

Oakland News

By Linda Ross Aldy



Beckham Smith, 6-years-old, was visiting his great-grandmother Margaret Ross recently and stopped to meet Scissors, a famous award-winning pig who had his own house in the early 1900's near Charleston.

Our 5th Yalo-Ribbon Festival was just wonderful. The weather, the sounds of kids having fun, and the voices of singers, and the pleasant hum of community members and visitors greeting one another made it such a special day. It reminded me of my favorite song, "It's a Wonderful World" and particularly the verse that includes "I see friends shaking hands, saying 'How do you do?'" They're really saying I love you." The people of Oakland really do love each other and we are blessed by that.

There are so many people to thank when an entire community works to pull together something like our Festival. There are out-front people and behind-the-scenes people. There are workers and there are sponsors and volunteers and vendors. We are grateful to all who helped and all who attended.

We are very proud that we were able to bring in a big voice like Danica Hart and we hope you enjoyed her! We love that we had an over-60 singing group to prove that age is just a number and you can keep on having fun

and sharing your love of music no matter your age! We hope the Stayin Alive Singers inspired and entertained!

I had a lot of fun with my 6-year-old great-nephew Beckham Smith on Friday as he and I ran some errands getting ready for Festival. Beckham was here visiting from DeFuniak Springs, Florida. He did some reading at the Oakland Public Library, some math when he helped me get all the numbers ready for the traditional cake walk, and some life-skill lessons when he helped me mail some letters and then went to the Bank to get some petty cash for the Cake Walk Ticket sales. That amazing young man dashed around to my driver's side door each time to open the door for me! I made sure to tell everyone in his family about it because that seems to be pretty rare these days.

After making sure we had everything ready for the Festival, Beckham and his grandmother (my sister Martha) and I went over to see my Mom, Margaret Ross, at Tallahatchie General. She continues to do amazingly well at her physical therapy



Danica Hart entertained and inspired at the 2026 Yalo-Ribbon Festival in Oakland last weekend to an appreciative audience. One attendee remarked on Danica's warm embrace of Oakland by saying, "It's like she grew up here!"

work. She has enjoyed getting reconnected to many people she has known over the years who are also there right now. She is looking forward to getting released in the next little bit, but she may miss those good cooks there and being served her meals and all the socializing and activities. It seems they really know how to hire for attitude and caring and skills there. They should be winning awards if they are not!

On our way back to Oakland, we had to make a stop for Beckham to meet Scissors, the award-winning pig and pose for a picture.

Speaking of awards, I mentioned last week that the Enid Depot was named as Mississippi's Most Iconic Restaurant in April by Business Insider. Sisters Janet, Martha, and I along with Beckham decided we had better go up there and check it out again! Plus, the bridge is now open, so it's easier than ever. We had some mighty good food and plenty of it. We all had go boxes

and enjoyed our food the next day as well!

I am really excited to be headed to Michigan with one of my college friends to visit the famous Tulip Festival in Holland, MI. Sister Carol will be entertaining us and my son Josh and wife Rosy and baby Huckleberry, along with my two granddogs, are coming up from Chicago. It is even colder there than it has been here during this cold snap. I've packed a puff jacket and a good scarf and hope it will be enough!

One of our projects for our America250 Mississippi grant is to do a memory walk in honor of those who died during military service. If you have any friends or relatives and would like for them to be remembered, please send us their name and branch of service. Contact LaTonya Sayles or Cassandra Pipkin with the Oakland Area Lions Club for more information or to share the name of the person you would like remembered.

Recognition for the longest serving pastor of The Church of God in Christ in District #8, Elder L. D. O'Bryant Jr.

The Congregation of Pilgrim Rest Church of God in Christ and District #8, Northern Mississippi Jurisdiction, are rightfully elated to celebrate such a monumental achievement.

Recognizing a leader for being the longest serving pastor in District #8 of The Church of God in Christ for 62 years highlights a lifetime of dedication, spiritual guidance, and faithfulness to God's

people. Such longevity in leadership demonstrates unwavering commitment to the doctrinal principles of The Church of God in Christ and a profound servant's heart.

This milestone is a testament to the enduring impact of a shepherd who has undoubtedly nurtured, loved, and guided countless lives within the district.

Congratulations on this exceptional legacy of service!

Look for other church news on page 15.



Mother's Day Program



Jeanette Walker-Moore

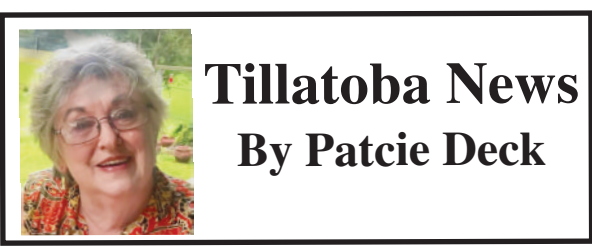
You are invited to our Mother's Day program. Retreat a Mother. Come out and have a great time.

Date 5/10/26 Time 2:00 P.M. Place: Bruce Forestry Museum. Guest Speaker Overseers Jeanette Walker-Moore. Lunch served from 12:30 to 1:45pm.

Thanks Calhoun/Yalobusha Outreach.

Text Cassandra at 662-360-5689 or email LaTonya at Oaklandarealionsclub@gmail.com. Let me know if you have

news to include. Contact me via email at oaklandareachamber@gmail.com or text or leave a message at 601-853-3942.



Tillatoba News By Patcie Deck

Happy Mothers' Day to all of you precious mothers. My prayer is that God will bless each and every one of you mothers and that you can be with your family on this special day. Wear that red Rose or white Rose proudly!

Freda Weir had a great time recently dining with her "Circle of Friends" in Grenada.

Last week, JG Henderson traveled to Montego Bay, Jamaica, for a little work and a lot of fun. JG celebrated his birthday just before he left going on his trip. That's a lot of excitement for one lucky young man.

Terri Pullen and Diane Dukes went to Greenville Saturday morning and visited Diane's sister, Barbara Parker and her two daughters. Barbara and grandkids all enjoyed the visit. Diane is still waiting on her great granddaughter, Lilly Rose, then she will have five Roses. Diane said friends Lauri McCullar and Melissa Morris went on vacation to Washington, DC and are hoping to see President Trump.

Bubba Dukes took his two grand nephews. John Luke and Logan Rose fishing Sunday afternoon and they caught two fish. They really enjoyed fishing and visiting with uncle Bubba

Martha Box said. "Is it me or this universe that needs to slow down?" I tell you it was Sunday just the other day!

No real exciting news, but I am still working on it. Not a lot accomplished, but Hey, I am the Boss!!!

Had a wonderful Fish dinner at The Corner Store Friday. And that potato salad was exceptional! Love how those cooks love to cook. Wonderful gathering at

Pine Grove Church Sunday. So much love among all I noticed. And what a Spirit filled message! Josh's song was so touching. Then the Food! Wow, just try to taste of everyone's cooking! Great company, great food, after a great Follow Jesus message!

Congratulations to Beth Tillman DeLoach, who will be 4th-6th grade English and Resource teacher for this coming school year at Kirk Academy.

Tommy and Deborah McCool along with Tommy's sister, Alice Kellum, drove down to Leland Saturday afternoon. They spent the evening visiting and Sunday, they had a cookout with way too much food. Deborah said they went to the cemetery and put flowers on all of our family graves before we headed home later.

Ginger Harrison said they had a fantastic homecoming celebration at Pine Grove Baptist Sunday. Our son, Josh Harrison sang a special and did a fantastic job. I missed the final count but last I heard was 83 in attendance. "It was a blessed day of worship and fellowship" said Ginger."

Sadie Harper is scheduled to have an ultrasound Tuesday at Stern cardio on her right carotid artery and Milton has an ultrasound Thursday on his liver. Milton fell again on patio Saturday but don't think he broke any bones.

Celebrating birthday's this week is your writer, and on the 8th, Sheila Bailey and Josh Harrison on the 10th, Jane Claire Deck, and Freddy Wayne McClanahan on the 11th, Shannon Dukes on the 12th, and Gale Holliday and Gene "Pudden" Standridge on the 13th. I pray you all have a wonder-

ful time celebrating your special day.

Recipe for the week: Blueberry Salad

Ingredients:
2 (3 oz) pkgs, Raspberry Jello

1 cup boiling water
1 (15 oz) can Blueberries
1 (6 oz) can crushed pineapple, drained
1/2 cup sugar
1 cup sour cream
1 tsp vanilla
1 cup chopped nuts
1 (8 oz) pkg cream cheese

Dissolve gelatin in boiling water. Empty cans of blueberries and drained pineapples into gelatin mixture and pour into a 2 quart casserole dish. Cover and chill until firm. Combine remaining ingredients and spread over the congealed mixture. Enjoy!

Thought for the day: Sometimes I talk to myself and we just laugh and laugh.

Food Safety Certification Class: One Day June 3

ServSafe Food Certification Class will be taught June 3, 2026, beginning at 7:30 a.m. The certification exam will begin around 4:00 p.m. and should be completed by 6 p.m. The class will be held at the Yalobusha County Extension Office in Coffeeville. Cost of the course is \$150. **The deadline to register is May 4, 2026.** Call Pamela Redwine at the Extension Office at 662-675-2730 for additional details and to register. When calling to sign up, please inform the office of any disabilities that might interfere with your opportunity to participate in this program. The MSU Extension provides educational opportunities to the public on an equal opportunity basis and will make every reasonable effort to accommodate individuals with disabilities.

Who Is It?



Last week's "Who Is It?" was Emily Maddison Purdy, Sarah Williams, Caleb Horton, Cantrices Sweargen, Veda Beshears, Nell Norwood and Jean Scobey correctly identified the picture.

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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