

Mississippi Agriculture and Forestry Museum reopens following closure due to COVID-19

Press Release
 Commissioner of Agriculture and Commerce Andy Gipson welcomes the public to the reopening of the Mississippi Agriculture and Forestry Museum on Monday, June 8, 2020, following closure due to COVID-19. The Children's Barnyard, one of the Museum's newest attractions that opened earlier this year, is a must-see for visitors. The barnyard is home to three baby goats and four newborn lambs that were born during the closure. "The public has been missing the outdoor, agricultural experience that the Museum offers, and we are so glad to welcome back visitors," said Commissioner Gipson. "Though the Museum will resume normal operating hours starting Monday, safety is our top priority right now. The Museum staff is taking precautions to ensure a safe and fun-filled time for visitors of the General Store, Small Town, Mississippi, the Children's Barnyard and so much more. I encourage visitors to come by the Museum grounds and see the various open-air exhibits of barnyard animals and farmstead dis-



The Children's Barnyard has welcomed several new additions during the Museum's closure, including three goat kids and four newborn lambs (pictured above).

Oh, Do I Know YOU?

Every morning as I step onto the floor from our bed, I breathe a prayer saying, "Thank you Lord for helping me get up." As I stagger to the bathroom and head into the kitchen to cook breakfast, I realize that my gait is a little slower and unsteady. I just celebrated a birthday you know, a milestone of years that I am so thankful to have reached. Inside I am still the young girl with fledgling and unseasoned feelings until I stop at the mirror to tame my bed hair and I want to scream, "Who the heck are you?" At first glance, I believe my mother is standing there by me. Sometimes I take an inventory to make sure that I am still me. I know my eyes measure 20/20, I believe the printing is always small. I



Peggy's Take

plays that the whole family can enjoy." The Mississippi Agriculture and Forestry Museum is following the regulations, orders and guidelines in accordance to the Governor's mandate to ensure safety and prevent the spread of COVID-19. Social distancing is required throughout the campus, personal protective equipment (PPE) is encouraged and hand sanitizer is

wear hearing aids to help my husband, so he does not have to strain his voice when he talks to me. The wrinkles on my face are not age, they are just laugh lines, I am a happy person. Some people tell me that my hair is more gray, but that is my new shade of blonde. Sometimes my husband asks me why I am wheezing, that is just me humming I love to sing. Sometimes I think I might have gained a few pounds but then I believe I can still fit into my wedding dress. I love to swim, and I can jump right in but for some reason those steps are steeper than they used to be, and I have trouble climbing out. Sometimes I think my statue may be shrinking but hey, I never was very tall. And every once in a while, when I see a

provided. The Mississippi Agriculture and Forestry Museum, located at 1150 Lakeland Drive in Jackson, is open Monday through Saturday from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. For more information about the Museum, call 601-432-4500 or 1-800-844-8687, visit www.msagmuseum.org or visit the Mississippi Agriculture and Forestry Museum on Facebook.

DURANT NEWS

by Rowena Hill

I spent several days last week in Clinton with Shirley, Sammy and Jay. We all spent time at Sonia's and family in her new and beautiful home. Sympathy to the family and friends of Mrs. (Lee) Lucy Howell. She recently passed away in a Jackson hospital after a lengthy illness. Love to all the relatives. All are thankful our church is slightly up and going somewhat again. It's not back to normal yet, but all are very thankful to have Sunday services. Bro. Ed McDaniel isn't well and is unable to come and lead us but former resident, Si Vaughn of West/Vaiden area, is filling the pulpit. We all love having him back home but look forward to the return of Bro. Ed and Libby. They now live in Madison. Joey and Jackie Hill spent time Saturday with Jodi, Derek and Jack in the home of Derek's parents, Mr. and Mrs. May. They plan to return to the mission field in Thailand soon. We all regret to see them leave but are thankful it will be to honor God. Bless them all. Thank God that friends and loved ones haven't gotten the virus. May God bless us and keep us well, also the many others that aren't sick. May God bless and protect our little town. Let's pray that all will be to normal soon. Friends of Eddy Johnson miss him a lot since he went to an assisted living facility in the Jackson area. Glad he is adjusting well there, but he is missed by lots of Durant friends. Thank God the hurricane wasn't as bad as it could have been. We should be, and are, very thankful for God's protection.

familiar face, I cannot place a name and I am forced to say, "Oh, do I know you?" I have heard people say that they feel as if they have earned every wrinkle and gray hair that they have but as have just said, most of my hindrances can be clearly explained away. I believe the epitome of the question of age is this, if you feel young on the inside, you will be young on the outside. Just try it! One of our grandsons, Sam, cooks some and I watched him make fried rice the other day and I might have learned something.

FRIED RICE
 3 cups of cooked rice
 2 T. sesame oil
 1 small chopped onion
 1 cup of peas and carrots
 3 T. soy sauce
 2 beaten eggs

Heat sesame oil and add onion, peas and carrots and fry till tender. Slide this to the side and pour beaten eggs into the other side. Scramble the eggs and once cooked add to the rice and vegetable mix.

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

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