

Oakland News

By Linda Ross Aldy

Teachers, parents, grand-parents, and all others who interact with students, begin now to get your K-12 students ready to enter the 2026 Fish Art and Essay Competition sponsored by the Mississippi Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks and the Marine Foundation. The host site for the competition is the Bob Tyler Fish Hatchery Visitor Education Center. For K-12, all entries must include an entry form and original artwork while grades 4-12 must include a creative writing submission. The deadline is Feb. 28 and all information, including the entry form, is at www.mdwfp.com/fishing-boating/wildlife-forever-art-and-essay-competition. Don't forget if you need access or help getting online, the Oakland Public Library is the place to go. The Oakland Public Library is open on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday plus some Saturdays. You can check their schedule on the Yalobusha County Library Facebook page or call the Library at (662) 623-8651.

If you haven't visited the Fish Hatchery Visitor Education Center, it is truly a great gem right here in our area. It is just off the Enid exit and has a wonderful 10,000 gallon aquarium that will entertain children and adults plus interactive exhibits where the children can row a boat and fish. They can feed the fish outside and learn as they do.

It was good news to learn that Billy White has been released from the hospital and is mending at home. Billy is known far and wide and helps many local folks with odd jobs.

Margaret Ross rode with her daughter, Janet Ross Caulder, to the Batesville Civic Center last week to

take great-grandson Kash Mastrangelo to the Northwest District Livestock Show where he showed four heifers. Kash, along with Emmett Brooks and Wyatt Vaughn, showed from Yalobusha County. Emmett is the grandson of Chamber Board Member Luanne Brooks.

Y'all need to get prepared for frigid weather and possible freezing rain and snow. While the timing might change, right now it's predicted to move in on Friday and be in the low teens by Sunday morning. Take care of people, pets, and water sources.

Oakland Mayor Stephanie Patterson and Alderwoman Marzet Bland were in Jackson this past week for the Mississippi Municipal League's Winter Conference. While they were here, they made a stop at the Capitol where they visited with Sen. Ben Suber and Rep. Kevin Horan and discussed the legislative needs of Oakland. They also had an opportunity for unscheduled visit and photo with Lt. Gov. Delbert Hosemann. Sen. Suber serves as Chair of the Senate Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks, obviously, a very important committee to the Oakland area with Cossar State Park here. He is also Vice Chair of Economic and Workforce Development and serves on numerous other committees. Rep. Horan is Chair of the Judiciary B Committee and a member of several other committees. They have a lot of responsibility and work extremely hard to represent us.

Don't forget to put Sat., May 2, on your calendar for Oakland's Yalo-Ribbon Festival. We have Danica Hart of Chapel Hart fame as our featured musical act. If you are interested in being a

sponsor or vendor, contact Chamber Executive Director Sue Donohue Smith at exec-dir.oaklandareachamber@g

mail.com. Please share your news with me at oaklandarea-chamber@gmail.com or

leave a message at 601-853-3942.



Visiting with Senator Ben Suber last week were, left to right, Oakland Lobbyist Linda Ross Aldy, Oakland Mayor Stephanie Patterson, Suber, Oakland Alderwoman Marzet Bland. The group went over the legislative agenda for Oakland for the 2026 Legislative Session.



Oakland officials visited the Capitol last week and met with Rep. Kevin Horan to discuss Oakland legislative needs. The elected officials included, left to right, Oakland Alderwoman Marzet Bland, Rep. Horan, Oakland Mayor Stephanie Patterson along with Oakland's lobbyist Linda Ross Aldy.

Smith Chapel M. B. Church

3695 CR 211
Coffeeville

Smith Chapel M. B. Church, Coffeeville, Ms, will be having Pastor and Wife's 25th Anniversary on Sunday, January 25, 2026, at 3:00 p.m.

Speaker will be Elder Richard Smith.

Looking forward to seeing your presence. Thanking you in advance.

Smith Chapel Church
Elder Richard Smith
Pastor

Zion Spring M. B. Church

Please join us for a Christian Education Conference on January 20-22, 2026 @ 6:30 nightly.

Tuesday: Lecture: Rev. James Howell.

Sermon: Rev. Melvin Montgomery-Faith & Grace Baptist Church, Grenada, MS.

Wednesday: Lecture: Rev. James Howell.

Sermon: Rev. Billy Geanes-St. John Baptist Church, Ripley, MS.

Thursday: Lecture: Rev. Timothy Daniels.

Sermon: Rev. James Howell-Bethlehem Baptist Church, Falkner, MS.

Your presence will be greatly appreciated.

Rev. Tommie Daniel, Pastor



Tillatoba News

By Patcie Deck

News is short this week with it being so cold most everyone I contacted said it was too cold to get out and ramble. I certainly agree with them.

Thankful that Alex Ballard is home from the hospital after undergoing appendicitis surgery. I know her too precious little girls are happy that mama is home and feeling better each day. Happy birthday to Bobby Cook and Winky Chambers on the 20th, Angela Robinson and Nathan Hartley on the 22nd, and Robert Duke on the 23rd. I pray you all have a wonderful day celebrating your day!

Sunday our visitors were Francesca and Bradley Holli-day and Donna Garripoli. (Brad was off killing a deer.) I made a big pot of chicken and dumplings. After eating, the rest of the afternoon was spent watching a good football game and untangling crochet thread. I had worked four days on untangling.

Sister Joyce Stevens and I enjoyed the fish lunch at The Hut Saturday, says Martha Box. Joyce and brother Jesse and the waitress got to see me cry as I looked for my lost wedding

rings. Me who never cries!!! Bet Mailbox's laughter was loud all over Heaven as he says. Finally, I made her shed a tear! Lol then I stepped on them in my house on my rug! What a Day!!

Morning my friends. Wishing you all a great, happy, Get Er Done Week, says Martha. I'm still blessed, still walking and talking and knowing how and why! Great visit with Kenny Dunning after he finished a good job for me. He is a worker!

Had a good lunch at Grenada lake, watching the birds and enjoying the sun the other day.

Wonderful chicken liver dinner at the Corner Wednesday. Got to see my baby Candy Box as she cooked!

What a special visit with my lovesband friends at Pine Grove Baptist Church Sunday. That Chior and The Word so well shared by Bro. Scarborough so touched my soul! Love hanging with Ginger, Phil and the Boys as they enjoy Church.

About to take some cornbread and tater soup over to Sheryn Goode's and visit.

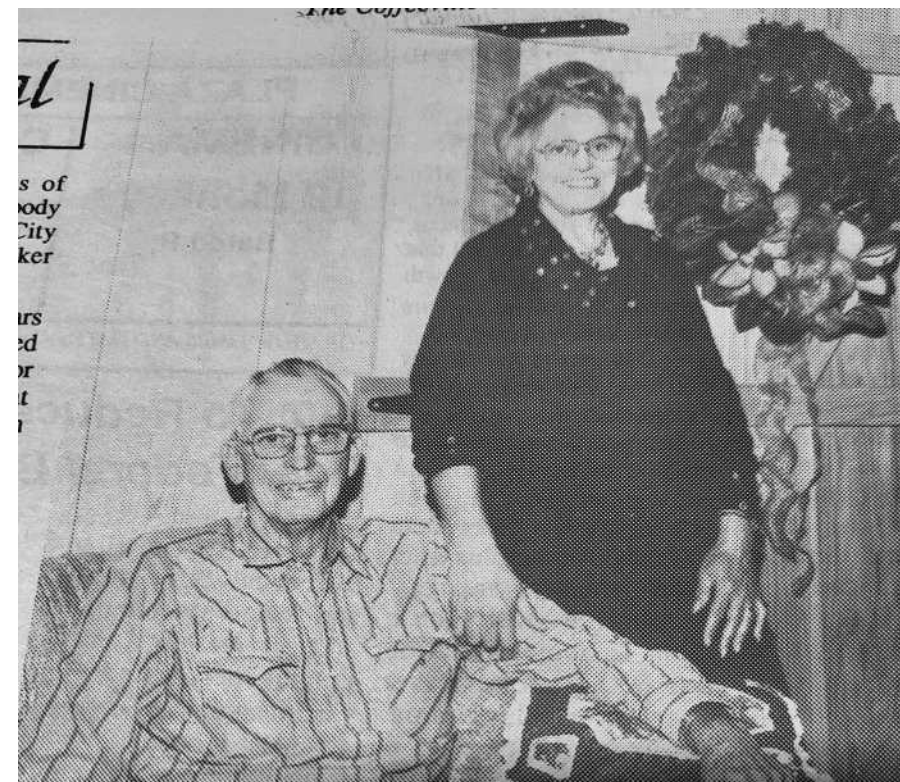


Recipe of the week: Peanut Butter Poke Cake

Ingredients:
1 box of any chocolate cake mix
1 can coca-cola
For the filling:
1 can sweetened condensed milk
2/3 cup of creamy peanut butter
2 Tbs milk
Mix together until smooth and set aside.
For the frosting:
8 oz cool whip
1 cup peanut butter
Mix together the cake mix and coke until smooth. Pour into a 9x13 greased baking dish. Bake at 350 for 30-35 minutes or until an inserted toothpick comes out clean. While the cake is cooking, make your filling and set aside. Make frosting and refrigerate. Remove cake from the oven when done and set aside. While warm, poke holes all over the top of the cake with a wooden spoon handle. Take your filling and spread over the top of the cake. Once cooled, frost the cake and refrigerate.

*If desired, sprinkle some chopped up Reese's Peanut Butter Cups and Hershey's Chocolate Syrup over the top.

Thought for the day:
Next time a stranger speaks to you when you're alone, just look at them shocked and whisper, "You can see me?"



Last week's "Who Is It?" was Billy Scott Martin and Rusty Hughes. No correctly identified them. If you would like to identify the "Who Is It?" please call the Courier at 662-675-2446 before noon on Monday or call and leave a message or text 662-458-8939.

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