



BUSINESS

LOCAL TEA LANDS ON STORE SHELVES

INAKA tea — See page A2

NEWS

RIDGELAND NAMED 'FITTEST' IN STATE

Healthy cities — See page A5



Serving Madison, Ridgeland, Canton, Flora, Northeast

Madison County's leading newspaper.

MADISON COUNTY JOURNAL

VOLUME 40 NUMBER 14 Copyright © 2021 Madison County Journal MADISON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI www.madisoncountyjournal.com APRIL 8, 2021 ** \$1.00

RENAISSANCE PHASE III

Chick-fil-A coming to Highland Colony

By DUNCAN DENT duncan@onlinemadison.com

RIDGELAND — A Chick-fil-A is coming to the Highland Colony Parkway across from Costco.

The matter was decided 7-0 on the consent agenda at a regular meeting of the Mayor and Board of Aldermen Tuesday night.

Alderman had considered and approved a site plan and architectural review for the new Chick-fil-A at the Renaissance Phase III development.

The store will be between

the Costco Fuel Center and Wendy's on the west side of the parkway.

Community Development Director Alan Hart had presented the project to the city board at a Monday evening work session and recommended the board approve the project.

Hart said he had worked with the developer to ensure that the design of the building matched the city's architectural standards.

"They beefed up the design of the canopy and added brick columns," Hart said. "I think it is still a very simple design and

everything fits with the building."

Ward 2 Alderman Chuck Gautier asked if the restaurant would impede traffic on the parkway.

Hart said that the design includes some "stacking space" for at least 65 vehicles. He said in his opinion they had ample room to accommodate customers.

"The parking lot is bigger than any Chick-fil-A's I have ever seen," Hart said. "It would probably take 100 cars before they were out on Highland Colony."



Ridgeland aldermen on Tuesday approved the plans for a Chick-fil-A to be built on Highland Colony Parkway across from Costco.



Harper Solop, left, prepares to pick up son, Wilder, after a 13-month deployment in the Middle East. Looking on are wife Sarah

Beth Solop and daughter Ava. A short that will be filmed in Canton this month will focus on Sarah Beth's time as a military wife.

ELECTION

Incumbents defeated in Canton primary

By SCOTT HAWKINS scott@onlinemadison.com

CANTON — The Ward 4 alderman race appears headed to a runoff and at least three incumbent aldermen were defeated in Democratic Party primary elections here Tuesday.

Defeated incumbents include:

- Ward 1 incumbent Rodriguez Brown who lost to challenger Colby Walker.
• Ward 2 incumbent Fred Esco Jr. who lost to challenger Renee Truss.
• Ward 5 incumbent Tim C. Taylor, who lost to challenger John E. Brown.

All candidates in Tuesday's municipal primaries ran as Democrats.

Mayor William Truly did not have a Democrat challenge but faces Republican Charles Chip Matthews in the June 8 general election.

City Clerk Debra Brown said her office was working Wednesday to do a final tally of all votes, including affidavit and absentee ballots to certify the results from Tuesday's election.

Following are early numbers from the precinct machines and are not yet official until the votes are certified.

Ward 1

Challenger Colby Walker got 133 votes or 51% of the vote and incumbent Rodriguez Brown, who got 122 votes, or 48.9% of the vote.

If that percentage holds up through the certification of votes,

See ELECTION, page A2

Film centers on wife of combat vet

By DUNCAN DENT duncan@onlinemadison.com

A Gluckstadt woman has tapped two of her best friends for a short film project to be shot in Canton about her experiences as a military wife during her husband's deployment.

Sarah Beth Solop is an actress, producer and story creator on the short film titled "Deployed" which is being shot in Canton next weekend.

The project is personal for Solop. It tells the story of a military spouse and her struggles during her husband's deployment based on Solop's own experience.

"The whole point of this project is to show

what it is like during deployment from the perspective of a military spouse and their children," Solop said.

Solop grew up in Ridgeland. She is the daughter of Bill and Mindy Tew. Four years ago she and her husband and high school sweetheart, Harper, moved back to the area and now live in Gluckstadt with their three children.

They graduated a year apart from each other at Jackson Preparatory School. She graduated in 2006 and he graduated in 2007.

They were married in 2012 while she was in Los Angeles trying her hand at acting. She said she was not in LA long before Harper proposed.

"It is incredible to have this full-circle moment

where I am developing and shooting a project around my hometown," Solop said.

"Leaving LA kind of felt like a detour at the time but it gave me these experiences and stories that I feel like nobody else tells. During my time as a military spouse and spending time with other military spouses during deployments, I have met so many amazing women and thought their story needed to be told."

1st Lt. Harper Solop is now in the Army National Guard and is a Marine Corps combat veteran.

She has tapped two good friends of hers, director Jaclyn Bethany and writer Amy Berryman, to

See FILM, page A7

TURN OF THE CENTURY

Historic architecture inspires Arlington

By JOHN LEE john@onlinemadison.com

MADISON — A new residential development with a proposed 125 homes on 40 acres inspired by the great American neighborhoods of the turn of the century could be under construction here later this year.

Arlington at Colony Park would be situated in the southwest corner of Lake Castle and the Highland Colony and could have homes on the market as early as next summer pending the city's approval process.

"Arlington's design has taken its inspiration from the great American neighborhoods

of the turn of the century," said Jason Ellis, developer and spokesman for Lake Castle Development. "It will have emphasis on classical American architecture found from Mississippi to Virginia."

Ellis said he has seen more people who are looking to downsize in terms of square feet without giving up on quality. At least half of Arlington's homes will target the \$450,000 to \$550,000 price range.

The Madison Mayor and Board of Alderman approved the concept during a regular meeting on March 16.

Ellis said the next step is for the city to approve a rezoning

request on the property from its current C-1 status, which accommodates commercial structures such as one or two-story office buildings, to a residential planned unit development.

If the city approves the rezoning, Ellis said it would change the zoning status to a combination of R-2 (Residential, Low Density) and R-4 (Residential Zone Four).

R-2 means "residential accommodation," which would allow for residential flat buildings and multiple dwelling houses such as villas and townhouses. R-4 accommodates res-

See CONCEPT, page A5



A rendering shows the concept behind the new Arlington neighborhood under consideration in Madison inspired by the great turn of the century American neighborhoods.

OPINION

Patrick Buchanan Page A4

BIBLICAL PERSPECTIVES

Ligon Duncan Page A5

OPINION

Rich Lowry Page A4



Local tea company lands on Kroger's shelves

By SCOTT HAWKINS
scott@onlinemadison.com

Brewed naturally with organic herbs and spices and bottled at peak freshness, INAKA is the first roasted grain tea in North America and is being distributed out of a warehouse in Madison County, but it's not your regular cup of tea.

Roasted grain teas have long been consumed across the world, and the family company based out of Jackson says they were born to share this tradition with everyone.

INAKA tea is inspired by a traditional tea known as mugicha in Japanese or boricha in Korean and damaicha in Chinese, and it is described as "the best drink you've probably never heard of," by the makers of INAKA tea.

Chat Phillips, a former economic development consultant,

said he first discovered barley tea while he was in college and studying abroad in Japan where he had his first sip of barley tea.

He said it was a hot and humid day and someone gave him a drink of what he thought was iced tea but was actually mugicha. He drank it and has been a fan of the drink ever since.

"I kept up my Japanese and would go back," Phillips said. "The first thing I would buy was barley tea." Phillips said he would load up some to bring back but later started experimenting with roasting grains and brewing his own tea at home.

Mugicha is made by simmering barley that has been roasted until the grains take on a rich, nutty flavor.

Phillips said he finally found a combination he liked, got together with his wife, Ste-



INAKA tea, a roasted grain tea, is available in three different varieties — original barley, mint, and ginger. The tea is on the shelves of local Kroger stores.

vie, and they decided to go into production in 2019. The operation was slowed some due to COVID-19 but has recently begun to pick up with 17 Kroger locations in the Southeast, including Madison County stores, now stocking INAKA tea on their shelves.

"We decided to go for it," Chat said of the decision to start INAKA Tea Company. "We are the first company in the United States to brew barley tea."

Barley tea is consumed either cold or room temperature. "We drink it over ice," Stevie said.

They settled on the name INAKA, which means "Countryside" in Japanese, for the name of their tea company, Stevie said.

The barley tea is rich in antioxidants and vitamins A and C, which the Phillipses said help circulation which in

turn helps you relax.

The couple, who lives in Jackson, said they had to outsource grain roasting to a grain roaster in North Carolina and the brewing and bottling to a company in Dallas.

The bottled product, however, is shipped back to a warehouse in Madison near Sowell Road where they handle the day-to-day distribution.

In addition to being on Kroger shelves, INAKA Tea has also been on shelves of Corner Market Grocery stores in Hattiesburg and Jackson for several months.

INAKA Tea comes in three varieties, the original barley tea, and a mint and a ginger variety.

INAKA Tea also can be found in select coffee shops in the Jackson Metropolitan area.

INAKA Tea sells for \$2.29 per bottle.

Madison County COVID cases still on the decline

By JOHN LEE
john@onlinemadison.com

As vaccinations in Madison County continue to rise, COVID-19 cases continue to decline throughout the county.

According to Tuesday's Mississippi State Department of Health report, 69,482 people have been vaccinated in Madison County, up 5,106 from last week's 64,376 total.

The MSDH vaccination report does not distinguish the county of residence of the people receiving the vaccines so all of those vaccines may not have been administered to people who are residents of Madison

County. Since the COVID-19 pandemic began in March 2020, Madison County has recorded 9,864 COVID-19 cases, up 48 cases from 9,816 in last week's report, and 209 COVID-19 deaths, up one from last week's report.

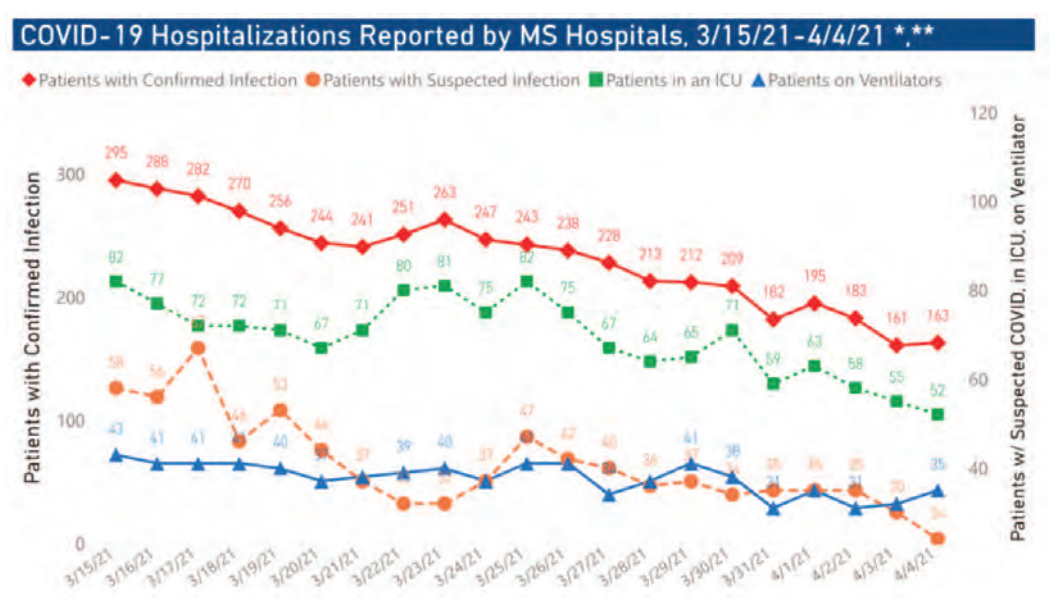
Madison County Schools have reported between one and five cases among teachers and staff for the week of March 29 to April 2, with those cases coming from Madison-Ridgeland Academy where one teacher and two students have needed to quarantine during that period.

Vaccines are currently avail-

able for all Mississippians age 16 and older and are available at the Walmart locations in Canton and Madison. Go to <https://msdh.ms.gov/c19appointment#local> to check availability.

Vaccinations also are currently being administered by appointment in Madison County at Canton High School, 634 Finney Road in Canton on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday.

Sign up online at covidvaccine.umc.edu or call 1-877-978-6453. The website is the best option, officials have said.



Hospitalizations attributed to COVID-19 continue to be on the decline throughout Mississippi, according to data from the Mississippi State Department of Health. Statewide, hospitalizations peaked in January with 1,444 patients with confirmed infection. That total has continued to decline since, with less than 200 patients across the state hospitalized with a confirmed case of COVID-19.



THE LAW FIRM OF

HEIDELBERG PATTERSON WELCH WRIGHT

ANNOUNCES THE ADDITION OF

WILLIAM R. WRIGHT



368 Highland Colony Parkway
Ridgeland, MS 39157
www.hpwlawgroup.com
601.790.1588

Election

Continued from page A1

Walker will be the winner with a simple 51% margin.

Ward 2

Renee Truss got 122 votes to defeat incumbent Fred Esco Jr., who got 92 votes

Ward 3

Incumbent Les Penn got 164 votes to defeat challenger Angie Levy-Ware, who got 65

votes.

Ward 4

The race is headed to an April 27 runoff after challenger Markee Blount got 67 votes, or 36.6% of the 183 total votes in that race and incumbent Daphne Sims got 51 votes, or 26.2% of the votes in the race. Other candidates in the Ward 4 race were Jonathan

Dixon, who got 41 votes and Danny T. Louis, who got 29 votes.

Ward 5

John E. Brown beat incumbent Tim C. Taylor, according to Brown. Preliminary vote totals show Brown edged Taylor by a vote of 109 to 106.

Ward 6

Monica Johnson Gilkey got 117 votes to beat Cleoetha Williams, who got 63 votes.

Ward 7

Incumbent Lafayette E. Wales got 175 votes to beat challenger Dante' L. Ollie, who got 44 votes.

Registration, absentee deadlines
The last day to register for the June 8 general election is May 10.

The deadline for in-person absentee voting is noon June 5 and absentee ballots returned by mail must be postmarked on or before Election Day and received by the municipal clerk's office within five business days.



MY 2 ANGEL BROTHERS HOMEHEALTH, LLC.

"Our Angels sharing light into all areas of life."

PROFESSIONAL AND PERSONAL SERVICE

In-Home Health Care • Daily Hygiene • Meals Preparation • Doctor Appointments
Light Housekeeping • Patient Supervision • Companionship • Hospital Sitting

LET ME TAKE CARE OF YOUR PRECIOUS
Loved Ones
Elderly and Disabled
Qualified • Caring • Accommodating • Honest • Christian

Charlotte Tanner
Chief Operational Officer
(601) 942-6891
my2angelbrothers@gmail.com

reveal your best smile...
discover your confidence.

GENERAL DENTISTRY

COSMETIC RESTORATIVE

1 WOODGREEN PLACE, No. 100 | MADISON, MS 39110
601.707.7042 | WWW.WELCHOFMADISON.COM

Open Monday - Saturday!

Ask us about our "CLUB W" Plan
"CLUB W" is an insurance alternative designed to target patients who either do not have insurance, or have insurance and are not satisfied with their coverage.



ESTD 2010
WELCH DENTISTRY
of Madison, Mississippi

(USPS 687-570)

The Madison County Journal is published every Thursday by the Madison County Publishing Co., Inc., 293 Commerce Park Drive, Ridgeland, MS 39157, James E. Prince III, president. Subscriptions are: \$42 per year in Madison and Hinds counties; \$46 in-state; \$52 out-of-state. Single copy price is \$1.00. Periodicals postage paid at Ridgeland, MS. The Madison County Journal reserves the right to edit or reject any or all advertising. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to: The Madison County Journal, P.O. Box 219, Ridgeland, MS 39158.





Steele Dehmer, PLCS

Address: 160 E. Peace St.
Canton, MS 39046
Cell: 601-624-7833
Phone: 601-391-3271
Fax: 601-391-3498
email: steele@msurance.org

Home • Auto • Farm • Small Business











601.624.7833

steele@msurance.org



Law Enforcement Appreciation Week

Local city and county chambers of commerce, tourism and economic development organizations announce plans for the 2021 Madison County Law Enforcement Appreciation Week slated for May 9-14. This event is in conjunction with national law enforcement appreciation week. Madison County has been celebrating law enforcement leaders, officers and staff since 2015. They invite yhr business community, schools, churches, organizations and individuals to join in a county-wide week of celebration and commemoration of the outstanding work of our city and county law enforcement, and for their dedication and commitment to the protection of the citizens and businesses of Madison County! Pictured, left to right, are: Elizabeth Fulcher, Madison the City Chamber of Commerce; Chris Chapman, Ridgeland Tourism Commission; Jan Collins, Madison County Business League & Foundation; Linda Bynum, Ridgeland Chamber of Commerce; Jana Padgett, Canton Tourism; and Kristy Daniels, Ridgeland Chamber Volunteer.

CORRECTION

In the April 1, edition of the Madison County Journal, the story titled "7 new school outbreaks reported as COVID-19 cases decline in county," included incorrect information attributed to the Mississippi State Department of Health. Madison County

Schools have not reported any outbreaks since Feb. 1, and in total have only had 7 COVID-19 outbreaks since January. The 7 outbreaks were inadvertently reported as being "new" as opposed to being reported as the total since January 2021.

THE LORD'S DAY

Morning Worship
8:30 a.m.
11 a.m.

Sunday School
9:45 a.m.

Evening Worship
6 p.m.

Midweek Activities
Prayer Meeting 6 p.m. (Patterson)
Adult Electives, D Groups
Childrens Choirs, Youth Activities

Services Livestream
fpcjackson.org/livestream
WLBT-TV3
10 a.m.

First Presbyterian Church of Jackson
"To glorify God, and enjoy Him forever."

1390 N. State Street
Jackson, Mississippi
601.353.8316
fpcjackson.org
Presbyterian Church in America (PCA)



Is there unclaimed money listed in your name? Maybe it was a refund sent to an old address or an inheritance you didn't know you had. About 1 in 10 people will find something! Discover your unclaimed money at [Treasury.MS.gov/UnclaimedMoney](https://www.treasury.ms.gov/UnclaimedMoney)

MADISON

PROPERTY ID#	NAME	ADDRESS	TOWN	AMOUNT
4974253	TURNER KELLY D	600 PEAR ORCHARD DR NO 327	RIDGELAND	OVER \$100
4116367	SUSAN L FLOWERS ULRICH ESTATE	109 GERMANTOWN RD	MADISON	OVER \$100
4823478	TYSON NADINE K	404 OLD RICE RD	MADISON	OVER \$100
4963583	HILL CHARLEY JR ESTATE	340 ARBOR DRIVE	RIDGELAND	OVER \$100
4529404	RUBLE MARGUERITE	206 DOMINICAN DR 4309	MADISON	OVER \$100
4240518	PARKWAY PROPERTIES LP	800 WOODLANDS PKWY STE 1	RIDGELAND	OVER \$100
4262478	SPECTRUM WIRELESS	103 SOUTH VALLEY COMMON	MADISON	OVER \$100
4963623	HILL CHARLEY JR ESTATE	340 ARBOR DRIVE	RIDGELAND	OVER \$100
4870038	WELLS JENNIFER	1014 N AZALEA DR	MADISON	OVER \$100
5073992	FOX EVERETT INC ATTN: GLENDA ALFORD	300 CONCOURSE BLVD STE 300	RIDGELAND	OVER \$100
5108756	ADVANTAGE RENT A CAR HERTZ	1052 HIGHLAND COLONY PKWY	RIDGELAND	OVER \$100
4888265	BROWN DAVID JR	309 COWAN STREET	CANTON	OVER \$100

More Madison County names at www.treasury.ms.gov

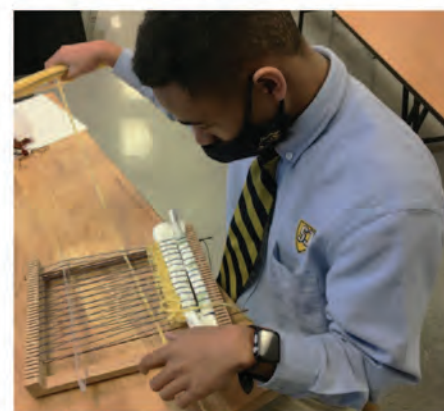


State Treasurer David McRae returns unclaimed money to the Mississippi State Department of Health.

List It With Liston!

Land and Home Specialist
Liston Sage, REALTOR®
Hopper Properties | 601-750-1276 c | 601-724-1435 o

ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC SCHOOL



WWW.STJOEBRUINS.COM



NOW ENROLLING 2021-2022 SCHOOL YEAR

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT OUR WEBSITE OR CONTACT TRICIA HARRIS 601-898-4803 OR THARRIS@STJOEBRUINS.COM

Opinion & Editorials

PATRICK J. BUCHANAN

Fight Russia or China?

China forcing America to address questions we have been avoiding for about as long as we can.

Last Monday, in a single six-hour period, NATO launched 10 air intercepts to shadow six separate groups of Russian bombers and fighters over the Arctic, North Atlantic, North Sea, Black Sea and Baltic Sea.

Last week also brought reports that Moscow is increasing its troop presence in Crimea and along its borders with Ukraine.

Joe Biden responded. In his first conversation with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky, Biden assured him of our “unwavering support for Ukraine’s sovereignty and territorial integrity in the face of Russia’s ongoing aggression in the Donbass and Crimea.”

Though Ukraine is not a member of NATO, and we have no treaty obligation to fight in its defense, this comes close to a war guarantee. Biden seems to be saying that if it comes to a shooting war between Moscow and Kiev, we will be there on the side of Kiev.

Last week, Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov answered that if the U.S. sends troops to Ukraine, Russia will respond.

Again, is Biden saying that in the event of a military clash between Ukrainians and Russians in Crimea, Donetsk or Luhansk, the U.S. will intervene militarily on the side of Ukraine?

Such a pledge could put us at war with a nuclear-armed Russia in a region where we have never had vital interests, and without the approval of the only institution authorized to declare war — Congress.

Meanwhile, off Whitsun Reef in the South China Sea, which Beijing occupies but Manila claims, China has amassed 220 maritime militia ships.

This huge Chinese flotilla arrived after Secretary of State Anthony Blinken put Beijing on notice that any attack on Philippine planes or ships challenging Beijing’s claim to rocks and reefs of the South China Sea that are in Manila’s exclusive economic zone will be

backed by the U.S.

Our 70-year-old mutual security treaty with Manila covers these islets and reefs, said Blinken, though some are already occupied and fortified by China.

Apparently, if Manila uses force to assert its claims and expel the Chinese, then we will fight beside our Philippine allies. This amounts to a war guarantee of the kind that forced the British to declare war on Germany in 1939 over the invasion of Poland.

Two weeks ago, 20 Chinese military aircraft entered Taiwan’s air defense identification zone in the largest incursion yet by Beijing over the waters between Taiwan and Taiwan-controlled Pratas Islands. As national security correspondent Bill Gertz writes in today’s Washington Times:

“China is stepping up provocative activities targeting regional American allies in Asia ... with an escalating number of military flights around Taiwan and the massing of more than 200 fishing ships near a disputed Philippines reef.

“China also raised tensions with Japan, announcing last week that Tokyo must drop all claims to the disputed Senkaku Islands, an uninhabited island chain that Japan has administered for decades but that Beijing recently claimed as its territory.

“The most serious provocation took place March 29. An exercise by the People’s Liberation Army air force that included 10 warplanes flew into Taiwan’s air defense zone is what analysts say appeared to be a simulated attack on the island. It came just three days after an earlier mass warplane incursion.”

While China appears clear

about its aims and claims to virtually all of the islands in the South China Sea and East China Sea as well as Taiwan — it is less clear about its intentions as to when to validate those claims.

As for the U.S., does the present foggy ambiguity as to what we may or may not do as China goes about asserting its claims serve our vital interests in avoiding war with the greatest power on the largest continent on earth?

If red lines are to be laid down, they ought to be laid down by the one constitutional body with the authority to authorize or declare war — Congress. And questions need to be answered to avoid the kinds of miscalculations that led to horrific world wars in the 20th century.

Are the reefs and rocks the Philippines claim in the South China Sea, claims contradicted by China, covered by the U.S. mutual security treaty of 1951? Are we honor-bound to fight China on behalf of the Philippines, if Manila attempts to reclaim islets China occupies?

What is our obligation if China moves to take the Senkakus? Would the United States join Japan in military action to hold or retrieve them?

What, exactly, is our commitment to Taiwan if China attempts to blockade, invade or seize Taiwan’s offshore islands?

John F. Kennedy in the second debate with Richard Nixon in 1960 wrote off Quemoy and Matsu in the Taiwan Strait as indefensible and not worth war with Mao’s China.

With its warnings and threats, China is forcing America to address questions we have been avoiding for about as long as we can.

China is saying that it is not bluffing: These islands are ours!

Time to show our cards.

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

Founded 1982

MADISON COUNTY JOURNAL

“To glorify God, and enjoy Him forever.”

JAMES E. PRINCE III
President and Publisher

MICHAEL SIMMONS
Associate Publisher

SCOTT C. HAWKINS
Editor

EDITORIALS

Public safety vs. parole

Habitual offender Robert Leon Jackson of Jackson from down around Manship Street near Baptist Hospital had been out of prison for seven months on the state’s Earned Release Supervision Program when he shot and killed clerk Megan Staats and customer Jeremy Apperson at the CEFCO convenience store in Philadelphia, Miss., in August 2018.

A bill that would make more inmates eligible for the possibility of parole is before the governor, but state Sen. Jenifer Branning, a Republican from Philadelphia, has her doubts about the measure being signed and so do we.

Don’t sign the bill, Governor.

Since Jackson was first jailed in November 2002 for armed robbery at age 14 in Hinds County, he has spent over 80% of his life in jail.

Even with that amount of time behind bars, Jackson served less than 48% of his total sentencing.

Two innocent Mississippians are dead because of early release and a sloppy justice system in Hinds County that let Jackson off on attempted murder charges because the store clerk had a gun and shot him in self-defense as wasn’t shot to death himself.

We are thankful for lawmakers like Sen. Branning who are willing to stand their ground on principle.

“I have my doubts about that but we will see,” said Branning, who voted against the early parole measure.

Rep. Jill Ford, a Republican from Madison, voted against the bill as well.

Staats, 27, left a young daughter she loved spending time with when she wasn’t at work.

Apperson’s wife and young son were in the vehicle when the 33-year-old concealed-carry permit holder was gunned

down at the gas pumps and never saw it coming.

The horrific events of that day when Jackson went on his rampage are still haunting. But thanks to an excellent local law enforcement response Jackson is in prison where he belongs — like a lot of these folks the Democrats and enough Republicans want to let out early.

Last week, the Senate voted 35-13 and the House voted 91-25 to pass the final version of Senate Bill 2795. Both chambers are, ironically, controlled by Republicans.

“I felt like there were not adequate protections from a public safety perspective,” Branning said of her vote against the bill.

Reeves vetoed a bill last year that was similar but not identical to the one that legislators passed.

A key difference the liberal proponents say is that this year’s bill would not allow parole consideration for anybody convicted of murder, said Senate Corrections Committee Chairman Juan Barnett, a Democrat from Heidelberg.

That would still not stop Robert Leon Jackson out on early release from driving from Jackson to Philadelphia one Saturday and murdering two people.

“I think the bill from a public safety perspective was a big improvement over the bill that was brought forward last year,” Branning said. “I just think it went just a little too far. My reasoning was just public safety.”

Proponents of the bill point out that Mississippi has some people serving long sentences for nonviolent offenses, and the state’s prison system came under Justice Department investigation last year after outbreaks of violence among inmates.

We are all for prison reform, but this bill goes too far and we hope Gov. Reeves will tap the brakes and send it back for work.

MLB’s foul ball in Georgia

When the commissioner of Major League Baseball on Friday made the knee-jerk decision to pull the 2021 All-Star Game out of Atlanta to punish Georgia for its new election-integrity law, he involved baseball in something that’s none of his — or MLB’s — business.

Rob Manfred could soon come to regret that politically correct, but ill-informed move. It has spawned a backlash in Congress that could lead to MLB losing its 99-year-old exemption from federal antitrust laws.

Until now, MLB had wisely steered clear of the virtue-signaling left-wing politics that have become a secondary raison d’être for the NBA and to a lesser extent for the NFL. Perhaps Mr. Manfred was envious of the liberal-media glow his counterparts in those sports regularly bask in.

Apparently believing the untruths of Democrats and self-appointed liberal voting rights activists about the law, Mr. Manfred defended the Atlanta pullout as “the best way to demonstrate our values as a sport.”

It’s obvious that he didn’t bother to educate himself independently as to what Georgia’s new election-integrity law actually does — and doesn’t do — before buying into what an understandably angry Georgia Gov. Brian Kemp rightly calls the “fear, political opportunism and liberal lies” about it.

Rob Manfred puts baseball in middle of political fight

If Mr. Manfred had reached out to Mr. Kemp first, he’d know the law doesn’t disenfranchise Blacks — or anyone else. To the contrary, it makes it “easy to vote, but hard to cheat,” the governor says.

“This attack on our state is the direct result of the repeated lies from [President] Joe Biden and [failed 2018 Georgia gubernatorial candidate] Stacey Abrams about a bill that expands access to the ballot box and ensures the integrity of our elections,” Mr. Kemp said.

Mr. Biden’s attacks on the Georgia law, which he likened to Jim Crow, were so egregiously false that Washington Post fact-checker Glenn Kessler awarded him four Pinocchios.

Moving the Midsummer Classic out of Atlanta will cost the city an estimated \$100 million in economic activity. That will hurt foremost the small businesses — retailers, restaurants and motels — and their employees in the vicinity of the Atlanta Braves’ Truist Park, where the game was to have been played July 13.

“Georgians will not be bullied,” a defiant Mr. Kemp said. “We will continue to stand up for secure, accessible, fair elections.”

Since pushback is the only thing bullies understand, Rep. Jeff Duncan, South Carolina Republican, and Sen. Mike Lee, Utah Republican, said Friday they would examine whether Major League Baseball’s antitrust exemption should be revoked.

Under that exemption, which dates to 1922 and is something no other pro team sport enjoys, MLB “does not have to follow antitrust laws that govern player contracts, franchise movement and media contracts,” according to BaseballAmerica.com.

Losing that exemption would be a high price for MLB to pay for Mr. Manfred’s political grandstanding.

— *The Washington Times*

RICH LOWRY

Wokeness worse than the Russians

Why do the Russians need to bother spreading disinformation when our own domestic sources do a much better job at it?

We just went through a four-year national obsession with Kremlin disinformation. It supposedly swayed the 2016 presidential election. It was “sowing divisions” in American society. It accounted for the discovery of Hunter Biden’s laptop during the 2020 election.

Social media companies were excoriated for allegedly letting Russian disinfo poison their networks, and the American mind.

There was nothing that some Russian operators — spending a pittance — couldn’t do. The former Time magazine managing editor and Obama state department official Richard Stengel wrote a book called “Information Wars: How We Lost the Global Battle Against Disinformation and What We Can Do About It.” According to Stengel, the Russians had mounted “an unprecedented attack against the very foundation of our democracy.”

The Russians were amateurs, though. If they really knew what they were doing, they’d spread rank lies about election reforms passed by an American state, make the deceptions so pervasive that the president of the United States would casually repeat them, unjustifiably dredge up memories of a terrible period of repression in America, relentlessly racialize the debate, and intimidate corporate America into thoughtlessly entering the partisan fight and discrediting itself with a significant segment of the population.

No, Russian trolls operating somewhere in St. Petersburg

Woke disinformation is more pervasive and powerful than Russian disinformation.

didn’t undertake this highly successful information operation against the Georgia election law — Stacey Abrams and her allies in media and politics did.

If the Russians had the requisite skill, they’d spread the false story that a talented American governor had sold out his citizens by letting a campaign contribution distort his distribution of COVID-19 vaccines, suppressing all facts to the contrary and stoking yet more conspiratorial thinking about the governor among his political opponents.

The Russians couldn’t pull this off — yet “60 Minutes” did, in a laughably dishonest report over the weekend about Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis using the most popular grocery store chain in the state to get the vaccine in the arms of Floridians.

If the Russians were devious enough, they’d take a god-awful mass shooting, ignore all of the evidence about the perpetrator’s motives to define it as a crime driven by racial hatred, and undermine faith in the local police and FBI when they presented the facts.

The Russians couldn’t manage this, either — but a veritable army of media commentators and progressive politicians could. They insisted against the available evidence that the Atlanta spa shooter must have been driven by hatred of Asians, while Democratic senators openly dissented from the FBI director’s statement that

the shooting wasn’t a hate crime.

If the Russians had the power or know-how, they’d spin a story of American law enforcement as a racist occupying force that should be resisted in “largely peaceful” protests all over the country, putting the cops on their back foot and creating an environment of spiraling disorder and violence in some of the most iconic U.S. cities.

Of course, the Russians also had nothing to do with this — Black Lives Matter and the media did all of the hard work and have largely managed to ignore the rising tide of crime that is undoing one of the signal America domestic accomplishments of the past several decades.

None of this is to dismiss the pernicious influence of Russian information operations and cyber strikes, especially overseas, or to minimize the hideousness of the Putin regime. But it is galling to see the same people who sounded the klaxons about Russians undermining faith in the American system for years themselves spread — or at least casually accept — progressive narratives based on poisonous lies about our own country.

The Russians are never going to stop running their information campaigns against the West, which date back to the Soviet Union. But they must occasionally be tempted to stand back in envy and awe at all that the U.S. promoters of woke narratives have been able to accomplish without them.

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

LETTERS

The Journal welcomes letters, comments or suggestions: jprince@onlinemadison.com
President and Publisher Jim Prince

Madison County Publishing Co. Inc.
293 Commerce Park DR, Ridgeland, MS 39157
onlinemadison.com
Telephone: 601.853.4222

BIBLE SELECTION

For the love of Christ controls us, because we have concluded this: that one has died for all, therefore all have died; and he died for all, that those who live might no longer live for themselves but for him who for their sake died and was raised. — **2 Corinthians 5:14-15 (ESV)**

Consumer agency names Ridgeland 'fittest' in state

By DUNCAN DENT
duncan@onlinemadison.com

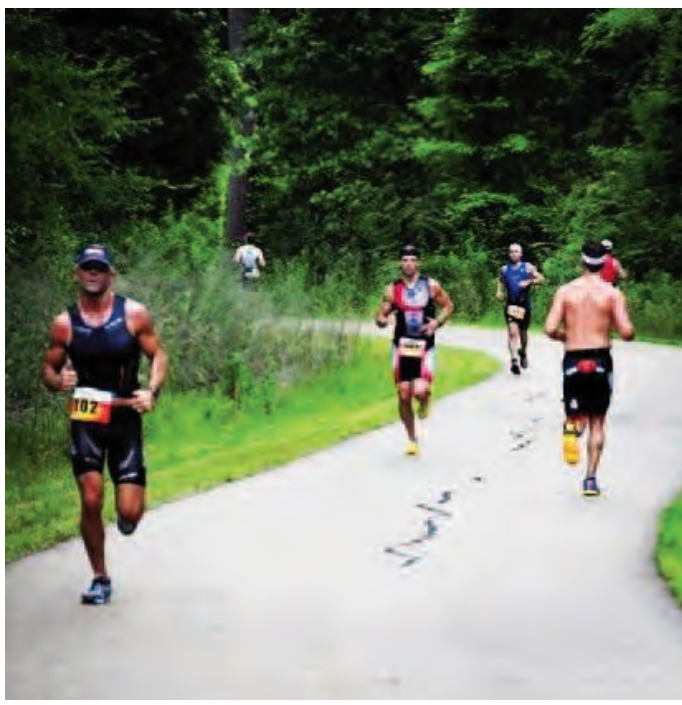
Ridgeland has been named among Mississippi's fittest cities by a nationally top-rated consumer insurance comparison agency.

City spokesman Mary Beth McCullough said the city is pleased to announce being selected as Insurify's 2021 Fittest Cities Award for Mississippi. She said that this is the first time Ridgeland has been recognized by this particular organization.

An avid cyclist himself, Mayor Gene F. McGee said his administration has always sought to provide excellent recreational facilities and outlets available to the public. He said the city appreciated being recognized once again for its efforts to improve public health.

"I am proud to say that Ridgeland has once again been nationally recognized for its commitment to provide recreational facilities to promote healthier lifestyles for our citizens," McGee said. "Our commitment to encourage health and fitness in Ridgeland is never-ending. From children's activities to senior adult programs, the City strives to accommodate all ages."

Ridgeland was chosen for this award based on its commitment to supporting the community's health and fitness. Insurify developed an algo-



The city of Ridgeland was recently named one of the Fittest cities in Mississippi. The city has a number of recreational facilities and even hosts the Heatwave Classic Triathlon each year.

gorithm using data collected by them. The Trust for Public Land and Niche, a ranking website, to identify the top city in each state.

According to Snežina Zachira, CEO of Insurify, the data scientists at Insurify analyzed cities in each state for the availability and accessibility of outdoor recreation facilities and for the proportion of community members working

in jobs that promote health and fitness or that demand significant physical activities.

"This award honors the cities that invest in the health of their communities by promoting accessibility to outdoor spaces for their residents," Zachira said. "We applaud these cities for their demonstrated commitment to supporting public fitness-friendly spaces."

Bell appointed Velma Jackson principal

Madison County Schools announced this week that Brendon Bell will serve as the next principal of Velma Jackson High School.

Bell comes to the position with nearly 13 years of experience in education as a coach, teacher, and administrator.

"I am excited for the opportunity to join the Falcon family and to continue to build and grow on Velma Jackson's solid foundation in academics, athletics, and the arts," Bell said. "I am really looking forward to getting to know the students, faculty, parents, and community and building those relationships."

Bell brings unique experience to the role of high school

principal, having spent nearly a decade in law enforcement before beginning a career in education. Bell was sworn in as a Jackson Police Officer in 2001, where he served first as a patrolman and later as a detective. He also has experience working in the Mississippi Bureau of Narcotics and the Hinds County Sheriff's Department Reserve Unit.

Bell comes to Velma Jackson from Madison County Schools' Academic Options Center, where he has served as principal since 2018. Prior to that role, he worked as an assistant principal at Old Town Mid-



Brendon Bell

dle School. He also has experience teaching and coaching at Northwest Rankin High School and in Jackson Public Schools, including coaching the Caradizo Middle School football team to a city championship in 2012.

"Mr. Bell has distinguished himself as an educator who truly cares for students, both in and out of the classroom. We are delighted for him to take on this new role and bring his knowledge, skills, and talents to Velma Jackson," said Superintendent Charlotte Seals.

Concept

Continued from page A1

idential development in established neighborhoods with a variety of low height, low-density building forms.

The neighborhood would consist of approximately 125 lots varying in size from 2,200 square feet to 4,500 square feet on the 40 acres, Ellis said.

Lot sizes will also vary from

6,000 square feet for detached townhomes to 10,400 square feet for larger homes to correspond with home sizes.

Ellis said the amount of space between each house will vary depending on size and the majority of the houses will have 10-12 feet of space between the structure and the property line, with smaller houses having 6 to 8 feet of space between them.

Arlington's conceptual master plan has received approval from the Madison Planning Commission and will now

begin final design work next month.

Ellis noted that formal closing of the purchase of the land from Highland Colony Land Company is expected within the next 90 days, with construction beginning later this year. He expects the first home lots to appear on the market next summer.

For more information about Arlington, contact Ellis at 601-941-8860.

BIBLICAL PERSPECTIVES/J. Ligon Duncan III

A prayer for all of life

Please turn in your Bible to Colossians 1:9-14. When Paul was in prison, he had received a report from Epaphras about the faith and the hope and the love which was growing in the church at Colossae. In this passage, the Apostle Paul gives us an outline of his prayer for the Colossians in response to that report from Epaphras. And there are four great truths that we see in this prayer for the Colossians. First, we see that every spiritual work is a motivation to prayer. Secondly, we observe that every believer must be filled with true knowledge. Thirdly, we see that every believer must be filled with real power. Fourthly and finally, we observe that the believer must be moved to thanksgiving.

I. Every Spiritual Work Is A Motivation To Prayer

In verse 9, Paul says, "for this reason also, since the day we heard of it, we have not ceased to pray for you and to ask that you may be filled with the knowledge of his will." Paul understands that every spiritual work done by the Holy Spirit in the lives of believers is an encouragement for us to pray for them. So often our prayer is in response to disaster or affliction, and, of course, that is entirely appropriate. But Paul's logic also drove him to pray when he saw God at work. And that is particularly important for us, because we don't tend to think that way. Normally, when things are going well, we are tempted not to pray, to put it on autopilot, and to cease to pray faithfully for ourselves and for our brothers and sisters. But this is not so for Paul. When Paul sees God at work, that is an impetus to prayer. Why? Because Paul knows that prayer is the instrument which God has ordained to bless His people through. Paul knows when he sees God at work, that is a sign that he needs to go to prayer. Paul's example for us reminds us that we must attend to prayer, not only in the hard times, but especially in the times where spiritual work is going on, that the work of the Spirit might continue and increase.

II. Filled With True Knowledge

In verses 9-10, we see the content of Paul's prayer. The first thing that Paul prays for is that they would be filled with a true knowledge. Paul wants

them to increase in the true knowledge of God, which is consistent with the gospel that has already been preached. He desires for them a knowledge which is not merely abstract or speculative, like the knowledge of the false teachers, but knowledge which has practical content to it. He prays for a knowledge of God that bears fruit and "fills them with the knowledge of His will." In contrast to the false knowledge that the Colossians have been exposed to, this knowledge is biblical, and it has practical implications. Christ's knowledge of God impacts all of life. It is character transforming knowledge. In verse 10, Paul says that when you are filled with this kind of knowledge of God, you walk in a manner worthy of your Lord, you seek to please God, and you bear fruit. We must remember Paul's great dictum that truth is unto godliness, that true knowledge of God makes us like Christ so that we can better carry out God's directives to us and experience truth for the purpose of promoting godliness.

III. Filled With Real Power

In verse 11, the Apostle Paul also asks that believers would be strengthened with all power. Remember again, these false teachers at Colossae had promised a counterfeit power. So Paul prays that the Colossians would be strengthened with all power in accordance with God's glorious might. The word "glory" was a substitute word that the Jewish people often used for "God" Himself. Paul is hinting at the might, the power, the strength which resides in the Almighty Himself. It is not a power within the Colossians that he is praying to be increased, it is a power which comes from God, which He implants in us, and which according to Paul in verse 11, produces three realities in our lives which includes "steadfastness, patience, and joy". Paul says that God is going to give them this power in accordance with His glorious might.

There are all sorts of people in the world today who are attempting to tell you that in order to be successful that you must tap the power within. My friends, what Paul is saying is exactly opposite of that. Until you realize that there is no power within yourself and you start to seek the power above,

you will never know true power. Seek the power outside yourself, because our weakness is made strong by His strength and because His strength is perfected in our weakness.

IV. Moved To Thanksgiving

In verse 12, Paul says that he is "giving thanks to the Father who has qualified us to share in the inheritance of the saints." Then, he recounts the things which are true about all believers. He says that we share in the inheritance of the saints, that we have been delivered from the domain of darkness, that we have been transferred into the kingdom of Son, and that we have redemption and forgiveness of sin. Until this part of his letter, Paul has been constantly saying, "I want this for you. I'm praying this for you." But when he gets to verse 12, the language turns to "we" and "us." Remember, Paul knew what it was to be lost and he knew what it was to be found, and Paul can't possibly say "you were lost and you were found." He has to say, "we were lost and we were found." So Paul gives thanks for God having qualified us for His inheritance. In other words, he says, "all the conditions have been met which entitle us to a full standing as the children of God." And he goes on to say, "God has rescued us from the domain of darkness." It is so important for us to remember in our forgiveness we are not simply pardoned by the dominion of sin being broken in our experience. God both pardons and He breaks the dominion of sin. We have been taken out from under the domain of the kingdom of darkness, and we have been placed in the kingdom of His Son. Paul uses a beautiful phrase in verse 13. It's translated in our passage, "His beloved Son," but it literally reads "the Son of His love." That is the kingdom in which you have been placed. You have been placed in the kingdom of the Son of His love. May God, by His Holy Spirit, help us to meditate on these truths as we live by His strength in all of life.

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

Hello great outdoors

Home Equity Line of Credit
Introductory Rate of
0% APR for 3 Billing Cycles
and then Variable Rate
3.75% APR*
Thereafter

Turn your home's equity into a backyard oasis. Apply today!

Citizens National Bank
The Power of LocalSM
Member FDIC

601.693.1331 | YourCNB.com

*Introductory rate of 0% Annual Percentage Rate (APR) is fixed for the first three (3) billing cycles. The number of days in your billing cycle may vary based on your account opening date. After the first three (3) billing cycles, the APR will vary based on the U.S. Prime Rate as published in the Wall Street Journal +/- a margin. The margin is based on your credit score and a maximum LTV of 80%. As of February 15, 2021, Prime Rate was 3.25% APR. The minimum line of credit to receive the introductory rate of 0% is \$10,000 with a draw of \$5,000 or more at closing. Your APR will never be higher than 21%. HELOC must be new money to CNB, or CNB HELOC must be within one year of maturity. Other HELOC options are available. Collateral cannot be classified as a manufactured or mobile home. If your loan payment is automatically debited from your CNB personal checking account, CNB will pay all bank required closing cost for approved credit lines of \$250,000 or less and up to \$500 in closing costs for approved credit lines exceeding \$250,000. Certain fees may apply from \$1 to \$1,500 when payment is not auto debited from a CNB personal checking account. Land survey, if required is not included in bank paid costs. \$500 closing cost recovery fee will be assessed if line is closed within 36 months of contract date. This loan consists of a 10-year draw period with interest only payments and a 15-year repayment period. Repayment period consists of variable rate monthly minimum payments including principal and interest. Repayment APR is based on U.S. Prime Rate as published in the Wall Street Journal +/- a margin but will not exceed 21% and will not fall below your base rate. Homeowners insurance is required. Your base rate is Prime +/- a margin determined by your loan to value and credit score. Rates and APRs are subject to change without notice. Consult your tax advisor regarding deductibility of interest. Subject to credit approval.

GREENOAK
FLORAL • GARDEN • HOME

ROSES
TEA, DRIFT & KNOCKOUT
MANY VARIETIES TO CHOOSE FROM! POTTED AND READY TO GROW!

BEDDING PLANTS
FOR SHADE OR SUN!
HUNDREDS TO CHOOSE FROM!
• Geraniums • Impatiens
• Shrub Daisies • Ruellia
Jackson Location

TREES & SHRUBS
• Azaleas • Abelias
• Camellias • Redbuds

GREAT SELECTION
VEGETABLES & HERBS
CEL PACK - UP TO GAL SIZE
Jackson Location

601-956-5017 | 5009 OLD CANTON RD, JACKSON
601-707-9440 | 1067 HIGHLAND COLONY PKWY, RIDGELAND

MON-SAT: 8:00 TO 5:30
SUN: 12:30 TO 4:30
greenoakms.com

State Farm
Providing Insurance and Financial Services
601-790-2600
www.Jdorsa.com



John Dorsa, CPCU

SPENCER
601-981-6080
CONCRETE
READY-MIX

Canton **Animal Hospital** Danny S. Prestel, D.V.M.
601-859-2703
3114 South Liberty (Old Hwy 51 S), Canton

FLORA
102 Jackson Street • Flora, MS 39071
www.fbcflora.org
601-879-8022

230 Hwy 51 North
Ridgeland, MS 39157
601-206-8880
gotgear.com



CAPITOL BUILDING PRODUCTS COMPANY
OFFICE: 601.977.9990 112 Business Park Dr.
FAX: 601-977-8838 Ridgeland, MS
LARRY STACY SALES REPRESENTATIVE SPECIAL MILLWORK

MMC MATERIALS, INC.
601-973-2093

First United Methodist Church
Corner of Liberty St. & Academy St. - Canton
9:30 Sunday School Wednesday Night Supper 5:30
10:30 Worship Service Worship 6:15
601-859-4621
www.umccanton.com

The Nichols Center
Compassionate and Professional Care with Dignity and Sensitivity
1308 Hwy 51 N. Madison, MS 39110
Office 601.853.4343 / Fax 601.853.9691

Tico's Steakhouse
Thomas "Tico" Hoffman
1536 E. County Line Road • 956-1030

Mop Haik
5395 I-55N Jackson, MS
601-500-5555

Breeland Funeral Home
And Crematory Service
Quiet Service With Dignity
3304 S. Liberty St. Phone: (601)-859-366
Canton, Ms 39046 Breelandfuneralhome.com

"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."
— John 3:16 (NIV)

Culpepper Funeral Home
P.O. Box 1310 11748 HWY 35 Kosciusko, MS 39090 662-289-4111
P.O. Box 71 3434 North Liberty St. Canton, MS 39046 601-859-2031
www.culpepperfuneralhome.com

Getting the Message/Rev. Chris Shelton

Matthew 27:45-46

In these verses we see the death of Jesus. Jesus was and is the Son of God, so this is a mysterious event, but it is the heart of the Christian faith. The cross of Christ is simple, yet the most profound truth in human history.

In verse 45 we read, "Now from the 6th hour there was darkness over all the land until the 9th hour." Jesus is on the cross. The earth becomes dark. When Jesus was born there was the favor of heaven upon earth. Angelic choirs sang as the glory of the Lord appeared, because a Savior, who is Christ the Lord, had come (Luke 2).

But now, as he is nearing death, there is darkness. Darkness represents the absence of life or the judgment of God. In Exodus 10, the plague of darkness over Egypt lasted 3 days. Here it lasts 3 hours. In Amos 8, the Lord is displeased with the evil of men and says, "I will make the sun go down at noon, and darken the earth in broad daylight."

The darkness is the impressions of God's displeasure with man's sin. On the cross, it is Christ Jesus who is the object of God's displeasure, not because of any sin he committed, but because he has chosen to bear the sins of men upon himself.

The darkness that came while Jesus was on the cross was a supernatural occurrence, like the Day of Judgment will be. It is of God. When God looked upon Christ, he saw the perversity and wickedness of men. All the sins of men were imputed to Christ. So the wrath of God was directed at the Lord Jesus.

In the Old Testament the priestly benediction was: "May the Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you. The Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace." If you have that blessing you have all. That blessing was not upon Christ on the cross so that it could be upon us.

In verse 46, as he nears death, Jesus cries out "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" It is not a cry of bewilderment, but agony. Before Jesus was arrested he prayed to his Father, "If possible let this cup

pass from me. Nevertheless, not as I will, but as thy will." On the cross, Jesus is drinking the cup of God's displeasure.

Jesus didn't just feel forsaken, he was forsaken. He was making atonement for sin. He was paying the debt of man's sin. He was meeting the obligation of the law of God, or we can say, God was letting the law take its course. Every violation of the law incurs a debt. This was a judicial punishment the Lord Jesus was receiving.

This is good news for sinners. There is a fountain of life in Christ, free forgiveness in his name for all who believe. It is by faith we are saved, looking away from ourselves to the gift of God. In Christ we are freed from condemnation and given the favor of God forever. We have no ground for boasting in ourselves, but much ground for boasting in Christ.

When we see Christ forsaken on the cross, we are comforted in our despair. There may be no affliction as great as the feeling of God hiding his favorable countenance. But for the Christian, it is only a feeling of desertion. It is not judicial, but sanctifying. It is God purifying you, or reserving for himself honor from you by your faith even in despair.

I read of a minister as he neared death saying to another minister, "What is to be thought of one who has preached Christ all his life, but facing death, has not the comfortable presence of Christ?" The other minister responded, "What do you say of the dreadful darkness and desertion of our Savior when dying?" This brought the dying man peace. Christ alone can give a sinner peace.

Christ died that we may have joy. In John 15 He says, "These things I have spoken to you that my joy may remain in you, and that your joy might be full." We will face troubles, temptations, and battles with our own sin, but it is good we remember our Lord's disposition; He loved enough to give himself for me.

Area Churches

- BAPTIST**
- BROADMOOR BAPTIST**
1531 Highland Colony Pkwy., Madison 601-898-2345
- BUCK HORN BAPTIST**
2193 N. Old Canton Rd. Canton 859-7039
- CALVARY BAPTIST**
441 Washington St., Canton 859-7431
- CANTON BIBLE BAPTIST**
815 Dr Martin Luther King Dr. N. Canton 859-2003
- CENTER TERRACE BAPTIST**
605 E. Peace St., Canton 859-4186
- CHURCH OF THE HIGHLANDS**
670 Highland Colony Parkway, Ridgeland
- COLONIAL HEIGHTS BAPTIST** North-park Dr., Ridgeland
- COUNTY LINE MISSIONARY BAPTIST**
109 Lula Baptist Church Rd. Flora 879-8404
- DAMASCUS BAPTIST**
3964 Hwy. 22, Flora 662-746-5938.
- FAIRVIEW MISSIONARY BAPTIST**
1278 N. Old Canton Rd. Madison 605-2090
- FARMHAVEN BAPTIST**
420 Pat Luckett, Canton 859-7238
- FEARNS CHAPEL**
- FREEWILL BAPTIST**
Old Pocahontas Rd., Flora 879-3525
- FIRST BAPTIST**
3316 S. Liberty St., Canton 859-3172
- FIRST BAPTIST OF FLORA**
102 Jackson St., Flora 879-8022
- FIRST BAPTIST OF MADISON**
2100 Main St., Madison 856-6177
- FIRST BAPTIST OF RIDGELAND**
302 W. Jackson St., 856-8724
- FIRST STOKES CHAPEL BAPTIST**
459 Third Ave., Canton 859-7911
- FRANKLIN BAPTIST**
Hwy. 22 W., Flora 879-3415
- GOOD HOPE MISSIONARY BAPTIST**
1828 Cox Ferry Rd., Flora 879-3913
- GRACE CROSSING BAPTIST CHURCH**
598 Yandell Road, 601-427-0163
- GREATER RICHMOND GROVE BAPTIST**
Complex Rd., 856-2209
- GREATER ROSS CHAPEL MISSIONARY BAPTIST**
Gluckstadt Rd., Madison 856-8778
- GREAT ST. MATTHEW MISSIONARY BAPTIST**
3796 N. Liberty St., Canton 855-0240
- HARVEY CHAPEL MISSIONARY BAPTIST**
242 Ragsdale Rd., Canton 859-8811
- HIGHLAND COLONY BAPTIST**
Jay Richardson, Pastor
1200 Highland Colony Pkwy. 856-4031
- HUMBLE JERUSALEM BAPTIST**
420 Hwy. 16 W., Canton 859-0654
- JONES CHAPEL BAPTIST**
Pocahontas Rd., Flora 879-3447

- LIBERTY BAPTIST**
815 W. Fulton St., Canton 859-6407
- LIVINGSTON MISSIONARY BAPTIST**
Livingston Church Rd., Flora 879-3400
- MADISON COUNTY BAPTIST FAMILY LIFE CENTER**
349 N. Canal St., Canton 859-9132
- MAGNOLIA HEIGHTS BAPTIST**
206 Pine St., Flora 879-8122
- MARY GROVE BAPTIST**
Rankin Rd., Canton 859-5771
- MARY MAGDALENE BAPTIST**
1457 Loring Rd., Canton 859-2448
- MOUNT ABLE BAPTIST**
Hwy. 43 S., Canton 859-3511
- MOUNT LEVI BAPTIST**
1008 W. Fulton St., Canton 859-8720
- MOUNT PLEASANT BAPTIST**
Gluckstadt Rd., Madison 856-5862
- MOUNT ZION BAPTIST**
514 W. North St., Canton 859-2453
- MOUNT ZION COBBVILLE BAPTIST**
4206 Hwy. 51, Canton 859-5692
- MT. CENTER MISSIONARY BAPTIST**
468 Robinson Springs Rd. Flora 879-3117
- MT. ELAM MISSIONARY BAPTIST**
306 Mt. Elam Rd., Flora 879-9094
- MT. HOPE MISSIONARY BAPTIST**
201 Patrick Rd., Canton 855-0052
- MT. LEVI BAPTIST**
Hwy. 22, Canton 859-8720
- MT. OLIVE MISSIONARY BAPTIST**
1397 Way Rd., Canton 859-1133
- MT. OLIVE MISSIONARY BAPTIST**
111 Mt. Olive Church Rd., Madison 853-3100
- MT. PISGAH MISSIONARY BAPTIST**
793 Pisgah Bottom Rd. Canton 859-4329
- NEW BETHEL BAPTIST**
101 James Ave., Canton 859-2829
- NEW BIRTH FELLOWSHIP MISSIONARY BAPTIST**
837 Old Agency Rd., Madison 856-5279
- NEW LIFE BAPTIST**
385 N. Old Canton Rd. Madison 856-8722
- NEW TRUELIGHT BAPTIST**
363 John Day Rd., Canton 859-5237
- OLD RICE ROAD BAPTIST**
82 Old Rice Rd., Madison 853-7500
- OLD TRUELIGHT MISSIONARY BAPTIST**
128 Summerlin Rd., Canton 859-3555
- PILGRIM REST BAPTIST**
239 Crawford St., Madison 856-2609
- PILGRIM REST MISSIONARY BAPTIST**
701 Hwy. 43, Canton 859-6716
- PILGRIM REST MISSIONARY BAPTIST**
852 Madison Ave. #A, Madison 856-2609
- PILGRIM REST MISSIONARY BAPTIST**
409 Main, Madison 856-2609
- PINE GROVE MISSIONARY**

- BAPTIST**
249 Pine Grove Rd., Canton 855-2060
- PLEASANT GIFT MISSIONARY BAPTIST**
2055 Pleasant Gift Rd., Canton 859-3004
- PLEASANT GREEN BAPTIST**
3920 Hwy. 43 N., Canton 859-5186
- PLEASANT GROVE MISSIONARY BAPTIST**
2184 Hwy. 22, Canton 859-5101
- PRIESTLEY CHAPEL MISSIONARY BAPTIST**
Virilia Rd., Canton 859-8449
- RIDGECREST BAPTIST**
7469 Old Canton Rd., Madison 853-1090
- RIDLEY HILL MISSIONARY BAPTIST**
1034 N. Livingston Rd., Madison 853-1068
- RISING CHAPEL BAPTIST**
127 Rising Chapel Rd., Canton 859-4393
- ROCKY HILL BAPTIST**
390 County Barn Rd., Madison 856-0759
- SHADY GROVE BAPTIST**
168 Shady Grove Rd., Flora 879-3380
- SHARON COMMUNITY BAPTIST**
114 Church St., Canton 859-5656
- SIMMONS MEMORIAL BAPTIST**
118 Memorial Rd., Flora 879-8105
- SIMON HILL BAPTIST**
139 W. Ridgeland Ave., 853-2669
- SMITH CHAPEL BAPTIST**
323 Livingston Vernon Rd. Flora 879-9110
- SMITH CHAPEL BAPTIST**
Hwy. 49 S., Flora 879-8185
- SOUTH LIBERTY BAPTIST**
531 S. Liberty St., Canton 859-1279
- SOUTHERN HILLS MISSIONARY BAPTIST**
1419 Hwy. 16 W., Canton 859-3523
- ST. JAMES MISSIONARY BAPTIST**
814 Old Yazoo City Rd. Canton 859-3001
- ST. PETER MISSIONARY BAPTIST**
2300 Stump Bridge Road Camden, MS
- STOKES CHAPEL BAPTIST**
902 Stokes Rd., Flora 879-3826
- TRACE RIDGE BAPTIST**
238 Lake Harbour Dr. 898-2003
- TWIN LAKES BAPTIST**
673 Lake Cavalier Rd. Madison 856-2305
- UNION HILL MISSIONARY BAPTIST**
4549 Hwy. 22, Flora 879-9060
- VICTORY BAPTIST**
420 Hoy Rd., Madison 856-4260
- WILSON GROVE BAPTIST**
Cox Ferry Rd. NE, Flora 879-8602
- WOODMAN HILL MISSIONARY BAPTIST**
468 Kearney Park Rd., Flora 879-83470

State Farm
Providing Insurance and Financial Services
601-790-2600
www.Jdorsa.com



John Dorsa, CPCU

Natchez Trace Funeral Home
Funeral Home, Cemetery, Crematory
Mausoleum, Pet Columbarium, Memorials & Cremation Benches
All in ONE location
Stop by anytime for a tour!
Pre-Need Financing Available!
Locally owned and Operated!
601-898-8565

AMS MORTGAGE
License # 46249
DAN D'AMICO License #46776
VICKIE GRAVES License #46774
601-607-4750 office
601-607-4727 fax
www.amsmort.com

Mississippi Licensed Mortgage Company
7738A Old Canton Road, Madison, MS 39110

Ozborn Communications, LLC
"Wireless Communications & Public Safety Equipment Since 1975"
www.ozborncommunications.com
201 N. Hargon Street PO Box 307 Canton, MS 39046
24 Hr. Phone 601-859-3433
sales@ozborncommunications.com

Preserve the Trees
Thru Greater Depths
853-8700
Supertalk 97.3 FM
Saturday 10 a.m.
Atlas Foundation Repair
www.allcreaturesacc.vetsuite.com

All Creatures Animal Care Center
262 New Mansdale Road • Madison, MS 39110
Telephone (601) 856-5333
Fax 856-1979

First Baptist MADISON
BIBLE FELLOWSHIP 9:00am & 10:30am
WORSHIP 9:00am, 10:30am & 6:00pm
Dr. Ronnie Falvey, Senior Pastor
2100 Main Street • FBCCMadison.org • 601.856.6177

CARSHOP INC.
HONDA • ACURA • LEXUS • TOYOTA
114 Centre Street • Ridgeland, MS 39157 Maintenance & Repair
www.HondaCarShop.net 601-991-9663
We do it all.

Barnett's BODY SHOP
5 locations to serve and 24 Hour Towing Service
Ridgeland 601-856-0700 Richtland 601-664-9770
Lakeland 601-959-9700 South 601-372-0042
Shil9328@gmail.com Gluckstadt 601-499-1700

Mississippi's leading resource for office products and business communications solutions.
ABS Copier and Printing Mailing and Shipping
5442 Executive Plaza Jackson, MS 39206
601-362-9192
www.ABSMS.com

HOSPICE & PALLIATIVE CARE Compassus
Serving with Heartful Compassion
Tammy Foster Executive Director tammy.foster@compassus.com
3010 Lakeland Cove Suite Z-1 Flowood, MS 39232
601-996-0492
601-956-9755
601-981-9354

Prime Care Nursing
CAREGIVERS/NURSES
ALL AGES • 2-24 HOURS a Day
pcnursing.com 601.977.8484

SCOTT PETROLEUM CORPORATION
www.scottpetroleuminc.com
2494 South Liberty Canton, MS 39046
Office: 601-859-3601
Fax: 601-859-3602
Call: 662-571-9960
vmartin@scottpetroleuminc.com

MADISON COUNTY JOURNAL
Your Hometown Newspaper
Subscribe online today at mymcj.com



RIDGELAND ... STANDING STRONG TOGETHER



**CITY OF RIDGELAND
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

www.ridgelandchamber.com | admin@ridgelandchamber.com | 601.991.9996

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the City of Ridgeland Chamber of Commerce is to encourage an economic environment conducive to the continuing development of new and existing business.



**RIDGELAND CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
TOP GUN CHALLENGE | CLAY SHOOT**

NEW DATE
APRIL 22, 2021
AT TURCOTTE SHOOTING FACILITY
100 Turcotte Lab Drive • Canton, MS

SCHEDULE
REGISTRATION • 9:30 - 10:00am
INSTRUCTION • 10:00 - 10:15am
PREPARE STATIONS • 10:15 - 10:30am
SHOT TIME • 10:30am
LUNCH • 12:30pm

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS

BROWNING SPONSORS

- BankPlus
- Bulldog Construction
- Community Bank
- Dean and Dean Associates/Architects
- Merrill Lynch
- Michael Baker International
- Morgan White Group
- Paramount Construction Group, LLC
- Parkway Development, Inc.
- Penn's Restaurant & Catering
- PriorityOne Bank
- TrustCare Express Medical Clinic
- Waggoner Engineering

INDIVIDUALS

- Green Oak Florist & Garden Center
- JM Hughes Group

STATION SPONSORS

- Barnett's Body Shop
- First Commercial Bank
- Parkway Development, Inc.
- Renasant Bank
- Trustmark National Bank
- Wells Marble & Hurst, PLLC
- Young Wells Williams, P.A.

DOOR PRIZE SPONSORS

- Guns-N-Gear
- Joe T's Wines & Spirits
- ORVIS
- PriorityOne Bank
- The Range by Jimmy Primos
- Southern Connection

LUNCH SPONSOR



WHAT TO DO & WHEN TO DO IT

- Thursday, April 1 • 5:30 P.M.**
Ridgeland Easter Egg Hunt
Freedom Ridge Park
- Sunday, April 4**
Easter Sunday
- Tuesday, April 6 • 7:15 A.M.**
Junior Diplomat First Tuesday
Embassy Suites • 200 Township Place
Host: Ridgeland Tourism Commission
- Thursday, April 8 • 10:30 A.M.**
POSTPONED
Ribbon Cutting
424 Northpark Drive, Suite B
- Tuesday, April 13 • 10:30 A.M.**
Ribbon Cutting
Me Myselfie & I, LLC
731 S. Pear Orchard Road, Suite 14
- Wednesday, April 14 • 11:30 A.M.**
Board of Directors Meeting
Young Wells Williams P.A.
141 Township Avenue, Suite 300
- Thursday, April 15 • 8:30 A.M.**
Diplomat Orientation
Embassy Suites • 200 Township Place
RSVP to 601.991.9996
- Thursday, April 22 • 9:30 A.M.**
Top Gun Challenge Clay Shoot
Turcotte Shooting Facility
100 Turcotte Lab Drive, Canton, MS
- Tuesday, April 27 • 10:30 A.M.**
Ribbon Cutting
The Rose Garden at The Orchard
600 S. Pear Orchard Road
- Friday, April 30 thru • Sunday, May 2**
Ridgeland Fine Arts Festival
Art Wine & Wheels Weekend
Renaissance at Colony Park
www.artwineandwheels.com
- Saturday, May 1 • 7 A.M.**
Natchez Trace Century Ride
www.bikesignup.com/Race/MS/Ridgeland

april 30-may 2 • 2021 **RIDGELAND, MISSISSIPPI** **renaissance at colony park**

Friday Evening, April 30 through Sunday, May 2
RIDGELAND FINE ARTS FESTIVAL
A juried fine arts festival featuring artists from across America
Music • Children's Activities • Pup Park • Food

Friday Evening, April 30
KICK OFF PARTY
Dr. Zarr's Amazing Funk Monster Band

RUN NOW WINE LATER 5K

Saturday, May 1
NATCHEZ TRACE CENTURY RIDE

Saturday - Sunday, May 1-2
SANTE SOUTH SAMPLING PALATES
Wine and Craft Beer Tastings
Benefiting the MIND Center of UMMC

ArtWineAndWheels.com + Facebook.com/ ArtWineAndWheels

SAVE THE DATE!
Monday, May 31, 2021 • 11 A.M.
Dedication for the Veterans Memory Park at Ridgeland
100 WEST SCHOOL STREET
WITH SPECIAL GUEST
JANSON D. BOYLES
ADJUTANT GENERAL FOR THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

HAPPY SPRING
"Where flowers bloom so does hope."
Lady Bird Johnson,
Former First Lady, 1963-1969

MEMBER CITY OF RIDGELAND CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
Ridgeland... Standing Strong Together
2021

WE'RE PAINTING THE TOWN BLUE & GOLD WITH OUR 2021 MEMBERSHIP PLAQUES!

Thank you, Ridgeland Chamber members for renewing your 2021 membership! Please take advantage of all our many benefits designed to help your business succeed!

RIDGELAND MISSISSIPPI
ALL ABOUT RIDGELAND
The Ridgeland Chamber's 2020-2021 Community Profile & Membership Directory is now available at the Chamber office. Call us at 601-991-9996 or come by 754 S. Pear Orchard Road to pick up additional complimentary copies.

JUNIOR DIPLOMAT OF THE MONTH
FEBRUARY 2021
SARAH NASH
Ridgeland High School

Junior Diplomats at New City Hall - Ridgeland Mayor Gene McGee hosted the Junior Diplomats March First Tuesday meeting. The students enjoyed visiting the new City Hall and received a tour of the facility.

2021 RIDGELAND CHAMBER BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PRESIDENT
J. Chase Bryan
Young Wells Williams, P.A.

VICE-PRESIDENT
Ray Balentine
Michael Baker International

TREASURER
Nathan Best
First Commercial Bank

Dan Ambrosino
Parkway Development, Inc.

David Broadway
Members Exchange Credit Union

Nicky Cobb
Renasant Bank

Beth Henry
Staffers, Inc.

Joel Lofton
Barnett's Body Shop

Jonathan McDaniel
Paramount Construction Group, LLC

Kevin Rogers
Wells Marble & Hurst, PLLC

Billy Siddall
Merrill Lynch

Ronnie Tubertini
SouthGroup Insurance Services

CHAMBER STAFF
Linda Bynum,
Executive Director,
Sandy Baas,
Administrative Assistant

You are braver than you believe, stronger than you seem, and smarter than you think.
- Winnie the Pooh

Madison County Law Enforcement Appreciation Week
May 9-15, 2021

GREEN OAK
Green Oak Florist At The Township, Ridgeland • Green Oak Florist And Garden Center, Jackson
greenoakms.com