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NEWS

Pelahatchie

MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL

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Parker named PES Teacher of the Year

Special to Pelahatchie News

Kindergarten teacher Mallory Parker was named the Pelahatchie Elementary School (PES) Teacher of the Year for 2020-2021. She has been at PES three years but is an eleven-year veteran.

"Mrs. Parker is soft spoken and nurturing. She establishes norms and routines that are evident, whether she is present or not. She not only is an asset in the classroom, she is an asset to the school as a whole. She is making a difference every day," said PES Principal Robin Sanders.

Parker said that she teaches because she loves children. "I feel it is my calling. I love to watch them grow and be successful."

"I am so appreciative to be picked as PES Teacher of the Year. The teachers

in our school are full of perseverance and work every day with a positive attitude. It is a great honor to be chosen out of this amazing group of people."

Parker is from Carthage, but now lives in Brandon. She has an undergraduate degree in elementary education from Mississippi State University and a Master's in elementary education from Mississippi College.

Parker said, "The Pandemic has required all of us to make changes, but I am so thankful to have my students in the classroom with me. In some ways, I feel like I am a brand-new teacher. However, I've trained and have filled my teacher toolbox with a variety of new teaching tools."

Parker and her husband, Joseph, have three sons, Chase, eleven; Tuff, nine; and Jax, eight.



Special to Pelahatchie News

Pelahatchie Elementary Teacher of the Year, Mallory Parker, is shown with her family. Pictured (l to r) front row, are: Chase, Tuff, and Jax Parker; and back row: Joseph and Mallory Parker.

Beechem named Top 50 Under 40 honoree

By Susie A. Wolfe

On November 10, the *Mississippi Business Journal* named Pelahatchie Mayor Ryshonda Beechem one of its 2020 Top 50 Under 40, awarded to professionals recognized for contributions to the state's economic progress, civic involvement, and commitment to serving her community.

"We are truly pleased to recognize and honor a great group of Mississippi's business and civic leaders under 40," said Tami Jones, publisher of the *Mississippi Business Journal*. "These deserving men and women have already proven themselves as high achievers and trend setters, and we have no doubt that many of these individuals will go on to even greater success in the years to come."

Since its inception in 1993, the *Mississippi Business Journal* has honored hundreds of Mississippi business leaders who are playing active day-to-day roles in moving the state's economy well into the 21st century.



Special to Pelahatchie News

Pelahatchie Mayor Ryshonda Beechem was named to Mississippi Business Journal's Top 50 Under 40 list for 2020. She is one of the individuals who have made significant contributions to Mississippi's overall economic progress.

ERA named Old Capitol Bowl Champions



Special to Pelahatchie News

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On November 18, the East Rankin Academy Government Quiz Bowl team competed in the Old Capitol Bowl hosted by the Mississippi Department of Archives and History. The team finished

first place after successfully competing against Jackson Prep in the finals of the tournament and was declared 2020 Old Capitol Bowl Champions. Representing East Rankin Academy in the competition pictured (l to r) are: Will Price, Colby Stewart, and Dylan Davis.

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