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# The Fair Times.

Our 39th year  
**WEDNESDAY**  
July 28,  
2021

## Weather



KADEMI

Possible Thunderstorms  
High: 92 Low: 74

Winds SW at 5 to 10 mph. Chance of rain  
20 percent.

## What's doin'

### TODAY

- 9:00 a.m. – Political speaking, Founders Square
- 11:15 a.m. – Meridian Day Program, Founders Square
- 8:00 p.m. – Trace Adkins, Grandstand

Complete schedule, page 12A

## Inside



■ Barrett's band party keeps getting better, **1B**.

■ Fair training ground for Jeopardy champ, **2C**.

■ Cabin 64 kids are armed and ready, **2D**.



The Williams Manning Jordan family, above, gathered for their traditional Sunday lunch that included fried chicken. At left, Cynthia Jordan, Tommy Williams, Sid Williams and Olivia Manning.

# 97-year-old is descendent of Fair founder

**By Audrey Hall**

Smart as a tack, spry and quite engaging, 97-year-old June Fox Mitchell of Brandon remembers the Fair's early beginnings well.

She is descended from one of the eight original Fair founders and recalls when their family occasionally had trouble getting here because the road was impassable.

"My grandfather was one of the eight founders of the Fair," she said of her grandfather Nathan Fox. "He was a lot of fun."

Her father was born the year the Fair started and Mitchell and her sisters came regularly as children and teenagers when the road was passable. "We just grew up coming to the Fair," she said.

The Fox Den on the Square is Mitchell's third or fourth cabin. Her family's first cabin was a one-room one-story building with a dirt floor. The second version of their cabin, which Mitchell grew up using, had two stories with stairs on the outside of the building, a feature of most Fair cabins at the time.

Mitchell's daughters, Joan Fox Mitchell Caden and Marsha Brockman, shared stories of how the old cabin's second story dividing wall didn't reach the ceiling. That meant that even though the boys and girls were separated at night, there was still some jumping and pillow throwing across the divide.

In those days, Fairgoers didn't have running water. They used a water pump to pump water and bring it back to the cabin for use.

Fairgoers also brought prepared food to their cabins. Mitchell's mother would cook lunches for her children and they would bring their packed lunches out to the Fair to enjoy.

When Mitchell was in charge of the cabin's fare, she brought a roast, a turkey breast and many vegetables and pies. Shaving ears of corn to make cream corn was a favorite activity for everyone in the family.

When National Geographic came to spotlight the Fair in 1980, Mitchell and her family were included in the magazine's photographs, making Mitchell a Fair celebrity.

She has also seen many interesting speakers and performers at the Fair, naming Sonny Montgomery, Ronald Reagan and John Glenn. She remembered taking chairs down to the Racetrack to watch the shows.

"It was the natural thing to do, coming to the Fair," Mitchell said. Her family occasionally had trouble coming, such as when the Fair shut down with World War II, or when the roads weren't good enough to pass onto the Fairgrounds.

But, Mitchell has always done her best to come spend time with her Fox and McKay relatives. This year marks the first time she has been back in four years. "I hope I get to come back next year, too," she said.



Marshall Peters, Savannah Peters and June Fox Mitchell



Front left, Shaun Seales, Ward 4; Mayor James Young; Alderman at Large - James Waltman  
Back left, James Tatum, Ward 3; Jim Fulton, Ward 2; Justin Clearman, Ward 1

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## The Fair Times.

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**If you miss a Fair Times**  
The Fair Times is published daily during the Fair. On Wednesday, The Neshoba Democrat is also delivered. If your area is having problems with Fair Times delivery, please contact us at (601) 656-4000 or text (601) 416-5117. The Fair Times is free and extra copies are available in bright yellow racks at the northeast entrance to the Square and along the road to the new section.

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News tips are encouraged.

Published by the staff of  
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Laura Bryan

# Bryan ready for another Late Night Sing ‘tonight’

**By John Lee**

Laura Bryan, the pianist at the Fair’s Late Night Sing for the last 50 years, was so overcome with grief last year she sat down at her piano and played all 90 songs that include standards such as “The Yellow Rose of Texas,” “My Buddy,” and “When the Saints Go Marching In.”

While Bryan of the Dobbs Cabin 245 in Sunset Strip likes spending time with family watching her grandchildren enjoy the Fair, her highlight is the Sing, or the A.J. Yates Jr. Memorial Late Night Sing as it is known.

“I’m 75, and I’ve been coming to the Fair all my life,” Bryan said. “Throughout the years, though, playing piano for Late Night Sing is my biggest highlight of the Fair nowadays. I haven’t missed a Fair in my lifetime.”

Bryan recalled playing piano when she was just 10 years old, and began playing for Late Night Sing after her aunt could no longer play. Bryan’s grandmother played for many years as well.

“My aunt told me that ‘You cannot play pretty on this piano, and you have to bump

it out so everyone can hear it,’” Bryan said. “It has been a family tradition for years, and I hope there’s someone else in our family that can come along and play after me.”

When she isn’t playing piano, Bryan resides in the Dobbs Cabin 245, where her sister, her children and grandchildren all stay.

“This cabin was built in 1958,” she said. “We don’t know exactly who built it, but I do know my dad had someone construct it. I decided to keep my dad’s last name, Dobbs, in the cabin’s name.”

Bryan said along with playing for Late Night Sing, she is also looking forward to visiting with family and friends and watching her grandchildren enjoy the Fair.

“My grandkids were all over the place when they were little, and now that they’re teenagers, they have fair friends and do their own thing,” she said. “We’ve got a wonderful street and wonderful friends, some of which I haven’t seen since high school. It’s like a big family reunion.”

The A.J. Yates Jr. Memorial Late Night Sing on Wednesday night begins at 1 a.m. (Thursday) on Founders Square.

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Rebecca Posey, Neal Perry, Chad Schwarzauer, Tim Schwarzauer and dog Suzie Q. Opossum Schwarzauer play games on the porch.

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Katelyn Watkins won a fish at the Midway.



Kyle Brantley, Renee Brantley, Hudson Brantley, Maggie Brantley and Holly Brantley spend quality time together at the Fair.

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**Krystal**

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# Pretty Cow Contest tonight at Cattle Arena

By John Lee

The Pretty Cow Contest has seen some pretty interesting costumes over the years such as a firefighter, and even Super Mario, even though the focus is on dairy and milk.

Held at the Cattle Arena this afternoon at 5:30, the contest takes the Fair back to its agricultural roots. The exhibition of livestock was one of the functions of early fairs.

"Although we look for people who follow the dairy and milk theme, there's been some pretty wacky costumes in the past," said Amanda Alford, office associate for the Neshoba Extension Office

Pretty Cow Contest participant owners dress up in various costumes and dress up their cows was well.

The judges look for contestants who dress themselves and their cow in something that best represents dairy and milk, Alford said.

"We've had people who dressed up as firefighters, and even had someone who dressed as Super Mario," she said.

Alford said the top three winners will receive cash prizes.

"The winner of the premium award, which is first place, wins \$100," Alford said. "Second place wins \$75, and third place wins \$50. The rest of the contestants who participate will receive a consolation prize of \$10."

If you have a cow, you can still register for the Pretty Cow Contest in the livestock area from 8 a.m. to noon. The contest begins in the Cattle Arena at 5:30 p.m.



A Fair favorite, the Pretty Cow Contest kicks off tonight at 5:30.



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Seated from left to right: Obbie Riley - District 5, Kevin Cumberland - District 2, Keith Lillis - District 1, Back row from left to right: Kevin Wilcher - District 4 and Kinsey Smith - District 3

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Kayleigh Stringer, 7, and Miller Grace, 8, prepare to stroll around the Fairgrounds.



Summar and Seth Irons with kids Fletcher, 2, and Mackenzie, 4.

## Best wishes for a safe, fun and healthy Fair Week!

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Midway open 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 a.m. Mitchell Bros. and Sons Amusements.  
 U.S. Post Office, Neshoba County Fair Station, Open 12:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.  
 Exhibit Hall OPEN 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.

- 8:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m. Check in Dairy Cattle - Cattle Arena
- 8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Registration for Pretty Cow Contest – Livestock area
- 8:00 a.m. Concert by Neshoba Central H.S. Band - Daniel Wade, Director – Founders Sq.

**POLITICAL SPEAKING - FOUNDERS SQUARE**

- 9:00 a.m. Honorable Steven Kilgore (R), District Attorney, 8th Circuit Court District
- 9:10 a.m. Hon. Caleb May, Circuit Judge, 8th Circuit Court District
- 9:20 a.m. Hon. Mark Duncan, Circuit Judge, 8th Circuit Court District
- 9:30 a.m. Hon. Joey Kilgore, Chancery Judge, 6th Chancery Court District
- 9:40 a.m. Hon. Michael T. Evans (I) State Representative, District 45
- 9:50 a.m. Hon. Jennifer Branning (R), State Senator, District 18
- 10:10 a.m. Hon. C. Scott Bounds (R), State Representative, District 44
- 10:20 a.m. Hon. Willie Simmons (D), Transportation Commissioner, Central District
- 10:30 a.m. Hon. Delbert Hosemann (R), Lt. Governor, State of Mississippi
- 11:15 a.m. The Meridian Day Program - Founders Square  
Presented by the East Mississippi Business Development Corporation
- 1:00 p.m. Concert by Neshoba Central High School Band – Grandstand / Racetrack  
Daniel Wade, Director
- 1:45 - 2:45 p.m. Registration for Youth Talent Contest - Fair Office, Cabin #65 on Founders Sq.
- 2:00 p.m. Harness & Running Horse Races – Racetrack  
Sponsored in part by Pearl River Resort – Racetrack  
Colors presented by Neshoba Central HS Jr. ROTC
- 3:00 p.m. Youth Talent Contest - Founders Square
- 5:30 p.m. Pretty Cow Contest – Cattle Arena
- 8:00 p.m. **THE TRACE ADKINS SHOW** - Grandstand
- 9:30 p.m.-12:30 a.m. Dance – Music by PINNISHOOK - Founders Square
- 1:00 a.m. **A.J. Yates, Jr. Memorial Late Night Sing** –Founders Square  
Dr. Laura Bryan, Patt Fielder and Dr. Joe Jordan, Chairpersons
- 1:00 a.m. Midway and Concessions close

Livestock Show Barrs open 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. – displaying top quality Beef Cattle, Dairy Cattle and Sheep. The EXHIBIT HALL is open daily 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. featuring Field Crops, Garden Exhibits and Arts & Crafts.



Three-month-old Hazel Margaret Grace has decided she likes the Fair.



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Carter Posey, 3, of Cabin 291 enjoys a cold cup of lemonade.



Walker Spears, Jake Reeves, Easton Quick and Jase Reeves head to the Midway to ride some rides.

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523



The Grahams in Cabin 523 are enjoying their new cabin! Velma and John Graham of Union are pictured with their whole family, Alan, Breanna, Savannah, and McKenzie Lancaster of Meraux, La.; Kenny and Donna Klein with JJ of Louisville, KY; Sue and Michael Graham of Union; Brady and Carly Klein of Enfield, CT; Brittany, Bryant, and Brynlee Graham of Union; Brooke Graham with Mac and Jac of Louisville, KY; and Magan, Austin, Parker, and Maddox Pullin of Union.



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– Senator Jenifer Branning



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Lisa Barrett, Amy Barrett, and Gaston Barrett of Cabin 310B hosted their 25th Fair party Sunday night.

## Barrett's band party keeps getting better

**By Duncan Dent**

Every year on Sunday night for the past 25 years, Gaston Barrett has hosted The Night-tripper Band at Cabin 310B at the southeast bend in the Racetrack.

Gaston said he likes how the band keeps updating their setlist.

"The band does a really good job staying modern and rolls with the times. They have stayed up to date," Gaston said. "We invite all of our friends and neighbors and have a good band to listen to."

His wife, Lisa Barrett, said she likes the band's music because it is easy to dance to.

Gaston said his party, like the Fair, seems to grow and improve every year.

"I have been walking around the Fairgrounds and it seems like it has gotten bigger this year," he said. "They say you can either go up or down and it is always better to go up than down."

Gaston builds a stage at the end of their porch. The party requires a permit and they have to have the stage torn down early Monday morning.

Lisa said the event kind of takes care of it-

self. She described it as "automatic." They know who will help set up and tear down the stage and the band just requires a phone call a week or two out to confirm the date, which they always do.

The porch is not only a good place to catch a band but also has a good view of the horse track. The cabin sleeps about 16 people.

Lisa said she did not grow up going to the Fair and did not know what to expect but now she feels like she has been here her entire life.

Her favorite part is getting to the cabin early and decorating and preparing for the week. She said she usually tries to show up to the

Flea Market early to find a new piece of metal art to add to her collection or replace an older piece.

Lisa's sister, Sarah Lambert, was there to help her set up. Lambert is from Ohio and said she has never seen anything like the Fair.

"You can't describe it; you have to experience it," Lambert said.

After the band party is done the Barretts get to relax until after the last race on Friday when they begin carving watermelons and passing them out to any children who pass by.



Stephanie and Jerry Anderson from Mobile watch the horse races.



(L to R): Tinsley Rounsaville (5), Ty Rounsaville (3), Mary Clayton Byars (4), and Ava James Byars (9)

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Charleigh Steele, 9, is excited to have her best friend Atleigh Graham, 9, staying with her at the Fair.



Maggie and Emma wish everyone a great Fair!

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Georgia Sciple, Mosleigh Darracott and Remi Sansing make some Fair money!

George Sciple and Jana Sciple make a quick stop at the Fair before heading to Jackson, Tenn., where he will soon graduate from nurse anesthetist school.

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U.S. Rep. Dan Crenshaw of Texas' 2nd District poses with Paul Breazeale and U.S. Rep. Michael Guest of Mississippi's 3rd District at a Fair fundraiser.

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Joy Byrd hopes to win a big prize at the Midway this year!



Chris McLemore enjoys cooking his cabin's steak meal.

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SATURDAY: 10 AM - 5 PM	CLEVELAND, MS 38732
SUNDAY: 12 PM - 3 PM	



# New Orleans hotelier visits 'White House'

**By Audrey Hall**

"My name is Hotel Al," said Al Barras. "And I'm a million percent Cajun."

Al Barras, better known as Hotel Al, will be 84 in August. And this is "Hotel Al's" first Fair at Cabin 272 or The White House.

Working 62 years in the hotel business, this Fair marks the first time he's left the French Quarter in New Orleans since Hurricane Katrina.

"I stayed at the Hotel Monteleone and then they put me and my family in a hotel in Tampa, Florida, for 59 days," Hotel Al said.

He has an apartment right in the heart of the French Quarter, where he once ran a tour company out of a big white van. His tour company was called Hotel Al Transportation.

These days, Hotel Al has poorer eyesight and so in order to see the Fair his friends will drive him around the Fairgrounds to give him the tour.

"My friends are going to do for me what I used to do for others," he said of his friends giving him the Fairgrounds tour.

He has been invited for over 20 years to come to the Fair and finally made the decision to come this year, a big decision considering he's spent the last 16 years in New Orleans.

"I can't go anywhere, but what I can see, I'm enjoying every bit of it," said Hotel Al of the Fair, at which he spent the weekend.

Hotel Al had an excellent chef while staying on the Fairgrounds. When asked about his favorite Fair meal, Hotel Al laughingly suggested the gluten-free Cheerios and two cups of coffee he'd had for breakfast Saturday morning.



Al Barras, a.k.a. Hotel Al

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# Perrys travel from Atlanta to see Fair family

**By Duncan Dent**

Many people have tried to sum up the Neshoba County Fair in words and most of them have failed.

The best anyone can do is recount the memories made on the Fairgrounds and hope that fraction of the experience can give the uninitiated a point from which to start.

Bill Perry of Cabin 257 said they had a friend, a newspaper columnist from North Carolina, try and fail after a Fair visit.

He said his friend sat down at the typewriter and reached the conclusion that he could not accurately sum up what he saw and that the Fair is something that must be "experienced."

Bill went on to say that those words summarized pieces written by legendary Mississippi scribes Eudora Welty and John Grisham.

Bill stays with his wife, Joyce, in her cabin. Joyce, a Philadelphia native, inherited the cabin following her aunt Roberta Butts' death in 2003. The couple now lives in Atlanta but makes the trip every year for the Fair.

On their front porch, the Perrys have a host of signs. One reads "Come Sit On Our Porch" and another is whimsically welcoming reading: "Friends Welcome, Family by appointment only."

"For me coming to the Fair is about visiting people you only see once a year," Bill said.

"I get to see people from elementary school," Joyce added.

Some of the people they have seen include pageant participants carefully walking in their dresses from their cabin to the competition. Others are more famous.

Joyce said she remembers sitting on the porch with Aunt Roberta one time when she saw her aunt perk up and yell at a man who was walking by.

"She said 'Marty, Marty Stuart, you get over here.' She has known him since he was a baby," Joyce said with a chuckle. "And he said, 'Yes ma'am' and came right up on the porch."

Bill remembers another famous run-in. He said at least 25 or 30 years ago he was sitting on a porch on the Square with a friend when he saw two boys throwing a football. He remembers commenting on the boys' excellent throwing motion and comfort with the ball. Those boys were Peyton and Eli Manning.

Their grandchildren, cousins Lincoln and Lila Perry, are building a whole new generation of memories and experiences at the Fair.

Lila's first Fair came when she was 11 days old. Bill said he thought that might be a record until he heard a neighbor brought a child to the Fairgrounds from the hospital. She likes the petting zoo.

Lincoln likes to be at the center of the action preferring the Midway.



Lila, Bill and Lincoln Perry

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Wyatt Joiner, 12, won first place in the Heart O' Dixie Triathlon in the 14 and under age group.



Macy Loper is hanging out in the cabin to escape the rain.



Fair friends Ruthie Donald, 5, and Kate Petty, 5, stroll down the racetrack.



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Jay Franklin, Kapp Ward, Bubba Franklin, Stephanie Williamson and Nancy Franklin share stories on the porch.



Bro. Scott Boatner preaches at the Pavilion on Sunday.



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Rhett Allen Estes and Anniston McNeese watch the races.



Alle Sadler, Ed Williamson and Jeff Clark catch up in Cabin 349.



Shep Miller and cousins, Mamie Lee Coker, Emmie Rome, and Marianna Truett from Posey Cabin 76, were super excited to meet Choctaw Indian Princess Shemah Landania Crosby.



Cousins Lillie Ann Byrd and Ally Byrd play in the rain.



Kelby Wilbanks and Sadie Dennis best-friend it up at the Midway.



Laney Griffis, Kenley Bryan and Piper Scholar offer lemonade on a hot Fair day.

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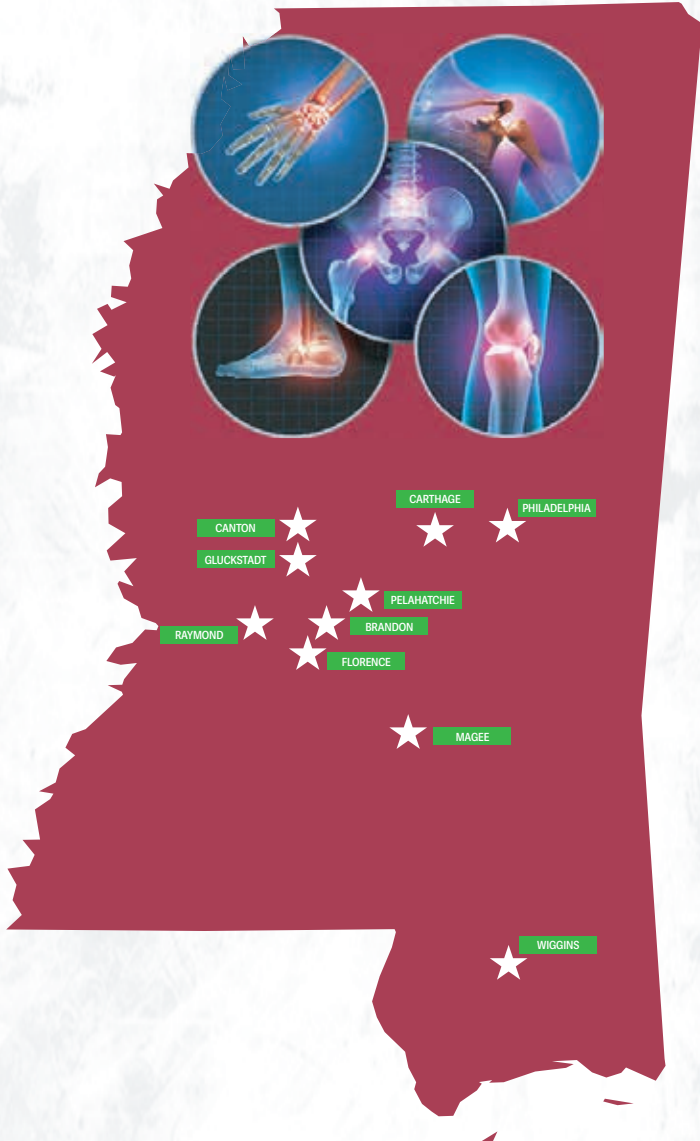
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Emery Evans, 3, and mommy Kate Evans, not 3, E Cabin 244



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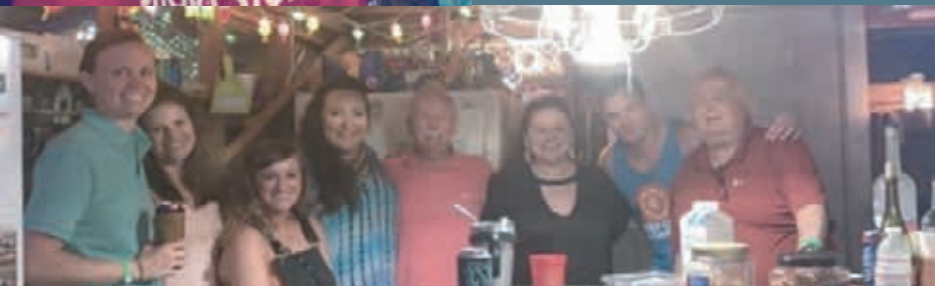
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Addy Ruth Goldman, Dylan Kennedy, Avery Goldman, Leigh Laine Winstead and Jayden Winstead hit the Midway, Ladner, Lida Hawkins, and Landers Lewis with their great-grandparents, Percy and Sue Smith of Puckett, at Cabin 874.



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# Color the Fair



Emery Evans, 3, and mommy Kate Evans, not 3, E Cabin 244

# Fair training ground for Jeopardy champ

**By Audrey Hall**

Elliot Yates of “Wheel of Fortune” and “Jeopardy” fame said he got his competitive start right here on the Fairgrounds.

The four-time “Jeopardy” champion remembers playing games with his friends growing up on the Fairgrounds, whether it was Scrabble or spades or trivia games.

“It was my testing ground,” Yates said. “I was so competitive, but luckily I had good friends who put up with it and were good competitors. I literally see the path from winning games here at the Fair to winning in front of Alex Trebek.”

Yates calls Cabin 228 in Happy Hollow home one week out of the year, though he grew up playing in his grandparents’ cabin on the Square.

He currently lives in San Francisco and works for Google.

When he isn’t reminiscing with old friends on the Fairgrounds, Yates travels Europe with the money he wins on TV.

“Wheel of Fortune” was his first game show appearance in 2011, “Who Wants To Be A Millionaire” was his second in 2013, and “Jeopardy” was his third in 2015. He also played in Jeopardy’s tournament of champions round.

Most recently, when auditioning for a new game show called “The Chase,” Yates put his best and most confident foot forward. He told the cast-

ing agents that, unbeknownst to them, he was already on the show. Yates explained that this audition was time for the casting agents to realize he was part of “The Chase” already.

“Apparently it was a good thing to say, because they put me on the season finale and I won \$97,000!” he said.

Yates has his trivia strengths and weaknesses. As a former opera producer, he knows music. Pop culture is in his wheelhouse. Before every game, he texts his brother and asks for sports references he should know. From this most recent show he enjoyed questions that introduced more recent phenoms to the trivia canon, questions such as “What dating app advertises itself as designed to be deleted?”

Says Yates of these pop culture questions, “You get questions about 1800s French author Jules Verne and then drag queens on Broadway in the same show.”

Yates’ ability to recall European geography, pop culture references, sports statistics, and Broadway musicals is what has made him a game show star in the United States.

Yates traces that talent back to his beginnings with the Fair, to which he returns whenever he can. He has a list of two dozen people he catches up with every year.

“It’s like 600 family reunions at once,” he said, aptly describing his home for one week in the year.



Elliot Yates



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Addy Hamilton, Melissa Hamilton, Kathy Neumann and Mabry Hamilton paint with pups.



Erin Nowell, Callie McCombs, Blaine Nowell, Terri Patterson, George Patterson and Lyndsey Patterson are having fun spending time together.



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Hatten Lambert, 3, hangs out with a llama at the Petting Zoo.



Rhilyn Buffon and Big Shan Reeve brush their horse, MKG.



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James and Miller Todd of Madison take a break at Cabin 78.



Bridgette Chislom and her dog Dunnton walk around the Fairgrounds.

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Above, Claire King of Oxford plays ball at Cabin 76. At right, Karoline Lee poses with HARDY.



Tim Richardson, Ella Jane King and Daniel Kilman people watch on the porch.



Above, Justin McCary visits with the horses at the stables. At left, Pat Robertson, Kathy Russell and Glynne Ryder spend the morning visiting.



Cousins Poppy Breland, Emma Bonds, John Tyler Threadgill, KB Breland, Colton Bridges, Gabriella Bridges and Burkes Breland try to dry off after the rain.





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# Former sheriff enjoying quiet time at Fair

**By Steve Swogetinsky**

Tommy Waddell has been able to relax more during the 2021 Neshoba County Fair than in previous years.

Waddell, who served two terms as Sheriff of Neshoba County, retired at the end of December 2019. This is the first Fair he has not been on call to protect the public.

"The Fair is a little different for me this year," Waddell said. "This is the first Fair that I haven't had to work. And it is the first Fair I have actually stayed here. For the past eight years when I was in office, I might not get home until daylight. I went home to sleep. I didn't stay here. I left that to my wife and kids.

"I was a game warden for 14 years and I worked every Fair but it was a little different. It was more for public relations. The Mississippi Game and Fish came in and set up a booth to hand out literature about the wildlife, natural resources, state lakes and hunting dates."

Waddell and his wife, Bobbie Kay, stay in Cabin 612 with their family. They usually sleep 10 people but the record is 20.

"It depends on year to year," Bobbie Kay said. "This year, because of our kids' time and work schedule, it is going to be limited. We will stay the entire week but most come and go throughout the week."

Tommy said he has been coming to the Fair all his life. "My wife's family has had this cabin since 1977," Tommy said. "It was the Smith Cabin."

The Waddells have a few traditions.

"Every year, we have chicken spaghetti the first Friday

night of the Fair," Bobbie Kay said. "That is tradition. The rest of the time, we wing it. We eat a couple of watermelons throughout the week."

"My favorite part of the Fair is eating," Tommy said. "We go to the concerts. We are looking forward to seeing HARDY this year. He's a home person. I have been family friends with his parents and grandparents. He has done well.

"You see a lot of people and that is one of the enjoyments. You see friends you haven't seen since the last Fair. People move off and it is sort of like a reunion," Waddell said.

"We will go to the political speaking. I am out of the political arena now but we still go and listen. We like the concerts, the beauty pageant and the flea market on Saturday. When our kids were younger, we liked the rides but we have gotten away from that.

Waddell loves to fish and has been doing a lot of that since retiring from office.

"I enjoy crappy fishing," Waddell said. "I have been on some fishing trips. Also, I have fooled around with some buy and sell items. I have a few booths in Union. It's just something to keep me busy because you can't fish every day."

Do they ever get tired of the Fair?

"Yes," Bobbie Kay said. "It's a lot of work, but it's worth it. We start packing up on Friday night. The kids want to play cards all night while we pack up. We might sleep a few hours and then go home. We are home by lunch time on Saturday."



Bobbie Kay and Tommy Waddell are enjoying a quiet Neshoba County Fair.

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Two-week-old Ford Williams snoozes at his first Fair.



Georgia Sciple and Mosleigh Darracott make good use of their rain boots.

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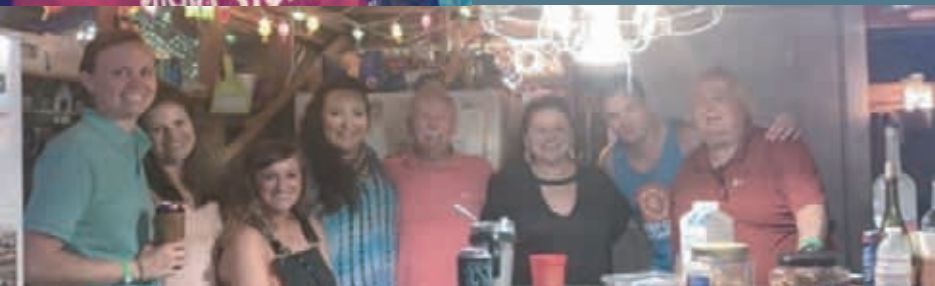
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## BLUE MAN GROUP



Pax Posey eats a snow cone on the front porch of his Fair cabin.

# Cabin 64 kids are armed and ready

**By Duncan Dent**

Anyone who has been to the Fair will tell you it is going to be hot.

Laura Thrash said she beats the heat by keeping her grandson supplied with water guns, buckets and water balloons as needed, and she keeps the kiddie pool full.

"You gotta stay cool," Laura Thrash said as her grandson and some friends filled up a kiddie pool and water guns from the faucet on the side of a nearby Fair cabin.

Grandson Mason Thrash and his friends Hunt Flake and Zach Stewart kept the water flowing. The 9-year-olds were laughing and liberally spraying each other. Mason said that as long as he has a target, he is happy.

"I like spraying people in the face," he said as another boy aimed his water gun and sprayed him in the back of the head.

Another boy couldn't stand it any longer. He grabbed the bucket they were filling the water guns with and dumped it on his head.

Laura said water balloons were the key water activity in her mind. She said some kids treat it like an Olympic sport.

Not all of the activity is wet. From their front porch on the Square, they can see a kickball or baseball game startup.

"Games start with just a few kids and just evolve from there," Laura said.

The Thrash Rickles Cabin, Cabin 64, was acquired by her ran laws, the now late-Spot and Myra Thrash in 1984. Laura said she thinks it was Myra who made the purchase through the Fair Association. She said they sleep 26 people comfortably.

"That is without anyone on the porch swing," she said with a laugh.



Hunt Flake, Mason Thrash, Zach Stewart and Laura Thrash



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Brooks Martin and Millie James Mosley do some painting at the Pavilion.



Porter Teele, 11, Cabin 28

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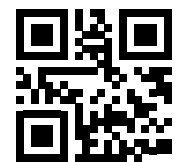
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# Meet your Fair neighbor

Cabin #328

- Where are y'all from? Philadelphia
- What is your favorite ride on the Midway? The Extreme!
- What is your favorite Fair meal? Steak, potatoes, salad, and baked beans we cook.
- What's one thing you especially look forward to at the Fair? Watching the horse race on the porch with my family.
- How many people stay in your cabin during the week? About 12

– By Lauren Parker, Colby Parker, Breland Fiever and Collins Parker



Breland Fiever, Lauren Parker, Colby Parker and Collins Parker



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Chase, Tuff and Jax Parker take a break in the shade.



Claire Smith, Carter Brown and Zachery Deaton head out on the Fairgrounds.



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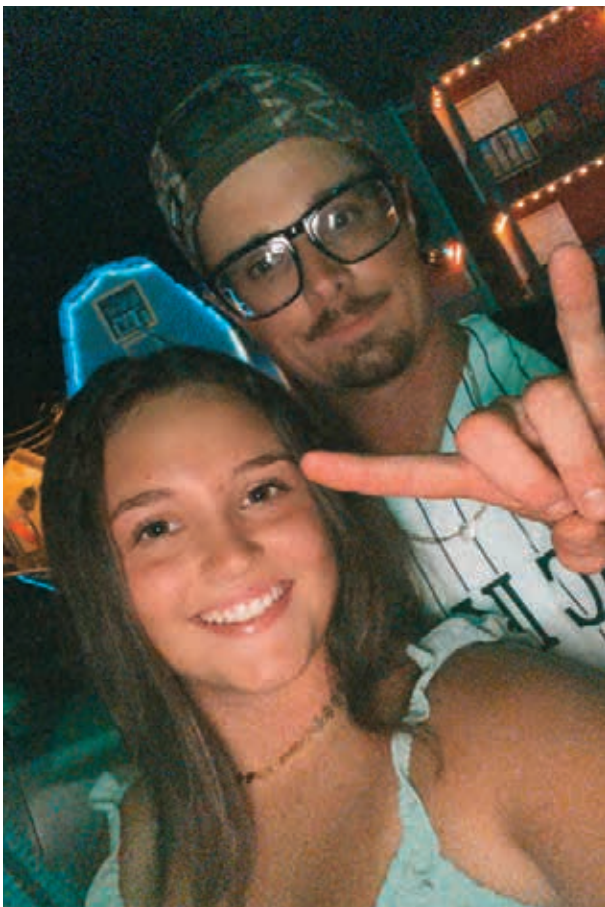
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Hadley Thrash snaps a picture with HARDY.



Landi Jo Pogue is thankful for the security keeping her safe at the Fair.

An advertisement for "Jewelry Just 4 Fun" set against a background of gold polka dots. The central text reads "Jewelry Just 4 Fun" in a cursive font, followed by "440 EAST BEACON ST. PHILADELPHIA, MS" and "601.656.8928". The ad is surrounded by several images: a woman in a pink patterned top and white shorts; a close-up of jewelry in a basket; a logo for "B.L.B. B.L.B. Lila"; a woman in a pink top and white shorts; a woman in a white lace top and blue shorts; a close-up of gold circular earrings; a collection of jewelry items including necklaces and bracelets; and a woman in a grey top and blue shorts. A circular logo for "BRIDGEWATER CANDLE COMPANY" is also visible.



Libby Perry, 5



Sayda Posey and Charlie Smith walk down Sunset Strip.



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Emery Jane Nance, 7



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# Summer salads add some variety

## Cabin Cuisine

### SOUTHERN BROCCOLI AND CAULIFLOWER SALAD

Prep Time: 25 mins

Cook Time: 10 mins

Servings: 12

Ingredients:

1 (12 ounce) package bacon

6 cups broccoli florets

6 cups cauliflower florets

2 cups slivered almonds

1 ½ cups golden raisins

1 cup grated sharp Cheddar

cheese

1 medium red onion, finely chopped

2 stalks celery, finely chopped

Dressing:

1 cup mayonnaise

1 cup sour cream

1 (8 ounce) package cream cheese, softened

½ cup white sugar

¼ cup lemon juice

Place bacon in a large skillet and cook over medium-high heat, turning occasionally, until evenly browned, about 10 minutes. Drain bacon slices on paper towel until cool enough to handle, then chop into small pieces. Place bacon in a very large bowl with broccoli, cauliflower, almonds, raisins, Cheddar cheese, red onions, and celery. Whisk together mayonnaise, sour cream, cream cheese, sugar, and lemon juice in a separate bowl until creamy. Pour over broccoli-cauliflower mixture; stir until well combined. Refrigerate until flavors have melded, at least 30 minutes.



### PECAN CHICKEN SALAD

Prep Time: 20 mins

Total Time: 20 mins

Servings: 4

Ingredients:

½ cup mayonnaise

½ cup plain Greek yogurt

2 teaspoons white wine vinegar

½ teaspoon garlic powder

¼ teaspoon dried thyme

½ teaspoon Park Hill maple pepper (such as Savory Spice Shop)

2 cups chopped cooked chicken

2 stalks celery, sliced

1/3 cup chopped toasted pecans

2 tablespoons minced red onion

Directions:

Mix mayonnaise, Greek yogurt, vinegar, garlic powder, thyme, and maple pepper together in a bowl until well combined. Add chicken, celery, pecans, and red onion; stir well to incorporate. Serve immediately or refrigerate up to 3 days.

### SIMPLE, TASTY PASTA SALAD

Prep Time: 20 mins

Cook Time: 10 mins

Total Time: 30 mins

Servings: 4

Ingredients:

1 (12 ounce) package tri-color rotini pasta

4 Roma (plum) tomatoes, quartered

1 cucumber, quartered and sliced

½ green bell pepper, minced

¼ red onion, minced

1 (2.25 ounce) can sliced black olives

1 (16 ounce) bottle zesty lite Italian-style salad dressing, or to taste

1 (2.5 ounce) package bacon bits

½ (6 ounce) package dried cranberries, or to taste

Bring a large pot of lightly salted water to a boil; cook the rotini at a

boil until tender yet firm to the bite, about 8 minutes; drain. Rinse pasta with cold water until cool; drain. Combine cooled pasta, tomatoes, cucumber, green bell pepper, red onion, and black olives in a large bowl. Pour Italian-style salad dressing over the pasta mixture; toss to coat. Sprinkle bacon bits and cranberries over the salad to serve.



Gabriella Bridges of Madison makes the best of the rain.



Cole Richardson, Creel Richardson, Deanna Richardson and Dan Richardson have a welcoming porch at Cabin 67.

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The Mississippi Treasury has millions of dollars in our lost and found box.

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It is sometimes very difficult for banks, credit unions, utilities, and even retail stores to find the rightful owners of money. People move, families lose touch, and sometimes the money just sits there. After five years, these entities are required to turn that money over to the state to find the rightful owners, which is what our Unclaimed Money team does.



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Thrash Rickles, Charlie Chew, Racheal Chew, Alex Thrash, Mindy Thrash and Cody Chew hang out at the Thrash Rickles Cabin.



Dixie Rebecca Hines and Avie Phillips paint rocks at Cabin 935 to hide around the Fairgrounds.



Brynlee Jones, Emery Floyd and Natalie Floyd.

*Wishing all a safe  
and happy Fair!*





Avery and Addy Ruth Goldman enjoy the bumblebee ride.

Madi Phillips, Henry Ingram, Heidi Ingram, Coyt Gilmer and Sadie Dennis run the grounds at the Midway.

# You're Invited!

Special Occasions invites you to attend the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony/Building Opening to be held on Saturday, August 21, 2021, at 1:00PM to celebrate twenty-five years in the formal-wear business, and for the dedication of the new building location in Philadelphia, 1034 Holland Avenue.

Special Occasions' new building has a beautiful bridal showroom area where bridal gowns are featured in the new Bridal Boutique Gallery. Our passion is to feature many great couture line for pageants and prom. The shoppe also has its own hair and makeup salon, tanning salons, little girls gowns in the Cinderella Room with accessories to complete.

Special Occasions will open a second location in Newton, MS after Labor Day to better accommodate our shoppers. Special Occasions continues to be the #1 formal-wear shoppe for bridal, prom, pageant and children's gowns for in-state and out-of-state customers.

Say YES to the Dress!



Special Occasions will give away FREE Special Occasion t-shirts to those who visit our new shop, enjoy refreshments, after the ribbon cutting ceremony, and sign-in to tour our newly renovated building.



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Justin Breazeale of Cabin 749 runs the racetrack after they called the last race for rain.



Bobby Smith, Hunter Smith, Sherry Smith and Hannah Spence catch up at the Fair.

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## SUNRISE, MUDBATH, SUNSET, REPEAT



Hudson Crosswhite, Levi Dees, Brax Boulden, Atley Boulden, Tiffany Jones, Hayden Crosswhite and Gray Sledge



Sid Whitehead, Tiffany Long, Izzy Whitehead, Billy Gray, Charlotte Gray, Bailey Whitehead, Levi Gray, Mason Whitehead, Elissa Whitehead and Ellie Whitehead

# Cabin 248 produces gallons of ice cream

**By Duncan Dent**

The Whitehead-Gray cabin produces gallons and gallons of ice cream Fair week.

Sisters Charlotte Gray and Wanniese Whitehead own Cabin 248. They are also in charge of producing ice cream by the gallon every evening.

“It is usually gone before dark,” Sid Whitehead chimed in.

Flavors include standard fares such as chocolate and strawberry to the more creative candy bar-inspired flavors such as Butterfinger and Reeses.

“I saw some bananas in there so we will probably have banana ice cream at some point,” Gray said. “It is really whatever we come up

with that sounds good.”

The sisters have ensured that many members of the family know how to make the ice cream so when you are dealing with a whole family of cooks in the kitchen all kinds of ideas get made and eaten.

“Everybody does their part,” Gray said.

In addition to the ice cream, popular meals include a fish fry on the first Friday and another

hearty meal of fried chicken and vegetables.

The sisters inherited the cabin from their parents, Johnny Roy and Bet Williamson. The cabin was first built in 1964 and was torn down and rebuilt in 1988. It sleeps about 14 most nights. Gray said she and her sister are “carrying on the family tradition” at the Fair.

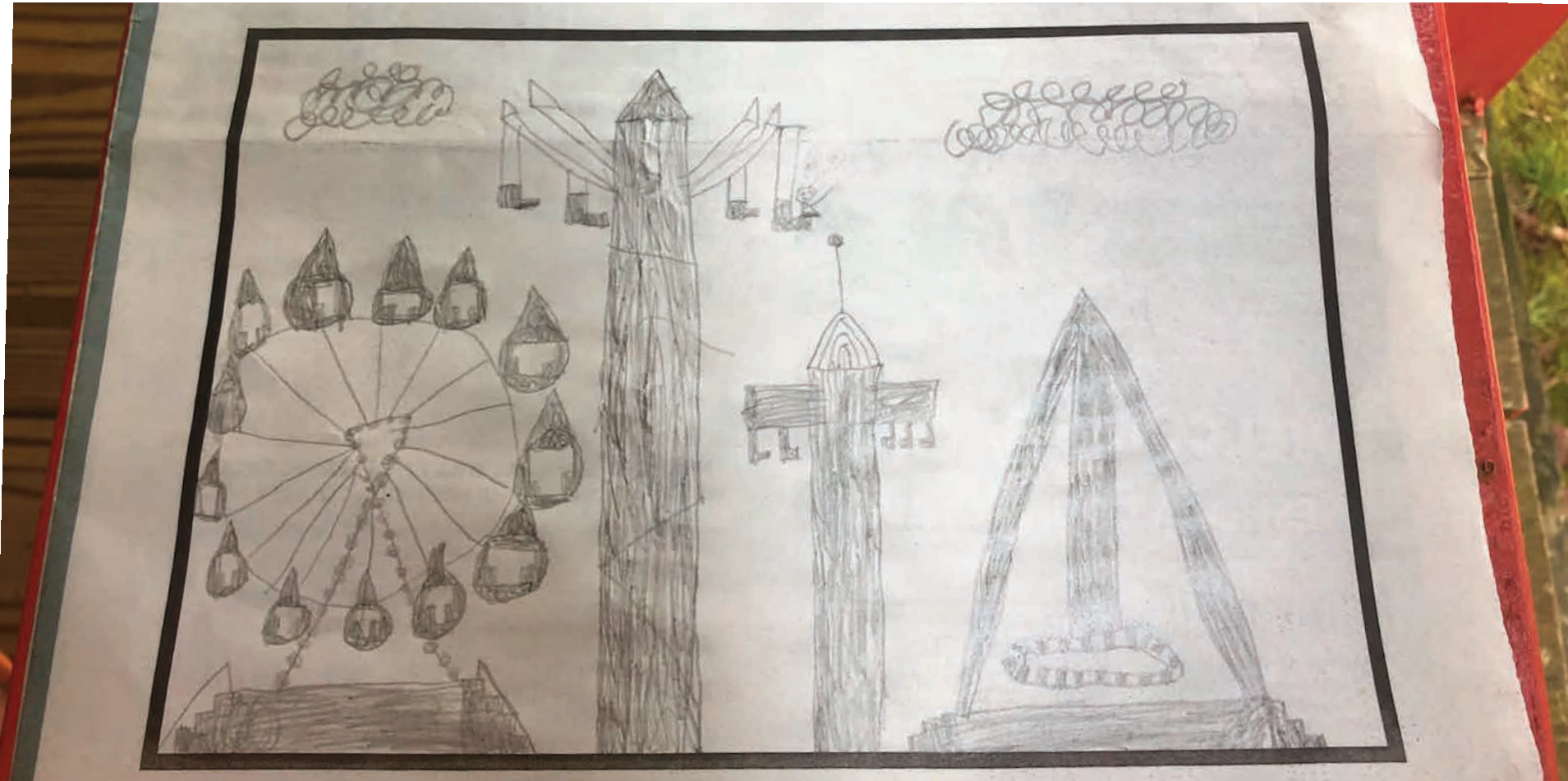


Katelyn Watkins, Sunnie Sturdivant and Emily Parkison have fun at the Midway.

Brantley and Hollis Ingram are worn out from the Midway.



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Caleb Wells, 7, Cabin 308

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John Blanton Kelly and Emma Katherine Jackson catch up on lost Fair time.



August Harrington, 7



A Derby party was held in honor of bride-to-be Anna spears. Pictured are (Back row, left to right) Shelby Greenwood, Laken Winstead, Natalie Goodin, Destiney Wilcox (Front) Zoey Sanderson, Abby Hedgepeth, Courtney McNair, Anna Spears, Lakelyn Darby, Anna Bowen and August Gurry.



Wilson, Gentry and Haden Holley enjoy the mud after the rain.

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Addy Ruth Goldman, Dylan Kennedy, Avery Goldman, Leigh Laine Winstead and Jayden Winstead hit the Midway, Ladner, Lida Hawkins, and Landers Lewis with their great-grandparents, Percy and Sue Smith of Puckett, at Cabin 874.



Welcome back to the FAIR!

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Cooper Smith of Cabin 145B prepares to color his first Fair art.



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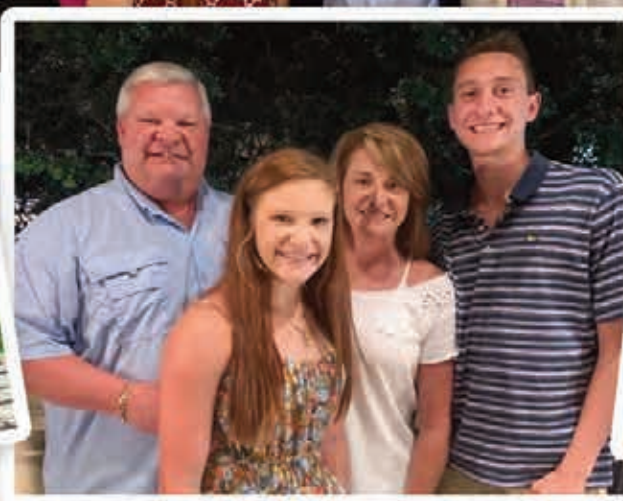


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Emmy Rose Peebles, 4



Kaleb Gardner, Will Bassett, Mary Margaret Hall, Lilly Bassett, Olivia Hall, Anderson Smith and Makayla Sanderson have fun at the Midway.



Josie Byars, Kennedy Lane Harper, Macy Rea Parker, Sloan Blackstock, Taylor Holley, Sadee Sanders, Chloe Wells and pup Sophie pose for a picture at Sanders Cabin 294.



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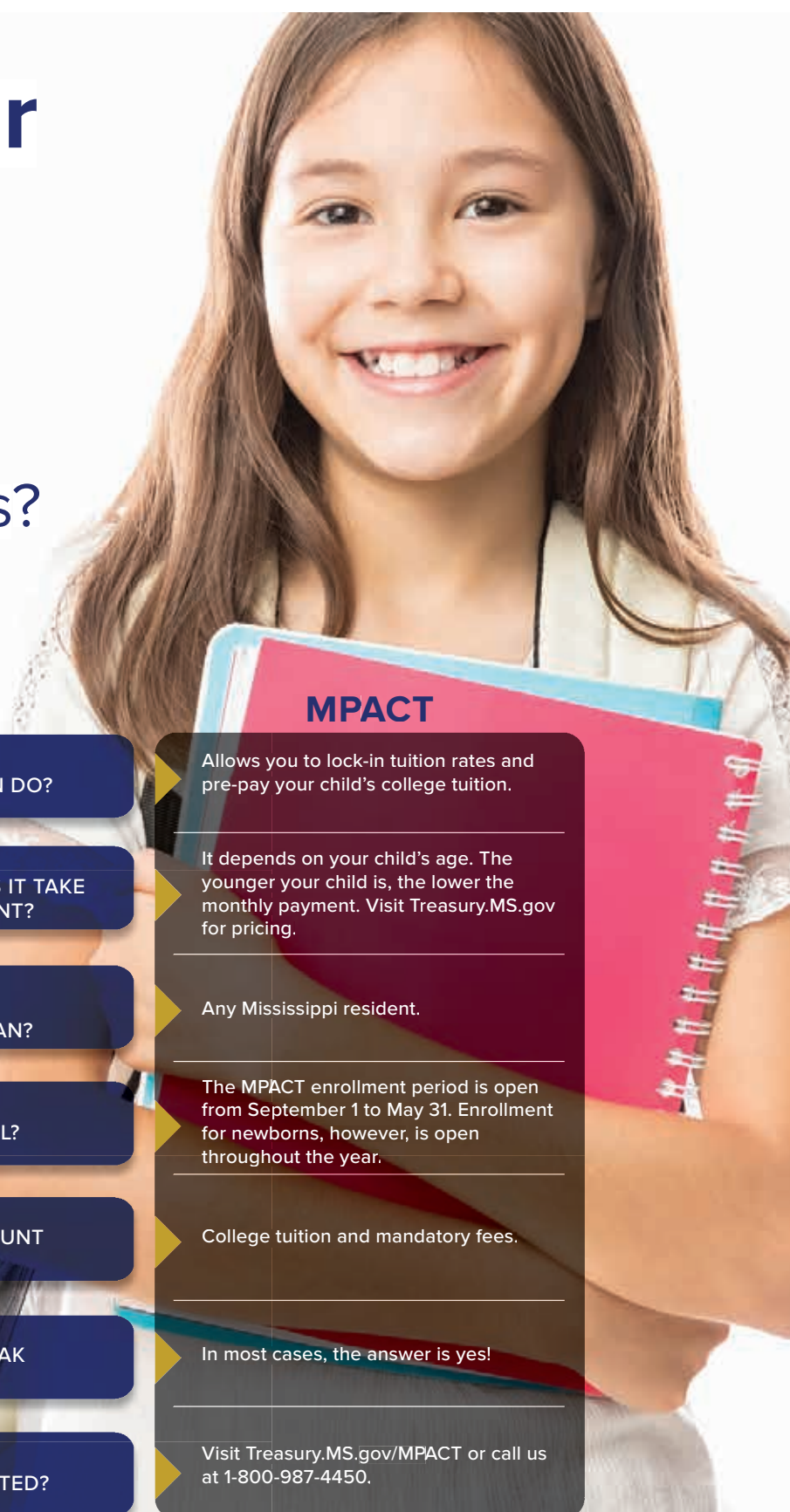
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The MPACT enrollment period is open from September 1 to May 31. Enrollment for newborns, however, is open throughout the year.

College tuition and mandatory fees.

In most cases, the answer is yes!

Visit [Treasury.MS.gov/MPACT](https://Treasury.MS.gov/MPACT) or call us at 1-800-987-4450.

*This comparison is a brief summary of MPACT and MACS plans and is not a substitute for College Savings Mississippi contract documents. Prospective purchasers are urged to review those documents carefully.*





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**HWY 486**  
PHILADELPHIA | MLS# 20-834 **\$82,500**