

Oakland News

By Linda Ross Aldy

Frustrations continue to mount over Cossar State Park's ongoing closure. There are numerous reports of campers coming in and having to turn around, stopping in the driveways and yards of nearby residents trying to find out what is going on. A brief update from a Cossar Friends member reports that there is a new Park Manager named. I will try to touch base with him this week and share more information. There are also reports that much work is going on at the Park. The office is being redone as well as two cabins. I'm not sure if this is due to damage during the ice storm or not. I'm also told that officials are waiting to see what FEMA is going to reimburse before finishing up on tree and limb removal.

The Oakland Pickleball Court has had a refresh with a textured court surface now giving our players a little more traction. Players are already taking advantage of the warmer weather to play. For those who want to learn to play or just to understand the game, we have FREE lessons on Sunday afternoon, April 12. Coaches

Carol Ross and Gail Goestenkors will be offering lessons beginning at 3 p.m. Both are former college and WBNA coaches and know how to coach. Gail is in the National Hall of Fame. You don't want to miss this amazing opportunity. Bring a chair. We have some basic equipment, but if you have your own, please bring it.

Candy Hony and Marshaella Williams of Greenwood stopped by last Sunday afternoon to visit with Margaret Ross. Candy is Mother's niece and always has interesting information to share!

I just returned from the Chicago area visiting my 8-month-old granddaughter and her parents (son Josh and daughter-in-law Rosy). We had one day of beautiful weather and visited the Chicago Botanic Garden, one of my favorite places. Of course, the baby had a slight cold and I brought it back in full force. One of my friends said these grandbabies are petri dishes and I totally agree, but it was worth it. The babies change so much each month at this stage and I was needing to get my hands on that baby girl!

If all goes well, the 2026 Legislative Session will draw to a close this week. They are ready to go home and we are ready for them to go home! I am still waiting to see the final appropriations bill on whether or not Oakland was awarded funding for the firetruck we must have. Oakland's 2% tax on prepared foods was extended. All income from those taxes must be spent on tourism and parks and recreation. The law must be extended every four years.

As I write, more than 4,000 acres of Carroll County are burning. Burn bans are serious. Burn bans are restrictions on outdoor burning during drought or wildfire conditions. Dozens of homes have been evacuated. The County Board of Supervisors normally requests burn bans, and the Mississippi Forestry Commission approves the requests. All burn bans expire at midnight on the stated date of expiration.

A burn ban means no outdoor burning of ANY KIND.

The local sheriff's department enforces burn bans. To check the status of burn bans in your county or nearby counties, go to <https://www.mfc.ms.gov/burning-info/burn-bans/> or call the Mississippi Forestry Commission or your elected officials or fire departments.

On Memorial Day, Monday, May 25 from noon until 2 p.m., the Oakland Lions Club is spearheading a Memorial Day Tribute Walk. If you have a loved one who died serving our country, please get in touch with Cassandra Pipkin by texting 662-360-5689 or emailing LaTonya Sayles at Oaklandarealionsclub@gmail.com before May 9 to have your loved one included in the tribute.

Let me know if you have news to include. Contact me via email at oaklandarea-chamber@gmail.com or text or leave a message at 601-853-3942.



Philadelphia M.B. Church County Road 211 Oakland, Ms

We, the Philadelphia Missionary Baptist Church Women's Ministry, cordially invite you to our annual Women's Fellowship Conference (young ladies 18 and up) on April 18, 2026 from 10:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M.

Our theme for this year is: Mental Health and Self Care. Registration fee is \$10.00 each. You may pay at the door or mail to Sis Rosie Jenkins at P. O. Box 128, Oakland, Ms 38948. **This year we are doing a parade of shoes and hats.** We are looking forward to seeing you and your shoes and hats on April 18, 2026.

Sincerely yours,
Philadelphia M.B. Church Women's Ministry
Sis. Cassandra Parker, Coordinator
Rev. Columbus Bell, Pastor

Obituary

Jo Ann Denley

We regret to share news of the death of Jo Ann Denley, a longtime managing editor of *The Calhoun County Journal* and the widow of its longtime editor and publisher, S. Gale Denley. Mrs. Denley died Sunday, March 29, following an extended illness.

Visitation will be at 1 p.m. Wednesday at Parker Memorial Funeral Home in Bruce, with services to follow at 3 p.m. We will share a complete obituary when it is received.

We extend our deepest condolences to Mrs. Denley's family and friends.

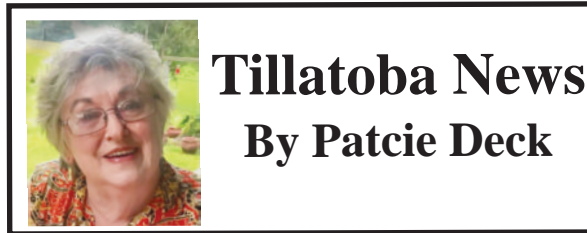


Good Friday Celebration In Oakland

There will be a Good Friday Celebration at Davis Chapel Masonic Lodge at 12 noon.

All churches and pastors are invited.

Sponsored by
Lizzy B. Earl



Tillatoba News By Patcie Deck

My sweet granddaughter came to visit me Sunday to check on me after my fall in Belk's foyer last Wednesday. I ended up in the ER for x-rays and a CAT scan. I heard later talk about a light earthquake in Oxford around Belk! Frankie made me some homemade ice packs and did a few chores so I wouldn't have to! Thank you so much, Frankie!

Congratulations to Madeline Holliday for being inducted into the Grenada High School National Honor Society! What a great accomplishment! We are proud of you, Madeline!

JR Dukes has really been catching some big fish lately fishing at Ferguson Lake. He is really good when it comes to catching fish!

Celebrating birthday's this week are Dana Jackson on the 2nd, Jimmy Rowland on the 3rd, Brent McMillian and Breanna Nobles on the 4th, Bubba Williams and Jake Harrison on the 5th, Lil John Dukes on the 6th and Olivia Jenkins and Rachel Langham on the 7th. I hope you all have a wonderful birthday!

Conner Dukes had a birthday, celebrating the big 7! He had a great birthday party at the lake on Sunday. Frankie Holliday also celebrated her 36th birthday on March 27! They had a big shin dig crawfish boil for her with all the fixin's! The food was so delicious and hot! So many people came to celebrate. David and I had to miss this one. She sure is one loved lady!

Your writer's great granddaughter, Haven Rose Dukes, placed 2nd in the kindergarten division Art Contest for the Charleston Arts and Revitalization Effort (CARE).

We are so proud of our sweet girl! Debbie and Tommy McCool had a weekend free from traveling and stayed home to relax.

Freda Weir tells me that they have nothing going on except doctor appointments and physical therapy on her shoulder. I hope you feel better soon, Freda.

Martha Box says, my my what a wonderful day! Beautiful cruise over to Pine Grove Baptist Church. Heart touching music per Josh and Jake Harrison with a few other men friends, really balanced the choir just right. Really brought the Spirit in the house. Josh and his guitar really lifted us up!

When Bro. Scarborough brought the message of Our KING, it certainly lifted me



even higher! Wish my whole world had experienced it with me. Said Martha. Beautiful Day, Beautiful Blessing followed by a food gathering prepared by some mighty fine southern cooks. All went in moaning hungry, we came out saying oh my goodness, what a meal following such a great Worship!

Sheryn Goode's daughter Dana and family and daughter, Linda, Shelton and husband, David came. They carried flowers to the cemetery. It was so good to see the grandsons Devon and Fischer. You know when they get grown they have other things to do instead of visiting an old woman, Sheryn said.

Recipe of the week: Rice Krispie Cheese Straws

Ingredients:
1 cup butter
1 cup sharp Cheddar Cheese, shredded
1 cup Rice Krispies
1 cup all purpose flour
Cayenne pepper, salt and onion powder to taste.

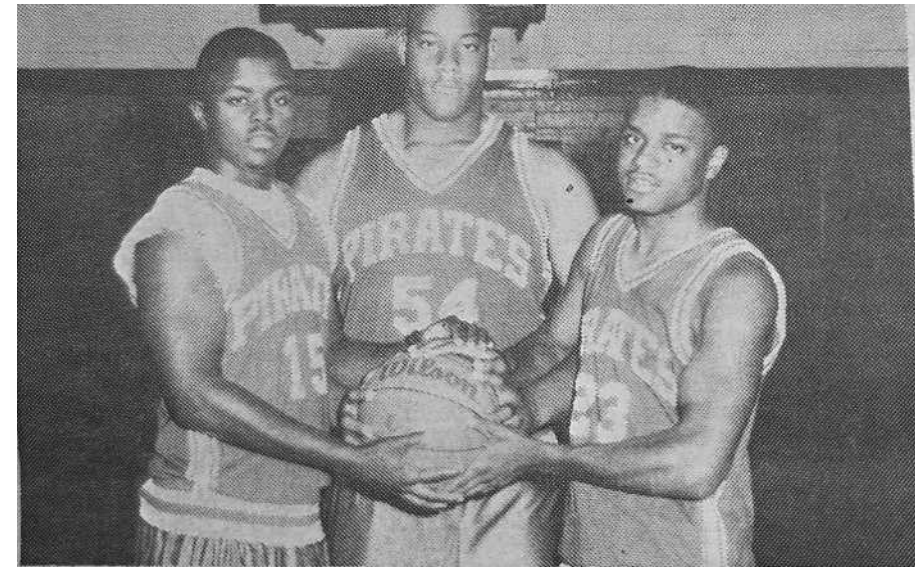
Add the butter, shredded cheddar cheese, rice krispies and all purpose flour, cayenne pepper, onion powder, and salt.

Mix all ingredients in a bowl. Roll mixture into small balls and put on parchment paper. Flatten and shape balls because they won't spread. Cook at 325 for 10 to 12 minutes.

Thought for the day: Sometimes I have to tell myself...It's just not worth the jail time.



Who Is It?



Last week's "Who Is It?" was Autumn Brown and Lindsey Brown. No one correctly identified them. Jimmy Norwood knew Guy Dale Shaw from two weeks ago. Please call the Courier at 662-675-2446 before noon on Monday or call and leave a message or text 662-458-8939.

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish, but have eternal life."

John 3:16

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