

**Mississippi Heat Futbol
preparing for Spring 2016**

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**Robinson trades dairy farming
for teaching at Pelahatchie**

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NEWS Pelahatchie

**January
2016**

Volume 5

Issue 1

Pelahatchie, MS

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Pelahatchie, MS 39145

Pelahatchie High School promotes lexiles

By: Susie A. Wolfe

According to Pelahatchie High School (PHS) Principal Bryan Marshall, a lexile is a measure of reading comprehension.

"Math and science have lexile ratings. It's all about understanding what you read," said Marshall.

Every teacher and student at PHS knows what a lexile is and how it impacts their life. If a student has a lexile level of 1185, they may be eligible for a college scholarship, or they may get a job making \$20,000 to \$40,000 a year.

Dr. Marshall, Assistant Principal Lewis Bradford and teacher Voncille Anderson put together a chart to equate lexile scores to earnable dollars, and there is one in every classroom. They combined reading scores with job salaries in 16 career clusters.

Each student has a chief head representing what category they are in, but

with no names. As the scores change, the chief is moved to the corresponding category so everyone is aware of the progress.

"Everything we do focuses on increasing reading comprehension," said Marshall. "Critical thinking builds problem solvers."

There are a number of assessment tests given throughout the year, which help measure where each student is in various subjects, and helps track growth. Marshall is part of the Accountability Task Force that sets the standards. He said there are 12-14 members around the state.

Marshall keeps up with all the numbers to see the progress from seventh grade through twelfth grade. It shows what's working and what needs improvement.

The 2015 senior class has 51 seniors, and, according to Marshall, 25 are currently college ready, and 12 more are

on the cusp. In 2014, PHS had 68% qualified for college. In 2014, five students had 22 or higher on the ACT, and in 2015, 15 are already at that stage.

PHS teaches college classes, where students can earn up to 44 hours college credit in English composition and literature, algebra and trigonometry and biology through the dual credit program. They also offer advanced placement in history courses.

"Changing the community and the culture starts with producing students that can think and adapt," said Marshall. "The jobs that our seventh graders will get don't even exist now."

| LEXILES TO DOLLARS | | | |
|--------------------|---|-----------------------|------------------|
| EST. LEXILE LEVELS | CHIEFS | AVERAGE YEARLY SALARY | \$/ LEXILE POINT |
| 1700+ | | \$100,000+ | \$\$\$ |
| 1550-1700 |  | \$80,000-\$100,000 | \$58.82 |
| 1450-1550 |  | \$60,000-\$80,000 | \$51.61 |
| 1300-1450 |  | \$40,000-\$60,000 | \$41.37 |
| 1050-1300 |  | \$20,000-\$40,000 | \$30.76 |
| 0-1050 |  | \$1,000-\$20,000 | \$19.04 |

Lexile chart example (Photo by Susie A. Wolfe)

Andrea Mayfield named Mississippi State University Alumnus of the Year

By: Susie A. Wolfe

Pelahatchie resident Andrea Scott Mayfield has been named 2016 Mississippi State University College of Education Alumnus of the Year. The Mississippi Community College Board's new executive director, Mayfield is a 2009 doctoral graduate in community college leadership.

The MSU committee that nominated her said that she exemplified the leadership qualities and accomplishments throughout her career to represent the college as their Alumnus of the Year.

The Alumnus of the Year banquet will be held on Friday, February 12.

Prior to beginning her new role as executive director, Dr. Mayfield served as president of Shelton State Community College in Tuscaloosa. She also worked at East Mississippi Community College in Scooba from 1996 – 2014. She held the positions of science instructor, distance learning coordi-



Andrea Mayfield (Photo special to The Pelahatchie News)

nator, academic dean, district director for institutional research and effectiveness, vice-president for academic

continued on page 5

Two dances for parents and kids set for February

By: Susie A. Wolfe

On Friday, February 5, mothers and sons are invited to a 50's Style of Night of Fun from 6:00 until 9:00 p.m. Then, on Saturday, February 6, there will be a father/daughter dance from 6:30 until 9:00 p.m.

The Pelahatchie Milltown Park is presenting the first mother/son dance, complete with poodle skirts and rolled up sleeves. Food will be from a diner menu, and entertainment, games, and door prizes are planned.

Tickets are \$22 purchased in advance by January 29, or \$30 at the door. One ticket is required per mother/son couple, additional tickets are \$8. Tickets can be purchased from City Hall or by contacting Jennifer Poole at 601-503-0332 or pelahatchiemilltownpark@gmail.com or pelahatchiemilltownpark.org.

The Pelahatchie Lions Club will

host the annual father/daughter dance for children 5-12 years of age on Saturday, February 6. Photos taken for the couple Image special to The Pelahatchie News



Sunday attire start at 6:30 p.m. Tickets are \$50 per couple with \$5 for each additional child. Picture cost is included.

Limited tickets are available. Tickets may be purchased Monday, 9:00 a.m. until 4:30 p.m., or Friday, 9:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m., at Trustmark National Bank in Pelahatchie.

For more information, contact Sharon Bray 601-854-8112 or Charlotte Clark 601-613-1540.



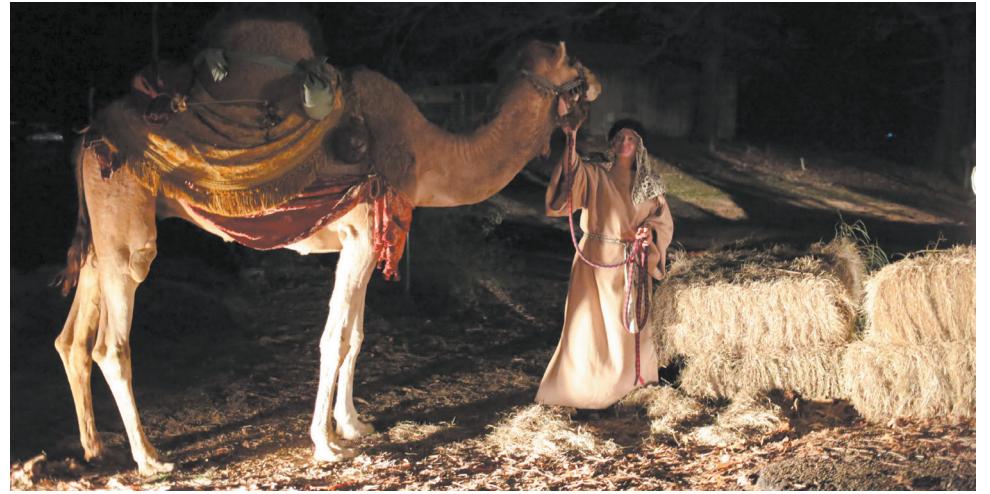
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Shiloh Methodist Church displays another successful live nativity



On Saturday, Dec. 12 and Sunday, Dec. 13, Shiloh United Methodist Church (SUMC) presented a live drive-through nativity scene and more scenes which depict the life of Jesus. SUMC calls the live-production "Journey Through Bethlehem and Beyond." (Photos by Rachael H. Boyer)



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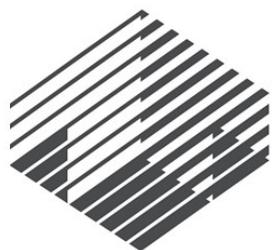
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Lynn Harrell promoted to PriorityOne Bank's branch officer

By: Susie A. Wolfe

Robert J. Barnes, President and CEO, PriorityOne Bank, recently announced the promotion of Lynn Harrell to branch officer. Barnes stated, "Lynn is a hard worker and a very valued employee at PriorityOne Bank. We are grateful for her dedication to our institution and pleased to offer her this promotion."

Harrell, a graduate of Brandon High School, has sixteen years of experience in banking, and has been with PriorityOne Bank since August, 1999. She has served in many areas of the bank, most recently as loan assistant and customer service representative.

Harrell and her husband live in Pelahatchie, and have three children, Curtis, Kayla (Matthew) and Candace,



Lynn Harrell (Photo special to The Pelahatchie News)

and one granddaughter, Paisyn.

PriorityOne Bank, based in Magee, operates fourteen offices in eleven Mississippi communities: Collins, Seminary, Hattiesburg, Magee, Mendenhall, Richland, Brandon, Ridgeland, Pearl, Pelahatchie, and Morton.

Hinds CC student finds his niche on the Rankin Campus

Special to *The Pelahatchie News*

Pelahatchie native Trevor Jordan started his tenure at Hinds Community College as a dually enrolled student from East Rankin Academy.

He had significant university scholarship offers but would have still needed student loans.

"The thought of going into debt at 18 years old for college made me rethink," he said, calling the idea "unsettling."

Instead, he enrolled at Hinds' Rankin Campus because he got

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Photo special to The Pelahatchie News



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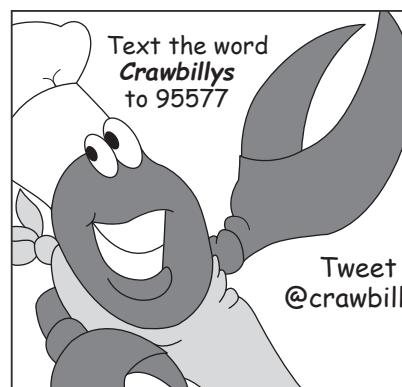


PELAHATCHIE ATTENDANCE CENTER - 2015 BASKETBALL CALENDAR

www.rcsd.ms/Page/26571

HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

| | | | |
|------------|---------------------|---------|------|
| Jan. 5 | Mendenhall | Away | 6:00 |
| Jan. 12 | Scott Central | Home | 6:00 |
| Jan. 15 | Puckett | Away | 6:00 |
| Jan. 19 | Pisgah | Away | 6:00 |
| Jan. 22 | St. Joe | Home | 6:00 |
| Jan. 26 | Lake | Home | 6:00 |
| Jan. 29 | Scott Central | Away | 6:00 |
| Feb. 2 | Puckett | Home | 6:00 |
| Feb. 5 | Pisgah | Home | 6:00 |
| Feb. 9 | St. Joe | Away | 6:00 |
| Feb. 12 | Lake | Away | 6:00 |
| Feb. 15-19 | District Tournament | Puckett | TBA |



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Hinds CC Honors program offers classes at Rankin for spring semester

Special to The Pelahatchie News

Students may now enroll in Honors courses at Hinds Community College's Rankin Campus through mid-January.

Rankin is offering Honors Calculus and Honors Principles of Geography, as well as two sections of Honors Forum. Students may also consider an Honors Contract for earning Honors credit.

"We encourage interested students to sign up through drop and add week in January," District Honors Institute Dean Debbie McCollum said. "Staff at the Rankin Campus will be able to assist students with changing their schedules to add Honors classes even if they have already registered."

The deadline to drop or add full-term on-campus classes is Jan. 15.

A full launch of the Honors program at the Rankin Campus is expected next fall.

"I was thrilled to hear about the Honors Program being placed in effect for Hinds Rankin Campus," said Elysha Roush, 21, a psychology major from Clinton. "While I'll only be able

to enjoy the program for my last semester, the fact that hundreds of other students will be not only able to benefit but also enjoy the program is an incredible thought."

In place at the Raymond Campus since fall 1996, the Honors Institute provides an enhanced and supportive learning environment for students. The Institute offers programming in four broad areas – Honors Program, Leadership Studies, International Studies and Phi Theta Kappa.

Students can qualify for the program on three criteria – a composite score of 25 or better on the ACT, a 3.5 or better high school GPA (on a 4.0 scale) or a Hinds GPA of 3.5 or better based on college transfer credit classes.

Those enrolled can earn Honors scholarships each semester and be considered for priority enrollment in international study and leadership classes. Members of the Honors Program are awarded \$150 to \$300 in scholarships each semester. Studies abroad by Honors students last year included travels to England, Ecuador and Costa Rica.

New year with a continued focus

By: Dr. Bryan Marshall, Pelahatchie High School Principal

Ugh. School has started back, and the excitement of the holiday season is behind us. It is now time to focus on the things that are important for our children. It is hard to get back into the regular routine of school and work, but we all know we have to do so. As far as school goes, we have hit the ground running focusing on literacy and ACT.

Parents, we want you to know that an ACT of 20 is a possibility for every child, and that a Lexile score of 1185 is also very probable. These are the goals of the teachers in the classroom. ACT score of 20 means scholarship money in many cases and college readiness. We also know that this ACT score will likely not happen without a Lexile score of at least an 1185.

So why is the school so focused on literacy and the measure of literacy? The reason is simple. Literacy builds the capacity for students to succeed in college and in the workplace. If we can provide a competent reader and thinker, the sky is the limit for what can be achieved.

So as we start the New Year, let's remember that each child needs to be challenged; and, as we challenge them, we also challenge parents to ensure that students are reading and thinking at home.

With all that said, it is time to focus on several things. First of all, focus on the schoolwork. Many of us like to procrastinate and fall behind from the very beginning of the semester. This is natural, and is human nature. It takes discipline to not fall behind. So focus



Dr. Bryan Marshall (Photo special to The Pelahatchie News)

on being disciplined and stay up-to-date with schoolwork.

Secondly, focus on family. The New Year brings about new resolutions. There is no secret that family is a major part of a child's life. Without a strong family to guide them, there seems to be little structure that ever finds its way into the child's life. So focus on family.

And finally, focus on the future. We honestly do not know what the future holds, and we certainly do not know what the jobs we are preparing for students look like in the future. But, most certainly, without preparing for the future, students have no future. To prepare for the future, we must teach students to be competent in literacy. Being able to read, write and think are key components to providing a quality future for our kids.

So, the New Years Resolution should be to help our students focus!

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Community Calendar

MILLTOWN PARK 2016 SPRING REGISTRATION

Baseball and Softball ages 4 to 12 and coed leagues
January 11 - February 8, 2016

Registration forms will be available at Pelahatchie City Hall or on our website, pelahatchiemilltownpark.org

On January 18, we will have a registration day at the Community Center from 4:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Contact Jennifer Poole at 601-503-0332 for any questions, or email pelahatchiemilltownpark@gmail.com. Like us on Facebook at Pelahatchie Milltown Park.

OBITUARY

Jody B. Riser— March 24, 1975 — December 7, 2015

Funeral services for Mr. Jody B. Riser were conducted on Saturday, December 12, at the Ephesus Baptist Church with Bro. Chris Harrison and Bro. Doyle Boyles officiating. Interment followed in the Ephesus Cemetery in Forest under the direction of Ott & Lee Funeral Home.

Jody Riser was born March 24, 1975, and passed away December 7, 2015 at the age of 40. Riser enjoyed his life to the fullest and exhibited that before those he came in contact with. Traveling the states and abroad, working in the yard and gardening, and

reading were favorite pass times.

A graduate of Scott Central High, East Central Community College, and the University of Memphis, he had a passion for teaching Spanish and instilling values in the lives of the students he taught. Riser taught at White Station High in Memphis, and most recently, Pelahatchie High School, at the time of his death.

He was a pet lover and a family man, showing special love for his nieces and nephews, whom he cared for and loved as his own. He was a member of Ephesus Baptist Church. He will be missed. His legacy will live on in the countless number of children's lives he impacted.

December teacher awards



Pelahatchie Attendance Center Teacher of the Month for December is Brandi Johns (right). The Teacher Team Player for October is Coach Rod Taylor (left). (Photo special to The Pelahatchie News)

continued from page 1

Andrea Mayfield named Mississippi State University Alumnus of the Year

instruction and, finally, vice-president for the Scooba campus.

"I am excited to return to Mississippi, and I look forward to working with our state leaders to strengthen our

colleges, schools and the state's economy," said Mayfield.

She and her husband chose to live in Pelahatchie because they like the atmosphere and enjoy hunting.

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Mississippi Heat Futbol Club preparing for spring registration



Photos special to The Pelahatchie News

By: Susie A. Wolfe

The Mississippi Heat is in its second year of recreational soccer in Pelahatchie. Registration for ages 3 and up must be received before February 10. There are currently three coaches, but more are needed for the seven teams that are forming.

Leagues are organized by the age of players: blast ball is for three- and four-year-olds with no prior experience; U6/co-ed is for four- and five-year-olds; U8 is for six- and seven-year-olds; U10 for eight- and nine-year-olds; U12 for ten- to eleven-year-olds; U14 for twelve- to thirteen-year-olds; and U18 for 17 years and under.

As part of the Mississippi Soccer Association, the Pelahatchie Heat is part of the state's central district

along with Brandon, Northwest Rankin and Pearl teams.

Kurt Thaw is director of youth sports, Dennis White is president of Pelahatchie Heat Futbol, and Audrey Chapman is director of coaching. Once Milltown Park is finished, the team will play its games there.

According to Thaw, it is all about the kids. "Our goal is to build our players' confidence, to enhance the skills they do have, and to teach everyone that playing as a team means you have to play together." For questions or for more information, contact Coach Thaw at heatfutbolclub@gmail.com, or Visit Mississippi Heat Futbol Club online at heatfutbolclub.wix.com/Pelahatchie.



Mississippi Heat - Futbol Club of Pelahatchie

Please complete this form for the Spring 2016 season. We welcome all players regardless of skill level. Questions? Please contact us at: heatfutbolclub@gmail.com

Please Register Before February 10th, 2016

PLAYER INFORMATION*

First Name _____

Last Name _____

Street Address _____

City, State, Zip code _____

Gender M F (Circle appropriate gender) Birthday ____/____/____

How old was the player on August 1st, 2015? _____

School (if applicable) _____

PROGRAM REGISTRATION*

\$50 for Blast Ball (ages 3 & 4) \$100 for U6 and older age groups

Please make checks payable to: HEAT FC

Family/Guardian information:

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|-------------------------|------------|-----------|--------|-------|
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Mail this Registration form and payment to:
Mississippi Heat, P.O. Box 173, Pelahatchie, MS 39145

*Find the consent form (which must be signed by a parent or legal guardian) and other information at <http://heatfutbolclub.wix.com/pelahatchie>.

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Crawford graduates magna cum laude

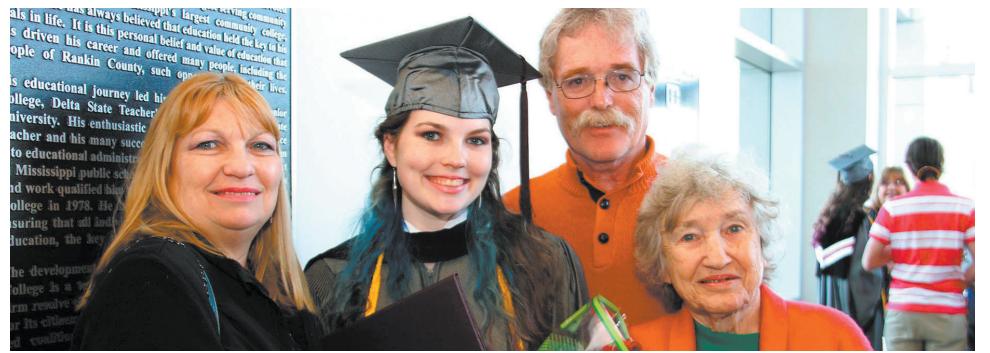
Special to The Pelahatchie News

Hinds Community College conferred more than 1,300 credentials, including one-year career certificates or two-year technical certificates for career-technical programs or associate degrees, during fall graduation ceremonies recently at the Muse Center on Hinds' Rankin Campus. Some students received more than one credential.

Among them was Jade Crawford

of Pelahatchie, who graduated magna cum laude and earned an Associate Degree in general studies. She plans to attend the University of Southern Mississippi.

One hundred fifty-six students graduated summa cum laude, with 4.0 grade point averages. Ninety-two graduated magna cum laude with GPAs of 3.6 to 3.99, and 135 graduated cum laude with GPAs of 3.2 to 3.59.



(Photo special to The Pelahatchie News)

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Robinson trades dairy farming for teaching at Pelahatchie High

By: Stephanie Goss

Bob Robinson grew up in Pelahatchie. He attended East Rankin Academy and later Mississippi State University. Most people around the community know that Robinson was a dairy farmer for many years. He sacrificed precious time away from his family in order to provide for them. He later became a school bus driver under the guidance of Dr. Bryan Marshall. Continuing his career at Pelahatchie High School, he would eventually be promoted to Agriculture Director there.

Dr. Marshall would later become instrumental in Robinson's decision to become a teacher, but Robinson says his final authority was God. Robinson felt the Lord leading him to teach, and with the full support of Dr. Marshall, Robinson took classes in an alternate route education program at the University of Mississippi. Robinson started his teaching career several years ago in Brandon, Mississippi.

When Dr. Marshall moved to Pelahatchie a couple of years ago, Robinson said the Lord opened doors for him to follow suit. Robinson has not once regretted his decision. He says, "Pela-

hatchie High School is one of the best kept secrets around. We have a tremendous staff and extremely supportive administration. It takes time to build a quality Ag program, but I am having a fun time."

Robinson hopes that his belief in Pelahatchie High School and its students will show after his officers compete in a Federation contest on December 10. Pelahatchie High School's Ag teams have been relatively successful, but Robinson and his team want to take the success to another level. Robinson believes that his team has the potential to compete nationally.

Robinson keeps busy. Whether it is teaching, fundraising, helping other school programs by cooking chicken or serving at Shiloh United Methodist Church, Robinson's work ethic spills over into every aspect of his life. His community is incredibly important to him. He also feels that community involvement is critical to his building a successful agricultural program at Pelahatchie High School.

Robinson, his administration and coworkers at the high school welcome partnerships with the community. For example, Robinson's Ag program has a partnership with the town of

Pelahatchie. The Ag students help fix equipment; and the City, in turn, helps the school when they need it. This previous year, the City fixed an area on the Lady Chief's softball field that was holding water. These partnerships enable the students to be able to train in an area, as well as benefit the community.

For more information about partnerships or to present an idea to Mr. Robinson, contact him by email at bob.robinson@rcsd.ms.us.



(Picture above) Bob Robinson, Pelahatchie High School Agriculture Director. (Pictured below) Mississippi State was the host for the Magnolia State's convention for The National FFA Organization, formerly known as "Future Farmers of America." Pelahatchie High School FFA members attended the convention on Dec. 11. Students elected state officers, attended presentations and participated in various competitions - in which they placed 1st, 2nd and 3rd. (Photo special to The Pelahatchie News)

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Saturday, February 6th
K-4th Grade - 5:30-7:00 p.m.
5th Grade - 8:00-9:30 p.m.

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Hannah Roberts



Pastor's perspective: Make God's plans your plans



By: John Vaughn, Pastor,
Cross Roads Baptist
Church in Pelahatchie

As we come to the end of one year and enter into a new one, we are afforded two opportunities. We can look back and review the events of the year just past, and we can look forward to make plans for the year to come. Both of these can be productive activities for us.

When looking back, let me make one suggestion. Don't allow yourself to feel guilty because of something you failed to do, or something you think you should have done differently.

It is always easy to look back after a football game and criticize a decision made by the coach at a critical moment in the game. "Why didn't you go for it on fourth and goal?" Or, "why did you go for it on fourth and goal?" (The criticism always depends on the outcome of the play!)

But in the course of the football game, the coach must evaluate the situation and make a decision based on what he knows at that moment and what he thinks the outcome of the decision will be. Looking back later, it's

always easier to think that a different decision would have yielded a different result.

Life is like that sometimes. In the course of living life, you often have to make decisions that affect not only your life, but the lives of others. At those critical moments, you must look at the information you have and make a decision based on what you know right then. Sometimes it works out well, and at other times you wonder if the right decision was made.

As you review 2015, consider the good results of your choices, and determine those times when you might have done something differently based on what you know now. But, do not allow yourself to feel guilty if your choices didn't work out the way you hoped they would.

Someone once said, "no one can go back and start a new beginning, but anyone can start today and make a new ending."

That is a good transition thought as you begin looking forward to 2016. The fact is, you don't start over; but you begin again right where you are, trying to make decisions that will make things better in your life.

As a believer in Christ, it is not

about saying, "I will do this and I won't do that" and then feeling guilty when things don't work out as you had planned. The more important thing is to strive each day for a closer walk with Christ, and then to trust Him to help you achieve the things He has planned for you to do. It is easier to accomplish the plans He has for you, because when you trust Him, He will work with you to bring them about.

Jeremiah 29:11 says "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

So, as you look forward to 2016, be sure to consider what the Lord would have you to do. Make your plans



Photo special to The Pelahatchie News.

around things that would bring honor to Him and things that would please Him.

Following God's plan for you allows you to write a new ending for 2016 and also a new ending for the rest of your life. Make things better in 2016 by making sure you and your family are in church together each Sunday!

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Griffin buys Pelahatchie Medical Clinic



Photo by Susie A. Wolfe

By: Susie A. Wolfe

Mary Ann Griffin has worked as nurse practitioner at the Pelahatchie Medical Clinic for six years, and, as of the end of the year, she is the owner. The clinic will open on January 2 as the Griffin Medical Clinic.

The hours and staff will remain the same, Monday – Thursday 7:30 a.m. until 5:30 p.m.. In addition to Griffin, Kim Risher is the office manager, Amanda Sloma, receptionist, Amanda Piggott, respiratory technician, and Tracie Bass, LPN.

"We love Pelahatchie. It is our hometown," said Griffin. "We care about our patients like family."

She said they have respiratory services to test and monitor lung function, and plans to offer more wellness. They have exercise classes open to the public on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday nights. A personal trainer teaches the Monday and Thursday classes, and charges \$10 each night, and Griffin teaches the Tuesday night class at no charge.

For more information on the clinic or classes, call (601) 854-8002.

Student of the Month and Citizenship Awards



Pelahatchie Attendance Center recently recognized December Students of the Month. They included (l to r) Ivy Allen, 9th; Breanna Ferguson, 11th; Zach Thompson, 12th; Rachel Wright, 8th; Bailey Ferguson, 10th; and Demarquis Gilbert, 7th. (Photo special to The Pelahatchie News)



The December Citizenship Award recipient at Pelahatchie Attendance Center included Olivia Sirmon; and Greg Beemon. (Photo special to The Pelahatchie News)

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Make it a season to donate blood

By: Guest Columnist Susan Ates,
Mississippi Blood Services Public
Relations Specialist

'Tis the season...it is several seasons, in fact: flu season, deer season, the holiday season — one of the busiest and most hectic seasons of the year. It is a time of traditions, too: family gatherings, winter vacations, cold weather sporting events and hunting. Those traditions include high travel and risks for accidents, a time when the need for blood tends to go up. It's also a time, traditionally speaking, when blood donations drop because of the flu, the weather and the hectic time of year.

There is little anyone can do about flu. Take precautions, yes; but, if donors have the flu, they need to stay home and get well. They can't, and shouldn't, come in and donate blood. It's bad for the donor, and it's bad for the patient. It's not good for the blood center staff, either. However, the flu does take a toll on the number of donors blood centers see during the winter months starting in December, and Mississippi Blood Services (MBS) is no exception. MBS relies more on those who are healthy to come in and

donate. Because of flu season, the donor base has dropped. The onset of flu season coincides with winter, which is another reason for blood shortages this time of year.

Winter weather is always a good excuse to stay home. It's cold outside and no one wants to get out to donate blood. But when ice storms strikes (as they do even in Mississippi) blood drives get canceled, and donors cannot get out to donate, even if they want to. MBS needs donors to donate prior to forecasted severe weather hitting, so that the shelves are full; that way when threatening weather does come, the impact is not as critical. Being prepared is the best defense against the worst weather catastrophes.

It should be noted that typical winter weather rarely keeps shoppers home, and MBS has community blood drives set up for the convenience of those who are out and about doing their holiday shopping. The MBS Donor Coaches are located where they can be easily accessed by people who are already braving the weather. It will take time from your schedule, but you will help someone in need this holiday season. If you think about it, it may be your donation that will allow a Missis-

sippi patient to celebrate the holidays, period. Now, that's an awesome gift! Isn't it worth a little of your time?

Time - there just doesn't seem to be enough of it. Yes, holiday schedules and the hunting season demand a lot of people's time, and time is a scarce commodity. Days are shortest in December, and it seems the weeks just rush by between October 31 and December 24. Often, people get caught up in the hustle and bustle, thinking there is so much to do. Everything requires planning, taking care of this, getting that done, there aren't enough hours to stop and donate blood. It takes too long. But, for most donors, it takes about an hour. Isn't helping to save a life worth an hour of your time?

Consider it this way: it's an hour that will give someone else a lifetime. It's a piece of you that will help make another whole. It's that one element that is the difference between life and death. It's the gift of time, the promise of the future, the hope of spending more time with loved ones, the best present you will ever give another—the gift of life. Yes, that really is an incredible gift.

Mississippi Blood Services is asking donors to make a new holiday tra-



dition this year: donate blood. Brave the weather, set aside a little of your time, roll up your sleeve and help save someone's life. It's not just a unit of blood. There's a patient depending on you—someone's parent, spouse or sibling -- a patient who is someone's child. Make this holiday season just a little bit brighter because you gave someone another chance to celebrate life. After all, it is the season of celebrations.

For more information about Mississippi Blood Services or to find a location to donate blood, visit www.msblood.com or call 601-981-3232. All donors must be at least 17 years old (16 with signed parental consent), weigh at least 110 pounds and have a valid ID.



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continued from page 3

Hinds CC student finds his niche on the Rankin Campus

enough scholarship dollars to cover his expenses.

"As it happens, I'm certainly glad I chose Hinds, because I've had the good fortune to have some of the best instructors in their fields. These are faculty who care about their students, and really know their 'stuff,'" Jordan said.

"And as a biology and premed major, some of that 'stuff' is very challenging. It does go a long way with me that students and their success are a top priority on their campus, and it shows in the attitude of the faculty and administration."

Jordan is among more than 11,000 credit students who choose one of Hinds' six locations each semester. Registration is ongoing for the spring semester that begins on Jan. 11 for on-campus classes and on Jan. 19 for online classes. Current students can enroll in classes at www.hindscc.edu. New students must speak to a counselor first after enrolling; application information is found under the Admissions tab.

The Rankin Campus Jordan attends

will be adding a full-fledged Honors program, along with the program on the Raymond Campus, in fall 2016, with some course offerings beginning in the spring 2016 semester that begins in January.

In his time at Hinds, Jordan has been active in Phi Theta Kappa, the two-year college honor society, "which has opened even more doors for me."

"I've learned leadership skills through being a chapter officer, and I've been of service to the college and the community through the chapter services and college projects. PTK has given me the opportunity to be involved and work alongside other students for worthy causes," he said.

The bonus: He has a guaranteed PTK transfer scholarship for his next step after his May 2016 graduation.

"My future is certainly brighter because of my time at Hinds. I know Hinds has prepared me well for any school of my choosing. Hinds has been the best place for me to learn the things, both academically and personally, I will need to know wherever I end up."

Drive Max opens on Highway 80



Photo by Susie A. Wolfe

By: Susie A. Wolfe

Drive Max Auto Group opened in Pelahatchie the last week in December. Previously located in Forest, the auto dealership has more than 75-years combined experience. The new auto group is located at Don Davis Sales & Service on Highway 80 in town.

Don McDaniel is the owner/general manager, Peggy McDaniel, office manager, and Jimmy King, finance

manager/sales. The Pelahatchie office is open 8:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m., Monday – Friday.

Pre-owned vehicles are the dealership's specialty. Autos currently available include late model vehicles to 2001 models.

Visit www.drivemaxautogroup.com or call 601-759-5035 or email: drive.maxx@yahoo.com for more information. "Like" Drive Max on Facebook for up-to-date information.

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- 8:30 - Contemporary Worship Service
- 10:00 - Bible Study for all ages
- 11:00 - Blended Worship Service
- 5:00 - Cross Clubs for Children & Students
- 6:00 - Evening Worship

Wednesday Schedule

- 6:00 Family Dinner
- 7:00 - Children's Mission Activities • Student Worship
- Ladies Bible Study • Couples Support Group
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Pictured left to right: Angela Blakeney, RDA; Alicia Hodge, RDA; Kristen Harrison, RDH; Tania Hawkings, CDA; Gentry May and Dr. Kara Miles Rowan, DMD.



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