Stoner Creek on North Mt. Juliet Road ran high on Wednesday, Feb. 20, after Wilson County received an abundance of rain.

Flooding affects community

By Sarah Tate
Managing Editor

Wilson County experienced a large amount of rainfall last week, leading to many flooded areas, wrecks and school closings. Wilson County Schools announced Thursday evening that schools would be closed.

See RAIN, PAGE 9

Local singer featured on ‘American Idol’

By Sarah Tate
Managing Editor

Kason Lester, of Lebanon, will be featured in the March 6 episode of the new season of “American Idol.” “American Idol” heads to Coeur d’Alene, Idaho; Louisville, Kentucky; and Los Angeles, California, as the search for America’s next superstar continues on The ABC Television Network, Wednesday, March 6, at 7 p.m.

This audition episode features two of the most powerful auditions in Idol history, one bringing the judges to tears and the other leaving them speechless.

Helping to determine who America will ultimately vote for to become the next singing sensation are music industry legends and all-star judges Luke Bryan, Katy Perry and Lionel Richie. Emmy Award-winning host and producer Ryan Seacrest returns as host, and famed multimedia personality Bobby Bones will take on the role of in-house mentor.

“American Idol” is produced by Fremantle and Industrial Media’s 19 Entertainment.

Bus involved in minor accident

By Sarah Tate
Managing Editor

A Wilson County School bus was involved in a minor accident last Wednesday while returning from a field trip.

Wilson County Schools spokesperson Jennifer Johnson said she received a notification from their transportation director about the incident around 1:15 p.m. Feb. 20. The bus was carrying 54 Mt. Juliet High School students back from Murfreesboro when a tractor trailer struck the bus.

See BUS, PAGE 2

Over the next month, The Chronicle of Mt. Juliet will be running profiles on each teacher in Mt. Juliet nominated for Wilson County’s Teacher of the Year. This week’s feature is Nicole Williams.

Nicole Williams teaches first grade at Rutland Elementary School. She has been at the school for five years but is currently in her 17th year teaching. She was previously at Tuckers Crossroads in Lebanon, where she was also named the school’s Teacher of the Year. Before coming to Wilson County Schools, she also taught at Hickman Elementary in Nashville.

“I went from the smallest school in the county to the largest [elementary] school in the county, so it was quite a change.”

See TOY, PAGE 4
Granville announces 2019 theme

Staff Reports

Granville is expected to have a great year in 2019 as the Granville Museum celebrates its 20th anniversary and the Granville Genealogy Festival celebrates its 10th anniversary.

The Granville Museum has undergone a complete remodel during the winter months with new display walls being built as well as new exhibits in celebration of the 1960s theme.

Each year historic Granville has a theme for the year. This year's theme is "Memories: Rockin' thru the 1960s."

The town is being decorated in the 1960s theme at Granville Museum and "Memories of the 1960s: They Never Go Away" at Historic Sutton home. The Sutton Home will officially open on March 9 for the season with 1960s decor and memories in each room.

For the 10th year, Granville Museum will conduct an annual Genealogy Festival. This year's will be held April 13, 2019, in conjunction with the Grand Opening of the 1960s and the Upper Cumberland Wine Festival.

This year’s Genealogy Festival will honor the Franklin Pierce Fox Family and the Samuel Sampson Carver Family.

The festival will be held at the new Granville Event Center with events including: Family Genealogy Booths and Opening Reception, New Granville History Discovered during writing of "The Legacy of a Riverboat Town-Granville Tennessee," Franklin Pierce Fox Family History, Find a Grave, Genealogy Research Tips by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, and more.

On April 13, Historic Granville will conduct the 4th Annual Upper Cumberland Wine Festival with seven wineries of Upper Cumberland participating. The event will be held in the Pioneer Village with a tasting at each winery. Wine will also be available for purchase.

The tickets for the Upper Cumberland Wine Festival are $15 in advance or $20 at the gate. Tickets will go on sale on March 1 at uppercumberlandwinetrail.com, Sutton General Store, Granville or participating wineries.

The Grand Opening of the 1960s on April 13 will also feature a 1950s and 1960s Antique Car Show, 1960s Costume Contest, Twist Contest, 1960s DJ music and 1960s musical entertainers, Mayberry Dance Contest, Mayberry Whistle Contest, Mayberry Diner and other Mayberry events.

Because it is a Mayberry Town, each festival during 2019 in Granville will have a Mayberry flavor.


From BUS, PAGE 1

Injuries were reported, and the principal contacted parents for all of the students. Johnson said the bus had minor damage to one of the mirrors and the left side of the bus as well as damage to the bumper.

Wilson Emergency Management Agency responded to the accident as a matter of protocol, Johnson said, but left almost immediately.

www.tcomj.com
Two charged with theft, evading police

Staff Reports

 Officers quickly caught up to two men who ran from an officer that had witnessed them push out a shopping cart full of stolen merchandise.

 On Monday, Feb. 18, 2019, around 7:50 p.m. an officer observed a suspicious car parked illegally at Walmart. As the officer was about to check-out with the occupants, two men were spotted running with a shopping cart of about $350 worth of stolen merchandise.

 The officer told them to stop, and both men took off running toward a wooded area behind Walmart. The officer gave chase, and more officers arrived in the area to help.

 Once found hiding in the wooded area, both men complied and were arrested without further incident. It is unclear who was in the suspicious car because they quickly sped away and were not located.

 29-year-old Marcus White, of Goodlettsville, and 32-year-old Trevor Vaughn Hunter, of Nashville, were arrested. Since both had complaints of being out of breath, officers called medics to the scene to be sure both were not injured. Officers were also concerned with the condition of Hunter’s eye, and Hunter told officers it was due to a previous stabbing incident some time ago.

 Both were booked into the Wilson County Jail, charged with Resisting Arrest, evading police pursuit, and Theft of Merchandise.
Cumberland Preservation Project receives gift

Staff Reports

The Cumberland University Office for Advancement announced Wednesday that it received a gift of $12,800 from Ligon & Bobo Funeral Home.

The gift will assist in the restoration and maintenance of the Robert L. Caruthers portrait, one of the initiatives included in The Cumberland Portrait Preservation Project.

“This generous gift will make a significant impact in preserving the historic legacy of Cumberland University founder Robert L. Caruthers,” said Scott Lawrence, Cumberland’s vice president for advancement. “We are grateful for the support of Ligon & Bobo Funeral Home and look forward to restoring such an important piece of the Cumberland heritage.”

Many of the portraits in Cumberland’s collection are more than 100 years old. To date, Cumberland has completed eight portraits while two, including the portrait of Robert L. Caruthers, are currently in the restoration process. The Cumberland Portrait Preservation Project plans to restore and preserve 16 portraits in total. Currently, the project has met 65 percent of its goal to raise $91,500.

Lakeview January Students of the Month

Staff Reports

Lakeview Elementary School’s Students of the Month are pictured left to right.

Front row: Channing Hagan, Amelia Kozora, Lyla Polk, Braylee Wilson, Grace Hooper, Max Franklin, Sophia Hunter.


Back row: Colin Housley, Kai Alejo, Grant Nettles, Ava Crabtree, Calyn McGuire, Kyle Johansson, Caroline Clark, Hinsley Wilkerson, Ella Boles, Marron David son, Andrew Hayes.

Williams is also a teacher leader, working with K-2 teachers and mentoring new teachers to help build their classrooms. She said by helping other teachers, she is able to reach more students. Williams said that even though she is the mentor, she also learns a lot from the teachers she works with.

Williams said it was an honor to be named Rutland’s Teacher of the Year because she works with such phenomenal teachers at her school.

She said Rutland has a great climate where everyone has a strong work ethic, taking pride in providing the education the students need.

Williams said it is an amazing feeling to be known as the teacher that received that much recognition from other teachers who are fabulous.

“Just to be nominated is a huge recognition, but then to be voted on, it blew my mind,” she said.

FROM TOY, PAGE 1
Donna Stevenson was nominated for a Governor’s Volunteer Stars Award in Wilson County for the outstanding volunteer work she does for W.A. Wright Elementary. She was honored at the recent Lebanon-Wilson County Chamber of Commerce awards banquet. Stevenson is described by friends and co-workers as the type of volunteer who steps up and takes the role of “leader” in various ways. She works with the Good News Club after school each Monday, going above and beyond to ensure students are provided with snacks and a craft that goes along with their lesson. She is also a large part of FCA sponsored by her church. Stevenson always helps as needed by aiding teachers both in and outside of the classroom. With a smile on her face, she is constantly working behind the scenes to organize volunteers to help in the school.

Staff Reports

Thousands of students and volunteers have worked at the Volunteer State Community College radio station over the years. Now WVCP FM is welcoming back those alumni to celebrate the 40th anniversary of 88.5 FM.

An open house will be held Saturday, March 16, at the studios in the Ramer Building on the Vol State campus in Gallatin. The tours and events run from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Visitors will have the opportunity to see the latest studios and have lunch at noon. Station Manager Howard Espravnik said he is excited to see the many DJs and students who participated in community broadcasting at WVCP.

“I think it will be a lot of fun to see so many of our former WVCP students and volunteers,” said Espravnik. “When you talk to students that you haven’t seen in many years, it’s always interesting to learn about what types of employment they’ve had and their many accomplishments.”

People are asked to register so the college knows how many people may attend. Attendees should visit www.eventbrite.com and then search for WVCP.

WVCP took to the airwaves on Jan. 4, 1979. The groundwork for the station was led by Sammy Parker and Terry Arnold. James Milliner was radio station chief engineer in 1979, in addition to his full-time job in maintenance at the college. He continues today in a part-time role at WVCP.

Skip Sparkman was a broadcast instructor at Vol State for many years. In 1983 he was instrumental in getting the station an increase from 300 to 1,000 watts of power.

Espravnik arrived at Vol State in 1986 and has been with the station for the more than three decades. His work included rebuilding the station after the studios took a direct hit from an F-3 tornado in 2006.

James Milliner was radio station chief engineer in 1979, in addition to his full-time job in maintenance at the college. He continues today in a part-time role at WVCP.

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Garret Miller does his WVCP radio show in October 2008.

Staff Reports

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Stevenston honored for volunteer service

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Garret Miller does his WVCP radio show in October 2008.
“And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, “All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the Age.” Amen. (Matthew 28:18-20)

In this Christian walk of faith, sometimes many feel as though they are walking this journey alone. They get caught up in the business of doing “Christian Service” and become overwhelmed in it.

In the passage above, known to most as “The Great Commission,” we are given the assignment of going and making disciples. Far too many view this as stuck in the business of only going after numbers and become discouraged when they feel the numerical expectations are unmet.

We must remember a few things: first, it’s not about us; second, this faith race is not a sprint, it’s a marathon; and third, it always has been, and forever will be about a loving Father who gave His beloved Son that we might be saved from death to life. And this Son, our savior and redeemer, promises that He is with us always.

So be encouraged. In Him we live, in Him we move, and in Him we have our very being! You are not alone.
**REFLECTIONS FROM AN OLD FRIEND**

*Make Good Choices and Decisions*

We choose for the most part is up to the individual. For example: A criminal can decide to go straight and stop being a criminal. An intoxicated person can decide to call a cab and not drink and drive. Such simple decisions based on easy to understand, right and wrong choices.

Doing the right thing is something most of us are taught as children. However, some children, because of harsh and misleading influences and upbringings, are led astray from the get go. But, that still doesn’t excuse wrongdoings and criminal behavior. We are still responsible for who we are and who we become.

It doesn’t take rocket science to realize right from wrong. There are plenty of people around us at all times to give us good examples of the right thing. Simply saying, I was exposed to this or that still cut it, nor should it be a cop out, excuse or loophole for being responsible for one’s actions.

Decisions are not always ours. We can’t control the temperature, weather, clouds and seasons, but we can control our attitudes and how we treat others. An attitude can be what you make it. It’s sort of like a home; your home can be modest and clean or extravagant and dirty, it’s your choice. Attitude is entirely up to you. Each day can be perceived as a gift or a burden. It’s your call. I personally awake each day and thank God for allowing me another day with the people I love. Happiness is something you decide on ahead of time.

Life brings lots of decisions and choices. What we decide on ahead of time.

A small house is a castle to the man who lives in a cardboard box on the street. A rainy day to a farmer can at times be a blessing, while at other times a burden. Attitude is everything. Life is what you make it. As mentioned many times before, if life gives you lemons, make lemonade, not excuses.

You can either control your attitude and actions or your attitude and actions will control you. Maturity has more to do with what types of experiences you’ve had and what you’ve learned from them and much less to do with how many birthdays you’ve had.

Life is much better when we are good to one another and make good life decisions and choices. It’s your choice, so please make good ones.

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**Wilson County Democratic Party to honor Haley**

For decades, Watertown farmer Bob Haley has quietly worked behind the scenes for the Wilson County Democratic Party. He was always there to lend a hand, provide the barbecue grill and cook the burgers or hotdogs, or put out yard signs and host events for Democratic candidates at all levels of government.

On Sunday, March 3, Haley will be recognized for his years of dedicated service to the party’s annual Chili Cook-off and Social, its largest fundraiser. The event will be from 4-7 p.m. in the East/West Building at the James E. Ward Agricultural Center at 945 E. Baddour Pkwy. in Lebanon.

“A lifelong Democrat, Bob has always been one of the first people to volunteer to do whatever is needed to promote the Wilson County Democratic Party and support Democratic candidates up and down the ballot,” said Amelia Morrison Hipps, chair of the WCDCP. “We are thrilled to honor Bob for his years of service.”

“I’m honored and humbled about this recognition when there are so many other people who have been active in the local party and deserve it,” said Haley, who has been active in the local party since 1990 and currently serves on the party’s Executive Committee for District 9.

Haley and his wife, Loretta, attend Lebanon Cumberland Presbyterian Church, where both serve on church committees. Haley currently also serves as an Elder. They will celebrate their 45th anniversary this November.

They have three sons: Wayne and his wife Valerie, Jason and his wife Heather, and Justin and his wife Jayrah. They have also five granddaughters.

Both have been involved in retail and rental businesses in Watertown. Currently, Haley farms and has rental property in Watertown and Warren County, Tennessee.

Educated in Wilson County schools in Watertown, he attended Middle Tennessee State University and the University of Tennessee-Knoxville. He received his Bachelor of Science degree in agriculture and business from MTSU.

A veteran of the United States Navy, he served aboard the USS Independence during the Vietnam War. His tours included the Atlantic Ocean and Mediterranean Sea. He received an honorable discharge in 1969.

For 43 years, Haley has been a member of the Watertown Lions Club, American Legion Post 15 and Veterans of Foreign Wars. He’s been a member of the Vietnam Veterans of America for the last 20 years. In addition, he has served as the post commander of all of the veterans’ organization.

Haley served on the Wilson County Commission from 1982 to 2002 and on the Wilson County Veterans’ Organization.

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**Make Good Choices and Decisions**

Life is a burden. Attitude is your call. It’s your choice, so please make good ones.
Mardi Gras at the Capitol a huge success for Sherry’s Run

Staff Reports

On Friday, Feb. 1, people from across Wilson County showed up in a big way for Mardi Gras at the Capitol to benefit the Sherry’s Run organization.

“Thanks to so many generous people and businesses across Wilson County, Mardi Gras at the Capitol was a huge success to support the Sherry’s Run organization,” said Julie Miller-Wilson, Mardi Gras at the Capitol event chair. “There was so much community support, the venue sold out days before the event. The 4th annual event raised a record-setting over $100,000 to assist cancer patients in Wilson County and surrounding communities.”

“From the table sponsors to individual ticket purchasers, silent and live auction donors and the winners of the auction items, so many people helped make Mardi Gras at the Capitol an amazing event,” said Wilson. “The event sponsors went above and beyond to make the evening spectacular. Bob and Pam Black allowed us the use of the beautiful Capitol Theatre. Party Providers set the tables for our fabulous meal provided by Ed Riley with Mo’Cara Southern Dining and Two Fat Men Catering. Additionally, the success of the evening was made possible with support from Cheers Wine & Liquor. Scott and Kirsten Harris provided the festive photo booth and S.S. Graham Floral, Interiors and Events provided beautiful centerpieces. Hawk Specialty Services provided sound and arranged for the band, Four on the Floor. The generosity and support shown for Sherry’s Run commitment to assisting those in Wilson County and surrounding communities who are battling cancer was beyond extraordinary.”

“The Sherry’s Run Executive Board and Staff are so grateful for the support of our community and the leadership of our Mardi Gras at the Capitol chairs, Glenn and Julie Miller-Wilson,” said Pat Lawson, executive director of Sherry’s Run. “Glenn and Julie worked tirelessly to make this a premier event to benefit the Sherry’s Run organization. We greatly appreciate their leadership and everyone who contributed to make Mardi Gras at the Capitol so successful.”

Sherry’s Run, Wilson County’s largest grassroots cancer fundraising effort, is a non-profit, Christian organization that has helped hundreds of individuals and their families during some of the hardest times of their lives. With community support and involvement, Sherry’s Run helps members of the community year-round through support groups; assistance with utilities, housing, prescriptions, medical bills, gas and groceries; and colonoscopy assistance.

To learn more about the Sherry’s Run organization, call 615-925-2592. To refer someone for assistance, call 615-925-9932 or visit www.sherrysrun.org. To make a donation to Sherry’s Run, visit www.sherrysrun.org or mail donations to Sherry’s Run, P.O. Box 8, Lebanon, TN 37088-0008.
TN promotes severe weather prep

Staff Reports

Tennessee Gov. Bill Lee announced last week that Tennessee’s Severe Weather Awareness Week is Feb. 24 to March 2, 2019, and the Tennessee Emergency Management Agency (TEMA), Tennessee Association of Broadcasters (TAB), and the National Weather Service (NWS) are asking Tennesseans to make severe weather planning and preparedness a priority.

“Severe weather, natural disasters, and man-made threats can happen anytime and increase in magnitude without warning,” Gov. Lee said. “Tennesseans can prepare now for floods, severe weather, and tornados so they can be ready to take life-saving actions to protect themselves and their families should the need arise.”

TAB is urging Tennesseans to make sure they have multiple ways to receive weather information and updates, as well as public alerts and warnings when a flood, tornado, or other threat is imminent.

“Tennessee’s broadcasters take severe weather, and any threat that risks human life, seriously when we coordinate with local, state, and federal officials to activate the Emergency Alert System,” said Whit Adamson, TAB president.

TAB recommends thinking about how you will receive severe weather alerts and warnings at home, at work, and when you are on the road.

TEMA’s ReadyTN mobile application, available for Apple and Android devices, provides emergency preparedness, response, and recovery information, with features including:

• Basic emergency kit checklists and emergency checklists for special populations;

• Detailed descriptions and information on the major hazards in Tennessee;

• A regional list of local emergency management agency contacts by county;

• Traffic updates from the Tennessee Department of Transportation’s SmartWay resource;

• Information on American Red Cross shelters that may be open near your locations in emergency situations; and,

• TEMA’s website includes an emergency preparedness section at https://www.tn.gov/tema/prepared.html, with practical information on creating emergency plans for yourself and your family, emergency planning for children, the top threats in Tennessee, local contact information for county-level emergency management agencies, and an area devoted to active shooter preparedness.

“TEMA wants to ensure Tennesseans are prepared for any man-made, natural, or technological hazards or disasters,” said TEMA Director Patrick Sheehan. “Severe weather, especially tornados, can occur any time in Tennessee, even though they are most common during the spring months of March, April and May. Tennesseans and our visitors can learn how to understand the weather, ensure they have multiple ways to receive severe weather warnings, and plan to get themselves and their loved ones to safety when severe weather warnings are issued.”

Some basic severe weather advice includes:

• Never venture into high water, either on foot or in a vehicle.

• If you’re outside and hear thunder, go indoors immediately.

• Go to a basement or an innermost, first floor room in your home if you’re told to take shelter during a tornado warning.

• Know the location of and route to your office or building’s tornado shelter.

• Never try to outrun a tornado.

• Have an emergency plan ready at places where your family spends time.

• Emergency plans should include where to meet, and who family members should check in with, if you are separated from family members during a severe weather emergency.

At a minimum, emergency preparedness kits should include one gallon of water per-day, per-person, and per-pet, for three to five days. Other items that every kit should include include: flash light, battery-powered radio, extra batteries, first aid kit, personal hygiene items, cell phone charger or solar charge, copies of important family documents, and extra supplies of medications, especially for those with chronic health conditions.

The creek by the Mt. Juliet League park was high due to flooding Wednesday, Feb. 20.

From RAIN, PAGE 1

closed Friday in anticipation of even more rain and flooding. Many roads in Lebanon were so flooded, driving through safely was impossible.

The rain also led to multiple hydroplane crashes on Interstate 40 Wednesday morning, and Tennes-
**Baldwin, Christopher**

Christopher “Chris” Baldwin, extensively known to his friends as “Baldwin,” passed away Feb. 24, 2019. The Funeral Service will be Friday, March 1, 2019, at 6:30 p.m. in the chapel of Sellars Funeral Home at Mt. Juliet. The family will receive friends on Thursday, Feb. 28 from 4-8 p.m. and on Friday, March 1 from 5 p.m. until service time. He is survived by children, Christopher Coen Baldwin, Jack Walker Baldwin, Cheyenne Cristine Baldwin, and Olivia Grace Baldwin; parents, Arnold and Lisa Baldwin; and a host of friends and family also survive. He was preceded in death by maternal grandmother, Katherine Arnold Baldwin; maternal grandfather, William Cooper Johnson; and a host of friends and family also survive.

**Cass, Gary**

Gary Cass, age 70 of Mt. Juliet, passed away Feb. 24, 2019. He is survived by: Wife of 46 years – Josie; Son – Bradley; Daughter and son-in-law – Julie and Matt; Grandchildren, who were the love of Gary’s life and he made sure they knew it every day – Alex, Joey and Maxwell; Sister and brother-in-law – Linde and Darryl; Mom – June.

A Celebration of Gary’s Life will be conducted 11 a.m. Thursday, Feb. 28, 2019 at Providence United Methodist Church. Please see obits for details.

**Jernigan, Robert D.**


A funeral service was held Feb. 26 at Bond Memorial Chapel, and interment followed at Leeville Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital, PO box 1000, Dept. 142, Memphis, TN 38101-9908. Bond Memorial Chapel, N. Mt. Juliet Road and Westton Drive, Mt. Juliet, TN. (615)773-2663. Obit Line (615)641-2663, www.bondmemorial.com

**Kemp, Patsy Ann**

Patsy Kemp passed away Feb. 21, 2019, at age 84. A funeral service was held Feb. 24, and interment followed at Cedar Grove Cemetery. She is survived by: two sons: Tim (Kathy) Kemp and Tony Kemp; grandchildren: Stephanie Masses, Matthew (Becky) Kemp, Chad (Glen-da) Williams, Jennifer (Will) Williams, Bryan (Erin) Kemp, Kristen (Adam) Niblett, Carl

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- Grant, Aileen Jane
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- Rashad
- Harker, Leslie Edward
- Harrington, Chris Deville
- Wolkonowski, Chester
- Palmiere, Linda Ann
- Gentry, Anna Ruth
- Shepherd, James Benjamin
- Hardesty, Benjamin David
- Burch, Stephen Charles
- Newberry, Mildred
- McKee
- Abdo, Chris Eid

- Ward, Mae
- Gothard, Cynthia Diane
- Eady, Jerelyn
- Brewington, Kathleen
- Compton, Marti
- Larson, Tom
- Sirry, Mary Jo
- Bryson, Billy
- Huffines, Jean
- Sellars, Jeffery
- McCune, Ruth
- Brawner, Dan
- Jeter, Ellen
- Lippka, Irmgard
- Baker, Jimmie
- Weeks, Terry
- Foster, Brent
- Remley, Faye
- Johnson, Carol
- Gann, Scott
- Cash, Ruth

- Taylor, Robyn Lavenya
- Holder, Bradford Scott
- Kincaid, Joseph Charles
- Tekla, Barinhia Bashir
- Gaines, James Anthony
- Atalla, Mariam Salah
- Mikhaiel, Youssef Alaa
- Zboja, Shirley Gail
- Nopens, Jacob Ross
- Forgey, Lindsey Nicole
- Walpole, Glenda K
- Stagg, Mary Ann
- Abdknour, Margureeet
- Shawky Sedrak
- House, Ulaame

- Fletcher, Barry
- Bentley, Bill
- Vaught, Robert
- Crosln, Glenn
- Langford, Chad
- Hearns, Tony
- Coleman, Joshua
- Franklin, Pam
- Pak, Sherri
- Brown, Robert
- Shores, Linda
- Thornton, Ruby
- Tramel, Jerry
- Taylor, William
- Bradford, Susan
- Cervantes-Luna, Melissa
- Holt, Mary
- Albright, Bob
- Vickers, Rebecca
- Garcia, Jesse

- Sellars, Jeffery
- McCune, Ruth
- Brawner, Dan
- Jeter, Ellen
- Lippka, Irmgard
- Baker, Jimmie
- Weeks, Terry
- Foster, Brent
- Remley, Faye
- Johnson, Carol
- Gann, Scott
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**See OBITS, PAGE 15**
Insight opens new location

Staff Reports

Insight Counseling Centers has opened a new location at Andrew Price Memorial United Methodist Church, 2846 Lebanon Pike in Donelson. With this key addition, Insight will expand its reach and services to communities across Middle Tennessee.

“We are grateful to Andrew Price Memorial United Methodist Church for their hospitality,” said Insight Executive Director Pam Brown. “The church is centrally located so that we not only serve clients who live in Donelson, but Hermitage, Mt. Juliet, Madison, Lebanon and East Nashville, as well. It is our honor to serve residents of these communities in such a lovely space.”

“Insight Counseling has proved a reliable partner in helping people to reach more of their God-given potential,” said Reverend Melisa Derseweh, pastor of Andrew Price Memorial United Methodist Church. “I am grateful for their work and the wonderful way their work blesses our community.”

Insight has contracted with counselors Monét Shell, MMFT, and Jai Crowder, MMFT, to provide counseling sessions at the new location.

Shell works with adults and couples and brings experience in conflict management, premarital counseling, and navigating cultural identity issues. Crowder works with children, adolescents, and their parents utilizing Trust Based Relationship Intervention skills.

Appointment are currently available at the Donelson location on Mondays, Thursdays, and Fridays.

For questions about counseling or to schedule an appointment, please call Insight’s Intake Department at (615) 383-2115 x100 or visit insightcounselingcenters.org.

SFMO urges kitchen safety

Staff Reports

Winter weather and recent heavy rains across the Volunteer State have many Tennesseans staying indoors instead of heading out to grab a bite to eat. The Tennessee State Fire Marshal’s Office (SFMO) reminds consumers to always “stand by your pan” when cooking in order to avoid a potential kitchen-related tragedy.

Cooking is currently the leading cause of home fires in Tennessee. From 2014-2018, 9,361 residential cooking fires were reported in the state, resulting in 52 civilian deaths, 245 civilian injuries and $46.1 million in property damages. Unattended cooking equipment was the leading contributing factor (21.8 percent) to the cause of these fires.

“Tragically, unattended or careless cooking can make an everyday meal into a life-changing emergency,” said Tennessee Department of Commerce and Insurance Commissioner and State Fire Marshal Julie Mix McPeak. “Taking simple precautions while cooking can help prevent cooking-related home fires this winter and any time of year.”

To help Tennesseans avoid the devastation of stovetop fires, the SFMO offers the following fire safety tips:

- NEVER pour water on a grease fire.
- Keep children and pets at least three feet away from cooking areas.
- If you are sleepy or have consumed alcohol, don’t use the stove or stovetop.
- If you are baking or roasting, use a kitchen timer to remind you when the food is done cooking.
- Always stand by your pan if you are frying, grilling, or broiling. If you must leave the room, even for a short period of time, turn off the stovetop.
- If a small fire starts in a pan on the stove, put on an oven mitt and slide a lid or cookie sheet over the pan to smother the flames. Do not remove the lid or cookie sheet until the fire is out and the pan is completely cool.
- If possible, avoid discharging a fire extinguisher onto a pan fire. It can shoot burning grease around the kitchen, spreading the fire and causing burns.
- If a pan is on fire, do not try to carry it away from the stove. The oil or grease can splash out causing burns. In addition, carrying the pan can feed more oxygen to the already burning fire.
- If the fire does not go out, get everyone out of the home, close all doors behind you as you exit, and call the fire department from outside using a cell phone or a neighbor’s phone.

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Gov. Lee announces initiatives for mental health, suicide prevention efforts

On Tuesday, Tennessee Governor Bill Lee announced three priorities to increase access to mental health treatment and expand suicide prevention efforts across the state.

“The mental health of our citizens is foundational to all other goals we seek to accomplish in education, job growth and public safety,” said Lee. “By prioritizing our mental health safety net and suicide prevention, we are caring for more Tennesseans and building healthier communities.”

Gov. Lee is proposing $11.2 million in new funding to expand access to services for Tennesseans living with serious mental illness. This investment seeks to cover an additional 7,000 uninsured Tennessee adults through the state’s Behavioral Health Safety Net program, which provides several essential mental health services.

Additionally, the investment addresses increasing costs at the state’s four regional mental health institutes and ensures that those facilities will continue to provide high quality care to Tennesseans with the most significant psychiatric needs.

To complement Tennessee’s work in recovery courts and alternative sentencing measures, Gov. Lee is also proposing a $3 million investment to the Creating Homes Initiative. Since 2000, the program has created more than 20,000 quality permanent housing opportunities for those living with mental illness. This new investment will expand recovery housing options for Tennesseans struggling with substance abuse.

“In addition to measures that address substance abuse and mental illness, we are tackling Tennessee’s shockingly high suicide rate that is now 20 percent higher than the national average,” said Lee. “There is tremendous opportunity to engage public-private partnerships as we work to prevent suicide and save lives.”

To address this issue, Gov. Lee is proposing a $1.1 million investment that will expand the state’s partnership with the Tennessee Suicide Prevention Network to establish a new regional outreach model and increase the Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services’ efforts to focus on interventions at the community level using evidence-based practices.

To join the discussion online please visit us at www.tcomj.com or on Facebook at www.facebook.com/thechronicleofmtjuliet
Out of Sorts

By Angel Kane
Wilson Living Magazine

So it started with a small puddle of water by the fridge. I’d see it and think “those kids!” Obviously, their ice must have hit the floor and they kept on walking. I’d accuse, they would deny, I’d clean it up. The puddle grew. So, my next thought was, “those dogs!” They were drinking water from their bowls and letting it slowly drip from their mouths as they sauntered away. 

I’d accuse, they would stare at me as if to deny, I’d clean it up. It became a daily thing. Each day I was wiping water off the floor, hollering like a crazy woman at whoever crossed my path.

A month later, my husband said, “Have you noticed there is water by the refrigerator?” I tried to contain myself. It didn’t happen. Nevertheless, together we moved the fridge and there behind it was this tiny, tiny little spray of water coming from the hose connected to the ice maker.

And so it began. Turns out water is the devil. And upon further investigation, the water had seeped under our hardwood and tile and long story short, our insurance adjuster said all our flooring downstairs was going to have to be repaired or replaced.

That was a year ago. Every so often he’d call. I’d say I wasn’t ready. He’d tell me they needed to settle the claim.

Finally, in January, we took the plunge. As I write this article this morning, I am sitting in my closet typing on my laptop. The majority of our worldly possessions are stored in two storage containers next to our home. Our floors are being repaired from one end of my house to the other.

My husband, myself and our teenage son are living in our children’s bedrooms upstairs. Our college-aged girls refuse to return until the living conditions at home surpass those of their dorms. The dogs began to suffer from PTSD so they have been boarded.

My son says it’s kind of like camping. We eat sitting on the floor. We share a bathroom. Since there are no televisions in the children’s rooms, most evenings we huddle around my son’s iPad and watch whatever YouTube videos he will allow us to partake in with him.

The conditions are less than ideal but thankfully the end is near.

And while we have been out of sorts for a few weeks now, like all uncomfortable situations, there is always something to learn. So here goes...

I learned that sharing a bathroom with a teenage boy is as horrible as his two sisters told me it was. I learned that my guest room mattress is as bad as my brother and sister-in-law always complain it is.

I learned that just because you can cook an entire meal in your microwave, doesn’t mean you should eat it. And that yes, you can eat at Sunset five nights in a row and each meal is different and better than the last.

But the most important lesson I learned, and one you will learn too if you ever visit our home, is that ice makers are optional and no longer will they be an option in the Kane household ever again!
LOWERY, Wayne Lee

Wayne Lee Lowery, age 77 of Mt. Juliet, passed away Feb. 24, 2019, at TriStar Summit Medical Center. He was born on March 31, 1941 in Malvern, Arkansas to Arvel and Ida (Wetherington) Lowery.

Mr. Lowery is preceded in death by his parents and a sister, Lola Hall. He is survived by his wife of 53 years, Jenda (Story) Lowery; daughters, Lisa (Larry) McCullough, Nancy (Mike) Parish and Stacy Lowery; grandsons, Daniel (April) McCullough, Zachary (Lacey) Lowery, Cody Lowery, Benjamin Lowery, and Michael Rivers; granddaughter, Jamie Curran.

Tennessee Cremation Care has been entrusted with Mr. Lowery’s care. Online condolences may be left at www.tennesseecremation.com.

OWEN, Peggy Jean

Peggy Owen passed away Feb. 25, 2019, at age 82. The family will have a private Life Celebration and inurnment at St. Joseph’s Catholic Cemetery in Evansville, Indiana, at a later date.

Mrs. Owen is survived by children, William Michael (Nicole) Owen, Margie Adell (Alan) McElfresh, Houston Anne (Steve) Carpenter, and Cindy Marie Epley; grandchildren: Hallie Adell (Josh) Flynn, Jaclyn Michelle (Ian) Huey, Andrew Earl (Whitney) Carpenter, Samantha Alexa (Lindsay) McElfresh, and Chase Alan McElfresh; great-grandchildren: Owen Huey, CoraLyn Huey, Ethan Carpenter, Nolan Carpenter, Colin Flynn, and Aven Flynn; sister: Delores Ann (Tom) Gradowski; and nephew: Timothy Michael Walker. She is preceded in death by parents Earl and Adell Spaulding, sister: Janice Flynn, and brother Tommy Spaulding.


WAGNER, Bruce Norman

Bruce Norman Wagner, passed away Feb. 23, 2019, at the age of 65. A Celebration of Life Service will be held at Bridgestone Arena in Nashville, Tennessee at a later date.

He is survived by wife of 40 years, Loretta Wagner; children, Benjamin (Theresa) Wagner, Nicholas Wagner, and Rachel (Brandon) Cott; 11 grandchildren; sister, Glenda (Mark) Brown; brothers, Brian Wagner and Bradley Wagner; many nieces, nephews, and many friends also survive.


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ty Election Commission representing the Democratic Party from 2004-2014. While on the County Commission, he served as chair of the Education, Finance, and Agricultural Center committees.

“When you go back to 1982 when I was first elected, they all were Democrats, and therefore, I never considered myself anything else, particularly today when you look at the things we stand for,” said Haley.

“I’m really hoping Gov. [Bill] Lee moderates his stand on the vouchers for our school system. I’m very concerned about our immigration policy. I think we need a wall, but I think what we really need is some immigration reform. Being in the farming business and this kind of work, I see a dire need for these people coming into the country, but we need them to be legal and they need to be paying taxes.”

Haley said he’s more concerned about some of these big employers that “are in actuality paying cash and not paying anything into the Social Security system for these people. You and I both know they’re going to wind up at some point in time on our public roles for health insurance and otherwise.”

“If the Democratic Party is going to ever recover, we’re going to have to change our stance on a lot of things. We’re definitely going to have to be less rigid,” he said.

“I think one of the biggest things we’re doing right now is letting people know we exist by working the [Wilson County] Fair, especially as red as the state’s become.”


Haley said he’s always been concerned about people who weren’t as fortunate “as we were who didn’t have health care. For many years, our health care was through Loretta’s employment. Then we were self-employed and paid our own premiums.

“These are the things that I think the Democratic Party is about. I’m concerned about our immigration policy. I think we need a wall, but I think what we really need is some immigration reform. Being in the farming business and this kind of work, I see a dire need for these people coming into the country, but we need them to be legal and they need to be paying taxes.”

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Haley said he was amazed when Bone, “who was the best representative District 46 has ever seen,” was beaten, as well as when former Gov. Phil Bredesen did not get a better showing in his 2018 race for U.S. Senate.

“I don’t know that I have a favorite part about working on campaigns,” he said. “Here’s the thing about it. I see good people in both parties. People I know and respect in both parties have completely different ideas. We both know somebody’s going to be distraught and hurt when the election is over. I just really have a hard time finding a place to say that I enjoy that.”

Haley said while he doesn’t have the heart for campaigning like others he knows, he said he “really appreciates people in our party who stand out and do those things.”

“I try to make sure I tell them that I appreciate them,” he said. “When I was told about this honor, I looked around saw people who are far more deserving than me, but I humbly appreciate it.”

Tickets for the Chili Cook-off and Social are $15 for individuals 11 and older; $10 for senior citizens, or $10 for $100. Children 10 and under get in free. They are available from any member of the Wilson County Democratic Party or Wilson County Democratic Women. Individuals may also order tickets by calling 615-549-6220; emailing contacts@wilsoncountydemocrats.org; or visiting the WCDP’s Facebook page, https://www.facebook.com/wilsondemocrats.