

**BUSINESS** STARBUCKS BEGINS **NEW REMODEL** 

County Line Road — See page, A2

**HISTORY** 

MARKER UNVEILED AT MADISON CEMETERY

Montgomery Memorial — See page, A3



Madison County's leading newspaper.

# **MADISON COUNTY**

Serving Madison, Ridgeland, Canton, Flora, Gluckstadt.

VOLUME 42 NUMBER 32

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MADISON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

www.madisoncountyjournal.com

\*\* \$1.00

AUGUST 10, 2023

**FEDERAL BRIBERY CHARGES** 

# Varnock criminal trial moved to October

**By MICHAEL SIMMONS** msimmons@onlinemadison.com

Former Madison County engineer Rudy Warnock's federal bribery and wire fraud trial was rescheduled again last week, this time to Oct. 2, following a fourth continuance approved by U.S. District Judge Henry T. Wingate. Warnock's attorneys say they need more time to examine the evidence provided in

The U.S. Department of Justice had no objection to the continuance.

discovery.

Former Canton Municipal Utilities Chairman Cleveland

Anderson and former Canton aldermen Andrew Grant and Eric Gilkey have all pleaded guilty to bribery charges stemming from Warnock's one-year stint at Canton Municipal Utilities from 2016

Warnock, who has been charged with bribery and wire

fraud that allegedly occurred during his brief stint at CMU after he was fired by Madison County, was most recently scheduled to go to trial on June 5 before U.S. Judge Henry Wingate granted the two-month continuance.

Indictments against Warnock and the others were unsealed in November 2022.

The sentencing hearings for Grant, Anderson and Gilkey, originally scheduled for May 24, have also been continued indefinitely, presumably until Warnock's trial is completed, observers have said.

Warnock was indicted on

two counts of conspiracy to commit bribery, one count of conspiracy to commit wire fraud, and one count of wire fraud.

Warnock was indicted by a federal grand jury in December 2021, but the indictments were sealed until November

## **DEVELOPMENT** Ridgeland aldermen approve plat for Topgolf

By DUNCAN DENT duncan@onlinemadison.com

RIDGELAND — Topgolf is another step closer to opening here following preliminary plat approval by city officials last

"This is the first step of many," Public Works Director Alan Hart told aldermen at a regular meeting on Tuesday, Aug. 2, at Ridgeland City Hall.

The 77-acre Prado Vista development will include over 200 homes and a Topgolf facility, according to Gabriel Prado, CEO & President of PraCon Global Investment Group.

Preliminary plat approval for Phase I of the project was approved unanimously by the Ridgeland Mayor an Board of Alderman. Hart said Phase I included the Topgolf facility as well as other spaces for development.

The approved plat includes covenants, conditions and restrictions for Phase I of the development. these covenants concern issues like land use restrictions and architectural standards for the development

See **TOPGOLF**, page A7

## **CRIME**

## Jackson man killed on I-55 in hit-and-run

By DUNCAN DENT duncan@onlinemadison.com

A Jackson man was fatally injured in a hit-and-run while walking along Interstate 55 in Madison County last weekend, the authorities said.

The victim has been identified as Matthew Adams, 39, of Jackson, according to Trooper First Class Darnika Mayfield with the Mississippi Highway

'This crash remains under investigation by the Mississippi Highway Patrol," Mayfield

On Saturday, Aug. 5, at about 6:08 p.m., MHP responded to a fatal hit-and-run on Interstate 55 in Madison County involving a pedestrian, according to Mayfield. The incident happened southbound between the 126 and 127 mile markers, MHP reported.

Mayfield said an unknown vehicle collided with Adams while he was walking south on Interstate 55.

Adams received fatal injuries from the crash and was pronounced dead on the scene, Mayfield said.



Laura Hollister and Mitch Doom campaign for C.J. Garavelli for Madison County Tax Collector on Tuesday, while Madison Alderman Pat Peeler campaigns for Casey Brannon for District 1 Supervisor. Both

Garavelli and Brannon won their races and face no opposition in the November general election.

## LOW VOTER TURNOUT

# Brannon wins supervisor race, Garavelli next tax collector

By MICHAEL SIMMONS msimmons@onlinemadison.com

About 35 percent of Madison County's registered voters turned out for Tuesday's party primaries that included a small slate of local races.

There were about 800 Republican absentee ballots and 300 Democrat ballots being counted on Wednesday, along with a handful of affidavit ballots.

On Election Day, 16,733 Republican ballots were cast, with 6,595 Democrat ballots. For comparison, in the 2019 general election, about 39,000 Madison countians participated.

Republican Casey Brannon will be the next District 1 Supervisor, avoiding a runoff in a three-person race to take Sheila Jones' seat after she opted not to seek a third term.

Brannon finished with 3,105 votes or 60.98%. Arlette Hulsey Thompson finished in second place with 1,128 votes (22.15%) and Timothy N. Jenkins finished with 842 votes (16.54%). These totals do not include absentee ballots or affidavit ballots, though there are not enough to affect the outcome of the race.

'It has been a privilege to visit with so many residents in District 1," Brannon said Wednesday. "I am so grateful for all of the support, and I

look forward to working hard for the city of Madison and Madison Coun-

There were no other contested supervisor races on Tuesday, athough District 4 and District 5 are contested in the general election.

Republican C.J. Garavelli will be the next Madison County Tax Collector after capturing 9,011 votes (57.95%) against former Madison County Administrator Shelton Vance. Vance received 6,487 votes.

"I want to give special thanks to so many friends and family for your help, guidance and support," Garavelli said. "I'm incredibly humbled and grateful to every voter and all who advocate for professional county government. I'm eager to work hard with and for you as your next Tax Collector to improve services, access and to lead the most efficient and modern county office in Missis-

Republican Jonathan McMillan appears to be the next District 58 state representative, capturing 54.36% percent of the vote in a threeman race. McMillan received 3,162 votes followed by Bob Anderson with 2,339 (40.21%) and Jonathan K. Berry with 299 (5.14%). Absentee ballots and affidavit ballots could

possibly force a runoff, though it is statistically improbable.

This entire campaign has been not about me, it's about this county and my community," McMillan said on Wednesday. "That's why I stepped out to run. I'm excited to

step out and serve my community." Two constable races were decided in the Republican Primary Tuesday, as well, with incumbent Brad Harbour destroying opponent Jonathan J. Tillman Sr. with 88.37% of the vote for another term in the District 4 seat.

Richard "Taco" Johnson won the District 3 Constable race handily by besting K. Michael Bailey with 3,835 (64.96%) of the votes.

There was only one contested local Democrat race and incumbent District 2 Justice Court Judge Martina B. Griffin cruised to another term by beating Walter "WL" Johnson Jr.

with 1,990 votes (63.84%). There will also be a runoff in the Democratic primary in three weeks to decide the District 72 State Representative, which covers parts of Hinds County and Madison County. It appears that Rukia Lumumba and Justis Gibbs will square off. Lumumba received 342 of the 868 votes cast in the race, with Gibbs receiving 275

Statewide, there were no surprises at all, even in the hotly-contested lieutenant governor's race between Lt. Gov. Delbert Hosemann and state Sen. Chris McDaniel.

McDaniel tried to turn Madison County into a battleground county by tapping into allegations that Hosemann was plotting with some county officials to separate the judicial district tied to Rankin County, although Hosemann denied the talks and said he will not split the districts.

The turmoil even turned into an endorsement for McDaniel from Madison Mayor Mary Hawkins-Butler, while Hosemann garnered endorsements from Sheriff Randy Tucker, Ridgeland Mayor Gene McGee, Flora Mayor Les Childress, and Gluckstadt Mayor Walter Morri-

Hosemann carried Madison County with 11,044 votes (66.49%) to McDaniel's 5,061 votes (30.47%).

The Associated Press called the race at 11:23 p.m. Tuesday for Hosemann. With 92% of votes counted, Hosemann had a 30,000 vote lead over McDaniel with 185,079 in his favor. A third candidate, Tiffany Longino, had 18,791 votes, but it wasn't enough to play spoiler and force a runoff.

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The Madison County Board of Supervisors will hold a public hearing on its proposed budget and proposed tax levies for fiscal year 2024 on September 5, 2023, 9:00 a.m. in the Board Room of the Chancery/Administrative Office Complex, 125 West North Street, Canton, Mississippi.

The Madison County Board of Supervisors, exclusive of the Madison County School District, is now operating with projected total budget revenue of \$150,160,796.16. Of that amount, 41.6 percent or \$62,498,075.16 is proposed to be financed through a total ad valorem tax levy. For next fiscal year, the proposed budget has total projected revenue of \$198,547,064.24. Of that amount, 33.6 percent or \$66,672,054.36 is proposed to be financed through a total ad valorem tax levy.

The Madison County Board of Supervisors, inclusive of the Madison County School District, is now operating with projected total budget revenue of \$346,834,302.57. Of that amount, 43.9 percent or \$152,454,689.16 is proposed to be financed through a total ad valorem tax levy. For next fiscal year, the proposed budget has total projected revenue of \$389,207,823.22. Of that amount, 37.5 percent or \$145,943,721.48 is proposed to be financed through a total ad valorem tax levy.

For next fiscal year, the Madison County Board of Supervisors plans to not increase your ad valorem tax millage rate, for property outside of the Southwest Madison Fire Protection District

For next fiscal year, the Madison County Board of Supervisors plans to increase your ad valorem tax millage rate in the Southwest Madison Fire Protection District by 2.0 mills, a total increase of \$37,261, in additional ad valorem tax collections. This increase means that you will pay more in ad valorem taxes on your real property.

A millage rate of 36.13 mills will produce the same amount of revenue from ad valorem taxes as was collected in the 2023 fiscal year. The millage rate for the 2023 fiscal year was 38.13.

The decision to not increase the ad valorem tax millage rate for fiscal year 2024 above the current fiscal year's ad valorem tax millage rate means you will not pay more in ad valorem taxes on your home, automobile tag, utilities, business fixtures and equipment and rental property outside of the Southwest Madison County Fire Protection District, unless the assessed value of your property has increased for fiscal year 2023.

Any citizen of Madison County, Mississippi is invited to attend this public hearing on the proposed budget and tax levies for fiscal year 2024 and will be allowed to speak for a reasonable amount of time and offer tangible evidence before any vote is taken.

Witness the signature of said Board of Supervisors, this the 7th day of August 2023.

The Madison County Board of Supervisors /s/
Gerald Steen, District 3
Board President



An architectural rendering shows the proposed new exterior to the Starbucks located on County Line Road in Ridgeland.

# County Line Starbucks beginning new remodel

By DUNCAN DENT duncan@onlinemadison.com

RIDGELAND — After less than two years of being open for business, the Starbucks on County Line Road will receive a facelift, city officials said.

"This is a good-looking

## Meet the Candidates

The Madison County Journal is authorized to announce the following candidates:

> Tax Collector Shelton Vance (Republican)

C.J. Garavelli (Republican)

#### District 25 State Senate

J. Walter Michel (Republican)

## District 58 State

**House**Bob Anderson

(Republican)

Paid Political

project," Public Works Director Alan Hart said.

The project will include revisions to the architecture and landscaping of their existing location at 832 E. County Line Road.

The scope of work will include work on the ceiling, flooring, finishings, and furnishings as well as work on the electrical systems and HVAC equipment in the building.

The renovation was unanimously approved by the Architectural Review Board.

Aldermen unanimously approved the site plan and architectural review for the project at their regular meeting on Tuesday, Aug. 2, at Ridgeland City Hall.

During the meeting, Mayor Gene F. McGee said it was his understanding a "bigtime guy" from Starbucks came through the County Line store and decided it needed the improvements to be more consistent with the current look and standards of other Starbucks locations.

## About the Journal

Founded in 1982, the Madison County Journal is locally owned by Prince Media Group which has published newspapers since 1881.

The weekly Journal primarily serves Madison County, including the cities of Madison, Ridgeland, Canton and Flora.

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#### MADISON COUNTY MAGAZINE

Six times a year residents west of I-55 receive a sample copy with the Magazine inside the Journal. Go to mymci.com to subscribe.

(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 instate; \$52 out-of-state. Single copy price is \$1.00.
Periodicals postage paid at

The Madison County Journal reserves the right to edit or reject any or all advertising.

Ridgeland, MS.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to: The Madison County Journal, P.O. Box 219, Ridgeland, MS 39158.





Mississippi Department of Archives and History, Madison Methodist Church Cemetery Memorial Cemetery gathered for the unveiling of a historical marker.

City officials, including aldermen and Mayor Mary Hawkins-Butler, representatives of the Committee members, and family members of some of those buried in the Montgomery

# Historic marker unveiled at Madison cemetery

**By JOHN LEE** john@onlinemadison.com

MADISON — Montgomery Memorial Cemetery is the latest designation here as a historical landmark due to its rich history and significance to the community.

City officials, including alderman and Mayor Mary Hawkins-Butler, representatives from the Mississippi Department of Archives and History, members of the Madison Methodist Church Cemetery Committee, Madison police and firemen, and family members of those buried in the cemetery, gathered to witness the historical marker unveiling Wednesday morning.

The cemetery was established in 1841 on property owned by Lafayette F. Montgomery, who was a wellknown citizen and political

figure. At least 28 members of the Montgomery Family have been laid to rest there, along with Betty McArthur, an early Impressionist and founding member of the Mississippi Art Association, and 2nd Lt. Richard Stewart Averett, who was killed in action at Guadalcanal in 1943. He is one of many vet-

erans buried in the cemetery. Official ownership of the cemetery was transferred to Madison Methodist Church in 1986.

Leon Stewart, co-chair of the cemetery committee at Madison Methodist Church, spoke and said the marker was funded mostly by the committee and thanked the city for its contributions to helping get the marker installed.

'We received cemetery ownership from the city

around 1986, and the Montgomery family originally owned it," Stewart said. "The oldest birthdate in the cemetery is Mary Cameron, born in 1783. This continues to be an active cemetery, and some of us here have reservations here.'

Jim Woodrick, historical marker coordinator for Mississippi and a retired member of the Mississippi Department of Archives and History, also spoke and talked about how deep the Montgomery Memorial Cemetery history goes.

"This historical marker recognizes not just the significance of the cemetery, but to the development of this community as a whole," Woodrick said. "When we unveil it, it will be the latest of more than 1,100 historical markers across Mississippi."

Woodrick said Leon Stewart and Elbert Hilliard, director emeritus of the Mississippi Department of Archives and History, were driving forces behind the marker.

He added the cemetery isn't just a burial place, as it is also a place of history since the people buried there have rich and historic stories.

"People buried here include Thomas Nicholson Jones, who was born in 1855 and died in 1920," Woodrick said. "Not only was he the first president of the Bank of Madison, but he also purchased the dogtrot house in the village, and that house became known as the Montgomery House. There's a marker there for it as well and it's also a landmark."

"Another veteran buried here is Edward Potts, who

was in the Fifth Missouri Infantry during the Civil War, and he liked this area so much that he moved here with his wife and raised a family of six children and lived well into the 20th century," he said. "These are just a few of the many stories that can be told. They are all examples of those who have made a lasting contribution to this community and made it the place Madison is today."

Mayor Mary Hawkins-Butler credited Elbert Hilliard for educating her on the history of Madison.

"How do we know where we're going if we don't know where we've been?' Hawkins-Butler said. "Mr. Hilliard talked to me about all of the history and the buildings and what we needed to do, and we wouldn't have the Madison we do

today if not for him. He gave me insight and courage during all of my battles and told me how important it is to preserve this community. He is my mentor, and God bless you.'

Hawkins-Butler said the cemetery is sacred ground and it is an intricate part of Madison and the very fiber of what makes the community.

"As we celebrate these sacred grounds, we know that our ancestors are not here, but with our Lord," she said. "They have seen and are living all the promises that we know are real. And one day, we'll join them at the gate. Until then, we will visit these sacred grounds and remember the impact they had. Thank you to all of you who have loved this community way before I knew anything about it."



# **CONSTRUCTION KICKOFF**

## Wednesday, August 23th | 5-7 PM CT

EDP Renewables invites you to join us for our Ragsdale Solar Park Construction Kickoff

Along with Signal Energy and Beta Engineering, subject matter experts will be available to answer questions, discuss the development and construction process, and celebrate our growing relationships with the Madison County communities.

## **JOIN US FOR:**

- Refreshments catered by Two Rivers Restaurant
- Construction updates & job opportunities
- Q&A with project team
- Free swag











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# Opinion & Editorials

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# **MADISON COUNTY**

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MICHAEL SIMMONS Associate Editor & Publisher

#### **EDITORIALS**

## The Dem's global boiling

The heat wave that customarily triggers midsummer misery is in full swing across the continental U.S. Policy shapers have been highlighting the scorching discomfort of summer to drive home their argument that it's past time to abandon fossil fuels and dial back the heat they insist has been altering the world's climate.

Before forswearing the lifeblood of civilizational progress, it would help to know whether the problem is real or imagined.

U.N. General-Secretary Antonio Guterres channeled Chicken Little when he recently declared: "The era of global warming has ended; the era of global boiling has arrived." Other globalists have likewise seized upon the seasonal sizzle to boil over with hyperbole, holding humanity guilty of environmental malfeasance.

It happens that an underwater volcano erupted on Hunga Tonga-Hunga Ha'apai, part of the South Pacific's Tongan archipelago, in December 2021. The upheaval climaxed the following month with the largest atmospheric explosion ever record-

NASA described the blast as hundreds of times more powerful than the atomic bomb dropped on Hiroshima.

As Thomas Lifson pointed out in American Thinker on July 31, the eruption thrust "an enormous plume of water vapor into Earth's stratosphere — enough to fill more than 58,000 Olympic-size swimming pools. The sheer amount of water vapor could be enough to temporarily affect Earth's global average temperature."

Vexed Americans have been languishing for weeks beneath the relentless rays of the summer sun. Phoenix in particular obliterated its record for the most consecutive days above 110 degrees, reeling off 31 in a row. And the ocean off the Florida coast hit a steamy 108 degrees in July, threatening to parboil its coral ecosystem.

Mr. Guterres intended to indict the human race for its practice of spewing heat-trapping carbon dioxide into the atmosphere. But mention of the greater effect of water vapor, nature's most abundant greenhouse gas, was glaring in its absence from his remarks.

Indeed, a study published by the journal Nature in December by U.S., European and Asian atmospheric scientists used satellite and ground-based observations to gauge the Tongan event's effects. They found "evidence for an unprecedented increase in the global stratospheric water mass by 13% relative to climatological levels, and a 5-fold increase of stratospheric aerosol load, the highest in the last three decades." Moreover, the researchers believe the excess water vapor could remain aloft for several years.

In any event, neither higher concentrations of water vapor from the Tongan eruption thus far, nor carbon dioxide from human-made causes, have had more than a fleeting effect on the thermometer's nee-

Readings taken from thousands of weather stations across the world show an average global temperature of 57.46 degrees — just 0.26 degrees above the planet's 30-year norm.

Nearly 90% of the world's population dwell upon the landmasses of the Northern Hemisphere. Naturally, more angst is vocalized over the summer swelter in, say, New York, where Mr. Guterres' United Nations is headquartered, than chilly complaints emanating from cities in the Southern Hemisphere now locked in winter.

South Africa's Johannesburg, for one, is shivering under its first snowfall in a decade, but who knew?

Talk of human-caused "global boiling" is hemispheric hyperbole that overlooks nature's awesome power.

— The Washington Times

# End DOJ's spy games

Congress has until year's end to decide whether federal agents will retain their breathtaking capacity to snoop on the public.

In theory, an agency like the FBI is supposed to use the Section 702 authority of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act to eavesdrop only on foreigners. In practice, the law creates a vast electronic dragnet scooping up the communications of all Americans, regardless of their guilt or inno-

Given the Department of Justice's zeal for prosecuting the administration's main political rival, the intelligence community cannot be trusted with a power it has proved all too willing to abuse for political ends.

The White House on Monday published a statement by national security adviser Jake Sullivan calling this particular spying authority "one of the nation's most critical intelligence tools used to protect the homeland and the American people.'

Even if that's true, Justice Department officials have failed to resist the temptation to peek at the emails of their domestic political enemies under the guise of prosecuting foreign spies.

Despite the safeguards that were supposed to be in place, activists at the FBI who opposed then-presidential candidate Donald Trump spun a fable to the secret court that's supposed to oversee the process to obtain a warrant to spy on Mr. Trump's campaign in

While this warrant was not filed under Section 702, the episode demonstrates how easy it is to manufacture a foreign connec-

Mr. Sullivan was among the first to proclaim a Russian conspiracy while serving as adviser to former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton's 2016 presidential campaign.

According to his testimony before the House Intelligence Committee, Mr. Sullivan met behind the scenes with the major television networks to brief them on "the nature

of the connections between several members of Trump's foreign policy and political team and elements of the Russian Government."

Then-FBI attorney Kevin Clinesmith carried the Clinton campaign's tale further down the field, admitting that he forged an email to bolster the FBI's preposterous assertion that Carter Page, a volunteer on the Trump campaign, was part of a "well-developed conspiracy" with Russia.

The email had been specifically altered to conceal the fact that Mr. Page wasn't spying for the Russians. Instead, he was a source for the CIA.

FISA warrants are supposed to be among the nation's most carefully guarded secrets, yet the existence of the warrant against Mr. Page was leaked by a Senate Intelligence Committee staffer to reporters who kicked off a media firestorm under the headline "FBI obtained FISA warrant to monitor Trump adviser Carter Page."

The gist of all this is that the Clinton campaign cooked up false claims about its political opponent that were laundered through the Justice Department to add legitimacy. This fabrication dogged the Trump administration from the earliest days of his presidency to his last, undermining his ability to govern.

FBI agents either knowingly schemed with a political party to interfere with an election and a presidency, or they were duped by political actors into accomplishing the same ends. Either interpretation argues strongly against ever trusting federal officials with sweeping surveillance authority.

FISA Court judges played along with the farce.

Instead of renewing FISA authority, Congress needs to commission a thorough audit to pare back not just Section 702, but all of the spy powers that are too easily abused for political purposes.

– The Washington Times

## The fear factor

Donald Trump has gotten indicted yet again, and, as usual, most of the other Republican candidates have been sympathetic, if not outright deferential, to him.

**RICH LOWRY** 

It's another episode that raises the question: Can someone who is afraid of Trump defeat him?

Of all the advantages that Trump has in the competition for the 2024 Republican nomination — immediate past president, ability to generate enormous media attention, etc. — perhaps foremost among them is the fact that the other Republican candidates are afraid.

It's hard to think of anyone who has ever won a majorparty nomination while showing fear, especially of someone else in the field.

A successful candidate might be careful around certain issues or constituencies, or back off of an unpopular position. But being clearly scared by an opponent is something else, entirely. George W. Bush and John McCain might have hated or disdained each other in 2000, same with McCain and Mitt Romney in 2008, or Romney and Newt Gingrich in 2012. But no one was ever clearly, demonstrably afraid.

When asked about Trump, most of the candidates might not actually lick their lips, or swallow hard or begin to blink faster, but you wouldn't be surprised if they did. Generally, they'll evade questions, reject the premise or revert to an answer that has been as carefully crafted as an official statement by one of the parties

negotiating the Paris Peace

Until now.

Yet another Donald Trump indictment raises the question: Can someone who is afraid of *Trump defeat him?* 

Accords.

You can almost see them thinking:

Maybe he'll leave me

Maybe he'll make me his

Maybe there will be a better time to attack him later.

If they can help it, his opponents will never say Trump's name — he's the most unnamed major politician in American history. Mike Pence has tended to call him "my former running mate.'

This means that Donald Trump's political dominance of the rest of the field extends to a kind of personal and psychological dominance.

A key aspect of the Trump phenomenon from the beginning has been how he's brought the subrational element of politics that's always been there, but usually relatively submerged, to the fore — more Frans de Waal, author of "Chimpanzee Politics," than Richard Hofstadter; more Dana White than Lee Atwater.

This raises the possibility that not taking Trump head-on means more than simply missing the opportunity to make the case against him. It also means implicitly acknowledging his status as the Big Man of Republican politics, and the rival's status as a subordinate player in the world Trump created and rules.

The only one who's really not playing this game is Chris Christie, who gives as good as he gets and also needles Trump and initiates fights against him. If Christie can achieve a breakout in New Hampshire, it will be based, in part, on winning points on strength and courage while doing and saying what no one else dares. (Also-rans Will Hurd and Asa Hutchinson criticize Trump, too, but more politely and conventionally.)

All that said, the other candidates are reacting to a genuine conundrum — Republican voters might be open to an alternative to Trump in theory, but they don't want anyone to criticize him. How to square that circle is the biggest challenge for the rest of the field, at least those members of it genuinely running to win.

To be fair, Governor Ron DeSantis, as Trump's main target, has been willing to push back as necessary, and he makes a constant, implicit critique of Trump's electoral prospects and governing abilities. But the Florida governor is always careful to stay on the right side of the line, biding his time for later or hoping that his message catches on without having to grasp the nettle. This isn't unreasonable, but, again, it exposes a disparity — he has a strategy, while Trump has a sledgehammer.

So long as everyone believes that Trump has one and they don't — and acts accordingly — the fear factor will continue to work in Trump's favor.

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

## **CHARLES HURT**

## DeSantis loses 'Jeb!' wing of GOP

Uh-oh. Now comes the "Let Ron be Ron" phase of the Incredible Sinking DeSantis campaign.

Every failed campaign goes through this phase. It is as sure as admitting you are powerless over alcohol in the Alcoholics twelve-step program.

"Hi. My name is Ron. Let me be Ron.

political casual To observers, this always sounds like a hopeful step on the long path to victory. It always sounds especially hopeful to early supporters of the strug-gling candidate.

I mean, Ron DeSantis is what got Ron DeSantis this far, so why not more Ron DeSantis? You know, more cowbell.

But for those of us who have studied more closely the tides and waves of political campaigns over the years, we know the "Let Ron be Ron" phase is something else altogether. It is otherwise known as "the kiss of death."

This is the phase a campaign reaches after trying every other conceivable option to right the ship. The campaign is running out of money. Voters are not interested in the campaign. Big donors are sweating. The candidate is getting crabby.

All your "campaign reboots" — the equivalent of unplugging the cable box for 15 seconds before plugging it back in — have not worked. You have cut spending. Laid off staff.

Now you are out of ideas. Desperation seeps in.

But nobody wants to tell the candidate who is

*In very real terms, if Mr.* DeSantis loses the Jeb! wing of the Republican Party — more like one wing feather these days – then his campaign is truly doomed.

already crabby and a little desperate — that the campaign is circling the drain. After all, if you are a consultant on the campaign, you pitched yourself as some kind of political genius. I mean, you basically assured the campaign of victory if they just hired you.

"Who's going to tell the boss?" somebody asks nervously.

"Not me! I had to tell him about the last 'campaign reboot' — you know, the one where we took away his little private plane.'

And then somebody has the

of "Instead another 'reboot,' let's just tell him that what we really need is more Ron!'

Hidden in the advice, of course, is the passive blame that the campaign's current problems are all the fault of the candidate himself. He has simply not been enough of himself lately.

But it's served with a precious compliment: The solution to this problem is more Ron! They love you! They just want more of you!

Really, though, it's all just one more step in the grift process of a doomed campaign. Er, I mean "grief" process

You know let them down easy. (And keep the money flowing for all the political consultants and campaign advisers.)

'Let Rob be Ron," Nick Larossi, a lobbyist and fundraiser for the Florida governor, told Politico recently about the latest campaign shake-up.

"That's what got him here. That's what made him the leader that he is in Florida," he said. "We're going back to our basics on all of this.

The whimpering of the DeSantis campaign has not gone unnoticed, even among the most deranged of the anti-Trump "Republicans" who would rather vote for Dylan Mulvaney of Bud Light fame than Donald Trump.

Former Republican campaign operative Tim Miller, who put the exclamation point in the Jeb! Bush campaign back in 2016, posted a picture on the internet showing Mr. DeSantis speaking from the pit of a livestock auction in Iowa. The green bleachers were as empty as the rafters.

It appeared there were more reporters and staffers at the event than actual supporters. And the supporters who did show up looked deeply bored, probably checking their phones for the latest news about Donald Trump.

In very real terms, if Mr. DeSantis loses the Jeb! wing of the Republican Party more like one wing feather these days — then his campaign is truly doomed.

Charles Hurt is the opinion editor for The Washington Times.

## **BIBLE SELECTION**

For the Lord is our judge; the Lord is our lawgiver; the Lord is our king; he will save us.

Isaiah 33:22 (ESV)

## Rings receives health scholarship

By STAFF REPORTS news@neshobademocrat.com

Anderson Rings, Madison native and junior at Mississippi State University, was recently selected to participate in the undergraduate portion of the Mississippi Rural Physicians Scholarship Program (MRPSP). Rings is the son of John and Ellen Rings of Madison.

During medical school, each MRPSP scholar may receive \$35,000 per year based on available funding. Consistent legislative support of MRPSP translates to 62 medical students receiving a total of \$2,170,000 to support their education this fall. In addition to the legislative support, 3 privately funded scholarships are

also awarded from the Madison Charitable Foundation, the Selby and Richard McRae Foundation, and the Medical Assurance Company of Mississippi. Additional benefits include personalized mentoring from practicing rural physicians and academic sup-

Upon completion of medical school, MRPSP scholars must enter a residency program in one of five primary care specialties: family medicine, general internal medicine, pediatrics, medicine-pediatrics, or obstetrics/gynecology. A select number of spots are available for

Gammon tapped to lead The Citizens Bank



Anderson Rings

as well. The MRPSP Scholar must provide four years of service in a clinic-based practice in an approved Mississippi community of 15,000 people or fewer and located more than 20 miles from a medically served area.

The MRPSP provides a means for rural Mississippi students to earn a seat in medical school, receive mentoring during the medical school application process, earn a \$140,000 medical school scholarship in return for four years of service and learn the

art of healing from practicing

#### rural physicians. those interested in psychiatry,

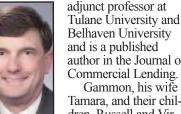
By STAFF REPORTS news@neshobademocrat.com

The Citizens Bank President and CEO Stacy M. Brantley recently announced the promotion of George Gammon, III as regional president. Gammon has been named regional presi-

dent of North-West Mississippi. Gammon brings more than 33 years of banking experience to The Citizens Bank after serving as the Metro Jackson President at State Bank & Trust

Company. He graduated from The University of Mississippi, earning his Bachelor of Business Administration degree. Gammon subsequently earned a master's degree in business administration from Lovola University. Additionally, he received a scholarship from the School of Innovation in Estes Park, Colorado.

Gammon has served as an



Belhaven University and is a published author in the Journal of Commercial Lending. Gammon, his wife Tamara, and their chil-

dren, Russell and Virginia Kate, reside in George Madison. He enjoys Gammon III spending time with his family, saltwater fishing, hunting, and exercising.

## **OBITUARIES**

#### **Vivian Frances** Williams

Vivian Frances Williams, 88, passed away peacefully July 28, 2023.

The third of four daughters, Vivian was born on January 26, 1935, in Meridian, Mississippi, to Frank Herbert Shortridge and Vivian Vaughan Shortridge. Her family later moved to Jackson, where she graduated from Central High School. Vivian then attended the University of Mississippi and was a member of Chi Omega soror-

She married her high school sweetheart, Charles "Charlie" Williams, in 1955. Through the

Vivian worked for Dudley Hughes at Hughes and Hughes, at the Mississippi Department of Archives and History, the Education Center, and the Mississippi Heart Association.

She was a proud member of First Presbyterian Church and active participant in extracurricular church activities, specifically the Explorers Bible Study.

Vivian was preceded in death by her parents and sisters, Dolly Ann Morris, Bertie Mae Wade, and Betty Jean Collette Beaver, as well as by her husband of 66 years, Charles H. Williams, Jr., and her oldest daughter, Angela Williams Lang (John).

She is survived by her brother, Frank H. Shortridge, Jr., as well as three of her children, Leslie Hines (Todd), Charles "Hal" Williams III, and Erin Chevalier (Steven);

by her grandchildren, Jilly Escudé (Mark), Preston Miller Vivian Robinson (Monty), Coffin (Grant), Vaughan (Robert), Allison Mangialardi (John Finley), Ethan Chevalier, and Ava Chevalier; by her great grandchildren, Francie Escudé, Mark Charles Escudé, Sophie Escudé, Beatrice Escudé, Charlie Coffin, Todd Coffin, Lillian Robinson, Price Mangialardi, and Archie Miller; and by several nieces and nephews.

A service was held at First Presbyterian Church on August 3, 2023.

Memorials may be made to ALS Association, Louisiana-Mississippi Chapter, 14241 Coursey Blvd. A12374, Baton Rouge, LA 70817, and to Missions at First Presbyterian Church in Jackson, MS.

## NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PROPOSED BUDGET AND PROPOSED TAX LEVIES FOR THE UPCOMING FISCAL YEAR FOR THE CITY OF RIDGELAND, MISSISSIPPI

The City of Ridgeland will hold a public hearing on its proposed budget and proposed tax levies for Fiscal Year 2024 on August 15, 2023 at 6 o'clock pm at City Hall.

The City of Ridgeland is now operating projected total budget revenue of \$54,551,286. Eighteen percent (18%) or \$9,996,291 of such revenue is obtained through ad valorem taxes. For the next fiscal year, the proposed budget has total projected revenue of \$68,333,845. Of that amount, fourteen percent (14%) or \$9,701,115 is proposed to be financed through a total ad valorem tax levy.

The decision to NOT increase the ad valorem tax millage rate for the fiscal year 2024 above the current fiscal year's ad valorem tax millage rate means you will not pay more in ad valorem taxes on your home, automobile tag, utilities, business fixtures and equipment and rental real property, unless the assessed value of your property has increased for the fiscal year 2024.

Any citizen of the City of Ridgeland is invited to attend this public hearing on the proposed budget and tax levies for fiscal year 2023 and will be allowed to speak for a reasonable amount of time and offer tangible evidence before any vote is taken.

#### BIBLICAL PERSPECTIVES/J. Ligon Duncan III

## Be faithful! – The talents

Please turn with me in your Bibles to Matthew 25:14-30. As we look at this passage, Jesus is reminding us of something. He's reminding us that He has furnished all of his people with personal resources for the sake of building up His kingdom. The Lord Jesus is reminded us that all of us have things on loan from God which He expects us to use them for the building up of His kingdom and by which He will take an account at the end. From this parable, we will look at three things. First, the master's challenge. Second, the servant's response. Third, the master's judgment of the servants.

I. The Master's Chal-

lenge Look at verse 14, a man about to go on a journey called his own slaves. Jesus is stressing that the people to whom the master gave the trust already belonged to him. Notice also in verse 14 a second thing: the money or goods that the master gave them belonged to him. That's twice now that Jesus has stressed that the servants belonged to him and the possessions belonged to him. Notice in verse 15 that the amount of resources that were entrusted to them. We're told that he gave talents. A talent, some say, was equal to ten thousand days wages for a common day laborer. One of these men was given 5 talents, one was given 2, and then the other was given one. This is an enormous amount of money. Now that's not the only thing. You'll also see in verse 15 that the distribution of these talents was not arbitrary. It was done according to the ability of each servant. He has taken assessment of how these

But the point of the story so far is that Christ has entrusted His church with gifts and those gifts are to employed for the glory of the Lord Jesus Christ and for His kingdom's sake. We don't belong to ourselves, we belong to Him, what we own doesn't belong to us, it belongs to Him, all that He has given us, He has given us so that we might glorify Him and that we might do good to our neighbor. The point here is that Christ has furnished all his people with personal resources for the sake of building up His

have ability at earning

money in his absence.

The Servant's Response

Now He tells us in verse 16 - 18 what happened. He gives us an account of how each servant managed the trust and this, in and of itself, reminds us that Jesus is keenly interested in how we live. Sometimes we think that the only thing that matters in our relationship with Christ is that we have made a decision in the past or that we have prayed a prayer or signed a card, but the Lord Jesus here is taking stock of the lives of people who claim to be servants of His household and it reminds us that He is keenly interested in how

we live. As we return to the story, two things happen. Two of the servants gain a double return on what the master had entrusted to them, while the third servant buried what the master had entrusted to him. Two were able to double their master's trust while literally, buried it. Now Jesus is not drawing attention to the enormous return that the first two servants gained as it indicates to us that if you work really hard and do lots of good works then you're a real Christian. The point of this parable is to focus on the servant who did nothing. You've got to understand that or you'll totally miss this parable. Jesus is not telling the story so that you'll believe in salvation by works. Jesus is telling us this to warn against the Christianity which professes to be with lips, but is not reflected with the life. Their lives indicate that they really don't care about the Lord Jesus Christ. They view Christianity as drudgery, they view a personal, viable relationship with Him as extraneous, His kingdom and fellowship with Him are rarely on their minds, and they can't wait to get out of the sanctuary to get on with something more important. There are many Christians profess Him but whose lives are totally devoid of Him and Jesus is speaking to us about this in

this very passage.

III. The Master's Judgment of The Servants

And now we see the verdict in verses 19 - 30. Here we see the respective accounts of these three servants and how the master rewarded two and punished another. This passage reminds us that Christ's final judgment and reward

is going to be in accordance with our faithfulness. The point about the third slave is that he did nothing. Ostensibly he was a servant of the household and had been entrusted with gifts from God, but he did nothing with them. The point of the story is not that the slave was a murderer or that the slave was an adulterer or that the slave had committed some great crime, in fact, this slave was not even the prodigal son, he hadn't even wasted the father's money. He just did nothing. This one servant, who had a view of God that is hard, who thinks that God is unfair and unjust and reaps where He does not sow, this man is condemned not because of what he did, but because

of what he didn't do. I want to ask you a question today because it's the question that Jesus is asking all of us. In your circumstances in life, do the hard circumstances of life prove out for you that you truly trust in God and that you are concerned for His kingdom? You know, often times, we learn how much we really care about God in the hard times. Maybe you'll display your heart towards the kingdom in the way you treat the possessions that the Lord has given you. Do you see them as something to be used for ministry to others? Do you see the wealth entrusted of you as something that you would use the furtherance God's kingdom in the church and elsewhere? All of us, by what we do and we don't do, manifest whether we have a real love and loyalty to the Lord Jesus Christ and this parable is about a man who shows that he really has no loyalty to Christ by the way he leaves and, especially, by what he doesn't do. We are not told that the unprofitable servant was a murderer or a thief or even a waster of his lord's money, but that he did nothing and ruin. Let us beware of a "do nothing Christianity." Such Christianity does not come from the spirit of God. Let us with our lives, as well as our lips, express our loving loyalty to the

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

Lord Jesus Christ.









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"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come."

2 Corinthians 5:17 (ESV)



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Proverbs 27:1 (ESV)



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John 3:16 (NIV)



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#### Getting the Message/Rev. Chris Shelton

## Put your faith in Christ

Daniel chapter 7 is a prophetic chapter. God gives Daniels several visions that are recorded for us. The chapter is written in apocalyptic language. The word apocalyptic means the unveiling or the disclosure of something. It uses symbolic language and striking metaphors to describe realities.

John Collins has a helpful explanation: "Biblical apocalyptic is a revelation of the ending of this present age, which is an age characterized by conflict, and its replacement by the final age of peace." Daniel shows us ahead of time the end of the kingdoms of the world and their replacement by the kingdom of God and Christ.

In Daniel 7: 2-8, Daniel sees four different, powerful, and destructive beasts. In verse 11 we are told that the beasts are kings that arise out of the earth. These kings and the kingdoms they lead represent Babylon, Medo-Persia, Greece, and Rome. as we saw in Chapter 2 also. There they were represented by precious metals, but in Daniel 7, they are depicted as terrifying

The last beast especially is "terrifying and dreadful" (verse 7). All these kingdoms are types of the kingdoms of men throughout history. Some lands have been blessed with just rulers and freedoms, but the nations of men are inherently corrupt. That is the view from heaven. The fourth kingdom in Daniel 7 points to the last human kingdom with anti-Christ as its ruler. The last kingdom of men will be the first in blasphemy, evil, and the persecution of the Christian church.

The descriptions of the kingdoms are meant to awaken the people of God to the reality of the present world. These kingdoms of men are contrasted with the kingdom of God. They will all ultimately perish, but the kingdom of God will be forever and ever (verse 14). The kingdoms of men are dark and beastly (verse 7); the kingdom of God is light, blessedness, and glory. The final kingdom of man has an evil ruler; the kingdom of God has the ever glorious King and Savior, Christ Jesus our Lord.

The contrast given is to show us the glory of God, and the need we have of being citizens of His kingdom. To be sure, Daniel 7 is a prophecy of tribulation for the people of God in this world (verse 25). But it also promised that God as the righteous God will exercise judgement in due time (verses 9-10), and that the saints of the Most High shall possess the kingdom for-

ever and ever (verse 18).

The Lord Jesus said, "The law and the prophets were until John. Since then, the kingdom of God is preached, and every man presses into it" (Luke 16). Jesus meant that with His coming, the good news of the kingdom of God is offered to men, but they must respond as if they were leaving a kingdom lead by a beast that leads to death, to embracing Christ as their king and Sav-

If we heard the Lord Jesus preaching the kingdom of God in the context of Daniel 7, we would better understand the urgency with which he taught. He came to save sinners from their sin and to rescue them from the corruption of the world. We must not think men are innocent followers of beastly leaders. Rebellion against God characterizes the world. That is why Daniel 7 points to the persecution of Christians in the world.

In verse 10, we are given a vision of the holy God holding court. In this chapter, God is judging the beast and the anti-Christ (little horn). The books are opened, meaning God judges righteously and justly. The evidence of the evil acts of men is written in God's books.

In Revelation 20, the books are opened ment. All will be there. You and I will be you, I can tell you. You are weighed and found wanting. All come short of the glory of God. All have sinned and will be condemned. God's word says that if you face God on your own merits you will have the same fate as the anti-Christ.

You must have something else written about you and that is that your name is written in the Lamb's book of life. If you a sinner, that is the only way you will be you need not worry over tribulations and anti-Christ's. The Lord is on your side.

#### for all men. It is a picture of the final judg-Mississippi Licenses Mortgage Company 7738A Old Canton Road, Madison, MS 3991 there. If you wonder what is written about

want your name written in the book of life, you must put your faith in Christ. If you're reconciled to God. Can you say that? If so,

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1 Corinthians 16:14 (ESV)



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## **Topgolf**

Continued from page A1

as well as other guidelines like parking and traffic management.

Hart said these will determine things like street width and the placement of power lines.

Specifically, all property owners in the development will have to join the Property Association for the development.

Prado said his team is working to see the project come to fruition.

"Yes, our plat was approved yesterday and we are working through the mitigation of wetlands right now," Prado said the Wednesday following the meeting. "We should be done with it in the next couple of months."

Prado did not give an updated timeline but in the past has said he would like to break ground on the development as soon as December.

The city board unanimously approved the Prado Vista Overlay District in mid April.

The development will be built in the northeastern corner of Sunnybrook Road and Colony Park Boulevard. It is said to include a national grocery chain, two high-end hotels, more than 100,000 square feet of office, retail and restaurant space, an entertainment venue, 228 homes, and a

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riverwalk.

The Ridgeland site will be the first Topgolf in the state, according to Todd Waldo, a Topgolf representative, who spoke to city officials and residents during a public hearing for the overlay district.

The facility will feature a restaurant and bar, event spaces and roughly 60 hitting bays.

Waldo said the Topgolf facility is projected to generate about \$1 million in tax revenue and provide about 200 jobs.

Mayor Gene F. McGee said he is excited for the development to break ground. He said he believes the developers have put a lot of work into ensuring the site will be a good neighbor to the surrounding area.

McGee has said this development is an example of continued growth in the city.

Developers say they plan to have signalized entrances on Colony Park Boulevard as well as entrances and exits on Sunnybrook Road. They also plan to have concrete walls on the north and east edges of the property and have ensured the design minimizes both noise and light pollution to neighbors with a 50-foot tree buffer between the property and St. Catherine's Village.



IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF MAD-ISON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF GAIL BOWEN BENSCOTTER FORE, DECEASED CIVIL ACTION FILE NO. 2022.770 B

MAX EDWIN BENOIST, JR. PET TIONER

VS.

THE KNOW AND UNKNOWN HEIRS AT LAW OF GAIL BOWEN BENSCOT-TER FORE. DECEASED

SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION

TO: THE KNOWN AND UNKNOWN HEIRS AT LAW OF GAIL BOWEN BENSCOTTER FORE, DECEASED, WHOSE POST OFFICE AND STREET ADDRESS, AFTER DIILGENT SEARCH AND INQUIRY REMAIN UNKNOWN.

You have ben made Respondents in the Petition filed in the Court by Max Edwin Benoist, Jr., Administrator of the Estate of Gail Bowen Benscotter Fore, deceased, seeking to determine heirship. Respondents other than you in this action are not know, if any.

You are summoned to appear and defend against the Petition to Determine Heirs filed herein against you in this action at 8:44 a.m. on the 15th day of September, 2023, before the Honorable James Walker, Chancellor, and in case of your failure to appear and defend, a judgement will be entered against you for the money or other things demanded in the Petition.

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

Issued under my hand and seal of said Court this the 8th day of August, 2023.

Ronny Lott, Madison

County Chancery Clerk

Seal BY: Kim Sievers D.C.

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF MADISON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

IN RE: KARANDEEP SINGH , A MI-

CAUSE NO.: 23-688B
PALWINDER SINGH, PETITIONER

RULE 81 SUMMONS

THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

TO: JAGDEEP SINGH ADDRESS UNKNOWN

NOTICE TO PARTY OF INTEREST

THE COMPLAINT WHICH IS ATTACHED TO THIS SUMMONS IS IMPORTANT AND YOU MUST TAKE IMMEDIATE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR RIGHTS.

YOU ARE SUMMONED to appear and defend against said Complaint at 9:00 AM on the 5th day of September 2023 at the courthouse at the Chancery Court of Madison County, located at 146 W Center Street, Canton, Mississippi 39046 and in your failing to appear and defend, a judgment will be entered against you for the money or things demanded in the Complaint or

Petition.
You are not required to file an answer or other pleadings, but you may do so if you so desire. If you choose to file an answer the original must be filed with the Madison County Chancery Clerk, Canton, Mississippi.

Issued under my hand and the seal of said Court, this <u>30th</u> day of <u>June</u>, 2023. Ronny Lott

Chancery Clerk, Madison County, Mississippi

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS
MADISON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI
CAMDEN ROAD BRIDGE REHABILITATION

BID NUMBER 2023-0002

Bids will be received by the Madison County Board of Supervisors until 10 A.M. Friday, September 8 , 2023, for the **Camden Road Bridge Rehabilita tion Project** . All bids so received will be publicly opened and read aloud. The project generally consists of pulling the deck, replacing the substructure and putting the existing deck back

Bids may be submitted by either of the following methods:

following methods:

1. Sealed bids will be received until 10
A.M. Friday, September 8, 2023, at the Madison County Chancery Clerk's office, Room 225-228, 146 West North Street, Canton, MS 39046. All sealed bids submitted to the Chancery Clerk's office shall be marked on the outside face of the envelope "CAMDEN ROAD BRIDGE REHABILITA TION PROJECT," and shall have the bidder's Certificate of Responsibility Number written on the outside of the envelope. If any envelope is not so marked, said bid shall not be opened and considered.

2. Electronic bids will be received until 10 A.M. Friday, September 8 , 2023, as a PDF file via Madison County's website at http://www.madison-co.com/bids . Each bidder submitting a bid electronically as a PDF file shall include its Certificate of Responsibility Number as part of its PDF electronic bid submittal. Any electronic PDF bid that does not include the bidder's Certificate of Responsibility Number shall not be considered.

not be considered.

Plans, specifications, and contract

Public Notices

documents are on file and can be viewed and downloaded at https://www.madison-co.com/bids. Questions regarding plans and specifications should be sent to Tim Bryan, P.E. with the Madison County Engineer's Office at tim.bryan@madison-co.com or 601-790-2520.

Madison County Board of Supervisors reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

Madison County Board of Supervisors By: (s) Kesha Jackson, Purchase Clerk

Publication Dates: August 3 & 10, 2023 Madison County Journal

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF MADISON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF ELIZABETH CANNON ZACHRY, DE-CEASED CAUSE NO. 2023-174W

SUMMONS

THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

TO: THE UNKNOWN HEIRS OF ELIZABETH CANNON ZACHRY, DECEASED

You have been made a Defendant in the *Petition to Determine Heirs* filed in this Court by Savannah Zachry Collins, Petitioner, seeking authority to determine the heirs-at-law of Elizabeth Cannon Zachry, Deceased.

You are summoned to appear and defend against said *Petition to Determine Heirs* filed against you in this action and show cause, if you can, that you are an heir-at-law of Elizabeth Cannon Zachry, Deceased, at 8:45 a.m. on Tuesday, August 29, 2023, before Judge James C. Walker in the court-room of the Madison County Chancery Courthouse at 146 W. Center Street, Canton, MS 39046, and in case of your failure to appear and defend, a judgment will be entered against you for the money or other things demand-

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

ed in the Petition to Determine Heirs.

Issued under my hand and the seal of said Court, this the \_\_\_\_ day of 2023

RONNY LOTT, CHANCERY CLERK MADISON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

Deputy Clerk

BY:

Prepared by:

RICHARD H. YOUNG, MSB No. 6660 THE ELDER LAW FIRM P. O. Box 5142 Brandon, MS 39047

(601) 992-1437 Richard@theelederlawfirm.net

MADISON, MS 39130

SLEDGE'S WRECKER SERVICE LLC. P. O. BOX 1694

TELE (601) 856-8220

NOTICE OF SALE is hereby given in accordance with the Mississippi Statues 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 HONDA ACCORD

VIN# 1HGCM66547A001598

1998 HONDA ACCORD

VIN# 1HGCG3156WA017426

Date of Sale: AUGUST 15, 2023
Time: 9:30 am

Time: 9:30 am
Place: 308 N Wheatley Street, Ridgeland, MS 39157

PUBLIC NOTICE

In accordance with Section 7-7-213, Miss. Code Ann. 1972, notice is hereby given that a copy of the 2021 Audit of Madison County is on file in the Chancery Clerk's Office of Madison County. In accordance with Section 7-7-221, Miss. Code Ann. (1972) the following synopsis of the governmental funds of the Madison County audit for fiscal year ending 9-30-2021 is provided in the format prescribed by the State Auditor:

Revenues 10-01-2020 to 9-30-2021 \$93,989,223 Expenditures 10-01-2020 to 9-30-

2021 \$102,443,547 Cash and Investments at 9-30-2021

\$83,273,247
A copy of the audit report containing all findings and recommendations as well as exceptions, if applicable, can be obtained for \$25.00 by writing to the Office of the State Auditor, Post Office Box 956, Jackson, MS 39205, or on the OSA website. The website address is www.osa.ms.gov . A copy of the audit report is also on file and available for public inspection at the

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF MADISON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

Canton Public Library.

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF LAWRENCE CHARLES TRUSS CAUSE NO. 2022-00139

RULE 81 SUMMONS BY PUBLICA-

Public Notices

TION

TO: The known and unknown heirs of Lawrence Charles Truss

Notice to Defendant:

WHICH IS ATTACHED TO THIS SUM-MONS IS IMPORTANT AND YOU MUST TAKE IMMEDIATE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR RIGHTS.

You are summoned to appear and de-

THE MOTION TO DETERMINE HEIRS

fend against the Motion to Determine Heirs which is filed against you in this action at 10:00 a.m. on the 5th day of September, 2023, in the Madison County Chancery Court in Madison County, Mississippi.

Issued under my hand and seal of said Court, this the <u>31st</u> day of July,

RONNY LOTT, CHANCERY CLERK MADISON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

BY:\_\_RITA CARPENTER\_\_\_D.C.

(SEAL)

RESOLUTION OF INTENT TO LEVY A TWO (2) MIL INCREASE FOR THE PURPOSES OF PROVIDING FIRE PROTECTION AND FOR THE OPERATION, SUPPORT AND MAINTENANCE OF THE NEWLY ENLARGED SOUTH-WEST MADISON COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

WHEREAS, pursuant to §19-5-189(2)(c) MS Code of 1972 (Annotated), which sets forth the process of levying millage increases for the purpose of supporting the operation, support, and maintenance of fire protection districts in the state of Mississippi ("fire millage"); and

WHEREAS, on June 5, 2023, the Madison County Board of Supervisors approved the Petition for Annexation presented to it by the South-West Madison County Fire Protection District to incorporate the proposed annexed area, shown on Exhibit "A" attached hereto, into the boundaries of the South-West Madison County Fire Protection District; and

WHEREAS, on July 3, 2023, after being duly noticed, a public hearing was conducted by the Madison County Board of Supervisors for the purpose of receiving public input regarding enlargement of the boundaries, by annexation, of the South-West Madison County Fire Protection District, and there being no objection being registered or heard on the matter, the Madison County Board of Supervisors adopted a resolution to approve said annexation, finding that the annexation by the fire protection district was justified by public convenience and necessity, and that the action was sound and desirable (see July 3, 2023 minutes of Madison County Board of Supervisors, attached herein as Exhibit "B"); and

WHEREAS, after finding that the annexation was well taken, and to support the operation and maintenance of the newly enlarged South-West Madison County Fire Protection District, and its need for additional revenues, the Madison County Board of Supervisors has determined that a two (2) mil increase for fire protection is necessary and appropriate, increasing the current millage of 5.62 to 7.62 mils; and that such an increase in fire millage for the purposes of fire protection in the newly enlarged jurisdiction of the South-West Madison County Fire Protection District should be adopted by approval of the Resolution herein.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, in order to defray the cost of fire protection in the newly enlarged territory of the South-West Madison County Fire Protection District., and in order to support the operation of the fire district, as a whole, the Madison County Board of Supervisors, pursuant to this Resolution, notices its Intent to Levy a Two-Mil Increase upon the users and patrons, and all who are otherwise affected, impacted and serviced by the offering of fire protection from the South-West Madison County Fire Protection District, the effect of which is to increase the fire millage from 5.62 mils, to 7.62 mils.

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that this Resolution shall be published once per week, for a period of three (3) weeks, in a newspaper having a general circulation within the county, and by the posting of same at three (3) public places, for a period of twenty-one (21) days during the time of its publishing in the newspaper.

MOTION TO APPROVE THE RES-OLUTION OF INTENT TO LEVY A TWO-MIL INCREASE TO SUPPORT THE OPERATIONS OF THE NEWLY ENLARGED JURISDICTION OF THE SOUTH-WEST MADISON COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT was made by Supervisor Steen and seconded by Supervisor Banks, and said RESOLUTION OF INTENT was AP-PROVED, by the following vote:

District 1 Supervisor Sheila Jones AYE

District 2 Supervisor Trey Baxter AYE District 3 Supervisor Gerald Steen

AYE
District 4 Supervisor Karl Banks
AYE
District 5 Supervisor Paul Griffin

MADISON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

Public

Notices

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF SALLY HUBBARD TOWNS, DECEASED

PROBATE NO. 2023-776 B

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS** 

Letters Testamentary having been granted on the 31st day of July, 2023, by the Chancery Court of Madison County, Mississippi to the undersigned Executor of the Estate of Sally Hubbard Towns, 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 4th day of August, 2023.

Jane Hubbard Anderson, Executor of the Estate of Sally Hubbard Towns, Deceased

Richard A. Courtney, MSB #7722 Philip A. Buchanan, MSB #102626 Attorneys for Executor COURTNEY ELDER LAW ASSOCI-ATES

7708 Old Canton Road 4400 Old Canton Road, Suite 220 Jackson , Mississippi 39211 Telephone: (601) 987-3000

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF MADISON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF CHRISTINE C. WATSON-LEE, DE-CEASED CAUSE NO. 2023-697 -C NOTICE TO CREDITORS Letters of Administration having been granted on the 14th day of July 2023 by the Chancery Court of Madison County, Mississippi, to the undersigned Administratrix of the Estate of Christine C. Watson-Lee, 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 the law, within ninety (90) days from the first publication of this notice, or they will be forever barred. This the 20th day of July, 2023. /s/ Dietres W. Codjoe DIETRES W. CODJOE ADMINISTRATRIX OF THE ESTATE OF CHRISTINE C. WATSON-LEE, DECEASED Of Counsel: Bob Waller (MSB 6912) Waller & Waller P.O. Box 4 Jackson, MS 39205 (601) 354-5252 bobwaller@wallerandwaller.com

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF MADISON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF CHRISTINE C. WATSON-LEE, DE-CEASED CAUSE NO. 2023-697 -C SUMMONS STATE OF MISSISSIPPI COUNTY OF MADISON TO: THE UN-KNOWN HEIRS-AT-LAW CHRISTINE C. WATSON-LEE, DECEASED You have been made a Defendant in the Petition filed in this Court Dietries W. Codjoe, Petitioner, seeking authority to determine the heirs-at-law of Christine C. Watson-Lee, Deceased. You are summoned to appear and defend against the Petition filed against you in this action and show cause, if you can, that you are an heir-at-law of Christine C. Watson-Lee, deceased, at 9:00 o'clock a.m. on the 21st day of September 2023 in the Courtroom of the Honorable Robert G. Clark, III at the Yazoo County Chancery Courthouse at Yazoo City, 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 seal of said Court, this the 26th day of July, 2023. RON-NIE LOTT CHANCERY CLERK (Seal) By: /s/ Kim Sievers D.C. Submitted by: Bob Waller (MSB# 6912) WALLER & WALLER Post Office Box 4 Jackson, MS 39205-0004 (601) 354-5252 bob-

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF MADISON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

waller@wallerandwaller.com

IN RE: ESTATE OF MARY ALICE JONES WILLIAMS, DECEASED COREY WILLIAMS, PETITIONER NO. 23-744 B

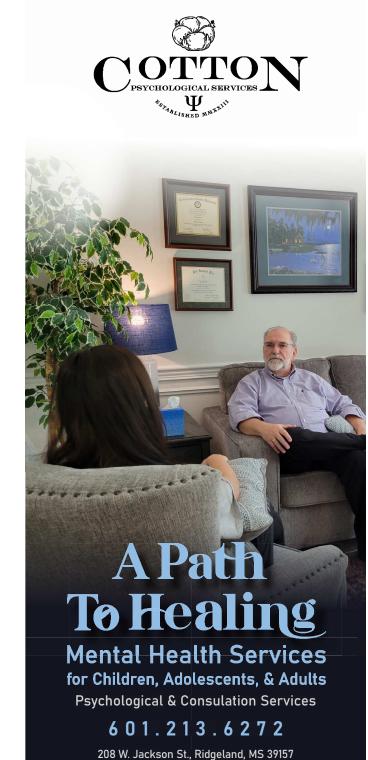
NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Letters of administration having been granted on July 26, 2023, to the undersigned by the Chancery Clerk of Madison County, Mississippi, upon the estate of Mary Alice Jones Williams, deceased, notice is hereby given to all persons having claims against the estate of Mary Alice Jones Williams, deceased, to have same probated and registered by the clerk of the above named court within ninety (90) days from the 10th day of August, 2023, which is the date of first publication of this notice or they will be forever barred.

WITNESS MY SIGNATURE, August 3, 2023.

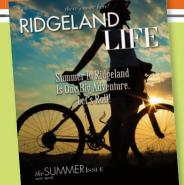
Corey Williams, Administrator, Estate of Mary Alice Jones Williams, Deceased

By: /s/ John R .Reeves John R. Reeves, MSB#4699 Law Offices of John R. Reeves, P.C. 355 South State Street Jackson, Mississippi 39201 601-355-9600



cotton@cottonpsychological.net





RIDGELAND LIFE is available online www.ridgelandms.org

Recycle, Report, Get Rewarded!





## Ridgeland Alerts

The CivicReady solution will allow the City of Ridgeland to issue emergency alerts and city notifications to subscribed citizens via email, text message and voice alert, to keep citizens safe and informed.



#### **3 EASY WAYS TO SIGN-UP**

- Ridgeland-MS.MyFreeAlerts.com
- Visit our website and sign-up by clicking Ridgeland Alert on the homepage
- Text your zip code to 38276 to recevie emergency alerts via SMS only







#### SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES:

\$200 • 4" x 8" Engraved Brick Paver (Located along the "Walk of Heroes")

\$500 • 8" x 8" Engraved Brick Paver (Located around the Bell Tower)

(1) \$5,000 • Brass Plaque mounted on Concrete Paver (1) \$10,000 • Brass Plaque mounted on Bench

(3) \$15,000 • Engraved Plaque at the Bell Tower \*All Engraved Bricks and Plaques must

include the name(s) of Veteran(s)

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

#### **VETERANS MEMORY** PARK IN RIDGELAND COMMITTEE

Mike McCollum, Chairman • (601) 953-2828 Greg Starnes, Treasurer • (601) 672-7265

www.VeteransMemoryParkInRidgeland.com

## RIDGELAND SENIOR

Our mission is to provide a safe, comfortable and welcoming environment where adults over 50 can come to participate in activites to enhance their physical, mental and emotional well-being.

## **Programs Include:**

- Group Exercise Classes · Men's Bible & Coffee · Bingo
- Seated & Standing Yoga · Seasonal Craft Line Dancing
- Martial Arts
- · Tap Dancing
- Pickleball
- Workshops
  - Bridge

For more information call 601.856.6876 or email neeley.jones@ridgelandms.org. facebook.com/ridgelandsuperstarseniors Find our monthly newsletter at ridgelandms.org.



· Art Workshops & more!



# Ridgeland Senior Adult Program Presents



Notes & Neurons is a fun, laugh-out-loud brain health class instructed by Certified Dementia Practitioner, Karen Poteat.

This highly interactive program combines mindfulness, music, movement, and a variety of targeted cognitive activities designed to keep the whole brain as active and healthy as possible. Participants will also learn how aging affects the brain and how they can take control of some of the factors that can lead to cognitive changes so they can continue to live their best lives.

**Tuesdays & Wednesdays in August** 2:30-3:30 pm • Ridgeland Rec Center Located in Old Trace Park • \$10/class

Space is limited. Registration required at 769.235.9579 or neeley.jones@ridgelandms.org



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