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Vol. 8, No. 08 | August 2023

Pearl News

RICHLAND

FLORENCE

A roaring success: MidTown Pearl Summerfest will return in '24

Special to The Pearl News

The first annual Midtown Pearl Summerfest was held this past July, and by all accounts, it was an unqualified success. Stacy Smith, the Executive Director of Main Street Pearl, estimates that at least 1,000 people attended the event that day. With that, they were able to achieve their goal of bringing the community together for a family fun day with a little something for everyone.

Smith goes on to say that, "This event surpassed all of our expectations. I was blown away and very excited by the turnout. I think it was successful because of the promotion from social media, word of mouth and newsprint."

Legacy Garage, the organizers of "Cruisin' Midtown" car show, was able to draw over 140 cars for the event. The

vendor market was also a huge draw. Smith says that, "The majority of [participating vendors] asked when our next event would be because they wanted to come back to Pearl!"

Due in part by the huge community response, The



Special to The Pearl News

Midtown Pearl Summer Fest will be slated as an annual event for the city going forward. At present, the Main Street Pearl Board of Directors are discussing any needed changes and what additional agenda items should be brought to the next summer fest. Two things are for certain – more food vendors

will be on-site in 2024, and the Kid Zone area will be significantly expanded.

As for the remainder of 2023, Main Street Pearl are currently working on the details of a number of monthly events. These events include: a Summer Movie Night in August, an annual Trick or Treat Street, which will be held Saturday, October 28, and a Christmas Parade on Saturday, December 2.

With more activities scheduled in the future, Midtown Pearl welcomes volunteers. Smith says that anyone interested in volunteering with Main Street Pearl is encouraged to email her at ssmith@cityofpearl.com.

To keep up-to-date on all the latest news with Midtown Pearl, tune in to WPBP 104.3 "The Pirate," where the City will broadcast the radio show "Main Street Pearl Minutes," the first Friday of every

month at 11 a.m.

For more information, visit Main Street Pearl-MS Facebook or at www.cityofpearl.com. For a full photospread of the 2023 MidTown Pearl Summerfest, visit page 3.

PHS's Barnett named a national Coach of the Year by USTFCCCA

Special to The Pearl News

Pearl High School's (PHS) Coach Chris Barnett was recently named the 2022 Boys Cross Country Coach of the Year by the United States Track and Field and Cross-Country Coaches Association (USTFCCCA). Barnett was also named the 2023 Boys Track and Field Coach of the Year by the same association. It was the first time ever in Mississippi that the USTFCCCA has named the same coach the Cross Country and Track and Field Coach of the Year in the same calendar school year. This was an enormous honor for Coach Barnett, however, the greatest distinction was being named the 2023 Boys National High School Athletic Coaches Association State and Regional Track and Field Coach of the Year.

Coach Barnett, after being nominated for 2023 Boys National Track and Field Coach of the Year, traveled to Lincoln, Nebraska, to attend the UST-FCCA Awards Banquet. The banquet ceremony took place in the historic Lincoln Station Great Hall.



Special to The Pearl News

Coach Chris Barnett (center) with MHSAA State Track and Field Championship trophy.

Coach Barnett's teams won the 2022 6A boys cross country state championship and followed this up by winning the 2023 6A boys track and field

state championship. In cross country, Coach Barnett took home five of the last eight boys 6A state championships. In track and field, Coach Barnett secured five of the last seven boys 6A state championships.

Being Coach of the Year isn't a first for Coach Chris Barnett; he's been named Coach of the Year multiple times by different associations since taking over for his dad ten years ago. These associations include Mississippi Association of Coaches, *Clarion Ledger*, U.S. Track and Field and Cross-Country Coaches Association and the National High School Athletic Coaches Association.

School district officials say that Pearl's track and field and cross-country program is known as the most successful program in Mississippi history and is one of the top programs in the nation. through track and field and cross country, Pearl teams have won sixty total high school state championships.

These honors have solidified Barnett's ongoing reputation as an unequivocal leader in boys track and field coaching.



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Good News You Can Use







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Robinson of RHS invited to Yale University for national forum

Special to The Richland News

This summer, Anecia Robinson of Richland will join outstanding high school students from across the nation who have been invited to take part in a "unique academic development experience" - the National Youth Leadership Forum (NYLF): Business Innovations. The forum will take place on the campus of Yale University located in New Haven, Connecticut. Robinson says she is looking forward to gaining the hands-on experience that NYLF offers.

Robinson was originally nominated for the forum by a teacher from Richland High School (RHS). She was considered a promising candidate due to the many organizations she is involved in at RHS, as well as the many awards she has received as a student there. She is currently serving as captain of the varsity cheerleading team, co-captain of the varsity volleyball team and is a member of Mu Alpha Theta. Robinson was awarded All-American Cheerleader for the 2022 and 2023 seasons and received the 2022 Richland High School Leadership award.

NYLF Business Innovations is one of the Envision by WorldStrides family of programs that enables students to explore their interests and experience learning



beyond the classroom. The "7 Days to Start-Up" programs allow students to spend a week on the campus of Yale University learning from business advisors, developing skills and acumen, and competing against other business-minded high-school students in the Envision's Entrepreneurial Challenge. By completing the program, Robinson will be eligible to receive college credit from

George Mason University.

The Challenge provides a start-up simulation that takes participants from ideation to product launch, and challenges students to make critical decisions that every successful entrepreneur must make. The experience includes a professional site visit as well as a unique opportunity to crowdsource product ideas to a target audience. Participants will also have the opportunity to make connections with fellow high-achieving, business-minded students from across the country.

Envision by WorldStrides offers immersive career exploration and leadership development opportunities for individuals. Since 1985, these programs have inspired more than 800,000 students to pursue their passion and test-drive a career. Envision programs are taught by subject-matter experts on the campuses of top colleges across the country and built on modern, 21st-century learning principles. From perform-

ing surgery using virtual reality to conducting a mock trial in an actual courtroom to learning how to create a grassroots organization to affect positive change, the programs provide practical, hands-on learning experiences that students call "amazing" and parents call "transformative."

There is still time to register for RFC's fall season

Special to The Richland News

Richland Futbol Club's Fall 2023 soccer registration continues online through August 13 for open teams. Richland Futbol Club's Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be at the new Richland Recreation Center on August 14 at 7 p.m. Anyone interested in joining the board, getting more information, coaching, and/or offering suggestions for the future of RFC may attend.

Richland Futbol Club was originally established in 2017 by local athlete and sports enthusiast Virginia Miller. She played, assisted, and coached recreational sports (softball, cheer, and soccer) in her hometown as a child, teen, and adult, and had always desired to help grow the city's program. After running another club for a few years, she returned to Richland, and, with the help of other enthusiastic parents, formed RFC, bringing several back to the community, as well as encouraging newcomers to the club.

The purpose of the club is two-fold: to encourage a love of recreational soccer, and to offer specific opportunities



Special to The Richland New

for further training and healthy competition at a more advanced level.

There are many opportunities to participate in the organization. Potential players have the opportunity to register yearly in the fall and spring seasons. Coaches may

volunteer, and, after participating in a KidSafe background check, receive proper certification according to their age group through the Mississippi Soccer Association (MSA). High school seniors looking to complete community services hours are also welcome to get involved.

The club offers something for everyone. From U4, U5, U6, U8, U10 to U12, U14, U16, U19 (and beyond), RFC offers all a chance to play soccer/futbol for Richland as long as numbers allow. For those who are not able to afford to pay registration fees, the board even allows for a few scholarships for those that qualify.

A late registration fee of \$25 will apply at this time for the Fall 2023 season. Registration will close August 13. Registrants who are not contacted by their coach by August 20 may reach out to RFC at rfc president@yahoo.com.

For more information about the Richland Futbol Club, visit www.facebook.com/RFCSoccer2017. The Richland Recreation Center is located at 460 East Harper Street in Richland.



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3rd annual Get Fit Florence 5k & Fun Run scheduled for August 19

Special to The Florence News

Registration is now open for the 3rd Annual Get Fit Florence 5K and Fun Run hosted by Performance Therapy Florence. All age ranges and fitness levels are encouraged to participate. This year, all proceeds go to Florence High School Medical Science Program, McLaurin Health Science Academy and Discovery Christian Athletics.

On Saturday, August 19, the day's activities kick-off at 7:30 a.m. with the run/walk, followed by the kid's fun run at 8:30 a.m. The awards ceremony is scheduled directly afterwards in the parking lot of Florence High School. A top three for the walk and run from each age group (fourteen and under; fifteen through nineteen years of age; twenty to twenty-nine years of age; thirty to thirty-nine years of age; forty to forty-nine years of age;



Photos special to The Florence News

Participants in the 2nd Annual Get Fit Florence 5K and Fun Run

fifty to fifty-nine years of age; and sixty-plus years of age) will be awarded a medal. Medals will also be awarded to male and female Overall Finishers, as well as male and female Overall Master Finishers.

Complementary water and snacks will be provided, and truck vendors will also be available on-site providing a variety of food and beverage items.

Registration is currently available online at \$25 for the 5K, and \$15 for the Kid's Fun Run. Participants may register by visiting www.raceroster.com (search for Get Fit Florence); clicking the link on the Performance Therapy Florence Facebook page; or in person Saturday, August 19.

Register by Sunday, August 6, in order to be guaranteed the t-shirt size requested.

In-person registration is \$30 a head, but t-shirts are not guaranteed. Registration packets will be provided on race day between 6:30 a.m. and 7:15 a.m. at Florence High School.

Florence High School is located at 232 Highway 469 North. For more information or to become a sponsor of Get Fit Florence, contact Performance Therapy Florence by calling 601-891-8179 or by emailing performanceflo@gmail.com.

Abbye Buchanan discovers her calling with Rankin County 4-H

Special to The Florence News

Long-time 4-H'er Abbye Buchanan of Florence started competing in the Mississippi 4-H Poultry Barbeque Cook-off contest four years ago. Buchanan's continued dedication to the cook-off competitions not only taught her many things like "time management, patience, and how to be organized," but also provided the opportunity to meet new people and make new friends.

After having competed in multiple pork cook-off contests, Buchanan decided she wanted to "challenge herself with something a little more difficult." Consequently, due to her love for cooking poultry, she decided to try the poultry cook-off contest. This pivotal decision eventually led her to a national competition in Louisville, Kentucky, in the fall of 2022.

Buchanan says getting to go to Louis-

ville, Kentucky, and competing in the National Poultry Cook-off competition, is "without a doubt" her favorite memory from all the cooking competitions she has participated in. It turns out that Buchanan's decision to "challenge herself" led to her placing second in the Louisville competition against participants from across the country.

Looking back, Buchanan says that she credits Rankin County 4-H Extension Agent Heather Jennings for her willingness to take on challenges. Jennings continues to push her out of her comfort zone by encouraging her to sign up for new events.

When asked if she were to give one piece of advice to those considering getting involved in the 4-H Poultry Project, Buchanan says, "I would say that they should definitely do it. It has been nothing but enjoyable for



Special to The Florence Nev

Abbye Buchanan (left) pictured with Layton Varner at Club Congress - an annual state event that provides positive leadership and educational opportunities for senior 4-H

me, and it has taught me many valuable things as well as allowed me to meet new people."

For anyone interested in participating in upcoming 4-H cookout contests, contact the Rankin County 4-H Extension Agent Heather Jennings at Heather.Jennings@msstate.edu for more information or to register for upcoming events.

The Mississippi State University Extension- Rankin County Office is located at 601 Marquette Road in Brandon

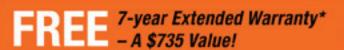




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Pearl Firefighter of the Month is Braeden Brantley



Special to SW Rankin News

Bradeden Brantley was recently named Pearl Firefighter of the Month. Brantley (center) is pictured with Mayor Jake Windham and fellow members of the Pearl Fire Department.







A roaring success: MidTown Pearl Summerfest will return in '24

Special to SW Rankin News

Main Street Pearl recently presented their premier "Midtown Pearl Summerfest" on Saturday, July 15. The area around the Pearl City Hall Complex on Old Brandon Road was full of fun and games. Attendees were encouraged to bring outdoor chairs and pop-up tents to enjoy the day. Live music was provided by Pearl Jamz. Because of the event's success, Main Street Pearl has already announced that the event will be held again next year.







Pearl Chamber hosts Annual Girls' Night Out Fashion Show on 12th

Special to SW Rankin News

Pearl Chamber of Commerce recently announced that the date for their Annual Girls' Night Out Fashion Show will be Saturday, August 12, at the Muse Center, located on the Rankin Campus of Hinds Community College in Pearl.

Starting at 4 p.m. on Saturday, nine of the most popular local boutiques will be set up for shopping. There will be clothing, shoes and accessories available for purchase, all from local Rankin County businesses and all members of the Chamber.

In addition, there will be twelve models, each strutting their stuff on the runway showcasing all of

the latest hottest trends in fashion. The Fashion Show begins at 6 p.m. and typically runs about an hour. The show models are all local beauties, including volunteers and family members.

Girls' Night Out Fashion Show is one of the Chamber's most popular events. The fun begins with a walk on the red carpet to the photo area, where complimentary photos are taken. When participants reach their seat,



a "swag bag" awaits them that is filled with all kinds of fun gifts such as jewelry, lip gloss, makeup mirror, and discount coupons. The buffet lines are filled with an array of food, desserts and drinks. Many local retailers participate in this annual event.

Tickets are \$25 per person, or \$250 for a reserved table (of eight). Tickets may be purchased in advance at PCC or any participating retailers. The Chamber will also have tickets for sale the day of the event. For more information, call 601-939-3338.

The Clyde Muse Center is located at 515 Country Place Parkway in Pearl.





RUNable hosts \$5 5K for Mercy House at Trustmark in September



Special to SW Rankin News

Special to SW Rankin News

RUNable, in collaboration with Mississippi Braves, MS Race Timing, and Run-Strong, is hosting a \$5 5K on September 7, beginning at 6:30 p.m. at Trustmark Park Stadium in Pearl. The recipient of this fundraising effort is Mercy House Adult & Teen Challenge, a residential Christian discipleship program designed to offer men of all ages freedom from addiction.

First time and long-time runners and walkers are welcome to participate in a low-key celebration of public generosity and personal triumphs. The \$5 5K provides a way to enjoy some fresh air, feelgood fitness, and experience fun social engagement while raising awareness for a local cause.

Starting in 2021, RUNable \$5 5k made Trustmark Park their new home. Every race this season is scheduled on a Braves home game, so, after completing the 5k, participants may stroll into the park and enjoy the game for free.

The first 100 participants to check in on race day will receive free admission to the game that night, where M-Braves

face-off against the Tennessee Smokies at 6:35 p.m.

Registration for the 5k is not required. The \$5 5k is a family event, which also includes household pets; the route is dog and stroller-friendly.

The event is a no pressure 5K, which organizers say is perfect for a first race or a great training run for those gearing up for marathon season. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to come.

RUNable hosts a \$5 5K on a Thursday every month, April to September, and then donates 100% of the money raised to a different local cause.

For those who are unable to attend the 5k, donations will still be accepted via Paypal (Chris@RUNable.life), Venmo (@RUNableChris), or Cash App (RUNableChris). For more information, visit www.RUNable.life.

RUNable's primary purpose is to provide an opportunity for a race where "literally everyone wins" while collecting donations for a worthy cause. They encourage all abled bodied individuals to "come walk, roll, stroll, crawl, or #RunForAReason."

Maddie's Memories Foundation Richland leadership prepare



Maddy's Memories Foundation recently dropped off Father's Day gift bags for fathers of hematology and oncology patients at University of Mississippi Medical Center (UMMC). The bags included playing of socks, toiletry bags, stickers, and tool pens. As Mississippi's only academic health sciences center, UMMC serves all the people of Mississippi through their seven schools, four hospitals and dozens of outreach programs. UMMC receives approximately eleven percent of its operating funds from the State of Mississippi. Private philanthropic support has paved the way for improvements in their programs and facilities. Learn more about Maddie's Memories Foundation by visiting www.maddysmemoriesfoundation.org.



supports UMMC through donation for the "Best year yet!"



The Richland zone administrative team recently spent time training and making final preparations for the 2023-24 school year. Pictured (I to r) are: Richland Elementary School Assistant Principal Johnna Henley; Richland Upper Elementary School Assistant Principal Lexie Gosselin; Richland Elementary School Head Principal Dr. Yarby Anderson; Richland High School Head Principal Dr. Marcus Stewart, Richland Upper Elementary Head Principal Lindsay Starbuck; Richland High School Assistant Principal Corey Yates; Richland High School Assistant Principal Dr. Thomas Dudley; and Richland High School Assistant Principal Heather Bryan. These Richland Public School administrators say they are "READY" for our BEST year yet!"

Old Truths for Today

J.T. Morgan



Departures Established

By the second century the New Testament church had definitely begun the great apostasy, foretold by the apostles, especially Paul. (Acts 20:28-30; 1 Tim.4:1-3; 2 Thes.2:3-4). The departure from New Testament teaching was slow in developing the apostate church of our Lord. Its teaching and practice has had its influence in practically all denominations today. Many doctrines and practices of "protestant denominations" have polished reproductions of the Roman Catholic church.

Time will not permit to list in detail all of the doctrines that man imposed upon followers of the apostate church. The first digressive unscriptural practice of electing one bishop to have rule over each congregation with the elders under his authority and control. This unscriptural order soon became the ecclesiastical power of the councils with bishops and archbishops enacting laws and regulations dictated by mortal men in conflict with the divine authority of the New Testament. With this came the centralized perverted New Testament power vested in one person, the pope. The papacy, acting as "another God on earth" became the fulfillment of the prophetic declarations of Paul in 2 Thes. 2:3,4. Paul warned that an apostasy would come from within the elders of the church (Acts 20:29-30).

The doctrine teaching that the priest may especially bless and sanctify water, thus becoming "holy water" introduced about 100 A.D. (2) Doctrine of penance (157 A.D.), imposed upon all Christians. (Used to extort money for the support of the hierarchy). Forgiveness of sins belongs only to the God-head (Mk 2:6-10; 1 Jno.1:9; 2:1). Redemption cannot be purchased with silver or gold (1 Pet.1:18). (3) Doctrine of Purgatory (593 A.D.) If one died unprepared, in sin, such a person may be freed from torment and punishment by the payment of a sufficient amount of money to the priests. (4) Kissing the pope's toe (709 A.D.) (5) Mechanical instruments of music in worship (670 A.D.) by pope Vatalian I. More than 100 years later the organ was introduced over some opposition. Mechanical instruments of music are not of divine origin but originated in Rome. The New Testament authority is to sing (Eph.5:17-19; Matt. 26:30; 1 Cor.14:15; 1 Cor.14:26; Col.3:16; Heb.2:12). (6) Doctrine of transubstantiation (1,000 A.D.). (7) Doctrine of celibacy (1015 A.D.). Doctrine of Indulgences (1190 A.D.). (8) Auricular Confessions (1215 A.D.) (9) Sprinkling for baptism (1311 A.D.). (10) Worship of Mary (1854 A.D.). (11) Worship of images (Council of Trent 1545-63). Adoration of Saints and Angeles (6th Century). These are only a few of the departures from the New Testament and introduced by mortal man - NOT GOD!

> Florence church of Christ- P.O. Box 277 -Florence, Ms 39073 220 White Street

Florence PD seeks job applicants Obituaries for certified police officers



Special to SW Rankin News

Florence Police Department has immediate positions available for certified police officers. While applicants are not required to live in Florence, they must interview with the police chief as well as pass a background check. In addition, they must be certified as law enforcement officers in the state of Mississippi, be age twenty-one or older, and must be able to pass a drug screen/criminal background check.

The Florence Police Department, led by Police Chief Brad Burns, is dedicated to protecting the citizens who reside, visit, or pass through the City of Flor-

ence. The department is dedicated to local youth, where officers are trained to teach D.A.R.E. (Drug Awareness Resistance Education) in local schools.

Interested parties may download a copy of an employment application online at, www.cityofflorencems.com/ job-openings or pick one up at city hall or the police department.

Applications should be turned in to Chief Brad Burns at Florence Police Department, located at 203 College Street in Florence. The office is open from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. For more information contact Florence PD at 601-845-7508.

Richland HS welcomes new coach Jazzmine Church



Coach Jazzmine Church will be teaching physical education at Richland High School (RCS), and will also serve as the head basketball coach for the Lady Rangers. Coach Church has a background in physical education and girls' basketball. This will be her sixth year coaching and first year as head coach. She graduated from Jackson State University and Dillard University. Church loves the Jurassic Park movies, and her favorite ice cream is Rocky Road

NAME	AGE	CITY	DOD I	UNERAL HOME
Dorothy Odom	76y	Florence, MS	06/28/2023	Chancellor FH
Timothy Boyles	41y	Florence, MS	07/04/2023	Chancellor FH
Billie Byrd	87y	Star, MS	07/05/2023	Chancellor FH
Martha Hix	85y	Jackson, MS	07/07/2023	Chancellor FH
Kitty "Paulette" Vaughn	80y	Florence, MS	07/07/2023	Chancellor FH
Virginia "Ginger" Smith	87y	Star, MS	07/12/2023	Chancellor FH
Gene Wade	97y	Ridgeland, MS	07/11/2023	Chancellor FH
Charlotte Saxton	83y	Florence, MS	07/13/2023	Chancellor FH
David Hawthorne, Jr.	86y	Richland, MS	07/16/2023	Chancellor FH
Gloria "Janet" Bethany	89y	Canton, MS	07/17/2023	Chancellor FH
William "Bill" Ferguson	71y	Florence, MS	07/18/2023	Chancellor FH
Marguerite Sebren	86y	Florence, MS	07/19/2023	Chancellor FH
Robert "Bobby" Palmer	74y	Florence, MS	07/22/2023	Chancellor FH





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The Professor and the Madman by Simon Winchester, a book report from RPL

A book report by Beth Woodmansee for The Friends of the Richland Library

The Oxford English Dictionary, the "OED," is the outstanding achievement of English lexicography. In 1998, author Simon Winchester wrote The Professor and the Madman: A Tale of Murder, Insanity, and the Writing of the Oxford English Dictionary, the compelling story of its creation. Winchester began with the history of English dictionaries from the 1600s to the creation in 1755, by Samuel Johnson, of his famous dictionary containing 42,773 English words. A great success; but it wasn't big enough, prompting members of the Philological Society in 1857 to create the ultimate dictionary under the sponsorship of Oxford University in Oxford, England. Twenty-two years later, in 1879, work actually began on the project under the guidance of its first editor, Dr. James Augustus Henry Murray. In 1928, the first edition of twelve volumes was published, listing more than 414,825 words. Unique to the OED was the inclusion of passages for each listed word of at least three

appearances in literature illustrating the use of the word as an aid in understanding its meaning, from its earliest appearance and over time how

that meaning changed. An incredible amount of reading of ALL English literature was required and could be accomplished only with the help of volunteers to read, cite passages, and send the data to the editor for inclusion. A circular was created explaining the project and asking for volunteers.

One who responded was Dr. William Chester Minor, the "Mad-

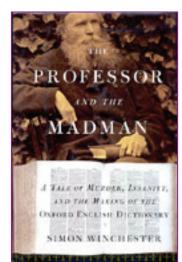
man." He found a copy of the circular about the dictionary inside a book and began to work as a reading volunteer around 1880. He is credited with eventually submitting forty percent of the entries in the dictionary. Dr. Minor had served as a military physician in the Union Army during the Battle of the Wilderness in north Virginia in May 1864, which may have influenced his ultimate diagnosis of schizophenia. On February 17, 1872, thirty-seven-year-old Minor

> was residing in Lambeth in London when, in the throes of a nightly paranoia, he chased, shot and killed an innocent English farmer, George Merritt, who had moved his large family to a cheaper location near his employer. Constables arrested Minor within a few minutes after he admitted to killing Merritt. At the trial, the full extent of his insanity became

apparent, and he was sentenced to spend the rest of his life in a hospital for the criminally insane. Minor's paranoid manias tormented him at night; in the day, he was as calm and sane as any man could be.

Dr. James Murray, the "Professor," spent his life as a scholar, philologist and etymologist and taught at the highly accredited Mill Hill School. Learning was his passion. In 1869, he joined the august Philological Society, which had a project for which they believed Murray's learning and passion would be invaluable, the creation of a dictionary listing ALL English words. In 1879, Murray was made editor of the OED; he remained so until his death in 1915. Dr. Murray and Dr. Minor first met in 1891; they communicated about work on the OED and other subjects, becoming great friends.

Sir James Murray (1837 – 1915) died before the OED was published in 1927. Dr. Minor (1834 – 1920), was moved to a hospital for the elderly insane in America, no longer able to work on the OED. He died March of 1920. The Oxford English Dictionary would not be finished until 1927. Some say it will never be finished; there are always new words to be included since that first dictionary. The Oxford English Dictionary has moved into the twenty-first century, available now on CD-ROM and on-line.





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"Partner Showdown" chess tournament coming to Pearl



Special to SW Rankin News

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The Chess.com Computer Chess Championship (CCCC) Partner Showdown is scheduled to be held August 12 in the Outlets of Mississippi food court in Pearl. The general public is encouraged to attend. The eight-hour event will include two US Chess Federation (USCF) rated sections: Open Section (a section open to all), and U1000 Section (any USCF Players that are unrated or whose rating is below 1000).

If needed, one or more USCF sections may get combined. The round times, which may be subject to change, are as follows: Round 1 begins at 10:30 a.m.; Round 2 begins at 12:30 p.m.; Round 3 begins at 2:30 p.m. and Round 4 begins at 4:30 p.m. Each game is in 45 minutes plus 5 seconds increment per move (G/45+5). There will be no elimination. If a particular section is finishing ahead of schedule and all participants/guardians agree, round times for that particular section may be moved ahead of schedule.

This is a "fixed roster" event where each team of two will have a Board 1 player (higher rating) and a Board 2 player (lower rated or unrated player). Board 1 players, will play against other Board 1 players and Board 2 players will play against other Board 2 players. Teams will be paired in Swiss format. Team rating will be the average of both players' August rating supplements from USChess. A Team with a single unrated player will be paired according to the rating of the

rated player.

The pre-registration entry fee is \$24 if received by 11:59 p.m. on August 11. The day-of the event fee is \$36 per team. Half price for all 2023 CCCC Second Sunday Chess League players.

To register, there are three options: PayPal (LizabethThrasher@gmail.com), Zelle (LizabethThrasher@gmail.com) or Cashapp (\$lizabeththrasher). A note must be included that provides player NAME, SECTION and USCF ID #.

Active USCF Membership is required. To register visit www.new.uschess.org/form/membership.

The following cash prizes will be awarded: Open First Place Team is \$120; Open Second Place Team is \$100; U1000 First Place Team is \$80; U1000 Second Place Team is \$60. There will be an additional prize for Top U700 Team and Top Mixed Double or All Female Team in each section.

All award tiebreaks will be decided by G/5+0 Bughouse. First team in the (fixed roster) Bughouse tiebreak to score a win breaks the tie. Bughouse games are unrated. Those unfamiliar with Bughouse rules, are encouraged to review them at: www.new.uschess.org.

For more information, contact Lizabeth Thrasher by calling 601-941-5153 or visit lizabeththrasher@gmail.com, or www.facebook.com/events/781957893574620.

The Outlets of MS is located at 200 Bass Pro Drive in Pearl.

How to protect dogs from warm weather risks



Specia Pelahatchie Ne

By Susan M. Collins-Smith, MSU Extension Service Extension Associate II

It's hot! And my dogs agree. Sweeping is an everyday task with all the shedding at my house. Although some dogs don't shed as much as others,

all dogs have some biological mechanisms to help them keep cool. But any dog can easily overheat. So, I take steps to help make sure my dogs can stay cool when they are outdoors.

Heat stress in dogs is just as serious and life-threatening as it is for humans. According to the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA), high temperatures can be dangerous for your dogs, even when it doesn't seem that hot to you. When it feels hot to you, your pets will be even hotter.

The AVMA recommends these steps to keep your pets cool when temperatures rise: provide unlimited access to fresh water and shade; exercise your dogs in



File photo by MSU Extension Service/Susan Collins-Smith

Heat stress in dogs is just as serious and life-threatening as it is for humans. It is important to take steps to keep them cool outdoors during high temperatures and know the signs of heat stress.

the cooler parts of the day; stay off hot surfaces, such as asphalt, when exercising your dogs. This can cause serious burns to their paws; never leave a pet in a vehicle, even for a short time. Temperatures in vehicles can rise to dangerous levels within minutes; talk to a veterinarian about whether to trim or clip the dog's coat and/or use sunscreen; and keep them

free of parasites, including fleas, ticks, and heartworms. Discuss the appropriate products and dosages for your pets with your veterinarian.

These are the common signs of heat stress. If you notice your pet experiencing any of these symptoms, get emergency veterinary care immediately: excessive panting, excessive drooling, abnormal gum and tongue color, anxiousness, restlessness, unsteadiness, and collapse.

Another summertime danger is blue-green algae. Pets should not be allowed to drink from or swim in lakes or ponds that may be contaminated by blue-green algae blooms, which are bacteria called cyanobacteria. It can be toxic and result in fatal poisoning. Contaminated water may appear green with a bluish tint, have a thick, slimy algae covering, and usually has a foul odor. For more information about blue-green algae, other places it can grow, and what to do if your pet is exposed, visit the Pet Poison Helpline and VCA Hospitals websites.

Medications for fleas, ticks, and heart-worms are just the first step in protecting your pets from parasites. Depending on where you live, you may also find it necessary to treat the yard and other areas that pets frequent to successfully control fleas, ticks, and mosquitoes.

For more information about keeping your pets safe during warm weather, visit the American Veterinary Medical Association website.





Word Reed

24 And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, 25 not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching." (Hebrews 10:24-25)

One of the characteristics of the New Testament church was fellowship. Believers in the Acts 2 church were connected in and outside of their places of worship. The extreme busyness of people today has unintentionally resulted in church families not being as close as we once knew them to be. Church Leadership has to work harder at planning and providing fellowship opportunities that connect people and build relationships.

The busyness of life leaves little time for fellowship and relationship building. All of us value our time. We never lack for somewhere to go, someone to see or something to do.

Verse 24 says, "And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works..". Then, verse 25 encourages us to "exhort one another". Spiritual warfare is a daily reality. Living for God nor serving in the church insulates us from the problems of life. On any given day our best intentions are subject to being misunderstood. There is value in coming together with other believers for worship, discipleship, seeking God and fellowship. We are diverse. We differ from one another in taste, preference and opinion. Having a different perspective or style of ministry doesn't make one inferior or superior to another. May the Lord help us to be considerate of one another. Care. Call. Connect. Pray. Encourage. Exhort. Bless.

For The Harvest, Bob Wilburn



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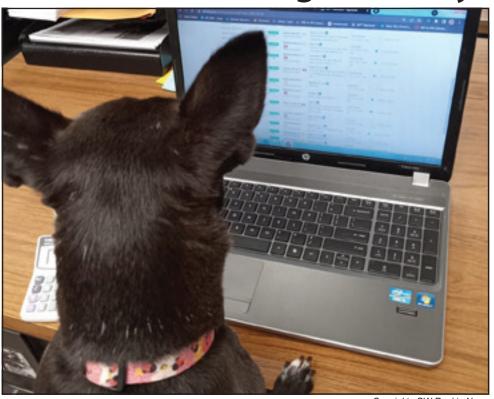
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MS SPAN offers key guidelines to locals on caring for strays



Special to SW Rankin News

Coming across a stray that needs help can pose challenges, especially if there is some hesitation about trying to find the animal's owner. That said, it is important to keep in mind that just because an animal is injured, scared, or without identification does not mean that he/she has a "bad" home. The stray may have simply lost his/her identification or he/ she might have been lost for a long time.

The first step in these circumstances is to check for a tag. If there is a tag, and the owner's name is on it, call and arrange for a pickup. If the tag gives the name of a veterinarian's clinic, call with the code number on the tag. If the animal has no tag, there may still be a way to identify the stray if he/she has been microchipped. A veterinarian or Mississippi Animal Rescue League, 601-969-1631, should be able to scan the pet for a microchip. Also, contact the local animal control officer for they may be able to scan the lost pet too.

Secondly, if the owners of the animal are looking for their pet, they will most likely start by calling or visiting animal shelters, so it is very important to notify local shelters. Also, the owner may contact their veterinarian or local animal control to let them know their pet is lost. Most veterinary clinics have bulletin boards where they will allow a flyer to be posted.

The following is a list of contact information for local shelters: Mississippi Animal Rescue League (MARL) – 601-969-1631, Rankin County Animal Shelter – 601-824-2024, Community Animal Rescue and Adoptions (CARA) - 601-922-7575 and Animal Rescue Fund (ARF) - 769-216-3492.

Third, it is recommended to search through the lost-and-found ads in the local newspapers, Craigslist and NextDoor. Try placing an ad in the lost-and-found section (ask about a free ad). Another good strategy is to post flyers in the vicinity where the animal was found. A typical ad describes the type of animal, the location where he/she was found, their coloring and any other distinct characteristics of the animal. Also, find the mail carrier for that area; they tend to know where pets may live in the surrounding neighborhoods.

At this point, if the owner cannot be found and it is time to search for a new home, it is recommended to advertise as widely as possible, in as many places as possible. Creating a flyer is a great way to start. The information that should be posted on the flyer should include: a description of the animal's appearance, as well as their name, their size and approximate age, a photograph, spay or neuter status, a description of any limitations/special needs the pet may have, e.g., not good with small children or cats and a contact phone number and optimal times to call.

Post the pet on adoption websites. There are general adoption websites, as well as specific sites for certain types of animals, e.g., FIV positive cats, disabled pets or senior pets. Also, sites such as Petfinder, petfinder.org, and Pet Bond, petbond.com, are good examples too.

Use any and all community contacts. Post a notice and photo on social media sites. Local the city or county's lost and found pet Facebook groups and post there as well.

For more information visit www. msspan.org or call 601-420-2438.

Mississippi Spay and Neuter (MS SPAN) – The Big Fix Clinic is located at 657 Hwy 49 South, Richland, MS, United States, 39218.

Florence Summer Library Program winners announced



Florence Public Library (FPL) recently announced the 2023 Florence Summer Library Program winners. Libby Simms was the first-place preschool winner for reading 108 books. Wyatt Sims was the kid's first-place winner for 109 books this summer.



Second-place adult winner Hayley Tucker read forty-sev-







Carson and Lilly Tucker read fifty-two books each and tied for second-place in the preschool category.



Janet tied for first place in the adult category for reading fifty-five books.





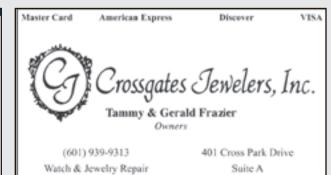
The teen winner of the FPL Summer Reading Program <mark>is Ellie for reading a total of seventeen books.</mark>



The Florence Summer Library Program winner Anna Grace Bilberry tied for first place. She read seventy books.

BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT DIRECTORY





Custom Design





Richland Senior Services celebrates summer with a variety of activities

Special to SW Rankin News

Richland's Senior Services is designed for seniors ages fifty-five and older to provide opportunities for social interaction and physical activity. A wide variety of programming is offered to local seniors, including game days, exercise programs, trips, dances, luncheons and more.

Weekly Activities include: Exercise Class on Mondays (9:30 a.m., and 10 a.m.), Wednesdays and Fridays (9:30 a.m.); **Tap Dancing Class** on Mondays (11:30 a.m.); Senior Game Day on Tuesday (8:30 a.m. until 4 p.m.); Crochet Class on Tuesday (2 p.m.); and Line Dancing Class on Wednesdays (2 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.).

Monthly Activities include: Acrylic Art Class, Men's Coffee and Bible Study, Coffee and Crafts and Bunco.

Visit Richland Senior Services online on Facebook (Richland Senior Center) for their Monthly Newsletter and Calendar.

Richland Senior Center is located at 371 Scarbrough Street in Richland. For more information contact Richland Senior Services Director Terri Wood at 601-420-3401 or twood@richlandms.com or Senior Special Events Coordinator Barbara Adams at badams@richlandms.com or by calling 601-420-3402.



Richland Senior Services hosted an art session for Patriotic Paintings. The instructor was Louise McLendon.



Acrylic Art Class was held Thursday, July 13 at 10 a.m.



Richland Senior Services hosted a Ladies' Tea Party on July 7. There were macarons and cucumber sandwiches, along with a spot of tea for all attendees. There were games, such as "What's in Your Purse" as well as a Tea Cup Competition - where tea cups were made of Play-Doh. Perri Williams provided table happies, and Scottie Boyanton donated tea pots. A special thank you went out to Pamela Maxie, as well.



Richland Senior Services hosted a Summer Dance Party in the evening of Friday, July 14. There was food, dancing and live entertainment courtesy of The XtremeZ Band.



Photos special to SW Rankin News

World Music Day, June 21, was celebrated with the Richland Senior Services Line Dancing Class and music from the 1950's.



Coffee and Crafts was held at the Richland Senior Center, where the guest crafter, Rhonda Summerlin, taught participants how to make a summer bouquet out of coffee filters

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RCSD free and reduced meal applications available online

Special to SW Rankin News

The Rankin County School District (RCSD) is now accepting online Free and Reduced Meal Applications for the 2023-2024 school year. The district participates annually in the National School Breakfast and Lunch Programs. Based on a family's economic needs, free or reduced-price meals may be provided for a child. RCSD families are encouraged to complete one application per household.

The Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act requires certain information on the application for it to be approved. Each application must include the last four digits of the social security number of the adult household member who signs the application. However, the last four digits of the social security number is not required under certain circumstances, such as: when applying on behalf of a foster child, for listing a Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Program or Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR) case number or other FDPIR



Special to SW Rankin New

identifier for a child or when it is indicated that the adult household member signing the application does not have a

social security number.

RCSD will use the information provided to determine if a child is eligible

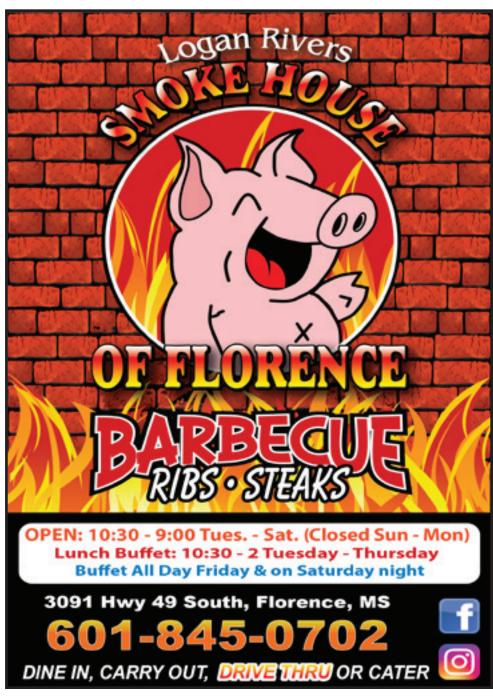
for free or reduced-price meals, and for administration and enforcement of the lunch and breakfast programs. All application information remains private and confidential; however, they may also share a child's eligibility information with education, health, and nutrition programs to help them evaluate, fund, or determine benefits for their programs, auditors for program reviews, and law enforcement officials to help them investigate violations of program rules.

Nutri-Cloud Online Application is the fast and secure way to apply for meals benefits. Paper applications will be available as well. After submission of a completed application, the application will be processed. A notification by mail will be sent if a child is deemed eligible to receive these benefits.

The application will take less than ten minutes to complete. To apply online, visit www.rcsd.ms/departments/child-nutrition/free-reduced-meals-information.

Call the RCSD-Office of Child Nutrition with any questions or for further assistance, at 601-825-2257.





May of Pearl initiated into ODK



Special to SW Rankin News

Alexis May of Pearl was recently initiated into the William Carey University Circle of Omicron Delta Kappa, the National Leadership Honor Society. The Society welcomed 486 new initiates from twenty-four universities during May 2023. Students initiated into the Society must be sophomores, juniors, seniors, or graduate/professional students in the top thirty-five percent of their class, demonstrate leadership experience in at least one of the five pillars, and embrace the ODK ideals. Fewer than five percent of students on a campus are invited to join each year.

Superhero makes appearance at RCSD Meeting



Special to SW Rankin New

Excited to kick off day one of the 2023-2024 Rankin County School District (RCSD) Administration Back to School meeting, McLaurin High School's Head Principal Russell Granberry appeared as his alter-ego.

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Superhero makes Duke of Pearl honored at Hinds



Special to SW Rankin News

Stacey Duke

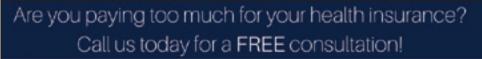
Special to SW Rankin News

The spring 2023 honorees in the IDEAList employee recognition program at Hinds Community College (HCC) were recently honored at the HCC Board of Trustees meeting. IDEALists can be nominated by anyone and should model the IDEALS as identified in the college values of Integrity, Diversity, Excellence, Accountability, Leadership and Stewardship (IDEALS). Stacey Duke of Pearl, a public speaking instructor for Hinds' Rankin campus, was among the ten who were honored.

Duke has been at Hinds for twenty-five years. She has thirty-two years of teaching experience, including seven years at Pearl River Community College.

Also honored were Joyce Brasfield

Adams of Jackson, instructor and computer lab manager, Nursing and Allied Health Center; Donny Epting of Clinton, recruiter and HBCU liaison for enrollment services, Utica campus; Stan Fisher of Flowood, chief of police/director of security, Rankin campus; Christopher Gunn of Ridgeland, director of physical plant operations, Raymond campus; Paul Heindl of Clinton, music instructor, Raymond campus; Tangela Myles of Brandon, child care director for the Rankin campus; Melanie Pinter of Philadelphia, director of the associate degree nursing program, Nursing and Allied Health Center; Lawrence Greene of Canton, English Instructor, Jackson campus; and Joycelyn Washington of Clinton, dean of students for Hinds' Nursing and Allied Health Center.







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City of Pearl seeking court records clerk, animal control officer, others

Special to SW Rankin News

Pearl Municipal Courts is seeking a Court Records Clerk. This person must have a basic knowledge of court procedures, basic computer skills, excellent customer service skills and a positive attitude, possess at high school diploma and must pass a background check. Interested parties may apply online at www.cityofpearl.com/work/jobs/. Call 601-939-7000 for more information.

The Pearl Police department is seeking an **Animal Control Officer**. The ideal candidate must be at least twenty-years-old, have no criminal record, and must possess a Mississippi driver's license. A basic knowledge of animal handling is preferred. Applications are available at Pearl PD, located at 2561 Old Brandon Road. Call 601-939-7000 for more information.

Pearl PD is also accepting applications for the position of Communications Officer. To apply for this position, interested persons must be at least eighteen years of age. Applicants should possess a high school diploma or G.E.D and have no previous felony convictions or any convictions for domestic violence. Applicants must agree to a selection process, including: a typing



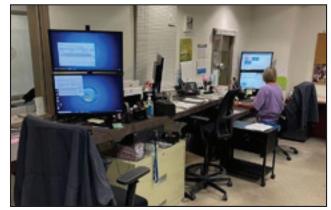
test (for proficiency), an extensive interview to include a separate in-home interview, a background investigation and a drug screening. Duties include but are not limited to: operating telephone, radio and other telecommunications equipment; answering emergency and distress calls; dispatching public safety personnel (police and fire) to calls for service; responding to inquiries by the public and other government agencies;

and interacting with other city, county, state and federal agencies and personnel.

To apply for this position, visit Pearl

To apply for this position, visit Pearl PD in person to pick up an application.

The City of Pearl is seeking a Laborer I – Water-Sewer. Under the direct supervision of the Water/Sewer Distribution Crew Leader this position installs water and sewer mains; maintains and repairs water and sewer mains and fire hydrants and installs, maintains, and repairs water meters. This individual must possess a high school diploma or GED equivalent and one year expe-



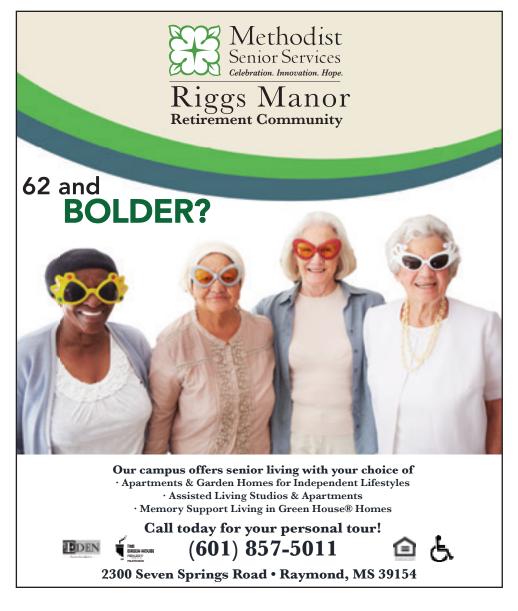
Photos special to SW Rankin News

rience in public works construction or street maintenance. They must also have a working knowledge of basic hand and power tools, cement work, carpentry, plumbing, and painting and occupational hazards and safety precautions required in public works maintenance. A valid and unrestricted Mississippi drivers license is also a requirement. For more information visit www.cityofpearl.com/work/jobs/.

The City of Pearl is also seeking a **Maintenance Worker I – Public Works**. Under basic supervision, the incumbent performs a variety of unskilled tasks in the maintenance of streets, right-of-ways, storm drains, sewer lines, graffiti

removal and other municipal facilities; and performs related work, as required. This individual must possess a high school diploma or GED equivalent and one year experience in streets, concrete, traffic control, or sanitary sewer maintenance. They must also have a working knowledge of basic hand and power tools, cement work, carpentry, plumbing, and painting; occupational hazards and safety precautions required in public works maintenance as well as an understanding of principles and practices of street maintenance. A val-

id and unrestricted Mississippi driver's license is also a requirement. For more information visit www.cityofpearl.com/work/jobs/.





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