

Oakland News

By Linda Ross Aldy

I had a nice, long phone visit this week with James Caruthers. James is younger than I am but his entire family went to Oakland Baptist Church as did we growing up and, of course, Oakland School was also small before we consolidated with Coffeeville, so I knew him in the way that small communities know each other. He lives on the Gulf Coast now and is retired but serves as music director for his church. He also preaches on occasion and hopes to get that chance to come back to Oakland and lead some services. He is working on his Ph.D. which just tickles me that this little boy that I watched growing up is soon going to be Dr. Caruthers!

Current Oakland Baptist Church member Gay Lynn Haynes and our long-time former preacher's daughter Rose Marie Sellers Caulder, who married Millard Caulder of Oakland, were at least two of the people I knew in the America250 Mississippi United in Song choir that performed last weekend in the Mississippi Coliseum in Jackson. It was so impressive. I read somewhere that they had around 500 people in that choir. I also had friends from the W, from Leadership Mississippi, from Chapel of the Cross in Madison, and people I have taught in management classes through the years in that choir. They came from all over the State of Mississippi. It was a celebration of Mississippi's music history and our contribution to the world. They covered gospel, rock, blues, country, Elvis, BB King, Jimmy Buffett, and Tammy Wynette, plus historical presentations representing the first Black pilot in the US military from Hattiesburg

and Choctaw Indian Chief Pushmataha. Steve Azar, who wrote our state song, One Mississippi, sang that song with a choir of Mississippi children. There was a fife and drum opening and closing along with a military salute in song to all the branches of the military. They asked audience members who had family members who served to stand as the appropriate military song played. I stood in memory of my Daddy as the Navy's "Anchors Away" was played. I love the military songs.

Mississippi Public Broadcasting (MPB) filmed the entire thing and it will air on your local station on Aug. 3, I'm told. If that date changes, I will give you an update.

Our Oakland Area will celebrate with an old-fashioned birthday party to celebrate America's 250th birthday. It will be July 3rd at the Swarengen Walking Track and Park from 5:30 to 7 p.m. Bring a chair! We will have music provided by our DJ, watermelon, birthday cupcakes, lemonade, and just visiting with friends and neighbors. We'll also have a small parade around the track. Just a small-town, old-fashioned gathering. Y'all come!

The summertime political season is starting a little earlier this year as the Neshoba County Fair dates were moved from late July to late June this year for the first time in my memory in hopes for a cooler Fair. I will be there on Thursday with a contingency from The W and look forward to the political speeches. The best advice is wear old shoes because there is a high probability that you will either come away with red dust ground into whatever you

wear or red mud that dyes everything, depending on the weather that day!

My 9-year-old granddaughter, Alice, will join me on Friday for Girls Day at the Capitol. Madison County Representative Jill Ford started this event seven years ago. It's fun and educational as the girls get to meet Miss Mississippi and Miss Mississippi Teen plus learn how government works and how to make a difference in your community. I'm excited to share this day with Alice!

Mother (Margaret Ross) has been on multiple adventures recently! I can't begin to keep up with everything she is doing and everyone that is visiting these days, but I know that she spent one day in Greenwood where she visited the rebuilt Turnrow Books and had lunch there with some of the Cook and Dorman family members who live in Greenwood. She made a jaunt to Oxford for an estate sale with sister Martha as her companion. They got wonderfully lost before finding it and explored so many backroads that Mother had never seen. They also did a tour of the Farmstead Florals farm in Oxford which is a commercial flower farm. They were planning a day at the Monastery in Batesville, but I'm not sure if they did that yet or not! They saw the house in Charleston that a friend is moving into and one in Enid that Reid Stanford and his wife are building. Reid's parents were Arnold and Jane Stanford who owned Shop Rite in Oakland. Mother loves, loves patrolling her yard and picking up sticks and then having a little burn and she has done that several times in the last few weeks.

Cossar State Park visitors traffic is picking up as it has just reopened. Brandon Sims, the new manager, seems to be handling things with ease. Some of the Friends of Cossar group have told me the park looks

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great!

Put Tues., July 7, at 6 p.m. on your calendar as we hold a Montessori Pre-School informational meeting the Oakland Chamber Building, 304 Holly Street, Oakland. Leading the discussion will be Brooke Fly Spears, a highly respected Montessori educator and trainer with more than 15 years of classroom experience. We are excited to be getting a new roof on our "future home", so things are moving along. We need people who are interested in becoming teachers as well as those who want to learn more about the Montessori approach. Our first class should open in Fall of 2027 but could be a little earlier if we are ready before that. This will start with 3 and 4-year-olds.

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.



JUNETEENTH IN COFFEEVILLE

POSTPONED

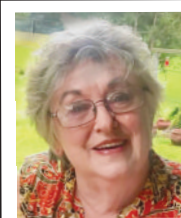
Rescheduled for 6-27-26.
Same time. Same Place.
See you then!

Proud Coordinated Vendors for Coffeeville Juneteenth

LIVE MUSIC • FOOD • GAMES
SPEAKERS • HISTORY
RECOGNITION & MORE
THE JOY OF JUNETEENTH
THE CHALLENGE FOR THE FUTURE

10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Downtown Pavillion

SATURDAY, JUNE 20, 2026



Tillatoba News By Patcie Deck

I hope all of you Father's and Father figures had a wonderful Father's Day.

Freda Weir reports they had a great week of VBS this past week at Friendship. Freda's better half, Frank Weir, has had a lot of doctor visits this past week.

Kyle and Beth Pearson along with their sweet daughters, Trinity and Sarah, visited with us Friday night. They were on their way back home to Franklin, WI. Kyle and his family lived with his grandparents, Iva and Sneed Pearson, who lived next door to us when he was a young boy and he wanted to show his daughters his old stomping grounds.

Jacque Chambers said it's been quite on The Compound. Mawmaw Betty Sue Chambers finished her last radiation treatment Tuesday of last week.

Please keep Dorothy McGarity of Grenada and her family in your prayers. Poor Adam Chambers, my husband, has been fighting with kidney stones. Two trips too the doctor and a Cat scan later to find out he has several in one Kidney and a 5.8mm in one. So we went to Urologist in Oxford Friday and we are set up for surgery Monday the 22nd at 9:30am. We had a Wonderful

Father's Day celebrating with my father-in-law, Gary Chambers. I am a lucky girl to have a great father-in-law. HAPPY FATHER'S DAY.

Tommy and Deborah McCool have had Alice Kellum, Tommy's sister, visiting this weekend with them. Our daughter Kimberly Beavers cooked a big pot roast and all the fixing with it and brought it to the house for Tommy and Jason. We have had a great visit with Alice and enjoyed having her here.

Jake Harrison was home this weekend for Father's Day and we had a great time celebrating Phil. Jake led the music at Pine Grove and sang a special. He did a great job. I'm always glad when I can hear both Jake and Josh singing in church. I'm glad moma was there to hear it. Of course Bro. Scarborough blessed us with a great message. Diane Hill fixed a great Father's Day lunch and aunt Linda Harrison joined us. It was a great weekend for sure.

Sadie Harper said their son, Mit Harper, came down from Southaven Saturday and helped daughter Sheila O'Bryant and son Ed Harper build a lighted walkway with steps from the levee to the pier for part of their Father's Day gift to Milton so he can

use his walker to get to where he can fish. He is a happy man. I know he is, Sadie!

Your writer and David, along with Timothy Sullivan, went to our daughter, Donna's, for a nice Father's Day celebration. Others in attendance were Frankie and Brad Holliday and Bradley. She had grilled hamburgers, potato salad, cowboy baked beans, cake and ice cream. Everyone was full as a tick after that feast.

Martha Box says she is throwing out her running shoes cause this week out ran me! Went by so fast I accomplished nothing.

Got to take grandson, Jake Harrison, out to lunch at Spencer's Saturday. Had the Gigi to Gboy talk as we visited. Saw many sweet friends at Jimmy Jones' Memorial. He left his mark which was so noted by all at the service. Followed that with a great visit with many long missed friends.

Beautiful drive over to Pine Grove Baptist Church with a great morning of singing per chior brought the spirit near. Jake's singing I'll Fly Away lifted us even higher.

The Daddy message given per Bro. Scarborough set the pace for sure. Father God is our first and forever Father!

"Then I came home, napped and dreamed of "My Honey," the Daddy of my babies, said Martha!"

Those who will be celebrating birthdays are Hunter Potts on the 23rd, Sherri

Harris on the 24th, my great niece, Laura Lee Beardain on the 25th, John Adam Robinson and Ashton Langrum on the 26, Tori Bowman and Bubba Dukes on the 27th and Brianna White on the 29th. I pray you all have a blessed day on your special day.

Recipe for the week: Marshall field sandwich...

Layer in order given :
Two or three slices of turkey

Two or three slices of Swiss cheese

Stack large amount of lettuce on top

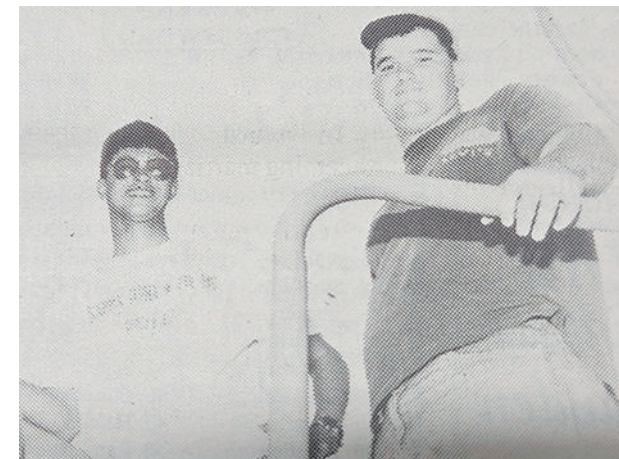
Add at least 1/2 cup or more of Thousand Island dressing on top

On side of plate add Slices of tomato, boiled eggs and bacon.

This is a delicious sandwich. Enjoy.

Thought for the day: Best friends...we're the kind of people who laugh at a joke 3 times; once when it's told, the second, when someone explains it to us and 5 minutes later when we actually get it.

Who Is It?



Last week's "Who Is It?" was Peggy and Charles Bennett. Mary Alice Gray, Avis Jean Dean, and Jean Scobey call and correctly identified them. Also, Wendy Martin Kendall correctly identified Pappy Franklin and Hilliard Griffin (also known as Hildred by Marney and Randye) from several 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.



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