City works to address Hickory Hills erosion

Yards in a Mt. Juliet neighborhood have been impacted by erosion and the city is working to address the problems.

Houses along Yarmouth Lane in Hickory Hills have been facing an eroding backyard that if not corrected could continue to worsen.

By Sarah Tate
Managing Editor

Fireworks show canceled

The annual Fourth of July fireworks celebration was cancelled for the first time in 30 years.

“We are very sad to announce that we have just been informed that Mt. Juliet’s 4th of July Fireworks show has been cancelled by our city manager,” Needham’s Nursery, sponsor of the event.

By Sarah Tate
Managing Editor

MJ ranks among safest cities in state

Mt. Juliet was recently named one of the 20 safest cities in Tennessee for 2019, according to a report by SafeWise. Mt. Juliet ranked number 19, down five spots from last year.

The violent crime rate for the city is 1.75 per 1,000 while the property crime rate was 17.57 per 1,000. Belle Meade, which ranked first on the list, had a violent crime rate of 0.00 per 1,000 and a property crime rate of 10.08 per 1,000.

As a state, however, Tennessee has higher rates for both compared to the national average. According to SafeWise, Tennessee’s statewide violent crime rate is 9.07 which is double the national rate of 4.49 crimes per 1,000. The state property crime rate is 39.88 incidents per 1,000 compared to the national average of 27.11.

To identify the safest cities in Tennessee, SafeWise reviewed the most recent FBI crime report statistics from 2017 and census population data. Cities that fell below identified population thresholds.

By Sarah Tate
Managing Editor

Lauren Gribble teaches seventh grade social studies at Mt. Juliet Middle School, where she has been for 10 years. She started as an interim teacher for a year before coming on full time at the school.

Gribble received a history and geography degree from Cumberland University and was licensed to teach through the education program. She also played basketball at Volunteer State Community College and golf at Cumberland.

Her interest in teaching began with her desire to coach and be in the school environment. Before teaching at MJMS, she was an assistant basketball coach at the high school. She started coaching again last year and is now the boys and girls golf Coach.

By Sarah Tate
Managing Editor

Community Calendar

MARCH 30
Camp Horizon 5K
MMS

APRIL 3
JECDB
Lebanon Office

APRIL 8
Board of Education
Lebanon Office

Additional information
Page 3

Teachers of the Year

Lauren Gribble
Mt. Juliet Middle

See SAFE, PAGE 2

See FIREWORKS, PAGE 10

See TOY, PAGE 11
MJ teacher receives award from CMA Foundation

By Sarah Tate
Managing Editor

Mt. Juliet High School orchestra director Sherie Grossman was recently announced as a recipient of the Country Music Association (CMA) Foundation’s Music Teacher of Excellence award.

Grossman has been at MJHS for eight years, but has been teaching for 20. This is her first time applying for the MToE award, which she was humbled and honored to receive.

The CMA Foundation, the national music education nonprofit and the philanthropic arm of the Country Music Association, will host its fourth annual Music Teachers of Excellence Awards on April 30, 2019, and Grossman is among the honorees.

The invite-only event will honor 30 music educators from across the country for their dedication and commitment to music education in their classroom and throughout their school community.

The reception will be hosted by Dierks Bentley and will feature many people in the music industry in addition to the other educators who received awards. Grossman said she looks forward to being around those who are advocates and leaders, celebrating music education and having their programs recognized.

The CMA Foundation created the Music Teachers of Excellence program in 2016 in an effort to recognize the best and brightest music teachers from Nashville and beyond. Award recipients are selected because of their dedication to bringing a quality music program to their students and the impact they’ve had on their school community through music.

Music education is not just about teaching to perform, Grossman said. It creates a safe environment where students can grow and teach them lifelong skills, such as goal-setting and determination.

In addition to a night of celebration, Grossman will receive $2,500 to invest in her music classroom to help drive their program forward and an additional $2,500 as a personal stipend. She said she will use the money for the orchestra program and updating equipment.

Grossman is appreciative of all the love and support she has received throughout this experience.

Along with directing the school’s orchestra, Grossman is also an assistant band director and the assistant choir director.

Grossman is also the director and founder of the Cedar Creek Community Band, which is celebrating its 10th anniversary this year with a concert April 1 at Lebanon High School at 7 p.m.
The Regional Transportation Authority (RTA) of Middle Tennessee held a meeting Tuesday evening at the Mt. Juliet Chamber of Commerce to discuss various matters surrounding the Mt. Juliet Train Station.

One topic of discussion included the proposed expansion of the parking lot for residents and riders of the Music City Star, adding 100-110 additional parking spaces. RTA staff shared information about improvements and additional amenities, such as pathways to Mt. Juliet Road and Division Street, bicycle racks, additional lighting and beautification.

The Music City Star makes six daily trips between Lebanon and downtown Nashville Monday through Friday and is responsible for transporting approximately 1,100 commuters to and from work each weekday.

The Mt. Juliet Station sees approximately 185 passenger boardings on an average weekday and is the highest ridership station along the Music City Star route.

Granville hosts Antique Car Show

The grand opening of Granville’s new theme, “Memories of the 1960s: They Never Go Away,” on April 13 will feature a 1950s and 1960s Antique Car Show with 22 classes of competition. There will be three place trophies in each class.

The show will feature the 1953 Chevrolet of T.B. Sutton, which was later owned by attorney Steve Cassetty of Gainesboro. He took the car to his farm where it remained for many years. In the late 1970s, the car was later owned by his granddaughter, and her husband Mike made a donation to pay for restoration of the car, which was recently completed.

April 13 will also feature 1960s music, 1960s dress up contest, Twist and Dance Contest, Mayberry Whistle Contest, Mayberry Dance Contest, Upper Cumberland Wine Contest, Genealogy Contest, and 1960s Food.

The show will feature the title still in T.B. Sutton’s name. Beth Sutton Cochran, his granddaughter, and her husband Mike made a donation to pay for restoration of the car, which was recently completed.

April 13 will also feature 1960s music, 1960s dress up contest, Twist and Dance Contest, Mayberry Whistle Contest, Mayberry Dance Contest, Upper Cumberland Wine Contest, Genealogy Festival and 1960s food.

The Wilson County Democratic Party will hold its biennial reorganization convention to elect new party leaders on Saturday, March 30, at 151 Maddox-Simpson Pkwy in Lebanon. Doors open at 8:30 a.m. and close promptly at 10 a.m.

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CANTRELL, Morgan

Morgan Cantrell, age 83 of Watertown, passed away March 18, 2019. Morgan was born in Kingston, West Virginia, to John and Bessie Cantrell in 1935, the youngest of seven children.

Morgan is survived by his wife of 57 years Judy Cantrell, daughters Terissa and Lisa, his older brother Ralph and several nieces and nephews.

At Mr. Cantrell’s request, his remains will be cremated. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to St. Jude children’s Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105.

COLIO, Jesse Edward

Jesse Edward Colio, age 30 of Mt. Juliet, died March 25, 2019. Jesse was preceded in death by his maternal grandfather, Eradl Choate. He is survived by: His adoring wife – Rebecca Collins-Colio; Sons – Gage Charles Colio, Sladen Hayes Colio, and Asher Orion Colio; Mother – Patti (Alan) Lopez; Father – Eddie Colio; Siblings – Amber Choate, Susan Colio, Chavela Colio, Joseph Lozez, Catherine Lopez, Brian Lopez, Jennifer Colio, Eddie Colio, Jr., Tifani Lopez and Meghan Lopez; Maternal grandmother – Joyce Choate; Several aunts and uncles and many nieces and nephews.

A Celebration of Life service will be conducted at a later date.


DARLING, Ronald David

Ron Darling passed away March 7, 2019, at age 70. Inurnment will be in Middle Tennessee State Veteran’s Cemetery at 10 a.m. on Thursday, March 28, 2019.

He is survived by wife Joann E. Darling, son Alfred D. Darling, grandchildrend Amanda S. Darling, Madison J. Darling, and AJ Darling, and siblings Virginia (Larry) Lytch and Donald E. (Cynthia) Darling Jr. He is preceded in death by parents Donald E. and Antoinette M. Darling, and brother Harry E. Darling.

In lieu of flowers, please make Memorial Donations to St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital and/or the Shriners. Sellers Funeral Home, Lebanon TN, 615.444.9393.

DICKSON, Ronald Neal

Ronnie Dickson passed away March 26, 2019, at age 73. The family will be receiving friends at Sellers Funeral Home, Lebanon, on Thursday from 4-8 p.m. and on Friday from 11 a.m. until the service at 2 p.m. in the chapel of Sellers Funeral Home.

Mr. Dickson leaves behind his beloved wife of 50 years, Donna Dickson; son Neal (Heather) Dickson; daughters Angela (Jeff) Usrey and Jennifer (Jason) Wallace; grandchildren Nataleigh Wallace, J.D. Usrey, Emma Dickson, and Emily Wallace; and brother Wendell (Kathy) Dickson. He is preceded in death by parents, Donald and Marvine Hunter Dickson.

In lieu of flowers, please make Memorial Donations to the Lebanon Senior Citizens’ Center, toward lunch tickets. Sellers Funeral Home, Lebanon TN, 615.444.9393.

MALONE, Naomi Lee Maynard

Naomia Lee Maynard Malone, age 90 of Mt. Juliet, died March 21, 2019. Mrs. Malone was the daughter of the late William Arrive and Willie A. Braswell Maynard. She was also preceded in death by her husband of 72 years, James Malone, and by her siblings, Clifton Maynard, Keeble Thweet and Barbara Craig.

She is survived by: Son – Wayne Malone; Brothers – Marshall Maynard and Gerald Maynard; Sisters – Shirley Wright, Sandy Jones and Syble Waite; Grandchildren – Charles Bradley Malone, Kenneth Wayne Malone and James Skylar Malone; Great-grandchildren – Ryky Malone, Cameron Malone and Ivy Malone.

A funeral service was held March 25 at Bond Memorial Chapel, and interment followed at DeKalb County Memorial Gardens.

SCOTT, David Everett

David Everett Scott, born March 25, 1949, in Glendale, Ohio. He served as Deacon, Sunday School teacher, usher, RA Leader, and helped in the bus and youth ministry for more than 28 years at First Baptist Church in Mt. Juliet. He served on the Mt. Juliet Sewer Commission, Planning Commission and finally as a City Commissioner.

He was preceded in death by parents, Margaret Jean Scott and Amos Logan Scott, brother Alan Keith Scott, and brother-in-law Jim Morris. He is survived by his wife of 48 years, Linda Scott; brother and sister-in-law Joseph and Susan Scott; son and daughter-in-law, Jarod and Ioana Scott and their children, Olivia, EJ, and Kaylan; daughter and son-in-law, Lindsay and Nick Tate and their children, Andrew and Ruby Ann.

A funeral service was held March 24 at Sellers Funeral Home in Mt. Juliet, and interment followed at Mt. Juliet Memorial Gardens.


WORLEY, Robert

Robert Jesse “Worley-Bird” Worley passed away March 21, 2019, at age 59. A funeral service was held March 25 at Sellers Funeral Home in Lebanon, and interment followed at Conatser Cemetery.

Robert is preceded in death by his parents Jessie and Lady Ellen Worley, sister Gloria Lane, and brother-in-laws Leonard Lane, David Collins and Randolph Moore. He is survived by wife Karen Worley, sisters Martha Moore and Brenda Collins, children Robert Derrick Worley and Paige (Michael) Bridges, and numerous nieces, nephews and cousins. Sellers Funeral Home 615.444.9393
The Hermitage District of the Middle Tennessee Council, Boy Scouts of America hosted its annual Good Scout Event on March 21, 2019, at St. Stephens Catholic Church. The Scouts honored Bill Robinson, owner of Robinson Properties, for his long time support of Scouting in the Mt. Juliet community.

Several local businesses were represented and numerous Scouting volunteers were on hand as the District presented the Good Scout Award to Robinson. The Award is the highest honor given out by the District, and it is given to those who truly make a difference in their communities.

Michael Bengtson, Eagle Scout with Troop 150, gave an exceptional speech on “How he became an Eagle Scout.” Daniel Solarz, president of Insulation Plastics, was the emcee for the event that was hosted by Peter Schulte of Pace Analytics in Mt. Juliet.

The dinner concluded with Robinson accepting the Good Scout award from longtime friend Clinton Smith.

MJCA Honor Lists

Principal’s List

1st Grade
Britt Biddle, Adalyn Brewer, Neil Corbin, Madeleine Covey, Kaylie Cravens, Alejandro Cultra, Dean Fox, Tyler Gray, Brinick Hicks, Sophie Holden, Beckham Lange, Hudson Massaro, Marley Middendorf, Journey Mosier, Kinsey Moss, Hadley Northern, Carter Pilote, Joseph Roll, Ethan Stockwell, Brandon Stratton, Siana Unland, Cheswin Woodson, Cole Wright, Conner Wright

2nd Grade
Atalya Biggs, Luke Baldard, Mackenzie Coggin, Travis Collins, Kayla Dunn, Parker Grimes, Addy Hancock, Brody Harris, Heath Henegar, Harley Parris, Jack Pemberton, Sofia Schaefer, Brixton Williams, Benji Yates

3rd Grade
Farrar Barlow, Lily Cudd, Isaac Dailey, Ryan Duty, Joey Edgerton, Caleb Graves, Autumn Gray, Bentley Harris, Mason Jaramillo, Jonah Kleinmann, Graham Larson, Carter Lewis, Isaac Otto, Ashlyn Parker, Sanyata Patel, Olivia Kate Pilote, Alexia Rad, Olivia Willowim, Cayson Weist

4th Grade
Kyle Addis, Mae Biddle, Sarah Davis, Sadie Driver, Thatcher Lanier, Karson Moss, Leeya, Patel, Carly Qose, Christian Saladin, Cameron Semmes, Jillian Unland, Jonathan Yates

5th Grade
Lilly Barnes, Emmy Biggs, Kannan Burroughs, Johnathan Fahmy, Sadie Jennings, Evan Kleinmann, Katie Moore, Avary Stockwell, Caroline Woolson

Honor Roll

1st Grade

2nd Grade

3rd Grade
Ethan Byrd, Olivia Cooper, Reese Dzon, Beardon Farley, Vallen Hart, Mason Henry, Isaac Lee, Carter Mull, Lincoln Nave, Eva Norris, Kaleigh Reed, Mason Warren

4th Grade
Riley Biddle, Ryan Blackwell, Emma Bowen, Kevin Byrd, Gavin Cunningham, Hannah Dailey, Gwen Forsha, Landon Howell, Abigail Love, Samuel McDonnell, Madi McQueen, Carter Turner, Brooke Tuschner

5th Grade
Lilly Blackwell, Noah Brooks, Blake Cullen, Karlie Gee, Wyatt Gray, Avery Harris, Michael Jaramillo, Jacob Lee, Carina Long, Hazel Meadows, Cason Mull, Coleten Parker, Francesca Pool, Sarah Schaefer, Brynley Uary, Campbell Warren

Bill Robinson (left) accepted the Good Scout Award by the Boy Scouts for making a difference in his community. | Photo submitted

Robinson receives Good Scout Award

Staff Reports

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Southeastern Dental of Mt. Juliet

Cleanings | Crowns
Veneers Invisalign
Root Canals
Oral Surgery
Cosmetic Dentistry
Bridges

Mon, Tues 7-5 | Wed 7-2
Thurs 7-3 | Fri 8-12
Walk-Ins Welcome
Most insurance plans accepted!

615-754-6677
631 S. Mt. Juliet Rd. Mt. Juliet
Providence Shopping Center near Publix

25th Anniversary Celebration!

Friday, March 29th • 3-5pm
1476 North Mt Juliet Rd.
Refusehments and door prizes!
Cake Cutting at 3pm
Mt. Juliet Office
615-754-0600

WILSON Bank & Trust
Middle Tennessee’s Community Bank™

wilsonbank.com
As a pastor, I get to hear a lot of well meaning philosophies addressing the idea of attending a particular church on a particular day. One that seems popular is to downplay the value of gathering with God’s saints for worship and fellowship. As I was thinking about these theories and the value of regular church involvement, I was reminded of what Luke recorded concerning our Lord Jesus in chapter 6 of his gospel. “...as was His custom, He went to the synagogue on the Sabbath day.”

It’s pretty clear how Jesus felt about gathering with God’s people at a particular place on a particular day. Luke recognized that it was customary for Him to go each Sabbath and join with the fellow believers in the synagogue. Now, this isn’t an article to beat people up with a condemning word about church attendance. Rather, it is an attempt to get us to see the value, and yes obedience, of allowing ourselves to become a part of a local body of believers and integrate with that body as a customary thing. The issue isn’t whether or not we are in a room at a particular time at a particular place so we can be counted as present. The heart of the matter is are we one of the “living stones” who make up this organic group known as the church. I hope we have long ago dropped the idea of the church being a physical building. A building is just a place to come in out of the weather and gather with the real church, the rest of the group known as the church.

See F & M, PAGE 9
Now that spring is here and summer is just around the corner, there is no time like the present to take preventive steps and measures against thefts, scams and fraud. Our crooks, thieves and con-artists population view the changing seasons as new job opportunities for themselves. They often drain citizen bank accounts by offering a job or service they never deliver, even after being paid for their service ahead of time. Most of the time, the unsuspecting citizen doesn’t even realize they don’t need the service being offered because of their own trusting nature and the skill of these con-artists. But these slick talking and jive walking crooks sell the victims these scary “the sky is falling” stories and con them into repairs they don’t need nor ever receive.

I wonder if these crooks would feel the same about their so-called profession if they or someone they love were to be bilked, swindled, cheated, ripped off, or just downright lied to. I very seriously doubt it. What these crooks need to do is get a job and quit making excuses for their laziness and evil ways. It’s time to stop making excuses to make yourselves feel better and straighten your act up. There’s no excuse or justification for thievery. Plain and simple! Honest citizens work hard for what they have and don’t need thieves deciding if they earned or deserve it. With all that in mind, I would like to encourage all citizens to get second opinions on work needed, both requested and solicited. Ask all business and sales companies for references, credentials, licenses and bonds. Document everything. Don’t be afraid or ashamed to ask questions. We have to look out for one another to combat this problem. And don’t be the least bit embarrassed about saying, no I’m not interested.

It is also important to look out for our senior citizens and their welfare. Our seniors are often targeted by these slick talking and walking crooks and con-artists because of their very trusting nature. Our seniors were born in an era when a handshake and person’s word was often all that was needed to seal a deal. So let’s please, please look out for one another and send these crooks and con-artists packing.

REFLECTIONS FROM AN OLD FRIEND

Kenny Martin
City Manager
Mt. Juliet, TN

Now that spring is here and summer is just around the corner, there is no time like the present to take preventive steps and measures against thefts, scams and fraud.

Our crooks, thieves and con-artists population view the changing seasons as new job opportunities for themselves. They look for the perfect opportunity of stealing, deceiving and downright lying to make a quick buck the easy and lazy way. These criminally minded people have no shame and love to target our citizens for their trusting nature and good spirit.

These evil individuals also apparently have no shame or problem taking property that doesn’t belong to them. They often drain citizen bank accounts by offering a job or service they never deliver, even after being paid for their service ahead of time. Most of the time, the unsuspecting citizen doesn’t even realize they don’t need the service being offered because of their own trusting nature and the skill of these con-artists. But these slick talking and jive walking crooks sell the victims these scary “the sky is falling” stories and con them into repairs they don’t need nor ever receive.

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The Mt. Juliet Police Honor Guard presented the Nation’s Colors and represented the City at the Nashville Sounds game Sunday. | Photo courtesy of MJPD

Staff Reports

Wilson County Schools will host its first day of Voluntary Pre-K registration for the 2019-2020 school year on April 2 at all elementary schools. The hours will be during the regular school day.

Parents may go to any of the elementary schools in the county to register. They do not need to register at more than one school. Class placement will take place at the county Voluntary Pre-K office. Children must be age 4 on or before Aug. 15, 2019, to be considered for Voluntary Pre-K placement.

WCS will be hosting two Round-Ups this year. The first will be at Charlie Daniel’s Park in Mt. Juliet on April 12, 2019 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. They will be doing vision, hearing, speech, language, and developmental screenings for any child aged 3-5.

The second Round-Up will be held at the fairgrounds in Lebanon on April 24 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. They will be doing vision, hearing, speech, language, and developmental screenings for any child aged 3-5.

The Round-Up events are free and any child who has registered or would like to register for the Wilson County Voluntary Pre-K program is highly encouraged to attend.

There is also one week left to register online for kindergarten registration. In order to register your child for kindergarten, they must be turning 5 on or before Aug. 15, 2019. To begin the process, visit wcps.org.

City Manager Kenny Martin said that though this is not a city matter, it is a human matter so the city is doing what it can to help the homeowners. He and Vice Mayor James Maness will meet with a group of engineers this week to determine what it will take to correct the issue and move forward.

Martin said the erosion started four years ago and has slowly worsened, based on city visits in April 2018 and March 2019.

The city reached out to the impacted homeowners in the area to host a meeting to discuss possible solutions, and a follow-up meeting will be held in April.

Registration open for kindergarten, Pre-K

From YARD, PAGE 1

City Manager Kenny Martin said that though
Sullins joins Wilson Bank and Trust

Staff Reports

Veteran financial services strategist and Lebanon native Greg Sullins has joined Wilson Bank & Trust as a senior vice president, bank officials announced recently. Sullins, who had worked with WB&T in an outside consulting role over the past year, will oversee initiatives related to strategy, quality and productivity in his new full-time role at the bank.

After beginning his banking career in Lebanon as a management associate at Commerce Union (now Bank of America), Sullins traveled the nation serving in executive leadership positions in the financial industry for more than 32 years. He's provided strategy consulting to most of the nation's top 20 banks, in roles that have included CEO/president at Financial Service Solutions, LLC, and executive director of IBM Lender Business Process Services, Inc., a subsidiary that he helped form. He has also operated his own consulting firm, The Sullins Group, since 2005.

A certified Six Sigma Black Belt in process design and business reengineering, Sullins is an alumnus of Lebanon High School, Cumberland College (now Cumberland University), Austin Peay State University and the Graduate School of Banking at the University of Delaware.

“Greg's unique expertise has already helped us move forward with some initiatives that are important to our future, and we've appreciated his willingness to embrace the WB&T culture and our core values even before he joined the team,” Wilson Bank President John McDearman said. “We're excited about Greg’s ability to help us provide the best possible products and experiences for our customers, and to be innovative and efficient in our processes.”

Also a classic car enthusiast, Sullins owned a collector car dealership in Monroe, North Carolina, and helped one of his sons acquire an auto accessory and customization business in Charlotte, North Carolina.

Sullins and his wife Karol live in Lebanon and have three grown children, Blake, Amber and Michael, and two grandchildren, Brandon and Bradley.

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“Greg's unique expertise has already helped us move forward with some initiatives that are important to our future, and we've appreciated his willingness to embrace the WB&T culture and our core values even before he joined the team,” Wilson Bank President John McDearman said. “We're excited about Greg’s ability to help us provide the best possible products and experiences for our customers, and to be innovative and efficient in our processes.”

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Teen crashes into pole, arrested

**Staff Reports**

A 17-year-old male from Nashville was apprehended March 22 after crashing a stolen car from Nashville into a utility pole while attempting to speed away from an officer on Lebanon Road near Nonaville Road. According to Mt. Juliet Police, the juvenile pleaded guilty to Felony Evading, Reckless Endangerment, and Theft Over $1,000 (stolen car possession) in court. He was immediately transferred to an unnamed, secure juvenile facility.

The Hermitage celebrates Andrew Jackson’s birthday

**Staff Reports**

On Friday, March 15, 2019, Andrew Jackson’s The Hermitage celebrated Andrew Jackson’s 252nd birthday including a wreath-laying ceremony at Jackson’s tomb and a two-day War of 1812 military encampment of the grounds of the home of the nation’s 7th president.

The wreath laying was led by Master of Ceremonies Bob McDonald, president and CEO of CedarStone Bank, who serves as regent of The Andrew Jackson Foundation.

“All the events were very educational, interesting and enjoyable,” said McDonald. “The wreath laying ceremony is always special as we remember Andrew Jackson and his contributions to our great nation and state.”

Keynote speakers Maj. Gen. Jeffrey H. Holmes and Judge Andrew Jackson VI assisted with the wreath-laying ceremony at Jackson’s tomb. Jackson VI pointed out Andrew Jackson’s long list of credentials of being a lawyer, judge, working in the District Attorney’s office, being a congressman, senator, governor, general and finally the 7th President of the United States.

Joking that he is a lawyer, has worked in the District Attorney’s office, and is now a sitting judge, Jackson VI has three of his late relative’s titles under his belt with only five left to go. McDonald quipped that they have faith he can accomplish the next five, but has a lot of work left to do.

The event was an informative reminder of Andrew Jackson and his family’s great contributions to Tennessee and the United States.

From FIREWORKS, PAGE 1

the event, said in a Facebook post on Monday. “Thank you to everyone who attended for the past 30 years and made it a very important part of our great city’s heritage. We will miss this tradition greatly and all the smiling faces that it created. Thanks for all the memories!”

City Manager Kenny Martin said he understands and respects the community’s disappointment as he has also enjoyed the fireworks display. However, the city can no longer conduct the show at its previous location by Academy Sports and Outdoors because of the new At Home store being constructed.

Though the fireworks show has moved location throughout the years, the growing community has made it difficult to find an appropriate site to allow for safety, parking, visibility, logistics, and more, Martin said. The decision to cancel the event was not made lightly.

“I know this is disappointing, but we unfortunately no longer have an adequate site to conduct the show,” said Martin. “Like many communities who have been faced with the same or similar challenges, we will now focus on conducting an alternative celebration.”

Martin said the city is researching possibilities for a Fourth of July/Independence Day celebration, such as a parade, face painting, and patriotic activities in the park.

PET OF THE WEEK

Jinx is a 2-year-old husky mix. She loves to spend her time exploring the outdoors. She is a very sweet and quiet girl, which is unusual for a husky. She walks great on a leash and is learning several commands, such as ‘sit, stay, with me, and down.’ Jinx does have one small problem...she will jump fences and open doors. Jinx needs a person that is very familiar with the husky breed and has the time to put into her. She gets bored easily. If you are looking for your next best friend... Jinx is spayed, up to date on age appropriate vaccines, de-wormed, and on flea/tick prevention.

Please call the shelter at 615-773-5533 to schedule an appointment to meet Jinx, or come during open hours.

OPEN HOURS: Tues–Thurs from 11:30-5:30
Mt. Juliet Animal Care & Control
115 Industrial Drive, Mt. Juliet, TN 37122
Vincion joins First Freedom Bank

Staff Reports

Kathleen Vincion has joined First Freedom Bank as a Financial Services Representative, announced Kenny Beavers, senior vice president and director of retail banking.

“We are very pleased to have Kathleen as the newest member at the Mt. Juliet office,” said Beavers. “Kathleen provides excellent customer service and greets everyone with a warm smile and a friendly hello.”

Prior to joining First Freedom, Vincion spent a year employed with a local catering company. She is a 2017 graduate of Wilson Central High School.

Vincion continues to live in her hometown of Gladeville and is a member of the Fellowship Baptist Church.

First Freedom Bank, headquartered in Wilson County, was established in 2006. A full service, community bank, First Freedom Bank offers personal and commercial banking services from six locations in Wilson, Putnam and Jackson Counties, and has approximately 70 employees.

First Freedom Bank has assets in excess of $475 million and is owned by more than 1,100 shareholders throughout Middle Tennessee.

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

From TOY, PAGE 1

coaching.

She knew she wanted to teach history or geography because she had some great history teachers growing up that influenced her. Going through school, she was best at those subjects because that’s what she was interested in.

Her favorite historical subject is U.S. History and World War II, though she doesn’t currently teach it. She also enjoys teaching the renaissance period, which her students also enjoy.

Gribble said that many students don’t like learning history because they don’t understand how it directly affects them.

“It’s fun to teach this material in a way that makes them [understand],” she said. “They always think it’s so disconnected when really it influences probably everything they do.”

One way she engages her students is by having them learn about how the country’s democratic institutions were founded. They also learn how many aspects of their daily life were influenced by events from the past, such as Martin Luther paving the way for them to go to church.

Relationships mean everything to Gribble and are the driving force behind everything she does, which is why the people she works with make MJMS special.

“We are a literal family, a lot of us have been together for years,” she said. “We can depend on each other, rely on each other.”

Her relationship with her students are also important to her, and she knows that she won’t reach her students if she doesn’t establish that.

It means everything to her that her colleagues chose her to represent MJMS. She said she works hard every day is grateful to be recognized. She was also shocked to be chosen by her colleagues because there are so many great teachers at the school.

“At the end of the day, and whenever this career ends for me, my hope is that I have influenced as many people as I can in a positive way,” said Gribble.

Kathleen Vincion has joined First Freedom Bank.

From TOY, PAGE 1

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**AUCTION**

**BUSINESS SERVICE**

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Childhood memories

By Becky Andrews  
Wilson Living Magazine

I met Gina in first grade. She had blonde hair, blue eyes, and a laugh that made me and anyone else in ear-shot laugh too. She also colored inside the lines — a skill that took me years to master.

I met Suanne in high school. She had dark brown hair, blue eyes, and the kindest spirit. She was quiet, smart and observant.

I’m sure she colored inside the lines too, but that’s not something that came up in high school very often.

I love seeing these girls. Although I should probably refer to them as women now that we are in our 40s. Anywho, life is busy, so it’s rare that we get a chance to sit down and chat. But the stars aligned on a Tuesday in March and we all found ourselves eating dinner at a local restaurant.

We caught up first. The jobs, the kids, the stuff of life. Eventually, the conversation turned to childhood and how the experiences of childhood can shape us for the rest of our lives. Pretty deep, huh?

The three of us experienced plenty of happy moments growing up, but the unhappy moments were easier to recall. It wasn’t long before we started talking about some of the people who were responsible for the not so pleasant memories.

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Once upon a time, I thought the best way to keep track of the misdeeds of others was by using a permanent marker and paper. That’s a complete waste of time. I don’t need a permanent marker. Some names will NEVER be forgotten.

I wish I could remember anything as well as I can remember the guy that called me fat all through 6th and 7th grade. I probably would have been a much better student and wouldn’t have started dieting at 12. Thanks for that Darryl, you twit!

Or what about the guy in our high school sociology class who didn’t just laugh when he noticed my zipper wasn’t zipped, but he brought it to everyone’s attention. For the rest of the school year, he and his friends called me “Zipper Up” every time I entered the classroom. I won’t mention his name. (You’re so not worth it, Mike!)

We talked and talked about the people who made life unfun because they made fun. It didn’t matter what they were making fun of, it left a mark. We can cover that mark, so it’s invisible to the naked eye. But all it takes is one look or word to reveal the sometimes long forgotten insecurity that’s been there all along. We are suddenly back in junior high, scanning the lunchroom for the familiar faces who don’t care that you’re weird and praying that the cool kids won’t notice — then laugh at — the insecurity your 11-year-old frame carries daily.

We wondered what some of those people were up to. We wondered if they were still mean. Probably. We wondered if they even knew they made such a lasting impression. Probably not. We wondered if we should order dessert. I’m kidding. I was the only one thinking about dessert. (Did you hear that Darryl? Dessert!)

Then in the middle of all this reminiscing, Gina shook her head and said, “I don’t know. We have no idea what they were going through. They were kids like us and they were probably being bullied too. We just didn’t see it.” She was right. Sometimes you need to move on and forgive everyone except for Darryl and Mike. (Baby steps.)

At the end of the dinner, we hadn’t solved the world’s problems. We did however agree that no matter how embarrassing, painful, or awkward childhood can be, it’s all worth it to meet the people who become cherished friends.

“Mike and Darryl’s names have been changed to protect their identity. Just don’t be a Darryl or Mike.

Comments? Email becky@wilsonlivingmagazine.com
Sherry’s Run provides colon cancer screening test kits

March is Colon Cancer Awareness Month. Colon cancer screening is very important to the Sherry’s Run organization because of the battle Sherry Whitaker, the namesake of Sherry’s Run, faced with the deadly disease.

Sherry was a 44-year-old wife and mother of two young boys when she died from colon cancer. She did not have a history of colon cancer in her family and she was under the age for typical recommended screenings.

Colorectal cancer is one of the deadliest, but also one of the most treatable cancers from developing. “The problem is that most patients have no symptoms in the early stages,” said Dr. Jocelyne Miller with Associates in Gastroenterology in Lebanon. “When colon cancer is found in the early stages, most patients can be cured. Routine screening can find these early stage, curable cancers and may even prevent some colon cancers from developing.”

Because of Sherry’s battle with colon cancer, the Sherry’s Run organization provides free colon cancer screening test kits. To order a test kit, just call or text the Sherry’s Run office at 615-925-2592 or email sherrysrun@gmail.com. Provide your name, address and the number of kits you would like to receive and they will send them to you.

“Today screening test kits available from the Sherry’s Run organization take just a few minutes and could save your life,” said Dr. Brendan O’Hare with Saint Thomas Medical Partners-Gastroenterology in Lebanon. “The screening test kit doesn’t take the place of a colonoscopy, but it is one of the tests available to help detect colon cancer.”

“The most important thing to remember is some screening is better than none,” said Dr. Mark Miller with Gastrointestinal Health in Lebanon. “There are so many options for screening that there really isn’t an excuse not to be screened for colon cancer. Forty percent of colon cancer patients have a family history, but that leaves 60 percent of patients that have no family history. Screening is just so important for everyone.”

Rates of new colorectal cancer cases and deaths among adults aged 50 and older are decreasing in the United States due to an increase in screenings and changes in some risk factors, according to the National Cancer Institute. However, the incidence of colorectal cancer is increasing among younger adults.

According to the National Cancer Institute, based on current U.S. trends, researchers predict that by 2030 colon cancer incidence rates will increase by 90 percent for people ages 20-34 and by 28 percent for people aged 35-49.

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.

LOCAL RESTAURANT & DINING GUIDE - BURGERIM

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Deliveries are made in Providence as well as Mt. Juliet. Always check for daily specials.

Burgerim, Mt. Juliet is proudly owned and operated by William Caraway, who grew up in Mt. Juliet and is still an active member of our community, his wife Carla and their two sons Tyler and Austin.

Burgerim’s Menu offers 11 different types of patties, such as Beef, Dry Aged Beef, Wagyu, Lamb, Turkey, Salmon, Merguez, Spanish Beef, Chicken Breast, Veggie, and Falafel. The menu also includes excellent Chicken Wings, Sweet Potato Fries and Onion Rings. All food is prepared fresh daily and cooked to order.

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Upper Cumberland Wine Festival held in April

Staff Reports

The Upper Cumberland Wine Trail wineries will hold its 2019 Upper Cumberland Wine Festival on April 13, from 12-5 p.m. at the Pioneer Village in Historic Granville.

The UC Wine Trail wineries come together only once or twice a year for a tasting festival. Wines will be available for purchase during the event. Wine Festival tickets are $15 available in advance online at www.uppercumberlandwinetrail.com.

This year, they added special group tickets for five or more at $12 per person. On the day of the festival, tickets are $20 per person at the gate.

Until Friday, April 12 close of business, advance tickets are also available at Sutton Store, Cellar S3, DelMonaco, Northfield and Chestnut Hill wineries. Photo ID is required for entry — no exceptions. Tickets are non-refundable. The event will take place rain or shine. No coolers or outside food and drinks are allowed.

The festival ticket will include a souvenir wine glass and coupon for 10 percent off purchases at Sutton General Store, Granville Gifts, and Granville Antiques and Gifts.

The Upper Cumberland Wine Trail wineries at the festival include Brush Creek’s Cellar S3, Crossville’s Chestnut Hill, Baxter’s DelMonaco, Jamestown’s Highland Manor, Livingston’s Holly Ridge, Sparta’s Northfield Vineyards, and Cookeville’s new Paris Winery.

This is a day the whole family can enjoy. Those participating in the wine tasting must be 21 years or older. Visit the Upper Cumberland Wine Trail’s website or Facebook site for updates.

The festival will coincide with the launch of Historic Granville’s 2019 Summer Season, presenting special exhibits at the Homestead and Museum with the 1960s Mayberry Decade. Granville’s Genealogy Festival will feature the Carver and Fox families.

Guests will have the opportunity to step back into time as they stroll through Historic Granville to visit the Antique Car Show, Sutton Homestead, General Store and Granville Museum. Several gift and antiques stores will be open for some shopping.

Granville is nestled on the banks of the Cumberland River. This peaceful sleepy town comes alive for the yearly festivals. It’s a perfect day to dress in ‘60s attire with friends, or plan a group ride to Granville. Group discounts are available for the Wine Fest.

Visitors can also plan to stay for dinner and a show as a special Blue Grass Dinner Show featuring the Bilbrey’s is scheduled at the Sutton General Store. The dinner will offer attendees their famous family-style southern cooking. Dinner is served at 5 p.m.

The 11th Anniversary of Sutton Ole Time Music Hour and Radio show begins at 6 p.m. Make reservations at 931-653-4151 as this will be a sold out show.

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