Candidates file petitions for republican and democratic Special Election primary

By Sarah Tate
Managing Editor

The deadline for candidates to turn in petitions to be on the Nov. 7 Special Election ballot to fill the District 17 State Senate vacancy was Thursday, Sept. 28 at noon. One candidate filed for each primary: Mark Pody for the Republican primary and Mary Alice Carfi for the Democratic primary.

Tennessee law requires a special election be called by the Governor to replace a vacant senate seat if the vacancy occurs twelve months or more before the next state general election. The next regular state general election is fourteen months away. The Governor set Nov. 7 for the primary and Dec. 19 for the general special election. Both elections will be held in all of the six counties making up the 17th State Senate District: Wilson, Cannon, Dekalb, Smith, Clay and Macon.

The Republican and Democratic Primary Election on Nov. 7 will determine the party nominees that will be on the General Election ballot in December. The winner of the General Election on Dec. 19 will serve the remainder of the unexpired State Senate term which ends in 2018.

Tennessee law requires that primary elections be held for each political party to allow members of that party to select a nominee to appear on the general election ballot. Registered voters who are affiliated with the Republican or Democratic Party, or who, at the time they vote intend to affiliate with that party, participate in Primary Elections. Voters do not register by political party in Tennessee but they must declare a party choice before voting in a primary for the District 17 Senate seat in the upcoming Special Elections.

“We need some common sense in the Senate,” Carfi said. “Republicans have held the majority since the 2010 elections. They have had ample opportunities to improve the lives of working families in our state, but instead have put party interests before improving the health care, jobs and education for our citizens.”

An attorney in a solo-practice in Mt. Juliet, Carfi can relate to the issues that affect the small business owners throughout District 17, which includes Cannon, Clay, DeKalb, Macon, Smith and Wilson counties.

“I understand struggles with health care costs,” Carfi said. “The Republicans missed the boat when they failed to expand Medicaid. As a result of their failure to act, the 10th region failed to act to keep you from voting, take advantage of Early Voting for these special elections. There will be five convenient Early Voting sites in Wilson County:

- Lebanon at 203 E Main St., Mt. Juliet at 1075 Charlie Daniels Pkwy., Lighthouse Church at 6141 Saundersville Rd., Gladeville at the Community Center, Watertown at the Community Center.

- The Election Commission Office and the Mt. Juliet Community Center sites will be open Oct. 18 through Nov. 2. The other three locations will be open from Oct. 23 through Oct. 28. The hours of early voting at all the sites are Monday through Friday 8 a.m. until 6 p.m. and on Saturday, Oct. 28, 9 a.m. until 1 p.m.

See CANDIDATES, PAGE 8

Wilson County attorney seeks senate seat in special election

By Sarah Tate
Managing Editor

On Monday, Wilson County attorney Mary Alice Carfi announced her candidacy in the Democratic primary for the District 17 state Senate seat in the upcoming Special Elections.

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See CANDIDATES, PAGE 8

Community Calendar

OCT 6 - 7
St. Stephen Yard Sale
14544 Lebanon Rd.

OCT 7
Bill Colson Auctions
Circle P Ranch

OCT 17
Golf Tournament
Old Hickory Country Club

Additional information
Page 2

Staff Reports

The Fire Department of Mt. Juliet will conduct multiple demonstrations Saturdays, Oct. 7 at Stoner Creek Elementary School, from 9 a.m. until noon.

The demonstrations, labeled “Fire/Rescue Ops 101,” is part of the department’s recognition of Fire Awareness Month in October.

“Fire{text?}designors, fire prevention and safety education and training for the people of St. Thomas, USVI.

Workshop Cafe, which has been providing hot meals daily for the people of St. Thomas, USVI.

They raised money to support a friend who lost their home and business, while some money went to support Adopt A Family USVI. The remainder of the money went to My Brothers Workshop Cafe, which has been providing hot meals daily for the people of St. Thomas, USVI.

The Kindness Revolution, led by the Hargis Family Agency recently awarded Benjamin Callihou of Springfield Elementary the Kind Citizen’s Award for his lemon-aid stand that raised $449 for hurricane victims. Benjamin raised money to support a friend who lost their home and business, while some money went to support Adopt A Family USVI. The remainder of the money went to My Brothers Workshop Cafe, which has been providing hot meals daily for the people of St. Thomas, USVI.
COMMUNITY CALENDAR

**OCT 5**

Wilson Co. Retired Teachers’ Association  
The October meeting of WCRTA will be Thursday, Oct. 5 at the First Church of the Nazarene in Lebanon beginning at 10 a.m. Our community project for the month is supplies for the Wilson County Schools’ At Risk program. The supplies needed are Crayola Crayons, markers, colored pencils, children’s scissors, glue sticks, white 1” binders, wide-ruled paper and composition notebooks. Our speaker will present a discussion of the At Risk program. If you have any questions, please contact us at (615) 444-0071.

**OCT 6**

Free Clothes...  
The Free Clothing Store will be open this Friday, Oct. 6 from 9 a.m. until noon. It is open to everyone. There will be free clothes, accessories, toiletries, shoes and more for men, women & children. Free Chiropractic Adjustments will also be available. It is located at Life Church at 3688 Highway 109 in Lebanon across the street from the Dollar General Store on Highway 109. This event takes place on the first Friday of every month.

**OCT 7**

Bill Colson Auctions  
Absolute Auction - Proceeds going to Big Brothers of Mt. Juliet. To be held 10 a.m. Oct. 7 at Circle P Ranch, 563 E. Main St., Mt. Juliet. Hundreds of NEW items including: several black recliners, marine gas tanks, carpets, china settings, wind turbine generator, and much more. Cash or check day of sale, driver’s license required for Bidding Number. Call Sherry Bilibey 615-202-6084 with any questions www.colsonauctions.com

**OCT 10**

Electoral Commission  
The Wilson County Election Commission will have a regularly scheduled meeting on Tuesday, October 10, 2017 at 7:00 a.m. at the Tennessee College of Applied Technology facility at 411 Tennessee Blvd, Lebanon, TN to inspect the Early Voting and Election Day voting machines and conduct election business which comes before the commission pursuant to its duties listed in, but not limited to, TCA § 2-12-116, and to conduct any other business that may come before the election commission at that time.

**OCT 17**

Golf Tournament  
The Annual Jerry Houston Memorial Golf Tournament, October 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.

MJ Noon Rotary Club awards local student with new bike

Baha’is of Wilson County to celebrate 200 year anniversary

**Staff Reports**

Members of the Baha’i Faith are preparing to celebrate the 200-year anniversary of the birth of Baha’u’llah, the prophet founder of the Baha’i Faith, who was born Nov. 12, 1817 in Persia.

Baha’u’llah, translated as the “Glory of God,” taught that there is one God, one eternal religion and one human family and that all of God’s children will eventually live together in peace and unity with no one group exalted above any other.

Celebrations are being planned worldwide in September and October. Wilson County will perform several acts of service and host other events leading up to a gathering on Sunday, Oct. 22 at the Charlie Daniels Park Community Center from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Celebrations will be held the same weekend in Nashville, Murfreesboro, Hendersonville and Williamson County. All celebrations are free and open to the public. Members of the Baha’i Faith have resided in Wilson County for the past 45 years.
If one of them lost their hospital, it would have a devastating impact not only the health care of its citizens but on that county’s economy,” she added. “This is just one example of how the failure to apply common sense to our health care issues has hurt working families in District 17 and across the state.”

When it comes to jobs and the economy, Carfi noted that in five of the six counties in District 17, an average of 20.6 percent of all households receives food stamps, which is almost 4 percent higher than the state average.

“We need jobs that pay a living wage, so no one who works a full-time job has to rely on public assistance to survive,” she added. “It’s sound common sense to raise the minimum wage because Tennessee econo- my runs on consumer spending. If working fam- ilies struggle to pay their rent and put food on their table, then how can they afford to buy anything else?”

Last, Carfi wants to make sure all students in District 17 have a quality public education “because it’s the best investment we can make in our state and nation’s future.”

Common sense tells us that we need to fully fund Tennessee’s Basic Education Plan (BEP) so that a child in smaller, less affluent counties like Clay or Cannon County can be as- sured of getting access to the same quality education as a child in Wilson Coun-

ty,” Carfi said.

“We need less testing of our students, and we need to say no vouchers of any kind because they divert resources from already struggling schools,” she added.

As a general practice at-
torney, Carfi often works with people who have dif-
ferring opinions. “It’s my job to bring these people together, to compromise when and where it’s neces- sary, so that a positive re-
sult can be agreed upon by all parties. “It’s time for some com-
mon sense in Tennessee’s Senate, and I ask for your support and vote on Dec. 19 so I can bring this to our legislative body.”

Carfi grew up in Smith County, the daughter of Don and Phyllis Ecker of Gordonsville. She is the granddaughter of the late Pete and Evelyn Watts, who owned Watts Angus Farm. Pete Watts was a well- known building contractor in Middle Tennessee and owner of Pete Watts Con-
struction.

She has one daughter, Alexia, 9, and is a mem-
er of the Carthage United Methodist Church, where she sings in the choir. She and her husband, Jamie, are both members of the Bert Cobb Singers in Leba-
on. She also serves on the

Bert Cobb Singers Leader-
ship Team.

Carfi is a member of the Tennessee Bar Association and the 15th Judicial Dis-

trict Bar Association. She is a graduate of Smith County High School and earned her Bachelor of Science de-

gree in criminal justice ad-

ministration from Middle Tennessee State Universi-

ty. She received her Doctor of Jurisprudence degree from Nashville School of Law. She was chosen as the Best Attorney in Mt. Juliet in 2016 by the read-

A Campaign Kick-Off will be held Monday, Oct. 16, from 6-8 p.m., at The Capitol Theatre at 110 West Main St. in Lebanon.

School Board resignation leaves vacancy

Staff Reports

Mr. Larry Joe Inman of the Wilson County School Board resigned his position in their last meeting that took place in September 2017. Accord-
ing to state law, the County Commission is required to appoint someone to fill the vacancy within 120 days “unless during the time peri-
od there is a general election scheduled in the County and there is sufficient time for the vacancy to be placed on the ballot.” This appointment would only be until someone is elected at the next general election on Aug. 2, 2018.

Notice must be provided to each member of the County Commission of the vacancy and the date that the vacancy will be filled. At this time, the first possible date to fill this vacancy will be the Oct. 16, 2017 County Commission meeting. We will also notify the Wilson County Board of Education of this posting and decision when made as well. This notice will also serve as the seven days advanced public notice prior to the County Commission meeting where nominations will be accepted and voted upon.

Individuals nominated must be residents of Zone 7 which consists of County Commission districts 4, 5, 17, 19 and 22. Registered voters of Zone 7 are allowed to submit names for consideration either in person, at the County Commission meeting the night of the appointment, or in writing to the County Mayor prior to the meeting.

The procedures for the night of the Commission Meeting will be as follows: the first order of business under elections on the agenda will be to determine if the County Commission will fill the vacancy in the month of October. The County Com-
mis on has 120 days from the resignation date to fill the

See BOARD, PAGE 16

Granville Quilt Festival

OCTOBER 7, 2017

from 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Quilts taken for 21 classes of competition

Quilts can be entered at Wilson Bank & Trust Main Office, 623 West Main, Lebanon October 5, 2017 from 12 noon to 3:00 p.m.

For more information contact Peggy Clemens 615-444-2975

GRANVILLETN.COM

Granville Scarecrow Walk Festival

October 4-28

Travel to Granville and view over 300 scarecrows with over 100 real-looking people representing our history, lurking about in buildings and in the most unexpected places.

To schedule a tour with a storytelling guide, contact TB Sutton General Store (931)653-4151. Call to schedule a group for lunch and tour with a storytelling guide for the historic Scarecrow Walk.
MJ Animal Control & Shelter renamed

Will Sellars, President of Friends of Mt. Juliet Animal Shelter; Karen Franklin, Volunteer Coordinator; Stephanie Cox, Animal Care & Control Director; and Michael Mullins, Deputy Chief of Police.

Staff Reports

A new director is on board, and Mt. Juliet’s animal control and facility operations has also been given a new name and look.

Stephanie Cox took the helm as the director of Mt. Juliet Animal Care and Control, formerly Mt. Juliet Animal Shelter, and she will be placing a strong emphasis on providing homes for animals, working in strong partnership with volunteers, rekindling relationships with local rescue groups, and proactively enforcing animal control laws.

Services at Mt. Juliet Animal Care and Control will not decline, and they will focus on enhancing operations to include increased visibility through roaming patrols, having better response times to complaints, and providing more opportunities for the public to visit the facility.

Their primary focus will always be about the protection of the community and care for the animals.

Mt. Juliet’s animal control operations has one of the lowest in euthanasia rates across the state, with zero animals euthanized due to overcrowding since their existence, and Mt. Juliet Animal Care and Control will keep up that goal.

The continued success would not be possible without the Mt. Juliet Animal Shelter Volunteer Organization that continues to give extra funding and many volunteers who help the three full-time staff members.

Wilson Central junior Stratton Farmer scores one of three touchdowns against Hendersonville High School Friday night. Hendersonville defeated Central 42-28.

Wilson Central racks up loss against Hendersonville

Staff Reports

The Commandos came to Wilson Central and discovered their ground game was all they needed in the second half to pull away from a close 21-14 half-time lead.

The game started promising for the Wildcats as their opening drive resulted in a touchdown run by Stratton Farmer for a 7-0 lead.

The Commandos’ first drive started at their 37 but stalled when a lateral pass was dropped, ruled as a fumble and recovered by Central. The Wildcats looked like they were going to drive down for another score when a 39-yard run by Zay Kern was called back by a holding call.

Hendersonville got the ball back and drove down the field and scored with a 27-yard TD pass, making the score 7-7 at the end of the first.

The second quarter’s first play was a 44-yard run by Hendersonville’s Anthony Hughes that put them ahead 14-7. Later, a Hendersonville punt was short and the Wildcats started at their opponent’s 49-yard line. Hubble hit Dalton King for a nice 34-yard gain. Another completion to Dalton put the ball on the 8-yard line, and Farmer ran the ball in for a 14-14 score.

The Commandos finished the first half with a drive aided by a Wildcat personal foul and a TD pass with about nine seconds left to end the second quarter with a 21-14 lead.

The second half started with the Commandos’ drive stalling out. Both teams had a couple of turnovers in the third, but Hendersonville learned they could just run the ball and drive the ball into the end zone for a 28-14 lead.

The fourth quarter saw the Wildcats fighting back with combination of short passes and runs. Farmer scored with a 5-yard run to make it close again, 28-21 Commandos. He finished the night with three TDs, 90 yards on 14 carries and 135 yards in total offense.

Unfortunately, the Wildcat’s short kickoff strategy hurt them when the Commandos took the kick and ran it back to Central’s 46-yard line. They then pounced the Wildcats with their run game and put the ball into the end zone again for a 35-21 lead. Later, the Commandos put the pigskin into the end zone for a 42-21 lead.

The Wildcats scored once more with Hubble passing for a TD with 1:12 left in the game. The final score was 42-28 Commandos.

Wilson Central’s next game is Friday night against LaVergne High School. Kick-off is scheduled for 7 p.m.
Harding defeats MJCA

**Staff Reports**

The Mt. Juliet Christian Academy middle-school football team lost 34-6 to Harding Academy Sept. 26 in a game that showed early promise for the Saints. The loss moves MJCA to 2-4 on the season in advance of their final game next week.

The Generals marched down the field on their opening possession to score 6 but came up empty on the 2-point conversion attempt. MJCA QB Shawn Link capped the effort with a 2-yard touchdown run, which tied the game at 6-6.

The second quarter was a defensive battle with neither team scoring. The Saints ended the half with a lengthy drive that didn’t reach the end zone but featured 35 rushing yards from Wilson.

An onside kick recovery from the Saints’ Eli Whittaker began the second half. However, MJCA couldn’t capitalize, and Harding scored the first of three second-half touchdowns. MJCA’s final game of the season was last night, against Williamson County’s Grace Christian Academy.

Lady Saints win against Clarksville at Senior Night

**Staff Reports**

MJCA hosted Clarksville Academy for senior night, Tuesday, Sept. 26.

The Lady Saints were down 1-0 at half, but senior Marcella Gallione scored eight minutes into the second half, with an assist by freshman Mallie Fouch, to tie the game.

Senior Caitlyn Smith led the defense and kept the game scoreless with the help of freshman goalkeeper Amelia Lyons’ 26 saves.

MJMS Soccer wins district championship

**Staff Reports**

The Mt. Juliet Middle School Girls Soccer team took home the district championship with a 5-0 win against West Wilson Middle this past Saturday. Eighth grader Lindsey Bjorklund and seventh grader Lauren Lupton each scored two goals to lead the Bears to the victory. Mt. Juliet finished the season undefeated in the district and 12-1 overall, outscoring opponents 71-6.


Shoutout streak broken, Bears still undefeated

**By Kenny Howell**

The Chronicle Contributor

One zero streak ended Friday for the Mt. Juliet Bears, but the most important one is still going.

Mt. Juliet’s defense gave up its first points of the season against a high-powered Rossview offense, but more importantly, the Bears stayed undefeated with a 31-17 victory.

The game was a bit more lopsided than the score indicated, as the Bears led 31-3 in the second half. They built that lead on two rushing touchdowns by Aidan Raines, in addition to scoring runs by Cody Glass and Reggie Grimes. Robbie Brewington added a 39-yard field goal as well.

Despite missing some time on the defensive side, he nabbed two interceptions, including the deciding one in the fourth quarter to end the Rossview rally.

Mt. Juliet hits the road for the first time in several weeks as they travel to McGavock. The game has been moved to Thursday night.

It wasn’t until the 76-minute mark when eighth grader Kyleigh Debow scored, bringing the Lady Saints up by one.

Determined to score again, Gallione got her second and fourth goal of the game with two minutes remaining, with an assist from Debow. Gallione had a total of 12 shots on goal.

The Lady Saints won 3-1 with a record of 6-2-1. They played at University School of Nashville Monday night.
He needed to go through Samaria

An occasion arose that caused Jesus to go from Judea to Galilee. Ordinarily, a good Jewish person would have gone around Samaria to get to Galilee, even though it was shorter. Also, the road from Judea to Samaria was one known to be frequented by thieves – it was a rough road, literally. And yet, the Bible tells us that “It was necessary for Him to go through Samaria.”

The word “necessary” jumps out at me, wondering why it was necessary for Jesus to go through, and thus, to Samaria. It helps to understand the Samaritans were the descendants of the ancient northern kingdom of Israel who had intermarried with non-Israelites the Assyrian Empire had settled in the Promised Land after 772 B.C. Because of this, they were considered a mixed-race of people and the Jews had nothing or little to do with them. This is evidenced when Jesus asked for water from the woman who had come to the well in the middle of the day to draw water, when she replied, “‘How can you, a Jew, ask for a drink from me, a Samaritan woman?’ For Jews do not have anything to do with Samaritans.” This was a racial issue.

One interpretation of the wording in this verse is that “Jews and Samaritans do not share the same dish.” I’m sure some of this was simply due to their being different; a mixed race of people that finds its origins in Israel. Another part of the equation was they had developed their own theology, believing the one true place of worship was Mount Gerizim and following a version of the Pentateuch (the first five books of the Bible) that was edited to reflect their belief. They had altered God’s Word. This would...
Precious Moments

Kenny Martin
City Manager
Mt. Juliet, TN

As you awake each and every day, do you have a routine or plan for your day? Most of us sort of go through the motions each and every day leaving work. You either stop to pick up the kids, or they are now driving, you then either pickup dinner/supper or you go home and cook. After dinner or supper you help with homework, do homework or do chores before finally getting in some TV or relaxation time hopefully. At the end of the night you get ready for bed, go to bed and finally awake from bed in order to do it all over again.

When Friday and the weekend arrives you feel somewhat rejuvenated but wonder what you will do for the weekend. Not sure what there is to do you settle on dinner and a movie. Saturday arrives and again you find yourself wondering what to do. More than likely you will settle on dinner and another movie. Sunday arrives and you go to church. After church you have lunch before returning home the remainder of the day in order to rest up for a new workweek.

This may not sound exactly like your life, but for the most part our days can feel as though they are turning into a routine or carbon copy of the day you had the day before and so on. We sometimes feel as though we are just going through the motions and wonder what life is really all about.

Life will never be easy. There are peaks and valleys in life that everyone goes through. Life is a gift that should be enjoyed. There are some that even wish the weekdays away in order to get to the weekend sooner.

Think about it. There are 365 days in a year, 12 months in a year, 52 weeks in a year, 7 days in a week, 24 hours in a day, 60 minutes in an hour, 60 seconds in a minute and 86,400 seconds in a day. What are you going to do with your 86,400 seconds today and tomorrow? Life is not dull, life is not routine and life is not guaranteed. We surely cause a rift. Thus, the surprise when the disciples returned from the city and found Jesus talking with not only a woman, but a Samaritan woman.

Jesus disregarded the stereotypes of the day and went through Samaria, straight to this woman. He recognized she was created in the image of the Father as much as any other human being. She was worth His time to stop there at the well, hungry and thirsty. He shared with her the good news of the Messiah by proclaiming to her, “I am He.”

Maybe we can take a lesson from our Savior. We all have predispositions toward other people that cause us to make determinations that may or may not be rooted in truth. Maybe your pre-judgment isn’t about the color of someone’s skin, but a cultural one. Maybe someone comes from a part of the country that you look down upon with scorn or disdain. That is just as much prejudice as disliking someone because the pigment in their skin is different than yours.

I recently heard Professor William B. Allen, who was the Professor of Political Philosophy and dean of James Madison College at Michigan State University in East Lansing, Michigan. An African-American himself, he said what should we do in the light of a history of slights and wrongs? Professor Allen said to go back and attempt to rebuild history through token efforts is a waste of time and energy. But we can start now by moving forward embracing one another in our diversities and treating one another with the dignity and grace that one made in the image of God Almighty deserves.

As Jesus did with the woman at the well, we can ignore our own proclivities and learn to love our neighbor as ourselves. What say you? (I know...)
Wilson Bank & Trust’s annual Oktoberfest brings fall family fun

In addition to children’s activities, live music, an antique car show and contest displays, this year’s event features an expanded event area on Saturday, with extra food and vendors, a video gaming truck and a Home Depot DIY project for kids. Admission is free.

Staff Reports

Wilson Bank & Trust in Lebanon is celebrating the 30th anniversary of Oktoberfest with plenty of options for family fun Oct. 21-22.

On Saturday, Oct. 21, a new event space on the bank’s west lawn in front of the Mitchell House allows for an expanded selection of craft vendors, concessions and children’s activities, including a kids’ building class with Home Depot from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. and a video gaming truck from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Sunday brings the Oktoberfest Antique Car Show, which annually serves as one of the largest classic automobile displays in Middle Tennessee. All weekend, the event offers attractions for all ages, from inflatables and merchandise vendors to live entertainment and contests for quilts and photography.

Special additions in celebration of WB&T’s 30th anniversary this year include a 1980s theme at all bank booths, and the return of a “Hometown Holidays” display inside the bank. As part of the bank’s anniversary giving campaign, a portion of every car show registration fee will be donated to Second Harvest Food Bank of Middle Tennessee.

Ken Beck, author of the new local history fact book “Wonders of Wilson County,” will be on site for a book signing. Copies of the book can also be purchased at the event.

Admission to Oktoberfest is free, though tickets or entry fees apply to some activities. All activities take place at the WB&T Main Office in Lebanon, located at 623 West Main Street. Event hours are 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 21, and 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 22.

Dentons joins First Freedom Bank

Kimberly Denton has joined First Freedom Bank as a Financial Services Representative at the Mt. Juliet office, announced Kenny Beavers, senior vice president and director of retail banking.

“Kimberly comes to First Freedom with a very good background in retail sales. She possesses excellent customer service skills and always greets customers with a warm smile. We are happy to have Kimberly as a member of the First Freedom Team,” said Beavers.

Denton is a graduate of Wilson Central High School and has volunteered with Heartbeat Ministry. A native of Lakewood, Tenn., Denton currently resides in Mt. Juliet and is engaged to be married in March 2018. She is a member of the Bridge Fellowship.

First Freedom Bank, headquartered in Wilson County, was established in 2006. A full service, community bank, First Freedom Bank offers personal and commercial banking services from six locations in Wilson, Putnam and Jackson Counties, and has approximately 70 employees. First Freedom Bank has assets in excess of $420 million and is owned by more than 1,100 shareholders throughout Middle Tennessee.

First Freedom Bank is member of the Better Business Bureau, an Equal Housing Lender and Member FDIC. Additionally, First Freedom has earned the prestigious Five Star rating by Bauer Financial, the nation’s leading independent bank and credit union rating firm.

To register online, go to www.WilsonVotes.com and click on the Online Voter Registration link. Paper forms are also available to download on the website, to complete at the Election Commission office and are found at most government offices.

To learn more about elections, Early Voting, registering to vote and how you can be involved with Wilson County elections, contact the Wilson County Election Commission at 615-444-0216 or online at
Music City Cares Fund established to aid victims of Las Vegas shooting

Country music knows heartache songs, and it’s singing one today.

The country music community joins the nation and world in a state of mourning after a gunman rained bullets onto a sea of concertgoers at the Route 91 Harvest Festival in Las Vegas late Sunday night, killing at least 58 and injuring more than 400 people in one of the deadliest mass shootings in American history.

Country star Jason Aldean was performing onstage as the gunman, perched on a high floor of the Mandalay Bay Resort and Casino, interrupted the three-day festival with a hail of gunfire from automatic weaponry.

About 22,000 people were at the concert, police said.

On Monday, The Community Foundation of Middle Tennessee established the Music City Cares Fund, with 100% of the donations going to Las Vegas to help with the immediate and long-term needs of victims in the shooting.

Donations to the Music City Cares Fund are tax-deductible. To give to the Fund, go to http://www.cfmt.org.

"Country music is the heart of Music City," said Ellen Lehman, president of The Community Foundation of Middle Tennessee. "We are reaching out to country music fans who fell victim to this evil. They must know we care and care deeply. Our prayers are with them."

Nashville Mayor Megan Barry quickly posted on her Facebook page this morning:

"An unimaginable scene of terror in Las Vegas has shocked and saddened our nation. This tragedy hits especially close to home, as so many of the artists and crew represented at this music festival are Nashvillians seeking to entertain and bring joy to country music fans around the world. My heart goes out to the friends and family members of the victims of this deadly shooting, and we pray for a speedy recovery for those injured."

Aldean posted on Instagram early this morning:

"Tonight has been beyond horrific. I still don’t know what to say but wanted to let everyone know that Me and my Crew are safe. My Thoughts and prayers go out to everyone involved tonight. It hurts my heart that this would happen to anyone who was just coming out to enjoy what should have been a fun night. #heartbroken #stopthehate"

Other places to give include the National Compassion Fund Las Vegas, with 100 percent of funds to be distributed directly to victims of the shooting. Donations to the fund are held separately from general donations to the National Center for Victims of Crime.

The Community Foundation of Middle Tennessee has worked with a number of entertainers through the years, in the country music community and in other musical genres, both through benefit relief efforts and through funds established and administered by The Community Foundation.

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BEARD, Kenny “KB”

Kenny Beard, affectionately known as “KB” passed of natural causes Thursday, Oct. 1, 2017. He is survived by his wife Amy, three daughters Cali, Amanda, Alyson, and his grandpup “PawPaw’s Pretty Girl” Phoebe Beard.

KB was a loving husband, devoted father, accomplished songwriter, unlicensed therapist to many, music manager, record producer, friend and “Yoda” to most. Kenny spent his life loving God, friends and family to the fullest. In his final years, he found much joy in using his musical talents to minister to the Mt. Juliet Community and beyond through live music performances at the Chick-Fil-A Providence Marketplace.

He was the embodiment of Mark 10:45 “For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.” KB was a man of humility and service to all whom he loved. His visitation and service will be held at Sellars Funeral Home 2229 N. Mt. Juliet Rd., Mt. Juliet, TN 37122.

Visitation will be Thursday, Oct. 5 from 4-8 p.m. and services will be held the following morning at 11 a.m. with visitation from 10-11 a.m. Graveside memorial to follow at the Mt. Juliet Memorial Gardens W Division St., Mt. Juliet, TN 37122.

In lieu of flowers, the family has asked for donations to be sent in honor of Kenny Beard to “Campus Outreach Knoxville” with a memo referencing “General Outreach Knoxville General Fund” PO Box 2426, Knoxville, TN 37901 or online giving through https://coknoxville.churchcenteronline.com/giving/to/campus-outreach-Knoxville-general


CAMPELL, Brenda Fisher

Brenda Fisher Campbell (1924-2017) — force of nature, teacher, true wit and famous judge of character — died September 21, 2017, in Nashville, Tennessee. With an authentic, irreverent, enduring and loving strength, she kept all who knew her in line and never met a fool she tolerated. What will we do without her?

Born April 10, 1924 in Iota, Louisiana, she graduated from Fenton High School and Louisiana College, where she met her husband of 67 years. After marrying on January 18, 1946, she taught elementary school in New Orleans, Louisiana and New Haven, Connecticut before her children were born. She then settled on a farm in Mt. Juliet, Tennessee with her family, where she epitomized the expression, “Behind every great man is a great woman.”

In addition to her parents, Samuel Fisher and Margaret Vining Fisher, she was preceded in death by her husband Will Davis Campbell; her sisters Shirley Swafford and Kay Wise; her brother Courtland Fisher; and her daughter, Penny Elizabeth Campbell.

Survivors include her sisters Elva Ruth Zammit and Minna Carol Lucas; her son Lee Campbell (Steven Marshall Hallman); her son Lee Campbell; her sisters Shirley Zammit and Margaret Hallman; her son Lee Campbell (Donna Bandy Campbell); and her 4 grandchildren: Will Harlan Dylan Campbell (Amy Lynn Waples), Kyle Lindsey Campbell, Will Davis Campbell II, and Cole Bandy Campbell.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be sent to Park Center, 801 12th Ave. S., Nashville 37203, the non-profit hospice organization of your choice, or another non-profit service organization.

There will be a memorial service on Saturday, October 21, at 2 p.m. at the Campbell farm in Mt. Juliet.

CANTRELL, Wayne Douglas

Cantrell, Wayne Douglas, age 78, of Mt. Juliet, TN, died October 2, 2017, winning a long battle with Multiple Sclerosis. Mr. Cantrell was a member of Mt. Juliet Church of Christ. He was also a retired co-owner of Consolidated Media Systems. Mr. Cantrell was the son of the late Penny Green and Ellen Elizabeth Evans Cantrell. He was also preceded in death by his brothers, Russell Cantrell, Alfred Cantrell and Gerald Cantrell.

He is survived by: Wife of 57 years – Ann Cantrell; Son – Kevin (Lori) Cantrell; Daughter – Donna (Gwynn) Howell; Grandchildren – Christopher (Chelsea) Carter, Alan (Liz) Cantrell and 7 great-grandson； Wilt Carter; Several nieces and nephews.

Funeral services will be conducted 11 a.m. Thursday, October 5, 2017 at Bond Memorial Chapel with Bro. Wayne Miller officiating. Interment will follow at Hermitage Memorial Gardens. Active pallbearers will be Joe Carter, Jamie Gillespie, Chris Sollowmann, Evan Carter, Greg Cantrell and Wilt Stock.

Flowers accepted or memorials may be made to Mt. Juliet Church of Christ, 1940 N. Mt. Juliet Road, Mt. Juliet, TN 371225 or Alive Hospice, 1718 Patter-
HAMBLEN, Mary Ann Smith

Hamblen, Mary Ann Smith, age 81, of Mt. Juliet, TN, died September 28, 2017. Mrs. Hamblen was a mother of Baker’s Grove Baptist Church and was retired from Clover Bottom Developmental Center.

She was the daughter of the late, Johnnie James and Mary Elizabeth Nafe Smith. Mrs. Hamblen was also preceded in death by her husband, Hugh Donald Hamblen and her son, Donald Tyler Hamblen, Sr.

She is survived by: Grandchildren – Lindsey Marie Hamblen (William) Castello and Donald Tyler Hamblen, Jr.; Great-grandson – William Gage Castel- lo; Brother – John Alton “Jay” (Donna) Smith.

Funeral services were conducted 11 a.m. Tuesday, October 3, 2017 at Bond Memorial Chapel with Bro. Jason Rounsaville and Bro. Ron Har- deman officiating. Interment followed at Mt. Juliet Memorial Gardens. Active pallbearers were Roy Jones, Ricky Cole, Kenneth Pritchett, Tim Spoon, Aaron Brown and Gary Jones. Honorary pallbearers were Dr. Abdul Enayat, Melvin Everette and Billy Hatcher.

Flowers accepted or memorials may be made to Baker’s Grove Baptist Church, 3962 Earhart Road, Mt. Juliet, TN 37122.

HAYES, Jo Ellen

Hayes, Jo Ellen, age 72, of Mt. Juliet, TN, died October 1, 2017. Jo Ellen was a member of Cloyd’s Cumberland Presbyterian Church and was active in the CPW. In her younger years, she was a soda jerk at Oakland Sundries. She spent many years in child care and as a bus driver for the Wilson County School System. Jo Ellen was the daughter of the late New- man and Clara DeMoss Snell. She was also pre- ceeded in death by her husband of 51 Years, Charles Thomas “Tommy” Hayes and her son, Tony Hayes.

She is survived by: Son – Chuck (Theresa) Hayes; Daughter – Lee Ann Hayes Brown; Son-in-law – Rocky Lassiter; Daughter Jennifer E. Hayes; Grand- children – Ross (Sherry Jackson) Lassister, Crystal Brown (Tyler) Parkerson, Christy Hayes (Matt) Brick- ey, Austin Lee (Kari Regi- na) Hayes, Kaylin E. (Keith) Hayes, Jesse R. Hayes and Samantha Jo Hayes; Great-grandchildren – Ty- ler Kade Lassister, Cooper Chase Dolce and Kenzlee Spicer.

Funeral services will be conducted 1 p.m. Friday, October 6, 2017 at Bond Memorial Chapel with Rev. Mike Reese officiating. Interment will follow at Mt. Juliet Memorial Gardens. Family and friends will serve as active pallbearers. Honorary pallbearers will be the Senior Adult Sun- day School Class at Cloyd’s Cumberland Presbyterian Church.

Flowers accepted or memori- als may be made to Cloyd’s Cumberland Pres- byterian Church, 595 W. Division Street, Mt. Juliet, TN 37122.

RUCKER, Betty L.

Rucker, Betty L., age 90 of Mt. Juliet, TN, passed away on September 25, 2017. She is preceded in death by husband, Pat Rucker; parents, William Lawrence Leuthold and Alma Suggs Leuthold; sisters and brothers-in-law.

She is survived by loving son, Larry (Candy) Ruck- er; grandchildren, Chris (Laura) Rucker and Lauren (Austin) Vogel; numerous nieces, nephews and family also survive.

Funeral services were held Friday, September 29th at 11 a.m. in the chapel of Sellers Funeral Home at Mt. Juliet. Interment followed in Woodlawn Cemetery with family and friends serving as pallbearers. Visitation with the family began on Thursday, September 28 from 4 – 8 p.m.

In lieu of flowers the family has requested you make donations to Alive Hospice; Alive Hospice, Inc. 1718 Patterson St., Nashville, TN 37203, or Leukemia and Lympho- ma Society; 404 Bna Dr. # 102, Nashville, TN 37217

SMITH-DOBBINS, Sue Nell

Smith-Dobbins, Sue Nell, age 95, of Hermitage, TN, died October 1, 2017. She was a member of Hermitage Church of the Nazarene. She was a resident of Sa- vannah, Georgia for many years and lived in the Bell- ville/Clexton area after her retirement. She attended Georgia Southern Uni- versity and served in the WACS during WWII. Mrs. Smith-Dobbins was the daughter of the late, John Leroy and Mary Lizzie Mc- Cord Rogers. She was also preceded in death by her husbands, Bernard Ostelle Smith and Darvin Dobbins; son, Roger Ostelle Smith and siblings, Edwin Rog- ers, Lawton Rogers, Ann Crapo and Edna Hartley.

She is survived by: Sons – Bobby (Rondy) Smith; Bennett Smith; Daughter – Anna (Howard) Plummer; Brother – Rommie Thomp- son; Sister – Jane Prosser; Nieces, nephews and grandchildren.

Funeral services will be conducted 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, October 4, 2017 at Hermitage Church of the Nazarene, 4151 Saundersville Road, Old Hickory, TN with Pastor Howard Plummer officiating. Visitation will be one hour prior to service time Wednesday at the church. Ladies are encouraged to wear hats. Funeral ser- vices will also be conduct- ed 12 noon EST Saturday,
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3-Family Yard Sale, lots of stuff. Christmas, furniture, clothes, bric-a-brac. Saturday, October 7 - 7am-3:30pm. Woodland Place - 1218 Woodvale Dr, Mt. Juliet

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From OBITS, PAGE 11
October 7, 2017 at Rich- mond Hill Funeral Home, 8901 Ford Ave., Richmond Hill, GA with visitation one hour prior to the service time at the funeral home. Interment will follow at Oak Hill Cemetery.

Flowers accepted or memorial contributions may be made to Hermitage United Methodist Church, 4151 Saundervile Road, Old Hickory, TN 37138.


THOMAS, Rodney Dale
Rod Thomas passed away on September 24, 2017 at age 66. No services are scheduled at this time.

Mr. Thomas served in the United States National Guard and was the owner/operator of a grocery store. He is survived by wife Kathy Masters Thomas; daughters Kristy Thomas and Katie (Martin Wauford) Thomas; and grandchildren Kobe Thomas, Knox Thomas, Khloe Wauford, and Karleigh Wauford. He is preceded in death by parents Dillon and Bette Thomas of Cookeville TN.

Funeral services for Mrs. Thomas will be at 11 a.m. Wednesday Oct. 4 at the Cookeville Chapel of Hooper Huddleston and Terry Funeral Home. Interment will follow at Algood City Cemetery. The family will receive friends Tuesday from 4-8 p.m. and again Wednesday from 9 a.m. until service time.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, Earl West; and her brother, Dallas O. Martin.

She is survived by a daughter and son-in-law, Joy and Sam Short of Mt. Juliet; and a son and daughter-in-law, Tommy and Debe West, Michael and Janice West, all of Cookeville; six grandchildren, Melissa (Michael) Robinson, Lori (Tommy) Shelton, Bryan (Julie) West, Craig (Amber) West, Samuel (Brooklyn) Short, and Craig (Rachel) Short; two nieces, Peggy (Mick) Willis of Augusta, GA, and Patsy (Jimmy) Spinks of Warner Robins, GA; a nephew, John R Martin, also of Warner Robins, GA and eight great-grandchildren.

Pallbearers will be Bryan West, Craig West, Samuel Short, Craig Short, Tommy Shelton, and Michael Robinson.

The family would like to express their gratitude and appreciation to Mrs. West’s caregivers, especially the staff at Signature Health Care, Betty Key, and Wendt Towers.

Memorial contributions may be made to Algood United Methodist Church, 135 West Main Street, Algood, TN 38506.

Hooper Huddleston and Horner Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. (931)526-6111 You may share your thoughts and memories at www.hhfuneral.com.
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a better effort to make get back.

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FROM REFLECTIONS, PAGE 7

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TELLING TALES

Politics, Religion and Breastfeeding

Besides religion, politics and sex, there’s one more hot button issue that should be added to that list of taboo topics never to be discussed in mixed company. Not war. Not equal pay. Not even the latest shocking elimination on Dancing with the Stars. Nope, it’s breastfeeding.

I understand that because this word actually includes part of the female anatomy some would argue it falls under the ‘sex’ category, but trust me, it shouldn’t.

When my oldest child was born, I had every intention of doing things the “right” way. No television, strict feeding and sleeping schedule, classical music piped in the nursery daily, cloth diapers and because all the books and medical research proved that breastfeeding would make my little genius even smarter and healthier, I would breastfeed for at least a year.

After six months and six brand new razor sharp teeth emerged, I decided to quit.

A few weeks later, I was out to lunch with a friend when a lady approached asking the standard questions, “How old is he? Is he crawling? Eating solid foods?” And out of left field, “How old is he? Is he breastfeeding?” I explained to him that unless you possess a uterus, you have ZERO credibility in this matter, he let it go.

Four years later, my youngest joined the family. I decided that nothing would stop me from breastfeeding for at least a year. I was going to prove to myself, La Leche and everyone else that I could be a weapon of mass lactation. As most of you know, when that second or third child comes along your “plans” change. Two weeks after he was born, I stopped breastfeeding.

For the next three months, when we were out at the grocery or any public place, I was prepared for strangers to ask a question whose answer would reveal my status as an unfit mother.

At his next well baby visit, my pediatrician went over all the usual items: weight, length, where he ranked compared to other babies, etc. Then she asked if he was taking a bottle or breast. That was it! I don’t care how many degrees she had, she wasn’t going to bully me into feeling bad.

“Now, I’m not breastfeeding. It’s not for me. And, yes I know that this means he won’t be as smart as his peers. What is so wrong with being average? My mom breastfed all six of my brothers and sisters for two years and my younger brother never finished college. And so what if he’s overweight and as an adult, who isn’t in America? Not that it’s any of your business, but I can bond just as well by feeding him a bottle. He coos just as much as his big brother did at this age. I also know I’d probably lose all this baby weight faster, whatever! I am so sick of people asking me about this. I’d feel more comfortable telling you who I was going to vote for in the next presidential election.”

The doctor made a quick note in the chart, looked up with a smile and said, “So… Who ARE you voting for?”

Comments about anything besides Politics, religion, sex or breastfeeding? Email Becky at becky@wilsonlivingmagazine.com

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Medicare Supplement? Medicare Advantage? Medicare Part D? Do you know what your Medicare plan is? Do you know how much you’re spending on it each month? Do you know what your benefits are, or what they could be? What’s the difference?

This is another one of those times of year where our “Baby Boomers” are being inundated with mail pieces and see tons of commercials on TV regarding Medicare open enrollment. Each of those come with promises of a “better rate” or “more benefits” than what you currently have. Is that the case? Sometimes it is the case, other times, even if that is the case, it may not be wise for you to make a move during open enrollment.

The agents at IMS in Mt. Juliet are specialists when it comes to this subject. They have been in business for over 20 years and are extremely knowledgeable when it comes to Medicare products. Representing over 15 carriers for Medicare supplements, and every Medicare Advantage plan available in Tennessee, they can quickly help you determine what your best move may be. However, it is important to them that you understand your options and the differences in them. They spend one on one time with each client drawing out a picture that explains the difference between Medicare supplements vs. Medicare Advantage and where Part D drug plans come into play. They even take the time to look up all of your doctors and medications to make sure you know all of the options available to you.

Having an independent agent helping you with your Medicare plan selection helps you decipher the changes in your own plan versus other plans and benefits on the market from each company. The agents at IMS are not biased toward any one plan; their main concern is that each of their clients is on the absolute best plan for their particular situation. Another benefit of meeting with one of the IMS agents is they will help you apply for extra help with your medications and/or the Medicare Savings Program which may reduce your Part B premium or even eliminate your plan copays.

All of those programs are dependent on income and resources, but many people are unaware that they may qualify for these programs.

The agents at IMS are paid by all of the insurance companies. You are never charged for their services. They are paid the exact same amount from every company, which is why they have no bias as to which plan you select. In some cases, they will suggest that you stay on the plan you’re on currently, but in other cases, you may benefit from extra benefits by changing to another plan. Some examples of extra benefits may include dental and vision benefits, hearing aid benefits, gym memberships, over-the-counter products, meal delivery after hospitalization, no referrals, transportation, etc.

For people who are on expensive Medicare supplements and are intrigued or curious about how Medicare Advantage plans work, but are scared to try them and leave their supplement, there is a Medicare rule that allows those people a 12-month trial period to try Medicare Advantage. At any time during that 12-month period, if they want to go back to their supplement, they can do so, even without medical questions. This makes it easy with nothing to lose to try something new and less expensive!

Since IMS has moved its office to the middle of Mt. Juliet from Donelson, people have flocked to their office for help with understanding the Medicare process and options. People are pleased with the information they are being given. Oftentimes clients leave IMS with a whole new outlook or vision of how Medicare works and how their personal plan relates to that process. Several clients have also mentioned how helpful the agents are throughout the year when they have questions or issues with their plan. IMS is dedicated to service and making sure their clients are happy, sometimes even going beyond the call of duty to make that happen.

With this kind of office in our area, complete with home grown Mt. Juliet residents, what do you have to lose by stopping in for a visit? You may just leave with a better plan and some new friends! Feel free to stop by during their annual Open House October 12-16 to enjoy food, conversation and fun!
If the Commission chooses to appoint the school board member for Zone 7, we will go out of session and allow for public comments to begin. At that time, the public will be allowed to submit names to the Commissioners that they would like to see as school board members for Zone 7 until the next general election on Aug. 2, 2018.

After the public comments period has ended, the Commission will then return to regular session and review the nominations that were spoken during the public comments period. At this time, Commissioners will begin making their nominations for School Board Member Zone 7.

Though public comments will be accepted and considered, all official nominations must be made by County Commissioners. A County Commissioner can nominate an individual recommended by the public, providing the individual nominated agrees, in writing, to serve should they be elected. There is no second required to the nominations.

After nominations cease on the floor of the County Commission meeting, the nominated individuals will be given an opportunity to address the Commission. Nominees will be asked to make a brief statement about themselves and why they are seeking the position. Please note that only the nominees that were nominated by a County Commissioner will be allowed to address the full Commission at this time. There will be no public comment period after nominations have been submitted.

Members of the County Commission will be the only individuals allowed to vote on the individual to fill the vacant seat of the Wilson County School Board Zone 7 up until the next general election to be held on Aug. 2, 2018.

If you would like to view the qualifications for this seat, please review TCA-8-18-101, and TCA-49-2-201. If you have any other specific questions related to this process, please contact our office and we will do our best to assist you.