

Oakland News

By Linda Ross Aldy



One of the glass installations in a lake in Meijer Gardens is entitled "Blue Reeds" and was created by Dale Chihuly, considered the most sought-after artist in the world working primarily in glass.

I hope that everyone enjoyed Mother's Day by celebrating having a mom, being a mom, loving someone like a mom, or being like a mom to someone. Moms are not always biological. Mom is more. Mom is a loving, caring, supportive relationship and I've known many a woman without biological children who managed to nurture and care for others as well as if not better than some moms with children. Our family is thrilled that our Mom (Margaret Ross) was home from a stay in the swing bed to regain her strength after a rogue bile duct threw several of her electrolytes out of sync and caused her to spend a few days in the hospital and undergo a procedure to put a stent in the bile duct before going to TGH. She has nothing but HIGH praise for the

folks at TGH. We celebrated with a desert and coffee Mother's Day afternoon for her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. We decided against a big lunch as she is still regaining her strength. Sister Martha and I were sitting out on the front porch and talking about the things we've learned from Mother. Some things you learn by observing and other things you learn from discussion. My two favorite lessons from Mother are really both from just watching her live her life. The first and most important is how she treats other people. She would give Mother Teresa a run for her money in this category. She truly loves people and has gone to battle for those who have been hurt or abused. The second is one I



Qua Bland, a senior at Coffeeville High School, received the Jeffrey Clay Horton Scholarship from Mr. Marvin Horton at CHS Senior Day. Qua received four scholarships during the event.

have just recently labeled and that is her insatiable curiosity. She wants to know about everything and everybody. She reads everything she can get her hands on—newspapers, magazines, books, trade publications, you name it. She has questions about our work, our projects, planting of crops, coaching changes, road construction, whatever she reads about or sees going on. It is a wonderful lesson to see life-long learning in action. My siblings pointed to compassion, fairness, and humbleness along with looking for the good in everyone, following the Golden Rule, and loving your neighbor as you do yourself. More recently one of my sisters has dealt with a lot of family health issues and she said from Mother are really both from just watching her live her life. The first and most important is how she treats other people. She would give Mother Teresa a run for her money in this category. She truly loves people and has gone to battle for those who have been hurt or abused. The second is one I

balance of life. She has reminded us to not to "get so far ahead" that we won't forget to treasure the time we are in, to count our blessings, and to always be ready for a little adventure, especially if it means a road trip! I took a big road trip last week to see the tulips blooming in Michigan. They were really beautiful. The first stop was to a tulip farm where 15 acres of different varieties of tulips were planted. They were planted so there are continuous blooms for several weeks. There were so many variations of color and shapes. Then we enjoyed Windmill Island where Holland, Michigan had been given permission to relocate an actual windmill from the country of Holland. The Netherlands lost so many windmills during World War II that the Dutch government prohibited the removal of windmills. The last exception was the DeZwaan windmill now located in Holland, Michigan. It was dismantled and shipped to Michigan in 1964. The Dutch settlers



The Float Boat installation by Dale Chihuly features colorful glass spheres in a boat and is inspired by Japanese fishing floats.

who founded Holland, Michigan wanted to have something significant to represent the Dutch culture. The windmill, built in 1761, was dedicated in 1965. It is the only authentic working Dutch windmill in the US and grinds grain into flour. It was impressive! The next day we went into Grand Rapids which has the Meijer Gardens and Sculpture Park which is one of the largest sculpture gardens in the U.S. They were hosting an exhibit of Chihuly glass which is mostly outdoor glass sculpture. Collectors of Chihuly were flocking in to see that exhibit from across the nation. Another claim to fame for this garden is the sculpture of The American Horse, a 24-foot-tall casting by Nina Akam, created in homage to Leonardo da Vinci's original design for a horse. A very happy mom in recent days is Alisia Bland, whose son "Qua", was selected to play in the North Mississippi All-Star Game on May 13. Qua is a senior at Coffeeville High School and also won four scholarships at Senior Night recently. He and I share the same birthday, so I've had special interest in him and he is a respectful, sweet young man who represents Oakland and Coffeeville well. We wish him all the best in the future. If you have seniors graduating, let me know! I'd love to highlight them. All families have funny stories and I recently learned

that my youngest sister Martha had bought some frozen rolls and decided to cook them for Sunday lunch a few years ago. She opened the package, put the round frozen rolls on the cookie sheet and baked them—all without reading instructions. Turns out, the rolls were supposed to left out for about 4 hours to rise before baking. Her three sons had fun with those rolls which had baked hard as rocks by hitting them like baseballs out in the yard! Don't forget, 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. Text Cassandra at 662-360-5689 or email LaTonya at oaklandarealionsclub@gmail.com. Also, our Oakland Lions Club is growing and they are very active throughout the area. If service is your passion, join us by contacting LaTonya or any member of the Oakland Area Lions Club. 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. Kristie put everything to-

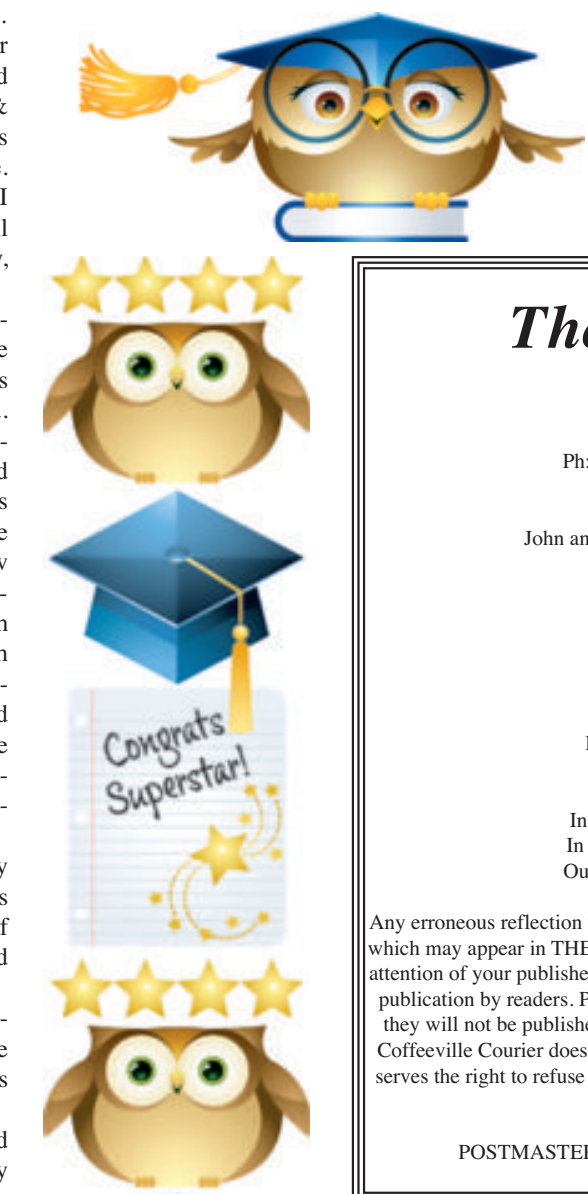
Tillatoba News

By Patcie Deck

I hope all you ladies had a wonderful Mother's Day. The weather was perfect. Your writer and David's visitors during the week and over the weekend were Susan Bell, of Caledonia, AW Taylor and Gale Taylor, Trudy Simmons, Brad, Frankie and Bradley Holliday and Donna Garripoli, Jason Beavers and our grandson, Junior Dukes. Y'all come back now, you hear! Sunday afternoon David and I visited with great grands Haven Rose and Waylon Jr. I took them some of my birthday cake and after we left there, we went across the road and visited with Diane Dukes and daughter Terri Pullen. The 34th Annual Tillatoba Bass Tournament was a great success this year, with more than 150 people in attendance for a day filled with fishing, food, fellowship, and family fun. Fishermen from across the area gathered to compete and continue the tradition that has become a favorite event in the community each year. This year's winners: Bass Winners 1st Place – Brad Boyette 2nd Place – Brandon Harrison 3rd Place – Nathan Moore 4th Place – Scott Moss 5th Place – Corey Anderson Crappie Winners 1st Place – George Kendall Jr. Largest Stringer Winner 1st place - Nathan Moore. We appreciate everyone who came out and helped make the 34th annual tournament another memorable year, and we look forward to seeing everyone again next year! Kristie put everything to-

and daughter Kimberly and husband, Jason Beavers, our granddaughters, Caitlyn and Hannah, and Dallas Boyette came to eat. Our daughter, Angela is in Alabama with Allison, her daughter, who went into labor early Sunday morning. We now have a beautiful great grand daughter, Lily Rose. She weighed 7lbs 7ozs. Little Lilly Rose was born Sunday afternoon, May 10, 2026. What a wonderful Mother's Day gift to Angela. Our friend Susan Bell came Thursday night to celebrate my 85th birthday on Friday. We attended the funeral of Keith Beardain (your writer's nephew) on Saturday before she returned to Caledonia! Happy birthday, to Teresa Jackson and JoJo McClanahan who celebrates the 15th, Daisy Walton, Isabell and

gether this year. She did a great job! Freda Weir said, "Hope your birthday was a great one Auntie Pat!" Nothing going on here but doing therapy on shoulder two days a week. Freda, you will feel like a new woman when they get through with you in therapy. Friday, Sheryn Goode's daughter Sonja Mercer, granddaughter Alli Hamilton & neighbor hood kid, Sean Stevens came. First time I had seen him in twenty-two years. We had a good time talking & remembering things about them good old days with them growing up. Sunday my daughter Dana Huffman, her husband Lee and two sons Devon & Fischer came. The guys went fishing, no luck there. Dana and I just talked and I enjoyed her company. In all I had a good Mother's Day, said Sheryn! Martha Box is still Wondering how we got here again? I think the time is spinning like a whirlwind. No real exciting news . Piddeling is the southern word describing my actions this week . Did have a great time Friday eve at Willow Springs AOG as the Overcomers Chior sang with such spirit. Holy Spirit's touch throughout the service. Saturday as the kids celebrated me, their mother. Great time and great food. Also celebrated Josh's 21st and Ad-dies 15th birthday. Wonderful Mother's Day service at Willow Springs AOG. What a message of Love by Bro. Darby, said Martha. Faye Hartley's two children Nathan and Kristie cooked a delicious Mother's Day lunch for Faye. Deborah McCool cooked at their house Mother's Day



Who Is It?



Last week's "Who Is It?" was Stella Haywood with new granddaughter Shannon Louise. Sarah Williams, Cantatrice Sweargen, Jean Scobey, Carrie Covington and Clayton Horton 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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