



SPORTS

NESHOBA CENTRAL ROCKETS START SEASON WITH VICTORY

Football — Page 5B

COOK OF THE WEEK

WILCHER COOKS FRESH FROM GARDEN

Jennifer Wilcher— Page 1B



THE NESHOBA DEMOCRAT

Established 1881 — Oldest Business Institution in Neshoba County Philadelphia, Mississippi Wednesday, September 1, 2021 140th Year No. 35 **\$1.00

Man confesses to murder

By DUNCAN DENT duncan@neshobademocrat.com

A Noxapater man confessed to killing his girlfriend in Harrison County hours before he was arrested by Neshoba County deputies at his mother's home here early Friday morning, the authorities said.

Jeremy Charles Childress, 46, of Noxapater was arrested in the early morning hours Friday by Neshoba County Sheriff's Deputies responding to a disturbance call in the Bond community.

Neshoba County Sheriff Eric Clark said the call came in at about 5:30 a.m. from a residence on Road 2822.

Clark said that when they arrived on the scene they found a man who was later identified as Childress with a handgun talking about killing himself.

Clark said that while making the arrest Childress voluntarily confessed to murdering his girlfriend in Saucier in Harrison County.

Clark said that he had killed his girlfriend and driven up to see his mom before whatever happened, happened," Clark said suggesting that Childress knew he would be arrested or he would kill himself.

Clark said his office then contacted the Harrison County Sheriff's Office and gave them details about the murder and where to find the body. He said that HCSO said that the information provided "checked out."

"We did not have the crime scene here but we did have a lot of the elements," Clark said. "His information was spot on."



Jeremy Childress

Clark said he cannot add many more details because the case is still open but said that they recovered .357 magnum and a .45 caliber Glock belonging to Childress as well as his truck.

The Sun Herald reported See MURDER, page 2A

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Photo by Sarah Kathryn Watkins

Brittnae Smith has worked at the Philadelphia-Neshoba County Library for seven years and was recently named the new director.

Smith named new director of county library

By SARAH KATHRYN WATKINS news@neshobademocrat.com

Brittnae Smith has been named the Director of the Philadelphia-Neshoba County Library.

"I am very excited about my new role," said Smith of Philadelphia, who has worked for the library for seven years.

Smith said she had an interest in books since she was a child and after a friend told her about the job opening at the library seven years ago, she decided to apply and landed the job.

She said she has enjoyed working at the library and looks forward to taking the leadership role.

"Seeing children come in with such a love for books and reading as I did at that age is such an amazing joy," Smith said of her work.

Smith is a graduate of Neshoba Central High School, and she holds a bachelor's degree in business administration from Mississippi University for Women. Her parents are Tyron and LaTonya Smith.

Smith said she is excited about the future of the library, especially since things are opening back up after being closed to in-person visits during the COVID-19 pandemic. Patrons can once come inside to access computers, fax, make copies and check out books from the library's large selection, she said.

"After a year and a half of offering limited services, due to COVID-19 restrictions and having a new HVAC system installed, we are happy to say that the Neshoba County Public Library is fully opened," Smith said.

This summer, the library hosted its summer reading program with the theme "Tails and Tales" in which children were able to learn about animals while doing crafts.

At 10 a.m. Wednesdays, the library is now offering Preschool Story Time and from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. on Wednesdays, the library offers an after-school program called "Wind Down Wednesday."

Smith said she has a few adult programs in the works and she hopes to conduct a fall book sale.

She said the library is constantly adding more collections of books.

"We welcome and encourage everyone to stop by and visit us," Smith said.

The library's Facebook page is (Neshoba County Library) and their website(www.neshobalibrary.net) for updates, or call the at 601-656-4911.

ELECTION

Clemons challenge moved to Oct. 18

By SCOTT HAWKINS scott@neshobademocrat.com

A challenge to the June 8 alderman-at-large election has an Oct. 18 court date after being postponed due to rising COVID-19 numbers.

Leroy Clemons, the incumbent Democrat, lost by one vote and filed the challenge to the results on June 28, the day newly-elected city officials were sworn in.

Republican challenger James Carson Waltman beat Clemons 670 to 669.

Clemons' 10-page court challenge states in part, "There were widespread irregularities in the failure to secure ballot boxes in accordance with Miss. Code Ann. Section 23-15-595. The ballot boxes lacked substantial security to safeguard the contents of the ballot boxes to prevent the taking away of legally cast votes and ballot box stuffing in the Municipal General Election."

Clemons said he is looking forward to having the case heard in court.

"Both sides will present their evidence and then a decision will be made," Clemons said. "We are saying there are votes that were not counted. They should have been. ... There were some irregularities in the election process that may or may not have caused some votes not to be counted."

Clemons said he would not characterize what he is seeking as a recount.

"We are actually asking for them to go back through and make sure the election was done properly and that all the votes that should have been counted were counted," Clemons said.

See ELECTION, page 8A

PAPA LOVE'S ROLLING GRILL

Food trucks roll into Philadelphia

By DUNCAN DENT duncan@neshobademocrat.com

As the number of mobile food vendors increases in Philadelphia, city officials said they welcome the business as long as they have the proper paperwork in place.

Mayor James Young said he has heard no bad reports regarding mobile food vendors and food trucks.

"I have not heard of any problems. At least I have not received any negative phone calls," Young said.

Bobby Joe Lovern, 52, has lived in Neshoba County his entire life. He is the owner of Papa Love's Rolling Grill.

He has thrown himself full-time into the mobile food business after a roughly 30-year career with Williams Brothers

where he most recently held the position of market manager.

"I just enjoy cooking," Lovern said. "I would rather do that than anything else."

Lovern is not new to the restaurant business. He has cooked at a number of places in town, most recently County Line Steakhouse.

Popular spots for him to set up are The Spot, Neshoba General Hospital and M and S Furniture. He makes regular posts on his Facebook page "Papa Love's Rolling Grill" to let people know where he will be. Another traveling operation in town is Pam Bam's Soul Food which also posts where it will be on Facebook.

Young said the city has no regulations about where food trucks can park unless it is somehow hindering the flow of traffic.

Lovern said he has established a good relationship with many of the local business owners where he has set up shop.

"We usually end up bringing each other some business," Lovern said.

Young said the city that while the city has no ordinances concerning food trucks, proprietors of food trucks are required to have a transient vendor tax ID so that they can pay local taxes, and they have to meet certain requirements set by the health department.

Lovern said an early priority for his business was ensuring

See TRUCKS, page 3A



Bobby Joe Lovern mans the grill behind his sign on his rolling grill as a patron waits for a plate.

OPINION Rich Lowry

PAGE 4A

JUST AMONG FRIENDS Marianne Enochs

PAGE 1B

OPINION Patrick Buchanan

PAGE 4A



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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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Branning for eliminating income tax

By SCOTT HAWKINS
scott@neshobademocrat.com

State Sen. Jenifer B. Branning likes the idea of eliminating the state income tax.

A group of state lawmakers met at the Capitol last week to hold hearings on the possibility of eliminating the state income tax.

"I definitely think it is a conversation we need to have," said Branning, a Republican from Philadelphia representing District 18. I know we received a lot of good information from the hearings."

Branning was unable to attend committee hearings in person but was able to view them on YouTube and she is glad the Legislature is studying the issue.

"I am supportive of the idea," Branning said. "I don't want to do any tax swap."

Branning said she supports the idea of eliminating the state's income tax, because it will keep more money in Mississippians' pockets.

Speaker of the House Philip Gunn is leading the effort after a measure to eliminate the state's income tax passed the House last session but failed to make it out of a Senate committee.

Gunn, a Republican representing Hinds and Madison counties, said he believes the House measure is a sound plan and he supports the Senate's decision to study the issue before the next session.

"That's why the Senate and House held an in-depth two-day joint hearing to hear from economists and tax policy experts," Gunn said. "The purpose was to get a clear-eyed look at the data and expert analysis and take their advice seriously."

Lawmakers are in the study phase and no action can be taken on eliminating the

state's income tax until the full Legislature is in session, which barring any special sessions would be January.

Gov. Tate Reeves has pushed eliminating the state income tax.

"I'm also very glad that the Lt. Governor, Speaker, and I all agree that the income tax should be eliminated, and that doing so best positions Mississippi for long-term success," Reeves said. "I hope that once the hearings are over, the Legislature will realize that eliminating Mississippi's income tax is needed and reducing the tax burden on Mississippians across the board is the best way to ensure our state's economic prosperity."

Reeves said he does not support eliminating the state's income tax in exchange for another form of tax.

"I hope that once the hearings are over, the Legislature will realize that the best way forward is to not swap the income tax for increases in sales taxes, agriculture taxes and other taxes," Reeves said. "I'm opposed to robbing Peter to pay Paul. In fact, I want Peter and Paul to have more money in their pocket. I've been in contact with small businesses throughout Mississippi — including in the manufacturing and agricultural industries — outside think-tanks, and other stakeholders. Based on my conversations with them, it's clear — the consensus is that eliminating, not swapping the tax burden, is the way to go."

Reeves said he believes Mississippi is in a good financial position now to eliminate the state's income tax.

"Mississippi is in the best fiscal and financial shape in the state's history, thanks in large part to Mississippians' willingness to go back to work despite a global pan-

demic," Reeves said. "Thanks to them, Mississippi ended the year \$1 billion over revenue estimates."

Reeves said that when he was the state's Lt. Governor he proposed the largest tax cut in the state's history.

"We were able to eliminate the 3% tax bracket without increasing taxes in other areas," Reeves said. "We did it before, and it is my firm belief that we can do it again."

Democratic Sen. Hob Bryan of Amory told the Associated Press last week that he opposes eliminating the income tax because of the state's infrastructure problems, which include poor roads and bridges, water and sewer problems and lack of internet access.

"Do you know a single human being on the face of the earth that would move to Mississippi if only we didn't have a state income tax?" the AP reported Bryan saying. "It's laughable on its face."

During the joint Tax Study Committee hearings held Aug. 25 and 26, tax economists from the University of Mississippi and other tax reform proponents, including Grover Norquist, founder and president of Americans for Tax Reform, and Russ Latino, president of Empower Mississippi, spoke.

Norquist told the group of lawmakers that eliminating the state income tax is a good incentive to bring people and businesses to the state.

"There is a movement now that is moving state by state," Norquist told members of the joint Tax Study Commission on Aug. 26. "Utah is getting in on the conversation about moving down toward zero. Even some of the blue states are talking about inching their extremely high-income taxes down and certainly not

increasing them and they are explicitly saying because people will leave."

Norquist presented data that he said showed states with lower or no income taxes have more people moving into them while states with higher income tax rates have people moving away from them.

"Pretty soon everyone is going to be a no-tax state, so the question for Mississippi is are you going to be an early adopter or are you going to be catching up?" Norquist said. "California and New York are going to be catching up."

Norquist said eliminating state income tax tells people you support their success.

"This is not a state consumed with envy," Norquist said of the message no income tax sends. "This is not a state that will celebrate your success when you come here. We are glad you are here. We are glad you're successful. We won't decide, 'You've made more money than the guy down the street so I think we will take something from you.' People tend to move away from neighborhoods where that exists in history. The early adaptors will have the advantage over the people who decide to start this five, six and seven years from now."

The Associated Press reports that Alaska, Florida, Nevada, New Hampshire, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Washington and Wyoming do not charge any state income tax.

"Individual income taxes made up 34% of Mississippi's state tax revenue during the state budget year that ended June 30, according to the state Department of Revenue," the AP reports. "That was about \$2.2 billion from individual income taxes in the nearly \$6.6 billion the state collected for its general fund."

COVID cases continue to decline in county

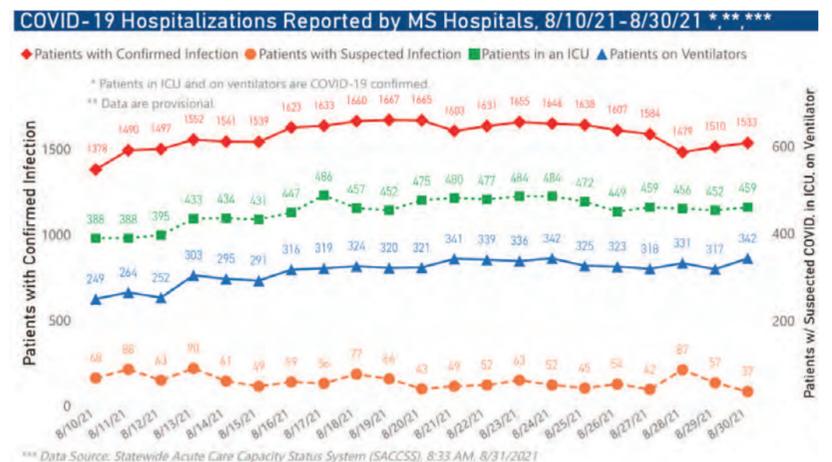
By SCOTT HAWKINS
scott@neshobademocrat.com

Neshoba County recorded 211 new COVID-19 cases and four new deaths in the past week, according to the Mississippi State Department of Health's Aug. 31 report.

Neshoba County has now recorded a total of 6,000 cases of COVID-19 and 190 deaths since the pandemic began in March 2020.

Last week, Neshoba County reported 222 new weekly cases, and three weeks ago 426. The total new weekly cases have dropped from the peak three weeks ago with 451 cases in one week when the New York Times COVID-19 database reported that Neshoba County was the No. 1 hotspot per capita in the world.

The Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians has reported 72 new positive cases of COVID-19 and two deaths in the past week as of Aug. 29, with the total number of positive cases for the Tribe standing at 2,339 with 120 deaths since the pandemic began in



March 2020. Five new hospitalizations have been reported.

In Neshoba Central Elementary School 18 students tested positive for COVID-19 between Aug. 16-20 and 18 students tested positive during that period at Neshoba Central Elementary and 8 students at Neshoba Central High School and 8 at Philadelphia Elementary School, according to the Aug. 20 schools report from

MSDH.

As of Monday, 24% of Neshoba County's population is fully vaccinated, according to MSDH, and 29% of the county's population had received one of the 15,180 total doses of COVID-19 vaccines administered in the county.

Vaccinations are being administered at Walgreens at 1002 W. Beacon Street in

Philadelphia, according to MSDH.

Statewide, since the pandemic began in March 2020, 257,383 confirmed COVID-19 cases have been recorded by the MSDH along with 179,339 probable cases, totaling 436,722 cases. There have been 5,741 confirmed COVID-19 deaths, along with 2,668 probable deaths, totaling 8,409 deaths.

Murder

Continued from page 1A

that Michelle Hester, 52, was found shot and killed in her Saucier home in connection

with Childress' arrest.

Clark said that Childress gave 13394 Haley Road, Noxapater as his address. He said Childress faces charges of public drunk and disturbance of a family in Neshoba County. He is being held at the Neshoba County Detention

Center on a \$1,400 in bond.

Childress was an Electrician at Moses Electric, according to his Facebook page.

Clark said all relevant information and evidence has been turned over to or has been shared with the HCSO

and that the HCSO had deputies in town the day of the arrest for interviews with Childress.

Clark said extradition was postponed due to Hurricane Ida.



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Traffic through a deserted downtown was brisk Monday as remnants of Hurricane Ida passed.

Tame Ida shakes a few trees, sprinkles in county

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

There were no reports of significant damage related to the remnants of Hurricane Ida that passed through on Monday as schools and businesses closed.

Neshoba County Administrator Jeff Mayo said Monday that reports of power outages were “sporadic.”

Central Electric had a total of 513 electric customers of 11,353 without power Monday morning, but all power had been restored as of Tuesday morning.

Neshoba County Emergency Management Director Darrell Wilson said they received nine 911 calls regarding trees or limbs on roadways.

“All have been removed,” Wilson said. “No structural damage has been reported to 911 or the EMA office.”

Sheriff Eric Clark said he

was relieved to see the damage kept to a minimum. He said he had some deputies doing traffic control while emergency responders worked to clear limbs from the roadways. Specifically, he said there was a call on County Road 365 on Monday.

Clark thanked the many volunteer fire departments in the county for their quick response times.

“Our volunteer firefighters have done a great job,” Clark said. “They are a lifeline to the Neshoba County first-responder community.”

Wilson said a Flood Warning remains in place for the Pearl River above Philadelphia until Friday morning Sept. 3.

The Neshoba County Board of Supervisors held an emergency meeting Sunday afternoon and declared a state of emergency. The Neshoba County Courthouse, Justice Court and non-public safety and non-public works offices

were closed Monday as was City Hall. An online tax sale proceeded Monday. Sanitation ran as long as it was safe to do so, Mayo said.

The National Hurricane Center downgraded Ida to a tropical storm overnight as it moved inland after making landfall near Grand Isle, Louisiana, Sunday morning and causing severe damage in southern Louisiana and along the Mississippi Gulf Coast. Millions of people in Louisiana and South Mississippi are still without electrical service.

Ida made landfall on Sunday with 150 m.p.h. winds, the fifth strongest to ever hit the US mainland.

Ida — a Category 4 storm — hit on the same date Hurricane Katrina ravaged Louisiana and Mississippi 16 years earlier, coming ashore about 45 miles west of where Category 3 Katrina first struck land.

Trucks

Continued from page 1A

ing he follows local rules and regulations. He said that he makes a note on each ticket regarding where the sale took place to ensure that he pays proper taxes for each transac-

tion.

Lovern said he tries to go out most weekdays that the weather allows. He usually stays in the area but has traveled to Union on occasion and recently set up at a rodeo in Brandon.

His menu consists of sandwiches, easy to eat on the go. Some of his regular menu items include grilled chicken

sandwiches, ribeye steak sandwiches, burgers, tenderized pork-chop sandwiches and smoked sausage sandwiches. He said he puts together his catering menu based on the client's request but a staple is a steak, salad and baked potato.

He has also catered weddings, birthdays and church events.

Fall is just around the corner

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MAGAZINE



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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

Americans left behind

The majority of Americans indeed wanted out of the “forever war” in Afghanistan. They just never imagined our withdrawal would be met with a stunning surrender to a terrorist organization and the cost of the lives of 13 U.S. service members.

Today was President Joe Biden’s stated evacuation date, and come hell or high water; he was going to stick with it. This weekend, there were still 250 Americans stranded in war-torn Kabul, let alone those unaccounted for in the rest of the country. Access to and from Kabul’s airport was shut down due to security threats. Reports from the ground indicate Americans were told to go to a specific gate for evacuation only to arrive there and find it wasn’t open.

The Biden administration outsourced security to the Taliban, which then outsourced checkpoints to and from the airport to the Haqqani Network, a terrorist organization that harbors al Qaeda and has carried out strikes against U.S. coalition forces, innocent civilians, and the government of Afghanistan. To help with the evacuation, the U.S. unconscionably gave a list of names to the Taliban for safe passage. The move is akin to giving Schindler’s list to the Nazis.

It didn’t have to be this way.

On August 15, the day Afghanistan’s capital fell to the Taliban and its president fled the country, the head of the Taliban’s political wing, Abdul Ghani Baradar, made an offer to the U.S. — either the U.S. military takes responsibility for securing Kabul, or we will do it — according to reporting from the Washington Post. The Biden administration declined, saying it only needed the airport to complete its mission, and surrendered security to the Taliban.

Mr. Biden could’ve controlled both the airport and Kabul and evacuated everyone but chose not to. The disregard for American life, especially those U.S. service

members killed last Thursday at the airport gates in a suicide attack, is staggering. But it wasn’t Mr. Biden’s only mistake.

In our hast to leave Afghanistan, more than \$85 billion of U.S. taxpayer-funded military equipment has been left in the hands of the Taliban, including 33 Black Hawks, more than 22,000 Humvees, 358, 530 assault rifles, and 169 armored personal vehicles. Courtesy of the U.S. government, the Taliban is now one of the most well-armed terrorist organizations in the region. Undoubtedly our own equipment will be used against us.

The decision to abandon Bagram airbase was another massive miscalculation. Bagram, which was well-fortified, with two runways, about 40 miles from the city center of Kabul, was abruptly abandoned in the middle of the night by the U.S. military in July. Mr. Biden has blamed his generals for the pullout. His generals said Mr. Biden gave them little choice.

“Our task given to us at that time, our task was to protect the Embassy in order for the Embassy personnel to continue to function,” General Mark Milley, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, said in a briefing last week, adding, “we had to collapse one or the other.”

A third option was to send more U.S. troops to protect both the airport and the Embassy before the evacuation of U.S. citizens. As commander-in-chief, Mr. Biden didn’t give his military leaders that option. The buck stops with him.

Throughout the last two weeks, Mr. Biden has outright lied to the American people, his rhetoric simply not reflecting reality, trying to spin victory in the hands of defeat. The American people deserve the truth, especially when American lives are on the line. Mr. Biden has proven incapable. More blood will be on his hands.

— *The Washington Times*

FLASHBACKS

SEPTEMBER 5, 1941

A stalk of sugar cane seven feet tall was brought to the Democrat office this week by J.D. Williamson Route 4. It is of the P.O.J. variety. Ordinarily sugar cane does not reach such a height until November, according to Mr. Williamson.

With what she termed “just fiddling a little,” Miss Maudine Phillips, accompanied by Miss June Russell, both seniors at Blue Mountain College, gave a very entertaining performance at the Rotary Club luncheon at the Benwalt Monday, judging from the enthusiastic way the Rotarians joined in on the choruses.

AUGUST 30, 1951

Maurice Stephens goes to Whynot as Coach and teacher of Science in the school there. Mr. Stephens is the son of Mr. and Mrs. L.L. Stephens of Rt. 4 this city, has recently received his degree from Mississippi Southern College, Hattiesburg.

W.F. Glass, native resident of this city, but for many years a resident of Gulfport was a visitor here last Friday and paid the Neshoba Democrat a visit. Mr. Glass spent a couple of days here calling on old friends and also visiting the graves of his parents in Cedarlawn. He was very complimentary of the splendid growth of the city and the development in general.

AUGUST 31, 1961

Carl Williams of Route One, Preston, had the first bale of cotton ginner here this year. The Ray O. Smith Gin Company ginned the bale Tuesday of this week, which

weighed 479 pounds. Mr. Williams has about 25 acres and said he would get about a bale to the acre. He raises the Rex variety.

Although it was too late for the fishing contest, this 7 pound, 6 oz. bass would crowd the winners. Jim Campbell caught it in the Overt Gipson pond 3 1/7 miles south of Philadelphia. Jim said he caught the bass with a shiner and had the time of his life landing his biggest catch.

SEPTEMBER 2, 1971

Jan Luke, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Ray Luke of Philadelphia, Rt. 2, is given a check for \$10.00 by Clarence Mitchell. A member of Bond 4-H Club, she was selected to receive the Lamar Life cash award in the 4-H Club’s Junior Health Record Program.

Duane Stokes, 18, son of Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert Stoke of the Coy community, receives \$1,000 check from Bob Burt, a Garan employee who served this year as chairman of the Employees scholarship Committee. Conditions necessary for being considered for this award are having a parent employed at the Philadelphia plant, being enrolled in an accredited college or university, and having a desire and interest in seeking higher education. Duane’s mother has been employed at Garan for four years.

SEPTEMBER 3, 1981

Mrs. Jessica Price and her daughter, Frankie Harpole, represent an incidence of artistic ability rarely seen in any locale between a mother

and daughter. One can sense the pride which each takes in the other’s work and this feeling of closeness, and sharing and family certainly rivals the beauty of the pictures they have created.

AUGUST 28, 1991

Virginia Bates, bookkeeper and underwriter for Philadelphia Insurance Agency was honored Thursday for her 35 years of service with the agency. She was presented a plaque and gifts at a reception attended by her relatives and friends and members of the business community. Others include Lisa Pierce, secretary; Albert Latting, vice president; and Allen Hardy, president and manager.

AUGUST 29, 2001

Several Neshoba County youths recently participated in North Half 4-H Field and Stream competition held in West Point. They competed in archery, pistol and rifle, and muzzleloading events. Winner were presented by Larry Alexander, 4-H youth development specialist.

AUGUST 31, 2011

Members of the sixth grade patrol, as well as cheerleaders and members of the band’s color guard, carry a large flag onto Philadelphia football field last Friday as part of the school’s 9/11 Remembrance Ceremony. As part of the program, the high school marching band performed “God Bless the USA” and “The Star Spangled Banner” while senior class president Tiara Caloway gave the invocation.

PATRICK J. BUCHANAN

The triumphant Taliban

We have lost our longest war, and the triumphant Taliban are now back in power.

“April is the cruelest month,” wrote T. S. Eliot in the opening line of what is regarded as his greatest poem, “The Waste Land.”

For President Joe Biden, the cruelest month is surely August of 2021, which is now mercifully ending.

When has a president had a worse month?

On the last Sunday in August, Biden watched solemnly, hand over heart, as the coffins of the American dead in the Kabul airport terrorist massacre of Thursday were carried off the plane at Dover.

The American dead had been carrying out an evacuation of U.S. citizens and Afghan allies from America’s lost war, a defeat dealt to us by the same Taliban we ejected from power in 2001 for providing sanctuary for the al-Qaida terrorists of 9/11.

We have lost our longest war, and the triumphant Taliban are now back in power and presiding over and assisting our departure from Kabul.

When the U.S. withdrawal from Afghanistan is complete Tuesday, the fate of the hundreds of U.S. citizens and thousands of Afghan allies we leave behind will be decided by the jihadists we have been fighting for two decades.

Throughout the Biden presidency, we will be reading of, hearing of and being witness to the evidence of their fates.

That same noon hour on Sunday that Biden honored the fallen at Dover, Hurricane Ida was coming ashore. Ida’s 150-mile-an-hour winds were raking the same Louisiana coast that Hurricane Katrina hit 16 years ago.

By nightfall Sunday, a million residents in and around New Orleans had lost all power, for days and perhaps for weeks.

In this same August, the U.S. moved ever deeper into the fourth wave of the COVID-19 pandemic, with new infections, new hospitalizations and new deaths approaching the numbers they had reached at their worst last

RICH LOWRY

Sorry, this was not a success

Talk about a catastrophic success.

The Biden administration wants credit for the Afghanistan evacuation as measured by the sheer number of people it flew out amid a security and humanitarian crisis of its own making.

This is the arsonist bragging about how many fires he has put out.

Those with memories that stretch past a couple of weeks ago will recall the halcyon days when a mass evacuation at a civilian airport exposed to suicide bombers and other attackers wasn’t, according to Joe Biden, even conceivable.

Biden contributed to the collapse of the Afghan military by denying it air cover, gave away Bagram Air Base for no good reason, pulled out U.S. troops before our diplomats and civilians, drastically underestimated the gathering Taliban offensive, and then, caught unawares by the fall of Kabul, scrambled to jury-rig a desperate rescue that shouldn’t have been necessary in the first place.

That the U.S. flew out more than 115,000 people out of Kabul is a testament to the awesome capabilities of the United States military.

It is not in any way a vindication of President Biden’s exit.

The evacuation itself has been costly. Because we outsourced security outside the airport to the Taliban, our service members were forced to operate in dangerous conditions. A nearly inevitable attack last week killed 13 of them. That’s the loss of more Americans in one day than were killed in action most years in Afghanistan since

winter.

August also brought hundreds of thousands more illegal aliens across our southern border in the largest peacetime migrant invasion in memory.

Most of these millions are coming for a better life. Yet, among their numbers are the criminals and rapists who have assaulted women and girls in the exodus, and not a few foreign enemies coming with the intent to bring the war on terror home to these United States.

So it was that, in the first August of the Biden presidency, the U.S. suffered defeat in its longest war, underwent a humiliating evacuation under the guns of its enemies, continued to endure the worst plague in 100 years, and saw an invasion of its southern border by illegal migrants that called into question whether we Americans retain the resolve to preserve our country.

Nor is this all. In this August of 2021, American politics seem at their most poisonous.

Race relations are as raw as they have been since the ‘60s. In the wake of George Floyd’s death under the knee of a Minneapolis cop, an outpouring of hostility against police has brought record retirements and resignations by cops across the country. Result: an unprecedented surge in urban shootings and killings, with children prominent among the victims.

When President John F. Kennedy gave his approval for the invasion of Fidel Castro’s Cuba that ended in the Bay of Pigs debacle, Americans rallied behind Kennedy because, though he had blundered badly, he was our president, the personification of America’s nationhood. His support soared to 80%.

We were one nation then,

and one people. And today? Demands are being heard for the impeachment or resignation of Biden.

This piling on of the president is surely in part payback for what the Democrats did to former President Donald Trump.

Two weeks before Biden took the oath, a mob had invaded the Capitol to protest his formal certification as president.

For that mob intrusion, Trump was impeached a second time for what was variously described as “inciting insurrection,” “an attempted coup,” “domestic terrorism,” “treason” and mounting a mortal threat to “our democracy.”

“There is a great deal of ruin in a nation,” Adam Smith’s observation after the British lost the decisive Battle of Saratoga, is often invoked these days.

And justifiably so. For how much ruin can a nation endure and remain a nation? How much of this can we sustain and survive — at a time when we are carrying the burden of the defense of our allies in Europe, the Middle East and East Asia against a gathering modern axis of Russia and China, which our own interventionist policies helped to bring into being?

Our media are as partisan as they have been in our lifetimes. Our cultural elites endlessly mock the traditional values and beliefs of Middle America. Our national parties appear ever at sword’s point.

Our goal, it is said, is to ever move “toward a more perfect union.”

Does it seem like that is the direction where we are heading?

Are the divisions between us becoming too great for us to remain one nation and one people?

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

gered.

Even if the evacuation had been flawless and complete, the underlying situation speaks of an abysmal failure. After 20 years, we lost a war to a Taliban that now controls more territory than it did on September 11, 2001. The Taliban hasn’t renounced al Qaeda; indeed, the Haqqani network, a key element of the Taliban that has been responsible for security in Kabul, is closely allied with the terror group.

Biden talks bravely of launching counterterrorism strikes from “over the horizon,” but failed to secure a base in a neighboring country. We will have to operate from hours away in the Persian Gulf, even as our intelligence capabilities in Afghanistan are drastically diminished.

Our ineptitude and dishonorable conduct have shocked our allies, who need to place their trust in our competence and reliability.

Biden’s supporters have resorted to the defense that almost all of this was inevitable. Yet, for years, the Afghan army fought and bled after we had stepped back into a support role, suggesting an unsatisfactory stalemate was achievable at a relatively low cost. Biden rejected that option. Instead, he chose defeat and disgrace. All of the exertions to rescue people from the wreckage over the last two weeks can’t change that.

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

BIBLE SELECTION

So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God,

— **Ephesians 2:19 (ESV)**

OBITUARIES

Bonney Carol "B.C." Kilpatrick

Bonney Carol "B.C." Kilpatrick, age 85, of Alford, FL, passed away on Saturday, August 28, 2021 at his home surrounded by family.



B.C. was born in Philadelphia, Mississippi on March 21, 1936 to the late Thad and Janie Kilpatrick. He has been a resident of this area for fifteen years, moving here from Homestead, FL where he worked as an engineer for Florida Power and Light Turkey Point Nuclear Plant. B.C. enjoyed fishing, auto racing, and operating his HAM Radio. He was a longtime member of Alford Baptist Church.

He was preceded in death by his parents, and one brother, James Harold Kilpatrick.

B.C. is survived by his loving wife, Ramona Kilpatrick of Alford; son, Scott Kilpatrick and wife, Barbara of Marianna; grandchildren, Michelle Nicole Kilpatrick and Garrett Scott Kilpatrick. He is also survived by numerous nieces and nephews.

Graveside services for B.C. will be 2:00 PM, Wednesday, September 1, 2021 in the Alford City Cemetery. Marianna Chapel Funeral Home will be directing.

Brody Alexander Eakes

Funeral service for Infant Brody Alexander Eakes was held at 2 PM Monday, August 30, 2021 at Temple of Praise Church of God with Rev. Daniel Richardson officiating. Interment was in the church cemetery.

Survivors include his parents, Michael and Chastity Ward Eakes; sisters Gabby Eakes, Hannah Eakes, Jayleigh Eakes; brothers, Ethan Eakes, Jameson Eakes, Jaron Eakes, Xander Eakes; grandparents, Teresa Eakes, Tommy Ward, Patricia Ward.

He is preceded in death by an infant sibling; grandfather, Michael Eakes; great-grandfather, Andrew Powell.

Robert Eugene Parker

Funeral service for Mr. Robert Eugene Parker was 11 AM Saturday, August 28, 2021 at John E. Stephens Chapel with Rev. Mike Sullivan officiating. Burial was in High Assembly Cemetery.

Mr. Parker, 74, passed away Monday, August 23, 2021 at Anderson Regional Medical Center in Meridian, MS. He lived in Neshoba Co. his whole life. He was a member of Light House Baptist Church. He was a Free Mason. His hobbies were working, watching westerns, and gloating over Chloe.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Paul Eugene Parker and Mildred Catherine McLeod; sister, Sheila Kay Weaver; brothers, Donald Paul "Duke" Parker, Mike Parker.

Survivors include, daughter Chloe Lane Parker of Starkville; sons, Chris Parker of Preston; sisters, Ann Scaggs of Ky; several nephews and nieces and a host of adoptive grandchildren.

Keith Posey

Funeral service for Mr. Keith Posey was held 2 PM Sunday, August 29, 2021 at John E. Stephens Chapel with Rev. Ben McDaniel and Rev. Larry Savell officiating. Burial was in Beatline Cemetery.

Mr. Posey, 54, passed away Wednesday, August 25, 2021 at Anderson Regional Medical Center in Meridian, MS surrounded by his family. He lived in the Beatline community all of his life. He was a member of Beatline Baptist Church. His hobbies were camping, boating, fishing but what made his world go round was his girls and grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his grandparents D and Wilma Apperson, Madison and Gladys Posey.

Survivors include his wife, Gigi Posey; parents Willard and Eunice Posey; daughters, Paige Jackson (Josh), Lauren Posey, Kori Posey, and Kylie Posey; sisters, Kerri Alexander (Mike); (8) grandchildren, Keeley, Miley, Posey, Paxtyn, Loganne, Jack, Madi Klair, and Opie; host of uncles, aunts, nieces and nephews.

William Warren Sharp

Funeral service for Mr. William Warren Sharp was held 2 PM Saturday, August 28, 2021 at John E. Stephens with Rev. John E. Stephens and Rev. Donis

Chatham officiating. Burial was in Golden Grove Cemetery.

Mr. Sharp, 80, passed away Monday, August 23, 2021 at his home. He lived in Neshoba Co. his whole life. He was a retired 30-year Army Veteran. He was a member of Golden Grove Methodist Church. His hobbies were horses, woodworking, chicken, and gardening.

Preceded in death by his parents, Ira Jackson Sharp and Lee Anna Warren Sharp; sister, Doris Edwards; brothers, Perry, Jack, and Derrell Sharp.

Survivors, daughters, Anna Roberts (Roger Vance), Lorena McKinney, Amanda Wilson, Misty Ingram (Matt); sons, William "Duane" Sharp, Bruce Sharp and Daniel Sharp; sisters, Sarah Chota, Zona Fortenberry, Myrtis Edwards; (15) grandchildren; (13) great-grandchildren; (1) great-great-grandchild; step-daughter, Bertha Lynn Jones; (5) step grandchildren; a host of nieces and nephews.

Jewell Myers Sistrunk

Private Funeral Services for Mrs. Jewell Myers Sistrunk will be Saturday, August 28, 2021 at Faith Baptist Church with the Reverends Billy Warsaw and Mike Boles officiating. A Public Graveside Service will begin at 12:30 p.m. at Cedar Lawn Cemetery in Philadelphia. Robert Bahram Family Funeral Home is honored to be entrusted with the arrangements.

Mrs. Sistrunk, 94, of Meridian, passed away Wednesday, August 25, 2021 at Bedford Care Center of Marion.

Jewell was a faithful member of Faith Baptist Church of Meridian and was a dedicated member of the Truth Seekers Sunday School Class. She was also very active in the ESP group at Faith. Jewell enjoyed working with the Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Distribution Center in Atlanta each year as long as her health permitted. Coming from humble beginnings she and her husband made their home in Philadelphia, before moving to Meridian in 1958. After moving, she enjoyed caring for her family and along with her husband, James, they taught Sunday School at State Blvd Baptist Church. After retirement they enjoyed working on their farm in Leake County and traveling to see family and friends. She was a talented cook and was renowned for her Caramel and Strawberry Cakes. She also loved tending to her flower gardens and caring for her yard. She will be remembered for her strength and dedication to her Lord, Church, Family, and friends.

Mrs. Jewell is survived by her son Jamie Sistrunk (Nelda); her grandchildren, Jessica Thomas (Tyler), Natalie Perry (Todd), Jessica Calvert (Hon. Billy Adam), Matthew Sistrunk (Erika), and Caleb Courville (Rachel). Fourteen Great-grandchildren; one sister, Ruth Wall, as well as a host of nieces, nephews, and extended family members.

Mrs. Sistrunk is preceded in death by her husband, James Sistrunk; their son, Andrew Sistrunk; parents William Myers and Leona Myers Watkins; and siblings, Joe Myers, Junior Myers, Billy Myers, James Myers, and Maurice Sistrunk.

Pallbearers will be David Myers, Caleb Courville, Matthew Sistrunk, Ned Sistrunk, Tyler Thomas, and Billy Adam Calvert. Honorary Pallbearers will be Bobby Johnson and Don Johnson.

The Sistrunk family suggest memorials be made as donations to The Samaritans Purse in lieu of flowers.

Family and friends may sign the online guestbook at robertbarhamffh.com.

Patsy Smith Edwards

Services for Patsy Smith Edwards were held Saturday, August 28, 2021, at 11:00 a.m. from McClain-Hays Chapel with Bro. John Sharp officiating. Burial followed in Cedarlawn Cemetery. McClain-Hays Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

Mrs. Edwards, 85, of Sebastopol, died Wednesday, August 25, 2021.

She was a native of Neshoba County and attended Philadelphia schools. She lived in Sebastopol for the past 50 years and worked in the poultry industry as a book-keeper for 46 years. Mrs. Edwards was a faithful member of Sebastopol Baptist Church.

Survivors include daughter, Rachel A. Miles; son, Joe C. Edwards; and six grandchildren.

Preceding Mrs. Edwards in death were husband James Clayton Edwards; parents, Joe Addison Smith and Nina Winstead Smith; brother, James Bailey Smith.

Frankie L. "Bud Man" Spears

Funeral services for Frankie L. "Bud Man" Spears were held Wednesday, August 25, 2021 at 2 p.m. from McClain-Hays Chapel with Rev. Bennie Alford and Rev. Hank Pilgrim officiating. Burial followed in the Christian Life Cemetery. McClain-Hays Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

Mr. Spears, 62, of DeKalb, died Sunday, August 22, 2021.

He was born in Lauderdale County and was a longtime resident of Kemper County. He worked in the forestry business as a truck driver for several years.

Survivors include daughters, Tabitha Warren and Crystal Stovall, both of Philadelphia, MS; son, Kenneth Spears of Eau Claire, WI; nine grandchildren; sisters, Sharon Spears of Collinsville, MS, Alecia Smith of Clarkdale, MS; brother, Johnny "Essy B" Spears of Lauderdale.

Mr. Spears was preceded in death by his wife, Judy Lynn Spears; parents, Robert and Sally Spears.

Kenny Ryals

Services for Kenny Ryals were held Sunday, August 29, 2021, at 2:00 p.m. from McClain-Hays Chapel with Rev. Eric Sharp officiating. Burial followed in Eastlawn Cemetery. McClain-Hays Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

Mr. Ryals, 70, of Philadelphia, died Tuesday, August 24, 2021.

He was a native of Philadelphia. He retired from Yates Construction Company where he served as purchasing manager. He formerly worked at Nemanco in Philadelphia. Mr. Ryals was Baptist by faith and formerly attended Grace Baptist Church.

Survivors include sons, Jason Ryals of Olive Branch, Kevin Ryals of Philadelphia; four grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

Preceding Mr. Ryals in death were parents, Homer Ryals and Cressie Ryals Atkinson; sister, Barbara Lewis; brother, Mike Ryals.

Family requests memorials may be made to charity of choice.

Willie J. Latimer

Funeral services for Mr. Willie J. Latimer were held on Sunday, August 29, 2021, at 2 P.M. from Jerusalem Temple Church, with Elder Harvey Scott officiating. Burial was at Donald Rest Cemetery. Beck Funeral Home, Inc. was in charge of arrangements.

Mr. Latimer, 46, of Philadelphia, passed away on Saturday, July 31, 2021 in Neshoba County, MS.

He is survived by his mother, Windy Peden of Philadelphia, MS, one son, Jordan Horn of Jackson, MS, five sisters, Cynthia Evans and Lena Latimer both of Philadelphia, MS, Tracie Latimer of Tampa, FL, Lauren Latimer of Houston, TX, Lynda Latimer of Chicago, IL, and one brother, Grovell Latimer of Chicago, IL.

Pallbearers were Jordan Horn, Michael Latimer, Ricky Griffin, David Clay, George Harmon and John Hickman.

Thomas L. Bell

Funeral services for Mr. Thomas Leroy Bell were held on Friday, August 27, 2021, at 2 P.M. from the chapel of Beck Funeral Home with Rev. Jerry Jones officiating. Burial was at Springhill M.B. Church Cemetery in Union. Beck Funeral Home, Inc. was in charge of arrangements.

Mr. Bell, 60, of Hinesville, GA, passed away on Tuesday, August 17, 2021 in Lowndes County, GA.

He is survived by four brothers, Lee Van Shoemaker of Detroit, MI, Ellis Bell of Chicago, IL, Monroe Watson of Forest,

MS, and William Bell of Union, MS, and one sister, Patricia Picard of Inkster, MI.

Family and friends served as pallbearers.

Sarah Ruth Johnson

Funeral service for Ms. Sarah Ruth Johnson will be held at 10 AM Monday, August 30, 2021 at Macedonia Baptist Church with interment in Conehatta Community Cemetery. Visitation will begin at 10 AM Saturday, August 28, 2021 at Macedonia Baptist Church. John E. Stephens Chapel is in charge of arrangements.

Ms. Johnson, 82, passed away on Friday, August 27, 2021 at Choctaw Health Center in Choctaw, MS. Her hobbies included basketry work, fishing, gardening, being around family, playing card games.

She is preceded in death by her husband, Wilbur Johnson; parents, Tony Williams and Mary Alice Denson; sisters, Sarina Anderson, Jimpson Williams, Johnson Williams, James Marvin Williams, Jesse Williams.

Survivors include daughters, Dina Thomas, Dalia John, Peggy Patrick; sons, Gary Johnson, Billy Johnson, Terry Johnson, Aaron Johnson; 20 grandchildren, 30 great-grandchildren.

Pallbearers are Rocky Isom, Sedrick Williams, Kelby Anderson, Rodrick Anderson, Jaric Anderson, Sr., Derek Reynolds, Shaun Jimmie, Sherman Bell, Jessie James Williams.

Keith Posey

Funeral service for Mr. Keith Posey was held 2 PM Sunday, August 29, 2021 at John E. Stephens Chapel with Rev. Ben McDaniel and Rev. Larry Savell officiating. Burial was in Beatline Cemetery.

Mr. Posey, 54, passed away Wednesday, August 25, 2021 at Anderson Regional Medical Center in Meridian, MS surrounded by his family. He lived in the Beatline community all of his life. He was a member of Beatline Baptist Church. His hobbies were camping, boating, fishing but what made his world go round was his girls and grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his grandparents D and Wilma Apperson, Madison and Gladys Posey.

Survivors include his wife, Gigi Posey; parents Willard and Eunice Posey; daughters, Paige Jackson (Josh), Lauren Posey, Kori Posey, and Kylie Posey; sister, Kerri Alexander (Mike); (8) grandchildren, Keeley, Miley, Posey, Paxtyn, Loganne, Jack, Madi Klair, and Opie; host of uncles, aunts, nieces and nephews.

J.T. Sam

Funeral service for Mr. J.T. Sam will be held at 2 PM Sunday, August 29, 2021 at Pearl River Facility Building with Rev. Thomas Ben officiating. Interment will be in Simon Isaac Cemetery. Visitation will begin at 3 PM Friday, August 27, 2021 at the Pearl River Facility Building. John E. Stephens Chapel is in charge of arrangements.

Mr. Sam, 81, passed away Monday, August 23, 2021 at Baptist Memorial Hospital-Golden Triangle in Columbus, MS. His hobbies included fishing, watching baseball games, his casino time and spending time with his closest family and friends.

He is preceded in death by his parents, Charley Tubby and Katie Mae Sam Tubby; sisters, Baby

girl Mingo, Joyce Ann Mingo, Mary Sullivan Tubby, Zella Rose Mingo Cravatt; brothers, Donald Sam, Douglas Sam, Sr., Leo Sam.

Survivors include brothers, Albert Mingo and James Mingo; great-nephew whom he raised as his own, Emmett Jones, Jr.; host of nieces and nephews.

Garrett Nicholas Crosby

Graveside service for Mr. Garrett Nicholas Crosby will be held at 2 PM Thursday, August 26, 2021 at Nanih Waiya Menonite Cemetery with Bro. Randall Joe officiating. Visitation will be from 12:15 PM-1:15 PM Thursday, August 26, 2021 at the funeral home. John E. Stephens Chapel Funeral Services is in charge of arrangements.

Mr. Crosby, 33, passed away Wednesday, August 18, 2021 in Tupelo, MS. He enjoyed driving his truck, learning different languages-Spanish and French, and writing poems.

He is preceded in death by his brother, Richard Crosby.

Survivors include parents, Betty Mae Joe and Glenn Crosby; a sister; brothers, Brandon Kennedy, Dakato Kennedy; special companion, Nikki Pernell.

Pallbearers are Dustin John, Ryan John, Gerald Harrington, Benny Hudson, Jr., Neal Kennedy, Nathan Welch, Joey Joe, Otis McGraw, Dakato Kennedy, Brandon Kennedy.

Errol Flint Davis

Graveside service for Mr. Errol Flint Davis will be held at 10 AM Thursday, August 26, 2021 at Holy Rosary Catholic Cemetery with Father Bob Goodyear officiating. Visitation will begin at 3 PM Tuesday, August 24, 2021 at Tucker Gym/Facility Building. John E. Stephens Chapel Funeral Services is in charge of arrangements.

Mr. Davis, 48, passed away Sunday, August 22, 2021 at Merit Health River Regional Hospital in Vicksburg, MS. He enjoyed watching tv, spending time with family, reading books and traveling.

He is preceded in death by his father, Clayton Earl Davis; brother, Richard Wayne Davis.

Survivors include mother, Evaline Hickman Davis; daughter, Krystillynn Davis; son, Dalton Davis; sister, Miranda Gale Dixon; brother, Saron Dale Davis; 1 grandchild.

Mya Nosika Marie Frazier

Funeral service for Miss. Mya Nosika Marie Frazier will be held at 10 AM Friday, August 27, 2021 at New Covenant Church with Rev. Randall Joe officiating. Interment will be in the Bogue Homa Community Cemetery. Visitation will begin at 9 AM Wednesday, August 25, 2021 at New Covenant Church. John E. Stephens Chapel is in charge of arrangements.

Miss. Frazier, 9, passed away on Thursday, August 19, 2021 at Choctaw Health Center.

Survivors include parents, Joshua Keith Frazier and Maggie Billie; sister, Tyler Frazier; brothers, Jordan Frazier, Lyle Frazier, Thor Russey.

Pallbearers are Winterwind Solomon, Jody Ron Solomon, Sr., Caden Bell, Bishop Bell, Desmond Jim, Printiss Jim.

Jennie Louise Dickens Swarengen

Jennie Louise Dickens Swarengen was born to Bain and Mae Dickens of Thomastown, Mississippi, on April 28, 1942.

She was the little sister of Gilbert Dickens.

Jennie Lou graduated from Kosciusko High School with the class of 1960 and went on to spend four years in Clinton at Mississippi College where she earned a bachelor's degree in education. After college, she moved to Mobile, Alabama, to teach at Satsuma High School, but after several years, her father's health began declining, and she made the decision to move home to Thomastown to help him work in his general store.

Back in Thomastown, she met and married Sam Swarengen, with whom she spent nearly forty years until his passing in 2014. She taught twelve years at Thomastown Attendance Center and after a several year hiatus, she resumed her teaching career at Leake Academy in Madden, Mississippi, where she taught for 19 years before retiring in 2016.

Thanks to Sta Home Health, she was able to keep busy during retirement by calling to check on patients and by writing letters of encouragement to them, both duties that she thoroughly enjoyed. She was a longstanding member of her beloved Thomastown Baptist Church as the pianist and a Sunday and Bible school teacher. Jennie Lou loved young people and truly enjoyed teaching history and geography.

She will be remembered for her famous quote "Now...take care of your business." During the summer months, she would mail postcards to all her current and incoming students.

Jennie Lou would wish them a great summer and tell them she looked forward to seeing them in the fall. She supported her students at many of their extracur-

See OBITS, page 7A



MR. ERROL DAVIS
10 AM THURSDAY,
AUGUST 26, 2021
GRAVESIDE
HOLY ROSARY CATHOLIC
CHURCH CEMETERY

MR. GARRETT CROSBY
2 PM THURSDAY,
AUGUST 26, 2021
GRAVESIDE
NANIH WAIYA
MENNONITE CEMETERY

MISS MYA NOSIKA MARIE
FRAZIER
10 AM FRIDAY, AUGUST
27, 2021
NEW COVENANT
CHURCH
BOGUE HOMA
COMMUNITY CEMETERY

MR. ROBERT PARKER
11 AM SATURDAY,
AUGUST 28, 2021
JOHN E. STEPHENS
CHAPEL
HIGHT ASSEMBLY
CEMETERY

MR. WILLIAM SHARP
2 PM SATURDAY, AUGUST
28, 2021
JOHN E. STEPHENS
CHAPEL
GOLDEN GROVE
CEMETERY

MR. JT SAM
2 PM SUNDAY, AUGUST
29, 2021
PEARL RIVER FACILITY
BUILDING
SIMON ISAAC CEMETERY

MR. KEITH POSEY
2 PM SUNDAY, AUGUST
29, 2021
JOHN E. STEPHENS
CHAPEL
BEATLINE CEMETERY

INFANT BRODY
ALEXANDER EAKES
2 PM MONDAY, AUGUST
30, 2021
OF PRAISE CHURCH OF
GOD-LITTLE ROCK, MS
CHURCH CEMETERY

MS. SARAH RUTH
JOHNSON
10 AM MONDAY, AUGUST
30, 2021
MACEDONIA BAPTIST
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CEMETERY

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-GRAVESIDE SERVICE-
2 P.M. SUN., AUG. 29,
2021
FRIENDSHIP GHOLSON
M.B. CHURCH
CEMETERY

MR. P. L. GAGE
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CEDARLAWN
CEMETERY

MR. KENNY RYALS
SERVICES AUGUST 29
MCCLAIN-HAYS CHAPEL
INTERMENT EASTLAWN
CEMETERY

Member
THE ORDER OF THE GOLDEN RULE

Neshoba's unemployment rate improves 1% over the summer

By STEVE SWOGETINSKY
steve@neshobademocrat.com

Neshoba County's July 2021 unemployment rate of 6.8% dropped a point when compared to the previous month's rate of 7.8 percent, according to the Mississippi Department of Employment Security.

That's about the same as the state's rate of 6.7%. The national percentage of unemployed stands at 5.7%.

The new numbers are a vast improvement over the same time last year in the

midst of the COVID-19 Pandemic when Neshoba County's unemployment rate stood at 13.2%. Businesses and industries were forced to halt or scale back operations and send their employees home to avoid infection. At that time, Mississippi's unemployment rate stood at 9.6% while the nation's rate was at 10.3%.

Neshoba County's labor force in July 2021 stood at 10,450 people, a decrease of 30 people when compared to the previous month. Of that, 710 people were out of work. Mississippi's not seasonal-

	JULY 2021	JUNE 2021	JULY 2020
Neshoba	6.8%	7.8%	13.2%
Kemper	9.4%	10.8%	13.2%
Leake	6.7%	7.5%	9.7%
Lauderdale	5.9%	7.4%	9.1%
Newton	7.1%	8.1%	9.8%
Scott	5.4%	6.0%	6.6%
Noxubee	10.0%	10.5%	15.5%
Winston	7.7%	8.6%	10.5%
Attala	7.5%	8.0%	10.2%

ly adjusted unemployment rate for July 2021 was 6.7%, decreasing nine-tenths of a percentage point over the

month. The number of unemployed decreased 11,000 over the month, while the employed total increased 14,700 from the prior month. The Nation's not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for July 2021 at 5.7% decreased four-tenths of a percentage point over the month and 4.8% points over the year.

Mississippi's nonfarm employment decreased 4,600 over the month but was 44,900 higher than one year ago. The Government sector registered the largest monthly

employment loss, followed by the Professional & Business Services sector.

For the month of July 2021, 28 counties in Mississippi posted unemployment rates less than the state's rate of 6.7 percent. Rankin County posted the lowest unemployment rate for the month of July at 4.5 percent followed by Union County at 4.9 percent. Jefferson County had the highest unemployment rate for July at 19.7 percent followed by Wilkinson County at 15.5 percent.

COUNTY JAIL DOCKET

Neshoba County Jail Docket from 8/23-8/29

- Kaeleen Anderson, 23, of 390 Oswald Rd; failure to appear X2, possession of a controlled substance within correctional
- Cody J Chamblee, 36, of 689 Hwy 487 E, Carthage; burglary-commercial bldg., cars, etc.
- Jeremy Charles Childress, 46, of 13394 Haley Rd, Noxapater; public drunk, disturbance of family
- Frankie Clemons, 57, of 123 Bates Ln; contempt of court
- Frederica Cotton, 28, of 10169 Rd 773; failure to appear
- Jeri Lynn Cotton, 32, of 103 Cobblestone Rd, Walnut Grove; driving under the influence-1st offense, child endangerment, seat belt violation, no insurance
- Ike S Creighton, 33, of 10361 Rd 567; contempt of court, indictment
- Jonathan Eakes, 40, of 500 Wilcher Rd, Carthage; trespassing
- Stanley Fulton, 56, of 120 Hunt St, Louisville; sale of controlled substance X5
- Matthew Waylon Harris, 28, of 10301 Rd 301, Union; contempt of court, possession of controlled substance, malicious mischief over \$1000.00
- Deanrick Isom, 28, of 333 Lagoon Rd; aggravated assault with weapon or other means to produce death, possession of controlled substance
- Lynn Cotton Jeri, 32, of 103 Cobblestone Rd, Walnut Grove; child endangerment, seat belt violation, no insurance
- Tyler Kelly, 31, of 1061 Rd 2, Louisville; contempt of court
- Edwin Chris Malone, 47, of 10501 Rd 541; possession of controlled substance X2
- Frank Young McCoy, 27,

of 222 Mt Helm Rd, Brandon; serving sentence

- David Keith Moody, 68, of 111 Megan St; withholding employee tax X9
- Cannan Nickey, 20, of 122 Bell Rd; probation violation
- Derrick Terrell Paten, 46, of 347 Neshoba/Kemper Rd; contempt of court
- Joshua Lewis Quintana, 30, of 15600 Hwy 15 N; failure to appear, contempt of court, hold for investigations
- Charles Victor Rhodes, 40, of 10150 Rd 325, Union; probation violation
- Rhonda Robinson, 42, of 374 Neshoba Kemper Rd; failure to appear, contempt of court
- Eugene Smith, 44, of 1270 Rush Rd, Little Rock; hold for investigations, burglary-commercial bldg, cars, etc, malicious mischief over \$1000.00
- Jesse Sullivan, 28, of Union; hold for investigations, burglary-commercial bldg, cars, etc, malicious mischief over \$1000.00
- Debriski Talley, 26, of 12540 Hwy 21 S; disturbing the peace
- Kenneth D Thomas, 52, of 136 Jefferson Rd Lot 2; failure to appear, contempt of court
- Brady Travis, 23, of 7168 Morris, McCalla, AL; disorderly conduct, public drunk
- Justus Vance, 28, of 13692 Rd 602 Riverroad, Carthage; hold for other agency
- Wheeler Clay Watson III, 39, of 12940 Old Vinten Rd, West Point; public drunk
- Ashley Nicole Williams, 39, of 102 N Decatur St, Union; possession of controlled substance
- Bradyn G Williamson, 18, of Philadelphia; possession of marijuana-1st offense

Winston County Jail Docket

et for Philadelphia Police arrests from 8/23-8/29

- Michael M Bradley Jr, 25, of 4712 Hooper St, Meridian; possession of controlled substance
- Antauze Brown, 19, of 377 Loper St; contempt of court-municipal court
- Skylan D Burnside, 19, of 318 Martin Luther King Dr; possession of marijuana with intent
- Shannen Chapala, 29, of 185 Cobblestone Rd, Walnut Grove; false identifying information, contempt of court-municipal court
- Cortez D Cole, 26, of 1125 West Ave; controlled substance-possession of paraphernalia, false identifying information, contempt of court-municipal court
- Christopher K Dean, 33, of 10301 Rd 1535; controlled substance-possession of schedule 1 or II—2-10 grams or 10-20 dosage units, resisting arrest, MV-drivers license-none, MV-no insurance, controlled substance-possession of paraphernalia
- Wendy Dutton, 44, of 5400 Pine Ave, Pasadena, TX; alcoholic beverages-unlawful possession, controlled substance-possession of marijuana less than 30 grams or synthetic cannabinoids 10 grams or less in motor vehicle
- Keona Foster, 26, of 1066 Frog Ln Apt E 47; simple assault-causing bodily injury
- Chad Frazier, 31, of 116 Big Spring Creek Rd; DUI-1st offense, MV-no insurance
- Phillip Greer, 53, of 510 Cumberland Ave; controlled substance-possession of paraphernalia
- Meroskie A Harrington, 20, of 103 Cajun Lane; controlled substance-simple possession of marijuana-less than 30 grams
- Darayus M Harris, 33, of

276 Carver Ave; burglary-breaking and entering inner door of dwelling, controlled substance-possession of paraphernalia, possession of controlled substance

- Shaquetta Holmes, 29, of 107 71st Place Apt 831, Meridian; controlled substance-simple possession of marijuana-less than 30 grams, contempt of court-municipal court
- Lanterian D Hoskins, 29, of 236 A Railroad Ave; MV-seatbelt violation, controlled substance-possession of marijuana less than 30 grams or synthetic cannabinoids 10 grams or less in motor vehicle
- Stephone D Hunt, 26, of 10330 Road; hold-detainer for other agency, aggravated assault-use of deadly weapon or other means
- Claude L Jim, 55, of 642 Tushka Rd, Conehatta; contempt of court-default in payment of restitution
- Apryl Jones, 41, of 1172 Rd 539; alcoholic beverages-unlawful possession
- Willie Jones, 55, of 900 Donald Ave; controlled substance-possession of paraphernalia, hold-detainer for other agency, hold-detainer for MDOC probation parole, possession of controlled substance
- Damon Z Lewis, 20, of Road 1321, Union; weapons-possession of stolen firearm
- Jessica McWilliams, 51, of 408 Barham St; contempt of court-municipal court
- Dewett J Phillips, 32, of

121 Eaphtatasha Hina Fluta Rd, Bogue Chitto; MV-drivers license/improper, MV-no insurance, controlled substance-possession of marijuana less than 30 grams or synthetic cannabinoids 10 grams or less in motor vehicle

- Michael Powell, 43, of 1066 Frog Level Lane Apt 117; stalking/harassing
- Christopher G Spencer, 35, of 1665 Grant Ave SW, Birmingham, AL; hold-detainer for other agency
- Neal O Vaughn, 50, of 945 Hugh Mitchell Rd, Conehatta; hold-detainer for other agency
- Terri N Whitt, 37, of

15011 County Rd 12, Berry, AL; DUI-1st offense, speeding 20 over

- Benjamin Willis, 32, of 139 Indian Rd, Louisville; DUI-1st offense, controlled substance-possession of paraphernalia, controlled substance-possession of marijuana less than 30 grams or synthetic cannabinoids 10 grams or less in motor vehicle, controlled substance-simple possession-synthetic cannabinoids 10 grams or less
- Jakyenzi K Wilson, 22, of 265 Cora St; no charges listed

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Obits

Continued from page 5A

ricular activities. Jennie Lou loved Thomastown, Mississippi, its people, and her church. She was quick to inform everyone that Thomastown was the geographical center of the state! Even while taking chemo treatments, she jokingly said she was holding class at the clinic. She was teaching her nurses about Thomastown and its importance. She made them all learn how to spell "Yockanookany" River.

She passed away peacefully at her home in Thomastown on the morning of August 30, 2021.

She is survived by her daughter Sally Kaye Swearengen, several "bonus grandchildren," amazing family, and a whole host of wonderful friends whom she considered family. The people who encountered and knew Jennie Lou loved her. She had impeccable manners and was an example of a true "Southern Lady." She touched the lives of old and young. Jennie Lou will be greatly missed.

Visitation was held Wednesday, Sept. 1, 2021 at Thomastown Baptist Church from 12:00p.m. to 2:00p.m. Services followed at 2:00p.m. with Bro. Brian Hill officiating. Interment was in Thomastown Cemetery. Wilcox Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

Pallbearers were: Dale Edgar, David Shelley, Randy Triplett, Colby Beem, Joseph Lovorn, and Jonathan Spears. Honorary Pallbearers were: Bobby Terry, Michael Ellington, Drew Chandler, Steve Bain, and Bain Dickens.

Memorials may be made in her memory to Thomastown Baptist Church.

Mary Evelyn (Kennedy) Pike

A funeral service for Mary Evelyn (Kennedy) Pike, age 91 of Hideaway, Texas is scheduled at 2:00 p.m. Saturday, August 28, 2021, at the First United Methodist Church in Lindale, Texas with Rev. Michael Peschke and Dr. Jack Cox officiating.

Interment will follow at Mt. Sylvan Cemetery in the Mt. Sylvan Community.

Mrs. Mary passed away, Saturday, August 21, 2021, in Tyler, Texas.

She was born May 19, 1930, in Philadelphia, Mississippi to the late William Maynard and Lucia (Walton) Kennedy. Mary attended Coldwater High School, East Central Junior College, and the University of Southern Mississippi earning a bachelor's degree. She later retired as a Librarian after 33 years serving elementary schools in Mississippi, Georgia, and Texas. After retirement she and Afton moved to Hideaway in 1988 enjoying beautiful East Texas and overlooking the lake.

Mary was a member of the First United Methodist Church in Lindale where she was active in the Busy Bee's Quilting Guild and the Open Door Sunday School Class. She enjoyed read-

ing, cooking, quilting, playing Bridge, and traveling with Afton, including family reunions at Lake Tiak-O-Khata.

Mary enjoyed entertaining family and friends and visiting with them through, email, phone, and in person every chance she got. Friends will remember her homemade Toffee that she would pass out at Christmas and for her wonderful sourdough bread, with melted butter on the first slice for Afton.

Mary will be best remembered as a loving and devoted Wife, Mother, and Nana.

She was preceded in death by brother, Moncreath Kennedy; and sisters, Bobbie Risher and Beverly Clark.

Mary is survived by her husband of 58 years, Afton Pike Sr. of Hideaway, Texas; sons, Afton Pike Jr. of Ridgeland, Mississippi and David Pike and his wife, Shirisse of Flower Mound, Texas; grandchildren, Kevin and Kaylee Pike; and numerous nieces, nephews, cousins, and other loving family members and friends.

Lunch will be served at 12:00 p.m. at the First United Methodist Church fellowship hall. Visitation will then be held from 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. prior to the service. In Lieu of flowers the family has asked that contributions be made to the First United Methodist Church of Lindale.



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3 more dealers charged

By DUNCAN DENT
duncan@neshobademocrat.com

Three new arrests have brought a list of alleged drug dealers rounded up so far in an ongoing narcotics investigation to 13, the authorities said.

Stanley Fulton, 56, 120 Hunt Street, Louisville, was arrested Saturday on five counts involving the sale of a controlled substance, Neshoba County Sheriff Eric Clark said.

Three counts are for methamphetamine and in the other two for what is believed to be ecstasy, Clark said. Louisville Police assisted in the arrest, Clark said.

Two other suspects were arrested late Monday just before midnight.

Roventay Peden, 38, 399 Clyde Avenue, and William Shannon Sciple, 46, 3775 Stratton Road, Union, were both arrested and charged with sale of a controlled substance.

Clark said that in both

cases the substance is meth and that they were both caught selling it in felony amounts within 1,500 feet of a church.

"We still have people out there on our list to pick up," Clark said. "We expect to have more arrests in the future."

Fulton has the most charges of those arrested in the ongoing investigation conducted by the Neshoba County Sheriff's Office, Philadelphia Police Department and Mississippi Bureau of Narcotics.

The previous 10 individuals charged in relation to the ongoing investigation are Samuel J. Clemons, John Nathan Davis, Johnny Gipson, Austin Todd Jarriel, Billy Morris, Billy Ray Neese, Samuel Powell, James Robinson, Deangelo



Stanley Fulton



Roventay Peden



William Sciple

Warren and Samantha Woodruff.

All 10 were arrested on Wednesday, Aug. 18, between 11:15 a.m. and 4:45 p.m.

Philadelphia Police Chief Eric Lyons said the arrests are part of an ongoing effort to take dangerous drugs and individuals off the streets.

"It is always good when we can get those types of individuals off of the streets," Lyons said.

Most of the arrests have taken place within the city limits of Philadelphia. Lyons said that he appreciates the cooperative effort made by Clark's office and MBN officers.

Clark said anyone with information that may lead to an arrest is encouraged to call Crime Stoppers at (855) 485-8477.

Alabama murder suspect surrenders

By DUNCAN DENT
duncan@neshobademocrat.com

A man wanted for murder in Alabama has been arrested by Philadelphia Police and awaits extradition.

The man, Christopher Garcia Spencer, 35, of Birmingham was arrested Friday morning at a local motel, said Bobby Pattillo,

Philadelphia Police detective.

"He was taken into custody at the Super Inn & Suites. He faces no local charges," Pattillo said.

At approximately 9:30 a.m. Friday, Aug. 27, officers from the PPD, working on a tip, took Spencer into custody.

Pattillo said Spencer is

wanted out of Jefferson County, Alabama, on a murder warrant.

Pattillo said Monday, that Spencer remained in local custody at the Winston County Correctional Facility as they were working out extradition details with authorities in Alabama.

Election

Continued from page 1A

Waltman said he is letting his attorneys handle the case. "I'm serving as alderman but as far as the court, I have an attorney and they are handling it," Waltman said.

Clemons said regardless of the outcome, "I'm at peace. It is going to be what it is going to be."

Clemons' attorney is Margarette Meeks of Jackson. Waltman's attorney is Bill Hamack of Meridian.

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The following advertisement and language therein is required by Section 27-39-203 of the Mississippi Code.

NOTICE OF A TAX INCREASE AND A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PROPOSED BUDGET AND PROPOSED TAX LEVIES FOR THE UPCOMING FISCAL YEAR FOR THE NESHOBA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

The Neshoba County Board of Supervisors will hold a public hearing on a proposed ad valorem tax revenue increase for fiscal year 2022 and on its proposed budget and proposed tax levies for fiscal year 2022 on Tuesday, September 7th, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. in the Board of Supervisors' Meeting Room in the Neshoba County Courthouse, 401 Beacon Street, Philadelphia, Mississippi.

The Neshoba County Board of Supervisors is now operating with projected total budget revenue of Fourteen Million Ten Thousand Five Hundred Eighty-One Dollars and No Hundredths Cents (\$14,010,581.00). Sixty-Two and One Hundredths percent (62.01%) or Eight Million Six Hundred Eighty-Seven Thousand Four Hundred Sixty Dollars and No Hundredths Cents (\$8,687,460.00) of such revenue is obtained through ad valorem taxes. For next fiscal year, the proposed budget has total projected revenue of Eighteen Million Three Hundred Seventy Thousand Two Hundred Seventy-One Dollars and No Hundredths Cents (\$18,370,271.00). Of that amount, Forty-Eight and Twenty-Nine Hundredths percent (48.29%) or Eight Million Eight Hundred Seventy-One Thousand Five Hundred Sixty-Eight Dollars and No Hundredths Cents (\$8,871,568.00) is proposed to be financed through a total ad valorem tax levy.

For the next fiscal year, the Neshoba County Board of Supervisors plans to increase your ad valorem tax millage rate by 0.00 mills from 60.80 mills to 60.80 mills. This increase means that you will pay more in ad valorem taxes on your home, automobile tag, utilities, business fixtures and equipment and rental real property.

For the next fiscal year, the Neshoba County Public School District's funding request requires an increase to your ad valorem tax millage rate by 2.11 mills from 48.06 mills to 50.17 mills. This increase means that in this district you will pay more in ad valorem taxes on your home, automobile tag, utilities, business fixtures and equipment and rental real property.

For the next fiscal year, the Union Special Municipal Separate Public School District's funding request requires an increase to your ad valorem tax millage rate by 0.98 mills from 54.82 mills to 55.80 mills. This increase means that in this district you will pay more in ad valorem taxes on your home, automobile tag, utilities, business fixtures and equipment and rental real property.

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

Wilcher cooks fresh produce from her garden

By SARAH KATHRYN WATKINS
news@neshobademocrat.com

Jennifer Wilcher uses fresh produce from their four gardens to prepare home-cooked meals for her family.

Jennifer grew up working in a garden and tending the produce with her now late grandmother, Jonita Tolbert.

Jennifer gives all the credit for their success in the gardens to her husband, Kevin, who she said works very hard to make sure their gardens are maintained. Together they grow vegetables, including corn, zucchini, eggplant and more.

Jennifer grew up in Philadelphia and attended Philadelphia Public School. She has worked in retail for the majority of her life and still works part-time in retail.

Jennifer and Kevin have five children and 10 grandchildren and they live in the Good Hope community, where they have land for their gardens and grandchildren to go fishing and do other outdoor activities.

"I love taking my grandchildren shopping," Jennifer said.

Jennifer is the daughter of Jimmy and Darlene Tolbert and she has three sisters. Together they grew up watching their grandmother cook and work in the garden.

Kevin loves all vegetables, Jennifer said adding he would eat butter beans and combread all the time if he could. That is why fresh produce is essential for their family.

Jennifer is known for her zucchini bread. She uses zucchini that comes straight from her garden and she tries different ways to cook her vegetables. She also cans some of her vegetables.

Jennifer is used to cooking in large quantities. One of her favorite things to do is have all of her family together to eat, she said. The family tries to get together as much as possible for cookouts and other occasions. For Jennifer, nothing makes her happier than gathering around the table with her family to



Jennifer Wilcher

COOK OF THE WEEK

enjoy great home-cooked food. During October, the Wilcher family traditionally holds a big Halloween party.

"We always have a big pot of chili or stew," Jennifer said, adding the pots they cook the chili and stew in are massive.

Jennifer said anyone is welcome to attend because she loves feeding a large crowd.

ZUCCHINI BREAD
3 c. shredded zucchini
3 c. All purpose flour
1 tsp. salt
1 tsp. baking soda
1 tsp. cinnamon
2 c. sugar
1 ¼ c. oil
3 eggs (room temp.)
1 tsp. vanilla

Nuts (optional)
Mix wet ingredients together (eggs, sugar, oil, vanilla and zucchini). Mix dry ingredients together (flour, baking soda, cinnamon, salt, nuts). Pour wet ingredients into the dry and mix well. Pour into a greased and floured loaf pan and bake 1

hour at 350. (Makes 2 loaves).

HONEY MUSTARD PORK LOIN
1 large Pork Loin
1 cup Dijon mustard
½ cup honey
1 TBSP. crushed black peppercorns
Slice pork loin ½ thick and

season with salt and pepper. Cover and bake at 350 for about 30 minutes. Mix mustard mixture and pour over top, put back into oven uncovered for 30 minutes, or until desired tenderness.

FRIED OKRA PATTIES
1 pound of cut okra (fresh

or frozen)
1 cup self-rising cornmeal
1 cup self-rising flour
1 tsp. garlic powder
½ tsp. black pepper
1 cup milk
½ cup chopped onion
Mix all together and spoon into skillet with oil to fry.

Just Among Friends

By MARIANNE ENOCHS
friends@neshobademocrat.com

A huge thank you to HARDY, otherwise known as Michael Hardy, who made a generous donation to the local Open Arms Ministry! Hardy donated the net profits from T-shirt sales at the Neshoba County Fair where he was a featured performer. The check was written in the amount of \$5,923.00 which will help tremendously in the Open Arms Ministry during these difficult times. Hardy said he was "happy to do something for his hometown." He really gave back to our community.

A fun event was held at East Philadelphia Baptist Church on Monday evening, August 23 in the church gym. A "Gather and Graze" charcuterie workshop was presented by Tarrah Boykin to a large group of excited ladies.

Tarrah is the owner of "The 3 Little Pigs Charcuterie." She loves to explore different kinds of food as well as different methods of preparing it and share with her friends and loved ones. This is why she loves charcuterie boards and the room they give to play with different flavors and textures. She also enjoys making them beautiful since we eat with our eyes first. After watching and listening to Tarrah make a board, each person created her own board using a wide variety of ingredients available. She answered questions and made suggestions. Everyone was happily busy.

Although charcuterie boards are a new trend sweeping America, they actually originated in 15th century

France. Shops called charcuteries sold smoked meats, such as ham, sausage, bacon, and other pork selections. They were quite popular with customers who were happy to buy food that was already cooked. Pork was the most frequently used meat because it lent itself to being smoked and preserved.

Today boards are created from a variety of meats, cheese, crackers, fruit, nuts, and other tasty items. They have become works of art with the food beautifully arranged. Tarrah defines grazing as having small bites of food available at all times at our fingertips. Charcuterie boards fit this description perfectly.

At the end of the workshop, each participant had a beautiful board to take home. They were almost too pretty to eat!

The Meridian Public School District announced the hiring of Pamela Gibson Hudson as the new principal of TJ Harris Lower Elementary School. Pam has taught at Forest Elementary School and Neshoba Central Elementary School in her 24 years of experience in education. She is a graduate of Neshoba Central High School and has a bachelor of science in elementary education from Alcorn State University and a master of arts degree in educational leadership.

Pam is a resident of Neshoba Country. Her daughter, Mia Hudson, is a sophomore at Alcorn State University and a graduate of Neshoba Central High School. Mia is following in her mother's footsteps!

Congratulations and best wishes for a great year. I know

you will be a tremendous asset to TJ Harris Elementary School.

Live out Love! "Let us love one another for love comes from God." 1 John 4:7. The First United Methodist Church Children's Ministry put this into action on Wednesday after their lesson when they made signs for Mary Mosley Pickering who just returned home on Tuesday after a stay in Blair E. Batson Hospital. Their teachers organized a parade for Mary Mo led by two fire trucks flashing red lights and sirens blaring followed by a sheriff's car with its siren blasting and a caravan of parents and friends with children holding up signs from the windows and balloons floating outside of windows. It was a joyful procession filled with the sounds of loving voices calling out to Mary Mosley who watched and waved from her front porch with her brother, Jackson, and her mother, Jessica Pickering.

Her parents, Blake and Jessica Long Pickering have been on hospital duty 24/7 since their daughter was admitted. Her grandparents and aunt have also been giving their support as well as other members of the family. Prayers continue to be offered for her

See FRIENDS, page 2B

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

Bridal Registry

Macken'z Smith & Keller Bradford	August 7, 2021
Alexandria Tran & Anthony Nguyen	August 21, 2021
Anna Spears & Jordan Davidson	August 28, 2021
Kalee McCann & Anthony Cypher	September 4, 2021
Savannah Jones & Johnathan Simmons	September 4, 2021
Makayla Chamblee & David Fernandez	September 11, 2021
Amber McKay & Bryan Bounds	September 18, 2021
Olivia Thames & Tyler Palmer	September 20, 2021
Caroline Willis & Dave Crasto	September 25, 2021
Anna Crawford & Bradley Broom	September 25, 2021
Whitney Strickland & Mitchell Bounds	October 9, 2021
Laurel Ball & Michael Beckham	October 16, 2021
Caroline Henson & Joseph Willis	October 16, 2021
Shelby Herrington & Brandon Garner	October 23, 2021
Skyler Frank & Garrett Myers	October 23, 2021
Abby Wright & Kip Clark	November 6, 2021
Sara Watson & Jeremy Bowen	November 13, 2021
Margaret Jordan & Sam Webb	November 20, 2021
Julia Rester & Brandon Ladd	January 23, 2022

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Engagements

Margaret Lee McDonald to wed Robert Alvin Blackmon IV Sept. 18

Mr. and Mrs. Michael James McDonald of Ridgeland announce the engagement of their daughter, Margaret Lee McDonald to Mr. Robert Alvin Blackmon IV, son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Alvin Blackmon III of Flowood. The bride-elect is the granddaughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Charles Terrance McDonald of Indianapolis, IN, and Dr. and Mrs. Robert Lee Moore, Jr. of Philadelphia. The prospective bridegroom is the grandson of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Alvin Blackmon, Jr. of Memphis and Mr. and Mrs. Gus Angelo Primos of Flowood.

Miss McDonald is a 2011 Alpha Omega graduate of St. Andrew's Episcopal School. She earned a bachelor's degree in psychology in 2015 from The University of Mississippi and a bachelor's degree in nursing from The University of Mississippi Medical Center in 2017. While at the University of Mississippi she was a member of Delta Gamma Sorority. In 2012, she was presented by the Debutante Club of Mississippi. Miss McDonald is currently a registered nurse at Blair E. Batson Children's Hospital.

The groom graduated from Jackson Preparatory School in 2005. He attended the University of Mississippi and received a Bachelor of Business Administration degree in 2009. While at Ole Miss, he was a member of Phi Delta Theta. Mr. Blackmon is currently employed with Lakeland Development Corporation.

The couple will exchange vows on September 18 at Fonden Church with a reception to follow at the Country Club of Jackson. They will make their home in Jackson.



Margaret Lee McDonald and Robert Alvin Blackmon IV



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Money Matters/Field Trips/Activities
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All-Day Summer Enrichment Program
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For program info/enroll a child, call Jermaine Harris, County Unit
Director, 601-880-6322.



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Lady Rockets volleyball improves to 14-0

By STEVE SWOGETINSKY
steve@neshobademocrat.com

The 14-0 Neshoba Central Lady Rockets volleyball team was to play its first region game Tuesday when the Lady Rockets hosted Starkville.

The Lady Rockets are also slated play at Enterprise on Thursday. They picked two wins last

week as they defeated Clarkdale 3-0 and Choctaw County 3-1.

Against Clarkdale, they won 25-10, 25-19, 25-11.

Against Choctaw County, they won 21-25, 25-10, 25-19, 25-11.

The Neshoba Central volleyball team picked up four victories last week and improved its record to 9-0.

The Lady Rockets' scores are

as follow:

- Defeated Clarkdale, 25-21, 25-10;
- Defeated Northeast Lauderdale, 25-9, 25-25-10;
- Defeated Southeast Lauderdale, 25-9, 25-18;
- Defeated Enterprise, 25-18, 25-8

Union volleyball squad currently sits at 9-1

By ROBBIE ROBERTSON
robbie@neshobademocrat.com

The Union Lady Yellowjackets continued to pile up the wins on the volleyball court this past week with three more victories.

The Lady Yellowjackets improved to 9-1 on the season as they beat Morton 3-0, Lake 3-0 and Sebastopol 3-1.

"We have been playing pretty well," Union coach Jacob Casey said. "I would say this week that we didn't play our best but have been playing good enough to win. I feel like as long as you can find

ways to win when you aren't playing your best, it's the sign of a good team. I thought Lake and Sebastopol played us tough and have gotten a lot better since this summer. We had to play well at both places to get the victories."

On Monday, Union beat Morton 3-0 for a district win. Union won 25-9, 25-11 and 25-10 to cruise to victory.

On Tuesday, Union beat Lake 3-0 as well, winning 25-16, 25-21 and 25-12.

On Thursday, Union finished the week with a 3-1 win over Sebastopol. The Lady Bobcats

won the first set 25-23 before Union won the next three, 25-12, 30-28 and 25-20.

This week, Union is scheduled — weather permitting — to go to East Webster on Tuesday and play Stringer at home on Thursday.

"We will get tested this week," Casey said. "Those are two pretty good teams. East Webster has really good athletes and will be very competitive. I haven't seen Stringer but they have been beating everybody. It's going to be two very good tests before we start district play."



SAVE THE

DATE

- Macy Martin & Tanner Rhodes June 5, 2021
- Cecily Kate Price & Lane Waltman June 26, 2021
- Jamie Claire Musselwhite & Wesley Smith July 3, 2021
- Kinsey Gentry & Cooper Smith July 17, 2021
- Macken'z Smith & Keller Bradford August 7, 2021
- Savannah Jones & Johnathan Simmons September 4
- Kalee McCann & Anthony Cypher September 4, 2021
- Brianna Whittle & Jamie Rickles September 11, 2021
- Amber McKay & Zack Bounds September 18
- Caroline Willis & Dave Crasto September 25, 2021
- Alexa Harrison & Cody Vernon October 6, 2021
- Kayleigh Hancock & Tim Cardwell October 9, 2021
- Whitney Strickland & Mitchell Bounds October 9, 2021
- Laurel Ball & Michael Beckham October 16, 2021
- Marlee Parkes & Will Stewart November 6, 2021
- Abby Wright & Kip Clark November 6, 2021
- Sara Watson & Jeremy Bowen November 13, 2021
- Brandon Ladd & Juila Rester January 23, 2022
- Brently Comans & Austin Shepard January 29, 2022

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Of Local Interest

CHURCH REVIVAL
Fellowship Baptist Church is proud to present: Nashville Sound Recording Artist Tim Firth & Gospel Echoes September 12, 2021 at 11 am at Fellowship Baptist Church at 19213 Highway 21 South, Philadelphia, MS. 39350.

Easiest way to get to the church is get on 21 from 15 like you are going to the Neshoba County Fair, and

we are the first church on the right.

Come out and enjoy a day of singing and fellowshiping. If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Terry Anderson (601) 650-6093

4H MEET AND GREET
Neshoba County 4-H will be hosting a 4-H Meet and Greet at the Neshoba County Coliseum for on September 17th between 5 and 7 p.m.

We would like to take this opportunity to welcome all our active 4-H'ers as well as our new 4-H'ers. We hope that you will join us in welcoming our two new County Agents, Chase Domingue and Anna Windham. If you are interested in attending, please call the office at 601-656-4011 or email abw456@msstate.edu to RSVP by September 10th. We look forward to meeting you all!



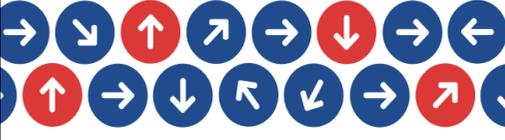
Thank You!

We, the Hampton Family, would like to extend our deepest gratitude and appreciation for all acts of kindness shown toward us during the death of Jaylen Jermaine Nicholas.

We are very thankful.
May God bless each and every one of you. Thank you.

FAMILY REUNION CANCELLED
The Rhodes family reunion that is usually held the second Sunday in September at the Community Center at Walton Park in Neshoba has been cancelled for this year.

FREE VETERAN WORKSHOP
The Ivy Street Church of Christ will be hosting a free Veteran Workshop Saturday September 18, 2021 at 601 Ivy Street, Philadelphia, MS at 10:00 AM. It is for those Veterans trying to obtain or increase their VA disability, spouse of a Veteran, child of a Veteran, those taking care of their father or mother who is a Veteran or taking care of your father or mother who was married to a Veteran. For more information call 1-601-416-4550. MASK is required.



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Friends
Continued from page 1B

recovery and strength and comfort for her family. She is a precious little child who has been very brave during her ordeal. God bless her and keep her.

Conserving energy by reducing, reusing and recycling

By **JAMES L. CUMMINS**
Special to the Democrat

Energy conservation is the practice of decreasing the quantity of energy used.

It will not only help to reduce energy costs and the need for new power plants but it will also reduce the need for energy imports. The United States is currently the largest single consumer of energy in the world.

America has become a very wasteful society. We need to make it a habit to be more con-

scious of our resources and environment. Developing a habit takes time. By spending time considering our actions and doing things to save energy each day, our actions will become a habit.

They are many people that just don't know or understand how they can help with energy conservation. One way to conserve energy is to reduce, reuse and recycle. Did you know that it can take up to 700 years for plastic to decompose in our landfills? It takes 80 to 100 years for aluminum cans to

break down and disappear. With just a few small changes in our routines, we can help change the future of our environment and make a positive move toward energy conservation.

We can reduce the amount of garbage we throw away by making some of the following changes. We can use rechargeable batteries instead of disposable ones, use reusable plastic containers for food instead of plastic bags, and use washable dishes and utensils instead of paper plates and plastic utensils

that you would tend to throw away. If we create less garbage, our communities can save landfill space.

By reusing items, we can save our precious landfill space and, equally important, we can save natural resources and materials it would take to make a new product. Some items we can reuse are boxes, bubble wrap, foil, coffee cans, and glass jars. Also, plastic bottles can be reused by filling them with water or juice and placing them in the freezer. Put one in your lunch box or reusable

lunch bag (instead of the paper one) and it will double as an ice pack. At lunchtime, you'll have an ice-cold beverage. Taking things that would be garbage and reusing them is a great way to help conserve resources. And one day soon, we will likely be making fuel from our garbage.

Recycling is also important. For instance, aluminum cans can be recycled into: pie plates, thumbtacks, foil, and many other items. It takes less than 5 percent of the energy to make an aluminum can from recycled

materials than from new material. Recycling allows us to reuse materials instead of having to get more from the Earth all over again.

James L. Cummins is executive director of Wildlife Mississippi, a non-profit, conservation organization founded to conserve, restore, and enhance fish, wildlife, and plant resources throughout Mississippi. Their website is www.wildlifemiss.org.

Public Notices

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF NESHOPA COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

IN THE MATTER OF THE LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT OF RUBY CLARK DAVIS
CAUSE NO.: 2021-207
DEBBIE DAVIS FILES
PETITIONER

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Letters Testamentary having been granted to the undersigned by the Chancery Court of Neshoba County, Mississippi, on the Estate of Ruby Clark Davis, Deceased, on the 17th day of August 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 17th day of August, 2021.

/s/Debbie Davis Files
DEBBIE DAVIS FILES
EXECUTRIX OF THE ESTATE OF RUBY CLARK DAVIS

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

ADVERTISEMENT FOR THE USE AND BENEFIT OF NESHOPA COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

The NESHOPA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS will receive competitive Reverse Auction Bids to be submitted electronically via the Neshoba County website at www.neshobacounty.net with said Reverse Auction occurring from 8:00 AM until 12:00 noon, local time, on Wednesday, September 29, 2021, from qualified vendors in response to this solicitation for acquiring the following equipment: One (1) or more, new, 75-Yard, 30 Ton, End Dump Trailer

Detailed specifications for the above described equipment and bid forms may be obtained from the Neshoba County Board of Supervisors office at the Neshoba County Courthouse, 401 Beacon Street, Suite 201, Philadelphia, Mississippi 39350, by calling 601-656-6281 or by Neshoba County's website at www.neshobacounty.net. Neshoba County, Mississippi will determine if compliance with the specifications exist before accepting any bid.

INSTRUCTIONS TO BIDDERS: All responses to this solicitation for said trailer shall be returned, with detailed proposals included therewith, including the fixed price amount to be bid, in PDF document format, and submitted electronically via the reverse auction at www.neshobacounty.net under the correct bid solicitation by 12:00 Noon on Wednesday, September 29 th, 2021.

It shall be incumbent upon each bidder to understand the specifications as listed herein and to obtain clarification when necessary. It is not the intent of these specifications to limit the bidding to any particular make or manufacturer of equipment or provider of services, but rather to select such equipment and services to provide for specific needs and specific tasks for public works as solicited under this request. Any reference to name-brand materials or equipment is intended to establish the minimum necessary standards only and bids submitted on materials and equipment equal thereto, at the sole discretion and determination of Neshoba County, shall be considered.

The Neshoba County Board of Supervisors reserves the right to accept or reject any / or all bids and waive informalities and irregularities. No bid, upon submission, may be withdrawn for a period of 60 days. Published by Order of the Board of Supervisors of Neshoba County, Mississippi on the 2 nd day of August 2021.

/s/ GUY NOWELL
GUY NOWELL, CLERK
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
NESHOPA COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

IN THE CHOCTAW TRIBAL YOUTH COURT
MISSISSIPPI BAND OF CHOCTAW INDIANS

IN RE: GUARDIANSHIP OF MINOR, L.S.D. DOB 11-11-2011

CASSANDRA MICHELLE TWISS, INDIVIDUALLY
AND AS NEXT FRIEND
PLAINTIFF
CAUSE NO.: 2021-346

VS.
HAYLEY MATRICE WILLIS AND

Public Notices

GARIAN SELBY DIXON
DEFENDANTS

SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION

MISSISSIPPI BAND OF CHOCTAW INDIANS

TO: Garian Selby Dixon, a resident/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 Cassandra Twiss Individually and as Next Friends, Plaintiffs, seeking to open a guardianship of the minor child named in the Petition. Defendants other than you in this action are Hayley Matrice Willis.

You are summoned to appear and defend against the complaint or petition filed against you in this action at 2:00 o'clock p.m. on the 14 th day of September, 2021 in the courtroom of the Choctaw Tribal Court in the Smith John Justice Complex located on the Pearl River Reservation, Choctaw, Mississippi, and in case of your failure to appear and defend a judgement will be entered against you for the money 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 11th day of August, 2021.

/s/ Jennilee Young
TRIBAL COURT CLERK

Case Number: 16412
Applicant Name: MISSISSIPPI BAND OF CHOCTAW INDIANS

Public Notice to Acquire Land into Trust – BIA Regional Director Decisions

ACTION: Notice of decision to acquire land into trust under 25 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 151.

SUMMARY: The Regional Director, Bureau of Indian Affairs, U.S. Department of the Interior, on the below date, has made a determination to acquire real property in trust for MISSISSIPPI BAND OF CHOCTAW INDIANS.

The land referred to as former Laura Powe Property, herein and is described as:

See "Exhibit A" for legal descriptions. **DATE:** This determination was made on 08/19/2021.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: BIA EASTERN REGIONAL OFFICE, Bureau of Indian Affairs, 545 MARRIOTT DRIVE, SUITE 700, NASHVILLE, TN 37214, telephone (615) 564-6500.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This notice is published to comply with the requirement of 25 CFR § 151.12(d) (2)(iii) that notice be given of the decision by the authorized representative of the Secretary of the Interior to acquire land in trust.

A copy of the determination is available [at the following website: n/a AND/OR from the office identified in the FOR FURTHER INFORMATION section of this notice]. Any party who wishes to seek judicial review of the Regional Director's decision must first exhaust administrative remedies. The Regional Director's decision may be appealed to the Interior Board of Indian Appeals (IBIA) in accordance with the regulations in 43 C.F.R. 4.310-4.340.

If you choose to appeal this decision, your notice of appeal to the IBIA must be signed by you or your attorney and **must be either postmarked and mailed (if you use mail) or delivered (if you use another means of physical delivery, such as FedEx or UPS) to the IBIA within 30 days from the date of publication of this notice.** The regulations do not authorize filings by facsimile/fax or by electronic means. Your notice of appeal should clearly identify the decision being appealed. You must send your **original** notice of appeal to the IBIA at the following address: Interior Board of Indian Appeals, Office of Hearings and Appeals, U.S. Department of the Interior, 801 North Quincy Street, Suite 300, Arlington, Virginia 22203. You must send **copies** of your notice of appeal to (1) the Assistant Secretary - Indian Affairs, U.S. Department of the Interior, MS-4141-MIB, 1849 C Street N.W., Washington, D.C. 20240; (2) each interested party known to you; and (3) the Regional Director. Your notice of appeal sent to the IBIA must include a statement certifying that you have sent copies to these officials and interested parties and should identify them by names or titles and addresses. If you file a notice of appeal, the IBIA will notify you of further procedures. If no appeal is timely filed, this decision will become final for the Department of the Interior at the expiration of the appeal period. No extension of time may be granted for filing a notice of appeal.

Public Notices

LEGAL DESCRIPTION EXHIBIT A
Tract Name: LAURA POWE PROPERTY

METES AND BOUNDS: Commence at the Brass disk monument found at the West 1/16 section corner of Section 15 and Section 22 of Township 10 North and Range 12 East of Neshoba County, Mississippi, thence N 89° 57' 10" E 1331.06' along the section line between Sections 15 and 22 to the capped iron pin set at the ¼ section corner of Sections 15 and 22; thence S 0° 16' 45" W 36.05' in the ¼ Section line between the NW¼ and the NE¼ of said Section 22 to the south right of way line of BIA ROAD 2464 and the POINT OF BEGINNING of the herein described property; thence continue in said ¼ Section line S 0° 16' 45" W 626.90' to the capped iron pin set at the Center North-North 1/64 corner; thence S 89° 50' 39" W 263.73' in the line between the North½ and the South½ of the NE¼ of the NW¼ to the east right of way line of Mississippi Highway 19; thence N 22° 47' 22" W 21.24' in said east right of way line; thence N 14° 20' 13" W 172.53' in said east right of way line; thence N 7° 20' 03" E 204.62' in said east right of way line; thence N 74° 10' 21" W 50.02' in said east right of way line to the east right of way line of BIA Road 0241; thence N 16° 00' 50" E 231.14' in the east right of way line of said BIA Road 0241 to the south right of way line of said BIA Road 2464; thence S 89°14' 37" E 176.53' in said south right of way line; thence N 87° 26' 21" E 99.55' in said south right of way line to the POINT OF BEGINNING; being 4.32 acres, more or less and a part of the NE¼ of the NW¼ of Section 22 of Township 10 North and Range 12 East of Neshoba County, Mississippi.

ADVERTISEMENT FOR THE USE AND BENEFIT OF NESHOPA COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

The NESHOPA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS will receive competitive Reverse Auction Bids to be submitted electronically via the Neshoba County website at www.neshobacounty.net with said Reverse Auction occurring from 8:00 AM until 12:00 Noon, local time, on Wednesday, September 15 th, 2021, from qualified vendors in response to this solicitation for acquiring the following equipment:

One (1) or more, used, gas powered brush chipper

Detailed specifications for the above described equipment and bid forms may be obtained from the Neshoba County Board of Supervisors office at the Neshoba County Courthouse, 401 Beacon Street, Suite 201, Philadelphia, Mississippi 39350, by calling 601-656-6281 or by Neshoba County's website at www.neshobacounty.net. Neshoba County, Mississippi will determine if compliance with the specifications exist before accepting any bid.

INSTRUCTIONS TO BIDDERS:

All responses to this solicitation for said vehicles shall be returned, with detailed proposals included therewith, including the fixed price amount to be bid, in PDF document format, and submitted electronically via the reverse auction at www.neshobacounty.net under the correct bid solicitation by 12:00 Noon on Wednesday, September 15 th, 2021.

It shall be incumbent upon each bidder to understand the specifications as listed herein and to obtain clarification when necessary. It is not the intent of these specifications to limit the bidding to any particular make or manufacturer of equipment or provider of services, but rather to select such equipment and services to provide for specific needs and specific tasks for public works as solicited under this request. Any reference to name-brand materials or equipment is intended to establish the minimum necessary standards only and bids submitted on materials and equipment equal thereto, at the sole discretion and determination of Neshoba County, shall be considered.

The Neshoba County Board of Supervisors reserves the right to accept or reject any / or all bids and waive informalities and irregularities. No bid, upon submission, may be withdrawn for a period of 60 days.

Published by Order of the Board of Supervisors of Neshoba County, Mississippi on the 16 th day of August 2021.

/s/ GUY NOWELL
GUY NOWELL, CLERK
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
NESHOPA COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

Publication dates: August 25th and September 1st, 2021

IN THE CHOCTAW TRIBAL YOUTH COURT
MISSISSIPPI BAND OF CHOCTAW INDIANS

Public Notices

IN RE: GUARDIANSHIP OF MINOR, A.J.D. DOB 2-14-2013

CASSANDRA MICHELLE TWISS, INDIVIDUALLY
AND AS NEXT FRIEND
PLAINTIFF
CAUSE NO.: 2021-346

VS.
HAYLEY MATRICE WILLIS AND
GARIAN SELBY DIXON
DEFENDANTS

SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION

MISSISSIPPI BAND OF CHOCTAW INDIANS

TO: Garian Selby Dixon, a resident/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 Cassandra Twiss Individually and as Next Friends, Plaintiffs, seeking to open a guardianship of the minor child named in the Petition. Defendants other than you in this action are Hayley Matrice Willis.

You are summoned to appear and defend against the complaint or petition filed against you in this action at 2:00 o'clock p.m. on the 14 th day of September, 2021 in the courtroom of the Choctaw Tribal Court in the Smith John Justice Complex located on the Pearl River Reservation, Choctaw, Mississippi, and in case of your failure to appear and defend a judgement will be entered against you for the money 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 11th day of August, 2021.

/s/ Jennilee Young
TRIBAL COURT CLERK

The Chancery Clerk of Neshoba County of Mississippi

In the Matter of the Estate of Elaweese Boler, Deceased
Pricilla Pigg, Executrix 21-25-KK

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Letters of Testamentary having been granted on the **5th day of August 2021**, by the Chancery Clerk of Neshoba County, Mississippi to the undersigned **PRICILLA PIGG**, upon the **ESTATE OF ELLAWESE BOLER**, the deceased notice is hereby given to all persons having claims against the **ESTATE** to present the same to the Clerk of This Court for probate and registration according to law within **NINETY (90)** days from the date of the first publication of this Notice or they will be forever barred.

This is the 5th day of August 2021.

Pricilla Pigg

PRICILLA PIGG, EXECUTRIX OF THE ESTATE OF ELLAWESE BOLER

ROBERT L. THOMAS, MSBN 8159
ALFORD THOMAS & THOMAS
PLLC
ATTORNEYS AT LAW
POST OFFICE BOX 96
PHILADELPHIA MS 39350
(601)656-1871

AUGUST 5TH, 2021
NESHOPA COUNTY
CHANCERY CLERK
GUY HOWELL

INVITATION FOR BIDS HUNTING AND FISHING RIGHTS

Sealed bids will be received by the Board of Trustees, Neshoba County School District, 580 East Main Street, Philadelphia, Mississippi, up to and not later than 10:00 a.m., Friday, September 10, 2021, for hunting and fishing rights for a five-year period on the following parcel of land in Neshoba County, Mississippi.

Section 16, Township 12 North, Range 12 East

The NW ¼ of SE ¼, Section 16, Township 12N, Range 12E containing 40 acres, more or less, in Neshoba County, Mississippi, and identified as parcel # 4.01 on map 14 of the Neshoba County Tax Assessor plat maps.

Bids will be opened and read at the date and time specified for acceptance. Complete information concerning the lease and the lease bid form can be obtained from the office of the Superintendent, 580 East Main Street,

Public Notices

Philadelphia, Mississippi, 39350. The minimum bid that will be considered is \$15.00 per acre per year. A bid form and a check for the bid amount will be required at opening.

The Board reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

Neshoba County School District
Lundy Brantley, Superintendent

Publish on: August 25 and September 1, 2021

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF NESHOPA COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

ESTATE OF MARIANNA H. CARPENTER, DECEASED NO. 2021-174 KK
NOTICE TO CREDITORS Letters Testamentary having been granted on the 30th day of July, 2021, by the Chancery Court of Neshoba County, Mississippi to the undersigned Executrix upon the Estate of Marianna H. Carpenter, deceased, notice is hereby given to all persons having claims against said estate to present the same to the Clerk of this Court for probate and registration according to law, within ninety (90) days from the date of the first publication of this notice, or they will be forever barred. THIS, the 11th day of August, 2021. JENNY HANE, EXECUTRIX OF THE ESTATE OF MARIANNA H. CARPENTER, DECEASED ANGELA B. HEALY - BAR # 9795 NIPPEES, HEALY & GAULT, PLLC 6360 I-55 NORTH, SUITE 350 P.O. BOX 13492 JACKSON, MS 39236-3492 Phone: 601 952-2592 Fax: 601 952-2593 E-Mail: ahealy@nippeeshealy.com

IN THE CHOCTAW TRIBAL COURT MISSISSIPPI BAND OF CHOCTAW INDIANS CIVIL DIVISION

IN THE MATTER OF THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE ESTATE OF BESSIE FRAZIER
Civil Action No. 2020-23

SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION

THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

NOTICE TO: CARLTON FRAZIER, RACHEL MORRIS, AND DUSTIN MORRIS

TO: CARLTON FRAZIER, RACHEL MORRIS, and DUSTIN MORRIS, whose post office and street addresses are unknown after diligent search and inquiry to ascertain the same, and upon whom service of process may be had by publication as prescribed by law. You have been made a Respondent in the suit filed in this Court by Petitioner, GWEN WILLIS, Administratrix, which seeks to Determine the Heirs of BESSIE FRAZIER, deceased.

You are summoned to appear and defend against said complaint, petition or motion at **1:00 o'clock P.M. on the 14 th day of September, 2021**, in the Choctaw Tribal Civil Court at the Smith John Memorial Judicial Complex located on the Pearl River Reservation, Choctaw, Mississippi.

In case of your failure to appear and defend a judgment will be entered against you for the money or other things demanded in the complaint, petition, or motion.

You are not required to file an answer or other pleading but may do so if you desire.

Issued under my hand and the seal of this Court, this the 11 th day of August, 2021.

/s/Jennilee Young (Seal)
CLERK OF THE CHOCTAW TRIBAL CIVIL COURT

CHOCTAW TRIBAL CIVIL COURT MISSISSIPPI BAND OF CHOCTAW INDIANS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF DORINE JOHNSON, DECEASED C. A. NO. 2021-152

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Letters of Administration having been granted on the 11th day of August, 2021, by the Choctaw Tribal Court of the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians to the undersigned upon the Estate of Dorine Johnson, deceased, notice is hereby given to all persons having claims against said Estate to probate and register the same, as provided by law, with the clerk of the court, within ninety (90) days from the first publication of this Notice. Failure to probate and register any such claim within said ninety (90) day period will forever bar the claim.

WITNESS THE SIGNATURE of the Administrator, this the 11th day of August, 2021.

/s/ Sherry Shumake

Public Notices

Sherry Shumake,
Administrator of the Estate of Dorine Johnson deceased

SUBMITTED BY:
Kevin W. Brady, MSB 100753
Choctaw Legal Defense
P.O. Box 6255
Choctaw, Mississippi 39350
Phone: (601) 650-7449
Attorney for Administrator

Case Number: 16617
Applicant Name: MISSISSIPPI BAND OF CHOCTAW INDIANS

Public Notice to Acquire Land into Trust – BIA Regional Director Decisions

ACTION: Notice of decision to acquire land into trust under 25 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 151.

SUMMARY: The Regional Director, Bureau of Indian Affairs, U.S. Department of the Interior, on the below date, has made a determination to acquire real property in trust for MISSISSIPPI BAND OF CHOCTAW INDIANS.

The land referred to as former CHOCTAW HOUSING AUTHORITY property, herein and is described as: See "Exhibit A" for legal descriptions. **DATE:** This determination was made on 08/18/2021.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: BIA EASTERN REGIONAL OFFICE, Bureau of Indian Affairs, 545 MARRIOTT DRIVE, SUITE 700, NASHVILLE, TN 37214, telephone (615) 564-6500.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This notice is published to comply with the requirement of 25 CFR § 151.12(d) (2)(iii) that notice be given of the decision by the authorized representative of the Secretary of the Interior to acquire land in trust.

A copy of the determination is available [at the following website: n/a AND/OR from the office identified in the FOR FURTHER INFORMATION section of this notice]. Any party who wishes to seek judicial review of the Regional Director's decision must first exhaust administrative remedies. The Regional Director's decision may be appealed to the Interior Board of Indian Appeals (IBIA) in accordance with the regulations in 43 C.F.R. 4.310-4.340.

If you choose to appeal this decision, your notice of appeal to the IBIA must be signed by you or your attorney and **must be either postmarked and mailed (if you use mail) or delivered (if you use another means of physical delivery, such as FedEx or UPS) to the IBIA within 30 days from the date of publication of this notice.** The regulations do not authorize filings by facsimile/fax or by electronic means. Your notice of appeal should clearly identify the decision being appealed. You must send your **original** notice of appeal to the IBIA at the following address: Interior Board of Indian Appeals, Office of Hearings and Appeals, U.S. Department of the Interior, 801 North Quincy Street, Suite 300, Arlington, Virginia 22203. You must send **copies** of your notice of appeal to (1) the Assistant Secretary - Indian Affairs, U.S. Department of the Interior, MS-4141-MIB, 1849 C Street N.W., Washington, D.C. 20240; (2) each interested party known to you; and (3) the Regional Director. Your notice of appeal sent to the IBIA must include a statement certifying that you have sent copies to these officials and interested parties and should identify them by names or titles and addresses. If you file a notice of appeal, the IBIA will notify you of further procedures. If no appeal is timely filed, this decision will become final for the Department of the Interior at the expiration of the appeal period. No extension of time may be granted for filing a notice of appeal.

LEGAL DESCRIPTION EXHIBIT A
Tract Name: MBCI HOUSING AUTHORITY PARCEL

METES AND BOUNDS: Commence at the BLM brass capped monument found at the SW corner of the NE¼NW¼ of Section 22 of T. 10 N. R. 12 E. of Neshoba County, Mississippi; thence N 0 degrees 02' 54" E 665.44' in the west line of said NE¼NW¼ to the SW corner of the N½NE¼NW¼ and being the Point of Beginning of the herein described property; thence continuing in said west line N 0 degrees 02' 54" E 393.33' to the south right of way line of Mississippi Hwy 19; thence N 29 degrees 39' 00" E 117.46' in south right of way line; thence S 45 degrees 17' 13" 159.72' in said south right of way line; thence southeast 264.11' along a curve, concave to the southwest, having a radius of 7434.76', a central angle of 2 degrees 02' 07", and a chord of 264.10' bearing S 38 degrees 54' 42" E to the west side of Indian Road; thence S 2 degrees 27' 44" W 89.09' along the west side of said Indian Road; thence S 0 degrees 10' 13" W 88.53' along the west side of said Indian Road to the south line of said N½NE¼NW¼; thence West 333.53' in said south line to the Point of Beginning; being 2.8 acres, more or less.

FELDER RUSHING

Faux flowers have their place

By FELDER RUSHING
Special to the Democrat

I have a suggestion of a type of plant most likely to hold up in our gardens this time of year. Heads up: You might be dismayed.

Keep in mind that I just returned from my second home in northern England, during which I reported on the brand-new Royal Horticultural Society garden named Bridgenorth, and wandered through countless villages and home gardens chock full of plants that love their cool climate.

The small, neatly edged lawns, lush flower beds, jumbles of strongly contrasting shrubs, hanging baskets and other containers are notably stunning, for a couple of reasons.

One, British gardeners stick with what they know does well in England. Their botanic gardens are proving grounds, flower shows get the message out, and garden centers have full-blown display gardens demonstrating how to use them. In short, they focus on finding out, then doing, what makes sense in their climate.

They can't fathom why we try doggedly try to force alluring but difficult Floridian, Midwestern, or British plants to perform well in Mississippi.

This doesn't mean their roses and hydrangeas don't have leaf spots, or their weeds are any easier to deal with. They are just less likely to "get

their knickers in a twist" over cosmetic issues. And if something doesn't do well at all, they simply replace it and move on, as they have done for centuries. If a tree dies, they plant vines on it or push the stump over to create a little naturalistic focal point. And yes, they distract from less-than-perfection by over-accessorizing with gnomes.

Anyway, when I got back to Jackson it took just half an hour to remember what I've been missing. First clue was, stepping off the plane, being slapped in the face by hot, wet air. By the time I trudged up my garden path and noticed the faded magnolia on my year-old state flag hanging listlessly in the heavy evening air, I was flagging, too.

But nearly all my shrubs, flowers, and even potted plants have done just fine, because over the years I have settled on those that can take months of abject neglect. My overstuffed cottage garden never gets watered or sprayed, and needs very little pruning, because my life's too short to fool with fussy flowers. Those that fail, get composted.

So, after half a century of professional ornamental horticulture, I embrace native, heirloom, and tried-and-true new plants, and including whatever newbies MSU's Gary Bachman has vetted for us. I have a free list, if you email me for it.

But, in the spirit of full disclosure - and please don't be

too judgmental, especially if you wear lipstick - a few of my flowers are unnatural. Synthetic, Bogus. Fake. Latin name could be *Plastica silkfolia tackysanthemum*.

You'd actually have to touch some of them to realize they are shams. But consider how most of us already accept some unnatural garden features, including gnomes, fairies, saints, toadstools, rocks hauled from hundreds of miles away, flower flags, and even little water gardens which are just faux ponds.

Likewise, in very difficult settings, plants that are artificial (from ancient Latin *artificium* meaning "artistry") have their places; besides, modern materials are far more realistic, many even with detailed blemishes, than the old plastic ones.

In a mean prank, I recently posted an uncaptioned photo on the Mississippi Gardening Facebook site of a fabulous English windowbox overflowing with lush flowers. It got many dozens of likes, oohs, and ahhs, 'til someone noticed that the flowers are silk.

But it certainly showed that, when needed, even top garden designers know to surrender to practicality.

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



Faux flowers allow garden designers to surrender to practicality at times.

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Sports



Photo by Leroy Clemons

Quarterback Eli Anderson scrambles to get a pass off against Hernando Friday night.

Anderson leads Rockets past Hernando in opener with 32-16 victory

By STEVE SWOGETINSKY
steve@neshobademocrat.com

Senior quarterback Eli Anderson completed 18-of-22 passes for 292 yards and four touchdowns to lead Neshoba Central to a 38-6 season-opening victory over Hernando Friday night at Rocket Field.

The Rockets, now 1-0, will play at West Lauderdale this Friday night. The Knights opened the season with a 32-16 win over Newton County.

The Rockets finished with 448 total yards while holding Hernando to 228 total yards — 35 rushing and 193 passing.

Neshoba Central kicked off and the teams exchanged possessions. The Rockets stopped Hernando on fourth down on their second possession and took over on their 27-yard line.

Neshoba Central then put together a 14-play, 73-yard scoring drive. On

fourth down, Hunter Bavetta kicked a 27-yard field goal and Neshoba Central led 3-0 with 38 seconds left in the first quarter.

The Rockets defense held Hernando to four downs and the Neshoba Central then put together a 12-play, 59-yard scoring draw. Running back Zander Kirkland scored on a 14-yard run. Bavetta kicked the extra point and the Rockets led 10-0 with 6:14 left in the second quarter.

Again, the Tigers ran out of downs. On first down, quarterback Eli Anderson connected with Ja'Naylon Dupree on a 59-yard TD pass play. Bavetta booted the extra point and the Rockets led 17-0 with 3:59 left in the second quarter.

Later in the second quarter, linebacker Kelbee Holmes intercepted a Hernando pass to give his team ball on the Tigers 30-yard line. On first down, Anderson connected with Dupree on a

30-yard TD pass. Bavetta's kick was good and the Rockets led 24-0 with 2:07 left in the half. And that's how it stood at the half.

In the third quarter, Hernando intercepted at Rocket pass and returned the ball to the Neshoba 1-yard line. On the next play, the Tigers punched it in. The extra point was no good and Neshoba Central led 24-6 with 11:06 left in the third quarter.

With less than four minutes remaining, Anderson connected with Elijah Ruffin on a 24-yard TD pass play. Bavetta kicked the extra point and Neshoba Central led 31-6.

Early in the fourth quarter, Anderson connected with Bryceton Spencer on a four-yard TD pass play. Bavetta's kick was good and neither team would score again.

The Rockets ran the ball 34 times for 146 yards. Kirkland was the leading rusher with 89 yards on 21 carries.

Anderson ran five times for 40 yards. Dupree was the leading receiver with 140 yards on six catches while Spencer had six catches for 69 yards. Ruffin caught four passes for 40 yards.

The Tigers were held to 35 yards rushing. They completed 19-of-39 passing attempts for 193 yards.

Holmes finished with four tackles with four assists and had one interception. Ruffin had three tackles, an assist and two passes broken up. Jaharon Griffin had five tackles and four quarterback hurries. Beau Holley had two tackles, two assists and two quarterback hurries. Jashawn Mathis had two tackles and two assists.

"I thought defensively, we played very well," Coach Patrick Schoolar said. "Offensively, we spread the ball efficiently. Zander came in and ran the ball well for us. He did a good job for us. The O-line did a good job and gave Eli some time."

Jackson Academy snaps Rebels' 14-game win streak

By STEVE SWOGETINSKY
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The Jackson Academy Raiders turned the tables on the Leake Academy Rebels on Friday night.

A year after losing a big lead and falling 47-37 to the Rebels, the Raiders bounced back and scored 20 unanswered points in the second half to beat Leake 27-13 on Friday night.

The win snaps a 14-game winning streak for the Rebels and puts them at 1-1 on the season.

Veteran coach Brian Pickens said he knew the Rebels were in for a tough contest heading into Friday night and the Raiders didn't disappoint.

"It was a rough, four-quarter football game," Pickens said. "We knew it was going to be a test. JA played for the 6A state championship last year and has a good chance to play for it this year. They have a real good defense and are solid on the defensive line. And they have some weapons on offense. In the first half, you couldn't ask more out of our kids. They battled and led 13-7 at the half."

Leake Academy got the first break of the game when a short punt by JA gave the Rebels the ball at the JA 31. Six plays later, Rhett Atkinson scored on a 2-yard run with 2:16 left in the first. Cole Arthur hit the PAT and Leake led 7-0.

The Raiders struck right back as Tate Collins hit transfer Dakota Jordan on a quick slant that the Mississippi State commit turned into an 87-yard touchdown with 38 seconds left in the half. The PAT was good and JA tied the game at 7-7.

The Rebels' last score came midway through the second quarter. The Rebels went 72 yards in eight plays as Whitt Welch scored on a 40-yard run with 6:16 left in the half. The PAT failed and Leake held a 13-7 at the half.

In the second half, the Raiders dominated the action and took the lead early as Dakota Jordan scored on a 28-yard run with 10:17 left in the third. Scott Swalley hit the PAT and the Raiders led 14-13.

The closest the Rebels got to scoring was on the first play of the fourth

quarter when Cole Arthur barely missed a 45-yard field goal.

The Raiders finally broke through the LA defense with 2:41 left in the game as Marcus Harris scored on a 17-yard run. The try for two failed and JA led 20-13.

The Rebels failed to convert on fourth down and turned the ball over deep in their own territory. The Raiders quickly punched in another score on a 16-yard run by Harris for the final margin.

"We just couldn't get anything going in the second half," Pickens said. "We had some opportunities but just couldn't get going. This was a test and schools like JA are only going to make you better. We played four hard quarters of football and I thought we were in good condition at the end of the game. Our defense played as hard as I have seen them play."

Jackson Academy outgained Leake 280 to 236 on offense. The Raiders had 187 yards passing and 93 rushing while Leake had 188 yards rushing and 48 passing and each team had two turnovers and 13 first downs apiece.

Atkinson was 5-of-18 passing for 48 yards and had two interceptions, both in the fourth quarter. The junior quarterback had 108 yards rushing on 26 carries while Welch had 58 yards rushing on 11 carries. Canon Parks had 22 yards rushing on nine carries.

On defense, Bryce Watkins led the defense with five solo tackles and three assists. Jake Brown had six solo stops while Ethan Dunn and Nick Gomillion each had three solo tackles and four assists. Gunter Scott had 3.5 tackles while Riley Myers had 2.5 tackles and two interceptions.

The Rebels will hit the road this week against a familiar foe as they take on former district rival Starkville Academy.

The Volunteers are 1-1 on the season, beating Lamar 28-14 last week and losing 37-0 to Jackson Academy in week one.

"It's a huge game this week with Starkville and it's always a tight game," Pickens said.

Last year, Leake won a shootout with the Volunteers, scoring in the last minute to take a 49-45 win.

It's time for college football

By DALE MCKEE
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The dog days of summer for some reason arrive about the same time as our favorite football teams begin preparing for the upcoming season.

Most of our high school teams began the season last week, although around 24 games were canceled throughout the state. The college football season began last week with only a handful of games. The only college football game featured the Alcorn Braves playing for the first time in 616 days, but they fell to North Carolina Central, 23-14, in Atlanta in the SWAC-MEAC Challenge.

This week the small colleges in our state open in earnest on Thursday night, as Mississippi College will host Albany State. Delta State entertains Bethel, and Mississippi Valley will head to Murray State.

Mississippi State will host Louisiana Tech on Saturday at 3 p.m. while Southern Mississippi will travel down Highway 98 to Mobile to take on South Alabama that night. Jackson State and "Coach Prime" will travel to Miami on Sunday for a 2 p.m. kickoff against Florida A&M at Hard Rock Stadium, home of the NFL Dolphins. The first week's action concludes in Atlanta in the Chick-Fil-A Kickoff on Labor Day, as Ole Miss will battle Louisville at 7 p.m. at Mercedes-Benz Stadium, home of the NFL Falcons.

There are several non-conference games this Saturday that will be worth watching. LSU visits the Rose Bowl in Pasadena to take on UCLA. Georgia and Clemson will tangle in Charlotte, North Carolina, while Alabama and Miami meet in Atlanta. Another game of interest is the matchup between Florida State and Notre Dame on Sunday night in Tallahassee.

The best junior college football in the country is played right here within our borders. This week all 14 teams will be in action on Thursday night as Hinds visits Coahoma, Gulf Coast visits Holmes, East Central visits East Mississippi, Itawamba visits Southwest, Colton visits Northwest and Northeast visits Jones.

Saints news

The New Orleans Saints have named Jameis Winston as the starting quarterback for their season opener against Green Bay on Sept. 11 in New Orleans. The Saints' preseason game against Arizona was canceled last Saturday night. The Saints also headed to Dallas on Saturday to conduct practice this week at AT&T Stadium in Arlington before the arrival of Hurricane Ida.

Odds & Ends

Former Ole Miss football star Deuce McAllister will join the SEC Network as he joins Dave Neal for the afternoon SEC contests this season. Deuce will also still work on the New Orleans Saints radio network.

The Jacksonville Jaguars traded Gardner Minshew to the Philadelphia Eagles over the weekend. The odd man out for the Eagles was former Southern Mississippi quarterback Nick Mullens, who was cut by the team on Saturday.

The Wall Street Journal reported recently that the National Football League would permit sports-gambling companies to advertise.

The Ole Miss men's basketball team joined the football team as 100 percent of both teams and staff are vaccinated. LSU joined Oregon and Oregon State as the schools that will require proof of vaccination or a recent negative test to attend football games this fall.

He was Valedictorian of this high school, he was Heisman winner, he was an Olympian, and he also played 12 seasons in the NFL. He announced this week he was running for U.S. Senator in Georgia as a Republican. That's right, Herschel Walker will run again.

Dale McKee, a Waynesboro resident, has been writing sports in Mississippi since 1973.

Yellow Jackets sting in opener against Choctaw Central

By BEN LAND
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The offense of the Union Yellow Jackets was as hot as the late Mississippi summer temperatures.

When the horn blew on Friday night the final score was Union 39 Choctaw Central 13.

The star of the night was Kenyon Clay. Clay ran for 210 yards, along with scoring three rushing touchdowns. He passed for 151 yards and two touchdowns.

The offensive supporting cast behind Clay was also stellar. Xavier Boler, A.J. Wilson, and Ky'Yon Harris made great contributions in rushing yards. Brandon Killens, Kaleb Casey, Matthew Lott, Ky'Yon Harris and Xavier Boler all made great contributions in receiving yards and touchdowns for the Jackets.

The defensive side of the ball also contributed to the cause of the black and gold. Thirteen different Jackets contributed to the success of Union's defensive play. Those Jackets were William Hughlett, Eli Rigdon, Ky'Yon Harris, Cameron Hickman, Tank Harrison, Cameron Jackson, Nate Killen, Jaylon Rogers, Tristan Wallace, Xavier Boler, Carson Kennedy, Germaine Pickens and Davarian McDonald. This defensive core forced three turnovers by the Warriors.

The final stats of the game showed a very balanced attack by the Jackets. Union had 259 rushing yards and 168 passing yards.

Next week the Yellow Jackets will host the Scott Central Rebels. Choctaw Central will travel to Cherokee, N.C., to play in the "Battle of Nations" game.



Photo by Bradley Isaacs

Choctaw Central's Braylon McMillian tries to pick up yards against Union.

Philadelphia seeks first win at Raymond

By STEVE SWOGETINSKY
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The Philadelphia Tornadoes will look to get on the winning track Friday night when the Tornadoes visit the Raymond Rangers in prep football action.

The Tornadoes put up a good showing in their season-opening 35-14 loss to Meridian High School Friday night. This will be the second week in a row that Philadelphia is playing against a team, not on its schedule. The Tornadoes were scheduled to open against Noxubee County. The Tigers, however, had to cancel because of COVID-19 concerns. The Tornadoes were scheduled to visit Bay Spring this week and the Bulldogs are out with COVID-19. So, they now face Raymond which defeated Newton last week, 28-12.

Philadelphia ended up playing Meridian after Laurel had to cancel.

That put the Tornadoes playing the Wildcats in a Class 2A vs. 6A battle. The Wildcats scored on a 53-yard rush on the third play of the game. They then added another touchdown on a 30-yard pass play to lead 14-0 at the end of the first quarter.

The Tornadoes came back with an 18-play scoring drive that covered 65-yards. Quarterback Marcus Beamon ran 28 yards to put the ball on the Wildcat three-yard line. One play later, Chancellor Greer carried the ball into the end zone for a



Photo by Tabby Goldman

Philadelphia quarterback Marcus Beamon tries to elude a Meridian High defender Friday night.

touchdown. The extra point try failed and the Tornadoes trail 14-6 with 11:20 remaining in the half. That's how it stood at the half.

Meridian scored early in the third quarter and led 21-6.

The Tornadoes took the kick-off and ran off 13 plays before running out of downs. The teams exchanged possessions until Meridian scored again in the fourth quarter with 7:33 remaining and went up 28-6.

The Tornadoes took over and Beamon connected with Trey Posey on an 83-yard TD pass play. Andrew Carter scored the two-point conversion and Meridian led 28-14 with 5:01 left in the game.

Meridian put its first team back in and scored on the next possession to seal the victory.

"I have mixed feelings but I thought we should have won," Coach David Frey said. "When we were down 14-6, we certainly were in the position to win."

"They were bigger and probably had more athletic people on the field at one time. I still think it should have been a closer game or we should have one."

"When we have a long scoring drive, we have to cap it off. We had two or three turnovers that hurt us. We missed some open receivers. We missed some. We went over that Sunday."

Philadelphia did not practice Monday because of the storm but planned to be back at it on Tuesday.

12-3 Lady Rebels earn two more victories on the diamond

By ROBBIE ROBERTSON
sports@neshobademocrat.com

The Leake Academy softball team picked up two more wins this past week with a pair of run-rule victories.

The Lady Rebels hammered Hillcrest 16-1 on Monday and pounded Park Place 16-2 on Tuesday.

Leake improves to 12-3 on the season.

Leake was scheduled to travel

to Magnolia Heights on Monday but that game was canceled because of expected inclement weather from Hurricane Ida. Leake was also scheduled to play at East Rankin on Tuesday in their only scheduled action of the week.

**Lady Rebels 16
Hillcrest 1**

The Lady Rebels battered the defending 5A champions once

again with a three-inning, run-rule victory on Monday.

Hillcrest scored one in the first before Leake answered with 11 runs in the bottom of the frame. The Lady Rebels finished off with five runs in the third for the final margin.

Leake had 11 hits in the contest as Miley Billey was 3-for-3 with two doubles, three runs scored and three RBIs. Lily McDonald was 2-for-3 with a grand slam home run while Car-

oline Cheatham was 2-for-2 with two runs scored. Jenna Chamblee doubled and scored two runs while Emeri Warren and Ella Bell each scored two runs apiece. Grace Maxey also had two stolen bases.

Raylea Atkinson pitched all three innings to pick up the win, giving up one run on three hits while striking out three.

**Lady Rebels 16
Park Place 2**

The Lady Rebels needed just four innings to take a run-rule win over the Lady Crusaders on Tuesday in district play.

Leake scored five in the first and second innings and added three in the third and fourth innings to take the win.

Leake had 14 hits in the contest as Warren was 3-for-3 with a double, triple and four runs scored. Olivia Rudolph was also 3-for-4 with a triple and four RBIs while Emmajane Lepard

was 2-for-3 with three runs scored and four RBIs. Chamblee was 3-for-4 with a double and three runs scored while Miley Billie scored four runs and had three RBIs. Grace Maxey doubled and had two RBIs as well.

Lynleigh Burt pitched all four innings and gave up two runs on three hits while striking out six to pick up the win.



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