Dancing Lights of Christmas Moves to Lebanon

By Sarah Tate
Managing Editor

The Dancing Lights of Christmas, which has been a popular holiday attraction in Lebanon, will be moving to the Wilson County Fair, an expected to open before Black Friday.

The concert will feature a variety of Christmas music and local performers, with the goal of creating a festive atmosphere for families and visitors alike. The event is free to attend, and parking will be available on-site.

“Dancing Lights of Christmas” is a beloved tradition that has been enjoyed by thousands of people over the years. The event features a series of lights and music displays, set to popular Christmas tunes. Attendees can walk through the lights at their own pace, enjoying the festive decorations and holiday cheer.

The event is managed by the Wilson County Fair, which is located in Lebanon. The Fair is known for its range of activities and events throughout the year, including agricultural exhibits, rodeos, and more. The move of the Dancing Lights of Christmas to the Fair will allow the event to reach an even wider audience.

By Sarah Tate
Managing Editor

Local church celebrates 75th anniversary

By Sarah Tate
Managing Editor

Central Pike Church of Christ recently celebrated its 75th anniversary. The church, located in Mt. Juliet, held special events and services throughout the weekend to commemorate this milestone.

According to Pastor Jerry Sawyer, the church has a rich history dating back to the early 20th century. Central Pike was founded in 1942 by a small group of people who had a vision for a community church.

Pastor Sawyer shared that the church has gone through a number of renovations and additions over the years to meet the needs of its growing congregation. “Central Pike has always been a church of recovery, and we’ve watched many people find hope and healing here,” he said.

During the anniversary celebration, the church held a special program on Sunday, October 1, with a focus on sharing the story of the church and thanking the community for its support through the years.

The church also invited former members and residents to return for a special event on Friday evening. Members were invited to share stories and artifacts from the church’s history.

In addition to the special events, the church featured a special music service on Sunday morning, with a variety of local musicians performing. The service was followed by a special luncheon for members and guests.

Pastor Sawyer expressed gratitude for the support of the community and the church’s leadership. “We’re excited to continue serving the community and look forward to many more years of ministry,” he said.

By Sarah Tate
Managing Editor

Commissioners approve funds for StoryWalk

The Board of Commissioners held a regularly scheduled meeting on Monday, October 16, and approved a grant of $20,000 to the Mt. Juliet Library for the construction of a StoryWalk in the city.

The StoryWalk is a unique reading experience that features a series of children’s books installed along a walking path. Participants can follow the path and read the books as they walk.

Commissioner Maness emphasized the importance of investing in local libraries and community projects. “The StoryWalk is a great way to encourage reading and bring people together,” he said.

The grant will help finance the construction of the StoryWalk and ensure that it is accessible to all residents. The library plans to launch the StoryWalk soon after the grant is awarded.

By Sarah Tate
Managing Editor

Additional information
Page 2

COMMUNITY CALENDAR - PAGE 2 | OBITUARIES - PAGE 10 | CLASSIFIEDS - PAGE 12
COMMUNITY CALENDAR

OCT 14
Fish Fry
Cedar Grove Missionary Baptist Church. Benevolent Lodge #91 Fish Fry, Oct. 14, 11 a.m. until 5 p.m. Located at 151 Cedar Grove Church Rd. in Mt. Juliet.

OCT 17
Golf Tournament
The Annual Jerry Houston Memorial Golf Tournament, Oct 17, 1:30 p.m. shotgun start, at Old Hickory Country Club. For more information, contact Phil Smartt at 615-773-0161 or psmartt@southernbankoftn.com.

OCT 22
Mt. Juliet League
The Annual Board Meeting of the Mt. Juliet League will be Sunday October 22, 2017 at 1:00pm in the board room of the park office. We will be reviewing the 2017 season as well as electing several board members. If you have ever wondered how you could make a difference for the league, now is the time to come and find out. For additional information please contact Robin Speight at mtjulietleague@tds.net.

OCT 24
JECDB meeting
The Board of Directors of the Joint Economic and Community Development Board of Wilson County will meet on Tuesday, Oct. 24, 2017, at 7:30 a.m. at the new Lebanon Airport Terminal building, 2nd Floor Conference Room located at 1050 Franklin Road, Lebanon.

OCT 25
Life Assembly
Life Assembly’s Trunk or Treat will be Oct. 25 at 6:30 p.m. Safe trick or treating for the kids, MJPD will be there with their Hummer. Costume Contest for the kids, outdoor movie on large 108” screen, and Jet’s Pizza. 555 Pleasant Grove Rd.

OCT 29
FBC MJ
First Baptist Mt. Juliet invites you to their community Trunk or Treat Oct. 29, 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. Located at 735 N. Mt. Juliet Rd.

Dillon graduates from Air Force basic training

Staff Reports

The airman completed an intensive, eight-week program that included training in military discipline and studies, Air Force core values, physical fitness, and basic warfare principles and skills.

Airmen who complete basic training also earn four credits toward an associate in applied science degree through the Community College of the Air Force.

Dillon is the son of Kenny and Melanie Dillon of Lafayette, Tenn., and grandson of Randy Roberts of Lebanon, Tenn.

He is a 2017 graduate of Lebanon High School.

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From LIGHTS, PAGE 1

Fans across the State took to social media and contacted city officials to make their voices heard and encourage city officials not to close the popular family attraction.

“We have been overwhelmed by the support of this community,” said Scalf. “They were rooting for us, the little guy, and that support made us want to fight to stay open even more. We pride ourselves on being a fun, family tradition, and we are thrilled that our fans will get to experience this tradition again this year.”

The owners are asking the public to please share the new location and help spread the news that The Dancing Lights of Christmas will be open for the holidays. They have also asked that people continue to support Jellystone Park and the great activities and amenities they offer year-round.

“Jellystone Park has been a wonderful partner for seven years,” said Scalf. “We want to thank them for everything they’ve done for the Dancing Lights of Christmas, and we hope people in the community will continue to visit this park.”

The James E. Ward Agricultural Center is currently working on putting the show together, and the grand opening is scheduled for early November.
Retired Teachers’ Association meet with recipients of donations

The Wilson County Retired Teachers’ Association serves Wilson County through its Community Participation Committee. Members voluntarily donate items or cash each month to a specified organization. Recently, representatives from these organizations spoke to members about how their donations are used.

Pictured from left to right: Julie Harrison, Wilson County Schools’ Federal Programs Supervisor who spoke about the At Risk and Homeless programs in the county. Janet Driver, chairperson of the Community Participation Committee, coordinates specific needs between the organizations and WCRTA. Ben Spicer spoke about the Wilson County Help Center and how it has grown in recent years and its vision for the future. Angela Chapman gave a report on the work and needs of New Leash on Life. Regina Symentette gave an overview of the Civic League’s After School Tutoring Program and how it has grown.

Beth Petty from the Lebanon Special School District, not pictured, could not attend, but sent a note to be read about the Family Resource Center.

WCRTA members also support a $1,500 Scholarship to Cumberland University and the Wilson County Books from Birth program.

Wilson County Veteran’s Museum to have grand opening

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www.tcomj.com
MTEMC employees serve with Habitat ReStore

Staff Reports

A number of employees from Middle Tennessee Electric Membership Corporation helped the local Habitat for Humanity ReStore in Wilson County as part of the Tennessee Electric Co-op Day of Service Thursday, Oct. 5.

“We love the communities we serve,” said Jay Sanders, community relations coordinator for the day of service project for MTEMC. “Our employees call Wilson County home, too, and they were excited to get their hands dirty helping our friends and neighbors.”

During the day of service, employees from MTEMC assisted the Habitat ReStore by hanging new energy efficient lights, rearranging items in the store and assisting customers of the ReStore.

“Service to community is the reason we exist,” said Chris Jones, MTEMC president and CEO. “We have a mission to improve everyday life in the communities we serve, and that mission goes far beyond simply keeping the lights on.”

The Tennessee Electric Co-op Day of Service is coordinated by the Tennessee Electric Cooperative Association. More than 400 electric co-op employees are planning to devote more than 1,200 volunteer hours to local community service projects across the state during this year’s event.

From CHURCH, PAGE 1

the same area.

“It’s competitive, but we’re in a period of re-building and trying to reach out and serve,” said Sawyer.

One way the church is reaching out is through a house to house newsletter to get Central Pike’s name out to surrounding neighborhoods. They also have a neighborhood ministry directed toward children in the surrounding area who might be having a tough life at home.

There is a small youth group that has devotions once a month and goes on outings. Sawyer said the youth group even competed in a Bible Bowl a month ago, where they study and are tested over a book of the Bible, and they did very well.

Central Pike also has international ministries in Africa and Honduras. With “Partners for Africa,” the church collects money for a missionary to continue building up the community he serves overseas. Sawyer said the man has already built a large school, but the church continues to help provide meals for the families surrounding the school. Fifty cents provides one meal, so a dollar can feed a child two meals.

The church has been traveling to Honduras for years to do humanitarian work distributing food or building houses. Sawyer, who has been going for ten or twelve years, says the work is fun, but tiring.

Sawyer said the church is just trying to reach out and let people know they are there to lift up Jesus. This is important to him because if we don’t change what is happening in our culture, we will have bigger things to worry about than another country threatening harm.

“When somebody does what happened in Las Vegas, there’s a problem,” said Sawyer. “There’s a disconnect between good. We’re not even talking about Christianity, but we’re talking about good in general in the culture has shifted.”

Because it seems as if all that is reported in the news is bad, he said, we start to believe the majority of people are bad. Sawyer, though, does not believe that is true. He said the only way to change that thinking is to connect people with the only hope: Jesus.

“That’s what we’re trying to do, is connect those kids and a lot of them we won’t reach over time,” Sawyer said, “but if you can reach a small group, it changes.”

Although he knows humans are not perfect, he says our basic desire is to do good. It is what makes the world a different place.

“That’s what it’s all about, people helping people,” he said. “That’s what we’ve got to do.”

This is why Sawyer is reaching out to the areas around the church, who may be struggling with seeing the good in life.

Sawyer understands the Christian life is not the easiest life, but he says it’s the best life to live.

“We’ve got to interact with the world, or we won’t ever reach it,” he said.

He also realizes the gap between millennials and the congregation, so the church is working on outreach specific toward the generation and holding their attention.

“I’ve got four kids and all four kids are millennials, and I realize it’s not necessarily a bad thinking, it’s just a different thinking,” he said. “What I do love about [millennials] is most love to serve, so more than likely that would be an avenue that we’re going to be looking to do.”

Central Pike is a friendly place, filled with people who love the Lord, said Sawyer. That is what he wants the neighborhood, or even people outside the area looking for a place to worship, to know. If you come as a guest, you’ll leave as a friend.

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Central conquers LaVergne, heads to bye week

By Kenny Howell
The Chronicle Contributor

When you can move the ball 99 yards in one play, you know it’s going to be your night. Already sporting a 14-0 lead, Wilson Central (2-6) was backed up at their own 1-yard-line facing a 3rd-and-15. Instead of just punting, they brought in Cour and Garrett Todd to gain almost the entire length of the field on one play. That made it 21-0, and LaVergne was able to get on the board with a pair of Hubbell touchdown passes. However, the Wildcats didn’t back down and put the game away. After King recovered a fumble at the 37-yard line, it only took Central three plays to get into the end zone. Hubbell capped it off with a 1-yard run.

On the next drive, Will LaFollette kicked a 28-yard field goal to make it 31-14. However, the Bears didn’t back down and put the game away. After King recovered a fumble at the 37-yard line, it only took Central three plays to get into the end zone. Hubbell capped it off with a 1-yard run.

Central heads into a bye week before the final two games of the season. The Wildcats will host Lebanon Oct. 20 with a 7 p.m. kick-off.

Mt. Juliet crushes McGavock 42-6 ahead of bye week

By Kenny Howell
The Chronicle Contributor

Mt. Juliet hit the road for the first time in several weeks, but the venue didn’t matter as the Bears improved to 8-0 with a 42-6 win over McGavock. Things started about as bad as they could for Mt. Juliet, as the Bears fumbled the opening kickoff and gave McGavock (5-3) the ball at the 34-yard line. However, just as they had all year, the Bears stood strong and the Raiders came away with no points. From there, it was all Bears. Aidan Raines got Mt. Juliet on the board with a pair of touchdown runs to build a 14-0 lead. McGavock was able to get one back when Ta’micus Napier rolled in from 19 yards out, cutting it to 14-6. That would be as close as the Raiders would get.

Mt. Juliet High School
Golden Bears Players of the Week
10/11/17

#8 Cody Glass, Senior, QB, Offensive Player
#32 Tony Thompson, Senior, LB, Defensive Player

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Mt. Juliet Christian Academy middle-school football team closed out their season Tuesday night at Williamson County’s Grace Christian Academy with a convincing win over the Lions. The Saints dominated all facets of the game on the way to a 28-8 victory. MJCA QB Shawn Link was a deadly dual threat. He went 5 of 7 for 101 yards and two touchdowns through the air, while rushing for 76 yards and a touchdown on the ground.

All purpose back Eli Wilson, the Saints’ offensive engine throughout the season, ran for 47 yards on 8 carries and a touchdown. He added a 31-yard reception for a touchdown.

The Saints surprised the Lions on the first play of the game with an onside kick recovered by Alex Sullivan. Link then led a masterful drive which ended in a 25-yard pass to WR Tyler Barnes. The Saints added a second touchdown by Wilson just before the half to make it 21-7 just before the break.

After the 99-yard strike, LaVergne was able to get on the board in the final minute of the half to make it 21-7 just before the break. The Wolverines got behind running back Montez Gray, and cut the lead to 21-14 early in the third quarter on his 61-yard touchdown run. However, the Wildcats didn’t back down and put the game away. After King recovered a fumble at the 37-yard line, it only took Central three plays to get into the end zone. Hubbell capped it off with a 1-yard run.

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On the next drive, Cody Glass found Alvin Mixon in the end zone for a 21-yard score. After a three-and-out, Raines once again got the score on a 3-yard run. The Bears led 28-6 at the break.

Glass was in on both scores in the second half, first swinging the ball out to Colby Martin who did the rest for a 46-yard score. Glass called his own number on the last score, taking it in from 27 yards out.

Raines once again went over 100 yards with 125 yards and three scores. Glass finished with 10-for-13 for 145 yards and three total scores. The Bears head into a bye week as they get ready for the final two games of the season. They will be back at home Oct. 20 to take on Station Camp (1-7). Kickoff is 7 p.m.
A matter of the heart

Just a week ago, we witnessed another senseless act of evil perpetrated against an unsuspecting crowd of people in Las Vegas having a good time as they were entertained by a few of their favorite country music stars. The latest count reports 59 people lost their lives at the hands of a man set on hurting others.

Just days before, a man with an unknown motive and obvious emotional issues, walked into a church in our area during worship and shot a number of people, killing one.

Young people are shooting one another on a regular basis in Middle Tennessee. Tennessee has one of the highest rates of violence against women in the country. Tennessee is listed among the top states in the United States for human trafficking. What is happening to our world? What is behind all of this evil we are witnessing? Jesus said, “For from the heart come evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, sexual immoralities, thefts, false testimonies, blasphemies.” Matthew 15:19 (HCSB)

What is in the hearts of people that would cause them to do to others the things they are doing? We once were taught to live by the “Golden Rule:” “Do unto others as you would have them do unto you.” I think we now live by the “Golden Rule:” “Do unto others before they do it unto you.” It is a sad day indeed when people love themselves and their desire to do as they please, more than their neighbors and the God who loves them.

Is it possible for the hearts of people to be transformed for good? I know it is possible, but only if the people who are called by the Name of the Lord Jesus have His heart and seek to love others as He loves them. God’s people should remember we are no longer our own, we have been bought with a price and now we belong to Jesus and His Kingdom’s purpose.

It is simply a matter of the heart. My heart being right with the Lord, His heart living in me, and me sharing His heart with those that share our community. May God grant us His heart and may we all embrace His heart for the good of all.

Chuck Groover
Victory Baptist

FAITH & MESSAGE

CHURCH DIRECTORY

Assembly of God
Lighthouse Assembly of God
Life Assembly

Baptist
Baker’s Grove Baptist
Beckwith Baptist
Cedar Grove Baptist
Corona Baptist Church
Faith Church
Fellowship Baptist
The Fellowship at Mt. Juliet
First Baptist Church of Mt. Juliet*
The Glade Church
Grace Baptist Church
Green Hill Church*
Hickory Hills Baptist
The LightHouse Fellowship
Mays Chapel
Mt. Juliet Missionary Baptist
Mt. Olivet Baptist
Music City Baptist Church
New Life Baptist Church
Rutland Baptist Church
Silver Springs Baptist
Truth and Grace Free Will

Baptist Church
Victory Baptist Church
Catholic
Holy Comforter Anglican (ACC)
St. Stephen Catholic Community

Church of Christ
Belinda Parkway Church of Christ
Center Chapel Church of Christ
Cอรinth Church of Christ
Gladierville Church of Christ
Green Hill Church of Christ
Leweille Church of Christ
Mt. Juliet Church of Christ
Nonaville Church of Christ
Vesta Church of Christ

Church of God
Living Water Fellowship
Mt. Juliet Church of God
The Pointe Church

Church of Jesus Christ
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints
Episcopal
Church of the Epiphany

Jehovah’s Witness
Kingdom Hall of Jehovah’s Witnesses

Lutheran
Celebration Lutheran

Methodist
Cook’s United Methodist
Gladierville United Methodist
Grace United Methodist Church
Mt. Juliet African Methodist Episcopal Church
Pleasant Grove United Methodist

Providence United Methodist*
Scott’s Chapel African Methodist Episcopal Church
Williamson Chapel CME Church

Nazarene
Covenant Fellowship Church of the Nazarene

Pentecostal
Church Alive

Presbyterian
Cloyd’s Cumberland Presbyterian
Hickory Grove Church
Suggs Creek Cumberland Presbyterian

Unity
Unity of Music City

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Abundant Life*
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Bridge Fellowship Church

Cedar Ridge Church
Connect Church
Faith is the Victory Church
Cross Point Church
Friendship Community Church

Gateway of Hope
Generation Changers Church
Global Vision Bible Church
Grace Bible Fellowship
Grace Fellowship Ministries
Greater True Faith Community Church

Holy Temple Church
The Journey Church
Joy Church International
LifeChurch of Mt. Juliet
Living Hope Church
Mending Fences Cowboy Church

New Heart Christian Church
New Tribe Church
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The Rock of Nashville

Royal Life International

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Most everyone should be receiving your Census form in the mail soon if you have not already received it. Please, please take the time to fill it out and mail it in. I am as picky and hesitant as anyone I know when it comes to giving out personal information about me and my family, but when it comes to the Census, we need to make sure that we are counted. I will list below the many benefits and reasons to fill out your Census card.

It’s important - Census data determines funding for your community, your community’s representation in local, state and federal government and your community planning decisions. It’s easy - The Census questionnaire takes only a few minutes to complete, answer and return. It’s Confidential - Your responses are protected by law (Title 13, U.S. Code Section 9). All Census Bureau Employees have taken an oath to protect confidentiality and are subject to a jail term, fine - or both - for disclosing any information that could identify a respondent or household.

It’s required by law - The information you provide is combined with responses provided by your neighbors and other households across the country, to provide summary statistical data that are used by various local, state and federal agencies. Census affects funding for your community - Census data directly affects how much more than $300 billion per year in federal and state funding is allocated to communities for neighborhood improvements, public health, education, transportation and much more. That’s more than $3 trillion over a 10-year period. Spending just a few minutes to fill out your Census form will help ensure your community gets its fair share of federal and state funding.

There will also be a door-to-door Census process as well, so don’t be alarmed if you see a smiling face at your door.

We have a wonderful community and together we can make sure we get all the resources and representation we deserve and need for our future. So please join me in being a part of securing additional resources for our citizens and our community.

See READY, PAGE 16
Habitat dedicates home, begins second build

Wilson Habitat for Humanity celebrated the end of their 72nd home build for Melissa Vaughn with a dedication ceremony Sunday, Oct. 1 at 12 p.m. for Lisa Nichols, announced Tory Tredway, director of Wilson Habitat for Humanity.

“Our once again, we are thankful for the involvement of Danny and Karen Dugan in sponsoring the construction of a Habitat home in Wilson County,” said Tredway. “Their generosity — along with the involvement of several volunteer groups in the community — is helping Melissa Vaughn’s dream of homeownership come true.”

Volunteer groups that assisted with the build for Melissa include: Friends of Danny and Karen Dugan, Bridgestone Distribution Center, College Hills Church of Christ and Cumberland University.

The second home build of the fall is for Lisa Nichols and will start Saturday, Oct. 7 at 313 Lake St. in Lebanon. Lisa is a Nashvillian and the proud mother of two adult children: Jalesia, 27, and Gregory, 19. Jalesia graduated from Tennessee State University with a degree in nursing and now works as a nurse and resides in her own apartment. Gregory is a full-time freshman at Trevecca Nazarene University and works part time at KMart. He lives with Lisa on the weekends when he’s not at the dorm.

Lisa and Gregory have lived at a local apartment building in Nashville since February 2015. The manager of the apartments said Lisa is an excellent resident and that they will assist in any way to help her get a home.

Lisa is worried about crime in her area as well as loud neighbors, loud music, gun shots and illegal activity. She just wants to live in a peaceful area where the cost of living is more affordable.

Lisa said that owning her own home has always been a dream of hers since she was a child.

“Owning my own home gives me a sense of pride, and my kids will see that if you have faith in God, he will give you the desires of your heart,” Lisa said.

Sponsors of the build include Manheim Nashville, Lochinvar with support from the A.O. Smith Foundation, Inc., Enbridge, Peoples Home Equity (Mt. Juliet), and The Memorial Foundation.

As we prepare to start the Community Build on Oct. 7, we are thankful to those sponsors who are making this build possible for Lisa,” said Tredway. “This build illustrates again how critical it is to have the support of a caring community to enable us to provide these affordable homeownership opportunities. We can’t do what we do without the aid of companies and individuals wanting to impact our community.”

Every year, the four Wilson County Rotary Clubs provide dictionaries to every third-grader in Wilson County as a part of their joint Dictionary Project. The four clubs are the Mt. Juliet Noon and Breakfast Clubs and the Lebanon Noon and Breakfast Clubs. The attached photos are from the dictionary presentations made by the Mt. Juliet Noon Club.
Remember when... Staggs Pharmacy

Staff Reports

Opened in 1971, Staggs Pharmacy offered great customer service and attention to the residents of Mt. Juliet for 25 years until closing its doors in 1996. Former boss Bill Staggs and his wife Judy took former employees out to eat at Demos in Lebanon for a great time reminiscing, catching up with each other and talking about good times with customers.

From left to right: Gail Burnette, Judy Staggs, Bill Staggs, Linda Bugg, Berlina Cook, Daphne Engles, Alene Pitts and Dee Lawrence.

Madden featured in national contest

Staff Reports

Mt. Juliet local Tracy Madden crafted a unique, nutritious sandwich recipe that has been named one of the Top 5 finalists in Arnold Bread's America's Better Sandwich Contest this year.

Selected from thousands of entries, Madden will now move on to the next round where her recipe for “Savory Grilled Vegan Delight Sandwich” will be judged by Americans across the country alongside celebrity Chef Tom Colicchio for a chance to win the grand prize of $25,000.

From Oct. 5 to Oct. 26, sandwich lovers from Mt. Juliet can help Madden bring home the grand prize by casting their votes at www.AmericasBetterSandwich.com.

Photo submitted

For every vote submitted during the voting phase, Arnold Bread will donate a loaf of bread, up to 10,000 loaves, to Feeding America, its official charitable partner. The grand prize and runner-up winners will be announced on National Sandwich Day, Nov. 3.

In addition to consumer votes, Arnold, Brownberry and Oroweat Bread have enlisted the help of seasoned food judge and sandwich expert Chef Tom Colicchio to help determine the next top sandwich. Each finalist’s recipe will be evaluated by its nutritional analysis, creativity/innovation and taste.

“There were so many creative recipes submitted to this year’s America’s Better Sandwich® Contest featuring delicious ingredients on a variety of Arnold, Brownberry and Oroweat breads, and the five finalists represent the very best of the submissions,” said Colicchio. “As the finalists head to the next round, we invite everyone to help us judge the recipes and vote for their favorite better sandwich. It’s definitely not going to be easy to choose just one!”

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BLACKFOX, Jeremy Scott “Scottie”

Blackfox, Jeremy Scott “Scottie”, age 39, of Mt. Juliet, TN, died October 3, 2017. Scottie was a former manager at Isenhour Door. He was an assistant coach for Mt. Juliet youth softball travel teams. Scottie was pre-deced in death by his father, Thurman Blackfox. He is survived by: Mother – Gena Blackfox; Daughters – Kinsley Blackfox and Summer Lee; Sister – Sasha Blackfox-Qualls and her husband, Bryan Qualls; Niece - Keesha Rae Qualls; Several aunts and uncles.

Visitation was 4-8 p.m. Friday, October 6, 2017 at Bond Memorial Chapel. Funeral services in Oklahoma County, passed away peacefully Saturday, October 7, 2017 in the chapel of Sellars Funeral Home in Lebanon.

The family received friends at the funeral home from 1 p.m. until the service on Saturday. Interment in Mt. Julian Memorial Gardens followed the service.

Allie is survived by mother Jill Neely; father Miccah (Amanda) Johnson; siblings Ashen Johnson, Christopher Johnson, and Addison Johnson; grandparents Jan-ice Neely and Anna Stevens; grandfather Cliff Johnson; uncles Matt Neely and Aaron Johnson; aunt Renee Schult; great-grandmothers Ruth Furby and Princess. She also enjoyed traveling with her friends in the Mid Tennessee Red Birds RV Club. She was loved dearly by all of the Hurley and Jones families.

Funeral services were held Saturday, Oct. 7 at 2 p.m. from the chapel of Sellars Fu-neral Home in Mt. Juliet. Visitation with the family began on Saturday from 11 a.m. until service time at 2 p.m.


BRYANT, William Morris Jr.

William Morris Bryant, Jr. passed away on Octo-ber 7, 2017 in Jackson, TN. The Funeral Service is 2 p.m. Thursday, October 12, 2017 in the chapel of Sel-lars Funeral Home, Lebanon, TN. Visitation will be from 11 a.m. until the service on Thursday. Interment in Mt. Juliet Memorial Gardens will follow the service. Arrangements by Sellars Funeral Home, Lebanon TN 615-444-9393.

JOHNSON, Alexandria “Allie” Brianna

Allie Johnson passed away on October 3, 2017 at age 15. The Funeral Service, conducted by Pastor Barry Smith, was 3 p.m. Saturday, October 7, 2017 in the chapel of Sellars Funeral Home in Lebanon.

The family received friends at the funeral home from 1 p.m. until the service on Saturday. Interment in Mt. Juliet Memorial Gardens followed the service.

Allie is survived by mother Jill Neely; father Miccah (Amanda) Johnson; siblings Ashen Johnson, Christopher Johnson, and Addison Johnson; grandparents Jan-ice Neely and Anna Stevens; grandfather Cliff Johnson; uncles Matt Neely and Aaron Johnson; aunt Renee Schult; great-grandmothers Ruth and Martha Matthews; and great-aunts Beverly Britt and Joan (Tim) Deavars. She is preceded in death by grandfather Bubba Neely.
Local students’ art on display at Wilson County Courthouse

Staff Reports

For the past several years, the Wilson County Mayor’s office has chosen to honor Wilson County’s local talent. The Four County High Schools provided the courthouse with a frame which houses a piece of artwork to represent each school. The artwork graces the doors of the Wilson County Courthouse for a year and then is returned to the school along with a plaque bearing the artist’s name, school, teacher and graduation year.

“We have so much talent in our county and we feel like this is a great way to show them off to other people but also let them know how proud we are of them and offer some encouragement,” said County Mayor Randall Hutto. “I look forward to the new artwork each year. It’s always exciting to see these young students’ interpretation of a particular theme. Our teachers do a great job with these students and we can’t thank them enough.”

This year’s featured artists include: Dakota Moore of Mt. Juliet High School, taught by Derek Elwell.

Caleb Durham of Lebanon High School, taught by Cynthia Upshur; Jennifer Sheehan of Watertown High School, taught by Sarah Gentry; and Alannah Richardson of Wilson Central High School, taught by April Grooms, who were unavailable at the time of picture.

The Chronicle of Mt. Juliet, OCTOBER 11, 2017 Page 11


Visitations was 4-8 p.m. Sunday at the funeral home and one hour prior to service time Monday at the church. Arrangements by Bond Memorial Chapel, N. Mt. Juliet Road and Weston Drive, Mt. Juliet, TN. (615)773-2663. Obit Line (615)641-2663, www.bondmemorial.com

STEWART, Gery Allen

Stewart, Gery Allen, age 76, of Old Hickory, TN, died October 1, 2017. Mr. Stewart was a veteran of the U.S. Army. He was the son of the late Daniel and Trudie Dewey Stewart. Mr. Stewart was also preceded in death by his brothers, Dewey Eugene “Gene” Stewart and Weldon “Sonny” Stewart.

He is survived by: Son – Jason (Lynsey) Stewart; Sister – Elaine Booker; Grandson – Jeremiah Stewart; Nephews – David Stewart, Billy Stewart, Terry Stewart, Richard Stewart and Stephen Stewart.

Memorial services will be conducted in California at a later date.


Be sure to leave room for all of the sweet homemade treats available at the Bake Sale Table. All proceeds benefit the Mt. Juliet senior Activity Center.

For more information please call 615.758.9114 or visit www.mjseniorcenter.org

PASTA WITH A PURPOSE PLUS BAKE SALE

Mt Juliet Senior Activity Center’s Spaghetti Day Fundraiser Event

October 20, 2017

Mt. Juliet Senior Activity Center
2034 N. Mt. Juliet Road
Mt. Juliet, TN 37122
615.758.9114

Menu

Spaghetti with meat sauce, Salad, Bread
*Drinks are provided for Dine-in only.
*Take-out available.

Tickets

$10 in advance ($12 at the door)

Bake Sale Table

Be sure to leave room for all of the sweet homemade treats available at the Bake Sale Table. All proceeds benefit the Mt. Juliet Senior Activity Center.
L👀K Autos for Sale

Public Repo Auto Auction and other misc inventories - Over (120) Cars, Trucks & Vans
Thurs. - OCTOBER 12th, 2017 - 9:00 am
100 Auction Way, Nashville, TN
Call 615-262-5455 for list of vehicles
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Go to website: www.colsonauctions.com to view vehicles (615) 262-5455

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You:
• Smiling Face
• Team Player
• People Person

Apply in person at:
12910 Lebanon Road, Mt. Juliet

www.tcomj.com
HELP WANTED

The City of Mt. Juliet is recruiting for a Business License & Property Tax Clerk. This position will be 40 hours per week working in the Finance Department. Property and Business Tax experience is a plus. Selected candidates will be required to complete pre-employment background and drug test/physical and Salary starts at $14.53 per hour with review at six months and again at one year. Benefits go into effect 60 days and first of the month after hire.

Detailed job description and requirements on the City website www.mtjuliet-tn.gov. Employment Applications must be completed electronically on the website, we will accept electronic applications until such time when a qualified candidate is chosen with the first cut-off date being October 20, 2017. 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 or national origin in federal or state sponsored programs, pursuant to Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. 2000d). EO/E/D/Drug-free Workplace.

HELP WANTED

Commercial Plumbing Company seeking experienced technicians to add to our team. We offer competitive pay and benefits. Applicants must have a valid driver’s license and be willing to travel for extended periods. Our company takes on projects all over the country and travel is required. Send resume to cli75@comcast.net or stop in and fill out an application at 80 Fesslers Lane, Nashville, TN 37210. 615-868-5225.

HELP WANTED

Female helper/companion needed for lady in a quality neighborhood near Mt. Juliet. Prefer Christian, dependable, single, non smoker, caring personality. Would have access to furnished bedroom with separate bath. Kitchen & laundry access 615-812-0490 Leave message & number. Part time hours needed immediately are Monday 9-5 and Friday 12-5 or possibly overnight. Would like a back-up person also.

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

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Retail establishment, no experience necessary, standard basic pay rate. PT, day shifts available. Call 615-288-3496

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12 Years Quality work at affordable prices
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Free Estimates
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Bathroom Wood Repairs
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Decks & Patios
Fencing & Fences
Painting & Drywall
Bathroom Wood Repairs
Michael Larson

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Bobbie, BUS HOGGING, DUMP TRUCK, BACKHOE
Concrete Work. Fill dirt and gravel. Flatbed tow truck. Free estimates. (615) 347-0433. 615-754-0090

GREG SANDERS DIAMOND CUT LAWN SERVICE

LAWN MAINTENANCE

PAINTING


PUBLIC NOTICE

Sealed proposals for “Air Release Valves” will be received at the office of the City of Mt. Juliet Finance Department at 2425 N. Mt. Juliet Rd, Mt. Juliet, Tennessee 37122, Attention: John Rossmaier, on or before 2:00 PM on October 23, 2017 and immediately thereafter all bids will be publicly opened and read aloud. Please contact Tim Forkum at 615-762-0608 should you have any questions or visit us online at http://www.mtjuliet-tn.gov/Bids.aspx.

Sealed proposals for “Grinder Pumps” will be received at the office of the City of Mt. Juliet Finance Department at 2425 N. Mt. Juliet Rd, Mt. Juliet, Tennessee 37122, Attention: John Rossmaier, on or before 2:00 PM on October 23, 2017 and immediately thereafter all bids will be publicly opened and read aloud. Please contact Tim Forkum at 615-762-0608 should you have any questions or visit us online at http://www.mtjuliet-tn.gov/Bids.aspx.
Recently I was in a work meeting and it seemed everyone in attendance was in a funk. It was not a work related funk but a general “life as we know it” funk. The conversation quickly turned from work to politics, natural disasters and of course, Las Vegas.

It seems that everywhere we look these days evil abounds. There are populations of people that want to harm us. From nukes that may reach our shores to wayward souls who massacre the innocent among us. Natural disasters are battering homes and our spirit. Tweets and daily political posts that keep us in constant turmoil.

Conversations about how we go about fixing what has gone so wrong often lead to nowhere. Fixing “it” seems almost insurmountable until you realize that the next move is ours to make and we best get to making it.

I don’t know how to fix politicians or world leaders, nor do I know how to make someone insane become more sane. I can’t make floods subside nor can I bring back innocent lives lost.

But I can...

1. Be kind to those around me. I can smile at the clerk at Walmart and ask their name. The minute I do, we are no longer strangers. In a world where so many are alone or lonely, I will take a minute to ensure those who pass through my daily world know they are valued.

2. Be a helper. I can hold a door, pay for a meal, do a favor and expect nothing in return. It astounds me that there are so many among us who may be hungry or do not have a permanent home where they can rest. Let’s help them. Let’s feed them. Let’s bring them some peace. For we all know that helping them brings us peace as well.

3. Be thankful. I can thank the good Lord above that somehow I landed right here. We may not have the swankiest of restaurants or big sprawling malls but we have something better.

Fridays are for football, the county fair is still a big deal, you get caught behind a tractor on the highway and your life automatically slows down. It’s not a simple life by any means but at the same time, it’s not the life many in this world suffer through. We know our neighbors. We watch out for each other. Good abounds.

4. Be resolute. I can right a wrong. I can speak up. I can speak out. There is a time and place for silence but now is not the time or place. We can no longer let the politicians or other people fix things for us. It’s time we fix things in our own homes. It’s time we fix things in our own schools. It’s time we fix things in our own small communities. Only then will we be ready to fix the bigger challenges facing us.

5. Be the change. I can make a difference. Even a small one. I can make it every single day. I may not be saving the entire world but I’m doing what I can to save my little world.

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

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Tracy Lawrence to headline Keith Edmonds Foundation benefit

Staff Reports

Southern Stars and Mason Jars is coming to Wilson County. Headlining the show is award-winning country music superstar Tracy Lawrence.

Lawrence, along with three of Nashville's top songwriters, Casey Beathard, Rick Huckaby and Mark Nessler, will take the stage at the Wilson County Expo Center Thursday, Nov. 2, for a lively evening of musical entertainment. It all benefits the Keith Edmonds Foundation, a local non-profit that works to assist and empower victims of child abuse.

Lawrence, a Wilson County resident, is well known for such hits as “Time Marches On,” “Sticks and Stones,” “Paint Me a Birmingham” and “If the World Had a Front Porch.” His studio albums have accounted for more than 40 singles on the Billboard country music charts, with eight reaching number one.

Beathard has penned hits for many of Nashville's best, including Trace Atkins, Gary Allan, Tracy Byrd and Billy Currington. He was named BMI Country Songwriter of the Year in 2004 and 2008. He was honored by BMI as co-writer of Lawrence's number one single “Find Out Who Your Friends Are.” Other hits to his credit include Eric Church's “Like a Wrecking Ball,” “The Outsiders” and “Like Jesus Does.”

Nessler's first number one hit, “Just to See You Smile” recorded by Tim McGraw, spent six weeks in the number one spot on Billboard's country music charts. Other favorites include “Living and Loving Well” (George Strait), and “You Look Good in My Shirt” (Keith Urban). Nashville singer, songwriter and guitar player Rick “Huck” Huckaby is credited with a sound like no other in country music today. The accomplished acoustic guitarist has travelled with Tracy Lawrence, as well as Tanya Tucker, Joe Diffie and Mark Chesnutt performing and playing guitar. He co-wrote Thomas Rhett's first hit single “Beer with Jesus.”

“This is a rare opportunity to bring the type of event to Wilson County that you would typically have to go to Nashville to experience,” said Keith Edmonds, founder of The Keith Edmonds Foundation. “We appreciate Tracy and his talented friends' willingness to donate their time and talent to help us in our work with victims of child abuse.”

Tickets for Southern Stars and Mason Jars are $125 and include admission to the show, dinner catered by Sammy B's Restaurant and valet parking. A cash bar will be available. Doors open at 6 p.m., dinner at 6:30 p.m. and show begins at 7 p.m.

Tickets for the Country Stars and Mason Jars show are now available at keithedmondsfoundation.org.

Drug Court Program Referral announced

Staff Reports

The Fifteenth Judicial District Drug Court Program is proud to announce a referral relationship with the Nashville Building and Construction Trades Council and representatives of the AFL-CIO and specifically the IBEW (International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers.)

The Drug Court Program, which provides community-based treatment and supervision of non-violent offenders with a drug or alcohol addiction, now has a training resource to assist offenders in career development.

Often, due to a participant's prior arrest record, starting a career is very difficult. Representatives from the building trades have stepped forward to provide training and employment options that previously would not have been available for many of the participants.

Judge John Wootten, Jr., Fifteenth Judicial District Drug Court Judge, states that training and career placement is vital to the participants' re-entry to the community. He further states that employment provides the participant with a feeling of self-worth and financial independence that many have never experienced in the past.

Dr. O'Quinn was born and raised in Chicago, received his undergraduate degree from Princeton University, and obtained his medical degree from Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis. Upon completion of his residency at Barnes Hospital, he was recruited to practice medicine in Lebanon, Tennessee. That was thirty years ago; and Dr. O'Quinn continues to provide professional and quality health care to our community.

He remains a supporter of philanthropic endeavors, and is an incorporator and director of CedarStone Bank. We salute Dr. O'Quinn and his staff for doing their part to make Lebanon and Wilson County a healthy and prosperous community.

To celebrate this great milestone, Dr. O'Quinn has planned an Open House and Reception on Thursday, October 12, from 5 to 7 p.m. at his office, 1405 West Baddour Parkway, Suite 106, Lebanon. Please RSVP to 615-444-6500 by October 10, 2017.
From READY, PAGE 7

ing for all of our students. This is a key moment for our state, as we are now transitioning to the point where we have a true understanding of where students are from elementary through high school, and we can use that information to better support their growth.”

Overall, students’ performance on TNReady reflects the readiness they show on national tests like the National Assessment of Education Progress (NAEP), which is known as the Nation’s Report Card and is a gold standard for assessments. In previous years, Tennessee’s TCAP results did not match what exams like NAEP and the ACT showed, which earned the state an “F” from the U.S. Chamber of Commerce in 2007 for “Truth in Advertising” about students’ true readiness. The 2017 TNReady results reflect a similar level of performance to what Tennessee sees on national tests like NAEP and the ACT showed, which earned the state an “F” from the U.S. Chamber of Commerce in 2007 for “Truth in Advertising” about students’ true readiness. The 2017 TNReady results reflect a similar level of performance to what Tennessee sees on national tests like NAEP and the ACT showed, which earned the state an “F” from the U.S. Chamber of Commerce in 2007 for “Truth in Advertising” about students’ true readiness. The 2017 TNReady results reflect a similar level of performance to what Tennessee sees on national tests like NAEP and the ACT showed, which earned the state an “F” from the U.S. Chamber of Commerce in 2007 for “Truth in Advertising” about students’ true readiness. This was the first year of TNReady for grades 3-8, and achievement results for English and math cannot be compared to prior TCAP scores. Instead, they set a new baseline for future growth.

For TNReady English in grades 3-8:
- 5.7 percent of students are considered as having mastered the content.
- 28.1 percent are on track.
- 44.7 percent are approaching, and
- 21.5 percent are below grade-level expectations.

In TNReady grades 3-8 math:
- 8.9 percent of students are considered mastered,
- 29.1 percent are on track,
- 36.1 percent are approaching, and
- 25.9 percent are below grade-level expectations.

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- 28.1 percent are on track.
- 44.7 percent are approaching, and
- 21.5 percent are below grade-level expectations.

In TNReady grades 3-8 math:
- 8.9 percent of students are considered mastered,
- 29.1 percent are on track,
- 36.1 percent are approaching, and
- 25.9 percent are below grade-level expectations.


For the 2016-17 school year, social studies exams were similar to previous years’ TCAP tests, but it will transition to a dynamic exam that will assess the more rigorous science standards when those are implemented in the 2018-19 school year. The science exam still uses the old performance categories: advanced, proficient, below, and below basic.

For the 2016-17 science tests in grades 3-8:
- 16.3 percent of students scored as advanced,
- 42.2 percent of students scored as proficient,
- 25.9 percent of students scored as basic,
- 16.3 percent of students scored as below basic.

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- 42.2 percent of students scored as proficient,
- 25.9 percent of students scored as basic,
- 16.3 percent of students scored as below basic.

For the first time, writing was included as a component in students’ English scores, and students were not allowed to use a calculator on parts of the math assessment in order to determine the depth of their understanding. These adjustments help to ensure that all students are being prepared to be successful after high school.

District and school-level results will be shared later this fall, and districts are being mailed individual student results to share with each parent.

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