COMMUNITY NEWS

SHELBYVILLE
TIMES-GAZETTE

$1.00 | Thursday, July 11, 2024 | www.t-g.com



John Smith, the former "Big Smo" country rap singer is now just "Smo." He and wife, Sara Beth, have opened a plant-based truck in Shelbyville which features healthy smoothies but also clean, plant-based salads and desserts. See more photos on page 4 and a recipe from "Smo" and "Queen SB."

Country-rap singer helps community eat clean

Heart disease nearly killed 'The Big Smo'

By DAWN HANKINS

John Smith of Bedford County weighed nearly 400 pounds; he was a famous country rap singer, had his own TV reality show and sadly was a young man with 4 major blocked arteries. In 2015, he dropped the "Big Smo" name and became simply "SMO."

All that – the name change, the new cleaner lifestyle, was after he went through quadruple by-pass surgery in 2015.

John says he believes he earned leaving the business so young, though people still question how he could walk away from the fame.

He also earned a sweet bride 6 weeks after his open-heart surgery, who was struggling with her own weight issues; she lost 100 pounds. Togeth-

See BIG SMO, 4A

HUMAN REMAINS FOUND ON NASHVILLE DIRT RD

PEDESTRIAN FINDS AND NOTIFIES POLICE



T-G Photo by Renee Brown

On Monday morning, Shelbyville Police Department responded to an area off Old Nashville Dirt Road, where a pedestrian discovered human remains. The identity of the remains is currently unknown, and the investigation is ongoing. At this time, no further information has been released. SPD stated Monday that updates will be provided as they become available.

In memory of Retired Major Patricia Ann Kelsey



Bedford County and this nation lost a true servant on July 3, with the passing of Retired Major Patricia Ann Kelsey, age 73, of Shelbyville. She was born March 2, 1951, in Lebanon, to the late Newburn Turner Dunn and Bonnie Mae Snyder Dunn. She was a retired registered nurse from Bedford County Hospital and retired with the rank of Major as a flight nurse with the Tennessee Air National Guard, 118 Air Lift Wing. She served in Desert Shield and Desert Storm.

See Retired Major Kelsey's full obit today on page 8.



County growth stats shared at Commission meeting

By DAWN HANKINS

Some County officials presented reports during the Bedford County Commission meeting on Tuesday night. One was emotional as she talked about elder assistance; another was excited about improved student test scores; and another county officer talked about current, local housing prices.

Tammy Garrett, Bedford County School superintendent, told Commissioners about proficiency rates recently released from Tennessee Department of Education.

"For the district, the overall English language arts percentage went up 1.9 percentage points over last year," said Garrett. "In 2021, they were 21.6 percent proficient, this past year, 30.8 percent proficient."

Garrett said math scores in Bedford County went up 4 percentage points overall over last year. And in 2021, students were 26.7 percent proficient and last year, Bedford County students were 35.6 percent proficient.

Science proficiency has also increased.

Garrett said the school system will have to work on its social studies scores as students decreased in that area.

"We have not better ex-

See COMMISSION, 2A

Councilman stays on positive side of Duksan

Feldhaus: 'Let the system work!'

By DAWN HANKINS

Shelbyville City Councilman Henry Feldhaus spoke positively for the Duksan battery chemical plant last Tuesday during the monthly study session. Not all of his fellow Council members shared his positive thoughts.

Feldhaus spoke his mind following Shelbyville City Manager Scott Collin's remarks on Duksan and local employment. Council person Marilyn Ewing had asked a question regarding tax incentives, local employment opportunities and Duksan.

Duksan officials, and Gov. Bill Lee, promised at the outset of construction 100 local jobs from Duksan. But now City officials are concerned that there may be 30 or less locally employed by the Korean-based company.

Collins told Ewing that he just can't answer her question about Duksan and employment numbers right now.

Councilman Bobby Turnbow had already cranked it up with his comments which were aimed at Partnership CEO Shane Hooper for blasting the City during a recent County financial meeting. (See Turnbow's remarks inside today.)

Feldhaus said he thought Council was going speak positively during the study session. He said there's a lot of misinformation on social media about Duksan, which "infuriates" him.

See FELDHAUS, 2A





In Loving Memory

Judy Gambill

March 6, 1954 - August 14, 2023

Judy Gambill was involved with the fair since its inception. She served in multiple roles throughout the past 25 years, such as Secretary, Treasurer, and President. Her desire to serve the community by providing a family-friendly event and agriculture education was just in her nature. She did not expect pay, thanks, or applause, just the joy of being able to visit, shake hands, and give the occasional hug. She developed relationships with fairgoers, livestock participants, community leaders, and elected officials not just in Bedford County but throughout the state. The Bedford County Fair would not be what it is today without her faith, attitude, leadership, and willingness to serve.



Judy F. Gambill Scholarships awarded

BC Fair is July 15-20

The 2024 Judy F. Gambill Memorial Scholarships were presented on June 16, 2024, at Pleasant Grove Methodist Church to Helena Duke and Tansi Boyce, both 2024 graduating seniors of Shelbyville Central High School and Cascade High School.

The two $1,250 scholarships are for seniors going into an Ag-related career with an emphasis in 4-H and FFA during their elementary and high school years. Both graduates plan to study agriculture education at UT-Martin and aspire in the future to be high school Ag teachers.

The awards are presented in conjunction with the start next week of Bedford County Fair, which runs July 15-20 at the Ag Center grounds, 2119 Midland Road, Shelbyville.

Fair events include everything from carnival rides to a husband calling contest. Keeping in mind the agriculture theme, there will be animal shows and home ec/ag exhibits.

Bedford County Fair was awarded the Merit Award at this year's Tennessee Association of Fairs (TAF) Convention by the Tennessee Department of Agriculture. Bedford County was also awarded 2nd place for the number of items turned in for the Best of Tennessee Competition at the Tennessee State Fair.

Judy would be proud.



Submitted Photos

Judy F. Gambill, photo above, who passed away in August of 2023, was a long-time president of the Bedford County Fair and a 4-H volunteer leader. Pictured is Judy F. Gambill's husband, Paul Gambill, and her 2 daughters, Mary Alyson Tolar and Paula Roddy, along with the two scholarship winners, Tansi and Helena.

ON THE INSIDE

CLASSIFIEDS ..... PAGES 7
SPORTS ..... PAGES 9-10
OBITUARIES ..... PAGE 8
PUBLIC NOTICES ..... PAGE 7

Blue Raider Kids Club Sign Ups Available

Blue Raider fans 12 and younger are invited to join the Blue Raider Kids Club for the 2024-2025 academic year

See Page 10A



Councilman refutes slam on City

During the recent City Council study session, Councilman Turnbow refuted comments by Shane Hooper, during a County budget meeting.

See Page 3A

7 39292 00056 5

FELDHAUS

From page 1

"It infuriates me, because it's just always bad, always gets personal and always an attack . . .," said Feldhaus. "I'm not here to attack or defend Shane Hooper other than when it [Duksan] was Cardinal, it was Cardinal. We didn't know the name. We didn't know the details."

Feldhaus is a former joint economic advisory board member, a previous member of the 231 Industrial Park Board and lastly sat on the Partnership board with Hooper when he was first hired. There are currently no City officials on the Partnership Board, since the City decided it was not being consulted properly on industrial and economic matters. The City eventually withdrew its $100,000 initial commitment to the Partnership.

According Council members and the Mayor, the City was removed from that board, though it had already spent $400,000 on economic development.

Feldhaus added at Tuesday's meeting. "We have to let the system work. The State of Tennessee has turned us down twice, now, any kind of review for us. I regret the vote we took last month, personally, that we're now going to spend taxpayer money to kind of force them to do a review for us when it doesn't meet their standards."

Feldhaus stated there are no chemicals to be stored at Duksan that will be like a ticking time bomb ready to explode. He referred to the "ticking time bomb" as made in a statement made earlier by Council member Marilyn Ewing, who had complimented those trying to adhere to safety measures at Duksan.

Feldhaus continued that there are laws-building and life safety codes-which have to be adhered to by professional architects and engineers working within this construction project-one he emphasized encompasses hundreds of millions. He said those professionals could put their licenses on the line and they're not going to certify anything unless it meets those life safety codes.

"What we're hearing from the State of Tennessee, we really do not have life safety big time issues here," said Councilman Feldhaus. "That is the reason that they're not willing to just help us jump on board, I guess, as some people want to do, and call it a chemical plant.

He added, "Yes, it has chemicals. But I assure you there are plants in this town that are much, much, much worse timebombs that are sitting here than Duksan will ever be. Right now, that's just watercooler talk . . . and we don't have any information."

Feldhaus defended the Korean plant representatives. "Duksan people are most cooperative. They brought people back from Korea to make sure they had the right interpretation going. I've seen nothing but cooperation from them."

He said from the Shelbyville side, nothing but rumors. "Just because a citizen comes up to me, you, any of us, and wants to know details and hears these rumors, sometimes we have to say, I don't know but I'll try to get you that information."

He added Council should not "pile it on" and "point fingers," especially since construction is not even finished. He said that's been happening for over a year.

"We've had reception requests for our attendance. We refused to go. I went.The Koreans were serious about trying to meet and communicate with the City. And all we've done, I think, is kick sand right back at them."

He added about the recent Summit-the meeting where several Duksan safety issues were addressed. "We don't have a relationship with anybody on that site and that building. That speaks VOLUMES for the City of Shelbyville's practices not Duksan's practices."

Feldhaus said City Council right now cannot change codes and has to abide with the law. He said he can only conclude, based on discussions, that Council wants to make personal attacks.

"I don't to make personal attacks. I want the system to work and the citizens to get high quality jobs that they're bringing," said Feldhaus.

Mayor Randy Carroll said he's listened and watched this process since he took office; he advised he can take the high road. He said he personally leaves untruths and false accusations in the Lord's hands; he quoted "vengeance is mine, sayeth The Lord."

Then Carroll said the City of Shelbyville has spent hundreds of thousands of dollars and received bills for hundreds of thousands dollars for a road that was moved for Duksan. He said it was up to him to address the industrial board on that decision.

He said his predecessor had already informed him that was a cul da sac where business people would have access to every piece of that property. Carroll said no one will stand up and admit they made a mistake.

"The City of Shelbyville is still spending money. The County is not spending money for these inspections. The City of Shelbyville will have to take care of the streets, because that's going to be on City property. So the City of Shelbyville is doing its job."

COMMISSION

From page 1

ceeded the state average," said Garrett, noting meeting those standards is another goal of the school system and they're getting closer and closer.

The superintendent said one of the things she wanted to cover is that Tennessee standards are very rigorous. She said very few districts across the state achieve 90 percentile or higher.

Garrett shared there's some good news about graduation rates-numbers actually still embargoed by the state until October. While she can't release specific numbers, she said local graduation rates are higher than they've been in years.

The graduation rate follows a freshman and continues with the student for 4 years and eventually to graduation day.

She reminded the Commissioners about the ribbon cutting at the new Cartwright Elementary on Thursday, July 11, at 5 p.m.

Mayor Chad Graham said, "We are grateful what is being done in this County."

He commended Garrett's leadership.

"We have made education a priority. We made investments in not only education and teachers but facilities," said Graham.

Garrett added that per pupil spending in the South Central District is sometimes discussed. The superintendent told Commissioners she believes the County is getting a good return on its investment.

Register of Deeds

The Register of Deeds' Office is commissioned by State law to record and preserve certain documents that provide public notice of property ownership, liens and contracts and other transactions and information that affect the public interest. The Register of Deeds office is given specific direction by these Tennessee law statutes on how to record, index and maintain the records including detailing the specific information that is required on the documents, the information that our office must place on the documents, and the need for accurate indexing of the documents to allow for easy accessibility. Revenues are derived from recording and filing fees and a commission of the collection of State of Tennessee conveyance and mortgage taxes. Proper accounting procedures are required including the monthly reporting to the State Department of Revenue of all taxes collected. Audits are conducted annually by the State of Tennessee.

Bedford County Register of Deeds Johnny Reed said Tuesday night that his office had another busy year with this quarter being the busiest.

"Housing is just unreal here in Bedford County. The average house is $300,000 to $325,000. That's what the average house is selling for now."

He said 12,000 documents were recorded this year in the Register of Deeds office. He commended his office staff for their work.

Reed said his office is doing a lot of electronic deliveries these days. He said COVID has necessitated such changes within this community.

Reed said the staff has made enough room in the office to store 25 to 30 years of deed books. In the next four years, Reed said available shelving should allow for 100 years of storage for deed books for Bedford County.

The other County official speaking during the Commission meeting was Tonya Davis, Bedford County Trustee. See Thursday's online story at t-g.com about Davis' touching presentation. It will also be printed in the July 25th edition.

County officials giving reports Tuesday night were commended by Commissioner Drew Hooker. He said he believed all County officials should be giving these types of reports each month at regular Commission meetings.

Four finalists: 'Coolest Thing Made in Tennessee' contest

Some local towns and companies among 2024 nominees

NASHVILLE, Tennessee – Three rounds and nearly 45,000 votes later, the inaugural "Coolest Thing Made in Tennessee" contest is down to its final four contestants.

"We are thrilled to see such strong support for our local manufacturers and the incredible products they make right here in Tennessee," Bradley Jackson, President & CEO of the Tennessee Chamber of Commerce & Industry/Tennessee Manufacturers Association, said. "As we narrow it down to the Top 4, I encourage everyone to continue voting and join us at our celebratory luncheon later this month as we honor the finalists and announce a winner."

The Tennessee Chamber and Tennessee Manufacturers Association, in partnership with the University of Tennessee Center for Industrial Services, Chattanooga Regional Manufacturers Association, and Smart Factory Institute Tennessee, launched this light-hearted competition which saw over 100 submissions showcasing Tennessee's business and manufacturing community.

The contest is also geared to shine a light on the state's manufacturing industry, which employees 1 out of 8 Tennesseans and contributes over $62 billion to the state's economy.

To view the full list of 2024 nominees, click here.

Voting for the Top 4 will close Wednesday, July 24. The Top 4 finalists are listed below:

Eastman Tritan™ Renew - Eastman: Eastman Tritan™ Renew

Eclipse Glasses - American Paper Optics: American Paper Optics Eclipse Glasses

Phone As A Key (PAAK) - DENSO: DENSO Phone As A Key (PAAK)

Rogue - Nissan: Nissan Rogue

Voting for the Top 4 starts Tuesday, July 9, and runs through Wednesday, July 24. The winner will be announced on Thursday, July 25, at The Coolest Thing Made in Tennessee lunch and the Smart Solutions for Smart Factories Expo at The Commons at PIE Innovation Center in Cleveland, Tennessee.

Registration details for the luncheon, as well as sponsorship opportunities, can be found here.

Those product/nominees with a middle Tennessee and local connection include:

George Dickel Bottled in Bond Spring 2011, Aged 12 Years - George Dickel, Wartrace

Jack Daniel's Tennessee Whiskey - Jack Daniel Distillery, Lynchburg

Lodge Cast Iron Skillet - Lodge Cast Iron (now has a shop in Lynchburg)

McDonald's Chicken McNugget - Tyson Foods, Shelbyville, TN

MoonPie Solar Eclipse Survival Kit - Chattanooga Bakery, Inc. and Bell Buckle

Phoenix Bass Boats - Phoenix Boats, Winchester

Rogue – Nissan, Smyrna and Decherd

Safety Switches – Eaton, former plant in Shelbyville

Prayer isn't useless

Living by faith and not by sight

By Dawn Hankins

How often do we pray as a community for those in need? It shouldn't take a major crisis for us to come together and ask The Lord for comfort, guidance.

God may answer your prayers right away. He may want you to wait for answers. We should be faithful, whichever is the case.

There's a great Christian song, "While I Wait," by Lincoln Brewster. To me, this signifies a great prayer partner.

"Deep within my heart, I know You've won I know You've overcome, And even in the dark, when I'm undone, I still believe it I live by faith, and not by sight, Sometimes miracles take time, While I wait, I will worship Lord, I'll worship Your name While I wait, I will trust You Lord, I'll trust You all the same."

You don't have to be at church every time the doors open to be a faithful prayer warrior. Though, in these times, that's not a bad idea either.

You can pray right in your own room. Ever seen the movie, "War Room?" It's a keeper.

The late Dr. Charles Stanley use to say handle life with prayer. One of his most famous quotes was, "We must remember that the shortest distance between our problems and their solutions is the distance between our knees and the floor."

How often do we pray for the events taking place right at our backdoor-human remains being found on familiar county road, an accident or a missing child? If you read the public record, you know there's a lot of things to pray about, right here.

How about praying for school children, teachers, bus drivers. You know now all that can be offered in the way of prayer at schools is done in silence. But they can't take that away, at least.

A town is always going to have its problems. We are not exempt over the years with crime.

But today, we are being more shocked at the way people are abusing one another, fighting and using drugs.

Thankfully, this is a praying community-one which prays for our neighbors when things happen like a drowning of a young family man.

Jesus talked about prayer and prayed a lot. One of his most beautiful prayers is in the Garden the night before his crucifixion.

When you pray, don't be like the hypocrites. They love to stand in the synagogues and on the street corners and pray so people will -see [notice] them. I tell you the truth, they already have their full reward. 6 When you pray, you should go into your [private; inner] room and close the door and pray to your Father -who cannot be seen [or who is in that secret place; or secretly; in private]. Your Father can see what is done in -secret [private], and he will reward you.

7 "And when you pray, don't be like -those people who don't know God [the pagans/ Gentiles/heathen]. They -continue saying things that mean nothing [babble; repeat empty phrases], thinking -that God will hear them [L they will be heard; C the passive verb implies God as subject] because of their many words. 8 Don't be like them, because your Father knows the things you need before you ask him.



T-G Photo by Dawn Hankins

Live by faith, not by sight. But in the process, see God's goodness.

Liberty FCE meeting report

Liberty FCE Club met June 17 with Ann Spencer reporting the day's events.

Betty Renegar called the meeting to order and read the garden hint. Bonnye Catron read, "The Honey Bee."

Doris Turrentine had the devotion, "A Time to Bloom." She advised, "Don't hold on to the past. Be open to the new season."

The club picnic was planned for Saturday, July 15. The club will provide the meat and the members will bring sides.

Announcements: The Farmer's Market opened June 13. Share Fair was June 25 at the extension office.

Neli Micho gave the program, "Tapping Away Stress." She presented ways to relieve stress by touching acupoints on the body.

Doris Turrentine had a club demonstration-a child's dress and pillow case.

Debbie Parker had a picture of her granddaughters-one in college and one in high school.

The next meeting is July 15. Leader training is July 30.



Councilman Turnbow refutes Hooper's slam on City

By DAWN HANKINS

During the recent Shelbyville City Council study session, Councilman Bobby Turnbow refuted comments recently made against the City by Shane Hooper, Partnership CEO during a County budget meeting.

Hooper was actually asked several questions by County commissioners about Partnership. In the midst, the Partnership CEO took the opportunity to slam the City for its recent activity regarding the Chamber and Partnership, which are now one entity.

While Hooper did not specifically name "The City of Shelbyville," he referred to several events which were clearly City-related and decisions made during public City meetings. He discussed the City's dissolvement with the Partnership last year. He also referred to the Chamber/Partnership in regard to the City's request for membership-all decisions made public.Hooper sneered at the fact that the City sent the Chamber $5,000 for membership after leaving the Partnership.

Turnbow advised Council that he's received numerous calls from his constituents who watched the County's YouTube video. He said he's watched the video several times and, yes, he's gotten mad over it.

"To be honest with you, I'm tired of it. We didn't fund them last year, so Mr. Hooper and the Partnership decided the City of Shelbyville is the absolute worst place in this world. I've lived here for 67 years. I'm gonna die here."

He added, "My message to Shane Hooper and the Partnership, if you don't like the City of Shelbyville, go back to Mississippi! I'm tired of them attacking the City of Shelbyville."

Turnbow said Duksan is perhaps the Partnership's greatest accomplishment. But he advised how the City was not aware Duksan, as it was later known, would be a battery chemical factory.

Turnbow mentioned that Councilman William Christie knows all this, because he was sitting on the joint economic development advisory committee at the beginning of Project Cardinal/Duksan. Also on that board previously was Councilman Henry Feldhaus.

Turnbow mentioned David Coffey of the Partnership, who was standing behind Hooper at the County meeting. Coffey was discussing with the County his new PAC group.

Turnbow mentioned how Coffey sits on the Shelbyville Power, Water and Sewerage Board. He advised that if Coffey is that unhappy with the City of Shelbyville he should turn in his resignation to the power board.

Turnbow charged Hooper and the Partnership with "giving the industrial park away" and giving Duksan such a "deal on taxes" they'll be out of business and moving on before the City turns around with the deal.

But what really burdened Turnbow is that Hooper took an opportunity to blast the City during a County Commission meeting. He said that stands to reason as the County had just funded the Partnership in its new fiscal year budget. That was when Hooper was asked by a commissioner to explain the Partnership.

"The County still funds them and they're the greatest people in the world. And the City . . . the worst people in the world. And I'm not going for that." (The City pulled out of the Partnership last year due to being uninformed on several matters involving local development on City property.)

Turnbow took Hooper's words personal for the whole City. "Shelbyville ain't a bad place. It ain't perfect. But it dang sure ain't a bad place."

Turnbow said he's been on Council 2 years and many good things have been developed during that time-several businesses including a new ammunition factory. He said Shelbyville City Council is moving ahead and despite what some on social media say, Council members are not just twiddling their thumbs.

Still, fact is fact. The City is charged with dealing with the Duksan safety issues-those which could potentially affect health and welfare of this community.

Turnbow stated his true feelings. "This chemical plant is the absolute worst thing that's happened around here. But we've got to deal with it. It's here, for the time being."



The state legislature has been busy. Here is what came out of session in regard to aging and vulnerable adults.

Support for nursing home residents / House Bill 2321 by Hazlewood- The General Assembly approved legislation this year to provide additional financial support for long-term nursing home residents in Tennessee. The new law increases the personal needs allowance for residents from $50 to $70 per month. Previous state law allowed Medicaid-eligible individuals receiving long- term care in a nursing home to deduct a portion of their income to use on personal needs with the remainder being applied to the cost of their care. Effective upon signature / Public Chapter 986

Improving public restroom accommodations for disabled adults / House Bill 2690 by Doggett - A new law increases the availability of public adult-sized changing tables in Tennessee. The measure allows the Department of Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities to increase grant amounts from $5,000 to $10,000 to support the installation of powered, height-adjustable, adult-sized changing tables in public restrooms statewide.

The law also allows for the creation of an ad-hoc committee to advise and assist with grant applications. The General Assembly in 2022 allocated $1 million in state funding to expand the availability of adult-sized changing tables in public restrooms in Tennessee. Effective upon signature / Public Chapter 607 Expanding the Tennessee Adult Protection Act / House Bill 1680 by Lamberth, Cochran, Alexander- This legislation expands on the definition of what defines abuse, neglect by including self-neglect as it relates to the Tennessee Adult Protection Act (Act) as an adult's inability, due to physical or cognitive impairment, to provide, obtain, or maintain services necessary to the adult's own health or welfare. Clarifies that self-neglect is considered abuse or neglect. Effective upon Signature / Public Chapter 512 Encouraging reports of elder abuse / House Bill 441 by Shaw- To help fight against elder abuse, lawmakers passed legislation requiring district attorneys to provide confidentiality for those who report information regarding elder abuse. Under the law, those who come forward can still be interviewed, but their identity will be protected. The legislation also clarifies these individuals' information must be reported to the district attorney from Adult Protective Services. This will help DAs go after abusers by encouraging citizens with knowledge of abuse to come forward. Effective July 1, 2024 / Public Chapter 655 Protecting elderly and disabled adults / House Bill 2420 by Barrett– In an effort to protect Tennessee's vulnerable communities, lawmakers passed a law for elderly and disabled adults and their families to guard against financial exploitation. The law removes the financial and beneficiary rights of a surviving spouse if the spouse is found by a court to have entered into a marriage in a deceptive or financially exploitative manner. Effective upon signature / Public Chapter 772 Increasing access to wheelchair repairs / House Bill 2147 by Hale - Ensures that simple, non- clinical repairs can be made independently to wheelchairs without voiding their warranty. The law also allows for annual preventative maintenance visits to be conducted by a wheelchair supplier. Previously, wheelchair repairs were required to be performed by an authorized technician with their supplier, or the warranty could be voided. The process could be time-consuming and prevent users from going to work or being out in the community. Effective July 1, 2024 / Public Chapter 1050 Print Disability Absentee Voting Act / House Bill 2293 by Davis- This new law directs the coordinator of elections to make absentee ballots accessible to voters who are blind and those with other print disabilities. Print disability is defined as a disability that interferes with a person's ability to read, write, or use printed materials. The law will help those with print disabilities be able to vote in private and keep their vote confidential. Effective August 2, 2024 / Public Chapter 689 Elder abuse - protecting finances for elderly and vulnerable adults / House Bill 1248 by Powers- This legislation authorizes a financial service provider, or an officer or employee of the provider, that has reasonable cause to suspect that an elderly or vulnerable adult is the victim or target of financial exploitation, to convey the suspicion to the TBI's elder financial reporting mechanism; requires the TBI to create an elder financial exploitation reporting mechanism that accepts reports from financial institutions. Effective May 21, 2024 and October 1, 2024 Public Chapter 972.

Home Renovations
FREE ESTIMATES
Licensed • Insured
From Floor to Ceiling & Everything in Between
Custom Built Decks
Custom Tile Projects
Kitchen/Bath Redesign
Jerry Reid 931-675-1733
Bright Davis 931-607-5490

AD VERITAS

Too old to be president?



Daniel Richardson
daniel@RichardsonMediaGroup.net

Recently, national news outlets have focused on President Biden's performance and apparent cognitive decline during the recent debate with Donald Trump. Previous reports of President Biden's severe memory loss had raised concerns, but the issue faded from public discourse until the debate brought it back into the spotlight.

Along with discussion over appeals from Democratic party leaders for the president to step down from the bid for a second term, some have mentioned that they feel he is "too old" to run for president. This year's election is a historical one in that, for the major parties, it positions the two oldest candidates to ever run for the office. It's important to remember that Donald Trump, at 78, is also quite advanced in age. But I think centering the conversation on age versus cognitive ability is an oversimplification. Yes, our nations first president, and therefore also the precedent (George Washington), was 65 years old when he chose not to run for a third term. But it should be considered that for the time (1797), Washington had already nearly lived up his "three score years and ten" (Psalm 90:10), and the average life expectancy at the time was 35-40 years. This was skewed due to high infant and child mortality rates (only two of Thomas Jefferson's 10 children survived to adulthood), but even those who reached voting age could only reasonably expect to live well into their 60s if they had access to a good diet and reasonable medical care. Even Washington himself, the picture of vigor and vitality, died at the age of 67.

To compare this to modern times, Joe Biden (81, and Donald Trump (78), have ages that are similar in a way to Washington's, when comparing to modern life expectancy.

One important thing to consider, however, is that while we're staying alive longer now than our ancestors, in many cases the brain seems to age just as fast (or faster) than it ever did. Our ancestors didn't often have to deal with the realities of Alzheimer's, dementia, and other mental illnesses that come with age. They just weren't living long enough in most cases. Not all people today who live will into their 80s and 90s suffer from these terrible ailments. Many of us are familiar with people who have aged well into their 90s and never missed a lick cognitively. Sadly, however, there are many who do suffer in varying degrees from one memory-effecting problem or more.

To the casual observer, it seems that our president is one of those many people who are suffering from cognitive decline in his old age. The pressures of the presidency, especially in modern times where the speed of communication has increased both the pace and the volume of information that must be processed, responded to, and remembered for the highest office in the land. Add that to the fact that our government, particularly the executive branch, is way larger and more complex than our founders ever intended, and you end up with a definite requirement for a president who can think on their feet and remember information very well. After all, very important decisions are being made every day.

It may be that Trump is not far behind Biden in this regard. He's not getting any younger. If elected, he'll be older than Biden is now by the end of his term. He may never suffer from cognitive decline, but the odds only get larger with age and added pressure and stress.

My opinion on the issue is this: The "golden years", as we call them, should be spent in a relaxing environment where a person's life experience, wisdom, and personality can be enjoyed by both them and those around them, without being put in stressful positions where they have to call on their memory at a moment's notice. Our culture overall doesn't seem to have much respect and reverence for our elders, and this is a mistake. Those in their final years have much to teach us and pass on. This can only be done through spending quality time together. Those fortunate enough to have a great-grandparent still living (as my children do) should spend as much time as reasonably possible with them to form a relationship that they'll remember for the rest of their lives. People alive in their 90s today lived through part of the Great Depression, World War II, the Korean War, and the Vietnam War. Those first-hand accounts for everyday life during those times will soon no longer be accessible.

Let's respect, honor, and cherish our elders. They should never feel as if they're a burden on us, or that their usefulness has passed. They're not a burden, but a blessing – one that all-too often isn't appreciated until it's gone.

Let us help you spread the news!

We welcome you to submit content for publication in The Times-Gazette and on our website www.t-g.com.

- *Press Releases*
- *Announcements*
- *Letters to the Editor*
- *Obituaries*
- *Guest Column/Op/Ed*

SHELBYVILLE TIMES-GAZETTE

TENNESSEE PRESS ASSOCIATION
SHELBYVILLE TIMES-GAZETTE
USPS PE 492660
Richardson Media Group, Inc
411 Elm St. • Shelbyville, Tenn. 37162

Copyright 2024. Shelbyville Times-Gazette (USPS 492-660) is published weekly on Thursday by Richardson Media Group, Inc., 411 Elm St., Shelbyville, TN 37162.

Periodical postage paid at Shelbyville, TN 37162. POSTMASTER: Send Address Changes to Shelbyville Time-Gazette, P.O. Box 380, 37162.

CONTACT US
NEWSROOM
news@t-g.com
ADVERTISING DEPT.
advertising@t-g.com
CIRCULATION
circulation@t-g.com
(931) 684-1200
RICHARDSON MEDIA GROUP

Shelbyville Times-Gazette Subscription Rates
In county Mail
3 months $28.75
6 months $58.50
1 year $98.75
Other Mail
3 months $46.30
6 months $91.70
1 year $182.45
Adjacent County Mail (Coffee, Lincoln & Rutherford)
3 months $32.20
6 months $65.80
1 year $13.50

BIG SMO

From page 1

er, they've healed one another's hearts in a multitude of ways.

Together John Smith and Sara Beth Lewis are now known as the Smolicius plant-based food truck team. They share all their recipes and give all their information away.

He's no longer living the fast music tour lifestyle-one filled with groupies, bus rides, security checks and constant eating. He has no regrets about his lifestyle change-only that he didn't wake up and do it sooner.

"Our goal, when it came to this business, was to try to help the community. That is goal No. 1 because I don't have to work. I've been fortunate to make music that will forever pay my bills. I don't require a lot," said the 48-year-old.

He has traveled all over the country and to parts of the world. He knows what makes Southerners happy-fried, greasy foods.

John goes back to what caused all his health issues and isn't afraid to share his story with customers.

As "Big Smo," he went on a West Coast and Canadian tour and then things went sour. "After hitting the road, going to several shows, it got worse," he notes, revealing he went into several hospitals during that tour from California to Canada. He was having to do cans of oxygen.

"I got really big during the TV show, because everything was catered. And the lifestyle of doing a television show is super unhealthy."

As if physical health wasn't killing John, the exploitation of his weight was mentally depressing. He was just not in a good physical and mental state.

"I do not believe I would still be alive," he says.

John said through education, he's learned that eating is not just something a person does. "Eating is a very strategic program ...."

Sara Beth says candy is often used as a reward for kids. They spend some of their time-his bigger goal-talking to students about how to be healthy. They've visited Cascade classrooms.

They were taken back by what students eat, or don't eat. That's just the truth or at least the way they see it.

John advises, "I really don't care about adults because they have the means and resources to figure it out. But children are victims of this. They have no say in what they eat."

He said if your grandparents were raised on a lot of heavy animal products and cheeses, then parents will adapt. He said it just gets passed down from generation to generation.

Sara Beth says "granny" is no longer preparing fresh foods but is now dependent on fast food chains. And that's sad, coming from someone who has grappled with weight issues.

John says oil in foods is the devil itself. He and Sara are now vegetarian. They are also concerned with the humanitarian aspects of eating meat.

John knows experience has been his best teacher. "Once I found out my happiness had more value than the dollar, I started focusing on what made me happy."

And It took him a while to see what was really causing his unhappiness. He isn't afraid to say he's been "fat" most of his life.

John grew up in San Diego when his dad was in the U.S. Navy and moved her during his preschool age. Most folks here know he was large at age 10. He grew up and attended Liberty School.

He would later have a therapist, due to some childhood problems. That therapist is credited for encouraging him to write about his life.

"I loved rap music. I grew up on the Fat Boys, the Beastie Boys and Vanilla Ice," he recalls. "Even in the third grade I was performing Fat Boys' Wipe Out in front of the whole school."

He would go on and play trumpet in high school. Music was always his passion; he played by ear. "It just all came together . . . buddy of mine let me borrow a drum machine and an 8-track tape recorder. I figured out how to make a beat and record it. I had my dad's old Navy headphones and a Radio Shack microphone."

He made his first song and learned how to record music. He'd go to parties and ask people to "play his tape."

He served as a local DJ at a Shelbyville bar. He'd sneak his music in when he worked.

His father turned an old shed into a recording studio. Most of former "Big Smo's" music was recorded there.

The music was therapy for a local boy with lots of issues. He began smoking cigarettes, doing drugs and drinking by his young teen years.

Top all that, he ate like a Southerner. "I would pile it up. No one would say that's too much. My family would sit around and say, 'look at that boy, he can eat.' It was almost celebrated."

"I was made famous by being big, Smo," he notes.

Sadly, he suffered acid reflux all his life. He says his acid reflux left after he began his clean diet. He got off medication he took for 30 years-heart medicines included.

"I've been off all medications for over 3 years," says John, whose former diet included barbecue made by his own pit boss. He lost track of all the energy drinks which he says got to be an insane habit.

"It was almost like they were trying to fatten me up for the TV show."

"One of the shows had girls with a fishing rod and donut on it. He was supposed to chase it!" said Sara.

"That's why I ultimately got out of the music industry and into this industry. The music industry has become so dark . . . evil."

John said he still has to make healthy choices and he still struggles. He said he was a guy who could easily eat 30 slices of pizza in one sitting.

He figured out how to make burgers out of beets, beans and mushrooms. He said it's all about the right seasonings and textures and people will think they're really eating burgers and pizzas.

"Once I learned that, it opened the door for unlimited menu items. You just had to get creative."

John admits he cried grown man tears the day he found out he couldn't eat cheese.

When he and Sara Beth got more refined and cut out gluten and oil, he discovered every commercial plant-based item he counted on had oil and everything had gluten-natural flavors, citric acid, etc. So, they got busy learning how to make their own desserts and plant-based bread with red lentils.

They are big fruit and raw vegetable eaters. Desserts, sure. But whole foods, plant-based.

"This is my Snickers," says John, holding up a date.

They've also given up caffeine. They compare that habit as one taking stimulant drugs.

Both admit they have had a hard time giving up caffeine. The two of them work out, instead. That's where their energy originates these days.

"It's the greatest reward . . . being able to move your body," says Sara Beth. "Exercise makes me happy."

As well, helping the public discover clean living through the Smolicious Food Truck is also bringing them much happiness. On April 22, 2024, they parked their bright colored truck on the Best Way Parking lot on South Cannon Boulevard.

"At Smolicious, we are passionate about providing the community of Shelbyville healthy plant-based options. Our goal is simplicity-from our menu of soups, salads, smoothies and sweets."

The truck is open with new summer hours from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays. John and Sarah Beth have their own prep kitchen which is separate from the food truck.

Standing in the midst of the pristine stainless steel room, John says he owes nothing on this venture. He's been blessed. He only wants to help his community live a better way of life.

Smolicious foods are his way of giving thanks for a second chance at life. "I was about to have to have hip surgery," notes John. "When I quit eating gluten and oil all that went away. My knee pain went away. My skin problems were gone."

Sara says that she was on a weight loss spiral when she met John. At that point, they were a walking health disaster, they admit, so they knew something had to change. "We knew we loved each other but we didn't love ourselves."

In regards to him leaving the lifestyle of a rap singer, John advises strongly, "If you can't tie your own shoe, without being in pain and out of breath, it doesn't matter how popular you are, or how much money you have."

Life is better over death. That's where he knows he was headed-to an early grave.

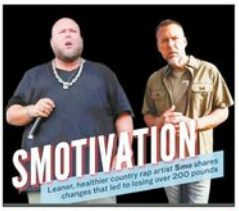
John remembers coming off stage out of breath and needing oxygen. If he had not taken control of his own health, would John, the former "Big Smo," as he's grown to be loved, still be alive?

"I don't think I would be alive, if I didn't hold myself accountable for my lifestyle, now. I shouldn't be here. So, everything from 2015 to now, it's bonus life. She is the bonus to my life."

John has children and just became a grandfather. "My whole life has led me to where I am today. It was all God's plan."

Be sure to follow Smolicious on Facebook for regular updates! Drop by and chat with John and Sara Beth!

LET'S GET SMO-TIVATED



After just a few months, the Big SMO is already helping Shelbyville and Bedford County get healthy with the SMOLICIOUS Mobile Eatery. From smoothies to desserts, it's plant-based. THE BIG SMO says the "kinfolk" are making it happen. See the SMOLICIOUS ad in today's paper. Here are a few tips from the leader of health himself. Talk to them about your health. Stay motivated! Just ask the BIG SMO. It can happen. Happy eating kinfolk!









KIDS
FREE SACK LUNCH
Saturday, July 13, 2024
12-until Supplies last
Scott's Chapel UMC
Shelbyville Housing Authority
Community Center
843 Courtland Drive
Shelbyville, TN 37160
https://scottchapelumc.org/

SCOTT'S CHAPEL UMC
SEASONED WITH A TOUCH OF SALT
FOOD PANTRY
SATURDAY
JULY 13, 2024
9AM
SCOTT'S CHAPEL UMC
940 MORTON STREET
SHELBYVILLE,TN 37160
FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT
HTTPS://SCOTTCHAPELUMC.ORG

JAIL INTAKE Bedford County Corrections

Editor's note: If the incarcerated are from outside Bedford County, their city or town, as provided to police, will be listed. If there is no address, you may assume those are from this county or no correct address was available.

Maxwell Tyler Cole, Cornersville, failure to appear, to serve time General Sessions Court
Johny Baltazar Diego, violation of probation
Dustin James Farris, hold extradition another state
Marquis Delshaun Hayes, burglary, 2 counts theft property
Douglas Lawson, misuse of 911
Natalith Lazares-Espejo, light law, no driver's license exhibited on demand
Salvador Lopez-Valasquez, driving on suspended license, light law
Charles Ray Mallard, homeless, shoplifting
Theotis Shadale Malone, Murfreesboro, violation of probation
Amanda Dawn Miller, to serve time, General Sessions Court
Angela Morgan, driving on revoked, light law
David Roman Ortiz Lopez, violation of probation
Saydi Rean Pearman, assault
Pablo Perez-Hernandez, failure to yield, financial responsibility, no driver's license exhibited on demand
Kerry Yavagious, homeless, criminal trespassing
Walker Alan Rose, Lynchburg, possession of drug paraphernalia, possession of Schedule VI
Ernesto Sebastian Sebastian, light law, no driver's license exhibited on demand
Cameron Rene Thomas, simple possession
Edward Viada III, Murfreesboro, driving on suspended license
Mary Helen Wright, failure to appear, violation probation, to serve time General Sessions Court
Sandra Kay Arnold, driving on suspended, speeding
Rodrigos Curo Martinez, Montgomery, Ala., no driver's license exhibited on demand, violation of registration law
Rosa Karena Hernandez, simple possession
Coty Joe King, public intoxication
Michaux Dorante Maxwell, public intoxication
Cheryl Lynn Vollmer, public intoxication



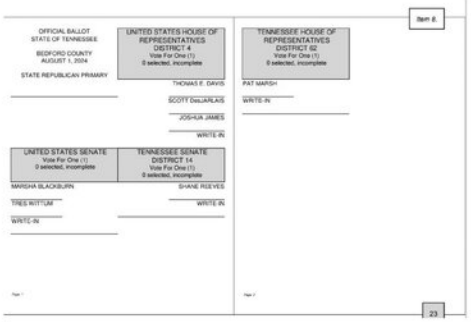
ANDREW KOEHLER



JON EVANS

Shelbyville Police Department officers recognized on 2nd anniversary

Shelbyville Police Department Officers Andrew Koehler and Jon Evans have been recognized on their 2nd anniversaries with the SPD. Officer Koehler serves on the A night shift as the field training officer. His commitment, professionalism, and leadership have significantly impacted the department and community, SPD officials stated. Officer Evans is a member of the SPD A Day Shift team. SPD said he's consistently demonstrating dedication, professionalism, and a commitment to keeping this community safe.





Operation Southern Slow Down
Shelbyville Police Department is partnering with the Tennessee Highway Safety Office for "Operation Southern Slow Down." SPD states the purpose of this multi-jurisdictional campaign is to increase traffic enforcement July 15-19 and to reduce speeding across the Southeast. In conjunction with other states, Shelbyville PD will increase education and law enforcement efforts to help reduce speeding-related crashes, injuries and fatalities across Tennessee.



Shelbyville Police Department

Monthly Statistics – June 2024

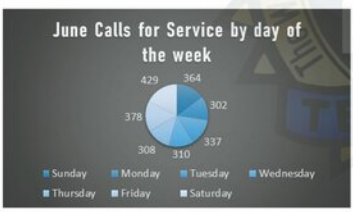


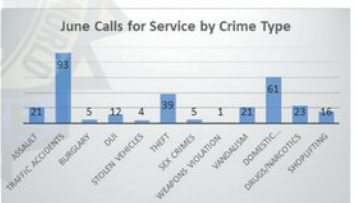
Total Calls for Service
2,428

These statistics provide a snapshot of the activities of the Shelbyville Police Department in June 2024. The Shelbyville Police Department remains committed to ensuring the safety and well-being of our community. We appreciate the ongoing support and cooperation of our residents.

Average call response time
< 5 minutes



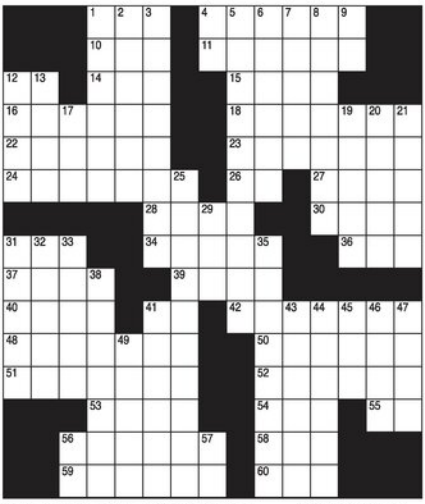




Crossword

CLUES ACROSS
1. Letter of the Greek alphabet
4. Cause to become entangled
10. Swiss river
11. Conversation
12. 'Magnum' was one
14. Small integer
15. Christmas
16. Of a specific mountain region
18. Burrowing bugs
22. Of a symbol worthy of veneration
23. A type of syndrome
24. Cephalopod mollusks
26. Metric ton
27. Ornamental box
28. As quickly as can be done
30. 'Hoop Dreams' subject Arthur
31. Old TV part
34. Extinct flightless birds
36. Former CIA
37. Successor
39. Archaic form of you
40. Within
41. Danny Hurley's alma mater
42. Not sacred or biblical
48. Written law
50. Popular hairstyle
51. Congressman
52. Type of font
53. A predetermined period in office
54. Pouch
55. Hormone that stimulates ovulation (abbr.)
56. One from a particular Asian region
58. One's sense of self-esteem
59. Headgear used to control a horse
60. The habitat of wild animals

CLUES DOWN
1. A right conferred through legal means
2. American island state
3. Inflexibly entrenched
4. 'Pollock' actor Harris
5. Foolish person
6. Follows a particular Chairman
7. Choose
8. Sunrooms
9. One hundred grams (abbr.)
12. A symptom of some physical hurt or disorder
13. South American hummingbird
17. 'Girl Chopping Onions' painter
19. Wild dog
20. Units of land
21. Footwear
25. Possessing a constant temperature
29. Hormone that promotes water retention (abbr.)
31. Popular game
32. Pension (German)
33. Giant of industry
35. Inferred
38. One who revolves
41. Kept possession of
43. Loss of electricity
44. Stoppered bottle
45. Everything
46. First to walk on the moon
47. Engrave
49. Female organs
56. Equal to 1,024 bytes (abbr.)
57. Northeast



Horoscopes

ARIES - Mar 21/Apr 20
Secrets that have been troubling you may come to a head this week, Aries. Try not to let your emotions get the best of you right now; otherwise, relationships could be damaged.
TAURUS - Apr 21/May 21
Taurus, your mind is all shaken up right now, so it should come as no surprise that you are distracted. The days ahead should see things settle down and you'll be able to refocus.
GEMINI - May 22/Jun 21
This week is likely to be fairly quiet for you, Gemini. You may have to drum up your own excitement. Start looking at event calendars or live music venues for a distraction.
CANCER - Jun 22/Jul 22
Cancer, use this week to think about your professional future. Many ideas are coming together and you just have to pick the route you would like to travel at this point.
LEO - Jul 23/Aug 23
There is little time for daydreaming right now, Leo. Things will come at you at a fast and furious pace and you might have to scramble to keep up. Keep your wits about you.
VIRGO - Aug 24/Sept 22
Virgo, you may feel like you are being hit with many obstacles from all directions. You might need to give yourself more time to devote to all of the tasks you take on. Ask for help if you need it.
LIBRA - Sept 23/Oct 23
Do not expect people to follow you blindly, Libra. You will have to give them reason to follow you and come around to your way of thinking.
SCORPIO - Oct 24/Nov 22
Scorpio, with so much going on around you, and after juggling various projects, concentrating can be very challenging. However, you must get your head in the game or risk mistakes.
SAGITTARIUS - Nov 23/Dec 21
Life isn't a spectator sport, Sagittarius. To really feel you are experiencing all you can right now, you must get right in the middle of the action. Friends can lead the way.
CAPRICORN - Dec 22/Jan 20
The path you are supposed to take is finally coming into focus, Capricorn. Your excitement will only increase as you start making plans for the future. Share your joy with others.
AQUARIUS - Jan 21/Feb 18
You don't need to completely reinvent yourself to make a change, Aquarius. Even small modification can make a big impact in the long run. Start gradually and build up.
PISCES - Feb 19/Mar 20
Even though there is a challenging prospect on the horizon, you have all of the information you need to start navigating this new stage in your life, Pisces.

FAMOUS BIRTHDAYS
JULY 14
Dan Reynolds, Singer (37)
JULY 15
Lana Parrilla, Actress (47)
JULY 16
Will Ferrell, Actor (57)
JULY 17
David Hasselhoff, Actor (72)
JULY 18
Kristen Bell, Actress (44)
JULY 19
Brian May, Musician (77)
JULY 20
Gisele BYndchen, Model (44)

TAKE A TRIP WORD SEARCH

X	U	B	Y	E	H	X	B	H	F	P	A	C	K	I	N	G	U	M	K
G	V	K	D	H	C	L	A	N	O	I	T	A	N	R	E	T	N	I	X
U	D	L	R	O	T	N	P	N	O	B	T	R	O	P	R	I	A	K	F
K	F	M	A	L	A	X	D	X	W	P	O	T	R	A	I	N	A	V	U
E	F	D	C	I	K	G	F	T	H	R	O	A	D	T	R	I	P	Y	I
P	V	F	T	D	E	R	E	I	R	F	N	H	W	O	B	H	R	K	W
U	H	X	S	A	O	Y	E	R	U	T	R	A	P	E	D	A	A	N	U
N	I	K	O	Y	F	Y	G	W	I	M	S	E	L	L	R	K	T	C	U
S	O	F	P	E	F	G	F	F	V	Y	A	V	Y	E	I	E	G	G	F
T	E	I	C	R	V	K	L	E	T	O	H	R	N	G	N	X	P	D	X
H	G	E	T	R	E	I	G	M	H	G	N	I	D	N	A	L	E	C	B
G	T	Y	G	A	O	S	S	V	T	B	T	M	R	M	M	S	K	K	P
I	I	R	U	A	X	G	I	U	T	I	C	V	P	O	T	K	W	F	D
S	H	O	K	C	G	A	X	U	L	B	T	K	A	I	O	O	X	Y	M
G	A	P	K	R	C	G	L	P	R	C	E	R	N	C	T	M	A	O	E
D	M	T	C	X	D	Y	U	E	X	C	N	A	O	X	A	W	F	M	X
V	T	I	X	C	X	Y	E	L	R	X	T	I	S	S	H	T	B	V	O
P	S	E	I	R	O	M	E	M	M	I	O	E	L	G	E	A	I	Y	G
V	O	A	U	G	H	P	B	L	O	O	Y	D	I	L	R	R	N	O	C
V	C	E	M	B	P	A	H	N	Y	V	N	H	M	K	A	V	O	A	N

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally, and backwards.

WORDS

AIRPORT
ALL-INCLUSIVE
CRUISE
DEPARTURE
DESTINATION
EMBARK
HIGHWAY
HOLIDAY
HOTEL
INTERNATIONAL
ITINERARY
LANDING
LUGGAGE
MEMORIES
PACKING
POSTCARD
RELAXATION
RESORT
ROAD TRIP
ROOM
SIGHTS
TAKE-OFF
TRAIN
VACATION

SUDOKU

Here is how it works: Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

5		4	7				2	8
		3						
6		9	1					7
		1					9	
	8		4		9	6		3
9	3	5					4	1
		6		7		4	8	
			2	6	5	3		
3	5			8		2		

Level: Beginner

6			9	4				5
		3				8		
				8				4
		7	6				1	
					3			
5	9		1					
	6							1
2		4						8
	3				8	7	2	6

Level: Intermediate

5								
8	9				2			
		6				3	4	
	5	1				8		
				8				2
			7		1	5		
		4	5	7			1	
2	1			9	6			3

Level: Advanced

COLOR ME



Misc For Sale

Prepare for power outages with Briggs & Stratton PowerProtect standby generators - the most powerful home standby generators available. Industry-leading comprehensive warranty 7 years ($849 value.) Proudly made in the U.S.A. Call Briggs & Stratton 1-844-470-0523. (TnScan)

Eliminate gutter cleaning forever! LeafFilter, the most advanced debris-blocking gutter protection. Schedule a FREE LeafFilter estimate today. 20% off Entire Purchase. Plus 10% Senior & Military Discounts. Call 1-855-389-3904 (TnScan)

Prepare for power outages today with a Generac Home Standby Generator. Act now to receive a FREE 5-Year warranty with qualifying purchase. Call 1-888-869-5542 today to schedule a free quote. It's not just a generator. It's a power move. (TnScan)

Auctions

GET THE WORD OUT about your next auction! Save Time & $$$. One Call For All. Your ad can appear in this newspaper + 97 other TN newspapers. For more info, contact this newspaper's classified dept. or call Becky Moats 931-624-8916. (TnScan)

Opportunities

YOUR LOW COST ADVERTISING Solution! One call & your 25 word ad will appear in 98 Tennessee newspapers for $275/wk or 27 West TN newspapers for $100/wk. Call this newspaper's classified advertising dept. or go to www.tnpress.com/newspaper-networks (TnScan)

Services

Attention: VIAGRA and CIALIS USERS! A cheaper alternative to high drugstore prices! 50 Pill Special - Only $99! 100% guaranteed. CALL NOW: 1-866-477-7591 (TnScan)

Get Boost Infinite! Unlimited Talk, Text and Data For Just $25/mo! The Power Of 3 5G Networks, One Low Price! Call Today and Get The Latest iPhone Every Year On Us! 855-454-6457 (TnScan)

Get DISH Satellite TV + Internet! Free Install, Free HD-DVR Upgrade, 80,000 On-Demand Movies, Plus Limited Time Up To $600 In Gift Cards. Call Today! 1-844-274-6074 (TnScan)

Replace your roof with the best looking and longest lasting material steel from Erie Metal Roofs! Three styles and multiple colors available. Guaranteed to last a lifetime! Limited Time Offer up to 50% off installation + Additional 10% off install (for military, health workers & 1st responders.) Call Erie Metal Roofs: 1-855-281-6212 (TnScan)

DENTAL INSURANCE from Physicians Mutual Insurance Company. Coverage for 400 plus procedures. Real dental insurance - NOT just a discount plan. Do not wait! Call now! Get your FREE Dental Information Kit with all the details! 1-844-278-8285 www.dental50plus.com/tnpress #6258 (TnScan)

Choose EarthLink Fiber Internet for speeds up to 5 Gigs, no data caps, no throttling. Prices starting at $54.95. Plus, a $100 gift card when you make the switch. Call 1-855-481-3340 (TnScan)

DIRECTV- All your entertainment. Nothing on your roof! Sign up for Direct and get your first free months of Max, Paramount+, Showtime, Starz, MGM+ and Cinemax included. Choice package $84.99/mo. Some restrictions apply. Call DIRECTV 1-844-230-4803 (TnScan)

Wanted

Paying Cash
For vintage sports, comics, antiques and card collections. Unopened boxes, cases and sets
931-492-4304

House for Rent

4 Bedrooms, 3 Bathrooms
Kitchen with appliances
Washer/Dryer Hook up
NO PETS
321 S. Brittain Street
$1,200 per month
Call: 931-580-9068

PUZZLE SOLUTIONS FROM PREVIOUS WEEK

ANSWER: Level: Advanced

F	M	M	S	D	P	E	L	S	D	T	A	O	T	F	A	W	M	H	K	L
M	B	T	Y	Y	F	A	S	O	T	E	M	P	E	R	A	T	U	R	E	
F	D	D	U	D	P	L	L	A	N	E	L	N	B	U	U	D	D	B	G	
P	M	N	S	C	R	E	W	S	F	E	I	S	K	O	T					
A	I	E	D	O	O	E	U	N	S	S	T	S	E	U	G	I	C	E	H	
R	H	F	U	C	N	W	G	U	L	T	B	I	G	R	I	L	L	U	U	
B	E	U	R	C	E	B	F	R	M	T	M	B	A	C	K	Y	A	R	D	
H	N	A	A	U	S	D	O	D	N	M	G	M	T	A	O	M				
H	H	M	K	D	K	B	Y	N	Y	B	A	F	O	E	U	O	B	Y	H	
C	E	A	A	S	T	E	R	O	S	B	H	L	O	H	D	P	C	A	L	
H	G	P	P	E	R	E	O	D	A	Y	O	S	A	K	R	P	R	W	M	N
P	H	M	O	S	S	C	A	S	T	L	E	R	O	C	K	R	H	N	H	S
K	O	A	S	O	T	O	M	P	S	B	A	L	C	L	F	A	R	S	C	
R	I	P	H	D	A	M	A	H	A	F	L	F	F	H	A	L	L	T	O	
A	I	E	Y	T	S	R	H	N	E	A	P	O	L	I	S	H	N	I	A	
B	A	C	P	U	E	I	S	O	S	N	F	H	G	C	R	P	G			
C	P	L	K	O	F	O	N	F	A	O	H	I	K	I	H	Y	K	O	S	
H	B	L	P	C	R	W	A	L	G	M	D	B	U	F	F	E	T	E	K	
P	N	D	C	T	P	P	T	H	E	M	D	S	S	S	S	T	E	P	O	M
A	E	N	M	U	M	D	E	C	N	L	O	L	S	W	T	P	Y	Y	T	

ANSWER: Level: Intermediate

O	C	T	A	V	O	S				S	U	M	B	A
C	A	R	M	I	N	E				O	K	R	A	S
U	N	A	P	P	E	A	S	A	B	L	E		T	E
L	T	D				S	A	R	I	S		G	I	P
A	L	E				O	L	E	O		T	O	S	S
R	E	D	E	F	I	N	E	S		C	O	A	T	I
			L	A	C	E	S		D	A	I	S	E	S
			A	C	E	D		S	O	U	L			
S	M	I	T	E	S		D	E	E	R	E			
T	A	C	E	T			L	A	S	S	I	T	U	D	E
A	L	B	S		T	A	R	S				S	U	M
T	O	M		N	I	S	E	I				A	L	B
U	D		C	O	N	T	R	O	L	L	A	B	L	E
T	O	T	E	D				N	E	T	T	L	E	D
E	R	N	E	S				S	U	M	M	E	R	S

ANSWER: Level: Beginner

Bedford County property transfers

The following property sales were recently recorded in the Bedford County Register of Deeds office.

File date: July 2

Location: Pepper Hill Rd Bell Buckle; Seller, Barbara Jean Faulk; Buyer, Amelia Grey Adams Todd, Casey Garrett Todd; Price, $0 (QD).

Seller, May Torey Homes LLC; Buyer, Robert Bobby Guerrero, Amanda Guerrero; Price, $469,900 (Deed).

Location: 109 Matt Dr Bell Buckle; Seller, William Brian Townsend, Tamsyn Townsend; Buyer, Timothy P Taylor Jr, Wndy Taylor; Price, $515,000 (Deed).

Location: 216 Joe Hart Rd Shelbyville; Seller, Kaylee Brooke Manire; Buyer, Kaylee Brooke Manire; Price, $0 (QD).

Location: 118 Tom Walker Dr; Seller, Christopher C Bell, Melody L Bell; Buyer, Shawn Rhode, Mary Rhode; Price, $810,000 (Deed).

File date: July 3

Location: Peacock Ln; Seller, Marilyn York; Buyer, Melissa York; Price, $0 (QD).

Seller, Sandra K Bobo, Jo P Hughes, Barbara Lynn Ellis, Breon Petty Parker, Crea Lynn Petty, Corey Petty, Jamie Matthew Petty, Barbara Ellis; Buyer, Walnut Creek Properties, Wallace G Woodruff IV, Emily Woodruff; Price, $355,000 (Deed).

Location: Bryant Rd Chapel Hill; Seller, Cedar Grove General Partnership, Steve Nash, Terry Nash, Cody Nash; Buyer, Weston Polk, Emily Polk; Price, $184,830 (Deed).

Location: Carr Creek Rd; Seller, John Phelps; Buyer, John Phelps, Lilibeth Verganio Phelps; Price, $0 (Deed).

Location: Birch St; Seller, Brenda Lee Bruce, Betty Jean Wright Mcbee Estate; Buyer, Tammy A Schuls, Adam C Schuls; Price, $225,000 (Deed).

File date: July 5

Location: 119 Deer Point Rd Unionville; Seller, Calvert Duncan Carr, Melody Lynn Carr; Buyer, Andrew Pavey; Price, $309,900 (Deed).

Location: 124 Substation Rd Unionville; Seller, Billie E Walls; Buyer, Janet Stark, Tony Walls; Price, $0 (QD).

Location: Burns Rd; Seller, Avalon Homes LLC; Buyer, William E Bullock, Patrisha D Bullock; Price, $604,000 (Deed).

Location: 403 Rose Ln; Seller, Katharine Ruth McDonald; Buyer, Charisee Buck; Price, $310,000 (Deed).

Location: 350 Snell Rd; Seller, Helen L Grammer; Buyer, Samuel Nash; Price, $285,000 (Deed).

Location: 208 Chevelle Court; Seller, Ole South Properties Inc; Buyer, Jason S Berry, Sharon Berry; Price, $384,990 (Deed).

Location: 102 Chevelle Court; Seller, Ole South Properties Inc; Buyer, Jacob Pruitt, Kristen Pruitt; Price, $348,990 (Deed).

Location: 212 Chevelle Court; Seller, Ole South Properties Inc; Buyer, Julio Rizo, Anna Rizo; Price, $337,990 (Deed).

Location: McLaughlin Road; Seller, Ridgetop Properties LLC, Will Moorehead; Buyer, Cynthia Thibeau, David Thibeau; Price, $259,000 (Deed).

Seller, Jody M Hensely, Diana Prater Evans, Diana M Hensley Evans, Jimmy D Evans; Buyer, Jody M Hensely; Price, $0 (Deed).

File date: July 8

Seller, Daniel P Sain; Buyer, Black Diamond Construction LLC; Price, $200,000 (Deed).

Location: Scotland Heights Ave; Seller, Aaron H S Williams Jr, James Paul Fishback Estate, Joseph Christopher Fishback; Buyer, Leonardo Cruces Rosales, Benito Cruces Hernandez; Price, $157,000 (Deed).

Location: 217 Meadowbrook Dr; Seller, JC Builders LLC, H Allen Jones Jr; Buyer, Jeremy Leasure; Price, $353,900 (Deed).

Location: 119 Horseshoe Dr; Seller, Ricky G Jacobs, Connie D Jacobs; Buyer, Nelson Antonia Arlas Pena; Price, $254,900 (Deed).

NOTICE

Symone Love Garcia (Porczick):

The State of Tennessee, Department of Children's Services, has filed a petition against you, for dependent and neglect and for change of legal custody of Madilyn Faith Kelly, DOB: 01/15/2012. It appears that ordinary process of law cannot be served upon because your whereabouts are unknown. You are hereby ORDERED to appear in Bedford County Juvenile Court on the 19 th day of August 2024, to answer this. If you fail to do so, a default judgment will be taken against you pursuant to Rule 55 of the Tenn. R. of Civ. P. for the relief demanded in the Petition. You may view and obtain a copy of the Petition and any other subsequently filed legal documents at the Bedford County Juvenile Court Clerk, Shelbyville, Tennessee. Further questions may be directed to: Elizabeth G. Spurbeck, Associate Counsel, State of Tennessee, Department of Children's Services, 1400 College Park Drive, Columbia, TN 38401, 931-777-9022.

ENTER this the 13th day of June, 2024.
Honorable Charles Rich
Bedford County Juvenile Court

DENTAL Insurance
Great coverage for retirees.



Get your FREE Information Kit



It's easy! Call today
1-844-775-1904
Dental50Plus.com/Sav
Physicians Mutual Insurance Company

Product/features not available in all states. Contact us for complete details about this insurance solicitation. To find a network provider, go to physiciansmutual.com/find-dentist. This specific offer not available in CO, NY, WI, VA - call 1-800-969-4788 or respond for a similar offer in your state. Certificate: C254/8465, C250A/8438 (ID: C2540; PA: C2549); Insurance Policy P154/8469; P150/8439 (GA: P154GA; OK: P154OK; TN: P154TN). 6347

SPECIAL OFFER
NORTH AMERICA'S
#1 Selling Walk-In Tub
Featuring our Free Shower Package

Now you can finally have all of the soothing benefits of a relaxing warm bath, or enjoy a convenient refreshing shower while seated or standing with Safe Step Walk-In Tub's *FREE Shower Package!*

- ✓ First walk-in tub available with a customizable shower
- ✓ Fixed rainfall shower head is adjustable for your height and pivots to offer a seated shower option
- ✓ High-quality tub complete with a comprehensive lifetime warranty on the entire tub
- ✓ Top-of-the-line installation and service, all included at one low, affordable price

Now you can have the best of both worlds--there isn't a better, more affordable walk-in tub!

Call today and receive a
FREE SHOWER PACKAGE
PLUS $1600 OFF
FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY
Call Toll-Free 1-877-338-4810
SAFE STEP WALK-IN TUB

With purchase of a new Safe Step Walk-In Tub. Not applicable with any previous walk-in tub purchase. Offer available while supplies last. No cash value. Must present offer at time of purchase.

Call Today for Your Free Shower Package
1-877-338-4810

FINANCING AVAILABLE WITH APPROVED CREDIT
EASE OF USE CERTIFIED
MADE IN TENNESSEE
BBB
LIFETIME LIMITED WARRANTY

CSLB 1082165 NSCB 0082393 0083445

Thomas Wayne Boyce



Funeral services for Thomas Wayne Boyce, age 84, of Unionville, TN were held Saturday, July 6, 2024 at 2:00 p.m. in the chapel of Doak-Howell Funeral Home with Brother Ronnie Grooms officiating. Burial followed at Simpson Cemetery.

Tom passed from this life July 3, 2024 with his family by his side. Visitation was Saturday, July 6, 2024 from 12:00 – 2:00 p.m.

Tom was born May 5, 1940, to the late John and Wilma Boyce. He was preceded in death by his wife, Joyce Boyce, sisters, Betty Hinson, Jean Stevenson, Annette Ward, Susie Smith, Martha Clark, brothers, Billy and John (Jitter) Boyce.

Tom worked at Goggin Truck Line for 20 plus years as a truck driver. He loved watching basketball, riding his antique John Deere tractor and spending time with his family and friends.

He is survived by his wife, Linda Pinkston Boyce; daughter, Penny (Kent Holt), step sons, Jeff (Michele) Pinkston, Mike (Shelly) Pinkston; grandkids, Will (Liz) Holt, Allie and Bryson Holt, step grandkids Spencer and Lindsey Pinkston, Matt (Hannah) Pinkston, Sarah (Noah) Bourdon, and step great grandchild, Aiden Pinkston.

Memorial donations can be made to New Destiny Dog Rescue at 202 East Highland St. Shelbyville, TN 37160.

Doak-Howell Funeral Home will be serving the family.

Patricia Ann Kelsey



Retired Major Patricia Ann Kelsey, age 73, of Shelbyville, passed away July 3, 2024.

Funeral services were 1 p.m. Tuesday, July 9, 2024, at Feldhaus Memorial Chapel. Reverend Jonathan Curry officiated. Burial, with full military honors, followed in Evergreen Cemetery in Murfreesboro. The family received visitors 11 AM until service time Tuesday at the funeral home.

She was born March 2, 1951, in Lebanon, to the late Newburn Turner Dunn and Bonnie Mae Snyder Dunn. She was a retired registered nurse from Bedford County Hospital and retired with the rank of Major as a flight nurse with the Tennessee Air National Guard, 118 Air Lift Wing. She served in Desert Shield and Desert Storm. She was a faithful member of New Bethel Baptist Church.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, Frank Kelsey.

Survivors include her children, Laura Rueff (Brent) Moody, Matthew David (Shawn) Rueff, and Sarah Browning; a brother, Eugene Dunn; grandchildren, Morgan Rueff, Mason Moody, Addison Rueff, Grace Moody, and Dexter Browning.

Feldhaus Memorial Chapel is assisting the family with the arrangements.

Michael Bruce Pendergrast Sr.



Michael Bruce Pendergrast Sr. age 71, of Shelbyville, passed from this life July 2, 2024. A Memorial service was held 1 PM Friday July 5, 2024 at Doak-Howell Funeral Home with Jim Westmoreland officiating.

Mr. Pendergrast was born on June 27, 1953, in Nashville, TN to the late James Pendergrast and Joanne Furlow Pendergrast. Michael was of the Mormon faith and worked many years in construction, sealing asphalt for many businesses, and residents in the surrounding area.

Survivors include his wife of 51 years; Lena Seibers Pendergrast; children; Michael B. (Wendy) Pendergrast Jr. of Shelbyville, Stacey Dudeck of Winchester, grandchildren; Keaton Isiah Pendergrast, Casson Malachi Pendergrast, Kaley Moore, Jacey Moore, Olivia Dudeck, Rivers Dudeck, and Allison Dudeck, siblings; Gerald Pendergrast, Mark Pendergrast, Mandel Pendergrast, Connie Sisk, and Pam Corbin.

Mr. Pendergrast was preceded in death by parents, and siblings; James Arlan Pendergrast, and Glenda Christie.

Memorial donations may be made to the funeral home to assist the family with funeral expenses.

Doak-Howell Funeral Home is serving the family.

Raymond Farrar McGregor



Graveside services for Raymond Farrar McGregor, 91, of Shelbyville, will be held 10:00 A.M. Friday, July 12, 2024, at Hillcrest Memorial Gardens with Bobby McGee officiating.

Raymond died May 24, 2024.

He was a painter by trade for the Tennessee Valley Authority in Nashville. He enjoyed his career and was great at doing it. He was a hard-working man that did multiple jobs to support and care for his family.

Raymond served in the U.S. Army during the Korean War. As he grew older, his memory of the time seemed to develop and he was proud of his military service.

He was a loving family man that had the best time when he was around the ones he loved. Raymond always had a smile on his face that was contagious and could turn a bad day into a good day just by being there.

Raymond was preceded in death by his parents, John Elmer McGregor and Florine Zada Bell McGregor; his wife, Judy McGregor; brothers, Tom Bradford and Jake Bradford, sister, Linda Martin and daughter, Sherrie Miles.

He is survived by daughter, Julie Corino (Bill); 3 grandchildren, Michael Miles, Jennie Corino Cook and Samantha Corino; 7 great grandchildren and 4 great great-grandchildren.

Raymond will be loved and missed by all, but never forgotten.

Peggy S. Webb



Peggy Sanders (Burris) Webb left this world for her heavenly home on July 6th, 2024, after a long battle with Parkinson's.

She was born on June 6th, 1953, to the late Marvin Sanders and the late Nellie Lankford Sanders. She was preceded in death by her sister Dora Ann Sanders Bailey and brother Danny "Sue" Sanders.

She was retired from National Pen. She was a member of Grace Baptist Church in Shelbyville.

She is survived by her husband of 23 years, Randy Webb of Wartrace, TN, daughter Wendy (Jason) Piccirilli of Tullahoma, TN, son Eddy (Jenny) Burris, son Benji (Lizzo) Burris, all of Shelbyville, TN, step-daughter Kelly (Cain) Owens of Lynchburg, TN, step-son Ryan Webb, of Wartrace, TN, half-sister Linda (Ronny) Perryman of Shelbyville, TN, half-brother Miles (Clara) Sanders of Tullahoma, TN. She has ten grandchildren - Hannah Burris, Jackson and Garrett Burris, Gabrielle Piccirilli, Saebyn and Braxtyn Burris, Landon Webb and Joseph Owens, Eli Webb, and Row McLaughlin, and three great-grandchildren – Chasen, Walker, and Scarlett Fowler. Her grandchildren were her life. Her best friend, Katherine Victory, who was always there when she needed someone to talk to, as well as her special friend, Dawn Elliott.

There will be a celebration of life service on Thursday, July 11th, at 6:00 pm in the chapel of Doak-Howell Funeral Home, with Bro. Bobby McGee officiating.

The family will receive visitors from 4pm-6pm, followed by the service. After the service, the body will be taken to be cremated, with her ashes spread by her family at Folly Beach, SC, her "happy place."

Peggy's wishes were for memorials to be sent to your favorite charity of choice.

The family would like to extend their sincerest gratitude to the staff and caretakers of NHC Lewisburg and Caris Hospice for the impeccable care and empathy shown to Peggy over the last few months.

Doak Howell Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Joseph "Joe" Walter Stovall Sr.



Joseph Walter "Joe" Stovall, Sr. age 85, of Shelbyville, passed away July 3, 2024, at his home, under the loving care and comfort of his family and Hospice Compassus.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Carl and Marie Stovall.

Joe is survived by his wife of 62 1/2 years, Patricia Stovall; son, Jody Stovall, of Shelbyville, daughter Kathy Williams of Owens Cross Roads, AL and daughter Annette (Jason) Williams of Shelbyville.

He had 8 grandchildren; Chase (Witnee) Williams of Madison, AL; Ryann (Chris) Thomas of Owens Cross Roads, AL, Donovan (Kara) Williams of New Hope, AL, Hope Williams of Owens Cross Roads, AL, Kyle (Beth) Stovall of Normandy, Colt (Taylor) Williams of Shelbyville, Carston Williams of Shelbyville and Cami Williams of Shelbyville. He also had 8 great-grandchildren: Kanaan, Dajhuan, Brooklyn, Jadyn, Haarlem, Skye, Dax, and JT.

Mr. Stovall was known for his wonderful sense of humor. He was an accountant by trade, a veteran of the United States Navy, and a faithful member of Trinity Baptist Church.

Visitation was Monday, July 8, at Feldhaus Funeral Home from 5:00 PM to 8:00 PM.

The funeral service was at Trinity Baptist Church on Tuesday evening, July 9, at 6:00 pm.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Trinity Baptist Church and Shelbyville Central High School Baseball.

Feldhaus Memorial Chapel is assisting the family with the arrangements.

Alzheimer's Tennessee HELPLINE 1(800) ALZ-GATE 259-4283

Age-based calorie guidelines for men



The human body changes quite a bit as a person ages. A glance at a man's face is a testament to the changes men's bodies undergo during their lifetimes, as boys are not born with facial hair but begin to grow it during puberty.

Men's bodies indeed undergo significant changes during their lifetimes, and that's reflected in various recommendations from health care experts. Men's dietary needs change as their bodies age, and calorie consumption guidelines can help them avoid overeating. That's no small benefit, as the MD Anderson Cancer Center notes the consequences of overeating are wide-ranging and include:

- Feeling tired, sluggish or drowsy
- Discomfort
- Overexertion of the organs, which must secrete extra hormones and enzymes to break food down
- Heartburn, which results when the stomach produces hydrochloric acid to break down food. When that happens, acid can back up into the esophagus.
- Temporary feelings of being hot, sweaty or dizzy, which can occur as metabolism speeds up in an effort to burn extra calories.

Each of those side effects is unpleasant but preventable. Men who recognize calorie consumption needs change as their bodies age can alter their diets so they avoid overeating and all the negative side effects that come with it.

The National Institutes of Health notes that calorie needs differ by age and also by physical activity levels. Men can keep these guidelines from the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services and the United States Department of Agriculture in mind as they plan their diets.

Not Active

- Age 19 to 30 years: Between 2,400 and 2,600 calories per day
- Age 31 to 50 years: Between 2,200 and 2,400 calories per day
- 51 years and older: Between 2,000 and 2,200 calories

Somewhat Active

- Age 19 to 30 years: Between 2,600 and 2,800 calories per day
- Age 31 to 50 years: Between 2,400 and 2,600 calories per day
- 51 years and older: Between 2,200 and 2,400 calories per day

Very Active

- Age 19 to 30 years: 3,000 calories
- Age 31 to 50 years: Between 2,800 and 3,000 calories
- 51 years and older: Between 2,400 and 2,800 calories

It's important that men recognize that all calories are not the same. Certain calories are characterized as Empty because they are found in foods that provide little or no nutritional value. Indeed, WebMD notes it's possible to stay within a calorie budget eating low-quality foods that lack nutrition. Doing so negates the benefits of planning and consuming a diet that adheres to HHS and USDA calorie guidelines. Men are urged to work with their physicians and/or a certified dietitian or nutritionist to develop a dietary plan that provides sufficient nutrition and stays within recommended calorie intake guidelines.

Berry Coconut Overnight Oats

Berry Coconut Overnight Oats are not only filling but full of an ample amount of protein.

Ingredients

2 C. lactose-free milk
½ C. old fashion rolled oats
½ C. raspberries
1/3 C. coconut Greek yogurt
¼ C. unsweetened coconut
1 Tbsp. chia seeds
1 tsp. maple syrup
½ C. strawberries, chopped
Fresh raspberries, additional chopped strawberries and shredded coconut optional.

Combine milk and next 6 ingredients (milk through maple syrup) in a medium-size bowl and stir well. Pour half of the oat mixture into a jar or container with a lid. Add chopped strawberries and top with remaining oat mixture. If desired, top with a few raspberries, chopped strawberries and coconut. Cover and refrigerate overnight, at least 6 hours.

Note: When available, use organic ingredients and less or no sugar to make this meal even healthier.





The family of Flossie Waterson would like to thank everyone for their outpouring of love, prayers, and food prepared during our loved one's illness and passing. A special thank you to Doak Howell Funeral Home, Blankenship Community Church, Living Stones Church, Hospice Compassus and Willow Mount Cemetery.

We deeply appreciate our dear friends in Christ, Sister Faye Tucker and Pastor Butch Sobiek for their love and faithfulness during our greatest times of need.

We appreciate your continued prayers for the family.

Neutral Notations: Despite Immense Commercial Revenue, Soccer Is...Dying?

BY NOAH MADDOX
noah@t-g.com

In just under two years, the World Cup will be kicking off in Canada, Mexico, and the United States, hopefully continuing to rapidly grow interest in the sport on the North American continent. It will be the first tournament hosted across three nations, and will be the first time the competition expands to 48 teams.

Meanwhile, the last major international tournaments preceding the World Cup are wrapping up this weekend with the Copa America and European Championships both holding their Final on Sunday, July 14. Usually, both events are full of drama and high-level soccer. This summer, there has definitely been drama, but the quality of the sport has been severely lacking more often than not. This is not not to say that the best players are not playing. They are. So, what's lacking?

Own goals, at least in Euro 2024, are not lacking. After setting a record high with 11 own goals at Euro 2020, so far in this tournament we have seen 10 own goals with two games remaining at the time of this print. The Euros began in 1960 and has been held every four years since, but even with the gaudy own goal numbers from the last two tournaments, the total amount sits just at 30. That's right, over two-thirds of the competition's own goals all-time have been scored in just the last two tournaments.

This can be a couple different things, one being a funny little footnote to a historic competition. Another take is much more nuanced and, at least circumstantially, kind of checks out. After Uruguay knocked out Brazil in the Copa America Quarter Finals last week in a penalty shootout, 4-2, former Leeds United and current Uruguay manager Marcelo Bielsa had some poignant thoughts about where the sport of soccer is currently.

Bielsa, always known to be a man of the people, expressed bluntly that he thinks the lifeblood of the sport is dying due to a few different factors. Most notably, commercialization and technology. The introduction of Video Assistant Referee (VAR) over the last several years has ruined the "unpredictability" of the sport, he argues, because they are killing the suspense of the game. Despite the increased interest, what makes the sport enjoyable is rapidly diminishing – unpredictability.

"I am sure that [soccer] is in a process of decline, that is to say, that more and more people are watching [soccer], but it is becoming less and less attractive because what made it the best game in the world is not there," the Argentine tactician said after his team's win over Brazil. He wasn't finished, adding, "If you let a lot of people watch [soccer], but you don't protect the pleasure of what they watch, that favors business because the business is that a lot of people watch [soccer]."

Anyone that pauses to think about what he says without their businessman hat on will understand that Bielsa is spot-on. He also talked about how even though the crowds all around the world are extremely healthy, especially at Euro 2024, the quality of the game does not reflect that support. Bielsa believes there is too much unattractive soccer and he sees a game that is losing its identity. He sees the game as an expression of cultural identity, not just "five minutes of highlights."



Uruguay Manager, Marcelo Bielsa (center), had some choice words about the state of soccer after his team's win over Brazil last week. *Photo courtesy of Naija News.*



England's Jude Bellingham (10) scores a 90th minute equalizer against Slovakia to send the game into extra time. His bicycle kick is a moment of unpredictability that Bielsa says is disappearing from the game. *Photo courtesy of AP.*

The beautiful game is stunningly simple at its core. Each team starts with 10 field players and one goalkeeper on a field that is 110-120 yards long and 70-80 yards wide, and the objective is to legally put a ball in the back of the other team's net more times than your opponent in the allotted time.

Unfortunately, a sort of modernization of soccer into more so an event designed to make as much money as possible is ripping out the soul of asport from the people who actually make up the heartbeat of the game. The exorbitant ticket prices implemented by greedy federations, especially the USSF here in the United States, are rapidly pricing out the everyday fan. With youth soccer having already turned into a pay-to-play type system anyways, it's becoming more difficult to say Bielsa is wrong.

Another factor contributing to the dip in quality at these international tournaments is simply the number of games in a season now. Former Dortmund and Liverpool manager, Jurgen Klopp, has talked ad nauseam for ages about how the fixtures are much too condensed now, and in years with international tournaments in the summer, the players only get 2-3 weeks to recover afterwards before they have to get ready for a new domestic campaign. Put simply: the players out on the pitch are more tired than ever before, despite all the advances in modern medicine and technology.



Spain's 16 year old wonderkid, Yamine Lamal (19), became the youngest player to ever score in the European Championships after his goal-of-the-tournament contender in Spain's win against France on Tuesday. *Photo courtesy of AP.*

Despite this, the average fan seems to still be heavily invested, at least for now, and maybe one day the tables can turn back in their favor. Meanwhile, with both finals set to kick off on Sunday, we can sit back and appreciate the world class talents that are on the pitch. Lamine Yamal, Spain's 16 year old phenom, bested Kylian Mbappe in Tuesday's semi final, and at the time of printing, the Netherlands and England are facing off in the other semi final at Euro 2024 for the right to play Spain. In the Copa America, Bielsa's Uruguay takes on a soaring Colombia side for the right to play the world champions, Argentina and Lionel Messi.

I know that I will be tuned in no matter what, but unfortunately that seems to be all that FIFA really cares about anymore. As long as there are eyeballs glued to the television and tickets sold, the quality of play on the pitch is secondary when in reality, it should be the opposite.

The direction of the sport is not exactly on the best trajectory despite the continuous influx of youth talent on the world stage, and in some ways will never be the same as it once was. In some ways that is a positive, but in others – ticket prices and greedy federations – something has been lost, like Bielsa was afraid of. It seems like everyday it becomes less and less "the people's game" like it began, and seems to hurtle towards being an elitist sport. In that way, Bielsa has never been more right about the heart and soul of the sport dying.

"Seats For Soldiers" Returns For 2024

MT ATHLETICS

MURFREESBORO, Tenn. - The Middle Tennessee State Athletic Department is proud to announce the return of their "Seats for Soldiers" initiative in 2024, allowing fans to purchase and donate seats directly to U.S. Veterans, current U.S. Military members and their families.

Blue Raider fans can now purchase sideline reserved tickets for only $16 (reg. $24) for this special occasion, and the athletic department will match every ticket purchased and donated to veterans and military members. All tickets will be provided for the November 9th Salute to Veterans and Armed Forces football game against Liberty, and all guests will be invited onto the field at halftime in a show of patriotism as our fans give thanks for their service to our country.

"We saw a great response by our dedicated fans last season to provide tickets to military personnel and their families for our annual Salute to Veterans and Armed Forces themed game", shared James Kentfield, Assistant Athletic Director – Ticket Operations & Sales. "Our entire campus and community have a very strong and passionate relationship with our veterans and military members. I'd like to once again ask our Blue Raider family during this most patriotic time of year as we celebrate July 4th to consider purchasing and donating a few game tickets that will enable our cherished servicewomen and men to join us on November 9th for the football game!"



To support MTSU's Seat for Soldiers initiative, fans can click on the following link directly to the promotional tickets for the November 9th football game vs. Liberty. Tickets are only $16, with no additional fees, and each ticket will be matched by MTSU Athletics and be provided directly to U.S. Veterans, current U.S. Military members and their families.

Byard, Hayes named to Conference USA Hall of Fame Class of 2024

MT ATHLETICS

MURFREESBORO, Tenn. – Former Middle Tennessee football standout and NFL All-Pro safety Kevin Byard and legendary MTSU Track and Field Coach Dean A. Hayes were named to the Conference USA Hall of Fame Class of 2024, the league office announced on Monday.

Byard and Hayes are the first two Blue Raiders to be inducted to the CUSA Hall of Fame, which inducted its first class in 2019. Byard is the first defensive player to enter the Hall of Fame.

"Kevin Byard and Dean A. Hayes embodied the best qualities of being a Blue Raider during their time at MTSU," Director of Athletics Chris Massaro said. "Their awards and accomplishments in Conference USA speak for themselves, but all of us at Middle Tennessee know the character, the work ethic and the class these two men showed every day in Murfreesboro. It's a tremendous honor to have both be our institution's first inductees into the Conference USA Hall of Fame."

Byard, a four-year starter for the Blue Raiders from 2012-15, finished his MTSU career as the program's all-time leader in interceptions (19), interception return yards (377), interception return touchdowns (4). He forced or gained 25 turnovers (19 INT, 5 FF, 1 FR) in 49 career games played.

The Lithonia, Ga., native was named First Team All-CUSA twice his career (2014 and 2015) and was a FWAA Freshman All-American in 2012. He was drafted in the third round of the 2016 NFL Draft by the Tennessee Titans, where he was named first-team All-Pro in 2017 and 2021.

A four-time CUSA Coach of the Year, Hayes won 11 CUSA titles during his time at the helm of the Track and Field program, six titles with men's teams and five with women's teams, including the final two titles his teams competed in prior to his passing in January 2022, sweeping the 2021 Conference USA Cross Country Championships. His student-athletes won 87 Conference USA individual titles and his Blue Raider teams were awarded Athlete of the Year awards 13 times during CUSA Track and Field Competition during Hayes' tenure at the program's helm.



MTSU legends Kevin Byard and Dean A. Hayes were named to the CUSA HOF Class of 2024 on Monday.
Photo courtesy of MT Athletics.

The Conference USA Hall of Fame is the ninth hall of fame Dean A. Hayes will be inducted into, joining the Blue Raider Hall of Fame (1982), the Illinois Sports Hall of Fame (1993), the Tennessee Sports Hall of Fame (1994), the Mason-Dixon Athletic Club Hall of Fame (2005), the USTFCCCA Hall of Fame (2008), the Lake Forest College Hall of Fame (2009), the Naperville Hall of Fame (2019) and the Ohio Valley Conference Hall of Fame (2023).

The league's Hall of Fame Committee selects the nominees and the league's Athletics Directors serve as the voting panel for the CUSA Hall of Fame. The inaugural class made its debut in 2019 with 20 student-athletes, three coaches and two administrators. Current and future CUSA Hall of Fame class size will be at least one inductee and a maximum of five per year. Nominees not selected in this class will remain on the ballot for future years.

Sign Ups For Blue Raider Kids Club Available

MT ATHLETICS

MURFREESBORO, Tenn. — Lightning is excited to invite all Blue Raider fans 12 years old and younger to join the Blue Raider Kids Club for the 2024-2025 academic year! After signing up, all members will receive a Welcome Package full of exclusive gifts, including an official Blue Raider Kids Club T-Shirt. Lightning is thrilled to have his biggest fans back for a year jam-packed with unique events and experiences!



Signups for Blue Raider Kids Club are avilable today! *Photo courtesy of MT Athletics.*

Membership is ONLY $25 per child and runs from August 1, 2024, through May 31, 2025.

Membership Benefits

• 2024 Blue Raider Football Season Ticket in the Family Fun Zone!
• Exclusive events and giveaways for Kids Club members at select games.
• Monthly emails detailing upcoming athletic events and promotions.
• Monthly e-newsletter.
• Birthday card from Lightning.
• Opportunity to be a part of the 2024 Homecoming Parade.
• Complimentary admission to one predetermined football, women's basketball, men's basketball, baseball, and softball home game.
Sign up by October 1st to guarantee a Welcome Package & Blue Raider Kids Club shirt.

FOOTBALL SEASON TICKETS

All Blue Raider Kids Club members will be 2024 Blue Raider Football season ticket holders with their seats guaranteed in the Family Fun Zone as part of their membership package!!! Parents will have the opportunity to purchase additional Endzone Reserved Football Season Tickets for $99 OR single game tickets for Blue Raider Kids Club Day (9/21 FB vs. Duke) for $8 while they are completing the registration process.

These seats will be next to each other, with exact seat locations assigned at least one week before the game. Mobile Tickets will be added to their Blue Raider Account Manager. For any questions, please contact the Blue Raider Ticket Office at 615-898-5261 or Athletics Marketing at mtmarketing@mtsu.edu.

NEW THIS YEAR

At each ticketed sport, one member will be selected to be highlighted on the videoboard as our "Future Raider of the Game" representing our Blue Raider Kids Club. Families will be contacted prior to the game to be informed that their child will be highlighted. Pictures of members will be requested upon registration.

PASSPORT BOOK

The passport book included in every member package will be the key to earning more prizes through Blue Raider Kids Club. Members bring their book to every ticketed Blue Raider Athletic event they attend and stop by the marketing table to receive a stamp for their attendance. At the end of each ticketed sport season, additional prizes/experiences will be awarded to members based on their event attendance.

2024-2025 EVENTS

Family Fun Night:

Blue Raider Kids Club launch party! The first date is set for July 25th at Strike & Spare Family Fun Center for a night full of games and fun, and the special appearance from your favorite mascot, Lightning!

Blue Raider Kids Club Day:

Each sport will host a Blue Raider Kids Club Day! At non-ticketed sports, BRKC members will be invited to participate in special experiences like inflatables, face painting, coloring stations, pre-game high-five tunnel, or going on the court/field for the National Anthem. Experiences are contingent on the number of members in attendance that day and the sport. For ticketed events, the same experiences listed above will be included along with an exclusive giveaway.

Lightning's Birthday Party:

January 17th is Lightning's birthday! All Blue Raider Kids Club members will receive a birthday party invitation to Lightning's Birthday Party which will take place prior to a basketball game this season. More information will be included in the January newsletter.

BECOME A MEMBER

To join the Blue Raider Kids Club, go to www.goblueraiders.com.

Complete the following steps to join:

1. Select the number of Memberships you would like to purchase. Kids Season Ticket included.
2. Option to add on a parent season ticket or additional ticket to the football game vs Duke on 9/21.
3. Want the Kids Club Membership Packet mailed to you? You can add-on shipping. $10 per address.
4. Select "Add to Cart" button once you are ready to check out.
5. Complete your purchase.

Please watch for an email from mtmarketing@mtsu.edu within one week of making your payment through Ticketmaster. This email will instruct you on providing additional information. Payment must be completed before members can receive their Welcome Package. Members who join after the scheduled pickup dates can contact mtmarketing@mtsu.edu to arrange an alternate pickup day.

Contact Us

If you have any questions about Blue Raider Kids Club membership, contact Maria at: (615) 494-8784 or via email at mtmarketing@mtsu.edu

Blue Raiders Announce Four Hires To External Staff



MT ATHLETICS

MURFREESBORO, Tenn. – Middle Tennessee Athletics announced the addition of four individuals to the MTSU External Affairs team on Tuesday.

Seth Thomas will serve as the Director of Ticket Sales within Taymar Sales U after spending a year with the Miami Dolphins and Hard Rock Stadium working in Business Development as an Account Executive. Prior to Miami, Thomas was a Premium Sales Account Executive for the Professional Bull Riders Association in Dallas. Thomas graduated from Mississippi State University with a Bachelor of Arts in Sports Management in August 2022

Bryant Powers and Isabella Wolf join the Blue Raiders as part of MTSU Athletics Sponsorships (Van Wagner). Powers will serve as the Director of Sales, while Wolf will be an Account Executive. Powers comes to Murfreesboro after serving as the General Manager of Corporate Partnerships for Jax State. Prior to his time in Jacksonville, Powers worked with the Birmingham Squadron and the NBA G-League Affiliate for the New Orleans Pelicans. Powers graduated from the University of Alabama with a Bachelor of Science in Human Exercise Science in 2018 and a Master of Arts in Sport Management in 2021.

Wolf served as an Assistant Women's Soccer Coach at Cumberland University, while also serving as an External Affairs Intern at Middle Tennessee. A four-year letter winner at UT Martin, Wolf graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science in 2021 and received a Master of Arts in Sports Management from Cumberland in 2024.

Kyle Yerem joins MTSU as the Director of Annual Giving for the Blue Raider Athletic Association (BRAA). Yerem served as the Assistant Director of Ticket Sales and Service at Tulane University for a year before being promoted to Associate Director of Development in 2023. Prior to Tulane, Yerem spent two seasons in ticketing with the Nashville Soccer Club and a year as a Corporate Partnerships Account Executive for Austin Peay. Yerem graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Sports Management from Louisville in 2013.

"We already have an extremely talented External Affairs staff, but adding these four individuals to round out our team will no doubt take us to the next level," said Lee De León, Deputy Athletic Director of External Affairs. "Bella, Bryant, Kyle and Seth are tremendous additions to our team who all have the right attitude, background, and skill set to further promote MTSU Athletics and help us generate more revenue to support our Blue Raider student-athletes."



Rural News

TDA names consumer and industry services director
Matthew Wade of Bell Buckle selected

NASHVILLE – The Tennessee Department of Agriculture (TDA) is pleased to announce Matthew Wade of Bell Buckle as director for the Consumer and Industry Services (CIS) division.

Wade joined TDA in February as a business consultant focused on the livestock sector, particularly meat and dairy processing and expanding value-added ventures for Tennessee farmers. Prior to TDA, Wade spent nearly three decades with Middle Tennessee State University. He ultimately served as the director of the university's farm laboratories, overseeing operations and staff of the multi-unit 900-acre experiential learning and research centers.

"Matthew's extensive experience with guiding diverse teams, managing laboratory and farming operations, and navigating regulatory requirements make him a great fit for this role," Agriculture Commissioner Charlie Hatcher, D.V.M. said. "Since joining TDA, stakeholders have benefited from Matthew's leadership in a variety of ways, including from his work to form the Tennessee Association of Meat Producers and his hosting of a delegation from India seeking agribusiness opportunities in Tennessee."

As Director for CIS, Wade will supervise the division that monitors a wide range of materials, products, and services to ensure quality, consumer protection, public safety, and a fair marketplace. CIS administers programs and licensing for food and dairy, weights and measures, fuel quality, agricultural inputs, grain dealers and warehouses, pesticides, plant health, and prevention of youth access to tobacco.

"I look forward to this great opportunity to work with Commissioner Hatcher's office and the knowledgeable CIS team," Wade said. "CIS is best known for offering excellence in service to customers and industry partners across this great state. It will be an honor to continue that tradition."



MATTHEW WADE OF BELL BUCKLE

Wade is a graduate of Middle Tennessee State University in Murfreesboro where he earned his B.S. in agribusiness and a master's in business administration.

Wade and his wife, Krista, raise beef cattle on their family farm in Bell Buckle.

More Legislative highlights-AGRICULTURE

Transparent food labeling / House Bill 1894 by Cepicky- Lawmakers passed legislation that ensures foods sold at grocery stores are properly labeled if they contain a vaccine intended for use in humans. The law will classify the foods as drugs under the Tennessee Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act. This is a preemptive consumer protection measure to address potential advances in technology that could lead to vaccines or vaccine material being used in consumer foods.

Effective upon signature / Public Chapter 742 The Whole Milk for Healthy Kids Act (Repeat from K-12) / House Bill 2480 by Cochran- Lawmakers passed a law that will support healthy kids in school and allow whole milk to be sold in schools. Under federal rules during the Obama administration, whole milk could not be distributed in schools. Under The Whole Milk for Healthy Kids Act, schools can now have a dispenser for whole milk options. Whole milk has been shown to help with calcium absorption in children. Effective upon signature / Public Chapter 681

Farmland / House Bill 899 by Hurt- Requires the wildlife resources agency, if contracting with a farmer to farm lands owned or under the control of this state, to offer, not less than 60 days before the expiration of the contract, the farmer the opportunity to renegotiate the contract with the agency prior to accepting requests for proposals for the contract; makes related changes concerning such contracting. Effective July 1, 2024 / Public Chapter 765.

Tax free weekend is coming, baby!

Tennessee's traditional sales tax holiday on clothing, school supplies and computers begin at 12:01 a.m. on Friday, July 26, 2024, and ends at 11:59 p.m. on Sunday, July 28, 2024. Items sold online are also eligible. Items must be purchased for personal use, not for business or trade.

Eligible clothing for tax-free weekend include: shirts, dresses, pants, coats, gloves, mittens, hats and caps, neckties, belts, tennis shoes and other shoes, uniforms, scarves

Eligible school supplies for tax-free weekend include: binders, book bags, calculators, tape, chalk, crayons, erasers, folders, glue, pens, pencils, lunch boxes, notebooks, paper, rulers, scissors. Art supplies tax exempt include clay, glazes, acrylic, tempera, oil paints, paintbrushes for artwork, sketch and drawing pads, and watercolors.

A computer must be purchased as a complete processing unit, already equipped with all necessary components like a monitor, keyboard, mouse, cables, and preloaded software in order to be eligible for tax exemption.

Non-eligible computer items for tax-free weekend include:

Monitors, keyboards, speakers, and scanners sold separately from computers

Individually purchased software or other software not part of a preloaded software package on the initial purchase of a computer

Storage media, such as diskettes and compact disks

Handheld electronic schedulers

Personal digital assistants

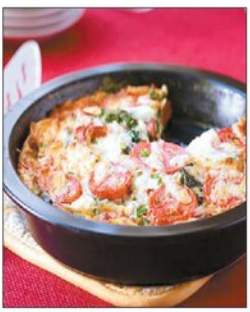
E-readers

Video game consoles

Computer printers

Printer supplies, such as paper and ink

Crustless Swiss Chard Tomato Quiche



6 large eggs
1 1/2 cups lactose-free milk
1/2 teaspoon smoked paprika
1 1/2 teaspoon salt
2 tablespoons olive oil
4 cups torn Swiss chard leaves
4 scallions, finely chopped
2 cup sliced plum tomatoes
1 cup shredded mozzarella cheese

Preheat oven to 375° and grease two (8-inch) pie plates.

In a mixing bowl, mix eggs, milk, paprika and salt with a whisk until well-combined. In a large skillet, heat olive oil over medium heat and add Swiss chard. Cover and cook 2 or 3 minutes, until just beginning to wilt.

Divide scallions, Swiss chard, tomatoes and cheese evenly between pie pans. Pour egg mixture over vegetables, dividing it evenly between pans.

Bake 25 to 30 minutes or until lightly browned and eggs are set.

Let stand at least 10 minutes before slicing into wedges. Serve warm or at room temperature.

Pick TN Products partners with Homegrown by Heroes

NASHVILLE - Tennessee Department of Agriculture's (TDA) Pick Tennessee Products (PTP) program has joined together with Homegrown By Heroes to better promote local agricultural products produced by Tennessee farmer veterans.

The Homegrown By Heroes label is the official farmer U.S. military veteran branding program. Administered by the National Farmer Veteran Coalition, it certifies ranchers, farmers, and fishermen from all military branches to sell their products as veteran-owned and produced.

PTP has been connecting people everywhere to all the great things that come from Tennessee's farms and food businesses for more than 30 years. The PTP logo informs consumers the products displaying it were produced in Tennessee.

"We are proud of our military men and women and are honored when they choose to join our agricultural community," Agriculture Commissioner Charlie Hatcher, D.V.M. said. "This merged Homegrown By Heroes and Pick Tennessee Products logo will allow our farmer veterans to stand out in the market as not only a Tennessee product but also a veteran-produced product."

The mission of the Farmer Veteran Coalition is to mobilize veterans to feed America. They work to cultivate a new generation of farmers through the collaboration of the farming and military communities. The Tennessee chapter of the Farmer Veteran Coalition (FVC-TN) assists veterans by finding resources that will help them start their agricultural dream.

"As the President of the Tennessee chapter of the Farmer Veteran Coalition, I am excited about the partnership of Homegrown By Heroes and Pick Tennessee Products." Ron Bridges, owner of Bee Ridges Farm in Anderson County, said. "This merged logo will serve as a symbol of the productive partnership between FVC-TN and TDA. Many FVC-TN members have enjoyed the benefits of advertising through the Pick Tennessee Products website and adding their Homegrown By Heroes veteran status has helped increase their customer base. Merging the two logos simplifies their visual presence and honors their military service and their farm's specialty status."

Many members of FVC-TN are beginning farmers working hard to build their customer base. "Having the Pick TN Products and Homegrown By Heroes logos as part of our farm's marketing has been a tremendous help in reassuring customers of our quality and integrity," said Rory Williams of M and R Farm in Marshall County. "I imagine that combining the two logos will strengthen our relationship-building going forward. We are honored to be able to advertise that our farm qualifies for both."

Jennifer Rafn owner of Pecan Hill Farms in Lincoln County said, "We are proud to be able to share with our customers and others that we are a Pick Tennessee Products producer and a Homegrown By Heroes producer. We look forward to being able to showcase both memberships and hope to stand out as a producer with the combined logo."

Find out more about Homegrown By Heroes by visiting farmvetco.org/hbh/. Find local products and more at www.pickthproducts.org/ and the free Pick TN mobile app. Look for the Homegrown By Heroes logo throughout the Pick Tennessee Products website to find a farmer veteran near you.



T-G Photo by Dawn Hankins

BRING ON THE RAIN!
The heat has been so oppressive this month, the cows try to find the best spot available in pastureland.

Today's hottest wedding dress trends

Among the items on a wedding planning checklist, choosing a wedding gown often is a top priority. While certain wedding dress trends withstand the test of time, others have shorter shelf lives. Though no one knows what the future holds for wedding gown trends, these are some that may be notable as brides walk down the aisle in the months ahead.

Floral appliques and 3D accents

Florals are nothing new on wedding dresses, but they are being elevated this year with new interpretations. Floral embellishments give texture and help brides make a statement. Appliques may be on sheer panels that serve as a top layer of the dress, or grouped together to form rosettes or additional three-dimensional floral details. Florals were on display at the Fall 2024 New York Bridal Fashion Week.

Coquette is everywhere

Flirty and feminine is the name of the wedding dress game, as many gowns showcase feminine details like corseted tops, bows and soft colors, say the experts. Hyper-feminine looks may not be for everyone, but this style merits consideration for the bride who wants to appear romantic and approachable.

Mini dress

Although one of the first pictures to come to mind when one envisions a wedding dress may be a floor-length gown, mini dresses continue to make bold statements on bridal runways and in magazines. The abbreviated hemlines can be flirty and fun, and are featured on various types of dresses, including fitted, strapless, flowing, and even puffed styles.

Jacquard and other opulent materials

Lace long has been a bridal dress staple, but designers are branching out into other fabrics that lend luxury and opulence to dresses. Texture can make a wedding dress a unique visual during ceremonies and the after-party, and may help a bride feel like royalty.

Pearls and more pearls

Pearl necklaces and other jewelry has long gone hand-in-hand with weddings, but brides-to-be can now find pearls turning up just about anywhere. Pearls are embroidered onto dresses, veils, sleeves, and headpieces, and even can be used on wedding cakes to mirror a pearl aesthetic used elsewhere.

Bows

Along with pearls, a growing number of designers are opting for bows in their wedding dress designs. They may be subtle, such as stitched onto the bodice of the dress, or more over-the-top, like a huge bow at the waist or near the train bustle, according to One Fab Day.

Shimmer and sparkle

A little bling (or a lot) never goes out of style. For 2024, many brides plan to embrace even more shimmer and sparkle as silver takes center stage in dress designs. Silver thread embroidery or even mirror-type embellishments will ensure all eyes are on the bride when she makes her entrance.

Overskirts

Many brides want a dramatically shaped dress for the ceremony, only to pare down a bit for the reception. The style experts at Vogue note an overskirt provides the flexibility to easily remove layers of fabric to unveil a more fitted silhouette.

See our special wedding page on page 12



Please email your bridal and engagement announcements to
dawn@richardsonmediagroup.net
Or, fill out the online form at t-g.com.
We want to share your special story.

To have and to hold . . .

Though it is July, it is time to be finalizing your checklist for your late summer or fall wedding!

We hope to offer on this special page today some tips and hints to help you through your planning and setting the tone for a beautiful event.



Our model, Jacey Cartwright (Hoover), was wed May 5, 2024 to Zach Hoover. They have started their life together. Jacey recently became a PA. "This career is just another way to love," Jacey said recently.



Weddings: Time to party!

Don't forget the ambiance!

Let's face it, weddings bring about the parties and food. Be prepared! Know your guests well!

French queen Marie Antoinette is credited with a phrase that loosely translates to Let them eat cake! Guests at a wedding certainly will have their chance to enjoy cake, but it's likely that wedding planners will need to offer a bit more sustenance to guests than this confectionary creation to keep them happy.

Many things stand out as memorable on a wedding day: the dress, the music, the adorable children who trip up or do some sort of zany antics down the aisle, and the food. Guests often look forward to a wedding to wish a couple well in their new lives together, but also to enjoy a great meal. Couples should give careful consideration to their wedding reception menu so everyone ends the night with great memories and full bellies.

Decide on the type of service

Buffet, plated dinner, server-passed foods, or food stations are the options at couple's disposal when planning reception dinners. The type of service often dictates the formality of the event. For example, a cocktail party where guests mingle and sample small bites throughout the night may be a more casual affair, while a plated multi-course meal is much more formal. Couples can decide which type of service fits their budgets and ideas of for the reception.

Expand your options

Largely gone are the days when guests select dishes on the R.S.V.P. months in advance and then are locked into their choices. Now guests have more options and flexibility, particularly because couples and catering venues offer greater variety. A buffet-style meal gives guests chances to sample various foods in one sitting. However, even if couples choose a plated meal, they can select packages that offer guests the greatest number of options. Be sure to include a vegetarian or vegan option, a fish option, and a standard beef or chicken option to appeal to most.



Photos by Ellen Jeans Photography
Kaitlyn Rippy recently celebrated with friends and family during her wedding shower. She says while some gals like to get married in the spring, she's a fall girl and has planned an October wedding. Using her favorite colors, needless-to-say, the event was spectacular. Beautiful place settings are the focal point of a bridal party.

Floral suggestions from Melissa's Wreaths 'N Things

By DAWN HANKINS

Melissa Barber has overcome a lot of challenges in her life. But that doesn't mean her dreams haven't come true.

In fact, she's overly blessed, she says, while sitting in her stylish home on her Longview farm. While visiting with Melissa and her partner, Jason, one will see a comfort zone fashionably decorated with her floral designs.

Melissa was born with spina bifida and eventually she had to go to a wheelchair. But with faith and commitment, she doesn't dwell on her physical condition.

Melissa has found something she can do very well-floral design. She believes "Melissa's Wreaths 'N Things" is a blessing.

Melissa is the area's go-to person if you want a special and creative touch to your floral arrangements. Have a Pinterest idea? Talk to Melissa.

When it comes to weddings, she's really full of great ideas regarding floral arrangements. It's the bride's day, so she takes the bride's choices and makes it into a stunning arrangement.

With fall and the holiday season approaching, brides can be confused about the type of flowers to have at their wedding. There are so many colors. But you want it to be special too.

Melissa's wreaths make great bridal shower gifts. What better way to welcome newlyweds home than with a beautiful bouquet or arrangement, perhaps sitting on a fireplace.

Let's face it, women especially love the extra touch flowers give a home.

No doubt Melissa can also give the groom some hints as to what kind of floral gifts to give to friends and family as a thank you. Or perhaps the groom just wants to surprise his bride with a beautiful fall or Christmas wreath for their first home together.

Wedding celebrations honor the union between two people who have vowed to share their lives with one another. Although weddings join the betrothed, they also serve as a merging of two families. Flowers become a big part of that union.

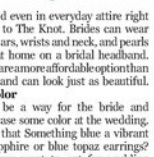
Although a wedding is primarily about the happy couple, other important individuals merit some extra fanfare during these momentous occasions. A couple's parents typically get their time in the spotlight, and rightfully so for their role in raising two individuals who will be sharing their love with one another. Many couples aspire to recognize their parents during their special day, especially moms.

Wedding tip: Choose her favorite flowers. Consult with mothers regarding which blooms they prefer, and then incorporate them into the wedding bouquets and centerpieces.

You can find Melissa Barber-Melissa's Wreaths 'N Things" on Facebook.







A guide to wedding day floral arrangements

Various elements come together to complete a wedding day visual. Floral arrangements are one such component that can create a special and awe-inspiring ambiance.

According to the floral experts at Flowers for Keeps on Union Street (See ad this page.) it is best for a bride to make an appointment and talk to their florist 1 to 3 months ahead, to make sure the desired flowers are available for the time of year. And, to be sure your florist is available on the date of your wedding.

Flowers appeal to at least three of the senses. Their delicate aroma can help a venue smell fresh and inviting. And it's hard to deny the visual appeal of a stunning floral arrangement. There are colors, sizes, textures, and much more that can cater to any theme.

Bouquets, corsages and boutonnieres

The wedding party, bride, groom, and parents of the couple are set apart from others at the wedding ceremony by the special flowers on their attire and in their hands, among other indicators. Boutonnieres are a single bud pinned to the left side of a gentleman's jacket. Corsages can be attached to a dress, but are now often worn on the wrist. Bouquets are held in hand. They can be a few flowers gathered together, or more extensive displays. Bouquets may feature bare stems, or stems may be bound and hidden beneath ribbon and fabric.

Some couples also have a small tossing bouquet to use later in the day. Flower petals for a flower girl to drop down the aisle also may be part of the floral plan.

Ceremony flowers

Guests often are first introduced to floral arrangements at the wedding ceremony. Potted or vase-encased flowers may bookend the couple at the altar. Seats or pews may be adorned with flower sprays to draw attention to the aisle, known as aisle markers. These are subtle choices that enhance the ceremony space.

Reception components

Flowers may truly shine during the reception. They're one of the most important components when decorating the space. Flowers serve as centerpieces, so the guest list and the number of tables will dictate how many centerpieces are required. These centerpieces can be elaborate or simply a few loose flowers in vases. Florists can customize the look depending on couples' budgets. Some additional reception flowers can include installations on arches or on anything hanging like a floral backdrop for photo opportunities.

Tips and tricks

Couples should create a list of everywhere they would like to use flowers and present it, along with magazine clippings or planning boards, to show florists what they have in mind when shopping services, according to Hummingbird Wedding Advice. A 2021 survey from The Knot reported that the average cost for wedding flowers was $2,300. It's important to set a strict budget so florists can present ideas that are in line with what couples can spend. Many expensive looks can be replicated with in-season flowers or less costly alternatives.

Say 'I do' to these bridal jewelry trends

The fashion-conscious understand that the right jewelry can serve as the finishing touch to any look. Therefore, during weddings, when all eyes are on the happy couple, bridal jewelry can be especially important. Those who want to stand apart can look to these trends for their weddings.

Maximum appeal

After several years in which the mantra less is more has dominated, brides are now embracing the glam factor with their jewelry. Bold choices, sparkly items and statement pieces are favorites among modern couples, says Ver Stolo Fine Jewelry. Fading into the background has given way to bold earrings, bracelets and necklaces this year.

Floral jewelry

Riding on the coattails of the growing popularity of floral elements on wedding dresses, floral jewelry is big right now as well. Many designers are giving a nod to natural inspiration in their creations, and these pieces add a touch of grace and femininity to bridal style. In addition to floral jewelry made from metals and precious stones, some brides are opting for rosette floral ties made from ribbon or soft jersey fabric that are worn choker-style around the neck.

Pearls

Pearls are the latest old-is-new craze in the bridal world and even in everyday attire right now, according to The Knot. Brides can wear pearls on their ears, wrists and neck, and pearls also are right at home on a bridal headband. Cultured pearls are a more affordable option than natural pearls, and can look just as beautiful.

Touches of color

Jewelry can be a way for the bride and others to showcase some color at the wedding. Why not make that Something blue a vibrant pair of blue sapphire or blue topaz earrings? Couples also may want to opt for wedding bands with a pop of blue or another color rather than a plain band or a colorless gemstone, advise the style experts at Vogue.

Diamond cuff bracelets

Cuff bracelets have been a staple on fashion runways for some time, and they are increasingly spilling into wedding fashion. Diamond cuff bracelets are popular among brides and mothers of the newlyweds, and can be thoughtful gifts for these special ladies. Jewelry is a personalized choice and should match the style of the dress or other attire. Grooms and groomsmen also may want to make jewelry choices, although they typically are more subdued than those for the ladies. Sparkling cufflinks or a gemstone tie tack are understated choices that can add a pop of style on the wedding day.

Flowers for KEEPS
813 Union St
Shelbyville Tn 37160
931-684-6863
flowersforkeeps@bellsouth.net
www.flowers4keeps.com