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www.BoltonMS.com

The Bolton News

Bolton voters went to the polls on June 8 to select the Mayor and Aldermen to lead their municipal government for the next four years.

In the Mayor's race, incumbent Lawrence Butler, who ran as an Independent, was re-elected with 161 votes (82%). Challenger LaMon Alexander, Jr., an Independent, received eighteen percent, with 35 votes.

For Alderman-at-Large, Independent candidate William Woods, the incumbent, faced Democratic challenger Addie L. Green. Woods was re-elected, receiving 137 votes, versus 50 votes for Green.

In Ward 1, Alderman Douglas Beard was unopposed and will

THE Bolton NEWS

Bolton chooses officials for next four years



Photo by Susalyn Bennett

serve another term as the Alderman for Ward 1.

In Ward 2, Helen Harris faced challenger Lendall Mack, Jr. Both ran as Independents. Harris was re-elected with 34 votes and Mack receiving 19.

Ward 3 Alderwoman Shirley Mason will serve another term. She was unopposed.

In Ward 4, incumbent Alderwoman Vera Powell faced challenger Calvin Griffin. Powell received 32 votes (68%) to Griffin's 15 (32%).

The Mayor and Board of Aldermen meet on the first and third Tuesday of each month, 7 p.m. at Town Hall, 202 Bolton Raymond Road. Swearing in ceremonies will be held Tuesday, July 6, at 7 p.m. The public is invited to attend.

Summer reading, crafts, prizes and more available at library

Special to The Bolton News

The Annie Thompson Jeffers Library in Bolton is geared up for the Jackson/Hinds Library System's summer reading program, "Tails and Tales."

Through July 9, patrons can register and log in at JHLibrary.beanstack.org. Those registering can use their email address as their username, and then use the password: beanstack. Patrons are asked to change their password after logging in.

After registering, patrons can stop by the library to pick up a goody bag. Also available will be a "grab and go" craft bag every week, while supplies last. As participants complete the challenges, they will earn badges and they might even win one of the great prizes being given away! The various challenges are in four different age groups: Pre-school, ages 5 and under; Children, ages 6 to 11; Teens, ages 12 to 17; and Adults, ages 18 and older.

The library has new books, DVDs and a lot of teens and children's books. Bolton veterinarian Dr. Milton Farr will present a vir-



tual program describing what he does and the different animals that he treats.

For help signing up, visit the library for assistance.

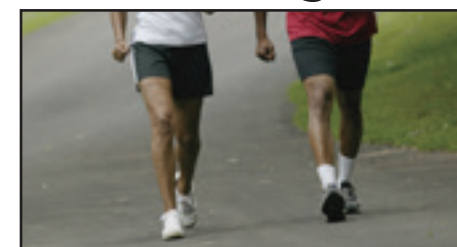
Library hours are Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to noon,

and 1 p.m. until 6 p.m.; Saturdays 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. The library is closed on Fridays and Sundays.

As of July 1, 2021, some COVID-19 restrictions still apply. Patrons may use the computers for up to two hours, and they may browse and check out books. But club meetings, kids' group activities and so on, cannot yet be held inside the library.

For more information, call 601-866-4247 or stop by 111 W. Madison Street, Bolton.

Walk-a-Thon event set for July 10



Special to The Bolton News

The Bolton News

Residents are encouraged to mark their calendars and plan to attend the sixth annual Jimmie Ray Lewis, Sr. Walk-a-Thon event.

The event is set for Saturday, July 10, from 6:30 a.m. to 9 a.m. at the Jimmie R. Lewis, Sr. Park Plaza in Bolton, on Martin L. King drive near the intersection with Bolton-Raymond Road.

Helpful health information and refreshments will be provided by the Jackson State University Jackson Heart Study Community Outreach Center and the Bolton/Edwards Community Health Advisory Network (CHAN).

The public is invited to attend.

Hinds County Saints youth football is open to children ages 5 through 12

By Susalyn Bennett

For more than a decade, the Hinds County Saints youth football program has given children a way to expend their energy, improve their strength and speed, make lasting friendships, and learn new skills from caring adults who love coaching and working with kids. The program is open to all children in Hinds County, ages 5 through 12.

HCSYF belongs to American Youth Football. AYF rules and regulations ensure players are in a safe environment with a competitive balance between teams. The registration fee is \$75. No child will be turned away, however, due to the inability to pay.

Coach James Davis is dedicated to teaching young players positive lessons and preparing them to face the future with confidence, as well as instilling them with love and appreciation for the game of football.

“Year after year,” Davis says, “I can’t wait for the new Saints’ season to begin.”

Coach Richard Caston, on why he coaches the Saints: “I know from experience how easy youth can get caught up in the wrong things. I’ve had the chance to watch young, shy kids put on a helmet or pick up a ball, and it has changed their whole outlook on their future. If hard work and



Special to The Bolton News

Brantley Owens, Kyron Moten and Preston Odom.

dedication are applied to anything in life, anything is possible. Our youth need us to be loving, caring, disciplined and even hard on them, sometimes. I know a lot of coaches who want our kids to be great. They work hard, coach hard and even fuss hard. But at the end of the day, they love these kids even harder. As a community, we have to continue to teach and guide our youngsters in a direction to success. We all have different ways of helping...This is mine.”

Coaches for the 2021 season are James Davis, Richard Caston, Eric West, Mario Macklin, Marlon Kidd, Willie Marshall, Horace Palmer, Rus-

sell Creason, Eric Williams and Percy McGee. Teams are based on age: A Team, ages 11-12; B Team, ages 9-10; C Team, ages 7-8, D Team ages 5-6.

Team Mom, Krystal Mason of Bolton, says she can’t say too many good things about the Saints program or the coaches. As the single mother of two sons, Mason says she found the outstanding male role models she wanted for her boys, when they joined Saints Youth Football.

“My older son played on the A Team that won the district championship in 2019. That was incredibly exciting! The coaches have such a passion for the game, and they are devoted to these kids. Some kids can’t pay the registration fee, but they never turn anyone away. They always find a way to make it possible, so that every child that wants to play, can play. Donations to help sponsor a child are welcomed and greatly appreciated.” And she added, “It’s not too late to sign up, kids. Come play with the Saints!”

Practices are held on Mondays and Thursdays at 6 p.m. on the field behind Raymond Glass Company, 12450 Highway 18. Games are played on weekends, August through December.

For more information, call Krystal Mason at 601-951-7273 or Coach Caston at 601-503-0281, or follow “Hinds County Saints” on Facebook.

Summertime sing-along and ice cream social at St. Mary’s



Special to The Bolton News

Tommy Steadman, Greg Gibson, Brad Feaster and Bill Bacon of the Brickstreet Barbershop Quartet

The Bolton News

On Sunday, July 11, at 4 p.m., in-person services will resume at St. Mary’s Episcopal Church in Bolton. Worshipers are invited to attend the evening prayer service led by the reverend deacon Josie Williams and Harvey Smith, lay worship leader. The 4 p.m. service will be followed by a Summertime Sing-a-Long of sacred, patriotic and old-time favorites, featuring the Brickstreet Barbershop Quartet, and an ice cream social at the Terry Brantley Parish House.

St. Mary’s, one of the oldest Episcopal churches in Hinds County, is located at 209 E. Madison Street in the heart of Bolton. Services are held at 4 p.m. on the second Sunday of each month. For more information, visit www.stmarysbolton.org.



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Talent Competition returns for Red Brick Roads 2021

By Sherry Lucas

Warm up those vocals, pull out those instruments and get ready for the chance to share those talents at the 2021 Red Brick Roads Festival in Olde Towne Clinton in late August.

The Red Brick Roads Talent Competition, in only its second outing ever, will showcase the skills of area singers and more, noon to 3 p.m. August 28 at the festival. The competition debuted in 2019, and with the fest on hold in 2020 because of the pandemic, Main Street Director Tara Lytal hopes this fairly new component can regain its momentum this year, and continue to grow.

“The first time out, it was great,” Lytal says. “As with all things, the first time you do them, you learn a lot. We had a good first competition (in 2019), and we’re hoping this year will attract more contestants.”

Austen Broome, whose duet



Special to The Clinton Courier

Red Brick Roads will again include an amateur Talent Competition, open to youth and adult contestants in vocal solo, vocal group or instrumental categories. Registration is open through August 17. The \$25 registration fee includes festival entry.

with his sister, Abbey, picked up a win at first competition, echoes that hope.

“It’s a blast,” he says. “I’m glad Clinton is doing that. It’s a

good opportunity to get people involved.” He and his sister grew up in a family surrounded by music, with additional siblings who all play at least one musical in-

strument, “so, it’s a natural extension of what we did growing up.”

He encourages other area musicians and singers to take part.

“If it’s somebody’s first time, it’s a great development opportunity,” Broome says, and a good shot at local exposure. After the 2019 competition, he and Abbey got additional requests to come play at other places.

“It’s nice to have a more formal event, and to have fun and friendly competition with other musicians. I certainly hope we have more contestants this year. I want to see who else is playing out there — maybe there’s somebody we could play with in the future — and see whatever talent is out there.

“Everybody is supportive, and just glad to be out there and share our talents with other people,” says Broome. He hopes to enter again this year.

cont. on page 5

Clinton High School Alumni Association digitizes CHS Yearbooks

By Taylor McKay Hathorn

Gary Weatherly, one of the two co-founders of the Clinton High School Alumni Association, migrated to Birmingham, Alabama, after graduating high school, but he estimates that around fifty percent of his graduating class still lives within fifty to seventy-five miles of their alma mater. For those who must traverse the miles to come to class reunions, though, photographs are important, and the group is scheduled to complete a lengthy project later this summer that will make all past Clinton High School (CHS) yearbooks accessible online to the school’s alumni and to the

community at large.

“I had been doing some research and noticing that a number of colleges had their yearbooks online. I had no idea whether it was feasible [for Clinton High School] or not, and we found out that it was,” Weatherly said of the project’s beginnings.

From there, Alumni Association member Cindy Hamil coordinated with CHS

Principal Brett Robinson to retrieve yearbooks in groups from the CHS Library.

“With the exception of three or four, all of the yearbooks were at the high school library,” Weatherly remarked. The few yearbooks that were missing were obtained by online solicitations for alumni to submit their own yearbooks to be scanned. The books were then

cont. on page 11



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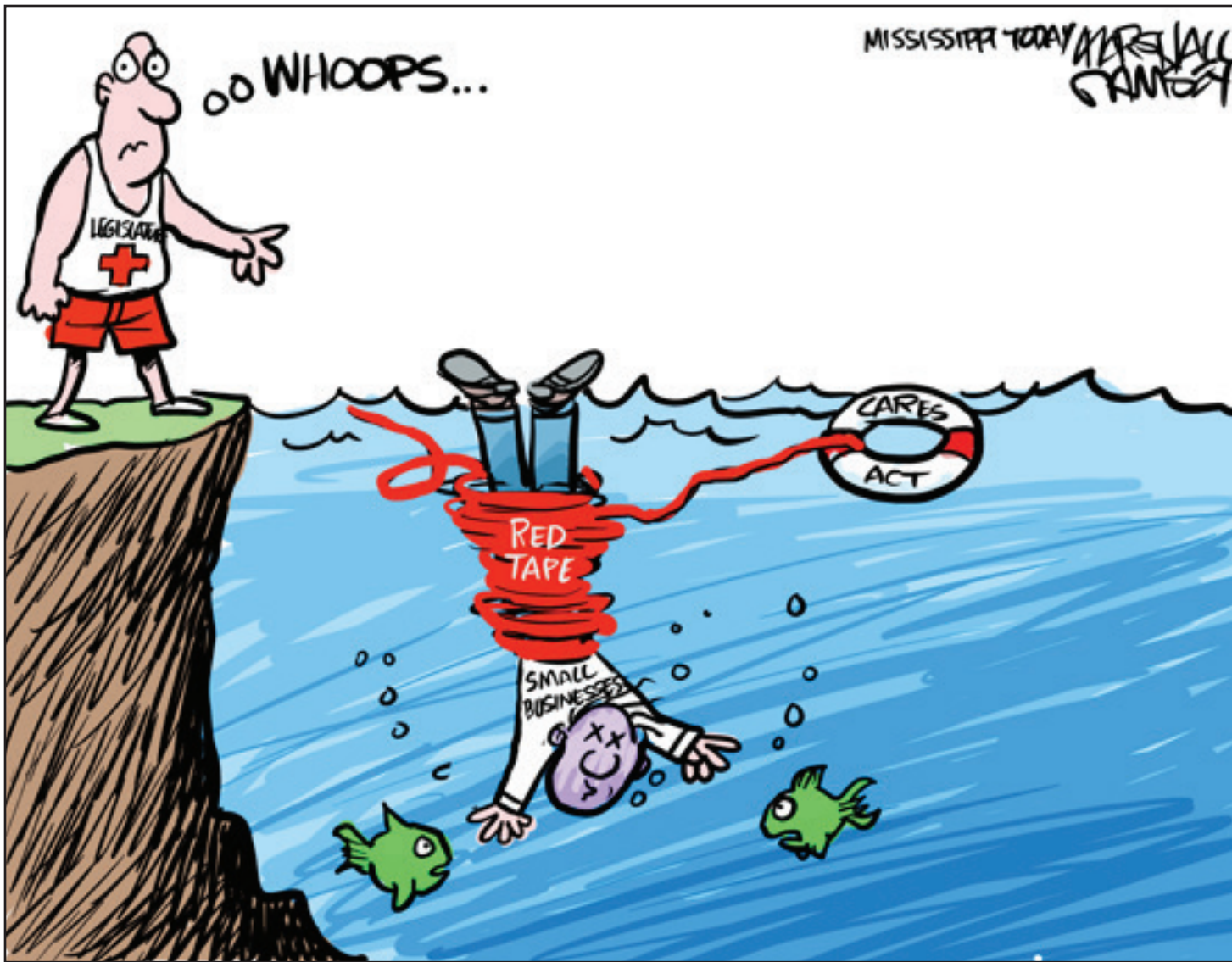


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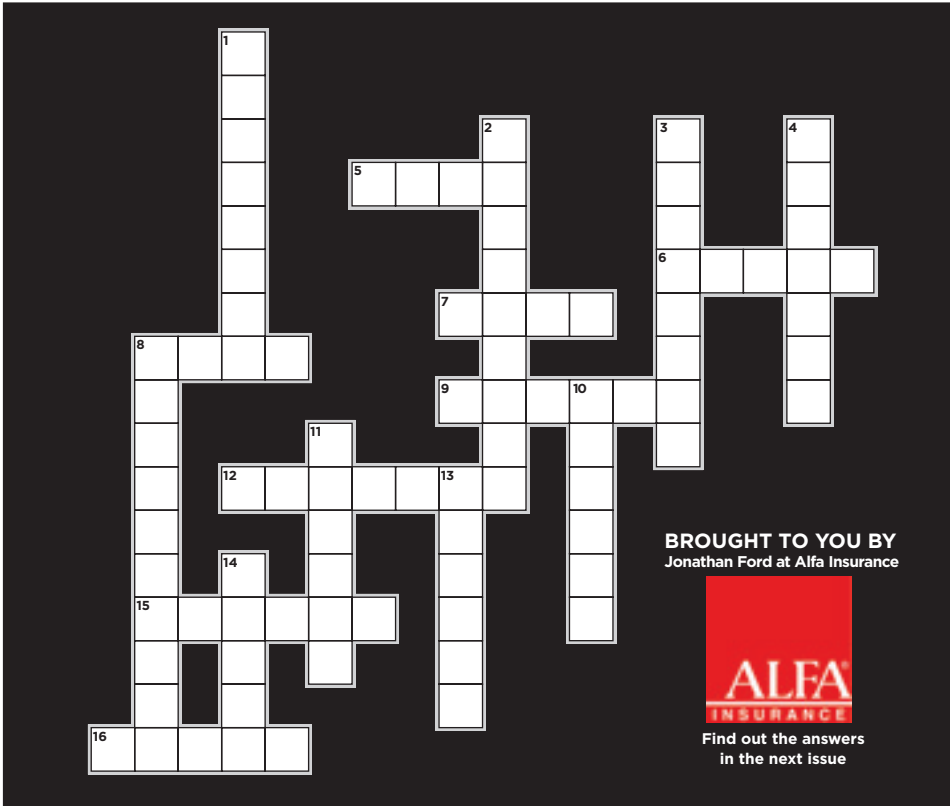
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Clinton's Crossword Puzzle

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Down

- 5 MS Speaker of House

6 New CCA baseball coach

7 Parks and rec director

8 _____ auditorium
- 9 _____ house #672

12 Mr Sumner Hill Brayden _____

15 Incoming CHS softball coach

16 MC provost
- 1 Recently repaired/reopened bridge

2 Southside Wastewater Treatment Plant operator

3 2021 CHS grades with 30+ ACT

4 Connects simmons dr and church st

8 9th grade school
- 10 _____ building 650 Highway 80

11 Incoming ward 5 alderwoman

13 4th of July performer Eddie _____

14 _____ hall at nature center

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JUST THE GIRLS EVENT FEATURES HISTORIC TOUR



Photo by Susalyn Bennett

Main Street Clinton's Just the Girls event on June 17 featured a historic tour of Clinton from Jacque Tharp, Clinton native and the first and former director of the Clinton Visitor Center. The tour began at the Olde Towne Depot, then continued aboard Turner the Train. George Ewing, who wears many different hats in Clinton, was the train conductor. The tour was followed by lunch at 303 Jefferson. Pictured (l to r) are, front row: Jeannine Drake, Joyce Natherly, Deborah Stribling and Jacque Tharp; and back row: Beth Buckley, Mariam Nothnagle, Brenda Holloway, Jerry Agent, Peggy Arcement and George Ewing. Not pictured is Susalyn Bennett. Just the Girls is one of the recurring events organized and hosted by Main Street Clinton, held on the third Thursday of each month. Visit www.mainstreetclinton.com/events for more information.

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cont. from front page

Talent Competition returns for Red Brick Roads 2021

The two-day Red Brick Roads Festival, now in its fourth year, is set for August 27-28, and is a partnership of the Clinton Chamber of Commerce, Main Street Clinton and the City of Clinton. It is produced by ardenland, and tickets (\$20 weekend pass or \$10 Friday and \$15 Saturday, \$125 VIP) are on sale now at www.redbrickroads.com. Children younger than 10 get in free, and student passes will be available onsite.

The amateur Talent Competition entry is open to youth (younger than 18) and adult contestants in vocal solo, vocal group or instrumental categories, with entry forms available through the website. The registration deadline is August 17. The \$25 registration fee includes festival entry.

Contestants will vie for trophies, and at the same time, entertain the crowd coming to enjoy local talent and visit the downtown festival's craft show,

with performances on the Firefly Stage, on West Leake Street near the Chamber of Commerce.

As a festival that celebrates Mississippi creatives, "This is just in the spirit of creativity," Lytal says. "It helps celebrate our local talent." The 2019 festival even drew beyond Clinton's borders, tapping talents from the wider metro Jackson area.

"We send talent applications out to anyone we can think of — Hinds Community College and Mississippi College, the high schools, and we try to reach out to any private teachers we know of," Lytal says, as well as promote the contest through media outlets, to recruit as much as much amateur talent as possible.

The competition's audience draws family and friends, turning out to support loved ones, and plenty of others who just want to enjoy Clinton creatives in action, Lytal says.

"It definitely is entertaining for the public."





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Olde Towne Depot offers summer camp

Special to The Clinton Courier

The “Off the Rails” July summer camp will be offered this year at the Olde Towne Depot. Targeted at students that have just completed second, third and fourth grades, Off the Rails will take students on a wild ride around the world learning about transportation, history and other cultures. Students will participate in group challenges, complete art projects, and have lots of fun. Projects are explor-

atory and require both critical and creative thinking. Students will work individually and in groups.

The camp will be held at the Olde Towne Depot Monday through Thursday, July 19 – 22 from 9 a.m. until 12 p.m. The cost for the camp is \$75 per child and will include all materials needed. Students can expect an interactive camp experience.

“This is easily one of my very favorite events at the Depot. We



have such a fun time learning, exploring our community, and discovering interesting cultures abroad. The hands-on activities, building and art projects, and guest speakers make Off the Rails such a great summer experience for students,” says Depot Director Anna Boyd Hawks.

Spaces are limited for the camp. Registration can be completed at oldetownedepot.com/OffTheRails or by calling the Olde Towne Depot at 601-924-0113.

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Elizabeth Louise “Betty” Ballard
of St. Catherine’s Village, Madison, MS
June 10, 1928 – June 23, 2021

Betty, age 93, passed away on June 23, 2021. She was born in New Orleans, Louisiana, on June 10, 1928, to the late Virddie Paul and Roberta Mashburn Zeringue. Betty is preceded in death by her husband, D.D. “Joe” Ballard. She is survived by one daughter, Cynthia Price of Nashville, Tennessee; two sons, Ronnie Ballard and Dwayne (Melissa) Ballard of Clinton, Mississippi; five granddaughters, Alexandria Price of Nashville, Tennessee, and Heather Price of Washington D.C.; Ashton (Josh) Tart of Portland, Oregon, Brecken Ballard of Clinton, Mississippi, and Lacey Ballard of Memphis, Tennessee; one great-grandson, Simon Tart; two sisters, Norma Talbot of Pensacola, Florida, and Joy (Bob) Marble of Little Rock, Arkansas, and numerous nieces and nephews.

Betty was a longtime member of Parkway Baptist Church. She was raised in Raymond, Mississippi, and she graduated from Raymond High School and Hinds Community College.

Betty and her husband, Joe, were longtime residents of Jackson and Clinton, Mississippi. After she and her husband retired, she volunteered at the Baptisit Hosiptial one day a week for 25 years.

She was a very active member of the Clinton Senior Citizens group.

She was a master of handwork, making many crocheted bedspreads and other keepsakes. Betty was a very kind and caring person, whose greatest joy was doing something for someone else.

Her last years at St. Catherine’s were a delight to her, taking advantage of all activities and making many new friends, as well as enjoying ones from years past.

Betty will be missed by many, especially her family who loved her dearly.

Her service was held on Saturday, June 26, 2021, at Lakewood Memorial Funeral Home.

Visitation was held 12 p.m. to 2 p.m., followed by her service of celebration.

In lieu of flowers, memorials can be made to St. Catherine Village Attn: “The Stichers Cub” or your favorite charity.





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After slight rain delay, paving, multi-use path back on track

By Katherine R. Dougan

After rain slowed plans to begin the Arrow Drive paving and the multi-use path project, the City predicts the project will be back on track with the drier conditions, City Communications Director Mark Jones stated. The paving project for Arrow Drive was set to begin the third week of June, with the Arrow Drive/Cynthia Road multi-use path project under way.

The project ties the existing asphalt path that runs from Clinton High School to Clinton Park Elementary to Pinehaven Road to the west, and down Cynthia Road to Baseball Alley to the east. The project is touted to enhance the recreational opportunities available to residents and visitors, a City news release stated.

The City on June 1 unanimously approved awarding a bid of \$949,588.30 to Adcamp for the 2021 street paving project, with Arrow Drive the top of the list, according to Consulting City Engineer Bill Owen.

"The bids came in lower than what we expected, and I recommend approval; but, just to make it



The Clinton Courier

The continuation of the Arrow Drive multi-use trail project is underway. Upon completion, the entire length of Arrow Drive will have a paved path.



The Clinton Courier

clear, we did have five bids. It was welcome [news] to know that we did have five bidders," Owen told the Board at the June 1 meeting. The City had estimated the project at \$1.2 million.

At the time the City was soliciting bids, because of fluctuating prices in construction all over the country, Owen explained that he wasn't sure if the prices would be higher or lower than the City's estimated bid, so it was good news to see the bid come in low and to have five

companies bidding for the project, he said.

The additional \$250,000 that was allotted for the project but not needed because the bid came in lower will be used for additional paving, according to streets on the list set for paving, and also for additional striping, Owens explained, adding that it is likely the work can be handled with change orders as needed instead of rebidding the project to accommodate additional paving and striping.

The incoming new Board will make decisions about the additional paving and striping, Mayor Phil Fisher explained. He assured the Board that the extra \$250,000 will be used for paving and striping.

The City's website has a schedule of roads slated for milling and overlay.

The first meeting of the Board of Aldermen with newly elected Board members will be at 7 p.m. Tuesday, July 6, in the Municipal Courtroom, 305 Monroe Street.



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CPSD: Schoggin comes on board, athletic improvement estimates higher than expected

By Taylor McKay Hathorn

President Derek Holmes called the regularly-scheduled June monthly meeting of the Clinton Public School District's Board of Trustees to order, marking the last time Dr. Tim Martin would attend a meeting as Superintendent and the first time Dr. Andy Schoggin (incoming Superintendent) would attend a meeting as a CPSD employee.

"I want to say that it's been an honor and a privilege to work with this Board," Martin stated. "Every school district has a 'just cause,' and ours is what's best for students." Holmes thanked Martin for his remarks and praised him for his students-first mentality, saying, "I've never seen another superintendent directing traffic at Clinton Park Elementary School."

The Board proceeded with the business portion of the meeting, hearing construction updates from Mark Pipper. Pipper noted that the construction at Clinton High School has closed and is now in the warranty phase. He went on to say that Clinton Junior High School's construction is "substantially complete," though the District is still unable to officially

close the project and is in turn holding a \$25,000 payment until the job is completed.

Construction at Lovett Elementary School still lags behind its original completion date of May 28, and the project is now expected to wrap by July 15, with the budget remaining stable for the project, despite numerous delays.

Ryan Hanson with WBA Architects updated the Board on Phase I of the projected athletic improvement project, which involves the demolition and reconstruction of Clinton High School's currently-unusable tennis courts and the turfing of the softball and baseball fields. Hanson remarked that initial geotechnical reports indicated that the replacement of the tennis courts would require the excavation and replacement of five feet of unsuitable soil, while the baseball and softball fields would require the excavation and replacement of four feet of unsuitable soil.

"It's more substantial than what we hoped for," Hanson admitted. "But not more substantial than we anticipated." Bids for the trio of projects are expected to go out before the next monthly meeting of the Board in July.

CPSD Financial Director Libby Callegan then presented a slate of standard financial matters to the Board, including the claims docket and the hiring of Dr. Andy Schoggin as an educational consultant between June 14 and his July 1 start date, so that Schoggin could learn from and assist Martin prior to Martin's June 30 retirement. The Board approved these matters with a 5-0 vote, and Callegan then presented a fund balance estimate analysis for the projected athletic improvement projects.

Presently, the State requires a fund balance of 8% of a given District's total general fund revenue. A present Clinton School Board policy mandates a fund balance nearly double the State's bare-minimum requirement, thus necessitating that the District maintain a fund balance of 15%.

Callegan used WBA's present estimates to calculate the cost to the District if all of the forecasted projects were undertaken, and she remarked that the lower end of WBA's estimates would leave the District around 17% of the fund balance, while the higher end of the estimates would put the District just south of the 15% fund balance it currently requires.

"That's lower than I'd want to see us choose to go," Callegan remarked.

The Board concurred with Callegan's assessment, with Holmes saying that he would prefer not to see the Board dip below a 20% fund balance on an elective project and Board Member Felicia Gavin remarking that she "couldn't comfortably work with [those numbers]."

Superintendent Tim Martin reminded the Board that these numbers were projections, as no bids had been accepted. He also noted that the Board could choose to piecemeal the project by bidding it out in parts as was fiscally prudent or could choose to eliminate certain aspects of the project altogether.

"You're not wasting your time to get numbers and bids," Martin said.

In other action, the Board accepted a number of new policies, including an amended version of the Booster Club/PTO policy that had been tabled at the previous reading. The version adopted by the Board removed the limitation on the number of yearly fundraisers but did mandate that Clubs and PTOs with a budget greater than \$5,000 have a bonded treasurer.



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■ **RESIDENTS IN 5 STATES CASH IN:** The phone lines are ringing off the hook. That's because for the next 48 hours, packages containing Gold Vault Bricks still loaded with four 5-ounce Jumbo State Bars layered in valuable 24 Karat Gold minted by Federated Mint are being shipped to residents in 5 states. That's a full 20 ounces of high demand bullion copper layered in 24 Karat Gold in all. These are the only Gold Vault Bricks known to exist and we're struggling to keep up with demand. That's because they're still loaded with Jumbo State Bars bearing the name of The First Bank of the United States of America and the state they were once destined for. And here's the best part. If you live in one of the 5 states listed in today's publication you cover only the minimum gold fee set for state residents of just \$49 per ounce. That's a real steal because residents living outside of the designated 5 states must pay \$124 per ounce if any remain.

Residents snap up Gold Bars issued in 5 States

Heavy Gold Vault Bricks loaded with valuable Jumbo State Bars layered in 24 Karat Gold are up for grabs as thousands stand to miss the deadline to claim the Jumbo State Bars; now residents in 5 states can claim the Gold Vault Bricks for themselves and keep all the valuable bars found inside just by covering the minimum set for state residents within the next 48 hours

"It's like a modern day gold rush," said Laura A. Lynne, U.S. Coin and Currency Director for Federated Mint.

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And here's the best part. If you live in one of the 5 states listed in today's publication you cover only the minimum set for state

► **Who gets the Jumbo Gold Bars:** Listed below in bold are the states that get the Jumbo State Bars. If you live in one of these states immediately call the State Distribution Hotline at: **1-800-749-6917 GB2292**

Alabama	HI	MD	NJ	SD
AK	IA	MI	NM	Tennessee
Arkansas	ID	MN	NV	TX
AZ	IL	MO	NY	UT
CA	IN	Mississippi	OH	VA
CO	KY	MT	OK	VT
CT	KS	NC	OR	WA
DE	Louisiana	ND	PA	WI
FL	MA	NE	RI	WV
GA	ME	NH	SC	WY

(Continued on next page)

(Continued from previous page)

residents of just \$49 per ounce which totals \$980 for the full 20 ounces locked away inside these Gold Vault Bricks. That’s a real steal because residents living outside of the designated 5 states must pay \$124 per ounce which totals \$2,480 if any remain.

“As Director of Coin and Currency for Federated Mint I earn my pay delivering breaking news. And today’s announcement confirming the release of Gold Vault Bricks to the general public is as big as it gets. And I’d bet my bottom dollar these Gold Vault Bricks get snapped up by resellers, collectors, dealers and anyone else who gets their hands on them,” Lynne said.

“So my advice is this, anyone who gets an opportunity to get their hands on one of these Gold Vault Bricks better jump at the chance while they still can,” Lynne said.

“These Gold Vault Bricks loaded with massive 5-ounce Jumbo State Bars layered in valuable 24 Karat Gold make the most impressive gifts for Christmas, birthdays, graduations, weddings, and any other occasion, especially for that hard-to-buy-for person,” Lynne said.

According to Ms. Lynne, since thousands of U.S. residents stand to miss the deadline to claim the Jumbo State Bars, today and tomorrow are intended as a “special 48 hour release” for the benefit of persons living in; AL, AR, LA, MS and TN. This gives residents of those states a fair chance to claim the Gold Vault Bricks and all the valuable Jumbo State Bars loaded inside for themselves.

But, Ms. Lynne added, “The Gold Vault Bricks are only available as inventory permits during the special 48 hour release so there’s no time to waste.” Lynne added, “Remember this, these Gold Vault Bricks contain a full 20 ounces of high demand bullion copper layered in valuable 24 Karat Gold and we have no power to stop dealers, resellers, collectors and the like from buying up all the Gold Vault Bricks they can get their hands on,” Lynne said.

Anyone who fails to obtain them during this special 48 hour release may be forced to buy them later in the secondary market from a dealer, reseller or collector if they can even find them.

“The phones are ringing off the hook. That’s why hundreds of agents are standing by to answer the phones beginning at 8:30am this morning. We’re going to do our best, but with just 48 hours to answer all the calls it won’t be easy. So make sure to tell everyone to keep calling if all lines are busy. We’ll do our best to answer them all,” Lynne said.

“That’s why the private Federated Mint set up the State Distribution Hotlines in order to make sure residents in the 5 designated states listed in today’s newspaper publication can get them now,” Lynne said.

The only thing readers of today’s newspaper publication need to do is make sure they live in one of the 5 states listed in today’s newspaper and call the State Distribution Hotlines before the special 48 hour release ends midnight tomorrow. ■

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► **How much are the Gold Vault Bricks worth:** The answer is, it’s impossible to say. But, it would be foolish for anyone to try and determine the value of these Gold Vault Bricks based on today’s price of gold. Here’s why. Gold, silver and all precious metal values always fluctuate and there are never any guarantees. But what we do know is that these are the only Gold Vault Bricks still loaded with four 5-ounce Jumbo State Bars known to exist. In fact, the value of the pure 24 Karat Gold layered content is just a bonus for anyone lucky enough to get one of these Gold Vault Bricks because there’s no telling how much the actual collector value could be worth. That makes the minimum set for state residents of just \$49 per ounce which totals \$980 for the full 20 ounces locked away inside these Gold Vault Bricks a real steal since residents living outside of the designated 5 states must pay \$124 per ounce, which totals \$2,480, if any remain.

► **Why is the minimum set for state residents so low:** Since thousands of U.S. residents stand to miss the deadline to claim the Jumbo State Bars, Federated Mint has re-allocated Gold Vault Bricks to be sent out in the next 48 hours. That means the Jumbo State Bars are up for grabs and now residents in 5 states can claim the Gold Vault Bricks for themselves and keep all the valuable bars found inside. These are the only Gold Vault Bricks known to exist and we’re struggling to keep up with demand. That’s because they’re still loaded with four 5-ounce Jumbo State Bars layered in valuable 24 Karat Gold bearing the name of The First Bank of the United States of America and the state they were once destined for. That’s four massive bars weighing a full 20 ounces of 24 Karat Gold and valuable bullion copper in all. And here’s the best part. If you live in one of the 5 states listed in today’s publication you cover only the minimum set for state residents of just \$49 per ounce. That’s a real steal because residents living outside of the designated 5 states must pay \$124 per ounce if any remain.



■ **FIRST LOOK INSIDE THE GOLD VAULT BRICKS:** Pictured above are the Gold Vault Bricks containing the only Jumbo State Bars known to exist bearing the name of the First Bank of the United States of America and the state they were once destined for. State residents are ordering 1, 2 even 3 at a time because the Gold Vault Bricks are still loaded with four 5-ounce Jumbo State Bars layered in valuable 24 Karat Gold. That’s a full 20 ounces of high demand bullion copper layered in 24 Karat Gold in all. To claim you Vault Brick, just call 1-800-749-6917 GB2292 before the deadline ends. Everyone lucky enough to get them better hold on to them because there’s no telling just how much they could be worth someday.

R1007R-6

YMCA campers enjoy horse visit

Special to The Clinton Courier

The Clinton YMCA Summer Camp had a visit from Horse Camp 101 from Pelahatchie, Mississippi. Due to COVID-19, the Y was not able to plan field trips this summer, so, instead, staff have become creative and found places that can bring the fun to the campers. All the campers were able to pet the horses and take a ride around the Y. For more information about the Clinton YMCA and its programs, call 601-924-5812.



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Akers to wear number three again

By Datti Jinkiri

Clinton native and Los Angeles Rams running back Cam Akers will be wearing number three again. The Rams' official Twitter account announced the change.

The NFL recently approved of a rule change which will allow running backs, wide receivers, tight ends, defensive backs, and linebackers to wear single-digit numbers. Running backs were previously restricted to numbers 20-49.

Akers wore number three while at Clinton High School and Florida State University. In a storied four-year career with the Arrows, he led the team to a Class 6A State Championship and tallied over 13,000 all-purpose yards and 149 total touchdowns.

Akers then transitioned to a three-year career in Tallahassee, where he rushed for



In December 2016, Clinton native and former Arrows football star Cam Akers signed to play with the Florida State University Seminoles. Late last month, Akers was drafted into the National Football League. This fall, he will play for the LA Rams.

Special to The Clinton Courier

2,874 rushing yards (sixth in school history), scored 27 rushing touchdowns (seventh in school history), and had eleven 100-yard rushing games (sixth in school history).

He was picked by the Rams in the second round of the 2020 NFL Draft, and he wore number 23 during his rookie season in Southern California. He led the Rams in the regular season with 625 rushing yards and added two rushing touchdowns. Akers also averaged 11.2 yards per catch and added a touchdown reception.

Akers ran for a career-high 171 yards in a nationally-televised win over the New England Patriots. He then added 131 yards and a touchdown in the Rams' Wild Card Playoff win over the Seattle Seahawks. He scored touchdowns in both of the Rams' playoff games last season.

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Clinton Athletes in College: Robert Davis

By Datti Jinkiri

Clinton native Robert Davis transferred to the University of West Alabama in 2020, and his first season in Livingston did not disappoint. In a pandemic-riddled season, Davis helped lead the Tigers to an 8-6 record overall. The team went 7-5 in the GSC West Division and qualified for the GSC Men's Basketball Championship for the fourth consecutive season.

The 2017 graduate of Clinton High School had begun his career at East Mississippi Community College before transferring to Columbus State University for the 2019-20 season. After one season in Georgia, he decided to move a little closer to home and transferred to West Alabama.



Robert Davis

Photo courtesy of UWA Athletics

Davis started all fourteen games for the Tigers last season. He was fourth on the team with 10.5 points per game and scored a season-high 17 in an overtime win over Delta State. He also scored 16 points on two occasions against Union University.

Davis also averaged 2.7 assists per game, which was top-20 in the GSC and the second-highest on the team. He had a season-high of eight in a game against in-state foe Alabama Huntsville.

The former Arrow was efficient on offense. He shot 43.2 percent from the field and 87.0 percent from the free throw line. He was practically automatic at the charity stripe, as his free throw percentage was the second-highest percentage in the GSC this season.

Davis was durable this season, as well. He led the Tigers with 34.7 minutes per game, which was the fifth-highest minutes per game average in the conference.

Davis will return to Livingston for his senior season in 2021-22. He will join 2020-21 All-GSC selections Shardarrion Allen (a Bolton native) and Kortrijk Miles as three of Tigers' key returners next year. The return of those three players, as well as guard Justin Allison, means that the Tigers will return four of their top five scorers from last season.

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OBITUARY

Paula Purser Watkins

Paula Purser Watkins of Clinton, Mississippi, died at home Saturday, June 5, 2021, after a long illness. She was 65.

The first child born to Dr. and Mrs. Dewey Purser, she grew up in Vicksburg and attended Vicksburg Public Schools. She had a beautiful alto voice and was active in choir and theater. She also was a member of the First Baptist Church in Vicksburg, where she participated in the youth choir and ministries.

She graduated from Vicksburg High School in 1974 and went to Millsaps College, where she met Paul B. Watkins, whom she married in 1976; they would have celebrated their 45th wedding anniversary on August 14.

After living in Atlanta, Jackson, and Memphis, the Watkins family moved to Vicksburg, where they lived from 1985 through 2000. During that time, Ms. Watkins served as both teacher and director at the First Baptist Church Preschool, where she was known fondly as "Ms. Paula." They lived in Kosciusko from 2000 through 2006, and have lived since in Clinton, where she also was a member of the First Baptist Church.

She enjoyed reading, baking, and she was

a talented seamstress who loved to sew for her grandchildren and other family members and friends. She also was widely admired for her faith, her strength, and her ability to remain positive despite a lifetime of health struggles.

"Paula was simply an extraordinary person," said lifelong friend Paul Ingram of Vicksburg. "She was undoubtedly the strongest person I have ever known, a walking miracle supported by love, faith, devotion and family."

She is survived by her beloved husband and caretaker, Paul B. Watkins Sr. of Clinton; her son, Paul B.

Watkins Jr. (Jessica) of Oxford; her daughter, Allison S. Watkins of Oxford; her mother, Mrs. Dewey Purser of Vicksburg; two sisters, Cindy Blair (Steve) of Corinth and Lisa Reid (Bruce) of Vicksburg; her brother, Todd Purser of Vicksburg; her grandchildren, Lillie, Grier and Townes Watkins of Oxford; and numerous nieces, nephews, cousins and in-laws.

A memorial service was held at First Baptist Church in Vicksburg on Tuesday, June 8, at 1 p.m., preceded by a private graveside service. Memorials may be sent to the American Cancer Society, the American Heart Association or to a favorite charity.



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Fresh at Five markets continue on Tuesdays

Main Street Clinton's Fresh at Five market on June 22 drew a large crowd to Jefferson Street in Olde Towne Clinton. Numerous local farmers were on hand, selling fresh vegetables, fruit, honey, jellies and jams, home-baked goodies, steak, eggs and more. Entertainment was provided by Hannah Coon. Fresh at Five markets are held each Tuesday from 5 until 7 p.m.

All photos by Susalyn Bennett.



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cont. from front page

Clinton High School Alumni Association digitizes CHS Yearbooks

sent to a company in New York that digitized the books without causing damage to the yearly publications, which began with CHS's first-ever Arrow, printed in 1948.

"We're about to do the fourth and final set, and then it will be complete," Weatherly said of the project's progress. He also noted that the completion of the digitization will also signal the first-ever complete collection of CHS Arrows, as the school library is still missing the few years that were obtained solely through loans from alumni.

The generosity of alumni made the entirety of the project possible, with the digitization funded fully by donations from CHSAA.

This tradition of charitable giving is nothing new for the group, as they have been awarding scholarships to select Clinton High School graduates for

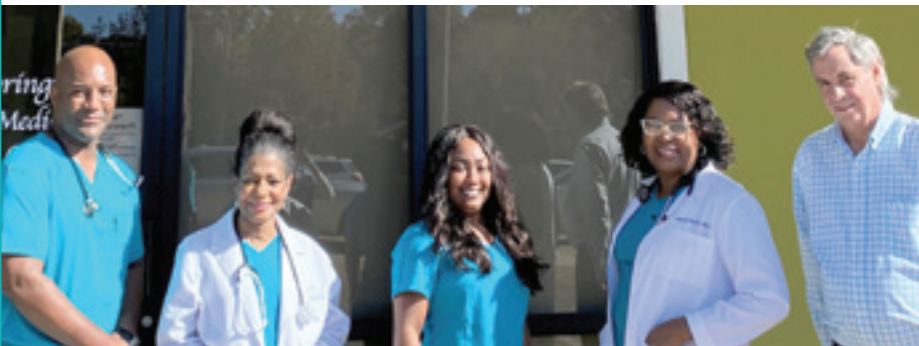
twenty-one consecutive years. The association also spearheaded the efforts to have a historical marker placed at Roy Burkett Field, which was the original location of the Clinton High School football field.

Weatherly maintains that the yearbook project is special, however, citing the positive feedback the group has received thus far.

"People write to us and say, 'Oh, thank you! I had lost mine!'" he reflects. "And there's a lot of folks whose kids and grandkids can see their parents and grandparents. I think that's cool, too."

The organization is also planning a multi-class CHS reunion for this fall.

For more information about the Clinton High School Alumni Association and to view the yearbooks online, visit www.ClintonAlumni.com.



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Hardy joins CCA as new baseball coach

Special to The Clinton Courier

Clinton Christian Academy recently introduced its new head baseball coach, Jonathan Hardy. Coach Hardy is originally from Philadelphia, Mississippi, and has lived in Mad-



Special to The Clinton Courier

Jonathan Hardy

ison for the last six years. His wife Mitzi Reed Hardy of Magee is a teacher at Meadowbrook Pre-School in Jackson.

Previously, Hardy served as head baseball coach at Glenbrook School in Minden, Louisiana, for six years. They played for three straight state championships, winning in 2012. He has also coached in Mississippi for twelve years in the public school system. While he was an assistant coach for fast-pitch softball at Neshoba Central, he helped lead the team to the 4A state championship. He was also an assistant baseball coach at Philadelphia High School, where his team finished as 2A state runners up in 2005.

"I am very excited to be working with the great family of Clinton Christian Academy," said Hardy. "I also look forward to building a consistent winning baseball program here, year in and year out. I would like to thank the CCA family for giving me this great opportunity to be a part of this great program."

Quisenberry Library to hold second book sale July 9-10



Special to The Clinton Courier

The Friends of the Quisenberry Library June 4-5 book sale featured an abundance of books for shoppers. Sisters Mina and Emmie Medeiros posed with their safety masks after selecting their books, while their mother Kristen Medeiros continued shopping for titles for herself. The first sale event held in over a year was described as "... a very successful book sale," according to Wayne Richey, treasurer of the library support organization. Funds raised from the book sale support unbudgeted items for the library. The next sale will be Friday and Saturday, July 9 and 10, 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. each day.



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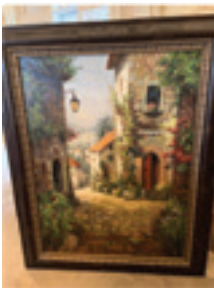
The Clinton Courier has partnered with the Happy Gardeners for a new Yard of the Month program. This month's winner is Jeanette Graham at 123 Brookside Drive.



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**Womack, Eckford named NCAA
Second Team All-Americans**

By Datti Jinkiri

Former Clinton High School track athletes Jayda Eckford and Olivia Womack were recently named NCAA Second-Team All-Americans. The All-American honors capped off an impressive year for the two former Arrows.

Womack and Eckford both participated in the NCAA Division I Outdoor Track and Field Champi-

ify for the finals of the 4x100 relay, they finished in fourth in their semifinal heat and 14th overall with a time of 44.12 seconds. The 14th-place finish was good enough to earn them NCAA Second-Team All-American honors.

For Eckford, this is her third NCAA Second-Team All-American honor. As a freshman in 2019, she earned honors in both the 200



Special to The Clinton Courier

Jayda Eckford



Special to The Clinton Courier

Olivia Womack

onships as a part of the Ole Miss Rebels' 4x100 meter relay team. The relay team qualified for the national championships after running a school-record 43.83 seconds at the NCAA East Regional.

In Division I Track and Field, individuals or relay teams that finish first through eighth in their national championship event earn NCAA First-Team All-American honors. Those that finish ninth through 16th earn NCAA Second-Team All-American honors.

Though the Rebels did not qual-

imeters and 4x100 meter relay. Since there was no 2020 NCAA meet, this is the second consecutive NCAA Championship that she has earned All-American honors. Womack, who is a freshman, tallied her first All-American honor of her young career.

Both ladies were integral parts of Coach Johnathan Perkins' Clinton High program and contributed to the Lady Arrow team that has now won eight consecutive MHSAA Class 6A State Championships.

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Main Street Clinton wins award for Lions Club Park

By Sherry Lucas

Clinton's Lions Club Park was among the achievements recognized at the recent Mississippi Main Street Association's (MMSA) annual awards luncheon, lauded for its design and the boost it brought to the Olde Towne District.

The annual awards, held in person for the first time since COVID-19 precautions sent many public events online, honored Main Street directors, board members and volunteers and singled out the best downtown development projects and events from designated Main Street communities throughout the state.

Lions Club Park won the Outstanding Public Improvement Award, given to the city or program that has designed and carried out attractive and sympathetic improvements for its district.

In an effort that started in talks as early as 2008, Main Street Clinton's board pushed to update the park, which dated to the 1950s and needed renovation. Through several stops and starts, plenty of fundraising and strategic partnerships, plans moved ahead with the park redesign and new location across the street. Goals included accessible attractions, lighting and showcasing the iconic caterpillar climber; landscape architect Jared Acy of WAS Designs made it work. Additional features include music equipment along the walking path, and pavilions for performance and picnics.



Doris Bynum

Clinton's Lions Club Park won the Outstanding Public Improvement Award at the recent Mississippi Main Street Associations annual awards luncheon.

"This project has been my heart since we started the Main Street Clinton program," says Tara Lytal, director of Main Street Clinton. "It was one of the main things I helped facilitate, and many partners made it happen. We ended up with a really, really great project."

A key draw is its use of the park's iconic caterpillar climber as a sculptural element and gateway to the park. The beloved climber, retired from use because of new playground equipment codes, is now mounted on brick columns and supports park signage, adding fun visuals along with a nod to community history.

Lions Club Park opened in May 2020, expanding the downtown district's footprint as an anchor for Olde Towne activities, such as live music, movies, educational programs and games.

The award brings Main Street Clinton's collection to twenty-eight state awards won since its start in 2007. The count includes awards for local businesses that Main Street Clinton nominated, and innovative programs Main Street Clinton was the first in the state to try.

"We just strive for excellence," Lytal says, "and we have been really successful in having projects worthy of awards and recognition." Such awards are also vital in helping re-energize the volunteers who make such projects thrive.

The Lions Club Park project was among a record eighty-three entries this year in the Mississippi Main Street Association Awards.

"We're always very proud of Tara and her board and volunteers," MMSA spokeswoman Jeannie Zieren says.

"Main Street Clinton is one of our strongest programs in the state."

With the awards, "the competition is steep," Zieren says, and panel judges were particularly impressed by the strength, creativity and economic impact of this year's nominated projects and events.

"I think a win helps invigorate the local program," Zieren says. "It's important to recognize the work of Main Street, since a lot of it is done by unpaid volunteers. It's important to recognize what a community is doing to improve downtown life in its district," and for directors, volunteers and board members to see Main Street's impact throughout the state.

Main Street Clinton Board President Allison Reno accepted the award at the luncheon.

"As difficult as 2020 was for our communities, we still saw economic growth in our downtowns and resiliency from the small businesses in our downtown districts," MMSA State Coordinator Thomas Gregory said in a release.

"Our local Main Street directors have worked tirelessly to provide services to small businesses and create innovative ways to connect people together during the pandemic, and we are proud to celebrate their success at our annual awards," he said.

Main Street Clinton is among MMSA's forty-seven Designated Main Street Communities, four Network Members and eleven Associate Members.

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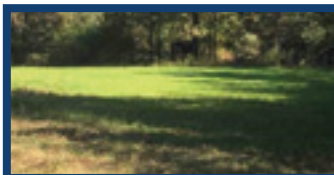
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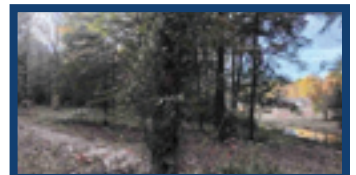
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You're invited! Back to the Bricks is an MC Welcome event sponsored by Main Street Clinton, the City of Clinton, and the Clinton Chamber of Commerce.

What: A Business Block Party welcoming Mississippi College students to Clinton.

Who: Local businesses are invited to set up a booth to showcase and distribute your information to MC students.

When: Tuesday, August 24 from 5:00 - 7:00 p.m. (Set up begins at 3:30).

Where: The Brick Streets in Olde Towne Clinton.

Cost: *Chamber and/or Main Street members can participate free of charge with a donation of a \$25+ door prize.

*All other businesses - fee of \$100 plus a donation of a \$25+ door prize.

This event is first come, first served with limited booth space. Sign up today!

Ribbon Cutting & Red Carpet Roll-out:
Panoly at 102 W. Leake Street
(inside Winstead's)
on Thursday, July 8 at 10:30 am.

Ribbon Cutting & Red Carpet Roll-out:
Ayers Insurance Group
at 402 Monroe Street
(Offices of Olde Towne)
on Tuesday, July 13 at 10:30 am.

Cunningham named April State Farm Athlete of the Month



Special to The Clinton Courier

Tyler Cunningham was recently named as the State Farm Athlete of the Month for April. He is a recently-graduated Clinton High School senior on the archery team. Pictured are State Farm Agent Tim Bruss (left) and Cunningham (right).

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City of Clinton continues to offer Veterans Banner Program

Special to The Clinton Courier

The City of Clinton will be offering the Veterans Banner Program for any participants interested in being included for Veterans Day 2021. The deadline for submitting all forms is Friday, August 13. Banners will continue to hang each year on all patriotic holidays as long as the program is in place by the city.

The Veterans Banner Program was created for the community to recognize and honor all Clinton Veterans who have served in the U.S. Armed Forces - Air Force, Army,

Coast Guard, Marine Corps, Navy, National Guard, and Reserve units - with courage and compassion. The banner program began in November 2017 and has grown to 108 Clinton Veterans shown on banners within the city.

The patriotic-design banners are heavy vinyl, twenty-four inches wide by fifty-four inches long, printed on both sides, and display the veterans' photograph in uniform. The banners will include rank, full name, branch of the military, and the era, or the years of service. The banners will be displayed on the light

poles that line the Clinton Parkway from Springridge Road to Northside Drive and on the light poles that line Highway 80 from Springridge Road to Clinton Raymond Road.

Each participant will be required to complete a banner order form, provide a high-resolution quality headshot photograph of the veteran in uniform, and make payment of \$200 for each banner. The photograph must be sent in a JPEG file as an attachment to an email to VisitorCenter@ClintonMS.org. The banner order form can be downloaded at www.ClintonMS.org/Veterans

TributeBanner or can be picked up at the Clinton Visitor Center located at 1300 Pinehaven Road.

Each participant should turn in his/her banner order form in person to Marsha Barham, director of the Clinton Visitor Center, along with payment by cash or check made payable to the City of Clinton.

For questions, contact Marsha Barham by calling 601-924-2221, or email visitorcenter@clintonms.org.

The deadline for submitting all forms to the visitor center to be included in Veterans Day 2021 is Friday, August 13, 2021.



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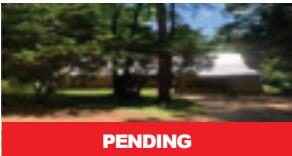
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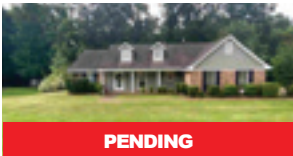
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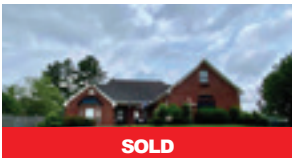
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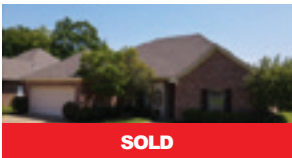
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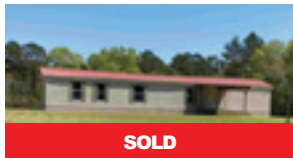
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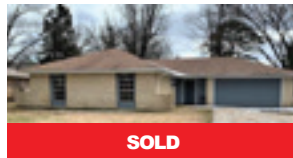
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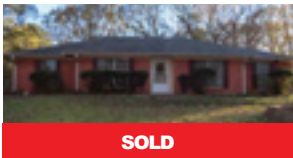
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THE Bolton NEWS
MISSISSIPPI PRESS ASSOCIATION

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Clay Mansell
Editor
Susalyn Bennett

www.BoltonMS.com

The Bolton News

Bolton voters went to the polls on June 8 to select the Mayor and Aldermen to lead their municipal government for the next four years.

In the Mayor's race, incumbent Lawrence Butler, who ran as an Independent, was re-elected with 161 votes (82%). Challenger LaMon Alexander, Jr., an Independent, received eighteen percent, with 35 votes.

For Alderman-at-Large, Independent candidate William Woods, the incumbent, faced Democratic challenger Addie L. Green. Woods was re-elected, receiving 137 votes, versus 50 votes for Green.

In Ward 1, Alderman Douglas Beard was unopposed and will

THE Bolton NEWS

Bolton chooses officials for next four years



Photo by Susalyn Bennett

serve another term as the Alderman for Ward 1.

In Ward 2, Helen Harris faced challenger Lendall Mack, Jr. Both ran as Independents. Harris was re-elected with 34 votes and Mack receiving 19.

Ward 3 Alderwoman Shirley Mason will serve another term. She was unopposed.

In Ward 4, incumbent Alderwoman Vera Powell faced challenger Calvin Griffin. Powell received 32 votes (68%) to Griffin's 15 (32%).

The Mayor and Board of Aldermen meet on the first and third Tuesday of each month, 7 p.m. at Town Hall, 202 Bolton Raymond Road. Swearing in ceremonies will be held Tuesday, July 6, at 7 p.m. The public is invited to attend.

Summer reading, crafts, prizes and more available at library

Special to The Bolton News

The Annie Thompson Jeffers Library in Bolton is geared up for the Jackson/Hinds Library System's summer reading program, "Tails and Tales."

Through July 9, patrons can register and log in at JHLibrary.beanstack.org. Those registering can use their email address as their username, and then use the password: beanstack. Patrons are asked to change their password after logging in.

After registering, patrons can stop by the library to pick up a goody bag. Also available will be a "grab and go" craft bag every week, while supplies last. As participants complete the challenges, they will earn badges and they might even win one of the great prizes being given away! The various challenges are in four different age groups: Pre-school, ages 5 and under; Children, ages 6 to 11; Teens, ages 12 to 17; and Adults, ages 18 and older.

The library has new books, DVDs and a lot of teens and children's books. Bolton veterinarian Dr. Milton Farr will present a vir-



tual program describing what he does and the different animals that he treats.

For help signing up, visit the library for assistance.

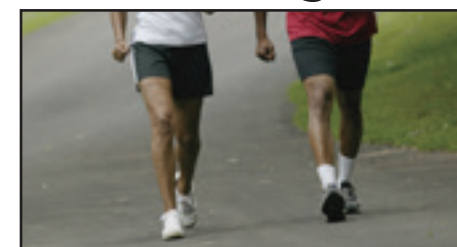
Library hours are Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to noon,

and 1 p.m. until 6 p.m.; Saturdays 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. The library is closed on Fridays and Sundays.

As of July 1, 2021, some COVID-19 restrictions still apply. Patrons may use the computers for up to two hours, and they may browse and check out books. But club meetings, kids' group activities and so on, cannot yet be held inside the library.

For more information, call 601-866-4247 or stop by 111 W. Madison Street, Bolton.

Walk-a-Thon event set for July 10



Special to The Bolton News

The Bolton News

Residents are encouraged to mark their calendars and plan to attend the sixth annual Jimmie Ray Lewis, Sr. Walk-a-Thon event.

The event is set for Saturday, July 10, from 6:30 a.m. to 9 a.m. at the Jimmie R. Lewis, Sr. Park Plaza in Bolton, on Martin L. King drive near the intersection with Bolton-Raymond Road.

Helpful health information and refreshments will be provided by the Jackson State University Jackson Heart Study Community Outreach Center and the Bolton/Edwards Community Health Advisory Network (CHAN).

The public is invited to attend.

Hinds County Saints youth football is open to children ages 5 through 12

By Susalyn Bennett

For more than a decade, the Hinds County Saints youth football program has given children a way to expend their energy, improve their strength and speed, make lasting friendships, and learn new skills from caring adults who love coaching and working with kids. The program is open to all children in Hinds County, ages 5 through 12.

HCSYF belongs to American Youth Football. AYF rules and regulations ensure players are in a safe environment with a competitive balance between teams. The registration fee is \$75. No child will be turned away, however, due to the inability to pay.

Coach James Davis is dedicated to teaching young players positive lessons and preparing them to face the future with confidence, as well as instilling them with love and appreciation for the game of football.

“Year after year,” Davis says, “I can’t wait for the new Saints’ season to begin.”

Coach Richard Caston, on why he coaches the Saints: “I know from experience how easy youth can get caught up in the wrong things. I’ve had the chance to watch young, shy kids put on a helmet or pick up a ball, and it has changed their whole outlook on their future. If hard work and



Special to The Bolton News

Brantley Owens, Kyron Moten and Preston Odom.

dedication are applied to anything in life, anything is possible. Our youth need us to be loving, caring, disciplined and even hard on them, sometimes. I know a lot of coaches who want our kids to be great. They work hard, coach hard and even fuss hard. But at the end of the day, they love these kids even harder. As a community, we have to continue to teach and guide our youngsters in a direction to success. We all have different ways of helping...This is mine.”

Coaches for the 2021 season are James Davis, Richard Caston, Eric West, Mario Macklin, Marlon Kidd, Willie Marshall, Horace Palmer, Rus-

sell Creason, Eric Williams and Percy McGee. Teams are based on age: A Team, ages 11-12; B Team, ages 9-10; C Team, ages 7-8, D Team ages 5-6.

Team Mom, Krystal Mason of Bolton, says she can’t say too many good things about the Saints program or the coaches. As the single mother of two sons, Mason says she found the outstanding male role models she wanted for her boys, when they joined Saints Youth Football.

“My older son played on the A Team that won the district championship in 2019. That was incredibly exciting! The coaches have such a passion for the game, and they are devoted to these kids. Some kids can’t pay the registration fee, but they never turn anyone away. They always find a way to make it possible, so that every child that wants to play, can play. Donations to help sponsor a child are welcomed and greatly appreciated.” And she added, “It’s not too late to sign up, kids. Come play with the Saints!”

Practices are held on Mondays and Thursdays at 6 p.m. on the field behind Raymond Glass Company, 12450 Highway 18. Games are played on weekends, August through December.

For more information, call Krystal Mason at 601-951-7273 or Coach Caston at 601-503-0281, or follow “Hinds County Saints” on Facebook.

Summertime sing-along and ice cream social at St. Mary’s



Special to The Bolton News

Tommy Steadman, Greg Gibson, Brad Feaster and Bill Bacon of the Brickstreet Barbershop Quartet

The Bolton News

On Sunday, July 11, at 4 p.m., in-person services will resume at St. Mary’s Episcopal Church in Bolton. Worshipers are invited to attend the evening prayer service led by the reverend deacon Josie Williams and Harvey Smith, lay worship leader. The 4 p.m. service will be followed by a Summertime Sing-a-Long of sacred, patriotic and old-time favorites, featuring the Brickstreet Barbershop Quartet, and an ice cream social at the Terry Brantley Parish House.

St. Mary’s, one of the oldest Episcopal churches in Hinds County, is located at 209 E. Madison Street in the heart of Bolton. Services are held at 4 p.m. on the second Sunday of each month. For more information, visit www.stmarysbolton.org.



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Chamber hosts ribbon cutting and red-carpet rollout for Lyla Grace Children’s Consignment



Special to The Bolton News

The Clinton Chamber of Commerce and Main Street Clinton recently celebrated Lyla Grace Children’s Consignment with a ribbon cutting and red-carpet roll-out ceremony for their new business located at 311 Clinton Boulevard. Lyla Grace Children’s Consignment started with a desire to benefit the foster care community and bring quality, second-hand clothing to the city of Clinton. One hundred percent of the profits of the store go to benefit foster care non-profits. Clay Mansell and Carrie Chennault, along with staff, family and friends, were joined by representatives and staff from the Chamber, Main Street, and City of Clinton to mark the occasion. For more information, call Lyla Grace 601-708-4416.

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In one advertisement in this issue, we've placed the Clinton High School arrow. Find it, write the advertiser's name and the page number where you found it below, and mail this form to the indicated address. A drawing will be held to determine our winner from all correct entries received by June 11, 2021. There will be one winner per each issue in which this contest entry form appears. One entry per household per issue, please.

Please contact The Clinton Courier to claim your prize.

WRITE THE ADVERTISER AND THE PAGE NUMBER BELOW. Mail entries to: **AD CONTEST**
The Clinton Courier
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Clinton, MS 39056

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Olde Towne Rail Club to hold July meeting

Special to The Clinton Courier

The Olde Towne Depot will hold its regularly scheduled quarterly meeting on Saturday, July 17, at 10 a.m. The club meets quarterly and is open to anyone interested in joining. For train enthusiasts and railroad fanatics, the club will discuss upcoming events, volunteer opportunities, and will plan new activities for the year.

For more information or questions concerning the meeting, contact the Olde Towne Depot at 601-924-0113.





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Passport program to hold July, September and November meetings



Photo by Susalyn Bennett.


Special to The Clinton Courier

Passport, a program offering travel-themed adventure and learning to fifth and sixth graders, will hold meetings July 24, September 25 and November 6. Each meeting, students will take an exciting “train ride” that will include group challenges and projects.


On July 24, participants will take a coast-to-coast ride on Canada’s The Rocky Mountaineer. Other destinations include the Trans-Siberian Railway

in Russia and the Wild, Wild West’s Durango and Silverton. Passport activities are designed to help participants explore other cultures through art, architecture and engineering feats.


Passport will meet from 9 a.m. until noon. The cost per adventure is \$25. Registration can be completed in person at the Olde Towne Depot or online at www.oldetownedepot.com/passport. Call the Olde Towne Depot at 601-924-0113 for more information.



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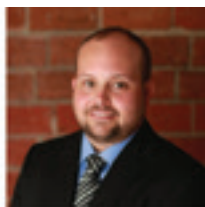
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Morris retires after 20+ years with local bank

All photos by Susalyn Bennett.

Diane Morris, who joined BankPlus in September 1998, recently retired from her position as the Banking Center Manager for the three BankPlus branches in Clinton. A retirement celebration was held for her late last month at the Clinton Boulevard branch of BankPlus.



Diane Morris



Pictured (l to r) are, front row: Bank Plus Clinton President John Murphy, Diane Morris and Sara Marble; and back row: Chris Collins and Gene Delcomyn.



Richard and Diane Morris, Kylee Fullerton, and Bootsie and Kenneth Ellis



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Kaitlyn Walker: A young star in the making

All photos Special to The Clinton Courier

By Datti Jinkiri

“Unforgettable.”

When asked to describe her 2021 track and field season, this was the word that Clinton High School rising junior Kaitlyn Walker used. For Walker and the Clinton High School Lady Arrows, it truly was an unforgettable season. Walker helped lead the Lady Arrows to a sweep of the Division 4-6A, Region 2-6A, and Class 6A Girls' Track and Field Championships. The 6A State Championship was the program's eighth consecutive title.

Walker is one of the throwers and participates in both the discus throw and shot put. Of the eight meets that Walker took part in, she won seven shot put events and seven discus events. In the discus throw, she won her last five meets and swept the division, region and state championships. In the shot put, she won the division and region championships before tallying a third-place finish at the 6A State Championship meet.

Walker, who is already quite the accomplished athlete, also shattered two school records this season. In the team's last regular season meet in Biloxi, she broke the shot put record with a throw of 38 feet. At the Division 4-6A meet just a week later, she broke the school's discus record with a throw of 131 feet, five inches.

This was Walker's second season competing with the varsity track and field team. In 2019, she was one of three eighth graders who were promoted for the last part of the season. She ended the season as the division and region champion in the discus throw, as well as the division champion in the shot put. Walker subsequently finished in third in the discus throw at the state championship and tallied crucial points for the Lady Arrows as they won another state crown.

The COVID-19 pandemic grounded the 2020 season to a halt, so Walker and her teammates could not compete for a state championship during her freshman year. For Walker, not having that opportunity was a large motivating factor for her in 2021. She also did want to regress from her fantastic eighth grade year. These factors helped shape her approach to the 2021 season.

“Corona canceled our last season, and I came in with the mindset of already being behind my competition because of basketball season,” Walker said. “I kept thinking that I've got to be number one. I don't want anyone to say that I threw well in my eighth grade year and was just a one-year wonder.”

“I stayed after practice for three hours some days,” she added. “I feel if I had taken even more time to practice, then I could've been even better. You definitely get what you give in track and field.”

Though she is already accomplished at a relatively young age, Walker is aware of areas where she can improve.

“I can improve my footwork,” Walker stated. “I can definitely work on speeding my spin up, as well as getting my wrist stronger and getting stronger overall.”

Clinton Track and Field Head Coach Johnathan Perkins has been on the coaching staff for all eight of the girls' championships. He has seen a number of talented athletes come through the program, and he knew early on that



Walker could be one of the next Arrow greats.

“Kaitlyn entered our junior high track program as a seventh grader, and she made an instant impact for our junior high team in her first year throwing,” Perkins said. “She finished second overall in the discus throw in our Little Six Conference Eighth Grade Championships as a seventh grader. We knew then that we had something special in Kaitlyn.”

Perkins is the head of the boys' and girls' teams, while Assistant Coach Ben Prevost works specifically with Walker and the other throwers. Walker says that the entire coaching staff fosters a competitive, yet fun, environment for the team to work in.

“They're amazing,” Walker stated. “They are also great motivators. Our coaches don't make practice seem like practice. It's always fun, and everyone has a cheery attitude. We just love what we do over there.”

Walker is also an accomplished basketball player and has lettered in the sport since her freshman year. This past season, she was second on the Lady Arrows in scoring with 11.4 points per game and led the team with 5.5 rebounds per game. She shot an impressive 53 percent from the field and was named to the PriorityOne Bank All-Metro Fourth Team.

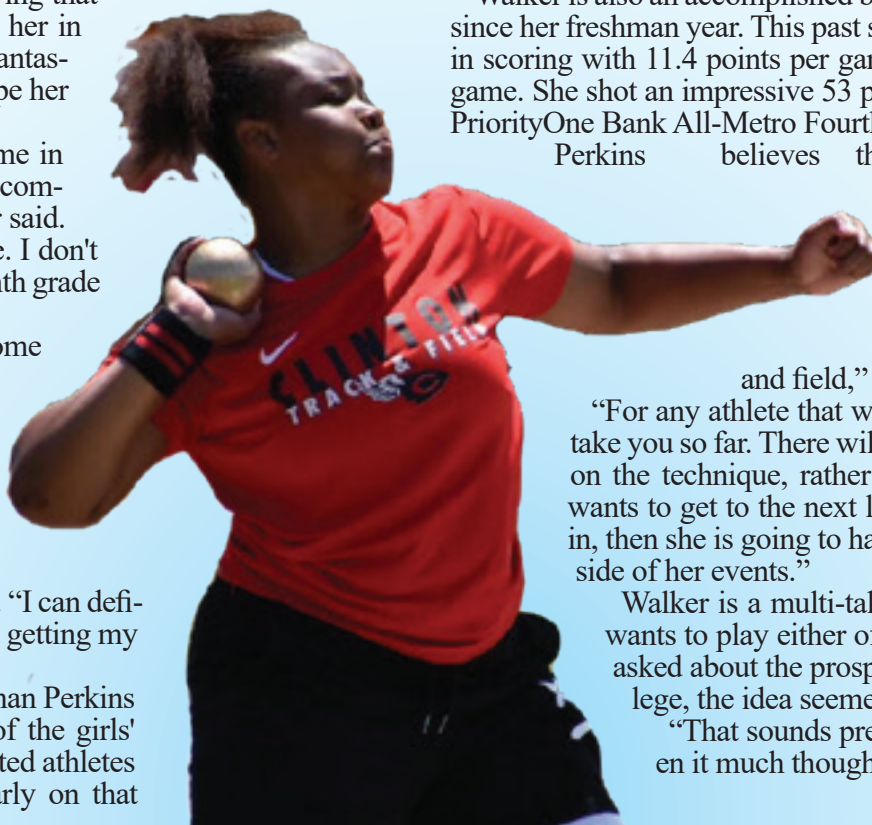
Perkins believes that Walker can be one of his next Arrows to compete at the collegiate level. In his opinion, though, she will need to continue to improve her technique as she progresses through high school.

“I believe she has the talent and fortitude to compete on the next level in track and field,” Perkins stated.

“For any athlete that wants to be elite, your talent is only going to take you so far. There will come a time when you have to focus more on the technique, rather than relying on just overall talent. If she wants to get to the next level in any of the sports that she competes in, then she is going to have to start working harder on the technique side of her events.”

Walker is a multi-talented athlete and has time to decide if she wants to play either of her two sports at the next level. But when asked about the prospect of being a track and field athlete in college, the idea seemed to pique a good bit of interest in her.

“That sounds pretty nice, actually!” she said. “I haven't given it much thought yet.”





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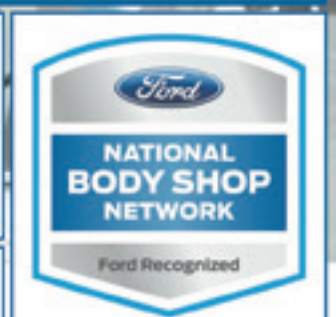


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Clinton Chamber of Commerce, Main Street Clinton host annual awards banquet

By Taylor McKay Hathorn

The Clinton Chamber of Commerce and Main Street Clinton partnered to host the annual Clinton Chamber of Commerce Awards Banquet in Anderson Hall on the campus of Mississippi College last month. Typically an event held early in the year, the celebration was postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Gerard Hardy, President of the Chamber, opened the evening by telling the two hundred guests in attendance that he was so glad to truly “see” them, after a year of masking and limited in-person events due pandemic. Live music was also conspicuously absent during the eighteen months marred by COVID-19, so Hardy wasted no time in introducing the musical guest for the evening, Eddie Cotton. Cotton, a popular blues musician, is slated to headline Clinton’s Fourth of July festival, and he and his band performed three of their selections for the crowd before Hardy introduced the President of Main Street Clinton, Alison Reno.

Reno thanked the Chamber for their ongoing support of the work of Main Street Clinton, saying, “We’re all here because we want to work toward the vision we have for our community and because we’re invested in the great city of Clinton.” Reno then went on to highlight a few of the businesses and citizens that have helped make that vision possible, handing out awards for Olde Towne Business of the Year, Boulevard Business of the Year and Volunteer of the Year.

Posh Design Shoppe took home the accolade for Olde Towne Business of the Year. Rachel Curtis, the business’s proprietor, opened her storefront in 2015, though she has worked in local event-planning and stationery design for the last twenty-eight years. Reno told the crowd that Posh Design Shoppe already had thirty-seven weddings on its calendar for 2021, which is the largest number of weddings that Curtis and her team have done thus far in a single year.

Great Wall Chinese Restaurant was named Boulevard Business of the Year, although its owner, Andy Zhang, was unable to accept the award at the banquet and had instead received his commemorative plaque at the very location that earned the honor—his family’s restaurant. Reno made a few remarks on the restaurant’s behalf, noting that Zhang’s father had originally opened the business in 1994 before passing ownership to his son six years ago.

Rob Logan was recognized as Main Street Clinton’s Volunteer of the Year. Logan has lived in Clinton for nearly four decades and credits his parents for his



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Pictured (l to r) are Tronnie Lacy, Chamber President Award, and 2021 Chamber President Gerard Hardy.

compensated care in the past year alone. The Small Business Award went to Milner and Nixon. The law firm served as a recent corporate sponsor for the annual “Red Brick Roads” event, and Steven Nixon said that the good work the business was able to accomplish in the area was all thanks to “the support [he] receives daily.”

Demmie Dunaway, a recently-elected member of the Board of the Chamber of Commerce, became the new “Ambassador of the Year,” intended to acknowledge her work with city-wide volunteerism, particularly with new businesses. Dunaway was joined by Distinguished Service Award winner Shelly Withers Janous, who spearheaded events such as “Team Up to Clean Up” and various local golf tournaments.

Jerry Patel was named Clinton’s Outstanding Citizen of the Year, and Patel, who manages the local Holiday and Hampton Inns, said that the award was deeply meaningful for him as a child of immigrants.

“My parents told me, ‘You came empty-handed, and you’re going to leave empty-handed,’” Patel said of the honor. “There’s no country like the United States.” Patel has worked to better the country and the state he loves so much, donating to Children’s of Mississippi and to the Mississippi Food Bank.

Gerard Hardy chose to give his President’s Award to Tronnie Lacey, an area realtor who is herself a past-president of the Chamber of Commerce, a former Ambassador of the Year, and a present member of the Board of the Clinton Chamber



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Pictured (l to r) are Rob Logan, Main Street Volunteer; Tara Lytal, Director, Main Street Clinton; Rachel Curtis of Posh Design Shoppe, LLC, Olde Towne Business of the Year; and Alison Reno, President, Main Street Clinton. Not pictured is Andy Zhang of Great Wall Chinese Restaurant, named Boulevard Business of the Year.

love for volunteerism. The retired Entergy customer service representative has served as President of his local homeowner’s association and is a past president of the Clinton Chamber of Commerce. Logan has also spearheaded local recycling efforts and has served on a number of technology-related committees for the Clinton Public Schools, leading Reno to observe that he “truly has a servant’s heart.”

Reno passed the mic back to Hardy for the presentation of the Chamber of Commerce awards, which included Large Business of the Year (given to a non-profit organization with more than ten employees), Small Business of the Year, Ambassador of the Year, the Distinguished Service Award, the Outstanding Citizen Award and the President’s Award.

Merit Health, Clinton’s nearest hospital, received the nod for Large Business of the Year, which CEO David Henry said was a testament to the center’s 950 employees. The hospital also helped alleviate the burden of those deeply affected by COVID-19, as the hospital provided \$150 million in charitable donations and un-



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Pictured (l to r) are David Henry, CEO of Merit Health, Large Business of the Year; Demmie Dunaway, Ambassador of the Year; Steven Nixon of Milner & Nixon, PLLC, Small Business of the Year; Shelly Withers Janous, Distinguished Service Award; and Jerry Patel, Outstanding Citizen of the Year.

of Commerce. When Hardy prompted Lacey to “say a few words” regarding her receipt of the award, Lacey quipped, “I’m good,” which Hardy said was a testament to her devotion to behind-the-scenes work.

Although recently-re-elected mayor Phil Fisher was out of town, he did submit a brief video thanking Clintonians for their continued support and stating that he was looking forward to working with the new Board of Aldermen to continue to increase quality of life for Clintonians.

Hardy concluded the evening by thanking TJ McSparrin, the retiring executive director of the Clinton Chamber of Commerce, for her eleven and a half years of service to the city. In a tearful farewell address, McSparrin thanked her staff and her “number-one volunteer,” her husband, who she said had been instrumental in her work with the city.

Those interested in joining the Chamber of Commerce can visit www.ClintonChamber.org for more information. For more information about Main Street Clinton, visit www.MainStreetClintonMS.com.



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CCA cheer squads attend UCA cheer camp

Clinton Christian Academy’s cheer squads are getting ready for the fall football season. They recently spent a week at UCA cheer camp at the University of Southern Mississippi.



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The CCA varsity cheer squad includes (l to r), front row: Annie Katherine King, Robin Neblett, Maddie Bruner, Natalie Touns, Eliza Naquin and Bethany Cole; and back row: Selena White, Haley Cannada, Avery Davis and Chloe Hodgins.



Special to The Clinton Courier

The CCA junior varsity cheer squad includes (l to r), front row: Maddie Fox, Ashlyn Barnes, Sawyer Turnage, Hayden Cannada, Izzy McGeehee, River Russell, Polly Pope and Karmen Manuel; and back row: Jamaya Loftin, Kenzie Prevost, Laney Gibson, Kenlee Mitchell, Maddie Beckman, Kaylyn Watson, Shelby Brinkmann, Rivers McMullen and Ella Craft.

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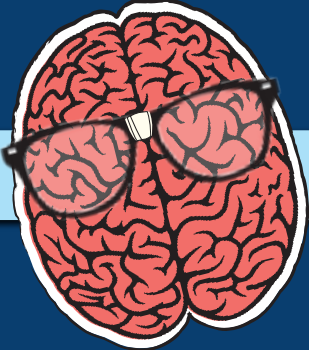
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Wilbanks & Dowd holds ribbon cutting and red carpet rollout



Special to The Clinton Courier

The Clinton Chamber and Main Street Clinton recently celebrated Wilbanks & Dowd with a ribbon cutting and red-carpet roll-out ceremony for their new office located in Olde Towne at 108 West Leake Street. Chip Wilbanks' and Matt Dowd's law practice specializes in litigation, residential and commercial real estate services, corporate law, contract law, wills, and estates. Staff, family and friends were joined by representatives and staff from the Chamber, Main Street, and City of Clinton to mark the occasion. For more information, call Wilbanks & Dowd at 601-952-3600.

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Clinton Study Club gathers for May meeting



Special to The Clinton Courier
Barbara Barnett's back porch served as the venue for the May meeting of the Clinton Study Club. Pictured (l to r) are Barbara Barnett, hostess, and new members Carole Kelly and Kathy Cannon.
Special to The Clinton Courier

The Clinton Study Club gathered at the home of Barbara Barnett for a May meeting. Members fellowshiped and dined on key lime pie before President Paula Wimbish called the meeting to order.

After welcoming new members Kathy Cannon and Carole Kelly, Secretary Emily Fokeladeh called the roll, and members answered by sharing a favorite pastime since the club last met in March of 2020. Responses ranged from enjoying nature to reading interesting books.

The Clinton Study Club has a rich history of promoting intellectual and social endeavors, and members agreed that it was a joy to be meeting again. Study Club member Susan Meadors shared an inspirational message with the group based on Psalm 84.

Other members attending were Jenta Boone, Betty Byrne, Carolyn Cannon, Peggy Cudd, Judy Gearhart, Lou Ann Lee, Dixie Lloyd, Robin McCormick, Doreen Moore, Barbara Parks, Judi Reynolds, Rowland Roberts, Mary Simpson and Lynda Williams.

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