Mt. Juliet lights up for Christmas

By Phyllis Robinson
Vice President


The night began with carols and hot chocolate as neighbors brought ornaments to decorate the tree closest to the Clock Tower. Mayor James Maness and City Manager Kenny Martin welcomed everyone to this special event and wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

The support of businesses and churches helped to make the night a success. Shiloh Baptist Church or-

See LIGHTS, PAGE 3

Local teacher arrested for statutory rape

By John Kirian
Managing Editor

30-year-old Timothy Williams, a former Mt. Juliet High School teacher, was arrested on Thursday Dec. 3 on accusations of statutory rape against a 16-year-old student.

Williams had been a social studies teacher at Mt. Juliet High School since 2013 and also coached football and track. He was suspended due to the allegations against him, and formally resigned.

See ARREST, PAGE 3

Mt. Juliet says “goodbye” to Art Giles

By John Kirian
Managing Editor

Art Giles’s time in the city government of Mt. Juliet began on Dec. 16, 2004, when he became a part of Mt. Juliet's Planning Commission. He has served on the Planning Commission by the state education agency in Tennessee.

W.A. Wright Elementary School is one of up to 100 schools throughout the country that is being nationally recognized for exceptional student achievement in 2020. WAW was one of the two Tennessee schools recognized.

The National ESEA Distinguished Schools Program publicly recognizes qualifying federally funded schools for the outstanding academic achievements of their students. It highlights the efforts of schools.

See W.A. WRIGHT, PAGE 3

See GILES, PAGE 7

W.A. Wright recognized for success

Staff Reports

The National Association of ESEA State Program Administrators (NAESPA) recently announced that W.A. Wright Elementary School from Mt. Juliet, Tennessee has been named a National ESEA Distinguished School.

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WC Schools teacher arrested for statutory rape of student, pg 12

CELEBRATING OUR 40th YEAR AS THE LEADING NEWSPAPER IN MT. JULIET & WEST WILSON COUNTY

by John Kirian
Managing Editor

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Granville Country Christmas


There will be four Christmas Concerts at the Granville Event Center featuring Carolyn Cathey at 12:00 and 2:00 p.m. and Ken Underwood at 11:00 and 1:00 p.m.

Social distancing of seats six feet apart and mask are required at the concerts. The Christmas Parade will be at 3:00 p.m. and entries are still being accepted by calling 931-653-4544.

Following the parade, the event will feature drive by Santa in front of the Post Office Museum where you can drop off your letters to Santa.

You will be able to have a picture opportunity from your automobile with Santa. Granville is known for its beautiful Christmas Shopping at Granville Gifts, Southern Shops of Granville, Sutton General Store, Granville Arts & Cultural Center & Quilt Shop and Granville Broom Works.

Sutton Ole Time Music Hour is featuring Christmas Bluegrass Shows each Saturday night during December with reservations required by calling 931-653-4151.

All dining tables are six feet apart and seating as well with mask required. The Bilbrey’s will be the featured band on Dec. 12. Turkey and dressing will be served at dinner.

The Festival of Trees features 30 beautiful decorated trees, Historic Sutton Home Christmas Tours entitled “Visions of Christmas in a Small Mayberry Town”, with decorations and trees in each room, Christmas Characters features 183 hand painted Christmas Characters decorating the town and a special Christmas feature at the Mayberry I Love Lucy Museum.

Town Tours are available Wednesday through Saturday at a cost of $5.00.

Visions of Christmas in a Small Mayberry Town features 183 hand painted Christmas Characters decorating the town and a special Christmas feature at the Mayberry I Love Lucy Museum.

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Williams is charged with two counts of statutory rape of the same female student in June of 2020. Williams is reported to have communicated with the teenage girl over social media, where he arranged to pick her up from a friend’s house and take her to his own home in Nashville. Police have not released any more details about the incident.

Williams also has charges against him for misdemeanor or possession of a controlled substance and of drug paraphernalia, which were discovered during a search of his home in July.

Williams is currently being held in the Davidson County Jail, with his bond set at $50,000.

In relation to the incident, Wilson County Schools released the following statement:

“Upon learning about the criminal allegations surrounding Mr. Williams, the district met with him and then immediately placed him on suspension. At that time, our schools were not in session due to Summer break. Before the start of this school year, Mr. Williams resigned while he remained on suspension. He had been an employee with the district since 2013 teaching Social Studies. We have worked very closely with local law enforcement throughout their investigation and will continue to do so moving forward.”

From ARREST, PAGE 1
A Christmas like no other. This is the title of the sermon series we are walking through during these four weeks leading up to Christmas. This year has been a year like no other in our community and the Christmas season continues to live into the same trajectory. It has had me thinking about the very first Christmas and what we are to truly learn and glean from the Christmas story, today in 2020. The very first Christmas was a Christmas like no other. Mary, a young woman whose life turned upside down finding out she was expecting. Joseph, a man asked to believe the seemingly unbelievable and trust the messages of God given to him in dreams. This ask was completely counter to the cultural expectations of the day. A census forcing them to journey miles and miles at the most inconvenient time of Mary’s pregnancy. Giving birth in a space that I am not quite sure was exactly as Mary anticipated. Escaping to Egypt to keep their young son safe from an oppressive government. Yes, it sounds like a season in their lives like no other.

A lot changed for Mary and Joseph in a short amount of time. A lot has changed for us in a short amount of time. This can cause us to look around and feel particularly disheartened, filled with anxiety, anger, depression and grief. These feelings feel counter to the Christmas carols we hear around us….joy to the world…let our hearts be light…the heavens and nature ring. The great news of Jesus, is that his unexpected gift actually transcends all pain and grief and sorrow around us. Jesus brings hope to the insanity swirl.

See F & M, PAGE 5
I wrote this article a few years ago and thought sharing it now would mean even more with everything we’ve all been through this year and continue to go through. Sadly, with the pandemic upon us, being with our friends and family is currently being impacted and altered unlike any other time in most of our lives. Please know that doesn’t mean we can’t be safe and creative this year until we get beyond this awful pandemic and COVID-19.

I truly believe this pandemic has opened our hearts and minds on many levels and will make the holiday season, special occasions and spending time with family and friends in the future even more special. With all this said, the future is bright, and we will get past this awful pandemic. Let’s all have and enjoy a much-deserved Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. We are most blessed.

What a Wonderful Life

Doesn’t the holiday season make you feel good? Isn’t all the time we spend with family and friends during the holidays a blessing? Don’t you wish the holiday season lasted year-round? Well the holiday season can last year-round. Well, at the least the love, kindness and family time can.

You see, the holiday season seems to bring the best out in most of us. The holiday season is a true blessing in many more ways than just gifts, eating and days off from work. The holiday season has a special way of bringing families, friends and complete strangers together. It’s the time of year when family members get together and talk about more than just work. A time we truly embrace and realize our many blessings.

For all the right reasons, the holiday season seems to make us truly realize how blessed we are. It also seems to make our time with family and friends so much more enjoyable. What is it about the holiday season that seems to mellow us all out? I believe the mellow-ness is caused by our realization of how blessed we are. I also believe the holiday season brings out the kid in us. Every one of us enjoyed as kids trick or treating, decorating the Christmas tree and so on. For whatever reasons we seem to discover how blessed we are during the holiday season. You would think with all the spending of money, traveling, cooking for large groups and cleaning up afterwards that we would all but dread the holiday season.

That’s simply not the case. The holiday season is a special time of year that truly brings out the best in us. So, with that in mind, here are some ways to make the entire year a holiday. First, we must count our blessings daily; second, we must spend more quality time with family and friends, and thirdly, we must enjoy joy and take care of ourselves.

In closing, we have wonderful lives and are all so very blessed. God doesn’t make any junk and God doesn’t give us anything we can’t handle. During tough times it can be difficult to see how blessed you are. But when you live life as if you’re living a 365-day holiday season, you will realize what a wonderful life you have.

From F & M, PAGE 4

These four weeks leading up to Christmas are called, “Advent.” Advent means ‘coming.’ We are expecting the coming of Christ…the fulfillment of generations of waiting for the denomination you follow, your word each week means looking towards the well being of others. What if this Christmas like no other actually became a great blessing and a ripple effect of Christ’s love throughout our community? What if we truly embody good will towards humankind? What if we used supernatural strength from Jesus to breathe in the reality of the coming of Christ and love our neighbors in an “extra-vagantly only like Jesus” kind of way. I believe we could usher in an altogether hope, peace, joy and love. It is a Christmas like no other. But our Creator can hold the grief of what looks like and the possibility of great joy and a coming together in God’s arm span all at once. As we seek this altogether hope, may we sing loudly ‘a thrill of hope, a weary world rejoices.’ Jesus brings completeness for the many ways we lack, dear friends. And that will always feel like no other feeling there is.
By John Kirian
Managing Editor

Mt. Juliet High School graduate Madison Zickgraf was a finalist for the prestigious 2021 Rhodes Scholarship.

Madison, currently a senior at Rhodes College, is the student director and one of the founders of their Liberal Arts in Prison Program, which offers a course to incarcerated women at the West Tennessee State Penitentiary. Madison has developed a passion for assisting the incarcerated and helping them get education to better their lives.

“Her empathy for incarcerated students and dedication to getting this program running, while at the same time being an excellent student, is truly remarkable,” said Dr. Robert Sax, co-director of postgraduate fellowships at Rhodes College. “Without her skills and dedication, the program might not have achieved its success.”

Madison has also worked for the Shelby County Mayor’s office and has been an intern for the Nashville Public Defender’s Office. At Rhodes College, Madison currently serves as chief of staff for the Rhodes Student Government and was a student senator for three years. She also has many other achievements under her belt, such as being an assistant teacher.

With all of this, she was a natural fit to apply for the Rhodes Scholarship.

The Rhodes Scholarship is a well-known international fellowship program that gives talented and achieving students to opportunity to study at the famous University of Oxford in England. Prospective entrants must be endorsed by their college simply to apply.

The Rhodes Scholarship has a 0.7% acceptance rate, making it one of the most competitive fellowship programs in the world. Over 2,300 students from the U.S. alone applied for the program, and Madison was among just 238 finalists. Only 32 of those were eventually accepted.

“It was an honor to make it to the final stage of this rigorous application process,” said Madison. “Even though I did not receive the Rhodes scholarship in the end, I made friends with 14 amazing individuals who will make such an impact on their communities.”

Madison says that, regard- less of the outcome of the Rhodes Scholarship, she plans to continue her work in prison education once she has her degree. Her ultimate goal is to pursue a Ph.D. in English literature and become a professor of the subject, with the intention of making education more accessible for incarcerated individuals.
From GILES, PAGE 1

for the last sixteen years. He served as Commissioner of District 3 from May 23, 2011 until Nov. 23, 2020. Art Giles has therefore seen and helped shaped Mt. Juliet through 16 years of growth.

Giles says, “The accomplishment I am most proud of as a City Commissioner is forming and leading the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee. BPAC serves as a way for the city to acquire grants to increase greenways and install sidewalks in areas that had no funds for these amenities.” Since the formation of BPAC in 2013, the city has received $9.2 million in grants. BPAC sponsors StoryWalk at Mundy Park and Charlie Daniels Park, which encourages children to read books and to increase their physical activity.

Commissioner Giles sponsored an ordinance which mandates that any new commercial, industrial or residential development must construct a greenway to the city’s standards if said property lies within the Master Greenway Plan. He also sponsored an amendment to an existing ordinance requiring all commercial, industrial, and residential construction projects to include sidewalks in their development.

“I am very proud to have worked closely with the MJPD on their 10-year growth plan and to know that it will come to fruition,” said Giles. He sponsored both the Resolution for the strategic 10-year growth plan as well as the Ordinance that allocated $5.5 million for the new design and expansion of the Police Headquarters.

Giles sponsored a study on Old Lebanon Dirt Road which led to improvements. Additional improvements are still being considered by the Board of Commissioners.

“I never voted for any apartments during my time as a Commissioner. I never voted for a property tax increase. I listened to my constituents. I did what they asked me to do,” said Giles.

“The reason Mt. Juliet is such a great place to live is the people,” said Giles. “The people are fantastic. They still wave at you. They still smile at you. They are supportive, they come out when there is a tragedy like the March tornadoes. When people are in need, our city rises to the challenge.”

Although Giles may no longer be a City Commissioner, nor on the Planning Commission, he says his involvement in Mt. Juliet’s government is far from over. Although he may no longer be city representative of the BPAC, he plans to still participate as a regular member. He says he will still remain president of the Friends of BPAC, a 501C3.

“I’m not through with politics, and I plan to be back,” said Giles. “I still plan to be involved in city government somehow.”

Wilson County seniors score high on ACT

Staff Reports

Class of 2020 ACT information has been released from the Tennessee Department of Education, and Wilson County Schools performed exceptionally well. Wilson County Seniors for the 2019-2020 school year raised ACT scores by 0.6 percentage points compared to last year. In 2019, the ACT data for the district showed a 20.9 Average Composite across the district. This year, that number has increased to an overall average composite score of 21.5.

When it comes to a statewide comparison, Wilson County Schools ranks 12th out of 127 public school districts with the highest average composite among the Class of 2020. That ranking is up four spots compared to last year when Wilson County Schools were 16th.

While the current state average composite score is 19.9 (down 0.1 since last year), Wilson County Schools well exceeded that average. Additionally, the district was fortunate to see the most impressive gains among the top ten enrollment districts across the state.

Over a six year span that dates back to 2014, Wilson County Seniors have experienced a continuous uptick in these scores. During that time, the overall gains for Wilson County Schools has risen nearly two full percentage points (19.7 in 2014, 21.5 in 2020).

53.8% of Wilson County Seniors scored 21 or above on the ACT and became eligible for the Hope Scholarship. Students scoring a 21 or better is up nearly 6% since 2016. “These gains go to everyone in our schools, our teachers, our students,” said Dr. Jennifer Cothron, Deputy Director, Testing and Accountability. “That’s where it all starts, and so much credit goes to our families too. Our schools have really stepped up and they understand completely the emphasis of the ACT exam and scoring a 21. When students score a 21, that opens up a lot of doors in terms of scholarship money and other benefits. We want to prepare our students for success once they leave high school. This data reflects all of the hard work and preparation that takes place from so many to help accomplish that goal.”

“I don’t have to remind anyone about what all 2020 has brought, so to see these types of gains among our students just shows how strong and determined they are,” said Dr. Donna Wright, Director of Schools. “I couldn’t be more proud of them. We talk about the importance of high school, but this is a cumulative effort that starts in third grade. So this credit not only goes to the students, but also to our amazing teachers in elementary, middle and high schools. They have all helped clear the path for Seniors to be successful. The process we have incorporated and the importance we place on ACT preparation lets us know it’s working. The most important and best thing we can ever see as educators and administrators is to see our students leave our high schools and become career or college ready, then capitalize on that and become another great success story in whatever career path they choose.”

Wear a mask and never miss a moment.

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Get a test. Scan to find a COVID-19 testing center near you.
James Allen Briley, age 59 of Mt. Juliet, Tennessee, passed away Wednesday, Dec. 2, 2020. The Funeral Service, conducted by Bro. Wayne Miller, was held in the chapel of Sellars Funeral Home at Mt. Juliet on Saturday, Dec. 5, 2020 at 12:00 p.m. Interment will follow the service in Mt. Juliet Memorial Gardens with Mike Eakes, Sam Christ- mas, Steve Robinson, Sean Speight, and John Thomas serving as pallbearers. He was born Wednesday, July 26, 1961 in Smyrna, Georgia, a son of the late Andrew Pierce and Lillian Myrtle Etheridge Briley. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by sister, Joyce Dean Vaden. He is survived by sister, Teresa Briley-Scott; nieces, Becky Sexton and Linda Sexton; several nieces and nephews also survive. James was a hard work- er who loved working. The Holidays, food, dancing, music, and Elvis Presley were some of his favorite things. His bright smile will be missed by all who knew and loved him.

In lieu of flowers, the family respectfully request memorial contributions be made to Down Syndrome Association-Middle Tennessee (1310 Central Court, Hermitage, TN 37076; 615-454-5404 or www.somethingextra.org).


DICKErSON, Carolyn

Mrs. Carolyn Dickerson, age 67 of Mt. Juliet, Tennessee, passed away Sunday, Nov. 29, 2020 at her residence after a very brief, but hard-fought fight with an aggressive cancer. The family plans to hold a memorial service at a later date due to the current cir- cumstances.

Carol Diane Davis was born Saturday, Dec. 13, 1952 in Newport News, Virginia, a daughter of Mary E. (Hinchey) Davis and the late Carl V. Davis. In addition to her father, she was preceded in death by brother, Richard Davis; sister, Beverly Wyatt; moth- er-in-law, Ann Dickerson; two brothers-in-law, David Goetz and Andy Pigaly. She is survived by loving husband of almost 50 years, Joe Dickerson; son, Jason (Michelle) Dickerson of Pensacola, Florida; daughter, Joanna (Mike) Bierce of New Fairfield, Connecticut; five grandchil- dren, Jacob Bierce, Joey Bierce, Mira Dickerson, Jacelyn Bierce and Crue Dickerson; four sisters, Cynthia “Teenie” Goetz, Janet “Bebo” (Howard) Bubba Wilson, Kimberly “Bittiebabe” (Brian) Devine, and Kippi Pigaly; parents in-law, Joe & Sunny Dick- erson; four brothers-in-law, Jon (Blaine) Dickerson, James (Christine) Dickerson, Jeffery (Susan) Dickerson, Tom (Lisa) Miller; two sisters-in-law, Judith Ann (Kenneth) Broadwa- ter and Tara (Brett) Cassady. Carolyn also leaves behind many nieces and nephews, great-nieces and great-nephews, and many other family members and friends who will sadly miss her.

The family respectfully request memorial contribu- tions be made to Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Re- search (13770 Noel Road, Suite 801889, Dallas, TX 75380). Carolyn trained for and participated in the 3 Days, 60 Mile Walk for a cure in Atlanta, Georgia in 2001.

Condolences may be left for the family at www.sellarsfuneralservices.com.


FLEmING, Donald Reid

Reid Fleming passed away on Nov. 27, 2020 at age 71. The Memorial Ser- vice, conducted by Pastor Devin Webb, was 2:00 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 5, 2020 in the chapel of Sellars Fu- neral Home, Lebanon TN. Reid was born in Tulsa OK to Estelle Merle Rose and William Bradford Flem- ing. He received a Bache- lor of Science Degree in Business Administration from Oklahoma State Uni- versity. Reid served in the United States Army for 23 years and retired as Major in the Army Reserve. Reid was Regional Director of Pharmaceutical Sales for Procter and Gam- ble for 2 years.

Reid is survived by wife Kathleen Ann Hillmer Flem- ing, sons Jacob Lee (Shelley) and Jordan Reid (Amber) Fleming, grandchildren Austin and Lacey Fleming, Lauren Elizabeth Fleming, and Lyla Star Fleming, and brother William Bradford Fleming. He is preceded in death by parents. Sellars Funeral Home, Lebanon TN, 615.444.9393.

HEAD, Linda Sue

Linda Head passed away on Nov. 23, 2020 at age 77. The Funeral Service, conducted by Brother Da- vid Woodard and Brother Johnnie Brewer, was 2:00 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 5, 2020 in the chapel of Sellars Fu- neral Home, Lebanon TN. Interment followed in Wil- son County Memorial.

Mrs. Head was born in Nashville TN to Claud- dine Rollins and Woodrow Graves. She was a large part of Buddy Head Livestock and Trucking Com- pany and was a member of the Mt. Juliet Mission- ary Baptist Church. She loved traveling and spend- ing time with the grand and great grandchildren.


The family would like to thank the doctors, med- ical staff, and caregivers of Vanderbilt Wilson County Hospital for their wonder- ful support of our loved one and his family.

Sellars Funeral Home, Lebanon TN, 615.444.9393.

HENRY, Brother Tom

Brother Tom Henry passed away on Dec. 3, 2020 at age 83. Services, conducted by Dr. Gene Mims and Dr. Ben Graham, will be private. Interment in Roselawn Cemetery, Mur- freesboro TN. Pallbearers: Evan Reavis, Reavis Ford, Jordan Hester, Chad Clay, Dr. Warren Rose, Bennie and Billy Nolen, and John Bryan. Honorary Pallbear- ers: Lynnette Moore, Corrie Cross, Sherwin Haney, Dr. Ron Hamm, Dave Christiano, Rick Uselton, and Jim Tracy.

Brother Tom is survived by his wife of 39 years JoAnn Henry, daughters Amy (Tim) Williams and Gretchen (David) Dvorak, grandsons Evan Reavis and Reavis (Margaret) Ford, granddaughter Lacey (Jor- dan) Hester, great-grand- daughter Anna Scott Hes- ter, sister Patsy Highland, and many nieces and nephews. He is preceded in death by daughter Cindy Reavis, parents, and broth- ers James Earl Henry and Harold O’Neal Henry.

The family would like to thank the doctors, med- ical staff, and caregivers of Vanderbilt Wilson County Hospital for their wonder- ful support of our loved one and his family.

Sellars Funeral Home, Lebanon TN, 615.444.9393.

HUGHES, David Reese

David Reese Hughes, age 65 of Mt. Juliet, Tennessee, passed away Monday, Nov. 30, 2020. He was preceded in death by parents, William Thomas and June Fraudie Hughes; brother, Mi- chael Winslow Hughes; and nephew Matthew Hughes. He is survived by siblings, William Edward Hughes, Thomas Alan Hughes, and Anna Michelle Hunt Hughes; children, Kelly
OBITUARIES

From OBITS, PAGE 8

(Dina) Hughes and Krystal (Sarah) Bland; grandchil-
dren Isaiah and Abby; and best friend, Bradley.

David served in the Unit-
ed States Army from 1974-
1978 and spent 30 years
working for Lowe’s Home
Improvement. He loved the Tennessee Vols and Ti-
tans, classic rock music, and collecting clothes for
the homeless. David was a friend to everyone he met
and would always offer to help when they were in
need.

The family respectfully
requests memorial contri-
butions be made to Opera-
tion Stand Down Ten-
ssee and the Cumberland
Bowling Team, past and present.

Lynne was born in Leb-
anon TN to Dewey Kiersey
and Kenneth Odell Jordan.
Lynne is survived by wife
Annette Driver Jordan, children
Chesaney (Joey) Leach and Ryan (Rachael)
Jordan, grandchildren Car-
one Rose Leach and Char-
lie Jo Leach, brother Joe
(Debbie) Gammon, sister-
in-law Shelly “Sissy” (Jr.)
Shrum, father and moth-
er-in-law Alton and Bar-
bara Driver, nephews Dar-
rin (Terri) Hemontolor and
Brandon Shrum, niece Lisa
Gammon, and great-niece
Kaylee Hemontolor. He is
preceded in death by par-
ents Bill Nichols and Helen
Walker.

Sylvia Jones passed
away on Dec. 1, 2020 at age
70. A Memorial Service
will be held at a later date.
Mrs. Jones was born in Leba-
non, TN, and was the daughter of
Bill and Dean Nichols. She
married “Ben” Jackson in 1978 and spent 30 years
married until his death in 2020.

Ben was preceded
in death by parents Bill and
Dean, brothers and sisters,
and nieces and nephews.

JORDAN, Kenneth Lynne

Lynne Jordan passed
away on Dec. 1, 2020 at age 54. The Grave-
side Service, conducted by
Brother Michael Grooms,
was 1:00 p.m. Monday,
Dec. 7, 2020 at Wilson
County Memorial. Pall-
bearers: Ryan Jordan,
Joey Leach, Alton Driver,
Darrin Hemontolor, Bran-
don Shrum, Josh Hilliard,
Travis Hawkins, and Matt
Hamlet. Honorary Pallbear-
ers: Cumberland Bowling
Team, past and present.

The Mt. Juliet League Cubs won the Senior Division Tournament with a come from behind victory over the Braves in Game 3 of the Championship Series.
PUBLIC NOTICE

The Board of Commissioners of the City of Mt. Juliet will have a Work Session on December 14, 2020 at 5:15 PM to discuss Infrastructure improvements and the budget. The Public is invited to attend.

Social distance guidelines will be followed. Masks are requested to be worn while in City Hall. The Public is Invited to Comment thru the agenda portal on the cities webpage www.mtjuliet-tn.gov / Go to Government / Agendas and Minutes then log into the agenda portal in the upper right hand corner or emailing sluckett@mtjuliet-tn.gov or by calling 615-754-2552. Please submit all comments by 4 PM on Monday, December 14th and provide your address so it can be forwarded to the Commissioner representing your district.

Kenny Martin, City Manager
City of Mt. Juliet

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Mt. Juliet Regional Planning Commission will hold a Public Hearing on January 21, 2021 at 6:30PM at City Hall, 2425 N. Mt. Juliet Road, to hear the following requests:

*Land Use Amendment for Hamilton Denson Park, Tate Lane & W. Division Street, Map 073, Parcel 018.01.

Additional information may be obtained by calling the phone number below. Once prepared, draft copies of the amendments may be viewed at City Hall in the Planning & Zoning Department. The public is invited to attend/comment. For more information, please call 615-773-6283.

PUBLIC NOTICE

2 Side by side cemetery plots (plots 167 & 168) in the Garden of the Cross area of Hermitage Memorial Gardens (535 Shute Ln, Old Hickory, TN 37138). These plots were purchased by my parents many years ago, and they are a rarity as they are 2 plots together in an older section of the cemetery. These plots are lawn crypt, which means the plots have the walls installed in the ground already, which is not common as much anymore. We have the deeds to the plots, and we all need to do is schedule a time to meet with the staff at Hermitage Memorial Gardens for the paperwork. Asking $7,000.00 per plot so $14,000.00 total. Seller will pay the $395.00 transfer fee. 615-618-1187

The Chronicle of Mt. Juliet, DECEMBER 9, 2020

www.tcomj.com
Staff Reports

Last night a man trying to cross I-40 was hit by multiple vehicles and killed. All west-bound lanes were closed for several hours. The accident occurred between the Hermitage Exit 211 and the Stewarts Ferry Exit 219.

The pedestrian was later identified as 29-year-old Stephen Alexander Mercaldo of Lilburn, Georgia.

The driver of the Ford Expedition that hit Mercaldo did not stop or stay at the scene of the accident. Later that night 23-year-old James Myers went to the Madison Precinct. He showed no signs of being impaired.

He told officers that the car in front of him suddenly swerved and did not hit the man. However, he was not able to avoid hitting him.

He told the police that he drove to the next exit, parked his car at a gas station and called a friend to pick him up.

Additional drivers after seeing the news called the Department of Emergency Communications and reported that they might have also run over the man. They were contacted by officers to take their statements.

The District Attorney’s Office has not determined whether to charge Myers.}

The Chronicle of Mt. Juliet, DECEMBER 9, 2020 Page 11

Pedestrian killed on I-40

Becky Andrews
Wilson Living Magazine

For more than three decades I’ve either been on a diet, researching a diet, trying a new “as seen on TV” miracle ab machine/cellulite cream or starving my way into a new dress or bathing suit. In between attempts, I “weight” around (pun intended) for the next fad to pop up. Every Monday for as long as I can remember, marked the beginning of what usually ends up being an ill-fated attempt at hitting the perfect weight. Even at my thinnest, there were still, you know, flaws. When I look at old photographs I wish I could be as fat as I thought I was when they were taken.

I’ve tried it all. Atkins, Grapefruit, intermittent fasting (Actually never tried this one. I just read a lot about it.), Jenny Craig, and Weight Watchers—because they might have. I’ve been a vegetarian and “the best fried pickles in Nashville”. Cori’s Doghouse believes that fresh ingredients and daily prepared items are important for a high quality product. Remember, you can design anything you want, we’ll be happy to make it for you.

I skipped it and suffered through a headache for 24 hours. On the second day, while shopping for groceries, I picked up an aroma coming from the in store cooking station at Publix. I grabbed my buggy and tried my best not to knock down a pair of toddlers playing tag in baked goods. The fear of embarrassment was the only thing that kept me from shouting, “I’ll give you my left vegan kidney if you save me a bite!” It was chicken. And, chicken, no matter how you pluck it, is a living thing. That was the first time I cried over food.

I thought if I could make it through that, this vegan thing may stick. By the fourth day, I felt cold and nauseous. A friend explained, “Your body is getting rid of all the junk you’ve put in it. Once you get through detox, you’ll never crave a Krispy Kreme donut again. Getting all the bad stuff out will make you feel sooooo much better.”

Was she insane? Those dietary chemicals can stay right where they are; buried inside and undisturbed, like all of those awkward teenage emotions I refuse to process. Nothing, not even 600 straight days of non-dairy squash ravioli with tofu tempeh could curb that craving.

Sure eating a raw, vegan, low calorie diet may add a few more days to my life. But if that means replacing Krispy Kreme donuts with non-dairy kale cheesecake, I’m out.

Honestly, if a friend spoke to me the way I speak to myself, we wouldn’t speak...EVER! I’ve decided to embrace the curves, bumps and uneven skin tone. Through it all, as flawed as I’ve made myself believe this body is, it’s done some pretty amazing things. Just look at my boys. So instead of suffering through another self-inflicted day of depravity, I’m going to try to see what my family sees, even if it’s not a super model.

Email comments to becky@wilsonlivingmagazine.com

LOCAL RESTAURANT & DINING GUIDE - Cori’s Doghouse

Through lots of research Cori’s Doghouse found some of the most popular ways hot dogs are eaten across the country. Coupling that with a butter-grilled New England Style bun it makes for what they consider to be the BEST gourmet hot dog. The menu is not just limited to 38 different options, but with 35 different topping options there are millions of ways they can top your gourmet hot dog. Other featured items include amazingly flavorful sausages, delicious sandwiches, hand cut french fries, hand breaded onion rings and “the best fried pickles in Nashville”. Cori’s Doghouse believes that fresh ingredients and daily prepared items are important for a high quality product. Remember, you can design anything you want, we’ll be happy to make it for you.

I was hit by mul-tiple vehi-cles...
American Heritage Girls Christmas packing party

By Rachel Uplinger
Contributor

On November 16th, the American Heritage Girls (AHG) Troop 1914 got together at Grace Baptist Church to pack Samaritans Purse Christmas shoe boxes. The boxes are for boys and girls of all ages around the world who aren’t as fortunate as we are in the U.S., and don’t have all the nice things and presents we have. The girls bought new toys, coloring books, toothbrushes and all sorts of things that kids need. Along with material possessions, each box also delivers the amazing lifesaving news of Christ!

Rachel commented, “It’s an amazing feeling knowing that you’re helping someone who really, really needs it.”

The girls had fun packing the boxes. They packed over 100 boxes. Some of the girls in the troop explained why they wanted to pack the shoe boxes in their own words. Lily said, “Helping people is what I enjoy about packing boxes.” Noa said, “I pack boxes for children in need.” Ariel said, “Because kids in Zambia and other countries don’t have enough money to buy this stuff.”

All the girls encourage us this Christmas season to take a minute to thank God for your blessings, and next Christmas season, consider packing a shoebox for someone in need!

For more information, visit: www.samaritanspurse.org and www.americanheritagegirls.org