

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

It's Fall Y'all Festival set
for Oct. 17 - pg. 4

Pelahatchie High School
Homecoming Court - pg. 6

NEWS

Pelahatchie

Good News You Can Use

October
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White named State Cybersecurity Leader of the Year

Special to Pelahatchie News

Pelahatchie native Jay White, the State of Mississippi's chief information security officer, was named State Cybersecurity Leader of the Year in 2020 StateScoop 50 Awards, which honor top leaders, projects in state IT.

White manages the state's cybersecurity program providing enterprise perimeter defense, cyber awareness, and policy development for governmental entities. He is directly responsible for implementing a robust centralized VPN solution and procuring a secure web gateway solution to improve the state's defensive posture. As part of the awareness program, White, who has held his current position for nine years, established a new web-based cyber training solution providing courses to more than 100 government entities with subscriptions of more than 40,000 participants at no cost to the agencies. He has more than 22 years total experience.

Presented for its seventh year, the StateScoop 50 awards honor the projects



Special to Pelahatchie News

Jay White, who manages the State of Mississippi's cybersecurity program, was recently named State Cybersecurity Leader of the Year.

and people driving state government technology and cybersecurity. This year, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the awards were presented virtually for the first time. In previous years, the awards ceremony and announcement coincided with the midyear conference of the National Association of State Chief Information Officers. Both the midyear and annual conference were moved to a

virtual format this year.

Starting in February, members of the state and local IT community nominated thousands of leaders and projects for the awards. From there, StateScoop narrowed the list to the 182 finalists who received the most nominations. Between March and June 2020, readers cast more than 2 million votes nationally between March and April to select the final

winners. Executive-level winners were honored Thursday at a virtual roundtable event, sponsored by Google Cloud and Duo Security, now part of Cisco Systems.

"It's an honor and delight to recognize the top 50 leaders in our community," said Goldy Kamali, founder and CEO of Scoop News Group, StateScoop's parent company. "Each of the leaders recognized has gone above and beyond for our community this year, in spite of unprecedented challenges at home and at work. These reader's choice awards honor the best leaders from across the state government community and acknowledge the important work they are doing to make government better each and every day."

The winners span more than a dozen states and eight private sector companies. Award winners for 2020 include executive-level elected officials like Colorado Gov. Jared Polis, as well as more junior up-and-coming leaders.

"We know that the work you do is about much more than servers
continued on page 3

Burchfield named RCSD Administrator of the Month



Special to Pelahatchie News

The Rankin County School District (RCSD) recognized Dr. Teague Burchfield, Pelahatchie High School principal, as Secondary Administrator of the Month for August. Dr. Burchfield has been principal for three years.

ERA names Homecoming maids



Special to Pelahatchie News

East Rankin Academy will celebrate Homecoming on Friday, October 16. The 2020 Homecoming presentation will be during half time of the game that begins at 7 p.m. against Leake Academy. Members of East Rankin's 2020 Homecoming court are: (l to r) front row: Olivia Hales, Lexie Gibson, Breanna Harrison and Emily Loe; and (l to r) back row: Abbey Kelley, Kate Betts, Anna Hutson and Abbie Hutson.

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ERA Patriot cross country going the distance

Special to Pelahatchie News

The MAIS AAAA East Rankin Academy (ERA) Patriot Cross Country Team is midway through the 2020 cross country season, with the young team's effort and hard work paying off in team trophies and personal records.

The season opened August 17 at the Simpson Academy Early Bird Two Mile at Neely Farms in Magee with the Junior Varsity Boys placing first, with top ten finishes from both Nic Riemann, fifth, and Michael Kanengiser, seventh. Junior Varsity Girls were second, with top ten finishes from Leah Collipp, fifth, and Emily Williams, eighth.

The August 20 Mississippi College High School opener pitted both public and private schools in competition at Choctaw Trails in Clinton. Junior Varsity Girls running 3000 meters finished third overall, with top ten finishes from Savannah Smithers, second, and Leah Collipp, seventh.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, many meets converted to invitationals to help limit the numbers of attendees. Jackson Prep's Invitational on August 31 at Jackson Prep was no different, limiting to just twelve MAIS schools in attendance. Junior Varsity Boys had one top ten finish from Nic Riemann, eighth,

in the two-mile. Junior Varsity Girls team won first place, with top ten finishes from Savannah Smithers, sixth, Leah Collipp, seventh, and Emily Williams, eighth, in the two mile.

September 14 meet hosted by Presbyterian Christian School at Sandy Run Farms in Hattiesburg brought the first cross country race to split the varsity field, into two waves, again for COVID-19 restricted numbers. The Junior Varsity Boys team was second in the two mile, with a top ten finish from Michael Kanengiser, ninth. The Junior Varsity Girls team won their second consecutive team title in the two-mile, with top ten finishes from Savannah Smithers, fifth, and Leah Collipp, sixth. Varsity Girls were third in the 5k blue wave, with top ten finishes from Lydia Collipp, sixth, and Audrey Mayatte, tenth.

All ERA runners, including junior varsity, tackled the two wave 5k at the Park Place-Simpson Academy Invitational at Neely Farm on September 21. The ERA girls' team in the varsity



Special to Pelahatchie News

The ERA cross country team is having a great season under the direction of Coach David Hopper. They have set personal records and won a few team trophies.

silver division was first in the silver team competition, with top ten finish from Kylee Holifield (9th).

The ERA girls' team in the varsity gold division was third, with top ten finishes from the Collipp sisters, Leah, seventh, and Lydia, eighth.

Next on the schedule; the team will run the Simpson Academy Invitational on September 28, the MC Watson High School Meet on October 3, the Columbia Academy Invitational on October 13, and the 2020 MAIS XC Finals on October 20, of which the ERA Junior Varsity Girls team is the defending champion, among all MAIS divisions.

The 2020 ERA team, coached by Coach David Hopper, is comprised of the following athletes:

Sixth: Leah Collipp, Lily Kanengiser, Jon Riemann, Nic Riemann, and Liz Stevens

Seventh: Jensen Baker, Parker Bankston, Arin Hawk, Neali Holbrooks, Paige Mayatte, John Parker Pierce, Kaylynn Ramirez, Savannah Smithers, Rone "RT" Tate, Addison Vowell, and Emily Williams

Eighth: Lydia Collipp, Audrey Hawk, Kylee Holifield, Michael Kanengiser, Audrey Mayette, Abby Raines, Marlee Rakinic, Lane Riemann, Leslie Scarberry, Katie Simpson, and Rachel Smith

Ninth: Grayson Blair, Addison Brown, Anna Lee Johnson, Abigail Stevens, and Allison Thompson

Tenth: Aiden Boyd, Carson Denton, and John Johnston



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Pelahatchie Elementary families, thank you!



By Guest Columnist, Robin Sanders, Principal, Pelahatchie Elementary

Special to Pelahatchie News

Thank you to the families who support our school. To you who speak positively about our school, teachers, and community, we thank you.

Thanks to those who have embraced the safety guidelines. We know, without a doubt, your support has helped to make this a success.

To the families who ensure that students go to bed so that they are well rested and ready to learn each day, thank you.

For those who encourage your students to go to school, even when they need a little push of encouragement to get out the door to get on the bus or out of the car at the car rider drop off, thank you.

To the families who let their teachers know they are appreciated and doing a good job, thank you.

Thank you to the families who may get a call or email about classroom or bus behavior and work with us to resolve the issue and help encourage appropriate behavior. To our "choice" families, thank you for ensuring each day that your student is on Zoom, ready to learn and submitting work on time. This is a major adjustment for teachers to ensure that both their traditional learners and at-



Pelahatchie Elementary School named its BEST (Bringing Everyone's Strengths Together) for August. The two honored here are pictured (l to r): Paige Tucker, second grade teacher; and Sonya Myers, administrative assistant.

home learners are progressing, and they are extremely grateful for your support.

To the families who let us know when there is a need to improve a procedure or process, thank you. Your feedback helps for continued success of Pelahatchie Elementary.

Families that support Pelahatchie High School sports and events, you help to make Pelahatchie a success. Thank you.

Pelahatchie families that have welcomed me with a smile and words of encouragement, THANK YOU!

There are many days set aside each year for appreciation, but I don't think there is a day or week set aside to appreciate parents and families that support their school. We want you to know we appreciate you!

Walters places first in poster contest



Pelahatchie High School (PHS) sophomore Maddie Grace Walters placed first in the American Association of Teaching Spanish and Portuguese (AATSP) 2020 Mississippi Chapter Poster Contest - Hand-Drawn competition. She represented the Mississippi Chapter at the national level as an AATSP Poster Contest Finalist.

State Cybersecurity Leader of the Year

continued from page 1

and firewalls," said Jake Williams, StateScoop's associate publisher and director of strategic initiatives. "It's about getting people what they need, serving the community and being a beacon of hope in times that force us to rework everything we know about how government connects to the citizen. Though this year's StateScoop 50 Awards honor projects and people from a pre-COVID-19 time, we quickly saw the impact of them as you all responded to the pandemic. Even more than in past years, we are endlessly thankful to be a

part of this community."

As part of the virtual announcement, winners will be featured in a series of podcasts. Winners will also be featured in a video interview.

A graduate of Mississippi College, White and his family live in the Cross Roads community of Pelahatchie. He is active in the Pelahatchie United Methodist Church. White has had two children graduate from Pelahatchie and one who is currently in the eleventh grade. He coached basketball at East Rankin Academy in 1996 and 1997.

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It's Fall Y'all Festival set for Oct. 17



Special to Pelahatchie News

Kenwood Stables is hosting its second annual fall festival featuring its animals including lamas and horses.

By Susie A. Wolfe

Kenwood Stables will hold its second annual fall festival, It's Fall Y'all, on Saturday, October 17, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. The stables are on 40 acres located at 3680 Hwy 80 next to Banks Peach Farm.

Festival activities will include sack races, face painting, costumed characters such as princesses and fairies for photo ops, a continuous hayride, food trucks, vendor booths, a DJ and local entertainment. All of the stables' animals will be ready to greet everyone.

There will even be a real live unicorn, horse rides and pumpkins. The owner's daughter, Katie Rae, will be serving her Hwy 80 Famous lemonade.

The Festival had 637 in attendance last year. Due to COVID-19, the festival organizers will follow all current guidelines for distance and masks.

Entrance fee is \$10, with under two being free. All activities are free except the food and vendors. They advise to enter from Hall Road. Vendor booth space is still available. For more information, contact Jo Hegwood, owner of Kenwood Stables, at 601-201-6620.

ERCO gets extended walkway



Special to Pelahatchie News

A Crystal Springs company, L. M. & R. Service, Inc., donated their work to Ever Reaching Community Outreach (ERCO) in September to help the Pelahatchie non-profit extend their walkway. This construction was needed to help get food boxes out the door to ERCO clients. Pictured (l to r) are: KathyJo Latham, facilities director; Van Brun, chairman of the Board; and David Rodgers and crew of L. M. & R. Service.

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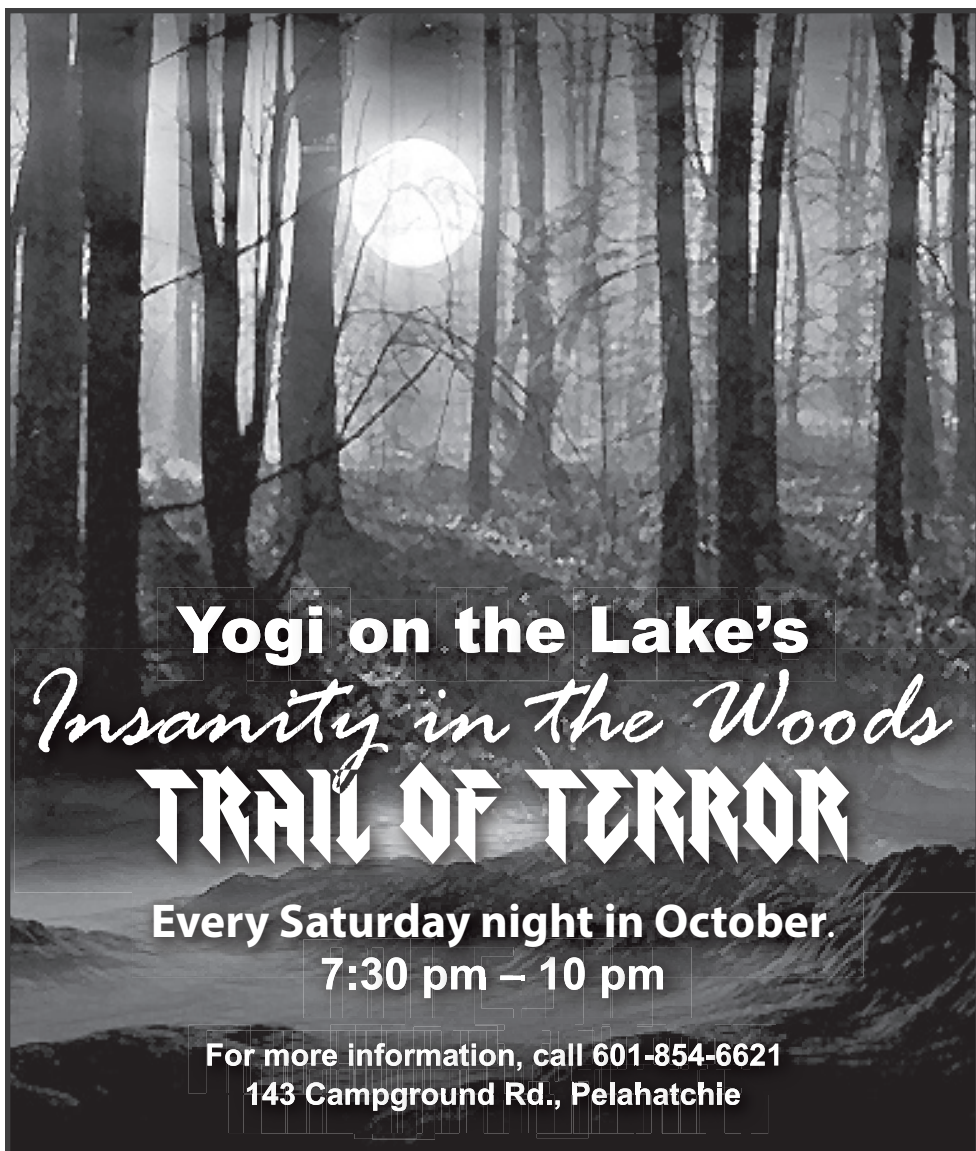
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ERA Varsity Girls Soccer headed to playoffs



Special to Pelahatchie News

East Rankin Academy (ERA)'s girls soccer finished the regular season 11-4-1 and 4-2 in district play. They are the number two seed in the central district. They are traveling to Cathedral High School in Natchez on October 6 for the first round of the playoffs. Team members of pictured (l to r) front row, are: Savannah Smithers, Arin Hawk, Carley Harrison, Aubrey Tigrett, Ainsley Grace Miller, and Lainey Channel; second row: Macy Brunt, Mary Hayden Logan, Bre Harrison, Head Coach Steven Simmons, Haile Huffman, Madeline Logan, and Madison Tigrett; and third row: Brooke Renfroe, Presley Thomspson, Abbie Hutson, Adyson Tadlock, Jensen Baker, Kyla Kate Huffman, Mylee Maurer, Mary Kellan Sartin, and Audrey Mayatte.



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Pelahatchie High School Homecoming Court 2020



Special to Pelahatchie News

Pelahatchie hosted the Collins Tigers for the Homecoming game on Friday, October 2. Kickoff began at 7 p.m. The Homecoming Court presentation and crowning Katie Belle Boyer as Homecoming Queen took place at halftime. Pictured (l to r) front row, are: Savannah Carlino, Brooklyn Coghlan, Katie Belle Boyer, Kaitlyn White, Aliyah Butler, Collins Doster, Airrianna Beeman, Ja'Leah Ford, Leah Carter, and Aaliyah Coghlan; and back row: Faith Smith, Chloe Walters, Bailey Johnson, Brooklyn Johnson, Alana Hobson, Chrystianna Beeman, Gracie Jones, Shelby Surkin, and Holly White.

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Yogi on the Lake holds Muscadine Stomp



Special to Pelahatchie News

By Susie A. Wolfe

Yogi on the Lake held a muscadine stomp on September 12 to honor the Pelahatchie Muscadine Jubilee's 40th anniversary, since the annual event cannot be held this year due to COVID-19. The celebrity lineup to stomp grapes included: Country Music singer Jeff Bates; WLBT Meteorologist Patrick

Ellis; WLBT News Personality Therese Apel; award-winning author Brandi Perry; Mrs. Mississippi America 2019 Virginia Miller; Mrs. Mississippi America 2020 Whitney Gladden; Rankin County District 4 Supervisor Steve Gaines; Rankin County Constable Gary Windham; and Frank the Camel. Ellis was named the winner by having the most juice.

Evans graduates from State Fire Academy

Special to Pelahatchie News

Firefighter Chelsea Evans of the Clinton Fire Department graduated from the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 1001 Firefighter I-II course held at the Mississippi State Fire Academy in Jackson on September 17. This intense seven-week course included classroom and hands-on instruction in the areas of fire behavior, fire suppression, rescue, incident command, hazardous materials and other fire related topics. This course meets and exceeds the National Fire Protection Association for Firefighter Qualifications and the uniform minimum training standards stated in the Mississippi Code section 45-11-7. The Mississippi State Fire Academy is a division of the Mississippi Insurance Department. Commissioner Mike Chaney and Academy Executive Director Terry Wages conclude that firefighters, through their newly acquired skills and knowledge, will be an asset to the fire departments they represent in implementing fire protection and prevention for their community. Firefighter Evans is the daughter of Deshay Hipp of Brandon and Travis Evans of Morton. She is a 2016 graduate of Pelahatchie Attendance Center and 2018 graduate of Hinds Community College in Pearl.



Special to Pelahatchie News

PHS graduate Chelsea Evans graduated from the Mississippi State Fire Academy on September 17. She is a member of the Clinton Fire Department.

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How to get rid of mud daubers



By Doug Carter,
Rankin County
Extension Agent

Special to
Pelahatchie News

Mud daubers, also known as dirt daubers, are a nuisance but are not hard to get rid of.

They build their home away from rainfall in places like under overhangs, hollow trees, and on the undersides of large tree limbs. Mud daubers, of course, also build their homes under carports, attics, patios, as well as under covered areas housing automobiles, boats, and other equipment. Mud dauber nests are very unsightly, and the mud can stain walls and ceilings. Even worse, mud dauber nests built in the wrong place on an infrequently used machine, such as the muffler of an old ATV, can cause a lot of mechanical

damage when the machine is used.

The nests of organ pipe mud daubers are easy to distinguish from nests of black and yellow mud daubers. Organ pipe mud daubers nests are mud tubes up to six or more inches long and are oriented vertically. Black and yellow mud dauber nests are blockier in shape, only a couple of inches long, and usually oriented horizontally. Both species fill the cells of their nests with spiders they capture using a precisely placed paralyzing sting. A single egg is deposited in each cell before it is sealed, and the developing larva dines on spiders until they are large enough to pupate. Once mature, the young wasp exits the nest by cutting a hole through the side.

When they are not hauling mud and building their nests, females are busy hunting spiders. The male's job is to guard the nest. There are species of

wasps that specialize in parasitizing mud daubers. There are tiny, gnat-sized wasps, *Melittobia*, that lurk around the entrance waiting on a chance to dart in and lay their eggs. Another of these is the small, metallic green wasp known as the cuckoo wasp. Males must guard against rival males and other females that might try to steal spiders or take over the nest. You may observe a nest under construction, and you will probably notice the male resting just inside the entrance. You may even notice one or more of the parasitic wasps waiting nearby.

Folks have asked, "Do mud daubers sting?" Yes, and the stings are very painful, however mud daubers are not aggressive and do not defend their nests. So, stings are rare and only occurs when a female is trapped some way, against the skin.

As for controlling mud daubers, there is no simple, once-and-done method. The best way to limit the number of nests under your carport or porch is to kill nesting females as soon as they appear. You can use a fly swatter to apply mechanical control, or spray them or the entrance to their nest with a can of wasp spray. Be careful with this, because some sprays contain petroleum products that can stain walls. Some aerosol insecticides come with a special straw that makes it easy to spray into the nest entrance without getting much spray on walls and ceilings.

Nests are easily to remove just by scraping them off and using a wet cloth and a spray bottle filled with water to remove the remaining mud. Keeping mud daubers out is the best way of preventing mud daubers nests in attics and mechanical equipment.

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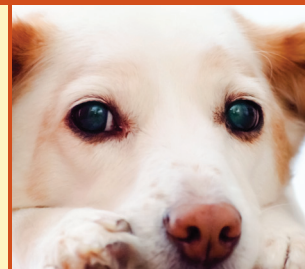
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PHS's Ragsdale named Player of the Week



Photo by MaChandra Forest-Wilder

Pelahatchie High School (PHS) football player Quay Ragsdale was named the Clarion Ledger Player of the Week on September 18. On September 11, the Chiefs had a huge win against Forest, where they won 48-47. In that game, Ragsdale was 10 of 12 in passing for 127 yards and one touchdown. He had 21 carries rushing for 141 yards and three touchdowns. He also had seven tackles. Coach Ryan Keeton said that Ragsdale had a great all-around game that night on both sides of the ball, and he just refused to let PHS lose that night. He won because he received the most votes from the public.

Key named PHS Teacher of Innovation



Special to Pelahatchie News

Kessie Key was named Pelahatchie High School (PHS)'s Teacher of Innovation for the month of August. A 2001 PHS graduate, Key has taught thirteen years, seven of them in Pelahatchie. An active member of the PHS Touchdown Club, she currently teaches Cyber Foundations 1, STEM, and Graphic Design 1/2. She is also a Lead Facilitator for Code.org and trains teachers across the state on the curriculum and instruction for Cyber Foundations 1 and 2. She has a bachelor's in Business Teacher Education and master's in Instructional Technology. Pictured (l to r) are: Leslie Hebert, instructional coach; Key; and Dr. Teague Burchfield, principal.



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Pastor's Perspective: Take a knee...



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

Special to Pelahatchie News

"Take a little trip to Valley Forge in January. Hold a musket ball in your fingers and imagine it piercing your flesh and breaking a bone or two.

There won't be a doctor or trainer to assist you until after the battle, so just wait your turn. Take your cleats and socks off to get a real experience.

Then, take a knee on the beach in Normandy where man after American man stormed the beach, even as the one in front of him was shot to pieces, the very sea stained with American blood. The only blockers most had were the dead bodies in front of them, riddled with bullets from enemy fire.

Take a knee in the sweat soaked jungles of Vietnam. From Khe Sanh to Saigon; anywhere will do. Americans died in all those jungles. There was no play-book that told them what was next, but they knew what flag they represented. When they came home, they were protested as well, and spit on for reasons only cowards know.

Take another knee in the blood



Special to Pelahatchie News

drenched sands of Fallujah in 110 degree heat. Wear your Kevlar helmet and battle dress. Your number won't be printed on it unless your number is up! You'll need to stay hydrated, but there won't be anyone to squirt Gatorade into your mouth. You're on your own.

There are a lot of places to take a knee where Americans have given their lives all over the world. When you use the banner under which they fought as a source for your displeasure, you dishonor the memories of those who bled for the very freedoms you have. That's what

the red stripes mean. They represent the blood of those who spilled a sea of it defending your liberty.

While you're on your knee, pray for those that came before you, not on a manicured lawn striped and printed with numbers to announce every inch of ground taken, but on nameless hills and bloodied beaches and sweltering forests and bitter cold mountains, every inch marked by an American life lost serving that flag you protest.

No cheerleaders, no announcers, no coaches, no fans, just American men

and women, delivering the real fight against those who chose to harm us, blazing a path so you would have the right to "take a knee." You haven't any inkling of what it took to get you where you are, but your "protest" is noted. Not only is it disgraceful to a nation of real heroes, it serves the purpose of pointing to your ingratitude for those who chose to defend you under that banner that will still wave long after your jersey is retired.

If you really feel the need to take a knee, come with me to church on Sunday, and we'll both kneel before Almighty God. We'll thank Him for preserving this country for as long as He has. We'll beg forgiveness for our ingratitude for all He has provided us. We'll appeal to Him for understanding and wisdom. We'll pray for liberty and justice for all, because He is the one who provides those things. But there will be no protest. There will only be gratitude for His provision and a plea for His continued grace and mercy on the land of the free and the home of the brave." **Attributed to Ted Nugent.**

God bless all those who serve our country and who have protected the freedoms we often take for granted. Be sure to take your family to church on Sunday.



FALL SCHEDULE

Sunday Worship Service

9:00 a.m. - In Person Worship Service with Limited Seating in the Sanctuary. Overflow seating in the Fellowship Hall and Student Center. No Childcare or Sunday School. Service broadcast live on the Cross Roads Baptist Church Facebook page.

Wednesday Prayer Meeting

6:00 p.m. on the Cross Roads Baptist Church Facebook page

Morning Devotions

7:30 a.m. on the Cross Roads Baptist Church Facebook Page

"The Church has not been closed...the Church has been deployed!"
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Obituaries

NAME	AGE	CITY	DOD	Arrangements
Carlos Diaz	71	Morton, MS	8/20/20	Wolf Funeral Serv.
Brenda Richardson	60	Carthage, MS	8/23/20	Wolf Funeral Serv.
Hazel Boykin Smith	71	Pelahatchie, MS	8/27/20	Wolf Funeral Serv.
Bessie Summers Ware	81	Newton, MS	8/30/20	Wolf Funeral Serv.
Shelby Lynn Bell	23	Forest, MS	9/2/20	Wolf Funeral Serv.
Billy Wooten	35	Lake, MS	9/3/20	Wolf Funeral Serv.
Bro. Billy Emmons	83	Lake, MS	9/3/20	Wolf Funeral Serv.
Laura Renee Twiner Stroud	70	Lake, MS	9/1/20	Wolf Funeral Serv.
Marc McDaniel	30	Flowood, MS	9/4/20	Wolf Funeral Serv.
Mary Lucy Monk	81	Lake, MS	9/12/20	Wolf Funeral Serv.
Danny "Rue" Nutt	65	Morton, MS	9/15/20	Wolf Funeral Serv.
Fay Weaver	87	Lake, MS	9/17/20	Wolf Funeral Serv.
Anne Morrow Smith Brown	89	Forest, MS	9/19/20	Wolf Funeral Serv.
Manning Levoy "Joe" Wicker	79	Lake, MS	9/24/20	Wolf Funeral Serv.



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



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Renfroe named All-Mississippi student journalist



Special to Pelahatchie
News

Pelahatchie High School (PHS) Hatchie Headlines' staff writer Laura Renfroe earned All-Mississippi Student Journalist for the 2019-2020 school year. Renfroe was the only sophomore last year to earn this award; the other winners were seniors. The school newspaper now has its own Facebook page. Like Hatchie Headlines on Facebook to stay up to date with important PHS news and events.

"ACT" their age: test prep



Special to
Pelahatchie News

By Guest Columnist Dr.
Teague Burchfield,
Principal, Pelahatchie
High School

Many of you remember it like it was yesterday. It was an early Saturday morning, and there were several students hanging out around the testing site that you were not familiar with. You were stressed because you didn't know what you had gotten yourself into, and all you remember your parents saying before you left the house was not to waste their money on a bad performance. You checked your wallet multiple times for your ID as well as your ticket for entry while you hoped that the two pencils that you brought with you would make it through the test. As you entered the testing room, all you could think about was finishing with a respectable outcome.

Yes, we all remember how the ACT made us feel on test day. Instruction and guidance was limited. Sadly, the only advice I received from my teachers was to dull the lead of my two number two pencils down so that I could fill the answer bubbles in more efficiently (it's true!). Decades have passed, and the ACT is still the most recognized assessment that colleges observe to gauge collegiate readiness out of high school. While anxiety can still find its way into the minds of students on test day, when it comes to preparing for the ACT in the Rankin County School District, our students are quite fortunate.

Today, students are far more equipped regarding preparation for the assessment. Most of our juniors are

scheduled into an ACT Prep class that rotates throughout the year to focus on the four key areas of the test (English, Mathematics, Reading, & Science). Our students receive a Boot Camp that is led by Mr. Montgomery Hinton, who is a wonderful resource for all of our students. These very students also benefit from a free ACT, paid for by the Rankin County School District. Furthermore, students who show the most growth within the calendar year while taking the ACT are eligible for monetary rewards provided by the district through its sponsors.

In many ways, the ACT has grown in importance as more and more students graduate from high school and seek a collegiate education. As you well know, a good performance on the test can lead to scholarships for colleges of all levels. Our students understand this and have prepared appropriately.

On October 6, our juniors, along with many seniors, will take the ACT at Pelahatchie High School. Again, they are quite fortunate to have the many different resources that the Rankin County School District makes available to them. However, support from school is not enough. If you have a family member that is taking the ACT, provide some positive words of encouragement; it will go a long way in boosting their morale towards the task at hand. Also, make sure they get a good night's rest as well as a nice breakfast, so that they are energized for the day's work.

To close, best of luck to those that are taking the ACT this upcoming week. Thank you as well for providing the extra support at home to move our students in the appropriate direction. Go Chiefs!



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Jason Tate promoted to U.S. Army Colonel

Special to Pelahatchie News

Pelahatchie native and Northwest Rankin High School graduate Jason F. Tate was recently pinned and promoted to U.S. Army Colonel and is assigned Project Manager of the STARE Project Office in Madison, Alabama.

Col. Tate graduated from the Army War College in Carlisle, Pa., with a Master of Strategic Studies on June 4, 2020, having entered the college a Lieutenant Colonel before earning his promotion to the rank of Colonel on June

8, 2020, being pinned by Mr. Larry Muzzelo, the Communications-Electronics Command Deputy to the Commanding General at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland.



Special to Pelahatchie News

Pelahatchie's Jason Tate was recently promoted to U.S. Army Colonel. The son of Joe and Brenda Tate is stationed in Madison, Alabama.

Col. Tate holds a doctorate of philosophy in management from Walden University, a Master of Science degree in Environmental Management from Webster University and a Master of Arts degree in International Relations from the University of Oklahoma.

Col. Tate and his family recently moved from Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md. to Redstone Arsenal in Huntsville, Ala., where Col. Tate assumed command of Project Management Office Search, Track, Acquire, Radiate, Eliminate (STARE). As the STARE Project

Manager, Col. Tate is responsible for the development, testing, and procurement of the Army's Field Artillery and Air Defense Radars under Program Executive Office Missiles and Space. Colonel Tate is a 1998 graduate of Tougaloo College with a bachelor's degree in Biology and is married to the former Kandie S. Stovall, M.D. of Huntsville, Ala. They have three sons, Noah Tate, 18, Nathan Tate, 15, and Nicholas Tate, 12.

Col. Tate is the son of Joe and Brenda Tate of Pelahatchie.

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