



SPORTS

LADY ROCKETS CONTINUE TO DOMINATE ON THE COURT

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COOK OF THE WEEK

KIRKLAND ENJOYS MANNING THE GRILL

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THE NESHOPA DEMOCRAT

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BANK FRAUD

Pair alleged to have stolen from farmer

By DUNCAN DENT duncan@neshobademocrat.com

A Neshoba County man and a Philadelphia woman have been arrested in connection with a bank fraud scheme.

They are alleged to have taken about \$3,200 from a Neshoba County poultry farmer, the authorities said.

The man, Albert S. Coats, 29, 8857 Road 420, was arrested and charged with

contempt of court, petit larceny, and felony false pretense, according to Neshoba County Sheriff Eric Clark.

His accomplice has been identified as Hazel Abear, 25, 107 Alexander Avenue, who was arrested and charged with felony false pretense, Clark said.

The victim noticed he had about \$3,200 missing from an account.

An investigation determined that Coats and Abear

made withdrawals on five occasions in the 20 days between Dec. 7 and Dec. 27, in amounts ranging from \$200 to more than \$2,000, according to Clark.

Clark said the investigation began when the victim report-



Albert Coats



Hazel Abear

ed on Dec. 14 that some tools had been stolen from his farm. The victim said he had previously employed Coats on his poultry farm in early December. As the investigation pro-

gressed, the victim was made aware of the money missing from his bank account.

Clark said the investigation determined Coats and Abear had used information from a check the victim used to pay them to make purchases using the account. That information included routing and account numbers. Clark said they kept a picture they had taken of the check for reference.

Clark said Coats was arrested on Jan. 2. Clark said

he spotted a car registered to Coats, who had a warrant for failure to appear in court, driving towards Newton County on I-20.

Clark said he began to follow Coats who then exited on Chunky-Duffee Road. Clark said he communicated with the Newton County Sheriff's Office and they decided Clark would pull Coats over and Newton County deputies

See FRAUD, page 2A



Krissy Long receives at \$25,000 national Milken Educator Award at Neshoba Central Elementary's Celebration of Excellence Assembly held in the gym last Wednesday. Pictured, from left, are Mississippi Interim State Superintendent of Education Dr. Raymond C. Morgigno, Neshoba County School District Assistant Superintendent of Academic Services and Personnel Dr. Penny Sistrunk, Milken Educator Awards

Vice President Stephanie Bishop, recipient Krissy Long, Kathryn Daniels, Mississippi Department of Education Office of Teaching and Learning Education Specialist Sandra Hilliard, Neshoba Central Elementary Principal Tiffany Plott, and Neshoba Central School District Superintendent Josh Perkins.

NESHOPA CENTRAL ELEMENTARY

Educator Krissy Long receives prestigious national award

By JACE HENDERSON jace@neshobademocrat.com

Kristen "Krissy" Long, a fifth-grade math and science teacher at Neshoba Central Elementary, experienced a heartwarming surprise on Wednesday during an assembly celebrating the school's seven-year A rating success.

Interim state Superintendent of Education Dr. Ray Morgigno and the national Milken Family Foundation not only acknowledged the school's achievement but also presented Long with the prestigious Milken Educator Award, an esteemed honor recognizing outstanding educators for their excellence and innovation in education.

"There are so many other teachers in our school that really deserve this," Long said. "So many of them have taught me things along the way. This award pushes me to do better. I've always wanted to make a huge impact, and I hope this is the door that leads to those things happening for me."

Long received the award as part of the Milken Family Foundation's coast-

to-coast tour. The award comes with a \$25,000 cash prize, providing her the flexibility to use it as she sees fit. She became Mississippi's second recipient this season, following Jennifer Hite of Pearl.

"I've always enjoyed working with kids," Long said. "From being a teenager working at Bible schools and church camps, working with kids was always fun. I also love music. I play guitar, write music, and I sing, so all signs led to me becoming a teacher. I thought it would be the best place where I could make an impact on kids and make their educational journey something that mine wasn't."

Long's passion for teaching and connecting with students is evident in her colorful classroom, where she shares life stories matching the skills they're learning. She often starts lessons with funny stories, songs, or chants, creating an engaging and memorable learning environment.

"My favorite chant that we do talks about how many inches are in a foot

and how many feet are in a yard," she said. "My kids from the past still come up to me singing that chant. It's goofy and silly, but I think that's why my kids find it so interesting."

Long utilizes her unconventional and innovative teaching methods by using the menu at local Mexican restaurants to tally the bill and creates YouTube videos for students and their parents to better understand equation-solving steps.

Her daily use of Classroom Dojo, a program that allows students to accumulate points through classroom cooperation leading to an end-of-semester auction instills a sense of accomplishment, enthusiasm, and motivation in her students. Long was also an early adopter of Google Classroom, contributing significantly to its integration of the program at the school.

"For so long technology was resisted, but now we walk around with little computers in our hands," Long said. "This generation of kids that we're raising has anything they ever want to

know right there. When we are using the YouTube channel and Classroom Dojo, we are teaching them how to gage their behaviors and find answers they have questions about by making the learning fun."

Long's impact extends to professional development workshops, state conferences, and district teacher advisory committees. She also serves as the math chairperson, leading Professional Learning Community (PLC) meetings and vertical alignment sessions.

She earned her bachelor of science in elementary education in 2016 and a master of education in educational leadership in 2023.

"Mrs. Long thank you so much for the impact you've had on so many lives of children here in Neshoba County and the impact you have on fellow educators," said Dr. Morgigno. "It's amazing the work that you're doing. You are in a very special group of educators, and it's a true honor not only for you and Neshoba Central but also for the entire state of Mississippi. Congratulations!"

TRIBE

Secretary of the Interior visits Tribe

By STAFF REPORTS news@neshobademocrat.com

Choctaw Tribal Chief Cyrus Ben hosted Secretary of the Interior Deb Haaland as she toured the homelands of the Mississippi Choctaws last week.

Members of the Bureau of Indian Affairs and Bureau of Indian Education were also in attendance. The leadership delegates visited the Chahta Immi Cultural Center, Choctaw Central High School campus, surveyed the future site of the new Choctaw Central school campus, the newly constructed MBI Boys and Girls Club Teen Center, and other sites. Secretary Haaland, BIA Eastern Regional Director Kimberly Bouchard, BIE Director Tony Dearman, and BIE Education Program Administrator Dr. Connie Albert made the visit to meet with Tribal representatives and discuss current Indian education reform initiatives.

"Having Secretary Haaland, the first Native American to serve as a cabinet secretary, visit us here in Choctaw is a proud moment for our Tribe," said Tribal Chief Cyrus Ben. "During my visits to the Nation's capital, my topmost priority is for our Tribe to have a true working relationship with our federal government. Maintaining a true government-to-government relationship is our goal." See TRIBE, page 3A

CITIZENS BANK

Suspicious man triggers bank alarm

By DUNCAN DENT duncan@neshobademocrat.com

No one was arrested after a visible law enforcement response to The Citizens Bank downtown due to a teller panic alarm last week.

A suspicious person walked into the main branch of The Citizens Bank of Philadelphia, 521 Main Street, on Tuesday, Jan. 9, and made an unusual request that made bank employees suspicious of the man, Police Chief Eric Lyons said.

A teller pushed the panic alarm dispatching law enforcement to the bank.

Sheriff Eric Clark said 911 records show the alarm went out at 2:52 p.m. and five PPD units and three units with the NCSO responded to the bank.

"Once on scene officers spoke with the male and nothing was found and he was released," Lyons said.



Kids' Art



**DEADLINE
FEBRUARY 4**

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THE NESHOPA DEMOCRAT



Central Mississippi Rodeo Club Members, from left, are Eli McDonald, Gracie Jenkins, Helen Beason, and Braden Welch.

Rodeo Club hosting event at Neshoba Coliseum Jan. 26

By JACE HENDERSON
jace@neshobademocrat.com

The Central Mississippi Rodeo Club is gearing up for another junior high and high school rodeo event at the Neshoba County Coliseum.

Hosted on Friday, Jan. 26, and Saturday, Jan. 27, each day has a \$10 admission fee, with free entry for kids five and under.

The club consists of the Mississippi High School Rodeo Association and the Mississippi Junior High Rodeo and is open to any students wanting to participate.

Mecie and Kevin Beason, who both live in Neshoba County, are parent volunteers and play key roles in the club's organization as committee members.

The rodeo aims to raise funds for their local rodeo club

and brings together students from various schools, including Neshoba Central, Leake Academy, and homeschoolers.

Beason said this rodeo at the Coliseum is also a way to raise money for the students in case they win the state final rodeo in Hattiesburg next June and travel to Rock Springs, Wyoming, for the National High School Final Rodeo in July.

The rodeo's initiative stemmed from a desire to make rodeo participation more accessible for students who often had to travel long distances for competitions.

"Most of our high school rodeos are held in south Mississippi, so our students are traveling 2 and a half to 3 hours on weekends to participate," Beason said. "We wanted to bring the rodeo closer to home to make it easier for their friends and family to come watch."

Beason said last year's event at the Coliseum was a success, drawing not only parents of participants but also enthusiastic visitors from the community.

The high school rodeo, featuring events like saddle bronc riding, bareback racing, break-away, tie-down, poles, barrels, team roping, goat tying, bull riding, and steer wrestling will take place on both Friday and Saturday nights at 7:30 p.m.

Meanwhile, the junior high rodeo starts Saturday at 9 a.m., showcasing talents in the same competitions, along with chute dogging and ribbon roping.

"We will also have a Reined Cow Horse Competition on Saturday, Jan. 27, at 3 p.m. after the junior high rodeo," she said. "We're excited to let our local kids take part in local rodeos, and we appreciate our local sponsors. This wouldn't be possible without them."

Deputies arrest Alabama bank robber

By DUNCAN DENT
duncan@neshobademocrat.com

An Alabama man wanted in a bank robbery there was arrested in Neshoba County over the weekend.

The man, Griffin Allen Thompson, 49, 307 Lee Street Sylacauga, Ala., southeast of Birmingham was arrested at a Philadelphia motel on charges of first and third-degree robbery in Alabama.

Thompson is in the Neshoba County Detention Center where he is awaiting extradition to Alabama.

The robbery happened on Friday, Jan. 12, around 9:25 a.m. at the Heritage Federal Credit Union in Sylacauga, Ala. The authorities there identified Thompson as a suspect. An

undisclosed amount of money was taken during the robbery.

Neshoba County Sheriff Eric Clark said his office was contacted by the United States Marshal Service and notified that the suspect could be in the area.

The Choctaw Police Department and Pearl River Resort casino security were notified as well with a description of Thompson.

At about 1:25 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 13, a Neshoba County Sheriff's Deputy identified the suspect vehicle, a blue Ford SUV with an Alabama tag, in the parking lot of the Deluxe Inn and Suites on Central Drive here.

Clark said the vehicle had



Griffin

been spotted by a camera system installed by the Sheriff's Department that scans license plates and takes pictures of passing vehicles.

A deputy spotted Thompson as he was leaving his room to get into the suspect vehicle,

The deputy quickly pulled into the parking lot and detained Thompson until backup could arrive and arrest Thompson.

Thompson admitted he had been at the casinos and was staying at the motel. He was arrested with more than \$4,000 in cash on him, Clark said.

Clark said the vehicle had

RON WHITE



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Fraud

Continued from page 1A

would meet them.

Clark said he made the traffic stop in front of Cajun Cooking, a restaurant on Chunky-Duffee Road. Clark

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Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians Tribal Chief Cyrus Ben looks on as Secretary of the Interior Deb Haaland makes traditional Choctaw food Banaha.

Tribe

Continued from page 1A

government relationship between the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians and our Nation's leaders means they know who we are and that our needs are on their radar. Secretary Haaland's visit is a testament to this relationship, and we are very appreciative for her and her staff as well as members with the Bureau of Indian Affairs and Bureau of Indian Education to take time out of their

busy schedules to visit us here in Choctaw."

This is the third time the Secretary of the Department of the Interior, a member of the President's cabinet, has visited the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians.

Chief Ben and Secretary Haaland spent the afternoon participating in hands on cultural presentations conducted by the Chahta Immi Cultural Center where Secretary Haaland participated in cultural presentations conducted by CICC staff. Tribal Chief Ben and Secretary Haaland met with the BIA and BIE delegation to visit the current

Choctaw Central campus to see firsthand the need for a new school campus followed by a tour of the future site of the new school campus; the group also visited the newly constructed MBCI Boys and Girls Club Teen Center and observed Choctaw Tribal School students partaking in projects with the Youth Entrepreneurship Class, Robotics team practice and witnessed a scrimmage between two Choctaw Recreation basketball teams. The day concluded with Chief Ben leading a driving tour of Tribal lands.

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THE NESHOBA DEMOCRAT



Opinion

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1932—2017

EDITORIALS

Johnson is not the problem

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

— *The Washington Times*

FLASHBACKS

January 15, 1944

Mr. and Mrs. B. E. Turner, Jr. of Madden are announcing the birth of a daughter on Thursday, January 7th, who has been named Mary Jane. Mrs. Turner will be remembered as Elizabeth Richardson, formerly of this city.

Miss Marie Grubbs, student at Millsaps College, was recently elected to full membership in the Alpha Phi Chapter of Alpha Psi Omega, National Dramatic Honorary Fraternity.

January 15, 1954

Betty Brantley May of this city recently received her diploma from Jackson Commercial College, and has returned to the city, where she is now employed at King-DeWeese Equipment Co. She is a graduate of Philadelphia High School.

January 17, 1964

Mr. and Mrs. Billy Alredge of Houston, announce the birth of a son, William Randy, born December 27, weighing 9lbs and 15oz.

January 24, 1974

The Board of Trustees of the Philadelphia Municipal Separate School District announced Tuesday the election of Hal Reese as superintendent of schools for the dis-

trict, effective July 1.

Mr. and Mrs. John Stuart and daughter, Jennifer recently visited their son, Marty Stuart, and attended the Grand Ole Opry in Nashville. Marty returned to Philadelphia for a short visit with his parents.

January 25, 1984

The Neshoba County Board of Supervisors has pledged to abide by directives of State Auditor Ray Mabus concerning work on private property.

Keith Brantley was sworn in Wednesday morning as the new supervisor of District Four of Neshoba County after being elected Tuesday in a special election. The oath was administered by Chancery Clerk Bobby G. Posey.

January 19, 1994

Representatives of the Mississippi Downtown Development Association will be in Philadelphia Thursday for an evaluation of the downtown area. A written detailed report with suggestions on ways to improve the town's appearance and productivity will follow.

The story of a 13 year old boy who survived a 37-foot fall from a tree because of the heroics of his four friends will be featured Tuesday night on Rescue 911, a CBS television

show.

January 21, 2004

Thanks to the help of Crimestoppers, numerous tips on crimes involving drugs to robberies have been received in the past year and officials are hoping to benefit from the crime fighting organizations's success even more in the new year.

Bowing to pressure from angry veterans and totters over what they called an underhanded dismissal of the county Veterans Service officer earlier this month, the Board of Supervisors on Tuesday voted to rehire the man.

January 22, 2014

Business and industries hope to fill several positions, ranging from administrative assistants to truck drivers and inspectors, during the Mid-Mississippi Area Job Fair set for Feb. 27 at the Neshoba County Coliseum.

The president of the Southern Baptist Convention spoke about victory through the word of God last week at the Neshoba Baptist Association's Discipleship Training rally here last week, in what one pastor described as a historic visit.

CAL THOMAS

Republicans should change their logo

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

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

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

One candidate might be Triumph the Insult Comic Dog.

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

Addressing a French person who spoke no English, Triumph said: “Pardon me, I only know your basic French expressions like ‘I surrender.’”

Speaking to singer Bon Jovi, Triumph said: “So you’re acting now, you’re in a vampire movie, yes? That’s good. Finally, a role that requires you to suck.”

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

CHARLES HURT

Bigger than Chris Christie

Well, that was quite a splash.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Privately, of course. So no one could hear.

Charles Hurt is the opinion editor for The Washington Times.

LETTERS

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

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BIBLE SELECTION

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

— **John 8:31-32 (ESV)**

OBITUARIES

John Calvin Clay, M.D.

Dr. John Calvin Clay of Meridian, a medical oncologist who devoted forty-five years to bringing healing, comfort, and hope to his countless number of patients, passed away on January 13, 2024. Dr. Clay was the son of Lamar C. and Evelyn Blanks Clay and grew up in the Collinsville community in Lauderdale County. Working with his father in the family-owned grocery business, he learned early the value of hard work, and from his mother, an English teacher who instilled in her children a lifelong thirst for knowledge, he learned the importance of education.



Dr. John Calvin Clay

Dr. Clay was graduated from Collinsville High School and East Mississippi Community College before receiving a Bachelor of Science degree from Mississippi State University. He received his medical degree from the University of Mississippi Medical Center where he also completed an Internal Medicine Internship and Residency. After serving as Chief Resident during his Internal Medicine Residency, he chose a Fellowship in Hematology-Oncology. Highly respected throughout his medical training as an intelligent, caring, and dedicated clinician with a special talent for accurately diagnosing difficult cases, Dr. Clay was named Assistant Professor of Medicine in the division of Hematology-Oncology within the Department of Internal Medicine at his alma mater.

In 1976, Dr. Clay returned to his native Lauderdale County to enter the private practice of Internal Medicine and the subspecialty of Hematology-Oncology. Upon his return, he founded Meridian Medical Associates. He later limited his practice to Hematology-Oncology and established Meridian Oncology Associates.

A Diplomat of the American Board of Internal Medicine and the Subspecialty Board of Medical Oncology, Dr. Clay worked tirelessly to promote the medical profession by serving in a leadership role in the Southern Association of Oncology, the Louisiana-Mississippi Association of Oncology, the East Mississippi Medical Society, the Mississippi Division of the American Cancer Society, as Co-founder of the Section of Oncology of the Southern Medical Association, and as a lifelong member of the American Medical Association and the American College of Physicians.

Dr. Clay's most desired professional mission was to bring a comprehensive Cancer Center to Meridian and East Mississippi. Determined to provide his patients with care equal to any available elsewhere, he succeeded in securing that care with the establishment of the Anderson Regional Cancer Center. His extraordinary gift in this field of medicine and his success in securing the Cancer Center changed the landscape for cancer care in East Mississippi. Upon his retirement and in his honor, the Center was named the John C. Clay M.D. Medical Oncology Center. His contributions as a physician were many, but, perhaps, his most significant contribution and the contribution that gave him the most joy was the exemplary and individual care he gave to his untold number of patients. His tender and compassionate care and the wisdom he possessed in determining the best course of treatment for each patient will long be remembered by his patients and their families.

Some of Dr. Clay's most enjoyable and treasured memories came as a devoted supporter of the Mississippi State Bulldogs. Whether it be on the gridiron, hardwoods, or baseball diamond, he was in the stands supporting "The Bulldogs" all the way to the SEC championship, numerous bowl games, the Final Four, and cheering whole-heartedly as MSU won the College World Series in Omaha. Along with MSU sporting events, the sport of fishing held many fond memories for him. During his childhood, he enjoyed regular fishing outings with his dad and in later years with his beloved grandchildren - Sarah and Caden - who fondly call him "Doc Doc." He savored many beautiful moments living on Lake Mo-Ri-Lo and, joyfully, watching the mallards come and go in the stillness of the morning.

Dr. Clay is survived by his wife Beth Chisolm Clay; sons John Calvin Clay, Jr. and Stephen Lamar Clay and his wife Tabitha; grandchildren Sarah Clay and Caden Clay; brother Dan Clay and his wife Susan; his nieces, nephews, and cousins all of whom he held dear to his heart. His family extends love and appreciation for the kind care given by Mrs. Betty Howells, Mr. Eugene Randle, and Mrs. Mary Brown.

A memorial service will be held at Robert Barham Family Funeral Home chapel on Saturday, January 20 at 11:30 a.m., with visitation at 10:00 a.m. A family burial will be held at a future date. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to Anderson Cancer Center Patient Benevolence Fund or to a charity of one's choosing.

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Anthony George

Funeral services for Anthony George will be held Friday, January 19, 2024 at 1 p.m. from McClain-Hays Chapel with Father Bob Goodyear officiating. Burial will follow in Eastlawn Cemetery. McClain-Hays Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Mr. George, 75, of Philadelphia died Sunday, January 14, 2024.

Anthony was born and raised in Neshoba County. He attended Bond School and graduated from Neshoba Central High School in 1967 and later graduated ECJC with an associate degree and worked for US Motors and retired after 35 years of service. Mr. George was a member of Holy Cross Catholic Church.

Survivors include wife, Wanda George; daughters, Daina Skinner (Johnathan), and Chantel Spire (Stephen); four grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; sisters, Jeanne George and Monica George; several nieces, nephews, and their families.

Mr. George was preceded in death by parents, Jessie and Ethel Lee George; sister, Sharon Buntyn; brother, Gregory George.

Tressie Vowell

Funeral services for Tressie Vowell will be on Thursday, January 18, 2024 at 2:00 p.m. from First Pentecostal Church of Philadelphia. Burial will follow in Mars Hill cemetery. Rev. Tim Vowell and Dr. Raymond Wiggins will officiate. McClain-Hays Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Mrs. Vowell, 77, of Winston County passed away on Saturday, January 13, 2024.

She was a native of Leake County and a resident of Winston County. Mrs. Vowell was a member of First Pentecostal Church.

Survivors include husband, Jimmy Vowell; son, Rev. Tim Vowell (Lyn); daughter, Starla Tolbert (William); four grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; sisters, Virginia Wiggins and Rosie Smith (Tommy); a host of nieces and nephews.

Mrs. Vowell was preceded in death by parents, Presley Grover and Alma Lula Burnside; brothers, Charles, Robert, George "Bud", L. Frank, & James Burnside, sisters Lucy Obera Ogden, Jane McCluskey, Bessie Federick, & Trudy Williamson; several half-brothers & sisters.

Lanoy Adcock

Funeral services for Lanoy Adcock will be Thursday, January 18, 2024 at 11 a.m. from McClain-Hays Chapel with Rev. Chris O'Daniel officiating. Burial will follow in East County Line Cemetery. Visitation will be Thursday, January 18, 2024 from 10 a.m. until service time at McClain-Hays Funeral Home.

Lanoy Adcock, 84, died Sunday, January 14, 2024.

Lanoy was a lifelong resident of the Vowell Town community in Winston County. He was a graduate of Zama High School and began his career in manufacturing at Sheller Globe in

Kosciusko as a welder on the assembly line. Due to his perseverance and determined work ethic, he became a production manager at Sheller Globe, continuing in that role after moving to the Spartus Corporation in Louisville.

Upon his retirement from manufacturing, he fulfilled his dream of becoming a full-time farmer, cattleman, and tree farmer. He was successful in these endeavors and during this time was named Winston County Tree Farmer of the Year, as well as Cattleman of the Year. His hobbies included hunting, attending the weekly cattle sale, and making improvements to the family farm. He was most proud of his growing family. Lanoy was a member of Zama Baptist Church.

Survivors include his wife of 63 years, Joanne Adcock; daughters Jamie Calvert (Speedy), Angie Breland (Andy); grandchildren Drew Breland (Hollie), Dr. Sarah Skinner (Thad) of Philadelphia, Nathan Calvert (Alexandria) of Alexandria, Virginia, and Lucas Calvert (Leah) of Decatur; great-grandchildren, Maddie James, Beau and Tripp Breland, and Ruby, Ace, and Rhodes Calvert.

Lanoy was preceded in death by parents, Odell and Calvin Adcock; mother and father-in-law Arietta and Fred Taylor.

Pallbearers are Drew Breland, Nathan Calvert, Lucas Calvert, Dr. Thad Skinner, Tyler Hardy, David Lawrence, Byron Nowell, and Jerry Jack Nowell.

Honorary pallbearers are Larry Nelson and Joey Nelson.

Freeman Clemons

Funeral services for Mr. Freeman Clemons were held at 2 PM Monday, January 15, 2024, at Macedonia Baptist Church with Bro. Shelly Peoples officiating.

Interment was in Conehatta Community Cemetery. Visitation was 10 AM Saturday, January 13, 2024, at the home of Ivora Johnson, 2047 Hugh Mitchell Road, Conehatta, MS. John E. Stephens Chapel is in charge of arrangements.

Mr. Clemons, 53, passed away Wednesday, January 10, 2024, at Anderson Hospital in Meridian, MS. He lived most of his life in the Conehatta Community, and his hobbies were singing Choctaw hymns, watching stickball, football, and wrestling. He loved spending time with his family and friends.

He is preceded in death by his parents, Raymond Frazier and Vicky Clemons Tubby; brother, Edward Lee Clemons.

Survivors include his mother, Ivora Johnson; sisters, Lisa Vaughn and Iris Clemons Thomas; brother, Timothy Y. Thomas; a host of nieces and nephews.

Pallbearers: Gregory Shoemaker, Gabriele Thomas, Various Thompson, Jerry Waiter, Jeremy Vaughn, Sammy Vaughn, Erwin Thomas, Joshua Thomas. Honorary Pallbearer: Baxter Hall.

Joyce Regina (Walden) Winstead

Funeral services for Joyce Regina (Walden) Winstead were held Saturday, January 13, 2024 at 2 p.m. from McClain-Hays Chapel with Rev. Wayne Tate and Rev. Bill Raines officiating. Burial followed in Mt. Olive Cemetery in House Community. Visitation was held Saturday, January 13, 2024 from 12 noon until service time at McClain-Hays Funeral Home.

Mrs. Winstead, 73, of Union, died Thursday, January 11, 2024.

She was a native and lifelong resident of Neshoba County and like to travel with friends. Mrs. Winstead was a member of Mt. Olive Baptist Church of House Community.

Survivors include husband, Jerry Winstead of Union, MS; son, Thomas Walden; step-daughters, Vanessa Winstead, Janet Madison (Barry) and Laura Herrington (Vince); granddaughter, Savannah Williams (Dillon); grandson, Trinton Barfoot; nine step grandchildren; 17 great

grandchildren; brother-in-law, Will Moore; nieces, Crystal Tate (Wayne) and Brandy Moore; great niece, Hannah Tate; great nephew, Austin Tate; great great-niece, Kahlia Young.

Mrs. Winstead was preceded in death by her first husband, James Walden; parents, Willard and Lola Dell Barton; sister, Brenda Moore; great-granddaughter, Hailey Renee Ellingburg.

Pallbearers, Vince Herrington, Austin Tate, Will Moore, Terry Pinson, Dwight Page and Judd Young.

Mary Ann Pilgrim-Mulligan

Funeral services for Mary Ann Pilgrim-Mulligan were held Friday, January 12, 2024 at 2 p.m. from McClain-Hays Chapel with Dr. Jim Kelly and Rev. Carl Roberts officiating. Burial followed in Cedarlawn Cemetery. Visitation was held Thursday, January 11, 2024 from 5 until 8 p.m. at McClain-Hays Funeral Home.

Ms. Mulligan, 85, of Philadelphia died Wednesday, January 10, 2024.

Mary Ann was a native and lifelong resident of Neshoba County. Ms. Mulligan was a charter member of East Philadelphia Baptist Church.

Survivors include daughters, Latina Edwards; Kathy Scott (Mike) and Terri Purvis (Mark); three grandchildren; a host of grandchildren and their families; numerous nieces, nephews and their families.

Ms. Mulligan was preceded in death by husbands, Legette Pilgrim and Michael (Moon) Mulligan; parents, Herbert (Pop) Goodin and Mary (Maw) Goodin; sisters, Rose Earp, Billie Jones and Betty Butler; brother, B.A. (Buddy) Goodin; grandson, Chris White; son-in-law, Bobby Mitchell Edwards.

Dian Belk Hemphill

Funeral services for Dian Belk Hemphill were held Friday, January 12, 2024 at 11 a.m. from McClain-Hays Chapel with Rev. Arrie Fulton officiating. Burial followed in Neshoba Cemetery. Visitation was held Friday, January 12, 2024 for 9 a.m. until service time at McClain-Hays Funeral Home.

Mrs. Hemphill, 73, of Louisville, MS died Wednesday, January 10, 2024.

Dian was a native of Neshoba County and worked at Midland Shirt Factory for several years and at Williams Brothers. She loved training race horses with her first husband, Dolphus and continued after his passing and she traveled to different states while training the horses. She enjoyed fishing and spending time with her family, especially her grandchildren. Mrs. Hemphill was a member of Crystal Ridge Baptist Church in Winston County, where she taught Sunday School.

Survivors include her husband, Perry Hemphill of Louisville; daughter, Pamela Belk Lovern (Jason) of Philadelphia; grand-daughter, Hannah Adams of Philadelphia; step-daughter, Jennifer Collins (Jimmy) of Jasper, AL; step-son, Chris Hemphill (Carol) of Louisville; step grandchildren, Jonah Collins, Ashley Duncan, Mollie Lovern and Chance Lovern; six great-grandchildren; sister, Judy Pettey; brothers, Larry, Ricky, Danny Ray, Randy and Marty Long; half-brothers,

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Josh and Jeff Long; and a host of nieces, nephews and their families.

Mrs. Hemphill was preceded in death by first husband, Dolphus Belk; parents, Lester and Lillie Mae Peebles Long; half-brother, Jesse Long.

Pallbearers, Justin Long, Ty Long, Eric Long, Dylan Long, Chris Long, Richard Johnson, Stacey Johnson and Michael Pettey.

Terry Card

Funeral services for Ms. Terry Card were held Wednesday, January 10, 2024 at 3:00 pm from McClain-Hays Chapel with Rev. Michael Wells officiating. Burial followed in Cooks Chapel. Visitation was held Wednesday Prior to service at 1:00 pm at McClain-Hays Funeral Home.

Ms. Card, 68, of Philadelphia died Thursday, January 4, 2024.

Terri was happy with and loved her children, family, shopping and gardening. She never had grandchildren of her own, but she had several children from close friends she loved like her own. Ms. Card was a member of Cooks Chapel.

Survivors include her daughter, Mary Jane Cumberland of Philadelphia; son, Lee Card (Stacy) of Philadelphia; one niece, Jaime Lawrence (Jeremy) of Ashville, N.C.; one great-nephew, Landon Lawrence of Ashville, N.C.

Ms. Card was preceded in death by husband, Delano Card; parents, Bobby and Lovis Dees; sister, Lynda Faye Chesney.

Elois Elizabeth Gibson

Funeral services for Elois Elizabeth Gibson were held Thursday, January 11, 2024 at 11 a.m. from McClain-Hays Chapel with Rev. David Richardson officiating. Burial followed in Cedarlawn Cemetery. Visitation was held Wednesday, January 10, 2024 from 5 p.m. until 8 p.m. at McClain-Hays Funeral Home.

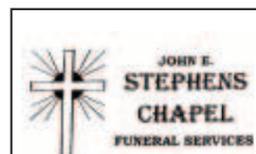
Ms. Gibson, 77, of Philadelphia died Friday, January 5, 2024.

Elois was a native and long-time resident of Neshoba County. She formerly worked at Chata Development as an Office Manager. Ms. Gibson was a member of New Pleasantdale Baptist Church.

Survivors include sons, Shannon Hardy (Angie) of Philadelphia and Todd Gibson (Jessica) of Philadelphia; grandchildren, Hailey Hardy, Savannah Hardy, Hailey Byrd, Braydon Gibson, Lexie Gibson, Paxton Gibson and Amanda Gibson; sister, Maxine Brunson of Brandon; several nieces, nephews and their families.

Ms. Gibson was preceded in death by parents, Amos and Bessie Clark; brother, Durwood Clark.

Jeanette Daniels



MRS. BRENDA BENSON
11 AM FRIDAY,
JANUARY 12, 2024
JOHN E. STEPHENS
CHAPEL
HENRY'S CHAPEL

MR. JAMES LEE LOWE
2:30 PM SATURDAY,
JANUARY 13, 2024
MARS HILL
PENTECOSTAL CHURCH
WINSTON CO.
MARS HILL
PENTECOSTAL CHURCH
CEM. WINSTON CO.

MR. DEXTER SCOTT
JENKINS
3 PM SUNDAY,
JANUARY 14, 2024
JOHN E. STEPHENS
CHAPEL
HENRY'S CHAPEL
CEMETERY

MR. FREEMAN
CLEMONS
2 PM MONDAY,
JANUARY 15, 2024
MACEDONIA BAPTIST
CHURCH
CONEHATTA
COMMUNITY
CEMETERY

MS. JEANETTE
COPELAND
2 PM MONDAY,
JANUARY 15, 2024
JOHN E. STEPHENS
CHAPEL
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Copeland

Funeral services for Ms. Jeanette Daniels Copeland were held at 2 PM Monday, January 15, 2024, at John E. Stephens Chapel. Interment was in Sandtown Cemetery. John E. Stephens Chapel was in charge of arrangements.

Ms. Copeland, 89, passed away Thursday, January 11, 2024. She lived in Neshoba County all of her life. She graduated from Perkinson College in 1960 and began nursing career at Singing River Hospital in Pascagoula. She moved back to Neshoba Co. December 1963. She began working at the old hospital and then Neshoba General Hospital / Nursing Home until her retirement in 2003. She was member of Pentecostals of House Church.

Preceded in death by husband, James Edwin Copeland; parents, Ralston Brooks, Sadie Martin Daniels; son, Calvin Copeland; brothers, Neil Daniels, Norris Daniels; grandson, Cal Copeland; great-great-granddaughter, Leigh Thomas Kilpatrick.

Survivors: daughters, Jamie Fulton (Lige), Cathy Swann (Robert), Renee Burt (Stan); son, Eddie D. Copeland; sister, Larue Miles; (10) grandchildren; (22) great-grandchildren; (13) great-great-grandchildren.

James Lee Lowe

Funeral services for Mr. James Lee Lowe were held at 2:30 pm Saturday, January 13, 2024 at Mars Hill Pentecostal Church in Winston County. Interment was in Mars Hill Pentecostal Cemetery. John E. Stephens Chapel was in charge of arrangements.

Mr. Lowe, 77, passed away Tuesday, January 9, 2024 at G.V. (Sonny) Montgomery VA Medical Center in Jackson, MS. He lived in Mars Hill Community. He served as a U.S. Marine, carpenter and was a member of Mars Hill Pentecostal Church.

See **OBITS**, page 7A



ELOIS GIBSON
SERVICES JANUARY 11
MCCLAINE-HAYS
CHAPEL
INTERMENT
CEDARLAWN
CEMETERY

TERRY LEE CARD
SERVICES JANUARY 10
MCCLAINE-HAYS
CHAPEL
INTERMENT COOKS
CHAPEL

DIAN BELK HEMPHILL
SERVICES JANUARY 12
MCCLAINE-HAYS
CHAPEL
INTERMENT Neshoba
CEMETERY

MARY ANN PILGRIM-
MULLIGAN
SERVICES JANUARY 12
MCCLAINE-HAYS
CHAPEL
INTERMENT
CEDARLAWN
CEMETERY

JOYCE REGINA
WALDEN WINSTEAD
SERVICES JANUARY 13
MCCLAINE-HAYS
CHAPEL
INTERMENT MT OLIVE
CEMETERY
HOUSE COMMUNITY

TRESSIE VOWELL
SERVICES JANUARY 18
FIRST PENTECOSTAL
CHURCH
INTERMENT MARS
HILL CEMETERY
WINSTON COUNTY

LANOY ADCOCK
SERVICES JANUARY 18
MCCLAINE-HAYS
CHAPEL
INTERMENT EAST
COUNTY LINE
WINSTON COUNTY

ANTHONY GEORGE
SERVICES JANUARY 19
MCCLAINE-HAYS
CHAPEL
INTERMENT
EASTLAWN CEMETERY



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\$545 + Costs
CHAPTER 13 BANKRUPTCY
Court Fees Up Front
JIM ARNOLD, ATTORNEY
601-656-6914

Public Notices

SECTION 00 11 13
Advertisement For bids
NOTICE TO BIDDERS
Sealed bids will be received in the Choctaw Public Works Department, Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians, Choctaw, Mississippi, until 2:00 p.m. on February 13, 2024, for:

Choctaw Medical Center Amalgam Separator Addition (Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians (Choctaw, Mississippi))

PryorMorrow Project Number: 2021157

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

Bid preparation will be in accordance with Section 00 21 13 – Instructions to Bidders, bound in the Project Manual.

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

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

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

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

Published: 1/10/2024
1/17/2024
END OF SECTION

INVITATION FOR BIDS
Open to All Bidders & Indian Owned Companies

DATE ISSUED: January 10, 2024

BY: Choctaw Housing Authority
P. O. Box 6088
Choctaw, MS 39350
PROJECT: Phase V Project 92-44 & 92-45
New Housing Construction
4 Units

LOCATION: Red Water Community Leake County

CONTRACTING OFFICER: Greg Gommillion, Development Officer
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 one hundred and twenty (120) consecutive 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 \$50.00 (Non-Refundable) made payable to Choctaw Housing Authority. **There will be a Pre-Bid Conference on January 24, 2024 at 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 February 7, 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 CHOCTAW TRIBAL COURT MISSISSIPPI BAND OF CHOCTAW INDIANS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE ESTATE OF SANDRA RENEE WILLIS, DECEASED
CAUSE NO.2023-802
SYDNEY TUBBY PETITIONER

SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION
THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

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

You have been made a Respondent in the Motion to Determine Heirs filed in this Court by Sydney Tubby, Administratrix, seeking to adjudicate the sole and only heirs-at-law of Dagna S. Nickey, deceased, as fully set out in the Motion on file in the Tribal Court of the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians.

You are summoned to appear and defend against the Motion to Determine Heirs filed against you in this action at 1:00 o'clock P.M. on the 21 st day of February, 2024, in the courtroom of the Choctaw Tribal Court in the Smith John Justice Complex located on the Pearl River Reservation, Choctaw, Mississippi, and in case of your failure to appear and defend a judgement will be entered against you for the money or other things demanded in the complaint or petition.

You are not required to file an answer or

Public Notices

other pleading but you may do so if you desire.

Issued under my hand and the seal of said Court, this 3rd day of January, 2024.

/s/ Kenyetta Barojas
TRIBAL COURT CLERK

STEVEN D. SETTLEMIREs
SettleMires & Graham, PLLC
410 East Beacon Street
Philadelphia, MS 39350
601-656-9597
MSBN: 99674

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE'S NOTICE OF SALE

WHEREAS, on August 3, 2021, Roger W. Cole, an unmarried man executed a deed of trust for the benefit of Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as beneficiary, as nominee for Rocket Mortgage, LLC fka Quicken Loans, LLC, which deed of trust was recorded on September 1, 2021, in Book 2021, Page 7557 in the office of the Chancery Clerk of Neshoba County, Mississippi; and Said Deed of Trust was last sold, assigned and transferred to Rocket Mortgage, LLC fka Quicken Loans, LLC by assignment recorded Book 2023, Page #131 in the office of the Chancery Clerk, Neshoba County, Mississippi.

WHEREAS, the holder of the deed of trust at the time of the substitution substituted McCalla Raymer Leibert Pierce, LLC as Trustee, as authorized by the terms thereof, by instrument recorded on December 18, 2023, and spread at large upon the records in the office of the aforesaid Chancery Clerk in Book 2023, Page 8477, prior to the posting and publication of this notice; and

WHEREAS, default having been made in the terms and conditions of the deed of trust, and the entire debt secured thereby having been declared to be due and payable in accordance with the terms of the deed of trust, and the legal holder of said indebtedness, Rocket Mortgage, LLC fka Quicken Loans, LLC has requested the undersigned Substitute Trustee to execute the trust and sell said land, property and improvements in accordance with the terms of the deed of trust for the purpose of raising the sums due thereunder, together with attorney's & 39;s fees, Substitute Trustee's fees and expenses of sale;

THEREFORE, on January 24, 2024, the undersigned Substitute Trustee in the deed of trust, will offer for sale at public outcry and sell to the highest bidder for cash, within legal hours (being between the hours of 11:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.) at the North door of the Neshoba County Courthouse in Philadelphia, Mississippi, the following described land, property and improvements lying and being situate in Neshoba County, Mississippi, to-wit:

Tax ID Number(s): 06330B-00A-003.000 Land situated in the County of Neshoba in the State of MS
Index as follows:
1.3 acres of three acres of land in the NW 1/4 of the NW 1/4, Section 30, Township 11, Range 12, more definitely described as follows, to-wit:
Beginning at the point where the Philadelphia and Koscoiko Road crosses the line between the NW 1/4 of the NW 1/4, Section 30, and the SW 1/4 of the SW 1/4, Section 19, all in Township 11, Range 12, thence runs South along said road 50 yards, thence East 140 yards to J.T. Daniel property, thence North 50 yards, thence West 140 yards to point of beginning, being located in the City of Philadelphia, Neshoba County, Mississippi. Said Lot has a front and rear of 150 feet, the North side measures 390 feet, and the South side measures 395 feet.

15:06
Page 2
NOTE: The Company is prohibited from insuring the area or quantity of the land. The Company does not represent that any acreage or footage calculations are correct. References to quantity are for identification purposes only. Commonly known as: 717 Pecan Ave, Philadelphia, MS 39350-3401
THE PROPERTY ADDRESS AND TAX PARCEL IDENTIFICATION NUMBER LISTED ARE PROVIDED SOLELY FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES.
I WILL CONVEY only such title as is vested in the Substitute Trustee.
WITNESS MY SIGNATURE, this the 27th day of December, 2023.
/s-/ Robert M. Peebles, III
McCalla Raymer Leibert Pierce, LLC
Substitute Trustee
1022 Highland Colony Parkway, Suite 304
Ridgeland, MS 39157-2049
(662) 388-5464
Foreclosurehotline.net

File No. : 23-02633MS

PUBLISHED: 01/03/2024
01/10/2024,01/17/2024

NOTICE OF SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE'S SALE

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI
COUNTY OF NESHOB
WHEREAS, default has occurred in the performance of the covenants, terms and conditions of a Deed of Trust dated April 3, 2006, executed by EARTHTEL C. THOMAS conveying certain real property therein described to ROBERT L. SMITH, RURAL DEVELOPMENT MANAGER, as Trustee, for UNITED STATES OF AMERICA ACTING THROUGH THE RURAL HOUSING SERVICE OR SUCCESSOR AGENCY, UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, Original Beneficiary, to secure the indebtedness therein described, as same appears of record in the office of the Chancery Clerk of Neshoba County, Mississippi filed and recorded April 3, 2006, in Deed Book 2006, Page 2707; and
WHEREAS, the beneficial interest of said Deed of Trust was transferred and assigned to UNITED STATES OF AMERICA ACTING THROUGH THE RURAL HOUSING SERVICE OR SUCCESSOR AGENCY, UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE; and
WHEREAS, Ruben Lublin, LLC has been appointed as Substitute Trustee; and
NOW, THEREFORE, the holder of said Deed of Trust, having requested the undersigned so to do, as Substitute Trustee or his duly appointed agent, by virtue of the power, duty and authority vested and imposed upon said Substitute Trustee shall, on **January 31, 2024** within the lawful hours of sale between 11:00AM and 4:00PM at the north door of the Courthouse proceed to sell at public outcry to the highest and best bidder for cash or certified funds ONLY, the following described property situated in Neshoba County, Mississippi, to-wit:

LOT 35 SHERWOOD PARK SUBDIVISION, EXTENSION A, PLAT 1, PAGE 86, OFFICE OF THE CHANCERY CLERK OF NESHOB COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI.

PROPERTY ADDRESS: The street address of the property is believed to be **209 SHELBY DRIVE, PHILADELPHIA, MS 39350** . In the event of any discrepancy between this street address and the

Public Notices

legal description of the property, the legal description shall control.

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

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

Rubin Lublin, LLC
326 North Lamar Blvd, Suite 107
Oxford, MS 38655
rubin.com property-listing
Tel: (877) 813-0992
Fax: (470) 508-9401

PUBLISHED: 01/03/2024, 01/10/2024, 01/17/2024, 01/24/2024

IN THE CHOCTAW TRIBAL COURT MISSISSIPPI BAND OF CHOCTAW INDIANS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE ESTATE OF TERRY STEVEN BELL, DECEASED
CAUSE NO.2023-1130
GAIL CLEMONS PETITIONER

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Letters of Administration having been granted on the 5th day of December, 2023, by the Tribal Court Clerk, to the undersigned upon the Estate of Terry Steven Bell, deceased, notice is hereby given to all persons having claims against said Estate to present the same to the Clerk of this Court for probate and registration according to law within ninety (90) days from this date or they will be forever barred.

WITNESS MY SIGNATURE this the 14th day of December, 2023.
/s/ Gail Clemons
GAIL CLEMONS
ADMINISTRATRIX

Prepared by:
Douglas J. Graham
SettleMires & Graham, PLLC
ATTORNEYS AT LAW
410 EAST BEACON STREET
PHILADELPHIA, MS 39350
TELEPHONE: (601)656-9597
MSBN 101965

SUBSTITUTED TRUSTEE'S NOTICE OF SALE

WHEREAS, on May 6, 2019, Alvin Anthony Parker, Sr. executed a certain deed of trust to Advantage Title LLC, Trustee for the benefit of Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. as beneficiary, as nominee for Cardinal Financial Company, Limited Partnership, its successors and assigns which deed of trust is of record in the office of the Chancery Clerk of Neshoba County, State of Mississippi in Book 2019 at Page 4184; and

WHEREAS, LLG MS LLC has heretofore been substituted as Trustee by instrument dated November 9, 2023 and recorded in the aforesaid Chancery Clerk's Office in Book 2023 Page 7743; 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, Cardinal Financial Company, Limited Partnership, the legal holder of said indebtedness, having requested the undersigned Substitute Trustee to execute the trust and sell said land and property in accordance with the terms of said deed of trust and for the purpose of raising the sums due thereunder, together with attorney's fees, trustee's fees and expense of sale.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, LLG MS LLC, Substituted Trustee in said deed of trust, will on March 6, 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 North Door of the County Courthouse of Neshoba County, located at 401 East Beacon Street, Philadelphia, MS 39350 , to the highest and best bidder for cash or certified funds the following described property situated in Neshoba County, State of Mississippi, to-wit:

The land referred to herein below is situated in the County of Neshoba, State of Mississippi, and is described as follows:

TRACT I:

From the South Right of Way line of Rea Street where the same intersects the West Right of Way line of Fox Avenue in Block 195 of the Stribling Addition to the City of Philadelphia, Neshoba County, Mississippi, thence run South along the West Side of Fox Avenue, a distance of 200 feet, thence West a distance 150 feet, thence South a distance of 100 feet to point of beginning thence further South 30 feet, thence East to the West Right of Way line Fox Avenue, thence North approximately 30 feet to the Southeast corner of the Lot, presently owned by the grantees herein, thence West along the South line of said Lot approximately 150 feet to point of beginning, lying and being situated in Block 194, Stribling Addition to the City of Philadelphia, Neshoba County, Mississippi, according to the Plat thereof on file in the Office of the Chancery Clerk of Neshoba County, Mississippi.

TRACT II:

From the Northeast corner of the James Proctor property which is the intersection of the South side of Rhea Street and the West side of Fox Avenue in Block 195 of the Stribling Addition to the City of Philadelphia, Neshoba County, Mississippi, and running South along the west side of Fox Avenue a distance of 200 feet to the Southeast Corner of James Proctor property in Block 194 of the Stribling Addition to the City of Philadelphia, Mississippi, for a point of beginning, a lot running West 150 feet from the point of beginning, thence South a distance of 100 feet; thence East to the West side of Fox Avenue; thence Northwesterly along the West side of Fox Avenue to the point of beginning, all of said Land being in Block 194, Stribling Addition to the City of Philadelphia, Neshoba County, Mississippi, according to a plat thereof on file in the office of the Chancery Clerk of Neshoba County.

I WILL CONVEY only such title as vested in me as Substituted Trustee.

LOGS Legal Group LLP
1080 River Oaks Drive, Suite B-202
Flowood, MS 39232
(601) 981-9299

276 Fox Ave
Philadelphia, MS 39350
23-029640

Publication Dates:
January 17, 2024, February 14, 2024, February 21, 2024 and February 28, 2024

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF NESHOB COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

L.G.W., A MINOR, BY AND THROUGH JASMINE BOLER WALKER, AS NATURAL MOTHER, NEXT FRIEND, AND INDIVIDUALLY PLAINTIFFS
VS.
CAUSE NO.2023-318

NICHOLAS A. WALKER, FELIX

Public Notices

GRIFFIN AND THE MISSISSIPPI STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH DEFENDANTS

NON-RESIDENT SUMMONS
THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

TO: Felix Griffin, a non-resident of the State of Mississippi, whose last known mailing, post office and street addresses is unknown to the Plaintiff after diligent search and inquiry by the Plaintiff to ascertain same.

You have been made a Defendant in the suit filed in this Court seeking a Compulsion for Alteration of Birth Certificate. Defendants other than you are Nicholas A Walker and The Mississippi State Department of Health. You are summoned to appear and defend against said Petition at 9:00 a.m. on the 27 th day of February, 2024, in the courtroom of the Neshoba County Courthouse in Philadelphia, Mississippi, and in case of your failure to appear and defend, a judgment will be entered against you for the money or other things demanded in the petition.

You are not required to file an answer or other pleadings, but you may do so if you desire. Issued under my hand and seal of said Court, this the 12 day of January, 2024.

/s/Gidget Stovall Tate
NESHOB COUNTY CHANCERY CLERK

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

/s/A. Duran, D.C.

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI
COUNTY OF NESHOB
WHEREAS, on December 4, 2020 Connie Cotton, executed a certain deed of trust to Steven D. SettleMires, Trustee for the benefit of Ralph Odum, to secure an indebtedness therein described which deed of trust is recorded in the Office of the Chancery Clerk of Neshoba County, Mississippi, in Book 2020 at Page 10659; and

WHEREAS, on the 28th day of November, 2023, Ralph Odum, executed its Substitution of Trustee wherein it substituted Alan D. Rhea as Trustee in and for the above described Deeds of Trust of record in Book 2020 at Page 10659, records of the Office of the Chancery Clerk of Neshoba County, Mississippi, in lieu and in place of Steven D. SettleMires, which instrument of Substitution of Trustee was filed for record at 9:29:17 A.M. on November 30, 2023 in Book 2023 at Page 7999; thereof, records of the Office of the Chancery Clerk of Neshoba County, Mississippi; and

WHEREAS, default having been made in the terms and conditions of the said Land Deeds of Trust and the entire debt secured thereby having been declared due and payable in accord with the terms of said Land Deeds of Trust, and the legal holder of said indebtedness, Ralph Odum having requested the undersigned as Substituted Trustee in Deed of Trust Book 2020 at Page 10659, records aforesaid, to execute the trusts and sell said land and property in accordance with the terms of said Land Deed of Trust for the purpose of raising the sums due thereunder, together with attorney's fees, trustee's fees and expense of sale.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Alan D. Rhea, as Substituted Trustee in said Land Deed of Trust aforesaid, will on Friday, the 26th day of January, 2024, offer for sale at public outcry and will sell within legal hours (being between the hours of 11 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. C.S.T.) at the North Door of the Neshoba County Courthouse in the City of Philadelphia, Neshoba County, Mississippi, to the highest and best bidder for cash, the land and property lying and being situate in the County of Neshoba, State of Mississippi, more particularly described as follows, to-wit:

All that in the NW 1/4 of SE 1/4 of Section 7, Township 10 North, Range 1 East, Neshoba County, Mississippi that lies South of County Road 367 and North and West of Mississippi Highway Number 21 South all in Section 7 Township 10 North, Range 1 East, Neshoba County, Mississippi;
LESS AND EXCEPT:
Beginning at the intersection of the West boundary line of the NW 1/4 of the SE 1/4, Section 7, Township 10 North, Range 1 East, Neshoba County, Mississippi, with the North right-of-way line of Mississippi Highway No. 21 (which is the point of beginning); thence North 51 degrees 41 minutes East 206.73 feet; thence North 131.00 feet; thence South 76 degrees 59 minutes West 166.49 feet; thence South 221.66 feet to the point of beginning , containing 0.66 acres, more or less, and being situated in the NW 1/4 of the SE 1/4 and the SE 1/4 of the NE 1/4, Section 7, Township 10 North, Range 1 East, Neshoba County, Mississippi;
ALSO LESS AND EXCEPT:
Beginning at the intersection of the West boundary of the NW 1/4 of the SE 1/4, Section 7, Township 10 North, Range 11 East, Neshoba County, Mississippi, with the North right-of-way line of Mississippi Highway No. 21; thence run North 52 degrees 00 minutes East 205.8 feet to the point of beginning; thence run North 210 feet; thence run North 52 degrees 00 minutes East 103.20 feet; thence run North 55 degrees 50 minutes East 71.80 feet; thence run South 210 feet to the North right-of-way line of Mississippi Highway No. 21; thence run Southwest rly along said highway right-of-way 175 feet to the point of beginning, containing 3.4 acres, more or less, and situated in the NW 1/4 of SE 1/4 and SE 1/4 of NE 1/4, Section 7, Township 10 North, Range 11 East, Neshoba County, Mississippi.

The land conveyed herein is approximately 4.8 acres, more or less.

Witness my signature, this the 27th day of December, 2023.

/s/Alan D. Rhea
Substituted Trustee of
a Substituted Trustee of Deed of Trust in Book 2020 at Page 10659

Nettles & Rhea
Attorneys at Law
P O Box 149
Carhage, MS 39051
Tel. No. 601/267-8404

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI
COUNTY OF NESHOB

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE'S NOTICE OF SALE

WHEREAS, on June 22, 2020, Eugene Franklin Brown, Sr., executed a certain Deed of Trust to Robert Thomas as Trustee for The Citizens Bank of Philadelphia, Beneficiary, which Deed of Trust was recorded in the office of the Chancery Clerk of Neshoba County, In the State of Mississippi, in Book 2020 at Page 6251. WHEREAS, on December 21, 2023, The Citizens Bank of Philadelphia executed a Substitution of Trustee, substituting Steven D. SettleMires as the Trustee for The Citizens Bank of Philadelphia, in the place of and stead of Robert L. Thomas, which Assignment was recorded in Book 2023, Page 5838; and
WHEREAS, default having been made in the payments of the indebtedness secured by the said Land Deed of Trust, and the holder of said Land Deed of Trust, having requested the undersigned so to do, on the 29 th day of January, 2024, I will during legal hours, at public outcry, offer for sale and will sell, at the North door of the Neshoba County Courthouse at Philadelphia, Mississippi, for cash

Public Notices

to the highest bidder, the following described land and property situated in Neshoba County, Mississippi, to-wit;

Begin at a point where the South right of way line of Mississippi State Highway 482 intersects the W ½ of the SE 1/4 of Section 23, Township 11 North, Range 12 East, and run North 88 degrees 09 minutes East for 334.50 feet along said right of way; thence run North 86 degrees 52 minutes East along said right of way for 210.30 feet; thence run North 83 degrees 45 minutes East for 262.50 feet to the Point of Beginning; thence run South for 456.1 feet; thence run West for 105.00 feet; thence run South for 315.00 feet; thence run West for 52.50 feet; thence run South for 450.55 feet; thence run East for 701.34 feet to the SE corner of SW 1/4 of SE 1/4 of said section; thence run North for 1,117.76 feet; thence run South 73 degrees, 28 minutes West for 235.00 feet; thence run North 0 degrees 29 minutes West for 210.00 feet to the South right of way line of Mississippi State Highway No. 482; thence run South 83 degrees 45 minutes West along said right of way for 333.80 feet to the Point of Beginning, said Point of Beginning being 157.50 feet NE of the NE corner of the property owned by Oakley Bozeman. The property under metes and bounds, contains 17.6 acres, more or less, and is situated in the W ½ of the SE 1/4 of Section 23, Township 11 North, Range 12 East, Neshoba County, Mississippi.

I will only convey such title as is vested in me as Substituted Trustee.

WITNESS MY SIGNATURE, this the 28 th day of December, 2024.

STEVEN D. SETTLEMIREs
Substituted Trustee
SettleMires & Graham
410 East Beacon Street
Philadelphia, MS 39350
(601) 656-9597
MSBN: 99674

Publish: January 3, 2024, January 10, 2024, January 17, 2024, and January 24, 2024

SECTION 00010

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Central Water Association
915 Valley View Drive, Philadelphia, MS 39350

Separate Sealed Bids for the Construction of: Improvements to Seven (7) Water Tanks in Neshoba County, MS. Bids will be received by Central Water Association herein called the "owner" at the office of Central Water Association until 10:00 AM, local time February 22, 2024, and then at said office publicly opened and read aloud.

THE PLANS, SPECIFICATIONS and CONTRACT DOCUMENTS may be examined at the following locations:

1. *Central Water Association - 915 Valley View Drive, Philadelphia, MS 39350* (City Clerk's Office, Chancery Clerk's or Loan Recipient's Office)

2. *Fontaine Engineering, LLC 107 E. Donald Street Ste. 9 Quitman, MS 39355 (601) 776-8910* (Consulting Engineer's Name, Office Address, Phone Number)

3. *MSDH/DWSRF 570 E Woodrow Wilson Jackson MS (Call – David Murtagh 601-576-7518)*

The BID SCHEDULE may be examined at the following locations:

A. Mississippi Procurement Technical Assistance Program (MPTAP) Mississippi Development Authority, Minority & Small Business Development Woolfolk Building 501 North West Street, Suite B 01 Jackson, MS 39201 Contact: Secret Luckett, 601-359-2700

B. *Contract Procurement Center closest to your project area: Natalie Purvis (601) 934-5975*

Specifications may be obtained Monday through Thursday between the hours of 8:00 till 4:00 from Fontaine Engineering at: 107 E. Donald Street Suite 9 Quitman, MS 39355, (601) 776-8910 for a deposit of \$200.00 per set non-refundable.

Each bid shall be accompanied by a Certified Check on a solvent bank or a Bidder's Bond issued by a Surety Company licensed to operate in the State of Mississippi, in the amount of 5% of the total bid price, as a guarantee that if the bid is accepted, the Bidder will enter into a contract and execute the Performance and Payment Bonds in the form and within the time specified.

The successful Bidder will be required to execute a Performance Bond and a Payment Bond, each in the amount of 100% of the Contract, issued by a Surety Company licensed to operate in the State and shall be named in the current list of "Companies Holding Certificates of Authority as Acceptable Sureties on Federal Bonds and as Acceptable Reinsuring Companies" as published in Circular 570 (amended) by the Audit Staff Bureau of Accounts, U.S. Treasury Department.

Each Bidder shall have a Certificate of Responsibility to bid on contracts for public projects in which the bid price exceeds \$50,000.00 and for private

History Channel reality show looking for large antique collections

By DUNCAN DENT
duncan@neshobademocrat.com

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

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

“The American Pickers TV Show is looking for leads and would love to explore your hidden treasure,” Kerlin said. “If you or



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

someone you know has a unique item, story to tell, and is ready to

sell...we would love to hear from you.”

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

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

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

Kerlin said anyone interested is asked to please send them your name, phone number, location, and description of the collection with photos

toamericanpickers@cineflix.com or call (646) 493-2184 for Facebook, visit @GotAPick.

Obits

Continued from page 5A

His hobbies were playing the guitar, singing, gardening and deer hunting. He loved the Hollingsworth family as his own, as well as his church family.

Preceded in death by his parents, Travis Leon Lowe and Geraldine Abbott Lowe.

Survivors, wife, Bonnie Lowe; daughter, Aimee Lyn Stucker (Guy); son, James David Lowe (Anna); sister, Brenda Lowe; brothers, Tom Lowe and Sam Lowe; (1) grandchild, Eimlee Stucker.

Dexter Scott Jenkins

Funeral services for Mr. Dexter Scott Jenkins were held at 3 PM Sunday, January 14, 2024, at John E. Stephens Chapel. Interment was in Henry’s Chapel Cemetery. John E. Stephens Chapel was in charge of arrangements.

Mr. Jenkins, 36, passed away Monday December 25, 2023. He lived most of his life in Neshoba County. He was a member of Crossway Community Church, and his hobbies were family, church, and doing charity work.

Preceded in death by: father, Scotty Randall Jenkins; grandparents, Bobby L. Higginbotham, Willis Jenkins, Seretha, Jerry Hartnes; aunt, Tami Higginbotham Demoulin; uncle, Jim Conners.

Survivors: wife, Ashley Jenkins; mother, Debra Higginbotham; daughters, Camryn Crawford, Merci Kate Jenkins; sons, Landyn Pettis, Judah Jenkins; sisters, Seretha Jade Keen, Crysta Ladd; brother, Luke Higginbotham;

am; uncles, Harlon Jenkins (Joann), Mikel Higginbotham (Betty), Mark Demoulin, aunt, Amanda Cumberland; grandmother, Inez Robertson; mother and father-in-law, John, Rhonda Branning, Eddie, Karen Ellingburg.

Jessie Quinn Joyner, Jr.

Services for Mr. Jessie Quinn Joyner, Jr were held 3 pm, Sunday, January 14, 2024 at Pine Grove Baptist Church of House with burial in the church cemetery. Bro. Rusty Walton and Bro. Lin Chesney officiated.



Visitation Jessie Joyner Jr. were held Sunday, 1:30- 3pm, at Pine Grove Baptist Church of House.

Mr. Joyner, age 97, of Little Rock died Friday, January 12, 2024 at his residence.

Survivors include 2 Sons: Danny Joyner and wife Gail and Dennis Joyner and wife Lisa; 6 Grandchildren: Keith Joyner (Brandy), Marshall Joyner (Bailey), Stephanie Blount, Stephen Joyner (Pam), Justin Joyner (Hannah) and Jessica Graham (Tyler); 11 Great Grandchildren; 3 Great Great Grandchildren and one due in February; 1 Brother: Billy Joyner (Audine); 1 Sister: Nanette Winstead (Wayne)

He is also survived by numerous nieces and nephews.

Mr. Joyner is preceded in death by his wife, Lora Joyner; parents, Quinn and Iva Mae Joyner; son, Don Joyner; two brothers, Arlo Joyner, Buddy

Joyner; and two sisters, Mazell Watkins and Lillian Rickles.

Pallbearers: Mike Joyner, Markey Joiner, Everett Rickles, Stephen Joyner, Justin Joyner, Keith Joyner and Marshall Joyner

Honorary Pallbearers: Ronnie Beck, Jimmy Keenan and Zach Joyner

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

Brenda Kay Benson

Funeral services for Mrs. Brenda Kay Benson were held at 11 AM Friday, January 12, 2024 at John E. Stephens Chapel with Rev. John E. Stephens officiating. Interment was in Henry’s Chapel Cemetery. Visitation was held from 9 AM – 11 AM Friday, January 12, 2024 at John E. Stephens Chapel. John E. Stephens Chapel was in charge of

arrangements.

Mrs. Benson, 63, passed away Tuesday, January 9, 2023 at St. Dominic Hospital in Jackson, MS. She lived most of her life in Neshoba County and was Baptist by Faith. Her hobbies were shopping and decorating her house.

She is preceded in death by her father, James Cooper Tingle.

Survivors include her husband, Ray Benson of Philadelphia; mother, Martha Ann Tingle of Philadelphia; brother, Eric Tingle (Angela) of Meridian; (2) nieces, Abby Tingle and Halle Pierce.

JOB OPENINGS

Neshoba County Nursing Home is currently accepting applications for the following positions:

7a-7p CNA's / 7p-7a CNA's

- Current Mississippi CNA License & BLS
- Professional phone skills
- Excellent customer service & interpersonal skills
- Team player • Proficient computer skills preferred

7p-7a LPN's

- Valid, unrestricted Mississippi LPN License
- Ability to perform general LPN duties/responsibilities
- Accountable • Good Communication Skills (written & oral)
- Excellent customer service, interpersonal and computer skills
- Ability to multi-task • Must project a positive attitude
- CPR Certification preferred • Previous nursing home or skilled nursing experience preferred

Apply online at www.neshobageneral.com/careers.
For more information contact Shay Ward at 601.663.1370.

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THE LORD'S DAY

Morning Worship
11:00 a.m.

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

Wednesday Evening Activities

Family Night Dinner
6:00 p.m. (Fellowship Hall)

Bible Study and Prayer Service
7:00 p.m. (Sanctuary)

Children's Program
7:00 p.m.

First Presbyterian Church of Philadelphia

"For Jesus Dies, and through His, and in His we all live. To Him be the glory forever"

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Pastor David Stormont
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Drive. 601-504-5619--

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CERTIFIED STAFF OPENINGS For School Year 2023-2024

CLOSING DATE: 1/25/24 or until filled

TEACHER, SPECIAL EDUCATION
Pearl River Elementary School

Qualifications: Possess a valid Mississippi Educator License issued by the State Board of Education of Mississippi with the appropriate endorsement or the willingness to meet the necessary requirements for an emergency certificate.

TEACHER, F.A.C.E Adult Education
Pearl River Elementary School

Qualifications: Possess a valid Mississippi Educator License issued by the Mississippi State Department of Education preferably in secondary education.

Ability to work in a rural school system with bilingual students. Complete a criminal background check on county, state and national levels. Any record or conviction of criminal or child abuse charges will result in immediate termination. Employee in this position is subject to random drug testing. Must possess a valid Mississippi Driver's License, personal liability insurance, and adequate transportation.

ALL APPLICATIONS MUST BE REQUESTED OR SUBMITTED TO:

Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians
Attention: Human Resources
P.O. Box 6033, Choctaw Branch
Choctaw, Mississippi 39350

With deepest appreciation and respect
**Ochsner Rush Health and
Ochsner Laird Hospital**
announce the retirement of

Dr. Russell E. Belenchia

Colleagues, Family Members and Friends are cordially invited to join us for a Retirement Reception held in honor of Dr. Belenchia's many contributions to medical care in our community.

WHEN

**Tuesday, January 23, 2024
2:00 - 3:30 p.m.**

WHERE

**Ochsner Laird Hospital
25117 Highway 15 | Union, MS 39365**

Please join us as we celebrate Dr. Belenchia's career and wish him well in his retirement!



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— Proverbs 16:3 (ESV)

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FRIDAY & SATURDAY 11:00-11:00

Getting the Message/Rev. Chris Shelton

Glorify God and enjoy Him forever

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

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

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

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

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

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

When you reflect on knowing Christ, it should be like a dream, a joyous

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

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

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

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

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

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

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“Do not boast about tomorrow, for you do not know what a day may bring.”

— Proverbs 27:1 (ESV)

“Finally, all of you, have unity of mind, sympathy, brotherly love, a tender heart, and a humble mind.”

— 1 Peter 3:8 (ESV)

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SOCIETY

Kirkland enjoys manning the grill

By JACE HENDERSON
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Zaus Kirkland learned to cook from an array of awesome family members growing up. The matriarch of the family, his grandmother Hattie Kirkland, instilled in him cooking habits and making sure the taste is right.

His aunts, Arrenthia Kirkland, Kathy Kirkland-Lewis, Betty Kirkland and Ella Rea Day, were all very influential in teaching him the art of delivering a great meal.

He learned to grill from his stepfather, the late Jimmy Spivey. His mother, Joyce Kirkland Spivey, taught him hands-on how to make sure not to overcook.

"A lot of times I get in a hurry doing stuff as far as cooking. I want it to be done instantly, but they taught me patience," Kirkland said. "They taught me about measurements, different spices, and baking pastries and different breads. I also picked up a lot of things on my own working at restaurants a lot as a youngster."

Kirkland spent 20 years working in the oil fields before recently deciding to work from home. He started running "Oh Taste and See", a successful mobile restaurant around three months ago to help keep him occupied when he's not working.

"I started cooking and delivering, and it's doing really well," he said. "I do a lot of catering too."

From Monday through Saturday Kirkland prepares a plethora of savory meals reserved for each day including pan-trout and catfish, seven styles of chicken wings, Philly cheesesteaks, turkey burgers, sandwiches, Polish sausage, ribeye's, baked potatoes, bread, barbeque ribeye's, baked beans, mac & cheese, salad, and spinach turkey wraps from scratch; however, his Sundays are reserved for church.

Kirkland and his family attend Jerusalem Temple Church where he is a deacon. He has been married 25 years to Winnie Triplett Kirkland, and they have five children.

"My faith in God has brought me this far," Kirkland exclaimed.

His passion for cooking shines through in his favorite dish, a meticulously prepared ribeye steak soaked in Coca-Cola for 12 hours for tenderization.

"Coca-Cola will break anything up. It will even break a coon up if you throw it in there," he said with a laugh.

His holiday turkey dressing and signature blueberry, apple, and peach crunches are cherished by family and patrons alike and he loves seeing people's faces when they bite into his food.

"My dressing is so good, they want me to cook it other than the holidays," he said. "Sometimes we cook it during the summer."

Kirkland embraces his family's tradition of cooking from scratch by making homemade



Zaus Kirkland and his wife, Winnie Triplett Kirkland

COOK OF THE WEEK

seasonings, including salt, pepper, paprika, cayenne pepper, and homemade ranch dressing.

"Any ingredients I put in my food has to be from scratch," he said. "Throughout the years my grandmother used to do everything from scratch, and I adopted that."

Kirkland encourages fellow cooks to prioritize preparation over speed, further echoing the wisdom passed down from his family.

BAKED PHILLY CHEESESTEAK SLIDERS

1 tablespoon olive oil
1 pound beef top sirloin steaks (salt and freshly ground black pepper to taste)

1 pinch cayenne pepper, or to taste
½ cup diced onions
10 mini sandwich rolls
2 ½ cups freshly shredded provolone cheese
½ cup chopped pickled peppers
½ cup cream cheese, softened
1 teaspoon kosher salt
¼ teaspoon freshly ground black pepper

Heat olive oil in a large skillet over medium-high heat. Season steaks generously with salt, black pepper, and cayenne. Cook steaks in hot oil for 5 to 6 minutes. Flip and add onions around steaks. Continue cooking until steaks begin to firm and are hot and slightly pink in the center, 5 to 6 minutes more. Push onions under steaks and cook until browned but still crunchy, 2 to 3 minutes more. Remove

steaks and sautéed onions to a plate.

Step 1 — Preheat the oven to 425 degrees F (220 degrees C). Line a baking tray with aluminum foil.

Step 2 — Place rolls on the prepared baking tray. Hollow out the top of each roll by cutting in at a 45-degree angle. Pinch off some of the bread inside to make room for the filling.

Step 3 — Slice steaks into thin strips, then across into 1/2-inch pieces. Transfer to a mixing bowl. Add sautéed

onions and accumulated meat juices. Toss in 1 1/2 cups provolone, pickled peppers, cream cheese, 1 teaspoon kosher salt, and 1/4 teaspoon black pepper; mix until thoroughly combined. Taste and season with salt if needed. Spoon filling into rolls and top with remaining 1 cup provolone cheese.

Step 4 — Bake in the preheated oven until cheese is melted and the edges of rolls start to brown, about 15 minutes.

BARBECUE RIBS

BBQ SAUCE
1/2 c. apple cider vinegar
1/2 c. ketchup
1/2 c. packed light brown sugar
1 tbsp. garlic powder
1 tbsp. smoked paprika
1 tbsp. Worcestershire sauce
1 tsp. kosher salt
1 tsp. freshly ground black pepper

RIBS
1/4 c. light brown sugar
1/4 c. smoked paprika
2 tbsp. kosher salt
1 tbsp. garlic powder
1 tbsp. ground cumin
1 (3 1/2- to 4-lb.) full rack baby back pork ribs, patted dry

BBQ SAUCE-
In a small saucepan over medium heat, combine vinegar, ketchup, brown sugar, garlic powder, paprika, Worcestershire, salt, and black pepper. Cook, whisking often, until sauce begins to thicken, about 5 to 7 minutes. Let cool.

RIBS
In a small bowl, whisk brown sugar, paprika, salt, garlic powder, and cumin.

Heat one burner on your gas grill to low, or preheat to 200°. (Or prep your charcoal grill with charcoal stacked on one side.) Place ribs on a large piece of foil and coat all sides with dry rub. Let sit 10 minutes, then tightly wrap in foil.

Place ribs bone side up on cooler side of grill and cover. After 1 1/2 hours, rotate ribs 180° and cook 1 1/2 hours more. (Make sure grill temperature does not exceed 200°.) Once they've cooked 3 hours total, you should be able to see bones protruding from meat when you peek inside foil. Remove ribs from grill and transfer to a large baking sheet. Open foil and let ribs rest 10 minutes.

Adjust grill to high heat or preheat to about 450°. (Turn on all burners or add more coals and spread them out evenly.) Remove ribs from foil and place directly on grill. Using a pastry brush, generously baste with BBQ sauce. Flip rack and baste other side with sauce. It helps to have 2 sets of tongs (or a set of tongs and a spatula) to flip the rack. Grill until sauce is caramelized and meat has visible grill marks, 1 to 3 minutes. Flip again and continue to grill until sauce on other side is caramelized, 1 to 2 minutes.

Let ribs cool 5 minutes. Slice and serve.

Just Among Friends

By MARIANNE ENOCHS
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Congratulations X two! January 10 was an amazing day for Lane Poole and Cecily Kate Waltman who welcomed the arrival of twin sons, Luke Poole Waltman, 5 pounds, 9 ounces and Oliver Ray Waltman, 5 pounds, 4 ounces of perfection! Congratulations!

Happy anniversary to Bob and Lynn Holland Benson who celebrated their 49th Anniversary on Jan. 11! The couple has enjoyed traveling together, ball games, and being with their family through the years. They actively participate in their grandchildren's lives and thoroughly enjoy life together. Best wishes for more years together!

A weekend in San Diego was a wonderful one for Tony and Gwen Breazele Alexander who visited with their daughter, Jaden Alexander. She was the recent recipient of a successful kidney transplant which made the holidays even more joyful. She was given the most precious gift of all, a new life. Although the journey was long, it was worth waiting for and came just as the holidays were beginning.

After spending some time touring San Diego, including its incredible zoo among other

places, and visiting, Tony and Gwen boarded their flight for the five-hour flight back to Mississippi. They returned in time to attend the Wynona Judd concert at the Ellis last Wednesday evening which, from many sources, was amazing!

Congratulations to Randy and Dollie Clay who celebrated 59 years of marriage on Jan. 7! This is a remarkable milestone for this couple who pray for many more years together.

The Neshoba Central High School Rocket Troupe had 8 finalist video entries in the Mississippi Theatre Association's state theatre competitions. There were hundreds of video entries from schools all over the state. These students will move on to compete in the finals.

The categories and students are as follow: Acting solo-Renecia Burnside; Acting solo-Mi'Angelel Slaughter; Acting duet- Anna Kaye Bennett & Lola Mae Hallows; Acting group- Lola Mae Hallows, Anna Beth Kilgore, Lakynn Pickett & Nathan Killen; Musical solo-Renecia Burnside; Musical solo-Calleigh Weems; Musical solo-Anna Beth Kilgore; Musical group-Calleigh Weems, Ethan Kidd, Ben Weir, & Sadie Byrd. Congratulations!

Congratulations to Jon Parker Hancock for being selected as the Mississippi Construction Education Foundation's December Student of the Month for the central area. He is a student in Construction Technology at the Neshoba County Career Tech Center. The motto is "Skills today - Success tomorrow".

Don and Sharon Tingle McKay's home was filled with activity and the sound of happy, excited voices. It was Christmas week and their whole crew came to spend the holidays in Philadelphia.

The crew consists of Brent and Mollie McKay Johnson and daughter, Eleanor Johnson; Samuel and Susan Shetley McKay; Richard and Glyn McKay and children, Fletcher, Isaiah, and Anna Margaret McKay. The family had such a great time making many memories to cherish for the adults as well as the children. It was truly a Merry Christmas!

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Lady Rockets continue dominating win streak

By STAFF REPORTS
sports@neshobademocrat.com

The Neshoba Central Lady Rockets continued their winning streak last Friday with a 53-50 victory over Callaway as one of three victories over the week.

Senior point guard Kailyn Willis set the tone to begin the first quarter when she nailed a

three-pointer as the Lady Rockets opened up on a 7-0 run. Leading 9-2, Willis dropped back and hit another three-pointer to give the Lady Rockets a 12-2 lead.

Callaway made a small run of its own, narrowing the lead to 13-8 before forward senior Erica Lyons drained another three-pointer to extend Neshoba's lead to 16-8.

Williams wasn't done, adding another three-pointer to give the Lady Rockets a comfortable 21-8 lead in the first quarter.

Callaway rallied in the beginning of the second quarter, narrowing the lead to 28-21, when senior point guard Zharia Leflore paused their momentum with a steal.

The back-and-forth continued

but the Lady Rockets never lost sight of the win. Leading 41-33 in the fourth quarter, senior shooting guard Jakaylin York nailed a three-pointer to further extend the lead. Up 51-41, sophomore point guard Kyli Truss made it down the court on a fast break for a two-point layup to extend the lead even more.

Callaway turned it on offen-

sively, coming within one score before the final buzzer, with the Lady Rockets winning 53-50.

Neshoba had 44 rebounds, 8 assists, and a dominating 11 steals in the game.

Last Tuesday, the Lady Rockets completely dominated Vicksburg, winning 81-23. And on Saturday, Neshoba Central defeated Germantown 56-49.

Against Germantown, senior Alana Rouser led the squad with 16 points and 5 steals.

The Lady Rockets were sitting at 21-1 on the season and 5-0 in district play. They were scheduled to play Columbus (1-16) on Tuesday.

Leake Academy squads pick up district victories

By ROBBIE ROBERTSON
sports@neshobademocrat.com

The Leake Academy basketball teams easily swept a pair of district games last week as both squads reached the 20-win mark.

The Rebelettes improved to 23-4 as they hammered Park Place 71-29 and Lamar 61-24.

The Rebels also took a pair of easy wins, beating Park Place 61-25 and Lamar 50-29 to improve to 20-7 on the season.

Leake has a full week as they were scheduled to play Southeast

Lauderdale at East Central on Monday and then host East Rankin on Tuesday. They will host Wayne Academy on Friday while the Leake girls will play Choctaw Central at noon on Saturday at Choctaw County in the Mid-Mississippi Classic.

Leake girls 71, Park Place 29

The Rebelettes outscored the Lady Crusaders in every period to take a 42-point win on Tuesday in district play.

Olivia Rudolph led Leake

with 11 points, five rebounds and four steals. Katy Jones had 10 points and four rebounds while Caroline Cheatham and Jenna Allen each had eight points. Sarah Prince had six points while Anna Morgan Young and Codi Breedlove had five points apiece.

Leake boys 61, Park Place 25

The Rebels outscored the Crusaders in every period and took an easy 36-point win on Tuesday in district play.

Samuel Prince led Leake with

16 points while Tate Edwards had nine points. Jack Harkins had seven points while Gage Warren had six points. Trey Clark and Majure Chandler each had five points apiece.

Leake girls 61, Lamar School 24

The Rebelettes dominated the first three period and cruised to a 37-point win over the Lady Raiders.

Leake outscored Lamar 16-4 in the first and 14-6 in the second to lead 30-10 at the half. Leake

then poured it on in the third period, outscoring Lamar 22-3 to lead 52-13 going to the fourth. Lamar took the fourth period 11-9 for the final margin.

Katy Jones led Leake with 16 point while Ella Bell had 13 points and six rebounds. Marliegh Myers, Anna Morgan Young and Ella Bennett each had six points apiece while Jenna Allen had five points.

Leake boys 50, Lamar School 28

The Rebels outscored the

Raiders in every period and took a 22-point win on Friday.

Leake outscored Lamar 15-9 in the first and 13-9 in the second to lead 28-18 at the half. Leake continued to extend the lead in the second half as they outscored Lamar 8-2 in the third and 14-8 in the fourth.

Samuel Prince led Leake with 28 points while Matthew Nowell had eight points. Ben Jackson also had six points.

Area basketball teams pick up momentum on season

By STAFF REPORTS
sports@neshobademocrat.com

Basketball was in full swing last week as area teams continued to dominate on the court and push toward the postseason.

The Neshoba Central Rockets

went 1-1 last week in three district games to move to 12-9 on the season and 1-3 in district play.

The Rockets began the week with a close 67-64 loss to Vicksburg before rallying on Saturday to defeat Callaway 81-76.

The Rockets were scheduled

to play Columbus on Tuesday.

The Choctaw Central Lady Warriors moved to 16-3 on the season and remain undefeated in district play after defeating West Lauderdale 80-15 on Saturday.

They were scheduled to play Leake Central on Tuesday.

The Warriors followed suit, defeating West Lauderdale 67-55 to improve to 16-5-1 on the season. They are also undefeated in district play with a 3-0 record.

The Philadelphia High School Lady Tornados picked up two much-needed wins last week, the

first being 52-48 against Sebastopol. On Friday, the Lady Tornados defeated Eupora 50-41.

The Lady Tornados are currently sitting at 4-7 overall and 2-1 in district play.

They are scheduled to play

Union High School on Friday.

The Tornados, also 4-7 overall, are currently sitting at 3-0 in district play after defeating Sebastopol last Tuesday 59-52.

They were scheduled to play Choctaw County on Tuesday.

Lady Yellowjackets pick up wins in tight matchups on the court

By ROBBIE ROBERTSON
sports@neshobademocrat.com

The Union Lady Yellowjackets continued their strong play and came away with a pair of tight wins this past week.

The Lady Yellowjackets took a 48-45 win over Enterprise on Tuesday and then took a tight 28-27 win over Sebastopol on Thursday.

The Yellowjackets also played a pair of tight games as the beat

Enterprise 50-45 before falling 58-54 to Sebastopol in overtime.

Union will return to action this week as they continue a five-game road stretch. Union will play at J.Z. George on Tuesday and at Philadelphia on Friday.

Union girls 28, Sebastopol 27

The Lady Yellowjackets held on to take a tough one-point win over the Lady Bobcats on Thursday.

Union led 8-6 at the end of the first while Sebastopol took the second period 6-5 as the Lady Yellowjackets led 13-12 at the half. Each team scored seven in the third and eight in the fourth as Union held on to take the win.

Rymia Craft and Kylee Madden led Union with 10 points apiece.

Sebastopol boys 58, Union 54

The Bobcats needed overtime

to take a four-point win over the Yellowjackets on Thursday.

Sebastopol built an early lead as they outscored Union 14-13 in the first and 15-11 in the second to lead 29-24 at the half. Union battled back in the second half, outscoring Sebastopol 9-8 in the third and 16-12 in the fourth to send the game into overtime. In the extra period, Sebastopol outscored Union 9-5 to take the win.

Kamarion Rushing led Union with a game-high 26 points while U'darrian Hickman had 14 points. Keon Hutchins also chipped in six points

Union girls 48, Enterprise 45

The Lady Yellowjackets were

able to keep the Lady Bulldogs at bay as they took a three-point win on Tuesday.

Union led 16-15 at the end of the first but Enterprise outscored the Lady Yellowjackets 11-8 to take a 26-24 lead at the half. Union took the third period 7-6 to cut the lead to 32-31 going to the fourth. Union then outscored Enterprise 17-13 in the fourth to take the win.

Kylee Madden led Union with 12 points, seven assists, five rebounds along with two steals and two deflections. Gracyn Tillman had 12 points and four rebounds while Rymia Craft had 10 points and four rebounds. Sydney Coward also had nine points.

Union boys 50, Enterprise 45

The Yellowjackets overcame an early deficit and finished strong to take a five-point win over the Bulldogs.

Enterprise jumped out to a 13-7 lead in the first period and each team scored 13 in the second period as the Bulldogs led 26-20 at the half. Union outscored Enterprise 13-10 in the third to cut the lead to 36-33 going to the fourth. Union then outscored Enterprise 17-9 in the fourth to pull ahead and take the win.

U'darrian Hickman led Union with 17 points while Kamarion Rushing had 11 points. Keon Hutchins had eight points while Zi Buckley chipped in six points.

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OF LOCAL INTEREST

CHURCH ANNIVERSARY
Mt. Enon M.B. Church in the Dixon Community cordially invites all area church families to attend the 4th year anniversary program for Pastor James Pinkston on Sunday, January 21st at 3:00. The guest speaker for the occasion will be Rev. Boris Griffin of Philadelphia.

4-H MEETING

It is that time of the year again when we are starting to prepare for our upcoming 2024 Shooting Sports season. The 4H Shooting Sports Club offers 6 disciplines Archery, Shotgun,

.22 rifle, .22 pistol, Air Rifle, and Air Pistol to youth ages 8-18. The goal of this club is to teach the youth of our community about firearms safety and conservation during weekly practices while enjoying friendly competition. While accomplishing our main goal of firearms safety, it is our hope that the kids will learn a great deal of responsibility and have fun while doing so. Parents who have youth interested in joining our Shooting Sports club, will need to attend our mandatory interest meeting at the Neshoba County Coliseum on Tuesday,

January 23rd come and go from 5 - 6:30 p.m. in the lobby. Both the parents and the 4H'er will need to be present. During this meeting, we will discuss the profitability of enrolling in 4H and details regarding the Shooting Sports Club. The membership dues are \$20 per discipline, and the paperwork and fees (checks ONLY) will need to be brought back to the office by February 15th. Please call the office at 601-656-4011 to RSVP to the meeting or if you have any questions. I look forward to meeting you all!

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