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THE NESHOPA DEMOCRAT

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Man hit by stray bullet at home dies

By **DUNCAN DENT**
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A Philadelphia man died after being struck by a stray bullet at his residence Monday night off of Martin Luther King Jr. Drive, officials said.

Tommie “Tom Tom” Warren, 31, died after being transported by car to Neshoba General and died en route by helicopter to Jackson, according to Philadelphia Police Chief Eric

Lyons.

Warren, a local rapper, discussed violence in Philadelphia in June 2020 on Carl Lee’s “County Line” podcast, equating much of the violence to lack of parenting.

“It’s different — I think it’s more dangerous,” Warren told Lee when asked if the violence in town was greater than when growing up.

Warren told Lee when they were growing up all they would

hear was “these babies having babies. That was a big thing at one time. All it is is these babies grew up. I think that’s where the extra violence stems from.”

Warren said people shooting and getting shot are in their teens.

When Lee asked why teens are drawn to gun violence these days, Warren told him it’s because they didn’t want to wake up in the morning after getting beat up and it’s easier to

use a gun than a fist like they did growing up.

He said the parents never grew up and don’t discipline the kids at home, adding that when they were young if they got written up in school for misbehaving they got spanked at home. Now, if a kid misbehaves the parents come to the school to yell at the teachers.

Lyons said they are still very early in the investigating.

“We are in the process of

gathering evidence and interviewing witnesses and potential suspects,” Lyons said on Tuesday morning.

Lyons said they received a call reporting shots fired around 7 p.m. at a residence on near Martin Luther King Jr. Drive Bennet Street. Upon arrival, officers said they were informed a man had been shot and was transported to Neshoba General Hospital in a personal vehicle.

Lyons said that Warren is not

believed to be a target and was hit by a “stray bullet” as two groups exchanged gunfire on MLK Drive nearby.

A pizza delivery person was at Warren’s residence at the time of the shooting, Lyons said.

Officers are working to identify the two groups exchanging gunfire, and no other victims or injuries have been reported as a result of the exchange of gunfire, he said.

See **WARREN**, page 7A

LEGISLATURE

Bounds, Branning discuss new year

By **SCOTT HAWKINS AND STEVE SWOGETINSKY**
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When the Mississippi Legislature convenes next week in Jackson, two area legislators say infrastructure improvements, broadband expansion and making the best use of \$1.8 billion in federal American Rescue Plan Act funds would be their top priorities this session.

Republican state Sen. Jenifer Branning of Philadelphia chairs the Senate Highway and Transportation Committee and says she has been studying transportation needs to determine the best use for the ARPA funds.

Branning’s District 18 includes Neshoba and parts of Leake and Winston counties.

“I’ve been using my time out of session, going around the state looking at different transportation projects, and trying to make sure that we are spending those dollars

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Ice storm, big drug roundup top '21 stories

By **DUNCAN DENT**
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The year 2021 started with a freeze as many Neshoba Countians spent more than a week bundled up in their homes due to an ice storm in February.

However, the community was able to breathe a breath of fresh air in the summer as the Choctaw Indian Fair and Mississippi’s Giant House Party, The Neshoba County Fair, returned with a performance by hometown boy made good in Nashville’s **HARDY**.

Below is a recap of some of the more significant stories from Neshoba County in 2021.

Ice Storm

An ice storm that hit on Valentine’s Day would leave roads blocked by debris or frozen over and as much as 70% of the county without electricity for more than a week.

Even Walmart was closed for some time, as were many roads by the Highway Patrol.

Emergency Management Director Darrell Wilson reported that

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Photo by COLEMAN EAKES

Charles Everett Estes of Philadelphia was aboard the USS Shasta, a Lassen-class ammunition ship on Feb. 23, 1945, where he witnessed the historical end of the Battle of Iwo Jima during World War II. Estes,

using a spyglass, witnessed six U.S. Marines raising the flag on the top of Mt. Suribachi, in what has become an iconic photograph.

Veteran witnessed raising of flag at Iwo Jima

By **JOHN LEE**
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Charles Everett Estes of Philadelphia said he was in awe when he witnessed United States Marines raising the American flag atop Mt. Suribachi, depicted in an iconic photograph during the Battle of Iwo Jima.

Estes, who turned 99 on Dec. 12, was aboard the USS Shasta, a Lassen-class ammunition ship, on Feb. 23, 1945, the day of the Mt. Suribachi flag-raising at the end of the Battle of Iwo Jima.

He witnessed the historical event while looking through a spyglass aboard the ship.

The Marine Corps War Memorial in Washington, D.C., depicts the raising of the American flag at Mount Suribachi.

“We arrived at Iwo Jima around 24 hours after the invasion started,” Estes said. “We were supplying ammunition to the soldiers, and I was able to see the flag going up because Iwo Jima is a small island. Our ship was turning and moving to prevent being shot at, and I happened to be looking through a spyglass and saw the flag raising in real-time.”

Estes said he was proud to observe the historic event.

“I didn’t look forward to this battle since I knew how dangerous it was, but I greatly appreciated it after I saw what had happened,” Estes said. “It was a very tough battle, and we supplied thousands of tons of ammunition for the soldiers.”

Estes, a Neshoba County native, served as a Navy Radar Operator Second Class from 1943 until 1946.

After the war, he attended Mississippi State University and graduated in 1950 with a major in dairy science. He moved to New Orleans with his wife, Mildred, where he started working at the Borden Dairy Company as an ice cream mixer while she opened a beauty shop.



On February 23, 1945, during the battle for Iwo Jima, U.S. Marines raised a flag atop Mount Suribachi. It was taken down, and a second flag was raised. Associated Press photographer Joe Rosenthal captured this second flag-raising.

Estes worked for Borden for more than 30 years and eventually became the company’s general superintendent. After retiring, he and his wife returned to Neshoba County a couple of years before Hurricane Katrina.

His wife died in June 2020, and he continued to live on his own until April this year when he moved into Atwood Personal Care Home in Philadelphia, where he currently resides.

See **FLAG**, page 3A



2021

Continued from page 1A

from midnight on Monday, Feb. 15, to Friday evening, they received 835 emergency calls to 911. That is double the usual call volume.

According to the National Weather Service, an overnight low record was set on Feb. 15 at 12 degrees. According to the NWS, the previous record low was 16 degrees on Feb. 16, 1950. The NWS described the snowfall as a "dusting" but noted significant ice accumulation on the ground and roadways.

Stories of Good Samaritan acts were plentiful while many were snowed in. One of those was Curt Pace, pastor of New Bethel church. Pace lives at the top of Chaney Hill on Highway 16 west toward Edinburg. Pace said he helped at least 30 vehicles navigate the icy hill with his tractor.

Electrical crews from all over the region came in and helped repair downed power lines when the roads became passable.

Neshoba County Fair returns

The Neshoba County Fair ran from July 23 to July 30, and fairgoers saw Philadelphia-native Michael Hardy, known professionally as HARDY, headline the grandstand stage on Tuesday, July 26.

Thousands of people returned to the Fair after it had been canceled the previous year due to the COVID pandemic for the first time since World War II.

Though heavy rain canceled the horse races for the first time in roughly two decades on July 26, Speedlin, a horse from Texas, set a new mile record for the Fair at 1 minute and 56 seconds flat during the Morris Therrell Memorial Invitational Race on the last day of races July 30.

"That's going to be hard to beat," race coordinator Bud Dees said.

During the pageant, Abby Seale was crowned Miss Neshoba County 2021, and Daniel Wile of Meridian crossed the finish line first during the 41st Heart O' Dixie Triathlon.

After the Fair, Doug Johnson, who has been the Fair Manager for 27 years, announced his retirement. At the end of this year, he will hand the job over to Kevin Cheatham.

Later, in October, Gilbert Donald submitted his resignation as Neshoba County Fair Board President after 51 years of service on the board. State Rep. C. Scott Bounds was elected at the same meeting to fill the rest of Donald's term and is planning on re-election to the post at the board's February meeting.

Choctaw Fair returns

The Choctaw Indian Fair also returned this year. The 71st annual iteration of the fair kicked back into action on Wednesday, July 14.

Professional shows at Amphitheater included Jimmie Allen, Zach Williams and Brett Young.

Shemah Ladiana Crosby was crowned the Choctaw Indian Princess by Tribal Chief Cyrus Ben, and Bok Cito captured their third straight Men's Division championship in the World Series of Stickball.

The Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians formally unveiled a new Choctaw Indian Fair Country Music Trail Marker in October.

Marty Stuart Congress of Country Music

Work began in October on a \$4 million state-funded renovation of the now gutted Ellis Theater as part of the \$30 million Marty Stuart Congress of Country Music. Stuart and his friends went to the movies in this old theater building while growing up in Philadelphia. The Ellis is the first of four phases Stuart has set into motion.

Officials have said that the Congress of Country Music will include international traveled artifacts, memorabilia, photography folk art, and Native American programming.

The complex will feature a renovated Ellis Theater and a museum to display Stuart's 20,000-plus piece collection of country music memorabilia that still has to be purchased.

Before the end of the year, the city board approved \$1 million in annual \$100,000 increments.

The project has caused indefinite closures on Byrd Avenue from Main Street to Walnut Street and has caused Weyerhaeuser truck traffic to re-route.

High Life busts

Operation in High Life arrests in May continued as part of the largest single project to keep illegal drugs off the street.

The more than five-year-long investigation involving the Neshoba County Sheriff's



HARDY performs at the Neshoba County Fair which was back this year after last year's COVID-19 lockdown.

Department, Philadelphia Police Department and Homeland Security Investigations New Orleans. Thirty-seven suspects have been brought in for charges since May related to the trafficking and sale of marijuana, cocaine and methamphetamine in Neshoba County.

Law enforcement officials said the operation took about \$5 million in illegal drugs off the streets, including seizures of 85 pounds of methamphetamine with a street value of \$3.5 million, five kilograms of cocaine worth about \$500,000, 270 pounds of marijuana worth \$1 million, 300 dosage units of fentanyl worth about \$6,000 and 16 firearms, throughout the investigation.

Highway 19

Work on an \$11.7 million two-lane bridge replacement project at Tucker opened to traffic earlier in December.

A final stretch of four-lane from Tucker to House — including a second lane of bridges — remains unfunded, as does a \$130 million bypass from Highway 19 to Williamsville that has been on the drawing board for three decades.

The four-landing from Tucker north into town continues.

The construction has been a cause of concern by law enforcement. Six fatal wrecks on Highway 19 between Philadelphia and House had been recorded this year by September. This led to Sheriff Eric Clark implementing increased patrols in the area to police speeding and other unsafe driving habits.

James A. Young re-elected

Philadelphia Mayor James A. Young handily won re-election to a fourth term in the June 8 general election.

Young, who garnered 819 votes, or 61%, to Republican challenger Republican Leo E. Renaldo's 504 votes, or 38%, said he was ready for another four years.

"I am going to roll up my sleeves and keep working," said Young following the election results. "It is a never-ending challenge to continue to do things for the community. We have a lot of projects on the burner, and I am just thankful I have the opportunity to see things through. There were negative things said throughout the campaign, and it fires me up to work even harder to serve this city. I am thankful for the support that this community has given me. I have said all the time that I will never let Philadelphia down."

City raises taxes

In September, Philadelphia aldermen on a 3-2 raised taxes 1 mill from 19 to 20 mills to fund an \$11 million city budget that would fund a \$1.25-an-hour pay increase for city employees.

One mill represents \$1 of tax on every \$1,000 of assessed property value.

Raising taxes will make Philadelphia more competitive with surrounding cities, Ward 1 Alderman Justin Clearman said at the time during a public hearing on the proposed \$11 million 2022 budget that included the tax hike.

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



Utility crews work to restore power following a massive February ice storm.

Philadelphia behind on audit

During the budgeting process in September, it was revealed the city had not completed an audit since 2017.

Marsha McDonald, a partner in the firm, Watkins, Ward and Stafford, said the city never officially hired the firm to do financial audits for the city of Philadelphia, and they were never paid for any services.

The overdue audits came to light when a Neshoba Democrat reporter asked city officials in an open meeting for the latest audit, and they could not provide one.

The Mayor and Board of Aldermen later hired a Pearl accounting firm that pledged to get the city out of a potential bind with the State Auditor over the overdue audits that have not been performed since 2017.

Young estimated the FY 2018 audit should be complete soon.

College World Series

Plenty of Neshoba countians turned out to see Mississippi State baseball win the team's first-ever national title after dominating Vanderbilt in the winner-take-all game of the 2021 College World Series on June 30 at TD Ameritrade Park.

Neshoba countians spotted in Omaha at the College World Series included Stanley Salter, Lacie Wilkerson Murphy and Jenny Lynn Wilkerson; Abby, Steve and Miriam Seale; Alli Vick and Christa Cumbest; Bill and Jan Copeland; Cassidy and Brax Byars; Davis Cumberland, Hayes McDade and Grayson McDade; Frank Moore, Michelle Lyons, Kent Moore and Curtis Moore; John and Susan Burt; Kent and Mitzi Stribling; Tommy and Beth Jackson; Susan Bates, Austin McNair and Vikki McNair; Adrienne and Jim Sisson.

The pitching duo of Will Bednar and Landon Sims combined to hold the Commodore offense to just one hit and allowed only five base runners to post the eighth shutout of the season for the pitching staff on college baseball's biggest stage.

Economic Development

High-profile economic development projects were announced late in the year, including a new Toyota dealership coming to

Philadelphia and a La-Z-Boy trucking hub.

Representatives of Doc's Toyota, which is in the process of relocating to Philadelphia from Louisville, expect the dealership to be open sometime in 2022 and employ about 20 people with an estimated \$27 million in annual sales.

The city created a TIF district on the south side of Highway 16 across from Marshall Ford and other businesses.

The TIF district is a financing strategy designed to improve a targeted project area or district without drawing on general fund revenue or creating a new tax. Taxes collected are diverted to pay for infrastructure improvements such as roads, sewer and water.

La-Z-Boy Logistics opened a terminal in the old U.S. Motors plant building with trucks leaving Philadelphia and delivering about 50 loads of furniture and supplies each week.

That workload is expected to increase, and the company is looking to hire more drivers, company officials said.

La-Z-Boy rents the U.S. Motors building from the city of Philadelphia. It uses the space as a warehouse and distribution center. The company also has two operations in Newton. The downtown plant makes furniture. The other on Highway 15 is called the plywood plant and produces materials for the company's plants around the country.

Lisa Jones, the company's driver recruiter, said anyone interested in driving for La-Z-Boy Logistics could contact her at 1-800-987-7788 or 423-851-4837. She said she hopes to come to Philadelphia in January to hold an open house and look for drivers.

U.S. Census population drop

Neshoba County's population declined by 2% over the past decade, while the city of Philadelphia's population declined by 5%, according to U.S. Census figures released in 2021.

Neshoba County's population was 29,692 after the 2010 U.S. Census and is now at 29,087, a drop of 605 people or 2% of the county's total population.

Of those 605 people who left Neshoba County in the past

decade, 359 were from inside the Philadelphia city limits, which had a population of 7,477 after the 2010 U.S. Census and now has a population of 7,118, a 5% drop in population, according to U.S. Census figures.

The population declines are expected to affect the redrawing of legislative and congressional districts.

Federal relief funds

Neshoba County is receiving a total of \$5.6 million. Philadelphia is receiving \$1.6 million, and the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians received \$53,051,330 in June, Tribal Chief Cyrus Ben said in a video at the time detailing how the monies would be allocated.

Philadelphia and Neshoba County officials are still determining how best to spend the funds within federal guidelines. Both the city and the county received the first half of the money in August and are expected to receive the remainder of the money this year.

The Tribe announced its spending plan as follows:

- "Through the Health and Human Services, the Choctaw Health Center has received \$46,514,453;
- "Through the Department of Interior, the Bureau of Indian Education for Choctaw Tribal Schools has received \$26,714,010;
- "Through Low Income Housing Emergency Assistance (LIHEA) has received \$68,904

- "Through the Bureau of Indian Affairs Justice Services, the Choctaw Police Department has received \$600,788

- "Through the Health and Human Services, Head Start has received \$320,662

Parents of missing girl charged

The parents of a 2-year-old girl who spent more than 10 hours lost in the woods near their home in September face felony child abuse charges, authorities said.

According to Neshoba County Sheriff Eric Clark, the parents, Tamera Chunn, 30, and Jason Reed, 48, both of Road 236, Union, were arrested and charged in mid-September.

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

During the investigation, which included interviews with both parents, investigators collected evidence that led to the charges, Clark said.

Law enforcement: MSWIN, drug dog

This year both the Philadelphia Police Department and Neshoba County Sheriff's Department joined the state's radio system to provide better coverage.

MISWIN is the state's public safety communication system designed to provide 97% mobile area coverage statewide via multiple sites developed after Hurricane Katrina.

Sheriff Eric Clark reported that his office switched over to the system during the summer, and Police Chief Eric Lyons reported a "seamless" transition to the system at 9 a.m. on Dec. 1.

In addition to new radios, city police welcomed a new four-legged officer to the force this fall. Met, a Belgian Malinois police dog, went to work at the Philadelphia Police Department recently after he and his handler, Justin Wyatt, trained for five weeks.

Wyatt said he and Met trained on patrol activity, narcotics and patrol apprehension.

"We did 24 hours of tactical training with the K-9 and myself," Wyatt said. "We trained on entering buildings, businesses and houses. We did a 12-hour class on public relations with our K-9."

Dupree vs. Auditor

Football star Marcus Dupree made headlines when State Auditor Shad White alleged in October that Dupree owed the state \$800,000 as part of \$77 million in alleged state Department of Human Services misspending.

Dupree is one of approximately a dozen individuals and organizations who received letters from White, including another football great, Brett Favre.

Dupree's attorney Matthew Eichelberger wrote in an Oct. 29 letter in response to the auditor's allegations that Dupree earned the money he was paid.

"Neither Mr. Dupree, nor his foundation, will be making any payment in response to your demand," Eichelberger wrote to White, and further said that any statements alleging misuse of the funds are "false and defamatory" in addition to asking White to issue a "statement clearing him of any wrongdoing."

The State Attorney General's office will pursue recouping the money in civil court. A civil demand does not imply criminal liability, White's office clarified.

Cody Bryan

The head of Philadelphia Parks, Cody Bryan, has a long recovery after being hit by a car on the side of Highway 15 on Nov. 12, but close family friends said his physical health and strength would guide him through it.

"He is the kind of person that will make lemonade out of lemons," Lee Ann Fulton, a long-time family friend, said. "He is a good, good guy, and I know his family is very blessed and very thankful."

Bryan on social media described the incident as "100% accident, all part of a PLAN GOD has in place. Not going to bore you with a big long story because, at the end of the day, all that matters is both involved got more time with their family," he wrote on Facebook.

Championships

In May, the Neshoba Central Lady Rockets softball won their eighth straight 5A State Championship in 14-2 and 7-3 wins over Moss point's East Central Hornets. This was the tenth title in school history and the first Zachary Sanders as head coach who had previously been an assistant. They finished the season with a perfect 32-0 record.

The Lady Rockets were not the only team to compete and win over the past year.

The Leake Academy Rebelettes basketball won their sixth Overall State Championship in school history with a 39-36 nail-biter victory over Hartfield on March 16.

In April, the Union High School Yellowjackets captured their fourth straight MHSAA powerlifting championship in the Class 2A division with 54 points, 22 points ahead of their closest opponent.

Last but not least, The Neshoba Central girls bowling team repeated as the Class 2A state champions for the fifth year in a row in February, while the NC boys bowling team was the state runner-up in its bracket.

Meth dealer sentenced to nearly 16 years by feds

By DUNCAN DENT
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A known area meth dealer has been sentenced to nearly 16 years in prison on federal charges stemming from a major drug trafficking ring involving his brother, one of the main players in an investigation dubbed Operation High Life.

Jerome Miller, 47, of Texas has been sentenced to prison followed by 5 years of supervised release for his role in distributing kilogram quantities of methamphetamine from Texas to Neshoba County and other parts of Mississippi going as far back as 2016.

Neshoba County Sheriff Eric Clark said Miller was arrested in July 2018 in Texas on drug charges related to the trafficking of crystal methamphetamine.

Clark said Miller pleaded guilty in June and was sentenced on Dec. 23 and is being held in Madison County.

Miller was wanted in Neshoba County in connection with Operation High Life, a now five-year-long investigation involving the Neshoba County Sheriff's Department, Philadelphia Police Department, Homeland Security Investigations New Orleans and

other agencies that culminated most recently in sweeping arrests on May 14 in Neshoba County. Eight people were arrested in May 2018.

Clark said Miller has been suspected of supplying meth to the Philadelphia area as far back as 2016. The drug network involved the distribution in one instance of over 40 kilograms of methamphetamine, over 3 kilograms of cocaine and over 100 pounds of marijuana, the authorities aid. The distribution network encompassed multiple states, including Texas, California, Tennessee, Alabama, Georgia and Mississippi.

"He was part of a larger supply chain," Clark said. "He was known to supply drugs to Neshoba County."

Clark said local, state and federal law enforcement are "still unwinding" that investigation that started in 2016 and has led to such operations as the more than 35 arrests made earlier this year.

Miller was being held earlier this week in the Madison County Detention Center on one federal charge of conspiracy.



Jerome Miller

Jerome Miller's brother, Brandon Deshanta Miller, 32, of Dallas has pleaded guilty to conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute 50 grams or more of methamphetamine, possession with intent to distribute 50 grams or more of methamphetamine, and being a felon in possession of a firearm. If convicted, Miller faces a maximum penalty of life in prison and up to a \$30.25 million fine.

An additional thirty-seven suspects have been brought in since May on charges related to the trafficking and sale of marijuana, cocaine and methamphetamine in Neshoba County related to Operation High Life.

Law enforcement officials said the operation took about \$5 million in illegal drugs off the streets, including seizures of 85 pounds of methamphetamine with a street value of \$3.5 million, 5 kilograms of cocaine worth about \$500,000, 270 pounds of marijuana worth \$1 million, 300 dosage units of fentanyl worth about \$6,000 and 16 firearms, throughout the investigation.

Flag

Continued from page 1A

Linda Griffis of Philadelphia said she grew close to Estes and his wife after meeting them at church about 15 years ago.

"He is a rare individual," Griffis said. "He considers me his daughter 'by his heart,' since he and Mildred never had children. Mildred also taught me how to cook jambalaya. If anyone meets someone his age and talks to them, they'll know people from that time are from the greatest generation ever."

Griffis said it is fascinating to listen to Estes talk about how times have changed and that technology has evolved and become more advanced

over time. "Technology, television and culture — things have

changed so much since his time," Griffis said. "He is a national treasure."



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Neshoba General wish you
a happy and prosperous
New Year!

N NESHOPA GENERAL



Seated left to right: Amanda Richardson, Penny Fanning, Steve Wilkerson, Jenny Lynn Wilkerson, and Tony Alexander
Standing left to right: Ben Allen Marshall, Tori Seale, Lacie Murphy, Harley Hobby, Marlee Keeton Pierce, and Julia Rester

The Christmas season is the most wonderful time of the year. Our staff worked tirelessly to make sure you felt special when you shopped with us. From all of us at Steve's on the Square, we wish you a safe and prosperous 2022! Happy New Year!

Steve

Opinion

FOUNDED 1881

THE NESHOPA DEMOCRAT

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

EDITORIALS

Omicron and freedom

The last grains of sand are trickling to the bottom of 2021's hourglass, in concert with the slow ebb of human freedom. Authoritarian measures meant to check the spread of the coronavirus have surely contributed to the loss of liberty, but the downward trend line predates the pandemic. It is incumbent upon free-thinking Americans and their like-minded brethren the world over to turn back the flood of fear and ensure that future generations know the taste of freedom.

The Human Freedom Index, published earlier this month by the Washington-based Cato Institute and Vancouver's Fraser Institute, assesses that a preponderant 83% of the world's population has experienced a decline in liberty since 2008. The deterioration has bedeviled even the world's most dominant nations, including China, India, United States, Indonesia, Pakistan, Brazil, Nigeria, Bangladesh, Russia and Mexico.

"The decline in fundamental rights represents a disturbing trend that was occurring even before the world experienced the COVID-19 pandemic and its social and political effects," writes Cato author Ian Vasquez. The implication is subsequent reports that include the torturous COVID-19 years of 2020 and 2021 are likely to reveal harsher threats to freedom yet to come. Areas of human activity found to have suffered most are freedom of expression, freedom of religion, freedom of association, assembly and civil society.

It might surprise Americans that among 165 nations covered in the index, "the land of the free" only ranks in 15th place,

tied with Germany and Japan. Sitting atop the HFI liberty list is the European alpine redoubt of Switzerland. New Zealand and Denmark in second and third place, respectively, risk precipitous freedom falls. In recent months, they have joined with other, more authoritarian nations in imposing harsh restrictions on travel and commerce.

No modern jurisdiction has lost more liberty than Hong Kong, sliding 10 places during the past year to No. 30, largely owing to incrementally heavier pressure from the boot of the city's Chinese overlords. China itself, where government control of thought and movement is a science, has tumbled five steps toward the basement of global freedom at No. 150. There, it keeps company with the likes of Zimbabwe and Chad.

Sadly, the rise of the omicron variant is triggering the return of puerile lockdowns, quarantines and, in some places, the equivalent of internment camps for the infected and the unvaccinated. If nothing else, massive anti-vaccine-mandate marches in major cities like New York, London, Vienna and Sydney have demonstrated that human beings — unlike sheep — kick when the master's corral gets too cramped.

No one guards their liberty as jealously as Americans. It is something worth remembering for President Biden, who has cited COVID-19 as ample reason for issuing dark warnings about the deadly disease. The U.S. may not lead the HFI, but its people still harken to the echo of "Give me liberty or give me death."

— *The Washington Times*

FLASHBACKS

DECEMBER 26, 1941

Mayor Dees Stribling was reelected Worshipful Master of the Philadelphia Masons at a meeting in the masonic Hall. Other officers elected are; E.I. Parker, Senior Warden; Lampkin Clark, Junior Warden; A.F. Trapp, Treasurer; S. Brantley King, Secretary, and more.

Mrs. Lucille Stennis, Home Demonstration Agent, announces that she has received a check for \$5.00 for Mrs. Roger Cole, who placed third in the Farm Bureau style review held in Jackson, and a \$1.00 check for Mrs. John Hall for sixth place in the coat division.

DECEMBER 27, 1951

Dr. Charles F. Treadway, pastor of the First Baptist church Columbia, has tendered his resignation effective February 1st and will be associated with the editorial division of the Vacation Bible School Department of the Southern Baptist convention in Nashville.

Mrs. Mamie Pierce Glad, formerly of the Shady Grove Community, now with the John Sealy Hospital in Galveston, is a member of the Nursing Service Staff. Mrs. Glad has been a Pediatric Instructor and Supervisor in the Hospital, as a member of the teaching faculty. She is a graduate of the Shady Grove High School and is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J.M. Pierce of Philadelphia.

DECEMBER 28, 1961

M.C. Comans, of Philadelphia, was the lucky winner of the car given away by the

American Legion Post #138.

This is an annual project sponsored by the American Legion post, and the money derived from the proceeds is put into the Child Welfare fund and used to help needy and worthy children.

DECEMBER 30, 1971

Terry Blalock, son of Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Blalock of Jackson, has been named "Most Valuable Back" in the North Little Dixie Football conference. He was also named as an All-Conference Defensive Back. Blalock played football at Forest Hill High School where he was presented a trophy at the school's annual banquet as the most valuable player for the 1971 Rebels.

Marvin White and Albert Elliot received plaques for dedicated service rendered as a member of the Neshoba County School Board, for the years 1959-71 and 195-71 respectively. Presenting these plaques were prentice Copeland, county Superintendent of Education.

DECEMBER 31, 1981

Jesse Jackson was recognized recently at a Christmas Party held for the Neshoba County General Hospital employees, and the Neshoba County Nursing Home employees. Jackson was recognized for his 26 years of dedicated service to the facility. Jackson was presented a yellow gold watch by hospital administrator, Robert Turcotte, Jr., Mrs. Annie Ruth Allen, R.N., Director of Nursing, presented Jackson with a 25 year service award.

Navy Aviation Boatswain's Mate First Class Barry G. Williamson, son of Mary C. and George Williams Jr., of Philadelphia, has returned from an extended deployment to the Western Pacific and Indian Ocean. He is a crew member aboard the aircraft carrier USS Kitty Hawk, homeported in San Diego.

DECEMBER 25, 1991

Winners in the Beauty and Beau Pageant held recently at East Mississippi Community Collee in Scooba are; Nicole Thompson of Columbus, Brandi West of Columbus; Most Beautiful, Nicole Moody of Louisville, Ashely McCleskey of Dekalb and Dana Sullivan of Philadelphia.

DECEMBER 26, 2001

Special 4-H awards were presented recently during its annual banquet at the Neshoba County Coliseum. Recognized were; Robert Reed, junior 4-H'er of the year; Jacob Myers, club council attendance winner, Rookie 4-H'er award winners, Derek and Laura Shannon; Chris White, senior 4-H award winner, Guy Springer, 4-H Club of the Year winner and "I Dare You" winner, and more.

DECEMBER 28, 2011

Gordon Atkins was hired by the Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks. He replaces Tommy Waddell who retired from the post in February and was then elected sheriff.

PATRICK J. BUCHANAN

A mighty China is rolling

As 1991 turned into 1992, America appeared to have arrived at the apogee of its national power and world prestige.

President George H.W. Bush had just sent an army of half a million men to expel, in a 100-hour campaign, Saddam Hussein's invading army from Kuwait. The world, including Russia, China and Iran, had supported U.S.-led military action to overturn Iraq's aggression.

Our Cold War adversary, the Soviet Union, had just collapsed and disintegrated into 15 nations. The Warsaw Pact had dissolved. All of Eastern Europe was free. We were the sole surviving superpower.

In the reviewing stand on Constitution Avenue for the victory parade of the troops of Desert Storm, the thought occurred: This is what it must have been like when the generals returned in triumph to Rome to take the cheers of the crowds.

But, instead of making America again "a normal country in a normal time," as Jeane Kirkpatrick had urged, we set out on our path to empire.

There was much hubristic talk in those days of a "unipolar moment" in which we would establish a "benevolent global hegemony" and create a New World Order under U.S. dominance and tutelage.

Secretary of State Madeleine Albright explained: "If we have to use force, it is because we are America; we are the indispensable nation. We stand tall and we see further than other countries into the future."

Three decades after those heady days, how has it gone for us?

Today, the world's other great powers, Russia and China, are united against us in a "relationship" that, the autocrat Xi Jinping says, "in its closeness and effectiveness ... even exceeds an alliance."

Russia is issuing virtual ultimatums against any further advance of NATO into Ukraine or Georgia. Beijing, after digesting Hong Kong, is indicating that the time draws

Clinton Dems and Bush Republicans, reveling in the riches global trade, built up China's power.

near for its annexation of Taiwan.

How did we get here?

At age 90, Mikhail Gorbachev, who gave up power in December 1991, identifies a primary cause: "The triumphal mood in the West, especially in the U.S. Arrogance and self-confidence went to their heads."

Indeed. Back in February of 1997, George Kennan, the architect of Cold War containment of Joseph Stalin's USSR, implored America not to seize its triumphal moment and move NATO into Eastern Europe:

"Expanding NATO would be the most fateful error of American policy in the entire post-Cold War era."

"Such a decision may be expected to inflame the nationalistic, anti-Western and militaristic tendencies in Russian opinion; to have an adverse effect on the development of Russian democracy; to restore the atmosphere of the cold war to East-West relations, and to impel Russian foreign policy in directions decidedly not to our liking."

So said Kennan. And so it came to pass, as Russia has placed 100,000 troops on the borders of Ukraine and told us that any further expansion of NATO into its border states, or the installation of weapons there that can threaten Russia, would be intolerable — and resisted.

Because we admitted into an alliance to contain Russia all of its former Warsaw Pact allies and three former Soviet republics, we are now close to sword's point with a Russia that our own actions have driven into an entente with the greatest rival the U.S. has ever known: China.

And who built up China, with four times our population, into the first world power with a capacity to challenge

America across all fronts — strategic, military, diplomatic and economic?

Capitalist America did.

Clinton Democrats and Bush Republicans, reveling in the riches global trade would realize for our prosperity, threw open America's markets to production from anywhere and everywhere on earth.

U.S. corporations swiftly began to transfer production out of the United States to where it could be done cheaply — the People's Republic of China. From 1991 on, China surged and eventually swept past the U.S. as the first manufacturing power on earth.

A self-sufficient America that provided for all its needs in World Wars I and II is now dependent on foreign nations for the necessities of its national life.

Meanwhile, a mighty China is rolling up islands, rocks and reefs in the South and East China seas and warning the United States against any effort to prevent the reunion of Taiwan and the motherland.

These, then, are three of the historic blunders that have forfeited for us the unique position America held at the close of the Cold War.

First, alienating Russia by treating it as an incorrigible and permanent enemy by pushing our alliance onto its front porch.

Second, pursuing a globalist trade policy that China exploited to become an economic and military rival of the United States.

Third, America's plunge into the Middle East, with our forever wars in Afghanistan and Iraq and then Syria, Libya and Yemen.

They availed us nothing and led only to death and destruction.

Of the passing of that pre-eminence we had in 1991, let it be said: We did it to ourselves.

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

RICH LOWRY

Never was a Republican death cult

Washington, D.C., is now the epicenter of the pandemic.

As of Dec. 23, it had 158 COVID-19 cases per 100,000 residents, a 541% growth in cases over the last two weeks. This was much more than Alabama, Mississippi or South Carolina, all of which had cases in the 20s or below per 100,000.

Is this because D.C. Mayor Muriel Bowser cares less about controlling the virus than the governors of those three Southern states? No, if anything she's been overly zealous. It's just that the omicron surge has hit at a time when the winter season means that places like D.C. — and especially the Northeast — are particularly susceptible.

Other jurisdictions that have seen big increases include Rhode Island, New York, New Jersey and Illinois.

The omicron wave should finally put paid to the perfervid fantasy, a staple of center-left thinking, that the coronavirus is somehow primarily a red state phenomenon, fueled by Republican recklessness and heartlessness.

It's been obvious for a long time that there's an enormous seasonal element to COVID-19 and that the virus itself has the most influence on the patterns of its spread and severity. The South got slammed last summer by the hard-hitting delta surge and now omicron — which, hopefully, will be milder — is roaring through blue states.

Of course, this context doesn't make for a useful political narrative, so the media and the left have ignored it in a hunt for cartoon villains. Last August, New York Times columnist

The virus is here to stay, and vaccines and treatments — not ham-fisted restrictions — are the best weapons against it.

Paul Krugman slammed Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis for his state's surge and unfavorably compared it to low numbers in New York. Of course, at other junctures of the pandemic he easily could have done the opposite.

Krugman said that DeSantis "has effectively acted as an ally of the coronavirus," a charge widely lodged against him and other GOP governors supposedly responsible for running a "death cult."

DeSantis has never been anti-vaccine, but has opposed vaccine mandates, vaccine passports and masking in schools. Even if one stipulates for the sake of argument that DeSantis has been wrong about all of these policies, it is ridiculous to suggest Florida would have been spared the ravages of the delta variant if he had come down differently. A New York Times analysis of vaccine mandates concluded that they "have not provided the significant boost to state and local vaccination rates that some experts had hoped for."

As it happens, positions that once were characterized as the height of Republican irresponsibility — opposition to lockdowns and closing schools — are now such a matter of consensus that even President Joe

Biden takes them for granted.

Biden more than anyone should realize that the facile belief that Donald Trump or other Republicans had it within their power to shut down the pandemic at any point was partisan opportunism and tripe.

By the unreasonable standards he and others created over the last 18 months, he stands exposed as a miserable failure. On January 20, 2021, when Biden was inaugurated, there had been roughly 25 million cases of the coronavirus in the United States; now there have been 50 million. On January 20, 2021, roughly 415,000 Americans had died; now, more than 800,000 have.

The truth is, even though DeSantis and Bowser have different philosophies and a different willingness to let individuals make their own risk calculations in dealing with the virus, neither wants their residents to get infected or die, and neither is responsible for a highly transmissible variant of virus hitting their jurisdiction at a time of maximum seasonal vulnerability.

Back in August, when everyone was saying he had blood on his hands, DeSantis noted that the virus was here to stay, and vaccines and treatments — not ham-fisted restrictions — were the best weapons against it. The virus is now hitting a different part of the country hardest, but this view remains the correct one.

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

(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.

BIBLE SELECTION

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name! Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits,

— Psalm 103:1-2 (ESV)

Aldermen consider options on airport paving problem

By STEVE SWOGETINSKY
steve@neshobademocrat.com

Philadelphia aldermen discussed a paving issue at the Philadelphia Municipal Airport during the board's Dec. 21 meeting.

The issue is the hanger apron where airplanes are parked. Waggoner Engineers was hired in October 2017 to examine an area with depressions in the asphalt, take samples and develop a plan to replace the asphalt and fix the depressions.

According to a letter written to City Attorney Robert Thomas by Waggoner's Attorney

Samuel D. Gregory, the core samples were taken and other testing done, a specific formula for the asphalt and scope of work was developed. The project was bid out, and Murphree Paving was the contractor.

The work was done, but the depressions came back a few months afterward. Murphree Paving returned and re-did the paving. Again, the depressions have returned.

Waggoner claims Murphree Paving has not complied with the original contract requirements. Gregory said in his letter that Murphree Paving claims the problem stems from "poor

subgrades in the area where the depressions are occurring (and) is a driving factor in the depressions."

The two are at an impasse, and Waggoner is looking to the city for direction.

More tests have been done. "We have the test results, and the asphalt did not meet the specs," said Darion Warren, contract manager for Waggoner. "We are putting together another testing plan. Cores will be taken in the area the first week of January. We should have results by mid-January with solutions."

Thomas said he requested

the letter from Waggoner's attorney and received it late on Dec. 10.

"It blames everybody but Waggoner," Thomas said. "The airport board has asked for tests to be done by someone else other than Waggoner."

Mayor James A. Young and Ward 2 Alderman Jim Fulton expressed their concerns. The mayor said he thought it would be good to get another opinion but added that it would be expensive and the Dec. 21 meeting may not be the time. No action was taken.

"Waggoner is our engineer, and I look to them to make this

right," Fulton said. "They say the project was not done properly, and that's where we stand right now. I want this thing resolved, and I don't know which way to turn."

The project is under warranty. It was discussed the next step could be to contact Murphree Paving's bonding company. No action was taken.

In other actions, aldermen voted to:

- Approve paying an invoice totaling \$4,072 to Waggoner for work on the Booker T. Washington gym renovation project.
- Approve a resolution to support the "Honor Your Home-

town Campaign."

- Approve a resolution to accept the Community Development Block Grant for the Booker T. Washington renovation project. The grant awards \$217,200 to the city for the project to pay for handicapped-accessible restrooms and accessibility. The city will match the grant with \$25,000.

• Approve the hiring of Eric Burkes part-time for animal control.

- Approve the parade route for the Martin Luther King Parade to follow the same route as the Christmas Parade.

OBITUARIES

Ronnie Davis

Funeral service for Mr. Ronnie Davis was held 2 PM Tuesday, December 28, 2021 at John E. Stephens Chapel with Rev. Owen Gordon officiating. Interment was in East Lawn Cemetery. Visitation was 12-2 Tuesday, December 28, 2021 at John E. Stephens Chapel.

Mr. Davis, 76, passed away Saturday, December 25, 2021 at Carthage Senior Care. He lived in Neshoba Co. most of his life where he was retired from Weyerhaeuser. He was a member of Southside Methodist Church. His hobby was playing at casino.

He is preceded in death by his wife, Marie Davis; parents, Willie Jeff Davis and Sara Graham Davis; brothers, Paul J. AB, and Donnie Davis.

Survivors include, sister, Ann Wise of Vancleave, MS; sister-in-law, Patsy Davis; aunt, Lydia Davis; several nieces and nephews.

Pallbearers: David Turk, Kevin Baysinger, Sherman Murry, Kevin Seales, Billy Baysinger, Josh Baysinger.

Johnnie Ruth Madison

Funeral service for Ms. Johnnie Ruth Madison was held 2 PM Monday, December 27, 2021 at John E. Stephens Chapel with Rev. Bryan Madison and Rev. John E. Stephens officiating. Interment was in Hopewell Methodist Cemetery in Kemper County. Visitation began at 11 AM til time for service Monday, December 27th at John E. Stephens Chapel Funeral Service.

Ms. Madison, 90, passed away Saturday, December 25, 2021 at her son's home surrounded by her loving family. She lived in Philadelphia all of her life. She worked at U.S. Electrical Motors for many years. Her hobbies included camping and bluegrass music. Spending time with her children and grand-children was what she enjoyed most. She was a member of East Philadelphia Baptist Church.

Preceded in death: Parents, John William Hall and Martha Thrash Hall; Husband, James H. Madison; Daughter, June Madison Palmer; Sister, Mayzell Gray; Brother, Willie Jack Hall.

Survivors: Son, Jack Madison and his wife, Sheila of Philadelphia; Daughter, Jennifer White and her husband, Tommy of Philadelphia; Sister, Mary Ann Rolands and her husband, Carl of Newton; Brothers, Clarence Hall and his wife, Ann of Lake, MS and G.W. Hall and his wife, Nancy of Newton; (8) Grandchildren, Barry Madison, Byron Madison, Bryan Madison, Sonya Davis, Wayne White, Cody White, Scott Posey and Amanda Stephens; (20) Great-Grandchildren; (7) Great-great-grandchildren.

Pallbearers: Byron Madison, Cody White, Wayne White, Gavin White, Noah Madison, Hagen Davis, Michael Davis and Barry Madison.

Doris Elizabeth White

Funeral service for Ms. Doris Elizabeth White was held 10 AM Tuesday, December 28, 2021 at John E. Stephens Chapel with Rev. John E. Stephens officiating. Interment was in Hight Assembly Cemetery in Noxapater, MS. John E. Stephens Chapel in

charge.

Ms. White, 78, passed away Friday, December 24, 2021 at Baptist Desoto Hospital in Southaven, MS. She lived most of her life in luka, MS. She was a homemaker and a member of Church of God. Her hobbies were fishing, gardening. She loved her grandkids.

She is preceded in death by her husband, Rev. Bobby White; parents, John Armour Parker and Effie Jones Parker; sisters, Beatrice Moody, Lucille Creekmore, Willie Pearl Criddle; brothers, Crawford, J.F., Rev. Neal, Tommy Parker; granddaughter, Angela Boyle.

Survivors include, daughters, Lisa Fancher (Tracy), Nina Henson (Michael); son, Bobby J. White Jr. (Amy); sisters, Nancy Reynolds, Jeanette Davis; brothers, Clovis (Buddy) Parker, Hank Parker both; (9) grandchildren; (8) great-grandchildren; host of nieces and nephews.

Randolph Ponder

Funeral service for Mr. Randolph Ponder will be held 2 PM Wednesday, December 29, 2021 at John E. Stephens Chapel with Rev. Gene Higginbotham and Rev. John E. Stephens officiating. Interment will be in Longino Cemetery. Visitation will be 12-2 PM Wednesday, December 29, 2021 at John E. Stephens Chapel.

Mr. Ponder, 57, passed away Sunday, December 26, 2021 at his home in Jackson, MS. He lived most of his life in Hinds Co. where he has worked as a service provider to Medicaid. He was a member of Pocahontas Baptist Church and the Southern Regional Coordinator for MS. Medicaid Project. His hobbies were decorating and Gardening. Family was the Center of his life.

He is preceded in death by his father Joe Ponder.

Survivors include his mother, Maggie Hartle of Byram; sister, Teresa Howard of McComb; several aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews and cousins.

Family and Friends to serve as pallbearers.

Roy James Tubby

Funeral service for Mr. Roy James Tubby will be held at 10 AM Thursday, December 30, 2021 at Tucker Gym/Facility Building with Rev. Ricky Thompson officiating. Interment will be in the Corinth Cemetery in the Tucker Community. Visitation will begin at 10 AM Tuesday, December 28, 2021 at Tucker Gym/Facility Building. John E. Stephens Chapel is in charge of arrangements.

Mr. Tubby, 48, passed away on Friday, December 24, 2021 at his home. He enjoyed fishing, playing pool, volleyball, cooking hominy and entertaining friends and family.

He is preceded in death by his parents, Curley Tubby and Fronie Jefferson; brother, Rodney Tubby.

Survivors include his wife, Valentina bell Tubby; daughter, Shanice Hickman; sons, Derrick Charley and wife, Brianna, Kanyon Tubby, Ivan Tubby; sisters, Twana Tubby, Tracey Tubby, Erica Tubby; brother, Eli Tubby.

Edwin Copeland

Graveside services were held on Monday, December 27, 2021, at 11:00 a.m. from Cedarlawn

Cemetery with Rev. Thomas Fortenberry and Bro. Jay Cassel officiating. McClain-Hays Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

Mr. Copeland was a native of Mobile, AL, and has been a resident of Philadelphia most of his life. He was a graduate of Neshoba Central High School in 1980. Edwin worked in car sales for most of his life. He was owner of Copeland Auto Sales; and employed at Muffler Mansion Auto Sale and Halls Auto Sales for a number of years.

He is survived by his wife 24 years, Dawn Copeland of Philadelphia, MS; daughters, Erin Tramill (Christopher) of Newton, MS, Courtney Copeland and Taylor Copeland of Philadelphia, MS; sons, Logan Copeland (Aven) of Collinsville, MS, and Shawn Anderson (Victoria) of Vicksburg, MS; grandchildren, Mason Eli Hattaway, Evan Hilton, Asher Tramill, Lucy Byars Tramill, Willow Louise McCaa, Ellie Shaw Anderson; mother, Jo Ann Copeland of Philadelphia, MS; sister, Pam Fortenberry (Thomas) of Union, MS; brother, Bootsie Copeland (Jan) of Starkville, MS; and several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his father, Jerome Daniel Copeland.

Pallbearers were Troy Boudreaux, Shawn Anderson, Logan Copeland, Tanner Fortenberry, Roman Ingram, and Christopher Tramill.

Billy Whisenant

Funeral services for Billy Whisenant were held Thursday, December 23, 2021, at 11:00 a.m. from McClain-Hays Chapel with Rev. Gene Higginbotham and Rev. Thomas Fortenberry officiating. Burial followed in Eastlawn Cemetery. McClain-Hays Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

Mr. Whisenant, 81, of Philadelphia, died Monday, December 20, 2021, at his home.

A native of Attala County, he was a longtime resident of Neshoba County. He retired from the U. S. Postal Service where he worked as a postal clerk in Philadelphia. He worked as a custodian after his retirement at Edinburg School. Mr. Whisenant was a member of Beatline Baptist Church and pastored several Baptist churches in his ministry.

Survivors include his wife of 62 years, Edwina Whisenant of Philadelphia; daughters, Sherry Dickerson, Susie Harrison (Rocky), and Sandy Collins, all of Philadelphia; five grandchildren, Hannah Harrison, Anna Dickerson, Clint Harrison, Cody Harrison, and Charley Collins; two great-granddaughters, Sophia Harrison and Nic Harrison.

Preceding Mr. Whisenant in death were his infant son, David Whisenant; parents, Luther and Ruby Whisenant; two sisters,

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Janell Whisenant and Hazel Whisenant.

Pallbearers were Clint Harrison, Cody Harrison, Charley Collins, Austin Waddell, Tyler Stokes, and Paul Fraiser. Honorary pallbearer was Josh Summers.

La nell Joe

Funeral service for Ms. Lanell Joe will be held at 10 AM Wednesday, December 29, 2021 at Bogue Chitto Baptist Church with Rev. Charles Doby Henry officiating. Interment will be in the Bogue Chitto Community Cemetery. Visitation will begin at 5 PM Monday, December 27, 2021 at Bogue Chitto Baptist Church. John E. Stephens Chapel is in charge of arrangements.

Ms. Joe, 49, passed away on Friday, December 24, 2021 at Anderson Regional Medical Center in Meridian, MS.

She is preceded in death by her parents, Noah Joe and Joyce Joe; sisters, Francis Joe, Jennie Joe and Mattie Pearl Bell.

Survivors include daughter, Maria Trejo; son, Jacob Joe; sisters, Paula Bell, Jessica Poncio, Marcie Joe; 1 grandchild, Levi Joe.

Pallbearers are Shilombish John, Justice Joe, Don McClendon, Jonathan Joe, Edgar Trejo, Ryan Willis, Tushka Bell, Jordan Nash.

Anthony Wilson, Jr.

Funeral services for Mr. Anthony Dewayne Wilson, Jr. were held on Monday, December 27, 2021, at 1 PM. from the Union High School Gymnasium with Rev. Dorsett Buckley officiating. Burial was at Greater Rose Hill M.B. Church Cemetery in Union. Beck Funeral Home, Inc. was in charge of arrangements.

Mr. Wilson, 15, of Union, passed away on Friday, December 17, 2021 at his residence.

He is survived by his parents, Rayshemma Millsap Gibson and Anthony Dewayne Wilson, Sr. both of Union, MS, his grandparents, Rosie McCoy of St. Louis, MO, Carrie Harris of Union, MS, and L.J. Nash of Decatur, MS, six brothers, Tradarius Harris, Christopher Hickmon, Kylan Jackson, Piers Coburn, Noah Wilson and Jakeivius Stanley, one sister, Melody Wilson, five aunts and four uncles.

Pallbearers were Nathan Boone, DaQwon McBeath, Kamarion Rushing, Raylon Nettles, Drekk Harris, Javon

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.

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Willie Jay Hickman

Funeral service for Mr. Willie Jay Hickman will be held at 2 PM Sunday, December 26, 2021 at Bogue Chitto Baptist Church with Rev. Charles Doby Henry officiating. Interment will be in the Bogue Chitto Community Cemetery. Visitation will begin at 2 PM Friday, December 24, 2021 at Bogue Chitto Baptist Church. John E. Stephens Chapel is in charge of arrangements.

Mr. Hickman, 64, passed away on Wednesday, December 22, 2021 at Anderson Regional Medical Center in Meridian, MS. He was a member of Bogue Chitto Baptist Church. His hobbies included drawing and playing the guitar, lifting weights when younger and he was a MS State Bulldog fan.

Mr. Hickman is preceded in death by his parents, John M. Hickman and Christine Frazier; daughter, Janet Hickman; sisters, Lourene Hickman Denson, Fannie Lou Hickman Jones; brothers, William Hickman, Sr., Dale Hickman, Terry Lee Hickman, Randy Hickman.

Survivors include daughter, Jessica Lynn Hickman; son, Jonathan Lance Hickman; sisters, Annie Pearl Hickman Williams; foster brother, William Hickman, Jr. 7 grandchildren, Joshua Hickman, Quinley Hickman, Elijah Hickman, Ethan Hickman, Makayla Hickman, Jordin Hickman, Kamari Hickman; 1 great-grandchild.

Kaeleen Leashay Anderson

Funeral service for Ms. Kaeleen Leashay Anderson will be held at 10 AM Friday, December 24, 2021 at Bogue Chitto Baptist Church with Rev. Charles Doby Henry officiating. Interment will be in the Church Cemetery. Visitation will begin at

MR. BILLY WHISENANT SERVICES DECEMBER 23
MCCLAIN-HAYS CHAPEL INTERMENT EASTLAWN CEMETERY

MR. DELBERT L. "DALE" TOLBERT SERVICES DECEMBER 23
MCCLAIN-HAYS CHAPEL INTERMENT HENRY'S CHAPEL CEMETERY

MR. EDWIN COPELAND GRAVESIDE SERVICE DECEMBER 27
CEDARLAWN CEMETERY

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3 PM Wednesday, December 22, 2021 at Pearl River Facility Building. John E. Stephens Chapel is in charge of arrangements.

Ms. Anderson, 24, passed away on Monday, December 20, 2021 at Choctaw Health Center in Choctaw MS. She was a member of Bogue Chitto Baptist Church.

Survivors include parents, Jessica Henry and Bruce Anderson, Sr.; daughters, Ky'Emri Bell and Kyslie Anderson; sons, Knox Bell and Kyden Anderson; sisters, Kaecllyn Williams, Anya Anderson and Sunni Mingo; brothers, Bruce Anderson, Jr., Kaegen Henry and Amzie Anderson.

JOHN E. STEPHENS CHAPEL FUNERAL SERVICES

MS. KAELEEN LEASHAY ANDERSON
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BOGUE CHITTO BAPTIST CHURCH
BOGUE CHITTO BAPT. CHURCH CEM.

MR. WILLIE JAY HICKMAN
2 PM SUNDAY, DECEMBER 26, 2021
BOGUE CHITTO BAPTIST CHURCH
BOGUE CHITTO COMMUNITY CEM.

MS. JOHNNIE RUTH MADISON
2 PM MONDAY, DECEMBER 27, 2021
JOHN E. STEPHENS CHAPEL
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MS. DORIS ELIZABETH WHITE
10 AM TUESDAY, DECEMBER 28, 2021
JOHN E. STEPHENS CHAPEL
HIGHT ASSEMBLY IN NOXAPATER, MS

MR. RONNIE DAVIS
2 PM TUESDAY, DECEMBER 28, 2021
JOHN E. STEPHENS CHAPEL
EAST LAWN CEMETERY

MS. LANELL JOE
10 AM WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 29, 2021
BOGUE CHITTO BAPTIST CHURCH
BOGUE CHITTO COMMUNITY CEMETERY

MR. RANDY PONDER
2 PM WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 29, 2021
JOHN E. STEPHENS CHAPEL
LONGINO CEMETERY

MR. ROY JAMES TUBBY
10 AM THURSDAY, DECEMBER 30, 2021
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"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)

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Getting the Message/Rev. Chris Shelton

Salvation is the gift of God

We can never look at this wonderful passage too much. Whenever I consider seeing certain people from biblical history in heaven, I can't help but think of the shepherds in Luke chapter 2. You can wonder if they were still alive when Jesus began his ministry, and did they see and hear him speak. Here we see that they are the first witnesses of the glory of the Lord Jesus.

It had to be an extraordinary experience on the hills that night watching sheep when an angel of the Lord appeared suddenly. No wonder we read that they were "sore afraid" (Luke 2:9). Literally, this translates to they had "mega fear."

What a delightful command it must have been to hear "fear not!" And then to hear the amazing message that followed from the angel: "I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord." The angel spoke of a Savior who was no less than God.

What a Savior Christ is -- and he is a necessary Savior. Being given good news of a Savior implies you need saving. This is the love of God to us in our dismal state. We are prisoners of sin, the devil, a corrupt world, and the greatest enemy, death. Only one can save us: Christ the Lord.

Years ago at large theme park in Ohio, I witnessed a powerful struggle of a young lady trying to make a decision. The decision was whether to venture on to a ride that used a harness and cables to allow one to soar through the air at great heights. Her friends used every encouragement and humiliation tactic they could. Finally, she agreed. They put the harness on her and she waited her turn. But as she saw the person ahead of her go flying to the air, she quietly began to disassemble the harness apparatus, deaf to any appeals hurled her way. She opted out.

You can't opt out of God. You were made by God and continue to exist by God. You have to return to God. You can either do that as a friend or an enemy. The only way to become a friend of God is through Christ. The appearance of an angel was frightening to the shepherds not only because they sensed their helplessness, but because they also sensed their sinfulness in

the presence of holy splendor. How we need the light of the Lord to show us our need!

The shepherds then witnessed a multitude of the heavenly host that responded to the announcement of the angel of the Lord (Luke 2:14). They praised God, saying, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased."

They proclaimed glory to God in the highest, not only because God is the most High God, but because his glory is revealed in the highest way in the coming of Christ the Lord to save sinners. The experience of heaven and the message from heaven go hand in hand: both are about knowing God through Christ our Lord. He opens the gate into heaven.

When the angels went away the shepherds didn't just dwell on such an experience. They left to go see the child (Luke 2:15) for the same reason Zacchaeus climbed a tree: to see the Lord. All who truly come to Christ are constrained to go to him with an affectionate drawing, longing to see him.

The angel of the Lord had told the shepherds the child would be in a manger, which narrowed down the search area. They find him along with Joseph and Mary. Christ the Lord, born of a woman, lying in a manger. Can any despair of being rejected by such a Savior as this? His willingness to take a low condition conveys welcome to all who would come to him.

The shepherds relate to those present all that was said from heaven about the child. You wonder if they took him in their arms like Simeon (Luke 2:28) or bowed low to the ground and worshipped like the Magi will later.

We read in verse 20 that the shepherds returned to their sheep. It must have been difficult to leave, but they left "glorifying and praising God for all that they had heard and seen, as it had been said to them." The phrase "as it had been said to them" points to God's faithfulness. Salvation is the gift of God in Christ the Lord. What the shepherds bore witness to gives us reason to glorify God with them.

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

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— 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)

COUNTY JAIL DOCKET

Neshoba County Jail Docket from 12/20-12/27

Antonio Martin Alonzo, 23, of 903 Line Dr, Forest; driving under the influence/refusal to take test

Martasha Sue Barrack, 43, of 1584 Standing Pine Rd, Walnut Grove; driving under the influence-1st offense

Shareese Billy, 19, of 2500 Conehatta Prospect Rd, Conehatta; hold for investigations, driving under the influence other substance

Jamai Maryae Boler, 22, of 310 Ivy St; failure to appear

Kacey Shane Bonnett, 40, of 11750 Rd 535, West Monroe, LA; disorderly conduct

Khalil Keyshawn Brown, 22, of 408 Crawford St; failure to appear X3

Taurana Caraveo, 29, of 10531 Rd 424; child neglect X2

Dustin Chapman, 26, of 937 Cow Creek Rd, Preston; aggravated assault with weapon or other means to produce death, motor vehicle theft-felony, resisting arrest

Jacob Cain Charlie, 24, of 122 Rock Springs Trail; suspended drivers license

Misty M Eakes, 33, of

10796 McKeithan Ln; no charges listed

Joshua Sam Ellis, 35, of 10940 Rd 383; possession of marijuana-vehicle, no insurance, no drivers license, no license tag

Joshua Sam Ellis, 35, of 10940 Rd 383; contempt of court

George Harmon, 38, of 309 Robinhood Cir; possession of firearm by convicted felon

Alethia Hitt, 42, of 354 Dickerson Rd, Union; hold for investigations

Amber Jefferson, 31, of 1015 Blackjack Rd; possession of controlled substance

Ciera Johnson, 26, of 109 Choctaw Rd, Conehatta; failure to appear X3

Todd Ray Jones, 33, of 57 Wells St; felony pursuit, failure to appear, malicious mischief under \$1000.00, disorderly conduct

Ricky T Kelly, 62, of 10451 Rd 2222, Union; hold for investigations

Darrell McBeath, 36, of 10711 Rd 133; failure to appear

Marcus Dayshon McDonald, 41, of 159 Goat Ranch Rd; driving under the influence-1st

offense

Jessica Miller, 37, of 200 Indian Rd, Louisville; contempt of court, failure to appear, hold for investigations

Jacqueline Rashida Cherinshoba Pisarik, 28, of 164 Kelli's Stove Rd, Preston; possession of controlled substance, possession of marijuana-1st offense, indictment

Marlin Randle, 41, of 904 Church Ave, Meridian; speeding-more than 20 miles over limit, possession of marijuana-vehicle

Candas Reynolds Rash, 41, of 10420 Rd 296, Union; hold for investigations

Richard Rash, 44, of 11010 Rd 240, Union; hold for investigations, motor vehicle theft-felony, burglary of a motor vehicle

James Hickman Reed, 39, of 11470 Rd 149; disturbing the peace

Steven Vardaman Savell, 46, of 305 McRaven St, Union; hold for investigations

Harold Sockey, 37, of 201 Tiak Chitto Cr; hold for investigations, possession of controlled substance, possession of paraphernalia, possession of

marijuana-vehicle

Roger D Stokes, 39, of 1604 Smith Rd, Walnut Grove; possession of controlled substance, possession of marijuana-vehicle

Linda Darlene Watkins, 55, of 2856 Risher Rd, Carthage; bad check-1st or 2nd offense less than \$100.00 X2

Wensley Brian Wesley, 29, of 146 Tiak Osi Ln, Walnut Grove; failure to appear

controlled substance-possession of paraphernalia, violation of probation-MDOC, bench warrant-justice court

Jackie L Dunn, 40, of 10351 Rd 573; contempt of court-municipal court

Louvenia Lewis, 47, of 670 Mt Olive Rd, Unit 60, Bowling Green, KY; public drunk

Jacob L Massey, 21, of 10770 Rd 770; DUI-1st offense, MV-tag-none or expired, MV-no insurance

Ireland J Moore, 20, of 412 Barham St; armed robbery

Nicholas A Rae, 23, of 966 Lake Str, Meridian; controlled substance-possession of marijuana less than 30 grams or synthetic cannabinoids 10 grams or less in motor vehicle, speeding 10 over

Don Rhynes, 37, of 280 Little Rock Decatur Rd Apt 34, Decatur; domestic violence-simple assault-1st or 2nd offense, MV-driver's license improper, MV- no insurance, MV-violation-specific penalty not provided

Winston County Jail Docket for Philadelphia Police arrests from 12/20-12/26

Maurice N Armstrong, 39, of 3053 Hwy 395, Noxapater; MV-improper equipment, possession of controlled substance with internet

Wadessa S Chapman, 43, of 148 Mills Rd, Conehatta; DUI-1st offense, MV-careless driving, MV-driver's license-none, MV-no insurance

Jacob Charlie, 24, of 122 Rock Springs Trail; possession of controlled substance, hold-detainer for other agency, con-



Warren

Continued from page 1A

Lyons said that Warren was at Neshoba General for about an hour before he was airlifted to University Mississippi Medical Center in Jackson. Warren reportedly died on the flight out of town.

"He didn't make it from what I understand," Lyons said.

Meanwhile, people reached out to memorialize Warren in social media posts on his Facebook page and their personal Facebook pages.

Cody Bryan posted early Tuesday: "Got on Facebook this

morning not expecting to be heartbroken. Please pray for the Warren family. I never seen Tom Tom not have a smile on his face. I seen someone post 'The whole City lost tonight'. Indeed the City did, but more importantly kids lost a father, parents lost a son.

"Rest easy buddy. See you soon."

Tanya Burnside posted the following on Warren's Facebook page Tuesday: "rest easy my guy. I'm sure your nephew, Kaiden, is thrilled to finally meet you.. your light will forever shine.."

"Just seem so unreal man I love you Tom Tommie I'm Teezy Warren.. until we meet again."

Jasmen Young posted the following on Warren's Facebook page Tuesday: "I just want to scream and get all of this anger out of my heart right now!! Y'all took Tommie I'm Teezy Warren I haven't slept! All I've been doing is looking at pictures of him. Telling myself it's not true ITS JUST NOT TRUE!"

"I'm lost.. why! Never did I ever think I could feel this much pain... why! Please keep my family in y'all prayers! This will never sit right with me. My face and body hurt from crying so much... my heart is torn"

"Logging off because I just can't take this right now! I love you Tom."

Session

Continued from page 1A

needs on the local system as well as the state system. One thing that I'm interested in is really focusing on the critical infrastructure needs."

State Rep. Scott Bounds of Philadelphia said funding for completing the Highway 19 four-lane is a top priority.

"I will tell you we have not identified any funds for the completion of Highway 19, but we are working on it," said Bounds of District 44. "It is estimated it would take around \$40 million to finish from Tucker to House, and we are going to be looking for any source of funds, be it federal or state or whatever. Bounds represents most of Neshoba County and part of southeast Leake.

"The Federal Infrastructure bill is a possible source, but much of that money is going for projects that are already programmed. If we are able to get any money out of the infrastructure bill, we are well-positioned to do it. You don't find \$40 million lying around anywhere. You have to be creative where you get it."

Branning said the state created an emergency road and bridge program in 2018 with \$250 million put into the fund.

"We put an additional \$89 million in this past session," Branning said. "So I've been looking at a lot of those critical needs, which do include bridge repair, a lot of the county roads and some state roads that need to be improved for safety reasons."

Broadband

Bounds said the state's finances are strong right now, but a large portion of the money is one-time federal money and should not be used for recurring purposes.

"As chairman of public utilities, I am working really hard on broadband deployment," Bounds said. "We have an opportunity to do this under the American Rescue Plan Act. That money can only be used on

water, wastewater and broadband projects.

"We have had conversations about how much money we are going to put into those programs. We don't know yet. I know that the state has \$900 million this year that is already in the bank and \$900 million next year. I would like to see us expand broadband across Mississippi and Neshoba County. It remains to be seen until we get into the session."

Bounds said people need to understand how the ARPA money can be used to bring the Internet into unserved rural areas.

"The government is not in the Internet business," Bounds said. "Internet is like electricity. It is a utility. It is a service. Somebody has to pay for it. There are businesses that are providing Internet services now. We have one-time money with the rescue act where we are going to be able to deploy a significant part of Mississippi in the rural areas with broadband. We are going to put some money into that that would be dedicated to the Internet service providers that will expand services into rural areas right now."

Other issues

Another issue Branning said she believes will be prominent during this legislative session is a proposal to eliminate the state's income tax.

"I certainly want to see us move in the direction of eliminating the income tax, but not in such a way that increases the sales tax that would adversely impact our farmers and our small businesses," Branning said. "That is my main concern. I will be watching and studying, and my intention is to make the best decision that I can for my people back home."

The subject of teacher pay raises always comes up at the start of a session, Bounds said.

"The Legislature budget committee didn't put anything into the budget recommendation for pay raises," Bounds said. "I think there will be further discussions on teacher pay raises, I really do. I have no idea how much. I think by the time we get out of session in mid-April, we

will have had an opportunity to review possibly implementing a teacher pay raise. Right now, nothing is on the table."

Also, at this point, there is no discussion about putting more money into the Marty Stuart Congress of Country Music project.

"I don't think there will be anything until we get finished with the Ellis project," Bounds said. "That's Phase 1, which is the theater, and they are working on it now. I don't know of any requests right now."

Bounds said lawmakers have money right now but must keep an eye on the future.

"You don't put one-time money into recurring programs," Bounds said. "For this fiscal year, which started in July, we are \$430 million above our estimate to this point. We finished last year \$1 billion over the estimate."

"You have to take into account that a lot of that is one-time, federally infused money. The state's economy is in good shape right now. But we have to be careful. The economy could tank next year."

"This Legislature is going to be very prudent on how we spend the money. Infrastructure projects like roads and bridges, like broadband, things that need immediate attention, and you can do it with one-time money. That's where we ought to focus."

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Board delays Booker T. vote

By STEVE SWOGETINSKY
steve@neshobademocrat.com

Johnny Beckwith was scratching his head on Dec. 21 following the Philadelphia Mayor and Board of Aldermen meeting after the naming of a contractor for the Booker T Washington gym renovation project was tabled for another meeting.

Beckwith is a preacher who attends meetings to represent a community that has sought for years to have the Booker T. Washington gym renovated so it can be used as a community center. To him, it was more of the same when questions came up, and a decision on the contractor was tabled.

"I see a major problem with the lack of communication among you all," Beckwith told aldermen and the mayor. "I am about ready to get the picket signs out and (start) walking these streets. I have faith in this board. They aren't going to short change us, but I have had so many other boards to say the same thing, y'all."

Aldermen appeared ready to accept a bid from Perry Construction Co. However, aldermen tabled the matter after questions came up concerning how the city would pay for the work to the historic Booker T building and the city's contract with Waggoner Engineer, the project manager.

City attorney Robert Thomas questioned the funding source for the project. Mayor James A. Young and others had originally planned to pay for the project with bond issue monies. However, they later learned that only part of the \$1.2 million bond issue could be used for building construction and that money has been used to repair the roof at the U.S. Motors plant.

Since then, Young has said the money that the city expects to get from the federal American Rescue Plan Act would be used for the project.

Thomas pointed out that while it appears Booker T will qualify for ARPA funds, it is not a done deal. He also said he had not seen a construction contract from Waggoner and questioned whether a signed contract exists.

Mayor Young, three aldermen and representatives from

Waggoner all said a signed construction contract exists, though no one had a copy at the meeting.

In a previous meeting, aldermen had complained they had never seen plans or any documentation about the project. Later, an email with 10 attachments was prepared by Waggoner and forwarded to aldermen on Dec. 10. The contract was included in that email. Thomas said he did not receive the email and has not seen the contract as of last Tuesday.

The Neshoba Democrat has obtained a copy of the contract, which was signed by the mayor on Sept. 27, 2021.

The city has agreed to pay Waggoner a total of \$97,048. A breakdown of the contract is as follows:

- Design Phase — \$55,453
 - Bidding and contracting — \$13,865
 - Construction oversight — \$27,730
- Total: \$97,048

Bids, which came on Dec. 10, are good for 45 days. The scope of work calls for replacing the roof and insulation, removing the wooden gym floor and replacing it with a new one that includes original wood. Bidders were also asked for quotes on replacing doors and windows and for cleaning and restoring the outside brick.

There were two bids turned in. Perry Construction Co.'s base bid of \$597,300 was the lowest. Also, in the bid, Perry listed \$58,400 for Alternate No. 1 for the doors and windows and \$48,000 for Alternate No. 2 for brick restoration. If the base bid, along with the two amendments, is accepted, the total price will be \$703,700.

Benchmark Construction Co. also put in a bid. Benchmark's base bid was \$665,300. Also, in the bid, Benchmark listed \$45,000 for Alternate No. 1 for the doors and windows and \$30,000 for Alternate No. 2 for brick restoration. The total for all three choices would be \$740,300.

After some discussion, the board decided to table the vote until the next meeting.

Beckwith chided all parties. He told the mayor that attorney Thomas should have been provided with a copy of the con-

tract. And he said Thomas should have asked the mayor in advance about the contract so it could have been provided at the meeting.

Beckwith also asked what would happen if the ARPA money could not be used for Booker T.

"I would like to ask, do we (the city) have a rainy day fund or savings account where if all else fails, you can take the money from there, pay for the Booker T project, and then put it back later?" Beckwith said. "Do this now, and if this money comes through, you can put it back. You do this with other projects all of the time. Why can't one time you do it to the fund for us (Booker T. supporters)? It can be done for Booker T."

He asked the four aldermen present if they would do that. Aldermen at Large James Waltman, Ward 4 Alderman Shaun Seales and Ward 3 Alderman James Tatum all indicated they would. Ward 2 alderman Jim Fulton declined to commit but said he would look at all options. Alderman Ward 1 Justin Clearman was sick and unable to attend but has indicated his support for the project in earlier meetings.

Later, a decision concerning ARPA money and the Booker T project was made when aldermen approved a \$63,000 contract with Waggoner.

Waggoner pointed out that the city is expected to receive \$1.5 million for projects inside the city limit. Over the next three years, the company promised to do a community assessment to identify potential projects, hold meetings and prepare plans while looking for other funds and grants to be used for projects.

What piqued the board and mayor's attention was Waggoner's experience of working through federal red tape and making sure the city complies with the guidelines for ARPA funding. The board read that as a quick way to see whether the Booker T project would qualify for ARPA funds. They approved the contract with specific instructions for Waggoner to explore that possibility and to report back at the next meeting.

Man pleads to stabbing on Reservation

By STAFF REPORTS
staff@neshobademocrat.com

A member of the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians has pleaded guilty to the murder of a Tribal member on the Choctaw Indian Reservation, officials said.

According to court documents, Vandel Jim, 53, of the Conehatta community stabbed the victim with a knife, which resulted in his death.

A federal grand jury in January 2017 indicted Jim on the charge of murder in the second degree.

Jim pleaded guilty to voluntary manslaughter and is scheduled to be sentenced on March 21, 2022. Jim faces a maximum possible penalty of 15 years in prison. A federal district judge will determine any sen-



Vandel Jim

tence after considering the U.S. Sentencing Guidelines and other statutory factors.

U.S. Attorney LaMarca commended the work of the Choctaw Police Department of the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians and the Federal Bureau of Investigation who investigated the case.

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Smith loves experimenting in kitchen

By COLEMAN EAKES
news@neshobademocrat.com

Casey Smith thinks of cooking as a way to experiment.

"I never write down any of my recipes," Smith said. "So, whenever I get in the kitchen, I just see what I have, and I work with what I got."

Smith said she loves how cooking allows her to take some time to herself. She also loves to see people smile whenever they eat something they love.

Smith first learned to cook from watching her mother, Sandy, her great-grandmother, Martha, and her aunt Sherry make meals together.

She would love to watch them, and they did not follow recipes, either.

Smith made her first meal, T-bone steaks, mashed potatoes and green beans when she was 13 years old because that's what her mother wanted for supper that night.

Her mother also taught her a lot about making different kinds of casseroles and mixing things to make them taste good.

She loves to try different things with food and not follow specific recipes.

Her favorite chef is Guy Fieri.

"I love how he meets different people and then helps them out in the kitchen," Smith said.

Helping people out is something Smith is passionate about as well, which is why she is enrolled in the nursing program at Meridian Community College. Her classes begin next month.

Smith is a native of southern Illinois, and she now lives in Philadelphia with her three children, Bryan, Madison and Johnathon. She has worked at Bloomo Diner for four years and is currently a J's Coffee House manager.



Casey Smith

COOK OF THE WEEK

MEATLOAF

Ingredients:
4 Pounds lean ground beef
3 Cups ketchup
2 Eggs
3 Small bread crumbs
Small onion diced
Small green bell pepper diced
Salt and pepper
½ Cup sugar
1 Ranch seasoning packet

Directions:
Preheat the oven to 350F. Sauté onion and bell pepper until tender over medium heat. In a large bowl, combine ground beef, 2 cups of ketchup, 2 eggs, 2 ½ cups of bread crumbs, onions and peppers, and ranch packet. Mix by hand until all blended well. In a greased baking dish, form ground beef mixture

into desired loaf sizes. Sprinkle remaining bread crumbs on top. Bake for 45 minutes to 1 hour. Drain liquid grease if there is excess. In a small bowl, combine sugar and remaining ketchup, spread over top of meatloaf and back in the oven for 20 minutes.

MANICOTTI

Ingredients:
2 Pounds lean ground beef
1 Box manicotti noodles
¼ Tsp Italian parsley
¼ Tsp oregano
2 Jars red pasta sauce
16oz Ricotta cheese
16oz Cream cheese softened
2 Cups shredded cheese mozzarella

3 Cups shredded Parmesan
2 Eggs
1 Small white onion diced

Directions:
Preheat the oven to 350F. While browning ground beef and onions, follow cooking instructions on the box for noodles. In a separate bowl, combine 2 eggs, cream cheese, Ricotta cheese, parsley, oregano, mozzarella cheese, and 2 cups of Parmesan cheese. Stir until blended. Spoon into a pastry filling bag or a regular food storage bag and snip the corner just before filling the noodles. In a greased baking dish, pour remaining pasta sauce and spread thinly. Once the noodles

are cooked, drained and cooled a bit, fill noodles from one end and allow them to slightly overflow on both ends. And place in the baking dish on top of the sauce. Spread ground beef and sauce mixture generously across the filled noodles. Bake for 1 hour. Remove from the oven and sprinkle with the remaining cup of parmesan cheese on top. Bake for an additional 10 minutes or until the cheese melts. Serve with your favorite salad and bread.

PASTA SALAD
Ingredients:
16oz Tri-color rotini pasta
1 Bag of raspberry almond crunch slaw starter
1 Large tomato sliced
2 Cups broccoli florets chopped fine
1 Can large black olives drained and chopped
8oz Bacon bits (real)
1 Cup favorite style shredded cheese
2 Large avocados diced
1 Jar of Marzetti coleslaw dressing
1 Small bottle of raspberry vinaigrette dressing

Directions:
Follow cooking instructions for pasta. Once cooked, drain and rinse well with cold water. In a dry bowl, combine the contents of Raspberry almond crunch slaw starter, diced tomatoes, olives, broccoli, bacon bits, cheese, and avocados mix lightly. Then add coleslaw dressing and raspberry vinaigrette to task, and add a dash of salt and pepper mixed in until dressings blend and coat pasta.

Just Among Friends

By MARIANNE ENOCHS
friends@neshobademocrat.com

The Neshoba Central School District recently announced the Teachers of the Year for the 2021-2022 school year. The Elementary School Teacher of the Year is Mary Lou Johnson, Middle School Teacher of the Year is Cassie White, and High School Teacher of the Year is Sedera Anderson. Congratulations to each one of them for this well deserved recognition.

The Patriarch of the Prince family marked a momentous birthday on December 19. Jimmy Prince celebrated his 91st birthday with his family. He and his wife, Phyllis, were happy to have their children help make the day special. Happy Birthday!

Thanks to Kelly Dansby Little's efforts, every 5th grade student at Philadelphia Elementary School received a wrapped Christmas present of a board game from generous parents and members of the community.

Kelly got the idea from a post by a teacher online and thought it would be fun for her students. The last day of school before Christmas break, each student in her classes had a gift waiting for them. They played "Dirty Santa" which many had never played before and had a hilarious time trading gifts.

The purpose of this activity was to give the students an opportunity to take a break from technology and interact with friends over the break. By spending real time with others, and

playing board games, language and vocabulary skills might be enhanced. Interacting in a positive way with their peers or other children can be vital to their social development even in a short time period. Kelly worked very hard to make this happen. She offered to pick up gifts, wrap them, and do whatever she could to complete this by the required date. It apparently was a huge success!

The Philadelphia Rotary Club recognized three local high school students as Students of the Month for December, 2021. This is an honor awarded to outstanding students each month who are nominated by the school guidance counselors.

This month's students were Kayla Farmer from Choctaw Central High School, TKenzlie Moore, Philadelphia High School, and Faith Shumaker, Neshoba Central High School. The students were introduced by the Rotary Club President, Elizabeth Froshe. Guidance counselors from the respective schools were also guests of the club. Congratulations!

Christmas this year was truly a joyous one for us. Candler and Bert Foster and our granddog, Abbie, arrived early on Monday morning from Dallas. My brother, Ronald Grenko, came in on Wednesday from Albuquerque, New Mexico to spend several days with us.

It had been two years since we have been together for Christmas and it was wonderful. Packages were delivered for several

days before Ronald arrived filled with edible treats. One of my favorites was something I have not eaten in many, many years. It is a European pastry called "povatica" which my mother and aunts made at Christmas for as long as I can remember. It has become a gourmet delicacy and is available from a limited number of online sources.

It consists of a very thin buttery dough stretched out and spread with a filling of ground English walnuts, eggs, butter, and cinnamon. It is then carefully rolled up and coiled into a baking pan and baked. When it is sliced, layers and layers of filling sandwiched between the thing dough are revealed. It is delicious! I felt as though I were eating memories with every bite. Of course, my mother's and aunt's povaticas were absolutely fantastic, but the commercial one was tasty.

My brother took us to dinner at Phillip M's where we had a marvelous time. Sunday we returned to celebrate Romily's and my 52nd Anniversary and Candler's new job. We had a fire in the fireplace each night and just relaxed. Time spent with my little family is so very precious to me. I was so very thankful to have it.

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

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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

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Subscribe to the Democrat

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

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Founded in 1881

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

(USPS 377-160)

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

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



ECCC Gospel Choir

Members of the 2021-22 Gospel Choir at East Central Community College in Decatur include (front row, from left) Martez Nickols, Na'Tya Smith, and Jamiyah Bloodsaw, all of Forest; Andre Esters of Louisville, Takara Derrick of Forest, Myla Sanders of Lake, Emarye Lloyd of Forest, and sponsor Brenda K. Johnson; and (back row, from left) director LeVar Robinson, Joseph Lee II of Morton, Ladarrien Paten of Louisville, Ikeon Bowie of Ludlow, A'Dontay Williams of Morton Zy'Kerria Smith of Forest, Joshua Wheaton of Heidelberg, and Kendall Morgan of Morton.

Of Local Interest

LINWOOD FIRE DEPARTMENT

Linwood Volunteer Fire Department will be changing the day and time of our monthly board meetings to the third Tuesday of every month, beginning at 5:30 p.m. This is our regular board meeting that is open to the public.

FUNDRAISER FOR TORNADO VICTIMS

McClain Chapel Pentecostal Church is hosting a special singing on Saturday evening, January 15, 2022 at 5:00 P.M. to raise money to support the tornado victims whose homes and communities were devastated by 62 tornadoes on December 10, 2021. Any churches that

would like to participate can make donations and have their praise team attend and sing a couple of songs to support our efforts. Individuals can help by attending and, if possible, making a donation. McClain Chapel's address is 11201 Road 462, Philadelphia, MS 39350. Donations can be mailed to Ray Crocker at 10320 Road 468, Philadelphia, MS 39350. Churches that would like for their praise team to participate can call Brother Robert Sharp at (601) 416-4326 for more details.

MLK PARADE

Tentative plans for the annual MLK Parade and community activities will be: Saturday January 15th, 2022 at 11:00 a.m. for the MLK Parade. The line-up starts at 10:00 a.m. on Poplar Avenue and ends at Philadelphia High School.

The parade route will be the same as the Christmas parade. Applications are available at the Economic Development Office (Depot) members and the Neshoba County Library.

The annual MLK Banquet will be on Saturday January 15th, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. 100 Burt Drive/Philadel-

phia/attire: Dressy

Tickets are \$15.00, and can be purchased from any community in action member.

Monday January 17th, a Day of Service, community/street clean up. Detailed info on the Day of Service will be given to various churches and organizations.

2022 SHOOTING SPORTS

It is that time of the year again where we are starting to prepare for our upcoming 2022 Shooting Sports season. The 4H Shooting Sports Club offers 6 disciplines such as Archery, Shotgun, .22 rifle, .22 pistol, Air Rifle and Air Pistol to youth ages 8-18. The goal of this club is to teach the youth of our community about firearms safety and conservation during weekly practices while enjoying friendly competition. While accomplishing our main goal of firearms safety, it is our hope that the kids will learn a great deal of responsibility and have fun while doing so. Parents who have youth interested in joining our Shooting Sports club, will need to attend our mandatory interest meeting at the Neshoba County Coliseum on Tuesday, January 11th at 6:00 p.m. in the lobby. Both the parents and the 4H'er will need to be present. During this meeting we will discuss the profitability of enrolling in 4H as well as details regarding the Shooting Sports Club. The membership dues are \$20 per discipline, and the paperwork and fees (checks ONLY) will need to be brought back to the office by February 11th. Please call the office at 601-656-4011 to RSVP to the meeting or if you have any questions. I look forward to meeting you all!!

NEW YEAR'S EVE SERVICE

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Friday -Minister Bobby Goodin-Guest Speaker Praising God and hearing the word as we enter the New Year

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Pedestrian, in the middle of the street: "How do I get to the hospital?"

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Sign in IRS office: "In God we trust. Everyone else is subject to audit."

Many people work hard and save their money so their children won't have the same problems that made mature adults of their parents.

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NESHOBAMA
MAGAZINE



Ty Martin and Gov. Tate Reeves

Martin selected as one of 30 U.S. Senate Pages

By JOHN LEE
john@neshobademocrat.com

Neshoba Central High School junior Ty Martin said he is still trying to process being accepted into the United States Senate Page Program in Washington, D.C.

"I still can't believe it, and I ask myself from time to time, 'What did I get myself into?'" Martin said. "This is an extremely competitive program, and only 30 students are chosen for each session."

Martin, chairman of the Neshoba County Teenage Republicans, said he received his appointment for the program on Nov. 16 from Mississippi U.S. Sen. Roger Wicker.

"To get selected, you have to have at least a 3.0 GPA, you have to be a junior, and you can't be older than 18 years old," Martin said. "I also have to attend the school there."

Martin said he felt he was selected out of the many other candidates because of his involvement in Mississippi politics, particularly the Neshoba County Teenage Republicans.

"Over the past few years, I've become very active in politics," Martin said. "I have good references like Tate Lewis, the executive director of the Mississippi GOP, and some of the names I put on my resume and the experiences I've had to stick out. One of the biggest requirements to be chosen for this is to be politically engaged."

Martin originally applied for the program over the summer for the Fall Session but got denied. However, he was accepted when he applied for the program's Spring Session.

Martin's first day is Jan. 31. Each morning he will take classes from 6:15 a.m. until 9:45 a.m. when the Senate opens.

"I'll be taking English comp, pre-calculus, physics and U.S. history," Martin said. "I won't have a cell phone, only a landline attached to my room, or Internet besides the government WiFi, which I can only use for my schoolwork. I won't

return to Neshoba Central until June 11."

Martin said the part he's looking forward to the most is getting to check books out from the Library of Congress.

"I'm also looking forward to being on the Senate floor every day," he said. "Being on the floor watching what happens in real-time is an honor. No one is usually allowed on the Senate floor besides Senators. Getting to go work up there is beyond belief."

Martin said the most challenging part of attending the page program is not knowing where the other students are coming from.

"These other 29 kids will be from all over the country," he said. "Everyone's personalities are different. When I come back in June, I'll have learned to get along with people in a quick process. I hope I learn some physics and calculus up there, so it'll put me ahead when I come back to Neshoba."

COVID-19 & SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER



■ - Individuals with a substance use disorder are going to be at a higher risk of adverse outcomes from COVID-19. They are more likely to have these comorbidities, do the effects of drug exposures, in pulmonary and respiratory diseases.

■ - If you are addicted to drugs: you're much more likely to encounter conditions where you may get infected with COVID-19.

■ - Many of the drugs that are abused indirectly or directly affect the physiology of our bodies. For example, if you are using opiates, that produces respiratory depression, it leads to lower oxygen content in the lungs, which makes you more vulnerable for any infection that is going to be targeting pulmonary function.

■ - The use of methamphetamine may also put people at risk. Methamphetamine constricts the blood vessels, which is one of the properties that contributes to pulmonary damage and pulmonary hypertension in people who use it.

Many people don't understand why or how other people become addicted to drugs. They may mistakenly think that those who use drugs lack moral principles or will power and that they could stop their drug use simply by choosing too. In reality, drug addiction is a complex disease, and quitting usually takes more than good intentions or a strong will. Drugs change the brain in ways that make quitting hard, even for those who want too.



For more information call Choctaw Behavioral Health
(601) 389-4150

Thank you!

Four years ago, we started The River with the clear vision of making a wonderful place to live even better. We knew how dangerous the substance abuse problem in Philadelphia had become, but we also knew that with God, nothing is impossible. Our intent was to build a faith-based ministry that addressed these issues head on and to provide a safe place for the citizens who find themselves broken and wounded by multiple addictions.

Over the years, we have experienced some heartaches, but we have been blessed to celebrate many more victories when the shattered individuals and fractured families finally find a solution to their addictions. Today these same people are living their lives with hope and purpose, and for that we rejoice! We have discovered that if you don't quit on God, He will never quit on you.

Joy and I will forever be grateful to the many people who simply confirmed my belief that Philadelphia, Mississippi, is one of the greatest places in this country to live. We believe this. We also thank the many local volunteers who over the years have contributed their time and efforts into making The River a place where hurting people can come and discover hope of a better life.

So, from all of us at The River, thank you everyone. We are honored that God has placed us in a position to serve you. We love and care for you and pray for a wonderful 2022 for you all.

Barry Walker

The River

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THE NESHOPA DEMOCRAT



Public Notices

NOTICE TO BIDDERS
Sealed bids will be received in the Neshoba County School District office, 580 East Main Street, Philadelphia, Mississippi, 39350 until 3:00 p.m. on Thursday, January 27, 2022, for:

Neshoba Central Softball and Baseball Facility
Neshoba County School District (Philadelphia, Mississippi)

PryorMorrow Project Number: 2021135

Bid documents are being made available via original paper copy or electronically. Planholders are required to log-in or register for an account at www.pryor-morrowplans.com to view and order Bid Documents. All planholders are required to have a valid email address for registration. Bid documents are non-refundable and must be purchased through the website. Electronic bids are not required; however, a submission of an electronic bid in lieu of a sealed bid shall be submitted at www.pryor-morrowplans.com. Questions regarding website registration, online orders electronic bidding please contact Plan House Printing at (662) 407-0193.

Bid preparation will be in accordance with Section 00200 – Instructions to Bidders, bound in the Project Manual.

BID GUARANTEE: Proposals shall be submitted with Proposal Security in the form of Certified Check or acceptable Bid Bond in an amount equal to at least five percent (5%) of the base bid; such security is to be forfeited as liquidated damages, not penalty, by any bidder who fails to carry out the terms of the proposal. The Bid Bond, if used, shall be payable to the Owner. Bonds on the project must be received on or before the period scheduled for the project and no bid may be withdrawn after the scheduled closing time for the project. Bids must be firm for a period of forty-five (45) days after the scheduled time of opening.

PERFORMANCE-PAYMENT BOND: A 100% Performance-Payment Bond issued by a surety company authorized to do business in the State of Mississippi will be required within ten (10) days after the successful bidder has been notified of the award of the contract to him.

CERTIFICATE OF RESPONSIBILITY: All bids submitted by a prime or subcontractor for public works or public projects where said bid is in excess of fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) to perform contracts enumerated in Section 31-3-21, Mississippi Code of 1972, shall contain on the outside or exterior of the envelope or container of such bid the contractor's current certificate number. No bid shall be opened or considered unless such contractor's current certificate number appears on the outside or exterior of said envelope or container or unless there appears a statement on the outside or exterior of such envelope or container to the effect that the bid enclosed therewith does not exceed fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000). When bids are submitted electronically, the requirement for including a certificate of responsibility, or a statement that the bid enclosed does not exceed Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00), on the exterior of the bid envelope shall be deemed in compliance by including the same information as an attachment with the electronic bid submittal.

The Owner reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive irregularities.

Publish: Wednesday, December 29, 2021
Wednesday, January 5, 2022

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF NESHOBAMA COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

IN THE MATTER OF THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE ESTATE OF BARBARA ANN MOWDY, DECEASED
CAUSE NO.: 2021-cv-305-JK
WANDA SAVELL
EXECUTRIX

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Letters Testamentary having been granted on the 15 th day of December, 2021, by the Chancery Clerk of Neshoba County, Mississippi, to the undersigned upon the Estate of Barbara Ann Mowdy, 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/
WANDA SAVELL
EXECUTRIX

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

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF NESHOBAMA COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI
ESTATE OF CLYDE BERNELL KITTRELL,
DECEASED by Jason Kittrell, Administrator
PLAINTIFF
VS.
CAUSE NO. 2021-346
JAMES A. TUCKER, JR.; SHELIA B. TUCKER; REGIONS BANK; STATE OF MISSISSIPPI; NESHOBAMA COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI; DISTRICT ATTORNEY FOR NESHOBAMA COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI; AND ALL OTHER PERSONS, FIRMS AND CORPORATIONS HAVING OR CLAIMING ANY LEGAL OR EQUITABLE INTEREST IN AND TO THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED LAND SOLD FOR TAXES ON AUGUST 29, 2011, PARCEL NO. 03200-21-011.003, PPIN 117708, LYING IN NW 1/4 OF SECTION 21, TOWNSHIP 12 NORTH, RANGE 10 EAST, NESHOBAMA COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI; AND DOES 1-75 INCLUSIVE DEFENDANTS

SUMMONS

THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

TO: ALL OTHER PERSONS, FIRMS AND CORPORATIONS HAVING OR CLAIMING ANY LEGAL OR EQUITABLE INTEREST IN AND TO THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED LAND SOLD FOR TAXES ON AUGUST 29, 2011, PARCEL NO. 03200-21-011.003, PPIN 117708, LYING IN NW 1/4 OF SECTION 21, TOWNSHIP 12 NORTH, RANGE 10 EAST, NESHOBAMA COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI; AND DOES 1-75, INCLUSIVE DEFENDANTS

Public Notices

TABLE INTEREST IN AND TO THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED LAND SOLD FOR TAXES ON AUGUST 29, 2011, PARCEL NO. 03200-21-011.003, PPIN: 117708, LYING IN NW 1/4 OF SECTION 21, TOWNSHIP 12 NORTH, RANGE 10 EAST, GRENADADA COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI; AND DOES 1-75 INCLUSIVE

You have been made a Defendant in the suit filed in this Court by Estate of Clyde Bernell Kittrell, Deceased by Jason Kittrell, Administrator, Plaintiff, seeking the Court to confirm the tax title of property in Neshoba County, Mississippi (the "Property"). Defendants other than you in this action are: James A. Tucker, Jr.; Shelia B. Tucker; Regions Bank;; State of Mississippi; Neshoba County, Mississippi; and District Attorney for Neshoba County, Mississippi.

You are required to mail or hand deliver a written response to the Complaint filed against you in this action to Andrew Hammond, Attorney for Plaintiff, whose address is Young wells Williams P.A., Post Office Box 6005, Ridgeland, Mississippi 39158 or 141 Township Avenue, Suite 300, Ridgeland, Mississippi 39157.

YOUR RESPONSE MUST BE MAILED OR DELIVERED NOT LATER THAN THIRTY (30) DAYS AFTER THE 22ND DAY OF DECEMBER 2021 WHICH IS THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS SUMMON. IF YOUR RESPONSE IS NOT SO MAILED OR DELIVERED, A JUDGEMENT 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 13th day of December 2021.

GUY NOWELL , CHANCERY CLERK NESHOBAMA COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

(SEAL) BY: W. Savell , D.C.

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF NESHOBAMA COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI
ESTATE OF CLYDE BERNELL KITTRELL,
DECEASED by Jason Kittrell, Administrator
PLAINTIFF
VS.
CAUSE NO. 2021-345
VIRGINIA F. NEESE; FRANCIS HICKS; JOHN HARVEY FRAZIER; WILLIAM NAPOLEAN FRAZIER, JR.; THE UNKNOWN HEIRS OF BILLIE FRAZIER A/K/A WILLIAM NAPOLEAN FRAZIER; MCDANIEL TIMBER COMPANY, INC.; STATE OF MISSISSIPPI; NESHOBAMA COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI; DISTRICT ATTORNEY FOR NESHOBAMA COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI; AND ALL OTHER PERSONS, FIRMS AND CORPORATIONS HAVING OR CLAIMING ANY LEGAL OR EQUITABLE INTEREST IN AND TO THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED LAND SOLD FOR TAXES ON AUGUST 26, 2013, PARCEL NO. 05200-26-003.000, PPIN 3958, LYING IN SE1/4 OF SECTION 26, TOWNSHIP 11 NORTH, RANGE 11 EAST, NESHOBAMA COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI; AND DOES 1-75, INCLUSIVE DEFENDANTS

You are required to mail or hand deliver a written response to the Complaint filed against you in this action to Andrew Hammond for Plaintiff, whose address is Young wells Williams P.A., Post Office Box 6005, Ridgeland, Mississippi 39158 or 141 Township Avenue, Suite 300, Ridgeland, Mississippi 39157.

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GUY NOWELL , CHANCERY CLERK NESHOBAMA COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

(SEAL) BY: W. Savell , D.C.

SUMMONS

THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

TO: ALL OTHER PERSONS, FIRMS AND CORPORATIONS HAVING OR CLAIMING ANY LEGAL OR EQUITABLE INTEREST IN AND TO THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED LAND SOLD FOR TAXES ON AUGUST 29, 2011, PARCEL NO. 03200-21-011.003, PPIN: 117708, LYING IN NW 1/4 OF SECTION 21, TOWNSHIP 12 NORTH, RANGE 10 EAST, GRENADADA COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI; AND DOES 1-75 INCLUSIVE

You have been made a Defendant in the suit filed in this Court by the Estate of Clyde Bernell Kittrell, Deceased by Jason Kittrell, Administrator, Plaintiff, seeking the Court to confirm and quite title of property in Neshoba County, Mississippi (the "Property"). Defendants other than you in this action are: Virginia F. Neese; Francis Hicks; John Harvey Frazier; William napoleon Frazier, Jr.; Mcdaniel Timber Company, Inc.; State of Mississippi; Neshoba County, Mississippi; District Attorney for Neshoba County, Mississippi; You are required to mail or hand deliver a written response to the Complaint filed against you in this action to Andrew Hammond for Plaintiff, whose address is Young wells Williams P.A., Post Office Box 6005, Ridgeland, Mississippi 39158 or 141 Township Avenue, Suite 300, Ridgeland, Mississippi 39157.

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Issued under my hand and seal of said Court, this 13th day of December 2021.

GUY NOWELL , CHANCERY CLERK NESHOBAMA COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

(SEAL) BY: W.Savell , D.C.

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF NESHOBAMA COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI
ESTATE OF CLYDE BERNELL KITTRELL,
DECEASED by Jason Kittrell, Administrator
PLAINTIFF
VS.
CAUSE NO. 2021-345
VIRGINIA F. NEESE; FRANCIS HICKS; JOHN HARVEY FRAZIER; WILLIAM NAPOLEAN FRAZIER, JR.; THE UNKNOWN HEIRS OF BILLIE FRAZIER A/K/A WILLIAM

Public Notices

NAPOLEAN FRAZIER; MCDANIEL TIMBER COMPANY, INC.; STATE OF MISSISSIPPI; NESHOBAMA COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI; DISTRICT ATTORNEY FOR NESHOBAMA COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI; AND ALL OTHER PERSONS, FIRMS AND CORPORATIONS HAVING OR CLAIMING ANY LEGAL OR EQUITABLE INTEREST IN AND TO THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED LAND SOLD FOR TAXES ON AUGUST 26, 2013, PARCEL NO. 05200-26-003.000, PPIN 3958, LYING IN SE1/4 OF SECTION 26, TOWNSHIP 11 NORTH, RANGE 11 EAST, NESHOBAMA COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI; AND DOES 1-75, INCLUSIVE DEFENDANTS

SUMMONS
THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

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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 13th day of December 2021.

GUY NOWELL , CHANCERY CLERK NESHOBAMA COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

(SEAL) BY: W. Savell , D.C.

SUMMONS

THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

TO: ALL OTHER PERSONS, FIRMS AND CORPORATIONS HAVING OR CLAIMING ANY LEGAL OR EQUITABLE INTEREST IN AND TO THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED LAND SOLD FOR TAXES ON AUGUST 26, 2013, PARCEL NO. 05200-26-003.000, PPIN 3958, LYING IN SE1/4 OF SECTION 26, TOWNSHIP 11 NORTH, RANGE 11 EAST, NESHOBAMA COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI; AND DOES 1-75, INCLUSIVE DEFENDANTS

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 UNBORN CHILD FELTER, DECEASED, AND ANY OTHER PERSON OR PARTY CLAIMING ANY LEGAL OR EQUITABLE INTEREST IN AND TO THE ESTATE OF UNBORN CHILD FELTER, DECEASED.

IN THE MATTER OF UNBORN CHILD FELTER, DECEASED

CAUSE NO.: 21-CV-00331-KK CRYSTAL FELTER, 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 UNBORN CHILD FELTER, Deceased, and any other person or party claiming any legal or equitable interest in and to the Estate of UNBORN CHILD FELTER, Deceased.

IN THE MATTER OF UNBORN CHILD FELTER, DECEASED

CAUSE NO.: 21-CV-00331-KK CRYSTAL FELTER, Petitioner

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IN THE MATTER OF UNBORN CHILD FELTER, DECEASED

CAUSE NO.: 21-CV-00331-KK CRYSTAL FELTER, Petitioner

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THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

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IN THE MATTER OF UNBORN CHILD FELTER, DECEASED

CAUSE NO.: 21-CV-00331-KK CRYSTAL FELTER, 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 UNBORN CHILD FELTER, Deceased, and any other person or party claiming any legal or equitable interest in and to the Estate of UNBORN CHILD FELTER, Deceased.

Public Notices

holders are required to have a valid email address for registration. Bid documents are non-refundable and must be purchased through the website. Electronic bids are not required; however, a submission of an electronic bid in lieu of a sealed bid shall be submitted at www.pryor-morrowplans.com. Questions regarding website registration, online orders electronic bidding please contact Plan House Printing at (662) 407-0193.

Bid preparation will be in accordance with Section 00200 – Instructions to Bidders, bound in the Project Manual.

BID GUARANTEE: Proposals shall be submitted with Proposal Security in the form of Certified Check or acceptable Bid Bond in an amount equal to at least five percent (5%) of the base bid; such security is to be forfeited as liquidated damages, not penalty, by any bidder who fails to carry out the terms of the proposal. The Bid Bond, if used, shall be payable to the Owner. Bonds on the project must be received on or before the period scheduled for the project and no bid may be withdrawn after the scheduled closing time for the project. Bids must be firm for a period of forty-five (45) days after the scheduled time of opening.

PERFORMANCE-PAYMENT BOND: A 100% Performance-Payment Bond issued by a surety company authorized to do business in the State of Mississippi will be required within ten (10) days after the successful bidder has been notified of the award of the contract to him.

CERTIFICATE OF RESPONSIBILITY: All bids submitted by a prime or subcontractor for public works or public projects where said bid is in excess of fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) to perform contracts enumerated in Section 31-3-21, Mississippi Code of 1972, shall contain on the outside or exterior of the envelope or container of such bid the contractor's current certificate number. No bid shall be opened or considered unless such contractor's current certificate number appears on the outside or exterior of said envelope or container or unless there appears a statement on the outside or exterior of such envelope or container to the effect that the bid enclosed therewith does not exceed fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000). When bids are submitted electronically, the requirement for including a certificate of responsibility, or a statement that the bid enclosed does not exceed Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00), on the exterior of the bid envelope shall be deemed in compliance by including the same information as an attachment with the electronic bid submittal.

The Owner reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive irregularities.

Publish: Wednesday, December 22, 2021
Wednesday, December 29, 2021

CHOCTAW TRIBAL CIVIL COURT MISSISSIPPI BAND OF CHOCTAW INDIANS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF SHARON TAYLOR, DECEASED C. A. NO. 2020-720

SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION

THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

TO: The heirs at law of SHARON TAYLOR, deceased, and any and all other persons claiming any right, title or interest in and to the estate of SHARON TAYLOR, 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 Kyle Taylor, Administrator of the Estate of SHARON TAYLOR, deceased. You are summoned to appear and defend against the petition filed against you in this action at 1:00 o'clock P.M. on the 16 TH day of MARCH, 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 21 st day of December, 2021.

/s/ Jennileen Young
CHOCTAW TRIBAL COURT CLERK

PUBLIC NOTICE
SIXTEENTH SECTION LAND RECLASSIFICATION

The Board of Trustees of the Neshoba County School District hereby gives notice of the reclassification of the following Sixteenth Section Public School Trust Land from Residential to Forestry classification. Section 16, Township 9 North, Range 10 East

Commence at a point where the West right-of-way of Road 210 intersects the South section line of Section 16, Township 9 North, Range 10 East, Neshoba County, Mississippi, and run Northwesterly along the West right-of-way of Road 210 a distance of 1686.0 feet more or less to the Point of Beginning. From said Point of Beginning thence run West a distance of 304 feet more or less; thence run North a distance of 186.0 feet more or less; thence run E a distance of 285.0 feet more or less to the West right-of-way of Road 210; thence run Southeasterly along said right-of-way a distance of 203.0 feet more or less to the Point of Beginning, containing 1.3 acres more or less all being located in the SE 1/4 of NW 1/4 of SE 1/4 of Section 16, Township 9 North, Range 10 East, Neshoba County, Mississippi. Also described as Parcel 6.01 on Map 113 of the Neshoba County Tax Assessor plat maps.

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF TASHA DIANE SAM, DECEASED C. A. NO. 2021-498

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Letters of Administration having been granted on the 14th day of September, 2021, by the Choctaw Tribal Court of the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians to the undersigned upon the Estate of Tasha Diane Sam, deceased, notice is hereby given to all persons having claims against said Estate to probate and register the same, as provided by law, with the clerk of the court, within ninety (90) days from the first publication of this Notice. Failure to probate and register any such claim within said ninety (90) day period will forever bar the claim.

WITNESS THE SIGNATURE OF THE Administrator, this the 30th day of November, 2021.

/s/ Karren L. Sam
Karren Sam,
Administrator of the Estate of Tasha Diane Sam, deceased

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

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF NESHOBAMA COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

IN THE MATTER OF UNBORN CHILD FELTER, DECEASED

CAUSE NO.: 21-CV-00331-KK CRYSTAL FELTER, 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 UNBORN CHILD FELTER, Deceased, and any other person or party claiming any legal or equitable interest in and to the Estate of UNBORN CHILD FELTER, Deceased.

IN THE MATTER OF UNBORN CHILD FELTER, DECEASED

CAUSE NO.: 21-CV-00331-KK CRYSTAL FELTER, 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 UNBORN CHILD FELTER, Deceased, and any other person or party claiming any legal or equitable interest in and to the Estate of UNBORN CHILD FELTER, Deceased.

IN THE MATTER OF UNBORN CHILD FELTER, DECEASED

CAUSE NO.: 21-CV-00331-KK CRYSTAL FELTER, 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 UNBORN CHILD FELTER, Deceased, and any other person or party claiming any legal or equitable interest in and to the Estate of UNBORN CHILD FELTER, Deceased.

Public Notices

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF TASHA DIANE SAM, DECEASED C. A. NO. 2021-498

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Letters of Administration having been granted on the 14th day of September, 2021, by the Choctaw Tribal Court of the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians to the undersigned upon the Estate of Tasha Diane Sam, deceased, notice is hereby given to all persons having claims against said Estate to probate and register the same, as provided by law, with the clerk of the court, within ninety (90) days from the first publication of this Notice. Failure to probate and register any such claim within said ninety (90) day period will forever bar the claim.

WITNESS THE SIGNATURE OF THE Administrator, this the 30th day of November, 2021.

/s/ Karren L. Sam
Karren Sam,
Administrator of the Estate of Tasha Diane Sam, deceased

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

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF NESHOBAMA COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

IN THE MATTER OF UNBORN CHILD FELTER, DECEASED

CAUSE NO.: 21-CV-00331-KK CRYSTAL FELTER, Petitioner

Public Notices

the Point of Beginning, being 1.8 acres, more or less, in the SE 1/4 of SW 1/4, Section 20, Township 12 North, Range 10 East, Neshoba County, Mississippi. **ALSO LESS AND EXCEPT:** Commence where the South line of Road 814 intersects the East line of the SE 1/4 of SW 1/4, Section 20, Township 12 North, Range 10 East, and thence run Northwesterly along the road 620 feet to the Point of Beginning; thence run Southwesterly perpendicular to the road 210 feet; thence run Northwesterly parallel to the road 210 feet; thence run Northwesterly perpendicular to the road 210 feet; thence run Southeasterly along the road 210 feet to the Point of Beginning, containing 1 acre, more or less, in the SE 1/4 of SW 1/4, Section 20, Township 12 North, Range 10 East, Neshoba County, Mississippi.

ALSO LESS AND EXCEPT: Commence where the South line of Section 20, Township 12 North, Range 10 East, intersects the East line of County Road No. 814; thence run East 300 feet to the Point of Beginning; thence run North 1320 feet to the North line of SE 1/4 of SW 1/4; thence run East 330 feet; thence run South 1320 feet to the South line of the SE 1/4 of SW 1/4; thence run West 330 feet to the point of beginning, containing 10 acres, more or less, in the SE 1/4 of the SW 1/4, Section 20, Township 12 North, Range 10 East, Neshoba County, Mississippi.

TRACT SEVEN: South 1/2 of the NW 1/4 of the NW 1/4, Section 28, Township 12 North, Range 10 East, Neshoba County, Mississippi. Together with all rights, easements, appurtenances, and improvements erected on and all structures and fixtures of any and every description attached to, the real property. Tracts 1 through 6 described above will be offered together for sale, and Tract 7 described above will be offered for sale. Thereafter, all of the real estate described above will be offered for sale together as a whole. The bid or combination of bids that bring the highest amount will be accepted as the highest and best bid. The poultry farm equipment described hereinabove will be sold with Tract 7, to the extent it remains on the property. No warranties or assurances are given with respect to the existence or condition of any such equipment.

In conjunction with the aforesaid sale of real property and at the same place and time as the sale, I will offer for sale at public outcry and sell to the highest and best bidder any and all equipment, machinery, fixtures, farm machinery and equipment, tools, poultry equipment, parts, accessories, repairs, replacements, improvements, and accessories thereto located on the real estate described or situated within the poultry production facilities located on Country Road 167, Philadelphia, Mississippi 39350. No representation is made as to the existence or condition of any equipment described above. The equipment will not be removed to the place of sale. All equipment will be sold as is and where is. The real property described in Tract 7 and any equipment will be offered together as a whole. There is no warranty relating to title, possession, quiet enjoyment, fitness, merchantability or the like in this sale and disposition of the collateral.

Foeclosure will be made subject to the unpaid 2021 *ad valorem* taxes due for Parcel Number 03600-29-008.000, Parcel Number 03100-20-008.005, Parcel Number 03100-20-008.006, Parcel Number 03100-20-007.000, Parcel Number 03100-20-008.004, Parcel Number 03100-20-008.008, Parcel Number 03100-20-008.011, Parcel Number 03100-20-008.003,

Public Notices

Parcel Number 03100-20-008.001, and Parcel Number 03500-28-003.001. I will convey only such title as is vested in me as Substituted Trustee. **WITNESS MY SIGNATURE,** this the 9th day of December, 2021. */s/Chad J. Hammons* CHAD J. HAMMONS, SUBSTITUTED TRUSTEE JONES WALKER LLP P. O. Box 427 Jackson, Mississippi 39205 (601) 949-4900 PUBLISH: December 15, 2021 December 22, 2021 December 29, 2021 January 5, 2022

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF NESHOBA COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF WILLIE MARVIN ANDERSON, DECEASED

CIVIL ACTION NO: 2021-168

TERRY W. ANDERSON ADMINISTRATOR

SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION

THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

TO: THE UNKNOWN HEIRS AND ANY AND ALL OTHER PERSONS, whether resident/ non resident of the state of Mississippi, claiming any right, title or interest as heirs of WILLIE MARVIN ANDERSON, deceased.

You have been made a Respondent in the Motion to Determine Heirs filed in this Court by Terry W. Anderson, Administrator, seeking to adjudicate the sole and only heirs-at-law of Willie Marvin Anderson, deceased, as fully set out in the Motion on file in the Chancery Court of Neshoba County, Mississippi.

You are summoned to appear and defend against the Motion to Determine Heirs filed against you in this action at 9:00 o'clock A.M. on the 9th day of February, 2022, in the courthouse of Neshoba County in Philadelphia, Mississippi, and in case of your failure to appear and defend a judgement will be entered against you for the money or other things demanded in the complaint or petition. You are not required to file an answer or other pleading but you may do so if you desire.

Issued under my hand and the seal of said Court, this 9th day of December, 2021.

Guy Nowell, Chancery Court Clerk Neshoba County, Mississippi

D.C. BY: */s/ K Greer* DC D.C.

Douglas J. Graham Settlements & Graham 410 East Beacon Street Philadelphia, MS 39350 601-656-9597 MSBN 101965

NOTICE OF SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE'S SALE

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI COUNTY OF NESHOBA

WHEREAS, default has occurred in the performance of the covenants, terms and conditions of a Deed of Trust dated September 17, 2010, executed by ROMA JEAN BARRETT,

Public Notices

CHARLES BARRETT, conveying certain real property therein described to MICHAEL LYON, as Trustee, for ONE REVERSE MORTGAGE, LLC, Original Beneficiary, to secure the indebtedness therein described, as same appears of record in the office of the Chancery Clerk of Neshoba County, Mississippi filed and recorded October 8, 2010, in Deed Book 2010, Page 7451; and WHEREAS, the beneficial interest of said Deed of Trust was transferred and assigned to BANK OF AMERICA, N.A.; and WHEREAS, Rubin Lublin, LLC has been appointed as Substitute Trustee; and

NOW, THEREFORE, the holder of said Deed of Trust, having requested the undersigned so to do, as Substitute Trustee or his duly appointed agent, by virtue of the power, duty and authority vested and imposed upon said Substitute Trustee shall, on **January 5, 2022** within the lawful hours of sale between 11:00AM and 4:00PM at the north door of the Courthouse proceed to sell at public outcry to the highest and best bidder for cash or certified funds ONLY, the following described property situated in Neshoba County, Mississippi, to wit:

A PARCEL OF LAND LOCATED IN THE SE 1/4 OF THE SE 1/4 OF SECTION 3, TOWNSHIP 9 NORTH, RANGE 11 EAST, NESHOBA COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI, AND BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:

COMMENCE AT AN IRON PIN FOUND MARKING THE SE CORNER OF THE SAID SE 1/4 OF THE SE 1/4; THENCE RUN NORTH 00 DEGREES 30 MINUTES 05 SECONDS WEST ALONG THE EAST LINE OF THE SAID SE 1/4 OF THE SE 1/4 FOR 1,063.74 FEET TO AN IRON PIN FOUND, SAID POINT BEING THE POINT OF BEGINNING; THENCE RUN NORTH 89 DEGREES 53 MINUTES 46 SECONDS WEST FOR 209.75 FEET TO AN IRON PIN FOUND BESIDE A POST; THENCE RUN SOUTH 01 DEGREES 37 MINUTES 58 SECONDS EAST FOR 335.52 FEET TO AN IRON PIN FOUND; THENCE RUN SOUTH 00 DEGREES 01 MINUTES 20 SECONDS WEST FOR 335.24 FEET TO AN IRON PIN FOUND; THENCE RUN NORTH 76 DEGREES 17 MINUTES 01 SECONDS WEST FOR 545.43 FEET TO A FENCE CORNER FOUND; THENCE RUN NORTH 12 DEGREES 46 MINUTES 46 SECONDS EAST FOR 262.31 FEET TO A FENCE CORNER FOUND; THENCE RUN NORTH 83 DEGREES 33 MINUTES 17 SECONDS WEST FOR 129.73 FEET TO A FENCE CORNER FOUND; THENCE RUN NORTH 71 DEGREES 46 MINUTES 19 SECONDS WEST FOR 104.34 FEET TO AN IRON PIN SET; THENCE RUN NORTH 82 DEGREES 25 MINUTES 00 SECONDS EAST FOR 159.46 FEET TO AN IRON PIN SET; THENCE RUN NORTH 32 DEGREES 30 MINUTES 00 SECONDS EAST FOR 257.58 FEET TO AN IRON PIN SET; THENCE RUN WEST FOR 66.26 FEET TO AN IRON PIN SET; THENCE CONTINUE WEST FOR 182.13 FEET TO AN IRON PIN SET ON THE EASTERN RIGHT OF WAY LINE OF COUNTY ROAD 325; THENCE RUN NORTH 14 DEGREES 15 MINUTES 00 SECONDS EAST ALONG SAID EASTERN RIGHT OF WAY LINE FOR 219.67 FEET TO AN IRON PIN FOUND; THENCE RUN SOUTH 72 DEGREES 19 MINUTES 42 SECONDS EAST FOR 199.12 FEET TO AN IRON PIN SET; THENCE CONTINUE SOUTH 72 DEGREES 19 MINUTES 42 SECONDS

Public Notices

EAST FOR 156.50 FEET TO A METAL PIPE FOUND; THENCE RUN NORTH 57 DEGREES 51 MINUTES 15 SECONDS EAST FOR 590.19 FEET TO A METAL PIPE FOUND BESIDE A FENCE CORNER BEING USED AS THE NE CORNER OF SAID SE 1/4 OF THE SE 1/4; THENCE RUN SOUTH 06 DEGREES 59 MINUTES 13 SECONDS WEST ALONG THE EAST LINE OF THE SAID SE 1/4 OF THE SE 1/4 FOR 338.87 FEET TO AN IRON ROD FOUND; THENCE RUN SOUTH 00 DEGREES 30 MINUTES 05 SECONDS EAST ALONG SAID EAST LINE FOR 83.01 FEET BACK TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING. SAID PARCEL CONTAINS 11.15 ACRES, MORE OR LESS.

PROPERTY ADDRESS: The street address of the property is believed to be **11650 ROAD 325, UNION, MS 39365**. In the event of any discrepancy between this street address and the legal description of the property, the legal description shall control.

Title to the above described property is believed to be good, but I will convey only such title as is vested in me as Substitute Trustee.

THIS LAW FIRM IS ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

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PUBLISH: 12/08/2021, 12/15/2021, 12/22/2021, 12/29/2021

Resolution of the Neshoba County Board of Supervisors

CAME ON FOR CONSIDERATION before this Board of Supervisors of Neshoba County, Mississippi recognition that a proposed reapportionment of supervisor districts and realignment of voting districts and voting precincts of Neshoba County, Mississippi should be accomplished based on the 2020 Census and after considerable study and thorough discussion, Honorable Kevin Wilcher moved to adopt the following resolution:

ORDER OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF NESHOBA COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI ADOPTING A PROPOSED PLAN REAPPORTIONING SUPERVISOR DISTRICTS AND REALIGNING VOTING PRECINCTS AND POLLING PLACES OF NESHOBA COUNTY WHILE MAINTAINING CURRENT JUSTICE COURT JUDGE / CONSTABLE DISTRICTS OF NESHOBA COUNTY, ESTABLISHING A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PROPOSED REAPPORTIONMENT AND REALIGNMENT PLAN FOR JANUARY 18, 2022, DIRECTING THE CLERK TO PUBLISH NOTICE OF SAID PUBLIC HEARING AND A COPY OF THE PROPOSED VOTING PLANS AND HOLDING SAME OUT FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION IN HIS OFFICE AND ON THE NESHOBA COUNTY WEBSITE AT WWW.NESHOBACOUNTY.NET

WHEREAS, Neshoba County, Mississippi ("Neshoba County") is a body politic charged with establishing a voting plan and scheme for the election of supervisors, justice court judges and constables, pursuant to Miss. Code Ann. § 23-15-281, et seq. as amended,

Public Notices

Miss. Code Ann. § 19-3-1 as amended, Miss. Code Ann. § 9-11-2 as amended, and Miss. Code Ann. § 19-19-2 as amended, where the Board of Supervisors are authorized to fix and alter the Supervisors' district and Justice Court Judge/Constable districts, voting precincts and polling places;

WHEREAS, Neshoba County has established a voting plan and scheme to provide for five (5) districts in which to elect supervisors and two (2) districts in which to elect constables and justice court judges;

WHEREAS, certain data from the 2020 Federal Census was received by Neshoba County in August 2021 that reflected that the supervisor districts were alleged to be "malapportioned" such that Neshoba County is charged with the duty of reapportioning the supervisor districts to create more numerically even supervisor districts (See Exhibit "A");

WHEREAS, the same 2020 Federal Census data received does not reflect or evidence that the justice court judge or constable districts are "malapportioned";

WHEREAS, Neshoba County, acting by and through the Neshoba County Board of Supervisors, has carefully considered the various options and alternatives to reapportion the supervisor districts and realign the voting precincts of Neshoba County while maintaining the minority majority districts;

WHEREAS, Neshoba County employs precinct-based ballot scanners that provides the flexibility and efficiency of digital-imaging technology to support paper-based ballots and voting in conjunction with ballot marking devices to ensure robust access for those voters needing assistance;

WHEREAS, Neshoba County seeks to present the proposed reapportionment of supervisor districts and realignment of voting precincts and polling places to the public for comment as attached and as follows:

- a.) Map depicting the proposed reapportioned supervisor districts (See Exhibit "B");
- b.) Map depicting the proposed realigned voting precincts and polling places (See Exhibit "C");
- c.) List of the proposed voting precinct names and polling place locations (See Exhibit "D");
- d.) Chart depicting the total population, total white population, total black population, total American Indian population, total white voting age population, total black voting age population and total American Indian voting age population of each reapportioned supervisor district (See Exhibit "E");
- e.) Map depicting the same justice court judge and constable districts (See Exhibit "F");

WHEREAS, the proposed reapportionment of supervisor districts and realignment of voting precincts, upon adoption thereof, would repeal, amend, supersede and otherwise change the existing supervisor districts and voting precincts; and,

WHEREAS, the proposed reapportionment of supervisor districts and realignment of voting precincts should receive comment from the general public and interested groups to ensure

Public Notices

that said proposal does not have any adverse effect on the participation of minority groups in any elections under the proposed reapportionment and realignment plan;

NOW THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED, by the Board of Supervisors of Neshoba County, Mississippi, as follows:

1. The attached plan and scheme, as shown on Exhibits "B", "C", "D", and "E" that would reapportion supervisor districts and realign voting precincts, be adopted as the proposed voting plan and scheme for Neshoba County, Mississippi;
2. That public hearings be established and held on January 18, 2022 at 10:00 o'clock a.m. and on January 18, 2022 at 6:00 o'clock p.m. in the Board of Supervisors Meeting Room at the Neshoba County Courthouse, to receive public comment on the proposed voting plan and scheme for Neshoba County. Further, that written comments received by the Board of Supervisors in care of the Chancery Clerk at 401 Beacon Street, Suite 107, Philadelphia, Mississippi 39350 or sent to info@neshobacounty.net shall be deemed responsive to the request for public comment and included for consideration at the public hearings so established;
3. The proposed voting plan and notice of public hearing shall be published in The Neshoba Democrat for three (3) consecutive weeks, namely on December 29, 2021, January 5, 2022 and January 12, 2022; and,
4. The proposed voting plan and all relevant documentation related to such proposed plan be held in the Office of the Chancery Clerk and Office of the Board of Supervisors open to the public to inspect and further shall be published on the Neshoba County website at www.neshobacounty.net.

WHEREUPON, following the reading of the foregoing Order, Honorable Kinsey Smith seconded the Motion for its adoption. The President put the question to a roll call vote and the result was as follows:

- Keith Lillis, Supervisor, District I
- Aye
- Kevin Cumberland, Supervisor, District II
- Aye
- Kinsey Smith, Supervisor, District III
- Aye
- Kevin Wilcher, Supervisor, District IV
- Aye
- Obbie Riley, Supervisor, District V
- Aye

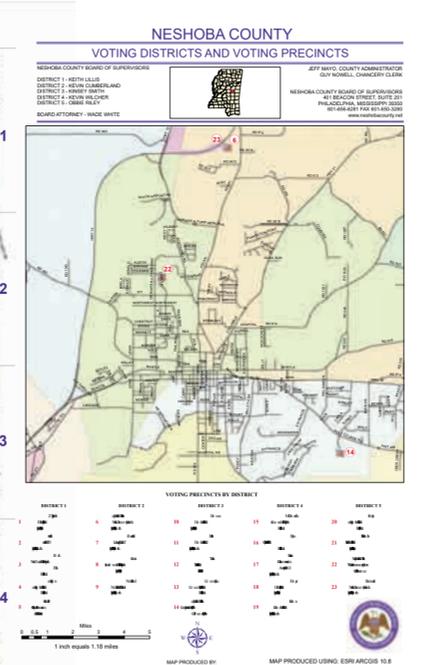
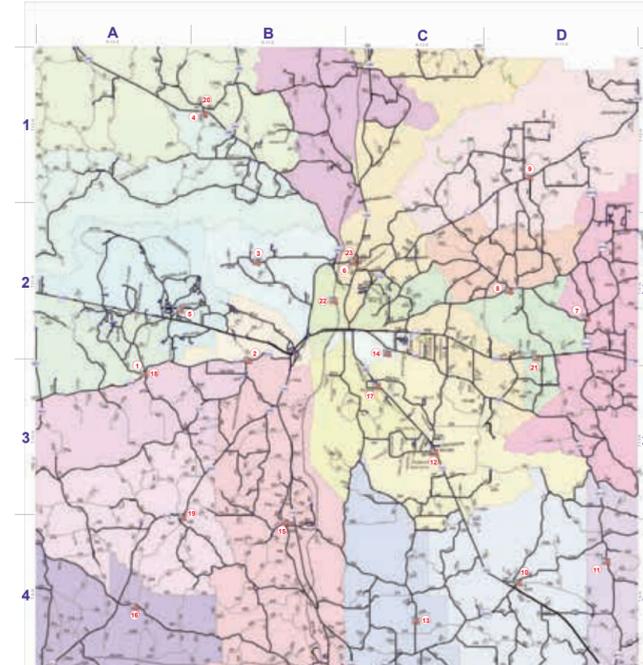
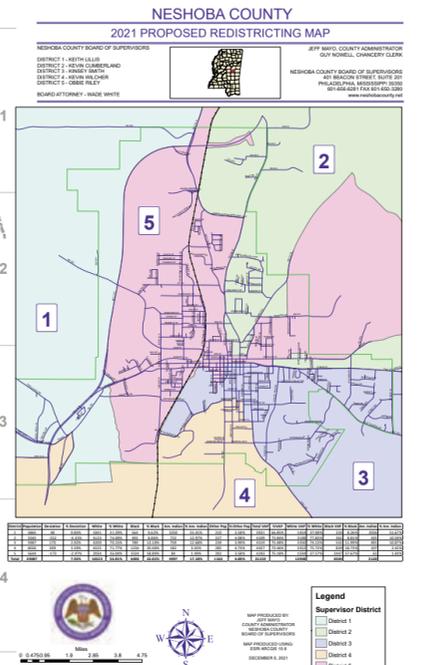
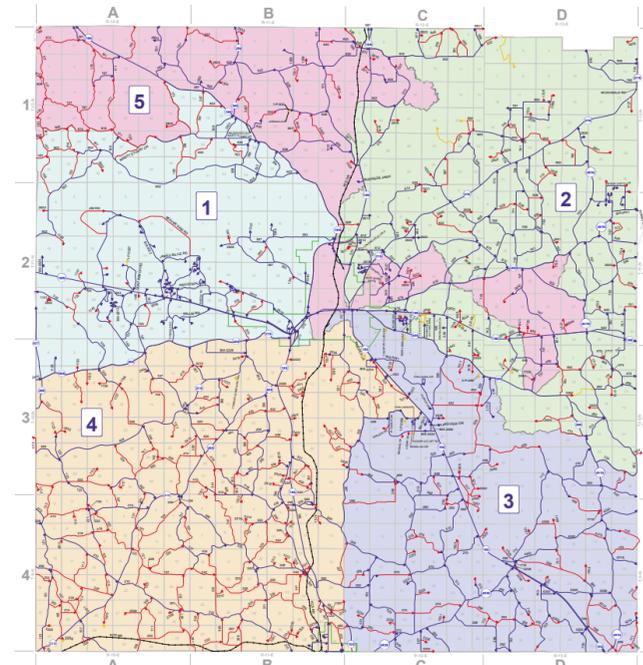
WHEREUPON, the Motion having received the necessary three-fifths (3/5) vote required for passage, the President declared the Motion carried and the Order adopted.

ORDERED AND ADJUDGED this the sixth day of December 2021.

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

Attest:
/s/ GUY NOWELL
GUY NOWELL
CHANCERY CLERK AND CLERK OF NESHOBA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS NESHOBA COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

Please see proposed maps published in this edition.



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IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF NESHOBA COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI IN THE MATTER OF THE LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT OF BILLY ZANE GORDON, DECEASED NO. 2021-23-JK

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 23rd day of November, 2021.

/s/ Angela Gordon

Memorials to the American Cancer Society may be mailed to

Charlene Dewese
12491 Road 614
Philadelphia, MS 39350

ANGELA GORDON, EXECUTRIX OF THE LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT OF BILLY ZANE GORDON, DECEASED

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

Publish Dates: December 23, 2021, December 30, 2021, January 6, 2022 Send Proof of Publications and Statement to: Alford, Thomas & Thomas, PLLC P.O. Box 96 Philadelphia, MS 39350

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HUNTING

Managing your land for antler development

By JAMES CUMMINS
Special to the Democrat

Antler development is affected greatly by nutritional intake prior to and during antler growth. Modern day research began quantifying the impact of nutrition on antler development in the 1950s. We now know that several nutritional components interact to generate the boney matrix of antlers, most importantly protein, energy, and minerals. A variety of experimental approaches have been employed to unravel the nutrition-antler mystery. Most experiments compare antler

characteristics between an "optimally" fed group and one or more "sub-optimally" fed groups.

Early studies in Pennsylvania showed that white-tailed buck fawns fed 4.5 or 9.5% protein from weaning until 1.5 years of age grew smaller antlers than buck fawns fed 16% protein. Red deer fawns having unlimited access to high quality forage initiated pedicle development much earlier than those with access to only 70% as much forage. White-tailed fawns in Michigan fed a diet simulating an early green-up with access to acorns had about double the

number of antler points at 1 year of age as fawns fed a diet simulating late green-up. This relationship between diet quality and a buck's first set of antlers is important in management decisions as well as in understanding the nutrition and birth date interaction to be discussed later.

The minimal level of protein in forage required for maximum antler development varies with age. In a Texas study, 2-year-old whitetails fed 16% protein grew antlers almost twice as heavy as bucks fed 8% protein. Recent research in Texas indicates that as little as 10% protein fulfilled the requirements for antler development of adult bucks. However, younger animals that are actively growing require much higher levels of protein than adult animals.

Typically, biologists recommend that an average intake of 16% protein will allow for maximum antler development. However, that doesn't mean that protein in excess of 16% is not of value. On many properties, protein content of prevalent forages declines below 16%, especially during summer and winter. When this happens, forages exceeding 16% can help bring the average protein intake level to

within the optimal range. Active management of native vegetation and an effective food plot program (cool- and warm-season annuals and perennials) can ensure the availability of forages exceeding 16% protein.

Little is known about the mineral requirements of white-tailed deer. Research has emphasized the "macrominerals," such as calcium and phosphorus. We know very little about the specific requirements for "microminerals," such as magnesium and cobalt. White-tails make up for limited mineral content of their diet by eating soil, creating "deer licks." Mineral requirements will likely be met by vegetation and soil on most properties, but specific minerals may be limited, especially in the southeastern portion of the state.

As you can see, nutrition plays a vital role in antler development, in the next segment we will discuss the role of genetics.

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

FELDER RUSHING

This year's 'Super Bowl' is between Holly and Oak Kings

By FELDER RUSHING
Special to the Democrat

The battle is on between the Holly and Oak Kings! One is losing his life-giving winter berries, the other is sprouting hopeful new flowers.

For thousands of years before we could reassure ourselves that the waxing and waning of el Sol, which influences so many aspects of life, is caused by our planet's wobbling, the coming of a new solar year has given philosophers pause to ponder the season's transformative changes.

As soon as we could predict that the long, dark nights of winter would dependably be banished by lengthening days, bringing back Spring and planting and hope, the earliest spiritual leaders in every culture started assigning symbolic value to natural phenomenon. Without getting into ancient Druid fires and Norse yule logs and all that, these highly-anticipated celebrations led directly to the cheer and solace we still get from holiday lights, sprigs of bright red berries, and shared food and gifts.

My favorite garden-related solstice allegory is that of the mythological Holly and Oak Kings who were seen as two aspects of the same being; neither could exist without the other. In a universal theme in which the sun dies and is reborn at the Winter Solstice, the Holly King represents the waning year, and the Oak King of the coming year, and their dominance plays out during both solstices and equinoxes.

Though I don't buy into those fables, I still planted parts of my midwinter garden specifically with their symbolism in mind. Unlike our frozen cousins farther north, right now we can enjoy flowers, foliage, berries, and even fragrance to keep our spirits high across this otherwise dreary season's threshold.

Of course we have camellias, both fall-flowering sasan-



Variegated holly with berries

qua and early winter japonicas, in full bloom, plus, due to this unusually warm fall and early winter, more than the

usual errant out-of-season others. Paperwhite narcissus nearly always flower by New Year's Eve, and cold-season blooming winter honeysuckle and eleagnus can be found even at night by their fragrance.

Though there are lots more winter-fruitful plants out there, my best berries right now include holly, pyracantha, and nandina. If yours don't have a lot of berries, it could be from pruning in the winter, which removes spring flowers; I wait til mine flower before removing just wayward

stems and tip pruning new growth to thicken plants up for more berries the next year.

By the way, no, nandinas do not kill birds en masse. The widespread myth is based entirely on less than a handful of isolated events involving only cedar waxwings, which sometimes gorge their oversized craws with fermented, digestible seeds. Really. If it was as serious as alarmists make out, we'd all know about it first hand; still if you don't want to take the slightest risk, simply snip the berry clusters off next month.

Getting the most out of winter foliage is a matter of contrasting sizes and shapes, and to some extent color. Planting small trees and shrubs with eye-catching differences in leaves makes them all stand out. For example, a Little Gem magnolia beside a feathery nandina, with a soft-tip yucca thrown into the mix, is about as dramatic as anything. Shade gardens can stand out with an occasional fatsia, variegated aucuba, or mahonia (which has showy yellow mid-winter flowers). Add even more theatrics with a birdbath,

urn, or bottle tree to shine as a winter garden accent.

Walk around the neighborhood, or visit a garden center, and look for bold contrasts that your December garden may lack. And celebrate the Oak King's newly-unfurling winter flowers while pondering the fate of the poor old Holly King.

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

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Sports



Hailey Donald is enjoying her senior season with the Philadelphia Lady Tornado basketball team. She is in her fifth season with the team.

Philadelphia's Donald looking to make most of senior year

STEVE SWOGETINSKY
steve@neshobademocrat.com

Hailey Donald said five years of playing varsity basketball for the Philadelphia High School Lady Tornados seem to have gone by fast now that she is a senior.

Donald has been playing basketball since her seventh-grade year. As an eighth-grader, she was moved up to the varsity team, and that's where she has been ever since.

"It felt like a long time until my senior year started," Donald said. "But right now, it feels like it has all happened so fast."

"I want to make the most of my senior year. I feel like we will make it to the Big House in Jackson. I want to see us become district champions, and I feel like we can do it. We have to step

up and play our game. We can't let anyone control the way we play."

Donald plays guard for the Lady Tornados. "One, two or three, it doesn't matter. I play where I am needed," Donald said. She added that the team put in plenty of practice time during the summer to get ready for the season.

"We practiced a lot and even played in some tournaments," Donald said. "We did well in those games."

Donald said she wants to be a dentist when she grows up. She likes science courses, especially biology. She has a 4.0-grade point average.

"I plan to attend Jackson State University and go in as a pre-dental major," Donald said. "I knew I wanted to be in the biology field. I did some research about all the career paths I could take with a biology major, and I chose dentistry. And, I have a cousin

who is a dentist in Texas."

Donald is a member of the Beta Club and FBLA. She is a cheerleader and also runs for the track team. She will be trying out for the cheerleader squad at Jackson State this spring.

"I will be going over for cheerleader tryouts in March or April," Donald said. "I'm looking forward to that."

"We didn't get to run track last year because of COVID-19. But this year, I want to make it to Jackson for the state meet and earn a medal."

Academically, Donald's senior year is going to be extra hard. She is taking dual credit courses through East Central Community College. This semester, she is taking college algebra, comp I and American history. Next semester, she is taking comp II, trigonometry and American history II.

"It's a lot, but we have great teach-

ers at Philadelphia who help us out," Donald said. "They do a good job."

Donald lists as her favorites:

- Class – English Composition;
- Dinner – Shrimp and Grits;
- Movie - The Hate U Give; and,
- Video game – doesn't play but likes to watch them.

Donald is an active member of the Good Way Missionary Baptist Church. She is the daughter of Kizzy and Keaton Donald. She isn't working right now but did secretary work last summer at the funeral home where her mom works.

"Hailey is one of our leaders," said Coach Danielle Spurlock. "She is our best defensive player. I can put her on anyone of the opposing team, and she will match up well. She works hard in practice and in the games."

5 Rockets earn honors in postseason

By STEVE SWOGETINSKY
steve@neshobademocrat.com

Five Neshoba Central football team members have been named to the Mississippi Association of Coaches all-state football team.

Eli Anderson, who recently signed to play college football at East Mississippi Community College, was named the first-team quarterback.

He is joined on the first team by teammates Ja'Naylon Dupree at tight end; Hunter Bavetta at placekicker; and Jaharon Griffin at linebacker.

Maxton Woodward was named as the second-team defensive end.

The Rockets dominated the Class 2-5A All-Region team.

Eli Anderson was named the Most Valuable Player of the region. Ja'Naylon Dupree was named the Most Outstanding Wide Receiver, and Hunter Bavetta was named the Most Outstanding Placekicker.

Those Rockets making the first team Offense All-Region were Bryceton Spencer, Jaylon Brazzle, Dez McWilliams and Brady Parkerson.

Those making first-team Defense All-Region were Jaharon Griffin, Kelbee Holmes, Maxton Woodward, Ja'Shawn Mathis and Elijah Ruffin.

Rockets named to the second-team All-Region Offense were Grayson Fulton, Cameron Carothers, Brody Ben, Zander Kirkland and Ken Drummond.

Those named to the second-team All-Region Defense were Beau Holley, Anthony Hopson, Braydon Gibson and Brayden Reynolds.

All-Regional honorable mentions went to Zander Ben, Keegan Thompson, D.K. Wilson, LeDamien Jones and Demarkez West.

Choctaw Central had several football players selected to receive Region 4-4A awards following the 2021 season.

Quarterback Eli Joe was named the Co-Most Valuable Player in the district.

The following players were selected to the District 4-4A Super 22 team for their play at their specific position on offense, defense or both.

- Elias Bell – wide receiver
 - Gannon Vaughn – OL
 - Notah Tubby – DL
 - Channing Jimmie – LB
 - Jeriah Jimmie – DB
- The following players were selected as First Team All District 4-4A:

- Andrew Cotton – OL
- Gannon Vaughn – OL
- Elias Bell – DB
- Amzie Anderson – DL
- Braylon McMillian – WR

Those being named to the All-district 4 -4A second team were:

- Gage Lewis – HB / long snapper
- Braynon Jim – LB
- Hayden Anderson – OL
- Kookie Thompson Steve – OL
- Brendon Morris – DL
- Taiton Stokes – WR

Rebelettes drop second loss of season on basketball court

By ROBBIE ROBERTSON
sports@neshobademocrat.com

The Leake Academy Rebelettes lost for only the second time this season as they fell in the Kirk Academy Tournament.

After a 68-37 win over Bayou Academy on Monday, Leake fell 49-40 to Madison Ridgeland Academy.

The Leake girls only have one game scheduled for next week as the Rebelettes are set to play Winona Christian at 3 p.m. on Wednesday in the Columbus Christian Christmas Tournament. The Leake boys will play in the Canton Tournament as they play Riverfield on Tuesday and Delta Academy on Thursday.

Leake will return from the Christmas break and play at Winston Academy on Tuesday, Jan. 4, and will host Simpson on Friday, Jan. 7.

Rebelettes 68 Bayou 37

The Rebelettes dominated the first half and cruised to a 31-point win over the Lady Colts on Monday at the Kirk Tournament.

Leake started fast and led 23-9 at the end of the first period. Leake then outscored Bayou 27-8 in the second and led 50-17 at the half. Bayou outscored Leake 14-7 in the third to cut the lead to 57-31 going to the fourth. Leake took the fourth 11-6 for the final margin.

Miriam Prince led Leake with 16 points and five assists, while Katy Jones had 15 points and five rebounds. Allen Kaye Wilcox had 12 points, six rebounds and three assists. Natalee Vaughn had nine points and was 3-of-5 from the 3-point line. Emeri Warren also had seven points and five rebounds.

Rebels 77 Central Holmes 55

The Rebels had a dominant first half and cruised to a 22-

point win over the Trojans on Tuesday.

Leake started fast and led 26-14 at the end of the first. They then outscored Central Holmes 21-10 to lead 47-24 at the half. Leake took the third 17-15 and led 64-39. Central Holmes outscored Leake 18-13 for the final margin.

Samuel Prince led Leake with 24 points, while Jack Harkins and Jake Freeny each had 11 points apiece. Aiden Watkins also chipped in seven points.

Madison-Ridgeland girls 49 Rebelettes 40

The Rebelettes shot just 24 percent from the field as the Lady Patriots closed strong to hand Leake its second loss of the season.

MRA led 13-10 at the end of the first. Both teams scored 10 points in the second as the Lady Patriots held a 23-20 lead at the half. MRA then outscored Leake 10-9 in the third and 16-11 in the

fourth to take the win.

Miriam Prince led Leake with 21 points, five rebounds and three assists, while Morgan Freeny had 11 points and four rebounds. Katy Jones had five points and six assists, while Allen Kaye Wilcox had five rebounds, and Emeri Warren had four rebounds.

Tri-County boys 61 Rebels 40

Tri-County closed strong in each half and took a 20-point win over Leake Academy last Monday.

Tri-County led 14-10 at the end of the first and outscored Leake 24-8 in the second to lead 38-18 at the half. Leake got back in the game as they outscored Tri-County 14-5 to trail 43-32 going to the fourth. But Tri-County outscored Leake 18-8 in the fourth to take the win.

Samuel Prince led Leake with 12 points, while Aiden Watkins had eight points. Jack Harkins and Jake Freeny each had seven points apiece.



Leake Academy's Morgan Freeny passes to a teammate earlier this season.



Tornadoes receive postseason honors

Philadelphia High School's, from left, Cleveland McAfee, Trey Posey and Chancellor Greer were all named to the Mississippi Association of Coaches' Class 2A All-State football team, Members of the Tornado football team who were named to the All-District 5-2A first team were Marcus Beamon, Greer, Posey, McAfee and Quentin Beamon. Those being to the All-District second team were Imarion Black, Andrew Carter, Jadarius Stephens and Kentarious Everson.

Yellow Jackets pick up 1st win

By **ROBBIE ROBERTSON**
sports@neshobademocrat.com

Two different streaks came to an end on Wednesday for the Union basketball teams.

The Lady Yellowjackets suffered their first loss with a 34-33 setback to homesteading Lamar in the finals of the school's Christmas Tournament.

Union advanced to the finals with a 44-26 win over West Lauderdale and a 43-39 win over North-east Lauderdale.

The Union boys picked up their first win of the season as they beat Sylva Bay 45-25. They opened up the tournament with a 56-21 loss to West Lauderdale and a 46-27 loss to Newton County Academy.

Union was to return to action on Tuesday as they host Sebastopol in their only action of the week.

Union will return from the Christmas break and begin Division 5-3A play as they host Forest on Tuesday, Jan. 4, and Enterprise on Friday, Jan. 7.

Lamar 34

Lady Yellowjackets 33

The Lady Raiders overcame an early deficit and pulled away in the second half to take a 1-point win over the Lady Yellowjackets.

Union started fast as they outscored Lamar 19-10 in the first while the Lady Raiders took the second period 6-5 and trailed 24-16 at the half. In a slow-paced third period, Lamar outscored Union 6-4 in the third and trailed 26-22. The Lady Raiders closed by outscoring the Lady Yellowjackets 12-5 to take the win.

Georgia Cooper led Union with 12 points while Kamiya Russell had eight points and Keirra Russell added 6 points.

Yellowjackets 45

Sylva Bay 25

The Yellowjackets used a strong first half and grabbed their first win with a 20-point victory.

Union jumped out to a 10-2 lead in the first period and outscored Sylva Bay 15-4 in the



Union's Keirra Russell puts up a shot against Lamar.

second for a 25-6 halftime lead. Union then outscored Sylva Bay 14-10 in the third while the Saints took the fourth 9-6.

Kamarian Rushing led Union with 18 points while Keon Hutchins had 12 points.

Lady Yellowjackets 44

West Lauderdale 26

The Lady Yellowjackets started fast in each half and took an 18-point win over the Lady Knights.

Union jumped out to a 12-2 lead in the first period and led 19-11 at the half. The Lady Yellowjackets continued to extend their lead in the second half, outscoring the Lady Knights 17-10 in the third and 8-5 in the fourth.

Georgia Cooper had a big game and led Union with 15 points while Keirra Russell had eight points, and Madison Buckley chipped in six points.

West Lauderdale 56

Yellowjackets 21

The Knights started fast and took a 35-point win over the Yellowjackets.

West jumped out to a 16-4 lead and led 23-14 at the half. West then pulled away and outscored Union 25-3 in the third to lead 46-17 going to the fourth. West finished by outscoring Union 8-5 for the final margin.

Kamani Townsend led Union with 7 points, while Kamarian Rushing and Keon Hutchins each had 5 points apiece.

Lady Yellowjackets 43

Northeast Lauderdale 39

The Lady Yellowjackets built an early lead and held on to take a hard-fought 4-point win.

Union jumped out to an 18-11 lead in the first period and outscored Northeast 11-9 in the second for a 29-20 halftime lead. Northeast cut into that lead in the second half and outscored Union 14-12 in the third quarter and 5-2 in the fourth.

Kamiya Russell led Union with 16 points while Georgia Cooper added nine points. Kataya Bishop had 8 points, while Madison Buckley had 6 points.

Newton County Academy 46

Yellowjackets 27

The Generals outscored the Yellowjackets in every period and took a 19-point win on Monday.

NCA led 11-5 at the end of the first and 18-7 at the half. The Generals outscored the Yellowjackets 10-3 in the third and 18-17 in the fourth.

Keon Hutchins led Union with 10 points while Kamarian Rushing had 5 points.

Leake County 47

Tornadoes 42

The Tornadoes kept it close until the fourth quarter when Leake County pulled away.

Leake County led 27-19 after the first quarter. Leake County increased that lead to 34-21 at the half and held the Tornadoes off in the second period.

Andrew Carter led Philadelphia with 11 points, and Alexander Menchion added 10 points.

Tornadoes split with Leake County

By **STEVE SWOGETINSKY**
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The Philadelphia Tornado basketball teams split a pair of games with Leake County last Tuesday night.

The Philadelphia Lady Tornadoes took a 49-30 win over Leake County and currently stand at 5-5. The Tornadoes dropped a 47-42 decision to the Gators.

Lady Tornadoes 49

Leake County 30

The Lady Tornadoes took

control of the game in the first half and held on to take the victory.

Philadelphia led 14-5 after the first quarter. They outscored Leake County 13-2 in the second quarter and led 27-7 at the half. The Lady Gators battled back in the third quarter, outscoring Philadelphia 16-9. But Philadelphia closed out the fourth quarter by outpointing Leake County 14-7.

Jaiden Burnside led the Lady Tornadoes with 23 points.

Rockets sweep Northwest Rankin

By **STEVE SWOGETINSKY**
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The Neshoba Central basketball teams swept two games from Northwest Rankin last Tuesday.

The Lady Rockets improved to 13-0 with a 63-49 win over Northwest Rankin.

The Rockets evened their record to 5-5 with a 37-36 win. This was the Neshoba Central boys' fourth victory in a row.

Neshoba Central has two games slated for this week. They were to play at Noxubee County Tuesday.

On Thursday, they will host Newton County. The Rocket teams open region play next Tuesday (January 4) when they host Holmes Central.

Lady Rockets 63

Northwest Rankin 49

The Neshoba Central Lady Rockets turned it on in the fourth quarter to take a victory over Northwest Rankin.

Neshoba Central led 15-10 after the first quarter. The Lady Cougars came back to outscore the Lady Rockets 17-14 in the second quarter. At the half, the Lady Rockets led 29-27.

The Lady Rockets had a 12-10 scoring edge in the third quarter and carried a 41-37 lead into the final period. Neshoba Central outscored the Lady Cougars 22-12 in the final quarter to ice the win.

Zhaira Leflore led the Lady Rockets with 18 points. Shaylynn Hunter scored 13 points, and Hama'ya Fielder added 12 points.

Rockets 37

NW Rankin 36

The Neshoba Central Rockets came through in the fourth quarter to take a victory over Northwest Rankin.

The Cougars led 8-5 after the first quarter. The Rockets came back to outscore Northwest Rankin 15-9 in the second quarter and led 18-14 at the half.

The Cougars came back in the third quarter to outscore the Rockets 15-9.

Northwest Rankin led 29-27 going into the final quarter. The Rockets battled back, outscoring the Cougars 10-7 in the final eight minutes and took the victory.

Bryceton Spencer and Patsden Williams both scored 11 points to lead the Rockets.



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