



## RIDGELAND CONTRACTOR TEARS DOWN CITY HALL

Accident — See page, A2

## ENTERTAINMENT TV SHOW LOOKING FOR ANTIQUE COLLECTIONS

“American Pickers” — See page, A5



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# MADISON COUNTY JOURNAL

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### CHAPTER 11

## Livingston developers file for bankruptcy

By MICHAEL SIMMONS  
msimmons@onlinemadison.com

Developers behind the Livingston Township development have filed Chapter 11 bankruptcy on one of the associated corporations, federal court records show.

Michael Bollenbacher filed the bankruptcy paperwork in November on behalf of Livingston Township Fund One, LLC, with a business address located at the Township.

Chapter 11 bankruptcy allows debtors to retain assets and operate a business during what is generally described as a business reorganization of debts.

According to the petition, the corporation had over \$6.1 million in assets, the vast majority being real property, compared to nearly \$5.8 million in debt, with over \$4.6 million of that being secured claims.

Supplemental paperwork listed only \$2,900 of cash on hand, with \$550,000 in past-due rent from an unnamed tenant. The rest of the assets are the nearly 5 acres with four commercial buildings that comprise the Township.

The largest creditor is the Bank of Montgomery based out of Natchitoches, La., which has a lien on the property and debt of over \$4.6 million.

A number of local and out-of-state residents also have unsecured claims ranging from \$25,000 to upwards of \$300,000 as investors in the development. The Small Business Administration has an outstanding amount due of \$113,000, according to the paperwork, and an unknown amount is owed to USDA Rural Development.

A hearing has since been  
See **FILING**, page A2

### WEATHER

## Ice shuts down roads, schools

By DUNCAN DENT  
duncan@onlinemadison.com

The Madison Parkway Bridge over the railroad remained closed on Wednesday, although city officials said they hoped improving conditions would allow them to open it in the afternoon.

Madison County schools remained closed and some like Madison-Ridgeland Academy had delayed starts on Wednesday.

“Public works and police personnel continue to monitor the bridge and a decision may be made soon to re-open it as temperatures continue to rise,” Madison police captain Kevin Newman said.

Ice on roadways was dissipating throughout Madison County after temperatures began to rise after plunging Monday night and Tuesday morning topping out at barely 27 degrees on Tuesday afternoon.

Despite the bridge being closed, Newman said most of the roads are dry and clear of ice, albeit there are still small patches of ice, particularly in

See **ICE**, page A2



State Rep. Jill Ford, the senior representative for Madison County was joined by her family for a swearing-in ceremony on Jan. 2. Pictured from left are Patton Ford, Taft Ford, Elizabeth Ford, Davis Ford, Mike Ford, Patton Ford II, Jill Ford, Louise Ford, Crockett Ford, Russell Ford, Savannah Ford, Leyna Ford and John Crockett Ford.

## Madison County legislators start the new session with big ambitions

By DUNCAN DENT  
duncan@onlinemadison.com

Schools, jobs, and infrastructure improvements are at the top of the list this legislative session in Madison County.

The session began on Jan. 2. Sen. Walter Michel, a Republican who represents District 25 covering parts of Hinds and Madison Counties, said he is working with the Madison Business League to bring in state money for several road improvements in Madison County.

Specifically, Michel said he wanted to continue to push to bring funds to the ongoing Reunion Parkway bridge over I-55 connecting to Bozeman Road. He said this project will work “in tandem” with a number of other projects proposed by the state and county including the widening of Gluckstadt Road and though is close to three years out, the widening of I-55 between Madison and Gluckstadt.

“They all work together,” Michel said.

Another project Michel said he and the Madison County Business League hope to draw state funding for is the proposed connector road starting at Lake Harbour Drive near Costco and going south. He said this road would open a lot of previously “inaccessible land” for development.

State Rep. Jill Ford, a Republican from Madison, said she is still working on her exact legislative agenda for this session but noted that she wants to concentrate on issues preserving representative government, parental rights, protecting women and children, reducing federal control of public schools and returning tax dollars to working families.

She specifically said she would focus on supporting local schools and law enforcement.

“As a Realtor, my personal goals will always be to protect law enforcement and public schools,” Ford said.

“The No. 1 reason why you buy real estate in Madison County is for safety and ability to educate your children in an A+-rated school system.”

Ford is joined by newly elected Reps. Clay Mansel, a Republican representing District 56 which includes parts of Hinds and Madison counties, and Jonathan McMillan, the Republican representing District



Above, Reed Plotner of Madison recently served as a page for the Mississippi House of Representatives. Pages generally run errands for officials and House staff. Plotner, 18, is the son of Kristi and Ryan Plotner, and he is a senior at Madison Central High School. He was sponsored for the week by House Attorney Mary Catherine Sperry. Pictured are Mary

Catherine Sperry, Reed Plotner and Speaker Jason White. Below, Rhett Gibson Russell of Madison recently served as a page for the Mississippi Senate. His visit was sponsored by Lt. Governor Delbert Hosemann. Rhett is the son of Dale and Dawn Russell and attends Madison Central High School.

58 which covers Madison County.

McMillan said he is still learning the “procedures and processes” and has been “listening to a whole lot” but noted he expects school choice and health care to be issues during this session and hoped to promote more jobs in the state and Madison County with his placements on the Workforce Development and Business and Commerce committees this session.

Mansel said he wants to make running a business in Mississippi an easy proposition and hopes to work on a specific issue close to his heart, foster care and adoption by making sure both Child Protective Services and foster parents in the state have the resources they need.



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Cal Thomas

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# Old city hall building demolished accidentally

By DUNCAN DENT  
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RIDGELAND — A portion of the old city hall building was demolished by mistake this week, officials have said.

During the demolition of an old shopping center at the corner of Lake Harbour Drive and Highway 51, the contractor also demolished part of the old city hall building, officials said.

Mayor Gene F. McGee declined to name the contractor, noting any comments on the issue are limited due to likely litigation.

“The contractor made a mistake,” McGee said.

McGee noted the incident happened on Monday, Jan. 15, while the contractor was demolishing the old shopping center behind the old city hall.

The city still owns the building and is looking to sell it.

The shopping center was acquired by the city for demolition to allow for upcoming improvements at the intersec-

tion of U.S. 51 and Lake Harbour Drive.

The city is currently waiting to hear from the Mississippi Department of Transportation to finalize plans, according to McGee.

“It will be a little while,” he said.

The shopping center once had a liquor store, a coin laundry business, and other businesses.

The Journal reported in July 2022 that city officials put plans for the coin laundry to expand on hold saying they were not sure what the future held for the building.

Ward 2 Alderman Chuck Gautier acknowledged the traffic issues at the intersection at the time. He argued that traffic coming in and out of the existing building was “horrible” and argued the building was “past its prime.”

“I think the city would benefit from that building not being there,” Gautier said.

McGee agreed during that meeting that the building could soon become unusable.



A section of the old Ridgeland City Hall was torn down by a contractor demolishing a nearby shopping center.

*Madison, MISSISSIPPI*

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## Ice

Continued from page A1

shaded areas.

“Motorists are urged to continue to proceed with caution and to remain vigilant for these small iced areas,” he said.

Alan Hart, public works director for the city of Ridgeland, said drivers “should continue to use caution” but noted that despite “a few icy spots in shaded areas” roadways were driveable throughout the city and he expected conditions to continue to improve as temperatures continued to rise.

No major incidents involving injuries or serious damage have been reported in Mad-

son County.

Germantown Police Capt. Barry Hale said there was a rollover accident at the 113-mile marker between the Gluckstadt Road bridge and the Sowell Road bridge on Interstate 55 on Monday evening.

He said there were no injuries reported. Hale went on to say the city expects ice to be largely clear from the roads by Wednesday evening.

“We only have one spot on Gluckstadt Road with a small amount of ice and it was salted over this morning by Public Works. All other roadways are clear of ice,” Hale said on Wednesday. “The problem spot on Gluckstadt Road should clear up by this evening.”

Newman in Madison also reported no serious issues.

“There were no serious accidents or incidents related

to the recent cold weather,” Newman said. “We did have a few cars that slid off the road and needed assistance as well as a couple of 18-wheeler trucks on the interstate that encountered problems from ice on Monday night, but all were able to get on their way after receiving assistance.”

Both Canton Public Schools and Madison County Schools announced closures for Tuesday and Wednesday but are expected to be back on schedule Thursday.

“We are scheduled to resume classes on Thursday, January 18th, when the Madison County Emergency Management authorities say our scholars and staff can safely return to our regular schedule,” a statement from CPSD said. “Please stay safe and weather aware.”

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## Filing

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scheduled for Feb. 6, to determine if the corporation can sell property free and clear of liens. It’s unknown how much property the corporation intends to try to sell and attempts to contact Bollenbacher were unsuccessful.

The Livingston Township development began in 2009 when county supervisors approved plans for a 47-acre mixed-use development that was supposed to include 64

cottage-style homes. David Landrum was the initial developer of the project.

In 2011, Landrum complained that supervisors were making him jump through too many hoops to get variances approved for street and parking configuration.

Fast forward a few years and the property has a general store, restaurant, chapel, and some retail fronts. The cottage homes never materialized as the investment into the development didn’t reach the \$80 million that developers once touted.

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Niche, a private organization that annually ranks schools in the United States, has once again ranked St. Andrew’s as the #1 Best Private K-12 School in Mississippi and within the top 10% of private schools in the country. Criteria includes academics, caliber of faculty, teacher/student ratio, diversity, college prep, sports programs, clubs, and extracurricular opportunities.



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Construction has begun on a convenience store located on the corner of U.S. Highway 51 and Colony Park Boulevard.

# Convenience store under construction on Highway 51

By DUNCAN DENT  
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A new convenience store in the northeast corner of Highway 51 and Colony Park Boulevard should be complete this summer, developers say.

Rav Bedi, the developer of the project, said the Shell-branded station will have space for two retail stores and a restaurant with a drive-through.

He said he is still talking to

potential tenants for the retail and restaurant space but hopes to be able to make an announcement as soon as early March.

He said the building has been under construction for about 90 days and hopes to have it completed within the next six months.

A conditional use permit for the drive-through and architectural review was presented to aldermen in June 2021 where they were approved.

## Mother, son arrested for murder

By DUNCAN DENT  
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CANTON — A Yazoo City mother and her 16-year-old son have been arrested and charged in connection with the fatal shooting of a man here last week that wounded his son.

The teen charged in the shooting has been identified as Rantelvin Dajuan Richardson, 16. He was arrested and charged with aggravated assault and murder. His mother, Masheka Lasheince Gibson, 34, was arrested and charged with accessory after the fact.

Canton Police Chief Otha Brown said the charges stem from a Sunday, Jan. 8 incident on Boyd Street.

Brown said Canton PD received the call reporting the shooting at 7:42 p.m. and had an officer on the scene by 7:45 p.m.

Upon arrival, the officer discovered Derrick Mack, 45, and Quindarius Mack, 25, had been shot.



Rantelvin Richardson Masheka Gibson

Brown said they received gunshot wounds to their right side.

Derrick Mack, the father, was transported to Merit Health in Canton and his son, Quindarius was transported to the University of Mississippi Medical Center in Jackson.

Brown said Derrick Mack was later pronounced dead and though Quindarius was initially listed in critical condition he has since been released from the hospital.

Both were arrested and charged on Wednesday, Jan. 10 and are being held in the Madison County Detention Center.



# Madison County Soil and Water Tree Week 2024

January 31-February 3, 2024

Wednesday, January 31, 2024: Flora, MS – Across from Corner Street Market Main Street  
11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Thursday, February 1, 2024: Canton, MS at the Courthouse Square  
11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Friday, February 2, 2024: Ridgeland, MS at Ridgeland City Hall (100 W. School St.)  
11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Saturday, February 3, 2024: Madison, MS-at Kroger- Colony Crossing  
9:30 a.m. - 12:00 or until all trees are gone. Whichever comes first.

The "give-away" bundle contains: 2- Sawtooth Oak, 2 -Shumard Oak, and 2- Redbud.

Sawtooth Oak



Shumard Oak



Redbud



The "flowering" bundle will sale for \$5 a bundle. It will contain: 2- Persimmon, 2- Wax Myrtle and 2 - Dogwood

Persimmon



Wax Myrtle



Dogwood



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# Opinion & Editorials

CAL THOMAS

## Republicans should change their logo

*“Donald, you’re not going to be able to insult your way to the presidency. That’s not going to happen.”*

— **Republican presidential candidate Jeb Bush during a 2016 debate with Trump.**

After watching too many of the Republican non-debates and the insults each of the candidates (and former candidates) have thrown at each other, along with the especially demeaning characterizations by Donald Trump of his rivals, it’s time for a dose of reality. For the sake of accuracy and truth the Republican Party should exchange its elephant symbol for one that is more reflective of today’s GOP.

One candidate might be Triumph the Insult Comic Dog.

Consider some of the puppet’s best insult lines as you imagine them being directed at a Republican presidential candidate. To an overweight man, Triumph said: “Are you a separatist? ... Maybe you should try separating yourself from donuts first.”

Addressing a French person who spoke no English, Triumph said: “Pardon me, I only know your basic French expressions like ‘I surrender.’” Speaking to singer Bon Jovi, Triumph said: “So you’re acting now, you’re in a vampire movie, yes? That’s good. Finally, a role that requires you to suck.”

The difference between these comedic taunts, as well as those by the late comics Don Rickles and Rodney Dangerfield and the political insults, is that with the comedians people were usually in on the joke. While sometimes sounding

*President Harry Truman said: “It is amazing what you can accomplish if you do not care who gets the credit.” Reagan liked the saying enough to have it on his desk.*

caustic, the comical barbs are meant to produce laughter. Even the targets of the jokes often laughed. That’s different from repeatedly calling your political rival a liar.

Where is the noble rhetoric from campaigns and presidencies past? Why the constant putdowns? Xi Jinping, Vladimir Putin and Iran’s ayatollahs don’t get smeared as much as the presidential candidates who revile each other. We’ve regressed from the schoolyard to the barnyard.

John F. Kennedy had some good lines, including: “We can no longer afford to be second best. I want people all over the world to look to the United States again, to feel that we’re on the move, to feel that our high noon is in the future.” And the well-known one from his 1961 Inaugural Address: “Ask not what your country can do for you. Ask what you can do for your country.”

Ronald Reagan always saw America as “a shining city on a hill” whose best days are ahead of us. When Reagan spoke of his political opponents, he often referred to them as “our friends in the other party.” During a 1984 debate with Walter Mondale, Reagan joked that “I

will not make age an issue of this campaign. I am not going to exploit for political purposes my opponent’s youth and inexperience.” Mondale laughed, seeming to acknowledge the cleverness of the barb. His campaign manager, Bob Beckel, later told me, “Right then we knew we were going to lose the election” because the issue of Reagan’s age (he was 74 at the time) had been laid to rest with that one line.

Here are a few more among many others: “If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more, you are a leader.” — John Quincy Adams.

This from Franklin Roosevelt would be a good one for modern presidential candidates to embrace: “If you treat people right they will treat you right ... ninety percent of the time.”

President Harry Truman said: “It is amazing what you can accomplish if you do not care who gets the credit.” Reagan liked the saying enough to have it on his desk.

In modern politics, debating the best way to make America better has been replaced by a war footing. It’s DEFCON 1. Sadly, insults and anger seem to appeal to some voters. The price we are paying for tolerating this behavior is a diminished politics, which can only lead to a diminished and further divided country.

*Email Cal Thomas at tcaeditors@tribpub.com. Look for Cal Thomas’ latest book “A Watchman in the Night: What I’ve Seen Over 50 Years Reporting on America” (HumanixBooks).*

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## MADISON COUNTY JOURNAL

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### EDITORIALS

## Johnson is not the problem

A group of conservative House members are furious with Speaker Mike Johnson. The Louisiana Republican struck a “top-line agreement” with Democratic leaders last week, and some on Capitol Hill feel betrayed by the spending deal.

Calling the agreement Mr. Johnson reached with Senate Majority Leader Charles E. Schumer and President Biden a “deal” is a bit of an overstatement. It’s an outline of a framework of a plan for a deal. We know how much the big three have agreed to spend but precious little about how it will be spent.

It’s a problem, and it’s not one that can be easily solved.

The congressional budgetary process is irrevocably broken, but the GOP has imposed a notable tweak to make the situation less bad than it would otherwise be. A provision from Rep. Thomas Massie, Kentucky Republican, forces a 1% across-the-board cut in spending if a deal can’t be worked out.

The nation’s \$34 trillion debt is growing faster than ever, and that’s the fundamental problem. When Democrats held both chambers, Congress enthusiastically embraced Mr. Biden’s unhinged spending demands coming out of an 18-month lockdown of the U.S. economy.

Now the congressional irreconcilable caucus wants to do something about it. Its members also want to use the threat of a government shutdown to address the virtually open border, the rising crime rate and the shattering of domestic energy production. Shutdown is the only leverage they have against the White House.

While they’re right on the policy, the irreconcilables appear to have learned nothing from the past 40 years. Republicans are always blamed for shutdowns, regardless of who runs Congress or the White House at the time. In the unlikely

event a shutdown-producing standoff occurred between a Democratic president and a Democratic-controlled Congress, the pundit class would still find a way to blame the supposedly dire situation on the GOP.

For a shutdown to assist those in Congress eager to rein profligate colleagues, the table has to be set correctly. Americans need to be let in on the fact it’s “big spending Biden” who drove the fiscal train off the rails. More importantly, they need to buy the argument.

Instead of making that case to the public, the House irreconcilables spent nearly all of October ousting Kevin McCarthy as speaker and fumbling for a replacement. The only thing the public saw was an embarrassing spectacle that diminished what confidence it had in leaving the GOP in charge.

Escape from our current economic crisis can come only from a period of prolonged, robust growth like that the nation experienced after the Reagan tax cuts took effect in the 1980s. Such growth is possible only if voters send Mr. Biden packing in November.

With that in mind, the sensible play is for Mr. Johnson to move forward under the top-line agreement’s parameters and use what little leverage the GOP has in the House and Senate to push spending as far into the out years as possible.

The top-line number would remain high, pleasing Democrats, but the hope would be to win back the Senate and the White House in November so those funds could be clawed back before they are spent.

Thus, the spending crisis can’t be solved in the long run without winning elections, and winning appears to be what Mr. Johnson has in mind.

— *The Washington Times*

## Overpriced paintings

Third-rate paintings may end up being the greatest threat to President Biden. In the hierarchy of scandals, shady transactions between members of the first family and foreign nations held the greatest legal peril. Or so it seemed until Hunter Biden’s art dealer started talking.

In a transcribed interview with the House Oversight and Accountability Committee staff last week, Georges Berges, owner of the Manhattan gallery showcasing the first son’s work, laid the influence-peddling scheme at the White House doorstep.

Mr. Berges admitted to congressional investigators that Hunter’s last name was what set the price tag placed on the paintings in question. When these works went on the auction block in 2021, the White House insisted the sales were perfectly ethical. As then-press secretary Jen Psaki assured everyone, “a system has been established that allows for Hunter Biden to work in his profession within reasonable safeguards.”

Insisting Hunter had a right to pursue his newfound calling as a virtuoso with a paintbrush, Ms. Psaki explained the identity of anyone paying thousands for a Hunter Biden original would never be shared with Hunter or his father. This, in theory, created a firewall that would prevent the possibility of wealthy donors writing massive checks for mediocre paintings in return for the expectation that they could one day trade their generosity for favors with the Biden administration.

Mr. Berges told the committee he never spoke to the White House about ethics compliance, and donors were involved throughout the process. Hollywood producer Loretta Phillips is the prolific Biden fundraiser who introduced Hunter to Mr. Berges in the first place.

The gallery owner also confirmed that Hunter knew the identities of about 70% of the people who bought his artwork. The list of discriminating connoisseurs included major Democratic donors such as Elizabeth Hirsh Naftali and Kevin Morris, who sat next to Hunter last week on Capitol Hill when he made a surprise appearance while defying a congressional subpoena.

Ms. Naftali had paid \$42,000 for one of Hunter’s paintings in 2021 before scoring an appointment to the U.S. Commission for the Preservation of America’s Heritage Abroad a few months later. Ms. Naftali followed up with a \$52,000 art purchase in 2022. Hunter’s close business associate Eric Schwerin had received an appointment to the same commission during the Obama-Biden administration.

Mr. Morris, a prosperous Hollywood attorney, paid a total of \$875,000 for a collection of Hunter’s paintings last year. According to Mr. Berges, the transaction was highly unusual, with Hunter and Mr. Morris hammering out certain financial details on their own.

The dubious art sales don’t involve the eye-popping dollar figures found in other Biden family shell games. Nor do they involve such intrigues as working, as Hunter did, for the “[expletive] spy chief of China,” in Hunter’s words. Nonetheless, the sales create the same appearance that money is making its way into Biden family accounts, and favors are potentially being received in return.

More investigation is warranted to know for sure whether these allegations hold up to scrutiny, but the gallerist’s testimony has painted the scandal in much bolder colors than originally suspected.

— *The Washington Times*

CHARLES HURT

## Bigger than Chris Christie

Well, that was quite a splash.

Just days before the Iowa caucuses, former New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie announced Wednesday that he is taking his 3 percentage points in the Republican polls and going home. I would have said that he is taking all his “chips” and going home, but I am trying my best not to make food references in this column about Chris Christie quitting his presidential campaign.

Either way, Mr. Christie’s marathon has been run. The party is over.

It was a whale of a campaign! But now you can stick a fork in him!

Mr. Christie made his announcement in dramatic fashion at a town hall in New Hampshire, where he is polling slightly better than his 3 points in Iowa. He had a bigger tub of chips in New Hampshire, so, naturally, that’s where we found him.

It was a dramatic speech timed to make the evening news. He spoke gravely, as if he were hosting the Last Supper. It was a soul-wrenching speech in which he extolled his love-hate relationship with Donald Trump, who often cruelly ridicules Mr. Christie for his gargantuan weight.

“Ambition,” Mr. Christie said, is a good thing in politics. It’s what gets politicians out of bed. But then, he said, ambition is also bad.

So, it’s like pizza. Sometimes it’s really good. Sometimes it’s bad. He did not say “pizza,” but I am just trying to help him make his point about ambition sometimes being good and sometimes being bad.

He was, of course, talking about Mr. Trump, whom Mr. Christie ran against in 2016 before growing weary. Mr. Christie quit that race and immediately endorsed Mr. Trump, hoping for a plum job

*The Republican Party is so screwed. At least without Donald Trump. Despite his second spectacular flameout, Mr. Christie said he is proud of his campaign.*

in the Trump White House. (You can make jellies, fruit pies and probably even pizza with good, ripe plums.)

“I knew his flaws,” Mr. Christie said. “But I knew he was gonna win the nomination, so I decided that I would get behind him and support him.”

“I let the ambition get ahead — and in control — of the decision-making,” Mr. Christie said of his 2016 love phase with Donald Trump.

Hard to see how this guy wasn’t polling better for the Republican nomination.

While Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis is boasting how he did the “full Grassley” by visiting all 99 counties in Iowa, Mr. Christie is doing the “full Hamlet” by baring his wretched, ambitious soul in New Hampshire.

The Republican Party is so screwed. At least without Donald Trump.

Despite his second spectacular flameout, Mr. Christie said he is proud of his campaign. He was, after all, not fighting for a chicken wing or something small.

“This is a fight for the soul of our party and the soul of our country,” he declared, as his hefty soul lurched back and forth on the stage.

Why, he asked grandly and rhetorically, had he resisted calls to drop out of the race earlier?

“Because, unlike some of the other candidates, we are fighting for something bigger than ourselves,” Mr. Christie

explained, which means it had to be pretty massive. Or “YUU-UUUGE,” as Mr. Trump might say.

He also lamented the “smallness” of the other primary campaigns and attacked Republicans who have sat on the sidelines and complained about Mr. Trump’s ascendancy behind closed doors.

“All they did is voice their opposition in private — behind closed doors — quietly — so no one could hear,” he said. “That’s not leadership, everybody. That’s cowardice. It’s cowardice and it’s hypocrisy.”

This particular soliloquy was especially funny because even before Hamlet mounted the stage to quit his campaign, audio leaked from backstage in which Mr. Christie put on his own seven-course meal of cowardice and hypocrisy.

Caught on a hot microphone, he groused that former South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley and Mr. DeSantis spent north of \$50 million each on their campaigns.

“We spent 12,” Mr. Christie said privately — so no one could hear.

“I mean, who’s punching above their weight?” he said.

Then he turned his private talk to Ms. Haley, who polls now show has the only shot at stopping Mr. Trump from getting the nomination.

“She’s gonna get smoked,” Mr. Christie said. “You and I both know it — she’s not up to this.”

Now, it is entirely possible that Mr. Christie meant that Ms. Haley is going to “get smoked” like a good country ham before Christmas and be a delicious winner. But it sure sounded like he was predicting her doom.

Privately, of course. So no one could hear.

*Charles Hurt is the opinion editor for The Washington Times.*

### LETTERS

The Journal welcomes letters, comments or suggestions: President and Publisher Jim Prince  
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### BIBLE SELECTION

So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed him, “If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.”

— John 8:31-32 (ESV)



The cast from "American Pickers" is slated to film in Mississippi this year.

# History Channel reality show looking for antiques

By DUNCAN DENT  
duncan@neshobademocrat.com

A long-running show on the History Channel show is looking for "historically significant or rare items, in addition to unforgettable characters and their collections" as they film in Mississippi in February, producers say.

Joshua Kerlin, associate producer with American Pickers, said this will be a return trip to Mississippi for the show.

"The American Pickers TV Show is looking for leads and would love to explore your hid-

den treasure," Kerlin said. "If you or someone you know has a unique item, story to tell, and is ready to sell...we would love to hear from you."

Kerlin noted the show does not pick stores, flea markets, malls, auction businesses, museums, or anything open to the public.

American Pickers has been running since it aired in January of 2010. It is a documentary series that explores the world of antique "picking" on The History Channel.

"The hit show follows skilled pickers in the business, as they hunt for America's most valuable antiques," Kerlin said. "They are always excited to find historically significant or rare items, in addition to unforgettable Characters and their collections."

Kerlin said anyone interested is asked to please send them your name, phone number, location, and description of the collection with photos to [toamericanpickers@cinetflix.com](mailto:toamericanpickers@cinetflix.com) or call (646) 493-2184 for Facebook, visit @GotAPick.

## BIBLICAL PERSPECTIVES/J. Ligon Duncan III

### Disaster!

If you have your Bibles turn with me to Psalm 74. The circumstance of this Psalm is the Babylonian destruction of the temple in Jerusalem, one of the most cataclysmic events in the history of Israel. There are three things we will consider as this cry of the heart is lifted in this time of national disaster. Firstly, we will see the disaster outlined in verses 1 – 11. Next, in verses 12 – 17, we will consider God's sovereignty. Finally, in verses 18 – 23, we will consider the psalmist's prayer of petition.

**I. The Disaster Outlined**  
Firstly, I want you to notice that the psalmist, speaking on behalf of the afflicted Israel, says in verses 1 – 2: "O God, why have You rejected us forever? Why does Your anger smolder against the sheep of Your pasture?" The destruction of Jerusalem and the temple has led the people of God to feel rejected by God and to question his judgment.

Sometimes we ask one another, "Why do you think such-and-such happened?" And sometimes well-meaning Christians will say to us, "You shouldn't ask why." But have you ever noticed how the Bible is filled with the question, "Why?" And in this passage, the people of God asking the question is not an index of their unbelief, but an index of their faith. And so they're asking of the question "Why?" is a very important practical and theological question for them to ask.

And this is so important for them to ask because this is not just a natural disaster that has befallen the people of God; this is a spiritual disaster, because the focal point of God's presence, the temple, has been destroyed and they have been taken into exile. It is this crisis of the exile which will define the theological question all the later prophets ask: "Lord, You said You were going to set up a king in the line of David and he was going to reign forever, but the king has been carried off into Babylon. How are we to understand that, God?"

But they already had the answer to this question.

Isaiah tells us in Isaiah 47:6 that it was God Himself who had taken up this wrath against Israel. There is an answer in God's word to this, "Why?" Because the children of Israel had not listened to the messengers of grace that God had been sending to them over and over. They had rejected

those messengers, and God had visited them in this destruction through the Babylonians. And so this ruined temple is evidence that God was deadly serious when He had warned them through the prophets. And yet the people of God can still turn to Him and say, "Lord, run to the temple and look what's happened, and remember."

**II. The Sovereign God**  
In the middle of all this lament and crying, we see in verses 12 – 17 that the psalmist rehearses the power of our sovereign God: "Yet God is my king from of old, who works deeds of deliverance in the midst of the earth. You divided the sea by Your strength; You broke the heads of sea-monsters in the waters. You crush the heads of Leviathan; You gave him as food for the creatures of the wilderness."

You see the point there. The psalmist is making it very clear: this did not happen because God was not powerful enough to keep it from happening, because this is the God who created the world. This is the God who divided the seas from the land. This is the God who hung the stars. This is the God who created sun and moon. This is the God who controls the mightiest of the sea creatures and the mightiest of the land creatures. This is the sovereign God of heaven and earth, so if this has happened it has not happened because He is not too powerful.

Yet today, every crisis that occurs we are told by somebody that God couldn't help it, that God had nothing to do with this. A child dies tragically, and we're told God has nothing to do with it. A city is destroyed: God had nothing to do with it; God couldn't do anything about it; He didn't know it was coming; He couldn't stop it from happening. And the psalmist is just telling you that that is not the answer.

God is sovereign; God is all-powerful; there's nothing out from under His control, so that's not the answer to the question, "Why?" The answer to the question "Why" from God is not, "Oh, my people, I really would have liked to have helped you, but I just didn't have the power to do it." That is never the answer, because God is sovereign.

**II. The Prayer of Petition**

Lastly, in verses 18 – 23, we have a prayer of petition amid this lament, and here is

the prayer: "Remember this, O Lord, this enemy has reviled; a foolish people has spurned Your name. Do not deliver the soul of Your turtle dove to the wild beast; do not forget the life of Your afflicted forever. Consider the covenant..."

Why is that word 'remember' so important? In Exodus 2 verses 23 – 24, Moses describes the people of God burdened under the oppression of their taskmasters in Egypt: "And the sons of Israel sighed because of the bondage, and their cry for help rose up to God. So God heard their groaning; and God remembered His covenant." Why is he saying 'remember' now? Because he wants the Lord to remember the promises that He has made to Abraham.

Daniel does the exact same thing in Daniel 9. Daniel stumbles upon Jeremiah's scroll, he reads Jeremiah's explanation as to why the children of Israel have been sent into exile, and he says to the Lord, "Lord God, heed Your word. Do what You say You will do in Your word. We don't deserve Your mercy, but, Lord, do what You said You would do in Your word: bring the children of Israel out of exile." And at the end of Daniel 9 God dispatches His angel to explain to Daniel that his prayer is going to be answered in a quite unexpected way. The angel tells Daniel that in answer to Daniel's prayer the Messiah is going to be sent into the world; the Messiah is going to die in Jerusalem, and then God's great purposes are going to be brought to pass.

For God's promise to Abraham to come to fruition, His Son must die. The Messiah must die, and we, trusting in Him alone for our salvation, become the recipients of all the promises that God has stored up for His believing people since the day that He made those gracious words of promise to Abraham. And that's how this Psalm closes: with a people who deserve to be judged, yet standing before God and saying, "Lord God, deal with us not as we deserve, but as You have promised."

*The Rev. Dr. J. Ligon Duncan III is Chancellor and CEO of Reformed Theological Seminary. He can be reached at 601-923-1600 or by email at [jhyde@rts.edu](mailto:jhyde@rts.edu).*

# TMJ SPECIALIST

**PAUL C. RILEY, DDS**  
Diplomate, American Board of Orofacial Pain  
Board Certified Orofacial Pain Specialist

108 South Maple St., Suite C, Ridgeland  
(769) 567-2555 | [www.mississippitmj.com](http://www.mississippitmj.com)

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Public Notices

Substituted Trustee's Notice Of Sale Whereas, on 10/4/2019, Chrichoner M Singleton single woman, executed a certain deed of trust to Terry L Caves, Trustee for the benefit of Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as Beneficiary, as nominee for The First - a National Banking Association, its successors and assigns, which Deed of Trust is of record in the office of the Chancery Clerk of Madison County, State of Mississippi as Instrument No 877356, Book 3774, Page 131; and Whereas, said Deed of Trust was transferred and assigned Freedom Mortgage Corporation and recorded 12/2/2022 as Instrument No. 973100, Book T - 4282, Page 839; and Whereas, Freedom Mortgage Corporation has heretofore substituted Nestor Solutions, LLC, as Trustee by Instrument recorded on 12/20/2023 in the aforesaid Chancery Clerk's Office as Instrument No. 996351, Book 4396, Page 359 and Whereas, default having been made in the terms and conditions of said Deed of Trust and the entire debt secured thereby having been declared to be due and payable in accordance with the terms of said Deed of Trust, Freedom Mortgage Corporation, the legal holder of said indebtedness, having requested the undersigned Substituted Trustee to execute the trust and sell said land and property in accordance with the terms of said Deed of Trust and for the purpose of raising the sums due thereunder, together with attorney's fees, trustee's fees and expense of sale. Now, Therefore, Nestor Solutions, LLC, Substituted Trustee in said Deed of Trust, will on 2/1/2024 offer for sale at public outcry and sell within legal hours (being between the hours of 11:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.), at the County Courthouse of Madison County, Mississippi, located at South Door of the Madison County Courthouse, 128 West North Street, Canton, MS 39046, to the highest and best bidder for cash the following described property situated in Madison County, State of Mississippi, to-wit: Lot 21, White Oak, a subdivision according to the map or plat thereof which is on file and of record in the Chancery Clerk of Madison County at Canton, Mississippi in Plat Cabinet F at Slide 17A and 17B, reference to which is hereby made. I Will Convey only such title as vested in me as Substituted Trustee. Witness My Signature on this 26 day of December, 2023, /s/ Paul Khamsouk, its Sr. Trustee Sale Officer Nestor Solutions, LLC, Substituted Trustee 214 5th Street, Suite 205 Huntington Beach, CA 92648 Publication Dates: 1/4/2024 1/11/2024 1/18/2024 1/25/2024

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF MADISON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF JEAN DELORIS JACOBS, DECEASED

CIVIL ACTION FILE NO. 23-1025 b NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Letters of Administration having been granted on the 4th day of January, 2024, by the Chancery Court of Madison County, Mississippi, to the undersigned upon the Estate of Jean Deloris Jacobs, deceased, notice is hereby given to all persons having claims against the said estate to present the same to the Clerk of the said Court for probate and registration according to law within ninety (90) days from the date of first publication of this Notice, or they will be forever barred.

This the 4th day of January, 2024

Signed: Doris Jacobs Thomas Administratrix of the Estate of Jean Deloris Jacobs, Deceased

Paul David Hastings Attorney for Administratrix (MSB #2075) 321 Hwy. 51, Ste. B Ridgeland, MS 39157 Tel: (601) 60720996 Email: pdhastings@bellsouth.net

**SLEDGE'S WRECKER SERVICE LLC.**  
P. O. BOX 1694  
MADISON, MS 39130  
TELE (601) 856-8220

NOTICE OF SALE is hereby given in accordance with the Mississippi Statutes governing the sale of abandoned motor vehicles, that the following vehicles, bearing their respective serial numbers and registration will be sold along with all contents of said vehicles for towing and storing charges and costs of this sale as follows:

**2001 JAGUAR S-TYPE**  
**VIN# SAJDA01N01FM08197**  
**2016 CHEVROLET SONIC**  
**VIN# 1G1JAS6SH7G4146690**

Date of Sale: **January 31, 2024**  
Time: 9:30 am  
Place: 308 N Wheatley Street, Ridgeland, MS 39157

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF MADISON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF PATRICIA GOULET CLARK, DECEASED CIVIL ACTION NO. 23-1246(B)

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

CIVIL ACTION FILE NO: 23-1246(B)

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF PATRICIA GOULET CLARK, DECEASED Letters Testamentary having been granted on the 18th day of December, 2023, by the Chancery Court of Madison County, Mississippi, to the undersigned upon the estate of PATRICIA GOULET CLARK, Deceased, notice is hereby given to all persons or parties having claims against said estate to present the same to the Clerk of said 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. The 2nd day of January, 2024, s/ Bartlett B. Clark BARTLETT B. CLARK Executor of the Estate of PATRICIA GOULET CLARK, Deceased

THOMAS M. MILAM (MSB #3264) Milam Law Office, PLLC P. O. Box 1247 Madison, Mississippi 39130-1247 Phone: (601) 853-1268

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Notice is hereby given that the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the City of Gluckstadt, Mississippi, will receive written and electronic sealed bids for the purchase of services, commodities, and/or supplies for Public Works and contracts for public construction as listed below. Bids will be received until the hour of **10:00 am, Tuesday, February 20, 2024**, in the Conference Room of the City of Gluckstadt Public Works Building located at 107 Lone Wolf Drive, Gluckstadt, MS, 39110.

Asphalt (FOB – Plant) (6 month)  
Asphalt (FOB - City of Gluckstadt) (6 month)

Official bid documents can be downloaded and electric bids can be submitted at Central Bidding www.centralauctionhouse.com. For any questions relating to the electronic bidding process and to register, please call Central Bidding at 225-810-4814. All Bids that are mailed or hand delivered must be sealed and clearly marked "Sealed Bid" with the item you are bidding listed on the envelope. Please put only one bid form in each envelope. All bids shall be submitted in duplicate. Bids will only be accepted on forms provided by the City or download-

Public Notices

ed from www.centralbidding.com and the prices quoted will be binding for the period from **APRIL 1, 2024 THRU SEPTEMBER 30, 2024, unless otherwise indicated.** Contracts for purchase will be made from the lowest and/or best bids submitted, but the Mayor and Board of Aldermen reserve the right to reject any and all bids, and accept or reject any part of a bid.

All bids properly submitted in accordance with this notice will be opened at **10:00 am, February 20, 2024** in the Conference Room of the City of Gluckstadt Public Works Building located at 107 Lone Wolf Drive, Gluckstadt, MS 39110.

**Electronic Bidding:** www.centralbidding.com  
**Hand Delivery :** City of Gluckstadt, Attn: Vikki Good, 107 Lone Wolf Drive, Gluckstadt, MS 39110  
**Mailing Address:** City of Gluckstadt, Attn: Vikki Good, 107 Lone Wolf Drive, Gluckstadt, MS 39110

CITY OF GLUCKSTADT, MISSISSIPPI

By: /s/Lindsay Kellum  
Lindsay Kellum, City Clerk

Publish: January 18 and January 25, 2024

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF MADISON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF ELIZABETH ANN BRISTER BEGGIANI, DECEASED

CAUSE NO. 23-1306B

WILLIAM HARON BEGGIANI, PETITIONER

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Letters of Administration having been granted on the 3rd day of January, 2024, by the Chancery Court of Madison County, Mississippi, to WILLIAM HARON BEGGIANI, as Administrator, on the Estate of ELIZABETH ANN BRISTER BEGGIANI, 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 the law within ninety (90) days from the first publication of this Notice or they will be forever barred. **THIS, the 3rd day of January, 2024.**

William Haron Beggiani, Administrator Estate of Elizabeth Ann Brister Beggiani

**Prepared by:**  
RYAN VANDEBURGH, MSB #104875  
ASPEN LAW GROUP, PLLC  
660 Katherine Drive, Suite 404  
Flowood, MS 39232  
Office: (601) 460-0900 Ext. 103

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF MADISON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF SHIRLEY JONES PITTMAN BYRD, DECEASED

CAUSE NO. 23-991 (W)

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Letters of Administration having been granted on the 27th day of October, 2023, by the Chancery Court of Madison County, Mississippi, to the undersigned Administrator of the Estate of Shirley Jones Pittman Byrd, 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 first publication of this notice, or they will be forever barred. **THIS, the 9th day of January, 2024.**

/s/ Charles G. Pittman, Jr.,  
CHARLES G. PITTMAN, JR., Administrator of the Estate of Shirley Jones Pittman Byrd

SAMUEL H. WILLIFORD, MSB #100095  
**WILLIFORD, McALLISTER, JACOBUS & WHITE, LLP**  
ATTORNEYS AT LAW  
303 Highland Park Cove, Suite A  
Ridgeland, Mississippi 39157  
(601) 991-2000

**EN EL TRIBUNAL DE LA CANCELLERIA DEL CONDADO DE MADISON, MISSISSIPPI**

EN RE:

**KEILA HANANI MENDEZ MARTINEZ, MENOR**  
**CAUSA NO. 2023-1358**

**LEONOR ESTHER MARTINEZ MELLADO, PETICIONARIA**

**REGLA 81 CITACION POR PUBLICACION**

EL ESTADO DE MISSISSIPPI

PARA: Rigoberto Javier Jaime Mendez Ramirez  
Veracruz, Mexico

**AVISO AL DEMANDADO**

**LA QUEJEA ADJUNTA A ESTA CITACION ES IMPORTANTE Y DEBE TOMAR ACCION INMEDIATA PARA PROTEGER SUS DERECHOS**

Usted está convocado para comparecer y defenderse contra la Petición para Nombrar Tutor radicada en su contra en esta acción a las 9 a.m. el día 29 th de Febrero 2024, en el Tribunal de la Cancillería del Condado de Yazoo en Yazoo City, Mississippi, ante Su Señoría Robert G. Clark III, y en caso de que usted no aparezca y se defienda, un fallo será dictado en su contra por el dinero u otras cosas exigidas en la Petición para Nombrar Tutor Verificada. No es necesario que presente una respuesta u otro alegato, pero puede hacerlo si lo desea.

Emittedo bajo mi mano y el sello de dicho Tribunal, este día 4 de Enero, 2024.

Ronny Lott  
Secretario de la Cancillería del Condado de Madison, Mississippi

[SELLO] por: Kelsey Rodriguez D.C.

Notice of sale is hereby given in accordance with the Mississippi Statutes governing the sale of abandoned motor vehicles for the following: 2000 NISSAN MAXIMA, VIN # JN1CA31D1YTS9091, \$2889.00, and a 2009 HONDA ACCORD, VIN # 1HGPCP26819A081794, \$4360.25. Public sale of these abandoned/unclaimed vehicles and their contents will be held on Friday January 19, 2024 at 10:00 A.M. at Gilmore Towing & Recovery, 124 E. State Street, Ridgeland, MS 39157.

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF MADISON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF ELIZABETH ANN BRISTER BEGGIANI, DECEASED

CAUSE NO. 23-1306B

WILLIAM HARON BEGGIANI, PETITIONER

SUMMONS

TO: UNKNOWN HEIRS AT LAW OF

Public Notices

**ELIZABETH ANN BRISTER BEGGIANI, DECEASED**

You have been made Respondent in the suit filed in this Court by William Haron Beggiani, seeking to determine the heirs at law of Elizabeth Ann Brister Beggiani, Deceased. Defendants other than you are: none.

You are summoned to appear and defend against the Petition filed in this matter at 9:00 o'clock a.m. on the 16th day of February, 2024, in the courtroom of the Honorable Cynthia Brewer at the Madison County Chancery Court in Canton, Mississippi, and in case of your failure to appear and defend a judgment or order will be entered for the things demanded in the Petition.

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

ISSUED under my hand and the seal of this Court, this the 9th day of January, 2024.  
RONNY LOTT, Chancery Clerk  
Madison County, Mississippi

**Prepared by:**  
RYAN VANDEBURGH, MSB #104875  
ASPEN LAW GROUP, PLLC  
660 Katherine Drive, Suite 404  
Flowood, MS 39232  
Office: (601) 460-0900 Ext. 103

Notice of sale is hereby given in accordance with the Mississippi

Statutes governing the sale of abandoned motor vehicles for the

following: 2002 MERCURY GR. MARQUIS, VIN

#2MEFM74W72X661095, \$ 2789.49. Public sale of this

abandoned/unclaimed vehicle and its contents will be held on

Friday January 19, 2024 at Big Byrd Towing LLC

located at 120 E. State St. Ridgeland, MS 39157 at 10:00 A.M.

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF MADISON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

IN THE MATTER OF THE LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT OF JULIA BLACK WEEKS  
CAUSE NO.: 23-1188B  
REBECCA WEEKS KING  
EXECUTRIX

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

Letters Testamentary having been granted to the undersigned by the Chancery Court of Madison County, Mississippi, in the Estate of Julia Black Weeks, on the 15th day of December, 2023, 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 Madison 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 29th day of December 2023.

/s/ Rebecca Weeks King  
REBECCA WEEKS KING

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

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF MADISON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI  
IN THE MATTER OF THE LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT OF IDA MAE BENNETT  
CIVIL ACTION NO. 2021-1041-C  
SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION  
THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI  
TO: Kelly Perryman  
921 Adriatic  
Universal City, Texas 78148  
Tanya Yvette Williams Serchion  
2788 Idlewood Road  
Decatur, Georgia 30034  
and any UNKNOWN HEIRS of Glasgo Williams,

THE COMPLAINT OR PETITION WHICH IS ATTACHED TO THIS SUMMONS IS IMPORTANT AND YOU MUST TAKE IMMEDIATE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR RIGHTS. You are summoned to appear and defend against said Complaint or Petition at 9:00 a.m. on the 9th day of February, 2024, in the Courtroom of the Madison County Chancery and Administrative Building, 146 West Center Street, Canton, Mississippi 39046, and in case of your failure to appear and defend a judgment will be entered against you for the money or other things demanded in the Complaint or Petition. You are not required to file an answer or other pleading but you may do so if you desire. Issued under my hand and the seal of said Court, this 27th day of December, 2023.  
Ronny Lott, Chancery Clerk  
By: /s/Kelsey Rodriguez, D.C. (SEAL)  
Ronny Lott, Chancery Clerk

146 W. Center St.  
Canton, Mississippi 39046  
601-855-1177

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF LEAKE COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

In the Matter of the Estate of PHILLIP WALLACE  
CAUSE NO.: 23-23 (B)  
CHERYL WALLACE  
PETITIONER

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

Letters Of Administration having been granted on the 16 th day of October 2023, by the Chancery Court of Leake County, State of Mississippi, to the undersigned Administrator upon the Estate of Phillip Wallace, Deceased, notice is hereby given to all persons having claims against said estate to present same to the Clerk of said Court for probate and registration according to law within ninety (90) days after the first publication of this notice, or said claims will be forever barred.

WITNESS MY SIGNATURE, this the 18 th day of December 2023.

/s/ Cheryl Wallace  
Cheryl Wallace, Executor  
Estate of Phillip Wallace

Publish: 01/11, 01/18, 01/25/2024

**PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE REGARDING PROPOSED REDISTRICTING OF ELECTION DISTRICTS**  
FOR THE MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN  
FOR THE CITY OF RIDGELAND, MISSISSIPPI

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Mayor and Board of Aldermen for the City of Ridgeland, Mississippi, will hold a public hearing to give the citizens of the city an opportunity to provide input regarding a proposed redistricting plan which divides the city into six equally apportioned election districts to be utilized for the purpose of electing members of the Board of Aldermen. This public hearing will be held in the Board Room at Ridgeland City Hall, 100 W School St, Ridgeland, MS 39157 during a

Public Notices

special called public meeting on January 30, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.

The Mayor and Board of Aldermen are calling this public hearing for the purpose of enabling citizens to comment, be heard, provide input on, and participate in the re-districting process of establishing equally apportioned election districts for the Alderman positions. This upcoming public hearing and the opportunity to participate in the decision to adopt a proposed redistricting plan concerns every citizen of the City.

The Board has developed proposed re-districting plans to correct any population imbalance among the various election districts revealed by the 2020 Census data. Federal law requires that the population of election districts vary by less than ten (10%) percent to ensure equal representation and compliance with the "one person, one vote" requirement of the United States Constitution. Boundaries of the aforementioned election districts must be realigned to balance the population. Multiple proposed redistricting plans have been prepared and will be taken up for consideration after the aforesaid public hearing.

Maps of the proposed election districts along with a demographic profile of each is on file and available for public review in the office of the City Clerk, located at 100 W School St, Ridgeland, MS 39157. The public is invited to review the proposed plan and demographics, and to attend this hearing and offer comments.

Published by Order of the Ridgeland Mayor and Board of Aldermen dated this 5th day of December, 2023, on motion by Alderman Bill Lee, seconded by Alderman Brian Ramsey, with all members present voting "Aye."

CITY OF RIDGELAND, MISSISSIPPI

Publish two times January 18th and 25th, 2024.

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF MADISON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF PATSY CALDWELL AUCCOIN, DECEASED  
CAUSE NO. 23-1354-B

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

Letters Testamentary having been granted on the 20th day of December, 2023, by the Chancery Court of Madison County, Mississippi, to the undersigned on the Estate of Patsy Caldwell Aucoin, Deceased, late of Madison County, Mississippi, notice is hereby given to all persons having claims against the Estate of said Decedent to present the same to the Clerk of this Court for filing and registration, according to law, within ninety (90) days from the date of first publication, or they will be forever barred. This the 20th day of December, 2023.

**Michael Karl Aucoin, Executor of the Estate of Patsy Caldwell Aucoin, Deceased**

**Prepared By:**  
**RICHARD YOUNG, MSB# 6660**  
**The Elder Law Firm**  
**P.O. Box 5142**  
**Brandon, MS 39047**  
**(601) 992-1437**  
**Richard@theelderlawfirm.net**

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF MADISON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF JOHN I. ZACHRY, DECEASED  
CAUSE NO. 23-1345-C  
NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Letters Testamentary having been granted on the 20th day of December, 2023, by the Chancery Court of Madison County, Mississippi, to the undersigned on the Estate of John I. Zachry, Deceased, late of Madison County, Mississippi, notice is hereby given to all persons having claims against the Estate of said Decedent to present the same to the Clerk of this Court for filing and registration, according to law, within ninety (90) days from the date of first publication, or they will be forever barred. This the 20th day of December, 2023.

**Ashton Foy, Executrix of the Estate of John I. Zachry, Deceased**

**Prepared By:**  
**RICHARD YOUNG, MSB# 6660**  
**The Elder Law Firm**  
**P.O. Box 5142**  
**Brandon, MS 39047**  
**(601) 992-1437**  
**Richard@theelderlawfirm.net**

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Birdsong Construction has filed a petition with the Board of Supervisors of Madison County, MS, to request a Conditional Use on certain property located on Hwy. 16 West, further identified by Tax Parcel # 102G-26-006/00.00 and 102G-35-016/00.00 pursuant to the Zoning Ordinance of Madison County, Mississippi, by Conditional Use for a mining operation to-wit:

Legal Description

First partial ID: 102G-26-006/00.00  
Location: Madison County, Mississippi  
Section – Township – Range  
26-10N-2E  
Legal Description: 71A IN W1/2 SE ¼  
Second partial ID: 102G-35-016/00.00  
Location: Madison County, Mississippi  
Section – Township – Range  
35-10N-2E  
Legal Description: 47A OUT W1/2 NE ¼

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the Planning Commission of Madison County, MS, will meet at 9 a.m. on February 8, 2024, at the Madison County Complex Building, in the Board Room, located at 125 West North Street, Canton, Madison County, MS to consider and act upon the petition, and will at such time, date and place, hold and conduct a public hearing at which all parties in interest and citizens shall have an opportunity to be heard on the matter of the petition, either in person, by petition, or by attorney.

BY ORDER OF THE ZONING ADMINISTRATOR OF MADISON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI, on this the 1st day of January 2024.

/s/Scott Weeks, Zoning Administrator  
Publish: January 18, 2024

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that East Madison Water Association has filed a petition with the Board of Supervisors of Madison County, MS, to request a Conditional Use on certain property located on Hwy. 16 East, pursuant to the Zoning Ordinance of Madison County, Mississippi, by Conditional Use for a water well to-wit:

Legal Description

EXHIBIT "A"  
Description of a 1.00 acre tract

INDEXING INSTRUCTIONS: SW 1/4 of the SE 1/4 of Section 24, T-10-N, R-5-E, Madison County, Mississippi.

The bearings and distances in the following description are based on the Mississippi State Plane Coordinate System (West

Public Notices

Zone), NAD 83, NAVD 88, Geoid 12B, having a Ground to Grid, Combined Scale factor of 0.9999751708, a Convergence angle of 00°19'24" (NW) at the Point of Beginning, derived from using the Mississippi Department of Transportation's RTK/VRS GPS network.

Commencing at a concrete right of way marker found on the northern side of Highway 16, denoted on Mississippi Department of Transportation highway plans as being on the eastern line of Section 24, Township 10 North, Range 5 East being also the line between Leake County and Madison County, (also being the Point of Commencement of the property lying along the eastern boundary of the property herein described, said monument having a value of N:1163563.30, E:2482174.69 on the above referenced coordinate system; thence run South 67°33'22" West along the northern right of way a distance of 1428.85 feet to the Point of Beginning;

From the Point of Beginning, (said point having a value of N:1163017.80, E:2480854.07 on the above coordinate system), thence continue along the right of way South 67°33'22" West a distance of 144.64 feet; thence leaving the highway right of way run North 0°35'04" East a distance of 327.24 feet to a 1/2" rebar having a value of N:1163289.80, E:2480723.72 on the above referenced coordinate system; thence North 67°33'22" East a distance of 144.64 feet to a point on the eastern boundary of grantor's property common with the western line of the Verena Valley property as found recorded in Book 3028, Page 34; thence run along said line South 00°35'04" West a distance of 327.24 feet back to the POINT OF BEGINNING, containing, 1.00 acres, more or less, and being situated in the Southwest Quarter of the Southeast Quarter of Section 24 of Township 10 North, Range 5 East, Madison County, in the Great State of Mississippi.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the Planning Commission of Madison County, MS, will meet at 9 a.m. on February 8, 2024, at the Madison County Complex Building, in the Board Room, located at 125 West North Street, Canton, Madison County, MS to consider and act upon the petition, and will at such time, date and place, hold and conduct a public hearing at which all parties in interest and citizens shall have an opportunity to be heard on the matter of the petition, either in person, by petition, or by attorney.

BY ORDER OF THE ZONING ADMINISTRATOR OF MADISON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI, on this the 1st day of January 2024.

/s/Scott Weeks, Zoning Administrator  
Publish: January 18, 2024

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Nema, LLC has filed a petition with the Board of Supervisors of Madison County, MS, to request a Conditional Use on property, pursuant to the Zoning Ordinance of Madison County, Mississippi, for the purpose




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— 2 Corinthians 5:17 (ESV)



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— Proverbs 27:1 (ESV)



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— John 3:16 (NIV)



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**Getting the Message/Rev. Chris Shelton**

**Glorify God and enjoy Him forever**

The purpose or goal of redemption is that we might glorify God and enjoy Him forever. Christ is the door to enter into the enjoyable presence of God. He came not only to atone for our sin but that we might know God. Since we were sinners, he didn't come to improve us but to make us new creatures, cleansed from sin and fit to worship and have joy in God.

In this world, Christians face obstacles and difficulties in living in the joy of the Lord. We have afflictions and tribulations, but also, the allurements of the world, temptations from the devil, and our sinful nature hinder our joy in Christ. So, we must live by faith. Psalm 126 teaches us that reflecting on a deliverance God rendered in the past and the joy that was in it helps us to call on the Lord for strength to meet the trials of the present.

In verse 1, the psalmist remembers a deliverance so miraculous that “We were like those who dream.” Many think the deliverance the psalmist remembers is the return of the Israelites to Jerusalem from captivity in Babylon. They were wretched before but then became incredibly joyful. This was a vivid national memory, like an intensely happy dream.

The bondage was so complete, their oppressors had been so strong, they were so completely helpless that the nations around them were also amazed and said, “The Lord has done great things for them” (verse 2). The Lord does great things for His people that His name might be great and that His people may derive joy from it.

The deliverance of Israel could only have been wrought by God, and it is a type or pattern of the sinner being delivered from the captivity of sin. The keynote in Psalm 126 is that the Lord “restored the fortunes of Zion” (verse 1). This phrase has the meaning of a complete turnaround. It points to conversion, restoration to the Lord God.

It is God who must do this work in us. Our bondage to sin and death is so complete that God must initiate our conversion. He must give us life, change our hearts so we might see our sin and misery, and enlighten our minds to the knowledge of Christ.

When you reflect on knowing Christ, it should be like a dream, a joyous dream. It is not a normal state for sinners. It comes from a work of God, a great work of God. We might ask, “How can this be?” And hear the Lord say to us, “My Spirit overshadowed you and said let there be light in the darkness.” You were wretched before, but now you know Christ, the redeemer of your soul. The keynote of the gospel is “You must be born again.”

In verse 4, the psalmist, after reflecting on the past deliverance, turns it into a prayer for present help. He pleads, “Restore our fortunes, O Lord.” The plea is for another work of the Lord that brings about radical change. But this time it is to correct the spiritual apathy of God's people. So, he prays an outpouring of God's Spirit. In times of spiritual drought, we need living water.

The use of the phrase “O Lord,” shows the sincerity of the prayer. We need the “O Lord” in our prayers. The contrition of the petition is also reflected in the appeal that the Lord come to them, “like streams in the Negev” (verse 4). The Negev was an extremely dry area, but when rain came torrents of water would stream down the gulleys and water the valleys.

If the Holy Spirit is poured out on us, we have the foundation of humble faith and joy joined, which produces good fruit unto the Lord. The language of sowing and reaping in verses 5 and 6 shows the good work the Spirit does in His people. Sowing in tears and weeping points not only to humility, but serving the Lord in affliction, opposition, and all manner of trials. Such are the things we face in this world. In such times, we have opportunities to honor our Lord.

Coming “home with shouts of joy and bringing his sheaves with him” (verse 6), reflects the hope of an abundant crop from service to our Lord when we leave this world. The apostle Paul was fruitful because he believed it was better to depart and be with Christ. His pattern was the same as the psalmist: joy for past deliverance, prayer for present help, and anticipation of future blessedness with the Lord.




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“Commit your work to the Lord, and your plans will be established.”

— Proverbs 16:3 (ESV)

“With all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love.”

— Ephesians 4:2 (ESV)



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— 1 Corinthians 16:14 (ESV)



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— 1 Peter 3:8 (ESV)

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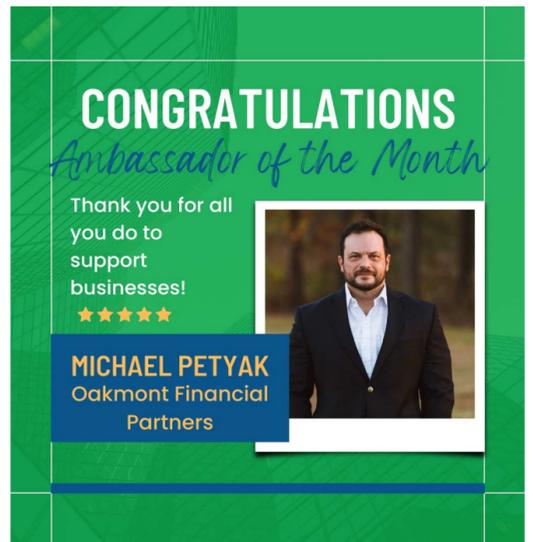
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Suzanne Lindsay | Light House Organizers

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