Beavers ends Governor race

By Sarah Tate
Managing Editor

In a Facebook post, former Senator Mae Beavers announced she was ending her campaign for Tennessee governor:

“To the volunteers, supporters, and every person who championed my run for Governor, I want to express my deepest gratitude to you. Today, after much deliberation, I am suspending my campaign for the office of Governor of the great state of Tennessee.

After criss-crossing the state and meeting thousands of fellow Tennesseans, it was not a light decision to make because you have embraced our conservative message whole-heartedly; however, it is the right choice to make. Also, I know entering the race has not been in vain as many of my heart-felt issues are now talking points of other candidates.”

Again, I can’t express enough of the sincere thankfulness that I have for you and

See GOV, PAGE 2

Community Calendar

FEB 1
JECD
Lebanon Office

FEB 2
Free Clothes
Life Church

FEB 3
Polar Plunge
Jimmy Floyd Family Center

Additional information
Page 2

Card skimming device found at Mt. Juliet ATM

Staff Reports

A bank card skimming device was found at First Tennessee Bank in Mt. Juliet last week.

Early Friday morning, a sophisticated card skimming device was found at the bank's ATM, located at 401 S. Mt. Juliet Rd.

The large skimming device was equipped with a camera to capture PIN numbers as they were typed on the keypad.

Suspect photos courtesy of MJPD

By Sarah Tate
Managing Editor

Card skimming device found at Mt. Juliet ATM


Charity grants wish of local boy

The event took place last Saturday at the Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum. Hosted by wish kids Jessica Meyer, Lily Paris and Jalan Sowell, the evening was filled with heartfelt performances by Lee Greenwood, Maggie Rose and Tim Rushlow and a delicious meal from Fort Louise’s Chef Greg Biggers.

“What a wonderful evening,” said Make-A-Wish Middle Tennessee President and CEO, Beth Torres. “We know when a wish is granted, a child replaces fear with confidence, sadness with joy and anxiety with hope. Right now, more than 200 local children are waiting for their wishes. It takes a community of support like Red Light Management, Crowe Horwath, our other sponsors and tonight’s participants to create life-changing wishes for children with critical illnesses. We are incredibly grateful to all the donors, wish families and celebrities who came together to raise $314,000 for wish kids in Middle Tennessee.”

More than 400 guests began their evening with a silent auction including more than 150 items donated by individuals and local organizations. Attendees then enjoyed a three-course meal created by renowned Chef Greg Biggers of Nashville’s Fort Louise and Chicago’s Cafe des Architectes at the Sofitel Hotel.

See WISH, PAGE 7

Teachers of the Year

By Sarah Tate
Managing Editor

Over the next few months, The Chronicle of Mt. Juliet will be running profiles on each teacher in Mt. Juliet nominated for Wilson County’s Teacher of the Year.

Kim Gaines was named the Teacher of the Year for Elzie D. Patton Elementary School and as such is the running to be named Wilson County’s Teacher of the Year.

Kim Gaines teaches fourth grade math and science at Elzie to her 48 students.

Gaines has been teaching for eleven years, and has been at Elzie for ten.

Unlike some of her col-

See TOY, PAGE 5

COMMUNITY CALENDAR - PAGE 2 | OBITUARIES - PAGE 10 | CLASSIFIEDS - PAGE 12
Education Commissioner McQueen launches statewide tour

**Staff Reports**

Tennessee Education Commissioner Candice McQueen launched a new school tour last week, focusing on engaging high school students in conversations about the teaching profession and encouraging more high-achieving students from diverse backgrounds to become teachers.

The new tour, called the “Teach Today, Change Tomorrow” tour to build off the initiative started by the State Collaborative on Reforming Education (SCORE), will complement the commissioner’s “Classroom Chronicles” school tour.

Over the last three years, Commissioner McQueen has met with thousands of teachers and visited 822 classrooms around 127 school districts — almost 87 percent of all districts in the state — on the “Classroom Chronicles” tour. “We must continue to build a strong, diverse educator pipeline in Tennessee, and one way to do this is to connect effective, passionate teachers with the next generation of potential educators,” Commissioner McQueen said. “The “Teach Today, Change Tomorrow” tour elevates the statewide conversation around encouraging our best and brightest students to become teachers and be fulfilled in a career that allows them to have a positive impact in their communities and shape the next generation of leaders.”

For Jan. 26 visit Merrol Hyde Magnet School in Sumner County was the first stop on the tour this semester. As in the past, McQueen will continue to meet with educators at each school, but she will also host small group discussions with high-performing educators from a variety of backgrounds to discuss the benefits of a career in education. Additionally, she will be joined by classroom teachers, school counselors, and leaders from educator preparation providers (EPPs) who can share their perspectives and encourage students in this conversation.

This effort builds on the work of the department to holistically support the teaching profession, including through focusing on building relationships among EPPs and school districts, sharing EPP outcomes in public reports, and recruiting a diverse and high-quality educator workforce. Over the last several months, the department has invested nearly $1.4 million in improving the teacher and principal pipeline in Tennessee.

From GOV, PAGE 1

**Education Commissioner McQueen launches statewide tour**

The Wilson County Special Olympics annual fundraiser, Polar Plunge, will be 8 a.m. Feb. 3 at Jimmy Floyd Family Center in Lebanon. Take the plunge and challenge friends to do the same, plunge and challenge themselves to do the same, and have some crazy cold bravery to get wet, be wild and create a variety of backgrounds to discuss the benefits of a career in education. Additionally, she will be joined by classroom teachers, school counselors, and leaders from educator preparation providers (EPPs) who can share their perspectives and encourage students in this conversation.

This effort builds on the work of the department to holistically support the teaching profession, including through focusing on building relationships among EPPs and school districts, sharing EPP outcomes in public reports, and recruiting a diverse and high-quality educator workforce. Over the last several months, the department has invested nearly $1.4 million in improving the teacher and principal pipeline in Tennessee.

**Community Calendar**

FEB 1 JECDB The Joint Economic & Community Development Board Executive Committee will meet at 7:45 AM on Thursday, February 1, 2018 at the JECDB office located at 200 Aviation Way, Suite 202, Lebanon.

FEB 2 Life Church Family Free clothes, accessories, breakfast and free chiropractic adjustments this Friday, Feb. 2 from 9 a.m. until noon at Life Church, located at 3688 Highway 109, Lebanon, across the street from The Dollar General Store. The event is open to everyone and takes place on the first Friday of each month. Life Church is also accepting donations of new and like-new clothing of all sizes.

FEB 3 Polar Plunge The Wilson County Special Olympics annual fundraiser, Polar Plunge, will be 8 a.m. Feb. 3 at Jimmy Floyd Family Center in Lebanon. Take the plunge and challenge friends to do the same, for a good cause. It only takes a few minutes of bravery to get wet, be wild and have some crazy cold fun. Award for best costume. Top donor receives a 1-year membership to JFFC. Register online at polarplungetn.com or in person at JFFC.

FEB 4 Grief Share Grief Share will be held at The Grace Place every Sunday from 2 p.m. until 4 p.m. Located at 4316 Central Pike in Hermitage. Grief Share is a 13-week seminar/support group. You can join any time. www.griefshare.org

FEB 10 Rock the Community Rock the Community 2018 will be held at Keller Williams Realty Feb. 10 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Free community rock painting event, fun for all ages. Paint rocks then hide them for the community to find later. Girl Scout cookies will be available for purchase from local Troop 1294. Boxes sold will support efforts to attend Camp Sycamore Hills this summer. Keller Williams is located at 2033 N. Mt. Juliet Rd.

FEB 10 MJ Senior Center Indoor Yard Sale at the Mt. Juliet Senior Activity Center, 2034 N. Mt. Juliet Rd. on Saturday, Feb. 10 from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. More than 30 tables of good “stuff” for sale. Concession stand will be open. Everyone welcome. For more information, please call the center at (615) 758-9114.

**Public Notices**

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Masonic Military Men
Featuring Jerry Belcher

By Barry Barnes
Guest Contributor

It’s an honor being a member of the Mt. Juliet Masonic Lodge F. & A.M. No. 642. It just is. Why? I’m surrounded by brothers, many of them older than myself, who are a lot wiser with a lot of worldly stories to tell. I like to listen to a good story or two or three, so the idea to write about some of my brothers. It is that any experience came to mind for a monthly column. Thank you, gentlemen, for your service. Now, aim high and we’re off to the wild blue yonder.

A good theme for Jerry Belcher’s military career might be, “I’ve been everywhere.” I know it sounds like a Hank Snow hit, but, hey, we are here in Nashville. He joined the Air Force in February of 1956 and retired from it in 1978. He went from a slick sleeve to E-7 during the course of his twenty-two year career while spending time in Texas, Louisiana, Arizona, California, Vietnam, Iran, Libya, Italy, and the Azores. Multiple stints happened at some of the bases while crisscrossing our country and the world for that matter.

When asked why did you join the military, Belcher answered, “I wanted to work on aircraft and I got what I wanted.”

In putting Vietnam in a nutshell, he said, “At the time it was authorized. It got to where at the end of it, it got political. We never should have pulled out.”

We lost politically, not militarily. That’s a shame because all the young men and women serving over their deserved better from their government and news media. No, then explain the 2 million dead after the pull out. Why did all those Vietnamese and Cambodians get killed after we left? Do humanitarians only care about Americans at the expense of the rest of the world’s population being slaughtered? They sure turned a blind eye to it. Fast forward to Syria today. America not getting militarily involved, and slaughter is still the end result. Lack of military intervention can cause death and destruction too.

When asked about the state of the military today, Belcher answered, “It sucks. The caliber of people isn’t as good. It takes twice as many people to do what I did at 18 years old. They gave a million dollar airplane to a kid to take care of. Now, even the new Air Force insignia sucks. They want to look pretty.”

A similar answer came from him when asked about the state of Masonry today, “It sucks. They’re taking in people that have no business in the Masonic Order.”

He got inquisitive about becoming a Mason when he was over at a friend’s house and saw the square and compass on the mantle. He wanted to know what it was all about, then joined. He’s very happy with the Scottish Rite, even more so than the Blue Lodge. Why? “I’m doing something all the time. Whether on stage or central lighting, I can do a lot of things.”

Jerry Belcher does his duty and will always be up to snuff. As an 18-year-old soldier or 80-something-year old Mason, he works. He works tirelessly with whatever he is involved in. Whether serving his country in Vietnam or serving fish at the annual Masonic fish fry, the man gets knee deep involved in whatever he is involved in. I wish our public school system could clone his work ethic for all those young kids out there that think the deck is stacked against them. It isn’t. Life will bear that out with work, hard work. It has to come from within. That internal hard drive has to be turned on and set to full throttle. Aim high, young people. You have big shoes to fill. Life is beautiful when you work at it. You might even get to travel around the world and back.

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West Elementary School

Second Nine Weeks Top Dog Awards, Principal’s List, Honor Roll

Principal’s List

3rd Grade

4th Grade
Brokelyn Aldridge, Bella Ashe, Halsey Beall, Tyler Bittman, Bella Brewer, Chloe Carter, Braiden Cochran, Madison Davenport, Bella Free, Kyler Gatica, Anna Kate Hardin, Cora Joyner, Trevor Katzenmiller, Silas Kendall, Parker King, Andrew Kistemaker, Sabrina Larsen, Avery Maynard, Jack Paradise, Savannah Solomon, Matthew Swallows, Jake Thompson, Joshua Tidwell.

5th Grade
Connor Basham, Dylan Brown, Gracie Cook, Avery Crockett, Tia Gilbert, Grayce Gravely, Griffin Graves, Dale Jackson, Will McGowin, Brooklyn Nguyen, Tyler Travers, Layla Young.

Honor Roll

3rd Grade

4th Grade

5th Grade
Colt Allen, Malina Ballesteros, Alex Borrue, Emma Boudreaux, Emily Ceci, Nicholas Chavez, Lauren Covell, Caleb Davidson, Isabella Pull- ford, Ryan Goodman, Sam Gravel, Jordan Haapala, Emma Hausler, Daniel Hughes, Sienna Hunt, AaliVian Jackson, Annaka Johnson, Kaili Johnson, Adalyn Joki, Lyla Kelley, Ava Knott, Matthew Mc- Cahen, Joshua Merging, Brody Nordgren, Gabby Perry, Christopher Rogers, Riley Rooker, Landen Rot- ach, Jonathan Saleeb, Oscar Sanabria, Ella Sanford, A. J. Schoenbacher, Riley Schreher, Aranya Shea, Lila Kate Smith, Blake Tid- well, Collin Williams, Kourt- ney Wilson, Claire Young, Karley Zielke, Ashton Zipp.

Top Dog Awards

Kindergarten
Noah Ashe, Catherine Beall, Josey Bruner, Kalesh Callarman, Ansley Hawkins, Ryan Matter, Sedona Trevi- no, William Wienk, Collin Williams, Jaxon White.

1st Grade

2nd Grade

3rd Grade

4th Grade
John Binion, Delaney Bonds, Landon Boudreaux, Molly Cook, Connor Dewald, Shelby Diggs, Lindie Farough, Parker King, Trevor Katzenmiller, Silas Kendall.

5th Grade
Colt Allen, Christopher Austin, Sarah Blackburn, Lauren Covell, Caleb Da- vidson, B.J. Davis, Emma Hausler, Sienna Hunt, Lyla Kelley, Ava Knott.
checking that it’s an excellent way to honor the teachers of the Year. She said that Gaines thanked the principal for recognizing the honor as well. According to Gaines, teaching is not done alone. They rely on the support of the staff, colleagues, and students to keep the learning going. "I think because I love teaching, I enjoy teaching," said Gaines. "I want the kids to know they can be lifelong learners, and they should be. I enjoy seeing them learn something new. I always want to have them ready for the next grade level."

Gaines incorporates different styles of learning for her students, because not everyone learns the same way. She uses movement and helps the students encourage and teach their peers, called “peer tutoring.” She also likes to use research-based strategies for teaching, such as having her class to strive for a goal and so they can focus on the materials they are learning.

“Math talk,” which is when her students use critical thinking to explain how and why they solved a problem, is another way Gaines teaches her students. Working in groups, peer tutoring, and math talk are all ways Gaines is keeping her patients up for their continuing education because they are encouraged to work together.

“I’m a down-the-road thinker, so I think about preparing them for middle school,” she said. “I want them to be ready for the next phase of their life.”

When she heard her colleagues at Elzie nominated and voted her as Teacher of the Year, she was very surprised and honored. According to Gaines, teaching is not done alone. They rely on each other, so she feels each teacher should carry the honor as well.

Gaines thanked the sponsor of her scholastic of the Year. She said that she’s proud that it has continued this long, saying that it’s an excellent way to honor the teachers of Wilson County.

When petitions are issued, they are posted on the Election Commission website, www.WilsonElections.com. "Having the most current information available on our website allows our office to keep the public informed in a convenient, timely and cost-efficient way," said Phillip Warren, Administrator of Elections.

Candidates began picking up their petitions to run for offices on the Aug. 2, 2018 ballot on Friday, Jan. 5. The filing deadline for candidates to be qualified for the August election is Thursday, April 5, 2018 at noon.

In addition to the petition, candidates are provided a handbook with information about the petition process, candidate guidelines, qualifications for office, campaign finance, statements of interest and other information that they will find useful as they campaign. Candidates are required to have a minimum of 25 voters that are eligible to vote for them sign their petition.

At the same time as the Wilson County General Election, there will be a Republican and Democratic Primary election. Republican and Democratic voters will vote for candidates seeking to be their Party nominee for Governor, U.S. Senate, U.S. Congress - 6th District, State Senate - 17th District, State Representative - 46th and 57th Districts. Republican and Democratic state Party Committee members and Committee Woman will also be elected in August.

Petitions are available at the Election Commission office at 203 East Main St. in Lebanon Monday through Friday during regular business hours. The staff of the Wilson County Election Commission is available to answer questions and provide information concerning the procedures and legal requirements involved with seeking elected office. To learn more about elections, Early Voting, registering to vote and how to be involved with Wilson County elections, contact the Wilson County Election Commission at (615) 444-0216 or visit their website.
Mark Youngman
Pastor of Discipleship
Providence Church

Last summer I stood on top of a mountain overlooking Red River, New Mexico. My wife and I had dragged our kids onto the ski lift so we could enjoy the views from a little restaurant at an elevation of more than 10,000 feet.

As the kids explored, I noticed some interpretative signs near the restaurant. What I learned was that the stands of Aspen trees scattered around the mountain top were actually all connected by a complex connection underground. The trees grow from shoots that come from a single root structure. They actually share the same DNA! That connection explains how these trees could survive high winds and powerful snowfalls. I looked at my kids playing and realized that the only way they could stand a chance against the high winds and storms of life was to have similar kinds of connections. Aspen trees were designed to thrive in their environment. And so are we. It’s just that we forget. Sometimes we can focus on the parts of our surroundings that are threatening instead of embracing the fact that we are connected underneath the surface. It can take a little digging to see how we are connected. But when we are honest, we find out that we are all imperfect, we all experience brokenness, and we are all in need of some kind of healing.

In my role as a pastor in a local church, I see this all the time. Our organization is based on the idea that we can do something together that we could never do apart. This allows us to see people who feel disconnected find a connection through Jesus Christ. It allows us to see imperfect broken people like ourselves find hope.

That’s why we try to stay connected with others.
Do unto others

One of my favorite quotes is: Do unto others as you would have them do unto you. How true! And since that’s the case, from this point forward, I am asking everyone to try their very best at doing unto others as you would have them do unto you.

One example includes littering. Littering costs everyone. It takes a toll on our resources, our property values, our wallets, and is an insult to our great community and country. Littering is simply passing the buck. When you pass the buck, the rest of us are left with the bill, the bill of cleaning up the mess left behind.

Another example is respect. Respect is when you speak kindly of others or say nothing at all. Respect is when you open a door for your wife, family member or a complete stranger who has their hands full. Respect is when you don’t endanger the lives of others by driving under the influence, speeding or tailgating.

Respect is not telling lies, cheating, hurting, murdering and so on. Life is so very short when you really think about it. We all have hurts, sorrows, worries, highs, lows, concerns, deadlines, aggravations and feelings that can be offended, hurt or damaged. With that being the case, let’s all start being more civil, kind, understanding, forgiving, helpful and loving to one another.

In closing, nothing is ever accomplished without sincere effort and a positive attitude. Good will always prevail over indifference and divisiveness. Please do unto others as you would have them do unto you.
I had written about two years ago about having affordable senior housing and transportation in Mt. Juliet, TN. I spoke to the President of the Chamber of Commerce, I asked him how do people afford McKendri Apt, his response was people probably won the lottery. Give me a break, not a good answer. Then I asked him about transportation again, you ask family or friends. Family works, friends are the same age, and what if you don’t have family. We have plenty of land, no reason not to have senior housing here. Yes, there is Cumberland, but they want $10.00 each way. Who can afford that especially if you need to get out 3 times a week, it sure adds up. They even charge $2.00 each way in Lebanon.

One day, the younger people will face this then what will they feel and say. We even do not have a drug store that will deliver perscriptions. I am turning 74 in good health, my husband is living he will be 77 in Nov. Who knows when we will need all this but I am looking ahead. We want to stay in Mt. Juliet.

We have enough chain restaurants, look into Ocean State Job Lots Store, the Christmas Tree Shops, they sell everything. How about a Dress Barn. On it goes.

Thank you for taking the time to read this. Lets work together.

Jennie Jankowski

Editor’s Note: Letters to the editor are edited for length and published as sent. All opinions expressed are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views of this publication.
The Mt. Juliet Chamber of Commerce held its annual Chamber Choice Awards Thursday night. This year’s Banquet was held at The Capital Theatre in Lebanon.

The sold-out event honors those who have made significant impact on the Chamber and in the Mt. Juliet community, according to the Chamber. During the Banquet, the Chamber presented some members with annual awards.

Kayla Copeland was named Ambassador of the Year for her work in the Chamber, and Gaye Lynn Wilson was named Volunteer of the Year.

Heather Harned and Kevin Sanders were honored with the awards for Business Woman and Business Man of the Year, respectively.

Donna Wright, director of schools for Wilson County, received Wilsonian of the Year. Hutsonpillar Insurance was chosen Business of the Year.

The Lifetime Achievement Award was given to Karen Lowe, and the Paul Bauman Award of Excellence was awarded to Debbie Melvin.

Sponsors of the event included: Birthright Title, LLC; TriStar Summit Medical Center; Aflac Tennessee; Kelsey Evert & Associates; Ascend Federal Credit Union; Bank of Tennessee; TDS Under Armour; US Community Credit Union; Wilson Bank & Trust; Horizon Land Title; Piedmont Natural Gas; and Vista Points.

Lowe given Lifetime Achievement Award at Chamber Banquet

By Sarah Tate
Managing Editor

The Community Foundation of Middle Tennessee, a charitable organization connecting generosity with need in 40 Middle Tennessee and three Kentucky counties, announces its annual scholarship application process is now open and invites students to apply by March 15, 2018, at 11:59 p.m. Central Time, at www.cfmt.org.

The Foundation administers more than 114 scholarship funds, established by individuals, companies and civic groups. Students may be eligible for multiple scholarships and need only to submit one application.

Whether a student is studying law or horticulture, planning a career in criminal justice or teaching, or studying at a technical school or four-year university, The Community Foundation’s scholarship program supports individuals from various backgrounds and communities seeking funding for educational opportunities.

“Getting an education is one of the most important milestones in life, but for many, it comes with a great burden,” said Ellen Lehman, president of The Community Foundation of Middle Tennessee. “We feel honored to help students receive a quality education, made possible by donors who wish to make a difference. It is a privilege to connect generosity with need in this way.”

In 2017, The Community Foundation awarded 283 scholarships totaling more than $640,000 in funding to students pursuing secondary educational goals at accredited schools throughout the United States.

For a complete list of scholarships and the online application, visit The Community Foundation’s website at www.cfmt.org. For more information, call The Community Foundation at (615) 321-4939. Applications must be submitted by March 15, 2018, at 11:59 p.m. Central Time. Applicants will be notified of results in mid-May.

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The Chronicle of Mt. Juliet, JANUARY 31, 2018 Page 9

The “Top Dogs” of West Elementary School posed for a group picture at school Thursday Jan. 25.

The Community Foundation seeks scholarship applicants

Staff Reports

Kayla Copeland, Gaye Lynn Wilson, Heather Harned, Kevin Sanders, Donna Wright, Tina Hutsonpillar, Karen Lowe, Debbie Melvin, and 2018 Board Chair Lisia Tucker.
OBITUARIES

LYDIA BASCHAROW

Lydia Bascharow, age 93 of Lebanon, TN, passed away on Jan. 25, 2018. Funeral service will be conducted at Sellars Funeral Home in Mt. Juliet. Interment followed at Mt. Juliet Memorial Gardens. She is preceded in death by husband, Eugene Bascharow, her parents, Michael and Maria Marienko; and two brothers. She is survived by children, Paul (Wima) Bascharow, Lydia (Don) Dragan, Irene (Chris) Mastalia; five grandchildren, Derek (Mindy) Bascharow, Tammy (Tim) McCarthy, Christopher Katchucka, Brandon (Jami) Dragun, and Rosangelia Meade; and three sisters-in-law, Tyler Bascharow, Danica Bascharow, Travis Bascharow, Reilly McCarthy, Natalie Dragun, and Brooklyn Dragun. She was a devoted mother, one brother-in-law; and numerous nieces and nephews also survive.


PATSY ANN HARRIS

Patsy Ann Harris, age 67 of Mt. Juliet, died Jan. 25, 2018. Mrs. Harris was a member of New Hope Baptist Church. She enjoyed cooking, gardening and being a caregiver to others. Mrs. Harris was preceded in death by her father, Carl Johnson.

She is survived by: husband of 41 years – Dennis Harris; mother – Beulah Armstrong Johnson; Children – Alicia (Lanny) Holland and Derek (Michelle) Harris; Brothers – Robert (Wan-
United Way of Wilson County welcomes campaign assistant

Staff Reports

United Way of Wilson County and the Upper Cumberland (UWWUC) is proud to announce and welcome Michelle Sinz as the local organization’s newest Campaign Assistant. Michelle will raise funds through payroll campaigns, one time fundraisers and individual donations enabling United Way of Wilson County and the Upper Cumberland to help more local agencies and programs throughout the community by creating real change and measurable improvement in the lives of its citizens.

“Most of our donors realize that UWWUC works to keep staff levels low in order to hold administrative costs low,” said UWWUC President John McMillin. “We are excited that the continued growth of our county is assessed and provided for the evacuee’s immediate needs.

United Way of Wilson county is committed to creating real change and measurable improvement in the day-to-day lives of thousands of people. They bring together people, companies and organizations from across our local community to identify and support solutions to our most critical issues. Serving Wilson County for over 20 years, United Way of Wilson County and the Upper Cumberland fights for the health, education and financial stability of every person in our community by engaging in collaborative partnerships.”

Local residents received degrees

By Sarah Tate
Managing Editor

Several Wilson County residents were among students who received degrees from the University of Tennessee at Martin during the Dec. 16 Fall Commencement, held in the Kathleen and Tom Elam Center on the UT Martin campus. Miranda M. Carlton and Robbie Denise Farm-er, both of Lebanon, received undergraduate degrees. Kaitlin Chea Harris, of Mt. Juliet, received a graduate degree during the ceremony.

Human remains identified as missing Watertown man

Staff Reports

An intact skull was located on a property off Taylor Road in Water- town, Tenn., on Sunday, Jan. 21, 2018, which led detectives to the location of the human remains of longtime missing person, David Riemens.

With the weather not cooperating with the search, detectives were not able to conduct a thorough search until Thursday morning.

Riemens had been missing since Aug. 8, 2012, and the high-profile case received national attention after he vanished from the parking lot of a Dollar General Store in Watertown at the age of 60.

Experts have positive-ly identified the remains as Riemens, an artist and stonemason who appeared to have a lifestyle of living off the grid.

“Our thoughts and prayers go out to his fam-ily, and to the communi-ty of Watertown where he was very well thought of by everyone that knew him,” said Sheriff Robert Bryan. “We appreciate all of the help we received in an attempt to locate Mr. Riemens. He lived off the grid, with no social media accounts, credit cards or cell phones which made this case very tough on finding leads; tracking his movements digitally was out of the question. This case will continue to be investigated by our Criminal Investigation Division.”
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South Winds Tree Service
The Chronicle of Mt. Juliet, JANUARY 31, 2018
This position is subject to scheduling within a 7 day work week with evenings and/or weekends. You will need to hold a valid TN drivers license. Class 1 starts at $11.34 per hour. There are no benefits with this position. Detailed job description, Employee Application and requirements are available online. Applications must be filed electronically and are available online at the City’s website, www.cityofmtjuliet.org. We will accept electronic applications until such time when a qualified candidate is chosen with the first cut-off date being February 7, 2018. The City of Mt. Juliet reserves the right to stop accepting applications at any time. For questions, regarding the electronic application process, please call (615) 754-2552. The City of Mt. Juliet does not discriminate based on race, color, sex or national origin or other federal or state sponsored programs, pursuant to Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. 2000d). EEO/Drug-free Workplace.

For Rent

Drivers needed at Mt. Juliet area. $10/hour to start. Please call Rita at 330-807-5450.

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Part time female helper/companion needed immediately for lady in a quality neighborhood near Mt. Juliet. Hours needed Monday 9:00-5:00, Friday 12:00-5:00. Other part time hours may be available also. Prefer Christian, dependable, nonsmoker, caring personality. Need backup person also. 615-812-0490. Leave message. Retail establishment, no experience necessary, standard basic pay rate. PT, day shifts available. Call 615-928-3408.

Warehouse labor needed Mt. Juliet area. $10/hour to start. Please call Rita at 330-807-5450.

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Warehouse labor needed Mt. Juliet area. $10/hour to start. Please call Rita at 330-807-5450.
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The last few months have been a whirlwind of college applications, ACT prep courses and road trips as we continue on our adventure of “Where in the world will Zoe go to college?”

Less than a month ago, as we left the house at 5 a.m. in order to meet the 10 a.m. tour, with my hot cup of coffee in hand, I got in the car and gleefully noted, “This is going to be such a fun day.”

Shocked by my joyfulness, her father reminded both Zoe and I that “today is going to be fun and SAD!” You see as much Zoe and I have come to embrace our little college trip adventures, Brody isn’t quite there yet.

When we finally arrived, Zoe and I bounced out of the car eagerly awaiting our guided tour of the buildings, library and dorms. Her Dad slowly walked behind us.

While we asked questions about majors, internships and clubs, her Dad asked questions about on-campus security, crime rates and how do they insure “boys don’t get onto the girls’ dorm floors.”

Seemingly very important questions to the other fathers on the tour, who nodded in agreement every time Brody grilled our 19-year-old tour guide on crime per capita rates.

After touring the campus, we set about taking in this new city, checking out how far the grocery was from campus, the movie theater and the mall. As well as the police station, fire hall and hospital … “because it’s important to know these things,” noted her father.

The good thing about Zoe is that she is taking all of this in stride, as she lived through this when her sister went away to college and realizes both she, and most importantly, her parents (or at least one of them) will survive!

Later that night as Zoe was extolling the virtues of this new college to her brother, we wondered how he might take it. Would he be sad that he was now the only one left at home with us? Would he miss her like he missed our oldest off at college already? Or would he find a silver lining…

“When exactly will you be moving out?” he asked. “Because I’m thinking of turning the entire upstairs into a man-cave. I’ll have my primary bedroom, then your room will be the den and Madison’s room will be an exercise room.”

Apparently our son had chosen the silver lining route.

To which his sister responded, “My room stays as is because I’ll be home all the time!”

And her Daddy is a happy man once again…

To read more of Angel and Becky’s columns go to www.wilsonlivingmagazine.com.

By Angel Kane
Wilson Living Magazine
Haslam announces nearly $10 million in grants

**Infrastructure and Adoption**

Grants will support deployment of Broadband in 13 Tennessee counties

**Staff Reports**

Tennessee Gov. Bill Haslam and Economic and Community Development Commissioner Bob Rolfe announced Friday $9.844 million in broadband accessibility grants that will help build new broadband infrastructure in parts of 13 Tennessee counties, including Wilson County.

The grants are the result of the Tennessee Broadband Accessibility Act, Haslam’s 2017 legislation to increase broadband to more Tennesseans and offset the capital expenses of deploying broadband in areas that currently lack access. The grants will provide broadband service to more than 5,000 locations in counties across the state.

DTC Communications was awarded $1,725,000 to serve parts of Smith and Wilson counties.

“This grant of $1.7 million for Smith and Wilson counties to build broadband infrastructure is outstanding news,” said District 17 State Senator Pody. “This investment will help spur community and economic development by bringing broadband internet to our rural communities, and I congratulate local officials for securing this grant.”

Alongside digital literacy grants announced last week, the Tennessee Broadband Accessibility Act has already supported nearly $10 million in broadband investments across the state.

“In communities across Tennessee, broadband is an essential service that will increase economic investment and growth to help businesses, families and individuals thrive,” Haslam said. “With the assistance of these grants, underserved communities will now have access to broadband that will benefit not only the communities themselves, but the state as a whole. These grants are a step in the right direction for our state and will help Tennessee reach its full potential.”

TNECD received 71 applications requesting more than $66 million in funding. The nine grants selected demonstrated a high need for grant funding, the ability to implement and sustain the project long term, strong community support and the economic impact of the infrastructure deployment. Grantees will provide more than $10 million in matching funds for a combined investment of more than $20 million across the state.

“One of our top priorities is creating an environment in Tennessee that promotes job growth and success in rural communities,” said Rolfe. “With the leadership of Gov. Haslam and support of the Tennessee General Assembly, those rural communities will now have access to reliable internet and will be better equipped for success.”

In 2016, TNECD released a commissioned study assessing broadband in Tennessee that found that 13 percent of Tennessee residents do not have access to broadband at federally recognized standards. The Tennessee Broadband Accessibility Act provides $45 million over three years in grants and tax credits for service providers to assist in making broadband available to unserved homes and businesses. The TBA also permits private, nonprofit electrical cooperatives to begin providing retail broadband services to their members. To view other recipients, visit www.tn.gov.

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Belmont University announces Fall 2017 Dean’s List

**Staff Reports**

The following students achieved the Dean’s List at Belmont University for the Fall 2017 semester. Eligibility is based on a minimum course load of 12 hours and a quality grade point average of 3.5 with no grade below a C.

- Chandler Bastin of Lebanon
- Hannah Burnette of Mount Juliet
- Austin Coleman of Mount Juliet
- Macey Crow of Lebanon
- Michael DeVries of Mount Juliet
- Eva Ellis of Hermitage
- Megan Graham of Lebanon
- Caroline Hendrick of Lebanon
- Sydney Jackson of Hermitage
- Katherine Jones of Hermitage
- Christian Kaposy of Mount Juliet

Kaleb Knight of Hermitage, TN
Kateri Laporte of Hermitage, TN
Karen Le of Mount Juliet, TN
Alexandra Lee of Mount Juliet, TN
Morgan Maxwell of Mount Juliet, TN
Lauren Meadows of Mount Juliet, TN
Paul Nowakowski of Mount Juliet, TN
Jacob Paddon of Mount Juliet, TN
Christopher Pfaff of Lebanon, TN
Henry Pillon of Hermitage, TN
Emily Raney of Mount Juliet, TN
Linda Sok of Lebanon, TN
Nisa Syed of Hermitage, TN
Chanel Thomas of Mount Juliet, TN
Sandra Tomas of Hermitage, TN
Jaryn Toms of Hermitage, TN
Kendyl Turner of Lebanon, TN
Steven Wall of Hermitage, TN
Lewis Weaser of Hermitage, TN
Brenna Wheeler of Mount Juliet, TN
Lauren White of Mount Juliet, TN
Madison Wiest of Mount Juliet, TN

Approximately 35 percent of Belmont’s 8,080 students qualified for the Fall 2017 Dean’s List. Belmont Provost Dr. Thomas Burns said, “This achievement for the fall semester indicates that these students have placed a high priority on their work at Belmont and have invested time and energy in their studies. It is our strong belief that consistent application in this manner will reap great benefits, which will equip them for a lifetime of learning and growing.”

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VUMC operating Walgreens clinics

**Staff Reports**

Vanderbilt University Medical Center (VUMC) is operating and providing clinical services at 14 retail health clinics within Walgreens stores located across Middle Tennessee.

The clinics at these locations are now an extension of the Vanderbilt Health System. Each new clinic is now called Vanderbilt Health Clinic at Walgreens. Patients are now able to see Vanderbilt Health clinicians seven days a week, including evenings, giving patients the option to access a variety of health care services without an appointment. Among the available services are laboratory tests and treatments for common conditions such as bronchitis, bladder infections, flu, nausea and vomiting, sinus issues, seasonal allergies, sore throat and minor wounds.

The closest Vanderbilt Health Clinic is located at 400 Tulip Grove Rd. in Hermitage.
Encore Theatre Company is enjoying final rehearsals for the opening night of their first LUX Radio show of the 2018 season, “Sorry Wrong Number,” written by Lucille Fletcher and transcribed for stage by Don Breedwell.

The intense, noir drama continues the success Encore has seen in its previous seasons of LUX radio series. Audiences will enjoy a staged reading of the 1948 LUX Radio show with live sound effects and multiple characters being voiced by a single actor.

The audience is part of the play by being the live audience in the radio studio. Actors focus on vocal character development and body language to communicate with minimal set, props and costuming.

“Today we carry phones in our pockets as tiny computers, but in 1948 land lines could be crossed by live operator and you could accidentally hear another conversation,” said Breedwell. “What would you do if you overheard a murder being planned and was helpless to stop it?”

Directed by Debbie Smith and produced by Mary Gingold, the drama will be presented for only three shows, Friday and Saturday, Feb. 2 and 3 at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, Feb. 4 at 2:30 p.m. Tickets are $10 at the door. Reservations can be made by calling the Encore Theatre box office (615) 889-8950.

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