**Officers disarm student holding knife**

**Staff Reports**

Around 8:26 a.m. Thursday, officers responded to Mt. Juliet Middle School after receiving a report of a student, experiencing an emotional crisis, standing in a school counselor’s office and holding a steak-style knife. Officers arrived and assisted a Wilson County

See KNIFE, PAGE 3

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**Mt. Juliet police seek fraudulent check suspect**

**Staff Reports**

Detectives are hoping someone will recognize a man who cashed a fraudulent check on April 11, 2019, at the Bank of Tennessee, at 1982 Providence Parkway. Detectives determined that the check was likely duplicated from an original check that was previously cashed. It is also possible that the suspect resides in or frequents the East Tennessee area.

If anyone has a feeling that they possibly know the suspect responsible for this crime, they are encouraged to call the Mt. Juliet Police Department at (615) 754-2550.

Information can also be given anonymously by calling (615) 734-TIPS (8477) or via the Mt. Juliet Police Department website at http://www.mjpd.org/.

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**Wright presented with annual honor**

**Staff Reports**

Wilson County Director of Schools Donna Wright was recently named Superintendent of the Year for 2019 by the Mid-Cumberland Region of the Tennessee Organization of School Superintendents.

The Mid-Cumberland Region represents 16 school districts including Clarksville-Montgomery County, Cheatham County, Dickson County, Franklin Special School District, Houston County, Humphreys County, Lebanon Special School District, Metro-Nashville Public Schools, Murfreesboro City Schools, Rutherford County, Robertson County, Sumner County, Stewart County, the Tennessee School for the Blind, Williamson County and Wilson County.

Dickson County Director

See WRIGHT, PAGE 9
Granville to host Heritage Day Festival

Staff Reports

Historic Granville’s 21st Granville Heritage Day will be held May 25 with the theme “Solid Gold Memories: White Walls and Fender Skirts.” Heritage Day has become one of Tennessee’s largest festivals and offers events for everyone.

One the most popular events of the day is the Antique Car Show which has become one of Tennessee’s largest with 58 classes of competition. The show will occur on the banks of Cordell Hull Lake.

The show each year honors an antique car person who has given greatly to the antique car business. This year’s show will honor James and Becky Raines of Cookeville who have been leaders of antique car shows in the Upper Cumberland for many years. They will have their collection on display and will be honored at the 3:30 p.m. awards ceremony.

Trophies will be given in each category with special awards as follows: Best of Show Production, Best Falcon Award, Best 1960s Car, Best 1960s Truck, Best of Show Modified, Granville Choice, Furthest Driven and Best Corvette in Memory of Sue McGee.

The show will also honor the late Odell Braswell of Granville. Each participant will receive a dash plaque when entering the show.

Granville Heritage Day will also feature an Antique Tractor and Engine Show. The show will have special awards for Oldest, Longest Driven, Oldest Exhibitor, Most Unique, Ugliest, Youngest Exhibitor, Brandon Powell John Deere Award, Johnny Mitchell Farmall Award and Highest Club Participation.

A parade will be held at 2 p.m. featuring antique tractors and antique cars. Granville is celebrating Memories of the 1960s during 2019 with the town decorated in a grand fashion for decade.

Heritage Day will also feature the Uncle Jimmy Thompson Bluegrass Festival with a Fiddle Competition, Old Time Craftsmen, Craft Booths, food, children rides, petting zoo, ventriloquist, magician, historic boat rides, tours of historic home featuring “Memories of the 1960s: They Never Go Away,” Granville Museum 20th Anniversary Celebration featuring “Memories of the 1960s”, Sutton Ole Time Music Hour Dinner Show and much more.

Granville will hold an Antique Car Show May 25 at its 21st Annual Heritage Day Festival. Awards will be given for multiple categories. | Photo submitted

“Maybe I just need to sit down?”

Not all signs of an emergency are obvious. Ongoing symptom like migraines, confusion and feeling dizzy could be an emergency in disguise. Thankfully, the ER at TriStar Summit and TriStar Mt. Juliet ER are here to help. With dedicated emergency experts and faster wait times, you can trust us for even better care. We’re here 24/7 to help you through any emergency — even the tricky ones.

Text ER to 32222 for average wait times at a TriStar ER near you.
COMMUNITY CALENDAR

MAY 18
Free Groceries
Free groceries this Saturday, May 18, at 3 p.m. in the parking lot of Life Church, located at 3688 Highway 109, Lebanon. This is open to everyone, and groceries will be given away as long as they last.

MAY 20
LHS Graduation
Lebanon High School graduation will be held May 20, 2019, at 7 p.m. at MTSU Murphy Center.

MAY 21
Lions Club
Mt. Juliet/West Wilson Lions Club Meeting at Courtney’s Restaurant at 4066 N. Mt. Juliet Rd., every first and third Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m. For more information, contact President Ken Thomas 615-470-5252.

MAY 21
MJHS Graduation
Mt. Juliet High School graduation will be held May 21, 2019, at 7 p.m. at MTSU Murphy Center.

MAY 21
Free Fitness Class
Free Fitness Class every Tuesday evening 6:30 p.m. at Life Church in the youth center. Life Church is located at 3688 Highway 109, Lebanon, TN. Right across the street from The Dollar General Store. This is a great class for all ages and all fitness levels. For more information you can email info@LifeChurchFamily.com

MAY 23
Watertown Graduation
Watertown High School graduation will be held May 23, 2019, at 6:30 p.m. at the Watertown High campus.

MAY 25
WCCHS Graduation
Wilson Central High School graduation will be held May 25, 2019, at 3 p.m. at MTSU Murphy Center.

Mt. Juliet Tennis recently competed in and won their regional match. They will host Brentwood in the sectional match at 3:30 p.m. Friday at MJHS. If the team wins, they will go on to the state match May 20. Pictured are Mike Hurley, Josh Wiggins, Luke Perricone, Pierce Smith, Dillon Smith, Evan Gamble, Ryan Ruesewald, and Mackenzie Underwood. | Photo submitted

From KNIFE, PAGE 1

Sheriff’s School Resource Officer in disarming the student, which was successful without any use of force.

No one was harmed during the incident, and no students were placed in any danger while the event was occurring. Wilson County Schools notified parents, and the student will be receiving necessary care.

Lt. Scott Moore with the Wilson County Sheriff’s Office released a statement on Friday addressing concerns and online rumors about a gun being found at the school.

“We can assure you that no credible threat has been made towards the school or any specific individuals,” Moore said. “There were extra School Resource Officers placed at the school [Friday] as a precaution due to rumors that were circulating around social media.”

Moore also encouraged anyone who does hear of a credible threat to contact the Sheriff’s Office and to not seek answers via social media.

According to Lauren Bush, deputy director of policy and student services for Wilson County Schools, details related to the incident are confidential under federal and state law and are therefore not immediately available to the public.

Lt. Scott Moore with the Wilson County Sheriff’s Office.
I am concerned about my daughter’s teeth but she is only 6 years old, when should I take her to see an orthodontist?

Great question! Many parents are unsure of the right time to see an orthodontist. The good news is that if you ever have a concern, please call the office and we would be happy to see your daughter and assess what is going on with her teeth and jaw development. The American Association of Orthodontists recommends that all children be seen by an orthodontist no later than age 7. No referral is needed by your general dentist. Please call anytime and get some peace of mind about your daughter’s smile!

What is cold laser therapy and what is it good at treating?

Laser therapy is the use of specific wavelengths of light (red and near-infrared) to create therapeutic effects. These include improved healing time, pain reduction, increased circulation and reduced swelling. During each painless treatment laser energy increases circulation, drawing water, oxygen and nutrients to the damaged area. At our clinic, I combine it with adjustments, decompression or if needed stem cell injections. This combination of therapeutic modalities have been found to be very helpful in treating our patients. There have been hundreds of rigorously controlled scientific studies that document this fact. With the opioid epidemic society is facing, laser therapy should be one of the first modalities sought out when having neck, low back, knee or shoulder pain.

What is the most important secret to an enjoyable season with my pool?

Water chemistry, water chemistry, water chemistry! Take advantage of free water testing and quality chemicals from your local pool store. There is a great difference between wholesale chemicals and retail chemicals. Some are cheap for a reason. Ask your water specialist to explain the difference. Take 10 or 15 minutes with your pool each day and you will be pleasantly surprised at the ease of care.

As always, feel free to email us your questions for a personal response! Send those to davidwcowan@poolkrafters.com
Robert Dedman passed away at home, surrounded by his devoted wife and daughters, on May 9, 2019, at age 85. He was elected as Wilson County Mayor in 1998 and served the county in that capacity until his final retirement in 2010. A funeral service was held May 13 at Sellars Funeral Home in Lebanon, and interment followed at Cedar Grove Cemetery.

Robert is survived by his wife of 59 years, Fayre Tribble Dedman; daughters Robbie Dedman Farmer and Karen Dedman; granddaughters Lacey (Mike) Acuff and Lindsay (Micah) Williams; great-grandsons Nolan and Adam Acuff and Cayden and Brody Williams; and special family member Jeannette Muirhead. He is preceded in death by his parents Dewey Frances and Maggie Marie Graves Dedman.

The family extends their deepest gratitude to Robert’s caregivers, Jeffrey Napier and Amber Thomas, and the hospice team. Please make Memorial Donations to The Wilson County Veterans Museum (304 E. Main St, Lebanon TN 37087, 615-444-2460) and/or The American Cancer Society’s Relay for Life of Wilson County (www. Relayforlife. org/wilsontn).

Sellars Funeral Home, Lebanon TN, 615.444.9393.

DOAK, Katherine Susan

Katherine Susan Doak, age 47 of Mt. Juliet, died May 3, 2019. Ms. Doak was preceded in death by her father, Henry Lawrence Doak.

She is survived by: Daughter – Hannah Smithson and her fiancé, Jacob Beadles; Mother – Gayle Doak; Sister – Bonnie (Kevin) Barnes; Niece and Nephew – Michael and Katie Barnes; Aunts – Beverly Youree, Carol Nepton and Cyndee Youree; Cousins – Greg and Doug Youree.

Friends and family will gather for a Celebration of Life service from 2-4 p.m. Saturday, May 18, at Bond Memorial Chapel. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the funeral home to go toward the funeral expenses.


HALE, Gene Edwin

Gene Edwin Hale passed away away May 11. He was preceded in death by his parents, Thomas Fletcher Hale and Cora Lee Hale, and the love of his life, his wife, Elizabeth Jane Hale.

Gene is survived by his children, David (LaNah), James Michael (Made- lon) and Amy Beth Hale; grandchildren, Gary (Gem- ma) Hale, Caleb (Lauren) Hale, Lucas (Laura) Hale, and Dominic DelPratte; great-grandchildren James Connor Hale, Braxton Hale and Cora Jean Hale, and extended family member Judy O’Gorman.

His family will be receiving friends Thursday, May 16, from 4-8 p.m. and Friday, May 17, from 10 a.m. until the service at Sellars Funeral Home in Lebanon. The funeral service will be held 11 a.m. in the chapel of Sellars Funeral Home. A second visitation will be held at Hunters Funeral Home in Sparta, Tennessee, at 2:30 p.m. Interment will be at Highland Cemetery in Sparta following visitation at Hunters Funeral Home.

MALONE, Judith Anne

Judith Anne “Judy” Malone, age 79 of Mt. Juliet, died May 8, 2019. Mrs. Malone was the daughter of the late E. Harley and Garnett Smith Roach. She was also preceded in death by her brother, J.B. Malone.


A funeral service was held May 13 at Bond Memorial Chapel, and interment followed at Salem Cemetery in Liberty, Tennessee.

Flowers accepted or memorials may be made to Huntington’s Chorea Foundation, PO Box 912, Salado, TX 76571; ALS Foundation, Tennessee Chapter, 4300 Sidco Drive, #200, Nashville, TN 37204 or the Pregnancy Care Center, 4998 Leba- non Road, Old Hickory, TN 37138.
Following closely or at a distance?

Are you following Jesus Christ closely, or are you following at a distance? There is a certain home improvement store that I used to avoid (they have actually improved), because it seemed the workers would walk by you with their hand up as a blinder so they wouldn’t have to acknowledge you, just in case you actually needed help. Sometimes, I think we are guilty of doing that with the Lord. We are following Him (I suppose), but we have our blinders on, so He can’t ask anything of us we don’t want to do or be. If we are not giving Him all we might as well not give Him anything.

In Matthew 26:58 we find an interesting statement about Matthew’s fellow disciple. “Peter was following Him at a distance…” The Message paraphrase renders it “Peter followed at a safe distance…” I think it is possible that we take the position of following at a distance because it is safe. In Peter’s case, he was far enough removed from the immediate company of the Lord to avoid what he perceived as danger — and yet close enough to still see. Are we guilty of wanting to see what Jesus is doing, but not willing to be a part of what He is doing?

What are some things that distract us away from following Jesus closely, instead of at a distance? Materialism should move to the top of the list. We are deceived if we define our relationship with God by the material. We look at our checkbook balances, but we are deceived if we define our relationship with God by the material. We look at our checkbook balances, but we are deceived if we define our relationship with God by the material.

What about the idea of “near” versus “far”? How do we judge what we have at a distance? Materialism says, “I have more, so I’m closer.” The Message says, “I’m safe.” Are we guilty of wanting to see what Jesus is doing, but not willing to be a part of what He is doing?

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I wanted to take a moment and thank our wonderful men and women serving our great country. Every corner I turn, every meal I eat, and every liberty I have makes me even more thankful of how truly blessed I am. At times I feel selfish and spoiled at the many freedoms I have.

For example, I got up this morning with the comforts of an alarm clock after having a great night’s sleep in a warm and comfortable bed. I had many options when I awoke. I could shave, shower, eat, or do just about anything I wanted to do, unlike the soldiers I see on television sleeping on cots for 10 minutes at a time, if at all. They are working around the clock with very little sleep or rest for the sake of our great country and each and every one of us. They can’t get up in the in the middle of the night and run down to the local Mickey D’s for a burger, fries and a shake. They don’t have cable television, microwave popcorn and big screen televisions; but what they do have is courage, dignity, passion, faith, resolve, dedication and patriotism. Our fine soldiers are being exposed to things that will greatly affect and impact the rest of their lives. These wonderful soldiers/heroes took it upon themselves to enter the Armed Forces knowing full well what could be asked and expected of them if war or conflict should arise. Simply put, they are modern day superheroes that put country before self.

How truly, truly, truly awe-some.

So please join me with your thoughts, prayers and thanks for our great military forces and their families. Our men and women in uniform are an inspiration and are heroes. They are indeed focused on their mission and motivated by a great love for their country and fellow citizens and are prepared, if necessary, to make the ultimate sacrifice. Are they my heroes? You better believe it!

And to all those who served before them, thank you so very much for serving our great country. If not for your service and sacrifices, we wouldn’t be able to enjoy the many freedoms that we have today. Your sacrifices are far too many to mention, much less imagine, but a simple stroll down any street or jaunt across our wonderful country makes me even prouder of our veterans and the freedoms we have because of them. I could spend a lifetime praising and thanking our veterans and never come close to truly honoring what you have done for me, my family and our great country.

In closing, God bless our courageous soldiers, our veterans, their families, our city and America!

www.tcomj.com
Braingineers Lab recently opened its doors in Mt. Juliet, providing an after school option for students to focus on and learn more about science, technology, engineering, art, and mathematics (STEAM).

Founder and director Betty Rodriguez decided to open Braingineers Lab because of her passion for teaching technology. She has a degree in computer science engineering and was previously an educational assistant at Stoner Creek Elementary School.

Having experience working in a public school environment, she saw that there was a big need for more STEAM programs. She said that though public schools are doing as much as they can, they are still limited in the programs they can provide.

According to Braingineers, STEAM learning helps children’s ability to think more broadly about real world problems and figure out solutions.

Rodriguez also wants them to know it is OK to make mistakes. Through trial and error, they can fail at something but think through new ways to fix the problem. She said she loves to see the students thinking and see that their brains are working through solutions.

Rodriguez said she wants every child to have a chance, but she especially wants young girls to realize their capability and that they also have a space in STEAM.

“IT'S THAT TIME OF YEAR!

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See STEAM, PAGE 9

3D Modeling and Printing workshop allows children to develop unique designs and bring them to life with a 3D printer. A Spanish Immersion workshop allows them to have fun with games and hands-on activities while learning a new language.

Workshops rotate every nine weeks, allowing children to learn about many subjects and develop different skills.

“Our workshops of course give you skills,” said Rodriguez, “but we believe the longer you’re exposed to this, the longer the skills are going to stay with you.”

The after school program includes transportation to Braingineers,
**BSA Troop 911 helps Mt. Juliet Senior Activity Center**

Pictured (in no particular order): ScoutMaster Carlton Kinslow; Scouts Andrew D’Angelo, Gauge Taylor, A. J. Roberts, Patrick McClanahan, Fred Cooper; Committee Member Brian McClanahan, Danny Cooper, Garden Committee Members Lynn Mouvery and Al Blem. | Photo submitted

**Staff Reports**

On Saturday, May 11, members of Boy Scout Troop 911 met at the Mt. Juliet Senior Activity Center to help the Center’s volunteer garden committee clean up and prepare the Senior Serenity Park for spring planting and summer use.

In a short amount of time, many weeds were pulled, a tree was cut down, and the fountain, benches and walkways were power-washed. The Mt. Juliet Senior Activity Center officials thank BSA troop 911 and their families for their hard work.

The next step in the Center’s project, planting flowers and herbs, will be assisted by Needham’s Nursery, which is donating plants and bags of soil for the Center’s use.

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From **STEAM, PAGE 8**

snacks, a one-hour workshop every day, homework help and lab time.

Because each day has a different workshop focus, parents can choose which program suits their children best, from anywhere between two days or five days a week.

Brainigneers is also offering STEAM summer camps for children who have completed kindergarten through sixth grade. The camps will be Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

There will be four summer camp sessions: Circuits and Maker’s Camp, June 10-14; Crazy Science Lab Camp, June 17-21; Mission Space Camp, July 8-12; and Animation and 3D Printing Camp, July 15-19.

Brainigneers Lab is located at 1762 N. Mt. Juliet Road. To learn more about the programs offered or to register for summer camps, visit www.brainigneerslab.com.

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From **WRIGHT, PAGE 1**

of Schools Danny Weeks said the group selected Wright because of her strong leadership of their organization over the past year.

“Dr. Wright has served as a wonderful mentor to all of the Mid-Cumberland Superintendents, especially her service as our legislative contact this year,” said Weeks. “We appreciate her exhaustive efforts, along with her passion for public education.”

As a regional winner, Wright will automatically be one of the nominees for State Superintendent of the Year, which will be announced at the annual TOSS Conference in September.
Traffic stops lead to arrests

**Staff Reports**

Mt. Juliet officers arrested three individuals over the weekend for various drug offenses.

A traffic stop May 11 for a registered plate violation led to the arrest of 31-year-old Johnnie Davis of Christiana. Cpl. Burton found methamphetamine that was bagged for resale, drug paraphernalia, and two handguns. He was also driving on a revoked drivers license.

A traffic stop May 12 for an inoperable tail light around 3 a.m. led to the arrest of 54-year-old Terry Pryor of Old Hickory. Officer Stogner found him in possession of crack cocaine, powder cocaine, a schedule IV drug, marijuana, and drug paraphernalia.

Pryor’s 33-year-old Crystal Underwood of Hermitage, was arrested for criminal impersonation and probation violation warrant.

Proclamation brings mental health awareness

**Staff Reports**

Wilson County Mayor Randall Hutto proclaimed Thursday, May 9, 2019, as Children’s Mental Health Awareness Day in Wilson County. Mayor Hutto was joined by Tennessee Voices for Children representatives Marissa Pollard and Brain Taylor.

Each year, as part of the Children’s Mental Health Awareness Week activities, proclamations are obtained from mayors across the state of Tennessee to assist with recognizing the National Awareness day (May 9).

Tennessee Voices for Children places a high emphasis on educating the community, assisting children and families with advocacy, and erasing the stigma placed on mental health and co-occurring disorders. The proclamation assists in Tennessee Voices for Children’s efforts to continuously bring about change to children’s mental health.

“Wilson County became involved in this activity last year when we signed our first proclamation and I was honored to sign another proclamation this year,” said Hutto. “It’s important that we recognize the need for mental health awareness, especially in children, and do what we can to provide help to those in need. I’m humbled to be just a small part of the effort to bring about awareness and change.”

[GRAND OPENING TOMORROW THROUGH THE WEEKEND](#) (May 16 - May 19)

$1,500 worth of door prizes, including 50” TV

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COMPLIMENTARY ADJUSTMENT

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www.tcomj.com
W.A. Wright receives education grant

$5,000 will provide funding for Wright Robotics

Staff Reports

The Lowe’s Charitable and Educational Foundation has awarded a $5,000 Lowe’s Toolbox for Education grant to W.A. Wright Elementary in Mt. Juliet for their project “Wright Robotics.”

The STEM Teacher at Wright, Leesa Hubbard, was responsible for writing the proposal for the grant. This is the first year for Wright to have a STEM class, and she has searched for grants, donations, and other funding to give their program a solid base.

“Robotics is an exciting and natural place to expand our program,” she said.

W.A. Wright is one of 545 schools across the United States to be awarded a Lowe’s Toolbox for Education grant this spring for improvement projects.

Part of the grant funding will be used to purchase Sphero robots. Sphero robots are the perfect platform to help students develop the mindsets that are necessary to compete in a global, technology-rich 21st century economy.

Integrating Sphero into learning activities provides an opportunity to enhance 21st century skills such as creativity, collaboration, critical-thinking, and communication.

Elementary aged students are grasping early concepts of programming while fostering 21st century skills through activities such as replicating the solar system, programming characters in a story, or painting geometric shapes with the robot.

Students are exposed to real world problems and problem based learning scenarios.

The project is scheduled to begin at the start of the 2019-2020 school year.

“The Lowe’s Toolbox for Education program delivers on Lowe’s commitment to improve the educational environment for students across the country,” said Maureen Ausec, chairwoman of the Lowe’s Charitable and Educational Foundation. “We’re honored to work with W.A. Wright to support the needs of our local students, teachers and families.”

Since its inception in 2006, Lowe’s Toolbox for Education has provided nearly $45 million in grants to more than 10,000 schools, benefitting more than 6 million schoolchildren.

Grants are available to K-12 public schools in the United States for a wide range of improvement projects. Schools may be eligible to receive Toolbox grants up to $100,000. Parent groups and educators can apply by visiting ToolboxForEducation.com.

Since 1957, the Lowe’s Charitable and Educational Foundation has helped improve communities across North America through financial contributions and support for employee volunteerism.

Lowe’s has a 50-year legacy of supporting the communities it serves through programs that focus on K-12 public education and community improvement projects. Since 2007, Lowe’s and the Lowe’s Charitable and Educational Foundation together have contributed more than $225 million to these efforts, and for more than two decades Lowe’s Heroes employee volunteers have donated their time to make our communities better places to live.
The Board of Commissioners of the City of Mt. Juliet will have a Public Hearing on Monday, June 10, 2019 at 6:15 p.m. to hear comments on the following item to be considered: Rezone and adopt the Preliminary Master Development Plan for the Schunk Property, located at 10770 Lebanon Road, from Commercial General (CG) to Commercial General Planned Unit Development (CG-PUD) and Multi-Family Residential Planned Unit Development (RM-8PUD), and approve the Preliminary Master Development Plan PUD for Map 054, Parcel 102.03. The public is invited to attend and comment.

Kenny Martin, City Manager
City of Mt. Juliet

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**GARAGE SALE**

**Hermitage Estate Sale 37076 302 Weldon Drive May 16th, 17th & 18th Thursday from 8-4 Friday 8-2. 1900s Wilkinson Bayonet & Scabbard (WW1), Pocket Knives including Cattaragus, Case XX, Schrade, handmade Flint Knife with Antler Handle & 1900s Knives, Vintage Herters Duck & Quail Call in Original Box, Two Vintage Mondial Starter revolvers Piatols, Electric Pressure Chair lift, Whirlpool washer & Dryer, Beautiful Oval Round Table, 2 leaves & six chairs, Drop-leaf table, China Cabinet & matching Server, Corner Cabinet, Sewing Cabinet, Mirrored Curio Cabinet, Roll top Desk and 2 more desks, Childs Piano, Reclinners, Chairs, Rockers, a 2 bedroom suites, including dresser, Chest, Chest on Chest, night stand, Antique Oak Wash Stand & Mirrored dresser, Precious Moments collection, Barbie Doll Collection (brand new in boxes) & more dolls, Vintage Trunks and 4 Cedar Chests, Side Tables, Old Quilts, Lladro Figurines, Fenton, Hobnail, Green Depression Glass, Carnival glass, Milkglass, Pottery & more glassware, Kitchen FULL of pots & pans, dish- es, China, canister sets, Cast iron skillets & more, Large Collection of Pottery items, Outdoor Furniture set, Hanging swing, Flower pots &misc outdoor decor, Brand New Char-Broil Grill, Hunter & Hunter Items of softbound Books (priced to sell)!!, Great collectible and old books, Southern Living Annual Recipes Collection 1979-2004, Lamps, Mirrors, Framed Prints, Vintage Costume Jewelry, Garage & building full of Flowers arrangements and flower decorating misc, Tools & Yard Tools, Record Albums, DVD’s CD’s & more, Singer Sewing machine, Sewing Patterns, Fabric & more Sewing, Toy Collection, Garage & out building Full of MANY SURPRISES!!! For Pictures go to Estatesales.net and my Facebook Call Donna Neely 615.418.1200 https://www.estatesales.net/TN/Hermitage/37076/2217321
### GARAGE SALE

**Echo Valley Neighborhood Yard Sale**
May 17th-18th
8AM-? Great Bargains Do Not Miss. Turn on Grandstaff Ct. Sales on every street.

**ESTATE SALE GALLATIN**
TN. May 17, 8 a.m. - 3 p.m., May 18, 8 a.m. - 3 p.m., 1296 Lock Four Rd. 40 years worth of things. NO EARLY BIRDS

Hendersonville ESTATE SALE - 235 Stadium Dr; Wed-Fri 8am-5pm, Sat 8am-2pm. *Pickers Paradise* 4 garages full of tools. Riding, push mowers, 1992 Dodge van, 2 storage bldg/barns, full basement, LARGE HOME, Cresent furniture, antiques, vintage. Dolls, clocks, radio collections, WWII items, 2 W/D, 2 recliners, old record albums and so on and so on. 615-545-9062. CASH ONLY.

**Big Yard Sale**
May 16-18
8AM-12PM
1900 Woodsong Ct. Sales on Every Street
8AM-?
Great Bargains Do Not Miss. Turn on Grandstaff Ct. Sales on every street.

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**LUMBER**

**Fakes & Hooker Lumber**
615-444-5904
FakesHooker.com

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**CLASSIFIEDS DEADLINE:** MONDAY 1PM | 615-754-6111

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**Mt. Juliet WINE & SPIRITS**

Wine Tastings Every Friday Night from 4pm to 8pm!
11344 Lebanon Rd, Mt. Juliet, TN | 615-288-3496
I think you either have an eye for art or you don’t. If you were to put a Picasso painting next to a Home Goods painting, chances are I’m going to think they look about the same. And if I’m being completely honest, I probably like the Home Goods one the best because it’s a painting of the beach and I do love those!

So when my daughter and I were in New York City last week and she suggested we check out Picasso’s collection at the Museum of Modern Art, I said yes for two reasons. First, it was raining and I was tired of walking around in the rain. Second, I’m an adult and it sounded like a very adult thing to do.

Four floors of hundreds of pieces of art later and I’m pretty sure I was on candid camera. The Museum of Modern Art, or MOMA as the cool kids call it, has millions of dollars worth of art hanging on its walls. But as I walked from room to room, looking at one painting after another, I started to think of the children’s fable, “The Emperor’s New Clothes.”

In one room, there was one large painting on the wall. It had been donated by a wealthy family for all of us to now view. In fact, they built one entire room for this painting because it was such an important piece of art.

People were surrounding it. So I pushed my way to the front and there it was. A square canvas measuring six feet by six feet. It was red! An entire canvas painted red. You know, like I took it out back and spray painted a canvas red, all red. Just red. Then hung it on the wall. And these people were staring at it. Pondering it. Mesmerized by it.

I looked around at the people looking at the painting. What was I missing? I got closer. Yep it was red. Lots of red paint. No beach. No waves. Just red.

Moving on. In the next room, more canvases. Donated from a private collection of yet another wealthy family. These were square too. And these paintings were much like the red one except these had all sorts of splashes of color on them. You know, like I took it out back and shot at it with my paintball gun. And then I donated my collection of paintball art to MOMA, as we artists call it.

Again people surrounded the masterpieces, quietly staring at them. Room after room. Art and people staring at the art. It was quiet. No one was talking, because they were engrossed in studying the art.

And in my head, I wanted to shout out... what are we looking at?? Is this a joke? I don’t get it!! How is this art? And more importantly how is this art worth more than $29.99 because at Home Goods these would definitely be marked down! And then it hit me. We were the art. People staring at what others said was art, was the art.

I looked around for the camera. I told my daughter what I was thinking. That was it! I get art now.

She said no. The paintings are the art. Important art. And you definitely don’t get it!

Defeated, I went to the gift shop and bought a MOMA mug. It was $29.99. It was either that or a book of art.

I’m happy with my mug!
balance and make a determination the presence of God's blessing by the numbers. We look at others who seem to have more and wonder when God is going to bless us. It's the American way of thinking. But we must remember, we are first and foremost citizens of the kingdom of heaven, and only secondarily are we Americans.

To determine our proximity in following Christ, we must ask ourselves the question, do riches and the acquiring of it rule our lives? An honest answer before God is the only thing that will help us to adjust our proximity, assuming it is truly at a distance.

Worry and anxiety will also turn our attention away from following Jesus closely. Anxiety or worrying can be defined as "to divide into separate parts; to be split in factions." This is manifested in that although we are kept in the hands of God our Father, we are sometimes preoccupied with things that cause us anxiety, stress and pressure. As Brother Vernon Simpson used to say, "Anxiety is a mild form of atheism." We can't follow Him closely if we don't trust Him.

Another thing that can cause us to follow Jesus from a distance is when we are afraid to say the "Dangerous Prayer." This is the prayer where we completely surrender our lives to Him and give Him permission to do whatever His will is concerning us or sending us wherever it pleases Him. When we make ourselves entirely available to Him, it can be a scary thing. Most people are afraid to pray the dangerous prayer due to their fear God is going to send them to Africa as a missionary.

Finally, the measure of how closely we are following Christ is our desire to be with Him; our desire to be like Him; and our willingness to follow Him closely always. We should follow the words of Jesus when He said, "Seek the Kingdom of God above all else..." The New Living Translation.

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WILLARD, Michael "Mike"

Mike Willard passed away May 10, 2019, at age 50. The family will be receiving friends at Sellars Funeral Home, Lebanon, on Friday from 5-8 p.m. and Saturday from 1 p.m. until the service. The Funeral Service is 2 p.m. Saturday, May 18, in the chapel of Sellars Funeral Home. Interment in Roselawn Memorial Gardens, Murfreesboro, will follow the service.

Mr. Willard is survived by wife Evelyn Shoemake; daughters: Alisha Tramel and Melissa Pedigo; grandchild: Malachi Wade; siblings: George (Jeanne) Willard Sr., Lori (Alan) Woods, Charles (Lisa) Upton Jr., James Upton, Gayle (Ronnie) Smith, and Larry Upton; nieces: Ruby (Ricky) Gonzalez and Virginia Jones; and nephews: John Jones, George Jones, and Wallace Jones. He is preceded in death by father John F. Willard, mother Ruby J. Lannom, brother Ray Crutchfield, and sister Connie Jones.

Sellars Funeral Home, Lebanon TN, 615.444.9393.
This is an offer to jump on! Open FirstRewards Checking, meet certain requirements, and your balance will jump up with the deposit of our $250 Bonus.* Even better, you'll get perks that are music to your ears, like free checking that pays you interest with no minimum balance to refunded out of network ATMs. Cut fees while you cut yourself in on FirstRewards Checking’s great perks, and nobody will judge if you cut a rug.

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