



COOK OF THE WEEK
SMITH ENJOYS EXPERIMENTING WITH RECIPES IN THE KITCHEN

Chloe Smith — Page 9A

NEWS

DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. PARADE

Remembrance — Page 2A



THE NESHOPA DEMOCRAT

Established 1881 — Oldest Business Institution in Neshoba County Philadelphia, Mississippi Wednesday, January 19, 2022 141th Year No. 3 **\$1.00

7 arrested in weekend meth busts

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

Despite freezing temperatures and more than a dusting of snow in some parts off the county, Sheriff's deputies made seven felony methamphetamine arrests over the weekend.

"The biggest thing we face daily is the methamphetamine crisis," Neshoba County Sheriff Eric Clark said.

Wesley Miles, 24, and

Samuel Joseph Miles, 32, both of 11631 Road 383 were both arrested and charged with felony possession of a controlled substance, misdemeanor possession of a controlled substance, possession of paraphernalia and disturbance of a family on Sunday, Jan. 16, around 6 p.m.

Clark said that they were arrested when deputies responded to a call of disturbance of a family at their cousin's resi-

dence on Road 383, also known as Fork Road.

Clark said that Miles also had a failure to appear charge.

Jail records show that neither man has received bond as of Tuesday morning for the felony possession charges and they both remain in the Neshoba County Detention Center.

Billy Derrell Edwards, 54, of 10061 Road 226 was arrested and charged on the morning of Saturday, Jan. 15, with felony

possession of a controlled substance, possession of marijuana and a warrant for possession of marijuana in a vehicle.

Clark said that Edwards was arrested when deputies were serving a warrant for possession of marijuana in a vehicle at his Road 226 residence.

Edwards remains in the Neshoba County Detention Center on \$16,800 in bond total.

Marco R. Thomas, 45, 986 Blackjack Road, was arrested

and charged around 2 a.m. on Monday, Jan. 17. He was charged with felony possession of a controlled substance, possession of paraphernalia, failure to yield to blue lights, careless driving, seat belt violation, no driver's license, no insurance and improper equipment.

Clark said that Thomas was pulled over on Highway 16 west when a deputy noticed his vehicle had no tag.

Kendall Natasha Ben, 37,

186 Rolling Hills Circle, a passenger in the vehicle with Thomas, was arrested and charged with felony possession of a controlled substance, possession of paraphernalia and failure to pay fines.

Clark said that when the deputy pulled Thomas over he noticed several baggies on the floor of the car containing a crystal substance believed to be meth.

See **METH**, page 2A

LEGISLATURE

Teacher pay raise advances at Capitol

By **EMILY WAGSTER PETTUS**
 The Associated Press

JACKSON — The Mississippi House acted quickly last Wednesday to approve a bill that would increase teacher pay, nudging ahead of senators who are working on a separate plan.

The House bill would give raises of \$4,000 to \$6,000. The Senate proposes an average increase of \$4,700 over two years.

The House voted 114-6 on Jan. 12 to pass House Bill 530 with bipartisan support. The bill emphasizes increasing the starting pay to retain young educators who might otherwise move to surrounding states to earn more money.

"We are in competition with these other states for our teachers," said House Education Committee Chairman Richard Bennett, a Republican from Long Beach. "The best and the brightest are being pulled to these other states."

The deadline for the Senate to introduce legislation was Monday night.

Sen. Jenifer B. Branning, a Republican from Philadelphia, is encouraged about the bipartisan support for teacher pay raises.

"I am extremely pleased to see both chambers convey support for a teacher pay raise this year, and am eager to continue working with my colleagues on finalizing this wonderful legislation," she said.

The two Republican-controlled chambers and Republican Gov. Tate Reeves must agree on a single plan before teachers could see more money.

Mississippi has some of the lowest teacher salaries in the United States.

The average teacher salary in Mississippi during the 2019-20 academic year was \$46,843, according to the Southern Regional Education Board. That lagged behind the average of \$55,205 for teachers in the 16 states of the regional organization. The national average was \$64,133.

The starting salary for a Mississippi teacher with a bachelor's degree is \$37,000 for the current school year, according to the state Department of Education. Teachers with advanced degrees and more experience are paid more.

Reeves has proposed giving teachers a \$1,300 pay raise during the budget year that begins July 1, then \$1,000 raises for each of the next two years.



Photo by Coleman Eakes

Gipson Cleaners has served Philadelphia for 83 years and is closing next month because owners Regina and Danny Hicks are retiring. Her father, Jim Gipson, below, took over City Cleaners in 1939 because a

man owed him back wages. Regina's mother, Mary Gipson, took over the business in 1949 when her husband died suddenly. Mary Gipson was a fixture at the cleaners until she was 92. She lived to celebrate 100.

A PHILADELPHIA INSTITUTION

Gipson Cleaners is closing

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

Gipson Cleaners, a Philadelphia institution for nearly a century, is still thriving, but it's time to retire, Regina Gipson Hicks says.

For Hicks, it's a bittersweet time. She and her husband, Danny, announced earlier this month they will be closing for good on Feb. 11.

They have already stopped taking clothes for cleaning and are only open for pick up.

The end of an era, Gipson has served customers for 83 years and there is a tinge of sadness being felt across town, many have said.

"We have been in it a long time, and we just made a decision," Hicks said. "I hurt my back the first of December, and I realized I couldn't stay up here all of the time."

"We have a good business. That's not why we are closing. We may have a buyer who may bring it back."

There haven't been that many changes in the dry cleaning business over the years.

"People still like their things cleaned. They like their shirts and jeans starched," she said.



Customers also need clothes mended and buttons sewn on shirts or jackets.

Saying goodbye to her customers hasn't been easy.

"I have seen a lot of the same people for a long time," Hicks said. "People have been so nice and so supportive. I had one customer crying yesterday. I said I have cried some, but she was my first customer to cry."

Hicks has been around the busi-

ness all of her life, but she didn't start her career at the cleaners.

"I graduated from college with a degree in microbiology and chemistry," she said. "I was working at the hospital."

Her mother was ready to sell in the late 1970s, and that's when she and Danny, who kept a career in banking, decided to buy the business.

It had all begun after Willie Jim Gipson married Mary Elizabeth Cook

on Christmas Day 1938.

Jim Gipson worked for Doc Adcock's Pan American Oil and Gas Distribution Co. who owned City Cleaners.

When Adcock could not pay Jim Gipson in the late 1930s, he gave him the dry cleaning business in lieu of the debt — or sold it to him at a greatly reduced price, or so the story goes.

Then on a Sunday afternoon in 1946 lightning struck the cleaners at 417 Church Avenue downtown during a severe storm and it burned, but Gipson endured.

On Dec. 13, 1949, Jim Gipson was bird hunting, his favorite pastime, and suffered a fatal heart attack.

He was with his bird dog in the woods along with Junior Luke of Union when he was stricken.

Junior left him propped up against a tree and went to town to get help. "Unfortunately, help did not get there soon enough and daddy succumbed to the heart attack," Regina told the Democrat in a 2017 interview.

Ever the strong lady, Mary Gipson took over running the cleaners even though she didn't have any formal

See **GIPSON**, page 3A





Remembering Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Joslen Wells and Brooklyn Crosby get ready for the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., parade on Saturday. The significance of his holiday celebrated on Monday is "for the youth to learn and know about all of the sacrifices that Dr. King and others made in order for the Black community to have voting rights and equality," Joslen said.

Son shoots mother in murder-suicide

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

A Philadelphia man shot and killed his mother last week in Country Club Estates and then turned the gun on himself, the authorities said.

The murder-suicide was discovered last Tuesday morning after Philadelphia Police were asked to make a welfare check at a home on Terri Drive.

Sixty-eight-year-old Judy Posey was found at about 10 a.m. shot multiple times near the front door of her home, Police Chief Eric Lyons said last

Wednesday. Judy Lynn Todd Posey was remembered for her love of going to flea markets and talking to people, her family said. She "was a real jokester."



Judy Posey



Nick Posey

As officers searched the home, Nick Posey, her 38-year-old son, was discovered dead of a self-inflicted gunshot wound, Lyons said. Lyons said the case has been

ruled a murder-suicide. "Responding officers entered the residence after knocking several times and observed a female body lying near the doorway," Lyons said.

Lyons said that the bodies are believed to have been there several days before contact was made.

No charges filed in Valero pump incident

DUNCAN DENT
duncan@neshobademocrat.com

A man and woman wanted in connection with damaging a gas pump earlier this month at convenience store on Highway 16 west will avoid charges after they agreed to pay for the damage, Police Chief Eric Lyons said.

According to the police, the incident happened on Jan. 6, at the Valero on Highway 16 next to Bumpers.

Police initially used social media to inquire about the accident and included pictures of the man and woman who arrived in a truck described as a white, older model Chevy truck. They had backed in causing "major



An unidentified couple backed into a gas pump at the Highway 16 Valero gas station on Jan. 6.

damage" to a gas pump, officials said.

Lyons said that the man and woman were later identified and talked to officers at the police department. No charges have been filed at this time as the individuals responsible are expected

to pay for damages after the owner of the station gets estimates of the damage.

Police have not publicly identified either individual at this time as they have not been charged.

Meth

Continued from page 1A

Both Thomas and Ben remain in the county jail.

Adam Devine Jr., 26, 20407 Highway 15 South, Union, was arrested and charged with felony possession of a controlled substance, possession of paraphernalia, possession of a firearm by a convicted felon, carrying a

concealed weapon and misdemeanor possession of a controlled substance.

Clark said that deputies encountered Devine near the intersection of Road 492 and Highway 19 south near House Grocery on Jan. 15.

Devine remains in custody on \$37,000 in bond.



Michael Jackson



Samuel Miles



Wesley Miles

Around 4 a.m. on Saturday, Jan. 15, Michael Brian Jackson, 28, 104 Wolf Trail, Choctaw, was



Billy Edwards



Adam Devine Jr.

arrested and charged with felony possession of a controlled substance, possession of paraphernalia and contempt



Kendall Ben



Marco Thomas

of court. Clark said that deputies encountered Jackson at a checkpoint on Highway 16

west.

Jail records show that Jackson remains in custody on \$15,800 in bond.

Clark said that inclement weather prevented his deputies from being as proactive as they would usually be. He said that four of the arrests came from traffic stops, two from a disturbance call and one from serving a warrant.

"The weather was horrible and the deputies were reactive this weekend instead of their proactive norm," Clark said.

*Tell the Children in your lives
Happy Valentine's Day!*



Deadline, February 4

\$15 each picture, \$10 each additional picture

Buy Online until February 8

neshobademocrat.com/valentines

Drop off

439 Beacon Street - Downtown

For More Information Contact

ANNA IRWIN | 601.656.4000

anna@neshobademocrat.com

THE NESHOPA DEMOCRAT

BIG

SALE

30%-50% OFF

*ENTIRE STOCK NOT INCLUDED

MEN

- Southern Marsh
- Polo Ralph Lauren
- The North Face
- Southern Shirt Co

- Barbour
- True Grit
- Southern Point

WOMEN

- Free People
- Southern Marsh
- Z-Supply
- The North Face
- PJ Salvage

KIDS ENTIRE STOCK

- Southern Marsh
- The North Face
- Properly Tied

SHOES

- Ugg
- Chinese Laundry

Fine Clothing Since 1983

415 Center Ave
Philadelphia, MS 39350
601-656-5056
www.stevesonthesquare.com

Gipson

Continued from page 1A

training in the laundry business.

She had worked at the W.A. Houston Department Store and later at Monroe Williams Department Store. The young widow and mother of three daughters took over the operation of the cleaners.

Fortunately, she had wonderful help from her brother, John Cook, and loyal employees who became like family.

The now late Shine Hays, a legendary and colorful Philadelphia pharmacist at the time, encouraged Mary Gipson to change the name because there were seven cleaners in town, so the business became Gipson Cleaners.

Mary Gipson decided to retire and Regina and Danny purchased the business.

They moved to the present location at 446 Beacon St. on the site of the original Gipson family homeplace and expanded in 1994 after McKay Florist burned doubling the size.

One of Regina's sisters, Ann Gipson Stubbs, moved back to Mississippi from Texas when they retired and has worked part-time making the business a family affair still.

Another sister, Laura Gipson Kilpatrick, has close ties.

Regina, Ann and Laura have lots of fun memories growing up in the cleaners.

Mary Gipson served as a Philadelphia alderman and continued working part-time at the cleaners until she was 92. Mrs. Gipson died in 2011 at the age of 100.

"Mama would have kept working, but she could no longer back her car out of the driveway at her house," Regina said.

They are fortunate to have had the best employees, — nine at the end — many of whom have worked there for 20-plus years, she said.

Ann and Regina recalled in the "good ole days" growing



An undated photo of Mary Gipson at the Church Avenue location.



The Gipson family homeplace in 1962 where the cleaners is now with Underwood Grocery in the background.

up when people who lived in the country only came to town on Saturdays, a very busy day at the cleaners. That was the day most people got paid then as well.

"We would run out to the street and get their clothes," Regina said. "It was curb service."

They recalled working until 9 or 10 o'clock at night on Saturdays because of the heavy workload.

Just Among Friends columnist Marianne Enochs fondly remembered her early days at the cleaners in the 1970s.

"I started with Gipson Cleaners in 1971 when we moved to Philadelphia," she wrote in last week's Democrat. "Mary Gipson was a wonderful person who always managed to repair and get out unimaginable spots from my clothing. (I was an Elementary teacher!)."

"Gipson Cleaners was not only a business but an institution in Philadelphia. Someone was always available to sew on buttons, stitch up hems and alter Candler's formals and clothing. There was nothing that could not be fixed!"



Jim Gipson with his back to Beacon Street with Mary Gipson, left, with her back to Poplar Avenue in the 1940s in front of their home where the cleaners is now.

Garden & Gift
Meridian's best garden center & gift shop where you can find helpful knowledgeable staff members to help you with your gardening & gift needs.
4802 STATE BLVD. EXTENSION
(601) 433-3853
www.absparks.com/gifts.com

(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.



With Danny and Regina Hicks are Gipson Cleaners employees Candala Ainsworth, Barbara Bates, Curtis McDonald, Martha Young, Penny Stewart and Deborah Cumberland.

COVID VACCINES

Free and Easy!

Unfortunately, the coronavirus is still causing problems in our local community. Fortunately, we have a tool to fight this virus - a vaccine that costs nothing and is easy to obtain!

We are offering 1st, 2nd, and booster doses of the Covid-19 vaccine in our clinic.

Call and make an appointment to get your vaccine quickly with no long wait times.

Call 601.663.1213

NESHOPA GENERAL
neshobageneral.com



DONATE LIFE
YOU ARE THE KEY

ONE DONOR CAN SAVE UP TO EIGHT LIVES!

www.donatelife.net/register
www.msora.org
www.donatelifealabama.org

Opinion

FOUNDED 1881

THE NESHOPA DEMOCRAT

Truth, justice and progress, without fear or favor

JAMES E. PRINCE III, Editor and Publisher

STEVE SWOGETINSKY, Managing Editor

JOY STEWART, Interim Advertising Director

STEVE SWOGETINSKY, Sports Editor

ARTHUR STANLEY DEARMAN, Editor and Publisher 1966-2000
1932-2017

EDITORIALS

High noon in the Virginia

Newly minted Virginia Gov. Glenn Youngkin started his tenure with a bang. He signed 11 election orders on his first day — three of which give parents more say in their children's education — delivering on a key campaign promise. According to his directives, parents will now choose if they want to mask their child in the state's public schools. He banned critical race theory from being taught in K-12 education and launched an investigation into alleged wrongdoing in Loudoun County.

"I come to this office, ready to lead and serve on day one," Mr. Youngkin said during his inaugural address Saturday. "We'll start where the future is determined in the classroom, preparing Virginia's children to be career or college ready."

He discussed raising public education standards, increasing teacher pay, investing in facilities and children with disabilities. Mr. Youngkin spoke of creating more school choices and maintained that public schools should remain open five days a week.

But most importantly, Mr. Youngkin pledged: "We will remove politics from the classroom and refocus on essential math, science and reading."

This will be Mr. Youngkin's most formidable task: Taking on the teachers unions, liberal school boards and bureaucrats, and restoring the voice and power to Virginia's parents.

Glenn Youngkin, man of hope and change

Already, Arlington, Alexandria, Fairfax and Richmond Public Schools have said they will defy Mr. Youngkin's mask executive order and maintain their masking requirements for all students. White House press secretary Jen Psaki weighed in on social media, tweeting, "Thank you [Arlington Public Schools] for standing up for our kids, teachers and administrators and their safety in the midst of a transmissible variant."

That's ironic. Just last week from the podium, she advised private businesses to defy the Supreme Court's ruling and enforce President Biden's unconstitutional vaccine mandate executive order. It seems only liberal directives are to be heeded, while conservative ones can be disregarded.

But we digress.

Statewide, public-school systems have

already begun reviewing the legality of Mr. Youngkin's executive orders, and there's little doubt that they will be challenged in court. In the days to come, Mr. Youngkin shouldn't be judged on the language in the orders but his willingness to follow through on the intent behind them.

Mr. Youngkin should remember that part of the reason he sits in the governor's mansion is that he outperformed traditional Republican benchmarks in most big-city suburbs and the strongly Democratic-leaning counties outside of Washington. Education was also a top voter priority. Between September and October polls, education rose nine points to be the top issue for Virginians casting their ballot, according to a Washington Post-Schar School poll. Parents who wanted more influence in their children's education broke for Mr. Youngkin by a large margin, according to exit polls.

Empowering parents over public school bureaucrats will be a vicious battle — but one that Republicans have seen before and can fight — if determined.

After public schools defied Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis' order striking down mandatory masking requirements, he promptly withdrew state funding to those districts. Later, he strengthened his ruling by working with the state legislature to pass a bill he signed into law that stipulates only parents can decide whether or not their children wear masks to school. Today, the eight school districts that took a stand against Mr. DeSantis have backed down and are allowing parental choice, even as omicron surges.

In Texas, Gov. Greg Abbott is defending his executive order banning mask mandates in court. In Arizona, Gov. Doug Ducey gave \$7,000 vouchers for parents to use for private schools if they wanted to pull their children out of the public system solely because of mask mandates.

Mr. Youngkin indicated this weekend, he's ready to fight.

"We will use every resource within the governor's authority to explore what we can do and will do to in order to make sure parents' rights are protected," Mr. Youngkin said of the school districts' defiance.

For the sake of the parents who elected Mr. Youngkin for governor, we hope that's true.

— The Washington Times

DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

'I have a dream'

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., delivered his now famous "I Have a Dream" speech at the Lincoln Memorial on Aug. 28, 1963. A national holiday on Monday marked Dr. King's birthday and his sacrificial role in bringing about more racial equality in America. We honor his legacy here.

I am happy to join with you today in what will go down in history as the greatest demonstration for freedom in the history of our nation.

Five score years ago, a great American, in whose symbolic shadow we stand today, signed the Emancipation Proclamation. This momentous decree came as a great beacon light of hope to millions of Negro slaves who had been seared in the flames of withering injustice. It came as a joyous daybreak to end the long night of their captivity.

But one hundred years later, the Negro still is not free. One hundred years later, the life of the Negro is still sadly crippled by the manacles of segregation and the chains of discrimination. One hundred years later, the Negro lives on a lonely island of poverty in the midst of a vast ocean of material prosperity. One hundred years later, the Negro is still languished in the corners of American society and finds himself an exile in his own land. And so we've come here today to dramatize a shameful condition.

When the architects of our republic wrote the magnificent words of the Constitution and the Declaration of Independence, they were signing a promissory note to which every American was to fall heir.

In a sense we've come to our nation's capital to cash a check. When the architects of our republic wrote the magnificent words of the Constitution and the Declaration of Independence, they were signing a promissory note to which every American was to fall heir. This note was a promise that all men, yes, black men as well as white men, would be guaranteed the "unalienable Rights" of "Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness." It is obvious today that America has defaulted on this promissory note, insofar as her citizens of color are concerned. Instead of honoring this sacred obligation, America has given the Negro people a bad check, a check which has come back marked "insufficient funds."

But we refuse to believe that the bank of justice is bankrupt. We refuse to believe that there are insufficient funds in the great vaults of opportunity of this nation. And so, we've come to cash this check, a check that will give us upon demand the riches of freedom and the security of justice.

We have also come to this hallowed spot to remind America of the fierce urgency of Now. This is no time to engage in the luxury of cooling off or to take the tranquilizing drug of gradualism. Now is the time to make real the promises of democracy. Now is the time to rise from the dark and desolate valley of segregation to the sunlit path of racial justice. Now is the time to lift our nation from the quicksands of racial injustice to the solid rock of brotherhood. Now is the time to make justice a reality for all of God's children.

It would be fatal for the nation to overlook the urgency of the moment. This sweltering summer of the Negro's legitimate discontent will not pass until there is an invigorating autumn of freedom and equality. Nineteen sixty-three is not an end, but a beginning. And those who hope that the Negro needed to blow off steam and will now be content

will have a rude awakening if the nation returns to business as usual. And there will be neither rest nor tranquility in America until the Negro is granted his citizenship rights. The whirlwinds of revolt will continue to shake the foundations of our nation until the bright day of justice emerges.

We must not allow our creative protest to degenerate into physical violence.

But there is something that I must say to my people, who stand on the warm threshold which leads into the palace of justice: In the process of gaining our rightful place, we must not be guilty of wrongful deeds. Let us not seek to satisfy our thirst for freedom by drinking from the cup of bitterness and hatred. We must forever conduct our struggle on the high plane of dignity and discipline. We must not allow our creative protest to degenerate into physical violence. Again and again, we must rise to the majestic heights of meeting physical force with soul force.

The marvelous new militancy which has engulfed the Negro community must not lead us to a distrust of all white people, for many of our white brothers, as evidenced by their presence here today, have come to realize that their destiny is tied up with our destiny. And they have come to realize that their freedom is inextricably bound to our freedom.

We cannot walk alone.

And as we walk, we must make the pledge that we shall always march ahead.

We cannot turn back.

There are those who are asking the devotees of civil rights, "When will you be satisfied?" We can never be satisfied as long as the Negro is the victim of the unspeakable horrors of police brutality. We can never be satisfied as long as our bodies, heavy with the fatigue of travel, cannot gain lodging in the motels of the highways and the hotels of the cities. We cannot be satisfied as long as the negro's basic mobility is from a smaller ghetto to a larger one. We can never be satisfied as long as our children are stripped of their self-hood and robbed of their dignity by a sign stating: "For Whites Only." We cannot be satisfied as long as a Negro in Mississippi cannot vote and a Negro in New York believes he has nothing for which to vote. No, no, we are not satisfied, and we will not be satisfied until "justice rolls down like waters, and righteousness like a mighty stream."

Let us not wallow in the valley of despair, I say to you today, my friends.

I am not unmindful that some of you have come here out of great trials and tribulations. Some of you have come fresh from narrow jail cells. And some of you have come from areas where your quest-quest for freedom left you battered by the storms of persecution and staggered by the winds of police brutality. You have been the veterans of creative suffering. Continue to work with the faith that unearned suffering is redemptive. Go back to Mississippi, go back to Alabama, go back to South Carolina, go back to Georgia, go back to Louisiana, go back to the slums and ghettos of our northern cities, knowing that somehow this situation can and will be changed.

Let us not wallow in the valley of despair. I say to you today, my friends.

And so even though we face the difficulties of today and tomorrow, I still have a dream. It is a dream deeply rooted in the American dream.

I have a dream that one day this nation will rise up and live out the true meaning of its

creed: "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal."

I have a dream that one day on the red hills of Georgia, the sons of former slaves and the sons of former slave owners will be able to sit down together at the table of brotherhood.

I have a dream that one day even the state of Mississippi, a state sweltering with the heat of injustice, sweltering with the heat of oppression, will be transformed into an oasis of freedom and justice.

I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character.

I have a dream today!

I have a dream that one day, down in Alabama, with its vicious racists, with its governor having his lips dripping with the words of "interposition" and "nullification" — one day right there in Alabama little black boys and black girls will be able to join hands with little white boys and white girls as sisters and brothers.

I have a dream today!

I have a dream that one day every valley shall be exalted, and every hill and mountain shall be made low, the rough places will be made plain, and the crooked places will be made straight; "and the glory of the Lord shall be revealed and all flesh shall see it together."

This is our hope, and this is the faith that I go back to the South with.

With this faith, we will be able to hew out of the mountain of despair a stone of hope. With this faith, we will be able to transform the jangling discords of our nation into a beautiful symphony of brotherhood. With this faith, we will be able to work together, to pray together, to struggle together, to go to jail together, to stand up for freedom together, knowing that we will be free one day.

Let freedom ring from every hill and molehill of Mississippi.

And this will be the day — this will be the day when all of God's children will be able to sing with new meaning:

My country 'tis of thee, sweet land of liberty, of thee I sing.

Land where my fathers died, land of the Pilgrim's pride,

From every mountainside, let freedom ring!

And if America is to be a great nation, this must become true.

And so let freedom ring from the prodigious hilltops of New Hampshire.

Let freedom ring from the mighty mountains of New York.

Let freedom ring from the heightening Alleghenies of Pennsylvania.

Let freedom ring from the snow-capped Rockies of Colorado.

Let freedom ring from the curvaceous slopes of California.

But not only that: Let freedom ring from Stone Mountain of Georgia.

Let freedom ring from Lookout Mountain of Tennessee.

Let freedom ring from every hill and molehill of Mississippi.

From every mountainside, let freedom ring.

And when this happens, when we allow freedom to ring, when we let it ring from every village and every hamlet, from every state and every city, we will be able to speed up that day when all of God's children, black men and white men, Jews and Gentiles, Protestants and Catholics, will be able to join hands and sing in the words of the old Negro spiritual:

Free at last! Free at last! Thank God Almighty, we are free at last!

FLASHBACKS

JANUARY 16, 1942

The local tire rationing board is now in operation and receiving applications for new tires and tubes. J. Powell Goodwin, Neshoba County chairman, announces. Over 15 dealers have already been authorized as tire inspectors and others desiring to be qualified are asked to meet with the Board in its office at the Goodwin Cotton Company.

JANUARY 17, 1952

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Peebles of Memphis are the happy parents of twins born Jan. 3, 1952 at the Methodist Hospital, Memphis, whom they have named Deborah Davis and Barney Bryan III. They were both fine youngsters, weighing seven and six pounds respectively.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Mars leave February 8th for a Mediterranean Cruise on the 29,000-ton Sun liner Independence, the largest, fastest, newest liner in the Mediterranean. They leave from New York port to be gone 56 days or until April 4th.

JANUARY 18, 1962

Temporary headquarters are being built here by TVA while their crews are re-working the utility lines between here and

Midway and between Louisville and Macon, it was learned this week. The temporary quarters are located across the street from Dulane Gray's Grocery at the intersection of Highway 16 and the road going to the Philadelphia Golf Club.

JANUARY 20, 1972

The Neshoba Central Rockets have seen action several times this week. Friday night the Rockets traveled to Raleigh and brought home two victories. The first game was a real thriller, as the Rockettes met their toughest conference opponent.

JANUARY 21, 1982

Fire has destroyed three homes in Neshoba County since Saturday. A home and a restaurant in Philadelphia were heavily damaged. Destroyed by fire in the county were: the home of V. W. Bryan, the home of Chris Horne, the home of Pete Beckham, and the home of Donny Kelly.

The coldest weather of the year moved in Tuesday blanketing Neshoba County with snow, sleet and freezing rain. The latest weather "event" came on the heels of the Deep South's worst winter storm in several years.

JANUARY 22, 1992

Mississippi Highway 19 between Meridian and Collinsville opened to four-lane traffic Monday. Central District Highway Commissioner Wayne O. Burks said. Burks said the 4.933-mile project which provided the four-lane facility also included four new bridges on the existing roadway.

JANUARY 23, 2002

The consultant to a Nissan supplied met with Neshoba County's chief economic developer last week, lending hope that the county might attract manufacturing jobs related to the \$1 billion automobile plant under construction near Canton.

JANUARY 24, 2011

A new \$323,000 custom-build rescue truck for the Philadelphia Fire Department is expected to arrive early next week and the chief couldn't be more excited. A smaller 1997 truck now in use fit the city's needs when it was mainly being used to carry tools to extract people from vehicles, said Philadelphia Fire Chief Pierce Clark.

BIBLE SELECTION

Out of my distress I called on the Lord; the Lord answered me and set me free. The Lord is on my side; I will not fear. What can man do to me?

— Psalm 118:5-6 (ESV)

Omicron responsible for uptick of COVID cases

By JOHN LEE
john@neshobademocrat.com

Ten percent of all the COVID-19 cases reported in Neshoba County since the pandemic began in March 2020 occurred within the last week as the Omicron variant, a more contagious but milder form of the virus, rampages through the state.

Neshoba County recorded 849 new COVID-19 cases and no new deaths within the last week as the Omicron variant spreads, according to the MSDH.

Neshoba County has now recorded a total of 8,421 cases of COVID-19 and 211 deaths since the pandemic began.

A free COVID-19 testing location opened on Monday at

the Coliseum and will operate five days a week, the state Department of Health announced.

The Neshoba County Coliseum, is located at 12000 Highway 15 north.

Schedule an appointment ahead of time at covidschedule.umd.edu.

Meanwhile, Tax Assessor/Collector Mike Lewis

announced Monday that due to a couple of positive COVID tests, in his office, they will be unable to do Homestead Exemptions for a few days.

"We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause. Homestead Exemption must be filed before April 1st so we have plenty of time to complete this task," Lewis said.

The Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians reported 626 new positive cases of COVID-19 and two new deaths as of Jan. 16. The total number of positive cases for the Tribe now stands at 3,957, with 128 deaths. The Tribe reported one new hospitalization.

As of Jan. 10, 30% of Neshoba County is fully vac-

inated, and 35% of people in the county have received at least one dose, according to the MSDH.

Statewide, as of Jan. 14, Mississippi has now recorded a total of 375,107 COVID-19 cases, with 281,977 probable cases, totaling 657,084 cases. There have been 7,117 deaths.

OBITUARIES

Larry E. Fisher

Larry E. Fisher (80) of Shreveport, La., passed away on Tuesday, Jan 4th, 2022. He leaves behind his loving wife of 60 years, Marti (Marveline) McClure Fisher; sons, Barry Fisher (Terri) of Shreveport, La. and Bradley Fisher (Shauna) of Pensacola, FL; a daughter, Belinda Fisher Clark (Bud) of Longview, Texas; Grandchildren Spencer Clark, Carson Clark, Meredith Fisher and Bradley Fisher; and one Great Grandchild, Harrison Clark.



Larry Fisher

He is preceded in death by his Parents, Rev. and Mrs Louis Fisher of Florence, Ala.; brothers JW, Gaylon and David Fisher; and sisters Cloris Fulmer and Arline Richey.

Born and raised in Florence, Ala., Larry served in the USAF from 1958 to 1966. In 1968, He moved his family to Philadelphia, MS to manage Clark's Dept Store until 1972 later opening his own clothing and record stores until 1982. Larry retired from a profession of Retail Sales after moving to Shreveport.

A Family service will be held at the NW Louisiana Veterans Cemetery in Keithville, La. at a later date.

Kerri Leann Dent Rasberry

Graveside service for Ms. Kerri Leann Dent Rasberry of Edinburg will be held at 2 PM Thursday, January 20, 2022 at Thompson Family Cemetery in Edinburg with Rev. John E. Stephens officiating. There will be no visitation. John E. Stephens Chapel Funeral Service in charge of arrangements.

Ms. Rasberry, 45, passed away Thursday, January 6, 2022 in Leake County. She enjoyed treasure hunting, collecting coins and antiques. She was a member of Parkview Baptist Church in Monroe, LA. She was preceded in death by her husband, Derek Rasberry.

Survivors: Daughter, Codi Ray of Edinburg; Sons, Chance Rawson of Singleton and Robbie Powell of Edinburg; Parents, Janie and Bill Dent of Edinburg; Brother, Bobby Powell of Jackson; aunts, uncles, cousins and other relatives.

Pallbearers will be family and friends.

Judy Lynn Todd Posey

Graveside service for Ms. Judy Lynn Todd Posey was held at 2 PM Friday, January 14, 2022, at Pine Grove Cemetery in the House Community with Rev. John Stephens officiating.

Ms. Posey, 68, passed away on Wednesday, January 5, 2022, at her home. She enjoyed going to flea markets, loved talking to people and was a real joker.

She is preceded in death by her husband, Mike Posey; parents, Troy and Marie Todd; infant twin, Janice Kay Todd.

Survivors include son, Nick Posey; sisters, JoAnn McLain, Bobbie (Paul) Johnson; brother, Michael Wayne (Brenda) Todd; her beloved Yorkie, Minnie; a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

Pallbearers are Brent Page, Ronnie Cook, Britt Baker, Robert Baker, Bill Stephens and Jeff Johnson.

Nick Posey

Graveside service for Mr. Nick Posey was held at 2 PM Friday, January 14, 2022, at Pine Grove Cemetery in the House Community with Rev. John Stephens officiating.

Nick, 38, passed away on Thursday, January 6, 2022, at his home. He enjoyed photography, reading, stamp collecting and bird watching.

He is preceded in death by his parents, Mike and Judy Posey; grandparents, Leon and Ruby Posey, Troy and Marie Todd.

Survived by a host of aunts, uncles, cousins and friends.

Pallbearers are Brent Page, Ronnie Cook, Britt Baker, Robert Baker, Bill Stephens and Jeff Johnson.

Wade Bobo

Funeral services for Wade Bobo were held Monday, January 17, 2022, at 3:00 p.m. from McClain-Hays Chapel. Burial followed in Hope Cemetery. McClain-Hays Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

Mr. Bobo, 74, of Philadelphia, died Friday, January 14, 2022.

He was a native and longtime resident of the Hope Community in Neshoba County. Mr. Bobo was a member of Hope Baptist Church.

Survivors include wife, Susan Joyner Bobo; children, Mark Bobo, Kandi Bobo, Tammy Whittle, Scott Johnson, Hal Posey, Kristi DeLeon; numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren; sister, Jeanette Bobo McNeil and brother, Bennie Hurtt.

Preceding Mr. Bobo in death were infant daughter, Lisa Renee Bobo; wife, Brenda Shaw Bobo; great-grandson, Colton Wade Pierce; parents, Olin and Eunice Bobo; sisters, Bobbie Jean Hardy and Doris May Bobo.

Family requests memorials be made to St. Jude Children's Hospital, Shriners Hospital for Children, or a favorite charity.

Dorothy Laine Thomas

Funeral services for Dorothy Laine Thomas were held Monday, January 17, 2022, at 1:00 p.m. from McClain-Hays Chapel with Dr. Dan Howard officiating. Burial followed in Cedarlawn Cemetery. McClain-Hays Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

Ms. Thomas, 82, of Philadelphia, died Friday, January 14, 2022, at Baptist Leake Memorial in Carthage.

A retired public policy analyst and journalist, she had worked for newspapers in Mississippi and Tennessee, a member and committees of the U. S. House of Representatives. An active service volunteer, her work earned recognition from national and international organizations, and from groups in Mississippi, Arkansas, and Virginia. She also won writing, photography, and art awards.

Ms. Thomas held offices and chairmanships with the GFWC-MFWC Futura Club of Philadelphia, the GFWC Mississippi Federation of Women's Clubs, Inc., the National Association of Retired Persons local chapter, Philadelphia-Neshoba County Arts Council, and the Philadelphia Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star. She was a member of the First Baptist Church of Philadelphia, the American Crafts Council, the Neshoba County Philadelphia Historical Museum, Inc., and a charter

member of the National Museum of Women in the Arts, Washington, D.C.

She earned degrees from East Central Junior College, Mississippi State College for Women, and George Washington University.

Survivors include sister-in-law, Judy Dowdle Thomas of Louisville; and nephew, Robert Dowdle "Dow" Thomas of Louisville.

Preceding Ms. Thomas in death were parents, Robert Oren "R.O." and Elaine Finley Thomas, and brother, Charles Sidney Thomas.

Memorials may be given to the East Central Community College Development Foundation, the Philadelphia-Neshoba County Arts Council, the youth activities fund of the First Baptist Church of Philadelphia, or a charity of choice.

Mario Ben

Funeral service for Mr. Mario Ben will be held at 10 AM Saturday, January 15, 2022 at Pearl River Facility Building with Rev. Thomas Ben, Jr. officiating. Interment will be in the Pearl River Community Cemetery. Visitation will begin at 10 AM Friday, January 14, 2022 at Pearl River Facility Building. John E. Stephens Chapel is in charge of arrangements.

Mr. Ben, 52, passed away on Saturday, January 8, 2022, at his home. He was a humble and kind person, he liked to meet people and was always smiling and loved his family. Mario was a Dallas Cowboy and Notre Dame Fan.

He is preceded in death by his father, John Benn, Sr.

Survivors include his wife, Charline Farmer Ben; mother, Catherine Tubby Benn; sister, Valerie Joy Herrera; brother, John Benn, Jr.; a host of nieces and nephews.

Pallbearers are Cyrus Ben, Jason Grisham, Karl Butler, Ken Butler, Sebastian Lewis, Lannie Reed, Bobby Mitch, Sr., Eric Dan, Brian Farmer, Bill Farmer, Elliot Dan.

Ron Levelle Anderson

Graveside service for Mr. Ron Levelle Anderson will be held at 2 PM Tuesday, January 18, 2022 at St. Catherine Catholic Cemetery. Visitation will begin at 10 AM Monday, January 17, 2022 at Macedonia Baptist Church. John E. Stephens Chapel is in charge of arrangements.

Mr. Anderson, 49, passed away on Wednesday, January 5, 2022, at Choctaw Health Center in Choctaw, MS. He loved the outdoors, cooking, watching his children play softball, stickball and football. He was an Alabama Football fan.

He is preceded in death by his father, Henry Williams.

Survivors include his wife, Deanna Thomas Anderson; daughter, Shamaiya Anderson; sons, Fabion Anderson, Taterrian Anderson; mother, Edvena Anderson John; sisters Sylvia Williams, Elizabeth Pennington, Odessa Pennington; brothers, Douglas Williams, Jonathan Williams.

Pallbearers are Roderick Anderson, Lorenzo Bell, John Evans, Kanyon Jimmie, Bobby McMillan, Lesley Morris, Roddy Nickey, Cameron Shoemaker, Cassidy Tubby, Eric Willis,

Logan Ben.

LaDonna Lousie Willis Thomas

Funeral service for Mrs. LaDonna Lousie Willis Thomas will be held at 2 PM Sunday, January 16, 2022 at John E. Stephens Chapel with Rev. Ricky Thompson officiating. Cremation to follow. Visitation will begin at 11 AM Sunday, January 16, 2022 at John E. Stephens Chapel. John E. Stephens Chapel is in charge of arrangements.

Mrs. Thomas, 60, passed away on Monday, January 10, 2022, at Choctaw Health Center in Choctaw, MS. She enjoyed cooking and loved her family, coaching youth stickball and playing softball.

She is preceded in death by her parents, Raymond Willis, Sr. and Dessie Mae York.

Survivors include her husband, Bill Thomas; sister, Shelley Willis; brothers, Raymond Willis, Jr., Rory Paul Willis and Mark Allen Willis, Sr.

Claude Yates Tubby

Funeral service for Mr. Claude Yates Tubby will be held at 10 AM Thursday, January 13, 2022 at Pearl River Facility Building with interment in Pearl River Community Cemetery. Visitation will begin at 1 PM Wednesday, January 12, 2022, at Pearl River Facility building. John E. Stephens Chapel is in charge of arrangements.

Mr. Tubby, 86, passed away on Monday, January 10, 2022, at Choctaw Health Center in Choctaw, MS. He enjoyed fishing, working on cars, watching ballgames on tv, especially the Atlanta Braves and watching wrestling.

He is preceded in death by his wife, Nettie Tubby; parents, Charley Tubby and Betsy Scott; sisters, Katie Mae Tubby, Alice John, Coleen Tubby, twins-Jean and Jane Tubby, Mary Marie Tubby; brothers, JC Tubby, Jack Tubby, Leon Tubby.

Survivors include 2 sons, sister, Bessie T. Wilson; brother, Edward Tubby, numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Pallbearers are Mack Jimmie III, Chad Jimmie, Clay Jimmie, Rusty Jim, Jonathan Joe, Marcus Tubby, Sr., Frank Tubby, Jr., Marcell Tubby, Jr., Marcell Tubby, Sr.

Willie B. Loper

Services for Ms. Willie B. Loper were held 11 am. Wednesday, January 12, 2022 at Milling Funeral Home Chapel of Union with burial in the Newton County Memorial Gardens. Bro. Lester Miles and Bro. Randy Moore will officiate.

Visitation were held 9:30 am- 11 am on Wednesday at Milling Funeral Home of Union.

Ms. Loper, 85, of Union died Sunday, January 9, 2022 at her residence.

Survivors include: Children: Derrell Loper and wife Renee of Union, Darlene Rigdon and husband J.T. of Union and Joel

Loper of Union

Grandchildren: Casey Bridges and wife Amber of Madison, Alex Rigdon of Union, Garrett Loper of Carthage, Gage Loper of Carthage and Abbi Loper of Union

Great Grandchildren: Colton Bridges, Gabriella Bridges and Zoey Loper

Brother: AJ. Hicks and wife Sara of West

3 Sisters: Joyce Humphrey of Union, Nancy Toten of Philadelphia and Virginia Hall of Arkansas

Ms. Loper was preceded in death by her husband of 60 years: Johnnie Loper; parents, Malcolm Hicks and Mattie Hicks; sister, Mildred Gainey, Cassie Moore and Maxine Moore.

Pallbearers: Lavelle Chesney, Danny Loper, Gilbert Loper, Garrett Loper, Gage Loper, Coy McMullan and Tim McMullan

Milling Funeral Home of Union was in charge of the arrangements.

Ella Dephynee Elliott

A visitation will be held at McClain-Hays Funeral Home on Friday, January 21st from 5:00-7:00 P.M. The funeral service is scheduled for Saturday, January 22nd, at 2:00 P.M. at Enon Baptist Church in Neshoba County.

Godly, loving wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, sister, and daughter, Ella Dephynee Elliott, entered Heaven's gate on January 11, 2022. Dephynee was born in Union, Mississippi on

November 1, 1934. She was married to her faithful husband, Don Elliott, for over 65 years. With her husband and God by her side, she nurtured and loved more than 50 children in the Central Mississippi Children's Home on Deemer Road in Union, Mississippi.

Dephynee is survived by her husband, Don, and their four children, Ann Clark (Herman) from Fort Myers, Florida; Janice Libardoni (Pete) from Palm City, Florida; Linda Mitchell Maere (Rick) from Fort Myers, Florida; and Donnie Elliott (Shea) from Philadelphia, Mississippi. In addition, she was a loving grandmother to nine grandchildren, Graham and Hannah Clark, Pete and Alex Libardoni, Elliott and Trace Mitchell, Dagan Tingle, Riley and Ella Jai Elliott, as well as 15 great-grandchildren. She is survived by her brother J.D. Smith (Lissie) from Lake, sister Norma Tingle (Bobby) from Burns, Tennessee and sister-in-law Shelby Smith (Union).

She is preceded in death by parents, Tommy Lee and Lois Smith; brothers, L. D., Bobby Ray and Tommy Smith; sister, Bonnie Barber and niece, Brenda Rogers.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Tommy Lee and Lois Smith (Union); sister, Bonnie

Barber (Collinsville); brothers, L.C. (Union), Bobby Ray (Union), and Tommy Smith (Ocala, Florida).

Dephynee will be remembered for her generous spirit, loving hugs, genuine

smile, encouraging words, and faithful devotion to God. She will be missed by all who knew her.

Jacque Evelyn Fulton Barnett

Jacque Evelyn Fulton Barnett, 76, died on January 15, 2022. She was born on December 12, 1945, in Philadelphia, Mississippi. One of the biggest joys in life was her work at Tunica County Hospital where she met the love of her life, John Barnett. She and John made their home in Pearl, MS where they raised their beautiful daughters, Wendy and Stacey. She thoroughly enjoyed working with John doing mobile home repair. She always loved going back to her childhood home, spending time with family and friends and Saturdays in Oxford cheering on her Ole Miss Rebels. She was a member at Southside Baptist Church in Jackson, MS.

She is preceded in death by her husband, John Barnett; her parents, Ernest and Prudie Fulton; her sister Leona Fulton.

She is survived by her daughters, Wendy Barnett and Stacey Cain; her sister, Gail Fulton; sister in laws, Eva Simmons and Martha Barnette and many nieces and nephews and friends.

Pallbearers: David Pienta, W.H. Horton, Sammy Horton, Tommy Barnette, Steve Nance and Larry Simmons.

A visitation for family and friends will be from 10 am to 11:30 am on Wednesday, January 19, 2022, at Sebrell Funeral Home. A celebration of life will be held following visitation at 11:30 am. Burial will be at Floral Hills Memorial Garden. In lieu of flowers, please consider donating to your favorite charity in memory of Jacque Evelyn Fulton Barnett.

Sebrell Funeral Home is in charge of handling arrangements.



JOHN E. STEPHENS CHAPEL FUNERAL SERVICES

MS. JUDY LYNN TODD POSEY
2 PM FRIDAY, JANUARY 14, 2022
GRAVESIDE
PINE GROVE CEMETERY-HOUSE, MS

MR. NICK POSEY
2 PM FRIDAY, JANUARY 14, 2022
GRAVESIDE
PINE GROVE CEMETERY-HOUSE, MS

MR. MARIO BEN
10 AM SATURDAY, JANUARY 15, 2022
PEARL RIVER FACILITY BUILDING
PEARL RIVER COMMUNITY CEMETERY

MS. LADONNA THOMAS
2 PM SUNDAY, JANUARY 16, 2022
JOHN E. STEPHENS CHAPEL
CREMATION TO FOLLOW

MR. RON ANDERSON
2 PM TUESDAY, JANUARY 18, 2022
GRAVESIDE
ST. CATHERINE CATHOLIC CEMETERY

MS. KERRI LEANN DENT RASBERRY
2 PM THURSDAY, JANUARY 20, 2022
GRAVESIDE
THOMPSON FAMILY CEMETERY-EDINBURG, MS

812 Pecan Avenue • P.O. Box 34
Philadelphia • 601-656-1515
www.johnestephenschapel.com
Our Family Serving Your Family



STRIBLING DRUG STORE

Est. 1948

"For Dependable Prescription Service"

Owner: Larry Stribling • Downtown Philadelphia • (601)-656-2472
Just Off The Square



Beck Funeral Homes & Cremation Services

MR. BILLY JOE SEALES -ARRANGEMENTS INCOMPLETE-

MR. TYRONE YOUNG -ARRANGEMENTS INCOMPLETE-

10460 Rd 561
Philadelphia
601-656-1191
www.beckfuneralhomeinc.com

THE LORD'S DAY

Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.
Sunday School (All Ages) 9:45 a.m.
Wednesday Evening Activities
Family Night Dinner 6:00 p.m. (Fellowship Hall)
Bible Study and Prayer Service 7:00 p.m. (Sanctuary)
Children's Program 7:00 p.m.

First Presbyterian Church of Philadelphia

"For from Him, and through Him, and to Him are all things. To Him be the glory forever"

533 Main Street • 601-656-4312
Pastor David Stormont
Presbyterian Church in America (PCA)



MS. DOROTHY LAINE THOMAS
SERVICES JANUARY 17
MCCLAIN-HAYS CHAPEL
INTERMENT CEDAR-LAWN CEMETERY

MR. WADE BOBO
SERVICES JANUARY 17
MCCLAIN-HAYS CHAPEL
INTERMENT HOPE CEMETERY

MRS. DEPHYNEE ELLIOTT
SERVICES JANUARY 22
ENON BAPTIST CHURCH
INTERMENT GOLDEN GROVE CEMETERY

Member THE ORDER OF THE GOLDEN RULE

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

Mason Alford remembered as fun, outgoing teen

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

Fifteen-year-old Mason David Lee Alford was remembered as a sweet kid, very loving, kind and outgoing after an accidental shooting Jan. 3 near Dixon.

"He was a beautiful soul," Britney Alford Pinter, Mason's older sister said. "No one will ever be like him."

Family members are raising money on GoFundMe to cover funeral expenses. About \$4,000 of the \$9,475 goal had been raised as of Tuesday.

Mason Alford and a 12-year-old where handling a loaded shotgun when the accident happened, the authorities said.

Sheriff Eric Clark said he knows the family personally and asked for prayers. The Sheriff stressed the importance of firearm safety.

"Keep the muzzle pointed in a safe direction, treat every firearm as if it is loaded and keep your finger off of the trigger until you are ready to shoot," he said.

Alford, the son of James and Becky Alford, was homeschooled and lived in the Linwood and Dixon communities all of his life.

"He enjoyed spending time with his family, friends and everything a 15-year-old liked to do," his father said.

James Alford said that that included hunting, fishing, riding four wheelers and hanging out with friends and family.

"We are a close-knit family," James Alford said.

When asked to describe his son, James Alford took a long pause.

"I don't know that they have made a word for that," he said. "There are no words in my mind. He was just awesome

and full of love."

Alford was buried Jan. 8 in the Garden of Love Family Cemetery in Neshoba County.

"He always said it was better to ask for forgiveness before permission," his mother Becky Alford said. "He gave his all on everything."

His sister said that Mason was the second youngest of her siblings. "The baby next to the baby," as she put it. He was 12 years younger than she is.

"He looked up to me," she said. "He was my little sidekick."

She remembered one time when she got an early-morning call — probably around 3 a.m. — from her brother. She said he was staying at an uncle's place and felt he needed to go home because it was his mother's birthday.

"He said he was upset and wanted to be home on mama's birthday," she said.



Mason David Lee Alford enjoyed riding four-wheelers and being outdoors.

COUNTY JAIL DOCKET

Winston County Jail Docket for Philadelphia Police arrests from 1/3-1/9

• Ira H. Anderson, 20, of 1519 Mills Road of Conehatta, burglary-commercial buildings, cars, etc.

• James A. Carter, 22, of 431 Coleman Street, aggravated assault-manifesting extreme indifference

• Antonio D. Cook, 22, of 1318 19th Street, Apartment L6 of Meridian, controlled substance; possession of schedule 1 or II-1/10th gram-2 grams or 2-10 dosage units, controlled substance; possession of schedule 1 or II-10-30

grams or 20-40 dosage units, MV- driver's license-none, MV- seat belt violation, MV-tag, none or expired.

• Drexton M. Gladney, 21, of 10421 HWY 395, conspiracy to commit a crime, falsely indict, ET, accessory after the fact

• Logan Holley, 20, of 14131 HWY 15 South, public drunk

• Cherrell Lewis, 18, of 113 Dixon Road of Carthage, aggravated assault-domestic

• Tyler Marshall, 19, of 330 Oswald Road, burglary-commercial, buildings, cars, etc., escape of prisoners; escape

(confinement or custody on a misdemeanor charge).

• Jerren D. McBeath, 18, of 267 Bennett Street, murder-capital murder, aggravated assault-manifesting extreme indifference, conspiracy to commit a crime, falsely indict, ET, attempted murder

• Jardavion McDougle, 19, of 421 Austin Street, contempt of court; default in payment of restitution, fleeing or eluding a law enforcement officer in a motor vehicle, disorderly conduct-disturbance in public place

• Madison Savage, 20, of 1002 North Donald Avenue,

accessory after the fact, conspiracy to commit a crime, falsely indict, ET

• Victoria Tubby, 22, of 178 Rolling Hills Road, 2 counts of contempt of court; municipal court, DUI- 1st offense, MV-driver's license- none, MV-careless driving

• Patrick Watson, 45, address unknown, simple assault- attempt by physical menace to create fear

Neshoba County Jail Docket from 1/10-1/18

• Amy Bell, 38, of 301 W Tucker Circle, failure to appear

• Kendall Bell, 37, of 186 Rolling Hills Circle, possession of a controlled substance, possession of paraphernalia, and failure to pay

• Jordan Billiot, 35, of 102 Cedarwood St, felony pursuit, aggravated assault on police/fire/school officer with weapon, possession of controlled substance, and possession of stolen property

• Chris Bounds, 46, of 10101 RD 2810, possession of a controlled substance

• Dartavion Boyd, 18, of Robinhood Circle, murder, attempted murder, conspiracy to commit a crime-felony, and aggravated assault with weapon

• Rusty Burnham, 41, of

10961 Road 616, improper equipment, no drivers license, no proof of insurance, disorderly conduct, possession of a controlled substance resisting arrest, tampering with evidence and hold for investigations

• Jerry Clemons, 57, improper equipment, no drivers license, no proof of insurance, disorderly conduct, possession of controlled substance, resisting arrest, tampering with evidence, hold for investigations

• Adam Devine Jr, 26, of 20407 HWY 15 S, possession of a controlled substance, possession of paraphernalia, possession of firearm by convicted felon, carry concealed weapon-gun possession of a controlled substance

• Clinton Dooley, 31, 10540 Road 107, DUI first offense, failure to appear, disorderly conduct

• Billy Edwards, 54, 10061 Road 226, possession of marijuana in vehicle, possession of controlled substance, possession of marijuana-first offense

• Brittany Franklin, 34, 10011 Road 426, possession of controlled substance

• Tyrone Grove, 37, 11743 Road 832, felony pursuit

• Meroskie, Harrington, 21, 103 Cajun Lane, accessory

after the fact

• Michael Jackson, 28, 104 Wolf Trail, contempt of court, possession of a controlled substance, hold for investigations, possession of paraphernalia

• Rita Jenkins, 46, 423 Hoyo Pace Road, charges unknown

• Jennifer Kinard, 47, 12073 Road 4300, fraud, hold for investigations, indictment

• Ilesha Mcbeath, 28, 10200 Road 430, possession of a controlled substance, child restraint law, failure to yield to blue light/siren

• Samuel Miles, 32, 11631 Road 383, possession of a controlled substance, possession of paraphernalia, failure to appear

• Wesley Miles, 24, 11631 Road 383, possession of a controlled substance, possession of paraphernalia, disturbance of family, hold for investigations

• Ireland Moore, 20, 412 Barham St., armed robbery

• Cedric Pace, 31, 372 Jerico St., possession of a controlled substance, disorderly conduct-resisting arrest

• Jacori Reynolds, 19, 1002 North Donald Ave., murder, aggravated assault or other means to produce death, attempted murder, conspiracy to commit a crime-felony

• Donna Robertson, 54, 10781 Road 628, Arson

• Jonathan Stafford, 37, 11041 Road 167, hold for other agency, disorderly conduct, fleeing arrest, disobeying a police officer

• Roderick Talley, 22, 505 Pleasant Valley Drive, failure to appear

• Amos Thames JR, 39, 1826 E John C. Stennic, domestic violence, aggravated assault

• Marcco Thomas, 45, 986 Blackjack Road, possession of a controlled substance, possession of paraphernalia, failure to yield to blue light/siren, careless driving, seat belt violation, no drivers license, improper equipment

• Valerie Thompson, 45, 1019 Plattsburg Road, possession of a controlled substance, possession of paraphernalia, public drunk

• Sammie Triplett, 42, 305 Pearl St. APT #02, contempt of court

• Bailey Vance, 27, 327 Cherry Ave., contempt of court

• Eddie Whitfield Jr., 52, 1597 Newton Caney Creek Road, motor vehicle theft-felony, simple assault with injuries

• Sandie Willis, 47, 1381 Blackjack Road, probation violation

• Jakynzi Wilson, 22, 265 Cora St., murder, attempted murder, conspiracy to commit a crime-felony, aggravated assault with weapon or other means to produce death

• Marcus Wilson, 36, 301 Beach St., possession of a controlled substance

NOW ON DISPLAY!!

RED & RED-WHITE ROSE BUD & SPRING VASE ARRANGEMENTS \$31.95

HAIR BOWS ASSORTED COLORS \$1.00

BIG SHIPMENT WINTER CLOTHING

KNIT JACKETS • SWEAT PANTS & SHIRTS • PAJAMA PANTS • HOODED SWEAT SHIRTS • KNIT HATS
HOUSE SLIPPERS • WORK & CASUAL SOCKS

BIG SHIPMENT UPHOLSTERY VINYL

LOTS OF COLORS \$10.95 YD.

BIG SHIPMENT SILK BUNCH FLOWERS

NOW BEING PUT ON DISPLAY: HUGE SHIPMENT FISHING TACKLE & SUPPLIES

JUST IN: TRAILER LOAD OF BATTING & 90" FABRICS

APRIL, BRITTANY & KATELYN: ARE BACK FROM A 5-DAY BUYING TRIP FROM DALLAS & ATLANTA

DUE IN THIS WEEK: LARGE SHIPMENT OF WEB BELTS & SUSPENDERS (WORK, DRESS, CASUAL) & BANDANAS

LOTS OF NEW MERCHANDISE HAS ARRIVED SINCE JAN. 3

Jerome Tank
Season-2-Season, Inc.

1115 E. MAIN STREET
PHILADELPHIA
1 MILE FROM DOWNTOWN
601-656-7104

HELP WANTED

CSR duties taking payments, taking applications, processing loans. Good company with benefits, 401K, vacation, personal days, sick days. Please send resume to P.O. Box 684 Philadelphia, Ms. 39350.

you're invited

Philadelphia Transit
562 Line Street Suite 2
Philadelphia, Ms 39350

Grand Opening
January 27th, 2022

Ribbon cutting will be held at 10:30
Please come and join us.

It feels sooo great to be flying again!

Finally taking that vacation; Catching up with family and friends. As always, we're here for you. Let us get you on your way.

MERIDIAN REGIONAL AIRPORT

Two round-trip flights daily to Houston. Book now at MeridianAirport.com or United.com.

Public Notices

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF NESHOPA COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI
BRANDI KOLB BERRY
PLAINTIFF
CIVIL ACTION
VS.
FILE NO. 21-342-KK
WESLEY C. BERRY
DEFENDANT

SUMMONS

(By Publication)
THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI
COUNTY OF NESHOPA

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

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

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

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

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

ISSUED UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL OF SAID COURT, this the 3rd, day of January, 2022
Mr. Guy Nowell
Chancery Clerk of Neshoba County (SEAL) 401
East Beacon Street, STE 107
Philadelphia, MS 39350

BY: /s/ W. SAVELL
DEPUTY CLERK
Publish Dates: 1/12/2022; 1/19/2022; 1/26/2022

TITLE OF ABANDONMENT

BEAMON WRECKER SERVICE
11740 RD 571 PHILADELPHIA, MS 39350

MAKE: KIA SPECTRA
VIN: KNAFE1211275433787
PLACE OF SALE: BEAMON WRECKER SERVICE
SALE DATE: FEBRUARY 10 @ 8 A.M.
OWNED BY: JOHN C. HODGE
ADDRESS: 873 HWY 489 LAKE, MS 39092

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF NESHOPA COUNTY
THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF RICHARD F. BANE
LISA BOYKIN, ADMINISTRATRIX
CAUSE NO. 2021-209
NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Letters of Administration having been granted on the 27th day of December, 2021, by the Chancery Clerk of Neshoba County, Mississippi, to the undersigned Lisa Boykin, upon the estate of Richard F. Bane, deceased, notice is hereby given to all persons having claims against said estate to present the same to the Clerk of this Court for probate and registration according to law within ninety (90) days from the date or they will be forever barred. THIS the 27th day of December, 2021. Respectfully submitted,
s/Lisa Boykin

Lisa Boykin, Administratrix

Terry L. Jordan
Attorney at Law, PLLC
Post Office Drawer 459
Philadelphia, MS 39350
Phone (601)656-2451
Fax: (601)656-2458
MS State Bar No. 13234

IN THE CHOCTAW TRIBAL COURT MISSISSIPPI BAND OF CHOCTAW INDIANS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE ESTATE OF TOM NOAH JOE, DECEASED
CAUSE NO. 2021-702
LANELL JOE
PETITIONER

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Letters of Testamentary having been granted on the 1st day of December, 2021, by the Court Clerk of the Choctaw Tribal Court of the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians, to the undersigned upon Joyce Bell Joe, 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/ Lanell Joe
LANELL JOE
ADMINISTRATRIX

Prepared By:

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

IN THE CHOCTAW TRIBAL COURT MISSISSIPPI BAND OF CHOCTAW INDIANS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE ESTATE OF JOYCE BELL JOE, DECEASED
CAUSE NO. 2021-701
LANELL JOE
PETITIONER

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Letters of Testamentary having been granted on the 1st day of December, 2021, by the Court Clerk of the Choctaw Tribal Court of the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians, to the undersigned upon Joyce Bell Joe, deceased,

Public Notices

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/ Lanell Joe
LANELL JOE
ADMINISTRATRIX

Prepared By:

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

IN THE CHOCTAW TRIBAL COURT MISSISSIPPI BAND OF CHOCTAW INDIANS

IN THE MATTER OF THE EXECUTION OF THE ESTATE OF LENA WILLIS, DECEASED
CAUSE NO. 2021-699
ALAN MARTIN
PETITIONER

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Letters of Administration having been granted on the 1st day of December, 2021, by the Tribal Court Clerk, to the undersigned upon the Estate of Lena Willis, 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.
WITNESS MY SIGNATURE this the 14th day of December, 2021.
/s/ Alan Martin
ALAN MARTIN
ADMINISTRATOR

Prepared by:

Steven D. SettleMires
SettleMires & Graham, PLLC
ATTORNEYS AT LAW
410 EAST BEACON STREET
PHILADELPHIA, MS 39350
TELEPHONE: (601)656-9597
MSBN 99674

CHOCTAW TRIBAL CIVIL COURT MISSISSIPPI BAND OF CHOCTAW INDIANS

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

SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION

THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

TO: The heirs at law of **DORINE JOHNSON**, deceased, and any and all other persons claiming any right, title or interest in and to the estate of **DORINE JOHNSON**, deceased, whose post office and street addresses are unknown to the Petitioner after diligent search and inquiry, and upon whom service of process may be had by publication as prescribed by law. You have been made a Respondent in a **Petition for Determination of Heirship** filed in this court by the Petitioner Sherry Shumake, Administrator of the Estate of **DORINE JOHNSON**, deceased. 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 5TH day of April, 2022**, in the courtroom of the Choctaw Tribal Civil Court at Choctaw, Mississippi, and in case of your failure to appear and defend a judgment will be entered against you for things demanded in the petition. You are not required to file an answer or other pleading but you may do so if you desire. Issued under my hand and the seal of this Court, this the 10th day of January, 2022.

/s/ Kristina Jim
CHOCTAW TRIBAL COURT CLERK

Public Notice of Intent to Apply

All Interested public and private transit and paratransit operators within **Clarke, Jasper, Kemper, Lauderdale, Leake, Neshoba, Newton, Scott, Oktibbeha, Lowndes, Clay, Choctaw, Webster, Winston, Smith, and Noxubee counties**, are hereby advised that the **Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians** is applying to the Mississippi Department of Transportation, Public Transportation Division, Jackson Mississippi, for a grant under Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century (MAP-21) and Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act, for the provision of public transportation services. Services should be offered within **Clarke, Jasper, Kemper, Lauderdale, Leake, Neshoba, Newton, Scott, Oktibbeha, Lowndes, Clay, Choctaw, Webster, Winston, Smith, and Noxubee counties**. This program consists of **transportation services rendered to the general public with 26 vehicles scheduling route running 5 to 7 days per week for the purpose of health, education, social services, nutrition, and commuter employment related transportation**. The purpose of this notice is to advise all interested transit and paratransit operators of the proposed services for the general public within the area (as) described above, and to insure that such a project would not represent a duplication of current or of proposed services provided by existing transit or paratransit operators in the area. Comments either for or against this service by such public, private, and paratransit operators will be received at any time within 10 days from the date of this notice. All comments should be addressed to **Choctaw Transit, 390 Industrial Park Suite 1, Choctaw, MS. 39350** or **nrfrazier@choctaw.org**.

PUBLIC HEARING/PUBLIC COMMENT NOTICE RURAL AREA PROGRAM

The **Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians of Choctaw**, Mississippi, is considering applying to the Mississippi Department of Transportation, Public Transportation Division, for assistance through its Rural Area Program to provide public transportation services within **Clarke, Jasper, Kemper, Lauderdale, Leake, Neshoba, Newton, Scott, Oktibbeha, Lowndes, Clay, Choctaw, Webster, Winston, Smith, and Noxubee counties**. Funding is available to state agencies, local public bodies and agencies thereof, non-profit organizations, operators of public transportation services in locations other than urbanized Area, and, under special circumstances, private operators of public transportation on a competitive basis to undertake eligible transportation activities.

Public Notices

The goals of the Rural Area program are: to enhance the access of people in non-urbanized Area to health care, shopping, education, employment, public services and recreation; to assist in the maintenance, development, improvement, and use of public transportation systems in rural and small urban Area; to encourage and facilitate the most efficient use of all Federal funds used to provide passenger transportation in non-urbanized Area through the coordination of programs and services; and to provide for the participation of private transportation providers in non-urbanized transportation to the maximum extent feasible. The purpose for which these funds can be used are capital purchases that include such items as support vehicles, communication equipment, wheelchair lifts, etc; administrative costs that include such items as salaries, office supplies, insurance, etc; and operating expenses that include such items as driver's wages, fuel, oil, etc. More specific details regarding eligible activities, program requirements and the program criteria will be provided at a public comment session which will be held at **Choctaw Transit, 390 Industrial Park Suite 1, Choctaw, MS, on the Pearl River Reservation, on Tuesday, January 25, 2022 from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm followed by a Public Hearing from 5 pm to 6 pm at the same location**. All Covid Safety Precautionary measures will be observed. Public Comments can also be submitted via email to **nrfrazier@choctaw.org**. The purpose of this hearing will be to obtain citizen input into the development of the application.

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF NESHOPA COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

IN THE MATTER OF THE LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT OF LARRY THURSTON RIVERS, DECEASED
CAUSE NO.: 2021-278
STEVEY SMITH
PETITIONER

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Letters Testamentary having been granted to the undersigned by the Chancery Court of Neshoba County, Mississippi, on the Estate of Larry Thurston Rivers, Deceased, on the 19th day of November, 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 23rd day of December, 2021.

/s/ Stevey Smith
STEVEY SMITH

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

Before the Civil Division of the Choctaw Tribal Court of the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians

In the Matter of the Estate of Janice Darlene Pedraza, Deceased
Cause No. 2021-367
Miguel Pedraza, Administrator

Notice to Creditors

Notice is hereby given that Letters of Administration on the Estate of Janice Darlene Pedraza, deceased, were granted to the undersigned by the Civil Division of the Choctaw Tribal Court of the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians on the 9th day of November, 2021, and all persons having claims against said estate are hereby notified to present their claims to the Clerk of said Court and to have them probated and allowed within ninety (90) days from the date of the first publication of this notice, failure to do so will bar the claim.

This the 17th day of November, 2021.

Respectfully submitted,
/s/ Miguel Pedraza
Miguel Pedraza
Administrator

Prepared by:
Mark K. Tullos
The Tullos Law Firm
134 Main Street
Post Office Box 505
Raleigh, Mississippi 39153
Telephone: 601-782-4587
Facsimile: 601-782-4219
Email: tulloslawfirm@gmail.com
MS Bar No. 9897
Attorney for Administrator

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF NESHOPA COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI
LAWANDA SMITH,
PETITIONERS
HEATHER THOMPSON (MOTHER)
AND

VS. CIVIL ACTION: 21-343

UNKNOWN FATHER DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES, RESPONDENTS
ATTORNEY LYNN FITCH,
DHS STATE OF MISSISSIPPI AND
NESHOPA COUNTY DHS

SUMMONS (Rule81)
(By Publication)
THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI
COUNTY OF NESHOPA

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

You have been made Respondent, in the suit filed in this Court, Lawanda Smith and Heather Thompson, Petitioners, seeking Temporary and Permanent Custody and Other Relief. Defendants other than you in this action are: None.

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

Public Notices

You are summoned to appear and defend against said Petition at 9:00 O'Clock a.m. on the 3rd day of March, 2022, in the Courtroom of the Neshoba County Courthouse in Philadelphia, Mississippi. If your response is not mailed or delivered, the Petition for Temporary and Permanent Custody may be granted by the Court.

ISSUED UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL OF SAID COURT, this 3rd, day of January, 2022.

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

By: /s/ G. Tate
DEPUTY CLERK

Publish Dates: 1/12/2022; 1/19/2022; 1/26/2022

TITLE OF ABANDONMENT
BEAMON WRECKER SERVICE
11740 RD 571
PHILADELPHIA, MS 39350

MAKE: 2003 NISSAN XTERRA
VIN: 5N1ED28Y93C648659
PLACE OF SALE: BEAMON WRECKER SERVICE
SALE DATE: FEBRUARY 10 @ 8 A.M.
OWNED BY: WILLIS LYONS
ADDRESS: 11541 RD 571 PHILADELPHIA, MS 39350
LIENHOLDER: REGIONS BANK

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF NESHOPA COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

IN THE MATTER OF THE LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT OF BILLY ZANE GORDON,
D E C E A S E D
NO. 2021-23-JK

ANGELA GORDON, EXECUTRIX

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Letters Testamentary having been granted on the 23rd day of November, 2021, by the Chancery Clerk of Neshoba County, Mississippi, to the undersigned, ANGELA GORDON, upon the Estate of BILLY ZANE GORDON, deceased, notice is hereby given to all persons having claims against said Estate to present the same to the Clerk of this Court for probate and registration according to law within ninety (90) days from the date of the first publication of this Notice or they will be forever barred.

This the 5th day of January, 2022.

/s/ ANGELA GORDON, EXECUTRIX OF THE ESTATE OF BILLY ZANE GORDON, DECEASED

ROBERT L. THOMAS, MSBN 8159 ALFORD, THOMAS & THOMAS, PLLC
ATTORNEYS AT LAW
POST OFFICE BOX 96
PHILADELPHIA, MS 39350
601/656-1871 TELEPHONE
601/656-0189 FAX

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF NESHOPA COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF CLINTON SHANE DOOLEY, Deceased

CAUSE NO.: 21-CV-00344-JK KATELYN CARMICHAEL, PETITIONER

RULE 81 SUMMONS

THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI
TO: The known and unknown Heirs-at-Law under the provisions of Sections 91-1-27 and 29 of the Mississippi Code of 1972, as Annotated and Amended, of CLINTON SHANE DOOLEY, Deceased, and any other person or party claiming any legal or equitable interest in and to the Estate of CLINTON SHANE DOOLEY, Deceased.

You have been made a Respondent to the Petition to Determine Heirs-at-Law and Wrongful Death Beneficiaries of CLINTON SHANE DOOLEY, filed in this Court by KATELYN CARMICHAEL on December 8, 2021.

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED AND COMMANDED TO PERSONALLY APPEAR BEFORE THE CHANCERY COURT OF NESHOPA COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI, AT THE NESHOPA COUNTY CHANCERY COURTHOUSE IN PHILADELPHIA MISSISSIPPI, ON THE 17TH DAY OF FEBRUARY 2022, AT 9:00 A.M. TO RESPOND TO SAID PETITION AND SHOW CAUSE WHY THE RELIEF SOUGHT AND PRAYED FOR IN THE PETITION TO DETERMINE HEIRS-AT-LAW AND WRONGFUL DEATH BENEFICIARIES OF CLINTON SHANE DOOLEY, SHOULD NOT BE GRANTED, AND IN CASE OF YOUR FAILURE TO APPEAR AND DEFEND, A JUDGMENT WILL BE ENTERED AGAINST YOU FOR THE RELIEF 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 SEAL OF SAID COURT this the ___ day of ____, 2022.
Guy Nowell, Neshoba County Chancery Clerk

Publish Three Times. BY _____, D.C.
Issued at the Request of: Ann L. Griffin (MSB #104935) BRYAN NELSON P.A.

109 Fairfield Drive (39402)
Post Office Drawer 18109
Hattiesburg, Mississippi 39404-8109
Telephone: (601)296-9017
Facsimile: (601)261-4106
Email: agriffin@bnlawfirm.com

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF NESHOPA COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF CLINTON SHANE DOOLEY, Deceased

CAUSE NO.: 21-CV-00344-JK KATELYN CARMICHAEL, PETITIONER

SUMMONS

THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

TO: The known and unknown Wrongful Death Beneficiaries under the provisions of Section 11-7-13 of the Miss-

Public Notices

issippi Code of 1972, as Annotated and Amended, of CLINTON SHANE DOOLEY, Deceased, and any other person or party claiming to be a wrongful death beneficiary of CLINTON SHANE DOOLEY, Deceased.

You have been made a Respondent in the suit filed in this Court by Katelyn Carmichael, Petitioner, seeking a determination of the Wrongful Death Beneficiaries of CLINTON SHANE DOOLEY, Deceased. Respondents other than you in this action are none. You are required to mail or hand-deliver a copy of a written response to the *Petition to Determine Heirs-at-Law and Wrongful Death Beneficiaries* to Mark Fowler, attorney for Petitioner whose mailing address is P.O. Box 3949, Jackson, Mississippi 39201, and whose street address is 162 E Amite Street, Jackson, Mississippi 39201-2118. Your response must be mailed or delivered within thirty (30) days from the date of the first publication of this summons. If your response is not mailed or delivered, a judgment by default will be entered against you for the money or other things demanded in the Petition.

You must also file the original of your response with the Clerk of this Court within a reasonable time afterward. Issued under my hand and seal of said Court, this the ___ day of ____, 2022.

Guy Nowell
Neshoba County Chancery Clerk (seal)
BY: _____, D.C.

Issued at the Request of: Ann L. Griffin (MSB #104935) BRYAN NELSON P.A.
109 Fairfield Drive (39402)
Post Office Drawer 18109
Hattiesburg, Mississippi 39404-8109
Telephone: (601)296-9017
Facsimile: (601)261-4106
Email: AGriffin@bnlawfirm.com

Notice of Finding of No Significant Impact and Notice of Intent to Request Release of funds
January 2022
Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians (MBCI)
Choctaw Housing Authority
P.O. Box 6088
Choctaw, MS 39350

This notice shall satisfy two procedural requirements activities to be undertaken by the Choctaw Housing Authority.

REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS

Following the end of the required fifteen day comment period, the Choctaw Housing Authority will submit a request to the Chicago Office of Native American Programs, DHUD, for release of Indian Housing Block Grant funds under the Native American Housing and Self-Determination act of 1996. The 21AH2802600 project includes the development of 16 single family housing units. The proposed project includes the use of \$2,240,605 of IHBG-ARP funds.

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT
Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians has determined that the project will have no significant impact on the human environment. Therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement under the National Environmental Review Record is on file at The Choctaw Housing Authority Office in the Pearl River Community and may be reviewed or copied on week days between 8:00 am and 4:30 pm.

PUBLIC COMMENTS
As Individual, group or agency disagreeing with this determination or wishing to comment on the project may submit written comments to the Choctaw Housing Authority Office. All comments received within 15 days following the publication date of this notice will be considered prior to submission of a request for release of funds.

RELEASE OF FUNDS
The MBCI certifies to DHUD/ONAP that Chief Cyrus Ben in his capacity as Tribal Chief consents to accept the Jurisdiction of Federal Courts if an action is brought to enforce the environmental review process and that these responsibilities have been satisfied. HUD's approval of the certification satisfies its responsibilities under NEPA and allows the Choctaw Housing Authority to use IHBG Funds.

OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

HUD will accept objections to its release of funds and Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians' certification for a period of fifteen days following the actual receipt of the request only if based on one of the following reasons: (a) Certification not executed by Certifying Officer of the MBCI; (b) MBCI has failed to make a finding required by 24 CFR part 58; (c) the grantee has committed funds or incurred cost before approval of release of Funds by HUD; or (d) another federal agency acting pursuant to 40 CFR part 1504 has submitted a written finding that the project does not meet environmental quality standards. Objections must be in accord with 24 CFR part 58 and addressed to the Office of Native American Programs, Department of Housing & Urban Development, 77 West Jackson Blvd., Chicago, IL 60604-3507.

/s/ Jerry W. Cain
Jerry W. Cain
Certifying Officer
Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians

INVITATION FOR BIDS DOCUMENT 00 11 16

The East Central Mississippi Health Care, Inc. will receive sealed bids for Clinic Renovations, Philadelphia, Mississippi CMS Project # 2021-216

This work will consist of 3962 square feet of interior building renovation construction. The work includes modifications to partitions, ceilings, restrooms, and cabinets. New lighting fixtures and mechanical modifications are required. Exterior modifications to the parking curbs and stairs are required.

Bids will be received until 2:00PM local time on Friday, February 11, 2022 at the ECMHC Administrative Office located at 1490 Highway 487, Sebastopol, MS 39359, where at this time and place all bids will be publicly opened and read aloud.

Contract Documents will be available and may be examined and obtained at the office of Carter Miller

Public Notices

Sansing, Ltd., 404 Hwy 19 N, Meridian, MS 601-483-0601. A fee of \$100.00 will be required for each set of printed plans and specifications, or \$50.00 for an electronic file of documents.

All inquiries should be made to Carter Miller Sansing, Ltd. office at (601) 483-0601, or mailed to P.O. Box 4324, Meridian, MS 39304-4324. A pre-bid conference will be held at 9:00AM local time at Philadelphia Health Center, 10330 Road 375, Philadelphia, MS 39350: Friday, February 4, 2022.

Proposals to be submitted in duplicate on form provided with the bidding documents and bids must be accompanied by Security in form of Certified Check or Bid Bond in the amount equal to at least 5% of the amount of the base bid, such security to be forfeited as liquidated damages, not penalty, by any bidder who fails to carry out the terms of the base bid, execute Contract and post-Performance & Payment Bond as required with the time specified. The Bid may not be withdrawn after opening of bids for a period of Sixty (60) days.

Bidders must hold a Certificate of Responsibility to comply with Sections 31-3-1 through 31-3-23 Mississippi Code of 1972 and amendments thereto and be licensed by the Mississippi State Tax Commission. As per Section 31-3-21, all bids submitted for public projects where said bid is in excess of \$50,000 shall contain on the outside of the envelope the "contractor's current certificate of responsibility number". No bid shall be opened unless such certificate number appears on the envelope or unless there appears a statement on the outside of the envelope to the effect that bid enclosed therewith did not exceed \$50,000. The Certificate of Responsibility Number and Statement as thus noted; and the bidder's name and address must be clearly indicated on the outside of the sealed bid envelope or said bid will not be opened and/or considered.

Owner reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive informalities. Attention is directed to provisions for Equal Employment Opportunity and payment of not less than the

Neshoba Central student ready for semester in D.C.

By DEBBIE BURT MYERS
news@neshobademocrat.com

Ty Martin will set aside his casual school attire and don a suit, tie and black dress shoes when he begins his first day at the United States Senate Page School later this month in Washington, D.C.

The Neshoba Central High School junior was accepted into the prestigious school after being nominated by Sen. Roger Wicker of Mississippi.

Martin, who is president of the Neshoba County Teenage Republicans, got his first taste of politics while serving as a page in the Mississippi House of Representatives for Republican Scott Bounds of Philadelphia. He is also vice president of the Mississippi Teenage Republicans.

His favorite U. S. president was Ronald Reagan and his



Neshoba Central's Ty Martin is ready for a dream semester in Washington D.C.

favorite governor was William Winter.

Neshoba County Superintendent of Education Lundy Brantley said he was so proud of Martin "for his drive and courage to pursue this opportunity. This is such a great honor for him and will pay great dividends for him in the future. I have great admiration for him for being willing to leave home to accomplish his dreams. We will miss him this semester and will be glad to see him when he returns."

Martin said Dr. Brantley has been a big influence on his life.

Senate page duties consist primarily of delivery of correspondence and legislative material within the Congressional complex. Other duties include preparing the chamber for Senate sessions and carrying bills and amendments to the desk.

Pages attend classes in the early morning at the United States Senate Page School, a program fully accredited by the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools.

Pages serve all senators of the same political party as their sponsoring senator.

They are paid an annual

salary of \$29,823, from which they will pay their room and board in Webster Hall.

Webster is named after the first page in the Senate.

"It was an old funeral home that was converted into a dorm. I will go to school in the basement. It's four blocks from the capitol," Martin said.

The building underwent an \$8 million refurbishment in 1995, converting it to its current state.

Pages are required to wear suits while attending school and while they are performing their duties as pages.

"They give us four jackets, four pants, five white shirts and a tie which doesn't come out of our pay," Martin said. "We also get a meal card for \$10 a day in the Senate cafeteria."

Martin, who is now unenrolled from Neshoba Central, hopes to take physics, English comprehension, pre-calculus and U. S. History.

"I will come back to Neshoba Central in the fall as an out-of-state transfer," he said, noting that the school district would recognize his credits from the Page School.

Martin is excited about his new venture but noted there

would be some challenges.

"We cannot have a cell phone," he said, pointing out that there would be a landline at the dorm for emergencies.

"Classes are from 6:15 a.m. to 9:45 a.m.," he said. "I will have two or three hours of homework every night and four to five hours on weekends. I'll have to keep an average above 75 in all subjects or be recommended for dismissal."

Finding a nearby Catholic church will be among his priorities.

"I also have to find a barbershop," he said with a laugh.

On the flip side, Martin will get a two-week spring break in April.

He is most excited about his work as a page in the capitol.

"We are each given a Senate ID card that gives us access to areas like the Library of Congress," Martin said.

"I will also get to ride the subway train that is just for senators. There is a track that runs under the capitol that I can ride to gain access inside."

Abuse of the Senate ID

card comes with dire consequences, Martin said.

"The page handbook details how much time you are going to jail if you miss the card," he said with a smile.

Martin has been interested in politics since he served as a page at a younger age in the Mississippi House.

"I left with the attitude that I needed to do something different," he said. "I needed something more to fill my time. I saw the important work that was being done."

AP World History teacher a 'driving force'

Martin's interest in politics continued to flourish when he took AP World History as a ninth grader at Neshoba Central, which was taught by Candi Hall.

"She's been a driving force for me," Martin said. "I learned a lot about world politics in her class. Ms. Hall was really impressed by my appointment."

She knew Martin was interested in history but it quickly became apparent he was interested in government and politics as well. It was an interest that she also shared.

Hall described Martin as a

great student "who always asked intriguing questions seeking to gain as much knowledge as possible. Ty is not a typical student who is in class to learn for the sake of the test. He likes to learn for the sake of building a knowledge base to connect the past to the present and then to the future. He tries to see the big picture."

This mindset has been a major factor in his interest in government and politics, she said.

"I believe Ty has the fortitude to help move Mississippi into the next generation of strong leadership," Hall said. "I'm so proud of how he wants to be the catalyst for a positive future for our state and how he has taken action to do so at such a young age. Students like Ty are few and far between. I'm blessed to have been his teacher and to possibly, in some small way, be an influence that led him in this direction."

After graduation, Martin hopes to earn a degree in political science and then attend law school.

"I want a law degree but if that doesn't work out, at least I'll have a background where I can work on campaigns," he said.

Martin spends most of his free time fulfilling his duties with the county and state TARS groups. He's done numerous speaking engagements throughout Central Mississippi.

During the last city election, Neshoba TARS provided 50 man hours helping one Republican candidate campaign by passing out campaign literature door-to-door, he said.

"We walked most every street in Philadelphia," he said.

The Neshoba TARS meets once a month in the American Legion Building.

Martin is the son of Pat and Ann Marie Martin of Philadelphia. He is the grandson of Sandra and Ricky Martin of Philadelphia and Louis and Carolyn Shipp of Yazoo City.

Public Notices

PLACE OF SALE: MOORE'S AUTOMOTIVE REPAIR 11401 HWY 492 EAST UNION, MS 39365

SALE DATE/TIME: NOVEMBER 01, 2021 6AM / JANUARY 15, 2021 6 A.M.

COST: \$2446.94

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF NESHOPA COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

IN THE MATTER OF THE LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT OF EDWARD H DARBY, DECEASED

JIMMY J. DARBY, EXECUTOR CAUSE NO. 21-356-JK

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Letters Testamentary having been granted on the 21st day of December 2021, by the Chancery Clerk of Neshoba County, Mississippi, to the undersigned, **Jimmy J. Darby**, upon the **Estate of Edward H. Darby**, deceased notice is hereby given to all persons having claims against said Estate to present the same to the Clerk of this Court for probate and registration according to law within ninety (90) days from the date of the first publication of this Notice or they will be forever barred

This the 29th day of December 2021.

/s/ Jimmy J. Darby
Jimmy J. Darby, Executor of the Estate of Edward H. Darby, Deceased

Robert L. Thomas, MSB#8159
ALFORD, THOMAS & THOMAS, PLLC
ATTORNEYS AT LAW
P.O. BOX 96
PHILADELPHIA, MS 39350
601/656-1871 Telephone
601/656-0189 Fax Number

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF NESHOPA COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

CIVIL ACTION FILE NO. 2020-153

IN THE MATTER OF THE HAZEL M ALLEN REVOCABLE TRUST

SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION

THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

To: Robin Allen
526 Poplar Ave.
Philadelphia, MS 39350

You have been made a Respondent in the hereinafter mentioned petition filed in this Court by Cindy Ferrell Allen and Jeffrey T. Webb, as Co - Trustees seeking Authority to Sell Real Property and other Relief and First Accounting of Co - Trustees of the Estate of Hazel M. Allen, deceased.

You are summoned to appear and defend against said Petition at 9:00 o'clock a.m. on the 9th day of February 2022, in the Courtroom of the Neshoba County Courthouse at Philadelphia Mississippi, and then and there to show cause, if any you can, why said should not be allowed and approved and the relief demanded therein granted.

Issued under my hand and the seal of this Court, this the 15th day of December, 2021.

GUY NOWELL
Chancery Clerk
Neshoba County, Mississippi
401 E Beacon Street, Suite 110
Philadelphia, MS 39350

By: /s/ Guy Nowell by K. Greer, D.C.

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF NESHOPA COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF MARY ELOUISE CROCKER, DECEASED

CIVIL CASE NUMBER 2021-351

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Letters Testamentary having been granted by the Chancery Court of Neshoba County, Mississippi to Ricky J. Graves as Executor of the Estate of Mary Eloise Crocker, Deceased notice is hereby given to all persons having claims against the Estate to present them to the Clerk of this Court for probate and registration according to law, within ninety (90) days from the first publication of this Notice, or they will be forever barred.

THIS the 28th day of December, 2021.
/s/ RICKY J. GRAVES, Executor
Prepared By:
Marvin B. Speed
Attorney at Law
2101 Fifth Street
Meridian, MS 39301
Telephone: (601) 482-8783
MSB No. 7715

NESHOPA CENTRAL MIDDLE SCHOOL 6th Grade

Special Honor Roll:

Jacaylie Bell, James Brewer, James Bryan, Laken Bryant, Pazleigh Brantley, Samuel Burton, Isabella Cannon, Jada Clemons, Sadie Coggins, Lily Fortenberry, Peyton Howell, Kaylee Hutchinson, Elizabeth May, Sadie Nance, Addy Phillips, Mason Pope, Sayda Posey, Thomas Rushing, Kooper Smith, Isabelle Tess, and Cali Wilson

Honor Roll: Zoie Avent, Mckynli Baldwin, Leigha Bass, Randal Baugh, Eden Ben, Sadie Buckley, Jayden

Burnside, Madison Charlie, Ahniya Cleveland, Brody Copeland, Easton Crapps, Sakarcyn Culberson, Bobby Cumberland, Raelleigh Cumberland, Delvin Espinoza, Ricky Ferguson, Jackson Fortenberry, Niya Fortenberry, Symia Foster, Aniston Garrett, Brayden Glenn, Laney Griffis, Ava Harper, Lundy Harper, Kynnedi Harrington, Tessie Higginbotham, Kenya Hoskins, Joshua Hudson, Ava Jones, Kaylin Jones, Derick Joy, Kaleb Kilpatrick, Jazmin Lopez, Hannah Lyon, Daniel Mars, Harrison McGowen, Jazmy McWilliams, Antonio Mendoza, Taelyn Mingo, Jia

HONOR ROLL

Moore, Presley Moore, William Moorehead, Oliver Patterson, Nathan Posey, Hailee Smith, Rileigh Smith, Christopher Spencer, Mackenzie Stovall, Haylen Thomas, Trenton Vowell, Brock Walker, Bella Warren, Madisyn Westerfield, La'aurie Whigham, and Cutler White

7th Grade

Special Honor Roll: Jesse Alexander, Tyler Alawine, Mckayla Baldwin, Sloane Backstock, Trey Burnham, William Chesney, Braden Copeland, Halle Copeland, Gabriel Ellingburg, Graham Fulton, Lola Hallows, Hailey Kirkland, Isabella May, Reagan McKinney, Triston Miller, Charles Morah, Hunter Neese, Micheal Ngin, Christopher Richmond, Mattalyn Sanders, Chloe Savell, Sawyer Skinner, Noah Skipper, Quinton Stephens, Clifton Stokes,

Isaac Storey, and Addison Tadlock

Honor Roll: Saif Alnaham, Mohamed Alsaïdi, Karla Alvarez, Anna Bailey, Austin Barrett, Jacen Breedlove, Jackson Brown, Laney Burrage, Josie Byars, Be'annah Comby, Garrett Cumberland, Koi Denson, Joseph Dickerson, Bella Eubanks, Aubrey Gray, Gracyn Grisham, Leslie Higginbotham, Leslie Higginbotham, Samuel Huffman, Aaliyah Ivy, Ryder Johnson, Joseph Kilgore, Jalen Klootwyk, Emory Mayo, Roseanna McCown, Addison McDill, Brennan Mills, Christopher Moore, Jayla Morris, Isabella Nolan, Zayden Nowell, Austin Poff, Matthew Pullen, Rylan Reid, Rainey Robinson, Curtis Rollins, Brayden Russum, Brayden Kyle, Jacey Ryals, Heagan Seward, Kirkland Sistrunk, Hailei Spencer, Callie Stafford, Camello Stevens, Brylee Weems, Tyler Westerfield, and Zylah Woodward

8th Grade

Special Honor Roll: Terrann Ben, Malachi Borrell, Presley Byrd, Laney Carroll, Prentice Copeland, Colin Crenshaw, Maggie Cumberland, Laura Eakes, Alex Flannigan, Ayden Fortune, Miley

Fulton, Gavin Gentry, Kayden Giles, Lilly Hicks, Avery Holland, Addison Ivy, Walker Jones, An Hoai Le, Brodie Lilly, Lily Linkins, Sadie Long, Denver Lovern, Anna Martin, Sadie Martin, Halle Montgomery, Kyndall Nelson, Anna Norris, Bailee Ridout, Mallory Sanders, Ivie Savell, Samantha Singleton, Talbott Sistrunk, Lillie Thompson, Mckenzi Thompson, Taylor Wade, and Claydi Willis

Honor Roll: Chloe Adams, Annagail Anderson, Alyssa Baugh, Lily Beckham, Fallyn Blaine, Evan Boatner, Maggie Bradley, Seth Brown, Kalie Carroll, Majure Clearman, T'ona Cook, Annalee Copes, Diana Cruz, A'lanya Evans, Bethany Fortenberry, Haley Gipson, Peyton Glass, Leah Hantzis, Zyan Hickman, Espn Jackson, Jacob Kilcrease, Sam Killens, Alannah Kirkland, Destiny Mixon, Kameryn Nolan, Jayden Peoples, Marleigh Pinson, Shanna Ruffin, Brianna Rush, Trinity Rushing, Elijah Sharp, Joshua Smith, John Spears, Caden Spence, Isla Tangle, Thomas Taylor, Jade Thames, Kyli Truss, Thomas Wade, Melyssa Williams, Joshua Willis, Jaliyah Winters, and Cooper Wright



BOYS & GIRLS CLUB OF NESHOPA COUNTY

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

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

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

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

For more info on how you can invest in our children, call 601-656-4343.

For program info/enroll a child, call Jermaine Harris, County Unit Director, 601-880-6322.



Learn from other people's mistakes. You can't possibly live long enough to make them all yourself.

It usually takes a couple of weeks to prepare a good off-the-cuff speech.

Have sympathy for elevator operators. They never hear the end of a juicy story.

If thine enemy wrong thee, buy his children finger paints.

An agreeable person is someone who agrees with you.



Byars FURNITURE
ESTABLISHED IN 1921 PHILADELPHIA, MISSISSIPPI
319 Byrd Ave., Philadelphia, MS 39350
601-656-1802

CLASSIFIEDS

Whether you're looking to buy or looking to sell, the classifieds work!

The Neshoba Democrat is read cover to cover by over 17,000 readers weekly! Let the classifieds work for you!

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

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



Chloe Smith

Smith enjoys experimenting with recipes

By COLEMAN EAKES
news@neshobademocrat.com

Chloe Smith loves to alter recipes to make them her own. Her inspiration was her grandmother Francis Johnson.

"She would always find a food that she likes and then get the recipe, and she would alter it little by little until it basically became her own," Smith said. "That is exactly how I cook today, and it is because I watched her do that for so many years."

Her first experience with cooking was when she was 7 years old, and Johnson taught her how to make sugar cookies one summer while she was staying over.

Her grandmother loved to cook, and so during the summer, Chloe would assist her in cooking for her mother, Christy Smith, and her two aunts, Dawn Spears and Renee Glass.

"She loved to cook especially for her kids, so during the summer, during my mom and aunt's lunch break, they would come to her house and eat what

she had made, and she would always let me help her," Smith said of her grandmother.

Smith said she hopes to one day open her own bakery/deli.

Last December, Smith graduated with an associate's degree in culinary arts and restaurant management. Her family loves her cooking, especially her parents, Christy and Scooter Smith, and her little sister, Emmy Lou Smith. Chloe is engaged to Andrew Floyd, and the two are set to get married on April 16.

CREAMY POTATO BAKE

Ingredients:
1 sack of baby potatoes (cubed)
1 cup whole milk
1 cup heavy cream
½ block cream cheese
1 ½ tsp salt
Pinch of garlic powder
Pinch of onion powder
Tbsp. minced garlic
1 cup Parmesan
Directions:
Preheat oven to 350F, then spray a baking dish with cooking spray. Cut the potatoes. In a Dutch oven, add

COOK OF THE WEEK

milk, cream, salt, and garlic powder. Stir to combine. Cook over medium or high heat. Add minced garlic and Parmesan. Lay the cut potatoes in the bottom of the baking dish. Pour mixture on top of potatoes. Bake 50 minutes until potatoes are tender. Sit 10 minutes after they are taken out.

CRACK CHICKEN CASSEROLE

Ingredients:
2-3 chicken breasts
1 can cream of chicken
1 block cream cheese
1 ranch seasoning packet
1 cup cheese
1-2 cans of biscuits
Bacon
Pinch of garlic powder
Salt
Onion powder
Directions:
Boil chicken. Cook your bacon and cut the cream cheese into cubes. Then cut

the biscuits into fourths. Chop the bacon into little bits. Shred the chicken into strips. Mix all the ingredients together in a large bowl. Add the mixture into a 9" pan. Once all is mixed together and added to the pan, lay the biscuits on top. Add bits of shredded cheese on top and bake for 35 minutes, let cool, and enjoy!

GARLIC NOODLES

Ingredients:
1 cup of shredded Parmesan
1 cup heavy cream
Pinch of fresh parsley
1 tbsp. garlic (minced)
Pinch of garlic powder
Pinch of onion powder
Salt to taste
Pepper to taste
1 box noodles (your choice)
Directions:
Get a pot of water and let it boil, then add your noodles. Then in a Dutch oven and add all the ingredients and stir every once in a while to make sure your cheese and garlic do not stick. Once the noodles are boiled, put them through a

strainer and place in a bowl. Add sauce on top and enjoy!

HASHY CASSEROLE

Ingredients:
30-32 oz. package frozen hash browns
½ cup of melted butter
1 can of cream of cheddar
1 can of cream of chicken
1-pint sour cream
½ cup chopped onion
2 cups Colby jack cheese
Salt and pepper
Garlic powder
Onion powder
Slap Ya Mama Seasoning
Directions:
Preheat oven to 350F. Combine all ingredients, not the cheese, into a large bowl. Put into a baking dish, then top with the remaining cheese. Bake 45-55 minutes and enjoy!

OOEY GOOEY STRAWBERRY COOKIES

Ingredients:
8 oz. block cream cheese

½ cup of butter
1 egg
1 box (18.25 oz.) strawberry cake mix
¼ cup powdered sugar
Directions:

In your mixer, cream together the cream cheese and butter until smooth. Add egg and beat until combined. Turn the mixer to low and slowly add in your cake mix. The dough will be thick. Refrigerate dough for about an hour or so, just enough so it's not quite as sticky. Also, the colder the dough is, the puffier your cookies will be. When the dough is chilled, then place into oven set at 350F. Line your baking sheet with parchment paper. Place powdered sugar in a small bowl. Roll dough into balls about 1-inch diameter, then roll in powdered sugar. Place about 2 inches apart on a prepared baking sheet and bake approximately 10 minutes until centers set. Cool on the wire rack and add white chocolate chips if you'd like and enjoy.

Just Among Friends

By MARIANNE ENOCHS
friends@neshobademocrat.com

Ties or Tutus, what will the baby wear? This was the question for the guests at the Gender Reveal Party in the home of Steve and Jenny Lyn Wilkerson on Saturday evening, January 8, honoring their daughter, Lacie Wilkerson Murphy and her husband, Anthony Murphy, who are expecting their first child.

Guests were asked to wear pink or blue to show their choice of gender. The front door had a lovely wreath made of pink and blue tulle tutus with ribbon ties worked into the design. They signed a board guessing boy or girl at the door.

Jenny Lynn used Lacie's baby blankets on the serving table and hung her baby cups and shoes from the chandelier above the table with ribbons. It looked so special. Trays of food were served from this delightful setting including mini loaves of bread baked by Kay Salter and petit fours and cookies in the shape of pink tutus and blue bowties. Gina Daly was the "Keeper of the Gender" and also helped with the party.

It was a family affair for the Wilkerson and Murphy family members who had a lot of fun. Oh, the baby will be wearing tutus!

Congratulations to Larry and Phyllis Robinson who celebrated their 60th Wedding Anniversary on January 13! Best wishes for many more years together.

The Venue in Philadelphia was transformed into a winter wonderland for the Neshoba Central Senior High School's Winter Formal honoring the sen-

ior class on January 8. The venue looked beautiful and so festive. There were decorations everywhere which contributed to the overall effect of a snowy, sparkly, winter evening.

Pretty girls wearing lovely evening dresses and wrist corsages, boys looking handsome in their attire, serving tables filled with delicious food, music for dancing, voices raised in happy chatter and laughter all made the evening a memorable one.

The Neshoba Central PTO and the committee made this annual event an exceptional one where memories were made to cherish by the members of the senior class. Thank you to all who helped!

The Neshoba Central PTO has announced the dates for its Beauty and Beau Pageants. Since renovations are underway in the elementary auditorium, the place will be announced at a later date. Be sure to read the PTO Facebook pages for updates.

The High School pageant will be held on Thursday, February 17th, the Middle School on Friday, February 18th, and the Elementary School on Saturday, February 19th.

Optional categories will return this year-Miss Congeniality, Most Photogenic, and People's Choice. More information about these categories may be found on the registration forms. Winners from last year are invited to participate in crowning this year's winners. This is a fundraiser for the organization's many projects to support the school.

New York City is an amazing place to visit. It really has everything! Burgin McClellan and Stephen Lomabard spent 8 days

there during semester break from Ole Miss.

They went to the Museum of Natural History, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, Grand Central Station, the New York Comedy Club and the Empire State Building. They saw three Broadway plays, "Wicked," "Hadestown," and "Chicago." They also attended a concert in Carnegie Hall where they enjoyed listening to Philharmonic orchestra.

They took a Circle Line night cruise and saw the famous nighttime view of the New York City Skyline and also a day cruise around the harbor to see the Statue of Liberty and the skyline by day. One museum which looked like so much fun was the Museum of Ice Cream! They ended that tour with huge ice cream cones.

Central Park was another place they enjoyed. A few inches of snow fell which was icing on the cake. The kind of snowfall that this city receives is perfect for snowmen and snowballs. Ground Zero was also on the agenda along with F.A.O. Schwartz, the iconic toy store. Of course, they dined on great meals of many kinds. There were several other places they visited before returning to Mississippi. I am so glad Burgin was able to visit!

Bennett Comby of Philadelphia (39350) has been named to Southern New Hampshire University's Fall 2021 Dean's List.

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

SLIP INTO SOMETHING COMFORTABLE
THIS VALENTINE'S DAY WITH p.j. harlow
SURROUND YOURSELF IN SOFTNESS

kademi
401 Center Ave N
Philadelphia, MS 39350
(601) 656-5400

We're OPEN Mon. - Fri, 9 - 5:30
and Sat 10 - 5 • www.kademi.com
Follow us on Social Media
@kademi1 today!



Chloe Smith

Smith enjoys experimenting with recipes

By COLEMAN EAKES
news@neshobademocrat.com

Chloe Smith loves to alter recipes to make them her own.

Her inspiration was her grandmother Francis Johnson.

"She would always find a food that she likes and then get the recipe, and she would alter it little by little until it basically became her own," Smith said. "That is exactly how I cook today, and it is because I watched her do that for so many years."

Her first experience with cooking was when she was 7 years old, and Johnson taught her how to make sugar cookies one summer while she was staying over.

Her grandmother loved to cook, and so during the summer, Chloe would assist her in cooking for her mother, Christy Smith, and her two aunts, Dawn Spears and Renee Glass.

"She loved to cook especially for her kids, so during the summer, during my mom and aunt's lunch break, they would come to her house and eat what

she had made, and she would always let me help her," Smith said of her grandmother.

Smith said she hopes to one day open her own bakery/deli.

Last December, Smith graduated with an associate's degree in culinary arts and restaurant management. Her family loves her cooking, especially her parents, Christy and Scooter Smith, and her little sister, Emmy Lou Smith. Chloe is engaged to Andrew Floyd, and the two are set to get married on April 16.

CREAMY POTATO BAKE

Ingredients:
1 sack of baby potatoes (cubed)
1 cup whole milk
1 cup heavy cream
½ block cream cheese
1 ½ tsp salt
Pinch of garlic powder
Pinch of onion powder
Tbsp. minced garlic
1 cup Parmesan

Directions:
Preheat oven to 350F, then spray a baking dish with cooking spray. Cut the potatoes. In a Dutch oven, add

COOK OF THE WEEK

milk, cream, salt, and garlic powder. Stir to combine. Cook over medium or high heat. Add minced garlic and Parmesan. Lay the cut potatoes in the bottom of the baking dish. Pour mixture on top of potatoes. Bake 50 minutes until potatoes are tender. Sit 10 minutes after they are taken out.

CRACK CHICKEN CASSEROLE

Ingredients:
2-3 chicken breasts
1 can cream of chicken
1 block cream cheese
1 ranch seasoning packet
1 cup cheese
1-2 cans of biscuits
Bacon
Pinch of garlic powder
Salt
Onion powder
Directions:
Boil chicken. Cook your bacon and cut the cream cheese into cubes. Then cut

the biscuits into fourths. Chop the bacon into little bits. Shred the chicken into strips. Mix all the ingredients together in a large bowl. Add the mixture into a 9" pan. Once all is mixed together and added to the pan, lay the biscuits on top. Add bits of shredded cheese on top and bake for 35 minutes, let cool, and enjoy!

GARLIC NOODLES

Ingredients:
1 cup of shredded Parmesan
1 cup heavy cream
Pinch of fresh parsley
1 tbsp. garlic (minced)
Pinch of garlic powder
Pinch of onion powder
Salt to taste
Pepper to taste
1 box noodles (your choice)
Directions:
Get a pot of water and let it boil, then add your noodles. Then in a Dutch oven and add all the ingredients and stir every once in a while to make sure your cheese and garlic do not stick. Once the noodles are boiled, put them through a

strainer and place in a bowl. Add sauce on top and enjoy!

HASHY CASSEROLE

Ingredients:
30-32 oz. package frozen hash browns
½ cup of melted butter
1 can of cream of cheddar
1 can of cream of chicken
1-pint sour cream
½ cup chopped onion
2 cups Colby jack cheese
Salt and pepper
Garlic powder
Onion powder
Slap Ya Mama Seasoning
Directions:
Preheat oven to 350F. Combine all ingredients, not the cheese, into a large bowl. Put into a baking dish, then top with the remaining cheese. Bake 45-55 minutes and enjoy!

OOEY GOOEY STRAWBERRY COOKIES

Ingredients:
8 oz. block cream cheese

½ cup of butter
1 egg
1 box (18.25 oz.) strawberry cake mix
¼ cup powdered sugar
Directions:

In your mixer, cream together the cream cheese and butter until smooth. Add egg and beat until combined. Turn the mixer to low and slowly add in your cake mix. The dough will be thick. Refrigerate dough for about an hour or so, just enough so it's not quite as sticky. Also, the colder the dough is, the puffier your cookies will be. When the dough is chilled, then place into oven set at 350F. Line your baking sheet with parchment paper. Place powdered sugar in a small bowl. Roll dough into balls about 1-inch diameter, then roll in powdered sugar. Place about 2 inches apart on a prepared baking sheet and bake approximately 10 minutes until centers set. Cool on the wire rack and add white chocolate chips if you'd like and enjoy.

Just Among Friends

By MARIANNE ENOCHS
friends@neshobademocrat.com

Ties or Tutus, what will the baby wear? This was the question for the guests at the Gender Reveal Party in the home of Steve and Jenny Lyn Wilkerson on Saturday evening, January 8, honoring their daughter, Lacie Wilkerson Murphy and her husband, Anthony Murphy, who are expecting their first child.

Guests were asked to wear pink or blue to show their choice of gender. The front door had a lovely wreath made of pink and blue tulle tutus with ribbon ties worked into the design. They signed a board guessing boy or girl at the door.

Jenny Lynn used Lacie's baby blankets on the serving table and hung her baby cups and shoes from the chandelier above the table with ribbons. It looked so special. Trays of food were served from this delightful setting including mini loaves of bread baked by Kay Salter and petit fours and cookies in the shape of pink tutus and blue bowties. Gina Daly was the "Keeper of the Gender" and also helped with the party.

It was a family affair for the Wilkerson and Murphy family members who had a lot of fun. Oh, the baby will be wearing tutus!

Congratulations to Larry and Phyllis Robinson who celebrated their 60th Wedding Anniversary on January 13! Best wishes for many more years together.

The Venue in Philadelphia was transformed into a winter wonderland for the Neshoba Central Senior High School's Winter Formal honoring the sen-

ior class on January 8. The venue looked beautiful and so festive. There were decorations everywhere which contributed to the overall effect of a snowy, sparkly, winter evening.

Pretty girls wearing lovely evening dresses and wrist corsages, boys looking handsome in their attire, serving tables filled with delicious food, music for dancing, voices raised in happy chatter and laughter all made the evening a memorable one.

The Neshoba Central PTO and the committee made this annual event an exceptional one where memories were made to cherish by the members of the senior class. Thank you to all who helped!

The Neshoba Central PTO has announced the dates for its Beauty and Beau Pageants. Since renovations are underway in the elementary auditorium, the place will be announced at a later date. Be sure to read the PTO Facebook pages for updates.

The High School pageant will be held on Thursday, February 17th, the Middle School on Friday, February 18th, and the Elementary School on Saturday, February 19th. Optional categories will return this year-Miss Congeniality, Most Photogenic, and People's Choice. More information about these categories may be found on the registration forms. Winners from last year are invited to participate in crowning this year's winners. This is a fundraiser for the organization's many projects to support the school.

New York City is an amazing place to visit. It really has everything! Burgin McClellan and Stephen Lomabard spent 8 days

there during semester break from Ole Miss.

They went to the Museum of Natural History, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, Grand Central Station, the New York Comedy Club and the Empire State Building. They saw three Broadway plays, "Wicked," "Hadestown," and "Chicago." They also attended a concert in Carnegie Hall where they enjoyed listening to Philharmonic orchestra.

They took a Circle Line night cruise and saw the famous nighttime view of the New York City Skyline and also a day cruise around the harbor to see the Statue of Liberty and the skyline by day. One museum which looked like so much fun was the Museum of Ice Cream! They ended that tour with huge ice cream cones.

Central Park was another place they enjoyed. A few inches of snow fell which was icing on the cake. The kind of snowfall that this city receives is perfect for snowmen and snowballs. Ground Zero was also on the agenda along with F.A.O. Schwartz, the iconic toy store. Of course, they dined on great meals of many kinds. There were several other places they visited before returning to Mississippi. I am so glad Burgin was able to visit!

Bennett Comby of Philadelphia (39350) has been named to Southern New Hampshire University's Fall 2021 Dean's List.

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

ANNE NEILSON HOME TO THANK, TO COMFORT, TO INSPIRE...

Comfort Scripture Cards

100 Days of Gratitude

Strokes of Compassion

kademi

401 Center Ave N
Philadelphia, MS 39350
(601) 656-5400

We're OPEN Mon. - Fri. 9 - 5:30
and Sat 10 - 3 · www.kademi.com
Follow us on Social Media
@kademi today!

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.

How to contact us

By telephone

Telephone: 601-656-4000

Facsimile: 601-656-6379

Electronically

neshobademocrat.com

Facebook: [/neshobademocrat](https://www.facebook.com/neshobademocrat)

Twitter: @NeshobaDemocrat

Physical address

439 Beacon ST
Philadelphia, MS 39350

Mailing address

P.O. Box 30
Philadelphia, MS 39350

Advertising sales

Anna Irwin
601-676-0999
joy@neshobademocrat.com

Editor & Publisher

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

Managing Editor

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

Sports editor

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

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.

Subscribe online at neshobademocrat.com/subscribe.

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 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.

Lady Rockets remain undefeated

By STEVE SWOGETINSKY
steve@neshobademocrat.com

The Neshoba Central Lady Rockets remained undefeated last week in prep basketball action.

But the most memorable outing was the game that was not played. The Lady Rockets were slated to play Clinton in the Rumble In The South Classic at Mississippi College. Tipoff was at 7:30 p.m. However, Clinton pulled out and the promoter replaced them with Forest Hill.

When it come time to play Saturday, Forest Hill was not there. The bus to take the team never showed up, and the Lady Rockets went home after waiting nearly an hour.

"Some where in the process, the paperwork on their bus form didn't get through all of the channels," Coach Jason Broom said. "The coaches don't drive the buses in JPS. "I talked to the coach. He said he had talked to the athletic director and was told everything was on line. But the bus never showed up."

The Lady Rockets entered

the week with a 20-0 record. They are ranked No. 1 in the state in the overall polls and are No. 1 in the Class 5A polls.

Neshoba Central picked up two wins on the court. They defeated Canton High School 77-54, and Bay Springs 99-59. The Neshoba Central boys went 1-1 last week. They dropped a 75-57 loss to Canton and then defeated Bay Springs 81-49. The Rockets enter the week with a 7-11 record.

The Rocket teams host Canton on Tuesday and then Ridgeland on Friday. The Lady Rockets will travel to Ackerman Saturday to play in the Choctaw County classic. Neshoba Central will play Olive Branch starting at 2:30 p.m.

Lady Rockets 77

Canton 54

A strong second quarter made the difference as the Lady Rockets picked up a region win over Canton,

Neshoba Central led 19-16 after the first quarter. The Lady Rockets outscored Canton 28-14 in the second quar-

ter and led 47-30 at the half. Canton played even in the second half, outscoring Neshoba Central 24-22 in the final two quarters and the Lady Rockets held on for the win.

Carly Keats led with 20 points while Hama'ya Fielder scored 15. Veronia Williams and Shaylynn Hunter both scored 12 points.

Lady Rockets 99

Bay Springs 59

Hama'ya Fielder scored 32 points to lead the Lady Rockets past Bay Springs.

The Lady Rockets led 28-16 at the end of the first quarter. Neshoba Central then outpointed Bay Springs 19-15 in the second quarter and led 47-31 at the half. Bay Springs battled back in the third quarter and cut Neshoba Central's lead to eight at one point. Then the Lady Rockets defense closed them down. Leading 66-48 going into the final quarter, Neshoba Central outscored Bay Springs 26-11 in the final quarter to ice the win.

Keats, Zharia Leflore and Veronica Williams all scored

12 points for the Lady Rockets,

Canton 75

Rockets 57

Canton took control in the third quarter to claim the win.

Canton led 29-23 at the half. Canton then outscored the Rockets 30-12 in the third quarter and carried a 59-35 lead into the final quarter. The Rockets came back to outscore the Tigers 22-16 in the final eight minutes of play.

Bryceton Spencer led the Rockets with 16 points while Zae Goodin added 12 points.

Rockets 81

Bay Springs 49

The Rockets led all the way as they defeated Bay Springs,

Leading 18-4 after the first quarter, the Rockets outpointed Bay Springs 16-8 in the second quarter to lead 34-12 at the half. The Rockets outscored the Bulldogs 47-32 in the second half.

Patsden Williams led the Rockets with 19 points while Spencer scored 18 points.

Philadelphia basketball faces off against region foes

By STEVE SWOGETINSKY
steve@neshobademocrat.com

The Philadelphia Tornado basketball teams have two Region 5-2A road games scheduled for this week.

The Tornadoes travel to Lake on Tuesday night and to Newton High School on Friday night.

The Lady Tornadoes come into the week with a 6-7 overall record while the Tornadoes stand at 5-8 overall. Both

teams are 1-1 in the region standings.

Both Philadelphia teams picked up victories against Nanih Waiya last week. The Lady Tornadoes won their game 44-36 while the Philadelphia boys won 56-42.

Leading 14-11 after the first quarter, the Lady Tornadoes outscored the Lady Warriors 15-6 in the second quarter to post a 29-17 halftime lead. Nanih

Waiya battled back, outscoring Philadelphia 19-15 in the second half but Philadelphia held on for the win.

Jaiden Burnside led Philadelphia with 17 points. Hailey Burnside scored 11 points while Zariyah Jackson scored 10 points.

No details were available for the boys game.

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

Faye's
BOUTIQUE
JEWELRY • WEDDING
PAGEANTS • PROM
316 BYRD AVENUE NORTH • PHILADELPHIA, MS
(601) 656-5924

CLASSIFIEDS Monday 5 p.m.
CLASSIFIEDS Monday 5 p.m.
CLASSIFIEDS Monday 5 p.m.
Whether you're looking to buy or looking to sell, the classifieds work!
The Neshoba Democrat is read cover to cover by over 17,000 readers weekly!
Let the classifieds work for you!
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

COVID-19 sidelines Leake teams

A COVID-19 outbreak sidelined the Leake Academy basketball teams as well as the entire school last week.

Leake Academy's games with Park Place and Lamar School were postponed and the school was closed until Tuesday.

The Leake Academy teams returned to action Tuesday when they played East Rankin. They are set to host Park Place on Thursday and Winston Academy on Friday.



EAGLE EYES '22

THE WATCHMAN

"So, thou, O son of man, I have set thee a watchman unto the house of Israel; therefore, thou shalt hear the word at my mouth, and warn them from me" (Ezekiel 33:7)

God is looking for those who will answer the call of the Army of God. The Lord of Host is the greatest army leader of all times.

Will you enlist by signing to become a watchman in the House of the Lord of Host?

"My message and my preaching were not with wise and persuasive words, but with a demonstration of the Spirit's power" (1 Corinthians 2:4).

Questions? Contact Sheila Zehr at 601/389-7797



LEARN TO BE A MORE EFFECTIVE INTERCESSOR

JANUARY 22ND
10 AM TO 5 PM
JANUARY 23RD
3-6 PM

EAGLE EYES PRAYER SCHOOL

PRAYING FOR YOUR CITY, COUNTY, STATE, AND NATION

USE THE WORD OF GOD IN WARFARE PRAYER

SIGN UP AT
[HTTPS://GLOBALVISIONFC.COM/EVENTS.HTML](https://globalvisionfc.com/events.html)
COST: \$35

MEETING LOCATION:

GLOBAL VISION FAITH CENTER

1006 E MAIN ST

PHILADELPHIA, MS

McClain-Hays
Funeral Service, Inc.
Serving this area since 1937.
601-656-1212
1002 E. Main St. • Philadelphia • www.mcclainhays.com

BIG
EQUIPMENT
LOGGING EQUIPMENT FULL SERVICE DEALER
TIGERCAT
MORBARK
McCLENDON
TRAILERS
10430 Road 353
Philadelphia, MS 39350
601.656.7001

BLAKE'S
SEAFOOD
LOCATED ACROSS FROM WALMART
601-575-5500

HOSPITAL DICOOUNT
DRUGS
601-656-2621
919 HOLLAND AVE.

TCBY **SUBWAY**
eat fresh.
Bring in this coupon for 50¢ OFF A 6" Sub or \$1.00 OFF a Footlong Sub at regular price • Good at all locations
Open 7 Days A Week.
601-389-0020
1006 Central Dr. 601-389-0020
595 E. Main Cumberland Shopping Center 601-656-6046
Inside Walmart 601-656-5200

PSI
PHILADELPHIA-SECURITY INSURANCE
All forms of Insurance
802 Kosciusko Road • 601-656-4401

PRINCE OIL
150 Hospital Rd. Philadelphia, MS 601-656-4343 princeoil.com
CITGO

The Citizens Bank
Proudly serving Attala, Forrest, Harrison, Lafayette, Leake, Jackson, Kemper, Neshoba, Newton, Oktibbeha, Rankin, Scott and Winston Counties.
www.thecitizensbankphila.com
Member FDIC

GIA GARDNER'S
INSURANCE AGENCY
P.O. BOX 188 • UNION, MS • 601-774-8202

Weyerhaeuser
The future is growing™

YATES
BUILDING SUPPLY
601-656-3065
406 S. LEWIS AVE. • PHILADELPHIA

WESTSIDE
BODY SHOP
COMPLETE COLLISION REPAIR
601-656-9461
CHRIS JONES, OWNER
20 WATERVIEW LANE • PHILADELPHIA

ATWOOD
PERSONAL CARE HOME
PERSONAL CARE FOR YOUR LOVED ONE
Katelyn Atwood • Mark & Debra Atwood
PHILADELPHIA: 101 PILOT ST. • 601-656-7394
KOSCIUSKO: 328 GOODMAN ST. • 662-289-2547

"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come."
— 2 Corinthians 5:17 (ESV)

WE CAN'T WAIT TO SERVE YOU.
BLOOMO
DINER
13670 HWY 486 • PHILADELPHIA
601-656-5600
THURSDAY 5-8:30
FRIDAY & SATURDAY 5-9

Getting the Message/Rev. Chris Shelton

The way of salvation

Acts 15 marks a great shift in redemptive history. The leaders of the Christian church met in Jerusalem to discuss the issue of Gentiles in the church and to clarify once and for all the way of salvation. The Council concluded that salvation is not through the works of the law but through the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ. Good works are effects of justification in Christ, but in no way a contributing cause of being justified in the sight of God.

In the Lord's providence the decision of the council will be taken to existing churches, but also to new areas and churches where the gospel is proclaimed. The church is about to spread to new areas very quickly, especially Gentile areas, so having the one gospel message affirmed by the apostles and elders in Jerusalem was very important. And there was unanimity that both Jew and Gentile receive salvation by grace alone.

It is therefore surprising in light of such unity on the good news we see a division between Paul and Barnabas, two stalwarts of the faith, in the next passage, Acts 15:36-41. Their conflict is not over doctrine however, but over carrying John Mark on a mission trip.

Following the Jerusalem Council, Paul and Barnabas taught for a while in the church in Antioch. Paul then approached Barnabas on visiting the churches they had planted on their first missionary church. Barnabas is agreeable, but wants to take Mark. Paul, remembering how Mark abandoned them on the first mission trip, thinks it a bad idea.

You can see how this could be a conflict. Barnabas was an encourager. He undoubtedly saw gifts and ministry potential in Mark. He wanted to give him a second chance. Paul, remembering how hazardous the first journey was, doesn't have confidence Mark can stay with it, and the purpose of the trip is to strengthen and embolden believers in tribulation and temptation.

There is such a disagreement the two leaders separate. Barnabas takes Mark and heads to Cyprus. Paul takes Silas and heads to Syria, then Asia. The Lord, in his overruling providence, brought good out of this separation, but it had to have

been a painful conflict.

We know how easily division can arise in this world, even among souls who are very close. Paul and Barnabas had labored together for years, facing death for the name of Christ. Barnabas was instrumental in getting Paul accepted as a leader and teacher in the church. They loved Christ and each other. No doubt they valued the unity of the church. Paul emphasizes it in all his epistles.

This should humble us as Christians. We are not yet made perfect. Much sin remains in us and this world. Paul and Barnabas were two mature Christians, experts in the Scriptures, and selfless in service to the Lord. Yet they could not agree or either yield on this matter. The separation did not last. Paul will later commend Barnabas (Colossians 4) and when he is facing death (2nd Timothy 4) Paul will state how steadfast Mark was in his help to him. And of course Mark would write one of the gospels.

Through all obstacles the Lord will build his church. The church has faced persecution, false teaching, and now we are reminded that the treasure of the gospel is in jars of clay to show that the surpassing power of conversion belongs to God and not to men.

Notice that Paul and Barnabas kept serving the church. They kept pressing on. It is not difficult to imagine them in their beds at night far apart in geography, but very near to each other in spirit; praying that they mission work of the other would bear much fruit for the Lord. They knew the other was laboring for the Lord.

When you read this little story in Acts you should reflect on your position in the church. It should be a great wonder to you how the gospel spread to you. The forces of the devil opposed it every step of the way. Your own heart opposed the good news of Christ. Yet, if you own Christ, you have a title to a room in the house of God forever. And God is responsible for it. So offer thanksgiving to the Lord.

The Rev. Chris Shelton is pastor of Union's First Presbyterian Church.

The Devotional Page is made possible by these businesses which encourage everyone to attend worship services on Sunday. If your church is not listed, please call 601-656-4000.

- EPISCOPAL**
ST. FRANCIS
EPISCOPAL, Saint Francis Dr., 656-2938
JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES
KINGDOM HALL OF JEHOVAH'S
Hwy. 16 E., 656-9986
PENTECOSTAL
BETHLEHEM
PENTECOSTAL
18010 Hwy. 25 S., 662-724-4179
FIRST PENTECOSTAL
1104 Kosciusko Rd., 656-3290
FIRST PENTECOSTAL CHURCH
OF HOUSE
656-3303
MCCLAIN CHAPEL, PENTE-
COSTAL
Off Hwy. 16 E., 656-4459
NEW ZION PENTECOSTAL
11421 Road 387, 656-5665
NORTH BEND UNITED, PENTE-
COSTAL
14541 Hwy 21 N., 601-656-7824
NORTHSIDE PENTECOSTAL
10170 Rd. 561, 601-575-2100
SMALLWOOD
PENTECOSTAL
RR 8, Box 183, 773-8677
PRESBYTERIAN
CAROLINA PRESBYTERIAN
Rd. 123, Dowdville comm., 656-2556
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
533 Main St., 656-4312
OTHER
BOGUE CHITTO INDIAN MIS-
SION
Hwy. 491, 285-6739
CARVER AVE.
NON-DENOMINATIONAL
CHURCH
251 Carver Ave., 656-5248
CHRISTIAN LIFE
TABERNACLE
17261 Road 602, 656-1201
DEEMER CHURCH OF JESUS
NAME
1624 Road 505, 656-8700
FAITH FELLOWSHIP
1006 E. Main St., 656-8722
FAMILY WORSHIP
Hwy. 15 N., 656-5600
GOD'S TABERNACLE
929 Loper St., 656-3565
HOLY ROSARY INDIAN, MISSION
10131 Holy Rosary Rd., 656-2880
JERUSALEM TEMPLE
414 Ivy St., 656-5339
THE WORD OF GOD CHURCH
231 Line Ave., 575-1942
MACEDONIA REVIVAL, CENTER
14050 Hwy. 19 N., 656-3634
PEARL RIVER
MENNONITE CHURCH
13301 Hwy. 16 W
562-5274
PHILADELPHIA CHURCH OF,
LORD
1029 Road 383, 656-0201

- SANCTUARY MINISTRIES, Hwy.**
16 E. (Next to Bobby's Country Store)
663-6310 or 601-663-6290
BAPTIST
ANTIOCH BAPTIST
10791 Road 4306, 986-8771
BEACON STREET BAPTIST
895 W. Beacon St., 656-4620
BEATLINE BAPTIST
13180 Road 505, 656-9216
BETHSAIDA BAPTIST
10690 Road 517, 656-5048
BOND BAPTIST
14081 Hwy. 21 N., 656-7379
BURNSIDE BAPTIST
10200 Road 571, 656-8897
CEDARHILL BAPTIST
10490 Road 836, 656-2394
CENTER HILL BAPTIST
11291 Hwy. 486
COLDWATER BAPTIST
16920 Hwy. 21 S., 656-6870
CROSSROADS BAPTIST
Deemer Road, 656-8923
DIXON BAPTIST
1392 Hwy. 21 S., 656-4165
EAST PHILADELPHIA BAPTIST
635 E. Main St., 656-4797
FIRST BAPTIST
414 Pecan Ave., 656-1507
GOODHOPE BAPTIST
12031 Hwy. 485, 656-4549
GOODWAY BAPTIST
255 Atkins St., 656-2777
GRACE BAPTIST
111 Grace Ave., 656-1988
GREENFIELD MISSIONARY BAP-
TIST
1090 Rd. 553, 389-2278
HERBERT BAPTIST
1336 Hwy. 491 S., 656-1701
HIGH HILL BAPTIST
10021 Road 206, 656-6587
HOPE BAPTIST
Hwy. 488, 656-1247
LAUREL HILL BAPTIST
10440 Hwy. 427, 656-8116
LINWOOD BAPTIST
11961 Road 325
LONGINO BAPTIST
Hwy. 15 N., 656-8794
MORNING STAR BAPTIST
334 Front Ave., 656-7271
MT. ARY BAPTIST
Hwy. 15 N., 656-8719
MT. ENON MISSIONARY, BAP-
TIST
10461 Rd. 410, Union, 656-2745
MT. NEBO MB
257 Carver Ave., 656-1446
MT. OLIVE BAPTIST
Stephentown comm., Rd. 347
MT. OLIVE BAPTIST
House, Rd. 298, 774-7405
MT. TALLEY MISSIONARY, BAP-
TIST
1040 Road 1355, 656-1337
NEW BETHEL BAPTIST
11901 Hwy. 488, 656-2301

- NEW HARMONY BAPTIST**
Waldo Rd., 656-2425
NEW PLEASANTDALE BAPTIST
10091 Road 606, 656-7808
NEW PLEASANTDALE BAPTIST
1007 Road 606, 656-9417
NEW PROSPECT BAPTIST
Hwy. 488, off Laurel Hill Rd.
NORTH CALVARY BAPTIST
922 Pecan Ave., 656-1808
OCOBLA BAPTIST
Hwy. 16 E., 656-3443
OLD PEARL VALLEY BAPTIST
10411 Road 830, 656-4818
OAK GROVE BAPTIST
River Road, 728-1664
PEARL RIVER COMMUNITY
BAPTIST
1408 BIA 0022, 656-9523
PLEASANT VALLEY MB
1285 Rd., 210, 656-9693
PROVIDENCE BAPTIST
Hwy. 21 S., 656-5065
SALEM BAPTIST
205 Hospital Rd. E., 656-1163
SandHILL BAPTIST
10091 Rd. 1353, 635-3362
SARDIS BAPTIST
1048 Road 773, 656-9570
SPRING CREEK BAPTIST
12901 Road 614, 656-3511
ST. PAUL MISSIONARY BAPTIST
Road 404, 389-6605
TRINITY BAPTIST
595 Center Ave., 656-6968
VARDAMAN BAPTIST
Hwy. 16 E. 677-2445
WEST PHILADELPHIA BAPTIST
256 Gum St., 656-9474
WHITE OAK BAPTIST
10611 Rd. 802, 526-1690
METHODIST
BLOOMFIELD CONGREGATION-
AL METHODIST
11381 Rd. 529, 656-0160
COOK'S CHAPEL UNITED
METHODIST
10451 Hwy. 491 N., 656-4500
FIRST UNITED METHODIST
563 Main St., 656-1376
HOPEWELL UNITED
METHODIST, 10251 Road 553
Philadelphia, 39350
MT. ZION UNITED METHODIST
1119 Rd. 747, 389-2010
SANDTOWN UNITED
METHODIST
11961 Hwy. 482, 656-7466
SOUTHSIDE UNITED
METHODIST
910 Range Ave., 656-9202
STEVENS CHAPEL UNITED
METHODIST
233 Gum St., 656-2308

JOHN E. STEPHENS
CHAPEL
FUNERAL SERVICES
812 PECAN AVENUE
PHILADELPHIA
601-656-1515

McDonald's
i'm lovin' it
We enjoy serving you in Philadelphia, Forest, Newton, and Meridian.
Locally owned & operated.
720 HWY. 19 NORTH • MERIDIAN
601-483-8411

DAVID WAYNE
SMALL ENGINE
REPAIR
For service after the sale.
Stihl • ExMark • TORO
Husqvarna
14520 Road 505 • Philadelphia
601.656.9929

GRIFFIS
MOTORS
Jeep
DODGE
1012 Holland Ave. • 601-656-4244 • 800-748-8962
griffismotors.net

SONIC
America's Drive-In
1/2 Price
soft drinks
everyday
from 2-4pm
601-656-5250

COMMERCIAL
BANK commercialbankms.com
Member FDIC
A Bank for All the People.
Briarwood • Collinville • DeKalb
Meridian • Philadelphia

piggly wiggly
COLLINSVILLE
Joe Williams, Owner
9095 COLLINSVILLE RD • 601-626-8880 • 601-527-4010

Jerome Tank
Season-2-Season, Inc.
There's Always Something Unique & Different at Jerome Tank.
Jerome & Linda Tank • Owners • 601.656.7104
PHILADELPHIA, MISSISSIPPI

TOLBERT
CHEVROLET/BUICK
Serving Philadelphia Since 1965.
1040 WEST BEACON ST. • 601.656.4802
www.tolbertchevy.com

Beck Funeral Homes
and Cremation Services
"Three Locations to Better Serve You Since 1978."
226 North St. Louisville 662-773-3291
10460 Rd. 561 Philadelphia 601-656-1191
13554 Hwy 16 W DeKalb 769-486-8067
www.beckfuneralhomeinc.com

NESHOPA
GENERAL
www.neshobageneral.com

STRIBLING
DRUG STORE
430 BEACON STREET • PHILADELPHIA
601.656.2472

Byars FURNITURE
ESTABLISHED IN 1953 | PHILADELPHIA MISSISSIPPI
LA-Z-BOY • ASHLEY • SERTA
UNIVERSAL • RIVERSIDE
319 BYRD AVE. • PHILADELPHIA
601.656.1802 • WWW.BYARSFURNITURE.COM

HILL
REAL ESTATE
GROUP, LLC
Philadelphia
Residential • Commercial
Lots & Acreage
Property Management
325 BYRD AVE
PHILADELPHIA
601-389-0003
GoHillPhilly.com

Square Peg
MINI MALL
Square Peg Furniture, Ladies & Children's Boutique and Home Decor
235 W. MAIN STREET
PHILADELPHIA, MS
801-416-6624
SQUAREPEGMINIMALL.COM

"Do not boast about tomorrow, for you do not know what a day may bring."
— Proverbs 27:1 (ESV)

"Finally, all of you, have unity of mind, sympathy, brotherly love, a tender heart, and a humble mind."
— 1 Peter 3:8 (ESV)

Snow 2022



Etta, John, and Rolo Chesnut in Sandtown where a reported 5 inches of snow fell Sunday morning. Town received a dusting of snow.



Henry Drury, 3, from the Arlington community with Clyde the cowboy snowman.



Smith McKee, 2, and Allie McKee, 4, on Dogwood Lane.



Ivy Kait Copeland slides down a hill.

More photos at neshobademocrat.com