



SPORTS

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COOK OF THE WEEK

HOLMES ENJOYING HER RETIREMENT

Florine Holmes — Page 9A



THE NESHOPA DEMOCRAT

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DISCUSSION BEGINS

School consolidation meeting held

By JACE HENDERSON
jace@neshobademocrat.com

A meeting to discuss the potential consolidation of the public schools here was held Monday night.

Lee Smith, one of the organizers, stressed the importance of

public education in Neshoba County to economic development and said that a well-educated workforce is vital for prosperity.

Initiating the public discussion about education is what's important, he said, indicating he envisions a professional study

that will provide a path for the community.

"Human beings are most impressionable, malleable, and vulnerable as children," Smith said. "Childhood is the most formative period of a person's lifetime, and children should be given the attention, care, and

love necessary to fend against this immensely vulnerable period."

Smith said it is the duty of adults in the community to ensure that all children are afforded the greatest opportunity to excel.

Smith discussed his opinions

on the disparity in performance between the two school districts, in both academic achievement and graduation rates.

He argued for consolidation to provide equal educational opportunities for all children in the county while addressing concerns about city property

values and the future if an exodus to the county continues.

Smith also acknowledged the complexity of the issue, particularly the financial implications and logistical challenges of merging the two school systems.

See **SCHOOLS**, page 3A



Maggie Taylor, center, with parents Mark and Amy Taylor, shows off her 2024 Merit Scholarship from the Mississippi Young Bankers.

NESHOBA CENTRAL SENIOR

Taylor receives 2024 Merit Scholarship from bankers

By JACE HENDERSON
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Maggie Taylor, a 2024 senior at Neshoba Central High School, has been selected as the 2024 Merit Scholarship recipient by the Mississippi Bankers Association Education Foundation and the Mississippi Young Bankers.

"I am deeply honored to receive this award and to represent Neshoba County," Taylor said. "It's a prestigious recognition, and I'm proud of it."

Taylor was chosen from applicants across Mississippi to receive the \$1,500 scholarship, which is given annually to a high school senior whose parent and/or guardian is an employee of an MBA member bank.

Her father, Mark Taylor, is employed at The Citizens Bank of Philadelphia, and her mother, Amy Taylor, is an attorney and a Municipal

Court Judge in Philadelphia.

"I feel like I made my dad proud," she said. "I'm glad that we can connect over this scholarship and that I had to opportunity to apply because he works at the bank. It was really awesome to connect with him in that way."

Taylor plans to attend the University of Mississippi in the fall and obtain a degree in biology with a minor in environmental science and eventually pursue a career in the field of environmental science.

"I've always liked science and nature," Taylor said. "The two just kind of go together, so I figured I'd try my hand out in environmental science and see if I can protect our wildlife. I think Mississippi has a unique landscape, so I want to stay here and help preserve that."

Taylor said she is also eager to be reuniting with her sister, Emma, who

currently attends Ole Miss and is looking forward to being in a new environment and making new friends along the way.

Taylor's high school involvement extends beyond academics, as she actively participates in various extracurricular activities, including varsity soccer, student council, and the speech and debate club.

"Through these activities, I have gained so many friends, so much confidence in myself, and a lot of leadership skills," she said. "Learning how to communicate with others and learning how to compromise are skills that will help in my professional life."

She added, "It takes a lot of organization and time management, and I pride myself in that," Taylor said. "It's hard to balance school and extracurriculars, but I really try to stay organized, on top of my game, and not let things

get behind me."

Taylor is also active in the community through the Junior Auxiliary Crown Club, the Holy Cross Catholic Church Youth Organization, and the National Federation of Music Club.

"There's an element of discipline involved in those activities," Taylor said. "It's allowed me to be involved in my community and to see more. So many opportunities have come, because of it."

Among her many honors and accolades, Taylor was named as Neshoba Central's Star Student this year, served as the Leadership Neshoba Class President, holds the position of NCHS Student Body Vice President, is a member of the National Honor Society and National Technical Honor Society, and was selected as a top ten finalist in the State Distinguished Young Woman Program in 2023.

ALDERMEN

Speed bumps on Crockett discussed

By JACE HENDERSON
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Residents of Crockett Avenue have submitted a petition to the city requesting the removal of the three sets of speed bumps.

Thirteen residents signed the petition, citing concerns that the speed bumps are overly aggressive. However, the majority of Crockett residents are not opposed to implementing measures for speed control, officials said.

During last Tuesday's meeting, aldermen engaged in a discussion over speed bumps and will be deciding in the coming weeks on whether to maintain the current prevalence of speed bumps throughout the city or to consider scaling back.

"We have a list of residents who are against the speed bumps, and another group of residents that do want them," said Ward 1 Alderman Justin Clearman. "We need to get them all up here in a room to talk over it before we make any decision."

Ward 2 Alderman Jim Fulton proposed a potential compromise, on Crockett suggesting the addition of a three-way stop at the intersection of Breazeale and Crockett, along with installing rumble strips to help prevent speeding.

Speed bumps have been installed on several streets including Austin, Barham, Coleman, Crockett Avenue, Poplar Avenue, Line, South Lewis Avenue, and Border Street.

The Street Department is awaiting the board's decision on whether to proceed with further installation of speed bumps in areas deemed necessary.

"The speed bumps are serving their intended purposes well," said Street Department Superintendent Patrick Gray. "As long as drivers adhere to the speed limits, there should be no damage to their vehicles. Safety is our number one priority in the city."

In other matters, aldermen voted to:

- Approve a motion to approve the memorandum of agreement with Neshoba County for 911 Emergency Dispatch Services as amended with addendum and allow the mayor to sign. The motion was approved unanimously;

- Approve a motion to pay Custom Products invoice totaling \$4,619.68 for new road signage out of Bond B account. The motion was approved unanimously;

See **CITY**, page 2A

OPINION
Rich Lowry

PAGE 4A

JUST AMONG FRIENDS
Marianne Enochs

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OPINION
Cal Thomas

PAGE 4A



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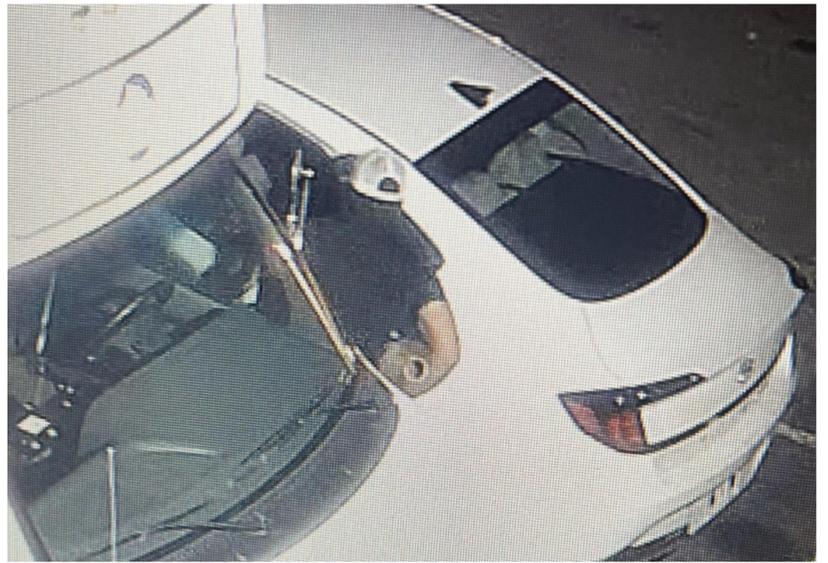
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Surveillance footage shows the suspect in a catalytic converter theft case at the Church of the Arc on Lakeside Drive.

Catalytic converter stolen from Church of the Arc bus

By DUNCAN DENT
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Philadelphia Police are investigating the theft of a catalytic converter taken from a church bus early Monday morning.

The catalytic converter was reportedly taken from a small church bus parked at the Church at the Arc, 138 Lakeside Drive, on March 25 at

about 1:20 a.m., according to Police Chief Eric Lyons.

The suspect vehicle involved is a white Hyundai Sonata. Lyons said the tag could not be read based on security camera footage from the church.

Catalytic converters and their scraps can currently sell for between \$800 and \$1,200, depending on the type and the market at any given time.

“Philadelphia and Neshoba County, please check on your personal vehicles and your work vehicle,” Lyons said.

Anyone with any information regarding this incident or any other crime is encouraged to call the Philadelphia Police Department a call at 601-656-2131 or East Mississippi Crimestoppers at (855) 485-TIPS.

City

Continued from page 1A

- Approve a motion to allow the payroll clerk to attend a Workers' Comp Workshop on April 4 in Flowood, and for the city to pay travel expenses. The motion was approved unanimously;
- Approve a motion to allow Mayor James A. Young to travel to a CDBG workshop in Flowood on March 25 and to the East Central Mayors meeting in Macon on March 28. The motion was approved unanimously;
- Approve a motion to set a hearing date for April 16 to adopt the redistricting plan for the city of Philadelphia as presented by East Central Planning and Development. The motion was approved unanimously;
- Approve a motion to approve a C Spire road bore along State Avenue, Saint Fran-

cis Drive, Gordon Avenue, Iva Street, Tank Street, Keith Street, Franklin Avenue, Walton Street, Stewart Street, East Haven Drive, and Eastpoint Drive. The motion was approved unanimously;

- Approve a motion to approve MaxxSouth road bores as listed along Byrd Avenue, St. Francis Drive, and Valley View Drive. The motion was approved unanimously;
- Approve a motion to approve C Spire fiber hub location on 809 Pecan Ave. The motion was approved unanimously;
- Approve a motion to accept the resignation of Tatum McMullan from the Police Department effective March 8. The motion was approved unanimously;
- Approve a motion to hire Wyatt Gore as Patrolman 1st Class at \$15.86 an hour with the Police Department effective March 20. The motion was approved unanimously;
- Approve a motion to sur-

plus and place on auction with GovDeals a 2018 Ford Taurus from the Police Department. The motion was approved unanimously;

- Approve a motion to block Byrd Avenue for an event from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Sunday, March 31, and block Main to Center Ave starting at 10 p.m. on Friday, March 29 to 3 p.m. on Saturday, March 30. The motion was approved unanimously;
- Approve a motion to promote Britt Baker to firefighter at \$13.88 an hour. The motion was approved unanimously;
- Approve a motion to accept the resignation of Matthew Lomax from the Fire Department effective March 16. The motion was approved unanimously;
- Approve a motion to hire Aaron Adcock as Driver/EMT with the Fire Department at \$15.63 an hour effective March 30. The motion was approved unanimously.

GET INVOLVED

The Great Neshoba clean UP month

APRIL 2024



Friends and neighbors it is that time of year to kick off "The Great Neshoba Cleanup." Cleanup days will be held every Saturday of April from 8AM-12PM. Kevin Baysinger has volunteered to coordinate efforts and can be contacted at 601-416-5587 or via email at Neshoba25@bellsouth.net. Be sure to follow The Great Neshoba Cleanup facebook page for updates. Together we can Keep Neshoba County, Mississippi and America Beautiful.

Local woman pleads guilty to food stamp fraud

By DUNCAN DENT
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A Neshoba County woman charged with food stamp fraud has entered a plea agreement. The woman, April Long, 44, entered a plea agreement with the District Attorney in Neshoba County Circuit

Court on March 4, according to Kevin Baysinger of the Investigations Division of MDHS. Long received an over-issuance of SNAP benefits between April 2017 to April 2022 by not accurately reporting household composition and income to MDHS, officials said.

"This investigation demonstrates the controls we have in place to identify, investigate, and eliminate fraud in our programs," said MDHS Executive Director Robert G. "Bob" Anderson. "This is also a great example of cooperation between our county office, investigations team, and local law enforce-

ment." Long is disqualified from participating in the SNAP program for 12 consecutive months, Baysinger said. She has been ordered to serve a term of three years within the Pretrial Intervention Program of the Eighth Circuit Court District and is required to pay full restitu-

tion of \$46,270.00. The Investigations Division is a subset of the MDHS Office of Inspector General (OIG), which was created in August 2018 and charged with detecting, preventing, and deterring fraud, waste, and abuse. OIG has been responsible for recovering millions of dollars from

SNAP overpayments. Suspected fraud can be reported to MDHS online at any time by submitting the MDHS Fraud Tip Form at mdhs.ms.gov/report-fraud/ or by calling the Fraud Tip Line at 1-(800)-299-6905, or email fraud@mdhs.ms.gov.

Carthage man arrested by deputies with Xanax, marijuana

By DUNCAN DENT
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A Carthage man was arrested on marijuana and Xanax pill charges during a traffic stop a week after being released on separate drug charges. The man, Joshua Scott, 40, 751 Drysdale Road, Carthage, was most recently arrested on two misde-

meanor drug possession violations, according to Neshoba County Sheriff Eric Clark. Deputies encountered Scott at a safety checkpoint near the intersection of Road 147 and Road 604 in between the Hope and Pearl River communities on March 16 at about 4 p.m. Reports say Scott was driving a black Ford when he

was stopped. Clark said deputies smelled marijuana and asked him to exit the vehicle. He said they could see a bag sticking out of the suspect's jacket in the passenger seat of the car. A search of the vehicle found misdemeanor amounts of marijuana



Joshua Scott

and Xanax pills, Clark said. Scott was then arrested, just seven days after he had been released from the Neshoba County Detention Center on unrelated felony drug charges. "He has not learned his lesson," Clark said. Jail records show

Scott was released on March 17, at 8:45 a.m. on \$1,600 in bond. Deputies previously observed Scott on Thursday, March 7, at about 11 a.m. where Highway 16 turns into four lanes at the Pow Wow driving recklessly, Clark said. Deputies initiated a traffic stop and Scott pulled into the valet parking lane at the Sil-

ver Star Casino, Clark said. Upon making contact with Scott, deputies discovered two prescription pill bottles with the labels scratched off. Clark said they found more than 167 pills inside the bottles. Scott was out of jail two days later on a \$7,900 bond, jail records show.

Ala. couple going wrong way on Beacon with pot, meth

By DUNCAN DENT
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An Alabama couple driving the wrong way on Beacon Street was arrested and charged with possession of marijuana and meth after they were spotted in front of the KFC on March 16. The driver, Russell Dan Woods, 48, 4027 Telstar Circle, Huntsville, Ala., was arrested and charged with felony possession of a con-

trolled substance, possession of marijuana in a vehicle, and possession of a firearm by a convicted felon, according to Neshoba County Sheriff Eric Clark. Woods was also cited in "association with his driving habits," he said. The passenger, Laura Sue Lasher, 50, 4019 Sewall Road, Huntsville, Ala., was arrested and charged with possession of a controlled substance and possession of

marijuana in a vehicle. Sheriff's deputies encountered the pair on Wednesday, March 13 at 10 p.m. on Beacon Street in front of the KFC where Woods was observed driving a white Dodge traveling eastbound.



Russell Woods



Laura Lasher

Deputies initiated a stop and Woods pulled over in the parking lot of A1 Auto Parts. Upon making contact, deputies noticed the smell of marijuana coming from the vehicle as well as the butts of two

marijuana cigarettes in the vehicle. They also established that Woods had no driver's license. Deputies observed Woods reaching into one of his pockets. A search of wood revealed a clear bag containing a crystal-like substance believed to be crystal methamphetamine. A search of Lasher, the passenger, also revealed meth. Clark said a search of the vehicle rendered a handgun

and a bag of marijuana. Deputies also determined Woods was a convicted felon out of Huntsville. Woods was out of jail on March 16 on a \$16,000 bond, according to Neshoba County Detention Center records. The same records show Lasher was released on an \$11,000 bond on March 13.

Philadelphia man arrested for illegally dumping scrap wood

By DUNCAN DENT
duncan@neshobademocrat.com

A Philadelphia man has been charged with littering after he was caught and admitted to dumping scrap wood on the side of the road. The man, Keewan Burnside, 23, 1066 Frog Level Road, was arrested and charged with littering. Neshoba County Sheriff Eric Clark said his office was made aware of the individual who had taken a load of scrap wood and dumped it on the edge of Road 610 in a ditch early on the morning of Monday, March 25. "Witnesses gathered

information on the suspect by taking pictures of the truck, suspect, and tag number," Clark said. "Thank you to the witnesses who provided information that led to the arrest of this litterbug." Later that day after lunchtime, Clark said deputies made contact with the suspected vehicle in town where he had another load of wood that he was headed to dump. "The driver admitted to the dumping," Clark said. The driver was taken to the Neshoba County Jail and charged with the alleged dumping of the materials. According to Clark, Burn-

side also agreed to, once being released, go back to the dump site to remove what he had dumped. "We are taking the littering and illegal dumping problem seriously in Neshoba County and are using all measures possible to charge and convict all who decide to trash our county," Clark said. Clark said Burnside returned to the site that afternoon and removed the dumped materials. This incident comes on the heels of a litter campaign Clark announced earlier this month. Through his litter campaign video posted on social

media on March 11, Clark said he plans to not only raise awareness over the issue but also deter littering through the enforcement of misdemeanor violations. Enforcing stricter penalties for littering, including citations for debris unintentionally flying out of vehicles and seeking maximum

finest for each offense is part of the Sheriff's strategy to curb the chronic litter problem in Neshoba County. To strengthen the campaign's impact, Clark is actively pursuing grants to fund educational literature for the schools. He also plans to involve school resource officers in spreading aware-

ness to students. Clark said common culprits like discarded food containers from fast-food meals are a lot of the problem and he wants to stress the importance of educating the community about the consequences of littering and the impact it has on the environment.

Schools

Continued from page 1A

tems while maintaining their identities. "The longer we wait for the inevitable to occur, the tougher it will be for our town to fulfill its potential," Smith said. "We must construct a comprehensive, thoughtful, and data-driven proposal to convince the school boards, citizens, and politicians that school consolidation is the best path forward." Leroy Clemons, another meeting organizer, emphasized the long-term impact on future generations and the importance of creating an environment where all voices can be heard. "This will not only affect us right now, but it will affect our children for generations to come," Clemons said. Johnny Crenshaw, a past county school board member, outlined what he sees as the legal process for voluntary school consolidation. The first step in voluntary school consolidation involves both school boards agreeing to the process, he said, with resolutions passed and published in the Democrat. Following a 30-day period — during which voters can raise objections — the consolidation order is finalized if no petitions are submitted, accord-

ing to Crenshaw. If a petition is submitted, an election is held in the district where it originated to determine community support for consolidation. Approval by the majority in this vote finalizes the consolidation, otherwise, it doesn't proceed, he said. Upon voter approval, the consolidation plan must gain state Board of Education endorsement and federal agency clearance. A new board of five members would then be appointed along with a new superintendent, Crenshaw said. While the consensus among attendees was that voluntary school consolidation might be challenging to achieve due to potential disagreements, the decision may ultimately rest with the state in cases where a school has persistently underperformed during an extended period. Harold Coburn, president of the Philadelphia School Board, stressed the need for fair resource allocation and addressing underlying issues within the school system. "The question that needs to be asked is why are we allowing 200 of our students who live in the city limits to illegally go to Neshoba," Coburn said. "We fail to address the real issues, and if we get the same resources we are going to excel. We talk about coming together and con-

solidating, but all we ask is a fair share of what's ours." Businessman Mike Tinsley expressed confidence that consolidation would eventually occur, driven by state intervention but would likely take place many years from now. "My family has 86 years at Philadelphia Public School," Tinsley said. "The school is clean, and the facilities have been maintained over the years. If it happens, the state will mandate it when they think it's going to happen. It may be five years or seven years from now, but it's going to happen." He added, "All any kid wants is to be loved. What we have to do is strive to make both schools as good as they can for the kids." The meeting reflected a diverse range of perspectives and concerns regarding school consolidation, with a consensus emerging on the importance of equal education and economic development for the future of Neshoba County. The road ahead will likely involve further discussions, negotiations, and advocacy to address the complex challenges involved in merging the two school districts, Smith and others indicated. No date has been set for the next meeting, but those interested can contact Smith at leecarletonsmith@gmail.com or Clemons at (601) 504-3980.



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Opinion

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1932—2017

EDITORIALS

Trump's plan to drain the swamp

Former President Donald Trump learned many lessons from his four years in the White House. Perhaps none hits home harder than discovering the chief executive of the United States isn't actually in charge of the federal government.

At every step of the way, Mr. Trump's initiatives were thwarted by minor functionaries in his administration, egged on by corporate-owned media outlets lionizing members of "the resistance."

On the eve of the 2020 election, Mr. Trump signed an executive order to do something about it. He created Schedule F, a novel classification for critical policy-making posts in the federal government subject to streamlined rules that say key employees serve at the will of the president.

The order would have made it possible to replace the partisan, unelected mandarins who spend their day in the office (or more likely now, their day at home) plotting to ensure their personal will — not the will of the voters — is executed. Schedule F positions were to be distinct from the political appointees who come and go with each change of administration.

Within the expected service, intelligence, national security and foreign service positions would have been the most affected had the plan gone into effect. Unfortunately, we won't know for certain, since President Biden capitulated to public sector union demands and canceled the order before it was implemented.

The National Treasury Employees Union has been filing Freedom of Information Act requests for more details about what the former president had in mind. The group expressed shock that jobs with "substantive participation in the develop-

ment or drafting of regulations and guidance" would qualify. In some cases, this meant reaching down to the GS-12 level, where pay now tops out at \$129,000 a year.

Mr. Trump pledges to revive his plan to diminish the influence of partisans entrenched in the bureaucracy if he is reelected. "With you at my side, we will demolish the deep state," he told the audience at a rally in South Carolina last month. "We will expel the warmongers from our government. We will drive out the globalists."

Such activists don't deserve the absurdly elevated protections the civil service offers. It used to require sacrifice to enter the civil service. Those days are long gone. From the federal to the local level, government provides overly generous benefits to its employees. Earlier this month, the Bureau of Labor Statistics reported total compensation for public employees outpaced that of the private sector by 40%.

Fearing Mr. Trump might upset the cushy bargains they've struck, the National Treasury Employees Union and the rest of the Federal Workers Alliance are doing everything they can to thwart the possibility of his return to the Oval Office. The groups are also pushing legislation to head off another executive order, further insulating the civil service so it's even less accountable than it already is.

If voters ever want to change the direction in which the country is headed — and two-thirds of Americans say they do, according to polls — it must be possible to curtail lifetime sinecures. Otherwise, no matter who the people elect, the outcome will always be the same.

— *The Washington Times*

CAL THOMAS

Moscow massacre

A mass shooting at a concert hall in Moscow killed more than 130 people. With many others seriously or gravely wounded the number of dead is likely to rise.

Could it happen here?

A mass shooting at a concert hall in Moscow killed more than 130 people. With many others seriously or gravely wounded the number of dead is likely to rise.

The Islamic state released a statement claiming "credit" for the incident. Eleven suspects have been arrested. Early reports suggested the U.S. Embassy in Moscow had advance warning of the attack. The Daily Mail reported White House Strategic Communications Coordinator John Kirby said: "Right now we don't know to what extent this warning [from the US Embassy in early March] and this attack are related. But we had some concerns about the possibility of a terrorist attack in and around Moscow earlier this month."

The question that must be asked, as it has been suggested for some time, due to our open southern border, is this: Could it happen here? The answer must be an unequivocal yes. In fact, it has already happened here on Sept. 11, 2001.

Does anyone seriously think America's enemies would not be encouraged by that previous attack and the Moscow atrocity to conduct a repeat operation in America? With such easy access to the country and with so many fanatical beliefs floating around the world, what would deter them?

The Cato Institute has noted that since 2017, "US Border Patrol has apprehended 342 border crossers who were on the Terrorist Screening Dataset, also known as the terror watchlist. Those numbers have shot up in recent years to 169 in

FY2023 and 49 to date this fiscal year. Last month, The Daily Caller reported that Border Patrol apprehended an al-Qaeda terrorist and released him into the United States in March 2023 after a mismatch on the watchlist. Later, the government discovered that he was on the watchlist, and Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) arrested him within 48 hours. The Daily Caller's headline was "ICE Confirms It Finally Nabbed Terrorist Allowed To Roam Free For Almost A Year."

FBI Director Christopher Wray has testified several times before congressional committees about his belief that a national security threat exists because of the 1.8 million "known gotaways." Homeland Security Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas is unable to confirm that every suspected terrorist who crosses the border without proper documentation has been detained by Border Patrol. It doesn't take many as we saw on 9/11 and have seen in the Moscow concert hall incident to produce mayhem.

While 9/11 was predictable — Osama bin Laden and other members of al-Qaida issued fatwas calling for attacks on the U.S. and American citizens and declared war on the United States and the terrorists trained in how to takeoff in airplanes, but not land — so the warning signs will have been seen should infiltrators pull off another 9/11, or worse. If that happens, count on the Biden administration to blame Republicans as they are currently doing for refusing to vote for a bill that would legalize 5,000 migrants per day coming to America.

In 2003, Tom Clancy published a timely novel titled "Teeth of the Tiger." The plot in part is about Islamic terrorists who make a deal with Colombian drug smugglers. Crossing the U.S. border, they head for four shopping malls in Middle America where they murder innocent civilians. Again, it doesn't take much to wreak havoc, tank the economy and strike fear into the hearts of everyone.

It could happen again here and likely will unless this or a new administration moves quickly to find the suspected terrorists who have already snuck in before they can activate a plot worthy of a Tom Clancy's novel.

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

RICH LOWRY

The absurd four-day workweek

If Sanders were being honest and weren't a socialist, he'd say he has a great deal for Americans — they can work less and become poorer.

Karl Marx would be proud. Bernie Sanders has proposed taking another step toward the philosopher's envisioned utopia by proposing to mandate a four-day workweek.

Marx wrote how in communist society, workers would be liberated to "hunt in the morning, fish in the afternoon, raise cattle in the evening, criticize after dinner, just as I have in mind, without ever becoming hunter, fisherman, shepherd or critic."

Needles to say, that's not how communism turned out. Yet the belief that work is basically a capitalist imposition that is unnatural and bad for people still holds sway on the left, and Sanders is, accordingly, proposing to move from a 40-hour to a 32-hour workweek to make us healthy, wealthy and wise.

"It is time to reduce the stress level in our country and allow Americans to enjoy a better quality of life," the Vermont socialist insists. "It is time for a 32-hour workweek with no loss in pay."

The last clause is the key one. If everyone can work less and produce and earn exactly the same, why not? And if this is possible, why stop at four days a week? It'd be positively cruel to make someone work four days when they can work three days with the same outcomes.

Of course, the promise that we can work less and make the same is the socialist equivalent of Mexico will pay for the border wall. It's not just promising a free lunch, but a free breakfast, lunch and dinner, with room service delivering a late-night snack gratis.

less. In 1830, the average working week was more than 70 hours, and over the course of the next century, it dropped by almost half.

If we were all content with 1940s living standards, maybe we could go all the way and adopt a two-day workweek. From a 21st century perspective, though, returning to 1940s-era housing, plumbing, technology, transportation and health care would feel like impoverishment, and it would be.

What Sanders misses, as economics writer David Bahnsen argues in his new book "Full Time: Work and the Meaning of Life," is that work is good for us, indeed an inherent part of the human condition. Moreover, the problem isn't that Americans work too much, but that too many Americans aren't working at all. Noting the long-term decline in labor-force participation, Bahnsen points out that if the participation rate were the same as it was in 2000, an additional 10 million Americans would be working, with a concomitant increase in goods and services.

In short, the Sanders idea is a frank expression of economic illiteracy. Instead of working so hard to propose and publicize such baldly ludicrous ideas, it'd be better for everyone if the senator found more time for leisure pursuits and resolved to put in fewer hours on the job.

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

FLASHBACKS

March 24, 1944

The opening of a new hospital for the treatment of venereal diseases by the United States Public Health Service in cooperation with the Mississippi State Board of Health at Greenwood was announced by Dr. Felix J. Underwood, executive officer of the Mississippi State Board of Health on Thursday.

Mr. H. E. Blount, owner of Blount's Dairy, said this week that sometime between March 13 and March 17 eight head of grown springer cows mysteriously disappeared from his pasture.

March 25, 1954

Speaking under the sponsorship of the Community Service Club with Tom King as chairman, Mayor Normal Johnson, Jr. told Rotarians Monday of the city operation, and proposals for future street improvements. Mr. Johnson was introduced by Rotarian E. V. Buckley.

Three more communities in Neshoba County have gone over the top in the Red Cross drive according to County Chairman Clarence Mitchell.

March 26, 1964

A local and private act passed by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Mississippi legislature last week was signed by Gov. Paul Johnson authorizing the Board of Trustees of the Neshoba County General Hospital to transfer \$165,000 from the old Neshoba County Hospital funds, and authorizing the Board of Supervisors to expend those funds as its pro rata share of the cost of constructing a convalescent and nursing home here.

March 28, 1974

Garan Inc has announced the appointment of Julius W. Barrett as manager of its Philadelphia plant.

March 28, 1984

The old teen hang out is gone, gone the way of the five for a dollar hamburgers and 15 cent french fries once sold there. But for A.P. Culpepper, who owned and managed the place for teens to see and be seen from 1963 to 1975, pleasant memories still linger.

March 30, 1994

The new Wal-Mart Super-

center is expected to open in early 1995, said Susan Hocklander, public relations officers at Wal-Mart's corporate headquarters in Bentonville, Arkansas.

March 24, 2004

A man wearing a ski mask robbed a fast food restaurant early Saturday morning as an employee was about to get in their car with the night deposit, the authorities said. This is the third armed robbery this month.

March 26, 2014

A Meridian-based consulting firm was hired by the city School Board to assist with the search for a new superintendent. In addition, the School Board hosted three meetings last week for parents, faculty, and stakeholders to voice their opinions about what qualities the new superintendent should possess.

Rejecting a casino in the Red Water community of Leake County will cost the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians \$20 million in new revenue and 170 jobs, Chief Phyllis J. Anderson declared after the 10-6 vote on Friday.

LETTERS

The Democrat welcomes letters, comments or suggestions: Editor and Publisher Jim Prince jprince@neshobademocrat.com

The Neshoba Democrat Publishing Co., Inc.
439 Beacon Street, Philadelphia, MS 39350
neshobademocrat.com
Telephone: 601.656.4000

BIBLE SELECTION

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

—1 John 1:9 (ESV)

COUNTY JAIL DOCKET

Neshoba County Jail Docket from 3/18-3/25

- Chanquez S Alford, 40, of 10070 Rd 1535; driving under the influence/refusal to take test
- Amber Barnett, 32, of 3203 Hwy 40 N, Meridian; possession of controlled substance
- Kashden Bell, 21, of 290 Laggon Rd; public drunk
- Vivian Ben, 59, of 116 Ball Park Cir; contempt of court
- Rodney James Billy, 47, of 126 Cobble Stone Rd, Walnut Grove; contempt of court
- Wade Boutwell, 53, of 5414 Mimi Farm Rd, Mendson; possession of controlled substance
- Leyanne Marie Bozeman, 30, of 9960 Grisson Rd, Bailey; driving under the influence-1st offense
- Thomas Burnside, 37, of 216 Wilson St; failure to appear
- Tedrick Campbell, 49, of 403 Moorecock St, Shuqualak; driving under the influence-1st offense
- Shelton Chapman, 25, of 129 Chitto Cove, Walnut Grove; hold for investigations
- Gabriel Seth Clemmons, 21, of 128 Bell Rd; possession of paraphernalia, possession of marijuana-vehicle
- Shandoly M Clemons, 34, of 11750 Rd 1489; driving under the influence other substance, possession of marijuana-vehicle
- Karlee Cheyenne Cleveland, 24, of 836 Rigdon Rd, Union; failure to appear
- Mason Cranfill, 21, of 285

- John Coffelt Rd, Whitwell, TN; hold for investigations, grand larceny-more than \$1000 X2
- Christalynn Denson, 29, of 759 Hugh Mitchell Rd, Conehatta; contempt of court
- William Dakota Drake, 19, of 564 Hollen Ave; driving under the influence other substance, possession of controlled substance, possession of paraphernalia
- Jeffery Allen Edwards II, 44, of 1126 West Ave; serving sentence
- Shannon Floyd, 53, of 10480 Rd 432, Union; no driver's license, no insurance, no license tag, possession of paraphernalia X2, possession of marijuana-vehicle
- John Howard Gale, 43, of 118 Valley Rd, Preston; possession of controlled substance
- Michael D Gibson, 37, of 144 Rolling Hills; possession of controlled substance
- Alondra Kiarra Graham, 24, of 402 St Lewis Ave; failure to appear, trafficking of controlled substance
- Shawnee Hanna, 48, of 10251 Rd 1724; contempt of court
- Merrick James Hickman, 24, of 536 Hwy 487, Carthage; contempt of court, failure to appear X2
- Wayne L Holstine, 53, of 433 North St, Union; driving under the influence/refusal to take test
- Deonna Mae Isaac, 35, of

- 115 Sonny Jones Rd; driving under the influence-3rd offense-felony
- Fredrick Johnson, 40, of 10051 CR 1728; contempt of court
- Sedrick Lamar Johnson Jr, 29, of 18962 Hwy 80, Hickory; hold for other agency
- Ronnie Jones, 56, of 158 Delaware Ave, Jackson; driving under the influence-1st offense
- Wendy Long, 43, of 10121 Rd 359; shoplifting-less than \$1000
- Deanthony Markee Luckett, 23, of 188 Canal Rd, Carthage; hold for investigations, possession of controlled substance
- Jeremiah Mann, 24, of 829 Lewis Rd, Walnut Grove; hold for investigations, possession of controlled substance
- Javarious Marshall, 19, of 10043 Rd 1728; possession of marijuana-1st offense
- Jackie Matthews, 44, of 11751 Rd 832; contempt of court
- Quran Mattison, 26, of 672 Chappel Rd, Carthage; hold for investigations, possession of controlled substance
- Mandy McGee, 48, of 9394 Castalian Springs, Durant; driving under the influence-1st offense, bad check-1st or 2nd offense less than \$100
- Milton McGee, 48, of 68 W Mulberry St, Durant; driving under the influence-1st offense, failure to appear
- Randell Lee Nickey, 63, of

- 120 Tiak Osi Lane, Walnut Grove; contempt of court
- Luis Raul Orozco, 44, of 10271 Rd 533; contempt of court
- Tyler Jensen Pruitt, 21, of 10220 Hwy 491, Collinsville; suspended driver's license, reckless driving
- James Steven Quick, 33, of 359 Pearl Hill Rd, Carthage; failure to appear
- Jason Reed, 40, of 11470 Rd 149; hold circuit court
- Christopher Rush, 39, of Ivy St; contempt of court
- Brandon A Sanders, 34, of 4403 Highland Ave, Meridian; false ID information, possession of controlled substance
- Denicia G Shaffer, 38, of 1008 Blackjack Rd; possession of controlled substance
- Antwone Smith, 19, of 10083 Rd 145, Union; contempt of court
- Harold Sockey, 39, of 201 Tiak Chitto Cir #3402; possession of controlled substance
- Danajia Taylor, 24, of 5409 Hopewell Rd; possession of marijuana 1st offense
- Regionate Triplett, 30, of 243 Gum St; contempt of court
- Daitian Howard Tubby, 22, of 271 Indian Rd; possession of marijuana vehicle
- Matthew A Tubby, 42, of 150 Pine Ridge Rd; possession of controlled substance, disturbing the peace, possession of paraphernalia
- Synetha Lamae Tubby, 35,

- of 164 Big Spring Creek Rd; failure to appear X2, driving under the influence-2nd offense
- Tuskahoma Lee Tubby, 37, of 125 Indian Hill Cir; failure to appear, driving under the influence-2nd offense
- Jo Von Kymyatta Turner, 30, of 1290 Steward Rd, Weir; possession of controlled substance, possession of marijuana-vehicle, no insurance, driving a commercial vehicle with suspended license
- Graviel Velasco, 22, of 1000 Turtle Neck Rd, Carthage; contempt of court
- Tyler Wallace, 35, of 152 Bass Rd; disorderly conduct, contempt of court
- Jennifer Bufkin White, 41, of 111 Pine Crest Dr, Raymond; contempt of court, driving under the influence other substance
- Joseph Ray Wilcher, 25, of 303 McRaven St, Union; domestic violence simple assault -1st
- Delana Richelle Williams, 35, of 134 Ball Park Rd; possession of controlled substance

- Herman D Bobo, 33, of 71 Laura St, Noxapater; fleeing or eluding a law enforcement officer in a motor vehicle, MV-running stop sign, MV-reckless driving-1st offense, MV-no insurance, MV-expired or no driver's license, hold-detainer for Neshoba County SO
- Dustin Chapman, 29, of 937 Cow Creek Rd, Preston; warrant-arrest report
- Maria Davis, 37, of 116 Ball Punk Core; contempt of court-failure to appear or complete jury service
- Rodney Davis, 46, of 525 Church Ave; contempt of court-failure to answer subpoenas
- Jaylen Dixon, 24, of 13173 Hwy 488; DUI-1st offense, MV-reckless driving-1st offense
- Ashton Edwards, 22, of 10360 Rd 656; contempt of court-failure to appear or complete jury service
- Grace Evans, 66, of 12385 Schamberville Lane, Collinsville; DUI-1st offense, MV-careless driving, MV-violation not specified
- Jeremy Franklin, 41, of 10051 Rd 1345; warrant-arrest report
- Sherman G Green, 41, of 10181 Rd 1357; warrant-circuit court bench warrant, trespass-willful or malicious
- Deterius M Griffin, 26, of 10830 Rd 632; DUI-2nd offense, assault-simple causing bodily injury, MV-expired or no driver's license

See **JAIL**, page 7A

Winston County Jail Docket for Philadelphia Police arrests from 3/18-3/24

- Hinton R Anderson, 40, of 317 Breland Ave; domestic violence - simple assault - 1st or 2nd offense, disorderly conduct-disturbing the peace
- Marlon J Bell, 42, of 944 Black Jack Rd; warrant - arrest report

OBITUARIES

Abram Sekani Heize John

Funeral services for Infant Abram Sekani Heize John were held at 10 AM Monday, March 25, 2024 at Pearl River CERF Building with interment in Pearl River Community Cemetery. Visitation was at 10 AM Saturday, March 23, 2024 at Pearl River CERF Building. John E. Stephens Chapel is in charge of arrangements.

Infant John, 2 months, passed away on Saturday, March 16, 2024 at Choctaw Health Center in Choctaw, MS.

He is preceded in death by his grandparents, Arrah John, Naveon Willis; great-grandfather, Edward John.

Survivors include parents, Christiansen Thomas and Arylynn John; brothers, Bryson John, Addison Satepauhoodle, Syus Thomas; grandparents, Christine Billy, Stewart Thomas; great-grandmother, Laura John.

Pallbearers will be Greer Billy and Yunish Billy. Honorary pallbearers will be Tyrell Anderson and Randy Nickey.

Gladys Chapman

Funeral services for Ms. Gladys Chapman will be held at 2 PM Thursday, March 28, 2024, at Bogue Chitto CERF Building with Rev. Doby Henry officiating. Interment will be in Choctaw Christian Mennonite Cemetery. Visitation began at 10 AM Tuesday, March 26, 2024, at Bogue Chitto CERF Building. John E. Stephens Chapel is in charge of arrangements.

Ms. Chapman, 60, passed away Thursday, March 21, 2024, at Anderson Hospital in Meridian, MS. She lived most of her life in the Preston Community and was a member of Choctaw Christian Church. She worked at Pearl River Resort, and her hobbies were spending time with friends, fishing, and watching TV.

She is preceded in death by her parents, Jerry Lee Chapman and Mary Mattie Willis Chapman; infant daughter; son, Gabriel Chapman; sister, Phylis Chapman.

Survivors include her son, Hamilton Chapman; sister, Serena Chapman; (1) grandchild; (1) aunt; (1) niece, and (7) nephews.

Joyce V. Massey

Funeral services for Ms. Joyce V. Massey were held at 2 PM Monday, March 25, 2024 at Ebenezer Baptist Church with Rev. Kenneth Gentry officiating. Interment in Ebenezer Baptist Cemetery. John E. Stephens Chapel in charge of arrangements.

Ms. Massey, 86, passed away Saturday, March 23, 2024 at Neshoba General Hospital in Philadelphia, MS. She lived in Neshoba County most of her life and was a Cosmetologist. She was a member of Ebenezer Baptist Church, and her hobbies were reading, flowers, bird watching, sewing, and quilting.

Ms. Massey is preceded in death by her husband Clifton H. Massey; parents, Louis Mangrum and Irene Brown Mangrum; sister, Floyce Dempsey; infant brother, Danny Mangrum.

Survivors include her daughter, Paula Champagne (Darren) of Carriere, MS; son, Paul Andy Shumaker (Maria Yanes) of TX; sister, Sandra Farnsworth of CA; (2) grandchildren, Keri Mans, Rikki McGuay; (6) great-grandchildren.

Barbara N. Thaggard

Graveside services for Barbara N. Thaggard were held Friday, March 22, 2024 at 9 a.m. from Morrow Cemetery with Bro. Chris Shelton officiating. McClain-Hays Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

Ms. Thaggard, 92, of Philadelphia died Wednesday, March 20, 2024.

Ms. Barbara was born and raised in Neshoba County and attended Dixon Community School and also ECCC. She worked at Milling Shirt Factory in Union and later was the owner of A & B Grocery and Thaggard's Used Cars. She had been a resident of Atwood since 2023. Ms. Thaggard was a longtime member of Dixon Presbyterian Church.

Survivors include daughters, Donna Strickland (Larry) and Linda Tingle (Mike); four grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren; several nieces, nephews and their families.

Ms. Thaggard was preceded in death by husband, Alvis Thaggard; son, Jerry Thaggard; brothers, Paul and Bill Nicholson.

Junior Savell

Funeral services for Junior Savell were held Saturday, March 23, 2024 at 11 a.m. from McClain-Hays Chapel with Rev. Curt Pace and Rev. Eric Sharp officiating. Burial followed in Hope Cemetery. Visitation was held Friday, March 22, 2024 from 6-8 p.m. at McClain-Hays Funeral Home. McClain-Hays Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

Mr. Savell, 89, of Philadelphia died Tuesday, March 19, 2024 at his home.

Junior was a native and lifelong resident of Neshoba County and served in the U.S. Air Force. He farmed all his life and enjoyed squirrel hunting with his dogs and playing his guitar with his band. He loved spending time with his family, especially his granddaughters. Mr. Savell was a member of New Bethel Baptist Church where he had served as a Deacon, Sunday School Teacher and was in the choir.

Survivors include his wife of

69 years, Iva Lou Savell of Philadelphia; son, Andy Savell (Cynthia) of Philadelphia; granddaughters, Ivie and Chole Savell; and a host of nieces and nephews.

Mr. Savell was preceded in death by his parents, Oliver and Willie Savell; sisters, Georgie Bell Chunn and Ollie B. Lacey; and brother, Otha R. Savell.

Pallbearers, David Savell, Tony Savell, Dacky Savell, Raymond Savell, Jerry Griffin and Jeff Moore.

Tommie Pearl Hamilton

Graveside services for Tommie Pearl Hamilton were held Saturday, March 23, 2024 at 2 p.m. from Plattsburg Cemetery in Noxapater, MS.

Ms. Hamilton, 79, of Choctaw, MS died Wednesday, March 20, 2024.

Tommie was a native of Winston County. She enjoyed traveling, shopping, going to flea markets, watching movies and spending time with her family.

Survivors include her sisters, Hilda Clark (Richard) of Philadelphia and Judy Parker of Noxapater; and a host of nieces and nephews.

Ms. Hamilton is preceded in death by parents, Lloyd and Vinnie Hamilton; sister, Patsy Hamilton; brothers, Terry and Jerry Hamilton.

Wallace Skipper

Services for Wallace Skipper were held on Friday March 22, 2024 at 11:00 a.m. from Antioch Baptist Church with Bro. Ray Spence officiating. Burial followed in the Church Cemetery. McClain-Hays Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

Mr. Skipper passed away Monday March 18, 2024 at Merit Health River Oaks.

Wallace "Skip" was born in Meridian, Ms., but had lived in the House community of Neshoba County all his life and attended Neshoba Central Schools. Skip had worked many years as a dairy manager at Sac-n-Save and also worked for a number of years at Sisson Trucking. Mr. Skipper was a long-time member of Antioch Baptist Church.

Survivors include his daughter, Amy Sartin (Sean); mother, Joella Skipper; sister, Mary Fields; eight grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren; several nieces, nephews and their families.

Mr. Skipper was preceded in death by his wife, Mary Beth Skipper; son, Jonathan Anthony;

and father, Ira Skipper.

Lenon "Leroy" Sims

Funeral services for Lenon "Leroy" Sims were held Thursday, March 21, 2024 at 2 p.m. from McClain-Hays Chapel with Bro. Randall Dunaway officiating. Burial followed in Eastlawn Cemetery. McClain-Hays Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

Mr. Sims, 74, of Philadelphia died Monday, March 18, 2024. Leroy was born and raised in Neshoba County and attended Dixon Community School. He was drafted into the U.S. Army and also was in the MS National Guard and then worked at Weyerhaeuser as a mechanic for 42 years. Mr. Sims was a Christian by faith.

Survivors include his wife of 51 years, Susie Sims; daughters, Michelle Estes, and Toni Sims; four grandchildren; sisters, Carolyn Wilder and Debbie Fredrick (Gary); brothers, Danny, Perry, and Ricky Sims; and several nieces, nephews, great-nieces and nephews and their families.

Mr. Sims was preceded in death by his parents, Roy and Mildred Sims; sister, Sandra O'Berry.

Olen Wayne Boswell

A Graveside Masonic service was held on Saturday March 23, 2024 at 2:00 p.m. from Sandtown Cemetery.

Olen Wayne Boswell was born March 26, 1948 and raised in the Sandtown Community of Neshoba County. He passed away on March 12, 2024 in the Baptist Medical Center in Jackson. He spent his life as a mechanic, owned his own business, served 41 years in the Ms. National Guard and was a 100% disabled veteran. Olen was also a Master Mason and Shriner.

Survivors include his wife, Lesia Phillips Boswell; brother, Mitchell Boswell (Linda); sister, Dell Thomas; half-brother, James "Jim" McClain; daughters, Angela Boswell Batten (Michael), Brittany Phillips Crowe (Chad); four grandchildren; several nieces, nephews and their families.

Mr. Boswell was preceded in death by his parents, Ruby Ruth Eakes Boswell and Jefferson Harold Boswell.

Robert Bryon Whitley, Sr.

Graveside services for Robert Bryon Whitley, Sr., 66, of Florence who died Monday March 18, 2024 in Florence were at 1:30 p.m. Friday March 22, 2024 at Greenlawn Memorial Park Cemetery with Pastor Jeff Holland officiating.



Burial followed under the Whitley Sr. direction of Laird Funeral Home. Visitation was 11:30 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. Friday March 22, 2024 at Laird Funeral Home.

Mr. Whitley was born July 09, 1957 in Ann Arbor, Michigan the son of Robert Harold Whitley and Helen Cressman Whitley.

He attended school at Neshoba Central in Philadelphia, MS. Enlisted in the Army and served on Active duty and in the Army National Guard for 17 years, and earned his Emergency Medical Technician license. He worked at Region 6 Mental Health Center, and Marion Hill as an inpatient and outpatient alcohol and drug counselor. For 27 years he worked at American Medical Response as an Emergency Medical Technician and vehicle service technician. Robert loved to hunt and fish; he enjoyed playing guitar and working on his ham radio. He loved listening to his favorite music artist, The Eagles, Stevie Nicks, and Keith Whitley.

Robert will be remembered as a kind and nurturing spirit who guided through the most chaotic events with such grace and ease. His stoicism and calming nature, touched those closest to him, providing a sense of safety. Robert was selfless in his daily life, providing for those around him and ensuring everyone's needs were

met before his own. Robert was dependable, loyal, and hardworking. As a husband and father, he was loving and accepting, a true embodiment of unconditional love. As a friend, he was charismatic and entertaining, always providing light in otherwise dark times.

Mr. Whitley was preceded in death by his parents; grandparents; and sister.

Survivors include his wife of 31 years, Ruth Whitley, of Florence MS.; his oldest son, Robert Bryon Whitley Jr. (Jessica) and their two children Robert Bryon Whitley III and Ginger Lily Whitley of Philadelphia, Ms.; his youngest, Ash Whitley (Paulina), of Hampton, Virginia; his brother William Harold "Chip" Whitley (Doma) of Philadelphia, Ms.; his beloved nieces, Tanya Whittle (Michael) of McCool, MS and Dawn Goodwin (Jeff) of Philadelphia, Ms.; and the numerous "bonus kids" he worked with through the years that he loved so dearly, and that loved him like a father. Lastly, his pets, that were by his side in his final moments.

Memorials may be made to The Wounded Warrior Project and First Responder Foundation. Online condolences may be sent to the family at lairdfh.com.



OLEN BOSWELL GRAVESIDE MARCH 23 SANDTOWN CEMETERY

LENON "LEROY" SIMS SERVICES MARCH 21 MCCLAIN-HAYS CHAPEL INTERMENT EAST-LAWN CEMETERY

WALLACE "SKIP" SKIPPER SERVICES MARCH 22 ANTIOCH BAPTIST CHURCH INTERMENT ANTIOCH CEMETERY

JUNIOR SAVELL SERVICES MARCH 23 MCCLAIN-HAYS CHAPEL INTERMENT HOPE CEMETERY

TOMMIE PEARL HAMILTON GRAVESIDE MARCH 23 PLATTSBURG CEMETERY

BARBARA N. THAGGARD GRAVESIDE MARCH 22 MORROW CEMETERY



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JOHN E. STEPHENS CHAPEL FUNERAL SERVICES
INFANT ABRAM SEKANI HEIZE JOHN 10 AM MONDAY, MARCH 25, 2024 PEARL RIVER CERF BUILDING PEARL RIVER COMMUNITY CEMETERY
MS. JOYCE V. MASSEY 2 PM MONDAY, MARCH 25, 2024 EBENEZER BAPTIST CHURCH (4 CORNERS) EBENEZER BAPTIST CHURCH CEMETERY
MS. GLADYS CHAPMAN 2 PM THURSDAY, MARCH 28, 2024 BOGUE CHITTO CERF BUILDING CHOCTAW CHRISTIAN MENNONITE CEMETERY
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Public Notices

DeKalb Baptist Church is prayerfully searching for a full time or bi-vocational pastor with seminary education and prior experience. We are a 185-year-old church located on Bell Street in DeKalb, MS with a paid staff of 2. We would prefer that the pastor lives in our community and be active in community affairs. We have a parsonage available that is adjacent to the church. For questions about the position or our church, please email us at arhall123@att.net. Interested candidates can send your resume digitally through this post, or you can mail a resume to Pastor Search Committee, DeKalb Baptist Church, PO Box 128, DeKalb, MS 39328

PUBLIC NOTICE

Mississippi Regional Housing Authority V will conduct a Special Call Board meeting on April 3, 2024 at 10:00 AM, to include a public meeting to discuss the FY 2024 PHA Annual Plan. The following meetings shall occur in-person at the Mississippi Regional Housing Authority V located at 298 NORTHSIDE DRIVE, NEWTON, MS 39345.

Mississippi Code of 2013 A 025-0014-0 013 Senate Bill 2070

Thank you,
Executive Director

Ashiya Hawkins

Run Dates: March 13, - April 26, 2024

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF NESHOBIA COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

IN THE MATTER OF THE LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT OF CHARLES A. HARDY, DECEASED CAUSE NO. 2024-41-JK

TRACY MICHELL HARDY, EXECUTOR

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Letters of Administration having been granted on the 12 th day of March, 2024 by the Chancery Clerk of Neshoba County, Mississippi, to the undersigned upon the Estate of Charles A. Hardy, 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 13th day of March, 2024.

/s/ TRACY MICHELL HARDY, EXECUTOR OF THE ESTATE OF CHARLES A. HARDY, DECEASED

Prepared By:
Robert Lee Thomas, MSBN 105358 ALFORD, THOMAS & THOMAS, PLLC Post Office Box 96 Philadelphia, Mississippi 39350 601-616-1871 Telephone 601-656-0189 Facsimile rllthomasatty@gmail.com

Publish 03/20/24; 03/27/24; 04/03/24

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF NESHOBIA COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

IN THE MATTER OF THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE ESTATE OF LAQUINTA LASHA RENEE BONDS, DECEASED CIVIL ACTION NO.2023-116-JK

NICOLE BURGE PETITIONER

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Letters of Administration having been granted on the 21st day of February, 2024, by the Chancery Clerk of Neshoba County, Mississippi, to the undersigned, Nicole Burge, upon the Estate of LaQuinta Lasha Renee Bonds, 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.

This the 28th day of February, 2024. ESTATE OF LAQUINTA LASHA RENEE BONDS, DECEASED

NICOLE BURGE, ADMINISTRATRIX

PREPARED BY:

TAMMY C. SMITH, MSBN 9526 ATTORNEY FOR NICOLE BURGE P.O. BOX 624 326-A WEST MAIN STREET PHILADELPHIA, MS 39350 (601)389-5888 TELEPHONE (601)389-5844 FACSIMILE

CHOCTAW TRIBAL CIVIL COURT MISSISSIPPI BAND OF CHOCTAW INDIANS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF MAZELL JOHN, DECEASED C. A. NO. 2024-0164

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Letters of Administration having been granted on the 19th day of March, 2024, by the Choctaw Tribal Court of the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians to the undersigned upon the Estate of Mazell John, 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 19th day of March, 2024,

/s/ Linda Clemons

Linda Clemons, Administrator of the Estate of Mazell John, 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 NESHOBIA COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

IN THE MATTER OF THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE ESTATE OF DEBORAH SUE JOINER, DECEASED CAUSE NO. 2024-36-KK

ALBERT JOINER, ADMINISTRATOR

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Letters of Administration having been granted on the 11th day of March, 2024, by the Chancery Clerk of Neshoba County, Mississippi, to the undersigned upon the Estate of Deborah Sue Joiner, deceased, notice is hereby given to all persons(s) 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)

Public Notices

days from the date of the first date of publication of this Notice or they will be forever barred.

This the 22nd day of March, 2024.

/s/Albert Joiner, Administrator of the Estate of Deborah Sue Joiner, Deceased

Prepared by:

Robert Lee Thomas ALFORD, THOMAS & THOMAS, PLLC Post Office Box 96 Philadelphia, Mississippi 39350 601-656-1871 Telephone rllthomasatty@gmail.com MSBN 105358

03/27/24, 04/03/24, 04/10/24

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE INITIAL HEARING

The City of Philadelphia, Mississippi, is considering applying to the Mississippi Development Authority for a Small Cities Community Development Block Grant of up to \$600,000.00 for sewer improvements.

The State of Mississippi has been allocated approximately \$24,335,266 that will be made available to cities, town, and counties on a competitive basis to undertake eligible community development activities. These funds must be used to benefit low- and moderate-income persons.

The activities for which these funds may be used are in the areas of public facilities and economic development. More specific details regarding eligible activities, program requirements and the rating system will be provided at a public hearing which will be held at City of Philadelphia City Hall located at 525 Main Street, Philadelphia, MS at 5:15 pm on April 16, 2024. The purpose of this hearing will be to obtain citizen input into the development of the application.

The location for this hearing is accessible to persons with disabilities. If a translator is needed for non-English speaking persons, please contact Nikki Walton at 601-656-3612 at least three (3) days prior to the meeting in an effort to accommodate this request. The City of Philadelphia does not discriminate on the basis of disability in the admissions or access to or treatment of employment in its programs or activities. All comments are welcome and must be submitted in writing. For those unable to attend this meeting, written comments will be considered until the close of business on May 3, 2024. Written comments should be mailed to Mayor James Young, Mayor, City of Philadelphia, MS, 525 Main Street, Philadelphia, MS 39350.

INVITATION FOR BIDS Open to All Bidders & Indian Owned Companies

DATE ISSUED:

March 27, 2024

BY:

Choctaw Housing Authority P. O. Box 6088

Choctaw, MS 39350

PROJECT: #1175

Construction/Earthwork

1 Unit

LOCATION: Pearl River Community Neshoba County

CONTRACTING OFFICER: Gary Ben, Executive Director DESCRIPTION OF SERVICES:

The contractor shall provide project administration, job supervision, skilled and common labor, equipment, adhere to the Davis-Bacon Labor Law, provide Indian preference, provide insurance as required by Choctaw Housing Authority, perform and complete all requirements as specified in the plans/specifications. **The Contractor will be given ninety (90) calendar days to complete the job .**

Bid forms and specifications may be picked up at the Choctaw Housing Authority Procurement Office for a fee of \$100.00 (Non-Refundable) made payable to Choctaw Housing Authority. **There will be a Pre-Bid Conference on April 10, 2024 @ 10:00 am** at the Development Conference Room. For more information call Mignon Henry, Procurement Manager at (601) 656-6617, ext. 247.

Sealed bids are due no later than **10:00 a.m. On April 24, 2024 - BID OPENING.** To Procurement Manager, ATTN: Mignon Henry. Sealed bids must be accompanied by a 5% Bid Guarantee. At the set time, bids received will be publicly opened and read aloud at the Procurement Office. **No late bids will be accepted.**

Choctaw Housing Authority reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to waive any informalities. Indian Preference will be given to all qualified Indian-Owned companies.

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF NESHOBIA COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

IN THE MATTER OF THE LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT OF LILLIAN BREAZEALE, DECEASED CAUSE NO.2024-060-KK

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Letters Testamentary having been granted on the ___ day of March, 2024, by the Chancery Clerk of Neshoba County, Mississippi, to the undersigned upon the Estate of Lillian Breazeale, Deceased, notice is hereby given to all persons having claims against said Estate to present the same to the Clerk of this Court for probate and registration according to law within ninety (90) days from the date or they will be forever barred.

This the ___ day of March, 2024.

JAMES BREAZEALE, EXECUTOR OF THE LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT OF LILLIAN BREAZEALE, DECEASED

PREPARED BY:

TAMMY C. SMITH, MSBN 9526 ATTORNEY AT LAW P.O. BOX 624 326-A WEST MAIN STREET PHILADELPHIA, MS 39350 (601) 389-5888 TELEPHONE (601) 389-5844 FACSIMILE

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS FOR ENGINEERING SERVICES The City of Philadelphia requests proposals from qualified firms or individuals to provide engineering services for work related to the implementation of approved FY 2024 CDBG project(s). You are invited to submit five (5) copies of a proposal, in accordance with this request, to the Office of the City Clerk, City of Philadelphia, 525 Main Street, Philadelphia, MS 39350, no later than 10 a.m. on April 15, 2024.

The Engineer will be responsible for preparing project cost estimates for application preparation and if awarded, the selected Engineer will provide all engineering services through project closeout in accordance with federal, state and local laws, regulations and policies. The scope of work includes

Public Notices

but is not limited to the following: 1) prepare plans and specifications, 2) distribute bid documents, 3) assist in bid opening and prepare bid tabulation, 4) assist in the execution of construction contracts, 5) hold pre-construction conference, and 6) perform construction inspection including periodic reports to the City and approve all payment requests.

The City of Philadelphia is an Equal Opportunity Employer. The City encourages Minority-owned Business Enterprises (MBEs) and Woman-owned Business Enterprises (WBEs) to submit proposals. The City also encourages Section 3 eligible businesses to submit proposals. Section 3 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968, as amended (12 U.S.C. 17010) requires, to the greatest extent feasible, that the City and its contractors that participate in the above referenced Program give opportunities for the job training and employment to lower incomes residents of the City of Philadelphia. Section 3 also requires that contracts for work in connection with Section 3 area be awarded to Section 3 eligible business concerns.

All proposals must be submitted in a sealed envelope and marked with the following language: "Proposal for CDBG Engineering Services." Proposals will be evaluated on the following factors: Qualifications (40 points), Experience (40 points) and Capacity for Performance (20 points). To be evaluated properly, the following must be addressed in detail:

Qualifications – List of qualifications of persons to be assigned to project; Experience – Information regarding the firm's experience and the projects previously undertaken, including the type and amount of grants awarded, the projects activities, and the status of the projects; Capacity for Performance – Identify the number and title of staff assigned to provide services. The City will designate a selection committee to evaluate each proposal. The selection committee may hold proposals for a period of not to exceed thirty (30) days for the purpose of reviewing the content of the proposals and investigating the qualifications of the firms and assigned individuals. The City reserves the right to reject and/or all proposals.

Subject to CDBG award(s) and the removal of all environmental conditions, the City will award a contract with the qualified individual or firm whose proposal has the highest number of cumulative points issued by the selection committee and determined to be the most advantageous to the City, price and other factors considered. The contract will include scope and extent of work and other essential requirements. An individual contract will be executed for each awarded project, and the contract will be on a fixed price basis. The City has the authority to terminate the selection at any time.

CHOCTAW TRIBAL CIVIL COURT MISSISSIPPI BAND OF CHOCTAW INDIANS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF ANDY WIN LEWIS, DECEASED C. A. NO. 2023-1086985-AM SINDY ANN (DENSON) LEWIS PETITIONER

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Letters of Administration having been granted on the 5th day of March, 2024 by the Tribal Court of the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians to the undersigned SINDY ANN (DENSON) LEWIS upon the Estate of ANDY WIN LEWIS, 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 5th day of March, 2024.

/s/Sindy Ann (Denson) Lewis SINDY ANN (DENSON) LEWIS, ADMINISTRATRIX

C. JOY HARKNESS, MSB #3078 CHOCTAW LEGAL DEFENSE P.O. BOX 6255 PHILADELPHIA, MS 39350 PHONE: (601) 650-7449 ATTORNEY FOR ADMINISTRATRIX

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

MISSISSIPPI BAND OF CHOCTAW INDIANS d/b/a CHOCTAW SHOPPING CENTER ENTERPRISE PLAINTIFF VS. ONNIE STRICKLAND d/b/a OBEID'S FOOD MART DEFENDANT NO. 2023-1086945

SUMMONS

THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI TO: ONNIE STRICKLAND d/b/a OBEID'S FOOD MART 4827 VALLEY ROAD MERIDIAN, MS 39307

You have been made a Defendant in the suit filed in this Court by the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians d/b/a Choctaw Shopping Center Enterprise, Plaintiff, seeking a judgment against you in the amount of \$26,556.72. There are no Defendants other than you in this action.

You are required to mail or hand deliver a written response to the Complaint filed against you in this action to the Office of the Attorney General, Attorney for Plaintiff, whose post office address is P.O. Box 6258, Choctaw, MS 39350 and whose street address is 354 Industrial Road, Choctaw, MS 39350.

YOUR RESPONSE MUST BE MAILED OR DELIVERED NOT LATER THAN THIRTY DAYS AFTER THE 27 TH DAY OF MARCH, 2024, WHICH IS THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS SUMMONS. IF YOUR RESPONSE IS NOT SO MAILED OR DELIVERED, A JUDGMENT BY DEFAULT WILL BE ENTERED AGAINST YOU FOR THE MONEY OR OTHER RELIEF DEMANDED IN THE COMPLAINT.

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

Issued under my hand and the seal of said Court, this the 19th day of March, 2024.

/s/ Alexis York CLERK OF THE CHOCTAW TRIBAL COURT P.O. Box 6010 / 125 River Ridge Circle Choctaw, MS 39350 (Seal)

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE'S NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE

WHEREAS, on September 12, 2008, James W. Winstead and Gladys M. Winstead, Husband and Wife executed

Public Notices

a certain deed of trust to Streamline Title Services, Trustee for the use and benefit of Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as beneficiary, as nominee for The Mortgage Outlet, Inc., its successors and assigns which deed of trust is of record in the office of the Chancery Clerk of Neshoba County, Mississippi, on September 19, 2008, in Book Deed of Trust 2008, Page 9284.

WHEREAS, U.S. Bank National Association, the current holder and/or assignee, substituted Halliday, Watkins & Mann, P.C. as Trustee by instrument recorded in the Chancery Clerk's Office on June 5, 2023 in Book Deed of Trust 2023, in Page 3784; and WHEREAS, Default having been made in the terms and conditions of said deed of trust and the entire debt secured thereby having been declared to be due and payable in accordance with the terms of said deed of trust, U.S. Bank National Association, the legal holder of said indebtedness, having requested the undersigned Substitute Trustee in said deed of trust, will on April 17, 2024 offer for sale at public outcry and sell within legal hours (being between the hours of 11:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.), at the main front door of the County Courthouse of Neshoba County in Decatur, Mississippi, to the highest and best bidder for cash the following described property situated in Neshoba County, Mississippi, to wit:

Begin on the South line of the N 1/2 of NE 1/4 of SE 1/4, Section 10, Township 9 North, Range 12 East, where the same intersects the East right-of-way Line of the public road; thence run East 210 feet; thence run North 22 degrees West 210 feet; thence run West 210 feet to the East right-of-way line of said public road; thence run South 22 degrees East 210 feet along the Eastern line of said road to the point of beginning, containing one (1) acre more or less, and being in the N 1/2 of NE 1/4 of SE 1/4, Section 10, Township 9 North, Range 12 East, lying East of road, Neshoba County, Mississippi.

More commonly known as: 10480 Rd 515, Union, MS 39365

I will convey only such title as vested in me as Substituted Trustee. Halliday, Watkins & Mann, P.C. Substituted Trustee Halliday, Watkins & Mann, P.C. 244 Inverness Center Drive, Suite 200 Birmingham, AL 35242 (801) 355-2886

Publication dates: March 20, 2024, March 27, 2024, April 3, 2024, April 10, 2024

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF NESHOBIA COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

NESHOBIA COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF THE MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF CHILD PROTECTION SERVICES, BY ANDREA A. SANDERS, AND JBH AND KNH, MINORS, BY AND THROUGH THEIR NEXT FRIEND, ANDREA A. SANDERS PETITIONERS VS. CAUSE NO. 2023-CV-00329 MACY ELIZABETH HOLLEY, CLATARIUS CLEMONS, JONATHAN T. ANDERSON, AND UNKNOWN PUTATIVE FATHERS RESPONDENTS

CHANCERY COURT SUMMONS

THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI COUNTY OF NESHOBIA

TO: UNKNOWN PUTATIVE FATHER who is not to be found in the State of Mississippi on diligent inquiry and whose post office address is unknown to the Petitioners after diligent inquiry made by said Petitioners.

You have been made a Respondent in the suit filed in this Court by the Neshoba County Department of Child Protection Services by Andrea A. Sanders, Commissioner, and JBH, a Minor, seeking to terminate your parental rights as those rights relate to said Minor and demanding that the full custody, control and authority to act on behalf of said Minor be placed with the Neshoba County Department of Child Protection Services.

YOU ARE SUMMONED TO APPEAR AND DEFEND AGAINST THE PETITION FILED AGAINST YOU IN THIS ACTION AT 9:00 O'CLOCK A.M. ON THE 2nd DAY OF MAY, 2024 AT THE NESHOBIA COUNTY COURTHOUSE, LOCATED AT 401 EAST BEACON STREET, PHILADELPHIA, MISSISSIPPI, AND IN CASE OF YOUR FAILURE TO APPEAR AND DEFEND, A JUDGMENT WILL BE ENTERED AGAINST YOU FOR THE RELIEF 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 seal of said Court, this 15th day of February, 2024.

NESHOBIA COUNTY CHANCERY CLERK

BY: Gidget S. Tate Clerk K. Greer Deputy Clerk

PREPARED BY: Kathleen Cook, MSB#102398 Special Assistant Attorney General Office of the Attorney General Post Office Box 220 Jackson, Mississippi 39205 Telephone No. (601)359-4483 Email: Kathleen.Cook@ago.ms.gov

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF NESHOBIA COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF JUAN M. NEWTON, DECEASED NO. 2024-45

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Letters of Administration having been granted on the 23rd day of February, 2024, by the Chancery Court of Neshoba County, Mississippi, to the undersigned Administrator upon the Estate of Juan M. Newton, deceased, notice is hereby given to all persons having claims against said estate to present the same to the Clerk of this Court for probate and registration according to law, within ninety (90) days from the first publication of this notice, or they will be forever barred.

This the 8th day of March, 2024. Carol L. Newton, Administrator of the Estate of Juan M. Newton, Deceased

WELLS MARBLE & HURST, PLLC Post Office Box 131 Jackson, MS 39205-0131 601-605-6900

ATTORNEY FOR ADMINISTRATOR

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF NESHOBIA COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF YVONNE ALLEN, DECEASED CAUSE NO.: 2024-10

Public Notices

RICKY D. ALLEN ADMINISTRATOR

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Letters of Administration having been issued on the 7th day of March, 2024, in Cause No. 2024-10, by the Chancery Court of Neshoba County, Mississippi, to the undersigned as Administrator of the Estate of Yvonne Allen, deceased, notice is hereby given to all persons having claims against said Estate to present the same to the Clerk of the aforesaid court for probate and registration according to law, within ninety (90) days of this date, or they will be forever barred.

THIS, the 7th day of March, 2024.

/s/Ricky D. Allen

RICKY D. ALLEN, Administrator of the Estate of Yvonne Allen

PREPARED BY:

K. LEE STRIBLING (MSB 102159) Stribling Law Firm, PLLC Post Office Box 50189 New Orleans, Louisiana 70150 T: (504) 298-7121

CHOCTAW TRIBAL CIVIL COURT MISSISSIPPI BAND OF CHOCTAW INDIANS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF MARGUERITE BEN, DECEASED C. A. NO. 2024-162

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Letters of Administration having been granted on the 19th day of March, 2024, by the Choctaw Tribal Court of the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians to the undersigned upon the Estate of Marguerite Ben, 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 19th day of March, 2024,

/s/ Juana Ben

Juana Ben, Administrator of the Estate of Marguerite Ben, 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

CHOCTAW TRIBAL CIVIL COURT MISSISSIPPI BAND OF CHOCTAW INDIANS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF CHESTER MORRIS, DECEASED C. A. NO. 2024-163

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Letters of Administration having been granted on the 19th day of March, 2024, by the Choctaw Tribal Court of the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians to the undersigned upon the Estate of Chester Morris, 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 19th day of March, 2024,

/s/ Linda Clemons

Linda Clemons, Administrator of the Estate of Chester Morris, deceased

SUBMITTED BY:

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

INVITATION FOR BIDS

HUNTING AND FISHING RIGHTS Sealed bids will be received by the Board of Trustees, Neshoba County School District, 580 East Main Street, Philadelphia, Mississippi, up to and not later than 10:00 a.m., Friday, April 12, 2024 for hunting and fishing rights for a ten year period on the following parcel of land in Neshoba County, Mississippi.

Section 16, Township 9N, Range 13E

All the land lying South of County Road 298 located in the SW ¼, LESS AND EXCEPT a 5.0 acre parcel described as Beginning at a point where the South right-of-way

Rep. Jackson indicted for stolen property

By STAFF REPORTS
news@neshobademocrat.com

State Rep. Keith Jackson, who represents a portion of Neshoba County, was recently indicted by a Kemper County grand jury for receiving and possession of stolen property.

Jackson, a Democrat, is accused of using a stolen log trailer for his business. He was indicted with two others in the case.

Jackson is serving his first term in the state Legislature and lists his home as Preston. According to his biography on the House website, his occupation was in law enforcement.

Jackson was released from jail on a \$2,500 bond and his trial has been set for May 28.



State Rep. Keith Jackson



Donates to Booker T. Gym project

Community In Action recently donated \$4,000 to the City of Philadelphia for improvements on the Booker T. Gym HVAC project. Pictured are front, from left, David Carter and Johnny Beckwith (Back) Ward 2 Alderman Jim Fulton, Ward 3 Alderman James Tatum, Ward 4 Alderman Shaun Seales, Mayor James A. Young, Ward 1 Alderman Justin Clearman, Alderman-At-Large James Waltman, and City Attorney Robert Lee Thomas.

Of Local Interest

4-H HORSE CLUB

If you are interested in joining the Neshoba County 4-H Horse Club, join us on April 11th at 5:30 p.m. in the Multipurpose Room located at the Neshoba County Coliseum. This will include information regarding riding events as well as horse art opportunities. This program will be available to youth ages 8-18. If you plan to attend or need any additional information, please call the Neshoba County Extension Office at 601-656-4011!

NOWELL FAMILY REUNION

Please join us for our annual Family Reunion to begin at 10:00am on Saturday, April 13, 2024, in Memory of Chester and Gladys Nowell. We look forward to fellowship with all family members; and especially the good food. Please attend at Northside Park Senior Citizens Center: 100 Burt Drive, Philadelphia, MS 39350

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT FIELD DAY

All hunters and wildlife managers, foresters and loggers, private landowners, wildlife enthusiasts, and industry representatives, join us on April 18th, 2024, at the Coastal Plains Branch Experiment Station located at 51 Costal Plains Road Newton, MS from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. for a Wildlife Management

Field Day. Pre-register by calling 601-683-2084 by April 11. On-site registration begins at 8:30. The program begins at 9:00. Lunch will be provided. Continuing Education Opportunities Below:

Continuing Forestry Education (CFE)
Category A
4 hours credit
Professional Logging Manager (PLM)
Category 1
4 hours credit

GROWERS ASSOCIATION

It is that time of the year again! The Neshoba County Vegetable Growers Association is beginning to prepare for the upcoming Farmers' Market season. I would like to cordially invite everyone to our Vegetable Growers Meeting on May 8th at 12:00 p.m. at the Farm Bureau Conference Room at 704 E Main St. Philadelphia, MS 39350. If you are interested in becoming a vendor for the 2024 Farmers' Market, please plan to attend the Vegetable Growers Meeting. Lunch will be provided, so please call the Neshoba County Extension office at 601-656-4011 by May 3rd to RSVP. We look forward to hearing from you soon!

SPRING REVIVAL

Mt. Nebo Missionary Baptist Church invites you to join us for our Spring Revival, April 1 - April 3, 2024 7:00PM Nightly.

Guest Speaker is Pastor Cornelius McDonald. 3216 Mt. Nebo Road, Lisman, AL 36912. 205-398-3090

EASTER EGG HUNT

Philadelphia Youth Football Every Bunny Welcome Easter Egg Hunt will be March 30. Ages 1-6 will hunt from 9-10 a.m. Ages 7-12 will hunt from 10-11 a.m. This will take place at Booker T Washington Football Field. Gold Egg - \$20. Silver Egg \$15.00 White Egg \$10

SPRING REVIVAL

The Mount Moriah Missionary Baptist Church Family of Louisville cordially invites you to attend their 2024 Spring Revival Services which will begin Sunday, April 7, 2024, and end Tuesday, April 9, 2024. Sunday revival service will begin at six o'clock in the evening. Monday through Tuesday revival services will begin at seven o'clock in the evening. The evangelist is Rev. Durward L. Minor, Sr., pastor of the New Beginning Baptist Church of Starkville, Mississippi. Please come and be blessed by the Word of God. Invite your family and friends to join you.

ARTS COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

The PNC Arts Council will hold its annual membership drive in the Ellis Theater on Thursday, April 4, 2024 at 6:00 PM.

FORESTRY SPRING MEETING

The Neshoba County Forestry Association is having its Spring Meeting on April 16, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. at the Neshoba County Coliseum. Mississippi State Extension Hardwood Silviculture Forest Herbicide Specialist, Dr. Brady Self will be presenting on the topic of Herbicide

Forest Management. Members will be eligible to receive up to 1 Hour of CFE's and PLLM's credit for attending. All NCFA members are encouraged to attend and invite their friends and neighbors to join our association. Please note that if you have not already paid your annual NCFA \$20 dues, make plans to do so at the upcoming meeting. Dues can be paid with

cash or a check payable to the Neshoba County Forestry Association. We greatly appreciate all our generous sponsors for the NCFA who have so kindly sponsored our meal that will be hosted by Penn's. Please call the MSU Extension Office at 601-656-4011 to RSVP by April 12th. I look forward to seeing you all the April 16th.

Jail

Continued from page 5A

license, MV-improper equipment
• Gerren A Isaac, 41, of 180 Willis Rd; MV-running stop sign, MV-no insurance, DUI-1st offense
• Shanitra John, 26, of 130 Chitto Cove, Walnut Grove; contempt of court-failure to appear or complete jury service
• Kenneth Kennedy, 71, of 12080 Rd 101; contempt of court- default in payment of restitution
• Christopher C Luke, 45, of 616 Columbus Ave; DUI-1st offense, MV-no insurance
• Shauntella L Marshall, 34, of 2704 Valley Rd, Lot 91, Meridian;

warrant-arrest report

• Terrence Moore, 46, of 421 Willow Ridge Dr, Meridian; contempt of court-failure to answer subpoenas
• Chelsea M Ray, 29, of 10150 Rd 2608; contempt of court-failure to appear or complete jury service
• Robert Robinson, 59, of 12140 Rd 101; disorderly conduct-disturbance of family
• Cedric G Rogers, 42, of 150 Pine Ridge Rd; DUI-2nd offense, MV-no insurance, MV-license-driving while revoked or suspended, MV-careless driving
• Alvin L Rush, 28, of 15215 Hwy 39 N Apt 11, DeKalb; contempt of court-municipal court X3, contempt of court-justice court X3, hold-detainer for Neshoba County SO
• Stacey Sims, 55, of 10112

RD 157; contempt of court-failure to appear or complete jury service

• Jerry J Spivey, 38, of 370 Jerico St; contempt of court-municipal court
• Kenneth Thomas, 55, of 70 Campus Dr Ext, Conehatta; contempt of court-failure to appear or complete jury service
• Kimberly Thomas, 40, of 602 East Point Dr; contempt of court-failure to appear or complete jury service
• Sharron L Wallace, 42, of 10481 Rd 773; warrant-arrest report
• Janice A Williams, 65, of 12770 RD 505; warrant-arrest report

THE LORD'S DAY

Morning Worship
11:00 a.m.

Sunday School (All Ages)
9:45 a.m.

Wednesday Evening Activities
Family Night Dinner
6:00 p.m. (Fellowship Hall)
Bible Study and Prayer Service
7:00 p.m. (Sanctuary)
Children's Program
7:00 p.m.

First Presbyterian Church of Philadelphia

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Pastor David Storment
Presbyterian Church in America (PCA)

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CLOSING DATE: 4/3/2024



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TERRY "BIG T" WILLIAMS • 11:15 AM-12:15 PM

Mississippi Delta Bluesman

THE COLUMBUS COMMUNITY GOSPEL CHOIR • 12:30-1:15 PM

MR. SIPP • 1:30-3:00 PM

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— Proverbs 16:3 (ESV)

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FRIDAY & SATURDAY 5-9

Getting the Message/Rev. Chris Shelton

Christ is risen!

Easter is this coming Sunday, and it is good to remember the hope that the resurrected Christ gives to fallen men in a fallen world. This is the faith particular to Christians: Christ's resurrection is not only the object of our faith, but the example of our hope. In Christ shall all be made alive.

John tells his account of the resurrection, not only to give historical details, but to point out theological truths connected with it. Clearly, one of these truths is Christ's victory over death. John points out that when he and Peter got to the tomb, they didn't see the body of Jesus, but they did notice the linen cloths and face cloth used in the burial of Jesus.

We read in chapter 19 that 75 pounds of aloe and myrrh had been used in the process of wrapping the body of Jesus with these cloths. It would have been no easy process to unwrap all the linen saturated and coated with these spices. Yet Peter sees all the linen cloths and the face cloth folded by itself. It is not the scene you would see from someone stealing or moving a body.

Rather it points to a mission accomplished once and for all. It is symbolic of the death of death. When Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead, he commanded that the grave cloths be taken off of him to set him free. Here, Jesus's resurrection means all those united to him will not be bound by death any longer. Even if they die, yet shall they live (John 11).

His resurrection was a public acceptance of his mediatorial work by the Father. All the prophets pointed to a Messiah or Savior who would reconcile sinners to God. The Son of God came into the world to die, and die he did, for our sins that we might live through him. His whole life was in service to God, standing in the place of men. The discarded linen cloths and folded face cloth means we can approach God face to face in his name. Death has lost its sting.

Jesus accomplished what he came to do. He then ascended to the Father (verse 17) where he reigns as king, spreading his kingdom with the conversion of every soul who looks to him for life and peace with God. It is a great comfort for the Christian to know Christ has sweetened the grave to make it an

entrance to true freedom and joy with God forever.

We also see the love Christ has for his people. Mary Magdalene is prominent in the story. Her devotion to Jesus is evident. She weeps at the grave because the body is missing. The resurrected Jesus then appears and asks her why she is weeping. Who is it she is looking for? She was looking for a corpse, but the one she seeks though he died, yet he lives again.

When Jesus spoke to Mary she didn't recognize him; she thought it was the gardener, someone who was in charge of the place. She was right about him being in charge, but wrong about who it was. Jesus corrects her by calling her by name, "Mary." There is great consolation in anyone calling your name in a loving way. Here the sacrificial Lamb of God, the now resurrected Savior and Lord of all, calls her by name in a way no one else can.

Think about your sins for a moment. Not the struggles, trials, and pains in this world we all suffer from; just sins, and even reduce it to only the sins of your heart, your thoughts. Then imagine the Holy God coming and calling you by name. If you have conviction of sin, you would want to run and hide. But with the Lord is forgiveness and Mary knows that forgiveness. Jesus calls Mary, not to accuse, but to express his love for her.

Mary, now recognizing the Lord, embraces his feet in humble adoration. The reason he directs her to not cling to him is because he has even greater felicity in mind for her and all his people. He is going to ascend to heaven and then send the Holy Spirit, so that the truths about him become clearer, convey deeper depths of his love, and show the light of His eternal glory.

Jesus calls his sheep by name. They hear his voice and follow him. If you believe in Him, it is because he called you in the way he called Mary. If you have never hearkened to his voice, now is the time to do it. Call on Christ, come unto Christ, and live.

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

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SOCIETY

Holmes enjoying her retirement

By **JACE HENDERSON**
jace@neshobademocrat.com

Florine Holmes grew up in East St. Louis, Ill., learning to cook from her mother, Armintie Moore. Born late in the year and starting school later than her peers, at the age of six, she found herself spending her days soaking up her mother's wisdom in the kitchen.

"My mother was an excellent cook," Holmes said. "I was in her way and would stay under her feet trying to learn. She would throw biscuits at me trying to get me to leave the kitchen, but I wouldn't leave so she taught me how to cook."

Under her mother's guidance, Holmes mastered cooking a variety of vegetables, from peas to string beans, corn, and fried corn. She also honed her skills in baking, frying, boiling, and grilling chicken.

By the time she married Wendell Holmes Sr. in 1977 and relocated to Philadelphia, Holmes was well-versed in the culinary arts. The couple have since raised three sons, Wendell Jr., Justin, and Jeremy, and have eight grandchildren.

"My sons love for me to make peach cobbler," Holmes said. "That's their favorite when they come home. They have to have a peach cobbler."

She also enjoys making meatloaf served with string beans and creamy potatoes, as well as Philadelphia Cream Cheese pound cake, caramel cakes, and sweet potato pies for her family.

Having retired from Cadence Bank after a 42-year career in banking, Holmes now dedicates her time to community involvement. She serves as the vice president of the Philadelphia-Neshoba County Arts Council and is an active member of Jerusalem Temple Church.

"I'm just enjoying life, trying to be a witness for Christ where I am, and let my light shine," she exclaimed.

Holmes said her best dish is salmon with baked sweet potatoes and string beans or a fresh green salad. She occasionally indulges in frying fish and chicken outdoors once or twice a month.

For holidays and family gatherings, she pulls out all the stops, preparing homemade cornbread dressing, roasted turkey, ham, rice casserole, pecan pies, fried corn, ribbon salad, and seven-layer salad.

Holmes said she relies on quality cookware brands like Cordon Bleu, along with essential tools like Pampered Chef spatulas and spoons, and sturdy potholders. She also meticulously plans her meals in advance ensuring all ingredients are measured and prepara-



Florine Holmes

COOK OF THE WEEK

tions are organized.

"I try to plan my meals the day before, so I know what I'm fixing for tomorrow," Holmes said. "I always clean my stainless steel after each use."

With three recipe boxes perfected through trial and error, she takes pride in her ability to

bring joy to others through her cooking.

"I really enjoy preparing the table and seeing others enjoy my cooking," she said. "When people ask for seconds, you know it must be passable."

HOT RICE CASSE-ROLE

- 1 lb. sausage
- 1 onion, chopped
- 1 bell pepper, chopped
- 5 cups water
- 1 cup Minute Rice

- 2 pkgs. Lipton dry chicken soup
- 8 oz. Cheddar Cheese, grated

Bring water to a boil. While water is boiling brown sausage, onion, bell pepper. Drain fat from sausage. Add rice and boil 10 minutes. Then add chicken noodle soup and cook 10 more minutes. Add sausage to the above and stir in cheese. Mix

together well. Pour into casserole dish and bake for 15 minutes at 375 until hot and bubbly.

RAINBOW LAYER CAKE

- 2 pkg. (2-layer size each) white cake mixes, divided
- 2 tbsp. (1/2 of 3 oz. pkg.) each Jell-O Raspberry, Orange, Lime, and Berry Blue flavor gelatin
- 1 1/3 cup Breakstone's or

- Knudsen sour cream
- 1 1/3 cup powdered sugar
- 1 tub (16 oz.) Cool Whip whipped topping, thawed

Heat oven to 350° F. Grease and flour 2 (9-inch) round pans; cover bottoms with parchment. Prepare cake batter from 1 pkg. cake mix as directed on package. Pour half into separate bowl. Add dry raspberry gelatin mix to batter in one bowl; mix well. Stir dry orange gelatin mix into remaining batter. Pour into prepared pans.

Bake 28-30 min. or until toothpick is inserted in centers comes out clean. Cool cakes in pans 15 min.; remove from pans to wire racks. Cool completely. Repeat with remaining cake mix and dry gelatin mixes, washing cake pans between uses.

Mix sour cream and sugar in large bowl until blended; gently stir in Cool Whip. Stack cake layers on plate, spreading 1/3 cup Cool Whip mixture onto each cake before covering with next layer. Frost top and side of cake with remaining Cool Whip mixture. Refrigerate 2 hours.

PASTA WITH WHITE SAUCE

- 16 oz. pkg. thin spaghetti
- 1 quart half & half
- 6 oz. pkg. mozzarella cheese
- 1/4 cup parmesan cheese
- 1/2 stick butter
- 1 tsp. garlic powder
- 1 tsp. seasoning salt
- 1 1/2 white pepper
- 4-6 mushrooms
- 1 large tomato
- Meat: shrimp, chicken, or crab
- (I use all three) 1 pd. each

In skillet add about 3 tables. Oil add meat and stir fry. Add mushrooms when meat is about done and cook about 2 more minutes. Add pasta to boiling water. Cook pasta according to package directions.

In a 3 qt. boiler bring butter and half & half to a slight boil. Stir in seasonings and reduce heat to simmer. Add parmesan and mozzarella cheeses. Stir until cheeses melt.

Drain water from pasta. Add meats. Pour white sauce over pasta and meat. Stir until evenly distributed. Remove from heat. Pasta may be eaten hot or cold. Garnish with sliced tomatoes when ready to serve.

■ Know someone who should be featured as Cook of the Week? Nominate them by emailing the Democrat at jace@neshobademocrat.com.

Just Among Friends

By **MARIANNE ENOCHS**
friends@neshobademocrat.com

Congratulations to Bea Carson, Choctaw Tribal Member and Choctaw Gaming Commission Chairwoman who was recently selected as the Woman Warrior Honoree for the 2024 Women in Tribal Gaming Symposium.

The symposium will be held at the Wild Horse Pass Hotel and Casino in Chandler, Arizona, May 22-23, 2024.

Leak Academy's golf team played in the tournament at Redbud Springs Golf Course in Kosciusko which was hosted by Winona Christian School recently.

Leake won the 1st Place Team competition while Jake Rudolph won 2nd Place Individual. Congratulations to each and every member!

An extra special birthday celebration honored Delores Edmisson on her 90th birthday here in Philadelphia. She has been visiting her daughters, Mickie Edmisson Williams and Deena Dansby, and their families. "Nanda," as she is affectionately called by her grandchildren and great-grandchildren, lives in Tennessee. Her visits are always greatly anticipated by her Philly family. She enjoys a ballgame during nice weather when one of her great-grandchildren is playing and plays canasta!

Margaret Elizabeth Taylor has been named Neshoba Central's STAR Student for the 2023-2024 school year, and Anne Fisakerly was selected as

STAR Teacher. They were chosen by the Mississippi Economic Council Student-Teacher Achievement Recognition (STAR).

Both the STAR Student and STAR teacher will be formally recognized during MEC's Education Celebration on April 4, 2024, at the Clyde Muse Center in Pearl. Congratulations!

When your daughter is in the United States Navy on a US ship, in the middle of the ocean, a phone call is an unusual event! Brian and Lydia Whitaker Berry received a call from their daughter, Emily Berry, who had been at sea for six weeks. She was calling with very exciting news. She had been promoted!

On March 18, she was surprised at an all-hands-on call where she was informed that she had been meritoriously advanced (MAPed) There is only one opening per rank per ship depending on quotas. She is now STG2! Congratulations!

Jakob Knight and Kalli Spears were guests of East Central Community College for a campus tour. They are juniors at Neshoba Central High School who are making an important decision about their future education plans.

Last week's Total Pain Care Team of the Week was the MACC All-Stars of Mississippi. The MAC All-Stars are a competitive cheer team out of Philadelphia who have competed and won several events during the past two months. Congratulations to the MAC All-Stars of Mississippi

The Program of Research and Evaluation for Public Schools (PREPS) presented the 6th Grade Math Achievement Award to Philadelphia Elementary School. The teacher is Angel Crockett Coleman. Congratulations!

A huge Hotty Toddy to Jordan Kabore for being accepted into the Trent Lott Leadership Institute at the University of Mississippi! He will earn a degree in Public Policy Leadership with his ultimate goal of attending law school. He is the son of Alain and Kara Loper Kabore.

The Mississippi Department of Transportation's Worker Wednesday last week was one of its own workers. As part of an MDT District 5 survey crew, Jackson Adams of Philadelphia has been diligently working to take elevation readings in preparation for a project along the State Route 16 in Edinburg. MDT is grateful for his diligence and skill at performing this important work!

Precious Micah Alan arrived on March 5th weighing 7 pounds and 6 ounces of pure sweetness. His parents are Chase Eubanks and Morgan Paige Norris who welcomed him with joy! Congratulations!

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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Rockets best Trojans

By **BILL GRIFFIS**
sports@neshobademocrat.com

The Neshoba Central Rockets defeated Northeast Lauderdale 17-4 on Saturday, thanks to a big 5th inning.

The Rockets got on the board first in the 3rd inning with two runs, then added a huge 10 runs in the 5th and five in the 6th two close out the scoring.

Sanders Griffis started on the mound for the Rockets, sitting down the first nine batters. The Trojans came back with two runs in the 4th and two in the 5th to close out their scoring. Griffis allowed four runs on four hits and two walks while striking out eight batters. J.P. Hancock came on in relief in the 6th to close out the game.

The Trojan pitchers allowed

17 runs on 13 hits, four walks and seven strikeouts. Big hits for the Rockets came from Espn Jackson with three, Griffis with two, R.B. Hardin with two, and Will Williams with two.

District play began on Tuesday at Warren Central, followed by a rematch at home on Friday. Southeast Lauderdale comes to town on Saturday for a 1 p.m. game. JV begins at 11 a.m.

The Rockets, 8-3 on the season, lost a close one to Newton County 2-1 on March 16.

It was a pitchers' duel from the start to the finish. Sam Killens took the mound for the Rockets, giving up two walks and a double scoring their only two runs.

Taking the loss, Killens held the Cougars in check for four innings giving up the two runs on three hits and one strikeout.

The loss came after a 6-2 loss to the West Lauderdale Knights on March 15.

The Rockets got on board in the 2nd inning with one run, but the Knights came right back with a homerun in the 3rd to tie the game. The Knights took the lead in the 5th with a man on base and a homerun to go up 3-1.

The Rockets came back with a single run in the 6th.

Ryder White took the loss for the Rockets, going six innings while surrendering three runs on five hits, two walks, striking out four. J.P. Hancock came on in relief in the 7th inning, surrendering three runs on three hits with two errors in the field. Sanders Griffis took the mound with one out to finish the game with a ground out and one strike out.

Leake baseball begins district action

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

The Leake Academy baseball team kicked off district play this past week, dropping two out of three games to Wayne Academy.

Leake will return to play this week with another three-game district series with Simpson. Game 1 of the series is Tuesday at Madden with game 2 at Simpson on Thursday. Game 3 of the series is set for Friday at Madden.

Wayne 6, Leake 1

The Jaguars pulled away late and took a five-run win over the Rebels on Saturday to take the series win on Saturday.

Wayne outhit Leake 8-5 in the contest. Gage Warren was 2-for-3 with a double while Mathan Weaver doubled. Rhett Stovall singled and drove in a run while Rece Atkinson had Leake's other hit.

Stovall started on the mound and pitched four innings and was tagged with the loss. Stovall gave up three runs on five hits while striking out two. Matthew Nowell pitched one inning and gave up three runs on three hits and a walk. Jack Harkins pitched a scoreless inning to finish up for the Rebels.

Leake 8, Wayne 7

The Rebels drew 12 walks, including a walk-off in the bottom of the seventh to even the series on Thursday.

Wayne jumped on starter Jack Harkins early, scoring five runs in the top of the first and added single runs in the third and fourth to go up 7-0. But Leake scored three in the fourth and two in the fifth to cut the margin to 7-5.

In the seventh, Harkins walked to start the inning and Tyler Winstead reached on an error. A walk to Camden Marble loaded the bases by Leake. After a strikeout, Gage Warren ground out to second to score a run and cut the Wayne lead to 7-6. After an intentional walk to Rece Atkinson to lead the bases again, Mathan Weaver walked to tie the game and Rhett Stovall walked to drive in the winning run.

Leake had just four hits but drew 12 walks. Atkinson was 2-for-2 with two walks and three RBIs while Majure Chandler singled and scored a run. Charlie Brantley had Leake's other hit with a single and scored a run. Warren walked twice and had three RBIs while Tyler Winstead scored three runs.

Harkins started the game but didn't get an out and allowed five runs on four hits and a walk. Caden Stovall came in and pitched four innings and gave up two runs on four hits while striking out two. John Donovan pitched the next two innings and didn't give up a hit or a walk while striking out two. Matthew Nowell pitched a scoreless ninth to pick up the win.

Wayne 1, Leake 0

The Jaguars walked off the win in the bottom of the seventh on Tuesday to take game 1 of the series.

Wayne scored the game's lone run in the bottom of the seventh to take the win.

Leake had five hits in the contest. Mathan Weaver was 2-for-3 in the contest while Gage Warren had a triple. Charlie Brantley and Rece Atkinson had Leake's other hits.

Atkinson started on the mound and had his best outing of the season, going six innings and scattering five hits and a walk while striking out eight. Rhett Stovall came into the game in the seventh and got one out before giving up the game winner.

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