

Coping with back-to-school jitters

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Sanders bids farewell to Pelahatchie School



By: Shane Sanders,
Assistant Superintendent,
Rankin County
School District

I would like to take this opportunity to bid farewell to Pelahatchie Attendance Center (PAC), but also point out that while I may not be at the school, I will still be working hard for the Rankin County School District (RCSD) as an Assistant Superintendent.

When I was hired at Pelahatchie as the Agriculture teacher in 1993, I could have never imagined I would have been here 21 years. However, this place has a special charm that captures you.

It was also here at Pelahatchie where I was motivated, as an educator, to continue my own education and

to work towards receiving a Master of Education in School Administration from Mississippi College in 1996.

I consider myself very fortunate to have spent that time working with the students, teachers and parents to move our school forward. I still live in the community. My children will attend school here; and my wife, Robin Sanders, will continue to work here. This is our home.

I don't think I can put into words how much the students, teachers and staff at Pelahatchie mean to me. Pelahatchie is a very special place. The students, teachers, parents and the community as a whole really bought into what we were trying to do and supported our efforts. The relationships that have developed during my tenure here will last a lifetime.

As part of my new role, I will oversee building and grounds, transportation, new construction projects and

safety and security.

A major component of the position will be maintenance of the RCSD facilities and grounds, and closely working with the director in that department to ensure the building and facilities are maintained and are safe for our students.

My role with transportation will be similar, as I work closely with the RCSD director of transportation as well as the transportation supervisors in each of the eight school zones.

Another key objective in the new position is my involvement in new project construction. We have several major improvement projects going on in the district. I will be working alongside our project director as well as our architects to ensure these projects are completed to the school board's specifications.

There are many other responsibilities that come with this position, but

those are the three major ones.

As we head into the 2014-2015 school year, I know Pelahatchie High School is in good hands. I have the utmost confidence that Dr. Marshall and Mr. Bradford will continue to move Pelahatchie forward. Both of those gentlemen bring a lot to the table, and I believe they will do great things. They will work hard with our students, teachers and community to make PAC the best it can be.

I am thankful to Dr. Weathersby and the RCSD school board for this opportunity. I am excited about serving our students, faculty, employees and community from the district office in Brandon.

I know great things are in store for both Pelahatchie Elementary and Pelahatchie High School in the years moving forward. Best of luck to all our wonderful students and teachers.

Go Chiefs!

Mississippi Snake Grabbers coming soon to CMT Canada

By: Katie White

On Aug. 19, the *Mississippi Snake Grabbers* reality show will have completed 12 episodes which will air on CMT Canada. The premier show will air on Friday, Sept. 5, at 7:00 p.m.

Since 1990, the team developed slowly over the years as snake grabbing grabbed hold of this group of adventurous men.

The show is family-oriented. It is set up somewhat like *Duck Dynasty* - where there is a merchandising business the team all works at. The GrabUone store is located on Brook St. in downtown Pelahatchie.

"We are very close to having something here for Pelahatchie and the surrounding area. We've incorporated businesses, and it's a big thing that we can all look back on in the rocking chair and say 'we did it,'" said Jimmie Nichols. "Whether it flops or not, it has been worth it."

Fans can follow show casting calls at www.facebook.com/mississippisnakegrabberscasting, or follow GrabUone Outfitter's personal facebook page at www.facebook.com/pages/Grab-U-One-Outfitters-In.



GrabUone Outfitters, pictured (l to r) are, Joey Rigby, Deputy Scott SO; Jimmie D. Nichols, Jr., Captain, Mississippi Bureau of Narcotics; Shane Gibson, Pelahatchie Police Officer; Brad Vincent, Trooper, Miss. Highway Patrol; Brent Shorter, owner of Shorter Productions and part-time Deputy Scott SO; and Joey Mayes, Assistant District Attorney Rankin/Madison DA's office. (Photo special to The Pelahatchie News)

Drivers license station reopens in Forest



The City of Forest and Forest Area Chamber of Commerce held a ribbon cutting ceremony recently officially welcoming the return of the Mississippi Department of Public Safety Drivers License station to Forest. The station opened June 17 and will be open from 8:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. on the third Tuesday of each month at Kat's Kave (Forest Community Center) on Highway 80. Participating in the event, from left: Scott County District 2 Supervisor Tim Sorey, State Rep. Tom Miles, MHP Master Sgt. Malcolm Johnson, DPS license examiner Woody Herrington, Mayor Nancy Chambers, Erin Vowell, Lee Ann Livingston Palmer and Allyce Lott. Back: Nick Whittington, DPS license examiner Vicki Smith, Morton Alderman Buddy Booth, Sheila Van Fleet and Forest Public Works Director Randall George. (Photo by Chris Allen Baker)



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From the Mayor's Desk: growth and change



By Knox Ross, Jr., Mayor
of the Town of Pelahatchie

School time is now upon us. It's hard to believe that in a few days we will be seeing our children off to school. Pelahatchie High will be under the leadership of Bryan Marshall, who is replacing Shane Sanders. Shane will be serving the entire Rankin County School District from the county office. I would like to congratulate Shane on his promotion and thank him for a job well done. Bryan comes to us from Brandon. Bryan is a native of Gadsden, Alabama, and played baseball at Belhaven. He has hit the ground running and is excited to be here and get the school year started. Please take time to go by and visit with him and welcome him to our town.

Another change is the departure of Brian Edwards to private business. I would also like to thank Brian for his service. His replacement as agriculture shop teacher is Pelahatchie native Bob Robinson. Bob worked at his family dairy for many years before pursuing a second career as a teacher, most recently assisting Andy White in the agriculture shop at Brandon. Please welcome Bob when you see him.

East Rankin had a major coaching change in the off-season when Michael McNally left to accept the girls basketball coaching position at Jackson Prep. Michael was a very successful coach at East Rankin, winning state titles in both boys and girls basketball. He was a great role model for our students, and we wish him the best. He is being replaced by Rod Delaney. Rod most recently served as head basketball coach at Tri-County Academy in Flora, where he won a boys state basketball championship. Please welcome Rod to our town. We wish him the best.

Pelahatchie High hired Rod Taylor as its boys basketball coach for the year, replacing Avery Nobles, who will continue his duties as girls coach. Rod previously served as coach at Hartfield Academy and Pearl High School and played his college ball at Jackson State. Please welcome Rod to our town. We wish him great success.

The Rankin County School District has been busy over the past month demolishing four houses adjacent to campus. This is part of an ongoing program to expand the available space around campus for future growth. This keeps the school in the core of our town while also eliminating der-

elict housing. We so much appreciate the cooperation and investment of the District.

East Rankin has installed new lighted school crossing signage on Grimes Street to protect students crossing the road to the school's practice field. Please use caution when driving near campus and watch for our children.

In other news, Steve Garrett and Joe Hedgepeth have purchased the former Farm and Home Center location on Hwy. 43 and will open Country Boys Farm Construction and Supplies. Country Boys has been in the farm construction business for many years. They will add a selection of hardware and farm supplies for sale to the general public. We have missed this service since the closure of Farm and Home. Please watch for their grand opening and support this much needed new local business.

To allay a rumor, there is nothing at present being planned for the area near I-20 that is being cleared of trees. The out-of-state owners have put the property on the market and are clearing the timber in anticipation of selling it. We do, however have others looking quite closely at new business in our town, and I hope to be able to bring that to you soon.



Photo special to *The Pelahatchie News*

I would like to thank the staff of Cook Medical Supply, the Rankin County Rotary Club, Jim Baker and our own staff for their help in the construction of the Milltown Park playground. The playground is very near completion and will be a great addition to the park. We are also working on the final paperwork of an application to locate a large tornado safe-room at the park for our citizens use. This will be a great addition to our park and a refuge in times of severe weather.

We have had a busy summer in our town. I want to again remind everyone to give our local businesses a chance to earn your business. They are the lifeblood of our community and support all of our local events. Go by and

continued on page 14



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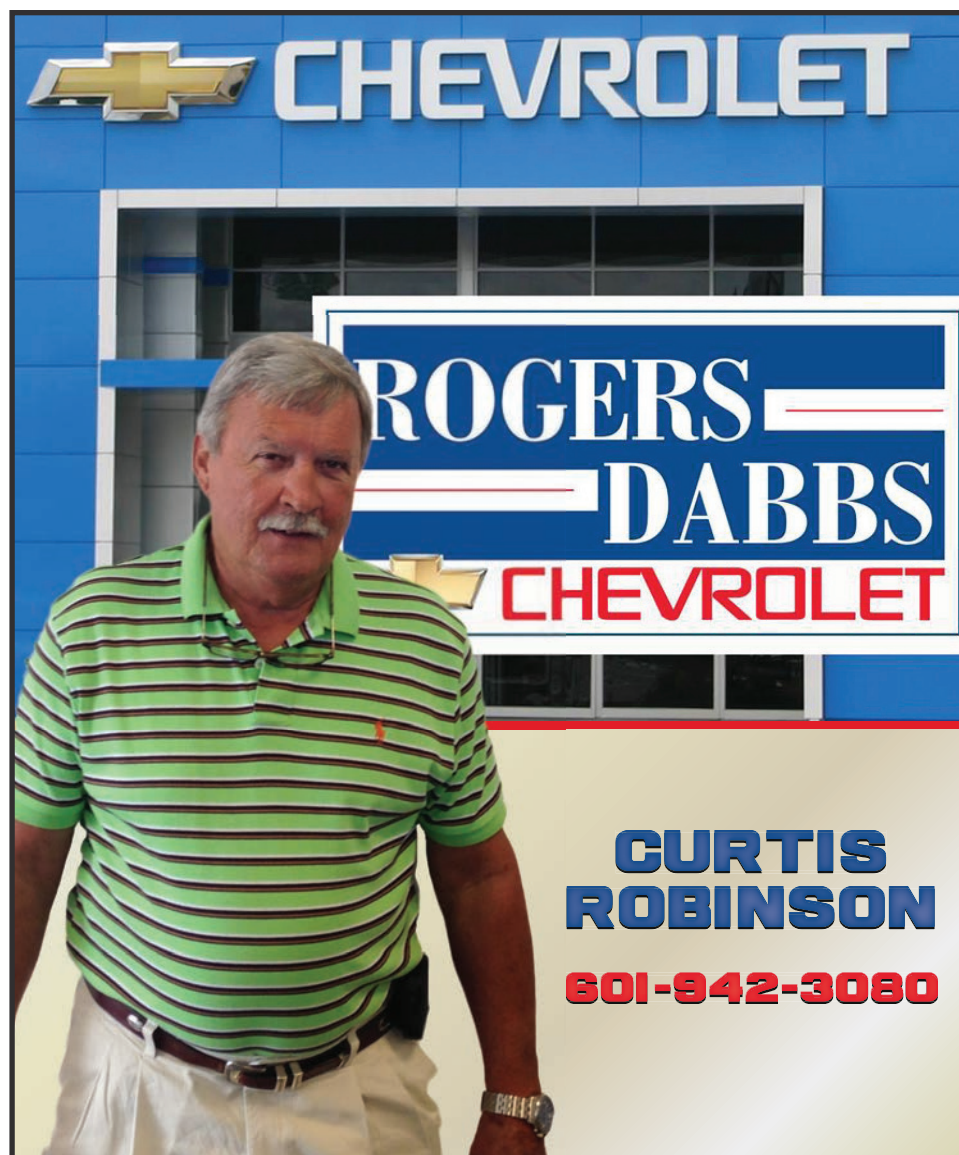
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Bishop hired as head coach for Lady Chiefs

Special to *The Pelahatchie News*

Pelahatchie Attendance Center will start the 2014-2015 school year with a few changes. Among those changes is the new appointment of head softball coach, Johnny Bishop.

Bishop graduated from Pelahatchie High School in 1984. In 1989, he graduated from Louisiana Tech University (LTU), with a degree in Business. While in college, he played football for the LTU Bulldogs.

In 2008, Bishop led the Puckett football team to a 1A State Championship. During this time, he had returned to college to earn a masters degree in K-12 public school administration from Mississippi College, which he completed in 2009. In 2013, he led the Pelahatchie High School power-lifting team to a 1A State Championship.

For the past four years, Bishop has taught math and was the assistant coach for the Lady Chiefs softball team. He is looking forward to a great year as the head coach of the Lady Chiefs.

The team has been busy selling \$1



Lady Chief's score board. (Photo special to The Pelahatchie News)

raffle tickets to raise money for the upcoming season. The raffle prize is a gas grill donated by Lampton Love of Pelahatchie. All of the money raised will go towards new slow-pitch and fast-pitch Lady Chiefs uniforms. To purchase a raffle ticket, find a Lady Chiefs team player.

Everyone is encouraged to come out and support the Lady Chiefs at their first game on Aug. 21, at 4:30 p.m., at the Pelahatchie High School softball field. The winner of the grill will be announced at this game, but the winning ticket-holder does not have to be present to win.

PAC seniors bring in \$2M+ in scholarships

Special to *The Pelahatchie News*

A total of \$1,910,970 in scholarships was earned by the 2014 graduating class at Pelahatchie Attendance Center:

Mississippi Scholars

Kortni Atkinson
Lacey Harpe
Drew Harrell
Leah Jackson
Jessie Jones
Brittney Keen
Willie Meadows
Marissa Sparks
Mitchell Tagert
Zac Varner

Distinguished Service Graduates

Kortni Atkinson
Caitlin Bihsop
Jordan Bishop
Jasmiah Collier
Christly Davis
Destiny Frith
Lacey Harpe
Drew Harrell
Leah Jackson
Brittney Keene
Mercedes Mason
Raven McNair
Khadejah Stokes
Abby Wiltcher

ACT Honors

Kortni Atkinson
Caitlin Bishop
Lacey Harpe

Drew Harrell
Jacob Henderson
Jessie Jones
Brittney Keene
Khadejah Stokes
Mitchell Tagert
Zac Varner
Carolyn Williams

Honor Graduates

Kortni Atkinson
Caitlin Bishop
Jordan Bishop
Kali Brenner
Nikki Burke
Brett Cochran
Jasmiah Collier
Tommy Cook
Kobi Gordin
Lacey Harpe
Drew Harrell
Jacob Henderson
Destine Holifield
Leah Jackson
Jessie Jones
Brittney Keene
James Lock
Mercedes Mason
Shane McFarland
Raven McNair
Willie Meadows
Cameron Moore
Rebekah Myers
Cody Odom
Marissa Sparks
Mitchell Tagert
Zac Varner
Carolyn Williams

AT THE LIBRARY IN PELAHATCHIE

Adult Book Club

Wednesday, Aug. 20, 11:30 p.m.

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Forever

Back-to-school Month

August - All students are encouraged to come by for a library card. Students under the age of 18 must have a parent come in with them to get a card.

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FFA reunion brings alumni and students together

By: Katie White

The young and the young at heart gathered for the Future Farmers of America (FFA) reunion on July 17. Grilled hamburgers with all the trimmings and other complimentary refreshments were served.

The mission of the FFA is to make a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for premier leadership, personal growth, and career success through agricultural education. Currently, Mississippi alone has approximately 4,400 FFA members, and 108 Chapters. The new membership year opens on Sept. 1.



Bob Robinson, agriculture director, held a reunion for FFA alumni and current FFA student members. (Photos by: Katie White)




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Pelahatchie Attendance Center Sports Calendar

www.rcsd.ms/Page/26571

2014 - Football

August 15	Jamboree	HS	TBA	TBA
August 22	Pisgah	HS	Away	7:00
August 29	Puckett	HS	Home	7:00
September 5	Bay Springs	HS	Home	
*September 12	West Lowndes	HS	Away	7:00
*September 19	Ethel	HS	Away	7:00
*September 26	Nanah Waiya	HS	Home	7:00
*District Games				
September 8	Puckett	JH	Home	TBA
September 15	Pisgah	JH	Away	TBA
September 22	Sebastapol	JH	Home	TBA
September 29	McLaurin	JH	Away	TBA



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ICBA and PriorityOne Bank provide tips for first-time home-buyers

Special to *The Pelahatchie News*

With the summer real estate season upon us, many Americans are considering purchasing a home over the next few months. The total mortgage originations market is estimated to be around \$1 trillion in 2014. With that in mind, the Independent Community Bankers of America® (ICBA) and PriorityOne Bank are on hand to help homebuyers navigate the mortgage process.

“Buying a home is likely the biggest purchase anyone will make, and community bankers are an excellent resource to help guide consumers through the process,” said John Buhrmaster, ICBA chairman and president and CEO of 1st National Bank of Scotia, N.Y. “With new mortgage rules and regulations in place, community bankers are available to help potential home-buyers by providing accurate and well-informed information. Community bankers across the country can help their neighbors in their local community find mortgages that fit their financial needs, budgets and lifestyles.”

ICBA and PriorityOne Bank offer the following eight suggestions for prospective first-time homebuyers:

- Know your monthly income and budget, including how much you spend on rent, utilities, entertainment, clothing, food and transportation.
- Discuss your finances with PriorityOne Bank before you begin looking for a home. It is important to stay within your means when purchasing a house.
- Gather and organize paperwork and documents. Items you should have readily available include paycheck stubs, W2 forms, tax returns and bank and investment statements for the past two years.
- Check your credit report so you are aware of what your current credit score is before applying for a loan. Credit reporting agencies must give you one free report annually.
- Maxing out credit cards or falling



Photo special to *The Pelahatchie News*

behind on other loan payments could create issues when applying for a mortgage. Keep tabs on your spending habits before applying for a mortgage, and don’t go on a spending spree afterwards either.

- Work with your community banker to figure out how much you can borrow and which mortgage product is right for you. Your local community banker can explain available mortgage options—including rate adjustments, fees and other loan features—so you are prepared for the loan closing and not surprised down the road.
- Learn what current mortgage rates are. Your community banker can help you understand how that translates into monthly mortgage payments.
- Check with your state, city and county government agencies for special first-time-homebuyer loan or grant programs available to assist with down payment and closing costs.

“PriorityOne Bank works with our customers and help give advice on finding mortgages borrowers can afford,” said Robert J. Barnes, President & CEO. “There are plenty of steps to complete to ensure the home buying process goes smoothly and we are on hand to help with this. Our community bankers can help customers determine the most affordable mortgage options and are available to provide additional financial guidance if needed.”

To learn more about community banks and services they offer, visit www.icba.org.

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Summer Lunch Bunch concludes in July



On Tuesday, July 22, Yogi Bear visited the kids, and crafts were available during Summer Lunch Bunch. On Tuesday, July 29, Mid South Baking handed out 75 lunches and free Happy Meal coupons. This was the last day to serve lunches this year for the Summer Lunch Bunch program, as students return to school on Aug. 7. (Photos special to The Pelahatchie News)

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Pelahatchie student wins a Kindle Fire



Pelahatchie Elementary student, Ella Tucker, was the May winner of a Kindle Fire. Her name was drawn from over 500 students in the state. The school will also receive a visit and performance from Terrance and the Rat Packers. Pictured (l to r) are, Sara Harper, Mississippi Tobacco-Free Coalition; Brad Martin, MS, CHES, Statewide Programs Project Officer-Office of Tobacco Control, Mississippi State Department of Health; Ella Tucker; Mallory Hudson, Reject All Tobacco (RAT) representative. (Photo special to The Pelahatchie News)

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Coping with back-to-school jitters



By: Dr. Cindy Melton

Helping your child cope with back-to-school jitters is a bumpy road. Many students experience some “August apprehensions” because they do not know what to expect, they dread the early morning routine, or they simply hate to say good-bye to summer. Like many things in life, taking the Mary Poppins “spoonful of sugar” approach to this new adventure can help soothe those back-to-school anxieties.

To help ease students back into a routine and schedule to help avoid the “jolt” of the early morning alarm clock, begin a week or two before the first day of school with earlier bed-times and morning wake-up routines. Have some activities for them after they are up, so they can get used to getting their bodies “in gear” again. When school begins, help avoid the morning rush by setting the alarm a few minutes early, and then have timers to go off at intervals before it is time to go, (15 minutes until “go-time”) giving them a “countdown to departure.” Having outfits and shoes selected the night before can greatly reduce morning meltdowns. Offer to have their favorite breakfast that morning to get them off to a good start. Music is food for the soul, so having some fun, upbeat music going in the background can help brighten everyone’s mood.

Remember, they will feed off your attitude and reactions that morning, so leave in plenty of time to deal with the traffic. Instead of getting jittery yourself while waiting in line, listen to the radio and even embarrass them a little by singing and dancing along. Hey, at least they will get a good laugh on the way to school!

Help students know what to expect. For younger children, it may be something as basic as wondering about



Photo special to The Pelahatchie News

snack or lunch, and how they will get back home. For older students, they may wonder about their schedules, their clothing choice, new friends, or the location of their locker. Ironically, young or old, all students are generally concerned with bathroom accessibility and opportunities for socializing with classmates. Listen to and then talk with your children about their concerns. While some of the reasons for their jitters may seem silly to adults, their concerns and anxieties are real. These experiences are new to them, and they will simply need some reassurance and some simple answers to their questions, no matter how trite their questions may seem. Talking to them about general rules for the

classroom, basic routines for the day, and for younger ones, even “playing school” can help calm their anxieties.

While it can seem to be a chore buying back to school supplies, many children enjoy it. If the thought of selecting all the supplies at once is too overwhelming, it can be fun for them to take a trip to the store just for their back to school snacks. They can select their favorite items and save it just for school. Even with a specific list of supply items, children can still have fun selecting their own items and expressing their personalities as they select their backpacks, pick out their favorite color art box, or personalize their notebooks. Many of the middle and older students will have fun pre-

paring to “accessorize” their lockers, getting a new haircut or having some new clothes to wear as the school year begins. If your child is not interested in the back-to-school shopping trip(s), invite one of their friends to come along.

Remind students of the fun aspects of their new school/grade, whether it is the class change, playground, new subjects, cafeteria experience, after-school activities or simply getting to see some of their friends. For younger children, check out some books that address the first day of school anxieties, like *The Night Before First Grade* by Natasha Wing, *Chrysanthemum* by Kevin Henkes, *This School Year Will Be the Best* by Kay Winters, and *First Day Jitters* by Julie Danneberg.

It is also important for our children to know that being a little anxious is a very normal response to the new school year, and they are not alone. Whether it’s the new morning routine or the hustle and bustle of traffic, parents also experience some beginning of school jitters. Teachers are nervous before the first day of school, too. In fact, most teachers do not sleep well before the first day of class, and they also wonder about bathroom accessibility and clothing choices. Remind your child that they are in great hands with our Clinton schools and teachers, who are among the best in the country.

Finally, send your children to school with a purpose. Have them look for ways throughout the day to help bring a smile to their teacher, friend or classmate. Keeping their attitude positive and focusing on helping others will melt away the jitters and help your child enjoy a new school year.

EDITOR’S NOTE: Dr. Melton chairs the Department of Teacher Education and Leadership at Mississippi College.



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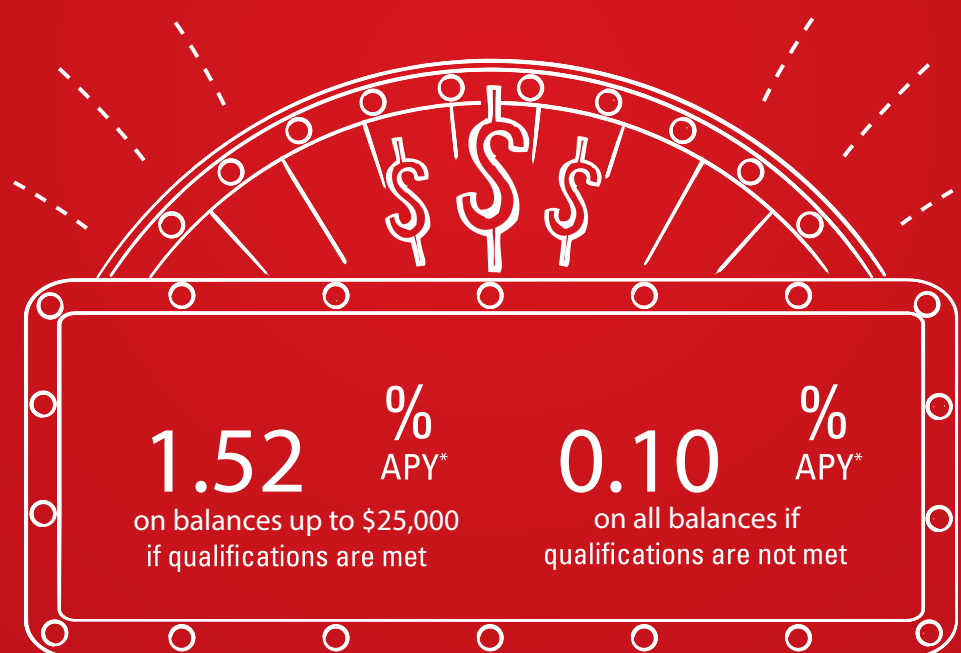
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Don't get caught by a school grant scam

Special to *The Pelahatchie News*

The Better Business Bureau (BBB) serving Mississippi has had an increase in calls concerning government school grants. BBB is alerting residents to beware of unsolicited telephone grant scams.

"With the cost of education getting higher each year, there is more need for help," says John O'Hara, CEO of BBB serving Mississippi.

Residents say the calls appear to be coming from the (202) area code, which is in the Washington D.C. area, and claim the consumer has "won" or was "selected to receive" a grant for tuition, housing, or to purchase an automobile.

The callers state they are government workers and offer up to \$9,000 in grant money that does not need to

be paid back. The catch is they are asking for recipients to get a Green Dot MoneyPak card and load it with money ranging from \$400 to \$500 to pay for the processing and handling fees. Scammers are also asking for credit card numbers and other banking information.

The most important fact to remember in determining whether a call or email concerning a grant is a scam is that no one can be awarded a grant if they did not apply. Grants to individuals also need prior approval by the Internal Revenue Service.

BBB offers the following tips to avoid being taken by a grant scam:

1. Government grants have to be applied for in order to receive. So if you didn't apply for the grant, you shouldn't get one.
2. The government doesn't call you

for such matters.

3. If you get one of these calls, just hang up. You may be tempted to call back, but this will only give the scammer another opportunity to steal your information.
4. Don't give out your personal information to someone you don't know. Never give out your bank account numbers, date of birth, credit card number or Social Security number to an unsolicited caller or anyone you don't know.
5. According to grants.gov, the FTC points out you shouldn't have to pay fees for a "free" government grant.

To apply for a grant, visit grants.gov. This website provides all of the federal grant opportunities including: different types of grants, rules for ap-

plying and how to track submissions. To report those who pretend to hand out grants on the government's behalf to 1-800-447-8477.



Photo special to The Pelahatchie News

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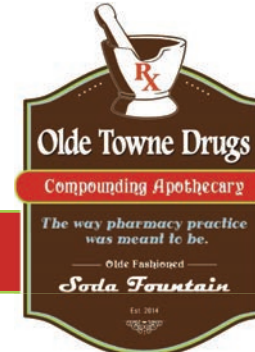
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Pelahatchie High School prepares the football field for the 2014 season



Coach Bishop refreshes the neon paint on the field goals at the Pelahatchie Attendance Center football field. (Photo special to The Pelahatchie News)

Pelahatchie and Gulde United Methodist Church welcome new Pastor and family

By: Katie White

Pelahatchie and Gulde United Methodist Church welcomed their new pastor, Michael Evans, and his family to their church family this summer.

Pastor Evans was born in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. At the age of eight, his mother remarried, and his family moved to Philadelphia, Miss. He attended Neshoba Central High School, but dropped out in the eleventh grade due to family issues.

Later on, Pastor Evans went back to school at East Central Community College and earned a degree in automobile collision repair. He worked in that profession for eight years. At the age of 26, something changed - he received Christ into his life. Then, at the age of 29, he felt the Holy Spirit call-

ing him to the ministry.

Pastor Evans was asked to minister in 1999, but was unable to accept the position. In 2001, he accepted his first appointment in Ozark, Miss. He has also served in Hattiesburg, Meridian and Greenwood, Miss.



Pelahatchie and Gulde United Methodist Church welcome new pastor, Michael Evans and his family. Pictured (l to r) are, Pastor Michael, Joseph, Tiffany, Shelley and Sarah. Not pictured is Emily Evans. (Photo special to The Pelahatchie News)

At the age of 30, he went back to school at Blue Mountain College and earned his Biblical degree. Moving forward still, he received his Masters of Divinity from Memphis Theological Seminary, in Carrollton, Miss.

Pastor Evans is married to

Shelley Evans. They have been married for 23 years. Shelley is a stay-at-home Mom, plus, she home-schools their children. Together they have four children; Joseph, Tiffany, Emily and Sarah. They also have one grandchild, and are expecting another grandchild this year.

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East Rankin Academy Sports Calendar

www.eastrankinacademy.org

2014 - Football

August 22	Central Hinds	HS	Away	7:00
August 29	Starkville	HS	Home	7:00
September 5	Lamar	HS	Home	7:00
September 12	Tri-County	HS	Away	7:00
September 19	Open	HS	Open	7:00
September 26	Brookhaven	HS	Home	7:00

August 28	Copiah	B JV	Home	5:30 6:45
September 4	Parklane	B JV	Away	5:30 6:45
September 11	Columbia	B JV	Away	5:30 6:45
September 18	Oak Forest	B JV	Home	5:30 6:45
September 25	Jackson Prep	B JV	Away	5:30 6:45

East Rankin Academy 2014-2015

August 4-8	Orientation and Preparation Days (<i>All Staff and Faculty</i>)
August 8 (Morning)	High School Orientation (<i>1st day of school for grades 9-12</i>) • 9th Grade Students and Parents (8:00-9:30am) • 10th-12th Students Only (10:30-12:00)
August 10 (Sunday Afternoon)	K4-3rd Grade Parent-Teacher Orientation • K4, K5, and 1st Grade Parents (2:00pm) • 2nd-3rd Grade Parents (3:30pm)
August 11	FIRST DAY for K4 and K5 (7:45-11:00am)
August 11 (Evening)	4th-8th Grade Parent-Teacher Orientation • 4th-6th Grade Parents (6:30pm) • 7th-8th Grade Parents (7:30pm)
August 12	REGULAR SCHOOL DAY for K4-12th Grade

Local entrepreneur represents town at National Mary Kay Inc. Seminar

Special to *The Pelahatchie News*

Katrina Phillips of Pelahatchie joined more than 30,000 Mary Kay Independent Beauty Consultants at the company's annual Seminar from July 16 to July 19 at the Kay Bailey Hutchison Convention Center in Dallas.

Mary Kay Inc.'s annual Seminar brings together Independent Beauty Consultants from across the country and around the world to celebrate their business achievements and provide education, recognition and motivation for the year ahead.

Phillips began her Mary Kay business in 2013 and is currently an Independent Team Leader. At Seminar, Phillips was recognized for Princess Court of Sales and was elected Miss Go-Give for her unit, The Designing Women.

"It felt great to be at Mary Kay Seminar celebrating my team's achievements, learning more about Mary Kay and being recognized for my hard work," said Phillips. "I was humbled to receive the Miss Go-Give Award. Giving to others is such a blessing, and it is an honor to be a part of this great unit of women."

As a part of Mary Kay's long-



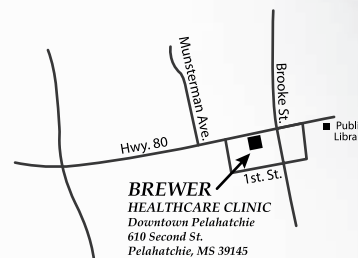
Katrina Phillips of Pelahatchie, independent beauty consultant at Mary Kay. (Photo special to The Pelahatchie News)

standing commitment to prevent and end domestic violence, Mary Kay Independent Beauty Consultants were encouraged to bring gently-used professional attire to donate to domestic violence shelters as part of The Mary Kay Foundation's annual "Suits for Shelters" program. To date, the program has collected more than 12,000 pieces of professional attire for domestic violence survivors seeking jobs.

The theme for this year's Seminar, "Discover What You Love™," invites Mary Kay's independent sales force to discover what helps them feel beautiful, confident and connected, while enjoying the freedom and flexibility in their Mary Kay businesses.

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Candy's is selling East Rankin consignment clothes and taking new accounts.

Mississippi's early migratory game bird seasons announced

Special to *The Pelahatchie News*

The Commission on Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks has approved dates for the 2014-2015 early hunting seasons for migratory game birds. Early migratory game bird hunting seasons set at the July meeting include resident Canada geese, early teal, snipe, woodcock, dove, and rails. This year, early seasons will be similar to recent years with a few minor changes.

The most significant change is the addition of 20 days to the dove season. This year, Mississippi hunters will enjoy a 90-day, 15-bird daily bag limit for mourning and white-winged doves. The possession limit is 45 birds. Mississippi is divided into two zones to maximize hunting opportunities throughout the state. The North Dove Zone is defined as areas north of U.S. Hwy. 84 plus areas south of U.S. Hwy. 84 and west of MS Hwy. 35. Season dates for the North Zone are as follows: September 1 - September 21; October 4 - November 9; and December 15 - January 15, 2015. The South Dove Zone is defined as areas south of U.S. Hwy. 84 and east of MS Hwy. 35. Season dates for the South Zones are as follows: September 13 - September 21; October 4 - November 9; and December 3 - January 15, 2015.

The early teal season is September 13 - 28. The bag limit for September teal is six per day with no more than 18 in possession. The hunting season for



Photo special to *The Pelahatchie News*

resident Canada geese is September 1 - 15, 2014. The daily bag limit is five Canada geese, with a possession limit of 15. The hunting season for rails and gallinules is September 13 - November 21.

The daily bag limit for clapper rails and king rails is 15 singly or in aggregate, and possession limit is 45 singly or in aggregate. Daily bag limits for Virginia rails and sora rails is 25 singly or in aggregate, and possession limit is 75 singly or in aggregate. The daily bag limit for common and purple gallinules is 15 singly or in aggregate, and possession limit is 45 singly or in aggregate. The hunting season for snipe is November 14, 2014 - February 28, 2015. The daily bag limit is eight snipe, with a possession limit of 24 birds. Woodcock season is December 18, 2014 - January 31, 2015. The daily bag limit is three woodcock, with a possession limit of nine birds.

For more information regarding waterfowl in Mississippi, visit www.mdwfp.com/waterfowl or call (601) 432-2199.

Local musician records *I Believe* CD

Special to *The Pelahatchie News*

Judy Rhodes Davis, who was born and raised in Pelahatchie, recently recorded a Christian music CD titled *I Believe: Now Help My Unbelief*; inspired by Mark 9:23-25.

"If the walls of my daddy's old, hand-crafted barn in Pelahatchie, Mississippi, could talk, they would probably sing instead," says Davis. "The loft of that barn is where I stood most of my childhood singing at the top of my lungs and pretending that each blade of grass below was a member of my audience!"

Davis's love for music would eventually lead her to earn a degree in piano and vocal performance from Belhaven University, and a master of music degree from the University of Mississippi.

Davis feels the music on her newly recorded CD came directly from the Holy Spirit and that she cannot take credit for it.

"This music has just come to me over the last decade as I was driving or walking or doing chores. Literally, I feel like a vessel through which God

has poured a portion of His living water," continued Davis.

"If the healing for which you've been pleading hasn't come or if you have a child in heaven, these songs are for you. When my dear friend, whose son went to be with the Lord at just two

years old, heard this music, she felt the Lord would use it to heal. I pray that will be true. The songs are from the Lord and based on His word. Several are prayers, and others are pure praise."

Davis is married to John Davis, and together they have three children, John Kyle, Ken Harpe and Leah.

Davis is also holding a CD release concert at Crossgates Baptist Church

in Brandon, Miss., August 24, at 6:00 p.m. The concert is free, and all are welcome; especially families caring for chronically ill or special needs children. "I'll be singing songs from the new CD and sharing testimony of our journey to faith, hope and miracles. It will be a time of encouragement and spiritual refreshing," said Davis.

Sound bites of Davis's music, lyrics and the purchase of the CD is available online at www.judyrhodesdavis.com.



Judy Rhodes Davis. (Photo special to *The Pelahatchie News*)

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Sunday Schedule

8:30 - Contemporary Worship Service
10:00 - Bible Study for all ages
11:00 - Blended Worship Service
5:00 - Cross Clubs for Children & Students
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

Highway 43, 5 miles south of I-20, Exit 68

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Heat illness is major health threat



By: Jim Pollard

Soaring temperatures and high humidity remind us: hot weather can kill.

“Even the healthiest among us can suffer heat exhaustion or heat stroke,” said Stan Alford, operations manager for American Medical Response (AMR) ambulance service. “Elders, children up to four years of age, chronically ill individuals, obese people and substance abusers are more vulnerable.”

“There are specific ways to prevent heat illness,” said Alford. “When prevention fails, we all need to know how to help the victim quickly.”

Heat illness can occur inside as well as outside, especially in buildings with no air conditioning or ventilation.

A major key to avoiding heat illness is to drink lots of non-alcoholic, non-caffeinated fluids continuously. Water and commercial “sports drinks” are best. Drink no alcohol and avoid drinking large quantities of caffeine, since alcohol and, to a lesser extent,

caffeine make the body lose fluid, not store it. If you have no salt restrictions in your diet, mix one teaspoon of salt in each quart of water you drink.

Avoid strenuous activity if possible, and start taking in the fluids well before you begin any strenuous effort. Keep taking in the fluids throughout the day and evening. Don’t wait until you’re thirsty to drink.

Work outside only in the cooler morning and evening hours, if possible. Take frequent breaks, and stay in the shade as much as you can. Wear loose-fitting, light-colored clothing made of fabric that “breathes” and a broad-brimmed, loose-weave hat that you take off from time to time. If you’re out walking, use an umbrella or parasol.

If your home has no air conditioning, spend the hottest hours of the day in a library, shopping mall, senior center or other public facility that is air conditioned. In a heat wave, friends and family of elderly or disabled people should check on them frequently.

The signs of heat exhaustion include heavy sweating with cool, clammy, sometimes pale skin; headache, dizziness or light-headedness; nausea;

vomiting; irritability; weak pulse and rapid but shallow breathing, with body temperature usually staying normal or only slightly elevated.

First aid for heat exhaustion is to move the person to a nearby cooler place, then have the person lie down and elevate their feet eight to twelve inches. Loosen their clothing, and fan the victim without chilling him or her. If the person is fully alert, give sips of water. Gently massage cramps, and call 911 for paramedics. Full recovery usually takes several hours.

Heat stroke, a potentially fatal form of heat illness, is sometimes mistakenly called “sun stroke,” which is misleading, since heat stroke can also occur indoors.

Heat stroke is known by hot, dry, sometimes red or mottled skin; deep breathing followed by shallow breathing; and large, dilated pupils. However, not everyone suffering heat stroke has dry skin; athletes and other fit people may be sweating profusely. The key to identifying heat stroke is high body temperature. The victim may lose consciousness.

Because heat stroke can be fatal or cause permanent brain damage, dial

911 for your local ambulance service immediately. Be certain someone has called for the ambulance.

First aid for heat stroke is to remove the victim from the source of the heat and cool him or her immediately. The body loses heat twenty-five times faster in water than in air; so, if possible, give a cool – but not cold – bath, or put cool wet cloths on the body and continuing fanning. If an electric fan is available, blow it across the victim, or create a manual fan with a stiff piece of paper. Keep the cloths cool and wet, but do not cover the face with the cloths. If cold packs or ice bags are available, place one on each side of the neck, under each armpit, one at each wrist and ankle, and one on the groin area. Be careful using a water hose to cool the victim. Explain what you’re going to do, and don’t spray the face directly. With any form of cooling, don’t cool the victim to the point of shivering.

Never give anything by mouth to someone who is not fully alert or is not breathing on his or her own.

Editor’s Note: Jim Pollard, a paramedic since 1990, is the media relations lead in central Mississippi for American Medical Response (AMR).



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Next door to the Pelahatchie Police Department

continued from page 2

From the Mayor's Desk: growth and change

visit them when you can.

A final reminder of upcoming events: Movie in the Park features Yogi Bear, sponsored by PriorityOne Bank, at Muscadine Park on Monday, Aug. 4, at 7:00 p.m.; National Night Out, presented by the Pelahatchie Police Department, with live band, food, and children's activities on Tuesday, Aug. 5, at 7:00 p.m.; Muscadine Prayer Breakfast on Saturday, Aug. 16, begin-

ning at 8:00 a.m., at Pelahatchie Baptist Church; finally, the Muscadine Jubilee, on Saturday, Sept. 13, featuring Sawyer Brown, along with great food, fun and live entertainment.

Please join us at any or all of these great events. We wish all of you a successful school year and a great rest of summer. Many thanks for making Pelahatchie a great place to live and work.

Tdap vaccine required for incoming seventh-graders

Special to *The Pelahatchie News*

All students entering the seventh grade for the upcoming 2014-2015 school year are required to have the Tdap vaccination.

The requirement is one of many vaccines mandated for school children by the Mississippi State Department of Health. The Tdap vaccine covers tetanus, diphtheria and pertussis.

At registration, parents need to provide a Health Department Form 121 to verify that their child has received this vaccine.

Any family doctor or health care provider can arrange a Tdap vaccination and should provide form 121 at the time of the vaccination. The Rankin County Health Department is locat-

ed at 401 Parkway Dr., Pearl, Miss. County health departments throughout the state provide the Tdap vaccination for \$10 per child. The vaccine is covered for children with Medicaid.

According to the Health Department, pertussis — also known as whooping cough — has increased in frequency across the country in recent years as protection from the childhood pertussis vaccine has weakened over time among adolescents.

For a listing of required vaccinations for school entry and recommended vaccinations for all ages, visit the Health Department website at www.healthhms.com or call 1-866-459-4948. To contact the Rankin County Health Department directly, call 601-420-4959.

Everyday study skills make a difference

By: Amy Till



Many children experience frustration and failure in school. It's not because they lack ability, but because they do not have adequate study skills. Good study habits are important for success in school now, and especially in their future as productive adults. Listed below are a few ideas to assist parents in helping their child(ren) develop the right study skills:

The Importance of Setting Goals:

For students to be successful in class and in the future, they must learn the process of establishing a goal and creating and following through on a plan to accomplish that goal. Reaching goals demands a set of skills and habits that parents can use to help their child learn.

Setting Priorities: Learning how to prioritize everyday tasks is a challenge, even for many adults. To help a child learn this skill, begin with a discussion about their activities. Ask: How do you set priorities? Ask your child to look at a list of things to do and rank them in order of importance. Let them know that they have the right to choose their own priorities, but some may lead to better consequences than others.

Goal Organizer: As a child learns

about goal-setting, take the opportunity to talk about the daily priorities of school, and help them set reachable goals for themselves. A simple way to explain the difference between priorities and goals is that priorities are "must dos," whereas goals are "plan to dos".

The Importance of Creating the Right Study Environment:

In a busy household, finding a quiet place to read and do homework can be a real challenge. A well-lit, organized workspace can make all the difference.

The Importance of Time Management:

Learning to manage time well is a key skill for success at home and in the workplace. By incorporating specific calendar and daily-planner routines into a child's home, parents are helping their child build important life skills that will serve them well in the years ahead.

Teaching students how to set goals, prioritize and stay organized, will benefit them for years to come.

Editor's Note: Amy Till, Venture and STEM Teacher at Pelahatchie Schools.



Photo special to The Pelahatchie News

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NEWS Pelahatchie

Art Contest

All winning art will be displayed at *The Pelahatchie News* Muscadine Festival booth on Saturday, September 13, 2014, and published in the October newspaper.

Categories

***Kindergarten - 3rd Grade, Coloring Muscadine Art Contest**

(A coloring sheet will be provided by *The Pelahatchie News*.)

****4th - 6th Grade, Create-Your-Own Muscadine-theme Art**

(Any art medium on art paper or canvas [not copy paper] and no larger than 8x10.)

Winners

1st and 2nd place winners in both categories for all grades

Prizes

1st place winners (7 total) - \$25 Sal & Mookies gift card and public recognition

2nd place winners (7 total) - \$10 Duke's Steakhouse gift cards and public recognition

Guidelines

The deadline for ALL art submissions is September 8, 2014, 5:00 p.m.

Art submitted outside of the muscadine theme and guidelines will not be entered into the contest.

**4th-6th grade art must be original and not reproduced or copied from any other artist.*

**Submitted art work gives The Pelahatchie News automatic consent to publish child's name, grade, and art.*

(Participation is solely for the town of Pelahatchie, but the contest may expand in years to come.)

All art must include name, grade, and address - written on the back of the art. Do not include school name.

Please do not write the information with a marker as it could bleed through to the front.

Please submit art to *The Pelahatchie News*, P.O. Box 771, Pelahatchie, MS 39145.

(If mailing, please do not fold the art. Place the art in a 9x12 envelope to mail.)

or

Drop off at the Pelahatchie Public Library, 718 Second St., Pelahatchie, MS 39145.

Pelahatchie Elementary and East Rankin Academy may call 601-566-1932, ext. 5, and the art will be collected.

For more information, please call Katie White at 601-566-1932, ext. 5.

Agricultural exemption from utility sales tax

Special to *The Pelahatchie News*

With Scott County and Eastern Rankin County being one of the largest agricultural areas in the state, the new agricultural exemption from utility sales tax will be a great benefit for family farmers and the change in tax law, which may lower their utility bills. The change, which went into effect July 1, exempts certain agricultural businesses from being charged state sales tax on their energy bills, particularly bills for electric and natural gas service.

The new exemption applies where energy is purchased from a utility to be used directly in the production of poultry or poultry products, livestock and livestock products, domesticated fish and fish products, marine aquaculture products, plants or food by commercial horticulturists, the processing of milk and milk products, the processing of poultry and livestock feed or the irrigation of farm crops.

The legislation which created the exemptions, House Bill 844, was passed in 2013.

"This was passed to help our family farmers who play one of the most vital roles in our local economy and Mississippi's agricultural industry. I was honored to work to get this passed



(Photo special to The Pelahatchie News)

with other rural legislators because of the impact that it could have first hand for our constituents. This piece of legislation is probably the most farmer-friendly legislation we have passed in years and is a great way to show our family farmers that we value their commitment to our local economy," said Tom Miles, Eastern Rankin County and Scott County Representative.

Miles encourages all farmers who believe they may qualify for the exemption to contact their utility provider to ensure that they receive the proper tax treatment.

East Rankin Academy football team gears up for 2014 season



East Rankin Academy High School football team practices for the upcoming football season. Their first game is on Aug. 22, at 7:00 p.m., at Central Hinds in Raymond, Miss. (Photo special to The Pelahatchie News)

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