

Anderson named ERA football coach

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Williams leading PHS Football

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NEWS Pelahatchie

August
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Pelahatchie News
P.O. Box 771
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Multicraft provides opportunities to students

Special to Pelahatchie News

Multicraft International will open Multicraft Innovation Academy on the campus of Pelahatchie High School (PHS) in August.

Multicraft International, a full-service manufacturer supplying world class electronic and electromechanical components, announced the opening of Multicraft Innovation Academy.

Multicraft is working alongside Dr. Bryan Marshall, PHS principal, to enhance the education and training of PHS students interested in a technical field. The Academy, funded by the Rankin County School District, will provide a two-year manufacturing course curriculum which will lead to

an Industrial Maintenance Technology Certificate.

This program, free to students, will also count as college credit for students who want to pursue a two or four-year degree.



Back to School
information, pages 8-9

MULTICRAFT INTERNATIONAL

Photo by Pelahatchie News

along with a work study program during the summer before their senior year. The two-year program will focus on courses such as safety requirements, quality, blueprint reading, gage measuring, precision machining, software

training.

Andrew Mallinson, CEO of Multicraft International, said, "We want the smartest millennials to join our company, and this program will allow eleventh and twelfth graders to earn an Industrial Maintenance Technology certification. This will include paid internships and will afford qualified students a smooth transition into the workforce."

Along with teaching the students the skills in manufacturing, the program will also work with Multicraft Ventures to create an innovation project which will give students a team setting to brainstorm product ideas for Ventures as well as creating a budget for the products. Multicraft Ventures pro-

continued on page 4

Marty Stuart keeps evolving

By Susie A. Wolfe

Marty Stuart and Neal McCoy are the featured entertainers at the thirty-seventh Muscadine Jubilee, set for Saturday, September 9, in Muscadine Park.

Stuart was gracious enough to talk with *Pelahatchie News* while he was in Wyoming promoting his eighteenth album *Way Out West*. Stuart promised new songs from this album when he plays for the Pelahatchie crowd.

Stuart is a singer, songwriter, photographer, and curator of traditional country music, who has eclectically merged traditional with rockabilly and honky tonk. He plays 90-100 shows a year, but he said he still loves it even after 45 years. He began playing guitar at an early age, and turned professional at age 12 as a mandolin player with the Sullivan Family.

"I felt like I had found my life. I felt like I had run away with the circus," said Stuart.

His interest in music came from his family. His mother played piano in church, and his dad liked string band and Bluegrass music. He said his grandfather Stuart was a "scratchy old-time Mississippi fiddler."

In his years in the business, he has written 200-300 songs; hosted a cult-favorite country TV program, *The Marty Stuart Show*; married two Country Music names, Johnny Cash's daughter, Cindy, and legendary singer Connie Smith; acted and voiced for TV; and had a successful solo career.

He was nominated as Top New Male Vocalist in 1985, and Top Vocal Duet with Travis Tritt in 1991. He won Best Country Collaboration and Vocal Event of the Year in 1992; and Vocal Event of the Year and Best Country Collaboration with Vocals in 1998 and 1999; and Lifetime Achievement Award for Performance and Best Country Instrumental Performance in 2005 and 2011, respectively.

The proud native Mississippian from

Philadelphia in Neshoba County is also a preservationist, curator, and photographer who has an unmatched collection of Country Music memorabilia that he plans to use in his Marty Stuart Congress of Country Music in Neshoba County in three or four years, he said. "We have the collection, property, boards and architectural drawings. All we need to do now is raise money."

Stuart is enthusiastic about promoting Mississippi. "No one in the world has ever competed with our state's creative legacy. I have spent the last 15

continued on page 4



Special to Pelahatchie News

Stuart has performed Country Music for 45 years. He is recognized by his trademark rooster-like hairdo.



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From the desk of the Mayor



Special to Pelahatchie News

By Ryshonda H. Beechem, Mayor of Pelahatchie

I would like to recognize Pelahatchie High School Principal Dr. Bryan Marshall and all the coaches, as well as our residents Scottie Irvin and Catherine Poarch, for lifting a hand in working toward the completion of Milltown Park. They expressed how they wanted to see

the park finished and kids playing. To have a positive group that represents Pelahatchie, and working hand-in-hand with me as the new mayor, brought tears of joy to my soul. I am a Christian, and I was taught to love everyone and treat people how I would like to be treated. Their love and support meant so much in my transition. I truly thank each and every one of you. **EDITOR'S NOTE:** Ryshonda Beechem was elected mayor of her hometown in June and assumed office in July.

Chief's Comments: Jose Valle added to PPD team



Special to Pelahatchie News

By Guest Columnist Chief Kevin Poole, Pelahatchie Police Dept.

Jose Valle was added as a patrolman to the Pelahatchie Police Department on July 10. He was born in Los Angeles, California, and grew up in the city of El Monte, which is in Los Angeles County. He graduated from Mountain View HS in 2003, at which point he moved to Ridgeland, Mississippi, with his older sister. He lived in Ridgeland for a few years and worked at different jobs, ranging from waiter at a Mexican restaurant to overnight stocker at Walmart. Then he began working as a loss prevention associate for Belk.

While working for Belk, he met several law enforcement officers and began to search for a job as an officer. He was hired by Canton Police Department in June, 2008 and was sent to Mleota's Police Acad-



Special to Pelahatchie News

The newest PPD member is Jose Valle.

emy in September, 2008, where he graduated in November, 2008.

He continued to work with Canton until July, 2011, then went to work for Pearl Police Department, where he was employed for five years. He was a patrolman for Pearl for four years, then he was promoted to juvenile investigator for the last year he was there. During his time at Pearl, he joined the Honor Guard team, the Lawfit team and the SWAT team.

Obituaries

NAME	AGE	CITY	DOD	Arrangements
Wayne E. Rowell	70	Pelahatchie, MS	7/19/2017	WolfFuneralServ.
William "Bill" Vaughn	51	Homewood, MS	7/18/2017	WolfFuneralServ.
Ronald E. Waggoner	70	Forest, MS	7/4/2017	WolfFuneralServ.
Bill Wilbourne	77	Forest, MS	7/8/2017	WolfFuneralServ.



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Feisel named Pelahatchie UMC pastor



Photo by Pelahatchie News

The Feisel family pictured, (l to r) are: Elizabeth Feisel, Aaron Feisel, Pastor Beth Feisel, Polly Roberts, Kevin Feisel, Grace Roberts and Elijah Roberts.

By Susie A. Wolfe

Beth Feisel started as pastor of Pelahatchie United Methodist Church (UMC) on July 2, and her family moved into the parsonage July 15. She will complete her divinity degree from United Theological Seminary in Dayton, Ohio, in December.

After working in behavioral health and social services for 25 years, Feisel was music director and pianist at First UMC in Ridgeland for six years from 2009 to 2015. Prior to taking her new position, she worked as a pastor part-time at D'Lo UMC and Bethany UMC

in Simpson County.

Originally from Jackson, Feisel graduated with a Master's degree in counseling and psychology from the University of Southern Mississippi in 1988. She is married to Kevin Feisel, from Lancaster, Ohio, and they have two children, Aaron and Grace. Aaron and his wife, Elizabeth, of Brandon, are expecting a child in January. Grace is married to Elijah Roberts, and they have a three-year-old daughter, Polly. The Roberts live in Florence.

"I am really excited about what God is going to do in our midst," said Feisel, "and I believe that the harvest is ripe."

New year, new programs, new facilities



By Dr. Bryan Marshall,
Pelahatchie High School Principal

It is hard to believe that the summer has come to a close and it is time to start another school year. It seems that every year the summer gets shorter and shorter. I trust that everyone had a great time and has gotten recharged and ready for an exciting school year 2017-2018. No doubt most of you have your schedules and are frantically getting school supplies ready. Students, we look forward to your return and the hard work that you will no doubt put in this upcoming school year.

There are a ton of very exciting things currently underway and several things in the planning process. The bond issue is progressing, and planning is underway. We are expecting to see some ground breaking sometime in the month of February. So, this is an exciting time.

There will be multiple building projects that will totally transform the campus. A few of the projects are more parking, a new secure entryway that makes it clear where the high school office is located; a multipurpose facility that will accommodate approximately 500 people; a new Fine Arts building that include chorus and band halls, renovation of the existing two science classrooms to full labs; and the complete construction of another building of two-career academy facilities for agri-science and industrial maintenance, just to name a few of the projects.

Finally, a school level project is the addition of a new 1600 sq. ft. weight room, which will be a great asset for our athletic programs. The facility will be equipped with state of the art weight equipment that will accommodate approximately 30 athletes at one time. The projected date of completion for the facility is August 4, but, as we all know, that is contingent on several things.

If the facility is finished, we will give tours on August 11 during the jamboree game versus Raleigh High School. There are several activities being planned for the August 11 day, including "Meet the Chiefs" along with food and other fun. Check the school

Facebook account closer to the event time for specifics. All festivities are being planned to start as soon as school is out on the eleventh and roll through the game.

We look forward to a great season of athletics this year as well as academics. We will unveil the new Industrial Maintenance program, better known as the Multicraft Academy. We are super excited to partner with Multicraft to provide new opportunities for our students and for the company. Multicraft Innovations, in conjunction with Pelahatchie High School, will provide students the pathway to employment. For more information on the Multicraft Academy, please contact Dr. Marshall at bmarshall@rcsd.ms. If you want your student to be a part of this ground breaking and innovative way of looking at school, then please contact us soon, as slots are scarce.

Finally, the nasty accountability word that we all hold our breath for!!! We performed VERY WELL on our State accountability from last year, and we look forward to continued progress and success in all areas of academia. We made significant growth this year, and we are excited to see what 2017-18 holds in store for our students. WE feel that our curricular approach toward literacy has contributed significantly to this growth we have shown, and we intend to continue the initiative for the 2017-18 school year. So, yes, you all get to hear us talk about the importance of reading, writing, and Lexile scores. Remember, a score of 1185 by the Junior Year is the goal. Parents, thank you for what you do for each of our students each and every day, and remember to encourage reading and attendance.

Parents and guardians, I would be remiss if I did not mention attendance. We need students in school to teach them!!! It is vital to the success of the student to be in school every day. One day missed of school takes a minimum of two weeks to recover, so please, please, please encourage attendance every day! Again, thank you for all that you do, and thank you for the opportunity to continue to serve each of your students. We look for to 2017-2018 and GO CHIEFS!

Open House will be August 17 starting at 6 p.m. There will be a meeting for seniors and their parents on September 12 at 6 p.m. in the auditorium.

AT THE LIBRARY IN PELAHATCHIE

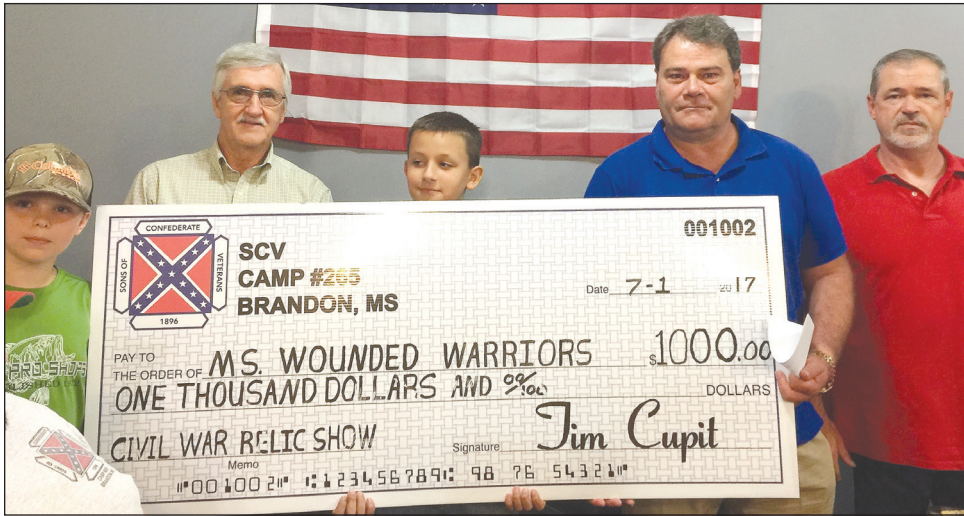
August in the Library

Adult Book Club, Wednesday, August 16, 9:30 a.m.

Discussing *Rebecca* by Daphne DuMaurier

Brown Bag Lunch: Paint a Pumpkin, Tuesday, August 29, 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Registration required; class limited to 15; \$10.00 material fee. Deadline to register: August 22. Bring a sack lunch; dessert and drink provided. Call library to register.

Relic Show winners announced



Special to Pelahatchie News

The June Civil War Relic Show door prize winners helped raise money for the Mississippi Wounded Warriors. Pictured (l to r) are Colby Tackett, Winston Parish, Case Wicker, Richard Ainsworth, and Tim Cupit. The Sons of Confederate Veterans Camp #265 meets the first Saturday of each month at Penn's in Brandon at 7 p.m.

continued from page 1

Multicraft provides opportunities

vides innovative solutions to entrepreneurs, established businesses, and start-ups in the areas of Engineering Solutions in Design and Manufacturing, Product Development and Commercialization, Business Consulting and Strategic Guidance, and Capital

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For more information about Multicraft Innovation Academy, contact Brad Williams at 601-854-1229. For more information on Multicraft Ventures, contact Paul Jones at 601-854-1221 or visit multicraftventures.com.

continued from page 1

Marty Stuart keeps evolving

years dedicated to promoting this rich culture."

"In my opinion, the spirit home of Rock and Roll is the Elvis' birthplace in Tupelo, and the spirit home of Blues and B.B. King is in the Delta," he said. "We are also proud that the Grammy

Museum is now on the campus of Delta State University."

Stuart's life and career in Country Music started as a mandolin player at age 12, and continues 45 years later as a preservationist and curator. What is in store next for this proud Mississippian?



PELAHATCHIE ATTENDANCE CENTER

2017 FOOTBALL CALENDAR

www.rcsd.ms/Page/26566

High school Football Schedule

Aug. 18	Lake	Away	6:00 p.m.
Aug. 25	Hartfield Academy	Away	6:00 p.m.
Sept. 1	Richland	Home	6:00 p.m.
Sept. 8	West Lincoln		6:00 p.m.
Sept. 15	Mount Olive	Away	6:00 p.m.
Sept. 22	Morton	Home	6:00 p.m.
Sept. 29	St. Joe	Away	6:00 p.m.
Oct. 6	Puckett	Home	6:00 p.m.
Oct. 13	Pisgah	Away	6:00 p.m.
Oct. 20	Scott Central	Home	6:00 p.m.
Oct. 27	Mize	Home	6:00 p.m.

Junior High school Football Schedule

Sept. 5	Richland	Away	6:00 p.m.
Sept. 11	West Lincoln	Home	6:00 p.m.
Sept. 18	Mount Olive	Away	6:00 p.m.
Sept. 25	Morton	Home	6:00 p.m.
Oct. 2	Puckett	Home	6:00 p.m.
Oct. 9	Pisgah	Home	6:00 p.m.

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Anderson named ERA football coach

By Stephanie Goss

From the time he was in the eighth grade, East Rankin Academy's (ERA) Durwood Anderson knew he wanted to be a football coach.

"Lots of people tried to talk me out of it," he said, "My advice now to people that want to coach is that if you can live without it, you shouldn't coach. I can't live without it, so I had to coach."

Coach Anderson was born in Texas and, after moving around for years with his dad, he wound up in Waynesboro, Mississippi. He played high school football there, and then went on to play at Jones Junior College.

Coach Anderson has coached in many cities in the surrounding areas, Raleigh, Morton, and Mendenhall, to name a few. The decision to come to East Rankin was not flippant. Anderson thought long and hard about it and decided to come and see if he could be successful here.

"I want to do things that haven't been done, and I think we can do that here. We're shooting for a state championship, and it can be done if we want it. There's a difference. You can wish for something or want it, and we want it."

Coach Anderson said the guys have been working hard and have responded well to him. After a period of getting to know each other, the team established a good attitude going forward. Anderson wants relationships with his players where they know they can trust him. He wants them to rest assured that he will not lie to them and to know he cares about them on and off the field.

"Football is a game of life," he said, "It teaches you to get back up when you get knocked down or to face adversity with courage."

ERA Headmaster Dan Boyce is glad to have Coach Anderson at East Rankin. He said, "We are very pleased to welcome Coach Anderson to East Rankin Academy. Not only has Coach Anderson enjoyed great success in the classroom and on the football field, but his reputation for being a strong Christian influence in students' lives really impacted us during the search process. We look forward to his presence and influence on our campus."

Two things that drew Anderson to East Rankin were the family atmosphere and the good people that he encountered. Family means a lot to Coach Anderson. His wife of 42 years, Jonelle,



Durwood Anderson, Football Coach, East Rankin Academy

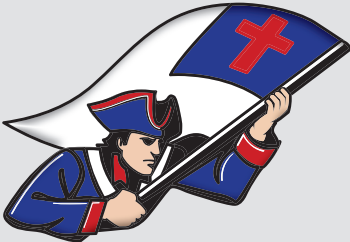
Photo by Pelahatchie News

has been supportive his entire coaching career. He chuckled as he said, "She's like the little blond-headed girl in the movie *Remember the Titans*. You'll probably hear her yelling and screaming during a football game." Coach Anderson also has adult children: a daughter named Kim and a son named Shelby.

Athletic Director, Coach Dan Davis, said that "Coach Anderson is a veteran coach with an impeccable record

of success. He embraces the Christian principles of our school and will develop young men of character. He's a good man and we are lucky to have him in Patriot-country!"

Coach Anderson said he is looking forward to the season and putting a product on the field. He would like the parents and the community to be involved with his program as well. "I'd like for them to fill up those stands, to be loud and proud on Friday nights."



EAST RANKIN ACADEMY

2017 - ATHLETIC CALENDAR

www.eastrankinacademy.org

VARSITY FOOTBALL SCHEDULE					GIRLS SOCCER SCHEDULE			
August 10	Tri-County Jamboree		TCA	TBA	August 5	Parklane Tournament	Away	TBA
August 18	Jackson Prep	V	Away	7:00	August 7	Jackson Prep	JV V	Away 5:00 6:30
August 25	River Oaks, LA	V	Away	7:00	August 8	Park Place	JV V	Home 4:00 5:30
September 1	Washington School	V	Home	7:00	August 14	A.C.C.S.	JV V	Home 4:00 5:30
September 8	Leake Academy	V	Away	7:00	August 19	ACCS Tournament	Away	TBA
September 15	Winston Academy	V	Home	7:00	August 21	Hartfield Academy	JV V	Home 4:00 5:30
September 22	Simpson Academy	V	Away	7:00	August 24	Manchester Academy	V JV	Away 3:00 4:30
September 29	Lamar School	V	Away	7:00	August 29	Parklane Academy	JV V	Home 4:00 5:30
October 6	Copiah Academy	V	Home	7:00	August 31	Washington School	JV V	Away 4:00 5:30
October 13	Hartfield Academy	V	Home	7:00				
October 20	P.C.S.	V	Away	7:00				
October 27	Pillow Academy	V	Home	7:00				

JUNIOR VARSITY FOOTBALL SCHEDULE					FAST-PITCH SOFTBALL SCHEDULE			
August 11 (Thurs.)	Jr. High Jamboree	JV	Cent. Homes	TBA	August 3	Canton Academy	V	Home 6:00
August 17	Leake Academy	JV	Home	5:30 7:00	August 7	Central Hinds Academy	JV V	Home 5:00 6:15
August 24	Central Hinds	JV	Away	6:30 7:00	August 8	Jackson Victor's School	JV V	Home 5:00 6:30
August 31	Lamar School	JV	Home	5:30 7:00	August 12	Sylva-Bay Hillcrest	V	Home 9am 12:30
September 7	Jackson Prep	JV	Home	5:30 7:00	August 14	Hartfield Academy	JV V	Away 5:00 7:00
September 14	Simpson Academy	JV	Home	5:30 7:00	August 15	Meet The Patriots Night		ER Gym 2:00 6:30
September 21	Sylva-Bay Academy	JV	Away	6:30 7:00	August 19	Canton Academy	V	Away 5:00 6:30
September 28	Copiah Academy	JV	Away	5:30 7:00	August 21	Copiah Academy	JV V	Away 5:00 7:00
October 5	Hartfield Academy	JV	Away	5:30 7:00	August 24	Hartfield Academy	V	Home 6:00
					August 26	Hillcrest Tournament	Away	TBA
					August 29	Sylva-Bay Academy	JV V	Away 5:00 6:30
					August 31	P.C.S.	JV V	Away 5:00 6:30

There is just something about growing up on a farm



By Doug Carter,
Rankin County
Extension Agent

Special to
Pelahatchie News

I remember having the neatest time growing up. Most of what I have learned I learned from life experiences, mostly as a child growing up on a +200-acre beef, timber, and poultry farm in Rankin County. The farm had more trees on it than a little boy could climb in a hundred years.

The older I get, the more I come to realize, however, it was here that I received the type of education no college could come close to offering. My only regret is that 200 million other American children never had the same opportunities I enjoyed opportunities to bottle feed a calf, drive a truck and tractor through an empty field at the age of five

(alone), spending summers working for my dad and grandfather as they introduced me to their world.

I remember spending summers working for my dad, uncles, and grandfather hauling hay. I began Christmas morning like I began any other cold and winter morning, going to the chicken house and opening the gates for dad as he fed hay to hundreds of hungry animals.

In the year 1790, 90% of the American population were farmers. By 1850, this percentage had dropped to 64%, then down to 21% by 1930. Today, only 2% of the American population serve as farmers. I'm afraid as a nation we are beginning to witness the consequences of having raised multiple generations who have never looped the metal chain through a gate or run through a field of freshly cut hay.

As a nation, we have allowed TV to convince our children that all animals are cute and cuddly, then wonder why dozens of people get killed each year attempting to take pictures with bears, cougars and copperheads.

As a nation, we have replaced the garden hose and watering bucket with the Xbox and cell phone, then wonder why our kids refuse to move out at the age of 30.

There was a time when Americans consumed bacon, sausage, biscuits, gravy, fried eggs and a big glass of milk each morning and they rarely got fat. Why? Because after eating such a hardy breakfast, they went out to the fields and spent the next 13 hours fixing fences, hanging gates, delivering calves, plowing, and harvesting hay, and grain.

Farm work is dirty, tiring, sometimes cruel and always difficult, which

is why the percentage of Americans who engage in this work has declined with every generation. Yet, it was this type of upbringing that allowed a nation to produce men and women who pulled together to fight the enemy forces during the Second World War, explore the heavens, eradicate disease, and explore the oceans.

In my 27-year career with MSU Extension Service, I have had the privilege of working with some of the best families and hardest working, smartest, most competitive, most successful young people in our county. I have accompanied them to various contests and watched them excel time and time again. Then had the privilege of watching them grow into very successful adults, and moms and dads.

There is just something about growing up on a farm.

Immunizations required by law before going back to school

Special to Pelahatchie News

With the start of a new school year days away, the Mississippi State Department of Health (MSDH) reminds parents that state law requires kids to be immunized against childhood diseases to enter public or private schools

According to the Centers for Disease

Control and Prevention, approximately 95 percent of parents nationwide choose to vaccinate their children, protecting them against potentially deadly diseases.

Required vaccinations for children entering school in Mississippi for the first time include: diphtheria, tetanus and pertussis (DTaP); polio (IPV); hep-

atitis B; measles, mumps and rubella (MMR); and varicella (chickenpox). There is also a requirement for children entering seventh grade to receive the Tdap (tetanus, diphtheria and pertussis) vaccination. In addition, human papillomavirus vaccination (HPV) and a meningococcal vaccination (MCV4) are recommended for adolescents 11 to

15 years of age, and a meningococcal vaccination (MCV4) is recommended at age 16 to 18 years.

Parents must provide the school with a Certificate of Immunization Compliance (Form 121) from their immunization provider prior to school entry.

For more information, visit www.HealthyMS.com/immunizations.

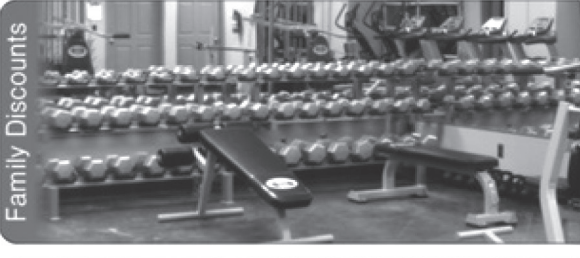
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Mrs. A finds her Pelahappy place



Photo by Pelahatchie News

Lisa Attkisson is proud of her students and teachers at Pelahatchie Elementary, and is excited about seeing the teachers, August 2, and the students, August 8. There will be a Sneak Peek - Meet the Teacher on August 7 - 8:00-9:30 a.m. and 5:00-6:30 p.m.

By Susie A. Wolfe

Beginning her third year as principal of Pelahatchie Elementary, Lisa Attkisson, better known as Mrs. A, will be shepherding around 470 students and 36 teachers for the new year, beginning with a Sneak Peak on August 7. Fifteen of those teachers are new. Seven left or transferred after last year.

"I loved school from day one, and always played school and received a chalk board every Christmas," said Attkisson. "I love working in Pelahatchie with these great kids. I pray to be a light for others."

She said it all started in 1988, when she stopped student teaching on December 14, graduated from the University of Southern Mississippi on December 15, and got a job offer from Northwest Rankin to teach sixth grade on December 21.

A graduate of Northwest Rankin and Southern Miss with an elementary education degree, Attkisson taught school for 23 years in the Northwest Rankin

zone before studying educational leadership through Principal Corps at the University of Mississippi. She interned at Pisgah and Brandon Middle School before becoming assistant principal at Brandon Middle for two years.

Attkisson wants school to be known as a welcoming place. Parents can come to the school to read to the class or eat lunch with their child. She said they always welcome parents to share with a class if they have a hobby or career of interest.

She has plans for an exciting 2017-2018 school year.

She is the mother of two, Anna Grace, 17, a Pelahatchie High student; and Nick, 21, a Hinds Rankin student. Her mother, Shirley Crenshaw Thrasher, lives with them at the Reservoir. Her three brothers and a sister also live in Rankin County.

Asked where the term "Pelahappy" came from, Attkisson said that it started as a slip of the tongue, but is actually true for her, so it caught on. "I love it so much, it is truly my happy place."

Mr. and Miss Pelahatchie HS



Photo special to Pelahatchie News

Dyllan Taylor and Janae Collier were voted Mr. and Miss Pelahatchie HS by the student body. He will be attending Mississippi College on a basketball scholarship, and she will be attending Holmes Community College, also on a basketball scholarship.

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Back To School

East Rankin Academy - Back to School Information

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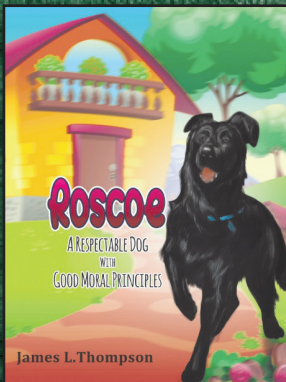


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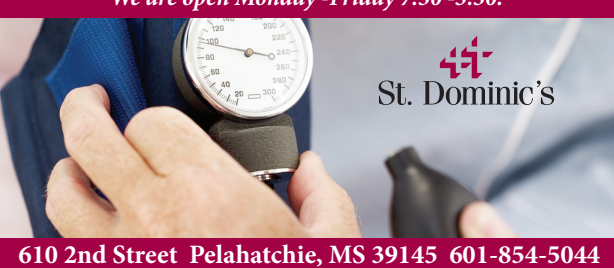
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August 1-4	Orientation and Preparation Days (All Staff and Faculty-8:00-3:00)
August 4	High School Orientation (9th-12th Grade) 9th Grade Students and Parents (8:00-8:30) - Senior Prayer Breakfast (8:30) 10th-12th Students Only (12th-9:45-10:30; 11th-10:45-11:30; 10th-11:45-12:30)
August 6 (Sunday Afternoon)	K4-3rd Grade Parent-Teacher Orientation - K4, K5, and 1st Grade Parents (2:00 pm) 2nd-3rd Grade Parents (3:30 pm)
August 7	First Day for K4 and K5 (7:45-11:00 am)
August 7 (Evening)	4th-8th Grade Parent-Teacher Orientation 4th-6th Grade Parents (6:30 pm) 7th-8th Grade Parents (7:30 pm)
August 8	Regular School Day (K4-12th Grade)
September 4	Labor Day Holiday
October 9	Columbus Day Holiday
October 16	Beginning of 2nd Nine Weeks
October 27	Homecoming (School will dismiss at 11:45)
November 9	Veteran's Day at ERA
November 10	"Grandparents Day" at ERA
Nov. 20-24	Thanksgiving Holidays
December 15	End of First Semester
Dec. 18 - Jan. 3	Christmas Holidays
January 3	Professional Development (Holidays for Students)
January 4	Beginning of 3rd Nine Weeks and Second Semester
January 15	Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday
February 19	President's Day Holiday
March 9	District Teachers Meeting (Holiday for Students)
March 9-16	Spring Holidays
March 19	Beginning of 4th Nine Weeks
March 30 - April 12	Easter Holidays
May 6	Kindergarten Graduation Program
May 7	4th-6th Awards Night (6:30 pm)
May 8	7th-12th Awards Night (6:30 pm)
May 17	Last Day of School (K4-8th grade)
May 18	Last Day of School (9th-12th grade)
May 20	High School Graduation

K4-8th Grade Parent-Teacher Orientation Meetings

Each year, parents are asked to attend orientation meetings at the beginning of school to meet teachers and visit their children's classrooms. Orientation is a good time for parents to meet their child's teacher and to receive important information concerning their child's school year. All parents are encouraged to be present for each meeting that concerns their children. The only students who should attend K4-8th orientation meetings are our K4 students (and any NEW K5 students) who may wish to come with their parents to see their new school.

9th-12th Grade Students School Orientation

9th-12th grade students may view their class schedule on PowerSchool beginning July 31. On Friday morning, August

4, 9th grade students and their parents will meet in the Activities Building at 8:00 am. This meeting will provide 9th grade parents an opportunity to meet with the school counselor and the principal for a brief orientation to help them in planning and preparing for their child's secondary academic career. The 9th grade students will meet their teachers and coaches as they go through a mini-schedule and receive their books and instructions in all classes. 9th grade parents are asked to park in the back parking lot behind the Activities Building.

Also on Friday morning, August 4, students in grades 10-12 will meet in the Activities Building. (See schedule of times to the left.) Homeroom assignments and special instructions will be given at this meeting. All classes will meet briefly.

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2018

Rankin County School District Calendar

2017

August 2-7	Professional Development
August 8	Students Begin
September 4	School Holiday
September 12	Progress Reports
October 6	End First Term (43 Days)
October 9	Student Holiday
October 9	Elem. Parent/Teacher Conference Day, HS PD
October 10	Begin Second Term
October 12	Report Cards Go Home
November 9	Progress Reports
November 20-24	Thanksgiving Holiday
December 18-21	Exams
*December 21	Reduced Day
December 21	End of Second Term (48 Days) (End of Sem. 91 Days)
December 21-31	Christmas Holidays

2018

January 1-8	Christmas Holiday
January 8	Professional Development/Student Holiday
January 9	Students Return/Begin Third Term
January 11	Report Cards Go Home
January 15	School Holiday
February 8	Progress Reports
February 19	School Holiday
March 9	End of Third Term (42 Days)
March 12-16	Spring Break
March 19	Begin Fourth Term
March 22	Report Cards Go Home
March 30 & April 2	School Holidays
April 12	Progress Reports
May 21-24	Exams
*May 24	Reduced Day/Last Day for Students
May 25	Last Day for Teachers
May 29	Report Cards Go Home

*Denotes Reduced Day

Rankin County School District will follow the MS Dept. of Education approved Testing Calendar for all state assessments.

2017



What causes interest rates to rise and fall



By Guest Harvey Lott, Vice President, PriorityOne Bank

Special to Pelahatchie News

Have you ever wondered what the talking heads on television are babbling about when they say "Earlier, the Fed announced that interest rates will rise 25 basis points." What does this mean for the average consumer in Mississippi? In this series, I'll explain the basics of our money system in the United States and uncover how a boring statement like the one above actually affects your wallet and household budget.

What is the Federal Reserve? – "The Fed" (as it is commonly referred to) is the Central Bank of the United States. The Federal Reserve is the United States' third attempt at a Central Bank and was formed in 1913. The Fed is

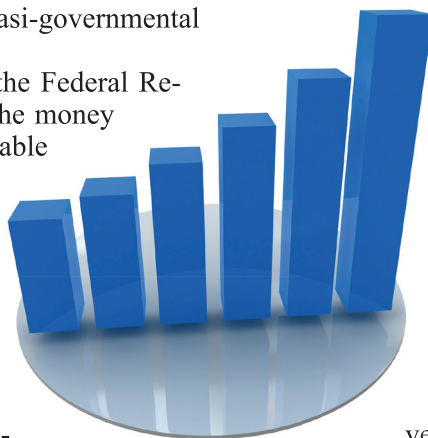
NOT part of the United States government, but wields significant power and influence. I can best describe the Federal Reserve as a quasi-governmental private entity.

The basic goal of the Federal Reserve is to influence the money supply to promote a stable economy, maximize employment, and promote moderate long-term interest rates. The Fed has different tools at its disposal to help achieve these goals, referred to as Monetary Policy. The tool we will focus on for now is The Discount Rate.

The Discount Rate is the rate a bank pays to borrow money from The Fed (usually overnight). Banks are required

to hold a certain amount of cash on their books, referred to as Reserve Requirements.

If, at the end of the day, a bank doesn't have enough cash on their books to meet their Reserve Requirement, the bank must raise the required capital, typically by borrowing the money. Banks can borrow from their regional Fed office or borrow the funds from another bank. Inversely, if a bank has an excess of cash on their books at the end of the day, they can sell their excess capital and earn a small return. These overnight loans are paid back the following morning with interest.



Special to Pelahatchie News

In summary, the cost of funds is a major variable in determining a bank's net income, therefore the Discount Rate ultimately has an effect on all interest rates charged on loans. A basis point is one-hundredth of one percent. If you hear "The Fed raised rates 25 basis points," they have increased the Discount Rate by one quarter of one percent (numerically expressed as 0.25%).

In our next installment, we'll look take closer look at why interest rates are increasing and what this means for you as a consumer.

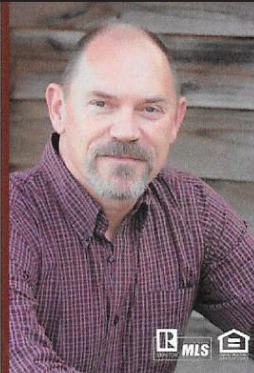
EDITOR'S NOTE: Harvey Lott is a vice president at PriorityOne Bank and is the Branch Manager of the Collins Branch. He is a graduate of the University of Southern Mississippi the Mississippi School of Banking at Ole Miss. He is currently attending the Graduate School of Banking at Louisiana State University.

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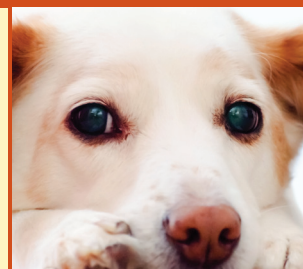
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Williams leading PHS football

Special to Pelahatchie News

There's a new face around Pelahatchie, and he may be new to the school, but he's no stranger to football. Sam Williams graduated from Northwest Rankin High School in 2009 as a standout wide receiver. He then went on to play at Mississippi State University (MSU).

Williams, who never really thought about coaching as a career, graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Kinesiology. He had even applied to a physical therapy school. After staying around and helping with the MSU football team, Williams began to think about coaching. He continued his schooling and received a Master of Arts in Teaching Secondary.

He returned to his home school of Northwest Rankin to begin his coaching career. During his time coaching at Northwest, he was an assistant football and soccer coach, as well as the head track coach. While coaching at Northwest, he heard about the head football coach and athletic director position that was opening at Pelahatchie High School (PHS), and decided to research it. He felt that this was a place where there was room for a lot of growth, and after speaking with Pelahatchie's principal,

Dr. Bryan Marshall, he knew it would be a perfect fit.

Dr. Marshall said that he loved the energy Williams had. "I felt like he was someone who could go out and produce the excitement we need." Those who have doubts about Williams creating that spark need only to meet him. He has a commanding personality, and his excitement for this program bursts out of him. It wasn't an easy transition, because Coach Ward had been coaching at Pelahatchie for 32 years, but as Williams built relationships with the guys, things began to fall into place. Williams said that the goal is for Pelahatchie High School to be a 2A power that people will always look to as a tough competitor. Coach Williams and Dr. Marshall are excited about the possibilities this year.

"We've participated in several camps over this summer and have been able to stay in there and really compete with some much bigger schools," said Dr. Marshall.

Williams is a very organized and a detail-oriented person, which he says



Photo by Pelahatchie News
Sam Williams, right, is shown with PHS Principal Bryan Marshall when he was named head football coach for the Chiefs last February.

makes him a better coach. He also believes in being a good motivator and building lasting relationships with his players. Coach Williams wants to know that the players are morally ready to face whatever life throws at them.

"I'm out here investing in their lives. I want to make sure they have a work ethic that carries them beyond football." He looks for maximum effort from his players.

"My number one thing is that I want a guy who is gonna play hard for four quarters. I'll take one not as talented over another if he is showing me hard work and effort."

Coach Williams is excited about some of the plans for the athletic programs at Pelahatchie.

"We are in the process of building a

new 1600 square foot weight room for all athletics," he says. The weight room should be completed before the Jamboree against Raleigh on August 11.

Coach Williams' biggest supporter is his wife, Rachel.

"She will defend me...sometimes to a fault," Williams laughs. You can find coach Williams' wife with their two daughters, Caroline and Catherine, in the stands, rooting for their favorite coach and his team. He wants other supporters from the community, as well.

"I want people invested financially in the programs, so that they'll come and watch who they've invested in. I want them to feel like they are a Pelahatchie Chief."

Williams tries to be visible in the community and has even helped with community projects, like the most recent work day at Milltown Park. It is Coach Williams' hope that Pelahatchie would come support and cheer on the players as they endeavor to become the champions he believes they are.

Pelahatchie Football Staff include: Head football coach - Sam Williams; Defensive Coordinator - Ed Stanley; Assistant Coaches - Dylan Parker; Patrick Creel, Cedric Wilder, and Tim Ellison.

Cross Roads Baptist Church



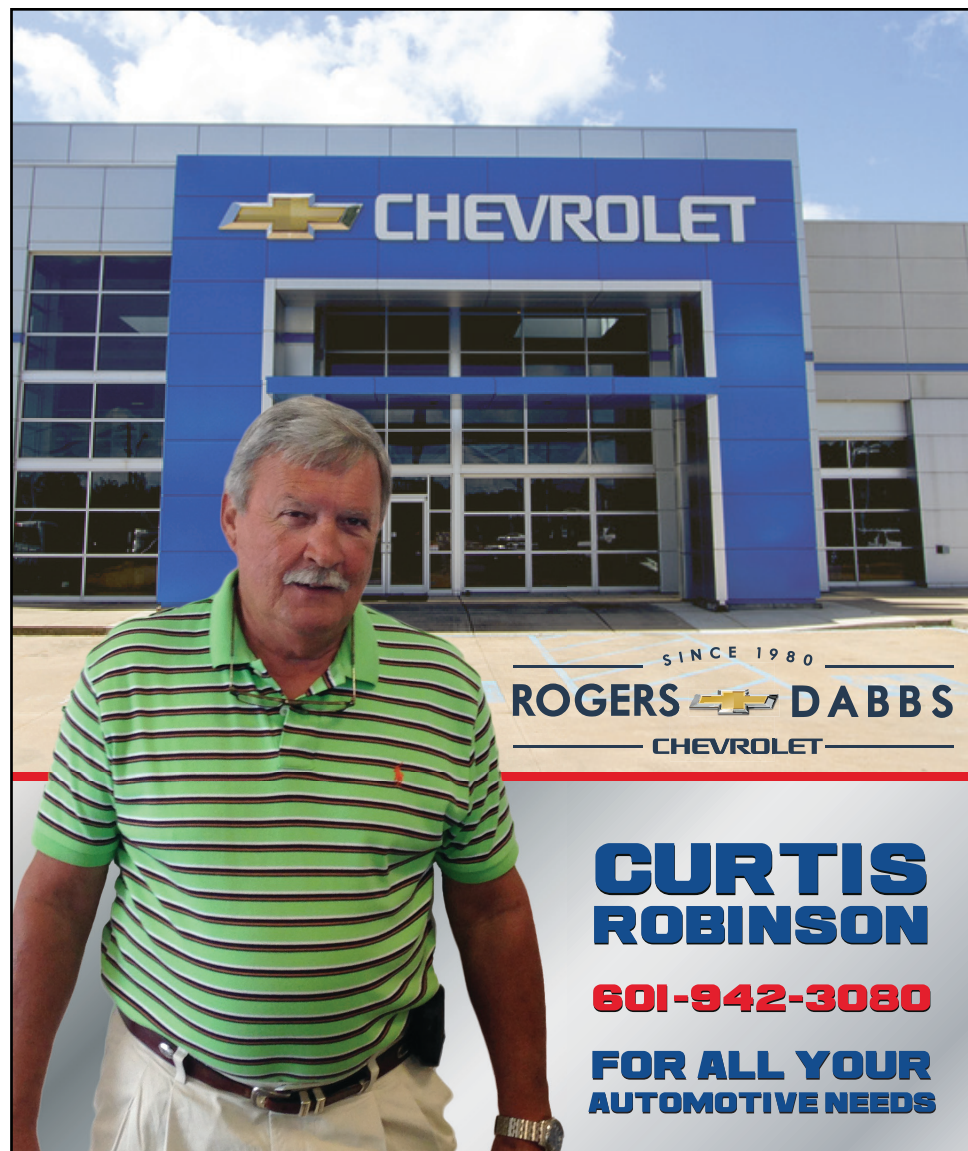
Sunday Schedule

8:30 - Contemporary Worship Service
10:00 - Bible Study for all ages
11:00 - Blended Worship Service
6:00 - Evening Worship

Wednesday Schedule

6:00 Family Dinner
7:00 - Children's Mission Activities • Student Worship
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Pastor's perspective: God wants to lower the heat



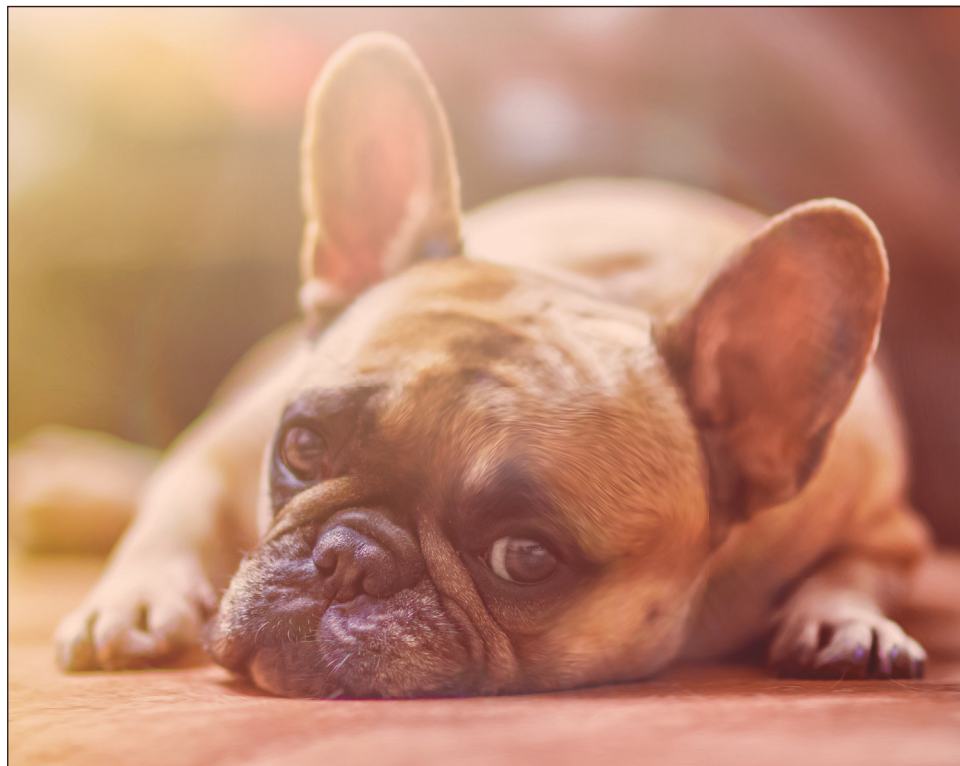
By Guest Columnist John Vaughn, Pastor, Cross Roads Baptist Church

Special to Pelahatchie News

We're right in the middle of what is often called "The Dog Days of Summer." This time of the year is the hottest and muggiest part of the season between early July and early September, certainly some of the most uncomfortable days of the year.

"Dog days" is named after the Dog Star, Sirius, one of the brightest stars in the sky. Of course, today we know that the "dog star" has nothing to do with the weather, and that the superstitions related to the summer heat are just that, superstitions.

But the reality is that we can face "heat" in our lives in a variety of ways that have nothing to do with the temperature. And the issues that cause that heat can happen any time of the year: they are not restricted to the summer. Somebody in the family has lost a job. The report from the medical tests are not good. Marriages in turmoil. Families fight. Children wander. Someone struggles with alcohol, drugs, pornography....



Special to Pelahatchie News

All families go through difficult days, and the heat sometimes seems to be unbearable. That is what happens when we live real life. But God wants to lower the heat! He has promised that His love will get us through any-

thing. Read what Paul said in Romans 8: 35-39 in the New Living Translation, "Who then can ever keep Christ's love from us? When we have trouble or calamity, when we are hunted down or destroyed, is it because he doesn't

love us anymore? And if we are hungry or penniless or in danger or threatened with death, has God deserted us?

36: No, for the Scriptures tell us that for his sake we must be ready to face death at every moment of the day—we are like sheep awaiting slaughter; 37: but despite all this, overwhelming victory is ours through Christ who loved us enough to die for us. 38: For I am convinced that nothing can ever separate us from his love. Death can't, and life can't. The angels won't, and all the powers of hell itself cannot keep God's love away. Our fears for today, our worries about tomorrow, 39: or where we are—high above the sky, or in the deepest ocean—nothing will ever be able to separate us from the love of God demonstrated by our Lord Jesus Christ when he died for us."

So, in these "Dog Days of Summer," and in the times of heat you experience otherwise, always remember that God loves you, and nothing you ever experience can keep His love from you. And, because of His love, you can have victory over any trial or trouble that comes your way.

Be sure to take your family to church on Sunday!



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School starts August 8 FFA goes to camp



By Guest Columnist
Lisa Attkisson,
Pelahatchie Elementary
School Principal

Welcome back to school! On behalf of Pelahatchie Elementary School, I am happy to welcome you to the 2017-18 school year! We are looking forward to a productive partnership with our parents and community to ensure our children can reach their greatest potential. As partners, we share the responsibility for our children's success, and want you to know that we will do our best to carry out our responsibilities each day as we spend time with your children. Our wonderful staff and I feel privileged to be a part of this school family. We are looking forward to working with parents and community members to take Pelahatchie Elementary School from great to best!

Nuggets of Information:

- Open House, August 7, 8:00-9:30 a.m. and 5:00-6:30 p.m.
- Registration Snapcodes have been sent out through mail, but if you do



Photo special to Pelahatchie News

not receive yours, please come by the office to get it. You must have proof of residency to receive the Snapcode.

- Upcoming sixth graders have the opportunity to participate in several sports programs with seventh and eighth graders this year. Each child choosing a sport as his/her daily special must have a physical by August 25 to participate. Please try to get these done before school starts.
- School starts Tuesday, August 8, for students.
- Students may be dropped off at 7:30.
- The tardy bell rings at 8:05.
- Dismissal for car riders, 2:50 p.m. and bus riders, 3:00 p.m.



Photo special to Pelahatchie News

Pelahatchie Future Farmers of America (FFA) members spent July 5-8 at Summer Leadership Camp in Raymond at the FFA Center. They participated in many different workshop and learned new leadership techniques. The members are excited about this coming up FFA year. Pictured, (l to r) are, front row: Mississippi FFA State Officers Will Cornelius, president; Anna Burns, vice president; Shelby Hall, secretary; Ben Spencer, treasurer; Paden Chism, reporter; and Anna Williams, sentinel; and back row: Gabbi Walters, Carmen Hamilton, Malori Scherer, Bob Robinson, Maddie Grace Walters, Isabella Atkinson, and Katie Bell Boyer.

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PHS band prepares for marching season



Photo by Pelahatchie News



Photo by Paula Wadsworth Thompson



Photo by Pelahatchie News



Photo by Pelahatchie News

The Pelahatchie HS band began practice in July under the leadership of the new Mrs. Helen Rettger, a.k.a. "Miss E," who got married over the summer. She is excited about the new year with 33 members and a new instrument, a tenor sax. The band will begin performing on August 18 with a Jazz-inspired show.

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Harrell elected Ward Four Alderman



Photo special to Pelahatchie News
New Ward Four Alderman James Harrell and his wife, Shirley, have lived in Pelahatchie for 46 years.

By Susie A. Wolfe

Though James Harrell, 69, and his wife, Shirley, were both raised in Leesburg, they have lived in the town of Pelahatchie for 46 years. They've raised their four children here, and he worked for the Town for six years before retiring. He was with Midland Container in Pearl for 31 years prior to that.

Harrell said that he was asked to run for alderman by several people because he worked with the Town and has a deeper understanding of what's needed. After his retirement seven years ago, he has volunteered to assist

with some projects, including some at Milltown Park, as his property is adjacent to the new park.

Harrell met with new Mayor Ryshonda Beechem prior to the first Town Board Meeting on Monday, July 10. He knew her because his son, Nickey, attended school with her at Pelahatchie.

"I look forward to working with her and the other aldermen," said Harrell. "Pelahatchie is a great place to live, and we all want to make it better."

Harrell has four children, Beverly (Tadlock), Daniel, Shellie (Durett), and Nickey, and seven grandchildren. Nickey resides in Pelahatchie.

Cross Roads offers grief support ministry



Image special to Pelahatchie News.

Special to Pelahatchie News

GriefShare, a grief recovery ministry designed to help participants rebuild their lives after losing a loved one, once again will be offered by Cross Roads Baptist Church. Fall sessions will begin Tuesday, September 5, 2017.

This video-based ministry, which meets for 13 weeks, features nationally recognized experts speaking on grief recovery topics including "Is This Normal," "The Challenges of Grief," "Grief and Your Relationships" and "Guilt and

Anger." Small support groups, led by church members, will also be a part of the ministry. Sheila Bradshaw is the Ministry Coordinator at Cross Roads. Sessions will begin at 6:45 on Tuesday evenings at Cross Roads, located at 104 Crossroads Road, Pelahatchie. There is no cost to attend these meetings. Sessions are offered in the fall and again in the spring.

For more information, visit the church website at crossroadspel.org or call Sheila at the Church Office at (601) 546-2297.

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