

Bookkeeper

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to do so. We just want to be able to put it behind her so we can move on with other things."

Byrd said he requested the investigation after irregularities were found in prior audit reports.

He said Carnley had admitted her guilt and assisted in the investigation by working with the audit investigators. He said Carnley's cooperation was one reason her bond was set at \$10,000.

"The State Auditor's Office did an outstanding job investigating this matter," District Attorney Keith Miller said. "Without their professional assistance the citizens of Jackson County may never have realized this loss."

"Ms. Carnley violated the public's trust, and this type of behavior will not be tolerated," Bryant said.

Carnley worked as Pope's bookkeeper from 1988 until December 1999, when Pope left office.

Although audit reports for fiscal 1994-95 had been critical of the sheriff's department's bookkeeping system, auditors for the private firm performing the 1996 audit were unable to do many of the state-required audit proce-

dures because records were not available.

Carnley, according to the report prepared by Moore and Powell of Gulfport, said the records had been thrown away by mistake.

In his response to the 1996 report, Pope said some of the records normally kept by the office's bookkeeping division were inadvertently thrown out in boxes that were thought to be trash.

When the problem was discovered, he said, duplicate records were ordered from the banks and turned over to the auditors.

"In no way do we feel that this was anything other than a pure mistake," Pope wrote. "As you are aware, the amounts of receipts and disbursements involved are not that significant, but steps will be taken to see that our records are better protected."

State auditors examining the books for 1997-99 found the following problems:

- Balances were not carried forward from month to month in the cash journal;
- Bank accounts were not properly reconciled to the cash journal;
- The checkbook did not show

a balance after each check was written and deposit made, which would have provided a "double check" with the cash journal and bank reconciliation;

• Settlements to other depositories were not made promptly, resulting in a large bank balance. In absence of other records being properly kept, this makes it difficult to determine where funds belong;

• The bookkeeping clerk at the sheriff's office deposits cash receipts, makes disbursements and maintains the accounting records. As a result, the auditors said, there is limited segregation of duties for internal control purposes.

"Since this problem has existed for several years, we strongly recommend that all settlements be made as soon as possible," the auditors said. "Also, proper record keeping should be initiated immediately in order to determine the exact amounts available in the account.

"Management should consider having someone independent of the bookkeeping clerk make a periodic comparison of cash collections to bank deposits and recorded amounts," they said.

Conviction

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they found out that Nguyen had been killed.

Instead of telling police, he said, they buried his body.

May had testified on Tuesday that the grave off Old River Road was dug before Nguyen showed up at May's house.

After the body was buried, Nguyen's car was dumped into the Pascagoula River, where it was later found by hoaters.

The jury deliberated more than four hours

Wednesday before finding Roy guilty of murder. Assistant District Attorney Ben Saucier said the conviction satisfied Nguyen's family.

"They needed closure," he said. "They were never really interested in the death penalty."

Wendie Cook, Roy's aunt, said the family will appeal the life sentence.

She was also angered at the prosecutors' reaction to the verdict.

"They smiled," she said. "I think that was insensitive."

Bridge closed

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"It's the buses that don't pay attention to the weight of 6,000 pounds."

Alderman Matt McDonnell said the city doesn't currently have a plan for replacing the bridge. Bridge work typically is done by the county.

"I have no idea how long it will be closed," he said.

McDonnell said along with discussions with the county, residents of the Shearwater area will be involved.

Options include tearing down the bridge without replacement, he said.

What city officials don't want is a modern looking bridge that would affect the ambiance of the area.

Suggested alternative routes to get to East Beach and Shearwater Pottery are Pine Drive, Halstead Road and Holcomb Boulevard.



Special to the Mississippi Press

WEEKS HONORED — Former Ingalls Director of Public Relations Skeeter Weeks looks on as his wife, Janet, smashes a ceremonial bottle of champagne against the floating dry dock at Northrop Grumman Launch Operations during a recent ceremony. The dry dock was officially named the A.C. "Skeeter" Weeks dry dock. Weeks worked for the company for 35 years until retirement in 1997.

Oct. 19, at 2 p.m. from funeral home chapel. Services may call one hour for the services. The Rev. Barton and the Rev. Otis officiating. Burial will be in Jackson County Memorial Park, Moultrie.

Arrangements by Holder-Wells Funeral Home, Moss Point, Miss.

MAN
A. M. "Albert" H. A. M., of Escatawpa, born Aug. 6, 1916 in Jackson County, Miss., died Oct. 17, 2001, at his residence.

He retired from Ingalls as a Production Planner, Dept. 71. Mr. H. A. M. was a Sergeant in the U.S. Army during WWII where he served in the 8888 Central Postal Directory and served throughout Europe earning several awards. A Christian of the Baptist faith, serving at Calvary, Jackson Ave., Jackson, Miss., and at the First Baptist Church, Moultrie, he taught Sunday school for many years. He was preceded in death by his wife, one daughter, three sons, and five sisters.

Survivors include his wife, Thelma Pittman H. A. M.; two daughters, one son-in-law, Violet H. A. M.; one son and one daughter-in-law, Larry (Brennan) H. A. M., Grand Bay, Ala.; one grandchild; 15 great-grandchildren; 2 great-great-grandchildren; five grand-nieces; numerous nieces, nephews, other relatives and

friends.

Visitation will be Friday, Oct. 19, from 6 to 9 p.m. at Holder-Wells Funeral Home.

Funeral service will be Saturday, Oct. 20, at 10 a.m. from the funeral home chapel with the Rev. Steve Ciriot of Ridgela Heights and the Rev. Ben Carlisle of Arlington Baptist Church officiating.

Interment will be in Serene Memorial Gardens, Escatawpa.

Arrangements by Holder-Wells Funeral Home, Moss Point, Miss.

AREA DEATHS —

DRUCELLA PARKER, 76, of Lucedale, Miss., died Oct. 17, 2001. Sigler Funeral Home, Lucedale, Miss.

MS. AGNES HILL, 94, of Pascagoula, Miss., died Oct. 18, 2001. Millender's Funeral Home, Moss Point, Miss.



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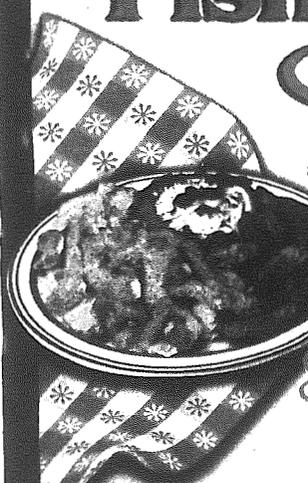
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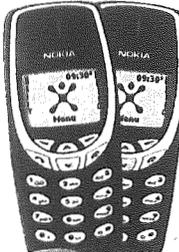


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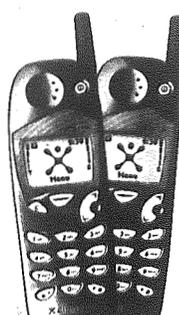
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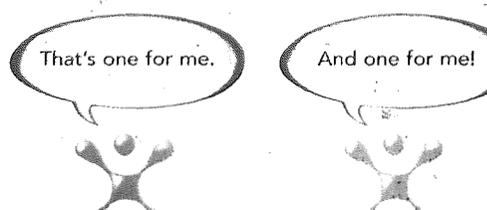
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