they came across a male complainant who advised that his roommate had swung a machete at him during an argument that became physical and cut him on his left hand and the bridge of his nose," Pattillo said, adding the victim was transported to Neshoba General.

Pattillo said the investiga-

tion identified Bryant Bebbler, 39, of Lot 39, Philadelphia, as a suspect.

"Bebbler of Philadelphia was discovered inside a nearby RV with the weapon used in the assault in his possession," Pattillo said. "He was subsequently charged with Aggravated Assault."

Bebbler's bond was set at \$10,000.

Jail

Continued from page 1A

cal system and air conditioning.

"The walls/floors contain mold and rust due to constant moisture within the building," Clark said. "Numerous doors/locks have been repaired

to the point that they don't function properly. The average inmate can open the cell doors with a plastic spoon or fork."

The Neshoba County Detention Center was opened in 1994 as a 66-bed facility.

"We had 95 prisoners over the weekend," Clark said. "We had people sleeping on the floors. We need to do some-

thing to eliminate the potential of a lawsuit."

Clark believes there are two options:

- Renovating and adding space on to the current facility for an additional 50 beds.
- Building a new 150-bed facility.

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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, *Advertising Director*STEVE SWOGETINSKY, *Sports Editor*ARTHUR STANLEY DEARMAN, *Editor and Publisher 1966-2000*
1932–2017

EDITORIALS

Wakeup call for Socialists

“We are not afraid! We are not afraid!”
“Freedom! Freedom!”

“Cuba isn’t yours,” Cuban protestors chanted in front of Communist Party buildings on the island, according to videos posted online that went viral Sunday.

Make no mistake — thousands of Cubans took to the streets on Sunday in at least 14 cities, in a police-controlled country that surveils and jails dissidents — to protest communism, not just the country’s abysmal COVID-19 response.

Cubans must stand in hours-long lines to buy simple necessities such as bread. They experience rolling blackouts as the country’s electric grid is overrun, suffering for hours in the scorching summer months, where it can be unbearable to live without a fan or air conditioner.

Government-run stores sell overpriced items in currencies the Cuban people don’t possess. Hospitals lack beds, stretchers, medication, and in some cases, running water. Scabies — a skin disease that can be easily treated with an antibiotic — has infested the island because drugs are not readily available.

In the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic, Cuba has been outsourcing its medical professionals and supplies to other countries as a way for the Communist regime to pocket hard currency, which is in short supply. The State Department’s Trafficking in Persons Report gives Cuba a failing grade and writes of a “government policy or government pattern to profit from labor export programs with strong indications of forced labor, particularly its foreign medical missions program.”

The report continues, saying Cuba “capitalized on the pandemic by increasing the number and size of medical missions and refused to improve the program’s transparency or address labor vio-

lations and trafficking crimes despite persistent allegations from observers, former participants, and foreign governments,” of its abuses.

The conditions in Cuba are so bad its people are fleeing the island in record numbers. The U.S. Coast Guard, since the start of October, has seized more than 512 Cubans at sea, compared with 49 for the entire previous year.

So far, the Biden administration’s response to the historic protests has been muted — socialism, after all, appears to be the end goal for an influential segment of the Democratic party. It wasn’t too long ago when Sen. Bernie Sanders praised Fidel Castro, the dictator, who “educated [Cuban] kids, gave their kids health care, totally transformed the society.”

He continued: “We’re very very opposed to the authoritarian nature of Cuba, but you know, it’s unfair to say everything is bad. “You know? When Fidel Castro came into office, you know what he did? He had a massive literacy program. Is that a bad thing? Even though Fidel Castro did it?”

Mr. Biden himself hasn’t articulated a Cuban policy. However, while he served as Vice President under Barack Obama, he worked to normalize relations with the communist regime.

There’s little doubt, Cuba’s President Miguel Diaz-Canel will use the uprising to negotiate with Washington the easing of U.S. sanctions and travel. He will use his population’s pain to enrich himself.

The Biden administration has a choice: Either stand with the Cuban people, who are waving American flags and shouting “Freedom,” or side with a communist regime that has brought prolonged misery to the island.

— *The Washington Times*

FLASHBACKS

JULY 18, 1941

Leo Purvis, former head coach at Carthage, and Miss Margaret Myers, English teacher at Union High for the past three years, have been added to the faculty of Philadelphia High School, S.A. Bransfield, superintendent, made the announcement. A graduate of Mississippi Southern College, Mr. Purvis will teach science and act as assistant coach. Miss Myers graduated from Millsaps and has attended Peabody College in Nashville, Tenn. She will continue to teach English.

JULY 12, 1951

Three Neshoba County students, two doing graduate work at Mississippi State College, hold responsible places in the BSU on the campus there. Carl Nowell is President and Harold Gully of Neshoba is secretary of the organization while Miss Berniece Lowry is Devotional Chairman. Nowell and Gully are in the graduate school while Miss Lowry will receive her degree in January. Pfc. Harold J. Thornton, now with the armed forces in the Pacific is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Edgar P. Thornton of Philadelphia. He has been in the Pacific since April and been in both Korea and Japan, and is now stationed in the latter.

JULY 13, 1961

Miss Mary Helen Massey, student at Philadelphia High

School, was voted the winner of the local preliminary Miss Mississippi Contest, and second and third place winners are; Miss Nan Latimer, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. I.M. Latimer, and Miss Pat Flint, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W.L. Flint.

JULY 16, 1971

New officers and directors of the Philadelphia Rotary Club are; Jerry Barham, vice president; Don Perry, president; Hugh Carter, director; John Allen Little, sergeant at arms; Hugh Thomasson, director; Billy Strum, secretary; Prentice Copeland, director, and Stanley Dearman, director.

JULY 9, 1981

Cindy Fulton, Miss Mississippi College, will compete in the Miss Mississippi Pageant in Vicksburg. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Clayton Fulton of Philadelphia. A graduate of Leake Academy and East Central Junior College, she will be a senior at MC in September.

Mark Howell, a Mississippi State University music graduate, plays jazz guitar with the jazz group, Rameses Lucas. During the month of July, the group will perform at George Street Grocery in Jackson.

JULY 10, 1991

Beverly Maxwell, daughter of GERALINE WESLEY of Philadelphia and Scott

Maxwell of San Bernadine, California, has been selected as a finalist in the eight annual Miss Teen of Mississippi Scholarship and recognition pageant.

JULY 11, 2001

The P.B.C. People For A Better Community, would like to congratulate Jamilah Meredith for being our 2001 \$500 scholarship winner for Outstanding Academic Achievement from Philadelphia High School. She is the daughter of Marjorie Meredith and the late George “G.L.” Meredith. She is a graduate of Philadelphia High School. She will attend University of Southern Mississippi in the fall to major in pre-medicine.

Three members of the Philadelphia 7-Under coach-pitch All-Star team were honored after winning the Brandon Invitational in June. Robert Greer was named Best Defensive Player, while Kip Fulton won the sportsmanship Award. Lee Smith was named Best Offensive Player.

JULY 13, 2011

Annalise Hays is The Veritas School’s 2011 Valedictorian. Hays was awarded a Presidential Scholarship from the University of Mississippi and plans to attend medical school. She finished first in her class with a cumulative GPA of 4.0. Annalise is the daughter of Lesia and Doyle Hays. Lesia is the former Lesia McKee of Philadelphia.

PATRICK J. BUCHANAN

Are the good times over?

Are the Democrats headed for their Little Bighorn, with President Joe Biden as Col. Custer? The wish, you suggest, is father to the thought. Yet, consider.

On taking office, Biden held a winning hand.

Three vaccines, with excellent efficacy rates, had been created and were being administered at a rate of a million shots a day. The pandemic was at its peak but looking certain to turn down, and it did.

This welcome news lifted national spirits, and the economy with it.

And the new president was taking office in a brief era of good feelings produced by the departure of the party and president who had given us the Jan. 6 Capitol riot.

Thus did Biden begin his administration with his approval at a level his predecessor never reached in any year of his presidency.

Happy days were here again.

But now the storm clouds are gathering and rumbling.

By last week, Biden’s disapproval rating had risen into the 40s, and half the country believed America was “on the wrong track.”

Yet it is not what has happened but what impends that appears ominous for Biden’s and his party’s prospects.

With not quite 70% of U.S. adults having received a vaccination, a new and more contagious delta variant of the disease is spreading worldwide, and an uptick in new U.S. infections has been reported.

In the economy, with markets at an all-time high, an old demon has reappeared. Writes today’s Wall Street Journal:

“Americans should brace themselves for several years of higher inflation than they’ve seen in decades, according to economists who expect the robust post-pandemic economic recovery to fuel brisk price increases ...

“If the economists prove correct, Federal Reserve officials might have to raise (interest) rates sooner or more

RICH LOWRY

Left’s favorite dictatorship under siege

It’s not easy to run a hideous dictatorship and still have fans and defenders in fashionable quarters, but the Castro regime has managed it for decades.

The mass, spontaneous protests that broke out all over the country last weekend are yet another sign that the Cuban government lacks legitimacy. In Cuba, it is the government versus the people, and lo, all these years, Castro’s apologists have been with the government.

They have romanticized Fidel Castro, the founder father of Cuba’s junta. They have swallowed its propaganda. They have made excuses for it. They have looked away from its crimes. And they have blamed America for its manifest failures.

If the protests continue in Cuba, there will be an existential struggle between people in the streets displaying American flags and chanting for freedom and an organized crime syndicate that rules by force and has long held the affection of American left.

During his presidential primary campaign last year, Bernie Sanders wouldn’t back off of his supportive statements about the Castro regime over the years — yes, the government should be less authoritarian, but it has done so much good. Filmmaker Michael Moore made a popular movie extolling the Cuban health care system.

Upon Fidel’s death in 2016, Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau expressed his “deep sorrow” at the death of “Cuba’s longest-serving president” (when a president jails his opponents, he can indeed stay

Are Dems headed for their Little Bighorn with Biden as Custer?

than they expect to keep inflation under control.”

Inflation and rising interest rates to combat it is usually a near-fatal cocktail for a party in control of the White House and Congress in the year they face the electorate.

In addition to warning lights flashing in the economy, Biden has presided over a sudden crisis along the southern border, where 170,000 illegal migrants are being apprehended every month.

“Getaways” — border-crossers who sneak in and evade contact with the Border Patrol — now number 30,000 a month.

Who these people are and whence they came, we know not.

Former President Donald Trump’s policies secured the border, and this new invasion is traceable to Biden’s trashing of Trump’s policy.

Indeed, Biden’s designation of Vice President Kamala Harris as point person on the border crisis, and her reflexive recoil from the duties of that assignment, testify that this latest invasion could be a killer issue for Democrats in 2022.

Also, the progressives’ adamant stand that rogue cops hostile to people of color are the true police crisis in America has been rendered politically obsolete by a nationwide surge in shootings, murders and mass killings.

How potent is the issue? Eric Adams, a Black former police captain running on the issue of public safety, won the Democratic primary for mayor of New York and is headed for Gracie Mansion.

Almost without exception, the cities where the shootings and killings are occurring have been run by Democrats for decades.

The “defund the police!” chant of Black Lives Matter and its camp followers is now being drowned out by a clam-

or for more cops to protect the people of color who are the collateral damage and victims of the shootings.

Other stories gracing front pages and evening news reports in coming months will be the horrors coming out of Afghanistan, as the Taliban capture towns and provincial capitals and exact retribution on those Afghans who made the fatal mistake of casting their lot with the Americans.

Biden did not take us into Afghanistan, but he ordered the rapid withdrawal, and his presidency will bear the political consequences of his presiding over yet another lost American war. As JFK said, life is unfair.

If the Democratic Party goes into the election of 2022 defending Biden’s border failures, decrying rogue cops rather than addressing the shootings and killings, and explaining away inflation and rising interest rates as “not our fault,” the result would seem to be foreordained.

Then there is the matter of race.

Is it a winner for the Democrats in 2022 to be seen as the party of tearing down statues of Robert E. Lee, Stonewall Jackson, and Lewis and Clark, of requiring that schoolchildren be indoctrinated in the tenets of “systemic racism” and “white privilege,” and learn about how their ancestors were slave-owners and their grandparents cousins or friends of Jim Crow?

As for the progressives’ agenda, the For the People Act, the John Lewis Voting Rights Act and the George Floyd Justice in Policing Act could all wind up dead on the Senate floor alongside Sen. Bernie Sanders \$6 trillion plan for remaking America in the image of Norman Thomas.

All killed by filibusters bravely defended by Sen. Joe Manchin.

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

A revolutionary movement afoot in Cuba.

in office a long time).

Cuba’s regime has long benefited from the romantic image of violent Latin American revolutionaries (Che Guevara is a ubiquitous progressive mascot), the fact that it is a left-wing, rather than right-wing dictatorship, and that it has always fed off anti-American sentiments.

The rationalizations offered for the regime are tinny and misleading.

We are supposed to believe that Cuba was sunk in medieval illiteracy until enlightened Communists came to power who cared above all about social progress and just happened to jail, torture and kill lots of people in the course of teaching kids to read.

It’s not true, though, that Cuba was markedly illiterate prior to the advent of the Castro dictatorship. In 1960, the literacy rate was about 80%, high by the standards of the time. Nor is it correct that Castro had benevolent intentions with his literacy campaign; the point was to make it easier to stuff the Cuban people with Communist propaganda. It has proven entirely possible, by the way, for Latin American countries to achieve steep increases in literacy without running gulags.

What about advances in health care and on other metrics? The economic historian Brad DeLong has noted that, in 1957, Cuba had lower infant

mortality than many European countries, more doctors and nurses per capita than Britain or Finland, and as many vehicles per capita as Italy or Portugal. After decades of misrule, its per capita GDP ranks with Mongolia and Bhutan, according to CIA figures.

This suggests, correctly, that Castro took over a country in pretty good shape and wrecked it, rather than the other way around.

The government’s failures are always blamed on the U.S. embargo, without which, supposedly, Cuba would be the one Marxist economy in the world able to deliver plenty to its people. Actually, shortages are endemic because of the inefficiencies inherent to command-and-control economies. The U.S. embargo is unilateral, and the Cuban government has long been expert at evading it. There is little keeping Cuba from trading with other advanced Western countries and buying their goods, if the artificially impoverished country could afford them (its characteristic way of doing business is to buy on credit and then never pay up).

All of this has always been plain enough, but now even more so. There is a revolutionary movement afoot in Cuba, one that is courageous, inspiring and — one hopes — truly democratic. It is the ordinary people of Cuba attempting to vindicate their rights against the left’s favorite dictatorship.

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
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439 Beacon Street, Philadelphia, MS 39350
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Telephone: 601.656.4000

BIBLE SELECTION

But he answered, “It is written, “Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.”

— Matthew 4:4 (ESV)

Richardson named new PE assistant principal

By STEVE SWOGETINSKY
steve@neshobademocrat.com

Barry Richardson has been named assistant principal at Philadelphia Elementary School.

Richardson has 16 years in the education field. He is going into his third year with the Philadelphia Public School District having worked the past two years as a teacher and athletic director.

Though Richardson has never worked in elementary schools, he believes he will bring in a different perspective that will help move the students forward.

"This will be new for me, there is no doubt," Richardson said. "But after teaching for years on the middle school and high school levels, I have insight into what skills our students will need when they advance to the upper grades. Elementary school is where everything starts. If the foundation here for each student is not well developed, then it is a constant battle as the child progresses throughout the system, trying to get them where they need to be



Barry Richardson

because something was missed earlier.

"A middle school or high school teacher can tell you, 'I need my students to be able to

do this, this and that, and I can take it from here,'" Richardson said.

Richardson is from Philadelphia. He attended the Philadel-

phia schools in grades 1-9. He attended one year at Forest High School and finished at Neshoba Central.

He went on to graduate from

East Central and received his bachelor's degree and master's degree from Mississippi State University. He received his specialist certificate from

Arkansas State. Previously, Richardson has taught at the Scott County Vocational Center, Scott Central, Noxapater and Neshoba Central.

He said reading is a top priority.

"We will have a lot of focus on our reading and language arts and of course the math falls into it," Richardson said. "But with today's testing requirements, if a student can't read, it won't matter what else they can do because even the math tests are all reading questions."

Richardson was appointed to his new position a couple of weeks ago and said he is looking forward to getting to know the staff. Principal Melisha Hancock said she was glad to have him joining her team.

"I have worked with him and have seen him in his role as AD and teacher," Hancock said. "He is very organized and very driven. He's a hard worker and has an interest in seeing our school being successful. I think he is a good fit for what we are trying to accomplish at the elementary school."

OBITUARIES

James Marzell Chesney

Services for Mr. James Marzell Chesney will be held at 11:00am, Wednesday, July 7, 2021 at Milling Funeral Home Chapel of Union. Bro. Rusty Walton and Bro. Lin Chesney will be officiating. Burial will be held at Mt. Olive Church Cemetery in House.



James Chesney

Visitation will be held from 9:30-11:00am, prior to services on Wednesday, July 7, 2021 at Milling Funeral Home Chapel.

Mr. James Chesney, age: 85, passed away on Friday, July 2, 2021 at J.G. Alexander Nursing Home

Survivors include: 2 Daughters: Wanda Hedrick & Husband Shannon of Conehatta; Pam Johnson & Husband Tullus of Collinsville; 1 Son: Cleveland Chesney & Wife Pam of House; 6 Grandchildren: Matt Hedrick, Kristin Hedrick, Trey Johnson & Wife Melissa, Kayla Aleman & Husband Jesus; John Mark Posey & Wife Bonnie, Tracie Renae Chesney; 9 Great-Grandchildren; 1 Brother: Lavon Chesney & Wife Marcella; and 1 Sister: Joyce Elliott & Husband Gerald.

Mr. James Chesney is preceded in death by his Wife: Johnnie Ruth Chesney; Sister: Geraldine Tredwell; Parents: Frank & Earline Chesney

Pallbearers were Jesus' Aleman, Trey Johnson, Wayne Williams, Jack Reynolds, Jerry Goforth, and Lavelle Chesney.

Mr. James Marzell Chesney had a wonderful life. Marzell loved God and spending time with his family. Mr. Marzell was a dedicated member of Redeemer Baptist Church. He loved to attend fellowship and drink his coffee at the local House grocery store. Marzell retired from MDOT after working for twenty-one years. Mr. Chesney was loved by family, friends, and many more. He will be dearly missed.

Jonathan Brayden Lilley

Funeral services for Mr. Jonathan Brayden Lilley was held 11 AM Friday, July 9, 2021 at North Bend United Pentecostal Church with Rev. Nathan Moore officiating. Burial in the church cemetery. John E. Stephens Chapel in charge of arrangements.

Mr. Lilley, 17, passed away Sunday July 4, 2021 at UMMC in Jackson, MS. He lived in Neshoba Co. his whole life where he was a Student at Neshoba Central High School. His hobbies included shooting, fishing, and mud-riding.

Survivors include his parents, John and Tiffany Lilley of Philadelphia; brother, Justis D. Lilley (Clover) of Philadelphia; grandparents, Sheila and Wendell Evan, Ricky and Brandy Griffin, Rev. Arlie G. and Thilda Lilley; great-grandfather, Bennie Stovall. Several uncles, aunts, and cousins.

Pallbearers: Austin Gray, Brody Sanderson, Ryan Burt, Brandon Smith-Walker, David Carter, and Parker Moody.

Florence Gray Bates

A private family graveside service was held Sunday, July 11, 2021 at 3p.m. from Cooks Chapel Cemetery with Rev. Vernell Daniels officiating. McClain-Hays Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

Mrs. Bates, 94, of Philadelphia died Friday, July 9, 2021.

She was a native and lifelong resident of Neshoba County. She enjoyed farm life and had worked at American Greetings. Mrs. Bates was a member of Beacon Street Baptist Church.

She is survived by her daughter, Elizabeth Gray Edwards; several grandchildren and great grandchildren; siblings, John Culberson and Chris Ashcraft.

Mrs. Bates was preceded in death by husbands, Ethel O. "F" Gray in 1971; J.H. Bates in 2014;

parents, Porter and Ola Culberson; and a number of siblings.

In lieu of flowers the family requests memorials be made to St Jude, The River or your favorite charity.

Martha Ann Barrett Crosby

Funeral services for Martha Ann Barrett Crosby was held 3 PM Saturday, July 10, 2021 at Union Pentecostal Church, Union, MS, with Rev. Clif Crosby II, Rev. Keith Copeland, Rev. Daniel Bozeman officiating. Interment was in Union Pentecostal Church Cemetery. John E. Stephens Chapel was in charge.

Martha Ann Barrett Crosby, 60, was born March 11, 1961. She departed this life Thursday July 8, 2021 at Rush Hospital. Martha was raised in Carthage, MS, attended Carthage Public High School. Yard-work and housecleaning were passions of hers.

Martha was preceded in death by birth father Billy Howard Barrett, step-father, Lester Barrett, husband Rev. Robert Clifton Crosby I, daughter Makala Melene Crosby.

She is survived by sons Reverend Robert Clifton Crosby II (Jennifer) of Little Rock, MS; Jonathan Matthew Crosby (Elizabeth) of Union, MS; grandchildren Cora, Kayde, Molly, Matt II, Quin, Timothy, Dahlia; mother, Charlene Barrett; sisters, numerous cousins, nieces, nephews.

James Ray Frazier

Graveside service for Mr. James Ray Frazier will be held at 2 PM Saturday, July 10, 2021 at Conehatta Community Cemetery. There will be no visitation.

Mr. Frazier, 53, passed away Monday, July 5, 2021 at University Medical Center in Jackson, MS. He was preceded in death by his parents, James Riley Fra-

zier and Freddie Mae Willis; sisters, Veronica Frazier Thomas, Tenalyea Thomas Russell; brother, Freeman Frazier.

Survivors include his sisters, Shirley Frazier Shoemake, Teresa Thomas Sockey; brothers, Timothy (OJ) Thomas, Kendall Frazier, Christopher Stoliby, Lucas Frazier.

Pallbearers are Billy Wallace, Jeremy Mingo, Darrell Mingo, Sr., Orlando Dixon, Ricky Willis, Eric Tubby, Adrian Dixon, Jerian Robinson.

J'onique Hickman Thomas

Funeral service for Mrs. J'onique Hickman Thomas will be held at 2 PM Friday, July 16, 2021 at Standing Pine Facility Building with Rev. Thomas Ben officiating. Burial will be in the Standing Pine Community Cemetery. Visitation will begin at 10 AM Wednesday, July 14, 2021 at Standing Pine Facility Building. John E. Stephens Chapel Funeral Services is in charge of arrangements.

Mrs. Thomas, 36, passed away Friday, July 9, 2021 at Anderson Regional Medical Center in Meridian, MS. She enjoyed watching her kids, fishing and loved to cook. She was preceded in death by her parents, Vivian Marie Chapman Hickman; brother, Henry Russell Hickman, Jr.

Survivors include her husband, Joel Thomas; daughters, Malayjah Hickman, Jaiyce Lynn Bell, Jaiyce Yann Bell, J'onaiyejah Thomas; sons, James Hickman, Josias Hickman; father, Henry Russell Hickman, Sr.; sisters, Sheila Isaac, LaTasha Willis, Shavna Jefferson, DecEmma Hickman; brothers, Martin Willis, Jr., DiJon Hickman, Brett Hickman.

Pallbearers are Alvin York, Jr., Tyler Willis, Kevin Willis, Todd Thomas, Ryan Dylan Willis, Jalen Willis, Eric Hickman, Jr., Cody Bell, Joey

Thomas, Justin Thomas.

Marzell Clemons

Funeral services for Mr. Marzell Clemons were held on Monday, July 12, 2021, at 2 P.M. from the chapel of Beck Funeral Home with Sis. Linda Brand officiating. Burial was at Mt. Zion United Methodist Church Cemetery. Beck Funeral Home, Inc. was in charge of arrangements.

Mr. Clemons, 69, of Philadelphia, passed away on Wednesday, July 7, 2021 at Rush Hospital in Meridian.

He is survived by two daughters, Torre Boyd of Meridian, MS, and Leesha Harrison of Louisville, MS, two sons, John Clemons and Marshall Ray Clemons both of Philadelphia, MS, one sister, Earthel Thomas of Philadelphia, MS, one brother, Fred Clemons of Hattiesburg, MS, 17 grandchildren and 9 great grandchildren.

Pallbearers were Terrence Clemons, Damon Hudson, Albert Clemons, Barrion Boyd and Jamie Horne.

Lou Burnside

Funeral services for Ms. Lou Callie Prince Burnside were held on Saturday, July 10, 2021, at 1 P.M. from the chapel of Beck Funeral Home, with Rev. W.C. Rush officiating. Burial was at Mt. Talley M.B. Church Cemetery. Beck Funeral Home, Inc. was in charge of arrangements.

Ms. Burnside, 68, of Philadelphia, passed away on Monday, July 5, 2021 at Neshoba General Hospital.

She is survived by two daughters, Peggy Greer and Carol Clemons both of Philadel-

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MT. TALLEY M.B. CHURCH CEMETERY

MR. MARZELL CLEMONS
2 P.M. MON., JULY 12, 2021
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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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phia, MS, two brothers, Willie Needham and Milton Prince both of Philadelphia, MS, one uncle, Jessie Clemons, one aunt, Deloris Hudson, eight grandchildren and eight great grandchildren.

Pallbearers were Tuntdrick Burnside, Damian Burnside, Antonio Burnside, Danny Harris, Don Harris and Chad Davis.

Le Anne Hamilton

Funeral service for Ms. Le Anne Hamilton will be 11 AM Thursday, July 15, 2021 at John E. Stephens Chapel with Rev. Curt Pace officiating. Burial will be in Morrow Cemetery. Visitation will be 5-7 Wednesday, July 14, 2021 at John E. Stephens Chapel.

Ms. Hamilton, 69, passed away Sunday, July 11, 2021 at her home. She lived in Neshoba Co. all of her life. She was a member of Dixon Presbyterian Church. Her hobby was working at East MS Livestock Association.

She was preceded in death by her parents Jodie N. Hamilton and Mary Webb Hamilton.

Survivors include brother, Ronnie Hamilton (Joan); nephew, Brian Hamilton (Melissa); great nieces, Mabry and Addie.

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MR. JAMES RAY FRAZIER
2 PM SAT., JULY 10, 2021
GRAVESIDE CONEHATTA COMMUNITY CEMETERY

MS. MARTHA CROSBY
3 PM SAT., JULY 10, 2021
UNION PENTECOSTAL CHURCH UNION PENTECOSTAL CEMETERY

MS. LE ANNE HAMILTON
11 AM THURS., JULY 15, 2021
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Blood drive held for man battling cirrhosis

By SARAH KATHRYN WATKINS
news@neshobademocrat.com

More than 100 people turned out Saturday to help a man whose family and friends said is an inspirational fighter.

Caden LeMieux has battled cirrhosis of the liver, ulcerative colitis and Type 1 diabetes since 2012, and he is currently in liver failure.

He is working with the transplant team at the University of Mississippi Medical Center in Jackson to find a donor.

In the meantime, on Saturday, CrisMont Creations of Philadelphia held a blood drive for LeMieux, and more than 100 people turned out.

Organizers said 71 people

were able to donate blood at the event Saturday.

"We had to turn some down," said Cristi Floyd Montgomery, owner of CrisMont Creations and LeMieux's mother. "We had to turn 30 people away."

For every unit of blood donated from the blood drive, LeMieux earns credits in his name so he can get free blood when needed. Since 71 people donated Saturday, LeMieux will get 71 units of blood at no charge.

LeMieux attended Saturday's blood drive hugging and thanking everyone who donated.

Montgomery and LeMieux said they were in awe of the people who came and donated,



Caden LeMieux with Skyler Siekfke, who drove from Destin, Fla. to give blood.

some who waited in the rain for their turn to donate blood.

"We had people come from Hattiesburg, Brookhaven, Des-

tin, Little Rock, Arkansas, Greenwood, Mississippi and North Carolina," Montgomery said.

Everyone who donated got a free lunch and coffee from CrisMont Creations plus a free T-shirt from Mississippi Blood

Services of Jackson.

When LeMieux was diagnosed in 2012, his liver was at the beginning of the last stage. His Model for End-Stage Liver Disease score got better, so doctors put him on the "inactive list." Within the last 6 months, however, he has gone into liver failure.

LeMieux and his mother travel to UMMC for testing each week, which helps show where LeMieux is on the waiting list for the liver transplant.

Anyone who could not make it to CrisMont Creations on Saturday can still help LeMieux by using his Mississippi Blood Services Code DD53 when donating. Mississippi Blood Services can be reached at 601-981-3232.

COUNTY JAIL DOCKET

Neshoba County Jail Docket from 6/28-7/05

- Keaton Abel, 23, of 10061 Rd 446; hold for investigations, possession of paraphernalia
- Alexander Bell, 22, of 180 Indian Hill Cir; public drunk
- Angela Bell, 48, of 128 Ball Park CV; driving under the influence/refusal to take test
- Danario Dwight Bell, 41, of 230 Frog Level Rd; failure to appear, possession of marijuana-vehicle, possession of controlled substance, driving under the influence other substance
- Karl Butler Sr, 53, of 1113 Black Jack Rd; driving under the influence-1st offense
- Paula Campbell, 49, of 2018 Burton Rd, Little Rock; hold for investigations, possession of controlled substance
- James Earl Caples, 61, of 372 Jericho St; driving under the influence-1st offense, suspended drivers license, no insurance, expired license tag
- Sheila Carey, 45, of 11360 Rd 236, Union; possession of controlled substance, possession of paraphernalia
- Malcolm Coburn, 31, of 403 Barham St; hold circuit court
- Humphrey Cole, 61, of 12692 Hwy 495 S, DeKalb; failure to appear
- Samantha Conger, 34, of 10021 Rd 636; hold for investigations
- Avery Cotton, 47, of 809 South Van Buren St; hold for investigations, felony pursuit
- Ricky Edmond, 52, of 10250 Rd 1321, Union; failure to appear
- Myesha Finley, 27, of 1700 Pendelton Square Apts; child neglect X2
- Demond Forest, 33, of 5440 Queen Eleanor, Jackson; domestic violence simple assault-1st
- Jeremy Lynn Franklin, 38, of 10051 Rd 1345; failure to appear
- Sudiann Cheyenne Frazier, 19, of 180 Indian Hills Cir; public drunk
- Jacob Allen Gardner, 27, of Philadelphia; service sentence
- Kimberly Gentry, 45, of 10762 Rd 2426; possession of controlled substance
- Erick James Hamme, 38, of 10335 Gulf Beach Hwy #908, Pensacola, FL; possession of paraphernalia, driving under the influence-1st offense, following too closely, hold for other agency
- Spencer Harvey, 28, of 10041 Rd 371; disturbing the peace, possession of paraphernalia, public drunk
- Leslie Buchannon Henderson III, 45, of 10877 Hwy 397, Preston; driving under the influence-1st offense, possession of controlled substance, careless driving
- Patrick L Hickman, 52, of 128 Ball Park Rd; driving under the influence-1st offense, no insurance, no drivers license
- Joshua H Howard, 32, of 10401 Rd 781; arson
- Isiah Jim Isaac, 30, of 375 Bogue Chitto; no drivers license
- Garrick H Lewis, 31, of 188 Lagood Rd; failure to appear
- Keanon Andrew McMillan, 21, of 870 W Tucker Cir; failure to appear
- Thomas Quintana, 35, of 555 Line St; contempt of court
- Candas Reynolds Rash, 41, of 10420 Rd 296, Union; hold for other agency
- Richard Harris Rash, 43, of 1020 Rd 240; hold for other agency
- Chelesa M Ray, 27, of 10150 Rd 2608; possession of controlled substance
- Donna Robertson, 53, of 10781 Rd 628; arson
- Kenneth Eugene Simp-

- son, 32, of 356 West Tucker Cir; driving under the influence-1st offense
- Jerry Ward, 50, of 10021 Rd 575; possession of controlled substance X2
- Jerry Ward, 50, of 2103 Burton Rd; possession of controlled substance X2, fleeing arrest
- Ashley Nicole Williams, 39, of 2145 Campground Rd, Lauderdale; possession of controlled substance
- Jesse Williamson, 42, of 10125 Rd 187; failure to appear
- Jerithan Willis, 38, of 145 York Rd; possession of controlled substance, possession of marijuana-vehicle, possession of paraphernalia
- Tiffanique W Willis, 28, of 123 Ballpark Cove; possession of controlled substance, possession of marijuana-vehicle, possession of paraphernalia
- Sonya Kay York, 37, of 392 Goat Ranch Rd; no charges listed

Neshoba County Jail Docket from 7/5-7/12

- James Milton Barnett, 30, of 413 North St, Union; failure to appear, driving a commercial vehicle with suspended license, no insurance, careless driving, seat belt violation, possession of marijuana-vehicle, possession of controlled substance, possession of paraphernalia
- Joseph Beard, 25, of 10090 Country Lane Apt #3; possession of controlled substance
- Austin Guy Boswell, 27, of 11391 Rd 418, Union; no charges listed
- Chuck Bragg, 44, of 365 Tanner Rd, Atlanta, GA; public drunk, disorderly conduct
- Javaskic J Brown, 25, of 5409 Hopewell Rd, DeKalb; possession of controlled substance, possession of firearm by convicted felon
- Tia Tamara Burnside, 24, of 18153 Hwy 21 S; failure to appear
- Donald Cleveland, 57, of 311 Spinks St, Union; failure to yield to blue light/siren, suspended drivers license
- Brian Irvin, 36, of 14930 Hwy 488; public drunk, public profanity, disorderly conduct
- Terry L Jim, 51, of 101 Park Place; driving under the influence-1st offense
- Crystal John, 35, of 512 Church Ave; no drivers license
- Broderick Johnson, 57, of 539 Oregen St, Birmingham, AL; public drunk
- Coy Wayne Kitchens Jr, 27, of 2969 Risher Rd, Carthage; hold for other agency
- Bobby Ray McDoughe, 62, of 500 Zion Hampton Rd, Collinsville; driving under the influence-1st offense, expired license tag, suspended drivers license
- Rachel Morris, 39, of 13580 Hwy 491 N; driving under the influence-1st offense
- David Nowell, 37, of 11791 Rd 539; no charges listed
- David Nowell, 37, of 11791 Rd 539; possession of

- controlled substance
- Billie Jean Pitts, 44, of Rd 1519; driving under the influence other substance, seat belt violation
- Steven V Ray, 27, of 166 Embry Rd, Byhalia; possession of marijuana-1st offense
- Austin Reed, 28, of 1937 Bond Rd, Louisville; serving sentence
- Lane Rushing, 26, of 10090 Rd 602, Union; malicious mischief under \$1000.00
- Troy Rushing, 20, of 10090 Rd 602, Carthage; disturbing the peace
- Steven Brant Saunders, 33, of 10351 Rd 626; hold for investigations, domestic violence aggravated assault
- Tyler Smith, 25, of 1026 W Beacon St; driving under the influence-1st offense, possession of controlled substance, possession of paraphernalia, no drivers license, no insurance
- Jaymie Starling, 41, of 10270 Hwy 16 W; probation violation
- Jessica Renea Wallace, 39, of 156 Brim Rd, DeKalb; contempt of court
- Travis L Wilson, 35, of 110 Dixon Rd, Carthage; failure to pay, driving under the influence-1st offense

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Deputies charge 2 with meth early Sunday

By DUNCAN DENT
duncan@neshobademocrat.com

Two men have been arrested on meth and other charges after deputies pulled over a commercial vehicle early Sunday morning.

James Milton Barnett, 30, 413 North Street, Union, was arrested and charged with possession of a controlled substance, failure to appear, careless driving and driving a commercial vehicle while

his license was suspended, the authorities said.

Jail records show that Barnett was also charged with possession of marijuana in a motor vehicle, possession of paraphernalia and a seatbelt violation.

Barnett remains in the



James Barnett



David Nowell

Neshoba County Detention Center on \$13,620 in bond.

David Nowell, 37, 11791 Road 539, was also arrested and charged with possession of a controlled substance and failure to appear. He remains in the NCDC on \$10,000 bond.

Neshoba County Sheriff Eric Clark said that the two were arrested in a traffic stop

on Road 375 near Williams Brothers. Both men were found to

be in possession of meth, Clark said.

Stuff the Bus set for July 20 at Depot

By STAFF REPORTS
news@neshobademocrat.com

The annual Stuff the Bus campaign is scheduled for Tuesday, July 20 at the Depot.

The annual event is an effort to help families as their students head back to school next month.

Volunteers will be on hand to collect school supplies,

backpacks and new or slightly used school uniforms for elementary school-age students. Monetary donations will also be accepted.

A school bus will be parked in front of the Depot from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. and volunteers will be available to accept the donations.

All school supplies and uniform donations collected will

be given to elementary school students at Philadelphia, Neshoba Central and Choctaw Central.

Organizers said churches, organizations and businesses are also asked to ask for donations and drop them off that day.

Stuff the Bus is sponsored by the United Way of East Mississippi.

COVID-19 cases on the uptick in county

By JOHN LEE
john@neshobademocrat.com

COVID-19 cases continue to increase in Neshoba County with 27 new cases but no new death recorded during the past

week, according to the Mississippi State Department of Health's Tuesday COVID-19 report.

Neshoba County's total COVID-19 cases since the pandemic began in March

2020 is now 4,124, up 27 from last week's report of 4,097 total. The death toll remains at 180, and of those deaths, 114 are from the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians, according to MSDH.

As of Tuesday, 21% of Neshoba County's population is fully vaccinated, according to MSDH, and 23% of the county's population has received one of the 12,336 total doses of COVID-19 vaccines administered in the county.

Vaccinations are being administered Tuesdays and Thursdays at the Neshoba County Coliseum, 12000 Highway 15 North, and are available to all Mississippians 16 and older.

The Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians has reported one new positive case of COVID-19 and no new deaths in the past week as of July 12, with the total number of positive cases for the Tribe standing at 1,839 with 114 deaths since the pandemic began in March 2020. No new hospitalizations have been reported.

Statewide, since the pandemic began in March 2020, 198,801 confirmed COVID-19 cases have been recorded by the MSDH along with 126,271 probable cases, totaling 325,072 cases. There have been 5,135 confirmed COVID-19 deaths, along with 2,316 probable deaths.

Estate Auction

Wilson Wooten Estate
Sat., July. 31, 2021 @ 9:00 AM
8595 Old Hwy 80 – Lake, MS 39092

Auctioneer's Note: We will be selling; Model A's, Model T's, Bellairs, Fairlanes, antique tractors, Other antique vehicles, Horse drawn equip, tractors, trucks, trailers, hay equip, farm equip, I beams and other metal, other antique items, shop equip/tools, and much more. Real Estate: "Branding Iron" restaurant (contents and land) and 2.1 acres on Front St in Lake (the old Lake Concrete plant lot). Every item (except the 2 pieces of real estate) will sell to the highest bidder. We will be selling some really neat antique pieces that Mr. Wilson collected over his many years. **DO NOT MISS THIS AUCTION!**
Inspection: July 29 & 30 from 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM
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METH: A DEADLY DRUG



Methamphetamine is a stimulant drug that is destroying our community. Methamphetamine, also known as meth, is a powerful, highly addictive stimulant that affects the central nervous system. Meth takes the form of white, orderless, bitter-tasting crystalline powder that easily dissolves in water or alcohol. People typically use meth by smoking, snorting or injecting. Meth is man-made from pseudo-ephedrine and other toxic ingredients such as lithium, brake fluid and lye. Meth addiction is so powerful because this drug quickly increases levels of dopamine, a chemical in the brain that produces feelings of pleasure. This makes a person want to use meth again and again to achieve the same rush, which eventually leads to addiction.

Even taking small amounts of meth, or just trying it once, can cause harmful health effects, including:

- Rapid or irregular breathing
- Bizarre, erratic, aggressive, irritable, or violent behavior
- Increased blood pressure and body temperature
- Faster breathing
- Loss of appetite, disturbed sleep patterns, or nausea

Chronic meth use leads to many damaging, long-term health effects (even when users stop taking meth), including:

- Paranoia, hallucinations, mood disturbances, delusions, or violent behavior (psychotic symptoms can sometimes last for months or years after quitting meth)
- Anxiety, confusion, or insomnia
- Permanent damage to the heart and brain
- High blood pressure leading to heart attacks, strokes, and death
- Liver, kidney, and lung damage
- Intense itching, causing skin sores from scratching
- Severe dental problems ("meth mouth")

What can you do if a loved one is using meth?

- Do some research about addiction and meth to have a better understanding
- Be ready to listen, and do not be judgmental
- It is not wise to confront the individual when they are high
- When a person refuses help or services, voice your concern but respect the person's decision
- Self-care is very important when caring for others

For More Information contact the
Choctaw Tribal Opioid Response Project Team
(601) 389-4150

Happy TWO-HOURS has arrived!

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Beckham enjoys tending her garden

By SARAH KATHRYN WATKINS
news@neshobademocrat.com

Bobbie Beckham loves living on a farm and being able to access fresh produce from the family's garden.

"We have goats, and we raise different kinds of chickens," Beckham said of the farm she and her husband, Pete, have.

Beckham also has lots of fresh produce that she incorporates in her cooking. She cooks fried squash and okra and also squash dressing. The reason the Beckhams chose to keep goats is that they help clean the chicken yard, she said.

Beckham eats the fresh peas and butterbeans that come from her garden, and she cans tomatoes to make tomato soup during the winter.

Beckham is originally from Meridian, but her husband and her grandparents, Mary and Louis Stokes, are from Philadelphia, so they moved to Philadelphia.

Beckham is an assistant for first grade and a bus driver at Neshoba Central Elementary School, where she has worked for 25 years.

"When my kids were growing up, I always had a house full of kids, and I wanted my schedule to be like theirs," Beckham said.

Pete is retired after working in the logging industry.

The Beckhams have two children, Krystal Palmer and Eric Beckham. In addition, they have five grandchildren, Zach Griffin, Zoey, Molly, Logan and Ethan Palmer.

Beckham's grandson Zach is her biggest fan when it comes to her fried chicken and pork chop. The Beckham family believes her cooking specialty is fried chicken and her grandson, Zach and her husband, regularly ask her to make fried chicken.

Beckham's oldest granddaughter, Zoey, asks her to help with new recipes she wants to try. That is one thing they enjoy doing together.

Beckham said her cooking style strictly Southern. Her mother, the late Nell Mason, and grandmother, the late Mary Stokes, taught Beckham how to cook.

Beckham said her grandmother had a lot of influence on her cooking later on.

During the summer, Beckham loves going to the beach with three of her best friends, Shelia McDaniel, Barbara Fortenberry and Alesia Alexander. The friends make sure to take a trip together once a year. Beckham also likes going to yard sales and flea markets.

PECAN PIE COBBLER
2 refrigerated Pie crusts softened (Pillsbury 14.1 oz)
2 ½ cups light corn syrup
2 ½ cups brown sugar



Bobbie Beckham

packed
½ melted butter
4 ½ teaspoon vanilla
6 eggs slightly beaten
2 cups chopped pecans
Butter flavor cooking spray
2 cups pecans

Heat oven to 425 spray a 9x13 pan with cooking spray.

COOK OF THE WEEK

Place one of the pie crusts in bottom of baking dish. Trim to fit. In a large bowl stir together corn syrup, brown sugar, butter, vanilla and eggs with wire whisk. Pour ½ into

dish-lined crust. Unroll second crust and place over filling. Trim if needed. Spray with cooking spray. Bake 14 to 16 minutes. Reduce temperature to 350. Carefully spoon remaining filling over baked pastry. Place pecan halves on top. Bake 30 minutes longer or until set. Cool and serve with vanilla ice

cream.
REDNECK ROLLUPS
2 lbs tenderized deer steaks (or beef)
2 lbs bacon
1 large onion sliced
1 large bell pepper sliced (or hot pepper)
1 pkg cream cheese
Dale seasons (liquid)

Slice deer steak into strips. First, layout a slice of bacon, then a strip of steak on bacon then spread a layer of cream cheese. At one end put a piece of onion and pepper stacked. Then start to roll it all together. When rolled up-dip into

See COOK, page 2B

Just Among Friends

By MARIANNE ENOCHS
friends@neshobademocrat.com

Trinity Baptist Church recently concluded Vacation Bible School which was held at the church. The theme for this year was "Finding True Treasure". There were many participants who enjoyed the well planned activities which were all geared toward expanding and enriching the knowledge of their faith with child oriented content.

The mission project for this summer's Bible School was collecting school supplies for the Philadelphia Police Department's Back to School Project which will be held prior to the opening of school. During the Wednesday night RA/GA on July 7, Chief Lyons and Staff Sgt. Bracket, came to pick up the supplies donated during VBS. It was also a great opportunity for the children to interact with our policemen. During the visit, the children gathered around the officers to offer a prayer for their protection and in thanksgiving as our policemen perform their daily jobs.

Happy Birthday, Catherine Hardy, who celebrated her 92nd birthday on July 4th. Her daughters, Ellon Hardy Stovall and Cathy Hardy Tolbert and their families and friends spent the day having fun together which included great food and cake! It was a wonderful 4th of July for Mrs. Hardy.

Happy Anniversary to Dwayne and Kathy McDaniel Ridout who were married for 53 years on July 6! The couple spent some of those early years living in Germany where

Dwayne was posted after Basic Training in Ft. Polk.

Their son and daughter, Chad Ridout and Christie Ridout Tillman, along with their families, also reside in Philadelphia. Congratulations and best wishes for more anniversaries together.

It was a dream of a trip for Cheryl Newell Mars who embarked on an Alaska vacation with a tour group for two weeks. They traveled by airplane and motor coach to 6 different Townes or places where they stayed for two nights in each one. They explored and toured the countryside around them.

Alaska is famous for its magnificent mountains covered in snow even in June, wild, and marine life, and, of course, glaciers. There were forests, fields with wildflowers, rolling hills, and something beautiful everywhere they looked.

They hiked about a mile to Mendenhall Glacier and Nugget Falls and went on two different day long boat rides to see glaciers, wildlife and marine life. Sawyer Glacier was her favorite. On one boat trip, they had to go slow through an area of small icebergs. They even saw one "calve" or big chunks of ice break off and fall into the water.

Sawyer Glacier gave them their first bear and whale sightings. The North Pole, the REAL North Pole, was another attraction where they saw Santa's Workshop and mailed postcards. Historic totem poles were displayed in one of the places they visited.

The last stops were Talkeet-

na, Girdwood, and Seward before flying out of Anchorage home. The lodge in Talkeetna was their sighting for Denali Mt. Peak (formerly Mt. McKinley), the tallest mountain peak in North America. The quaint little town was scattered with decorative moose cutouts. A jet boat ride took them for a close up view of the Susitna River Rapids, and a small plane ride gave them an aerial view of some of the Alaskan Mountain Range. They also visited kennels where the sled dogs for the Iditarod Race were trained.

Cheryl brought back many happy memories of her trip from all that she saw and the fun she had. What a fabulous adventure!

It seems as though there is a whole lot of cooking, canning, and freezing going on! I have been admiring the jars of salsa, tomatoes, green beans, corn, and all sorts of vegetables that are displayed on Facebook. They look like works of art and probably will taste like Blue Ribbon products this winter when fresh garden vegetables are only a fond memory.

Fair cooking and freezing of food has already begun for many cooks who plan their menus ahead of time and prepare so that no one has to spend so much time in the kitchen cooking and cleaning.

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

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Gardner celebrates 100th birthday

A Century of Love and Blessings. On June 28, 2021, Mildred Gardner of Union, Ms, reached the age of 100. Celebrations included a surprise drive-by birthday parade on June 27. Also, a secret "Card Party" was organized which resulted in her receiving more than 200 birthday cards from 25 states and 2 foreign countries. Born and raised in the House community, Mildred is the daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Busby. She and her husband of nearly 75 years, the late Ralph Gardner, made their home in the County Line Community. Mildred's children are Linda (William) Henley of Talbot, TN, and Nancy Gardner of Union. She has one grandchild, Mike Henley, of Talbot, TN.



Engagements

Luvetrius McBeath to wed Micheal Hoye July 17



Luvetrius Cassandra McBeath and Micheal Olanda Hoye

Johnny and Jackie McBeath of Philadelphia Mississippi announce the upcoming wedding of their daughter Luvetrius Cassandra McBeath to Micheal Olanda Hoye of

Carthage Mississippi on Saturday July 17, 2021 at Westside Community Center at 4 p.m.. The groom's parents are Eddie B Hoye Sr of Canton,

Mississippi and Alma Faye Ewing of Carthage Mississippi. The ceremony and reception is invitation only.



BOYS & GIRLS CLUB OF NESHOBA COUNTY

You are invited to become a "2020 Dream Builder" for our youth by supporting the future of our boys & girls through club programs such as:

- Power Hour (Tutoring)
- Mentoring Program
- Healthy Habits/Choosing the Best Passport to Manhood/Smart Girls
- Money Matters/Field Trips/Activities
- After-School Program (City & County Schools): 150+ children attend each day
- All-Day Summer Enrichment Program: 200+ children attend each day

Your donation is so appreciated and should be made payable to:

"Boys & Girls Club of Neshoba County"
P.O. Box 313
Philadelphia, MS 39350

For more info on how you can invest in our children, call 601-656-4343.
For program info/enroll a child, call Jermaine Harris, County Unit Director, 601-880-6322.



Heard about the educational puzzle designed to prepare kids for life in the real world? Any way they put it together, it's wrong.

Adam was lucky. When he made a witty comment, he could be sure no one had said it before.

These days, it's hard to tell whether a pedestrian is walking to reduce or reduced to walking.

The wise learn from trouble. The foolish merely repeat it.

If you don't want your kids to hear what you're saying, pretend you're talking to them.

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Of Local Interest

NESHOBA COUNTY FAIR EXHIBIT HALL SIGN UP

Come by the MSU Extension Service-Neshoba County office and pick up your entry forms, entry tags and exhibitor number for the Neshoba County Fair Exhibit Hall. Youth ages 8-18 can enter items in the categories of fresh fruits and vegetables, field crops, food preservation, food-nutrition, posters, and arts and crafts. Adult categories include fresh fruits and vegetables, field crops, food preservation, and cultural arts. The deadline to pick up your entry forms, tags and exhibitor number is Friday, July 16. Call 601-656-4011 or come by the Extension Service office in the Neshoba County Coliseum for more information.

DEARING FAMILY REUNION

The annual Dearing Family Reunion will be the fourth Sunday in July, July 25th beginning at 10 AM at the Mississippi Christian Service Camp, Decatur MS. Bring a covered dish, any Family Pictures you wish to share

and written family information updates. For more information call 601-482-4534. Please leave a message if no answer, I'll try to get back to you as soon as possible. Web Address: www.dearingfamily.com

CEMETERY UPKEEP

If anyone is interested in the upkeep of the Martin McNeil Cemetery, then please send donations to Ann Pinter, 12451 Rd 101.

NESHOBA COUNTY FAIR LIVESTOCK SIGN UP

Come by the MSU Extension Service-Neshoba County office and pick up your entry form and rules and regulations book for the Neshoba County Fair Livestock Shows. Youth ages 8-18 can enter in events of Beef Show, Dairy Show, and Sheep and Goat Show. The deadline to enter is Friday, July 16. Call 601-656-4011 or come by the Extension Service office in the Neshoba County Coliseum for more information. You must enroll in 4H to enter.

BIBLE STUDY

Gatherings on Tuesday nights, 7 p.m. at the Philadelphia Thrifty Nickel. Stay inspired by the Word of the Lord. Come join us as we dive into "Learning the Bible" with Speaker Bro. Ricky Rogers. Be renewed by the Bible.

MOUNT ARY BAPTIST CHURCH HOMECOMING AND MEMORIAL SERVICE

The Mount Ary Baptist Church will have their Homecoming and Memorial Service on Sunday July 18, 2021. Sunday School will begin at 9 AM, Morning Worship will begin at 10 AM. Memorial Services will begin at 11:30 AM followed by a fellowship meal. Revival services on Sunday July 18 beginning at 6 PM. Rev. David Edwards of Gary, Ind will be the guest minister. The public is invited.

PHILLIPS CEMETERY
Phillips Cemetery off of Highway 16 East is in need of donations for upkeep and grass cutting. Please make checks payable to Phillips Cemetery Fund and mail checks to Mary Lundy Meruvia, 13140 Highway 486, Philadelphia, MS 39350.

Cook

Continued from page 1B

Dale's and let it sit for about an hour. These can be cooked on the grill or in the oven for 40 minutes at 350. Serve them with rice when they are baked.

STRAWBERRY TRUFFLE
1 pkg moist cake mix (white)
1 pkg instant pudding (vanilla)
1 tub cool whip
2 cups strawberries
Bake cake according to direction. While cake is baking mix pudding and refrigerate. Slice strawberries. When cake is cool in a large bowl crumble 1/2 of the cake then add a layer of pudding (1/2) then a layer of cool whip (1/2). Add 1/2 of the strawberries. Then do a second of everything. Enjoy.

Shop Local!



July 14-17, 2021

Adult Season: \$20 | Adult Day: \$12 | Student Season: \$10
Student Day: \$7 | Ages 5 and Under: FREE

Pre-fair tickets on sale now at Pearl River Resort & Logo and Provisions Shop

Wednesday, July 14

11:00am Gates Open
6:00pm Opening Ceremonies at Main Stage
7:00pm Choctaw Indian Princess Pageant
10:15pm World Series Stickball

Thursday, July 15

11:00am Gates Open
8:30pm Jimmie Allen in Concert
10:15pm World Series Stickball

Friday, July 16

10:00am Gates Open
8:30pm Zach Williams in Concert
10:15pm World Series Stickball

Saturday, July 17

7:00am REZ RUN 2021
10:00am Gates Open
6:00pm Closing Ceremonies at Main Stage
8:30pm Brett Young in Concert
10:15pm World Series Stickball Championship

Special Appearances Thursday-Saturday:
Scales, Tails & Teeth Gator Show
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Thursday-Saturday
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Friday & Saturday
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For More Information on REZ RUN: 601.650.1765
www.raceroster.com



For More Information: 601.650.7450 | WWW.CHOCTAWINDIANFAIR.COM

This is a family, non-alcoholic event.

HUGE 1-DAY PUBLIC AUCTION
Wednesday, July 21st
Auction Starts at 9:00am

1042 Holland Ave • Philadelphia, Mississippi
Online Bidding Available - No Minimums or Reserves

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Deanco Auction 601-656-9768 www.deancoauction.com
1042 Holland Ave. PO Box 1248 • Philadelphia, Mississippi 39350 Auctioneer: Donnie W. Deanc, #733, MSGL #935
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The Do's and Don'ts of rescuing flowers

By FELDER RUSHING
Special to the Democrat

Some people rescue wandering puppies or kittens; I rescue worms from sidewalks, and neglected plants. With permission.

Sometimes there is a roadside project or overgrown lot about to be developed that will wipe out a stand of wildflowers, or a neighbor or friend has passed away; leaving behind a cache of botanic orphans.

I have even snagged plants from neighbors' curbs on trash day, saving them from the landfill. One of my flower show blue ribbon-winning potted plants started out as such a broken-potted, soil-less pavement waif, which I coddled back to glory.

Not that I try to save every needy flower I come across; there's not enough room in my neighborhood for all the zinnia plantlets I thin from overseeded beds, every oak that comes up from a squirrel-forgotten acorn, or every cutting made from my roses. And I can't have every wildflower that catches my eye.

But in my less-than-pristine past I was bad about "liberating" plants found languishing around

derelict houses and weedy lots. Usually I got permission, but occasionally I just made certain the owners were long gone and neighbors wouldn't care. Yeah, it was wrong, and not a legal defense claiming that guerilla gardeners have been salvaging lost plants like this for centuries.

In the years correcting my youthful clandestine indiscretions, I no longer collect without permission from the property owners. Last thing this old guy needs is to be arrested for trespassing and petty theft of plants I probably already grow at home or could easily get from commercial sources.

Besides, no matter the circumstances, brazenly digging plants still looks shifty, and can be irresponsible. So here are some practical guidelines from an old pro, mostly how to avoid killing the plants you are trying to save.

First rule of thumb, the hardest, is to resist instant gratification: Don't grab plants in full bloom, partly because it's usually the harshest season for plants to survive being dug, and because someone will always see and know what you are up to.



Rescuing wildflowers can be very rewarding.

Instead, mark the ones worth moving, noting where the mark is, then satisfy your need for instant gratification by take a photo, or snipping a few flowers to celebrate in a vase. Wave cheerily when someone sees you - and they will

ey or other things demanded in the complaint or 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 the seal of said Court, this 2nd day of July, 2021. Chancery Court Clerk Neshoba County, Mississippi

BY: W Savell
D.C.
(Seal)

Northside Storage, LLC
1350 N Pecan Ave
Philadelphia, MS 39350
601-656-1936
Willie Jackson, Owner

Notice is hereby given that on Friday, July 16, 2021 at Northside Storage, LLC, owned by Willie Jackson located at 1350 North Pecan Avenue, Philadelphia, Mississippi, the undersigned, Northside Storage will sell at public sale by competitive bidding the personal property heretofore stored with the undersigned by Northside Storage having the right to reject any and all bids.

#085 Shirley Nash
Philadelphia, MS 39350

#130B Renaldo Javier
Philadelphia, MS 39350

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF NESHOPA COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI
SHARON CARTER MCCULLY
VS
FILE NO. 21-107

MARCUS MCCULLY
DEFENDANT

SUMMONS
(By Publication)
THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI
COUNTY OF NESHOPA

TO: Marcus McCully, a non-resident of the State of Mississippi, who is not to be found in this state on diligent inquiry made by the Plaintiff, and her whereabouts, place of abode, and post office address are unknown to Plaintiff after having made diligent inquiry to ascertain the same, but her last known address is unknown.

You have been made DEFENDANT in the suit filed in this Court by Sharon Carter McCully, PLAINTIFF, seeking a Divorce Decree. Defendants other than you in this action are None.

You are required to mail or hand deliver a copy of a written response to the Complaint filed against you in this action to JIM ARNOLD, Attorney for the Plaintiff, whose post office address and street address is 435 E. Beacon Street, Philadelphia, MS 39350.

YOUR RESPONSE MUST BE MAILED OR DELIVERED NOT LATER THAN THIRTY DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS SUMMONS. IF YOUR RESPONSE IS NOT MAILED OR HAND DELIVERED, A JUDGMENT BY DEFAULT WILL BE ENTERED AGAINST YOU FOR THE MONEY OR OTHER RELIEF DEMAND IN THE COMPLAINT.

You must also file the original of your response with the Clerk of this Court within a reasonable time afterwar.

ISSUED UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL OF SAID COURT, this the 25th, day of June, 2021.

Mr. Guy Nowell
Chancery Clerk of Neshoba County (SEAL)
401 East Beacon Street, STE 107
Philadelphia, MS 39350

BY: /s/ W. Savell
DEPUTY CLERK

CHOCTAW TRIBAL CIVIL COURT
MISSISSIPPI BAND OF CHOCTAW INDIANS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF LOUVIA DENSON SOLOMON, DECEASED
C. A. NO. 2020-726

SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION

THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

TO: The heirs at law of LOUVIA DENSON SOLOMON, deceased, and any and all other persons claiming any right, title or interest in and to the estate of LOUVIA DENSON SOLOMON, deceased, whose post office and street addresses are unknown to the Petitioner after diligent search and inquiry, and upon whom service of process may be had by publication as prescribed by law. You have been made a Respondent in a Petition for Determination of Heirship filed in this court by the Petitioner Diana Solomon, Administrator of the Estate of LOUVIA DENSON SOLOMON, deceased. You are summoned to appear and defend

if you're going to do it, do it right so the plants have a better chance of survival. And you are less likely to get caught if you trying not to.

And never take them all. Never. Whether it's antique daffodils, irises, gladiolus, or wildflowers along a roadside (which are illegal or at least unethical to dig, by the way), leave some as insurance that your well-meant intervention won't wipe out the entire population of plants. Hint for saving wildflowers in bloom: Don't. Or if you must, never take those in bloom - find some nearby flowers that have matured completely, and grab some seeds. Nearly always works better.

And by the way, my special mark is a little broken piece of cobalt blue glass. If you come across one in a seemingly empty lot, it's probably mine. Leave it alone, go find your own plants to rescue.

Felder Rushing is a Mississippi author, columnist, and host of the "Gestalt Gardener" on MPB Think Radio. Email gardening questions to rushfeldr@yahoo.com.

LEGALS

NESHOPA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
EXPENSE SUMMARY FOR: 7/6/2021
001-000 GENERAL COUNTY
142923.95 001-100 BOARD OF SUPERVISORS 3207.92 001-101 CHANCERY CLERK 1213.59 001-102 CIRCUIT CLERK 151.48 001-105 TAX ASSESSOR/COLLECTOR 1018.18 001-151 MAINTENANCE OF BUILDING/GROUND 11746.01 001-152 DATA PROCESSING 2952.62 001-153 REAPPRAISAL 15232.00 001-160 CHANCERY COURT 32.50 001-161 CIRCUIT COURT 2616.00 001-163 JUVENILE COURT 1187.55 001-164 JUVENILE DRUG COURT 72.34 001-165 LUNACY COURT 350.00 001-166 JUSTICE COURT 129.27 001-167 CORONER/MEDICAL EXAMINER 1211.52 001-169 COUNTY ATTORNEY 840.00 001-170 PUBLIC DEFENDER 948.93 001-171 COURT ADMINISTRATOR 541.26 001-200 SHERIFF ADMINISTRATION 69228.15 001-220 CUSTODY OF PRISONERS 13429.49 001-232 MEDICAL SERVICE - PRISONERS 953.97 001-260 EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT 5060.49 001-262 CONSTABLES 704.62 001-420 HEALTH CENTER 3924.61 001-440 MENTAL HEALTH 1800.00 001-450 WELFARE ADMINISTRATION 7316.47 001-452 COUNCIL ON AGING 26.00 001-500 LIBRARY ADMIN 20083.33 001-530 PARKS AND RECREATION 10833.33 001-540 RECREATION/COLISEUM 4249.59 001-550 SCHOOLS 1233.38 001-630 SOIL CONSERVATION 3262.50 001-631 COUNTY EXTENSION 488.90 001-676 INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AUTH 6666.66 0097-000 CO WIDE ENHANCED 911 PAYROLL 5776.65 0097-265 COUNTY WIDE E-911 3853.50 106-251 COUNTY LINE VFD 44.44 106-262 NORTHBEND VFD 1876.89 130-540 COLISEUM EXPENSES 151.50 150-000 COUNTY UNIT ROAD PAYROLL 14989.17 150-300 COUNTY UNIT ROAD 47426.67 160-000 CO WIDE BRIDGE & CULVERT PAYROLL 30243.28 160-300 COUNTY WIDE BRIDGE & CULVERT 4675.00 160-890 CO WIDE BRIDGE-LEASE/PURCHASE 113384.32 202-800 HOSPITAL CAP LOAN 20304.21 400-000 SOLID WASTE PAYROLL 9843.95 400-340 SOLID WASTE 11501.52 650-000 ASSESSMENTS 76835.46 690-000 ECCC MAINTENANCE 11539.18 691-000 ECCC BUILDING 7692.82 697-000 UNEMP COMP CLEARING FUND 5455.49 TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS:

701230.66
THIS IS A SUMMARY OF EXPENDITURES FOR PERIOD ENDING JULY 6, 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

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF NESHOPA COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF BENDA GAIL JOINER, DECEASED

CIVIL ACTION NO.: 2021-146

DANNY KILLEN
PETITIONER

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Letters of Administration having been granted to the undersigned by the Chancery Court of Neshoba County, Mississippi, on the Estate of Benda Gail Joiner, Deceased, on the 6th day of July, 2021, notice is hereby given to all persons having claims against the said Estate to have their claims probated and registered by the Clerk of the Chancery Court of Neshoba County, Mississippi, within ninety (90) days from the first publication of this notice, and that failure to probate and register their claims with the Clerk within that time will forever bar the claim. WITNESS MY SIGNATURE this the 6th day of July 2021.

/s/Danny Killen
DANNY KILLEN
ADMINISTRATOR OF THE ESTATE OF BENDA GAIL JOINER

Prepared by:
DOUGLAS J. GRAHAM
SETTLEMIRE & GRAHAM, PLLC
410 East Beacon Street
Philadelphia, MS 39350
(601) 656-9597
MSBN: 101965

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF NESHOPA COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

IN THE MATTER OF THE LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT OF MARY DESHEA MING LEE ANN BURT FULTON
CAUSE NO. 21-183-JK
NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Letters Testamentary having been granted to the undersigned by the Chancery Court of Neshoba County, Mississippi, on the Estate of Mary Deshea Ming, Deceased, on the 30th day of June, 2021, notice is hereby given to all persons having claims against the said Estate to have their claims probated and registered by the Clerk of the Chancery Court of Neshoba County, Mississippi, within ninety (90) days from the first publication of this notice, and that failure to probate and register their claims with the Clerk within that time will forever bar the claim. WITNESS MY SIGNATURE this the 2nd day of July, 2021.

/s/Lee Ann Burt Fulton
LEE ANN BURT FULTON
EXECUTRIX OF THE ESTATE OF MARY DESHEA MING

Prepared by:
DOUGLAS J. GRAHAM
SETTLEMIRE & GRAHAM, PLLC
410 East Beacon Street
Philadelphia, MS 39350
(601) 656-9597
MSBN: 101965

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF NESHOPA COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

DANZSLEY DESHEA SKINNER
VS.
D'ACORUS LAW AND BUREAU OF VITAL STATISTICS, STATE OF FLORIDA
DEFENDANT

CAUSE NO: 2021-187

SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION

THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI
TO: DACORUS LAW, a non resident of the state of Mississippi, (whose post office and street address are unknown after diligent search and inquiry)

You have been made a Defendant in the suit filed in this Court by Danzley Skinner, Plaintiff, filing a Complaint for Enrollment of Foreign Judgment, and Modification of Order. You are summoned to appear and defend against the complaint or petition filed against you in this action at 9:00 o'clock A.M. on the 16th day of September, 2021 in the courtroom of Neshoba County in Philadelphia, Mississippi, and in case of your failure to appear and defend a judgment will be entered against you for the relief, mon-

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EOE/M/F/D/V

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601-656-8118
EOE/M/F/D/V

Payne heads to Miss Hospitality contest

By JOHN LEE
john@neshobademocrat.com

Landry Payne, who served as Neshoba County's Distinguished Young Woman in 2018, said her love of representing Neshoba County motivated her to compete in the Miss Hospitality contest in Hattiesburg this week.

Payne was selected as Neshoba County's Miss Hospitality in 2019, and her goal, if she wins the state title, is to travel outside of the state and promote tourism.

"If I am named Mississippi's Miss Hospitality I want to promote our great state to get the tourist numbers higher than they have ever been," Payne said, noting that last year's contest was canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Mississippi's Miss Hospitality contest was established in 1949 under Gov. Fielding Wright and the state Legislature. It is designed for women ages 18 to 24 and has championed the state's tourism and economic development sectors while supporting Mississippi's

best and brightest young women through its scholarship program.

The winner serves as the state's official Goodwill Ambassador traveling regionally and nationally to promote Mississippi and share her story. Miss Hospitality will also enjoy her part of more than \$100,000 in prizes and scholarships offered by the Miss Hospitality program.

Payne, daughter of Cindy and Paul Payne, graduated from Neshoba Central in 2018. She now attends Mississippi University for Women and is majoring in nursing.

Unlike other counties which hold local pageants to determine the woman who will advance to the state competition of Miss Hospitality, Neshoba County's contestant is appointed by the Director of Miss Hospitality for Neshoba County, Laura Bailey.

"Landry approached me about being Neshoba's Miss Hospitality," Bailey said. "They need at least one or two years of college, a good GPA, and a good personality. The judges



Landry Payne

begin watching the candidates when they go to the meet and greet in June. They carefully observe how they interact with the other girls."

Bailey said Landry is going to represent Neshoba County well.

"Mrs. Bailey offered me the

title of Neshoba's Miss Hospitality in July 2019," Payne said. "I was thrilled to represent Neshoba once more."

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the state Miss Hospitality competition was canceled, and due to this contestants were given the option to retain their

local title for another year and compete in the 2021 competition, which Payne accepted. She is currently in Hattiesburg preparing to perform her on-stage part in the competition on Friday.

During the competition, Payne will take part in one-on-one and panel interviews Wednesday, and will present a speech and written commercial on stage Friday. She will be accompanied by Katie James, Neshoba's Little Miss Hospitality, young girls who are chosen along with the older candidates to go on stage with them to represent their counties.

"The commercial has to be within 20 to 30 seconds, and the goal is to talk to people about your hometown and promote it," Payne said. "My speech will be about Mississippi and why someone who's never been here should come to visit."

Payne will be competing on Friday night with the second half of the contestants. The first half will compete Thursday night. The winners on Thursday and Friday will advance to the

finals on Saturday night, where the winner will be decided and crowned.

"I'm just so excited to be in Hattiesburg, representing Neshoba County," Payne said. "I could not ask for a better community to represent. The support I've received throughout my service as Neshoba County's Miss Hospitality is mind-blowing, and I'm so proud to call Neshoba County home."

Landry Payne's mother, Cindy Payne, said Miss Hospitality is an opportunity for growth and for her daughter to step out of her everyday box and meet new people.

"Landry is prepared and has done the work in bettering herself with interviewing," Payne said. "She was as ready as she could be when she left for Hattiesburg on Sunday, and it's up to the judges to decide. She's excited and enjoying her time there. I know she'll do her very best, and as a mom, I'm cheering for her."

To learn more about Miss Hospitality Mississippi, visit <https://misshospitality.net/>.

Celebrate National Park and Recreation Month with outdoor recreation

By JAMES CUMMINGS
Special to the Democrat

Since 1985, America has celebrated July as National Park and Recreation Month, celebrating unbridled outdoor recreation and encouraging everyone to explore their local recreational facilities and parks in honor of summer and the beauty of nature.

Designated in 1985 as National Park and Recreation Month by the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA), the month of July is ideal for small groups and families to rediscover their local parks and visit new ones.

Encouraging outdoor physical activity and actively promoting parks and recreation in communities across the country, the NRPA actively supports and promotes creative celebrations through their magazine Parks &

Recreation, and encourages communities and townships to submit their own celebration and activity information.

The object of the NRPA and National Park and Recreation Month isn't just to encourage outdoor recreational activity and increase park visitation, but also to recognize and salute those who work in the parks system to make our park experience enjoyable and unforgettable. The beauty of a park can reside within our hearts and minds long after we have left, and children and adults alike will certainly enjoy the tranquility and peace of such natural serenity. We should consider the care and effort that goes into maintaining our parks by the vast number of park employees who dedicate themselves to the difficult but rewarding task of park maintenance.

Outdoor recreation is a key

factor of National Park and Recreation Month, focusing on the need for physical activity, and what better place to enjoy physical activity than during the many beautiful summer days in the month of July.

Although the many activities and celebrations can be overwhelmingly fun, the importance of physical activity should not be forgotten, and should especially be instilled in children and young adults.

The NRPA website, nrpa.org, contains more information and tools for communities to utilize in order to create their own list of activities and celebrations. Samples of proclamations and press releases are available for download, as well as a sample calendar of activities and important information to let everyone in the community know that July is National Park and Recreation Month.

James L. Cummins is executive director of Wildlife Missis-

sippi, a non-profit, conservation organization founded to conserve, restore, and enhance fish,

wildlife, and plant resources throughout Mississippi. Their web site is www.wildlifemiss.org.

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Henley Wilson, 769-233-6985 • henley@neshobademocrat.com

THE NESHOPA DEMOCRAT



Union Public School District

Notice of Proposed Ad Valorem Tax Effort

The Union Public School District will hold a public hearing on its proposed school district budget for fiscal year 2022 on Monday, August 2, 2021 at 6:00 pm at the Union Public School District Central Office. At this meeting, a proposed ad valorem tax effort will be considered.

The Union Public School District is now operating with a projected total budget revenue of \$10,180,620.80. Of that amount, 4.2% or \$424,461 of such revenue is obtained through ad valorem taxes. For the next fiscal year, the proposed budget has total projected revenue of \$13,459,357.01. Of that amount, 3.3% or \$444,188 is proposed to be financed through a total ad valorem tax levy.

For the next fiscal year, the proposed increase in ad valorem tax effort by Union Public School District may result in an increase in the ad valorem tax millage rate. Ad valorem taxes are paid on homes, automobile tags, business fixtures and equipment, and rental real property.

Any citizen of Union Public School District is invited to attend this public hearing on the proposed ad valorem tax effort, and will be allowed to speak for a reasonable amount of time and offer tangible evidence before any vote is taken.

A millage rate of 54.32 will produce the same amount of revenue from ad valorem taxes as was collected the prior year. The millage rate for the prior year was 54.32.