Two arrested at Walmart

According to police, units were on-scene after two theft suspects attempted to run from officers. An officer observed two men pushing shopping carts filled with merchandise out of the store and proceeded to chase the men to a nearby wooded area. Additional officers responded and arrested the two men as they attempted to hide.

As of press time, no additional information is known about the charges against the men.

Vol State launches RN degree program

Volunteer State Community College has announced a new nursing degree program that will prepare students to apply to sit for licensure as a Registered Nurse. Approval for the program was given recently by the Tennessee Board of Nursing. This new program will award an Associate of Applied Science degree in Nursing. It will be held on the Gallatin and Livingston campuses.

“It is the right time for Vol State to launch a nursing program that serves our entire 11-county service area,” said Vol State President Jerry Faulkner. “There is a critical and growing need for nurses in Sumner County and the surrounding area. At the same time, surveys showed a substantial need for RNs in the Upper Cumberland. We have offered pre-nursing programs successfully for many years and we’re ready to take the next step. Interest in this full nursing degree program has been tremendous.”

Linda Gibson has been hired as the Dean of Nursing at Vol State.

“Not only does this new nursing program prepare students to apply to sit for the RN exam, the courses are designed to fit with university programs, allowing students to continue their studies for a bachelor of science in nursing degree,” Gibson said.

Vol State students will be able to use the tuition-free TN Promise program for new high school graduates or the TN Reconnect program for adults who don’t already have a college degree. Students who don’t qualify for those programs

Howell recognized for work as poll official

This week, The Chronicle is featuring two local teachers nominated for Wilson County Teacher of the Year: Angela Lewis and Kari Ferrell.

Angela Lewis
Elzie D. Patton Elementary

Kari Ferrell
Lakeview Elementary

Howell recognized for work as poll official

This is the second in a series of articles profiling poll officials in Wilson County. Each election, more than 300 Wilson County voters are trained to greet with a smile their neighbors and fellow Wilson Countians when they come to Early Vote at any of the five locations or on Election Day at their assigned polling place.

David Howell recalls going with his grandmother to vote at the Green Hills Women’s Club Building on the corner of South Greenhill Road and Lebanon Road when he was a child. That was when Old Hickory Lake was just beginning to rise and the population of West Wilson County was a small fraction of what it has become. Voting has always been important to Howell. As an adult, he became part of the elections in Wilson County, serving as a poll official for many years.

David Howell’s family has a long history in Wilson County. Ancestors began moving to the county as early as 1790 and buying land grants. David and Barbara Howell live on the farm that his family first purchased in 1809. Originally, the site was

Kari Ferrell.

Angela Lewis teaches second grade at Elzie D. Patton Elementary School where she has taught for the past four years after

See HOWELL, PAGE 16

See TOY, PAGE 2
The Mt. Juliet Hockey Team is competing in the playoffs to win the Hines Cup. They play Indy/Summit Wednesday, Feb. 20 at Centennial Sportsplex. Puck drops at 7:10 p.m.

From TOY, PAGE 1

moving from Alabama. She also previously taught third and fifth grade.

"Mt. Juliet is very family-oriented, and I really love that about the community," she said. "It's grown a lot, but there's still that small-town feel."

Lewis received her elementary education degree from Jacksonville State University in Jacksonville, Alabama, after working in Human Resources for many years.

She said she enjoys teaching elementary students because the foundation for their future learning is being laid and she helps them continue to grow.

"It's amazing to see what they do accomplish within a year's time," she said.

Lewis said her second grade students are like "little sponges" who are fun and funny. She said she likes the light bulb moments when her students understand new material as well as seeing the students interact with each other.

"It's very enlightening and heartwarming to see their progress," Lewis said. "I love to see the progress that our students make in their reading," Lewis said. She works with the other teachers on her team to come up with lesson plans to keep it interesting and help keep students' attention.

"I always tell the students you can go on an adventure, you can learn about somebody, you go places you've never been before," she said.

Lewis also said the teachers and staff at Elzie are a close group.

"I love my second grade team," she said. "The whole school is supportive of each other ... we're like a family."

Because of the supportive nature of her colleagues at the school, Lewis said she was very humbled and honored when she was named Elzie's Teacher of the Year.

"I was very emotional when she announced it," she said. "I'm humbled they would have chosen me ... I feel like I have some big shoes to fill to keep that going."

"You fill little minds with great things and they become great people, and I think that's probably the goal of every teacher," Lewis said.

Kari Ferrell teaches third grade at Lakeview Elementary School, where she has been since 2007. Aside from previously teaching first and second grade, she also taught at Friendship Christian School in Wilson County.

Ferrell, who has been teaching for 26 years, got her degree in elementary education from Middle Tennessee State University and her master's degree in literature and reading.

Because her husband was in the military and they moved around a lot, she has taught in six different states. However, she said that Mt. Juliet is her hometown, and she wouldn't ask for anything better than teaching at Lakeview.

"It's a great school. We support each other, the teachers support each other, the kids," she said. "It's a good environment. You can tell that we love our kids."

Ferrell said her passion is teaching reading to her students.

"I love to teach kids to read," she said. "When they start reading, and you see that light bulb come on and you see a whole world open up to them, that is the best."

She said when they learn to read, their world begins to open up and they can learn more about other subjects.

She said since being at Lakeview, one of the greatest things she has experienced has been when her previous students, many now in high school, tell her what they are up to and share their life with her.

"I keep up with my kids because I think it's so important as a teacher to form relationships with those kids in your classroom," Ferrell said. "We don't just teach reading and writing, we teach the whole child."

Something that Lakeview does is teaching students to have a growth mindset where they know it is OK to make mistakes because they can learn from them.

"I don't want them to be afraid of failure because we all have failures," she said. "We learn from that and we keep going, and we set goals for ourselves."

Ferrell said it is truly an honor to be named Lakeview's Teacher of the Year, especially because her peers are the ones who choose her to represent the school.

"It makes you feel so good to know that the other teachers want you to be Teacher of the Year," she said. "It's such an honor. It's really been a fun experience."

"As all teachers," Ferrell said, "I truly feel like it's such a blessing to be given these little kids and prepare them for the future."
can apply for other financial aid.

Tennessee State University offered a nursing degree program on the Vol State Gallatin campus for many years. The university suspended that program two years ago. Vol State continues to offer a pre-nursing program which includes partnerships with area universities.

Each Nursing program student group will start in the fall semester of each year. The application will become available on the web page starting March 1 and will be due May 1. The new Vol State Nursing program will be limited in the number of students accepted, and that acceptance is likely to be quite competitive. Applicants must complete all 17 hours of general education courses required for the Associate of Applied Science Degree in Nursing and maintain a minimum GPA of 3.5. Meeting the minimum requirements does not assure acceptance.

A point system will be used to rank each applicant. There will be a cohort admitted to the Gallatin and Livingston campuses each year. Graduates will be eligible to apply to take the National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX-RN) for licensure as a Registered Nurse. The program is subject to SACSCOC approval.

“There is a nursing shortage in the Vol State service area,” said Gibson. “Nursing jobs nationally are expected to increase by 15 percent, a much higher rate than most occupations. The pay is also attractive with a median RN salary in Tennessee of $67,490.” For more information about Vol State Nursing visit the web page www.volstate.edu/nursing.

Darius Hylick and Logan Collier, of MJCA, both recently signed with Lindsey Wilson College to play football for the Blue Raiders. Lindsey Wilson is located in Columbia, Kentucky.
A lot is in the media today about a “gluten-free” diet. What is gluten and how can I benefit from going gluten free?

Gluten is a protein that is found in wheat products. Because of the genetic modification and hybridization of these products, our bodies cannot digest these proteins properly. We have become unable to break down these proteins, creating gluten sensitivities, intolerances, and, in extreme cases, celiac disease. Symptoms of gluten sensitivity can include: bloating, depression, gas, joint pain, brain fog, ADD, weight gain, and skin problems just to name a few. Digestive enzymes can help your body break down and begin to digest these proteins, but elimination diets may be helpful and necessary for anyone who suspects an intolerance. It is important to state that although gluten can cause problems for some, a product labeled “gluten-free” will not necessarily be healthy. Read labels and educate yourself.

My dentist said I have to lose all my baby teeth before you start my braces. Is that true?

It is possible. There is an optimum time to start orthodontic treatment depending on your individual problems and your stage of growth. That is why I offer a complimentary consultation to evaluate you or your dentist’s concerns. This way I can determine if we should begin treatment now or wait. If it is best to start your treatment later I put my patients on our growth recall program until it is the right time to start. This way I can monitor all the important orthodontic issues and start treatment at the right time so that you will have the perfect bite and smile when we finish.

Can I still change my Medicare Advantage Plan?

Yes, actually! Back by popular demand is the old Medicare Open Enrollment period from January 1 – March 31 where you can make a change to your Medicare Advantage plan and Medicare’s “Annual Election Period” runs from October 15th through December 7th. Seniors are used to this time to review and make changes to their Medicare Health Plans and Prescription Drug Coverage for the following year. But what if I made the wrong choice?

Medicare “Open Enrollment” was discontinued in 2010 but it is back for 2019! This small window runs from January 1st through March 31st. You will not see advertisements on TV or in ads like the Fall. This Enrollment period will allow Medicare beneficiaries to make “like plan” changes. This is a great opportunity to change plans if you are having problems with your current Medicare Advantage Plan.

During the Medicare Open Enrollment Period you can switch from one Medicare Advantage Plan to another, or switch from a Medicare Advantage Plan to Original Medicare with or without a Part D prescription drug plan. You cannot switch Part D prescription drug plans during this time. You will have to wait for the Annual Election Period.

How can I cut down the cost of running my pool all year long?

If you don’t already have one, think about investing in a variable speed pump. You don’t need 100 percent of your pump’s capability, but it is easier to keep your pool clean and in good shape if you circulate your water 24/7. To reduce the cost of running your pump all the time, the variable speed pumps draw less power and can be run at lower speeds during part of the day, which makes them consume even less power.

The Miss Tennessee Scholarship Competition recently announced that applications are available for young girls (ages 6-10) to be a part of the TriStar Princess Program.

The princess program is not a competition but is an opportunity for girls to be mentored by a candidate who is vying for the title of Miss Tennessee.

The Miss Tennessee competition will take place June 23-29 at Thompson-Boling Arena on the campus of the University of Tennessee in Knoxville. The week will be an incredible opportunity for princesses to accompany the candidates onstage, perform an energetic dance routine each night of the competition, and learn poise, grace and confidence.

“The TriStar Princess program is the opportunity of a lifetime for young girls who look up to the wonderful role model that is Miss Tennessee,” said Colene Trent, TriStar executive director. “We emphasize the importance of education, volunteerism, and kindness. Our princesses create deep friendships and are truly treated like royalty throughout competition week.”

The deadline to apply for the TriStar Princess Program is April 5, and registration is $500. To learn more or to register, visit www.misstennessee.org. The $500 Registration Fee provides your princess with an official Miss Tennessee TriStar Princess crown, T-shirt, and bag, participation in an onstage choreographed dance during all four nights of the 2019 Miss Tennessee Scholarship Competition, introduction onstage during the competition, photo and name in the Miss Tennessee Program Book, and opportunities to be featured at events throughout competition week.

The $500 registration fee also covers tickets for the princess and one parent/guardian to all four nights of the Miss Tennessee competition.

Girls interested in participating are encouraged to apply soon as space is limited for this popular program.

“It is incredibly important that young girls have positive role models, and this program enables them to be mentored by some of the most talented and intelligent women in our state,” said Lanna Smith, Miss Tennessee executive director.
State unemployment holds steady during December

Staff Reports

New data released last month by former Tennessee Governor Bill Haslam and Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development Commissioner Burns Phillips showed Tennessee’s statewide unemployment rate held steady during the final month of 2018.

The seasonally-adjusted statewide unemployment rate for December 2018 was 3.6 percent, which mirrored the rate from the previous month.

“Tennessee’s unemployment rate has remained near historic low levels for a year and a half,” Haslam said. “This is a true testament to the hard work of everyone across state government over the last eight years to create a business environment that gives employers the opportunity to expand and our citizens the resources they need to be the most prepared workforce in the nation.”

While the unemployment rate remained steady, there were fewer available positions for jobs seekers. Total nonfarm employment decreased by 5,800 in December. The trade/transportation/utilities sector experienced the biggest decline with a loss of 2,800 jobs. Mining/logging/construction is the only sector that saw growth, adding 100 new jobs statewide.

Even with the decline in jobs during the last month of 2018, year-to-year statistics showed Tennessee employers created 59,100 new positions across the state.

“It’s really something to see Tennessee employers add that many jobs in just one year’s time,” said Phillips. “The number of new jobs clearly shows Tennessee is one of the top states in the nation for business growth and development.”

The national unemployment rate increased in December for the first time since June. The United States unemployment rate was 3.9 percent in December, 0.2 of a percentage point higher than it was in November.

The statewide and national unemployment rates are seasonally adjusted to eliminate the influences of weather, holidays, the opening and closing of schools, and other recurring seasonal events from an economic time series.

Tennesseans searching for new employment can find the latest job openings, receive assistance updating their resumes, and sharpen their job interview skills by visiting the state’s workforce development website.

State unemployment statistics are reviewed each month. Unemployment rates for January 2019 are unavailable at this time but will be announced shortly.

To view available state jobs, visit www.tn.gov/.

Zander Insurance accepting scholarship applications

Staff Reports

Nashville-based Zander Insurance, one of the largest providers of term life insurance in the country, is inviting Middle Tennessee students to apply for the Life Lessons Scholarship Program.

The scholarship is available to college students and college-bound seniors whose parent or guardian passed away with little or no life insurance. Applications will be accepted from Feb. 1 through March 1.

This will be the fourth consecutive scholarship that Zander Insurance has sponsored through the Life Lessons program, and past winners have hailed from across the U.S. This year, the family-and-employee-owned insurance company will focus its efforts on evaluating applicants who reside in Tennessee.

“We’re grateful to partner with Life Happens to recognize a deserving student here in Middle Tennessee for the first time,” said Jeff Zander, CEO of Zander Insurance. “We want to be able to alleviate part of the financial burden that comes with the pursuit of a college degree by providing financial footing for hard-working students who otherwise might not be able to afford their education.”

The scholarship money ranges from $5,000 to $20,000. To be considered, applicants must submit a 500-word written essay or a three-minute video that explains how their lives have been both emotionally and financially affected by the death of a parent or guardian.

Interested candidates must submit an application online at www.life-happens.org/scholarship by March 1, 2019.

Life Happens is a nonprofit organization dedicated to educating Americans about the importance of life insurance.

“The loss of a parent or guardian is one of the most difficult hardships anyone must endure. This, paired with the financial burden of no life insurance coverage, adds insurmountable stress on young students who dream of one day becoming a college graduate,” said Marvin H. Feldman, CLU, ChFC, President and CEO of Life Happens. “Our scholarship recipients and their stories remind us of the critical role life insurance plays in providing financial security to help families’ future dreams become a reality.”

This program is made possible by the generous financial support of the AIG Direct, Swiss Re Group, Pacific Life Foundation, Life Insurance Direct Marketing Association (LIDMA), MIB Group, All State and others. Life Happens also accepts contributions from individual donors.

To learn more about making a tax-deductible donation, visit www.life-happens.org/donate.

For more information on the program, including the application process, program rules and past winners, visit www.life-happens.org/lifelessons.

For more information about Zander Insurance, visit www.zanderins.com.

Did you hear? Advertising Works!

The Chronicle of Mt. Juliet celebrates 37 years as Mt. Juliet’s longest-running news source.

Distributed to 12,500 homes & business weekly...from local news to weddings to birth announcements to garage sales...The Chronicle covers it all!
A City of Hope

Don't you just love our city?! Mt. Juliet is a thriving community where taxes are low, rankings are high, schools are strong and job growth is on the rise. We enjoy evenings at the ball field, donating to good causes and eating good Mexican food. Our police and fire services not only protect us, they champion us. And our public servants at City Hall work tirelessly to exceed expectations and prepare us for a future no one can predict.

As our city grows, however, an increasing percentage of our residents enjoy the benefits of someone else’s sacrifice. We did not pay for the roads we use every day. We did not build the schools our kids attend. Someone else did that, and if that someone is you, then we newcomers say “thank you.” Not only do we give you our gratitude, we also step up to give you a hand in building a better future for our current residents, for our children and for those who will soon discover this great city for themselves. While many of us moved here because of how we could prosper, we plant our lives here so others can.

We see that attitude of service in Jesus’ story of the Good Samaritan. While two men from the religious establishment passed by the beaten and broken man, a Samaritan, who was a despised outsider, saw the need, toured his plans, and sacrificed his resources to restore his neighbor. Two thousand years later we still talk about this nameless ethnic outsider and his selfless act of mercy that gave hope to another.
Reflections from an old friend

Always lead by example

Kenny Martin
City Manager
Mt. Juliet, TN

With all of the direct or indirect tension and turmoil we all deal with in our day-to-day lives and witness in our country and beyond, I felt compelled to send along this note as a way of sharing my heartfelt thoughts. Please know I do not think or believe my opinion or thoughts are any better than anyone else’s. They are just my thoughts and I feel I should share my heart and a few thoughts with you.

Not sure it will help in any way at all, but I’m hopeful it will.

As I have mentioned many times before, there are plenty of other people and countries that do not wish us well and some that actually wish us harm. Since I have been a little skinny guy most of my life and not a really good fighter, I learned early on that I needed to use my brain and heart over fussing, arguing and fighting. As a result I guess you could say I became a bit of a peacekeeper and not a fighter. A Mr. Rogers kind of guy you might say, and proud of it.

This mindset caused certain sayings to appeal to me. For example, I’d rather have love in my heart than hate, or Give Peace a Chance, or Do unto others as you would have them do unto you. We must respect one another. Respect is when you speak kindly of others or say nothing at all. Respect is when you open a door for your wife, family member or a complete stranger who has their hands full or needs help. Respect is when you don’t endanger the lives of others, and resist is not telling lies, cheating, hurting, murdering and so on.

I can’t say this enough, but we all have hurts, sorrows, worries, highs, lows, concerns, deadlines, aggravations and feelings that can be offended, hurt or damaged. With that being the case, let’s all start being more civil, kind, understanding, forgiving, helpful and loving to one another. This does not mean that we can’t or won’t disagree, it only means that we should do so peacefully and with an open heart and open mind. We can and will agree to disagree, but we are all human beings and we have to share this world together.

Agreeing to disagree is OK and we will never all agree on everything, but we should be civil and understanding about it. We are supposed to be positive role models and good examples for our children and grandchildren and that starts with an open mind, open heart, tolerance and being leaders and examples always. Little eyes and minds are watching and learning from us adults daily so let’s be the positive leaders and role models we should be.

In closing, nothing is ever accomplished without sincere effort and a positive attitude. Good will always prevail over indifference and divisiveness. Please do unto others as you would have them do unto you and together we can make this world a better place.

From F & M, PAGE 6

nameless man.

While we see few men beaten and left for dead in the streets of Mt. Juliet, we do have real needs that are opportunities for us to serve in a way that transforms our city.

For example, as strong as we are, one in four students in Wilson County schools lives with a hunger problem. With the rise of the opioid epidemic, drug abuse devastates children and families in our city. Child abuse and human trafficking are growing problems. Our teachers are heroes, but with the effects of family dysfunction, educators need our help to prepare students for success.

If economic prosperity solved any of these issues, we would be a trouble-free city. The reality is that the strength of a community is not built on economic prosperity alone, but on citizens who see a need, take the detour and sacrifice their lives to give hope to their neighbors.

Jesus told this story, but ultimately He was the one who saw our brokenness, stepped out of heaven, and freely gave up His life to give us new life. No one else has ever loved us like that. So when we love our neighbors like Jesus loved us, we become a city of hope where lives are changed forever.

Maristone of Providence, your home for exceptional Assisted Living and Memory Care, is now under the management of Vitality Living, one of the industry’s most trusted and respected names.

At Maristone of Providence, we celebrate each individual life and greet each day with dignity, joy and a warm appreciation for days yet to come. Our team proudly offers Assisted Living and Memory Care residents the lifestyle they desire – with lovely, intimate surroundings, engaging activities, and a compassionate, respectful staff to assist every step of the way.

140 Providence Trail, Mt. Juliet, TN 37122
615-758-1237
MaristoneofProvidence.com

Mardi Gras Party

MARCH 5TH, 2-3 PM

Please RSVP by calling 615-758-1237

YOU’RE INVITED

Grab your beads and put on a mask. Fat Tuesday is here and partying is the task!

Vitality Living

NOW UNDER THE MANAGEMENT OF

YOU’RE INVITED

Mardi Gras Party

MARCH 5TH, 2-3 PM

Please RSVP by calling 615-758-1237

YOU’RE INVITED

Grab your beads and put on a mask. Fat Tuesday is here and partying is the task!
Mt. Juliet Police Cpl. Kimbrough was recently promoted to Sergeant. He will lead the department’s B-Detail patrol shift, where he served as a Corporal.

Carrick Glen Senior Living named Randolph Wilson and Rosemary Phillips as the King and Queen of Hearts for Valentine’s Day.

Hartgrove re-elected as state Board of Education chair

staff reports

During their first quarterly meeting of 2019, members of the State Board of Education re-elected Lillian Hartgrove as board chair and selected Bob Eby as vice chair to serve a two-year term.

Hartgrove, of the sixth Congressional district, has served on the Board since 2014. From 2017 to 2018, she served as the Board’s vice chair. In 2018, Hartgrove was chosen by her peers to serve as chair of the state’s K-12 education policy making body.

Aside from her State Board of Education duties, Hartgrove is also the Workforce Development and Education vice president for the Cookeville-putnam county Chamber of Commerce and the Highlands Economic Partnership, focusing on education and workforce preparedness initiatives for the region.

“Ms. Hartgrove has done an excellent job in this role after replacing our former long-term chairman, Mr. Fielding Rolston,” Gordon Ferguson said as he nominated Hartgrove for re-election. “Chairman Hartgrove has led this board with respect and integrity and clearly places the interests of the students in K-12 as her top priority.”

Eby first joined the State Board of Education in April 2018 following his appointment to the board by Governor Bill Haslam in February. He brings with him a 43-year career, including 16 years of experience on the Oak Ridge Board of Education where he served as chairman from 1991 to 1995 and vice chairman from 2009 to 2018.

While serving on the Oak Ridge Board of Education, Eby spearheaded several major activities for the Oak Ridge Schools, most notably, championing the recent school’s strategic plan, Oak Ridge 2020, which has become a model for school systems in the state.

“In the time he has served on our board, Bob has demonstrated a keen interest in the purpose of this board and has been able to devote a great amount of time as a volunteer to understand the challenges and opportunities we have to positively impact the quality of education provided to the students of the great state of Tennessee,” Ferguson said in nominating Eby to assume the role of vice chair of the board.

Previously, officers of the board were elected to four-year terms. In 2018, the Tennessee General Assembly passed legislation that limits board officer terms to two years.

Last year, members of the board elected Hartgrove as chair and Ferguson as vice chair following longtime chairman Fielding Rolston’s retirement. During the officer elections on Friday, Ferguson cited his other professional responsibilities in his decision to not seek re-election as vice chair of the board.

Representing the fourth Congressional district, Ferguson was appointed to the State Board of Education in 2016. In addition to serving on the board, Mr. Ferguson is president and CEO of Saint Thomas Rutherford Hospital and president of Saint Thomas Regional Hospitals. He has served as Saint Thomas Rutherford Hospital president and chief executive officer since 2006 and as the president of Saint Thomas Regional Hospitals since 2015.

The State Board of Education is the governing and policy-making body for Tennessee’s preK-12 public education system, and through a close partnership with the Tennessee Department of Education, maintains oversight for Tennessee’s preK-12 public education system, education provided to the students of the great state of Tennessee,” Ferguson said in nominating Eby to assume the role of vice chair of the board.

Its 11-member board, composed of representatives from each congressional district and a student member, are unpaid governor’s appointees and confirmed by the legislature to serve five-year terms. The executive director of the Tennessee Higher Education Commission serves as an ex-officio, non-voting member.
Fire Marshal reminds citizens to ‘candle with care’

Staff Reports

Along with chocolates and flowers, decorative candles are often given by sweethearts at Valentine’s Day. While candles are fragrant home decor, the Tennessee State Fire Marshal’s Office (SFMO) reminds consumers that candles must be used properly to avoid the potential loss of life, injury, and property damage from an accidental fire.

Though candles might make a house feel more like a home, they can also cause tragedy if they are not used correctly. In 2018, Tennessee fire departments responded to 71 residential structure fires that were started by candles. These fires caused two civilian fatalities, four civilian injuries, two firefighter injuries, and $1,836,316 in property damage.

“Candles can certainly provide ambiance, but they can also quickly cause a tragedy,” said Tennessee Department of Commerce and Insurance Commissioner and State Fire Marshal Julie Mix McPeak. “The good news is that candle fires can be easily prevented if a few basic precautions are taken.”

According to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), 23 home candle fires are reported each day. More than one-third (37 percent) of home candle fires started in bedrooms. More than half (60 percent) of home candle fires happened because a combustible material, like furniture or fabric, was too close to the candle.

The SFMO offers the following tips to help keep Tennesseans safe from candle fires:

• Consider using battery-operated flameless candles, which can look, smell, and feel like real candles.

• When using candles, place them in sturdy, safe candleholders that will not burn or tip over.

• Protect candle flames with glass chimneys/containers.

• Keep candles at least 12 inches from anything that can burn.

• Never leave a burning candle unattended. Extinguish candles when you leave a room or the home or go to bed.

• Avoid using candles in bedrooms and sleeping areas.

• Keep children and pets away from burning candles. Never leave a child unattended in a room with a candle.

• Never use a candle where medical oxygen is being used. The two can combine to create a large, unexpected fire. Medical oxygen can cause materials to ignite more easily and burn at a faster rate than normal. It can make an existing fire burn faster and hotter.

• Always use a flashlight—not a candle—for emergency lighting.

• Use only battery-powered lights in tents, trailers, motor homes, and boats.

• Lit candles should not be placed in windows, where blinds and curtains can close over them, causing a fire.

For more information on staying fire safe, visit tfn.gov/fire.

THE CHRONICLE
of Mt. Juliet

Sarah Tate
Managing Editor
editor@tcomj.com

Sales Manager
sales@tcomj.com

Bill Robinson
Publisher
754-6111

Crazy Childress
Production Manager
production@tcomj.com

Donna Fry
Accounting Manager
accounting@tcomj.com

Phyllis Robinson
Vice President
phyllis@tcomj.com

Established 1980
Published on Wednesdays in West Wilson County
by Mt. Juliet Communications, Inc.
A home-owned and operated community newspaper

POSTMASTER: Send change of address to: The Chronicle of Mt. Juliet
P.O. Box 647, Mt. Juliet, TN 37121

Reproduction of all matter contained herein is prohibited without the express written consent of The Chronicle of Mt. Juliet.

Beautiful Smiles with a Personal Touch That Last A Lifetime!

40 West Caldwell Street, Ste 101, Mt. Juliet, TN
615-754-5840
mtjulietfamilydentistry.com
M-F: 8am - 5pm

Hi, my name is Reagan Taylor and I am a Dental Assistant graduate from DSSTN! I graduated in September of 2018 and am excited to start my career in the dental field. I grew up in DeKalb County and currently live in Alexandria. In my spare time I enjoy spending time with friends and family. I love my dog Nala and my farm animals. If I am not at the office, you can find me at the lake, or you can find me on a cruise. My favorite part of the dental field is seeing the finished treatment of cosmetic dentistry in my patients. Dr. Jackson and Dr. Montee provide excellent. I feel fortunate to have joined the practice and will give every patient the best care possible.

My name is Jan Watts. I grew up in Mt. Juliet and am a proud graduate of Mt. Juliet High School. I spent my time growing up at the skating rink and ballpark. I then attended TSU and received a degree as a Registered Dental Hygienist. I have been practicing in Mt. Juliet for over 30 years. I have been married for 30 years and have two children, Tyler and Hunter. I enjoy boating, decorating, shopping and watching UT and Titans games! I attend Joy Church and love the community I live and work in. As a hygienist, I take pride in helping and educating patients to keep their teeth for the rest of their lives. I am excited to get back to work and treating previous and new patients. I am honored to join Mt. Juliet Family and Cosmetic Dentistry. The dental care that Dr. Jackson and Dr. Montee provide is excellent. I feel fortunate to have joined the practice and will give every patient the best care possible.

My name is Destiny Heberle. I have lived in Nashville for the last seven years, but I am originally from Midland, MI. When my husband took a job as an English teacher at Mt. Juliet High School, it was important to us to find other avenues that would positively impact our new community. Other than being with my boys, Dental Hygiene is my greatest passion. As a Dental Hygienist, I am certified in Local Anesthesia, Nitrous, and Lasers. I also specialize in periodontal therapy. My goal is to give knowledge of oral health to all my patients and hope that they are inspired to better themselves. My family and I love Mt. Juliet and are thankful for being part of the team at Mt. Juliet Family and Cosmetic Dentistry. This is truly a great place.
BAUERNFEIND, Monica Lynne

Monica Lynne (Hang-ey) Bauernfeind, age 65, passed away peacefully Feb. 14, 2019, at Summit Medical Center in Hermitage.

Preceded in death by her son, John Hang-ey Bauernfeind; father, John Hangey, Jr. Survived by her husband of 46 years, James Bauernfeind; children, James Bauernfeind, III, Christina (Bauernfeind) Wood, Rebecca Bauernfeind, and Jessica (Bauernfeind) White, and their spouses; step-daughter, Veronica Hill; mother, Ruthellen Hangey; sister, Tina Harper; 10 grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Visitation at Phillips-Robinson Funeral Home was held Feb. 17. Memorial Mass was conducted at St. Stephen Catholic Church Feb. 18. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Park Avenue Career Services (PACS) labeled “Bauernfeind Scholarship”, Phillips-Robinson Funeral Home, 2707 Gallatin Rd. (615)262-3312.

BREWER, Bonnie Marie

Bonnie Marie Brewer, age 79 of Elizabethon, Tennessee, passed away Feb. 13, 2019, in addition to her parents Paulie and Bessie Ketchum Belew, she was preceded in death by her husband, Lester Brewer, a son, Michael Brewer and a grandson, Bobby Mobley.

Those left to cherish her memory include two daughters, Debbie Smith and husband Rick, and Brenda Mobley; grandsons, Jesse Smith and Cody Smith and his fiancé Randa Pinnex; a granddaughter, Christy Mobley; great-grandchildren, Taylor Metcalf and McKenzie “Jo” Mobley. Three sisters, six brothers and a special companion of seventeen years, Charles Simpkins also survive.

A service will be conducted at 1 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 23, 2019, in Bond Memorial Chapel, and interment will follow at Mt. Juliet Memorial Gardens.

Visitation will be 4-7 p.m. Friday and 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday at Bond Memorial Chapel, N. Mt. Juliet Road and Weston Drive, Mt. Juliet, TN (615)773-2663. Obit Line (615)641-2663, www.bondmemorial.com

COX, Nathan Lee

Nathan Cox passed away Feb. 12, 2019, at age 65. A funeral service was held Feb. 15 at Sellers Funeral Home in Lebanon, and interment followed at Bond Cemetery.

Mr. Cox is survived by wife of 27 years, Linda “Susie” Cox; mother Ella Mai Kent Cox Bow; stepchildren Rachel Smith and Micheal (Saraj) Smith; 4 step-grandchildren; sister Barbara (Jerry) Dies; brother Jerry Hester Brown; nephews Randy (Lisa) Dies, Shane (Angela) Dies, and Steven Cox; nieces Valerie Packingham; numerous great nephews and nieces. He is preceded in death by father Riley Cox, brothers Melvin and Riley Irving Cox, maternal grandparents, Ed and Effie Grim Kent, and paternal grandparents George and Ruth Kirby Cox.

Sellers Funeral Home, Lebanon TN, (615)444-9393.

FOX, Jane Ann

Jane Ann Fox, age 78 of Mt. Juliet, passed away Feb. 16, 2019. Preceded in death by parents, Alvin Fitchett and Phyllis Ellen Raven-Fitchett; brothers, Richard Fitchett, George Fitchett and Alvin Fitchett; sister, Betty Fitchett; and step-father, Andrew Tudo. Survived by husband of 59 years, John W. Fox, Sr.; children, John W. Fox, Jr., Tina Fox, Donna Fox, Angel (Kevin) Botoro, Maria Fox (Andrew) Slingsby, Raymond (Millie) Fox and Debbie (Malcolm) Moore; step-brothers, Andrew Tudo and John Tudo; step-sister, Patricia Tudo; 14 grandchildren; 8 great-grandchildren; 5 step-grandchildren and 6 step-great-grandchildren.

Funeral services will be held Wednesday, Feb. 20 at 2 p.m. at Sellers Funeral Home at Mt. Juliet, and interment will follow the service. Visitation with the family will be Wednesday, Feb. 20 from noon until time of the service.


GOODALL Sr., John Michael

John Michael “Mike” Goodall, Sr., age 77 of Old Hickory, died Feb. 12, 2019. Mr. Goodall was the son of the late John Thomas and Thelma Ailene Crick Goodall. He was also preceded in death by his wife of 55 years, Margaret Ann Reisig Goodall; daughter, Kellie Goodall Burgess; and sisters, Velda Barnwell and Evelyn Banks.

He is survived by: Children – Stephen Goodall and Johnny (Ann) Goodall, Jr. and Debbie Simmons; Sister – Cindy (Ray) Birdsong; 11 Granddaughters and 3 Grandsons; 22 Great-grandchildren.

There will be a Celebration of Life service from 1-3 p.m. Sunday, March 3, 2019, at 308 Brookview Court, Old Hickory, TN. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Nashville Rescue Mission, 639 Lafayette Street, Nashville, TN 37203 or to the American Diabetes Association, 220 Great Circle Road, Suite 134, Nashville, TN 37228.


KUPSKI, Mary Ann

Mary Ann Kupski, age 80 of Mt. Juliet, died Feb. 16, 2019. She was the daughter of the late Frank J. and Irene Lasecki Lada. Mrs. Kupski was also preceded in death by her husband of 54 years, George Joseph Kupski, Jr., and her brother, Frankie Lada.

She is survived by: Son – Norman Rau; Daughter – Sherry (Doug) Curver; Step-daughters – Celestine (Mike) Hobb and Catherine (Howard) Lemmon; Grandchildren – Jason, Rachel, Lisa and Sydney; Step-grandchildren – Jennifer, Gordon, Warren, Evan, Raquel, Jerrod, Jessica, Jacob and Sam; 22 Great-grandchildren.

Funeral services will be conducted 2 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 24, 2019, at Bond Memorial Chapel.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Alive Hospice, 1718 Patterson Street, Nashville, TN 37203.

Visitation will be prior to services Sunday at 11 a.m. at Bond Memorial Chapel.

See OBITS, PAGE 15

Advertise in The Chronicle

Garage sales, help wanted, buy/sell/trade, personals, lost pets...
You name it, we’ll print it!
615-754-8111 or email ad to accounting@thechronicleofmtjuliet.com

The Chronicle of Mt. Juliet has the widest distribution in Wilson County, going out to 12,500 homes & businesses every week and has remained a free publication for the 37 years it has been in business.

See OBITS, PAGE 15
Empower Counseling opens in Mt. Juliet

Staff Reports

Empower Counseling, a faith-based counseling center, recently opened in Mt. Juliet.

The Center offers healing and hope for those struggling with real issues of everyday life.

“Our dedicated and well-trained staff of pastoral counselors work with individuals, couples, children, and teens,” said Owner Karen Rudzinski.

“We focus on helping people understand how God made them, and how they can truly live a life in balance — physically, mentally and spiritually.”

Empower Counseling has three Licensed Clinical Christian Counselors to see clients.

Karen Rudzinski, founder, provides counseling to adults and adolescents with a primary focus on trust, confidence/esteem, anger/conflict issues and temperament therapy.

Leigh Truman, partner, provides individual, couples and family counseling. She specializes in domestic violence issues and is trained as a TSC Rule 31 Family Mediator.

Peggy Vogtner, partner, provides individual and family counseling. She specializes in women’s issues; marital and premarital counseling; parenting and family conflict.

Empower Counseling is located at 2640 N. Mt. Juliet Road, Suite 106 in Mt. Juliet. Insurance is not accepted; however affordable fees are offered for all.

When looking for practical counseling techniques, as well as biblical encouragement and prayer, she is an ideal client.

Empower Counseling can be reached at empowercounseling4u@gmail.com, 615-504-1905 or www.facebook.com/EmPowerMtJuliet/

Currently Empower Counseling is open Mondays from 9 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. and Saturdays 9 a.m. to noon. Appointments are required. To make an appointment or learn more about Empower Counseling services, call 615-504-1905.

Empower Counseling is located at 1777 Tate Lane in Mt. Juliet.

Concert to feature music of Legacy Five

Staff Reports

When the Legacy Cathedral Quartet retired in December of 1999, Scott Fowler and Roger Bennett decided to continue their rich musical tradition of Southern Gospel Quartet singing. Legacy Five was organized and made its official debut in January 2000. They have since established and maintained a firm place at the top of Christian music.

Legacy Five has enjoyed more success in their short career than many groups experience in decades. They have been the recipients of numerous fan and industry awards, both as a group and individually. Singing News Magazine has nominated Legacy Five for some 75 fan awards, and The Southern Gospel Music Association honored Legacy Five with Recording of the Year and two Dove award nominations.

The rich four-part harmony that Legacy Five has become noted for is a result of a masterful blend of five unique and versatile talents. They present gospel music in a way that has endeared them to audiences across the United States and Canada.

On Sunday evening March 3, Legacy Five will bring their inspiring music to Mt. Juliet in a concert at Victory Baptist Church. Doors open at 4:30 p.m. with the concert beginning at 5 p.m. There is no admission charge for the event, but a love offering will be taken.

Victory Baptist Church is located at 1777 Tate Lane in Mt. Juliet.
The Board of Commissioners of the City of Mt. Juliet will have a Public Hearing on Monday, March 11, 2019 at 6:15 p.m. to hear comments on the following items to be considered: Annex into the corporate boundaries of the City of Mt. Juliet a portion of the roadway and associated right-of-way, known as the intersection of N. Greenhill Road and Lebanon Road, Map 053, Parcel 040.01, in Wilson County, TN and being located within the City’s Urban Growth Boundary. The public is invited to attend/comment.

Kenny Martin, City Manager
City of Mt. Juliet

PUBLIC HEARING

The Board of Commissioners of the City of Mt. Juliet will have a Public Hearing on Monday, March 11, 2019 at 6:15 p.m. to hear comments on the following items to be considered: Annex into the corporate boundaries of the City of Mt. Juliet a portion of the roadway and associated right-of-way, known as S. Rutland Road, that lies along and near 487 S Rutland Road, Map 096, Parcel 031.00, in Wilson County, and being located within the City’s Urban Growth Boundary. The public is invited to attend/comment.

Kenny Martin, City Manager
City of Mt. Juliet

PUBLIC HEARING

The Board of Commissioners of the City of Mt. Juliet will have a Public Hearing on Monday, March 11, 2019 at 6:30 p.m. to hear comments on the following items to be considered: Annex into the corporate boundaries of the City of Mt. Juliet a portion of the roadway and associated right-of-way, known as the intersection of N. Greenhill Road and Lebanon Road, Map 053, Parcel 040.01, in Wilson County, TN and being located within the City’s Urban Growth Boundary. The public is invited to attend/comment.

Kenny Martin, City Manager
City of Mt. Juliet

PUBLIC HEARING

The Board of Commissioners of the City of Mt. Juliet will have a Public Hearing on Monday, March 11, 2019 at 6:15 p.m. to hear comments on the following items to be considered: Annex into the corporate boundaries of the City of Mt. Juliet a portion of the roadway and associated right-of-way, known as S. Rutland Road, that lies along and near 487 S Rutland Road, Map 096, Parcel 031.00, in Wilson County, and being located within the City’s Urban Growth Boundary. The public is invited to attend/comment.

Kenny Martin, City Manager
City of Mt. Juliet

PUBLIC HEARING

The Board of Commissioners of the City of Mt. Juliet will have a Public Hearing on Monday, March 11, 2019 at 6:15 p.m. to hear comments on the following items to be considered: Annex into the corporate boundaries of the City of Mt. Juliet a portion of the roadway and associated right-of-way, known as the intersection of N. Greenhill Road and Lebanon Road, Map 053, Parcel 040.01, in Wilson County, TN and being located within the City’s Urban Growth Boundary. The public is invited to attend/comment.

Kenny Martin, City Manager
City of Mt. Juliet

PUBLIC HEARING

The Board of Commissioners of the City of Mt. Juliet will have a Public Hearing on Monday, March 11, 2019 at 6:15 p.m. to hear comments on the following items to be considered: Annex into the corporate boundaries of the City of Mt. Juliet a portion of the roadway and associated right-of-way, known as S. Rutland Road, that lies along and near 487 S Rutland Road, Map 096, Parcel 031.00, in Wilson County, and being located within the City’s Urban Growth Boundary. The public is invited to attend/comment.

Kenny Martin, City Manager
City of Mt. Juliet

PUBLIC HEARING

The Board of Commissioners of the City of Mt. Juliet will have a Public Hearing on Monday, March 11, 2019 at 6:15 p.m. to hear comments on the following items to be considered: Annex into the corporate boundaries of the City of Mt. Juliet a portion of the roadway and associated right-of-way, known as the intersection of N. Greenhill Road and Lebanon Road, Map 053, Parcel 040.01, in Wilson County, TN and being located within the City’s Urban Growth Boundary. The public is invited to attend/comment.

Kenny Martin, City Manager
City of Mt. Juliet

PUBLIC HEARING

The Board of Commissioners of the City of Mt. Juliet will have a Public Hearing on Monday, March 11, 2019 at 6:15 p.m. to hear comments on the following items to be considered: Annex into the corporate boundaries of the City of Mt. Juliet a portion of the roadway and associated right-of-way, known as S. Rutland Road, that lies along and near 487 S Rutland Road, Map 096, Parcel 031.00, in Wilson County, and being located within the City’s Urban Growth Boundary. The public is invited to attend/comment.

Kenny Martin, City Manager
City of Mt. Juliet

PUBLIC HEARING

The Board of Commissioners of the City of Mt. Juliet will have a Public Hearing on Monday, March 11, 2019 at 6:15 p.m. to hear comments on the following items to be considered: Annex into the corporate boundaries of the City of Mt. Juliet a portion of the roadway and associated right-of-way, known as the intersection of N. Greenhill Road and Lebanon Road, Map 053, Parcel 040.01, in Wilson County, TN and being located within the City’s Urban Growth Boundary. The public is invited to attend/comment.

Kenny Martin, City Manager
City of Mt. Juliet

PUBLIC HEARING

The Board of Commissioners of the City of Mt. Juliet will have a Public Hearing on Monday, March 11, 2019 at 6:15 p.m. to hear comments on the following items to be considered: Annex into the corporate boundaries of the City of Mt. Juliet a portion of the roadway and associated right-of-way, known as S. Rutland Road, that lies along and near 487 S Rutland Road, Map 096, Parcel 031.00, in Wilson County, and being located within the City’s Urban Growth Boundary. The public is invited to attend/comment.

Kenny Martin, City Manager
City of Mt. Juliet

PUBLIC HEARING

The Board of Commissioners of the City of Mt. Juliet will have a Public Hearing on Monday, March 11, 2019 at 6:15 p.m. to hear comments on the following items to be considered: Annex into the corporate boundaries of the City of Mt. Juliet a portion of the roadway and associated right-of-way, known as the intersection of N. Greenhill Road and Lebanon Road, Map 053, Parcel 040.01, in Wilson County, TN and being located within the City’s Urban Growth Boundary. The public is invited to attend/comment.

Kenny Martin, City Manager
City of Mt. Juliet

PUBLIC HEARING

The Board of Commissioners of the City of Mt. Juliet will have a Public Hearing on Monday, March 11, 2019 at 6:15 p.m. to hear comments on the following items to be considered: Annex into the corporate boundaries of the City of Mt. Juliet a portion of the roadway and associated right-of-way, known as S. Rutland Road, that lies along and near 487 S Rutland Road, Map 096, Parcel 031.00, in Wilson County, and being located within the City’s Urban Growth Boundary. The public is invited to attend/comment.

Kenny Martin, City Manager
City of Mt. Juliet

PUBLIC HEARING

The Board of Commissioners of the City of Mt. Juliet will have a Public Hearing on Monday, March 11, 2019 at 6:15 p.m. to hear comments on the following items to be considered: Annex into the corporate boundaries of the City of Mt. Juliet a portion of the roadway and associated right-of-way, known as the intersection of N. Greenhill Road and Lebanon Road, Map 053, Parcel 040.01, in Wilson County, TN and being located within the City’s Urban Growth Boundary. The public is invited to attend/comment.

Kenny Martin, City Manager
City of Mt. Juliet

PUBLIC HEARING

The Board of Commissioners of the City of Mt. Juliet will have a Public Hearing on Monday, March 11, 2019 at 6:15 p.m. to hear comments on the following items to be considered: Annex into the corporate boundaries of the City of Mt. Juliet a portion of the roadway and associated right-of-way, known as S. Rutland Road, that lies along and near 487 S Rutland Road, Map 096, Parcel 031.00, in Wilson County, and being located within the City’s Urban Growth Boundary. The public is invited to attend/comment.

Kenny Martin, City Manager
City of Mt. Juliet

PUBLIC HEARING

The Board of Commissioners of the City of Mt. Juliet will have a Public Hearing on Monday, March 11, 2019 at 6:15 p.m. to hear comments on the following items to be considered: Annex into the corporate boundaries of the City of Mt. Juliet a portion of the roadway and associated right-of-way, known as the intersection of N. Greenhill Road and Lebanon Road, Map 053, Parcel 040.01, in Wilson County, TN and being located within the City’s Urban Growth Boundary. The public is invited to attend/comment.

Kenny Martin, City Manager
City of Mt. Juliet

PUBLIC HEARING

The Board of Commissioners of the City of Mt. Juliet will have a Public Hearing on Monday, March 11, 2019 at 6:15 p.m. to hear comments on the following items to be considered: Annex into the corporate boundaries of the City of Mt. Juliet a portion of the roadway and associated right-of-way, known as S. Rutland Road, that lies along and near 487 S Rutland Road, Map 096, Parcel 031.00, in Wilson County, and being located within the City’s Urban Growth Boundary. The public is invited to attend/comment.

Kenny Martin, City Manager
City of Mt. Juliet

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Board of Commissioners of the City of Mt. Juliet will NOT have a quorum on Monday, February 25, 2019. The next regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners will be Monday, March 11, 2019 at 6:30 p.m.

Kenny Martin, City Manager
City of Mt. Juliet
Program serves uninsured, indigent with mental illness

Every day in Tennessee, because of a struggle with a severe mental health disorder, a life is lost, a family is shattered, a child or spouse is abused, or the ugly consequences of addiction place a mark on another victim, just one of thousands who will be affected by abuse of alcohol, opioids, or other addictive substances.

There are hundreds locally who are impacted by mental illness including those who suffer from the sickness itself as well as their family members, friends, and others.

In a number of cases, those diagnosed with a mental health disorder don’t seek or get the help they need because they believe they cannot financially afford treatment. However in Tennessee, there is a system in place to help the uninsured and indigent who suffer from mental illness.

The program, established by the Tennessee Department of Mental Health, is recognized as the Behavioral Health Safety Net of Tennessee (BHSN of TN). According to those familiar with the program, many times, mentally ill, uninsured and indigent people will qualify for this benefit even though they may not qualify for regular TennCare.

Volunteer Behavioral Health, the parent non-profit agency that oversees Cumberland Mental Health, is an authorized agent by the State of Tennessee to accept applications for the Behavioral Safety Net program.

Based on the Volunteer Behavioral Health, if you are 19 years of age or older, have a serious mental illness, and have no behavioral health insurance, you may qualify for the Behavioral Safety Net program.

You must be a Tennessee resident, U.S. citizen or qualified alien, and have a qualifying mental health diagnosis, a household income at or below 100 percent of the Federal Poverty Level and not be currently in an inpatient facility or nursing home.

The qualifications for this program include assessment, evaluation, diagnostic, therapeutic intervention, case management, peer support services, psychosocial re habilitation services, psychiatric medication management, labs related to medication management and pharmacy assistance, and coordination.

Individuals who have Medicare Part B and meet all other eligibility requirements for the Behavioral Health Safety Net program may be enrolled. Anyone who receives services from this program and is 65 or older will be treated as having Medicare Part B.

These two groups are eligible for four services: case management, medication training and support, peer support, and psychological rehabilitation services. If any individual is enrolled in Medicare Part B and has chosen a Medicare Advantage Plan, they may enroll in the program if they meet all other eligibility requirements, as long as their Advantage Plan doesn’t cover the four approved services or benefits of the plan have been exhausted for the year.

To enroll in the Behavioral Health Safety Net Program or for more information call Volunteer Behavioral Health Care toll free at 1-877-567-6051 or visit www.vbhcs.org.

Volunteer Behavioral Health, a provider of prevention, treatment and recovery services in 31 counties in Middle, East and the Upper Cumberland regions of Tennessee, is a recognized leader in behavioral health care.
By Angel Kane
Wilson Living Magazine

For the last few years, myself, as well as two of my friends, have been tending to our chicks. And by chicks, I don’t mean the ones we birthed, but instead I’m talking about the ones we hand-selected from the Lebanon Co-op.

I can’t remember how it all started. It may have been when Amanda’s son, Ethan, participated in 4-H and had to tend to 25 baby chicks or it may have started with the “Fixer Upper” show where the new home included a deluxe chicken coop that was bigger than our first home! But at some point we all had the brilliant idea that all three of us needed some chickens to insure our lives were complete.

I started with six chicks, Amanda with 25 and Jean Ellen started with three. And since that fateful day, our conversations have never been the same. No longer do we discuss what our children are doing or where they are going, but instead we discuss the fate of our new brood.

Between the three of us, I’d say Amanda has taken to chickenhood the best. Her 25 free rangers produce the tastiest eggs and, being she is the best baker amongst us, she has definitely received the most enjoyment from her little layers. And Jean Ellen has assuredly spent the most time researching and perfecting chickenhood, seeing she has twice renovated her chicken coop and even imported special chicks who lay blue eggs.

I, on the other hand, was 150 percent all-in ... for a while. While Brody wanted to buy the ugly metal chicken coop, I insisted on the wooden one we could paint. The kids and I set out to paint it, complete with a name — The Chickn’ Nugget Gang — and then set about naming our new family members. Brody, having been raised on a farm, quickly pointed out that our wooden coop had certain weaknesses that a raccoon would soon exploit and that naming chicks could end badly.

But we would hear none of that. If a pretty wooden coop was good enough for Chip and Joanna, then it was good enough for me! And all was well with our little chickendoms until ... the first homicide.

Jean Ellen was the first hit. A pure bloodbath. The horrors I heard about were unimaginable until ... the serial killer struck my own chicktown.

One by one, Jean Ellen, Amanda and I have now shared so many horrifying tales of death and destruction that our friendship will never be the same. From coyotes to hawks to our own four-legged family pets, the killing fields have been quite extensive. Not even the blue layers have been immune as the grim reaper doesn’t care if you are a hoity-toity import or not.

My little red coop (or what was left of it) was soon traded in for the metal fort that Mr. I Told You So said we should have bought to begin with, but the jungles of Wilson County are a lot meaner than even I imagined. This weekend marks yet another time the bell will toll at the Kane house. We are down to two chickens.

My two remaining chicks, Little Jerry Seinfeld and Zaxby, look terrified of what the future may hold for them. Especially Zaxby!
SFMO raises awareness of scalding hazards

Staff Reports

In recognition of National Burn Awareness Week earlier this month, the Tennessee State Fire Marshal’s Office (SFMO) is sharing basic burn and scald prevention tips and reminding consumers that everyday household items can be burn hazards if care is not properly taken. This year’s theme focuses on scald prevention.

A scald is a type of burn caused by a liquid, like hot water or steam. These burns can happen at any age, but children, older adults, and those with disabilities are at an increased risk. According to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), scalds are the second leading cause of burn injuries.

According to the American Burn Association, an estimated 376,950 scald burn injuries associated with household appliances and products were seen in U.S. emergency rooms from 2013-2017. Children 4 years old and younger accounted for 21 percent of the emergency room visits.

“We want to remind residents of the Volunteer State that not all burns result from fires,” said Tennessee Department of Commerce and Insurance Commissioner and State Fire Marshal Julie Mix McPeak. “To avoid common household products creating a burn hazard, we urge consumers to be aware of items that present a hazard and take measures to prevent scalds and burns.”

In an effort to keep Tennesseans safe from burn and scald hazards, the SFMO shares these tips:

Use and store household items with care

• Keep flammable appliances such as irons, curling irons or hair dryers that can heat up quickly or stay warm after use. Unplug these items after you’re done.
• Cleaners, weed killers and pool chemicals can cause burns. Keep these locked away/out of reach.
• Make a habit of placing matches, gasoline and lighters in a safe place, out of children’s reach. Avoid novelty lighters or lighters that look like toys.
• Prevent electrical burns: Always turn off circuit breakers before making repairs to wiring; avoid using electrical appliances while showering or wet; use child safety plugs in all outlets; keep electrical cords out of children’s reach.
• Create a safety zone to keep children and pets away from heating devices such as wood stoves, fireplace places, portable heaters, and furnaces.

Prevent tap-water scalds

• Provide constant adult supervision of young children, anyone who might experience difficulty removing themselves from hot water on their own, or people who might not recognize the danger associated with turning on the hot water.
• Test the water at the faucet. It should be less than 100 degrees Fahrenheit.
• Mix bath water thoroughly and check the temperature by moving your elbow, wrist or hand with spread fingers through the water before allowing someone to get in. The water should feel warm, not hot, to the touch.

Prevent cooking-related scalds and burns

• To prevent spills due to the overturning of appliances containing hot food or liquids, use the back burner when possible, and or turn pot handles away from the stove’s front edge (or any edge where someone could bump into the pot handle). All appliance cords need to be kept coiled and away from counter edges.
• Use oven mitts or pot holders when moving hot food or liquids. Never use wet oven mitts or pot holders because they can cause scald burns. Replace old or worn-out oven mitts.
• Open heated food containers slowly away from the face, to avoid steam burns.
• Packaged microwaveable soups are a frequent cause of scald burn injuries (especially noodle soups) because they can easily tip over. Choose prepackaged soups whose containers have a wide base or, to avoid the possibility of a spill, pour the soup into a traditional bowl after heating.
• Microwaves can heat unequally and create hot spots, so avoid using them to heat baby formula or baby milk.
• Young children are at high risk of being burned by hot food and liquids. Keep children away from cooking areas by enforcing a “kid-free zone” of three feet around the stove or around any place where hot food or drink is being prepared or carried.
• Never hold a child while you are cooking, drinking a hot liquid, or carrying hot foods or liquids.
For more information on how to keep your family fire- and burn-safe, visit tn.gov/fire.
sought after for the rich bottom land along the creek. Today the fields that were planted in corn for more than a century are covered with the waters of Old Hickory Lake. Several years ago, the Howell’s farm was designated a Century Farm, a distinction given to farms remaining in a family for more than 100 years.

Howell was born at the old St. Thomas hospital in Nashville. The day before he was brought home from the hospital was the day electricity was first turned on at the farm. His father was an electrical engineer and a World War II veteran. His engineering career allowed the family to move from Tennessee to Missouri to South Carolina and finally back to Wilson County.

Howell graduated from Mt. Juliet High School in 1951 with 50 other seniors. He went on to the University of Tennessee to earn a degree in engineering. After college and a two-year stint in the U.S. Army as an engineer at Rock Island Arsenal in Iowa, Howell began a 37-year career with Bell South back home in Tennessee.

David and Barbara wanted their three daughters to be reared in Wilson County on the family farm. They remodeled a saddlebag-style log home that was original to the farm. A saddlebag-log home is two log buildings with a single roof that share a fireplace in the center. What started out to be a short term stay in a renovated log house soon became their home for 27 years. They added on to the house David’s father built on the farm in the 1950s and are living there now.

Howell retired in 2006 and has been pursuing his many interests and hobbies since. They have traveled a dozen times to England visiting different parts of the country and focusing on a new theme each trip. Their visits have been to see estates, gardens, famous historical sites, churches and the cities throughout the UK. Staying in cottages and meeting the local people has enriched their travels and appreciation for the country greatly.

The Howells have been members of First Presbyterian Church in Lebanon for the past 30 years. His church involvement and engineering experience has led him to mission work in his retirement. His work teaching water treatment techniques and solar power installation in the U.S., Honduras, Peru and El Salvador has made safe water and solar power available in developing countries.

David also collects antique hand tools, old farm machinery and researches historical land deeds in Wilson County. Retirement has been a busy time in his life and working as a poll official has been a part of it.

Howell was recruited by a friend before he retired. His company encouraged employees to be involved with their communities and politics so this was a perfect fit. Working alongside people he knew was enjoyable and after retirement the interest in elections continued. David started out as a machine operator and has been the Officer at the W.A. Wright election day poll for the past few election cycles.

Howell describes his experience as "...a meaningful way to be involved. A way to help make voting a pleasant event — it means something. I enjoy seeing my friends and neighbors at the polls. Some of them I only see when they vote. I have enjoyed being part of the process."

David Howell is one of the more than 300 Wilson County voters who serve Wilson County as poll officials during Early Voting and on Election Days. Visit www.WislonVotes.com to meet more Wilson County poll officials at the Poll Worker Spotlight and to learn about becoming a poll official.