



Dec. 1, 2006

# CLERK'S CLIPS



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Dear Friends,

This month we say good-bye to Chancellor Bill Lutz who will retire at year end. On a very personal note, Judge Lutz was exceedingly helpful and kind to me as I prepared to take reins of this

sometimes difficult job in 2003, and my staff and I deeply appreciate his understanding, his support, and his encouragement of us since taking office in 2004. Members of the Bar will always remember his accessibility and accommodating spirit. He has always demonstrated a strong commitment to our county and its young people, and he has built that commitment into a legacy. We wish him the best!

Saying good-bye to Judge Lutz means we get to say hello to newly-elected Chancellor Cynthia Brewer. We are excited about working with her, and we welcome her with open arms. To recognize her and the other members of our county judiciary, Circuit Clerk Lee Westbrook and I will be hosting a swearing in ceremony beginning at 10:00 am on December 28, 2006 in the big Circuit Court room. Chief Justice James W. Smith, Jr. is slated to preside. Everyone is invited to attend.

Judge Brewer will call the docket of all non-final matters presently assigned to Judge Lutz during the first two weeks of January. Watch for notices to that effect. She has asked that the docket be arranged and called alphabetically by the last name of the filing attorney so as to minimize appearance and waiting time. However, many matters are contested, so multiple docket call appearances could not be totally avoided. Please pay careful attention to the schedules you receive — and you may receive more than one.

Best Regards!



## JUDGE WILLIAM J. LUTZ

After twelve years of service to Madison County as Chancery Judge, William J. Lutz will retire on Dec.31, 2006. Judge Lutz ran for Chancellor in 1994 because he saw an opportunity to help people and do good things for others. He says that the most enjoyable part of his job was having enough authority to help children. He loved being able to make decisions to help children without their fate being in the hands of a twelve-man jury.

Although Judge Lutz feels that he did not leave a legacy, as such, one thing he is most proud of is the fact that he made himself available for everyone, especially attorneys. He never forgot that he was an attorney and he tried his best to accommodate members of the Bar because he knew the importance of being available at all times whether he was in the office, at home, or serving our country overseas.

After retiring, Judge Lutz will take Senior status and serve as Chancellor when appointed and as mediator when needed. We want to thank Judge Lutz for his dedication and service to our county, and we wish him the very best in his retirement.



## JUDGE CYNTHIA BREWER

Madison County will be swearing in a new Chancery Judge on December 28, 2006, at 10:00 a.m. in the Circuit Court Building, Courtroom #1. We would like to take this opportunity to welcome Judge Cynthia Brewer as our new Chancery Judge.

Judge Brewer's main goal is to keep the court docket current by trying cases and completing them. Her ex parte cases will be heard as Judge Lutz' are now — on Fridays. Her court reporter will be Mary Helen Walden and Rita Carpenter will continue to serve as Court Administrator.

Judge Brewer feels as though some of her life experiences will help her in serving as Chancery Judge. She has a very positive attitude when talking about her new position and hopes that she can be an asset to the Chancery Clerk and his staff, while fulfilling her duties as the Chancery Judge to the citizens of Madison County.

Once again, congratulations Judge Brewer and welcome.



All county offices will be closed on December 25 and 26 in observance of Christmas and on January 1, 2007 for New Years.

# ARTHUR JOHNSTON

## MADISON COUNTY CHANCERY CLERK

P.O. BOX 404 · 146 W. CENTER ST. · CANTON, MS 39046

PHONE: (601) 855-5537 · FAX: (601) 855-5759

WEBSITE: WWW.MADISON-CO.COM · EMAIL: JOHNSTON@MADISON-CO.COM