

IN AND AROUND LEXINGTON
BY LEONA (LENA) FIELDS



Ms. Doris Whitehead and Ms. Dorothy Woodson's sister passed recently. Keep them uplifted in prayer.

Saturday evening, March 31 at 4 p.m., the Beulah Grove All Faith Church pastored by Rev. Lenoria Meeky, Jr., hosted Family and Friends Day. The crowd was small but the service was great. The youth of the Trinity M.B. Church had an inspiring Easter program first Sunday. The mothers and some of the elderly ladies of the church were given Waster bags from the youth department. The youth had an Easter egg hunt after service.

TRIAD met at the Multi-Purpose Building in Lexington on Wednesday, April 4 at 10 a.m. TRIAD hosted two members of the Mississippi Public Service Commission, Mr. Brown and Mrs. Penny Culpepper. They spoke about utility service. Questions that were asked and answered: Does it do any good to question incorrect utility bills? Yes. Does it really have an impact if you call the Public Service Commission to report poor service? Yes. Does

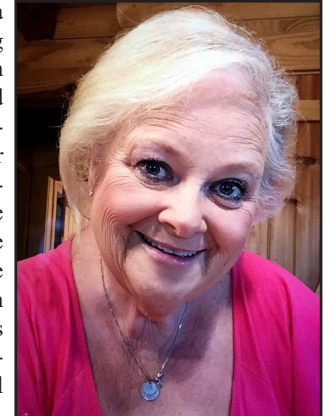
anyone at the PSC really listen to consumers about high rates or inadequate service? Yes. If you need to call them, call 1-800-356-6430 or 601-961-5430. They will check out utility scams. They said the IRS does not come to people's door nor telephone you about payments. They stressed do not give out your credit card number, social security number or debit card number over the phone.

In the absence of the sheriff, the crime update was given by Captain Sam Chambers. He said we are still having burglaries, robberies, killings, etc. Law enforcement need the public's help in solving crime. The youth are doing plenty of illegal stuff. No killings in the month of March. Some got shot but they lived. By the time this paper is ready to go out, the trip to the state museum will be over. However, approximately 50 people signed up for the trip on April 10.

One day last week I saw Mrs. Jacqueline Saffold. She told me she enjoyed reading the *In and Around Lexington* news. Many others say they enjoy the column.

Retire? No way!

When we married so many years ago, we honestly never thought about our later years. Years when we were established, comfortable, work weary, ready to slow down and just enjoy life. It's really a good thing that we never assumed we would be living down in Florida on a golf course, or in the mountains in a cozy little log cabin, or even off on an island in the Caribbean, because our lives are certainly not one of retreat. We are, if possible busier now than several years ago. We operate several retail grocery stores, with supervision management help from our sons and we work a reasonably large cattle ranch and farm, work and harvest, and preserve a large vegetable garden, and



Peggy's Take

To get your news in this column, call Leona (Lena) Fields at 662-834-1489.

we do our own yard work. Twenty years ago, our busy times were not so demanding or difficult. Most of the time, people our ages are sitting back with a fishing pole on the side of some tranquil creek bank or crocheting or doing some other thing to just pass the time. Not us! Neither of us would fit into a "slowed-down" life like that. I have seen so many as they become older and can enjoy their social security believe it's now time to just stop their busy lives and just sit. I have also seen many of them whose health starts to decline as they wait for "aging". I realize that some have no choice due to declining health. Oh yes, of course we have contemplated stepping/sitting down many times and have just looked at each other and said, "Nah!" It really helps to enjoy your

life's work or the things you do. I love to paint, though I am no Rembrandt. I love writing, again I am no John Gresham. I don't think you need to be an expert at anything but just have an innate joy in doing the things you enjoy. I am no gourmet cook but I can draw a crowd when I fill my table. And of course I love being a Meme. Babysitting is one of the most important and fun things I could ever do and with thirteen grandchildren I never lack for this enjoyment!

Sure, we still daydream about buying a beach house and playing golf all day or building a small cabin out in the woods and living off the land but it's really only day dreams. We complain quite frequently about the business of our days and the difficulties encountered. Then we think about just "being". Sitting and watching life pass us by and we both have decided we will do just what we are doing until we are called Home and then we'll rest!

This is a very simple coffee cake either for breakfast or sharing with coffee company:

- Blackberry Skillet
- Coffee Cake
- Streusel Topping

- ¼ cup chopped pecans,
 - ¼ cup sugar,
 - 3 T. butter,
 - 2 ½ T. flour,
 - 1 t. cinnamon
- For the Coffee Cake:
- 3 T. butter,
 - 3 T. brown sugar,
 - one 12 oz. tube buttermilk biscuits,
 - 1 cup blueberries thawed frozen

Preheat oven to 375*. Combine pecans, sugar, butter, flour and cinnamon in a food processor and pulse until fine crumbs

In a 9" cast iron skillet melt butter and brown sugar and arrange biscuits in a single layer and scatter blueberries on top and then streusel topping. Bake until golden brown. About 30 minutes.

* Peggy Sims is a life-long resident of Attala County and columnist.

N.A.
open group meetings every Friday, 6:30-7:30 p.m. at **New Roads Counseling**
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