



# The Bolivar Bullet

★★★ Bolivar County's Weekly Source for Community News ★★★

VOLUME 3, NUMBER 64

Truth, Logic, and Common Sense

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 26, 2024

## Secretary Visits Rosedale

County Port awarded grant during Buttigieg's MS tour

BY JACK CRISS  
The Bolivar Bullet

In his first ever visit to Mississippi, Secretary of Transportation Pete Buttigieg came to Rosedale last Friday to officially announce The Rosedale Bolivar County Port being awarded \$8.7 million

through USDOT's Port Infrastructure Development Program. The grant, first approved in October of last year, was made possible through President Joe Biden's Bipartisan Infrastructure Law.

Buttigieg was joined at the press conference, and on a subsequent bus tour of the port, by 2nd District Congressman

Bennie Thompson, Central Highway District Commissioner Willie Simmons and a number of Bolivar County public officials and business leaders.

Because of this infrastructure law and President Biden's Investing in America

BUTTIGIEG continued, PAGE A6



Thompson, Buttigieg, Simmons, Maxwell and Hannah Agguzi.

## DSU Announces New Funding

Will expand opportunities



Special to The Bolivar Bullet

Delta State University has announced significant funding allocations from the Mississippi Legislature for the upcoming fiscal year. Delta State has been awarded substantial funds aimed at expanding educational opportunities and improving its facilities. Key allocations include:

- \$1 million for the renovation and upgrade of campus buildings. This investment will enhance the learning environment and ensure campus facilities meet the highest standards for Delta State students, faculty, and staff.
- \$6 million specifically designated for the renovation of Ward Hall and Cleveland Hall. These funds will be used to undertake essential renovation and related work to these historic buildings.
- \$4.02 million for repair and renovation projects allocated through the Capital Expense Fund. These funds, appropriated through Senate Bill 2468, Section 5, will support critical infrastructure improvements.
- \$2.5 million to construct and operate a preK-6th grade school for Bolivar County.

DSU President, Dr. Daniel J. Ennis, expressed his gratitude for the legislative support, saying, "We are immensely

DSU continued, PAGE A6

## ACTION



**YOUNG PRODUCERS:** The premiere of "When You're Ready", a film by the students of the Sunflower County Film Academy (SCFA) was held Friday, June 21 at Ellis Theatre. The event was well attended by the students, their relatives and the community. SCFA Students (L to R) Zariah Burl, Iyana Norris and Makarios Clotman work with the production equipment during film camp.

## Grocer Acquires Sullivan's

Vinson currently owns Piggly Wiggly

BY LYNDSI NARON  
The Bolivar Bullet



Vinson

Forrest Vinson, the owner and operator of the Piggly Wiggly in Rosedale, has recently acquired Sullivan's Grocery in Ruleville and will be opening the new store on July 2nd.

"I am from South Mississippi and grew up in the retail grocery store business," said Vinson. "My first taxpaying job at 16 years old was bagging and stocking groceries in Sunflower."

According to Vinson, he has experience in every department of the grocery store business.

"I helped my father when he purchased his first Piggy Wiggly and as his assistant manager, before moving to Louisiana Tech University in Ruston, Louisiana for school," said Vinson. "I graduated Louisiana Tech with a degree in Aviation Management."

Vinson said he joined the military to help pay for his college. He is a combat veteran and has been deployed in Afghanistan and handled disaster relief for six hurricanes, including Katrina.

Between 2010 and 2015, Vinson bought the Rosedale Piggly Wiggly from his father and partners after managing it for many years.

In 2016, he married his wife, Ginger Vinson. He has two step daughters, Lyndsi and Lanie Naron, and one daughter, Frances Vinson.

"And now we've been blessed with the opportunity to own a second location right

PIGGLY WIGGLY continued, PAGE A6

## Henderson Announces Jackson Bid

### Cleveland native seeks capital city's highest office

Special to The Bolivar Bullet

Delta native and military veteran, Tim Henderson, is seeking to become the next mayor of Mississippi's capital city after launching his campaign during a speech at the Jackson Medical Mall on May 30.

The Democratic candidate, who is challenging incumbent Mayor Chokwe A. Lumumba in the party's primaries, promised to prioritize public safety and economic development, to invest in Jackson's young people and to maintain a clean city.

"My vision for this city is a safe, clean, vibrant city where all Jacksonians are partakers in a new economy," said Henderson



Henderson

to the office of the mayor.

"I will restore people's trust in leadership," he said. Though he did not name the current mayor specifically, Henderson said he wants to establish a good relationship with Ted Henifin, the interim third-party manager

during the speech. "It doesn't matter if you're in South Jackson, north, east, west or downtown. All Jacksonians are going to be included."

The candidate, who is from Cleveland, MS, said he would "restore integrity, standards and principle to

who has been in charge of Jackson's water system since the 2022 water crisis. Lumumba has recently been critical of JXN Water, the organization Henifin leads, arguing for more community engagement.

Henderson, a retired Air Force lieutenant colonel, graduated from Mississippi Valley State University with a Bachelor of Science degree in biology. He is currently a doctoral candidate at Jackson State University in Public Policy and Administration and the CEO of Henderson Strategic, LLC, which provides subject matter expertise in space and military operations to the United States Space Force.

About two dozen onlookers gathered to

hear the speech, often cheering as he spoke.

"We deserve to be proud of where we live, work and play," said Henderson.

He said he intends to work collaboratively with local, state and federal entities to "garner the resources that we need to move this city forward."

In a post-speech conversation with reporters, Henderson explained why he decided to run for office.

"I have been quietly supporting nonprofits, churches throughout the city. People are struggling and people are suffering," he said. "We can do better. This is about a human

HENDERSON continued, PAGE A6



# Several Local Organizations Put Together Community-Wide Baby Shower Held on Monday, June 17.



The four premier service organizations in Cleveland - The Exchange Club, The Lions Club, The Optimist Club, and the Rotary Club - joined together recently to support the local Women's Resource Center by having a Community Baby Shower. Items and monies collected will be used in the "Mommie & Daddy Store". Pictured are those who came out to help with this project. Pictured are (first picture) (back row) Lynn Buford, Judy Haney, Randolph Blakeman, Gene Bishop, Wilson Sledge, Haley Hamrick and Ronald Swafford. (front row) Carme Hull, Cedie Kendall and Deborah Pilgrim (second picture) Ronnie Mayers, Ginger Worthington, Pastor Dave Schauer, Beverly Schauer, Hannah Kuhn, Carla Weaver, Sherry Williamson and Mark Hargett. Not pictured are Peyton Chambers and Judy Richardson. Many thanks to the community for the tremendous outpouring of love and gifts!

# The premiere of "When You're Ready", a film by the students of the Sunflower County Film Academy (SCFA) was held Friday, June 21 at Ellis Theatre.



The community came out in full force to support high school students from Bolivar and Sunflower counties for the premiere of their film, "Whenever You're Ready" Friday at the Ellis Theatre.



SCFA Students were taken on a field trip to the Delta Music Institute (DMI) where they learned from Austin Rutledge (pictured) the importance of music in the movie industry.



The students from the 2024 Sunflower County Film Academy were: (l to r) Iyana Norris, Khloe Williams, Emory Manly, Makarios Clotman, Sincere Birge, Peyton James, Zariah Burl, Brandon Thomas, Merion Turner, Mariano Sifuentes, Markelen Morton, Aaron Johnson, ShaCameron Collins and Shanarius Ross. (Dkyra White not pictured. And Muriel Lucas McCraney and Professor Georgene Clark of Delta State University also pictured in the center.)

The screening began with a documentary produced by the students where they talked about their expectations and experiences in the free three-week film camp. Emceed by SCFA Instructor/Filmmaker Glenn Payne, after the premiere, students engaged in a Q&A with the audience. Afterwards, all in attendance were invited to a catered lunch in the Gallery of the Delta Arts Alliance.



JUDITH D. THOMPSON



Bolivar County Circuit Clerk

Cleveland Office: 662-843-2061

Rosedale Office: 662-759-6521

Office Hours: 8am-5pm

[www.bolivar-circuit-clerk.ms](http://www.bolivar-circuit-clerk.ms)

Circuit Clerk of Bolivar County, Judith Thompson



Marriage License • Voter Registration • Civil Suits • Enroll Judgements • Record Search