

Looking Back

For our readers who like to reminisce on news as recorded in The Coffeeville Courier of the years gone by

80 YEARS AGO March 15, 1946

R. Leonard Simpson, 84, of the Clear Springs section, died of a heart attack March 15.

Wednesday Mr. and Mrs. Q. T. Thornton and family moved from their recent home on the planer lot to their farm in the Gray Rock section, and Mrs. Thelma Armstrong and family moved from the Dye house to the Thornton home, which they have purchased.

Mrs. J. C. Little, Mrs. C. M. Taylor, Mrs. J. N. Bailey, Jr. and Mrs. Francis Franklin attended the operetta at the University Friday evening given by the Music Department at Blue Mountain College. Miss Mary Alice Taylor was a member of the chorus.

75 YEARS AGO March 15, 1951

Snow fell all day Tuesday. Tim Denley, 5-year-old son of Prof. and Mrs. George E. Denley, is in the Grenada Hospital recuperating from an appendectomy performed there Sunday night.

Robert Ira Dees, 75, died of a heart attack Sunday afternoon. As an employee of the town of Coffeeville, he had been on the job all day Saturday.

65 YEARS AGO March 9, 1961

Clyde Wilbourn, aged 70, died in the Grenada Hospital Monday, March 6.

Faye Chandler who was voted in a recent Who's Who Contest as the most beautiful girl in the Coffeeville High School, has received an invitation from the Memphis Cotton Carnival Association to ride as a Cotton Belle in one of the big night parades.

Funeral services will be held Thursday afternoon at the Hopewell Baptist Church for Clyde Eugene Shaw who died at his home in the Hopewell Community about midnight Tuesday, March 7.

Friday of this week, March 10, 1961, has been officially proclaimed as "Dr. Leonard Day" in Coffeeville and plans are underway to honor the beloved physician who will be 83 years old that day.

On the Dean's List of honor students for the first semester at Millsaps College is the name of Edward Woodall, Jr., of Coffeeville.

60 YEARS AGO March 10, 1966

Steve Bailey, 11-year-old son of Representative and Mrs. Joe Bailey, served last week as a Page in the State Legislature.

Nancy Gail George of Coffeeville has been selected for the lead role in "First Lady", major spring production of the speech department at MSCW.

Mrs. Cate Bland Johnson, widow of the late Wade H. Johnson, died Sunday afternoon, March 6, in the Grenada County Hospital.

Virginia Arrington, Libby Lowe, Debbie Salley, Lonnie Williams, Mike Ayers, Patsy George, Holly Peeples, Carol Hendrickson, Vicki Parker, Joy Arrington, Beverly Madison, members of the Coffeeville High School chorus, auditioned for eligibility to participate in the Spring Choral Festival, Saturday morning, March 5, at NWJC.

Ralph McCormack, son of Mr. and Mrs. Earl McCormack, left Jackson Monday, March 7, for Dainsville, Rhode Island, where he will attend engineering school for 18 weeks. He has been in the Navy Reserve for a year, and the current training is part of the military curriculum.

50 YEARS AGO March 18, 1976

The contest to raise money for the March of Dimes Walkathon February 28, was won by Debra Pendergrass and Chester Pate Ayers. They were awarded a \$25 bond for being top winners in the girls' and boys' contest.

Buster Brown Jackson, 67, farmer and heavy equipment operator, died Tuesday, March 9, at Yalobusha General Hospital in Water Valley after a long illness.

Mrs. Zenie Wooten Kuykendall, 85, retired teacher and widow of A. M. Kuykendall, died Monday, March 8, at Care Inn in Charleston.

40 YEARS AGO March 6, 1986

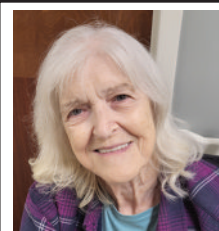
The country home of Mr. and Mrs. Steve Holland in Duck Hill was the setting for the marriage of Susan Snell and Dale Honeycutt on Saturday afternoon, January 4.

Rev. Thomas Jefferson "TJ" Wright, 58, of Coffeeville, Baptist minister with Clear Springs C.M.E. Church in Big Creek, Mississippi. Later in life, she joined Antioch M.B. Church in Memphis of injuries he received in a head-on collision at 8:00 A.M. Thursday morning on Mississippi 8 about a mile east of Grenada, authorities said.

Robert Fred Pittman, 92, of Coffeeville, retired building contractor and farmer, died Sunday, March 2, in the Yalobusha Nursing Home in Water Valley after a lengthy illness.

Mr. and Mrs. Keith Graham of Grenada are announcing the birth of a son born Wednesday, February 26. He has been named Brandon Keith Graham.

Elizabeth Gray, daughter of Charlotte and Sonny Gray of Southaven was among the 96 new members who were inducted into the



Coffee Time

By Sarah H. Williams

Got a cut-out of my column from a friend and she wanted me to use her name but I couldn't remember it. Maybe I will before this column goes to print. A dear friend, Margaret Jean Ross, said she wanted me to continue writing my column. Made me feel good.

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I saw a yellow vase of flowers on the desk here last week. They were the first sign of spring. Wonder what they were?

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A friend I finished school with and his wife, H. B. Ross and Margie Sayle Ross, sent me a beautiful vase of flowers for Valentine's Day. They were so beautiful and I enjoyed them so much.

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Got cards from Sylvia, plus John's mother, Jeanie, Tammy and John, Margaret Jean Ross and others for Valentine's. They were so appreciated. Got a beautiful card from Vivian Purdy and family Saturday.

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My BFF Savana McGee came to see me before Valentine's. Love her so much.

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Savana called to tell me that Elva Kaye Dees had died recently. She was in our class at school. Her name was like my mothers' Elva Flora Keelin. Another Elva is Elva Jean Peters Crisswell. I think the name is unusual.

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I was asked to go to the church service Sunday afternoon. We sang lots of songs and the preacher presented a wonderful sermon.

(Cont'd on page 18)

Obituary

Ethel . . .
(Cont'd. from front page)

Ethel was born and raised "across the Skuna river" in Calhoun County, Mississippi. At an early age, she accepted Christ as her personal Savior and joined Clear Springs C.M.E. Church in Big Creek, Mississippi. Later in life, she joined Antioch M.B. Church in Memphis of injuries he received in a head-on collision at 8:00 A.M. Thursday morning on Mississippi 8 about a mile east of Grenada, authorities said.

Robert Fred Pittman, 92, of Coffeeville, retired building contractor and farmer, died Sunday, March 2, in the Yalobusha Nursing Home in Water Valley after a lengthy illness.

Ethel worked in the garment production industry for many years, before accepting her calling as an educator, where she served as a teacher's aid in the Coffeeville School District until retirement. She often bragged on her students and love each and everyone of them. Ethel was a songstress who often sang praises to the Lord at church programs and serenaded her wonderful husband with Marvin Gaye songs at events.

Ethel was proceeded in death by her parents; five brothers, Tommy "Bo" Steen, Johnny Frank Steen, Albert "Teenie" Steen, Cleve Steen, Jr., and William Steen; three sisters, Mary Francis Steen, Mabeline Bailey and Virginia Steen;

and her youngest son, Jeffrey Clay Horton. She leaves to cherish her

memory her adoring husband, Clayton Horton; two sons, Marvin Horton (Victoria) and Ralph Horton (Shenita) of Coffeeville, MS; one daughter, Melissa Lacey (Mark) of Madison, Alabama; two brothers, Artis Steen (Teenie) of Coffeeville, MS, Elvis Steen (Debbie) of Bruce, MS; four sisters, Ida Lankford (Carlton) of Hernando, MS, Hazel Rounds (Walter) of Coffeeville, MS, Annie Covington (Leo) of Oxford, MS, and Linda Cal Wilkes (Ed) of Oakland, MS; and a special brother-in-law, Purdell Bailey (Mabeline) of Coffeeville, MS. She also leaves the fondest of memories to her 18 grandchildren and 9 great-grandchildren.

Ethel was loved in life and is loved in memory by all who knew her.

She was laid to rest on Saturday, February 21, 2026, at United M.B. Church cemetery in Coffeeville, MS.

Library News

By Patty Bailey

Oakland Friends Meet Feb. 25

Oakland Friends of the Library will meet Wednesday, Feb. 25, at 1:30 PM. Due to the ice storm, the Friends Jan. meeting was cancelled. All members are invited as well as anyone interested in joining Friends and supporting the library.

Coffeeville Friends Meet Feb. 26

Friends of Coffeeville Public Library will meet Thursday, Feb. 26, at 11:30 for a potluck lunch and meeting. All members are urged to attend, and new members are welcome. Friends will be making plans for 2026. If you appreciate Coffeeville Public Library, consider joining Friends to support the library. Bring a dish to share and become a member of Friends Thursday, Feb. 26.

Friends LAST CHANCE Book Sale Ends Feb. 26

Coffeeville Friends of the Library is holding a big Book Sale at Coffeeville Public Library which ends Thursday, Feb. 26. Hundreds of discarded library books in great condition are for sale by cash donation to Friends of the Library. We have extended the sale until Feb. 26. After that, the books will be donated. If you love good books and great bargains, shop with us at 14432 Main Street, Coffeeville.

Happy Birthday, Dr. Seuss March 5 at Coffeeville

Celebrate Dr. Seuss' birthday with us at Coffeeville Public Library on Thursday, March 6, at 4:30 PM. We will have a Read-A-Thon with guest readers and birthday cake!

Winter Reading Challenge Ends Feb. 27

Yalobusha County Public Library System sponsored a Winter Reading Challenge until Feb. 27 which was

open to all ages. The grand prize at both libraries is a \$50 gift card provided by Friends of the Library. Other prizes will be awarded to runners up. Winners will be drawn on Monday, March 2. Check out and read at least 6 library books by Feb. 27 to be entered in the prize drawing. Participants must be registered library users with a valid library card, no unpaid fines, and no unreturned materials. All Winter Reading Challenge participants who qualify will be entered in a drawing for great prizes to be awarded in both libraries.

March into Spring

New March calendars of library events and programs will be ready by Monday, March 2. We will also have new Spring Grab & Go bags ready by next week. Please join us at Coffeeville or Oakland Public Library for spring activities and programs.

Spring Break @ Your Library

We invite children and families to visit Coffeeville or Oakland Public Library during Spring Break March 9-13. There will be tons of new books, drop-in activities, board games, puzzles, and STEM activities ready to enjoy.

Children's Books from Pilcrow Foundation Grant

Coffeeville Public Library recently received a shipment of over 100 new books for children and youth from the Pilcrow Foundation! The library was awarded a Pilcrow Grant a few months ago. Friends of the Coffeeville Library provided the \$400 grant match, and the Pilcrow Foundation supplied \$800. With these funds and some other donations, the library received over 100 brand new books which will be on our shelves soon.

Living Well

In Yalobusha County By Pamela Redwine
MSU-ES Extension County Coordinator - Yalobusha County

Extension Programs this week:

February 25- Healthy You Exercise class will meet at 9 a.m. at the Extension office. Wear cool, comfortable clothes, supportive shoes and bring water to drink.

February 26 – ServSafe Certification Class and Exam. Class begins at 7:30 a.m. Exam begins at 4 p.m.

February 27 - Healthy You Exercise class will meet at 9 a.m. at the Extension office. Wear cool, comfortable clothes, supportive shoes and bring water to drink.

March 9 – Servsafe Online Exam only – two spots available 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Contact the Extension office for more information.

March 26 – March FCS After 5 – Spring Canvas Painting Workshop- Thursday, March 26th. The cost is \$40. A meal will be served at 5:30 p.m. and Painting will begin at 6 p.m. Class will be led by Mindy and Annisa from Coddwomple Designs. Designs and a link to register can be found at: https://reg.extension.msstate.edu/reg/event_page.aspx?ek=0081-0004-927d48d164784098a1b1b1676bbe861d or fill out a registration form and send to the Yalobusha county Extension office.

Community Yard Sale – sponsored by Yalobusha County 4-H

We had originally planned to have our 4-H sponsored Community Yard Sale on Saturday, March 7th. However, we are not sure that the arena will be available at that time, because it is still being utilized for ice storm emergency management and distribution. We have **rescheduled the yard sale for Saturday, March 21, 2026 from 7 a.m. until noon.** We apologize for the inconvenience of the date change, but it truly could not be helped. Here are some details to help you plan and we hope you will participate – either by having a booth, donating items to the 4-H booth or shopping the day of the sale.

Dining with Diabetes Series will be offered in April on Wednesday, April 8, 15, 22 and 29th. The program is designed for people with diabetes and their caregivers. The series includes diabetes education, cooking demonstrations, and tasting healthy foods. After each lesson participants will take home recipes and knowledge about how to manage

diabetes in their daily lives. The program is free and open to the public thanks to our sponsors Mt. Moriah Baptist Association and Mississippi State University Extension. The class will be taught by Pamela Redwine, FHW agent Yalobusha County and Ontennia Boleclear, FHW agent Grenada County. The class will be held at the Extension office, located inside the Multi-Purpose Building in Coffeeville. The class is free, but space is limited. Please register online at: https://reg.extension.msstate.edu/reg/event_page.aspx?ek=0081-0004-927d48d164784098a1b1b1676bbe861d or fill out a registration form and send to the Yalobusha county Extension office.

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Attention Yard Sale Sellers: Yard booth space is available to rent. A 12x12 booth space is available for \$25.00. The deadline to pay and reserve your booth is Friday, March 13th. The space will be located inside the Yalobusha County Multi-

Purpose Building on a packed arena (dirt) floor. No tables or chairs will be provided. You must bring your own. No electrical outlets are available. Concession stand sponsored by Yalobusha County 4-H will be available (no other food items can be sold without permission from Yalobusha county 4-H). Last year we had a great turnout of about 24 different sellers and lots of shoppers from all over the state. Set up will be allowed on Friday, March 20th from 9 a.m. until 7 p.m. (will be able to drive up to space to drop off items). Saturday no vehicles will be allowed in the arena until the end of the sale.

Yard Sale Donations: The Yalobusha County 4-H will be accepting donated items to sell at their yard sale table. Donations will be accepted Thursday, March 12th – Tuesday, March 17th at the Yalobusha County Multi-Purpose Building (weekdays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.). Sorry, but we cannot accept clothing items. All proceeds will go to the Yalobusha County General 4-H fund to sponsor 4-H activities in Yalobusha county. Yalobusha county 4-H reserves the right to dispose of leftover items.

Yard Sale Shoppers: Mark your calendars and make plans to attend the Community wide yard sale sponsored by the Yalobusha county 4-H on Saturday, March 21st. Doors will open at 7 a.m. Last year we had 24 vendors with lots of great treasures and deals. Plan on grabbing breakfast at the 4-H Concession stand. There will be sausage and biscuits, donuts, coffee, juice and more.

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ethnicity, sex, pregnancy, religion, national origin, disability, age, sexual orientation, genetic information, status as a U.S. veteran, or any other status to the extent protected by applicable law. Questions about equal opportunity programs or compliance should be directed to the Office of Civil Rights Compliance, 231 Famous Maroon Band Street, P.O. 6044, Mississippi State, MS 39762

Storing Fresh Herbs

Fresh herbs add wonderful flavor, color, and a bright finishing touch to meals — but they can wilt quickly if not stored properly. With a few simple tips, you can keep herbs fresh longer and reduce food waste.

Store herbs in water:

Trim the stems and place herbs upright in a glass or jar with a water, just like fresh flowers. Loosely cover the tops with a plastic bag and store in the refrigerator. This method can keep many herbs fresh for a week or longer.

Plant them when possible:

Fresh herb plants are often priced similarly to bunches of herbs at the store. If you have space, plant them in a garden or pot right away. With proper care, you'll enjoy fresh herbs for weeks — or even months — making them a great value.

Freeze for later use:

If herbs start to wilt, don't throw them away. Blend them with a small amount of olive or vegetable oil to create a smooth paste. Spread the mixture thin on parchment paper or spoon into ice cube trays and freeze. Once frozen, break into portions and **(cont'd on page 18)**