



PELAHATCHIE NEWS NETWORK



September 2024 ■ Volume 13, Issue 9 ■ Pelahatchie, MS

Paving Paths: Mr. Eric Brooks inspires students as PHS Career Coach

By Kessie Key, Computer Science Instructor
Pelahatchie High School

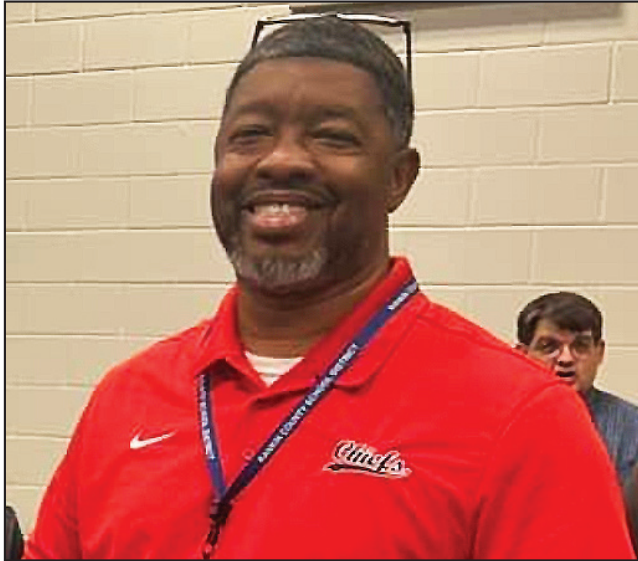
Students to Achieve

In the bustling halls of Pelahatchie High School, one man stands out as a beacon of guidance and support for students navigating their academic and career journeys. Mr. Eric Brooks, the school's dedicated Career Coach, is making a profound impact on campus, empowering students to dream big and achieve their goals.

Mr. Brooks has held many rolls in education including a Middle School History Teacher, Middle School Assistance Principal, and Elementary and High School Lead Principal. He has thirty-one years of experience in education that covers public, private, and charter schools (including his two years as career coach).

Preparing for Success: The Importance of ACT Prep

When it comes to preparing for the ACT, Mr. Brooks emphasizes the significance of participat-



Special to Pelahatchie News

Eric Brooks, Career Coach at Pelahatchie High School

ing in ACT prep classes. While self-study materials can be helpful, he believes that structured classes provide invaluable guidance and test-tak-

ing strategies. "We all know that the higher your ACT is, the more money you can get for college," Mr. Brooks states, underscoring the financial benefits of achieving a high score.

Beyond College Admissions: The Broader Value of the ACT

Mr. Brooks sees the ACT as more than just a college entrance requirement. He highlights its potential to unlock financial aid opportunities, making higher education more accessible. "College is very expensive," he acknowledges. "The more opportunities you have to earn scholarships, you should take advantage of it."

Motivated to Guide: A Career Coach's Passion

Mr. Brooks's passion for his role as a career coach shines through. He understands the challenges students face in choosing a career path. "There are so many careers out there, and a lot of times kids don't know how," he explains.

"They may want to do something but don't know what path to get on to do what they need to do." His

Continued on page 2

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Crossroads Baptist Church welcomes new pastor

Special to Pelahatchie News

Cross Roads Baptist Church would like to announce that after much prayer and discernment, Steven Platt has been called to be their new pastor. Platt brings a deep love for God, a passion for serving others, and a heart dedicated to leading the congregation in faith and community.

Cross Roads believes that Platt is the right person to guide them in this next chapter, and they look forward to the many blessings that will come through his leadership.



Platt, along with his family will begin their ministry with Cross Roads October 1st.



Photos special to Pelahatchie News

The Platt family

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A CARING & FRIENDLY ATMOSPHERE

Continued from Front page

motivation stems from helping students find that path, whether it leads to college or the workforce.

Discovering Dreams: Encouraging Exploration

For students unsure of their career aspirations, Mr. Brooks offers unwavering support. He encourages them to explore their interests and discover their passions. "I'm going to continue to dig into you until you find out what you want to do," he assures them. He helps students realize that no dream is too big or too small to pursue.

Advice for All: From Freshmen to Seniors

Mr. Brooks's guidance extends to students at all grade levels. He emphasizes that it's never too early to start thinking about career paths. "I'm not just here for seniors and juniors, I'm here for everybody," he emphasizes. Whether a student is a freshman exploring college options or a senior preparing applications, Mr. Brooks is there to help.

Personalized College Recommendations: Tailored to Student Interests

When asked about college recommendations, Mr. Brooks takes a personalized approach. He considers each student's major and interests, offering suggestions that align with their goals. From nursing programs at Hinds, Alcorn, or USM to engineering programs at Mississippi State, he helps students find the best fit for their academic pursuits.

Inspired to Teach: A Passion for Learning

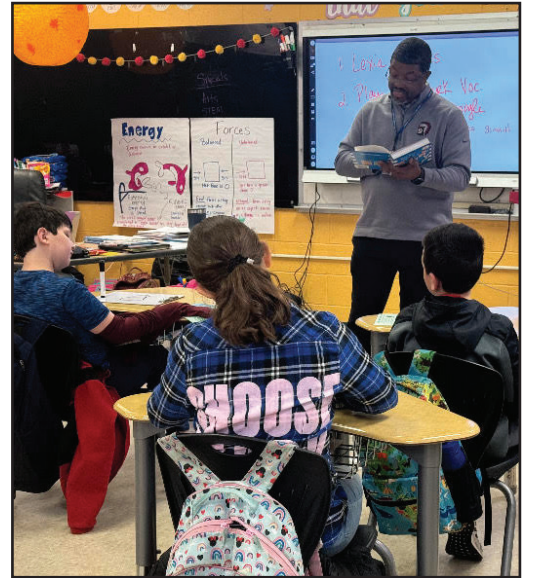
Mr. Brooks's journey into teaching was sparked by his own passion for learning. He initially pursued mass communication in college but discovered a love for education along the way. "I wanted to turn that into making sure that other kids learn as well," he explains. His enthusiasm for learning is

contagious, inspiring students to embrace their own educational journeys.

Advice for College-Bound Students: Hard Work and Dedication

For students heading to college, Mr. Brooks offers practical advice. He stresses the importance of hard work, dedication, and meeting deadlines. "Work hard, go to class, do the things you're supposed to do, have a work ethic and meet those deadlines, don't procrastinate," he advises.

Mr. Brooks's unwavering commitment to student success is evident in every interaction. He is a true champion for Pelahatchie High School students, empowering them to achieve their full potential and embark on fulfilling careers. As he continues to guide and inspire, Mr. Brooks is leaving an indelible mark on the lives of countless young people.



Photos special to Pelahatchie News



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PES 6th graders present "Leave Your Mark" rocks

Pelahatchie Elementary 6th graders completed their "Leave Your Mark" rocks this week as they begin their last year in the elementary and added them to the gravel path in the outdoor classroom. Students love leaving behind a positive message to encourage all students that will see their rock. They also have a lesson about what their legacy is and how to ensure they

leave a positive mark on others with what they do and say, both in person and online, because those actions can never be taken back.

This annual tradition is adding to the beauty of the school's outdoor classroom and everyone loves seeing the creative rocks each year.



Photos special to Pelahatchie News



HOW DOES IT WORK?

Southern Pine bills are voluntarily rounded up to the next dollar each month, and your small contribution is combined with contributions from other members. Twice a year, applications will be accepted and vetted by the Pinebelt Foundation, reviewed by the Southern Pine Member Advisory Committee, and funds will be dispersed to the selected charitable organizations who serve our 11-county service area.

WHO BENEFITS?

We all do! The major funding categories to be considered for grant funding are:

- Community Services
- First Responders
- Education and Youth
- Environment

HOW CAN I FIND OUT MORE OR OPT OUT?

Scan the QR code or visit southernpine.coop/MHM to find out more about Members Helping Members or opt out the program.



Pelahatchie Library August Events

Pelahatchie Garden Club Interest Meeting
THURSDAY
SEPTEMBER 12, 5:30 P.M.

Senior Citizens' Social
TUESDAY, SEPT. 10, 11:00 A.M.
TUESDAY, SEPT. 24, 11:00 A.M.

Adult Book Club
WEDNESDAY
SEPTEMBER 18, 11:00 A.M.
DISCUSSING *LOST LAKE*
BY PHILLIP MARGOLIN

*THE LIBRARY WILL BE OPEN SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 14 FROM 10:00 A.M. TO 4:00 P.M. FOR THE MUSCADINE FESTIVAL.



PHS SPORTS GAMES SCHEDULE: SEPTEMBER



TUE SEP 3, 2024 - 4:30 PM VOLLEYBALL @ SCOTT CENTRAL JV/V
6:00 PM JH FOOTBALL VS PISGAH

FRI SEP 6, 2024 - 7PM FOOTBALL VS STRINGER

MON SEP 9, 2024 - 9 AM MAKE UP PICTURE DAY

TUE SEP 10, 2024 - 4:30PM VOLLEYBALL VS ST ANDREWS JH/JV/V
6:00PM JH FOOTBALL @ SEBASTAPOL

THU SEP 12, 2024 - 4:30 PM VOLLEYBALL VS PISGAH JH/JV/V

FRI SEP 13, 2024 - 7:00 PM FOOTBALL VS LAKE

TUE SEP 17, 2024- 5:00 PM VOLLEYBALL @ PUCKETT JV/V
6:00 PM JH FOOTBALL VS McLAURIN

THU SEP 19, 2024 - 4:30 PM VOLLEYBALL VS McLAURIN JH/JV/V

FRI SEP 20, 2024 - 7:00 PM FOOTBALL @ RICHLAND

TUE SEP 24, 2024 - 4:30 PM VOLLEYBALL @ ST. ANDREWS JH/JV/V
6:00 PM JH FOOTBALL @ LAKE

THU SEP 26, 2024 - 4:30 PM VOLLEYBALL @ PISGAH JH/JV/V

FRI SEP 27, 2024 - 7:00 PM FOOTBALL @ MORTON

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City Beat: Mayor, Alderman meeting for August 5, 2024



By Shaun McInnish, Sr., City Beat Writer,
Pelahatchie News

Special to
Pelahatchie News

The Pelahatchie town meeting on Monday, August 5, began at 6:00 P.M., with Mayor Karl VanHorn calling the meeting to order. Alderman Eddie Jones led the invocation, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Mayor VanHorn then conducted the roll call, confirming the attendance of Alderwoman Diane Hill, Alderwoman Sandra Harvey, Alderwoman Margie Warren, Alderman Eddie Jones, and Alderman James Harrell.

Residents and Visitors' Business:

The meeting began with Waggoner Engineering's Hayden Overby, Project Manager, and discussed the potential extension of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) obligation deadline until December. The board discussed, considered and voted on the proposal.

Department Discussions:

The board briefly reviewed reports from the Police, Maintenance, Clerk, and Zoning departments.

During the police department's discussion, the focus was on drafting a new ordinance to ban the operation of ATVs on streets and public roads within city limits. The police chief and the city attorney agreed to collaborate on drafting the ordinance, which will be presented for a vote at next month's meeting.

New Business:

The board swiftly addressed the following items under new business:

1. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes (July 1, 2024): A motion was made, seconded, and carried to approve the minutes from the previous meeting.
2. Approval of Payment of Unpaid Claims Docket: The board discussed and approved the payment of the unpaid claims docket.
3. Approval of Disbursement to Morgan and White



Insurance (\$5,616.33): The motion to approve this disbursement was passed without opposition.

4. Approval of Bank Draft Payment to Blue Cross Insurance (\$9,140.89):** The board voted in favor of the bank draft payment.

5. Approval of Bank Draft Payment to EMC Insurance (\$6,536.27): The board approved this payment for property insurance.

6. Approval and Ratification of July 2024 Payroll: The board approved and ratified July's payroll, totaling

\$71,127.72 from the General Fund and \$25,105.54 from the Enterprise Fund. The motion passed.

Alderman Discussions:

Alderwoman Diane Hill: No comments or discussion items.

Alderwoman Sandra Harvey: Raised questions about expenditures from the general fund and the Muscadine Jubilee fund, which were addressed to her satisfaction. She had no further comments.

Alderwoman Margie Warren: No comments or discussion items.

Alderman Eddie Jones: Emphasized the importance of storm preparedness in light of Hurricane Debby, which became a Category 1 hurricane on August 4. Though the storm ultimately missed our town and our state, Alderman Jones highlighted the need for preventative planning and urged residents to be vigilant about being prepared for any potential severe weather and the condition of trees that could pose a risk during severe weather.

Alderman James Harrell: No discussion items were presented.

Mayor's Comments:

Mayor Karl VanHorn reported multiple complaints about vehicles—cars, trucks, and SUVs—being parked on public streets and blocking driveways, which is a violation of city ordinances. He and the police chief agreed to increase enforcement of this and other ordinance violations.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

PELAHATCHIE NEWS NETWORK



WRITERS NEEDED

PELAHATCHIE AREA

• COMMUNITY FEATURE WRITER

If you enjoy writing, working with the public, and are interested in being a part of what is going on in our town and local community please contact Clay Mansell

claymansell@pelahachienews.com



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Brody's Bread: Young Baker Brody Yarborough Rises to the Occasion

By Kenneth McDade

At just 10 years old, Brody Yarborough is making quite a name for himself in the world of baking. Specializing in sourdough bread and cinnamon rolls, Brody has already built a budding business that is delighting the taste buds of his local community. Brody's Bread is the name of his business. We talked with Brody to learn more about his passion, his process, and his plans for the future.

Brody's journey into baking began in an unexpected place: YouTube. "I saw a video on YouTube," he says, describing the initial spark that ignited his interest. From there, it was his grandmother, affectionately known as Mimi, who nurtured his budding passion. "My Mimi taught me how to bake," Brody recalls fondly.

What started as a fun activity quickly turned into a serious pursuit. "I enjoyed the fun," Brody says, but it was clear he had a knack for it. Now, his baking routine is methodical and precise. "We have three starters that we feed every four to seven days. Then we make the dough and let it rise. After that, we roll out the cinnamon, cut them to size, and let them rise again."

When asked about his favorite part of baking, Brody's eyes light up. "The



Photos special to Pelahatchie News

Brody Yarborough

fun," he says without hesitation. But there's more to it than just enjoyment. Brody reveals that his secret ingredient is "an abundance of love." This love is evident in every batch, especially in the specialty rolls he's been experimenting with. "We add things we like. We are making specialty rolls, birthday cakes, homegrown and handpicked blueberries, and cookies and cream."

Balancing his baking business with his education might seem challenging, but Brody manages it well. "I work around

my homeschooling to get things done," he explains. Initially, he even hired his big brother to help clean the kitchen. "Now the whole family is involved with the volume I make," he adds.

Brody sells his cinnamon rolls at Down Right Southern, his family's store, and at the local Farmer's Market each month. Pricing and other business decisions are a family affair. "Momma helps with that part," he says.

Running a business at such a young age is not without its challenges. "Working every day" is the toughest part, according to Brody. However, seeing the positive response from his customers makes it all worthwhile. "That everyone is loving what I am doing," he says proudly, is his greatest achievement so far. And when things don't go as planned? "Start over," he advises simply.

Looking ahead, Brody has big dreams. "Growing the business and becoming the Mayor of Pelahatchie, and opening a restaurant and having a food truck," he shares with a smile. For now, he's enjoying the journey. "Making the money and making the dough," he says, summing up his dual love for baking and business.

Despite his busy schedule, Brody still finds time for fun. "I still play tennis, ride dirt bikes, and play games with my

uncle," he says. His advice for other young aspiring entrepreneurs? "Just do it and don't be scared."

When asked who he'd most like to bake for, Brody chooses a close-to-home hero: "My neighbor David." And when it comes to his favorite non-baked food? "Potato soup with bacon bits," he confesses.

Brody Yarborough's story is a testament to what passion, family support, and a little bit of fun can achieve. With his talent and determination, the future looks bright for this young baker and his delicious creations.



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Mayor's Prayer Breakfast: Morning of Unity and Celebration

By Kenneth McDade

The Pelahatchie community is eagerly anticipating the annual Mayor's Prayer Breakfast, set to take place on September 7, 2024, starting at 8:00 AM at the Pelahatchie Baptist Church's Fellowship Hall. This cherished event, organized by Mayor Carl Van Horn, promises a morning filled with fellowship, worship, and fun.

"This is a time for the community to get together for good fellowship, worship, and fun," said Mayor Carl

Van Horn, emphasizing the spirit of unity and camaraderie that the breakfast fosters. ees will also hear from State Senator Brian Rhodes, who will be the guest speaker, sharing insights and words of inspiration.

The event is not just about food and speeches; it is a celebration that includes door prizes and activities designed to bring the community closer together. The Men's Club of the Pelahatchie Baptist Church will be serving the breakfast, ensuring a delicious start to the day's festivities.

The Mayor's Prayer Breakfast is more than just a local tradition; it is an event that helps kick off the



Van Horn, emphasizing the spirit of unity and camaraderie that the breakfast fosters.

Tickets for the event are available for purchase at the Town Hall for \$10.00 each, making it accessible for everyone in the community to join. The breakfast is a highly anticipated occasion, drawing elected officials, local residents, and community leaders together for a meaningful start to the day.

This year's entertainment will be provided by Nikki Shoemaker, whose performance is sure to add a lively touch to the morning. Attend-

Muscadine Jubilee, setting the tone for the festivities that follow. This yearly event is a highlight for many in Pelahatchie, providing an opportunity for the entire town to gather, connect, and celebrate their shared values and community spirit.

Mark your calendars for September 7 and join us at the Pelahatchie Baptist Church's Fellowship Hall for a morning of food, fun, fellowship, and inspiration. Don't miss this opportunity to be part of a beloved community tradition and experience the warmth and unity that makes Pelahatchie special.

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Pelahatchie Elementary School welcomes First Day 2024



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East Rankin Patriots start new year, finish well at Magee



Special to Pelahatchie News

The East Rankin Academy Patriots kicked off another cross country season at the Simpson Academy Early Bird on Monday, August 12th at Neely Farms in Magee. Both varsity teams defended their wins from the 2023 opener. Finishing in the Top 10, senior, Audrey Mayatte (2nd); 7th grader, Jewel Baker (3rd); freshman, Emma Raines (5th); freshman, Zack Price (2nd); junior, RT Tate (3rd); and sophomore, Jon Riemann (9th). In the JV division, the JV girls finished 2nd overall and the JV boys finished 5th with a Top 10 finish from 7th grader, Micah Sigrest (8th). Fourteen Patriots set a new PR in the two mile to include: Micah Sigrest (13:22.20), Ben Tingle (15:33.90), Baylor Sartin (18:52.40), Jewel Baker (12:31.20), Emma Raines (12:49.40), Jensen Baker (13:31.40), Chandler Hunt (13:44.50), Kate Bryant (13:51.60), Breland Moulds (15:01.10), Audrey Hawk (16:15.70), Zack Price (10:35.50), RT Tate (10:50.00), Jon Riemann (11:25.40), and Taylor Stroh (11:55.00). L-R Front: Jewel Baker, JP Pierce, Zack Price, Taylor Stroh, Chandler Hunt, Arin Hawk, Paige Mayatte, Lily Kanengiser, Haley Headrick, Emma Raines L-R Back: Jensen Baker, RT Tate, Jon Riemann, Jackson Fountain, Audrey Mayatte, Lane Riemann, Abby Raines, Kate Bryant, Audrey Hawk, Coach David Hopper.

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Pelahatchie Baptist Church welcomes new youth minister



Special to Pelahatchie News

Hunter Ketteringham is the new Youth Minister at Pelahatchie Baptist Church. Shown with his wife Bailey, and their children Kodi and Easton.

East Rankin welcomes new school year 2024-25



PELAHATCHIE NEWS NETWORK



PAST HEADLINES

2014 - 10 years ago

- "Prayer Breakfast sheds light on town's perseverance"
- "National Night Out at the park"

2019 - 5 years ago

- "Gary Varner gets "miracle" lung transplant"
- "PriorityOne Bank featured in Microsoft Case Study"

2023 - Last Year

- "The Belle of Pelahatchie: The Lateshia Pearson Story"
- "Meet the Coach: East Rankin Academy's Brian Jones"



Photos special to Pelahatchie News

The Power of Conversation: Boosting Academic and Social Success



By Guest Columnist,
Robin Sanders, Principal,
Pelahatchie Elementary School

As an elementary educator for over 26 years, I've seen firsthand the incredible impact that meaningful conversations can have on a child's

academic and social development. We often talk to our children every day—giving instructions, asking questions, and telling stories. However, engaging in real conversations, where there is a two-way exchange, is a different and vital way of connecting with our children.

What Makes a Conversation?

A conversation is more than just speaking to your child; it's a dialogue where both parties listen, respond, and share in a pattern of communication that fosters understanding. This exchange is not just about talking to your child, but talking with them. It involves giving them time to respond and truly hearing what they have to say. Conversations can range from serious topics, such as discussing friendships or challenges, to playful and funny exchanges. The key is that through these interactions, your child learns to be an effective communicator.

Why Conversations Matter

Engaging in meaningful conversations with your child builds trust, strengthens your bond, and boosts their confidence. When your child knows that you care about their thoughts, feelings, and experiences, they learn to communicate with respect and to listen to others. These are crucial life skills that will benefit them throughout their lives.

Additionally, conversations are a powerful tool for building vocabulary and language skills. They provide opportunities for your child to express their thoughts, ask questions, and explore new ideas. Through these discussions, children develop their thinking and language abilities, which are essential for academic success.

Simple Ways to Start Meaningful Conversations

- 1. Start Early:** Conversations don't need words. Even with babies, you can engage in a form of conversation by responding to their coos and babbles. Look them in the eye, smile, and talk. This back-and-forth interaction lays the foundation for future conversations.
- 2. Encourage Participation:** For toddlers who may not yet have a vast vocabulary, respond to any sound they make as if it's a meaningful part of



the conversation. This not only encourages them to continue trying to communicate but also shows that you value their efforts.

3. Sing and Play: Songs and rhymes are great conversation starters. Sing to your child and pause to let them join in before continuing. This playful interaction can turn into a delightful conversation that strengthens your bond.

4. Be Present: Meaningful conversations require your full attention. Set aside distractions, such as your mobile phone, and find quiet moments to talk—whether it's during a walk, before bedtime, or while sharing a meal. These moments create the perfect environment for your child to open up.

5. Listen and Observe: Sometimes, it's not what your child says, but how they say it that matters. Pay attention

to their body language and expressions. If your child is upset, acknowledge their feelings and listen, rather than jumping in with solutions. This shows that you respect their emotions and are there to support them.

6. Ask Open-Ended Questions: Encourage deeper conversations by asking open-ended questions that go beyond a simple 'yes' or 'no.' Questions like "What happened next?" or "How did that make you feel?" invite your child to share more about their thoughts and experiences.

7. Respect and Reflect: During conversations, especially in your native language, show respect for what your child is expressing. This not only strengthens their connection to family and culture but also supports their overall literacy development.

Fostering conversations at home is one of the most powerful ways to support your child's academic and social growth. By making time for meaningful dialogue, you're not only helping your child develop essential communication skills but also building a strong, trusting relationship that will benefit them throughout their lives. So, let's make time to talk with our children, listen to them, and nurture the seeds of curiosity, confidence, and connection.



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Saluting our veteran employees: Tedra Sirmon

By Hometown Rankin Magazine

Tedra Sirmon's dedication and passion for education shine brightly as she reflects on her 24-year journey at Pelahatchie Zone, starting in 2000 as a sixth-grade teacher. Tedra's role evolved over the years, leading her to find her true calling in teaching pre-kindergarten. She vividly describes the changes in technology, student engagement, and teaching methods that have transformed her day-to-day experiences since her first day on the job.

Through the years, Tedra has served under eight different administrators, observed football and basketball squads clinch state titles, witnessed significant events like 9/11, observed the school's growth and transformations, and navigated through challenges like the impact of COVID-19 on her young students. She has watched as the school grounds transformed with fresh structures and a rise in student population. She has empathized with students mourning the loss of their parents and has educated the offspring of former pupils. Over the years, significant trans-



Saluting Our Veteran Employees
TEDRA SIRMON
PELAHATCHIE ZONE
24 YEARS

Photos special to Pelahatchie News

formations have occurred at Pelahatchie. Students now heavily rely on technology requiring Sirmon and her colleagues to adapt constantly. Safety concerns have also evolved, with heightened security measures in place. Previously, school doors remained unlocked without the current safety worries prevalent in today's world. Curriculum adjustments, teaching methods, learning requirements, and student behaviors have all undergone substantial changes. The

educational landscape today is vastly different from when Tedra first started, reflecting the evolving needs of our students.

Her favorite memories include recollections of particular students that bring delight and amusement when they come to mind. She also has enjoyed when authors and illustrators for children's books have visited, and students had the opportunity to engage with them. However, her dearest memories revolve around the privilege of teaching her son in kindergarten and being present at school

alongside her children. Being able to attend their activities, witness them in the cafeteria, acquaint herself with their friends, greet them at the day's end, and actively participate in their learning journey has been a privilege.

Tedra's deep connection to Pelahatchie goes beyond just a workplace; it is where she lives, works, and nurtures her family. The sense of community and the close relationships forged with students and families over the years have kept her rooted in Pelahatchie. During tough times, Tedra finds strength in positivity, humor, supportive colleagues, and appreciative feedback. Responsive school leadership has been crucial in sustaining her motivation during challenging times.

Her advice to students emphasizes the importance of faith in transformation and the impact of their choices on themselves and others. As Tedra prepares to embark on her 24th year at Pelahatchie, her story is a testament to dedication, resilience, and the profound impact of a teacher's unwavering commitment to shaping young minds.




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Pastor's Perspective: The Word of God and His Power unleashed



By Guest Columnist
Spencer Sullivan, Pastor,
Pelahatchie Baptist

Special to
Pelahatchie News

As people, we are drawn to great demonstrations of power. For example, as sports fans, we're amazed and in awe of powerful athletes. The most ooohs and aaahs at football games in the Fall are generated by the biggest hits. At basketball games we love the fast breaks when guys seem to glide through the air before throwing down a thunderous dunk. Those plays set the arena into an uproar of deafening cheers. But as a former baseball player, I love watching pitchers throw 100+ mph fastballs by whiffing bats or when the sluggers launch baseballs deep into the night, landing in the upper deck or even clear out of the stadium. These are the plays that bring us to our feet. They cause us to cheer at the top of our lungs. Maybe your thing is auto racing or MMA or wrestling. But, regardless, you get my point. We love power.

The Bible is absolutely full of examples that display the might and power of God. In fact, the very first words of



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Genesis capture God creating the universe and all that we see and know on this earth by the simple word of His power. Moses and the Israelites witnessed firsthand the power of God as they observed the plagues in Egypt and then walked through the Red Sea on dry ground with walls of water to their left and right. The Son of God performed miracles that left both His disciples and His opponents speechless. He brought sight to the blind and strength to the lame. He fed thousands of people with a few fish and loaves of bread. He set free weary souls by casting out demons

who knew who He was and covered at His name. He walked on water and even the winds and the waves obeyed when He spoke to them. He even restored the dead to life! As the kids say, the OG was and is OP! Ask a teenager if you need translation help. That's what I do. :) If my children were to read this, they would cringe!

For some reason, though, when we read about His great power, it rarely has the same effect as seeing something with our own eyes. Perhaps, we read the stories of old as if they are fantasy or fiction. However, the power of God is

no less real today than it was when Jesus walked the earth. In fact, He is changing lives all around the world every day. As the Good News is proclaimed and people believe, His power over sin and death is unleashed. While He answers prayer and while there is evidence of His healing in different situations, His greatest display of power is redeeming lost sinners doomed to an eternity in Hell to a right relationship with the holy and almighty God and an eternity in Heaven. While we are born sinners by nature, we are still guilty and unable to make right all the wrong. Instead, Jesus unjustly endured the wrath of His Father that we absolutely deserve. Therefore, through no merit of our own, we can be made right in the eyes of God through faith and belief in the all-powerful work of Jesus. Some reject this Good News because they don't believe they need it. Others reject this Good News because they feel they've sinned too much or gone too far. But the truth is each one of us needs this Good News and no one is too far. I invite you to experience the power of God for salvation (Romans 1:16) by turning from your sin and by placing your faith in the only One who has the power to rescue and save!



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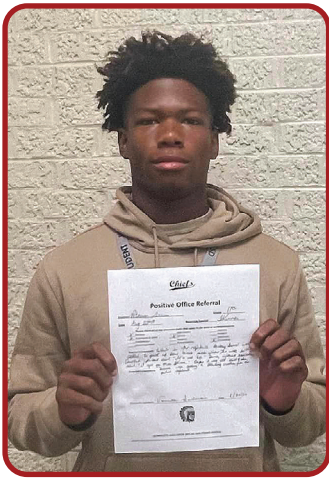


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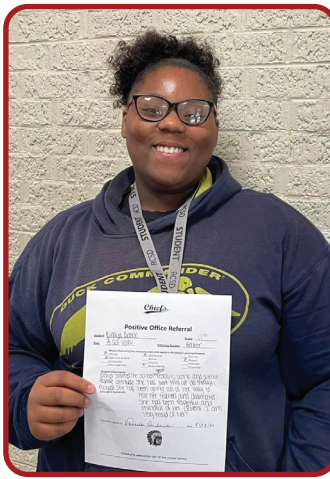
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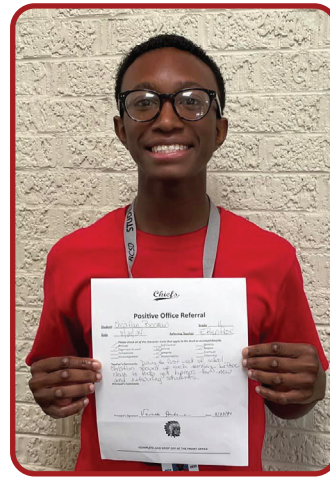
PHS recognizes excellent students with office referrals



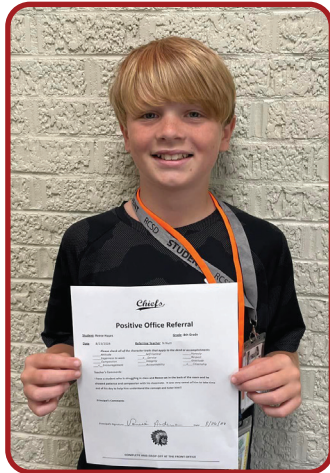
Pelahatchie High School (PHS) is proud of Laterrion (Duna) Irvin for his positive attitude & willingness to be himself. His recent positive office referral proves that being a leader is something to be proud of and celebrate.



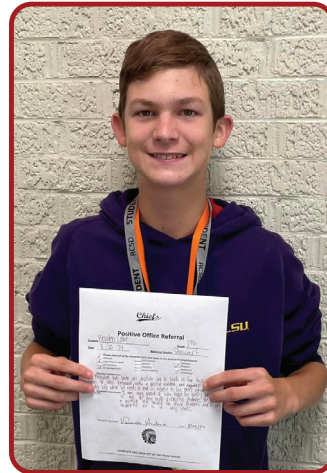
Nialija Boone is setting the bar high this school year at PHS. Her dedication and positive attitude are contagious, inspiring her peers to strive for greatness too.



Christian Beeman is a true PHS hero for his dedication to helping students get their laptops before school these first few weeks has made a huge difference. Thank you, Christian, for going above and beyond.




Reece Hayes is starting his week off in the best way possible; helping others succeed. Mrs. Nutt noticed Reece willingly stepping in to help tutor a classmate on a concept they were struggling to master. Taking initiative and showing compassion are two traits we love to see within our Tribe.



Brayden Lowe started the school year with an eagerness to come to class prepared, complete his work, and lead by example in every classroom he entered. Students like Brayden are worthy of praise and acknowledgment. We are so proud of how well you represent the true characteristics of being a Chief.


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PriorityOne Bank recognizes employees' years of service

Congratulations to Sam Whitehead and Lynn Harrell for 25 years, Kimberly Chain, Leanna Walker, and Leslie Welch for 15 years, and Jackie Ables for 10 years of outstanding service to PriorityOne Bank. Dedication and hard work have greatly contributed to the bank's success. PriorityOne is proud of your achievements and grateful for your unwavering commitment over the years.



Sam Whitehead (right)



Kimberly Chain (left)



Leanna Walker (right)



Lynn Harrell (left)



Leslie Welch (right)



Jackie Ables (left)

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The caterpillar vs. the oakleaf PHS Band prepares for new year and their next competition



By Doug Carter, Rankin County Extension Agent

Special to Pelahatchie News

Some years, usually about this time of the year, we begin seeing defoliation of oak trees. Variable Oakleaf Caterpillars are common on oaks and other hardwoods throughout the state, but especially in the northern part of the state. Normally, their populations are kept in check by a variety of beneficial insects and diseases, including tiny wasps that parasitize their eggs. But during outbreak years these caterpillars can cause severe, and complete defoliation of oaks and other hardwoods. These caterpillars have two generations per year in the south, and second-generation caterpillars may cause additional defoliation of trees in other locations. As the name suggests, variable oakleaf caterpillars vary considerably in color, but the dark 'sideburns' on either side of the head capsule are good identification clues. Few other caterpillars have these. Mature caterpillars are about 1.5 inches long.



Photo courtesy of Blake Layton, MSU Extension Office

Controlling these caterpillars is usually impractical on large landscape trees because 1) trees are too big to spray, 2) the risk of off target spray drift is too great, and 3) most of the damage

has already been done by the time infestation is noticed and the infestation has almost run its course. Fortunately, healthy hardwood trees usually recover, even from being completely defoliated, without suffering serious long-term injury. Keeping trees watered during periods of drought will aid in recovery. Insecticides containing Spinosad (Fertlome, Green Light, Bonide, Monterey, and a few others sell homeowner formulations, and Conserve is for commercial applicators), or chlorantraniliprole (Acelepryn for commercial applicators) can be used to control caterpillars on small or high value trees in cases where such applications are practical.

Source: "Variable Oakleaf Caterpillar", *Bugs Eye View*, July 2017, Mississippi State University Extension



Photos special to Pelahatchie News

The Pelahatchie High School band will be performing in the Titan Invitational at Ridgeland High School on September 28th. It will be their first competition of the season.

Yogi bear™, Cindy bear™, and Boo Boo™ would like to welcome you to Jellystone Park™ in Pelahatchie, MS.

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Yogi bear and all related character and elements © & ™ Hanna-Barbera. (S24)

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