## 1 <br> Gooooal for the Eagles <br> Life-long friends both sign to play soccer for Meridian CC, Page 1B

 for Meridian CC, Page 1B
## The Commercial Dispatch

## Police overview committee seeks reactivation

Committee has not met since 2019
BY BRIAN JONES
bjones@cdispatch.com
 Latham Harris wants it reactivated Harris, who sat on the com-

City Council Tuesday night
to ask the council to consider to ask the council to consider
making some new appointmaking some new appoint-
ments and allowing it to meet with Chief Joseph Daughtry. She was joined by committee members Colin Krieger and Tiffany Turner and former city councilman Marty Turner, who was on the council when it was reated. The committee was creat ed in the aftermath of the Oc Ricky Ball by then-CPD officer
$\qquad$ ed to be a liaison between the September 2021, was made up heven L. James, R.J. MatTurner Lee Roy Lollar, Harris, formation Officer Joe Dillon, David Armstrong ond Chief Fred Shelton then-on-voting members.
"This is about giving the citizens transparency and the chance to give their input and
analyze different scenarios and incidents with different police

INSIDE
SUUREE: Survey asks for input for Page $\mathbf{8 A}$
officers," Harris said. "It gave the police department the chance to have another set of
The committee stopped meeting due to the COVID-19 pandemic, she said. It has not met since 2019 .
"The committee was never ismantled," she said.
Harris said she wanted the members of the committee

Gaskin and Daughtry "... and discuss where we're at with the overview committee." Ward 1 Councilwoman Ethel Stewart asked Harris why there was interest in reviving the committee.
"Are there any particular questions or probasked.
"I've had questions and calls he incident that hap

## SEXTORTION

After son's suicide, father raises awareness of social media dangers


Brian Montgomery speaks to a group of approximately 50 parents of Heritage Academy students Monday night at the school's activity center. Montgomery's son Walker, pictured behind him, was the target of an organized online extortion effort, which
ultimately led the 16 -year-old to take his own life. ultimately led the 16 -year-old to take his own life.

BY JESSICA LINDSEY

Brian and Courtney Montgomery woke up on Dec. 1 ,
2022 , to find their 16 -yearold son Walker dead from suicide. By all accounts, Walker was a normal child in a tight-knit family. ral life living on a farm in Lowndes ral life, living on a farm in Lowndes
County. They ate dinner as a family and the parents prayed with the and the parents prayed with
children nightly before bed. cho put it in perspective, I would have bet you that I was more likely
to get struck by lightning on a clear day than Walker do this," Brian Montgomery told a crowd of ap-
proximately 50 parents at Heritage Academy on Monday night.
"We knew it was wrong. We knew something happened that was terrible, but we had no idea why or how it happened to us," Montgomery said.
Montgomery, who was joined by awyer Lindsay Clemons, recounted his family's devastation from the tragedy and his subsequent work in
raising awareness about the type of sextortion that led to Walker taking
his own life and - more generally the dangers of unchecked technology in the hands of minors. Sextortion is when someone is threatened with the distribution of their private, including sexual, material if they do not provide money or more sexual images or favors in return, according to the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Around a sent Walker midnight Dec. 1, a gir Instagram, striking up what was initially a casual conversation. See MONTGOMERY, 6A

Cutting edge equipment upgrades coming to Okt. sheriff's dept.
County, city pursue grants for license plate readers, other tech by abigail sipe rochester arochester@cdispatch.com
STARKVILLE City and county law cies are in for some technological up grades.
The
County Emergency Management Agey Campanella cy received approval to purchase an almost $\$ 850,000$ public safety equipment update from 365Labs a the board of supervisors meeting Kristin Campanella said this up date would be a huge change for the county's sheriff's office

See UPGRADES, 8 A

## Making a

 difference has been driving factor in Baptist's new CEOFormer nurse, administrator Robert Coleman to replace Paul Cade at BMH-GT by grant mclaughlin
grantecdispatch.com
Robert Coleman has always tried to outperform himself and make a lasting impact on both health care and the patients he has served, first in hospital adminis tration. On April 3, he'll be doin See COLEMAN, 6 A

## INSIDE



LOCAL FOLKS


PUBLIC MEETINGS Today: Mayor's ress conferenc $0: 30$ a.m.. City Hall
March 30: Colum-
bus City Council work session, 10:30 a.m., City Hall
April 3: Lowndes
ounty Board of
Supervisors, 9
a.m., Lowndes
a.m., Lowndes
County Court-

County Court
April 3 : Historic
Preservation Com-
City Hall

## Trump legal woes force another moment of choosing for GOP <br> After almost eight years of near-constant scandal, Republicans have ultimately rallied <br> Trump waits out grand jury as New York braces for protests

behind Trump over and over and over again by steve peoples, farnoush amiri and lisa mascaro a Pres
ORLANDO, Fla. - From the moment he rode down the Trump Tower escalator to announce his first
presidential campaign, a searing presidential campaign, a searing
question has hung over the Repubquestion has hung over the Repub-
lican Party: Is this the moment to break from Donald Trump? Elected Republicans have wavered at times - whether it was Trump's condemnation of John Mc-
Cain's war record, his racist attack Cain's war record, his racist attack against a Mexican-American judge,
his sexully predatory his sexually predatory language caught on video, his alleged extra-
marital affairs, his decision to side marital affairs, his decision to side
with Russian President Vladimir with Russian President ladimir
Putin over U.S. inteligence, his promotion of false allegations of election fraud and his incitement of a violent mob that threatened the lives of lawmakers in both parties. But after almost eight years of near-constant scandal, Republicans have ultimately rallied be-hind Tr
again. Now, on the eve of a new pres-
idential campaign season, that loy alty is being tested anew as Trump prepares for the possibility that he may soon become the first former U.S. president charged with
a crime. New York prosecutors a crime. New York prosecutors
are wrapping up their probe into are wrapping up their probe into
whether Trump engaged in an illeghe hush money scheme involving a porn actress.
"This is another moment - not just this indictment, but the others likely to follow - where Republicans have the opportunity to break with Trump," said Sarah Longwell, a vocal Repubbican Trump critic
and founder of the Republican Ac-

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
NEW YORK - Facing the possibility of criminal charges, Donald Trump waited it out in Florida on Tuesday as New York braced for disruptions that could follow an indictment. Republican contenders in the
2024 race sized up the impact a prosecution could have on a campaign 2024 race sized up the impact a prosecution could ha
Trump over the weekend claimed without evidence that he would be
Trum Trump over the weekend claimed without evidence that he would be come true. A Manhattan grand jury did appear to take an important step forward on Monday by hearing from a witness favorable to Trump, presumably so prosecutors could ensure the panel had a chance to consider any testimony supporting his version of events.
The next steps were unclear, and it was uncertain if additional witnesses might be summoned. But a city mindful of the riot by Trump loyalists at the U.S. Capitol more than two years ago took steps to protect itself from any violence that could accompany the unprecedented
Monday's testimony from Robert
Monday's testimony from Robert Costello, a lawyer with close ties to
numerous key Trump aides, appeared to be a final opportunity for allies numerous key Trump aides, appeared to be a final opportunity for allies prosecutors to appear after saying he had information to undercut the credibility of Michael Cohen, a former lawyer and fixer for Trump who later turned against him and then became a key witness in the Manhattan district attorney's investigation.
countability Project. "If they fail to do so, they'll have no one to blame
but themselves when Trump is the but themselves when Trump is the nominee again."
So far, at least, the vast majority
of the Republican Party a of the Republican Party appears to have made its choice.
As charges loom.

As charges loom, many party leaders have begun to defend the former president - even as other
Republicans with far less baggage line up against him in the nascent 2024 Republican presidential primary. Former Vice President Mike tence, a likely presidential conAmericans don't want to see Trump indicted. Another 2024 Republican prospect, New Hampshire Gov.
Chris Sununu, said there is a sense that the former president is being unfairly attacked. New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie, a frequent Trump critic also eyeing a White House
bid, also said New York prosecu-
tors may be unfairly prosecuting Trump.
There are cracks in such sup port, however. Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis, Trump's strongest prospective rival, offered a mixed assessment when asked to address the poten-
tial indictment on Monday.
"I don't know what goes into paying hush money to a porn star to secure silence over some type of alleged affair," DeSantis said as some in the audience laughed unto is thably. "But what I can speak who is ignoring crimes happening every single day in his jurisdiction and he chooses to go back many many years ago to try to use something about porn star hush money payments, that's an example of pursuing a political agenda and weap-
onizing the office. And I think that's fundamentally wrong."

## Yellen: Bank situation stabilizing, different from 2008

"This is different from 2008. 2008 was a solvency crisis, rather what we're seeing now is contagious bank runs." Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen

BY FATIMA HUSSEIN

## WASHINGTON

 Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen projected calm on Tuesday after recent re-gional bank collapses but told a gathering of bankers that additional rescue arrangements "could be warranted" if any new
failures at smaller institutions jeopardize financial stability. Yellen, who made her remarks at the American
Bankers Association, said that overall "the situation is stabilizing." And the U.S. bankin

Yellen said, drawing clear differences between re-
cent events and the 2008 financial meltdown, which triggered trillions of dollars of financial losses globally. "This is different from 2008," she said. "2008 was a solvency crisis rather what we're seeing now is contagious bank runs."
Yellen Yellen's remarks come after a series of troubling month. Silicon Valley Bank, fornia, failed on March 10 after depositors rushed
to withdraw money amid
anxiety over the bank's anxiety over the bank's ond-largest bank collapse in U.S. history. Regula tors convened over the following weekend and announced that New Yorkbased Signature Bank also had failed. They at both banks, including those holding uninsured funds, those exceeding $\$ 250,000$, would be protected by federal deposit insurance.
And last week a third bank, San Francis Bank, was fortified by $\$ 30$ billion in funds raised by 11 of the biggest U.S banks in an attempt to prevent it from collapsing The government is now determined to restore public confidence in the
banking system and to The Justice Department and the Securities and Exand the Securities and Exchange Commission have launched investigations into the Silicon Valley dent Joe Biden has called on Congress to strengthen rules on regional banks en rules on regional banks
and to impose tougher penalties on executives of failed banks.
Yellen said the government's intervention was necessary to "protect the and mone rescem could be necessary, not ing that the governmen the banking sector. "Similar actions could be warranted if smaller institutions suffer deposit runs that pose the risk of contagion," she said.

Biden issues first veto, taking on new Republican House Biden said he vetoed the measure because it 'put at risk
savings of cops, firefighters, teachers, and other workers," White House spokesperso
terson said. Bun said
But critics say so-called environmental, social and governance investments
allocate money based on political agendas, such as a drive against climate change, rather than on earning the best returns for savers. Republicans in Congress who pushed the measure said environmental or social consider the government are just another example of being "woke."
"In his first veto, Biden just sided with woke Wal Street over workers, House Speaker Kevin McCarthy, R-Calif., tweeted actly where his priorities

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## Poll: 79 percent of Mississippians support full funding of public education

The Mississippi Adequate Education Program covers most of the state costs for the basic operation of school districts, ranging from textbooks to utilities to teacher salaries

## by bobby harrison

Mississippi voters, by a overwhelming margin, suppor full funding of the Mississippi Adequate Education Program, which provides to local school districts the state's share of
$\qquad$
needs.

A Siena College/Mississippi Today poll released on Monday
found that 79 percent of respondents - including 91 percent of Democrats, 73 percent of Re dependents - support fully fund ing MAEP, while just 9 percen are opposed. Eleven percent o respondents are undecided.

The poll was conducted on March $6-8$ of 764 registered
voters. The poll was conducted voters. The poll was conducted oon after the state Senate, in mously to make a few changes to the MAEP formula and appropriate an additional $\$ 181$ million to achieve full funding. If the House and Gov. Tate Reeves agree to the Senate proposal, it will mark the firs lime the formula, viewed as ly when it was passed in 1997, has been fully funded since the 2007-08 school year.
Siena asked poll respondents if they support "fully funding, with the addition of about $\$ 275$ million, the Mississippi Ade
quate Education Program or the upcoming year. MAEP, the formula that sends state money to local schools for
basic school needs." (Note: Misbasic school needs." (Note: Mis
sissippi Today commissioned the Siena poll before the Senate released its final additional cost estimate of $\$ 181$ million - about $\$ 94$ million less than the $\$ 275$ million asked of poll respondents.)
The Senate passed legislation, now pending in the House, that would make technical changes, resulting in less than 275 million to provide ful funding. Even with the changes districts, plus charter schools, districts, plus charter schools,
would receive more funding than they garnered last year and are scheduled to get this year under the budget proposals of the governor and legislative leaders. The formula was underfunded by $\$ 273$ million last year and was scheduled, to be under funded by about $\$ 275$ million for

The Senate plan would not equire any school district to raise taxes to
tional funding.
MAEP was approved in 1997 and fully funded in 2003, its first year of full enactment. It also was fully funded in 2007 . According to the Parents' Campaign, an education advo cacy group, MAEP was under funded by $\$ 3.3$ billion since 2008. But still, it is generally the largest state expenditure each year. In the 2022 session, the Legislature appropriated
$\$ 2.1$ billion for MAEP. State Superintende
State Superintendent of Education Robert Taylor said of the local districts: "It would be significant. That (fully funding) means that they now have the resources to put toward things that they haven't been able to do. We know that proper funding in education is what is going
give any district the capacity do the work."
MAEP covers most of the tate costs for the basic opera for textbooks to utilities to teacher salaries.
Siena has been rated as one of the top pollsters in the nation by the FiveThirtyEight Blog, which analyzes pollster data The poll has a margin of erro of 4.6 percent, meaning the re sults could vary by that margin. reakdown of 57 percent white voters and 35 percent Africa American voters. It also includ ed 35 percent Republicans 33 percent Democrats and 31 percent independent and othe parties.
The poll was conducted vi cell phones, landlines and "from a proprietary online panel Mississippians."
Mississippi Today's Juli

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AT ROTARY


Josh Read, left, and Allison Krieger, right, look on as James Hazard talks to Golden Triangle Development LINK CEO Joe Max Higgins, left center, at Columbus Rotary Club Tuesday at Lion Hills Center. Higgins said The LINK is still looking for available
land for its next megasite, "Cinco" and is meeting with landowners to find the next site. He is also working with the Tennesse land for its next megasite, "Cinco" and is meeting with landowners to find the next site. He is also working with the Tennessee
Valley Authority for approval on the future site. A megasite is a large swath of land, usually more than 1,000 acres, dedicated Valley Authority for approval on the future site. A megasite is a large swath of land, usually more than 1,000 acres, dedicated
to industrial developments for several companies to build and operate on. The megasite program is operated by the Tennessee Valley Authority.

Safety board: Alabama derailed train lacked needed couplers

Train derailed on March 9 in Anniston THE ASSOCIATED PRESS SPRINGFIELD, Ohio - A Norfolk Southern train that derailed in Alabama earrier this month lacked required align
ment control couplers for two of its locomotives and a company inspec-
tion did not identify their absence, federal investigators said Monday The notation comes in one of three preliminary reports issued Monday
by the National Transpor by the National Transpor tation Safety Board abou
Norfolk Southern train accidents this month as the board investigates the railroad's safety practices after the fiery toxic chemical toxic chemical burn i
East Palestine, Ohio.

In a report released Monday about a March 9 derailment of two locomotives and 37 rail cars in Anniston, Alabama, of thety board said two of the train's six locomotives were "waybill loconot use, or towed cars power. The any tractive equipped with alignen control couplers that "re ist lateral coupler move ment under compressive in-train forces." A compa ny rule bars towing waybill locomotives without such couplers, the report The waybill locomo tives were coupled to gether and picked up from Bluffton, Indiana, on Feb 24 and a Norfolk South
ern inspection before the first movement involving the coupled locomotives did not identify the abrol trol couplers," the safety board said.
A company spokesperon said in an e-mail Mon dives were not locomo Norfolk Southern and the couplers on these locomo tives are not common on our network."
"We have taken im mediate action to updat our manuals with photos and details to implemen training with our crews. andety is a priority at NS and we'll continue work ing with the NTSB of this derailment and implement any othe necessary changes," said Connor Spielmaker,
senior communications manager with Norfolk Southern.
No injuries were reported; three derailed tank cars were carrying hazardous material residue but all remained in tact, the report said.

## AROUND THE STATE

## Mississippi doctor avoids prison time

 for health care fraudJACKSON-A Mississippi doctor will not spend time in jail after pleading guilty to federal misde scheme that prosecutors in a health care fraud $\$ 515$ million.
Dr. Gregory Auzenne, 51, of Meridian, entered a guilty plea Monday to charges related to his fail ure to disclose information involving expensive
prescription pain cream. He was sentenced to five prescription pain cream. He was sentenced to five years of probation and ordered to pay a $\$ 20,000$
fine and $\$ 116,623$ in restitution, according to th Clarion Ledger.
"I realize I made mistakes in the past," Auzenne said at his sentencing hearing. "I'm really sorry. I will work harder than ever to be a better person. Prosecutors said the fraud began in Mississipp and cost in-state insurers about $\$ 515$ million and $\$ 1.5$ billion nationwide. Auzenne was accused of
causing about $\$ 18$ million in fraud, in part by signing preprinted prescription forms for medicines

## LOWNDES COUNTY

Lowndes County is seeking public input or public comment on the benefits or concerns with a
proposed county ordinance
prohibiting the sale of Tianeptine ( ZaZa ).
A public hearing will be held at 9:15 AM on Monday, April 3, 2023, in the Board of Monday, April 3, 2023, in the Board of
Supervisors Boardroom at the Lowndes County Courthouse located at 505 2nd Avenue North,

April 1 and 2
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Over 100 artists
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New law allows anti-abortion monument at Arkansas Capitol

He associated press LITTLE ROCK, Ark. - Arkansas Gov. Sarah signed a new law that will allow a monument near the number of abortions performed in Arkansas before the U.S. Supreme Court struck down Roe v Wade. Sanders' office said Friday night that the Re publican governor signed
the bill that will allow the bill that will allo the creation of a privat
tol grounds. The bill, ap proved by lawmakers last tary of state to permit and arrange the placement of the monument
It also requires the Capitol Arts and Grounds Commission to oversee the selection of the artis and the design of the mon ument, with input from anti-abortion groups. proved in 2019 apas ap proved in 2019 banning effect last year took the U.S. Supreme Court
decision. Arkansas' ban
only allows abortions to only allows abortions to
save the life of the mother save the life of the mothe in a medical emergency. ers approved legislation in 2018 allowing a sim ilar privately funded monument on its Capito grounds. The monument has not yet been installed Arkansas' proposa faced opposition from some anti-abortion Re publicans who said it was counterproductive, and monument proposal wa divisive
 truck down the 1973 Ro

## MOON PHASES

MOON PHASES SUN AND MOON


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## sLIMANTICS

## Tate Reeves' love/hate relationship with "woke capitalist" Steel Dynamics

# T'm no admirer 

 of Republicans, form of Trump Republicanism that has dominated the party for the pas seven years. But credit must be given where it one strategy Repub licans continue to use to great effect: hostage-taking of words, ph es and ideas and reshaping them into pejoratives. The tactic not only fuels the perpetual outrage that drives most of the content on Fox News, it confuses issues andserves as a distraction from issues of far greater importance. Probably the most familiar example is Critical Race Theory (CRT) which was an obscure college-level course taugh mainly in law schools that explained institutional racism,
both in history and in its current state. CRT was presented


30 years ago when to question the con cept of value-neutra law and its effect on perpetuating racial

injustice.
Then co
Then conserChrive activist Christopher Ruso
transformed it into an attack on white Americans. It caught fire tate legislatures, including Mississippi, were creating laws banning CRT in schools where it has never been taught.
Other ideas, phrases and movements have been similarly mischaracterized and weaponized, including Black Lives Matter, Antifa and the "woke movement" which is particulary popular among conservative office-holders and politicians. Anything approaching racial justice, or sexual orientation,
climate change or any other issue considered "liberal" is
labeled as the work of "the
abeled as th."
Of course, you have to keep eeding the beast and conserva tives may have found their next hostage: ESG.
The average person may never have heard the term until this week, when President Biden vetoed legislation that verturned a Labor Department rule that permits fiduciay retirement fund managers good corporate governance and other factors when making investments on behalf of pension plan participants
It is a concept called ESG nd it has been around since the 1980s. It's used as an public-traded companies. The "E" stands for environmental impact, the "S" stands for Social Impact (how the company affects the community where it is located) and " G " stands or the company leadership's environment and social/com-

Until now, the idea was ardly controversial. Honoring the values of ESG is not only good for the company's standing with the community, it's good business. Investors find value in that, too
But suddenly the word has gone out for Republicans to redefine this otherwise benign Mississippi Governor Ta Reeves was all over it, tweeting, "ESG throughout America is a direct threat to the American economy, individual economic freedom, and our way of life, putting investment woke mob to bypass the ballot box and inject political ideolopolitical ideolo-
That "woke mob" apparently includes Steel Dynamics CEO Mark Millet. You may recall that Reeves called a special session to secure $\$ 250$ million incentives for the compaLowndes County. The compa-
ny's $\$ 2.5$ billion project is the biggest in state history. Here's something else you should know about SDI: Inves tors' Business Daily named Steel Dynamics as one of the 100 Best ESG Companies of 2021.
"What is called ESG and sustainability is something
that's been woven into the fabric of our company since our inception 27 years ago," Millet said in acknowledging the designation.
Why the governor would be so eager to hand out $\$ 250$ million in incentives to a "wo capitalist organization" like guess.
guess. full of crap and simply cannot resist any opportunity to fear-monger.
Irnible after all, his only dis cernible talent.
Slim Smith is a columnist and feature writer for The smith@cdispatch.com

## VOICE OF THE PEOPLE

Letter to the editor

## The weaponization of government?

The Republican majority in the House has led to the new House panel on the "weaponization of government," chaired by Jim Jordan, (R-Ohio). A key motivation for this panel is the Republican belief that former President Trump has been treated unfairly by the Department of Justice (DOJ) while President Biden, and his family, son Hunt
getting a pass from that same institution. getting a pass from that same institution.
Rachel Maddow was discussing a host of former politicians who've been indicted in the past - not just Republicans, she included former Democratic presidential hopeful, John Edwards among them. But the first name really caught my attention - and for a different reason. She was making the point that, in view of all the to-do about Trump getting arrested (unlikely), a politician getting indicted doesn't rock the country or bring it to its knees "It happens all the time."
This story which first highlighted Texas Attorney General, Ken Paxton, sent me off in a differen
direction than Rachel had in mind. Paxton was direction than Rachel had in mind. Paxton was
indicted on felony charges of defrauding investo in a Texas tech startup in 2015. Since then, at least three things have happened: Paxton has run for Texas AG and won - twice. Yet, despite the FBI's interest in this case, it has progressed very little in that time. Certainly no trial has resulted. One wonders why? Could there be some influencing behind the scenes? I doubt Mr. Jordan (R-Ohio) is concerned about that.
And Jordan now wants to haul in Alvin Bragg, the DA in New York who would be responsible Stormy Daniels affair. The audacity: Recall that Jordan refused to testify in front of the Democrati Jordane's January 6 panel in the last Congress. The
Hous audacity. Carry on, Mr. Jordan. You are an actor not a policy maker. Ohio, please please, please elect a statesman in Jordan's place. That seat is

Paul Mack
Columbus
A letter to the editor is an excellent way to partici pate in your community. We request the tone of your pate in your community. We request the tone of your
letters be constructive and respectful and the length be limited to 450 words. Political endorsements are limited to one per letter-writer. We reserve the right to edit letters for clarity, grammar and length. Letters may be emailed to voice@cdispatch.com or mailed to The Dispatch, Attn: Letters to the Editor, PO Box 511, Columbus, MS 39703-0511.

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## THE NATION

## 'Woke' or not, executives are into money

The California governor has no business "canceling" Walgreens But I could. The Forida governor has
no business punishing Disney for disagreeing with him over his state's "Don't Say Gay" bill. But people who agree with Ron DeSantis here can


The bottom line should be the concern of investors and managers whose payday is
tied to the price of the stock. Those on the stock. Those onk that
right who think that executives are being pressured by underlings to adopt "woke" policies are naive in the extreme.
In a re In a recent Wall. There is a difference between piece, histrionically titled "EmTovernment interfence between private company's legal activities and the right of consumers to not patronize said business. "However you or I define "woke," we should not want politicians to interfere with business decisions because they don't like the executive suite's sows on can withhold our patronage of its products and services or increase it. As investors, we can put our money into companies whose values we share or take it out if we don't.

But pursuing a kind of authoritarian chic, right-wing politicos have stuck their unwanted noses ly conscious" investing. As cover for what is essentially socialist meddling, they argue that "woke" policies are bad for the bottom line.
They are saying with a straight face that the executives at so-accused Wall Street firms - Black Rock, , anguard a state Street became too woke for my taste, I

That was your right, Dave, as was mine when I decided to personally join a boycott against
Chick-fil-A after the fast food chain gave money to groups opposed to same-sex marriage. There's a Chick-fil-A right near m employing nice people. I would not want my local or state government to make life hard for the place over its conservative values As for California Gov. Gavin Newsom's move freezing renewa
of a big state contract with Walgreens, that, too, is inappropriat meddling. Walgreens did not break a California law. The issue was its decision to not dispense abortion pills in certain states where abortion remains illegal. The drug chain was responding to legal threats by 20 Republican state attorneys general if they
dispense mifepristone where it dispense mifepristone where it is have not said whether they would do likewise.
Walgreens has been put in a tough position, but if it refuses to offer mifepristone in places where abortion is legal, then I'll move over to a competitor that does. Other consumers may go to
Walgreens for the very reason I might leave. We're all acting out "socially conscious" motives, are socially
There is a way, meanwhile, politicians can put themselves i charge: They can buy the busicharge ness.
Froma Harrop, a syndicated columnist, writes for the Providenc (Rhode Island) Journal. Her e-mail ddress is fharrop@gmail.com

## New law puts Wyoming at forefront of abortion pill bans <br> Fifteen states now restrict access to the pills

## by mead gruver

CHEYENNE，Wyo．－Wyo ming has pushed to the fron of state efforts to prohibit the most common type of abortion by instituting the nation＇s firs nate pregnancies ate pregnancies Medication abortions，which usually involve taking two pre－
scription medications days apart at home or in a clinic，be－ came the preferred method for ending pregnancy in the U．S． overturned Roe v Wade－and now half of all abortions according to the Guttmacher Institute research group that supports abortion rights．

More than a dozen states have responded to the Supreme Court＇s ruling by effectively prohibitions on all forms of prohibition
abortion．
Fifteen
Fifteen states restrict ac－ cess to the pills．Of those，six Arizona，Indiana，Nebraska， North Carolina，North Dakota and South Carolina－require a doctor to administer them in
person．Arizona also bans mail ing abortion pills．

But before a law signed Fri－ day by Wyoming Republican specifically banned no state pills．The law passed abongside pills．The law passed alongside to sidestep issues with an earli er state ban that＇s been held up in court．
With th
With these two new abortion laws，the Wyoming Legislature is＂kind of trying to cover all said Elizabeth Nash with the

Guttmacher Institute．
Gordon allowed Gordon allowed the new
broad abortion ban to effect Sunday without his sig effect Sunday without his sig pill ban he signed takes effect July 1 as planned remains to be seen．It could be delayed in the courts if an abortion provide in the state sues over it．Mean while，a federal judge in Texas considering a case with impli nationwide．

## How to shop for new insurance if you lose Medicaid coverage

## States will cut people from government－funded plans

 when they no longer qualify based on income，a process that has been paused since shortly after the pandemic hit BY TOM MURPHYMedicaid will end for millions Americans in the coming months，and it will push many into unfamiliar terri－
tory：the health insuranc tory：the hea
marketplace． States will start cutting people from the govern－ ment－funded plans when they no longer qualify cess that has been a proused since shortly after the COVID－19 pandemic hit． The timing of these cuts will vary．But all states have insurance who lose Medicaid can
whoople

mate that more than 8 Income－based subsidies million people will lose eligibility and leave Med－ incomes have changed

## Where to get new

 coverageState－based health in－ surance marketplaces Care Act are the only plac es where people can buy individual insurance with help from an income－based subsidy．They can be found through the federal government＇s healthcare ov website．
Shoppers also can find coverage sold outside
these marketplaces，but it may be risky For in stance，short－term plans can exclude coverage o can exclude coverage of cal condition someone had before signing up．
$\qquad$ lan should of any new first thing one of the ider．Shoppers con come－based subsidies to elp pay monthly premi ums of plans they buy on the state－based market－ places．Those subsidies pandemic．
People often don＇t re lize they can get this help，said Jeremy Smith， director of West Virginia＇s health insurance naviga－ or program，which help hoppers find coverage． age of people can qualify for a plan starting at $\$ 0$ per month，＂he said．

## Coverage differences

 Individual insurance differs from Medicaid inketplace plans come wit a big deductible that peo ple must pay befor Shage starts．
Shoppers should un derstand deductibles and
other payments they will need to make before com mitting to a plan，Smit noted．
Individual
lso groups hospitals an doctors in networks．The insurance may cover much ess of the bill for care re ceived outside those net works．Shoppers should earn how any regular doc ors and medications are covered before
in a new plan．
Individual
Individual insuranc also can give people mor
care choices．Many do care choices．Many doc
tors don＇t accept Medic aid，and states may pay for only a limited amount prescriptions．

## AREA OBITUARIES

## COMMERCIAL DISPATCH

 OBITUARY POLICY Obituaries with basic informa－tion including visitation and service times，are provided free of charge．Extended obituarie．
with a photograph，detailed biographical information and other details families may wish
to include，are available for a fee to include，are available for a fee
Obituaries must be submitted through funeral homes unless the
deceased＇s body has been donat－ ed to science．If the deceeased＇s
body was donated to science， body was donated to science，
the family must provide official the family must provide official
proof of death．Please submit all obit The Commercial Dispatch．
Gree notices
Eust be the Free notices must be submitted
to the newspaper no later than 3 p．m．the day prior for rublica－
tion Tuesday through Friday；no later than 4 p．m．Saturday for the
Sunday edition．and Sunday edition；and no later than Incomplete notices must be foceved no later than $7: 30$ a．m． editions．Paid notices must be finalized by 3 p．m．for inclusion
the next day Monday through the next day Monday through
Thursday；and on Friday by 3 p．m． for Sunday and Monday publica－
tion．For more information，call tion．For more
$662-328-2471$ ．

## Larry Stevenson

 Larry Dale Stevenson， 53，died March 15 2023，at North Missis－ sippi Medical CenteFuneral services Funeral servic Thursday，at J．F．Car－ ter Memorial Chape Burial will follow at Fountain Head M．B Visitation will be from $4-6$ p．m．today，at the f－6 p．m．today，at the
funeral home．Carter＇s Funeral Home of West Point is in charge of

## Pamela Roach

 WEST POINT－Pamela Ann Roach， 54 died March 19，2023， at West Point Commu－ nity Living Center． Graveside services at Craig Springs Cemetery in Sturgis， with Rev．Dan Robert－ son and Rev．Jeremy McCrory officiating． Visitation will be from 1：45－2 p．m．at the cem－ Home of West Point is in charge of arrange－

Ms．Roach was rn on Oct．5，196 in Starkville，to Cha
otte F．Roach and the late Billy Fred Roach． She was a member of Pleasant Ridge Baptist Church．
In addition to her mother，she is survived by her brother，Erwin Roach of Starkville． Memorials may be made to Friendship Baptist Church， 5491 Craig Springs Road， Sturgis，MS 39769 or Palmer Home for Children，P．O．Box 746

## Sherry Prather

 WEST POINT－ Sherry Ann Wooten Prather，58，died Funeral service Funeral services Saturday，at Robinson Chapel．Visitation will he one hour prior to services at the funeral home．Robinson Funer al Home of West Point is in charge of arrange－ ments．Mrs．Prather was orn Oct．5，1964，in West Point，to the late

\section*{（⿳⿱㇒⿲丶丶㇒冖⿰夕㐄 Gunter Peie <br> Sewing you since 1893 <br> Our dedicated，caring， <br> professional staff $\&$ affordable funeral services continue to make us your leading funeral

service providers Edith Markham <br> 

Loventrice Edwards Graveside Services： Private Fanily Graveside
Service Will Be Held． Friendship Cemetery
Burial
Frend Sameane ta Paunt an When Caring ${ }^{2}$ ant memorialgunterpeel．com $662-328-4432$
$662-328-2354$

Alice Ann Greenwood－Earl Craddieth Jr． Wooten and Lucian Edward Wooten．Sh attended Oak Hill Academy，Mississippi University for Women and Mississippi State University．She was ormerly employed as a reading tutor for the West Point School District．
She is survived by her husband，Felix Prather of York，Ala bama；her children， Sarah Prather，Mari－ Cara Prather Dyer and Nate Prather：broth－ Nate Prather；broth Shannon Wooten and Shannon Wooten and granddaughter．

## COLUMBUS－E

 Junious Craddieth Jr， Junious Craddieth Jr，2，died March 14， 2023，at
Baptist
Memorial
Hospi－
tal－Golden
Triangle． Funeral Craddieth Jr． services will be at 11 a．m． Thursday，at United Faith Interdenomina－ Dional，with Johnny Burrah officiating． Surial will follow at Visitation will be from 12－5 p．m．today at Carter＇s Funeral Se
vices．Carter＇s Funeral

## Lenora Vickery

Lenora Freedle Vickery，87，
passed away March 21,2023 passed away March 21，2023，at the Carringto
in Starkville．
 She was born in Nashville，

## Virginia teacher shot by 6-year-old: 'I thought I had died'

"I'm not sure when the shock will ever go away because of just how surreal it was ..

## THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEWPORT NEWS, Va. - A Virginia teacher who was shot wounded by her 6 -year-old sudent said it has changed her and nightmares about that day "I just will never forget the look on his face that he gave m while he pointed the gun direc ly at me," first-grade teache Abby Zwerner said during a exclusive interview with NBC's

Savannah "Guthrie about the
student. "It's changed me. It's changed my life."
She said she's still in shock and can't make sense of it, in portion of the interview that "Today." Tuesday morning on Today." "I'm not sure when the shock will ever go away because of just memories I have of that day. I think about it daily. Sometimes I have nightmares," she said.

Speaking publicly for the first time since the Jan. 6 shooting, interview that was aired Mon day on "NBC Nightly News" that she's had a challenging recovery. She's had four surgeries and has some days when she can't get up out of bed." Other days she can go about her day. "For going through what I've gone through, I try to stay pos itive. You know, try to have a positive outlook on what's happened and where my
Zwerner was hospitalized for nearly two weeks after be-
ing shot in the chest and left hand as she taught her class at Richneck Elementary School in Newport News, Virginia. The shooting rattled the military shipbuilding community and sent shock waves around the country, with many wondering how a child so young could get access to a gun and shoot his eacher.
In the moments after she was shot, Zwerner said the were screaming.
were screaming.
She was terrified. But he
She was terrified. But her
concern centered on the chil dren - "I just wanted to get my
babies out of there."
"I think they knew as wel that they had to get out
there," Zwerner said. "But the there," Zwerner said. "But the
were extremely frightened were extre
What happened next is still kind of a blur. Zwerner got the kids out of the classroom. She knew she needed help The fire alarm had gone off heightening her awareness tha she'd been shot.
She had trouble breathing
Her vision failed.
ust passed out", Zwerner said "I thought I had died."

## Montgomery

## Suspects and targets

 When the FBI combed through Walker's phone, they found no evidence o depression or other un-'If we are trying to protect them by keeping the knowledge this stuff exists, we're doing them a disservice, so I think the first thing that needs to happen is you need to talk to them about it. ... The biggest thing they need to know is that you're in their corner no matter what.'
sations across his various apps were "normal." During the investigation, FBI agents found and tracked the account Walker interacted with oo a place in Nigeria and determined it was from a criminal group, not just a singular perso
gomery said.
Walker, who attended Starkville Academy, was ikely targeted because people often equate private school students with having money and valuing ceputation said his father "Walker did what he did because of how he
thought we would react, Mought we would react," point is really just on us and to teach our kids com passion because we don't ever really know how our reactions are going to drive someone else's actions, and obviously Y'm here in front of you today because Walker thought
was true - that his life was over. ... None of that was true. I can't speak for ow the kids would ve really, I would have moved across the country if I hought it would make his to think he didn't realize that in that moment"

## Raising awareness

 Montgomery appeared Montgomery appeared on Fox News in mid-Feb-ruary to discuss the reality of sextortion and criminal groups targeting kids via social media. He said fter the Fox interview about 25 parents from the South, and a handful from the Golden Triangle, have their own children dealing with sextortion. Clemons, a former employee of the 16th Circuit District Attorney's office who now operates her own law practice,

Montgomery's interview with Fox News, she had sextortion.
She stressed parents need to have frank conversations with their children about the topic "This is the new the reper-
cussions of cussions of
us living in as culture where
we have we have
these cell phones," Clemons said. "... If we are trying oo protect them by keep ing the knowledge this stuff exists, we're doing think the first thing that needs to happen is you need to talk to them abou it. Even that isn't going to guarantee this isn't going to happen. ... The biggest hing they need to know is that you're in their cor-

Attorney Lindsay Clemons
ner no matter what." Clemons said paying extortion money only eads to additional demands of money. Contacting the authorities and preparing for the possibilty of the images or videos being leaked are the best actions to take.
"The more shame is associated, the more the risk, especially with who are going to church and trying to be good people ... A lot of it is self-imposed pressure on them," Clemons said. "They've got to know that God's grace is bigger than nything, and that yours too. It's one thing to back, but moms and dads can be real scary. ... They can't think their life is going to be over if they do the worst thing that they can imagine."
Clemons and Mont-
gomery both suggested

WHAT TO DO
If young people are being ex all 1-800 CALLL-FB or or report
addressing any lapses in judgment later and immediately reassuring a child who is being exploited. Both acknowledged here is only so much par to oftentimes, children are more tech savvy than parents ever will be. Th said the solution lies in egislation and making ech companies liable. "It's a double-edged ord," Montgomery told The Dispatch. "It's great e're helping somebody and that Walker's life mounted to people havng that conversation with heir kids. On the other hand, it's always there and a constant reminder of what we're dealing with and going through. If I could say one thing .If could say one thing it would be stay vigilant with our phones, and let our kids know there's nothing they could do hat would stop you from loving them."

## Coleman

Conned from Page 1A
those things as the new
CEO and administrator for Baptist Memorial Hos for Baptist Memorial
pital-Golden Triangle. pital-Golden Triangle.
On March 13, Colema was tapped for the top posion at the 323-bed hosGT is Columbus. BMHhospitals in the largest Tennessee-based Baptist Memorial Health Care

Former CEO Paul Cade is transitioning to the CEO on April 3.
Coleman began his path in health care at Mississippi University for Women, earning his bach-
elor's degree in nursing elor's degree in nursing
in 2003 and following the course of several family members and friends who also chosen a career in health care. Golden Triangle in the

- $\sim$

Serving the Golden Triangle
williamwellstireandauto.com
out the rest of that year County Hospital before moving to Vicksburg with his wife to be a nurse at River Region Medical Center's critical care unit. Working there, he began to informally take on lead ership roles when the opportunity aro
"I was taking on team leadership nurse roles to orchestrate different things and also planning and strat egizing (care at the hospidid that while I was work ing at while I was work ing at the bedside
That attitude
That attitude would him to apply for a job as director of the hospital's critical care units in 2005 where he would oversee of the unit until 2010 .

Coleman joined the
Baptist Health Care System administration first as an administrative director for emergency and critical care services at Mississippi Baptist Medical Center that same year until 2015, then as assis Mississippi Baptist Health Systems until 2018, when he took over at Yazoo and Attala.
"I really liked it, really making a difference, you nnow?" Coleman said. "Working with people and providing the best results or the patients we're serving, and how can we o it better. I really like care" challenge with health
In managing care units and as VP for Baptist Health Systems, Coleman ocused on growing Jack on's and later Attala and


Where do you want to go?


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cialists to these markets

## CARP STARKVILLE CHAPTER

 AARP Starkville chapter meets on the firstThursday of each month in a regular meeting Thursday of each month in a regular meeting
and program at 10 am. at Golden Triangle Planning and Development Center on 301
Clark Road, Starkville, (662) $324-7860$. CcOOC MEETING The Council of Community Organizations of fourth Saturday of the month at 13608 MS Hwy. 182 E., Starkville. For more information, call Peggy Rogers, 662
Little, $662-617-1636$.

## - EAST LIONS CLUB

The Columbus East Lions Club meets every second and fourth Monday of the month at 6 Airline Road. For more inform
$549-3421$ or $662-630-0647$

## - GT QUILTERS GUILD

 5:30 p.m. every third Thursday at meets at Presbyterian Church, 607 Hospital Road inI SIT AND SEX
The Golden Triangle Quilters Guild meets at 9 a.m.3 p.m. every second Saturday at the Trinity Presbyterian Church, 607 Hospital Roo - breakfast with the bulldogs ni and friends are invited to Breakfast with the Bulldogs on second thursdays breakfast at 7:30 am. Contact Carol Moss 0637. $\square$ TOPS days at Counts Sensibly No. 288 meets Tue days at Community Baptist Church, Yorkville
Road East, Columbus. Weigh-in begins at 5:30 pom. Contact Pat Harris, 662-386-0249. $\square$ TOPS
Take Off Pounds Sensibly No. 270 meets
Thursdays at 4370 Cal-Kolola Road, Caledothursdays at 470 Ca--Kolola Road, Caledona. Weigh-in begins at $5-5: 30$ p.m.
Michelle Holliman, $662-386-3650$.

## $\square$ SENIOR CRAFTS

 Senior Crafts meets at the Starkville Sportsplex Tuesdays, 10-11:30 am. Crafts provide Lisa Cox, 662-323-229
## - QUILTING CLUB

Quilting Club meets in the activities room adjacent to the multipurpose facility at the
Starkville Sportsplex Thursdays 10 am.noo Starkvile Sportsplex Thursdays 10 a.m.-noon.
Bring your own project to work on. For informton, call Lisa Cox, 662-323-229
HEALTH NOTES
reversing diabetes
Free Reversing Diabetes class, 219 Maple
Street, Columbus, will be held Tuesday April 4 - May 9 . To register cal 662 -

- BD MAMMOGRAMS

If you do not have insurance or your insurance does not pay for a mammogram, you could
possible qualify for a FREE screening or diag nostic mammogram if you meet the following requirements: you are at least 40 years old
(or younger if you have underlying risk factors (or younger if you have underlying risk factors
such as a family history of breast cancer) and reside in one of these counties: Lowndes, Oktibbeha, Clay, Monroe, Noxubee, Winston or Choctaw in Mississippi or Dickens and Lamar in Alabama. To see if you qualify and to make an appointment, call our Radiology Scheduling
number at $662-244-2979$ or $800-544-8762$, ext. 2979. Remember, breast cancer is best treated when detected early! If you put off getting your annual mammogram due to the pandemic, NoW is the time to schedule your
screening!! Baptist Golden Triangle has been using the Hologic Genius 3D Mammography since 2000. The technology provides better, earlier breast cancer detection and greater accuracy than 2 D mammography for women

## - SPEAKERS' BUREAU

Are you looking for mene to speak to your civic club, church group or business/
professional organization? Baptist Memorial Hospital-Golden Triangle can provide a speaker on a wide variety of topics from common
diseases and medical conditions to behavediseases and merca condions to bent al
oral, mental heath and addiction as well a spiritual and end-of-life (and more) topics! Call the Marketing Department at 662-244-2008 at least two weeks in advance of your meeting to

- AbuSE RECOVERY GROUP

A Domestic Abuse Recovery Group meets
Thursdays at 6 p.m. through Safe Haven In Group counseling for rape recovery is available. For information, call 662-327-6118. - BAPTIST VOLUNTEERS Baptist Golden Triangle seeks caring, compassionate volunteers to help in a variety of
hospital settings. For information, call Lisa hospital settings. For information, call
Bowers,662-244-1165.

## ■ DRUG/ALCOHOL INTERVENTION

 Narconon offers drug and alcohol interventions. For free screenings or referrals, call- GoLDEN TRIANGLE AA

Golden Triangle AA meets daily for support. If want to stop drinking, that is our business. For information, call 662-327-8941.

- AL-ANON MEETING

The Columbus Al-Anon Family Groups meet Mondays and Thursdays at $5: 30$ p.m. When you don't know where to turn because some-
one drinks too much, we can help. For informaone drinks too much, we can help. For informa-
tion, call $888-425-2666$ or go to msafg.org.

OTHER EVENTS

## 100+ WOMEN WHO CAR

## COLUMBUS

$100+$ Women Who Care Columbus is a group
of women who participapate in a Giving Circle twice a year. 100 women, each donating $\$ 100$, makes $\$ 10,000$, Local organizations are nomi-
mated by members. Members vote nated by members. Members vote on organiza-
tons to receive an Impact Award. Every dollar
stays in Lowndes County. $\$ 100,000$ has been donated in just three years. It's so simple, It's so positive. Open to all. Learn more and
out how to join. 100 wwccolumbusms.org

## $\square$ GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

The Mississippi Council on Developmental
Disabilities Disabilities has one-year grants and short-term
grants available. If y your organization or if you grants available. If your organization or if you
know of an organization that is interested in trying out a new idea, bringing a best practice to Mississippi, or changing support systems
to improve the lives of pep le to improve the lives of people with developmental disabilities, please contact Christly at
$601-359-5533$ or christy.ashley@dmh.ms. .oo 601-359-5533 or christy.ashley@dmh.ms.gov.
Requests for Proposals or applications can be

## - SAFE HAVEN VOLUNTEERS

Safe Haven Inc. seeks community volunteers.
Trainings are held every three month. If Trainings are held every three months. If you or someone you know would like to volunteer,
contact Joyce Tucker, 662-327-6118: Cequeila contact Joyce fucker, $62-$ -
Bigbee, $622-435-1806$; or email 1delivere-
■ HOST FAMILIE
Ayusa, a nonprofit organization promoting
global learning leadership throughout global learning, leadership through cultural
exchange and leadership programs for high exchange and leadership programs for high
school students from around the world, is school students from around the world, is
taking applications for American families in northeast Mississippi interested in hosting international high school students. Call Amy Benjamin, 662-205-6867, or email, abenia
min@ayusa.org.
The Friends of the Starkille Library Book Sale is the first Monday of each month at the Starkville Public Library, 326 University Drive. - ENVIRONMENTAL MEETING Memphis Town Community Action Group meets
fourth Tuesdays at 6 p.m. to discuss issues refourth Tuesdays at 6 pm. to discuss issues re-
lated to the Kerr-McGee site. For information, lated to the Kerr-McGee site. For information,
contact Leon Hines, $662-574-6109$.

## $\square 50$ DRESSES MINISTRY

Reach 1 Teach 1 Ministries' 50 Dresses
Ministry Program to the Golden Triangle area helps those in need of a dress or suit for a
job search. Donations accepted. Call Regional job search. Donations accepted. Call Regional
Coordinator Cequeila Bigbee, $870-627-2859$ Coordinator Cequeila Bigbee, 870-627-28.
e-mail 1deliveredin2014@gmail.com.

## - WALKING GROUP

J.L. King Center's Families First of Oktibbeha County invites the community to join its Walking Group at $6: 30$ am. Monday-Friday at Westside Park, 700 N . Long St., Star $\square$ FREE COMPUTER CLASSES Emerson Family Center, Starkville, offers free
computer classes $1-3$ p.m. Tuesdays. Call 662-320-4607.

## - PARENT CAFÉ

Emerson family Center, Starkville, offers Parent Cafe meetings 11 a.m-.noon every Mon-
day. For more information, call $662-418$-5193 day. For more information, call $662-418-5193$
or visit fcp-parentcafe.com. - TENN-TOM WATERWAY MUSEUM The Agnes Zaiontz Tennessee-Tombigbee
Waterway Transportation Museum, 318 Waterway Transportation Museum, 318
Seventh St. N.,. Columbus, is open for tours Monday-Thursday, 9 am. -4 p.m. and Friday 9 a.m.-2 pm. School field trips, civic clubs,
church groups encouraged. Call $662-328-328$ church groups encoura

It's Termite Season!

(a)
Jimmy Linley Richard Linley

## LEARN TOSAVE <br> 

 LIVES

Online portion must be completed by March 25, 2023. When registering, submit email address for link to complete online portion. Downtown YMCA e columbus-ymca.com

## Downtown Spring Open House

 year, U.S. health officials reported 53 cases. The new study foundcases have continued to cases have continued to
shoot up, rising to 476 shoot up, rising to 476
in 2019 , to 756 in 2020 and then to 1,471 in 2021 . and then to 1,471 in 2021 . ed the fungus on the skin of thousands of other patents, making them a transmission risk to orthers.
Many of the first U.S. cases were infections that had been imported from abroad, but now most infactions are spread within the U.S., the authors not ed.

Superbug fungus cases rose dramatically during pandemic

The fungus is a form of yeast that is usually not harmful to healthy people but can be a deadly risk to fragile hospital and nursing home patients by mike stobbe AP Medical Writer NEW YORK - U.S. cas of a dangerous fungus tripled over just three years, and more than half or it study. demit likely drove part the increase, researchers
at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention wrote in the paper pub-
Dished Monday by Annals of Internal Medicine. Hospital workers were strained by coronavirus patients, and that likely shifted their focus away from disinfecting some other kinds of germs, they The fungus, Candida
auris, is a form of yeast
that is usually not harmthat is usually not harmbut can be a deadly risk to fragile hospital and nursing home patients. It spreads easily and can infect wounds, ears and the bloodstream. Some strains are so-called cuperbugs that are resistant biotic drugs used to treat fungal infections.
It was first identified in Japan in 2009 and has been seen in more and more countries. The first U.S. case occurred in
2013, but it was 2013, but it was not reported until 2016. That
$\cdots+\cdots$
Send in your News About Town event. email: community@cdispatch.com Subject: NATS

Trust \& Respect Matter.



## MAROH 27, 2023

GP.M. GOOK AUDITORIUM

GREAT FUTURES START HERE.
BOYS \& Girls clubs

## NOTICE:

The Boys \& Girls Club of the Golden Triangle, Inc. intends to apply for the

21st Century Community Learning Centers STEAM Proposal (Grades 3-12)

For more information, please contact Paulette Ferguson at (662) 615-9980 or via email at PFerguson@bcgoldentri.org

## Committee

## pened with (John Musa)

 Harris said. ed Deli, was arrested last month after allegedly holding a man he believed was stealing copper from a building he owned at gunpoint. A GoFundMeset up to help Musa set up to help Musa re-
cover from a series of cover from a his propert raised nearly $\$ 30,000$.

asked
man

try to
the coun
cil's min- Gaskin
utes the committee wa created, but she hasn't been able to find any"The committee was formed by the council,

## Upgrades

Continued from Page 1A "This will be the latest
and greatest technology in Mississippi," Campan in Mississippi," Campan-
ella said. "No one has this ella said. No one has this
technology right now. We will be the only ones in the state, which is a first.' Campanella said the
package includes package includes com-
puter-aided dispatch mo-puter-aided dispatch mo-'
bile systems for sheriff's dile systems for sherifis s
department cars, dig tal record management system, in-car cameras,
body-worn cameras, fire station alerting, and an
e-citation system for the e-citation system for the
sheriff's department to sheriff's department to
digitally file warrants, digitally file warrants,
evidence, and other case management information Originally, the package
from 365Labs was quoted as a $\$ 2$ million upgrade Campanella negotiated with the company and removed some items to lower costs, but the amount was still over the c
$\$ 600,000$ budget. Captain Brett Watsor encouraged the board to take the leap and find ways to absorb the additional cost.
"I don't I dont
state this,
and y yall
and

and it will be the council who will make the deter-
mination," Gaskin said "We need to look at the appointments of each council member and discuss new ones or contin ued appointments." cil member appointed person to the committee person to the committee
according to Harris. Ward 2 Councilman Jo $\begin{array}{ll}\text { seph } & \text { Mick- } \\ \text { ens } \\ \text { ques- }\end{array}$ ens ques-
tioned the
need for the
committee.
"We have
the Civ-
il Service Mickens sion to look over the (police department)," Mickens said. "You're welcome to come to some of those meet ings and see what's going on. ... The civil service

## Survey asks for input for recreation on the Lux at Propst Park

dispatch staff report
Park raised the possibility of kay-
aking and access to the Lux. This aking and access to the Lux. This
survey is attempting to flesh out that idea to see if there is sufficient
Interested in water-based recreation at Propst Park? Students
in Mississippi State University's master of business administration program want to hear about it MSU students are conducting a study to gauge interest in water-related activities at the Luxapalila Creek, which runs through the park. That study will help the city of Columbus better plan improvements at the park. Neel-Schaffer in 2022 for Propst
a a single visit to last. Respondents are also asked to rank various services, including the ability to rent equipment on site; the ability to take guided tours; availability of self-guided tours; and whether or not they can use personal kayaks.
Finally, questions ask about prospective price ranges for those services, as well as whether they are interested in fishing or children's fossil hunts while on the Lux. The survey can be fou
at https://bit.ly/31tHF24
looks at everything." Marty Turner said he supported the chief, but tee was a good idea. "I'm 100 percent be hind the chief," he said "... It was formed after
(the Ball shooting) and
we had officers turn their body cameras, and Tiffabody cameras off, and we didn't want that to hap-
Ward again.
Ward 5 Councilman Stephen Jones pointed
out that officers would
now be terminated if they failed to turn on thei
 derline how valuable the
committee was. "We have that because of the (committee)," she said. "That was one of the recommenda tions that we made."

Chief Operations Offi cer Jammie Garrett said she would set up a meet discuss the committee' future. Daughtry was out o,
town and not at Tuesday's meeting.


Oktibbeha County Board of Supervisors meets Monday night. At Abigail Sipe Rochester/Dispatch Staa of new public safety equipment was approved, as well as approval to seek a grant for addi-
tional equipment. Starkville board of aldermen voted to seek a grant for similar equipment Tuesday night.
computer-controlled
camera systems used to capture an image of a vehicle's license plate as it drives by. The plate readers would be used to minimize threats coming into the ar
to Watson.
"We've got to be
ware," Watson told The Dispatch after the meet ing. "We know Highways 82 and Highway 25 are corridors for a lot of crim inal activity ... and it's not just criminal activity. There's also potential for
terroristic threats. We terroristic threats. We
have Mississippi State have Mississippi State
right here ... and it will give us the opportunity to respond quicker.
Watson told The Dis patch he was still unsure about the grant amount, but he said the sheriff's office would be getting quotes on the cost o three permanent automat ed license plate readers
from 365Labs, and possifly other providers. Watson said currentl the Sheriff's Office only has one mobile license plate reader, which is down for repairs.
Orlando Trainer, board president, expressed
his support his support for the up-
grades and grades and
the grant the grant request,
$\begin{aligned} & \text { saying all } \\ & \text { these chang- }\end{aligned}$ these chang-
es will push es will push
Oktibbeha County to the "cutting edge" of technol ogy. He also said he hopes it will further cooperation between multiple law en-
forcement agencies in the area. "Tm hoping that al twined, integrated, and interactive with what goes on with the city and with

MSU," Trainer said. "We don't want there to be any miscommunication or in terference between any o the parties involved."
City pursuing similar technology The Starkville Police Department made a
similar grant request for similar grant request for
LPRs on Tuesday night apRs on Tuesday nigh meeting. The department requested to apply for Homeland Security Grant worth about $\$ 30,000$ to purchase three new plate readers from America Integration Contractors.
"We've been workin "We've been working
very hard for over two years now to build our
Real Time Intelligence $C$ ent e
where have sever-
al cameras al cameras
coming coming online with our Mark Ballard said to The Dispatch before the meet ing. "The LPRs fill a gap n that were no longe just looking for a vehicle description. We have accurate information on the vehicle that we're looking for."
According to the city's grant application, the
LPR system would be used to detect "threat acors" that enter the area who are registered in local databases or the Na tional Crime Information Center database.
Currently, the Starkville Police Department only has one stathough five highways and several county roads allow access to the city Additional LPRs would be used to form a "net"
around the city to monitor

## coming threats.

 The city police depart ment also requested to apply for a second Home land Security Grant worth gerprinting additional fin gerprinting equipmentand forensic software This software would give This software would give
the Starkville Police De partment the ability t compare fingerprints to national databases, making investigations move more quickly.
The police depart ment's grant application requests passed on the
aldermen's consent agenda Tuesday night. Mayo Spruill voiced her support Spruill voiced her support
of the grant requests to The Dispatch after the meeting.
"We are trying to stay
on the cut-
ting edge
ting edge
with every-
thing we
do as it re-
lates to the
police de-
partment,"
Spruill said.
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Every time we take an
other technological step forward, it reduces stress oad on our police officer and assists our depart


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US probes reports of steering glitch on newer Honda Civics the associated press DETROIT - U.S. auto
safety regulators are in saety regulators are in-
vestigating complaints from Honda Civic drivers that their steering can stick, causing a momen-
tary increase in effort tary increase in effort and
increasing the risk of increas
crash.
tional Highway Traffic Safety Administration co ers an estimated 238,000 2023 model years. The agency says it ha 145 complaints about th problem, which happens mostly at highway speeds. The complaints came ove
curred mostly on vehicles with low miles.
An increase in steering effort can cause an overreaction or inability to avoid said in documents posted said in documents poste
Tuesday on its website Tuesday on its website. of crashes or injuries from The probe by the Na the problem.
the past 11 months and oc

## Sports

## SIGNING DAY

## Life-Iong friends to play soccer at Meridian CC

New Hope sends pair to play for Eagles by alex murphy

NEW HOPE chance to play at the next level doesn't come to many, but it seems like the pipeline between New Hope soccer and college soccer has continuec grow in recent years. Tuesday morning saw
two more Trojans sign two more Trojans sign
to play at the next level: boys soccer defender Cole Crawford and girls soccer midfielder Katie Hayes. Being lifelong friends, the choice for both to go to Meridian Community College was purely a coincidence, but starting out,
the two will already have a familiar face once they get

## on campus the first time.

 "It's great," Hayes said. "We have built-in friends, So it will be really fun. line. I know our moms will be really happy mout it I'm really excited." New Hope has grow stature and success in re cent years as the program has seen the boys team reach the state champion ship game over the past few years and the girls eam go on deep playof uns in the MHSAA Clas 4A state playoffs. The Trojans have won sour-straight regular sea soccer and three-straigh in girls soccer, all duringCrawford and Hayes' time on varsity as they've helped to usher in newfound success under hea "Oach Andrew Olsen. Hard work and dedication," Olsen said. "In practice and in games, you
can always bank on them to give you 100 percent. I just think it's them grinding and being dedicated has gotten them to this point. I know they're going to do good things."
Eagles soccer has struggled at MCC recently, with both teams posting below- 500
this past season.
The men's team didn't
find great success, going
See SIGNING DAY


COLLEGE FOOTBALL

## Here's what to watch for this spring as Ole Miss starts practice

 OXFORD Tber, OXFORD - There's less than 170 days until Ole Missfootball's 2023 season openfootball's 2023 season open-
er against Mercer. And that er against Mercer. And that
can only mean one thing it's time for spring football. The last time the Rebels took the field was a $42-25$ loss to Texas Tech in the Texas Bowl. The loss was
Ole Miss' $(8-5,4-4$ SEC Ole Miss (8-5, $4-4$ SEC)
fourth-straight to end the fourth-straight to end the
season and fifth in its final six games. As they did the season before, the Rebels loaded up in the transfer of big names, particularly in the quarterback room. The Rebels start spring football practice on Tues-
day, and the Grove Bowl will day, and the Grove Bowl will
take place April 15 at 2 p.m. take place April 15 at 2 p.m.
Here are a few storylines to watch this spring.
What is the current status of the quarterback room?
Junior Jaxson Dart was Ole Miss' big prize in last Dart thew for 2,974 yards and 20 touchdowns with an additional 614 on the ground. This offseason, head coach Lane Kiffin brought in former Oklahoma State quarterback Spencer
Sanders and LSU's Walker Howard. Sanders was a four-year starter with the Cowboys, was first-team AllBig 12 in 2021 and has more than 9,500 passing yards to his name and nearly 2,000 rushing yards. Howard was a blue-chip
2022 class.

## 22 class

Is this an open quar-
terback competition? Is it Dart's job to lose? Will we learn any of these things in

## Who are the wide

 receivers?Jonathan Mingo and Malik Heath each had 800 re ceiving yards last year. Both are gone now, however, leav-
ing a void on the outside ing a void on the outside. Se--
nior Jordan Watkins had 449 nior Jordan Watkins had 449
receiving yards and a pair receiving yards and a pair
of touchdowns last season. of touchdowns last season.
Is he the next man up? Is it another in-house option, like senior Dayton Wade or sophomore J.J. Henry? Or is it one of the transfers the Rebels brought in, like Texas A\&M's Chris Marshall or
Louisiana Tech's Tre Har Louisiana Tech's Tre Har
ris? Marshall was a five-sta recruit in last year's class,


Ole Miss quarterback Jaxson Dart (2) throws a pass during the Rebels' first practice of the spring on Tuesday. Dart threw for nearly 300
and Harris had 935 yards and 10 touchdowns for the

What will the defense look like?

In addition to the moves in the portal, the Rebels ing hire by bringing in Alaing hire by bringing in Ala-
bama defensive coordinator Pete Golding to run the defense. Ole Miss got off to a good start defensively in 2022 but faded down the stretch, giving up 35 points per game over the final seven contests. Golding had exceptional talent at Alabama, but the numbers were good, too - the Crimson Tide gave in 2022 , which was ninth nationally.

What changes will Gold
What changes will Gold ing implement schematical adjustments take?

There are also new players in the fold - NC State se nior defensive tackle Joshua Harris, Miami (OH) senio cornerback John Saunder and Louisville senior line backer Monty Montgomery among others. Will they hit the ground running and be

Who is going to share the carries with Quinshon Judkins?

Judkins was first-team All-SEC as a true freshman, racking up more than 1,500 yards and 16 touchdown Evans were among the best
runing back duos in college football, as Evans finished just shy of 1,000 yards. Ev ans is gone for the NFL however, and given recent history, someone else is going to get carries besides Judkins: In 2021, three run ning backs had at least 550 rushing yards. The year before two running backs he fore, two running
at least 400 yards.
Senior Ulysses Bentley V returns after Bentle ry-plagued first season Ole Miss after season a from SMU True freshman Kedrick Reescano was four-star recruit but he will not be on-campus this will not be on-campus this spring. Who is going to get kins isn't in?

## TRACK AND FIELD

## Jackets

place second at Big Blue Invitational

BY ALEX MURPHY
Starkville track and field participated in the Big Blue Invitational in Meridian on Monday afternoon. The Yellow Jack second on the day
Monday was highlighted on the boys side by their $4 \times 100$ meter relay team of Sanchez Brooks, Anthony Hogan, Jejuan Davis and Evan George, who ran a 42.59
The foursome won the event, setting a new best time for the state this season, and the mark ranks second all-time in Starkville history.
Finishing out the track events for the boys, Scott McDonnell won the 800 Jones won the 3200 meter race. In field events, Hogan won for discus.
On the girls' side, there were seven event winners on the day.
In the track events, Indya Sparks won the 200 meter sprint, Addyson Vickers won the 400 race, Emma Claire Spradling won in the 3200 meter race and Jariyah Lowe, Jamaica Young, Ra una Robinson
and Jocelyn Randle took home the win in the $4 \times 400$ meter relay. In field events, Jada Harris won in high jump and Zariyah Edwards too home wins in both shot put and discus. Starkville's next event will be the an-
nual Starkville Invitational, taking place nual Starkville Invit

HIGH SCHOOL GOLF

## Starkville

Academy hosts golf invitational at Starkville CC
by alex murphy
STARKVILLE - On Monday, Starkville Country Club played host to a number o golf programs throughout the state in one-day invitational.
Among those included Starkville Acad emy, the host school for Monday's tournament, and Heritage Academy, who
fielding a golf team for the first time i fielding a golf team for the first time
several years under the leadership coach Bill Gates.
"We are currently trying to rebuild the program and fielded a host of new player that have never played competitive gol before," Gates said. "..We are learning progressing, and having fun in the pro

## Navratilova says she is cancer-free, returns to her TV work

LONDON - Martina Navratilova returned to TV work at Tennis Channel for its coverage of the Miami Open on Tuesday, saying she had throat cance and breast cancer. "It's great to be back. 18-1led to be here," said the 18-time Grand Slam singles
champion and member of the International Tennis Hall of Fame. "So happy to be working. Ho The 66 -year-old Navratilova
said her sense of taste disap peared during the treatment for cancer and she lost 15 pounds She did not appear on televisio during the Australian Open in Open this month.
"It put month
It puts you face-to face with your mortality, No 1, because at the beginning, I wasn't sure if it was treatable, so that was hard," she said, wiping away tears. "But once I got into the program, it was a little easier physically. ... But I'm still standing."

In an interview with Talk TV's Piers Morgan shown lat er Tuesday, Navratilova said she has been told by doctor that, "as far as they know, I'm "good to go" after some addi good to go" after some add "I definitely won't be ng any of my checkups. I will be very, very diligent about it be very, very diligent about it,
But the prognosis is excellent," Navratilova said. "But you nev er know. Just, like, you never know."
She also told Morgan that when she was diagnosed, "I was
in a total panic for three days, thinking I may not see next Christmas" and came up with a bucket list of things she wanted
$\qquad$
She noticed an enlarged ymph node in her neck while WTA Finals in Fort Worth, TexNTA Finals in Fort Worth, Texas, in November, and a biopsy showed early stage throat can-
cer. While Navratilova was undergoing tests on her throat, she said, the unrelated, early stage breast cancer was discov ered.
Navratilova was diagnosed
with a noninvasive form of breast cancer in 2010 and had a lumpectomy.
She won 59 Grand Slam titles overall, including 31 in wom doubles. The last was a mixe doubles. The last was a mixship with Bob Bryan at the 2006 U.S. Open, Bryan at the 2006 U.S. Open,
month shy of her 50th birthday Navratilova originally rered in 1994, after a record 167 singles titles and 331 weeks at No. 1 in the WTA rankings. She eturned to the tour to play dou les in 2000 and occasionally competed in singles, too.

## Signing day <br> continued from Page 1B

2-11-2, while the women's team fared slightly bette with a 5-10-1 record. Results on paper might not be showing yet, but players like Hayes anc Crawford were recruited
in to help elevate the sta in to help elevate the sta-
tus of the program, and in

Golf
Continued from Page 1B

of 367. Senior Lane Good of 367 . Senior Lane Good
man was the top golfer for man was the top golfer for
the Patriots with a score the Patriots with a earlier in the month, shooting an 81 at Green
wood Country Club, se wood Country Club, se North State tournament the week of April 14. "I was very pleased with our performance Starkville on Monday, Gates said. "...Sure, we had some higher scores but to watch these kids learn and develop is what it's all about." Heritage Academy and Starkville Academy will both be back on the golf course at Clarksdale Country Club on Monday


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This is a


## CALENDAR

## Today PREP ARCHER

arkville Academy at Houston PREP TRACK AND FIELD

## ON THE AIR

Today
6 p.m.: NHLN - Milwaukee at Toronto COLLEGE BASKETBALL (MEN'S) 4 p.m.:. ESNN2 - CBI Tournament: IB
Championship, Daytona Beach, Fla. 6 p.m.: ESPN2 - NIT To 8 p.m.: ESPN2 - NIT Tournament: Cincinnati at Utah Valley, Quarterfinal COLLEGE BASKETBALL (WOMEN'S) p.m.. CBSSN - NCAA Division II Semifinal, Saint Joseph, Mo. 8:30 p.m.:. CBSSN — NCAA Division II
Tournament: Glenville SA . . Semifinal, Saint Joseph, Mo. m.: ACCN - High Point at North Carolina

COLLEGE LACROSSE (WOMEN'S)
ACCN - Stony Brook at Syracuse COLLEGE SOFTBALL
5 p.m.: PAC-12N - Boise St. at Utah F.IGURE SKATING 5 a.m.: USA - ISU: The World Figure

Skating Championships, Women's Short, Saitama, Japan 1 p.m.: GOLF - PGA Tour: The WGC Dell
Technologies, Match Play - Day 1, Austin Country Club, Austin, Texas
MLB
2 a.m.: MLBN - Spring Training: San Francisco vs. LA Dodgers (Split Squad), Scottsdale, Ariz. (Taped) 5 a.m.: MLBN - Spring Training: Tampa Bay vs. M
(Taped)
8 a.m.: MLBN - Spring Training: Miami
8 a.m.: MLBN - Spring Training: Mia
vs. Houston, West Palm Beach, Fla. (Taped)
12 p.m.: MLBN - Spring Training: Baltimore vs. Toronto, Dunedin, Fla.
p.m.: MLBN - Spring Training: LA
Angels vs. Colorado, Scotsdale, Ariz. 8 p.m.: MLBN - Spring Training: San Diego vs. Cincinnati, Goodyear, Ariz. 11 p.m.: MLBN — Spring Training: Minne-
sota vs. Boston, Fort Myers, Fla. (Taped) sota vs. Boston, Fort Myers, Fla. (Taped)
6:45 p.m.: ESPN - G
Dallas
9:05 p.m.: ESPN - Phoenix at LA Lakers NHL
7 p.m.: TNT - Pittsburgh at Colorado
9:30 p.m.: TNT - Arizona at Edmonton SOCCER (MEN'S) 2:30 p.m.: FS2 - International Friendly: Ireland vs. Latvia, Dublin
TENNIS 10 a.m.: TENNIS - Miami Open-WTA/ATP Early Rounds

## Tobin Anderson leaving FDU to replace Rick Pitino at Iona

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS NEW ROCHELLE, N.Y.

- Tobin Anderson is leaving - Tobin Anderson is leaving NCAA Cinderella Fairleigh Dickinson University (FDU)
after one story-book season after one story-book season
and replacing Rick Pitino at and rep
Iona.
Iona.
Iona athletic director Matt Glovaski announced the hiring on Tuesday, just a day after Pitino left to take the job at St. John's of the Big East Conference.
Anderson led the No. 16 seeded Knights to a win over No. 1 Purdue in the opening
round of the NCAA Tournament last week, only the nament last week, only the
second time a No. 16 seed has knocked off a top-seeded team. UMBC beat No. 1 Virginia in 2018.
"Iona University represents everything my family and I were looking for in a school, a basketball program
and a campus atmosphere" and a campus atmosphere,"
Anderson said in a state Anderson said in a state-
ment. "Our goal is to build
upon the tremendous tradi- FDU, one of the shorter tion of Iona basketball and el- teams in the 68 -team field $\begin{array}{ll}\text { evate the program to greater } & \begin{array}{l}\text { beat Texas Southern in } \\ \text { heights." }\end{array} \\ \text { First Four game and fol }\end{array}$ Iona of the Metro Atlan- lowed that with the upse ic Athletic Conference was knocked out of this year's tournament by UConn on Friday.
"We have long known him to be a fantastic coach and an even better person," Glovassaid. "Now, with his team's mpressive run in the NCAA ing attention to March Madness also knows this. We're delighted that he will be at he helm of our men's basketball program."
Anderson led FDU to a $21-16$ overall record and went 10-6 in Northeast Conference play. The Knights lost to Merrimack in the conference title game, but Merrimack was ineligible to compete as a transitioning school from Division II.

Prurdue. Florida Atlan tic knocked them out of the tournament on Sunday. FDU had a 4-22 record in 2021-22. Anderson was hired after running a success
ful program at St ful program at St. Thomas Aquinas, located less than 25 miles from Iona's New
Rochelle campus. In nine Rochelle campus. In nine
seasons, he turned the team into a perennial Top 25 pro into a perenial op
gram in Division II after inheriting a team that won jus five games prior to his hire. Anderson got his firs taste of Division I coaching serving as an assistant a Siena for two seasons from 2011-2013. Before his time
at Siena, Anderson was at Siena, Anderson was a
head coach at the Division III level at Hamilton College and Clarkson University in upstate New York.

## Comics \& Puzzles

## ${ }^{\text {bamict }}$

ZITS



MALLARD FILLMORE




PICKLES




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12x20.................. $\$ 140$
12x40.................. $\$ 300$
Climate-Controlled
10x10 .................. $\$ 125$
10×15 .................. $\$ 165$
$10 \times 20 . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . \$ 200$
10x30.................. $\$ 275$
Uncovered Boat/RV Storage
15x40.................. \$60/mo.

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# Food 

## Dishing out the facts on good fats <br> believe fat is an essential <br> nearly half ( 40 percent) of <br> vegetable recommendations

$\sqrt{4}$
or those seeking to be more health-co scious, the idea of eating nutritiously seem standing what's truly "goo for you" can sometimes be confusing. In honor of National Nutrition Month and Health Fats Day in March, Avocados Frocados - a super good food and source of good fats and several vitamins - make everything better. Avocados From Mexico conducted a survey and found that while 76 percent of respondents
component of a healthy diet, less than one-third are confident they know why it's important to have "good ats" in their diets. to the survers, nearly half of Americans didn't realize foods with good fats, like avocados, can help with weight management. However, monounsaturated and polyunsaturated fats found in avocados can lower the risk of becoming overweight, according to research published in "Nutrients.
"Most people are aware of
he Mediterranean Diet, but
survey respondents didn't re alize that this eating pattern does not limit fat coming from plant sources like avo cados, said nutrition expert and registered "These ty of unsaturated good fats are also recommended by the American Heart Association for heart health. Eating avocados in place of food containing saturated fat is an easy and delicious way to approach healthy eating. Virtually the only fresh fruit with good fats, avocados can help people meet both good fat and fruit and
in the same bite with approx imately six grams of good fats per serving (one-third of a medium avocado). They are nutrient-dense, making super benefits. Avocados super benefits. Avocados ar also free of cholesterol and
sodium and have nearly 20 vitamins and minerals. Another finding from the survey is that while people believe fat is essential to a healthy diet, one-third of survey respondents believe saturated and trans fats are associated with health benefits, indicating confusion See GOOD FATS, $6 B$


Harvest Bowl Salad with Balsamic Vinaigrette is a healthy dish featuring Avocados, virtually

Four tips for a healthy lifestyle
BY QULA MADKIN
MSU Extension Servic eating and physical activity habits. Learn what this campaign is about and get tips to help you improve your lifestyle from the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics: National Nutrition Month is an
annual campaign created 50 year ago in 1973 by the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics. During th month of March, everyone is invited to learn about making informed food choices and developing healthful eating and physical activity habits. This year's theme is "Fuel for the Future." Eating with sustainabil ity in mind is a tasty way to nourish and protect the environment.

## Eat with the environment in mind.

 Enjoy more plant-based meals and snacks.Purchase foods with minimal packaging.
Buy foods in season and shop locally when possible. Start a container or backyar

See a Registered Dietitian Nutritionist (RDN). Ask your doctor for a referral to Find.
Find an RDN who specializes in your unique needs. Learn how nutrient needs may
change with age. Receive personalized nutrition information to meet your health goals.
Stay nourished and save money.
Plan your meals and snacks.
See TIPS, $6 B$

## Chocolate gravy and biscuits offer a blast from the past



Chocolate Gravy and Biscuits offers contrasting flavors and consistencies, making for a delectable treat that surprises with each bite.

BY ROBERT SCOTT

Mmom decided she wanted have a blast from the a dish she has loved for make chocolate gravy and bis gravy and bis-

The twist on the classic southern comfort dish is an interesting one for sure
Where there would be salty gravy paired with the buttered biscuits, this recipe flips it on its head and adds a sweet component with the
I will admit, I had never really heard of this before, but she was confident in her recipe and I trusted her. She was right!

The buttery, flaky biscuits paired with the sweet smooth gravy was an experience I have not had before.

I love classic pan Ilove classic pan
gravy, which is made with flour, and biscuits. I have enjoyed this dish the years and don't plan to stop anytime soon.
But I was hesitant about this one. I saw how much she and my brothers were it swayed me. I decided to pass the point of no return.
I will say, I still prefer the pan gravy, but that is more a matter of habit than a reflection of the dish. I would also add that homemade biscuits are always the way to go. There really is no substitute for good homemade biscuit, or if there
Granted, you will yet.
Granted, you will spend some

extra time making the doughy treats, but it is worth it in the end. That is not to say that frozen biscuits should be cast away, never to
be spoken of again. They are good for what they are and can definitely make a serviceable acmpaniment to a mea
They are especially They are especially
useful when time is lim ited, such as preparing a meal after work and/or school. If you prefer frozen biscuits, then by all means use them! That is the beauty of cooking, there is no one way to do things. As long as you are happy and enjoy the product of your labors, then it has been successful
concerned.

See GRAVY AND BISCUITS, $6 B$


Stress-free steps toward self-care

## family features

Over the last few years, self-care has taken on heightened importance for moms across the country.
That is why Mrs. T's Pierogies is partnering with actress, entrepreneur and mom JoAnna Garcia Swisher for its "All-Star Moms" campaign to spotlight the importance of finding ways to recharge and help these real-life superhe-
roes prioritize me-time

Simplifying self-care
or All-Star Moms everywhere can be as easy as designating a "recharging room" in the home, which offers a personal space to reset and relax. When creating your recharging room, keep these tips from Garcia Swisher in
malance Beautiful with Functional: Find hosting staples like cutting boards, utensils and napkins that match the vibe of your personal pace so the area can double as an entertaining

Keep it Easy to
lean: Choose furniture and decor that can handle a little mess from snacks, like Mrs. T's Mini Pierogies and your favorite dip which are perfect for enoying while binge-watchng favorite shows. Add a Personal thach: Showcase a piece
that tells a story, like a favorite embroidered pilow, piece of meaningful ewelry or framed photo
f an amazing memory.
$\square$ Bring In Something Cozy: Add cozy touches like a blanket, fluffy pillow or favorite slippers

## What's in a date? History, health and sweetness

bY michael merschel

Dates have long been a and significance. and significance. 6,000 years, the palm date tree plays a role in several religious faiths. Among Muslims, a taste of date is given to infants as a ceremonial first meal, and the fruit is prominent during Ramadan, a month for fasting from sunris to sunset.
"It's customary for Mus"It's customary for Mus-
lims all around the world to
break their fast with dates and water, or dates and milk," said Sara Elnakib, chair of the department of family and community health sciences
at Rutgers University in New at Rutgers University in New
Brunswick, New Jersey. She Brunswick, New Jersey. has a doctorate
Their combination of fiber, nutrients and energy mean dates are "a great way to break your fast," she said. And as a snack for other times, they're "on the healthier ide."
Around the world, you'll
dates. In the United States, you're most likely to encounter the plump medjool or the maller Deglet Noor. Their flavor and nutritional profiles vary, but overall, dates tend to be good sources erals such as potassium and erals such as potassium and According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, one medjool date (weighing in at a little less than 1 ounce) would have more than 4 percent of the recommended daily allowance of vitamin B-6 for adults. han 6 percent for women. otassium is important for ontrolling blood pressure. One medjool date also offers about 4 percent of the recommended magnesium for women, and about 3 percent
for men. Dates also are a good source of antioxidants, Elnakib said.
That one date also has 1.6 grams of fiber, around 5 percent of an adult's needs, which also helps balance the effects of the 16 grams of total sugar
in each date.

Elnakib said because of the high fiber content in dates, they end up having a low glycemic index, a measure of ho ast blood sugar rises after ood is digested.
Such sweetness does come with calories: 66 per medjool date - which can add up.
Elnakib recalls one woman who would break her Ramadan fast by eating 10 dates. "And then she was complaining that she was gaining weight during amadan. I was like, 'You fast with 10 date,""

## In Zimbabwe's rainy season, women forage for wild mushrooms

by farai mutsaka

HARARE, Zimbabwe imbabwe's rainy season brings a
bonanza of wild mushrooms, which many rural families feast upor and sell to boost their incomes. But the bounty also comes with danger as each year there are reports of people dying
after eating poisonous fungi. Discerning be-
tween safe and toxic mushrooms has evolved into an inter-generational transfer of indigenous
knowledge from mothers to daughters. Rich in protein, antioxidants a fiber, wild mushrooms are a revered delicacy and income earner in Zimbabwe, where food and formal jobs are carce for many. Beauty Waisoni, 46, who lives on the outskirts of the capital, Harare,
typically wakes up at
dawn, packs plastic buckets, a basket, plates and a knife before trekking to a Her 9 miles away. Her Beverly is in tow, as ter Beverly is in tow, a
an apprentice. In the an apprentice. In the pickers, mainly women working side by side with heir children, combing through the morning dew or shoot-ups under trees and dried leaves. Police routinely warn consuming wild mush

## rooms. In January, three

 girls in one family died after eating poisonous wild mushrooms. Such re ports filter through eachseason. A few years ago season. A few years ago
10 family members died after consuming poisonous mushrooms.
To avoid such a deadly outcome, Waisoni teaches her daughter how to iden tify safe mushrooms. "She will kill people, and the business, if she gets it wrong," said
started picking wild mushrooms as a young girl. Within hours, her baskets and buckets become filled up with smal covered in dirt.
Women such as Waisoni are dominant players in Zimbabwe's mushroom trade, said Wonder Ngezimana, an associate professor of horticulture at the Marondera University of Agricultural Science and Technology.

Predominantly women have been gatherer and they normally go with their daughters. hey transfer the indige nous knowledge from one
generation to the other," Ngezimana told The Associated Press.
They distinguish edible mushrooms from poionous ones by breaking nd detecting "milk-like liquid oozing out," and by scrutinizing the color eneath and the top of

## Self-care

Continued from Page 5B

for something comfort-
able.
first then build around it. Moms can also prioriup an easy-to-make recipe, like these Margherita Pizza Pierogy Skewers, for themselves, a gathering of friends or an afternoon family snack. Pasta pockets filled with creamy mashed potatoes, cheesy goodness and oth er big, bold flavors, Mrs. T's Pierogies are simple to prepare This means
do the stuff they love like with favorite foods in their recharging space Visit MrsTsPierogies. com for more recipe inspiration.

## MARGHERITA PIZZA <br> PIEROGY SKEWERS <br> Prep time: 10 minutes Total time: 35 minutes

,
Pizza Skewers:
1 box (12.8 ounces) Mrs.

## Good fats

## Continued from Page 5B

about the various types of fats. Many Americans need to balance their

overall fat intake by reducing "bad" or saturate ducing bad or saturatec
fat intake and increasing "good" or unsaturated (monounsaturated and polyunsaturated) fat intake. Replacing saturated fats with unsaturated fats can help reduce LDL, or bad cholesterol levels.
Dietary fat helps the Dietary fat helps the
body absorb vitamins body absorb vitamins
A, D, E and K. These vitamins are fat soluble, which means they can only be absorbed by the body with the help of fats Per one-third of a medium avocado ( 50 grams), avocados contribute six
grams of unsaturated fats, which are known to atas, which are known to
be essential for normal growth and development of the central nervous system and brain. Make good fats a part of your next trip to the

## Tips

## Continued from Page 5B

See what food you have at home Us archasing more. when purchasing food. Learn about community resource such as SNAP, WIC and local fooc banks.

## Eat a variety of foods from

 all food groups. and traditions| avocado-inspired Harvest | $2 \mathrm{cu}$ |
| :---: | :---: |
| h Balsam- | $\begin{aligned} & 2 \mathrm{c} \\ & 2 \mathrm{c} \end{aligned}$ |
| Vinaigrette certified | 1 cup Brussels sprouts pet |
| the American Heart | roasted |
| Association. | 2 Honeycrisp apples, diced |
| find |  |
|  |  |
| with recipes featuring the | 2 tablespoo |
| visit Avocado | 2 |
| Me |  |
| HARVEST BOWL SAL |  |
| WITH BALSAMIC | process avocado, avocado |
|  |  |
| VINAIGRETT | to smoth |
| Servi | water to smooth consistency Set aside. |
| Balsam | - To make salad: In a larg |
| 1/2 Avo | bowl, combine avocados, |
|  |  |
|  |  |
| tablespoons shallots, inced | pepitas and dried cranberries. |
| 1 tablespoon Dijon mus | balsamic vinaigre |
| oons white balsam |  |
|  |  |
| 1 tablespoon honey | frigerated untir ready to serve. |
| 3 tablespoons water | utritional information per rving: 390 calories; 16 g |
|  | Ifat; 0 |
|  |  |
|  | 55 g total carbohydrates; 11 g |
| weet potatoes, roasted | fiber; 12 g sugar; 15 g |

Gravy and biscuits
Continued from Page 5B CHOCOLATE GRAVY

Eat foods in various forms including fresh, frozen, canned and dried. Avoid fad diets that promote unnecessary restrictions.
Practice gratitude for your body by ping it the fuel it needs
For more information and resources related to the campaign, visit the Acade-
my of Nutrition and Dietetics website. For more helpful tips like these and healthy recipe options, visit extension. msstate.edu and join our MSU Nutrition and Wellness Facebook group.
pan.


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County, Misisisssippi. UNDERWOOD LAW FIRM PLLC
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## WITNESS OUR SIGNATURE, this the 2nd day of March, 2023 ,

/s/ Andrew R. Wilson
Androw R Wison (Miss. Bar
$\# 102862$. UNDERWOOD LAW FRM PLL
PO. 0 Box 1874
Madiso P.O. Box 1874
Mationons 39130
Phone: ( 601 ) $981-7773$

File No. 23020037

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응 흘믈

 THIS the 6 day of March,
2023.
/s/ Artemus J. Cox, III
Artemus J. Cox, IIII, Executor
 Crowell Gililis \& Cooper,
Post OOfice Box 1827 ,
Columbus, MS 39703 Columbus. MS
(662)
wilisisecgizclawpllc.com


I will only convey such title as
is vested in me as Substitute
Truste.
WiTNESSS MY sIGNATURE, this
28th day of Februar, 2023. Ridgeland. Ms
(318) $330-9020$
adp/F22-0716
PUBLISH: $3 / 8,3 / 15$ \&
$3 / 22 / 2023$
IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF
LOWNDES COUNTY, MISSIS.
SIPPI

IN THE MATTER OF THE ES-
TATEOFA JENNINGS COX, JR,
DECEASED


NO. 23-42-PDE
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Letters Testamentary have
been gratid and issued to
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Claims againt said estate to
Probate and Reister same
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 WHEREAS, Freedom Mortgage
Corporation, the current holder

 WHEREAS, Default having been
made in the terss and ondi-
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BRAND NEW HOMES,
CALADNIA SHOOLS, BORDRS AFB
Super Clean Grounds
New Vision MHP border
the Columbus
Air Force Base
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Columben
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Jesse \& Beverly's Lawn
Senvice, 662356 .


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Building for Rent Commercial building
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electric message board
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of Liowndes count,
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2021 Deed of Trust
202 ob page 1099

 Clerk; and
WHEREAS, default having been
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PUBLISH: $3 / 15,3 / 22,3 / 29$ \&
$4 / 5 / 2023$
INVITATION FOR BIDS
Forest products for sale
ON COUNTY SCHOOL LANDS
Sealed bids will be received by


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information concernins the
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ville, Mississisiopi.
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bids is reserved.
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Five Questions:


2 Melissa McCarthy

3 Sacha Baron Cohen

4 The Martian
5 Wendy's

|  | Visit ww.cdispath.com for a printable copy of these puzzles. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
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SERVICE DIRECTORY

## PROMOTE YOUR SMALL BUSINESS STARTING AT ONLY S25


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No. 091 A
CLASSIFIEDS

GENERAL
Would you

| Sudoku |  |  | Yesterday's answer |  |  |
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|  |  |  | 6125 | 539 | , |
| Sudoku is a num-ber-placing puzzle |  |  | 3976 | 684 | 25 |
|  |  |  | 8452 | 217 | 6 |
| based on a $9 \times 9$grid with several |  |  | 1293 | 356 | 8 |
| given numbers. The |  |  | 4687 | 721 | - |
| given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in |  |  | 5734 | 498 | 126 |
| the empty spaces so |  |  | 9368 | 842 | 517 |
| that each row, each |  |  | 7819 | 965 | 342 |
| column and each <br> $3 \times 3$ box contains the |  |  |  |  |  |
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| same number only once The difficulty |  |  |  |  |  |
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