

# Tishomingo

The Vidette

## COUNTY NEWS

We are All About Tishomingo County!

SINCE 1883, IUKA, MISSISSIPPI

THURSDAY, MARCH 31, 2022 VOL. 138, NO. 38



Peggy Lowrey  
photography exhibit at  
Iuka Library  
see inside

### Beauties Crowned Saturday at Pageants



### Amelia Webb Crowned TCHS Most Beautiful in Annual Beauty Review

Amelia Webb, daughter of Mike and Amy Webb, was crowned Most Beautiful at the annual TC pageant. All day Saturday, beauties of all ages competed with the final competition being TC's Annual Most Beautiful contest. At left, 2021 Most Beautiful Laney Counce crowns Amelia. Above, the top five were, from left: 4th Alternate Audrey Williams, 2nd Alternate Margaret Claire Riley, Most Beautiful Amelia Webb, 1st Alternate Cassidy Lowrey and 3rd Alternate Emilee Grisham.

photos courtesy A. Webb

### County's Only Traffic Light to be Down as MDOT Changes Poles

by Pamela McRae

The signal contractor for MDOT is ready to begin the signal and pole upgrades for the existing intersection at Battleground Drive and Highway 172/Quitman, according to Iuka Mayor Joel Robertson.

If things go as planned, on Wednesday March 30th, MDOT will convert the intersection to an ALL-WAY stop and it will remain that way for approximately eight weeks during the construc-

tion of the new signals. "We ask for your patience and understanding of this necessary change. MDOT will put out traffic alerts for the public, but the City of Iuka wanted to make the public aware of the coming changes," said Mayor Robertson. "This will be a minor inconvenience for the city's residents, but will result in a much needed improvement for the city."

After the signal installation is complete, the islands and curbs will be addressed.

### County Accepts Bids for New Fire Station at Golden

by Pamela McRae

The county negotiated with the sole bidder on a new volunteer fire department building at Golden to get the project within the available funding limit.

On March 18 the county board opened one bid for construction on the new Golden Volunteer Fire Dept. The sole bid was from Pearson Construction for \$217,352; more than the available funding.

Fifth District Supervisor Greg Collier asked engineer Tommy Dean (Dean McRae Engineering) to negotiate with Pearson to remove the interior meeting room and restroom. Pearson offered a price reduction of \$39,631.00 resulting in a contract award value of \$177,721 which Dean-McRae recommended, and the board voted to award the contract to Pearson Construction.

The board had a bid opening on Walker's Switch Water System Improvements and received three bids: Buz Plaxico Dozer Service, Encor, LLC, and Eubank Construction. The Board Voted to take under advisement.

Payton Berklite, EMA Director, was approved for a \$1 million grant for the sixteen county volunteer fire departments to purchase self-contained breathing apparatuses, plus extras. The grant paid for all but \$50,606.91. Board voted to divide the balance due between the five district volunteer fire department accounts.

Ferrin Rainey was approved a \$20,000 grant she is using for Woodall Mountain, placing security cameras and having a camera installed on the lookout tower providing a virtual view that will be linked to the Tishomingo County website.

### Local Teachers Help Write New Business Education Curriculum for State

TCHS teacher, Amy Dotson, and Belmont High School teacher, Adrain Lynch, have been participating in the updating of the Business and Technology Framework at The Research and Curriculum Unit at MSU in partnership with the Mississippi Department of Education over the last several months.

The business education curriculum in the state of Mississippi has needed a major overhaul for quite some time now and both teachers say they were thankful to have been a part of this writing team.

They have traveled back and forth to Starkville and had zoom meetings each month where they had intense working sessions with other great business education teachers from all over the state of Mississippi. The goal was to re-write the curriculum for all academic business courses that are offered in the

state so that when new teacher comes into this profession, they have some type of guidance to help them get started.

After a few more sessions,

the entire curriculum will have been updated and be presented to the Department of Education for approval.



Local teachers Amy Dotson and Adrain Lynch are helping "write the book" for business ed in the state curriculum.



### New Playground Equipment in Mineral Springs Park Installation Begins

The city of Iuka announced that demolition of the old playground equipment at the historic Mineral Springs Park will begin

this week, and the installation of the new equipment will begin.

The new equipment will be for people age 5-12 years.

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photo Peggy Lowrey

## Lowrey Wildlife Photos on Display at Iuka Library in April

Peggy Lowrey has always loved photography.

"I started mostly with sports action shots when our girls played softball in high school, and I continued trying with all the sports, then I found out I loved eagle and wildlife photography."

Her love of wildlife photography is supported by the amazing opportunities for birdwatching that exist in Tishomingo County:

"We have so many different kinds of backyard birds that I can enjoy right at home. Even if it's 20 degrees or 100!"

said Lowrey.

Tishomingo Arts Council will be sponsoring a month-long exhibit of Peggy's work at the Iuka Public Library in April.

A small reception will be held for TAC members at the library when the exhibit opens on Saturday April 2nd.

Visitors to the exhibit throughout the month should be sure to place their names in the drawing box to be located in the library, as TAC will be giving away framed prints from the display at the close of the exhibit!

## Happenings

**American Legion Steak Dinner** - 24 March 5-7 p.m. Call 662.279.0214

**Board of Supervisors meeting**, 4 April, 8 a.m.

**City Board Meetings**, April 5th. Each City Hall in county

**Lenten Lunches** - Tuesdays through April 12th, 11:45 at Iuka United Methodist Church

**Friends of the Park Earth Day** at Tishomingo State Park. Friday April 22nd

**Renaissance Day**, April 23rd. Old County Courthouse, Iuka.

**Master Gardener Plant Sale** - April 23rd. Tishomingo County Fairgrounds

**IDEA Jaybird Park Spring Market** April 9th. Iuka. Looking for vendors. Call 424-3172 or 279-4116 or email IDEA38852@gmail.com.

*Pastor James & Barbara Rich*  
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## Two-headed Snakes and the Feral Cat

by Bo Murphy  
Guest Columnist

There is a hummingbird feeder outside the door. I was supposed to take it down and clean it at the end of hummingbird season, put it away, and wait for the birds to return. Since I never got around to taking it down, it still hangs there, one-quarter full of some fermented sugar substance fit for a tipsy June bug. It sways back and forth in the wind, as if it is trying to coax birds to return that have long-since flown away. Today is a beautiful sixty-degree day in mid-March. The winter is starting to fade away and the bright sun casts prisms through the glass bird feeder. The first flies are starting to buzz and I find myself strangely thankful. It is a very brief period that one is thankful for flies.

I have been told that the hummingbirds that frequent our feeder leave every fall and fly all the way to Central America in search of the food and warmth their raging metabolisms require. Then many of them promptly die from all the activity, much like Mayflies and mosquitoes. Hummingbirds resemble really big flying bugs anyway. I had a hummingbird in the house one time. I think it would have been easier to remove a two-headed snake.

Speaking of odd animals in the house, I used to share a house with thousands of bats. They left evidence of their presence on the windowsills every morning in the form of guano. We all resided in peace until the first brave bat ventured out of the attic and down the stairs into the world of the humans. This poor creature found the humans very inhospitable. I remember standing

in the hall with a baseball glove trying to catch the bat as it circled above causing absolute terror below. The bat was largely unaffected. All the humans needed therapy.

Then there was the feral cat. One day my then five-year-old son walked up to me and proclaimed, "That cat is still under my bed." We didn't own a cat, and no one was prepared for the events that followed. In my wisdom, I thought that I would remove the cat from under the bed with a broom. This would turn out to be a bad idea, as this was not Fluffy the kitty cat that belonged to the lady next door. This was a wild feral cat, and it was now very upset with me and especially the broom. The cat ultimately climbed eight feet up the wall and bounced off the ceiling towards my head. An hour later, there was no glass left intact, a fish named Harley gasping his last breaths on the hardwood floor, and a five-year-old in the front yard screaming at the top of his lungs over the untimely and violent demise of his fish. In a joint effort by the city police, the local animal control, and me, the cat was finally eradicated by a group of men with brooms and paralyzing darts. Very few of our breakable belongings survived the feral cat attack.

All of this leads me to wonder about the hummingbird feeder. Why would I continue to invite these creatures so close to my door? It is not as if I want a bird-bug flying around inside my house. Bad habits are a lot like bird feeders. We continue to use them to invite unwanted pests into our homes and lives. What we really should do is take them down, clean them up, and put them away.

## Lenten Lunches continue next Tuesday at Iuka Methodist

Iuka United Methodist church is once again hosting a Lenten lunch series. Lunch service begins at 11:45 each meal costs \$5.00.

The scheduled speakers are:

Tuesday April 5th Rev. Jason Frank-

lin, pastor of Ripley First UMC

Tuesday April 12 Rev. Dr. Raigan Miskelly, Missional Strategist of the New Albany District of the Mississippi Annual Conference.

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**Tishomingo County News**

*The Vidette*

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DEADLINE FOR NEWS AND ADS: NOON TUESDAYS

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\$30 in TISHOMINGO county \$35 outside county

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## Polly Herman

Ella Pauline "Polly" Herman, 82, of Iuka, Mississippi passed away on Wednesday, March 16, 2022, at The Hospitality House. Ella enjoyed doing find a word puzzles and was a Jehovah's Witness. She is survived by her sons, Chuck Herman and Freddie Joe Herman; her sisters, Louise Kingen (Billy), Judy Cassell, Faye Cooper, and Linda Gail Patterson (Danny); her brother, Richard Brown (Carolyn); several grandchildren, and a host of nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her husband, Thomas Herman; her parents, Charley Harrison and Ida Rowin Brown; and her siblings, Clara Cook, O'Neil Brown, Jimmy Lee Brown, Mary Ann Arnold, and Susie B. Arnette.



Cutshall Funeral Home of Iuka was entrusted with the arrangements. Donations may be made in Polly's honor to Tishomingo County Foster Rescue. An online guestbook may be accessed at [www.cutshallfuneralhome.com](http://www.cutshallfuneralhome.com).



## U. L. Cavness

U. L. Cavness, 89, of Tishomingo, Mississippi, died Friday, March 18, 2022, at his residence. Mr. Cavness was retired from Griffin Gulf Oil. He enjoyed working in his yard. He is survived by three sons, Phillip Cavness (Gina), Greg Cavness (David Bagwell), and Tim Cavness (Tammy); one daughter, Marion Eaton; three brothers, Jessie Cavness, Buddy Cavness, and Athral Cavness; two sisters, Shirley Williams and Jessica Fair; eight grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; and three great-great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his wife, Rose Marion Ogden Cavness; and his parents, Jessie and Velma Rikard Cavness. Cutshall Funeral Home of Iuka is entrusted with arrangements.



Funeral services were March 20, at Cutshall Funeral Home Chapel in Iuka, officiated by Rev. Jessie Cavness. Interment was in Tishomingo Cemetery.

Pallbearers include Joel Smith, Jeff Ogden, B. J. Burks, Orville McGhee, Josh Cook, and Phil Harper. Honorary pallbearers include Michael Whitehead, Tyler Cavness, and Mitchell Walls.

Memorials may be made to the American Heart Association by phone at (800) AHA-USA1, or online at <https://donate.americanheart.org>. An online guestbook can be accessed at [www.cutshallfuneralhome.com](http://www.cutshallfuneralhome.com).



## Polly Harris

Ottie Sue "Polly" Harris, 87, of Iuka, MS, died on Friday, March 25, 2022, at Tishomingo Manor Nursing Home. Polly enjoyed spending time with her friends and family, traveling, and cooking. She attended services at Antioch Freewill Baptist Church and was a member of The Order of The Eastern Star. She is survived by her daughter, Debbie McDuffy (Jessie); her son, Rick Marlar (Judy); her grandchildren, Eli McDuffy (Laura) and Robbie Marlar; her great-grandchildren, Dillon Marlar, Hannah Marlar, Eden McDuffy, and Finley Kate McDuffy; and her great-great-grandchildren, Mason Fletcher Marlar and Xavier Blaine Marlar. She was preceded in death by her husband, James Harris; her brother, Edgar True Lewis; and her parents, Wiona Edgar and Ottie Murphy Lewis.

Cutshall Funeral Home of Iuka was entrusted with the arrangements. Services were Monday, March 28, 2022, at Cutshall Funeral Home Chapel, officiated by Bro. Mike Edwards. Burial was in Poplar Springs Cemetery. Pallbearers were Eli McDuffy, Robbie Marlar, Jerry Boyd, Brandon Lewis, Michael Lewis, and Jessie McDuffy. Honorary pallbearer was Johnny Nunley. An online guestbook may be accessed at [www.cutshallfuneralhome.com](http://www.cutshallfuneralhome.com).



## Rayna Smith

Elizabeth Rayna Smith, age 48 born March 5, 1974, went home to be with the Lord on Thursday March 24, 2022, at North Mississippi Medical Center in Tupelo. She was full of life, loved her family and friends with all her heart. She had enough love for hers plus all the other children, but she loved her grandchildren the most.



She is survived by her husband Joey Smith; two sons Jimmiee Brown (Veronica) and Randell Mares; two daughters Raylianna Brown (Dylan), and Sabrina Brown; her parents, Martha and Ralph Sexton; sister Brandi Hall Henry; three grandchildren Remi Ruple, Veralee Brown, Riley Ruple; grandmother Betty Flanagan.

She was preceded in death by her grandfathers Ray Pittman, R.T. Flanagan, and Uncle Roger Pittman. Funeral service was Saturday, March 26, 2022 at Ludlam Funeral Home Chapel, Iuka. Officiating were Bro. Tim Pittman and Bro. Jackie Pittman. Ludlam Funeral Home coordinated arrangements. You may leave online condolences to the family at [www.ludlamfuneralhome.com](http://www.ludlamfuneralhome.com)



## Terry Dunn

Terry Dunn, age 57 passed Monday, March 21, 2022. He enjoyed trading and bartering and loved his family dearly. He is survived by his sons, T.J. Dunn and Zach Dunn; sisters, Linda Wilson, Linda Faye Ferrell (David), and Wanda Sue Light. He was preceded in death by his parents J.C. and Rachel Hutcheson Dunn; wife, Jennifer Burleson Dunn; brothers, James Dunn and Eddie Dunn. Visitation will be Thursday, March 24, 2022, at Ludlam Funeral Home in Iuka, MS beginning at 5:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. Funeral service will be held Friday, March 25, 2022, at Ludlam Funeral Home Chapel beginning at 11:00 a.m. with a visitation prior beginning at 9:00 a.m. Bro. Danny Young will be officiating. Interment will be in Palestine Cemetery, Tishomingo, MS with no graveside services. Ludlam Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of Terry Dunn. You may leave online condolences to the family at [www.ludlamfuneralhome.com](http://www.ludlamfuneralhome.com)



## Billie Ruth Kay

Billie Ruth Kay, 93, of Tishomingo passed away on March 25, 2022, at the Iuka Living Center. She loved her family, friends, and church family. Billie was born and raised near Fulton, Mississippi at Ryan's Well in Itawamba County.

She loved cooking, gardening, and caring for others. She was a member of Tishomingo Methodist Church for 40 years.

She was preceded in death by her husband of 32 years, Benjamin Perry Kaye. By her mother and father Homer and Luna Coker. And siblings LC, Charlie, Wayne, Duwayne, Don Coker, and Betty Thornton.

Billie is survived by her two sons Donnie and Benny Kaye. Two grandkids Stephen Kaye and Amy Vega and 5 great-grandchildren. Brother Hubert Coker, and sisters, Rubene Spencer, and Clara Brown. Billie also leaves behind several nieces and nephews.

Funeral services and wake were at the Tishomingo Methodist Church in Tishomingo, Mississippi on Monday, March 28, 2022. Interment was in Forest Grove Cemetery, Tishomingo with no graveside services.

Pallbearers were Andy Coker, Caul Coker, Michael Coker, Kenny Coker, Mark and Pat Brown, and Cody and Clay Falls. Officiating the ceremony was Brother Steve Kennedy. Ludlam Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of Billie Ruth Kay. You may leave online condolences to the family at [www.ludlamfuneralhome.com](http://www.ludlamfuneralhome.com)



## Lamar Strickland

Lamar T. Strickland, Jr. of Dayton, TN, passed away on March 21, 2022. Lamar was born to the late Lamar T. Strickland, Sr. and the late Pauline James Strickland on April 8, 1942 in Cullman, AL. He was preceded in death by his parents and his sister, Paula Weissand.

Lamar attained both Bachelors and Master's degrees in Chemistry, education and music. He taught chemistry and music in public schools of Alabama, Virginia, ND Mississippi. Lamar completed his working career at TVA in training and radiochemistry.

Lamar enjoyed tinkering with his sports cars, loving on his various pets through the years, and playing trumpet and the French horn.

Lamar is survived by his wife, Linda F. Strickland of Dayton, TN; his daughter, Mary "Amber" (Robert) Wright; granddaughters, Shelby E. Wright and Anna K. Wright of Iuka, MS; brother-in-law, Jerry Weissand of Manassas, VA; as well as nephews and nieces in Virginia and Mississippi.

Per Lamar's wishes, there will be no services, but if friends and family would like to honor him, consider making a donation to your public school music program or your local animal shelter in his name.

Condolences and memories can be shared at [www.williamsonandsons.com](http://www.williamsonandsons.com). Arrangements are by Williamson and Sons Funeral Home, 8852 Dayton Pike, Soddy Daisy, TN 37379.



## Cutshall Funeral Home

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Sunday School  
9:00  
Wednesday Night  
Services 6:30 p.m.

*The family of Doris Rhodes Walker extends a word of gratitude and thanksgiving to those who gave care during her illness*  
- Dr. Al Flannery.  
*Tishomingo Manor Nursing Home, and Legacy Hospice:*  
*as well as to those who have given comfort in her passing through your visits, words of kindness, and with cards and gifts in her remembrance.*  
*A special thank you to*  
*Cutshall Funeral Home.*  
*Bro. Neil Edmondson,*  
*and to Keith Bishop, Brian Galton,*  
*Lynn Parsons, Dickie Rhodes,*  
*Tim Strickland, and Mike Walker*  
*who attended to her last wishes.*

-Jack & Deb Daniel  
-Larry Daniel  
-Matt & Tommy Walker

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# Robbie & Kim Crane Head to Senegal for Full Time Mission Work

by Pamela McRae

Preaching to the nations has long been Robbie Crane's heart, and this summer, he and his wife Kim will enter the mission field full time when they move to Senegal in West Africa to work at Dakar Academy, an American Christian school.

Bro. Robbie, 48, a Tishomingo native, has for the past 24 years pastored churches in the southeast, including more than ten years at Tishomingo Baptist Church, followed by his most recent position as Director of Missions for the Tishomingo Baptist Association.

"The Lord is leading us to West Africa to continue the mission of making His name known among the nations and we are saying yes," said Crane in an interview Monday. He has accepted the position of Head Chaplain at Dakar Christian Academy in Dakar, Senegal, and plans to start in late July.

The Cranes, often with their children, Jordan and Kalynn, have done short term missions in places around the world: Mexico, Kenya, Jordan, and even China, but this time the two Tishomingo natives will be full time on the ground in Senegal's largest city, providing spiritual leadership and pastoring adults, staff and students at a school for missionary kids.

## At the edge of the desert

Senegal is the most western country in Africa, just south of the massive Sahara Desert, and Dakar has long been the capital city of the region. The city of 4 million people is perched on a peninsula jutting out even further west into the Atlantic. Though first colonized by the Portuguese, who established a slave trade there, Senegal was a French colony. Bro. Robbie said that all his work will be in English, with Americans living abroad either serving, or having recently served in the mission field.

"Senegal is one of the most stable countries in Africa, and missionaries who have had to leave their posts due to upheaval make up much of the community we will be serving," Bro. Robbie explained. "Some have literally been smuggled out of their countries by friends because their lives became endangered. They have temporarily settled in Senegal to try and determine their



## Eighth donation for "Locks of Love"

Twenty-two-year-old Hannah Noelle Brown has made her 8th donation to Locks of Love. On February 23, 2022, Hannah had 15 more inches of her hair cut. This makes of total on 96 inches she has donated since 2009.

Hannah has always loved children. She is

proud to be able to help another child by making this donation.

Hannah is the daughter of Annette McKee Brown and the late David Andy Brown. She is currently a substitute teacher for Tishomingo School.



Bro. Robbie and Kim Crane in Dakar during a previous trip to Dakar, Senegal.

next move."

Since meeting the director of the school in Jordan in 2016, he has been there to lead campus revivals twice, and leaders at the school have been pursuing him to come to serve full time since 2018.

It's very hot and humid, and the food is a lot different, explained Kim and Robbie. A lot of fish and rice, they said.

"And she doesn't like fish," he said.

"So just rice for four years, maybe," quipped Kim.

## Pastoring a school, the staff, and community

"As Head Chaplain I'll be responsible for the spiritual health and direction of five Christian school campuses across Senegal and will help launch two new schools in Ghana & Liberia in the future," he explained. "I'll function in a pastoral role to all the faculty, staff, and students on the campuses, while hiring, training, and discipling other campus chaplains and youth pastors. Our aim will be to ensure sound Biblical doctrine flows through the schools. I will also serve as lead pastor of the church that meets on the Central Campus school in Dakar."

For the first year, Kim said she will support Robbie in his ministry, and learn how to live in a foreign country. They like to entertain in their ministry, and she looks forward to learning how to do that with the resources available in the huge metropolitan area with a vastly different culture. Leaving their young adult kids stateside will be a concern, but Kim said they told them, "We wonder why you are not already over there."

During the interview, Crane spoke much of ensuring "harmony" among the students, the staff, and the school in its environment in the middle of a city of

about 4 million in the Muslim country of Senegal.

While it is Muslim, Crane explained, it's not the violent extremist kind seen in the Middle East. And local Muslim students make up 10-20 percent of the student body, added to boarding students whose parents serve in the mission field, and students of missionaries who now live in Dakar but who were serving abroad. The Dakar academy, with several campuses and future expansions planned, is a cooperative effort of the Southern Baptist International Mission Board, Church of God organizations, and others, so it's described as inter-denominational.

"We will be working with people from 40 nations, in a predominately Muslim country - it's truly taking the gospel to the nations," said Crane.

"Dakar is "home" to many missionaries out of necessity, crisis, or both. I found missionaries working at the school or living in Dakar as a second option," he explained. "Many were serving in other parts of Africa where war and government takeovers were so extreme, they were run out of their cities and countries, many times in danger of death. They don't feel it's time to return to their countries of origin, yet they can't go back to their country of service. This has led to trauma, burnout, losing a sense of calling....Because of my pastoral calling and experience, I have a heart for these families," he said. "Kim and I can serve them by shepherding/pastoring them toward spiritual health and healing and be a part of sending them back out on mission for Christ, wherever that may be."

The school provides an apartment and a small monthly stipend, but the Cranes will be raising much of their living expenses themselves, through the support of churches, individuals, and families here in the U.S.

## Braves light up the scoreboard to beat Belmont

### TC 9, Belmont 7

The Braves came out on top of the slugfest 9-7 Saturday. Senior Mason James got the win allowing only one earned run on five hits in 2 2/3 innings. Junior Jake Wilmeth was solid in middle relief allowing two hits and one run in 2 1/3 innings. Junior Blayne Sparks closed the door on the Cardinals giving up zero earned runs the final two inning.

The offense was highlighted by a break-out game by freshman Jackson Moore. The freshman was four for four on the day with a homerun. Se-

nior Spence Coffman continued to punish opposing pitchers going three for four with two stolen bases. Senior Blake Counce had two hits in four tries while swiping two bases as well.

### Itawamba 6, TC 4

The Braves dropped their division game with Itawamba 6-4 Friday night. Seniors Blake Counce and Gage Tackett paced the Braves with two

hits each. Freshman Trey Williams and senior Spence Coffman had the other two hits for the Braves. Coffman also had three stolen bases on the night. The Braves rallied in the final inning and pushed the tying run to second base but Itawamba was able to end the threat.

### TC 6, Shannon 0

Tuesday night the Braves hosted Shannon in

a division game. The Baseball Braves knocked off Shannon 6-0. The Braves were in control from the first pitch. Junior Ashton Brown threw a shutout wisely relying on his stellar defense. Senior Chase Hopkins had two doubles on the night to lead the Braves. The Braves will go on the road to match up with Shannon Friday night.

## Maintenance Position Open

Iuka Housing Authority is currently recruiting an energetic and skilled Maintenance person. This position includes performing carpentry, electrical, plumbing repairs and a variety of other duties related to the property maintenance to ensure that properties are maintained according to HUD requirements. For applications or questions about applying contact IHA at 662 423 9232. IHA is an equal opportunity employer.

## Tishomingo County Master Gardener



# Plant Sale

**When:** Saturday, April 23

**Time:** 8AM - 1PM

**Where:** Tishomingo County Fairgrounds  
CR 187 (Fairground Road) Iuka, MS

Several varieties of tomatoes, peppers, forsythia, Japanese maple, willow trees, snowball, hydrangea, hens & chicks, iris, English dogwood, angel trumpets, peony, camellia, coleus, blueberry bush, plus hanging baskets and houseplants that would make great Mother's Day gifts!



**Cash or checks only. No debit or credit cards will be accepted.**

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For more information, contact the MSU-Tishomingo County Extension Office at 423-7016.



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# Marry Me Chicken Lives Up to Its Reputation!

by Pamela McRae

For a weekday meal, or Sunday dinner, Marry Me Chicken is a great choice! It's said to be so good that if you cook it for your sweetheart, they will want to marry you!

I've drooled over Marry Me Chicken videos on TikTok for months, so I was so thrilled when my husband was cooking it last week for me! And he only sees TikTok if we send him something!

The delicious smells from the kitchen while someone is cooking this chicken will definitely make your mouth water, and possibly consider marriage to the cook!

This recipe makes enough for a family of 4-5, and putting it over pasta helps to stretch the meal. Serve it with a nice salad and some french bread and even those you are not interested in for marriage purposes will be happy!

This May, me and my sweetie will be married for 30 years! So, though the chicken was indeed worthy of a proposal, that was off the table.

Instead, I promised my husband a haircut. He was needing one badly and between weekend travel and a demanding new job, there had been no time!

Here's some advice for young brides: don't start cutting your husband's hair for him - he may never go to a barber again once he knows he can get a haircut for free in his kitchen or on the front porch! Obviously I was so head-over-heels in love 30 years ago I gladly performed this service for my newlywed hubby. He's never gone to a salon or barber since May 1992! I should add up how much we have saved on haircuts!

This is why I always take advantage of my rare salon days, and enjoy letting someone else do the work.

Do let me know if preparing this recipe precipitates any marriage proposals, or other passionate outbursts! I've SO enjoyed hearing from dozens of readers on how much they love the recipes so far!



photo P. McRae

## Marry Me Chicken

3 large boneless, skinless chicken breasts, sliced into thin cutlets

1/2 teaspoon salt

1/4 teaspoon black pepper

6 tablespoons all-purpose flour

2 tablespoons olive oil

2 tablespoons butter

3 cloves garlic, minced

1 cup chicken stock

1 cup heavy cream

1/2 cup parmesan cheese, grated

1 teaspoon chili flakes

1/4 teaspoon oregano

1/4 teaspoon thyme

1/3 cup sun-dried tomatoes, chopped

Season chicken with salt and pepper, then dredge in flour and shake off any excess.

In a large skillet, heat olive oil and melt the butter on medium heat. Swirl pan to coat with oil and butter evenly.

Brown the chicken (do not overcrowd and work in batches if needed) for 4-5 minutes on each side or until golden brown and cooked through. Transfer onto a plate, cover, and set aside.

Saute the garlic for a minute or until it's fragrant. Add the chicken stock, and deglaze the pan scraping any bits stuck to the bottom of the pan with a wooden spoon.

Adjust the heat to medium-low, and add the heavy cream and the parmesan cheese to the skillet. Allow the sauce to simmer for a couple of minutes, then season with chili flakes, thyme, and oregano.

Season with salt and pepper to your taste, add the sundried tomatoes then put the chicken back in the sauce and let the sauce simmer and thicken for a few more minutes.

Serve warm over pasta or rice.

### Iuka Animal Clinic Pet of the Week

## Joanie & Sophie are buddies

Congratulations to Joanie & Sophie Rich. These two cuties are this week's Pets of the Week at Iuka Animal Clinic. Their owners are Bobby & Joyce Rich.

Joanie is an 11 year old Miniature Poodle. She enjoys lounging on the couch and exploring outside. Sophie is a 6 yr old Shih Tzu. She enjoys playing with her toys and watching TV. Both girls love getting a boiled egg as their special treat each morning. They play together sometimes and are very good about letting their owners know when it is time to go out. After a long day they love snuggling up in the bed with Mr. & Mrs. Rich to enjoy a good night's sleep.



Having multiple pets in your life can be very special. Not only does your pet have you but also another animal friend to enjoy their time with. If you are thinking about expanding your animal family then adoption is a good option. The shelters in our area have many dogs & cats to choose from. These animals are in need of a good home and can complete your family with love. If your furry family member needs a veterinarian call Dr. Jim Perkins at 423-3470. He knows pets are family too.

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