

# Looking Back

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

## 90 YEARS AGO April 10, 1936

In the tornado that struck a few miles east of Coffeeville Sunday night one family was completely wiped out, that of Renfro Murphree. The family consisted of the husband, Renfro Murphree, his wife, Frances Harrison Murphree, and baby, James Murphree and a visiting relative, Miss Mary Bell Williams. It was indeed a harrowing sight that met the eyes of these who visited the scene.

Tornado hits Tupelo, 200 killed, many injured, thousands left homeless.

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Johnston are in an Oxford Hospital suffering from wounds and bruises received at Tupelo Sunday night.

Trenton, N.H. — “This man is dead.” with those words, spoken by a physician in the crowded prison death house at 8:45 Friday night, was told the end of New Jersey’s case against the Lindberg baby killer — the end of Bruno Richard Hauptman.

Fred Rounsaville died this week after an accident which occurred at Mr. George Schmitz’ blacksmith shop earlier in the week.

## 85 YEARS AGO April 11, 1941

The largest crowd attending a service here in a long time gathered at the Presbyterian Church Tuesday afternoon for the funeral of R. C. Pittman, who died last Friday of a heart attack.

The Coffeeville High School will close the session of 1940-41 next Friday evening. Members of the senior class are Jennie Lou Chapman, Annie Ruth Mayo, Martha Elizabeth McCormack, Dorothy Maxine Colston, A. V. Hall, Mary D. Armstrong, Geneva Hunter, Lawson Harbour, Reba Harmon, Richard Pittman, Fred Hodges, W. C. Taylor, Margaret Denley, Otis Pate, Kathryn Jones, Hilda Schmitz, George Edward Denley, G. W. Johnson, Durwood Wilbourn, Clara Faye Johnson, Ruth Chapman and Robert Weaver.

## 80 YEARS AGO April 12, 1946

A cablegram from Prof. George Denley, with the Army of Occupation in Japan, reveals the good news he will sail shortly for home on an emergency furlough to see his son, George Timothy Denley (Tim) born in Paducah, Ky., March 31.

The Coffeeville High School is closing the 45-46 year next week. Thelma Ray Snell is the Valedictorian of the graduating class. Martha Ann Fancher is Salutatorian.

## 65 YEARS AGO March 30, 1961

Mrs. W. Y. Parker, Misses Martha Gray,

Judy Chapman, Sue Richards, Fredda Tindall, Emma Ruth Dawkins and Bonnie Chandler attended the Sub-Regional F.H.A. meeting in Calhoun City Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. Allen Pittman and Mrs. Ida Mathis attended a band concert at the Grenada School Friday night. Their niece, Nancy Chamberlain, and nephew, Danny Pittman, played in the band.

Mrs. V. M. Bell and four high school piano players who participated in the District II Piano Festival at the University of Mississippi last Saturday brought top honors to the school and community.

## 60 YEARS AGO March 31, 1966

The cast of characters for the Senior Play,, “Pick-A-Dilly”, to be staged Friday night, April 1, are Jerry Adams, Virginia Arrington, Samy McCracken, Greg McCormack, Mike Jones, Sue Shaw, Mike Thornton, Glenda Summers, Terry Jones, Carol Sexton, Carolyn Sue Gray, Patsy McNulty, June Turner, Steve Brower, Julia Shaw and Peggy Tribble.

Donnie Adams, Woody Jones, Sam Pace, Joy Arrington, Virginia Arrington and Sandra Hammack represented Coffeeville at NWJC last Saturday where they brought honor to themselves and their school when they participated in the District Piano Festival. All are taught by Mrs. V. M. Bell.

## 55 YEARS AGO April 1, 1971

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Simpson of Grenada are proudly announcing the arrival of a daughter born Saturday, March 13, at Grenada county Hospital. She has been named Kimberly Jane Simpson.

Barbara Brandon, Karen Rotenberry, Robin Rotenberry, Rodney Gray, Albert Tolbert and David Briscoe receive trophies for awards in basketball at the Athletic Banquet Friday night. Tommy Hill, Ricky Koonce, Fred Spearman and Billy Bell received awards in football.

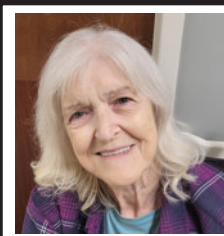
From Coffee Time: Our sincere congratulations to Mike Jones, the new banker at the Coffeeville Office, Bank of Water Valley. Mike replaced Harry Neal who went to Wionona.

## 40 YEARS AGO April 3, 1986

After 33 years with the U. S. Postal service at the Coffeeville Post Office, J. L. (Brother) Snell, Jr., retired as of March 28.

Dr. Buford C. Sellers, Sr., is being honored by his church, Sunday, April 6, for his 20 years of dedicated service.

From Coffee Time: Welcome home Joel



# Coffee Time

By Sarah H. Williams

Another classmate of ours passed away Friday night March 13. He was Ronnie Williams. We started to school together in 1948. Our teacher was Mrs. Eloise Wolfe. Ronnie was my partner in the first grade in the Tom Thumb Wedding. He would always say I was Most Handsome and he was Most Beautiful. I think he had it backward. Another play we were in when we were in third grade was “The Mistress Mary Mary How Does Your Garden Grow”. I did not get to attend the funeral, but I wanted to, but it was too cold.

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HAPPY SPRING AND HAPPY BIRTHDAY to my mother Flora Hickey on March 20, in heaven.

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Thanks to all the CNA’s at TGH Extended Care Facility where I am. They are all so patient with me.

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Sylvia came to see me Monday and Tuesday and brought me a happy. It was a bag to put my cosmetics in, and some cosmetics in it which I enjoy so much.

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Congratulations to the Calhoun City Wildcats for winning the state championship in bays 1A basketball recently.Coach Coffey led them to the win.

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Activity coordinators here were busy Thursday afternoon giving out popcorn and soft drinks to the residents while we were enjoying music in the gazabo.

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I was pleased Thursday morning when Courtney, Anthony and 3-month-old Milo came for a visit. Milo was so good and went to sleep. Come back soon preacher Myers and family.

## Life in the Spirit Church, Inc. (C.O.G.I.C.)

8282 Macon Road, Cordova TN 38018

Sunday School 10 AM Worship 11:30 AM

Pastor Wayne E. Tinnon and Lady Karen L. Tinnon

Pastor Tinnon invites those from Yalobusha County and the surrounding area who live in the greater Memphis area to celebrate Resurrection Sunday with LITS Church on Easter Sunday, April 5, 2026.

and Kathryn McCaa who moved back to their home here last week. They have retired from a good many years of teaching in Mobile, Alabama.

Jeremy Johnson, Patrick House and Roderick Smith, received first, second and third places respectively, in a Forestry Poster Contest held at Oakland School recently.



# Library News

By Patty Bailey

## Libraries Closed April 3

System libraries will be closed Friday, April 3, for Good Friday.

## Medicare & Bingo at Oakland April 8

Join us for a short presentation by Brandi Lacy, Community Outreach Specialist with Senior Medicare Patrol, followed by BINGO with prizes at Oakland Public Library on Wednesday, April 8, at 1:30 PM. This program is free and to the public.

Ms. Lacy’s program is intended to educate and empower beneficiaries, caregivers, and their families to prevent, detect, and report Medicare fraud, abuse, and errors. Seniors are invited to attend her presentation which will be followed by Bingo with prizes.

## Medicare & Bingo at Coffeeville April 10

Brandi Lacy, Community Outreach Specialist with Senior Medicare Patrol, will be at Coffeeville Public Library on Friday, April 10, at 10:00 AM to give a short presentation on Medicare fraud, abuse, and errors. After her short program, there will be Bingo with prizes. This program is free and open to the public.

## Homeschool Hangout April 16

Coffeeville Public Library hosts Homeschool Hangout every third Thursday at 4:30 for homeschool families to enjoy unstructured library time. All homeschoolers are invited to attend.

## Coffeeville Honorary Donations

Coffeeville Public Library recently received donations given in honor of Terry Denley Page and Tim Denley in celebration of their birthdays. These gifts were given by Adria Zuccarro in honor of her mother Terry and Uncle Tim, who grew up in Coffeeville and are lifelong learners and library

lovers. What a wonderful way to honor their birthdays! The library system board and staff appreciate this generous donation which will be used for children’s programming.

## National Library Week April 19 – 25

April 19-25 is National Library Week, an annual celebration highlighting the valuable role libraries and library professionals play in transforming lives and strengthening our communities. This year’s theme is “Find Your Joy,” and we are planning joyful library activities to celebrate.

## Coffeeville Seed & Plant Swap April 30

Coffeeville Public Library and Friends of the Library will host our fourth annual Seed & Plant Swap on Thursday, April 30, from 4:00 – 6:00 PM. This free event is open to the public. Area gardeners and plant lovers are encouraged to put this date on your calendar and start gathering seeds and dividing plants.

There will be door prizes, crafts for kids, and Master Gardeners on site. Pamela Redwine with Yalobusha County Extension will present a workshop. The Friends will also be selling raffle tickets for a patriotic picnic table for America’s 250th birthday.

## Children’s Books from Pilcrow Foundation Grant

Coffeeville Public Library was awarded a Pilcrow Grant and recently received a shipment of over 100 new books for children and youth from the Pilcrow Foundation, and these books are now on our shelves for children and teens to check out. Thanks to Friends of the Coffeeville Library which provided the \$400 grant and Uncle Tim, who grew up in Coffeeville and are lifelong learners and library

# Living Well

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



*COOKING MATTERS PROGRAM: On Wednesday, March 18th we completed the 6 week Cooking Matters series. Sixteen participants started the program and ten participants completed and graduated from the program. Those shown are: Ruthell Jones, Linda Tolbert, John David Morgan, Pamela Redwine, MSU Extension agent, Betty Rucker, Zita Samuels, and Valessa Harden. Not shown are Jerry Cody, Sharon White, Ora Polk and Delice Reese.*

Last week was another great week for Extension. On Monday, our Sewing for Service ladies were back working on fleece blankets for Blair Batson Children’s Hospital and that afternoon Senior 4-Her, Emaline Swindoll, led the 4-H Home School Club in a fun and delicious Cake decorating lesson. On Tuesday our MHV members enjoyed Bingo and Potluck as well as fellowship. Then Wednesday, our Healthy You Exercise class worked up a sweat and our Cooking Matters Class (which met at the Water Valley Housing Authority) completed their sixth and final lesson, cooked up two delicious recipes, Spaghetti with meat sauce and whole grain spaghetti and pineapple carrot muffins. They also enjoyed tasting flavored water (water with various fruits, cucumber and fresh herbs),

as well as Fruit juice soda (where we mixed 100% fruit juice with seltzer water). And finally ended the series with a competitive game of cooking matters Jeopardy and a graduation ceremony for each participant who attended at least 4 or the 6 sessions. Thursday, our crochet MHV Club, Looped with Love, met and worked on their projects, and several of our MHV members and I attended the North Central Area meeting in Carrollton and finally Friday brought another excellent workout for the Healthy You Exercise class and Friday afternoon, I had the honor of presenting a Canning workshop at the Women In Agriculture Conference which was held in Cleveland at Delta State University. We had a fun group and we made strawberry Jam using, a fun new piece of equipment I got

here at the Extension office last year, an electric boiling water bath canner!

**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. You will want to plan to attend each of the sessions as there will be different information presented at each session. 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

Ontencia Boclear, 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](https://reg.extension.msstate.edu/reg/event_page.aspx?ek=0081-0004-927d48d164784098a1b1b1676bbe861d) or contact the extension office at 662.675.2730 or [p.redwine@msstate.edu](mailto:p.redwine@msstate.edu) to have a registration form sent to you. **The Deadline for Dining with Diabetes is quickly approaching – it’s this Friday, March 27th, There is still plenty of space so go ahead and register soon!**

**Extension Programs this week:**

**Wednesday, March 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.  
**Thursday, March 26** – 4-H Cooking Kits are ready to be picked up. FCS After 5- Spring Painting workshop will meet at 5:30 p.m. (must be registered in advance for both of these activities).

**Friday, March 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.

**Wednesday, April 1 – 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.

**Thursday, April 2 – Looped with Love Crochet MHV** – will meet at (cont’d on page 14)