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NEWS Pelahatchie Good News You Can Use

March
2020

Volume 9
Issue 3
Pelahatchie, MS

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

Ward to be inducted into the MAC Hall of Fame

Special to Pelahatchie News

The Mississippi Association of Coaches (MAC) announced in January the new class of inductees for 2020 for the MAC Hall of Fame, including long-time Pelahatchie Coach Bill Ward, a 38-year veteran championship football coach at Mantachie, Kosciusko, and Pelahatchie.

Ward coached at Mantachie from 1979 to 1981, where he also coached the girls basketball team. He led teams at Kosciusko from 1981 to 1984 and led Pelahatchie from 1984 to 2017.

He led his football teams to a record of 201-131, including eight district crowns, a 1998 South State title, and the 2001 State Championship at Pelahatchie. He coached teams that had two undefeated regular seasons and made 20 playoff appearances. He coached in the Bernard Blackwell and Mississippi/Alabama All-Star Classics; served as MAC

President in 2014-15; named Metro Coach of the Year in 2001 by the Jackson *Clarion Ledger* and received the MAC Roy Garcia Outstanding Coach Award in 2010.

The MAC Hall of Fame Class of 2020 also includes: Danny Carlisle, Starkville championship baseball coach; Mike Gavin, Coast championship football coach; Don Hinton,



Coach Bill Ward, a Pelahatchie legend, will be inducted into the Mississippi Association of Coaches Hall of Fame in June. Ward has 201 career wins, two coach of the year awards, and led Pelahatchie to a state football championship in 2001.

longtime coaching veteran and athletic administrator who is currently serving as Executive Director of the Mississippi High School Activities Association; and Anthony Jenkins, 31-year MAC member who was football, track, and powerlifting coach at Hernando High.

The MAC Hall of Fame Class of 2020 will be inducted at the 48th Annual Mississippi Association of Coaches Hall of Fame and Awards Banquet sponsored by BankPlus, which will be held on Friday, June 19, 2020, at 5:30 p.m. at the Hilton Hotel in Jackson. In addition to the Hall of Fame induction ceremonies, the MAC will also present their annual coaching and service awards. Tickets for the event will go on sale in April 2020.

For more information including ticket sales for the banquet, contact the MAC offices at 601-924-3020 or www.mscoaches.com.

Lady Chiefs are District Champs



Special to Pelahatchie News

The Lady Chiefs beat the St. Joe Lady Bruins for the District 4 2A Championship at Pisgah High School on February 14. Special award winners were District Coach of the Year, Alexia Jones; District MVP, Jacey Cooper; Sportsmanship Award, Collins Doster; and All-District Team, Alana Hobson, Doneshia Johnson, Christianna Beeman, and Reagan Sanders. They hosted the first round of the State Playoffs February 17, but lost in Round Two to Walnut on February 21.

McCormick and Rhodes win Federation Young Farmers and Ranchers Achievement Award



Special to Pelahatchie News

President of Mississippi Farm Bureau Federation Mike McCormick, far right, is shown with Brian and Ashley Rhodes of Pelahatchie, who were awarded the 2020 Mississippi Farm Bureau Federation Young Farmers and Ranchers Achievement Award in February. The couple will represent the state in the American Farm Bureau Federation contest.

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Old Home Place in Puckett opens in March

By Susie A. Wolfe

The Old Home Place is being reinvented by Joe Hedgepeth into Puckett Produce and Wolves Den Vittles. Puckett Produce is opening its doors on Tuesday, March 3, on Highway 18 as you enter Puckett from Branon and Pelahatchie.

Hayes Patrick and Jan Lewis are both great grandchildren of Albert H. Patrick and Laura Crain Patrick, who built the house in 1902. Patrick restored the old house himself in 2010-2011 and operated a produce stand and restaurant there before he took a job with The Ag Museum in Jackson. Lewis helped Patrick operate the place then and will manage the new operation getting on its feet in March.

Hedgepeth, who lives about three miles from The Old Home Place, also operates Country Boys Hardware on Highway 43 in Pelahatchie. He said, "I was a good customer of the former operation and wanted to give it a go for the people of Puckett. I don't have any doubt that the local folks can make it good again."

Lewis said they will be serving break-



Special to Pelahatchie News

The Albert Patrick family built The Old Home Place in 1902. Hayes Patrick restored the old house himself in 2010-2011. Old family photos are hanging in the next generation of the old house that will become Puckett Produce and Wolves Den Vittles, managed by great grand daughter Jan Lewis. Pictured (l to r) front row, are: Hiram, Papa "Charles," Mama "Cynthia," Vick, and Carl; and back row: Albert, Dora "Hayes," Winburn, Leona "McMullin," and Bessie "May."

fast and lunch Tuesday-Saturday and serve catfish and steak Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights. They will also have lunch specials, which they will post on the Old Home Place web page daily. She said they will also employ two or three part-timers.

The last people lived in the house in 1968 before it became a barn. The kitchen in the restaurant is located in the original spot where it was in the house. The front porch posts are from one cedar tree

that was located on the 144-acre property.

For more history on The Old Home Place, stop by and talk with Lewis. She has many old family photos and stories. Call Jan Lewis at 601-927-7900 with questions or check out The Old Home Place website.



Photo by Pelahatchie News

Puckett Produce and Wolves Den Vittles is opening at The Old Home Place on Highway 18 in Puckett in March. Pictured are Manager Jan Lewis and Owner Joe Hedgepeth.



P.O. Box 771
Pelahatchie, MS 39145
Volume 9 Issue 3
Circulation - 3,600

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

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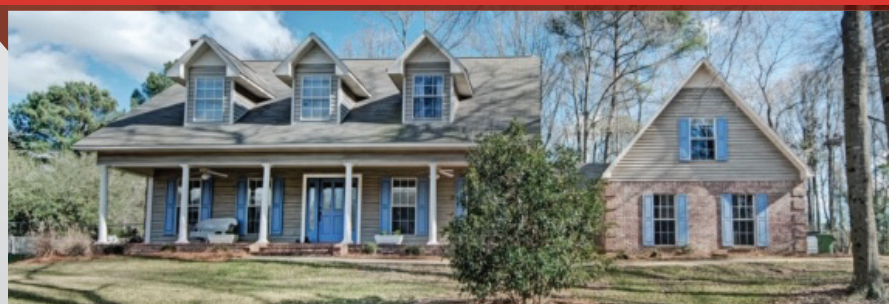
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ERA announces ACT 30+ Club



Special to Pelahatchie News

East Rankin Academy (ERA) named the following tenth-twelfth grade students for being recognized for having ACT scores of 30 or above for first semester of the 2019-2020 school year. Two of the students have a 36 on the ACT, and 20% percent of the senior class has a 30 or above on their ACT. Pictured (l to r) front row, are: Brandyn Luke, Kariana Simmons, Heidi Gray, Dana Watkins, Trent Wuestefeld, Cole Jones, and Jonathan Lamberth; and back row: Elijah Vining, Brennan Rials, Elijah Moore, Trey Rhodes, Ethan Crain, Tyler Betts, and Barron Burnham.

AT THE LIBRARY IN PELAHATCHIE

MARCH LIBRARY ACTIVITIES

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Thursday, March 12, 6:00 p.m.

Medicare Education Workshop

Wednesday, March 18
11:00 a.m., 1:00 p.m., and 3:00 p.m.

Adult Book Club

Wednesday, March 18, 9:30 a.m.

Crafting Corner: DIY Painted Coffee Mugs

Thursday, March 26, 2:00 p.m.

Tween Book Club

Tuesday, March 10, 4:45
Discussing *Lodestar* by Shannon Messenger

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

Brunt signs to play soccer at Belhaven



Special to Pelahatchie News

Neely Brunt signed a letter of intent to play soccer with Belhaven University. She is pictured with her family and ERA Soccer Coach, Steven Simmons.

Davis receives December Counselor's Award



Special to Pelahatchie News
Abbigale Davis received the December Counselor's Award at Pelahatchie High School (PHS). The character trait was joy.

Concord donates vans to ERCO



Special to Pelahatchie News
Concord Baptist Church donated two vans to Ever Reaching Community Outreach (ERCO). "It is so encouraging to have the support of our churches. These vans will be put to use to help us continue helping those in need. God bless you!" said Tammy Brun, ERCO founding member.

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Obituaries

NAME	AGE	CITY	DOD	Arrangements
Ruby Schmidt	69	Pelahatchie, MS	1/21/20	Wolf Funeral Serv.
Eddie Marshall Smith	73	Morton, MS	2/2/20	Wolf Funeral Serv.
Jimmy Thrash	72	Pelahatchie, MS	2/12/20	Wolf Funeral Serv.
Otis Trolinder	85	Carthage, MS	2/4/20	Wolf Funeral Serv.
Allie Sue Croxton	88	Forest, MS	2/21/20	Wolf Funeral Serv.
Larry Harrell	74	Beech Bluff, TN	2/21/20	Wolf Funeral Serv.

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PHS Cheer wins first place at Nationals



Special to Pelahatchie News

Pelahatchie High School (PHS) cheer team competed Saturday, February 8, at the Deep South High School Cheer Nationals competition at the Jackson Convention Center. The girls won first place in the Varsity Gameday Division. Pictured (l to r) front row are: Madelyn Cain, Madison Broome, Katie Belle Boyer, Collins Doster, Maddie Grace Walters, Haley Mills, and Isabella Rust; and back row are: Makenzie Hester, Meghan Herrington, Adlyn Till, Madi Holmes, Camden Patton, and Malori Scherer

Multicraft International launches two outdoor products



Photos special to Pelahatchie News

Chuck Flumm, The Badgerhead inventor, is shown in left photo. He wanted quick and easy change of string or blades for the trimmer. The MaxBit inventor, Michele Morgan, was looking for a better way to dig holes and plant flower beds for customers.

Special to Pelahatchie News

Multicraft International, which is based in Pelahatchie, will launch two products this spring—The Badger-Head™ weed trimmer and The Max-Bit™ hole digger. Both are Mississippi-invented products located at Multicraft Ventures on Highway 80.

"The BadgerHead transforms a weed trimmer into a multipurpose performance tool," said Chuck Flumm, inventor. Flumm, like many weed trimmer users, was frustrated at the difficulty in changing string on trimmers. "The innovative design allows quick and easy change of string or blades,

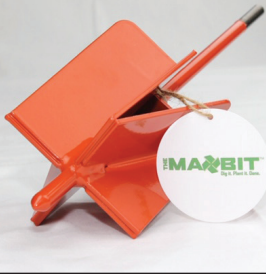
and the Adapter plate yields versatility for multiple attachments making hard to do jobs a breeze." Inventor Michele Morgan was looking for a better way to dig holes and plant flower beds for customers. She would dig with a trowel and shovel for hours and walk away with aches and pains. Sitting in church,

she got this idea for a powered hole digger. In just three short years, The MaxBit was born. The MaxBit's technology gives the gardener, landscaper, and farmer an innovative way to dig a hole. The MaxBit comes in a variety of sizes and colors, so it can dig holes for potted plants and bushes up to trees.



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Predators of the wild turkey



Special to
Pelahatchie News

By Doug Carter,
Rankin County
Extension Agent

The wild turkey faces a diverse number of predator species, and these species vary in their mode of search and capture. True predators actively search and kill living prey. These include bobcats, hawks, owls, eagles, and all snakes. However, many predators of turkeys are more generalists and consume non-animal matter such as plants, seeds, insects as well as meat secured from stalking and killing prey. These include coyotes, wild pigs, gray and red foxes, rodents, and crows. The most significant nest predators include opossums, raccoons, and skunks. Finally, predators such as feral dogs and cats may be more harmful to turkeys as a natural predator. Regardless of the predator, most are opportunistic; they detect prey by sight, sound, or smell during their normal travels and searches for food, and their capture of wild turkeys is usually incidental to pursuit of any suitable prey.

Population densities of many of the more adaptable predators of wild tur-

keys may be as high or higher today than previous years in both historic and expanded turkey range. Additionally, increased urbanization has resulted in more feral cats and dogs.

Predation is an important component of a turkey's life cycle. Larger predators such as the bobcat, coyote, and fox kill adult hens and even gobblers. In contrast, smaller predators including skunks, raccoons, opossums, and snakes, are the primary nest and poult predators.

The impacts of predation upon turkey populations vary by season, location, and land use patterns. Predation may significantly impact turkey populations when populations are low, and nesting cover is poor. Predation may also significantly impact when food and/or water scarcity forces turkeys into unfavorable range, the number of other prey species is low, birds are exposed to severe weather for prolonged periods of time, and predator populations are abnormally high.

The wild turkey has existed and survived with predators and predation for centuries. Management should center on managing predator populations, as much as managing man's impact on turkey populations.

Harper named to UA President's List

Special to Pelahatchie News

Jackson R Harper was named to The University of Alabama (UA) President's List for fall 2019 with a 4.0 GPA. He was the 2019 East Rankin Academy Valedictorian, Star Student, Blitz 16 Scholar Athlete and Class President.

A total of 12,050 students enrolled during the 2019 fall term at UA were named to the Dean's List with an academic record of 3.5 or above or the President's List with an academic record of 4.0 (all A's).

The UA Dean's and President's lists

recognize full-time undergraduate students. The lists do not apply to graduate students or to undergraduate students who take less than a full course load.



Special to Pelahatchie News

Jackson Harper graduated from East Rankin Academy in 2019.

Spring forward into the fourth nine weeks



Special to Pelahatchie News

Pelahatchie High School is shown exhibiting at the Feb. 7 Educator's Fair. Pictured (l to r) are: Bryan Collins, assistant principal; Leslie Hebert, instructional coach & ELA teacher; Kelsey Nobles, math teacher; and Dr. Teague Birchfield, principal.



Special to
Pelahatchie News

By Guest Columnist
Teague Birchfield,
Principal, Pelahatchie
High School

As we "Spring Forward" into the fourth nine weeks, I would be remiss if I did not take the time to thank our parents for the outstanding job they do for their kids. We appreciate the expectations they set for them prior to entering our doors. We are grateful to them for being a part of the many different extracurricular events that take place during any given week of the school year. Thank you as well for being available to assist in any concerns that need to be addressed throughout the school year.

With that being said, there is still work to be done as we close out the school year. As we coach our students to "Finish," we ask our parents to assist us with that action. While weekly grade checks are a good practice, it is not enough. Prepare our students for the day by getting them to bed at a decent hour, rolling them out of the bed in the morning, and making sure they are prepared

to enter the building. Appropriate rest, promptness, and organization are essential to success in education and will be great habits that will transition well into adulthood.

This month, we look forward to a much needed Spring Break holiday. Upon return, we will begin preparing our students for "End of Year" assessments by taking our third and final benchmark of the year. We expect everyone's best as outcomes from the benchmark will allow us to see mastery of content as well as skills that need to be retaught.

Congratulations to our Lady Chiefs Basketball team on their strong finish through the second round of the playoffs. We are excited about what is to come with our basketball program here at Pelahatchie High School. At this time, the baseball and softball programs are in "Full Swing." Both programs, led by Coach Tip Nutt and Coach Michael Chambless respectively, are young and improving every day. With the seasons changing and warmer weather heading our way, come join us for great afternoons at the diamond.

Let's finish strong together! Go Chiefs!



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Legislative Update: The sixth week of 2020 session



By Guest Columnist
Mississippi
Representative
Tom Miles

Special to
Pelahatchie News

The sixth week of the 2020 Legislative session offered opportunities for us to learn more about the prison system crisis and address other issues important to Mississippians.

Here at home, our thoughts and prayers were turned to the family of Dr. Howard Clark of Morton, whose passing marked the end of an era. He had served as Doctor of the Day in the House on several occasions. I had the honor of making the motion for the Mississippi House of Representatives to adjourn in solemn memory of Dr. Clark, a man who spent his life caring for others in his community and throughout Mississippi. Dr.

Clark loved his family, friends, community, state, country, politics, Morton Panthers, Mississippi State Bulldogs, and church, but most of all, he loved the Lord.

I voted to support House Bill 95, which addresses the issue of "surprise" medical bills – the invoices some have received for services they thought were covered by insurance. Insurance Commissioner Mike Chaney reports that his office has seen an uptick in this kind of billing, despite a law that was passed in 2013 to prevent so-called "balance bills" where the insured assigns his or her benefits to the medical provider. The patient is not supposed to be liable for the charges over what the insurance company and the healthcare provider agreed upon. Some providers failed to comply with the law prohibiting this action. That's why HB 95 was introduced. People who are already sick or recover-

ing should not be further burdened by sneaky attempts to collect monies they don't actually owe. HB 95 gives Commissioner Chaney's office the power to adopt regulations and resolve disputes between healthcare providers and consumers.

We passed House Bill 756, which provides funds for the Department of Finance Administration to evaluate the condition of Walnut Grove's prison facility. Potentially, our local facility can be swiftly upgraded to begin housing select prisoners and ease overcrowding in other prisons. As a state, we should be making every effort to make sure that offenders are housed in well-staffed, safe, clean facilities that are secure.

I attended a joint hearing of the Corrections and Judiciary B committees to discuss ongoing prison issues. I appreciated the insight of Mississippi Parole Board Chair Steve Pickett and Cliff

Johnson of the MacArthur Justice Center, both of whom testified before the committee. Among the problems faced is that released inmates have difficulty getting drivers licenses, essential to being able to work. Many of them do not have any place to go once they are released, and they wind up on the streets just trying to survive. I look forward to helping find solutions to these and other problems. We have more meetings scheduled this week with MDOC Commissioner Tommy Taylor.

We enjoyed visiting with Mr. Andre Hollis, Mrs. Michelle Carter and other members from the Mississippi Department of Wildlife Fisheries and Parks to talk about ways we can help improve their agency.

Feel free to contact me at 601-469-7886, email me at tmiles@house.ms.gov or message me with any concerns or issues you may have.

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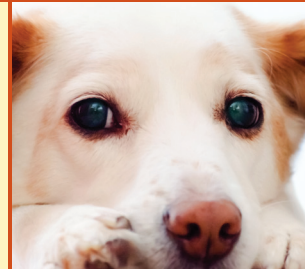
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ERA wins overall team competition at MC competition

Special to Pelahatchie News

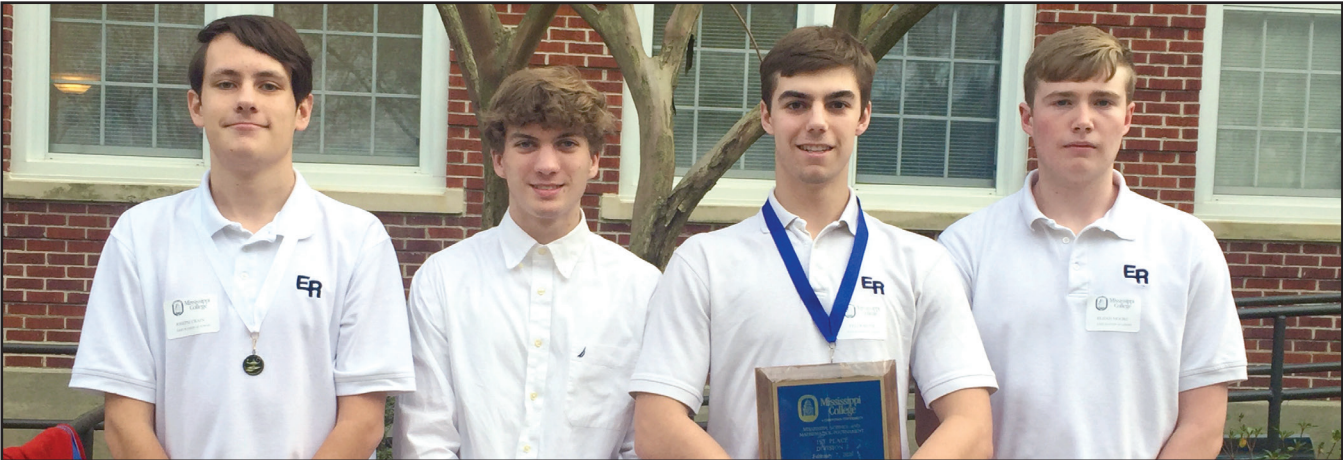
On February 7, East Rankin Academy (ERA) students won first place in the overall team competition at the Mississippi College (MC) Science and Math Tournament. The four students that competed in the team competition are Tyler Betts, Ethan Crain, Elijah Moore, and Trent Wuestefeld.

There were more than 39 high schools represented, both public and private, in the 2020 Mississippi College Science and Math Tournament. Nine students from ERA had winning test scores which include scholarships. These students include:

- Scoring in the top 20% in Biology-Jonathan Lamberth
- Scoring in the top 20% in Chemistry- Dana Watkins
- Scoring in the top 20% in Mathematics-Elijah Vining
- Scoring in the top 20% in Mathematics- Lane Burgess
- Scoring in the top 20% in Physics- Brandyn Luke
- Scoring in the top 20% in Physics- Elijah Vining
- Scoring in the top 20% in Mathematics-Elijah Moore
- Scoring in the top 10% in Mathematics-Brandyn Luke
- Scoring in the top 10% in Mathematics-Jacob Gardner
- Scoring in the top 10% in Chemistry-Tyler Betts
- Scoring Third Place in Mathematics-Ethan Crain
- Scoring First Place in Mathematics-Tyler Betts



ERA students that had winning test scores which include scholarships pictured (l to r) front row, are: Brandyn Luke, Jacob Gardner, and Dana Watkins; and row two: Jonathan Lamberth, Tyler Betts, Elijah Moore, Elijah Vining, Ethan Crain, and Lane Burgess.



Photos special to Pelahatchie News

The ERA team competitors that won first place at the MC Tournament pictured (l to r), are: Ethan Crain, Trent Wuestefeld, Tyler Betts, and Elijah Moore.



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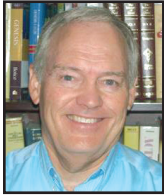
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Pastor's Perspective: We have security in the Lord



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

Special to Pelahatchie News

Security seems to be on everyone's mind these days. You see the little alert signs in front of many homes that it is protected by a security company. And even churches are taking extra security measures. At our church, we have a number of security cameras around the property, all of the doors are connected to the security system, and we have a Security Team that keeps watch at all services.

When we lived in Brazil, security was always a concern. The first house we lived in not only had bars on the windows, but a ten foot wall around it! Across the front, the wall was steel bars with pointed tips at the top. Down the sides of the house, the walls were concrete. On top of the wall, there were broken shards of glass protruding up from the cement to deter anyone who might try to climb the wall.

The house we lived in for 15 years also had bars on the windows and doors and a wall around the back of the property. But as we learned, that did not deter the

robbers, who broke down a door on the lower level of the house one night to come on in! Fortunately, we were not at home, and they took mostly electronic items. After that, we put heavier steel bars at all the windows and doors and installed an alarm system. But most importantly, we never left the house unattended at night. That was the mistake we made when the uninvited guests came.

That was the only time we were attacked in any way in the 16 years we lived in Brazil. Well, I suppose there was one other instance. Our son Mark, who was eight or nine at the time, had received a Mississippi State Baseball cap as a gift. Shortly after receiving it, he walked downtown with me to go to the bank and post office. As always, the streets were crowded, and, as we made our way through the crowd, Mark was a few steps behind me. All of a sudden he called out, and I turned to see what was going on. Someone had come up behind him and snatched his new hat off of his head and was running away with it. We gave chase, but the kid was soon lost in the crowd.

Mark resolved never to have that happen again, so he invented a "hat security system." It consisted of a piece of

fishing line with a snap connector on both ends. Mark would attach one end to his hat, run the fishing line down his neck and under his shirt and attach the other end to his pants. He used it every time he wore a hat out in public. Fortunately, we never learned if the system worked, because he never had another snatched hat episode.

Security is important, but even more important is the confidence we have in our Lord that He is going to take care of us, regardless of what we face. While we take necessary security precautions, we must never lose sight of where our true security comes from. As the Psalmist said, "Our help comes from the Lord...." That is why I always tell those who are on our Prayer Team that their ministry is just as important, if not more so, than those who serve on the Security Team. While the Security Team is watching the doors and monitors, the Prayer Team is walking the halls praying for our church and whatever service is going on at that time.

We live in a changing world. And taking security measures are an unfortunate but necessary reality in our days. But we must never forget where our help comes from! Let the following verses encourage you.



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Hebrews 13:5- 6, "...because God has said, 'Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you.' So we say with confidence, 'The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can mere mortals do to me?'"

Psalm 20: 6-8, "Now this I know: The Lord gives victory to his anointed. He answers him from his heavenly sanctuary with the victorious power of his right hand. Some trust in chariots and some in horses, but we trust in the name of the Lord our God. They are brought to their knees and fall, but we rise up and stand firm."

Psalm 46: 1-2, "God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in times of trouble. Therefore we will not fear..."

Do what you must, but trust in the Lord and don't be afraid! Be sure to take your family to church on Sunday!

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

104 Crossroads Road • Pelahatchie, MS 39145
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EASTSIDE CHURCH
1143 Noblin Bridge Road
Pelahatchie, MS 39145
601.260.9161

Jeff Jones, Pastor
Parker Jones, Student Pastor
Joey White, Music

Please join us.

Service Times:

Sundays:

10:00 am - Sunday
11:00 am - Morning Worship
6:00 pm - Evening Worship

Wednesday:

7:00 pm - Prayer Meeting,
Adult Bible Study and
Youth "JAM" Session



Pelahatchie
Baptist Church

300 Church Street • Pelahatchie, MS 39145 • 601.854.8809
www.pelahatchiebaptist.com

Sunday School 9:30 am Worship 10:30 am, 6:00 pm • Wednesday Youth & Children 6:00 pm Adults 6:30 pm

First Apostolic Church

508 Heslep St.
Pelahatchie, MS 39145
Phone: 228-219-1972

Pastor: Rev. Jerry Hamilton

Services:

Sunday - 10:00 a.m. & 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday: 7:00 p.m.



Seven tips to prevent tax ID fraud

Special to Pelahatchie News

With tax season underway, Pelahatchie residents are encouraged to take extra precaution when filing their return to prevent their exposure to tax fraud.

"Fraudsters are using very clever tactics to get a hold of your personal information and submit false tax claims," said Robbie Barnes, President and CEO of PriorityOne Bank. "Consumers must be suspicious of any communication from the IRS – through email, text or social media – that requests personal information, and should keep a watchful eye out for missing W-2s and mail containing sensitive financial information."

Tax identity fraud takes place when a criminal files a false tax return using a stolen Social Security number in order to fraudulently claim the refund. Identity thieves generally file false claims early in the year, and victims are unaware until they file a return and learn one has already been filed in their name.

PriorityOne Bank is offering the following tips to help prevent tax identity fraud:

- **File early.** File your tax return as soon as you're able, giving criminals less time to use your information to file a

false return.

- **File on a protected Wi-Fi network.** If you're using an online service to file your return, be sure you're connected to a password-protected personal network. Avoid using public networks like a Wi-Fi hotspot at a coffee shop.



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- **Use a secure mailbox.** If you're filing by mail, drop your tax return at the post office or an official postal box instead of your mailbox at home. Some criminals look for completed tax return forms in home mailboxes during tax season.

- **Find a tax preparer you trust.** If you're planning to hire someone to do your taxes, get recommendations and research a tax preparer thoroughly before handing over all of your financial information.

- **Shred what you don't need.** Once you've completed your tax return, shred the sensitive documents that you no longer need, and safely file away the ones you do.

- **Beware of phishing scams by email, text or phone.** Scammers may

try to solicit sensitive information by impersonating the IRS. Know that the IRS will not contact you by email, text or social media. If the IRS needs information, they will contact you by mail first.

- **Keep an eye out for missing mail.** Fraudsters look for W-2s, tax refunds or other mail containing your financial information. If you don't receive your W-2s, and your employer indicates they've been mailed, or it looks like it

has been previously opened upon delivery, contact the IRS immediately.

If you believe you're a victim of tax identity theft or if the IRS denies your tax return because one has previously been filed under your name, alert the IRS Identity Protection Specialized Unit at 1-800-908-4490. In addition, you should:

- Respond immediately to any IRS notice and complete IRS Form 14039, Identity Theft Affidavit.

- Contact your bank immediately, and close any accounts opened without your permission or tampered with.

- Contact the three major credit bureaus to place a fraud alert on your credit records:

- Equifax, www.Equifax.com, 1-800-525-6285

- Experian, www.Experian.com, 1-888-397-3742

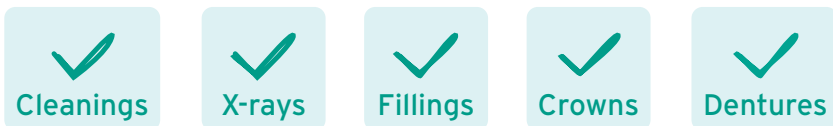
- TransUnion, www.TransUnion.com, 1-800-680-7289

- Continue to pay your taxes and file your tax return, even if you must do so by paper.

More information about tax identity theft is available from the FTC at ftc.gov/taxidtheft and the IRS at irs.gov/identitytheft.

Dental Insurance

Get the dental care you deserve with dental insurance from Physicians Mutual Insurance Company. It can help cover the services you're most likely to use –

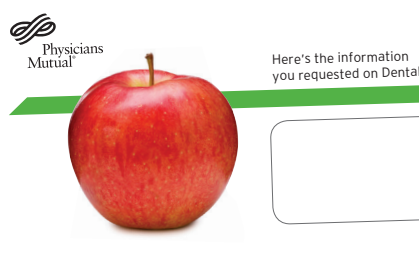


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Great news at the Heart of Rankin County.

Merit Health has expanded our heart care services with a new interventional cath lab at Merit Health River Oaks in Flowood. This is great news for Rankin County and the surrounding communities as we can diagnose, and now, treat blockages and heart attacks – miles closer when minutes count.

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First Apostolic Church to honor Pastor Hamilton



Special to Pelahatchie News

Pastor Jerry Hamilton will be honored for his 10 years of service at First Apostolic Church with special activities on March 28 and 29.

Special to Pelahatchie News

The First Apostolic Church of Pelahatchie will honor their pastor, Bro. Jerry Hamilton, on March 28 and 29 to celebrate his tenth anniversary.

"Bro. Jerry Hamilton was elected pastor of First Apostolic 10 years ago. We invite everyone to come help us honor this great pastor," said a church member.

Saturday night, March 28, at 6 p.m. will be a gospel singing featuring First Pentecostal Church of Jackson music teams. Refreshments will follow in the fellowship hall. Rev. David Tipton will be the featured guest Sunday morning, March 29, at 10 a.m. Lunch will be served following the service.

The church invites everyone to join them at First Apostolic Church at 508 Heslep Street in Pelahatchie.

PHS athletes sign to play college football



Special to Pelahatchie News

Ian Jackson signed to play football with Co-Lin Community College. Pictured (l to r) are: Liam Johnson, brother; Jackson; and Shemecka Johnson, mother.



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Cody Myers, front, signed with Mississippi College by way of University of Louisiana at Lafayette. Pictured (l to r) back row, are: Sam Williams, Cedrick Wilder, and Dylan Parker.



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