

The Belzoni Banner



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Humphreys Academy Homecoming



L-R Freshman Peyton Millican; Sophomore, Felicity Prewitt; Junior Amery Domino; Senior, Hailey Rodgers; Homecoming Queen, Laney Carter; Senior Allie Manseill; Junior Milla Ledbetter; sophomore Jane Audrie Towery and Freshman Mari Michael Pinson. Center: Crown Bearer, Hayes Howard and Flower Girl, Madelyn Muncher.

2024 SANDERSON FARMS CHAMPIONSHIP ANNOUNCES FINAL FIELD

JACKSON, Miss. (October 1, 2024) – The final field is set for the 2024 Sanderson Farms Championship, taking place this week at The Country Club of Jackson, Mississippi. To view the complete field, visit [SFC Committed Players](#).

The last four players in after Monday's Sanderson Farms Championship qualifier are Beck Burnette, Caleb Hicks, Ryan Hall, and Charlie Flynn.

The additions complete a full field of 132 players, including Major winners Gary Woodland (U.S. Open 2019), 12-time PGA TOUR winner Zach Johnson (Masters 2007, The Open Championship 2015), and Lucas Glover (U.S. Open 2009), who will join 2023 defending champion, Luke List, this week at the 57th Sanderson Farms Championship.

Past tournament champions competing are Mackenzie Hughes (2022), Cameron Champ (2018), Ryan Armour (2017), Cody Gribble (2016), Peter Malnati (2015), and Bill Haas (2010, FedExCup 2011).

"We couldn't be more excited about the impressive variety and caliber of players this year, including Rickie Fowler and Matt Kuchar, who have joined our field," said Steve Jent, Executive Director of the Sanderson Farms Championship. "We are expecting beautiful weather this week and perfect playing conditions."

For mobile tickets, visit the ticket link at the [Sanderson Farms Championship](#) website.

In appreciation, military personnel and first responders are granted complimentary admission each day to the 2024 tournament. By submitting their official identification online, they can access four free mobile Daily Grounds Tickets through [Sanderson Farms Championship](#) or by setting up an account through [Spinzo](#).

Experience The Outpost, an open-air hospitality pavilion on the 10th Green where various military and first responder units from Mississippi gather yearly to enjoy the tournament. Attendees include active-duty, reserve, retired service members, veterans, fire, police, emergency personnel, and 911 dispatchers.

Wednesday's Lyle Machinery Co. Pro-Am will be open to the public at no cost with a mobile ticket. Enjoy convenient parking and shuttle services at Northpark in Ridgeland or accessible parking spaces behind Christ United on Old Canton Road in Jackson.

HCHS Homecoming Court



Last Friday night was a big night in Belzoni as both schools hosted their Homecoming events.

Pictured above is the Humphreys County High School Homecoming Queen and her Court; Senior Football Favorite-Shenlya Love; Junior Football Favorite-Christyanna Swan; Homecoming Queen-Dajah Robinson; Freshman Football Favorite-Akecia Holman; Sophomore Football Favorite-Raeghan Loyd

October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month

TURNING 65... HOW DOES MEDICARE'S FALL ENROLLMENT AFFECT ME?

Dear Toni,
A friend introduced me to your Medicare column because I'm stressed about what I need to do to enroll in Medicare. I have started working part-time and am no longer eligible for company benefits. I'm turning 65 on Nov. 11 and need my Medicare to begin that month. I will not be receiving a Social Security check until I am at least 67.



How does Medicare's fall enrollment time affect me, since I will be applying for Medicare during that period? Please explain what I should do to enroll in Medicare properly and not make any mistakes regarding Medicare's rules. Thanks, Jenny from Conroe, TX
Hi Jenny:

Don't stress yourself about Medicare Annual Enrollment Period (AEP), which begins Oct. 15, because you will be in your Medicare Initial Enrollment Period (IEP) which is Medicare's special time for those turning 65. During your IEP, you can pick which Medicare plan, whether Original Medicare with a Medicare Supplement and a standalone Medicare Part D plan or Medicare Advantage plan with Part D, best fits your medical and financial situation.

During next year's AEP in 2025, you can make a change to either the Medicare Advantage Plan or Medicare Part D, if you select one when you enroll in Medicare this year when you turn 65. This year's AEP is not for you!

Medicare's IEP is a 7-month window that begins 3-months before the month you turn 65, the month you turn 65, and 3-months after turning 65. If you are covered on Medicare Parts A and B by the end of your Initial Enrollment Period, you can sleep free from worry about Medicare penalties. If you wait past the final 3-month period to enroll, Part B and D penalties can begin. (Chapter 1 of Toni's Medicare Survival Guide Advanced edition explains enrolling in Medicare in detail.)

Below is the Medicare Initial Enrollment Period (IEP) 7-month timeline:

- If enrolling anytime 3 months before turning 65, your Medicare begins the first day of the month you turn 65. (Since Jenny will turn 65 on Nov. 10, she can enroll in Medicare Parts A and/or B in August, September, or October (3 months prior) for a Nov. 1 effective date.)

- If enrolling the month you turn 65, then Medicare will begin the 1st of next month. (If Jenny enrolls in November, her Medicare will begin Dec. 1.)

- If enrolling 1 month after you turn 65, your Medicare will begin 1st of the next month. If Jenny enrolls in December, her Medicare begins Jan. 1.)

- If enrolling 2 months after you turn 65, your Medicare will begin the next month. (If Jenny enrolls in January, her Medicare will begin Feb. 1.)

- If enrolling 3 months after you turn 65, your Medicare will begin the next month. (If Jenny enrolls in February (3 months after the month she turns 65), her Medicare will begin Mar. 1.)

Jenny, since you are not receiving your Social Security check, you need to create a My Social Security Account through Social Security's website at www.ssa.gov/medicare/sign-up. Social Security enrolls America in Medicare.

Please enroll in either September or October for your Medicare Parts A and B to have an effective date of Nov. 1. Once you have enrolled in Medicare on the www.ssa.gov website, you can view your Benefit Verification Letter and access your Medicare Part A and B dates with your new Medicare number and enroll in whatever Medicare health and prescription drug plan you wish. Whether you pick a Medicare Supplement with a standalone Part D prescription drug plan or a Medicare Advantage HMO/PPO plan with prescription drugs, find a plan that best fits your medical or financial needs.

Toni's Confused about Medicare AEP Zoom Workshop is "Live" Wednesday, October 23 at 4:00PM CST. To register by Zoom, visit www.tonisays.com or call 832/519-8664 for more information.

If you have a Medicare question, email info@tonisays.com. Toni's Medicare books are available at www.tonisays.com.

POSTED

All land owned or leased by Kenny Rodgers is posted against all forms of trespassing, including 16th Section land & all Lundy property. All violators will be prosecuted.
Kenny Rodgers

84-33

Obituaries

JAMES CHARLES "JIMMY" BARRON



Lafayette - Memorial Services for Mr. James Charles "Jimmy" Barron, 79, were held at 6:30PM, on Tuesday, October 1, 2024, at David Funeral Home Chapel.

A gathering was held from 5:00 PM until time of services, on Tuesday, October 1, 2024, at David Funeral Home of Abbeville.

James Charles "Jimmy" Barron, aged 79, passed away at his home on September 27, 2024, Lafayette, Louisiana. He was born on July 21, 1945, in Northampton, England to Charles Enos Barron and Daisy Florie Roff Barron. He was raised in Belzoni, Mississippi.

Jimmy served in the National Guard. He was a devoted member of his community, serving as a little league baseball coach, an ordained deacon in his church, and a proud Freemason for more than 50 years.

Professionally, Jimmy dedicated 37 years to Columbia Gulf, where he retired in 2004 as an area manager in Pecan Island, Louisiana. His leadership and dedication to his role left a lasting impact on his colleagues and the company.

An avid outdoorsman, Jimmy enjoyed golf, hunting, and fishing. These hobbies provided him not just relaxation, but also a way to connect with friends and family, sharing adventures and stories that will be cherished by all who knew him.

Jimmy is survived by his loving wife of 59 years, Dorothy Burrell Barron of Lafayette; two daughters, Donna Reynolds and husband Michael of Abbeville, LA, and Monica Gillespie and husband Shane of Williamsport, PA; five grandchildren, Ashley Callaway and husband Marcus, Barron Gillespie, Rowan Reynolds, Emma Reynolds, and AnnaKate Gillespie.

The family extends their heartfelt appreciation to his health care team; Dr. Meeks, the team at NSI Homecare & Hospice, especially his caring nurse, Wendy Cole, and Jimmy's faithful caregiver, Mildred Davis. In lieu of flowers please make a donation to First Baptist Church of Abbeville or a charity of your choice.

David Funeral Home of Abbeville will be handling the arrangements. 2600 Charity St. Abbeville, LA 70533 (337) 893-3777

EDNA PEARL CHILDS HOBSON

Edna Pearl Childs Hobson, 83, of Isola, passed away Thursday, September 26, 2024, at her daughter's home in Tilly, Arkansas. Pearl was born May 26, 1941, in Belzoni, to Nancy Colyer and Alfred Childs. She was a loving and hardworking woman. Pearl worked as a seamstress for Jockey International for over 30 years before their closure. She was a devoted member of Beulah Baptist Church in Inverness. Pearl enjoyed putting puzzles together, shopping with her friends, and tending to her roses. She was a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution. Pearl was a devoted

mother and grandmother and loved spending time with her children and grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her parents; nine brothers, James Edward Childs, Bud Childs, Wes Childs, Tommy Childs, Morris Childs, Willie Childs, Alfred Childs Jr., Billy Joe Childs, and Gary Childs; and granddaughter, Dena Smith.

Pearl is survived by two sons, Roy Hobson, Jr. (Tammy) of Indianola and Wayne Hobson (Christy) of Cruger; two daughters, Susan Hobson of Greenwood and Debbie Shaw (Jon) of Tilly, Arkansas; sister, Doris Grisham of Belzoni; nine grandchildren, David Smith (Kathy), Cassie Ferguson (James), Crystal Penson (Andrew), Jonathan Hobson (Jessica), Steven Hobson (Jennifer), Michael Hobson (Dominique), Brandon Hobson, and Anna Hobson; and fourteen great-grandchildren with one more on the way.

Visitation was held from 1:00 pm until 2:00 pm, Monday, September 30, 2024, at Burton Funeral Home in Indianola. The funeral service began at 2:00 pm with Rev. Lee Kirk officiating. Burial followed in Greencrest Memorial Gardens in Belzoni. Burton Funeral Home has been entrusted with arrangements.

STEPHEN LONGINO RODGERS, II

July 10, 1978 - September 26, 2024

Stephen Longino Rodgers, II, age 46, passed away peacefully, surrounded by his family, on September 26, 2024, at Mississippi Baptist Medical Center in Jackson, Mississippi. Stephen was born July 10, 1978, to Steve and Sheryl Ketchum Rodgers. He was a member of the First Baptist Church of Flora, Mississippi.

Stephen is survived by his three precious children, whom he adored, Liam, Lann, and Lillie Layton of Clinton, Mississippi, as well as his mother, Sheryl Ketchum Rodgers, father, Steve "Steb" Rodgers and stepmother, Mary Peyton Rodgers. He is also survived his sisters, Shelle (Lee) Bates and Haiden Rodgers, grandmothers, Nancy Kay Ketchum and Marie Rodgers, girlfriend, Bridget Williams, and many aunts, uncles, and cousins.

Stephen is preceded in death by his grandfathers, Grady Ketchum, and M. D. "Bud" Rodgers, as well as his aunt Susan Ketchum.

Stephen graduated from Humphreys Academy in 1996, and attended Flight School in Bainbridge, Georgia. He immediately returned home and started flying with his dad. He worked with his dad at Rodgers Air Services from the time he was 12 years old. He loved flying with a passion. However, Stephen's greatest passion was for his family and children. He loved taking his 3 precious children to the "airPORCH", as Lann calls it, and out to the farm to ride tractors, combines, etc. From all who knew Stephen, we can agree that he had an obsession for great music, hunting, and riding turn rows.

Stephen will forever be in our hearts, "FLY HIGH SMOKE"

Services were held Monday, September 30, 2024 at First Presbyterian in Belzoni, Mississippi. Visitation began at 1 PM followed by the services at 2 PM. Interment was at the Belzoni City Cemetery

In lieu of flowers the family suggest donations to: St. Jude Children Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis Tn. 38105

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DON'T WASTE IT!

Psalms 118:24 says, "This is the day which the Lord has made; we will rejoice and be glad in it." God tells us that each and every day that we live is the day which God has made for us collectively and individually. Not only that, but God wants us to use each day of our lives to rejoice and be glad in Him and in the day He has given us. Don't waste it!

Staying with the Psalms, in Psalm 139:16, David says, "Your eyes saw my substance, being yet unformed. And in Your book (the Bible) they all were written, the days fashioned for me, when as yet there were none of them." This a marvelous statement. To grasp its meaning, we have take it in our hands (and the hands of our hearts) and turn it like a jeweler does a beautiful diamond in order to see the beauty of all the facets.

God saw us in the womb, from the moment of our conception. Notice the clear statement of the facts. He was us when we had no obvious form. What's more, from the day of conception forward, every day of our lives was already written down in God's Book, the Bible. Before we ever saw the light of our first day among our families and friends, He saw us and knew us and every, single day of our lives. Today, as you read these words, this is one of those God-determined days. Don't waste it!

Continuing with the Psalms, we turn to Psalm 19. "The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament (skies) shows His handiwork. Day unto day utters speech, and night unto night reveals knowledge. There is no speech nor language where their voice is not heard. Their line goes out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world." Did you hear what David says? Every single day has a voice, God's voice. Every single day speaks in every language group, nation and people group all over the world. God speaks to us through creation every day. Today is one of those days. Listen to what God is saying to you today. Don't waste it!

Paul, a man who knew the Hebrew Bible (all 39 books of it!) better than most of his contemporaries, wrote in Romans 1:18, "For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven (one of the words of God in and through creation/Psalm 19) against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who suppress the truth in unrighteousness, because what may be known of God is manifest in them, for God has shown it to them. For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse; because, although they knew Him as God, they did not glorify Him as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened." Paul is saying that God speaks very plainly to us about Himself in the world around us every day. Don't waste it!

Finally, returning to the Psalms, we read in Psalm 84:10, "For a day in your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere. I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of the Lord than dwell in the tents of wickedness." There's a day coming when there will an eternal day that follows. We need to be prepared for when the days of this world are no more, and God's eternal day will begin. It will begin with a shout from heaven, the voice of any archangel, and the trumpet of God will blast loudly. Be make sure you are ready while it is still today. This is the day the Lord made. Don't waste it!

Believing that one day we won't see another day in this world may be a long shot for some of you, but...whatever you do, don't be afraid to go with the long shots. Live each moment of each day to fullest and be ready!

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All land owned by Marilyn Griffin on the Sunflower River is posted against all hunting. All previous permissions are revoked.
Eric Tirey, Lessee
20-19p

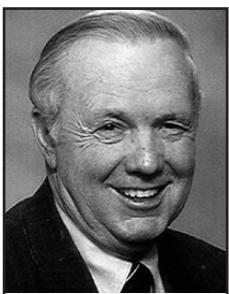
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Image of a family walking outdoors.



Guest Columnist
Jim Davidson
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CHILD ABUSE IS SERIOUS BUSINESS!

In my eyes, some of the lowest and most despicable people on earth are those who abuse children. It is just not fair when you have a grown man or woman take advantage of a helpless child and physically or mentally abuse them. As I said, these adults are truly the scum of the earth.

Yet, this takes place every single day in our nation, and I am sure all across the world. I don't have any statistics to back this up, but I think a good part of this is due to adults being high on something or being an alcoholic. While I have never taken any kind of drugs and have never had a drink of alcohol in any form, I love children and would never abuse them. However, there is a vast difference between proper discipline and being abusive. A good example is when my children would cut up and act rowdy in church. If a good stare did not stop them, the next time the memory of bending over the bed and getting a few licks with a belt sure would.

A few weeks ago, a speaker at our Lions Club meeting added to my knowledge of child abuse. If you are a child abuser, please stop, because no human being should have to go through that. Here is Timothy's story that was on a piece of literature our speaker handed out. "My name is Timothy and when I was just 9 months old my mom broke my arm. I was away from my mom for a long time (18 months) and a nice lady called a CASA advocate helped me the whole time. My brother and I had to go back to my mom, and I got hurt even worse. I have been in a lot of foster homes and once even had new parents that wanted to adopt me, but one of them hurt me, too. But my CASA stayed with me the whole time. It's hard sometimes, but she is always there for me." It was signed Timothy, Age 4. In case you don't know, CASA stands for Court Appointed Special Advocate.

I am sure you have heard the saying, "Live and Learn," and this is the path the task of dealing with child abuse in our society has taken. Here is what used to happen when kids needed help with abuse. This is the story of Robin, Age 5: Robin tells her teacher that she is being hurt at home. At school Robin talks with her teacher, her principal, and a school nurse, who also examines her. At this point, the school calls the hotline and police. Then a police officer talks with Robin, then a detective is assigned and takes her to a specialized hospital, where another nurse, social worker, and a doctor talk to her, and she is examined by another doctor. At this point a child protection investigator needs to talk with Robin and then a lawyer. By now a total of 15 people have talked with Robin before anything was ever done.

Here is the good news: they learned. Today when a child needs help for abuse, they tell their story to a detective, a Child Protective Services worker and an attorney who will all listen as a team. Then Robin sees a doctor and is referred to a counselor who will help her heal. Robin's mom talks with an advocate who helps her understand the system. Robin comes to a child advocacy center with her mom, and she tells the teacher that she is being hurt by her mom's new boyfriend at home. The good news is that Robin, in this case, has only talked with three people. This is better but let's all work to stop child abuse in its tracks.

(Jim Davidson is an author, public speaker, syndicated columnist, and Founder of the Bookcase for Every Child project. Since its inception in the Log Cabin Democrat in 1995, Jim's column has been self-syndicated in over 375 newspapers in 35 states. For a personalized copy of "Your Future Begins Today" send \$20, which includes postage and handling, to Jim Davidson, 2 Bentley Drive, Conway, AR 72034.)

MSU PRESIDENT AND FFAR CHAIRMAN KEENUM TRAVELS TO D.C. FOR AG RESEARCH ORGANIZATION'S 10-YEAR ANNIVERSARY EVENTS

STARKVILLE, Miss.—Mississippi State University President Mark E. Keenum—chairman of the board of directors for the Foundation for Food and Agriculture Research—travels to Washington, D.C., this week to celebrate FFAR's 10-year anniversary, and a decade of impact and achievement.

After FFAR was established with bipartisan support as part of the 2014 Farm Bill, Keenum was appointed that same year to serve on the FFAR board by U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack, who at that time was serving during the administration of President Barack Obama. Keenum was unanimously elected to chair the FFAR board in 2017.

In addition to celebrating the milestone anniversary this week, Keenum will take part in a House Roundtable Discussion and FFAR board meeting.

"FFAR was created to supplement the incredible research carried out by the United States Department of Agriculture, and we have a very strong relationship with USDA and many other partners to grow agricultural research to address critical problems in a timely manner," said Keenum, a former USDA Under Secretary.

FFAR utilizes a public-private partnership model to collaborate with diverse stakeholders to identify research opportunities and help farmers adapt to agriculture challenges such as extreme weather, diminishing natural resources and growing global demand.

"On average, FFAR matches each federal dollar with \$1.40, and that's a powerful return on taxpayer investment," Keenum said.

At Mississippi State, innovative agriculture research also is among the university's highest priorities. MSU is ranked by the National Science Foundation as a Top 100 research institution, and

PEGGY'S PONDERINGS



by Peggy Sims

What is it about cool weather that triggers the need to hunt in the male species? It begins when dove season opens and last until late January with deer season of the coming year. Well, actually it began with one of my grandsons when the weather was still so hot outside, I needed to take off stuff I really needed to keep on. Eli wants to plant seed lots, put up deer feeders, and set traps for all types of varmints anytime really.

The other night later in the hotness of the dusk, we saw four "would be" hunters walking around the back yard, circling our pond and pasture behind the barn, out in the openness of the pasture and all carrying 20-gauge shotguns resting on their shoulders. It would have been a nice 'Carrier and Ives' moment but they were looking up into the sky, not into trees for the doves. I'm no hunter but I am sure that doves hide and conceal in the leaves and limbs of trees and stall grasses.

This occurrence reminded me of the ONE time my husband let me go dove hunting with him. If you remember when you are young and you first fall in love, you have the concept and urge to do everything with your love. Roy was an avid hunter and loved dove hunting with a hunting dog. But he mostly loved hunting alone, unaccompanied of humans.

I had talked him in to taking me dove hunting one morning, in the early dawn of a cool, misty morning, just as the sun was climbing into the morning sky. I had eagerly jumped out of bed and dressed for the 'hunt'. I remember I wore longer shorts and a sleeveless shirt, knowing as the sun rose the heat would increase, and a pair of sandals, I've

always wanted cool feet. When he came out of the bedroom he was dressed in jeans and a long-sleeved shirt and boots. Seeing that he was still not too keen on my participating in this hunt, he looked at me with raised eyebrows and asked, "You are wearing that?" What could he mean? I looked really cute in my outfit. But knowing how competitive he was/is I thought he might be afraid I would shoot more birds than he did.

We arrived at our hunting land and started to walk into the woods. The grasses were thick and tall, and my legs began to itch. As we walked on, we came upon a rather deep ditch filled with muddy water. He just stepped right over as if it were no trouble. Me, I tried but with my short legs my foot hit the bottom and the mud pulled at my sandal and it stayed in the bottom of the muck. I started to call for him to wait but he kept going as if I were not screaming out to him. I finally shrieked, "Please stop," and foolishly I thought he was coming back to help me out of my difficulty, just as a covey of birds flew straight up from the tall fescue right in front of me. He was coming back to "thank" me for scaring the birds away.

He sat me down on an old stump and asked me not to move from that spot. I still had my gun so I figured I might still get lucky with a good shot. The grass began to move in front of me and I, hate to admit, was a little nervous there by myself so I shot and nearly shot Barney, his hunting dog. Thank goodness I was and am a bad shot. The thrust from the butt of the gun threw me backwards to the ground, into the mud with my flipflop.

I can honestly tell you he never did let me go hunting with him again and I never invited myself. My contribution to his hunting days – I sometimes cook the downed doves he brings home. This way we are both happy and still married to each other.

BAKEDDOVE BREASTS

12 deboned breasts, 1 cup cream of mushroom soup, 1 diced onion, sauteed, 1/2 cup of white wine, 1 t. of oregano, 1 t. rosemary. Mix all together and pour over doves. Cover with foil and bake 325* for one hour. Uncover and add 1/2 cup of sour cream and stir. Bake uncovered for another 20 minutes.

its annual research and development expenditures have exceeded \$320 million. An MSU graduate with degrees in agricultural economics, Keenum's interest in international food security has strengthened the university's contributions to global economic sustainability.

In addition to joining FFAR in 2014, he joined with other university presidents that same year to sign the Presidents' Commitment to Food and Nutrition Security at the United Nations in New York City, which marked the first time universities around the world began to share a collective focus on ending food insecurity. Keenum's passion for international engagement and transformative research and service has positioned MSU as a leader in addressing global food security and poverty, among other critical issues. He twice has been invited to speak at the U.N. about the crucial roles public research universities play as the global community works to address critical challenges. He also is immediate past chairman and former member of the Board for International Food and Agricultural Development, or BIFAD. "FFAR has been successful because we can work with anyone and be successful. That includes Democratic administrations and a Republican administration because the opportunities and benefits associated with agriculture innovation impact us all and require us to work together across political, geographical, and ideological boundaries to support thriving farms that meet the needs of consumers," Keenum said.

Over the course of FFAR's first 10 years, the organization has awarded nearly 400 grants and \$775 million in funding. It has worked with more than 550 funding partners. More highlights of FFAR's bold food and agriculture research programs may be found at <https://foundationfar.org/impact/>.

CORN, RICE HARVEST IS WRAPPED FOR 2024

By Bonnie Coblentz
MSU Extension Service

STARKVILLE, Miss. -- Corn and rice harvests wrapped up for Mississippi fields a bit ahead of schedule, helped by the ideal weather leading up to the harvest window.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture estimated corn harvest was 96% complete by Sept. 22, 2024. This put harvest ahead of the five-year average, which typically has corn 89% harvested by that date.

USDA estimated rice was 87% harvested by Sept. 22, 2024, well ahead of the five-year average of 67% harvested by late September. Harvests for both crops were helped by five days of weather suitable for field work leading up to that date.

Erick Larson, corn specialist with the Mississippi State University Extension Service, said hot, dry weather during August and early September promoted an extremely quick and efficient corn harvest this year.

"Mississippi's corn yield results vary widely depending primarily on irrigation capability," Larson said. "The summer's drought stressed dryland corn during key reproductive stages, which limited productivity considerably."

Spring rainfall delayed much north Mississippi corn planting until late April, and that increased those acres' vulnerability to summer drought. Much of the Delta region and other irrigated acreage was planted in early April. This allowed the corn to pollinate and benefit from cool, favorable weather the first three weeks of June.

"Corn yields were very modest across most of the dryland acreage this year," he said. "Corn grown where supplemental irrigation was available generally produced very well."

Hurricane Helene and associated wind and rain missed the state when it made landfall on Sept. 26, but Hurricane Francine made landfall in Louisiana on Sept. 11 and trekked through parts of the state as a tropical storm. That storm caused minimal trouble for Mississippi growers.

"While the wind may have caused some lodging of unharvested corn, I suspect soybeans and cotton may potentially sustain more damage associated with recent storms and rain," Larson said.

Mississippi growers harvested an estimated 580,000 acres of corn this year, down from 790,000 acres harvested in 2023. In the September Crop Production report, USDA estimates Mississippi corn yields to be 190 bushels per acre, up from 181 bushels an acre harvested in 2023.

"Considering dryland corn yields are generally considerably lower this year, that will be difficult to achieve," Larson said of the yield estimate.

Will Maples, Extension agricultural economist, said December corn futures have seen a small rally since trading around \$4 per bushel most of the summer.

"The contract averaged \$4.14 for the week ending Sept. 27, compared to \$4.81 for the same week the year before," Maples said. "The outlook for a large crop nationally continues to weigh on market prices."

USDA has increased expected production to 15.2 billion bushels, with ending stocks at 2.1 billion bushels. USDA projects the average farm price at \$4.10 per bushel for 2024, compared to \$4.65 last year.

The state's harvested rice acreage was at 156,000 acres, up from the 120,000 harvested in 2023. Mississippi is No. 6 in the nation in rice production, with Bolivar and Tunica counties having the most rice acreage in the state.

Laura Jane Giaccaglia, Extension agent in Bolivar County, said the rice harvest went well this year.

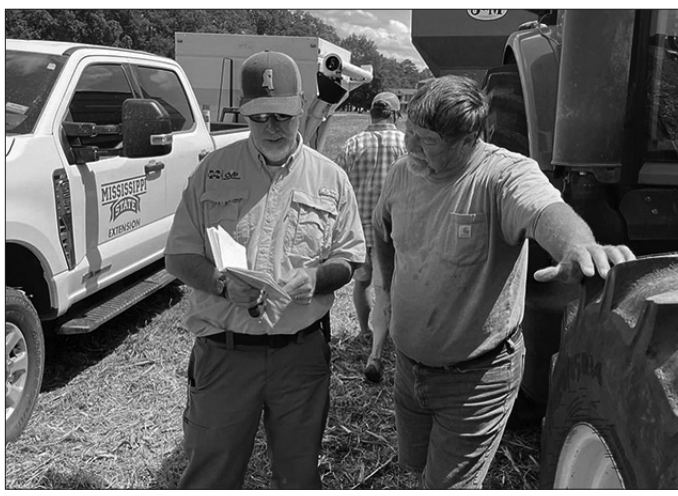
"For the most part, we've been dry, and harvest has gone well showing pretty good yields," Giaccaglia said. "Some of the later rice might be affected by recent rains, which delayed harvest a bit."

Maples said rice, like other commodities, has also seen a deterioration in commodity prices this year.

"USDA projects the average long grain rice price at \$14.50 per hundredweight for 2024, compared to \$15.90 per hundredweight last year," Maples said. "Long-grain rice is facing higher supplies, with USDA projecting an 8% increase in production compared to last year."

"This is leading to increased ending stocks, which are projected at 27.1 million hundredweight," he said.

USDA estimated in the September Crop Production report that Mississippi rice is expected to yield 7,500 pounds per acre, compared to 7,470 pounds per acre harvested last year.



MEN -- Erick Larson, corn specialist with the Mississippi State University Extension Service, said hot, dry weather during August and early September allowed Mississippi's corn crop to be quickly and efficiently harvested. (Photo by MSU Extension Service/Erick Larson) (Submitted photo/MSU Extension Service)

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FUNGUS AMONG US



by Felder Rushing

that they must be applied before, not after, the damage is done.

But this time of year, like in the spring, when temperatures are somewhat cool and there is plenty of moisture, fungi not only spread more rapidly but also do something elfin-magical: they sprout their versions of flowers. Called “fruiting bodies” by scientists, these temporary structures, which are mostly water and air, take on some bizarre shapes sizes, and colors.

These show up as familiar fairy-tale mushrooms and toadstools, hollow puff balls, shelf-like brackets protruding from tree trunks and limbs, frilly jelly-like and slimy foamy masses that look like a dog threw up onto the ground, and tiny “bird nest” cups. One group is called “stinkhorn” for the gasp-worthy foul fragrance produced by its lattice- or finger-shaped protrusions (trust me, the smell is a real *wowza*.) Some are famously edible, a few are used medicinally, others are notoriously toxic. And, coming from one who has participated in many “forays” led by trained fungi experts, many in the wild look very similar, to the point where only very experienced people can tell them apart. As the old saying goes, when it comes to wild “shroom foraging, “There are old mushroom hunters, and there are bold mushroom hunters, but there are very few old, bold mushroom hunters.”

The mushrooms most likely to be found in gardens are those that pop up in mulch and moist potting soil, sprouting along the lines of old dead tree roots, protruding from diseased tree trunks and limbs, and beautiful curves of white toadstools called “fairy rings” growing beneath lawns like a slo-mo ripple when a stone is tossed into a lake. As the rings spread outward, a foot or two a year, a thin band of grass may yellow or die, but will grow back as the ring continues to spread.

Not much we can do anyway. Unlike harmful garden fungi, my standard recommendation

for those in the lawn, mulch, or old trees: Admire them, ignore them, or scoop them up and toss where children and

eat-anything pets can’t get to them. Meanwhile, you may see me sprawled across lawns



or crouched along woodland trails photographing these oddly beautiful creatures.

Felder Rushing is a Mississippi author, columnist, and host of the “Gestalt Gardener” on MPB Think Radio. Email gardening questions to rushingfelder@yahoo.com.

Don’t Spend More Than You Make – Balancing the Budget

By Treasurer David McRae

Don’t spend more than you make. It’s as simple as that. In Mississippi, we live by this rule, yet the federal government spends far beyond its means.

In Mississippi we make good with taxpayer dollars, we don’t spend more money than we have, we save and invest, and we always balance our budget for the year. Washington needs to take notes.

Right now, the national debt sits at \$35 trillion. That is \$2 trillion more than last year! Spending in Washington is out of control. We need to rein in spending at the federal level, so we don’t hurt our national, state, and local economies by slowing down our investments and overall economic growth.

The national debt matters because as the debt grows so does the

interest we pay on that debt. According to the Peter G. Peterson Foundation, we spend \$2.4 billion on interest every day. I think we can both agree, there are many ways to better spend that kind of money!

I can’t think of a better time than now to add a Balanced Budget Amendment to the Constitution. The amendment was almost passed into law through Congress in 1995 (it came within just one vote of passing). Presently, the Balanced Budget Amendment is at a standstill, but I think it is time to pass this amendment and hold the federal government accountable for balancing the budget every year. We, as a nation, need to spend responsibly because every dollar will have an impact on our kids’ and this nations’ future.

To combat the rising debt and to fight for a balanced budget, I joined the Compact for a Balanced Budget Commission. I represent Mississippi in this interstate agency fighting for a federal Budget Amendment. With the rising debt, we can’t wait for Congress to act.

We need to start living within our means now.

Balancing the budget is something I feel strongly about. In Mississippi, we always balance the budget, make the most out of our investments, and save for the future. The federal government needs to take a page out of our book. As always, I try to make the most out of your hard-earned tax dollars, and I won’t stop fighting for a balanced budget at the federal level.

G.V. (Sonny) Montgomery VA Medical Center has housed more than 202 Veterans experiencing homelessness this fiscal year

JACKSON, Miss. – Today, G.V. (Sonny) Montgomery VA Medical Center announced that it has housed **202** Veterans experiencing homelessness in Mississippi this fiscal year. A total of **94.1%** of these Veterans have not returned to homelessness.

Nationally, during this same time period, VA housed 43,116 Veterans experiencing homelessness, surpassing its fiscal year 2024 goal to house 41,000 Veterans a month earlier than anticipated. A total of 96.3% of the Veterans housed have not returned to homelessness, and 38,476 unsheltered Veterans have been engaged nationally.

Preventing and eliminating Veteran homelessness is a top priority for VA and the entire Biden-Harris Administration. Between 2022 and 2023, VA permanently housed nearly 87,000 Veterans. As a result of these efforts, the number of Veterans experiencing homelessness in the U.S. has fallen by over 4% since early 2020 and by more than 52% since 2010.

“No person who has served this country should ever have to experience homelessness,” said **VA Secretary Denis**

McDonough. “As a result of this year’s efforts, more than 43,000 formerly homeless Veterans now have access to the homes that they deserve. And make no mistake: we won’t rest until every Veteran has a safe, stable, accessible, and affordable home to call their own.”

VA and the entire administration have taken considerable steps this year to combat Veteran homelessness. This week, the U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness released the federal government’s first ever framework for homelessness prevention and launched a new series spotlighting local and federal efforts to prevent homelessness. Last month, VA awarded more than \$800 million in grants via its Supportive Services for Veteran Families and Homeless Providers Grant and Per Diem programs, and in July, awarded over \$26 million in grants to support legal services for Veterans facing homelessness. Additionally, last month, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and VA announced policy changes that will help more Veterans receive housing assistance under the HUD-VA

Supportive Housing (HUD-VASH) program.

VA’s efforts to combat Veteran homelessness are grounded in reaching out to homeless Veterans, understanding their unique needs, and addressing them. These efforts are built on the evidence-based “Housing First” approach, which prioritizes getting a Veteran into housing, then providing or connecting them with the wraparound services and supports they need to stay housed, including health care, job training, legal and education assistance, and more.

Every day, VA staff and VA’s community partners nationwide help Veterans find permanent housing, such as apartments or houses to rent or own, often with subsidies to help make the housing affordable. In some cases, VA staff and partners help Veterans end their homelessness by reuniting them with family and friends.

Visit the VA.gov/homeless to learn about housing initiatives and other programs supporting Veterans experiencing homelessness.

Cody Dickinson of North Mississippi Allstars at GRAMMY Museum Mississippi

CLEVELAND, MISS. (SEPT. 25, 2024) — Known for his work with the North Mississippi Allstars — the blues/rock band he co-founded with his brother Luther Dickinson — GRAMMY®-nominated musician **Cody Dickinson** will celebrate the release of his debut solo album, *Homemade*, with a special appearance at **GRAMMY Museum® Mississippi** for an installment of their **An Evening With** series. Sponsored by Visit Mississippi.

the event will take place on **Thursday, Oct. 24 at 7 p.m.** in the Sanders Soundstage.

“We are so thrilled to welcome GRAMMY-nominated artist Cody Dickinson, co-founder of the North Mississippi Allstars, to our Museum for a special evening of conversation and music to celebrate the release of his debut solo album,” said **Emily Havens**, Executive Director of GRAMMY Museum Mississippi. “Cody

has made such an incredible impact on the Mississippi’s music heritage. We look forward to having him here to share the many highlights of his burgeoning career.”

Tickets to An Evening With Cody Dickinson are \$15 for GRAMMY Museum Mississippi members and \$20 for non-members. Tickets are currently on sale at grammymuseumms.org.

GE SIX	THE BELZONI BANNER			OCTOBER 2, 2024
CITY OF BELZONI BUDGET				
OF ESTIMATED REVENUES & EXPENDITURES FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2021				
	PROJECTED	ESTIMATED	Intergovernmental Revenues:	
	BUDGET	ACTUAL	State Fire Rebate monies	14,513.07
	FYE 9/30/25	AT 9/30/24	Miscellaneous:	
			Other income-reimbursement of repairs	
			Interest Income	3,500.00
GENERAL FUND				3,464.86
			Total From All Sources	18,013.07
REVENUES			Beginning Cash and investments	48,345.65
Licenses and Permits	84,300.00	83,805.98		52,707.72
			TOTAL TO ACCOUNT FOR	66,358.72
Intergovernmental Revenues:				
Federal Grants	-	14,056.92	DISBURSEMENTS	
State Grants/Shared Revenues	595,139.39	545,443.89	Supplies	
County Grants/Shared Revenues (Road Dist & Fire Runs)	62,000.00	62,410.22	Training	-
			Debt Service	22,356.00
Fines and Forfeits	14,965.02	13,926.52		22,356.00
Miscellaneous			Total Disbursements	22,356.00
Rents	128,405.28	126,905.28	Ending Cash	44,002.72
Sale of Property				48,345.65
Miscellaneous Income	12,000.00	11,972.10	TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS AND ENDING BALANCE	66,358.72
				70,701.65
Interfund Loans /Transfers	-	-		
Total from All Sources, Other than Taxation	896,809.69	858,520.91		
Beginning Cash & Investment Balance	308,597.50	383,940.00	ENTERPRISE FUND	
Total Receipts Other Than Ad Valorem Tax	1,205,407.19	1,242,460.91	REVENUES	
Amount to be Raised by Ad Valorem Tax	863,500.00	775,415.85	Charges for Governmental Services:	
TOTAL FROM ALL SOURCES	2,068,907.19	2,017,876.76	Metered Sales	440,000.00
			Sewer Charges	510,000.00
DISBURSEMENTS			Garbage Fees	251,000.00
ADMINISTRATIVE DEPT 020			Penalties	55,000.00
Personnel	156,015.68	125,974.30	Cut-on Fees	30,000.00
Supplies	2,600.00	2,185.14	Other	3,100.00
Contractual Services	13,550.00	11,310.60	Miscellaneous:	8.00
Capital Outlay	8,000.00	-	Interest Income	12,000.00
Total Administrative Dept 020	180,165.68	139,470.04		-
				-
ATTORNEY DEPT. 030			Inception of Capital Leases/Loans	-
Personnel	18,000.00	16,500.00	Total from All Sources	1,301,108.00
Contractual Services	-	-	Beginning Cash	536,292.16
Total Attorney Dept. 030	18,000.00	16,500.00		506,834.71
			TOTAL TO ACCOUNT FOR	1,837,400.16
ADMINISTRATIVE PERSONNEL 040				1,793,246.38
Personnel	144,693.17	70,616.03	DISBURSEMENTS	
Supplies	18,600.00	18,525.59	ADMINISTRATIVE DEPT. 040	
Contractual Services	83,037.50	76,602.08	Personnel	182,744.14
Capital Outlay	3,000.00	-	Supplies	8,825.00
Total Administrative Personnel 040	249,330.67	165,743.71	Contractual Services	14,350.00
			Capital Outlay	3,000.00
ELECTION DEPT 045			TOTAL ADMINISTRATIVE DEPT. 040	208,919.14
Personnel			GARBAGE-SANITATION DEPT 220	
Supplies	6,000.00	4,251.00	Personnel	174,220.82
Contractual Services	23,500.00		Supplies	72,600.00
Capital Outlay			Contractual Services	142,200.00
Debt Service			Capital Outlay	-
Total Police Dept. 045	29,500.00	4,251.00	Debt Service	37,834.56
			TOTAL GARBAGE-SANITATION DEPT 220	426,855.38
COURT DEPT 075				347,363.36
Personnel	48,815.04	44,668.51	WATER DEPT 600	
Supplies	-	-	Personnel	104,503.20
Contractual Services	17,840.00	15,010.00	Office Supplies	100,500.00
Capital Outlay	1,000.00	-	Contractual Services	176,850.00
Total Court Dept. 075	67,655.04	59,678.51	Capital Outlay	30,000.00
			Debt Service (capital lease payments)	13,901.98
POLICE DEPT. 100			TOTAL WATER DEPT 600	425,755.18
Personnel	375,859.95	412,977.17		347,266.51
Supplies	48,510.00	47,570.47	SEWER DEPT 650	
Contractual Services	106,260.00	97,592.01	Personnel	103,617.52
Capital Outlay	30,000.00	-	Supplies	11,400.00
Debt Service	38,798.16	29,098.62	Contractual Services	44,300.00
Total Police Dept. 100	599,428.11	587,238.27	Capital Outlay	50,650.00
			Debt Service	230,267.96
FIRE DEPT 160			TOTAL SEWER DEPT 650	440,235.48
Personnel	248,509.80	225,984.24	Transfer to Other Funds	-
Supplies	6,200.00	5,933.58		-
Contractual Services	46,700.00	39,704.47	TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	1,501,765.18
Capital Outlay	12,000.00	-	Ending Cash and Investments	335,634.98
Debt Service	11,797.56	10,829.43		536,292.16
Total Fire Dept. 160	325,207.36	282,451.72	TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS AND ENDING CASH	1,837,400.16
				1,793,246.38
INSPECTION/HLS DEPT 180			ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FUND	
Personnel	-	-	REVENUES	
Supplies	-	-	Miscellaneous:	
Contractual Services	13,400.00	9,516.62	Interest Income	380.00
Capital Outlay	-	-		377.21
Total Inspection/HLS Dept 180	13,400.00	9,516.62	Total From All Sources	380.00
			Beginning cash and investments	19,611.56
STREET DEPT 200			TOTAL TO ACCOUNT FOR	19,991.56
Personnel	175,477.72	226,952.86	DISBURSEMENTS	
Supplies	41,000.00	39,882.95	Contractual and other	-
Contractual Services	142,000.00	149,748.05	Capital outlay	10,000.00
Capital Outlay/Lease Payments	93,901.86	12,345.54		-
Total Street Dept 200	452,379.58	428,929.40	Total Disbursements	10,000.00
			Ending Cash	9,991.56
PARK COMMISSION DEPT 300			Total Disbursements and Ending Cash Balance	19,991.56
Total Park Commission Dept 300	10,000.00	-		19,611.56
			CAPITAL PROJECTS/BOND FUND	
LIBRARY DEPT 350			REVENUES	
Total Library Dept. 350	20,000.00	15,500.00	Miscellaneous:	
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	1,935,566.44	1,705,028.26	Interest Income	70.00
Ending Cash and investments	133,340.75	312,848.50	Total From All Sources	70.00
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS AND ENDING BALANCE	2,068,907.19	2,017,876.76	Beginning Cash and Investments	3,736.76
				3,669.38
Ad Valorem Tax Millage Rates:				
TAX MILLS:				
General Fund	93.00	90.00		
	93.00	90.00		
FIRE FUND				
REVENUES			Total From All Sources	70.00
			Beginning Cash and Investments	3,736.76

Beginning Cash and Investments	3,736.76	3,669.38
TOTAL TO ACCOUNT FOR	3,806.76	3,736.76
DISBURSEMENTS		
Contractual and other charges	-	-
Capital Outlay	-	-
Total Disbursements	-	-
Ending Cash	3,806.76	3,736.76
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS AND ENDING BALANCE	3,806.76	3,736.76
AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT FUNDS		
FEDERAL PROCEEDS	484,354.62	484,354.62
INTEREST EARNED	8,500.00	8,283.72
PROCEEDS FROM OTHER BORROWING & REIMBURSEMENT	-	-
TOTAL RECEIPTS	492,854.62	492,638.34
BEGINNING CASH AVAILABLE	492,854.62	492,638.34
TOTAL RECEIPTS FROM ALL SOURCES	492,854.62	492,638.34
DISBURSEMENTS		
OTHER SERVICES & CHARGES	-	-
TRANSFERS	-	-
Total Disbursements	-	-
Ending Cash	477,175.13	492,638.34
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS AND ENDING BALANCE	477,175.13	492,638.34
PARK COMMISSION		
REVENUES		
Miscellaneous income:		
Sponsor's Income	3,000.00	2,600.00
Interest Income	27.00	26.21
Miscellaneous Income	-	-
Transfers from General Fund	10,000.00	10,000.00
Total From All Sources	13,027.00	12,626.21
Beginning cash and investments	1,474.14	3,017.04
TOTAL TO ACCOUNT FOR	14,501.14	15,643.25
DISBURSEMENTS		
Personnel/contract services	3,000.00	3,000.00
Supplies	8,000.00	7,925.35
Contractual and other Services	3,350.00	3,243.76
Total Disbursements	14,350.00	14,169.11
Ending Cash	151.14	1,474.14
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS AND ENDING BALANCE	14,501.14	15,643.25
MUNICIPAL AIRPORT		
REVENUES		
Intergovernmental:		
Federal Aviation Administration	402,696.00	-
MDOT - Aeronautics	22,372.00	-
Miscellaneous Income		
Airport Charges/	21,700.00	21,533.52
Other Income	1,000.00	904.06
Interest Income	700.00	704.47
Total from all Sources	448,468.00	23,142.05
Beginning cash and investments	34,879.77	34,369.54
TOTAL TO ACCOUNT FOR	483,347.77	57,511.59
DISBURSEMENTS		
Supplies	18,400.00	18,147.48
Contractual and Other	4,500.00	4,484.34
Capital Outlay	150,000.00	-
Total Disbursements	172,900.00	22,631.82
Ending Cash	310,447.77	34,879.77
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS AND ENDING BALANCE	483,347.77	57,511.59
MODERIZATION USE TAX INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDS		
STATE PROCEEDS	160,000.00	422,144.58
INTEREST EARNED	-	-
PROCEEDS FROM OTHER BORROWING & REIMBURSEMENT	-	-
TOTAL RECEIPTS	160,000.00	422,144.58
BEGINNING CASH AVAILABLE	160,000.00	422,144.58
TOTAL RECEIPTS FROM ALL SOURCES	160,000.00	422,144.58
DISBURSEMENTS		
OTHER SERVICES & CHARGES	-	-
TRANSFERS	-	-
Total Disbursements	-	-
Ending Cash	160,000.00	422,144.58

Ag Commissioner Andy Gipson Invites the Public to Attend the Mississippi State Fair and Reminds Everyone of What to “Know Before You Go”

STATE FAIRGROUNDS, Miss. – Commissioner of Agriculture and Commerce Andy Gipson invites the public to attend the Mississippi State Fair and reminds fairgoers of several items to “Know Before You Go.” The 165th Mississippi State Fair takes place October 3-14, 2024, at the Mississippi State Fairgrounds.

Fairgoers can continue to expect the best of carnival rides and games, fair foods, livestock shows, concerts and special fair-related events. The State Fair Marketplace features 73 vendors, including the Genuine MS® Store, FARMtastic Exhibition and more, and will be open to the public daily inside the Trade Mart. Returning to the Kirk Fordice Equine Center is the Tri-State Rodeo October 5-6, as well as the annual Horse, Mule and Pony Pulls during the second weekend of the State Fair.

The Mississippi State Fair’s Frontier Village will debut two new attractions this year. In addition to the Taste of the Dixie National Rodeo, petting zoo, pig races and pony rides, spectators will enjoy an award-winning comedy Wild West gunfight and stunt show. The Tumbleweed Crossing will hold daily shows at 12:00 p.m., 3:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. An educational and entertaining puppet show, Agri-Puppets, will also hold daily shows following the Tumbleweed Crossing. This family-friendly puppet show tells unique stories focused on agriculture and animals.

Also new this year is the 4-H and FFA Barnyard Exhibit housed inside Barn 6. Visitors will meet and talk with Mississippi 4-H and FFA star exhibitors, pet farm animals and engage in hands-on learning experiences. Across the mile-long Midway, fairgoers will find the Kid Zone, which includes kiddy vendors and rides, as well as the popular Zerbini Family Circus which hosts two shows each day during the State Fair.

The highly anticipated Miss Mississippi State

Fair Pageant takes place October 3 at 6:00 p.m. and the Mississippi State Fair Talent Show follows the next day, October 4, at 4:00 p.m. Both special events will be held inside the Coliseum and tickets can be purchased at the door.

Four nationally recognized artists will perform on the Busch Light Mainstage inside the Coliseum this year: the Oak Ridge Boys, Matthew West, Dru Hill and Ronnie McDowell. Admission to the concerts can be purchased now at www.msstatefair.com or at the Coliseum Box Office. Local artists and bands will also perform in the Busch Light Pavilion along the Midway throughout the duration of the State Fair. These performances are free with regular fair admission.

Ronnie McDowell will perform on Wednesday, October 9, during Senior American Day which will include various health and informational booths, the Mississippi Egg Marketing Board serving breakfast muffins and surprise guest performances. Xperience JXN is also hosting a special show this year called “The WE OUTSIDE but INSIDE Party” featuring several entertainers on Saturday, October 12.

Over 60 carnival rides, provided by North American Midway Entertainment, and over 100 food vendors will be available throughout the 105-acre fairgrounds. The Mississippi State Fairgrounds has partnered with several local and state law enforcement agencies to ensure the security and safety of fairgoers.

Commissioner Gipson would like to remind fairgoers of several things to “Know Before You Go.”

The 2024 Mississippi State Fair will open at 11:00 a.m. on Thursday, October 3. The ribbon cutting will be held at Gate 1 at the corner of Jefferson Street and Amite Street.

Gate admission will be \$10.00 per person and parking is FREE. Children aged 5 and under will be

admitted free of charge. The public can purchase advance admission tickets, concert tickets and ride wristbands at www.msstatefair.com.

Online tickets are available for purchase now through Wednesday, October 2, for a discounted price of \$8 per person.

Fair admission is free every weekday from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., except on Monday, October 14, Columbus Day.

Beginning at 9:00 p.m., any guest under the age of 18 seeking admission to the Fairgrounds must be accompanied by a legal adult (21 or older). Any guest may be asked to show official proof of age to be admitted after 9:00 p.m. Guests are encouraged to bring identification.

When entering the Midway, all guests will proceed through one of several entry security points utilizing a metal detector and/or be subject to magnetic wand.

All bags are subject to search. The maximum bag size that will be accepted into the Fair is 12”x12”x6”.

No outside food or beverage allowed.

No marketing, soliciting, political or vending items allowed unless and as authorized under Fairground regulations.

No animals (other than service animals or as authorized by Fair management for Fair activities), banners, fireworks/explosives or laser pointers allowed.

Pursuant to state law, the legal carry of firearms by all lawful adults is recognized on the Mississippi Fairgrounds.

Exceptions and challenges to these policies will be satisfied at the discretion of Fair Management.

Admission can be purchased online or at the gate through one of multiple kiosks or a ticket booth. Tickets will then be scanned from a smartphone or printed receipt next to the point of purchase. Fairgoers who purchase online tickets in advance can skip the line. For more information, visit www.msstatefair.com.

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Junior Maid-Milla Ledbetter



Sophomore Maid-Jane Audrie Towery



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Freshman Maid-Mari Michael Pinson



Freshman Maid-Peyton Millican



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BELZONI PD OLD FINES

The Belzoni Police Department has submitted the following old fines for publication. If you owe a back fine with the Belzoni Police Department, it would be in your best interest to pay it to keep your name from being published.

TABLES, VERNOR DRACY	(\$ 525.25)
TATE, DEBERT	(\$ 111.00)
TATE, DEBERT	(\$ 13.00)
TATE, JIMMY LEE	(\$ 311.00)
TATE, JIMMY LEE	(\$ 500.00)
TATUM, JERMAINE EDWARD	(\$ 211.00)
TAYLOR, JOHNNY	(\$ 83.40)
TAYLOR, JOHNNY	(\$ 10.00)
TAYLOR, KENDRICK	(\$ 20.00)
TAYLOR, LULA	(\$ 426.00)
TAYLOR, ANDRE	(\$ 275.20)
TAYLOR, APRIL	(\$ 381.00)
TAYLOR, APRIL	(\$ 61.50)
TAYLOR, CHRIS	(\$ 181.00)
TAYLOR, CHRIS	(\$ 25.00)
TAYLOR, CURTIS	(\$ 224.00)
TAYLOR, CURTIS	(\$ 300.25)
TAYLOR, DANNY	(\$ 215.00)
TAYLOR, JOHN PARK JR	(\$ 41.50)
TAYLOR, JOHNNY LEE III	(\$ 211.00)
TAYLOR, JOHNNY LEE III	(\$ 311.00)
TAYLOR, ROGER	(\$ 250.50)
TAYLOR, ROGER	(\$ 1,030.50)
TAYLOR, WENDELL	(\$ 190.00)
TEMPLE, BRANDON	(\$ 249.30)
THARP, THOMAS	(\$ 150.00)
THOMAS, CAROLYN	(\$ 235.00)
THOMAS, CHRISTOPHER BERNARD	(\$ 375.25)
THOMAS, CHRISTOPHER BERNARD	(\$ 401.00)
THOMAS, CHRISTOPHER BERNARD	(\$ 161.50)
THOMAS, JESSE LEE III	(\$ 161.50)
THOMAS, JOSEPH	(\$ 226.00)
THOMAS, OLIVER	(\$ 77.00)
THOMAS, WILLIE	(\$ 100.00)
THOMPSON, LINDA	(\$ 100.00)
THOMPSON, MARCUS	(\$ 30.00)
THOMPSON, NORBOSKE	(\$ 436.50)
THOMPSON, RONALD	(\$ 72.00)
THOMPSON, RONALD	(\$ 362.00)
THORNTON, ANTHONY CURTIS TYRONE	(\$ 161.50)
THORNTON, ANTHONY CURTIS TYRONE	(\$ 311.00)
THORNTON, ANTONIO	(\$ 325.25)
THORNTON, JERRIE J	(\$ 140.00)
THORNTON, LARRY	(\$ 86.50)
THORNTON, LARRY	(\$ 326.00)
THORNTON, LARRY	(\$ 140.00)
THORNTON, LATONIA	(\$ 61.50)
THORNTON, ROBERT	(\$ 50.50)
THORNTON, TIMMY LEVONTE	(\$ 161.50)
THORNTON, TIMMY LEVONTE	(\$ 311.00)
THORTON, SHARON	(\$ 248.50)
THRONTON, DELOIS	(\$ 14.00)
THURMAN, JEANETTE	(\$ 200.50)
THURMAN, MONICA	(\$ 25.00)
THURMAN, VERNON JR	(\$ 113.00)
THURMOND, PATRICK	(\$ 67.00)
THURMOND, PATRICK	(\$ 67.00)
TIREY, ERIC HENRY	(\$ 211.00)
TODD, LONNIE	(\$ 257.00)
TOUPS, ANTHONY	(\$ 30.50)
TOUPS, ANTHONY	(\$ 25.50)
TOUPS, ANTHONY	(\$ 75.50)
TOWNSEND, ANTONIO	(\$ 97.00)
TOWNSEND, CANDANCE	(\$ 161.50)
TOWNSEND, CANDANCE	(\$ 500.00)
TOWNSEND, JOHN	(\$ 40.00)
TOWNSEND, JOHN	(\$ 267.00)
TOY, RANDY EMMANUEL	(\$ 324.75)
TOY, WILLIE LEE	(\$ 30.00)
TRIPPLETT, TONY	(\$ 87.00)
TRUITT, JIMMY	(\$ 97.00)
TRUITT, JIMMY	(\$ 117.00)
TRUITT, JIMMY	(\$ 37.00)
TUCK, CINDY	(\$ 10.00)
TURNER, HANNAH E	(\$ 161.50)
TURNER, LARONDA	(\$ 135.25)
TURNER, VIRGIL	(\$ 101.00)
TYLER, BOBBY	(\$ 337.00)
TYLER, BOBBY	(\$ 40.00)
TYLER, CHARLES	(\$ 221.00)
TYLER, CHARLES	(\$ 8.50)
TYLER, CHARLES	(\$ 11.00)

AG Fitch Celebrates First Anniversary of MAMA

(Jackson, Mississippi)
 Today, Attorney General Lynn Fitch celebrated the first anniversary of Mississippi Access to Maternal Assistance (MAMA), a free website and mobile app that connects pregnant women and mothers to private, public and faith-based resources available across the state. Since launching the MAMA website in October 2023, over 15,000 individuals have visited the website. Nearly 500 users have downloaded the mobile app since it went live earlier this year.

“Our state is blessed with countless public, private, and faith-based resources, but it can be challenging to navigate while also adjusting to a changing family,” said **Attorney General Fitch**. “MAMA is just one of the ways that Mississippi is helping to stand in the gap to both empower women and promote life. I am grateful for this opportunity to show women that they are not alone. We care about their wellbeing and success and want to help them and their family flourish.”

In 2023, General Fitch worked with the Mississippi State Legislature to establish MAMA (SB 2781). Her office was tasked with creating and administering MAMA, with the assistance of a number of state agencies, including the Mississippi Department of Information Technology Services, which helped to stand up the website in just three months to make the statutorily-required launch date of October 1, 2023, as well as the mobile app by the January 1, 2024, deadline.

MAMA is designed with the goal of connecting mothers directly to needed resources and services in three clicks or less, which are organized by nine categories:

- **Pregnancy:** Receive a free pregnancy test or ultrasound, visit a center with baby essentials, find a diaper bank, or take a childbirth and parenting class.

- **Health:** Enroll in Medicaid, find free health services near you, connect with a mental health counselor, seek help for substance abuse/addiction, or download health/pregnancy/childbirth tips.
- **Adoption:** Learn more about adoption, locate safe haven baby boxes, or explore other life-affirming options.
- **Food:** Sign up for food benefits and assistance, locate food pantries and community kitchens, or access free formula.
- **Goods:** Find a resource center near you with car seats, strollers, cribs, diapers and wipes, maternity and infant clothing, and other

- household items.
- **Safety:** Find a domestic abuse shelter or rape crisis center, connect with a confidential counselor, or request legal aid.
- **Money:** Apply for financial assistance and government benefits for food, rent/mortgages, transportation, and childcare; learn more about child support enforcement; or find a financial planning and literacy class.
- **Child Care:** Locate a childcare center near you or apply for financial assistance.
- **Jobs:** Search job openings, enroll in job training courses, or apply for financial aid for college.

General Fitch’s office has added over 400 resources to the Service Directory, and continues outreach to add additional resources.

Send us your news
and
announcements
via email to
[editor@thebelzoni-
banner.com](mailto:editor@thebelzoni-banner.com)

SEPTEMBER 23, 2024 THRU NOVEMBER 2, 2024

ABSENTEE VOTING BEGINS
(VOTERS ARE STRONGLY ENCOURAGED TO ABSENTEE VOTE IN THE CIRCUIT CLERK’S OFFICE)

OCTOBER 7, 2024

LAST DAY TO REGISTER TO VOTE IN THE NOVEMBER 2024 GENERAL ELECTION

IF SOMEONE IS 17 YEARS OLD BUT WILL BE 18 YEARS OLD BY NOVEMBER 5, 2024 (ELECTION DAY), THAT PERSON CAN REGISTER TO VOTE BY OCTOBER 7, 2024

NOVEMBER 5, 2024

ELECTION DAY!!!!!!

CALL THE CIRCUIT CLERK’S OFFICE AT 662/247-3065

TO REQUEST DISABLED VOTER BALLOTS
AND
VOTERS NEED TO CHECK TO CONFIRM IF YOU ARE ACTIVE ON THE VOTER’S ROLL PRIOR TO ELECTION DAY

VOTER REGISTRATION NEVER ENDS

Shout out to, the players of the week!

Humphreys Academy Humphreys County

Humphreys Academy named three players of the week. Jacob Bellipanni
Jacob Willard
Treyton Jones, the offensive line, rushed 16 times for 296 yards 5 touchdowns, 1 extra point and did a great job blocking.

The Rebels won 38 to 12 to increase their record to 6 wins & 1 loss.

Five players were chosen Player of the Week at Humphreys County High School.

Zi Brent
Demarion Brooks
Marquavious Hughes
Xaylen Henderson
Tayshun Walker

Leland, 4507 Hwy 82 W, 662-686-2361
 Cleveland, 816 N Davis Avenue, 662-843-2741
 Greenwood, 1904 Hwy 82 W, 662-453-6525
 Yazoo City, 397 Haley Barbour Pkwy, 662-746-4421

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