Special to The Herald

In December of 2007, the Pretty in Pink Club evolved from just a “nice idea” into a focus group of young ladies demonstrating their leadership abilities within their communities through the “Lead and Not Be Lead” motto.

During its brief existence, Pretty in Pink has begun to develop a group of young ladies with the mindset of being leaders in their schools, homes and communities. The club has grown to include girls of various ages and parents.

The organization seeks to reach out and establish itself as a positive entity within the community. The group seeks to excel in every arena, including but not limited to, moral, social, educational, health and community service components. Several former members are currently attending major colleges.. First Club President Ebony Townsend is a senior at the University of Georgia. April Brown attends Spellman University and recently completed a summer internship at Yale. Peiundra Levision attends Jackson State University. Ashley Cage, Rashenyatta Coleman and Pamela Thomas attend Ole Miss and Mississippi State. Julinda Scott attends Rust College. Cynathia Wilkerson and Deunshay Nelson attend the University of Southern Mississippi. Cassandra Hogue attends MUW.

PIP has done well in the educational component by producing outstanding college-bound young ladies. In the past four years, the group has done numerous community service projects, such as volunteering at the Manna House, helping the Women’s Mission and Youth Department at New King Solomon Church, and distributing fruit baskets and performing for the residents at Oasis Health and Rehabilitation. PIP has also volunteered their services with Elaine Owens’ Lifesavers Program. Its biggest service project has been a personal mission to raise the awareness of strokes in the community by sponsoring “Step up for Strokes,” which is a health fair, walk and step show done annually in October for World Strokes Day.

PIP invites the public to join them in celebrating the club’s anniversary on Dec. 17 at the Yazoo County Junior High gymnasium. Festivities will begin at 7 p.m.

For more information, call Kimwana Collins, founder and sponsor of PIP.