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BUSINESS

CAL-MAINE MOVES HQ TO RIDGELAND

Highland Colony Parkway — See page A2

MADISON

MAYOR, BOARD SWORN IN TUESDAY

New term— See page A7



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CITY MEETING

Gluckstadt expecting \$150K monthly

By SCOTT HAWKINS scott@onlinemadison.com

GLUCKSTADT — The city expects to begin receiving about \$150,000 per month in sales tax revenue starting in August...

Tuesday night. Legal requirements often have overlapping deadlines, officials are seeing as they process through the process.

can proceed with finalizing a formal budget for this year that ends Sept. 30. "You can't spend it if don't have a budget," said Chris Watson...

projections show the city should receive the about \$150,000 per month in revenue beginning in August even without a city property tax...

He said aldermen will need to set a budget soon before the fiscal year ends Sept. 30 and will need to immediately produce another budget for the 2022 fiscal year budget that begins Oct. 1.

have to determine what, if any city services, such as garbage pickup, road maintenance, police protection, they will provide this fiscal year and next.



Brooks Bryan, right, of Madison, and his wife Beth are pictured with Michael Hardy, known to country music fans as Hardy, at the College World Series in Omaha after State's National Championship win last week.

Former Bulldog reflects on Omaha

By STEVE SWOGETINSKY news@onlinemadison.com

MADISON — Mississippi State baseball alum Brooks Bryan played in two of Mississippi State's 12 World Series appearances and he was on hand last week to see the Bulldog's claim the team's first College World Series championship.

three 9-0. Mississippi State finished the season with a 50-18 win record. "I saw 10 or 12 ex-teammates there, and we all said the same thing," Bryan said.

were the runner-up in 2013. "A lot of people don't understand how hard it is to get to Omaha," Bryan said. "Some people compare getting to Omaha like getting to the Sweet 16 in basketball but it is more than that.

DRIVE-BY KILLING Boy, 15, shot dead on porch

By JOHN LEE john@onlinemadison.com

CANTON — A 15-year-old boy sitting on his grandmother's porch was gunned down in a drive-by shooting here late Thursday, the authorities said. Police are searching for suspects in the shooting on north West Street that killed Demarian Tillman, 15, of Texas...

NEW STAGE THEATRE

Madison campers to perform 'Shrek'

By JOHN LEE john@onlinemadison.com

Ridgeland's Daryl Jenkins plans to finish off his final year at New Stage Theatre's Summer Day Camp with a bang by putting his own flair into the role of the iconic green ogre Shrek in their upcoming production of "Shrek the Musical Jr."

mer Day Camp participants will perform in "Shrek the Musical Jr." from July 15 through July 18. The performances are Thursday through Sunday at 7 p.m., with additional 2 p.m. matinee performances on Saturday and Sunday.

p.m. The morning campers group will perform Thursday, July 15, at 7 p.m.; Saturday, July 17, at 2 p.m.; and Sunday, July 18, at 7 p.m. Jenkins said he took an interest in theater when he was in the fourth grade and has participated in New Stage Theatre's summer camps for the past three years.



New Stage Summer Camp members practice their upcoming performance, Shrek the Musical Jr. Pictured, from left: Isaiah Harris as Big Bad Wolf, Sarah Stoddard as Peter Pan, Angela Cole as Little Red Riding Hood, Jacob Jefferson as Bishop, Ethan Hartfield as Pig #3, Treasure White as the Wicked Witch, and Mary Bishop as Snow White.



One of largest U.S. egg producers moves HQ

By **DUNCAN DENT**
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RIDGELAND — Cal-Maine Foods, the largest producer and distributor of shell eggs in the United States selling under brands including Egg-Land's Best and Land O' Lakes, has moved its headquarters here.

The Madison County Economic Development Authority made the announcement on June 17 that Cal-Maine had moved its headquarters to Ridgeland from Jackson.

The company will share a building with Harper Rains Knight & Company accountants at 1052 Highland Colony Parkway.

MCEDA Executive Director Joseph Deason said that Cal-Maine decided to move to Ridgeland on their own, although MCEDA officials have had meetings with company officials.

"This did not originate with us but we are excited they decided to move their headquarters," Deason said. "They are a good company with a good brand and we are happy to welcome them to the county and specifically to the city of Ridgeland."

Cal-Maine CFO Max Bowman declined to comment on the move.

According to the company's website, Cal-Maine founder Fred Adams started his first chicken farm on leased property in 1958 in Mendenhall.

In 1963, the enterprise expanded to build the world's largest egg farm in Edwards.

In 1969 Adams Foods, Incorporated merged with Dairy Fresh Products Company of California and Maine Egg Farms of Lewiston, Maine creating Cal-Maine Foods, Inc., supplying eggs from California to Maine.

Since becoming a public company in 1996, Cal-Maine has continued to grow through the acquisition of other egg farms across the country and has maintained its position as the largest producer and distributor of fresh shell eggs in the United States. In 2014 the Company achieved a milestone by selling over one billion dozen eggs in one year.

Cal-Maine eggs are sold mostly in mid-Atlantic, Midwestern, Southeastern, and Southwestern states accounting for approximately a quarter of US egg consumption.



Cal-Maine Foods has moved its company headquarters to Highland Colony Parkway in Ridgeland.

Shrek

Continued from page A1

learning experience.

"I don't want to act out what I've seen on Broadway," Jenkins said. "I want to be my version of the character. We hope everyone comes out to see the show. It's going to be very enjoyable."

Jenkins plans to attend the Chicago College of Performing Arts in the fall and to pursue a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in Musical Theatre.

Erin Morton, who is also of Ridgeland and a recent Ridgeland High School graduate, is playing the role of Fiona in the afternoon sessions performances along with Jenkins. Morton said meeting new people and acting along with her fellow crew members is her favorite part of being in theater.

"I'm excited for Shrek Jr., mostly because this is my first lead role, and I think this community is going to love the show," Morton said. "This is our first full-house show since before COVID, so that adds to the excitement."

Morton got into theater in



Members of New Stage Summer Camp's "Shrek the Musical Jr." pose together. Pictured in the back row, from left: Erin Morton, Sarah Stoddard, Chloe Crawford, Hope Cuevas, Harrison Palmerton, Daryl Jenkins, and Cayman Jackson. Pictured in the front row, from left: Mary Bishop, Dylan Thomas, Audrey Holt, Catherine Hawkins, and Thelma Frank.

ninth grade and has taken part in New Stage Theatre performances since 2019. She said she also plans on pursuing a BFA in Musical Theatre, but she is unsure what college she will be attending.

Other performers participating in "Shrek the Musical

Jr." from Madison County in the morning session productions are, from Madison, Eva Albright, Ella Allen, Grace Coon, Karlie Edmonson, Emma Henry, Addy Huddleston, Caden Miller, Colin Ridgway and Chloe Vizier; from Ridgeland, Adrienne

Tanaka and Jory Tanaka; and from Canton, Lucy Harper.

Madison County performers participating in the afternoon session productions are, from Madison, Mary Bishop, Chloe "Astro" Crawford, Hope Cuevas, Audrey Holt, Harrison Palmerton and Dylan Thomas;

from Ridgeland Thelma Franklin, Catherine Hawkins, Cayman Jackson, Daryl Jenkins and Erin Morton; and, from Canton, Sarah Stoddard.

Sharon Miles has been directing at New Stage for four years and got into directing because of her love for telling

stories and all the collaborative aspects of theater.

"You have a lot of fun, but you're also singing, acting, dancing and honing in all these skills," Miles said. "The best part, however, is the students coming together who come from many different schools and areas and find a common goal."

Miles said New Stage selected Shrek Jr. as the first full-house show of 2021 to fit the theme of opening back up and interacting with the community again, which she said she sees as a parallel to Shrek leaving his isolated swamp and interacting with people and things outside of his comfort zone.

"We had several shows to choose from, and we wanted to send a specific message to the community," Miles said. "It's perfect considering the times we are in."

Miles said the show has been great, and the best part is seeing the students and the energy they've brought to the stage.

Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$10 for children 12 and under and can be purchased by calling the New Stage box office at 601-948-3533 or ordered online at www.newstagetheatre.com.

Omaha

Continued from page A1

program. Nothing is ever given to Mississippi State. You have to work to get everything and nothing is ever easy."

Bryan, who grew up in

Philadelphia, Mississippi, and played baseball for Philadelphia High School, played two seasons at East Central Community College. From there, he signed with the Bulldogs under coach Ron Polk. He redshirted in 1996. Then he started in the outfield for Mississippi State in 1997 and 1998. He was a big part of both of those teams that won a Regional tournament and

made it to the College World Series. He was the MVP of one of those regionals and made the all-region team both years.

It has stuck in Bryan's gut that despite having outstanding records and memorable seasons, the Bulldogs have always gone home empty-handed.

But they didn't this year. "This means so much," Bryan said. "It goes back all the way to 1985 when I first started following State with Will Clark and Rafael Palmeiro. It is a long time coming for this program and this university."

Bryan works in sales for Intuitive Surgical. He has been a volunteer baseball coach at Madison Central High School. But he wasn't able to coach this year because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

That turned out good for Bryan. He was able to attend most of Mississippi State's home series on the weekend. "I enjoyed that," Bryan said. "This may be the end of coaching for me."

While in Omaha, Bryan enjoyed running into many friends including country music sensation Hardy, who is also from Philadelphia, and will be performing later this month at the Neshoba County Fair.

"I saw Michael Hardy," Bryan said. "He's Hardy (the country singer) now. He's playing on Tuesday night of the Fair so I want to ... see him. My family has a camper site. We will come in Saturday and Sunday, go home and then come back on Tuesday."

County's assessed value increases 2.7 percent

By SCOTT HAWKINS
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Madison County experienced a 2.7% rate of growth last year in overall assessed value of real and personal property putting the total value at \$13.5 billion.

The county's total assessed value is \$1,886,848,976, the county's Tax Assessor told the Board of Supervisors on Tuesday.

Madison County Tax Assessor Norman A. Cannady Jr. told supervisors the total number reflects the rate of growth for the overall assessed value of real and personal property.

Cannady's remarks came during his presentation of the county's 2021 real and personal property tax rolls in the supervisor's meeting that on Tuesday.

"The total true value has increased by approximately \$324.4 million and the assessed value has increased by approximately \$49 million since the 2020 tax roll," Cannady said. "That reflects a 2.7% rate of growth for the overall assessed value from 2020 to 2021."

Madison County's five-year growth rate is currently 3.13% for the overall assessed value, Cannady said.

"The tax roll currently

includes 55,663 real property parcels of which 39,535 are assessed with improvements and 4,514 personal property accounts," Cannady said. "We processed 3,512 homestead applications between Jan. 1 and April 1 this year. We currently have a total of \$28,142 homestead accounts."

Madison County residential property has an overall true value of \$10,760,735,372 and an assessed value of \$1,288,477,730, Cannady Jr. said.

"This represents around a \$273.5 million increase in true value or a \$28.4 million increase in assessed value from the board-approved 2020

roll," he said.

Some changes that fueled the growth, Cannady told supervisors, are an increase in platted subdivisions and new construction.

"For 2021 we added 665 new residential homes to the tax roll," Cannady said.

Personal property has a true value of \$1,618,048,418 and an assessed value of \$242,710,550, which represents a decrease of approximately \$35.2 million true value or \$4.9 million of assessed value from the 2020 tax rolls, Cannady said.

"In recent years, class III personal property (except for automobiles) has consistently

seen an increase in assessed value from year to year," Cannady said. "This year this category was more vulnerable due to the pandemic and the economic factors contributed to this decrease."

The assessed value of public utilities, which are assessed by the Mississippi Department of Revenue, this year is \$53,043,286, which is a \$2.5 million increase over the 2020 assessed value, Cannady said.

Motor vehicles and mobile homes are \$302,617,410, which is a \$23 million increase over the assessed valuation from last year, he said.

"I would like to thank my staff for all of their hard

work," Cannady said. "As you know this has been an interesting year or year and a half and we've had to adapt a lot. They have worked extremely hard. I am proud of them and I really appreciate all of their efforts."

Following his presentation of the real and personal property tax rolls, Cannady asked supervisors to consider building a new facility to house what he said are the growing staffs of the Madison County Tax Assessor's and Tax Collector's offices which share a facility.

Supervisors took his request under advisement.

Judge orders new Canton aldermen elections with no decision on mayoral challenge

By SCOTT HAWKINS
scott@onlinemadison.com

CANTON — At least two elections for alderman will get a re-do here after a special judge, in a ruling last week, vacated the April 6 primary results. Meanwhile, the mayor's race has not been decided.

Canton voters will go to the polls on Aug. 17 for a do-over in Democrat Party primary races for the aldermen positions in Wards 2 and Ward 5.

"The will of the voters of Wards 2 and 5 could not be ascertained from the reported results of the 2021 Democratic primary elections in Wards 2 and 5, and, therefore, any and all reported results of the Ward 2 and 5 Democratic primary elections are vacated and void," Special Judge Jeff Weill Sr.'s order states.

The order also states that all parties — incumbent Ward 2 Alderman Fred Esco Jr. and challenger Renee Truss and incumbent Ward 5 Alderman Tim C. Taylor and challenger John E. Brown — through their attorneys and the court, agreed to the terms of the order.

The decision came after three incumbent Democratic aldermen — Ward 1 Alderman Rodriguez Brown, Esco Jr. and Taylor — filed lawsuits chal-

lenging the process by which candidates were placed on the city's Democratic Party primary ballots that they said was tainted because of two Canton Democratic Municipal Executive Committees that are mired in ongoing court battles.

One Canton Democratic Municipal Executive Committee is headed up by elected members John Scanlan and Marion Freeman Sr. and claims to be the only "legitimate Canton Democratic Municipal Executive Committee."

The other Canton Democratic Municipal Executive Committee was formed by incumbent Democrat Canton Mayor William Truly's wife, Natwassie Truly, who was also elected to be a committee member, and others she appointed after she said members of the other elected committee had failed to do their jobs.

Weill, who was appointed to hear the cases from the three incumbent Canton Democrat aldermen who lost their primary bids for reelection, had previously ruled on June 15 that the Truly committee was not legitimate and therefore was not authorized to have hired the Blackmon & Blackmon PLLC law firm to handle challenges in cases heard in Madison County Circuit Court

in March ahead of the April 6 primary elections and therefore the ballots were invalid.

Weill's Wednesday, June 30, ruling did not address incumbent Ward 1 Alderman Rodriguez Brown's complaint about the issue nor did it address the mayor's race in which William Truly defeated Republican challenger Chip Matthews 739 to 498.

After, Weill's June 15 ruling, however, the Canton Municipal Election Commission, sent a letter to the Mississippi Secretary of State's office saying they could not certify the general election results in the mayor's race or in Wards 1, 2 and 5 because of the ongoing legal issues.

Matthews later declared himself the winner of the mayor's race, citing Weill's June 15 order and the Canton Municipal Election Commission's failure to certify the general election results, and filed a complaint in Madison Circuit Court asking the court to throw out the mayoral race results and declare Matthews the winner.

Other stipulations in Weill's Wednesday ruling in the Wards 2 and 5 cases include:

- "To the fullest extent allowed by Mississippi law, the special elections should be conducted by the Madison

County Election Commission and Madison County Circuit Clerk and that, to authorize such conduct of the special election by the Madison County Election Commission and Madison County Circuit Clerk, the Court hereby directs the Madison County Election Commission and Madison County Circuit Clerk to conduct the special elections to the fullest extent authorized by Mississippi law;

- "Because the results of the 2021 Democratic primary elec-

tions for the positions of Alderman Wards 2 and 5 are void, there are no qualified elected persons to take such offices on the July 1, 2021, commencement of the new terms of such offices, and, accordingly, pursuant to Miss. Code Ann. 25-1-7, Fred Esco, Jr., and Timothy Taylor shall hold over and remain in the positions of Alderman Ward 2 and 5, respectively, until the results of the special elections are certified and the winning candidates are sworn in;

- "That the Circuit Clerk shall refund to each of the Petitioners Timothy Taylor and Fred Esco, Jr., the cost bonds they submitted when filing their petitions for judicial review.

- "That the Court shall maintain jurisdiction over these matters and the Parties' settlement agreement through and until completion of the special elections required hereunder and the swearing-in of the certified winners of such special elections."

City

Continued from page A1

mously appointed mayor pro temp during the meeting, made a motion that was unanimously approved authorizing Mayor Walter Morrison to meet with the county administrator and other county officials to discuss continuing county services before they set dates for budget workshops and public hearings for the budgeting process.

Also during Tuesday's meeting, the board unanimously agreed to authorize Morrison to work with City Attorney John Scanlan to draft a job description for a city clerk and to advertise the position with the hopes of hiring a clerk by the end of August after a budget is established.

The board also agreed the city will establish a Planning and Zoning Committee to develop a comprehensive plan for the city and to establish planning and zoning regulations based on Madison and other municipalities.

Each member of the Mayor and Board of Aldermen is to come to the next meeting with names of their appointees who are residents of the community and Morrison will appoint two members from the commercial and industrial sector with ties to the Gluckstadt community.

Tuesday's meeting lasted two and a half hours, but Williams said she believes it was a productive meeting.

"The meeting obviously was lengthy, but we had good

participation," Williams said. "I felt like the discussion was good, and we made some good progress."

In other matters during Tuesday's meeting:

- Madison County resident Micah Gober, a member of the Madison Historical Society, presented a framed copy of the city's first agenda signed by all members of the board to the board;

- Accepted a donation of \$500 from resident Bill Weisenberger;

- Accepted a handcrafted and handmade gavel and pad made by Weisenberger and Dustin Barrick, a teacher and a coach at Germantown High School and Germantown Middle School.

- Accepted a donation of furniture, including 18 executive chairs and an executive table from the Mississippi Board of Realtors and storage space for the furniture at Gluckstadt's StorageMax facility.

- Accepted a plaque from members of the Madison County Business League presented by Jan Collins.

- Discussed the need to find a suitable location for the board's regular meetings so as

not to impose on the St. Joseph Church that is currently letting the city use the church's Parish Hall.

- Adopted a resolution to participate in the Mississippi Municipal Liability Plan insurance.

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
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WLBTV3
10 a.m.

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Opinion & Editorials

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"To glorify God, and enjoy Him forever."

JAMES E. PRINCE III
President and Publisher

MICHAEL SIMMONS
Associate Publisher

SCOTT C. HAWKINS
Editor

EDITORIALS



We hold these truths...

We remember our independence with these excerpts from the Declaration of Independence, July 4, 1776:

When in the Course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bonds which have connected them with another, and to assume among the powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God entitle them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation.

We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.

That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed.

That whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its foundation on such principles and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and Happiness. Prudence, indeed, will dictate that Governments long established should not be changed for light and transient causes; and accordingly all experience hath shewn, that mankind are more disposed to suffer, while evils are sufferable, than to right themselves by abolishing the forms to which they are accustomed. But when a long train of abuses and usurpations, pursuing invariably the same Object evinces a design to reduce them under absolute Despotism, it is their right, it is their duty, to throw off such Government, and to provide new Guards for their future security.

Such has been the patient sufferance of these Colonies; and such is now the necessity which constrains them to alter their former Systems of Government. The history of the present King of Great Britain is a history of repeated injuries and usurpations, all having in direct object the establishment of an absolute Tyranny over these States.

... He has combined with others to subject us to a jurisdiction foreign to our constitution, and unacknowledged by our laws; giving his Assent to their Acts of pretended Legislation:

- For quartering large bodies of armed troops among us;
- For protecting them, by a mock Trial, from punishment for any Murders which they should commit on the inhabitants of these States;
- For cutting off our Trade with all parts of the world;
- For imposing Taxes on us without our Consent;
- For depriving us in many cases, of the benefits of Trial by Jury;
- For transporting us beyond Seas to be tried for pretended offenses;
- For abolishing the free System of Eng-

lish Laws in a neighbouring Province, establishing therein an Arbitrary government, and enlarging its Boundaries so as to render it at once an example and fit instruments for introducing the same absolute rule into these Colonies:

- For taking away our Charters, abolishing our most valuable Laws, and altering fundamentally the Forms of our Government;
 - For suspending our own Legislatures ...
- ... He has constrained our fellow Citizens taken Captive on the high Seas to bear Arms against their Country, to become the executioners of their friends and Brethren, or to fail themselves by their Hands.

He has excited domestic insurrections amongst us, and has endeavoured to bring on the inhabitants of our frontiers, the merciless Indian Savages, whose known rule of warfare, is an undistinguished destruction of all ages, sexes and conditions.

In every stage of these Oppressions We have Petitioned for Redress in the most humble terms: Our repeated Petitions have been answered only by repeated injury. A Prince, whose character is thus marked by every act which may define a Tyrant, is unfit to be the ruler of a free people.

Nor have We been wanting in attentions to our British brethren. We have warned them from time to time of attempts by their legislature to extend an unwarrantable jurisdiction over us. We have reminded them of the circumstances of our emigration and settlement here. We have appealed to their native justice and magnanimity, and we have conjured them by the ties of our common kindred to disavow these usurpations, which would inevitably interrupt our connections and correspondence. They too have been deaf to the voice of justice and of consanguinity. We must, therefore, acquiesce in the necessity, which denounces our Separation, and hold them, as we hold the rest of mankind, Enemies in War, in Peace Friends.

We, therefore, the Representatives of the united States of America, in General Congress, Assembled, appealing to the Supreme Judge of the world for the rectitude of our intentions, do, in the Name, and by Authority of the good People of these Colonies, solemnly publish and declared, that these United Colonies are, and of Right ought to be Free and Independent States, that they are Absolved from all Allegiance to the British Crown, and that all political connection between them and the State of Great Britain, is and ought to be totally dissolved; and that as Free and Independent States, they have full Power to levy War, conclude Peace, contract Alliances, establish Commerce, and to do all other Acts and Things which Independent States may or right do.

And for the support of this Declaration, with a firm reliance on the protection of divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our Lives, our Fortunes and our sacred Honor.

PATRICK J. BUCHANAN

As America recedes

*As America recedes,
China rises as
a dominant power.*

As our July Fourth celebrations were beginning, the U.S. quietly closed and abandoned Bagram Air Base, the largest American military base between the Persian Gulf and the South China Sea.

Afghan looters were soon seen scavenging inside the base.

The long retreat of the American Empire is underway, and this longest war is likely to end in bloody retribution for the Afghans who sided with us against the Taliban and are left behind.

When the last American departed Bagram, The Wall Street Journal reported that the U.S. is making plans for "an emergency evacuation of the American embassy in Kabul amid concern that a worsening security situation in Afghanistan could imperil the remaining military and diplomatic corps."

Apparently, we are preparing for a possible Saigon '75 finish to the war launched by George W. Bush 20 years ago. Pressed by reporters on the grim situation in Afghanistan, President Joe Biden did not want to reflect on or talk about what might be coming.

"I want to talk about happy things, man," Biden told reporters. "Look, it's Fourth of July ... it's the holiday weekend. I'm going to celebrate it. There's great things happening."

In that same edition, the Journal reported that China has moved 50,000 troops to the border region with India where forces of the two nations, in June 2020, had their bloodiest skirmish in decades.

Other reports suggest that China intends to fill the vacuum left by the departure of America's power and provide billions from its Belt and Road Initiative to build a highway from Kabul, Afghanistan, to Peshawar, Pakistan.

As America executes its strategic retreat from Central Asia, China is on the move.

In addition to militarizing its frontier with India, China is reasserting its maximalist

claims to the South China Sea, ending independence and crushing democracy in Hong Kong, continuing cultural genocide against the Uyghurs, and regularly sending swarms of warplanes toward Taiwan to transmit the message to Taipei that annexation is but a matter of time.

Nor was Chinese President Xi Jinping's address on the 100th anniversary of the establishment of the Chinese Communist Party an exercise in nuance.

"We'll never accept insufferably arrogant lecturing from those 'master teachers!'" said Xi, drawing a roar from the crowd of party members and veterans. Clad in a Mao suit, Xi had other warnings for those who seek to stand in the way of Communist China's destiny:

"The Chinese people will never allow foreign forces to bully, oppress or enslave us ... Whoever nurses delusions of doing that will crack their heads and spill blood on the Great Wall of steel built from the flesh and blood of 1.4 billion Chinese people."

Undeniably, Xi and his predecessors have an awesome record, as the Financial Times relates:

"China's emergence over the past four decades ranks as the biggest and longest-run economic boom in history. Its annual gross domestic product rose from a mere \$191bn, or \$195 per capita, in 1980 to \$14.3tn, or \$10,261 per capita, in 2019. It has raised more than 770m people from poverty and transformed the Chinese economy into a high-tech powerhouse that is on course to eclipse America's in size. This transformation is the landmark achievement of the Chinese Communist party, which celebrates its 100th anniversary on Thursday."

China's growth could not have been achieved had it not

been for the U.S. decision to throw open the world's largest consumer market to Chinese-made goods, to bring Beijing into the World Trade Organization, and to sit idly by as a huge slice of U.S. industry and manufacturing was transhipped to China for production there and not here.

Between 1990 and 2021, U.S. imports of Chinese-made goods provided Beijing with the trillions it has accumulated to finance its strategic objective of becoming the first power on earth.

But this is water over the dam. Where do we go from here?

China's assets are impressive. At 1.4 billion people, it has the largest population on earth. If its growth rate continues, it will have the largest economy. Its strategic arsenal of nuclear weapons is a fraction of ours, but given the horrendous damage these weapons can do, a nuclear war would be ruinous if not mortal for both countries.

In terms of conventional military — ships, soldiers, planes, guns, missiles and bases in the East Asia-Western Pacific theater where any war between us would be fought — China's advantages are greater.

And of the issues over which we might fight — islands, rocks, reefs in the South and East China Seas, and Taiwan — none of them is claimed by us or vital to us. All are claimed by China as rightly theirs.

In the Cold War with the USSR, time, it turned out, was on our side. But in the last decade, Xi Jinping might fairly see time as having switched sides. Either way, we are surely better off relying upon our abilities rather than our weapons to win the competition and settle the rivalry that may settle the future of mankind.

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

JON GATLIN | GUEST COLUMN

Living death

I confess that my subject calls for wisdom and talent which exceeds most people and especially me, yet I see the necessity for awakening a realization of the plight of all mankind. It is said that this is the post-Christian era and that Christendom has collapsed but that the church remains as a living and functioning entity although without much power. The Reformation swept through Europe over 500 years ago but vestiges of its being a world changer are still present today. One facet of Biblical teaching that seems noticeably lacking today is the just punishment of God upon those who are not and will not be brought under the covering and protection of Jesus Christ. There is no other name, way or system given for salvation from this punishment. Deuteronomy 4:24 states, "... God is a consuming fire, a jealous God." Even in the Gospel age God is still a consuming fire (Matthew 13:41-42). To neglect this offer in Christ by denial or hypocrisy is cause to fall into God's everlasting curse and punishment. This condemnation has no opportunity of escape. No bribe for the judge, appeal to ignorance, no legal loophole, no insanity plea, no technicality which negates the charges, no excuse — none. There is no way of mercy left. The door is shut and no one escapes.

The ruin of others should make us more watchful. Calamity and affliction should produce repentance and obedience in those who claim to be Christians. Those who do not have faith should note that all these calamities are warnings. God generally warns before He strikes (see Hebrews 11:7, Hebrews 12:25). Possibly the following excerpt from a text of the late 12th century entitled "Sawles Warde" by Death's Messenger will elicit an apprehension of the offer of escape in Jesus alone. Its descriptions may or may not be close to that which we know very little about yet it catches the tenor of the perpetuity and horror of the second death which, I must add, is not ceasing to be.

"Sawles Warde"
"Hell is immeasurably wide, and bottomless in depth; it is full of incomparable burning, for no earthly fire can compare with it; it is full of unbearable stench, for no living thing on earth could stand it; it is full of indescribable sorrow, for no mouth can reckon it or describe it, because of its misery and suffering. The darkness in it is so thick that it can be touched, for the fire gives no light but blinds the eyes of those within with a suffocating smoke, the most awful fumes; and yet, in that very black darkness they can see black things, such as devils which beat them and torment them always, and torture them with every kind of torture, and dragons with tails, as terrible as devils, which swallow them whole and then spew them out again both in front and behind, and sometimes tear them apart and chew them up, every bit — but afterwards they become whole again to face the same unredeemable suffering that they had before. They can see quite clearly, to their fear and horror and to increase their torment, the loathsome reptiles of hell, toads and frogs, which eat out their eyes and the gristle of their noses, and adders and frogs creep in and out, — not like those here [on earth] but a hundred times more hor-

rible — at the mouth and at the ears, at the eyes and at the navel, and at the hollow of the cheek, like maggots in rotten flesh, thicker than you have ever seen them. In the burning there is wailing, and in the ice-cold waters there is chattering of the teeth; they move quickly from the heat into the cold, and they can never tell which of the two seems worse to them, for they are both intolerable. In this rapid alternation the second [experience] always hurts all the more because of the first. The fire burns them up into cold ashes; the pitch boils them until they melt away, and immediately they revive to suffer all the same pain over again, and far worse, always without end. And this very despair is their worst torment, in that none of them has any hope of ever recovering; they know for certain that every evil will last in sorrow forever through world after world, into eternity. Each person crowds upon the other; each one is the other's torment; each one hates both the other and himself like the black devil: always, the more they loved them in this world, the more intensely they hate them there. Each one curses the other, and bites off his ears and his nose."

Acts 17: 30b-31 states, "God is now declaring to men that all everywhere should repent, because He has fixed a day in which He will judge the world in righteousness through a Man whom He has appointed, having furnished proof to all men by raising Him from the dead."

Jon Gatlin, a longtime Madison County resident and Journal subscriber, lives in the Sharpsburg community near Pickens.

BIBLE SELECTION

And the Lord will be king over all the earth. On that day the Lord will be one and his name one.

— Zechariah 14:9 (ESV)

LETTERS

The Journal welcomes letters, comments or suggestions: President and Publisher Jim Prince
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County wants out of Canton election

By SCOTT HAWKINS
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Removing Madison County from the tangled Canton elections controversy is what supervisors have asked their board attorney to investigate following a judge's order to oversee the vote.

A special election was ordered last week by a special judge presiding over a case brought by three Democrat incumbent aldermen who lost their seats in this year's primaries.

Special Judge Jeff Weill Sr., last week vacated Canton's April 6 primary results and ordered an Aug. 17 re-do in primary aldermen races for the city's Wards 2 and 5 in which incumbent Ward 2 Alderman Fred Esco Jr., lost to challenger Renee Truss and incumbent Ward 5 Alderman Tim C. Taylor lost to challenger John E. Brown.

Weill's July 1 order states that "to the fullest extent allowed by Mississippi law, the special elections should be conducted by the Madison County Election Commission and Madison County Circuit Clerk

and that, to authorize such conduct of the special election by the Madison County Election Commission and Madison County Circuit Clerk, the Court hereby directs the Madison County Election Commission and Madison County Circuit Clerk to conduct the special elections to the fullest extent authorized by Mississippi law."

During Tuesday's Board of Supervisors meeting, supervisors unanimously passed a motion acknowledging receipt of Weill's judgment and to "order and to authorize the county attorney to investigate and take any and all actions to remove the Madison County Circuit Clerk, the Madison County Election Commission and the Madison County Board of Supervisors from any and all obligations and or duties under said order."

In other matters during Tuesday's meeting, the board:

- Passed a motion to acknowledge the bankruptcy of Purdue Pharma as part of the county's participation in class-action opioid litigation.
- Voted to accept the 2021 Real and Personal Property Tax Rolls, as presented by Tax

Assessor Norman Cannady.

- Approved the final plat for the Heron's Bay of Caroline. The Development is approximately 31 acres with 84 lots.

- Approved and awarded the McCullough Road Bridge Rehabilitation contract to the lowest bidder, Key, LLC. for \$146,197.50.

- Approved hiring Neel Schaffer to assist the County in conducting a transportation study to help prioritize roadway improvements for \$43,500.

- Rezoned the northwest corner of Highway 17 and Sulphur Springs Road from A-1 (agricultural) to C-2 (commercial) at the request of the Madison County Economic Development Authority, (MCEDA).

- Approved a site plan and a rezoning request from R-1 (residential) to SU-2 (special use) of land near Highway 463 at the request of the Madison County School District.

- Approved hiring Dale Partners Architects for architectural services for the Madison County shooting range that will be located on Mount Leopard Road.

Bear Creek earns perfect water score

Bear Creek Water Association has again earned the maximum score of 5.0 / 5.0 from the Mississippi State Department of Health for the drinking water supply. This is according to the MSDH annual inspection report dated June 14, 2021.

"The Mississippi State Department of Health conducts a yearly on-site inspection, and then gives a grade based upon criteria in three categories," Bear Creek Water Association General Manager Nolan Williamson said. "The three categories are technical, managerial, and financial. We are pleased that we have received the maxi-

mum score of 5.0 in all three categories."

Bear Creek Water Association currently has a lot of challenges ahead. "Growth is tremendous," Williamson said. "We currently have two new water wells under contract totaling approximately \$3.5 million. We have several miles of existing older waterline that is being replaced with a new and larger line. We are also looking at an additional elevated tank site and yet another water well to construct in the next few years. We have to continue investing in our growth. And while growth is ongoing, aging

infrastructure and maintenance are always on everyone's mind. These issues can't be ignored, and we must address them daily."

Bear Creek Water Association is the largest Rural Water Association in the State of Mississippi, and currently provides water service to portions of the City of Canton, City of Madison, City of Ridgeland, City of Gluckstadt, and unincorporated areas of south Madison County.

Bear Creek Water Association produces an annual Water Quality Report. It can be viewed online at www.bcwa-terms.org.

BIBLICAL PERSPECTIVES/J. Ligon Duncan III

Jesus' virgin birth according to scripture

Please turn in your Bible to Matthew 1:18-25. In this short passage, God sets forth great truths about the virgin birth of our Lord Jesus. God not only tells us truths which are objectively glorious about our Lord, He also tells us truths about Jesus which come to bear on our daily living. In fact, I would like to draw your attention to two particular things that we see in this passage. First, we see the circumstances of our Lord's birth. And even in the circumstances of Jesus' birth, there are many truths from which God intends for us to benefit. Secondly, we see the nature of the Lord Jesus as He is revealed in this passage. This passage tells us something about His character and something about His nature. It tells us something about who He is and what He is like. And even in those words about Him, we find truths that strengthen us in our daily walk. Let us now look at these two great categories of truths.

I. The Circumstances Of Jesus' Birth.

In verses 18-21, we see the circumstances of Jesus' birth. We are told in verse 18 that Mary was betrothed to Joseph. We must remember that betrothal in Israel was different from our modern-day engagement. A betrothal in Israel was much more final, much more permanent, and much more significant than our modern engagement. To say that Mary was betrothed to Joseph meant that they had pledged to be married to one another in front of witnesses. So, they were considered to be man and wife, although they were not yet living under the same roof. Think of the weight of what this young woman was being asked to do, and yet God did not desire for Mary to do that alone. God desired for her to be the mother of our Lord in the context of a family with a husband, who loved her and supported her, and who could listen to her as she opened to him her heart and things that she hid from the rest of the world. How good it was that when God brought His Son into the world, He thought it appropriate that Jesus be reared in a family with a married husband and wife.

In verse 18, we are also told that Mary was with child by the Holy Spirit. The Lord did a miraculous thing. God

did something that He had never done before, and something that He has never done since. Think of the awesome privilege and responsibility that Mary has. She is told, behold, you the handmaiden of the Lord, you will bear the Son of God in His humanity. This awesome task might have simultaneously brought humiliation, danger, and shame. Mary by bearing this child, and by the people asking questions was going to face grave danger. She could have been expelled from the community of her people. Is it not interesting how God often brings obstacles and humiliations when He calls us to a task in the Christian life? Mary is not assured instantaneously that Joseph will stay with her. She must trust that God will provide for her in the task to which He has called her. The cross and glory go together don't they? Because the way of glory is the way of the cross. We must never forget that when God calls us to significant situations and ministries. We may be assured that along with the glory, along with the honor and the privilege will come the privilege to bear the cross. Mary is an example to us in bearing the cross believingly for God's sake.

Notice also that we see Joseph's character shining through in this passage. Specifically, we are told that he was a righteous man and a kind man who trusted in God. Joseph loved God and he loved His law. When he thought that Mary was guilty of infidelity, he sought to quietly divorce Mary as to not bring disgrace upon her. And when God revealed to him that Mary had not been unfaithful, he trusted in Him by faith. We learn several important lessons from this passage. We learn that God has called us to justice and kindness that we might mirror His image. And we learn that trust and obedience in the manner of Joseph is the way that He intends for us to walk.

II. The Nature of our Savior.

The greatest thing that we learn in this passage is about our Savior Himself, the nature of the Lord Jesus. I would direct you to verses 22-23 to reflect for just a moment on who it is that God tells us is our Savior. He is born of a virgin. Now let me say very

quickly that this is intended to be surprising. There is no example of this happening before in Scripture. There is no precedent for this in Scripture. There is no precursor to this in Scripture. It is intended to be completely unique to set forth who Jesus is. The virgin birth sets forth the divinity of Christ and His sinless humanity. And without that doctrine of the virgin birth, those two all-important truths are compromised. Don't ever let anyone tell you that the doctrine of the virgin birth is unimportant. It is taught in the Bible and it has always been believed by God's people and therefore it is important. It is important because it sets forth His divinity and His sinless humanity. In verse 23, we are told that the name of our Lord will be Immanuel which means "God with us." And there is so much in those words. We are reminded again that, in the Gospel, our God has come to be with us and for us. In nature, we see God above us. When our consciousness is enlightened by the accusing law of God, we see God against us. But in the Gospel, by God's grace, we see God with us and for us. This is the very mystery of the incarnation in which Jesus' divinity and humanity are united in one person.

In verse 21, we see that Jesus is not only the Messiah, He is not only virgin born, both divine and human, He is not only God with us, He is our Savior. The angel says to Joseph, "You shall name Him Jesus for He shall save His people from their sins." He saves us for holiness. He saves us from the penalty of sin, from the power of sin, from the dominion of sin and, ultimately, He will save us from the presence of sin. He will eradicate sin in our lives. And Jesus saves us for fellowship. He prepares us to enter into an eternal feast with God. Jesus is the only one who can save from sin. May God, by His Holy Spirit, enable us to trust in Jesus alone who is Immanuel, God with us.

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.

OBITUARIES

John Lyman Harvey

John Lyman Harvey, of Flora, born January 4, 1941 passed away July 4, 2021 after a lengthy illness. He was born in Mount Olive, Mississippi and was a graduate of Mount Olive High School. Later, he attended the University of Southern Mississippi. He started his career selling cars in 1958 at Blackwell Chevrolet while also working for the Mississippi Highway Patrol. After being called to serve in the United States Army and completing his service, he once again returned to the automobile business. He was employed by Dumas Milner Chevrolet in Jackson, Mississippi which became Herrin-Gear Chevrolet. He served as general manager of Herrin-Gear

Chevrolet until he opened his own Ford store, John Harvey Ford, in Jackson, Mississippi in 1975. After a successful career as a Ford dealer, he opened Harvey Toyota in Lafayette, Louisiana in 1987. In 1994, he opened John Harvey Toyota and Lexus of Shreveport-Bossier City in Bossier City, Louisiana.

He was preceded in death by his parents Addie R. Harvey and Travis Harvey as well as his wife Laura Harvey. He is survived by his sons Tommy Harvey (Ann), Travis Harvey (Jennifer), his daughters Joy Kemp and Parish Harvey along with his grandchildren Anna Katherine Harvey, Grace Harvey, Trevor Kemp, Shelby Kemp, John Harvey, Sally Harvey,

Luke Harvey, and Matthew Harvey. He is also survived by his sister, Fanny Jo Lack as well as many nieces and nephews. The Harvey family would like to thank his long-time caregiver Dianna Clark for her many years as part of the extended Harvey family.

The arrangements are at Parkway Funeral Home & Parkway Memorial Cemetery, 1161 Highland Colony Pkwy., Ridgeland, MS. Visitation is from 1:00- 3:00 p.m. Thursday July 8, 2021, followed by the funeral service at 3:00 p.m. The officiating pastor will be Larry Mills. Memorial donations may be made to the Diabetes Foundation of Mississippi.

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Broadmoor campers bake treats for firefighters

By DUNCAN DENT
duncan@onlinemadison.com

Broadmoor Baptist Church's Choices Camp is all about making good choices and projecting good into the community.

Kindergarten through first-grade Choices Day Camp students did just that last week when they took the Madison Fire Department some homemade cakes to show appreciation for all they do.

"In our Choices camp we talk about making good choices and how kids can do good deeds in their community," said camp counselor Teresa Martin.

The camp meets every day over the course of a week and includes several activities and lessons for children. Their craft last week was baking chocolate cakes. Each child got to take a small cake home and more to take to each of Madison's fire stations.

Kim Abercrombie with the Madison Fire Department said they had children visit all of the Madison Stations with cakes.

"They were really sweet," Abercrombie said.

Deputy Fire Chief Steve Thomas offered his thanks to the children.



Second and third graders delivered blueberry cobbler to the Madison Fire Department last week. Students pictured, left to right, are David Warren, William Hardin, Reagan Stone, Wyatt Allen, Keller Collins, Jacob Holland, Ayden Mak, C C Haygood, and Y T Lu. The firefighters are Cody Ainsworth and Josh Hudgens.

"Thank you, Broadmoor Baptist K1 for the big smiles and yummy cake," Thomas said.

Martin said the fire department was well supplied with sweets last week. An activity for the second and third graders included picking blueberries, making cobblers and delivering them to the fire stations. Martin said fourth and fifth graders also had a cake project that they delivered to Fire Chief Derek Layton directly.

Martin said the trips were a success.

"They really enjoyed it," Martin said. "The kids got to ask questions about all the stuff at the fire stations and got tours of their offices and equipment."

Martin said the church's weekly summer camps have been a staple of their sports ministry for some time. She said the Choices camp is a particularly popular week and they will be doing another one later in the summer. Other camp offerings include camps focused on basketball, outdoor activities and another themed DIY or Do It Yourself.

More camp information is available at Broadmoor.org/sports.

*Less is more...
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Continued from page B1

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WOODMARK INVESTMENTS, LLC 119 S. PRESIDENT ST. JACKSON MS 39201 75FT OFF E/END OFF LOT 14 MEADOW LARK PARK BLK G U/D 3/84 MEADOW LARK PARK 1 4 G Section 20 Township 09N Range 03E PPIN 31225

COWAN DONRANDRA 782 LIVINGSTON VERNON RD FLORA MS 39071 2 AC IN SE1/4 SW1/4 Section 27 Township 09N Range 01W PPIN 43093

CANTON MS 39046 DAVIS LEON -EST- DAVIS EARLINE -EST- %THELMA JEAN WHITEHEAD 562 MARTIN LUTHER KING DRIVE CANTON MS 39046 LOT 25 HILLCREST SUBD Section 13 Township 09N Range 02E PPIN 25736

DIVERSIFIED SERVICES INC 1554 WEST PEACE ST CANTON MS 39046 2 AC OUT S1/2 SW1/4 W OF HWY 51 Section 36 Township 09N Range 02E PPIN 54119

Parcel 115D-19 -019/00.00 EVANS CHRISTOPHER EZELL 458 DOUGHAS RD CARTHAGE MS 39051 LOT 4 ROLLING HILLS PART 1 Section 19 Township 11N Range 05E PPIN 37573

