

*Tornadoes

(Continued from page 1.)
 in Yazoo City, about 40 miles away from Rolling Fork, received more than 20 patients injured in the tornadoes as of Saturday morning.
 "Almost all patients were treated at the hospital. Any that the hospital couldn't treat were transferred," said Kim Alexander, a spokesperson for Baptist. "... Across the board, team members came in to do whatever was needed. There was a great response from ambulance crews as well."

Tornado expert Walker Ashley described the tornado as a supercell that brews the deadliest tornados and most damaging hail in the U.S., according to The Associated Press. A nighttime one like this one is "the worst kind," said Ashley, a meteorology professor at the University of Northern Illinois.

"You mix a particularly socioeconomically vulnerable landscape with a fast-moving, long-track nocturnal tornado, and disaster will happen," Ashley said in an email to the AP.

Cornell Knight told AP that he, his wife and 3-year-old daughter were visiting a relative in Rolling Fork when the tornado struck. They took shelter in the hallway. The tornado struck another relative's home across a cornfield, trapping several people inside.

People hoping to donate water or other resources can bring them to the Rolling Fork Armory, also called the Rolling Fork Civic Center, MEMA said. The center is located at the following address: 19719 US 61 in Rolling Fork, MS 39159.

Volunteer Mississippi is asking private citizens not to self-deploy, MEMA added, but the organization will match interested volunteers with affiliated groups "when the time is right."

MEMA said around 10 a.m. on Saturday that additional personnel from the Federal Emergency Management Agency was on the way to Mississippi.

Gov. Tate Reeves issued a state of emergency Saturday morning, and will send it to the federal government for "expedited approval," adding that he was confident of the request being approved. Reeves said the state is requesting relief through FEMA's Individual Assistance, which sends resources directly to impacted residents, and Public Assistance, which funds rebuilding public buildings and infrastructure, programs.

"It's heartbreaking," Reeves said Saturday morning at a press briefing in Rolling Fork. "We're going to fight like a hell to make sure we get as many resources to this area as possible."

He said he's heard from governors in other states, from both political parties, offering their concern and support.

"My prayers are with the people of Mississippi today as so many have lost homes or loved ones from last night's devastating storms," said Louisiana Gov. John Bel Gov. Edwards. "Louisiana understands the pain they are going through right

now, and if there is anything we can do, we stand ready to help our neighbors.

MEMA Executive Director Stephen McCraney said he first heard from FEMA Friday night, and expects a team from the federal agency to arrive by 1 p.m. Saturday to help assess the damages.

Impacted residents seeking assistance should contact their county emergency management official, a MEMA spokesperson said. Residents can find the phone number for their county EMA at this link. MEMA also shared the following shelter locations:

National Guard Armory
 19719 US 61, Rolling Fork, MS, 39159

Humphreys County Multipurpose BLDG
 417 Silver City Road, Belzoni, MS, 39038

Old Amory National Guard Building
 101 S 9th St., Amory, MS, 38821

MEMA added that the American Red Cross is setting up a shelter at the Greenville Multipurpose Center.

The Rolling Fork National Guard/Civic Center also is open and Molina mobile clinic will be set up at the Sharkey County Civic Center beginning Sunday, according to the Mississippi Insurance Department.

The Division of Medicaid has enacted a provision allowing fee-for-service beneficiaries affected by the tornadoes to receive early refills and additional prescriptions above the monthly limit.

Conservation Corner

by James Cummins
 Executive Director
 of Wildlife Mississippi

Wildflowers of Mississippi

Driving along the back roads and highways of Mississippi, one can genuinely appreciate the beauty of some of our most treasured wildflowers. While some mistakenly think of wildflowers as weeds, this could not be further from the truth.

Wildflowers include a great variety of plant types, from hardy perennials to flowering annuals, small shrubs to a selection of vines, some ferns, and even some native grasses. Some wildflowers are ideal for incorporating into home gardens or landscaping projects while others are best left to grow naturally along roadsides, or in meadows, fields, and forests.

There are many enthusiasts that argue that only native plants are truly wildflowers. However, there are many flowering plants that have been "naturalized" to an area either deliberately or accidentally from other areas, states, and countries.

Regardless of how they got here and how some think they should be categorized, Mississippi's wildflowers are an important part of our heritage, our ecology, and our state. After all, we do have a state wildflower. While Mississippi boasts of over 500 species of wildflowers, it is our state wildflower that we will focus on in this article. That wildflower is not a single species, but a genus of wildflower, the Coreopsis. Here are a few of those spe-

cies of Coreopsis.

Coreopsis pubescens - Commonly known as star tickseed. An upright, yellow-flowered coreopsis, grows 2' to 4' tall, and is native to dry woods and slopes from Kansas to Virginia, south to Florida and west to Texas. Yellow, daisy-like flowers with notched yellow rays and orange center disks bloom profusely from June to September. Lance-shaped, medium green leaves form a slight, bushy foliage mound. Both stems and leaves are hairy.

Coreopsis gladiata - Also referred to as coastal tickseed. A short-lived perennial noted for its showy, daisy-like flowers with small, tubular maroon or brown disk centers, grows to 3' to 6' tall, and has numerous lance-shaped leaves on the lower parts.

Coreopsis tripteris - Commonly referred to as tall tickseed. A tall, slender wildflower that commonly grows 4' to 8' tall and typically occurs in prairies, dry open woods, and along roadsides and railroad tracks. Featuring a solitary, yellow, daisy-like flower with eight yellow rays and flat brown center disks, the flowers bloom atop slender, erect stems from mid to late summer into the fall. Leaves are divided into 3 to 5 narrow, lance-shaped segments and are anise-scented.

Coreopsis lanceolata - Commonly referred to as lanceleaf coreopsis. Typi-

cally grows to 2' tall and occurs in prairies, fields, and roadsides. Features solitary, yellow, daisy-like flowers with eight yellow rays and flat yellow center disks. Typically blooms from spring to early summer atop slender, erect stems. Narrow, hairy, lance-shaped leaves appear primarily near the base of the plant.

The next time you take a drive, take the time to notice the beauty of our state's wildflowers.

James L. Cummins is executive director of Wildlife Mississippi, a non-profit, conservation organization founded to conserve, restore, and enhance fish, wildlife, and plant resources throughout Mississippi.



March 30 - Gregory and Shinna Anderson

April 1 - Jody and Amanda Beville, Milton and Jean Hoover

April 2 - Daniel and Jenny Cain

April 3 - Mr. and Mrs. Beau Trotter, Jeremy and Erica Moore

April 5 - Jimmy and Ina Rigby, Jim and Jan McCrory

To add your birthdays and anniversaries to our list, please send your information by mail to P.O. Box 60, Lexington, MS 39095; fax 662-834-1074; email to hcherald@gmail.com; or stop by our office at 308 Court Square in Lexington. No phone calls, please.



March 30 - Victor Gilbert, Debbie McLemore, Lance White, Cha'mylah Miller, Chanta Grayson, Carrie Narmour

March 31 - Rev. Jack Wooten, Jim Harrell, Cartrina Benson, Sandra Jenkins, Tissie Brock, Agnes Williams

April 1 - Christin Smith Downs, Liz C. Taylor, Rufus Waddell, Jr., Mary Grace Allen, Haleigh Hutchison, Iva Beth Lindsey, Ella Mae

Boykin

April 2 - Trent Floyd, Clayton Edwards, Nobbie Garnett, Dick Atkinson, Houston Grantham, Laura Kathryn Rutledge, Markus Horton, Jr., Lyn Browning Stewart, Ann Eldridge

April 3 - Danny Robertson, John Riley Poe, Nancy Spell, Isaac Leech, Cor'Jerris Miller, Leo McBride, Truevane Gibson, Sr., Arlene P. Easterling, Steve Blackstock, Jeremy Moore, "Little David" Chiz, Tiffany Byrd, Glen Causey, Debra Martin Cross

April 4 - Jake Killebrew, Lake Melton, Sessums Russell, Fletcher Woo, Mackenzie McCleskey, Ada Claire Pierce, Samantha Fulgham

April 5 - Bert Langford, Wendy Barnes Nixon, Albert Thomas



BETHLEHEM M.B. CHURCH
 Bethlehem M.B. Church in Tchula will hold its 153rd year Church Anniversary on Sunday, April 2 at 11:30 a.m. 3-30

GOOD HOPE M.B. CHURCH
 Good Hope M.B. Church in Tchula will hold an Appreciation Service on April 9 at 7:00 a.m. Attendees are asked to wear white. 3-30;4-6

LONG BRANCH M.B. CHURCH
 Long Branch M.B. Church in West will hold a Family Revival on April 3-5 at 7:00 p.m. 3-30

MIGRATION HERITAGE FOUNDATION
 Migration Heritage Foundation is accepting applications for 2023 scholarships. The deadline to apply is April 1. Go to www.mhtr.us and click on scholarships. For more information contact Dr. Sylvia Reedy-Gist at info@mhtr.us. 3-23,30

COMMUNITY HEALTH FAIR
 Holmes County will host a Community Health Fair on Tuesday, April 4 at the Arts Council Building in Lexington from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. For more information contact: mobilehealth@msphi.org or 601-398-4406. 3-23,30

*Happy Birthday
 In Loving Memory
 of Our Mother
 Viola McClellan Robinson*

April 2, 1923 - June 5, 2003

*Gone But
 Not Forgotten
 Your Children
 & Grandchildren*



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