



SPORTS

ROCKETS REMAIN UNDEFEATED WITH THIRD REGION VICTORY

Football — Page 5B

COOK OF THE WEEK

COUNTRY COOKING CAME FROM MOTHER

Pam Prince — Page 1B



THE NESHOPA DEMOCRAT

Established 1881 — Oldest Business Institution in Neshoba County Philadelphia, Mississippi Wednesday, September 29, 2021 140th Year No. 39 **\$1.00

Parents of missing girl charged

By DUNCAN DENT
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The parents of a 2-year-old girl who spent more than 10 hours lost in the woods near their home earlier this month have been charged with felony child abuse, the authorities said.

The parents, Tamera Chunn, 30, and Jason Reed, 48, both of Road 236, Union, were arrested and charged two

weeks ago, according to Neshoba County Sheriff Eric Clark.

The girl was found at about 1 a.m. on Tuesday, Sept. 14, with her dog on the far side of a pond roughly half a mile into the woods behind their home following an extensive search that included multiple agencies and departments, officials said.

During the investigation, which included interviews



Tamera Chunn Jason Reed
with both parents, investigators collected evidence that led

to the charges, Clark said.

The authorities have “further unanswered questions” and more charges are possible, he said.

The child has been taken into the care of Child Protective Services, according to the sheriff.

Chunn was arrested on Sept. 14 in the early afternoon and was out on a \$15,000 bond on Sept. 17.

Reed was arrested in the

evening hours of Sept. 13 and was out on a \$15,000 bond on Sept. 16.

The little girl had been reported missing just after 5:30 p.m. that Monday after her parents had been looking for her for an hour, Clark said at the time.

“She had a scratch on her neck and was dirty but otherwise was in excellent condition,” Clark said.

The child had wandered off

without shoes or a diaper and was wearing only a striped dress.

He said she was not very talkative when they found her and that she did not cry. She was transported to Neshoba General for a full checkup.

Clark said they received the call at 5:38 p.m. after the family had noticed the girl and her dog were missing. They told the authorities they had been
See ABUSE, page 2A



Photo by COLEMAN EAKES

Sgt. Harbert Johnson with the Mississippi Highway Patrol and K-9 Ziva visit with Neshoba Central Elementary School kindergarten students last week for Community Helpers Week. In addition to MHP, students were greeted by firefighters, paramedics, dentists, bankers and more.

Interacting with K-9, career week thrills kids

By SARAH KATHRYN WATKINS
news@neshobademocrat.com

Kindergarteners got to play on a military tank during Community Helpers Week at Neshoba Central Elementary last week.

Firefighters, military personnel, police officers and paramedics came to show the children the different equipment they work with and what they do for a living to keep the community safe.

The students also got classroom visits from

doctors, dentists, bankers and local Postal workers.

The children were even able to interact with a K-9 from the Mississippi Highway Patrol and learn the different ways the dog can stop criminals.

Throughout the week, the children applied the different careers to their studies by reading books about various occupations.

“Community Helpers Week is the kindergarten’s favorite week,” said Tiffany Plott, prin-

cipal of Neshoba Central Elementary.

Plott said most of the volunteers who came were parents.

“Each day, the students would journal about the different things they saw and what they learned,” Plott said.

The children even got to interact with the different equipment used by various professionals, including getting to play on a military tank.

PHILADELPHIA

Records: City never hired auditor

By STEVE SWOGETINSKY
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A letter of engagement was never signed by the city of Philadelphia for auditing services in a dispute about the city’s overdue audits, records obtained by The Neshoba Democrat show.

What’s more, only a minimal amount of financial information requested from the City Clerk was ever provided over the last two years in order to perform audits, a partner in an accounting firm that withdrew their bid for services said last week.

A signed copy of the “Quote for Audit Services” from that firm was contained in a request for records by the Democrat, but not a required formal letter of engagement.

The accounting firm, Watkins, Ward and Stafford, was never officially hired to do financial audits for the city of Philadelphia and they were never paid for any services, Marsha McDonald, a partner in the firm with about 15 offices statewide and who manages the Philadelphia office, told the Democrat last Wednesday.

Records obtained by the Democrat show no payments to the firm.

The overdue audits came to light two weeks ago when a Neshoba Democrat reporter asked city officials in an open meeting for the latest audit and one could not be provided.

The Mayor and Board of Aldermen last Tuesday night hired a Pearl accounting firm which, according to the mayor, pledged to get the city out of the potential bind with the State Auditor since audits have not been performed since 2017. (See story, Page 2A.)

McDonald told the Democrat that her office on July 11, 2019, submitted a quote to do audits
See AUDIT, page 2A

\$1.25-HOUR PAY RAISE

Aldermen raise taxes, adopt \$11M budget

By SCOTT HAWKINS
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Aldermen adopted the city’s \$11 million 2022 budget that includes a 1-mill tax increase during a special afternoon meeting last Wednesday.

The budget includes a \$1.25-an-hour pay increase for city employees — not including elected officials — that will be funded by the 1-mill tax increase, aldermen said.

The board voted 3-2 in favor of adopting the budget with Ward 1 Alderman Justin Clearman, Ward 3 Alderman James Tatum and Ward 4 Alderman Shaun Seales in favor of the budget and Alderman-at-Large James Waltman and Ward 2 Alderman Jim Fulton voting against it.

In the discussion about the budget, Clearman clarified some of his earlier statements on the issue.

“I’m not trying to compete with Carthage, Union or New York City,” Clearman said. “When I say competitive, I’m talking about our first responders, our firefighters, our police department. I want us to have the best when it comes to protecting everybody.”

Clearman said he stood behind his support of the measure.

Fulton said he believes the city’s sales taxes are sufficient to handle the pay raise, but Mayor James A. Young, who does not have a vote on the board, said that sales taxes are a moving target and can fluctuate from month to month.

“We have got to have a solid foundation going to the future,” Young said. “There are things we have got to do in this community and we have just got to stay in the game.”

Seales said he, too, stood by his support for the tax hike.

Seales pointed out during the public meeting that he was the subject of a story on the front page of the Wednesday, Sept. 22, The Neshoba Democrat for not having paid his property taxes on time last year after the property was sold at auction and held.

“I know how people try to use one thing,” Seales said. “My personal tax had nothing to do with this. To everybody, I’ve got all the receipts. I paid all my taxes yesterday (Tuesday).

See TAXES, page 2A



Photo by COLEMAN EAKES

Northside readied

Parks and Recreation Director Cody Brian edges one the ballfields at Northside Park on Tuesday as the fall baseball and softball seasons get underway.



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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Subscribe to the Democrat

Subscriptions are \$36 annually in Neshoba County, \$40 non-local, \$25 for 6 months locally, \$27 for 6 months non-local and \$43 annually Out of State.

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Founded in 1881

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

(USPS 377-160)

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

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



Neshoba Central Homecoming Court announced

Members of the 2021 Neshoba Central High School Homecoming Court are, front row Crown Bearer Bentley Gilmer, Flower Girl Madalynn King, second row seniors, from left, Javelli Morris, Tenly Grisham and Javien Grant, third row juniors, from left, Charity Moore, Mary Lee Williams, Katie Ward,

fourth row sophomores, from left, Nalani Thompson, Jenna Flint, Jayla Edwards and fifth row freshman, from left, Ella Jai Elliott, Gracey Dertinger and Marlee Washington.

Firm pledges to get city out of audit bind

By STEVE SWOGETINSKY
steve@neshobademocrat.com

A Pearl accounting hired last week has pledged to get the city out of a potential bind with overdue audits, the mayor said.

The city hired the firm of Windham and Lacy PLLC to perform audits for fiscal years 2018, 2019 and 2020 after much discussion last Tuesday night at a regular meeting about the implications the overdue audits.

"These people (Windham and Lacy) told us they deal with the State Auditor's office all the time," Young said. "All we need to do is say go ahead and they will get us out of this."

Ward 2 Alderman Jim Fulton had asked if the city should contact the State Auditor's Office since they are so far behind on the audits.

"Let me ask y'all a question," Fulton said. "Since this thing is behind, do we need to notify the State Auditor?"

City Attorney Robert Thomas told the board he received a call from a Watkins representative late Friday afternoon (Sept. 17) telling him the company would be sending a letter of resignation.

Young said he immediately began looking for a new firm and that Windham and Lacy came highly recommended from people they have done business with.

Young last week had told the Democrat Watkins, Ward and Stafford was resigning because they did not have the manpower, but a letter from the firm indicates otherwise.

CPA Marsha McDonald of the firm told the Democrat last week the city never signed a required engagement letter despite repeated requests. (See story, Page 1A.)

Aldermen raised concerns about the resignation and the standard letter of engagement that accounting firms are required to have with any client.

"We only got this 30 seconds ago," said Ward 1 Alderman Justin Clearman. "So, if we would have gotten them signed copies of a fine line quote ... They can't do it without it. So, it's our fault that they aren't going to do the audit?"

Young replied, "They got paid for it. They sent back what they had, so I don't know."

Records obtained by the

Democrat on Friday do not show where the city ever paid the firm.

Clearman pressed the issue of the city withholding information.

"So, I am reading here that we are not providing all of the information we need to get the audit done?" Clearman said.

Attorney Thomas advised aldermen they could call the Watkins, Ward and Stafford manager.

"She (the Watkins manager) will be very honest if you called her. I asked her the same question," Thomas said. Ward 4 Alderman Shaun Seales asked, "She didn't give you an answer?"

Thomas said, "Yes she did. But I'm not going to say it here."

Young himself declined a reporter's request for a copy of the letter, but the Democrat filed and received a public records request.

Clearman said the board needed to investigate why Watkins, Ward and Stafford was dropping the city account.

"It's our job to call her about why we got this letter and devise our own opinion on that," Clearman said. Fulton wanted more

answers as well.

"As far as I am concerned, this is not finished. Right? It is to be looked at and studied," Fulton said.

Clearman spoke of the haste.

"We are about to act on a motion to move on to this other company and we have got to do it," Clearman said. "This is a Hail Mary."

Being on the right side of the law was a concern Fulton had.

"Do we want to notify the state auditor?" Fulton said. "I want to be on the up and up."

Young assured him they were.

"We are going to be on the up and up," Young said.

"They (Pearl firm) said they are able to do it, and if the State Auditors call, they are able to work with them."

Clearman said, "I don't want to be inappropriate here but if we are on the up and up, we wouldn't be (at this point)?"

Clearman made the motion to hire the new firm and Fulton seconded it. Aldermen approved the motion unanimously.

Taxes

Continued from page 1A

day, Sept. 21) morning before our meeting so that's clear."

Seales, who also clarified that he ran as an independent

candidate for his post, not a Democrat, said raising the millage rate makes sense to him.

"My job is to do my part to make the city productive," Seales said "I still stand with yes on my vote."

Tatum said he agreed with

Clearman and Seales.

Waltman said he would vote no because he believed the sales tax revenues would cover the pay raises.

"I feel like our sales tax revenue would have been sufficient this first year," Waltman said. "Once it has been a

while and we know where we stand in the city then I think I may at some point see the need for it but for now I say no."

Audit

Continued from page 1A

for fiscal years 2018 and 2019 for the city of Philadelphia.

"When you audit, we have a standard that tells us what we have to do and when we have to do it," McDonald said. "The first thing we have to do is get a quote. So, we sent the quote. I never got my signed

quote back.

"After you get the signed quote, you have to get an engagement letter. And that's the only time you are truly hired to do the audit," McDonald said.

"We never had an engagement letter. We were never really hired. They kept saying when are you going to start? I had started some work but it had taken so long to get what we got, we had a lot more jobs

come up. It was so far behind, I didn't feel like I had the manpower to get it caught up."

McDonald said she never billed the city because she never completed an audit and the bill comes due when the audit is complete.

In a letter to City Attorney Robert Thomas dated Friday, Sept. 17, McDonald wrote of the firm's decision to withdraw. Only a minimal amount of information was ever pro-

vided by the City Clerk in order to do an audit, McDonald said.

"We did an information request to the City Clerk for what would have been needed to perform the audit; however, only a minimal amount of that information request was satisfied," McDonald wrote.

Watkins, Ward and Stafford reached out to the city numerous times without response, the letter said.

Abuse

Continued from page 1A

searching on their own for hours.

Clark said in addition to deputies, members of the Dixon and Linwood fire departments responded to the call.

They also received assistance from the Winston Coun-

ty Sheriff's Department which in addition to manpower sent a drone capable of picking up thermal images and a tracking dog.

Clark said the search party also included concerned

neighbors and friends.

"I think this was a testament to everybody being able to work together," Clark said. "We used all of our resources and found her."





Choctaw Central Homecoming Court announced

Choctaw Central High School will celebrate homecoming this Friday night when the Warriors host Kosciusko in a Region 4-4A football contest. Members of the homecourt are, front row from left, Kyla Farmer (senior maid), Isabelle Flint (flower girl), Skye Bell (senior maid), Ja'Kaizen Solomon (crown bearer), Kylie Williamson (senior maid), second row from left, Teresa Willis (freshman maid), Ashlynn Stephens (sophomore maid), Catherine Jim (junior maid), Emaliyah King (junior maid), Fantasia Lewis (sophomore maid) and Khyal Johnson (freshman maid).

Woman arrested with gun at school

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

A Neshoba County woman was arrested twice for two separate disruptive instances at Neshoba Central Elementary on Sept. 16.

Chelsey Collins, 27, of 1066 Frog Level Apt. 11, was for disorderly conduct, careless driving and two warrants for child neglect. She was later arrested and charged with disorderly conduct, possession of a firearm on school property,

possession of a controlled substance and possession of marijuana in a motor vehicle.

Clark said Collins was arrested at 8:10 a.m. Thursday, Sept. 16, when the school resource officer, a Neshoba County deputy, saw her driving in a careless manner near Neshoba Central Elementary School.

Clark said she was released about three hours later on her



Chelsey Collins

own recognition but returned to the school later and got into a confrontation with school staff later that afternoon. She was then found to be in possession of a firearm and controlled substances.

Neshoba County jail records show that Collins bonded out at approximately 10 a.m. Sept. 18 on \$31,600 in bond.

No new COVID deaths reported here

By **JOHN LEE**
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Neshoba County recorded 65 new COVID-19 cases and no new deaths in the past week, according to the Mississippi State Department of Health's Sept. 28 report.

Neshoba County has now recorded a total of 6,495 cases

of COVID-19 and 201 deaths since the pandemic began in March 2020.

The Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians reported six new positive cases of COVID-19 and no deaths in the past week as of Sept. 27, with the total number of positive cases for the Tribe standing at 2,446 with 123 deaths. The Tribe

reported three new hospitalizations.

As of Monday, 27% of Neshoba County's population is fully vaccinated, according to MSDH.

Vaccinations are being administered at Walgreens at 1002 W. Beacon Street in Philadelphia, according to the MSDH.

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Contact us today to reserve your space in this popular special section!
Deadline is September 29.

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THE NESHOPA DEMOCRAT

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AN EVENING OF ONE ACTS

**Thursday, Sept. 30
6:00PM**

**Saturday, Oct. 2
2:00PM & 6:00PM**

**Sunday, Oct. 3
2:00 PM**

Production is dinner theatre and will be held at the Senior Citizens Center

Tickets:
Evening Performance - Full Dinner
 \$15 - Non-members / \$10 - Members

Matinee Performance - Dessert Only
 \$10 - Non-members / \$5 - Members

Tickets on sale now at The Depot! Limited Seating so please purchase your tickets early.

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Opinion

FOUNDED 1881

THE NESHOPA DEMOCRAT

*Truth, justice and progress, without fear or favor*JAMES E. PRINCE III, *Editor and Publisher*STEVE SWOGETINSKY, *Managing Editor*JOY STEWART, *Advertising Director*STEVE SWOGETINSKY, *Sports Editor*ARTHUR STANLEY DEARMAN, *Editor and Publisher 1966-2000*
1932–2017

EDITORIALS

Tax hike unnecessary

A successful economic development strategy involves cultivating, educating and growing the local workforce, recruiting good manufacturing and distribution jobs and maintaining a low tax rate.

Local working people will spend their own money locally with local merchants. Growth is the winning formula.

Instead, the Mayor and Board of Aldermen voted 3-2 last week to raise taxes again and that's dangerous.

Astonishingly, because there hasn't been an audit since 2017, some of these career Democrat overlords still in favor of the tax hike don't really even know how much money they have in the bank.

Yet, they are reaching in and taking more money out of our pockets.

Creating new jobs — good jobs — has always been the key to successful economic development.

Philadelphia will be more competitive when our leaders create new jobs, lower taxes and pay city workers their due.

Pay raises are not the issue here because aldermen could still award those without raising taxes.

Ironically, one of the Democrat politicians pressing for the tax hike was so delinquent on his personal taxes that his property was sold at auction last month.

When this newly-minted politician who ran as an Independent got word there was going to be a story in the Democrat about his delinquent taxes, he went and paid his bill last Tuesday morning and voted on the tax hike Wednesday afternoon.

Having the paperwork to prove he paid, as he boasted before the tax hike vote, doesn't make it right to be delinquent and then vote to raise everybody else's taxes.

Taxing people into prosperity has never worked anywhere in the world. Eventually, you run out of other people's money.

Exhausting more than \$7 million in

reserves as they operated at a deficit over seven years, the city of Philadelphia doubled taxes in 2014.

So hiking taxes again is a dangerous and destructive pattern in our local economy.

With audits overdue, how much money does the city really have in the bank?

And about those audits, at least there were good concerns last week.

Ward 2 Alderman Jim Fulton asked if the city should contact the State Auditor's Office since they are so far behind on the audits.

"Let me ask y'all a question," Fulton said. "Since this thing is behind, do we need to notify the State Auditor?"

More aldermen raised concerns.

"We only got this 30 seconds ago," said Ward 1 Alderman Justin Clearman. "So, if we would have gotten them signed copies of a fine line quote ... They can't do it without it. So, it's our fault that they aren't going to do the audit?"

A required letter of engagement was never signed by the city of Philadelphia for auditing services the last half decade, records obtained by the Democrat show.

What's more, only a minimal amount of financial information requested from the City Clerk was ever provided over the last two years for an audit, it has been revealed.

Now a Pearl accounting firm has pledged to get the city out of a potential bind with the State Auditor over the past-due audits, according to Mayor James A. Young.

The winning strategy is growing jobs, lower taxes and here public accountability.

Philadelphia has a lot of sorting out to do and we feel like there are members of the board who are going to ask the right questions and demand accountability now that they have seen.

FLASHBACKS

SEPTEMBER 26, 1941

Miss. Evelyn Hardin, daughter of Mr. And Mrs. Edgar Hardin, Woodson, Texas was valedictorian of her graduating class at Woodson High School this year and was awarded a scholarship to Benton College, Texas, where she is now enrolled. She is the granddaughter of Mrs. A.F. Trapp, Philadelphia and Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Hardin, Deemer.

SEPTEMBER 27, 1951

Dr. W.E. Green, president of Clarke Memorial College, Newton, will occupy the pulpit at the First Baptist Church, Sunday morning. Dr. Green, who has recently returned from a trip around the world, will bring his message relative to his trip.

SEPTEMBER 28, 1961

George Mars, son of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Mars, has been named president of Mars Bros. Inc., department store here. The business was recently made a corporation, with Henry Mars as chairman of the board, Mrs. Gladys Mars as secretary, and Herbert Garrett as manager.

Billy Cumberland and B.J. Sanderson both of Route Three, Philadelphia, show the 20-lb. catfish they caught Sunday afternoon in Cus-tuscha behind the Legion Pond.

SEPTEMBER 30, 1971

The Neshoba Central High School homecoming court will be presented during half-

time activities Friday night during halftime with West Lauderdale. The maids are Jewell Elliot, senior maid; Karen Tisdells, junior maid; Lynda Jayroe, queen; Kim Daniel, sophomore maid; Kathy McLain, freshman maid.

SEPTEMBER 30, 1981

Mayor Charles McClain signs a proclamation Monday designating Oct. 18-24 National Business and Professional Women's Week. In the picture include Lillian Killen, Business Week chairman, Susan Thomas, president of the Philadelphia Business and Professional Women's Club.

Shay Daly, Philadelphia High School Student Council president, crowns homecoming queen Tonya Alexander during homecoming activities Friday night. With her is her father, the Rev. Lonnie Alexander along with flower girl Hope Wood, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joe Wood, and crown bearer Tate Salter, son of Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Salter.

SEPTEMBER 25, 1991

Six of the seven members of the 1943-44 graduating class at Forest Dale High School met for a reunion Saturday night. These include Marie Carr Wells, Olen May, Mildred Madison Risher, Evelyn Bates, Ethel McDonald Jones and Sybil Crawford Hood. Forest Dale School was 12 miles east of Philadelphia where Cofadeliah Masonic Lodge is located.

PATRICK J. BUCHANAN

The eclipse of Europe

Not only is the center of political gravity shifting from Europe to Asia, European unity seems a thing of the past.

For centuries up to and including the 20th, Europe seemed the central pivot of world history.

Then came the Great Civil War of the West, our Thirty Years' War (1914-1945), where all of the great European powers — Britain, France, Germany, Italy, Russia — along with almost all of the rest, fought some of history's greatest battles.

Result: Europe's greatest nations were all bloodied. All of Europe's empires fell. The colonial peoples were all largely liberated and began the great migration to the mother countries. And Europe was split between a U.S.-led West and a Moscow-dominated Soviet bloc.

Yet, even during that four-decade Cold War, Europe was viewed as the prize in the struggle.

By the time that Cold War ended in triumph for the Free World, a European Union modeled on the American Union was rising, and almost all of Europe's newly freed nations began to join the NATO alliance.

Yet one senses today that Europe's role in world history is passing, that the American pivot to China and the Indo-Pacific is both historic and permanent, and that as the past belongs to Europe, the future belongs to Asia.

Asia, after all, is home to the world's most populous nations, China and India; to six of the world's nine nuclear powers; and to almost all of its major Muslim nations: Indonesia, India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Turkey and Iran, as well as to the world's largest economies outside the USA: China and Japan.

And Europe?

In 2016, Great Britain voted to withdraw from the EU. This summer, the British joined the Australians and the U.S. in an AUXUS pact that trashed a cherished French deal to build a dozen diesel-powered submarines — and to replace them with British- and U.S.-built nuclear-power subs.

Paris saw this as a "betrayal," a "stab in the back" by

RICH LOWRY

Biden's border 'challenge' gets worse

Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security Alejandro Mayorkas is indisputably good at one part of his job — always referring to the migrant surge at the border as a "challenge" and never a "crisis."

He visited Del Rio, Texas on Monday and refused to use the offending word about more than 10,000 Haitian migrants huddled under a bridge, living amongst trash with insufficient food and water in sweltering heat.

This, too, is merely a challenge.

If euphemism and spin constituted competent, tough-minded governance, the Biden team wouldn't be coping with a historic surge of illegal crossings at the border that reached another level with the nearly instantaneous creation of an enormous migrant camp in an isolated Texas town.

The Haitian migrants had been crossing for weeks before the flow exploded over a matter of days. The camp grew from 4,000 the middle of last week to more than 16,000 by the weekend, a stunningly large and rapid concentration of migrants that is probably without precedent at the Southern border, certainly within memory.

The images of desperate Haitians wading across the Rio Grande by the hundreds and thousands without anyone even attempting to stop them will likely become an indelible symbol of Biden's border policy.

Empty words and excuses can't obscure the reality.

Administration officials constantly say that the border is closed, but in important respects it is open.

They blame misinformation spreading among migrants and

allies whom Gen. Charles De Gaulle had disparaged as "les Anglo-Saxons." Yet AUXUS was also an undeniably clear statement as to where the Australians saw their future, and it was not alongside France, but the USA.

Still, this was the worst U.S. affront of our French ally since President Dwight Eisenhower ordered the British and French out of Suez.

But, at least then, Ike could say in 1956 that he had not been alerted to the British-French invasion of Egypt and that our NATO partners had acted without his knowledge or consent.

To protest the treatment of France in the submarine deal, President Emmanuel Macron recalled his ambassador to the U.S., something that had never been done since France recognized the American colonies and came to their aid during our War of Independence.

Indeed, the submarine agreement forced cancellation of a grand party at the French embassy in Washington, D.C., to celebrate the 240th anniversary of the Battle of the Capes.

This was the critical British-French naval battle at the mouth of the Chesapeake in 1781, where a French fleet prevailed, enabling it to provide Gen. George Washington's army cover as it surrounded, shelled and compelled the surrender of Gen. Lord Cornwallis' army at Yorktown.

But if the British are out of the EU, and the French are estranged from their NATO allies, Germany yesterday held an election, where, for the first time in its history, the Christian Democratic Union of Konrad Adenauer, Helmut Kohl and Angela Merkel was reduced to a fourth of the national vote.

Caught off guard (as usual), the Biden team has begun deporting migrants on flights back to Haiti.

it's true that unfounded rumors abound, but the basic perception that our border enforcement has major, easily exploited holes is correct.

They blame circumstances, but it's not as though terrible conditions — poverty and rank misgovernment — are new in countries to our South.

No, the new factor in the equation is President Joe Biden and his determination to blow up Trump's policies that had gotten control of the border.

Border apprehensions remained at a 20-year high in August. They only dipped slightly from July, and otherwise have been on an upward trajectory all year.

The fashionable explanation for the initial rise in migration was that it was simply "seasonality," the tendency of migrants to come to the border in the spring and then drop off when it gets hotter. Biden himself confidently asserted this was the dynamic. "It happens every single, solitary year," he said in March.

But his policies overcame this ingrained pattern, enticing more migrants even during the summer months.

As long as people are convinced that they have a good chance of getting into the United States to stay, which is unquestionably the case with unaccompanied minors and family units, there is a strong incentive to make the trek to the border.

The new leader of Germany, after months of negotiations, may be the leader of the Social Democrats, in concert with the Greens. But even that government may not be cobbled together by Christmas.

Neither of the prospective chancellors for the Christian Democratic Union or the Social Democratic Party has the stature of Merkel, who has been both leader of Germany for the last decade and a half but also de facto leader of Europe.

And consider the present condition of NATO, once celebrated as the most successful alliance in history for having deterred any Soviet invasion of NATO Europe for the entire Cold War.

In 2001, invoking Article V about an attack on one being an attack on all, NATO joined the Americans in their plunge into Afghanistan to deal with the perpetrators of 9/11.

This August, 20 years later, all our NATO allies pulled out as the Afghan army crumbled and vanished and the Afghan regime collapsed. Our NATO allies thus shared in the ignominy of the American retreat and defeat.

Not only is the center of political gravity shifting from Europe to Asia, European unity seems a thing of the past.

As Britain has left the EU, Scotland is considering secession from England. Catalonia is still thinking of secession from Spain. Sardinia is considering secession from Italy. Poland and Hungary are at odds with the EU over domestic political reforms said to be in conflict with the demands of the bureaucrats in Brussels.

As for the southern-tier EU and NATO nations, Spain, Italy and Greece, their main concern is less an invasion by Russia than the ongoing invasion from across the Mediterranean from Africa and the Middle East.

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

Haitians got the message, too. Prior to the latest influx at Del Rio, almost 30,000 Haitians had been apprehended this fiscal year. The previous two years the number had been in the low thousands.

The Biden administration granted so-called Temporary Protected Status, a protection from deportation to Haitians residing in the United States as of May 21 of this year. Then, it extended it again to include Haitians residing here since July 29, sending the message that new arrivals might get the status on a rolling basis.

Haitians also knew family units have been getting through.

The migrants at Del Rio haven't been coming directly from Haiti, but from South America, largely Chile and Brazil, after tens of thousands fled there in the aftermath of the 2010 Haitian earthquake. Dwindling economic opportunities and immigration restrictions sent many migrants into Mexico, and when Mexican officials began to allow them to travel further north, they descended on Del Rio.

Caught off guard (as usual), the Biden team has begun deporting migrants on flights back to Haiti. This has stanced and even reversed the flow for now, although reports say that family units are staying in the U.S.

Unless and until the Biden team realizes that swift exclusion from the U.S. must apply to almost everyone, the "challenges" at the border won't let up.

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

LETTERS

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BIBLE SELECTION

But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

— Matthew 6:33 (ESV)

Booker T. renovation could cost over \$500K

By STEVE SWOGETINSKY
 sve@neshobademocrat.com

The estimated price tag on the Booker T. Washington building renovation project could top \$500,000, the Philadelphia Mayor and Board of Aldermen learned during their Sept. 21 meeting.

Darion Warren, project manager with Waggoner Engineering, told the board the estimated cost would be \$475,142.

That price would include the removal and replacement of the existing roof, replacing existing insulation with vinyl back insulation, repairs to the gym floor and any structural steel repairs that might be needed.

There will be new restrooms and a new entrance lobby in what is now the back of the building. The estimated cost

also includes mobilization costs and bonds for the contractor.

Warren said the price reflects the current cost of building materials.

That number could also go down some, Mayor James A. Young said, should the city receive funding from a Community Development Block Grant and a grant from the Mississippi Department of Archives and History.

The city is seeking \$25,000 from the CDGB grant for handicapped accessibility and rest rooms. The city doesn't know how much they could receive from the MDAH.

Before receiving the estimate, city leaders believed the project would cost approximately \$350,000. The city plans to pay for the work with money from a \$1.2 million bond issue

that was passed last year along with any grant monies they receive.

"Back in February, the board authorized Waggoner to proceed with the design services to renovate the (Booker T. Washington) gymnasium," Warren said during his presentation. "This included removal and replacing the roof, as well as the current vacant support structure adjacent to the gym to bring it online to be useable along with other areas in the facility. Also, this is to make repairs to the existing gym floor."

The Booker T. Washington gym has a historical marker designation which means the Department of Archives and History must review and approve any renovations of the building.

"We provided them with pre-

liminary plans in July," Warren said. "We received a response from them in August with their comments and their approval to proceed with the final design phase."

"We proceeded with the final design and incorporated their comments. The next step will be to submit those plans to them to make sure they have no further comments and get their final approval. Once that takes place, we will be ready to proceed with the bidding process if the city sees fit to do so."

Originally, officials thought a totally new gym floor would be installed. The state archives nixed that idea, requiring that the original floor be repaired, not replaced.

As the city moves toward the bidding and possible construction phase of the project, Warren

asked aldermen to amend Waggoner's contract for an additional \$13,865 for bidding phase services and \$27,730 construction phase oversight. The amended total would be \$41,595. This was added to the original \$55,453 contract cost, Warren said.

Afterwards, Warren came before the board seeking permission to put the project out for bids, once the archives department gave its final approval.

Aldermen voted 5-0 to approve the amendments to the contract, and to give Waggoner the go-head to start the bidding process when they hear back from the state archives.

"I hope we get some good feedback from the archives and the CDBG grant," said alderman Ward 2 Jim Fulton. "This is pre-stages, just getting every-

thing ready."

Warren also updated the board on two ongoing projects at the Philadelphia Airport. The equipment has been purchased for a new Weather Operations Systems system. Warren said it could not be installed until the airport receives a new license from the Federal Communications Commission. That application is pending.

Also, there are still problems with a section of the new tarmac. Warren said an area that had a sinking problem had been replaced. However, it has started sinking again. Warren reported current talks with the contractor have not been encouraging and advised that city attorney Robert Thomas may have to get involved.

OBITUARIES

Willie G. Jones

Graveside services for Mr. Willie Gene Jones were held on Monday, September 27, 2021, at 1 P.M. from Mars Hill Church of God in Christ with Pastor Rodney Baker officiating. Beck Funeral Home, Inc was in charge of arrangements.

Mr. Jones, 77, of Philadelphia, passed away on Thursday, September 23, 2021 at his home.

He is survived by his wife, Margaret Jones of Philadelphia, MS; two daughters, Cynthia Hamilton of Detroit, MI, and Tracey Cooper of Texas, four step children, Tammy Plummer of Gulfport, MS, Sharlene Groves and Karen Tanksley both of Philadelphia, MS, two sister, two brothers, 26 grandchildren and 13 great grandchildren.

Pallbearers were Anthony August, Darius Davis, Bobby Groves, Ken Jones, Bobby Johnson and Amos Wells.

Wayne Mitchell Ferguson

Wayne Mitchell Ferguson, 91, passed away on September 13, 2021 in his home surrendered by his loving family in Orange, Texas.

Born in Philadelphia, Mississippi, on May 1, 1930, he was the son of Homer E. Ferguson and Luna Christine Hollis Ferguson. Wayne served bravely in the United States Navy during the Korean War. He worked as the Manager of Perry Brothers and enjoyed fishing, especially on the Sabine Lake and tending to his flowers and plants. Wayne will be deeply missed by all those who came to know and love him.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Homer and Christine Ferguson and two sisters.

Those left to cherish his memory are his Princess and loving wife Bobbie Jean Hilton Ferguson, beloved daughters, Donna Ferguson of Orange, Alisa Linscomb and husband Mike of Mauriceville, Tracy Peveto and husband Brent of Orange and Teresa LaFleur and fiancé Kenny McCown of Hemphill; Sons Russel Wayne Ferguson and Ricky Ferguson; grandchildren, Brett Peveto, Hilton LaFleur, Parker Linscomb, Kenna Peveto, Natalie McCown, Misty Ferguson-Stout Wood, and Shane Ferguson; great-grandchildren, Ty Currin and Baylor LaFleur; brothers-in-law, Pete Hilton and Jackie Hilton; and sister-in-law, Bettie Noblitt; along with numerous nieces and nephews.

The family would like to extend a special thank you to Dr. Calvin Parker, Dr Syed Akhtar, the staff at Texas Oncology Center and Harbor Hospice for the incredible amount of love and compassion they showed to Wayne and his family in their time of need.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made to St. Jude's in Wayne Ferguson's honor.

Thilda Tolsen Lilley

Funeral service for Mrs. Thilda Tolsen Lilley was 7 PM Monday, September 27, 2021 at North Bend United Pentecostal Church

with Rev. Nathan Moore, Rev. Edwin Harper officiating. Interment was in Rocky Point Cemetery. John E. Stephens Chapel is in charge.

Mrs. Lilley, 73, passed away Friday, September 24, 2021 at her home. She attended Pentecostal Bible Institute. She was a member of North Bend United Pentecostal Church. She aided in Ministry for 52 years, 8 foreign mission trips to Africa and India. She was a licensed UPCI Minister.

Preceded in death her parents, Lewis J. Tolleson, Flossie Adcock Tolleson; sisters Mae Belle Ramey, Bobbie Dean Tolar, Della Ann Waiters; brothers, L.J., Quinton, T.W., Hooper, Jackie Tolleson; grandson Brayden Lilley.

Survivors, husband Rev. Arlie G. Lilley; daughter, Hadassah Higgason (Steven); son, John Lilley (Tiffany); (3) grandchildren Justis Lilley (Clover), Scott, Scarlett Higgason.

Barbara Joyce Daniels Pangburn

Graveside service for Ms. Barbara Joyce Daniels Pangburn was held 2 PM Friday, September 24, 2021 at Mars Hill (Leake Co.). Ms. Pangburn, 79, passed away Wednesday, September 22, 2021 at Baptist Leake Memorial in Carthage MS. She was a member of Mars Hill Baptist Church. She lived in Mars Hill Community most of her life. Her special interest was her grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her spouse, Irvin Hollis; parents, Robert Daniels and Evla Easterling Daniels; brother, Robert Gary Daniels. Survivors include, sons Stacey Hollis (Kristen) and Dempsey Hollis and several grandchildren. Family to serve as pallbearers.

Ralph Jackson Thompson

Funeral service for Mr. Ralph Jackson Thompson was held 10 AM Saturday, September 25, 2021, at Bogue Chitto Baptist Church with Rev. Charles Doby Henry officiating. Interment in Bogue Chitto Community Cemetery. Visitation was 5 PM Thursday, September 23, 2021, at Bogue Chitto Baptist Church. John E. Stephens Chapel in charge of arrangements. Mr. Thompson, 68, passed away Wednesday, September 22, 2021, at his home. He lived in both Pearl River and Bogue Chitto Community. His hobbies were going to the elderly center, and he loved talking to people and joking around. He was preceded in death by his parents Ellis Thompson and Lena Mae Morris Thompson; sisters, Suzanne Stoliby, Nora Dean Frazier, Dianne Joe Billie; brothers, Slick Thompson, Stanley Thompson, Pat Thompson. Survivors include sisters, Effie Bell, and Darlene Thompson.

Ariana Elena Ramirez

Funeral service for Ms. Ariana Elena Ramirez will be held 2

PM Thursday, September 30, 2021, at Tucker Gym with Rev. Mark Patrick officiating. Interment will be in Holy Rosary Catholic Cemetery. Visitation will be 11 AM Tuesday, September 28, 2021, at Tucker Gym. John E. Stephens Chapel is in charge.

Ms. Ramirez, 18, passed away Thursday, September 16, 2021, in Dekalb, MS. She was a member of Corinth Baptist Church. She enjoyed being with family and friends.

Survivors include her parents, Valetta Joe, and Armando Ramirez; sisters Alicia Joe, Jadyn Joe; brother, Nicolas

Christene Winstead

Services for Christene Winstead were held Sunday, September 26, 2021, at 2:00 p.m. from McClain-Hays Chapel with Dr. Billy James and Rev. Lawrence Runnels officiating. Burial followed in Bethsaida Cemetery in Neshoba County. McClain-Hays Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

Ms. Winstead, 90, of Union, died Wednesday, September 22, 2021.

A native and lifelong resident of Neshoba County, she graduated from House School. She retired from U. S. Motors in Philadelphia. Ms. Winstead was a member of Bethsaida Baptist Church.

Survivors include sons, Marshal Winstead of Philadelphia, Ricky Winstead of Hattiesburg, David Winstead of Union; eight grandchildren; 13 great-grandchildren; sister, Linda Mowdy of Union.

Ms. Winstead was preceded in death by her husband, Rufus Norman Winstead; granddaughter, Amanda Skye Winstead; sisters, Martha Jane Williams, Myverne Shannon; brothers, W. M., H. M., Cletus, and Carson Mowdy.

Family requests memorials be made to a favorite charity.

Helen Eakes Smith

A graveside service was held for Helen Eakes Smith from Cedarlawn Cemetery at 11:00 a.m. on Friday, September 24, 2021, with Rev. Steve Craft officiating. McClain-Hays Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

Mrs. Smith, 92, of DeKalb, died Wednesday, September 22, 2021.

A native of Neshoba County, she was a resident of Kemper County for most of her life. She was a graduate of Shady Grove School. Mrs. Smith attended Spanish Oak Church in Kemper County.

Survivors include daughters, Cathy Stewart and Sherby May, both of Philadelphia; four grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; sisters, Pauline Pope of Meridian, Marie Savell of Philadelphia; brother, Ralph Eakes of Meridian.

Mrs. Smith was preceded in death by her husband, Buddy Smith; parents, Walter and Evie Eakes; sister, Irene Lenior; brothers, Erving, Daniel, J. W., Wayne,

Ray Eakes; and son-in-law, Charles May, great-granddaughter, Brittany Cosgrove.

Eloise Collins Divine

Services for Eloise Collins Divine were on Friday, September 24, 2021 at 2 p.m. from McClain-Hays Chapel. Burial followed in Smallwood Cemetery. McClain-Hays Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

Mrs. Divine, 86, of Philadelphia, died Monday, September 20, 2021.

A native of the Plattsburg Community, she lived in Neshoba County most of her adult life. She worked for Georgia Pacific Wood Products. Mrs. Divine was a member of Christian Life Tabernacle.

Survivors include daughters, Peggy Sue Smith, Wanda Divine, Mary Jessie Garza, Tammy Renee Divine, and Marilyn Kay Howell; 20 grandchildren; 31 great-grandchildren; three great-great-grandchildren; sister, Betty Irene Rogers.

Mrs. Divine was preceded in death by husband, Jessie James Divine; sons, James Paul Divine, Edward Earl Divine; daughter, Patsy Eloise Stokes; granddaughters, Misty Lynn Stokes, Brandy Donita Stokes; brothers, Earl, William, Frank and Michael Collins; sisters, Bernice Pace, Aquilla Mayo, Mary Ruth Rogers. Nancy Chancellor.

Catherine "Granny" Hardy

A private family graveside service for Catherine "Granny" Hardy was held Saturday, September 25, 2021 at 1 p.m. from New Harmony Cemetery with Rev. Clay Winstead officiating. McClain-Hays Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

Mrs. Hardy, 92, of Philadelphia, died Sunday, September 19, 2021.

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MRS. ANNIE LOIS CHESTNUT
 12 P.M. SAT., OCT. 2, 2021
 JERUSALEM TEMPLE CHURCH INTERMENT
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She was a native and lifelong resident of Neshoba County and a longtime resident of Coldwater Community. She formerly worked at Well-Lamont and also was an assistant cafeteria manager at Neshoba Central High School from which she retired. Her most rewarding job was keeping and helping raise her grandchildren. Mrs. Hardy was a member of Coldwater Baptist Church.

Survivors include her daughters, Ellon Stovall (Buck), Cathy Tolbert (Robert) and Jo Ann Carney; grandchildren, Marsha Vance (Shelton), Mark Stovall (Jennifer), Robin McClellan (Randy), Jill Lubber (Mark), Jodie Smith, BJ Carney (Sara) and Sheila Carney; great-grandchildren, Olivia Vance Stachowski (Kevin), Jackson Vance, Kaley, Rivers and Walker Stovall, Burgen and Byron McClellan, Molly and Mac Lubber, Austin, Tanner, Bailey and Madison Smith; brother, Bud Richardson of Mobile; several nieces, nephews and their families.

Mrs. Hardy was preceded in death by her husband, Franklin Hardy; infant son, Thomas Hardy; grandson, Matt Stovall; brothers, Eugene and Ircel Richardson.

Pallbearers were Shelton Vance, Randy McClellan, Mark Lubber, Byron McClellan, Robert Tolbert, Mark Stovall, and Walker Stovall. Honorary pallbearers were Buck Stovall, Austin Smith, Bailey Smith, Tanner Smith, Byron McClellan, Mac Lubber and Kevin Stachowski.

McClain-Hays Funeral Home
 601-656-1212
 www.mcclainhays.com

MRS. ELOISE COLLINS DIVINE
 SERVICES SEPTEMBER 24
 MCCLAIN-HAYS CHAPEL INTERMENT SMALLWOOD CEMETERY

MRS. HELEN EAKES SMITH
 GRAVESIDE SERVICE SEPTEMBER 24
 CEDARLAWN CEMETERY

MRS. CATHERINE HARDY
 GRAVESIDE SERVICE SEPTEMBER 25
 NEW HARMONY CEMETERY

MS. CHRISTENE WINSTEAD
 SERVICES SEPTEMBER 26
 MCCLAIN-HAYS CHAPEL INTERMENT BETHSAIDA CEMETERY

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Sonya Elinor Wood Marcase

Services for Sonya Elinor Wood Marcase were held Sept. 10 in Pineville, La. Stewart Holloway officiated. She was born Nov. 3, 1933 in Neshoba County, Miss. and died on Sept. 8. She was a graduate of East Central Community College, Mississippi College and Northwestern State University. She taught in Mississippi, Pennsylvania, Indiana, Kentucky and Louisiana. She was a member of First Baptist Church Pineville for nearly 50 years.

Mrs. Marcase was preceded in death by her parents, Ollie Madden Wood and Gussie Lee Smith Wood, her husband of 53 years, Donald E. Marcase, her daughter, Donna Sue Marcase, her only granddaughter, Molly Kate Marcase, and her older brother, Wayne Wood. She is survived by sons David (Marta) Marcase, and John (Monica) Marcase; siblings Fay Flint; Eckle (Janet) Wood; and Patricia (Bernie) Orr; and 5 grandsons.

Pallbearers were Darrell Basco, Lynn Cavanaugh, Melvin Orr, Mike Peevy, Vic Sooter and Jan Tullos.

To extend on-line condolences to the Marcase Family, please contact us at www.hixsonbrothers.com.

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 FUNERAL SERVICES

MS. BARBARA PANGBURN
 2 PM FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2021
 GRAVESIDE
 MARS HILL (LEAKE CO.)

MR. RALPH THOMPSON
 10 AM SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2021
 BOGUE CHITTO BAPTIST CHURCH
 BOGUE CHITTO COMMUNITY CEMETERY

MRS. THILDA TOLLESON LILLEY
 7 PM MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2021
 NORTH BEND PENTECOSTAL CHURCH
 ROCKY POINT CEMETERY (LEAKE CO.)

MS. ARIANA ELENA RAMIREZ
 2 PM THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2021
 TUCKER GYM
 HOLY ROSARY CATHOLIC CEMETERY

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City purchases van to transport prisoners to Louisville

By STEVE SWOGETINSKY
stve@neshobademocrat.com

A 12-passenger \$26,500 van to transport city prisoners to jail in Winston County has been approved.

Mayor James A. Young said the larger van would cut down the number of trips police officers are making to jail facility north of Louisville. The city houses prisoners in Winston County. Philadelphia Police Chief Eric Lyons said the van is a 2020 model Chevrolet

Express but it is still new. It would be purchased under state contract for the \$26,500. The motion passed. Aldermen then amended the budget to pay for the van.

In other actions, aldermen voted to:
• Accept the retirement notice of Street Department Director Rex Savell, effective Oct. 29. Aldermen later met in executive session to discuss Savell's replacement. No vote was taken. Aldermen also accepted the resignation of Truman Turner, effective Oct.

21.
• Approve putting gravel on Park Side Drive to begin the process of improving that road. Park Side Drive was annexed into the city in 2004. It was recently brought the board's attention no improvements have been made to the road since the annexation.
• Approve hiring Matt Boatner Construction to build a new break room at the East Central Community College Diesel Mechanics School here at the cost of \$4,760.
• Approve to allow the city

to get quotes to improve the area around a dangerous railroad cross on Ivy Street. Young wants to cut down hills on both sides that block the view of oncoming train traffic.
• Aldermen discussed unkept properties and turned in addresses to the City Clerk. This will be passed on the building official's office and letters will be sent out.
• Approve travel costs for officer Justin Wyatt who will be traveling to Abbeville, Louisiana, to train with the city's new K-9 officer.

• Approve the purchase of a 2021 Dodge Durango for the Police Department from Mac Haik of Jackson under state contract for \$29,000. The purchase is being paid for by drug seizure monies. Lyons also updated aldermen about the status of the Police Department's communications being moved to the county's 911 center.
• Accept the resignation of Chris Allen from the Fire Department.
• Aldermen discussed unkept properties and junk

cars. Some turned in addresses of those in violation to the City Clerk. This will be passed on the Building Official's Office and letters will be sent out.
• Aldermen took no action on bids to replace the heating and cooling systems at the East Central Community Action Agency on Atkins. Aldermen Justin Clearman suggested seeing if putting air conditioning splits up would save the city money. He and the mayor plan to visit the site before the next meeting.

PNC Arts Council presenting pair of plays at Senior center

By SARAH KATHRYN WATKINS
news@neshobademocrat.com

Two Philadelphia/Neshoba County Arts Council comedy plays are set for Sept. 30 through Oct. 3 at the Senior Citizens Center at Northside Park. The two plays to be presented are "Jack vs. Jill" and "Super Scary."

"Jack vs. Jill" will be an interactive play in which the audience decides who is guilty in the outcome of a trial pitting "Jack vs. Jill" from the well-known nursery rhyme. "Super Scary" is a comedy of Halloween-themed stories with a bit of a twist in that two first-time directors will helm the productions.
"This is our third-year men-

tor directors' program, which means it is people who have never directed students, adults or whoever," Goldman said. The two directors are Alisha Savell and Posey Palmer who have both been in productions with the PNC Arts Council in past years. Savell of Philadelphia is in school at Meridian Community College. Palmer is a junior at

Neshoba Central High School and hopes to get her degree in Creative Arts and Theater at New York University. Kinsey Goldman is the mentor director of the plays and is teaching Savell and Palmer about production theater. The plays, which each last approximately 30 minutes, will be presented at 6 p.m. on Sept. 30 and 2 p.m. and 6 p.m. on Oct.

2 and again at 2 p.m. on Oct. 3 at the Northside Park Senior Citizens Center at 100 Burt Drive in Philadelphia. Evening performance tickets, available at the Depot, are \$15 for non-members and \$10 for members of the PNC Arts Council. Afternoon performance tickets are \$10 for non-members and \$5 for members.
"For the evening perform-

ances, we are doing a full meal," Goldman said. Tickets will also be available at the door of the Senior Center on the day of the performances. Seating is limited, and people are encouraged to buy tickets in advance. The center is located at 100 Burt Drive in Philadelphia.

Philadelphia High Band wins 3rd place at Excalibur competition

By SARAH KATHRYN WATKINS
news@neshobademocrat.com

The Philadelphia High School Band placed third overall in last weekend's Excalibur — Showdown at the Kingdom band competition at West Lauderdale High School in Collinsville with seven other

competing schools. In addition to placing third overall, the Philadelphia High School Band received superior ratings in drumline, drum major and excellence in color guard/dance/majorettes. "I feel the students performed wonderfully," said Josh Rushing, Philadelphia High School band director.

This year's music/theme is "Party in Philly," with songs featuring "Party Rock Anthem," "Finesse," "Halftime" and "All I Do Is Win." "They have been working hard all year, and they really let it show for the judges, spectators and the world to see," Rushing said. "Every time they pick up their horns, they are improving

and playing their hearts out." Philadelphia High School Band Drum Major is Cdyney Porche. The dance captains are Jada Gray and Carolnisha McCart. Color Guard Captains are Elizabeth Gonzalez and Azaria Triplett. The drum captains for the Philadelphia High School band are Laydric Carter, David Fowler and Markus

Porche. The Woodwind captain is Layla Carter, and the brass captain is Kameron Tucker. Krystal Morrow is the color guard and dance coach. The Philadelphia High School band is composed of 52 students, half of the band being seventh-graders. The band attended summer drum, color guard, dance and band camp.

"I see nothing but potential with them as we continue to move forward with their skills growing," Rushing said. The band also received an Excellent Rating at the East Central Community College Concert Festival earlier this year.

Seales speaks about paying overdue tax bill

By SCOTT HAWKINS
scott@neshobademocrat.com

Ward 4 Alderman Shaun Seales announced he had paid delinquent property taxes on parcels that were sold at auction last month before he voted to raise taxes on Wednesday.

In voting last Wednesday to approve the city's \$11 million 2022 budget that included a 1-mill tax increase to help fund \$1.25-an-hour pay raises for city employees, Seales made mention of his personal taxes during the public meeting.

Seales pointed out during the special meeting that he was the subject of a story on the front page of The Neshoba Democrat that day because he hadn't pay

his property taxes on time. "I know how people try to use one thing," Seales said. "My personal tax had nothing to do with this. To everybody, I've got all the receipts. I paid all my taxes yesterday (Sept. 21) morning before our meeting so that's clear." Seales, who also clarified that he ran as an Independent candidate for his post, not a Democrat, as the newspaper reported, said raising the millage rate makes sense to him and that he believes the move is best for the city's future. The parcels owned by Seales were on the delinquent tax sale rolls published in the Democrat in August. Seales owed about \$2,000 in delinquent property

taxes, records show. The county confirmed Seales had not paid the property taxes and the parcels were sold for back taxes in an online auction. Neshoba County collects both city and county taxes. Seales had a couple of years to pay the back taxes to the investment company that paid the back taxes. The investors gain no rights to the property unless the taxes remain unpaid for three years, said Guy Nowell, Neshoba County Chancery Clerk. Seales said he is involved in several properties including a subdivision with a developer and they plan to pay off the taxes soon, noting the delayed payment was not because he could

not afford to pay the taxes. The 2022 budget with the tax hike passed 3-2 with Ward 1 Alderman Justin Clearman, Ward 3 Alderman James Tatum and Seales in favor. Alderman-at-Large James Waltman and Ward 2 Alderman Jim Fulton voting against it.



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COUNTY JAIL DOCKET

Neshoba County Jail Docket from 9/20-9/26

- James Edward Beachem, 63, of 261 Prosperity St, Jackson; hold for other agency
- Tesheena Sheann Bell, 31, of 125 Indian Hill Cr; driving under the influence/refusal to take test, careless driving, no drivers license, no insurance
- April Boler, 29, of 600 Walnut St; failure to appear
- Rashedia K Brown, 32, of 377 Loper St; domestic violence aggravated assault
- Mecedric K Clemons, 32, of 314 Beech St; possession of marijuana-vehicle X2, failure to appear
- Albert Dowd, 57, of 725 Griffin St, West Point; driving under the influence-2nd offense
- Terence A Ealy, 27, of 1020 Kosciusko Rd 6; domestic violence simple assault-1st, contempt of court
- Ricky Edmond, 52, of 10250 Rd 1321, Union; serving sentence
- Jonathan Paul Goodin, 36, of 10120 Rd 2638; hold for other agency
- Walter Lorodrick Graham, 31, of 1700 Pendelton Sq Apt #51; malicious mischief under \$1000.00
- Cory Hall, 38, of 102 Duplex Cir; public drunk
- Jennifer Hall, 38, of 148 Odie Jim Rd; failure to appear, driving under the influence-1st offense, no insurance, seat belt violation
- Spencer Harvey, 29, of 10041 Rd 371; failure to appear
- Bonard Johnson, 57, of 806 Hwy 16 W, Canton; driving under the influence-1st offense, no drivers license
- William Johnson, 67, of 283 Carver Ave; driving under the influence-1st offense
- Gerald Lewis, 79, of 11401 Rd 482; burglary-breaking inner door of

dwelling at night

- Arrius Martin, 32, of 13800 Hwy 491 N; driving under the influence-1st offense, failure to appear, careless driving, no insurance
- Rodney Lydell McClelland, 28, of 210 Sherwood Dr; driving under the influence-1st offense
- Michael McMillan, 27, of 114 Tucker Cut Off Rd; contempt of court
- Michelle Miller, 53, of 475 Parker Rd, Carthage; driving under the influence-1st offense
- Tellas Moore, 47, of 11640 Rd 383; indictment
- Jashua Corlandus Morgan, 34, of 10261 Rd 763; improper passing, suspended drivers license
- Edward Blake Paten, 22, of 13576 MS Hwy 15, Ackerman; grand larceny-more than \$1000.00
- Chelesa M Ray, 27, of 562 Center Ave Apt 3B; possession of controlled substance
- Chasity M Robertson of 10791 Rd 741; disturbance of family 1st-domestic violence
- Patrick Oshea Seales, 25, of 383 Loper St; failure to appear X2
- Phillip Soriano, 42, of 1107 Hwy 21 N; contempt of court
- Lavondrick Sylvester, 20, of 52 Stokes Rd, Carthage; possession of marijuana-vehicle
- Steven W Thompson, 40, of 181 Cemetary; driving under the influence-1st offense
- Robert Austin Windham, 23, of 14881 Hwy 488; contempt of court

Winston County Jail Docket for Philadelphia Police arrests from 9/13-9/26

- Michael R Ballard, 64, of 951 Rd 418, Union; DUI-1st offense, controlled substance-possession of mari-

juana less than 30 grams or synthetic cannabinoids 10 grams or less in motor vehicle, MV-improper lane usage

- James Beachem, 62, of 1865 Truman St, Jackson; DUI-2nd offense
- Joshua Brown, 21, of 411 Old Salem Rd; weapon-discharging toward dwelling of another causing damage to property or domesticated animal or livestock
- Dale Chickaway, 46, of 239 Isabbel Ranch Rc, Vero Beach, FL; public drunk
- Frank Coleman, 61, of 269 Martin Luther King Dr; DUI-1st offense
- Elijah T Davis, 33, of 13320 Hwy 491 N; DUI-1st offense
- Kelli N Davis, 36, of 7720 Carter Rd, Moss Point; contempt of court-default in payment of restitution
- Brian K Farmer, 46, of 349 E Tucker Cir; DUI-1st offense, MV-drivers license-improper
- Jaheim Hathorn, 19, of 11850 Rd 571; hold-detainer for other agency
- Charlie B Macon, 44, of 187 Kelly Cr, Ackerman; controlled substance-possession of marijuana less than 30 grams or synthetic cannabinoids 10 grams or less in motor vehicle, disorderly conduct-failure to comply with request or command of law enforcement officers, possession of controlled substance
- Terrell D McDonald, 28, of 379 Loper St; resisting arrest, controlled substance-possession of paraphernalia, controlled substance-possession of marijuana less than 30 grams or synthetic cannabinoids 10 grams or less in motor vehicle, DUI-test refusal, MV-disobedience of traffic control devices, MV-no insurance, MV-tag-none or expired, license-driving while revoked or suspended

8 charged in prostitution ring

By DUNCAN DENT
duncan@neshobademocrat.com

More arrests are possible in a human trafficking and prostitution ring investigation being led by the Bureau of Indian Affairs that has so far resulted in eight individuals being charged, the authorities said.

The eight suspects, all from out of town, were either arrested or charged with crimes that they are suspected of being committing at an undisclosed location in Neshoba County on Sept. 16 and Sept. 17, according to Neshoba County Sheriff Eric Clark.

Of the eight, Amanda Hollingsworth, 42, 2710 39th St., Meridian, was the only person facing two charges, one count of prostitution and one count of possession of methamphetamine.

Others charged included the following:

- Kennarion Johnson, 23, 909 21st St., Meridian, was arrested and charged with one count of prostitution.
- Kristina Anne Walker, 36, 995 County Road 363, Enterprise, was arrested and charged with one count of prostitution.
- Eric Towner, 28, 564 Futch Road, Forest, was arrested and charged with one count of prostitution.
- Megell Fernandez Patton, 29, 1391 Pocahontas Road, Flora, was arrested and charged with one count of prostitution.
- Melton Starkey, 26,

1903 9th Avenue, Meridian, had no prostitution charges and was arrested and charged with possession of cocaine.

Two other suspects, Clifford Jennings of Jackson and Sabrin a Scabrough of Meridian, were not arrested but issued court summons and court appearance dates related to prostitution charges, Clark said.

The Bureau of Indian Affairs Office of Justice Services is leading the investigation, Clark said. The Sheriff's Office and the Choctaw Police Department are assisting in the multi-agency sting operation targeting human trafficking.

"Another example of local officials working together to make Neshoba County a safer place to live," Clark said. "Neshoba County Sheriff's Office will continue to train our officers in the detection of and response to human trafficking."



Kennarion Johnson



Amanda Hollingsworth



Megell Patton



Melton Starkey



Eric Towner



Kristina Walker

ing." "This is an ongoing investigation by the Bureau of Indian Affairs," Clark said. "I know they were still interviewing people as late as the end of last week and more charges are likely to come. We want to let the people know that we are working on every aspect of crime in the county."

Clark said he has no further details as it is an ongoing investigation but he could confirm that these arrests all happened at a central location.

"Traffickers use force, fraud or coercion to obtain some type of labor or commercial sex act," Clark said. "Anyone can be a victim of trafficking."

If you are a victim or need to report a tip, text-HELP to BEFREE (233733) or call- 1-888-373-7888.

Anyone with any information on crimes or potential crimes in Neshoba County is encouraged to please call Crime Stoppers at (855) 485-8477.

19 north wreck sends three to hospital

By DUNCAN DENT
duncan@neshobademocrat.com

A wreck Saturday night on Highway 19 north sent three people to the hospital, according to the Mississippi Highway Patrol.

MHP spokesman Jameka Moore confirmed that three people were injured.

Sheriff Eric Clark said the call came in at 6:54 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 25, when a white Chevy truck and a blue Nissan Rogue were involved in a head-on collision on Highway 19 just north of the Road 834 intersection.

He said the driver of the Chevy and the driver and a

passenger of the Nissan were transported to the hospital with injuries.

Clark said that Philadelphia Fire Department, the Arlington Volunteer Fire Department and EMS responded to the incident along with the Sheriff's Office and MHP.



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HOMECOMING

OCTOBER 14, 2021

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

2:00 p.m. – 3:50 p.m.
Classes of 1970 and 1971
50-Year Reunion and Reception
Brackeen-Wood Gymnasium

3:00 p.m. – 3:50 p.m.
Alumni Association Homecoming Reception
Brackeen-Wood Gymnasium
Free and Open to All Alumni and Friends of the College

3:50 p.m. – 4:15 p.m.
Alumni Association Annual Business Meeting
Brackeen-Wood Gymnasium
Open to All Alumni and Friends of the College

4:15 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Classes of 1970 and 1971 Presentations
Alumni of the Year/Athletic Hall of Fame Presentations
Brackeen-Wood Gymnasium
Open to All Alumni and Friends of the College

5:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.
Alumni Association Tailgating
Bailey Stadium
Free to Current Annual and Lifetime Members of the ECCC Alumni Association; \$10 for All Others

6:30 p.m.
ECCC vs. Co-Lin Football
Bailey Stadium
Halftime Presentation of 2021 Queen and Court
\$10 Per Person; \$5 for Those 18 and Under

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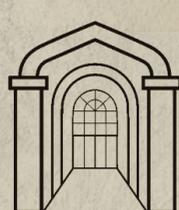
ALUMNA OF THE YEAR
PAULA SIMMONS WAGGONER
STARKVILLE
CLASS OF 1971



ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME
JAMES MITCHELL
NASHVILLE, TN
CLASS OF 1981



ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME
RONNIE PARKER
HAYMARKET, VA
CLASS OF 1982



EAST CENTRAL
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Prince's country cooking came from mom

By SARAH KATHRYN WATKINS
news@neshobademocrat.com

Pamela Prince enjoys cooking classic country food. She grew up with five older brothers in the Forestdale community and being the only girl in the family, Prince was close to her late mother, Georgia Kirkland, who inspired her to become a nurse. "My mother was a very caring, loving individual who went to nursing and did not complete nursing school, but always dreamed of becoming a nurse," said Prince, who has been a nurse at Neshoba General for 32 years.

In 1992, Prince graduated from nursing school, and in 2008 she went back to school at the University of Southern Mississippi, where she earned a family nurse practitioner degree.

Prince's mother came from a large family, and she always cooked large portions, which is something Prince said she also does.

Prince said her cooking inspiration comes from her mother's recipe book, which she and her five brothers made copies of after their mother died. Prince also learned how to can vegetables and make different jams from her mother.

Her mother inspired her with her Southern cooking staples of homemade biscuits, chicken and dumplings and cakes. All of those were some of Prince's favorite things her mother cooked.

Now Prince gets to share her mother's cooking through meals that she prepares for her family.

Prince's four children are now grown and her grandson, Henry Thomas Stokes, turned 1 year old recently, and the family celebrated on Saturday.

Prince and her husband, Marshall, are expecting grandchild number two in March.

The Prince family is enjoying fall by getting all the ingredients for Marshall Prince's stew recipe.

"When I was getting my recipes together to send to the



Pamela Prince

COOK OF THE WEEK

Democrat, I had just gone and gotten everything needed for Marshall's stew recipe," Prince said.

Any of the remaining stew gets frozen and eaten throughout the winter.

In Prince's free time, she enjoys going to the family's cabin at the Tombigbee River in Alabama.

GARLIC SHRIMP PASTA WITH SPICY SUN-DRIED TOMATO CREAM SAUCE

½ lb shrimp (Use unfrozen uncooked shrimp. If you have to, you can use unfrozen cooked shrimp. It will work

here too)
4 oz sun-dried tomatoes in olive oil
¼ teaspoon salt
¼ teaspoon paprika
4 garlic cloves minced
1 cup half-and-half or whole milk
1 teaspoon dried basil
¼ teaspoon crushed red pepper
1 cup Parmesan cheese, freshly shredded
8 oz fettuccine pasta (use gluten-free brown rice fettuccine for gluten-free version)

Note: if using sun-dried tomatoes in oil (in a jar), make sure to drain sun-dried tomatoes from oil before using them. Reserve 2

tablespoons of this drained oil for sauteing as described below:

In a large skillet, sauté minced garlic and sun-dried tomatoes (drained from oil) in 2 tablespoons of oil (reserved from the sun-dried tomatoes jar) for 1 minute until garlic is fragrant. Add shrimp, sprinkle with a small amount of salt, paprika, and cook on medium heat for about 2 more minutes. Add half-and-half, basil, and crushed red pepper to the skillet with shrimp, bring to boil and reduce simmer. Whisk the Parmesan cheese into the hot cream and stir to melt cheese, on the lowest heat setting, until cheese is melted. In the

meantime, cook pasta according to package instructions. Drain (reserving some pasta water). Add cooked pasta to the creamy mixture, add more salt, basil, and more crushed red pepper if desired, to taste. If the sauce is too thick, use the reserved pasta water to thin it out.

MARSHALL'S STEW RECIPE

In a large stew pot boil chicken with 1 stick of butter.

Remove chicken and debone. Cube and sear 1 small pork loin and sear 1 lb lean stew beef. Add meats, one large onion chopped, 6-8 potatoes cubed to chicken broth and bring to a boil. Add 2 lb bags of frozen mixed vegetables. Add salt and pepper and Tony Chachere seasoning to taste. Simmer and add chicken broth to desired consistency. Serve with cornbread, rolls or crackers.

SAUSAGE ROTEL CROISSANTS
One pound of sausage
One block of cream cheese
1 can of Rotel
2 cans croissants

Brown sausage and drain. Add cream cheese and Rotel, mix well. Spoon 1 large spoonful of mixture in a croissant, fold edges over to form triangles. Bake at 350 for 20-25 minutes.

Just Among Friends

By MARIANNE ENOCHS
friends@neshobademocrat.com

A huge Thank You to Mattie Hudson who donated a check for \$500 to Philadelphia High School! She is a local State Farm Agent who likes to give back to her community. We appreciate her supporting our school so much.

Emma Taylor was inducted into the Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, a National Honor Society for two-year colleges. The Induction Ceremony was held on September 22, 2021, at 2:00 PM in Huff Auditorium on the campus of East Central Community College in Decatur, Mississippi. This is a prestigious national organization for students who exemplify academic, community service, and leadership qualities.

She is a 2021 graduate of Philadelphia High School where she was an outstanding academic student and excelled participating on the Lady Tornadoes sports teams. Her parents are Mark and Amy Kilpatrick Taylor who attended the ceremony along with her sister, Maggie Taylor. Congratulations!

There was something special about Lideatrick "Tulu" Griffen's Mississippi State Bulldog football uniform that he wore for the Bulldog's game against the University of

Memphis Tigers on September 18. His white towel bore the number 25 in black numerals honoring a former Bulldog who had recently passed from COVID-19. Tyler Threadgill, like Tulu, played for the Philadelphia Tornadoes football team and graduated from Philadelphia High School.

He was an outstanding high school and MSU football player whose passing left a huge hole in the hearts of his family and those who knew him. He was an extraordinary person, filled with kindness and caring with a sense of humor.

Thank you to Mississippi State Bulldogs and Tulu for this touching memorial to this beloved son, husband, father, brother, and friend.

Bishop Clifton Jones celebrated his 81st birthday on Saturday, September 18th with the help of his family and his church family.

A huge colorful "Happy Birthday Bishop" sign on the lawn in front of the Jerusalem Temple Church brightened up the area with all of its colorful birthday decorations painted on it. There were a Bible, praying hands, a slogan saying, "Pray more., Worry less", blue stars, various colors of balloons, the number 81 perched above his name, and other happy symbols displayed across the entire sign.

There was a large crowd in attendance for this happy occa-

sion! Happy Birthday!

The Philadelphia Tornadoes football team needs new helmets for the new season. Helmets are very durable, but even the best ones eventually wear out. In order to help the team buy new helmets, Mrs. Nash with Community in Action donated money for this cause. It was a wonderful gesture of support for the school! Thank you Mrs. Nash!

Player of the week for September 20-24 was Chancellor Greer, #23, a member of the Tornadoes football team from Philadelphia High School. He was presented with a T-shirt with the Player of the Week, State Farm and Mattie Hudson logo on it. Congratulations, Chancellor, and Thank You, Mrs. Hudson!

Georgia Parkes marked an epic birthday with her family on September 19. This lovely woman was 95 years young on this day. She has been a longtime resident of Philadelphia and is a retired nurse. Happy Birthday!

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

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
Caitlin Purvis & Jordan Payne	November 13, 2021
Margaret Jordan & Sam Webb	November 20, 2021
Julia Rester & Brandon Ladd	January 23, 2022
Caitlyn Purvis & Jake Moody	February 12, 2022
Emma Clark & Ben Howe	February 19, 2022

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Weddings

Amelia Ruth Henson and Austin Reid Rowell united in marriage May 29

Amelia Ruth Henson and Austin Reid Rowell were united in marriage at three o'clock in the afternoon on Saturday, May 29, 2021, at First Baptist Church in Philadelphia. Dr. Dan Howard officiated the ceremony.

The bride is the daughter of Phoebe Henson and the late Jim Henson of Philadelphia. She is the granddaughter of Kenneth and Melva Gray of Philadelphia and the late Harvey and Jonnie Henson of Dekalb. The groom is the son of Shane and Christal Rowell of Long Beach. He is

the grandson of the late Frank and Sylvia Pollock of Cairo, GA and Gerald Rowell of Jay, FL and Mary Gonzalez of Pensacola, FL.

The bride walked down the aisle wearing an ivory Mikado gown from The Bridal Path, designed by Allure. With a scoop neckline and spaghetti straps, the simple, yet elegant, A-line silhouette was accented with a pearl and crystal belt that encircled her natural waist. Satin-covered buttons cascaded down the back to the edge of her cathedral-length train. Her veil, also cathe-

dral-length, had a raw edge, which blended into the dress beautifully. Pearls were sprinkled throughout the entire veil, making it the perfect complement to her overall look. She wore her mother's pearl bracelet and carried a rounded, fresh bouquet of pink roses and peonies and purple lisianthus wrapped with white satin ribbon. As she walked down the aisle to "Bridal Chorus" by Richard Wagner, the bride carried a single white rose in memory of her father and placed it on his seat on the front pew, where her mother



Mr. and Mrs. Austin Reid Rowell

joined her to give her away. During the ceremony, the couple received scriptural instructions for marriage and exchanged vows and rings. After a declaration of marriage, they chose to take The Lord's Supper. Following the kiss and presentation of the couple, the bride and groom had a grand exit to "The Prince of Denmark's March" by Jeremiah Clarke.

The church altar was decorated with a wooden arbor adorned with fresh pink and purple roses, hydrangeas and peonies with trailing greenery. Family pews were marked with small, fresh pink and purple roses tied with white satin bows. Two fresh floral wreaths hung from the front doors of the church. The floral design was by Allison Siddall of State Floral of Starkville.

Attending the bride as maid of honor was the bride's sister, Zoie Henson. Bridesmaids were Kaylee Miller and Kristin White, friends of the bride, and Madison Rowell, sister of the groom. The bridesmaids wore an elegant Mori Lee chiffon peony, floor-length gown with flutter sleeves and carried small, fresh bouquets of pink and purple roses wrapped with trailing, white satin ribbons. Reese McKay,

friend of the bride, was the flower girl, who also wore an elegant, peony floor-length gown and carried a basket of fresh pink and purple rose petals.

Shane Rowell, father of the groom, served as best man. The groomsmen were Kohler Smallwood, Andrew Brackins and Matthew Duck, friends of the groom. Ushers were Cooper Smith and Caleb Smith, cousins of the bride, and Hunter Blades and Jackson Smith, friends of the groom. All were dressed in charcoal tuxedos from Steve's on the Square of Philadelphia.

The wedding director was Tammy Ferguson, aunt of the bride. The prelude and nuptial music was provided by Weegie Thomas, pianist and David Benson, organist. Kinsey Gentry Smith, cousin of the bride, was the registry attendant, and Calvin Prince and Callie Prince, cousins of the bride, were the program attendants.

Following the wedding, the bride's mother hosted a reception at Bridges, the Venue. Tammy Ferguson was also the reception director. Bridges, the Venue provided a wooden, rustic feel with hanging curtains and lights. Atop the tables covered in white tablecloths were clear

glass cubes with fresh floral arrangements of pink and purple roses, hydrangeas and lisianthus and mercury glass candles. Pretty Presentations Catering and Event Rentals of Meridian was the caterer for the reception, and State Floral of Starkville provided all floral design. The photographer was Chase Richardson of followell photography of Clinton, and the videographer was Revival House of Jackson. Andy Hardy was the DJ for the reception.

The bride's and groom's cakes were created by Hailey Williams of Cups-N-Cakes Bakery of Louisville. The bride's five-tier cake was a traditional white cake with buttercream icing. The cake was smooth with pearls lining the bottom of each tier. It was accented with fresh pink and purple roses cascading down the front. The Mississippi State University themed groom's cake was a three-tier chocolate cake with chocolate icing and peanut butter filling and chocolate covered strawberries. The groom's table was decorated with a Mississippi State University theme including cowbells and photos of the couple in Starkville.

The couple exited the reception through a path of guests ringing personalized "Amelia & Austin" cowbells. They drove away in a white 1987 Ford Mustang GT convertible.

On the eve of the wedding, the groom's parents hosted a rehearsal dinner at First Baptist Church. Pickin' N Grillin' BBQ was the caterer for the rehearsal dinner. Terrica McKee of Southern Productions Weddings & Events of Meridian was the floral designer. The tables were topped with white tablecloths and adorned with fresh white roses, greenery and floating candles.

Following a honeymoon to Jackson Hole, Wyoming, the couple now resides at their home in Madison, Alabama.



BOYS & GIRLS CLUB OF NESHOBA COUNTY

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

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



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SAVE THE DATE

- Macy Martin & Tanner Rhodes June 5, 2021
- Cecily Kate Price & Lane Waltman June 26, 202
- 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 BoundsSeptember 18, 2021
- Caroline Willis & Dave CrastoSeptember 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
- Skyler Frank & Garrett Myers October 23, 2021
- Marlee Parkes & Will StewartNovember 6, 2021
- Abby Wright & Kip Clark.....November 6, 2021
- Sara Watson & Jeremy Bowen..... November 13, 2021
- Julia Rester & Brandon Ladd January 23, 2022
- Brently Comans & Austin Shepard January 29, 2022

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Louisville 1:15 - 2:00 at Ward Farm Service



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Of Local Interest

CHURCH HOMECOMING

Cook's Chapel United Methodist Church on Hwy. 491 will have Homecoming services Sunday, Oct. 3 with lunch immediately following the service. Rev. Davey Wilkinson will be delivering the message.

Revival services will begin at 7 o'clock each evening October 4-6. Everyone is invited to attend all services.

GREENSBORO ANNUAL PARADE

Greensboro Annual Parade and Celebration will be held on Oct 2. Parade line-up starts at 9am. Parade participants will assemble at Lee's Place located at 13759 Hwy 14 West, Louisville, MS. The parade will start

promptly at 10am. For more information contact Joan Eiland 662.312.9434.

NESHOBA COUNTY SWCD NOW TAKING TREE ORDERS

The Neshoba County Soil and Water Conservation District will be taking tree orders through November 30th, 2021.

Order forms are available from 7:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. Monday-Friday outside the office or you can call 601-656-8783 Ext. 3 and we will e-mail or mail you an order form to you. The office is located at 511 East Lawn Drive in the USDA Building. We are asking that you pay for the trees when placing your order. You may drop off your payment and order form in a drop box outside of the

front door.

If you have any questions, call 601-656-8783 Ext.3.

BREAST CANCER AWARENESS WALK

Tabernacle C.O.G., 1110 Luke Road, Preston, MS 39354 will be hosting a Breast Cancer Awareness Walk, on October 9, 2021. Place: American Legion Post 238, Phila., MS. Time: 8-9AM. Selling t-shirt for \$10. Walk: 9-10AM. Guest Speaker: 10-11AM.

FAMILY REUNION

Thomas Caradine Family Reunion Saturday, October 16, 2021 at Lake Tiak-O'Khata 10:am. Extended Families -Elisha Fedrick, McCrory, Barrett, Hembree and others, everyone wel-

come. For more information , Contact Barbara Caradine 205 921-4141 or Susan 601 504 0055.

AMERICAN LEGION YARD SALE

The Fall Yard Sale American Legion Post 238 Time: 7AM-until Date: Oct 1, 2021

REUNION CANCELLED

The 2021 Kea/Fryery reunion is cancelled due to Covid 19. Hope to see everyone in 2022.

FAMILY REUNION

The Family of Henry N. and Carrie E. (Fortenberry) Warren will be holding a family reunion on 09 October 2021 at 11:00. Reunion will be held at North Side Park under a pavilion. In the

event of bad weather will be held in the cabin.

For more information contact Susan Shoffner at (601) 562-1769 or (601) 656-4594.

CHURCH HOMECOMING

New County Line Baptist Church will have homecoming services on Sunday October 10th beginning at 10AM. We will have preaching service and special music. Lunch will follow service in the fellowship hall. Everyone is invited to attend. Church is located on Hwy 427 near Edinburg.

CEMETERY HOMECOMING

Mars Hill Community Cemetery, Road 729, will have its annual Homecoming

on October 9, 2021 at 5:00 p.m. with a stew supper. All are invited to attend.

GOSPEL CONCERT

Tim Frith & Gospel Echoes will be performing at New Blackjack Baptist Church, 13421 BIA 0022 North Oswald Rd, on October 3rd at 11AM. Admission is free. For more information call 601-906-0677.

HARVEST FESTIVAL

Fellowship Baptist Church for our Harvest Festival on October 30th at 5:00 pm. 19213 Highway 21 South Philadelphia

Public Notices

IN THE CHOCTAW TRIBAL COURT MISSISSIPPI BAND OF CHOCTAW INDIANS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE ESTATE OF SHIRLEY ANN BENN, DECEASED

DENISE JOHN AND MELANIE DIANNE BENN CAUSE NO.:2021-140

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Letters of Administration having been granted on the 2nd day of September, 2021, by the Court Clerk of the Choctaw Tribal Court of the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians, to the undersigned upon Shirley Ann Benn, 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 this date or they will be forever barred.

/s/DENISE JOHN
CO-ADMINISTRATRIX

/s/MELANIE DIANNE BENN
CO-ADMINISTRATRIX

Prepared By:

STEVEN D. SETTLEMIRE
ATTORNEY FOR ADMINISTRATOR
SettleMires & Graham, PLLC
410 East Beacon Street
Philadelphia, MS 39350
(601) 656-9597
MSBN: 99674

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BID CR-236 ROADWAY IMPROVEMENTS - MILL & OVERLAY PROJECT #21-1394 NESHOBA COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

Sealed or electronic bids will be received by the Neshoba County Board of Supervisors at the Office of Chancery Clerk at the Neshoba County Courthouse, 401 Beacon Street, Suite 107, in Philadelphia, Mississippi until 1:30 p.m. on Monday, November 1, 2021, for Mill & Overlay of 0.67 Miles of CR-236 in Neshoba County, MS, CES Project #21-1394.

The work includes milling, base repair, construction of stress relief layer, shoulder paving, hot mix asphalt overlay, striping, & signing.

Sealed bids will be received until the designated date and time at the Neshoba County Courthouse, Philadelphia, Mississippi. Electronic bids will be received until the designated date and time via electronic online submission through QuestCDN for a thirty dollar (\$30) fee. All bids will be thereafter publicly opened.

To bid electronically, contact QuestCDN at 952-233-1632 or info@questcdn.com for assistance with electronic bidding and starting a free membership.

Detailed plans and specifications for the above described work are on file in the Chancery Clerk's Office at the Neshoba County Courthouse, 401 Beacon Street, Suite 107 in Philadelphia, Mississippi. Plans and Proposals may be secured by contacting Marty Crowder, P.E., County Engineer, 1150 West Main Street, Ackerman, Mississippi 39735, 662-285-2062. The cost is fifty dollars (\$50) for printed plans and fifty dollars (\$50) for proposal package, non-refundable. The contract documents (plans & proposal) are also available in digital form at QuestCDN.com and may be downloaded for a non-refundable fee of \$25.00. This contract is QuestCDN eBidDoc™ number 8040761. Contact QuestCDN Customer Support at 952-233-1632 or Support@QuestCDN.com for assistance.

The Award, if made, will be made to the lowest and best qualified bidder on the basis of the published quantities. The Neshoba County Board of Supervisors hereby notifies all bidders that it will affirmatively insure that in any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, minority business enterprise will be afforded full opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, or national origin in consideration for an award.

Certified check or bid bond for five percent (5%) of the total bid, made payable to the Neshoba County Board of Supervisors must accompany each proposal. The successful Bidder will

Public Notices

be required to furnish separate performance and payment bonds each in the amount equal to 100% of the contract price at the time of execution. All Bidders responding to this Advertisement for Bids must comply with all applicable requirements of Chapters 3 and 5 of Title 31 of the Mississippi Code of 1972, as amended, including, but not limited to, the requirements relative to holding a Certificate of Responsibility and payment of a special privilege tax; both items administered by the Mississippi State Board of Public Contractors.

No Bidder may withdraw his Bid within Sixty (60) days after the actual date of the opening thereof. Within the limitation of the state law, the Neshoba County Board of Supervisors reserves the right to reject any or all bids received, to waive any informalities or irregularities in the bids received, or to accept any bid that is deemed most favorable to the Neshoba County Board of Supervisors.

Published by Order of the Board of Supervisors of Neshoba County, Mississippi dated September 20, 2021.

/s/Kevin Cumberland
KEVIN CUMBERLAND, PRESIDENT
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
NESHOBA COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

Publication Dates: September 29th & October 6th, 2021

NESHOBA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS EXPENSE SUMMARY FOR: 9/20/2021

001-100 BOARD OF SUPERVISORS 16816.28 001-101 CHANCERY CLERK 37.54 001-102 CIRCUIT CLERK 117.06 001-105 TAX ASSESSOR/COLLECTOR 502.02 001-120 COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR 336.42 001-151 MAINTENANCE OF BUILDING/GROUND 19127.63 001-152 DATA PROCESSING 4922.05 001-154 VETERAN SERVICE OFFICE 137.61 001-160 CHANCERY COURT 4206.31 001-161 CIRCUIT COURT 3829.06 001-163 JUVENILE COURT 5463.39 001-164 JUVENILE DRUG COURT 88.30 001-165 LUNACY COURT 3790.00 001-166 JUSTICE COURT 223.60 001-167 CORONER/MEDICAL EXAMINER 1380.16 001-169 COUNTY ATTORNEY 34.08 001-170 PUBLIC DEFENDER 37.97 001-171 COURT ADMINISTRATION 1697.92 001-180 ELECTIONS 4602.14 001-200 SHERIFF ADMINISTRATION 42185.40 001-220 CUSTODY OF PRISONERS 43853.57 001-232 MEDICAL SERVICE - PRISONERS 4881.40 001-260 EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT 884.88 001-262 CONSTABLES 2260.00 001-452 COUNCIL ON AGING 169.63 001-540 RECREATION/COLISEUM 879.22 001-631 COUNTY EXTENSION 3303.05 001-676 INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AUTH 76.44 003-107 EXCESS BID 6640.17 097-265 COUNTY WIDE E-911 753.48 097-890 CO WIDE E-911 - LEASE/PURCHASE 9757.79 104-172 LAW LIBRARY 244.01 106-250 FIRE DEPARTMENT 1792.82 106-254 LINWOOD VFD 37.67 110-265 EMS SERVICES 4633.46 115-000 FORFEITURE MONIES 8867.00 130-000 COLISEUM EXPENSES 350.00 150-300 COUNTY UNIT ROAD 23619.63 150-890 CO UNIT RD - LEASE/PURCHASE 880.24 160-300 COUNTY WIDE BRIDGE & CULVERT 10649.95 400-340 SOLID WASTE 6474.02 400-890 SOLID WASTE - LEASE/PURCHASE 5628.69 650-000 ASSESSMENTS 6635.00 681-000 PAYROLL CLEARING FUND 729.85 TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS: 253536.91 THIS IS A SUMMARY OF EXPENDITURES FOR PERIOD ENDING SEPTEMBER 20, 2021 LISTING THE TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS BY EACH DEPARTMENT/FUND PUBLISHED IN ACCORDANCE WITH MISSISSIPPI CODE ANN. § 19-3-35. A COMPLETE LIST OF ALL EXPENDITURES REPRESENTING THESE TOTALS IS RECORDED IN THE DOCKET OF CLAIMS AND IS OPEN FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION IN THE CHANCERY CLERKS OFFICE OR BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OFFICE DURING REGULAR BUSINESS HOURS. /S/ GUY NOWELL CLERK OF THE BOARD NESHOBA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

CHOCTAW TRIBAL CIVIL COURT MISSISSIPPI BAND OF CHOCTAW INDIANS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF NEVALENA DENSON BILLY, DECEASED

Public Notices

A. NO. 2021-433

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Letters of Administration having been granted on the 22 nd day of September, 2021, by the Choctaw Tribal Court of the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians to the undersigned upon the Estate of Nevalena Denson Billy, 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 22 nd day of September, 2021.

/s/Alvin Nickey
Alvin Nickey,
Administrator of the Estate of Nevalena Denson Billy, 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

Invitation for Bids
Stumpage for Sale

Sealed bids will be received by the Kemper County Board of Education in DeKalb, Mississippi up to and no later than 4:00 P.M., October 14, 2021, for the purchase on a lump sum basis for all timber, standing or down, designated for harvesting on 70.00 acres in Section 28, Township 11 North, Range 16 East, Kemper County, Mississippi. Bids should be addressed to Kemper County School District, P.O. Box 219, DeKalb, Mississippi 39328 or hand delivered to 159 Main Avenue, DeKalb, MS 39328. No faxed or emailed bids will be accepted. The envelope should be clearly marked to indicate that it contains a timber bid for Section 28, Township 11N, Range 16E, containing 70.00 acres' m/l. All bids will be opened at 5:00 p.m. on October 14, 2021, or as soon as possible thereafter. The Board reserves the right to reject all bids.

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF NESHOBA COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

IN THE INTEREST OF W.D.D., A MINOR

REBECCA HALL, PETITIONER
CAUSE NO. 21-247

SUMMONS

THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

TO:
The Putative Father of W.D.D.
a minor child named in the Petition

NOTICE TO DEFENDANT(S)

THE COMPLAINT OR PETITION WHICH IS ATTACHED TO THIS SUMMONS IS IMPORTANT AND YOU MUST TAKE IMMEDIATE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR RIGHTS.

You are summoned to appear and defend against said PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF GUARDIAN(S) OF A MINOR UNDER SECTION 202 AND FOR OTHER RELIEF at 9:00 o'clock, a.m., on the 18 th day of November, 2021, in the courtroom of the Neshoba County Courthouse at Philadelphia, Mississippi, and 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 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 the 20 th day of September, 2021.

/s/ Guy Nowell
GUY NOWELL, Chancery Court Clerk
Neshoba County, Mississippi

IN CHOCTAW TRIBAL COURT MISSISSIPPI BAND OF CHOCTAW INDIANS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF GREGORY KEITH TUBBY, DECEASED ACTION NO. 2021-189

Public Notices

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Letters of Administration having been granted on the 5 th day of May, 2021 by the Choctaw Tribal Court of the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians to the undersigned Winter Tubby, upon the Estate of Gregory Keith Tubby, 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 MY SIGNATURE this the 31 st day of August, 2021.

/s/ WINTER TUBBY
WINTER TUBBY
Administratrix of the Estate
Of Gregory Keith Tubby, deceased

Submitted by:
MARY A. NARRON, MSB #9994
P.O. BOX 6212
Choctaw, MS 39350
PHONE: (601) 259-7849
Attorney for Administratrix

IN CHOCTAW TRIBAL COURT MISSISSIPPI BAND OF CHOCTAW INDIANS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF ANITA FARMER MCMILLAN, DECEASED CIVIL ACTION NO. 2021-288

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Letters Testamentary having been granted on the 20th day of July, 2021 by the Choctaw Tribal Court of the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians to the undersigned, Barry J. McMillan, upon the Estate of Anita Farmer McMillan, 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 MY SIGNATURE this the 20th day of September, 2021.

/s/ Barry McMillan
BARRY MCMILLAN
Executor of the Estate
Of Anita Farmer McMillan, deceased

Submitted by:
MARY A. NARRON, MSB #9994
P.O. BOX 6212
Choctaw, MS 39350
PHONE: (601) 259-7849
Attorney for Executor

ELC - 2 (Revised 1/17/90)
Exhibit 2

NOTICE OF ELECTION

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 69-27-31, Mississippi Code 1972 Annotated, an special election will be held on Tuesday, October 26, 2021

to elect one (1) commissioner for the Neshoba County Soil and Water Conservation District from beat _____

VOTING PLACE - TIME - LOCATION

Beat #: _____
1
Place:
Hope Country Store
From 8:00 A.M. To 4:00 P.M.
Location: 1290 Hwy. 488 W. Philadelphia, MS 39350
Beat #: _____
2
Place:
Bobby's Country Store
From 8:00 A.M. To 4:00 P.M.
Location: 1110 Hwy. 16 East, Philadelphia, MS 39350

Beat #: _____
3
Place:
Neshoba County SWCD
From 8:00 A.M. To 4:00 P.M.
Location: 511 East Lawn Drive, Philadelphia, MS 39350
Beat #: _____
4
Place:
Tree Lady Nursery
From 8:00 A.M. To 4:00 P.M.
Location: 10291 Road 246, Union, MS 39365

Public Notices

Beat #: _____
5
Place:
Smith's Bargain Center
From 8:00 A.M. To 4:00 P.M.
Location: 1121 Kosciusko Road, Philadelphia, MS 39350

Signed by Authority of the Mississippi Soil and Water Conservation Commission as recorded in its minutes of November 17, 2020

Nick Ivy
Executive Director, MSWCC

NOTE TO THE EDITOR: This notice is to be published pursuant to section 25-7-65, Mississippi Code 1972 Annotated, three (3) times IN THE LEGAL NOTICE SECTION prior to the election, with a lapse of seven (7) days between each publication. Send Proof of Publication and bill to: Mississippi Soil and Water Conservation Commission 680 Monroe St. Suite B Jackson, MS 39202

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, October 8, 2021 for hunting and fishing rights for a five year period on the following parcel of land in Neshoba County, Mississippi.

All the forest land lying in the W % of SE % of NE %; all the forest land lying in the SE % of SE % of NE 1/4, Section 16, Township 10N, Range 11E containing 22 acres, more or less, in Neshoba County, Mississippi, and identified as parcel # 17.02 on Map 95 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, Philadelphia, Mississippi, 39350. The minimum bid that will be considered is \$6.00 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: September 22 and 29, 2021

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF NESHOBA COUNTY STATE OF MISSISSIPPI MONICA D. RAMSEY, PLAINTIFF V.S. CAUSE NO. 21-237-KK ERIC ALEXANDER RAMSEY, DEFENDANT SUMMONS

TO: ERIC ALEXANDER RAMSEY 1346 DICKENS STREET FAR ROCKAWAY, NY 11691

NOTICE TO DEFENDANT THE COMPLAINT WHICH IS ATTACHED TO THIS SUMMONS IS IMPORTANT AND YOU MUST TAKE IMMEDIATE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR RIGHTS.

You are required to mail or hand-deliver a copy of a written response to the Complaint to Stella Hurr, the attorney for the Plaintiff, whose post office and street address is 1909 6th Street, Meridian, MS 39301. Your response must be mailed or delivered within (30) days from the date of delivery of this summons and complaint or a judgment by default will be entered against you for the money or other things demanded in the complaint. You must also file the original of your response with the Clerk of this Court within a reasonable time afterward. Issued under my hand and seal of said Court, this 19th day of August, 2021. GUY NOWELL, CHANCERY CLERK NESHOBA COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI PREPARED BY: STELLA HURTT (MSBN:104325) 1909 6TH STREET, MERIDIAN, MS 39301 601-483-4144

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, October 8, 2021, for hunting and fishing rights for a five year period on the following parcel of land in Neshoba County, Mississippi.

Section 16, Township 9 North, Range 12 East

Public Notices

Commence at a point where County Road 2232 intersects the West line of NE ¼ of NE ¼ of Section 16, Township 9 North, Range 12 East, Neshoba County, Mississippi, this being the Point of Beginning. Thence run in a Southwesterly direction along County Road 2832, a distance of 800.0 feet; thence run South a distance of 75.0 feet; thence run East a distance of 810.0 feet; thence run North to County Road 2232 and the Point of Beginning, containing 5.0 acres more or less and further described as Parcel 1.01 on Map 131 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, Philadelphia, Mississippi, 39350. The minimum bid that will be considered is \$6.00 per acre per year.

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

Neshoba County School District Lundy Brantley, Superintendent

Publish on: September 22 and 29, 2021

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF NESHOBA COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

IN THE MATTER OF THE LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT OF DUDLEY STENNIS, DECEASED CAUSE NO.: 2021-154

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Letters Testamentary having been granted to the undersigned by the Chancery Court of Neshoba County, Mississippi, on the Estate of Dudley Stennis, Deceased, on the 12th day of July, 2021, notice is hereby given to all persons having claims against the said Estate to have their claims probated and registered by the Clerk of the Chancery Court of Neshoba County, Mississippi, within ninety (90) days from the first publication of this notice, and that failure to probate and register their claims with the Clerk within that time will forever bar the claim.

WITNESS MY SIGNATURE this the 4th day of September, 2021.

/s/Willie B. Stennis Henderson
WILLIE B. STENNIS HENDERSON
EXECUTRIX OF THE ESTATE OF DUDLEY STENNIS

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

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF NESHOBA COUNTY

THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF MALCOLM ISAAC CHRISTOPHER TUBBY, PETITIONER

CAUSE NO. 21-12
SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION
THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI
To: All unknown Heirs-at-Law of Malcolm Isaac

YOU HAVE BEEN MADE A DEFENDANT IN THE SUIT FILED IN THIS COURT BY CHRISTOPHER TUBBY, PETITIONER SEEKING A DETERMINATION OF HEIRSHIP OF MALCOLM ISAAC.

You are summoned to appear and defend against the petition filed against you in this action at 9:00 o'clock a.m., on the 21st day of October, 2021, before Honorable Joseph Kilgore, Chancery Judge of the Neshoba County Chancery Court located in Philadelphia, Mississippi, and in case of your failure to appear and defend, a judgment will be entered against you for the money or other things demanded in this 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 the 8th day of September, 2021. Guy Nowell, Chancery Clerk of Neshoba Co., MS by: s/W Savell, D.C.

Dates of Publication: 3 times
Submitted by Terry L. Jordan
Attorney at Law, MS Bar #3234
P. O. Drawer 459
Philadelphia, MS 39350
Phone (601) 656-2451

ECCC's Wall O' Sound 'electrifying' fans this year

By SCHOOL REPORTS
Special to the Democrat

The 125-member East Central Community College Wall O' Sound Marching Band is back on the field this fall entertaining fans with an "electrifying" halftime show.

According to ECCC Director of Bands Zach Langley, this year's halftime show is titled "ECDM".

"It's a play off of the genre Electric Dance Music," said Langley, who is in his second year as director of bands. "The show features a mix of different songs from various genres and compiles them into one electric show."

Songs featured include 1812 Overture by Tchaikovsky, Firework by Katy Perry, Rolling in the Deep by Adele, Wobble by V.I.C., and Moondance by Van Morrison.

The band will perform its full halftime show at the annual Homecoming football game Thursday, Oct. 14. The football Warriors will face Copiah-Lincoln at 6:30 p.m. in Bailey Stadium on campus.

The Wall O' Sound Band performs at halftime of all ECCC home football games. The full band travels to one away football game each year. A Pep Band travels to all away football games and performs at all home basketball contests. The band also performs in holiday parades.

The Color Guard performs with the band during the fall semester and at select home basketball games in the spring semester. Members can also audition to be part of a group that competes in Winter Guard competitions in the state during the spring semester.

The Centralettes dance line performs with the band during the fall semester and at select home basketball games during the spring semester.

In addition to the marching band, ECCC students can audition to become members of the college's Symphonic Band, Jazz Band and Percussion Ensemble as well.

Tryouts for all band posi-



The ECCC Wall O' Sound Marching Band performs during halftime of the football game against Jones College on Sept. 16.

tions are held each spring semester, and all members of the band receive at a minimum a full tuition scholarship.

Mandy Quinn serves as assistant band director, while Stacy Sanders coordinates the Color Guard and Julie Weaver coordinates the Centralettes.

The Wall O' Sound Band will soon move into the new \$3.5 million Thomas W. Carson Band Hall. The under-construction, 13,000 square-

foot facility on the north side of the Vickers Fine Arts Center is expected to open in Spring 2022. The building will house the Wall O' Sound

Marching Band practice hall, music practice studios, music teaching studios, instrument storage, a music library and office space.

CLASSIFIEDS

Place your ad online
neshobademocrat.com

Monday 5 p.m.
DEADLINE

601-656-4000

Rates ■ 15 words or less \$7.50 per week, each word over 50¢ per word ■ Display classified ads \$13.30 per column inch ■ Place your ad online: neshobademocrat.com/classifieds

SERVICES

Always good ratesInterior, Exterior carpentry. Electrical, Plumbing. Pressure washing, Painting.Call,

text: Tommy 601-663-6990.--

FOR SALE

Green Peanuts (30lb.

Bags)Washed & Graded Super Jumbo & Virginia Whites are \$35/30 Lb. bag.Unwashed Super Jumbo, \$27; and Unwashed Virginia White,

\$27Please call for availability 601-765-8609.Mitchell Farms, Collins, MS, Covington Co.mitchellfarms-ms.com

LAND SALE: Sealed bid sale on 66 acres land and timber located ½ mile west Union, MS. in Neshoba Co. You may bid on (1)Bare Land, (2)All timber, or (3)Land and all timber. For a detailed Sale Prospectus call Ricky Goforth, Broker, Goforth Forest Management, Inc., 601-527-5385. Email ricky@goforthforest.com.--

Dining table w/2 chairs & 2 benches. \$250 FIRM. 4 ladder-back chairs at \$35 per chair. Like new cloth rocker-recliner. \$125 FIRM. 601-562-1746--

HELP WANTED

MS Care Center of DeKalb is accepting application for CNA PRN pay rate up to \$15.00 HR. Application may be picked up in Business Office between 9:00am -4:00pm. Email Resumes to Rbolens@msccdekalb.com or mail MS Care Center of DeKalb 205 Willow Ave DeKalb, MS 39328--

September 30-October 3rd. Sale runs from Newton to Maben.--

3 Family Yard Sale. Saturday 7AM. 1122 East Avenue (turn in front of Smith Bargain Center)--

Family Yard Sale. Saturday, October 2. 7AM. 1201 Stewart Street (across from old Neshoba Central High School)--

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY

Looking for people who need to make money part or full time with Avon contact Betty 601-479-9972--

YARD SALE

Hwy 15 Yard sale will be

Half off entire stock!

Thurs, September 30th, Friday, October 1st, & Saturday, October 2nd.

For more information call 601-507-2467

The Thrifty Nickel
THRIFT STORE
610 HWY 16W • CARTHAGE, MS
1120 EAST MAIN ST. • PHILADELPHIA, MS

SOUTHERN MINI STORAGE
Across from Neshoba Central
All sizes 5'x10' to 10'x25'
For rental see
A-1 Auto Parts
224 Beacon St.
Philadelphia
601-656-8247
or 601-650-5475
after hours

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"For Dependable Prescription Service"

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CHAPTER 7 BANKRUPTCY

\$545 + Costs

CHAPTER 13 BANKRUPTCY

Court Fees Up Front

Jim Arnold, Attorney
601-656-6914

NOW HIRING

Peco

CDL DRIVERS

We are currently seeking drivers. All drivers should have a Class A CDL with 12 months of verifiable work history and a clean driving record.

All applicants are asked to set up an appointment.

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

EAST CENTRAL MS HEALTH CARE, INC.

1490 HWY 487 • PO BOX 142
SEBASTOPOL, MS 39359 • WWW.ECMHCI.COM

ECMHCI is currently accepting applications for a **CLINIC MANAGER**. This position will be located primarily in Sebastopol. Previous clinic management experience is preferred.

Email resumes to akirkland@ecmhci.com

JOIN OUR TEAM!

NOW HIRING - ASSISTANT DAYCARE DIRECTOR

Must meet State Qualifications

Please apply in person at FUMC Daycare, 563 East Main Street, Philadelphia, MS 39350

601-656-1417



First United Methodist Church
563 E. Main Street • 601.656.1376

Sports



PHOTO BY STEPHANIE WARD PEEBLES

Neshoba Central's Ken Drummond runs for daylight against the Provine defense Friday night.

Rockets claim third region victory

By STEVE SWOGETINSKY
steve@neshobademocrat.com

Eli Anderson passed for four touchdowns and ran for two in Neshoba Central's 41-12 win over Provine on Friday in Jackson.

The Rockets improved to 5-0 overall and 3-0 in the Region 2-5A standings. They will host Canton High School this Friday night for Homecoming. Provine falls to 1-4.

The Rockets scored on their first possession. Provine took the opening kickoff. The Rockets forced them to punt and took over on the Neshoba Central 32-yard line. Anderson com-

pleted three in a row with two going to Dez McWilliams for 32 and 10 yards, and the third going to Elijah Ruffin for 24 yards. With a first and goal at the Rams' 2-yard line, Anderson ran it in for the touchdown. Hunter Bavetta kicked the extra point and the Rockets led 7-0 with 5:55 remaining.

In the second quarter, the Rocket defense stopped Provine at the Neshoba 1-yard line and the Rockets took over on downs. They put together an 11-play scoring drive that ended when Anderson ran it in on a 2-yard run. Bavetta's kick was good and Neshoba Central led 14-0 with 1:40 left.

The Rockets kicked off and Provine

returned it 85 yards for a touchdown. The extra try failed and Neshoba Central led 14-7.

Neshoba Central responded with a seven-play scoring drive. Anderson connected with Bryceton Spencer on a 27-yard TD pass play. Bavetta kicked the extra point and Neshoba Central led 21-6 at the half.

Neshoba Central took the second-half kickoff. Anderson connected with Ja'Naylon Dupree on a 57-yard TD pass play. The kick failed and the Rockets led 27-6 with 9:48 left in the quarter.

The Neshoba Central defense held the Rams to four downs, forcing a

punt. Five plays later, Anderson found Dupree again on a 7-yard TD pass play. Bavetta's kick was good and the Rockets led 34-6 with 7:14 left in the quarter.

Provine scored its second touchdown on an 88-yard TD pass play. The extra point failed and the Rockets led 34-12 with 2:41 left in the third quarter.

In fourth quarter, Anderson connected with Grayson Fulton on a 3-yard TD pass play. Bavetta's kick was good and the Rockets took the 41-12 victory.

Lady Rebels open North State with 2 victories

By ROBBIE ROBERTSON
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The Leake Academy Lady Rebels are right where they want to be as they open the Class 5A playoffs.

Leake opened the Class 5A North State tournament with a pair of wins on Saturday, beating Bayou Academy 4-1 and Pillow Academy 8-1 to advance in the winner's bracket.

Leake, now 20-2 on the season, will be back in action on Monday as they play in a winner's bracket game in the north 5A tournament at Senatobia.

**Lady Rebels 4
Bayou 1**

The Lady Rebels trailed the majority of the game and scored all four of their runs in the sixth inning to take a three-run win over the Lady Colts on Saturday in a winner's bracket game.

Bayou scored one in the second before Leake answered with four in the sixth to take the win.

In the sixth, Leake started the inning as Emeri Warren singled and went to second on a wild pitch. Miley Billie then reached on a bunt to the pitcher and Warren went to third. Lilly McDonald then bunted Warren on a fielder's choice to tie the game at 1-1. Emmajane Lepard moved Billie and McDonald to second and third with a sacrifice bunt. Grace Maxie then bunt-

ed to the pitcher and reached on a fielder's choice. Billie scored to make the score 2-1. Raylea Atkinson then singled to right field to score McDonald and put Maxey at third and make the score 3-1. Olivia Rudolph then put down a sacrifice bunt to score Maxey.

Leake had six hits in the contest as Warren, Billie and Atkinson were each 2-for-3 in the game.

Lynleigh Burt pitched all seven

innings and gave up one run on three hits while striking out eight.

**Lady Rebels 8
Pillow 1**

The Lady Rebels opened up the North 5A Tournament on Saturday

with a seven-run win over the Lady Mustangs.

Leake scored two in the first and third, three in the fifth and one in the sixth to take the win.

Leake had 10 hits and took advantage of five errors by Pillow. Millie Billie was 2-for-4 with a triple, home run and three RBIs. Emeri Warren was 2-for-4 with a double while Lilly McDonald was 2-for-3. Jenna Chamblee singled and scored two runs while Katy Jones scored two runs. Raylea Atkinson, Olivia Rudolph and Caroline Cheatham each singled for Leake.

Lynleigh Burt pitched all seven innings and gave up one run on four hits and seven strikeouts.

Tornadoes routed in 55-20 loss to West Lauderdale Friday

By STEVE SWOGETINSKY
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It was another tough night for the Philadelphia Tornadoes as they dropped a 55-20 decision to West Lauderdale Friday night at Harpole Field.

The Tornadoes fall to 2-3 on the season. They will travel to Mize this Friday night.

"We knew this was going to be a tough schedule and that things could go this way," said Coach David Frey. "But I still believe these games will help us get ready for our Region 5-2A schedule."

"Our defense has got to get better. Our offense is playing well. We have got to learn to contain on defense. It's not just the defensive line, it's the linebackers, too. We have to get better."

Philadelphia took the opening kickoff and picked up a first down on their first play from scrimmage when Chancellor Greer rushed for 14 yards. But the Knights' defense tightened up and forced the Tornadoes to punt on fourth down. The Knights pounded it in and scored when quarterback Jackson Parker threw a 12-yard TD pass play. The kick after was good and West Lauderdale led 7-0 with 8:18 left in the first quarter.

Philadelphia took the ensuing kickoff and put together a 12-play drive that covered 59 yards. Greer scored on a 1-yard rush. The kick was no good and the Knights led 7-6.

The Knights responded with an eight-play drive that ended when senior Ja'Karius Grant scored on a 2-yard run on the first play of the second quarter. The try for two failed and the Knights led 13-6.

The Tornadoes took the kickoff. Quarterback Marcus Beamon was intercepted three plays later. The two teams exchanged possessions. Then



PHOTO BY LEROY CLEMONS

Philadelphia's Jacarey Clemons (51) leads the way for quarterback Marcus Beamon during the Tornadoes game with West Lauderdale.

The Knights scored again when Parker threw a 27-yard TD pass to Cooper Luke. The Knights scored on the 2-point conversion and West Lauderdale led 21-6 with 4:19 left in the first half.

The Knights scored again on their next possession when Caleb Collins ran it in from 34 yards out. The extra point was no good and the Knights went up 27-6. That's how it stood at the half.

The Knights took the second-half kickoff and drove it in for a touchdown. This time, Grant scored on a 50-yard run making the score 34-6 with 10:35 left in the third quarter.

The Tornadoes took the kickoff and drove 65-yards in 17-plays. The

Tornadoes appeared to score when Beamon ran it in from four yards out. A penalty voided the touchdown and put the Tornadoes back to the nine-yard line. So, Beamon ran it into the end zone again, this time from 9 yards out. Greer scored the 2-point conversion and the Knights led 27-14 with 1:13 remaining in the third quarter.

The Knights took the kickoff and scored four plays later when Collins ran 45 yards for a touchdown. The kick was good and West Lauderdale led 41-6.

The Tornadoes took the kickoff and got good field possession on Dee Burnside's 46-yard return. On fourth down, Beamon connected with Burn-

side for a 21-yard TD pass play. The kick failed and the Tornadoes trailed 41-20.

West Lauderdale scored twice in the time remaining. Grant scored on a 7-yard run. The kick was good and the Knights led 48-20.

Beamon was intercepted again and the Knights took it in for their final touchdown of the night. With 4:46 left to play, West Lauderdale went for two and made it to end the scoring.

Beamon completed 6-of-17 passes for 67 yards. He also rushed 14 times for 86 yards. Greer rushed 20 times for 104 yards. Burnside had two catches for 27 yards and Andrew Carter had one catch for 14 yards.

State falls to 2-2 after close losses

By DALE MCKEE
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Mississippi State for the second straight week was unable to pull off a fourth-period comeback as they fell to LSU in their SEC opener, 28-25.

The Bulldogs (2-2, 0-1) out-gained LSU (3-1, 1-0) in total yardage as MSU, led by quarterback Will Rogers, totaled 486 yards of offense. Rogers threw for three touchdowns and 371 yards in defeat.

This week the Bulldogs play their first conference road game as they travel to College Station to face No. 15 Texas A&M (3-1, 0-1). No. 12 Ole Miss (3-0, 0-0) did not play last week as the Rebels prepared for No. 1 Alabama (4-0, 1-0) in a game that will have a 2:30 p.m. kickoff. Alabama took care of Southern Mississippi this past Saturday night, 63-20. The Golden Eagles (1-3) will now travel to Rice (1-3) on Saturday night in both team's conference opener.

SEC

The SEC had four other conference games played last week. No. 8 Arkansas (4-0, 1-0) stunned Texas A&M, 20-10, while No. 2 Georgia (4-0, 1-0), Kentucky (4-0, 2-0), and No. 10 Florida (3-1, 1-1) were also big winners. No. 22 Auburn escaped Georgia State, 34-24, with a last-minute victory. Missouri (2-2, 0-1) lost in overtime at Boston College. This week's SEC action will feature Georgia hosting Arkansas, Kentucky entertaining Florida and Auburn (3-1, 0-0) traveling to LSU.

SWAC

Jackson State downed Delta State, 24-17. Shedeur Sanders threw for three scores and JSU kept DSU out of the end zone in the final minute on Saturday. The Tigers (3-1, 1-0) now will have an open date before traveling to Alabama A&M. Delta State (2-2, 0-1) will host West Florida this Saturday night. Alcorn overcame a 19-point deficit against Arkansas-Pine Bluff to win, 39-38, as the Braves notched their first SWAC win. The Braves (2-2) will have an open date this week before hosting Grambling on Oct. 9. Mississippi Valley (0-3) fell in their first SWAC action to Southern University and this week will host North Carolina Central.

JUCO

Hinds (3-1, 1-0) trailed Gulf Coast, 31-3, early in the second period but rallied in the final 14 seconds of the game to stun the Bulldogs, 42-37, to highlight last week's junior college action. Other winners last week were Coahoma, Co-Lin, East Central, East Mississippi, Jones and Northwest. This week's schedules feature two big-time collisions as Hinds heads to Jones and East Mississippi goes to Northwest.

In some very sad news, Meridian native Levi Madison of Gulf Coast Community College lost his life in a single-vehicle accident early Friday morning after the Bulldogs returned to Perkinston.

High School

The only two high schools in Clarke County, Enterprise and Quitman, met for the first time since 1997 this past Friday at L.J. Davis Field in Enterprise before an overflow crowd. The Bulldogs of Enterprise won the game, 42-19, to claim their first victory over the Panthers in 50 years.

Former Meridian head football coach and present Lamar School coach Mac Barnes will be hanging up the whistle after 45 years on the sidelines. Barnes has won state championships at both schools.

Dale McKee is a Waynesboro resident who has been writing sports in Mississippi since 1973. Listen to Dale's Brouhaha Sports Show with Marshall Wood on Tuesday and Friday at 6 p.m. on WABO FM 105.5 in the Waynesboro area. To listen to the broadcast on your computer or smartphone anywhere in the world go to Google Chrome, go to wabo105.com and click listen live.

Rebels roll over Park Place for district win

By **ROBBIE ROBERTSON**
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The Leake Academy football team flexed its muscles on Friday night.

The Rebels used a stingy defense and rugged rushing attack to take a 49-8 win over Park Place to stay undefeated in district play.

The Rebels are now 5-1 on the season and 2-0 in district 2-5A play. Leake will host Madison St. Joseph this week for homecoming in another district contest.

"I thought it was a huge win for our team," said Brian Pickens, Leake Academy coach. "It was kind of a lopsided score but it was still a big win. Our kids did exactly what they needed to do and executed on both sides of the football. We were able to secure the win early and got the clock running at halftime and got everybody in the game."

The Rebels were efficient on offense, scoring on every possession in the first half.

Park Place got the ball to start the game but went three and out, giving Leake Academy the ball at the Crusaders' 48. Leake then needed just four plays to score. After a big 24-yard run by Rhett Atkinson, Canon Parks scored on an 8-yard touchdown run with 9:46 left in the first quarter. Cole Arthur kicked the PAT and Leake led 7-0.

After another Park Place three and out and a short punt, Leake got the ball on the Park Place 35 and needed just four plays to score. Atkinson scored on a 21-yard run with 7:44 left in the first. Arthur's PAT gave Leake a 14-0 lead.

Park Place again went three and out and gave Leake the ball at their own 47. Leake again needed just four plays to score. Parkes ripped off a 44-yard run and then scored on a 2-yard plunge with 3:58 left in the first. Arthur's PAT gave Leake a 21-0 lead.

Park Place's only score of the first half came late in the first quarter. The Crusaders put together three first downs and got as deep as the Leake 33 before being forced to punt, pinning Leake at their own 2. The Rebels went under center but fumbled the snap and gave Park Place the safety.

The Rebels then added three more scores in the second quarter. The first score came as the Rebels went 38 yards in seven plays as Welch scored on a 5-yard run with 8:46 left in the second. Arthur's PAT gave Leake a 28-2 lead.

The Rebels got the ball right back on an interception by Ethan Dunn, giving Leake the ball at the Park Place 18. Riley Myers then scored on an 18-yard run with 8:14 left in the second to give Leake a 35-2 lead.

Leake again got good field position when Myers returned a punt for 21 yards. The Rebels needed just four plays to score as Welch scored on a 1-yard run with 4:16 left in the half. Arthur's PAT gave Leake a 42-2 lead at the half.

Leake added one score in the second half, which went quickly with a running clock. That score came with 2:44 left in the third after Nick Gomillion caused a fumble and Dylan Jones recovered. After Jones ripped off a 23-yard run, Welch scored on a



PHOTO BY KALIE PARKS

Leake Academy's Jarod Sims sacks the Park Place quarterback while Gunter Scott (50) closes in.

4-yard run and Arthur hit the PAT as Leake led 49-2.

"Our offense and defensive lines completely dominated the game," Pickens said. "They ended up with negative yards rushing. Park Place was a team that was 3-2 and had some good wins and were undefeated in the district."

"It was a good effort by our defense. And the special teams were really big. Cole is an unsung hero. You don't realize how nice that is to have a really good kicker. It will spoil you. I thought that was a big part of this game. We were able to kick

it out of the end zone and that's huge and we had good field position almost all night."

Leake had 272 yards of total offense, all on the ground. Parks led the offense with 68 yards rushing on five carries while Myers had 64 yards on five carries. Atkinson had 54 yards on five carries while Welch had 51 yards on nine carries. Dylan Jones had 29 yards on three carries while Lucas Thomas had 15 yards on five carries.

Park Place had just 124 yards of total offense with 133 passing and minus nine rushing as the Leake defense had 13.5 tackles

for loss.

Camden Marble led the defense with five solo and one assist while Gunter Scott had 3.5 tackles, all tackles for loss. Riley Myers and Bryce Watkins each had three solo tackles while Jake Adams and Nick Gomillion each had one solo tackle and three assists. Jackson Freeny, Gavin White and Dylan Jones each had two solo tackles while Ethan Dunn had an interception.

Leake will stay in district play this week as they host Madison St. Joseph for homecoming.

The Bruins are 2-4 on the season with wins over Cathedral (40-0) and East Rankin (48-0). They have losses to Copiah (34-19), Jackson Academy (35-14), Tri-County (52-28) and Simpson (28-21).

"They are a good-looking football team," Pickens said. "They have all the tools. They have a receiver who can run, a big lineman and a fast defense that will come get you. This is going to be a test. They are a talented football team."

St. Joseph is in its first season in the MAIS after competing in the MHSAA last year.

Yellow Jackets struggle offensively in 39-6 loss to Choctaw County

By **BEN LAND**
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The beautiful fall evening provided the perfect backdrop for the gridiron contest between the Union Yellow Jackets and the Choctaw County Chargers.

The final score, however, proved to be a less than perfect outcome for the Yellow Jackets.

The score was Chargers 39, Yellow Jackets 6.

Union received the opening kick, but were unsuccessful in moving the ball. The Jackets punted to the Chargers. Choctaw County scored on a 23-yard run by Conner Jewell. The PAT was successful. The Chargers led 7-0 at the 7:48 mark of the first quarter.

As the game clock ticked, the miscues continued for the Jackets. At the 4:49 mark of the first quarter, Charger Antonio Kennedy scored on a 2-yard touchdown run and Choctaw County led 14-0.

The second quarter was dominated by the Chargers. They added two more touchdowns and one more PAT in the

second quarter. The Choctaw County quarterback Conner Jewell was the leading offensive player for the first half. When the half-time buzzer sounded the score was, Chargers 27-0.

The second half of the contest began with Choctaw County receiving the kickoff. The Chargers had a time-consuming drive that took until the 4:20

mark of the third quarter. The drive resulted in a nine-yard touchdown run by Antonio Kennedy. PAT by the Chargers was unsuccessful. The score was 33-0 after three quarters.

The fourth quarter began with a Union punt, which resulted in a 76-yard touchdown for the Chargers. The score was 39-0. With 3:15 to go in the contest,

Union spoiled the shut out. U'Darrian Hickman ran for a two-yard touchdown. The Jackets gave all they had, but the Charger offensive attack was just too much. The Jackets will face the Southeast Lauderdale Tigers at home Friday. This will be the Yellow Jackets' first Region 5-3A game.

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