



EDUCATION MANNSDALE 6TH GRADE SCHOOL

Plans progressing — See page A2

PAGEANT HEDERMAN VYING FOR STATE TITLE

Miss Hospitality — See page A3



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MADISON COUNTY JOURNAL

VOLUME 40 NUMBER 28

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JULY 15, 2021 ** \$1.00



McLin Sanders of Madison sits atop a mountain peak on the Appalachian Trail. Sanders hiked the 2,193 Trail from Springer Mountain, Ga., to Mount Katahdin in Maine, in a year. Approximately one in four hikers achieve this trek in a year.

Madison man hikes Appalachian Trail

By **AUDREY HALL**
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When 19-year-old McLin Sanders chose to take a gap year in 2020, he knew exactly what he wanted to do with that time. The Madison native and Eagle Scout decided he would embark on an Appalachian Trail “thru-hike” to hike the entire Appalachian Trail by himself.

The day after he graduated from Riverside Mil-

itary Academy in Gainesville, Georgia, Sanders began his 2,193-mile journey.

Starting in Springer Mountain, Georgia, Sanders hiked to Harpers Ferry, West Virginia. Arriving in November, he split his travels and waited out the snow to start again in March. In June, he arrived at Mount Katahdin in Maine. A fully finished hike completed within 12 months is recognized officially by the Appalachian Trail Conservancy. Only one in four of the thousands of hikers who begin a

“thru-hike” finish.

“The decision was McLin’s,” said his mother, Krista Sanders. She and McLin’s father, Edward Sanders, stayed involved in their son’s ambitious hike and sent support in the form of “mail drops” or packages. Some of those packages included important equipment updates such as new hiking poles. Many included extra snacks and candy.

See **TRAIL**, page A8

RAIN DELAY

Madison patching Reunion potholes

By **SCOTT HAWKINS**
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MADISON — Work is underway to repair potholes on portions of Reunion Parkway between Bozeman Road and Madison Station Elementary that have marred the surface for more than a year.

Mayor Mary Hawkins-Butler attributed much of the delay due to the rainy season and the availability of contractors due to the large amount of work in the metro area.

“Reunion Parkway was built by the County and was later annexed by the City of Madison,” she said. “The first phase did not require any work at the time the second phase was built. Road work and repairs are limited to conducive weather and contractor availability and unfortunately, we have had a very rainy season.

“We are currently preparing for our next fiscal year and anticipate including provision for an overlay. We are hopeful that the County will contribute towards this necessary work.”

Dexter Shelby, Madison director of public works, said the potholes remained in place so long due to the governmental process.

“When bids come in, I can’t tell a contractor to go to work without the board’s approval,” Shelby said. “You can’t just sign off on an invoice on some money that the mayor and board don’t know about without going through board approval.”

Shelby said after the city got reports about the potholes, they obtained bids on repairing the holes the next day.

“We were just going through the process,” Shelby said. “Sometimes it takes time for a process to happen when you have to go through governmental procedures and that is where we are.”

Shelby said a \$20,000 contract was recently awarded to patch the potholes.

“They are going to dig the bad stuff out and put some new stuff in,” Shelby said Tuesday of the work that began Wednesday. “They are going to be patched.”

ORIGINAL SETTLERS

Gluckstadt gavel harvested from tree

By **SCOTT HAWKINS**
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GLUCKSTADT — Bill Weisenberger is invested in Gluckstadt, literally.

“I like Gluckstadt,” Weisenberger said. “I want to see it prosper.”

And that is not just talk. Weisenberger recently donated the city’s first revenue in the form of a \$500 personal check to the city coffers.

City officials accepted Weisenberger’s donation during the board’s second-ever meeting held July 6 at the St. Joseph Catholic Church Parish Hall.

“I have been in Gluckstadt all of my life,” Weisenberger said. “This is my home. My family has been here since 1913.”

Weisenberger not only has

lived in Gluckstadt for most of his soon-to-be 64 years, except for a brief stint living in Canton, he has also devoted most of his life to a career in public service to Madison County.

He is retired after a 38-year career working in various capacities for Madison County, including as a firefighter, an emergency medical technician, a sheriff’s deputy and a judge.

Weisenberger said he was thrilled when Gluckstadt was finally able to incorporate in June, and he wants to support the new city in any way possible, thus the donation.

In accepting the donation, Gluckstadt Mayor Walter Morrison noted Weisenberger’s contributions to the community, including that one of his two sons, Adam Lee

Weisenberger, was killed while responding to a traffic accident in 2002.

Adam, a volunteer firefighter in Gluckstadt at the time, had responded to a traffic accident on I-55 and was tending to a victim on the side of the interstate when two other cars collided and threw Adam into traffic where he was struck and killed.

The Mississippi Legislature later named the Gluckstadt interchange the Adam Lee Weisenberger Interchange in honor of Adam, and the Board of Supervisors later named one of the Gluckstadt Fire District’s buildings after Adam.

“He has a fire station and a highway bridge named after him,” Bill said. “That was 19 years ago, and we still think

See **GAVEL**, page A2



Bill Weisenberger, left, presents a check for \$500 and a gavel/sound board to the newly formed Gluckstadt Mayor and Board of Aldermen. The gavel and sound board were made from a pecan tree planted in 1905 by one of the original settlers of Gluckstadt.

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A rendering shows what the new Mannsdale Sixth Grade School will look like once complete.

New Mannsdale 6th grade building plans progressing

By **SCOTT HAWKINS**
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MANNSDALE — Plans for a new sixth-grade school building to be built on the grounds of the current Mannsdale Upper Elementary School property are progressing.

July 6 approved rezoning the property on which the new school will be built at 371 Mannsdale Road from R-1, a residential estate district use, to SU-1, a special use district specifically for educational institutions.

Planning and Zoning Administrator Scott Weeks presented a site plan for the project to supervi-

sors in asking for the rezoning. Supervisors unanimously approved the request.

Plans have been in the works for at least a year to build the new Mannsdale Sixth Grade School to meet the county's growth and will be built using Madison County Schools existing funds.

Madison County Schools offi-

cial had planned to build a sixth-grade school adjacent to Germantown Middle School to accommodate the sixth-grade students in the zone.

"Due to property zoning complications and the prohibitive expense of purchasing land at an alternate site, creating a zone-wide sixth-grade school was not

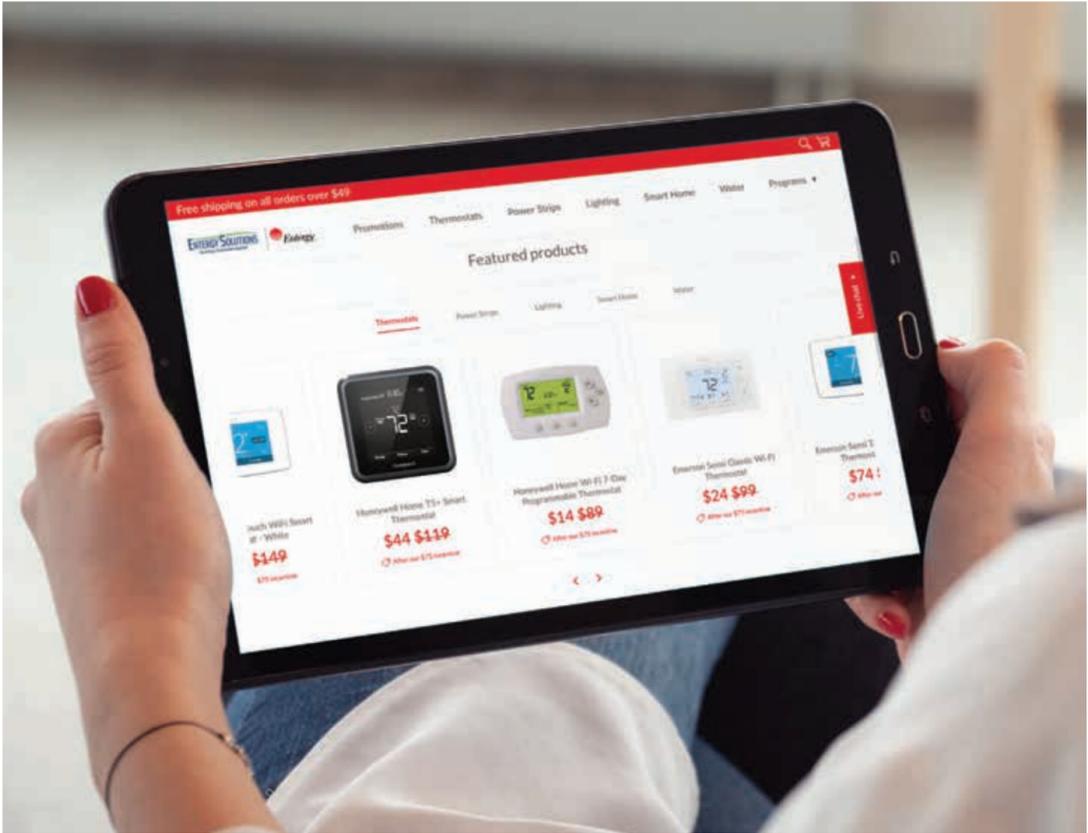
feasible," wrote Charlotte A. Seals, superintendent of Madison County Schools in an Oct. 8, 2020 letter to parents.

"Thanks to innovative thinking, a better long-term strategy was adopted: Madison Crossing students will remain at that campus for sixth grade, and Mannsdale students will attend sixth grade in a new building on the Mannsdale site. Students from these two schools will join together for seventh and eighth grades at

Germantown Middle School. The implementation of this new plan will likely impact students currently in the fourth grade and younger."

The new Mannsdale sixth-grade building will not be open until January or August 2023, Seals wrote.

"The new plan will enable Madison Crossing Elementary students to remain at that campus for sixth grade," Seals wrote.



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WE POWER LIFE®

Gavel

Continued from page A1

about him every day."

Weisenberger's other son, Will Jr., now serves as a deputy sheriff and as a commissioner on the Gluckstadt fire commission, Bill said.

After the Gluckstadt Mayor and Board of Aldermen accepted Weisenberger's donation last week, Bill announced he had another presentation to make, and he asked his friend, Dustin Barrick, a teacher and a coach at Germantown High School and Germantown Middle School, to join him.

Together the two presented the board with a handmade gavel and sounding board the two had made from wood reclaimed from a pecan tree believed to have been planted in 1905 by Henry Klaas, an original Gluckstadt settler.

Weisenberger, who has a sawmill and an interest in woodworking, said Gluckstadt Alderman John Taylor had given him the wood from the tree that had blown over on his property.

"When I went to the first meeting, the mayor said he didn't have a gavel," Weisenberger said, adding he remembered having the wood from the pecan tree. "I called Barrick and asked if he would help. He has a lathe, so he turned it and I made the base, or the soundboard, whatever you want to call."

Morrison gladly accepted the gift for the city.

"That is awesome," Morrison said as Weisenberger and Barrick presented the gavel to him. "I might be dangerous now." He gave the gavel an initial tap on the base and said, "That is something that will outlive us all."

The sounding board is laser inscribed on the top with the words, "The City of Gluckstadt, MS Incorporated June 6th, 2021" surrounding the state seal.

(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.



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Hederman competing for Miss Hospitality

By JOHN LEE
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RIDGELAND — Sara Hederman grew up taking part in many activities and athletics, but competing this week in Hattiesburg to be Mississippi's Miss Hospitality is a first for her.

Hederman was selected as Ridgeland's Miss Hospitality in April 2020 after she applied for the title after talking to the Director of Miss Hospitality for Ridgeland Mary Beth Wilkerson. Hederman said she had never been in a pageant before but thought competing in the Miss Hospitality competition would help her grow her social skills and confidence.

"I've learned so much about my state and our history and I'm so thankful for this experience," Hederman said. "Mississippi needs more positive media, and I think that promoting our state to people around the country could entice more visitors or business owners to relocate to

Mississippi."

Mississippi's Miss Hospitality contest was established in 1949 under Gov. Fielding Wright and the state Legislature. It is designed for women ages 18 to 24 and has championed the state's tourism and economic development sectors while supporting Mississippi's best and brightest young women through its scholarship program.

The winner serves as the state's official Goodwill Ambassador traveling regionally and nationally to promote Mississippi and share her story. Miss Hospitality will also enjoy her part of more than \$100,000 in prizes and scholarships offered by the Miss Hospitality program.

Hederman, daughter of Doug and Blaire Hederman, grew up in Jackson and graduated from Jackson Prep in 2019. She now attends Ole Miss and is a sophomore studying exercise science with plans to pursue a career in the athletic and fitness industry.



Sara Hederman

She is a member of the Chi Omega sorority and is a Chancellor Leadership and Academic Scholar. She is also an avid hunter, competitive golfer and enjoys fitness activities.

During the competition, Hederman will take part in interviews on Wednesday, and will present a speech and written commercial on stage. She will be accompanied by Ellie Karger, Ridgeland's Little Miss Hospitality, young girls who are chosen along with the older candidates to go on stage with them to represent their counties.

Hederman will be competing in Hattiesburg on Friday with the second half of the contestants. The first half will compete Thursday night. The winners on Thursday and Friday will advance to the finals on Saturday night, where the winner will be decided and crowned.

"On Friday night, I'll be doing my Ridgeland commercial, production numbers, and evening gown. I am so excited

for this weekend," Hederman said. "My favorite part of this competition has to be the opportunity to meet so many wonderful girls. The most challenging thing would be all of the interview and speech preparation, and I've spent hours reviewing Mississippi history and memorizing my speech."

Sara Hederman's mother, Blaire Hederman, said she and the rest of her family are excited Sara was selected to participate and it is a great opportunity for her to get to know other young women around the state.

"Sara usually competes in athletics, but this has been a great growing experience for her," Blaire Hederman said. "We would love to see her do well. She is well-spoken and converses easily, and she has worked extremely hard in preparing her speech and interviews. I would think her preparations will be evident."

To learn more about Miss Hospitality Mississippi, visit <https://misshospitality.net/>.

Madison County has state's highest COVID-19 vaccination rate

By SCOTT HAWKINS
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Madison County has the state's highest COVID-19 vaccination rate with 49% of the county's population having received at least one dose of a vaccine and 45% of the population having received two doses, according to the Mississippi State Department of Health.

Among other counties throughout the state, only Jefferson County comes close to matching the percentage of vaccinated residents with 49% of Jefferson County residents having received at least one dose of a vaccine and 43% having received two doses.

Mississippi's total vaccination percentage of all residents is only 31% so Madison and Jefferson counties' vaccination rates are well above the state average.

Despite the high rate of vaccinations in Madison County, however, the county still has

recorded 10,466 COVID-19 cases and 227 deaths since the pandemic began in March 2020.

Meanwhile, statewide cases in Mississippi are on the rise in recent days and state health officials attribute the rise to the delta variant of COVID-19, prompting MSDH officials recently to issue new recommendations:

"Mississippi is experiencing a significant rise in COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations. Numerous outbreaks have been identified in youth camps, faith-based gatherings, funerals and social events," new recommendations issued by MSDH state. "Due to the rapid increase in delta variant cases and outbreaks, combined with the low overall vaccination rate in the state, MSDH is making the following recommendations through July 26, 2021."

"All Mississippians 12 years of age and older should receive COVID-19 vaccina-

tion.

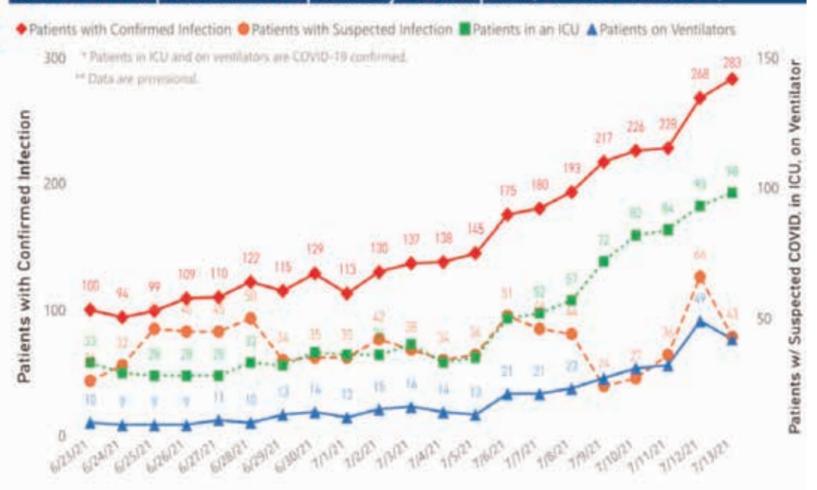
"All those who are unvaccinated should wear a mask when indoors in public settings.

"All Mississippi residents 65 years of age and older should avoid all indoor mass gatherings (regardless of vaccination status).

"All Mississippi residents with chronic underlying medical conditions should avoid all indoor mass gatherings (regardless of vaccination status)."

On Wednesday, July 14, MSDH reported that the state recorded 641 new cases of COVID-19, bringing the state's total to 199,114 confirmed cases with 125,958 probable cases for a total of 325,072 cases and 5,140 deaths with another 2,316 probable COVID-19 deaths for a total of 7,456 deaths in the state since the pandemic began in March 2020.

COVID-19 Hospitalizations Reported by MS Hospitals, 6/23/21 - 7/13/21 **



The hospitalization rate and number of patients in the ICU across the state of Mississippi for patients with COVID-19 has continued to increase due in part to the prevalence of the Delta variant.

School district board member resigns

By SCOTT HAWKINS
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Longtime Madison County School Board member Wayne Jimenez has resigned the position he has held for 15 years, school officials said.

Jimenez resigned effective July 12 after he moved out of Madison County School District 1 that he represents, said Gene Wright, communications director for the Madison County Schools.

"He will be sorely missed,"

Wright said. "I'm sure there will be an outpouring of appreciation for him because he has been such an asset to our school district for so many years."

Wright said school board

members will appoint an interim member to fill the remainder of Jimenez's term that ends December 2022.

"That vacancy will be filled at the board's next meeting (in August)," Wright said.

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Opinion & Editorials

PATRICK J. BUCHANAN

Are the good times over?

Are the Democrats headed for their Little Bighorn, with President Joe Biden as Col. Custer? The wish, you suggest, is father to the thought. Yet, consider.

On taking office, Biden held a winning hand.

Three vaccines, with excellent efficacy rates, had been created and were being administered at a rate of a million shots a day. The pandemic was at its peak but looking certain to turn down, and it did.

This welcome news lifted national spirits, and the economy with it.

And the new president was taking office in a brief era of good feelings produced by the departure of the party and president who had given us the Jan. 6 Capitol riot.

Thus did Biden begin his administration with his approval at a level his predecessor never reached in any year of his presidency.

Happy days were here again.

But now the storm clouds are gathering and rumbling.

By last week, Biden's disapproval rating had risen into the 40s, and half the country believed America was "on the wrong track."

Yet it is not what has happened but what impends that appears ominous for Biden's and his party's prospects.

With not quite 70% of U.S. adults having received a vaccination, a new and more contagious delta variant of the disease is spreading worldwide, and an uptick in new U.S. infections has been reported.

In the economy, with markets at an all-time high, an old demon has reappeared. Writes today's Wall Street Journal:

"Americans should brace themselves for several years of higher inflation than they've seen in decades, according to economists who expect the robust post-pandemic economic recovery to fuel brisk price increases ...

"If the economists prove correct, Federal Reserve officials might have to raise (interest) rates sooner or more

Are Dems headed for their Little Bighorn with Biden as Custer?

than they expect to keep inflation under control."

Inflation and rising interest rates to combat it is usually a near-fatal cocktail for a party in control of the White House and Congress in the year they face the electorate.

In addition to warning lights flashing in the economy, Biden has presided over a sudden crisis along the southern border, where 170,000 illegal migrants are being apprehended every month.

"Getaways" — border-crossers who sneak in and evade contact with the Border Patrol — now number 30,000 a month.

Who these people are and whence they came, we know not.

Former President Donald Trump's policies secured the border, and this new invasion is traceable to Biden's trashing of Trump's policy.

Indeed, Biden's designation of Vice President Kamala Harris as point person on the border crisis, and her reflexive recoil from the duties of that assignment, testify that this latest invasion could be a killer issue for Democrats in 2022.

Also, the progressives' adamant stand that rogue cops hostile to people of color are the true police crisis in America has been rendered politically obsolete by a nationwide surge in shootings, murders and mass killings.

How potent is the issue? Eric Adams, a Black former police captain running on the issue of public safety, won the Democratic primary for mayor of New York and is headed for Gracie Mansion.

Almost without exception, the cities where the shootings and killings are occurring have been run by Democrats for decades.

The "defund the police!" chant of Black Lives Matter and its camp followers is now being drowned out by a clam-

or for more cops to protect the people of color who are the collateral damage and victims of the shootings.

Other stories gracing front pages and evening news reports in coming months will be the horrors coming out of Afghanistan, as the Taliban capture towns and provincial capitals and exact retribution on those Afghans who made the fatal mistake of casting their lot with the Americans.

Biden did not take us into Afghanistan, but he ordered the rapid withdrawal, and his presidency will bear the political consequences of his presiding over yet another lost American war. As JFK said, life is unfair.

If the Democratic Party goes into the election of 2022 defending Biden's border failures, decrying rogue cops rather than addressing the shootings and killings, and explaining away inflation and rising interest rates as "not our fault," the result would seem to be foreordained.

Then there is the matter of race.

Is it a winner for the Democrats in 2022 to be seen as the party of tearing down statues of Robert E. Lee, Stonewall Jackson, and Lewis and Clark, of requiring that schoolchildren be indoctrinated in the tenets of "systemic racism" and "white privilege," and learn about how their ancestors were slave-owners and their grandparents cousins or friends of Jim Crow?

As for the progressives' agenda, the For the People Act, the John Lewis Voting Rights Act and the George Floyd Justice in Policing Act could all wind up dead on the Senate floor alongside Sen. Bernie Sanders' \$6 trillion plan for remaking America in the image of Norman Thomas.

All killed by filibusters bravely defended by Sen. Joe Manchin.

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

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EDITORIALS

Wakeup call for Socialists

"We are not afraid! We are not afraid!"

"Freedom! Freedom!"

"Cuba isn't yours," Cuban protestors chanted in front of Communist Party buildings on the island, according to videos posted online that went viral Sunday.

Make no mistake — thousands of Cubans took to the streets on Sunday in at least 14 cities, in a police-controlled country that surveils and jails dissidents — to protest communism, not just the country's abysmal COVID-19 response.

Cubans must stand in hours-long lines to buy simple necessities such as bread. They experience rolling blackouts as the country's electric grid is overrun, suffering for hours in the scorching summer months, where it can be unbearable to live without a fan or air conditioner.

Government-run stores sell overpriced items in currencies the Cuban people don't possess. Hospitals lack beds, stretchers, medication, and in some cases, running water. Scabies — a skin disease that can be easily treated with an antibiotic — has infested the island because drugs are not readily available.

In the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic, Cuba has been outsourcing its medical professionals and supplies to other countries as a way for the Communist regime to pocket hard currency, which is in short supply. The State Department's Trafficking in Persons Report gives Cuba a failing grade and writes of a "government policy or government pattern to profit from labor export programs with strong indications of forced labor, particularly its foreign medical missions program."

The report continues, saying Cuba "capitalized on the pandemic by increasing the number and size of medical missions and refused to improve the program's transparency or address labor vio-

lations and trafficking crimes despite persistent allegations from observers, former participants, and foreign governments," of its abuses.

The conditions in Cuba are so bad its people are fleeing the island in record numbers. The U.S. Coast Guard, since the start of October, has seized more than 512 Cubans at sea, compared with 49 for the entire previous year.

So far, the Biden administration's response to the historic protests has been muted — socialism, after all, appears to be the end goal for an influential segment of the Democratic party. It wasn't too long ago when Sen. Bernie Sanders praised Fidel Castro, the dictator, who "educated [Cuban] kids, gave their kids health care, totally transformed the society."

He continued: "We're very very opposed to the authoritarian nature of Cuba, but you know, it's unfair to say everything is bad. "You know? When Fidel Castro came into office, you know what he did? He had a massive literacy program. Is that a bad thing? Even though Fidel Castro did it?"

Mr. Biden himself hasn't articulated a Cuban policy. However, while he served as Vice President under Barack Obama, he worked to normalize relations with the communist regime.

There's little doubt, Cuba's President Miguel Diaz-Canel will use the uprising to negotiate with Washington the easing of U.S. sanctions and travel. He will use his population's pain to enrich himself.

The Biden administration has a choice: Either stand with the Cuban people, who are waving American flags and shouting "Freedom," or side with a communist regime that has brought prolonged misery to the island.

— *The Washington Times*

Losing credibility

It's a rough time to work in the news business. Digital media have eaten print products alive, replacing them with dancing electrons that blur the lines between fact and fiction. News reporters lacking the good fortune to land a lucrative spot before the TV camera warn their offspring to stay away and train for engineering or finance instead. Don't cry for journalists, though. They have no one to blame but themselves for losing their essential stock in trade: credibility. It's like running a gas station with no gas to sell.

A Rasmussen Poll released Friday measures the depth of the hole in which media outlets now find themselves. A majority, 58 percent of likely U.S. voters, agree at least somewhat with the statement that the media are "truly the enemy of the people," including 34 percent who strongly agree. A smaller 36 percent of respondents disagreed with the statement, including 23 percent who strongly disagree. An overwhelming 76 percent of Republicans and 61 percent of independents endorsed the damning view of media.

"Enemy of the people," like the similarly incriminating "enemy of the state," has a long history dating back to the Shakespearean era, and the poet made able use of the ruinous epithet in his dramatic tragedy "Coriolanus." Former President Trump is credited with creating a modern iteration to beat his hypercritical press corps: "the fake-news media."

TOP STORIES

It's tempting to attribute the Rasmussen poll's current derogatory findings to Mr. Trump's verbal handiwork. Americans have needed a little prodding from the Donald, though, to reach their own damn-

ing conclusion about the state of modern American media. By spreading persistent Democratic Party propaganda — Trump-Russia collusion, Trump-Ukraine conspiracy, Trump-bungled pandemic, Trump-led insurrection — the lockstep-liberal media have shattered their credibility.

More than a generation ago, news practitioners abandoned even-handed reportage and jumped into the tank with the Democratic Party. In 1971, a survey of journalists found 26 percent identified as Republicans, 36 percent as Democrats and 33 percent as independents. By 2013, Republican affiliation had fallen to just 7 percent. Democratic membership among the profession had also fallen, to 28 percent, while 50 percent identified as independent.

A gravitation toward political non-affiliation would naturally suggest that newshounds have gained a heightened appreciation for objectivity. Following the money, though, reveals that many of them are far from impartial. Analyses of journalists' donations during the opening months of the 2016 presidential election campaign between Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump found more than 96 percent went to Mrs. Clinton, according to the Center for Responsive Politics. Some independence.

During its nearly 40-year existence, The Washington Times has striven to steer clear of the media mob and present the day's news with fairness and without political animus. If this publication strays in favor of faith, family and freedom, the only possible plea is "guilty." We suspect patriotic Americans will forgive us.

— *The Washington Times*

LETTERS

The Journal welcomes letters, comments or suggestions: President and Publisher Jim Prince
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RICH LOWRY

Left's favorite dictatorship under siege

It's not easy to run a hideous dictatorship and still have fans and defenders in fashionable quarters, but the Castro regime has managed it for decades.

The mass, spontaneous protests that broke out all over the country last weekend are yet another sign that the Cuban government lacks legitimacy. In Cuba, it is the government versus the people, and lo, all these years, Castro's apologists have been with the government.

They have romanticized Fidel Castro, the founder father of Cuba's junta. They have swallowed its propaganda. They have made excuses for it. They have looked away from its crimes. And they have blamed America for its manifest failures.

If the protests continue in Cuba, there will be an existential struggle between people in the streets displaying American flags and chanting for freedom and an organized crime syndicate that rules by force and has long held the affection of American left.

During his presidential primary campaign last year, Bernie Sanders wouldn't back off of his supportive statements about the Castro regime over the years — yes, the government should be less authoritarian, but it has done so much good. Filmmaker Michael Moore made a popular movie extolling the Cuban health care system.

Upon Fidel's death in 2016, Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau expressed his "deep sorrow" at the death of "Cuba's longest-serving president" (when a president jails his opponents, he can indeed stay

A revolutionary movement afoot in Cuba.

in office a long time).

Cuba's regime has long benefited from the romantic image of violent Latin American revolutionaries (Che Guevara is a ubiquitous progressive mascot), the fact that it is a left-wing, rather than right-wing dictatorship, and that it has always fed off anti-American sentiments.

The rationalizations offered for the regime are tinny and misleading.

We are supposed to believe that Cuba was sunk in medieval illiteracy until enlightened Communists came to power who cared above all about social progress and just happened to jail, torture and kill lots of people in the course of teaching kids to read.

It's not true, though, that Cuba was markedly illiterate prior to the advent of the Castro dictatorship. In 1960, the literacy rate was about 80%, high by the standards of the time. Nor is it correct that Castro had benevolent intentions with his literacy campaign; the point was to make it easier to stuff the Cuban people with Communist propaganda. It has proven entirely possible, by the way, for Latin American countries to achieve steep increases in literacy without running gulags.

What about advances in health care and on other metrics? The economic historian Brad DeLong has noted that, in 1957, Cuba had lower infant

mortality than many European countries, more doctors and nurses per capita than Britain or Finland, and as many vehicles per capita as Italy or Portugal. After decades of misrule, its per capita GDP ranks with Mongolia and Bhutan, according to CIA figures.

This suggests, correctly, that Castro took over a country in pretty good shape and wrecked it, rather than the other way around.

The government's failures are always blamed on the U.S. embargo, without which, supposedly, Cuba would be the one Marxist economy in the world able to deliver plenty to its people. Actually, shortages are endemic because of the inefficiencies inherent to command-and-control economies. The U.S. embargo is unilateral, and the Cuban government has long been expert at evading it. There is little keeping Cuba from trading with other advanced Western countries and buying their goods, if the artificially impoverished country could afford them (its characteristic way of doing business is to buy on credit and then never pay up).

All of this has always been plain enough, but now even more so. There is a revolutionary movement afoot in Cuba, one that is courageous, inspiring and — one hopes — truly democratic. It is the ordinary people of Cuba attempting to vindicate their rights against the left's favorite dictatorship.

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

BIBLE SELECTION

But he answered, "It is written, "Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God."

— Matthew 4:4 (ESV)

OBITUARIES

William Thomas 'Bill' Brown

William Thomas "Bill" Brown was called to Heaven on Friday, July 9, 2021. He would always tell others that he was looking forward to seeing his mother, daddy and brother Ben in Heaven with Jesus, and now he is there.

Bill was born on December 31, 1942, in Utica, MS to Robert S. Brown and Laura Dudley Brown. He moved to Jackson in 1944 when his dad became superintendent of the Mississippi School for the Deaf. While growing up there, Bill learned sign language and how to communicate with the deaf. He attended the Little Red Schoolhouse.

After his dad's retirement from the deaf school in 1974, Bill moved with his parents to the Belhaven area where he was and remained until his homegoing a member of The First Presbyterian Church of Jackson.

Bill enjoyed watching

westerns, game shows and wrestling. He helped out his neighbors by mowing yards.

He was a resident in the men's home at the Mustard Seed for almost 20 years where he participated in the Handbell Choir and enjoyed all activities. He especially enjoyed painting ceramics and developed his own style - yellow with bright colored hearts. These pieces were popular among patrons of the gift shop.

Bill had recently moved to SON Valley in Canton. He adjusted well, made new friends and was happy there.

Bill's faith was very important to him and he enjoyed going to church. Daily prayer was very important to him. He also enjoyed cheering for the Mississippi State Bulldogs.



William Brown

He was an enthusiastic and animated storyteller and a very loving person. He will be greatly missed by his family and many friends.

Bill is survived by his brothers, Bob Brown (Margaret) of Madison, MS and Richard Brown (Janice) of Columbia, LA and his sister, Betty Mobley of Utica, and numerous nieces and nephews.

Memorial gifts may be made to The Mustard Seed, 1085 Luckney Road, Brandon, MS 39047 or SON Valley, PO Box 406, Canton, MS 39046.

Funeral services will be held Friday, July 16, 2021, at Utica Christian Church at 11:00 am with burial in Utica Cemetery.

Visitation will be held at 10:00 am at the church.

Thomas Marion 'Tom' Cooper

Thomas Marion Cooper "Tom" passed away July 8, 2021 at Hospice Ministries in Ridgeland, MS. He was 79. Tom was born in Goodhope, MS on November 25, 1941 to the late Richard and Flora Lay Cooper. Tom excelled academically graduating high school at age 16, subsequently going to college at MSU, he was a member of Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity, he graduated at age 20 and joined the Mississippi Air National Guard; which he was a Navigator and retired as a Colonel. He worked for the IRS, Small Business Administration and the Hous-

ing and Urban Development; which he retired from in 1996. Over the years he has been a member of At Ease Gang. He has been a faithful member of Highland Colony Baptist Church where he has served in many capacities, such as deacon and on the finance committee.

He is preceded in death by his parents and his brother, Richard Kent Cooper.

Tom is survived by his wife, Pat; his children, Kevin Thomas Cooper (Dr. Annie Cooper) of Wichita Falls, TX; Marlene Cooper Sykes (Ken) of Ridgeland, MS and Jennifer Cooper Snyder (Jeff) of

Celina, TX; sister-in-law, Gerri Cooper Weaver (Dennis) of Sebastopol, MS; nephew, Dr. Richard Cooper (Lauren) of Baton Rouge, LA; niece, Melanie Cooper Johnson (Blair) of Madison, MS; grandchildren, Jaime Arnau-Lopez, Austin Cooper (Brittanie), Katie Cooper, McKenzie Sykes, Abby Snyder and Alex Snyder.

A memorial service was held July 13, 2021 at Highland Colony Baptist Church.

Memorial donations may be made to Highland Colony Baptist Church, 1200 Highland Colony Pkwy, Ridgeland, MS 3915.

Lucian Weller Dixon

Lucian Weller Dixon's extraordinary life ended at Hospice Ministries in Ridgeland, Mississippi on July 9, 2021 following a crippling heart attack.

He was born in Baton Rouge, Louisiana on September 25, 1943, where his father was working as a chemical engineer. His family relocated to the New York suburbs in 1946, and Lucian grew up in New Canaan, Connecticut, the second of five children. At the University of Pennsylvania, he earned a fellowship to spend his junior year at the Freie Universität Berlin. He graduated from Penn in 1965 with a B.A. in History and Asian Studies.

Lucian entered the Peace Corps in 1965 learning Malay-Indonesian to teach English in Malaysia, only to be deselected at the final stage of training because of his continuing objection to using US Military dictionaries for teaching English to civilians. He immediately volunteered for the US Army and was accepted into the Defense Language School at the Presidio in Monterey, California where he completed training in Standard Chinese (Mandarin) and a second Chinese dialect. In 1967, as opposition to the war in Vietnam grew, Lucian successfully petitioned for an honorable discharge as a conscientious objector. His father joined him on November 15, 1969 in the Moratorium to End the War, the largest anti-war march in Washington.

By his mid-twenties Lucian was fluent in German and Chinese, and proficient in Russian, Arabic, Malay-Indonesian, Spanish, French, Italian and Latin. Then another form of communication captured his interest: film and sound. Lucian enrolled at the Maryland Institute of Fine Arts in Baltimore in the Master of Fine Arts program in film and photography, supporting himself by working for the Enoch Pratt Free Library Community Action Program as a librarian and editor of a monthly magazine of inner-city poetry. While there, Lucian and Sam Cornish, who later became the first poet-laureate for Boston, edited and published selections from the magazine in Chicory - Young Voices from the Black Ghetto (Association Press, 1969.) His fine arts studies led to positions in Baltimore with Westinghouse Broadcasting, Maryland Center for Public Broadcasting, and Monumental Films. After

relocating to Santa Cruz, California, Lucian worked on the 1976 Academy Award winning short live-action film 'In the Regions of Ice', Reel Life Films' documentary of treasure hunter Mel Fisher, 'The Treasure of the Atocha,' continued language studies to maintain proficiencies in Russian, Italian and Chinese, lectured on film history, and explored screenwriting. In 1980, Lucian moved to Stuttgart, Germany where he lived until 1995. He worked in film and sound production with Süddeutscher Rundfunk as a location sound recordist for news and documentary films for South German Broadcasting Television - 1st Channel, traveling throughout Europe, Asian, Africa and the Middle East. The team's many films included a portrait of Lewis Carroll; a nature documentary of the Kenyan Masai Mara Game Park; the aftermath of the fall of the Berlin Wall in November 1989; the German military's first peacetime training and mission since WWII; and a portrait of Israeli and Palestinian citizens after Iraqi missile attacks during the Gulf War. He doubled as the crew translator since he could always find at least one common language with whomever he spoke. Lucian returned to California in 1997 for more documentary work, including location sound recording for The Making of Godzilla European release. The emergence of personal computers presented Lucian with a third form of communication he was determined to master: computer languages and programs. He worked on

the archives of Life photographer J.R. Eyerman, and was Operations Coordinator at the Silicon Valley World Internet Center in Palo Alto, CA. After moving to Jackson, MS in 2000, Lucian delved deeper into screenwriting, continued freelance photography, web design and database management, was an active volunteer with Crossroads Film Festival, an enthusiastic supporter of the CelticFest, and during the years 2015-2020, served as the webmaster for the Facebook site, 'The Political Carnival,' a progressive, anti-Trump news aggregator. He was studying Portuguese and Persian in the last months of his life.

Lucian was predeceased by his parents, Paul R. B. Dixon and Louisa Ogden Dixon of Natchez and a younger brother, Edwin B. Dixon, of New Canaan, Connecticut. He is survived by his older brother Peter O. Dixon (Priscilla Harrison) of Cape Elizabeth, Maine, and two younger sisters, Mary O. Dixon (Scott Bagley) of Aptos, California, and Louisa O. Dixon (Jerry Johnson) of Oxford, Mississippi; eight nieces and nephews, and ten great-nieces and great-nephews. Lucian donated his collection of camera and photography equipment to Jackson State University Department of Art and Theater. In keeping with his wishes, members of his family will spread his ashes on the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans, and along the Natchez Trace which Lucian often visited for solace and contemplation.

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BIBLICAL PERSPECTIVES/J. Ligon Duncan III

Jesus born in Bethlehem according to scripture

Please turn in your Bible to Matthew 2:1-12. Last week we concentrated on the circumstances of Jesus' birth and the nature of our Savior. His virgin birth sets forth His divinity and His perfect humanity. His name Immanuel reminds us of the mystery of the incarnation. His very given name, Jesus, the one who saves, reminds us that He has come to save us from sin, and to save us for holiness. This week we begin in chapter 2 which sets forth the worship of Christ. Though there are many glorious things in this passage, there are four things in particular to which I would like to draw your attention. First, the concealment of Christ. Secondly, the revelation of Christ. Thirdly, the worship of Christ. Fourthly and finally, the birth of Christ.

I. The Concealment Of Christ In Israel.

The first thing that I would like to draw to your attention from God's word is the concealment of Christ in Israel. Is it not striking that we have Gentiles from the east coming to worship the King, but in Israel, neither the king, nor the religious leaders, nor the people have the slightest idea that the Messiah of God has come into the world? He is known by Gentiles, but concealed in Israel. That truth surely teaches us that God must reveal Christ if we are to see Him and embrace Him. Think of the progression of Matthew's story. Matthew writes his gospel with a view to his beloved Jewish brethren. He wants them to come to faith in the Messiah. But is it not interesting that the story that he tells first of the birth of Christ has to do not with the Jewish faithful coming to worship the long awaited Messiah, but with Gentiles from the pagan east, Babylonia, or Persia, coming to worship the one true Messiah?

Now, when Herod, the king of Israel at this time, hears report of this King of the Jews born somewhere in Israel, he is immediately troubled at the stability of his rule. Because of Herod's vindictive nature, the people of Jerusalem were also troubled. But no one, not the king, not the religious leaders, and not the people, had a view to the birth of the Messiah. The Messiah was born in Israel, but He was concealed from Israel. And this surely reminds us that God must

reveal Christ if we are to see Him and embrace Him. If we are spiritually blind, it doesn't matter how blinding the spiritual light is, we will not see it. Spiritual blindness is a real possibility even for those who are deeply religious and possess the scriptures of God. Thus, this passage requires us to ask important questions. Are we spiritually blind today? Have we recognized the coming of the Messiah? Have we embraced Him by faith as our Lord and Savior? Have we found in Him our salvation and our all and all? If we have not, we are not in principle different from Herod or the religious leaders or the people of Jerusalem in their day.

II. The Revelation Of Christ To The Gentiles.

The second thing that we observe is the revelation of Christ to the Gentiles. If it is surprising that the Messiah comes to Israel and no one seems to know or care, it is even more surprising that God has children in a far off place, far from the word of God, far from the prophets of old, far from the land of Abraham, and far from the land of Canaan. And He brings them to Bethlehem to worship. He is not merely the Savior of Israel. He is the only hope of the world. And from far off, he brings worshipping Gentiles to Bethlehem to worship His Son. Is it not amazing, whereas Herod, the priests, and the people are unaware of the most momentous event in the history of Israel, that Gentiles from Chaldea or Babylonia, or Persia, have travelled hundreds of miles to worship Him? We are reminded, when we see these Gentiles making their way to Bethlehem, that Christ is the only true Savior of the world. There is salvation in no other name. The revelation of Christ to the Gentiles is an amazing thing. His own people knew Him not, but the Magi journey from the east to worship Him.

III. The Worship Of Christ.

The third thing that we see in this passage is the worship of Christ. In verse 2 and in verse 11, it is stressed that the Magi came for the purpose of worshipping. And we learn from this that God expects His Son, His divine Son, His only begotten Son, to be worshipped. Matthew tells us a beautiful story. It is a mysterious story that he tells because

everything that he tells us raises important questions in our mind. He tells us about the Magi and the star. And we immediately begin to wonder, well, who were the Magi? What is the star? How did the Magi know to go to Jerusalem? How did they know to find Mary and Joseph in Bethlehem? How did all this happen? Hundreds of questions come into our mind. Scholars have puzzled over all these questions for not only years, but for centuries, and yet, Matthew does not tell us. He continually presses forth to emphasize one truth, which is that these Magi, whoever they were, had come to worship Christ. That is Matthew's point, that Christ is the Lord of all, and therefore that He ought to be worshipped.

IV. The Birth Of Christ.

The last thing I would like to point out is the birth of Christ. In the birth of Christ, we see that God calls Christ's birth to be according to the prophecies of Scripture. Christ's birth was prophetically foretold. God said, seven hundred years in advance through the mouth of the prophet, Micah, that His Son would come, would be born in Bethlehem, and would shepherd His people. This confirms who Jesus is. It validates His identity. It verifies His ministry. It confirms God's blessings on His life and on His ministry.

Isn't it wonderful that our Lord did not send us a book from heaven to tell us how to save ourselves? Is it not wonderful that our Lord did not beam to us instructions for self-salvation from the halls of heaven? The Lord came into the world in our flesh. He came from heaven Himself to redeem us, because He not only wanted to save us from our sins, but He wanted to usher us into a relationship with Him and a relationship with one another. My friends, look to the one whom the Gentiles from the east bowed their knees. Look to Jesus alone for salvation. May God, by His Holy Spirit, cause us to fix our eyes upon Christ, the King of kings, and Savior of the world.

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 jlhyde@rts.edu.

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS DIRECTOR

Madison County, Mississippi, located in Central Mississippi, is currently seeking a Buildings & Grounds Director. Their primary responsibility shall include all matters regarding the maintenance and improvement of buildings and grounds. For Example:

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Preferred qualifications include a bachelor's degree in Management, Construction Project Administration, or a closely related field.

Resumes will be accepted until July 31, 2021.

Submit letter of application with resume, which includes work references to:

Madison County Board of Supervisors
Attn: Loretta D. Phillips, Director of Human Resources
P. O. Box 608
Canton, MS 39046
Or, via email to hr@madison-co.com

Drug screening and criminal background check required.
Applications and applicants' information will remain confidential
Madison County is an EEO/ADA Employer.

Getting the Message/Rev. Chris Shelton

An evening prayer for the man of faith

Traditionally, this psalm has been regarded as an evening prayer for the man of faith who is facing opposition to order his thoughts about the Lord and allow him to lie down to sleep in peace.

He begins by asking God to hear his prayer (verse 1). In our lives we face a myriad of different troubles, but God in his grace gives us access to his help and comfort through prayer.

David remembers previous times when the Lord gave him relief in times of distress. Christians can draw strength from the remembrance of God's help to them in the past to give them confidence in the present struggle they are in.

In verse 2, David addresses the men who oppose him. David is the anointed king of the Lord, so those at enmity with him are opposing the Lord. It should not be surprising to the Lord's people when they falsely condemned or slandered, but it is a small matter to be judged by man's judgment.

He says to them, "How long will you love vain words and seek after lies?" The 4th century Christian leader John Chrysostom said that if he had one sermon to preach to the whole world, it would be on this statement.

Chrysostom knew that men practice deception on themselves and are false to their own best interests. The path men are on leads to destruction, but if they turn to the Lord they can have life that is truly life.

In verse 3, David follows his rebuke to men with his confidence in the steadfast love and promise of the Lord: "the Lord has set the godly apart for himself." David is a man who knows the love of the Lord and loves him back for it.

the Lord even in the darkest times.

The highest enjoyment on earth is found in communion with God. Happy is the heart that loves the Lord. To be set apart as belonging to the Lord is the best thing that can be said about you.

David speaks to his loyal followers to be careful of their anger in this situation (verse 4). He says that rather than let anger fester, ponder in your heart on your beds and be silent.

Ralph Davis in his commentary makes a good point: "This instruction to be quiet runs contrary to the fad in some Christian circles that you have the right to nourish, feed, and stir your anger and resentment -- the same way you have the right to be angry with God."

Quiet meditation on the truth leads to fruitful service; "Offer right sacrifices, and put your trust in the Lord" (verse 5). Right sacrifices aren't just outward observances, but proceed from a humble heart that knows its need of forgiveness of sin.

Such contemplations (and actions) produce joy in one's heart that no earthly prosperity can match (verse 7) and enables one to lie down and sleep in peace despite the strong opposition that threatens him (verse 8).

His conclusion is "You alone, O Lord, make me dwell in safety." The state of God's people is never desperate. David shows us the value of a good conscience. He knows that the one who called him can sustain him. So he puts all his hope in the Lord.

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FELLOWSHIP BIBLE
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4000 W. Tidewater Ln., Madison 856-5556

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE

First Church of Christ, Scientist
731 S. Pear Orchard Rd., Suite 9
Ridgeland 952-0307

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Mansdale Rd., Madison 856-7348
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APOSTOLIC REVIVAL CENTER
301 W. Washington St., 856-2385
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Hwy. 51 N., Canton 859-2457

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FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
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The Nichols Center advertisement for compassionate and professional care.

Tico's Steakhouse advertisement with address 1536 E. County Line Road.

Mae Hawk advertisement with phone number 5395 I-55N.

Breeland Funeral Home advertisement with address 3304 S. Liberty St.

Culpepper Funeral Home advertisement with address P.O. Box 1310.

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LEGALS

We the member(s) of Latinos Taqueria LLC intend to make application for a transfer for an On-Premise Retailer permit as provided for by the Local Option Alcoholic Beverage Control Laws, §67-1-1, et seq., of the Mississippi Code of 1972, Annotated. If granted such permit, I or We propose to operate as a Limited Liability Company under the trade name of Latinos Taqueria LLC located at 862 Avery Blvd N, Ridgeland, MS 39157. The name(s), title(s), and address(es) of all owners/ partners/ officer(s)/ members and/or majority stockholders/ trustee of the above are as follows:
Name: Juan Garcia
Address: 333 Timber Ridge Dr, Ridgeland, MS 39157
If any person wishes to request a hearing to object to the issuance of this permit a request for a hearing must be made in writing and received by the Department of Revenue within (15) fifteen days from the first date this notice was published. Requests shall be sent to:
Chief Counsel, Legal Division
Department of Revenue
P. O. Box 22828
Jackson, MS 39225
Date of First Publication: 8th July, 2021

I/We, the member(s) of MAK, LLC. intend to make application for a transfer for an On-Premise Retailer permit as provided for by the Local Option Alcoholic Beverage Control Laws, §67-1-1, et seq., of the Mississippi Code of 1972, Annotated. If granted such permit, I or We propose to operate as a Limited Liability Company under the trade name of Bridlewood of Madison located at 3024 Highway 22, Madison, Madison County. The name(s), title(s), and address(es) of all owners/ partners/ officer(s)/ members and/or majority stockholders/ trustee of the above are as follows:
Name: Marcus Kirby
Address: 105 Woodlands Green Cove, Brandon MS, 39047
Name: Charles N. Banks
Address: 150 Warren Lott Rd, Sumrall MS, 39482
Name: Victoria Banks
Address: 150 Warren Lott Rd, Sumrall MS 39482
If any person wishes to request a hearing to object to the issuance of this permit a request for a hearing must be made in writing and received by the Department of Revenue within (15) fifteen days from the first date this notice was published. Requests shall be sent to:
Chief Counsel, Legal Division
Department of Revenue
P. O. Box 22828
Jackson, MS 39225
Date of First Publication: 15th July, 2021

Legal Advertisement
 Ad Placed By The Dossier, Mobile Notary Service & Abandoned Vehicle Specialist 601-622-2173 Public notice is hereby given that Extra Mile Automotive @ 519 Fairmont Plaza, Pearl, Ms. 39208, will hold public auction on July 30th, 2021 @ 10:00 a.m. Pursuant to the abandoned Motor Vehicle Act, House Bill 221, Laws of 1970, and House Bill 1902, Laws of 1995, the following vehicles will be sold: 2012 Audi Q7 S line, VIN# WA1DGAFAE4CD001777, Owner: Dizia &/or Fernando Mitchell, Lienholder: Credit Acceptance, Owed: \$5,884.57 Repairs & Storage; 2008 Audi Q7 Quattro, VIN# WA1BV94L88D044622 Owner: Horace Butler, Lienholder: Magnolia Federal Credit Union, Owed: \$10,325.31 Repairs & Storage. Terms of the sale are cash and no checks will be accepted. Seller reserves the right to final bid. All sales are final. No refunds will be made. Said automobile will be sold in "as is" condition with no guarantees.

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Notice is hereby given that the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the City of Ridgeland, Mississippi, will receive written and electronic sealed bids for the purchase of services, commodities, and supplies for Public Works and contracts for public construction as listed below. Bids will be received until the hour of **10:00 a.m., Friday, August 13, 2021**, in the Board Room at City Hall located at 100 W. School Street, Ridgeland, Mississippi 39157 or may be submitted electronically at www.centralbidding.com.

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 Stamping and Printing Asphalt Pavement
 Speed Humps or Speed Tables
 LED Traffic Signal Modules

Official bid documents can be downloaded from Central Bidding at www.centralbidding.com and electronic bids can be submitted at www.centralbidding.com. For any questions relating to the electronic bidding process and to register, please call Central Bidding at 225-810-4814. All Bids must be sealed and clearly marked "Sealed Bid" with the item you are bidding listed on the envelope. Please put only one bid form in each envelope. All bids shall be submitted in duplicate. Bids will only be accepted on forms provided by the City and downloaded from www.centralbidding.com and the prices quoted will be binding for the period from **OCTOBER 1, 2021 THRU SEPTEMBER 30, 2022**. Contracts for purchase will be made from the lowest and/or best bids submitted, but the Mayor and Board of Aldermen reserve the right to reject any and all bids, and accept or reject any part of a bid.

Electronic Bidding: www.centralbidding.com
Hand Delivery: City of Ridgeland, Attn: Renee Buckner, 100 W. School Street, Ridgeland, MS 39157
Mailing Address: City of Ridgeland, Attn: Renee Buckner P.O. Box 217, Ridgeland, MS 39158

CITY OF RIDGELAND, MISSISSIPPI

By: /s/ Paula Tierce
 Paula Tierce, City Clerk

Publish: July 15, 2021 and July 22, 2021

Furnish 2 proofs of publication/City of Ridgeland

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF MADISON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF:
 SPENCER RIVERS RATCLIFF, DECEASED CIVIL ACTION NO. 2021-241

SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION

THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI
 TO: The heirs at law of Spencer Rivers Ratcliff, deceased, and any and all other persons claiming any right, title or interest in and to the estate of Spencer Rivers Ratcliff, deceased, whose last addresses, post office addresses and street addresses are unknown to the Petitioner after diligent search and inquiry, and upon whom service of process may be had by publication as prescribed by law.

You have been made Respondents in the suit filed in this Court by the Petitioner, Steve Ratcliff, seeking the Adjudication of the heirs at law of Spencer Rivers Ratcliff, Deceased. Respondents in this action other than you are Holly Ratcliff and Stephanie Johnson.

You are summoned to appear and defend against said petition at 8:30 a.m. on the 18th day of August, 2021, before the Honorable Cynthia Brewer, Chancellor for Madison County, Mississippi, in the courtroom of the Madison County Chancery Courthouse in Canton, Mississippi, and in case of your failure to appear and defend a judgment will be entered against you for the money or other things demanded in the petition.

You are not required to file an answer or other pleading but you may do so if you desire.

Issued under my hand and the seal of said Court, this 8th day of July, 2021.
 Ronny Lott, Chancery Clerk

Madison County, Mississippi
 By: /s/ Kim Sievers
 Deputy Clerk
 John R. Elliott, Jr. (MBN 100372)

ELLIOTT LAW FIRM, P.L.L.C.
 P. O. Box 2605
 Madison, Mississippi 39130
 601-499-0460

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF MADISON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF KENNETH RAY MARTIN, SR., DECEASED PROBATE NO. 2021-590B

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Letters Testamentary having been granted on the 7th day of July, 2021, by the Chancery Court of Madison County, Mississippi to the undersigned Executor of the Estate of Kenneth Ray Martin, Sr., Deceased, notice is hereby given to all persons having claims against said estate to present the same to the Clerk of this Court for probate and registration according to law, within ninety (90) days from the first publication of this notice, or they will be forever barred.

THIS the 8th day of July, 2021.

Lynne Martin Waterbury, Co-Executor of the Estate of Kenneth Ray Martin, Sr., Deceased

Kenneth Ray Martin, Jr., Co-Executor of the Estate of Kenneth Ray Martin, Sr., Deceased

Timothy Drew Martin, Co-Executor of the Estate of Kenneth Ray Martin, Sr., Deceased

Richard A. Courtney, MSB #7722
 Philip A. Buchanan, MSB #102626
 Attorneys for Executor
 FRASCOGNA COURTNEY, PLLC
 4400 Old Canton Road, Suite 220
 Jackson, Mississippi 39211
 Telephone: (601) 987-3000

PUBLIC NOTICE OF INVITATION TO BID
 FOR A HUNTING & FISHING LEASE
 SIXTEENTH SECTION LAND

To all persons interested in the following described Hunting & Fishing Land in Madison County, Mississippi, to-wit:

Section 16, Township 9 North, Range 1 East

All of Section 16, Township 9 North, Range 1 East, Madison County, Mississippi, containing 640.00 acres, more or less.

You are hereby notified that sealed bids to lease the lands described above for the Hunting & Fishing rights only for a period of 5 years may be filed with the Superintendent of Education of Canton Public School District or send by mail to 403 E. Lincoln Street, Canton, Mississippi 39046, on or before 3:00 p.m. on the 21st day of July 2021. The sealed bids shall be submitted for the ENTIRE PARCEL and must include 100% of the amount bid for that parcel. This amount will be refunded if not the highest bid. The sealed bids submitted will be opened at 5:30 p.m. on the 21st day of July 2021, or as soon as possible thereafter. The Board reserves the right to reduce the term or reject any and all bids.

Canton Public School District
 Gary P. Hannah, Superintendent

Publish Two Times
 07/08/2021; 07/15/2021

MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

OFFICE OF GEOLOGY Mining and Reclamation Division P. O. Box 2279 Jackson, MS 39225 (601) 961-5527 P U B L I C N O T I C E Public Notice No. 2065 June 22, 2021 Application No. A2065 TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN: The Office of Geology has received an Application for a Surface Mining Permit pursuant to Sections 53-7-27 and 53-7-29 of the Mississippi Surface Mining and Reclamation Act of 1977, as described below: APPLICANT: MS H&L 2, LLC, Zoo Mine 91 Grandview Circle Brandon, Mississippi 39047 LOCATION: Southwest ¼ of Northeast ¼ of Section 1, Township 8 North, Range 2 East, Madison County (Lat. 32° 34' 8.65", Long. 90° 2' 33.95") DESCRIPTION: Operator proposes to open pit mine 22.4 acres to a depth of 15 feet borrow material. Sediment and erosion will be controlled by settling ponds and silt fences. Reclamation will consist of perennial grassed slopes and a pond. This public notice is being distributed to interested persons and agencies to assist in developing facts on which a decision by the Office of Geology can be based. You are requested to communicate the information contained in this notice to any other parties whom you deem likely to have interest in the matter. All agencies and persons shall have until July 13, 2021, to submit comments, recommendations, or evaluations to the Office of Geology. Comments by an agency shall include an enumeration of permits or licenses required under the agency's jurisdiction. If further information is needed, an agency may be furnished a copy of the notice of intent or permit application. Any person may inspect the permit application on the MDEQ website at http://opc.deq.state.ms.us/geology_public_notice.aspx or at the Office of Geology, 700 North State Street, Jackson, MS 39202. In the event comments are not received by July 13, 2021, the Office of Geology will consider that the agency has no comments, recommendations and/or evaluations that the agency deems necessary and proper based upon the effect of the proposed operation on matters within the agency's jurisdiction.

TRUSTEE'S NOTICE OF SALE

WHEREAS, on May 23, 2014, Ruben Martinez Gaytan and Alfonso Nava Gomez, delivered under the Trustee named therein a Deed of Trust securing the payment to the Bank of Morton, of an indebtedness described therein, recorded in Deed of Trust Book 3086 at Page 805 of the records on file in the office of the Chancery Clerk of Madison County, Mississippi; and WHEREAS, default has been made in the payment of the indebtedness secured by said Deed of Trust; the holder of the Note and Deed of Trust having requested the undersigned to do so, in accordance with the terms of said Deeds of Trust, I, Hez L. Hollingsworth, Trustee, will on the 30th day of July, 2021, offer for sale at public outcry and sell during legal hours the South door of the New Courthouse of the Madison County Courthouse in Canton, Mississippi for cash to the highest and best bidder, the property in Madison County, Mississippi, described as:

A lot or parcel of land fronting 200 feet on the North side of Dinkins Street in the City of Canton, Mississippi, and being more particularly described as:

Beginning at a point which is North 89 degrees 20 minutes East along the North side of Dinkins Street and 247 feet East of the Southeast corner of Lot 36, of Block A, of the F. H. Edwards Subdivision of the City of Canton, said county and state, a plat of which said subdivision is of record in the Office of the Chancery Clerk of Madison County, Mississippi, and run thence North 89 degrees 20 minutes East along a continuation of the North line of said Dinkins Street for 200 feet to the East line of the Smith Tract, thence running North 0 degrees 20 minutes East along said East line of the Smith Tract for 250 feet, thence running South 89 degrees 20 minutes West for 200 feet; thence running South 0 degrees 20 minutes West 250 feet to the Point of Beginning, and containing in all 1.15 acres, more or less, and all being a part of Lots 44 and 46, of Block C of the Walton's Addition to the City of Canton, Madison County, Mississippi.

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

WITNESS MY SIGNATURE this the 4th day of May, 2021.

/s/ Hez L. Hollingsworth
 HEZ L. HOLLINGSWORTH, MSB #2539
 TRUSTEE

OF COUNSEL:
 THOMPSON & HOLLINGSWORTH, P.A.
 POST OFFICE DRAWER 119

FOREST, MS 39074; (601) 469-3411

PUBLISHED ON:
 July 8, 2021
 July 15, 2021
 July 22, 2021
 July 29, 2021

Notice of sale is hereby given in accordance with the Mississippi Statutes governing the sale of abandoned motor vehicles for the following: 2002 VOLVO S60, VIN # YV1RS61R22098841, \$ 2707.10. Public sale of this abandoned/unclaimed vehicle will be held on Friday July 23, 2021 at Big Byrd Towing & Recovery located at 120 E. State St. Ridgeland, MS 39157 at 10:00 A.M.

Notice of sale is hereby given in accordance with the Mississippi Statutes governing the sale of abandoned motor vehicles for the following: 1995 CHEVY Z71, VIN # 1GCE-K19K8SE207140, \$2038.35. Public sale of this abandoned/unclaimed vehicle will be held on Friday July 16, 2021 at 10:00 A.M. at Gilmore Towing & Recovery, 124 E. State Street, Ridgeland, MS 39157.

SLEDGE'S, INC.
 P. O. BOX 1694
 MADISON, MS 39130
 TELE (601) 856-8220
 FAX (601) 790-7844

NOTICE OF SALE is hereby given in accordance with the Mississippi Statutes governing the sale of abandoned motor vehicles, that the following vehicles, bearing their respective serial numbers and registration will be sold along with all contents of said vehicles for towing and storing charges and costs of this sale as follows:

2007 KIA SPECTRA
VIN# KNAFE121875004363
2017 BUICK ENCORE
VIN# KL4CJBSB4GB740776

Date of Sale: July 30, 2021
 Time: 9:30 am
 Place: 308 N Wheatley Street, Ridgeland, MS 39157

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF MADISON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

ESTATE OF GIL KYKER, DECEASED NO. 2021-579

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Letters Testamentary having been granted on the 8th day of July, 2021 by the Chancery Court of Madison County, Mississippi to the undersigned Executor of the ESTATE OF GIL KYKER, DECEASED, notice is hereby given to all persons having claims against said Estate to present the same to the Clerk of this Court for probate and registration according to law, within ninety (90) days from the first publication of this Notice, or they will be forever barred.
 This the 8th day of July, 2021.

Guilford Andrew Kyker, Jr.
 GUILFORD ANDREW KYKER, JR.,
 Executor of the Estate of GIL KYKER,
 Deceased

Sara M. Fox
 Mississippi Bar Number: 8992
 FOX LAW GROUP, P.A.
 Post Office Box 310
 Brandon, Mississippi 39043-0310
 Telephone Number: (601) 825-6111
 Facsimile Number: (601) 510-9522
sara@sarafox.com

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF MADISON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF: HOLLIS E. LEE, DECEASED

LINDA LEE, PETITIONER
 CAUSE NO.: 21-cv-00540

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Letters of Administration having been granted on the 8th day of June, 2021, by the Chancery Court of Madison County to the undersigned, Linda Lee, as Administratrix of the Estate of Hollis E. Lee, Deceased, notice is hereby given to all persons having claims against said Estate to present such claims to the Clerk of said Court for probate and registration according to law within ninety (90) days of the date of the first publication of this Notice or they will be forever barred. Respectfully submitted this the 24th day of June, 2021.

LINDA LEE
 By: /s/ William S. Kellum
 William S. Kellum

OF COUNSEL:

William S. Kellum, III, MSB#101898
 KELLUM LAW FIRM
 Post Office Box 4318
 Jackson, Mississippi 39296
 Phone: (601) 969-2709
 Fax: (601) 969-2161
bill@kellumlawfirm.com

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF MADISON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF DONALD JOSEPH BRATA, DECEASED PROBATE NO. 2021-589W

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Letters Testamentary having been granted on the 30th day of June, 2021, by the Chancery Court of Madison County, Mississippi to the undersigned Executor of the Estate of Donald Joseph Brata, Deceased, notice is hereby given to all persons having claims against said estate to present the same to the Clerk of this Court for probate and registration according to law, within ninety (90) days from the first publication of this notice, or they will be forever barred.

THIS the 8th day of July, 2021.

James K. Brata, Executor of the Estate of Donald Joseph Brata, Deceased

Richard A. Courtney, MSB #7722
 Philip A. Buchanan, MSB #102626
 Attorneys for Executor
 FRASCOGNA COURTNEY, PLLC
 4400 Old Canton Road, Suite 220
 Jackson, Mississippi 39211
 Telephone: (601) 987-3000

PUBLIC NOTICE OF INVITATION TO BID
 FOR A HUNTING & FISHING LEASE
 SIXTEENTH SECTION LAND

To all persons interested in the following described Hunting & Fishing Land in Madison County, Mississippi, to-wit:

Section 16, Township 10 North, Range 3 East

All of Section 16, Township 10 North, Range 3 East, Madison County, Mississippi, containing 640.00 acres, more or less.

You are hereby notified that sealed bids to lease the lands described above for the Hunting & Fishing rights only for a period of 5 years may be filed with the Superintendent of Education of Canton Public School District or send by mail to 403 E. Lincoln Street, Canton, Mississippi 39046, on or before 3:00 p.m. on the 21st day of July 2021. The sealed bids shall be submitted for the ENTIRE PARCEL and must include 100% of the amount bid for that parcel. This amount will be refunded if not the highest bid. The sealed bids submitted will be opened at 5:30 p.m. on the 21st day of July 2021, or as soon as possible thereafter. The Board reserves the right to reduce the term or reject any and all bids.

Canton Public School District
 Gary P. Hannah, Superintendent

Publish Two Times
 07/08/2021; 07/15/2021

South Central Community Action Agency will hold a public hearing on Monday July 26, 2021 at 10:00a.m., at 140 West Center Street Canton, MS 39046. The purpose of this hearing will be to discuss programs and services provided by SCCAA in reference to the submission of our 2022 Community Services Block Grant (CSBG). For more information, please contact Chiquita Martin at 601-407-5473 (Monday-Friday) or Jolyn Winn769-235-8224.

LEGAL NOTICE

The City of Ridgeland, Mississippi intends to negotiate a contract with one (1) Consultant for the scope of work described herein to perform debris monitoring supervision and management services related to the removal and disposal of eligible disaster-related debris from the City right-of-way (ROW) including streets, roads, parks, and other maintained in-use public property and utility ROWs within the City. The monitoring services are meant to ensure the debris removal contractor is performing the scope of work required by the contract, and document the debris removal operations. The management services shall include, but not be limited to, debris forecasting, pre-event planning, communication with FEMA, FHWA, the State of Mississippi, and other agencies, coordination with insurance representatives, and cost of the debris removal operations, grant funding and reimbursement services. The scope of work is further defined as work eligible under FEMA Public Assistance regulations, policy, and guidance. It will be the responsibility of the Consultant to adhere to all federal debris eligibility regulations, policy, and guidance. It is the intent of the City to enter into a Contract for a period from the Effective October 1, 2021 thru September 30, 2025. Offerors acknowledge that time is of the essence to the performance of the contract. Offerors understand and agree that the services offered within their proposal must be done in the most expeditious manner possible. The successful offeror shall make every effort to complete all requirements of the awarded contract in the shortest time possible. The firm shall be knowledgeable and have experience in providing the services as described herein and conduct its operations within the general parameters of FEMA's Public Assistance Program, unless otherwise directed by the City. The area to be included as part of this contract is located entirely within the City limits. It will be the responsibility of the Consultant to adhere to all federal debris removal eligibility regulations, policy, and guidance. FEMA's Public Assistance Debris Management Guide (FEMA 325) can be found at: www.fema.gov/pdf/government/grant/pa/damage.pdf

Code of Federal Regulations

To be considered, the proposal must respond to all requirements of this Legal Advertisement. Offerors must submit six (6) original hard copies of sealed proposals addressed to the City of Ridgeland, Public Works Department, telephone no. 601-853-2027, Attn: Mike McCollum, Public Works Director. **All replies must be received by 2:00 P.M., Tuesday August 17, 2021, in the Office of Public Works of the City of Ridgeland at City Hall 100 W. School Street, Ridgeland, Mississippi 39157.** Proposals will not be publicly read at the opening. Proposals may not be delivered orally, by facsimile transmission, by other telecommunication, or electronic means. No oral interpretation of this Request for Proposal shall be considered binding. The City shall be bound by information and statements only when such statements are written and executed under the authority of the Mayor. Offerors assume the risk of the method of dispatch chosen. The City assumes no responsibility for delays caused by any delivery service. Postmarking by the due date will not substitute for actual proposal receipt by the City. An Offeror's failure to submit its proposal prior to the deadline will cause the proposal to be rejected. Late proposals or amendments will not be opened or accepted for evaluation. The City reserves the right to reject any and all replies and to waive any irregularities or informalities in the proposal process. The City reserves the right to select one (1) consultant or select a short list of consultants from whom more information will be required. There is no DBE goal for this Contract. The City of Ridgeland is an equal opportunity employer. Questions should be directed

The Proposals should be submitted and marked on the outside as:
"PROPOSAL"
FEMA DISASTER DEBRIS MONITORING
City of Ridgeland, Madison County, Mississippi

Upon selection, negotiation and execution of one or more Contract, the City anticipates the duration of the Contract to be approximately 4-years. The City anticipates executing the Contract by approximately September 2017 and issuing Notice to Proceed only upon a FEMA declared disaster event. The approximate RFP schedule is as follows:

RFP Advertisement #1: July 15, 2021

RFP Advertisement #2: July 22, 2021
 Proposals due: August 17, 2021 at 2:00 pm
 Selection Committee Review of proposals: August 25, 2021
 Mayor and Board of Aldermen Meeting to Select Consultant: September 7, 2021
 Contract award: September 8, 2021
 Notice to proceed: To be determined upon disaster event.

Offerors must succinctly respond in the format delineated below. Elaborate, irrelevant, or otherwise unnecessary information will not be considered. The following information shall be tabbed to identify the required information. Failure to submit this information will render your proposal non-responsive. An individual authorized to bind the offeror to the provisions of the RFP must sign the proposal. The City will not pay any cost associated with the preparation, submittal, presentation, or evaluation of any proposal. Offerors must disclose any instances where the Consultant or any individuals working on the contract has a possible conflict of interest and, if so, the nature of that conflict (e.g., employed by the City of Ridgeland). The City reserves the right to cancel the award if any interest disclosed from any source could either give the appearance of a conflict or cause speculation as to the objectivity of the offeror's proposal. The City's determination regarding any questions of conflict of interest is final. By signature on the proposal, the offeror certifies that it complies with: The laws of the state of Mississippi; All applicable local, state, and federal laws, codes, and regulations; All terms, conditions, and requirements set forth in this RFP; A condition that the proposal submitted was independently arrived at without collusion; and, A condition that the offer will remain open and valid for the period indicated in this solicitation and any condition that the Consultant and/or any individuals working on the contract do not have a possible conflict of interest (e.g., employed by the City of Ridgeland).

If any Consultant fails to comply with the provisions stated in this paragraph, the City reserves the right to reject the proposal, terminate the contract, or consider the Consultant in default. Any contact with any City representatives, related officials, or representatives other than those outlined in the RFP is prohibited. Such unauthorized contact may disqualify your proposal from this procurement. The City reserves the right to reject any and all proposals, to waive formalities, and to select the proposal and developer(s) that, in the City's sole discretion, are in the best interests of the City of Ridgeland, Mississippi. The City reserves the right to: Amend, modify, or withdraw this RFP; Revise any requirements under this RFP; Require supplemental statements of information from any responding party; Extend the deadline for submission of responses hereto; Negotiate or hold discussions with any offeror to correct insufficient responses that do not completely conform to the instructions contained herein; Waive any nonconformity with this RFP; Cancel, in whole or in part, this RFP if the City deems it is in its best interest to do so; Request additional information or clarification of information provided in the response without changing the terms of the RFP; Waive any portion of the selection process in order to accelerate the selection and negotiation with the top-ranked Consultant; and, Not award a contract as a part of, or result of, this RFP process. The City may exercise the foregoing rights at any time without notice and without liability to any offeror, or any other party, for expenses incurred in the preparation of response hereto or otherwise.

The recommended proposal length should not exceed twenty-five (25) pages, exclusive of appendices. The resumes (which should not exceed 1 page in length per individual), SF-330 Part II, proof of State Licensure and certificates requirements, and other information not relevant to the requirements should be included in the appendices. The Consultant's cover letter, table of contents, summaries and introductions, team organizational chart, past performances, and any other responses to the evaluation criteria should be included in the 25 pages. Pages should be numbered, single-spaced, one-sided, 8.5" by 11" with margins of at least one inch on all four sides. Information within the recommended 25 page limit of the proposal should be complete and sufficient in scope for the selection committee to evaluate the Consultant. Also, all text information in the recommended 25 page limit should be shown in a readable font, size 12 points or larger. Headers, charts, and other graphics may be provided in a different font type and size providing they are legible. Section dividers, tabs, or similar means are recommended and are not counted as part of the recommended 25 page limit. These recommendations will be considered when evaluating the quality of proposal.

With the exception of the information to be supplied in the appendices, the proposal should be divided into the following sections as listed below. Consulting engineering firms (CONSULTANT) interested in providing these services may so indicate by furnishing the City six (6) copies and one (1) CD of the proposals which should consist of the following unless specifically stated otherwise:

1. COVER LETTER: The Prime CONSULTANT should provide a cover letter specifying the name and complete description of the Contract, the name of the Prime CONSULTANT and any of its Subconsultant(s), the name of an individual who will be the single point of contact throughout the selection process, the name of the project manager, the location and address of the managing office, and the location and address of the office(s) that may be assigned the work. Should any Subconsultant(s) be listed as team members, identify the roles of

Trail

Continued from page A1

Sanders was committed to traveling “ultra-light.” His backpack weighed only 13 pounds and had in it everything he needed. In his bag, Sanders carried a tent, a sleeping bag, a sleeping pad, a small camping stove, a tiny propane gas tank, two changes of clothes, a down jacket, a blow-up pillow, a water filter, tent stakes, a headlamp and a portable charger for his cellphone and watch.

Sanders said he met many interesting people on his hike and made at least one friendship that he hopes will last a lifetime. Sanders said hanging out with someone in a hostel or campsite, or hiking with them up and down mountains, creates long-lasting bonds.

Hikers on the Appalachian Trail often have trail names. Sanders was known as the Duke of the Trail, Duke being his middle name, and he met a hiker who went by Yeehaw. Sanders also met another high school graduate who took a gap year to hike the Appalachian Trail. The two of

them hiked the last 400 miles of the trail together. Sanders said they will be lifelong friends.

Franconia Ridge was the highlight of the trip, for Sanders. The second-highest range of peaks in New Hampshire’s White Mountains, this ridge puts its hikers up 11 or 12 miles above the treeline, surrounding them with horizon.

“It’s like its own little world up there,” Sanders said.

Sanders took many photographs throughout the hike, which were a highlight for Krista Sanders.

“It was exciting to get new pictures from McLin,” she said.

Mother and son both uploaded photographs to their social media accounts so that family and friends could stay up-to-date throughout his expedition.

“My friends were really amazed at how brave he was and were truly interested in his hike,” Krista Sanders said.

McLin Sanders also enjoyed the Grayson Highlands State Park in Virginia, where wild Shetland ponies make their

home in the sprawling highlands. McLin Sanders even got to pet a few.

Parts of the Appalachian Trail were as challenging as they were rewarding. Traversing the White Mountains was practically rock-climbing, McLin Sanders said.

“The trail there isn’t gradual at all,” he said.

A “thru-hike” is a tough challenge throughout. To hike the Appalachian Trail in total is equivalent to hiking Mt. Everest from sea level to its peak 16 times.

Though the Appalachian Trail offers its own unique challenges, Sanders recommends the experience. He was somewhat familiar with the territory already, having hiked as a child in Georgia and Alabama with his father, but sees the Appalachian Trail as a must-do.

“Anyone who wants to hike this trail, they should,” said Sanders, who is headed to the University of Mississippi this fall. “It’s the best thing I’ve ever done.”



McLin Sanders waives a U.S. flag atop Mount Katahdin in Maine, the end of his journey.

Legals

Continued from page A7

each individual's name, job description (for the project), and company of employment. Firm qualifications must include, at minimum, the following: 1) Recent experience demonstrating current capacity and current expertise in debris removal, solid waste and hazardous waste management and disposal. 2) Documented knowledge and experience coordinating with Federal, State and Local emergency agencies. 3) Experience representing local governments with various state and federal funding sources and reimbursement processes, including FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency), FHWA (Federal Highway Administration), and NRCS (Natural Resources Conservation Services). 4) Experience with special disaster recovery program management services including private property/right-of-entry (ROE) work, waterways clean-up and reimbursement, leaning tree and hanging limb removal, hazardous material removal, vessel and vehicle recovery, asbestos abatement, data management, and hauler invoice reconciliation and contracting, and FEMA appeals assistance

3. PAST EXPERIENCE: The CONSULTANT should provide a description of services provided on projects with similar scope and magnitude completed during the past five (5) years which qualifies the consultant for this work. Provide a detailed description of the role of the consultant and define whether the consultant was the prime or a Subconsultant. Include in the description the amount of the consultant's Contract for the work they provided for the project. The firm should provide contact information for each of the projects. This will include the name of the client and client's representative that can verify and discuss the project;

4. APPROACH: The CONSULTANT should provide a brief description of its APPROACH to completing the scope of work in an efficient manner. This description should describe the Consultant's resources and abilities in project operations, project management and how they utilize their equipment, personnel, and other technical and procedural resources. Provide a brief description of any resource that has proven beneficial for accomplishing similar scopes of work in previous projects such as use of digital records in project administration, inspection and daily summary reports, unique inspection methodology, pay item analysis and reporting, use of GPS information, digital photographs and videos in documentation. Provide a brief description of any unique company resources or procedures for producing documentation essential for processing pay estimates and Federal Grant requests for reimbursement.

5. COST: Each Offeror must complete and submit the Cost Proposal Form/ Fee Schedule included herein. The Cost Proposal will be evaluated on the hourly rates submitted on the cost proposal form for the labor positions listed. All non-labor projected costs will be billed to the City at cost without markup. All Per Diem Expenses shall be billed directly to the City at a rate not to exceed the GSA Per Diem Allowance for the project area.

The CONSULTANT should provide Part II of Standard Form (SF) 330, Architect-Engineer Qualifications. If a firm has branch offices, complete the form for each specific branch office seeking work. In addition, this form should be completed for any Subconsultants in the same manner.

The City will evaluate the Expressions of Interest based on the following factors listed in their relative order of importance. The following weighted criteria will be utilized during evaluation of Proposals. The ranking, not the total score will determine the proposal selected:

1. Qualifications 30%
2. Experience in Scope of Work 25%
3. Cost Proposal 25%
4. Approach to services required within scope of work 10%
5. Locations of the Consultant's home, branch and field offices 10%

The CONSULTANT should mark any and all pages of the proposal consid-

ered to be proprietary information which may remain confidential in accordance with Mississippi Code Annotated 25-61-9 and 79-23-1 (1972, as amended). Each page of the proposal that the CONSULTANT considers trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information should be on a different color or paper than non-confidential pages and be marked in the upper right hand corner with the word "CONFIDENTIAL." Failure to clearly identify trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information will result in that information being released subject to a public records request.

BY ORDER OF THE MAYOR AND BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE CITY OF RIDGELAND, MISSISSIPPI, ON THIS THE 6TH DAY OF JULY 2021.
CITY OF RIDGELAND, MISSISSIPPI

BY: _____(s) Paula Tierce
Paula Tierce, CITY CLERK

Publish THURSDAY, JULY 15, 2021 AND THURSDAY JULY 22, 2021

LEGAL NOTICE

The City of Ridgeland, Mississippi intends to enter into a contract with a contractor with the lowest total cost who best demonstrates the ability and technical plan to expeditiously provide eligible disaster-related debris removal from public ROW for the City as outlined in this proposal. The scope of work is defined as work eligible under FEMA Public Assistance regulations, policy, and guidance. It will be the responsibility of the contractor to adhere to all federal debris eligibility regulations, policy, and guidance. Any debris work performed that is not in adherence with federal debris eligibility regulations, policy, and guidance will not be reimbursed by the City and will be the responsibility of the contractor.

Bidders acknowledge that time is of the essence to the performance of the contract. Bidders understand and agree that the services offered within their proposal must be done in the most expeditious manner possible. The successful bidder shall make every effort to complete all requirements of the awarded contract in the shortest time possible. The Contractor shall be knowledgeable and have experience in providing the services as described herein and conduct its operations within the general parameters of FEMA's Public Assistance Program, unless otherwise directed by the City. The area to be included as part of this contract is located entirely within the City limits. It will be the responsibility of the Contractor to adhere to all federal debris removal eligibility regulations, policy, and guidance. FEMA's Public Assistance Debris Management Guide (FEMA 325) can be found at: www.fema.gov/pdf/government/grant/pa/demagde.pdf

Code of Federal Regulations
To be considered, the Bidder must respond to all requirements of this Legal Advertisement. Bidders must submit six (6) original hard copies of sealed proposals addressed to the City of Ridgeland, Public Works Department, telephone no. 601-853-2027, Attn: Mike McCollum, Public Works Director. **All replies must be received by 10:00 A.M., Tuesday August 17, 2021, in the Office of Public Works of the City of Ridgeland at City Hall 100 W. School Street, Ridgeland, Mississippi 39157.** Proposals will not be publicly read at the opening. Proposals may not be delivered orally, by facsimile transmission, by other telecommunication, or electronic means. No oral interpretation of this Request for Proposal shall be considered binding. The City shall be bound by information and statements only when such statements are written and executed under the authority of the Mayor. Bidders assume the risk of the method of dispatch chosen. The City assumes no responsibility for delays caused by any delivery service. Postmarking by the due date will not substitute for actual proposal receipt by the City. A Bidder's failure to submit its proposal prior to the deadline will cause the proposal to be rejected. Late proposals or amendments will not be opened or accepted for evaluation. The City reserves the right to reject any and all replies and to waive any irregularities or informalities in the proposal process. The City reserves the right to

select one (1) Contractor or select a short list of Contractor from whom more information will be required. There is no DBE goal for this Contract. The City of Ridgeland is an equal opportunity employer.

The Proposals should be submitted and marked on the outside as:

"PROPOSAL"
FEMA DISASTER DEBRIS REMOVAL
City of Ridgeland, Madison County, Mississippi

Upon selection, negotiation and execution of a Contract, the City anticipates the duration of the Contract will be 4-years. The City anticipates executing the Contract in September 2021 and will run for the period of October 1, 2021 thru September 30, 2025. We will issue a Notice to Proceed only upon a FEMA declared disaster event. The approximate RFP schedule is as follows:

RFP Advertisement #1: July 15, 2021
RFP Advertisement #2: July 22, 2021
Proposals due: August 17, 2021 at 2:00 pm

Selection Committee Review of proposals: August 25, 2021
Mayor and Board of Aldermen Meeting to Select Consultant: September 7, 2021
Contract award: September 8, 2021
Notice to proceed: To be determined upon disaster event.

Bidders must succinctly respond in the format delineated below. Elaborate, irrelevant, or otherwise unnecessary information will not be considered. The following information shall be tabbed to identify the required information. Failure to submit this information will render your proposal non-responsive. An individual authorized to bind the bidder to the provisions of the RFP must sign the proposal. The City will not pay any cost associated with the preparation, submittal, presentation, or evaluation of any proposal. Bidders must disclose any instances where the Contractor or any individuals working on the contract has a possible conflict of interest and, if so, the nature of that conflict (e.g., employed by the City of Ridgeland). The City reserves the right to cancel the award if any interest disclosed from any source could either give the appearance of a conflict or cause speculation as to the objectivity of the bidder's proposal. The City's determination regarding any questions of conflict of interest is final. By signature on the proposal, the bidder certifies that it complies with: The laws of the state of Mississippi; All applicable local, state, and federal laws, codes, and regulations; All terms, conditions, and requirements set forth in this RFP; A condition that the proposal submitted was independently arrived at without collusion; and, A condition that the offer will remain open and valid for the period indicated in this solicitation and any condition that the Contractor and/or any individuals working on the contract do not have a possible conflict of interest (e.g., employed by the City of Ridgeland).

If any Bidder fails to comply with the provisions stated in this paragraph, the City reserves the right to reject the proposal, terminate the contract, or consider the Contractor in default. Any contact with any City representatives, related officials, or representatives other than those outlined in the RFP is prohibited. Such unauthorized contact may disqualify your proposal from this procurement. The City reserves the right to reject any and all proposals, to waive formalities, and to select the proposal and developer(s) that, in the City's sole discretion, are in the best interests of the City of Ridgeland, Mississippi. The City reserves the right to: amend, modify, or withdraw this RFP; Revise any requirements under this RFP; Require supplemental statements of information from any responding party; Extend the deadline for submission of responses hereto; Negotiate or hold discussions with any bidder to correct insufficient responses that do not completely conform to the instructions contained herein; Waive any nonconformity with this RFP; Cancel, in whole or in part, this RFP if the City deems it is in its best interest to do so; Request additional information or clarification of information provided in the response without changing the

terms of the RFP; Waive any portion of the selection process in order to accelerate the selection and negotiation with the top-ranked Contractor; and, Not award a contract as a part of, or result of, this RFP process. The City may exercise the foregoing rights at any time without notice and without liability to any bidder, or any other party, for expenses incurred in the preparation of response hereto or otherwise.

The recommended proposal length should not exceed twenty-five (25) pages, exclusive of appendices. The resumes (which should not exceed 1 page in length per individual), SF-330 Part II, proof of State Licensure and certificates requirements, and other information not relevant to the requirements should be included in the appendices. The Bidder's cover letter, table of contents, summaries and introductions, team organizational chart, past performances, and any other responses to the evaluation criteria should be included in the 25 pages. Pages should be numbered, single-spaced, one-sided, 8.5" by 11" with margins of at least one inch on all four sides. Information within the recommended 25 page limit of the proposal should be complete and sufficient in scope for the selection committee to evaluate the Bidder. Also, all text information in the recommended 25 page limit should be shown in a readable font, size 12 points or larger. Headers, charts, and other graphics may be provided in a different font type and size providing they are legible. Section dividers, tabs, or similar means are recommended and are not counted as part of the recommended 25 page limit. These recommendations will be considered when evaluating the quality of proposal.

With the exception of the information to be supplied in the appendices, the proposal should be divided into the following sections as listed below. Contractors interested in providing these services may so indicate by furnishing the City six (6) copies and one (1) CD of the proposals which should consist of the following unless specifically stated otherwise:

1. COVER LETTER: The Prime Contractor should provide a cover letter specifying the name and complete description of the Contract, the name of the Prime Contractor and any of its Subcontractor(s), the name of an individual who will be the single point of contact throughout the selection process, the name of the project manager, the location and address of the managing office, and the location and address of the office(s) that may be assigned the work. Should any Subcontractor(s) be listed as team members, identify the roles of each of the team's members. In addition, the CONTRACTOR must note if this is a joint venture.
2. QUALIFICATIONS: The CONTRACTOR should provide a resume for each principal member, the project manager, and employee(s) of the firm anticipated to be assigned to the project. Also, provide a team organizational chart and list each person's experience and qualifications, any certification requirements. The team organizational chart should include each individual's name, job description (for the project), and company of employment. Firm qualifications must include, at minimum, the following: 1) demonstrate the contractor's current capacity and current expertise in debris removal, solid waste and hazardous waste management and disposal. 2) Documented knowledge and experience coordinating with Federal, State and Local emergency agencies. 3) Experience representing local governments with various state and federal funding sources and reimbursement processes, including FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency), FHWA (Federal Highway Administration), and NRCS (Natural Resources Conservation Services). 4) Experience with special disaster recovery program management services including private property/right-of-entry (ROE) work, waterways clean-up and reimbursement, leaning tree and hanging limb removal, hazardous material removal, vessel and vehicle recovery, asbestos abatement, data management, and hauler invoice reconciliation and contracting, and FEMA appeals assistance.
3. PAST EXPERIENCE: The CON-

TRACTOR should provide a description of services provided on projects with similar scope and magnitude completed during the past five (5) years which qualifies the contractor for this work. Experience with special disaster recovery program management services including private property/right-of-entry (ROE) work, waterways clean-up and reimbursement, leaning tree and hanging limb removal, hazardous material removal, vessel and vehicle recovery, asbestos abatement, data management, and hauler invoice reconciliation and contracting, and FEMA appeals assistance. Provide a detailed description of the role of the contractor and define whether the contractor was the prime or a Subcontractor. Include in the description the amount of the contractor's Contract for the work they provided for the project. The firm should provide contact information for each of the projects. This will include the name of the client and client's representative that can verify and discuss the project;

4. APPROACH: The CONTRACTOR should provide a brief description of its APPROACH to completing the scope of work in an efficient manner. This description should describe the Contractor's resources and abilities in project operations, project management and how they utilize their equipment, personnel, and other technical and procedural resources. Provide a brief description of any resource that has proven beneficial for accomplishing similar scopes of work in previous projects Provide a brief description of any unique company resources or procedures for producing documentation essential for processing pay estimates and Federal Grant requests for reimbursement.

5. COST: Each Bidder must complete and submit the Cost Proposal Form included within the specifications. An individual authorized to bind the bidder to the provisions of the RFP must complete and sign the Cost Proposal Form and provide a Bid Security. The Cost Proposal will be evaluated on the total sum of the rates submitted on the cost proposal form.

The City will evaluate the Expressions of Interest based on the following factors listed in their relative order of importance. The following weighted criteria will be utilized during evaluation of Proposals. The ranking, not the total score will determine the proposal selected:

1. Cost Proposal 40%
2. Qualifications 20%
3. Experience in scope of work 20%
4. Approach to services required within scope of work 10%
5. Locations of the Contractor's home, branch and field offices 10%

The CONTRACTOR should mark any and all pages of the proposal considered to be proprietary information which may remain confidential in accordance with Mississippi Code Annotated 25-61-9 and 79-23-1 (1972, as amended). Each page of the proposal that the CONTRACTOR considers trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information should be on a different color paper than non-confidential pages and be marked in the upper right hand corner with the word "CONFIDENTIAL." Failure to clearly identify trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information will result in that information being released subject to a public records request.

BY ORDER OF THE MAYOR AND BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE CITY OF RIDGELAND, MISSISSIPPI, ON THIS THE 6TH DAY OF JULY 2021 .
CITY OF RIDGELAND, MISSISSIPPI

BY: _____(s) Paula Tierce
Paula Tierce, CITY CLERK

Publish THURSDAY, JULY 15, 2021 AND THURSDAY JULY 22, 2021.

Send invoice to: Paula Tierce, City Clerk, City of Ridgeland, P.O. Box 217; Ridgeland, MS 39158 (601-856-7113)

PUBLIC NOTICE

TO THE PUBLIC AND THE TAXPAYERS OF MADISON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

You are hereby notified that the real and personal property assessment rolls of Madison County, Mississippi, for the year 2021 have been equalized according to law, and that said rolls are ready for inspection and examination, and that any objections to said rolls or any assessment therein contained, shall be in writing and filed with the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors of Madison County, Mississippi on or before 9:00 o'clock a.m. on the 2nd day of August, 2021 at his office in the Chancery/Administrative Building, 125 West North Street, 2nd Floor, Canton, Madison County, Mississippi, and that all assessments to which no objection is then and there made, will be finally approved by said Board of Supervisors, and that all assessments to which objection is made, and which may be corrected and properly determined by this Board, will be made final by this Board of Supervisors and that said rolls and the assessments contained therein will be approved by this Board of Supervisors; and that,

1. This Board will be in session, for the purpose of hearing objections to the said assessments which may be filed at the Chancery Clerks Office at the Chancery/Administrative Building, 125 West North Street, 2nd Floor in the City of Canton, Madison County, Mississippi, beginning at 9:00 o'clock a.m. on the 2nd day of August, 2021.

2. This Board of Supervisors will remain in session from day to day until all objections, lawfully filed, shall have been disposed of and all proper corrections made in the said rolls.

Witness the signature of the said Board of Supervisors this the 6th day of July, 2021.

THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF MADISON COUNTY
/s/Karl M. Banks, President

Publish: July 15 and 22, 2021.

MADISON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI REQUESTS FOR STATEMENTS OF QUALIFICATION PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR BROADBAND "LAST MILE" SYSTEMS AND IMPLEMENTATION CONNECTIVITY IN RURAL MADISON COUNTY

The Madison County Board of Supervisors (the County) will be accepting statements of Qualification for professional engineering services from qualified firms and/or individuals for the planning, evaluation, design, and construction review and administration for broadband facilities in a specified portion of rural Madison County. The scope of work generally will include project planning including alternatives evaluation and recommendations; conceptual, preliminary, and final design; preparing opinion of probable project cost; bidding, contracting and construction phase administration and inspection; surveying; assistance with right-of-way and permitting requirements (if needed); assistance concerning county ownership and operation of the broadband facility, and related matters.

A detailed Request for Qualifications can be obtained at the Office of County Administrator, or via email at: keshabuckner@madison-co.com. The County will evaluate submittals from qualified respondents and make its selection on the basis of information that appears best to serve the interests of Madison County.

Upon completing the selection process, contract negotiations will proceed with the selected respondent. In the event that a contract cannot be negotiated with the most highly qualified respondent, negotiations will continue in order of qualification.

Those interested in being considered shall provide a Statement of Qualification on or before 10:00 A.M. local time, on August 2nd, 2021 addressed to the following: Madison County Chancery Court Clerk's Office 125 West North Street, Canton, MS 39046.

Publish: July 15th July 22th

Madison school resource officer home after 8 months in hospital

By SCOTT HAWKINS
scott@onlinemadison.com

MADISON — Madison Central School Resource Officer Corey Ray, who had been hospitalized for about eight months, was released on Tuesday and got a police escort home.

A video posted to numerous social media accounts shows an ambulance escorted by "brothers in blue" transporting Ray home.

"He's a hard worker, never complains, just a good guy all around," said Deputy Chris

Picou, supervisor, Rankin/Madison interdiction officer in the video segment by Darkhorse Press.

The video shows a group of family, friends and neighbors standing in Ray's front yard cheering and taking photographs as the ambulance, escorted by the brothers in blue police motorcade of motorcycles and patrol units with flashing lights, arrives and ambulance crew members bring Ray into his house on a stretcher.

The yard is decorated with balloons and signs with the Madison Central Jaguars logo

and "Welcome Home. We love you." People wrote personal notes on the signs.

Ray was admitted in late October 2020 for a digestive issue.

"On Tuesday, July 13, Corey got to go home, escorted by police officers from Madison Police Department, Jackson Police Department, Madison County Sheriff's Department, Rankin County Sheriff's Department, and Ridgeland Police Department," a caption posted with the video states. "He was greeted at his home by family and friends."



Madison School Resource Officer Corey Ray received a police escort home Tuesday after 8 months in the hospital.

Hearing held to decide next steps in Canton aldermen re-do elections

By DUNCAN DENT
duncan@onlinemadison.com

Canton officials have begun talks on how to proceed with Ward 2 and Ward 5 special elections ordered for mid-August.

"The Lord is good and his providence will see us through," said Special Judge Jeff Weill Sr. as he closed a Tuesday, July 13, hearing concerning the election.

The Aug. 17 contests will be

a do-over of Democrat Party primary races for the Ward 2 and Ward 5 aldermen positions.

Incumbent Ward 2 Alderman Fred Esco Jr.'s opponent was challenger Renee Truss and incumbent Ward 5 Alderman Tim C. Taylor's was challenger John E. Brown.

David Humphreys, who represents candidates Esco Jr. and Taylor, said he hopes the two parties in his cases can reach an agreement within the next few days on how to pro-

ceed with the election, though they have no deadline to make a decision before the Aug. 17 election date set by Weill.

"Everyone is being cooperative in looking for an agreed solution on how to hold this election," Humphreys said.

Negotiations began Tuesday morning in Madison County Circuit Court in front of Weill.

The hearing addressed the consolidated cases Esco v. Truss, Taylor v. Brown and Rodriguez Brown v. Colby

Walker, though only the Ward 2 and Ward 5 races were addressed at that time.

Madison County Attorney Mike Espy was also present during the hearing and was allowed into the private talks representing the county's interest in the proceedings.

Weill had ordered the county election commission to assist in the Aug. 17 special election in his original order on July 1.

Supervisors voted at their

July 6 meeting to ask the county's attorney to represent the county's interest in the proceedings and to seek to remove them from the issue entirely if possible.

Rodriguez Brown is the incumbent for the Ward 1 Aldermen seat. He lost to Walker in the election held in April.

An ongoing lawsuit between incumbent Democrat Mayor Dr. William Truly and Republican challenger Chip

Matthews was not a part of Tuesday's proceeding though they have an ongoing lawsuit and Matthews has declared himself the mayor of Canton even though Truly beat him in the general election.

Humphreys said he did not know anything about the Brown v. Walker or Truly v. Matthews cases.

"I do not know the status of those cases," Humphreys said. "I am not involved."



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Consignment Questions?

Jason Spence 601-750-0201

or Eagle Shaw 225-431-0544



Juvenile arrested in teen murder

By DUNCAN DENT
duncan@onlinemadison.com

CANTON — Police continue to search for suspects after they arrested one juvenile in connection to a July 1 drive-by shooting that killed a Texas teen visiting his grandmother.

Cordarius Dontravious Johnson, 15, was arrested and charged with murder. Johnson has been booked into the Madison County Detention Center.

Canton Police Chief Otha Brown said he expects further arrests to come as the investigation continues.

“We are looking to get some answers out of him,” Brown said. “This is an ongoing investigation.”

He said that Johnson was arrested by U.S. Marshalls on July 12 around 5 a.m. at a resi-

dence on Henry Street. Brown said they do not know if Johnson was the gunman and are trying to identify other suspects involved.

Brown said they had not identified a motive as of Tuesday afternoon. He said they do not know if the two knew each other.

Johnson is one of the suspects in the Thursday, July 1, shooting on north West Street in Canton that killed Demarian Tillman, 15, of Texas. Tillman was in town visiting his grandmother, Brown said.

Police received the call at about 11:30 p.m. of gunshots ringing out in the 300 block of north West Street not far from Canton’s Fire Station No. 3 on



Cordarius Johnson

the north side of Peace Street west of the railroad Brown said.

When officers arrived, Brown said they found Tillman dead at the scene. Brown said Tillman had been in town a week and a couple of days.

Brown said the killing was the second homicide in Canton this year.

On May 7, the bloodied body of a 37-year-old woman named Takoria Brown was found at the Econo Lodge on Soldiers Colony Road.

That murder is under investigation by the Mississippi Bureau of Investigation.

Canton police nab Jackson fugitive

By DUNCAN DENT
duncan@onlinemadison.com

A suspect in the fatal shooting of a Jackson man that occurred in late May was apprehended by Canton Police last week.

Canton Police arrested Deangelo Jackson, 22, on Wednesday, June 7 and charged him with murder related to the death of Brendan Stuckey.

Canton Police Chief Otha

Brown said Jackson was arrested during a traffic stop and that Jackson does not currently face any local charges.

Central Mississippi Crime Stoppers said Jackson’s criminal history includes arrests for narcotics and house burglary charges.

Jackson Police reported in May that Stuckey, 32, was identified as the victim of a fatal shooting on the 4200 block of Sunset Drive in Jackson. Police officials said the

incident occurred just after 2 p.m. on May 27, a Thursday.

Jackson had an accomplice, Dezmon Clinton, 15, who was arrested the same day as Jackson by the U.S. Marshal’s Fugitive Task Force in Jackson, JPD says.

Clinton was also wanted and charged with murder and armed carjacking in the June 18, fatal wounding and carjacking of Nicholas Terry, 38, according to JPD.



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