



CANNON COURIER

Home of ROBERT MOORE

131st YEAR - NO. 25

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2015: A year mixed with bad, good news for community

From Cannon Courier Staff reports

2015 was a year of change in Cannon County marked by budget woes, signs of growth and the death of Woodbury's most prominent citizen of the 20th Century.

Retired banker William "Bill" Smith died at age 97, leaving a legacy that won't be soon duplicated.

Mr. Smith, a lifelong resident of Woodbury passed away on October 30, 2015. He was born on June 10, 1918 to the late George Stanton Smith and Linda Brevard Smith.



Bill Smith

"Bill was constantly promoting Cannon County and what a good place it was to live, work and raise a family. He touched the lives of a countless number of people during his 50+ years at the bank," said Andy Bryson, former editor and owner of the Cannon Courier.

Like many other people, the Smith family was always close to the Brysons. Smith gave many youngsters their first job in Woodbury.

"My first job was hauling hay during the summer for Bill on his farm," Bryson said. "Hayden and I stayed with Steve and Mike many nights at their home on the old Murfreesboro Road just west of the Funeral Home."

"Bill gave me my first job out of college. He would always have some errands to run for him or somebody. We always talked on Monday morning about our weekend. I can't say enough good things about Bill," said Craig Mears of Woodbury.

Smith provided important linkage between the Cannon County of yesteryear and today's 21st Century way of conducting business.

"I can't say enough good things about what he has done for me, my family and our community. They broke the mold when he was made. Prayers to all of his family and friends," said Tim Gentry, Bill's co-worker at Smith Funeral Home.

Smith followed the legacy of communi-

ty booster Dr. J. F. Adams, who took note of Bill's work ethic and offered him a job at Woodbury's Bank of Commerce. His time at the bank took him from being a teller all the way to being President of the bank with 55 years of service at the time of his retirement,

State Toursim plan could help

During 2015, Cannon County Chamber of Commerce members learned of state plans to revitalize its rural trails program, which in turn could help promote tourism here.

The news came during a visit by the newly selected Commissioner of Tourism Development, Kevin Triplett. Gov. Bill Haslam recently appointed Triplett to replace resigning Commissioner Susan Whitaker.

Triplett was vice president of public affairs for Bristol Motor Speedway. Prior to joining Bristol in 2005, he worked in various roles for NASCAR, ultimately serving as managing director of business operations, guiding the operation and administration of NASCAR's Sprint Cup Series, Nationwide Series and Camping World Truck Series

Triplett witnessed NASCAR's decade of explosive growth. Among the lessons he learned was "you want to accentuate what you are," which applies directly to Cannon County.

Cannon County has beauty, the arts and we need to expose that to more people, the commissioner said. Thanks to the Internet that exposure is now multifaceted between the "baby boomers, millennials and generation X who all are looking for something new to do."

The State of Tennessee is well known for its tourism maps, which were voted the best in the nation, he said. "While I prefer a map myself, a lot of young people have never held a map in their hands," preferring to use the Internet, Triplett said. Because of that, the state is looking to "tell its story in different ways."

When it comes to tourist attractions, Tennessee is fortunate. "We don't have to create it ... we have it," Triplett said. But the face of tourism is changing as



The Cannon County Sheriff's Department grabbed a major drug bust near Readyville. Arrested were Ivan Garcia Morales (aka Ivan Garcia) along with Rolando Bejerano Morales, both of Bradyville. Authorities seized 137 marijuana plants at the sophisticated indoor grow operation.

well with music and youth sports being "two huge growth areas." The growth is music-related tourism is an advantage to Cannon County and its ties to Uncle Dave Macon and old-time music.

The "trick" is to link Cannon County to nearby, but much larger counties like Rutherford, Williamson and Davidson where residents haven't heard of, much less visited, the many attractions of the Woodbury area.

"We would like to see more support for our events," said Billy Kaufman of Short Mountain Distillery. "getting the word out is expensive. We're going everything we can to bring people here. We're telling them 'To Escape to the Country.'"

A promotion being planned for the original state Route 1 could help Cannon County get the message out, said Triplett. That roadway, now known better as US 70S, cuts through Cannon County. Signs marking that first roadway have already

been erected in Cannon County.

But signage is a problem for attractions like Short Mountain Distillery, Kaufman said. The state Department of Transportation won't allow signs marking the route to the distillery. "I have had some luck with local landowners" in placing signage but the state has warned the signs must not be on the state right-of-way and signs on I-24 and I-40 are impossible because of the distance involved.

"We don't want to change Cannon County but instead celebrate what exists," Kaufman said. "In 15 minutes you can be a million miles away."

Good news about hospital

Cannon County Chamber of Commerce officers received good news about St. Thomas Stones River Hospital in September 2015.

See 2015, Page 9

Woodbury's Annie Cox, Ricky Cope applauded

DAN WHITTLE
Courier Correspondent

Part 2 of a Series

People of African descent in Colonial, Revolutionary and Antebellum America, and people such as Ricky Cope and the late Annie Cox, are credits to the human race, confirmed historian/storyteller Barbara Marthal.

Former Woodbury Mayor Cope and educator Mrs. Cox are the type people author Marthal spotlights in presentations throughout America involving accomplishments of "people of color in the South."

"The late Annie Cox is exactly the type of example I point out as outstanding," confirmed Marthal, herself an African American and retired Southern educator. "During her six decades of teaching and coaching in elementary school, it's likely Annie impacted more students positively than any woman in history of Cannon County."

"Mr. Cope before serving two terms as mayor of Woodbury, and who was unopposed for election in his second four-year term, is another example of an effective public servant," added Marthal. "I'm advised he also served on the Woodbury City Council 17 long years prior to being Woodbury's first black mayor."

When Marthal speaks, historians listen.

"Historian Barbara Marthal did an excellent, enlightening presentation recently at the Rutherford County Historical Society's annual awards dinner/banquet," confirmed Shirley Ann Jones, historian/author of multiple Civil War books in relation to Cannon and Rutherford counties. "She doesn't hesitate in pointing out the Southern heritage, and the fact she's of African descent."



Ricky Cope

Author Marthal's third great grandfather back was a slave, and another of her ancestry accompanied his master to war, and later, received a Confederate pension.

She has authored a children's book entitled, "Fighting for Freedom: A Documented Story."



The late Annie Cox

"I wrote this book so that children with Confederate ancestors would be encouraged to research and discuss with pride those members of their family heritage," Marthal penned.

Former Mayor Cope, who serves today at age 62 as director of Cannon County Ambulance

Service, talks about being Woodbury's first African American mayor in the years 2000-2008.

"If there is a word above 'honor,' I'd use it," Cope proclaimed. "Growing up in Woodbury, and then, being elected as mayor has been such an honor."

He moved to Middle Tennessee at age 3, from Chicago.

"Woodbury people are special. My wife and I are still amazed when our neighbors throw up their hands and wave when driving down a country road," Cope accounted. "I wouldn't want to live anywhere but Cannon County."

Current Woodbury Mayor Harold Patrick agrees with Marthal's assessment of the late Mrs. Cox, whose grave at Hoover Cemetery in Woodbury cannot hold the accolades of her life's impact on community.

"Miss' Annie surpassed 'race' in our community," Patrick concurred. See WOODBURY, Page 9

See Cannon Blast on Page 7



MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY

Three Nobel Prize Winners

trueBLUE false



TAKE A CLOSER LOOK

AAEEO/disability



CANNON COURIER

OBITUARIES

Gladys Young Prater

Morrison, TN resident and Cannon County, TN native Gladys Young Prater, age 85, was born May 17, 1930 and died December 18, 2015 at Raintree Manor following an extended illness.

Retired from McMinnville Garment Company and a member of Morrison Church of Christ, she was the daughter of the late Houston and Hester Parker Young. She was married June 27, 1949 to Bobby Lloyd Prater who preceded her in death on September 28, 2011. In addition to her husband and parents, she was preceded in death by mother-in-law and father-in-law, Shelah and Maurine Prater; and sister-in-law, Jean Young.

She is survived by daughter, Pam Grizzle (Michael Jordan) of Morrison, TN; son and daughter-in-law, Jeff and Roxanne Prater of Morrison, TN; grandson, Cain Prater and wife Brandi of Christiana, TN; granddaughter, Chelsey Grissom and husband Mike of McMinnville; two great-grandsons, Aiden and Asher Grissom; several step-grandchildren and step-great-grandchildren; brother, Millard Young of Woodbury, TN; sister and brother-in-law, Flossie and Buell Warren of McMinnville; and several nieces and nephews also survive.

Funeral service will be held at 2:00 p.m. Monday, December 21, 2015 in High's Chapel with Jon Simmons officiating. Burial will follow in Morrison Cemetery. Visitation will be from 4:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. Sunday and from 10:00 a.m. until the time of service Monday at High's.

Arrangements by HIGH FUNERAL HOME, McMinnville, TN (931)473-2137.

Cannon Courier, December 30, 2015
Woodbury, Tennessee

Emma Gladys Pope

Morrison, TN resident and Warren County, TN native Emma Gladys Pope, age 90, was born November 5, 1925 and died December 17, 2015 at NHC Healthcare in McMinnville following an extended illness.

Retired from Carrier Air Conditioning Company and a member of Grange Hall Church of Christ, she was the daughter of the late Bryan and Lodema Roberts Bouldin. She was married August 8, 1942 to Bernice Pope who preceded her in death on September 10, 1991. In addition to her husband and parents, she was preceded in death by son, Charles L. Pope; and two sisters, Pauline McCormick and Birdie Grissom.

She is survived by two sons and daughter-in-law, Lannie and Judy Pope of Woodbury, TN and Greg Pope of Morrison, TN; three grandchildren and spouses, Susan and Heath Nokes, Carla and Brian Parker, and Marcie Pope; four great-grandchildren, Sam, Ashlyn and Eli Nokes, and Emily Parker; two brothers and sister-in-law, J.C. and Rosie Bouldin of Morrison, TN and Wilmus Bouldin of Morrison, TN; sister and brother-in-law, Martha and Rayburn Holt of Morrison, TN; and several nieces and nephews also survive.

Funeral service will be held at 1:00 p.m. Sunday, December 20, 2015 in High's Chapel with James Nelson and Titus Ward officiating. Burial will follow in Bascom Cemetery. Visitation will be from 2:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. Saturday and from 11:00 a.m. until the time of service Sunday at High's.

Arrangements by HIGH FUNERAL HOME, McMinnville, TN (931)473-2137.

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Woodbury, Tennessee

Is Your Life in Balance? Healthy Habits to Try in 2016

Is your life in balance? The new year is a great time to take stock of your routine and make improvements where necessary.

Here are some thoughtful habits to consider incorporating into your day in the coming year.

Find Time to Decompress

- If you're a morning person, get out of bed 30 minutes earlier than normal to wake up with your favorite coffee or tea and think about what you need to accomplish for the day.
- More of a night owl? Spend at least 30 minutes before going to sleep to unplug from technology and relax with a new book you've had on your list to read.
- Schedule time for exercise to reduce stress and maintain a healthy lifestyle. Planning workouts ahead of time will make you more likely to stick to them.

Write Everything Down

- Handwritten notes and to-do lists will reinforce your memory of the tasks you need to conquer. They also give you the option to look at what you need to do for the day and prioritize the list. Consider a personal planner, such as those from the popular AT-A-GLANCE collection, which includes a variety of styles that reflect your personality

and organizational needs. Documenting your day not only keeps you organized, but also provides you with an opportunity to look back and reflect on your life's accomplishments, memories and milestones from the year.

Balanced Diet, Balanced Life

- Maintaining a healthy, balanced diet will help you feel great, and can increase your focus, energy levels and productivity.
- Plan out your meals ahead of time before going shopping by marking them in a calendar. This will give you more time during the week to cook and prepare meals, without having to make frequent trips to the store or feel tempted to grab take-out. You'll be more likely to stick with the habit if you love the calendar you use, so consider something easy on the eyes, such as an AT-A-GLANCE fashion planner.
- Cooking your own fresh meals can help keep your bank account balanced, and is often much healthier than food from a restaurant. And spending time in the kitchen is also a stress reliever for some people. Make a fresh art-- the beginning of a new year is the perfect time to make positive changes to how you schedule and organize your time.

New Year's Food Resolutions to Improve Wellbeing

Improving one's overall wellbeing is often top-of-mind when New Year's resolutions are made. Positive lifestyle changes are heavily rooted in the kitchen -- start there and take simple steps to achieve better health.

Whole Foods Focus

Fresh, unprocessed foods are the cornerstone of a healthful diet. Whole foods include fruits, vegetables, legumes, whole grains, nuts and seeds -- all presented in their purest forms, free of unnecessary additives such as artificial flavors, colors, preservatives, sweeteners and hydrogenated fats.

Build a recipe for success with an ongoing grocery list that incorporates natural foods you're excited to try, and begin to make small swaps. If it seems like an adventure, you'll be inspired to avoid high-calorie, low-nutrient foods, and stick to those that provide energy and key disease-fighting properties.

Excellent examples of power-packed foods

include bananas, dark leafy greens, black beans, avocados, strawberries, peas, quinoa, almonds, chia seeds and rolled oats. Shopping tip: these foods are typically located around the perimeter of the market.

Mealtime Magic at Home

Take a few minutes each week to make meal plans. Preparing and consuming mostly home-cooked meals will train your palate to enjoy more healthful fare. And it's worth the effort to know exactly what's in each dish. Over time, you'll learn to cook creatively with whole-food ingredients.

Heathy eating can be a breeze with a wealth of mealtime ideas that take 30 minutes or less to prepare. A high-performance blender, like the Vitamix 780, makes it easy to whip up plant-based concoctions like smoothies, soups and whole-food juices -- even healthy sorbets made from nothing but frozen fruit. The blender has five touchscreen pre-

programmed settings and an LED control panel to quickly create recipes with a single touch.

Stick to It

Now that you've committed to a whole foods-centered eating regimen, ensure old habits stay in the past. Take a few moments to write down scenarios that might sidetrack you and how to avoid them. For example, partner up with friends or loved ones to form a support system and encourage each other to make healthy choices when getting together for occasional meals out. And lastly-- it's okay to indulge here and there. You will be successful if you are happy about your choices and don't feel restricted.

Focus on this new approach to eating to set out on the right course to optimal health. Understand what whole foods are, how to include them in your diet, and work with a support system. You'll be well on the way to long-term success.

Resolve to Save for Travel in 2016

If your budget didn't allow you to take the vacation you wanted in 2015, don't let the same reason hinder your wanderlust in 2016. A few resolutions, made around the New Year, can help you reach your vacation goal.

Here are a few quick tips to consider:

- Contribute to a vacation savings account: Big travel purchases, like airfare and hotel accommodations, are hefty withdrawals if you don't set aside money specifically for a vacation. Earmark a portion of each paycheck to send straight to a dedicated vacation savings account. Once it's there, don't touch it until it's time to pay for your trip.
- Create a budget: A budget is the only way to

track your spending and ensure you have more coming in than going out. Make your budgeting as seamless as possible with Casio's new CLASSWIZ fx-991EX scientific calculator.
- Budget your time: Before making any travel plans, check your job's vacation policy so you can budget your days off from work accordingly. If you don't get paid time off from work, the pay cut is also an important item to consider in your financial budget.
- Temporarily skip extras: Which of your daily expenses are necessary and which are optional? Consider packing your lunch for a month or using the company coffeemaker instead of indulging in a daily latte at the cafe around the block. At the end of the month, calculate the savings and "pay yourself"

by directing this money to your vacation fund.

- Consider coupons: Vacation packages found on daily deal sites can be just the ticket you need to get the vacation you want for less. Other travel sites often offer special rates if you bundle purchases. Investigate these options before resigning yourself to an expensive a la carte plan.
- Be on time: A missed flight or train could cost you a pretty penny you did not account for when drawing up your vacation budget. Invest in a watch that will help you stay true to your itinerary, such as Casio's line of EDIFICE timepieces.

You don't need to defer your vacation again this year. A few tips can keep you on track for a memorable vacation.

MIDDLE TENNESSEE SCHOOL OF PREACHING AND BIBLICAL STUDIES

The Spring Semester of the Middle Tennessee School of Preaching and Biblical Studies begins on Thursday, January 7th 2016. Class sessions meet every Thursday evening for 13 weeks; they are open to all; they are free and classes can be taken for credit.

Middle Tennessee School Of Preaching
Bethany Church of Christ
5066 Nashville Hwy, McMinnville TN

Thursday Nights 6:00 - 9:00 PM

6-7:00 pm	Hebrews	Jim Boyd
7-8:00 pm	The Book of Psalms (Part VI)	Bill Boyd
8-9:00 pm	The Church Encounters Culture	Charles Williams

For addition information, please contact David Costello 931-728-9290

IN MEMORIAM

The family of Ricky Bell would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for the love and support shown to us during our time of loss. For all those who either made a call, a donation, prepared food or sent flowers, it was very much appreciated.

A special thank you goes out to Kenny Gilly and Korie of Woodbury Funeral Home, Cannon County Ambulance Service, Darrell Young and The Cannon County Sheriffs Department.

We also want to thank special friends Gary Nichols, Jeff Reed and Lee Wayne Nichols.



Your birthdays aren't forgotten and your memory will live on. We celebrate your life with us even though you're gone. Your birthday brings back memories of laughter and tears and all the celebrations we had throughout the years. We cherish the memories of the time together that we had. So Happy Birthday Darla from your brother, Mom and Dad.

Darla of Potter
12/31/71 - 5/13/07

Missing you on your Birthday and Everyday Love Mama

For up to date obituary information, go to

www.cannoncourier.com



News from the Mountain

BY CAROL GUNTER



Reflect on the Greatest Gift of All

Hi and hope everyone is doing okay. There might be some severe weather in store for us later on in the day around here this Wednesday, December 23rd. With the weather so warm and balmy you know some-thing's a brewing in the atmosphere.

Did you get to celebrate Jesus Christ's birthday, December 25th? We owe our very existence here to him. Way to much emphasis put on the buying of gifts and not on the true meaning of Christmas - the birth of Jesus - the greatest gift this world has been given. Only He can give us eternal life to be spent with Him. So slow it down and reflect on the slow it down and reflect on the goodness of the Lord and the many countless times He has gotten you through trials of hurt and heartache you have experienced in your life. You didn't know if you were going to survive did you? -- or even more you may not have wanted to go on -- but deep down you knew He was there as always (your only true friend) to pick you up and renew your strength to keep going though your heart was in so many pieces. Living life here at times hard to do, but just remember there is heaven awaiting us if we will only live for Him and let others know about Jesus by what we say and do and how we lead our daily lives. May

they see Jesus in us and want that inner peace and joy that only He can give a person if they will accept Him as their Lord and personal Savior. We do not know where He will return to gather His children home so Let's be found busy working the fields for souls to be added to His kingdom.

Please keep the following people on your prayer list: Jody Reedy, Ruth Brown, Mai Nell Melton and family in the passing of her daughter, Kathy Martin, Fay Pitts, Tracy Neal, Edith Miller, Luther Lawrence, Denise Stanton, the families of Wanda Zeh and Brenda Vanderpool.

Gracie Bratcher doing so much better when I got to see and talk to her the other day.

Visitors at our house recently Lynn and Brenda Underwood and Katie and Hunter. Lynn and Hunter love to go deer hunting as that is a passion of theirs.

No deer as of late have I spotted in the field near the mountain ans I usually do. Come to think of it, no turkeys (Of the feathered kind) have I seen either. The "Little green men" may be responsible for n one seeing any deer or turkeys around here. I told you they like pizza so just maybe they like a wide variety of foods. I'm now thinking Bobby should not have turned the little aliens or that cow loose

as millions of dollars and endorsements from Nike or Michelin tires or even McDonald's and no telling who else could have been coming our way. NASA keeps ringing my phone off the hook. You know they would pay big bucks if Bobby could round up the little green fellas and that cow, too, and turn them in to NASA. Our pictures would be in every big or major newspaper in the country and maybe at least one outside its borders. Mega rich we would be and our autographs even little kids would want if they couldn't get Big Bird's or Barney's. I'll have to talk to Bobby and find out if he's a good tracker and could possible get on the "now very cold trail" of the aliens and the cow. He really just lucked up on spotting them in the first place on the highway that evening, but he'll probably be expecting to be paid a large sum by me to do this. Not going to happen as he bungled this great opportunity for us to be rolling in the dough for letting them go free.

If you have any news for the column, just give me a call (615) 563-4429. Have a great day!

Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and He shall lift you up. James 4:10

Special Kids Provides Christmas for 350 in Need



Family Resources Staff- (L to R) Candice Payne, family resources coordinator; Sheri Weber, director of family resources; Kaitlin Gay, family resources coordinator; Staff stand in front of a sanctuary full of gifts for Cornelius Christmas at Trinity Presbyterian Church in Murfreesboro.

Sanctuary Full of Gifts- Special Kids partner, Trinity Presbyterian Church, allowed Special Kids to use their sanctuary and fill it with gifts for families from December 14-18

Special Kids Therapy & Nursing Center held its Cornelius Christmas program last week to provide gifts for 356 individuals in need.

"The joy on the families' faces is unexplainable," said Sheri Weber, Special Kids director of family resources. "They stand there and cry. They are so humbled, and for one moment, they don't have to worry."

Families caring for children with special needs often face financial burdens and have difficulty affording gifts for the Christmas tree. At Special Kids, the Cornelius Christmas program allows individuals and groups from the community to give back to families who need financial support the most. This year, 92 families were served through the generosity of the local community.

"It is so rewarding for us to see the excitement from the community," said Weber. "It has become a tradition for our sponsors

who come back year after year. It's not just giving presents. They are giving love."

The Special Kids Family Resources Department is responsible for identifying the families in need and matching them with a community sponsor while keeping everything confidential. Sponsors range from individuals, families, employee groups, and Sunday school classes who come together to provide for an individual family.

"We help the parents, too," said Weber. "It's about helping the whole family."

This year sponsors provided toys, bikes, and clothes for the children. Families were also given food, towels, shampoo, household items, coats, and shoes to help fill their ongoing needs.

"Including us in the Cornelius Christmas program has provided what my husband and I could not," said one anonymous recipient. "Special Kids is a tangible

expression of God's love for my family."

Special Kids is a Christian therapy and nursing center for children with special needs. The Murfreesboro-based ministry started with one child in 1998 and has grown to serve over 3,000 children from 18 counties in middle Tennessee. For more information on Special Kids, please visit specialkidstn.com or call 615.893.4892.



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Featured Property of the Week



203 Hill View Drive

3 Bedroom
1 Bath
1332 Square Foot
MLS #1675222



310 Melton Lane
3 bedroom, 2 bath, brick, 1,320 sq. ft., 2 car garage, MLS# 1635965



Burt Burgen Road
32.18 Acres
MLS # 1535024



0 Iconium Road
15.1 Acres
MLS # 1688409



1 COVE HILL RD
15 Acres. Two surveyed tracts selling in one piece.



Burt Burgen Road
33.78 acres (see listing)
MLS #1535024



Will Daniel Road
5 acres
MLS # 1644070



Kennedy Creek Road
5.6 Acres off Hwy 96
MLS# 1121480



734 Judge Purser Rd
7 Acres w/2 Mobile Homes
MLS# 1661227

Happy New Years & Thank You to the Following Locations for Carrying the Cannon Courier from Week to Week



'Big Yellows' are rolling
See Page 19

'Lockjaw' the political versio
See Page 6

CANNON COURIER

The Cannon Courier Is Sold At These Locations:

- B & W Market
- Cannon Market
- Davenport's Service Station
- Dollar General Market
- Dollar General Market on Jim Cummings Hwy.
- Dutton's Market
- FirstBank
- First Stop
- Highway 53 Market
- Joe's Place
- Osborne's Piggly Wiggly
- Parsley's Market
- Potter's Ace Hardware
- Quick Shop Market
- Rite Aid
- Russell's Market
- Short Mountain Market
- Smitty's Market
- West End Tobacco Outlet
- Woodbury Farmer's Co-Op
- Woodbury Save-a-Lot
- Woodson's Pharmacy

g(ing) ab

...er owner

... authorized County's legis-
... also chaired the powerful Finance,
... Ways and Means Community and helped
... leverage state funding for the Mass Com-
... munication's Building at MTSU which now
... bears his name.
... When John's sons David and Tommy
... Bragg purchased the Cannon Courier in
... 1988, he passed the third generation of
... the Cannon Courier. That Courier was p-
... and subsequently closed by the
... Corp, owner of the Nashville Ten-
... Legendary retired Cannon Cou-
... or Bill Smith, at age 97, recalls the
... that cost John Bragg part of his rig-
... "After a local physician did the
... that saved John's hand, when
... back to work, John's hand was

CANNON COURIER

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Courier Columnist

New Years a great time to reflect on past



Words of Wisdom
 DAN WHITTLE

New Years always seems like a good time to reflect forward and backward. Smyrna neighbor Danny Hargrove and I moseyed back in time to Gile's Hill, Danny's rural boyhood home near downtown Eagleville and to my own Missouri farm roots.

With it being below freezing 28-degrees outside, Danny revisited "hog killing day 1954 back on the farm." "Although our farm was technically over the line in Williamson County, we claimed Eagleville as our home town," Danny stepped back to boyhood days. "We had great neighbors, like Mr. Malcolm Pitts. And Gile's Hill was a great place to grow up. My first memory of 'hog killing day' goes back to age 9, when I was promoted to stirring and tending the 'cracklings.'"

"And I'd walk a mile today for some of Mary Alice Lamb's legendary fried chitlin's (chitterlings aka hog guts)," Danny added. "And I want my beloved grandchildren, Jason (age 5) and Chloe (4) to know this important family history they'll never experience."

For unlearned college-educated folks, a crackling is glob of pig fat, with a particle of meat attached, when rendered (cooked down), yielded hot grease, and when allowed to cool, it turns into lard for future vittles-cooking needs throughout the year.

"I remember how good those hot tasty those 'cracklings' were, but you best not eat too many, for they'd make a farm boy sick to his stomach," Danny gazed back through his window of memories at age 66.

"Cooking cracklings in our big black wash kettle, meant something else too," Danny added. "It meant you got to stand next to the big warm fire, which was good since it was freezing cold."

With this mile post memory, we talked about our loving, but tough "farm mothers."

"Momma (the late Annie Walker Hargrove) was a small-framed lady, but strong for her size," Danny shared. "She could handle a knife and axe well on hog-butchering days."

"My mother (the late Ruby Lee Whittle) was also small, but strong in her shoulders, arms and hands, which served her well as she 'blocked' the hams and shoulders on hog killing days back in Missouri," I shared with friend Danny Boy.

"And Mother Hargrove seasoned up some of the best-tasting sausage you ever put in your mouth," Danny added. "Daddy (Herbert 'Bubba' Hargrove) was a good, honest hard-working sharecropper in that era."

I asked friend Danny the requirements of a good old-fashioned hog killing day:

"It had to be in fact, a few degrees below 32 degrees, the freezing point, to make sure the meat stayed cold, in order not to spoil. That allowed the men folks time to butcher our family's five hogs that we had fattened up with extra corn and slop leading up to hog killing time."

That brought a memory of my own farming father. "Daddy Whittle was the one chosen to shoot the hogs. It was farm pride to only take one expensive bullet, and fire it between the pig's eyes, to kill it instantly and not make it suffer," I added.

We both recalled that if the cold weather hit on a holiday, it didn't stop farm families from killing hogs. "I recall we killed hogs several times at Thanksgiving," Danny noted.

"And one year, when cold weather finally hit in late December, we killed hogs on a cold and blustery Christmas Day," I recalled.

"We prayed and gave thanks to have the meat to eat later in the year, after we'd seasoned the sausage and preserved it in fruit jars, and cured the bacon, hams and shoulders," Danny described.

"I remember Daddy Whittle taking an extra ham and shoulder to this needy and sickly sharecropper/part-time preacher man's family who lived near our farm," I shared back to another century.

"Neighbors would help neighbors. Ain't that way in our country no more," friend Danny assessed in the present.

And that was the way it was, back in Americana's small family farm era that has faded forever in the past.

(Writer's Note: Danny Hargrove and I have one more experience in common. His Uncle Joe Eady (deceased) was noted for smoked and barbecued whole sticks of baloney at his small barbecue joint formerly located back in the 1990s at the end of Weakley Lane north of Smyrna. I would often take my citified newspaper pals from Nashville and Murfreesboro to dine on his Uncle Joe's cuisine.

Just how tasty was Uncle Joe Eady's barbecued baloney?

"Uncle Joe's baloney was so good, some country music stars would come and buy entire sticks, and take it on their airplanes and buses," Danny verified.)

May your New Year be blessed and filled with good health and prosperity! Thanks for reading.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letters are welcome on any subject printed in the pages of this newspaper. All letters must be under 250 words and are subject to editing for improper language and verified by address or phone number.

Letters may be sent online to news@cannoncourier.com or by mail to Letters, Cannon Courier, 113 West Main St. Woodbury, TN 37190

Courier columnist

The story behind Virginia's letter to Santa Claus



Media Matters
 LARRY BURRIS

In the fall of 1897, 8-year-old Virginia O'Hanlon had a problem: some of her friends had told her there was no Santa Claus. Her father suggested she write The New York Sun's "Question and Answer" section, so here's what she wrote.

"Dear Editor: I am eight years old. Some of my little friends say there is no Santa Claus. Papa says 'If you see it in 'The Sun' it's so.' Please tell me the truth, is there a Santa Claus?"

Editorial writer Frank Church replied to Virginia's question in what has become one of the most famous editorials in newspaper history. But because the newspaper had a policy of keeping its editorials anonymous, Church was not identified as the author until after his death in 1906.

This holiday exchange has become part of American popular culture and is often reprinted during the holiday season.

As for the little girl in the story, she grew up and became a teacher. She earned a master's degree from Columbia University and a doctorate from Fordham

University. Later she became a teacher and school administrator.

What seems particularly interesting about the editorial is it goes beyond simply answering a little girl's question. Church could have told her "No, there isn't a Santa Claus," and then explained all the reasons why. Or, he could have just said "Yes, there is a Santa Claus," but what good would that have done, besides confirm what children around the world believe?

But instead, in fewer than 500 words, Church uses symbolism and logic to answer a little girl's question on an adult level. He sustained her child-like faith, while at the same time illustrating ideals that would appeal to adults.

"Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus" resonates today as much as it did in 1897. It is a piece of linguistic legerdemain that is as magical as the subject it addresses.



Courier Editor

Yep, got New Years Resolutions mastered

When it comes to New Year's Resolutions, I've got one of the Top 10 whipped.

Pause. And that resolution is "quit smoking."

I haven't smoked since college and that's been a while. In fact, I am saving a cigar that I received for helping in a wedding six or seven years ago. I look at it every once in a while and that's about it when it comes to smoking.

But while we are at it, we might as well do a survey of what the U.S. government describes as the Top 10 New Year's Resolutions.

At the top of the list is (you guessed it) "lose weight." Here's the rest taken in order:

Volunteer to help others, quit smoking, get a better education, save money, get fit, eat healthy food, manage stress, manage debt, take a trip, reduce, reuse and recycle and drink less alcohol.

When it comes to losing weight, I count it a successful year when I lose those extra holiday pounds gained during Thanksgiving and Christmas. It's tough to predict how I will do on that account this year since I dined at IHOP (International House of Pancakes) for Thanksgiving and had at least two major Christmas meals. Oops, make that three.

I did eat some "healthy food" which is number 8 on the list. Yes, I did eat a bite of salad last week, not including a bit of lettuce on my ham or turkey sandwiches. It's doubtful if my "salad" counteracted all the hash-brown casserole, broccoli, rice and CHEESE that I devoured. Note: Cheese is short for Velveta. Yum!

Hmmm, let's see. I did "volunteer" to help various people lose weight by eating their share of the Christmas goodies.

Wait a minute, I did manage to save some money. (Only to spend it over the holidays.)

As for getting "fit," what's that? I throw an occasional fit. In fact, I can throw a pretty good one every once in a while.

As for getting "fit," that is going to be an uphill battle for sure. Fitness reminds me of the annual run on Short Mountain. The only way I could do that is if I tripped and rolled down the entire mountain.

Managing stress?

I only experience that once a week when deadline rolls around. Getting that newspaper out on time can be a bit stressful especially when that slavedriving publisher Ron Fryar gets to snapping his bullwhip.

When it comes to managing debt, I have that one whipped. There's bound to be a lottery card with my name on it. Or there's always the Publisher's Clearing House. I've been playing that one for years and I can see myself winning at least \$10,000 a month any day now.

"Get a better education." Heck, I went to MTSU. It doesn't get any better than that. Besides the campus is now so big, I get lost everytime I even think about going there.

"Taking a trip" is a favorite resolution. Heck, I'm already planning a major adventure to either Short Mountain or maybe even McMinnville in the next week or two. And there's always Florida...

"Reduce, reuse and recycle" is another resolution that is near and dear to heart. At the Courier, we recycle aluminum cans and newspapers and all sorts of stuff. Of course, "we" doesn't necessarily mean "me." I did, I think it was on May 18, actually recycle some cans from my trusty car to the Courier's recycling bin. Honest!

That leaves us with the final resolution, number 10 on the list: Drink less alcohol.

Trouble is, if I try to keep all the other nine resolutions it will force me to drink more alcohol. I can't help it. Keeping up with all those resolutions is stressful. It's a vicious circle.

So I'm left with one option: Forget all those resolutions. (Except the one about smoking).

Besides one out of 10 isn't too bad? Have a Happy New Year!

2016, I think ... uh, let me see, here we come.



My Take
 MIKE WEST



Donations left at Stones River Mall were ample around the Christmas Tree



Stones River Mall helps animal rescue operation

Murfreesboro – Christmas came early for Operation Education Animal Rescue, when Stones River Mall and Doggie's Day Out presented the group with cash donations and more than 60 bags of dog food.

Donations were collected during Stones River Mall's annual Paws & Claus, sponsored by Doggie's Day Out. Shoppers were invited to bring dogs and cats to have professional photos taken with the Jolly Ol' Fellow, and those who donated a bag of dog food received a free print.

"Our Paws & Claus is extremely popular, and we take that opportunity to support our local pet community," said Melinda Noblitt, marketing and events manager for Stones River Mall. "Our Breakfast with Santa event benefits Beesley Animal Foundation, so it's fitting that pet night with Santa benefits a variety of local animal rescues."

Doggie's Day Out selects a different local dog rescue each year to serve as the beneficiary of all the donations collected during Paws & Claus. Middle Tennessee Treasures and Large Breed Rescue have both received donations in the past.

"It's a pleasure to work with organizations like Operation Education and Stones River Mall, who really care about dogs," said Denise O'Connell King, owner of Doggie's Day Out. "I feel like we're really making a difference in the lives of these

dogs."

Operation Education Animal Rescue, also known as OpEd, is a 501(c)3 non-profit, all-breed, foster-based animal rescue group serving Middle Tennessee. Its mission to educate the community on the importance of being a responsible pet owner; to provide a safe and healthy haven for abused, neglected, and unwanted animals; and to emphasize the availability and importance of spaying and neutering.

"We are so thankful for the community's support of our program, especially during the holidays," said Shelly Thorburn, volunteer and foster mom. "We are overwhelmed with the response from this year's Paws & Claus."

Thorburn explained how the dog food dona-

tions will be distributed to families fostering the more than 50 animals currently in Operation Education's program. The organization has plans to open a facility in 2016, and Thorburn says that with the community's support, that dream can become a reality. Sterling Organization 340 Royal Poinciana Way, Suite 316 Palm Beach, FL 33480 Tel 561-835-1810 Fax 561-833-4118 www.sterlingorganization.com

To learn more about Operation Education, visit www.opedanimalrescue.com.

For information about Stones River Mall's special events, sales and more, visit www.StonesRiverMall.com or call 615-896-4486.

TDCI Securities Division Releases Top Investor Threats

The Tennessee Department of Commerce & Insurance's (TDCI) Securities Division is releasing a list of top investor threats and urges investors to use caution when approached with unsolicited investments, especially those involving promissory notes, oil and gas deals and real estate investment opportunities, including non-traded real estate investment trusts.

"Education and information are an investor's best defense against investment fraud," TDCI Assistant Commissioner for Securities Frank Borger-Gilligan said. "Investors should always be wary of unsolicited financial advice or investment opportunities."

The top threats to investors were determined by surveying members of the North American Securities Administrators Association, of which the Tennessee Securities Division is a member, to identify the five most problematic products, practices or schemes. The following were cited most often:

1. Unregistered Products/Unlicensed Salesmen: The offer of securities by an individual without a valid securities license should be a red alert for investors. Con artists also try to bypass stringent state registration requirements to pitch unregistered investments with a promise of "limited or no risk" and high returns.
2. Promissory Notes: In an environment of low interest rates, the promise of high-interest-bearing promissory notes may

be tempting to investors, especially seniors and others living on a fixed income. Promissory notes generally are used by companies to raise capital. Legitimate promissory notes are marketed almost exclusively to sophisticated or corporate investors with the resources to research thoroughly the companies issuing the notes and to determine whether the issuers have the capacity to pay the promised interest and principal. Most promissory notes must be registered as securities with the SEC and the states in which they are sold.

1. Average investors should be cautious about offers of promissory notes with a duration of nine months or less, which in some circumstances do not require registration. Short-term notes that appear to be exempt from securities registration have been the source of most – but not all – of the fraudulent activity involving promissory notes identified by regulators.

2. Oil/Gas Investments: Many oil and gas investment opportunities, while involving varying degrees of risks to the investor, are legitimate in their marketing and operations. However, as in many other investment opportunities, it is not unusual for unscrupulous promoters to attempt to take advantage of investors by engaging in fraudulent practices. Fraudulent oil and gas deals frequently are structured with the limited partnership (or other legal entity) in one state, the operation and physical presence of the

field in a second state, and the offerings made to prospective investors in states other than the initial two states. As a result, there is less chance of an investor dropping by a well site or a nonexistent company headquarters. Such a structure also makes it difficult for authorities and victims to identify and expose the fraud.

3. Real estate investments: Troublesome real estate-related investments identified by securities regulators included non-traded real estate investment trusts (REITs), timeshare resales, and brokered mortgage notes. These types of products often carry higher risk. For example, non-traded REITs are sold directly to investors and are not traded on exchanges (as are conventional REITs). Non-traded REITs can be risky and have limited liquidity, which may make them unsuitable for certain investors.

4. Ponzi Schemes: The premise is simple: Pay early investors with money raised from later investors. The only people certain to make money are the promoters who set the Ponzi in motion.

Before making any decisions with your money, ask questions, make sure you understand the risks, and contact the Tennessee Securities Division for detailed background information about those who sell securities or give investment advice, as well as about the products being offered.

The Securities Division can be reached at 1-800-863-9117 or via our website.

Check website for details at charlesatnip.com

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About the Tennessee Department of Commerce & Insurance: TDCI is charged with protecting the interests of consumers while providing fair, efficient oversight and a level field of competition for a broad array of industries and professionals doing business in Tennessee. Our divisions include the Athletic Commission, Consumer Affairs, Tennessee Corrections Institute, Emergency Communications Board, Fire Prevention, Insurance, Tennessee Law Enforcement Training Academy, Peace Officers Standards and Training, Regulatory Boards, Securities, and TennCare Oversight.

227,102 enroll in TN Marketplace coverage

As of December 19, the number of consumers signed up for Marketplace coverage surged to more than 8.2 million nationally, including 227,102 in Tennessee. Those who selected a plan by December 17 or were auto reenrolled will have coverage effective January 1, 2016. High consumer demand as we neared the enrollment deadline for January 1 coverage, as well as the automatic renewal process, contributed to this overall total.

"Millions of Americans will start 2016 with the quality and affordable health coverage they want and need to keep their families healthy and financially secure," said Department of Health and Human Services Secretary Sylvia Burwell. "We are encouraged by the strong start we experienced in the first half of Open Enrollment for 2016 coverage, and know we have ongoing work to do. We are focused on making sure Tennessee families looking for coverage understand their options through the Marketplace, know about the financial assistance available, and have access to the support they need to enroll."

These data, for the first time, reflect the vast majority of consumers who were automatically re-enrolled into 2016 coverage. The re-enrollment process has not yet been completed so as it continues, upcoming snapshots will include additional consumers who

were automatically re-enrolled after December 19. If a consumer realized after the deadline for coverage starting January 1 that there is a better plan for their family, they can come back and make a change any time before the end of Open Enrollment on January 31, 2016.

Open Enrollment for 2016 health coverage at HealthCare.gov began November 1, 2015 and individuals can still enroll in coverage through January 31, 2016. Consumers should visit HealthCare.gov or CuidadodeSalud.gov to review their coverage options, learn about what financial assistance is available, or to sign up or re-enroll in a plan that best meets their needs.

Having health insurance when you can afford it is now the law. If someone chooses not to buy health insurance and could afford to do so, they are at risk of paying a fee of \$695 or more.

Five Facts about Open Enrollment in Tennessee:

1. Since Open Enrollment began on Nov. 1, 227,102 Tennessee consumers have selected a plan through December 19.

2. Plans for 2016 are affordable, 71 percent of Tennessee enrollees can find plans for \$75 or less a month in premiums after tax credits. Nationwide, about 8 out of 10 people who enroll in health coverage through HealthCare.gov qualify for financial help to make

their monthly premiums more affordable.

3. For 2016, 87 percent of returning Tennessee HealthCare.gov consumers could save an average of \$726 annually in premiums before tax credits for a plan in the same level of coverage by returning to shop. If a consumer realized after the deadline for coverage starting January 1 that there is a better plan for their family, they can come back and make a change any time before the end of Open Enrollment on January 31, 2016.

4. When Tennessee customers visit HealthCare.gov they'll find a variety of quality health coverage options available. For 2016, Tennessee consumers can choose from 4 issuers and an average of 57 plans.

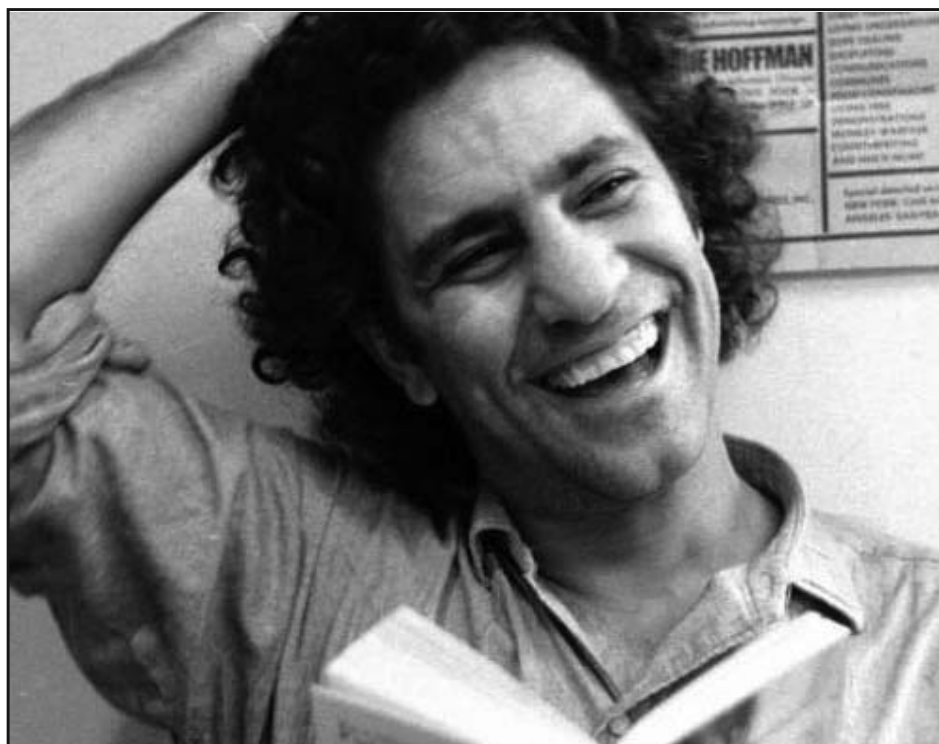
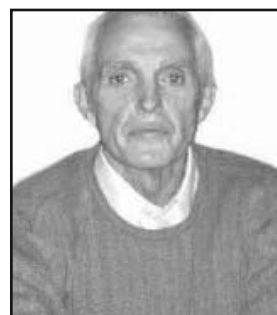
5. Free confidential enrollment help is available if people in Tennessee have questions or want to talk through their options with a trained professional.

1. Visit LocalHelp.HealthCare.gov to find a listing enrollment centers and events in your community where free, confidential enrollment help is offered.

1. Representatives at the 24-hour Call Center are available every day at 1-800-318-2596. Call Center representatives can answer questions and help people enroll in coverage over the phone.

Meat 'n' Potatoes

MIKE VINSON



Abbie Hoffman was colorful prankster

In the previous column, we discussed the historical impact of "The Chicago Eight" (later to become "The Chicago Seven"). Of the original Chicago Eight, Abbie Hoffman, arguably was the most colorful, the most celebrated, and left the strongest impression on American politics and culture. Thus, this column will delve more deeply into the life of Abbot Howard "Abbie" Hoffman, born November 30, 1936, in Worcester, Massachusetts.

As best research can uncover, Hoffman, though quite bright, rebelled against authority even at an early age. One tale has it while attending high school in Worcester, Abbie wrote a paper declaring, "God could not possibly exist, for if he did, there wouldn't be any suffering in the world." Abbie's teacher tore apart the paper and called Abbie a "communist punk." Abbie got into a physical altercation with the teacher and was expelled from school.

Hoffman attended Brandeis University (located in Waltham, Massachusetts), where he was influenced by the radical social views of Herbert Marcuse, a preeminent figure in the early Leftist Movement. Hoffman graduated from Brandeis in 1959 with a B.A. degree in psychology and immediately enrolled at the University of California, Berkeley, to pursue a master's degree in psychology. Berkeley had its own reputation as a breeding ground for free-thinking, free-speaking, anti-establishment liberals. It stands to reason Hoffman consumed mass quantities of left-wing ideology during his time at Brandeis and Berkeley.

Abbie Hoffman has been credited with being the architect of the term "Yippie," which has been defined as: a member of a group of politically active hippies. By one means or the other, "Yippie" became known as the Youth International Movement, with a pig named "Pigasus" as its party leader. Indeed, the Yippies attempted to run the pig Pigasus as their candidate for president at the 1968 Democratic National Convention, held in Chicago. At one point, Chicago Police arrested Pigasus and placed the esteemed political swine in an animal shelter.

Since Yippies were well known for using street antics to stir up attention for their liberal, anti-war causes, right wingers and even many of the old-school left wingers attempted to either ignore or discredit the Yippie movement. For their theatrical pranks on the streets, ABC News is credited with referring to Yippies as the "Groucho Marxists." Marxism is defined as: the political, economic, and social theories of Karl Marx

including the belief that the struggle between social classes is a major force in history and that there should eventually be a society in which there are no classes.

I find the "Groucho Marxist" reference amusingly coincidental because Abbie Hoffman, indeed, had a wicked sense of humor and a quick wit, which he combined to stir up fun-filled crowd-gatherings on the streets. Still, though, with his long, thick, black unruly head of hair, Abbie Hoffman, in fact, puts one in the mind of the late, great Harpo Marx, he of wild, curly hair and outlandish antics, and a member of the super comedic Marx Brothers. Still, the late Groucho Marx was the most famous of the Marx Brothers.

In 1968, Abbie Hoffman was arrested for attempting to enter a House Un-American Activities Committee hearing wearing a shirt of the same design as the American flag.

While the British super rock group The Who was on stage and between songs at the 1969 Woodstock Rock Festival, Abbie Hoffman unexpectedly jumped on the stage and screamed over the mic, "I think this is a pile of s..t, while John Sinclair rots in prison!" The Who's lead guitarist Pete Townshend can faintly be heard retorting with, "F..k off . . . f..k off . . . f..k off my f.....g stage!" (NOTE: John Sinclair was a poet, writer, and activist who was incarcerated at the time of the Woodstock incident.)

Spring 1974, Hoffman skipped bail on a cocaine-related charge. He remained on the run for 6 years, surrendering to authorities in the fall of 1980.

November 1986, Hoffman was arrested, along with several others, including Amy Carter, the daughter of former President Jimmy Carter, for trespassing at the University of Massachusetts Amherst. The charges stemmed from a protest against the Central Intelligence Agency for allegedly recruiting students on the UMass campus.

Sadly enough, Abbie Hoffman died on April 12, 1989, at the relatively young age of 52. The cause of death has been listed as suicide, with Hoffman reportedly overdosing on a combination of over 100 phenobarbital tablets and alcohol.

However, Abbie Hoffman remained a "colorful prankster" right up until the very end, and, further, he left an indelible impression on pop culture.

Go to YouTube, type in Abbie Hoffman, and watch this column come to life!

TN licenses 100th captive insurance firm

NASHVILLE - The Tennessee Department of Commerce & Insurance (TDCI) announced the licensing of Tennessee's 100th captive insurance company.

A captive insurance company (called a "captive") represents

an option for many corporations and groups wanting to take financial control and manage risks by underwriting their own insurance rather than paying premiums to third-party insurers. TDCI's Insurance Division is responsible for properly

regulating Tennessee's captive insurance industry.

In 2011, Gov. Bill Haslam signed the revised State of Tennessee's Captive Statute which made the state's existing captive insurance laws more effective, balanced, and flexible.

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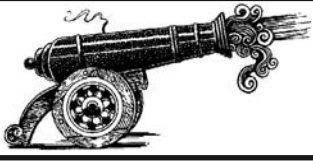


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THE CANNON BLAST

You can submit items for The Blast by email at news@cannoncourier.com

Country Music Jam Session Pocahontas Community Center 1st and 3rd Fridays

A country music jam sessions is set for the first and third Fridays of each month at the Pocahontas Community Center, 1441 Pocahontas Road, Morrison. Musicians sign up at 5:30 and the music starts at 6 p.m. Open to the public, spectators and dancers are welcome. Admission is free. For more info call Ray at 615-765-7835 or John 931-588-1229.

Celebrate Recovery

For hurts, habits and hang-ups. Every Tuesday night at 6:30 p.m. First Baptist Church. Contact: Hunter Hay 615-542-2132 musclers66@yahoo.com

Community Dinner Sycamore Baptist Church

Sycamore Baptist, 7165 Sycamore Creek Road, will hold a community dinner the first Wednesday of every month from 5 to 7 p.m. Donations accepted with the funds going for a new church building.

Arts Center of Cannon County Will Be Closed December 24 through January 4 Happy Holidays!

Alcoholics Anonymous

If you drink alot that's your business. If you want to stop that's ours. Call 615-653-7914.

Let WIC Help You and Your Family this Holiday Season

The holiday season can be a time for increased stress and worries about money. If your family is struggling, support for your health and your child's health is especially important. Tennessee WIC can help provide resources to ensure a healthy diet for pregnant, breastfeeding and postpartum women, infants and children up to age 5. If you make less than \$3,739 each month for a family of 4, please call the Cannon County Health Department at (615)563-4243 to see if you qualify for this program and schedule an appointment today!

Coat Donations Sought St. Thomas Hospital

St. Thomas Stones River Hospital will be accepting donations of coats, hats & gloves to be given out to people in need as well as The Trading Post on Short Mountain Hwy.

Art Center Season Tickets

The Arts Center of Cannon County has set its 2016 season with tickets going on sale Nov. 2. Season Tickets are just \$60 for six shows. The 2016 Season features:
Memphis, The Musical- The Tony Award Winning Musical about the birth of rock 'n' roll in the turbulent 1950s.(Rated PG)
Always...Patsy Cline- The musical based on Patsy Cline's true story with 27 classic songs. (Rated PG)
Disney's The Little Mermaid- The all-new full length version based on the animated 1989 Disney film of the same name. (Rated G)
Rock of Ages- Take a trip back to the 1980s in this rock musical featuring the music of Journey, Whitesnake, Styx, Bon Jovi, and many more. (Rated PG13)
The Odd Couple- Neil Simon's classic buddy comedy. (Rated PG)
Chitty Chitty Bang Bang- The new stage musical based on the 1968 film. (Rated G)

Volunteer Mentors Needed for Local TN Promise Students

Cannon County's partnering organization for TN Promise needs 20 local volunteer mentors to work with high school seniors from the Class of 2016.

The time commitment is small, about one hour per month, but the impact is significant as volunteers assist students navigating the college-going process and encourage them to reach their full potential. For more information about becoming a mentor, visit www.tnachieves.org or contact Graham Thomas at (615) 604-1306 or graham@tnachieves.org. The deadline to apply is Nov. 20, 2015.

Donate Furniture for Starving Artists

The Short Mountain Trading Post is now accepting donations of used furniture and household items that folks no longer need. Our Starving Artists appreciate these donations very much and are creating wonderful pieces from these throw away items. Call: Savannah at 615-464-7824. Thanks so much !!

"Wedding Dresses Through the Decades" January 10-March 6 Oaklands Mansion

Step back to yesterday and see the common threads that weave together the lives of women through the decades in middle Tennessee and across the country. Enjoy traveling through time as you walk among over fifty gowns that are being placed on loan and exhibited, most for the first time. The "Wedding Dresses Through the Decades" exhibit at Oaklands Mansion in Murfreesboro is presented in partnership with the Human Sciences Department of Middle Tennessee State University and sponsored in part by Encore Bridal & Formal Wear.

This includes wedding dresses from every decade: 1847 through today. Also on display is the 2008 handmade gown of Demetria Kalodimos which is an original design by Rosie Woodruff of Textile Fabrics in Nashville. Wedding gowns will be on display in Maney Hall and open to the public at Oaklands Mansion from January 10 through March 6, 2016. During this exhibit, guests will have the rare opportunity to view items from, not only the museum's collection, but also elegant and fashionable wedding dresses worn by ladies from Murfreesboro and around the country. Many of which have been stored for decades under beds and in the back of closets. The exhibit will be open during regular hours, Monday-Saturday 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. and Sundays 1 p.m. - 4 p.m. Groups of 20 or more may also schedule private after hour's viewings of the gowns by appointment, by calling Mary Beth Nevills at 615-893-0022. Admission to the exhibit is \$8 per person and is open to the public. Group tour rates are available upon request. Special evening openings of the elegant and fashionable wedding dresses will take place on the following Friday evenings: January 22, February 5 & 19, and again March 4th from 4 p.m. until 8 p.m.

Cannon County Senior Center Music Night Friday, January 8

The Road West Band will appear at 7 p.m. at the Senior Center. A soup supper is

planned at 6 p.m. with soup, cornbread and desert. Admission is \$5.

CASA Training To Begin Monday, January 4

Children in court custody who have lived with abuse and neglect, lack the confidence, understanding and/or words to express their needs and wishes to the court. Court-Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) volunteers are the child's independent voice in court. Conservatively it is estimated that 1 in 4 girls and 1 in 6 boys are victims of abuse. CASA of the Upper Cumberland's has an ambitious goal -- a qualified court-appointed advocate available for every victim in the counties we serve. CASA (Court-Appointed Special Advocates) conduct volunteer trainings three times each year. A candidate (21 or older) will have an interview scheduled. References will be contacted and a background check is done.(There can be no short-cuts when the safety and welfare of the children we serve is at stake.) Approximately 30 hours of training will prepare trainees for advocacy. Among topics to be covered are:

Understanding what is, and what is not abuse/neglect;
Laws regarding child abuse and neglect --past and present;
Investigation guidelines and reports to the court;

Case studies (practice applying knowledge gained throughout training)
After completing course work, the trainee is sworn-in by the judge of juvenile court. The new CASA Advocate has the court's authority to speak with, and request information from, anyone who has information about the child's circumstances. A summary of findings is submitted periodically in a Report to the Court. The CASA Volunteer Coordinator will match the new advocate to an available case and will provide any support needed as the volunteer advocate gains confidence. The need for advocates is urgent. Do you believe a child deserves a voice in court, and believe you might want to be that voice, print and submit the application found in the "VOLUNTEER" section of our website at <http://www.uchracasa4children.com>, or leave a message at (931) 520-9540 or email dones@uchra.com.

Cannon County Senior Center Music Night Friday, January 15

The Gilley Brothers will appear at 7 p.m. at the Senior Center. Doors open at 6 p.m. Admission is \$5.

Outdoor Burning Permits Now Available

It's again fire season in Tennessee, and the Division of Forestry is reminding everyone in Cannon County that if they intend to do any outdoor burning they are required by state law to obtain a burning permit. The free permits are required October 15th through May 15th and can be obtained by telephone or online. A poorly prepared or unattended burning debris pile can, under the conditions common in autumn, escape control and become a destructive wildfire. The Tennessee Division of Forestry asks everyone to be cautious when doing any outdoor burning.

Before doing any outdoor burning: First call the Division of Forestry for a burning permit at 615-765-7373 between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday (call on Friday for the weekend) or obtain a permit online at www.burnsafetn.org. If weather conditions permit you will be issued a burning permit. If the permit is obtained by phone they will also advise you of any weather conditions such as predicted wind, low humidity or other factors which might call for extra precaution.

Cannon County Senior Center Music Night Friday, February 5

Lonnie Jones and Tennessee Shine will appear at 7 p.m. at the Senior Center. Doors open at 6 p.m. Admission is \$5.

Hospital Associates Play Santa to Needy Teens

Saint Thomas DeKalb and Saint Thomas Stones River's associates look forward to the holidays every year, but it's not the holiday ham or Christmas egg nog that gets these two regional hospitals most excited. The staff works hard all year long doing whatever it takes to bring Christmas to needy teens in their area. From bake sales to ham raffles, the associates raise thousands from their own pockets ensuring that the teens of the Indian Mound Boys Home have a very Merry Christmas. The funds raised provides a new pair of shoes, and an outfit for each teen. A special Christmas party is held in their honor, with a surprise visit from Santa. It takes nearly three dozen pizzas to feed these hungry teens. Stockings full of gifts and homemade treats from the dietary department are presented to all, along with a tin of warm cookies.

"This event is the highlight of our holiday season," said CEO Sue Conley, "Many of these boys have no family or home to visit for the holidays, so this is the only Christmas they will have. Last year, one of the boys asked for tape so that he could re-wrap his gifts and open them again on Christmas morning. He said it was the first presents he had ever unwrapped. It's things like this that show us how blessed we truly are."

"I am always amazed at the outpouring of generosity that comes from our staff when we ask," said Marketing Director Shan Burklow, "They give generously to anyone in need all year long, not just for a single event. We not only raised money to help the teens at Indian Mound Boys Home, but also adopted seventeen homeless and needy babies in our area - providing them clothes, diapers, and blankets. Our staff was so moved by their extreme needs, that they even purchased scarves and gloves for the moms as well. In a way, it's like we are celebrating Christmas all year long," Burklow smiled, "Helping others is what our associates do best."

To see more photos from these holiday events, join their facebook pages: Saint Thomas DeKalb Hospital / Saint Thomas Stones River Hospital

Cannon County Senior Center Music Night Friday, February 19

Slick Nickel will appear at 7 p.m. at the Senior Center. Doors open at 6 p.m. Admission is \$5.

What's Happening in Cannon County Schools

December 21-January 1—Christmas Break

December 28-30—Sonic Shootout at Sparta

January 4—Return to school after Christmas Break

January 5—Report Cards

January 5—Mandatory TN Promise student meeting at CCHS—3 p.m.

January 5—CCHS basketball game with Warren Co.—6 p.m. (home)

January 6th & January 7th - Woodbury Grammar—8th grade registration for high school—Contact your school for times.

January 8th & January 11th- Woodland—8th grade registration for high school—Contact your school for times.

January 12th Westside & Auburn—8th grade registration for high school—Contact your school for times.

January 13th- Eastside—8th grade registration for high school—Contact your school for times.

January 14th -Short Mtn.—8th grade registration for high school—Contact your school for times.

2015...

"The hospital is here to stay," said Sue Conley, hospital CEO. "There have been lots of prayers and Saint Thomas answered them."

On Aug. 1, 2015, Stones River Hospital officially joined the Saint Thomas Health and Ascension Health families and is now known as Saint Thomas Stones River Hospital. Stones River is now a full member of Middle Tennessee's largest and most comprehensive health care system.

Capella, a Franklin, Tenn. privately-owned hospital chain, had formerly owned Stones River Hospital. Capella entered into the joint venture with Ascension's St. Thomas Health division in 2012.

Now the hospitals, including Stones River, are owned by Ascension.

The for-profit Capella chain had been strongly considering closing Stones River Hospital ... completely. Saint Thomas and Ascension are not-for-profit hospitals.

Conley said the change-over is already showing benefits.

"Our board members, our community leaders have seen our struggles," she said. "We are now doing much better than we were."

Part of Stones River's problems were generated by the opening of TrustPoint hospital in Murfreesboro.

TrustPoint "raided" this hospital taking 11 employees and a physician, she said.

Budget difficulties

Stones River Hospital's switch to non-profit status did impact Cannon County's budget by eliminating funds normally awarded to county government.

That and other factors put debate over Cannon County's budget down the wire.

The budget was approved at a specially-called meeting on August 31. At the meeting a 15 cent hike was approved for the county's property tax.

The budget hike is basically the result of two factors. First, was a near shortfall in Cannon County's general fund this current year. Secondly, was due to action by the Tennessee State Comptroller's Office pushing Cannon and other counties to maintain a minimum fund balance. In Cannon's case the recommended balance was approximately \$600,000.

Meanwhile, the state Comptroller's Office is keeping a close watch on Cannon County's budgetary process.

Cannon County Commission passed appropriations for the new fiscal year and set a \$2.68 tax rate for 2015-16 during a special

meeting August 31.

The appropriations resolution passed 6 to 4. Voting in favor of the resolution were Commissioners Mark Barker, Todd Hollandsworth, James Hollo-way, Glenn Steakley, Richie Hunter and Adam Melton. Voting against the measure were Commissioners Russell Reed, Karen Ashford, Jim Bush and Brent Bush.

The tax rate was approved by an identical 6 to 4 vote. Commissioner Barker moved for acceptance. His motion was seconded by Adam Melton.

Glenn Steakley, a member of the commission's budget committee, said, "While a member of the Cannon County Audit Committee, I began observing the financial woes of our county beginning in 2011. I watched as your county's General Fund was drained from \$1.34 million in 2009 to a mere \$106,000 at the end of the 2014/15 fiscal year, ending on June 30th," Steakley said. That represented a 90 + % reduction in the General Fund, he explained.

"This proposed budget is the result of searching every avenue of cost savings and revenue distribution. I am of the belief that property tax is the most unfair tax that can be levied on a citizen," he continued.

Comptroller woes

But in a related story, the Tennessee State Comptroller rejected a plan to purchase three used fire engines.

The Commission voted unanimously at its October meeting in favor of the purchase of three, 1995 model fire trucks replacing the last of the county's 1970 model trucks. The fire engines will cost \$125,000 with \$25,000 up front. Funding will come from the county's \$3 million debt service.

The State Comptroller rejected the plan to use debt service funds for the project.

During the Commission's December meeting, Cannon County firefighters pleaded with the Commission to take action on the purchase of three fire engines.

"I've been on the phone with them constantly," explained County Executive Mike Gannon, adding that the Comptroller continues to refuse the request. "We're not alone in this. Several other counties have had similar requests rejected," Gannon said, "but at this point our hands are tied."

The county executive said it was good for the public and the Commission to keep focus on Cannon County's budget.

"The county is in excellent shape overall. The issue we are having is a money-flow problem," he said.

"No one in county government is wasting money. That goes for every department," Gannon continued.

"We are recycling ... patching together broken equipment," he said. "We are headed in the right direction."

The Walkup Family

2015 was a mixed year of emotions for Woodbury's Walkup family.

Construction began in July for Sgt. Franz Walkup and his wife, Shannon, new home on a beautiful lot outside Woodbury near East-side School. Old friends, relatives and guests from across the country were on hand for the event.

"The house will make me more independent, it will make my life a lot easier," Franz said following the groundbreaking.

On Sept. 29, 2012, Franz was serving as a forward observer tracking military targets on a mission with Afghan National Army. Suddenly some of the Afghans turned on the Americans was Franz was shot five times.

Franz's injuries resulted in major nerve damage to his right leg and to his back and major abdominal injuries. Some 78 surgeries followed. He refused repeated requests from physicians who wanted to amputate his leg.

Ironically, some said his wounds weren't serious enough to get much help from the Veterans Administration and others. Franz and his wife were turned away repeatedly.

"You're not injured enough, the sacrifice wasn't great enough," Franz said he was told time-after-time.

Thanks partially to the news media, Franz' story began to spread. Most significant was a story on Channel 9 in Washington DC. That's how "Lt. Dan" found out about the Walkups' plight.

Actor Gary Sinise played the role of "Lt. Dan" in the movie, "Forrest Gump." That role and the response it received help kindle a drive in Sinise to help veterans overlooked by the system.

A veteran himself, William Wagasy, delivered a message from Sinise at the Woodbury groundbreaking. "Gary wants to make sure that these veterans are not treated like the veterans of the Vietnam War when they came home," Wagasy said.

Ironically, with the house under construction, Franz's father, Frank B. Walkup III, died of a heart attack bringing more tragedy to the Walkup family. The elder Walkup served on the Cannon County Board of Education and was facility manager for the Corps of Engineers at J. Percy Priest Dam.

Commissioner visits

The Cannon County Schools system did receive good news during 2015 with a visit from Dr. Can-

dice McQueen, Tennessee's commissioner of education.

McQueen found a number of achievements she liked on her visit to East Side Elementary School. "As you know, I'm going on a 10,000 teacher tour and I've had an opportunity to be in every region and to see what's good in every region," McQueen said. "Certainly when I walked into this building, it felt just like a family and that is something clearly good for children to feel like they are in a place where they are loved," McQueen said. "There's relationships and there's a camaraderie amidst the people who work here and that is certainly palpable as you walk down the hall and into classrooms," the commissioner said.

"I see very respectful children and teachers who are engaged and those are things you certainly want to see," McQueen said.

Law enforcement

2015 was a busy year for local law enforcement.

A major indoor marijuana grow was shut down in Readyville thanks to the Cannon County Sheriff's Office.

Arrested were Ivan Garcia Morales (aka Ivan Garcia) along with Rolando Bejerano Morales, both of Bradyville. Both men were charged with manufacturing, sale and delivery of marijuana, possession of drug paraphernalia, maintaining a dwelling to use/keep and sell narcotics and theft over \$10,000. Authorities seized 137 marijuana plants at the sophisticated indoor grow operation.

Cannon County Sheriff's investigators were tipped off about the operation by the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation's anti-drug unit. "I was advised that the residence in question was 2060 Tassej Road, Readyville. The residence would be in the name of Ivan Garcia also known as Ivan Garcia Morales who has been linked by TBI into several indoor marijuana grows in Bedford County and Giles County, Tennessee," reported Investigator Brandon Gullett.

A TBI special agent had begun investigating the actions of "Cubans growing marijuana in large, sophisticated indoor growing operations" built inside metal buildings. During a TBI raid, a land tax document for the Readyville property was discovered.

On Aug. 26, Gullett and Investigator Chris Brown launched an investigation into the Tassej Road address and Ivan Garcia. That investigation uncovered two pieces of property owned by Garcia -- the Tassej Road site and a home at 82 Pawnee Drive in Bradyville. Several hours of surveillance followed.

Once the electric meter was removed by MTE

workers, power to the building continued to run.

"The members of this operation had spliced into the power supply prior to the meter and was stealing electricity. MTEC then cut the power off at the transformer and killed all power," Gullett said.

Middle Tennessee Electric officials later dropped off an official report totaling the amount of electricity stolen.

The report indicated that \$14,400 worth of power had been taken illegally, which over a 10-month basis equaled \$1,400 a month, Gullett said.

Ex-chief arrested

In an ironic twist, Kevin Mooneyham, 47, former Woodbury Chief of Police, pleaded guilty before Chief U.S. District Judge Kevin H. Sharp to theft of federal program funds.

During a plea hearing, Mooneyham admitted that, from January 2013 through February 2015, while acting in his official capacity as the Woodbury Police Chief, he submitted fraudulent timesheets for more than \$28,000 in overtime hours that he had not in fact worked, David Rivera, U.S. Attorney for the Middle District of Tennessee, said.

Mooneyham was indicted on April 22.

The funds used to pay the false overtime hours claimed by Mooneyham were derived from federal grants provided by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration through the Governor's Highway Safety Office, specifically for the purpose of enhanced alcohol enforcement efforts. Mooneyham also admitted during the plea hearing he misrepresented to other officers of the Woodbury Police Department that federally-funded overtime was not available, despite the fact that he had been submitting and continued to submit timesheets for such overtime on his own behalf.

Forrest makes Page 1
In a first for The Cannon

Courier, the newspaper took the issues surrounding Gen. Nathan Bedford Forrest to the front page.

In a column, Courier Correspondent Dan Whittle asked some pointed questions including: "Are schools teaching history?"

Before educated folks go ripping the name off a building, Middle Tennessee State University officials might offer a mandatory history lesson, laced with reality regarding the ROTC building's namesake, Nathan Bedford Forrest.

They could start by consulting Rutherford County's official Historian Gregory Tucker's detailed research regarding the post-war life of Confederate General Forrest before putting his name in the dust of time.

"Retired Confederate General Nathan Bedford Forrest was an outspoken advocate for the civil rights of freedmen in postwar Tennessee," chronicles Historian Tucker. "This advocacy and his popularity with the Memphis black community were resented by some of his white contemporaries who spread false rumors to discredit the general and further their own political interests."

Nathan Bedford Forrest, born in nearby Chapel Hill and not in Pulaski, deserves 'Not a Politically Correct and Blatantly False' depiction by today's under-educated lawmakers and college administrators, but an accurate seat in significant Tennessee history, Whittle wrote.

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WOODBURY...

firmed. "Her teaching career of 60-plus years is a record that may never be broken. She ranks in our community's ledger of greatness and positive impact up there with the late Hal Larimer and Bill Smith, two other great public servants in our community's history."

Cannon County Executive Mike Gannon heaped praise on former Mayor Cope.

"There's no better or finer man ever held office in Woodbury," Gannon rated. "Not only did he serve as Woodbury mayor, during that time, he held down two jobs, one at Aero and as director of our ambulance service. He's the perfect role model for our young people to emulate."

Fisk University graduate/retired sociology educator Marthal is one of 16 authors invited to detail previously unpublished history in a book - "Understanding the War Between the States," - describing the

impact of African Americans in the Southern States before, during and after the Civil War.

"It's a supplemental book that enables a more complete and truthful study of American history," Marthal accounts.

"In 1619, a ship arrived at Jamestown, with 20 indentured servants of African ancestry," noted Marthal. "On that first ship, the indentured folks were purchased by tobacco farmers, and that began the history of people of African ancestry living in what became the United States. Before long, African laborers were purchased as bonded slaves for live, and the law soon permitted owners to own the children of their female slaves."

However, Marthal added: "The history of African Americans in America is not that simplistic. One needs to look back over 1,000 years to understand how people of African

descent helped discover the New World and build what is considered today as the greatest country on earth. People of African descent did not arrive in America only as indentured servants or slaves. Many came as explorers, investors, soldiers and laborers, both slave and free."

Slavery in America did not start in the South, she documents, but was an accepted worldwide phenomenon, including the continents of Europe and Africa.

She also calls for leaving Confederate Gen. Nathan Bedford Forrest's name on the ROTC building at Middle Tennessee State University.

"America has the best story to tell in world history, so why change it, why not embrace it," Marthal added.

"On that first ship, the indentured folks were purchased by tobacco farmers, and that began the history of people of African ancestry living in what became the United States," Marthal penned.

"Before long, African laborers were purchased as bonded slaves for life.

"We estimate that 25,000,000 were captured by fellow Africans, and enslaved," Marthal accounted. "Descendants of African ancestry today in the U.S. are here, not Africa, because of slave trade."

She accounts for Africans' contributions then and now, plus she touched on today's modern DNA test results.

"More than one million white Americans are unaware that they are of partial African descent," Marthal noted. "I tell people, if you can't handle surprises, don't get a DNA test."

"Current biology and scholarship proves there is a larger story ... thanks to the science of DNA and too-often ignored historical documents, literature and art," Marthal added. "We find that the history of people of African descent is broad and fascinating. Our ancestors helped make America great."

Best Wishes for a Blessed 2016 from Auburntown

Auburntown News

By ANNA PATRICK

Auburntown News will be back on schedule next week with twice as much news to catch up on.

As for this week we are spending time with family and friends, remembering the reason for the season, counting our blessings and cherishing family time.

However, the Patrick household is taking time to deliver one small message, found to the right, from all of Auburntown... Happy New Year!

Have a blessed and safe New Year readers, family and friends - See you next year!

If you have news for this column, please e-mail me at apatrick@dtccom.net, or call 464-4310 and leave a message if no answer.



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REALTORS Collect Toys, Toys, Toys

The Middle Tennessee Association of REALTORS® recently finished up their annual toy drive for Toys for Tots receiving more donations than ever. Mike Kidd, Toys for Tots volunteer and REALTOR® with Keller Williams Realty in Murfreesboro picked up this year's donations. He is pictured here with some of the toys collected.

RING IN THE NEW YEAR IN GATLINBURG, TN

Gatlinburg has welcomed the New Year in grand style with the New Year's Eve Ball Drop and Fireworks Show from the Gatlinburg Space Needle. The family friendly celebration is one of the largest organized New Year's Eve events in the nation.

Nearly 50,000 people will gather around the intersection of Parkway and Historic Nature Trail at the base of the Space Needle late Thursday night, December 31 to ring in the New Year. At the stroke of midnight on January 1, 2016, fireworks will blast off the rooftop of the 400-foot tall Space Needle with special music choreographed for the fireworks show produced by Pyro-Shows of LaFollette, Tennessee. The Space Needle has added rhythmic LED lights to the tower, making for a spectacular display. Leading up to midnight,

there will be free music in the area adjacent to the Gatlinburg Convention Center near traffic light number 8, which is the perfect vantage point for viewing the fireworks show.

"New Year's Eve Ball Drop and Fireworks Show is a 28 year tradition in Gatlinburg. The ball drop and fireworks from the Space Needle create a unique experience for our visitors," said Jim Downs, Special Events Director for Gatlinburg Convention and Visitors Bureau. "No doubt, we will have a big crowd to help us usher in 2016 in a big way."

Visitors are encouraged to arrive early to take advantage of the celebration specials offered by many Gatlinburg restaurants and businesses. For more information on New Year's Eve in Gatlinburg, call the Gatlinburg Convention and Visitors Bureau at 800-588-1817 or visit www.gatlinburg.com/nye.

5 Things to Put on Your Year-End Financial Checklist



The end of the year is a good time to wrap up financial loose ends and set priorities for the year ahead.

Here's a checklist of timely financial to-dos.

Get Budget Savvy

Over three-fifths of Americans identify staying within budget as a "take charge priority" in a recent Lincoln Financial Group Measuring Optimism, Outlook and Direction (M.O.O.D.) of America study. (Lincoln Financial Group is the marketing name for Lincoln National Corporation and its affiliates, which are separately responsible for their own contractual obligations.)

An online tracking tool tied to your bank account is an easy way to monitor spending habits and identify where to make necessary tweaks to redirect money toward important financial goals. Many financial institutions offer these for free.

Boost Retirement Savings

For 59 percent of Americans, saving for retirement is a financial priority, according to the same Lincoln study. Take their cue. You can lower your tax burden by increasing your retirement plan contribution, since deposits are made pre-tax.

Unfortunately, you can't just write a check to your 401(k) if you want to contribute more. The money must come out of your paycheck, and you must ask your human resources department at work to increase your withholding. Some companies even allow you to allocate a portion of your year-end bonus to your 401(k) pre-tax.

Empty Flexible Spending

A flexible spending account (FSA) is a great tool for saving on healthcare. You decide during open enrollment how much you'd like to have taken out for healthcare-related expenses throughout the

year, and the money is deposited in the account pre-tax.

But there's a catch: You must spend it all before year-end or lose it, although some companies allow you to carry over up to \$500 into the next year. If there's still money in your FSA, push up scheduled healthcare purchases, like new eyeglasses or planned dental work, into the current year.

Portfolio Rebalancing

Rebalancing is a necessary but often overlooked portfolio task. Financial advisors recommend reviewing your portfolio at least once annually to decide whether rebalancing is warranted, typically if your positions have strayed five to 10 percent from where you originally set them.

For example, if you allocated 60 percent of your portfolio to stocks, but it has now moved to a 70 percent allocation due to strong market performance, it might be time to rebalance.

Rebalancing helps you restore your allocation back to your intended risk profile.

Charitable Contributions

The holidays are a good time to remember the causes you care about. In fact, you'll be in good company, as December is the most popular month for charitable giving, with 18 percent of annual donations happening this month alone. If you itemize your deductions, you can take a deduction against donations to 501(c)(3) organizations. Your donations can take many forms: cash, appreciated stocks, or even the cost of ingredients for a big pot of chili for a homeless shelter.

More financial tips can be found at www.lincolffinancial.com/holidays.

A little attention paid to year-end financial tasks can go a long way toward making 2016 -- and many years to come -- more financially secure.

SPORTS

Band adds to festive game atmosphere

DAVID HUNTER

At most sporting events, especially at the high school level, the attention is focused mostly on the action on the field or the court. However, there a select group of students who also plays an important role in the game day experience, the marching band and the team mascot. Cannon County High School is no different as they worked hard each week throughout the season to enhance team spirit for their classmates.

Even through, the Lions football team went 0-10 this season, the game day experience at home was always cool, because the 23 member band led by CCHS Director of Music Robert Guffey, and the fan friendly antics of Leo the Lion, who was junior Chandler Todd this season.

"I truly feel that the band loves to perform at football games," Guffey said via email on Dec. 16. "The students that are in the band work very hard to get better at playing their instruments and many of these students have been playing only a few months now. I am really excited about the future with this group of wonderful young adults. I have been blessed with some alumni and faculty that have helped me with the band. John Lenzey House, Dondre Bloodworth, and Ashley Swoape have come in and played with us at some of the games and it has been a great asset to have these students come and be a

part of our group. You are not just a band member for your high school years. You are a member of this band forever. All alumni are always welcome in our group."

Besides performing at the football games this season, the band got the rest of the student body pumped up for it by marching through the halls on campus at the end of school on game days.

Todd added, "It is pretty cool to make a bunch of kids happy, and it makes me feel good. It is a lot of fun, and I do not regret doing this what so ever."

Todd has played Leo since freshman year, and he added it takes about five minutes to put on the costume. It gets hot in there, but it equipped with a fan to keep him cool while performing.

During the basketball season, Guffey does something unique to keep the fans entertained during halftime of both games. There is a group called the JRB (pronounced jerby) who performs on the stage inside Robert A. Harris Gymnasium like a traditional jazz, rock and blues band. The main two student members this season have been Bailey Sims and Tristan Choate.

Of course, Sims played on the Lionette soccer team during the fall, and is also the manager for the Lions basketball team, while Choate has a side project with former CCHS students, Hunter Brown, Daxton Patrick and Jacob Miller called "The Kings

Rumor."

At the home basketball games, the JRB performs a wide variety of music during the break but after the CCHS cheerleaders perform their routine. Both of them admit, they get nervous, because they are afraid of messing up in front of everybody. At the same time, they have also performed at Beta Club events in front of about 7,000 people as part of a competition each year.

"The vibe at Beta is different than here, and it is more stressful, because we have so many more people relying on us," Sims said. "We just go out and have a good time."

Choate added, "I am used to playing in front of a big crowd. It is still nerve racking, because you could mess up."

However, Guffey is not only pleased with the duo, but with all of his bandmates this season.

"CCHS is a treasure trove of young talented musicians," he said. "This band allows students who are not into playing traditional band instruments to get together and perform Jazz, Rock, Blues, or any genre of music for the crowds at basketball games. Choate and Sims are my JRB veterans, and they have meant a lot to the music program here at CCHS."

Any student in grades sixth through 12 who wants to learn how to play instruments can contact Mr. Guffey at Robert.Guffey@ccstn.net.



JRB members Bailey Sims and Tristan Choate perform at halftime during a CCHS basketball game earlier this season.

Lions grow stronger as season wears on

DAVID HUNTER
The Cannon Courier

The Lions basketball team remains winless in District 8AA after dropping their fifth game in row with a 66-58 loss at home on December 15 against York. However, CCHS head Coach Matt Rigsby was pleased with the effort, but admitted there are things they need to correct before the next game.

"I am proud of my young men," Rigsby said. "But more importantly that was the first time we put back-to-back very good defensive efforts together. We're giving ourselves a chance to win against two very solid district opponents, and I am proud of my guys for battling. The outcome was not what we

wanted, but we can work with the last two efforts we have had."

Midway through the second quarter, Lions senior Austin Martin converted two free throws to give the Lions a 28-27 advantage. It was, however, the last time they would lead in the game. The Dragons broke the game open with an 8-0 run, including a long distance bomb off the glass. York took a 40-32 advantage into the locker room after nailing a trey off the front rim at the buzzer.

The third quarter ended any Lions threat of winning when York went on a 9-2 run to begin the second half and ending the quarter with a 57-42 advantage. The Lions did cut it down to five, 61-56 with 2:30 left in the game with a layup

by senior Briar Jakes off a York turnover.

York answered with a basket off a CCHS turnover to make 63-56 with less than two minutes left. Martin added two free throws making it 63-58 with 1:43 remaining, but those were the final points of the night for the Lions as they missed several chances to close the gap.

The loss drops the Lions to (3-7, 0-4) as Martin and Jakes led CCHS with 12 points apiece.

During the holiday break the Lions and Lionettes will play in the Clinton Christmas Tournament (December 18-20) and the Sonic Shootout in Sparta (December 28-30) before returning home January 5, 2016 against hated neighbor Warren County with tipoff at 6 p.m.

CCHS girls rally for 4th quarter victory

Will face Warren County January 5

DAVID HUNTER
The Cannon Courier

Throughout recent history when the Lionettes needed a big win, the fourth quarter played a key role in getting the victory. Like DeJa' Vu all over again it happened December 15 against York with a 55-41 victory at Robert A. Harris Gymnasium. CCHS broke open a two point advantage after three periods and pulled away for their second consecutive home win.

"We did not give up, because it was a close game," Lionette junior Samantha Gaither said. "We kept our heads up and pushed."

Fellow teammate senior Autumn King added, "We did a really good job of not panicking, and we kept our composure. We played defense all four quarters, and that's what kept us in the game when shots were not falling. We never got frustrated and that was huge for us."

CCHS opened the final quarter with a 7-2 run, including their only trey by Gaither with 6:29 left. It proved to be the turning point in the game, as well as a difference maker for the Lionettes.

"I was not expecting it

since I haven't done that great," Gaither said. "After I made it I was like let's do this." Gaither finished with five points for the Lionettes.

King added, "It was definitely a huge momentum changer. We were already set on winning, but after Gaither hit that three we were like we are not letting them come back from this. We are coming back and we are putting our foot on their throat."

The Lionettes outscored the Lady Dragons, 21-7 in the last quarter to pull away as they improved to (3-7, 2-2) on the season as King led CCHS with 17 points with sophomore Maleah Scott adding 15 and fellow senior Kelli Davis chipping in with 11 in the win.

CCHS participated in the Clinton Christmas Tourney on December 18-20 taking on Stone Memorial, Clinton, Knoxville Central, Meigs County, and Claiborne County during the event.

The next home game is January 5, 2016 against hated neighbor Warren County with tipoff at 6 p.m.

2015-2016			
Cannon County Basketball			
Date	Opponent	Place	Time
Thursday, Nov 19	Van Buren County	Home	5:00
Saturday, Nov 21	Smith County HOF	Carthage	TBA
Tuesday, Nov 24	Warren County	McMinnville	6:00
Thur/Fri Nov 27-28	Mitch Wilson Classic	Home	TBA
Friday, Dec 4	Central Magnet	Home	6:00
Tuesday, Dec 8	Macon County	Home	6:00
Friday, Dec 11	Smith County	Carthage	6:00
Tuesday, Dec 15	York Institute	Home	6:00
Fri-Mon, Dec 18-21	Clinton HS Christmas	Clinton	TBA
Mon-Wed, Dec 28-30	Sonic Shootout	Sparta	TBA
Tuesday, Jan 5	Warren County	Home	6:00
Tuesday, Jan 12	Upperman	Baxter	6:00
Friday, Jan 15	Livingston	Home	6:00
Tuesday, Jan 19	DeKalb County	Smithville	6:00
Thursday, Jan 21	Van Buren County	Spencer	6:00
Friday, Jan 22	Central Magnet	Murfreesboro	6:00
Tuesday, Jan 26	Macon County	LaFayette	6:00
Friday, Jan 29	Smith County	Home	6:00
Tuesday, Feb 2	York Institute	Jamestown	6:00
Friday, Feb 5	Upperman	Home	6:00
Tuesday, Feb 9	Livingston	Away	6:00
Thursday, Feb 11	DeKalb County	Home	6:00
Friday, Feb 12	Page	Home	6:00



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January 9th
2pm

6th - 8th Graders are invited to the CCHS Lions Baseball Field to Try-Out for Jr. Lions Baseball January 9th 2pm.
Rain Date will be January 16th 2pm

For More information call
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Society

new year's resolutions

10 Tips to Stick with Your New Year's Weight Loss Resolutions

Millions of Americans will make the resolution this New Year to lose weight. But goal setting is the easy part. Staying on the weight loss track and maintaining that weight loss is where the challenges begin.

Here are 10 tips to help you stick with your weight loss resolution this New Year and beyond.

- **Drink up:** Hunger and thirst can often be confused, so stay hydrated. But remember, beverages are not a place to splurge on a ton of calories. Drink water. For a flavor boost, add fresh fruit slices or mint leaves.

- **Snack mindfully:** It is all too easy to derail an otherwise flawless diet by bingeing at snack time. Be mindful of your snacks, and make sure they offer nutritional value and are designed to keep you satisfied until your next meal.

- **Sleep:** Studies show a link between sleep deprivation and excess pounds. While there are many theories as to why this is, at the very least, getting enough sleep will promote clear-headed, healthful choices throughout the

day.

- **Jumpstart your weight loss:** Studies show that early weight loss is a predictor of long-term success. Look for programs that keep you motivated, like Nutrisystem Turbo10, which delivers up to a 10-pound weight loss and up to five inches lost overall in the first month of dieting.

- **Eat small:** Research suggests that eating smaller, balanced meals throughout the day promotes greater weight loss and maintenance. Schedule meals every two to three hours, six times a day.

- **Get moving:** Exercise doesn't have to be daunting! Get started with 10-minute sessions, three times a day. Movement sets your metabolism in motion so make sure it's a consistent part of your weight loss efforts.

- **Eat out, right:** Restaurant portions can be monstrous. Set aside half the meal and save it for later. Avoid key menu terms like "breaded," "fried," "crispy," and "smothered." At buffets, fill your first plate up entirely with greens

before moving on to other options.

- **Embrace setbacks:** Sometimes diets get temporarily thrown off course by a missed workout or a second slice of birthday cake. Rather than throwing in the towel entirely, view the setback for what it really is, a temporary hiccup.

- **Be accountable:** Keep a food and exercise diary to reinforce good habits. Log food, drinks, activity, weight and more to stay accountable.

- **Seek support:** Weight loss and maintenance is no cakewalk. Turn to weight loss counselors, dietitians and online communities for support with your weight loss journey. The counselors at Nutrisystem for example, are available seven days a week. For more information, visit Nutrisystem.com.

With the right attitude and the right tools, you can make 2016 the year you finally lose the weight for good.

How To Be Happier With Your New Year's Resolutions



As a new year approaches, many people look forward to a new beginning by making promises to better themselves in various ways in the next 12 months usually to have those best intentions fade away. One reason to have a more positive attitude now about carrying through on your New Year's resolutions is that the science of how to be happier with your choices has changed a lot.

The new field of Positive Psychology has emerged in the last 20 years. "Rather than dwelling on people's shortcomings, it focuses on people's strengths and how to build on those characteristics. The resulting research offers some hope for improving your happiness and well-being in the coming year," says Pamela M. Propsom, a professor of psychology who teaches a course on Psychology of Happiness at DePauw University.

Propsom recommends the following ways to shape achievable New Year's resolutions through which you can build life satisfaction:

Change activities rather than life circumstances. Many of us feel that if we just get a nicer house or move somewhere else we will be

happier, but changing life circumstances is less likely to produce improvements in well-being than voluntary changes in one's activities. Once you get that new house, you become used to it, and it no longer brings you the same joy it did initially. On the other hand, activities provide an opportunity for a steady stream of fresh positive experiences.

Set a goal and pursue it. People are happier when they set a goal for themselves and work toward it. Whether it's getting a better job or learning a new hobby, goal pursuit gives us a purpose, a chance to develop mastery, and can lead to engaging with other people. As Sonya Lyubomirsky, an expert in the new field of happiness, advises: Just remember that happiness will come from pursuing goals, and not necessarily from achieving them.

Volunteer to help others. We all know that helping others makes us feel good, but sometimes it's hard to see others' needs when we're depressed or worried about ourselves. Often, the best thing we can do for ourselves is to focus on others. This can bring genuine benefit to others, and it has the

positive side effect of distracting the helper from his or her own woes and making the helper feel more competent. Research suggests that providing social support for others can be even more beneficial than receiving it oneself.

Focus on people, not money. Sure, we need money to survive, but once we have a basic level of income, more money doesn't add that much to our happiness. A variety of studies conclude that people (even toddlers) were happier when they gave their resources to other people rather than themselves.

If you have to focus on money, spend it on experiences rather than on material possessions. Researchers have found that people are happier when they spend their discretionary income on having life experiences rather than acquiring new possessions. As noted above, we tend to get used to our possessions and adapt to them; over time they don't continue to make us happy, and therefore, we're on a constant treadmill, always requiring something new to give us that mood boost. On the other hand, experiences keep on giving; they can be

relieved through memories and talking about the event with others, continuing to give us that positive glow.

Follow religious practices. Generally, religious people tend to be happier and healthier than those who aren't religious. You can reap some of the benefits found in religion by emulating religious practices: be grateful, forgive, hope, serve others, have a sense of purpose or meaning, and engage in community.

Shut off the television and social media, and get outside instead. Although TV is relaxing, it tends to make people feel weak and passive compared to other leisure activities. And although social media can keep you connected to your friends, it also has its downsides. The constant comparison with what and how well our Facebook friends are doing can lead us to feel bad about ourselves. Disconnect from your electronics and reconnect with nature. There is a growing body of research suggesting that nature can restore us: refocusing our attention, calming us, and making us happier.

Be a satisficer (satisfy + suffice) rather than a

maximize. We all want to make the best choice when arriving at a decision, but how far are we willing to go to achieve that outcome? Is a good option (rather than a perfect one) "good enough?" Satisficers (those with the goal of finding a "good enough"

option) tend to be happier with their choices than maximizers, who continue to question whether they made the best decision and are more dissatisfied.

So, try to set goals for the coming year that are good enough, and you might just be happy enough.

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CRIME & COURTS

Former Blackman High School Booster Club Treasurer Charged with Theft

The former treasurer of the Blackman High School Boys Soccer Booster Club, Donna Moore, has been indicted by the Rutherford County Grand Jury on a theft charge after Comptroller investigators found that she stole at least \$6,989 from the booster club.

Donna Moore used the booster club's debit card and cash for her personal benefit between September 2014 and June 2015.

Ms. Moore used the booster club debit card to purchase jewelry, clothing and gift cards. Ms. Moore also failed to deposit booster club cash collections, and she kept cash that was purportedly for change funds for concessions and other events.

Ms. Moore admitted to Comptroller investigators that she used booster club money to buy personal items. In June 2015, she deposited \$1,180 in the booster club bank account.

In October 2015, Donna Moore was indicted by the Rutherford County Grand Jury on one count of theft over \$1,000.

Investigators also identified a number of problems with the booster club's financial processes. These deficiencies include not separating financial duties between multiple individuals, requiring only one signature on checks, and not requiring support documents for expenses and other withdrawals.

"Tennessee's school support organizations are required to implement basic checks and balances that help prevent and detect theft," Comptroller Justin P. Wilson said. "Our investigators have noted several weaknesses in this case, but I'm encouraged to note that booster club officers are working to correct these problems."

To view the special investigation report online, go to: <http://www.comptroller.tn.gov/ia/>.

If you suspect fraud, waste or abuse of public money in Tennessee, call the Comptroller's toll-free hotline at (800) 232-5454, or file a report online at: www.comptroller.tn.gov/hotline. Follow us on twitter: @TNCOT



Arrests and Inmate Count at Cannon County Jail

Date	Males	Females	Total
12/18	43	11	54
12/19	42	8	50
12/20	45	9	54
12/21	42	8	50
12/22	40	8	48

ARRESTS:
Vandalism of County School Property 1
Vandalism over \$500 1
Driving on Revoked License 1
Filing false reports 1
Criminal Trespass 2
VOP 1
Amended VOP 1

Happy New Year!



Tennessee Sheriffs Stand With The Second Amendment

Another Tennessee Sheriff, Keith Byrd of Decatur County has joined Sheriffs Paul Thomas and Buy Buck to encourage Tennessee Handgun Permit Holders to participate in their own personal defense by legally carry their weapons at all times.

John Harris, Executive Director, Tennessee Firearms Association, today announced the receipt of a letter signed by Sheriff Keith Byrd affirming his confidence in Tennessee's law abiding citizens and Handgun Permit Holders.

"Tennessee has 95 Sheriffs and numerous other chief law enforcement officers across the state. At this point, three have boldly stepped forward in light of the trend of terrorist attacks in this country to make it clear that they support Tennessee's Handgun Permit Holders as being responsible for their own, personal defense needs. These three Sheriffs are also sending an important message to potential criminals and terrorists that there is no safe haven for them in Tennessee," Harris said.

"With substantially more than half a million Tennessee civilians legally carry firearms as Tennessee Handgun Permit Holders, this citizen force is one that can stand as a solid deterrent against terrorism particularly if the need arises to defend their own lives when the next terrorist attack or violent criminal assault occurs."

In the past several weeks, sheriffs from around the country have been making public statements regarding the vital role that armed citizens can have in defending their own lives, ending a violent attack and ultimately keeping of the peace. Constitutionally, in Tennessee, the county sheriff is the highest ranking elected official in any county and has the first-line responsibility for the safety and security of the citizens in their respective counties even above any other state

or federal official. The Tennessee Firearms Association recently called upon Tennessee's Sheriffs to state their position on the importance of individual citizens being willing and able to provide for their self-defense when their own lives are at stake.

"We will continue to ask Tennessee's Sheriffs to step up and reaffirm their confidence in Tennessee's citizens and in particular, the Handgun Permit Holders, to join them in building a bulwark of protection against any person or group that seeks to do harm to our citizens. We would hope that all of Tennessee's Sheriffs recognize the constitutional role that citizens have as the last line of defense of themselves and the state and, if so, we expect to see each Sheriff joining these three in their public affirmations."

Harris continued. "The Tennessee Firearms Association is encouraging citizens across the state to contact their Sheriffs and ask them to sign the statement."

Harris concluded, "The Tennessee Firearms Association will support elected officials who demonstrate without hesitation their understanding of the 2nd Amendment and act accordingly. The TFA looks forward to the passage of Constitutional Carry in the 2016 legislative session and the elimination of gun free zones in Tennessee so that Tennesseans will have the statutory and government imposed infringements on their constitutionally protected rights removed. The need for this legislation is not just constitutionally justified but is now even more pressing because of the real and present dangers that terrorism presents in Tennessee"

Those seeking more information should check the Tennessee Firearms Association's website at www.tennesseefirearms.com and can also join the TFA by going to www.tennesseefirearms.com

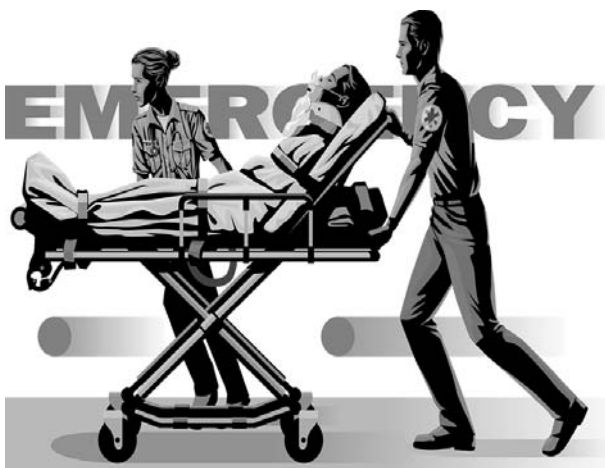
Vanderbilt Study Finds Hypertension-Related Visits to Emergency Rooms on Rise in U.S.

The number and percentage of patients treated at emergency departments for hypertension are on the rise across the United States, according to a Vanderbilt University Medical Center study published recently in The American Journal of Cardiology.

"We found that around 25 percent of all emergency department visits involved patients with hypertension, and that the rate of hypertension-related visits has gone up more than 20 percent since 2006," said Candace McNaughton, M.D., MPH, assistant professor of Emergency Medicine, one of the researchers.

Uncontrolled hypertension is a major treatable risk factor for the development of cardiovascular disease and a significant cause of death in the United States.

Many people do not know they have hypertension or that their hypertension is uncontrolled because high blood pressure does not usually cause symptoms.



an even bigger problem affecting a large number of patients who seek care in the emergency department," McNaughton said.

According to the authors, the increase may be related to the increasing prevalence of hypertension in the general population and greater public and clinician awareness of the disease.

In addition, the number of patients visiting emergency departments primarily to be treated for hypertension is on the rise — about 6.4 million emergency department visits were identified involving patients seeking

emergency department patients.

These findings may serve to make health care providers more aware of hypertension-related issues, and it highlights the burden of hypertension among patients who seek emergency department care.

For the public, "It speaks to the greater overall importance of hypertension and that lifestyle factors such as taking medication as prescribed, quitting smoking, exercising and eating less salt are all really important," McNaughton said.

She added that more research is needed to identify the most effective and efficient ways for emergency departments to help serve patients with hypertension.

"The role of the emergency department in the management of chronic disease is still poorly understood, with hypertension as an opportunity to show how we can safely use the emergency department to manage patients with these conditions," McNaughton said.

"Emergency department visits for patients with a primary diagnosis of hypertension were more likely among patients who were younger and less likely to have private health insurance," McNaughton said.

The researchers used information on emergency department visits from the Nationwide Emergency Department Sample, a database they have used previously to examine other illnesses, such as heart failure, atrial fibrillation and pneumonia.

The team was able to match the emergency department data with the U.S. Census database to measure the national rates of hypertension and other patient factors among

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Baptism of Jesus by John

John the Baptist was God's appointed messenger. Before Jesus began his ministry, John had been announcing to the people throughout the regions of Jerusalem and Judea to prepare for the coming Messiah. He was calling them to repent, turn from their sins, and be baptized. He was pointing the way to Jesus.

Then, all of a sudden, Jesus appeared on the scene. Jesus came to John to be baptized, but John told him, "I need to be baptized by you." John himself wondered why Jesus asked to be baptized.

So Jesus replied, "Let it be so now; it is proper for us to do this to fulfill all righteousness." John then consented and baptized Jesus. As Jesus came up out of the water, heaven opened, and the Spirit of God, like a dove, descended upon him. Witnesses to the baptism heard a voice from heaven saying, "This is my son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased."

Points of Interest from the Story:

- John felt unqualified to do what Jesus asked of him.
- Why did Jesus ask to be baptized? It was obviously part of his mission in coming to earth. Like previous priests of God--Moses, Nehemiah and Daniel--Jesus was confessing sin on behalf of the people. He was also endorsing John's ministry of baptism. In addition, Jesus was identifying with those who were repenting. He was also setting an example for his followers. He was foreshadowing his death, burial and resurrection.

And lastly, Jesus was announcing the beginning of his ministry on earth.

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Holly Blankenship, D.O. Woodbury, TN 37190

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PUBLIC NOTICES

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

Estate of Gary Phillip Phelps

Notice is hereby given that on the 24th day of November, 2015, letters of administration or letters testamentary in respect of the estate of Gary Phillip Phelps, deceased were issued to the undersigned by the Chancery Court of Cannon County, Tennessee. All persons both resident and non-residents, having claims matured and unmatured against said estate are required to file same with the clerk of the above named court within four months of the first publication of this notice, otherwise their claims will be forever barred.

This 24th day of November 2015.

Teresa Diane Underwood, Executrix, of the Estate of Gary Phillip Phelps deceased.

NATHAN S NICHOLS
CLERK & MASTER

MATT COWAN
ATTORNEY

**NOTICE OF
SUBSTITUTE
TRUSTEE'S SALE**

WHEREAS, default having been made in the payment of the debts and obligations secured by that certain Real Estate Deed of Trust for Tennessee executed on March 29, 2001, by Greg Mayfield and wife, Nina Jean Mayfield to David Seiver, Trustee, as same appears of record in the Register's Office of Cannon County, Tennessee in Book 10, Page 774, ("Deed of Trust"); and

WHEREAS, the beneficial interest of said Deed(s) of Trust is the United States of America, acting by and through the United States Department of Agriculture ("USDA"); and

WHEREAS, USDA, the current owner and holder of said Deed(s) of Trust appointed Jerry Jolley as Substitute Trustee by instrument filed for record in the Register's Office of Cannon County, Tennessee, with all the rights, powers and privileges of the original Trustee named in said Deed(s) of Trust; and

THEREFORE, notice is hereby given that the entire indebtedness has been declared due and payable as provided in said Deed(s) of Trust by USDA, and Jerry Jolley as Substitute Trustee, or duly appointed agent, pursuant to the power, duty, and authorization in and conferred by said Deed(s) of Trust, will on Monday, January 11, 2016, commencing at 10:00 A.M. at the north door of the Cannon County Courthouse Woodbury, Tennessee, proceed to sell at public outcry to the highest bidder either for cash (must be in the form of a cashier's check) or 10 per cent of the high bid price as a non-refundable deposit with balance due within ten (10) days of sale, (and if such balance goes unpaid, USDA will retain the deposit and re-foreclose) the following described property lying and being in the Sixth Civil District in Cannon County, Tennessee to wit:

Being Lot 16 on the Plan of Hickory Ridge Estate, Phase 1 of record in Plat Cabinet 1, Slide 1-192B, Register's Office for Cannon County, Tennessee.

Map 46B Parcel 16

PROPERTY ADDRESS:

107 Hickory Ridge Lane, Woodbury TN 37190

Being the same property conveyed to the Grantors herein by Warranty Deed of even date recorded simultaneously herewith.

C U R R E N T OWNERS: Greg Mayfield and wife, Nina Jean Mayfield

The sale of the above-described property shall be subject to all matters shown on any recorded plan; any unpaid taxes; any restrictive covenants, easements or setback lines that may be applicable; any prior liens or encumbrances as well as any priority created by a fixture filing; and any matter that an accurate survey of the premises might disclose.

All right and equity of redemption, statutory or otherwise, homestead, and dower are expressly waived in said Deed(s) of Trust, and the title is believed to be good, but the undersigned will sell and convey only as Substitute Trustee.

The right is reserved to adjourn the day of the sale to another day, time, and place certain without further publication,

upon announcement at the time and place for the sale set forth above.

Publication Dates: December 16th, December 23rd, December 30th 2015

Jerry Jolley
Substitute Trustee
390 South Lowe, Suite K
Cookeville TN 38501
http://www.resales.usda.gov

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Estate of Julia J Madorin

Notice is hereby given that on the 8th day of December, 2015, letters of administration or letters testamentary in respect of the estate of Julia J Madorin, deceased were issued to the undersigned by the Chancery Court of Cannon County, Tennessee. All persons both resident and non-residents, having claims matured and unmatured against said estate are required to file same with the clerk of the above named court within four months of the first publication of this notice, otherwise their claims will be forever barred.

This 8th day of December 2015.

Daniel Madorin,
Administrator, of the Estate
of Julia J Madorin deceased.

BOBBY SMITH
County Clerk

CALAB B MCCAIN
ATTORNEY

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Estate of Ruth Bethel

Notice is hereby given that on the 4th day of December, 2015, letters of administration or letters testamentary in respect of the estate of Ruth Bethel, deceased were issued to the undersigned by the Chancery Court of Cannon County, Tennessee. All persons both resident and non-residents, having claims matured and unmatured against said estate are required to file same with the clerk of the above named court within four months of the first publication of this notice, otherwise their claims will be forever barred.

This 4th day of December 2015.

Betsy Leach, Executrix of the Estate of Ruth Bethel deceased.

NATHAN NICHOLS
CLERK & MASTER

JONATHON C
HERSHMAN
ATTORNEY

**SUBSTITUTE
TRUSTEE'S NOTICE OF
SALE OF REAL ESTATE**

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS:

THAT, WHEREAS, on November 9, 2004, by Deed of Trust of record in Record Book 66, page 204, in the Register's Office of Cannon County, Tennessee, said instrument being recorded on November 12, 2004, CHRISTOPHER LEE BAIN and MISTY D. BRANDON and husband, JOHN GLENDON BRANDON, III, did convey in trust unto Ralph E. Mallicoat, Jr., Wilson County, Tennessee, TRUSTEE, the tract of land hereinafter described, to secure an indebtedness therein described to Liberty State Bank, as evidenced by a promissory note in said Deed of Trust, being incorporated therein by reference; and,

WHEREAS, the Trustee, Ralph E. Mallicoat, Jr. was unable to act and Bratten Hale Cook II having been appointed as Substitute Trustee in the place and stead of Ralph E. Mallicoat, Jr., Trustee, said appointment being of record in Record Book 164, page 92, Register's Office for Cannon County, Tennessee;

WHEREAS, default has been in the payment of said note, and the entire indebtedness having been declared due and payable as provided in said Deed of Trust and Note, and payment not having been made as demanded, and the holder and owner of said Note has instructed the undersigned Substitute Trustee to foreclose said Deed of Trust.

NOW, THEREFORE, by virtue of the authority in me vested, under said instruments, I will, on Monday, January 25, 2016 at 11:00 a.m., prevailing time, offer for sale at the west door of the Cannon County Courthouse, Woodbury, Tennessee, to the last,

highest, and best bidder for cash in hand, and in bar of all equities of redemption, homestead, and all other rights and exemptions of every kind, all of which are expressly waived in said Deed of Trust, the following described tract of land, the same being situated in the 10th Civil District of Cannon County, Tennessee, said property being described as follows:

For property description, see Deed of record in Record Book 66, page 201, Register's Office of Cannon County, Tennessee.

Located upon the above-described property and being permanently affixed thereto is the following mobile home which is also conveyed herewith: a 1989 MARS Mobile Home, VIN #MHAL1441.

The above-described property has a street address of: 698 Blair Branch Road, Woodbury, TN 37190.

Map 9 - Parcel 53.00

Said sale will be made for the purpose of paying the indebtedness secured by the above-described Deed of Trust with the proceeds from the sale applied in accordance with the terms of the Deed of Trust.

The Substitute Trustee reserves the right to postpone or set over the date of sale in the event the Substitute Trustee deems it best for any reason at the time of sale to postpone or continue this sale from time to time, with such notice of postponement as deemed reasonable by the Substitute Trustee. In the event the highest bidder at such sale fails to complete his purchase of the subject real property within the applicable time allowed, the undersigned Substitute Trustee reserves the right to complete the sale of the subject real property, without further notice of advertisement, to the next highest bidder who is able to consummate his purchase of the property within the time permitted by the Substitute Trustee. This sale shall further be subject to any announcements made at the time of the sale.

This sale is subject to all matters shown on any applicable recorded Plat or Plan; any unpaid

property taxes which exist as a lien against the property; any restrictive covenants, easements or setback lines that may be applicable; any statutory rights of redemption not otherwise waived in the Deed of Trust, including rights of redemption of any governmental agency, state or federal; and any prior liens or encumbrances that may exist against the property. This sale is also subject to any matter that an accurate survey of the premises would disclose.

The property is to be sold "As Is, Where Is," without representation of warranty of any kind whatsoever, whether express or implied. Without limiting the foregoing, THIS PROPERTY IS TO BE SOLD WITHOUT ANY IMPLIED WARRANTY OF MERCHANTABILITY OR FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR USE OR PURPOSE.

The purchaser will assume the payment of any and all unpaid taxes, including but not limited to tax years 2014 and 2015.

Pursuant to the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, this is an attempt to collect a debt and all information obtained may be used in any attempt to collect this debt.

DONE in Smithville, Tennessee, this 17th day of December, 2015.

BRATTEN HALE COOK II,
SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE

FOR LIBERTY STATE
BANK

cc: Mr. Christopher Lee Bain - Regular Mail & Certified Mail
698 Blair Branch Road
Woodbury, TN 37190

Ms. Misty D. Brandon - Regular Mail & Certified Mail
698 Blair Branch Road
Woodbury, TN 37190

Mr. John Glendon Brandon, III - Regular Mail & Certified Mail
698 Blair Branch Road
Woodbury, TN 37190

Mr. & Mrs. Danny Russell Fults - Regular Mail & Certified Mail
2399 Pea Ridge Dry Creek
Liberty, TN 37095

The Town of Woodbury Board of Mayor and Aldermen will meet in regular session Tuesday, January 5, 2016 at 7:00 PM. The meeting is open to the public.

Harold Patrick, Mayor

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BID

The Cannon County Board of Education, Woodbury, TN, will receive sealed bids on a General Contract for the project listed below. Bids are to be delivered to the Owner's office. Bids shall be on a stipulated sum basis; segregated bids will not be accepted. Procurement Documents may be examined at Architect's office or the Owner's office. Copies of the procurement documents may be obtained at the Owner's office. Bidders bidding \$25,000.00 or more must be licensed per state law. Five percent (5%) Bid Security will be required. The Owner reserves the right to waive irregularities and to reject bids. Bids shall be opened at the Central Office at 301 West Main, Woodbury, Tennessee 37190. The project is required to be complete by Friday, April 15, 2016.

Project: Bleacher Addition for Cannon County High School Gymnasium
1 Lion Drive, Woodbury, Tennessee 37190

Bids Due by: 2:00 PM local time, on Tuesday, January 12, 2016. Bids received after this time will not be accepted.

Plan Rooms: F. W. Dodge Plan Room, Nashville, Tennessee
Associated General Contractors, Nashville, Tennessee
Reed Construction Data, Nashville, Tennessee

Plan Deposit Amount: \$300.00 Check made payable to:
Smee+Busby Architects P.C.

Pre-Bid Meeting: Not required. E-mail questions to architect at gsmeeb@smeebusby.com. Last day for questions Wednesday, January 6, 2016.

Owner: Mrs. Barbara Parker, Director
Cannon County Schools
Cannon County Board of Education Building
301 West Main, Woodbury, Tennessee 37190

Architect: Smee+Busby Architects P.C.
29 Market Square, Suite 201
Knoxville, Tennessee 37902
PH: (865) 521-7550
FX: (865) 521-7551

The meetings of the Center Hill Rural Planning Organization (RPO) Executive Board and Technical Committees will be held from 1-3 pm on Tuesday, January 12, 2016 at the Leslie Town Centre, located at One West 1st Street in Cookeville, Tennessee.

The Center Hill RPO is responsible for comprehensive transportation planning for Cannon, Cumberland, DeKalb, Putnam, Van Buren, Warren and White Counties.

This is an open public meeting. To request an agenda, please call Center Hill RPO Coordinator Ryan Ray at (931)476-4106. If you need assistance or accommodations due to disability, please contact Ryan by Wednesday, January 6, 2016.

MEETING NOTICE

The Town of Woodbury Beer Board will meet Tuesday, January 5, 2016 at 6:30PM at Woodbury City Hall to consider the application of Josh Rudder, for (Off-Premise Consumption) at Save-A Lot Store, 950 South McCrary Street, Woodbury, TN.

Harold Patrick, Mayor

The Cannon County Board of Commissioners will meet in special session Tuesday January 5 2016 at 5:00 PM in the courtroom of the Cannon County Courthouse.

Agenda for January 5, 2016

1. Call to Order
2. Prayer
3. Pledge of Allegiance
4. Roll Call
5. Resolution 2016-1, Approving a referendum to add one cent increase to sales tax
6. Adjourn

Mike Gannon, County Executive

CLASSIFIEDS

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If you have too much stuff and not enough space, sell it at the Flea Market. Estate sales welcome. Great place to buy and sell. Rentals by the week or month.
Call (615) 563-2159 for booth space or information. Open rain or shine. TF

FOR RENT
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Your gift will keep on giving 52 weeks a year!
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Be sure and look over the Professionally Speaking Page this Issue!
Great new way to advertise with the Cannon Courier!

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Mike Anderson of Anderson's Lawn Care now has a new cell phone number. 615-684-3567. Free estimates, reliable, affordable, dependable. Competitive pricing. Also will do odd jobs and power washing. TF-

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Special Limited Time Only, New Doublewide, Energy Star Qualified, 2x6 ext walls and free heat pump set up and delivered with concrete footers for \$39,900. Davis Homes, Inc. 2168 Smithville Hwy, McMinnville, TN 37110, davishomesinc.net TF-

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NOTICE
NOTICE OF UNCLAIMED VEHICLE
The following vehicle is in our possession and is being held by Woodbury Auto Express, 615-563-5320 until amount owed is paid in full. If payment is not made in full by January 9, 2016 the owner/ or lien holder relinquishes all rights to vehicle under T.C.A. 55-16-105 1986 Ford vin 1FTEF14N6GKA90043

NOTICE TO FURNISHERS OF LABOR AND MATERIALS TO: Highway Markings, Inc. PROJECT NO.: 21945-3489-94, 08945-3461-94 CONTRACT NO.: CNP001 COUNTY: Cannon The Tennessee Department of Transportation is about to make final settlement with the contractor for construction of the above numbered project. All persons wishing to file claims pursuant to Section 54-5-122, T.C.A. must file same with the Director of Construction, Tennessee Department of Transportation, Suite 700 James K. Polk Bldg., Nashville, Tennessee 37243-0326, on or before 01/22/16.

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WANT TO BUY USED MOBILE HOMES - Call **931-668-2031.** TF-

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SMITH'S WRECKER SERVICE
is running 24 hour wrecker service. Towing for 29 years **Day is 615-563-4343 Night is 615-653-5643.** TF-

YARD SALE
Individual Sale Items Listed in the Classifieds are having a Good Turn Over! Even though Yard Sale Weather may be coming to a close, consider listing items in the Classifieds for sale or the antiques section. Great way to gather up extra money!

Scam-Fighting Tips Can Help Consumers Stay Safe

Don't let scammers steal the joy from your holiday season. The Tennessee Department of Commerce and Insurance's (TDCI) Division of Consumer Affairs urges consumers to be wary of holiday-themed scams during this season

of giving. "Scammers use the holidays as a chance to prey on people's better natures," TDCI Deputy Commissioner Bill Giannini said. "They will use any means necessary to get what they want from you. Don't become a

victim of scammers during the holidays." Be on guard, be alert and be aware. Fight back against scam artists by remembering some simple tips:
· Be suspicious of anyone requiring you to send money with prepaid

money cards.
· Pay as often as you can with a major credit card offering fraud protection.
· Before donating, check to see if the charity is registered with the Tennessee Secretary of State.
· If contacted by phone

about making a donation, avoid being pressured to make an immediate donation. Don't hesitate to ask questions to get more information.
· Donate to charities that you trust and are well-established.
· Never write out a

check or give cash to an individual solicitor. Write out checks to the name of the organization or use a credit card.
· If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is. For more consumer tips, visit www.tn.gov/consumer.

STATEWIDE CLASSIFIEDS

Announcements
BECOME DIETARY MANAGER (average annual salary \$45,423) in eight months in online program offered by Tennessee College of Applied Technology Elizabethton. Details www.tcatelizabethton.edu, 423-342-3977 or email Lisa.Blackburn@tcatelizabethton.edu. (TnScan)

Business Opportunity
OPPORTUNITY TO GET PAID DAILY, work from home, 3 minute overview 518-530-1390. Ask about \$100 cash referral! Fred Cornell, 423-331-7175 or fredcornell@legalsshieldassociate.com, LegalShield, Independent Associate (TnScan)

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NASHVILLE, TN ORIENTATION! SE Regional earn up to \$0.45 CPM w/bonuses Plus up to \$2,500 Sign On Bonus! Call 888-408-5275 or DriveForSuperService.com (TnScan)

DRIVER TRAINEES NEEDED! Become a driver for Stevens Transport! No Experience Needed! New drivers can earn \$800+ per week! Paid Local CDL Training! 1-888-743-1575 drive4stevens.com (TnScan)

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Miscellaneous For Sale
ANTIQUE AUTO PARTS 1958 Ford seats and door panels. Excellent condition \$450. 15 Ford Torque Thrust Mag wheels with new tires - 4 for \$1000. 901-837-2407 (TnScan)

Mobile Homes for Sale

MOBILE HOMES WITH ACREAGE. Ready to move in. Seller Financing (subject to credit approval). Lots of room for the price, 3Br 2Ba. No renters. 865-291-0506 (TnScan)

Sporting Goods
GUN SHOW JAN 1, 2, 3 Fri 1-6, Sat 9-5, Sun 9-4 Knoxville Chilhowee Park (3301 Magnolia Ave) Exit

392A off I-40. Buy-Sell-Trade Info: (563) 927-8176

Telecom/Cable/Internet

AT&T U-Verse INTERNET STARTING at \$15/month or TV & Internet starting at \$49/month for 12 months with 1-year agreement. Call 1- 800-786-8031 to learn more. (TnScan)

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- Vagabond
- "Girls" creator Dunham
- Grammy-winner in the categories of Gospel, Pop, R&B and Rap
- Was in the hole
- Popular potato
- Artist Degas
- Made a fool of
- Take back
- Schuss, e.g.
- Had a bite
- Whirl
- Acting Gardner
- Sloppy one
- "All kidding"
- Chicago's Expressway
- The Creation composer
- Supports, in a way
- Bisques, e.g.
- "Out!"
- S. & L. offerings
- Fit of pique
- Cartoon dog
- Bribe
- Fuel gas
- Cream ____
- "Here's hoping..."
- It comes from the heart
- Takes out
- "Right Here Right Now" band
- Hostile to
- Disney's Darby

Down

- Look up to
- Egged on
- Gofer's job
- Relay greetings
- Globe
- Stage part
- Passionate
- Hanes alternative
- Coffee times
- Shine, in ad-speak
- Yale's home
- Like leftovers
- Gets down
- Nudge
- Classic British cars
- Relaxation
- Honchos
- Like some committees
- Uneven?
- Whence St. Francis
- Statesman Barak
- MacDonald of old films
- Baseball's Mel
- Nave neighbor
- Isaac's father
- Straightaway
- Head post
- Uses a camera
- C.S. Lewis' land
- Apprentice
- Kidded around
- Polite Italian word
- Atlantic City mecca, with "the"
- Q ____ queen
- Time for eggnog
- Collect dust
- Guileful

SUDOKU

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

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Medium

Savvy Senior

Helping an Aging Parent with their Finances
Dear Savvy Senior

Can you offer any tips on helping an elderly parent with their finances? My 82-year-old mother is having some trouble keeping up with her bills, and I just found out that she has been making a lot of small contributions to suspicious charities.

Concerned Daughter

Dear Concerned,

Millions of adult children today serve as financial helpers to their elderly or ill parents or other loved ones. They provide services like paying bills, handling deposits and investments, filing insurance claims, preparing taxes and more. Here are some tips and resources that can help you help your mom.

Have a Talk

Taking on some or all of the financial responsibility of an elderly parent or other loved one can sometimes be awkward and difficult.

The first step in helping your mom is to have a thoughtful and respectful talk with her, expressing your concerns, and offering your help in simplifying her financial life. If you have siblings, it can be a good idea to get them involved too. This can help you head off any possible hard feelings, plus, with others involved, your mom will know everyone is concerned.

Get Organized

If your mom is willing to let you help manage her financial affairs your first order of business is to get organized by making a list of her financial accounts, and locate her important legal documents. This will help you get a handle on her overall financial situation and let you know if any key documents are missing. Your list should include her:

Monthly bills: Phone, cable, water and trash, gas, electric, credit card accounts, etc.

Financial accounts: Including bank accounts, brokerage and mutual fund accounts, safe-deposit boxes and any other financial assets she has.

Company benefits: Any retirement plans, pensions or health benefits from your current or former employer.

Insurance policies: Life, home, auto, long-term care, Medicare, etc.

Important legal documents: A will, advanced medical directive which includes a living will and health-care proxy, and durable power of attorney which gives one or more people the legal authority to handle her finances if she becomes incapacitated. Make sure these documents are prepared.

Taxes: Copies of your mom's income tax returns over the past few years.

Contact list: Names and phone numbers of key contacts like insurance agents, financial advisor, tax preparer, family attorney, etc.

Seek Advice

If your mom has considerable assets or a complex financial situation, you and your mom should sit down with her financial advisor or attorney to review her situation. If she doesn't have anyone, consider hiring a reputable fee-only financial planner who can help you figure things out and put a smart plan in place. Fee-only planners do not earn commissions by selling you financial products. They charge only for their services, which can be around \$150 to \$300 an hour. To locate one in your area, visit napfa.org or garrettplanningnetwork.com.



WORD SEARCH

Famous Bands

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

- PSY
- FLEETWOOD MAC
- QUEEN
- WESTLIFE
- MADNESS
- ONE DIRECTION
- TAKE THAT
- MCFLY
- LITTLE MIX
- GREEN DAY
- THE WHO
- BUSTED
- UNION J
- MUSE
- LAWSON
- ELBOW
- BLUR
- OWL CITY
- PINK
- WANTED

Play this puzzle online at : <http://thewordsearch.com/puzzle/198/>

ANSWERS

CROSSWORD

W	E	E	I		B	O	I	E	L		S	V	I	D	
V	I	I	I		O	G	I	G	G		L	I	B	E	
H	I	L	S		L	E	S	N	S	L	O	I	E	S	
V	G	E			I	B	V	A	L		V	O	B	L	V
B	E	I			S	O	B				E	L	H	V	E
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B	E	I	E	G	E			S	K	I	V	A	L	E	
I	D	V	H	O		E	D	G	V	B		H	V	D	
M	V	B	A	L	B	G	I	G	E		O	M	E	D	
D	O	B	V		B	O	L	E	B		G	E	I	V	
V	G	E	S		O	B	V	G	B		G	I	N	S	

SUDOKU

Sudoku Solution #3859-M

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

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