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NEWS Pelahatchie Good News You Can Use

April
2019

Volume 8
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Pelahatchie, MS

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

Safe Room, restrooms open at Milltown Park

By Susie A. Wolfe

The Pelahatchie Safe Room is now open to provide shelter from dangerous weather, according to Mayor Ryshonda Beechem. The maintenance chief, police station and City Hall have keys. There had been a delay due to an increase in cost of a lift-station for the restrooms. Those restrooms are now open for those who use the park.

The storm shelter is a 3,536 sq. ft. facility that can hold up to 612 people. There are still things to be done, like outside signage, but it is ready when needed, according to the Mayor. She met with Sheriff's deputies in March to discuss painting the inside, and she said that a stove is also needed. There is a refrigerator there. She also mentioned writing a grant to get a television for the emergency shelter.



Photos by Rod Beechem

The newly opened safe room built for shelter during bad weather will also be available for rent for parties and events. The safe room is located at Milltown Park.

The Mayor said that plans are to lease the facility for birthday parties, family reunions, church-affiliated events and

baby showers in the future. It will be another form of funding for the Town. A price list will be available once ap-

proved by the Board of Aldermen.

The Safe Room also has a concession stand that will be used at sporting events this summer and fall. Currently, Milltown Park has two baseball fields ready to use, a third needing netting, and a fourth needs to be built. Quotes are needed for irrigation, lighting, and building for the fourth field.

Pelahatchie High School uses the main field for their baseball games, but no one under age 13 is allowed to play on that field. The school put forth a lot of time and money to get that field ready, according to the Mayor.

She said that a park director is needed to manage events at the park. Anyone interested in volunteering should contact the Mayor at 601-507-6365.

To find out more about reserving the Safe Room, contact City Hall at 601-854-5224.

Citizen Police Academy in April

By Police Chief Joseph Daughtry

The Town of Pelahatchie and the Pelahatchie Police Department (PPD) will hold the first Citizen Police Academy Monday-Friday, April 22-26, from 6-8 p.m. nightly to educate the community on how the PPD works day-to-day.

We are limiting the first class to the first 25 Pelahatchie citizens who want to participate, so complete an application at the Police Station to learn about what's happening in the community and nationwide. The deadline for submissions is April 12.

We will have a canine demonstration and talk about narcotics investigations, crime prevention, the court system, dispatch, chaplain's program, and basic first aid certification. Each participant will also ride along with an officer for four hours, hopefully before the class.



Special to Pelahatchie News

This is a tool proven effective in bridging the gap between the community and law enforcement. I'm excited that we have a number of registrants already.

Pelahatchie churches sponsor Community Easter Egg Hunt



Special to Pelahatchie News

Since the Pelahatchie Board of Aldermen did not vote to sponsor the Town's annual Easter Egg Hunt, local churches have stepped up to coordinate a Community Easter Egg Hunt at Milltown Park on Saturday, April 20. A number of groups are coming together to provide more than 3,000 Easter Eggs for the event.

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Community pulls together for Banks Farm in the March cold

By Susie A. Wolfe

On Monday and Tuesday nights, March 4 and 5, the weather in Rankin County dripped to the low twenty degrees, which affected the Banks Farms' 6,000 peach trees off of Highway 80 between Pelahatchie and Brandon. Neighbor Jo Hegwood let people know they needed firewood, and after the *Pelahatchie News* and other Facebook pages posted the request for help, the community responded big time.

"We stayed up all night those two nights keeping the 150 fires going," said Joel Banks. "We couldn't have built the fires without the help of the community. I tried to talk to each person that dropped off wood, charcoal or even hot chocolate, but if I missed you, we appreciate every gesture and prayers, texts and calls. We send a huge thank you. The response blew me away. Every resource was used."

According to Banks, who runs the wholesale operation alongside his father, Ben Banks, and his sister, Molly Burkhalter, they had to light fires throughout the orchard to keep the plants warm, in hopes of saving them. Though a few were lost that night, only

time will tell about the rest of the trees.

Ben Banks, the backbone of Banks Farms, started the farm in 2010 after retiring from 30+ years in the poultry equipment business. He planted 1,300 trees at first and then added more every year. Once the trees reach around age 13, it's time to replant according to Joel Banks. They raise ten varieties of peaches during the mid-May through August season, depending on the weather.

"It was definitely a team effort. All of our families plus friends and even folks we did not know helped," said Banks. "We won't know for sure if the trees survived, but we were blown away by the quantity of people we didn't know that offered to help. I love this community."

Ben and Glenda are the head of the Banks family, with their children and grandchildren working by their side. Joel and Angie Banks have three children, Cameron, 13, Griffin, 11, and Leighton, 9, and Molly; and Mark Burkhalter have Sydney Ponder and her husband Rustin; Ben, 14, and Emma, 11.



Photos by Angie Banks

150 fires keep peaches from freezing (top); a peach blossom (bottom).



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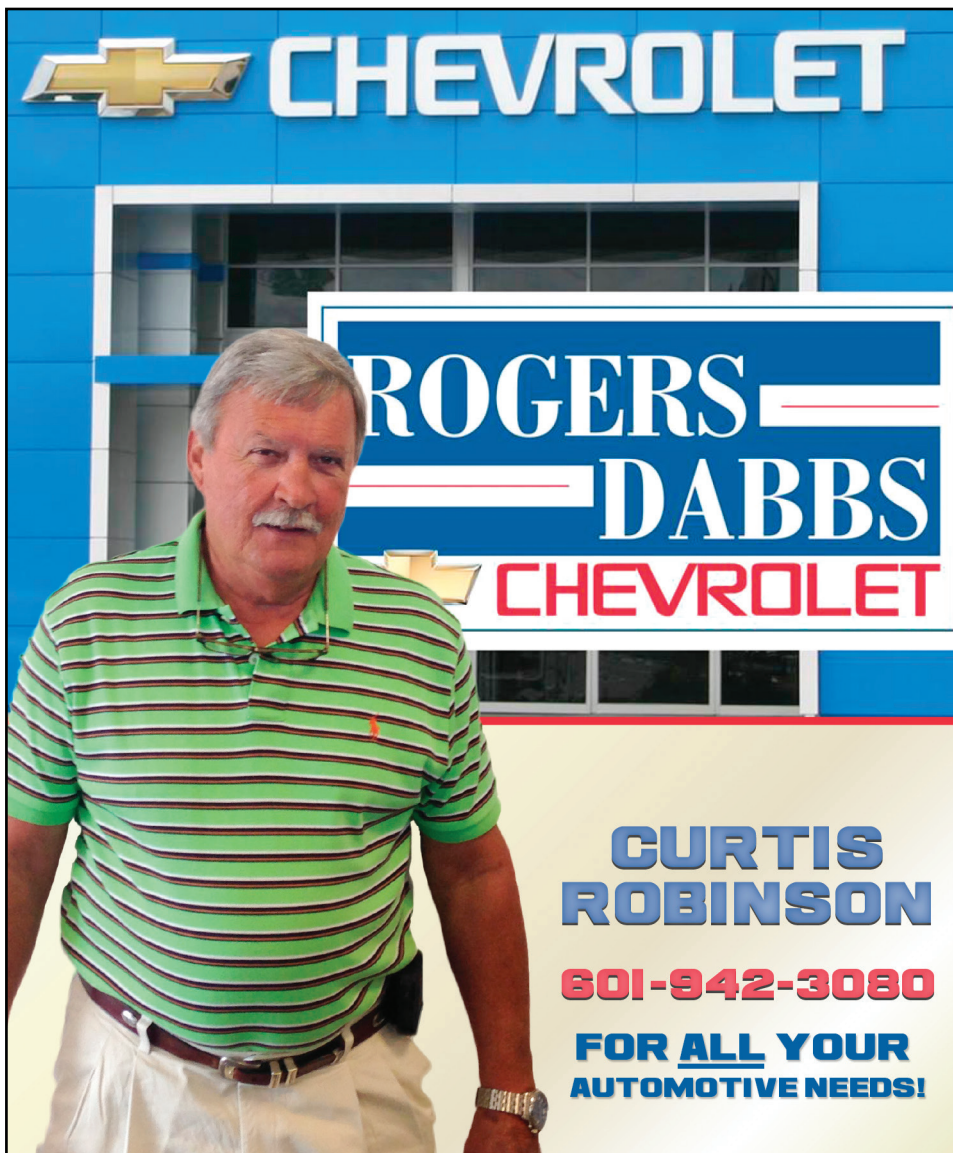
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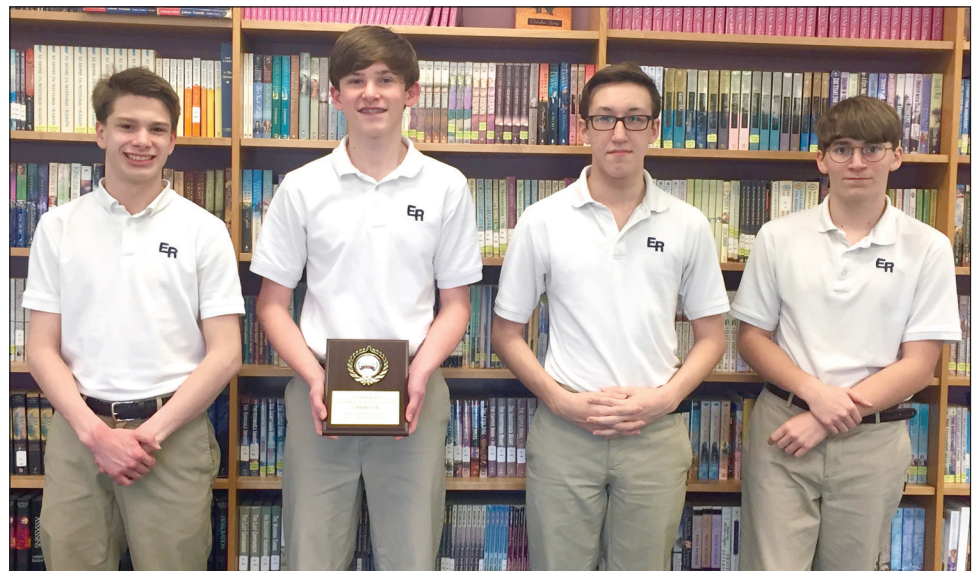
ERA students win U9 Gulf Coast Cup



Special to Pelahatchie News

Two East Rankin Academy students who play soccer with the Brandon Futbol Club, BFC U9 Elite, won their division at Gulf Coast Cup March 16 in Gautier, Mississippi. Pictured (l to r) are: Jewel Baker and Kennedy Laine Harper. Their coach is Donna McCarron.

ERA wins History Bowl Championship



Special to Pelahatchie News

The East Rankin Academy (ERA) Junior Varsity History Bowl team competed in the Mississippi History Bowl Junior Varsity State Championship held at Madison Central High School recently. The Junior Varsity Team finished first place and qualified to compete in the National History Bowl in Washington D.C. Team members pictured (l to r) are: Will Price, Dylan Davis, Brayden Whitney, and Max Gainey.

Students win HCC Essay Contest



Special to Pelahatchie News

Hinds Community College (HCC) essay winners pictured (l to r) are: Anesha Smith, Pisgah High School, first place; Kailey Davis of Morton, East Rankin Academy, second; Thad Webb of Pelahatchie, East Rankin Academy, third; Paige Palmer of Forest, East Rankin Academy, honorable mention, and Owen Wolfe of Pelahatchie, East Rankin Academy, honorable mention.

Obituaries

NAME	AGE	CITY	DOD	Arrangements
Hattie Goodson	70	Lake, MS	2/28/19	Wolf Funeral Serv.
Stella Davis	75	Smith County	3/1/19	Wolf Funeral Serv.
Evelyn Dennis	90	Forest, MS	3/3/19	Wolf Funeral Serv.
Patricia Cobern	64	Harperville, MS	3/4/19	Wolf Funeral Serv.
Martha Sessions	71	Forest, MS	3/4/19	Wolf Funeral Serv.
Emogene Sanders	78	Homewood, MS	3/4/19	Wolf Funeral Serv.
Lonnie White	71	Raleigh, MS	3/5/19	Wolf Funeral Serv.
Lloyd Ballenger	58	Brandon, MS	3/8/19	Wolf Funeral Serv.
Paul McMillian	60	Morton, MS	3/9/19	Wolf Funeral Serv.
Madison Edwards	18	Harperville, MS	3/9/19	Wolf Funeral Serv.
Melinda Poole	60	Lawrence, MS	3/15/19	Wolf Funeral Serv.
Josie Gibbs	103	Gibbstown, MS	3/15/19	Wolf Funeral Serv.
Nancy Reeves	67	Lake, MS	3/24/19	Wolf Funeral Serv.
Faye Swales	87	Pelahatchie, MS	3/27/19	Wolf Funeral Serv.



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Fairley and Cooper participate in North/South All-Star Game



Photos by Pelahatchie News

Pelahatchie HS Coach Pearlene Fairley, left, was a coach for the South Team in the March 23 1A-2A-3A North / South All-Star Game at Mississippi College in Clinton. Jacey Cooper, right, finished the game with six points and received the game ball. The South was victorious with a score of 62-61.

New information on insecticides



By Doug Carter,
Rankin County
Extension Agent

For years, sevin (carbaryl) was one of the main insecticides used in home vegetable gardens.

The other was Malathion. Many of our parents and grandparents grew vegetables, for years, using just these two insecticides. In more recent years, pyrethroid insecticides such as permethrin (Hi-Yield Lawn, Garden, Pet and Livestock Insect Control) and bifenthrin (Ortho Bug-B-gone Insect Killer) have been labeled for home vegetable gardens, and these are very effective on most garden insects and have a short preharvest interval.

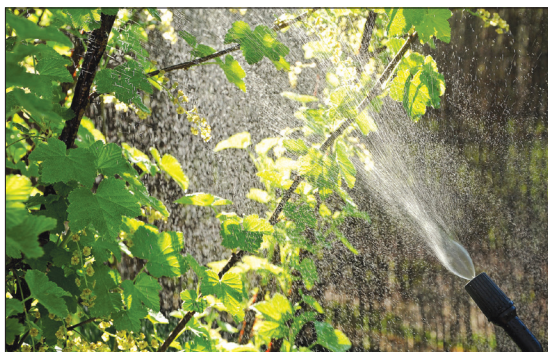
This past year, GardenTech introduced several products that contain zeta-cypermethrin, rather than carbaryl. These include GardenTech Sevin Insect Killer Concentrate, which is 0.35% zeta-cypermethrin, GardenTech Sevin Insect Killer Ready to Use, and Garden Tech Insect Killer Ready to Spray.

It is confusing, because there are so many sevin products that contain carbaryl as the active ingredient.

Even with the confusion, it is great that home vegetable gardeners now have access to a formulation of zeta-cypermethrin for insect control. This py-

rethroid insecticide is not really more effective than permethrin or bifenthrin, but on several crops, it has a shorter preharvest interval.

In fact, this new formulation of sevin has a one-day PHI (pre-harvest interval refers to the amount of time that must



Special to Pelahatchie News

lapse, after a pesticide application, before the crop is cut.) on all fruiting vegetables. This is a product that will control most insect pests in the home vegetable garden and can be used on most crops in the garden with a one-day PHI. Like other pyrethroids, zeta-cypermethrin is not effective on pests such as spider mites, whiteflies and aphids, and there are some crops like corn, peanuts and sunflowers, with longer PHI's, but these are usually crops on which the longer PHI's are not usually a big issue, because we can usually stop spraying these crops for insects well before time to harvest. Overall, this is a new product that can really be useful to vegetable gardeners.

The PHS Warrior Spirit



Special to Pelahatchie News

By Guest Columnist
Teague Burchfield, Principal,
Pelahatchie High School

The fourth nine weeks is here. We returned from spring break by reminding our students of the goals that were set for Pelahatchie High School earlier in the year. Alex Honnold, free solo climber and feature of the 2019 Oscar Winning Documentary, *Free Solo*, provided the quote to guide us through the remainder of the school year. Facing the reality of one of the greatest free solo climbs by scaling the seemingly impossible 3,000 feet granite face of El Capitan, Honnold stated, "It's about being a warrior. It doesn't matter about the cause, necessarily. This is your path, and you will pursue it with excellence. You face your fear because your

goal demands it. That is the warrior spirit...therefore, give it one hundred percent."

This is our approach as we finish the school year. The ongoing process of shaping the academic culture and perception of Pelahatchie High School will be fueled by a desire to perform at the best of our abilities without hesitation. Finishing will require the "Warrior Spirit." The faculty, staff, and students have all made tremendous strides in this regard and, with that being said, there is more work to be done as we move toward the season of accountability (State Testing).

As always, we appreciate your support by establishing and maintaining high academic, attendance, and behavior expectations for your children as well as a presence at many of our extracurricular events. Together, let's wrap the 2018-2019 school year in RED and BLACK! Go Chiefs!



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Legislative updates: Bills, bills and more bills



By Guest Columnist
Mississippi Representative
Tom Miles

As the session was winding down, our chief focus turned to considering revenue and appropriation bills and deciding whether or not we agree with changes to the various bills. If we agree, the measures go straight to the Governor for his signature. If we disagree, they will go to conference.

Among the House bills currently in conference are House Bill 1352, the Criminal Justice Reform bill and House Bill 1613, the Child Promise bill, which deals with Mississippi's Foster Care system. I supported both of those measures.

Senate Bill 2770 is also in conference. This is the Teacher Pay Raise bill. The House increased teacher salaries by \$4,000 over two years, as opposed to the Senate's first offer of \$500 per year. I strongly support that our teachers deserve decent pay raises, since they haven't had anything since the last election cycle. I voted for the \$4,000 pay raise. Our public schools are the foundation of our future and our communities' suc-

cess. We should be prioritizing full funding for every level of our education system – from kindergarten through university.

Reforms to the juvenile justice system and methods by which formerly

bills.

We passed the week of March 21, and Governor Bryant signed both bills into law "the heartbeat bill," will not allow an abortion to take place in Mississippi when a baby's heartbeat is detected and also the "Landowners Protection Act," after it was amended it was to eliminate unintended consequences in civil law suits on property. I voted for and supported both pieces of legislation.

We voted to approve the Senate's changes to House Bill 1283, the Mississippi School Safety Act, which mandates active shooter drills, school safety

inspections and provides a threat-reporting mechanism through the Department of Public Safety. This bill has gone to the Governor for his signature.

It was an honor to have the Bound to Excel mentoring program as my guests at the Capitol. I thank Coach Ande Hollis, Mr. Jodi Matheny, Mr. Roy Lowery, Mr. Elmer Lowery, Coach Eric Jones and Principal Miles Porter for taking the time to bring this outstanding group to their State Capitol, and for investing in the lives of our young men.



Special to Pelahatchie News

Miles visited with local representatives from the Central Mississippi Regional Library System (CRMLS) representing Rankin, Scott and Smith Counties who joined him at the Capitol. Pictured (l to r) are: Kimberly Cook of Forest, Rep. Tom Miles, Director Mara Polk of Pearl, and Selena Swink of Forest.

incarcerated individuals can qualify for licensure are also in conference.

We are also working to try to find some kind of pay raise for our State Employees and we are trying to help Department of Public Safety come up with a plan to address the long lines at our Drivers License Stations.

These conference committees consist of three members of each chamber meeting to iron out differences. Then both chambers will have to accept the changes made by the conferees or the

White accepted to the Sally Barksdale Honors College and METP at Ole Miss

Special to Pelahatchie News

Jordan White, a Pelahatchie High School (PHS) senior, is among those accepted into the Sally Barksdale Honors College at The University of Mississippi.

White is also a recipient of the Mississippi Excellence in Teaching Program (METP) scholarship. The university accepts up to 30 METP fellows for the fall term. The 4.0 GPA scholar plans to major in secondary education with a concentration in mathematics. Each METP fellow makes a five-year commitment to teach in a Mississippi public school after graduation.

White is the daughter of Jay and Katie White.



Special to Pelahatchie News

Whitney accepted to the Sally Barksdale Honors College and Theatre/Film School at Ole Miss

Special to Pelahatchie News

Hannah Whitney, a Pelahatchie High School (PHS) senior, is among those accepted into the Sally Barksdale Honors College at The University of Mississippi.

The 4.0 GPA scholar has also been accepted into the university's Theatre and Film School, where she will seek a BFA in Film Production.

Whitney is the daughter of Corey and Kristi Cofer of Pelahatchie.

The Sally McDonnell Barksdale Honors College employs an Honor Code centered on honesty, sincerity, and justice. The purpose of this Honor Code is to strengthen the honor student's sense of community.



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Gaines seeks re-election to District Four Supervisor seat



By Steve Gaines

Steve Gaines, President of the Rankin County Board of Supervisors, and retired Federal Special Agent, announces his candidacy for re-election as District 4 Supervisor.

Rankin County business owner and

Mississippi native, Steve Gaines, officially announces his candidacy for re-election as Rankin County District 4 Supervisor. Gaines, formerly a Rankin County Republican Executive Committee member, will be running as a Republican candidate in the August 6, 2019 primary election.

Gaines attended Mississippi State University where he earned a B.S. Degree in Economics. He retired af-

ter 30 years of Federal Service as the Assistant Special Agent-in-Charge of Investigations with the Office of Inspector General.

Steve and his wife, Nita, own Gaines Angus Ranch located in the 4th District of Rankin County. They have three children, Jeremy, Kati and Jason and four grandchildren.

"I would like to thank every person in Rankin County as we have made

our county the most desirable place in Mississippi to live and raise a family. Also, thank you for allowing me the privilege to serve in a leadership position in this great county. We accomplished so much during this term, however, there are more goals to achieve.

I ask for your continued support as I seek re-election as your District 4 Supervisor."

PES names February Students of the Month



Special to Pelahatchie News

Pelahatchie Elementary School (PES) named the February Students of the Month. Pictured (l to r) first row, are: Blakely Tyndall, Javien Thomas, Audrey McFadden, Anna Langley, Lyla May, Nick Anderson, Branch Boyer, Julie Fulton and Halyn Ables; and second row: Christian Bull, Alisa Strickland, Tyler Myers, Ty Bowie, Cooper Scherer, Rayden Piner, Javion Harris-McGee, Logan Ingram, Harmony McGill, Nahgee Hawkins, and Tavorian Smith. Not pictured are Hunter Sanders, Maddox Johnson, Addyson Edwards, Julia Henderson, KatieBelle Herrington, and David Usry.

PES students watching plants grow



Special to Pelahatchie News

Mrs. Coleman's class planted seeds in March, and they will watch their plants grow and journal about them every day, looking for sprouts.

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AT THE LIBRARY IN PELAHATCHIE

APRIL LIBRARY ACTIVITIES

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Monday, April 8, 1:00 p.m.

crafts, trivia games, video game tournaments, drawing workshops, robotics, and more.

Brown Bag Lunch with Author John Shivers

Bring a lunch; we will provide drink and dessert. Thursday, April 11, 12:30 p.m.

Adult Book Club
Discussing Maeve Binchy's novel, *Circle of Friends*
Wednesday, April 24, 9:30 a.m.
(enter through rear of library)

Central Comic Con Saturday, April 13, 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

All Rankin County libraries join forces to host Central Comic Con at the Pearl Public Library. There will be games,

Children's Book Week April 29 - May 5

Every time a patron checks out a book April 29-May 2, they will be entered into a drawing for a bag of children's books.

Call the library (601.854.8764) or visit the website (www.cmrls.lib.ms.us) to register.

Anna Bergeron crowned Miss Pelahatchie in March Pageant

Special to Pelahatchie News

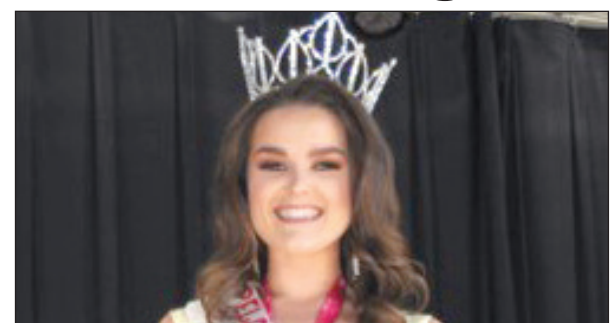
Anna Bergeron was crowned Miss Pelahatchie and won the cash prize in the First Annual Miss Pelahatchie Scholarship Pageant held March 16, 2019, at the Pelahatchie Attendance Center Auditorium.

A cash scholarship was given to the contestant, between the ages of 14 and 21, with the highest overall beauty

score. Overall, there were 18 contestants in the First Annual Miss Pelahatchie Scholarship Pageant. The directors, Tabitha Medders and Kimberly Laster, hosted the event. Everyone had a blast crowning the winners. They both live local and fundraised the cash prize in the community.

The other winners of the First Annual Miss Pelahatchie Scholarship Pageant are: Viewer's Choice Winner, Natalie

Syriaphone; Teeny Miss Pelahatchie, Emalyn Atkinson; Little Mr. Pelahatchie, DJ Ward; Little Miss Pelahatchie, Rhyder Bailey; Preteen Miss Pelahatchie, Rylee Watson; Teen Miss Pelahatchie, Jacey Cooper; Single Miss Pelahatchie, Brittney Grant; and Mrs. Pelahatchie, Donna Seal.



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Sale will start at 7 a.m. and end at 5 p.m.

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PHS recognizes monthly awards winners



Special to Pelahatchie News

PHS Athletes of the Month for February are Hunter Langley and Isabella Rust. Pictured (l to r) are Athletic Director Sam Williams, Langley, Rust, and Tanner Wilson from Farm Bureau, award sponsor.



Special to Pelahatchie News

PHS February Big Time teacher award winner is Heather Greene. Pictured (l to r) are Principal Dr. Teague Burchfield, Greene, and Tanner Wilson from Farm Bureau, award sponsor.



Special to Pelahatchie News

The Handled It teacher award for February was awarded to Tina Roberts. Pictured (l to r) are Principal Dr. Teague Burchfield, Roberts, and Tanner Wilson from Farm Bureau, award sponsor.



Special to Pelahatchie News

PHS Extra-Curricular Students of the Month for February are Carlos Felix and Abby Dawson. The award is sponsored by Bob's Gas of Pelahatchie.



Special to Pelahatchie News

The PHS Character Trait for February was Service. It was awarded to Demarkyus McNair. The award is sponsored by Bob's Gas of Pelahatchie.

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Pastor's perspective: Celebrate Christ's resurrection at Easter



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

I sit writing this devotion on March 20, the first day of spring. But you won't actually read these words until the first week in April. Since Easter is on April 21 this year, I wanted to write some thoughts about Resurrection Sunday, which I will do later. But my thoughts wandered to why the date of Easter varies from year to year. So I did some research and discovered some interesting things to share with you.

Easter does not have a fixed date like Christmas, which falls on the 25th of December each year, or like Thanksgiving which falls on a specific day each year, the fourth Thursday of November. The First Council of Nicaea in 325 A.D. grappled with the question of when Easter should be celebrated each year. They wanted it to always be celebrated on a Sunday, since the Resurrection occurred of the "first day of the week." But they didn't want to necessarily tie it to the Jewish Passover, which was being ob-

served at the time that the crucifixion and resurrection of Christ actually occurred. So they established a formula for determining when Easter would be celebrated each year.

I'm not sure why they settled on this particular formula, but basically, Easter is observed on the first Sunday following the first full moon after the Vernal Equinox. "Vernal" means "occurring in the spring" and "Equinox" comes from two Latin words which mean "equal night." So the Vernal Equinox is the day when day and night have the same number of hours and marks the beginning of spring each year. The Vernal Equinox can occur on either March 19, 20 or 21. So that is how the date of Easter is established.

The phases of the moon and the date of the Equinox do not necessarily coincide, which makes the date of Easter different each year. The earliest date that Easter can occur is March 22, and the latest date is April 25. This year, Easter will be on April 21. Following the formula established in Nicaea some 1,694 years ago, April 21 will be the first Sunday following the first full moon after the first day of spring! So, happy Easter!

All those details aside, Easter is cele-

brated to acknowledge and commemorate the fact that Jesus was raised from the dead. And celebrate, we should! The resurrection of Christ is the most important event in human history.

In Brazil, where we served as missionaries, there was more emphasis given to the death of Christ on Good Friday than the resurrection of Christ on Easter Sunday. Good Friday is a National Holiday in Brazil, but Easter Sunday is not. The celebration on Good Friday in our city was typical of the observance in other cities, large and small. The prominent religion in Brazil is Catholicism. So in our city, on Good Friday, the Catholics would gather at four points on the north, south, east and west sides of the city. These four groups would then walk in procession to the main cathedral in the center of the city. Thousands of people would participate in these marches.

Leading each group would usually be a man carrying a cross to depict Christ as He carried His cross to Calvary's hill. Men dressed as Roman soldiers would accompany the actor portraying Jesus and use whips to "beat" him. When the four groups arrived at the main cathedral in the center of town, they filled

the downtown park and nearby streets. Three men would be lifted on crosses, with the man in the center portraying Christ. After a ceremony and a message from the priest, the man playing the role of Jesus would be taken down and carried off as if it were to His burial. So the celebration of the death of Jesus would come to an end. But Easter Sunday would be a normal day. Perhaps a few more people went to mass, but the big celebration was on Friday, the day of the crucifixion.

Of course, the crucifixion was a significant event, because if Christ had not died, He would not have been able to come back to life! But the fact is, He did come back to life! And on Easter Sunday morning, He walked out of His tomb after conquering death and sin along with it. What an event to celebrate! What a day to celebrate! Jesus is alive, and He wants to live in each one of us. I hope that has already happened in your life, but if it has not, why not let this Easter be the time that your eternal destination is changed? That will give you even more reason to celebrate Easter! Be sure to take your family to church on Easter, and every Sunday!

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To participate, text or call Sara King at 601-953-8945 to register by April 4. We will need parent's name, the child's name, grade they are in, and t-shirt size. Pay on April 12th.



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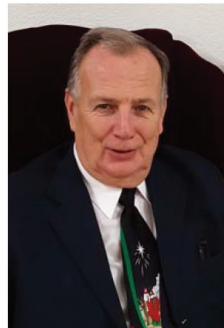
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What is EASTER?

April 21st 10:30am

Pelahatchie Baptist Church

FFA attends Legislative and Sponsors Breakfast



Special to Pelahatchie News

The Pelahatchie High School FFA group attended the Legislative and Sponsors Breakfast on Feb 22. Pictured with Ag Commissioner Andy Gipson (l to r) front row, are: Kenner Doster, Camden Patton, Katie Belle Boyer, Commissioner Gibson, Maddie Grace Walters, Collins Doster, and Adlyn Till; and back row: Olivia Sirmon, Bob Robinson, Justin Beemon, Chloe Walters, Isabella Atkinson, and McKinley Gooden.

Rivers family growing - adding locations and family members



Photos special to Pelahatchie News

Rivers Plant Farm has grown to 75 greenhouses, where they grow two million vegetable transplants, 10,000 rays of plants, and 30,000 hanging baskets annually.

By Susie A. Wolfe

Willie and Glynda Rivers built their first greenhouse in Rankin County 40 years ago. By 1986, they had a successful wholesale business, so they decided to build a rack to sell to the public. That became Rivers Greenhouse & Garden on Highway 18. The Rivers Market is now in its second year selling home-grown Rivers' plants and produce.

Two of their children and three of their grandchildren are in the business as it keeps growing. Bill Rivers owns the wholesale Rivers Plant Farm and Rivers Market in Byram, where Sara Hughes, his sister Starla's daughter, serves as manager. Faulkner's son, Justin Fortune, works with his uncle at Rivers Plant Farm, and his daughter, Ashley, works at both Rivers Plant Farm and Rivers Market Byram.

Bill's wife, Rhonda, has partnered

with his sister, Joy Rivers Faulkner, to run Rivers Greenhouse & Garden for the past six years since their parents semi-retired.

Rivers Plant Farm is one mile away from the retail location. It ships plants to stores all over Mississippi and Louisiana. In 75 greenhouses, they grow two million vegetable transplants, 10,000 rays of plants, and 30,000 hanging baskets annually.

Rivers Greenhouse & Garden has grown to ten greenhouses and an outdoor tree/shrub area for retail only. Faulkner said that excellent plant quality, a huge plant selection, customer service and homegrown plants are their top priority.

"I love my job," said Faulkner. "God has blessed me so much to allow me to do something that I love—being around beautiful flowers and outdoors helping great and loyal customers."

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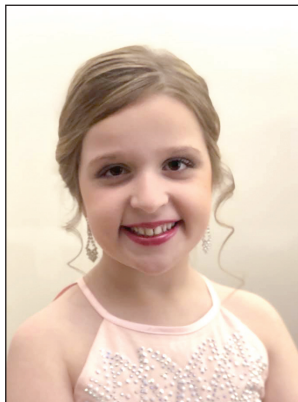
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Brittany's Beauties Benefit names pageant winners



The Ultimate Grand Supreme winner was Taylor Hudson.



The 8-9-year queen was Parker Peavy.



Photos special to Pelahatchie News
This was Emilee Poole's first pageant.

Special to Pelahatchie News

In the Brittany's Beauties Benefit, twenty Pelahatchie and Rankin County contestants raised \$2,500 for Brittany Walker, who grew up in Pelahatchie and has friends and family in town. She is suffering from Acute Myeloid Leukemia and just spent a month and a half in the hospital.

Walker said, "I am forever grateful for the outpouring of love and generosity from my community and those around it! God has truly blessed me with friends and family who are always willing to give and lend a helping hand. I'm so thankful for each parent whose child was there, to Marisa for taking the time to make it happen and all the little beauties who were there."

Winners included: 0-11-month queen, Sterling Grace Hallman; 12-23 -month queen, Harper Sullivan; 4-5-year queen, Dolly Bishop; 6-7-year queen, Makenzie Bishop; 8-9-year queen, Parker Peavy; 10-11-year queen, Marianna Alexis Miley; 12-14-year queen, Alexis Wheat; 15-17-year queen, Olivia Scott Howell; 0-5-Grand Supreme, Addison Grace Blanks; 6-11-Grand Supreme, Kaegan Swain; 12 and Up Grand Supreme, Sara Sparks; Ultimate Grand Supreme, Taylor Hudson; 0-5-Outfit of Choice Winner, Sterling Grace Hallman; 6-11-Outfit of Choice Winner, Marianna Alexis Miley; 12 and Up Outfit of Choice Winner, Alexis Wheat; and Overall Outfit of Choice Winner, Makenzie Bishop. Marisa Farr was the pageant director.

Two ERA students serve as pages



Photo special to Pelahatchie News

Ethan Crain and Candice Crain served as pages in the Mississippi House of Representatives in March for Representative John Read. Pictured (l to r) are: Representative Randy Rushing, Ethan Crain, Candice Crain, and Speaker of the House Philip Gunn.

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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
Ladies Bible Study • Couples Support Group
Prayer Meeting and Bible Study

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Yogi on the Lake hosts Easter Egg Hunt April 20

Special to Pelahatchie News

Yogi on the Lake is hosting their sixth annual Easter "Egg-stravaganza" on Saturday, April 20, beginning at 9 a.m. Cost is \$7 per person.

Activities include access to the waterpark and pool, fishing, miniature golf, gaga ball, live entertainment, tractor rides, space jump, pictures with the Easter Bunny, Yogi, Boo Boo and Cindy Bear, egg decorating, Easter crafts, games, petting zoo, bingo, and face painting. An Easter Egg Hunt will begin at 11:30 a.m.

There will also be a special showing of The Yogi Bear Movie at the park's outdoor movie theater with a special appearance by Yogi Bear and friends.

The Cartoon Café will be open with a full menu, including all-you-can-eat pancake breakfast for \$4.99. Additional activities available for a small charge include paddle boat rentals, ceramics, and tie dying. For more information, call the Yogi office at 601-854-6621.



Photos special to Pelahatchie News

PES Junior Beta Club places in Top Five at state convention



Special to Pelahatchie News

Pelahatchie Elementary School (PES) Junior Beta Club placed in the top five at the Junior Beta Convention in March. They are eligible to go to Nationals in June. The school thanks Mrs. Sharplin for getting students prepared for Songfest. The club includes: Eli Adams, Samantha Adams, Christian Beeman, Kyra Brant, Abigail Brown, Verrone Christian, Savannah Carlino, Dameon Flores, Arianna Gipson, Amelia Griffin, Cameron Harvey, Kaydence Hesseltine, Alexis Jordan, Natalie Hand, Jack Herrington, Conner Jolly, Heaven Lewis, Georgia Massey, Savannah Massey, Mary Taylor Nutt, CJ Pegram, Natalie Redditt, Kaylee Grace Renfro, Arionna Robey, Landyn Rogers, Jessie Stewart, Sam Till, and Rylee Watson.

Special to Pelahatchie News

Pelahatchie Elementary School (PES) Junior Beta Club placed in the top five at the Junior Beta Convention March 17 and 18 in Gulfport. The 28-student group competed with all schools from around the state that attended but placed in Songfest, where Music Teacher Sheila Sharplin creat-

ed a performance in which she created words, music and choreography.

Now the PES fourth through sixth grade Junior Beta students are eligible to go to National Convention on June 15 in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

In addition to Sharplin, other faculty sponsors are Renee' Buynar, Katie Craig, and Courtney Alexander.



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