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APRIL 26, 2018

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## ‘Into the modern age’



THOMAS WELLS | BUY AT PHOTOS.DJOURNAL.COM

Forrest Phillips of Hattiesburg runs an “acceptance test” on one of 45 new voting machines at the Lee County Circuit Clerk’s office Wednesday. New machines will be ready for this summer’s primary races.

## Election officials prep new voting machines

BY CALEB BEDILLION  
 DAILY JOURNAL

TUPELO – Upgraded voting machines will be in use at Lee County precincts beginning with this summer’s primary races.

The county’s election commissioners convened Tuesday morning to examine new scanning machines that will be used to count paper ballots.

“I’m just thrilled Lee County has stepped into the modern age,” said Shelia Landsell, election commissioner for District 2.

Things won’t change all that much. Voters will still mark their selections on a paper ballot, a feature the Lee County Board of Supervisors has been very keen to retain.

Once the paper ballot is marked, voters at Lee County precincts will

TURN TO **VOTING, 5A**



Lee County Circuit Clerk Camille Roberts Dulaney joins election commissioners and other officials for an orientation to new voting machines.

## ARCHIVES AND HISTORY

## Spain House in Tupelo gets \$10,000 in grants

DAILY JOURNAL

TUPELO – The historic Spain House in Tupelo is getting a \$10,000 grant from the Mississippi Department of Archives and History to repair windows and to install a handicap entrance at the rear of the building.

Several other cities in Northeast Mississippi also are getting a share of more than \$63,000 that MDAH is awarding for 10 projects in Certified Local Government communities statewide.

- In Booneville, a \$1,250 grant will go toward the development of an interactive website that interprets the city’s historic district.

- In Baldwyn, \$1,280 will be used for the development of a brochure that

TURN TO **GRANT, 5A**

## Sherman’s party loyalties under question

BY JEFF AMY  
 ASSOCIATED PRESS

JACKSON – More questions are being raised about the party loyalties of Howard Sherman, who is running as a Democrat for the Mississippi U.S. Senate seat now held by Republican Roger Wicker.

Jackson lawyer Sam Begley on Tuesday provided The Associated Press with a California voter registration document showing Sherman registered as a Republican there and voted in the 2012 and 2016 Republican presidential primaries.

Sherman campaign manager Giles Perkins said Sherman was registered as a Republican because the California Democratic Party wasn’t a good ideological fit for a businessman like Sherman.

TURN TO **CANDIDATE, 5A**

## MDEQ investigating work at Pinnacle Point site

BY DENNIS SEID  
 DAILY JOURNAL

TUPELO – Site work being done on a potential \$50 million project in Tupelo has drawn the attention of the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality.

The agency confirmed a complaint was filed related to the Pinnacle Point development on North Gloster Street.

“An investigator from our regional office will be at the site today,” said MDEQ spokesman Robbie Wilbur on Wednesday.

Last June, Bruce Patel, the CEO of Tupelo-based Fusion Hospitality, out-



‘They crossed every ‘t’ and dotted every ‘i’ to make sure we do this right.’

**Bruce Patel**  
 Fusion Hospitality CEO

lined his plans for a senior living community, retail stores and restaurants as part of the development. The project would encompass about 28 acres stretching from the west side of North Gloster Street – where a Comfort Suites hotel and a Sleep Inn hotel were located prior to being destroyed by the April 2014 tornado – toward Legion Lake.

Initial plans call for an \$18 million investment in a senior living facility called Pinnacle Point of Tupelo.

Fusion Hospitality owned the Comfort Suites, and Patel later bought the lot where Sleep Inn was located. Neither hotel was rebuilt.

TURN TO **MDEQ, 6A**

## Inside



King Chicken to open new express location. **Business, 6A**

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VOLUME 145 | ISSUE 26



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