Distracted driver crashes into MJPD patrol car

Staff Reports

Four officers, investigating a three-car crash involving an impaired driver on Interstate 40, avoided tragedy within moments of a patrol SUV being struck by a distracted driver. An adult male, suspected of impairment and detained in the back seat of the patrol SUV, was injured.

Officers arrived on I-40 East near the 228 mile-marker to investigate a three-car crash around 5 a.m. Sunday, Nov. 3. While investigating the three-car crash, officers say a distracted driver crashed into their patrol SUV.

Animals in poor condition removed from Mt. Juliet home

Staff Reports

Detectives and staff with Mt. Juliet Animal Care and Control recently executed a search warrant to remove animals living in deplorable conditions.

The warrant was completed last week at a home in Greenhill Trailer Park after an investigation revealed that the animals’ welfare could be in danger. Three dogs and one cat, appearing to be in very poor health, were removed from the home and immediately transported by Animal Care and Control to be evaluated and treated by a veterinarian.

The resident is cooperating with detectives, and the investigation is ongoing.

According to Capt. Tyler Chandler, no charges have been filed, and animal control is working with the homeowner to ensure the animals are provided with the best care. He also said it is likely the animals will not be returned to the residence.

Sharpe named principal at WWMS

Staff Reports

Mt. Juliet High School Assistant Principal Beverly Sharpe will take over the principal role at West Wilson Middle School when current WWMS Principal Kevin Dawson transitions out of that role in the coming few months.

On Friday, Nov. 1, it was announced that Dawson will become Green Hill High School’s first principal and begin that role starting in January 2020.

Sharpe is a longtime employee of Wilson County Schools and is currently in her 36th year with the district. Serving as an assistant principal at Mt. Juliet High School since 2007, Sharpe is very excited about this opportunity.

“There are hardly words for how excited I am to step into this new role,” said Sharpe. “West Wilson Middle School is already a Reward School and I look forward to learning and growing with the students, faculty and staff in the months and years to come.”

The decision to place Sharpe at West Wilson Middle was backed by her vast experience and what she’ll be able to offer students at West Wilson Middle before heading to high school.

See SHARPE, PAGE 15

MJHS teacher recognized by Grammy Museum

By Sarah Tate
Managing Editor

Sherie Grossman was recently announced as a semifinalist for the Music Educator Award by the Recording Academy and Grammy Museum. Finalists for the award will be announced in December.

Grossman, who is the orchestra director at Mt. Juliet High School, is one of 25 music teachers from 18 states to be named a semifinalist for the Music Educator Award. Also among the semifinalists was Jonathan Vest, a music teacher at Centennial High School in Franklin, Tennessee.

Grossman said she was excited and humbled to be recognized among the thousands who were nominated.

“I think music education in

See GRAMMY, PAGE 2
Tennessee, especially Middle Tennessee, is strong," she said. "We have strong music teachers in the area, very passionate and devoted to what they’re doing.’

Grossman also said that the support of the community in Middle Tennessee is another reason music education is strong, which in turn draws good music teachers to the area.

“I work with fantastic directors here and they support me and we run ideas off of each other all the time,” said Grossman. “That also is a huge team thing. They’re just as big of a reason I’m up for [the award] as I am.”

In addition to being a semifinalist for the Music Educator Award, Grossman was named one of 30 Country Music Association Foundation’s 2019 Music Teachers of Excellence.

According to the Recording Academy and Grammy Museum, the Music Educator Award recognizes current educators who have made significant and lasting contributions to the field of music education while demonstrating a commitment to the broader cause of maintaining music education in schools.

Ten finalists for the award will be announced next month, and one recipient will be recognized for their impact on music education. They will also be flown to Los Angeles to attend the 62nd Annual Grammy Awards and other Grammy Week events next year.

The remaining nine finalists will receive $1,000 and their schools will receive matching grants. The 15 semifinalists will receive $500 and their schools will also receive matching grants. Grossman said the grants will go toward instrument repairs and supplies.

New Lions Club to be chartered in Gladeville

Staff Reports

At a recent event in Gladeville, the Mt. Juliet/West Wilson Lions reached out to the community of Gladeville with an offer to charter a new Lions Club for the Gladeville area of Wilson County. Over 30 residents expressed an immediate interest. The Mt. Juliet club began to contact district Lions leaders to assist with an informational meeting at the Gladeville Community Center.

On Tuesday, Nov. 12, at 6:30 p.m., a meeting will be hosted by leaders of the Mt. Juliet Lions Club as well as Past District Governor Jo Ann Birdwell of LaFayette, Tennessee, and current International Director Billy J. Blakenship. All of those who signed up as interested as well as anyone else in the area are invited to attend.

Applications for Charter Membership in the club will be provided, and once a sufficient number of applicants have made their commitment, an installation of members and officers can take place in the near future.

For further information, contact MJWW Lions President Ken Thomas (615) 470-5252 or Treasurer Kitty Woodson. They are certified Guiding Lions to help new clubs as they are established.
Staff Reports

The qualifying deadline for candidates seeking to complete 15th Judicial Circuit Judge John Wootten’s unexpired term will be Jan. 11, 2020, at noon. Judge Wootten announced his retirement last week effective Jan. 1, 2020. His successor for the unexpired term while temporarily filled by appointment, will be elected by the voters of the 15th Judicial District. The 15th Judicial District includes Wilson, Macon, Smith, Jackson and Trousdale counties.

All candidates whether running as a Republican or an Independent have the same deadlines. Those seeking to qualify for the election may begin picking up their petitions on Jan. 2, 2020. The qualifying deadline will be on Jan. 11, 2020, at noon and the withdrawal deadline is three days later on Jan. 14, 2020, at noon.

The local Republican parties in Wilson, Macon and Smith will be holding a Republican Primary election with the March 3, 2020, Republican and Democratic Primary Preference Primary. Republican candidates qualifying for the Circuit Court vacancy will be included in the March 3, 2020, Republican Primary. Although Trousdale and Jackson counties are in the 15th Judicial District, the Republican Parties in those counties did not call for a Republican Primary Party. All candidates, including independents, are required to file their original petition in the county of residence and a certified duplicate petition in the remaining four counties no later than the qualifying deadline of Jan. 11, 2020, at noon.

The Democratic Party did not call for a Party Primary Election in any of the five counties. To field a Democratic Party candidate, they may meet in caucus and choose a nominee that would be included on the Aug. 6, 2020, General Election ballot. Their caucus winner’s name must be submitted by the qualifying deadline on Jan. 11, 2020, at noon in all five counties. The first election in 2020 will be the Republican and Democratic Presidential Preference Primary and Wilson County Republican Primary. Primary elections are for nominating the political party candidate. Voters that participate in primary elections consider themselves affiliated with one of the two major parties in Tennessee. There is no primary for independent candidates. The winner of the party primary election goes on to represent their party in the general election. The general election is the election where voters make the final choice between all the candidates for a specific office.

“We encourage anyone with questions about the party primary, the Presidential Preference Primary or any other election process or deadline to contact the Wilson County Election Commission,” said Phillip Warren, administrator of elections. The Presidential Preference Primary will be the first election for Wilson County voters to take advantage of convenience vote centers on Election Day. The introduction of convenience vote centers expands the benefits of Early Voting to Election Day voters. Seventy-three percent of the Wilson County voters that voted in the presidential election in 2016 voted at one of the five Early Voting locations. Taking advantage of Early Voting has become a tradition for voters and the availability of Early Voting sites throughout the county will be the same and possibly increased making Early Voting more accessible than ever before.
Bears end regular season with loss to Hendersonville

By Nathalie Recinos
The Chronicle Contributor

Mt. Juliet lost their last regular season game against Hendersonville with a score of 14-41. For Nicholas Parker, part of the MJHS offense line, felt that even though his team lost their game to Hendersonville they did accomplish something. “We did accomplish one thing,” said Parker. “That was we did not stop fighting that game; we kept fighting every single play. Do I believe we could’ve done better in that game? Yes, but there were some mistakes that we made and we just need to overcome.”

In the first quarter, each team received a few penalties, but only Hendersonville got any points on the board. By the end of the quarter, Hendersonville had scored two touchdowns, each with a good PAT.

Parker thought that the offense struggled a lot with getting the ball, and that they did not protect the ball when turning over. In a second quarter marred with multiple penalties for both teams, only Parker thought that the offense struggled a lot with getting the ball, and that they did not protect the ball when turning over.

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Wildcats defeat Station Camp 36-7

By Jake Hood
The Chronicle Contributor

Following a 36-7 victory over Station Camp, the Wildcats appear prepared for the postseason.

The Wildcats were rolling along after a 23-22 toppling of Lebanon, but it was not the same story for Station Camp. The Bison could not find their stride, as they were 0-9 going into Week 11. This proved to be an easy matchup for the Wildcats, but it would also determine their placement in the TSSAA 6A playoffs.

Mt. Juliet and Hendersonville, as well as Lebanon and Rossview, were set to square off that night. For the first time in recent history, the Week 11 matchups mattered for every team in Region 4 except Station Camp. Wilson Central could end up anywhere between second and fourth.

The first quarter started off hot for the Wildcats, as C.J. Morrow punched in the first score on a 48-yard rush. The Bison looked to match the Wildcats, but Ezra Widelock intercepted Station Camp quarterback Max Barnett's pass to give the Wildcats their first of several takeaways.

Tristan Lewis then led his Wildcat offense downfield and capped off the drive with a 23-yard touchdown pass to Widelock. The score was locked in at 14-0 after twelve minutes of play, and the Bison were already in panic mode.

Station Camp opened up the second quarter with the football. However, they turned the ball over on downs, and the Wildcats went back to work. The Wildcats were unable to score on a possession for the first time in the game, but there was still hope. Wilson Central Kerolos Shenouda trapped the Bison inside their own 10-yard line.

Station Camp coach Shaun Hollinsworth made the swap from Barnett to Luke Sinard under center, and Sinard resorted to punting the ball away on his opening drive.

The Wildcats used a ground attack to score on the next drive. Lewis, Morrow, and C.J. Hatchett established a 3-play, 53-yard drive that ended with a 3-yard Hatchett end zone dive. Sinard could not catch a break on the next drive, as his fumble was recovered by Wildcat linebacker Blake Hobbs. Hatchett notched another touchdown on a 9-yard rush on the drive to open the second quarter, and the Wildcats were up 29-0 following a 2-point conversion before the half.

The second half of play gave both teams an opportunity to score. Blake Hobbs powered his way into the end zone for the Wildcats' fifth and final touchdown halfway through the third quarter. This chance was given to the Wildcats after Sinard's pass was picked off by Zach Hudson. Station Camp opened up the fourth quarter with a halfback pass from Terry Bradley to Zac Morrison that was good for 33 yards and a touchdown. The Wildcats marched into the redzone on their next drive, but they were unable to tally any more points. Sinard threw another interception, this time to Justin Smith, and the game ended at a 36-7 victory for the Wildcats.

Following the results from Region 4, the Wildcats are set to square off with the Blackman Blaze on Friday, Nov. 8. Kickoff is scheduled for 7 p.m., and the game will be broadcast on the NFHS Network.
Dealing with disappointment

You remember it right? I mean it probably happened not too long ago for you, and in all transparency it happened to me again today. Yes, you are completely right, no matter how it happens, it’s never pleasant.

Disappointment is something that we all are dealing day in and day out. Disappointment in the traffic headed into Nashville, disappointment in the words I used when speaking to someone yesterday, disappointment in our national political divide and we could go on. Disappointment happens in three forms. The first is when we disappoint ourselves. The second is disappointment in others. Finally, there is the disappointment that is in just life, the things that happen and are out of everyone’s control. So, when it comes to our faith in Christ, the question isn’t, “Will disappointment happen in life?” but more so asking, “How does Jesus enter our disappointment with us?”

People dealing with disappointment is nothing new in scripture, but there may not be a heavier time of people carrying disappointment than the disciples the moments and days after the Jesus had been killed. We have the luxury of knowing the end of the story that Jesus was going to be raised from the dead on Sunday, and…”
To help keep our citizens safe, I would like to remind our motoring community about a few of the bad habits we all see while traveling our roadways. I’m hoping this article will help drivers become more aware of the unnecessary chances we sometimes take as drivers.

We’ve all likely seen drivers talking on cell phones, texting, making notes, reading, eating and so on. And keep in mind, these are things most do as drivers while operating motor vehicles on the roadways and highways beside other drivers possibly doing the same thing. Lots of these things are done in heavy traffic situations at high speeds, while others are done in low speed caution areas like school zones and construction areas where pedestrians are located. Regardless, they are dangerous no matter where they are located.

With that in mind, wouldn’t it be much safer to wait until we either reach our destination or pull off the roadway in a safe location to attempt these activities? I know we’ve done it thousands of times and gotten away with it. And I know we think we’re good at it, but accidents happen every day because of drivers who thought they were good at something when they really weren’t. I think this is like a lot of things we do. We’ve done it for so long we begin to think certain activities will never happen to us. It’s the, “Oh that always happens to the other person” mentality.

As we all know, the human mind can only translate a certain amount of information in a given amount of time. Trying to do three things at once while operating a motor vehicle is a dangerous practice. Therefore, I am asking that all motorists please try and do better when it comes to multi-tasking and driving. Our fast-paced lifestyles and lack of time can sometimes put us in situations where we feel rushed or pressed to take chances in futile attempts to make up time. And I personally believe your life isn’t worth risking over making up a little time.

I don’t know about the rest of you, but it scares me to think a driver may be reading, making notes, or just simply not paying attention while operating a motor vehicle beside, behind or in front of me. I think driving is a serious business that requires one’s full attention. I also think your life is too valuable to lose over drinking or drugged drivers and speeding and non-attentive drivers. Many a wonderful person has been taken from us because of crashes that didn’t have to occur. Most crashes are caused by human error and true accidents are caused by things outside of our control like animals running into the roadway.

In closing, please help yourself and others by paying more attention and slowing down. We like having you around and simply don’t want anything to happen to you.
crash, an adult male was found to be driving on a revoked driver’s license and suspected of impairment. He was detained and placed in the back seat of a patrol SUV.

Officers continued to investigate the crash. Around 5:50 a.m., a driver failed to see the multiple patrol vehicles and struck one of the patrol SUVs, launching it within feet of officers and another patrol vehicle. Officers immediately began to render aid to the injured suspect and checked on the distracted driver. No officers were injured.

“Motorists must always pay attention while driving. There are many distractions to a driver, but eyes must have a focus on the road ahead,” said Chief James Hambrick. “Our prayers will be with the injured suspect, and we hope he recovers quickly.”

Per department protocol, a third-party law enforcement agency is always called to investigate any crash involving a department police vehicle. The Tennessee Highway Patrol responded to the scene, and Troopers are handling the crash investigation.

According to a preliminary report released by THP, the suspected impaired driver was Hiram L. Drake, 59, of Nashville. He was transported by medics to TriStar Skyline Medical Center to treat injuries sustained in the crash.

The distracted driver was Joseph S. Taylor, 43, of Lebanon. He was taken to Summit Hospital by family members to treat suspected minor injuries. Taylor was charged with failure to yield to an emergency vehicle.

From MJPD, PAGE 1

MJ Rotary to host Veterans Breakfast

Staff Reports

To honor and show appreciation for those who have served in the United States Armed Forces, Mt. Juliet Rotarians are hosting the annual Veterans Breakfast, and as always, the popular event offers a full plate of patriotism.

In addition to a hearty breakfast, prepared and served by the Mt. Juliet Breakfast Rotary Club and Mt. Juliet Noon Rotary Club, the program “Celebrating America’s Freedoms,” will feature rousing patriotic music from the Mt. Juliet High School Orchestra and Vocal Ensemble, and “God Bless the USA” performed by Jim Murray.

Deputy Commissioner and Chief of Staff for the Tennessee Department of Safety and Homeland Security, Terry Ashe, is the guest speaker for the event. Ashe is a former Wilson County Sheriff and a decorated Vietnam veteran.

The Veteran’s Breakfast is free of charge and takes place on Friday, Nov. 8 from 7-9 a.m. at Victory Baptist Church, located at 1777 Tate Lane, Mt. Juliet.
Youth suicide rate may be influenced by social media

As suicide and attempted suicide continue to dominate discussions and topics related to the health care of young people, this demographic’s reliance and use of social media gets much of the blame.

Although not the only cause, but what is considered a primary cause of suicide among youth is bullying by peers.

According to Nathan Miller, of the Cumberland Mental Health Center, an agency of Volunteer Behavioral Health, there were ways and means that a youth could escape from acts of bullying before social media.

But since the introduction of a number of social media platforms, he said there simply are no avenues for victims to avoid being bullied by aggressors at all times.

Miller explained that before social media, a victim of bullying might leave school and go home with the peace of mind that he or she couldn’t be reached by their aggressors and could relax from the torment of being bullied if only for a few hours, a day, or a weekend.

However, that is not the case now. Because of social media, bullying can literally be present seven days a week and 24-hours each day.

Suicide and attempted suicide rates continue to rise among teens and youth at an alarming pace.

Mental health professionals and others including classroom teachers, school administrators, athletic coaches and mentors, who are in contact with youth on a daily basis, say there are other causes that may very well lead to suicide and can also be influenced by social media including academic pressure, troubled relationships, domestic challenges at home, and economic concerns.

The Tennessee Suicide Prevention Network provides that suicide continues to be a leading cause of death for youth (ages 10-19) in Tennessee and across the U.S.

Professionals who deal with youth suicide incidents on a regular basis say that the causes of suicide can be complicated. They generally hold that a suicide is not the result of any one single factor.

To help bring down the numbers and reduce youth suicides, professional counselors at agencies like Volunteer Behavioral Health believe parents, teachers and others who are often engaged with youth need to be educated about the signs that signal a youth may be troubled emotionally.

While the list is not necessarily a coverall document, it should certainly include matters such as changes in emotions and feelings, experiences of distress and anger, the appearance of give-up or “I can’t do this any longer” attitudes because life is too challenging, changes in appetite, sleep loss, and lost interest in what had been pleasant or enjoyable pastimes like playing sports or participating in certain extracurricular activities.

VBHCS has professional counselors on staff to deal with issues involving suicide, including a 24-hour crisis call center, two crisis walk-in clinics and two crisis stabilization units.

If you would like to learn more about how to prevent suicides and others services offered, call VBHCS at 1-877-567-6051 or visit www.vbhcs.org.

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From JUDGE, PAGE 3

“Convenient vote centers will provide Wilson County voters with the opportunity to choose when and where they can most conveniently cast their vote,” said Warren. “Our goal has always been to make improvements in election administration that create the best voting experience possible for the voters of Wilson County. Convenience vote centers will be a positive initiative for our county.”

To learn more about primaries and general elections, qualifications for offices and other elections related information visit www.WilsonVotes.com. The Election Commission offers programs about elections and voting for any interested group. To schedule a presentation, ask questions about election related issues or learn how you can be involved contact the Wilson County Election Commission at 615-444-0216 or info@WilsonElections.com.
My Salon Suite had its ribbon cutting with the Mt. Juliet Chamber of Commerce on Oct. 29. The business is located at 1984 Providence Pkwy. Tennessee Hydration and Wellness had its ribbon cutting with the Chamber on Nov. 1. The business is located at 4114 N. Mt. Juliet Road. | Photos submitted

Pictured Left to right: Wilson County Mayor Randall Hutto, Cedars of Lebanon State Park Park Manager Wayne Ingram, Administrative Assistant Susan Shaw. | Photo submitted

Sadie Ford Heritage Farm recognized for excellence

On Sept. 25, mayors and county executives from across Middle Tennessee came together to honor local governments in the mid-state for excellence in public service at the annual awards ceremony of the Greater Nashville Regional Council (GNRC or Regional Council). Wilson County was recognized for excellence in Recreation and Youth Engagement for the Cedars of Lebanon State Park/Sadie Ford Heritage Farm and Art Center project.

The Regional Council, which is composed of 65 mayors and executives, two members of the TN General Assembly, and 26 mayoral appointments, provides a forum for collaboration among communities in the greater Nashville metropolitan area. Each year, GNRC honors its membership and partners with two types of awards. Grand awards, named after influential leaders throughout GNRC’s history, are presented to individuals or organizations for demonstrated leadership on a regional scale. The Excellence in Local Government awards recognize county governments and municipalities for projects or initiatives that serve as a model for peers across the region. This year, GNRC presented 19 local government awards.

This award celebrates the grand opening of the Sadie Ford Heritage Farm and Art Center at the Cedars of Lebanon State Park in May 2019. The farm, which is located across from the entrance to Cedars of Lebanon State Park, consists of 73.3 acres and features a house and outbuildings, including a milking barn, livestock barn and corn crib. As the last remaining pre-park farm in the area, this property provides an excellent example of an early-to-mid-twentieth-century working farm, as well as an immersive, year-round educational experience of living history.

“The work being done by the local communities and professionals working for citizens across Middle Tennessee is inspiring,” said Michael Skipper, executive director for GNRC. “It is an honor to highlight their hard work and share these best practices with the rest of the region.”

Staff Reports

Hendersonville added to the score, earning two touchdowns each with the extra point. The third quarter was much like the second, with each team continuing to receive penalties. Again, Hendersonville was the only team to add points to the board. They scored two touchdowns but had only one good PAT.

In the fourth quarter, Mt. Juliet scored two touchdowns along with both PATs, while Hendersonville had no additional touchdowns. This ended the night, and the regular season, with a final score of 41-14.

Overall, Parker thinks that skill-wise Hendersonville had a really good quarterback, who was good at running the ball back.

Mt. Juliet will have their first playoff game at home Friday, Nov. 8, at 7 p.m. against Riverdale.
OBITUARIES

BIRCHETT, Jimmy

Jimmy Birchett, age 88 of Mt. Juliet, passed from this life and went home to be with his Lord and Savior on Nov. 1, 2019. A funeral service was held Nov. 4 at Sellars Funeral Home in Mt. Juliet, and interment followed at Mt. Juliet Memorial Gardens.

He is survived by loving wife of 62 years, Ernestine Birchett; children, Sandy Birchett, Randy (Elaine) Birchett, and Tammy (Derrick) Knowles; grandchildren, Misty (Rodney) Knight, Chase (Erin) Knowles, and Matt (Cathy) Birchett; six great-grandchildren, Luke, Laina, Parker, Lincoln, Caroline, and Polly; siblings, Peggy Tomlinson, Buford (Pam) Birchett, and Betty Cassety; and beloved dog, Buddy. He was preceded in death by parents, George and Mary Sweeney Birchett; brothers, George Birchett, Bill Birchett, and Bobby Birchett; and sister, Louise Buckingham.


CLAY, Damon

Damon E. Clay, age 49, passed away at his home in Fort Walton Beach, Florida, on Oct. 26, 2019. The Celebration of Life Service will be held on Saturday, Nov. 9 from 2-5 p.m. at First Baptist Church Mt. Juliet.

He is survived by parents, Bobby and Patsy Clay; brother, Michael (Mandy Panozzo) Clay; niece, Moxy Clay; uncles, Paul “Nick” Nicholas and Carl Clay; aunts, Joy West, Susan Cochran, and Julie Loudin; several cousins also survive. He was preceded in death by brother, Travis G. Clay.


HARDESTY, David Gerard

David Gerard Hardesty, at 56 of Mt. Juliet, passed away Oct. 27, 2019. Mr. Hardesty was preceded in death by parents, George Thomas Hardesty and Patricia Dunbar; son, Benjamin Hardesty; and sister, Sarah Ward. He is survived by daughter, Brittany Hardesty; grandchildren, Valerie Hardesty, Addilyn Hardesty, and Owen Hardesty; siblings, Anna (Earl) Matthews, Steve (Gayle) Hardesty, Dan (Mary) Hardesty, Kathy (Frank) Pepe, Todd (Peggy) Hardesty, Becky (Jerry) Hofmann, Susan (Joe) Weber, Julie (Chad) Bennett, and Joe Hardesty; and brother-in-law, Jim Ward.

The family would like to extend an invitation for all to join them in celebrating David’s life. The Memorial Service will be held Saturday, Nov. 9, at 2 p.m. in the chapel of Sellars Funeral Home at Mt. Juliet. The family will receive friends on Saturday from 10 a.m. until service time at 2 p.m.


HILL, Patricia Marie Drehobl

Patricia Marie Drehobl Hill, age 64 of Mt. Juliet, passed away Nov. 1, 2019. A funeral service was held Nov. 5 at Sellars Funeral Home at Mt. Juliet, and interment followed at Mt. Juliet Memorial Gardens.

She was preceded in death by her father, William Drehobl, and her in-

See OBITs, PAGE 13
The City of Mt. Juliet Alcoholic Beverages Board will meet in City Hall at 6:30 P.M. on Tuesday, November 12, 2019 to consider issuing beer permits for the following locations:

- Meatballs Italian Grill, located at 14805 Lebanon Rd. Old Hickory
- Persis Biriyani, located at 630 S. Mt. Juliet Rd. #310 Mt. Juliet

And any other topics arising therefrom or generally related thereto. The public is invited to attend and comment.

Sheila S. Luckett, MMC
Deputy City Manager
HELP WANTED

Lowe’s of Mount Juliet is hosting an Estate Sale at the Lowe’s of Mount Juliet (Dandy Donelson Sale) every Wednesday from 2pm-5pm. Call Phyllis at 615-754-6111.

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**Garage Sale**

Dandy Donelson Sale

Living Estate and Estate of Clyde and Jean Ingram.
2933 Fernbrook Ln., Nashville, TN. 37214. November 7-8-9, 8AM-5PM. 5 Piece Lillian Russell Bedroom Furniture, Pie Safe, 2 Dining Room Tables, Sofas, Marble Top Tables, Dresser, Baby Cradle, Music Box, Desk, Vintage Office Chairs, Antique Bed Room Chairs, Lamps, Rugs, Quilts, Haviland China, Fosteria and Other Crystals, Silverplate and Sterling, Framed, Art, Vintage Textiles, Rockers, Mirrors, Electric Typewriter, Vintage Baby Dresses and Toys Including Strawberry Road Racers, 2 Sewing Machines, Iron Skillets and Kettles, Trunks, Stereoscope, Vintage Nortake Progression Up-Side Daisy, Dinnerware, Fun Kitchen Items, Tuesday’s and Thursday’s from 2pm-6pm. Come see us for an on the spot interview for all hourly roles! Please apply prior at jobs.lowes.com or come see us and apply at our in-store kiosks!

The story starts out by saying, “As they were walking along, Jesus drew near to them but they were kept from knowing it was He.” I love this because I believe Jesus is the same yesterday, today, and forever so if He drew near to these two guys in their disappointment, then He does the same for me and you! That’s awesome! I can find rest in knowing that even when I don’t see Jesus walking alongside me, I can find rest in the truth of His word that He is there.

As they walk together along this road, Jesus asks them, “What are these things you are talking about?” Jesus desires to hear our hearts tell the story of the disappointments we carry. After these two guys tell Jesus what has happened, Jesus begins to teach them. Jesus says that Jesus opened up all the old testament and showed them why the savior had to die. In our disappointment, Jesus teaches us.

Then the story shifts with three words, and I pray it’s these three words we can hold onto and say to Jesus as well. The journey was over, they had reached the place they were going, and it looked as if Jesus was going to continue on and the two disciples said to him, “Stay with us.”

I pray those three words are ones that we can have on our hearts as well, in the midst of all the disappointment life has thrown our way and simply ask Jesus to stay with us. It’s in this invitation that the revelation is revealed that it’s Jesus with them. In our disappointment Jesus desires to reveal himself to us. I pray that we can walk out today with a peace that surpasses understanding because Jesus is walking with, listening to, teaching, and ultimately revealing himself to us in the midst of the disappointment we carry with us.

Finally, after Jesus is revealed to them, Jesus leaves and they go back and tell the story of how Jesus was with them on the journey. So we end here with this truth from the story that was theirs and is ours as well. The story you have to tell is greater than the pain of the disappointment you have walked through. Your story matters and it is great because Jesus has been with you the whole time, and the truth is you were never alone!

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I decided years ago that being a little different (see: myself), is easier than trying to live up to the decor, fitness, party throwing Instagram and Facebook stories on my social media feeds.

I have always encouraged my children to be the same. Never wanting them to feel insecure but proud of who they are and where they come from. Like any life lesson though, it takes time to “get it.” My oldest is now two years into teen-agerville. Most of us know this is a time that can metaphorically make or break a spirit... It’s also tough on the teenager.

At the beginning of each new experience/activity, I try to calm everyone’s nerves. “Who cares that you don’t know anyone at this camp or club or game? Just be nice. But not overly nice. Not ‘desperate’ nice; friendly. Remember we are all the same. Some are just taller or thinner. And some are just mean. Be nice to all of them, especially the mean ones. Mean people need a friend when everyone turns on them.”

A few weeks ago, we arrived at a kid-friendly get together where my boys and I didn’t know anyone. Before entering, both look around nervously. Looking at those shy faces takes me back to my adolescence and how awkward those years were. But I couldn’t let them see my concern. I was getting weak and children can smell weakness on an adult like a shark can smell another fish in distress from 10 miles away.

We stepped out of the car and I froze. There they were. Standing. Tightly holding their Styrofoam cups filled with steaming, overpriced coffee. Clutching the fitted holder that acts not only as protection for their perfectly manicured fingers but also a clever advertisement for the latest diner/luncheon-ette/coffee shop.

When my youngest started running toward an oversized inflatable, I grabbed the neck of his shirt and pulled him back in front of me. There was no need to hold my oldest back since he doesn’t notice anything not displayed on the screen of his cell phone.

The parking lot was like a McDonalds Restaurant and six months of living in the other side, they stood, looking as if they had each stepped out of a fashion magazine. I’d become immune to women with perfect figures but would like to initiate an act that would make it illegal to wear a size 4 less than one year after giving birth. Punishable by a fine up to 25k and six months of living in a McDonalds Restaurant with no physical activity.

When both kids were trying to shimmy out of their shirts to escape my grip, I snapped out of it. I’m trying to teach my kids to be open to new people, but their mother is mentally behaving like a 7th grader. Intimidated by a few women who just happen to look perfect. It’s not their fault they have no acne, stretch marks or extra weight. So, I march over to introduce myself. Right before reaching my hand out, I trip over a parking lot speed bump. While I didn’t fall flat on my face it was still embarrassing. When I heard giggles, I decided not to say hello. These women were not my type. Who giggles at someone falling? A fall deserves a belly laugh and if you can’t appreciate a good fall, you’re no friend of mine.

Comments? becky@wilsonlivingmagazine.com
SHARPE

PAGE 1

“We see her as a real

ly important part to that transition because one of the things people may not know is that West Wilson Middle School will be a feeder school to Mt.

Juli et High School,” said Wilson County Direc
tor of Schools Dr. Donna

Wright. “Not only does she have a wealth of expe

rience as far as the cur-

riculum at MJHS, but she has also built a history, and a tradition of build-

ing a legacy as that feeder school to MJHS. That’s critical in building that bridge because this will be the first year that West Wilson Middle School students will be moving into Mt.

Juli et High School. So she will be very in-

strumental in making it a successful transition for those students.”

Sharpe has served in a

variety of teaching and administra
tive roles with Wilson County Schools throughout her career, but she candidly says this challenge is one that she’s been “looking into” for some time.

“In the past few years, I have been contemplat-

ing what my next chal-

lenge should be. I am thankful to have this leadership opportunity,” said Sharpe. “MJHS is my home away from home. I will miss the people, students and staff — they are the heart and soul of MJHS, so it is not easy to

mind our faculty that I’ve been ‘married’ to them longer than I’ve been mar-

tied to my husband of 34 years. I won’t be far away though — as the feeder school for MJHS, I will be working very closely with Mrs.

Rainey (Principal at MJHS) and the faculty at MJHS.”

Dr. Wright emphasized where she places impor-
tance with Sharpe when she transitions into her new position.

“She has been so in-

strumental in the curri-

culum,” said Wright. “I can put Beverly’s name out there as being that gold

seal because she’s prob-

ably one of the best and most masterful I’ve seen as far as looking at cur-

riculum, executing in-

struction and the teach-

ing and learning side of it. She’s just such a wealth of experience, and she’s a great choice for that age group of students.”

Sharpe is excited for the transition process as she gets set to move over to West Wilson Middle.

“I am anxious to meet the students at WWMS,” said Sharpe. “I also look forward to collaborating with the professionals in the building; they are the people who have laid the foundation for continuing success and I am excited to work with them.

When asked about the challenges she expects when she takes over as principal at West Wilson Middle, her answer is something that we could all learn from and offers some great advice.

“I think the challenges are in the unknown; one thing I’ve learned through the years is to expect the unexpected,” said Sharpe. “I’ve learned not to say, ‘nothing surprises me anymore,’” but rather, “I am not afraid of what might be lurking around the corner. I know I’m equipped to handle it.”

Her goal upon arrival at West Wilson Middle is to build off a solid founda-

tion that’s firmly in place.

“The first thing I want to ensure is a sense of pride. Teachers at WWMS have clearly done superb work with students to ac-

complish Reward School status for the past two years,” said Sharpe. “My plan is to continue im-

proving and meeting an-

nual goals, and to be ranked as one of the best middle schools in Tennes-

see.”

Sharpe will transi-

tion to West Wilson Mid-

dle School in the coming few months, as Principal Kevin Dwayne continues the preparation process for the start of Green Hill High School’s inaugu-

ral school year in August 2020.

From SHARPE

PAGE 11

fant daughter, Kathryn

Elizabeth. She is survived by her mother, Anna M.

Gillmor; her husband of 37 years, Chad W. Hill; her

children, Sarah, Chuck and Jim; her sisters, Dr.

Margaret Livingston and Mary Conant; her broth-

ers, Steven Drehobl, Dr. Karl Drehobl, and William

Drehobl, Jr. (CPO, USN Ret.); her grandchildren,

Brielle, Tharin, Bianca and Chaeden.

In lieu of flowers, memori-

al contributions can be

made to Holston Presby-

tery Camp, 6993 Hickory

Nut Gap Rd, Banner Elk, NC 28604.

SCOTT, Kimberly De-

nise Mitchell

Kimberly Denise Mitch-

ell Scott, age 49 of Old

Hickory, died Oct. 29, 2019. Kim was preceded in

death by her father, Horace

Mitchell.

She is survived by:

Mother – Brenda (Thom-

as) Cowell; Sons – Dylan

Scott and Grayson Scott;

Former husband – Kevin

Scott; Siblings – Deidrea

Mitchell, Patricia Mitchell

McClelland and Scott Dun-

can; Several nieces and

nephews.

A funeral service was

held Nov. 2 at Bond Memo-

rial Chapel, and interment

followed from 2-4 p.m. at

First Presbyterian

Church, Lebanon, on Sat-

day, Nov. 9, 2019, at Mt.

Juli et Memorial Gardens. Vi-

sitation will follow from 2-4

p.m. at First Presbyterian

Church, Lebanon, on Sat-

urday, Nov. 9, 2019.

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