

Ads must be paid for at the time of placement - cash, check or credit card.

Ph. 501-882-5414 Deadline is 3 p.m. Monday.

Legal line ads are \$1⁰⁰ per wd.

\$12.00 (25 wds.) line ads
Cash, check or credit/debit card!

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in
The Beebe News CLASSIFIEDS!

Deadline for the week is Monday at 3 p.m. Call

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CLASSIC CAR
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HELP WANTED
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Ambition is needed.
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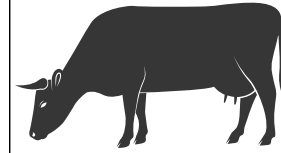
MISCELLANEOUS

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Eliminate gutter cleaning forever! LeafFilter, the most advanced debris-blocking gutter protection. Schedule a FREE LeafFilter estimate today. 15% off and 0% financing for those who qualify. PLUS Senior & Military Discounts. Call 1-855-977-9614

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Legal Notice

Mrs. Glenda J. Bradford, the owner of property located at **298 Hwy. 64 West** comes before the **Beebe Planning & Zoning Commission** with a request to **rezone** her property. This property fronts on Hwy 64 west with thirteen hundred plus feet of frontage along the highway and 557 feet deep to the north of Hwy. 64 west. This parcel is identified with the **parcel #004-03974-502** and it **contains approximately 16.22 acres**. Mrs. Bradford wants her property rezoned to commercial property because she thinks it would increase the market value and would be better suited for commercial development. A **public meeting** will be held before the **Beebe Planning & Zoning Commission** at **7:00 p.m. on March 10, 2020 at Beebe City Hall, located at 321 N. Elm St.** where **Mrs. Glenda J. Bradford** is asking for a rezone of her property From R-1 Residential to C-2 Commercial. Property legal description as follows:

A part of the SW¼ of the SE¼ of Section 10, T-5-N R-9-W being more particularly described as follows: Commencing at a calculated point for the Southeast Corner of said SW ¼, SE ¼ thence N 00° 23' 48" W along the East line of said SW¼, SE¼ a distance of 88.64 feet to a found right of way marker at the intersection of said East line of the SW ¼, SE ¼ and the North right of way line of Arkansas State Highway #64 for the point of Beginning; thence along said North right of way line the following bearings and distances : S 88°46'04" W a distance of 215.15 feet to a found right of way marker; thence S 85°53'20"W a distance of 99.98 feet to a found right of way marker; thence S 85°53'20" W a distance of 150.23 feet to a found right of way marker; thence S 89°48' 46" W a distance of 324.29 feet to a found ½" re bar; thence 89°48' 46" W for 25.77 feet thence N 81°06'53" for 253.07, to a found right of way marker S 89°50'24" W for 66.94 , thence N 00°12'59" to found rebar for 303.72 feet, thence West to found rebar S 89°41'25"W for 208.71 feet thence N 00°24'41" W for 246 feet thence S 00°24'41"E to set ½" rebar for 550.13 feet thence S 89°46'12 W for 789.48 feet to set½ re bar to S 00°23' 48" E for 576.22 feet to point of beginning. Containing approximately 16.22 acres.

Section 10-T-5-N, R-9-W line being North line of Beebe City Limits.



HISTORICALLY SPEAKING
current events through a historical lens

Dr. James Finck, USAO History Professor

Watching the Senate hearings over the past weeks I am happy to see historical arguments being made by both sides. As I have said, the Constitution is purposely vague, and it is no different when it comes to impeachment. There are three sections in the Constitution that discuss impeachment, but even with those sections there are still many questions. As with most Constitutional issues, the rest has been filled in with laws, the courts, and especially precedent. Several times both sides have referenced both the Andrew Johnson and William Clinton impeachment trials. In this vein, I think it is worth examining the lesser known of the two, the Johnson case, to see what we can learn from history and if there are similarities between the two.

There is a great deal of detail to explain Johnson's election as V.P. Suffice to say, the Republicans in 1864 were concerned about Lincoln's chances in the upcoming election. That may sound crazy, but he was not yet the super popular president that he would become. Johnson was a pro-war Democrat and Lincoln hoped that by bringing him on the ticket he could attract other pro-

war Democrats. What made Johnson an even more interesting choice was that he was a pro-slave, state's rights Democrat from Tennessee. Johnson was brought in for votes only. Once in office, Lincoln did not use him and he by no means was meant to ever be president.

The issue with Johnson's impeachment revolves around Reconstruction. Even before the end of the War, Lincoln was already discussing his plans for how to treat the South. He basically wanted to make it easy for the southern states to return, including keeping their existing governments. His biggest opposition to Reconstruction was the radical wing of his own party. The so-called Radical Republicans wanted to punish the South and make it difficult for their return. They wanted to remove all past leaders and guarantee certain rights for the new freedman population.

The Radicals were originally excited about Johnson as president. He said and did all the right things. However, when Congress left for recess, he put in his own plans for Reconstruction that were just as lenient as Lincoln's, maybe even more so. When Congress re-

turned, they attempted to retake the power. They tried to pass laws to help the ex-slaves but were blocked by Johnson's vetoes. The Radicals did have enough support to overturn Johnson's veto on the Fourteenth Amendment, which gave freedmen citizenship, but they faced an uphill battle. It was at this point they began looking for reasons to impeach the president. They tried twice unsuccessfully before they found a reason that stuck.

In 1867 Congress passed the Tenure of Office Act, which basically said that the president could not fire any member of his own cabinet without congressional approval. This was done for two reasons. First, Congress was afraid that Johnson would start replacing Lincoln's Republican Cabinet with a Democratic one. Secondly, they hoped this would trip up Johnson and give them a reason to impeach. The plan worked. Johnson, who had been fighting with his Secretary of War Edwin Stanton over keeping troops in the South, finally grew frustrated and fired him. Johnson did not think the Tenure of Office Act would hold up in court. He was right.

Historical Impeachments

But before the courts examined the case, the House acted first and charged Johnson with eleven counts of impeachment.

The eleven articles are incredibly repetitive. They all boil down to Johnson having broken his oath of office by firing Stanton and by hiring Lorenzo Thomas without consent of Congress. They basically said it in different ways, like he violated Stanton's rights in one and conspired with Thomas against Stanton in another. In Article 10 Congress went as far as including that he criticized congress "with a loud voice, certain in-temperate, inflammatory, and scandalous harangues."

The trial lasted for three months. The defense argued that Johnson had done nothing wrong. They claimed he was challenging an unconstitutional law and basically his act did not meet the demands of a High Crime. What seemed like a slam dunk win at first fell apart by the end. From the beginning of the trial, Johnson worked with moderate Republicans to save his position by promising not to interfere any more with Reconstruction. Also, the managers had a week case. It became apparent the entire rea-

son for the law was to remove the President. His only real crime was disagreeing with Congress.

In the end, seven Republicans voted to acquit. For some congressmen they were more concerned with the man who would replace Johnson, whom they saw as even more difficult. For others, when it really came down to it, they did not want to remove the President based on a power struggle. It would create a dangerous precedent that they did not want and could hurt the balance of power. When they received their assurances from Johnson, the Republicans were more than happy to leave him in office until the next year when they could replace him through voting. One senator said after, "I cannot agree to destroy the harmonious working of the Constitution for the sake of getting rid of an Unacceptable President."

What is interesting about today's impeachment is many will see similarities with Johnson's trial and many will not. Supporters of Trump will see two presidents who disagreed with a hostile Congress which simply wanted the president removed for political rea-

sons. Others will disagree with any similarities. More like the Nixon scandal, they see a president who clearly overstepped his authority and then tried to cover it up. The problem is this split happens to be along party lines, which is very much like the Johnson impeachment. With Johnson, Republicans had to cross the party line to clear him, whereas with Trump they had to cross party lines to convict. But either way the vast majority of the Senate in all three presidential impeachments trials voted along party lines instead of voting their consciences. So, what we can learn from studying Johnson is that in the end what we see is that impeachments are political above everything else.

For my Texas readers, if any of you are interested I will be speaking at the Weatherford College Interdisciplinary Academic Conference on Feb 27 at 5 PM. The conference is free and open to the public. For more information, you can call 817-598-6326. If you attend, make sure you come by and say hello.

Week of February 10, 2020

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