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# MADISON COUNTY JOURNAL

Serving Madison, Ridgeland, Canton, Flora, Gluckstadt.

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**NO TAX INCREASE**

## Ridgeland employees to receive raises

By **DUNCAN DENT**  
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RIDGELAND — The proposed budget for the Fiscal 2024 has no new taxes and a raise for city employees, officials say.  
 “I am very pleased,” Mayor Gene F. McGee said.

“The department heads worked very hard to ensure we had a good budget.” McGee noted that the City of Ridgeland has not raised taxes since he has been at the helm since 1989. He said he was proud of the city’s accounting staff and department heads for getting

the budget “where it needed to be” during what he described as a “tough year.” Specifically, McGee said he was pleased that city employees would receive a three-percent pay raise. “You just don’t get to do that every year,” McGee said. The last two budgets have

featured five-percent pay raises for city employees. City Clerk Paula Tierce presented the proposed budget to the Mayor and Board of Aldermen during a public hearing held Aug. 22. The proposed FY 2024 budget projects revenues around \$29 million and expenditures

close to \$32 million. Tierce noted that these estimates represent conservative forecasts specifically for revenues. She also noted the expected end-of-year general fund balance will be around a \$20 million surplus. The city board plans to approve the final FY 2024

budget at one of their September meetings. The first is currently scheduled for Tuesday, Sept. 5. The FY 2023 Fiscal Year ends on Sept. 30 and the new year begins on Oct. 1.

**WARNOCK**  
**Embattled engineer files for bankruptcy**

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

The former Madison County engineer facing federal bribery and wire fraud charges filed Chapter 13 bankruptcy in Alabama earlier this month. Rudy Warnock, whose federal criminal trial was recently continued for a fourth time to Oct. 2, claimed on his bankruptcy filing to only have a net worth of \$434,000 with liabilities of about \$1.4 million. He lived in Madison where he worked as the county engineer and Canton city engineer before later moving to a Birmingham, Ala., suburb. On his bankruptcy filing, Warnock is claiming unsecured debts that include nearly \$430,000 for a Small Business Administration COVID-19 disaster loan, as well as over \$200,000 in debt to Renasant Bank noted as lawsuit expenses. Warnock also shows a \$29,000 loan for “deficiency on airplane” from Eastern Bank and nearly \$50,000 in credit card expenses. Warnock’s secured debt includes a mortgage of nearly \$700,000 on his home he said is

See **WARNOCK**, page A3

**IN MEMORIAM**  
**Butler leaves behind legacy in community**

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

MADISON — Jim Butler is being remembered for leaving a legacy of good.



James Harold “Jim” Butler, a custom home-builder and the husband of Madison Mayor Mary Hawkins Butler, died on Friday. He was 74. He is remembered by many for his work in helping grow Madison County, literally and metaphorically. “Everybody leaves a legacy, either for good or for bad,” Bishop Jerry Dillon of Parkway Pentecostal Church said. “Jim Butler left a legacy of good. He helped a lot of people and that legacy of good will follow him as it has and always

See **BUTLER**, page A2

## madison central homecoming



Madison Central High School will present its 2023-2024 Homecoming Court Members Friday, September 22. Pictured are senior court members. Back row left to right are football representative John Griffin, court members Harry Singh, Tom Adcock, Andy Lu, Ty Miller, Ellis

Nichols, Camden Hood, and football representative Tyrone Richardson. Front row left to right are Anna Edgar, Rhyin Singleton, Kylira Griffin, Nataleigh Nix, Kyra Davis, and Brooke Bumgarner.



Madison Central High School will present its 2023-2024 Homecoming Court Members Friday, September 22. Pictured are freshman court members. Back row left to right are Dallas Laugand, Marcus Washington, and Bowen Jackson. Front row left to right are Avery Cooley, Layan Nabulsi, and Allie Raush.



Madison Central High School will present its 2023-2024 Homecoming Court Members Friday, September 22. Pictured are sophomore court members. Back row left to right are football representative Weston Rogers, court members Rylan Sudbeck, Liam Hawk, Linus Howell, Will Atwood, and football representative Damorian Smith. Front row left to right are Pranavi Buddala, Reyanna Williams, Emma Grace Edwards, and McClara Morton.

Madison Central High School will present its 2023-2024 Homecoming Court Members Friday, September 22. Pictured are junior court members. Back row left to right are Akash Khera, Emery Washington, Whit Turpin, J.P. Baldwin, Darren Woods, and football representative Brandon Huerkamp. Not pictured is football representative Greg Brown. Front row left to right are Rivers Biggs, Sela Waller, Lana Nabulsi, Pearl Magee, and Ella Trowbridge.



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

The City of Gluckstadt will hold a public hearing on its proposed budget and proposed tax levies for fiscal year 2023-2024 at 6 p.m. on September 5, 2023, at Gluckstadt City Hall, 343 Distribution Drive, Madison, MS 39110.

The City of Gluckstadt is now operating with projected total budget revenue of \$7,059,386. 19.0 percent or \$1,338,600 of such revenue is obtained through ad valorem taxes. For the next fiscal year, the proposed budget has total projected revenue of \$6,527,141. Of that amount, 22.2 percent or \$1,448,900 is proposed to be financed through a total ad valorem tax levy.

The decision to not increase the ad valorem tax millage rate for fiscal year 2023-2024 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 fiscal year 2023-2024.

Any citizen of the City of Gluckstadt is invited to attend this public hearing on the proposed budget and tax levies for fiscal year 23-24 and will be allowed to speak for a reasonable amount of time and offer tangible evidence before any vote is taken.

The proposed 2023-24 budget is available for inspection at Gluckstadt City Hall, 343 Distribution Drive, Madison, MS 39110.

**Butler**

Continued from page A1

will. "He was a friend to a lot of people," he continued. "He was a builder. He built more than just houses, he built faith, and that's what we're all supposed to do."

Dillon said Butler was a very humble man, adding that "He helped a lot of people that nobody ever knew about."

Butler, a graduate of Madison-Ridgeland High School and Mississippi State University, would later go on to serve in the U.S. Marine Corps and U.S. Army Reserves. After that, he became a representative for Mississippi Farm Bureau and a lobbyist for the Mississippi Power Association. Butler became a custom home builder and is regarded as "one of the best" in the metro.

Rick Webster, owner and CEO of Key Constructors in Madison, said Butler was one of the most honorable men he's known.

"He built my house," he said. "He built our office. He built my father's home. He built a lot of custom homes and never rang his own bell."

Webster knew Butler for over 30 years, saying he helped mentor him when he started his contracting business.

"He would talk to you like a man," Webster said. "Growing up, when I first met him coming up in this business, Jim was real quick to call you out on something. If Jim told you he was going to do something, he did it."

Webster credited Butler for having the same vision as Mayor Mary, saying they helped grow Madison into the city it is today.

Madison Alderman Janie Jarvis said she had known Butler for over 25 years, echoing what others have said about his homebuilding and legacy in the community.

"He was extremely talented and was a perfectionist," she said. "He was such a hard-working, honest builder and everybody still loves the houses he built for them. He had no enemies and was just a prince of a man."

She said one of the most recent memories she laughs about was Butler's affection for shopping at Sam's Club.

"Jim loved Sam's," Jarvis said with a laugh. "Mary would get taken aback with him because he would buy stuff in bulk even though it was just the two of them. He just loved to go to Sam's."

She said during a four-month stint they bumped into each other several times at the exact same spot in the store.

"It was hysterical," she said. Jarvis said that Butler's love for Mary and vice versa was unmatched.

"He absolutely adored Mary," she said. "I mean, he could not have adored her any more than he did. It was just fun to watch her tell stories and he would just belly laugh, no matter how many times he had heard the stories. He got more entertainment and joy out of spending time with her. He was so full of life and always had a smile on his face."

In addition to Hawkins-Butler, Butler is survived by his sons James Bradley Butler of Livingston, Texas, and Joseph "Joe" Richard Butler (Gretchen) of Madison, grandchildren Isabel, Knox and Layla, and siblings Pat Truesdale of Ridgeland and brother Eddie Butler (Jill) of Ethel.

Funeral services were held Monday at First Baptist Church in Madison and followed by a private graveside service.

See the full obituary on Page A5.

**About the Journal**

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**Meet the Candidates**

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

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**District 25 State Senate**  
J. Walter Michel (Republican)

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# St. Joe teacher wins national broadcasting award

By JOHN LEE  
john@onlinemadison.com

MADISON — St. Joseph Catholic School's Terry Cassreino said being selected as National Broadcast Adviser of the Year was an unexpected honor that falls on not just himself, but his dedicated, hardworking students.

"This award is not about me," Cassreino said. "It is about the hundreds of students I have had the privilege of teaching at St. Joe since I took over the high school journalism program in 2012. My students work very hard every day to produce high-quality products, and they made this honor possible."

According to the Journalism Education Association (JEA), a program based out of Kansas City, The Broadcast Adviser of the Year program is designed to honor outstanding high school advisers and their exemplary work from the previous year, as well as throughout their careers.

JEA surprised Cassreino with the award on Monday during his Broadcast Journalism class. He received a \$1,000 prize along with \$500 to use for new equipment and tools students can use for future newscasts.

Additionally, Cassreino received a plaque and pin, an invitation to address journalism educators at the Fall JEA/NSPA National High School Journalism Convention, and a monthly column on JEADigitalMedia.org.

JEA selected Cassreino as Special Recognition Adviser



St. Joe teacher Terry Cassreino, right, shows students how to set up a camera.

in 2020, and a Distinguished Broadcast Adviser in 2022.

Since 2012, Cassreino has transformed St. Joe's journalism program into a statewide powerhouse, with student-led products such as "Bruin News Now," the school's main newscast, "What's Bruin at the Joe," a sports show each Monday, "BNN Midweek Paws," a news update every Wednesday, and live-streaming video of varsity football and basketball games along with radio broadcasts.

Cassreino said the students do the heavy lifting and work day in and day out to produce the program's many news segments.

"I'm there to help, encourage, and inspire," Cassreino said. "Some of my students may go into journalism, others may not. But they all

leave learning valuable life skills that include speaking in public and self-confidence. I hope they leave my program with a renewed appreciation and understanding of the role journalism plays, and continues to play, in this great nation. I am more than happy that this honor brings deserved recognition to our great state and a thriving student media program at a small Catholic school."

St. Joe senior Paige Loyacono started learning from Cassreino in seventh grade and said she never thought journalism was something she would ever be interested in.

"Through him encouraging me to go through the process of editing and going on camera, I realized journalism actually was something I was interested in and I ended

up choosing it for my elective," Loyacono said. "Mr. Cassreino showed me I had potential and pushed me to go further with it. He always stressed that everyone has a story, and it's our job as journalists to bring out peoples' stories. I've learned to talk to people in a way to bring out those stories and form relationships with people, and I wouldn't have gained those communication skills if I hadn't taken this class."

"This award shows the dedication he puts into this day-in and day out, and it will really highlight our program," she said. "It's going to put the work that we do on more of a national platform."

Mississippi Scholastic Press Association Executive Director RJ Morgan said St. Joe's journalism program is one of the deepest, most

nuanced and enriching high school media outlets he has ever seen.

"I would argue there may not be a scholastic broadcast program in the country that serves its audience better or in more ways than Bruin News Now," Morgan said.

Cassreino said he plans to continue to build on the journalism program and continue to improve things for the future.

"I'm focused on high school journalism," he said. "Every year we've added something new. I couldn't do what I do with the support of

the administration here. They sit back and see what these kids put in every week.

They're out there working on deadlines and projects every week, and if I didn't have the support, we couldn't do this. This award speaks volumes about the quality of the students and their hard work. They do a tremendous job every day, and every week. I couldn't be more proud of them."

To learn more about St. Joe's journalism department, visit [www.stjoebruins.com](http://www.stjoebruins.com), and check out the Bruin News Now YouTube channel.

# MSU student from Madison found dead

STARKVILLE — A 19-year-old sophomore student at Mississippi State University from Madison died on campus over the weekend.



MSU officials and law enforcement agencies, including Oktibbeha County Coroner Michael Hunt, are investigating the death in a parked vehicle in an on-campus parking lot — but foul play is not suspected.

The deceased student was identified as Maxwell Curtis Pennebaker, 19, a sophomore building construction science major from Madison. He was a member of the Phi Kappa Tau fraternity.

Pennebaker was a member

of the Chapel of the Cross Episcopal Church and was a 2022 graduate of Madison Central High School. An Eagle Scout, Pennebaker spent countless hours volunteering at Webster Animal Shelter, the site of his Eagle Scout project.

"It is with a heavy heart as we write this but, we would like to extend our love and prayers to a great family, the Pennebakers," Webster Animal Shelter wrote on its Facebook page. "A love like no other here at the shelter is our volunteers. Till next time Max with wet noses and sloppy kisses."

MSU Police Chief Kenneth Rogers said MSU PD received a phone call reporting an unresponsive person in a parked vehicle at approximately 1:10 p.m. Sunday [Aug. 27]. Responding agencies included MSU PD, Starkville Fire Department and Med-Stat Ambulance. Oktibbeha County

Coroner Michael Hunt pronounced the student dead at the scene, the university said.

President Mark E. Keenum and MSU First Lady Rhonda Keenum shared their condolences with the family and friends of the student and met Sunday with the men of Phi Kappa Tau Fraternity to express their sympathies, encourage and pray with them. While the university asks for respect for the privacy of the family and friends of this student at this sad and difficult time, counseling services and other support for any students or staff impacted by the incident are available through the Division of Student Affairs, officials said.

In a statement Monday, MSU Vice President for Strategic Communications Sid Salter said the university community is "deeply saddened" by the death.

"At this time, our community's thoughts and prayers remain with the family and friends of the student who has died. The university is offering counseling and other appropriate services to those most closely impacted by this tragedy."

He said that the safety of students is "of fundamental importance" and that the university is working to "review this tragic event" and provide mental health and well-being support.

# Warnock

Continued from page A1

valued at over \$850,000.

Warnock has been charged with bribery and wire fraud that allegedly occurred during his brief stint at CMU after he was fired by Madison County.

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

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 2022. Warnock pleaded not guilty at his initial appearance. He faces up to 30 years in prison if convicted.

Three others have pleaded guilty — former CMU Commissioner Cleveland Anderson and former Canton aldermen Andrew Grant and Eric Gilkey.

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# Opinion & Editorials

DOUGLAS CARSWELL

## Freedom is not free

An education revolution is happening. When will it arrive in Mississippi?

An education revolution is happening across America. In state after state, families have been given control of their children's tax dollars.

For years, wealthier people have been able to exercise education choice by opting to live in a particular school board district or by going private. Now, in over half a dozen states across America, every family will have the freedom to choose.

How is this possible? If you are lucky enough to live in a state with education freedom, you can ask to have your child's share of the public education budget placed into an Education Savings Account, or ESA. The money in that ESA then follows your child, and your family can spend it at pretty much any public or private school. Some states even allow the money to provide for home schooling.

Wildly popular, tens of thousands of families in education freedom states have rushed to exercise this newly acquired freedom for their kids. Many use the program to move from one public school to another. Others are able to use the value of the ESA to go private.

*An education revolution is happening. When will it arrive in Mississippi?*

Whatever families choose, their choices are starting to transform the education landscape in these states for the better.

Three years ago, education freedom was little more than an idea. Conservatives had talked about it since the days of Ronald Reagan, but nothing major changed. Some states saw a significant expansion in the number of Charter Schools. Others, including Mississippi, adopted a limited school choice program for kids with special needs. But until recently there was not a single state that allowed universal education freedom.

Suddenly, and dramatically, the dominos started to fall. In 2021, West Virginia passed a law allowing (almost) universal education freedom, followed by Arizona. Other states, such as Florida, Indiana, Iowa, Oklahoma, and Utah followed.

Earlier this year, Arkansas passed a law to allow education freedom from 2025, and Alabama seems poised to do the same. When will we see something similar in Missis-

sippi?

As in any state, there are vested interests who do not want Mississippi moms and dads to be able to make choices. As Corey DeAngelis, the education freedom advocate, never tires of pointing out, some officials believe parents are too ill informed to be able to make decisions for their own families.

Some in the education system perhaps fear that families armed with choice might expect higher standards (They are right. Families will). Others maybe realize that once parents have more power, it will be harder to impose 'woke' ideology on their kids in the classroom (They are also right. Education freedom is the antidote to 'woke').

The opposition to change will be intense. It always is. Inertia comes armed with an excuse.

The fact is that Mississippi will soon be bordered on either side by states that have school choice. It is about to be increasingly difficult to ignore the advantages of education freedom for our state.

*Douglas Carswell is the President & CEO of the Mississippi Center for Public Policy, a free market advocacy organization. Reach him at carswell@mspolicy.org.*

## MADISON COUNTY JOURNAL

"To glorify God, and enjoy Him forever."

JAMES E. PRINCE III  
President and Publisher

MICHAEL SIMMONS  
Associate Editor & Publisher

### EDITORIALS

## Thank you, Dolly!

*The Neshoba Democrat said in an editorial:*

The Dolly Party at the Ellis Saturday was a great night for our town and Marty Stuart's Congress of Country Music.

"There is only one DOLLY! She shined like a sparkling diamond!" Sharon Deweese, executive director of the Philadelphia-Neshoba County Arts Council wrote on Facebook. "This was a once in lifetime event for our town! Thank you Marty for bringing her to Philly! Awesome show!"

"Dolly told her life story coming from very humble beginnings and has the sweetest smile, heart & angelic voice! You are a beautiful soul! Dolly, we will "Always love you"

As the sun faded into night on Saturday, the glow in the eyes of thousands remained. From young to old, stories of this unforgettable night will be told for years to come about when Dolly Parton came to town.

There will be a lot of "remember when's" and "you should've been there's."

The impact on our town from the Dolly shows has yet to truly unfold. Hopefully, this event only marks the beginning of what's to come for our community and the city of Philadelphia as a whole.

"I think the event will have a pretty good economic impact, not only for the day, but just the fact that there were so many different people from all over the United States," said Mayor James A. Young. "They had the opportunity to see Philadelphia, hopefully they mingled around for a little while and come back again. I take it as a success, but also something that builds for the future."

"I was so overwhelmed by the number of people from all states that were here in Philadelphia, Mississippi, with one of the best country entertainers in the nation. It's just unheard of for a city of our size to

have that type of impact."

"This event was huge. It has really helped us to see what capacity we could have in both areas, outside and inside at the same time. It was a new experience for us as a city, but I think it was a great experience."

"We are moving in a good direction, and there are other events coming down the road. We hope to be doing something of significance as often as possible. We want people to want to come to Philadelphia. This event was a great door opening to what we want to do in this community with the Congress of Country Music."

"It's not just one venue. It's blues, gospel, bluegrass, country, it's Marty Stuart. We are glad that he's a resident of our county and he loves this place. Without his connection and contacts this wouldn't have happened."

"Thank God for the police, Sheriff's Department, Highway Department, Street Department, and everybody that had a hand in making sure the venue was as safe as possible, and from cleaning up after. It was a group effort that really paid off."

Community Development Partnership President David Vowell was beaming with pride and told WTOK:

"We were told by the Resort that their hotels were at capacity on Saturday night. The night of the concert. I know from talking to some of our city hotels that at least three of them were at 100 percent capacity. The others were really in good shape. One thing that was mentioned during the concert was that the ticket sales were between 1.4 to 1.6 million. That's gross sales, you know, we got to take a lot of our expenses out and everything. It's going to be a good day for the Marty Stuart Congress and financially it's a blessing."

Thank you, Dolly, (and Marty) for an amazing evening!



CHARLES HURT

## Trump exposes Democrats' big race lie

Live by the race sword, die by the race sword.

The Democrat Party has been bankrupt of ideas for a long time. Former President Bill Clinton is the last Democrat politician on the national stage to even pretend to embrace popular, common-sense policy proposals aimed at improving the lives of actual voters. The mythical popularity of former President Barack Obama helped patch together an increasingly splintered confederation of special interest groups that make up the Democrat Party.

As a result, the party today pushes deeply unpopular and radically ideological agendas such as open borders, defunding the police, ninth-month abortion, open drug use and a weird gender ideology that actually defends genital mutilation of children — particularly little girls.

It is strange and creepy. Very few Americans support any of this. And if the media covered these issues and elections with a hint of honesty, Democrats would be finished as a party. President Biden would not be in the White House today except for the profound dishonesty of the political press.

The Republican Party, meanwhile, has suffered through more than a decade of introspection and infighting that began with the so-called "Tea Party" movement and resulted in the election of Donald Trump in 2016. As a result of that civil war and Mr. Trump's complete takeover of the party, the Republican Party today is far more populist and embraces a

*Democrats have been forced to return to their long history of stoking racial hatred as a powerful political tool. It's all they have left.*

platform of practical, popular solutions aimed at improving the lives of voters.

Top among those popular, practical solutions is sealing the border.

This is why Democrats have been forced to return to their long history of stoking racial hatred as a powerful political tool. It's all they have left.

In the run-up to the 2020 elections, Democrats fanned the flames of the "Black Lives Matter" riots. Vice President Kamala Harris actually raised money on behalf of riot leaders to get rioters bailed out of prison so that they could return to looting and rioting in the streets.

Few Democrats on the national stage have more shamelessly stoked racial fears for partisan purposes than Joe Biden himself. During the 2012 election, he warned a gathering of black voters that Republicans would "put y'all back in chains" if they got elected.

He built his entire 2020 presidential campaign on the perpetual lie that Mr. Trump supported white supremacists who had come to Charlottesville, Virginia, to hijack protests against tearing down historical statues on city property. When

Democrats tried smearing then-candidate Glenn Youngkin as a racist, they had to send paid Democrats to dress up as racists to attend a Youngkin rally — and got caught.

But the Democrat Party's last Big Race Lie appears to be faltering. Increasingly, polling shows African American voters losing faith in Mr. Biden. Last spring, just 17% of African American voters expressed enthusiasm for Mr. Biden's reelection, according to a poll conducted by the Washington Post.

As Mr. Biden's inflation continues to gobble up paychecks, black unemployment stands at nearly twice the rate of the overall American population. The frustration is palpable.

The Biden Administration's last alternative appears to be weaponizing the Department of Justice and allied prosecutors to go after their primary opponent, Mr. Trump. If you can't beat them, jail them.

It was quite the spectacle last week watching Mr. Trump's motorcade wind through the streets of Atlanta to be arrested at the jailhouse on charges that he had questioned the outcome of the 2020 election.

The streets were lined with African-American voters cheering Mr. Trump as he passed.

Whether they show up next year to vote for Mr. Trump remains to be seen. But as Mr. Trump spent years telling them: "What have you got to lose?"

*Charles Hurt is the opinion editor at The Washington Times.*

## Biden leaves border open

It is often said, "When one door closes, another opens." The observation is applicable to the southern border, thanks to President Biden's latest scheme to ensure open access to the U.S. homeland.

The border Texas shares with Mexico is the widest front in the ongoing illegal incursion. Gov. Greg Abbott, a Republican, has scored a partial victory with his recent installation of floating buoys that thwart immigrants seeking to traverse an especially fordable section of the Rio Grande. Like clockwork, the Biden Justice Department has sued Mr. Abbott and the state, complaining that the lengthy barrier violates the Rivers and Harbors Act, which "prohibits the unauthorized obstruction or alteration of any navigable water of the U.S."

Common sense would find fault with individuals who violate U.S. sovereignty by crossing the border without authorization. But U.S. officials instead target Mr. Abbott and heroic Texans attempting to perform on their own the critical duty of guarding the entryway that Team Biden has propped open. Texas isn't called "the Lone Star State" for nothing.

With the riverside door closed, at least temporarily, the feds have opened another one — actually, scores upon scores of them, according to the New York Post. In Arizona, workers have unlocked 114 large gates in the metal-pollard border wall and welded them open. The explanation: Flood waters need to flow unimpeded during the monsoon season, and unobstructed migration routes must be provided for endangered herds of antelope.

That is, if the antelope aren't trampled by the stampede of humanity rushing through the ajar portals. About 1,400 immigrants a day are passing through the

gates, making the Tucson sector the nation's busiest point of illegal entry. Like monsoon waters, individuals determined to accept Mr. Biden's offers of asylum and assistance are taking the path of least resistance, at U.S. taxpayer expense.

Not that Americans are stingy. To the contrary, the U.S. provides more development assistance worldwide than any other nation, according to the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development.

Border-state residents have spent years and fortunes struggling to deal with the massive influx of illegal immigrants overrunning their communities, thanks to policies the president instituted when he took office. With the flood of humanity pressing northward, cries of despair are emanating from proud sanctuaries like New York City, where taxpayers are facing a bill of \$12 billion over three years for immigrant social services, according to the Big Apple's mayor, Eric Adams.

It's unsurprising that a recent Square Center survey finds that 82% of respondents are concerned about the "current situation at the border." Asked to describe the border situation since Mr. Biden became president, 50% say it has gotten worse. Another 25% say it's about the same, and a meager 15% say border conditions are getting better.

It is an insult to the sensibility of the U.S. citizenry for President Biden to couch his policy in acts that safeguard the free flow of water and wildlife but leave the nation's border unsecured. Clearly, Americans are worried and aren't buying the president's excuses.

— The Washington Times

### BIBLE SELECTION

There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

## OBITUARIES

### James Harold 'Jim' Butler

James Harold "Jim" Butler, 74, went to be with our Lord at his residence in the City of Madison.

A believer and follower of Jesus Christ as his Savior, Jim was a member of First Baptist Church Madison. As a graduate of Madison High School and Mississippi State University, Jim was active in the Boy Scouts of America, various church youth activities, and school athletics.

He served his country in both the U.S. Marine Corp and the U.S. Army Reserves. Jim's professional career began as a representative with the Mississippi Farm Bureau and he later served as a lobbyist for the Mississippi Power Association. Jim was known for being one of the "best homebuilders" throughout the metro area. He also served as Madison County Election Commissioner for many years.

He is survived by his wife, Mary Hawkins Butler. He leaves behind his sons James Bradley Butler of Livingston, Texas and Joseph "Joe" Richard Butler (Gretchen) of Madison, his grandchildren Isabel, Knox and Layla, and his siblings Pat Truesdale of Ridgeland and brother Eddie Butler (Jill) of Ethel Mississippi.

Memorial donations may be made to your church's children's ministry. Funeral services were held at First Baptist Church Madison on August 29, 2023.

The family held a private graveside gathering following the service.

### Thomas Michael Cole

Thomas Michael Cole, 72, died at his home in Ridgeland, MS on August 20, 2023. He was the son of the late Mr. and

Mrs. Charles Thomas Cole. He grew up in Texas and Mississippi.

Tom graduated cum laude from Spring Woods Senior High School in Houston, TX where he was an avid golfer. He earned a B.S. degree and a M.S. degree from Southwest Texas State University. He earned a PhD in Environmental Engineering from Texas Tech University.

Tom enlisted in the U.S. Navy where he was an E3 Seaman in the Vietnam War. He worked as a Research Environmental Engineer at the Corps of Engineers Waterways Experiment Station in Vicksburg, MS where he received many awards for his various achievements and projects.

Tom married the love of his life, Anne Cashman Cole, in 1995. They lived in Vicksburg.

Tom was preceded in death by his wife, parents and siblings.

He is survived by his "family", a word Tom loved for friends who are like family, Marianne and David Coker and their extended family.

A Texas style celebration of Tom's life will be held on his birthday, September 5, from 4:00 - 6:00 p.m. at Iron Horse Grill in Jackson, MS. Please bring your favorite Tom story to share.

### Dr. Frank M. Wiygul Jr.

Dr. Frank M. Wiygul Jr. went on the next stage of his journey on July 25, 2023, a few months after his 100th birthday.

Frank was born on May 12, 1923 in Shannon, Mississippi to Frank M. Wiygul and Mabel Gordon Wiygul. After graduating from Shannon High School he started college at Sunflower Junior College but left to serve in World War II as an infantryman in France and Luxembourg. As part of C company of the 10th Army Division's 54th Armored Infantry Battalion he helped liberate Europe after the Normandy invasion.

After the war Frank finished his degree at the University of Mississippi. He enrolled in what was then the two-year

medical school at Ole Miss and under the tutelage of Dr. Arthur Guyton, a legendary physiologist, he went on to receive his M.D. from Harvard Medical School in 1951. He did his post-graduate training in pediatrics in New Orleans, Louisiana, where he was on the faculty at the Tulane Medical School, and San Antonio, Texas.

In 1956 he married Nell Thomas of Booneville, Mississippi. They settled in Jackson, Mississippi and had three boys - Mitch, Robert (Julia) and Tom (Catherine).

His greatest professional interest was health care delivery to people who needed it. There were plenty of those in Mississippi, and after a stint in private practice he worked for many years with Dr. Alton Cobb and others to help develop the structures and organization that eventually became the modern Mississippi State Department of Health. He divided the rest of his medical career between the health department and the University of Mississippi's Medical School, where he taught in the family practice section until his retirement in 1989. He received several teaching awards, and also ran what Nell called his front porch clinic for neighborhood children and the occasional dog or cat. Frank was a dedicated caregiver in Nell's battle with dementia, and after she passed away in 2013 he returned to his mainstays of gardening, fishing and reading. For the two years before his death he was in nursing care at St. Catherine's Village.

Frank was predeceased by his wife Nell and his siblings Clayton Wiygul, John G. Wiygul, and Mabel Jane McCluer.

He is survived by his brother Glenn (Sherry), sons Mitch, Robert (Julia) and Tom (Catherine), grandchildren Thomas (Blair), Emma, Rachel, Caroline and Amelia, and a flock of nieces, nephews, friends and admirers.

A memorial service was held August 29 at Galloway United Methodist Church.

## BIBLICAL PERSPECTIVES/J. Ligon Duncan III

# Christ anointed with oil: For burial

If you have your Bibles, I'd invite you to turn with me to Matthew 26:6-13. The passage breaks into three parts. You see in verses 6-7 this strange experience, this extravagant action by this woman. Jesus is at supper, and she anoints Him with oil, very expensive perfume. And then you see the disciples' response in verses 8-9. That's the second part of the passage. And then in verses 10-13, you see Jesus' rebuke to the disciples and His glorious commendation of the woman, even at the same time while He once again foretells His own death. Let's look at these three sections together.

### I. Jesus Anointed with Oil

First, in verses 6-7 Jesus fulfills three aspects of the Old Testament that tells us what God is like. The Old Testament tells us that God is exalted, but He dwells with the humble. The Old Testament tells us that God is the one who heals our diseases. And the Old Testament tells us that God alone is to be worshipped.

Notice Jesus' willingness here to dwell with the lowly. He's not in Bethany with the mayor and city council. He's not in Bethany with the great and prominent citizens of that little village. He is in Bethany with this man who was a leper. Lepers are outcast from the community. Yet our Lord Jesus, who didn't have a home, stayed with a former leper in his home. There's a poignancy to that. He draws near to the humble.

And the Lord Christ healed him. He was cleansed from his leprosy. Yet in order to remind us of the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ in healing him, he is continually referred to as Simon the leper. Simon is no longer a leper solely by the hand of Christ. So, we are reminded of Christ's exclusive healing power and His saving abilities.

And then in verse 7 we see this woman, who we learn is Mary from John 12, come and perform an act of profuse devotion to the Lord Jesus Christ. As Mary is pouring out this perfume, she is pouring out her heart. She is filled with genuine religious love and gratitude and devotion. And the Lord Jesus Christ doesn't say, "Now Mary, you're going a little too far here." He receives Her worship, and her extravagant act of devotion to Him, because He is worthy to be praised.

So in these verses, you see a three-fold reflection in the Lord Jesus Christ. He dwells with those who are humble and lowly in heart. He is the one who heals and saves. And He is worthy to be praised.

### II. The Disciples Lack of Understanding

Then, as you look at verses 8-9 you'll see a disappointing response from the disciples. They are vocally indignant about what has just happened. And the disciples display their deficient piety in the way they assess Mary. They misjudged the heart and the motives of Mary. They didn't understand the significance of what she was doing.

Mary understood the priority of Christ in a way that the disciples themselves were struggling to grasp. The disciples were outraged when they saw this woman take this alabaster vial filled with perfume that John tells us was worth over a year's wages. This had perhaps been a family heirloom that had been sealed for many generations. As long as the seal of that alabaster bottle was shut, that perfume could last a long, long time. And she takes it, and she breaks it open, and she pours the whole thing on the Lord Jesus Christ. And the disciples are outraged, believing that she just wasted over a year's wages. Yet Mary thinks, "How could I possibly waste anything on the Lord Jesus Christ?"

You'll never waste anything on Christ. Waste your time, waste your strength, waste your life, it'll never be wasted on the Lord Jesus Christ. Mary understood that in a way that Jesus' disciples had yet to grasp. She understood that no gift was too great in response to such a love as His. Divine love which not only gives everything, but is content to be unrequited. You'll never outgive His love. Who knows how long that heirloom had been in the family? But Jesus was worth it, and so she worshipped Him with what was perhaps the most valuable thing her family owned. The disciples are shocked, but God is pleased, and Jesus Christ is pleased.

### III. Jesus Defends Mary and Announces His Death

And then we see Jesus' response in verses 10-13. He gives us a wonderful announcement about Mary and Jesus' response simultaneously testifies to His death. And again, we learn that true

faith in Christ apprehends who He is. It understands the meaning and significance of His death and the benefits which flow from that death for all those who believe in Him.

In verse 12, He says, "She poured this perfume on My body, and she did it to prepare Me for burial." He is saying to them that her anointing Him was in prospect of His coming death. God is providing for His Son's burial in the actions of Mary. You know criminals weren't anointed in Jesus' day. A nice upstanding citizen who died would be prepared and anointed with expensive incense and perfumes and ointments and then would be buried in a tomb. But common criminals who died, especially the death of the cross, would simply be heaped into a common pit, which would be filled up and then covered over with dirt. There would no anointing. Jesus is saying, "What Mary is doing here is in prospect of My burial, for I am going to die."

Did Mary understand what she was doing, or was she doing something beyond her grasp? Well, listen to this. Mary, of Bethany, was perhaps the best listener that Jesus ever had. And this may well have been her thought in what she did. She may have been thinking to herself, "This will be the last opportunity I ever get to bestow kindness on Jesus." It went according to His own predictions. His enemies will kill Him. Will His friends be able to anoint Him at that time? And so she takes the most expensive thing she has, and she anoints her Savior. We have a picture here of Jesus not only being prepared for burial, but we see a picture of true worship, giving the best we have because of His love for us. She was anointing her Savior. For though the world would look at Him in the next few hours as a criminal, she acknowledged Him as her God and Savior. And it was the ultimate act that she could do in showing her love for Him. Let us love and worship in view of His love for us in the same manner as Mary.

*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.*

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

The City of Madison, Mississippi Mayor and Board of Aldermen will hold a public hearing on its proposed budget and proposed tax levies for fiscal year 2024 on Tuesday, September 5, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. at Madison Justice Complex, located on Crawford Street, Madison, Mississippi 39110.

The City of Madison, Mississippi is now operating with projected total budget revenue of \$53,716,422. (26 percent) or \$13,726,500 of such revenue is obtained through ad valorem taxes. For the next fiscal year, the proposed budget has total projected revenue of \$54,508,835. Of that amount, (26 percent) or \$14,090,500 is proposed to be financed through a total ad valorem tax levy.

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 real property, unless the assessed value of your property has increased for fiscal year 2024.

Any citizen of the City of Madison, 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.

s/Susan B. Crandall  
Susan B. Crandall, City Clerk  
Director of Administration & Finance



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Public Notices

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS Madison County, MISSISSIPPI Federal Aid Project No. STP-6985-00(001)LPA/106993/701000

The Madison County Board of Supervisors, Madison County, Mississippi, will receive bids for the Bozeman Road Improvements Project from Hwy 463 to Gluckstadt Road for a total project length of 3.2 miles, Federal Aid Project No. STP- 6985-00(001)LPA/106993/701000 no later than 10:00 a.m., Local Time, September 29, 2023, at the Madison County Chancery Clerk's Office, Rooms 225-228 located at 146 West North Street, Canton, Mississippi. All bids so received will be publicly opened and read aloud. The work shall consist essentially of the following items:

Reconstruction of an existing two lane roadway to a four lane boulevard section with necessary turn lanes from Hwy 463 to Reunion Parkway with overlay and intersection improvements at the Gluckstadt Road intersection. Also included is a multi-use trail from Hwy 463 to Gluckstadt Road.

The above general outline of features of the work does not in any way limit the responsibility of the contractor to perform all work and furnish all plant, labor, equipment and materials required by the specifications and the drawings referred to therein.

The attention of bidders is directed to the Contract Provisions governing selection and employment of labor. Minimum wage rates for Federal-Aid projects have been predetermined by the Secretary of Labor and are subject to Public Law 87-581 Work Hours Act of 1962, as set forth in the Contract Provisions.

The Madison County Board of Supervisors hereby notifies all Bidders that it will affirmatively insure that in any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, disadvantaged and women's business enterprises will be afforded the full opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, sex, age, disability, religion or national origin in consideration for an award.

The award of this contract will be contingent upon the Contractor satisfying the DBE requirements.

The contract Documents are on file and may be examined at the following locations:

- 1. Madison County Chancery Clerk's Office, Rooms 225-228, 146 West North Street, Canton, MS 39046
2. Neel-Schaffer, Inc. 215 Waterford Square, Madison, Mississippi 39110

Plans, specifications, and contract documents may be secured at no charge by downloading a copy from Madison County's website at http://www.madison-co.com/bids .

Each bid shall be accompanied by a Cashier's check, Certified Check on a solvent bank or a Bidder's Bond issued by a Surety Company licensed to operate in the State of Mississippi, in the amount of five percent (5%) of the total bid price, payable to the Madison County Board of Supervisors as bid security. The successful bidder will be required to furnish a Performance Bond and a Payment bond each in the amount of one hundred percent (100%) of the contract amount.

The proposal and contract documents in its entirety shall be submitted in a sealed envelope and deposited with the Chancery Clerk, Rooms 225-228, 146 West North Street, Canton, Mississippi 39046 or electronically to Madison County's website at http://www.madison-co.com/bids prior to the hour and date above designated.

Work to be performed shall be in accordance with the "Mississippi State Highway Standard Specifications for Road and Bridge Construction, 2017", together with all amendments and/or special provisions and/or addenda, to the standards duly approved and adopted, unless otherwise noted in these specifications .

The attention of Bidders is directed to the provisions of Subsection 102.07 pertaining to irregular proposals and rejection of bids.

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF MADISON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

CHRISTIAN ANTONY GRAVES PETITIONER VS. CAUSE NO.: 20-757-W

SYLVIA ANN THORNTON AND JAMES EDWARD THORNTON RESPONDENT BRITTANY FAITH MCPHAIL INTERESTED PARTY

RULE 81 SUMMONS

THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI TO: BRITTANY FAITH MCPHAIL

NOTICE TO DEFENDANT(S)

THE COMPLAINT AND/OR PETITION 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 or petition at 1:00 p.m. on the 6th day of October, 2023, at the Madison County Chancery Courthouse, before the Honorable James C. Walker, Chancellor 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 complaint or petition. You are not required to file an answer or other pleading, but you may do so if you so desire. Issued under my hand and official seal of said Court, this the 29th day of August, 2023.

MADISON COUNTY CHANCERY CLERK BY: /s/ Ronny Lott D.C. Ronny Lott

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF MADISON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

IN RE: GURSAHIB SINGH, A MINOR CAUSE NO.: 23-687

Public Notices

SEWA SINGH . PETITIONER RULE 81 SUMMONS

THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

TO: HAWINDER SINGH WHEREABOUTS 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 have been made a Respondent in the suit filed in this Court by Jasvir Kaur, Petitioner, seeking custody of your biological child, Gursahib Singh, An eleven (11) year old unmarried male .

YOU ARE SUMMONED to appear and defend against said Complaint at 1:30 PM on the 10th day of October 2023 , at the courthouse at the Chancery Court of Madison County , located at 146 W Center Street, Canton, Mississippi 39046, Before the Honorable Judge James C. Walker, Chancellor 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 3rd day of August 2023.

Ronny Lott Chancery Clerk, Madison County, Mississippi

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF MADISON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

IN THE MATTER OF THE LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT OF JOSEPH FRANCIS HOLLIER, DECEASED CAUSE NO. 2023-741 (B)

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Letters Testamentary having been granted on the 31st day of August, 2023, by the Chancery Court of Madison County, Mississippi, to the undersigned Executor under the Last Will and Testament of Joseph Francis Hollier, 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 10th day of August, 2023.

/s/ Susan Hollier McMichael SUSAN HOLLIER McMICHAEL, Executor under the Last Will and Testament of Joseph Francis Hollier, deceased

PUBLISHED:

SAMUEL H. WILLIFORD, MSB #100095 WILLIFORD, McALLISTER, JACOBUS & WHITE, LLP ATTORNEYS AT LAW 303 Highland Park Cove, Suite A Ridgeland, Mississippi 39157 (601) 991-2000

SOLICITOR

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF MADISON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

CHRISTIAN ANTONY GRAVES PETITIONER VS. CAUSE NO.: 20-757-W

SYLVIA ANN THORNTON AND JAMES EDWARD THORNTON RESPONDENT BRITTANY FAITH MCPHAIL INTERESTED PARTY

RULE 4 SUMMONS

THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI TO: BRITTANY FAITH MCPHAIL

NOTICE TO DEFENDANT(S)

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

You are required to mail or hand deliver a copy of a written response to the Complaint to Andrew S. Sorrentino, the attorney for the Plaintiff whose address is 108 South President Street, Jackson, Mississippi 39201. Your response must be mailed or delivered within thirty (30) days form the date of delivery of this summons and motion or a judgment will be entered against you for the money or other things demanded in the complaint. You must also file the original of your response with the Clerk of this Court within a reasonable time afterward. Issued under my hand and official seal of said Court, this the 29th day of August, 2023.

MADISON COUNTY CHANCERY CLERK BY: /s/ Ronny Lott D.C. Ronny Lott

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF MADISON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

IN RE: ARSHDEEP SINGH , A MINOR CAUSE NO.: 2023-727B RAMANJEET SINGH, PETITIONER

RULE 81 SUMMONS

THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

TO: MANJIT KAUR WHEREABOUTS 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 8:30 AM on the 6th day of November 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

Public Notices

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 14th day of August 2023.

Ronny Lott Chancery Clerk, Madison County, Mississippi

SUBSTITUTED TRUSTEE'S NOTICE OF SALE

WHEREAS, on August 20, 2021, Radco Construction, LLC, a Mississippi limited liability company executed a Deed of Trust to Donald G. Griffin, Trustee for Community Bank of Mississippi, Beneficiary, which Deed of Trust was recorded in the office of the Chancery Clerk of Madison County, Mississippi in Instrument no. 934508 at Book 4090, Page 477; and,

WHEREAS, Community Bank of Mississippi, the present owner of the indebtedness and holder of the above described Deed of Trust, appointed Jeff D. Rawlings in the place and stead of Donald G. Griffin or any subsequently appointed substituted trustee, said Substitution of Trustee being recorded in the office of the Chancery Clerk of said County in Instrument no. 954353 at Book 4193, Page 219; and, WHEREAS, default having been made in the terms and conditions of said Deed of Trust and the entire debt secured thereby having been declared to be due and payable in accordance with the terms of said Deed of Trust, Community Bank of Mississippi, the legal holder of said indebtedness, having requested the undersigned Substituted Trustee to execute the trust and sell said land and property in accordance with the terms of said Deed of Trust and for the purpose of raising the sums due thereunder, together with attorney's fees, trustee's fees and expenses of sale. NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jeff D. Rawlings, Substituted Trustee in said Deed of Trust, will on the 15th day of September, 2023, offer for sale at public outcry and sell within legal hours (being between the hours of 11:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.), at the Front Door of the Madison County Courthouse, 128 W. North Street, Canton, Mississippi to the highest and best bidder for cash the following described property situated in Madison County, State of Mississippi, to-wit: Lots 1124 and 1125, Heron's Bay of Caroline, a subdivision according to a map or plat thereof which is on file and of record in the office of the Chancery Clerk of Madison County at Canton, Mississippi, in Plat Cabinet F, Slides 180A and 180B reference to which is hereby made in aid of and as a part of this description.

I WILL CONVEY only such title as is vested in me as Substituted Trustee. WITNESS MY SIGNATURE, this the 18th day of August, 2023.

/s/ Jeff D. Rawlings Jeff D. Rawlings, Substituted Trustee for Community Bank of Mississippi

Dates of Publication: August 24, 31, September 7, 14, 2023

Jeff Rawlings Rawlings & MacInnis P.O. Box 1789 Madison, Ms. 39130 601-898-1180

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF MADISON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF BERTIE REDELL WEEMS, DECEASED PROBATE NO. 2023-738W

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Letters Testamentary having been granted on the 26th day of July, 2023, by the Chancery Court of Madison County, Mississippi to the undersigned Co-Executors of the Estate of Bertie Redell Weems, 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 28th day of August, 2023.

Wendy Weems Pounds, Co-Executor of the Estate of Bertie Redell Weems, Deceased Tammy Weems Amis, Co-Executor of the Estate of Bertie Redell Weems, Deceased

Richard A. Courtney, MSB #7722 Philip A. Buchanan, MSB #102626 Attorneys for Executor COURTNEY ELDER LAW ASSOCIATES 7708 Old Canton Road, Suite B Madison, Mississippi 39110 Telephone: (601) 987-3000

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF MADISON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

IN THE MATTER OF THE ADJUDICATION OF THE STATUTORY WRONGFUL DEATH BENEFICIARIES OF WALKER ALLEN FIELDER, DECEASED CAUSE NO. 2023-796

SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI COUNTY OF MADISON

TO: THE UNKNOWN statutory WRONGFUL DEATH BENEFICIARIES OF WALKER ALLEN FIELDER, DECEASED

You have been made a Defendant in the suit filed in this Court seeking a determination of the statutory wrongful death beneficiaries of Walker Allen Fielder, Deceased. You are summoned to appear and defend against a Petition to Determine Statutory Wrongful Death Beneficiaries of Walker Allen Fielder deceased, in this action at 8:30 a.m. on October 23, 2023 in the Madison County Chancery Building in Canton, Mississippi, to show cause, if any you can, why Allison Butler Fielder, Edgar Allen Fielder, and Abby Elizabeth Fielder should not be declared the statutory wrongful death beneficiaries of Walker Allen Fielder, deceased, pursuant to Sections 11-7-13 and 91-1-27 of the Mississippi Code, and why such other relief as prayed for should not be granted. In case of your failure

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to appear and defend, a Decree or Order will be entered against you finding the above-named persons to be the statutory wrongful death beneficiaries of Walker Allen Fielder, deceased.

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 this Court this, the 25th day of August, 2023.

RONNY LOTT, Chancery Clerk Madison County, Mississippi BY: Rita Carpenter DEPUTY CLERK

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF MADISON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

IN THE MATTER OF THE ENLARGING, EXTENDING AND DEFINING THE CORPORATE LIMITS AND BOUNDARIES OF THE CITY OF GLUCKSTADT, MADISON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

CAUSE NO. 45CH1:23-cv-00726

CITY OF GLUCKSTADT, MISSISSIPPI PETITIONER

V. CITY OF MADISON, MISSISSIPPI CITY OF CANTON, MISSISSIPPI DEFENDANTS

NOTICE OF HEARING ON THE COMPLAINT IN THE NATURE OF A PETITION FOR RATIFICATION, APPROVAL AND CONFIRMATION OF AN ORDINANCE ENLARGING, EXTENDING AND DEFINING THE CORPORATE LIMITS AND BOUNDARIES OF THE CITY OF GLUCKSTADT, MADISON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

TO ALL PARTIES INTERESTED IN, AFFECTED BY OR HAVING OBJECTIONS TO, OR BEING AGGRIEVED BY THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED ORDINANCE:

Notice is hereby given under Miss. Code Ann. §§ 21-1-31 and 21-1-15 to all concerned that the Board of Aldermen of the City of Gluckstadt, Mississippi, did at a Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Board of Aldermen held on July 11, 2023, duly and legally adopt an Ordinance Enlarging, Extending and Defining the Corporate Limits and Boundaries of the said City of Gluckstadt, Madison County, Mississippi, a copy of said Ordinance being made a part hereof by reference, and which is available to the public for viewing at the Gluckstadt City Hall . A map of the proposed annexation areas is also available for public viewing at City Hall. And you and each of you concerned are hereby notified that the said City of Gluckstadt, Mississippi, has filed its Complaint in the Nature of a Petition in the Chancery Court of Madison County, Mississippi, praying that the aforesaid Ordinance be approved, ratified and confirmed by said Court. You are further hereby notified that the Chancery Court of Madison County, Mississippi, has set for hearing this cause upon the Complaint/Petition and Exhibits thereto at 8:45 o'clock a.m. on the 25 th day of September, 2023, at the Madison County Chancery Courthouse in Canton, Mississippi, and all persons interested in, affected by, or having objections to, or being aggrieved by said proposed enlargement and extension of the city limits and boundaries of said City of Gluckstadt, Mississippi, as proposed in said Ordinance, are hereby notified to appear at said hearing and present to the said Court your objections, if any, to the approval, ratification and confirmation of said Ordinance enlarging, extending and defining the corporate limits and boundaries of the said City of Gluckstadt, Mississippi. The Ordinance provides that, the City of Gluckstadt shall make the following improvements in said annexed territory to be completed within a reasonable time, not to exceed five (5) years from the effective date of the Ordinance, unless delayed by war or military preparedness:

- (a) Improve existing streets and drainage where necessary and economically feasible and legally permissible;
(b) Install or facilitate the installation of water lines, water service, sewage disposal lines and sewage treatment facilities where necessary and economically feasible and legally permissible;
(c) Install street lighting, where necessary and economically feasible and legally permissible;
(d) Said services shall be furnished in the same manner as such services are being furnished to the present citizens of the municipality where necessary and economically feasible and legally permissible.

The Ordinance further provides that the City of Gluckstadt shall furnish to the said annexed territory where legally permissible the following municipal and public services in the same manner and to the same extent as such services are being furnished to the present citizens of the municipality, such services being on the effective date of the Ordinance, to-wit:

- a) Police Protection;
b) Planning and Zoning;
c) Fire Protection;
d) Garbage removal;
e) Trash and other debris removal;
f) Animal Control;
g) Maintenance of existing streets, rights of way and drainage structures and facilities;
h) Code enforcement;
i) Building inspections and building code enforcement;
j) The right to exercise the ballot in municipal elections upon registering and meeting all statutory and, constitutional requirements and, if required, and the use and benefit of all other municipal services and facilities furnished by the City of Gluckstadt, Mississippi, to all of the present citizens of the municipality;
k) Engineering services;
l) Access to the City's social service programs.

A full description of the territory proposed to be incorporated, referred to as the proposed annexation area or "PAA," as required under Miss. Code Ann. § 21-1-15, follows. T he Ordinance provides that, Public convenience and necessity requiring the same, that the corporate boundaries and limits of the City of Gluckstadt,

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which lies Madison County, Mississippi, be and the same are hereby extended and enlarged so as to embrace the following adjacent unincorporated lands and territory in Madison County, Mississippi, to-wit:

CITY OF GLUCKSTADT PROPOSED CORPORATE LIMITS 2023 ANNEXATION AREA

Beginning at the point of intersection of the Western right-of-way line of Bozeman Road as now exists with the South boundary of Section 30, Township 8 North, Range 2 East, Madison County, Mississippi, said point being on the current City of Madison Corporate Limits, said point also being the POINT OF BEGINNING; run thence Northerly and Northeasterly along the Westerly right-of-way line of Bozeman Road to a point, said point being on the current City of Gluckstadt Corporate Limits; run thence East along the current City of Gluckstadt Corporate Limits to a point on the Southeastly right-of-way line of Bozeman Road; run thence Northeasterly along the Southeastly right-of-way line of Bozeman Road and along the current City of Gluckstadt Corporate Limits to the point of intersection with the Southerly right-of-way line of Gluckstadt Road and along the current City of Gluckstadt Corporate Limits to its point of intersection with the West Line of the East ½ of the East ½ of Section 30, Township 8 North, Range 2 East; thence run Southerly along the West Line of the East ½ of the East ½ of said Section 30 and along the current City of Gluckstadt Corporate Limits to the Southwest corner of the East ½ of the East ½ of said Section 30; run thence Easterly along the line between Sections 30 and 31, Sections 29 and 32, and Sections 28 and 33, all in Township 8 North, Range 2 East, and along the current City of Gluckstadt Corporate Limits to a point on the Westerly right-of-way of a railroad; run thence Southwesterly along the Western right-of-way line of said railroad and along the current City of Gluckstadt Corporate Limits to its point of intersection with a Northwesterly extension of the Northern boundary of that certain property conveyed by Quitclaim Deed from Elias H. Dabit to Ibrahim H. Dabit, as described in a deed recorded in Deed Book 2207 at Page 0539 thereof in the office of the Chancery Clerk of Madison County at Canton, Mississippi; run thence South 66° 27' 40" East to and along the Northern boundary of said Dabit property and along the current City of Gluckstadt Corporate Limits to a point on the Westerly right-of-way line of U.S. Highway 51; thence continue South 66° 27' 40" East and along the current City of Gluckstadt Corporate Limits to a point on the Easterly right-of-way line of U.S. Highway 51; run thence Southwesterly along the said Easterly right-of-way line of U.S. Highway 51 to a point, said point being the Southwest corner of that certain property conveyed by Warranty Deed from Twin Cedars Development, Inc. to First Independent Methodist Church of Madison, as described in a deed recorded in Deed Book 2167 at Page 0193 thereof in the office of the Chancery Clerk of Madison County at Canton, Mississippi; run thence Easterly along the South boundary of said Church property to a point on the East line of Section 33, Township 8 North, Range 2 East; run thence Southerly along the East line of said Section 33 to the Southeast corner of said Section 33 and the Southwest corner of Section 34, Township 8 North, Range 2 East, said point also being on the current City of Madison Corporate Limits; run thence Westerly along the South line of Sections 33 and 32, Township 8 North, Range 2 East, and along the current City of Madison Corporate Limits to the Southeast corner of Section 31, Township 8 North, Range 2 East; run thence Northerly along the East line of said Section 31 and along the current City of Madison Corporate Limits to its intersection with the West right-of-way line of Interstate 55; run thence Southwesterly along the said West right-of-way line of Interstate 55 and along the current City of Madison Corporate Limits to its intersection with the South line of Section 31, Township 8 North, Range 2 East; run thence Westerly along the South line of said Section 31 and along the current City of Madison Corporate Limits to the East right-of-way line of Bozeman Road; run thence Northerly along the said East right-of-way line of Bozeman Road and along the current City of Madison Corporate Limits to its intersection with the North boundary line of said Section 31; run thence Westerly along the North boundary line of said Section 31 to the West right-of-way line of Bozeman Road, said point being the POINT OF BEGINNING.

T he Ordinance further provides that the corporate boundaries and limits of the City of Gluckstadt, lying and being in Madison County, Mississippi, as enlarged, extended, and fixed by the Ordinance shall be as follows, to-wit: Commence at the NW corner of the South ½ of the NW ¼ of Section 15, Township 8 North, Range 2 East, Madison County, Mississippi; thence run Easterly along the North line of said South ½ of the NW ¼ of said Section 15 for a distance of 1,650 feet (25 chains); thence run Southerly along a line that is parallel to the West line of said Section 15 for a distance of 2,640 feet (40 chains), more or less, to a point on the South line of the North ½ of the SW ¼ of said Section 15, said point being the POINT OF BEGINNING, and lying on the corporate limits of the City of Canton; thence run Westerly along said South line of the North ½ of the Southwest ¼ of said Section 15 for a distance of 492 feet (7.45 chains) to a point; thence run Northerly along a line that is parallel to the West line of said Section 15 for a distance of 627 feet (9.5 chains) to a point; run thence Westerly along a line that is parallel to said south line of the North ½ of the Southwest ¼ of said Section 15 for a distance of 831 feet, more or less, to a point on the East boundary of the property conveyed to John Srite, et al, by Warranty Deed recorded in Deed Book 289 at Page 546 in the records of the Chancery Clerk of Madison County (Srite Property); run thence Northerly and Westerly along the East, Northeast and North boundaries of the Srite Property to the Northwest corner of the Srite Property on the East right-of-way line of Old Jack-

son Road; run thence due West to a point in Section 16, Township 8 North, Range 2 East that is on the West right-of-way line of said Old Jackson Road, as said West right-of-way line was established by the instrument recorded in Deed Book 496 at Page 016 in the records of the Chancery Clerk of Madison County; run thence Northerly along said West right-of-way line of Old Jackson Road to its intersection with the South right-of-way line of Sowell Road (a/k/a NeuMarkt Drive), as said South right-of-way line was established by the instrument recorded in Deed Book 532 at Page 299 in the records of the Chancery Clerk of Madison County; run thence Westerly along said South right-of-way line of Sowell Road (a/k/a NeuMarkt Drive) to its intersection with the East right-of-way line of Interstate Hwy. No. 55; run thence Southwesterly along said East right-of-way line of Interstate Hwy. No. 55 in said Section 16 to the intersection of said East right-of-way line of Interstate Hwy. No. 55 with the South line of said Section 16; thence run Westerly along the South line of said Section 16 to the intersection of said South line of said Section 16 with the West right-of-way line of Interstate Hwy. No. 55; continue thence Westerly along the South line of said Section 16 for a distance of 1,719.55 feet to a point; thence run in the West Half of Section 16, Township 8 North, Range 2 East, as follows: thence run North 00 degrees 01 minutes 24 seconds West for a distance of 46.21 feet to a point on the North right-of-way line of Church Road; continue thence North 00 degrees 01 minutes 24 seconds West for a distance of 432.30 feet to the point of curvature of a curve to the right subtending a central angle of 61 degrees 14 minutes 53 seconds and having a radius of 620.00 feet; thence run Northeastly along this curve to the right clockwise for an arc distance of 662.77 feet (chord bearing and distance: North 30 degrees 36 minutes 03 seconds East, 631.66 feet) to the point of tangency of this curve; thence run North 61 degrees 13 minutes 29 seconds East for a distance of 149.57 feet to a point on the West right-of-way line of Calhoun Station Parkway, said point being in a curve to the left subtending a central angle of 04 degrees 48 minutes 19 seconds and having a radius of 1,630.00 feet; thence run Northwestly along said West right-of-way line of Calhoun Station Parkway and along this curve to the left counterclockwise for an arc distance of 136.71 feet (chord bearing and distance: North 31 degrees 10 seconds 48 minutes West, 136.66 feet) to the point of tangency of this curve; thence run North 33 degrees 34 minutes 58 seconds West along said West right-of-way line of Calhoun Station Parkway for a distance of 365.46 feet to the point of curvature of a curve to the right subtending a central angle of 28 degrees 06 minutes 28 seconds and having a radius of 1,970.00 feet; thence run Northwestly along said West right-of-way line of Calhoun Station Parkway and along this curve to the right clockwise for an arc distance of 966.43 feet (chord bearing and distance: North 19 degrees 31 minutes 44 seconds West, 956.77 feet) to a point; leaving said West right-of-way line of Calhoun Station Parkway, thence run North 89 degrees 38 minutes 53 seconds West for a distance of 228.70 feet to a point; thence run North 00 degrees 21 minutes 07 seconds East for a distance of 160.00 feet to a point; thence run North 89 degrees 38 minutes 53 seconds West for a distance of 80.00 feet to a point; thence run North 00 degrees 21 minutes 07 seconds East for a distance of 40.00 feet to a point; thence run North 89 degrees 38 minutes 53 seconds West for a distance of 200.00 feet to a point; thence run North 00 degrees 21 minutes 07 seconds East for a distance of 815.91 feet to a point; thence run North 53 degrees 40 minutes 32 seconds East for a distance of 103.21 feet to a point on a curve to the right subtending a central angle of 32 degrees 51 minutes 29 seconds and having a radius of 340.00 feet; thence run along this curve clockwise for an arc distance of 194.98 feet (chord bearing and distance: North 19 degrees 14 minutes 41 seconds West, 192.32 feet) to a point; thence run North 75 degrees 41 minutes 34 seconds West for a distance of 376.33 feet to a point; thence run North 59 degrees 42 minutes 56 seconds West for a distance of 361.74 feet to a point; thence run North 89 degrees 54 minutes 13 seconds West for a distance of 44.70 feet to a point on the West line of Section 16, Township 8 North, Range 2 East, that is 3,909.36 feet North 00 degrees 05 minutes 47 seconds East of the Southwest corner of said Section 16; thence run North 00 degrees 05 minutes 47 seconds East along the West line of said Section 16 for a distance of 1,319.40 feet to a concrete monument marking the corner common to Sections 8, 9, 16 and 17, Township 8 North, Range 2 East; thence run Easterly along the South line of said Section 9 to the SW corner of the East ½ of the SE ¼ of said Section 9; thence run Northerly along the West line of the East ½ of the SE ¼ of said Section 9 to the NW corner of the East ½ of the SE ¼ of said Section 9; thence, leaving the corporate limits of the City of Canton, run Northerly along the West line of the East ½ of the NE ¼ of said Section 9 to a point on the North right-of-way of Stout Road; thence run Westerly and following along the North right-of-way of said Stout Road to its point of intersection with the West line of Section 8, Township 8 North, Range 2 East; thence run Southerly along the West line of said Section 8 to the SW corner of said Section 8; thence run Easterly to the NW corner of lot 140 of Grayhawk Part Three-A Subdivision as shown on the plat thereof as recorded in the land records in the office of the Chancery Clerk for Madison County, Mississippi in Plat Cabinet E at page 147B; thence following along the East boundary of said Grayhawk Part Two-B run South 00 degrees 21 minutes 02 seconds East a distance of 947.76 feet to the SE corner of lot 131 of said Grayhawk Part Three-A, said point also being the NE corner of lot 124 of Grayhawk Part Two-B Subdivision as shown on the plat thereof as recorded in the land records in the office of the Chancery Clerk for Madison County, Mississippi in Plat Cabinet E at page 147B; thence following along the East boundary of said Grayhawk Part Two-B run South 00 degrees 21 minutes 02 seconds East a

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# Bear Creek offers tips on conserving water

By JOHN LEE  
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The Bear Creek Water Association is advising customers to be aware of water usage due to the recent lack of rain and high temperatures.

Bear Creek General Manager Nolan Williamson said he is not asking customers to stop using water, but that they should be aware of their water usage when doing things like watering their lawns.

“When people use more water while doing things like watering their yards, our water wells go up,” Williamson said. “We all need to make sure we’re not overwatering and being wasteful. To be specific, make sure your sprinkler heads aren’t watering your driveway or the pavement, and if you’re watering your yard three days a week, see if you can cut it down to two days a week.”

Williamson said relief usually comes after a week or two

during a drought, but due to the lack of rain not bringing relief, recent high water usage can cause wear and tear on equipment.

“We just want people to be mindful and only water when necessary,” Williamson said. “Any wear and tear on the system eventually comes back on the customer. Be aware and use water wisely. I know places like Madison and Florence have sent out similar alerts.”

Along with using less water

on lawns, Bear Creek has various other water conservation tactics such as:

- Using a water bucket and hose shut off when washing a vehicle.
- Using a blower or broom to clear debris from driveways and sidewalks.
- Repairing or redirecting sprinkler heads to avoid watering sidewalks and streets.
- Only running a dishwasher with a full load of dishes.
- Watering the lawn in the

morning or late evening when there is less evaporation.

- Washing full loads of clothes only.
- Using the short wash cycle on your washer if clothes are not heavily soiled.
- Turning the water off while brushing teeth.
- Taking shorter showers and only using a necessary amount of water.
- Never using the toilet to dispose of trash.
- Replacing a showerhead

with a more water efficient model.

- Fixing leaky toilets, drippy faucets and other water wasters.
- Not leave the water running when not in use.
- Dry scraping dishes instead of rinsing.
- Choose native grasses and plants that require less water when planting.

For more information about Bear Creek, visit their website at bcwaters.org.

# Madison man sentenced to 25 years for standoff

By DUNCAN DENT  
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MADISON — A Madison County man was sentenced to 25 years in prison for his involvement in a July 29 standoff at Cypress Lake.

The man, Brandon Bly, 23, was sentenced to 25 years to serve in the custody of the Mississippi Department of Corrections for aggravated assault and a probation violation, according to District Attorney Bubba

Bramlett.

“Mr. Bly is a familiar face to the Madison County criminal justice system,” Bramlett said. “While only twenty-six years old, he has been to prison before, and the thirteen years that were hanging over his head were basically putting the ball in his court to do right. He didn’t, and he ended up back in our court. He will now serve those thirteen years and then serve an additional twelve years for this most recent incident.”

On the morning of July 29, law enforcement officials were dispatched to the Cypress Lake subdivision in Madison. Reports of a man assaulting a woman outside of a residence were confirmed upon the officers’ arrival.

The female victim had clearly been beaten, suffering multiple and serious injuries, officials said.



Brandon Bly

Bly had administered the beating and officers began attempts to contact Bly while rendering medical aid to the victim.

Bramlett said Bly had barricaded himself, along with Bly’s four-year-old nephew, inside the residence to which officers had responded. Bly refused to cooperate for approximately three hours, after which he was

taken into custody without further incident.

The four-year-old child was unharmed during the standoff.

“Our office commends the quick, professional and coordinated response of the Madison Police Department, the Madison County Sheriff’s Department, and the Ridgeland Police Department to this violent and volatile crime scene,” Bramlett said. “They brought about a peaceful resolution without further incident.”

Thirteen days later, on Aug. 11, the District Attorney’s Office brought Brandon Bly before Circuit Judge Dewey Arthur on a revocation hearing and guilty plea to a Bill of Information.

Bly was sentenced to 13 years for violating the terms of his probation for a previous house burglary conviction, and 12 years to serve consecutively for the July 29 aggravated domestic violence charge.

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distance of 668.17 feet; thence continuing along the East boundary of said Grayhawk Part Two-B run South 00 degrees 00 minutes 30 seconds East a distance of 660.26 feet to the SE corner of lot 110 of said Grayhawk Part Two-B, said point also being the easternmost corner of lot 379 of Grayhawk Part One-A Subdivision as shown on the plat thereof as recorded in the land records in the office of the Chancery Clerk for Madison County, Mississippi in Plat Cabinet E at page 134B; thence following along the East boundary of said Grayhawk Part One-A run South 00 degrees 00 minutes 30 seconds East a distance of 254.74 feet; thence continuing along the SE boundary of said Grayhawk Part One-A run South 39 degrees 00 minutes 02 seconds West a distance of 475.38 feet to a point; thence following along the boundary of Grayhawk Part One Subdivision as shown on the plat thereof as recorded in the land records in the office of the Chancery Clerk for Madison County, Mississippi in Plat Cabinet E at page 105B run South 24 degrees 57 minutes 41 seconds West a distance of 60.00 feet to a point; thence following along the boundary of said Grayhawk Part One run South 65 degrees 02 minutes 19 seconds East a distance of 126.76 feet to a point; thence continuing along the boundary of said Grayhawk Part One run South 21 degrees 40 minutes 53 seconds West a distance of 611.30 feet to a point; thence leaving said Grayhawk Part One and following along the South boundary of Germantown, Part III Subdivision as shown on the plat thereof as recorded in the land records in the office of the Chancery Clerk for Madison County, Mississippi in Plat Cabinet D at page 3 run South 70 degrees 31 minutes 32 seconds East a distance of 217.29 feet to a point; thence South 64 degrees 12 minutes 31 seconds East a distance of 216.60 feet to a point; thence South 65 degrees 28 minutes 08 seconds East a distance of 219.98 feet to a point; thence South 70 degrees 00 minutes 34 seconds East a distance of 215.57 feet to a point; thence South 82 degrees 32 minutes 34 seconds East a distance of 263.63 feet to the Southeast corner of lot 64 of said Germantown, Part III Subdivision, said point also lying in common with an Eastern boundary of Timber Ridge of Wellington Part Three-A Subdivision as shown on the plat thereof as recorded in the land records in the office of the Chancery Clerk for Madison County, Mississippi in Plat Cabinet E at page 177B; then following along the Eastern boundary of said Timber Ridge of Wellington run South 16 degrees 01 minutes 34 seconds West for 8.95 feet; thence run Southwesterly along the arc of a curve to the left having a radius of 50.00 feet, a delta angle of 168 degrees 32 minutes 10 seconds, a chord bearing of South 15 degrees 08 minutes 18 seconds East, a chord length of 99.50 feet, and an arc length of 147.08 feet, for a distance of 147.08 feet to a point; thence run South 00 degrees 03 minutes 15 seconds East for 377.78 feet to a point; thence run South 89 degrees 50 minutes 16 seconds West for 249.83 feet to a point; thence run South 00 degrees 02 minutes 35 seconds East for 853.71 feet to a point on the Southeast corner of a common area within said Timber Ridge of Wellington; thence run due South to a point on the South right-of-way of Stripling Road (aka Stripling Road Extension), said point also lying on the North boundary of Northwind of Wellington Part Two-A Subdivision as shown on the plat thereof as recorded in the land records in the office of the Chancery Clerk for Madison County, Mississippi in Plat Cabinet E at page 163A; thence run Easterly along the North boundary of said Northwind of Wellington Part Two-A Subdivision to the Northeast corner thereof; thence following along the East boundary of said Northwind of Wellington Part Two-A run South 00 degrees 16 minutes 26 seconds West a distance of 1,495.05 feet to the Southeast corner of said Northwind of Wellington Part Two-A, said point also being the Northeast corner of the Wellington Part One-A Subdivision as shown on the plat thereof as recorded in the land records in the office of the Chancery Clerk for Madison County, Mississippi in Plat Cabinet E at page 107A; thence following along the East boundary of said Wellington Part One-A run South 00 degrees 16 minutes 26 seconds West a distance of 1,063.02 feet to a point; thence run Westerly to the Northeast corner of Lot 146 of Ridgefield Part Five Subdivision as shown on the plat thereof as recorded in the land records in the office of the Chancery Clerk for Madison County, Missis-

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sippi in Plat Cabinet E at page 64B; thence following along the North boundary of said Ridgefield Part Five run South 89 degrees 30 minutes 38 seconds West for 333.72 feet to a point; thence run South 89 degrees 30 minutes 38 seconds West for 15.00 feet to a point on the Northeast corner of Ridgefield Part Four Subdivision as shown on the plat thereof as recorded in the land records in the office of the Chancery Clerk for Madison County, Mississippi in Plat Cabinet E at page 15A; thence following along the North boundary of said Ridgefield Part Four run South 89 degrees 30 minutes 38 seconds West for 1420.01 feet to a point; thence run South 00 degrees 15 minutes 21 seconds East for 3.52 feet to a point; thence run South 89 degrees 48 minutes 00 seconds West for 45.94 feet to the Northwest corner of said Ridgefield Part Four Subdivision, said point also being the Northeast corner of lot 59 of the Ridgefield Part Two Subdivision as shown on the plat thereof as recorded in the land records in the office of the Chancery Clerk for Madison County, Mississippi in Plat Cabinet D at page 124; thence along the North boundary of said Ridgefield Part Two run South 89 degrees 48 minutes 00 seconds West for 690.13 feet to a point; thence along the West boundary of said Ridgefield Part Two run South 00 degrees 24 minutes 49 seconds East for 335.91 feet to a point; thence run South 00 degrees 06 minutes 26 seconds East for 621.00 feet to the Southwest corner of lot 18 of said Ridgefield Part Two; thence run Southerly to a point on the Southeast corner of that certain parcel conveyed from Lucky Town Acres, L.P. to Stillhouse Creek, LLC as shown on the Warranty Deed as recorded in the land records in the office of the Chancery Clerk for Madison County, Mississippi in book 2739 at page 977; thence along the South boundary of said Stillhouse Creek, LLC property run South 89 degrees 53 minutes 06 seconds West for 1,241.85 feet; thence along the West boundary of said Stillhouse Creek, LLC property run North 00 degrees 14 minutes 02 seconds East for 1,096.74 feet to a point on the Northwest corner of said property; thence run Westerly to the Southeast corner of lot 72 of Stillhouse Creek, Phase 2 Subdivision as shown on the plat thereof as recorded in the land records in the office of the Chancery Clerk for Madison County, Mississippi in Plat Cabinet E at page 110B; thence run North 89 degrees 46 minutes 03 seconds West for 186.6 feet to a point; thence run North 01 degrees 39 minutes 00 seconds East for 168.36 feet to a point; thence run North 01 degrees 39 minutes 00 seconds East for 34.92 feet to a point; thence run North 89 degrees 45 minutes 00 seconds West for 409.20 feet to a point; thence run North 00 degrees 15 minutes 00 seconds East for 12.49 feet to a point; thence run North 89 degrees 45 minutes 00 seconds West for 150.00 feet; thence run South 00 degrees 15 minutes 00 seconds West for 7.43 feet; thence run North 89 degrees 45 minutes 00 seconds West to a point on the Easterly right-of-way of Catlett Road; thence run due West to a point on the West line of Section 19, Township 8 North, Range 2 East; thence run Southerly along the West line of said Section 19 to the SW corner of said Section 19, said corner also being the NW corner of Section 30, Township 8 North, Range 2 East; thence run Southerly along the West line of said Section 30 to a point lying 3,304.5 feet due North of the SW corner of said Section 30; thence run due East for 1,306.57 feet to a point; thence run South 00 degrees 39 minutes 50 seconds West to a point on the Northwesterly right-of-way line of Bozeman Road; thence run Southwesterly and Southerly along the Northwesterly and Westerly right-of-way line of Bozeman Road to its intersection with the North line of Section 31, Township 8 North, Range 2 East and the present corporate limits of the City of Madison, Mississippi; thence run Easterly along the North line of said Section 31 and along the present corporate limits of said City of Madison to a point on the Easterly right-of-way of Bozeman Road; thence run Southerly along the Easterly right-of-way of Bozeman Road and along the present corporate limits of said City of Madison to the South line of said Section 31; thence run Easterly along the South line of said Section 31 and along the present corporate limits of said City of Madison to the Westerly right-of-way of Interstate 55; thence run Northeasterly along the Westerly right-of-way of Interstate 55 and along the present corporate limits of said City of Madison to the East line of said Section 31;

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thence run Southerly along the East line of said Section 31 and along the present corporate limits of said City of Madison to the Southeast corner of said Section 31, said point also being the Southwest corner of Section 32, Township 8 North, Range 2 East; thence run Easterly along the South line of Sections 32 and 33, Township 8 North, Range 2 East and also along the present corporate limits of said City of Madison to the Southeast corner of said Section 33; thence leaving the present corporate limits of the City of Madison, Mississippi run Northerly along the East line of said Section 33 to its intersection with the South boundary of that certain property conveyed by Warranty Deed from Twin Cedars Development, Inc. to First Independent Methodist Church of Madison, as described in a deed recorded in Deed Book 2167 at Page 0193 thereof in the office of the Chancery Clerk of Madison County at Canton, Mississippi; thence run Westerly along the South boundary of said First Independent Methodist Church property to a point on the Easterly right-of-way of U. S. Highway 51; thence run North-easterly along the Easterly right-of-way of said U.S. Highway 51 to the Northwest corner of Lot 10 of Wildwood Subdivision as recorded in Plat Cabinet D, Slides 97 and 98 in the land records maintained by the Chancery Clerk for Madison County, Mississippi; thence, following along the boundary of said Wildwood subdivision, run South 70 degrees 26 minutes 25 seconds East a distance of 493.19 feet; thence run North 15 degrees 42 minutes 22 seconds East a distance of 437.20 feet; thence run North 11 degrees 37 minutes 02 seconds East a distance of 148.26 feet; thence run North 89 degrees 44 minutes 18 seconds East a distance of 459.38 feet; thence run South 88 degrees 49 minutes 41 seconds East a distance of 661.28 feet to the Northeast corner of Lot 25 of said Wildwood subdivision, said corner also being the Northwest corner of Lot 99A of Twin Cedars Phase III subdivision as recorded in Plat Cabinet D Slide 56 in the land records maintained by the Chancery Clerk for Madison County, Mississippi; thence, following along the boundary of said Twin Cedars Phase III, run North 89 degrees 17 minutes 48 seconds East a distance of 119.11 feet; thence run North 89 degrees 16 minutes 37 seconds East a distance of 374.62 feet; thence run North 89 degrees 07 minutes 45 seconds East a distance of 236.31 feet; thence run North 89 degrees 12 minutes 03 seconds East a distance of 221.49 feet; thence run North 88 degrees 30 minutes 20 seconds East a distance of 372.77 feet to the Northeast corner of Lot 96 of said Twin Cedars Phase III; thence run South 89 degrees 06 minutes 00 seconds East to a point on the Easterly right-of-way line of Clarkdell Road; thence run Northerly along the Easterly right-of-way of said Clarkdell Road to its point of intersection with the Southerly right-of-way of Yandell Road; thence run Easterly along the Southerly right-of-way of said Yandell Road to a point lying due South of the Southeast corner of “The Doraleen Miller Morrison Revocable Trust” property conveyed by Quit Claim Deed recorded in Book 440 at Page 470 in the records of the Chancery Clerk of Madison County (Morrison Property); thence run due North to and along the East line of said Morrison Property to its point of intersection with the North line of the South ½ of Section 23, Township 8 North, Range 2 East; thence run Westerly along the North line of the South ½ of said Section 23 to the West line of said Section 23; thence run Southerly along the West line of said Section 23, said line also being the East line of Section 22, Township 8 North, Range 2 East, to the Northeast corner of the South ½ of the North ½ of the NE ¼ of the SE ¼ of said Section 22; thence run Westerly along the North line of the South ½ of the North ½ of the NE ¼ of the SE ¼ of said Section 22 to the Northwest corner of the South ½ of the North ½ of the NE ¼ of the SE ¼ of said Section 22; thence run due North a distance of 512.02 feet to a point; thence run North 69 degrees 15 minutes 23 seconds West to a point on the Easterly right-of-way line of U.S. Highway 51; thence run Northeasterly and along the Easterly right-of-way line of said U.S. Highway 51 to a point on the Northerly right-of-way of Sowell Road (aka East Sowell Road); thence run Westerly to and along the Northerly right-of-way of Sowell Road (aka West Sowell Road) to its intersection with the East line of that property conveyed by Warranty Deed from Michael W. Ulmer and Nancy L. Ulmer to High

## Public Notices

Hopes Farm, LLC as recorded in Book 2799 at Page 223 in the records of the Chancery Clerk of Madison County (High Hopes property); thence run Northerly and along the East boundary of said High Hopes property for 600 feet; thence run due West to a point lying due North of the Northeast corner of that portion of the Canton Corporate limits lying in Section 15, Township 8 North, Range 2 East; thence run due South to the said Northeast corner of that portion of the Canton Corporate limits lying in said Section 15; thence following along the Corporate Limits of the City of Canton run Southerly along a line that is parallel to the West line of said Section 15 for a distance of 2,640 feet (40 chains), more or less, to a point on the South line of the North ½ of the SW ¼ of said Section 15, said point being the POINT OF BEGINNING.

Given under my hand and seal of office this, the 27 th day of July 2023.

**RONNY LOTT,  
MADISON COUNTY CHANCERY  
CLERK**

By:     /s/ Kelsey Rodriguez      
Deputy Clerk

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF  
MADISON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF  
STELLA WOLOSIN, DECEASED  
PROBATE NO. 2023-821 W

## NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Letters Testamentary having been granted on the 17th day of August, 2023, by the Chancery Court of Madison County, Mississippi to the undersigned Executor of the Estate of Stella Wolosin, 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 21st day of August, 2023.

Linda C. Macksoud, Executor of the Estate of Stella Wolosin, Deceased

Philip A. Buchanan MSB #102626  
Attorney for Executor  
COURTNEY ELDER LAW  
ASSOCIATES  
7708 Old Canton Road, Suite B  
Madison, Mississippi 39110  
Telephone: (601) 987-3000

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF  
MADISON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

IN THE MATTER OF  
THE APPOINTMENT OF A GUARDIAN FOR  
MATEO TOMAS BALTAZAR,  
A MINOR  
CAUSE NO: 23-847  
FLORINDA BALTAZAR  
PETITIONER

**RULE 81 SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION**

THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI  
COUNTY OF MADISON

**TO: Respondents Pascual Tomas Baltazar and Juana Baltazar Tomas , non-residents of the State of Mississippi, or not to be found therein, and whose residence, post office, and street address is unknown to Petitioner after diligent search and inquiry:**

You have been made Respondents in the suit filed in this Court by Florida Baltazar Tomas , Petitioner herein, seeking appointment as Guardian for Mateo Tomas Baltazar, a minor. There are no other Respondents other than yourself. You are summoned to appear and defend against the Petition filed against you in this action at 9:00 AM on the 2 nd day of November, 2023, at the Yazoo County Courthouse, located in 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 11th day of August, 2023.

Hon. Ronny Lott, Madison County Chancery Clerk

## Public Notices

BY Rita Carpenter, D.C.  
Requested By:

John B. Hunt, IV, MSB#103847  
Hunt Law Firm, PLLC  
1640 Lelia Dr., Ste. 105  
Jackson, MS 39216  
Tel: 601-214-3211  
email: jack@jbhlegal.com

## NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Letters of Administration having been granted on the 21st day of March, 2023, by the Chancery Court of Madison County, Mississippi, in Cause No. 2023-119C, to Jim Howard Still, Sr. upon the estate of Karen Payne Still, deceased, notice is hereby given to all persons having claims against said estate to present same to the Clerk of said Court for probate and registration according to law within ninety (90) days from the date of the first publication of this notice, or they will be forever barred. This 21st day of March, 2023.

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF  
MADISON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

IN THE MATTER OF THE LAST WILL  
AND TESTAMENT AND ESTATE OF  
RICHARD GEORGE GRAY,  
DECEASED CAUSE NO. 23-693W

## NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Letters Testamentary having been granted on the 19th day of July, 2023, by the Chancery Court of Madison County, Mississippi, to the undersigned, upon the Estate of Richard George Gray, Deceased, in Cause No. 23-693W, Notice is hereby given to all persons having claims against said estate to present the same to the Clerk of said Court for probate and registration according to law within 90 days from first date of publication, or they will be forever barred.  
This, the 15th day of August, 2023.

/s/ Marrice A. Biggers

Marrice A. Biggers, Executrix of The Last Will and Testament and Estate of Richard George Gray, Deceased

Scheduled Publication:  
8-24-2023  
8-31-2023  
9-7-2023

PREPARED BY:

/s/ Vateria M. Martin  
Vateria M. Martin, Esq.  
(MSB No. 101235)  
MARTIN and MARTIN, PA  
228 East Capitol Street  
Jackson, Mississippi 39201  
Telephone: (601) 355-0955  
Facsimile: (601) 355-0957  
E-Mail: VMMartin@4MartinsAtLaw.com

Notice of sale is hereby given in accordance with the Mississippi

Statutes governing the sale of abandoned motor vehicles for the

following: 2000 MERCEDES ML, VIN #

4JGAB54E4YA167478, \$ 2755.25.  
Public sale of this

abandoned/unclaimed vehicle and its contents will be held on

Friday August 25, 2023 at Big Byrd Towing LLC located at 120 E. State St. Ridgeland, MS 39157 at 10:00 A.M.

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF  
MADISON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

IN RE: ARSHDEEP SINGH , A MINOR  
CAUSE NO.: 2023-727B  
RAMANJEET SINGH, PETITIONER

## RULE 81 SUMMONS

THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

**TO: LAKHVIR SINGH  
WHEREABOUTS 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 **8:30 AM** on the **6th day of November 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

## Public Notices

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 14th day of August 2023.

Ronny Lott  
Chancery Clerk,  
Madison County, Mississippi

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF  
MADISON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE  
OF  
ROBERT C. BERTOLET, DECEASED  
CAUSE NO.  
23-588-C

## NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Letters Testamentary having been granted on June 21, 2023, by the Chancery Court of Madison County, Mississippi to the undersigned Executor of the Estate of Robert C. Bertolet, 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 90 days after the date of the first publication of this notice or they will forever be barred.

This the 31st day of August, 2023.

Robert Todd Bertolet  
Executor of the Estate of Robert C. Bertolet, Deceased

Ian Austin (MSB #104584)  
Copeland, Cook, Taylor & Bush, P.A.  
P.O. Box 6020  
Ridgeland, MS 39158  
Telephone 601-856-7200

Notice of sale is hereby given in accordance with the Mississippi Statutes governing the sale of abandoned motor vehicles for the following: 2002 BUICK REGAL, VIN # 2G4WB55K621275659, \$2782.00. Public sale of this abandoned/unclaimed vehicle and its contents will be held on Friday September 8, 2023 at 10:00 A.M. at Gilmore Towing & Recovery, 124 E. State Street, Ridgeland, MS 39157.

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF  
MADISON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

IN RE: MEHTAB SINGH, A MINOR  
CAUSE NO.: 23-686  
SEWA SINGH, PETITIONER  
RULE 81 SUMMONS

THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

**TO: HAWINDER SINGH  
WHEREABOUTS 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 have been made a Respondent in the suit filed in this Court by Jasvir Kaur, Petitioner, seeking custody of your biological child, Mehtab Singh, a seven (7) year old unmarried male . **YOU ARE SUMMONED** to appear and defend against said Complaint at **1:00 PM** on the **10th day of October 2023** , at the courthouse at the **Chancery Court of Madison County** , located at **146 W Center Street, Canton, Mississippi 39046**, Before the **Honorable Judge James C. Walker, Chancellor** 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 3rd day of August 2023.

Ronny Lott  
Chancery Clerk,  
Madison County, Mississippi

# Madison actress lead in New Stage production

By JOHN LEE  
john@onlinemadison.com

Madison's Sarah Beth Solop says she relates highly to her role in New Stage's upcoming production of "Lend Me a Soprano" since she is not an opera singer, and the main character barely knows opera.

"I am terrified but also excited to put myself front and center vocally," Solop said. "In this play, the character I play has barely any experience with opera, and that's exactly how I am. I'm barely a singer, and now I have to sing opera in front of people. It's fun to relate to the character in that way."

Solop grew up in Madison and graduated from Jackson Prep. She has lived in places like New York and Los Angeles

and moved back to Madison in 2016 with her husband Harper and three children, Ava, Wilder and Sterling. She is also a graduate of the University of Cincinnati CCM Drama school, and runs her own comedy Instagram account, "theeveryromcomgirl."

"We absolutely love being in Madison," Solop said. "It's beautiful and is a perfect community to raise your children in."

"Lend Me a Soprano" is set in 1934, when the clever and combustible Lucille Wiley, manager of the Cleveland Grand Opera Company, is ready to welcome world-class soprano Elena Firenzi for her one-night-only starring role in Carmen. Elena arrives late, and her husband Pasquale has a fit



Sarah Beth Solop

of jealousy. It remains to be seen whether Mrs. Wiley's assistant Jo can save the day.

The play is based on "Lend

Me a Tenor," written by Ken Ludwig. In this version, the roles are reversed and the women take the lead in what is described as a "screwball comedy guaranteed to leave audiences teary-eyed with laughter."

Solop, who plays Lucille Wiley's assistant Jo, said she wanted to take the role since comedy is her wheelhouse.

"The director, Francine Thomas Reynolds, was actually my high school drama teacher and I remember her telling me acting is something I could do professionally," Solop said. "She was the first one to believe in me for that, and it's fun to come full circle with her in this way."

Solop describes the show as high energy and a great event for date night.

"Lend Me a Soprano" opens Season 58 at New Stage and runs from Sep. 12 through Sep. 24. Performances are Tuesdays through Sundays at 7 p.m. and 2 p.m. on Sunday.

Artistic Director Francine Thomas Reynolds said New Stage is really leaning into fun for Season 58.

"I am delighted that New Stage is one of the first regional theatres to premiere 'Lend Me a Soprano' by Ken Ludwig, after its first staging at the Alley Theatre in Houston," Reynolds said. "Ludwig has written a very funny play balancing farce, wit, and heart expertly. The cast and company assembled for Lend Me a Soprano is top rate and perfectly poised to deliver the laughs!"

Along with Solop as Jo, the

cast includes Jo Ann Robinson as Mrs. Wylie (Pearl), Michael Kinslow as Jerry (Jackson), Joe Frost as Pasquale (Jackson), Annie Gill as Elena (Baltimore), Jack Baugh as Leo (New York), Marquita Levy as Beverly the Belhop (Brandon), and Viola Dacus as Julia. (Clinton).

"Lend Me a Soprano" performances are September 12-24, 2023. Ticket prices are \$35.00 with discounts available for students, senior citizens, military, and groups. Tickets can be purchased at the box office, charged by phone by calling the theatre at (601) 948-3533, or ordered online at [www.newstagetheatre.com](http://www.newstagetheatre.com).

New Stage is located at 1100 Carlisle Street in the Belhaven neighborhood of Jackson.



## Beautification Committee meets

The Keep Madison the City Beautification Committee met recently to discuss, plan, and budget for the 2024 calendar year. Seated, from left: Kim Moore, Lanelle Fincher, and Gary Tolbert, Landscape Contract Inspector. Back row from left: Allen Hoops, Environmental and Design; Lois Cooper, and Tona Becker.



## Garden Club meets

Northbay-Madison Garden Club met recently for the August meeting. A large crowd was in attendance. Carole Bullard, left, presented the program. Pictured with her is Paula Howard, Garden Club president. Mrs. Bullard has served in many capacities in The Garden Clubs of Mississippi, Inc. and served as the GCM State President for the 2003-2005 administration. She is an NGC Master Flower Show Judge. She presented a program on "Bingeing on Begonias." She said that there are over 2000 species of Begonias. They come from the Tropics, Subtropics, and Asia. She brought many varieties of Begonias to showcase to the Garden Club. It was reported that Yearbooks will be ready at the September meeting.

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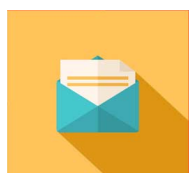


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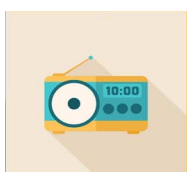
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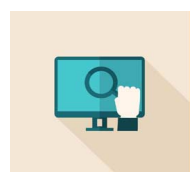
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**"NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PROPOSED BUDGET AND PROPOSED TAX LEVIES FOR THE UPCOMING FISCAL YEAR FOR THE CITY OF CANTON"**

The City of Canton will hold a public hearing on its proposed budget and proposed tax levies for fiscal year 2024 on Thursday, September 7, 4:30 PM at Canton Multipurpose Complex. The City of Canton is now operating projected total budget revenue of \$13M. (49.6 percent) or \$6.42M of such revenue is obtained through ad valorem taxes. For the next fiscal year, the proposed budget has total projected revenue of \$13.8. Of that amount, (52.6 percent) or \$7.26M, is proposed to be financed through a total ad valorem tax levy. The decision to not increase the ad valorem tax millage rate for fiscal year 2023 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 fiscal year 2024. Any citizen of The City of Canton 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.







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

— Proverbs 27:1 (ESV)



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“For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.”

— John 3:16 (NIV)



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

**Godly prayer**

In this passage, Daniel 9:1-6, we are shown the elements of a godly prayer. Daniel knows the time for the fulfillment of the prophet Jeremiah’s words concerning the return of the Jews to Jerusalem is near (verses 1-2).

So Daniel “sets his face to the Lord God.” This means Daniel is wholehearted in prayer. Wholeheartedness in prayer is always accompanied with contrition and pleas for mercy (verse 3). The fact that God had promised to return the Jews to Jerusalem prompted godly Daniel to pray intensely. Daniel knew God was their only hope and that God was able to do it.

This also is connected to wholehearted prayer. You can test your spiritual life in this. We have learned that Daniel prayed regularly. Is this the case with you? The Puritans had a saying: “What a man is in secret on his knees before God is what he is, and no more.” Daniel had faith that God would give that which was according to His will. He was not casual entering into the presence of God. He went with a sense of purpose and the importance of this blessing.

Another element in Daniel’s prayer was his adoration of God (verse 4). Daniel “made confession,” meaning he affirmed truth about God. First he says, “the great and awesome” God. The word “awesome” in our current use can mean something as trivial as fixing a light switch. So awesome is not a helpful translation. This word means “fear.” The King James translates it “dreadful.”

There are two kinds of fear associated with this word. One is a great fear of imminent disaster or harm to your being. Isaiah’s words in the presence of God, “I am undone,” are an example of this fear. The other type of fear connected to the word is a trembling, but with awe and deep admiration of the living God. Isaiah had this kind of fear after God atoned for his sin. Daniel has this kind of fear when he approaches God in prayer.

Have you ever known these types of fear connected to God? It is important to consider these matters. All men are destined to experience this fear in one of the two ways. Many will experience this fear when they have to appear before Christ and are cast

away in judgment. Others who know Christ live before God in fear, meaning a deep awe and admiration of God accompanied by thanksgiving.

Daniel pours out more adoration of God by confessing that God “keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love him and keep his commandments.” Covenant and steadfast love are the two promises of God that are the consolation of the people of God. Covenant means the promise of God to have them as His people. Steadfast love means the mercy associated with God’s promise. It is wholly gratuitous, but its fruit is love to God and purpose to do His will.

So Daniel’s confession is that God is both fearful and faithful; both great and good. This, then, is how we come to God in spirit and truth. We are taught by the Lord Jesus to ask anything in His name, because Christ makes us acceptable to God through His atoning work on the cross. We come in Christ’s name to an expectant Father when we pray.

Another thing we see in Daniel’s prayer is heartfelt contrition and confession of sin (verse 5). Daniel includes himself in the sins of Israel against God. He does not make any excuses. He says, “We have sinned and done wrong and acted wickedly and rebelled, turning aside from your commandment and rules. We have not listened to your servants the prophets.”

Have you ever prayed this way to the Lord about your own sins? Charles Hodge said, “Conviction of sin is the greatest conviction we can have.” We have to make a practice of openly admitting our sins to the Lord. The good news is implicit here. Daniel is open and truthful about his sin before the Lord because he knows how merciful the Lord is. The Lord pities a contrite heart.

There is much more in this prayer offered to God by godly Daniel. I encourage you to follow its example. Daniel confessed guilt before God, he knew God’s grace and praised God for it, and he was full of gratitude and zeal for God’s name. He cared about the people of God. If we pursue these same ends, the Lord will enable us to live according to our prayers.




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“Commit your work to the Lord, and your plans will be established.”

— Proverbs 16:3 (ESV)



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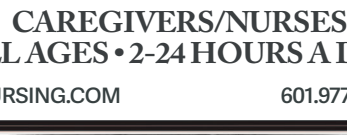
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— 1 Corinthians 16:14 (ESV)



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— 1 Peter 3:8 (ESV)

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11 11:15 YOGA 1:00 Bunco St. Catherine's Village, sponsor	12 9:00 Therapeutic Chair Stretch 10:00 Cardio Blast 11:00 Line Dancing	13 9:00 YOGALATES 10:30 am Canasta	14 9:00 Therapeutic Chair Stretch 10:00 Cardio Blast 1:00 Bridge	15
18 11:15 YOGA	19 9:00 Therapeutic Chair Stretch 10:00 Cardio Blast 11:00 Line Dancing	20 9:00 YOGALATES 10:30 am Canasta	21 9:00 Therapeutic Chair Stretch 10:00 Cardio Blast	22
25 11:15 YOGA	26 9:00 Therapeutic Chair Stretch 10:00 Cardio Blast 11:00 Line Dancing	27 9:00 YOGALATES	28 9:00 Therapeutic Chair Stretch 10:00 Cardio Blast 1:00 Bridge	29

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