Abston resigns from city commission

Mt. Juliet District 4 Commissioner Brian Abston announced his resignation on Monday, effective May 24, as he is moving outside his district.

“I have enjoyed working for the citizens of my district and all of Mt. Juliet over the last 6.5 years,” he said in a prepared statement. “It has also been my pleasure to work with the

See ABSTON, PAGE 2

Students gain voting experience

The Wilson Election Commission has been busy supporting school elections for the 2019-2020 class officers and offering voter registrations to eligible students at area schools. Students have been voting for their class officers, homecoming courts and superlatives for several years now with the assistance of the Election Commission.

Class officer elections were held at Wilson Central High School, Mt. Juliet High School and Friendship Christian School and the Election Commission assisted Williamson County to hold class elections at Brentwood and Franklin High Schools. All elections were held using the same ExpressVote voting system used in regular county-wide elections in Wilson County.

Every year in the Spring 9th, 10th and 11th grade students elect their class officers for the next school year.

“Having had the chance to support elections in the high schools for the past several years, many of the students have voted in numerous elections,” said Phillip Warren, administrator of elections. “Providing a real election experience for students gives them the foundation and appreciation of voting that will, hopefully, last their lifetime.”

Many student elections are now administered by the students with the voting system provided by the Election Commission. Students have an opportunity to earn volunteer hours for Tennessee Promise

See VOTE, PAGE 3

Fair to celebrate ‘The Year of Wool’

The Wilson County Fair will be celebrating “The Year of Wool,” and officials want Fairgoers to exhibit their talents at the Fair.

As the weather turns warmer, it’s time to start planning entries for the Fair. Plant those vegetables, herbs and flowers and start painting, photographing and sewing those unique items that could win some monetary premiums at the Fair. Start experimenting with recipes for baking and home brewing entries. Check the Fair’s website to see all the contests available for entry.

Wilson County Schools are planning their school exhibits in the Hometown U.S.A. exhibits in the Expo Center. Fair officials would like to continue the 100% participation of all schools exhibiting their unique and creative depictions of their schools.

While Fairgoers are busy planning their entries, the Fair committee is also busy making several improvements for the 2019 Fair. Buildings are being painted

See FAIR, PAGE 3

Truck crashes into utility pole

A man was arrested last week after a vehicle crashed into a utility pole.

A truck hit a utility pole on Pleasant Grove Road near Catalpa Drive around 6:30 p.m. May 1, knocking the pole down and causing the roadway to be blocked off for a couple hours.

Mt. Juliet Police said an adult male suspected of impaired driving was taken into custody near the Pleasant Grove Road and North Mt. Juliet Road interchange. Police said the driver fled the crash scene after hitting the utility pole.

The roadway was opened around 9 p.m.
Mayor and the other Commissioners and the entire Staff of the City of Mt. Juliet.”

Abston also said he hopes to have left a positive impact on the area throughout his time on the City Commission, during which he represented the Providence area.

“My family and I are moving to our dream home but we will still be proud residents of Wilson County,” he said. “I look forward to continuing serving alongside you all in a different capacity in the future.”

Abston was reelected as District 4 Commissioner in November after a race against former commissioner Jim Bradshaw.

He was also one of the sponsors of the proposed property tax increase, which is still being discussed until the commission approves the budget later this summer. A town hall meeting was held Monday night to present the proposal to city residents.

Discussions about raising the city’s property tax got heated during the meeting, with Vice Mayor James Maness, the other sponsor, speaking in favor of the increase and Mayor Ed Hagerty speaking against. Most citizens in attendance were also against increasing the property tax.

A resolution to budget the increase was narrowly approved 3-2. With Abston resigning and one of the “yes” votes leaving, the future of the tax increase is unclear.

Make yourself a priority.

Vanderbilt Center for Women’s Health now open in Mt. Juliet

Making yourself a priority has never been easier now that experts from the Vanderbilt Center for Women’s Health are seeing patients in Mt. Juliet.

Dedicated to providing the highest quality care to women in all stages of life, services range from general gynecology to pregnancy care and newborn delivery.

We are ranked among the top 10 programs in the country for obstetrics and gynecology and are the only top-ranked program in Tennessee, according to U.S. News & World Report.

Our Women’s Health team is committed to caring for you and your unique needs, and if more advanced services are needed, choosing Vanderbilt’s Center for Women’s Health ensures continuity of care from our experts in more advanced specialties.

VANDERBILT HEALTH

Vanderbilt Center for Women’s Health now open in Mt. Juliet

MT. JULIET
2025 North Mt. Juliet Rd., Suite 120
(615) 343-5700

From ABSTON, PAGE 1

On April 9, Mt. Juliet Elementary athletes participated in the Special Olympics Track and Field Competition. To send the athletes off in style, all students, teachers and staff lined the hallways with signs, cheering for them as they paraded through the hallway.

A PERFECT MOTHER’S DAY, WE CAN ARRANGE THAT!

MOTHER’S DAY IS MAY 12th
SHOP MOSS’ FLOWER SHOP
FOR YOUR PERFECT MOTHER’S DAY GIFT

3690 N. Mt. Juliet Road, Ste 400
Mt. Juliet, TN 37122
615-758-5972
mossflowershopllc.com

A Perfect Mother’s Day, We Can Arrange That!

MOTHER’S DAY IS MAY 12th
SHOP MOSS’ FLOWER SHOP
FOR YOUR PERFECT MOTHER’S DAY GIFT
and Tennessee Scholars scholarships by working with the Election Commission on Election Day. “Having students check in voters and guide them through the ballot marking and voting process is a terrific learning experience,” said Tammy Smith, assistant administrator of elections. “It is never too early to begin learning about civics and the importance of voting.”

The Election Commission not only supports school elections but Warren and Smith also accept as many invitations to speak to high school civics classes as possible. The presentation gives students information about current election-related issues as well as a look at the preparation and procedures involved in elections. Eligible students are also given an opportunity to register to vote. Each year these classroom visits yield several hundred newly registered Wilson County voters.

The Wilson County Election Commission helped support local schools, such as Wilson Central High School, during class officer elections. | Photo submitted

The Wilson County Election Commission helped support local schools, such as Wilson Central High School, during class officer elections. | Photo submitted

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

From VOTE, PAGE 1

From FAIR, PAGE 1

ed, new roads are being paved, more lighting is being added and some barns are even being repurposed. The Ag Venture Barn will now be where the Poultry and Rabbit Barn was, and the Poultry and Rabbit Barn will now be where the Ag Venture Barn existed.

All these changes will create a fresh look for the Fair as it hosts “A Grand Celebration” and celebrates the agriculture commodity “The Year of Wool.”

Fairgoers will learn all about the wool process. “The Year of Wool” will incorporate education from “sheep to shawl.” Sheep will be shown and sheared then the fleece will be washed, dyed, spun and woven into unique items. There will be demonstrations and hands-on opportunities to learn about wool. Wool items will also be for sale in the General Store.

The 2019 Wilson County Fair will open Aug. 16 and run through Aug. 24, 2019. Entries will be accepted starting Saturday, Aug. 10. Check the website for times and places to enter your creations. For more information about the fair, visit www.wilsoncountyfair.net.

From FAIR, PAGE 1
Destiny Bledsoe recently joined First Freedom Bank as a financial services representative, announced Kenny Beavers, senior vice president and director of retail banking.

“Destiny has been a great addition to the First Freedom team,” said Beavers. “She is a life-long resident of Wilson County and brings good customer service experience having worked in the retail sector prior to joining the bank.”

Bledsoe previously worked as a supervisor in the retail industry for two years and is a 2016 graduate of Wilson Central High School.

A native of Lebanon, Tennessee, Bledsoe now resides in Gladeville with her husband Chasyn.

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 $460 million and is owned by more than 1,100 shareholders throughout Middle Tennessee.

First Freedom Bank is 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.

Goodwill to host job fair

The Goodwill Career Solutions center at 1985 Providence West Parkway in Mt. Juliet will host a job fair from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. on Tuesday, May 14, for eight employers seeking to fill more than 50 positions in Wilson, Davidson, Rutherford and Sumner counties.

Employers include Novolex/FortunePlastics, Hamilton-Ryker Staffing Service, Marshall’s, Red Robin, Pizza Hut, Workforce Brokers, Tennessee Department of Human Resources (Lebanon) and Goodwill. Openings include office administrator, retail associates, cashier, cook, kitchen prep, dishwasher, janitorial, light industrial, warehouse, donation attendant, manager, delivery driver and other positions. Rates of pay reach $16 per hour.

Representatives from these companies will be on site and interviews are possible, so job-seekers should dress for success. Job candidates are encouraged to bring a resume, photo ID and their Social Security card or birth certificate.

The Goodwill Career Solutions center in Mt. Juliet now hosts job fairs on the second Tuesday of each month. For more than 60 years, Goodwill Industries of Middle Tennessee has provided job training and job placement free of charge to people with disabilities or other barriers to employment through the sale of donated items.

Goodwill’s vision is that all people will have the opportunity to reach their fullest potential through the power of work.
OBITUARIES

CLEMONS, Dustin Lee

Dustin Lee Clemons passed away unexpectedly in his home on April 28, 2019, in Nashville. A funeral was held May 2 at Sellars Funeral Home in Lebanon.

Dustin is survived by his parents, Kevin Clemons and Linda Clemons; his three kind-hearted children, Courtney Clemons (Mother, Kayla Banks Young), Maliah Clemons and Breah Clemons (Mother, Leeza Gilmore); his siblings, Joseph Clemons and Kailin Clemons; and his grandmothers, Jean Clemmons and Amelia Hubbard Smith. He is preceded in death by his grandfathers, Larry Hubbard and Linda Decker.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations are made towards Courtney, Maliah, and Breah’s futures.

Sellars Funeral Home, Lebanon TN, 615.444.9393.

ELKINS, Tim

Tim Elkins, age 64 of Mt. Juliet, passed away May 6, 2019. A Celebration of Life was held May 7 at Sellars Funeral Home in Mt. Juliet.

He is survived by loving wife of 45 years, Regina D. Elkins; sons, Timothy “Timbo” (Amanda) Elkins, Jackie Ray (Stephanie) Elkins, Jeremy (Pam) Elkins and Joshua (Stacy) Elkins; grandchildren, Katelyn, Kirsten, Autumn, Timothy, Sadie, Kensley, Izzy, Chance, and Aubree; great-grandchild, McKenziie Hicks. He was preceded in death by granddaughter, Bree.


FINLEY, Norma Jean

Norma Jean Finley, age 89 of Hermitage, died May 2, 2019. Mrs. Finley was the daughter of the late John William and Eliza Bell Merriman Witty. She was also preceded in death by her husband, James Thomas Finley, and siblings, Arnold Witty, Darnell Witty, Witley Finley and Naomi Cobb.

She is survived by: Son – James Michael (Alonda) Finley; Daughters – Brenda Parusaur, Martine Hudgens and Lois (Jeff) Key; Grandchildren – Jay (Amber) Finley, Chase (Katie) Finley, Dallas (Kim) Finley, Elizabeth (Steven) Robertson, Kristy (Drew) Schreiner, Kirby (Justin) Brinkley and Kevin Key; Great-grandchildren – Trey Finley, Austin Finley, Ethan Finley, Maggie Finley, Kenna Finley, Aubrey Finley, Campbell Finley, Finley Robertson, Zane Schreiner, Tate Grissom, Finn Brinkley and Austyn Brinkley.

A funeral service was held May 5 at Bond Memorial Chapel, and interment followed at Mt. Juliet Memorial Gardens. Flowers accepted or memorials may be made to the American Heart Association, 1814 Patterson Street, Nashville, TN 37203.


HICKS, Mary Lee McNeelans

Mary Lee McNeelans Hicks, age 83 of Dickson, Tennessee, passed away on May 6, 2019. The Funeral Service will be held Thursday, May 9, at 11 a.m. in the chapel of Sellars Funeral Home at Mt. Juliet. Interment will follow in Hermitage Memorial Gardens. The family will receive friends on Wednesday from 4-8 p.m. and on Thursday from 10 a.m. until service time.

She is survived by loving husband of 65 years, Grover Thomas Hicks, Sr.; children, Velma Gracie Hicks (David) Smith, Rebecca Lee Hicks (Gary) Vincent, Tom (Kathy) Hicks, Jr., and Steven Eric (Dorothea Walker) Hicks; grandchildren, Da- vid Mark (Por) Smith, Susan Victoria Smith, Joel Edward (Jennifer) Smith, Tanya Michelle Vincent (Michael) Landrum, Mandycly Christine Vincnet Landrum, Brianna Lee Vincent (Chaz) Allman, Shawn Michael Thomas (Alex) Vincent, Christine Lynn (Michael) Broome, Laurie Nicole (Andy) Huff, Tracie Leighanne (Brandon) Collier, Valerie Samantha (Justin) Matthews, Meredith Anne Hicks, and Elijah Thomas Smith; great-grandchildren, Victoria Grace Varitas Smith, Alvin Mark Ihikorn Smith, Joel Michael David Smith, Jackson Ryan Edward Smith; Justin Thomas Smith, Brandon Tyler Landrum, Justin Cade Landrum, Keeley Michelle Landrum, Kaleb Michael Landrum, Fisher Knox Landrum, Paisley Silber Landrum, and Summer Landrum, Judah Alexander Allman, Josie Lee Allman, Ethan Thomas Broome, Kayla Rae Broome, Mackenzie Lynn Broome, Gabrielle Nicole Huff, Adelynn Rochelle Huff, Gavin Andrew Huff, Turner Kade Collier, Grayson Nash Collier, McKinley Ray Matthews, Mckinzie Landrum, Almond Matthews; numerous nieces and nephews and many, many dear friends and extended family she dearly loved also survive.

She was preceded in death by parents, Ferrell Thomas and Stella Virginia Fairchild McNeelans, Sr.; great-grandchild, Jordan Thomas Smith; siblings, Ferrell Thomas McNeelans, Jr., Stella Virginia McNeelans, Glenn Eugene McNeelans, Fern McNeelans, Travis Wayne McNeelans, Carl Troy McNeelans, James Mosco Mayfield, and Helen Marie Grigsby; and an infant sibling.


HONEYCUTT, Fredda Seaton

Fredda Seaton Honeycutt “Nannie” passed away May 7, 2019, at age 93. She is survived by one brother Bud Seaton, one sister Darleen Gourieux, two daughters Karen Honeycutt and Jo- anna Fox (Corey) Willett, grandchildren Chelsea Michelle Willett and SFC Zachary J.M. Willett, and one great-grandson Corey Tate Garland.

Visitation will be at Sellars Funeral Home, Leba- non, Friday from 4-8 p.m. and Saturday from 11 a.m. until service time at noon.

Sellars Funeral Home 615.444.9393.

RICKETTS, Mary Ruth

Mary Ruth Ricketts passed away on May 2, 2019, at age 90. A funeral service was held May 4 at Sellars Funeral Home in Lebanon, and interment followed at Wilson County Memorial.

She is preceded in death by her parents Austin and Pattie Lea; husband Robert T. Ricketts; four brothers, Robert Lea, A.C. Lea, David Lea, and Kenneth Lea; two sisters Hester Howard and Virginia Hallums; and grand- child Lealand.

She is survived by sisters Lucille (Douglas) Hobbs, Margie (Billy) Trice, and Sue (Bobby) Barnes; sons Robert Austin Ricketts and Joe Wayne Ricketts; five grandchildren, Robbie, John, Nick, Cody, and Crystal Ricketts; and three great-grandchildren, Whatt, Scarlett, and Dalton.

2019 WILSON COUNTY BOARD OF EQUALIZATION NOTICE

Pursuant to Section 67-5-508, Tennessee Code Annotated, the property assessment records of Wilson County will be available for public inspection at Room 4, Wilson County Courthouse Lebanon, TN during normal business hours. Any person desiring to inspect these records may do so at the appointed time and place.

The Wilson County Board of Equalization will begin its annual session to examine and equalize the county assessments on June 1, 2019. THE BOARD WILL ACCEPT APPEALS FOR TAX YEAR 2019 ONLY UNTIL THE LAST DAY OF ITS 2019 REGULAR SESSION, WHICH WILL BE JUNE 28, 2019. The board will meet each weekday from 9:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M. in Room 4 Wilson County Courthouse. APPOINTMENTS CAN BE MADE BY CONTACTING THE WILSON COUNTY PROPERTY ASSESSOR’S OFFICE at 615-444-8661. Any owner of property who wishes to make a complaint or appeal to the County Board of Equalization must appear before said Board at this time personally or by personal appearance of an agent for the owner bearing the owner’s written authorization. Failure to appear and appeal an assessment will result in the assessment be- coming final without further right of appeal.

TOMLINSON, Joe Howard

Joe Howard Tomlin- son, age 66 of Mt. Ju- liet, passed away on May 1, 2019. A private family service will be scheduled for a later date. In honor of his long time commi-tment to the toy distribution through Mt. Juliet Big Brothers, memori- al contributions may be made to Toys for Tots.

He is survived by his daughters, Tiffany Tomlin- son (Terry) Brown, and Rebecca Tomlinson (Michael Johnson) Hyde; grandchildren, Dal- ton Tomlinson, Teagan Brown, and Teclan Brown; sisters-in-law, Peggy Tomlinson (Homer) and Teresa K. Tomlinson (Jimmy). He was preceded in death by his parents, Howard and Paula Tomlinson; brothers, Homer and Jimmy Tomlinson; grandfather, A.R. “Poppa” Tomlinson.

Excited to see the latest "Avengers" movie, I grabbed my popcorn and Cherry Coke and took my seat. Twenty minutes and 17 (or so) previews later I was holding an empty popcorn bag, an empty cup, and a full bladder. Not only was "Endgame" an epic (that means it's really long), fantastical story of the struggle between good and evil, almost every preview let our appetite for yet another cinematic reminder of our human curiosity about life beyond this dimension, what to do with evil in this one, and how civilization can flourish when so many things are broken. Everyone is looking for a fix. All of the great stories say so. From classic literature like Tolstoy's "War and Peace," to Shakespeare's "Macbeth," to Disney's popular stories such as "Cinderella," every story is looking, wondering, and even proposing how humanity can face down injustice, suffering and evil. Our longing for this great hope found in literature, the arts, and on the silver screen is rooted in something bigger than you might think.

When God created the first man, He breathed into him the breath of life. The psalmist says God knit us in our mother's womb. Humans, unlike any other created being, bear the image of God. Although that image has been marred by sin, we still possess the capacity to...
Summer Heat Dangers

With summer just around the corner and the recent deaths of unattended children, the elderly and pets in vehicles across our great state and country, there is no time like the present to remind everyone of the importance of not leaving any child, senior citizen or pet unattended in an automobile.

Temperatures inside an automobile can reach temperatures up to 140 degrees in a matter of minutes. As you can tell from recent news stories and countless tragedies across the country, these tragedies don’t just happen to irresponsible parents, these tragedies can happen to anyone. Even caregivers and parents with the best of intentions can fall victim to these tragedies. With our busy and hectic lives this can happen much easier than most truly realize.

It is also never a good idea to leave pets, the elderly or children in unattended vehicles even when the vehicle is running and air conditioning operating. Assuming the air conditioning will continue to work while occupants are left unattended in an automobile is a dangerous practice that should never be attempted.

The elderly, children and pets are prone to becoming overcome by rising temperatures inside closed automobiles and are oftentimes unable to seek help when needed. Unfortunately, the end result can be heat stroke and even death. Not to mention leaving pets, the elderly and children in cars while running has created many accidents, injuries and even deaths over the years because of cars being put in gear intentionally or unintentionally.

I know that most of you are saying, “I would never dream of doing such a thing or taking such a chance.” However, statistics show that each and every year far too many chances or oversights occur causing serious injury and death to not only humans but pets as well. Even with the automobile’s windows down, temperatures can reach 125 degrees within 20 minutes.

Other dangers with summer heat and bright sunlight are sunburn, accidental burns and dehydration. Items within an automobile such as vinyl interior parts, metal interior parts and even leather can absorb the heat and sunlight, causing instant burns to unprotected body parts upon contact. Placing a car cover, window shades and even towels across prone areas of your automobile can prevent such tragedies from occurring. Sunburn can be avoided by covering exposed parts of the body with clothing, shade or sun blocking lotions. Dehydration can be avoided by consuming lots of liquids, especially water, regularly.

Thirst is one indicator of dehydration, but is not an early warning sign. By the time you feel thirsty, you might already be dehydrated. Other symptoms of dehydration include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Feeling Dizzy
- Having a dry or sticky mouth
- Producing less sweat
- Pale, cold skin
- Producing less urine
- Feeling Dizzy
- Nausea and Light Headedness

And please don’t be fooled or overstated.

In closing, I know these seem like silly common sense reminders. However, preventing and eliminating further suffering, injuries and deaths can never be overstated or underrated.

We must also do all we can to check on the shut-ins, sick and elderly who live alone. These individuals can become overburdened with rising medical and utility costs, often finding themselves without air conditioning.

Making a decision on what to cut from the budget when pills are piling up can be tough when it comes to air conditioning in the middle of one of the hottest summers in recent memory. Think about it, what would you cut first? Would it be replacing or repairing the air conditioning, buying food, paying the house note, medical, water, phone, electric or other bills? We can’t overlook these fine people. Please keep them in your thoughts.

As Middle Tennessee’s orthopedic leader, we perform more joint replacement surgeries than anyone else in the area. Ascension Saint Thomas orthopedic care teams employ the latest advancements in minimally invasive surgical techniques and technologies. Our goal is to help you live with less pain, so your next step can be a leap.

Get the orthopedic care that’s right for you at ascension.org/TennesseeOrtho
The Mt. Juliet Middle School Jazz Band recently competed in the Music in the Parks festival in Atlanta. Along with superior ratings, the band received first overall in middle school jazz, top scoring middle school jazz group, and the festival-wide Esprit de Corps award. | Photo courtesy of MJMS Band Facebook

St. Thomas doctor to speak at Mayo Clinic

Ascension Saint Thomas recognizes Dr. Connie Graves, director of perinatal services and co-director of collaborative perinatal services for the health system, in advance of her May 17 presentation at the prestigious Mayo Clinic.

Invitations to present at the Mayo Clinic are reserved for the highest-regarded members of the healthcare community. Based in Rochester, Minnesota, the Mayo Clinic is a not-for-profit academic medical center founded in 1864. U.S. News and World Report consistently ranks the Mayo Clinic as one of the nation’s premier hospitals.

“We are incredibly proud that Dr. Graves is a part of the Ascension Saint Thomas family,” said Kristen Toth, vice president of women’s and children’s services, Ascension Saint Thomas. “Her work in the space of maternal health is groundbreaking and will make a difference for mothers and children everywhere.”

At Mayo, Graves will discuss the alarming fact that rates of maternal morbidity and mortality are three times higher in the United States than in any other developed nation. For the nation’s women of color, giving birth is just as dangerous as it is in any third-world country.

“Maternal mortality and infant mortality are not separate,” said Graves. “The health and well-being of America’s children depends upon the health and well-being of our mothers.”

Graves co-founded the Collaborative Perinatal Cardiac Center in 2012. A joint venture between Tennessee Maternal Fetal Medicine and Ascension Saint Thomas, this groundbreaking clinic was one of the first in the United States to approach maternal heart care holistically from preconception to postpartum.

Upon graduating with honors from Baylor University, Graves obtained her medical degree at the University of Arkansas. There, she received the Purdue Fredrick Award for Excellence in Women’s Healthcare. She completed her internship, residency, and Maternal-Fetal Fellowship at Vanderbilt University Medical Center. During her fellowship, she received additional training in Critical Care.

Graves is the Medical Director of Tennessee Maternal Fetal Medicine. She is a professor at the University of Tennessee and teaches at Vanderbilt University and Meharry Medical College. Highly committed to research, Graves has participated in studies related to asthma, HIV, diabetes, and drug addiction in pregnancy.
Young Bankers Division elect new leadership

Staff Reports

The Tennessee Bankers Association’s Young Bankers Division elected new 2019-2020 officers and directors during the organization’s Leadership Convention, which took place April 7-9 in Chattanooga.

Delegates elected the following bankers to serve as officers:

- Chairman — Samuel L. Short, senior vice president/senior lender, Southern Bank of Tennessee, Mt. Juliet
- Chairman-elect — Derrick Whitten, vice president, The Hardin County Bank, Savannah
- Vice Chairman — Michael J. Saporito, II, senior vice president, Mountain Commerce Bank, Knoxville
- Immediate Past Chairman — Joshua D. Lane, vice president and Knoxville market executive, First National Bank of Oneida, Knoxville

As chairman of the division, Short will serve as an ex-officio member of the Tennessee Bankers Association board of directors.

“It is an honor to serve as the chairman of the TBA Young Bankers Division, which has been shaped over the last 50 years by some of the most respected bankers in Tennessee,” said Short. “As in many industries, banks are looking to identify and groom the next generation of leaders. The Young Bankers Division has a well-established track record of providing the network and professional development skills bankers need to be effective and influential leaders in their banks and communities.”

The Tennessee Bankers Association is a not-for-profit organization representing all of Tennessee’s commercial banks and thrift institutions.

The Association provides continuing education, develops and monitors state and federal legislative agendas, disseminates information on all facets of the financial services industry, and promotes the public image of financial institutions.
TriStar Summit names Physician of the Quarter

Staff Reports

Daymond McDuffey, M.D., physiatrist, was recently named Physician of the Quarter (Q1 of 2019) by the staff of TriStar Summit Medical Center. Dr. McDuffey is board certified by the American Board of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation.

McDuffey was recognized by hospital staff for the care he demonstrates to patients and staff along with his commitment to improving the quality of care to those in our community.

“We are extremely proud to recognize Dr. McDuffey for his exemplary work on behalf of our patients and our community,” said Brian Marger, CEO, TriStar Summit Medical Center. “TriStar Summit is committed to delivering quality patient care and we are proud and fortunate to have him as a member of our medical staff.”

The Physician of the Quarter honor is given to those physicians who exemplify the hospital’s mission statement, known as I SERVE: Integrity, Selfless, Exceptional quality, Respect, Visionary, Excellence. Criteria for nomination include:
- Shows concern and is an active listener
- Shows sensitivity to staff, patients and families
- Open to views and opinions of others
- Respectful and honest in interactions with others

At the end of the year, TriStar Summit employees will name a Physician of the Year, choosing from the four Physician of the Quarter recipients.

Wilson Central High School senior Daniel Jackson recently signed with Maryville College to play basketball.

WOODARD, Michael Wayne Jr.

Michael Woodard, Jr. passed away on May 3, 2019 at age 51. The Memorial Service is 4 p.m. Thursday, May 9, in the chapel of Sellars Funeral Home, Lebanon.

Mr. Woodard is survived by wife of seven years, Christina Woodard; children: Justin Woodard and Krysta Woodard; step-children: Katelin (Aaron) Campbell, Joseph Shaw, and Mamie Shaw; grandchildren: Addi Campbell, Izzy Campbell, and Avery Campbell; father and step-mother: Michael (Rita) Woodard Sr.; mother and step-father: Donna (David) Beadle; siblings: David (Sara) Beadle, Joseph (Nicole) Woodard, and Elizabeth (Aaron) Barnard; and numerous nieces, nephews, cousins, aunts, and uncles.

Sellars Funeral Home, Lebanon TN, 615.444.9393.

Pictured L-R is David Cantrell, CFO; Mary Ann Angle, CNO; Dr. McDuffey; Kevin Hamilton, CMO; and Drew Tyrer, COO at TriStar Summit Medical Center. | Photo submitted

NOW OPEN!

GRAND OPENING CELEBRATION CELEBRATION THURS, MAY 16 - SUN, MAY 19

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PLEASE TEXT 890000 GO MJ TO RECEIVE YOUR COMPLIMENTARY OFFER FOR YOUR FREE ADJUSTMENT. THE JOINT CHIROPRACTIC CLINIC PROVIDES AFFORDABLE AND CONVENIENT CHIROPRACTIC CARE. NO APPOINTMENTS NECESSARY.

MON-FRI: 10:00AM - 7:00PM | SAT & SUN: 10:00AM - 4:00PM
615-754-2200 | 401 S MT. JULIET ROAD, STE 245, MT. JULIET, TN

*Offer value $39. Initial visit includes consultation, exam and adjustment. Present offer at time of redemption at the location listed only. No cash value, not valid towards past purchase. See clinic for chiropractor(s)’ name and license info.
Clincs managed and/or owned by franchise or Prof. Corps. Restrictions may apply to Medicare eligible patients. Individual results may vary.

From OBITs, PAGE 5

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Sellars Funeral Home, Lebanon TN, 615.444.9393.
life. He created us to live.

This ever-present evil has consequences that ripple into every domain of our community, which then magnifies suffering for everyone. Hunger, addiction, violence and aimlessness, for example, reveal our brokenness and rejection of God’s design for our lives.

To help manage our suffering, some of us chase after prosperity, illicit pleasures, or ill-advised relationships. That always results in the kind of story we all relate to but none of us want to read. Others of us turn to government or schools or commerce for solutions. As important as those sectors are for a healthy society, none of them have the real fix. When broken people try to repair other broken people, it never works out so well.

But there’s a better story. God loved Wilson County in this way: He sent His one and only Son, so that everyone in this county who turns from sin and trusts Jesus as Lord will not perish under the weight of their brokenness, but will instead have new life, eternal life, and abundant life in Him.

This big story of God’s redeeming love is the story every other story is trying to tell. And it’s the story of Wilson County that God wants to write so that everyone in this community can live the life He created us to live.

Camp Bow Wow had its ribbon cutting with the Chamber of Commerce on May 3. They are located at 3085 N. Mt. Juliet Road. | Photo submitted

PDK Southern Kitchen and Pantry had its ribbon cutting with the Chamber of Commerce on May 3. They are located at 1984 Providence Pkwy, Suite 101. | Photo submitted

**WHY ELITE?**

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- Peter Fechheimer

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Antique Show to be held in Lebanon

Staff Reports

Wilson County Antique Power Association is hosting its 28th annual Antique Tractor, Antique Truck and Gas Engine Show on Saturday, May 18, at the Ward Agriculture Center and Fairgrounds (945 E Baddour Pkwy) in Lebanon. The gates will open at 8 a.m.

The entrance to the show will be at the Fiddlers Grove entrance which is located approximately one quarter mile east of the main entrance. This entrance is located between the main entrance and Peyton Road.

The show will feature exhibits of antique tractors, gas engines, antique trucks, farm implements, corn meal grinding, blacksmithing. Many activities for all ages are scheduled throughout the day.

Children’s activities include a Needle in the Haystack contest and a Kiddie Tractor Pull for ages 8-12.

They will also have a Parade of Power which allows proud owners to parade their equipment through the Fiddlers Grove area. A skillet throw contest will be held for the ladies.

The Wilson County Antique Power Association was organized in 1991 and is a non-profit organization. The primary function is to promote the collection, restoration, improvement, and display of antique agriculture equipment.

Admission is free, but donations will be accepted. There is no fee for exhibitors.

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**PET OF THE WEEK**

Woody needs an owner who is firm and consistent. Woody has gone to obedience classes and received his good dog citizenship award. He is a very sweet and affectionate boy. Woody loves to go on short walks several times a day. He also wouldn’t mind just being a couch potato with you. His only fault is he does not like other dogs and will require a firm handler for walks in public. Woody knows several commands such as “sit, stay, down, with me and leave it.” He is up to date on his vaccines, but he has tested positive for heartworms. He has started his journey to recovery. He has been retested for his heartworms and received his good dog citizenship award. He is a very sweet and affectionate boy. Woody’s heartworm treatment is being sponsored by the shelter. Woody’s adoption fee has been sponsored.

OPEN HOURS: Tues–Thurs from 11:30-5:30

Mt. Juliet Animal Care & Control

115 Industrial Drive, Mt. Juliet, TN 37122

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Public Notice

Sealed bids for “Mt Juliet Clock Tower” will be received at the office of the City of Mt Juliet Finance Department at 2425 N Mt Juliet Rd., Mt Juliet, TN on or before 2:00 pm on May 22, 2019. Details are available at http://www.mt-juliet-tn.gov/bids.aspx.

The City of Mt. Juliet Alcoholic Beverages Board will meet in City Hall at 6:30 P.M. on Tuesday, May 14, 2019 to consider the following applications:

- Fulin’s Asian Cuisine, 401 S. Mt. Juliet Rd. Ste#480, Mt. Juliet

And any other topics arising therefrom or generally related thereto. The public is invited to attend and comment.

Sheila S. Luckett, MMC
Deputy City Manager

PUBLIC NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Mt. Juliet Regional Planning Commission will hold a Public Hearing on June 20, 2019 at 6:30PM at City Hall, 2425 N. Mt Juliet Road, to hear the following requests:

- Land Use Amendment for Hibbett Station, Map 72, Parcel 55.00 and 56.00 located at 940 Curd Rd.
- Additional information may be obtained by calling the Zoning Department. The public is invited to attend and comment.

Sheila S. Luckett, MMC
Deputy City Manager

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Board of Commissioners of the City of Mt. Juliet will have a Public Hearing on Monday, May 13, 2019 at 6:15 PM on the following item to be considered on 2nd and Final Reading:

- Rezone and adopt the Preliminary Master Development Plan (PMDD) for the Schunk Property, located at 10770 Lebanon Road, Map 054, Parcel 102.03 from Commercial General (CG) to Commercial General Planned Unit Development (CG-PUD) and Multi-Family Residential Planned Unit Development (RM-8PUD)
- Amend the FY 2018/2019 Budget to accept insurance proceeds and appropriate funds for repairs to Mundy and Charlie Daniels Parks
- Annex and Rezone the Hall Property, 730 N. Mt. Juliet Road, Map 77H, Group C, Parcel 010.00, from Residential RS-40 to Office Professional Services OPS

The public is invited to attend/comment.

Kenny Martin, City Manager
City of Mt. Juliet

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Board of Commissioners of the City of Mt. Juliet will have a Budget Work session on Monday, May 13, 2019 beginning at 4:00 PM to discuss the Fiscal Year 2019/2020 Budget. The public is invited to attend.

Kenny Martin, City Manager
City of Mt. Juliet

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FOR RENT

Home For Sale by Owner. 3 bed, 2bath, two car garage, fenced back yard, 0.69 acre $340K. 1520 Anthony Way -931-242-6516

GARAGE SALE

Old Hickory Estate Sale
113 Fields Drive
Lakewood Area Thurs-Saturday May 9-11, 8am-4pm. Turn at Molly Maid Contents of the home of JD and Eva Gammon. Beautiful Furniture, Gor- geous Victoria Carved Tape- sstry Sofa, Rose Velvet Lady and Gents Chairs, Fine Marble Top Tables. Consisting of a Console Table, Lamp Table, End Tables and Coffee Tables. Grandfa- ther Clock, Knee Hole Desk and Chair, China cabinet, Server, Hutch, Table with six Ladder Back Chairs, Nice Olive Green Modern Sofa and Chair, Lazy Boy Recliner, Beautiful Solid Cherry Spindle Bed, Dress- ered Night Stand, A Large Maple Dresser and Mirror, White Painted Dresser and Mirror, Console sewing machine, Three Bicycles, Beautiful Lamps; including Gone With The Wind, Mir- rors, Pictures and Lots of China and Glassware, Lots of Cookware, Bake ware and Kitchen Items, Twelve place settings of Fiesta Chi- na, Tons of Collectibles, Pa- tio Furniture, Garage full, Inlet End Tables and Coffee Tables, Collection of Dolls, Quilts and Linens, Guitar, Madeline, and Organ, Silver Plate Tea Sets by Onei- da, Clothes and Purses, Many Surprises! All items Immaculate Do not miss This! Maxine Ware for Bet- ty Gaines Estate Sales. For Pictures go to EstateSales.net

TERRY'S AUTO GLASS

MIKE & ROBIN’S JUNK HAULING

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END OF CLASSIFIEDS
CLASSIFIEDS

GARAGE SALE

Community Yard Sale 5-10 & 5-11 (7am-whenev-er) Many First Timers. Sales on all streets of communi-ty. Shop both days for great finds as we will be adding new stuff after Friday so come back! GPS 415 Wil-lis Pass, Mt. Juliet 37122. Off Old Lebanon Dirt Road. Rain Date will be the following weekend.

Mark Your Calendars the Annual Triple Crown HOA Neighborhood Sale is set for Saturday May 18th from 8am-2pm. There will be sales on every street in the Triple Crown Subdivi-sion!

ESTATE SALE GALLATIN TN. May 17, 8 a.m.- 3 p.m., May 18, 8 a.m.- 3 p.m., May 19, 8 a.m.- 3 p.m., 1296 Lock Four Rd. 40 years worth of things. NO EARLY BIRDS

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VEHICLES

The following vehicles will be sold at Mobiletech Automotive Repair 108 West Division, Mt. Juliet, Tn. 37122 at 10 a.m. on May 16th, 2019 for tow-ing and storage fees accumu-lated on vehicles if not paid in full by the time of the sale. Paperwork will be provided at the point of sale to apply for a ti-tle. 2001 Isuzu Rodeo VIN 4S2CK58W614301917 Steven Emerton, 2009 Kia Rio VIN KNADE223896464635 Angelina Cortez, 2010 Dodge Challenger VIN 2B3CJ4DV4AH179732 Brittany Hamler

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BROOKSTONE

TRIPLE CROWN

STONEFIELD

The Chronicle of Mt. Juliet, MAY 8, 2019 Page 13
We planned a trip to celebrate wedding anniversary number 21. Just the two of us; the husband and me. Four days, three nights. Since we made the reservations in January that meant I had more than three months to prepare. And by prepare, I mean diet. And by diet, I mean playing a diabolical mind game that destroys one’s self-esteem. All to wear a bathing suit I don’t like in front of people I don’t know. And why? The people we don’t know lounging at the beach near us don’t care how I look in my suit. Some don’t care what THEY themselves look like in bathing suits. (I would kill for the secret to their self-esteem. I think it’s alcohol.)

Leading up to the trip, every Monday would start and end the same way. Monday morning: “I’m cutting carbs.” Arrive at office. Walk by kitchen. “Cookies!” Monday night: “I’m not eating anything after 6 p.m.” Watching the season finale of “Vanderpump Rules.” “I can’t stand that idiot Jax! I need something with frosting! I’ll try again next week. What was I thinking starting a diet during sweeps??”

Side note, do you know who is more pathetic than Jax from “Vanderpump Rules”? The 45-year-old woman who is invested enough in a ridiculous reality show to know the names of every character. I don’t even know the names of all my kids’ friends. Two weeks before we left, I made peace with the fact that I wouldn’t be showcasing a perfect six pack while at the beach. I made peace with that fact after having my first child. The closest I’d get to that look is with one of those bikini body T-shirt coverups with the cartoon drawing.

Usually, I wait until the day we leave to admit defeat, but this madness had to stop. Every time we go to the beach, I start trying to diet weeks and weeks before. And every Monday after, I berate myself for not following through. It doesn’t do me any good. It doesn’t do anyone any good.

Oh, what I would give to be as fat as I thought I was while in high school and college. But even then, I wasn’t happy with the way I looked in a bathing suit. The vacation never turned out any better either. I look at social media posts from friends enjoying their perfect vacations with their perfect kids, and perfect bike rides and perfect shots of them reading in a beach chair and think, “How can they read an iPad in the sun? I prefer a book.”

The truth is those photos are often an airbrushed misrepresentation. Just like the ones I posted when my children were smaller. I have a series of family photos that capture a smiling, relaxed family. What those images don’t show is me screaming “I don’t ask a lot of you people! You will wear those shorts, you will smile, and YOU WILL LIKE IT,” moments before. I can’t do that now. Teenage boys have a way of humbling us that way. They will call you out on pictures that you’ve just spent 10 minutes using an app to airbrush away imperfections.

So, I ditched the diet and believe it or not and we had a great time. My husband and I lounged and walked and talked and explored a new city.

For so long I had a genuine fear of wearing a bathing suit in public. This year I realized that fear was unrealistic. Kind of like my fear of quicksand as a child. I always thought it would be a much bigger deal as an adult. I expected to have one close call. But no. I’ve never been almost swallowed up by the earth because of quicksand. Just like I won’t get swallowed up by the earth if my hips show a few more dimples or my boobs hang a little bit lower than everyone else at the beach. Who knew all along gravity was the real enemy? That fear will never leave.

Comments? Email becky@wilsonlivingmagazine.com
MJHS student awarded National Merit Scholarship

Staff Reports

Today, National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC) announced this year’s National Merit $2,500 Scholarship winners. The 2,500 Merit Scholar designees were chosen from a talent pool of more than 15,000 outstanding Finalists in the 2019 National Merit Scholarship Program.

Mt. Juliet High School student Ethan Roberts was named one of the National Merit $2,500 Scholarship winners. His probable career field is in politics.

National Merit $2,500 Scholarship winners are the Finalists in each state judged to have the strongest combination of accomplishments, skills, and potential for success in rigorous college studies. The number of winners named in each state is proportional to the state’s percentage of the nation’s graduating high school seniors.

These Scholars were selected by a committee of college admissions officers and high school counselors, who appraised a substantial amount of information submitted by both the Finalists and their high schools: the academic record, including difficulty level of subjects studied and grades earned; scores from two standardized tests; contributions and leadership in school and community activities; an essay written by the Finalist; and a recommendation written by a high school official.

NMSC finances most of these single-payment National Merit $2,500 Scholarships.

Corporations and company foundations that sponsor awards through NMSC also help underwrite these scholarships with grants they provide in lieu of paying administrative fees. Scholars may use their awards at any nationally accredited U.S. college or university.

This year’s National Merit Scholarship Program began in October 2017 when more than 1.6 million juniors in approximately 22,000 high schools took the Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test, which served as an initial screen of program entrants.

Last fall, the highest-scoring participants in each state, representing less than one percent of the nation’s high school seniors, were named Semifinalists on a state-representational basis.

Only these 16,000 Semifinalists had an opportunity to continue in the competition.

From the Semifinalist group, some 15,000 students met the very high academic standards and other requirements to advance to the Finalist level of the competition. By the conclusion of the 2019 program, about 7,600 Finalists will have earned the “Merit Scholar” title and received a total of more than $31 million in college scholarships.

NMSC, a not-for-profit corporation that operates without government assistance, was founded in 1955 specifically to conduct the National Merit Scholarship Program. The majority of scholarships offered each year are underwritten by approximately 400 independent corporate and college sponsors that share NMSC’s goals of honoring scholastically talented youth and encouraging academic excellence at all levels of education.

LOCAL RESTAURANT & DINING GUIDE - SWEET CECÉ’S

Sweet Cece’s opened in Mt. Juliet in January, offering a variety of frozen yogurt and sweet treats.

They use premium Dannon yogurt and have a variety of toppings. There are eight flavors to choose from and they are regularly switched out to provide new options.

“The children just absolutely love fixing their own yogurt cup and putting all the toppings on it,” said Ross. “It’s just a great experience for all the young ones.”

However, the new store offers more than just frozen yogurt. The Mt. Juliet location is the first to have a full bakery case, which has an assortment of fudge, Christie’s cookies, cakes and more. Customers can also choose from hand-dipped ice cream and sweet Belgian waffles with their choice of toppings. The store also offers shakes, sundaeas, Italian espresso drinks and smoothies. For the health-conscious customers, Sweet Cece’s also has Keto desserts and a protein latte in various flavors with 40 grams of protein.

“Tha’t’s our main goal, to have something for everybody, more than just yogurt,” B

esides the frozen yogurt, one of the store’s best sellers is a salted caramel white chocolate chunk cookie, of which Ross said has sold more than 300.

New orders for the bakery case arrive every Wednesday. Because of the success of the expanded menu at the Mt. Juliet location, other stores in middle Tennessee are following suit, offering more dessert and drink options.

All the business partners live in the area, so Mt. Juliet was their first choice to open Sweet Cece’s.

STAFF REPORTS

Inside a Smoothie King

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Vol State holds spring graduation

Staff Reports

Spring graduation at Volunteer State Community College brought hundreds of students, family members, and friends to the Pickel Field House on the Gallatin campus Saturday. Among them were adults who were the first to graduate using the TN Reconnect tuition-free college program.

There were 95 TN Reconnect students eligible to graduate this spring with degrees or technical certificates. Holly King of Gallatin was graduating with an Associate of Science in Teaching degree.

“I was a single mom with two kids, so I couldn’t go back,” said King. “TN Reconnect helped me to be able to afford college. My hope is to teach first or second grade.”

Students from 18 different birth countries graduated this year. One of them is Elijah Avery, originally from South Africa and now from Lebanon. He was named Outstanding Spring 2019 Graduate for his academic work and extracurricular achievements.

He found success with the Vol State Speech and Debate Team, winning a number of awards in regional and state tournaments. It culminated recently in a national competition at the Novice National Parliamentary Debate Tournament in Ohio.

Avery and teammate Danielle Salvato, won first place in Novice Parliamentary Debate. Avery also won four other awards at the competition. He calls his time with the Speech and Debate Team a highlight of his Vol State experience.

“I feel like Vol State has given me the opportunity to educate myself both academically and mentally, or psychologically, I suppose, and the Speech and Debate Team was a great plus,” said Avery.

Samuel Griffin was one of 12 students eligible to graduate from the Mechatronics program with an associate of applied science degree.

Griffin already has industry experience with Tutco Incorporated in Cookeville.

“It started as a paid internship and turned into a part-time position,” said Griffin. “I’m part of the team now.”

He is set to continue his education in Mechanical Engineering at Tennessee Technological University in the fall.

Alumnus of the year, Bill Sinks, gave the alumni speech and Secretary of State Tre Hargett delivered the commencement address. The Vol State Spring 2019 graduating class had 805 students eligible to earn their degree. That includes 345 Tennessee Promise students and 25 veterans.

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