

20 21 22
23 24
26 28 29 30 31
32 33
36 37 38

Seven Letter Word for Kingly Duds?
See Crossword Puzzle
ON PAGE 4!



CROCKPOT MEATBALLS RECIPE
SEE PAGE 3!

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THURSDAY, MAY 9, 2019 ONE SECTION LEXINGTON, MISSISSIPPI 39095 VOLUME 61 - NUMBER 19

Durant tax preparer sentenced to prison for filing false tax returns

A former resident of Durant, Mississippi, was sentenced Tuesday, April 30, to 60 months in prison for preparing and filing a fraudulent claim for a tax refund with the Internal Revenue Service (IRS), announced Principal Deputy Assistant Attorney General Richard E. Zuckerman of the Justice Department's Tax Division and U.S. Attorney Mike Hurst of the Southern District of Mississippi.

"Dishonest tax return preparers cause serious financial harm to our country," said Principal Deputy Assistant Attorney General Zuckerman. "The Tax Division and its partners in the U.S. Attorney's Offices and the Internal Revenue Service are committed to the prosecution of those return preparers, who choose to commit

fraud."

"By lying and cheating our tax system, this defendant stuck her hand in every American's pocketbook and stole money that should have gone to our families, our communities and our kids' futures," said U.S. Attorney Hurst. "Those who put their greed above their duty and obligation to prepare and file returns on behalf of others will experience swift and certain justice in this district. I commend our prosecutors, DOJ trial attorneys, and IRS special agents for quickly bringing this tax cheat to justice."

"Teresa Chism was part of a significant tax fraud scheme. Mo' Money franchise tax return preparers defrauded American taxpayers by soliciting the issuance of undeserved tax re-

funds," said Special Agent in Charge, Thomas J. Holloman III, IRS Criminal Investigation. "It is a great day for every taxpaying citizen when a participant in their criminal scheme is held accountable. With the recent conclusion of tax filing season, others who have attempted similar thefts from the US Treasury should be aware that the special agents of IRS - Criminal Investigation will continue the aggressive pursuit of those individuals who attempt to defraud America's tax system."

According to documents and information provided to the court, from 2005 through 2015, Teresa C. Chism operated tax return preparation businesses in Mississippi under the names Mo' Money, MoneyCo USA, and Lady T Taxes. Chism falsi-

fied her clients' returns in different ways in order to increase their tax refunds, including reporting false wages, self-employment income and expenses, and education credits.

In total, Chism prepared more than 550 false income tax returns, seeking over \$3.5 million in fraudulent tax refunds.

In addition to the term of prison imposed, U.S. District Judge Henry T. Wingate ordered Chism to serve three years of supervised release and pay \$135,134 in restitution to the IRS.

Principal Deputy Assistant Attorney General Zuckerman and U.S. Attorney Hurst commended special agents of IRS Criminal Investigation, who conducted the investigation, and Trial Attorney William Montague of the Tax Division and Assistant U.S. Attorney Mary Helen Wall of the Southern District of Mississippi, who prosecuted the case.

Valedictorian and salutatorian named at CHCS

Central Holmes Christian School is pleased to announce the Valedictorian and Salutatorian for the Class of 2019. Noah Lance Burton has been named as valedictorian, and Laura Kathryn Rutledge has been named as salutatorian. Both are exemplary students and citizens and have also been involved in numerous community activities, athletics, and other programs at Central Holmes Christian School.



NOAH BURTON



LAURA KATHRYN RUTLEDGE

Mr. Noah Lance Burton is a shining star and has proven himself in his educational pursuits and beyond at Central Holmes Christian School. He has undertaken many challenges and is a superior scholar and community member, earning the distinction of being named Central Holmes Christian School's Valedictorian of the Class of 2019. Noah has also been chosen as an ACT Scholarship recipient. Additionally, he earned STAR Student status for the highest

ACT score at CHCS. Noah holds the highest grade point (Continued on page 4.)

Trojans set to face Tri-County Academy in 1AA North State Tourney



The Central Holmes Trojans advanced to the next round of playoffs after defeating Manchester Academy in game three on Wednesday, May 1. The win made the Trojans eligible to compete in 1AA North State against Tri-County Academy. The Trojans played Tuesday and Wednesday this week at home. Pictured above standing (from left): Coach Daryl Tucker, Coach Patrick Marter, Riley Patton, Noah Steen, Ellis Harris, Josh Haymer, Barrett Fondren, Alex Arnold, Peyton Killebrew, Luke Smith, Elijah Steen, Coach Tony Banks and Leslie Burden; Pictured squatting (from left): Nathan Taylor, Wes Husdon and Landon Rawson. Not pictured, Jackson Ellis. (Photo submitted)

Burton, Killebrew named STARS at CHCS

Noah Burton has been named STAR Student for the 2018-2019 school year by the Mississippi Economic

Council (MEC) M. B. Swayze Foundation, sponsor of the Student Teacher Achievement (Continued on page 7.)



NOAH BURTON



DORALYN KILLEBREW

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Thursday Thunderstorms 76/67 Precip. Chance 100%	Friday Thunderstorms 75/64 Precip. Chance 100%	Saturday Thunderstorms 74/62 Precip. Chance 90%	Sunday A.M. Thunderstorms 73/55 Precip. Chance 50%	Monday Partly Cloudy 77/55 Precip. Chance 10%	Tuesday Partly Cloudy 80/59 Precip. Chance 10%	Wednesday Scattered T'Storms 79/60 Precip. Chance 40%

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