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The Pearl News

Good News You Can Use

Vol. 4, No. 8 | August 2019

The Pearl News is a subsidiary of **SW RANKIN NEWS**

PPSD superintendent appointed to national committee

Special to SW Rankin News

Dr. Raymond Morgigno, Pearl Public School District superintendent, and six other superintendents from across the country were sworn in on July 9 as new members of the executive committee of AASA, The School Superintendents Association, the largest organization of the country that serves as the nation's premier voice for public school system leadership.

The twenty-one-member committee, elected by AASA's governing board, represents each region of the country. The committee meets quarterly and conducts the ongoing business of the organization.

In addition to Morgigno, the new executive committee members include: Gladys I. Cruz, district superintendent,

Questar III Board of Cooperative Education Services (BOCES), Castleton, New York; Blaine C. Hess, superintendent, Jackson County Schools, Ripley, West Virginia; Joseph P. Maruszczak, superintendent, Mendon-Upton Regional School District, Mendon, Massachusetts; Rodney Shotwell, superintendent, Rockingham County School District, Eden, North Carolina; Max R. Tanner, superintendent, Oologah-Talala Public Schools, Oologah, Oklahoma; and Scott M. Thielman, superintendent, Buffalo-Hanover-Montrose Schools, Buffalo, Minnesota.

"The outstanding individuals who are joining the AASA Executive Committee have all provided a strong voice for their school districts, communities and, most importantly, the children they serve," said Daniel A. Dome-



Special to SW Rankin News

Dr. Raymond Morgigno, Pearl Public School District Superintendent

nech, executive director, AASA. "Each one brings a unique skill set to AASA governance that will strengthen the leadership of school systems, which can only strengthen our nation. I look forward to working with these fine educators."

New executive committee members will serve a three-year term, with the exceptions of Hess and Shotwell, who were elected to fill vacancies that had one year remaining.

Dr. Raymond Morgigno has served as Superintendent of Pearl Public School District since July 2010. Prior to his appointment as superintendent, he served as principal at Pearl High School from July 2006 through June 2010.

Pearl announces "Yard of the Month" contest

Special to SW Rankin News

Keep Pearl Beautiful (KPB) recently launched a "Yard of the Month" (YOM) program for residents and businesses in the city of Pearl. The program is designed to promote goodwill and community pride through the look of well-manicured, maintained and designed landscaping of yards throughout Pearl for residents and businesses.

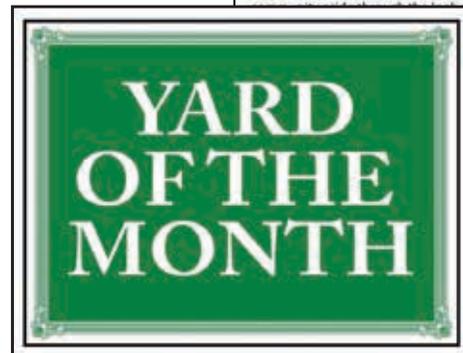
Judges will use established guidelines to assist them in choosing the awards, but the final decisions will be based on the judges' assessment of the residents' and businesses' pride in their property.

All residential and business properties within the Pearl city limits are eligible. Key criteria to be used are manicured yard, beautification, originality and creativity. Award duration will be

for a calendar month, and a property may only receive one award in a twelve-month calendar period. Candidates will be judged solely on the



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total exterior appearance of the property and front yard as viewed from the street. Factors include the overall appearance, tidiness and neatness of the front of the property as evidenced by pruned, trimmed and shaped foliage,

edged and defined lawns, borders and flowerbeds, and a visually appealing façade.

The group also plans to hold a holiday contest later this fall, to incorporate seasonal lighting and décor into the criteria.

Nominations for YOM will be accepted by email to schadic@CityOfPearl.com with a subject line noting "Yard of the Month." Submitters should include a short narrative about why they chose their nominee, as well as a picture of the property, the name and telephone number of the person making the nomination, the exact physical address of the property, whether the property is a residence or business and an explanation of why the property deserves the award. All nominations must be received by the fifteenth of the month to be considered for the following month.

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THE NEWS RICHLAND

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Vol. 4, No. 7 | August 2019

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Miller of Richland to compete for Mrs. America

Special to SW Rankin News

Virginia Miller of Richland was recently voted Mrs. Congeniality and was also chosen as Mrs. Mississippi America 2019. She will compete for Mrs. America in Las Vegas at the Westgate Resort and Casino from August 17 through 24.

"Like most little girls, I watched Miss Mississippi on television every year; I dreamed about competing in it one day, but life happened and other dreams came true first," said Miller in a Facebook post. "God always knows better, right?! I never really thought it would happen; I still can't believe it, but it's real . . . the dream is REAL."

Richland Mayor Pat Sullivan and the City of Richland's Board of Aldermen and staff recently recognized Miller for her achievement and offered their support.

The Mrs. America Pageant was first held in 1938 and continued until 1968. The pageant was revived after a nine-year hiatus in 1977 at the then Las Vegas Hilton by David Marmel who, after a career in professional athletics and television production, helped transform the pageant into the multifaceted event it is today. The event was the first, and remains the foremost, competition for the married woman of the United States. For nearly four decades, Mrs. America has epitomized excellence, professionalism and the celebration of family values.

"I'm truly grateful for this opportunity and so appreciative for the continuous outpouring of love and support!" wrote Miller. "Thank y'all again for your time, consideration, contributions, and prayers! I hope to make my family, friends, hometown, county, and state proud!"



Special to SW Rankin News

Virginia Miller of Richland was recently voted Mrs. Congeniality, and was also chosen as Mrs. Mississippi America 2019. She will compete for Mrs. America in Las Vegas August 17-24.



Special to SW Rankin News

Mrs. Mississippi America 2019 Virginia Miller of Richland was recognized by the Richland Mayor and Board of Aldermen.

Hwy 49 Fest vendor spaces available

Special to SW Rankin News

The City of Richland will hold its annual Hwy 49 Fest on Saturday, September 28. The event, set for the Richland soccer fields, will include arts and crafts and business booths, as well as food vendors. Registration is now open for all types of vendors.

Arts and crafts/business booths are \$50 until September 20. Any booths still available after that date can be reserved for \$80. Vendors will need to supply their own tables, chairs, tents, extension cords, and the like. Generators will be allowed, but must be muffled to eliminate noise. Booth space for both types of booths is 10' wide by 12' deep.

The vendor entrance will open at 6:30 a.m. on Saturday, September 28, and vendors must be set up by 9:30 a.m.

The market opens at 9 a.m. A parking area will be designated for vendors at the Richland Community Center, and



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McKala Williamson, daughter of Brittany Boyd of Richland, is shown riding a unicorn at last year's Hwy. 49 Fest on September 29, 2018. Pictured (l to r) are: McKala, Alexis Martin and Jeannie Chisholm.

one vehicle pass per booth will be issued. Additional vendor parking will be available at Richland Park, which will also be used for vendors with trailers. No vehicles will be allowed to stay in the booth area. Booths may be dismantled beginning at 4 p.m., but not before.

Business booths may hand out pens, pencils, key chains, notepads, magnets and other business-related items, but no food may be given away or sold, including bottled water. Food and

drinks may only be sold by approved food vendors.

Booth spaces must be utilized by the person or company that has registered for that booth. If the applicant for the booth intends to allow another person or company to sell or display items from that booth, there must be a separate application for them.

Food booth registration is \$150 per booth. Food booth spaces are 20' wide by 12' deep. Food vendors must provide their own generators.

Florence-based non-profit organizations may apply for a free booth. Free booths must be approved by the mayor.

All booth applications will be accepted and spaces assigned on a "first come, first served" basis.

For additional information, contact the City of Richland at 601-420-3400 or email TWood@RichlandMS.com.

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THE FLORENCE NEWS

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Vol. 4, No. 8 | August 2019

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Long-time city clerk journeys into retirement

By *Kobee Vance*

The city clerk of Florence recently stepped into retirement after twenty-eight years of service. Linda Wigley has spent nearly three decades serving the town of Florence and has been glad to see the city grow so much in population and business during this time.

"I've enjoyed the legal aspects of the job, but serving the citizens of Florence has been my favorite part of the job by far," said Wigley.

Wigley has come a long way, raising her children and now grandchildren in Florence, and striving to help build a community that will be welcoming to all. Her colleagues and customers say her actions have been seen in every corner of the town; and, while not always at the front of an operation, she is credited with helping behind the scenes to

secure funding and ensure the people's money was spent fairly and effectively.

During her time serving, the City of Florence has grown exponentially. When Wigley started her position, the town was just over the 1,000 residents mark. Since then, the town has begun to grow rapidly to over 4,000 residents in 2010. Wigley's job grew along with the city and included many of the changes that make the city what it is today.

Recent projects in Florence touched by Wigley's office include the oversight

of bringing new business to Florence, which Wigley says will hopefully pave



Special to SW Rankin News

Linda Wigley, who served as city clerk for twenty-eight years, recently retired. She is pictured with her husband, Larry.

pleted project, marks a new point of growth for the town as one of the first dedicated places for entertainment in the city.

Because of her extensive service, the City of Florence has declared June 28 Linda Wigley Day in honor of her time served to the community.

In recent years, Wigley has raised her family and grandchildren to be very close with one another, and she looks forward to spending time with them in her retirement.

Starting July 1, Wigley's position was assumed by a new city clerk, Carley Moore, whom Wigley claims to "the best person for the job."

Wigley and her husband, Larry, wish to travel more and to spend time with their eight grandchildren, whose ages range from pre-kindergarten to post graduate.

Vendor spaces open for Florence Day

Special to SW Rankin News

The City of Florence will hold its annual Florence Day on Saturday, October 19. The event, set for Hemphill Park, will include arts and crafts and business booths, as well as food vendors. Registration is now open for all types of vendors.

Arts and crafts/business booths are \$50 until October 5. Any booths still available after that date can be reserved for \$75. A limited number of electrical hookups are available for an additional \$10. Vendors will need to supply their own tables, chairs, tents, extension cords, and the like. Generators will be allowed, but must be muffled to eliminate noise. Booth space for both types of booths is 10' wide by 12' deep.

Vendor setup will be Friday from 5 until 7 p.m. and Saturday morning from 6:30 until 8:30 a.m. The market opens

at 9 a.m. A parking area will be designated for vendors, as no vehicles will be allowed to stay in the booth area.

Business booths may hand out pens, pencils, key chains, notepads, magnets and other business-related items, but no food may be given away or sold, including bottled water. Food and drinks may only be sold by approved food vendors.

Food booth registration is \$150 per booth. Food booth spaces are 24' wide by 12' deep. Food vendor applications must be turned in by October 5 in order to not be subject to a \$25 late fee.

Florence-based non-profit organizations may apply for a free booth. Free booths must be approved by the mayor.

All booth applications will be accepted and spaces assigned on a "first come, first served" basis.

For additional information, contact the City of Florence Parks and Recreation Department at 601-845-5858.



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Though the temperature was cold at Florence Day 2018, many came out to participate. There were booths, entertainment, a kid's zone and a Chili Cookoff. A breakfast began the day filled with activities.



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Bridge repairs will close I-20, require rerouting

By Brenda Wilder

The Mississippi Department of Transportation (MDOT) will be repairing a bridge deck on I-20 in the next few months, requiring separate closures of both eastbound and westbound traffic lanes. The project will involve hydro-demolition of the bridge deck to provide a new concrete surface for motorists.

Michael Flood, MDOT Public Information Officer, said "the project will be awarded at the August 13 Commission Meeting, and closure dates for I-20 will be decided by the contractor."

During the eastbound Interstate closure, I-20 will be closed between Ellis

Avenue and US Hwy 51 (State Street). Truck traffic will be rerouted along I-220, I-55, and I-20 during the closure of I-20. Passenger cars and light trucks will be rerouted along Ellis Avenue, US Hwy 80, and US Hwy 51 (State Street).

During the westbound Interstate closure, I-20 will be closed between Terry Road and Ellis Avenue. Truck traffic will be rerouted along I-55, I-220, and I-20 during the closure. Passenger cars and light trucks will be rerouted along Terry Road, US Hwy 80, and Ellis Avenue.

The dates and times of the closures will be released by MDOT as soon as available. For more information, visit www.MDOTTraffic.com.



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Free beginner Spanish class offered



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The Pearl Senior Center will offer an adults-only beginner Spanish class from August 12 through September 9.

The class will meet on Mondays from 6 until 7 p.m., with no class scheduled

on September 2.

While the class is free, registration is required, as space is limited. To register, email AJones@CityOfPearl.com or call 601-863-3229. The class will be held at the Senior Center, which is located at 110 Valentour Road.

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OCT 4 AT QUITMAN	OCT 11 AT NE JONES	OCT 18 VS MENDENHALL	OCT 25 AT NEWTON CNTY	NOV 1 VS RICHLAND

2019 McLAURIN HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL SCHEDULE



AUG 23 AT BOGUE CHITTO	AUG 30 VS LOYD STAR	SEPT 6 AT SEBASTAPOL	SEPT 13 AT RICHLAND	SEPT 20 VS MORTON
SEPT 27 VS PUCKETT	OCT 4 AT ST. ANDREWS EPISCOPAL	OCT 11 VS CRYSTAL SPRINGS	OCT 18 VS RALEIGH	OCT 25 AT VELMA JACKSON
				NOV 1 AT YAZOO COUNTY



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2019 PARK PLACE CHRISTIAN ACADEMY FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

AUG 16 AT CNTRL HOLMES CHRISTIAN	AUG 23 VS CLINTON CHRISTIAN ACAD.	SEPT 6 VS HARTFIELD ACADEMY	SEPT 13 AT LAMAR	SEPT 20 VS EAT RANKIN ACADEMY
SEPT 27 AT LEAKE ACADEMY	OCT 4 VS COPIAH ACADEMY	OCT 11 AT CENTRAL HINDS ACADEMY	OCT 18 VS SIMPSON ACADEMY	

Florence Middle School adds summer archery program



Special to SW Rankin News

By Kobbie Vance

Students at Florence Middle School took aim with this summer with an archery camp put on by the school in conjunction with B&B Archery. Students learned how to operate a bow in a safe environment that was designed to promote self-confidence and patience in students of all backgrounds.

"You can't always be perfect, but

you can always strive for perfection," said Range Instructor Becky Clark, of B&B Archery.

Florence's new team is coached in-house by Kevin Vance, with the help of B&B Archery employees, as well as parents who have taken interest in the pastime.

Clark promoted a safe environment for the students and uses her time to

continued on page 5

Old Truths for Today

By J.T. Morgan



Big Lies Vs. Truth

It is truly amazing as you listen or read in the news the stories that are published to the public that are later revealed as lies and "fake news." Lying seems to be the new normal, or is it? Lying has been around a long, long time. Actually the first lie was told in the garden as the serpent deceived Eve. (Gen. 3). We should not be surprised for Jesus in speaking to the Jews said, "You are of your father the devil, and the desires of your father you want to do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own resources, for he is a liar and the father of it." (Jhn.8:44).

Nothing has really changed. The Devil is still alive and well and continues to deceive people with lies. Soon after the church began Ananias and Sapphira they sold a piece of land and kept back part of the price received and laid the rest at the apostle's feet and Peter confronted them. "Why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit and keep back part of the price of the land for yourself?...You have not lied to men but to God." (Acts 5:1-14).

Paul states that Satan transformed false apostles into apostles of Christ. Satan can transform himself into an angel of light. His ministers also transform themselves into ministers of righteousness. (2 Cor.11:13-15). One must be careful of whom they listen to for are they speaking a lie or the truth. Thousands are being led astray by listening to Satan's ministers.

John states that if we have "fellowship with Him, and walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth." (1 Jhn.1:6). "If we say we have no sin...the truth is not in us" (vs.8). "If we say we have not sinned we make Him a liar". (v.10). "He who says, 'I know Him' and does not keep His commandments is a liar and the truth is not in him." (2:4). In the list that John records in Revelation he says, "...and all liars shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death." (Rev.21:8). When speaking of heaven, "but there shall by no means enter it anything that defiles, or causes an abomination or a lie, but only those who are written in the Lamb's Book of Life." (Rev. 21:27).

Why is truth so hard to believe? Someone stated, "A person will climb a tree to believe a lie when he could stand on the ground and believe the truth." Jesus said, "Ye shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free." (Jhn.8:32). "I am the way the truth and the life" (Jhn.14:6). "Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth." (Jhn.17:17). "The judgment of God is according to truth." Rom.2:2).

There is only one truth, but there are a lot of big lies. Which one are you following?

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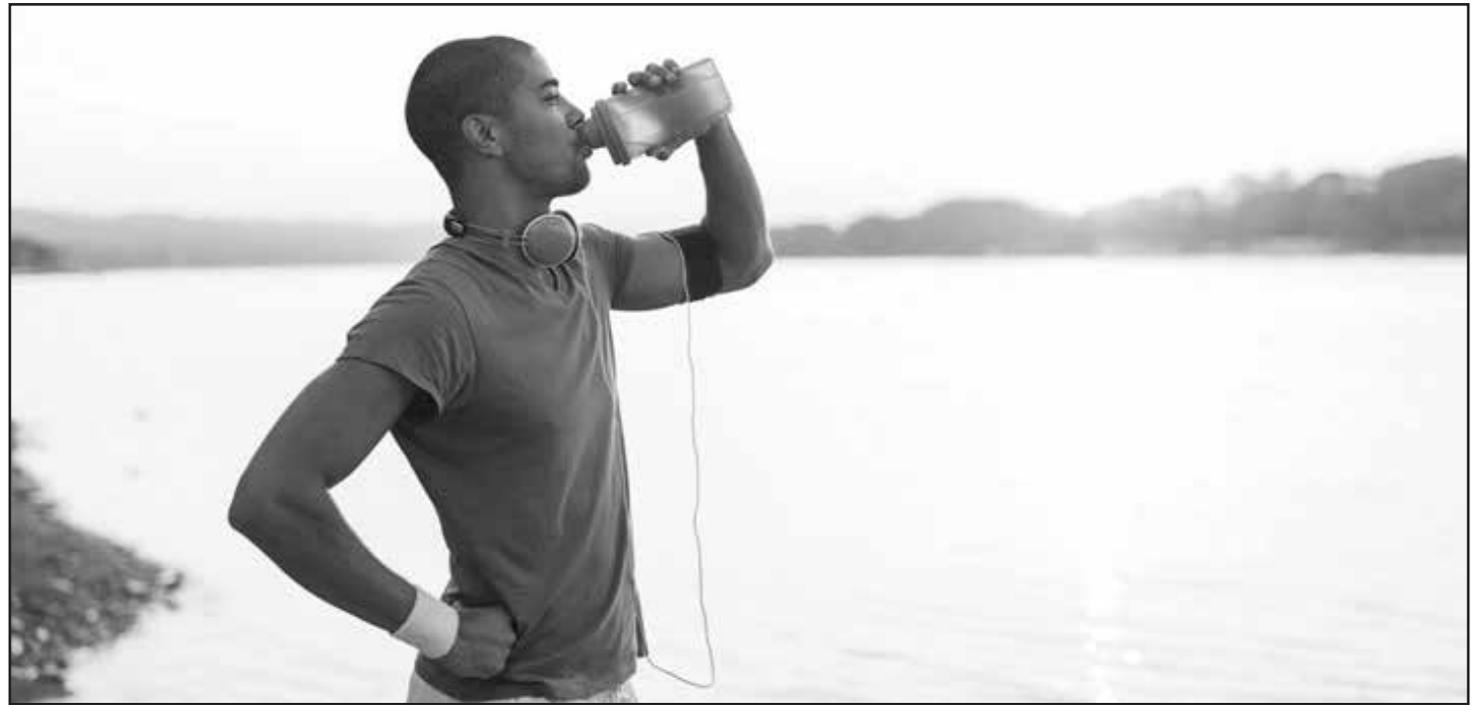
AHA reminds Rankin residents to protect the heart in the heat

Special to SW Rankin News

With Mississippi facing temperatures in the mid-nineties during August, the American Heart Association, the world's leading nonprofit organization focused on heart and brain health for all, is urging Rankin County residents to take precautions to protect their hearts. Hot temperatures and high humidity can cause a dangerous heat index that can be hard on the heart. Dehydration causes the heart to work harder, putting it at risk. Hydration helps the heart more easily pump blood through the blood vessels to the muscles. And, it helps the muscles work efficiently.

"If you're a heart patient, older than fifty or overweight, you might need to take special precautions in the heat," according to Robert A. Harrington, M.D., FAHA, president of the American Heart Association and the Arthur L. Bloomfield professor of medicine and chair of the Department of Medicine at Stanford University.

"Certain heart medications like angiotensin receptor blockers (ARBs), angiotensin-converting enzyme (ACE) inhibitors, beta blockers, calcium channel blockers and diuretics, which deplete the body of sodium, can exaggerate the body's response to heat and cause you to feel ill in extreme heat," said Harrington. But Harrington points out that it's important to keep taking medications — and taking them on schedule. Talk to a doctor about any concerns.



Special to SW Rankin News

The American Heart Association encourages Mississippians to take precautions to protect heart health during high summer temperatures.

Even people who are not on medications need to take precautions in the heat. While infants and the elderly are more vulnerable to problems from heat, extreme temperatures can cause health issues for anyone.

"It is easy to get dehydrated, as you may not be aware that you're thirsty," Harrington said. "If you're going to be outside, it's important to drink water, even if you don't think you need it. Drink water before, during and after going outside in hot weather."

The American Heart Association suggests that everyone take hot weather precautions:

It's important to know the signs and symptoms of heat exhaustion. They include headaches; heavy sweating; cold, moist skin; chills; dizziness or fainting (syncope); a weak and rapid pulse; muscle cramps; fast, shallow breathing; and nausea, vomiting or both.

If these symptoms are experienced, move to a cooler place, stop exercising and cool down immediately by splash-

ing with cold water and re-hydrating. Medical attention may be needed.

Symptoms of heat stroke include warm, dry skin with no sweating; strong and rapid pulse; confusion and/or unconsciousness; high fever; throbbing headaches and nausea, vomiting or both. If these symptoms are present, seek medical attention right away. Heat stroke is not the same as a stroke. Stroke happens when a blood vessel to the brain either bursts or is blocked by a clot, causing a decrease in oxygen flow to the brain.

continued from page 4

Florence Middle School archery program

encourage many who may see themselves as the underdogs of sports. Clark says girls especially are active in the sport due to the unbiased nature of the activity.

Male, female, big or little, every student has an equal chance at being their best, says Clark. Students with disabilities can even join, thanks to technologies that allow them to use alternate methods to draw the bow.

B&B Archery has been active in

schools around the county, and Florence is the latest school to join the archery league. Bringing the league to the school was a task Vance, a physical education coach at Florence Middle School, knew would be a great benefit to students who would want to learn something new.

While the summer session is over, the league will pick back up again in December and hopes to grow membership.

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Pearl Library has daily options for locals

Special to SW Rankin News

The Pearl Public Library offers daily activities for its patrons.

Pearl Pee Wees, for babies, is held every Monday at 10 a.m. Parents or caregivers are encouraged to bring their young charge for a lap sit story time with rhymes, songs, playtime and picture books. The program is designed for children aging from birth to twenty-four months.

On Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m., the facility hosts Toddler Time, which includes lots of movement as children enjoy stories, rhymes, activities and songs.

Preschool Story Time is held on Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m., and children can hear a story, make a craft and shake their sillies out.

Also on Wednesdays, at 4 p.m., is Peanuts After School, designed for children in kindergarten through sixth grade.

Children will read stories and make crafts. Snacks are served.

On Monday, August 19, at 5:30 p.m., the library will have Teens Bad Art Night, an all-out art war to figure out just who has the worst art skills in the land. Teens can make use of the art supplies provided by the library, and they can bring their own creative, out-of-the-box supplies to use, as well. Jars, cotton swabs, toilet paper rolls, and more are encouraged.

Planned for Monday, August 26, at 5:30 p.m., is Teen Coffee and Coloring. Teens are invited to come and chill with coloring, conversation and coffee. Donuts will be provided, and ambient music will be played to color by.

Adults and senior programs are also plentiful at the Pearl Library. On Mondays, computer tutorials are provided from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. Adults can stop by the Reference Desk to receive some

free basic computer instruction. Participants must have (or be ready to sign up for) a library card.

On Wednesday, August 14 and August 28, the Morning Book Club will meet at 10 a.m. Newcomers always welcome, and books are chosen at the meetings.

Families are invited to Third Thursday Flicks on Thursday, August 15, at 5:45 p.m. Everyone can kick back, relax, and enjoy a screening of E.T. the Extra-Terrestrial, Steven Spielberg's masterpiece about a boy and his special bond with an alien from another planet.

On Saturday, August 17, at 10 a.m., the Central Mississippi Polymer Clay Guild will be on hand at the library to teach patrons how to make their own jewelry and decorative knick-knacks. The group meets every third Saturday at 10 a.m.

The Friends of the Pearl Library will hold their meeting on Tuesday, August 27, at 6 p.m. Residents are invited to at-

tend to find out how to join the Friends Group and learn about upcoming library events.

As the school year begins, parents are encouraged to let the library help their student make this a successful school year. Library staff can get needed books from all CMRLS libraries or across the state, as well as show students the best research databases to use for their projects and how to use them.

In addition, all students under the age of 18 may get a fine-free library card, called the Acorn Card. The card is free, and there are never any late fines. Students can check out two books with the card; when those are brought back, they may check out two more. They may keep the books as long as they choose without a fine being imposed.

The Pearl Public Library is located at 2416 Old Brandon Road. For more information, call 601-932-2562.

Richland library outlines August offerings

Special to SW Rankin News

The Richland Public Library has many activities planned for the back to school period.

Preschool Story Time is held every Wednesday at 10:30 a.m. and includes books, songs, and a craft designed for children birth to preschool age. The July 14 theme is School Days; August 21 is Vanilla Cream – Ice Cream; and August 28 is Little Pig, Little Pig.

The Richland Writer's Group will meet on August 19 at 6 p.m. The Richland Writer's Group is a group of local writers who meet and discuss the craft of writing. All skill levels are welcomed.

Bingo for Books will be on Wednesday, August 14, at 3 p.m. Adults, including seniors, are encouraged to come and play bingo at library every second Wednesday of the month. The winner or winners will get to pick their choice of free books off the Friends of the Library book exchange.

The Coffee and Books Book Club

will meet on Tuesday, August 20, at 10:30 a.m. Every month, this group discusses their current book selection and votes on the next book. Newcomers are welcome to join at any time. August's book selection is Mississippi in Africa by Alan Huffman.

As the school year begins, parents are encouraged to let the library help their student make this a successful school year. Library staff can get needed books from all CMRLS libraries or across the state, as well as show students the best research databases to use for their projects and how to use them.

In addition, all students under the age of 18 may get a fine-free library card, called the Acorn Card. The card is free, and there are never any late fines. Students can check out two books with the card; when those are brought back, they may check out two more. They may keep the books as long as they choose without a fine being imposed.

The Richland Public Library is located at 370 Scarbrough Street. For more information, call 601-932-1846.

Ultimate Frisbee Tournament planned



Special to SW Rankin News

Special to SW Rankin News

The Mississippi Recreation and Parks Association (MRPA) will host their first Ultimate Frisbee Tournament on August 24.

The tournament will be held in Madison beginning at 10 a.m., and the Pearl Parks and Recreation Department is looking for players to partic-

ipate in the event. As many as fifteen players can be on a team. The minimum number of players on a team is seven, and all players must be ages sixteen and up. The team registration fee is \$100.

The event will be limited to eight teams and will be held at Liberty Park.

For more information, contact Nathan Hanson at 601-853-9109.

Obituaries

NAME	AGE	CITY	DOD	Funeral Home
Jewel Tucker Barlow	92	Harrisville, MS	7/2/19	Chancellor Funeral Home
Betsy L. Gray	65	Florence, MS	7/2/19	Chanellow Funeral Home
James Christopher Buckley	43	Harrisville, MS	7/9/19	Chancellor Funeral Home
William "Bill" Henson, Jr.	61	Florence, MS	7/11/19	Chancellor Funeral Home
Curtis Wayne Adcock	81	Florence, MS	7/13/19	Chancellor Funeral Home
Ezra Forrest James	-0-	D'Lo, MS	7/14/19	Chancellor Funeral Home
Stanley M. Sykes, Jr.	69	Pearl, MS	7/22/19	Chancellor Funeral Home
Jackie Ray Goodin	62	Florence, MS	7/25/19	Chancellor Funeral Home
William "Billy" Ruff, Sr.	77	Florence, MS	7/27/19	Chancellor Funeral Home

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SEPT 27 VS PUCKETT	OCT 4 AT ST. ANDREWS EPISCOPAL	OCT 11 VS CRYSTAL SPRINGS	OCT 18 VS RALEIGH	OCT 25 AT VELMA JACKSON
NOV 1 AT YAZOO COUNTY		NOV 8 AT YAZOO COUNTY		

Funds raised for Wounded Warriors



Special to SW Rankin News

The Sons of Confederate Veterans Camp #265 raised \$1,000 for the Wounded Warriors of Mississippi at their Annual Civil War Relic Show. Pictured (l to r) are Tim Cupit of SCV Camp #265, Cheryl Bruce of the Wounded Warriors of Mississippi, and Brandi Gray of the Mississippi Order of the Confederate Rose Chapter #23.

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McLaurin High School welcomes new teachers



Photos special to SW Rankin News

McLaurin High School recently held a welcome session for their new teachers and their mentors. The 2019-20 school year began for students on August 7.

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PPSD board of trustees recognizes Classified Staff of the Month



Special to SW Rankin News

The Pearl Public School District Board of Trustees recently recognized the PPSD Spring 2019 Classified Staff of the Month. The PPSD Employees of the Month Program is sponsored by the Pearl Educational Foundation for Excellence. Pictured (l to r) are Dr. Raymond Morgigno, PPSD superintendent; Melissa Van Buren, January; Tomeka Byest, February; Dorothy Champion, March; Gary Monk, April; Ivy Spires, May; and Susan Alexander, PEFEE board member.

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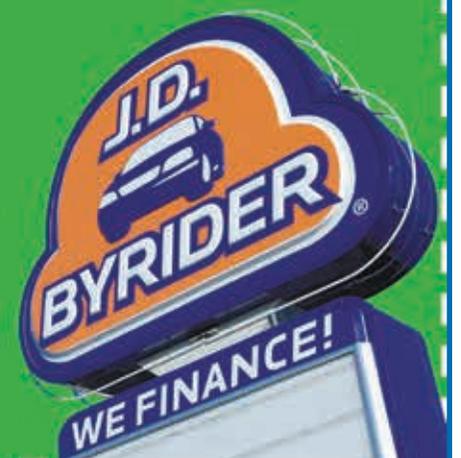
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Kids enjoy weeklong summer camp

Special to SW Rankin News

The Pearl Parks and Recreation Department recently held a summer camp for area youth. During the week, campers enjoyed visits from first responders; the Mississippi Dynasty; the Mississippi Forestry Commission; Smokey the Bear; the mobile zoo; the Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks; various reptiles and other animals; the Spring Lake Garden Club;

MEMA4KIDS; Bridge Builders; Betty Newman and Sandy Gates from the Master Gardeners; and the Pearl Public Library. In addition, campers painted rocks, dragonflies, and butterflies; learned how to be prepared if bad weather hits; painted the parking lot; had pop-sicles; played games; had fun digging in pudding for bubblegum; and enjoyed a water fun day. For more information about Pearl Parks and Recreation Department offerings, call 601-932-3541.



Seniors enjoy luau dance at Pearl Senior Center



Special to SW Rankin News

The Pearl Senior Center recently hosted a luau dance, complete with a live band and a roasted pig. For more information about Pearl Senior Center activities and offerings, call 601-863-3229. The Senior Center is located at 110 Valentour Road in Pearl.

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Rankin County improvements discussed at Florence Lions Club



Special to SW Rankin News

The Florence Lions Club welcomed District 1 Supervisor Jared Morrison as their guest speaker last month.

Special to SW Rankin News

The guest speaker for the July meeting of the Florence Lions Club was Jared Morrison, supervisor, District 1. Morrison discussed some of the recent project developments for the district.

In order to improve the fire rating for some 474 homes where no fire station is within five miles, there will be a new fire house built at the end of Pierce Road. This will allow the fire rating to drop from a ten to a lower rating.

Improvements will also be made with railroad crossings at Airgas in Star. This is a cooperative effort between the county, Airgas and the railroad.

At Florence Elementary School (Hwy 469), a new drive was built to allow parents picking up children in the after-

noon to do so without being stuck out on the highway.

The Gunter Road project (\$5.8 Million) will be redesigned to cut down some of the dangerous hills and realign where Gunter Road intersects with Highway 469 by Briarhill Baptist Church. Gunter Road will also be extended across Highway 49 to a new road (Florence-Byram Parkway) at a cost of \$7.5 million. This is a combination of grant money and bond money from the state. It will open approximately two hundred acres of land that is now inaccessible. It will connect at the four-way stop at Florence-Byram and Cleary roads. This project will not begin for another one-and-a-half to two years. Approximately fourteen million dollars will be spent in District 1.

2019 RICHLAND HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

AUG 23 AT ST. ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL	AUG 30 VS NEW ORLEANS HOME SCHOOL SAINTS	SEPT 6 VS ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC	SEPT 13 VS MCLAURIN	SEPT 20 AT PISGAH
SEPT 26 AT CHOCTAW CENTRAL	OCT 4 VS NORTHEAST JONES	OCT 11 AT MENDENHALL	OCT 18 VS NEWTON COUNTY	OCT 25 VS QUITMAN
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RES staff enjoys fellowship



Photos special to SW Rankin News

Richland Elementary School staff members recently held their annual Meet & Mingle at Roosevelt State Park. The event offered them the opportunity to catch up with colleagues and enjoy some ice cream treats.

McDonald promoted with Richland PD



Photos special to SW Rankin News

Dalton McDonald (right) was recently promoted to Assistant Chief of Patrol for the Richland Police Department. He is pictured with Richland Police Chief W.R. James (left).

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Special to SW Rankin News

A meeting to train private applicators for certification to use restricted-use pesticides is being offered by Rankin County Extension from 9 a.m. to noon on Friday, August 16, at the MSU-Extension Service of Rankin County.

After an instruction session, participants will take a twenty-five-question multiple choice quiz and, if the quiz is passed, the participant will receive

a private applicator certificate, which authorizes an individual to buy and use or supervise the use of Restricted Pesticides for the purpose of producing agricultural commodities.

The MSU-Extension Service of Rankin County is located at 601 Marquette Road, Brandon, MS, 39042.

The course fee is \$20 cash, check or money order. To register, call 601-825-1462 or e-mail rankin@ext.msstate.edu before August 14.

Pearl Chamber to host Girls' Night Out Fashion Show

Special to SW Rankin News

The Pearl Chamber of Commerce will host a Girls' Night Out Fashion Show on Saturday, August 31. The event will be held at 6 p.m. at the Clyde Muse Center on the Pearl Hinds Community College Campus.

In addition to the fashion show, which will include kids and men as some of the models this year, the event will offer swag bags, heavy hours d'oeuvres, photo opportunities, door prizes and more.

There are a limited number of reserved runway tables at \$250 each. Individual tickets are \$25.



Special to SW Rankin News

For more information, contact the Pearl Chamber of Commerce at 601-939-3338.

Senior day trip to New Orleans offered

Special to SW Rankin News

The City of Pearl's Senior Services department has opened registration for a day trip to the New Orleans School of Cooking on September 24.

The group, which is limited to thirty participants, will leave from Pearl and travel to the New Orleans School of Cooking, where they will learn about the fun, food and folklore that makes Louisiana special. The class and the Louisiana General Store are located in a renovated molasses warehouse built in the early 1800s in the heart of the French Quarter.

Participants will learn the basics of

Louisiana cooking, making their own lunch and eating what they cook.

Following lunch, the group will enjoy sight seeing and shopping in the French Quarter at the French Market. Every guest will also receive a voucher for the world-famous Café du Monde, the original New Orleans coffee shop, for a plate of hot beignets.

On the trip home, the group will stop in Manchac, Louisiana, to have dinner on their own at Middendorf's.

The cost for the trip is \$139, based on thirty passengers. Advance registration is required and will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. For more information, or to register, call 601-863-3229.

Kiwanis Club of Pearl to host fundraiser golf tournament

Special to SW Rankin News

The Kiwanis Club of Pearl will host its 19th annual fundraiser golf tournament on Friday, September 6, at the Pearl Municipal Golf Course.

Check-in begins at 7 a.m., with a shotgun start at 8 a.m. Several levels of sponsorships are available, including a four-man team sponsorship at the \$400 level, a team and hole sponsorship at the \$475 level and a hole sponsorship at the \$100 level.

Prizes will be given for first, second

and third place, with additional prizes given for closest to the hole, longest drive, plus door prizes.

Checks should be payable to Kiwanis Club of Pearl. Contact Gene Newman for questions and registration forms at 601-316-2491 or bailsouth@aol.com, or Rebecca Watkins at 601-354-5033 or rwatkins@trustmarkbank.com.



Couples win Ratliff on the River tournament



Special to SW Rankin News

Ratliff on the River recently held their inaugural Catfish Jug Fishing Tournament. The winning teams were Scotty and Misty Gainey of Florence and Pat and Teresa Williams of Richland. The three winning fish weighed in 50.81 pounds. There were thirty-eight boats with a limit of five team members participating in the competition. Fishing started after the draw at 5 p.m. and ended at 12 a.m. for weigh in.

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Richland Elementary Ranger Summer Academy held



Photos special to SW Rankin News

Richland Lower Elementary School recently kicked off their Ranger Summer Academy. The Richland Community Center provided space for the program, due to school construction.

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Boykin named Firefighter of the Month



Special to SW Rankin News

Battalion Chief Donnie Boykin was recently named Pearl Fire Department Firefighter of the Month. Boykin began his career with the Pearl Fire Department twenty-six years ago as a firefighter and has accumulated over 1,000 hours at the State Fire Academy. He obtained his EMT Certification at Hinds Community College. In 1999, he was promoted to the rank of lieutenant and then was promoted to captain in January of 2005. In 2014, Boykin was promoted to Battalion Chief of C Shift, where he keeps his shift motivated and moving in the right direction. Boykin has been married to his wife, Kelly Breland Boykin, for twenty-one years, and they have two children, Breley (18) and Keaton (14).

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Pearl Public School District admins attend retreat



Special to SW Rankin News

Pearl Public School District administrators recently attended their annual retreat at Eagle Ridge Conference Center and participated in training with Dr. Chuck Benigno. For more information about Pearl Public Schools, call 601-932-7921.

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