

Mississippi Businesses Against Trafficking (MBAT) summit

Special to Pelahatchie news

Secretary of State Michael Watson is pleased to announce a Mississippi Businesses Against Trafficking (MBAT) Summit to be held the afternoon of Jan. 24, 2023, during National Human Trafficking Awareness Month.

In collaboration with the Mississippi Bureau of Investigation (MBI), the Mississippi State Department of Health (MSDH), and the University of Southern Mississippi (USM) Center for Human Trafficking Research and Training (CHRT), this live event will be held on the USM campus in Hattiesburg and will include educational information as well as a panel discussion with leading experts around the state and nation.

"We are excited to offer an MBAT Summit for Mississippi businesses to ensure they have the tools and resources needed for educating their employees, customers, and communities to combat human trafficking in our state. I'm ex-

tremely grateful for our partners who have helped plan this event tailored specifically to the business community. It truly takes a team effort," said Secretary Michael Watson.

The MBAT Summit is open to all MBAT partners and those interested in learning more about how to combat human trafficking in Mississippi. Attendees must register prior to the event.

"As co-directors of USM's Center for

Human Trafficking Research and Training, my colleague, Dr. Kim Hogan, and I are thrilled to partner with the Secretary of State's Office in their effort to bring awareness and resources about anti-human trafficking efforts to Mississippi's businesses. We welcome the opportunity to highlight what businesses can do to prevent all forms of human trafficking while effectively responding to their customers and clients who are

affected by this illegal activity," said Dr. Tamara Hurst, Associate Professor, USM School of Social Work.

MBAT is a statewide initiative to raise awareness and empower Mississippi businesses to combat human trafficking. It is open to any business, nonprofit organization, or association in the State of Mississippi that is interested in promoting human trafficking awareness both internally and externally.

Event details:

- Date: Tuesday, January 24, 2023
- Time: 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- Location: Joe Paul Theater, 118 College Drive, Hattiesburg, MS 39406
- Click on registration link at: www.sos.ms.gov/press/secretary-watson-announces-mbat-summit

For questions regarding the MBAT Summit, contact our External Affairs Division at ExternalAffairs@sos.ms.gov or 601-359-4454.



SECRETARY MICHAEL WATSON
MS BUSINESSES AGAINST TRAFFICKING

Special to Pelahatchie News

BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT DIRECTORY

For Daily Specials
Find us on Facebook

Dine-In or Call-In
Orders Welcome!

Live & Cooked
Louisiana
Style Crawfish
Begins Feb. 4th

Bar-B-Que
All Day Fri & Sat

**CROSS ROADS
STORE & GRILL**
PELAHATCHIE MISSISSIPPI

1186 Hwy. 43 South • Pelahatchie

601-546-2255
Tommy & Diana Key, Owners

Home of the
Hand-pattied
Burger & Pattied
Hamburger Steak
& Gravy

LAMPTON-LOVE GAS CO.

PEOPLE TRUST
OUR PRODUCT
AND SERVICE

RESIDENTIAL - FARM - INDUSTRIAL
SALES & SERVICES
GAS - SYSTEMS - CARBURETION

DANIEL ROBINSON
MANAGER

PELAHATCHIE, MS
601-854-5256

WE ARE A
GAS MAN COMPANY

Specialty Tree Service LLC
601-405-5857

Specializing in large and
dangerous tree removal

**Free
Estimates!**

Gabe Walters
601-405-5857

**Tree Removal • Tree Trimming
Stump Grinding • Lot Clearing
Debris Removal**

TOMMY MILES
AGENCY PRINCIPAL


Allstate
You're in good hands.

TRI-COUNTY INSURANCE AGENCY
89 HWY 481 SOUTH
MORTON, MS 39117

Phone: (601) 732-6769
Fax: (601) 732-8777
Email: insurant@bellsouth.net

 **KIMBERLY BANKS, PLLC**

physical address mailing address
407 FONTAINE PLACE P.O. BOX 12303
SUITE 101 JACKSON, MS 39236-2303
RIDGELAND, MS 39157

P. 601-300-8101 F. 1-855-708-0677
E. KBANKS@KIMBERLYBANKSPLLC.COM
kbanks@kimberlybankspllc.com



136 Front Street
Lake, MS 39092
601-775-3400

3054 Highway 80 W.
Morton, MS 39117
601-732-3624

WOLF FUNERAL SERVICES, INC.
"Familiar faces providing personal service in your time of need."

www.wolffuneralservices.com

**RICHLAND WRECKER SERVICE
& AUTO REPAIR**

We Go The Extra Mile • 24 Hour Service
22 Years Experience in Auto Repair

Brakes • Timing Belts • Water Pumps • Clutches • Certified A/C and More

Bus. 601-936-0003 **24 HOUR** 2651 Hwy. 468
Fax 601-936-0353 **601-502-3706** Pearl, MS 39208

WE BUY JUNK CARS

SUBSCRIBE

 NEWS
Pelahatchie

Delivered for only **\$12**
outside the 39145 zip code.
If you live within the 39145 zip code
the newspaper is delivered at no charge.

Do you enjoy *Pelahatchie News*? Then have it delivered! We are
pleased to announce that *Pelahatchie News* is now offering
subscriptions for \$12 per year if you live out-of-zip code 39145.

Visit pelahatchienews.com/s/9/subscriptions for payment options.

Master Card American Express Discover VISA

 **Crossgates Jewelers, Inc.**
Tammy & Gerald Frazier
Owners

(601) 939-9313 401 Cross Park Drive
Watch & Jewelry Repair Suite A
Custom Design Pearl, MS 39208