

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

NBC features RCSD literacy gains - pg. 4

Barry and Carl: A friendship borne in the aftermath of 911 - pg. 6

SWRANKIN NEWS

Good News You Can Use

Vol. 8, No. 10 | October 2023

The Pearl News

THE NEWS RICHLAND

THE FLORENCE NEWS

October brings a festival, barbeque, movies and more

Special to The Pearl News

The City of Pearl will be offering a little something for everyone in the month of October. For starters, Main Street Pearl will host their 2nd Annual Oktoberfest and first ever "Pirates of the Pit, ARRR-B-Que Battle" on Saturday, October 14, at the MidTown Pearl Field located at 2420 Old Brandon Road in Pearl. The "ARRR-B-Que Battle" is open to anyone who would like to grill chicken wings, pork ribs and/or pork loin. Main Street Pearl has more than \$5,000 in prize money available and authentic pirate swords as trophies.

The festival will also include a car show with Legacy Garage, a craft market, food trucks, live music, a video board to watch college football, inflatables for the kids, eating contests and, of course, brats and beer.

Then, on Saturday, October 28, Main Street Pearl will host the annual "Trick or Treat Street." This year features an extended street party on Old Brandon Road in front of City Hall down to Pear-



son Road. This free, family-friendly event kicks-off at 6 p.m. and runs until 8 p.m.

Those interested in becoming a booth host for this event can complete an application by visiting [www.cityofpearl.com/live/cityevents](http://www.cityofpearl.com/live/cityevents). All local groups and organizations are encouraged to participate.

Applicants need to provide a name of

an individual and/or their business, contact phone number, contact email and the number of booths requested. All booth hosts must provide their candy, tent, table, chairs, etc. There are no fees to host a booth.

Booth hosts are required to decorated



their area in a child-friendly Halloween or fall theme. Each host must provide candy to accommodate at least 1,000 trick-or-treaters. Although not required, the City does suggest each booth plan to hold a simple game or activity to be played at their location. In keeping with the Halloween theme of this event, participants are encouraged to dress up in costume.

Gates will open for booth set-up at 3 p.m. on October 28, and set-ups must be completed by 6 p.m.

Booths may not sell items at the event.

Also scheduled for the 28th is a screening of the movie *Hotel Transylvania* at 7 p.m. in the Midtown Field (City Hall green space next to the Pearl Senior Center) behind the library.

Applications for the ARRR-B-Que Battle, craft market or Trick or Treat booth, as well as further information on sponsorship opportunities, are available on the City of Pearl website at [www.cityofpearl.com/live/city-events/](http://www.cityofpearl.com/live/city-events/).

Visit [mainstreetpearl@cityofpearl.com](mailto:mainstreetpearl@cityofpearl.com) for more information.

Catherine Roa named Luckyday Scholar at MSU

Special to The Pearl News

Catherine Roa of Pearl, a graduate of Pearl High School, has been selected as a Luckyday Scholar at Mississippi State University (MSU). Roa is a new Biological Sciences major in the College of Arts & Sciences.

The Jackson-based Luckyday Foundation is continuing its pledge of student support and assistance to university students as forty-nine first-year Luckyday Scholars begin their academic journey at Mississippi State this fall.

This most recent cohort, along with forty-one already enrolled scholars, are experiencing the positive outcomes of the Luckyday Foundation's influence. It's a collaboration between the Foundation and the university set to further elevate the overall count of scholars to 160 in 2024 and 230 in 2025.

"Our Luckyday Scholars truly reflect Mississippi State University's core values of integrity, hard work and respect for others as well as our commitment to taking care of what matters. We are grateful for the wonderful partnership we have with the Luckyday Foundation and so appreciative of the investments Luckyday is



Catherine Roa

Special to The Pearl News

making in these students. By working together, we are providing opportunities for young people to grow academically, serve their communities and prepare to be the leaders our state and nation need," MSU President Mark E. Keenum said.

Founded by the late Frank R. Day from Jackson, the Luckyday Foundation furnishes each student a scholarship grant of \$6,000 annually, culminating in a total of \$24,000 over four years. This financial assistance serves as a crucial connection in assisting these scholars in reaching their goal of graduation.

Luckyday Scholars are actively engaged in this holistic program which includes a freshman seminar, freshman-year mentoring, academic support, designated housing to encourage connections, and opportunities to grow as leaders. Scholars are introduced to the philosophy of servant leadership and commit to a minimum of ten hours per semester with a single agency, which enhances the program's fundamental principles: scholarship, community, service and leadership.

"Mississippi State University has been an excellent partner in fulfilling the Luckyday Foundation's mission of fostering a community of scholars dedicated to embracing servant leadership," remarked Jamie Houston, Chairperson of the Luckyday Foundation. "The wealth of resources and opportunities extended to these scholars will empower them to flourish and excel as active learners and responsible citizens both in the present and the years to come."

**PROTECT**  
WHAT MATTERS MOST

Whether you are home or away, protect what matters most from unexpected power outages with a Generac Home Standby Generator.

REQUEST A FREE QUOTE

CALL NOW BEFORE THE NEXT POWER OUTAGE

**(601) 460-0256**

**FREE** 7-year Extended Warranty\*  
- A \$735 Value!

Contact a Generac dealer for full terms and conditions

\*To qualify, consumers must request a quote, purchase, install and activate the generator with a participating dealer. Call for a full list of terms and conditions.

**\$0 MONEY DOWN + LOW MONTHLY PAYMENT OPTIONS**

**GENERAC**



## RPL offers stories, crafts, and community in the month of October

*Special to The Richland News*

Richland residents are encouraged to usher in the fall season by paying a visit to Richland Public Library (RPL), where there are activities and hosted events designed for bibliophiles of all ages.

**Preschool Story Time** is offered every Monday at 11 a.m. for children from birth to preschool age. There will be stories, songs, and crafts. October's themes include fall, spiders, pumpkins, and squirrels.

Events this month include a **Family Movie Night** on Thursday, October 12,



at 6 p.m. In keeping with this month's themes, the library will be featuring the Walt Disney movie *Hocus Pocus*.

The following Thursday, October 19, is **Family Craft Night**, which will feature the creation of decoupage bookmarks.

The **Richland Writers Group** (RWG) meets the first Monday of every month at 6 p.m. in the library's meeting room. This group welcomes



those who consider themselves aspiring writers looking to connect with other local writers and discuss the craft of writing.

The group meets regularly to share writing, discuss writing techniques, and provide feedback and support to each

other. RWG is a great place to connect with other writers and improve skills, novice and seasoned writer alike.

The group is open to writers of all genres and skill levels. Whether the stories are fiction, non-fiction, poetry, or something in between, participants find other writers who share an interest and can provide valuable feedback and support.

Richland Public Library is located at 370 Scarbrough Street in Richland. For more information, visit [www.cmrls.lib.ms.us/cmrlsbranches/richland](http://www.cmrls.lib.ms.us/cmrlsbranches/richland) or call 601-932-1846.



## 2023 Totally Locally Christmas Market vendor registration begins

*Special to The Richland News*

The City of Richland, in conjunction with the Richland Economic Development Association (REDA), are currently accepting vendor applications for their co-sponsored event - the Tenth Annual Totally Locally Christmas Market, scheduled for Saturday, December 9, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The 2023 market will be held at the City's Parks and Recreation Center, a larger venue from previous years, promising additional space for potential vendors.

This year, REDA will be providing coffee and donuts during set-up time. In addition, concession stands and food trucks will be on-site, for shoppers and vendors alike, throughout the event.

In addition to Christmas-themed merchandise, food truck vendor applications will now be accepted. Other acceptable vendor wares include arts and crafts, concessions, and boutique shopping items. Prohibited items include alcoholic beverages, tobacco products, vaping products, or giveaways.

The cost for a single display, which includes a ten-foot by ten-foot space with an accompanying six-foot table and two chairs, is \$50. Vendors are asked to skirt



their tables and decorate with Christmas decor. Vendors may also bring additional tables for their display areas. Free standing props are allowed, but no banners or other items may be hung, taped, or pinned to the walls. Peg boards, racks and shelving units are also allowed at the market, but not provided. Electricity availability is limited and will be assigned on first-come first-serve basis. Booths are not secured until payment is received. Booth numbers will be mailed to participating vendors once applications have been received and approved.

Vendors will be responsible for their own sales tax if applicable and must submit tax forms, and all tax mon-

ies must be collected prior to leaving the premises after the market.

Application and booth fee should be mailed to: City of Richland, 410 East Harper Street, Richland, Mississippi, 39218. Checks may be made payable to "REDA." The City does not accept credit/debit card or any type of electronic payments.

Applications will be accepted as long as space remains and are available online by visiting Totally Locally Christmas Market on Facebook.

Vendor setup is scheduled for Friday, December 8, from noon until 7 p.m. Doors will open to vendors Saturday, December 9, at 6:30 a.m. Vendors must complete setup by 8:30 a.m. Display take-down may begin no sooner than 4 p.m. on Saturday.

The City of Richland asks that all vendors park in the reserved vendor parking area in front of the soccer fields once they have unloaded their wares.

Richland Parks and Recreation Center is located at 460 East Harper Street in Richland. For more information, contact Kristina Jordan, the Richland Community Center Coordinator, at [kjordan@richlandms.com](mailto:kjordan@richlandms.com) or call 601-420-3400.

### PROTECT WHAT MATTERS MOST

Whether you are home or away, protect what matters most from unexpected power outages with a Generac Home Standby Generator.

REQUEST A FREE QUOTE

CALL NOW BEFORE THE NEXT POWER OUTAGE

(601) 460-0256

## FREE

**7-year Extended Warranty\***  
- A \$735 Value!

Contact a Generac dealer for full terms and conditions.  
\*To qualify, consumers must request a quote, purchase, install and activate the generator with a participating dealer. Call for a full list of terms and conditions.

\$0 MONEY DOWN + LOW MONTHLY PAYMENT OPTIONS



# Florence Fall Market welcomes vendor applications for October event

Special to The Florence News

Mark all calendars, because Florence Fall Market is coming to Earl Clark Drive in Downtown Florence October 28, from 8 a.m. until 2 p.m. Vendor registration is currently open to potential vendors. The market welcomes a wide variety of vendors, including those offering locally made sweets, crafts, woodwork, and holiday-themed, hand-made decorations. To register online, visit Florence Fall Market on Facebook.

In addition to the standard contact info, applicants are required to provide a description of items to be sold, including art – paintings, art - graphic design/decals/stickers, baked, goods, bath/body, candies, cottage food/other, fresh eggs, holiday décor, leatherwork, monograms/sewn items, pottery, textiles/rugs/quilts, trees/plants, woodwork, and jewelry.

Vendors will be responsible for providing their own tables, chairs, tents, can-



Special to The Florence News

opies, etc. There will be no electricity available. While vendors are ultimately responsible for setting up and breaking down their displays, for those needing additional assistance, contact Florence

Fall Market to make arrangements. Registration fees will be due ahead of the market this year to allow the purchase of door prizes. Vendors may reserve up to three ten-foot by ten-foot

booth spaces to display their wares. A single booth may be reserved for \$30, two booths for \$50 or three for \$75.

A vendor fee invoice will be sent via email. Vendors who prefer to be invoiced via PayPal/Cash App/Venmo directly, must provide an account name/email, identifying which payment app it applies to (Cash App, PayPal or Venmo).

Vendors will also have an opportunity to select a charity of choice to be listed on a voting ballot. As guests register for prizes at Florence Fall Market, they will also vote for a local charity to receive the remaining registration proceeds.

Hours for this year's event have been extended to allow additional shopping time and the chance to enjoy offerings from local food and beverage trucks. In addition, there will be trick-or-treating and a costume contest for kids and adults.

For an updated list of participating vendors, or for more information, visit Florence Fall Market on Facebook.

# CMTR announces temporary closure of central office in Florence

Special to The Florence News

In September 2023, Central Mississippi Turtle Rescue (CMTR) Founder, Lead Rehabber, and Executive Director Christy Milbourne was diagnosed with breast cancer. This has necessitated the temporary closure of the central office of CMTR. Consequently, until further notice, no new intakes will be accepted at the rescue's Florence location. At this time, the central office is reaching out to members of the community for assistance with fostering, adopting and/or releasing the remaining patients in its care.

As of September 18, the current number of turtles in rehab in need of fostering through winter (roughly now through mid-to late April) are thirty-one box (land) turtles and thirty-four aquatic turtles.

Current turtles in need of permanent homes (these could also be fostered until permanent homes are found) are twenty-one box (land) turtles and twelve aquatic turtles.

Releases would require volunteers picking up the turtles from the central office and returning them to the location where they were found. Some turtles are local releases, however, there are a number of others that require release in various parts around the State of Mississippi.

As far as fostering turtles, Milbourne explains that “we have turtles here that just aren't quite ready for release and are not going to be ready for release before



temperatures get too cold.” Fostering would include feeding and monitoring a turtle between now and mid-to late April.

Although the rescue currently does not have all the

funding necessary to provide supplies for fostering – Milbourne says “we are working on that. There is actually about to be a Bonfire fundraiser that's about to go live with a special t-shirt.” The funds raised from the purchase of the “Tough Like a Turtle” t-shirts will be used to provide equipment and supplies to volunteers. Visit [www.bonfire.com/tough-like-a-turtle-1](http://www.bonfire.com/tough-like-a-turtle-1) to purchase a t-shirt.

Some turtles are ready and available for adoption and may be found by visiting [www.petfinder.com](http://www.petfinder.com).

According to Milbourne, donations are the best way to give, and there are several ways to donate. For details, visit [www.centralmsturtleescue.com](http://www.centralmsturtleescue.com), and click on the “how you can help” drop-down menu at the top left of the screen and select “donate.”

Milbourne goes on to say that “Prayers and donations are our greatest needs,” adding that, “I want to turn this into a teachable moment – so I want it to be out there, I want every time someone sees my face [to] reach out and feel your breast. Check. Check ‘em. Feel ‘em. Find that lump early because [it could save your life.]”

To learn more about how to help, visit Central Mississippi Turtle Rescue on Facebook or go to [www.centralmsturtleescue.com](http://www.centralmsturtleescue.com).

PROTECT  
WHAT MATTERS MOST

Whether you are home or away, protect what matters most from unexpected power outages with a Generac Home Standby Generator.

REQUEST A FREE QUOTE

CALL NOW BEFORE THE  
NEXT POWER OUTAGE

(601) 460-0256

FREE 7-year Extended Warranty\*  
– A \$735 Value!

Contact a Generac dealer for full terms and conditions.  
\*To qualify, consumers must request a quote, purchase, install and activate the generator with a participating dealer. Call for a full list of terms and conditions.

\$0 MONEY DOWN + LOW MONTHLY PAYMENT OPTIONS

GENERAC



## NBC features RCSD literacy gains

For more information, contact JARC Scholarship Chair Xorica Patrick at 504-512-2276 or [scholarshipjarc@gmail.com](mailto:scholarshipjarc@gmail.com).



*Rankin County School District (RCSD) recently took the spotlight on NBC Nightly News with Lester Holt, alongside Reheema Ellis, to showcase the district's journey and progress achieved through the implementation of Structured Literacy grounded in the Science of Reading research. During their news segment, they shared their story of success and the positive impact of evidence-based reading strategies.*



**601-990-9511**





# Young receives white coat at MC’s Physician Assistant Studies Program

Special to The Richland News

Savanna Young of Richland was one among thirty-five students who recently received white coats at Mississippi College Physician Assistant Studies Program. Steve Martin, department chair and program director, said the students have completed perhaps the most difficult semester of PA school - the preclinical phase. The ceremony marks the point where they have earned the right to join the ranks of those who administer care to actual patients.

"This semester, this class has had intensive study in anatomy and physiology, learned how to conduct a proper history from a patient and how to present their findings to other members of the medical team," Martin said. "They've begun the very rigorous Pharmacology and Pharmacotherapeutic, Fundamentals of Medical Science, Professional Development, and Behavioral and Community Medicine Series."



Special to The Richland News

Pictured (l to r) are, front row: Lillian Sweetman (blue dress), Alicia Peters, Sarah Moore, Perry Powell, Victoria Hawkins, Hannah Bryant, Hannah Bratcher, Ashton Berry and Kaylee Van Norman; middle row: Corley Sullivan (pink dress), Yasmine Cook, Lauren Wallace, Elizabeth Hardin, Sophie Elliott, Carys Easterling, Tori Burton, Zack McManus, Priya Patel, Ryan McCutcheon, Evie Farrington, Jared Bush, Avery Stephan, Bryden Herring, Baylee Waldrop; and back row: Brenden Jackson, Caden Pulliam, Erin McLaurin, Paige Morvant, Kat Reeves, Khushi Patel, Savanna Young, Kirby Williams, Jamie Freyou, Ethan Snowden and Mary Morgan Sutton.

Martin explained that "the White Coat Ceremony is a tradition that marks an important milestone in the Mississippi College Physician Assistant Program. It is our way of welcoming you, the Class of 2025, to the profession."

As the class concludes the preclinical phase of its training, Martin said they will begin "the very heart of medicine" - the clinical medicine series.

"It is here they will learn and understand how each disease affects, how it presents, how to make the diagnosis, and how to begin treatment," he said. "They'll build on their foundation each semester for the next year until they enter the clinical phase of their PA studies."

"These students will then have direct and intense interaction with real patients and learn to make actual decisions that can make a difference in their patients' lives. Each student has worked so very hard up to this point to earn this honor."

# Florence HS’s Quick selected as WAPT’s Player of the week



Special to SW Rankin News

Recently WAPT Channel 16 visited Florence High School (FHS) to recognize Xzavion (Zay) Quick as the Blitz 16 Player of the week.

## Old Truths for Today

J.T. Morgan



### What Is Disobedience?

The definition of *disobedience* is “Neglect or refusal to obey; violation of a command or a prohibition; the omission of that which is commanded to be done, or the doing of that which is forbidden; breach of duty prescribed by authority; Non-compliance.” -Webster

According to the definition there are many ways that one can disobey. One of the ways is rebellion. Simply refusing to obey God. In one sense all disobedience would fall into this category. However, there is a kind of disobedience that openly rebels at God’s authority and makes no pretense to doing His will. This is the type of people that rule God completely out of their lives. (Read Jer.5:23; Isa.30:9-10).

The children of Israel had a rebellious heart and manifested itself as they journeyed through the wilderness. When Moses sent out the 12 spies to survey the land of Canaan 11 returned and did not speak encouraging words to the people. The people rebelled at going on and spoke against God. (Num. Chapters 13,14).

Adam and Eve were guilty of doing the very thing God had forbidden. It seems like they were obedient in taking care to dress and keep the garden. But God had given them one prohibition. Out of the trees they could eat, all but one. They deliberately did what God commanded them not do. As a result they were cast from the garden. (Gen. Chapters 2,3).

It is very easy for religious people to disobey God by substituting something for what God has commanded. Substituting is disobedience. The idea that something else will do as well seems to be a fatal idea with some otherwise good people. This type of person does not have respect for the sanctity and dignity of God’s law. Cain and Abel each made sacrifices; Cain of the first fruits of the ground (Gen. 4:3) while Abel the firstlings of his flock (Gen.4:4). The fact that God had respect for Abel’s offering and rejected Cain’s shows that Abel brought the sacrifice God commanded. Cain brought a substitute and God rejected it.

Nadab and Abihu (Lev.10:1-2) were priests and it was their duty to offer sacrifices and to burn incense. But on this occasion they went beyond what God said, “and offered strange fire before Jehovah, which He had not commanded them and there came forth fire from before Jehovah and devoured them and they died before Jehovah”. It is a dangerous thing to do in religion that which God has not commanded or authorized.

During the discourse by Jesus in the sermon on the mount, He concludes chapter 7 of Matthew by the parable of the two builders. They illustrate the difference between the “wise” and the “foolish” builders. Between the “doers” and “not doers” as builders. Those “whoever hears these sayings of Mine, and does them, I will liken to a wise man”. “But everyone who hears these sayings of Mine and does not do them, will be like a foolish man”. What kind of hearer are you?

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





**FBC RICHLAND**  
1102 Highway 49 South  
Richland, MS 39218  
601-939-1715  
[www.fbcrichland.org](http://www.fbcrichland.org)  
[www.anchoredsm.com](http://www.anchoredsm.com)



# Barry and Carl: A friendship borne in the aftermath of 9/11

By Alexa Haik

Retired New York City Firefighter Carl Schramm and Mississippi State Fire Academy Deputy Director of Instructional Services Barry Burnside were generous enough to sit down with *SW Rankin News* to share their story of the beginnings of a long-term friendship - memories from twenty-two years ago. Below is the culmination of two interviews conducted on separate days in August of 2023.

Carl Schramm: *Shortly after 9/11, (I was there probably a few weeks after the actual attack) the people in Clinton, Mississippi, had contacted New York City and they were asking if a firefighter could come out there, because there was a young girl, AudreyAnne Estess, [who] had started [selling] little ribbons to raise money for the firefighters in New York to have masks to protect themselves. They asked if somebody would come out because they wanted to have a ceremony so she could present it to them. Well, I guess a few phone calls later, it came to our fire station. They had got in touch with one of the guys who had done a lot of training around the country. So, he comes in one day and asks "is anybody interested in coming down to Mississippi?" I said "Sure, I'll go."*

Barry Burnside: *Let me tell you what happened. There was a young child, AudreyAnne Estess, she came up with a program to make ribbons and to raise money for the firefighters, if my memory serves me right. I guess she was making a lot of money. I was not the fire chief in Clinton, but I was the training officer at that time; and the mayor came to me and she said, "Hey, look, we have reached out to New York to the FDNY, and we have somebody that is going to come to Clinton and accept the money that AudreyAnne had raised." The mayor said "we are flying him in and when we do, can you pick him up at the airport?" So, I picked him up - Carl and [his wife] Mary Ann Schramm. Mary Ann was a volunteer firefighter and Carl with FDNY. At that point, my wife [Kerri Burnside] was a teacher in Raymond, and they had raised some money. So, we immediately took them to Raymond Elementary School. Then we took them to the MISS 103 radio station, and they did an interview there. Then we took him to Applebee's and introduced him to grits. We just ran him all over town.*

Schramm: *"So, my wife and I went. When we got there, we met the Chief of the Fire Department, Darrel McQuirter;*



Carl Schramm from FDNY Hazmat One, with Clinton Fire Department Captain Barry Burnside in 2001.

*at the airport, along with his first assistant. They picked us up and brought us to the hotel where we were staying. The next day, one of the captains in the Clinton Fire Department, Barry Burnside, who volunteered to help take us around, him and his wife came and picked us up. Through the next couple of days, I spoke to a couple of elementary schools. Applebee's was holding a fundraiser breakfast, and I went to that. I spoke at a couple of churches. The fire department [also] had a big barbeque at the firehouse one night, in honor of us, so I was there, and eventually they had a ceremony [at Mississippi College].*

Burnside: *When we first met, I was really reluctant to meet somebody from FDNY. I was really intimidated by it, if you want to know the truth. I was like, man, a lot of us, we feel like firefight-*

*er heroes are the FDNY or the bigger cities, and we look up to them. Cause you just see them a lot in the news and in movies, you kind of look up to them. [Turns out] they are just as down to earth as we are. After a few minutes [together], we [discovered] we had the same interests. I train here in Mississippi, but we are all kind of the same, everything we do is kind of standardized, so we talk the same language. He was on a Hazmat squad, and I had Hazmat here, so we were very familiar with that. We shared different stories, and it just kind of clicked. My wife loved them, [she] bonded with Mary Ann.*

Schramm: *My wife and I have gone to visit them a couple of times. They have been to New York. And, because Kerri was a fourth-grade teacher at the local elementary school, every year on 9/11, I would skype with her class and discuss what happened on 9/11. I have always stayed in contact with Barry and Kerri.*

*When we met them, Kerri was pregnant with her first daughter (now, they have three children).*

*I had a denim jacket, a Carhartt jacket, and on the back, it said FDNY Hazmat1, that was my company. What I did was I had another one made up with Barry's name on it, and I sent it to him. And they took pictures of their daughter when she was born, she was wrapped up in the coat.*

Burnside: *Carl and Mary Ann would come back and just stay a couple of nights and visit with us. As matter of a fact, they even met us at Disney World. My family had a trip several years ago to go to Disney, we were driving down, and Carl and Mary Anne flew from New York. They sent us a picture of him - he had his Clinton Fire Department t-shirt on - and he was in Orlando. I didn't know that they were coming. You know, we've got that type of friendship. We spent the week together. My daughters love him.*

Schramm: *It is one of the things in the fire department that is universal - we kind of all tease each other. You always joke around and, [for instance, my wife and I] wound up on the cover of the newspaper. We get to the airport, and there is one of the machines that sells newspapers, and there is my picture, and so I was kind of teasing Barry, 'So, Barry, do you want me to autograph one for ya?' Then, we went back a few years later, and we were there again on 9/11, and again I wind up on the cover of the newspaper. Again, I keep teasing Barry - He's like, "I have been here my whole life, you have been here twice, and you have been on the cover of the newspaper, twice."*

*But [jokes aside], there is a certain*

*bond - it's kind of hard to explain to people that haven't gone through it - in the fire service. We refer to each other all of the time as brother.*

Burnside: *I think the Lord made our paths cross for a reason. I will say this, I was kind of reluctant at first, but once I met him and we started picking with each other, [there was a bond]. Firefighters are good about that, we can meet them from all over the nation - you run into a firefighter somewhere, you see them and you go, "I think that guy is a firefighter." I can kind of tell, you know? We go to the National Fire Academy a lot, and so you will see guys from all over the country. You never have met them, but you know that they are firefighters. There is that camaraderie already that is there, and*



Photos special to SW Rankin News

Mississippi State Fire Academy Deputy Director of Instructional Services Barry Burnside.

*so, we have that bond.*

*Carl and I just have a really good chemistry.*

Are you paying too much for your health insurance?  
Call us today for a FREE consultation!

**MHI**  
MEACHAM HOUSTON  
INSURANCE

Medicare Supplements \* Medicare Prescription Drug Plans  
Medicare Advantage \* Under 65 Health Insurance  
Life \* Dental/Vision/Hearing \* Accident \* Cancer  
Disability \* Employer Benefits

129 Center Street, Suite F, Richland, MS 39218  
769-251-5190 [www.MHIinsurance.com](http://www.MHIinsurance.com)

We do not offer every plan available in your area. Any information we provide is limited to those plans we do offer in your area. Please contact Medicare.gov or 1-800-MEDICARE to get information on all of your options. Not affiliated with or endorsed by any government agency.



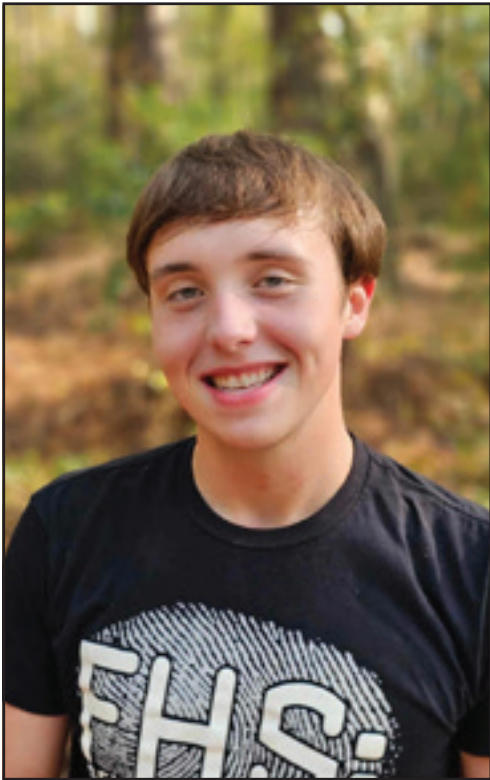
# National Merit Semifinalists selected from Pearl and Florence

Special to SW Rankin News

Seniors from Pearl High School (PHS) and Florence High School (FHS) have been named as National Merit Semifinalists in the 69th National Merit Scholarship Program.

Oakley L. Bounds of PHS and Caleb M. Garrett of FHS are among the one percent (just over 16,000) of high school students across the country to be recognized as National Merit Semifinalists. Over 1.3 million juniors in about 21,000 high schools entered the 2024 National Merit Scholarship Program by taking the 2022 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT®), which served as an initial screen of program entrants. The nationwide pool of Semifinalists, representing less than one percent of U.S. high school seniors, includes the highest-scoring entrants in each state. The number of Semifinalists in a state is proportional to the state's percentage of the national total of graduating seniors.

These academically talented high school seniors have an opportunity to continue in the competition for some 7,140 National Merit Scholarships worth nearly \$28 million that will be offered next spring.



(Left) PHS Senior Oakley L. Bounds; (Right) FHS Senior Caleb M. Garrett

Photos special to SW Rankin News

To be considered for a National Merit Scholarship award, Semifinalists must fulfill several requirements to advance to the Finalist level of the competition, including submitting a detailed schol-

arship application that provides information about their academic record, participation in school and community activities, demonstrated leadership abilities, employment and honors and

awards received. A Semifinalist must have an outstanding academic record throughout high school, be endorsed and recommended by a high school official, write an essay, and earn SAT or ACT scores that confirm the student's earlier performance on the qualifying test.

From over 16,000 Semifinalists, more than 15,000 are expected to advance to the Finalist level, and they will be notified of this designation next February. All National Merit Scholarship winners will be selected from this group of Finalists. More than half of the Finalists will win a National Merit Scholarship, earning the Merit Scholar title.

The National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC) is a not-for-profit organization that operates without government assistance. It was established in 1955 specifically to conduct the annual National Merit Scholarship Program. Scholarships are underwritten by NMSC with its own funds and by over three hundred business organizations and higher education institutions that share NMSC's goals of honoring the nation's scholastic champions and encouraging the pursuit of academic excellence.



**TempStaff**

**NOW HIRING**

**CAFETERIA WORKERS**

**CUSTODIANS**

**CUSTOMER SERVICE**

**GENERAL LABOR**

**ACCOUNTING**

Whether looking for your next job or your next hire, let us find your perfect solution!

601.353.4200    www.tempstaff.net



**HOPPER**

**Real Estate Leaders**



Allison Palmer  
Broker Associate  
REALTOR®  
601-506-1420



Mary Ann Roper  
Sales Associate  
REALTOR®  
601-720-2002

Inventory is low, and the market is HOT! Call us today to buy or sell!

HopperMS.com  
12 Woodgate Drive, Suite A, Brandon, MS 39042  
601-724-1435



Local students join MC Teams



Photos special to SW Rankin News

Mississippi College recently announced the student athletes who were named to the Choctaws Dance team for the 2023-24 season. Pictured (l to r) are, front row: Amber Smith, Anna Grace Brister, Tajalea Bilbrew, Alana Latorre, Maggie Lott and Hailey Dobbins of Pearl; and back row: Anna Kate Hester, Skyla Berry, Alyssa Norris, Anne Reed Greer of Pearl, McKenzie McWilliams and Shasa Cohran.



Mississippi College recently announced that Bailey Hall of Pearl and Isabella Hedgepeth of Florence were among the fifteen students named to the Choctaws Archery team for the 2023-24 season. Pictured (l to r) are, front row: Isabella Hedgepeth, Emilia Miceli, Christina Glover, Lexie (Alexandria) Harris, Ann Mabry Dean, Amy Snyder and Gracen Lancaster; and back row: Maggie Thompson, Zeke Griffin, Dylan (James) Mayo, James Bryce Burke, Ben Spears, Dalton Moore, Abigail Veidmark and Jack Thomas Spears. Not pictured Bailey Hall of Pearl.

Richland celebrates Halloween with haunted house, kids zone

Special to SW Rankin News

Local residents are encouraged to join the City of Richland for the annual Halloween Kids Zone on Tuesday, October 24, at the Richland Parks and Recreation Center from 5:30 p.m. until 8 p.m. for an evening of fun for area youth. There will be games, a slide, a maze, candy, and music. The Halloween festivities will also include a costume contest beginning at 7 p.m. Kids ages twelve and under will compete to win the most creative, cutest, best superhero and scariest costumes of the night.

The Richland Parks and Recreation Center is located at 460 East Harper Street, In Richland.



Following on Thursday, October 26, through Saturday, October 28, the City of Richland, Richland Economic Development Association (REDA), and Richland Mayor’s Youth Council will host “Nightmare on Harper Street” at the Richland Community Center. Ages eight and above are invited to attend.

The festivities will begin at 6 p.m. and run until 10 p.m. on Thursday, and from 6 p.m. until 11 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. The cost per ticket is \$10.

The Richland Community Center is located at 410 East Harper Street in Richland.

For more information, contact the City of Richland Special Events Coordinator Stephanie Ward at 601-487-1186.



WIN \$25!\*

THE FLORENCE NEWS

Pearl News

THE RICHLAND NEWS

In one advertisement in this issue, we’ve placed this newspaper image. **NEWS** Find it, write the advertiser’s name and the page number where you found it below, and mail this form to the indicated address. A drawing will be held to determine our winner from all correct entries received by November 1, 2023. There will be one winner per each issue in which this contest entry form appears. One entry per household per issue, please.

THE WINNER FOR SEPTEMBER IS . . KATHY HAMILTON

CALL 601-990-9511 TO COLLECT YOUR PRIZE.

Write the advertiser and the page number. \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail entries to:  
P.O. Box 5963  
Pearl, MS 39208

Richland Air Conditioning Service Co.

Residential • Commercial  
Heating and Cooling  
All Brands  
24 Hour Answering Service  
**601-932-5532**  
Fax: 601-932-5533  
740 Highway 49 S. • Richland

Jerry McLendon  
Owner

10-Year  
Warranty  
Available

601-845-8139

Buying?  
Selling?  
Give me a call!

2799 US Hwy 49 South, Suite A  
Florence, MS 39073  
McGeerealtyservices.com

**BANKRUPTCY**

CHAPTER 7  
DEBT ELIMINATION  
\$545 + court cost  
uncontested

CHAPTER 13  
DEBT CONSOLIDATION  
\$37 Attorneys fees \$313 Court fee  
\$50 Credit Counseling  
\$400 to file

Grindstaff Law

840 E. River Place Ste 605  
Jackson MS 39202  
601-346-6443

121 1/2 W. Cherokee St  
Brookhaven, MS  
601-684-1798

WE ARE A DEBT RELIEF AGENCY, WE HELP PEOPLE FILE FOR BANKRUPTCY RELIEF UNDER BANKRUPTCY CODE



# Florence Middle announces August Eagles of the Month



The FMS Sixth Grade Student of the Month is Kevina Quick Wilkerson. Pictured (l to r) are: Tanner Wilson, Assistant Principal Williams, Wilkerson and Head Principal Sistrunk.



The FMS Seventh Grade Student of the Month is Ty Vincent. Pictured (l to r) are: Tanner Wilson, Assistant Principal Williams, Vincent and Head Principal Sistrunk.



The FMS Eighth Grade Student of the Month is Ken Depoyster. Pictured (l to r) are: Tanner Wilson, Assistant Principal Williams, Depoyster and Head Principal Sistrunk.



The Florence Middle School (FMS) Teacher of the Month is Jessica Dear. Pictured (l to r) are: Tanner Wilson, Assistant Principal Kelsey Williams, Dear and Head Principal Brock Sistrunk.

# Obituaries

NAME	AGE	CITY	DOD	FUNERAL HOME
Richard Robinson	94y	Florence, MS	09/01/2023	Chancellor FH
Lana Denise Clark	67y	Clinton, MS	09/05/2023	Chancellor FH
Annette Wingo	73y	Florence, MS	09/12/2023	Chancellor FH
Dolores Winterstein	89y	Florence, MS	09/12/2023	Chancellor FH
Lawrence Taylor	94y	Richland, MS	09/14/2023	Chancellor FH
Charles Sikes	68y	Florence, MS	09/15/2023	Chancellor FH
Liam Fiallos	4m	Florence, MS	09/15/2023	Chancellor FH
Donna Conerly	64y	Carthage, MS	09/17/2023	Chancellor FH
Joyce Harris	96y	Braxton, MS	09/25/2023	Chancellor FH

Who will you trust with the most precious thing in your life?

As a family-owned and operated funeral home, we believe we are better prepared to serve your family.

Those you know and trust,  
**Chancellor Funeral Home**

7225 Siwell Road•Dyersburg•601-372-2955 • www.chancellorfuneralhome.com • 2576 Highway 49 South•Florence•601-845-4449

Brakes  
Timing Belts  
Water Pumps  
2 & 4 Wheel  
Alignments

Clutches  
Certified A/C  
And More

# Richland Wrecker Service and Auto Repair

# 601-502-3706

24  
Hour

24-Hour Service • We go the extra mile  
“Over 30 years experience in auto repair”

(601) 936-0003  
(Business Phone)

2651 Hwy. 468  
Pearl, MS 39208

(601) 936-0353  
(Fax)



# Pearl High School presents 2023 Homecoming Maids



The Pearl High School (PHS) 2023 Freshmen Homecoming Maids pictured (l to r) are: Abigail Gordon and Maliyah Seals.



The PHS 2023 Sophomore Homecoming Maids pictured (l to r) are, front row: Yarbren Alexander and Anna Winston; and back row: Liberty Bouldin and Lexie Sessums.



The PHS 2023 Junior Homecoming Maids pictured (l to r) are: Kai Jenkins, Diana Hernandez, Raegan Van Buren, Alyn Gomez and Jade Johnson.



Photos special to SW Rankin News

The PHS 2023 Senior Homecoming Maids pictured (l to r) are, front row: Jayden Neal, Kaitlyn Richardson and Melissa Gonzalez-Solis; and back row: Evelyn Barajas, Layton Ward, Taylor Cousar and Dulce Tapia (Football Maid).

## Bouquets of Pearl

FLORIST AND GIFTS

Locally owned and operated with over 45 years experience

~

Traditional and Contemporary Designs

In your time of need, remember to count on us.

Flower arrangements for all events and occasions

436 N. Bierderman Rd. • Pearl, MS 39208  
601-933-0029 | 601-813-3576  
powellsflowers@aol.com

**PAM POWELL**  
Owner

"A CITY WITHOUT A NEWSPAPER IS A CITY WITHOUT A SOUL."  
- LUIS A. FERRÉ

LOCAL NEWS  
COMMUNITY SPIRIT  
PUBLIC CONSCIENCE

Joella  
JOELLAHELLO.COM

NATIONAL NEWSPAPER WEEK



# A classic ghost story: *The Uninvited* by Dorothy Macardle

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

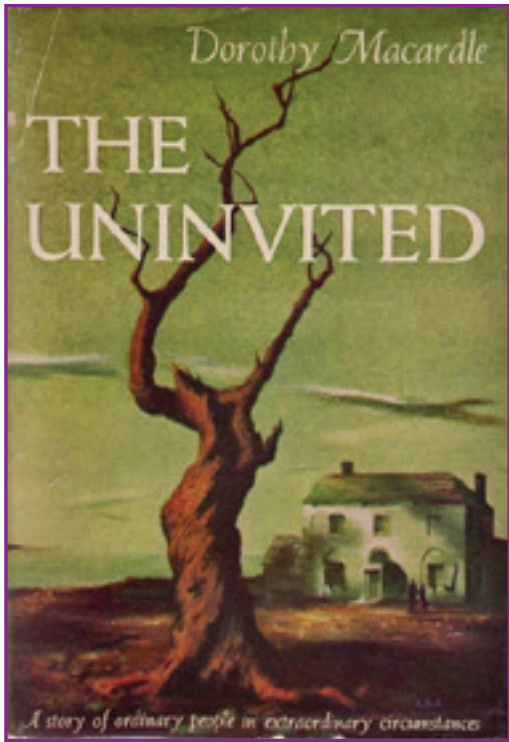
Published in 1942, *The Uninvited*, a classic ghost story by Dorothy Macardle, begins on a sunny April morning when Roderick (Roddy) and his sister, Pamela Fitzgerald, are driving through Devon, looking for a house to buy, away from the pressures of London, so Roddy can write his novel in peace. They arrive at “Cliff End,” a lovely Georgian-style house on the north Devon Coast. Pamela and Roddy find a “For Sale” sign directing them to Commander Brooke in Wilmcote, Biddlecombe. Stella, the young granddaughter of the Commander, greets them and locates a key to the house but won’t accompany them. Roddy and Pamela look around, agreeing Cliff End is their dream home. Later, Commander Brooke accepts their offer of £1,000, for Cliff End and, over the next weeks, they cut ties in London and arrange for their cook/housekeeper, Lizzie Flynn, and her cat, Whiskers, to join them.

Roddy has to be away for several weeks and leaves his sister Pamela and Lizzie to stay in the house while wallpapering, painting, turning the

house into their home. At night, they hear moaning and sobbing, keeping them awake, and Lizzie’s cat refuses to go upstairs. When Roddy returns and hears of these nightly disturbances, he becomes concerned. Nineteen-year-old Stella visits despite her grandfather’s ordering her not to enter “that house.” Stella loves Cliff End and cannot stay away.

Father Ansom, the Catholic priest, is concerned about the nightly disturbances. He urges them not to have a séance believing they could open themselves to possession by the ghost. Pamela had felt an entity coming too close during that first séance. Father Ansom said the Church would conduct a Rite of Exorcism to clear the house of any spirits. Stella refuses, fearing the ghost to be her beloved mother and that an exorcism might send her mother’s soul into hell.

Pamela realizes there are two ghosts, Mary and Carmel. One is the loving mother of Stella, and the other hates Stella, jealously trying to drive her over the cliff. Both women were models for Stella’s father, Llewelyn “Lyn” Meredith, a bohemian artist. The mimosa scent and sobbing emanate from Stella’s mother, longing



for her child. If there are two ghosts, which is the mother, Mary or Carmel? Roddy and Pamela become sleuths to ferret out the truth. They learn the mimosa-scented ghost is Carmel, a young Spanish woman seduced by Mary’s husband, Lyn Meredith. She delivered the child, Stella, in Spain.

Before they returned to Devon, Lyn gave the baby to Mary, who refused to let Carmel care for Stella, enjoying her power to hurt Carmel in this way. One night, a heartbroken Carmel fled from the house towards the cliff. Mary ran after her. It was Mary who fell over the cliff and died. Without care, Carmel died of pneumonia a few days later.

This last evening, Stella is visiting Roddy and Pamela when the ghosts return. The mimosa scent comes, and Stella spends the night in the nursery telling Carmel how much she loves her. Carmel finds peace and fades away. Mary becomes even angrier; her cold, icy mist forms into a tall woman with frightening ice-blue eyes. Roddy approaches her as she moves down the stairs. In spite of his own terror, he begins to laugh at her, mocking her. With each laugh, she grows smaller and smaller, until she is only a wisp of blue mist rising up through the roof of Cliff End. At last, Cliff End is free of ghosts. Roddy asks Stella to marry him; she says, “Yes,” and the sun rises on a beautifully happy morning.



# Your Future Looks BRIGHT!

## SCHEDULE A TOUR TODAY!

[hindscc.edu/bright](https://hindscc.edu/bright)

## Turn Your Passion Into a Profession!



### HINDS

COMMUNITY COLLEGE

JACKSON | NAHC | RANKIN | RAYMOND | UTICA | VICKSBURG

In compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX, Education Amendments of 1972 of the Higher Education Act, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and other applicable Federal and State Acts, Hinds Community College offers equal education and employment opportunities and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, age, disability or veteran status in its educational programs and activities. We recognize our responsibility to provide an open and welcoming environment that fosters a culture of diversity, equity, and inclusion for employees and students to collaboratively learn, work and serve our communities. The following have been designated to handle inquiries regarding these policies:

EEOC Compliance: Director of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion , Box 1100 Raymond MS 39154; Phone: 601-857-3458 or Email: [EEOC@hindscc.edu](mailto:EEOC@hindscc.edu).

Title IX: Associate Vice President Student Services, Title IX Coordinator , Box 1100 Raymond MS 39154; Phone: 601-857-3353 or Email: [TitleIX@hindscc.edu](mailto:TitleIX@hindscc.edu).



# SWRANKIN NEWS

The Pearl News THE NEWS RICHLAND THE FLORENCE NEWS

WE ARE  
HIRING

***SOUTHWEST RANKIN NEWS IS HIRING:***  
***SALES REPS***

***WORK FROM HOME, FLEXIBLE HOURS***

***SEND RESUMES TO***  
***Clay Mansell AT:***  
***claymansell@***  
***swrankinnews.com***





# The “Kickin’ Cancer Classic” returns to Pearl in October

Special to SW Rankin News

For this year's Kickin’ Cancer Classic, held October 7 in Pearl, the Pearl Futbol Club chose two recipients to support and fundraise for - Maci Hamilton, and Ashton Keith. Historically, the Pearl Futbol Club has hosted their Kickin’ Cancer Jamboree each fall since 1995 as a benefit tournament for a local family battling cancer. All proceeds go to the families of the recipients.

In 2022, Maci Hamilton, a twelve-year-old from Florence, was diagnosed with a rare and aggressive form of Lymphoma. Despite enduring multiple chemo treatments and a bone marrow transplant, Maci's battle continues. After a brief remission, two new tumors emerged, growing rapidly. Maci is now undergoing a trial chemotherapy treatment at the University of Alabama in Birmingham,




Maci Hamilton (left) and Ashton Keith (right)

with an uncertain future ahead. Pearl Fotbol Club says that, “Before her diagnosis, Maci enjoyed typical pre-teen activities, from sports to shopping. Her positive spirit has inspired many, even as a shy but loving individual. She's always ready to stand up for those she cares about.”

Ashton, a fourteen-year-old from the local community, has endured surgeries in pursuit of recovery. From 2019 to 2022, he enjoyed a seizure-free period, offering hope on the road to recovery. Unexpectedly, he encountered a seizure recently that sent him to Mississippi Children’s Hospital. The recent test findings revealed that the seizures had a new source, launching Ashton and his family on a relentless quest for answers.

Pearl Fotbol Club says that, “Throughout this journey, Ashton has displayed remarkable strength! Despite potential short-term memory loss, he excels academically and is deeply passionate about Pearl Junior High and soccer. He's not just a soccer enthusiast, but also a caring older sibling at home.”

For more information, contact them at [pearlsoccer@gmail.com](mailto:pearlsoccer@gmail.com) or visit Pearl Futbol Club on Facebook.



### “Word Seed”

Mark 16:15

*“And he said unto them, go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.”*

The mandate of the Master is clear: God’s church is to go global with the gospel. Is your church a “come and hear” church or a “go and tell” church? Beautiful buildings, good worship, cutting-edge technology nor anointed preaching are substitutes for going and telling. In Mississippi we should believe for a great harvest of souls. Indeed, the hour is late..... world events evidence the fact we are on the precipice of the Lord’s return. With urgency we must go and tell.

Jesus said go into all the world and **preach** the gospel. **God’s church must be a preaching church.**

“Now after that John was put in prison, **Jesus came** into Galilee, **preaching** the gospel of the kingdom of God” (Mark 1:14)

“ And they departed, and went through the towns, **preaching** the gospel, and healing everywhere.” (Luke 9:6)

“And they, when they had testified and preached the word of the Lord, returned to Jerusalem, and **preached** the gospel in many villages of the Samaritans.” (Acts 8:25)

The mandate is clear: we must go.....we must preach....and the message to be preached is the gospel. Notice with me what Paul said about the gospel: “So, as much as in me is, I am ready to preach the *gospel* to you that are at Rome also. For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: **for it is the power of God unto salvation** to everyone that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.” (Romans 1:15-16)

Isn’t it amazing that after the passing of over two thousand years, the Gospel of Jesus Christ still has the power to change lives? The Gospel....the message of salvation through faith/trust in Christ and His atoning work on the cross. There is power in the preached Gospel. The alcoholic will pour out his whiskey, the bound will get free, the adulterer will go home and the homosexual can become holy. The Gospel! When the lost are in the service, the power of God’s Presence is present and the Gospel is preached-people get saved, families are reached-the church grows and the God’s Kingdom is advanced.

May we keep praying, keep preparing, keep preaching and keep compelling people to go and tell. Singers keep singing the Gospel and teachers keep teaching the Gospel....it is the power of God unto everyone that believeth. Harvest is coming!



**601-573-3238**      **CARDMYYARD.COM**





# RHS students learn about local diesel mechanic program



Photos special to SW Rankin News

Richland High School (RHS) Career Coach Shemekka Anderson accompanied students to Hinds Diesel Academy, Empire, and Stribling recently to tour and learn about the diesel mechanic program. Students had the opportunity to see equipment, machinery, the parts room, and shop. They also learned about the education requirements to become a diesel mechanic as well as the earning potential.



## BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT DIRECTORY

### Advertise with Us!

Please contact Clay Mansell at (601) 397-4442.

Master Card

American Express

Discover

VISA

### Crossgates Jewelers, Inc.

Tammy & Gerald Frazier  
Owners

(601) 939-9313

401 Cross Park Drive

Watch & Jewelry Repair

Suite A

Custom Design

Pearl, MS 39208

### Specialty Tree Service LLC

601-405-5857

Specializing in large and dangerous tree removal

Gabe Walters

601-405-5857

Free Estimates!

Tree Removal • Tree Trimming  
Stump Grinding • Lot Clearing  
Debris Removal



NOW HIRING

**Assistant office manager position**  
Located in Richland

Resumes can be faxed to 601-924-5471  
or emailed to o2k.mgmt@gmail.com

Optometric experience isn't required,  
however other management experience is.

**Job Duties:** training staff, managing inventory,  
submitting orders for exams, contacts and glasses, supervising  
and directing staff in day-to-day operations.



**EYE CARE ASSOCIATES/ OPTICAL 2000**  
Dr. Bobby C Pankey, OD  
*Optometrist*  
115 Cynthia Street in Clinton · phone 601-924-4444 · fax 601-924-4100

Richland awards  
August, creative  
character trait



Special to SW Rankin News


Ninth grade student Hayden Mizell was recently selected as Richland High School's August Character Trait Student for the Month. The character trait for the month was creativity.

RPL celebrates  
long-time staff  
retirement



Special to SW Rankin News


On Monday, September 11, the Richland Writers Group, loyal patrons, and staff met to celebrate the retirement of Cara Houston. Houston, the Circulation Clerk at the Richland Public Library, has been with the Central Mississippi Regional Library System for nineteen years.



Methodist  
Senior Services  
*Celebration. Innovation. Hope.*

**Riggs Manor**  
Retirement Community





62 and  
**BOLDER?**




Our campus offers senior living with your choice of

- Apartments & Garden Homes for Independent Lifestyles
- Assisted Living Studios & Apartments
- Memory Support Living in Green House® Homes

Call today for your personal tour!  
**(601) 857-5011**


2300 Seven Springs Road • Raymond, MS 39154



**SCHOOL-AGE CHILDREN HAS A VISION PROBLEM**

The majority of these problems have no easy-to-detect symptoms.

**EYECARE ASSOCIATES**



**OPTICAL 2000**

815 Hwy. 80 East  
Clinton, MS 39056  
Phone: (601) 924-4444  
Fax: (601) 924-4100

**Dr. Bobby C. Pankey**  
Optometrist  
Cell: (601) 613-3173

655 Highway 49, Suite M  
Richland, MS 39218  
Phone: (601) 932-3727  
Fax: (601) 932-3728

Serving Pearl and Rankin County for more than 30 years.

**ANDY EATON**  
INSURANCE AGENCY

**Home & Auto Insurance**

Office: 3170 Hwy 80 E  
Pearl, MS 39208  
Contact: (601) 939-0102

Fax: (601) 936-9515  
Aeaton9300@aol.com  
Hours: Monday – Friday  
8:30AM – 5:00PM



# RHS, RJHS Top Rangers announced for September

Special to SW Rankin News

Richland High School (RHS) and Richland Junior High School (RJHS) recently announced their Top Rangers for September 2023. The Top Ranger Award is given to students who have shown exemplary behavior in and out of the classroom. Students receiving this award have been standout students and have continually worked hard at their coursework. Students awarded this accolade receive free lunch at a local restaurant in Richland.



RJHS's September Top Rangers pictured (l to r) are, front row: Miley Hutto, Alanayah Green, Ruth Carrillo Mariano and Olivia Thompson; second row: Emma Flynn, Oriell Smith, Megan Rushing, Marialena Guzman-Martinez, Kaylee Anders, Sydne Bass, Caroline Grubbs and Karlee Swanson; third row: Felix Lagos, Undre Johnson, Gavin Boyer, Malcom Hill and Anderson Jolly; and back row: Avery Lee, Alexander Henderson and Jeffrey Landry.



Photos special to SW Rankin News

RHS's September Top Rangers pictured (l to r) are, front row: Mia Tisdale, Chelsey Courtney, Mer-ry Little and Makayla Gaines; middle row: William Edwards, Joshua McKnight, Alexis Castillo, Claire Ainsworth, Tamyra Jordan and Rileigh Tolbert; and back row: Noah Nix, Ethan Alexander, Garrett Burney, Abram Yates, Romello Goodrich, Micah Lane, Lewis Jones, Osmel Rito Flores and Bryce Young.

PEARL LOCATION

Facebook.com/Stowawaypearl

4195 Highway 80 E.  
Pearl, MS 39208  
601-939-3255

5% Discount For The Following:  
-Oak Lake and Grove Acres Residents  
-Multi-Unit (3 or more units)  
-First Responder  
-Military

STOWAWAY

SELF-STORAGE

RICHLAND LOCATION

Facebook.com/Stowawayrichland

133 Center Street  
Richland, MS 39218  
601-939-5007

5% Discount For The Following:  
-Stoney Creek Residents  
Multi-Unit (3 or more units)  
-First Responder  
-Military

Logan Rivers

SMOKE HOUSE

Happy Halloween!

OF FLORENCE

BARBECUE

RIBS • STEAKS

HAPPY HALLOWEEN! Our bar is 10:30 - 2 Tues. - Fri. and Friday & Saturday nights 5 - 9

OPEN: 10:30 - 9:00 Tues. - Sat. (Closed Sun - Mon)

Lunch Buffet: 10:30 - 2 Tuesday - Thursday

Buffet All Day Friday & on Saturday night

BUFFET

10:30am - 2pm Tuesday - Friday

5pm - 8:30pm Friday & Saturday

Martha is Back! The Best of the Best

Come out and join us for BBQ with a Twist of Country & Pasta

3091 Hwy 49 South, Florence, MS

601-845-0702

DINE IN, CARRY OUT, DRIVE THRU OR CATER

Facebook icon

Instagram icon



# Hinds CC 2023-24 Hi-Steppers named

Special to SW Rankin News

Hinds Community College recently named students to their fall 2023-24 Hinds Hi-Steppers dance team. Under the direction of Angela Hite, the Hi-Steppers have a history of excellence and of goodwill; they are one of the oldest precision dance lines in the nation. Included in this year’s team are Trinity Wortham of Florence, and Lexie Johnson and Ciera Johnson of Richland.

The Hi-Steppers have performed for audiences across the U.S., Canada and Europe. No group in the U.S. has received more invitations to nationally televised bowl games, professional football games or national parades than the Hi-Steppers. The Hi-Steppers are still a favorite today as they perform with the Eagle Marching Band at football games, exhibitions, parades, community and charitable events. Known as Mississippi’s Goodwill Ambassadors, the dancers have given their time and energy to many worthy causes.



Special to SW Rankin News

Pictured (l to r) are the 2023-24 Hinds Hi-Steppers, front row: Captains Chelcee Porter and Elizabeth Runnels; second row: Maria Serratos, Ashleigh Byrd and Trinity Wortham; third row: Erin Lollis, Marissa Stokes, Mia Sperandeo and Denver Jackson; fourth row: Lexie Johnson, Semia Wansley, Alexis Marts, Malayah Evans, Amia Lewis and Zoë Irving; and back row: Ciera Johnson, Skylar Boyd, Jayda Graham and Cheyenne Cornelius.

# RHS principal, career coach discuss industry partnerships at HCC



Principal Dr. Marcus Stewart and Career Coach Shemekka Anderson, both of RHS, recently sat on a panel in front of sixteen manufacturing and transportation industry representatives at Hinds Community College. The focus of their discussion was to showcase how they are impacting the lives of students at RHS through industry partnerships and their Career Coach Program. This event was sponsored by Hinds Community College, Accelerate MS, and South Central Mississippi Works.



Photos special to SW Rankin News

Pictured are Principal Dr. Marcus Stewart and Career Coach Shemekka Anderson of Richland High School (RHS).

THE FLORENCE NEWS

THE Pearl News

THE NEWS RICHLAND

SUBSCRIBE TODAY FOR ONLY \$12 A YEAR!

We make signing up to begin receiving the *The Pearl News*, *The Richland News*, and *The Florence News* quick and easy.

All you have to do is subscribe at [www.swrankinnews.com/subscribe-today](http://www.swrankinnews.com/subscribe-today) and then pay with PayPal...making your payment on the most secure credit card process network on the Internet. Pay for your subscription by using your PayPal account or with "Any Major Credit Card."

Subscriber's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Which paper?  
[Check your desired newspaper.](#)

Make checks payable to:  
SW Rankin News Subscriptions  
Visit  
[www.swrankinnews.com/subscribe-today](http://www.swrankinnews.com/subscribe-today)  
for more payment options.

Mail to:  
SW Rankin News  
P.O. Box 5963  
Pearl, MS 39288

For more information, call 601-706-9237.

Boutique Theatre With Intimate Auditoriums  
Featuring Luxury Reserved Recliner Seating  
Premier Selection of Local Brews & Specialty Cocktails  
Conveniently Located Within Ridgeland’s Premier Upscale Shopping Experience

RENAISSANCE CINEMA GRILL  
RENAISSANCE AT COLONY PARK  
RIDGELAND, MS

CHECK MALCO.COM OR THE MALCO APP TO VIEW THE CURRENT SCHEDULE  
@MALCOTHEATRES / @MALCOTHEATRES1915

MALCO MARQUEE REWARDS  
EARN. REDEEM. REPEAT.

RELAX and RECLINE  
LUXURY RESERVED RECLINER SEATING

I LOVE TUESDAYS  
CHECK OUT MALCO'S TUESDAY TICKET PRICES!  
Available For A Limited Time Only At Participating Locations

Luxury Reserved Recliner Seating  
Dolby Digital Presentations  
Conveniently Located off Interstate 55 at Exit 107/Grandview Blvd

The Only Mississippi  
IMAX  
GRANDVIEW CINEMA & IMAX  
THE FORUM AT GRANDVIEW  
MADISON, MS



Around the block with  
what you need in  
stock #YourLocalAce

REVELL ACE

Hardware, Grilling,  
Outdoor Power  
Equipment & More!



COMPANY WIDE  
TENT SALE  
at All Revell Outdoor Locations

Prices TOO LOW to Advertise!

UP TO \$2,000 OFF

REBATES on EVERY in-stock  
zero turn Mower

NEW Package  
Deals  
w/Trailers at  
Unbelievable  
SAVINGS!

On-the-spot  
no-money-  
down  
Financing

FREE Delivery  
up to 20 mi.

0% Interest  
available