

Starkville DAILY NEWS

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Arts Festival celebrates rain-free day

By ALEX ONKEN
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Come rain or shine, the Cotton District Arts Festival celebrated the day with cloudy skies and a cool breeze passing through the area.

Festival goers from far and wide came with their dogs, children, family and friends to celebrate local artists from both the Golden Triangle and from afar.

"We couldn't be more pleased about the turn out," said Jon Turner, the committee chair person for the Cotton District Arts Festival. "We were a little worried about the weather obviously, but luckily people came out early and are still making it out."

Britton Yerger, a graphic artist based out of Oxford, MS won this year's spirit award. Her works of art consists of photographs taken of landmarks and sorority landmarks with a splash of watercolor droplets creating a colorful twist on Mississippi history.

"It was unreal, I didn't know they give away awards," Yerger said. "It's just the cherry on top for me."

For many vendors this is their first time in Starkville at the Cotton District Arts Festival. For Francis Martin, a carpenter who fashions wooden toys, this is his 10th or 12th year attending the festival. Martin makes over 70 different wooden toys including toy crossbows, rubber band guns, and wheeled cars and trucks.

"It's been good recently. They added a lot more booths, and since they started having it during Super Bulldog Weekend, it has brought in a lot more income for the city and the vendors and more variety for festival goers."

The looming presence of cloudy, overcast skies all but threatened festival goers, musicians and vendors with the chance of a potential downpour but that didn't stop them from celebrating their love of the arts.

"I was (worried about the rain), we were so blessed that it didn't though, said Yerger on the weather. "I think we're really lucky that it's cool. It's pleasant really."

Martin agrees on the subject of the weather.

"I travel about five and a half hours to come here from Pensacola, FL. It's a long way to come here without having to unpack and go right back home."

Although the threat of rain made some

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(Right) Molly, the dog of Elizabeth Hood, sits and poses for the photographer's camera at the 2015 Cotton District Arts Festival. (Photo by Alex Onken, SDN)

(Top) Although clouds covered the sky, art patrons, vendors, musicians, and local chefs make it to the 2015 Cotton District Arts Festival. (Photo by Alex Onken, SDN)

(Left) Big Joe Shelton and the Black Prairie Blues Ambassadors entertain for the crowd with their song "Psychoanalyst Voodoo Queen" at the 2015 Cotton District Arts Festival. (Photo by Alex Onken, SDN)



FUMC to hold annual auction on April 25

By Alex Onken

The First United Methodist Church of Starkville will hold its annual auction on Monday, April 25, at 7 p.m. The auction will feature a variety of items including artwork, furniture, and more.

The church is located at 1000 N. Main St. in Starkville. Tickets for the auction are available at the church office. Proceeds from the auction will be used to support the church's ministries.



For more information, contact the church office at 662-320-1234. The auction is open to the public and is a great opportunity to support the church while enjoying a night of entertainment.

Circuit Court term begins on Monday

By Alex Onken

The Circuit Court term for the 15th judicial district begins on Monday, April 20, at 9 a.m. The court will be held in the Starkville Courthouse.

The court will hear cases from the district. The clerk of court is available for more information. The court is open to the public and is a great opportunity to see the judicial process in action.

Advertisement for 'GOOD MORNING' at the STARKVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY, featuring a QR code and contact information.

Advertisement for 'HAVING A BALL' at the STARKVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY, featuring a QR code and contact information.

TOWN

Starkville
 The Starkville community is preparing for the annual CDFAE festival, which is set for next month. Local vendors and organizers are excited about the turnout and the support from the community.

Wine
 A wine tasting event is being organized by the local wine club. The event will feature a variety of wines from different regions, and it is open to all interested parties.

Music
 A live music performance is scheduled for the upcoming festival. The band will be playing a mix of classic and contemporary hits, and it is expected to draw a large crowd.

Food
 The festival will feature a wide variety of food vendors, including local farmers and chefs. Attendees can expect to enjoy everything from traditional Southern dishes to gourmet fare.

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COURT

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FESTIVAL

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 vendors nervous, others were excited to see the number of festival goers. Joy Mordica and her mother Gladys Anderson of Mr. Preston's Garden in French Camp, MS were excited to see the turnout of people at the CDFAE. This was their first year at the festival.

great music and food. We were worried about the rain, but we'll be here next year for sure," said Mordica on her experience. Even through the potential rainfall, Turner remained thankful for all the support given by the community. "We appreciate the city of Starkville so much and our sponsors help, and without our volunteers, I just can't tell you how much I appreciate all their help and support."

Wine Tasting

Monday, April 20

VERANDA

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