

# FYI

Supplement to  
The Oxford EAGLE

## NEWCOMER'S GUIDE TO OXFORD 2016

*Water Valley  
P. 23, 33,  
and  
P. 50*

## DOWN SOUTH

# WATER VALLEY ON THE MOVE

**A**lthough Water Valley has a rich past, community leaders are always looking to the future.

The Water Valley Main Street Association is constantly working to improve downtown and provide entertainment for Water Vallians. Water Valley also features the Main Street Farmer's Market every Saturday starting at 8 a.m. at Railroad Park from May to October.

Water Valley is arguably best known for its Watermelon Carnival, which is hosted by the chamber of commerce and draws thousands of guests of all ages each August to a festival that features entertainment, games, arts and crafts, street dance, fireworks and all the fresh watermelon you can eat.

The Chamber of Commerce also encourages downtown shopping from the many boutiques and antique shops all year long, especially in December with Christmas in the Valley, Tour of Homes and late night shopping.

This Oct. 8, Water Valley will also be host its annual Art Crawl, featuring more than 18 art studios and 40 individual artists within walking distance of one another downtown.

If you're into the arts then Water Valley is tough to top with two art galleries in Bozarts Gallery and Yalo Studio and Gallery.

The galleries will host receptions for artists' work once a month during throw out the year. The receptions offer a chance to meet the artist, mingle with those who enjoy art and sometimes hear live music.

Down the street from the galleries are the Crawdad Hole and the Yalobusha Brewing Company.

Visitors can tour north Mississippi's first production



BRUCE NEWMAN

### Downtown Water Valley has undergone a revitalization.

brewery, which opened in October 2013 in the old Hendricks Machine Shop on Main Street, starting at 4, 5 and 6 p.m. every Friday.

After taking in the works of the brewery, stop by for some grub at the Crawdad Hole. The former service station turned eatery is still filling folks up with boiled crawfish and shrimp, po'boys, and of course, Yalo brew. The Crawdad Hole is open Thursday-Sunday, check out their Facebook page for weekly specials.

To hold you over during the week when the Crawdad Hole is closed, be sure to check out B.T.C. Old Fashioned Grocery on Main Street.

B.T.C. started out as a simple grocery showcasing fresh produce, and other staples like Billy Ray Brown's milk, from nearby farmers.

Today, along with selling produce and specialty foods, the store now boasts a café serving hearty breakfasts and plate lunches, along with soups and sandwiches made to order by chef Dixie Grimes and company.

Are you a history buff? Be

sure to swing by the Water Valley Casey Jones Railroad Museum, located in the heart of downtown Water Valley.

Housed on the site of the former Illinois Central Railroad Depot, the museum is open Thursday through Saturday from 2 to 4 p.m.

Water Valley is featured on the Mississippi Blues Trail, marked in dedication of Casey Jones, a railroad worker, who died saving the lives of his passengers and was featured in many famous blues songs.

There are several places to hear music in Water Valley such as the pavilion in the Pocket Park, beside the Railroad park, where anyone can stop and play their music anytime. On some Saturdays Hometown Pizza also host karaoke and other live music there.

Visitors could also head over to Foster's Music and Arts, a newly renovated school theater that sits 250 people, to see live musical acts from all around the area.

Nearby recreation activities include fishing and boating at Enid Lake, while the Crawford

Sports Complex features finely kept baseball fields, softball fields and tennis courts.

Just outside city limits, the Yalobusha Country Club offers a nine hole golf course and a newly renovated swimming complex.

The Water Valley School District is led by Dr. Michael McInnis, and the Water Valley School's mascots are the Blue Devils.

Joining Mayor Larry Hart at town hall meetings on the first Tuesday of each month on the Board of Aldermen are Fred White, Donald Gray, Bobby Cox, Larry Bell and Phillip Tallant.

While Water Valley has a population of less than 4,000 residents, in recent years the positive buzz about "The Valley" has been spreading far beyond this small town's borders.

The revival of Water Valley is well underway, and longtime residents of the region as well as newcomers to the area need to see it for themselves.



*Take Advantage of small town living.  
Take Advantage of southern hospitality.  
Take Advantage of being minutes from  
Enid Lake and the University of Mississippi.  
Take Advantage of good food & entertainment.  
Take Advantage of reasonable real estate prices.  
Take Advantage of a great place to raise a family.  
Take Advantage of WATER VALLEY!*

**Presented by:  
THE WATER VALLEY AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**



**www.watervalleychamber.info  
662-473-1122**

*Water Valley Mississippi*



**Chamber of Commerce**