

SHELBYVILLE
Times-Gazette
Weekend
GAZETTE

Bell Buckle • Flat Creek • Normandy • Shelbyville • Unionville • Wartrace

\$1

SATURDAY, MARCH 4, 2023

www.t-g.com



History lesson

Local/A8



Musical legend

Life & Leisure/1B



Champs advance

Sports/1B

High-scoring Viqueens claim honors



T-G Photo by Chris Siers

The Community Viqueen student section erupts and celebrates with 2,000-point signs to honor MJ Simmons' benchmark. Simmons and the Viqueens defeated East Nashville 70-52 Wednesday night to claim their second straight Region 4-AA championship. See more coverage in Sports, Page 1C.

Shoma Park sign to return

By DAVID MELSON
 dmelson@t-g.com

A new sign is going up at the entrance to Shoma Park subdivision in northeastern Shelbyville, but some city officials are concerned about setting a precedent.

"Does that mean that any subdivision can ask for a sign?" council member Bobby Turnbow said at a study session Tuesday night.

The sign will be placed near the location of the subdivision's original sign, placed in the 1970s. Two signs, which had been placed in the median, have been demolished in auto accidents over the years, Public Works Director Buck Vallad said.

Several large, long-established subdivisions in Shelbyville have signs placed by developers at their entrances. Idle Acres and Brookhaven were mentioned at the meeting.

The city could be liable for subdivision signs built in the right-of-way, City Attorney Ginger Shofner said.

Area residents requested the new Idle Acres sign, Vallad said. Cost is estimated at approximately \$6,700 by Tennessee Sign Co., but Vallad said that could come down if city crews make the sign.

More burial sites

Ground penetrating radar has detected approximately 300 potential burial plots at Willow Mount Cemetery, Vallad said.

The area, in the western side near mausoleums in the newer area of the historic cemetery, was previously thought to have

▶ See Sign, Page 2A

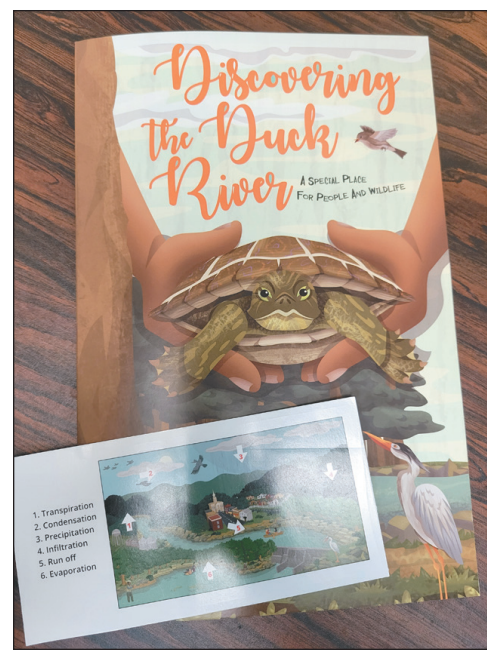
DETECTIVE HONORED

Det. Sgt. Sam Jacobs, right, receives a proclamation from Mayor Randy Carroll honoring his 21-year career in law enforcement, all served with the Shelbyville Police Department. Jacobs, who didn't start in law enforcement until reaching his mid-40s, retired Friday.

T-G Photo by David Melson



Members of the Duck River Watershed Education Committee, back row, delivered booklets and bookmarks to Bedford's third and fourth graders. Pictured in the front row are students from East Side Elementary.



T-G Photos by Zoe Watkins

Preserving the Duck for the future

By ZOË WATKINS
 zwatkins@t-g.com

Members of the Duck River Watershed Education Committee delivered reading material to third and fourth graders to help them learn more about conserving the Duck River.

Fourth graders across Bedford County received a book entitled "Discovering the Duck River," while third graders received water cycle bookmarks.

These materials are part of

an initiative by the Duck River Committee to educate students for the future, according to member Doug Murphy.

"We drink water out of the Duck River, and that's the most important thing. So, we need to teach people to take care of it and how valuable it is," he said.

Some 300,000 people depend on the Duck River watershed, which stretches through Humphreys, Hickman, Maury, Marshall, Bedford, and Coffee counties. The

Normandy Reservoir, a 17-mile lake behind the dam, provides water for people in Manchester, Tullahoma, and areas around them.

Starting in the community of Hoo Doo in Coffee County, it is the only river in Tennessee that remains entirely within the state. It ends in Humphreys County where it meets the Tennessee River.

Murphy said many people only see the Duck River as "muddy and green," but in fact, it is one of the most biologically diverse rivers

in the world. It has more than 650 freshwater species (more than any other inland river in North America), including varieties of fish, mussels, snails, crayfish, frogs and turtles, insects, and algae.

"It's a very unique river, which is why we need to take care of it," he said.

The nonprofit has been working with school systems for about 20 years. Around 1999, they started

▶ See Future, Page 2A

UT-TPA
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The legacy of Tennessee's state parks

NASHVILLE — Tennessee State Library & Archives is excited to announce a new lunchtime speaker series as part of The Legacy of Tennessee State Parks exhibit, exploring the history behind one of the best park systems in the country.

"Our state parks have a rich history of conservation and recreation in communities across the state," said Secretary of State Tre Hargett. "I encourage anyone interested in Tennessee history and preservation of our parks system to join us for these free speaker series events."

The first Lunchtime Speaker Series event, Early Conservation Efforts in Tennessee led by Tennessee State Parks Cultural Resource Manager Hobart Akin, will take place Thursday, March 16, from Noon to 1 p.m.

The other remaining speaker series events will take place on March 24, April 1 and April 14. Topics for these events include recreating the 1859 Port Royal General Store through records found at the Library & Archives, Tennessee State Parks Folklife Project and archaeology in Tennessee State Parks.

A noted expert will lead each Lunchtime Speaker Series talk, including Akin, Doctoral Candidate in Residence Amanda McCrary Smith, Justin P. Wilson Cumberland Trail State Park Manager Bob Fulcher and Archaeologist Aaron Dieter-Wolf.

"We look forward to welcoming previous and new guests to the Library & Archives for this speaker series," said Jamie Ritter, Tennessee State Librarian and Archivist. "The lineup is full of interesting topics and extremely knowledgeable speakers."

This Lunchtime Speaker Series events will be in-person and live-streamed on the Library & Archives' Facebook page. In-person attendees are encouraged to bring their own lunch. This series is free to the public. Seating is limited. To make a reservation to attend the Early Conservation Efforts in Tennessee talk on March 16, visit bit.ly/TSLASS1.

After each presentation, in-person attendees are invited to view the Library & Archives' Legacy of Tennessee State Parks exhibit, which is open now until May 13, in the Lobby.

The Library & Archives is located at 1001 Rep. John Lewis Way North on Bicentennial Capitol Mall State Park. Parking is available for guests in the Library & Archives garage on Jackson Street/Junior Gilliam Way.

To attend The Legacy of Tennessee State Parks Lunchtime Speaker Series, reserve your spot for the March 16 talk at bit.ly/TSLASS1.

To learn more about the Library & Archives or schedule a research visit, call 615-741-2764, email ask@tsla.libanswers.com or visit sos.tn.gov/tsla/plan-your-visit.

Tennessee Serves provides baby items for Lake County

Partners with Mother To Mother to support low-income families

TIPTONVILLE — Tennessee First Lady Maria Lee's initiative, Tennessee Serves, partnered with Mother To Mother to host a distribution event for families in need in Lake County.

Parents in attendance from the federally-designated distressed county and surrounding area received essential baby items such as car seats, formula, diapers and wipes, new clothing, baby toys and other baby supplies needed to help their children thrive.

"Mothers in vulnerable communities across the state can often be burdened by the costs associated with the necessities that are required to support and care for their children," said First Lady Maria Lee. "We're proud to play a role in strengthening Tennessee families by equipping them today with the tools and supplies needed to raise strong and healthy children."

The Tennessee Serves team, Mother To Mother

staff and volunteers provided items to more than 70 families at the distribution.

"Our rural outreach program allows us to provide essential health and safety items to families in areas where access is limited," said Janie Busbee, executive director and founder of Mother To Mother. "Social and financial barriers deprive families of the basic necessities needed to thrive. Our team works to remove some of those barriers by taking resources directly to the community and distributing them, free of charge."

Since Tennessee Serves launched in 2019, the First Lady's initiative has partnered with Mother To Mother to provide baby necessities to families in distressed counties across the state and donated items to benefit the non-profit's distribution events. This is the first Mother To Mother event to have been fully sponsored by Tennessee Serves.

READ ACROSS AMERICA



East Side Elementary's Library Media Specialist Amanda Robinson was looking festive Thursday morning to mark the annual Read Across America Week. The week commemorates Dr. Seuss' birthday on March 2 and sets to inspire and encourage young students to read. Students at East Side on this day were dressed in pajamas and cozied up to read their favorite books.

Finance committee talks trash, archives, and SROs

T-G STAFF REPORT
 The Bedford County Financial Management Committee met in a regular meeting Tuesday to discuss several monthly financial reports.

Solid waste

According to a report from Diane Forbes, there were eight million tons of trash that went into Class 1 Landfills (municipal landfills) in 2021. This type of information is sent to the governor's office for the general assembly to pass new legislation for recycling and to help regulate solid waste.

Last year, all 95 counties passed their 25% reduction quotas, according to Forbes.

For the month of January, they had \$6,317.96 in recycling revenue and \$34,753.48 in landfill disposal expense.

In the county, Forbes said they are working to get crews out on the roads as fast as possible to pick up trash. But the problem, of course, is people continue to throw trash after an area is picked up.

"We are getting a few more inmates out, so we are picking up roads as fast as we can. I know it's a continuing problem. As fast as we go down on the roads, two days later someone has come out and thrown garbage out again. So, we are desperately looking to catch anybody out there..." she said.

Archives

According to county archivist Carol Roberts, the archives had 26 visitors and reference requests in January. This has been their highest month to date of both visits and research requests to the archives.

Roberts explained they continue to have requests related to historic and endangered cemeteries. For example, this month they helped with identifying and improving the listings of Jones and Beechwood Cemeteries.

The archives also had an interesting request from Belgium. Roberts said there are memorial projects that each citizen volunteers takes a U.S. soldier's grave and brings flowers and honors to it. As a result, they often look for fam-

ily to connect with in the states. One such soldier was born and lived in Bedford County.

Roberts said they are searching for the veteran's descendants for the Belgium Cemetery project. The Times-Gazette will also have more information about this in a later edition.

Monthly reports

Finance director Robert Daniel said the county's percent of revenue collected is 58% while they have expended 53% of their budget. "So, it's pretty much balanced and that's typically what's going on," he said.

For property tax collections, they have collected \$3.5 million more than the same time last year. However, they are down \$78,000 in prior year property tax collections compared to last year. Sales tax is \$895,000 more this year than last year.

Juvenile Detention is projecting a loss of \$252,000 for the remainder of the year.

This has been an ongoing issue that the county is still looking at. The facility, the only occupant of a portion of the former sheriff's office on Lane Parkway, derives most of its income from jail fees, most paid by other counties who send teens to periods of varying lengths.

The Center also increased its rates charged to other counties from \$132 to \$145 per day last June. For comparison, the Rutherford County Juvenile Detention Center charges \$175, which is one of the highest in the State, at the time of the rate change.

SROs

The committee also talked of adding more School Resource Officers to the Bedford County School System.

Assistant superintendent Tim Harwell spoke on behalf of the school system saying they would like to add nine more SROs to the system. There are seven schools, mostly elementary schools, that do not have one. The two extra SROs would serve as a substitute and a floater, according to Harwell.

Harwell argued this is a crucial decision as schools

across the country continue to face interior and exterior assaults.

"We're dealing more and more with mental health issues not only with our students...but also with our parents," said Harwell. "It's troubling some of the behavior we're seeing out of our parents and some of the things they've threatened to do."

He added that some of the misbehaviors seen in middle school students are now being seen in elementary students. For example, more elementary students are being caught vaping in the bathroom.

Harwell said law presence in the schools would send a message to the parents that they take student security seriously and that they want their students to view law enforcement positively.

However, like everything else, this costs money. It

would cost about \$126,000 for each SRO for the first year (this includes benefits, training, equipment). For nine SROs, the county is looking at an expense of \$1,134,000.

Commissioner Tony Smith said, "Now, I don't see no way under the sun our sheriff's department budget can handle this. And to be quite honest, I don't see how in the hell the finance department is going to handle it either."

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Our Mom In Heaven



*They say there is a reason
 They say time will heal;
 Neither time or reason
 Will change the way I feel.
 Gone are the days
 We used to share
 But in my heart
 You are always there.
 The gates of memories
 Will never close;
 I miss you more than
 Anybody knows...
 Love and miss you everyday
 Till we meet again
 Always & Forever*

Thank you Vanderbilt Bedford Hospital-Conan Carter, NP & office staff, Hospice Compassus, Feldhaus Memorial Chapel, James & Crystal, Tracy & Treydin. Thank you to everyone for the flowers, cards & food. We appreciate all of the love and support during this time.

*With Love,
 Christy, Vicky & Patty*


SAVE BIG
 on groceries with
 coupons in our
 Saturday Paper

Take notice when buying gift cards

Dear Heloise: Gift cards are great to receive, but watch out -- some of these gift cards, if not used within a year of the purchased date, the bank will start deducting a fee from the balance each month until it gets used. Check the gift card's fine print on the back of the card. I learned the hard way, as I won a gift card for \$200 that was good until July 2023.

Hints from Heloise

Heloise



baking soda on its "fur" and let it remain on until it sets. Then, just brush it off, and the fur will be refreshed. Also, the top layer of grime should be gone.

My pamphlet "Heloise's Baking Soda Hints and Recipes" provides even more hints about how baking soda can be used for cleaning and deodorizing. If you haven't gotten your hands on this pamphlet yet, just send \$5 along with a long, self-addressed, stamped envelope to: Heloise/Baking Soda, P.O. Box 795001, San Antonio, TX, 78279-5001.

FYI: If your books smell a tad musty, sprinkle a small amount of baking soda throughout the dry pages. Let sit for a day, and then brush out the soda. That smell should be gone. However, do not apply to antique or damp books. -- Heloise

PET PAL

Dear Heloise: Here's a picture of an opossum grabbing a late-night snack on our table in our garage. I like opossums, too. So cute! -- Walt Lind, Nassau Bay, Texas

Readers, to see Walt's opossum and our other Pet Pals, go to Heloise.com and click on "Pet of the Week."

Do you have a furry friend to share with our readers? Send a photo and a brief description to Heloise@Heloise.com. -- Heloise

Send a money-saving or timesaving hint to Heloise, P.O. Box 795001, San Antonio, TX 78279-5001, or you can fax it to 1-210-HELOISE or email it to Heloise@Heloise.com. I can't answer your letter personally but will use the best hints received in my column.

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Send Community Calendar items to tgnews@t-g.com, notify us on Facebook, call 931-684-1200 or stop by our office, 323 E. Depot St.

SATURDAY

Chili Cook-Off

The Bell Buckle Volunteer Fire Department will hold its annual Chili Cook-Off on Saturday, March 4 at 6 p.m. at the Fire Department at 113 Main St. Judging begins at 5 p.m., so entries must be in before then. Proceeds will go to support the local Fire Department.

Car show

The Golden Eagles Classic Car Show is scheduled Saturday, March 4, from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. at Shelbyville Central High School. Food trucks will be present.

SUNDAY

Gospel singing

The Morrison Sisters from Calhoun, Georgia will perform Southern gospel music at 6 p.m. Sunday, March 5, at Faith Baptist Church, 608 Neely Ave.

MONDAY

Bag Day

Good Samaritan will hold Bag Day from noon- 2 p.m. Monday, March 6 at 201 E. Highland Ave.

VFW meeting

The Veterans of Foreign Wars, Post 5019, and its Auxiliary will hold their monthly meeting Monday, March 6 at the VFW Post on East Depot Street. Dinner is at 6 p.m. with a business meeting for members immediately following. For more information, contact Post Commander Mike Ruess, 931-249-1566.

TUESDAY

Commodities

A commodity food distribution will be held Tuesday, March 7 from 9-11 a.m. at Bedford County Agriculture Center, 2119 Midland Road, by South Central Tennessee Human Resource Agency. Only Bedford County residents are eligible. Call 931-685-9962 for more information.

MARCH 10

Mediterranean Diet class

UT/TSU Extension is offering a four-week class exploring the foods and principles of the healthy Mediterranean Diet through lecture, cooking demonstrations, tastings and more. It will be held on March 10, 17, 24 and 30 from 10-11:30 a.m. at the Extension office. Cost is \$20 for the series

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
MARCH 2012					1	2	3
	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
	25	26	27	28	29	30	31

and you must pre-register by going to bedford.tennessee.edu or stopping by the Extension Office, 2105 Midland Road, for a registration form. Call 931-684-5971 for more information.

at 6 p.m. Monday, March 20 at El Mexico, 724 N. Main St.

Regional Postcard & Paper Memorabilia Show will be held from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. at The Fly Arts Center.

Diabetes program

Take Charge of Your Diabetes, a six-week program, helps people with diabetes learn to manage their disease and improve their health. Some of the topics covered include nutrition, controlling blood sugar, exercise, stress management, foot care, etc. The program is offered free of charge and will be taught by UT/TSU Extension and the Health Department on Mondays at 10 a.m. from March 20 through April 24 at the Extension office, 2105 Midland Road. You must pre-register by calling 931-684-5971.

APRIL 1

Book signing

Shelbyville-Bedford County Public Library will host an author presentation and book signing with Dr. Lona Bailey of Manchester at 10 a.m. Saturday, April 1, in the Community Room. Bailey's newest book, "The Voice of Villainy," covers the life and work of actress Betty Lou Gerson from Chattanooga, the voice behind the original Cruella de Vil from Disney's One Hundred and One Dalmatians. The event is free to attend for all ages. For more information call 931-684-7323.

MARCH 11

VFW breakfast

The Veterans of Foreign Wars, Post 5019, and its Auxiliary will host their second Saturday fundraiser breakfast March 11 from 7-9:30 a.m. at the VFW Post, 1320 E. Depot St. Home cooked food including sausage and pork loin are on the menu. Carry-outs are available. For more information call Alex at 615-513-7959.

Spaghetti supper

Blankenship United Methodist Church, 3602 Midland Road, will host a spaghetti supper Saturday, March 11, from 5-7 p.m. Proceeds will benefit homeless services and the church,

MARCH 12

Laity Club

Bedford County Laity Club will meet Sunday, March 12 at Mount Lebanon Church.

MARCH 13

Arts Council

Bedford County Arts Council's monthly meeting will be Monday, March 13 at The Fly Arts Center. A potluck dinner at 6 p.m. will be followed by a program at 6:30 p.m. All current members and those wanting to learn more about the council are invited.

MARCH 17

Biloxi Blues

Neil Simon's "Biloxi Blues" will be presented at The Fly Arts Center March 17, 18 and 24 at 6:30 and 9 p.m.

MARCH 20

Meeting

The Bedford County Democratic Party will meet

Easter egg hunt

First Community Bank will host a free Easter egg hunt at 1 p.m. Saturday, April 1 at its main office, 207 Elm St.

APRIL 2

Fundraiser

The Shelbyville Community Soup Kitchen will be hosting a fundraiser on Sunday, April 2, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at 336 S. Cannon Blvd. A portion of the proceeds will be shared with Gateway Church, who provides them storage space, facilitates clothing, and distributes additional food. To-go orders available. Reservations are appreciated but not required.

APRIL 8

Paper-postcard show

The 19th Shelbyville

APRIL 22

Barbecue cookoff

Shelbyville Moose Lodge #2197 will hold its 14th annual barbecue cookoff Saturday, April 22. For more information call the lodge, 931-684-9137.

ONGOING

Meals on Wheels

Shelbyville Senior Citizens Center is in need of Meals on Wheels volunteers to deliver meals to the homebound of Shelbyville. For more information, call 684-0019 and ask for Amy Wilson.

Soup kitchen

Shelbyville Community Soup Kitchen serves meals from 3:30-5 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays at 336 S. Cannon Blvd. (corner of South Cannon Boulevard and Pickle Street). Donations may be made to Shelbyville Community Soup Kitchen, P.O. Box 2259, Shelbyville, TN 37162, and are tax deductible under its 501c3 non-profit designation. Boxed non-perishables are available. Takeouts are no longer distributed.

Head Start

Bedford County Head Start Centers are currently taking applications. For more information or to complete an application contact any Head Start Center. Phone numbers are: Wartrace 931-389-6406, Harris Head Start 931-773-0033, North Side Head Start Center 931-773-0141, and Bedford Early Head Start 931-685-0876. Head Start is a free child development program for children 6 weeks to 3 years and their families. Early Head Start enrolls pregnant women for monthly prenatal educational visits.

Celebrate Recovery

Celebrate Recovery meets each Monday at 6 p.m. at International House of Prayer, 865 Union St. Attendees do not have to be a church member. For more information call Doug, 931-703-3159.

Potatoes are the star of this Irish dish

St. Patrick's Day is a time to pay homage to Ireland's patron saint and celebrate Irish culture and cuisine. Even though corned beef and cabbage is ubiquitous on this holiday, that meal really isn't the most authentic Irish cuisine. There are plenty of other foods to dress the St. Patrick's table if a person wants to dabble in Irish cooking.

Many cultures have a variation on the potato pancake, and the Irish are no different. Boxty is a traditional Irish potato pancake. Individuals who want to include boxty in their

celebrations can try this recipe, courtesy of Chef Pádraic Óg Gallagher of Gallagher's Boxty House in Dublin.

Irish Boxty

Makes about 10
300 grams (approx. 10 1/2 ounces) raw potatoes, peeled
300 grams (approx. 10 1/2 ounces) cooked potatoes, mashed
300 grams (approx. 10 1/2 ounces) flour
10 grams (approx. 2 1/2 teaspoons) salt
850 ml (approx. 3 1/2 cups) milk

1. Grate the raw potatoes into a muslin cloth and squeeze as much liquid as possible into a bowl. Let liquid stand for 20 minutes.
2. Gently pour off the liquid and keep the starch that settled in the bottom of the bowl.
3. Add grated potatoes to mashed potatoes and flour. Add starch and salt to mix.
4. Slowly add 3/4 of the milk to form a batter of pouring consistency. Depending on the potato, you may not need to use all the milk. If the batter is too heavy, add more milk.

5. Leave batter resting for 30 minutes.
6. Drop a ladle full onto an oiled nonstick pan over medium heat and cook on the first side for 2 minutes (this depends on how heavy the batter is and how much you use). Check color (it should be a nice golden color) on the bottom. Adjust heat if necessary.
7. Turn and cook on the other side for 2 to 3 minutes more.
8. Boxty pancakes are best left overnight in a fridge and reheated in a pan in good butter.

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How Jimmy Carter integrated faith into his political work

By LORI AMBER ROESSNER
University of Tennessee
From The Conversation via AP

"I am a farmer, an engineer, a businessman, a planner, a scientist, a governor, and a Christian," Jimmy Carter said while introducing himself to national political reporters when he announced his campaign to be the 39th president of the United States in December 1974.

As journalists and historians consider Carter's legacy, this prelude to Carter's campaign offers insight into how he wanted to be known and how he might like to be remembered.

After studying Carter's presidential campaign, presidency and post-presidency for years, which included examining more than 25,000 archival documents, media sources, oral histories and interviews, I wrote "Jimmy Carter and the Birth of the Marathon Media Campaign." Along the way, I had the opportunity to interview former President Carter in October 2014, when we discussed his life, his presidency and his legacy.

Based upon this experience, one observation is certain — Carter was a man of faith committed to a vision of the nation that aligned with his views of Jesus' teachings.

A campaign cloaked in a message of love and justice

In the fall of 1975, after his initial announcement failed to elicit much national attention for his candidacy, the still relatively unknown Georgia governor published the campaign biography, "Why Not the Best?"

Within the book, he told the story of his wholesome childhood on his family's peanut farm in Archery, Georgia, and of achieving his childhood dream through his appointment to the Naval Academy in 1943.

He wrote of his dedication to his family as a loyal son, husband and father and his duty-bound career transition to manage his family-owned peanut farm, warehouse and store after his father Earl Carter's premature death from pancreatic cancer in 1953. He also shared his lifelong commitment to community and public service.

Moreover, he offered himself as

a public servant who could bridge the chasm between the American people and the government that had emerged after the revelations of presidential corruption amid Vietnam and Watergate.

"Our government can and must represent the best and the highest ideals of those of us who voluntarily submit to its authority. In our third century, we must meet these simple, but crucial standards," he wrote in the campaign biography.

Though Carter cloaked his campaign in Jesus' teachings about love and justice, most national reporters did not give Carter's faith much attention until he became the Democratic Party's front-runner in advance of the North Carolina primary in 1976.

'Lust in my heart'

When national reporters finally turned their attention to his faith, the evangelical politician acknowledged that he had "spent more time on my knees in the four years I was governor ... than I did in all the rest of my life."

Carter continued to share his understanding of the gospel with journalists and their audiences in a plain-spoken manner, even though it was not always advantageous to his political fortunes. For instance, after continued probes about his faith that summer from Playboy Magazine correspondent Robert Scheer, Carter launched into a sermon on pride, lust and lying that would haunt him later.

"I try not to commit a deliberate sin. I recognize that I'm going to do it anyhow, because I'm human and I'm tempted ... I've looked on a lot of women with lust," Carter, believing he was off the record, said in attempting to clarify his religious views. "I've committed adultery in my heart many times."

Carter referred to Matthew 5:28, the biblical passage in which Jesus shares this interpretation of the Seventh Commandment, with the words: "But I say unto you, That whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart."

Uninterrupted, Carter continued his salty explanation of the verse: "Christ says don't consider yourself better than someone else because one guy screws a whole bunch of women while the other guy is loyal to his wife."

"We have heard Jesus' words all our lives ever since we were 3, 4 years old, and we knew what it meant," Carter later explained to me. "But, obviously, the general public, when I said, 'lust in my heart,' that was a top headline, it looked like I was — like I spent my time trying to seduce other women. Rosa (Lynn) knew that wasn't true."

Though Carter's comments were "on solid theological ground," according to many people of faith, up-and-coming leaders of the religious right, such as televangelist Jerry Falwell, castigated Carter. And, in the end, many folks agreed with well-regarded columnist Mary McGroary — the interview "should have been an off-the-record conversation with God, not one taped by Playboy."

Crisis of confidence

Despite the erosion of support among the emerging religious right after the Playboy gaffe, Carter remained steadfast in his commitment to his Christian values and a faith-inspired vision for the nation that advanced human rights at home and abroad. He called it a "new beginning."

Carter beseeched his American brethren to chart a new course during his inaugural address in January 1977: "Our commitment to human rights must be absolute, our laws fair, our natural beauty preserved; the powerful must not persecute the weak, and human dignity must be enhanced."

Carter had achieved what Time magazine hailed as one of the most astonishing "political miracles" in the nation's history because of his rapid ascension from a virtual unknown politician to the presidency. But many citizens, suffering from an emerging crisis of confidence in the American dream and faith in its institutions and leaders, had already begun to tune out Carter's political sermons about the looming energy crisis, stagflation and international conflicts.

Moreover, in the coming years, they would become indignant toward the man who had condemned the corruption of his predecessors and promised to never tell a lie on the campaign trail, yet remained loyal to one of his oldest advisers, the Office of Management and Budget Director

Bert Lance, who was accused of unethical banking practices.

Long-lasting commitment to public service

In the end, Carter stood accused of failing to live up to his campaign promises from the vantage point of many American citizens amid domestic crises and foreign conflicts.

Amid news coverage of these events and his dwindling public support, Carter lost his reelection campaign, and his administration was hailed by many journalists, political insiders and average Americans alike as a "failed presidency."

Nevertheless, Carter remained committed to his religious convictions. "I have spoken many times of love, but love must be aggressively translated into simple justice," he invoked his audience when he accepted the Democratic nomination in July 1976.

For the remainder of his life, he attempted to model the translation of Jesus' love into action through his life of public service. His post-presidential commitments involved The Carter Center's initiatives of fighting disease and seeking international peace and his private efforts of building homes for Habitat for Humanity and teaching Sunday school.

In the end, Carter will leave this world with only one acknowledged regret: "I wish I'd sent one more helicopter to get the hostages and we would have rescued them and I would have been re-elected," he said referring to the April 1980 military rescue attempt of the 53 U.S. hostages held by Iranian revolutionaries.

In Carter's final days, his words from his presidential farewell address, which remain true today, are worth remembering:

"The battle for human rights — at home and abroad — is far from over. ... If we are to serve as a beacon for human rights, we must continue to perfect here at home the rights and values which we espouse around the world: A decent education for our children, adequate medical care for all Americans, an end to discrimination against minorities and women, a job for all those able to work, and freedom from injustice and religious intolerance."

CHURCH ACTIVITIES

Send church news and events to tgnews@t-g.com.

Baptist

"Be Transformed" will be Pastor Tyler Shoemaker's message at 10 a.m. at **Calvary Baptist Church**. The service will be livestreamed.

Pastor Jimmy West's message at 10 a.m. Sunday at **Edgemont Baptist Church** will be "Followers Obey" from Matthew 28:16-20. The service will be livestreamed. Joseph Habedank will perform in concert at the church Friday, March 17. No tickets will be required to attend.

The Morrison Sisters from Calhoun, Georgia will perform Southern gospel music at 6 p.m. Sunday at **Faith Baptist Church**.

"Life's Greatest Discovery" from Ephesians 5:15-17 will be Bro. Bobby McGee's message at **Grace Baptist Church**.

Christian (Disciples of Christ)

Pastor Dan Asche's series on "Transformed by Jesus" will continue at **First Christian Church** at 10 a.m. Sunday. This week's message will be "From Immorality to Purity" from John chapter 8.

Church of Christ

The sermon series "The Fight" by Lance Bennett continues at **Fairlane Church of Christ**. Sunday's message will be "What is Freedom?" from Galatians 5:13-15. The service will be livestreamed and broadcast on WLJH (98.7 FM/1580 AM/wljradio.com).

Guest speaker Austin Harden's lesson will be "Committed to God" from Mark 12:41-44 at 10 a.m. Sunday at **Southside Church of Christ**. Bible study will be held at 6 p.m. Sunday and 6:30 p.m. Wednesday. Sunday morning and Wednesday evening services are livestreamed at cofcsouthside.com.

Methodist

Blankenship United Methodist Church, 3602 Midland Road, will host a spaghetti supper Saturday, March 11, from 5-7 p.m. Proceeds will benefit Bedford County homeless services and the church.

Pastor Abe Zimmerman's message at **First United Methodist Church** will be "Greatest Story Ever Half Told" from John 3:1-17 and 1 John 3:16. The 10 a.m. service will be livestreamed on Facebook and broadcast on WLJH (98.7 FM/1580 AM/wljradio.com).

Presbyterian

First Presbyterian Church's service for this Sunday, 2nd Sunday in Lent, will be held at 10 a.m. led by Pastor Jim Moran. All services are streamed live on Facebook.



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Saddleback Church doubles down on support for female pastors

By DEEPA BHARATH and PETER SMITH
Associated Press

The woman pastor at the center of the Southern Baptist Convention's decision to oust Saddleback Church — the California megachurch founded by pastor and best-selling author Rick Warren — says she will continue to serve as a ministry leader despite her longstanding ties to the nation's largest Protestant denomination.

Saddleback has yet to say if it will appeal its expulsion. But at least one other church — a Kentucky congregation ousted the same day for having a woman pastor — plans to do so, guaranteeing Southern Baptists will weigh the issue at their annual meeting in June in New Orleans.

Stacie Wood, teaching pastor at Saddleback and wife of lead pastor Andy Wood, wrote an Instagram post about her church's ousting. She credited her Southern Baptist upbringing for shaping her faith, but stood firm on heeding her calling despite being "at the center of the discussion."

"I'm serving Jesus under the authority and in alignment with my spiritual leaders," Wood wrote. "We believe that women can be gifted and empowered as teachers and as pastors."

Her husband told the congregation during weekend services about his plan to release a video explaining the church's position on women pastors. Wood told The Associated Press last year that the Bible "teaches that men and women were given spiritual gifts by God."

"My wife has the spiritual gift of teaching and she is really good. People often tell me she's better than

me when it comes to preaching," he said.

The SBC's statement of faith says that women should not be pastors. The SBC is not a hierarchy and can't tell a member congregation what to do, but it can deem a church to be "not in friendly cooperation with the Convention," the verbal formulation for ouster.

On Feb. 21, the convention's Executive Committee voted to expel Saddleback, the SBC's second largest congregation, alluding to Stacie Wood "functioning in the office of pastor." It was one of five congregations kicked out for the same issue.

One of them, Fern Creek Baptist Church in Louisville, Kentucky, plans to appeal, said the Rev. Linda Barnes Popham, who has served as Fern Creek's pastor since 1993.

She said the congregation wants to continue working with the SBC, regularly uses its religious-education curriculum and supports its missionaries and other causes. At the same time, it believes the larger body of Southern Baptists — not just the Executive Committee — should decide whether to maintain fellowship with churches with women pastors.

"We feel like the average Southern Baptist would have no problem with this," she said. "The other reason is to be a change agent for women in the Southern Baptist Convention — for all those young girls, for all those young people God is calling into ministry."

The other three churches also said they planned to continue with women's leadership but did not indicate they would appeal.

An elder for New Faith Mission Ministry of Griffin, Georgia, said it is nondenominational and never had an affiliation with the SBC, though

the convention says its records showed one.

Pastor Minnie R. Washington of St. Timothy's Christian Baptist in Baltimore said her church has had "no interaction" with the SBC and said it was an honor to be named alongside the other ousted churches.

"Is it possible that the Executive Committee of SBC believes it can tell God who to call to lead His people?" she said via email.

Pastor Linda Smith of Calvary Baptist Church in Jackson, Mississippi, a former Southern Baptist missionary, said her church doesn't expect to appeal. "We're going to press on and do what God calls us to do," focusing on ministry in a needy neighborhood, she said.

Saddleback did not respond to requests for comment regarding a possible appeal.

In an email, Andy Wood told the congregation he would soon release a belief statement about women as pastors.

"God intends for both men and women to exercise their spiritual gifts of shepherding and teaching the church." He also asked them not to speak publicly against the denomination's decision.

"Though we are disappointed by their decision, we are not offended. We love and have valued our relationship with the SBC and its faithful churches. We will engage and respond through the proper channels at the appropriate time," the email stated.

The Saddleback controversy began in 2021, when Warren ordained three women as pastors, prompting discussions within the SBC about possibly expelling the megachurch. Warren, who retired last year after more than 42 years at Saddleback, made an emotional speech in June 2022 at the Southern

Baptists' annual convention in Anaheim, saying: "We have to decide if we will treat each other as allies or adversaries."

The denomination's statement of faith was revised in 2000 to state: "While both men and women are gifted for service in the church, the office of pastor is limited to men as qualified by Scripture."

But opinions have varied on whether this is a litmus test for a church's alignment with the SBC. The SBC's constitution allows for the expulsion of churches whose "faith and practice" don't align with it, though it doesn't specifically name women pastors as cause for removal.

In her Feb. 23 post, Stacie Wood called herself "a Southern Baptist girl born and bred" and expressed gratitude for how those roots shaped her faith. She remains impressed with the SBC's passion for Bible study and missions.

But, in her adult years in ministry, she said, "denominational affiliations haven't felt like a central component to what we've been called to do" including the time when the Woods started and ran Echo Church, a nondenominational church in the San Francisco Bay Area.

"We partnered with Southern Baptists who helped us get started, but we've also been delighted to partner with many different church leaders from a variety of denominations to advance the Gospel," she said.

She has received an outpouring of support.

Her husband, replying to her Instagram post, said he was proud of her: "I'm grateful that I get to be part of a generation of leaders who propel sons and daughters forward in the Kingdom!"

AG IN THE CLASSROOM



Submitted photo

Bedford County Farm Bureau Women's Chair Connie Crafton, presents Julie Hill with a certificate and check as Bedford County's Ag in the Classroom teacher nominee. Hill is a 5th grade teacher at Eastside School.

Greece train crash search moves 'centimeter by centimeter'

By **COSTAS KANTOURIS**
and **DEREK GATOPOULOS**

Associated Press

THESSALONIKI, Greece — Emergency crews cut through the mangled remains of a passenger train on Thursday, progressing “centimeter by centimeter” in their search for the dead from a head-on collision in northern Greece that killed at least 46 people. Rail workers went on strike to protest years of underfunding that they say has left the country’s train system in a dangerous state.

The passenger train and a freight train slammed into each other late Tuesday, crumpling carriages into twisted steel knots and forcing people to smash windows to escape. It was the country’s deadliest crash ever, and more than 50 people remained hospitalized, most in the central Greek city of Larissa. Six of them were in intensive care.

Fire Service spokesman Yiannis Artopios said the grim recovery effort was proceeding “centimeter by centimeter.”

“We can see that there are more (bodies) people there. Unfortunately they are in a very bad condition because of the collision,” Artopios told state television.

The cause of the crash is still not clear. The Larissa station manager arrested after the collision was charged Wednesday with multiple counts of manslaughter and causing serious physical harm through negligence, as a judicial inquiry tries to establish why the two trains were traveling in opposite directions on the same track.

Railway workers’ associations,

meanwhile, called strikes, halting national rail services and the subway in Athens. They are protesting working conditions and what they described as a dangerous failure to modernize the Greek rail system due to a lack of public investment during the deep financial crisis that spanned most of the previous decade and brought Greece to the brink of bankruptcy.

“Unfortunately, our long-standing demands for full-time staff hirings, better training and above all, implementation of up-to-date security systems have always ended up in the wastepaper basket,” Greece’s federation of railway employees said in a statement announcing Thursday’s strike.

Transport Minister Kostas Karamanlis resigned following the crash, his replacement tasked with setting up an independent inquiry looking into the causes of the crash.

“Responsibility will be assigned,” Prime Minister Kyriakos Mitsotakis said in a televised address late Wednesday after visiting the collision site.

“We will work so that the words ‘never again’ ... will not remain an empty pledge,” he said. “That I promise you.”

Supporters of the strike plan to protest in central Athens later Thursday.

More than 300 people were on board the passenger train, many of them students returning from a holiday weekend and annual Carnival celebrations around Greece.

Andreas Alikaniotis, a 20-year-old survivor of the crash, described how he and fellow students escaped from a

jackknifed train car as fire approached, smashing windows and throwing luggage onto the ground outside to use as a makeshift landing pad.

“It was a steep drop, into a ditch,” Alikaniotis, who suffered a knee injury, told reporters from his hospital bed in Larissa.

“The lights went out. ... The smoke was suffocating inside the rail car but also outside,” Alikaniotis said.

He said he was “one of the few around who had not been seriously injured.”

“Me and my friends helped people get out.”

Relatives of the victims and still-missing passengers lashed out at government officials and Italian-owned private rail operator Hellenic Train.

Dimitris Bournazis, whose father and 15-year-old brother remain unaccounted for, said phone calls to the rail company have been fruitless.

“I’ve been trying since yesterday afternoon to communicate with the company to find out what seat my father was in,” he said. “Nobody has called me back.”

He’s lost hope of seeing either of his loved ones alive again.

“I’ve lost my brother, my father. That can’t change, I know it,” he said. “But the point is for us not to mourn victims like that again. They bought 50 tickets to death.”

Bournazis said responsibility for the crash should go far beyond the stationmaster.

“We can’t dump all the blame on one person for making one mistake,” he said.

Experts eye meaning of intense interest in Murdaugh trial

By **JAMES POLLARD**

Associated Press/Report for America

WALTERBORO, S.C. — As Alex Murdaugh’s murder trial moves toward its conclusion, the intense public attention on the case has only grown.

Investigations stemming from the June 7, 2021, shooting deaths of Murdaugh’s wife and son revealed that the prominent South Carolina lawyer stole millions of dollars from largely poor clients’ settlements and staged an attempt on his life to secure his surviving son a \$12 million life insurance payout, according to authorities.

In the process, true crime enthusiasts, concerned onlookers and many others found the latest subject of their fascination in the yearslong unraveling of a mystery that jurors must weigh.

Experts say the small town saga’s transformation into an international point of intrigue highlights insights into the human psyche: People are drawn to events that inform their perceptions of threat. And amid the commotion of the trial, some legal observers have found an important opportunity for education.

Coltan Scrivner, a researcher at the Recreational Fear Lab at Aarhus University in Denmark, said a human desire to avoid getting duped has

developed into a natural curiosity about signs of danger. Those cues, he said, are especially strong when the schemes involve the rich and powerful like the Murdaugh family.

“We put it in our rolodex of possible simulations of what could happen in a bad situation,” Scrivner said.

Amanda Vicary, a psychology professor at Illinois Wesleyan University, said the obsession with true crime is largely driven by women interested in its self-protective lessons. Many followers might subconsciously ask themselves what they need to look for in their own lives, she said.

Plus, the Murdaugh case’s many aspects — mystery, forensics, family, finances — appeal to a variety of interests.

“Most popular true crime stories might only have one or two of those elements,” Vicary said. “It has a little something for everything going on right now.”

Stephanie Truesdale, an upstate South Carolina teacher whose crocheted dolls of prominent figures in the case went viral on social media, said the combination of a wealthy family’s fall from grace and the many unexpected developments piqued her attention from the start. She said she’s been particularly interested to see how the state’s legal system treats “one of their own.”

Although the dolls garnered praise, some other displays of public interest in the case have been less well-received. Several trespassers were found last weekend taking selfies outside the feed room where Paul Murdaugh died, according to defense attorney Dick Harpootlian. He described it as the “most distasteful thing” he had ever seen.

“If people are really paying attention, they could really learn a lot from what’s going on right now, instead of just the more gruesome aspect of things,” Truesdale said.

Sarah Ford, the legal director for the South Carolina Victim Assistance Network, said she has found that people want to better understand legal processes in connection to the case. She and former state lawmaker Mandy Powers Norrell began hosting Twitter spaces to answer questions about the daily proceedings. Ford said they recently drew 600 people for an hourlong YouTube Live conversation.

For Ford, the trial has spurred conversations that can change common misconceptions about crime. People might be shocked that someone could be accused of killing their wife and son, but the case has raised awareness of issues such as the prevalence of domestic violence, she said.

Officers’ conduct probed in woman’s death

By **TRAVIS LOLLER**
Associated Press

NASHVILLE — Four Tennessee police officers are being investigated for their treatment of a woman whose pleas for help they repeatedly ignored as they accused her of faking illness after she was discharged from a hospital. The woman was pronounced dead a day later.

The Knox County District Attorney’s office announced on Monday that it would not press criminal charges after an autopsy determined that 60-year-old Lisa Edwards died of a stroke and that “at no time did law enforcement interaction cause or contribute to Ms. Edwards’ death.”

That has not stopped public outrage after the Knoxville Police Department released video showing officers accusing Edwards of faking mobility and breathing problems and ignoring her repeated pleas for help.

In the video released last week, officers struggle for about 25 minutes to move Edwards into a police van and finally a cruiser after being called by Fort Sanders Regional Medical Center on Feb. 5.

Edwards repeatedly asks for help but is rebuffed by officers and hospital security guards who become frustrated with her inability to step up into the van and tell her she is faking her incapacity.

Edwards tells them she can’t breathe, she needs help sitting up, and that she’s going to have a stroke. At one point, she tells them, “I’m gonna die.”

First to arrive at the hospital is Sgt. Brandon Wardlaw. It is 8 a.m. and Edwards is in a hospital wheelchair in the corner of a parking garage. Security guards tell Wardlaw that she has been discharged from the medical center but won’t leave the property and that they need the wheelchair back. Edwards appears somewhat disoriented, asking the officer, “Can you call the preacher for me?”

When he can’t get Edwards to leave, Wardlaw decides to arrest her for trespassing and calls for a police van, but officers cannot get her inside it. They try several times to lift her but end up leaving her propped half-in, half-out of the van. Eventually she slumps to the ground, where they leave her lying for several minutes.

Throughout her interaction with police, Edwards repeatedly tells the officers that she can’t breathe and needs help sitting up. Her breathing is heavy and her words are slurred.

When a man walks into the parking garage, Edwards calls out to him, “Doctor! Doctor!”

She asks for her inhaler over and over again, but officers cannot locate it for several minutes. When they finally find it and give it to her, Wardlaw decides she isn’t using it correctly and takes it away again.

Wardlaw, Officer Adam Barnett, and others repeatedly express their belief that Edwards is faking her mobility and breathing problems.

“You’ve been medically cleared ma’am. This is not going to work,” Barnett tells her at one point. Later he complains that she is not using her legs “on purpose.”

“Now you’re starting to piss me off! Get up!” he tells Edwards.

“This is all an act,” Wardlaw says. “When you get out to jail, you’d better not pull this stunt, ‘cause they don’t play around out there.”

There is an indication in the video that officers may be aware Edwards could be in real distress. When they suggest putting her in the back of the van, the driver balks.

“She’s saying she can’t breathe. If she falls ... and dies, it’s on me,” says Transportation Officer Danny Dugan, who is not a sworn police officer.

Eventually they call Officer Timothy Distasio, deciding that his cruiser has a lower profile that will make it easier to get her inside. The officers push her in, and leave her lying on her back. At this point she is wheezing heavily. She asks repeatedly for officers to sit her up but they tell her she can sit herself up.

Video from inside the police car shows Edwards trying to pull herself upright repeatedly, but eventually she slumps out of sight. Several minutes later Distasio performs a traffic stop on another vehicle. When he opens the rear door, Edwards is unresponsive. He calls dispatch for an ambulance, telling them, “I don’t know if she’s faking it or what, but she’s not answering me.”

Edwards was pronounced dead at the Fort Sanders Regional Medical Center the following day.

Wardlaw, Barnett, Distasio and Dugan are on paid administrative leave, pending the outcome of the internal investigation into their conduct, according to Knoxville Police spokesman Scott Erland.

“A lot of us see these terrible videos, and then there are no repercussions for the officers because we are told that it looks terrible but actually is technically lawful and according to policy,” said Alex Vitale, a professor of sociology at Brooklyn College who studies policing. “They never ask the bigger question of why were the police involved in the first place? Why are we using police to cover up the failures of our basic health care system?”

Edwards had flown to Tennessee from Rhode Island on Feb. 4, according to the autopsy report. On the flight, she started experiencing abdominal pain, and was taken to the Blount Memorial Hospital at about 7:45 p.m. There she was disruptive and uncooperative. Her behavior included throwing feces at a nurse.

She was discharged in stable condition, but she showed up at the Fort Sanders Regional Medical Center at about 1 a.m. on February 5. She was discharged about six hours later, according to the autopsy.

Edwards’ daughter-in-law, August Boylan, told television station WATE-TV that Edwards had mobility problems stemming from a stroke in 2019. She also had multiple medical issues, according to the autopsy, including chronic obstructive pulmonary disease.

Boylan said that her mother-in-law had moved to Rhode Island from Tennessee in 2018, but decided to move back.

“She was able to make her own decision as far as you know wanting to move back to Tennessee. She had a plan in place. She was discharged from a nursing home that had her helped arrange her flight to fly back to Tennessee. She was going to be living with a friend in Tennessee,” Boylan told the station.



Retired teachers get history lesson

Bedford County Retired Teachers Association toured the renovated Bedford County Courthouse for its March meeting. Bedford County Mayor Chad Graham greeted the group and welcomed them to the courthouse, and County Archivist Carol Roberts conducted the tour.

Bedford County Government photos



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A time to celebrate

This is the first weekend of March 2023, so get out your calendars, grab a pencil, and get ready to make some notes.

Now March is usually known for the Start of Spring (Hallelujah!).

Monday, March 20th through Tuesday, March 21st, is known as the Vernal Equinox.

The Vernal Equinox is when Spring starts in the Northern Hemisphere and Autumn starts in the Southern Hemisphere. It's one of those science things.

Spring is one of my favorite times of the year.

My other favorites are Summer, Autumn, and Winter.

When Spring is over I guess I'm ready for Summer, and when it gets toooooo hot, I can't wait until Autumn. And before long I'm ready for Winter. And then I can't wait for Spring.

And so goes my year with my favorite seasons.

But, March is also known as Adopt a Rescued Guinea Pig Month; and Berries and Cherries Month (every day for me), Dolphin Awareness Month, and Expanding Girls' Awareness Month.

I have three granddaughters, two of them live here with Lynn and me, and their mother also lives here too; so Expanding Girls' Awareness Month is every month here in our lovely home.

Every month is also "Help us Lord!" month.

March is also National Celery in Peanut Butter or Cheese Whiz, and International Ideas Month.

If you have any good ideas, please share them with me!

And March is also National Frozen Food Month (we celebrate that every month in the Dezotell household).

It's Mad For Plaid Month, American Red Cross Month, Listening Awareness Month, Irish-American Heritage Month, National Deaf History Month, National Music In Our Schools Month, and Women's History Month (inspiring and trailblazing women need to be hailed and acknowledged; such as my wonderful Mother, who raised my four siblings and me in a wonderful church, and set us on a good course for life).

This past week had some special days too.

March 1st was World Compliment Day, World Seagrass Day, and National Peanut Butter Lover's Day, which I celebrate just about every day, Creamy or Crunchy.

March 1st was also Share A Smile Day, and

► See **Doug**, Page 3B

Billie Crowell: celebrating 94 years



Billie Crowell next to her piano.

By **ZOË WATKINS**
zwatkins@t-g.com

Many have taken piano lessons from her; many have heard her play organ on Sunday mornings. Many in the community know her, and many in the community love her.

Her name is Billie Crowell and she'll be turning 94 on March 23.

And over those 94 years, she has met many people in the community, touching them not only with her music but also her infectious laugh and smile. To say the least, she's seen a lot over the years and says today, "I've got so many stories, I don't even know where to begin."

Gas stations, The Depression, and a courthouse fire

Billie was born in Murfreesboro in 1929 to Mary Helen Smartt — with two t's! — and Willie Dickens "Bill" Hayes. "So, you know why I'm Billie," she said.

There was also Mary Jane, June Helen, W.D. "Buddy" Jr., and Phyllis.

Billie was the second eldest.

Her parents moved to Shelbyville after a family member, Uncle Ben Reeves who was big in the gasoline business, suggested they start a service station in the city. Around 1930, her dad opened up Bill's Gas and Oil on North Main at the bottom of the Shelbyville

Square hill.

Interestingly enough, Billie recalled that one of her earliest memories was when the Courthouse burned in December 1934 after a riot broke out.

"They had the fire truck...While it was burning, they had all these tubes, and I remember playing on them," she said. "Why do I remember that?" she asked with a laugh.

Billie said that though she grew up poor, her family did fine. The lived in a simple white frame house, located where New Covenant Bookstore now stands, that had big hearths and got heat from coal. All this, of course, matches the atmosphere of the Great Depression.

"Everybody was scraping for food, places to live, getting kids to school," she said.

Billie went to East Side Elementary where she soared through the first three grades — with the help of her older sister Mary Jane.

Not only was she excelling in school at a young age, but it was

also around this time that she began taking piano lessons at the age of nine — something that would impact her for the rest of her life.

"In between, I was so drawn to music, that's all I wanted to do," she said. Somehow, in some kind of a deal, her dad got an old, broken-down piano.

"And, oh man, Mary Jane and I took off on it. We loved it," Billie said.

'Most talented,' Coke, and singers 'n swing

Her talent was easily recognized in high school as she was voted "most talented" when she was a senior graduating in 1946 from Shelbyville Central High School.

She also caught the attention of a young man named Zedric Elmer Crowell. He was a football player and an all-around active student.

His nickname was "Coke," coming from his notorious act of shaking up a bottle of coke then spraying people with it when he was just six or seven years old.

"I don't know where he

► See **Crowell**, Page 3B



Dale Murphy

It is always refreshing when someone you have always considered to be an icon is a genuinely nice person.

I was reminded of that this past week when I attended a dinner in Manchester in which former Atlanta Braves star Dale Murphy was the guest speaker. Due to some connections I was lucky enough to be able to spend a little more than an hour with "Murph" before he went to the event. Sometimes former players become grumpy after their playing days are over, but Murphy is still the same nice guy he has always been.

During my time as a sportswriter with the now defunct Nashville Banner I was sometimes assigned to go to Braves games. Back in the day when clubhouse restrictions weren't so rigid players could spend some pregame time in conversations with reporters.

Murphy was always a congenial interview. But the thing I remember about him the most was one afternoon before a game he was sitting in front of his locker autographing what looked like a stack of 50 photos featuring him with kids at an event.

"Who else but Dale Murphy would do this?," observed the man who was making the request to have the photos signed.

Who else indeed. No matter how many honors he received Murphy was and still is a humble person.

Murphy was the National League Most Valuable Player in 1982 and '83. He was a seven-time All-Star in 1980 and from 1982-87.

The Braves have retired his No. 3 jersey number. He is also a member of the Braves Hall of Fame as well as the Oregon Hall of Fame, his native state; the Georgia Sports Hall of Fame and the World Sports Humanitarian Hall of Fame. He has a charity which provides baseball equipment for children in need throughout the world.

One hall of fame has eluded him. He retired with 398 home runs, 1,266 runs batted in, 2,111 hits and a .265 batting average. The Baseball Writers Association of America has yet to vote to enshrine him in the National Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, New York. He will not be eligible for consideration again for three more years.

He closed out his career with the Philadelphia Phillies and the Colorado Rockies, ending an 18-year Major League career that extended from 1976-93 in which he was a

► See **Mark**, Page 3B



With a smile, Billie plays Amazing Grace.

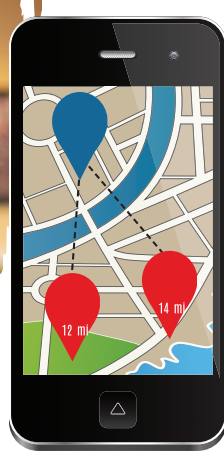
Daffodils in bloom

Daffodils are our first glimmer of hope that spring is near.

The bright yellow perennials bloom at the end of winter and are typically the first color we see after a long streak of winter dullness. And according to the Farmer's Almanac, daffodils, unlike tulips, are deer- and rodent-resistant bulbs (they simply don't like the taste of bulbs in the Narcissus family). So, if you're wanting to plant a few more, look for large bulbs that have not dried out—these do the best. Daffodils also grow best in full sun though they can grow in partial shade, such as in woodland areas. They tend to rot if too wet, so place them in well-drained areas. After daffodils bloom in the spring, allow them to grow until they die off. This is because they need time after blooming to store energy in the bulbs for next year's bloom. To remove the dead plants, either snip them off at the base, or twist the leaves while pulling lightly. It's best to plant them in the fall but it doesn't hurt to add a little early color to your yard or front door. They'll pop up next year for another bright surprise that tells us warm weather is ahead. Daffodils also symbolize "regard for someone," so sending a few is a sweet message. To end, here are the words of William Shakespeare from his play *The Winter's Tale* (c. 1610), "Daffodils/ That come before the swallow dares, and take/The winds of March with beauty."



T-G Photos by Zoe Watkins



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FCE CLUBS MEET

Liberty FCE report

Liberty FCE met on Feb. 20. Judy Smith called the meeting to order. Debbie Parker read the call to order. Bonnye Catron gave the devotion. Roll was answered with eight members present. Farm Bureau will be feed in April. The menu will be planned next month. Share Fair will be in June. Each unit is to decorate a table. Achievement night will be held March 21 at the extension office. Whitney Danhof gave the educational program, "Iris Folded Hearts." She brought the material and every member made a valentine. Dorris Turntine had a baby quilt as her club demonstration and Lynn Wilhelm had a picture of her granddaughter when she was in the homecoming court. Judy Smith read the adjournment. The next meeting will be March 20.

Four Corners FCE report

Four Corners FCE met on Feb. 27 at the Extension Office with 10 members present and one guest. Tammy Brown called the meeting to order. Devotion was given by Connie Smith, and Louise Armstrong read the call to order entitled "Snowman's Valentine." Armstrong gave the treasurer's report and Vavial Jamison the sunshine report. Club donations were recorded. The program was given by Extension Agent Whitney Danhof on iris paper folding. Everyone had a great time making their own beautiful heart card using this technique. Achievement night will be March 21, at the Extension Office. The theme of the night is "pearls of FCE." They are predicting a great night of music, food and fun. Our next meeting will be March 27 at the Extension Office.



Junior Archivist summer camp will bring history alive

NASHVILLE – Tennessee State Library & Archives will bring history alive for 8 to 12-year-olds during Historians in Training: Junior Archivist Summer Camp on June 12 - 16 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

"We are excited to host another year of summer camp at our beautiful Tennessee State Library & Archives building," said Secretary of State Tre Hargett. "Our team has worked hard to put together a great week filled with activities that will appeal to any student interested in or wanting to learn more about Tennessee history and preservation."

During the week-long adventure, campers will explore historical topics and people while learning how archivists care for and protect historical documents for the future. As junior archivists and historians, campers will learn how history is preserved through hands-on activities, games and field trips to other local historical sites.

The full-day summer camp, presented by the Library & Archives Education Outreach team, will take place at the Library & Archives, located on the northeast corner of Bicentennial Capitol Mall State Park at 1001 Rep. John Lewis Way N., in Nashville. The cost to attend is \$125 per camper, with an additional charge of \$10 for before or after care, respectively.

The Library & Archives, a division of the Department of State, collects and preserves books, journals, maps, photographs, records and other documents of historical and reference value focusing on Tennessee and Tennesseans. The Library & Archives is home to many irreplaceable historical documents, including Tennessee's three Constitutions.

The Historians in Training: Junior Archivist Summer Camp is funded in part by the National Historical Publications and Records Commission.

To register for the Historians in Training: Junior Archivist Summer Camp, visit sos.tn.gov/tsla/summer-camp.

GOOD CITIZEN AWARDS



Emma Collard



Julia Anderson



Abigail Murrill

The Shelby Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution hosted their Good Citizen Awards at First Christian Church Sunday. This award recognizes and rewards high school seniors who "possess the qualities of dependability, service, leadership, and patriotism in their homes, schools, and communities." These students are selected by their teachers and peers because they demonstrate these qualities to an outstanding degree. Awards were presented to Emma Collard from Cascade High School, Julia Anderson from Shelbyville Central High School, and Abigail Murrill from Community High.

Submitted photos

Are you reading enough comic strips?

I'm heartbroken that cartoonist Scott Adams recently self-destructed - but hold the presses! This big, beautiful world still has plenty of comic strips to tickle our funny bones.

Don't believe me? I crunched the numbers and realized that on a good day, I read some 138 comic strips and panels!

(On a GREAT day, I replace some 138 comic strips and panels in a folder marked "Tomorrow," put on my wife's favorite mood music, go pantsless like Ziggy and...well, this being a family newspaper, never mind. Mary Worth's ticker couldn't handle the details.)

My obsession has grown with time and technology,

but my interest in the funnies goes way back. I have a photograph of myself at less than 2 years old, "reading" the Sunday comics. I couldn't get enough of Donald Duck, Henry, Li'l Abner, Maggie and Jiggs and the rest.

Back then, I never dreamed I would someday have the comics-reading opportunities I enjoy now. (No, I probably dreamed about Henry, Abner, Maggie and Jiggs going DUCK HUNTING. Hey, my father could have canceled the subscription if my nightmares messed with his sleep THAT much.)

Of course, it requires some furious speed reading to achieve my daily goal

of slapstick and wry observation; but I don't think I sacrifice anything in comprehension. Andy Capp DID get ordained as a minister, didn't he? And Prince Valiant is rocking that shaved head, right?

Comic strips have given me a different take on social rejection. I now say, "I don't have to stay where I'm not wanted...unless it's at Mr. Wilson's house." I'm such a menace.

"The Family Circus" has rewired my brain to the extent that I'm terrified of traffic stops. If asked if I knew that I ran a stop sign, I would probably burst out with "Ida Know" and "Not Me." I'm glad I don't drink, because a field sobriety test would

doubtless have me leaving little dotted lines all over the neighborhood.

Comic strips and religious observance sometimes clash. When the preacher encourages me to think about Something Bigger Than Myself, my first thought is, "What? My appetite for lasagna?"

A good comics page balances heartwarming "legacy" comic strips with "edgy" new entries. (Ever get the idea that newspaper syndicate salesmen are trapped in Bill Murray's "Groundhog Day"? Every morning they find the same word on their Word of the Day calendar!)

Forgive me if I've locked myself into a pattern of quantity over

quality. Some of the legacy strips are three generations removed from their creator and stopped being funny in the Harry S Truman administration. ("The punchline stops here.")

And some of the hipster strips take such a long-winded, meandering, navel-gazing route that you can well imagine the cartoonist begging, "Please, I need to intrude upon the Sudoku puzzle and maybe take just a smidge of the sports page..."

I hope I'm reaching kindred spirits here. We could all use an extra smile or two each day. And while serialized adventure strips are way past their heyday, we can still use heroes to

Danny Tyree
Tyrades



inspire us.

Granted, we can never quite live up to the heroic standards of the stalwart comic strip doctors, judges and super-heroes. Take for instance, The Phantom. "The Ghost Who Walks" has only inspired me to be the Ghostly Pale Guy Who Sits On His Butt Reading 138 Comic Strips and Panels.

•Danny Tyree welcomes email responses at tyreetyrades@aol.com and visits to his Facebook fan page "Tyree's Tyrades."



Recognize anyone? The woman on the left is Peri Gilpin, the actress who played Roz Doyle on the popular sitcom *Fraser*.



Billie Crowell looks through her senior yearbook from 1946.

Crowell

(Continued from Page 1)

got this in his head," Billie said with a laugh.

Looking through an old black-and-white yearbook from 1946, Billie points out all of her classmates and teachers. "I can always find myself by my hair," she said, looking at her large, dark curls. Her dark curls and pretty smile can be found in many of the school's group photos, like cheerleading, basketball, and student council.

Billie's talent also caught the ear of a local performer — Chief of Police Ralph Brantley, who had a band and would give piano performances at the school. With Brantley, Billie played singers 'n swing music at clubs and event halls in Tullahoma and Manchester, songs like "It Had to be You," a tune she can still play today with a jolly swing.

She said her parents didn't mind at the time; they were "nice clubs" and she earned \$20 every Saturday night (about \$250 in today's money).

To college, children, and teaching

After graduating high school, Billie went to Middle Tennessee State University to study music and psychology.

However, she had to drop out after she and Coke "got too close." Shortly after, they married and started a family. They had three

children together, Jackie, Nancy, and David.

Even while being a mom, Billie got her degree by taking a few hours of classes every few weeks, along with close friend and neighbor Iris Whitney.

While settling in Bedford, Billie began teaching piano for the Bedford County School System with three other teachers. She got paid 10 cents a mile but enjoyed teaching the young prodigies.

In the days before recorded music was readily available, Billie also played piano for Nancy June Brandon's dance classes in Shelbyville.

When asked what she enjoys the most about piano, Billie replied, "Fur Elise?" as it's always been the classics, in addition to the hymns, that she's enjoyed.

Most notably, Billie's music took her to church. She was raised in the First Baptist Church where she first began playing piano for the Sunday crowds.

She said she played the very first organ that was installed at First Baptist Church. However, since she was a little too short and couldn't reach the pedals on the floor, Billie played the keys while the man who installed the organ played the pedals for her.

She then played at First United Methodist, since Coke was Methodist, before playing at First Christian for a long time. She eventually



Her senior yearbook picture.

moved on to play at First Presbyterian Church where she still serves as organist.

All the while, Coke, who Billie said "couldn't carry a tune but would sing louder than anybody else," worked as an engineer at AEDC and still attended church with her. However, he passed away in 2009 from esophageal cancer.

Billie said living on her own has been difficult, but her kids, who live nearby, have been "so good." Not to mention the many friends and students in the community who get to visit with her.

"That's what matters, friendship," Billie said.



Zedric Elmer "Coke" Crowell

"I wouldn't want to live anywhere else."

Today

Today, in the comfort of her home, Billie still plays Amazing Grace on her Kawai piano. On Tuesdays she gives lesson and on Sundays plays the organ at First Presbyterian. This is even after a long bout with Covid last fall that caused her to be unable to give lessons or perform for a couple months.

But through it all, she knows Jesus has always been with her. It's never too late. In fact, her dad was baptized at the age of 75.

It's advice she hopes to pass on to the younger generation.



Even turning 94, Billie Crowell still plays the piano daily.

"I know, as I've gotten older and older and older, I trust the Lord more — but I had to have back then and I know He was right there with me," she said.

Doug

(Continued from Page 1)

National Pig Day. I guess you could have shared a smile with a pig on that day.

March 2nd began Read Across America Week, with March 2nd being the birthday of Theodor Seuss Geisel, affectionately known as Dr. Seuss.

He taught us to "Think and wonder, wonder and think." And "The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you'll go."

And Dr. Seuss also said, "Why fit in when you were born to stand out?"

And, "You are you! Now, isn't that pleasant?"

And the good Dr. said, "Only you can control your future." And "Congratulations! Today is your day!"

Then the Seuss-meister said, "So, open your mouth! For every voice counts!"

I hope you are standing out! Let your voice count, for you were born to be YOU!

And then today of course is March 4th, which is the day that this column appears in the Times-Gazette; and it is National Grammar Day, and National Hug a G.I. Day. And today is also National Pound Cake Day, National Snack Day, and then of course World Obesity Day.

Tomorrow, Sunday, March 5th is National Cheese Doodle Day. And I hope you will attend a good Bible Believing, Gospel Preaching, Jesus Loving church somewhere

tomorrow.

And then on Monday, March 6th, it is a very special day indeed!

Not only is it the birthday of Michelangelo di Lodovico Buonarroti Simoni, better known as just "Michelangelo," who was born in a small village in Tuscany back in 1475; but it is also the birthday of another great artist: the late water-colorist, my big brother Robert Andrew Dezetell, whom we all called "Bob."

March 6th! What a day!

On my brother Bob's 12th birthday, back in 1954, instead of throwing a big birthday party for Bob, my parents were really busy in the maternity ward of Deaconess Hospital in Grand Forks, North Dakota, where my Sweet Mama gave birth to her last baby boy.

Bob's parents, Fred and Alpha Dezetell, named their last child, Douglas Michael Dezetell.

That's Me! I was my big brother Bob's 12th surprise birthday present.

I'll stop right there with the Special Days. I mean, what's more special than that?

I pray that you will make every day special.

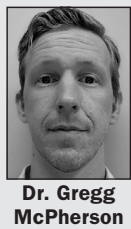
Happy March 2023!

•Doug Dezetell is the pastor of Cannon United Methodist Church, and a columnist for the Times-Gazette. He is a husband, a father, a grandfather, and your friend. He can be contacted at dougmdezetell@gmail.com, or at 931-607-5191. You can find Doug in the pulpit on Sundays at 11 a.m. at Cannon UMC, 1001 S. Cannon Blvd., in Shelbyville, Tennessee.

MTSU Star Party features 'Inhabiting Other Worlds'

MURFREESBORO — Middle Tennessee State University Department of Physics and Astronomy instructor Gregory "Gregg" McPherson continues the spring Friday Star Party with an out-of-this-world presentation.

McPherson presented the topic "Inhabiting Other Worlds" starting at 6:30 p.m. Friday, March 3, in Wisner-Patten Science Hall Room 102.



Dr. Gregg McPherson

All Star Parties are free and open to the public and MTSU community. The format is a 30- to 45-minute lecture followed by a telescope viewing by the MTSU Observatory, weather permitting.

"With NASA's Artemis missions on the horizon looking to 'establish the first long-term presence on the Moon' and some companies looking ahead to other long-term space endeavors, I was struck by how the dreams of old science fiction are barreling toward becoming a reality," McPherson said.

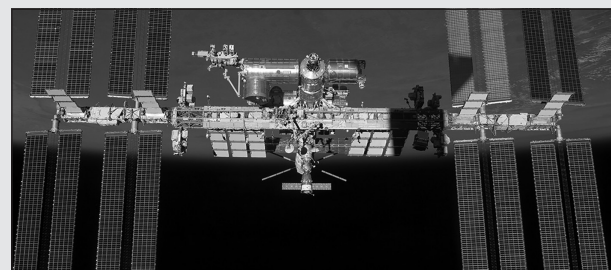
"In this talk, I wanted



A European Space Agency artist's impression of human habitation on the moon. SciTechDaily reports U.S. astronauts in 2024 will take their first steps near the moon's South Pole.

to share about some of the long-term needs of human life removed from Earth and how we might meet those needs and overcome some of the myriad of challenges that can arise from exploring various extreme environments found in our solar system and, time permitting, maybe beyond," he added.

Following the talk, Quinn Wilson, president of the MTSU Astronomy Club, invited a guest, Chuck Schlemm, NASA Joint Propulsion Laboratory Solar System Ambassador, who brought an exhibit on human spacecraft and NASA missions to be displayed, McPherson said.



This undated photo shows the International Space Station, where NASA regularly studies the long-term effects of living outside of much of the Earth's protection.

The spring semester Friday Star Party schedule also will include:

- April 7 — Topic to be announced, led by lecturer Irina Perevalova.
- May 5 — "The Power of Stars in Our Homes," led by lecturer Neda Naseri.

For more information about [Physics and Astronomy](#), one of 11 College of Basic and Applied Sciences departments, call 615-898-2130. Free parking can be found behind Wisner-Patten.

Mark

(Continued from Page 1)

catcher, first baseman and outfielder.

Off the field he and Nancy, his wife of 40 years, have raised eight

children. He is in demand as a speaker and also is involved in the restaurant business with Murph's having opened near the Braves stadium.

He left his audience with memories of his career and his philosophy

of life. One statement rang true for everyone who was listening.

"We are all members of a team whether we are athletes or not," Murphy said. "We are part of a team with our families, in our businesses and in our

communities. We all need to work to be good teammates."

For Murphy that was not idle talk. He was, and still is, one of the best people you would want on your team.

SHELBYVILLE TIMES-GAZETTE

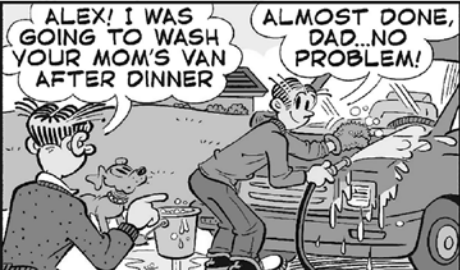
Mort Walker's beetle bailey



Frank Fetchum's Dennis the Menace CHILD PROOF



BLONDIE BY SEAN PETERS & JOHN MARSHALL



The FAMILY CIRCUS By Bill Keane



PICKLES BY BRIAN CRANE



Baby Blues



Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



DADDY DAZE



SALLY FORTH

by Francesco Marciuliano

Wanna help me throw out the garbage?

Is that a sincere question? Because if it is...

...SO THEN MOM WOULD DRIVE ME TO THE LIBRARY SO I COULD GO THROUGH THE CARD CATALOGS AND FIND THE BOOKS I NEEDED FOR MY RESEARCH PAPER...

WHICH MEANT I HAD TO WAIT UNTIL SOMEONE FINISHED USING THEIR COPIES SO I COULD TAKE THEM OUT, BUT SINCE EVERYONE LEFT THEIR PAPER UNTIL THE LAST SECOND, THAT NEVER HAPPENED...

BUT SINCE EVERYONE IN MY CLASS WAS WRITING THE SAME PAPER, ALL THE BOOKS HAD ALREADY BEEN TAKEN OUT, SO WE'D HAVE TO GO TO ANOTHER LIBRARY...

SO I HAD NO CHOICE BUT TO USE WHATEVER I KNEW ABOUT ELECTRO-MAGNETISM TO...UH... UM...

BUT OF COURSE EVERY PARENT HAD THE SAME IDEA, SO THERE WERE NO BOOKS ANYWHERE WITHIN DRIVING DISTANCE...

WAIT, HOW DID WE GET ON THIS TOPIC?

NO IDEA I JUST ASKED IF YOU COULD DRIVE ME TO DRUM PRACTICE AND SUDDENLY YOU WERE IN THE WAYBACK MACHINE.

The PHANTOM

by Lee Falk

THE DOMAIN OF THE ALMOST HUMANS

TEYDRA CALLED THEM "HER KIND" BUT THEY'RE N-NOT...!

NOT ALL...

LION-LIKE...?

NO, IT SEEMS THE ENTIRE PANTHEON HAS A PLACE AMONG THE ALMOST HUMANS.

Tony DePaul & Jeff Weigel 3-5-23

Hi and LOIS

by BRIAN and GREG WALKER

TIME FOR SOME "WIFEY" PSYCHOLOGY.

I DON'T LIKE TO NAG, BUT...

SERIOUSLY?

WHAT ABOUT THE "JOB JAR"?

THE POST-IT NOTES?

FIX THIS

DRIP

THE "HONEY DO" LISTS?

Honey Do

- CLEAN GARAGE
- WASH WINDOWS
- PAINT LIVING ROOM

THAT'S NOT NAGGING.

WHAT IS IT?

HELPING YOU TO BECOME THE BEST VERSION OF YOURSELF.

ZITS

BY JERRY SCOTT AND JIM BORGMAN

JEREMY, I KNOW THIS PAPER IS DUE TOMORROW, BUT YOU HAVE TO EAT.

OKAY, OKAY, ONE SEC.

TYPE TYPE TYPE

DUMP!

MUNCH MUNCH CHOMP

TYPE TYPE TYPE

I'M SELLING OUR DISHES AND BUYING A TROUGH.

WHAT'D HE DO NOW?

THE LOCKHORNS

BY BUNNY HOEST AND JOHN REINER

"FINE! CALL ME AMBIVALENT... SEE IF I CARE"

"THAT REMINDS ME OF ALL THOSE CLOWNS IN A TINY CAR."

"IF YOU WERE GOOD AT GOLF, LEROY, IT WOULD MEAN YOU HAD NOTHING BETTER TO DO."

CANDORVILLE

BY DARRIN BELL

I KNOW WHAT YOU'RE GOING TO ASK: "WHAT BRINGS YOU TO THERAPY?"

Dr. NOODLE

I WAS GOING TO SUGGEST MY WIFE AND EVERYONE AT THE "INTERVENTION" WAS BEING UNFAIR?

LET'S START WITH MY MOTHER? LISTEN, MY MOTHER WAS A SAINT, SO YOU'RE BARKING UP THE WRONG TREE.

MAYBE YOUR WIFE NEEDS THERAPY? THAT'S WHAT I TOLD HER!

HEY, YOU'VE GOT TO LET ME DIAGNOSE HER? WITHOUT EVEN MEETING HER? ISN'T THAT UNETHICAL? WHAT KIND OF QUACK ARE YOU?

FINISHING OTHERS' SENTENCES IS SOMETIMES A TIME-SAVER? YOU'RE WELCOME.

SLYLOCK FOX

BY BOB WEBER JR.

Last night's storm exposed buried pirate treasure on a California beach. The elephant claims the treasure belongs to him because he found it at 9:00 AM, before Shady arrived. Shady insists he found it first, just as the sun rose over the ocean horizon. Why doesn't Slylock Fox believe Shady?

Shady -- The sun rises in the east. The ocean horizon is west of the California shore. Shady lied. Can you believe that?

Spot six differences between these panels.

HOW TO DRAW a spider 3-5

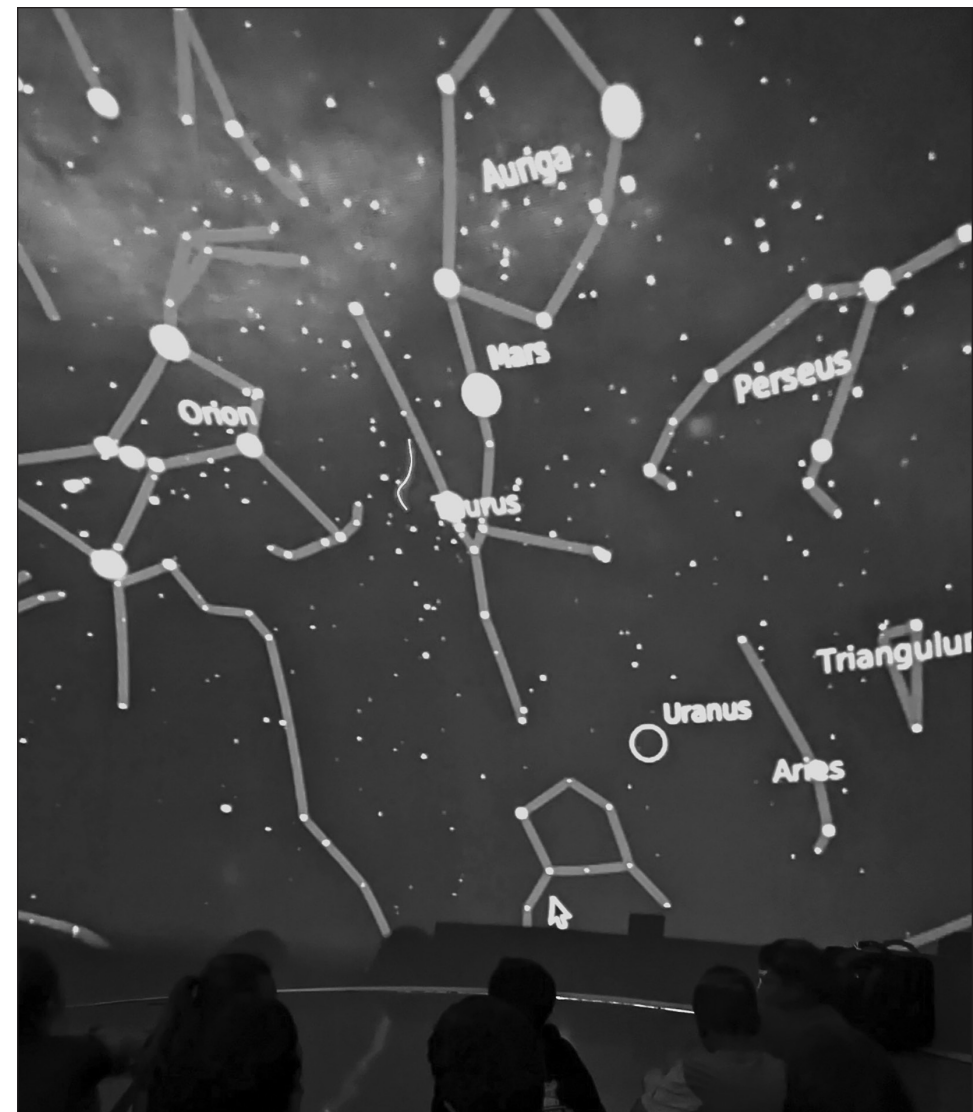
YOUR DRAWING Today's terrific artist is Hannah, age 10

The scrambled words are things found in the Slylock Fox beach scene. How many can you unscramble?

- 1) NSDA
- 2) ULDOSC
- 3) RANERGI
- 4) NOSTIFRPOT

Answer -- 1) Sand 2) Clouds 3) Earrings 4) Footprints

"THAT ONE ALWAYS HOLDS LEROY'S ATTENTION"



Into the night sky

Cascade Elementary School students recently experienced the night sky through a different perspective. Billy & Jan Hix brought an impressive planetarium to take students on an exploration of stars, constellations, galaxies & more. Bedford County Schools would like to thank Billy Hix for taking their students on an immersive experience of the night sky and encouraging them to learn.

Submitted photos



Gone and Forgotten: Memphis' Ford Assembly Plant (1912-1958)

By Bill Carey

Bill Carey is the founder of Tennessee History for Kids, a non-profit organization that helps teachers cover social studies.

I read an article the other day that said Tennessee “got into the car manufacturing business in 1983, with the arrival of the Nissan plant.”

This reminded me of something I’ve written and said many times: The most forgotten factory in Tennessee history is Memphis’ Ford assembly plant.

From 1914 until 1958, Ford was one of the highest paying manufacturers in the state. Like assembly plants today, the plant didn’t make car parts, but it put together cars and tires that had been made elsewhere and delivered to Memphis, mainly by rail and river.

After leaving its original Union Avenue building in 1924 for a much larger plant two miles south of downtown Memphis, Ford grew to have more than 1,200 employees by the late 1920s. Some of them bought small houses in



The Ford Memphis plant in 1947 (TN State Library and Archives photo)

the neighborhood that was developed near the factory, a subdivision which was, and still is, known as Fordhurst. (However, a detailed story by Memphis Heritage Inc. maintains that Fordhurst was not successful because most of the Ford employees chose to buy homes elsewhere.) Back then, Ford made only one car, that being the Model T. Memphis’ 250,000-square-foot plant made more than 350 Model T’s per day in the 1920s. It continued to make cars in

the 1930s as the company released new models such as the DeLuxe Touring Sedan and the DeLuxe Coupe.

During World War II, new car production was brought to a halt because rubber was in short supply. Ford shifted its Memphis plant to make Pratt and Whitney aircraft engine parts and, like many Tennessee factories, hired a lot of women to work the lines. Then, after the war, the plant underwent a 75,000 square foot expansion and was

producing cars and trucks again by 1946.

Memphis’ Ford plant continued to thrive through most of the 1950s. It was a high-profile, union employer, whose employees gave tours to visitors and school groups and contributed to local fund drives. Then, in 1956, Ford began investing \$250 million in a sedan known as the Edsel. Marketed as the “car of the future,” the Edsel was one of the most colossal failures in American business history.

In May 1958, Ford

announced it would close the Memphis plant and lay off the approximately 1,400 employees there. The company claimed the move was being taken in the name of corporate efficiency, but the United Auto Workers blamed it on the Edsel. “After nearly half century of blood, sweat and tears, all of it from the boys on the line, the final payoff comes June 6, when ‘Mr. Ford’ says ‘Shut her down... lock the doors,’” said an ad bought by the Local 903, U.A.W. “The cold hard truth of the matter is that this shutdown is the price we have to pay for somebody’s \$250 million blunder.”

On June 6, the 1,573,709th and last Ford vehicle ever made in Memphis rolled off the assembly line.

A few days later, many of the former Ford employees had a rather subdued picnic, paid for out of union dues. A lot of the laid-off workers said they had found new jobs; some said that they had “irons in the fire”; a few talked about moving.

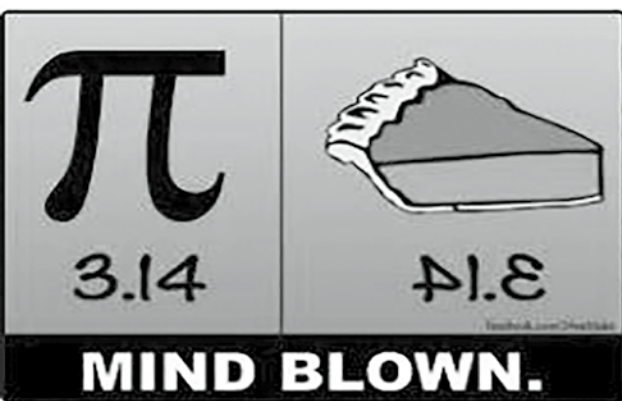
Today these workers, and their factory, are a blind spot in the world of Tennessee history. The Tennessee Encyclopedia of History and Culture has articles about Nissan, Saturn and about the short-

lived (and tiny) Marathon Car Factory in Nashville, but none on the Memphis Ford plant.

Part of the problem is that the state government officials involved in Nissan’s recruitment in the late 1970s – most notably Governor Lamar Alexander and former Nissan executive Marvin Runyon – didn’t seem to know the Ford plant ever existed. In 1999, I researched the Nissan recruitment for the book Fortunes, Fiddles and Fried Chicken: A Nashville Business History. At that time, both Alexander and Runyon told me there they didn’t think there had been an automobile assembly plant in Tennessee before Nissan. I don’t think they knew about the Memphis Ford factory, and it didn’t matter to them, because by the late 1970s, Tennessee had no car industry.

But I do want us to remember Memphis’ Ford plant – If nothing else, because people in East and Middle Tennessee like to disparage and disregard West Tennessee. It also makes me sad to think of 1,500 people losing their jobs and the last Ford rolling off the assembly line in 1958.

Wartrace celebrates Pi Day



Want to boost your fun 3.14 times? Are you a well-rounded Pi enthusiast? If you answered yes to either question, the Town of Wartrace is here for you to celebrate Pi Day, 3.14 (also known as March 14).

The Parks & Recreation Committee is accepting orders for pies until 4 p.m. on Tuesday, March 7. Available award-winning pies include chess pie, coconut pie, and chocolate pie for \$12 and pecan pie for \$17.

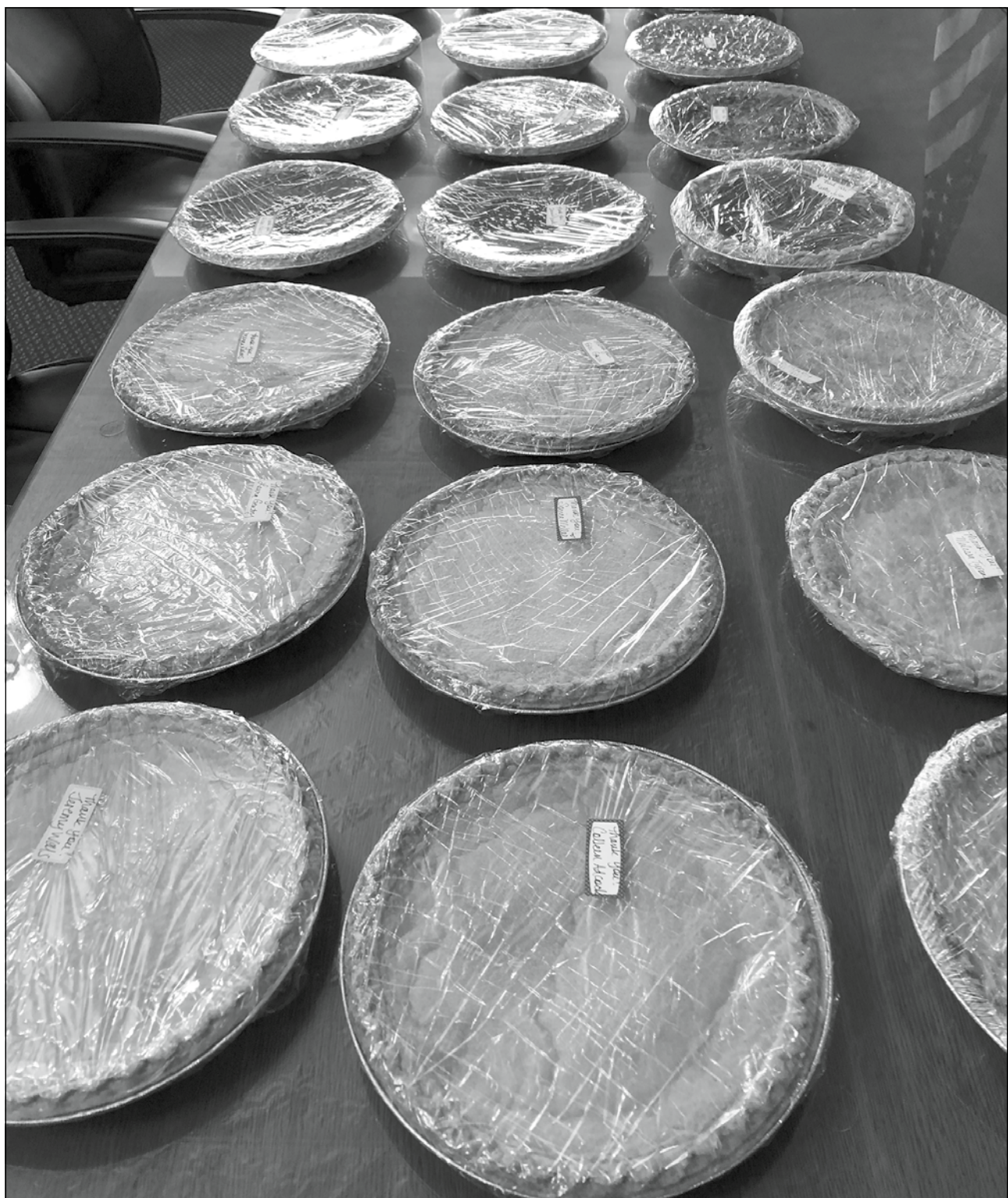
“The Parks & Recreation Committee and other volunteers have graciously agreed to bake these pies to help support some of our programs and activities,” said Committee Chairman Tammy Leverette. “If you have a sweet tooth, you can help support this sweet cause. The more pies we sell, the more activities we can host for our community.”

Activities from the proceeds from the third annual Pi Day pie sales include the July 4 Celebration, Trunk or Treat, free movie nights, and other special events. With the gymnasium now reopened, the Parks & Recreation Committee is exploring more opportunities for residents and visitors to experience the best of Wartrace.

Payment and pickup for the pies is Friday, March 10 at Town Hall, but this year customers may also pick them up on Saturday, March 11 during Movie Night. Shrek will be shown at the gymnasium at no charge (concessions available); doors open at 5:30 p.m. and the movie begins at 6 p.m.

Mayor Brian Ross joked, “Yogi Berra once said, ‘Cut my pie into four pieces, I don’t think I could eat eight’. But I could eat all eight pieces from these award-winning pies, made by some of the most talented bakers in our community. I hope you order today to both support your circumference and our parks and recreation programs.”

Pies may be ordered by phone or email: Town Hall at 931-389-6144 and wartraceparksandrec@gmail.com.



ROTARY SPEAKER



Submitted photo
Beth Davis of Shelbyville Bedford Partnership presented the program at a recent Shelbyville Rotary Club meeting. From left, program chairperson Kelly North, Davis, and club president Darin Hasty.


AUTHOR BOOK SIGNING ON APRIL 1

Author Talk

Book Presentation & Signing
with Dr. Lona Bailey

**Saturday,
April 1st
at 10 AM**





The Shelbyville-Bedford County Public Library is proud to present an Author Presentation & Book Signing with Manchester local Dr. Lona Bailey! Dr. Bailey’s newest book, “The Voice of Villainy,” covers the life and work of actress Betty Lou Gerson, a Chattanooga local most famously known as the voice behind the original Cruella de Vil from Disney’s One Hundred and One Dalmatians. The event is free to attend for all ages and will be Saturday, April 1, at 10 a.m. in the Library’s Community room. For more information, please call us at (931) 684-7323. Be sure to check our Facebook page for any event updates.

Nearest & Jack to host inaugural ‘spirits on the rise’ summit

SHELBYVILLE and LYNCHBURG — The Nearest & Jack Advancement Initiative (NJAI), the first-of-its-kind incubator for diversifying the current and future leaders in the whiskey industry, announces its first-ever ‘Spirits on the Rise’ Summit.

The two-day event, taking place on April 17 and 18, aims to combat the imbalance set upon BIPOC businessmen and businesswomen in spirits and will bring together spirits industry entrepreneurs from historically underrepresented communities as they work to advance their businesses.

Throughout the summit, attendees will have unprecedented access to industry experts from NJAI founders Uncle Nearest Premium Whiskey and Jack Daniel’s Tennessee Whiskey, as well as leaders from companies like Hyatt Hotels, Breakthru Beverage, ReserveBar, and Republic National Distributing Company to learn more about investment and finance, distribution, route to market, networking, and community. The event will allow the NJAI to expand its impact beyond its existing programs — the Leadership Acceleration Program, the Business Incubation Program, and the Nearest Green School of Distilling — to further assist founders as they enter and progress in the spirits industry.

“When we launched the Nearest & Jack Advancement Initiative in 2020, our goal was to advance diversity within the American whiskey industry and we’re thrilled to see the first group of graduates come through the program,”

said Jamie Butler, Jack Daniel’s Global Brand Director. “The ‘Spirits on the Rise’ Summit expands upon the key tenants of this initiative and gives us the opportunity to increase the amount of BIPOC entrepreneurs we are able to support and educate in a multitude of areas.”

The NJAI is inspired by the historic and storied relationship between two pioneers of Tennessee Whiskey, Nearest Green and Jack Daniel, and sees to it that the future of the spirits industry is diverse and dynamic. Since its founding, the NJAI has presented professional opportunities to BIPOC-owned spirits ventures by committing millions of dollars towards providing access to the education and resources needed to be successful in a predominantly white-owned and led spirits industry.

“Over the past three years, the Nearest & Jack Advancement Initiative has worked on three tenets: helping to support up and coming BIPOC-owned brands, ensuring that we see more visible leaders of colors in every sector of our industry, and ensuring that we have attainable education around distillation and the spirits business,” said Katharine Jerkens, Chief Business Officer of Uncle Nearest Premium Whiskey. “The ‘Spirits on the Rise’ Summit is an opportunity to bring together entrepreneurs and key leaders in the industry to network and educate so that we can continue our mission of building a more diverse and inclusive industry.”

The impact of the initiative’s work can be seen through the first three graduates of their incubator programming: Du Nord

Social Spirits, the inaugural graduate of the Business Incubation Program, along with Tracie Franklin and Byron Copeland, the first two individuals to complete the Leadership Acceleration Program.

“This event is a testament to how far we’ve come in a short amount of time, and I couldn’t be more excited to see the new faces of our industry at the Summit,” said Chris Montana, Founder of Du Nord Social Spirits. “Du Nord’s involvement in the NJAI has allowed us to improve our business model, grow significantly, and compete nationally. I cannot overstate how critical this program has been to us as a business and to me personally.”

The current schedule of programming for the ‘Spirits on the Rise’ Summit includes:

- Monday, April 17, 2023, at Nearest Green Distillery
 - 3:30 p.m.: Tours of Nearest Green Distillery
 - 5:00 p.m.: Welcome remarks, cocktails, and dinner
- Tuesday, April 18, 2023, at Jack Daniel Distillery
 - 9:00 a.m.: The Right Investment Partner in Each Stage of Business, moderated by Fawn Weaver, CEO and Founder of Uncle Nearest Premium Whiskey
 - 10:00 a.m.: Understanding the Financials in an Early-Stage Spirits Brand, moderated by Loni Gray, Global Brand Manager for Jack Daniel’s
 - 1:30 p.m.: Tours of the Jack Daniel Distillery
 - 3:00 p.m.: Route to Market: Building your Brand’s Distribution, moderated

by Katharine Jerkens, Chief Business Officer for Uncle Nearest Premium Whiskey

- 4:00 p.m.: Emerging Brands Fair
- 6:30 p.m.: Cocktails, dinner, and closing remarks

To RSVP and for more information on the summit, please visit nearestjack.rsvp360.co

About Nearest & Jack Advancement Initiative

Launched in 2020, the Nearest & Jack Advancement Initiative (NJAI) is inspired by the legacy and the relationship of Tennessee Whiskey pioneers Nearest Green and Jack Daniel with the goal of advancing diversity within the American whiskey industry. The first-of-its-kind incubator started with an initial combined \$5 million pledge by Uncle Nearest Premium Whiskey and Jack Daniel’s Tennessee Whiskey to create the Nearest Green School of Distilling, a STEM based and employable skills focused program at Motlow State College, the Leadership Acceleration Program to accelerate the development of future BIPOC master distillers, distillery managers and other senior management positions within the American whiskey industry, and the Business Incubation Program, focused on providing expertise and resources to African Americans entering the spirits industry as entrepreneurs. The joint initiative is guided by an advisory board with members from both organizations.

CHRISTIAN CHAPEL CHURCH



Christian Chapel Church, 1020 Thompson Road, welcomes visitors to services.

T-G Photo by David Melson

BEDFORD COUNTY DEVOTIONAL PAGE



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Grace Baptist Church
1019 Madison St., Shelbyville • 931-684-1087
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Wednesday night 6:00 pm

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Rev. Jonathan Osterhaus
longviewbaptistchurch.org • servingoursavior@yahoo.com
Sunday School - 9:30 am • Worship - 10:30 am & 6:00 pm
Life Points (age 3 - youth) - 5:45 pm • Wednesday Worship - 6:00 pm

Unity Baptist Church
EC Arnold Lane, Shelbyville
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Father Edwain Cardona
500 South Brittain Street, Shelbyville • 931-735-6004
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Sunday Mass: 9:00am (English Mass) 11:30am (Spanish Misa)
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Saturday/Sabado 5:45pm-6:45pm
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Times-Gazette SPORTS

C

www.t-g.com/sports
Saturday, March 4, 2023

BACK TO BACK

Viqueens down E. Nashville for 2nd straight region title

By **CHRIS SIERS**
sports@t-g.com

UNIONVILLE — Entering Wednesday night's Region 4-AA championship, Viqueen coach Cody Pierce and Community knew that East Nashville was coming for payback after the Viqueens' 53-41 win over the Lady Eagles a season ago.

Knowing the target on their back, the Viqueens (25-6) entered Wednesday night's region title rematch with a clear focus in a game that had plenty on the line. Community came out firing from the perimeter early and relied on a game-high, 26-point effort by senior M.J. Simmons as Community claimed a dominant 70-52 win over East Nashville (23-8) to repeat as Region 4-AA 'Queens.

"The girls just came out ready to play and executed. They have all year, but they got up for this game tonight. Just have to give credit to all the girls. They work their tail off every day and it showed tonight how hard they really work," Pierce said.

From the opening tip-off, it was clear Community was out to make a statement, as the Purple and Gold had no interest in giving East Nashville an inch of momentum at evening the score from last year's region title. Senior Haley Mitchell drilled a corner 3-pointer, just 35 seconds in to the game, and the Viqueens held a lead they never gave up.

It was an all-out assault from the perimeter in the first frame as Community launched five treys as part of a 25-point opening frame. Of the five made three-pointers, Mitchell hit two and Anna Haskins added two more off the bench. That perimeter barrage was complemented by the inside assault by Simmons, who effectively attacked the paint and worked her way to the line, where she cashed in on a perfect 6-of-6 attempts in the first quarter.

While all pistons were firing away for the Viqueens on the offensive front, defensively, the Purple and Gold gave the Lady Eagles fits. After Simmons drew a foul on a shot with 2:48 left in the quarter, East Nashville was assessed a technical foul on the same play, which Simmons was able to convert into four points for Community.

East Nashville's Jaslynn Walter led the way for the Lady Eagles with six points in the opening quarter, yet Community still held a commanding 25-12 lead after the first period.

While Community held a double-digit lead after the first quarter, East's Kenya Fairs sparked a 19-point effort by the Lady Eagles that cut the Viqueen lead to six points by halftime.

"We had some turnovers. We gave them seven points off turnovers and gave them four to six off offensive rebounds," Pierce said. Those turnovers and points off put-backs allowed the Lady Eagles to cut the Viqueens' lead in half.

While East was battling early-game foul trouble, Community entered the third quarter and was able to get right back to its bread and butter as Mitchell drilled a three-pointer to push the Viqueen lead back to eight points barely 35 seconds into the half.

The biggest moment of the quarter came at the 5:48 mark of the third period when Simmons scored off the block, marking her 2,000th career point with the Viqueens—a mark previously only achieved by former Viqueen Sarah Pierce.

Simmons' 2,000th point sucked the wind out of the Lady Eagles' sails and ignited the Viqueen faithful to the point East could never recover. Community stretched its lead back to double figures

by the end of the quarter and held East to single digits in the fourth frame to win its second-straight region title.

Defensively, it was another stellar effort by the Purple and Gold that held its 16th-straight opponent to 52 points or less.

East's Kenya Fairs and Jaslynn Walters combined for 31 points, but were mostly held in check, particularly in the second half, in Wednesday night's region final.

"There's a couple players on their team that are going to get their points, but our goal is to make every shot as tough as possible and make sure we leave them to one shot," Pierce said.

Mission accomplished.

East managed just four points over the final 6:43 of regulation on Wednesday, while Community stretched its lead to the biggest margin of the night by the end of regulation.

The Viqueens utilized a complementary offense, with Simmons dominating inside, while Mitchell highlighted the perimeter assault.

"Everybody on the court is a threat and that makes it tough for teams having to guard us because we have such an inside game with M.J. and then the rest of them do a great job of knocking down three's and every now and then, attack it. When everyone on the



Viqueen senior M.J. Simmons gets a big hug from coach Cody Pierce after exiting the floor in Wednesday night's Region 4-AA title game.

court can score, you're going to be hard to defend," Pierce said.

Mitchell hit a game-high five three-pointers and scored 19 points, but it was

Simmons who led all scorers with 26 points.

"It felt like she hit 2,000 tonight by herself. She has a lot of good teammates around her. She's a tough

player. Everything runs through her, but it helps when everybody else can score as well," Pierce said.

▶ See **Viqueens**, Page 2C



M.J. Simmons overpowers the East Nashville defense and scores her 2,000th career point for the Viqueens in the third quarter.



Viqueen senior Haley Mitchell drives past the East Nashville defense and scores for Community. She scored 19 points for the Purple and Gold.



Community poses with its second-straight Region 4-AA title plaque after defeating East Nashville for the second year-in-a-row on Wednesday.



After the final buzzer sounded, the Community Viqueens rush to celebrate their second-straight region title with the student section.



For their efforts in the Region 4-AA tournament, Zoey Dixon (middle) and Haley Michell (right) were named to the All-Region 4-AA team, while M.J. Simmons (left) was named tournament MVP.

Viqueens

(Continued from Page 1C)

The second-straight region title is a sign of success and determination, led by the senior class that's bought into Pierce's vision for the program.

So far, the results speak for themselves.

"These seniors have been committed since they were freshmen and last year, we got a lot better. They have built a program. The seniors have built exactly what I want and have bought into everything," Pierce said.

While Wednesday night's win secured the sec-

ond-straight region title for Community, it also keeps the Viqueens at home in the Class 2A state sectional round on Saturday night.

"It's awesome and they knew what was at stake tonight. We've been here the last two games. We play well here. We can practice here and just feel at home for the next couple of days and come play on Saturday," Pierce said.

Community will get one more home game for its senior class on Saturday night in the state sectional, with a trip to the Murphy Center on the line for the first time in seven years.

Smith County will travel to Unionville after falling to

York Institute, 57-20, in the Region 3-AA championship on Wednesday night.

"They (Smith Co.) are a well-coached team. Coach (Matt) Ferrell is a good coach. He's going to have a good game plan. We're going to have to come out and execute. They know how to defend as well. It may be a defensive battle for a bit," Pierce said.

Tip-off is set for 7 p.m. Saturday in Unionville.

E. Nashville 12 19 13 8-52
Community 25 12 20 13-70
E. Nashville: Kenya Fairs 18, Jaslynn Walter 13, Jayla Horton 10, Santiea Harvell 5, Cleo Johnson 4, Trinity McGee 2.
Community: M.J. Simmons 26, Haley Mitchell 19, Anna Haskins 9, Zoey Dixon 7, Addison Brothers 4, Shelby Cawthon 4, Jayla Mangrum.
3-Point goals: Community (10): Mitchell 5, Haskins 3, Dixon, Brothers; E. Nashville (4): Johnson, Harvell, Walter, Fairs.
Halftime Score: Community 37, E. Nashville 31.



Zoey Dixon pulls up for a shot over East Nashville's Jayla Horton and scores in the third quarter.

T-G Photos by Chris Siers

Alabama rallies past Auburn to win SEC title

By JOHN ZENOR
AP Sports Writer

TUSCALOOSA, Ala. — Alabama got to cut down the nets and celebrate a Southeastern Conference title, but only after staging a big comeback and forcing overtime.

Not to mention everything else swirling around the program.

Jahvon Quinerly scored 24 points, Brandon Miller made the clinching free throws with six seconds left and No. 2 Alabama rallied from a 17-point deficit before beating archrival Auburn 90-85 in overtime Wednesday night.

The Crimson Tide (26-4, 16-1 Southeastern Conference) clinched outright their second regular-season SEC championship

in three years but continued to live on the edge over a troubling eight days that included courtroom revelations in a capital murder trial.

"Listen, I just couldn't be more proud of this group," coach Nate Oats said. "Obviously, it's a heart-breaking situation. That's never lost on us, but the kids have worked really hard. Winning the SEC is not an easy thing to do. I mean, look at the teams in this league. It's a great league."

Miller rebounded teammate Jaden Bradley's missed dunk and drew a foul, making both free throws. Noah Clowney had blocked K.D. Johnson's layup attempt on the other end.

The Tigers (19-11, 9-8), who had three key players

fouled out, couldn't close it out after leading almost the entire way in regulation. They were up 17 with under 11 minutes left.

"They're a very, very worthy champion," Auburn coach Bruce Pearl said of Alabama. "But we came here to win a basketball game."

Alabama won its fourth straight but the past three have gone down to the wire since courtroom revelations tied freshmen Miller and Bradley to the scene of a murder. Neither has been charged or accused of a crime, but then-teammate Darius Miles and another man are facing capital murder charges.

Police said Miles texted Miller asking him to bring the gun.

Quinerly tied his season scoring high after coming off the bench and had six assists. Miller, Clowney and Mark Sears all had 17 points for Alabama.

Miller committed six turnovers but made 10 of 11 free throws. He then was among players high-fiving fans during the celebration, with cameras following his every move.

Bradley scored all six of his points in overtime, going 3 of 4 on free throws over the final minute.

Johnson was 4 of 5 on 3-pointers and led Auburn with 21 points, despite shooting just 7 of 12 at the free throw line.

Allen Flanigan scored 17 points and Jaylin Williams 15 before both fouled out in overtime. Johni Broome had

already picked up his fifth foul with 10 points, and then Dylan Cardwell limped off after hurting his right ankle in overtime.

"Just incredibly outnumbered at the end," Pearl said.

At the end of this night, the Tide were celebrating the SEC title and cutting down the nets after a big rally.

"We talked about at the under-8 timeout, we needed to play harder," Oats said. "I said, 'We're not losing this game because we didn't play hard enough to win.' Our guys came out and played harder."

Miller dropped his pat-down routine from the pre-game introductions, instead settling for a shoulder bump with a teammate. After Saturday's game against

Arkansas, Oats apologized for not halting the pat-downs in light of the murder trial and promised they wouldn't continue.

A melee near Auburn's basket led to technical fouls on Quinerly and Auburn's Wendell Green Jr. with 7:31 left. The Tide's Rylan Griffen and starting center Charles Bediako were ejected for leaving the bench.

"We're at Alabama. They play football over there at the football stadium," Pearl said. "We threw the ball, a couple of defensive backs climbed on (Broome's) back and the ball went out of bounds. There was some sort of scuffle. Our bench stayed on the bench, and they had some guys come off, I guess."



T-G Photos by Will Carter

Tucker McGee and his teammates look on as his three-point attempt sinks through the net. McGee dropped a game-high 22 points off the bench for Cascade.

TUCK TIME

McGee sparks Champs to Region 4-AA final

By WILL CARTER
Sports Writer

UNIONVILLE

Madness and magical moments in basketball are usually reserved for the month of March, but Tucker McGee's 22-point performance off the bench for the Cascade Champions in their 73-54 victory in the Region 4-AA semifinals on Tuesday night was remarkable.

After Whites Creek (14-14) cut Cascade's double-digit lead to five points late in the third quarter, McGee slid into the corner and knocked down a three-pointer as time expired to give the Champions (27-5) a 46-38 lead going into the fourth quarter.

A few minutes later he added to his magical night by going on a 9-2 solo run over a minute and a half span that sent shockwaves across the gym and extended their lead to 21 points.

McGee played limited varsity minutes for the Champions before the regular season ended, but has seen those minutes increase over the last few postseason games with his quality play.

"He's been a good player all season, but has had to play junior varsity because we have a lot of numbers on this team," Champions head coach Chris Lawson said.

"A lot of credit to him for working hard for this moment. He's had an opportunity these last three or four games and he's steadily produced over that span. All season we've had somebody step up and make plays when we needed them to and tonight it was Tucker McGee."

Despite being heavily pressured by the Cobras' defense from the opening tip, the Champions were able to navigate their way



Lucas Clanton rises up and knocks down a mid range jump shot against Whites Creek. He notched 12 points on the night.

to the painted area for the majority of their baskets which led to an 8-2 run at the end of the half for a 31-15 advantage.

Isaac McElroy led the way with 10 first half points while Lucas Clanton and McGee added eight and six respectively.

"We knew they were going to pressure us, run through guys, and try to trap us," Lawson said.

"We worked on getting the ball to the middle and then turning and finding the open man. I thought our guys did a great job of that. Time after time we were able to get the ball up the

floor for layups with ease because they put all of their pressure on the other side of the court."

Cascade held onto their double-digit lead until the three minute and 35 second mark of the third quarter when Tyrone Robertson got to the rim for the Cobras to make it 37-28.

It was the first time Whites Creek was within single-digits of the lead since the minute and 50 second mark of the first quarter.

After the two traded baskets over the next few sessions, the Cobras hit a layup and an old-fashioned

three-point play to make it a 43-38 game before McGee hit his buzzer-beating shot to close the third frame.

Cascade got hot again to open the fourth quarter with a 6-0 run before McGee went on his 9-2 tear, and it was all but over for the final four minutes.

Robertson knocked down three consecutive three-pointers in a minute span after McGee's run, but the Champions answered again and cruised to the finish line.

"It's a different style than we've seen most of the season, but our guys know what to expect and how to

play," Lawson said. "Other than a few times, we did a good job of handling and taking care of the basketball."

The Champions stamped their ticket to the Region 4-AA Championship with the win, and will face the Pearl Cohn Firebirds in a rematch of last season's region semifinals.

Pearl Cohn upset East Nashville in this year's semifinals to hand them their first loss of the season, but Lawson and the Champions are no stranger to a challenge.

"Everybody you play at this point of the season is a good team," he said. "Our

mindset is on winning a region championship. We're going to put a gameplan in, play hard, and do the absolute best we can to do that."

Due to the Times-Gazette production deadlines, results from Thursday night's Region 4-AA championship game were unavailable by press time. Check t-g.com/sports for results from Thursday.

Cascade 17 14 15 27 — 73
Whites Creek 6 9 23 16 — 54
Cascade: Tucker McGee 22, Isaac McElroy 21, Lucas Clanton 12, Jayden Gulick 9, Saebyn Burris 4, Jackson Davis 2, Thomas Gentry 2, Eli Elliot 1.
Whites Creek: Tyrone Robertson 21, Kemontae Daly 13, Kevin Wiggins 11, Malachi Benton 5, Eric Bryson 3, Darron Jennings 1.
3-point goals: Whites Creek (6): Robertson 5, Daly; Cascade (3): McGee 2, Gulick.
Halftime score: Cascade 31, Whites Creek 15.

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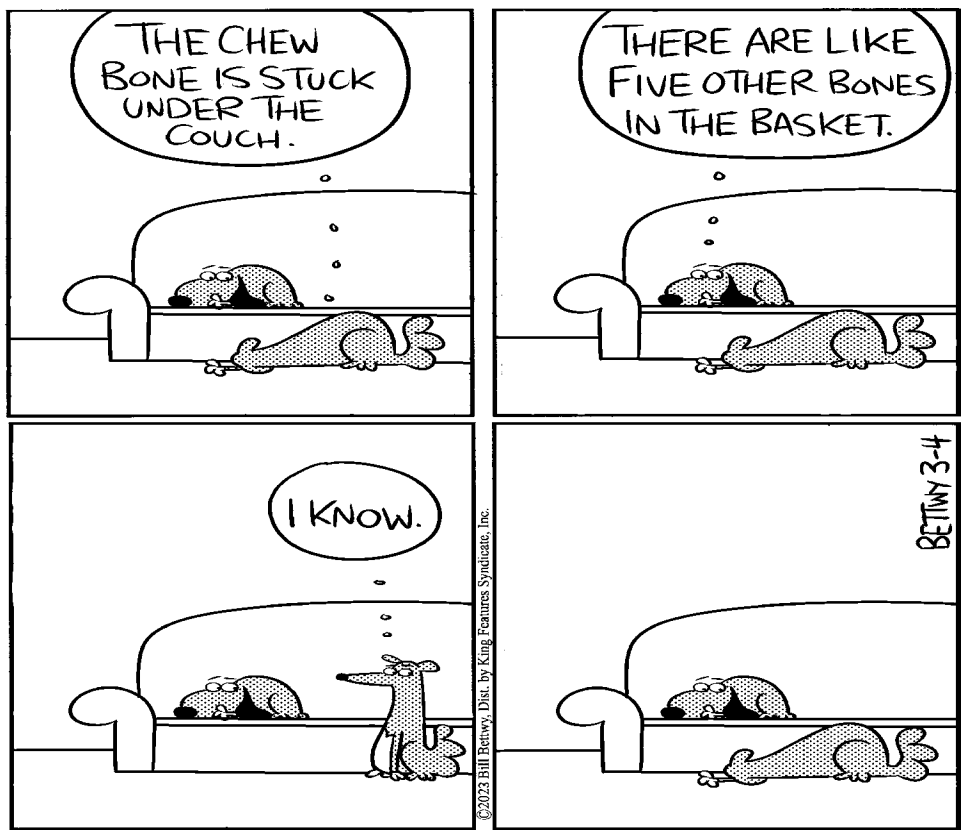
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CRYPTO FUN

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Determine the code to reveal the answer!

Solve the code to discover words related to employees.
Each number corresponds to a letter.
(Hint: 25 = C)

A. 16 19 13 7 14 13

Clue: Employee

B. 19 4 4 26 25 14

Clue: Place to do business

C. 25 3 6 26 25 20 14

Clue: Office desk configuration

D. 6 19 15 15

Clue: Supervisor

Answers: A. worker B. office C. cubicle D. boss

POPEYE ® by Bud Sagendorf



Here's 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!

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

ANSWER:

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pertaining to Planning and Community Development Fee Schedule, and to Adopt An Updated Planning and Community Development Fee Schedule. Consideration of a motion to allow City Attorney to read caption only on Ordinances and Resolutions.

OLD BUSINESS: VIII. Ordinances-Second & Final Reading: Ordinances - Second / Final Reading A. An Ordinance of the City of Shelbyville, Tennessee to Approve the Rezoning of 1.10 (+/-) Acres Owned by Ben Livingston, Located on the West Side of Sevier Street and Referenced on Bedford County Tax Map 781, Group B, Parcels 7.11, 7.12 and 8.00 From General Commercial (C-2) Zoning District to Medium-High Residential Density (R-3A) Zoning District, and Repealing Any Ordinance or Portion of Ordinance in Conflict Therewith.

PUBLIC NOTICE

State Industrial Access (SIA) Road Grant in the amount of \$290,844.92 from State Road Projects Fund Balance to Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT). This payment is in addition to the City's initial payment of \$170,500.00 for a total payment of \$461,344.94 for the local 50% share of the ROW costs for this project. The total estimated ROW cost is \$922,689.83 with the State being responsible for 50%. The 231 N. Business Park Oversight Committee has approved this expense and recommended it should be a shared expense. City Staff will negotiate with all interested parties to have a portion of the City's total cost reimbursed to City funds.

XIV. Announcements XV. Adjourn: Mayor Randy Carroll

Bedford County Board of Commissioners Commissioner Board Meeting

Date: Tuesday, March 14, 2023 Time: 7:00 PM Location: Bedford County Historic Courthouse, 2nd Floor, Courtroom

Public Hearing (to be held prior to the meeting). Call to Order: Chairman, Mayor Chad D. Graham Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance Open Meeting: Sheriff Austin Swing Roll Call: County Clerk Donna Thomas Minutes Approval: 1. Approval of Special Called Commission Meeting Minutes from January 24, 2023 - Placed on the agenda with a favorable recommendation by Rules & Legislative Committee.

2. Approval of Commission Meeting Minutes from February 14, 2023 - Placed on the agenda without a recommendation by Rules & Legislative Committee. Elections & Confirmations: 3. Elect Notaries for April 2023 - Placed on the agenda by Rules & Legislative Committee. Presentations: None. Resolutions: 4. Resolution 23-16 - Detailed Resolution Related to New Elementary School. Placed on the agenda by the Financial Management Committee.

Additional Items by Standing Committees: Rules and Legislative Committee: None. Law Enforcement Committee: None. Courthouse and Property Committee: None. Financial Management Committee: 5. Audit Committee Report - For Information Only. 6. RingCentral Multi-Year Contract for Fax Services 7. Surplus Property - BOE Other Business: Announcements Adjourn /s/ Chad D. Graham, Bedford County Mayor Accommodations Persons with a disability who wish to request accommodation to participate in the meeting should notify Suzanne Alexander at least one (1) business day prior to the meeting at (931) 684-7944 or email your request to Suzanne.Alexander@bedfordcountyttn.gov to discuss accommodations. Every reasonable effort will be made to meet your need. (Mar. 4, 2023)

E. A Resolution of the Mayor and City Council of the City of Shelbyville Authorizing and Directing the City Attorney to File the 2021 Tax Bills for the Collection of All Delinquent Taxes for that Year. B. A Resolution of the Mayor and City Council of Shelbyville, Tennessee Authorizing An Application for Sidewalk Replacement/Construction Through The Tennessee "Small Cities" Community Development Block Grant Program. C. A Resolution of the City of Shelbyville, Tennessee Authorizing a Grant Application to the Department of Homeland Security, FEMA Grant Program Directorate, and Assistance to Firefighters Safer Grant (Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response) D. A Resolution of the City of Shelbyville, Tennessee Designating that Specific FY23 General Fund Operating Expenditures be Funded by the City of Shelbyville's American Rescue Plan (ARP) Funds in the Amount of \$6,557,664.22. E. A Resolution Authorizing an Official Delegation to the 2023 Rural Development Conference in Nashville, Tennessee, for March 22-23, 2023, Providing for the Attendance and Expenditures of that Delegation, Consisting of the Mayor, City Manager and City Councilmembers. XII. Business Items: A. Consideration of a motion to establish the position of City Director of Information Technology (IT Director) and authorize advertising for this position. B. Consideration of a motion to authorize the City Treasurer to pay the remaining estimated Right-of-Way (ROW) acquisition costs on the

BRING ON DESSERT WITH BETTER-FOR-YOU SWEETS

FAMILY FEATURES If healthier eating holds a prominent spot on your list of goals, you may feel it's necessary to eliminate some of your sweetest favorites. However, committing to a nutritionally friendly way of life doesn't have to leave desserts by the wayside. Instead, rethinking nighttime treats with better-for-you ingredients like California Prunes as a quick substitution can make healthier eating easy. As a versatile ingredient that can replace added sugar, fats and eggs in all kinds of recipes, prunes can also add nutrients important for bone and gut health. Plus, the copper in prunes inhibits bone breakdown, while boron plays a role in calcium metabolism and polyphenols can help decrease bone breakdown through their antioxidant power. As a fruit that's high in vitamin K, which helps improve calcium balance and promotes bone mineralization, prunes are also a "good gut food," meaning a single serving (roughly 4-6 prunes) can help support a healthy microbiome. They're easy to use in recipes that can become favorites in your household such as these Chocolate Energy Balls. Enjoyed as an easy, on-the-go snack, they're a perfect way to refuel for an adventure, recharge after a workout or to simply savor as a healthy snack. Chocolate lovers rejoice: This rich, delicious, gluten-free, grain-free Chocolate Covered Prune Fudge Cake is naturally sweetened using prunes instead of added sugar. If brownies are more your style, prunes can also take the place of eggs in these Vegan Brownies for a family-friendly treat that won't wreck your eating plan. To find more better-for-you desserts, visit californiaprunes.org.

Vegan Brownies Prep time: 10 minutes Cook time: 25 minutes Servings: 9 Prune Puree: 16 ounces pitted California prunes 1/2 cup hot water Brownies: nonstick cooking spray 6 ounces unsweetened chocolate 1/2 cup California extra-virgin olive oil 2 cups light brown sugar 10 ounces California prune puree 1 1/2 cups all-purpose flour 1 tablespoon baking powder 1/4 cup cocoa powder 2 teaspoons vanilla extract flaky sea salt, for garnish To make prune puree: In blender, combine prunes and water. Pulse to combine then blend until smooth, pourable consistency forms, scraping sides, if necessary. Store puree in airtight container in fridge up to 4 weeks. To make brownies: Preheat oven to 350 F. Line 9-by-9-inch baking pan with parchment paper then lightly grease with nonstick cooking spray. Using double boiler, melt chocolate and olive oil. Whisk in sugar and prune puree; mix until dissolved. Into large bowl, sift flour, baking powder and cocoa powder. Gently fold in chocolate and prune mixture then add vanilla. Spread batter in prepared pan, sprinkle with flaky sea salt and bake 20-25 minutes, or until top starts to look dry and brownies are just beginning to pull away from sides of pan. Cool in pan. Remove then cut brownies into 3-inch squares.



Vegan Brownies



Chocolate Covered Prune Fudge Cake

Chocolate Covered Prune Fudge Cake Prep time: 15 minutes Cook time: 55 minutes Yield: 1 cake (8 inches) Cake: Coconut oil spray 14 tablespoons butter, chopped 2 teaspoons vanilla extract 3/4 cup cocoa powder 10 soft, pitted prunes, chopped small 1/3 cup maple syrup 6 eggs 1/2 cup coconut sugar 1 cup almond meal Ganache: 1 cup full-fat coconut milk 1 1/3 cups dark chocolate morsels To make cake: Preheat oven to 300 F. Lightly spray bottom and sides of 8-inch springform pan with coconut oil spray. Place round piece of parchment paper in bottom of pan and lightly spray with coconut oil spray. In small saucepan over low heat, place butter and vanilla. Use sieve to sift cocoa

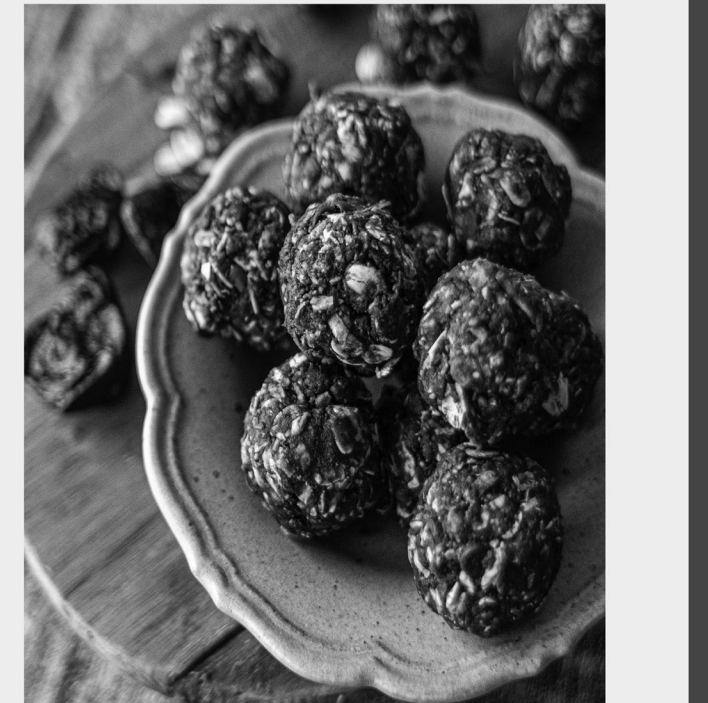
into saucepan. Stir with spatula until completely smooth. Remove from heat and set aside. In bowl of food processor fitted with "S" blade, place prunes and syrup. Top with cooled butter mixture then process until smooth. Transfer to large mixing bowl, scraping all chocolate mixture from food processor with spatula. In bowl of stand mixer fitted with whisk attachment, whip eggs and coconut sugar on high speed 7 minutes, or until tripled in volume. Add one-third of egg mixture to bowl with chocolate mixture. Using spatula, gently fold together until completely combined. Add almond meal and remaining egg mixture to bowl and gently fold to combine. Pour batter into prepared pan and bake 55 minutes, or until set. Once cooked through, transfer cake to cooling rack and cool completely in pan. To make ganache: In top of double boiler, melt coconut milk and dark chocolate until completely smooth. Pour prepared ganache over cake. Serve immediately for molten fudge effect or allow to completely set.

Chocolate Energy Balls

Recipe courtesy of Meg van der Kruik on behalf of California Prunes Prep time: 10 minutes Cook time: 30 minutes Yield: 24 pieces Prune Puree: 16 ounces pitted California prunes 1/2 cup hot water

Energy Balls: 1 cup old-fashioned or gluten-free oats 2/3 cup toasted, unsweetened shredded coconut 1/2 cup creamy natural nut butter (peanut or almond) 1/2 cup pecan meal 1/2 cup prune puree 1/4 cup unsweetened cocoa powder 1 teaspoon vanilla extract

To make prune puree: In blender, combine prunes and water. Pulse to combine then blend until smooth, pourable consistency forms, scraping sides, if necessary. Store puree in airtight container in fridge up to 4 weeks. To make energy balls: In mixing bowl, stir oats, coconut, nut butter, pecan meal, prune puree, cocoa powder and vanilla until completely combined. Cover and chill in refrigerator 30 minutes. Once chilled, use small cookie scoop or measuring spoon to measure equal-sized amounts of mixture then form into balls by applying gentle pressure to dough using palms. Do not roll as balls will break apart. Store covered in airtight container in refrigerator up to 1 week.



Chocolate Energy Balls

Produce shopping on a budget

(Family Features) Cooking meals that bring your loved ones joy is often objective No. 1 but creating those flavorful favorites on an appropriate budget is an important aspect of well-rounded, family-friendly recipes. A few simple steps, like developing good grocery shopping habits, can put smiles on hungry faces without leaving a dent in your finances.

Make a List (and Stick to It)

When buying fresh produce, remember some items have a shorter shelf life. Limiting purchases to items on your list can help lower grocery spending while alleviating food waste.

Buy Local

Transportation cost is one of the biggest factors in the price of produce, meaning buying local, when possible, can help reduce your total at checkout.

Stock Up on Seasonal Produce

Although you can generally find any produce item at any time of year, this isn't always an affordable practice. Knowing when your favorite fruits and veggies are in-season can save you money and allow you to use the freshest ingredients in family breakfasts like Protein-Packed Sausage Breakfast Muffins and Savory English Muffins.

Know Your Produce Department

The front or feature table of the produce department often offers the best deals. Don't forget to look at the end caps on each produce aisle, which sometimes display seasonal items.

WHEN PUBLIC NOTICES REACH THE PUBLIC, EVERYONE BENEFITS. PUBLIC NOTICE TENNESSEE This website is a public service made possible by the newspapers of Tennessee at no additional cost to taxpayers. TNPublicNotice.com was first launched in 2008 as a central repository for all public notices in Tennessee. It was redesigned and relaunched in 2021 with updated functionality and search capabilities. Per a state law that passed unanimously in 2013, the purpose of this website is to make available to the public every notice that appears in a Tennessee newspaper.

WHAT IS TPN? WHY PUBLIC NOTICES SMART SEARCH

POPULAR SEARCHES SEARCH KEYWORDS: All Words Any Words Exact Phrase EXCLUDE: FILTERED BY: COUNTY Any CITY Any PUBLICATION Any DATE RANGE 11/17/2022 1/12/2023

There is no better way to notify the public than through the combination of Tennessee newspapers and TNPublicNotice.com...the permanency of print paired with the accessibility of a statewide, searchable site. This statewide site is provided by Tennessee's newspapers at no cost to taxpayers. Read the public notices in this newspaper, on our website, or by visiting www.TNPublicNotice.com.

TNPublicNotice.com



Chemistry professor earns \$800K in grants



Mike Zhang, Middle Tennessee State University assistant professor and researcher, is currently working on three concurrent chemistry research projects with funding totaling almost \$800,000 and poses for a photo in the Science Building Atrium on Friday, Feb. 24, 2023.



Mike Zhang, Middle Tennessee State University assistant professor and researcher, works in his lab on one of his three concurrent chemistry research projects on Feb. 9, 2023, at the Science Building on campus.

MTSU file photo by Andy Heidt

MURFREESBORO — For Mengliang “Mike” Zhang, MTSU assistant professor in the Department of Chemistry and rising research star on campus, successful research is all about collaboration.

“Michael Jordan said, ‘Talent wins games, but teamwork and intelligence win championships,’” Zhang said. “Similarly, research and education in science benefit immensely from collaborations and support.”

Since joining the MTSU faculty in 2017 and taking on projects as a lead researcher, Zhang said he has received that support and camaraderie from the university’s Office of Research and Sponsored Programs and his colleagues.

It’s helped Zhang secure multiple federal grants — nearly \$800,000 worth, in fact — and delve into his research specialties, too. He’s the lead researcher on three concurrent projects from the U.S. Department of Justice, National Institute of Justice, National Science Foundation and U.S. Department of Agriculture, and he’s also part of a fourth project with Greg Van Patten, dean of the College of Basic and Applied Sciences, that’s received \$600,000 in funding from the U.S. Department of Energy.

“I would not have come this far without the ORSP’s support,” Zhang said. “Collaboration with faculty members in my department and beyond has been critical to the development of my research projects.”

Using his background as an analytical chemist and over 15 years of experience in mass spectrometry — an analytical technique used to measure the mass-to-charge ratio of ions — Zhang’s projects include:

- Analyzing toxins in wildfire smoke to help develop better safety protocols for firefighters.
- Investigating the chemical profiles of different food compounds to provide better dietary recommendations.
- Acquiring more specialized equipment for MTSU.

Zhang grew up in the Jilin province of China and completed years of study and research at Jilin University. He moved halfway across the world to Murfreesboro and an MTSU faculty position because he saw his background as a good fit for the chemistry department.

“I thought my experience could synergize with the existing strengths at MTSU and saw a range of collaborative opportunities with the faculty members in the department and beyond,” Zhang said. “Thankfully, both have been true.”

‘Focus on the science’

Zhang said the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs works hard to grow the research and experience of junior faculty members like him.

“They provided startup funds to set up my lab,” he said. “They organized workshops to help faculty write grant proposals, find collaborators, set career goals and navigate grant opportunities from different agencies. These are all critical factors for the success of the research proposals. “The staff are patient, knowl-

edgeable and trustworthy, making my job much easier, so I only need to focus on the science.”

Zhang also highlighted the office’s support of student researchers, both graduate and undergraduate, with resources like the Undergraduate Research Center and research grant opportunities like the Undergraduate Research Experience and Creative Activity grant.

Shruthi Perna, a student in

MTSU’s Molecular Biosciences Ph.D. Program, works as a graduate research assistant in Zhang’s lab on his National Institute of Justice project.

“Dr. Zhang has supported me in every way possible with the project,” said Perna, who said she hopes to lead her own research lab one day. “He constantly guided me in the design of experiments and in the scientific writing process. My

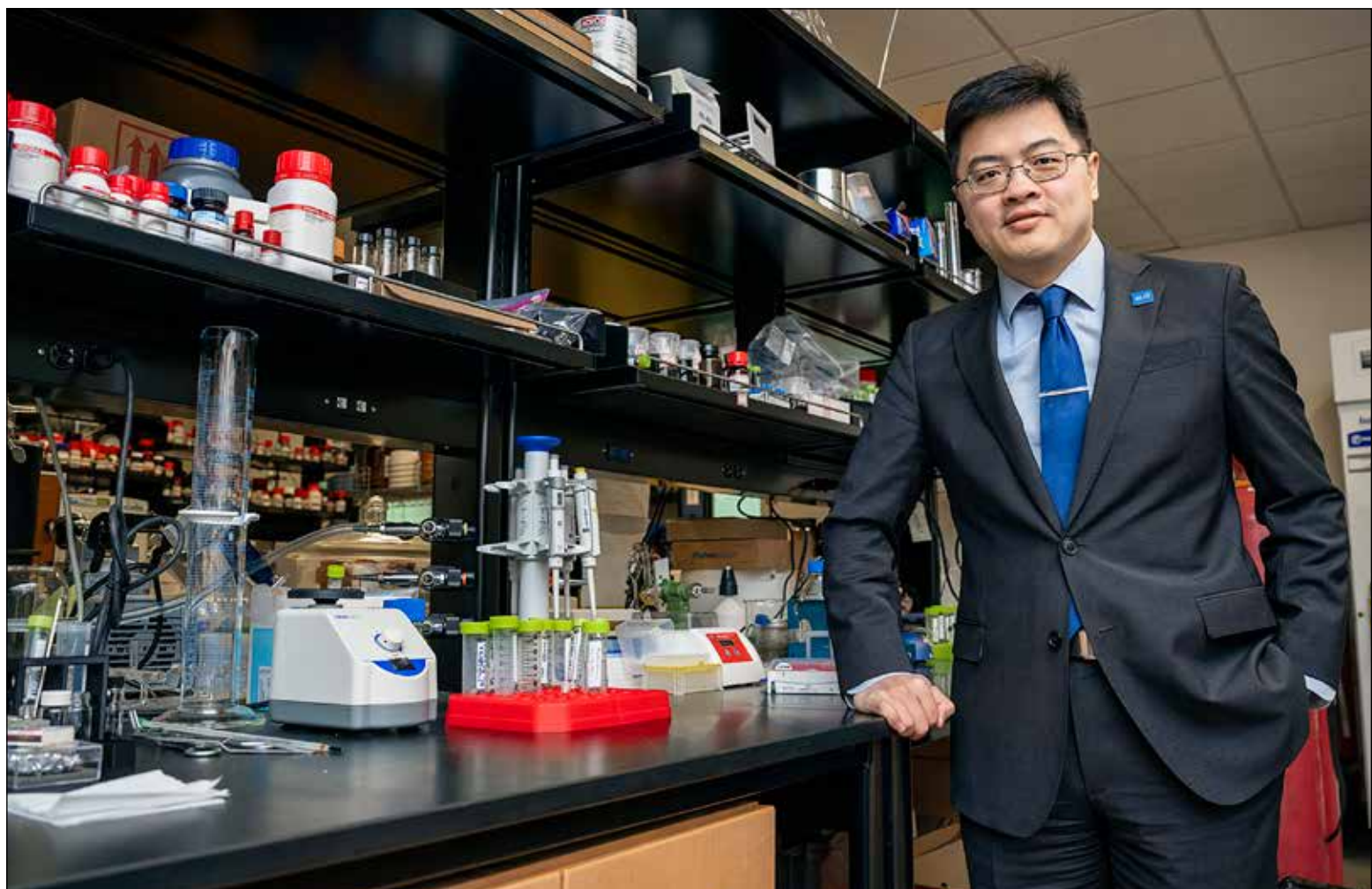
efficiency in conducting experiments and problem-solving skills have significantly improved under his guidance.”

Originally from Warangul, India, Perna said she knew she wanted to pursue research in graduate school and that MTSU could provide her with the knowledge, skills and experience needed to achieve her career goals.

“The research skills which

I am learning at MTSU will act as a foundation for my future endeavors,” she said. “The MTSU faculty is diverse and involved in cutting-edge research.”

To learn more about the opportunities at the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs at MTSU, visit the website at <https://www.mtsu.edu/research>.



Mike Zhang, Middle Tennessee State University assistant professor and researcher, poses for a photo in his lab on Friday, Feb. 24, 2023, in the Science Building where he works on one of his three concurrent chemistry research projects.



Mike Zhang, Middle Tennessee State University assistant professor and researcher, works on one of his three concurrent chemistry research projects in his lab at the Science Building on campus on Feb. 9, 2023.