

Children's author to visit
PES on March 28

See page 6

Free April 1 concert to
benefit Milltown Park

See page 12

NEWS Pelahatchie

March
2017

Volume 6

Issue 3

Pelahatchie, MS

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Pelahatchie News
P.O. Box 771
Pelahatchie, MS 39145

Pelahatchie coaches and players win top district honors



Special to Pelahatchie News

Both Pelahatchie boys and girls basketball coaches were named Region 6-2A Coach of the Year on February 17 in the District Championship Game. The boys and girls Region 6-2A Players of the Year are also Pelahatchie Chiefs. Pictured (l to r), are: Coach Pearlene Fairly with Janae Collier, and Coach Rod Taylor with Dyllan Taylor. Both the boys and girls teams have won the first rounds in the playoffs and are headed to the State Championships the first week in March.

Pelahatchie HS to offer workforce training at Multicraft

By Susie A. Wolfe

Pelahatchie High School (PHS) will offer a Certified Production Tech (CPT) program beginning in August, according to Principal Bryan Marshall. The two-year program will allow sophomores and juniors the opportunity to have a job while in school. There may also be an adult education component for Multicraft employees and the general public.

This will be the first program of its kind in Mississippi. Other states like Tennessee and Texas have working Manufacturing Skill Standards Council programs integrated with local manufacturing companies and the schools and community colleges. Marshall visited the San Antonio Alamo Acad-

emy-Phillips-Aerospace program in early February. Two hundred students from the areas' 68 high schools are part of the training for three manufacturing plants, Toyota, Lockheed Martin and Boeing Aerospace.

Marshall is finalizing plan components with the Rankin County School District (RCSD) and is currently searching for teaching candidates. He said the ideal instructor is a retired plant manager with assembly production line experience.



Photo by Pelahatchie News



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Linda Brown, RN, CEN, CCNP

Chief's Comments: Update on the Pelahatchie Police Department



By Guest Columnist
 Chief Kevin Poole,
 Pelahatchie Police
 Dept.

Three officers and I attended Alert Training in February, which prepares the police to respond to school violence. I am also sending officers to the seminar in March, and will make it a requirement for the future.

We welcome visits like the 15 girls from Cross Roads Baptist Church that visited in February. Just give us a call to schedule at 601-854-5223. During the week is preferable.

I encourage everyone in Pelahatchie to read our Leash Law Ordinance about managing pets in town. The original Animal Control Ordinance was adopted in 1986 and updated in 2007. The Pelahatchie News has posted it on their website, www.pelahatchienews.com. Please take a few minutes to read it.

To summarize the ordinance, residents must exercise proper care and

control of their animals to prevent them from becoming a public nuisance. Residents can't have more than four adult dogs or cats or two chickens on a property in town. It also talks about raccoons, monkeys, and other animals. If an animal is outside, it must be in control on the property or on a leash, not running at large.

An animal control officer can pick up an animal, and it will be a civil violation with fines of \$100-\$250 for a first offense; \$250-\$500 for the second offense; and \$500-\$999 for the third. If the animal is taken to the pound, it takes \$15 to get it out, or the owner can be taken to jail in certain cases.

It is also against the law to beat or be cruel to animals, not supply them with sufficient food and good water and protection from the weather. If there are questions or to read the ordinance, visit pelahatchienews.com or call the Police Department at 601-854-5223.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Kevin Poole is a native of Pelahatchie and serves as Chief of Police.



Special to Pelahatchie News

The officers on duty February 18 had a visit from fifteen Cross Roads Baptist Church's Girls in Action group that wanted to thank them for the service and pray God's protection over them.



P.O. Box 771
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Volume 6 Issue 3
 Circulation - 3,300

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The Pelahatchie News is published on the first Tuesday of every month in Pelahatchie, MS.

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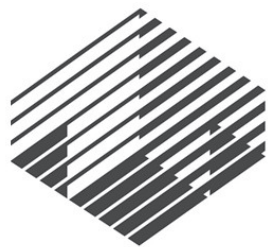


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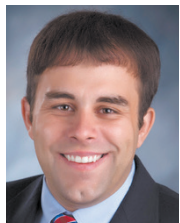
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Legislative updates: Floor debates on House committee measures



By Tom Miles, State Representative, House District #75

Special to Pelahatchie News

The month of February has been primarily devoted to floor debates on the measures brought out of House committees. We have also taken up appropriation bills or the bills dealing with funding our State agencies. Unfortunately, it looks like most of our State agencies will be taking major cuts due to lack of revenue coming into the State. This could lead to job layoffs and some vital state services being cut or reduced.

We received an update on the state of Mississippi's economy by State Economist Darrin Webb, who reported that the state's economy has not grown like the budget folks had anticipated. He said that the second half of 2017

should show some improvement, as will 2018. Hopefully, our state economy will pick up soon.

Some of the issues to note that we have been dealing with over the last month that are still moving forward in the legislative process:

- House Bill 1533 has been passed to fund a trooper school for this year.
- House Bill 645, known as the "Back the Badge Act," enhances penalties for those who kill officers and other first responders while they are serving.
- Senate Bill 2273 adds cursive writing back to our elementary curriculum.
- HB 1089, the "Rivers McGraw Act," which requires that if anyone has been arrested for DUI under the age of 21, he or she cannot be released for eight hours until their parents are contacted.

- HB 565 Requires all children at age five to attend kindergarten.
- The Capitol City Complex bill was passed to help improve the infrastructure around the fairgrounds, downtown Jackson and Capitol.

One of the most controversial measures we addressed was House Bill 974, which takes state employees out from under the protections of the State Personnel Board. The basic effect of the measure, if it finally passes, would mean that state employees could be fired, demoted, promoted, get salary reductions or exorbitant raises, or transferred, all at the whim of an agency head or supervisor. Not only that, the loss of employees through attrition and firings could seriously destabilize the Public Employee Retirement System (PERS). I voted against this bill in the House because of the domino effect that it could have on

PERS, and I don't think balancing the budget on the back of state employees is a good thing.

In the days to come, we will be taking up bills that were passed out of the Senate, dealing with our budget and likely will have a Special Session inside the Session to deal with the funding formula for public education. Our major concern over the proposed formula is that we want to make sure that more money is getting to our schools and classrooms, but, we also want to make sure that we are not just having a tax shift to the local level forcing our local taxes to go up to fund our public schools. It's the responsibility of the Legislature to fund the schools, not our local officials being forced to raise local taxes because we don't do our job in Jackson.

Feel free to reach out to me at 601-469-7886, or tmiles@house.ms.gov.

Pelahatchie Chiefs' road to championship is Taylor-made

By Susie A. Wolfe

Just after winning the Region 6, 2A District Championship on February 17 in Puckett, Coach Rodrick Taylor was named District Coach of the Year for the second time, while his son, Dyllan, was named District Player of the Year for the third time. Now, the Pelahatchie Chiefs are headed to the Championship playoffs at the Coliseum again.

Taylor has always loved basketball. His parents, John Wesley and Willie Jean, both played in high school, as did his brother John, who is in Jackson State University's Basketball Hall of Fame. John's daughter, Myah, was Gatorade's Player of the Year in 2015 and 2016, and has been recruited to play at Mississippi State.

One sister, Angela Reynolds, was the Northwest Rankin girls basketball coach, and is now the ninth grade principal. She both played and coached championship teams. Taylor's little sister, Cassie McCawley, liked basketball, but focused on academics, and graduated her junior year. She is currently a teacher at Rouse Elementary in Brandon.

Taylor, 42, was named head basketball coach at Pelahatchie High School (PHS) in 2014. Prior to that, he was

assistant coach at his alma mater, Pearl High School, for three years, and at Hartfield Academy in Flowood for two years. He played at Pearl High and at Jackson State, earning SWAC Defensive Player of the Year and first team all SWAG in 1996. He was also fifth in the nation in steals as a senior in 1996.

Currently, Taylor coaches two of his five sons at Pelahatchie. Dyllan, 17, is a senior wearing number two, and Nev'on, 13, is a seventh grader wearing number one. His five-year-old son, Destin, also attends pre-K at Pelahatchie. His oldest, Roderick, Jr., 21, has a basketball scholarship to William Carey University in Hattiesburg. His youngest is one, and is dreaming about basketball.

"The boys came to us wanting to go to Pelahatchie," said Naomi Taylor, their greatest fan. "Often, I have to act as referee, but, they are really enjoying their time with their dad."

Taylor said that at first it took adjustment being coach to his son, "but then the other players saw that I treat them like I do Dyllan, like family. The team has bonded and chose to put the word 'Brothers' on the back of their shooting tops, because they feel more like brothers than teammates."

The run to the championship will



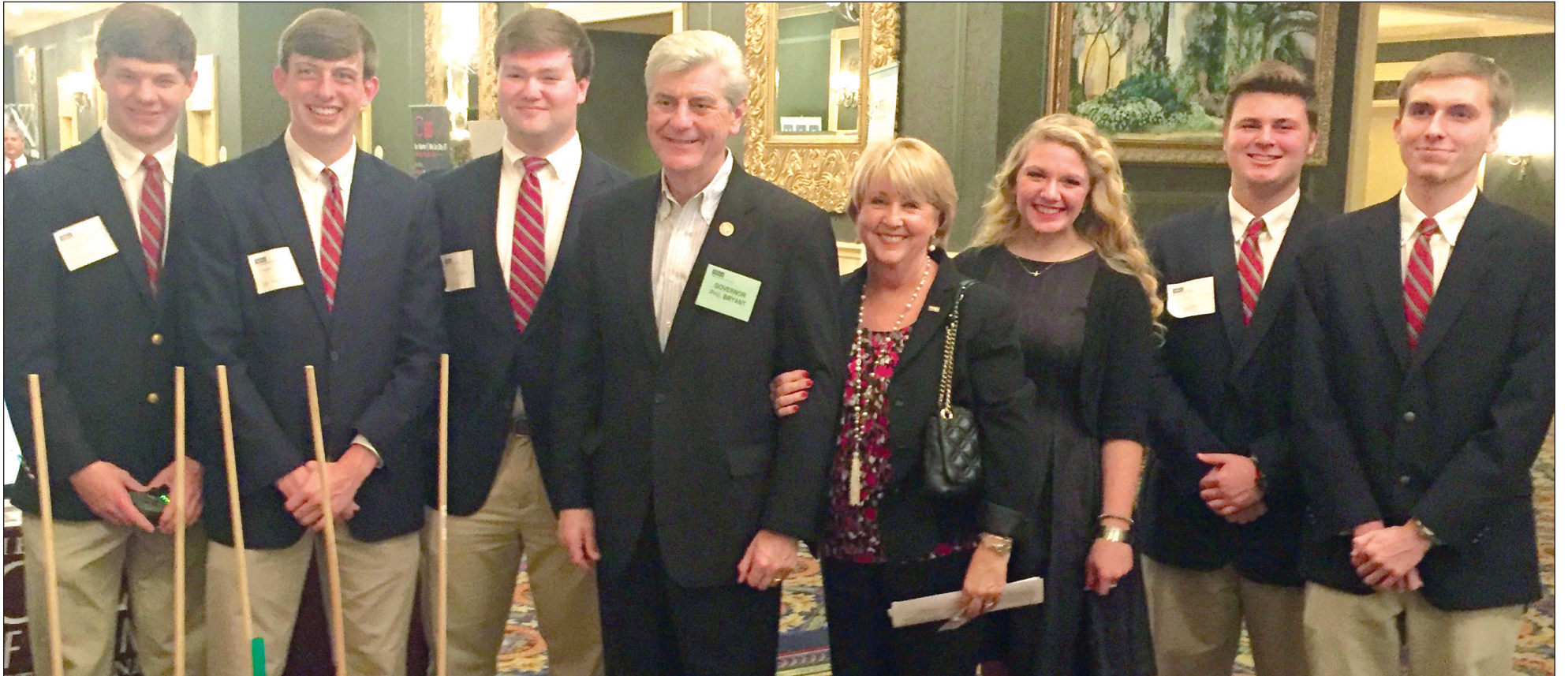
Special to Pelahatchie News

Coach Rod Taylor and his wife, Naomi, are shown with four of their five sons. Pictured, (l to r) are Dyllan, Naomi, Rod, Destin, Roderick, Jr., and Nev'on. Not shown is Ridje, 1.

take place the first of March, and the Chiefs are hoping to turn the District

Championship into a state championship under their Taylor-made ticket.

ERA Robotics Team presents to the Legislature



Special to Pelahatchie News

Senior members of the East Rankin Academy Robotics Team were invited by Mississippi State University Bagley College of Engineering-K12 Outreach to present their state and regional award-winning robot at the Mississippi Manufacturers Legislative Reception in February. The students enjoyed meeting Governor and Mrs. Phil Bryant, as well as other members of the state legislature. Team members pictured (l to r) are: Hayden Hawk, Brandon Evans, Jared Vardaman, Lilly Herring, Joseph Crawford, and Ward Winstead.

Marshall named secondary administrator of the year



Special to Pelahatchie News

Bryan Marshall, Pelahatchie High School's principal, received the Secondary Administrator of the Year Award in February from the Rankin County School District (RCSD). He has served the school district for 17 years, and said that it is good to be recognized, but education is not about awards, it is about the kids. The RCSD is the third largest school district in Mississippi, with nearly 19,500 students and 3,000 employees in 28 schools.

March clean up day

Special to Pelahatchie News

The Town is having a cleanup day at Milltown Park on March 18 from 9-1 as part of the Great American Clean Up. The Fire Department will be cooking hamburgers, and the Police Department

will be providing drinks. Milltown Park is now being used year-round for sporting events, so the community is encouraged to bring buckets with handles, shovels, rakes, mowers, weed eaters and gloves to help keep the Park looking its best.

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Adult Book Club

Wednesday, March 22, 9:30 a.m.

Discussing Jodi Picoult's novel *Small Great Things*

ERA students compete in MC Tournament

Special to Pelahatchie News

The East Rankin Academy Varsity

and Junior Varsity History Bowl teams competed in the Mississippi State Championship History Bowl held at

Madison Central High School. The Varsity Team finished in third place and the Junior Varsity Team finished in second

place, and qualified to compete in the National History Bowl in Washington D.C.



Special to Pelahatchie News

Varsity members pictured (l to r) are: Ward Winstead, second place in Physics and third place in Mathematics; Brandon Evans, third place in Chemistry and top 10 percent in Biology; Christine Schroeder, top 20 percent in Chemistry; Emily Myers, top 20 percent in Mathematics; Cade Thornton, top 20 percent in Biology; and Blaine Hill-top 20 percent in Mathematics.



Special to Pelahatchie News

Four ERA students competed in the team competition at the Mississippi College Science and Math Tournament and won third place in the overall team competition. Team members pictured (l to r) are: Ward Winstead, Hayden Hawk, Brandon Evans, and Blaine Hill.



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Megan Hall announces candidacy for Mayor



Special to Pelahatchie News

By Megan Hall

I am pleased and honored to announce my candidacy for Mayor of the Town of Pelahatchie.

During my term as a Pelahatchie Alderman, I gained a true understanding of this town, its people and all the possibilities that lay before us. I am proud to call Pelahatchie home and want to bring the best opportunities for growth and advancement for all citizens of our town.

The primary role for the mayor is to be an advocate for the people. I believe the mayor should be a vital and active communications link between the people and the town. There three main areas that I plan to focus on to make our town better for everyone; infrastructure, parks and recreation, and business and residential development.

There are many infrastructure issues that will come before us over the next several years. One of the main projects facing our town is improving our sewer systems. Beyond that, we must focus on improving our roads and access to high-quality internet.

Our parks and recreation facilities are an important part of our community. Continuing that growth for our children is a top priority. I am committed to the ongoing improvement of Milltown Park and our Pelahatchie Youth Association. It is important that our town support our children in every

way possible. I would also like to start a Mayor's Youth Council to help our young adults become more involved in our town government and community service.

In my role as an alderman, a Realtor and a small business owner, I am constantly in touch with both citizens and other business owners. I understand their needs and desires. I understand what it takes to make our community successful and bring in new opportunities for growth. That begins with making sure our communities are safe. I pledge to keep our police and fire departments equipped and well trained. While bringing in new businesses and residential development is important and exciting, I pledge not to lose Pelahatchie's identity as a quaint, small town.

It is my commitment to you, and to our town, as a whole, to face the issues before us while continuing to balance fiscal responsibility with sound judgment.

I look forward to the next few months of this campaign and to meeting you and your family. As always, I am open to your questions and concerns. I believe that it is important for our local government to be available and honest. You can contact me anytime. Please feel free to visit my website www.meganhallformayor.com.

The support and encouragement from the community thus far has been overwhelming. I cannot thank you enough. I humbly ask for your continued support and your vote on June 6th. Until then, I'll see you all around town.

Children's author to visit PES March 28



Special to Pelahatchie News

Sharon Hall reads *Mr. Lincoln's Way* to her second grade students at Pelahatchie Elementary.

Special to Pelahatchie News

By Guest Columnist
Lisa Attkisson,
Pelahatchie Elementary
School Principal

Author R. Friend will be visiting PES on Tuesday, March 28. Ronda Friend is a children's author, professional storyteller and entertainer. Her wholesome family series, *Down on Friendly Acres*, centers around farm life in the 50s and 60s, and has been described as *Little House on the Prairie* meets *Green Acres*. Each book highlights a character lesson like forgiveness, patience

and kindness.

She has written *Panic in the Pigpen* dealing with frustration, and many other books. She will be making two presentations in the auditorium from 8:15 to 10 for K-3 and fourth through sixth grade. A writing workshop in the afternoon will be held for third through sixth grades.

Kids are encouraged to dress like a farmer that day at school.

There will also be Family Night where our folks will participate in play.

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Obituaries

NAME	AGE	CITY	DOD	Arrangements
Lawrence Britton	68	Pelahatchie, MS	2/1/17	Wolf Funeral Serv.
Stites Gardner	90	Pelahatchie, MS	2/1/17	Wolf Funeral Serv.
Janis Wooten	59	Lake, MS	2/2/17	Wolf Funeral Serv.
Wilbur Mashburn	91	Forest, MS	2/10/17	Wolf Funeral Serv.
Hattie Reese	78	Morton, MS	2/10/17	Wolf Funeral Serv.
Pamela Turner	56	Pelahatchie, MS	2/11/17	Wolf Funeral Serv.
Janice Clanton	65	Lawrence, MS	2/19/17	Wolf Funeral Serv.
Hilda Lay	77	Forest, MS	2/21/17	Wolf Funeral Serv.

Ever Reaching Community Outreach celebrates volunteers



Special to Pelahatchie News

ERCO volunteers celebrate their first anniversary helping the Pelahatchie and Rankin County community. Pictured (l to r) are, front row: Joann Walton, Skip Davis, Hayden Bilbro, Rhonda Sparkman, Kathy Allen, Kathy Latham, David Allen, Vaden Latham, and Tammy Brun; and back row: Bro. Geary Walton, Joey Thompson, Mayzelle Davis, Melvin McCurdy, Barbara McCurdy, David Sparkman, Shirley Vinzant, Larry Druery, Micheal Latham, Alice Druery, Teresa Winter, Sara Barthel, Crystal Barthel, Claire Lindsey, Venie Parker, Marilee Stuart, and Tori Hines.

Special to Pelahatchie News

The Ever Reaching Community Outreach (ERCO) in Pelahatchie came together to celebrate and thank their volunteers for their service throughout the year of 2016, and to celebrate all that God has done through the ministry. This is the first time they've held

this celebration, but intend on holding it each year going forward.

In the May through December time frame, ERCO provided food for 581 families in Rankin, Scott, Hinds, Madison, Leake, Smith and Simpson counties. They had youth volunteers from Branch, Ludlow, Scott Walters and Pisgah Beta Club groups.

They had three food drives at Leesburg Baptist Church, Branch Baptist Church and Pisgah Beta Club.

Their ministry partners, Roy & Mary Callahan of Hands Up Outreach and Grace Center, joined the celebration. This past year, they provided computers to ERCO, so the group is able to offer GED classes to surround-

ing communities. They also discussed an upcoming "Love Out Loud" event that will be held in March at Grace Center in Richland.

According to the facility manager Kathy Jo Latham, they have been able to add a new pantry, storage shed and daily ministry, and are feeling blessed.

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Chiefs Jones and Stokes sign to play college football



Special to Pelahatchie News

Idarias Jones, left, and Keldrick Stokes signed to play football in college. Jones signed with Hinds Community College, and Stokes signed with Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College.

Making sure you are secure

By Guest Columnist Whitney Baker

The world of banking and finance has evolved over the past few years in ways that we never could have imagined. Mobile payments, online banking, mobile check deposit, and countless other technologies have been developed that help make our lives easier and our finances less of a hassle to deal with. With these new services, however, comes the added responsibility of the consumer to be certain they are using them properly, so their information will be protected. PriorityOne Bank will always take every precaution possible to make sure that the financial information of our customers is secure, but it is important to remember that you as the consumer also plays a vital role in keeping your information safe. Here are some things you can do:

Online Banking – Do not check the box on your browser to “remember” your information, it is better to enter your information each time. In the case that your computer is compromised or stolen, the thief would not have access to this information simply by opening your Internet browser.

Mobile Banking – With Mobile

Banking and all the other mobile banking services that are being offered now, it is increasingly important that your phone have a passcode set and the lock features turned on, this will prevent a thief from gaining access to any of the information on your phone and in turn keep your financial information safe.

Mobile Check Deposit – Be sure to maintain the checks you submit for mobile deposit for a minimum of 15 days, once the check has cleared and that time frame has passed you should shred the check rather than just throwing it away, this will help keep the information of the check writer safe.

Other Tips – Do not ever give anyone financial information over the phone, via text message or email. Your bank should never contact you and ask you to give them personal financial information over the phone or otherwise.

If you are ever unsure about how to best protect your information or need help implementing any of the tips in this article, please feel free to contact your local branch of PriorityOne Bank and we will be happy to help.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Whitney Baker is the Marketing Director for PriorityOne Bank.



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Multicraft International, located in Pelahatchie, MS., manufactures electronic and electro-mechanical component parts, switches, tubing and electrical assemblies for automotive, outdoor power equipment, air conditioning and industrial markets since 1978 and is looking for a skilled Senior Financial Accountant to join their team. Reporting to the Chief Financial Officer, you will have broad responsibilities across financial and management reporting.

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The ideal candidate will have an accounting degree, and a minimum of two years' experience in a similar role in financial accounting preferred. To apply, email your resume and cover letter to Dennis Rasberry at Dennis.rasberry@multicraft.com.

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Southern Pine seeks history info

Special to Pelahatchie News

Southern Pine Electric is in the process of compiling information for a history book on the cooperative or co-op. From its birth in the late 1930s until today, countless members, community leaders and employees have contributed to the success of Southern Pine.

In order to include as many of their stories in the book as possible, Southern Pine is asking members to send photographs, copies of newspaper clippings, memorabilia, and typewritten narratives of individual recollections of the time when members or relatives may have received electricity from Southern Pine for the first time.

The company needs all people in photographs identified, and asks that

name, address and telephone number be placed on anything submitted. Originals will not be accepted, so copies need to be sent to Southern Pine.

Southern Pine is seeking to not only

tell the facts of the origin of the company, but to share the stories of the people who worked, struggled and gave of their time and energy to make life better for Mississippians. They want

to learn as much as possible from the people who worked behind the scenes to bring electricity to rural areas and to step back in time with them as they recall life with no lights, running water or refrigeration and what it meant to grandparents, parents and children when the "lights came on."

Mail copies of information to Jan Collins, P O Box 60, Taylorsville, MS 39168. Call at 601-785-2000, extension 337, or 601-517-3958 with questions or to schedule a personal interview in order to provide information, photographs, etc.

For security of members, no one from Southern Pine will contact or visit homes or businesses without prior permission or appropriate employment credentials.



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East Rankin Dental Clinic opens

By Susie A. Wolfe

The East Rankin Dental Clinic is now open in Davis Center at the corner of Highway 80 and Highway 43. The clinic that opened January 23, is located in the old Central Mississippi Community Dental Clinic space.

Stewart Strange, DMD, and Chandler Pleasant, DMD, are the two dentists who handle regular services plus root canals, implants and crowns. Pleasant has had a practice in Brandon the last five years, and Strange had a practice with his mother, Paula Stewart, in Jackson.

"We have been friends since dental school," said Strange. "And are excited about opening this practice together."

Strange is from a family of dentists. In addition to his mother, Strange's fa-



The East Rankin Dental team, pictured (l to r), are: Pansy Moore, Marty Walden, Stewart Strange, Renee' Lovelace, and Chandler Pleasant.

ther, Thad, is an endodontist, and his uncle, Clarke Stewart, is a periodontist.

They are assisted by dental professionals Pansy Moore, a 19-year dental assistant from Morton; Marty Walden, a 24-year registered dental hygienist from Brandon; and Renee' Lovelace, a 21-year practice manager from Raymond.

Pleasant likes Pelahatchie, and said, "We feel it is important to educate patients on why they need what they need. We want to explain things."

The Clinic will be open Monday, 7 a.m. - 7 p.m., Wednesday, 8 - 5, and Friday, 8 - noon, at first. For more information or to schedule an appointment, call 601-854-7478 or visit npidb.org. They accept all insurances, and walk-ins are welcome.

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Free April 1 concert to benefit Milltown Park



Special to Pelahatchie News

City Center will be the place to be in Pelahatchie on Saturday, April 1, for a free concert benefitting Milltown Park. Entertainment is provided by The Crooked Creek Band, The Jerry and Jack Duo and Hal and Connie Jeanes.

Special to Pelahatchie News

The Town will host "Milltown Crossing," a family-friendly concert to benefit Milltown Park, at the Pelahatchie Community Center on Saturday, April 1, at 6 p.m. Admission is free, but any donations for improvements to Milltown Park are appreciated.

Headlined by The Crooked Creek Band, the concert also features The Jer-

ry and Jack Duo and The Jeanes, playing American roots music, including bluegrass, country, folk, and blues.

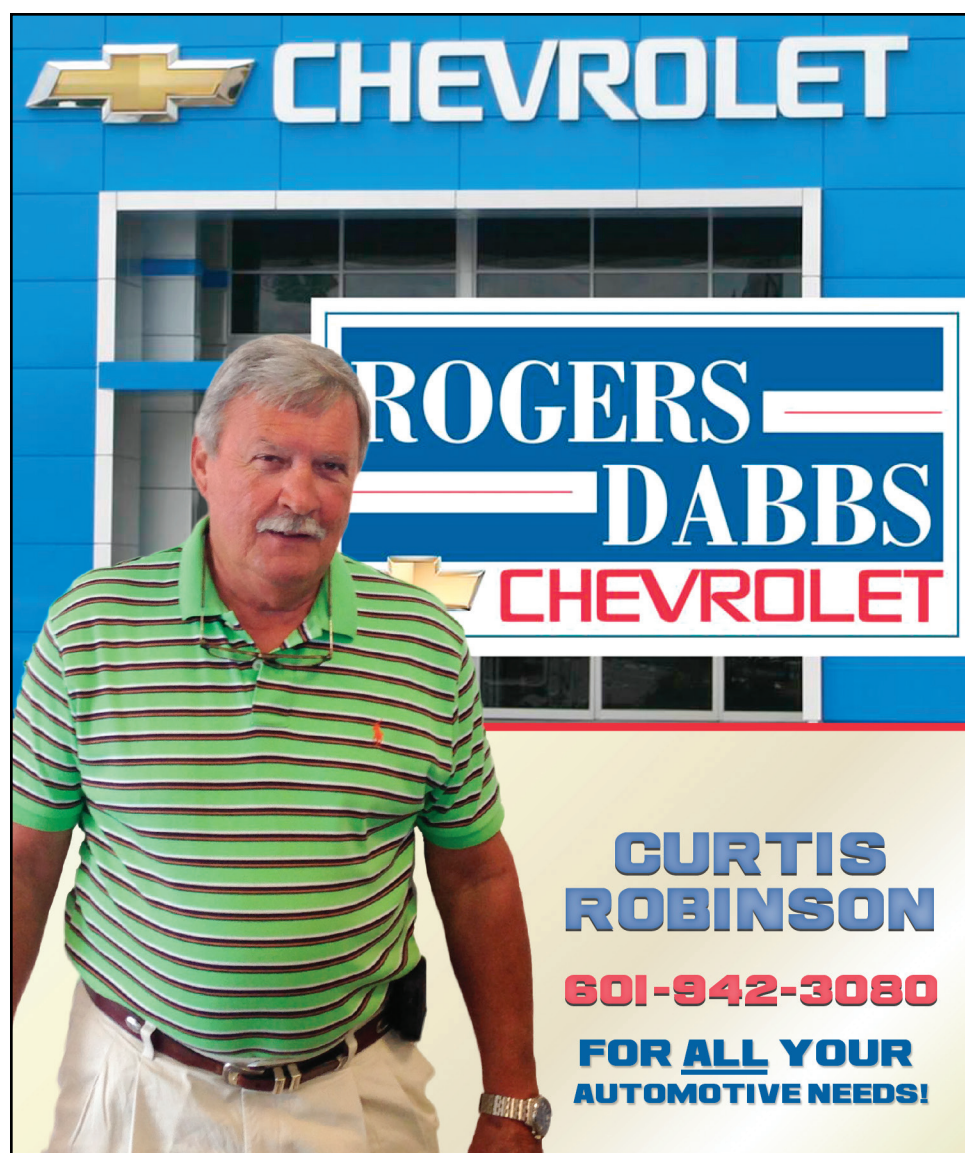
Though not associated with Pelahatchie, Crooked Creek is what Pelahatchie means in Indian. The Crooked Creek Band is group of professional musicians who blend smooth vocal harmonies with tight acoustic instrumentals. The members, all from Rankin County, are Jerry Brooks, Bryan Hayes, Rich-

ard Pharr, and Wes Tabor, whose backgrounds include nearly every musical genre.

The Jerry and Jack Duo is Jerry Brooks and Jack Beal. Brooks is a multi-instrumentalist and accomplished banjo player, having won the Mississippi State Banjo Championship multiple times. Beal is a bassist who divides his time between Rankin County and Nashville as a writer for *Bass Frontiers Magazine*.

The Jeanes are the husband and wife duo act of Hal and Connie Jeanes, who have been singing and playing together for more than twenty years. Their stage show features harmony and musical abilities on several instruments.

The concert seeks to help Milltown Park raise funds for a bathroom at the park until the Storm Shelter can be built. The City is still working on the grants before construction can begin.



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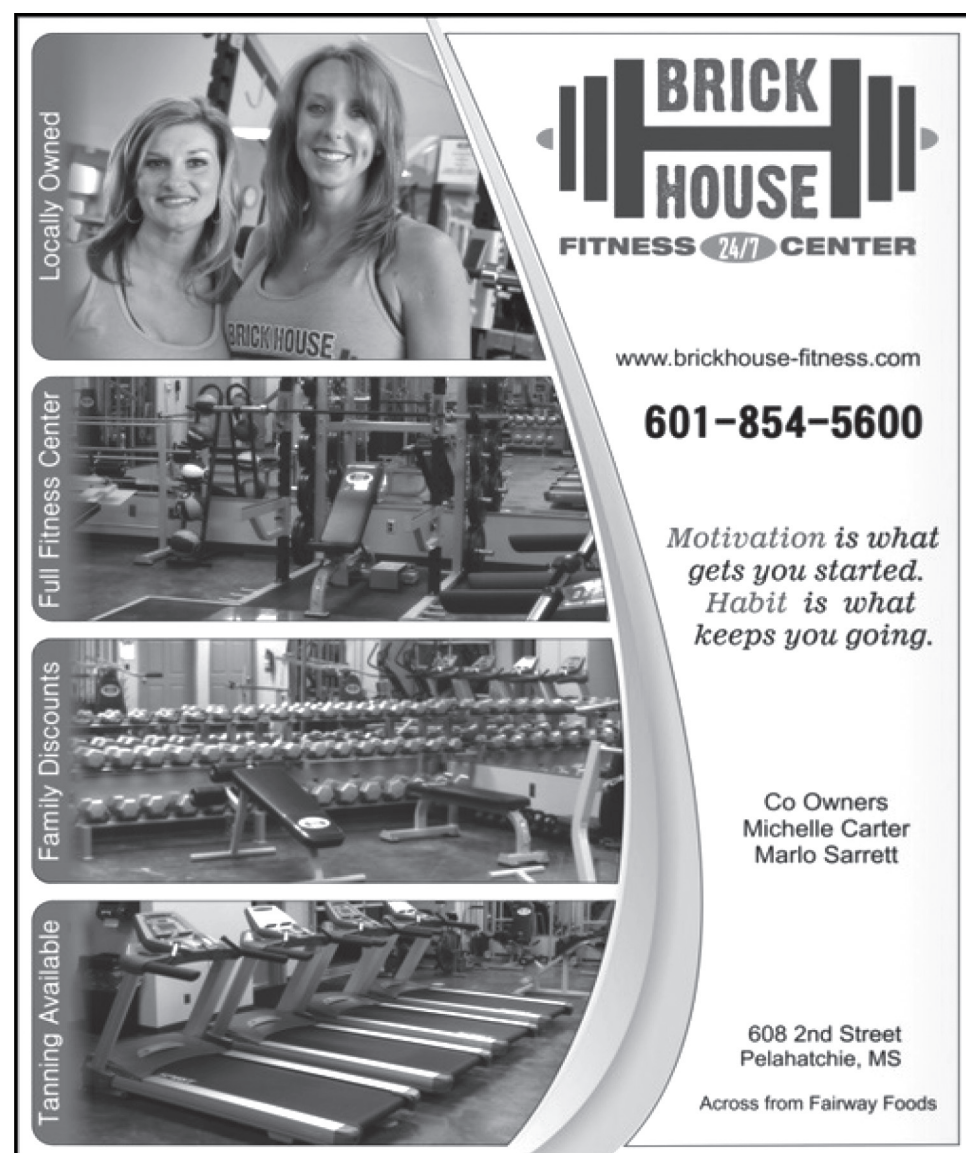
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Pastor's Perspective: God's word is a book of encouragement



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

Special to Pelahatchie News

It's such an honor for me to be able to share with you each month in the *Pelahatchie News*. I keep a file of things that I might write about and add to it as I have new ideas. As I was preparing to write this article, I checked my file and decided on a topic. I paused to go to the mail box, and what I received in the mail today changed everything!

We have a church member who is a teacher in one of our local schools. Each year, she has a unit on how to write letters. To practice, she has each student write a letter to their pastor. Each year, I look forward to receiving the letters, and they came today.

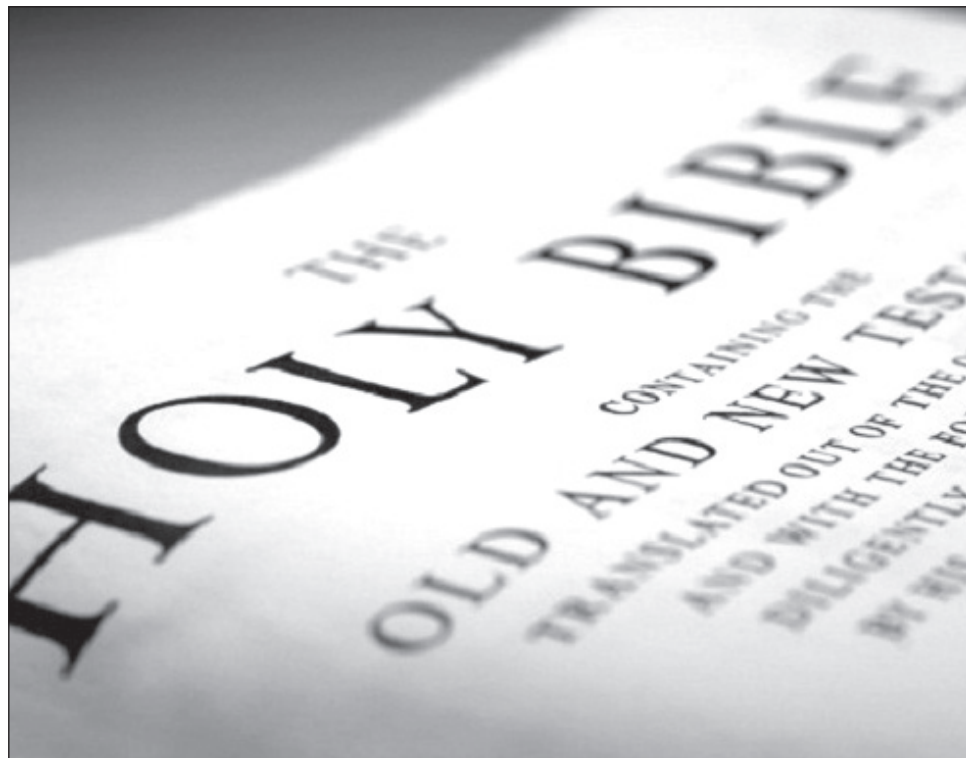
I read each letter with anticipation! Each student usually quotes a favorite Bible verse and then makes other comments. Some of the comments are predictable, but others are totally unexpected. Here are some quotes from this year's batch of letters. "I can't wait to hear your sermon each Sunday." "You are the best pastor in the whole world."

"I pray that God will give you a spir-

itual speech to share with the church." "Thanks for being an amazing preacher." And maybe my favorite, "I really like your jokes!"

Now, I understand that those students were completing a school assignment. But nevertheless, I think they shared sincere thoughts, and I received great encouragement from their kind words. And, that's something we all need!

God's word is a book of encouragement. It is a good place to turn when things don't seem to be going your way, or turning out the way you had planned or hoped. Listen to these encouraging words from the Book of Isaiah. "For I am the Lord, your God, who takes hold of your right hand and says to you, Do not fear; I will help you." (41:13) and "Did you not know? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He will not grow tired or weary, and his understanding no one can fathom. He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak. Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall; but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint." (40: 29-31)



Special to Pelahatchie News

Maybe you know someone who needs some encouragement today. Why don't you reach out to them. Write them a note or send them an e-mail or text message. Give them a phone call, or better yet, go by and see them. They

don't expect you to solve the problems they are facing, but the fact that you express concern will be a great encouragement to them. And, we all need that!

Be sure to take your family to Church on Sunday!

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MBS honors Miss. Baking Company



Special to Pelahatchie News

Will Sims, human resource director, accepted the 2016 Manufacturing Group of the Year award on behalf of Mississippi Baking Company from Mississippi Blood Services (MBS). The Pelahatchie company went beyond just giving 103 units of blood, they hosted two blood drives and had two parties, plus they had a drawing for a flat-screen TV.



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Multicraft recognizes employees' years of service



Photos by Pelahatchie News

Recognized for five years of service to Multicraft are (l to r): Anthony Sorey, Jerrie Dean, John Taylor, Masanobu Yamada, Lori Rhodes Lewis, Belinda Wood, Jesse Havard, Mae Bradford, Andy Windham, James O'Cain, and Charles White.



Photos by Pelahatchie News

Recognized for 10 years of service to Multicraft are (l to r): Mickie Mapp, Sue Alford, Brinnette Chamber, Annette Chambers, Janice Stewart, Shennia Holifield, Chris Kennedy, Dee Teague, Brenda Creel, and Virginia Carlisle.



Photos by Pelahatchie News

Recognized for 15 years of service to Multicraft are (l to r): Linda Gibbs, Antoinette McIn, Teresa Donald, Nancy Yates, and Katherine Kennedy.



Photos by Pelahatchie News

Recognized for 20 years of service to Multicraft are (l to r): Chris Schooler, Paul Jones, Karen Yount, Malinda Craft, Joe Ashker, Sarah McMillan, and Brad Williams.



Photos by Pelahatchie News

Recognized for 25 years of service to Multicraft are (l to r): Stacy Collier and Tiffany Lee.



Photos by Pelahatchie News

Recognized for 30 years of service to Multicraft are (l to r): Dennis Rasberry, Rosalind Washington, Richard Kelly, Gurmukh Lakhmani, Chuck Flumm, Samantha Sullivan, Rebecca Traxler, Shelia Hood, and Ellen Blissett.



Photos by Pelahatchie News

Recognized for 35 years of service to Multicraft are (l to r): Jenifer Bowman, Kathy Coley, and Kay Hamilton.



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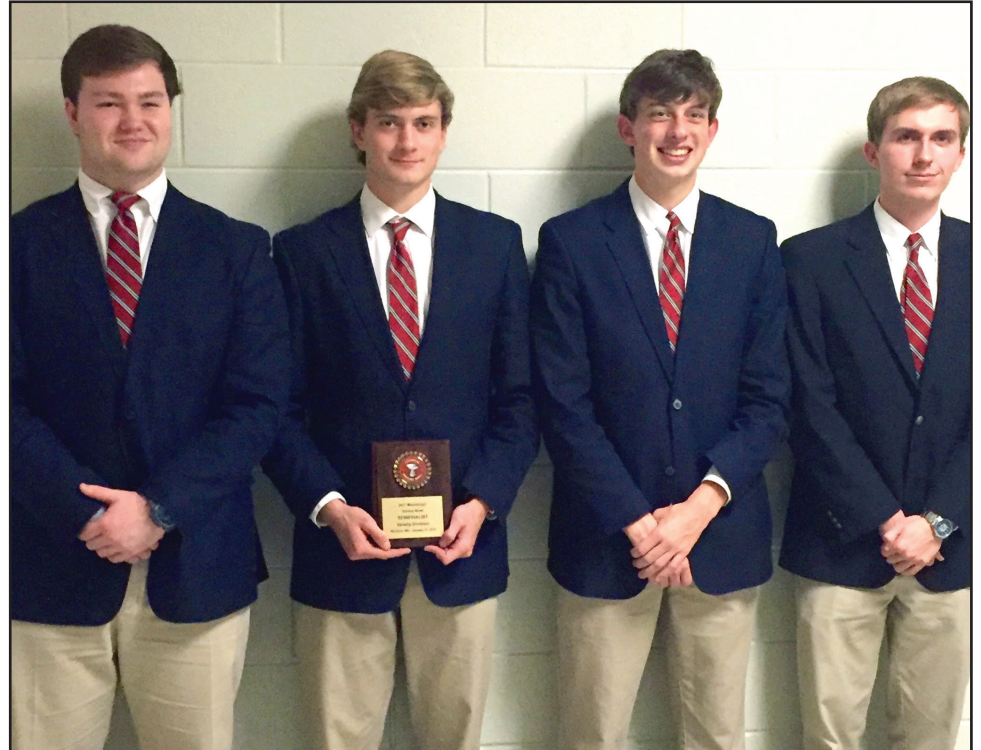
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ERA students compete in MC Tournament

The East Rankin Academy Varsity and Junior Varsity History Bowl teams competed in the Mississippi State Championship History Bowl held at Madison Central High School. The Varsity Team finished in third place and the Junior Varsity Team finished in second place, and qualified to compete in the National History Bowl in Washington D.C. Varsity team members pictured (l to r) are: Jared Vardaman, Reid Wuestefeld, Brandon Evans, and Ward Winstead. Junior Varsity members pictured (l to r) are: Andrew Stewart, Ethan Crain, Jackson Harper, and Thad Webb.



Special to Pelahatchie News



Special to Pelahatchie News

Ward Winstead, second place in Physics and third place in Mathematics; Brandon Evans, third place in Chemistry and top 10 percent in Biology; Christine Schroeder, top 20 percent in Chemistry; Emily Myers, top 20 percent in Mathematics; Cade Thornton, top 20 percent in Biology; and Blaine Hill-top 20 percent in Mathematics.

Four ERA students competed in the team competition at the Mississippi College Science and Math Tournament and won third place in the overall team competition. Team members pictured (l to r) are: Ward Winstead, Hayden Hawk, Brandon Evans, and Blaine Hill.

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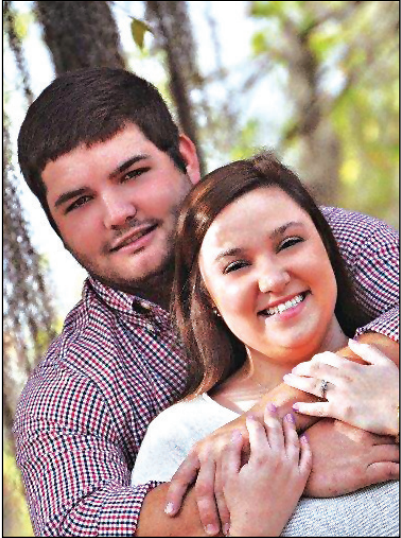


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Goodwin to wed King in Pelahatchie



Special to Pelahatchie News

CJ King and Nicole Goodwin will exchange vows on March 11 at the Muscadine Park Pavilion, and will reside in Pelahatchie.

Merrie "Nicole" Goodwin is a graduate of New Albany High School and attended Northeast

Community College. She is employed with Madison Motor Works in Madison. Parents of the bride are Christy Goodwin of Wesson, and Mike Ellison of Brandon. Grandparents are RD Smith & the late Shelia Smith of Pearl, and Estene Alexander & the late Roger Alexander New Albany.

Clinton John "CJ" King is a graduate of Pelahatchie High School, and attended Hinds Community College and Mississippi State Valley, and Coahoma Community College where he played baseball. CJ is currently employed with Roger Dabbs Chevrolet in Brandon. Parents of the groom are Clinton and Brandi King of Pelahatchie. Grandparents are Sara King and the late John King of Pelahatchie, the late Nadine King of Jayess, Albert McGuffee of Terry, and Neil and Paula McQueen of Pearl.

Sam Williams named PHS football coach



Photo by Pelahatchie News

Dr. Bryan Marshall (l), Principal, Pelahatchie High School is shown with new head football coach Sam Williams the day of the announcement to the players.

By Susie A. Wolfe

Sam Williams was recently named head football coach at Pelahatchie High School, replacing Coach Bill Ward, who retired after 29 years.

Williams formerly served as the assistant football coach at Northwest Rankin High School, and also served as head track coach and assistant soccer coach for the last three to four years.

A Brandon native, Williams attended Northwest Rankin, where he played football from 2007-2009 before playing football at Mississippi State University from 2009-2012. He is a two-time bowl game champion and three-time Egg Bowl champion.

"As the leader of the PHS team, in addition to a winning mentality," said Williams, "I want the team to learn to be quality young men; to have values; and to do things in the right way."

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