

THE RIVER IS RISING REPORT



PEARL RIVER
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

JANUARY 2022



THE RIVER IS RISING | JANUARY 2022

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Letter from the President



Dr. Adam Breerwood, President
Pearl River Community College

I hope this message finds you well rested and excited about the start of the Spring Semester. This is a historical time in the life of our College as we engage the opportunities and challenges facing higher education. I am deeply grateful to each of you for your contributions and extraordinary dedication to our students; I am honored to be a part of such a remarkable and talented community. Whether you are beginning or continuing your professional journey with us, we look forward to learning, exploring, and growing together.

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, we have faced challenges and been called on to sacrifice significant rites of passage for the greater good of public health. During this time, we have appreciated your ability to adapt to an ever-evolving situation, and to find opportunities for growth amid the many changes. The academic year still holds some unknowns for us in light of the ongoing pandemic, and we will all have to remain understanding and flexible amid a fluid situation. Despite the unique circumstances, we stand strong in the face of adversity.

Last fall, for the first time in the modern era, Pearl River Community College was recognized as the 4th largest Community College in Mississippi. This is a testament to the hard work and dedication of our faculty and staff. Numerous

Our standards of Pride, Respect, Class and Character will continue to serve as bedrocks moving forward.

I am amazed by the talent, passion and commitment of our faculty and staff.

Visit: [Vimeo.com/pearlriverCC](https://vimeo.com/pearlriverCC)

*for a special message from
Dr. Breerwood*

building and improvement projects have been completed on both our Poplarville and Forrest County Campuses, and construction of our new Hancock County Campus will begin this semester. The resiliency of our Pearl River family has propelled our institution to unforeseen heights.

As we move into the Spring '22 semester, I ask that you remain dedicated to changing the lives of our students. I encourage all members of our Pearl River family to find empathy, compassion and understanding of the challenges many of our students and colleagues are facing. Provide strength to those who need it most and create pathways for healing and success.

As we stop and celebrate our 2021 accomplishments, let us be grateful but not satisfied. Our standards of Pride, Respect, Class and Character will continue to serve as bedrocks moving forward. I am amazed by the talent, passion and commitment of our faculty and staff. I am humbled and honored to serve by your side. Thank you for what you do for our beloved College.

The River is Rising!

A handwritten signature in dark blue ink, appearing to be 'A. Breerwood', written in a cursive style.

Be the Change!



The Pearl River Community College Alumni Association and Development Foundation is asking the institution's employees to "Be The Change."

Executive Director Delana Harris recently announced the launch of the special donation campaign. The idea is simple but the potential benefit can have a lasting impact on PRCC's student body.

In short, through the campaign PRCC employees can opt to donate the "cents" in their paychecks to help fund one scholarship per school year.

"Be The Change kind of started with the idea of just donating the change or cents from your paycheck," Harris said. "A lot of times, people think they have to fund a half- or full-tuition scholarship. They think that is the only way they can really make a difference or change lives.

"There is a misconception that it has to be a \$500 or \$1,500 donation so we wanted to come up with a really simple way that people internally can support our students."

Harris' department crunched the numbers and if every PRCC employee donated around 55 cents, the campaign could fund a full scholarship annually.

"I think it's important that when you're asking for support you can turn around and say our 'family' internally is also supporting this effort," Harris said. "I think that goes a long way and creates synergy that we're all working toward the same goals. Working in

different departments it can be easy to forget we're working toward the same goals. "Our jobs at the college are to promote student success and this is just one way we can go about doing that."

HOW TO SIGN UP

Donating is easy. All employees have to do is visit PRCC.EDU/BeTheChange, fill out the form and denote the amount they wish to donate from each paycheck.

WHO BENEFITS?

The Foundation has formed an official scholarship committee to oversee the awarding of scholarships.

There is no specific criteria to qualify. Interested students will apply with The Foundation just like they would for any other scholarship.

The Be The Change scholarship will be more of a character based scholarship, Harris said, with the committee looking for individuals who "represent The Wildcat Way." Need will also be a contributing factor, she said.

The initial recipient is expected to be selected ahead of the 2022-23 school year.

"I think it's extremely special that people the student interact with every day will have potentially funded their scholarship," Harris said.

The campaign was approved by the Foundation's board in September and PRCC's Board of Trustees in October.

Individuals who donate more than \$100 annually are eligible to receive a tax deductible form from The Foundation. **RRR**



Delana Harris, Executive Director
Development Foundation & Alumni Association

Our jobs at the college are to promote student success and this is just one way we can go about doing that.

—Delana Harris



The Wildcat Hub is a new help center located in Crosby Hall on the Poplarville campus opening in Spring 2022. The new addition is focused on providing excellent customer service and knowledgeable troubleshooting as an extension of the “Happy to Help!” campaign that launched in August.

Customer service agents will be on hand for walk-up help, phone calls, emails at wildcathub@prcc.edu or chat via the prcc.edu website. To best meet the needs of students, The Wildcat Hub will offer extended hours, including nights and weekends. By answering questions and offering advice, agents will guide the path for students from how to apply to college all the way through how to graduate. Covid questions, tracking and resources will also be handled through The Wildcat Hub.

“The pandemic has created an increase in questions and concerns from our students, parents, community members and employees,” said Vice President of Enrollment Management and Business Services Candace Harper. “The Wildcat Hub will assist students, parents, and community members across all campuses. Throughout a student’s entire journey at PRCC, we now have resources in place to ensure that PRCC offers the best customer service experience. We are taking a different approach to illustrate ways we can enhance student satisfaction by not only meeting, but exceeding their expectations.”

“PRCC’s administration has had a long outstanding goal of creating a central location to answer questions and provide assistance to current and prospective students,” said Hannah Miller and Amanda Brumfield, supervisors of The Wildcat Hub. “We are excited to be part of this new opportunity and to not only help realize the goal, but also to serve our students one-on-one. Our team is ready and happy to help our students be the best they can be at PRCC!” **RRR**

LEADING A CULTURE OF SERVICE EXCELLENCE AT PRCC



Candace Harper, Vice President
*Enrollment Management &
Business Services*

Vice President of Enrollment Management and Business Services Candace Harper recently completed the Leading a Culture of Service Excellence certificate program through Cornell University. This intensive five course program focuses on strategies to help raise the standard of service excellence for our institution. As part of our Happy to Help campaign, this program focused on six major areas:

- Raising the standard of service excellence
- Communicating a clear vision that benefits employees internally and students externally
- Establishing key values and creating service champions
- Reviewing all communication channels
- Understanding servant leadership
- Empowering our employees to foster a compassionate workplace and increase satisfaction and productivity for our students. **RRR**

DR. JANA CAUSEY RECEIVES THE BOBBY RUNNELS LEADERSHIP AWARD

Pearl River Community College’s Vice President for Forrest County Center, Allied Health, and Nursing Programs Dr. Jana Causey is this year’s recipient of the Petal Area Chamber of Commerce’s Bobby Runnels Leadership Award.

Instituted in 1994, the award is named for Bobby Runnels who served on Petal’s first elected board of aldermen and as mayor pro tem while then-mayor Jack Gay served in Desert Storm. The annual award is given to someone who serves the community through church, family, school, civic clubs, or the chamber.

Causey serves with the Petal Children’s Task Force and the Petal Youth Sports Association, as well as a member of Delta Kappa Gamma society for women educators.

“She truly exemplifies all the qualities of the Bobby Runnels award; she goes above and



Dr. Jana Causey, Vice President
*Forrest County Campus, Allied Health,
& Nursing Programs*

beyond what her work requires her to do, and is a part of our community wholeheartedly,” said Valerie Wilson, executive director of the Petal Area Chamber of Commerce.

“Jana is involved with her church, she teaches newlywed classes, she’s very active with the youth sports and coaches youth teams, she in on the Excel By 5 coalition. She’s just so active in so many civic events.”

The chamber’s annual banquet will be held from 6:30 - 8 p.m. Jan. 27 at the Petal Civic Center on South Main Street. **RRR**



FALL 2021 ASSOCIATE DEGREE OF NURSING GRADUATES

Alaina Applegate, April Arnona, Jeremiah Borley, Chloe Boutwell**, Nicole Burton, Brooke Carney, April Collum, Maylen Cooke**, Deanielle Dean**, Jenna Dixon, Ashton Green, Riley Guinot**, Celsey Harpster, Kenseula Harris, Presley Hathorn**, Bria Keith, Hanna Kellar, Shelby King, Brooke Ladner, Dawn Levy**, Makayla McCullum**, Harlie Miley, Madeline Milner, Dylan Mitchell, Marie Moore, Michael Mutters**, Angela Odom, Erin Ramsay, Bobie Roberts, Kia Robinson**, Deidria Smith**, Kenyatta Smith, Ishica Washington, Tiffany Williamson**, Morgan Windham, Jordan Womble, and Lauryn Woodard.

** Mississippi Organization for Students of ADN (MOSA) Cord & Medallion: 2- year member with 100+ community service credits
 + Alpha Delta Nu Honor Society of Nursing



RESPIRATORY CARE TECHNOLOGY DECEMBER 2021 GRADUATION AT FORREST COUNTY CAMPUS

Graduates of the Respiratory Care Technology program at Pearl River Community College's Forrest County Campus received their diplomas and pins during a ceremony Dec. 2 at the Forrest County Campus in Hattiesburg.

They are from the left: Seated - Katelynn Goar of Picayune, Gracie Smith of Poplarville, Nikole Vanover of Hattiesburg, Morgan Broadus of Lucedale, Morgan Morrow of Hattiesburg, Madison Martin of Columbia, Elizabeth Utley of Hattiesburg, Megan Stogner Columbia, and Jamya Herring of Columbia. Standing - Haley Lee of Poplarville, Josie Pahlman of Petal, Jordan Sistrunk of Mize, Christine Hook of Poplarville, Reba Hook of Poplarville, Kendrick Richardson of Heidelberg, Stacy Sherman of Moselle, Sasha Gonzales of Summit, and Hayden Jacobs of Franklinton, La.

The program Director is Lori Anderson. Instructors are Teena Mitchell and Frances Wright. **RRR**



SURGICAL TECHNOLOGY DECEMBER 2021 GRADUATION AT FORREST COUNTY CAMPUS

Graduates of the Surgical Technology program at Pearl River Community College's Forrest County Campus received their diplomas and pins during a ceremony Dec. 2 at the Forrest County Center in Hattiesburg.

They are from left: Seated – La'Tarica Harris of Tylertown, Dominicka Sippio of New Orleans, Chasity Simmons of Hattiesburg, Kristin LeFan of Purvis, Madison Payne of Hattiesburg, Caitlyn Powers of Kiln, Bonnie Pittman of Picayune, Sydney Matos of Petal, Lily Branson of Foxworth and Kelsey Leonard of Picayune. Standing – Tammy Allhoff, Program Director; Jacob Gaines of Myrtle, Jordan McKenzie of Oak Grove, Makenley Davis of Wayne County, Ava Lichtenhan of Petal, Tylar Kolinsky of Petal, Destiny Harvison of Beaumont, Fallon Shows of New Augusta, Ashley Smith of Purvis, Mykela Lewis of Collins, Bennie Alexander of Brookhaven, and Lewlie Haney, instructor. Not pictured is instructor Monika Phillips. **RRR**

MEN'S SOCCER AWARDS

Andre Nicholson (Kingston, Jamaica; Clarendon College) was recently named the United Soccer Coaches Scholar of the Year for his incredible performance both on the field and in the classroom.

On the field, Nicholson finished third on the team in both goals and assists with five and four, respectively. In addition to his involvement in chance creation, Nicholson forced teams to focus on him every time that the ball touched his foot.

In the classroom, the sophomore finished with a perfect 4.0 grade point average. He was one of just three All-Americans to finish with a 4.0.

Gavin Taylor (Gulfport) was named to the United Soccer Coaches First Team Scholar All-America team after finishing with a 3.4 GPA as a chemistry major.

The lights-out defender was just as good on the field for the Wildcats, helping Pearl River lead the country in goals allowed (7)



Andre Nicholson
Kingston, Jamaica; Clarendon College

and goals-against average (0.44). PRCC also finished second in shutouts with 11.

While Taylor did not feature in the attack often, he managed to bag three assists on the season.

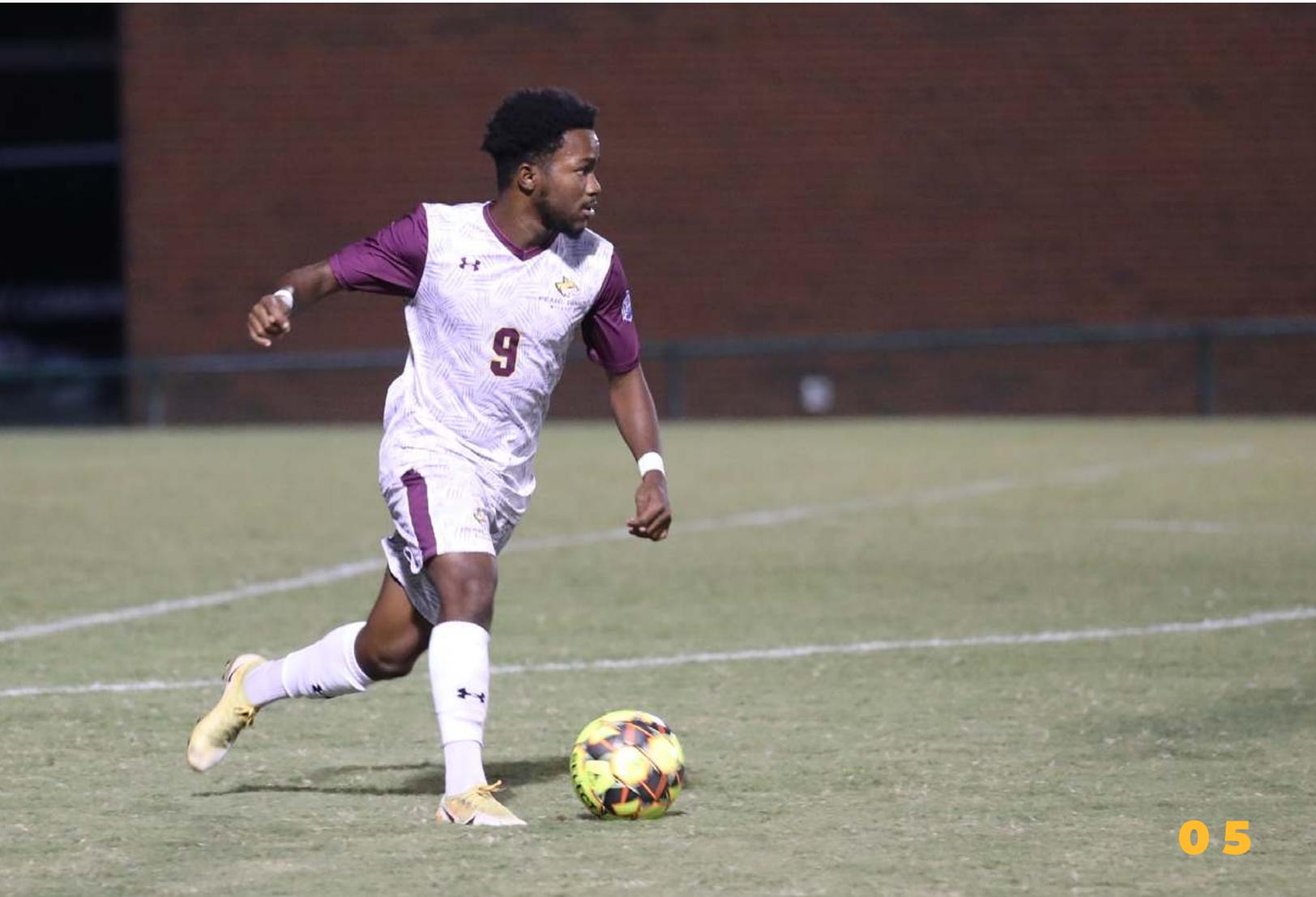
Ryley Smith (Manchester, England.; Castlebrook) landed on the NJCAA All-America Second Team after already being named a

United Soccer Coaches All-American.

The creative midfielder was a major reason that the Wildcats netted 43 goals on the season. His seven assists tied for the team lead, and he chipped in five goals which placed him third on the team.

The homegrown talent, Maddux Francis (Poplarville), showcased his skills all year long, leading the Wildcats to be the best defensive team in the NJCAA and earning an NJCAA All-America Third Team selection.

Francis finished the season with an astonishing 68 saves and just seven goals allowed. His seven goals allowed, 0.44 goals-against average and .907 save percentage each led the country. **RRR**



2022 BASEBALL & SOFTBALL

BASEBALL SCHEDULE

NON-CONFERENCE

Pearl River baseball opens the season with two consecutive home doubleheaders against Baton Rouge on Feb. 9 and Coastal Alabama – South on Feb. 11.

The Wildcats travel to compete in the East Central tournament against Southeastern on Feb. 20 and a few days later on Feb. 22 they take a trip to take on Coastal Alabama – East.

Pearl River will hit the road once again on Feb. 27 to take on North Iowa Area and Dyersburg State in Millington, Tenn.

The Wildcats open the month of March with a road doubleheader against Shelton State on the 2nd before returning home for doubleheaders against Coastal Alabama – North and powerhouse NJCAA Division I program Northwest Florida State on March 5 and 8, respectively.

MACCC

Pearl River opens conference play against Northwest on March 12 and hits the road to take on rival Jones College on March 15.

The Wildcats get a short break from conference foes as they take on Baton Rouge on March 18.

MACCC play continues with back-to-back home contests against East Central on March 23 and Coahoma on March 26.

The month closes out on March 29 as the Wildcats make the short trip to Perkinston to take on archrival Gulf Coast.

East Mississippi will come to Dub Herring Park on April 2 and the Wildcats will travel to Copiah-Lincoln April 6.

Pearl River has another road contest April 9 against Holmes before two consecutive home doubleheaders against Hinds on April 12 and Itawamba on April 15.

Another two-game road trip for the Wildcats will take place April 20 against Meridian and April 23 against Mississippi Delta.

PRCC closes out the season with a home contest against Southwest on April 26 followed by a road contest at Northeast on April 29. **RRR**

SOFTBALL SCHEDULE

NON-CONFERENCE

The softball Wildcats open the season with back-to-back home doubleheaders. On Feb. 3, Marion Military Institute comes to Wildcat Stadium and on Feb. 8 Snead State makes the trip to Poplarville.

Pearl River then hits the road for the first time to take on Coastal Alabama – South for a doubleheader.

On Feb. 15, Pearl River plays host to Lamar State and perennial powerhouse LSU Eunice.

PRCC will compete in the Sun Chief Classic in Gulf Shores, Ala. on Feb. 19. The first game of the day is against Marion Military followed by a game against Southern Union.

The tournament closes out with a game against Coastal Alabama – East. Pearl River hits the road again Feb. 22 to take on NJCAA DI foe Northwest Florida State for a doubleheader.

The Wildcats compete in the Sand Mountain Classic in Albertville, Ala. on Feb. 25 and 26. On the 25th, PRCC takes on Georgia Highlands and Walters State.

The 26th will see Pearl River take on Columbia State and Chattanooga State.

The Wildcats close out non-conference play March 8 as they take on Baton Rouge for a doubleheader.

MACCC

The maroon-and-gold opens Mississippi Association of Community Colleges Conference play starting on March 12 against Northwest. All conference games will be in doubleheader format.

The Wildcats then return to Wildcat Stadium to take on Jones College March 15. PRCC then hits the road for back-to-back road contests, taking on East Central March 23 and Coahoma March 26.

Pearl River closes out the month with a home contest against archrival Gulf Coast on March 29.

The final month of the regular season starts with a road contest on April 2 against East Mississippi.

The Wildcats have back-to-back home series April 6 versus Copiah Lincoln and April 9 against Holmes.

PRCC then hits the road April 12 to take on Hinds and April 15 to face Itawamba.

Meridian comes to town April 20 and Mississippi Delta visits a few days later on April 23.

The Wildcats' final away game of the regular season takes place April 26 against Southwest.

The final home series of the year is set for April 29 against Northeast. **RRR**



THE NUTCRACKER

Enjoy photos taken during this season's performance of The Nutcracker.

This annual performance is a delightful holiday tradition for many. We are thankful for the South Mississippi Ballet Theatre bringing it to the Brownstone Center for the Arts each year. Visit the complete gallery at: <https://bit.ly/339UJQI>





Buy tickets online,
over the phone, or in-person!
BROWNSTONECENTER.COM

601.403.1180
Moody Hall, Office 214
101 Highway 11 North
Poplarville, MS 39470

2022 SPRING EVENTS

COMMITTED
JAN. 14 • 6PM
\$12 assigned seating

Mso MISSISSIPPI SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
Jan. 31 • 7PM
Balcony \$17
Orchestra \$22
Sponsored by the Mississippi Arts Commission

SPRING VARIETY SHOW
FEB. 22 • 7PM
\$7 ASSIGNED SEATING

A JOURNEY THROUGH BLACK MUSIC
featuring
Dr. Jeffrey Murdock
2021 Grammy Music Educator of the Year
& "Triumph"
Feb. 11 • 7PM Free Event
Sponsored by Lower Pearl River Valley Foundation



WIND ENSEMBLE & CONCERT BAND
APRIL 12 • 7PM
\$7 ASSIGNED SEATING

JazzCats & The Voices
April 21 • 7PM
\$7 - Assigned Seating

April 7 & 8 • 7PM
April 9 • 2PM
Balcony \$17
Orchestra \$22

Spotlights!



LONNIE BURCHELL

BIOLOGY INSTRUCTOR
POPLARVILLE

Lonnie completed both his bachelor's and Master's degrees at William Carey University.

He resides in Hattiesburg with his wife of 31 years, Patricia. They have a daughter, Jennifer, and two grandchildren.

Burchell has been at PRCC for 25 years and teaches primarily Microbiology.

"The best thing about working here is the people. Whether it is a student or employee, someone makes me smile every single day. I enjoy my students and the wonderful people I work with here at PRCC."



LATISSA DORSETT

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
PRACTICAL NURSING
FORREST COUNTY & POPLARVILLE

Latissa is the mother of two, Anteria Berry and Antwonnie Dorsett, and a resident of Petal. Her children have motivated her to help the community grow. She has worked/volunteered with Christian Services, The I.M.A.G.E. for TEENS, Girl Trek and others that have impacted her life with compassion.

She began working at PRCC in 2019 and is thankful for the opportunity to help others move forward with their dreams and goals.

"I am honored to be a part of the 'Happy to Help' mindset and work ethics that help make this a great place to work. My PRCC family truly strives to provide education and services for students to succeed."



JOLIE PERVEL

STUDENT, POPLARVILLE CAMPUS
BUSINESS MANAGEMENT TECHNOLOGY

From Lumberton, Jolie attended Poplarville High School, was a dual enrolled student at PRCC, and graduated from the Head Homestead Homeschool.

She is active with the Baptist Student Union, a member of Phi Theta Kappa, and will be in the upcoming production of *The Little Mermaid* on campus.

She is a work study in the Marketing and Communications Department where she enjoys creating graphics and photographing student events. A career in graphic design is her goal.

"I literally grew up on the Poplarville campus and daydreamed about what college life would be like. This little dreamer was not disappointed. From my friends at the BSU, to the wonderful work study position I held since my first semester, I am so blessed to be a Wildcat."

New Hires!

December 2021

| | |
|------------------|------------------------|
| Madelyn Brown | Customer Service Agent |
| Charlotte Millis | Customer Service Agent |
| Stephany Pearson | Customer Service Agent |

STUDENT LIFE





Poplarville Campus

101 Highway 11 North
Poplarville, Miss. 39470

Forrest County Campus

5448 Highway 49 South
Hattiesburg, Miss. 39401

Hancock Campus

454 Highway 90, Suite D
Waveland, Miss. 39576

www.prcc.edu

601.403.1000

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